



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

WINTER 2017

Calendar of Events for Members and Friends

Date	Time	Event	Presenter	Members	Friends
JUNE					
Wed 7	1pm – 2pm	RAHS Day Lecture: <i>A Complicated Love Affair: An Illustrated History of our Relationship with the NSW Coast</i>	Ian Hoskins	Free	Free
Thu 8	5.30pm for 6pm – 7pm	RAHS/ASHET: <i>Saving the Powerhouse Museum</i>	Lindsay Sharp	\$10	\$12
Wed 14	10.30am – 12.30pm	RAHS/Society of Australian Genealogists Tour: Millers Point	Ralph Hawkins	\$30	\$45
Thu 15	10.30am – 11.30am	RAHS Workshop: <i>"Whereas we the members..." Reviewing your Organisation's Constitution and Regulations</i>	Bruce Baskerville Suzanne Holohan	\$10	\$10
Thu 22	10.30am – 12.30pm	RAHS/Society of Australian Genealogists Lecture: <i>People of Millers Point, 1880-1930</i>	Gail Davis	\$22	\$35
Tue 27	5.30pm – 8.30pm	RAHS/Thredbo Historical Society: Sydney Cocktail Function and Anniversary Book Launch	Various	\$25	\$30
JULY					
Wed 5	1pm – 2pm	RAHS Day Lecture: <i>Recovering the Reputation of Signor Augusto Lorenzini</i>	Megan Martin	Free	Free
Sat 8	9.30am – 3.30pm	RAHS/Gwydir Family History Society: Moree Regional Seminar	Carol Liston Christine Yeats	\$20	\$20
Wed 12	10.30am – 12.30pm	RAHS Tour: Australian Galleries at the Art Gallery of New South Wales	Tour leader: Donna Newton	\$12	\$12
Wed 12	11am – 1pm	*RAHS/WEA: <i>How to Read Old Handwriting</i>	Gail Davis	\$32	\$35
Sat 29	11am – 12.45pm	RAHS/OHNSW Seminar: <i>Indigenous Oral Histories</i>	Various	\$20	\$30
AUGUST					
Wed 2	1pm – 2pm	RAHS Day Lecture: <i>Murder at Myall Creek – The Trial that Defined a Nation</i>	Mark Tedeschi	Free	Free
Sat 5	10.30am – 3.30pm	RAHS/Society of Australian Genealogists Seminar: <i>Introduction to Building your Research Skills</i>	Terry Kass, Martyn Killion, Naomi Parry and Christine Yeats	\$55	\$55
Thu 17	11am – 1pm	*RAHS/WEA: <i>When Telling a Good Story is Not Enough: The Art of Citing and Referencing Sources</i>	Bruce Baskerville	\$32	\$35
Sat 19	9.30am – 3.30pm	RAHS/Central Coast Family History Society: Regional Seminar	Christine Yeats and second speaker TBC	\$20	\$20
Wed 23	2pm – 5pm	RAHS Seminar: <i>Land Title Records</i>	Carol Liston	\$20	\$25
SEPTEMBER					
Saturday 2nd – Sunday 10th		HISTORY WEEK 2017: POP!			
Wed 6	1pm – 2pm	RAHS Day Lecture: <i>Hidden In Plain View: The Aboriginal People of Coastal Sydney</i>	Paul Irish	Free	Free
Thu 7	9.20am for 9.30am start – 12.30pm	RAHS Excursion: Victoria Barracks, Paddington	Tour leader: Donna Newton	\$5	\$5
Wed 20	11am – 1pm	*RAHS/WEA – <i>Trove: A "flagship discovery service" for all researchers</i>	Christine Yeats	\$32	\$35
OCTOBER					
Wed 4	1pm – 2pm	RAHS Day Lecture – <i>Kilmainham to Kalgoorlie: the life and times of Hugh Mahon</i>	Jeff Kildea	Free	Free
Sat 28 – Sun 29	All day	SAVE THE DATE – 2017 RAHS CONFERENCE <i>Finding Lost Places, Lost People</i> Cowra Services Club, Cowra NSW	Various	Details will be available at www.rahs.org.au from mid-July 2017.	

