

The President's page

I'm delighted to have been elected president at the recent annual general meeting. But these are challenging times. Sheltered though many of us are by wealth and privilege, it is becoming more difficult to ignore the crises around us – climate change, food and energy security and sustainability, biodiversity loss, political turbulence. Responding to these crises will characterise the twenty-first century. They will impinge upon all of us at many points and from many directions. But health and medicine are coming to occupy central places in our responses to these crises, as we ask how will we live? How will we look after each other and care for each other?

These are not partisan questions. Learned academies, medical colleges and scientific bodies are all throwing their support behind swift and radical action on climate and other crises, as are professional groups, students, parents, grandparents. In history, however, we face the past, and it has provided us with a kind of cover: we are concerned with what has been, not what will be. And yet history is vitally important. Not that there are easy lessons for us in the past – though there are a few – but historians of medicine are trained to think critically and carefully about health and life, traditions of cure and care, to understand the function of technology and compare different kinds of knowledge and authority.

The biennial conference hosted by an excellent team from the University of Newcastle (and held everywhere, online) included many superb examples, as scholars shared their thinking and their research. It was a wonderful sharing of historical scholarship on health and medicine in Australia, New Zealand, and beyond, and a testament both to the increasing breadth and depth of work in these areas and to the intellectual leadership of the organising committee.

Keynote lectures by distinguished international speakers – Julia Cummiskey, Jeremy Greene and Matt Smith – placed this work in the context of international developments in the recent history of medicine, but

perhaps most stimulating of all was a brilliant and forthright keynote by Munanjahli and South Sea Islander woman and director of the Institute for Collaborative Race Research at Queensland University of Technology, Chelsea Watego. Towards the end of the conference Tatjana Buklijas, Charlotte Greenhalgh, Elizabeth Roberts-Pedersen and I (moderated by the incomparable Peter Hobbins) spoke on a plenary panel about the new directions we're taking in our research and writing, looking to new technologies but also to new subjects, participants and collaborators, from mothers to mental health consumers and from epigenetics to the ecological determinants of health. And of special note were the three superb panels emerging from an ARC-funded project on the history of community psychiatry, which has seen senior academics in history, psychiatry and psychology join with lived experience researchers to conduct interviews with consumers (or survivors) of mental health care services.

We can hardly leave such a conference without the impression that the concerns and methods of the history of health and medicine are rapidly changing, and that our Society is changing in step with them. I'm delighted to be working with Louella McCarthy, John Sinclair and Maggi Boulton on the executive, supported by a strong and vibrant Council, including new members Charlotte Bennett, Elizabeth Roberts-Pedersen and Cate Storey. But all of us have a place in building new knowledge of medicine and care, and I am eager to find ways of encouraging and supporting these developments to meet together the exhilarating and challenging moment in which we find ourselves.

I look forward to meeting those I haven't yet – please get in touch if you'd like to.

James Dunk

james.dunk@sydney.edu.au

@JamesHDunk



To all conference presenters! The editors of *Health and History* welcome submissions of your conference presentations as manuscripts. While all the facts and conclusions are still fresh in your mind, this might be a great time to put pen to paper, quill to parchment or fingers to the keyboard.

All about ourselves

Members of the ANZSHM describe their life, work and interests



John Sinclair

My undergraduate degree was completed during the years when fees were applicable in the 1960's and 70s, so I studied part time and worked at several occupations – jack

hammering, builder's labourer, barman, waiter and clerk. As I later realised these occupations and their preoccupations were far removed from those of academic life. In academia, time, research, evidence, decision making have different parameters, scales, values, roles and processes from those of the average citizen.

I have been intrigued by the problem of how to connect the two worlds, citizens and academia, or at least to ensure communication is open and continuous. Covid has brought this problem of dialogue to the fore with the level of denialism and hesitancy in some, resisting all input from the academy.

After completing a degree in Behaviour Science at Macquarie University, I commenced Psychiatric Nurse training at Macquarie Hospital. I went on to complete General Nurse training at Lewisham Hospital and returned to Macquarie Hospital. This was the period of change and upheaval in hospital and medical service delivery.

The inner city hospitals were shut, Children's at Camperdown, Crown Street, St Margaret's, Prince Henry. Some services were relocated to outer suburbs, Westmead grew, North Shore shrank, Prince of Wales grew. Psychiatric Services were also the target of change. After several decades of falling bed numbers, the Richmond Report, adopted by the State Government in 1983, recommended closure of the stand alone 5th Schedule (Psychiatric) Hospitals and the transfer of patients to community based living and service delivery.

Watching these changes awakened an interest in health policy, how it was developed and how it was then implemented. And when goals were not achieved, how things went wrong. This interest has stayed with me and led me to joining the ANZSHM.

While our children were young I became a stay-at-home Dad, working part time at Macquarie Hospital and part time lecturing at University of Sydney and Macquarie University. I completed further studies, MA with Merit, and returned to full-time work at

the Australian Catholic University.

After working at Macquarie Hospital for 15 years, and break of a further 15 years, I returned to the mental health system as an appointed Official Visitor and could see what had changed, and what had remained constant.

