

PHANFARE

History in July – the place to be



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PHA NSW



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The July-August 2007 edition of Phanfare was edited by the Inner-City Collective: Roslyn Burge, Mark Dunn, Shirley Fitzgerald, and Lisa Murray.

PRESIDENT'S PAGE (AND A HALF)

In this issue of *Phanfare* you will find reports of some of the networking activities that PHA has been involved with during the past two months. This participation is part of our marketing strategy to raise the profile of PHA and to enhance the status of professional historians.

The Professional Historians Association of New Zealand Aotearoa held its conference at Wellington in June. Pauline Curby and Peter Tyler from PHA (NSW) attended, and there were also PHA representatives from Victoria and Queensland. We came away full of envy for the state of public history in New Zealand. Many government agencies employ teams of professional historians on their staff, who are encouraged to research and write generously-funded monographs that are subsequently published. Some indication of the level of activity is the fact that the New Zealand PHA has the same number of members as PHA (NSW), from a population less than two-thirds the size of New South Wales. In comparing the profile of the two Associations, we found that the average age of professional historians in New Zealand is much younger, and the ratio of men to women is roughly equal, while in Australia history tends to be a female occupation.

Talking to our interstate colleagues also highlighted the opportunities for greater direct collaboration between the six State PHAs in Australia. This initiative will be pursued by the management committee during the next twelve months.

Coming back to home ground, PHA had a significant presence at the biennial conference of the Australian and New Zealand Society of the History of Medicine held in Canberra. Brochures were included in delegates' satchels and we had a display stand of members' publications in the foyer of the Manning Clark Centre, where lunches and morning teas were held. This ensured that our display attracted a lot of interest, and a few sales.

The PHA mini-conference “Public History in the Public Domain” took place the day after the ANZSHM conference finished. The two keynote papers have now been published on our website. All members who took part agreed that regional conferences should become a regular event.

Our annual “History in July” party was a great success, with favourable comments received afterwards about the food and the venue from the many interesting people who attended – historians, publishers, librarians, booksellers, archivists, amongst others from the history community. As our guest of honour, Professor Jill Roe AO gave a unique personal perspective on local history in the Eyre Peninsula. “History in July” has now become the major social event in the PHA calendar.

Another event that is fast becoming a PHA tradition is the History Week harbour cruise with a historian guide – in 2005 it was Cockatoo Island, in 2006 the Parramatta River, and this year it will be Garden Island on 20th September. Details will be announced in the regular newsletters to members.

Also in September we will be doing a PHA promotion at the Australian Historical Association conference in Armidale, where at least five of our members are presenting papers. Again there will be a display of PHA members’ publications.

2007 is the centenary of the death of David Scott Mitchell, whose bequest established the Mitchell Library, that essential research tool for all Australian historians. The Reading Room has been re-arranged and refurbished to make it more comfortable and user-friendly. Additional improvements are planned. The State Librarian, Ms Regina Sutton, has listened to suggestions made by the PHA and other historians, whom she regards as her major clients.

The revised opening hours are another reflection of the strength of the relationship we have established with the Library. A number of PHA members attended a function on 31st July to launch the new facilities.

I look forward to meeting you all at one of our events before long.



President, Peter Tyler, with the members’ book display at the ANZSHM conference at Australian National University in July.

Peter J. Tyler
President

PHA CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Seeing History: Audio, Visual and Interactive Possibilities for Historians

PHA members gathered for continuing professional development on 14 April to hear John Nikolakopoulos, Director of Ikonfilm, present ideas on how historians can incorporate some of the latest multimedia technology into their work.

He expressed the view that with rapid technological change, historians and other ‘knowledge professionals’ need to look at new ways to source, process, and distribute the ‘product’.

With the sourcing of information becoming cheaper, this can be seen less as a specialisation offered exclusively by historians. The internet allows us to access a broader range of sources, while technology allows us ‘to capture evidence as photography and filmed material’.

Historians, rather, need to develop expertise in the next specialisation in the information flow: processing of information. This means dexterity in accessing and handling the formats of audio and visual (still and moving). In addition, historians need to develop skills in presenting information in a variety of formats, not simply the written word.

Ikonfilm makes documentaries and feature films and provides film and video production services to others — primarily social research companies. They also produce Lifestories, biographical documentaries. John shared some of his experiences in both these areas, showing examples of how video of the biographical subject has been combined with audio, photo stills, and scanned in documents. Software is available to time code coordination of the inputs and distributed product is a CD rather than a printed text.

On the processing of information, John advanced the view that postmodernism has challenged the objectivity of history writing. History is ‘not just defined by events but how they were experienced’. Multi media allow both the (objective) event and the (subjective) experience to be captured: ‘From home movies to old emails, experiencing the moment and capturing it are one and the same.’

On the distribution of information, John expressed the view that outside the academy methods of distribution are the most important factor, making methods of presentation the biggest concern of clients. ‘By consciously and decisively creating a communication strategy, it’s possible to give work the impact the client wants.’

Andrew Honey



THE NATIONAL CAPITAL WELCOMES ITS CITY COUSINS

Public History in the Public Domain

University House in Canberra was the venue for the executive committee meeting of the PHA (NSW) on 7 July. The meeting began at 9.00 in the morning and was also attended by several observers who had come along to participate in this, our first regional mini conference.

At the completion of the meeting President Peter Tyler welcomed members, particularly those from Canberra, who despite the cold weather turned out to hear a series of papers. The conference theme 'Public History in the Public Domain' was brilliantly teased out by Francesca Beddie's insightful 'Public History and Public Policy' paper (this will appear on the PHA website), which was followed by presentations from Anne Claoue-Long and Bruce Pennay. Pauline Curby then debriefed attendees on the recent PHANZA conference conducted in Wellington. This seems to presage much closer co-operation and liaison between the two trans-Tasman groups in future. Mercifully members were spared renditions of the Haka.



