2016 has been an eventful year for the Collaborative Research Centre in Australian History (CRCAH). Early on we welcomed Dr Tim Harrison and newly promoted Associate Professor Jacqueline Wilson to CRCAH. These moves were accompanied by the Regional Area Partnerships initiative to SMB where Dr Christina Sadowski was busily recruiting new postgraduates for a really important initiative. Initially the year looked like it would be dominated by unpacked boxes, but a culture soon emerged and we were quickly into the swing of things. Pleasingly our space issue was on account of so much activity.

We also welcomed Dr Ben Mountford who joined us in a teaching and research role from Corpus Christi College, University of Oxford and Dr Leanne Howard who recently completed a very fine regional studies PhD in history at the University of Melbourne with Professors Andrew May and Kate Darian-Smith. Leanne has worked tirelessly on the Ballarat Community Health history all year. The Haymes Family Foundation generously funded a position taken up by Amy Tsilemanis working with the Ballarat Mechanics Institute. We were also delighted to have Dr Joan Hunt as a Churchill Fellow working with the Centre particularly the Australian Historical Association (AHA) conference field trip to Springdallah.

If 2015 highlights included a first ever for FedUni world class ERA for historical studies then 2016 was really one of sustained highlights for a number of people and an interdisciplinary theme emerged. These included the hosting of the AHA 2016 From Boom to Bust annual conference in July that had almost 400 registrations and an extensive range of research areas represented. Although convening and organising this event stretched us to absolute capacity it delivered in proverbial spades. Big thanks to all those who played a crucial role, especially those who were on the organising committee, others who tirelessly ensured conference packs were done and that the event was an unqualified success. I certainly looked to Dr Anne Beggs-Sunter, Michael Taffe and Dr Jill Blee for their experience and knowledge of Ballarat as well as also Nick Butler and Robin Hunter whose background in teaching was invaluable organisationally.

Thanks to all colleagues and postgraduate students who worked on the conference, presented their research and took ambassadorial roles to run tours, host events and liaise with our partner organisations throughout Ballarat. The success and team effort of this conference was a personal and professional highlight and I was so proud of our presence and the generosity of so many people towards the conference and Ballarat (the entire region in truth) as an education conference destination. My particular thanks go to co-convener Dr Jolanta Nowak for her tireless efforts for the two years leading into the big week and also thanks to the team of people who worked so hard while the conference was in full swing.

Other news was the commencement/confirmation/completion of a number of excellent PhD and MA postgraduate researchers, the successful delivery and recruit of the RISER initiative and later in the year key publications by Professor Ian Clark, group and individual articles in major publishing forums, first books including Ben Mountford’s with Oxford University Press. Late in the year we had the successful launch of the
Centre for Gippsland Studies (CGS) under the stewardship of Professor Erik Eklund attracting over 70 people and last by no means least the recent award of an Australian Research Council Discovery Project on Rights in Records led by Associate Professors Joanne Evans (Monash) and Jacqueline Wilson (CRCAH) and myself as a chief investigator.

Pleasingly all of our work addresses our brief as a regional university who are engaged with the community. Moreover as a small group (right crowd and no crowd?) we are doing work that is engaged with regional, national and international conversations. That is to say the fate of regional towns, the role of community memory and key cultural institutions, historical justice for care leavers, sustaining farming communities, rights for Indigenous communities, the legacy of the mineral extraction industry and the role of community are not unique to regional Victoria and in many respects are universal policy issues for the present day.

It is with confidence that the CRCAH and allied research community can look forward to playing a role in the University’s research strengthening initiative and attracting further funding to enable our people to do work that is intellectually stimulating and engaged with the communities in which we live. We look forward to welcoming new researchers, supporting new events at places as diverse as Gippsland, Smeaton, Clunes, Portland and Horsham in the New Year. We are also in the process of negotiating hosting major conferences with kindred researchers at Monash and La Trobe Universities as well as hosting senior visitors on OSP who will help us grow our esteem measures and further strengthen our research. Stay tuned.