Bookings Essential: Book for events online at www.rahs.org.au/events or call (02) 9247 8001 to book and confirm availability as some events have maximum numbers. *Joint RAHS/WEA events must be booked through WEA (02) 9264 2781. Events take place at History House unless otherwise indicated. For updates on RAHS and joint events, subscribe to our regular eNewsletter and blog on the RAHS Website www.rahs.org.au or join us on Facebook.

RAHS Day Lecture: *A Complicated Love Affair: An Illustrated History of our Relationship with the NSW Coast*
Wednesday 7 June, 1pm – 2pm at History House
Cost: Free (tea, coffee, biscuits served)

It is sometimes assumed that we have always loved our coast, so central is modern beach culture to the Australian 'national identity'. While Aboriginal people have long had an intimate relationship with their coastal countries, the love affair for white Australians took some time to develop. This talk uses artwork, maps and photographs to trace the evolution of attitudes to the NSW coastline. Dr Ian Hoskins' *Coast: A History of the NSW Edge* was published in 2013 and won the 2014 NSW Premier's History Prize for Regional and Community History.

RAHS/ASHET: *Saving the Powerhouse Museum*
Thursday 8 June, 5.30pm for 6.00pm start – 7pm at History House
Cost: RAHS/ASHET Members \$10; Non-Members \$12

The Powerhouse Museum has been a much-loved part of Sydney's cultural landscape since 1988 but its origins lie in the Sydney International Exhibition of 1879. In February 2015, the NSW State Government announced its intention to relocate the Powerhouse from Ultimo to Parramatta and to sell the Powerhouse site. Public reaction to this announcement was mixed but serious concerns were soon raised. Dr Lindsay Sharp presents a forensic analysis of how the normal processes of government and due diligence can easily be subverted by political agendas.

RAHS/Society of Australian Genealogists: Tour of Millers Point
Wednesday 14 June, 10.30am – 12.30pm, meet at Richmond Villa – 120 Kent Street, Sydney
Cost: RAHS/SAG Members \$30; Non-Members \$45

Walk in the steps of the convict stonemasons, millers, sea captains and merchants of Millers Point. See the history and hear the stories of Sydney's colourful past. This event is being held in partnership with the Society of Australian Genealogists. The tour begins with a one-hour presentation at Richmond Villa and the walk will take 60 – 90 minutes.

RAHS Workshop: "*Whereas we the members...*": Reviewing your Organisation's Constitution and Regulations
Thursday 15 June, 10.30am – 11.30am at History House
Cost: \$10

The *Associations Incorporation Act 2009* in NSW (the Act) has been amended and the existing Regulation replaced with a new *Associations Incorporation Regulation 2016*. The changes to the association laws took effect on 1 September 2016 and include a number of amendments. This session will provide guidance on how affiliated societies can comply with the key changes.

RAHS/Society of Australian Genealogists Lecture: *People of Millers Point, 1880 – 1930*
Thursday 22 June, 10.30am – 12.30pm at Richmond Villa – 120 Kent Street, Sydney
Cost: RAHS/SAG Members \$22; Non-Members \$35
Book online via the Society of Australian Genealogists website: <http://bit.ly/2mBLh0F>

Gail Davis will explore the lives of those who made their homes in Millers Point between 1880 and 1930. It will explore a range of sources from the NSW State archives. Gail Davis has had a long and distinguished career at State Archives and Records NSW and is in charge of the research and copying services. She has undertaken numerous research projects involving the NSW State archives.