Presenters at the PHA Canberra Conference

L-R: Ian Willis, Pauline Curby, Joy McCann, Peter Tyler, Anne Claoue-Long, Karen Schamberger, Francesca Beddie, Michael Tyquin

Absent: Bruce Pennay

After luncheon Joy McCann discussed heritage from a museum's perspective in 'Making

Ends meet: History in the Field and in the Museum' with a fresh take on museums and exhibitions adopting an 'edgier' (controversial) approach to encourage greater reflection and curiosity on the part of museum visitors. This was followed by other papers from Karen Schamberger, Ian Willis and Michael Tyquin (in the absence of Cathy Dunn who unfortunately could not attend).

The afternoon session was concluded with Peter Tyler's presentation summarising our members' survey - more of which elsewhere. He also advised that the PHA had maintained a stand at the Australian and New Zealand Society of the History of Medicine 10th biennial conference which was held on the campus of the Australian National University over 3-6 July. Some PHA members had presented papers at that conference and it is our intention to 'piggyback' on similar conferences in the future to market the Association among like-minded professionals.

Thanks go to Peter Tyler, Pauline Curby and Karen Schamberger for making the day such a success.

Stay tuned for more news of our next regional mini conference in 2008!

Michael Tyquin

MAKING HISTORY IN PUBLIC

*PHANZA conference at Massey University, Wellington, New Zealand
30 JUNE TO 1 JULY 2007*

PHA (NSW) president Dr Peter Tyler and I recently attended PHANZA (Professional Historians Association of New Zealand Aotearoa) conference – *Making History in Public* – held at Massey University in ‘windy Wellington’. We and the other delegates from Australia (plus one from USA) were made to feel most welcome from the moment we walked into the New Zealand Film Archives for pre-conference drinks on Friday evening to the last session on Sunday afternoon.

This two-day conference provided a varied range of papers, with some simultaneous sessions. Usually Peter and I attended different sessions but there were a few we missed. The activities associated with the conference were well planned. I particularly enjoyed the screening of NZ advertising footage from the 1920s to the 1980s on the Friday evening and the (very wet) guided walking tour of the Mount Cook district with Wellington-based historian and heritage consultant Michael Kelly on Sunday afternoon.



Friday night drinks at the recent PHANZA conference in Wellington, New Zealand

L-R: Pauline Curby, PHANZA President Malcolm McKinnon, Neill Atkinson (PHANZA) and Peter Tyler (President PHANSW)

All went smoothly with the conference organisation except for one regrettable glitch in the History and Moving Images session. Unfortunately a computer connection went haywire and there were no moving images to see. Despite their obvious disappointment the two presenters spoke with great passion about their projects: Wellington writer and researcher Mark Derby on the use of moving images in historical exhibitions and Jane Paul on the NZ Film Archives touring film show of which she is the manager. The next morning before flying out I made a return visit to the Te Papa Museum to see some of the films that Mark told us about. These were part of the ‘Passports’ exhibition that examines migration to New Zealand and featured places – such as Tralee in Ireland and Paisley in Scotland – from where clusters of migrants had come.

Most of the papers delivered made a valuable contribution to the discussion of public history. It was heartening to see a number of younger historians ‘strutting their stuff’. The audience was enthralled with Victoria University post-graduate student Paulette Wallace’s

Demolishing public history: the Whitely Memorial in Taranaki as a site of contested history. MA student Louisa Knight's *History as a collaborative product: the Veterans' Club Exhibition at Auckland Museum* was also fascinating.

Having a few days before walked the battlefield of Ruapekapeka, south of the Bay of Islands, I was particularly interested in award-winning historian Matthew Wright's paper entitled *The New Zealand Wars: a bicultural exercise in public historiography*. In this he discussed the way in which accounts of these wars such as his own recent volume, *Two Peoples, One Land: the New Zealand Wars*, James Cowan's 1920s histories and James Belich's influential 1986 book and subsequent television series have contributed to an understanding of the wars and settler-era race relations.

If you're wondering what the battle of Ruapekapeka was all about just go to www.teara.govt.nz and you can find out.

This brings me to the Te Ara [the pathway] session on the first day of the conference. Te Ara is New Zealand's on line encyclopedia – a project of the Ministry for Culture and Heritage akin to our Dictionary of Sydney. If you go to the site you will find an aerial shot of the Ruapekapeka pā [fortification] and learn that:

The last battle in the northern war occurred here at Ruapekapeka pā in January 1846. Another masterly fortification constructed under the direction of the chief Kawiti, the pā was eventually abandoned by Ngā Puhi without a major battle.

In the Te Ara session resources researcher Melanie Lovell-Smith discussed some possibilities for interweaving historical narrative and image interpretation. Science editor Simon Nathan discussed the history and impact of science and technology in New Zealand through two recent Te Ara themes – 'Earth, Sea and Sky' and 'The Bush'. No technical glitches at this session. I was also interested to learn from Jock Phillips, Te Ara's general editor, that contributors are paid 40 cents a word – not much as he readily admitted, but at least a small compensation for their time.

Peter Tyler and I took part in the last session of the conference, the Trans Tasman round table. Peter gave an excellent overview – with some attractively coloured pie charts – of the recent PHA survey. There was a lot of interest in our demographic profile (heavily weighted to older and middle aged women), especially as it is apparently different to PHANZA's, but similar to that of PHA Victoria.