Can I also acknowledge the financial support of the Haymes Family Foundation, Child and Family Services (CAFS), Sovereign Hill, Heritage Victoria, RDA, RDV Wimmera Development Association, Ballarat Arts Foundation, the Sidney Myer Fund and the Australian Research Council. These organisations, along with the University, provide the resources for staff and students to undertake the research and engagement activities that are the lifeblood of any research centre.

We also say farewell to Benjamin who has been awarded a keenly contested postdoctoral fellowship (a very large field) in history based at La Trobe University Bendigo. This success for Benjamin at a kindred institution reflects so well on the Centre. We thank Dr Rani Kerin for her work on the postgraduate seminar series and in her teaching role at Faculty this year. We also were rocked by the death of activist and labour historian Lynn Beaton in the mid-year. I can say her confirmation of candidature was superb and pleasingly the Faculty have generously committed to maintaining Lynn’s legacy and also to completing the Ballarat Trades Hall history. Can I also acknowledge Sivesan Sivanandamoorthy (Sivesh) who is perhaps the hardest working postgraduate researcher that I’ve ever known. Later in the year he returns to Sri Lanka to take up an academic post at the University of Jaffna.

To think that at the end of 2016 we are co-hosting an ARC Discovery project, have had twenty new postgraduate commencements many of whom will be the regional leaders of tomorrow, enjoy philanthropic support, have rolled out RISER, look forward to further reinvigorating the CGS with Erik and are hopeful of future research funding from community, government, business and the ARC in just over two years is a real achievement. It is also testament to the hard work and support of a number of people.

I am firm believer in a strong link between teaching and research and see the roll-out of the Bachelor of Social Science (already known as the B Soc Sci) as a wonderful opportunity to deliver high quality, flexible delivery options to regional Victorians. I know the team working on it through the year are primed and ready to go. Personally I’m really looking forward to teaching From the Coast to the Outback subject and exploring the farming and mining heritage and history of south eastern Australia. If the trip to Gurindji Country earlier in the year is any guide then the new degree field based subjects will be something special.

Finally can I thank our stakeholders, honoraries, professional staff including facilities as well research visitors from all over the world, centre staff and postgraduate students. All have played a really important part in making 2016 a successful at events like Dr Rani Kerin’s postgraduate series, Associate Professor Fred Cahir’s Indigenous engagement or other functions and events. We look forward to further enabling career ambitions, research projects and livelihoods through our stakeholder oriented approach in 2017. Seemingly this engagement and quality message that we do as a matter of course is now federal government policy and we look forward to showcasing our engagement through a whole range of activities.

Best wishes and season’s greetings. Please take a break with friends and family.

Keir Reeves, Professor of Australian History and CRCAH Director
Hello folks. I will try to bring my work together under the RISER Roundup heading. 2016 has been a big year for all of us. It has seen a few more of us make the move to SMB and join the very happy crew here in the old gaol. I would like to extend my thanks to all of you for the warm welcome, the space and most importantly the collegiality. It has been a great experience to start to work with Keir Reeves and Jacqui Wilson, explore what we have in common intellectually and start to make some serious plans for the future. The inclusion of Erik Eklund from Centre for Gippsland Studies in our team is an exciting addition.

My favourite project this year was bringing the Regional Incubator for Social and Economic Research (RISER) together. RISER is situated in Horsham with a reach from Ballarat to Portland at the moment. Four PhD students have joined us in Horsham; Amity Dunstan, Cathy Tischler, Amy Isham and Joel Boyd. They will be undertaking PhDs in areas such as cultural tourism, the role of sport in social cohesion, rural population dispersal and leadership and governance in rural communities. RISER is underpinned by significant partnerships with Regional Development Australia, Wimmera Development Association and Regional Development Victoria, all of whom have provided funding for PhD scholarships. We have further PhD and Masters scholarship students to recruit in early in 2017. I would like to thank Stuart Benjamin, Keir Reeves, John McDonald and Geoff Lord for their support and assistance with RISER.

