



Presents

Beyond the Big Smoke

New approaches to non-metropolitan history

La Trobe Art Institute
121 View Street, Bendigo

August 18-19, 2017

Please join us for an excursion into the rich and varied history of regional life. Turning our backs on the big cities, we consider how rural and urban communities in regional areas have important stories to tell about the environment, the economy, gender and urban culture. With contributions from scholars at La Trobe University, the Australian National University, Federation University, Monash University and Sheffield Hallam University (UK), we will present a range of fresh approaches to non-metropolitan histories.

FRIDAY:

2.30 POSTGRAD PANEL: The next wave of non-metropolitan thinking

4.00 POSTGRAD WORKSHOP

6.00 PUBLIC LECTURE: Dr Nicola Verdon (Sheffield Hallam University), “...treated in almost every particular like slaves”: the use and abuse of seasonal migrant workers in English agriculture, 1850 – 2017’

SATURDAY:

9.00 OPENING

9.30 PANEL ONE: Understanding the Environment

- Susan Lawrence (LTU), ‘Rivers of Gold: The Legacy of Historical Gold Mining for Victoria’s Rivers’
- Rebecca Jones (Monash/ANU), “Those disastrous rurals”: understanding adaptation to drought in Australia’

11.00 PANEL TWO: The Economics of Non-Metropolitan Life

- Lionel Frost (Monash), Luc Borrowman, Charles Fahey and Dmytro Ostapenko, ‘Railways and the prosperity of the Victorian Mallee before 1930’

- Keir Reeves (Fed Uni), ‘Rethinking regional rivalries and the rise of the instant regional Australian goldfields cities of the mid-nineteenth century’
- Charles Fahey (LTU), “A good time to farm”: Rural Victoria 1890 – 1921’

1.30 pm PANEL THREE: Gender Beyond the Metropole

- Katie Holmes (LTU), ‘Men, Machines and the Mallee: making masculinity in twentieth century rural Australia’
- Jennifer Jones (LTU), ‘Nostalgia: An auto-historical reflection on patrilineal farm succession by a fourth-generation Australian white settler woman’
- Ruth Ford (LTU), “I have turned sheaves on the stack”: women’s agricultural labour in interwar Australia’

3.30 pm PANEL FOUR: Urban Life, Mobilities and the Goldrush

- Sarah Hayes (LTU), ‘Paved with Gold? Archaeological Perspectives on Quality of Life in Gold Rush Bendigo’
- Ben Mountford (LTU), “Chief of the Chinese”: Fook Shing and Chinese policing in colonial Victoria’
- Nadia Rhook (LTU), ‘Chinese herbalists and the pains of settler colonialism: reading property and medical power in fin-de-siècle Bendigo, Victoria’

Free to attend but booking is essential as places are limited. To reserve your place, please email:

ths@latrobe.edu.au

