



School of Philosophical, Historical and International Studies

Newsletter
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Welcome Letter



Most people who read this will already know that Bill Kent died on August 30 this year. Bill had been ill with cancer for many months; he spent his last days at home with his family and close friends.

Bill's death is a huge loss for the School, and, in particular, for history at Monash. He has been a leader of teaching and research in history at Monash for several decades. Thousands of students have benefited from his outstanding teaching; dozens and dozens of colleagues and graduate students have profited from his scholarship, knowledge and wisdom.

Many of you will know details of Bill's life; but I shall record some here for those who don't. Bill was a student at Footscray High, and later at University High School. He then went to the University of Melbourne, where he took out honours in history. He was initially appointed to the Department of History at Monash as Senior Teaching Fellow in 1965. Between 1967 and 1971, he completed a PhD at the University of London in Italian Renaissance Studies. He then returned to Monash, to take up a Lectureship in the Department of History. He was appointed to a personal chair in 1989. In 2000, he was appointed founding Director of the Monash University Centre in Prato. From 2005, he was an ARC Professorial Fellow. Bill retired from the School in the middle of this year, and the title of Emeritus Professor was immediately conferred upon him.

Bill's books include: *Household and Lineage in Renaissance Florence* (1977); *A Florentine Patrician and His Palace* (1981); *Neighbours and Neighbourhoods in Renaissance Florence* (1982); *Patronage, Art and Society in Renaissance Italy* (1987); *Bartolomeo Cederini and His Friends* (1991); *Lorenzo de Medici and the Art of Magnificence* (2004); *Rituals, Images and Words: Varieties of Cultural Expression in Late Medieval and Early Modern Europe* (2005); *Australians in Italy: Contemporary Lives and Impressions* (2008). A biography of Lorenzo de' Medici will appear in the near future. Of course, Bill was also the author of many other chapters, articles, essays and research notes on Renaissance Italian civilisation; far too many to list here.

Bill's legacy includes the Bill Kent Library of Italian Renaissance publications at the Prato Centre, the Bill Kent Prato Research Fellowship for early career researchers, and the Bill Kent Foundation (which has been established to support the library and initiatives such as conferences, scholarships, and fellowships in the area of Medieval and Renaissance studies).

Our thoughts are with our colleague – and Bill's wife and collaborator – Carolyn James, and with Bill's children: Margaret, James and Antonia.

Professor Graham Oppy, Head of School

Staff News

Centre for Human Bioethics welcomes **Dr. Paul Biegler**, who has taken up a postdoctoral ARC fellowship and is working on an ARC project in the Centre for Human Bioethics entitled 'Implicit persuasion in pharmaceutical marketing: ethical implications for regulators and consumers'.

Justin Oakley gave a paper 'Professional integrity, medical corruption, and the limits of transparency', at the 10th World Congress of Bioethics, Singapore, July 2010.

Dr. Julian Savulescu, Ethicist, Uehiro Professor of Practical Ethics at the University of Oxford and Sir Louis Matheson Distinguished Visiting Professor at the Centre for Human Bioethics will visit Australia in September. Professor Savulescu will appear as a panelist at the End of Life Decision Making – Clinical Ethics Forum on 09 September at the Monash Medical Centre.

Further information is available by emailing: Kathryn.Frowen@southernhealth.org.au

History welcomes **Dr Tim Verhoeven** who joined the History Department for Semester 2 in order to teach the History of Sexuality Unit.

Tim was awarded his PhD in History by the University of Melbourne in 2008. He has been the recipient of a Barra/Helfand Travelling Fellowship (awarded by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania/ Library Company of Philadelphia), and an Embassy of France in Australia Humanities Travelling Fellowship (awarded by the Australian Academy of the Humanities). He is the author of *Trans-Atlantic anti-Catholicism: France and the United States in the nineteenth century*, which will be published by Palgrave-Macmillan in August this year.

Congratulations to Clare Monagle, who received a commendation in the Dean's Media Engagement Awards for 2010 for her work in producing and presenting an episode of the ABC program, Encounter. You can hear this program online at: www.abc.net.au/rn/encounter/stories/2009/2617794.html

Congratulations to Alistair Thomson who received a Harold White Fellowship at the National Library for the second half of 2011. The fellowship funds 3 months research at the National Library where Al will work with the Oral History Collection exploring what the Australian 1938 oral history interviews tell us about family life and especially the roles of family men in pre WW2 Australia. Al will also use this time to work on the interviews collected with the National Library for the ARC funded Australian Generations Oral History Project.

The Centre for Archaeology and Ancient History welcomes **Dr. Elizabeth Bloxam** who joins the Centre as a Lecturer in Egyptian Archaeology. An archaeologist trained at the University College London, Elizabeth's primary research interests include the social context and logistics of quarrying and mining, particularly between the Old Kingdom and New Kingdom (3rd to 2nd millennium BC). She has been developing methods of interpreting ancient production (quarry) landscapes through comparative and cross-cultural approaches in social archaeology, anthropology and ethnography. Over the last ten years she has directed survey and excavation of several ancient quarries and mines in Egypt and has recently completed a multi-disciplinary EU funded research project titled 'QuarryScapes' – this extended her research interests into heritage management and conservation of these extensive cultural landscapes in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Australian Centre for Jewish Civilisation congratulates **Melanie Landau** whose doctoral thesis which critiques Jewish marriage law was recently passed with outstanding comments and recommendations for publication as a book. The thesis was examined by two distinguished scholars, Tamar Ross and Charlotte Fonrobert who is Director of the Stanford Jewish studies centre. Melanie's thesis was supervised by Professor Barbara Caine and Professor Andrew Markus.

We also congratulate **Keren Rubenstein**, an ACJC PhD student under the supervision of Leah Garrett has been offered a prestigious two year postdoc in Hebrew and Israel Studies at Oberlin College in the USA.

International Studies Seamus O'Hanlon was recently appointed Director of the International Studies Program, Seamus recently travelled to the Monash South Africa campus and he writes on his trip to South Africa on page 8.

Three members of the School of Philosophical, Historical and International Studies were recently presented with the Monash University 25 Year Service medal at a recent ceremony hosted by the Dean. Congratulations (from left):

Professor David Garrioch (History)
Professor Andrew Markus (ACJC)
Rosemary Johnston (History)



Bain Attwood wins Ernest Scott Prize

Professor Bain Attwood has won the 2010 Ernest Scott Prize for his recent book, *Possession: Batman's Treaty and the Matter of History* (Miegunyah Press, 2009). This prize is awarded to the most distinguished contribution to the history of Australia or New Zealand or to the history of colonisation.

Greatly honoured to have received the award, Professor Attwood's acceptance speech noted that "of all the prizes a historian of my background might be awarded, this one is the one I will treasure most ... It is judged by our peers in both Australia and New Zealand, and I received my training as a historian on both sides of the ditch; and my book was prompted by what has been happening in both New Zealand and Australia in regard to the historical rights of indigenous peoples".