My other favourite project is the Bachelor of Social Science. The BSocSci will be commencing in Semester One 2017. This is an exciting new degree program that will be offered on four campuses and over ten community locations. It has a very solid projected growth trajectory and will be an important part of FEA’s offering in future years. The most exciting aspect of the BSocSci program is the community partnerships that make it happen in a range of settings, for students who would not usually be engaged with higher education. I must acknowledge my friend and colleague Ian Cooper, he is a true believer and the heart and soul of the program – his concern for the lives of our students is inspirational. The other brilliant thing about this program is that it draws together a diverse array of academic staff, ranging from seasoned teachers like Jacqui Wilson, Keir Reeves, John McDonald and Jeremy Smith, as well as a range of our PhD students from CRCAH and RISER. It is a privilege to lead the team.

I am generally a man of few words and I think that is more than my usual quota, so I will wish you a happy festive season and look forward to seeing you all in 2017. It promises to be a big year - full of new projects, challenges and most importantly big and dangerous ideas!
A/Professor Jacqueline Wilson: 2016 Overview

Jacqui’s research over the past year has focused on the intersection between difficult histories, archival and record keeping systems and historical justice. Jacqui has presented at numerous conferences over the past year, including the Australian Historical Association (Federation University Australia), Re-imagining Historical Childhoods (Deakin University), Experimental Histories (University of Tasmania) and the American Association of Criminology’s annual conference in New Orleans. Most recently Jacqui was a remunerated invited speaker, presenting her research into Australia’s redress scheme for Institutional childhood sexual abuse at the workshop, “Compensating the past: international approaches to redress schemes for historical child abuse”, Norrkoping, Sweden. This workshop stemmed from the research group, “Dialogues on Historical Justice and Memory Network”. This international organization provides a platform for researchers and activists working on issues of dialogue, transitional justice, and public and social memory: http://historicaldialogues.org/

The recent Turnbull government’s announcement of a national redress scheme for children abused in institutional care stems from longstanding advocacy and research in this area – Jacqui is one of several care leavers whose research has contributed to key government inquiries and outcomes such as the Australian national redress scheme and current Royal commission.

Jacqui has contributed to a submission to the current Royal Commission into Sexual Abuse of Children in Institutional care with colleagues at Monash University. This submission was quoted in the Commission’s consultation report on records and archival systems for children in out of home care. This will impact on policy concerning future record keeping systems, and on changes to the way that such historical records are archived and accessed.

Jacqui has published extensively in 2016, leading a scholarly journal article for Archival Science on State Wardship, historical justice and record keeping. She has published a further four book chapters with reputable presses (Routledge and Palgrave).

Jacqui is the lead editor for The Palgrave Handbook of Prison Tourism (successfully submitted to Palgrave Nov 2016, with 49 chapters and almost 70 contributors). This extensive Handbook addresses a range of contemporary issues related to Prison Tourism and heritage across the world. It is divided into seven sections: Ethics, Human Rights and Penal Spectatorship; Carceral Retasking, Curation and Commodification of Punishment; Meanings of Prison Life and Representations of Punishment in Tourism Sites; Death and Torture in Prison Museums; Colonialism, Relics of Empire and Prison Museums; Tourism and Operational Prisons; and Visitor Consumption and Experiences of Prison Tourism. The Handbook explores global debates within the field of Prison Tourism inquiry; spanning a diverse range of topics from political imprisonment and persecution in Taiwan to interpretive programming in Alcatraz, and the representation of incarcerated Indigenous peoples to prison graffiti. This Handbook is the first to present a thorough examination of Prison Tourism that is truly global in scope. With contributions from both well-renowned scholars and up-and-coming researchers in the field, from a wide variety of disciplines focusing on heritage and punishment, the Handbook comprises an international collection at the cutting edge of Prison Tourism studies. Students and teachers from disciplines ranging from Criminology to Cultural Studies will find the text invaluable as the definitive work in the field of Prison Tourism.

