

Warami Online AHA Attendees,

In the next few pages you will find the full online schedule for the 2026 AHA conference. We are happy to be able to offer one more online session in each time slot than initially planned. We would, however, ask for your patience and goodwill, particularly in the early sessions of the conference. Arranging for the right technology and support to enable the offering of these sessions in hybrid form at MQ has proven to be a little more challenging than we first hoped. We are confident that all online attendees will be able to participate in the conference, but please be a little patient at the start of each session as our zoom operators set up. During the conference, the AHA email will be monitored at all times. Please email [aha2026@mq.edu.au](mailto:aha2026@mq.edu.au) if you have any problems.

Each day the conference will be running 3 “zoom rooms” and the zoom links for these can be found at the top of each daily schedule that follows; the same link applies to all rooms within that column for that day. Please note there is a new link for each zoom room each day. You will need to have a zoom account, please [sign up here](#) if you do not have one (<https://zoom.us/signup>). Each room will have an allocated zoom operator each day to facilitate the hybrid sessions for those in-room, as well as for supporting those presenting online.

**If you are an online presenter**, your guidance is as follows:

- Please ensure you have tested your internet connection, microphone, and video prior to the session.
- Please log into your zoom room 10 minutes before your session is scheduled to commence, using the link for your session noted below.
- Once logged in, the zoom operator will change your status from attendee to panellist; please accept the prompt asking you to do this.
- Once you are a panellist, you and the zoom operator will be able to send direct messages, so please keep an eye on the chat.
- When it is your turn to present, you will be able to unmute and share your screen/slides. The operator will be on hand to support as necessary.

**If you are an attendee**, simply log in a few minutes before the session is scheduled to commence. You may see and hear a little preparation occurring in the room but the formal session will commence shortly. If you cannot hear or see the presenter or you have a question you would like raised during the Q&A, please enter it into the chat, which will be monitored by our helpful zoom operators!

## Acknowledgment of Country

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We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the Land on which Macquarie University stands, the Wallumattagal people of the Dharug Nation, whose cultures and customs have nurtured and continue to nurture this land since time immemorial. We pay our respects to Elders past and present, and to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders attending the conference.

## Conference Theme: Changing Minds

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The capacity to ‘change one’s mind’ is a foundational premise in the discipline of history. Upon encountering evidence that disrupts our existing explanations, the story goes, we might adjust, rework or perhaps even overturn our interpretations. And yet, historians do not often describe how and why they have changed their minds. While we are comfortable tracing changes in historiography, it seems harder to narrate our own intellectual alterations or confess that we were once, perhaps, mistaken.

As historians, we also tend to be quite interested in how mentalities, attitudes, and beliefs change over time. Might there be a relationship to consider between how we narrate changes in ourselves as researchers and the changes we seek to explain? Perhaps a more honest account of our own attachments and preoccupations would help us to explain why some changes happen quickly, others take an age and some, though imagined and wished for, never seem to eventuate.

Explaining how we come to interpret history could not be more urgent. Historical narratives, however unencumbered by evidence, proliferate in the polarised political and social worlds in which our work takes place. Troubling and divisive mobilisations all too frequently depend on facile explanations for the predicaments and challenges we face. AI/LLMs are producing histories that bear the hallmarks of our disciplinary commitments but emerge from a ‘mind’ of a very different kind, one that mirrors the labour of humanistic inquiry in a poor facsimile of our endeavours.

Australian universities are being remade in ways that often mobilise these meagre but nonetheless potent historical narratives. ‘Change proposals’ and ‘restructures’ frequently offer diagnoses that seem to obfuscate and displace cause and responsibility. The discipline of history is facing a set of challenges that seem to undermine the legitimacies and infrastructures upon which we have long depended.

