

HTAA e-bulletin

January 2018



Alan Xiong, Year 9 National Australian History Competition winner



Graphically captured key points of the 2017 HTAA Conference Panel Presentation hosted by QHTA



Winning students at the 2017 National History Challenge awards' presentation in Canberra

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President's Welcome

Welcome to our first edition of the HTAA E-Bulletin for 2018 and to your new school year. I hope this bulletin finds you in good health after your well-earned holiday break and ready for an enjoyable and fulfilling 2018. The bonus of this e-Bulletin is its ability to provide you with a snapshot of what happened in the History teaching community across the nation in 2017, and what lies in store.

A highlight of 2017 was undoubtedly the HTAA National Conference held in Brisbane 27-29 September. The QHTA President Ms Pip Macdonald and QHTA Executive Officer Ms Sandra Kenman deserve all congratulations. The diverse range of workshops and keynote speakers contributed to an excellent professional learning event. Attendees were even treated to an impressive overhead flight display of military aircraft; fortunately the aircraft were present and practising their manoeuvres for the annual Brisbane 'Riverfire' festival.

As we stride confidently into 2018, we are delighted to inform you that the 2018 HTAA National

Conference will be hosted by the ACTHTA in Canberra 2-4 October. This conference promises to be truly a national experience due to the rare occurrence of each State and Territory sharing a common week of term holiday. As a consequence, we encourage all History teachers nationally to not only attend but to consider presenting a workshop on History curriculum, assessment, methodology or content that will benefit their History teacher peers from across the nation.

Thank you, each and every one of you, for your ongoing professionalism and passion for the teaching of history. Please enjoy these updates from all corners of our nation and may the year ahead be a happy and successful one for you and your students.

Kind regards,
Paul Foley
President: HTAA

Calendar

Details and dates may change. If you wish to know what your own or another HTA is doing in 2018, please visit the relevant HTA's website.

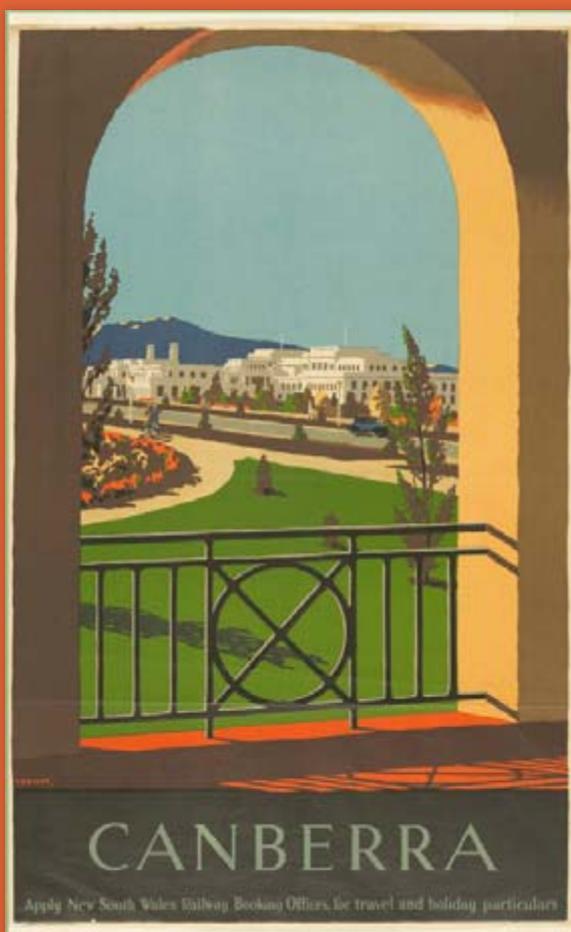
February	March	May	June
<p>13 HTAV Polish Your Presentation Skills</p> <p>23 HTAV VCE Units 1 & 3 History Conference and Examination Reports</p>	<p>18 HTAV VCE Unit 3 Student Lectures</p> <p>22 HTAV New to Teaching History Levels 7-10 and the Victorian Curriculum</p> <p>23 HTAWA Annual Conference: 100 Years</p> <p>24 HTANSW Stage 6 History Teachers' Day</p> <p>26 HTANSW New Teachers' Day: Early Career History Teaching</p>	<p>10 HTAV VCE History SACs: Swap and Share Ideas</p> <p>11 HTANSW Newcastle History Teachers' Day</p> <p>23 Australian History Competition competition day</p> <p>23 HTANSW participation in Australian History Competition</p> <p>25 HTANSW Tamworth History Teachers' Day</p>	<p>14 HTANSW Ancient, Modern, Extension History Study Days for HSC Students</p> <p>15 HTANSW Ancient, Modern History Study Days for HSC Students</p> <p>16 HTANSW Ancient, Modern, Extension History Study Days for HSC Students</p> <p>30 QHTA Annual Conference: Breaking Boundaries</p>
July	August	September	October
<p>26-27 HTAV Annual Conference: Connections through History (Incorporating VCE Units 2 and 4)</p>	<p>16 HTAV VCE Exam Refreshers: Australian History, Revolutions and Ancient History</p> <p>17 HTASA Annual Conference (TBC)</p> <p>27 HTANSW Wagga Wagga HSC Study Day</p> <p>31 National History Challenge closing date (TBC)</p>	<p>9 HTAV VCE History Exam Revision Student Lectures</p>	<p>2-4 HTAA National Conference: • People • Power • Perspectives •</p> <p>19 HTAV F-10 History Conference</p>
November	TBA		
<p>9 Simpson Prize closing date (TBC)</p> <p>28 HTAV Teaching VCE History in 2019</p> <p>(TBA) HTANSW Extension Study Day Introduction for Students and Teachers</p>	<p>(TBA) HTANSW Introduction to Extension History Teacher Day</p> <p>(TBA) HTANSW Lismore History Teachers' Day</p>		