Grants: Sidney Myer project; National Priority Pool project; ARC Discovery project awarded Nov 2016. Jacqui is currently on OSP undertaking research at heritage sites in the USA, Sweden and Denmark that are concerned with historical justice, institutionalisation and incarceration. She is particularly interested in developing further research projects on redress schemes for historical abuse.
ARC success for CRCAH researchers  
Professor Keir Reeves and A/Professor Jacqueline Wilson

CRCAH researchers Professor Keir Reeves and A/Professor Jacqueline Wilson, along with Monash University researchers Dr Joanne Evans, Professor Susan McKemmish, Associate Professor Philip Mendes, and Dr Jane Bone have been awarded the ARC Discovery Project DP170100198 “Rights in records by design”. This project will design and develop a Lifelong Living Archive for children who experience out-of-home care. Children cared for out-of-home need quality recordkeeping systems to develop and nurture their sense of identity and connectedness; account for their care experiences throughout their lives; and detect, report, investigate and take action against child neglect and abuse. This research is expected to support children experiencing family dislocation through efficient, effective, and responsive recordkeeping systems to ensure the highest standards and continuity of care. The project has been awarded $542,500.

CRCAH’s role for the project builds on Jacqueline’s research leadership in a recent suite of publications in this field, along with her work with the Sidney Myer Fund and the Myer foundation. This Discovery Project also draws on and develops Jacqueline’s ongoing interest in historical justice for care leavers and Keir’s work in dealing with difficult heritage and benevolent incarceration in his Places of Pain and Shame: Dealing with Difficult Heritage (Routledge, 2009) from a previous ARC Discovery of the same name (DP0666276).

“The University congratulates Jacqueline Wilson and Keir Reeves for their crucial involvement in this important research project,” Professor Leigh Sullivan, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation), said.

“There is a vital need now for a Lifelong Living Archive for children in care.”

Chief Investigators Wilson and Reeves look forward to welcoming new postgraduate students, researchers, members of the care leaver community onto the project at Federation University Australia in the New Year.

Gurindji Freedom Festival  
Professor Keir Reeves and Dr Benjamin Mountford

In August 2016 Ben and Keir, together with filmmaker Luke Grimes of MADE (Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka) travelled to the Gurindji Freedom Festival at Kalkarindji and Daguragu in the Northern Territory.

There Ben took part in the screening of The Unlucky Australians, a documentary on the Wave Hill Walk Off made in the 1970s by the British filmmaker John Goldschmidt and the Australian author Frank Hardy. Ben also featured on a panel entitled ‘Walk Off Inspired’, with artist Peter Hudson and journalist Shirley Hardy Rix.

For more information, visit the Freedom Day 50 website, and read Ben Mountford’s blog about the Gurindji Freedom Day.
Publications

New book: Britain, China, & Colonial Australia
Dr Benjamin Mountford


Britain, China, & Colonial Australia:

- Is the first detailed study of Australian and Chinese interaction with the British Empire in the long nineteenth century
- Offers new insights into Australia’s place in the British Empire and its role in shaping migration history
- Sets the story of Australian engagement with China within the wider context of nineteenth century Pacific, transnational, and global history
- Draws on a range of hitherto unexplored UK and Australian archives

New book: Cuthberts: a Ballarat Institution
Dr Jill Blee

The legal firm of Cuthberts has indeed been a Ballarat institution. Started in 1855 by Irish lawyer Henry Cuthbert, the practice was at the forefront of everything that was happening in Ballarat. Cuthbert led a very successful gold mining syndicate in Buninyong. He quickly became an expert in mining law representing clients in some very high profile cases which went all the way to the Supreme Court. He took any active role in the theatrical life of the city and he was a pillar of the church, becoming the first Chancellor of the Diocese of Ballarat. By the 1870s he was also a member of the Legislative Council.