Victorian ACPHA representative, Sonia Jennings, provided an overview of our national body as well as commenting on some of the services provided to members in that state. Dr Chris McConville of the University of the Sunshine Coast spoke about the academic/public history interface, not surprisingly concluding that there was little sunshine in the current situation in Australia. I spoke briefly on the highs and lows of undertaking commissioned histories, focusing on the question of whether this can ever be really good history? I discussed the nature of commissioned history and some of the constraints inherent in the genre.

Chief historian at the Ministry for Culture and Heritage and past president of PHANZA, Bronwyn Dalley, summed up the conference with some well chosen concluding remarks. Her observation on the need for more public comment from historians on a range of issues resonated with the New Zealanders. Many of them are unable to comment publicly on

contentious issues because they are in salaried positions, often with government agencies. This is not such a problem in Australia where a much higher proportion of public historians work freelance. We are of course restricted with regard to an advocacy role by our PHA objectives.

On the whole an interesting conference that was well worth the effort of crossing the Tasman to attend. It reinforced our belief that we need to maintain links with like-minded organisations such as PHA Victoria and work to establish a mutually beneficial relationship with a university. Kia Ora.

Pauline Curby



HISTORY AND THE PUBLIC

*Second conference organised by the Historical Institute at the University of London, in the conjunction with University of Swansea, Wales
12-14 April 2007*

The second British conference titled 'History and the Public' which is sponsored by the Historical Institute at the University of London was held on this occasion in conjunction with historians from the University of Swansea in Wales and the National Waterfront Museum from 12th-14th April 2007. These are being set up as regular annual events and the next conference is in Liverpool during 2008. Their stated aim is to explore 'the use of history for public purposes and involvement of the public in the study and consumption of history.' While many professionals work in a range of cultural institutions and sites in Britain, public history education and training is only in its infancy there and this seems to be an attempt to combine both the introduction of courses in universities as well as improving the profile of history in the community generally.

The conference attracted a curious mix of academics and professional historians and was certainly not as community based as those held annually by public historian Hilda Keane at Ruskin College, Oxford. There was a small contingent of Australians and New Zealanders including those from the Australian Centre for Public history at UTS as well as Michelle Arrow from Macquarie University and Michelle Raynor from the ABC. Paula Hamilton and Paul Ashton from the ACPH had organised a panel with their doctoral student Stephanie Ho who is working on public history and heritage in Singapore and were joined by Del Muisse from the Centre for Public History at Carleton University in Canada. The panel examined the national surveys in various stages of completion which have examined popular uses of the past and how ordinary people engage with public history in museums, heritage sites, films.

The main theme of the conference was History and the Media, and there were some interesting papers from the London based History and Policy unit which aims to 'connect historians, policymakers and the media' and the mid-Antrim museums service about communicating the past in Ireland. However, it was academics commenting on history in public which seemed to form the majority of participants. Despite being billed as an

international conference, (and there were some international delegates there beside the Australians including the curator from the Nobel museum in Sweden, Marika Hedin) in fact most of the keynotes addressed the local Welsh context, particularly their role in producing historical documentaries for the BBC during the 'golden age' of television such as Huw Edwards from the BBC news and Colin Thomas, a former TV producer. There was also a notable absence of women speakers.

Like all conferences this one was useful for exchange of ideas. It gave a sense of an emerging field in Britain which is already well-established in Australia and the United States, but revealed some national particularities in public history practice. Swansea in Wales is a pleasant old coalmining and tourist area, recently redeveloped with a new national maritime museum which the conference visited and the wonderfully named Mumbles seaside resort (no waves, flat seas and mud) was just a short drive away.

Paula Hamilton
UTS



PHA AT MEDICAL HISTORY CONFERENCE

Medicine in Context

The Australian and New Zealand Society of the History of Medicine held its Tenth Biennial Conference at the Australian National University in Canberra at the beginning of July. Immediately afterwards, PHA held its own mini-conference. A number of historians are members of both societies. Indeed, the President of ANZSHM for the past two years was PHA member Dr Judith Godden. As mentioned elsewhere in this issue of *Phanfare*, PHA (NSW) mounted a display of members' publications at the four-day ANZSHM Conference.



The theme for the conference was "Medicine in Context". One hundred and fifty delegates from around Australia and New Zealand attended, as well as a keynote speaker from the USA, Professor Rima Apple. It was pleasing to see a number of younger medical historians presenting papers, including a contingent of eight PhD students from the University of Auckland, together with their supervisor, Associate Professor Linda Bryder.

*The John Curtin School of Medical Research, Australian National University, Canberra.
(Photo – P. Lancaster)*

In addition to the intensive program of 91 papers presented in four plenary sessions and 32 concurrent lectures, there were two special events of great interest to the participants. The first was a workshop on the treatment of arthritis over the past 100 years, and the second was a 'Witness Seminar' held at the John Curtin School of Medical Research. This was a tribute to the work of Emeritus Professor Frank Fenner AC, CMG, MBE, FRS, FAA, the doyen of Australian microbiologists. He was the leader of the international team that eradicated smallpox from the world, and also played a key role in the control of malaria. Professor Fenner himself spoke most eloquently about his work, while other scientists who 'witnessed' his work over the years described his achievements and the inspiration that he provided for them. At the conference dinner, a tapestry commissioned by ANU to honour Fenner was unveiled by Frank Fenner himself. This tapestry joins three others on the walls of University House that recognise three distinguished scholars associated with ANU who have each won a Nobel Prize for Medicine or Physiology – Florey, Eccles, and Doherty.

Although the weather was cold and wet, the warmth of the welcome, the generous catering, and the stimulating discussions enabled everyone to have a most enjoyable conference. As always, the networking between sessions was at least as productive as the formal sessions.