I retired from the University in 2019 and commenced a degree in Design – Photography. I also found the time to become more involved with the ANZSHM, standing for the position of Treasurer in the national body. Previously I had the pleasure to serve as President on the ANZSHM NSW.

My University career was entirely focused on teaching, the bit that excited me but now I have the time to turn to research. And the time to do it leisurely.

My primary interest how mental health policy is decided and why has there not been a successful resolution for those with mental illness. The history of attempts to develop and implement mental health policy is an abiding interest.

In this issue....

Page	Item
1	The President's page
2	All about ourselves
3	Members' news Council members
4	Journal watch International conference
5	Mystery in a medal Conference
6-7	Images from the 2021 conference ACT History of Medicine group
8	Actefactual news Medical iconography
9	AMPI news: <i>Vita brevis? Longevity in the colonial medical workforce</i>
10	Mining history survey Request for information PhD scholarships
11	Call for papers Book review
12	Ex libris Mike Smith student prize

Members' news

New Members

John Lamb (ACT)	Robert [Charles] George (NSW)
Alan Cala (NSW)	Paige Donaghy (QLD)
Scott Clark (NSW)	Luke Waldrip (QLD)
Rohan Long (NSW)	Ross Lomazov (VIC)
Alison Moore (NSW)	Charlotte Bennett (NZ)
Thomas Sharples (NSW)	Nathanaëlle Soler (Noumea)
Genevieve Dally-Watkins (NSW)	

A warm welcome everyone!

Vale

Dr Donald James Stuart Cameron

MB BS FRACP PhD, aged 74. Don was a paediatric and adolescent gastroenterologist, and a talented aerobatic pilot.

Dr James Keipert

MB BS, DCH, FRCP(Ed), aged 98. Jim was a paediatrician and joined ANZSHM in 2012.

Mr Barry Gilbert Elliott

MB BS, FRACS, FAOrth, aged 80. Barry was an orthopaedic surgeon.

Congratulations



The State Library Victoria La Trobe Society Fellowship (\$15,000) - for Australian historians, scholars and writers wanting to research Victoria's colonial history during Lieutenant-Governor Charles La Trobe's administration, has been awarded to:

Dr Ashleigh Green: *The Construction of Gaols, Prisons, and Asylums in Port Phillip and the Colony of Victoria during the La Trobe Administration (1839-54) – will research the planning and construction of the first purpose-built penal and psychiatric institutions in the Port Phillip District and colony of Victoria during the La Trobe administration (1839-1854).*

Correction

Medicine at Royal North Shore Hospital (RNSH). As Victorian readers will know, that Faculty is in Melbourne; the facility that Professor Cousins founded at RNSH is the Pain Management Research Institute. Judith Godden

Congratulations

ANZSHM Members Madonna Grehan and Odette Best, with their colleague Penelope Lee, co-curated an exhibition titled *Unmasked: Celebrating Nursing and Midwifery, Victoria and Beyond* for Her Place Women's Museum Australia in Melbourne. *Unmasked* was awarded an Australian Museums and Galleries Award 2021.

The judges noted that the exhibition had a “clear curatorial premise, good exhibition outcome and design scope”. It was well researched and presented using lived experience as well as scholarship. It demonstrated excellence in research, curation, and programming.

Unmasked will be viewable online in coming months.

Congratulations

Ben Haneman Memorial Conference Grants for Postgraduate Students and Early Career Researchers.

- Maria Cook (La Trobe University)
- Paige Donaghy (University of Queensland)
- Thomas Sharples (University of Newcastle)
- Shravasti Pathak (University of Burdwan)
- Michelle Walker (University of Otago)
- Ashleigh Green (Australian Catholic University)
- Nathanaëlle Soler (*Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales*, Noumea)

Members in the media

Diana Jefferies “Postnatal psychosis is rare, but symptoms can be brushed aside as ‘normal’ for a new mum”, *The Conversation*, November 11, 2021.

Jonathon Wardle “Follow a natural health philosophy? Vaccination may have more in common with it than you think”, *The Conversation*, October 19, 2021

In my review of Gabriella Kelly-Davis' biography, *Breaking through the Pain Barrier*, I inadvertently wrote that Michael Cousins set up the Faculty of Pain Medicine at Royal North Shore Hospital (RNSH). As Victorian readers will know, that Faculty is in Melbourne; the facility that Professor Cousins founded at RNSH is the Pain Management Research Institute. Judith Godden

Council members

The members of Council, including appointed, executive and ordinary, are listed below. A special and sincere vote of thanks goes to two outgoing long-term councillors, Dr Judith Godden and Dr Brian Reid, for

their very valuable contribution over many years. Thank you Judith and Brian.

