
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

ABN 91 000 027 654

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

RAHS President Christine Yeats

2020 has been an extraordinarily difficult year for everyone. The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has affected all our lives in different ways, bringing a range of personal, organisational, national and international challenges that none of us expected to experience in our lifetime. It could have been a devastating year for the RAHS but for the dedicated team at History House who responded to the impact of the pandemic on its operations with innovative solutions, efficiency, energy and optimism. On behalf of the RAHS Council and our members, I would like to formally express our gratitude to Suzanne Holohan (General Manager), Donna Newton (Librarian), Maryanne Byrne (Grants/Insurance Administrator), and Phillip Jaworski (Digital Media and Membership Services) who have ensured that the RAHS survived the worst impact of the pandemic. I also want to extend my gratitude to the RAHS Councillors who have supported the Society throughout this troubling year, not least by embracing the world of Zoom. The commitment of our volunteers, who waited patiently during the lockdown and have now returned to their important roles with the RAHS is acknowledged with thanks.

Over the past 12 months we have kept our members up to date with any changes to the RAHS operations and public programs and activities as a result of COVID-19. On 17 March we announced that we were cancelling public events for the next four to six weeks in the special e-Newsletter, optimistically expecting that we would then return to normal. Unfortunately, this was not the case. In my message to members on 2 April I provided information on the management of the upcoming grants and affiliated insurance programs as a result of the pandemic, to ensure that there was no adverse impact on them.

The capacity to meet using Zoom has been most welcome. It meant that the RAHS was able to conduct its AGM on 16 April and hold its regular Council and other meetings throughout the year. It has also meant that we can continue to present our outreach activities. As face-to-face visits to History House were discouraged during the lockdown our first priority was to ensure that members and supporters could contact us by telephone and email. This was particularly important for those needing advice on important issues such as insurance and grants. This in turn necessitated an urgent review and upgrade of the existing IT systems. These upgrades were implemented within a very short timeframe with minimal disruption to ongoing operations.

We expect the work on the History House Building project to

commence in early 2021. In the meantime, our preparations are well advanced. On behalf of the Society I would like to acknowledge the generous contributions by Mr Geoffrey White OAM, past RAHS Councillor, and long-term supporter of the project, and Mrs Sally White OAM. We continue to be grateful to all those who have made donations towards this project. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. RAHS Treasurer Kathrine Reynolds provides an update on the project status in her report.

The library and archives collections, as well as the shelving and compactus units, have to be dismantled and relocated offsite during the building work. Given the importance of our collections, this planning has been our immediate priority over the past months. This has involved deaccessioning material outside the scope of the Library's Collection Development and Management Policy. Much of this material was part of our ticketed entry book sale in December.

The RAHS Council's mix of new and longer serving Councillors provides an excellent balance, as the Society develops strategies and operational models to better serve its members, and achieve its overall constitutional goal the advancement of education in the field of Australian history. Throughout this difficult year our Councillors have worked closely with the RAHS staff members at History House to ensure the continuing delivery of our services and activities.

Despite the pandemic the work of the RAHS continues to be ably assisted by its Volunteer Program. This program provides opportunities for RAHS members and friends to share their skills and research. They, like the members of the RAHS Council, offer their time and expertise to the Society without financial recompense to assist it in achieving its goals and objectives.

During 2020 our volunteers assisted in a range of different areas. Many continued their work as members of committees, which are listed later in this report. Others contributed to our outreach initiatives, events, publications and heritage advocacy. We also have volunteers who work closely with staff on day-to-day operations and projects at History House and also online.

The work performed by volunteers is varied and stimulating, reflecting the activities of the Society. A selection of the work undertaken by volunteers includes the following: Margaret Scott and Margaret Coleman worked on conserving items in the RAHS library collection and cataloguing and shelving the affiliated societies' newsletter and journals as received. Margaret Scott also assisted in deaccessioning the library publications; Elaine Phillips wrote book notes and provided office administrative support; Jan Thomas assisted with shelving publications in the library; Bron Stepowski rescanned 75% of

glass slide collection, many uncatalogued albums of photographs and postcards as well as the Sydney NSW postcards from the Kerr collection; Edona Dzemaili added photographs from the RAHS image collection to our Instagram account; Maximilian Reid provided history content for our social media platforms, wrote book notes and assisted with production of the *History* magazine and the e-Newsletter; Mary Sciberras reviewed items donated to the Society and their provenance; Elizabeth Heffernan provided Australian history content to our social media platforms.

Former RAHS President Emeritus Professor David Carment AM has been the Review Editor of the RAHS Journal since 2016. Over this time he has managed this important role with skill, diplomacy and good humour. We regret that David has decided to step down as Review Editor. He will be greatly missed. We are most grateful for his ongoing contribution and commitment to the Society.

For many years former RAHS Councillor Jan Koperberg OAM has edited the e-Newsletter in a voluntary capacity. Jan stepped down from this key role late last year. On behalf of the RAHS Council and members I would like to acknowledge and thank Jan for ensuring the ongoing success of the e-Newsletter.

We wish David and Jan all the best for the future.

Reports summarising the Society's events, outreach programs, publications, digital projects, and membership services appear later in this report. They provide an insight into the range of activities undertaken by the RAHS, despite the pandemic, and its commitment to promote history through different platforms – from lectures and regional outreach programs presented via Zoom as well as an increasingly strong online presence.

The online resource *Finding Your Ancestors: Researching Aboriginal History in NSW*, which was created in collaboration with members of the NSW Aboriginal community and historians Dr Paul Irish and Dr Michael Bennett, proved to be an extremely popular initiative. The project included a series of introductory videos, accessible on the RAHS website. Given the positive response to *Finding Your Ancestors*, we will continue our collaboration with Paul and Michael, Aboriginal community members and Aboriginal experts from libraries, archives and communities to produce more online resources and host additional seminars.

In 2019 I reported that the Society's publication *Playing their Part: Vice-Regal Consorts of New South Wales, 1788-2019* would be launched in the first quarter of 2020. While the planned launch did not go ahead owing to the pandemic, newly created website pages relating to the project went live on 14 May to accompany the release of the publication. They include additional resources and publications about the Vice-Regal Consorts project, along with information on the background of the project. In December 2020 we issued an e-book version of the publication, in addition to the hard copy edition.

