



Australian
Historical
Association

Annual General Meeting
5.30 – 6.30pm Thursday
11th July 2019
Toowoomba

Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the previous AGM (attached)
3. Executive reports
 - 3.1 **President's Report** - verbal (Joy Damousi)
 - 3.2 **Treasurer's report** – verbal (Lisa Featherstone)
 - 3.3 **Prizes and awards report** - document attached (Kirsten McKenzie)
 - 3.4 **Membership report** – document attached (Noah Riseman)
 - 3.5 **Teaching and learning report** - verbal (Lyndon Megarrity)
 - 3.6 ***History Australia* Editors' report** – document attached (Leigh Boucher/Kate Fullagar/ Michelle Arrow)
 - 3.7 **Postgraduate student representatives' report** – document attached (Aileen Marwung Walsh)
 - 3.8 **Early career researcher representatives' report** - verbal (André Brett)
 - 3.9 **HTAA representatives' report** – verbal (Rosalie Triolo)
 - 3.10 **Executive Officer's Report** – verbal (Bethany Phillips-Peddlesden)
4. AHA conferences
 - 4.1 AHA Conference 2019 - verbal (Catherine Dewhirst)
 - 4.2 AHA Conference 2020 – verbal (Bart Ziino)
 - 4.3 AHA Conference 2021 – UNSW
5. Special resolution to add International membership rate
6. Other business
 - 6.1 History Councils proposed Value of History Statement

**Your presence at this meeting is welcome and needed.
Please bring this agenda with you.**

3.3 Prize Portfolio 2019 (Kirsten McKenzie/Melanie Oppenheimer)

Regular awards:

The majority of the AHA's prizes are next due for award in 2020. The outcome of the 2019 **Jill Roe** prize for the best unpublished article-length work and the 2019 **Allan Martin** research fellowship award for Early Career Researchers will be announced at the conference dinner.

Jill Roe Prize:

- *Submissions:* 3
- *Judges:* Frances Clarke (USyd - chair), Alexander Roginski (ANU), Jeremy Martens (UWA)

Alan Martin award:

- *Submissions:* 8
- *Judges:* Melanie Nolan (ANU – chair), Lorina Barker (University of New England), Jatinder Mann (Hong Kong Baptist University)

NAA/AHA Postgraduate Scholarships:

- *Submissions:* 10 (Round 2, 2018), 6 (Round 1, 2019)
- *Judges Round 2, 2018:* Kirsten McKenzie (USyd), Desley Deacon (ANU) Anne-Marie Conde (NAA)
- *Judges Round 1, 2019:* Kirsten McKenzie (USyd), Shirleene Robinson (NLA), Amy Lay (NAA)
- *Awardees Round 2, 2018:* Rob Konkel (Princeton University) and Jessica Stroja (Griffith University).
- *Awardees Round 1, 2019:* TBC. Update will be provided at the AGM.

New awards in 2019:

Two new awards are designed to provide financial assistance for attendees of the AHA conference. They are available in 2019 and 2020.

Jill Roe Early Career Researcher AHA Conference Scholarship Scheme

- *Submissions:* 17
- *Judges:* Melanie Oppenheimer (Flinders), Kirsten McKenzie (USyd)
- *Awardees:* Nicholas Ferns, Gwyn McClelland, Skye Krichauff, Annemarie McLaren, Denise Cook.

AHA/Honest History AHA Conference Teacher Scholarship

- *Submissions:* 5
- *Judges:* Rosalie Triolo (Monash and HTAA) and Michelle Arrow (Macquarie)
- *Awardee:* Alison Bedford

The AHA executive would like to extend our thanks to the hard work of the judges who gave up their time to assess these submissions.

3.4 Memberships, Promotions and Subscriptions (Noah Riseman/Romain Fathi)

As of the AGM, membership sits at 875 (late June).

1. Expiration emails: The vast majority of expiring members were not receiving any reminder emails. As such, we began a system of twice a month sending personal emails to members whose expiration was approaching. We also sent a personal email to every person whose membership expired in 2018, as well as a selection of people whose membership expired earlier. We sent well over 200 emails and this exercise proved successful.
2. Membership drive: We started a membership drive where anyone who refers a new member (as opposed to renewing member) would receive a \$25 book voucher to a local bookstore of their choice. While the results of this drive have been modest, it is not a major cost for the organisation so we will continue with it indefinitely.
3. Non-academic historians: Romain spent some time drafting emails to send to organisations such as the South Australia Trust and other professional historian organisations, encouraging their members to consider joining the AHA. This, too, has led to a modest boost in AHA membership.
4. Social media: In line with the AHA's social media policy, in January Noah went through the membership of the AHA's Facebook group and culled those who were no longer paid members. He also sent personal emails or Facebook messages to those people removed, inviting them to re-join the AHA. This, too, encouraged a few expired members to renew their membership.
5. International rate: For the AGM, we are proposing a special subscription rate for those members based outside of Australia. This is in response to feedback we have received from a few members and ex-members about the cost prohibitions to join an association overseas, particularly when most of the activities are directed at those people in Australia. Academics outside Australia – including in New Zealand – tend to have lower salaries and cannot tax-deduct membership of the AHA. As such, we are proposing that the AHA adopt a new category of membership as 'international member' to be costed at \$100.

3.6 *History Australia* Annual Report from the Editors (Michelle Arrow, Leigh Boucher and Kate Fullagar)

Australian Historical Association (AHA) AGM

This is our first annual report since taking over as Editors of *History Australia* in January this year. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing editors of the journal: Melanie Oppenheimer, Matthew Fitzpatrick and Catherine Kevin, together with their assistant editor Annemarie Reid, editorial trainee Romain Fathi, book review editors Andrekos Varnava and Meggie Hutchison and exhibition review editor Laina Hall.