Executive:

President: James Dunk
Vice President: Louella McCarthy
Treasurer: John Sinclair
Secretary: Maggi Boulton

Appointed members of Council:

Newsletter: Kathryn Weston
Webmaster: Paul Sendziuk
H&H journal: Hans Pols
Conference convenor (2023):
Ian Roberts-Thomson
NSW President: Charmaine Robson
VIC President: Neville Yeomans

Ordinary members of Council:

Charlotte Bennett
Linda Bryder
Cathy Coleborne
Georgia McWhinney
Criena Fitzgerald
Madonna Grehan
Elizabeth Roberts-Pedersen
Cate Storey

Journal watch and members' publications

We are pleased to announce that members of the ANZSHM have recently published the following works:

Short B. (2020) 'Climate, Environment and Medicine in Georgian England and the Antipodes', *Health and History*, 22(2): 46-66.

Karageorgos E. (2020) 'The Bushman at War: Gendered Medical Responses to Combat Breakdown in South Africa, 1899-1902', *Journal of Australian Studies*, 44(1): 18-32.

Karageorgos E. (2021) "'An Act of Grace: Reading Gender and Nationalism within Australian South African War Pension Provisions'. *Australian Historical Studies*, DOI: [10.1080/1031461X.2021.1914694](https://doi.org/10.1080/1031461X.2021.1914694)

Short B. (2021) 'Antibacterial Warfare: The Production of Natural Penicillin and the Search for Synthetic Penicillin During the Second World War', *Journal of Military and Veterans' Health*, 29(3): 34-40.

Godden J. (2021) "'A Joy Beyond Any Earthly Pleasure": Emily Paterson's Contribution to Community Mental Health'. *Journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society*, 107(2): 156-178.

Short B. (2021) 'The Little Known Surgeon at the Port Jackson Settlements: Edward Laing from 1792 to 1794', *Health and History*, 23(2): 19-37.

Anderson W. (2021) 'When the General Calls: Military tactics against Covid-19 in Australia', *ARENA Quarterly* No. 8. Dec 2021. <https://arena.org.au/arena-author/warwick-anderson/>

We congratulate members on their scholarly (and other) achievements! A reminder to please send us details of your recent research publications so we can share your work in the newsletter. Send details to secretary@anzsh.com.au

International conference

Call for Proposals Deadline: Nov. 8, 2021

The Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science

SAHMS is seeking paper, panel, and roundtable proposals for its 2022 conference.

We welcome abstracts on a broad range of topics from any period in the history of science, medicine, and technology, and encourage submissions from graduate students, faculty, professionals, and independent scholars.

We especially invite submissions that address global histories, as well as those related to the histories of disability, race, gender, or the environment.

Topics do not need to be Southern in focus and presenters do not need to be affiliated with Southern institutions to submit a proposal.

The conference currently is scheduled to be in-person, but the organizers will evaluate the situation closer to the conference date.

Questions can be emailed to sahmsconference@gmail.com.

For more info, visit
sahms.net

Hosted by Emory
University
March 10-12, 2022



Southern Association for the History of Medicine & Science will convene their 2022 conference in Atlanta, Georgia on March 10-12, 2022.

Hosted at the Georgia Tech Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia, the SAHMS conference is aimed at providing a means for exchange and sharing of research, ideas, and interest related to the history of medicine, science, and technology.

<https://www.sahms.net/>

Mystery in a medal

A question arrived in the Society's inbox. Phil Benjamin FRACS, FRCS (Eng) asked if we could help find out who the figure was and what it had to do with matters surgical.

We asked Professor John Pearn who designed the medal and commissioned it for the Norfolk Island Conference of the (then) Australian Society of the History of Medicine's 4th biennial conference held from the 2nd to 9th July, 1995.

John's reply: It was Queensland's turn to host the biennial Conference of our Society, and we decided to hold it on Norfolk Island. Rather than the typical 75 registrants, the Norfolk Island conference attracted 480 or so registrants which helped to put the Society on a secure foundation footing.

The theme of the conference was early national heritage, in particular that of the convict foundations and of the military garrison who guarded them. The conference organisers hired two aircraft – one from Sydney and one from Brisbane – to fly in registrants at reduced airfares. In addition to the normal conference proceedings, there was a Colonial Choir. The Conference Medal was given to all speakers at the Conference.

The medal is relatively crude, and John Pearn admits that

he is not terribly proud of it as an aesthetic piece, but notes that it is the only one that our Society has produced, throwing down the challenge that this could be done better in the future.

The medal portrays a military guard, but not of any particular name, denoting the symbol of authority of this first convict settlement established on Norfolk Island within weeks of the first settlement at Sydney Cove. Also portrayed is the Norfolk Island Pine. The medal is of tombac (a brass alloy with high copper content and 5–20% zinc content). It was modelled as a plasticine maquette by the Brisbane sculptor and physiotherapist, Peter Dornan, of Toowong, Brisbane.

Many thanks John for helping us answer Phil's question about this beautiful medal.



Conference

Iodine Deficiency Symposium

The Status of Iodine in Tasmania - A Medical History & Research Symposium

has been

RESCHEDULED TO

9-10 April 2022

Peppers Silo Hotel, Launceston

www.eventbrite.com.au/e/iodine-symposium-tickets-157426901099?aff=ebdsoporgprofile

Australia's leading researchers in the field have been assembled to bring a landmark seminar to Launceston on iodine deficiency. Speakers include Dr Mark Veitch and Prof Creswell Eastman. The seminar activities will include dinner on Saturday night, and a medical walk through Launceston and a tour of the Launceston Whisky Distillery.