On 28 October the RAHS hosted a seminar via Zoom in conjunction with Historic Houses Association of Australia. Associate Professor Carol Liston AO and Ms Joy Hughes, who together with former Vice President Dr Christine Wright co-edited the book, plus past RAHS Councillor Dr Bruce

Baskerville discussed the consorts' contributions to the history of NSW and stories about their historic residence, Government House.

During the COVID-19 restrictions online access to records and other resources has never been more critical for researchers. To assist the research community the RAHS made the June issues of the *History Magazine* and the *Journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society (JRAHS)* available on the RAHS website to either download or read online. We also developed a Members Only area of the website, with a range of dedicated resources for our membership. These include digital copies of back issues of the *History* magazine and other publications. We are also exploring the addition of a number of podcasts and webinars to the area.

During 2020 a range of new and enhanced online resources were released. Following the *Finding Your Ancestors* sessions we contacted the NSW State Archives to enquire about the possibility of digitising the Blanket Returns. These are listings of Aboriginal people who received blankets from the colonial authorities, covering the dates 1832-1835 and 1837-1844. In November we were delighted to learn that the digitised copies were being uploaded to its website. The National Library of Australia launched the new look Trove and the 10,000 plus digitised copies of the Australian Joint Copying Project material in mid 2020. We always welcome the opportunity to receive feedback from our members about their experiences with the operability of these new online resources.

In my capacity as Chair of the Events Committee I discuss the events and seminars in that section of the annual report. Many of these events are carried out in collaboration with local societies, the WEA, Historic Houses Association of Australia and NSW State Archives. This was the first year RAHS delivered these seminars online, using Zoom.

I would like to highlight the Regional Seminars, which are part of the program organised by the Society in conjunction with historical societies and libraries in regional NSW and Western Sydney, with funding provided by Create NSW. In 2020 we presented three regional seminars – at Orange on 14 March and Goulburn on 16 March. On 10 and 17 November, in a first for the RAHS, we ran two online Western Sydney seminars which provided guidance and practical advice on researching the history of land settlement and community life. We draw on Councillors' knowledge and expertise to present these seminars. I would like to record my thanks to Councillors Carol Liston AO and Judith Dunn OAM, who joined me in presenting them in 2020.

During 2020 the RAHS was represented on the Mitchell Library Consultative Committee and the Create NSW Museums and History Artform Board. This provided the RAHS with a further opportunity to represent the interests of its members.

We were deeply saddened by the death of Honorary Fellow Dr Dennis Norman Jeans who died on 3 April 2020. Dr Jeans will be remembered for his enduring contribution to the study of historical and industrial geography and through his many publications, in particular *An historical geography of New South Wales to 1901*.

This has been my final year as RAHS President and Councillor. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to serve the Society over the past nine years. I wish the Councillors, members, supporters, volunteers and the History House team every success in the coming years.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Treasurer's Report

Dr Kathrine M. Reynolds FRHistS

It is again with great honour and pleasure that I present my Treasurer's report to the members of the RAHS for the year of 2020. In 2020, the Society recorded a small loss of \$5,825 after transfers of dedicated money of \$391,987 to its various funds. We also made provision for long-service leave for staff in the future. This is a truly extraordinary financial result in the face of a global pandemic which saw almost all our activities postponed, and a tribute to our staff and Councillors.

During my time as RAHS treasurer, I have stressed that the Society must manage its expenses particularly as we approach our building phase, and I am pleased to report that this is the mantra of Ms Holohan and her staff who perpetually and seriously look for methods to reduce running costs. We are grateful, as always to our members and government as so many of our projects are funded by grants or donations.

COVID-19 struck the RAHS like all businesses but the staff, with dedication and commitment moved to working from home, coming in to History House when needed to attend to mail and other vital areas (e.g. storm damage). I sincerely thank all staff for their unwavering solidarity towards the RAHS during this extremely difficult and stressful time. Rental, venue hire, conference and event income were all significantly reduced by the pandemic as we were unable to effectively use History House. For the same reason, our 2020 conference, despite amazing organisation on the part of the Affiliated Societies Committee, had to be cancelled, and of course with it, another small source of our income. On a brighter note, due to the diligence of Ms Holohan the RAHS was eligible for government assistance, including the JobKeeper payment scheme and the Cashflow boost scheme, both of which partly offset the reduction in income from loss of rental and activities.

The RAHS also received a Cultural Sector Resilience Grant of \$12,668 from the City of Sydney to help build our online capacity. The RAHS also applied for a Create NSW Arts Rescue and Restart package in December 2020. We were delighted to learn that our application was accepted and the RAHS will be receiving \$60,000 in 2021 to employ cultural sector workers, develop online resources and support projects which provide a benefit to regional NSW. Due to COVID-19, many of our regular activities were moved online and some members' benefits were delivered online with Zoom, including lectures, regional seminars, RAHS Council and committee meetings, and RAHS publications were made available to members digitally, thereby reducing expenses. We hope to continue using online communication to deliver more benefits to our members in the future as we can better connect with members far from Sydney in this way.

Building Project

The start date that we have so long anticipated is almost upon us. We thank our members and friends again for their continued support of the RAHS, and their ongoing commitment to our building project, believed to be starting in the next couple of months. There were a couple of minor alterations that had to be made in 2020 that significantly delayed our start, but we are almost there. In 2020, our building donations increased and we received \$385,455 for which we are most grateful. We thank all our members and friends for their generosity but especially Mr Geoffrey White OAM, past RAHS Councillor and long-term supporter of this project, and Mrs Sally White OAM whose recent generous donation means that we can plan for a 2021 construction date. Once we start building, we hope members will again generously contribute to the building as we know unexpected costs often arise. Currently the building fund has \$2.4 million, most donated by members whose help I gratefully acknowledge. I repeat that our current building quote has a 20% contingency built in to reduce the risk of cost overrun. We also have a small share portfolio which, while we would prefer to retain this to provide income during the year, the shares are, nevertheless, a saleable commodity and will provide a small amount of contingency money, if needed. One problem that we only encountered in 2020 was that most of the library must be moved off-site due to the weight, and this will incur extra costs for us.

Again, I would thank the many people who help the RAHS. We are particularly grateful to the Hon. Don Harwin, Special Minister of State, and Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs and the Arts, Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council, Vice-President of the Executive Council, and Trustee of the Parliamentary Contributory Superannuation Fund, for funding regional community and history projects through the 2020 Cultural Grants Programme. Seventeen projects received financial support under this programme, twelve of which were regionally based.