HTAA 2018 National Conference

· PEOPLE · · POWER · · PERSPECTIVES ·

HISTORY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

TUESDAY 2 OCTOBER – THURSDAY 4 OCTOBER 2018 CANBERRA



Venues will include National Library of Australia and Museum of Australian Democracy

The conference program will include content for both primary and secondary teachers

Call for papers now open. Please visit historyconference.org.au for more information.

For general enquiries regarding the conference please contact Ann Parry, President ACTHTA/Conference Convenor, aparry49@gmail.com.

IMAGE: **Percy Trompf** *Canberra* c.1930, lithograph, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, Purchased 1984

Competitions

Australian History Competition

This is run in conjunction with The Giant Classroom. While a primary goal has been to provide an interesting and challenging competition for students, this is also an opportunity to support teachers in the implementation of the Australian Curriculum: History. The competition is open to students in Years 7 - 10.



Competition date: 23 May 2018

Registrations close: 31 March 2018. Entries via <http://australianhistorycompetition.org.au>

The Simpson Prize

The Simpson Prize is a national competition for Year 9 and 10 students. The competition encourages participants to use selected primary sources and their own research in response to a question about Australian military and homefront experiences a century ago.



Closing date: 9 November 2018 (TBC)

Entries and further information via <http://www.simpsonprize.org>

National History Challenge

The National History Challenge is a research-based competition for students. It gives students a chance to be historians researching world history, examining Australia's past, investigating their community or exploring their own roots. It emphasises and rewards quality research, the use of community resources and effective presentation.



The theme for 2017 is "Turning Points"

Closing date: 31 August 2018 (TBC)

Entries via <http://www.historychallenge.org.au>

Australian History Competition Report



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The Australian History Competition (AHC) is open to students in Years 7–10. Students engage with a document booklet containing a range of source materials such as photographs, maps, text excerpts and graphs, as well as a question booklet containing fifty multi-choice

questions that reflect historical skills and understandings within the Australian Curriculum: History.

Schools can register students in either the Years 7-8 or Years 9-10 competition levels. A medallion is awarded to the top student in each year level in each state, and a special commemorative certificate is further awarded to the national winner for each year level.

[Sample questions](#) are available on the AHC website as well as at [History Riddles](#).

Past question and document booklets can be used by teachers to pre-test students at the start of a unit, as part of a formal assessment, or the sources can be drawn upon selectively to develop source analysis skills.

A number of national winners were interviewed to gain their thoughts about why they enjoy studying History.



Through a meticulous analysis of history, one can edify themselves and make ready to confront the infinite majesty of destiny, collective and otherwise. It is for this reason that I study history. Basking in the oft entertaining tales of years gone by is merely a pleasant side-effect.

Benjamin Lawrence Year 10 National AHC Winner



I really like to learn more about people's experiences and hear their personal stories.

Sarah Berry Year 8 National AHC Winner



Alan Xiong Year 9 National AHC winner

Competition date: 23 May 2018

Registrations due: 31 March 2018

Louise Secker

Chair: Australian History Competition

National History Challenge Report



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The 2017 National History Challenge (NHC), with the theme 'Making a Better World?', closed late August, and was judged at school as well as State/Territory levels and finally at national level to coincide with the HTAA national conference in late September. Ben Hegerty from

Stuartholme School in Brisbane kindly organised the venue, and teams of experienced judges generously gave of their time and expertise. All of this culminated in the NHC National Awards ceremony at Parliament House in Canberra, on 27 November 2017.

Despite the last minute anxiety of the cancellation of the sitting week for the House of Representatives, Senator Simon Birmingham attended the ceremony, spoke glowingly of our joint enterprise in producing such outstanding students, and announced Ineka Voigt as the National Young Historian – the first person ever to receive this honour twice. The national winners all enjoyed their two-day Canberra experience and visited the Australian War Memorial, Museum of Australian Democracy at Old Parliament House and the inspiring *Songlines* exhibition at the National Museum of Australia. They were feted at each venue and left Canberra a tired but satisfied crew.