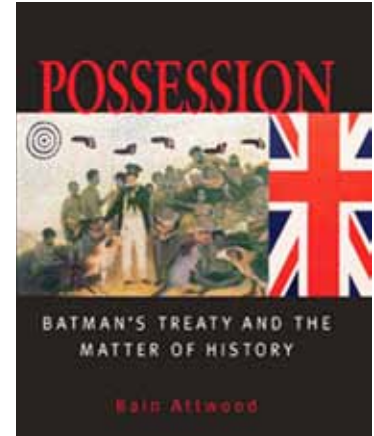
Professor Attwood acknowledged the fact that he owed a great deal to the "work of several historians working in the fields of both Australian and New Zealand history – Alan Atkinson, Graeme Davison, Lisa Ford, Tom Griffiths, Mark Hickford, Paul McHugh and Damen Ward" and acknowledged what he called his "enduring debt to three of [his] teachers – Keith Sorrenson at the University of Auckland, John Hirst at La Trobe University, and Andrew Markus at Monash University".

"His achievement continues the strong tradition of Australian history at Monash as he is the fourth Monash historian to win this prize, previous winners being Geoffrey Serle, John Rickard and Graeme Davison", said Professor Rae Frances, Dean of the Faculty of Arts.

The citation reads:

Bain Attwood's ambitious monograph succeeds on several levels. At one level, it presents the story of 'Batman's treaty' with the Kulin people in rich detail and in comparative imperial context. *Possession* addresses legal and moral issues, and presents multiple perspectives on the negotiations surrounding the 'treaty'. In so doing, it plumbs new dimensions of sovereignty and history, and shows the varying views and roles of the Indigenous people, settlers, and colonial and imperial officials who were involved. At another, the book is a study of popular memory, narratives and historical commemoration. Attwood shows how the 'legend' of Batman was constructed in Victoria between 1850 and 1930 through the writing of histories, painting and lithography, the erection of monuments, the Batman Memorial Fund, and the founding of historical societies, exploring the contemporary meanings of these processes of historical construction. The final section of the book traces the growing questioning of the legend from the mid-twentieth century, again showing the interplay of past and present. Connecting the rise of the Aboriginal rights movement with a growing scepticism towards the Batman legend, Attwood returns to questions of sovereignty, the international significance of treaties between colonial powers and indigenous peoples, and contemporary issues of reconciliation. *Possession* is a sophisticated work that tackles large questions foundational to history in a settler country.

Possession also recently received a special award at the Victorian Community History Awards to celebrate the 175th Anniversary of Melbourne. Professor Attwood donated the prize money to the Bill Kent Foundation in honour of the memory of his colleague, Bill Kent.



The shortlist for the 2010 Ernest Scott Prize included:

- Grace Karskens, *The Colony: A History of Early Sydney* (Allen & Unwin, 2009)
- Linda Bryder, *A History of the 'Unfortunate Experiment' at National Women's Hospital* (Auckland University Press, 2009)
- Marina Larsson, *Shattered Anzacs: Living with the Scars of War* (UNSW Press, 2009)
- Iain McCalman, *Darwin's Armada: How four voyagers to Australasia won the battle for evolution and changed the world* (Viking, 2009)

Simon Sleight wins Serle Award

Dr Simon Sleight, a research associate in Hlstory has won a prestigious national award for his doctoral thesis on Melbourne's youth cultures.

In 'The Territories of Youth: Young People and Public Space in Melbourne, c.1870–1901', Dr Sleight explored young people's outdoor activities, offering fresh insights on subjects including larrikin gangs, youthful consumerism, street-based play and children's autonomy.

Now the Australian Historical Association has recognised the study with the biennial Serle Award for the best thesis on Australian history.

Judges praised the work as an 'original and sophisticated study of Melbourne's urban history'.



Dr. Simon Sleight at the AHA Awards Dinner with colleague, Natasha Campo, winner of the W. H. Hancock Prize

They said "[Dr Sleight's] elegant prose evokes the people and townscapes from refreshing and subversive perspectives ... His work combines a remarkably lucid use of historical and sociological theory with an impressive diversity of archival sources ranging from cartoons, photographs and paintings to police records citing child offences on the streets and in the parks of Melbourne".

Dr Sleight's thesis, which is currently being re-worked into book format – speaks to modern concerns regarding youthful violence in Melbourne's CBD and the 'islanding' of children into separate locations where adult surveillance is routine.

Dr Sleight thanked Monash supervisors, Professor Graeme Davison and Dr Christina Twomey, for their expert guidance, and the Northcote Trust for its generous financial support.

"I am thrilled – to have scooped this prize is a huge honour. The study of young people's experiences is a neglected theme in Australian history writing, and I hope this award will open the door to future research projects and encourage others to try to understand societies past and present from the vital perspective of youth," Dr Sleight said.

News From Philosophy

Associate Professor Dirk Baltzly

Philosophy has several new arrivals and research achievements to celebrate this semester. Two new academics join our community this term.

The first new arrival is [Dr Nick Munn](#) who will commence a 1-year assistant lecturing position teaching the first-year units in Human Rights Theory for 2010–11. Nick recently completed a PhD at University of Melbourne in political philosophy, with a thesis on voting rights and democratic theory. Nick tutored for Human Rights Theory part 1 in first semester and is thus well placed to develop and refine this new subject.

The second new arrival is [Alastair Wilson](#) who has just completed his D.Phil at University College Oxford. Alastair will commence a one-year postdoctoral fellowship funded by an Australian Research Council grant held by Graham Oppy and Toby Handfield. The grant project is looking at philosophical issues surrounding time and probability. Alastair is

well positioned to contribute to this project. His thesis at Oxford concerned philosophical puzzles arising from the interpretation of quantum mechanics and he already has three papers forthcoming in very good journals on the subject.

As some arrive, others depart – though only temporarily. Monash Philosophy is delighted to learn that [Lloyd Humberstone](#) will be honoured as Carnegie Centenary Professor at the University of St Andrews in Scotland in semester 1 of 2012. Lloyd is Reader in Philosophy. He is one of Australia's top logicians, known internationally for his work on modal logic (the logic of possibility and necessity) and its applications, as well as papers on topics in philosophy and linguistics. He is a member of the Australian Academy of Humanities and has previously been visiting professor at Princeton. While at St Andrews he will be attached to the Foundations of Logical Consequence project in the Arché research group.

For my own part, I will be handing the job of head of Philosophy over to [Toby Handfield](#). From September to the end of June next year I will be a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey. The Institute is perhaps most famous as the home of star researchers in Physics and Mathematics. Albert Einstein spent the largest part of his career there, as did the mathematician and logician Kurt Gödel. The Institute also has a School of Historical Studies which has a long tradition of scholarship in Classics and ancient Greco-Roman Philosophy. I'll be working on a book on the Platonic schools of philosophy in Athens, Alexandria and Apamea in the fourth and fifth centuries CE.

