

A U S T R A L I A N S T U D I E S B U L L E T I N

Welcome to the Australian Studies Research Network
Bulletin November 2025



Congratulations to Caroline Ingram and Andreas Zanker on the launch of their new books. Caroline's *Women on Trial* (Springer, 2025) offers a groundbreaking examination of how legal rules and institutions affected women's trials in nineteenth-century Western Australia, exploring the complex intersections of gender, class, Aboriginality, and legal literacy within the colonial justice system. Meanwhile, Andreas's *José Rizal, the Philippines, and Greco-Roman Antiquity* (Routledge, 2026) presents the first extended investigation of classical reception in the work of the Philippine national hero, revealing how Greco-Roman antiquity was creatively deployed in late-colonial struggles to redefine the relationship between Spain and the Philippines.

Events - Western Australia

Now Open: Exhibition of the work of Julie Dowling

Gallows Gallery, Mosman Park

Julie Dowling was born in Subiaco, Western Australia and grew up in both semi-rural and urban areas in a large Badimaya extended family. Working in a social realist style, Dowling draws on diverse art traditions including European portraiture and Christian icons, mural painting and Badimaya First Nation iconography.

Dowling works like an ethnographer, recording the deep-seated injustices in the Indigenous community. Her pictorial works have a strong political edge, however, she speaks as a de-colonized subject and subverts the traditional power relations between the observer and the observed, the coloniser and the de-colonised.

[Further Information](#)

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WA Maritime Museum Theatre, Fremantle

1st December 2025, 9am-4.30pm

Facilitated by *Global Encounters and First Nations Peoples: 1000 Years of Australian History* (Monash University, ARC Laureate) and *Mobilising Dutch East India Company Collection for New Global Stories* (UWA, ARC Linkage) with the Western Australian Museum, this symposium brings together multi-disciplinary research and cross-cultural perspectives to explore the deep and diverse histories of encounter across Australasia. It challenges dominant colonial narratives by privileging Indigenous and Asian knowledge systems and adopting a longer temporal lens.

[Further Information](#)

Making Home Under the Southern Skies: Two Centuries of Chinese Heritage in Western Australia Exhibition - Opening 12th November 2025

From the 1830s to the 2020s, Chinese Western Australians have shaped this place in countless ways. Drawing on our digital portal of 3,500+ known migrants, family histories, and community contributions, this exhibition brings those stories together - on campus, in the city, and across the regions.

[Further Information](#)

Save the Date - AMaGA WA Annual Meeting

27th November - Goolugatup Heathcote

Results from the committee election will be announced and to add some sparkle to the end of the year, we are holding a Museums Showoff evening.

You can be part of the show! What was your biggest success this year, or greatest failure or learning?

Share your dream for life in the cultural sector or pitch a new take on work for 2026. If you can do this in less than 9 minutes in front of a welcoming audience send a brief synopsis to WABranch@amaga.org.au to be considered.

2025 AAANZ CONFERENCE | UNRULY OBJECTS

3rd - 5th December 2025, University of Western Australia, Perth

Hosted by The Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery, The Berndt Museum, and the UWA School of Design, and supported by the Institute of Advanced Studies.

The 2025 conference looks at the uncontrollable, excessive, surplus and unruly qualities of objects that we attempt to study, curate, discipline and subject to discourse. Thinking beyond simply the agency of objects, we turn specifically to their rowdy, disruptive, and ungovernable aspects – whether they be leaking out of unwieldy collections, unexhibitable or unthinkable, fugitive or lost, or brimming with vitality, power or ancestral subjectivity.

[Further Information](#)

Jobs and Opportunities - Western Australia

Call for Book Reviewers

Studies in Western Australian History

The Book Review Editors of *Studies in Western Australian History* invite expressions of interest from scholars to join our panel of book reviewers.

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If you have a publication that you would like to review, please contact the Book Review Editors with your areas of expertise.

