
2020 Create NSW Cultural Grants Recipients

The RAHS would like to thank Create NSW for funding seventeen projects that increase our understanding of the history of the people and places of NSW.

Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations, *Blue Mountains History Journal Issue 10* – \$1,140 to publish historical research papers that are usually too long for newsletters and not long enough for separate publications, on aspects of local history and sometimes specialist historical interest.

Port Macquarie Historical Society, *Return to Lake Innes* – \$2,900 for the publication of original letters and journal entries written by Annabella Alexandrina Campbell Boswell, nee Innes [1826-1914] during a stay at Port Macquarie in 1848 and on a return visit to Port Macquarie in 1853. It is a sequel to the previously published journal written by Annabella Boswell during the 1840s.

Molong Historical Society, *Convicts, Capitalists and Corruption* – \$3,200 to preserve the history of Nubrygyn dating back to 1817, covering the first settlers of the district and the local Aboriginal tribe. Nubrygyn is the custodian to two of the oldest adobe buildings in our country.

Shoalhaven Historical Society, *On This Day in Shoalhaven* – \$2,200: The Shoalhaven has one of the highest population growths in Australia, resulting in an influx of people who know nothing of the history and heritage of the area. This trend has been evident since the 1950s and SHS has identified a need to illuminate our past in an accessible format.

The DIDUNO Network, *Oral History of ETERNITY Stories* – \$4,935 to research, write and record oral history stories about the word ETERNITY, its significance to Sydney and NSW, and the man who chalked it on Sydney's footpaths for 30 years – Arthur "Mr. Eternity" Stace; for the 'Oral History of ETERNITY Stories' project for Sydney and NSW audiences and future historians.

Port Macquarie Historical Society, *Port Macquarie's First Convicts* – \$1,950 for the publication of research and biographical notes about the first convicts to serve sentences at the Port Macquarie Penal Settlement, established in April 1821. The male convicts were all volunteers who were offered reduced sentences in return for establishing the settlement and building its initial infrastructure.

Rotary Club of Narrabri, *Rotary Club of Narrabri 75th Anniversary publication* – \$2,552 to publish a

commemorative book that celebrates and recognises the contribution and achievements of the Rotary Club of Narrabri since its charter in 1946, and in so doing to capture in words and images the threads that have been woven by its members into the fabric of our community.

Braidwood Old Anglican Hall Community Management Committee, *Reminiscences of the Braidwood Anglican Hall* – \$3,000 to record, and publish, the history of the Braidwood Anglican Hall.

Grafton Rowing Club, *Research and record the history of Grafton Rowing Club* – \$2,690: Established in 1882, Grafton Rowing Club is one of the oldest registered Rowing Clubs in Australia, with a rich history of sporting achievement and community involvement, which is unrecorded. The project purpose is to research and publish the history from 1882 and preserve historical documents.

Institution of Engineers Australia (Engineers Australia), *Re-Shaping the Hunter* – \$3,500 to publish the book *Reshaping the Hunter*, which will be a sequel to *Shaping the Hunter*, a rich and fascinating history of the engineers and the engineering that was a crucial element in the evolution of our region up to 1983. This project will update the history into the 21st Century.

Baabayn Aboriginal Corporation, *The Spoken Library* – \$5,000: This project aims to preserve and celebrate the oral histories of our local area and community through recorded interviews with Aboriginal Elders and make these histories and the reinterpretations they offer publicly available online, increasing the visibility of Aboriginal Cultures in digital spaces.

Armidale and District Historical Society Incorporated, *Publication of Journal 63* – \$1,500 to publish the Society's annual journal. The journal contains articles of original research on the history of Armidale and District, including relevant papers read at the month Society meetings. The journal also contains previously unpublished historical material of local and interest (extracts from personal letters/diaries, and old photographs).

SydWest Multicultural Services, *A generation of adaptation. History of Bhutanese settlement in Sydney* – \$4,500 to conduct research concerning Bhutanese refugee settlement in Western Sydney. To write a history of their displacement from Bhutan, over 15 years residence in Nepal and subsequent settlement in NSW. It will include an outline of events in Bhutan, experience in refugee camps and adjustment and adaptation in Sydney.

Second Nature Strategies on behalf of Northern Rivers Deaf Community, *Northern Rivers: A Deaf History* – \$5,000 to collect, document and archive historical information about Deaf culture and the Deaf community in the Northern Rivers of NSW, with Lismore as the focus area.

Hunters Hill Historical Society, *Kelly's Bush and Jack Munday* – \$2,033: Fifty years ago, in 1971, 13 conservative Hunters Hill housewives allied with the radical left-wing Jack Munday to save a remnant of original bushland on Sydney Harbour. His union imposed a world-first “green ban”. This initiative was praised and followed around the world. The extensive HHHS collection is the basis of this project.

Lady of Grace Fraternity, *History of Italian Migrants in Ryde* – \$5,000 to fill in a missing chapter of Ryde's History between 1920-1960 by documenting the

Italian migrant's settlement. To acknowledge the people and the contribution they made to the growth and development of the district and include local area shots never seen before from families' private collections.

Singleton Council, *They Sent Me North* – \$3,900 for a 30-minute documentary to record an exhibition of Female Convict Bonnets, commemorating 1600 women sent from Sydney to the Hunter Valley. Includes recording descendants' oral histories about their ancestors. The documentary supports the work of the exhibition's contributing local historical societies by collating resources into a widely accessible format.



ON THE SHELF: The RAHS Library's Aviation Collection

2020 is a year that the aviation industry is unlikely to forget. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected airlines globally, with international services all but ceasing and Australian domestic airline services being drastically reduced.

In the midst of this turmoil Australia's aviation industry celebrated two significant centenaries. In 1920, Qantas (Queensland and Northern Territory Aerial Services Ltd.) was established as a registered business. In the same year, the Civil Aviation Branch of the Defence Department was created after the Air Navigation Act 1920 was passed by the Commonwealth Government. The Act gave the government the power to licence pilots, aircraft and the people who worked on them.

To mark these centenaries in our final *History* magazine for 2020, we decided to highlight the wealth of material relating to aviation history in the RAHS library collection. It includes publications on Australian aviation pioneers such as Lawrence Hargrave, Ross and Keith Smith, Fysh Hudson, Bert Hinker and Charles Kingsford Smith, who all became household names. There is also material on Australia's pioneer women pilots — Florence Taylor, Nancy Bird Walton, Evelyn Follett and Millicent



QANTAS, Martin Place c.1950
[RAHS Postcard Collection]