So too, The Uluru Statement from the Heart was an invitation to change the story Australia tells itself. The AHA robustly endorsed this invitation and similarly invited the profession to throw its weight behind the proposal for an Indigenous Voice in the Australian Constitution. There were reasons to be optimistic about our capacity to change the hearts and minds of Australians about their national story. Historians of Australia had, without question, reoriented the national story through the careful revelation of the violences of settler colonialism and its continued legacies. Yet, the misreadings and mistruths that underpinned the ‘No’ campaign remained perniciously potent and resistant to critique. The result of the referendum suggests, perhaps, that we did not equip ourselves with the tools we need to change the stories that pulse in the heart of the nation.

To consider how we might make space for, explain and even produce changes of heart and mind, the 2026 AHA annual conference meets at Macquarie University, on Dharug Country, in Sydney as well as online for those unable to come to campus.

## Online Program

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**MON 29 JUNE**

\*= Online presentation

Time	Zoom Room A	Zoom Room B	Zoom Room C
Zoom link	<a href="https://macquarie.zoom.us/j/82802240722">https://macquarie.zoom.us/j/82802240722</a>		
5.00-6.30	<b>Lotus Theatre / Hybrid</b> <b>KEYNOTE SESSION</b>  <b>Conference Opening and AHA</b> <b>Presidential Address</b>  Welcome to Country: Aunty Ros Fogg  Welcome to Macquarie University: Professor Sarah Sorial  Welcome to the Conference and Housekeeping: Associate Professor Leigh Boucher  Presidential Address: Professor Michelle Arrow, Changing Minds in Trying Times	NA	NA

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**TUES 30 JUNE**

\*= Online presentation

Time	Zoom Room A	Zoom Room B	Zoom Room C
Daily zoom link	<a href="https://macquarie.zoom.us/j/86528463841">https://macquarie.zoom.us/j/86528463841</a>	<a href="https://macquarie.zoom.us/j/81800328146">https://macquarie.zoom.us/j/81800328146</a>	<a href="https://macquarie.zoom.us/j/85909319987">https://macquarie.zoom.us/j/85909319987</a>
9.00am-10.30am	<p><b>Room A208 / Hybrid</b>  <b>AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S HISTORY NETWORK</b>  <b>Roundtable: Future of Gender Studies in Australia</b>                      Chair: Jane Carey</p> <p>Rebecca Sheehan                      Cassandra Byrnes                      Barbara Baird</p>	<p><b>Room A112 / Hybrid</b>  <b>GENERAL STREAM</b>  <b>Moral Life: Care and Conviction in Australia</b>                      Chair: Laura Rademaker</p> <p><b>Caring for the Soul: A Social History of Spiritual Care in Australia from 1850</b>                      Timothy Jones</p> <p><b>Change Your Mind, Change Your Life(style): The History of Veganism in Australia, 1970s-2020s</b>                      Marie-Elyse Smith</p> <p><b>Changing Her Mind, Holding the Line: Gender, Marriage, and the Uneven Work of Transformation in the Life of Bessie Harrison Lee*</b>                      Jennifer Caligari</p>	<p><b>Room A111 / Hybrid</b>  <b>GENERAL STREAM</b>  <b>Re-appraising Indigenous Histories</b>                      Chair: Kate Fullagar</p> <p><b>Wardandi Noongar Land in 1801: How the Baudin Expedition Changed Its Mind About Rousseau's Idea of the 'Natural Man'</b>                      Mary Blight</p> <p><b>Did Joseph Banks Change His Mind? What Banks Said, Hawkesworth Wrote and the Voyage of the Endeavour in New Holland, 1770-1786</b>                      David Meredith</p> <p><b>Changing Minds: Classical Historiographical Methodology in the Re-Appraisal of Indigenous Histories</b>                      Roger Karge</p>
11.00am-12.30pm	<p><b>Room A204 / Hybrid</b>  <b>LEGAL HISTORY</b>  <b>Change, Law &amp; History Internationally</b>                      Chair: TBC</p> <p><b>Changing Minds: The Transformation of Authority in Northern Ireland</b>                      Melissa Pavihi</p> <p><b>State Formation, Surveillant</b></p>	<p><b>Room A112 / Hybrid</b>  <b>AMHN</b>  <b>Roundtable: Sydney: Migrant City?</b>                      Chair: Francesco Ricatti</p> <p>Sophie Loy-Wilson                      Leigh Boucher                      Zora Simic                      James Findlay</p>	<p><b>Room A207 / Hybrid</b>  <b>GREEN STREAM / INDIGENOUS HISTORIES</b>  <b>Roundtable: From Invasion to Embassy to Georges River Blues: Reflecting on the work of Heather Goodall</b>                      Chair: Katie Holmes</p> <p>Ruth Morgan                      Jessica Urwin</p>