At the Annual General Meeting, Dr Anthea Hyslop from ANU was elected President for the next two years. The eleventh biennial conference will be held at Fremantle in September 2009 – *Westward Ho!*

Peter J. Tyler
President, PHA (NSW) & Newsletter Editor, ANZSHM



HISTORYWEEK 2007

The History Council of NSW's event, Historyweek 2007, runs this year from Friday 14 September until Sunday 23 September and includes in its program over 270 registered events, being held across NSW. The theme for this year's festival is Legacies, commemorating the bequest of David Scott Mitchell in 1907 of his collection of books, manuscripts, papers and pictures that began and came to be the core of the Mitchell Library.

The week starts with the annual history Lecture, this year being held at The Mint on Macquarie Street. The lecture, this year is being presented by Professor Iain McCalman with the topic 'Historical Re-enactments: Should we take them seriously?'. This should prove to be both an entertaining and lively lecture and discussion. The growing number of re-enactment societies, 'historical' movies and historical based reality television series are in some cases the only exposure to history that many people have. Can they play a part in telling the stories of the past, what do they offer and what are the dangers?

Two other major events are also being held (not including the PHA's own event). Firstly there is the travelling lecture series 'Off the Beaten Track'. This year Professor Ian Jack is presenting the lectures on the Pastoral Legacy in Griffith, Deniliquin and Albury-Wodonga, including the tangible evidence that remains of the early pastoral industry and how this can be used as a resource by historians. Back in Sydney on Saturday 15 September, a Macquarie Street open day will be held. Macquarie Street, high on the ridge, is one of NSW's most

important cultural precincts, taking in Government, the Arts, our convict past, legal centres and medical history. In conjunction with many of the institutions that front Macquarie Street, including Hyde Park Barracks, Opera House, Conservatorium of Music, St James, Lands Department, as well as the City of Sydney, the street (and Hyde Park) will play host to a series of talks, tours, exhibitions and lectures. It promises to be a great day out (especially following the disruptions of APEC the week before).

Details of the above events and all others will be available in the History Week Calendar and from the History Council of NSW website (www.historycouncilnsw.org.au) from mid August.

Mark Dunn

PHA representative, History Council of NSW



HISTORY IN JULY

On Wednesday night (25 July) the PHA held its second History in July function at History House. With about 70 people attending, including many PHA members, lecturers, the State Librarian Regina Sutton, National Trust President John Nihland and representatives from the Ministry for the Arts and a number of publishers amongst them, the night was a great success. This year, Professor Emeritus Jill Roe AO gave an informal talk on her recent return visit to the Eyre Peninsula in South Australia. Professor Roe grew up in the Eyre Peninsula and is in the process of writing a history of the Peninsula. The journey was therefore fuelled both for the need to get the feet on the ground to better understand the place as well as the desire to revisit the land of her youth. As anyone who has moved away from a place and then returns to see it all again years later, better and worse. The previous prosperity, its jetties fingering out into the sea a focus of Professor Roe's and experience of the place. Sydney, the image of long out over turquoise blue fishermen angling at the image (and one that soon). But it was not all talk, the PHA were also generous in their allocation of wines and platters of exceptionally tasty foods and nibbles, even fresh oysters. As with last year's event, History in July proved a great success and is a welcome addition to the PHA calendar.



Professor Jill Roe AO (Photo: Pauline Curby)

Mark Dunn

STATE RECORDS' COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

This committee of State Records, on which a mix of history groups is represented, was established in 2000. Its original aims were to provide feedback on existing and proposed services, advise on new and modified services, evaluate service performance and recommend performance indicators of service quality.

Recently the CAC reviewed its future directions.

In the seven years since the CAC was established web-based communication has rapidly expanded the ways in which State Records provides its services and a substantial amount of information is publicly available.

It was agreed:

- The committee will meet twice a year and representation will be broadened to include a history teacher and an ethnic group.
- Anglo-Celts over the age of 50, a growing sector of the community, are the predominant users of the archives. Discussion about organising tours for a different sector of the community, primary school children, and the benefits of seeing original records, was also discussed.
- Material relating to new or updated services provided to the Committee will be provided electronically – thus allowing their wider circulation.
- As a means of making the meetings more interactive, members will provide updates of their research and areas of work.
- With State Records move to the Department of Commerce State Records' plans will be provided as appropriate.
- High expectations that all archives should be available online is financially impossible, however, sample pages in Archives Investigator and a focus on mounting documents on the website will continue.

Roslyn Burge



In Living Memory has been State Records' most successful exhibition, attracting a large number of visitors, widespread media attention and ongoing community support. The exhibition has been very well received by Indigenous communities throughout NSW, who continue to visit and spread the word after the exhibition first opened. The exhibition has also been seen by many non-Indigenous Australians as an important contribution to the Reconciliation process, and by overseas visitors seeking to learn more about Aboriginal history and culture.

Exhibition talks and tours of the exhibition are still available for small groups of 10-20 people, weekdays between 10 am and 4 pm. Ph (02) 8247 8660 for enquiries and bookings. A travelling version of the exhibition will be launched in May 2008 to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the Bomaderry Children's Home. If your community is interested in having the travelling exhibition come to your area please contact Susan Charlton (02) 8247 8660.

http://www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/whats_on_at_the_state_records_gallery_8327.asp

In Living Memory exhibition

State Records Gallery, Sydney Records Centre, 2 Globe Street (off George Street) The Rocks

WHAT FUTURE FOR CALLAN PARK?

Hospital services at Callan Park will cease next March 2008 after 131 years. A new metropolitan hospital providing mental health services is under construction at Concord, where some staff have already been relocated. But at Callan Park the pace slows: a pyramid of disused computers is stacked in one corridor; papers have been shredded; yards of library books earmarked for relocation sit on shelves beside many bound volumes tagged for storage or disposal, and dental chairs for a new community of users are already in place.

