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Message from the Head of School

Welcome to the second issue of the School Newsletter. This newsletter is produced quarterly and is designed to showcase staff and student achievements, provide updates on staff comings and goings and keep everyone informed of interesting and important events in which the School is involved.

Thankyou to staff for their contributions and to Tim Minchin, Donna Bisset and Judy Ram for their work in putting this newsletter together.

01**Administration update**

The school administration team farewelled Catherine Fay in July and Edmee Kenny in September. Good luck to Catherine in her new position in Allied Health and happy travelling to Edmee.

We also welcome Abigail Tinginis into the role of Administrative Officer. Abigail joins us from the National Gallery of Victoria. Judy Ram has also joined us in the role of PA to Head of School/Administrative Officer. Judy joins us from the Division of Health Studies.

02**Staff promotions and appointments**

Congratulations to: David Frankel and Diane Kirkby who have both been appointed to Professor commencing 1st January 2009. Congratulations to: Ms Udani Gunawardena and Mr Wei Ming who have been promoted.

Professor Marilyn Lake, was elected Vice President/President elect of the Australian Historical Association in July. Congratulations to Marilyn for this honour and recognition of her service to the History profession.

Patrick Wolfe, currently a Charles LaTrobe Fellow in the program, has been appointed to the Organisation of American Historian Distinguished Lectureship Program. This is a considerable honour for Patrick, all the more so as it is one rarely bestowed on Australian Historians.

We welcome Dr Caroline Jordan and Dr Adelina Modesti to the History Program.

03

04

HES in the news

Dr Anita Smith of the Archaeology Program wrote a column for the *Canberra Times* on 30th June discussing the adaptations Pacific Island societies make in the wake of environmental change, such as rising sea levels.

Professor Tim Murray of Archaeology has commenced excavation work at the old Carlton United Brewery site. He was interviewed by ABC radio in both Melbourne and Sydney on 4th July, and the story received coverage on numerous news websites and newspapers such as *The Herald Sun*. This work was reported in a large article in *The Herald Sun* on 4 July and *The Age* on 12 July.

Dr Phillip Edwards of the Archaeology Program appeared on Radio Triple-R's, The Party Show on 18 August, in his regular role as 'resident archaeologist'.

Dr Richard Cosgrove of Archaeology was quoted in the *Brimbank Leader* on 19 August about the presence of both artefacts and megafauna fossils in Keilor Valley.

Ms Jenny Rogers of the History Program discussed the birth of irrigated horticulture in Sunraysia on ABC Mildura Swan Hill on 28 August.

Dr Ralph Newmark of the History Program appeared on 94.7 The Pulse on 28 September discussing the rise of drug-trade related violence in Mexico.

Dr Clare Wright of the History Program wrote an opinion piece for *The Age* on 30 September. Dr Wright discussed women's continuing struggle for equality.

ABC Radio National's Hindsight produced a documentary on the history of Kew Cottages (Kew Residential Services), 'Kew Voices'. This program, originally aired on Sunday August 24th 2008, 2.05pm, was produced as part of the ARC Linkage project "A great and crying need": A history of Kew Residential Service, (1887 - 2007). The Linkage partners were La Trobe University's History Program and School of Social Work and the Victorian Department of Human Services.

It also has interviews conducted by John Tebbutt, including the last ever interview with the first Chairman of the Mental Hygiene Authority, Dr Eric Cunningham Dax.

The program explores the history of Kew Cottages, from the late 1920s through to the devastating fire in 1996, which hastened the closure of the institution, and the residents move to Community Residential Units. 'Kew Voices' for Hindsight, ABC Radio National was produced by John Tebbutt, Media Studies Program, La Trobe University.

If you missed it the program is now available as a podcast or as audio-on-demand from the Hindsight website: <http://www.abc.net.au/rn/hindsight>

The Kew Cottages History Project team includes historians Richard Broome, Katie Holmes, Corinne Manning and Lee-Ann Monk; social work academic Christine Bigby; communication specialist Hilary Johnson Cameron Rose and John Tebbutt from Media Studies.