RAHS/Thredbo Historical Society: Sydney Cocktail Function and Anniversary Book Launch
Tuesday 27 June, 5.30pm for 6pm start – 8pm at History House
Cost: RAHS/Thredbo Historical Society Members \$25; Non-Members \$30

Thredbo Historical Society's Anniversary book, *Thredbo: Pioneers, Legends, Community*, will be launched at this function by Marta Dusseldorp, acclaimed Australian actress and granddaughter of one of Thredbo's legends Dick Dusseldorp. Present will be the society's Patron, Alan Rydge, who will say a few words about those 60 years. Books will be available for purchase and author Chas Keys will speak and be available to sign this unique book.

RAHS Day Lecture: *Recovering the Reputation of Signor Augusto Lorenzini*
Wednesday 5 July, 1pm – 2pm at History House
Cost: Free (tea, coffee, biscuits served)

Signor Augusto Lorenzini worked as an artist decorator in Sydney in the 1880s and 1890s. When the Historic Houses Trust acquired the Lorenzini archive in 1998, the achievements of this interior decorator working in Sydney in the 1880s and 1890s was recovered. Megan Martin will recount the story of this extraordinary Italian revivalist and his world where "cupids ruled", adorning the walls and ceilings of his most opulent commission, the "dazzling" ballroom of 'Chatsworth' in Potts Point. Megan Martin is Head of Collections & Access at Sydney Living Museums.

RAHS/Gwydir Family History Society Inc: Moree Regional Seminar
Saturday 8 July, 9.30am – 3.30pm at Moree Town and Country Club – 5 Frome Street, Moree NSW
Cost: \$20 (includes morning tea and lunch)

The RAHS in conjunction with Gwydir Family History Society Inc. presents the Moree Regional Seminar. The seminar program will include: **Accessing Land Titles Records: How to access them from home and understand what they mean** – Associate Professor Carol Liston will provide advice and guidance to assist researchers in accessing and using the historically significant records that Land and Property Information is making available through its SIX Portal.

Furnishing your Ancestors House – Christine Yeats discusses the range of printed and archival resources available to researchers to help discover how your ancestors may have furnished their houses. **Unlocking Trove's hidden gems: Government Gazettes** – Government Gazettes – the official publications used for the notification government actions and decisions – contain a range of valuable and interesting content. In fact they give us “the real story of day-to-day life in early Australia – a valuable resource for students, academics, writers, family historians and anyone who wants to know what really happened back then” (Mary-Louise Ayres, DG NLA). The NSW Government Gazettes from 1832 and the Commonwealth of Australia Government Gazette from 1901 are now available online via Trove. Christine Yeats will discuss how to make the best use of these resources for your research.

RAHS Tour: Australian Galleries at the Art Gallery of NSW

Wednesday 12 July, 10.30am – 12.30pm, Meet at the Art Gallery of NSW – Art Gallery Road, Sydney

Cost: \$12

A tour of the Australian Galleries at the Art Gallery of NSW featuring some of the Gallery's most famous and popular works and artists. The focus of the tour will be 19th and early 20th century Australian paintings. Meet near the Information Desk at 10.15am – an AGNSW representative will meet the tour group at 10.30am.

RAHS/WEA: How to Read Old Handwriting

Wednesday 12 July, 11am – 1pm at History House

Cost: RAHS/WEA Members \$32; Non-Members \$35. Bookings through WEA (02) 9264 2781.

Deciphering handwritten documents still challenges some researchers – a page of ‘running writing’ can be as impenetrable as Egyptian Hieroglyphics. Gail Davis (State Archives and Records NSW – for Gail's biography see above) will help you to learn how to read and interpret handwritten documents, beginning with examples from the late 18th century and continuing into the twentieth century. There will be a short practical component in this session.