The hospital, its grounds and buildings, as well as the services it provides in the mental health sector have been the subject of much debate, particularly in the last twenty years. Many questions about the future of this great languishing site linger unanswered. So it was encouraging to learn that even before politicians elected in March this year met for the first time in Parliament House, Mr Sartor led a delegation to the site one Saturday morning.

Barely three months later a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Hon Frank Sartor, as the Minister administering the Callan Park (Special Provisions) Act 2002, the University of Sydney and the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority (SHFA) was signed on 28 June 2007. Under this non-binding MOU the Minister will endeavour *to procure the grant of a 99 year lease to the University of a substantial and coherent part of Callan Park.*

SHFA, appointed to prepare a Masterplan, is moving ahead with alacrity and has appointed a Reference Panel. By the end of the year a draft Masterplan will be ready and available for public comment early in 2008. This is a rare opportunity for the community to be heard and to contribute to the public discussion about the ways in which Callan Park might be adapted for different uses. [www.shfa.nsw.gov.au]

Recreational spaces are in high demand in Sydney where sporting events draw thousands of people. At Callan Park active recreationalists are clamouring for more ovals, night lights and synthetic turf - if only there were more rocky outcrops and undulating topography!

Whilst not everything about the asylum established at Callan Park in the 1880s would serve today's community of users, the importance of gardens and vistas from and through the site remains significant for patients and their families. In the rush to build efficient buildings and utilise medication and diagnostic technology the value of landscape and its therapeutic benefits recognised in nineteenth century patient care has dimmed.

In 2005 NSW Health published a literature review on *The effect of the built and natural environment of Mental Health Units on mental health outcomes and the quality of life of the patients, the staff and the visitors.* It is disappointing that this report appears to have no influence on retaining mental health services at Callan Park nor as part of *Emerging Asset Management Issues* in new hospital design. [www.health.nsw.gov.au/pubs/2005/litreview_mh.html]

International sites such as the Presidio in San Francisco [www.presidio.gov] offer examples of ways in which large public lands have been adapted to changing uses. It is important that the future of this great site, Callan Park, is wisely considered and many opinions recorded - indeed extensive public consultation is imperative. SHFA welcomes input at www.shfa.nsw.gov.au.

Roslyn Burge

Friends of Callan Park and committee member of the National Trust Parks & Gardens Committee.

What's On in History: August / September

Prepared by [Christine de Matos](#)

Exhibitions

'Homes in the sky: Apartment living in Sydney'. Until 26 August 2007. **Venue:** Museum of Sydney.

'Cooe: Australia in the 19th Century'. Until 9 September 2007. **Venue:** National Library of Australia.

'A Grand Obsession: The DS Mitchell Story'. Until 30 September 2007. **Venue:** Picture Gallery SLNSW.

'Broadcasting in Sydney: images from ABC archives'. Until 28 October 2007. **Venue:** Museum of Sydney.

'Tough men, hard times: policing the depression'. Until 10 February 2008. **Venue:** Justice and Police Museum.

Events August

- 21 **Lecture.** *'Cobb & Co - The facts behind the legend'*. Sam Everingham for RAHS and ASHET. **Venue:** History House **Time:** 5.30 for 6pm **Cost:** \$7 **Bookings essential:** ph: (02) 9247 8001; email: history@rahs.org.au
- 21 **Talk.** *'Writing lives: Family history, journals & memoirs'*. Library Society. **Venue:** Dixon Room, State Library **Time:** 5.30 for 6pm **Cost:** \$22, seniors \$20, mems/students \$15 **Bookings essential:** ph: (02) 9273 1770; fax: (02) 9273 1248; email: bookings@sl.nsw.gov.au
- 21 **Lecture.** *'DS Mitchell Memorial Lecture'*. Stephen Garton, Challis Professor of History, University of Sydney, on researching history in the Mitchell Library. Library

Society. **Venue:** Friends Room, State Library **Time:** 5.30 for 6pm **Cost:** \$22, seniors \$20, mems/students \$15 **Bookings essential:** ph: (02) 9273 1770; fax: (02) 9273 1248; email: bookings@sl.nsw.gov.au

- 23 **Seminar.** *'Costume close up: Cutting loose 1920s style'*. HHT. **Venue:** Rouse Hill Estate **Time:** 10am-12n **Cost:** \$30, mems/conc \$25 **Bookings essential:** ph: (02) 8239 2211.
- 26 **Special Event.** *'Fifties Fair'*. HHT. **Venue:** Rose Seidler House **Time:** 10am-5pm **Cost:** \$15, mems/conc \$8, family \$38 **Enquiries:** ph: (02) 8239 2211.
- 29 **Lecture.** *'2007 Memorial Ferguson Lecture: The Ferguson Collection in the National Library of Australia'*. RAHS. **Venue:** Ferguson Hall, St Stephen's Uniting Church, Macquarie Street, Sydney **Time:** 5.30 for 6pm **Cost:** free **RSVP for catering:** ph: (02) 9247 8001; email: history@rahs.org.au

Events September

- 1 **Walking tour.** *'Sydney Architecture Walks: Utzon'*. HHT. **Meeting venue:** Museum of Sydney **Time:** 10.30am-1pm **Cost:** \$25, mem/conc \$20 **Bookings essential:** ph: (02) 8239 2211. Full pgm at www.sydneyarchitecture.org
- 5 **Talk.** *'The human drama of*

Australian democracy'. Peter Cochrane, Library Society. **Venue:** Friends Room, State Library **Time:** 10-11.30am **Cost:** \$22, seniors \$20, mems/students \$15 **Bookings essential:** ph: (02) 9273 1770; fax: (02) 9273 1248; email: bookings@sl.nsw.gov.au

13, 20

& 27 Lecture series. 'So you want to publish your article?'. Dr Deborah Edward for RAHS and WEA. **Venue:** History House Auditorium **Time:** 10am-12n **Cost:** \$60 (for 3 lectures) **Bookings essential:** WEA ph: (02) 9264 2781.