Over 600 schools registered for the 2017 competition: both primary and secondary and from all educational sectors, with over 8,000 student participants. Senator Birmingham announced the 2018 competition theme: 'Turning Points'. The closing date for 2018 will be towards the end of August. National judging will occur adjacent to the national conference, which will be in Canberra from 2-4 October.

The flyers promoting the 2018 NHC launch and State/Territory launches, which local coordinators will hold early in the 2018 school year, will be available soon. The competition is of enormous value, running from years 1–12, offering several special categories, and able to be used as a whole class activity to encourage 21st century learning skills, as well as providing an opportunity for extension tasks.

As ever, it would not be possible to run the competition without the considerable talent and professionalism of the coordinators, judges and chaperones. I extend to each of them my heartfelt gratitude and to David Murray for his dedication to a smooth running competition.

Liz McGinnis

Chair: National History Challenge



National winners at the National History Challenge awards ceremony, Parliament House Canberra



Senator the Hon. Simon Birmingham, Minister for Education and Training with the 2017 Australian Young Historian, Ineka Voigt

Simpson Prize Report



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This edition of the HTAA e-bulletin finds the Simpson Prize in a phase of both completion and planning. The completion aspect applies to the 2018 Simpson Prize Competition which closed on 10 November 2017. The judging of student entries in each State and Territory was concluded at that time and the names of the respective winners and runners-up were submitted. The students were notified of their achievements in December with a Christmas and holiday 'gift' of

well-deserved recognition of their thorough research and response to the question, *'Some historians have described 1917 as "the worst year of the Great War" for Australia and Australians.' To what extent is this an accurate statement?*

The 2019 Simpson Prize Question (for the competition to be held in 2018) is currently in the final stage of a process of careful deliberation. Such deliberation is necessary to ensure that the proposed question is accessible to all students, also so the intended Australian War Memorial sources are available for use in terms of copyright, sometimes necessitating the permission of historians, other authors or copyright holders, and family members of veterans.

I would like to thank Dr Rosalie Triolo for her professional support in the team effort of devising the question and selecting the 2019 Simpson Prize Australian War Memorial sources. I express my gratitude to the State and Territory Simpson Prize Coordinators whose diligence and enthusiasm ensures the success of what is the only national historically-commemorative, student research-based competition. I am also indebted to the Education staff at the Australian War Memorial for their professional guidance and generous assistance.

The final message in this update is to thank you and many of your schools across Australia for your support of the Simpson Prize. Once approved, the 2019 Simpson Prize question with sources will be released in late January 2018 - in time for the new school year and your inclusion of it as a 'ready-made' skill-development, assessment or extension activity grounded firmly in the Australian experience of World War I. The question and sources will expressly address the experience of Australians in 1918 which, as a consequence, will complement 2018 commemorative events and enable you and students to draw also upon media reporting across the year.

Paul Foley

Chair: Simpson Prize

Primary Report

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In continuing to seek innovative ways to bring History to life for primary school students, a real highlight of the HTAA National Conference in 2017 was to see ICT integration as a key feature of many primary sessions. Thanks to Robin McKean for sharing below her insights, expertise and main ideas from two of the primary conference presentations.

History Teaching gets a Mixed Reality Makeover

*The real world was All Hallows' School overlooking the Brisbane Story Bridge and perfectly placed as a witness to many local histories since its foundation in 1861. Sitting on the school lawn and mingling with a new generation of History teachers, I was remembering how I, too, trundled over that bridge in a trolley bus on my way to school back in the 60's; and how the many stories from on and under the bridge that spooked us as teenagers were now in print. The story of *The Mayne Inheritance* by Rosamond Siemon and folk tales of the Kangaroo Point Murder - were the 'THEN' vehicles to transport us on a journey recounting Brisbane's transformation from an isolated colonial hamlet to a major Australian city. But this was the 'NOW' ... I was back in Brisbane with Maree Whiteley and Brette Lockyer from the HTAWA primary committee to workshop the digital tools that could retell stories in 21st century mixed reality style.*

*In the Digital Breakout session, we looked at "Virtual Meanjin", part of a national Virtual Songlines project that enables us to step back in time and experience the traditional landscape of Brisbane (and other cities) before the first European settlers. We looked at ways that Google Expeditions can bring to life ancient Egypt and other parts of the world in the classroom as part of an immersive experience aimed at building compassion, EMPATHY, and perspective. We looked at ways that students may experience the power of a place; how 360 cities could with 360° VR photos and videos further enable us to zoom in to an incredible level of detail and explore courtyards, alleys, streets, buildings, and rooftops. We looked at how the Egypt Chamber VR Game for Cardboard allowed us to explore the deepest secrets of Egyptian pyramids, and we looked at a range of Escape Games in Egypt and closer to home, Fremantle Prison and the Fenian 6 as part of a literature stimulus study of the picture book *The Catalpa Escape* by Joy and Mike Lefroy - this being a digital breakout based on a CSI Cold Case and resources from the HTAA AC History Units.*