IODINE DEFICIENCY SYMPOSIUM

THE STATUS OF IODINE IN TASMANIA

Symposium will be opened by Her Excellency the Honourable Barbara Baker AC, Governor of Tasmania

9 April 2022
**PEPPERS
SILO HOTEL**

A landmark symposium will be presented in Launceston featuring Australia's leading researchers in the field of Iodine Deficiency.

A full day Symposium with keynote speaker Professor Creswell Eastman will be followed by a dinner with guest speaker Dr Mark Veitch - Director of Public Health, Tasmania.

On Sunday there will be a Medical Walk in Launceston followed by a tour of the Launceston Whisky Distillery & BBQ Lunch.

For registration [CLICK HERE](#)

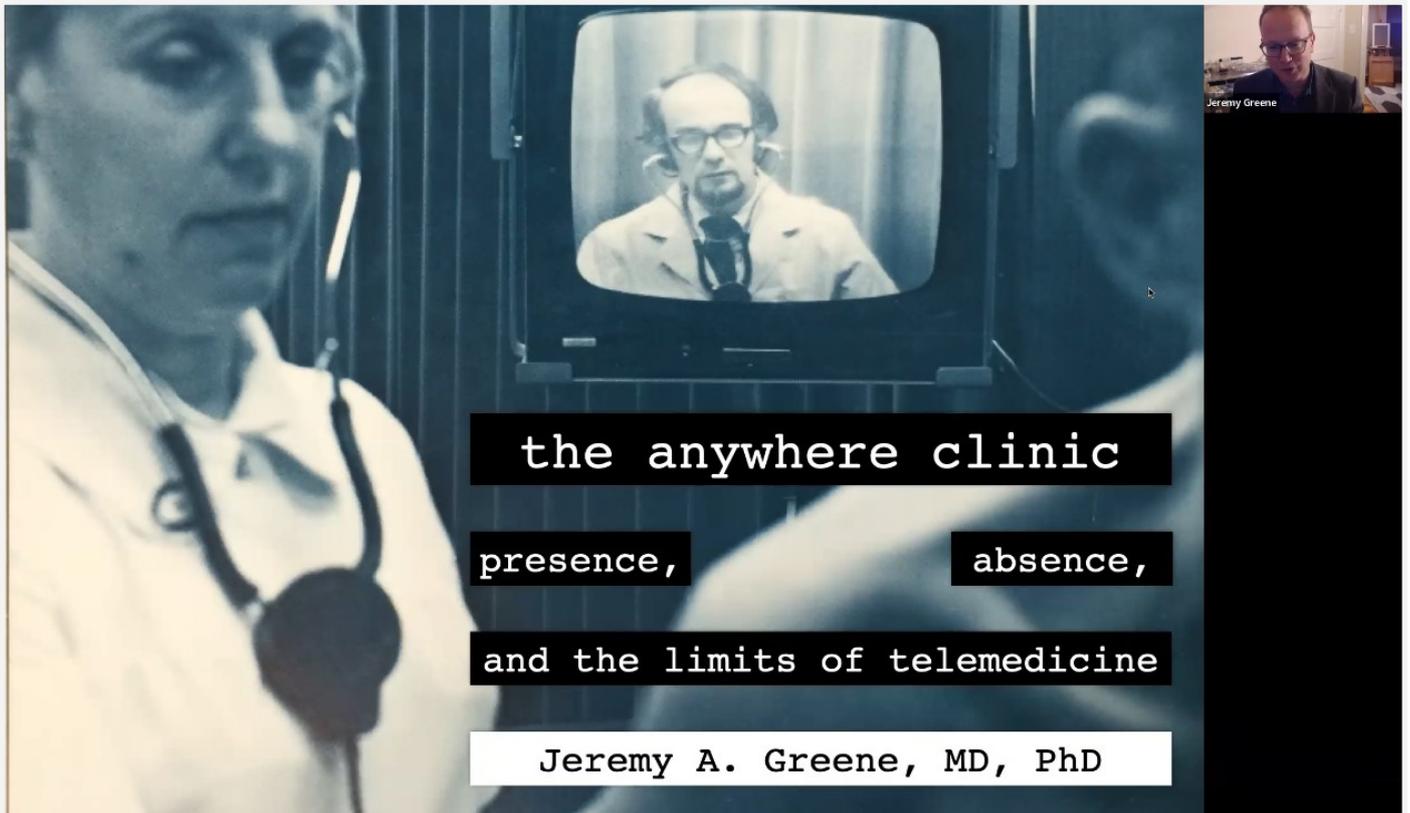
Please Note: Registrations close 1 April 2022.

In the event that due to COVID restrictions the Symposium is cancelled a refund will be made as per instructions above.