We also thank the Heritage Council who supported our 2020 Heritage Grants Programme. We are grateful that ten projects received grants under this programme.

For six years, the RAHS has successfully run the Transport Heritage Grants Programme managed by Transport NSW and Transport Heritage NSW. In 2020, sixteen transport heritage projects received funding. This included three maritime heritage projects, which became eligible for funding for the first time this year. I would also like to thank the Hon. Gabrielle Upton, Member for Vacluse, Minister for the Environment and Minister for Heritage who supported our Heritage Grants Programme.

One of our long-term members, Robert (Bob) Pauling who was also a long-term member and contributor to the Manly, Warringah and Pittwater Historical Society, left us a bequest which we propose to use on IT and library costs related to the building project.

Due to COVID-19 we moved our book sales online and these sales through our website, contributed an additional \$6,607. I would also acknowledge the work of the Events Committee and of the President, Christine Yeats who tirelessly finds speakers

who might help us with these events. We are always grateful to receive donations of high-quality history books that we can rehouse to our members. Insurance administration is of great economic use to us, netting us \$27,210 in administration fees and a further \$20,000 from grant administration fees.

A special vote of thanks must be given to Ms Suzanne Holohan, our General Manager, and her staff for their hard work. The RAHS Annual Report is always an opportunity to express gratitude to fellow Councillors, volunteers and members who, with staff, help the RAHS achieve so much with very limited financial resources. To all who help us at the RAHS, and to all affiliated society members who work so tirelessly in their own communities saving history, we say, "Thank you".

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

INCOME	2020	2019
Donations received	8,254	7,051
Specific bequests and donations for History House Project	385,455	72,271
Grants received - Create NSW	65,000	65,000
Dividend and interest received	44,405	78,795
Rental income	83,694	154,317
Subscriptions received	103,927	102,778
Other income	78,540	108,153
COVID-19 Cashflow Boost	45,018	0
TOTAL INCOME	814,293	588,365

EXPENDITURE

Accounting and Contract Services	32,840	34,237
Employee Benefit Expenses	262,619	237,759
JobKeeper	-108,450	0
Grants expended – Create MSW	65,000	65,000
History House expenses	57,014	66,065
Other expenses	62,617	70,272
<i>JRAHS</i> and <i>History Magazine</i>	26,801	35,525
Postage, printing and stationery	17,918	25,164
Depreciation	11,773	13,075
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	428,131	547,097

SURPLUS BEFORE TRANSFERS	386,162	41,270
---------------------------------	----------------	---------------

TRANSFER TO OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

History House Build Project Donations	385,455	72,271
Other	6,532	31,015
SURPLUS	-5,825	-59,145

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS

Cash	2,736,058	2,427,269
Receivable and other current assets	58,861	28,247
Financial assets	715,444	779,196
Property, plant and equipment	17,014,372	16,964,817
TOTAL ASSETS	20,524,735	20,199,529

LIABILITIES

Accounts payable and other liabilities	209,988	227,386
Provisions	42,657	22,464
TOTAL LIABILITIES	252,645	249,850

NET ASSETS	20,272,089	19,949,679
-------------------	-------------------	-------------------

EQUITY

Reserves	19,403,220	19,074,985
Retained Surplus	868,869	874,694
TOTAL EQUITY	20,272,089	19,949,679

In 2020, the RAHS received \$153,468 in COVID-19 support from the Federal government. This included \$108,450 in JobKeeper payments and \$45,018 under the COVID-19 Cashflow boost scheme.

SERVICES TO OUR MEMBERS

RAHS Events and Outreach

RAHS President Christine Yeats, Chair of Events Committee

In 2020, COVID-19 completely transformed the way the RAHS delivered its events and outreach programs. A number of events and excursions scheduled for March and April had to be cancelled or postponed because of pandemic restrictions.

The RAHS had to adapt quickly to these changes, so we focused on implementing the technology and digital media processes required to deliver online lectures, seminars and workshops. In July, we launched our first fully online calendar of events. We reintroduced our popular Day Lecture series, with people from across Australia joining us on the first Wednesday of each month to listen to research findings from emerging and established historians.

Our Winter-Spring 2020 calendar also featured seminars and workshops that focused on our key goal – to develop historical expertise in the community that supports history and heritage projects. The ability to participate in online events meant that greater numbers of our regional members were able to learn new skills and connect with the history community.

Although we look forward to a time when we can organise excursions and host events at History House, we now plan to always deliver online events. We may have had to socially distance in 2020 but thanks to technology we can still stay connected with others who share a passion for Australian history.

Event Type	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Seminars and Workshops	12	11	14	18	17
Lectures – Day, Evening, Joint	8	26	24	20	25
Excursions and Tours	2	5	14	8	16
Launches/Cocktail Evenings	0	1	1	4	2
Other	3	4	5	5	6
TOTAL	25	47	61	55	66

REGIONAL AND WESTERN SYDNEY SEMINARS FUNDED BY CREATE NSW

Regional and Western Sydney seminars are an important part of the RAHS outreach program. Seminar programs include skills-based training and local history research components, which are designed around the training needs of local historical societies and community groups.

I would like to thank Create NSW for its continuing support of this program. I would also like to acknowledge the contribution of RAHS Councillors Judith Dunn OAM and Carol Liston AO for speaking at these seminars and providing online content.

This program also relies on local and state organisations, who provide speakers and logistical support. In 2020, we were delighted to work with Central West Libraries, Goulburn Our Living History Festival, Goulburn-Mulwaree Library and NSW State Archives.

Orange Regional Seminar – *Looking to the Future and Discovering the Past.*

Saturday 14 March 2020, Orange Ex-Services' Club

The RAHS, in conjunction with Central West Libraries presented this one-day seminar. It included the following sessions: *Land title research and the new HLRV website* – RAHS President Christine Yeats; *What cemeteries can tell us* – RAHS Councillor Judith Dunn OAM; *Digging deeper into Trove* – RAHS President Christine Yeats.

Goulburn Regional Seminar – *Researching the History of Your House*

Monday 16 March 2020, Riversdale Homestead

The RAHS, in conjunction with both Goulburn Our Living History Festival and NSW State Archives, presented this one-day seminar. It included the following sessions: *Land title research and the new HLRV website* – RAHS President Christine Yeats; *House History using the NSW State Archives* – Emily Hanna, NSW State Archives; *Getting to know your local resources* – Fran O'Flynn, Local Studies Librarian, Goulburn-Mulwaree Library. The seminar also included a house and garden tour of Riversdale Homestead, a historic 1830s inn, purchased in 1875 by Edward Twynam who later became Surveyor General of NSW. Riversdale remained in his family until acquired by the National Trust in 1967.