Cuthbert’s frequent absences from his chambers to attend to what became an illustrious career, necessitated taking in partners, firstly Agar Wynne, then Hugh Wilson Morrow and Philip Must. Henry Shaw joined the firm after Cuthbert’s death. But like Cuthbert they all involved themselves in the life of Ballarat, giving generous support to churches and schools and serving on the boards of community organisations such as the Ballarat Hospital, the Orphanage and the Benevolent Asylum. The set the pattern for those who followed them into Cuthbert, Morrow, Must and Shaw, the name by which the firm was known for much of the twentieth century. It did not become Cuthberts until after the retirement of the last of the early families in the partnership, Gavin Shaw, in the 1970s.

The firm continued to practice as Cuthberts, moving from the chambers it had occupied from the 1860s, on the corner of Dana and Lydiard Streets, to the much more prestigious building on the corner of Mair and Lydiard Streets in the 1980s, until the lawyers who had become partners in the 1960s and 1970s reached retirement. In 2013 the firm was taken over by Harwood Andrews who still occupy the Cuthbert building.
New book: *Goldfields and the Gothic: A hidden heritage and folklore*  
Dr David Waldron

Generations of Australians have grown up with the legend of Eureka and the familiar images of the gold rush in central Victoria. However, underneath these commonly known stories lies a stranger and darker past. As well as colonists, pioneers, soldiers and rebel miners, the colonial goldfields were home to spiritualists, secret societies, ghost-hoaxers, bunyip legends and murderers. There are also the stories of those often forgotten in the goldfield histories – Indigenous peoples, immigrant communities, homosexuals, and the mentally ill.

*Goldfields and the Gothic* is an anthology by local historians of the long buried legends, histories and folklore of the Victorian goldfields and their legacy today. Every historian has a collection of strange, buried pieces of history; this work begins the task of bringing them into the light.

*Goldfields and the Gothic* is published by Australian Scholarly Publishing

---

A/Professor Fred Cahir

**2016 Books**


**2016 Book chapters**


**2016 Refereed journal articles**


**Professor Keir Reeves**

**2016 books**


**2016 Book chapters**


McConville, C., Reeves, K., and Reeves A. “‘Tasman World’: Investigating the gold rush era linkages and subsequent regional development between Otago and the Victoria”. In Carpenter, L., and Fraser, L. *Rushing for Gold: Nineteenth Century Trans-Tasman Society, Mining and Enterprise*, Dunedin: Otago University Press, 2016.

**2016 Articles**


---

**Dr Rani Kerin**

In October 2016 Rani Kerin’s monograph, *Making a Difference: Fifty Years of Indigenous Programs at Monash University, 1964-2014*, was launched by Emeritus Professor Colin Bourke, chairperson of Monash University’s Indigenous Advisory Council.

Focusing on the leaders who steered Monash’s Indigenous programs over half-a-century, *Making a Difference* tells the story of visionary and committed individuals, some newcomers to Australia, some Australian-born, some Indigenous, who sought to improve Aboriginal peoples’ lives in the face of numerous obstacles. CRCAH’s Janice Newton was interviewed for the book.
More staff research activities

**Ballarat Community Health History Project**

Ballarat Community Health (BCH) has a 40-year history of caring for the health and wellbeing of the people of Ballarat. CRCAH Director Keir Reeves and Research Fellow Leanne Howard have been commissioned by BCH to research and write a history of the organisation.

From its early beginnings at Sebastopol to the new purpose-built Lucas site, the stories of this organisation have being captured through a series of 60 oral history interviews. A wide range of people associated with BCH over the decades, from early visionaries to current staff and Board members, all with a passion for community health, have shared their memories and experiences. The oral histories provide a rich archive and basis for documenting the history. A manuscript for publication is anticipated by the end of the year.

**Keir Reeves joins editorial board of new Australian History book series**

CRCAH based researcher Professor Keir Reeves has joined the Editorial Board of a new book series in Australian History with London based Anthem Press. University of Melbourne based Series Editor Professor Kate Darian-Smith recently announced that Anthem Press will publish around three titles each year in Australian History. Keir joins other Editorial Board members in promoting the book series, and raising awareness of the entry of Anthem Press into the Australian market. Anthem’s aim is to be a premium publisher of Australian scholarly work. Professor Darian-Smith explains that “given the challenges in academic publishing, Anthem’s move into the Australian market and in Australian History offers a rare opportunity for our field” and is keen “that this Australian History book series does publish new and important work”.