Symposium Secretariat - The Clifford Craig Foundation
admin@cliffordcraig.org.au



Images
from the
2021
ANZSHM
conference





MARCHERS IN HARLEM, 1965 (LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, 2005677031)

MENTAL HEALTH & POLITICAL CHANGE



Stigma and social exclusion

"I remember quite clearly sitting in a shopping mall doing this [injecting] when I was maybe 10 or 11 years old and having a crowd of people come up and some person commented it was such a disgrace that someone was doing drugs at such an age"

(Browne, et al. 2014)

Diabetic Says Insulin Had Effect Of Liquor

Insulin shock—and not the effect of liquor or drugs—had caused him to drive erratically and to fail sobriety tests. Harold Victor Yeldon, of Katanning, claimed in the Court yesterday.

Yeldon faced charges of drunken and dangerous driving in Albany-highway, Katanning, on August 28.

Evidence was given that Yeldon had smelt strongly of liquor when stopped by a policeman in Albany-highway and had failed to pass a sobriety test.

He did not mention the fact that he was a diabetic until he was in a cell at the police station, where he called for his needle.

Yeldon told the court that he had taken an insulin injection which was to balance the carbohydrate content of his blood, that morning, but as he was on business that day, had failed to eat any lunch.

His lack of food had made him weak and brought on an attack of insulin shock.

Dr. Neil David Crosby, of Wood-street, Swanbourne, said that the physical effect of insulin shock could be indistinguishable from the effect of liquor.

Dr. Crosby said that he would strongly criticize a diabetic who would forget to take a meal after his insulin injection.

(The West Australian newspaper, 1954)

I AM NOT INTOXICATED

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone No. _____

I am a diabetic patient and I am having _____ units of insulin _____ a day. My diet is _____ calories.

If you find me semiconscious or unconscious or behaving strangely please give me the sugar in my pocket, orange juice and communicate with my doctor, who is _____

or take me at once to the nearest hospital.

Dr's Telephone No. is _____

My blood group is _____



Emma Sainsbury

Images from the 2021 ANZSHM conference

- 25th August 1923 - MJA – articles from the South Australian group describing their clinical experience and their new methodology
- 1st September 1923 – An editorial response MJA “Hundreds of diabetics will be hastened to their graves”
- 6th September 1923 - Local press around Australia report the response of the Adelaide group, who claim over 8 months experience, hundreds of doses and no deleterious results
- 22nd September 1923 - MJA – formal letter from Adelaide – appalled
- Editorial – no supporting publications in Australia – only 6 cases?



Whatever happened to me, how I felt, what changes my body made, were as much Trevor's business as mine. Well, almost. Every detail of my bodily condition I eagerly described — a stretch mark, the minute flutter of the baby's first movements, a swelling varicose vein.

Lauris Edmond, *Bonfires in the Rain*, Bridget Williams Books, 1991, p.31

Lauris Edmond with her daughter Frances, the second of her six children: <https://teara.govt.nz/>



‘Black to the Future’
Making the case for Indigenist Health Humanities

Prof Chelsea Watego
School of Public Health and Social Work, QUT
@drwatego



Chelsea Watego



Chelsea Watego

ACT History of Medicine Group

The informal ACT History of Medicine Group (ACTHMG) has resumed activity and Bill Coote has taken over from Dean Beaumont as Convenor. The first meeting of the revived group was held in September by Zoom when Kerry Highley presented on *The COVID-19 vaccination rollout and the Salk experience: lessons from Australian Medical History*. Kerry wrote *Dancing in my Dreams: Confronting the Spectre of Polio*, which was published in 2016. About 25 members logged in for her talk. Another Zoom meeting was held on November 17th when Barry Leithhead talked on *Developing the Northern Territory's Health and Medical services pre*

WWII with an emphasis on the contributions of Cecil Cook. Barry authored *A Vision for Australia's Health: Dr Cecil Cook at Work* in 2019, which is available through Australian Scholarly Publishing: <https://scholarly.info/book/a-vision-for-australias-health/>

The ACTHMG is fortunate to have secured technical and administrative support from the Australian Medical Council (AMC), the body that assesses and accredits Australian and NZ medical schools and specialist medical college educational programs. AMC administrative staff have hosted and supported our Zoom meetings and the AMC has a seminar room that will be available to ACTHMG once the Covid threat abates.

Bill Coote

billcoote@netspeed.com.au

Artefactual news

A Conspicuous Object - The Maitland Hospital

Maitland Hospital has occupied its current site for over 170 years. It is a jigsaw of buildings with the oldest dating from the late 1840s. In early 2022 a new Maitland Hospital will open on a different site. The exhibition and website, *A Conspicuous Object - The Maitland Hospital*, are part of a project documenting the current hospital and, through art and displays, carrying some of that history into the new hospital.