Please contact naomi.preston@uwa.edu.au

Events

In Conversation, National Library of Australia

20th November 2025, 6-7.30pm AEDT, National Library of Australia and Online via Zoom

In celebration of her new book *Early Photography in Colonial Australia*, Dr Elisa Decourcy will be joined in conversation with Shona Coyne, James Tylor, and Professor Emerita Helen Ennis about their work on the histories of colonial photography. Registration is free but bookings are essential.

[Further information](#)

Seminar, History Council of Victoria

27th November 2025, 5pm AEDT, online

Heatwaves are forgotten killers as deaths occur silently, in homes and institutions. In urban and temperate areas heatwaves evaporate from our memory, erased by the drama of fire, flood and storm. Environmental historians recognise the importance of climate as not simply a “backdrop against which history is played out” but an active force in Australian life. Through hospital records, diaries and press reports, we examine daily life in the mid-twentieth century as heatwaves unfold, finding that decisions about sleep, food, housing, clothing and social interaction, as well as professional and domestic labour, were disrupted and negotiated. By uncovering the everyday practices by which people negotiate weather, in urban, regional and remote areas, we reveal how heatwaves have been crucial in shaping the Australian idea and experience of climate.

Speakers include **Mandy Paul**, **Rochelle Schoff**, and Rebecca Jones.

[Further information](#)

Symposium, The Australia New Zealand History of Education Society

11th-12th December 2025, University of Melbourne

The Australia New Zealand History of Education Society invites registrations for a 1.5-day symposium, “Education Histories”, convened by Professor Julie McLeod, Dr **Beth Marsden**, with Dr Julian Kusabs and Dr Matthew Keynes.

[The program is now online.](#)

[Further information](#)

Online Research Seminar - Abortion Access in Rural Australia: A Feminist Exploration

Australian Women’s and Gender Studies Association

Friday 28th November 10-11am AWST

At this online research seminar we will hear from Sophie Hinds and Brooklyn Donnelly.

[Further Information](#)

Jobs and Opportunities

Magarey Medal for Biography, AHA

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Indigenous Land and Justice Research Group Scholarship

University of New South Wales

The purpose of this \$15,000 scholarship is to support an Indigenous student to conduct Honours research that contributes to the theory and practice of Aboriginal self-determination policy. The student will have the opportunity undertake research with the support of experienced Indigenous scholars and allies, while also developing knowledge and workforce skills relevant to the public sector. This scholarship is part of an ARC Discovery Indigenous Grant awarded to Professor Heidi Norman, which examines how Aboriginal Affairs governance has operated in the era of self-determination since 1980 to today.

[Further Information](#)

Job, Powerhouse Museum, Program Curator, First Nations

The Program Curator First Nations role is responsible for developing and delivering public programming, co-production, festival, and partnerships programming. Primarily the role is responsible for working collaboratively with teams from across the Museum, advocating for, developing, and delivering programs representing, and in collaboration with, First Nations communities.

Applications due 30th November 2025

[Further information](#)

Job, University of Sydney, Postdoctoral Research Associate in Economic History

The School of Economics in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at the University of Sydney are inviting applications for a Postdoctoral Research Associate in Economic History. The research project, titled *The Socio-Economic Impacts of Colonisation in Australia*, encompasses a broad range of topics, including health, economic growth, inequality, and culture. The project draws on large-scale data collection and archival records, and applies a diverse set of methodologies such as text analysis and machine learning to assess the impact of colonisation.

Applications due 1st December 2025

[Further information](#)

Job, University of Sydney, Colonel George Johnston Fellowship in Australian History

Applications are invited for the 2026 Colonel George Johnston Fellowship in Australian History. The Fellowship offers opportunities for those seeking to progress further in an academic career or the libraries, archives and museum and heritage sector, and to provide prospects for talented researchers planning other careers to ensure that their research reaches a wider audience.

The Fellow will have access to \$10,000 from the Colonel George Johnson bequest for research travel, conference participation, and/or publication costs (including subventions).

Applications due 30th November 2025

[Further information](#)

Books for Review for JACANZS

The Book Reviews Editor of ACNZZS's *Journal of Australian, Canadian, and Aotearoa New Zealand Studies (JACANZS)* is looking for reviewers of several books for the journal. If you are interested in reviewing any of the titles, please contact the Book Reviews Editor, Dr. Jatinder Mann.

