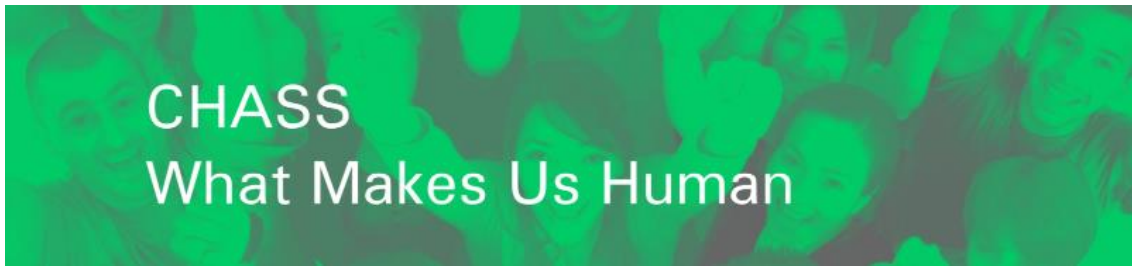


CHASS Newsletter August 2016

In this issue: 2016 CHASS Australia Prizes Dinner, new CHASS Book, Dr Jason Flanagan on why we can't let history become a thing of the past, ACHRC *Humanities in the Regions*, Renew your CHASS membership

[View this email in your browser](#)



---

**Save the date: 2016 CHASS Australia Prizes Dinner**

**2016 CHASS Australia Prizes Dinner  
20 October 2016 Melbourne**

*Join us as we honour distinguished achievements  
in the humanities, arts and social sciences in Australia.*

*Dinner speaker: Singer, writer, artistic director, and  
public advocate of the arts Robyn Archer AO CdOAL*

**Venue:**

*The Auditorium, Storey Hall, Building 16, RMIT University  
336 - 348 Swanston Street, Melbourne*

*Drinks hosted by Mr Martin Bean CBE,  
Vice-Chancellor, RMIT University from 6.15pm till 7pm*

*Please be seated for dinner by 7pm*

**Tickets (incl. GST):**

*\$121 | CHASS members*

*\$132 | general*

*\$108 | concession & student*



*Dress code: Business attire*

*Contact: Divya Das 03 9925 3935 or [membership@chass.org.au](mailto:membership@chass.org.au)*

*Limited seats only, tickets will not be available at the venue*



[Book Now](#)

## 2016 CHASS Australia Book Prize Longlist is here!

The announcement was made at the inaugural Canberra Writers Festival held at the Australian National University

The longlisted titles, from an entry field of 132 print and ebooks in the non-fiction category are:

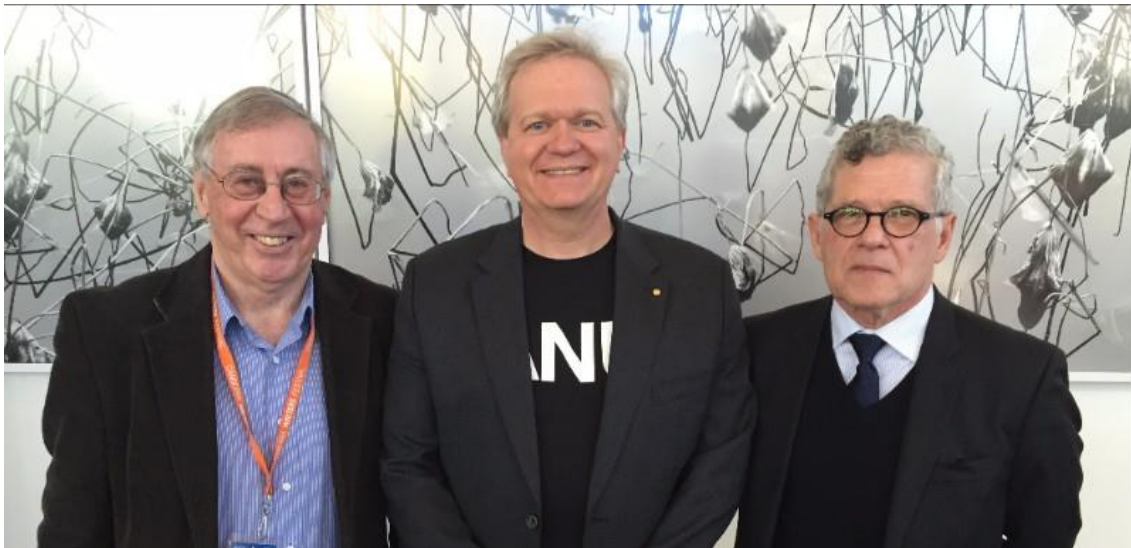
- The Story of Australia's People Volume 1: The Rise and Fall of Ancient Australia, by Geoffrey Blainey and published by Penguin Books
- The Eighties: The Decade That Transformed Australia, by Frank Bongiorno and published by Black Inc. Books
- Thea Astley: Inventing Her Own Weather, by Karen Lamb and published by University of Queensland Press
- Australia's Boldest Experiment War and Reconstruction in the 1940s, by Stuart Macintyre and published by NewSouth Books
- Illicit Love Interracial Sex & Marriage in the United States & Australia, by Ann McGrath and published by University of Nebraska Press
- Across the Seas Australia's Response to Refugees: A History, by Klaus Neumann and

published by Black Inc Books

- Mannix, by Brenda Niall and published by Text Publishing
- Sex, Soldiers and the South Pacific 1939-45: Queer Identities in Australia in the Second World War, by Yorick Smaal and published by Palgrave Macmillan

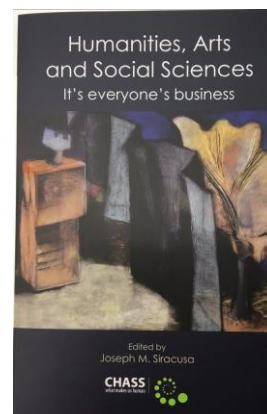
The shortlist will be announced in September. The winner of the 2016 CHASS Australia Prize for a Book will receive a cash prize of \$3,500 sponsored by Routledge, to be presented at the 2016 CHASS Australia Prizes Dinner on October 20 in Melbourne. The Prize will be awarded to the author whose book, in the opinion of the judges, contributes most to cultural and intellectual life in Australia.