15-21 September History Week

15-21 Open House. 'RAHS: Researching your place in history'. **Venue:** History House **Time:** 10am-3pm **Cost:** free

15 Seminar. 'The Legacies of War: Australians and Their Service in the Commonwealth Forces'. Vicki Eldridge, SAG **Venue:** Richmond Villa, 120 Kent St **Time:** 10am-12n **Cost:** \$15, mems \$10 **Bookings essential:** <http://www.sag.org.au/downloads/act07q3.pdf>

17 Talk. 'The Manning Clark Lecture: Manning Clark: The artist historian'. Mark McKenna, Library Society. **Venue:** Dixon Room, State Library **Time:** 5.30 for 6pm **Cost:** \$22, seniors \$20, mems/students \$15 **Bookings essential:** ph: (02) 9273 1770; fax: (02) 9273 1248; email: bookings@sl.nsw.gov.au

18 Lecture. 'The World of Wunderlich'. Dr Charles Pickett for RAHS and ASHET. **Venue:** History House **Time:** 5.30 for 6pm **Cost:** \$7 **Bookings essential:** ph: (02) 9247 8001; email: history@rahs.org.au

19 Talk. 'Indigenous Elders, archives

and cultural survival in remote Australia'. Neparrnga Gumbula and Aaron Corn, Library Society. **Venue:** Metcalfe Auditorium, State Library **Time:** 11am-12.30pm **Cost:** \$22, seniors \$20, mems/students \$15 **Bookings essential:** ph: (02) 9273 1770; fax: (02) 9273 1248; email: bookings@sl.nsw.gov.au

19 Tour. 'Historical Tour of Cockatoo Island'. SAG. **Meeting venue:** Cockatoo Island **Time:** 9.30-11.30am **Cost:** \$25, mems \$22 (not including travel costs) **Bookings essential:** <http://www.sag.org.au/downloads/act07q3.pdf>

23-26 Conference. 'Engaging Histories: Australian Historical Association 2007 Regional Conference', Armidale, NSW. **Enquiries:** Dr. Erin Ihde and Dr. Frank Bongiorno (Conveners), email: confco@une.edu.au

27-29 Forum. 'Forum on Australian Library History 2007'. NSW State Library. **Enquiries:** web: http://www.atmitchell.com/events/forum_austr_lib_hist_2007.pdf

27-30 Conference. 'Old Stories New Ways: Oral History Association of Australia 2007 National Conference', Indooroopilly, Brisbane. **Enquiries:** web: <http://www.ohaaqld.org.au>

Upcoming Conferences

'Distance and Diversity: Reaching New Audiences', Australian Media Traditions biennial Conference', 22-23 November, Charles Sturt University, Bathurst. **Enquiries:** email: mvanheekeren@csu.edu.au; web: <http://www.csu.edu.au/special/amt/>

'When the Soldiers Return', 28-30 November 2007, University of Queensland, Brisbane. **Enquiries:** email: soldiersreturn@uq.edu.au; web: <http://www.uq.edu.au/hprc/?page=60799>

'Moving Cultures, Shifting Identities: a conference about migration, connection, heritage and cultural memory', 3-5 December 2007, Flinders University, Adelaide. **Enquiries:** web: <http://fhrc.flinders.edu.au/events/movingcultures.html>

'9th Australasian Urban History/Planning History Conference: Sea Change? Historical responses to new and renewed urban landscapes', 2-7 February 2008, University of the Sunshine Coast. **Enquiries:** email: cmconvi@usc.edu.au; web: <http://www.apinetwork.com/main/pdf/calendar/Conference>

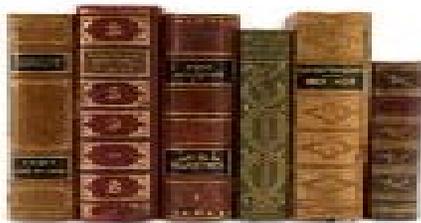
[e2008_Callfo.pdf](#)

Call for Papers

'Occupying 'the Other': Australia and military occupations from Japan to Iraq'. 29-30 November 2007, CAPSTRANS, University of Wollongong. Abstracts **150-200 words** plus 100 bio due by **31 July 2007**. **Enquiries/submissions:** Christine de Matos, email: cdm@uow.edu.au

'Australasian Welfare History Workshop', 22-23 November 2007, Wellington. Abstracts of **250 words** due by **31 July 2007**. **Enquiries/submissions:** Margaret Tennant, M.A.Tennant@massey.ac.nz

**To include an event in *What's On*
email to Christine de Matos at cdm@uow.edu.au**



LIBRARY REPORT

Compiled by Terri McCormack.
Library enquiries: (02) 9810 4421 or
terrimc@ozemail.com.au

PHA PERIODICALS

PHANZINE: Newsletter of the Professional Historians' Association of New Zealand/Aotearoa. Vol 13, No 1, May 2007

The highlight of the PHANZA year was the third public history conference in June, co-hosted with Massey University and the Ministry for Culture and Heritage. PHA Executive member Pauline Curby's report appears elsewhere in this issue of *Phanfare*.

