

For immediate release

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2015 CHASS Australia Book Prize Shortlist Announced

The Council for the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (CHASS) has announced the shortlist for its prestigious 2015 Australia Prize for a Book. The shortlisted titles, from an entry field of 94 print and e-books in the non-fiction category and a longlist of eight titles, are **Alan Atkinson, The Europeans in Australia: Volume Three: Nation** (NewSouth Publishing); **Carolyn Holbrook, ANZAC: The Unauthorised Biography** (NewSouth Publishing); and **Tim Low, Where Song Began** (Penguin Books Australia).

The winner of the 2015 CHASS Australia Prize for a Book will receive a cash prize of \$3,500. The Prize, sponsored by Routledge, will be presented at the CHASS Australia Prizes Lunch in Melbourne on October 15. The Book Prize is being awarded to an Australian citizen or permanent resident whose book, published between 1 January 2014 and 31 December 2014, contributes most to Australian cultural and intellectual life.

The other longlisted titles were **Philip Butters, An Unsentimental Bloke** (Wakefield Press); **Mark Dapin, The Nashos' War** (Penguin Books Australia); **David Horner, The Spy Catchers: The official History of ASIO 1949-1963** (Allen & Unwin); **Bruce Pascoe, Dark Emu: Black Seeds: Agriculture or Accident?** (Magabala Press); and **Don Watson, The Bush** (Penguin Books Australia).

The judges for the Book prize are Colin Steele, FAHA, Emeritus Fellow, Australian National University (Chair); Emeritus Professor Cindy Gallois FASSA, School of Psychology, The University of Queensland; Dr Tom Karmel, Former Managing Director, National Centre for Vocational Education Research; Professor Emerita Susan Magarey AM, FASSA, The University of Adelaide; and Professor Joseph Siracusa, Deputy Dean - Global & Language Studies, School of Global, Urban and Social Studies, RMIT University.

"We are delighted to announce the shortlist and acknowledge that it represents a remarkable array of talent and range of non-fiction writers here in Australia. The nominations received this year were of a very high standard and we would like to thank the judges for their dedication and time in arriving at a very strong shortlist," said CHASS Executive Director, Emeritus Professor Steven Schwartz AM, FASSA.

EVENT INFORMATION FOR YOUR DIARY/CALENDAR AND EVENTS PAGES:

What: 2015 CHASS Australia Prizes
Where: Level 10, Law Building, The University of Melbourne, 185 Pelham Street, Melbourne
When: 15 October 2015
Cost per person: CHASS Member: \$121, Non-Member: \$132, Student/Concession: \$108
Web: <http://www.chass.org.au/2015-national-forum/>

For more information or interviews, please contact Divya Das on 03 9925 3935 or membership@chass.org.au.

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Further information:

About the CHASS Australia Prizes: The CHASS Australia Prizes are awarded by CHASS at the annual CHASS National Forum. The Australia Prizes are designed to honour distinguished achievements by Australians working, studying or training in the HASS (Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences) areas, including academics, practitioners, philanthropists, policy makers and students. The Australia Prizes are intended to draw international attention to Australia's achievements in HASS. In 2015, four prizes are being given out. Two are cash prizes of \$3,500 each and are sponsored by Routledge: one for a book that enriches Australian cultural and intellectual life, the second for an exceptional artistic performance, exhibition, film, television show, play, composition or practical contribution to arts policy. The third prize, a cash prize of \$2,000 sponsored by Future Leaders, is for an individual under 35 years of age demonstrating leadership skill and potential in HASS. The Co-Op has sponsored the fourth prize. It is valued at \$500 and is for a student essay, exhibition, performance, project or thesis in a HASS area. 2015 marks the second edition of the Australia Prizes.

About CHASS: Established in 2004, the Council for the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (CHASS) promotes and provides advocacy services for the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences in Australia. It serves as a coordinating forum for teachers, researchers, professionals and practitioners in the sector. Supporting more than 85 member organisations in their relationships with policy makers and the broader community, CHASS is an important network for knowledge and skills. It provides a strong voice to the sector and helps members to contribute to public debate through programs for knowledge exchange and media awareness. For more information, please visit www.chass.org.au or call (03) 9925 3935.