



MACQUARIE
University

CENTRE FOR MEDIA HISTORY

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT
2015

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Introduction

The Centre for Media History at Macquarie University is Australia's only centre dedicated to conducting and fostering research on the interactions between media and history. It works with industry to uncover and investigate the history of the rapidly changing media and communications landscape. Its members include leading film and other documentary makers who create innovative historical works and engage in practice-led research. The CMH hosts major events, from conferences to public lectures, along with intimate workshops and masterclasses. It provides world-class databases and other electronic resources designed to preserve and make available our media heritage, and works closely with equivalent centres throughout the world.

Highlights of 2015 included the Inaugural Brian Johns Lecture, supported by the Copyright Agency and presented by ABC managing director Mark Scott AO; 'The Archaeology of Film' screening and Q&A, which was so successful it was repeated in Canberra; and the 9th Australian Media Traditions Conference: Sightings and Soundings, co-convened with the National Film and Sound Archive. Two Members produced important first books: Dr Jeannine Baker and Dr Tom D.C. Roberts. Members also had considerable success with competitive grant funding and prizes, including the award for Best Australian Documentary Feature at the 2015 Antenna Documentary Film Festival being presented to Professor Kathryn Millard for *Shock Room*.

Events

January

The Centre co-hosted with the Whitlam Institute at the University of Western Sydney a public lecture by Centre Associate Member Dr Liz Giuffre entitled 'Happy birthday Triple J! 40 years of big music and big impact' on 19 January 2015:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g6TmW8bTr0w>

It has since been refereed and published as an occasional Whitlam paper, 'Gough Whitlam, Double J and the Youth Radio Revolution'.

February

The Centre hosted a masterclass and seminar on 'Sojourner cinema and the time-space relationship', designed for early career researchers and HDR candidates, with Associate Professor Jane Mills of the University of NSW on 18 February 2015.

Professor Griffen-Foley launched the [Australian Literary Journalism Database](#), compiled by Dr Willa McDonald, on 18 February:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YBWlJkFK34M>

June

The Centre co-sponsored, with the University of Sydney, a seminar by Professor Willard ('Wick') D. Rowland, Dean Emeritus and Professor Emeritus of the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Colorado and president of Colorado Public Television, on 5 June. Professor Rowland spoke in the 'Media at Sydney' series about 'Public Media and Net Neutrality in the US: Enduring Challenges to Public-Service Models in Private Enterprise Policy Regimes'.

August

The Centre hosted a screening of the film *Lousy Little Sixpence* (1983), by Associate Member Dr Alec Morgan, followed by a Q&A moderated by another Associate Member, Dr Murray, on 14 August. 'The Archaeology of Film' was repeated at the National Film and Sound Archive in Canberra on 2 December, the eve of the 9th Australian Media Traditions Conference.

September

The Centre co-sponsored a Public and Popular Histories of Anzac symposium at the State Library of New South Wales on 8 September as part of History Week.

With the generous support of the Copyright Agency, on 15 September the Centre hosted the Inaugural Brian Johns Lecture, presented by Mark Scott AO, managing director of the ABC, on 'The Future of the Australian Story'.

The lecture was recorded by Sky News recorded by A-PAC and is available at:

<https://youtu.be/GCB35E5DPVM>



November

The Centre sponsored an 'in conversation' between Dr Tom D.C. Roberts, an Associate Member of the Centre and its administrative officer, and Dr Peter Cochrane on 'Keith Murdoch: Beyond Gallipoli'. The event at the State Library of New South Wales on 11 November served as the main launch for Dr Roberts' book *Before Rupert: Keith Murdoch and the Birth of a Dynasty*.

December

The Centre co-hosted with the National Film and Sound Archive the [9th Australian Media Traditions Conference: Soundings and Sightings](#). It was held at the NFSA in Canberra on 3-4 December.

Past and present AMT convenors: Tom O'Regan, Peter Putnis, Virginia Maden, Jock Given, Sybil Nolan, Bridget Griffen-Foley, Jeannine Baker, Margaret Van Heekeren and Trish Payne.



Visitors

Associate Professor Crawford from UTS spent part of his sabbatical with the Centre from 17 August to 30 October.

Professor David Hendy (University of Sussex) and Dr Hans-Ulrich Wagner (University of Hamburg) visited the Centre in November, in advance of presenting keynote addresses at the AMT Conference.