05

Events

Book Launch



The Kew Cottages History Project associated events included the launch of *Bye-Bye Charlie: Stories from the Vanishing World of Kew Cottages* by Corinne Manning.

The book was launched on the 23rd August by The Hon Jenny Macklin, Federal Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs at the Melbourne Museum.

Kew Cottages Media Experience 5 -19 November 2008

An accompanying exhibition to the Kew Cottages History Project will open on the 5th November.

Where: Town Hall Gallery, Rear Entry Lower Level, Hawthorn Town Hall, 358 Burwood Road, Hawthorn

This is a media art installation that explores the lives of the residents of the former Kew Children's Cottages. Through image, video and text, this interactive exhibition allows the audience to experience what it was like to learn, work and play as a child growing up in the cottages.

Opening night: Thursday 6 November, 6pm-8pm
Don't miss it!

Events (continued)

The School recently supported the Made in Catalonia Film Festival, 30th September - 4th October, held at the La Trobe University City Campus.

The Film Festival was also accompanied by a special linked symposium event "Celebration of Merce Rodoreda (1908 - 1983): Her Achievements and Her Legacy" organised by Dr Lilit Thwaites at La Trobe University (Spanish Program) and co-sponsored by the Spanish Cultural Cooperation Program (Ministry of Culture, Spain and ANU, Canberra).

The Symposium, featuring Guest Speaker Dr Christine Arkinstall, Associate Professor, School of European Languages & literature, University of Auckland, along with presentations from Dr Kathryn Cramer (University of Sydney), Dr Stewart King (Monash University) and Mr Carlos Uxò (La Trobe University), was reported to be a great success.

HES in the news (continued)

It has taken eight years study, and the hard work of typists transcribing Mr Ciampa's handwritten drafts, but next month La Trobe University will award, School of Historical and European Studies' student, Joseph Ciampa his doctorate.

The Australian reported that "at the age of 91, when most people would have their feet up, Joseph Ciampa is worried about becoming obsolete. It is the same fear that once drove this Italian theological scholar and Baptist pastor into switching careers to become an enrolled nurse at the age of 50, and now it has driven him to become one of the world's oldest recipients of a PhD. The Australian record is believed to be held by Ron Fitch, who, at 92, was awarded a PhD on railways in 2002."

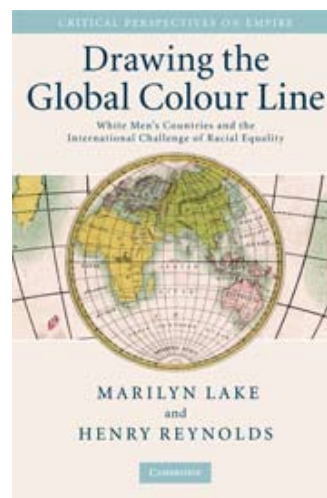
A man with the formal civilities of a bygone time, Mr Ciampa has always insisted on referring to his supervisor, Lilit Thwaites, as Doctura, never by her first name, as all her other students do. His writing in Spanish has also tended towards archaic words that sometimes left Dr Thwaites stumped. "I always had a vision of him sitting in his outside garage... with huge Spanish dictionaries by his side, finding just the right word," she said. "Mr Ciampa's work was a significant contribution to the study of Spanish literature," she added.

A booming demand for archaeologists in Melbourne is creating a hot job market for graduates. Benjamin Preiss reported in *Northern Weekly*.

"When Catherine Tucker graduated from La Trobe University in 1999 after doing her honours year in archaeology, she had to work part-time jobs to supplement her income from her vocation. Now, less than a decade later, archaeologists' skills are in demand in Melbourne and across Australia. With demand for archaeologists at an all-time high, the industry is becoming an increasingly lucrative career option", La Trobe University professor of archaeology Tim Murray says. "We had a careers expo earlier on this year where most of the larger organisations that hire archaeologists came and presented, and we were having our students hired during the meeting."