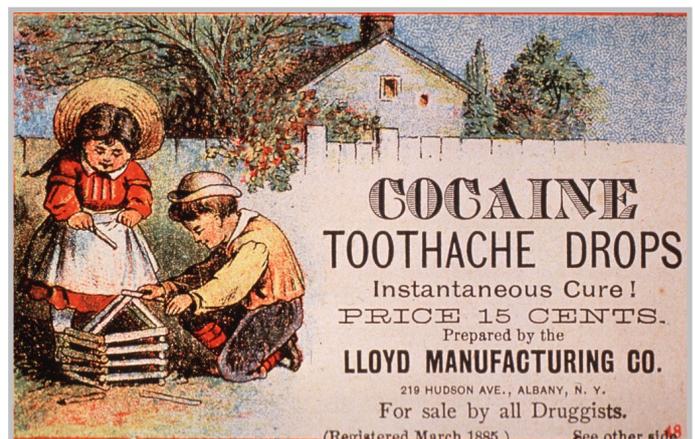
The website has a growing and eclectic range of stories about the hospital: some shared by staff and community members, some on the artworks in the exhibition, and some emerging from research on the history of the hospital and its surviving collection of objects and memorabilia.

The exhibition is at Maitland Regional Art Gallery (<https://mrag.org.au>) until 6 February 2022 and presents the work of ten artists commissioned to create works in response to the history, memories, objects, places and spaces of the current hospital. The artworks are accompanied by a selection of items from the Maitland Hospital Collection.

Visit the website: <https://aconspicuousobject.com.au>

Janis Wilton

Medical iconography



1885 US pain relief advertising sign.
<http://resource.nlm.nih.gov/101400866>

Vita brevis? Longevity in the colonial medical workforce

When Peter Smithwick MD died in Sydney in 1877, he was said to have reached a “venerable age”. He was 76 years old, an Irish graduate of Edinburgh University who had emigrated in mid-career. In those days, to survive into one’s seventies was unusual, while to die in one’s thirties was not uncommon. We know there were early deaths in the profession from shipwreck, accidents, suicide, and infectious diseases. In the AMPI data, the age at death ranges from 21 to over 100. The challenge for the historian is to place the typical colonial doctor at the correct point between these extremes.

A preliminary estimate of the average lifespan of British-trained colonial doctors can be obtained from Royal College of Surgeons data - the MRCS being by far the commonest qualification of doctors coming out to Australia. A survey of obituary lists published by the College shows that five hundred members who died between 1871 and 1874 had been qualified on average for 32 years. The age at death is not given in those lists. However, AMPI records for about eight hundred surgeons, whose date of birth is known, indicate that the average age at which they gained the MRCS was 24 (the statutory minimum age was 21). With this additional information, the MRCS obituaries suggest a typical lifespan of 56 years for surgeons born in the early decades of the nineteenth century.

AMPI data includes the known dates of birth and death for over two thousand UK doctors who came out to the Australian colonies in the period to 1875. Most of them were born in the four decades between 1800 and 1840, and for that group the average age at death was 58. Interestingly, however, the average age at death is greatest for those born in the first ten years of the century and decreases with each succeeding decade to 1840 – an unexpected result, that invites further investigation.

Circling back to the MRCS obituary data mentioned above, one would expect most of those surgeons to have been born between 1810 and 1820 (given that their average age at death in the early 1870s was 56). AMPI dates of birth and death for 600 colonial doctors born in that decade indicate they lived on average 61 years, which is five years longer than their peers who

stayed home, but aligns well with UK population data, according to which a man aged 20 in 1841 could expect to live to the age of 60.

The longevity of people in specific occupations was an occasional subject of speculation in the contemporary press, as the emerging science of statistics caught the popular imagination. In 1875, an article in the *Mount Alexander Mail* noted several English obituaries of doctors in their eighties. The article went on to summarise research showing that doctors lived on average for 56 years (which agrees with our MRCS figures) but died younger than artists, lawyers, soldiers, farmers, clerks, merchants, and finally clergymen (who lived on average to 65). The writer noted that good temper and a sense of humour tend to prolong life, whereas violent passions have the opposite effect.

Australia’s longest-lived colonial doctor was Surgeon-Major H. B. Hinton (MRCS 1835), a veteran of the Bengal Army. He visited Melbourne in 1866 and emigrated in 1869, settling for a while in Tasmania before moving to Adelaide, where he died in 1916 at the age of 103. Rex Wright-St. Clair’s data shows that New Zealand boasted several colonial doctors who lived until well into their nineties, including the energetic Samuel Hodgkinson (MRCS 1840) who died at Invercargill in 1914 aged 96.

Stephen Due



Surgeon-Major Hinton (MRCS 1835) with his grand-daughter at Adelaide in 1913 aged 100 years.

Mining history survey

The Australasian Mining History Association is inviting members to complete a survey to identify historical societies that record, display and maintain a connection with mining locations, artefacts and people who have influenced mining history.

The survey is a Google form that will remain open and maintain your responses for a number of days. There is no SUBMIT button as responses are saved as they are made.

Even if your organisation does not maintain any mining history themes, they ask that you please complete the survey on the main activities of your organisation. Some

questions may not apply and can be left unanswered. An organisation may submit multiple surveys on different aspects of mining history.

Once the survey is completed, all participants will receive a report on the outcomes.

If you have any questions about the Australasian Mining History Association, please contact: Mrs. Nicola Williams, President AMHA, nicolahw9@gmail.com, mobile: 0429 956 074

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact: Edward Zbik, Vice-President AMHA and Historical Societies Survey coordinator, edward.zbik@bigpond.com, mobile: 0401 538 480 until 10 pm.