Dr. Jacqueline Broad – Future Fellowship



Following on from our last newsletter, I wanted to tell you more about a subject I mentioned—Dr Jacqueline Broad's prestigious Future Fellowship.

Her project is a nice illustration of how the merger of History and Philosophy into this new school is not merely an administrative convenience. Philosophers and Historians do, in fact, have things to say to one another and Broad's work is a nice illustration of this fact.

The principal aim of her project is to establish a place for the English feminist Mary Astell (1666–1731) within the history of philosophy. Astell was a contemporary of the famous English philosopher John Locke. Locke's views on religious toleration, on property, and on representative government gave clear expression to the ethos of the Glorious Revolution and profoundly influenced the thinking of the American revolutionaries.

Astell was the author of nine anonymous polemical works, and a thinker of admirable clarity and consistency. In her hey-day (c.1694–1709), her writings were remarkably popular, and in some circles she was known – and highly regarded for – her attempts to synthesise contemporary philosophical thinking and Christian principles. Her most famous work, *A Serious Proposal to the Ladies* (1694), is a strikingly modern proposal for an all-female academic institute and a general call for women to lead useful lives of virtue and wisdom.

Forgotten soon after her death, Astell's intellectual reputation was revived in the mid-1980s by modern literary theorists and feminist scholars. More recently, she has become known as a political thinker and an early critic of Locke. To the majority of philosophers, however, she is relatively unknown. Though some scholars have touched on Astell's metaphysics and her theory of knowledge, no one has yet attempted an overall assessment of her philosophical vision.

With this project, Jacqueline proposes to establish a lasting reputation for Astell as a philosopher, by highlighting the coherence and unity of her philosophy, and by promoting the contemporary relevance of her work. Jacqueline will write the first systematic account of Astell's philosophy, publish the

first modern edition of her largest work, *The Christian Religion as Profess'd by a Daughter of the Church of England* (1705), and organise a symposium in which philosophers will discuss the contemporary significance of ideas in Astell's writings.

I hope you will agree that women's contributions to the intellectual history of European civilisation has been all too frequently overlooked. No-one, however, is going to overlook the outstanding work done by Dr. Broad and her collaborator A/Prof. Karen Green in their histories of women's political and philosophical thought. If you would like to know more about their work, I recommend any of the following books: Green & Broad, *A History of Women's Political Thought* (Cambridge Uni Press, 2009); Green, *The Woman of Reason* (Polity Press, 1995); Broad, *Women Philosophers of the Seventeenth Century* (Cambridge Uni Press, 2002).

Research News

Atrocity, War and Photography: An International Symposium

Monash University Prato Centre June 2010



Presenters Sonja Fessel, Anna Topolska, Emily Godbey and Christina Twomey

Academics from eight different countries gathered at Monash's Prato centre in mid-June to discuss their research on the relationship between atrocity, war and photography.

Convened by SOPHIS historian Dr Christina Twomey, with the support of Monash research fellows Drs Jane Lydon and Keir Reeves, the symposium included contributions from historians, political scientists and curators. The keynote address was given by Professor Joanna Bourke, of Birkbeck College, London, who spoke about the changing aesthetics of atrocity photography. Speakers approached

the conference theme from a variety of perspectives: there were papers on photographs as art, photographs as historical artefacts and finally, photographs as evidence.

These issues were explored through a variety of contexts, ranging from the American civil war, nineteenth century Indian famines, both World Wars, to conflicts in Vietnam, Laos and Iraq. A selection of papers from the symposium will be published in a special issue of the journal *History of Photography* in 2011.

Christina Twomey

Monash and Museum Victoria partner to help Students create Digital Histories

Monash University, Institute for Public History and Museum Victoria have partnered on the project *Our History—Now and Then*, the development of an online space to engage and challenge school students to research, interpret and share personal, family and community histories within a specifically Victorian and Australian context. Funded by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and targeting middle years and pathways students (Levels 3–6 and VCE in Humanities, Civics and Citizenship, Communication, ICT and LOTE), *Our History* supports these students to create digital histories. Students can draw on the historical and “how to ...” resources of the Museum and other expert sources, interpret and mashup their own research and then publish their work to share with other students and the wider public online. Monash will contribute to the project with academics participating as experts in *Illuminate* web conference sessions for teachers and students, helping with the creation of online resources such as ‘how to’ videos and guidelines for authentic community history research, and Professor Alistair Thomson will be part of the Project Steering Group.

Museum Victoria will be creating and hosting the *Our History* video/multimedia channel which will be organised around the following themes:

- Living with natural disasters – fire, drought and flood
- World events, local impacts (such as the upcoming centenary of WWI)
- Migration and cultural identity
- The family album

Other resources to be developed include self assessment tools and checklists for students, discussion questions, rubrics and notes for teachers documenting curriculum links.

Currently in development, the *Our History* project and its online resources will be live by June 2011.

Alistair Thomson

Monash – Münster Connections

On 17-18 June 2010 Professor Constant J. Mews, Director of the Centre for Studies in Religion and Theology participated in a workshop on a theme that he had proposed to the University (Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität) of Münster, Germany: *Women's Communities and Communities of Learning in the Middle Ages*. This workshop was organised by the “Religion and Politics Excellence Cluster” at the WWU-Münster, an interdisciplinary grouping of over 200 scholars who work on aspects of religion and politics either in the modern or the pre-modern (i.e. ancient and medieval periods). The workshop also invited Rina Lahav, a Monash postgraduate working on religion and gender in thirteenth-century France, to attend the workshop.

Prof. Mews spent two weeks at Münster, both pursuing his own research into the politics surrounding the relics of Thomas Aquinas in fourteenth-century France and Italy, and discussing the research of a number of doctoral and post-doctoral researchers at Münster. He worked closely with Prof. Eva Scholothuber, a specialist in women's religious communities in Germany in the later Middle Ages, who is keen to come to New Zealand to attend the annual conference of the Australian and NZ Association for Medieval and Early Modern Studies, being held in Dunedin and Australia in February 2011.

Prof. Mews is keen to establish reciprocal ties with Münster, involving exchange of both younger and senior scholars between Germany and Australia. Münster is a distinguished University town with a wealth of libraries, belonging to the various university departments as well as to the Church.

Research News *(cont'd)*

Researching Maritime History in Japan



The famous Akamon or Red Gate of Tokyo University.

Between December 2009 and March 2010, I was able to spend three months as a visiting researcher at the Historiographical Institute (Shiryō Hensanjo) in the University of Tokyo.