For a closer look at how to create your own Digital Breakouts in the classroom, go to the session highlights at <https://www.thinlink.com/scene/954593701647089666>



HTAA Conference session, Breaking Barriers with Historical Game Play



Teachers engage in a digital breakout activity

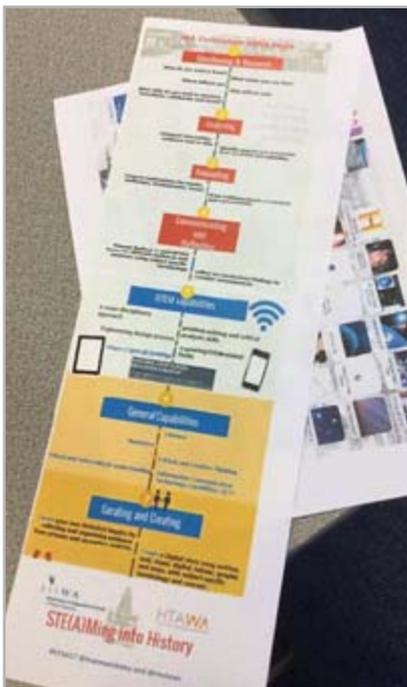
Primary Report

In another session, co-presenting with Maree Whiteley, we took delegates ‘STEAMing into History’ from an Indigenous perspective. Delegates became tourists, entering virtual and real worlds to explore Indigenous curriculum perspectives and evaluate a range of digital immersive journalism tools suitable for conducting any historical iSTEM inquiry involving critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity. Key historical concepts were investigated through Indigenous storytelling, art, music and dance, and a range of immersive journalism tools were provided to facilitate the Digital Storytelling Process.

Delegates were enthusiastic to explore the following iSTEM Aboriginal Astronomy activity. One Indigenous clan’s culture regards the moon as telling the story of Munuk, a girl who misbehaved while playing in the sky. In the session, the Story of the Moon was augmented with a virtual tour of one of the greatest of all historic sites – Tranquillity Base, the site of the first Apollo Moon landing. Moon phases and π in the sky activities were investigated and the digital story telling drew upon Choose Your Own Adventure tools such as Inklewriter and Twine; online scaffolds for comparing and contrasting stories of Ancient Civilisations; timeline graphics and a printing press for reporting. The online tools used in this session may be found here <https://goo.gl/bVXe5U>

Maree Whiteley

Primary Education Representative: HTAA



HTAA Conference session, STE(A)Ming into History: an outline of inquiry skills and content covered in this thinking and curating process

Australian Capital Territory



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The ACTHTA's concerted push this year to consolidate membership and enliven proceedings appears to have been very successful. This is due to the hard work, enthusiasm and efficiency of the very small committee which achieves more than may be expected for its number.

Although the Association lost three enormously valued and long standing members due to retirement, there are now new, keen and hardworking members to continue the Association's activities, with ACTHTA making conscious efforts in terms of succession planning.

Some of the highlights of our year have been in response to a survey of members, conducted to establish exactly what members want from the Association and when. This has led to more professional learning sessions, on different days of the week. There are still plans to upgrade the ACTHTA website and make it more responsive to events, and the Association is considering branching into social media, such as Twitter and Facebook.

A Teach-meet and a movie night were held in August 2017. The local theatre is very happy to work with ACTHTA whenever it is showing something with an historical base, and will provide free tickets for members. The August night included a networking period with refreshments and the committee is keen to see if this acts as a drawcard to new faces. The Teach-meet session was held at Old Parliament House with separate tables of high school and primary teachers sharing ideas. The event was very well attended, particularly given its late timing in the teaching year, and the feedback was particularly enthusiastic.

Members attended the HTAA National Conference in Brisbane in October, and took part in judging for the National History Challenge (NHC). ACTHTA has now agreed to host the HTAA National Conference in 2018, with the assistance of HTANSW and the National Capital Educational Tourism Project. Enthusiastic meetings have already taken place and the program's basic structure is developing quickly with some exciting ideas already on the table. The main program will be located in the National Library of Australia and Museum of Australian Democracy venues. The conference organisers are in negotiation with a range of speakers, both from overseas and across Australia, and a call for papers will go out early in 2018. ACTHTA will be working closely with HTANSW and numerous national institutions and all parties intend to put together something exceptional for next year.