06

Publication awards



Congratulations to **Professor Marilyn Lake** and **Henry Reynolds**, whose book *'Drawing the Global Colour Line'* has this week won the Queensland Premier's History Book Award.

The judges comment: *Drawing the Global Colour Line* shows that Australian attempts to define and defend 'whiteness' through the infamous white Australia policy were in the vanguard of a global movement towards racial exclusion.

Instead of a narrow national story, Lake and Reynolds focus on the interplay of attitudes, ideas and policies across the English-speaking world - Britain, North America, Australia, South Africa and New Zealand - that saw notions of democratic equality and racial difference translate into racist policies of segregation, deportation and white privilege. As English speaking supremacy appeared to be threatened by immigration, 'coloured labour' and the rise of Asian powers, Lake and Reynolds show how the Australian experience intersected with similar fears and anxieties elsewhere to shape fundamentally the race relations and politics of the twentieth century. A wealth of detail, often personalised or anecdotal, brings the argument to life and links local issues and developments to global patterns of identity and power. A wonderfully ambitious book, superbly researched and elegantly argued, *Drawing the Global Colour Line* refreshes and re-casts our sense of one of the great injustices of the modern age.

07

Research news

Congratulations to **Dr Richard Cosgrove** and his student **Ms Asa Ferrier**, who have been awarded a grant from the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) Research Grants Program.

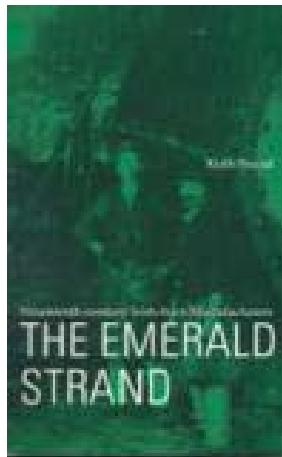
Dr Lilit Thwaites from the Spanish Program was one of the eleven recipients Australia-wide of the inaugural grants offered by the Ministry of Culture of Spain through its Spanish Cultural Cooperation Programme. The aim of the Programme is to foster cultural and research links between Australia and Spain to encourage ever deeper friendship and cultural cooperation between the peoples of our two countries. The successful project (which included the organisation of a mini-symposium in Oct) is: "A Celebration of Merce Rodoreda (1908-1983) – Her Achievements and Her Legacy".

School and Faculty Research Grants close 27th October 2008.

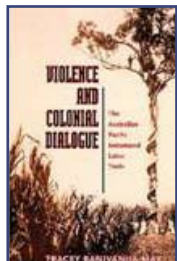
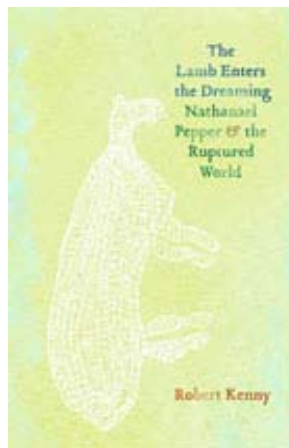
See your administrator for details!

Publication awards (continued)

Dr Keith Pescod, Honorary Associate at La Trobe University, has won a commendation for Best Print/Publication in the Victorian Community History Awards 2008 for his book, *The Emerald Strand: Nineteenth Century Irish-born Manufacturers*. The judges said the book effectively debunked the belief that colonial Irish immigrants excelled only at being labourers. The 2008 entries were judged on content and presentation, in the spirit of presenting innovative ways of recording community history across the state.



Dr Robert Kenny's book *The Lamb Enters the Dreaming* has won the Victorian Premier's Literary Award in the category of 'First Book of History'. The judges comments included the following observation 'This is a bold and challenging history, immensely erudite yet sparkling with lyrical prose and sharp insight. Kenny recovers - with absolute conviction and profound implications - the moral and symbolic worlds of two societies, and Nathanael Pepper's extraordinary efforts to reconcile the lamb of Christ and Aboriginal dreaming.' Robert Kenny is an ARC Research Fellow with the History program.



