



## National Centre of Biography News

October 2024

In this edition of the newsletter we flag lots of upcoming events in the world of biography. Got biographical news to share? Send us an email at [ncb@anu.edu.au](mailto:ncb@anu.edu.au).



### Exhibiting the ADB

In September the NCB collaborated with the School of Culture, History & Language to produce an exhibition for the [Immersia](#) festival.

Titled *Asia-Pacific Lives*, it showcased several individuals from the *Australian Dictionary of Biography* with Asian and/or Pacific heritage. These subjects included a Japanese migrant and internee, a Tongan historian, a Rabaul-born Chinese photographer, two members of Papua New Guinea's Legislative Council, and two Chinese-Australian businesswomen and matriarchs.

Immersia has now come to a close, but if you missed it, never fear! The exhibition is now on display at the Menzies Library. Drop by and take a look!



Asia-Pacific Lives exhibition panel displaying map produced by CartoGIS.

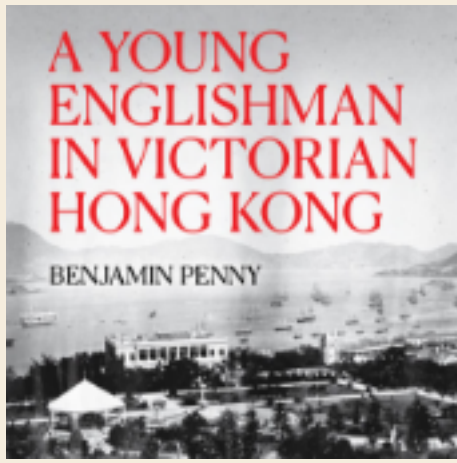
### News & notices



#### Vote in the Nib People's Choice Prize

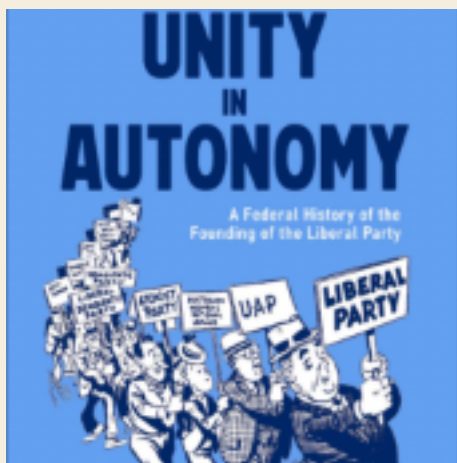
Dr Shauna Bostock, author of *Reaching Through Time: Finding my family's stories*, is one of six finalists for the Mark & Evette Moran Nib Literary Award. The winner will be announced on 27 November.

In addition, voting is open until 17 October for the Nib People's Choice Prize. To support Shauna, cast your vote [here](#).



#### Biography workshop

The NCB's next Biography Workshop (31 October) will be delivered by Associate Professor Benjamin Penny from the Australian Centre on China in the World. The session will focus on his book about Chaloner Alabaster. More info [here](#).



#### Book launch

On 6 November the Robert Menzies Institute is hosting a book launch for *Unity in Autonomy: A Federal History of the Founding of the Liberal Party*. The NCB's Dr Stephen Wilks is a contributor to the volume, as is School of History PhD candidate Gary Humphries. More details [here](#).



#### Another book launch

On 7 November Paperchain Bookstore will host the launch of *'My own sort of heaven': A life of Rosalie Gascoigne*, by Dr Nicola Francis. Niki will be in conversation with Prof. Melanie Nolan and Hester Gascoigne. More info and RSVP details [here](#).



#### Panel talk at CMAG

PhD candidate Matt Cunneen has been busy presenting at events hosted by the Society of Australian Genealogists and Griffith University. His next talk will be on 20 November at Canberra Museum and Gallery, where he will contribute to a panel on 'Representing Convict History in Museums'. Booking info [here](#).



### Follow the NCB

To keep up with what's happening at the NCB, follow us on our social media channels: [Instagram](#), [X/Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)!

### For your reading list



#### Aboriginal History journal article

Dr Sam Furphy has recently published an article in *Aboriginal History* about Queen Elizabeth II's 1954 visit to Shepparton and its place in Yorta Yorta storytelling. Read the full open-access article [here](#).



#### New Biography Series book

Congratulations to Dr Nicola Francis whose book *'My own sort of heaven': A life of Rosalie Gascoigne* has recently been published. This is the latest addition to ANU Press' Biography Series. Download a copy [here](#).

### ADB feature entry

Each month we highlight a new addition to the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*.

Connie Bush was born to a Garrwa mother and forcibly taken from her family as a child. Surviving poor conditions at the Emerald River mission, she subsequently lived a rich life that saw her become a teacher, a wife and mother, a cook, an activist, and a welfare worker.

Read more about her in the entry authored by Dr Laura Rademaker [here](#).



Connie Bush 1981, Library & Archives NT

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