We are supported by Assistant Editor Jennifer McLaren, book review editors Charlotte Greenhalgh and Agnieszka Sobocinska and 'history off the page' editor Maria Quirk, and we would especially like to thank them for their hard work as we have managed the transition to Macquarie.

Editorial Board:

Three new Editorial Board members have been appointed this year: Professor Robert Reynolds (Macquarie University), Associate Professor Alice Te Punga Somerville (University of Waikato) and Dr Sujit Sivasundaram (Cambridge University).

Inclusion on the Scopus Index and Scimago:

The outgoing editors reported at the 2018 AGM that *History Australia* had recently entered Elsevier's Scopus database, indexed from 2003-2018. This will provide the journal with increased discoverability over the coming years. *History Australia* 'debuted' in the Scimago journal rankings in May 2019 with a 'Q1' and an H Index of 11.

Marian Quartly Prize:

This prize, worth \$500, is awarded for the best article published in *History Australia* during the previous calendar year. The prize was previously known as the Taylor & Francis prize, but with the permission of the AHA Executive, the journal's Editorial Board, and Taylor & Francis, the incoming editors have renamed the prize in honour of *History Australia's* inaugural editor, Marian Quartly. We gratefully acknowledge the continuing support of Routledge and Taylor & Francis in funding the prize. The 2018 winner will be announced at the AHA Conference Dinner on 11 July 2019.

Ann Curthoys Prize 2019:

The incoming editors have inaugurated this prize to honour Professor Curthoys for her distinguished service to the history profession in Australia. We are proud, too, that she commenced her career with a PhD from Macquarie University. The prize, worth \$750, is awarded for the best unpublished article-length work by an Early Career Researcher (within 5 years of PhD graduation) in any one of (or combination of) a specified list of fields in which Professor Curthoys has published. We gratefully acknowledge Professor Curthoys' support in contributing to the funding of this prize. This year's prize has been awarded and will be announced at the AHA Conference Dinner on 11 July 2019.

Special issues and Fora:

The first issue of Volume 16 was a special issue edited by Romain Fathi and Bart Ziino. The editors intend to continue to publish one guest-edited special issue per year.

In addition, the editors invite pitches from scholars for focused fora comprising two or three articles on a theme, particularly those which include scholars at different career stages.

Highlights from Taylor & Francis annual report:

We receive a confidential publishing report from Taylor & Francis each year that contains some interesting data and analysis (based on calendar years). Unfortunately, we cannot provide you with the entire document but here are some highlights from 2018:

- ❖ History Australia received 25,000 article downloads in 2018 which is 29% higher than the 19,000 downloads received in 2017.
- ❖ The most downloaded article in 2018 was 'The history of Britain is dead; long live a global history of Britain' by James Vernon, with 1062 downloads.
- ❖ The following four most-downloaded articles in 2018 were:
 - ❖ 'Potter v Minahan: Chinese Australians, the law and belonging in White Australia' by Kate Bagnall (this article also had the highest Altmetric score of all articles published in 2018)
 - ❖ 'Reflections on genocide and settler-colonial violence' by Philip Dwyer and Lyndall Ryan
 - ❖ 'Frontier Violence and the bush Legend: The Sydney Herald's Response to the Myall Creek Massacre Trials and the Creation of Colonial Identity' by Rebecca Wood
 - ❖ 'One People: Aboriginal Assimilation and the White Australia Ideal' by Russell McGregor
- ❖ In 2018, we published a total of 84 manuscripts including 37 articles; 29 book reviews; 9 exhibition reviews.

- ❖ The journal had a rejection rate of 12% (this rate includes book and exhibition reviews).
- ❖ Author comments from the Taylor & Francis publishing survey. We received an author satisfaction rating for 2018 of 8 out of a possible 10, a slight improvement on the previous year. Some examples of author comments follow for your information:
 - ❖ There were no difficulties. The process was wholly smooth and amiable.
 - ❖ I found it to be efficient, courteous and with an excellent attention to detail.
 - ❖ Only minor complaint was that I was not informed which issue the article would be published in

Twitter @HistAustJournal

History Australia now has 1,520 followers, up from 1,413 in March. The account is used primarily to promote articles and reviews published in the journal.

Michelle Arrow, Leigh Boucher and Kate Fullagar (Co-editors, *History Australia*) Macquarie University

3.7 Postgraduate Representatives Report (Aileen Walsh)

It has to be said that being the postgrad rep for the AHA is a difficult position.

Not because of an arduous workload or because of a difficult community of post graduate students, but because it is difficult connecting with other postgraduate history students to represent them.

I suspect many postgrad students do not see the value of joining the AHA and if they do join it is possibly at the urging of a supervisor.

I suspect there are quite a few postgrad history students who are not aware of the advantages of joining the AHA.

To this end, I propose the AHA start a campaign to all the history departments across Australian universities to encourage post graduate history students join the AHA, link into the AHA postgrad student FB page and so on, to stay up to date with what the AHA is doing.

All this would require is a flyer that includes relevant information.

Sample AHA flyer for history departments to send out to history post grad students.

History Postgraduate Students

We encourage you to join the AHA for all the benefits you gain from being members, and for the benefits the AHA gains from having postgraduate members.

The AHA is only as strong as its members, and while the AHA has many distinguished historians as members, it also needs postgraduate students who bring new eyes to the discipline.

The Australian Historical Association is the peak history body of Australia to which most other historical associations and societies are associated. As such the AHA offers broad scopes of understandings of Australian history on national and local levels.

And then all the benefits that are also shown to prospective members.

