



THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Research School of Humanities
ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences

Collective Biography Conference

National Library of Australia, Canberra

8-10 September

Conveners: Paul Pickering (ANU) and Jane Shaw (Oxford)

Monday 8 September 2008

- 8.45 – 9.15 Registration
- 9.15 – 9.30 Welcome and Introduction (Jane Shaw and Paul Pickering)
- 9.30 – 10.30 **Session 1: Plenary Opening: The National Portrait Gallery**
Andrew Sayers and Sarah Engledow (National Portrait Gallery, Canberra)
The National Portrait Gallery
- Chair: Howard Morphy (Research School of Humanities, ANU)
- 10.30 Morning tea
- 11.00 – 12.30 **Session 2: Collective Biographies of Institutions**
Megan Martin (Caroline Simpson Library and Research Collection,
Historic Trust Houses of New South Wales)
The Sydney Mint Circle 1854-1870
- Juliet Flesch (University of Melbourne)
Spanning the Centuries: a history of AE Smith & Son Pty Ltd
- Mia Stephens and Roy Neill (University of South Australia)
Voices in the Vines
- Chair: Paul Pickering (Research School of Humanities, ANU)
- 12.30 Lunch
- 1.30 – 3.00 **Session 3: Transnational Family Networks**
Janet Doust (ANU)
Family, Community and Networks in Colonial Australia.
- Stephen Foster (ANU)
A transgenerational approach to the British empire
- Douglas Craig (ANU)
*Meet the McAdoo-Wilsons: Political History and a Blended Family of the
Early Twentieth Century*
- Chair: Caroline Turner (Humanities Research Centre, ANU)

Monday 8 September 2008 (cont...)

3.00 Afternoon tea

3.30 – 5.00 **Session 4: Artistic and Literary Networks**
S. Hollis Clayson (Northwestern University)
United States Artists in Paris, 1870-1914: Language, Space, Time, Community
Evelyn Juers (Independent Scholar and critic)
Trouble in the House
Harry Ricketts (Victoria University of Wellington)
Strange Meetings: Challenges, Problems and Rewards of Collective Biography Writing

Chair: Jane Shaw (New College, Oxford)

Tuesday 9 September 2008

9.00 – 10.30 **Session 5: Indigenous Collective Biographies**
Peter Read (University of Sydney)
Indigenous Biography
Helene Connor (School of Community Development, Unitec, New Zealand)
Collective Biography - A Maori Perspective
Leah Lui-Chivizhe (University of Sydney) and Shino Konishi (National Museum of Australia)
Who laid the tracks? The challenges of writing an Indigenous collective biography

Chair: Sarah Ogilvie (Trinity College, Oxford)

10.30 Morning tea

11.00 – 12.30 **Session 6: Prosopography and Database Technologies**
Peter Dennis (UNSW@ADFA)
The possibilities and perils of military prosopography: the 1st Australian Imperial Force database
Rachel Morley (University of Western Sydney), Hart Cohen (University of Western Sydney) and Steven Hayes (University of Sydney)
Collective biographies of people featured in TGH Strehlow's memoir 'Journey to Horseshoe Bend'
Georgina Fitzpatrick (ANU)
From Arnold to Woodfield: a prosopographical A-Z of 'British-born' internees in Australian internment camps, 1939-45

Chair: Paul Pickering (Research School of Humanities, ANU)

12.30 Lunch

Tuesday 9 September 2008 (cont...)

- 1.30 – 3.00** **Session 7: Community and Collective Biography**
Sue Taffe (Monash University)
Fighting Friendships: cross-cultural activism for Indigenous Rights
- Mary Hutchison (ANU)
Personal histories/collective biography: reflections on two local exhibitions of personal migration histories
- Phoenix de Carteret (Monash University)
Peripheral Vision: doing collective biography with women in Gippsland
- Chair: Stephen Foster (Research School of Humanities, ANU)
- 3.00** **Afternoon tea**
- 3.30 – 5.00** **Session 8: Relationships and Collective Biography**
Patrick Buckridge (Griffith University)
An Experiment in Serial Biography: R.G. Moulton, W.H. Hudson, F.H. Pritchard and the Appreciation of Literature
- Desley Deacon (ANU)
Four Husbands, A Lover and a Friend: Mary McCarthy and Her Intimates
- Sharon Bickle (Monash University)
Intersubjective Collaboration in the Correspondence of 'Michael Field' and John Gray
- Chair: Jane Shaw (New College, Oxford)

Wednesday 10 September 2008

- 9.00– 10.30** **Session 9: Female Cohorts**
Susan Sheridan (Flinders University)
Australian Women Writers and Post-war Modernity
- Katie Holmes (La Trobe University)
Fertile Ground: women writing the garden
- Alison Mackinnon (University of South Australia)
'Our personal foundations so thoroughly jolted': Australian and US women in universities in the 1950s and early 60s
- Chair: Melanie Nolan (Australian Dictionary of Biography, ANU)
- 10.30** **Morning Tea**
- 11.00 – 12.30** **Session 10: Money and War**
John Hawkins (ANU and Department of the Senate, Australian Parliament)
The Australian Treasurers
- Peter Stanley (Centre for Historical Research, National Museum of Australia)
Nine Platoon, 1918–1980
- Christine Wright (Independent Scholar)
'we are in sight of each other': the social networks of Peninsular War veterans
- Chair: Cameron Hazlehurst (Research School of Humanities, ANU)

Wednesday 10 September 2008 (cont...)

- 12.30 Lunch
- 1.30 – 3.00 **Session 11: Forms of Literary Biography**
Mary Spongberg (Macquarie University)
Mary Hays, Female Biography and Dissenting Feminism
- Daniel Vuillermin (La Trobe University)
Dulce Decus: A Dual Biography of Dr Johnson and Sir Joshua Reynolds
- Keith Knapp (The Citadel, South Carolina)
Medieval Chinese Biographies of the Filial and Dutiful: The Case of Guo Yuanping
- Chair: Paul Pickering (Research School of Humanities, ANU)
- 3.00 Afternoon tea
- 3.30 – 4.30 **Session 12: Women in the Collective**
- Joanna Gardner-Huggett (DePaul University)
The Challenge of Collective Histories: Artemisia and A.R.C. Galleries in Chicago
- Susan Currie (Central Queensland University)
Writing women into the law in Queensland
- Chair: Debjani Ganguly (Humanities Research Centre, ANU)
- 4.30 Brief closing remarks (Paul Pickering and Jane Shaw)
- 5.15 Drinks
- 6.00 **Seymour Lecture in Biography by Richard Holmes**
Biography: the Past has a Great Future
- 7.45 Conference Dinner: Waters Edge Restaurant, Parkes Place, Parkes, ACT

Administration: Leena Messina
 Programs Manager, Research School of Humanities, ANU