The Historiographical Institute traces its origins back to the Institute for Japanese Studies (*Wagaku Kōdansho*), which was founded by Hanawa Hokiichi in 1793 with assistance from the Tokugawa shogunate. The Institute has been attached to Tokyo University (then Imperial University) since 1888 and focuses on the compilation and publication of primary sources related to Japanese history. Beginning in 1954, the Institute took on the enormous task of collecting archival materials related to Japanese history stored in libraries and archives outside of Japan. Over the past few decades, the Institute has been able to build up a remarkably complete archive of materials produced by the Dutch East India Company, which was based in Japan for two centuries.

My research in Tokyo focused on the maritime fringes of early modern (Tokugawa) Japan and in particular on two groups of foreign merchants based in the western port city of Nagasaki. Chinese and Dutch traders came to dominate foreign trade in Japan during the early modern period. Not surprisingly therefore, these rival groups were thrust into constant contact with each other. During the course of almost two centuries, their relationship fluctuated between co-operation, competition and outright confrontation. Despite this persistent contact, the Chinese and the Dutch in Japan have always been considered in isolation, with the bulk of studies ignoring the deep ties that existed between these communities. My research aims to use Chinese, Dutch and Japanese sources to compare these two groups and to examine their relationship, with particular focus on a series of legal disputes that took place in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

While in Tokyo I was able to track down sources related to a privateering incident in 1658 when Dutch ships captured a Chinese junk. This incident, and others like it, generated a storm of controversy within Japan. Chinese merchants drew up legal petitions sent missions to meet with Japanese officials in Nagasaki and the capital, and demanded that immediate trials be held. In petitions and formal complaints, both groups presented a complex mix of European and Asian legal notions and customs while seeking, at the same time, to exploit Japanese law and to carve out a space in which they could operate as plaintiffs. In investigating these disputes, I hope to shed new light on the nature of Tokugawa jurisdiction on the maritime fringes of Japan.

Adam Clulow

Australian Generations: Life Histories, Generational Change and Australian Memory

The ARC Linkage Project awards are out, and a Monash History team led by Alistair Thomson and including Seamus O'Hanlon and Christina Twomey has been awarded \$509,854 over 4 years to undertake what Thomson describes as “a generational reinterpretation of Australian history using interviews with 300 Australians born between 1920 and 1990.”

‘Australian Generations: Life Histories, Generational Change and Australian Memory’ is a partnership with historians from La Trobe University (Katie Holmes and Kerreen Reiger) and the National Library of Australia (Kevin Bradley, Curator of Oral History) and ABC Radio National (Michelle Rayner, Executive Producer, Social History). The two industry partners are contributing an additional \$568,459 in cash and kind to the project.

The team will create 1500 hours of oral history interviews to deepen and broaden the National Library's collection and this will involve significant innovation in digital audio archiving. At the conclusion of the project the interviews will be available in an online archive hosted by the NLA.

According to their proposal, “Two books and one of Australia's most ambitious radio history series will illuminate historical change for different 20th century generations, the formation of distinctive generational memories and identities, and the significance of generational difference in Australia today.”

Professor Thomson believes that understanding diverse experiences and memories of Australia's past becomes increasingly important as the nation faces dramatic social, cultural and environmental change.

Please visit our Project Website at <http://www.monash.edu.au/sophis/australiangenerations>

A Visit to Monash South Africa



The main focus of the International Studies program at Monash is the development and impact of globalisation on the contemporary world. However, International Studies is itself a global enterprise that is taught on two campuses in Melbourne as well as at our international campuses in Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur) and South Africa (Johannesburg). As Director of the program and co-ordinator of the BA Global degree I am in charge of this vast enterprise and therefore a regular visitor to our overseas campuses. In recent years I have made several visits to both of our overseas campuses to meet with colleagues, students and other members of the broader Monash community. Colleagues from these campuses have also made a number of visits to Melbourne in that time.

My most recent visit to Johannesburg alas came too late to witness any World Cup matches, but the legacy of the tournament can be seen all around a city that seeks to take its place as a global powerhouse. New stadiums, a high-speed train system, spruced-up public spaces and a marked decrease in crime and public menace suggest that the long hoped-for 'African Renaissance' may finally be on the horizon. Monash South Africa (MSA) and the University more generally hopes to become an integral part of that renaissance by training the future leaders, not only of the nation but also of the continent. About 60% of students at MSA are international, and come from more than 30 countries across the Sub-Saharan region. A small, but growing number are Monash Australian students undertaking exchange programs at MSA.

Despite success in staging the World Cup harsh problems remain in South Africa. As in many developing countries the visitor to Johannesburg is immediately struck by disparities in wealth and opportunity that are both shocking and confronting. Pockets of unimaginable wealth exist side-by-side with some of the worst poverty on the planet. Fortified island enclaves of wealth and power are surrounded by vast settlements, where poverty and disease – including the HIV/AIDS epidemic – juxtapose the First and Third World, sometimes within the space of a short car trip.

MSA is one of those islands of wealth and privilege but it is no ivory tower. Many students are on scholarships and bursaries, whether from their home governments, the University, or private sources. Others struggle to pay fees and costs of living expenses in what is a comparatively expensive city. But the difficulties experienced by our students pale into insignificance when compared to those of the people of Zandspruit, an 'informal settlement' five or so kilometres from the campus. Up to 60,000 people live in this one square

kilometre 'township', where one school provides education for 1,300 students, aged from 5 to 17, while a series of child-care centres and kindergartens provide some relief to overstretched parents and carers, many of whom are grandparents or teenagers forced to take on head-of-family roles in the absence of parents who have succumbed to HIV-AIDS. A medical clinic at the main entrance to the settlement does its best to provide a decent level of health care to all who come along.

On my most recent trip to South Africa I spent a day at Zandspruit in the company of MSA Community Engagement Manager Craig Rowe and International Studies colleague Anna-Mart Van Wyck. Our visit was both confronting and rewarding. Confronting in the way that a close-up encounter with such poverty always is, but rewarding in the sense that there was hope amidst the despair and a genuine commitment from locals and outsiders to do something about the problems that face the community. The sight of gorgeous 3 and 4 year olds singing their ABC and demonstrating their ability to count to 10 made my day.

Staff and students at MSA have demonstrated a strong commitment to working with and for the benefit of the Zandspruit community. Monash people volunteer their time and expertise at the settlement, and the 'Saturday School' in which Monash students teach reading, writing and numeracy skills as well as providing more physical labour in working bees – especially at the child-care centres and kindergartens – have become an integral component of the MSA 'experience'. One of the reasons for my visit was to investigate the possibility of integrating this work into the formal International Studies curriculum. Monash already accredits internships undertaken with Oxfam in Durban and elsewhere, and I am keen to do the same with NGOs and other local bodies in Zandspruit. I am pleased to report that this will likely be the case from 2012, subject to some further negotiation between myself, Craig and the local community.