Professor Reeves is delighted that an independent academic publisher based in London is publishing Australian History and looks forward to working with Dr Anna Clark (UTS), Associate Professor Frank Bongiorno (ANU), Dr Agnieszka Sobocinska (Monash), and Professor Chris McAuliffe (ANU) and other members of the Editorial Board on this exciting new initiative.

The series will sit alongside several new book series in Australian Literature, Australian Politics, Economics and Society. There will be a launch of the series in early 2017.

Federation University Australia based historians and allied researchers can contact Keir if they are looking for a publisher or if they are planning to publish a history manuscript.

Email: k.reeves@federation.edu.au or crcah@federation.edu.au
HDR student news

Megan Ponsford completes PhD
Megan Ponsford’s thesis, “Progressive rebels or Boy’s Own adventure? The 1935 Australian cricket tour of India; breaking down social and racial barriers” was passed with flying colours: congratulations, Megan!

Kylie Rippon presents research at ANU
CRCAH HDR student Kylie Rippon presented her paper Aboriginal Acts and their effect on Victorian Aboriginal parenting, 1869 - 1900 at the Australian Policy and History workshop, How Australians should live, Tuesday 1 November 2016, at the Australian National University.

The workshop was convened by the Museum of Australian Democracy, the Australian Policy and History Network and the Research School of Social Sciences, Australian National University.

The Australian Policy and History (APH) Network aims to provide policymakers, the media and the general public with relevant, accessible information about the historical background to current events and issues. It connects historians with those making and commenting on public policy, so that the insights gained from the past can be used to inform decision-making in the present, in turn leading to better outcomes in the future.

Amy Tsilemanis presents in San Francisco
In November PhD student Amy Tsilemanis travelled to San Francisco for the international Independent Libraries and Mechanics’ Institutes conference themed ‘Reinvention: Thriving in the 21st century.’ Delegates came from institutes around the world to share their insights into this evolving area and form networks for future projects. Amy presented on her recent activities at the Ballarat Mechanics’ Institute where she is doing curatorial work with the collection and undertaking her research into ‘Creative Activation of the Past’ and the contemporary role of cultural institutions like the BMI.

David McGinniss was awarded a PhD scholarship to write a history of Child and Family Services, Ballarat. The project will draw on oral history, archival documents and material culture.

PhD confirmations
Dan Eddy, “Alex Jesaulenko and the Ever Changing Face of Australian Football”
Jennie Barrera, “The Millers: Historical analysis of an early Australian Colonial Family”
Shirley Strachan, “From Football Masseurs to Folk Healers, Thomas Ambrose Bowen (1916-1982) and his contemporaries: Exploring Legacies, Creativity, Tacit knowledge and Embodiment”
CRCAH comings and goings

On 17 March 2016 around 60 CRCAH staff, students and friends celebrated the **move to our new, larger office space in the E building, SMB,** and CRCAH’s recent achievements with a BBQ.

Head of campus Sam Henson welcomed everyone and CRCAH Director Professor Keir Reeves noted CRCAH’s recent substantial growth and significant research strengths.

Welcome back to **Professor Erik Eklund.** Erik returns to the Gippsland campus with a chair in Australian History and as the Director of the Centre for Gippsland Studies and member of CRCAH. In 2015-16 Erik was Keith Cameron Chair in Australian History at University College Dublin.

We bid farewell to **Dr Benjamin Mountford** who leaves CRCAH to take up the position of David Myers Research Fellow, La Trobe University. Ben has been an indefatigable and cheerful member of CRCAH and will be missed greatly. We congratulate him and wish him all the best in his new position.

We also farewell **Sivesan Sivanandamoorthy** who is soon to submit his doctoral thesis, *Tourism governance for sustainable heritage tourism in Sri Lankan heritage destinations.* After three years of sustained work in Ballarat, Sivesh will return to Sri Lanka. CRCAH won’t be the same without his presence – all the best to you and your family, Sivesh!