Western Sydney Seminar – *Land and Community Life*

Tuesday 10 November 2020 and Tuesday 17 November 2020, online via Zoom

These two online seminars provided guidance and practical advice on researching the history of land settlement and community life in Western Sydney. The topics included: *Introducing the history of land in Western Sydney* – Associate Professor Carol Liston AO; *Discovering the Parramatta Cemeteries* – RAHS Councillor Judith Dunn OAM; *Accessing land title records for Western Sydney* – RAHS President Christine Yeats; *Linking people and places and discovering how they lived* – RAHS President Christine Yeats.

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

Wednesday 11 March 2020 – *Basic Conservation Guidelines*

RAHS workshop at History House in conjunction with the WEA

Presented by Tegan Anthes

This presentation explored conservation fundamentals such as handling, cleaning, display and storage of a variety of objects including documents, photographs, textiles, metal, wood and ceramics.

Wednesday 24 June 2020 – *Getting to Know the New Look Trove*

RAHS workshop via Zoom in conjunction with the WEA

Presented by RAHS President Christine Yeats

This presentation examined how to navigate and make the best use of the new look Trove website that was launched by the National Library of Australia in late June 2020.

Wednesday 28 October 2020 – *Playing Their Part: Vice-Regal Consorts of NSW*

RAHS seminar via Zoom in conjunction with Historic Houses Association of Australia

In this seminar presenters discussed the consorts' contributions to the history of NSW and stories about their historic residence, Government House. RAHS Councillor Carol Liston AO discussed what was expected of the vice-regal consort in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, with a brief look at the official residences. Bruce Baskerville highlighted some of the scandals at Government House and how they can be used to reveal networks, and how influence worked behind the scenes. Joy Hughes examined how Caroline, Lady Denison (1855-1860) and Margaret (Peggy), Lady Wakehurst (1937-1945) were dynamic long-serving consorts at critical times in the history of Australia.

Wednesday 25 November 2020 – *Getting to Know the Australian Joint Copying Project*

RAHS workshop via Zoom in conjunction with the WEA

Presented by RAHS President Christine Yeats

This presentation explained how to make the best use of this invaluable resource for all areas of historical research, with special focus on family history and biographical research.

5 August 2020 - 8 September 2020 – *Finding Your Ancestor: Researching Aboriginal History in NSW*

Hosted by RAHS via Zoom

In August 2020 the RAHS announced the launch of the online resource *Finding Your Ancestors: Researching Aboriginal History in NSW*. The RAHS also hosted five online seminars which provided people with the opportunity to ask questions to historians and Aboriginal experts from libraries, archives and communities. Historians Paul Irish and Michael Bennett were joined by special guests including Melissa Jackson and Ronald Briggs (members of the Indigenous Services Team at the State Library of NSW), Ray Ingrey (La Perouse Aboriginal Community), Bronwyn Gerry (acting Senior Archivist in the Aboriginal Historical Records Team at Aboriginal Affairs NSW) and Michael Bell (Indigenous Liaison Officer, Australian War Memorial).

2020 DAY LECTURES

Wednesday 5 February 2020 at History House – *Ten remarkable Australians*

Presented by Ian Macfarlane

Wednesday 4 March 2020 at History House – *The making of Martin Sparrow and the history in the fiction*

Presented by Peter Cochrane

Wednesday 5 August 2020 via Zoom – *Pathfinders: A History of NSW Aboriginal Trackers, 1862-1973*

Presented by Michael Bennett

Wednesday 2 September 2020 via Zoom – *The Enchantment of the Long-haired Rat*

Presented by Tim Bonyhady

Wednesday 7 October 2020 via Zoom – *Idling in Green Places: A Life of Alec Chisholm*

Presented by Russell McGregor

Wednesday 4 November 2020 via Zoom – *The Adventures of 'Waltzing Matilda': The First Civilian Aircraft to Reach Australia From Britain After the Second World War*

Presented by David Carment AM

Wednesday 2 December 2020 via Zoom – *Home Talent: Australia's Itinerant Filmmakers*

Presented by RAHS Councillor Graham Shirley

2020 SPECIAL LECTURES

Wednesday 21 October 2020 via Zoom – *Suburban Noir*

Presented by Peter Doyle

2020 EXCURSIONS

Wednesday 12 February 2020

RAHS Excursion – *Sydney Town Hall* co-ordinated by RAHS Librarian Donna Newton

Wednesday 26 February 2020

RAHS Excursion – *Reserve Bank of Australia Museum* co-ordinated by RAHS Librarian Donna Newton

2020 OTHER EVENTS

Sunday 26 January 2020 at History House

History House Open Day: *Pot Luck with History* and RAHS Book Sale. The program included *Elizabeth Northcott at Government House, 1946-1957* – David Carment AM; *Before the First Fleet: Transportation to West Africa, the Americas, the Caribbean and Newfoundland* – RAHS President Christine Yeats; *The Mad Dentist of Botany Bay: Louis Bertrand, Duellist, Mesmerist and Murderer* – RAHS Councillor Judith Dunn OAM; *The Coogee Ferris Wheel Disaster of 1959* – RAHS President Christine Yeats; *Joseph Mortlemans: Last Pirate of the Pacific* – RAHS Councillor Judith Dunn OAM; *Tales from the Cemetery: John Dunn the "Teenage Bushranger"* – RAHS President Christine Yeats; *A First Fleet Story* – Margaret Hogge.

Thursday 12 March 2020 at History House

RAHS new members' evening

Tuesday 14 April 2020 via Zoom

RAHS Annual General Meeting.

RAHS Library

Donna Newton, RAHS Librarian

The RAHS Library is recognised by the National Library of Australia as being a culturally significant collection. It is a key research resource for RAHS members and the broader history community, with over 60,000 items on Australia history. The table below provides an overview of the collection.

