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**The History & Policy International Conference
2018**

**#HistoryPolicy**

**Tuesday 11 December 2018, 13.00-18.00**

**Great Hall, King’s Building, King’s College London**

**13.00**

**Welcome**

**Dr Andrew Blick (King’s College London and Director, History & Policy)**

**Keynote**

**Professor Simon Szreter (Cambridge and Managing Editor, History & Policy)**

The Responsibility of the Historian in an Age of imposed Austerity

**13.30**

**Citizens and Nations**

**[Joanna Cruickshank (Deakin University, Melbourne)](http://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/joanna-cruickshank%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)**

History, Law and Treaty-Making with Indigenous Peoples in Australia

**[Pawan Singh (Deakin University, Melbourne)](http://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/pawan-singh%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)**

Biometrics, identity and privacy in India

**[James Grossman (American Historical Association)](https://www.historians.org/x3510%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)**

History, Public Memory, Celebration, and/or Commemoration: US Confederate Monuments and Public Policy

**[Carolyn Holbrook (Australian Policy and History)](http://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/carolyn-holbrook%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)**

Failure to Attach: Australians and their Federation

**15.05**

**Break**

Tea and coffee served

**15.25**

**Health and Wellbeing**

**[Roberta Bivins (Warwick)](https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/history/chm/people/staff/robertabivins/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)**

Stop reinventing the Wheel: Prompting critical reflection on medical responses to migration

**[Sally Sheard (Liverpool)](https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/psychology-health-and-society/staff/sally-sheard/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)**

Learning from history: NHS plans

**[Jennifer Crane (Warwick)](https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/history/people/research_staff/jcrane%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)**

‘The NHS … should not be condemned to the history books’: The Place of Activism in History & Policy

**16.40**

**Moments of Crisis**

[**Klaus Neumann (Deakin University, Melbourne)**](http://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/klaus-neumann)

Forced migration, policy making, and the uses and abuses of history

**[David Lowe (Australian Policy and History)](http://www.deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/people/david-lowe%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)**

Trump tumult and the Australian-American alliance in historical perspective

**[Dane Kennedy (National History Center)](https://history.columbian.gwu.edu/dane-kennedy%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)**

Brexit and the legacies of empire

**17.55**

**Wrap-up and drinks**

*Tea and coffee will be served at the break and drinks will be served at the end of the day.*

*The nearest M and F toilets (both wheelchair accessible) are located just outside the Great Hall, near the external doors of the stone foyer. The nearest gender-neutral toilet is located on level Basement 2 of the Strand Building (two floors below the main Strand reception area where you came in).*

**Speakers and abstracts**

**Citizens and Nations**

**Joanna Cruickshank: History, Law and Treaty-Making with Indigenous Peoples in Australia**

In February 2016, the Victorian state government became the first Australian jurisdiction to announce its intention to work towards a treaty with Indigenous people. As of late 2018, the treaty process is well underway. In this paper I discuss an Australian Research Council-funded project that is providing context for treaty processes between Australian governments and Indigenous people, by researching the history of lawful relations in Australia since colonization. By making accessible this history through a diversity of outcomes, the project is informing policy and seeking to educate the broader community about the practical activities of conducting lawful relations in the present.

***Joanna Cruickshank*** is Senior Lecturer in History at Deakin University and a Chief Investigator on the ARC-funded project Indigenous Leaders: Lawful Relations from Encounter to Treaty. Recent publications include 'Colonial Contexts and Global Dissent' in The Oxford History of Dissenting Traditions (2017). Her book White Women, Aboriginal Missions and Australian Settler Governments will be published by Brill in 2019.

**Pawan Singh: Biometrics, identity and privacy in India**

In 2018, the Indian Supreme Court upheld the constitutional validity of mandatory Aadhaar, the Indian government's biometric programme that was launched in 2009 and challenged in the Supreme Court 2010 onwards. Civil society groups, lawyers and pro-privacy activists challenged Aadhaar's mandatory linkage to various state-sponsored benefit databases for the Aadhaar scheme's potential to bring about a surveillance state. This presentation provides an overview of the Indian data privacy debate in the context of Aadhaar and identifies some key policy issues. It also reflects on the place of privacy as a legal right, technological affordance and social and cultural practice in India.

***Pawan Singh*** is a media studies researcher and a New Generation Network Scholar in Contemporary Histories at Deakin University. His research concerns issues of privacy, social justice and mediation of identity in India within a transnational framework.

**Jim Grossmann: History, Public Memory, Celebration, and/or Commemoration: US Confederate Monuments and Public Policy**

Why does it matter whom we choose to memorialize in public spaces? Are military heroism and sacrifice inevitably tied to the purpose of that war?