Dr Tracy Banivanua-Mar's book, *Violence and Colonial-Dialogue: the Australia-Pacific Labor Trade* was also highly commended by the judges in the Australian Historical Association.



The Ernest Scott Prize for the best book in Australasian History went to **John Fitzpatrick** for his book *Big White Lie: Chinese Australians in White Australia*. It was considered to be an outstanding and timely contribution to the field.

The Serle Award for the best postgraduate thesis in Australian history went to **Dr Marina Larsson** for her PhD thesis 'The Burdens of Sacrifice: War Disabilities in Australian Families, 1914-1939'. The judges commended, 'This thesis breaks new ground in its examination of the experiences of the families of men who return ill or disabled... The judges were most impressed by the breadth of the research, which ranges across a diffuse variety of archival sources, a large number of contemporary publications and interviews with surviving family members. The author displays a near total mastery of the secondary and theoretical literature in these diverse areas, and makes a valuable contribution to them all... This excellent thesis represents a considerable advance in our understanding of Australia's experience of World War I and its legacies. It will make a fine book.'

Book news



CAROLYN D'CRUZ
Lecturer
Moving both within and between the domains of philosophy, politics and 'postmodern culture' this book offers both a clear explication of complex philosophical issues and an understanding of how they relate to the political practicalities of everyday life.



JOHN HIRST
Emeritus Scholar
Freedom from the Fatal Shore brings together John Hirst's two books on the early history of New South Wales.

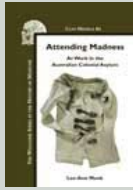


DIANE KIRKBY
Reader, History
Voices From the Ships is a story told by the seafarers themselves, about how unionism changed and how this affected their working and family lives and the SUA's ability to stay current and relevant in changing political, industrial and social environments.



ADELINA MODESTI
ARC Postdoctoral Fellow
Elisabetta Sirani: una virtuosa del Seicento bolognese is a commissioned monograph, inaugural volume of the series 'Donne nell' arte', edited by Prof. Vera Fortunati, Bologna University.

Book news (continued)



LEE-ANN MONK
ARC Postdoctoral Fellow
This book is a history of William Coady's occupation, a history of asylum work and workers in nineteenth-century Australia.



TIM MURRAY
Professor, Archaeology
Co-edited with Christopher Evans, *Histories of Archaeology* contains nineteen significant texts which exemplify different approaches, issues, subjects and purposes in writing histories of archaeology.



JUDITH RICHARDS
Honorary Research Associate
A radical re-evaluation of the first 'real' English queen regnant. This illustrated and accessible biography is essential reading for all those with an interest in one of England's most misrepresented monarchs.

09

Staff and student achievements

PhD researcher **David Thomas** and, inset, a Google Earth screenshot of a centuries old Ghaznavid fortress in the Afghan desert.



Photo: Gary Medicott

PhD student David Thomas has continued to receive coverage for the use of Google in exploring hard to get to archaeological sites, with a profile story appearing the *Higher Education* supplement of *The Age* on 6 August

Tony Wong a Ph.D student of the History Program/Religious Studies published an article 'Wang Zheng's Inculturated Concept of God' and a book review on 'Kouduo Richao: Li Jiubiao's Diary of Oral Admonitions, a Late Ming Christian Journal, translated with introduction and notes by Erik Zürcher' in the June issue (2008) of the *Australian Journal of Mission Studies*, which is a scholarly reviewed journal.

Congratulations to the La Trobe Archaeology staff and students who have recently won awards at the joint conference of the Australasian Society for Historical Archaeology and the Australasian Institute for Maritime Archaeology in Adelaide:

Nori Sato, whose PhD in Archeology has recently been submitted, was awarded the prize for best paper, for his paper 'Public and Archaeologists: Who's taking advantage of whom?';

Penny Crook (La Trobe PhD student), **Laila Ellmoos**, and **Professor Tim Murray** received the Martin Davies Award for Best Public Archaeology Initiative for the 'Exploring the Archaeology of the Modern City Database'.