Collection Item	2020	2019
Books	23,782	24,857
Journal/History/Conference	4,135	4,099
Serials and selected contents index	3,689	3,689
Photograph Collection	11,432	11,432
Glass Slide Collection	7,614	7,614
Manuscripts	1,058	1,058
Press Clippings	7,255	7,255
Walker Slides	1,939	1,939
Total	60,904	61,943

The book collection decreased this year by 1,075 items compared to the previous year. The temporary library closure to visitors provided an opportunity to focus on deaccessioning duplicate and excess items that did not meet our collection policy criteria. RAHS President Christine Yeats and I reviewed the RAHS library's shelved book collection and removed duplicates and excess items. These items then formed part of the RAHS December 2020 ticketed book sale which raised \$1,213 to support library projects.

Similar to many of our affiliated societies, we used the time when we were closed to the publing to declutter, clean, and sort ephemera material.

The following table provides additional key library statistics for 2020

Measure	2020	2019
Number of registered visitors – 96% RAHS members or affiliated societies' members	92	231
Number of visitors to RAHS library web pages	3,410	3,716
Number of publications added to Book and More Database	*155	149
Number of other items added to Book and More Database	**26	50
Entries added to <i>JRAHS</i> , <i>History</i> and Conference Database	36	54
e-Newsletters from affiliated societies submitted	313	300
<i>JRAHS</i> article requests	47	42
Articles submitted to <i>JRAHS</i>	21	17
Requests to use images from the RAHS collection	23	34

* Publications contained in the database also include: items held in our Rare Books Room; the reference collection; directories and yearbooks

** Other items in the database include: souvenir programs, pamphlets and brochures; bibles; maps; newspaper clippings; CDs/DVDs and microfilm/microfiche resources.

The RAHS followed government advice and closed History House to the public at the start of the pandemic. It then introduced COVID-19 safety measures and allowed research visits by appointment. The purpose of their visits included the following research: Andrew Thompson and early Windsor material for planned historic walk; John Connal of Surveyor's Creek, near Walcha NSW; Australian urban conservation and the important role of the RAHS and history in heritage debates in Sydney and NSW, and several visitors viewing publications in the library collection.

Because of the restrictions on library visits, there was a large increase of online research queries. While many researchers focused on local, family and biographical interests, other examples included:

- resources on the Port Kembla Steelworks for its forthcoming centenary
- the history of McIver Ladies Baths, Coogee
- history of food production in the Sydney basin from 1788 to 2020
- the lives of unmarried Protestant women in Australia involved in social activism
- historical Blue Mountains short films/featurettes for the Blackheath Rhododendron Festival
- RAHS manuscript collection of Australian American Civil War veterans.

A number of queries received specifically related to the history of RAHS including:

- correspondence and files on RAHS tablets (the site of the first Government House and Elizabeth Farm)
- the iron boundary posts of Sydney Council's wards which had been originally donated to the RAHS
- RAHS involvements with a commemorative plaque honouring William Dawes, affixed to Sydney Harbour Bridge.

The use of photographs and showcasing other resources in the e-Newsletter and on social media continues to be a successful way in promoting the vast collection we hold at the Library. This results in an increase of requests from a variety of organisations / institutions and RAHS members to use particular items from the RAHS Library. In 2020, permission to use RAHS images granted included:

- Casey & Lowe Archaeology & Heritage
- Department of Communities and Justice Media Team
- Jacobs Heritage Consulting
- *Open Road* magazine
- Swiss publishing house, NuiNui
- ABC Radio National
- University of New South Wales
- NSW Heritage Education School Infrastructure.

We received a request from National Trust of Australia (NSW) for the loan and use of the publication *Journal of a voyage to*

New South Wales by John White. Published in 1970, the publication will be part of the exhibition, *Enquiring Minds: Exploration and Discovery in Colonial New South Wales*, which is to be held at Old Government House, Parramatta from February 2021 to November 2021.

Members' subscriptions and donations continue to greatly assist the RAHS Library. We would like to thank everyone for their ongoing support, in particular all the RAHS volunteers who continued to give their time through this challenging year.

RAHS Publications, Website and Digital Media

Phillip Jaworski, RAHS Membership Services/Digital Media

In the face of COVID-19 lockdowns and restrictions on face-to-face gatherings, the RAHS publications, website and digital media have never been more important for keeping connected with our members and the wider history community.

The RAHS was a successful applicant in applying for and receiving a 2020 Cultural Sector Resilience Grant from the City of Sydney, which has been used to improve and develop our digital services so we can continue to operate at History House and remotely. The grant supported the redesign of our website and e-Newsletter, giving them a fresher look and clearer layout which we hope you will enjoy. Grant funding was used to purchase new software licenses which permitted some recommencement of our outreach and events program in an online format. These software programs included Zoom for streaming, Canva for design, and Camtasia for screen-recording and editing. The grant also facilitated the launch of *Finding Your Ancestors: Researching Aboriginal Family History in NSW*. The page became one of our most popular in 2020.

We hope our members found the publications we produced in 2020 enjoyable and insightful. This included two editions of the *JRAHS*, four editions of *History Magazine* and the release of *Playing Their Part: Vice-Regal Consorts of NSW 1788-2019*.

The *JRAHS* is the oldest journal of Australian history – first published in 1906. It contains original, previously unpublished non-fiction scholarly articles, reviews and images. The content is submitted by both academic and community scholars. Topics covered in 2020 included: R.B. Levien, Victoria's commercial agent in Asia; Anna Blackwell, *Sydney Morning Herald* correspondent in Paris; Surveyors and land laws in the 1860s to 1880s; Spain's response to the British penal colony in NSW; and a reassessment of the Dardanelles Commission.

History magazine evolved from the Society's newsletter, and its current format was first introduced in 1988. *History* provides articles of general historical interest, developments in historical research, book notes, forthcoming events and other relevant news. Each issue of *History* is produced with a guest editor who has the responsibility for sourcing articles from a range of potential contributors. The editors for 2020 were RAHS President Christine Yeats (March), Lesley Potter (June), RAHS Councillor Lynne Allen (September) and RAHS Councillor Richard White (December). Topics covered in 2020 included: Australians on the Klondike gold fields in north-west Canada in

1898; Australian pilgrimages; the remarkable saga of Richard and Uriah Lovell, two gypsy convicts transported to NSW; and the cultural origins of the suntan.