***Jim Grossman*** is Executive Director of the American Historical Association.  He was previously Vice President for Research and Education at the Newberry Library, and has taught at University of Chicago and University of California, San Diego. The author of *Land of Hope: Chicago, Black Southerners, and the Great Migration* (1989) and *A Chance to Make Good: African-Americans, 1900-1929*(1997), Grossman was project director and coeditor of *The Encyclopedia of Chicago*(2005; online, 2006) and coeditor of the series "Historical Studies of Urban America" (50 vols, 1992-2015 ). His articles and short essays have focused on various aspects of American urban history, African American history, ethnicity, higher education, and the place of history in public culture.  Short pieces have appeared in the *New York Times, Los Angeles Times*, *Time*, *Chronicle of Higher Education,* and elsewhere.

*Land of Hope* received awards from the Gustavus Myers Center for Human Rights and the Illinois State Historical Society.  *A Chance to Make Good* won awards from the New York Public Library and the National Council for the Social Studies. Grossman was chosen in 2005 as one of seven "Chicagoans of the Year" by *Chicago Magazine*.

Grossman’s consulting experience includes history-related projects generated by the BBC, Smithsonian, and various theater companies, film makers, museums, and libraries. He serves on the boards of the National Humanities Alliance (Vice President), and American Council of Learned Societies.

**Carolyn Holbrook: Failure to Attach: Australians and their Federation**

The Australian federation was hailed as a beacon of democratic governance at the time of its establishment in 1901—a cutting-edge fusion of representative and federal ideals. The shimmer faded rapidly, however. Deficiencies such as service duplication and fiscal imbalance between an enriched Commonwealth and impecunious states, have proved stubbornly resistant to reform. Australians have rejected thirty-six of the forty-four proposed amendments to the Constitution since 1901. This paper examines the link between Australians’ resistance to reform of the federation and their lack of affection for it. It shows that the failure to attach can be traced to the very earliest years after Federation.

***Carolyn Holbrook*** is an Alfred Deakin Post-Doctoral Research Fellow in the Contemporary Histories Group at Deakin University and Director of Australian Policy and History. She published *Anzac: The Unauthorised Biography* about the history of how Australians have remembered the Great War in 2014 and is working on a policy decision-making history of Australia with James Walter from Monash University and a cultural history of Australian federalism.

**Health and Wellbeing**

**Roberta Bivins: 'Stop reinventing the Wheel: Prompting critical reflection on medical responses to migration'**

Today, migration is framed as a crisis, and often one of unprecedented scale, complexity and diversity. Yet from a historian's perspective, neither this language nor the phenomena described by it are novel. Globally, the second half of the twentieth century was characterised by mass movements of population. Moreover, medical practices and ideas about 'good' citizenship and 'good' behaviour have been integral to state management of both migrant populations and the ethnic communities that emerged as migrants became citizens and stakeholders.

In theory, then, national and international organisations should be able to mobilise fifty years of clinical and public health experience with migrant and ethnic populations. Yet this valuable resource is rarely tapped, or even recognised, by those newly charged with each successive 'crisis'. The outcomes -- positive or negative -- of previous interventions are lost to those who accidentally repeat them. I have found that historical case studies showcasing past experience as a resource for present decision-makers are valued as direct and translatable evidence by workers in the field.

***Roberta Bivins*** is a historian of medicine at the University of Warwick. Her first two books examined the cross-cultural transmission of medical expertise, particularly in relation to global and alternative medicine (*Acupuncture, Expertise and Cross-Cultural Medicine*, 2000 and *Alternative Medicine? A History*, 2007). Since 2004, funded by the Wellcome Trust, she has studied the impacts of immigration and ethnicity on post-war British health, medical research and practice. In 2015, she published findings from this work as a book, *Contagious Communities: Medicine, Migration and the NHS in Post War Britain*. With Mathew Thomson, she is now exploring the culture and effects of Britain’s National Health Service in the UK and internationally since 1948.

**Sally Sheard: Learning from history: NHS plans**

For the first 26 years, the NHS was left to run without major reform or reorganisation. Although planning emerged as a concern in the 1960s, linked to desires to increase effectiveness and efficiency, it wasn't until the 1980s, and the introduction of general management, that there was the political will or technical capacity to construct detailed, long-term plans. This paper considers the introduction of NHS plans as key political 'sticks' (rather than 'carrots') to improve performance, and discusses the impact of the increasing tension between planning and the service's ability to meet targets, such as waiting times and 'quality' of care.

***Sally Sheard*** is the Andrew Geddes and John Rankin Professor of Modern History at the University of Liverpool, with a primary research interest in the interface between expert advisers and policymakers. She currently leads a five-year Wellcome Trust funded project; *The Governance of Health: Medical, Economic and Managerial Expertise in Britain since 1948*. Her latest book is *The Passionate Economist: how Brian Abel-Smith shaped global health and social welfare* (Policy Press, 2013). She has also written on the history of hospitals, the finance of British medicine and the development of the NHS. Sally has extensive experience of using history in public and policy engagement and has worked with local health authorities and government organisations. She also has written for and presented television and radio programmes, including the 2018 BBC Radio 4 series *National Health Stories*.