October and November have been largely taken up with NHC activities, with the ACT presentation being held in the House of Representatives Chamber at Old Parliament House, thanks to the hospitality of the Museum of Australian Democracy. ACTHTA was also delighted to welcome Dr Matthew Trinca from the National Museum of Australia as the guest speaker. Three of the ACT's students were also national winners and involved in the national presentations at the end of November. A special visit was made by ACTHTA to Burgmann Anglican School which was impressive in its first entries into the competition.

Thanks to, and admiration of, the committee members who have made and continue to make all of the above happen.

Ann Parry

President: ACTHTA

New South Wales



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Following on from the reference in the July HTAA e-newsletter, HTANSW can now report on the long-awaited release by New South Wales Education Standards Authority (NESA) of the new HSC examination specifications for the revised senior syllabuses, effective for Year 12 in 2019. HTANSW is now busy developing its professional learning program for 2018 to support teachers in the implementation of the Year 12 syllabuses as well as in the interpretation of the exam specifications and preparation of students for the 2019 HSC exam.

HTANSW is delighted to report on the success of the 2017 NSW State Conference with its theme, 'New Syllabuses, New Opportunities' held at the University of Sydney, 28-29 July. The conference was attended by more than 300 teachers and offered a wide range of presentations and workshops to support the implementation of new senior history syllabuses. In addition to returning keynote speakers, such as the ever popular Estelle Lazer on Pompeii and Herculaneum, and Professor John Maynard on Indigenous Military Service, new faces included Professor Tom Griffiths from Australian National University, Professor Grace Karskens from the University of New South Wales and Professor Ray Laurence, who has recently taken up an Ancient History appointment at Macquarie University. The second day of the conference was opened by Glenn A. Baker (aka 'the Rock Brain of the Universe') who entertained with a musically driven reflection on 50 years of popular music.

In November, HTANSW introduced a new team of teachers to the RIME (Recruit, Induct, Mentor and Evaluate) Professional Learning (PL) program and will now mentor them in preparation for their presentations at teacher PL days next year, including the Beginning Teacher and Stage 6 days in March and the National Conference in Canberra later in 2018. This year, for the first time, the program will also be run online via ZOOM with a number of rural and remote teachers already signed up.

HTANSW looks forward to a short respite from all labours over the Christmas break and school holidays. Best wishes to all local as well as interstate colleagues for the school holidays and the opportunity to recharge the batteries in preparation for 2018!

Toni Hurley

President: HTANSW



Teachers from Chifley College, Mt Druitt, at the Pompeii Exhibition at the Australian National Maritime Museum, part of the HTANSW State Conference program



Professor Grace Karskens from the University of NSW was a keynote speaker at the July State Conference, pictured here with *The Colony*, her award-winning study of the early years of the colony of NSW



Members of the HTANSW executive at the July State conference. Seated (left to right) Ashley Chee Quee, Maria dos Santos Lee; Standing (left to right) Anne Gripton, Pete Wilson, Pam Panczyk, Leila Mohammed and Michael dos Santos Lee

GHTANT



Geography and History Teachers' Association of the Northern Territory

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GHTANT has had a productive and busy second half of 2017, and looks forward to 2018.

In 2017, GHTANT participated in four professional learning sessions and, as a result, increased its profile and membership across the whole of the Northern Territory.

The Festival of Teaching was held on Saturday 26 August. Again GHTANT played a prominent role in the event's organisation. The key note speakers were Mark Collard and Jo Lo Bianco, and GHTANT ran three dedicated workshops on the day: Civics and Citizenship: Moving Beyond the Hashtags – Loraine Caldwell; The interdisciplinary Roundabout – Gabrielle Kaoustos; and, Serious Fun: Using Games to Teach History – Serena Kuhl.

The first Katherine Mini Conference was held on Saturday 28 October. This event was quite well attended and the Association hopes to continue to support the Territory's more remote teachers. Thanks go to Brianna Witte, Louise McCutchin and Charleen Conroy for organising this day.

These events have provided some of GHTANT's newer and younger members with a platform on which to share their knowledge. Identifying, supporting and mentoring the next generation of leaders is a priority for GHTANT as many of the longer-time members look forward to handing over the reins. GHTANT is also very pleased to welcome a neophyte teacher, Cody Clifford, to the ranks. Cody's role is to liaise with Charles Darwin University to promote the benefits of GHTANT membership to preservice teachers.

The Australian Geography Teachers' Association combined with GHTANT to run a Geography skills workshop on Saturday 11 November. This event was well attended and participants provided enthusiastic support for plans to run a History skills workshop in 2018. Julie Hearnden worked tirelessly to facilitate this event.

The 2017 National History Challenge (NHC) attracted a similar number of entries to previous years, although the quality of the entries seemed to have improved. The Northern Territory NHC Awards Ceremony was held on Wednesday 1 November and the attendance of so many students, parents and teachers was fantastic to witness. All attendees were impressed by the quality of the entries. Congratulations to Darcy Sorensen who was judged to be the NT Young Historian for 2017.