	<p><b>Assemblage and Settler Colonialism: The Control of Non-'white' Persons in Australia and South Africa, 1901-1939</b> Evan Smith</p> <p><b>Changing Minds on Colonial Legacies: French Historians and the Pursuit of Justice for Algeria*</b> Charalampos (Harry) Stamelos</p>	<p>Andonis Piperoglou Talei Mangioni</p>	<p>John Maynard Heidi Norman Allison Cadzow Devleena Ghosh</p>
1.30pm-3.00pm	<p><b>Lotus Theatre / Hybrid</b> <b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS</b> <b>Changing Minds - Propaganda, Persuasion, and the British and Australian Media</b> Simon Potter</p>	N/A	N/A
3.30pm-5.30pm	<p><b>Room A110 / Hybrid</b> <b>GENERAL STREAM</b> <b>Entangled Histories</b> Chair: Yves Rees</p> <p><b>Troops to Treaties: The Evolution of the Australia-Japan Relationship, 1946-1976</b> Alison Starr</p> <p><b>Cross Culturalizing Historian: Rethinking Japanese Public History via the adaptation of Minoru Hokari*</b> Takuya Tokuhara</p> <p><b>'China Had Reached a Very High Stage of Civilisation When Britain Was Peopled with Naked Savages': Chinese Democratic Engagement and Australian Settler Responses, 1850s-1880s</b> Frank Bongiorno</p> <p><b>'Joined Together by Bands of Steel': Nation, Empire, and the Politics of Transcontinental Rail</b> Benjamin Mountford</p>	<p><b>Room A112 / Hybrid</b> <b>AMHN</b> <b>Revisiting Datasets</b> Chair: Roland Leikauf</p> <p><b>Migrant Music-Making and Dance in Postwar Australia: Searching The Good Neighbour with AI*</b> Nicholas Tochka* &amp; Emily Fitzgerald</p> <p><b>'Fare Ye Well': Ex-Convict Departures and the Rethinking of Australian Settlement, 1788-1901</b> Matthew Cunneen</p> <p><b>Silence in the Gaol: Interracial Intimacy, Missing Records, and Microhistorical Method in Late Colonial and Early Federation New South Wales*</b> Joseph Black</p>	<p><b>Room A109 / Hybrid</b> <b>GENERAL STREAM</b> <b>Songs, Stories, and Spectacles: Transnational Art Histories</b> Chair: Chloe Ho</p> <p><b>"Letter from Madame Benda": Australian Singers Abroad</b> Rosemary Richards</p> <p><b>A Singaporean xiangsheng? The History of Singaporean Bilingual xiangsheng, 1973-2025 to Negotiating China's Influence on Bilingual xiangsheng in Singapore, 1973-2025*</b> Ruth Tan</p> <p><b>Singing the News in Colonial Australia</b> Madeline Sargeant</p> <p><b>The Influence of the Middle East and North Africa on Early 20th-century Australian Artists: Light and Deserts, Gold and Blue</b> Kate Hunter</p>