Involvement in such programs will hopefully become a central component of the 'Monash experience' for future students, Australian and international. For many of us providing even the smallest contribution to relieving poverty and providing a leg-up to those less fortunate than ourselves is an important component of our decisions to become academics in the first place. Our work in Zandspruit and elsewhere suggests that many in the Monash community still recognise and respect this fundamental educational concept.

NOTE: In order to protect the privacy and dignity of the residents of Zandspruit, the images included here come from the community's website, developed by a student volunteer from Monash South Africa. For more information please visit: <http://zandspruit.org/>

Seamus O'Hanlon

Telling Stories Online – The History of Adoption Project



Photo: Courtesy of News-Herald Picture Archive

In 2008, a group of researchers including Marian Quartly and Kate Murphy from SOPHIS, along with Denise Cuthbert from the School of Political and Social Inquiry, and Shurlee Swain from the Australian Catholic University, won a 4 year ARC Discovery Project to produce a history of adoption in Australia. Amy Pollard from SOPHIS is a PhD student attached to the project, and Kathy Lothian has now joined the project as Research Fellow.

The project has three inter-related aims. It will inform future policy and practice on adoption, assess and explain the historical outcomes of adoption in Australia, and bring into history the stories of people whose lives have been changed by adoption, in order to acknowledge that experience and to read it against policy change.

The national story will be told in a substantial monograph, a history of Australian adoption that addresses as its central question the changing meanings of adoption in twentieth century Australia, and the varying impact of these changes on the lives of families and individuals. The study analyses the experience of different cohorts of adopted children and that of their families, birth and adopting, in light of the different state laws and administrative arrangements which shaped those experiences. The story is set against, and interrogates, the changing meanings of adoption in the public sphere: within the discourse of professionals like social workers, psychologists and sociologists; in the language of journalists and politicians; and in the images and icons of the popular media. The study is necessarily set in a transnational context, given the ubiquity of professional knowledges and popular media in the western world.

The project now has an online storyteller's space where those people who want to share their own experience of adoption can contribute a story. The site has been set up in a way that will allow people to upload either text or audio files, and oral historians are available to interview anyone who prefers to tell their story that way. We have minimal input into the content of the stories contributed; we stress that storytellers should not feel directed to tell their story in any particular way, but should feel welcome to talk about those experiences that are important and meaningful to them. To contribute a story, or to read stories already contributed, go to: www.arts.monash.edu.au/historyofadoption

One of the great advantages of collecting stories online is that we can reach people right across Australia. So long as they have a computer, anybody can tell share their story, whatever their age and whatever their point of view. One of our recent storytellers was eighty-five years old; our youngest is in her twenties (contributors must be at least eighteen years old).

The project is now in its second year and, while it was always clear that the project website would raise significant ethical issues and problems regarding usage and interpretation of the research data, some of these ethical issues have become central concerns of the project. Storytellers have told us of their grief, anger and psychological struggles, as well as their positive experiences. There are important questions about our responsibilities to those who have come willingly and trustingly to us. Many of our storytellers have revealed memories of events that cause them great distress and which, sometimes, have never been told before.

The question of what the website can do that will serve the interests of storytellers, these active participants in our project, is a question that we continue to engage with. How their interests can be yoked to the interests of researchers is another. We have, however, been encouraged by the positive feedback from those who have chosen to share their story; some people have told us that their decision to contribute to the site was a deliberate effort to help others in the same situation. We are conscious to not underestimate the powerful benefits that sharing of experience can bring. We are also attracted to the notion that some of the most interesting questions for the project arise out of the two-way nature of the research, in which the storyteller is an active participant: the subject, rather than the object, of history.

Some of our questions about responsibility and research ethics are shared by others who work in fields involving human research. However, the online environment creates particular ethical problems that extend beyond those traditionally considered by ethics committees at universities. We believe that, largely due to lack of experience, university ethics committees are poorly equipped and ill-prepared to deal with issues involving live, online research. This is despite the fact that research projects involving online participation will become increasingly common in the future. In that sense, the History of Adoption Project is contributing to a new field of inquiry – the ethics of online research.

Following great interest in the ethical aspects of our research at a recent seminar, Marian and Kathy are helping to form a cross-disciplinary research group. Along with other scholars concerned about the ethical challenges of online research, we will consider issues of memory and privacy, asking what these mean in the context of an online environment.

Kathy Lothian

If you would like to be included in this research group, please email us at:

arts-historyofadoption@monash.edu.au

Visit our website at:

<http://arts.monash.edu.au/historyofadoption/>

The Bill Kent Library and The Bill Kent Foundation



With the aim of ensuring that the Bill Kent Library is a growing, developing entity, rather than an archive, its cataloguing will be undertaken through membership of the IRIS consortium of libraries (including Harvard University's Villa i Tatti and Italy's National Institute for Renaissance Studies) which will make the titles readily accessible to the international scholarly community, as well as the local Pratesi, and will enhance Monash's reputation in a very visible way through the catalogue's web-presence.

Bill's colleagues and friends will be delighted to learn that a new body –The Bill Kent Foundation – has just been established by Monash University with a broad mandate to fund the development and maintenance of the library, including its ongoing membership of the IRIS consortium (the Arts Faculty is generously funding the first three years), as well as supporting other initiatives related to teaching and research in Bill Kent's field e.g. conferences, scholarships, fellowships, annual lectures and workshops in both Melbourne and Prato etc. The University will be seeking contributions from Bill's former students, friends, colleague's and scholars further afield to support this endeavour. The Dean of Arts, Professor Rae Frances and Professor Bruce Scates have 'kicked off' the Foundation with a generous donation.

On 20 May 2010, as a major event of the first Open Day of the Monash University Centre in Prato, the Bill Kent Library was officially inaugurated by Alison Brown, Professor Emerita of Italian Renaissance History at Royal Holloway, the University of London. Also present was the Australian Ambassador, Amanda Vanstone. The occasion was both moving and symbolic. It was an opportunity to honour the Founding Director of Monash Prato, Professor Bill Kent, and also presaged the direction in which one of Monash's teaching and research strengths will take in the future. Bill, due to illness, was not present, but his words, read on the occasion, frame the library's significance:

Since I can't be with you in person, I have sent as my emissary a picture of the Ponte Vecchio painted in 1925 by the English artist, Graham Cliverd. It belonged to Nicolai and Ruth Rubinstein [the former a leading historian of Renaissance Florence, and the latter a foremost art historian], and anyone who visited them in their flat in Hampstead will remember it hanging there. The executors of the Rubinstein estate kindly gave the painting to me as a memento of Nicolai, my PhD supervisor and mentor in Italian Renaissance Studies, and I should like today to donate it to the Monash Centre in the same spirit, to hang in this library if that seems feasible. I hope you agree with me that this is an apt and genial idea. The nucleus of this library – I say 'nucleus' because of course it needs to, and I'm sure will, grow – is the collection of academic books both Rubinsteins kept at home. So the painting is returning home in a sense, through my mediation, to dwell in a library you have so thoughtfully named for me.