The judges for the Book prize are Colin Steele FAHA, Emeritus Fellow, Australian National University (Chair); Ian Howie, Adjunct Professor, School of Global, Urban and Social Studies, RMIT University; Dr Katie Hughes, Associate Director - Learning, Teaching and Innovation, Monash College and President, The Australian Sociological Association; Dr Tom Karmel, Former Managing Director, National Centre for Vocational Education Research; and Professor Joseph Siracusa, School of Global, Urban and Social Studies, RMIT University and President, CHASS.



## **CHASS Book - Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences *It's everyone's business***

We are delighted to announce the launch of our new book, published by Routledge, with papers collated and edited by CHASS President Professor Joseph M. Siracusa. In producing this pocket book featuring a range of essays by prominent Australian and international researchers, CHASS's goal is to illustrate the diverse ways in which the humanities, arts and social sciences provide essential services to all citizens in all walks of life.



The book will be officially launched at the 2016 CHASS Australia Prizes Dinner on October 20 in Melbourne. The annual CHASS Australia Prizes aim to draw international attention to Australia's achievements in the humanities, arts and social sciences. We look forward to seeing you at this event. More information is available [here](#).

---

## **Clio and Mars in Iraq: History, memory, myth and the rhetoric of war**

**Here Dr Jason Flanagan provides a sneak peek into his essay in our book, which will be launched at the 2016 CHASS Australia Prizes Dinner**

Defending the value of undergraduate History degrees can be challenging in a higher education sector that seems increasingly focused on the creation of "job ready" graduates.

Amid growing pressures for industry engagement and work integrated learning, and the virtual necessity of student internships and placements, traditional History can at times feel downright antiquarian, in a pejorative sense. Historians rightly defend the relevance of their discipline in terms of its ability to equip students with generic vocational skills applicable to contemporary and imagined future workplaces. When compared to medicine or engineering, however, History can seem like an enjoyable distraction from the "real world" rather than a rigorous preparation for it. Yet, for all our current preoccupation with preparing students for the "real world," the reality of history's significance to that world seems curiously overlooked.

As I argue in my forthcoming chapter, the so-called War on Terror provided a stark and brutal reminder not only of vital importance of understanding the past in all its complexity, but also of the dangers of setting aside such complexity to luxuriate in more comforting and inspiring national myths. As we try to fathom the ramifications of the Brexit decision, and read repeated comparisons between Donald Trump's presidential campaign and the rise of Nazism and Fascism in Europe, the vital importance of understanding of history seems all the more obvious.

---

## **ACHRC Humanities in the Regions event 28-29 September 2016, The University of Wollongong**

The Australasian Consortium of Humanities Research Centres (ACHRC) *Humanities in the*

*Regions* co-convenors Jane Mummery and Robert Mason would like to invite you to this exciting Network event, co-hosted by the University of Wollongong, and supported by CHASS and the Regional Universities Network (RUN).

This two day event – developed out of discussions over the previous two years at Network and ACHRC meetings – is all about building and strengthening Humanities-oriented research capacity, connectivity and institutional knowledge across non-metropolitan institutions. It combines best-practice presentations and hands-on workshops on practical aspects of working on Humanities-projects and building collaborations and impact from within the regions. The focus is on collaboratively exploring key issues in our research practice, specifically:

- How do researchers in the Humanities build meaningful connections beyond their regional setting?
- How do we build partnerships to demonstrate and accentuate our impact within our regions?
- How do we develop strategies to maximise and communicate the benefits of our unique research environments when applying for grants?

During the two days, participants will interact with representatives from a range of peak body organisations, and learn and share strategies for building strong research connections across universities and cultural institutions at both local and international levels. Participants will hear keynote and panel addresses from leading Australian researchers, Research Centre Directors, and other stakeholders, before engaging in workshops on the same topics with peers. The workshops will give opportunities to discuss ideas with these experts and to reflect on how best practice can be applied at home institutions. The event will stimulate debate on future trajectories for research, build cross-institutional connections and research synergies, and enable strategies for funding success. For more information, [click here](#).

[Register Now](#)

---

## **It's time to renew your annual CHASS membership**

### **Membership has its advantages!**

As a CHASS member, your organisation is part of an essential network for communication and collaboration across the diverse disciplines and institutions operating in this sector. A unified voice for the humanities, arts and social sciences (HASS) sector and revitalised advocacy are of increased significance as we face new challenges and reform processes in the coming period, and we hope to have your continued participation in our work.

CHASS members have access to various services such as the daily media monitoring update, event listings on our website and newsletter, profiling opportunities in our newsletter, and social media support and promotion. This year, members will also be able to take advantage of discounted tickets to attend the 2016 CHASS Australia Prizes Dinner, which will take place in Melbourne on Thursday, 20 October.

Membership renewal letters and invoices would have reach you in July. If your organisation's staff or billing details have changed, please [contact](#) us. Membership subscriptions can be paid via EFT/cheque/credit card (Visa and MasterCard only, merchant fees apply).

## Why become a CHASS member?



Email



Website



Twitter



Facebook



YouTube

*Copyright © 2016 CHASS All rights reserved.*

**Our mailing address is:**

PO Box 12226, Franklin St Post Shop, A'Beckett Street, VIC 8006

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

MailChimp.