RAHS/OHNSW Seminar: Indigenous Oral Histories

Saturday 29 July, 11am – 12.45pm at History House

Cost: RAHS/OHNSW Members \$20; Non-Members \$30

This seminar is for anyone interested in oral history work with members of Indigenous communities. You will hear from Associate Professor Heidi Norman, who has expertise in conducting research about Aboriginal land rights, Dr. Dino Hodge, an activist and academic renowned for his explorations of Indigenous Australian queer histories, and archivist Kirsten Thorpe, who leads the Indigenous Services team at the State Library of NSW. The session will be chaired by Kate Waters – an experienced professional historian with expertise in ethical approaches to conducting oral history interviews with Aboriginal communities.

RAHS Day Lecture: Murder at Myall Creek – The Trial that Defined a Nation

Wednesday 2 August, 1pm – 2pm at History House

Cost: Free (tea, coffee, biscuits served)

John Hubert Plunkett was the Attorney General of New South Wales between 1836 and 1856. His most controversial role was as the prosecutor of those responsible for the Myall Creek massacre in northern New South Wales in 1838. This was Plunkett's greatest test, as it pitted his forensic brilliance and idealism against the combined forces of the squatters (free settlers who had illegally invaded, taken over and cleared for grazing Aboriginal lands outside the areas of official government grants), the military, most of the newspapers, and even the convict population. He fought valiantly to punish those responsible for one of the worst known atrocities against the Aboriginal inhabitants of early Australia. The trials of the perpetrators marked one of the very few times during the colonial period when the law was used as an instrument of justice in support of Aboriginal Australians. Mark Tedeschi AM QC is the Senior Crown Prosecutor for New South Wales. Over the last 30 years he has prosecuted many of the most prominent criminal trials in New South Wales. He is the head of Chambers of the New South Wales Crown Prosecutors and the President of the Australian Association of Crown Prosecutors.

RAHS/Society of Australian Genealogists Seminar: Introduction to Building your Research Skills

Saturday 5 August, 10.30am – 3.30pm at State Archives and Records NSW, 161 O'Connell Street, Kingswood NSW

Cost: \$55 (includes morning/afternoon tea and lunch)

There's more to a successful research project than meets the eye. This seminar will offer you advice and guidance on how to make the best use of the free online indexes and digitised records on the State Archives website plus the rich resources of the Lands Kiosks, located in the State Archives reading room. You will also learn about research ethics and the online environment and finally some advice on how best to organise your research results.

RAHS/WEA: When Telling a Good Story is Not Enough: The Art of Citing and Referencing Sources

Thursday 17 August, 11am – 1pm at History House

Cost: RAHS/WEA Members \$32; Non-Members \$35. Bookings through WEA (02) 9264 2781.

Have you ever come across information in a history that has no source? Or tried to trace a footnote only to find it either doesn't exist, or makes no reference to the information? Or found a citation that was garbled or so abbreviated it was meaningless? Had trouble distinguishing between information and interpretation? In this age of 'fake news', this session will provide some clues to identifying or avoiding 'fake history' and help you remain sane and able to trust the historians' craft. Bruce Baskerville is a member of the RAHS Council, and works as an Independent Public Historian. He has recently completed a PhD thesis at the University of Sydney, and issues about the reliability and veracity of sources were a constant companion during his studies.

RAHS/Central Coast Family History Society: Regional Seminar
Saturday 19 August, 9.30am – 3.30pm at Gosford City Lions Hall, rear of 8 Russell Drysdale Street, East Gosford NSW
Cost: \$20 (includes morning tea and lunch)

The RAHS in conjunction with Central Coast Family History Society presents the next regional seminar in its program funded by Arts NSW. The seminar will include: *The WWI Soldier's Return: Was it a land fit for heroes?* – Christine Yeats will discuss two important records relating to the men and women returning from WWI – Australia's WWI Repatriation files relating to the Australian soldiers physically or mentally disabled by the war and the post-war Soldier Settlement Schemes. Details on a second speaker will be announced shortly.