As a legendary teacher and scholar, Bill Kent established Monash University as a centre for Renaissance studies with an enviable international reputation. With the signing of memoranda of understanding with other leading centres of medieval and renaissance studies (the Universities of Edinburgh, Toronto, Durham, Warwick and Arizona), along with the State Archives of Prato, the newly established Prato Consortium for Medieval and Renaissance Studies has, in the library, a focus and a space for the leading and innovatory research for which Monash is known.



The Bill Kent Library Prato featuring Bill's gift to the library, the 1925 picture of the Ponte Vecchio by Graham Cliverd



Alison Brown concluded her remarks when opening the library thus: "Bill also happens to be one of the best-read friends I have – I have always marvelled at how he has managed to fit into his life scrupulous reading in his own field and in related academic fields – as a writer, teacher and editor – together with an eclectic and broad-based reading of novels and literature. I am sure that he – like me and all good Renaissance humanists – believes in the immortality bestowed through letters and books. For this, as well as for so many other reasons, I can think of no better, more deserved, and more appropriate tribute to his life-long dedication to letters and to Monash University than to have this library named after him: The Bill Kent Library in the Monash University Centre in Prato".

Peter Howard



Only a month before his untimely death on 30 August 2010, Bill Kent had been appointed Emeritus Professor of Monash University, to mark his retirement after a career spanning four decades. The appointment acknowledged his distinguished record of service and long association with Monash. Bill had been delighted: 'Monash University has been much more than just my professional life for well over 40 years' he said.

Bill Kent's distinguished career and significant contribution to Monash was further acknowledged at the recent memorial service that celebrated Bill's life and work. The Vice Chancellor and President of Monash University, Professor Ed Byrne AO, conferred the university's highest accolade, the Degree of Doctor of Letters (honoris causa) for the late Professor Kent's "immeasurable contribution to Monash University and to national and international scholarship". The award was accepted on Professor Kent's behalf by Dr Carolyn James, his wife, colleague and collaborator.

Emeritus Professor Bill Kent enjoyed a distinguished career which included appointments as Visiting Scholar and Visiting Professor at Villa i Tatti – the Harvard University Centre for Italian Renaissance Studies in Florence. Widely published in the cultural and social history of late medieval and Renaissance Italy, Emeritus Professor Kent in 2002 succeeded the eminent historian Nicolai Rubinstein as General Editor of the multi-volume critical edition of Lorenzo de' Medici's Letters.

Following his retirement as Director of the Prato Centre in 2004, the Bill Kent Prato Research Fellowship was established. The fellowship allows early career researchers at Monash to undertake a research project at the Prato Centre. In May, the library of Italian Renaissance monographs established at Monash Prato was named for him.

Professor Kent's family, colleagues and friends gathered to pay tribute to his life and work at a memorial service held at the Monash University Religious Centre on Tuesday 7 September. This memorial service can be viewed from the Arts Faculty website at www.arts.monash.edu

If you would like further information on the Bill Kent Foundation please visit: www.monash.edu/giving/billkent or call Donor, Alumni and Community Relations, telephone: +61 3 9903 1608

The Bill Kent Foundation will be launched on Wednesday 24 November with the First Bill Kent Memorial Lecture. Details will be announced shortly, please visit our news and events page at www.arts.monash.edu/sophis or join our mailing list (*details last page*)

Postgraduate News

International Medieval Congress, Leeds

Five delegates represented Monash University at the International Medieval Congress held in Leeds on the 12–15 July 2010. Of these delegates, three were postgraduates: Kathleen Neal, Anne Holloway and I. Each of us presented papers based on our research and Kathleen also organised a Round Table Discussion on planning for a career in academia in her capacity as Graduate Student Representative for the Medieval Academy of America. With thirty concurrent sessions generally offered for each time slot, there was much to see and hear, as well as so many people to meet.

Anne and I each presented our papers in sessions sponsored by ANZAMEMS (The Australian and New Zealand Association for Medieval and early Modern Studies) on “Exemplarity and Gender.” My paper, part of the session dedicated to “Women, Men and Nature” was on the use of Penelope in twelfth-century educational texts. In this context, she was an exemplum for both men and women on how to live chastely. The second “Exemplarity and Gender” session was subtitled “Mendicant Experiences in the Thirteenth Century.” Anne presented a paper

on the necessity of reconsidering the nature of the identity of thirteenth century Dominicans before approaching their gender, as they attempted work out whether they were “simple as doves or prudent as serpents.”

Kathleen’s paper, entitled “To Dictate or Delegate?: The language of Governance in English Royal Letters” was part of a session organised by Michael Clanchy, from the University of London. Unfortunately I was unable to attend this session, but Anne reports that those who attended thought highly of her paper. Equally well received and attended was the Round Table Discussion on how to proceed from post-graduate studies to a career in academia. It was interesting to see scholars from each side of the Atlantic Ocean explaining the differences in systems and how prospective employees should take these into account. Kathleen is to be congratulated on organising such an informative and pertinent session, particularly in these troubled economic times.

One of the impressive aspects of the Leeds Congress, beyond its size, is the opportunity to participate in practical sessions and local excursions. I attended a workshop on tablet

weaving and finished the week with a walking tour of Leeds, structured around memories of a medieval past. Both were well worth the effort and I look forward to returning to in later years to check out some of the other offerings.

R. Natasha Amendola



Kathleen Neal with Rosamund McKitterick at the Medieval Congress, Leeds

Ecology, Economy and Asian Biblical Interpretation



From 14–16 June I was fortunate to attend the second conference of the Society of Asian Biblical Studies at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. It was an opportunity to listen to and learn from biblical scholars teaching and undertaking research in biblical interpretation in Asia and Oceania or through an Asian

lens. The scope of scholarship was broad. It ranged from postcolonial biblical criticism to cross-textual and cross-cultural readings of text, from feminist readings of biblical texts to rethinking the interpretation of texts in light of ecological and economic concerns in the Asia Pacific region.

The location of the conference enabled participants from countries including Korea, India, Philippines, Sri Lanka, China and Taiwan to attend as well as those living in the diaspora, in places such as the UK and USA. The most compelling experience for me was listening to scholars in the region bring the questions and issues of their own context to an analysis of and dialogue with biblical texts. Texts that have been familiar to me for a long time, texts that I have pondered, analyzed and interpreted, were illuminated from new perspectives. On the final night of the conference, we were invited to feast on a rich meal of various western and Asian dishes while looking across the harbor of Hong Kong, past cargo ships and outlying islands, to the horizon. This seemed a nice metaphor for me for what had been a time of engaging with familiar and not so familiar ideas and approaches, opening up new possibilities and horizons.

