



HOW HISTORY SHAPES US: AUSTRALIA THEN AND NOW

An examination of how responses to major societal issues have changed and shaped us as a nation.

www.u3acanberra.org.au

OBJECTIVES

U3A is launching a series of quarterly “Topical Insights” where members will have the opportunity to hear first hand a range of Australia’s leading commentators and experts discuss and debate issues of relevance to Australian society. The Insights will build on the intersection of many members interests in the areas of current affairs, history and books

FORMAT

Topical Insights will typically have a broad range of speakers. Given the historical perspective of “How history shapes us: Australia Then and Now” speakers will be drawn from a number of Australia’s leading universities and the social science fields. Several of the presenters will be familiar to U3A audiences and time will be provided for questions and answers.

PROGRAM, 7 JUNE

9:00 - 9:30 Registration and welcome

9:30 - 11:00 Session one

Prof Kate Fullagar, Professor of History (ACU) – an historical perspective on early colonisation and the treatment of First Nations: some truth-telling background to the Uluru Statement.

Prof Iain McCalman, Emeritus Professor (ANU/Syd) - what lessons for meeting environmental challenges can we draw from the history of the Great Barrier Reef.

Prof Michelle Arrow, (Macquarie Uni) – the revolution in women’s affairs since the Whitlam period, with consideration of developments since that time.

Morning tea

11:30 - 12:30 Session two

Prof Frank Bongiorno, Professor of History (ANU) – the evolution of politics in Australia – do we have the politicians we deserve ?

Dr Alexandra Dellios, Senior Lecturer (ANU) – does the telling of the Australian “story” by our major cultural institution reflect our changing societal perspectives

12:30 - 13:00 Open discussion

13:00 - 14:00 Sandwich lunch



Melbourne laneway, James Garman

AT A GLANCE

DATE & VENUE

- Wednesday 7 June, 9am-2pm
- Yowani Golf Club Lyneham, ACT
- Or live stream via Zoom*

BOOKINGS

- Email forums@u3acanberra.org.au
- From 9am, Thursday 11 May**

COST

- Members \$60, or \$45 no lunch
- Non-members \$90***
- Zoom registration \$20 per session



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

U3A acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of this nation. We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which our events take place. We pay our respects to ancestors and Elders, past and present.



OUR SPEAKERS

MICHELLE ARROW

Michelle Arrow is an Australian historian, academic and author who is currently a Professor of History at Macquarie University in Sydney, Australia. She is best known for her work on Australia in the 1970s and is the editor of the recently released publication (2023) *Women and Whitlam: Revisiting the Revolution*.

FRANK BONGIORNO AM

Frank Bongiorno AM is an Australian historian, academic and author. He is a professor of history at the Australian National University, and was head of the university's history department from 2018 to 2020. Frank is the President of the Australian Historical Association. Author of several books examining different aspects of Australian society – most recently (2022) “*Dreamers and Schemers*” a social and cultural history of Australia's political life.

KATE FULLAGER

Professor Kate Fullagar is professor of history at the Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences, Australian Catholic University. Kate is also co-editor of the Australian Historical Association's journal, *History Australia*. Author of forthcoming book on ‘*Bennelong & Phillip: A History Unravelling*’.

ALEXANDRA DELLIOS

Alexandra Dellios is a historian and senior lecturer in the Centre for Heritage and Museum Studies at the Australian National University. Her research considers the public and oral history of migrant and refugee communities. Alex has published on public history practices, and cultural heritage management in Australia.

IAIN MCCALMAN AO

Professor Iain McCalman AO is an historian and former Research Professor at the University of Sydney. Iain's research interests include environmentalism and environmental history, the history of low and popular culture, the history of science and historiography. He was co-founder and co-director of the Sydney Environmental Institute from 2013 to 2018. Author of *The Reef – A Passionate History*, from Captain Cook to Climate Change.

* Zoom only available if demand warrants.

** No bookings accepted prior to this date.

*** One guest per member.