Undergraduate and postgraduate students

The Centre employed three third-year students in MMCCS as PACE (Participation and Community Engagement) interns in 2015. In semester 1, Anna Holling concentrated on preliminary arrangements for the 9th Australian Media Traditions Conference and promoting the Centre, including through Twitter; in Semester 2, Benjamin French concentrated on promoting the Inaugural Brian Johns Lecture, and the AMT Conference; and Ekta Jihm worked on the Centre's databases.

Chelsea Barnett submitted her PhD thesis, 'Masculinity in Australian Film, 1949-1962', in the Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations.

Michael Thurlow completed his Masters of Research with a thesis entitled 'Station Break: A History of Regional Commercial Television Ownership and Control', supervised by Professor Bridget Griffen-Foley.

James Yi Guo and Siobhan Lyons, both undertaking PhDs in the Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies, joined the Centre in 2015. There are now eight HDR candidates who are Associate Members of the Centre.

An application has been received for the domestic PhD scholarship attached to Dr Virginia Madsen's ARC Discovery project. PhD scholarships attached to Professor Griffen-Foley's ARC Future Fellowship project (one [domestic](#), one [joint](#) with the University of St Andrews in Scotland) remain available.

Major productions and publications

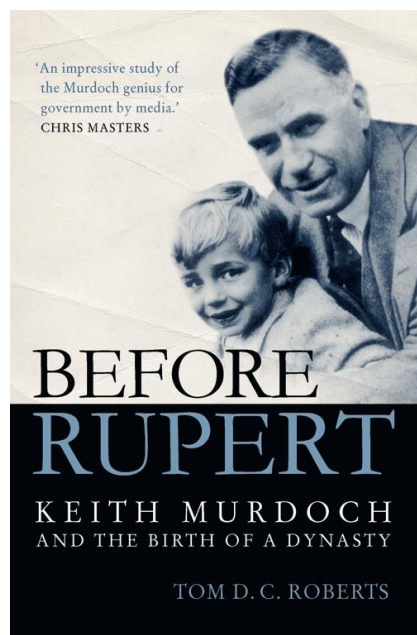
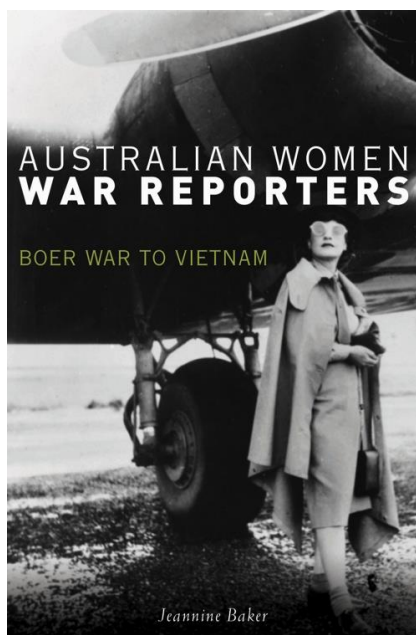
Productions made by Centre members in 2015 included:

- Jeannine Baker's [Holding a Tiger by the Tail: Jessie Litchfield](#), ABC Radio National's *Earshot*
- Willa McDonald's [The Vagabond: Digging the Dirt on Melbourne](#), ABC Radio National's *Earshot*
- Kathryn Millard's documentary film, [Shock Room](#)



Books published by Centre members in 2015 included:

- Jeannine Baker, [*Australian Women War Reporters: Boer War to Vietnam*](#) (NewSouth Publishing)
- Harvey Broadbent, [*Defending Gallipoli: The Turkish Story*](#) (Melbourne University Press)
- Craig Munro, [*Under Cover: Adventures in the Art of Editing*](#) (Scribe)
- Tom D.C. Roberts, [*Before Rupert: Keith Murdoch and the Birth of a Dynasty*](#) (UQP)



Competitive grants, fellowships and awards

- Dr Tom Murray was awarded \$120,000 from Screen Australia under its Documentary Production – Producer Program for his documentary *Singing the Country*.
- Professor Kathryn Millard was awarded Best Australian Documentary Feature at the 2015 Antenna Documentary Film Festival for *Shock Room*.
- Associate Professor Michelle Arrow was awarded a National Library of Australia Fellowship.
- The Copyright Agency awarded the Centre \$5000 to host the Inaugural Brian Johns Lecture in September 2015.
- Dr Tanya Evans was awarded a Library Council of NSW Honorary Fellowship.
- Dr Justine Lloyd was awarded a Museum of Applied Arts & Sciences Visiting Fellowship.
- Dr Jeannine Baker and Dr Justine Lloyd were awarded \$6025 under the Faculty of Arts Visiting Scholar scheme to host a visit by Dr Kate Murphy in February 2016.
- Dr Jeannine Baker and Dr Justine Lloyd were awarded \$3200 under the Faculty of Arts Research Workshop scheme to host a workshop on gender, media and labour in February 2016.
- Dr Willa McDonald was awarded ‘Article of the Year’ by the International Association of Literary Journalism Studies Awards Committee for her article ‘A Vagabond: The Literary Journalism of John Stanley James’, published in *Literary Journalism Studies*, Vol. 6, No. 1, Spring 2014.