The RAHS e-Newsletter continues to serve as an effective way to communicate relevant news, information and events to our members and friends. Over 2,845 people are subscribed to our e-Newsletter, with seventeen issues circulated in 2020. Some of our top stories included: Channel Nine visiting History House to talk about the Historic Land Records Viewer; the High Court decision to release the Palace Letters; the Statue Debate and the RAHS position on statues, memorials and plaques; the digitisation of Sir John Monash's personal papers; and the launch of *Finding Your Ancestors: Researching Aboriginal Family History in NSW*. The RAHS is very grateful for the news stories and other contributions made from our individual members and affiliates, as it ensures our content is current and covers a diverse range of historical interests.

The RAHS has an active social media presence on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube. We now have over 6,200 followers on Facebook and published 150 posts throughout 2020. Our most popular post was an 'On This Day' that commemorated the bicentenary of left-hand drive in Australia. On 15 August 1820, Governor Lachlan Macquarie proclaimed that left-hand drive would be the 'rule of the road'. We also saw a steady increase in our followers on Twitter and Instagram, as we made a greater effort to add more content on these platforms.

Our website was accessed by 58,154 users throughout 2020 (up from 39,547 in 2019) – an increase of 36% since 2019. The most visited page on the website was *An Intimate Pandemic: The Community Impact of Influenza in 1919*, which was visited over 6,000 times in 2020. Our users were predominantly from Australia (86%), with others from the United States, United Kingdom, China, New Zealand and Canada. 64 posts were added to the RAHS News page in 2020, which primarily included information about upcoming events, newly published books on Australian history, advocacy stories, and other relevant information/updates.

The Society looks forward to new opportunities in 2021 to increase our presence on our digital platforms, and connecting with various individuals and organisations, particularly with those in regional areas whose contact with the RAHS may be limited by geographical distance.

RAHS Affiliated Societies

RAHS Councillor Lynne Allen, Chair of Committee

Usually in this report each year I am able to reflect on a busy and fruitful year. Alas 2020 was a very different proposition with uncertainty and disruption being the key factors. Fires, floods and pestilence have impacted on life as we knew it.

Unfortunately, we were forced to cancel the 2020 RAHS Annual Conference which was extremely disappointing as the conference is always a wonderful chance to broaden one's knowledge and be stimulated and energised. RAHS conferences

are also a great opportunity to socialise with like minded people and network for mutual support.

The 2021 RAHS Annual Conference is set down for November 5-7 and will be held in the beautiful city of Bathurst. The Affiliated Societies Committee is busy assembling a stimulating program delivered by excellent presenters. Information about the conference will be released on the RAHS website as details are confirmed. Set aside the first weekend in November in your diary as we would love to see you in Bathurst, both those who regularly attend and those who will be doing so for the first time.

We were able to proceed with the 2020 Create NSW Cultural Grant program, which was, as usual, assessed by 3 members of the Affiliated Societies Committee. There was great competition for the \$55,000 (GST inclusive) funding available with \$91,137 requested in grant applications. Seventeen projects were funded with twelve of these being Regional NSW history projects. Eleven projects were fully funded and six were partially funded.

Although COVID-19 has turned the world upside down, many societies have identified opportunities and have turned a negative into a positive by undertaking long planned projects made possible by the shutdown. Our museums and archives have never been more organised and accessible! Maybe the activity undertaken during lockdown has resulted in the identification of potential projects. Applications for the Cultural Grants will open in April 2021 so start thinking about potential projects and make sure that you have actual quotes to support your application. The team at History House are experienced in all aspects of grant administration and I strongly recommend that you access the grant expertise of the staff at History House to discuss your project before starting the application and be guided by their knowledge and expertise. They are always keen to assist, and their guidance can be the difference between success and failure in securing funding.

The RAHS wishes to thank Create NSW for continuing to fund the Cultural Grants into 2021 and for supporting the research and dissemination of the history and heritage of our state. This funding has made the dreams of many societies reality.

2020 has been a difficult year and the Affiliated Societies Committee is very conscious that not all societies have weathered the COVID-19 storm as well as others. We encourage you to contact us if you have concerns. Perhaps we can help but at least we will listen! Remember, the Affiliated Societies Committee is your committee, established to support your society in its valuable role as preserver and protector of the nation's heritage.

RAHS Membership Data

This year the RAHS saw a slight increase in subscription income compared to 2019. We would like to thank all our members for their continued financial support during these challenging times.

The number of RAHS affiliated societies remained steady, an indication of their ability to remain viable and active during the

pandemic. Online events and the new Members Only area means that we can now provide more services to regional members. There was also a small increase in the total figures of individual and pairs memberships.

The number of library subscribers did decline this year, which we had anticipated due to the amalgamation of local council libraries. In 2021 we will continue to grow our individual/pairs membership to offset this decline.

AFFILIATED SOCIETIES	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Societies with fewer than 15 members	60	56	51	55	49
Between 16-30	64	69	74	75	73
Between 31 - 50	58	55	49	53	62
Between 51-100	97	95	94	101	93
Between 101-200	69	73	73	80	82
Between 201-300	16	15	20	20	22
More than 300	13	13	13	14	16
Total Affiliated Societies	377	376	374	398	397
INDIVIDUAL AND PAIRS MEMBERS					
Individual Members	319	310	309	303	308
Household Pairs (x2)	38	46	48	47	51
Students	11	6	13	10	15
Senior Members	451	442	493	503	481
Senior Pairs (x2)	92	96	89	93	92
Total Individuals And Pairs	911	900	952	956	947
CORPORATE MEMBERS	5	6	3	6	6
LIBRARY SUBSCRIBERS	91	115	108	133	129
Honorary Fellows	4	5	5	5	5
Life Members	17	17	17	19	19
Members 50 years	6	6	6	6	7
Free and Exchange	32	36	35	36	36
TOTAL NON-SUBSCRIBERS	59	64	63	66	67
TOTAL SUBSCRIBERS	1,384	1,397	1,427	1,493	1,479
OVERALL TOTAL	1,443	1,461	1,500	1,559	1,546

RAHS AND THE COMMUNITY

Representation on History and Heritage Boards

As of the 31 December 2020, the RAHS is represented on the Federation of Australian Historical Societies by RAHS Councillor Judith Dunn OAM and RAHS President Christine Yeats; the Geographical Names Board of New South Wales by RAHS member Terry Kass; the History Council of New South Wales by RAHS President Christine Yeats; the State Records of NSW Community Advisory Committee by RAHS President Christine Yeats; the National Archives Consultative Forum by RAHS Councillors Peter Hobbins, Pauline Curby and Iain Stuart; Create NSW Museums & History Artform Advisory Board by RAHS President Christine Yeats.