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Australasian Mining History Association Best Paper Award

An award of \$500 and 12 months free AMHA membership is offered for the best paper published in the refereed section of the Journal of Australasian Mining History by an early career historian.

[Further Information](#)

Asia-Pacific Academic Mentoring Program

International Science Council

The Asia-Pacific Academic Mentoring Program connects early-career researchers (ECRs) from Asia and the Pacific with senior scientists and scientific leaders from across Australia. The program aims to guide young scientists to become future leaders in academia within their home region. The Program will run for one year, with monthly online meetings between the mentor and the mentee. The ISC RFP-AP will provide financial support to the selected ECRs to assist in international travel to take part in the program launch in Canberra, Australia in September 2025. Mentees and mentors will also be supported by the ISC RFP-AP to attend Australia's premiere science event, **Science at the Shine Dome**.

[Further Information](#)

Jane Hansen Prize for History Advocacy

The Jane Hansen Prize for History Advocacy was established in 2020 to recognise the efforts of a group or individual that has advocated for the value of history, the work of historians and/or the importance of an education in history. An annual prize of \$1000 is offered. Winners will also be recognised with a certificate, acknowledgement via the HCV's publications and social media, and year-long membership to the HCV Friends. The winner is announced in conjunction with the HCV's Annual Lecture each year.

Enquiries: info@historycouncilvic.org.au

[Further Information](#)

Calls for Papers

Limina: A Journal of Historical and Cultural Studies

Call for Papers: 'On Memory' Special Edition

Deadline: August 1st, 2026

Following our 2025 conference 'On Memory', Limina: A Journal of Historical and Cultural Studies invites submissions for its special edition on the same theme. We are accepting research articles, ephemera, and creative pieces.

For further information/submission, email liminajournal@gmail.com.

2026 Regional Heritage Conference - Our Avon: Culture, History and People

7th-8th May 2026, Northam

The Heritage Council is pleased to announce that the 2026 Regional Heritage Conference will be held in Northam on 7–8 May 2026. This two-day event will explore the Avon region's rich cultural heritage and diverse history under the theme *Our Avon: Culture, History and People*.

The conference program will:

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- highlight innovative approaches to sharing Western Australian stories.

Expressions of interest are now open for those wishing to present at the conference. If you have a story, project or insight to share, we encourage you to submit a proposal and be part of this exciting regional gathering.

Submissions close at **5.00pm on Friday, 28th November 2025**

[Further Information](#)

Founding Stories, Forging Communities, Feminist Futures: Nurturing Feminist Histories in Precarious Times

A Joint Australian Women's History Network Symposium and Celebration of the 40th Anniversary of Lilith: A Feminist History Journal

24th-25th November, University of Melbourne

This two-day symposium will take stock of the past, present and future of feminist history scholarship at a time when the field is increasingly under siege. The humanities are facing unprecedented challenges and 'diversity' of all kinds is under attack. We hope that this event can replenish feminist history communities through looking back, celebrating the work we are doing now, and looking ahead to consider the future of feminist histories in Australia and beyond. We particularly seek papers which speak to the themes of 'founding stories', 'forging communities', 'feminist futures', and the context of precarity.

Submissions: Please send a paper title, abstract of no more than 200 words and short biography of up to 50 words to: auswhn@gmail.com

Studies in Oral History, Issue No. 47

The Power of Oral History – Risks, Rewards & Possibilities

Oral history presents many possibilities; yet these possibilities come with risk as well as reward – recording sensitive subjects is never easy. Creating an oral history production takes time, skill and care, and sometimes goes wrong. Imaginative re-uses of oral history recordings can raise ethical and legal complexities. And oral histories that disrupt accepted narratives can generate pain and conflict in families, communities and nations. We invite papers that employ or interrogate oral history methodologies and illuminate aspects of the risks, rewards and possibilities of oral history.

[Further Information](#)

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