External engagement

The Centre is a member of the International Association for Media and History, the Consortium for Humanities Centers and Institutes, and the Australian Consortium of Humanities Research Centres (ACHRC). Professor Bridget Griffen-Foley is a member of the Advisory Board of the ACHRC.

Centre members sit on a range of boards and committees, including the boards of the Public Interest Journalism Foundation and Sydney Educational Broadcasting; and the advisory boards of the Screenwriting Research Network, and the Research Unit in Media Studies at Monash University. Dr Tanya Evans is the Vice-President of the History Council of NSW; Dr Shirleene Robinson is chair of Sydney's Pride History Group; and Professor Griffen-Foley is a selector for the National Media Hall of Fame. Centre members also sit on the editorial advisory boards of *Communication Research and Practice*, *Media International Australia*, *Media History*, the *Historical Journal of Film, Radio and Television*, the *Journal of Screenwriting*, *The Radio Journal: International Studies in Broadcast and Audio Media*, *RadioDoc Review* and the *Global Media Journal* (Australian edition).

International engagement

The Centre finalised an Internationalisation Plan in early 2015.

Highlights of 2015 included:

- The Centre's participation in a tripartite agreement between Macquarie, the University of Fudan, and the University of Hamburg (and its Research Centre for the History of Broadcasting in Northern Germany), 2015-18.
- Visit of Professor Wick Rowland (University of Colorado), June.
- Visits of Professor David Hendy (University of Sussex) and Dr Hans-Ulrich Wagner (University of Hamburg), November-December.
- Professor Griffen-Foley joined the Academic Board of the Press History Workshop, Panteion University, Athens.

Promotion

Individual members of the Centre have continued to provide expert commentary to the media, and their research projects and activities have received considerable media coverage. A list of '[media mentions](#)' of Centre members appears on the Centre's website.

New brochures, for the CMH and its databases, were produced in 2015 to incorporate Macquarie University's new logo.

Databases

<https://mediaarchivesproject.mq.edu.au>

The Media Archives Project database lists archives pertaining to the Australian media, including newspapers and magazines, broadcasting and advertising. The MAP database focuses on private and lesser-known archives, held by companies, peak bodies, community

groups and individuals. Database users can check access conditions for each archive listed and contact archive holders to make arrangements to see material that interests them.

Through MAP, the Centre also identifies collections at risk of disposal by individuals and organisations no longer able to keep them for lack of space or other reasons, and liaises with established collecting institutions to help find secure homes for these collections.

<http://www.amhd.info/>

The Australian Media History database is a portal for all aspects of research into the history of the media in Australia. It aims to alert researchers—from industry, academe and the wider community—to current work being undertaken in the field, and to direct them to relevant resources across Australia.

The AMHD has two components: (1) A database of researchers currently working on projects about the history of Australian newspapers, magazines, radio, television, film, advertising, music and games; and (2) Listings of relevant research resources, including libraries, archives, online resources, indexes, professional associations, courses and events.

The AMHD also provides a digital home for the Australian Newspaper History Group: <http://www.amhd.info/anhg/index.php>

<https://huni.net.au/#/search>

The MAP and AMH databases are part of Humanities Networked Infrastructure (HuNI): Unlocking and Uniting Australia's Cultural Data, and can be searched using this widget.

<http://www.auslitjourn.info/>

The Australian Literary Journalism Database was compiled by Dr Willa McDonald and launched in February 2015. It has been set up as part of a larger project that is working towards defining Australian literary journalism and tracing its history from the time of modern settlement to today.

Australian Media History listserv

<https://groups.google.com/a/mq.edu.au/group/amhlist/about>

The Australian Media History listserv was established in 2007. It is hosted at Macquarie University, with Professor Griffen-Foley as moderator. There are now 181 subscribers to the listserv.

Website

http://www.mq.edu.au/research/centres_and_groups/cmh/

The website includes information about members, news, events, media mentions, courses and resources.