Throughout the year GHTANT has sought to improve the quality of communications with members. Alice Springs-based Anna Hind has initiated a newsletter which will be distributed once per term. The newsletter is entitled 'Tiwi to Todd' in recognition of the vast distances serviced by GHTANT. Over the school holidays Meg Davis will be working with the website designers to give the website a much-needed make-over ready for the new year.

GHTANT looks forward to 2018.

Loraine Caldwell

President: GHTANT.

Queensland



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QHTA was excited and proud to host the 2017 HTAA National Conference in Brisbane. As with all History conferences, the HTAA National was a fantastic opportunity for teachers to gather and build on their knowledge and practice. Keynote speakers, Peter FitzSimons and Professor Alastair Blanshard, commenced the first and third day with thought-provoking presentations, while our Panel Presentation featuring Associate Professor Deborah Henderson, Dr Brian Hoepper, John Whitehouse and graphic artist, Jessamy Gee, challenged delegates to 'visually' reconsider their practice before they engaged in a diverse range of workshops. Other highlights included the Conference Dinner under the stars overlooking the Brisbane River and Story Bridge, and the visit to the Queensland Museum for the Gladiators: Heroes of the Colosseum exhibit. QHTA would like to thank all presenters, delegates, sponsors and exhibitors for ensuring the conference was such a success.

The Dr Russell Cowie Excellence in History Education Award was established this year in memory of Dr Russ Cowie. For four decades, Dr Hamilton (Russell) Cowie (1931-2015) was the most influential force in Queensland History education. His impact was multi-faceted. He was a brilliant and innovative teacher at both secondary and tertiary levels, led the development of inquiry-based syllabuses, pioneered a new era in History textbooks, helped found the State and national History teacher associations and presented countless lectures and workshops at conferences. Known affectionately to all as 'Russ', he was a towering and legendary figure in teacher education and admired by legions of university students whom he nurtured into their professional lives. Russ was the inaugural patron and life member of the Queensland History Teachers' Association, was promoted to Associate Professor by the University of Queensland and, in 2013, was honoured by the nation with the Medal of the Order of Australia.

The award was presented to Ms Julie Hennessey of Brisbane Girls' Grammar School by Dr Brian Hoepper (QHTA Patron) on 28 September with the following citation.

"Awarded to Julie Hennessey for excellence and outstanding leadership in History education. She is recognised by the Queensland History Teachers' Association as an innovative and dynamic History teacher. Julie Hennessey has inspired her students to become passionate History scholars and has dedicated herself to sharing her expertise with her peers through generous service to the wider History community. Her commitment to her students and to the wider History community through years of service to the QHTA and other organisations is greatly appreciated."



Julie Hennessey receives the 'Dr Russell Cowie Excellence in History Education Award' from QHTA Patron Dr Brian Hoepper

Queensland

In addition to the National Conference, QHTA ran its usual program of Student Seminars and Professional Development Workshops for teachers. Dr Andrew Bonnell, University of Queensland, and Dr Brian Hoeppe, undertook a 'road show' with their Modern History seminars to Cairns, Townsville, Mackay, Rockhampton, Bundaberg, the Sunshine Coast, Brisbane, Toowoomba and the Gold Coast. Dr Bonnell presented an engaging seminar about Nazi Germany and the role of ordinary citizens within the regime, while Dr Hoeppe challenged students to make connections between past historical events and modern terrorism. With the support of Professor Blanshard, a number of University of Queensland academics delivered a diverse program of Ancient History seminars to senior students which covered topics related to Ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome, conflict in the Ancient world, individuals, regimes and power. In addition, Dr Hoeppe and Kathleen Gordon presented Professional Development workshops for teachers in many towns and cities for History teachers at middle school and primary levels.

Regarding curriculum, the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) released the new Ancient and Modern History Syllabuses for Years 11 and 12. QHTA is seeking to work with QCAA to refine elements of these documents as well as the supporting materials. QCAA intends that these syllabus documents will be implemented, with 65 other new syllabuses, for Year 11 in 2019 as part of the new Senior Phase of Learning.

QHTA looks forward to 2018 and building on the achievements of 2017, seeking to continue to support teachers and schools as they prepare for new curriculum documents and processes. I would like to thank the members of our Executive (and in many cases their families) for the work they have undertaken to support and promote History education in Queensland. I would also like to acknowledge QHTA's extended network of patrons, teachers, academics, university staff, schools and students who work with us to ensure that we are offering programs, conferences, publications and professional development that meet the needs of our teaching community in Queensland.

Pip Macdonald
President: QHTA



Artist Jessamy Gee graphically captured key points of the 2017 HTAA Conference Panel Presentation

South Australia



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The HTASA Committee extends greetings from the land of 'Central Australian Time', reflects on the positive and collaborative South Australian professional learning experiences of 2017, and looks forward to more successful events in 2018.