**Congratulations**

Congratulations to CRCAH Fellow and former MADE Director, **Jane Smith,** who joined the University Council

Congratulations to **A/Professor Jacqueline Wilson** and to **Dr Tim Harrison,** who have both been awarded the Dean’s Award. Tim was nominated by Professor John McDonald, and Jacqui by Research Services for Outstanding Research.

**PhD scholarship applications now open**

The Faculty of Education and Arts (Federation University Australia) and the Ballarat Trades and Labour Council (BTLC) invite applications from high calibre candidates to enrol in a Doctor of Philosophy to investigate the history of the Council.

The Ballarat Trades and Labour Council played a major role in the eight hour day movement and the formation of the Victorian Labor Party. The Trades Hall in Camp Street was constructed in 1887/88 and is historically significant because it represents the strength of organised labour in the colony in the late 19th Century.

The doctoral candidate will be expected to produce a book as part of the output of their doctoral research.

For further information please contact:
Dr Jeremy Smith or Professor Keir Reeves
Email: crcah@federation.edu.au
Telephone: +61 3 5327 9599

Applications close: January 20, 2017
2016 CRCAH Events

Australian Historical Association (AHA) 2016 Conference From Boom to Bust 4-8 July

In early July the AHA 2016 conference "From Boom to Bust", hosted by the Collaborative Research Centre in Australian History (CRCAH), was held at Federation University Australia, Ballarat. Organised by Keir Reeves and Jolanta Nowak the conference attracted 376 registrations as well as many members of the public who attended free events including the topical “Ballarat: Democratic Paradox – An exemplar of civic participation concealing its outcasts” held at Ludbrook House, Child and Family Services (CAFS).

There was a strong turnout of postgraduate and early career researchers and they were well serviced by a number of targeted events such as AHS and History Australia workshops, launches and professional development sessions at the Public Records Office of Victoria (PROV). There was also a strong showing of senior members of the History profession and this really assisted in the strengthening the streams.

Many have commented that the conference had a very friendly and convivial ambience and subsequent feedback has confirmed this. Conference highlights included the Australian premiere of John Goldschmidt's film Unlucky Australians at the Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka (MADE) some forty years after it was made.

Many strong session streams included environmental, Indigenous, mining and regional history as well as the ASSH and AVSA streams.

Pleasingly there were also many presentations from those working in government as well as the galleries, libraries, archives and museums sector. We also welcomed a number of presenters from overseas.

The venues were a highlight of this conference and the historic environs of Ballarat lent itself to the conference theme and to the hosting of the AHA. Feedback from regional tourism bodies, local government and Minister Pulford’s office was that it was a wonderful outcome for regional Victoria.

Key venues included the Ballarat Mechanics' Institute, Ballarat Fine Art Gallery, Ballarat Trades Hall, Ludbrook House CAFS, Craig's Hotel, as well as Federation University Australia's Camp Street precinct and the School of Mines (SMB) campus. The region around Ballarat was also showcased during the tours of the Berry Leads mining assemblage and the area around Springdallah.

The conference events were very well attended and the Berry Leads tour (where many pastoralists kindly opened up their properties to the AHA field trip delegation) examining mining history and its environmental legacy and country town formation (Clunes) over a selection of regional wines was a highlight for many of those who stayed around until Saturday to go digging for gold.

Keynotes

Robert Anderson (Clare Hall, Cambridge), 'The changing nature of museums: booming, busting, or what?'

Adam Wilkinson (Edinburgh World Heritage), 'The death of the moral prerogative – why bother with urban conservation'
Angela Woollacott (AHA President, ANU), ‘The making of a reformer: Don Dunstan before the Dunstan decade’

Andrew May, Simon Sleight, Louise Prowse, Lisa Murray, Centering the City: Spaces of Practice in Australian Urban and Regional History (panel)

Affiliated conferences

Australian Society for Sport History (ASSH): 5 July
Convenor: Gary Osmond

Australasian Victorian Studies Association (AVSA): 7-8 July
Convenor: A/Prof Meg Tasker
Theme: Victorian Margins
Keynote speaker: Joseph Bristow (UCLA), ‘Homosexual blackmail in the 1890s’

Gippsland History Conference: Post-war Gippsland development, 1945-65
29 October, Churchill campus

Gippsland experienced a surge of development after World War II, dominated by expansion in industry (coal, gas, oil and paper) and major projects such as the expansion of the Macalister Irrigation District.

