

ANNUAL REPORT ON ACTIVITIES, 2015-2016

1. INTRODUCTION, BY THE CHAIR

The History Council of Victoria (HCV) has completed a productive year. It is also in a state of transition, having recently undertaken a review and written a strategic plan that, with suitable funding, would enable the HCV to reach its potential.

The HCV's members have embraced innovations in the field of public history and heritage by means of virtual tours of heritage properties, online exhibitions for students, interactive guides, website development and apps. They show that history and heritage are no longer restricted to the traditional tome, text or article. As well as potentially attracting broader audiences, the increased use of such digital technologies has an impact both on the doing of history and its reception.

Institutions like the HCV help fashion and renew a community's historical imagination and make essential contributions to change management and the stimulation of innovation. It is through adapting to the new technologies and showcasing the work of our members that the HCV sees the way forward in being a strong voice for history in the State of Victoria.

Dr Liz Rushen
Chair

2. THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Highlights from the HCV's activities during 2015-2016 include: the continuation of the *History Roadshow* program with funding from the Department of Education and Training; strong attendances at the *Making Public Histories* seminar series and at the *Annual Lecture*; the inaugural sponsorship of the *Historical Fiction Competition* organised by the History Teachers' Association of Victoria for students in Years 9 and 10; engagement with social media; the launch of a new website; and communication through ten editions of an E-news bulletin.

The Board has completed an organisational review and has finalised a strategic plan for the period 2016-2019. Proposed changes include a more open, fee-paying membership and a restructure of the Board and executive committee. Revisions to the Rules and the Board Charter to support these changes are in preparation.

The Board accepted with regret the resignation of Diane Gardiner AM, and appointed Dr Liz Rushen as Chair.



Diane Gardiner's service to the HCV was warmly acknowledged by new Chair, Dr Liz Rushen, at an informal gathering of past and present members of the Board on 21 March 2016.

3. MEMBERSHIP

Organisational members

Throughout the year, each organisational member was represented by an appointed representative.

For the Heritage Council of Victoria, Emma Russell's term concluded in July 2015; she was succeeded by Garrie Hutchinson in August 2015.

For the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority, Gerry Martin replaced Pat Hincks while she was on Long Service Leave from August to December 2015.

Individual members

The Board appointed historian Margaret Anderson to individual membership and to the Board in January 2016.

Diane Gardiner AM, a member since the HCV's foundation in 2001, resigned in February 2016.

4. BOARD

The Board is the governing body of the HCV. Its current membership corresponds with the full membership of the association. At 30 June 2016, the Board members were:

Representatives of organisations

Organisation	Name	Start date
Australian Broadcasting Corporation	Michelle Rayner	13 Jul 2005
Department of Education and Training	Victoria Hall	10 Apr 2014
Heritage Council of Victoria	Garrie Hutchinson	12 Aug 2015
History Teachers Association of Victoria	Dr Jo Clyne	9 June 2009
National Trust of Australia (Victoria)	Martin Green	12 Jun 2014
Museums Australia (Victoria)	Laura Miles	10 Feb 2009
Museum Victoria	Jen Brook	8 Nov 2011
Professional Historians Association (Vic)	Katherine Sheedy	1 Feb 2005
Public Record Office Victoria	Lauren Bourke	13 Feb 2014
Royal Historical Society of Victoria	Dr Judith Smart	10 Feb 2009
State Library Victoria	Andrew Hiskens	31 Jan 2005
Victorian Curriculum & Assessment Authority	Pat Hincks	14 Mar 2006
Women's HERitage Centre Victoria	Judy Maddigan	16 Feb 2015

Individuals

Name	Affiliation	Start date
Dr Charles Fahey	La Trobe University	9 Feb 2010
Margaret Anderson	Old Treasury Building	21 Jan 2016
Dr Ruth Morgan	Monash University	11 Apr 2013
Dr Geoffrey Robinson	Deakin University	14 Feb 2011
Dr Liz Rushen		14 Feb 2013

Diane Gardiner AM and Katherine Sheedy returned from their respective periods of leave in September 2015.