Link to survey:

<https://tinyurl.com/AMHA-2021-HS-Survey>



Request for information

INVENTORYING PRE-MODERN TEXTS IN VICTORIAN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE COLLECTIONS

School of Philosophical, Historical and International Studies
Monash University

We're alerting you to a new research project at Monash University - Inventorying Premodern Texts in Victorian Private and Public Collections.

The project focuses on locating textual material handwritten in Arabic script, Hebrew, Greek, and Latin before 1600 as held in the State of Victoria. We are interested in both whole manuscripts and individual leaves, written on paper, parchment or papyrus. We are particularly interested in medical texts, either as manuscripts or as heavily annotated incunabula or printed books. The four language groups have a special attachment to the dissemination of medical knowledge prior to the year 1600.

With the long-term aim of bringing together existing information about the items held in different places into a single public resource, this project seeks to collect information about items that are not yet or very poorly described.

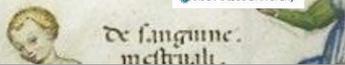
If you have any insights regarding uncatalogued medical manuscripts located in Victoria, whether in public or private hands, please let us know. Obviously, privacy will be respected in all communications.

If you wish to help us, by sharing information about pre-modern texts in private or public collections, please contact: sophismanuscripts@monash.edu

For more information about this project: <https://www.monash.edu/arts/philosophical-historical-international-studies/inventorying-pre-modern-texts-in-victorian-public-and-private-collections>

Images provided by the British Library (public domain)

MONASH University



PhD scholarships

Laureate Centre for History and Population, UNSW Sydney, PhD Scholarships

The Laureate Centre for History and Population is excited to invite applications for two (2) PhD scholarships in population history. The successful candidates will join the Laureate research team, under the supervision of Professor Alison Bashford, within the School of Humanities and Languages, Faculty of Arts Design and Architecture, UNSW. PhD scholars will research Australian, Pacific or international history related to population. This may be focused on medical, migration, Indigenous, gender, environmental, intellectual or political/economic history. The scholarships (\$28,854 per annum for up to four years) are available to Aus/NZ candidates with honours or masters qualifications in history, and will commence by 26/06/2022. Further particulars, including details on how to apply, are available via the UNSW Scholarships website:

<https://research.unsw.edu.au/faculty-and-donor-funded-scholarships-0>

Please spread the word to any honours or masters students who might be interested in applying!

Call for Papers

(Re)Writing Care: Critical Histories of Community Mental Health Services in Australia

Special Issue of *Health and History*

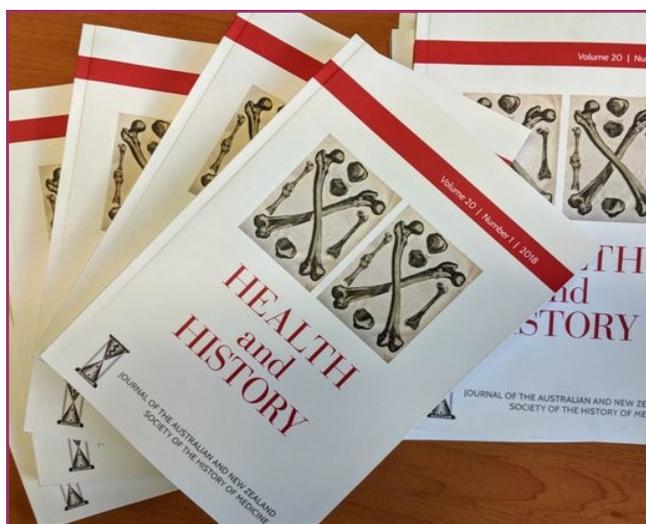
Despite increased funding for community-based approaches in mental health, it remains the subject of significant criticism and government inquiries. This special issue of *Health and History* aims to create an intervention into this situation by showcasing critical histories of community mental health.

This special issue seeks to include novel approaches, leaders, experiences and challenges for developing effective and inclusive community mental health services. What past practices and experiences could usefully inform the present? What archives are relevant when discussing community mental health services? What do they look like, whose voices do they represent – and where are they found?

The guest editors invite original and high-quality submissions addressing the development of community mental health. They also welcome submissions of more explorative formats, including interviews and lived experience narratives.

Abstracts are due on 31 January 2022.

Email: Health and History
<health.and.history@gmail.com>



Book review

Krista Vane-Tempest, *Edith Blake's War*

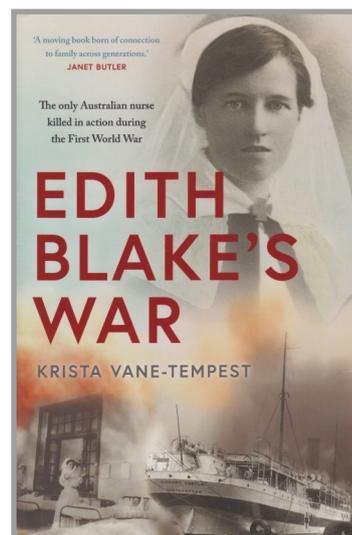
NewSouth Books, 2021, 368pp, AUD\$34.99, NZD\$39.99.