Janine Luttick

Postgraduate News *(cont'd)*

Johnny Bell published an article based on his Honours thesis entitled 'The Gendering of Disaster: Cities and City Manhood in Joyce Vincent's *The Celestial Hand*' in the March issue of *Australian Historical Studies*, 41:1 (2010). His paper examines the depiction of Australian cities and city manhood in the context of an imagined invasion in Vincent's novel.

Kathleen Shaw presented a paper entitled "'Johnny has gone for a soldier': Youth Enlistment in a Union Country 1861–1865" at the 2010 Australian and New Zealand American Studies Association Conference held in Adelaide on 1–4 July. The paper was based on Kathy's Masters thesis.

History PhD candidate **Nicole Lamb** has recently been awarded an Australia-Netherlands Research Collaboration PhD overseas travel fellowship to undertake three months of archival research in the Netherlands. This period of archival research will complement the fieldwork Nicole is currently undertaking in Kerinci, Sumatra, recording oral histories with tea plantation workers. See <http://www.aust-neth.net/sucsApplications2.php?year=2010> for more information on Nicole's award.

In January, **Bryony Cosgrove** commenced work at the University of Melbourne as director of its Publishing and Communications postgraduate program. She also presented papers at two conferences in July: 'A Novel Experience: Editing the Letters of Barbara Blackman and Judith Wright into a Narrative' at Re-Viewing History, the AHA biennial conference in Perth, and 'The Creation of Rachel Henning: Personal Correspondence to Publishing Phenomenon' at Archive Madness, the annual ASAL conference in Sydney.

Lisa Mawdsley from the Centre for Archaeology and Ancient History has published a paper entitled 'The corpus of potmarks from Tarkhan' in *British Museum Studies in Ancient Egypt and Sudan* 13 (2009): 197–219.

Philosophy PhD candidate **Paul Daniels** attended the "Fundamentality: A Conference on Metaphysics" conference at ANU from June 30 to July 2. He also presented a paper entitled "Endurance is Not Paradoxical" at the Australasian Association of Philosophy Conference 2010 at UNSW on July 8.

Books launched at ACJC

The Australian Centre for Jewish Civilisation at Monash University launched books by its Bori and Helen Liberman Family lecturers earlier this month. Dr Nathan Wolski's *A Journey into the Zohar: An Introduction to the book of Radiance* was launched by Debbie Masel and Dr Michael Fagenblat's *A Covenant of Creatures: Levinas' Philosophy of Judaism* by Professor Andrew Benjamin.



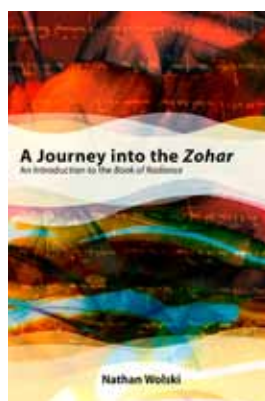
From left: Regina and Clive Lipshut, Nikki Meltzer, Sym Wolski



From left: Barbara Landau, Hannah Fagenblat, Karen Snow



Authors Michael Fagenblat (seated) and Nathan Wolski



News from the Australian Centre for Jewish Civilisation

Israel Season 2010

During August, the ACJC was focussed on contemporary Israel, playing host to both academic events, and a series of varied public forums.



International Conference

On August 3rd, scholars from around the globe came together for day one, of a three day International Academic Conference on 'The Israeli Nation State: Political, Constitutional and Cultural Challenges'.

The conference was co-convened by Professor Fania Oz-Salzberger, Leon Liberman Chair in Modern Israel Studies and Professor Yedidia Stern, Louis Matheson Visiting Professor, with a range of significant papers presented.

Dr Arik Carmon, founder of Israel Democracy Institute opened the sessions, mapping the issues of Sovereignty building for a nation without a constitution. This session was followed by Professor Michael Karayanni, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, questioning The Multicultural Nature of the Religious Accommodations for the Palestinian-Arab Minority in Israel, A Curse or a Blessing?

In the afternoon, Israel's foremost historian of Zionism, Professor Anita Shapira, Tel Aviv University, presented on The Holocaust as the Zionist and the Post-Zionist Narrative of Israel. Then Monash's Professor Andrew Markus compared Australia and Israel's Immigration Policies, post 1948.

Over the next two days, presenters included Professor Ruth Gavison, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Dr Emanuele Ottolenghi, Foundation for the Defence of Democracies, USA, Professor Eli Salzberger, University of Haifa, Professor Ghil'ad Zukermann, The University of Queensland, and Professor James Jupp, Australian National University.

The conference was capped off with the Annual Monash Israel Oration, delivered by Professor Anita Shapira. Shapira is founder of the Yitzhak Rabin Centre for Israel Studies and the head of the Weizmann Institute for the Study of Zionism at Tel Aviv University, on "Tel Aviv: the first hundred years".

The Leon Liberman Lecture Series

On Sunday 8th August, it was a full house for the next public event, and expert panel discussing the question of "delegitimisation of Israel in the public domain", chaired by Professor Fania Oz-Salzberger.

In the next lecture, on Wednesday 11 August, **Professor Ruth Gavison** asked 'Is Israel a Democracy?' Israel claims it is the only democracy in the Middle East. Is Israel a democracy? Can Israel be a democracy? Will Israel be a democracy in fifty years?

Ruth Gavison, heads up Metzilah – a Centre for Zionist, Jewish, Liberal and Humanist Thought in Israel and is the Haim H. Cohn Professor of Human Rights at Hebrew University of Jerusalem. One of the founding members of the Israeli Association for Civil Rights in Israel, Gavison is a specialist on law and politics, processes of constitution.

The series was wrapped up with a lecture by Dr Emanuele Ottolenghi, a political scientist and Senior Fellow with the Foundation for the Defence of Democracies in Washington who spoke on 'Iran Israel and the Middle East'. It was an intimate and interactive session, and the conclusion of an intense, stimulating season.

Israel Oration Cocktails

Israel's Ambassador to Australia Yuval Rotem was among guests at a cocktail reception hosted by the Leon Liberman Chair of Modern Israel Studies, prior to the 2010 Monash Israel Oration on 'Tel Aviv: the first 100 years' delivered by Professor Anita Shapira at the Australian Centre for Jewish Civilisation on Thursday 5 August.

Photos: Ben Weinstein



From left: Yuval Rotem, Professor Omri Shapira, Professor Fania-Oz-Salzberger and Professor Yedidia Stern

Advancing Knowledge ...

On 8 September Monash University ePress became Monash University Publishing and move to become a single 'shop-front' for Monash-based publishing operations. Continuing to draw on new developments in digital technology as a platform for serious scholarship, Monash University Publishing will publish exciting and important books and journals by authors from within, as well as outside Monash.

The new Monash University Publishing was launched by Dr. Barry Jones in the Robert Blackwood Hall at Monash University.