Diane resigned from the Board and from the Chair on February 2016. The Board paid tribute to her long service and to her leadership. In March, Dr Liz Rushen accepted appointment as Chair.



Diane Gardiner AM, then Chair of the HCV, welcomed Catherine Andrews, Ambassador of the RHSV (on right), and Judy Maddigan, representative of the Women's HERitage Centre Victoria on the HCV Board (on left), to the Annual Lecture on 22 October 2015.

5. GOVERNANCE

The Members met for the AGM on 10 September 2015.

The Board of the HCV met in 2015 on 13 August, 10 September and 26 November and in 2016 on 11 February, 10 March and 12 May.

Board positions as at 30 June 2016 were Dr Liz Rushen (Chair), Dr Judith Smart (Deputy Chair) and Katherine Sheedy (Hon. Treasurer). Margaret Birtley is the appointed Secretary. These people served *ex officio* as the HCV's executive committee.

Many Board members serve in small teams to advise on key areas of HCV activity. Currently, committees guide the Public Fund, fundraising, the revision of the Rules, and the HCV's social media and website communications. Committees also plan the *Historical Perspectives* program (including the *Annual Lecture* and the *Making Public Histories* seminar series), the *History Roadshow*, a book project, and the HCV's contribution to the July 2016 conference of the Australian Historical Association , hosted by the Collaborative Research Centre in Australian History at Federation University Australia, Ballarat.

In 2015, the Board commenced its sponsorship of the Year 9 and 10 Category of the *Historical Fiction Competition* organised by the History Teachers' Association of Victoria. Dr Ruth Morgan and Garrie Hutchinson kindly served as the judging panel. Mr Hutchinson and the Executive Officer attended the presentation ceremony and congratulated the winner and the runner-up.



The winner of the HTAV *Historical Fiction Competition* in the Year 9/10 category, Zainab Sayed (Mac.Robertson Girls' High School), pictured with Margaret Birtley (HCV Executive Officer) and Garrie Hutchinson (HCV Board) at the presentation event in October 2015.

6. PUBLIC FUND COMMITTEE

To meet its obligations through the Register of Cultural Organisations and as a Deductible Gift Recipient, the HCV has a Public Fund Committee. Its members are Boyce Pizzey OAM, Dr Charles Fahey and Dr Geoffrey Robinson.

7. ADMINISTRATION

The Board is assisted by its part-time (0.2) Executive Officer.

Bookkeeping services are provided by Wizard Accounts.



Executive Officer Margaret Birtley welcomed VCE students to the *History Roadshow* at Goulburn Valley Grammar School, Shepparton, on 27 May 2016, and introduced the specialist presenters. From left to right, they are: Dr Darius Von Güttner (University of Melbourne); Dr Rhiannon Evans (La Trobe University); Dr Yana Ostapenko (RMIT University); Professor Joe Siracusa (RMIT University).

8. SOURCES OF SUPPORT

The HCV enjoys generous in-kind support from the employers of its members and from many of the organisations represented on its Board. The Royal Historical Society of Victoria hosts the HCV as a tenant at very reasonable rates. The Old Treasury Building, State Library Victoria and the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) have kindly hosted the HCV's Board and General meetings.

Monash University and State Library Victoria led the coordination and hosting of the *Making Public Histories* seminar series.



Associate Professor Fay Anderson of Monash University chaired 'First drafts of History: Rediscovering Victoria's war correspondents', a *Making Public Histories* seminar at State Library Victoria on Thursday 21 April 2016. The panellists were (from the right): Mark Baker (CEO, Melbourne Press Club); Garrie Hutchinson (University of Melbourne and HCV Board); Dr Richard Trembath (University of Melbourne).

In October, the Old Treasury Building provided an elegant setting for the *Annual Lecture*. With light refreshments included, the event enabled effective networking amongst the capacity audience.

The Department of Education and Training has funded the *History Roadshow* since 2006 through its Strategic Partnerships Program. Triennial funding is in place for the period 2015-2017. The *History Roadshow* program enjoys the support of many schools and the HCV is especially grateful to the schools that serve as hubs for their regions by hosting tours.

The HCV acknowledges the invaluable support and input of the Board, the executive committee, the other committees and the Executive Officer.