One of PHANZA's major functions is lobbying government and this year they've had Archives NZ, Land Information NZ, and Internal Affairs in their sights. It's all to do with records preservation and access and they were relatively successful with the first two agencies. Their submission to Internal Affairs about recent restrictions

under the Births, Deaths, Marriages and Relationships Registration Amendment Bill 2007 is published here in full. While most Australian states are making BDM records more accessible, the NZ authorities are going in the opposite direction.

PHAROS: Professional Historians Association (Vic) Inc. No 46, May 2007; No 47, July 2007

The May 2007 issue reproduces an interesting article by Ben Macintyre of *The Times* on the transience of digital technologies and the subsequent failure to keep adequate records. He feels for the historians of the future who will have to rely on whatever electronic fragments survive. In similar vein, NZ historian Michael Kelly's piece is reprinted with the title 'The Rise of the Email and the Demise of the Letter'.

On 13 June 2007, Clare Wright (the historian who often features in the TV quiz *The Einstein Factor*) gave a speech for the City of Melbourne as part of their 'Future Melbourne' public forums. It is reproduced here and details of the Forum are online at www.futuremelbourne.com.au

PROFESSIONAL HISTORIANS ASSOCIATION (SA) Inc. incorporating News from the Professional Historians Association (NT) inc: Newsletter. Issue 88, March 2007; Issue 89, July 2007

Anyone who has ever done any research in the Northern Territory will regret Francis Good's retirement from the Northern Territory Archives Service. As Oral History Manager since 1985, he was largely responsible for their wonderful collection of oral history transcripts. He documented major themes like the devastation of Cyclone Tracey, the Katherine floods and the pastoral industry. He worked with Aboriginal communities and trained local people to record and preserve their stories.

Bill Wilson, foundation member of PHA (NT), ACPHA President and NT representative, has also retired. And long-term Territory historian Pearl Ogden recently received a merit award from the Federated Australian Historical Societies. South Australian historians are concerned that history is being bypassed in the lead-up to their State's 175th Anniversary in 2011. Vice President Susan Marsden's letter to Premier Mike Rann, reproduced here, draws his attention to the degraded state of SA history in government and public institutions, specifically the dispersal of the Mortlock Library's resources, the closing of the Royal Geographical Society Library, the decline in the teaching of history, and the need to plan for the 175th Anniversary. Rann's reply is also reprinted in which he attempts to address her concerns.

As reported by PHA delegate Bernie O'Neil, the History Council of SA is also determined to place the 175th anniversary firmly on the political agenda. To see what the HCSA is doing, have a look at their website at www.historycouncilsa.org.au

NON-PHA PUBLICATIONS

CENTRE FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIAN HISTORY: Newsletter. No 30, June 2007

Studies in Western Australian History is a wonderful resource for WA research. PHA member Cathie Clement's forthcoming volume on 'ethics and professional practice in history' should make for interesting reading. Contents of all articles and book reviews from 1977 are online and can be searched by topic at www.cwah.uwa.edu.au

HERITAGE NSW: Quarterly Newsletter of the NSW Heritage Office. Vol 14, No 1, Autumn 2007

I thought the cover featured a golden-domed mosque but it's the refurbished Indian Elephant Temple at Taronga Zoo. This is part of a 12-year regeneration plan which focuses not only on the 2000 animals but also on more than 200 heritage items. One of these is the iconic Elephant Temple, in operation since 1916 when the zoo's elephants were shipped across the harbour from their old Moore Park home on a flat top barge. What a sight that must have been!

The Heritage Office deals with heritage matters both above ground and underwater. In late 2006, maritime archaeologists confirmed the wreck of a missing World War 11 Japanese midget submarine off the coast near Newport. The Minister for Planning gazetted an emergency interim heritage order and the Australian Government declared the site under the Commonwealth Historic Shipwrecks Act. In early August, there was a moving ceremony when Japanese relatives of the doomed submariners were taken to sea to pour sake over the place where their loved ones died.

The Heritage Office is inviting contributions to a new publication - *Old Building – New Use*. Examples of adaptive re-use noted in their article include new residential and commercial use for the Walsh Bay wharves and associated wool and bond stores, the redevelopment of Prince Henry Hospital at Little Bay for residential and aged care use, CarriageWorks performance space at the old Eveleigh Railway Yards, and the Westin Hotel in the former GPO. In some cases, the transformation has made properties more accessible to the public than they formerly were. You can assist by contacting Dr Muat Gul on 9873 8559

with interesting examples of recycled heritage buildings.

HISTORY AUSTRALIA: Journal of the Australian Historical Association. Volume 4, Number 1, June 2007

Have a look at www.express.monash.edu for interesting articles dealing with the 'six o'clock swill', Japanese in White Australia, historical linkages between NZ and Australian historians, and much much more.

HISTORY COUNCIL OF NSW: Newsletter. Autumn 2007

This year's History Week theme is 'Legacies', an acknowledgment of D.S. Mitchell's legacy to the State Library. Much of the action will be focused in Macquarie Street. Professor Iain McCalman from Sydney University will give the annual history lecture. Meanwhile Ian Jack from the RAHS will be out and about delivering lectures on the pastoral industry in regional libraries in Griffith, Deniliquin, and Albury.

INSITES: Newsletter of the Historic Houses Trust of New South Wales. No 51, Winter 2007

This issue looks at two exhibitions currently on at the HHT's Museum of Sydney. Both were impressive and they've also spawned two beautifully illustrated accompanying publications.

Homes in the Sky queries Australia's fixation with the quarter-acre block and examines the rise of apartment living. When the Albany apartments were built in Macquarie Street in 1905, there was some alarm that women would suffer from the loss of their domestic environment. It was feared that flat dwelling would lead to

childlessness but nonetheless flats became increasingly popular in the inner-suburbs from the 1930s. The 1950s and 1960s saw the rise of public housing towers derided as the “slums of the future”. The exhibition includes video extracts from occupants of the Northcott estate, aka “Suicide Towers”. Harry Seidler’s Blues Point Tower might have startled Sydney when it first appeared in the 1960s but living in the high-rise vertical villages of the CBD has now become a sign of modernity and cosmopolitanism.