Working in liaison with the Faculty of Arts IT department throughout the year, the Centre used the opportunity provided by the implementation of Macquarie University's new Shared Identity brand and the transfer to a new server system to improve the appearance and functionality of its website. Changes include: a new introductory blurb; new upcoming 'Events' and latest 'News' announcements on the homepage that are updated regularly; new photographs; and expanded 'Publications and Productions' and 'Courses and Resources' pages. Further improvements, including a multi-media welcome message, are planned.

YouTube

The Centre has its own YouTube channel, featuring recordings from Centre events and members: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjC8_R7zfN8ore8bHZir5Qw

Twitter

The CMH launched a Twitter account, @CMediaHistory, in May. It now has 168 followers.

Administrative assistance

Dr Tom D.C. Roberts, who returned to the UK following the completion of his PhD, remains the Centre's valued administrative officer. During 2015, superb additional assistance was provided by Dr Elisa deCourcy.

Professor Bridget Griffen-Foley FAHA Director

14 December 2015

cmh@mq.edu.au
[@CMediaHistory](https://twitter.com/CMediaHistory)

Appendix

Advisory Board

The Advisory Board gives to the Centre for Media History's Management Committee, Director and Deputy Director advice, counsel, opinion, strategies, information and guidelines on matters relevant to opportunities for research into, and the study of, media history.

The members are:

- Angelos Frangopoulos (Chair), CEO, Sky News Australia
- Dr Jeannine Baker, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- Dr Jane Connors, Head, Industry Policy and Strategy, ABC Radio
- Professor Jock Given, Swinburne University of Technology
- Emeritus Professor Murray Goot, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Professor Bridget Griffen-Foley, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- Michael Loebenstein, CEO, National Film and Sound Archive
- Dr Virginia Madsen, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- Professor Martina Möllering, Executive Dean, Faculty of Arts

Meetings were held on 8 May and 6 November 2015.

Members

Full Members

- Professor Bridget Griffen-Foley (Director), Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- Emeritus Professor Murray Goot (Deputy Director), Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Dr Jeannine Baker, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- Dr Tanya Evans, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Dr Justine Lloyd, Department of Sociology
- Dr Virginia Madsen, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- Dr Willa McDonald, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies *

* new Full Member

Members (continued)

Associate Members

- Associate Professor Michelle Arrow, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Chelsea Barnett, PhD candidate, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Dr Margie Borschke, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- Harvey Broadbent, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Associate Professor Peter Doyle, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- Siobhan Lyons, PhD candidate, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies*
- Dr Kyle Harvey, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Adjunct Professor Bruce Johnson, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- Dr Anthony Lambert, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- Paul Macdonald, PhD candidate, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- Mark Maley, PhD candidate, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- Alex Mesker, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- Professor Kathryn Millard, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- Dr Alec Morgan, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies*
- Dr Craig Munro, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- Dr Tom Murray, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- Gaynor Nichols, PhD candidate, Department of Sociology
- Mike Nugent, PhD candidate, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies*
- Dr Karen Pearlman, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies*
- Professor John Potts, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- Dr Tom D.C. Roberts, Centre for Media History
- Dr Shirleene Robinson, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Associate Professor Hsu-Ming Teo, Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations
- Distinguished Professor David Throsby, AO, Department of Economics
- Dr Margaret Van Heekeren, Charles Sturt University
- Dr Can Yalcinkaya, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies
- James Yi Guo, PhD candidate, Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies*
- Dr Jan Zwar, Department of Economics

* new Associate Member

Management Committee

The members are:

- Dr Virginia Madsen (Chair)
- Dr Jeannine Baker
- Dr Tanya Evans
- Emeritus Professor Murray Goot
- Professor Bridget Griffen-Foley
- Dr Justine Lloyd
- Dr Willa McDonald*
- Dr Margaret Van Heekeren (representing Associate Members)

* new Management Committee Member

Meetings were held on 18 February, 5 June and 9 October 2015.

Honorary Associates

Honorary Associates provide opportunities for linkages and exchanges with more established media history centres internationally, and are available for advice about current international research, conferences and funding opportunities.

In 2015, the following joined as Honorary Associates:

- Dr Maree Delofski, Macquarie University
- Dr Gioula Koutsopanagou, Panteion University, Athens
- Dr Liz Giuffre, University of Technology Sydney
- Professor Kate Lacey, University of Sussex
- Dr Kate Murphy, Bournemouth University

A full list of the Centre's Honorary Associates is at:

<http://www.mq.edu.au/research/research-centres,-groups-and-facilities/resilient-societies/centres/centre-for-media-history/people>