The HCV is grateful to the many historians who contributed their time and specialist knowledge to the HCV's programs, including the *Annual Lecture*, the *History Roadshow* and the *Making Public Histories* seminars.

The HCV thanks all its supporters and contributors for their good will and assistance.



Professor Lynette Russell of Monash University delivered the *Annual Lecture* at the Old Treasury Building on 22 October 2015. Her topic was 'Australia's Big Science Picnic, 1914: Some New Evidence'.



Matthew Flinders Girls Secondary College hosted VCE students from the Geelong region at the *History Roadshow* on 14 August 2015. Professor Joe Siracusa of RMIT University presented on Twentieth Century History.



Rosebud Secondary College hosted this discussion about Australian History between educational consultant Geraldine Carrodus and VCE students on the Mornington Peninsula, as part of the *History Roadshow* on 17 May 2016.

9. COMMUNICATIONS

The HCV began engaging with social media through Twitter in June 2015. During the 12 months to 30 June 2016, the HCV issued 154 tweets; at the end of that period, the HCV had 409 followers on Twitter.

May 2016 • 31 days

TWEET HIGHLIGHTS

Top Tweet earned 756 impressions

Did you miss [@bestqualitycrab](#) xclnt talk on online search techniques for [@Humanities_21](#) & [#MKW2016](#)? See link below. [twitter.com/Humanities_21/...](#)

1 3

[View Tweet activity](#) [View all Tweet activity](#)

Top mention earned 15 engagements

 **MA (Vic)**
[@_mavic](#) May 18

Registration for the Vic Museums & Galleries Conf is open! Be quick: Super Earlybird ends 30/05: [bit.ly/1cuv7Hy](#)
[@History_Vic](#)

4 2

[View Tweet](#)

Top Follower followed by 3,193 people



Westerly Magazine
[@WesterlyMag](#) [FOLLOWS YOU](#)

Since 1956, Westerly has been publishing lively fiction and poetry as well as intelligent articles.

[View profile](#) [View followers dashboard](#)

Top media Tweet earned 114 impressions

Welcome from [@ruthamorgan](#) - with [@FayAnderson13](#), Richard Trembath, Garrie Hutchinson and Mark Baker
[@MelbPressClub](#)
[pic.twitter.com/8SScUe1Dlc](#)



Highlights of the HCV's Twitter activity in May 2016.

The HCV has improved both the content and distribution of its free E-news bulletin. In June 2016 the news mailing list contained approximately 740 addresses. The E-news bulletin was published on ten occasions this year, as listed in this table:

2015		2016
3 September	6 November	3 March
22 September	16 November	15 April
19 October	3 December	29 June
	22 December	

In August 2015 the HCV re-launched its website using a new content management system that offers better access from mobile and other devices.

The new website, illustrated by the following screenshot, enables people to contribute relevant events to an online Calendar, make tax-deductible donations to the HCV, purchase tickets to events such as the *Annual Lecture*, subscribe to the mailing list for the free E-news bulletin, and update personal data such as a preferred email address.

hcv
history
council
of victoria

Home Events Projects Subscribe About

Current membership
Annual Reports
Contact
Links
Privacy

Welcome to the History Council of Victoria!

The History Council of Victoria Incorporated (HCV) is the peak body for history in the Australian state of Victoria. Its vision is to connect Victorians with history and to inspire engagement with the past, their identity and the world today.

The HCV was formed as an advisory body in 2001 and incorporated in 2003. It comprises representatives from cultural institutions and heritage bodies; history teachers and curriculum advisors; academic and professional historians; and local Indigenous and community history organisations.

The HCV delivers a number of accessible and well-received history-focussed initiatives. These include:

- History Roadshow**
 This program tours regional Victoria to deliver curriculum enrichment sessions for VCE history students and teachers. The program is funded by the Strategic Partnership Program of the state government's Department of Education and Training.
- Making Public Histories**
 This seminar series explores issues and approaches in making public histories. It is offered jointly by HCV, Monash University and State Library Victoria. The next seminar for 2016 is [Broad and stones: Historians using and preserving digital sources](#) on Wednesday 16 November.
- Annual Lecture**
 Since 2004, the lecture has been delivered by [eminent and respected authorities](#). The 2016 lecture will be delivered in Melbourne on Thursday 20 October by Dr Anna Clark. Save the date! - and [subscribe](#) to our E-news bulletin for further information.
- Projects such as [Drought Stories](#) (a spoken and visual history of recent drought in Victoria, recording the experience of drought-affected communities up to 2010) and [One Place, Many Stories](#) (a free online resource designed for teachers and middle to upper primary students as a way of engaging children in the history of Victoria).