The HTASA Annual Conference in August was the best-attended of annual conferences of the past decade, and the ambience and rich discussions of the day were most certainly on key. The Stage 2 Modern History Afternoon in February and New Senior SACE Curriculum Workshop in late March were also well attended and provided attendees with rich and diverse professional learning experiences.

A 2017 highlight was the casual and successful 'seasonal movie evenings' beginning in autumn and concluding on the last day of spring. 'Dunkirk,' 'The Zookeeper's Wife' and 'I'm not your Negro' provided opportunities for History teachers to gather, converse and relax. HTASA will continue the film nights in 2018 with the first planned for late summer.

The greatest challenge for many South Australian teachers of History has been the implementation of the New Senior SACE History curriculum. Change is never easy but it can bring about renewal. This has most certainly been the experience of the many teachers who have needed to think critically about which topics to teach, which methods of assessment to use and which resources will be most beneficial.

In 2017, HTASA also trialled a new meeting format where sub-committees focussed on each of Curriculum, Professional Learning, Social Media and History-related promotional events. The advantage of this model was that these teams needed to meet only once every two months, yet valuable information and opinions were shared. The meetings did not necessarily occur on the same date as HTASA regular meetings, and venues included cafes. Communications were also by email. The intention was to encourage participation and a commitment that was not too onerous and, indeed, enjoyable.

The key HTASA priority in 2018 is to support Stage Two Modern History teachers as they roll out the new curriculum and examination. HTASA will have worked on this over the holidays and encourages members to stay tuned for updates.

The final event on the HTASA 2017 calendar was the South Australian National History Challenge (NHC) Awards Ceremony. Because of major tram works in North Terrace, the State Library of South Australia was not an ideal venue on this occasion. Instead, the ceremony was held in the Drawing Room at Scotch College. The event was a celebration of outstanding student achievements culminating in the awarding of South Australian Young Historian of the Year to Tahlia Grammatopoulos, Salisbury East High School. Her essay examining the significance of the 1967 Referendum was exceptional. HTASA looks forward to next year's entries which will address the 2018 NHC theme of 'Turning Points.'

Sincere thanks must go to the hardworking HTASA committee and we look forward to the exciting opportunities which 2018 offers.

Paul Foley

President: HTASA



HTASA President Paul Foley with 2017 National History Challenge winners

Tasmania



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Tasmanian students named as winners in this year's National History Challenge (NHC) received their awards and medals early in November. Always a popular event, the presentation ceremony was a wonderful opportunity to once again welcome students and families from across the State. Many are regular and most enthusiastic participants in the NHC whilst others were new to it. Warm congratulations to all of our student winners. In particular, congratulations must be extended to the Tasmanian Young Historian, Phoebe Dunbabin from the Friends' School, who wrote an excellent essay on Vida Goldstein's political journey and its impact on Australian democracy. Thanks also to the Tasmanian Premier, the Hon. Will Hodgman for once again hosting the Awards ceremony, and to THTA committee member, John Bennett who, in his first year as THTA NHC co-ordinator, ably managed the shortlisting of entries and the program for the presentation of medals.

Further congratulations to John who has been named a recipient of the Frank MacDonald Memorial Prize for 2018. John will accompany six Tasmanian students on a two week battlefield tour of the Western Front in April.

THTA has regularly reported on the association's involvement and support of History projects around the State and is pleased to report, firstly, on the placement of statues to commemorate the arrival of Irish female convicts in Tasmania. The Footsteps towards Freedom project has been keenly supported by THTA, and professional learning will be offered for teachers wishing to use the statues and their story as a resource in classroom settings.

Another project supported by THTA has been the Tunnerminnerwait Project. The story of Tunnerminnerwait, an Indigenous man from the Cape Grim region, has previously been honoured with a memorial on the North West Coast and has now been developed into a wonderful learning sequence by teachers at Smithton High School. The final product of this project, Invisible Stories: Cape Grim and the Waterbird, may be viewed at <https://player.vimeo.com/video/243821939>

An exciting collaboration between THTA, TATE (Tasmanian Association for the Teaching of English) and TGTA (Tasmanian Geography Teachers' Association) is currently being planned for 18-19 May 2018, with anticipation of positive support. Further details will be announced early in 2018.

Thanks to a small but hardworking committee for its work in 2017. THTA is strengthened by the involvement of its members. The association would certainly like to welcome more members to the committee, and all members' suggestions or delivery of future professional learning opportunities or other activities that will support History teachers and teaching in Tasmania.