## WED 1 JULY

\*= Online presentation

Time	Zoom Room A	Zoom Room B	Zoom Room C
Daily zoom link	<a href="https://macquarie.zoom.us/j/86404001691">https://macquarie.zoom.us/j/86404001691</a>	<a href="https://macquarie.zoom.us/j/88469940979">https://macquarie.zoom.us/j/88469940979</a>	<a href="https://macquarie.zoom.us/j/85247697190">https://macquarie.zoom.us/j/85247697190</a>
9.00am-11.00am	<b>Room A110 / Hybrid</b> <b>GENERAL STREAM</b> <b><i>War and Its Afterlives</i></b> Chair: Frank Bongiorno  <b>The Underworld: Living and Dying in London's Air Raid Shelters, 1917-1918*</b> Brett Holman <b>Imperial Fascists in New South Wales: Who were the Interwar Australians who joined the New Guard?</b> Anthony Zougras <b>Beyond the Moment of Crisis: Tracing Veteran Suicide in the Archive, 1914-1945</b> Meggie Hutchison <b>Escape from Rabul</b> John Reeves	<b>Room A204 / Hybrid</b> <b>HISTORIES OF VIOLENCE</b> <b><i>Left, Right and Racial Violence</i></b> Chair: Andrew Bonnell  <b>"They Always Knew These Stories": Images of Racial Violence and the Children Who See Them</b> Jaylynn Rose* <b>Making Australia: Changing Minds on Race and Immigration</b> Ella Byrne <b>Perpetrator Testimony in the Investigative Archive</b> Jayne Persian <b>Legitimacy and Illegitimacy of Political Violence on the Revolutionary Left in Western Europe in the 1970s</b> Ben Mercer	<b>Room A207 / Hybrid</b> <b>GREEN STREAM</b> <b><i>Health, Conservation and Care</i></b> Chair: Rohan Lloyd  <b>Rethinking Conservation in Nineteenth-Century South Australia: The Early Emergence of a Colonial Conservation Consciousness *</b> Sharyn Clarke <b>'Changing Minds on the Mallee: Hazel Hogan and an Ethic of Care'</b> Katie Holmes <b>Saving Tasmania's Last Wild River: How Film Changed a Continent's Relationship with Wilderness</b> Logan Yogi <b>'Nuisances Galore': How One Man Changed the Course of Sanitary and Environmental Management in Sydney</b> Lisa Murray
11.30am-12.30pm	<b>Lotus Theatre / Hybrid</b> <b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS</b>  <b>Truth telling and the media – the role of journalism in “narrowing the space for permissible lies” about colonisation</b>  Lorena Allam	N/A	N/A