In 2015, the HCV was pleased to sponsor the Years 9 and 10 category of the [Historical Fiction Competition](#) organised by the History Teachers' Association of Victoria. The HCV is delighted to continue its sponsorship in 2016.

Get involved!

If you would like to assist the HCV in its work, please [contact us](#).

Stay in touch and receive updates on HCV activities by [subscribing to our free E-news bulletin](#). Subscribers can add their own events in Victoria (and related to history) to our [calendar](#).

[Donations are always welcome](#). Amounts over \$2 are tax-deductible for Australian tax-payers.

Do you like this page?
 Like Share 7 people like this. Be the first of your friends. Tweet +1

The History Roadshow program is supported by

VICTORIA
State Government | Education and Training

Sign in with Facebook, Twitter or email. Created with NationBuilder

Sign in with Facebook
 Sign in with Twitter
 Sign in with Email

Email address Join

Donate
 Find an Event
 Contact

Tweets by @History_Vic

01 Sep

hcv History Council Vic
 @History_Vic

Welcome to Spring! The #HistoryRoadshow has been warmly welcomed by Catholic College Sale today.

01 Sep

History Council Vic Retweeted
 Lyndall Ley Osborne
 @LeyLyndall

A topic of significant interest to @AIATSISLibrary

Embed View on Twitter

Like 7 people like this. Be the first of your friends.

Follow @History_Vic

10. ACTIVITY PROGRAM, JULY 2015 - JUNE 2016

The HCV's current program ensures that key audiences are targeted effectively. Its activities are reported in two categories:

Core and ongoing program

Activities dependent on grants received

Activity	HCV team
CORE AND ONGOING PROGRAM	
Annual Lecture Thursday 22 October 2015 'Australia's Big Science Picnic, 1914: Some New Evidence' Professor Lynette Russell (Monash University)	<i>'Historical Perspectives' committee:</i> Ruth Morgan, Lauren Bourke, Garrie Hutchinson and Michelle Rayner <i>Ex Officio:</i> the Chair and the Executive Officer
'A History of Victoria's State Secondary Education' This is the working title for a manuscript commissioned by the HCV. The authors have submitted their manuscript to Australian Scholarly Publishing (ASP). The HCV has reached an agreement with ASP in relation to subsidy of the publication.	<i>Contracted authors:</i> Dr John Andrews Dr Deborah Towns <i>'Book project' committee:</i> Katherine Sheedy, Liz Rushen, Emma Russell <i>Ex Officio:</i> the Chair and the Executive Officer
Making Public Histories Seminar Series (in association with Monash University and State Library Victoria) The seminars held in 2015-2016 were:	<i>'Historical Perspectives' committee:</i> Ruth Morgan, Lauren Bourke, Garrie Hutchinson and Michelle Rayner <i>Ex Officio:</i> the Chair and the Executive Officer
Tuesday 29 September 2015 'S. T. Gill as eyewitness: art as historical evidence' Associate Professor Alison Inglis, The University of Melbourne Emeritus Professor Sasha Grishin, Australian National University Dr Jan Croggon, Historian, Sovereign Hill Museums Association Dr Andrew Lemon, professional historian	