Sr Edith (Edie) Blake was the only Australian nurse killed in action during World War I (WWI). Krista Vane-Tempest, her great-niece, has used Blake's letters home and diary to explore her great-aunt's war years. She also, with a very light touch, gives detailed context to help us understand what Blake experienced – and why. Blake's experiences are of special interest because she appears typical, so her reactions illuminate general Australian attitudes of her time.

Edie Blake sailed to Egypt in April 1915. Though she wanted to serve under Australian command, she was allocated to the British Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service. She closely bonded with nurses who had also trained at The Coast (later Prince Henry) Hospital in Sydney. She served in Egypt nursing the injured brought in from Gallipoli, on hospital ships

and in England reluctantly nursing German prisoners of war. The penultimate chapters describe the events around the torpedoing of the hospital ship Glenart Castle on 26 February 1918. Only 29 of the 180 onboard survived: 32-year-old Blake died that morning but was not forgotten.

In the last newsletter we read about Clare Ashton's book based on letters by another WWI nurse, Elizabeth McMillan. Vane-Tempest's insightful and very readable account of Edith Blake's war is an excellent addition to our growing knowledge of WWI nursing.

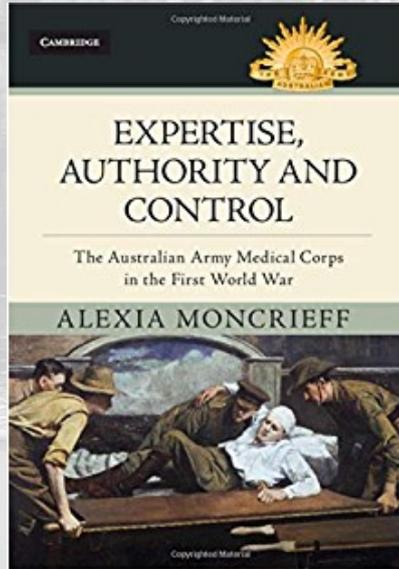
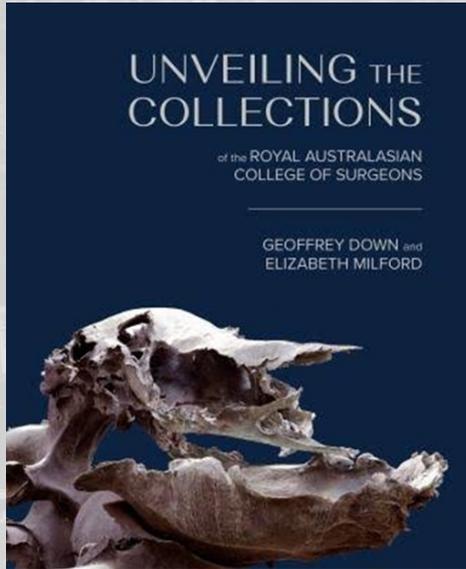


Judith Godden

Would you like to join the ANZSHM Newsletter team?

The newsletter is currently edited by a team comprising Maggi Boulton, Charmaine Robson, Louella McCarthy & Kath Weston. Expressions of Interest are invited from potential new editorial committee members.

Ex libris



Attention students

The call for submissions is open for the
Mike Smith student prize

Cash prize of \$3,000.

Deadline: 9 am AEDT Monday 17 January 2022.

For information visit: <https://www.science.org.au/supporting-science/awards-and-opportunities/mike-smith-student-prize-history-australian-science-or-australian-environmental-history>

The prize will be awarded for an essay based on original unpublished research undertaken whilst enrolled as a student (postgraduate or undergraduate) at any tertiary educational institution in the world.

The essay should be 4000–8000 words in length (exclusive of endnotes). Essays must be written in English and fully documented following the style specified for the Australian Academy of Science's journal, *Historical Records of Australian Science*.

Essays may deal with any aspect of the history of Australian science (including medicine and technology) or Australian environmental history. 'Australia' can include essays that focus on the Australian region, broadly defined, including Oceania. Essays that compare issues and subjects associated with Australia with those of other places also are welcomed.

For further information contact: National Committees Office nc@science.org.au Phone: 02 6201 9400

Medical History Newsletter is the news bulletin of the Australian and New Zealand Society of the History of Medicine Incorporated. It is published quarterly, in the months of February, May, August and November. The opinions of the authors of articles in this *Newsletter* are their own, and are not necessarily the views of the editor or the publisher, Australian and New Zealand Society of the History of Medicine Inc. Every care is taken in the preparation of the *Newsletter*, but the publisher can accept no responsibility for any errors or omissions. Currently edited and compiled in Australia; printed and posted in Melbourne.

All correspondence should be addressed to: Maggi Boulton
PO Box 4092, University of Melbourne VIC 3052. E-mail: anzshm@anzshm.org.au

For the latest information, visit the ANZSHM Internet Website: www.anzshm.org.au

LETTERS, PHOTOGRAPHS AND ARTICLES ARE WELCOME, PREFERABLY IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS **13 FEBRUARY 2022**