RAHS Administered Grant Programs

The Cultural Grants Program is a Create NSW devolved funding program administered by the RAHS on behalf of the NSW Government. This program assists historical research and publication of local community and regional history projects. \$55,000 (GST inclusive) was distributed to grant projects in 2020.

The following organisations and projects were 2020 Cultural Grant recipients: Armidale and District Historical Society, *Publication of Journal 6*; Baabayn Aboriginal Corporation, *The Spoken Library*; Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations, *Blue Mountains History Journal Issue 10*; Braidwood Old Anglican Hall Community Management Committee, *Reminiscences of the Braidwood Anglican Hall*; DIDUNO Network, *Oral History of ETERNITY*; Grafton Rowing Club, *Research and record the history of Grafton Rowing Club*; Hunters Hill Historical Society, *Kelly's Bush and Jack Munday*; Institution of Engineers Australia (Engineers Australia), *Re-Shaping the Hunter*; Lady of Grace Fraternity, *History of Italian Migrants in Ryde*; Molong Historical Society, *Convicts, Capitalists and Corruption*; Port Macquarie Historical Society, *Port Macquarie's First Convicts*; Port Macquarie Historical Society, *Return to Lake Innes*; Rotary Club of Narrabri, *Rotary Club of Narrabri 75th Anniversary publication*; Second Nature Strategies on behalf of Northern Rivers Deaf Community, *Northern Rivers: A Deaf History*; Shoalhaven Historical Society, *On This Day in Shoalhaven*; Singleton Council, *They Sent Me North*; SydWest Multicultural Services, *A generation of adaptation: History of Bhutanese settlement in Sydney*.

The Heritage Grants Program is administered by the RAHS on behalf of the NSW Government through the Heritage Council of NSW. Grants of up to \$5,000 support the work undertaken by local historical societies, community organisations and individuals across NSW. \$48,196 (including GST) was distributed to the following grant projects in 2020:

Albury and District Historical Society, *Digitising Border Morning Mail Albury, 1946-1947*; Barnados Australia, *Barnados Australia Photographic Collection Management Plan*; Chinese Australian Historical Society, *Chinese Australian Voices*; Effy Alexakis & Leonard Janiszewski, *In Their Own Image: Cassette Digitisation Project*; The Infants Home, *Digitising the Infants Home Historical Records*; Our Chinese Past Inc, *Chinese Template Heritage of the New England NW Region*; Roslyn Maddrell, *Braidwood District Hospital 1850-2020*; Fort Street Archives, *Fort Street Digitisation Project 1849-2019*; Book Collectors Society of Australia, *Digitisation of Biblioneus*; Olivia Nigro, *Behind a Migrant Lens*.

The Transport Heritage Grants Program is a NSW Government funded program, administered by the RAHS with the support of Transport Heritage NSW (THNSW). It aims to help the NSW community rediscover the culture, events and people that shaped transport over the past 160 years, as well as assist with the restoration and conservation of NSW's valuable heritage assets. The total amount awarded in 2020 was \$190,053.

The following organisations and projects were 2020 Transport Heritage Grant recipients: ACT heritage rail holdings, *AL 1040 Pullman style carriage upholstery restoration*; DC6029, *DC6029 spring refurbishment*; Goulburn Crookwell Heritage Railway, *Replacement of walkway deck and painting of turntable*; Hunters Hill Historical Society, *Row Boats to Bus Fleets*; Lachlan Valley Railway Society, *Orange East Fork Master Plan and conservation management strategy*; Lawrence Historical Society, *Clarence River – Road to settlement 1799-1950*; Regional Heritage Transport Association Junee, *Junee Roundhouse Museum: an interpretation*; Sydney Bus and Truck, *State Transit Farewell Publication*; Sydney Bus Museum, *Mechanical overhaul of leyland 2599*; Sydney Electric Train Society #3, refitting 4615 pantograph; Sydney Heritage Fleet, *Kanangra Upper Deck Window restoration*; Sydney Tramway Museum, *Digitisation and publishing of Sydney Tramway Museum archives*; Sydney Tramway Museum, *Restoration to display condition of Sydney Tram D class 117*; Temora Shire Council, *Temora Railway station conservation and replacement works*; The Rail Motor Society, *Interpretive signage and interior paint at Station master's cottage*; Wagga Wagga Rail Heritage Association, *Enginemens barracks windows restoration*.

RAHS Certificates of Achievement

RAHS Certificates of Achievement provide recognition to those members of affiliated societies whose contribution is significant and noteworthy to both their society and the community.

The following people were awarded Certificates of Achievement in 2020: Keith Brown – Gunning and District Historical Society; Anne Fernandez – Mosman Historical Society.

RAHS Heritage Committee

The RAHS Heritage Committee consists of Senior Vice-President Carol Liston; Councillors Linda Emery, Mark St Leon, Graham Shirley, and Iain Stuart; RAHS member Craig McPherson, Senior Heritage Specialist, Sydney Trains; and RAHS member Elaine Phillips.

When the NSW Heritage Council advises RAHS of proposed changes to the State Heritage Register, the Heritage Committee reviews the proposals and responds to them on behalf of the RAHS. The Heritage Committee sent a total of nine letters this year. Consultations were:

- Mirrabooka and Garden at Castle Hill
- Coffs Harbour Jetty
- Ultimo Tramways Power House
- Lambing Flat Anti-Chinese Riot Site and Associated Banner
- The First Sikh Temple, Woolgoolga
- Former Armidale Courthouse and Sheriff's Cottage
- The Metro Theatre (Formerly Minerva Theatre)
- Balls Head Coal Loader Complex
- Newcastle Recreation Reserve

The RAHS featured stories about Heritage Listings in its eNewsletter: The First Sikh Temple and The Old Gundagai Gaol (listed in 2020 but the committee supported this listing in 2019).

RAHS PEOPLE

The Council

In 2020, the Council comprised:

President

Ms Christine Yeats, BA, DipLib, DipArchAdmin

Senior Vice President

Associate Professor Carol Liston, AO, BA (Hons), PhD, FRAHS

Vice President

Mrs Lynnette Allen, MA, DipEd, Grad Dip Local, Family & Applied History

Treasurer

Dr Kathrine Reynolds, BA, BCrim, MSc, PhD, FRHistS

Executive Member

Mrs Linda Emery, BA

Councillors

Ms Pauline Curby, MA, Dip Ed

Mrs Judith Dunn, OAM, FPDHS

Dr Peter Hobbins, BA, BSc (Hons), M Medical Hum, PhD

Dr Mark St Leon BEc, GCertTQM, MBus, MA (Hons), PhD, CA

Mr Graham Shirley

Dr Iain Stuart, BA (Hons), M.Env Sci, PhD

Associate Professor Richard White, BA (Hons), Dip.Ed.