Sydney views 1788-1888 features works from the private collection of Swiss-born businessman Beat Knoblauch. His breathtaking collection of engravings, lithographs and aquatints documents the growth of colonial Sydney and it is exciting to see new images as well as the more familiar ones we all know so well.

MEMENTO: News and Events from the National Archives. No 33, Winter 2007

This glossy magazine is full of interesting articles. There’s the story of Indonesian Annie O’Keefe and her role in ending the White Australia policy. There’s the discovery of unpublished and unrecorded early songs by Slim Dusty in the records of the Commonwealth Registrar of Copyright. There’s a timely and informative piece called *From cameleers to citizens: Muslims in Australia 1901-75*. Dr Jim Stokes, NAA’s 2006 Cabinet historian, explores the surprisingly difficult search for a truly Australian anthem in the 1970s. And historian Dr Sue Taffe’s research in the records recalls the struggle for the 1967 referendum on citizenship for Aborigines. Part of her project as an ARC post-doctoral fellow includes a website called *Collaborating for Indigenous Rights, 1958-1973* at www.nma.gov.au/indigenousrights

There’s also an article by John Schilling, manager of the photographic services, on the deliberate creation of the National Archives’ extensive collection of photographs by various agencies from 1939.

And, in case you haven’t noticed, two great new resources have recently become available on the internet. *A Gift to the Nation* on the NAA website provides free online access to the digitized records of all World War service personnel. And you can view clips from hundreds of films, documentaries and TV shows on the new website www.australianscreen.com.au

RECORDED HISTORY. Autumn & Winter 2007

Subtitled ‘a quarterly newsletter for everyone interested in the Self Publishing of Family and Community Histories’, this is produced by Community Books Australia at the Toowoomba Education Centre in southern Queensland. Their website at www.communitybooks.com.au provides advice on how to self publish.

THE SITE GAZETTE: Friends of the First Government House Site Inc. Vol 13, No 2, Autumn 2007

The first of two articles on the “Great Perturbator”, John Macarthur, traces his life from a lowly background as the son of a Plymouth draper to his departure for England in 1809 in the aftermath of the deposition of Governor Bligh.

Macarthur was buried at Camden Park in 1834 but Governor Arthur Phillip had a more ignominious interment. His remains at St Nicholas near Bathampton went missing when the church was extended over the graveyard in the 1970s. So much for the plans of Geoffrey Robertson QC to re-inter him in NSW! And to add to the lack of recognition for our founding father,

a block of Housing Commission flats was erected on the site of his Georgian house in Bath.

VOICEPRINT: Newsletter of the NSW Branch of the Oral History Association of Australia. No 36, April 2007

Loyalty to colleagues compels me to draw attention to a new project – Our Place – by PHA historians Sue Rosen, Rosemary Kerr and Emma Dortins. The aim is to make accessible more of the oral history material Sue gathered for her South Sydney history, *We Never Had a Hotbed of Crime*. The trio has come up with the novel concept of publishing some seventy stories as cheap monthly serials, available in pubs, cafes and newsagencies, and they're seeking assistance and subscriptions. Have a look at Bill Schwevel: The Knockabout Kid - the first of their stories on Erskineville and Alexandria at www.haah.com.au/our_place.html

This issue also contains a report on the First International Oral History History Congress at the Portuguese University of Porto in October 2006 and an account by Gail Foran of her first foray into oral history.

Bob Mitchell took up oral history when his father was diagnosed with a terminal illness. He tried to salvage his father's

memories but felt the results were inadequate. He has now come up with a book called *1001 Life Story Questions*. In her review, Diana Rich notes the importance of focusing memory by addressing specific topics while also allowing interviewees to respond in their own way to open-ended questions. Not all of Bob's questions will apply to every situation and interviews still require basic research but the book will probably provide questions that you haven't thought of. This is not a manual on how to conduct an oral history interview - see Beth Robertson's *Oral History Handbook* for that - but it could be a handy guide for a life story interview. It might also be useful if the interviewee reads the book as well to stimulate their memory.

This month's *Voiceprint* quite literally comes with voice as well as print. It includes an audio CD compiled by Peter Rubinstein of Radiowise Media Networks. This contains three mini interviews produced for specific events: Tim Flannery's award as Australian of the Year 2007, the 4th Anniversary of the 2002 Bali Bombing, and a 2003 interview with Steve Irwin presented as a Tribute following his death in late 2006.

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PHA (NSW) Directory 2006-7

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Executive Members	Pauline Curby, Deborah Edward, Michael Tyquin		
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Website	Christine de Matos		webmanager@phansw.org.au

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- Australian Council of PHAs (ACPHA): David Lewis
- ACPHA Appeals Committee: Peter Tyler
- ACPHA Selection Committee: Roslyn Burge
- History Council of NSW: Mark Dunn
- Heritage Council – History Advisory Panel: Terry Kass
- National Archives Customer Council: Terry Kass
- Library, Archives & Records Management Committee of the Royal Australian Historical Society: Terri McCormack
- State Records' Community Advisory Committee: Roslyn Burge

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Editorial Collectives: See list at front of *Phanfare*
Other PHA publications: Ruth Banfield

The Professional Historians Association (NSW) Inc is the organisation representing qualified historians in NSW and ACT who are professionally employed or commissioned to undertake historical work.

Publications

PHA (NSW) web Site

www.phansw.org.au

available on line

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