Activity	HCV team
Thursday 26 November 2015 ‘Melbourne’s Alice: Lewis Carroll’s <i>Alice in Wonderland</i> as source, artefact and inspiration in art, science and history’ Dr Michelle Smith, Alfred Deakin Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Deakin University Dr Wendy Garden, Senior Curator, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery Dr Juliet O’Conor, Children’s Research Librarian, State Library Victoria Dr Nurin Veis, Manager Scienceworks, Museum Victoria	
Thursday 24 March 2016 ‘The Day that Shook Russell Street’ Associate Professor Seamus O’Hanlon, Monash University Detective Inspector Bernie Rankin, Victoria Police Geoff Wilkinson OAM, founding Media Director, Victoria Police Martin Green, Learning & Interpretations Manager, National Trust of Australia (Victoria) This seminar was kindly recorded by State Library Victoria. The video is available via the SLV website.	
Thursday 21 April 2016 ‘First drafts of History: Rediscovering Victoria’s war correspondents’ Associate Professor Fay Anderson, Monash University Mark Baker, CEO, Melbourne Press Club Garrie Hutchinson, University of Melbourne Dr Richard Trembath, University of Melbourne This seminar was kindly recorded by State Library Victoria. The video is available via the SLV website.	
Sponsorship of the <i>Historical Fiction Competition</i> organised by the History Teachers’ Association of Victoria for students in Years 9 and 10	<i>Coordination:</i> Jo Clyne <i>Judges:</i> Garrie Hutchinson, Ruth Morgan <i>Presentation of prizes:</i> Margaret Birtley, Garrie Hutchinson

Activity	HCV team												
ACTIVITIES DEPENDENT ON GRANTS RECEIVED													
History Roadshow	<i>'History Roadshow' committee:</i> Judith Smart, Lauren Bourke, Charles Fahey, Gerry Martin / Pat Hincks <i>Ex Officio:</i> the Chair and the Executive Officer												
Sessions were delivered for VCE students from schools outside the Melbourne metropolitan area, in subject areas relating to the curriculum. These included Australian History, History of Revolutions (China, France and Russia) and Twentieth Century History. In 2016, with a new curriculum, sessions were added for Ancient History. A general session on Career Pathways is included as part of each Roadshow tour. The History Roadshow program is evaluated and reported regularly to the Department of Education and Training. The academic presenters were: Anthony Bidgood (Monash University) Professor Richard Broome (La Trobe University) Rebecca Cairns (Deakin University) Geraldine Carrodus (Educational consultant) Dr Rhiannon Evans (La Trobe University) Dr Charles Fahey (La Trobe University) Dr Zeb Leonard (Federation University) Elizabeth Morgan (Nossal Hugh School) Dr Yana Ostapenko (RMIT University) Professor Joe Siracusa (RMIT University) Dr Darius Von Güttner (University of Melbourne) Thanks are extended to all speakers, several of whom gave their services <i>pro bono</i>.													
Six Roadshow tours were conducted during the year: <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 35%;">Tue 21 July 2015</td><td>Hosted by Rosebud Secondary College</td></tr> <tr> <td>Fri 14 August 2015</td><td>Hosted by Matthew Flinders Girls High School, Geelong</td></tr> <tr> <td>Tue 18 August 2015</td><td>Hosted by Ballarat Secondary College</td></tr> <tr> <td>Wed 9 September 2015</td><td>Hosted by Girton Grammar School, Bendigo</td></tr> <tr> <td>Tue 17 May 2016</td><td>Hosted by Rosebud Secondary College</td></tr> <tr> <td>Fri 27 May 2016</td><td>Hosted by Goulburn Valley Grammar School, Shepparton</td></tr> </table>		Tue 21 July 2015	Hosted by Rosebud Secondary College	Fri 14 August 2015	Hosted by Matthew Flinders Girls High School, Geelong	Tue 18 August 2015	Hosted by Ballarat Secondary College	Wed 9 September 2015	Hosted by Girton Grammar School, Bendigo	Tue 17 May 2016	Hosted by Rosebud Secondary College	Fri 27 May 2016	Hosted by Goulburn Valley Grammar School, Shepparton
Tue 21 July 2015	Hosted by Rosebud Secondary College												
Fri 14 August 2015	Hosted by Matthew Flinders Girls High School, Geelong												
Tue 18 August 2015	Hosted by Ballarat Secondary College												
Wed 9 September 2015	Hosted by Girton Grammar School, Bendigo												
Tue 17 May 2016	Hosted by Rosebud Secondary College												
Fri 27 May 2016	Hosted by Goulburn Valley Grammar School, Shepparton												