RAHS Seminar: *Land Title Records*
Wednesday 23 August, 2pm – 5pm at History House
Cost: RAHS Members \$20; Non-Members \$25 (tea, coffee, biscuits served)

Dr Carol Liston will provide advice and guidance to assist researchers in accessing and using the historically significant records that Land and Property Information is making available through its SIX Portal – the official source of NSW geospatial information, which also provides access to authoritative land and property information.

RAHS Day Lecture: *Hidden In Plain View: The Aboriginal People of Coastal Sydney*
Wednesday 6 September, 1pm – 2pm at History House
Cost: Free (tea, coffee, biscuits served)

Dr Paul Irish will discuss his new book *Hidden In Plain View: The Aboriginal People of Coastal Sydney*, which shows that Aboriginal people never disappeared from Sydney in the nineteenth century as is often assumed. Instead, they lived across colonial Sydney and interacted with its residents and economy, often in unexpected ways. Paul Irish is a historian and archaeologist with heritage consultancy MDCA. For over ten years he has been piecing together the Aboriginal history of coastal Sydney with researchers from the La Perouse Aboriginal community, including the 2015 NSW History Fellowship exhibition *This Is Where They Travelled: Historical Aboriginal Lives in Sydney*.

RAHS Excursion: Victoria Barracks, Paddington
Thursday 7 September, 9.20am for 9.30am start, meet at the entrance to Victoria Barracks, in Moore Park Road
Cost: \$5

Join us for a tour of Victoria Barracks, one of the best-known examples of military architecture in Australia. The Regency-style building was designed by Lieutenant-Colonel George Barney and constructed using locally quarried sandstone between 1841 and 1849. **Important Note:** For security purposes, at the time of booking it is essential that you provide the **number and type of current identification** and that you bring this along with you on the day. Examples include Passport, Drivers Licence, Medicare Card or Seniors Card. This information will be forwarded to Security Staff at Victoria Barracks.

RAHS/WEA: *Trove – A “flagship discovery service” for all researchers*
Wednesday 20 September, 11am – 1pm at History House
Cost: RAHS/WEA Members \$32; Non-Members \$35. Bookings through WEA (02) 9264 2781.

Mention the National Library's wonderful search engine *Trove* and images of digitised newspapers come to mind, including that most salacious of papers the *Sydney Truth*. However, *Trove* is so much more. It brings together content from libraries, museums, archives, repositories and other research and collecting organisations big and small across Australia under one umbrella. Join Christine Yeats archivist, librarian and professional historian and discover some of the mysteries of *Trove* as she guides you along its research byways and pathways.

RAHS Day Lecture – *Kilmainham to Kalgoorlie: The Life and Times of Hugh Mahon*
Wednesday 4 October, 1pm – 2pm at History House
Cost: Free (tea, coffee, biscuits served)

One of Australia's most controversial politicians in the early years of the Commonwealth, Irish-born Hugh Mahon has the distinction of being the only member expelled from the federal parliament. Imprisoned in Kilmainham with Parnell in 1881 for his political activism he fled to Australia where he became a newspaperman, MP and government minister. Dr Jeff Kildea, is Adjunct Professor in Irish Studies at UNSW and was Keith Cameron Professor of Australian History at University College Dublin in 2014.

2017 Royal Australian Historical Society Conference: *Finding Lost Places, Lost People*
Saturday 28 – Sunday 29 October at Cowra Services Club, 101 Brisbane Street, Cowra NSW
Booking details including attendance fees will be available at www.rahs.org.au from mid-July 2017.

The RAHS Affiliated Societies Committee (ASC) is pleased to announce that the theme of the 2017 Royal Australian Historical Society Conference is *Finding Lost Places, Lost People*. There will be a pre-conference event on Friday 27 October where you will have the opportunity to meet fellow delegates. Subscribe to our eNewsletter and Blog for updates on the conference by visiting the RAHS website homepage www.rahs.org.au or find us on Facebook. Image: 3000 turkeys being ushered over the Cowra Bridge, April 1950 [Cowra and District Historical Society]