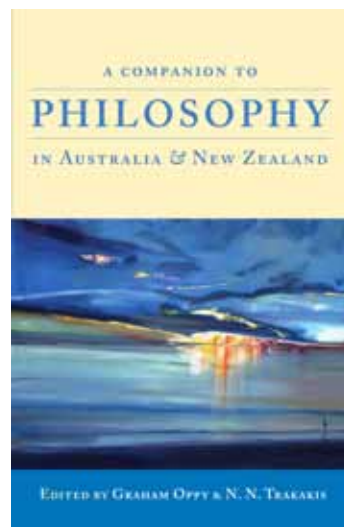
Three highlighted titles were launched at the event.

A Companion to Philosophy in Australia and New Zealand

Edited by Graham Oppy and Nick Trakakis

'Oppy and Trakakis' judicious and authoritative Companion to Philosophy in Australia and New Zealand plumbs the depths, revealing much that will be news even to Australasian readers. This magnificent achievement outshines even Selwyn Grave's loving 1984 A History of Philosophy in Australia."

Professor Graham Priest, University of Melbourne

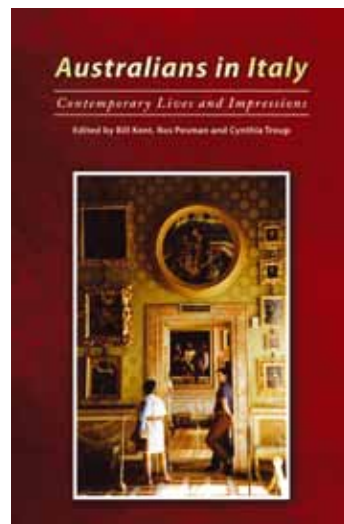


Australians in Italy: Contemporary Lives and Impressions (reissue)

Edited by Bill Kent, Ros Pesman and Cynthia Troup

'Australians in Italy makes an important contribution to an emerging field of study: the Australian diaspora in Europe.'

Dr Catherine Kevin, Flinders University of South Australia



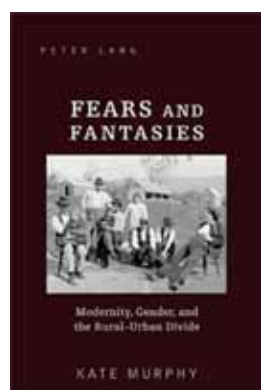
Closing the Gap in Education? Improving Outcomes in Southern World Societies

Edited by Ilana Snyder and John Nieuwenhuysen

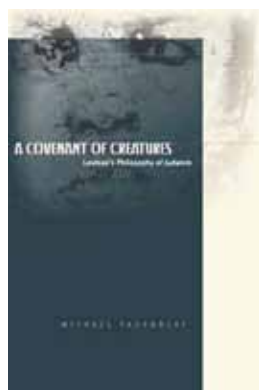
'Ilana Snyder and John Nieuwenhuysen have put together a fine collection of papers on inclusive education with a southern slant. The material on indigenous education and cultural difference is especially strong. We find ourselves wanting more from these talented contributors.'

Professor Simon Marginson, University of Melbourne

Recent and Forthcoming School Publications



Fears and Fantasies: Modernity, Gender and The Rural-Urban Divide, Kate Murphy, Peter Lang 2010



A Covenant of Creatures: Levinas's Philosophy of Judaism (Cultural Memory in the Present), Michael Fagenblat, Stanford University Press, 2010



Melbourne Remade, Seamus O'Hanlon, Arcade Publications 2010

Upcoming Events

For an up to date event listing please visit www.arts.monash.edu/sophis or email kerrie.alexander@monash.edu to join the mailing list.

Book Launch – A Companion to Philosophy in Australia and New Zealand – Edited by Graham Oppy and Nick Trakakis

Tuesday 14 September 2010 @ 6pm

Venue: Readings Carlton 309 Lygon Street, Carlton
RSVP: rebecca.lunnon@monash.edu

Book Launch – Fears and Fantasies: Modernity, Gender and the Rural-Urban Divide by Kate Murphy

Friday 22 October 2010 @ 4pm

Introduced by Emerita Professor Marian Quartly, staff, colleagues and alumni are invited to attend this book launch.

Venue: W614, Menzies Building 11, Clayton Campus, Monash University

The Politics of Doing Heritage

Thursday 18 November 2010 @ 5.30pm

'Doing heritage' involves not only developing formal skills in historical research and place assessment but also requires the historian to intersect with political life.

Drawing on her long career as a professional historian, **Susan Marsden** (a founder of the Professional Historians Association in South Australia, a member of SA Heritage Council's Register Committee, and co-author of many heritage studies, including two stages of South Australia's Twentieth century heritage survey and the City of Adelaide Heritage Survey), will discuss how much the work of a professional historian intersects with local, state and national politics. She will explain how essential it is for anyone undertaking a heritage consultancy or other commissioned history to understand and to operate in that milieu.

Mary Sheehan a founding member of the Professional Historians Association in Victoria and a former member of the Public Records Advisory Council will respond. Mary is the author of many heritage studies and commissioned histories and is a partner in Living Histories.

Venue: Village Roadshow Theatre, State Library of Victoria, Entry 3, LaTrobe Street, Melbourne,

Bookings: All are welcome to attend, Bookings Essential Online via bookings@slv.vic.gov.au; telephone: (03) 8664 7099 or online at <http://www.slv.vic.gov.au/event/making-public-histories-series>

Communities of Memory OHA Biennial Conference – Dates Moved

The Communities of Memory OHA Conference has been rescheduled to be held on Friday 07 to Sunday 09 October 2011 to avoid a clash with the proposed new date or the 2011 AFL Grand Final. Oral History masterclasses and a public lecture will be held on Thursday 06 October 2011.

The Institute for Public History is managing the administration of this conference in partnership with the OHA and other conference partners.

Having secured such fine keynote speakers as Stephen High, Nathalie Nguyen and Peter Read the call for papers went out in June and the Program Committee is currently managing submissions and queries from both Australia and overseas.

Our Conference venue partners now include the State Library of Victoria, The Australian Centre for the Moving Image and the William Angliss Institute. A number of other events are being planned including walking tours, welcome drinks, a public seminar and the OHA AGM. A highlight of the program will be the themed dinner planned for the Saturday evening to be held in the dining room of the William Angliss Institute in the CBD.

Finally, if you would like to submit a proposals for a presentation – the deadline is 31 October 2010, visit the conference website for further information at: <http://sites.google.com/site/communitiesofmemory/> You can download a call for papers from this website.

If you would like to join the conference mailing list, please send an email to kerrie.alexander@monash.edu

Contact Us:

Editor: Kerrie Alexander
School of Philosophical,
Historical and International Studies
Level 6, Building 11, Clayton Campus
Wellington Road, Monash University VIC 3800
Phone: (03) 9905 2172
<http://www.arts.monash.edu/sophis>
Email: arts-sophis-enquiries@monash.edu