La Trobe University recently won five Citations for its Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning in the Australian Learning and Teaching Council awards.

The Citations, valued at \$10,000 each, are granted to individuals and teams of academics and support staff in recognition of their achievements in contributing to the quality of student learning.

Congratulating the winners, La Trobe University Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Professor Belinda Probert said the awards highlighted the skills and experience of the staff involved – and the University's overall teaching strength.

Among the winners was **Dr Adrian Jones**, senior lecturer in Historical Studies – for responsive and inclusive history tutorials that fuel debate, enlarge student choices, elicit frequent feedback and enable students to peer-tutor essay drafts.

10

Conferences, lectures and seminars

The Modern Greek Studies Association of Australia and New Zealand, 9th Biennial Conference

11–13 December 2008

Location: La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia

Keynote Speakers include: Professor Karen R. Van Dyck Professor, Kimon A. Doukas Chair, Columbia University, Department of Classics, Program in Hellenic Studies, Professor Roderick Beaton, Koras Professor of Modern Greek and Byzantine History, Language and Literature, Head of Department, Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, King's College London

Re-Orienting Whiteness

A critical engagement with whiteness studies and the operations of 'race', past and present.

Date: 3-5 December 2008

Location: Monash University

Key Note Speakers include Patrick Wolfe-La Trobe University, Ann Laura Stoler-New School for Social Research, Aileen Moreton-Robinson-Queensland University of Technology, Lynette Russell-Monash University, Matt Wray - Harvard University.

Church and State in the Old and New Worlds

National and international scholars consider one of the central issues in western historiography - the relationship between church and state.

Date: 11-13 December 2008

Location: University of Newcastle

Speakers include: Claire Walker (Adelaide), David Cahill (UNSW), David Garrioch (Monash), Steward J. Brown (Edinburgh), Jennifer Ridden (La Trobe), Judith Keene (Sydney), Rowan Strong (Murdoch), Hilary Carey (Newcastle), John Stenhouse (Otago, NZ)

Call for Postgraduate Papers

The School's Postgraduate Research Conference "Past and Present" will be held on Friday 28th November 2008.

All postgraduate students are encouraged to submit a paper for this conference. Papers will be refereed and those selected for presentation at the conference will be published in the School's Journal of Historical and European Studies and will receive \$50. Those papers selected as the best will also receive additional prizes.

Melbourne Irish Studies Seminar

An inter-University forum for Irish and Irish-American studies

Free Public Seminars

11 November 2008 - Dr Val Nooone
(University of Melbourne)

The Nicholas O'Donnell Collection in Newman College's Gerry Higgins Irish Library

25 November 2008 - Professor Tim Murray
(La Trobe University)

Building an Archaeology of 19th Century Irish Migration to Australia

For further information call Phillip Bull 03 9479 2440 or email P.J.Bull@latrobe.edu.au.

The La Trobe University Alumni Art History Chapter presents, with the National Gallery of Victoria, the eleventh annual Rae Alexander Lecture.

Conserving the Renaissance: Recent Restoration and Research of Renaissance Portraits in the National Gallery of Victoria

to be presented by Carl Villis, Conservator of European Paintings before 1800 at the NGV

Friday 14 November 2008

Commencing at 6pm for drinks, lecture at 6.30pm
Clemenger BBDO Auditorium, NGV International
RSVP: Friday 7 November 2008

T 1300 737 133 E alumni@latrobe.edu.au

The Atlantic World of the 1780s and Botany Bay: The Lost Connection

to be delivered by Professor Alan Frost



William Bradley, 'Botany Bay. Sirius & Convoy going in' Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Thursday 20 November 2008

5.30 – 6.30 pm, with refreshments to follow

Michael J. Osborne Centre
Institute of Advanced Study
Melbourne (Bundoora) Campus
La Trobe University
Melway Map 573 F 1-2

RSVP: Friday 14 November

T 03 9903 4408 E baily@latrobe.edu.au