**Jennifer Crane: ‘The NHS … should not be condemned to the history books’: The Place of Activism in History & Policy.**

In a public event in South Wales in June 2017, one participant stated that the NHS must not be ‘condemned to the history books’ alone. This critical comment raises a series of questions about the relationships between history, policy, and activism, and also about the roles of public history in celebrating, criticising, or condemning public institutions. Drawing on research and engagement work, this paper argues that, throughout the post-war period, activist work has prefigured, reshaped, and represented broader cultural shifts in attitudes to the NHS, particularly through media and, newly, social media networks. Given this, therefore, analysis of activism provides a key mechanism, for historians and policy-makers alike, to understand schisms in public opinion over time, and to analyse how voluntary organisations mediate between public and political thinking.

***Jennifer Crane*** is a Public Engagement Research Fellow at the University of Warwick, working on a Wellcome Trust-funded project, ‘The Cultural History of the NHS’. This involves substantial work with Museums, hospitals, campaign groups, and media, particularly around the recent 70th Anniversary of the NHS. She has broader research interests in health, activism, policy, and childhood. Her first book was published this year, entitled *Child Protection in England, 1960-2000: Expertise, Experience, and Emotion*.

**Moments of Crisis**

**Klaus Neumann: Forced migration, policy making, and the uses and abuses of history**

Drawing on examples from Germany and Australia, I reflect on the role of historicized and remembered pasts in the recent so-called refugee crisis. I am particularly interested in why and how the events of 2012-2013 (in Australia) and 2015-2016 (in Europe) were interpreted as an unprecedented crisis, and how particular readings and memories of the past facilitated or hampered responses to that “crisis”.

***Klaus Neumann*** works for the Hamburg Foundation for the Advancement of Research and Culture on a project about local public and policy responses to refugees in Germany. He is also an honorary professor at Deakin University (Melbourne) and an adjunct research fellow at the Hannah Arendt Institute (Dresden). He has written numerous articles and books (most recently, the award-winning *Across the Seas: Australia’s Response to Refugees*, 2015), and contributes regularly to *Inside Story* and other non-academic fora.

**David Lowe: Trump tumult and the Australian-American alliance in historical perspective**

The Trump phenomenon has caused many governments to think hard about the nature of their relationships with the United States. In the case of Australia, amidst the shock and confusion, it may even trigger the sort of questioning of the ANZUS Security Pact (1951) that historians have thus far been unable to stir. To date, ANZUS and the oft-recalled memory of 1 million American soldiers passing through Australia in the Second World War, have constituted mnemonic foundation stones for thinking about the intertwining of American and Australian security. But just as the numbers of US war veterans have rapidly dwindled, so too does ANZUS suddenly look fragile.

While it would be rash to say recent events have opened up a new space for historians in public conversation – such has been the continuing bipartisanship on the virtues of the American alliance – they have invited greater reflection. I suggest that historical perspective has much to offer at this time. Through analysis of Australian foreign policy-making and Australian-US relations at different times since the creation of ANZUS, I venture that, far from a stable ‘insurance policy’, the security pact has often shifted ground for Australian leaders. This has produced both anxiety and opportunity. The imprecision in the Australian-US security relationship has encouraged Prime Ministers to narrate its importance in ways that strengthened their leadership. The arrival of Trump might break an executive hold on the story, and enable a healthier sense of historical perspective that informs policy thinking about next steps in the relationship.

***David Lowe*** is Chair in Contemporary History at Deakin University and co-founder of the Australian Policy and History Network. He has published widely on Australia in world affairs and modern international history, including the recent book with Carola Lentz, *Remembering Independence* (Routledge, 2018) and the edited book *The Unfinished Atomic Bomb: Shadows and Reflections* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2018) with Cassandra Atherton and Alyson Miller. He is currently working on three projects: histories of Australian overseas diplomatic posts; a history of Australia’s foreign aid program; and an international history of the Colombo Plan for aid to South and Southeast Asia.

**Dane Kennedy: Brexit and the Legacies of Empire**

Although Britain lost its empire some fifty years ago, this talk will argue that the legacies of its imperial past have helped shape the debate surrounding Brexit and Britain’s future. I intend to (1) note the historical forces that brought an end to Britain’s empire and led to its belated and ambivalent entry into the European Union, (2) point out how postcolonial demographics and politics within British society gave rise to sharply divergent interpretations of the nation’s imperial past, and (3) make the case that these interpretations have shaped arguments about Britain’s future, particularly for Brexit’s most vocal advocates, whose repeated evocations of the imperial past have served as proxies for their vision of a ‘global Britain’.

***Dane Kennedy*** is Director of the National History Center of the American Historical Association and the Elmer Louis Kayser Professor of History and International Affairs at George Washington University. He is a historian of the British imperial world whose publications include *The Imperial History Wars: Debating the British Empire* (Bloomsbury, 2018), *Decolonization: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford UP, 2016), *The Last Blank Spaces: Exploring Africa and Australia* (Harvard UP, 2013), and *The Highly Civilized Man: Richard Burton and the Victorian World* (Harvard UP, 2005). As the NHC’s director, he oversees a congressional briefing program and other initiatives designed to bring historical perspectives to policy issues.