In 2020, the RAHS Council held eleven meetings, three were at History House and the remainder took place online.

RAHS Committees and RAHS Working Parties

The Society's committees bring together a wide range of people who have a shared interest in supporting the key activities of the Society. The RAHS committees develop draft policies for consideration of the Council as well as supporting staff with core activities. The RAHS also forms working parties that are dedicated to delivering a specific project.

Below is a list of the committees and their members as at 31 December 2020.

Affiliated Societies Committee

Ms Lynne Allen (Chair), Mrs Judith Dunn (Vice Chair), Associate Professor Carol Liston (Councillor), Ms Samantha Friend (Bathurst), Ms Lorraine Neate (Wollongong), Ms Angela Phippen (Specialist), Dr Peter Hobbins (Councillor, Special interests), Mr Graham Shirley (Councillor).

Events Committee

The President Christine Yeats (Chair), Emeritus Prof David Carment, Dr Kathrine Reynolds, Mr Graham Shirley, Mrs Judith Dunn, Ms Suzanne Holohan.

Executive Committee

Ms Christine Yeats (President), Associate Professor Carol Liston (Senior-Vice President), Mrs Lynne Allen (Vice President), Dr Kathrine Reynolds (Treasurer), Mrs Linda Emery (Council Representative).

Fellowship and Medals Committee

The President Christine Yeats (Chair), Associate Professor Carol Liston (Councillor/Fellow), Mr Keith Johnson (Fellow), Professor Geoffrey Sherington (Fellow), Associate Professor Nancy Cushing (Professional Historian), Ms Pauline Curby (Professional Historian/Councillor), Associate Professor Richard White (Historian/Councillor).

Heritage Committee

Associate Professor Carol Liston, Dr Iain Stuart, Mrs Linda Emery, Dr Mark St Leon, Mr Graham Shirley, Mr Craig McPherson, Ms Elaine Phillips.

Editorial Board for the *JRAHS*

Associate Professor Carol Liston (Chair and editor of *JRAHS*), the President Ms Christine Yeats, Emeritus Professor David Carment, Dr Peter Hobbins, Dr Rosemary Kerr, Dr Kathrine Reynolds, Dr Mark St Leon, Associate Professor Richard White.

History House Working Party

The President Ms Christine Yeats (Chair), Dr Kathrine Reynolds, Dr Mark St Leon, Ms Suzanne Holohan.

Library and Archives Working Party

The President Ms Christine Yeats (Chair), Associate Professor Carol Liston AO, Ms Suzanne Holohan and Ms Donna Newton.

Constitution Review Working Party

The President Ms Christine Yeats (Chair), Associate Professor Carol Liston AO, Ms Suzanne Holohan.

Volunteers

The RAHS would like to thank all of its volunteers for the incredible contribution that they make. Our 2020 volunteers included: Margaret Coleman, Edona Dzemaili, Elizabeth Heffernan, Jan Koperberg, Elaine Phillips, Maximilian Reid, Mary Sciberras, Margaret Scott, Bron Stepowski and Jan Thomas.

We would also like to specifically acknowledge the contribution of Jan Koperberg, our retiring volunteer. For many years former RAHS Councillor Jan Koperberg has edited the RAHS e-Newsletter, an important vehicle for promoting the activities of the RAHS, our affiliates and the broader history community.

The RAHS would also like to thank Sema Ilkentapar who completed her eighty-hour University of Notre Dame Arts and Science internship at the RAHS. She researched significant items in the RAHS collection and prepared website content to promote these collections to researchers.

2020 Certificate of Appreciation

The RAHS introduced Certificates of Appreciation in 2014 to honour the contribution made by RAHS volunteers. The 2020 Certificate of Appreciation was awarded to Maximilian Reid.

Staff

Full-time

General Manager: Suzanne Holohan, BA (Hons), BComm (Hons)
Librarian: Donna Newton, Dip Lib Inf, ALIA (Tec)

Part-time/Casual

Finance/Grants/Insurance Administrator: Maryanne Byrne, BBus, M Events Management
Membership Services/Digital Media: Phillip Jaworski, BA (Hons)
The Society also paid professional fees for book-keeping services.

SOCIETY HONOURS

The RAHS Council recognises contributions to the advancement of education in the field of Australian history in three categories, namely Fellow, Honorary Fellow and Medalist.

Fellows

Members of the Society who, in the judgment of the Council, have rendered service in advancing the knowledge of Australian history and in furtherance of the objects of the Society, shall be eligible for appointment as Fellows. Under the Society's regulations, the number of Fellows shall not exceed twenty-five and not more than three Fellows may be appointed in a calendar year.

Dr Rosemary Annable, MA, DPhil, FFAHS

Emeritus Professor David Carment, AM

Professor Stephen Garton, BA (Hons), PhD, FAHA, FASSA

Robert Irving, OAM, ARMTC, FRAIA

Alfred Brian Maxwell James, OAM, MA, Dip Arts, Dip FHS

Keith A. Johnson, AM, FSG, FSAG

Associate Professor Carol Liston, AO, BA (Hons), PhD, DipFHS

Emeritus Professor Geoffrey Sherington, MA, PhD

Dr Anne-Maree Whitaker, MA, PhD, FRHistS, FRAHS

Honorary Fellows

Persons who, in the judgment of the Council, have rendered valuable service in advancing the knowledge of Australian history, shall be eligible for appointment as Honorary Fellows. Under the Society's Regulations, the number of Honorary Fellows shall not exceed ten and not more than one Honorary Fellow may be appointed in a calendar year.

Emeritus Professor Alan Atkinson, FAHA

Dr Shirley Fitzgerald

Dr Beverley Kingston, FASSA

Medallists

The awards of Medalist for Distinguished Service are made by the RAHS Council to those members of the Society who, in its judgment, have made an outstanding contribution to the promotion of the work of the Society.

Margaret Coleman, OAM

Mr Richard d'Apice, AM, LL.B, FSAG

Margaret Scott