<p>1.30pm-3.00pm</p>	<p><b>Room A110 / Hybrid</b>  <b>MEDICAL HISTORY</b>  <b>Activism and Resilience</b>  Chair: Meredith Temple-Smith</p> <p>So Much More Than Just a Support Group for Mums: Changing Views of Australian Breastfeeding Association, Formerly Known as the Nursing Mothers' Association of Australia  <b>Margaret Carmody</b>  Preventative Activism: The History of the Medical Association for Prevention of War  <b>Abbey Malone</b>  Bee Miles and Encephalitis Lethargica – The 'Enigma' Revisited  <b>David Roth*</b></p>	<p><b>Room A209 / Hybrid</b>  <b>HISTORIES OF CAPITALISM</b>  <b>Colonial Capitalism</b>  Chair: Matthew Ryan</p> <p>'A Field for Anglo-Indian Capital': Australian Domesticity and the Marketing of Colonial Modernity in James Inglis's Story of the Tea Trade (1901)*  <b>Chris Holdridge*</b>  The Economic Mirage: Analyzing Western perceptions of Qajar-Era Tabriz  <b>Sadra Emami</b>  "The Queen's Exequatur—Whatever That May Be": Consular Representation of Foreign Powers in Colonial Australasia, 1850–1900  <b>André Brett</b></p>	<p><b>Room A207 / Hybrid</b>  <b>GREEN STREAM / AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S HISTORY NETWORK</b>  <b>Not In Her Nature: Australian Women and Changing Environmental Understandings in the Mid-twentieth Century</b>  Chair: Jane Carey</p> <p><b>'What Makes the Wind Blow? A Man in the Sky': Religion, Atheism and Nature Study in Mid-century New South Wales</b>  Ruby Ekkel  <b>Irene Crespin's New Horizons: Women, Microfossils, and Government Science in Mid-Century Australia</b>  Jarrod Hore  <b>"A New and Distinctive Australian Art": Mary Cecil Allen, Mid-Century Women's Transnationalism and the Quest for Desert Landscape Modernism in Australia</b>  Ingrid Ryan</p>
<p>3.30pm-5.00pm</p>	<p><b>Room: 25WWC C120 / Hybrid</b>  <b>PRESIDENT'S PANEL</b>  <b>Roundtable: History in Australian Schools: Crisis and Continuity?</b>  Chair: Michelle Arrow</p> <p>Jonathon Dallimore  Anna Clark  Megan Tucker  Kerri Garrard  Alana Ryan</p>	<p><b>Room A204 / Hybrid</b>  <b>HISTORIES OF VIOLENCE</b>  <b>Domestic and Colonial Violence in nineteenth century Australasia</b>  Chair: Clare Corbould</p> <p><b>The X-rated Early History of Wellington; Three Violent and Tragic Events that Surround the 1843 Wairau Affray*</b>  Rose Salas  <b>The Spatiality of Domestic Violence in Late-Nineteenth and Early-Twentieth-Century Australia</b>  Zoe Smith</p>	<p><b>Room A207 / Hybrid</b>  <b>GREEN STREAM</b>  <b>Watery Worlds</b>  Chair: Jarrod Hore</p> <p><b>Venomous Proximities: Snakes, Irrigation, and Everyday Risk</b>  Amanda Wells  <b>Heavy Metals in Wetlands: Tracing a History of Contamination, Awareness, and Advocacy</b>  Lilian Pearce  Emily O'Gorman  <b>'Plenty Water for a Long Time': Indigenous Water Management and Invasion</b>  Billy Griffiths</p>

## THUR 2 JULY

\*= Online presentation

Time	Zoom Room A	Zoom Room B	Zoom Room C
Daily zoom link	<a href="https://macquarie.zoom.us/j/85391069181">https://macquarie.zoom.us/j/85391069181</a>	<a href="https://macquarie.zoom.us/j/89623262001">https://macquarie.zoom.us/j/89623262001</a>	<a href="https://macquarie.zoom.us/j/84372949367">https://macquarie.zoom.us/j/84372949367</a>
9.00am-10.30am	<p><b>Room A209 / Hybrid</b>  <b>WAR AND CONFLICT</b>  <b>Global Narratives of Conflict</b>            Chair: Nicole Townsend</p> <p><b>Politico-Strategic Relationship between Australia, Canada, and the United Kingdom during the Second World War</b>            Harrison Kennedy</p> <p><b>Differing Perspectives: The Death of the Red Baron and the British, Australian and Canadian Official Histories*</b>            Ross Mahoney*</p> <p><b>Religious School or Security Threat: How Western Narratives Framed Madrassas After 9/11</b>            Arif Ahmad</p>	<p><b>Room A204 / Hybrid</b>  <b>GENERAL STREAM</b>  <b>Playing, Remembering, Recording: Oral Histories in Practice</b>            Chair: Alistair Thomson</p> <p><b>Changing Minds, Making Selves: History, Autoethnography, and the Temporarily Labile Self*</b>            Emily Rose</p> <p><b>Interview in Play: An Approach to Video Game Oral History*</b>            Dany Guay-Belanger</p> <p><b>Shared Oral Histories Build Community Networks. Can They Survive as an Open Archive in the Rapidly Changing Digital Space?</b>            Peter Whalley-Thompson</p>	<p><b>Room A207 / Hybrid</b>  <b>GREEN STREAM</b>  <b>Scientific Authority and Environmental Knowledge</b>            Chair: Nancy Cushing</p> <p><b>Changing Perspectives on Natural Hazards</b>            Lena Krause</p> <p><b>Sound as a Portal: Seismic and the Right to Know</b>            Rebecca McCauley</p> <p><b>Changing Minds, Claiming Authority: Astrometeorology and Weather Knowledge in Australia</b>            Michael Evans</p>
11.00am-12.30pm	<p><b>Lotus Theatre / Hybrid</b>  <b>PLENARY PANEL</b>  <b>Uncertain Descents – History, Intimacy and Transformation</b>            Anna Clark, Andrew May, Catherine Freyne            Chair: Leigh Boucher</p>	N/A	N/A
1.30pm-3.00pm	<p><b>Room A112 / Hybrid</b>  <b>AMHN</b>  <b>Sharing Community Histories</b>            Chair: Justine Greenwood</p>	<p><b>Room A204 / Hybrid</b>  <b>GENERAL STREAM</b>  <b>Machines, Markets, and Meaning: Cultural Histories of the Digital Age</b></p>	<p><b>Room A207 / Hybrid</b>  <b>GREEN STREAM</b>  <b>Doing Environmental History</b>            Chair: Claire Brennan</p>