Wendy Frost

President: THTA



The Hon. Will Hodgman with Tasmanian winners in the National History Challenge



Footsteps towards Freedom commemorates almost 13,000 impoverished convict women and 2,000 children who arrived in Van Diemen's Land, 1803-53, and publicly remembers them at the very place where they disembarked

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The year 2017 was one of enormous activity for HTAV, including significant changes and reviews. Some new directions and priorities have been set for 2018, but the intended outcomes remain the same: advocacy for, and provision of, high quality History education experiences for all History students, teachers and other History educators and stakeholders in Victoria, and support of the same for all such groups nationally.

In 2017, HTAV offered approximately 20 sizeable teacher professional learning as well as student-related events along with many smaller events for the different groups and in diverse Victorian locations. These events occupied whole days, half-days, 'after-school' or weekend timeslots or, in the case of the Annual for teachers, spanned two weekdays of 48 different workshop or paper sessions after thought-provoking keynotes and curriculum updates.

HTAV also sustained an ambitious publishing program. The introduction of new Year 11 and 12 courses in Victoria in 2016 necessitated the production of resources to meet new curriculum requirements, and resulted in pleasing sales in the 2016-17 years. Newer titles have been recently released or are under production for 2018. HTAV also produces the quarterly 'Agora' journal and frequent member 'Bulletin' updates.

In addition to involvement in the three main HTAA competitions of the Australian History Competition, the National History Challenge and the Simpson Prize, HTAV also assumed different responsibilities in 2017 for the HTAV Historical Fiction Competition, John Button School Prize and the Victorian Premier's Spirit of Anzac Prize, and will continue to support the same in 2018.

Membership fees, grants, consultancies, sponsorships, publication sales and professional learning and student registration fees support these extensive activities, yet careful management of all is essential to maintaining HTAV's staffing and financial wellbeing which underpins such an impressive suite of services.

Every Executive and Board member now has one or more accountabilities in terms of 'system or sector representations', 'special interests', 'specialist expertise', or 'competitions' and, without exception, all members contribute in numerous other ways across a year. HTAV Executive and Board members also work closely with, or follow the activities of, numerous curriculum and policy authorities or academic bodies with interests in or influence on History education.



The HTAV 2017 Annual Conference, held at Caulfield Racecourse



The HTAV Publishing table and some of its resources at Caulfield

Victoria

In 2017, HTAV warmly welcomed new Executive Officer Dr Deborah Hull. Deb has made her own most positive professional impression on HTAV's ten other Staff as well as Executive and Board members, initiating departmental reviews, ensuring corporate compliance (furthered for HTAV through the adoption of the new Constitution and finalization of the Staff Enterprise Agreement), devising a new strategic plan and tracking HTAV trends of different kinds, including financial trends, of recent years. Now that Deb has settled in, HTAV is poised for a year of whole association review and consolidation.

HTAV enjoys its positive relationship with the wider HTAA community, seeks to be a positive contributor wherever possible, and wishes all HTAs much good fortune across 2018. I, personally, wish all HTAs well, and especially express my gratitude to the HTAV Executive and Board members who give their time and talent so generously, also to the HTAV Staff whose commitments to HTAV are more than 'a job'. We look forward to many good things in 2018.

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There were a few firsts or re-discoveries in Western Australia in 2017. The first cohort of Year 12s sat the new ATAR and general courses. A Good Answer Guide was subsequently produced, the first in a few years. Student seminars were delivered as usual to both metropolitan and rural students, but included the trial of Zoom which will likely grow in popularity as an effective and efficient means to delivering further seminars, as well as teacher professional learning opportunities across Western Australia's great distances.

HTAWA also held a Russia-themed quiz night in late October (for reasons that probably do not require explanation). The success and enjoyment of the event means it will likely become an annual event with different historic themes each year.

With the size of the HTAWA committee continuing to grow as a consequence of many excellent WA teachers wishing to contribute, a new committee structure will be introduced in 2018, along with a new role of History Helper. History Helpers are people who wish to contribute proactively to HTAWA activities but who cannot attend HTAWA meetings. Either way, the sea of HTAWA orange continues to grow.

HTAWA is fortunate to have a wonderful committee that works very hard to support WA History teachers, and their time and efforts are accepted with much gratitude – and acclaim. Some HTAWA committee members have been recognised recently within broader WA education circles, with Merredith Southee winning a well-deserved Professional Teaching Council of Western Australia Award for Outstanding Service for her 20+ years on HTAWA, and Ashley Wright becoming a finalist in the WA Beginner Teacher of the Year awards.

The hard work of Ian Murray, 'Mr NHC', who coordinated and ran a seamless competition in WA and who also coordinates the WA Simpson Prize competition, must be acknowledged.

I am truly appreciative of the entire committee, but in particular the Executive who have worked tirelessly to develop and support WA History teachers.

Cathy Baron

President: HTAWA



From HTAWA's Russian-themed quiz night in October 2017: MC, Cathy and Crystal; the winners from Shenton College with MC; Kelmscott SHS All-Tsars; and Russian dress-ups.