This Gippsland history conference explored how this development attracted people to Gippsland and how it impacted on the lives of Gippslanders. The conference brought together CRCAH historians, local history and community groups.

2016 Research seminars

Dr Alex Trimble Young, University of Southern California “The Vigorous New Vernacular”: Mark Twain’s Irony and the Politics of Memorializing the Gold Rush, 1 August

A/Professor Krista Maglen, Indiana University, Bloomington Little Fingers, Forgotten Men, and the Snake under the House: Considering Hidden Actors in Australian History, 6 June

A/Professor Jacqueline Wilson, CRCAH, Visual Criminology and Cultural Memory: The Aestheticisation of Boat People, 27 May

Dr Alexander Bubb, King’s College, University of London, Contract Raj: Perspectives on the Indian Construction Contractor, from Colonial Railways to Contemporary Satire, 21 April

History/Heritage/Place discussion group

Making History: a showcase of projects and ideas, 25 May

Making spaces: whose places are these anyway, 17 March
World Heritage Listing symposium
A regional nomination for world heritage listing of the Victorian Goldfields, Australia’s premier
heritage region: charting a way forward

28 April
This symposium brought together approximately 60 government and regional leaders and other partners and
stakeholders to engage in discussion about the issues surrounding the proposed World Heritage Listing
nomination. Also under discussion were the opportunities the Victorian Goldfields and World Heritage Listing
offers to strengthen regional and local economic development and job creation and to add to liveability.

World class research ERA ranking for historical studies and archaeology for Federation University
Australia

Federation University Australia has received a world-class ranking for history and archaeology at the 21 two-
digit code and also the historical studies 2103 four-digit code. With acknowledged strengths in Australian
history and heritage studies and cultural history, the University has a strong role to play in regional development
throughout the region.

Federation University Australia ERA History FoR leader Professor Keir Reeves is delighted and commented
that “this is a terrific result as we did not have a history FoR gather in the previous assessment and we have
now debuted with a world class research ERA ranking for history from the Australian Research Council”.

“3” represents world standard and this represents a terrific result not only for CRCAH and its
growing postgraduate cohort but also the Faculty of Education and Arts at Federation University Australia. It
is a huge endorsement for historical studies research throughout regional Victoria.

Professor Reeves concurs with the Chair of Regional Universities Network Professor Jan Thomas “that
fundamental and engaged research are not mutually exclusive – we do both at regional universities”. This is
great result for history and archaeology in regional Victoria and given the heritage significance of the region it
is fitting that research is being conducted at a world-class level.

Vale Lynn Beaton

CRCAH historian and postgraduate researcher Lynn Beaton died unexpectedly in June 2016. It was with flying
colours that Lynn outlined her excellent research on the history of the Ballarat Trades Hall and the Ballarat
Trades and Labour Council (BTLC) during her confirmation of PhD candidature.

Lynn’s activist background, obvious depth of knowledge and abiding sympathy for the subject matter resonated
throughout her work and made her an ideal fit for the Ballarat Trades Hall PhD. She was a deserving recipient
of the postgraduate scholarship with a great run of research in the waiting. She had been planning to present
on goldfields labour history at the AHA From Boom to Bust conference hosted by CRCAH. Dr Kate MacNeill,
University of Melbourne, presented Lynn’s paper “Revisiting Clunes – Race Riot or Fight for the Eight Hour
Day” posthumously.

For further information about CRCAH:
http://federation.edu.au/research/research-areas/research-centres-and-networks/crcah
email: crcah@federation.edu.au