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**The "Bonegilla Phenomenon" and Its Meaning in Hungary\***

Endre Domaniczky\*

**Migration History and Migration Communities: Contested Stories**

Roland Leikauf

**La China: An Ephemeral Chinese–Mexican Community in San Antonio and One Family’s Extraordinary Journey across Asia, Mexico, and the United States**

Shouyue Zhang

Chair: Michelle Arrow

**Hot Singles in Your Area!: Forming Relationships Across the Online/IRL Divide in 90s and 00s Australia**

Rebecca Houlihan

**Simulating the Past: Animatronics and Artificial Intelligence\***

Cate Alexander

**Will Capitalism Eat Your Journal?**

Andrew Bonnell

**In the Mind of Donald Forbes: Accessing the Archival Material of a Man Who Applied to Mine Ellison Reef**

Rohan Lloyd

~~**Qualitative Evidence and Fire Science: Reframing Australia’s Nineteenth-Century Fire History**~~

~~Fiannuala Morgan Paper Withdrawn~~

**Regenerating a Wetland Community\***

Nandi Chinna

Andrea Gaynor

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3.30pm-  
5.00pm

**Room A209 / Hybrid**

GENERAL STREAM

**Archives, Data, and Historical Practice**

Chair: Peter Hobbins

**Do You Mind? The Relationship Between Historian and the Secrets of the Past**

Hannah Viney

**Using Data from the Colonial Archive – Discussing the Position of the Human-in-the-Loop\***

Jennifer Tadge\*

**Reclaiming Research in Collection-Based Institutions**

Penelope Stannard

**Room A204 / Hybrid**

GENERAL STREAM

**New Histories of Family Life**

Chair: Sharon Crozier-De Rosa

**The Power of Family History Research to ‘Change Minds’**

Scott Beasley

**‘I Almost Forget How Badly You Spell’: Sibling Dynamics in First World War Letters \***

Bessie Mikelsons\*

**New Age Grandparents and Thrill-Seeking Grannies: Reimagining Old Age in Postwar Australia**

Emily Gallagher

**Room A207 / Hybrid**

GREEN STREAM

**Mobile Biota**

Chair: Simon Farley

**Transforming Tasmania? Early European Voyages and Acclimatisation**

Claire Brennan

**The Year the Bats Changed their Minds: Suburbanisation, Precipitation, and the Migration of the Flying-Foxes to Melbourne**

Harrison Croft

**Kill the Whales? The Whaling Information Centre and Anti-Environmentalism in the 1970s**

Michael Duri

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