PROFESSIONAL HISTORIANS ASSOCIATION (WA) INC
REGISTER OF CONSULTANTS

PHA WA

Admission Criteria

Membership of a Professional Historians Association in Australia requires accreditation under a National Standard. Criteria are in the National Standard for the Accreditation of Professional Historians in Australia. More details can be found on the national website https://www.historians.org.au/.

There are four recognised membership categories:

- Professional Historian
- Professional Historian (Associate)
- Graduate Historian
- Professional Historian (Retired)

In WA we also have Historical Researchers, but this category is no longer offered to new members.

Fees

Fees for commissions differ according to the individual's qualifications, expertise and the length of the project being undertaken as indicated in the Scale of Fees which can be found on the national website. The availability of all members is likely to be subject to work in progress.

Standards

Whilst each PHA (WA) member must adhere to the PHA Code of Ethics and Professional Standardsfor Professional Historians in Australia, the Association cannot guarantee that a member will be suitable for a specific project or task. The Association publishes this list in good faith, and with due care, but it reminds those who use it that the PHA (WA) members named below are independent professionals and should be treated as such.

The Register

Details of PHA (WA) members currently available for employment follow.
Information key:

Name (in alphabetical order within each membership category)
Business name
Qualifications
T: Telephone
M: Mobile
E: Email
A: Address postal
W: Website
Detailed profile

All consultants will provide a Curriculum Vitae and quotation on request.

This Register was last updated 20 November 2026

PROFESSIONAL HISTORIANS

Dr Bruce Baskerville

BA (Hons), PhD, Dip FHS
M: 0451 199 124
E: mrbbaskerville@gmail.com

I am a country-based independent Public Historian, with over 25 years' experience in public and private practice in WA, NSW and Norfolk Island. I am a casual UWA research academic, involved with several local historical and heritage societies. Research areas include local history, place names, co-operatives, fishing, queer, convict, secession, heraldry, Crown and viceroyalty, plaque programs, thematic histories, comparative studies and statements of significance. Some recent history publications include *Let Our Co-operative Spirit Stand* (2019), *Could Not Even Be Named: Sodomites Transported to Western Australia between 1851 and 1863* (2020), and *Themes for Westralian Histories - Reading the Loved Land* (2021). I have authored over 30 CMPs for heritage items. See InContact for details: https://incontact.dplh.wa.gov.au/. I am available for commissions in the Metropolitan, Batavia Coastand Midlands regions.

Kristy Bizzaca

BA (Hons), MA Public History
M: 0417 090 476
E: kristybizzaca@bigpond.com

Has worked as a heritage consultant and professional historian since 1998. Has qualifications in English, history and public history specialising in the research of the post-European settlement andthe built environment of Western Australia. Extensive experience in the preparation of heritage assessments, conservation plans, thematic histories and municipal inventories; the development ofmuseum and interpretation projects; and undertaking significance assessments of archives and heritage collections. Availability part-time.

Robin Chinnery

Robin Chinnery, Historian
BA, Dip Ed, Grad Dip Reading Ed, MA
T: 08 9386 5178
E: rchinnery@starwon.com.au

Qualifications in history, public history, and education. Extensive experience researching Western Australian history of places and people for heritage, conservation, interpretation and social histories. Available for long- or short-term projects.

Dr Cathie Clement OAM

National Heritage
BA (Hons), PhD
T: 08 9272 3308
E: dna@kimberleyhistory.com.au

Specialises in data about people, places, and land tenure in Australia's north-west. Has extensive database and library holdings relevant to the locality and has undertaken research at repositories throughout Australia. Familiar with heritage issues (Aboriginal and European), native title, editing and publishing. Has worked in multi-disciplinary teams and with community groups. Current availability limited.

Melissa Davis

BA SocSci (Hons), GradDip App Heritage Studies, M.ICOMOS
M: 0410 625 595
E: Melissa@DavisHeritage.com.au

Melissa is an experienced researcher, historian and cultural heritage professional with over 16 years of experience in the industry. Melissa has worked across both Aboriginal and built heritage fields, specialising in researching Western Australian history for the purpose of informing conservation practices, heritage assessments, place documentation and interpretation.
Her historical research has encompassed a range of topics, including the challenges faced by Macedonian migrants arriving in Western Australia during the inter-war period, her role as a primary research officer for the 'Stolen Wages Report' at the former Department of Indigenous Affairs, and the experiences of Boer women during the South African War. Her publications include: “Discrimination Within and Without the ‘Pipeline’: Women Comrades and the Communist Party of Australia 1930s-1960s”, featured in Papers in Labour History No. 29.
With strong stakeholder engagement, as well as exceptional research and analytical skills, Melissa approaches each project through storytelling and a deep understanding of the values and significance of Place.
Available for long or short-term projects.

Cathy Day

Heritage TODAY
BA, Dip Ed MA
M: 0419 958 932
E: cathy.day@hotmail.com
A: PO Box 635, MT LAWLEY 6929

Cathy has completed heritage projects within 45 different Local Government areas across the state. Starting with the compilation and review of Municipal Inventories, specialisation has led to Museum Collection Significance Assessment. All collections can be analysed through the lens of a carefully developed, consistent process which will meet both LotteryWest and National Library of Australia requirements.

Sian Ferraz

MA(Hons) Architectural History and History, Grad.Cert Architectural Conservation, M.ICOMOS
M: 043 223 7511
E: sian@darstudio.com.au

Sian is an expert Historian and Heritage Professional with over 15 years’ experience working within the industry in Western Australia. She has worked across a broad variety of roles including heritage assessments and registrations, stakeholder consultation and engagement, media and communications, policy, education, and advocacy. Sian specialises in the research of heritage places, writing histories and preparing conservation documentation, and has worked on a range of places across metropolitan and regional WA.

Prue Griffin

BA, Grad Dip Public History, MA App Heritage Studies
M: 0424 469 906
E: prue.griffin@gmail.com

Extensive experience as a researcher and historian in post European settlement in Western Australia. Specialist area of expertise is heritage and conservation with considerable experience inthe preparation of heritage assessments, conservation management plans and municipal heritage inventories in metropolitan Perth and regional WA. Able to work with large multi-disciplinary teams or solo projects. Application of research skills for the preparation of content for interpretive displaysis also undertaken. Available for long- or short-term projects.

Lucy Hair

BA (Hons), Grad Dip Public History
M: 0438 864 442
E: lucy@radiam.com.au

Has worked in history and heritage since 1994. Experienced in researching histories of WA placesfor heritage assessments. Extensive experience managing public history projects. In addition to operating a registered History and Heritage Consultancy has worked for State Government, Local Government and a University. Available for short- or long-term projects.

Dr Luke Lecras

BA (Hons), PhD
M: 0400 400 079
E: lecras.luke@gmail.com

Historian, researcher, and writer. Has taught and published as an academic historian on subjects including 20th century Europe and the United Kingdom, international history and contemporary politics. Currently working as a writer and researcher for a marketing and public relations company,with recent projects including a corporate history of Toyota in Western Australia. Trained and accredited as an oral historian.

Helen Munt

BA, Grad Dip Public History, Assoc Dip Performing Arts (Media)
M: 0417 955 623
E: helenmunt@iinet.net.au

Experienced historian, heritage, interpretation, and collections consultant, specialising in post- colonial Australian history, working in a number of metropolitan and regional areas around the State and on the east coast. In addition to project work, Helen has been engaged on substantive contractsfor local and state government agencies including Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage, Rottnest Island Authority and Metropolitan Redevelopment Authority as well as private enterprise.Helen also has experience in the museums/collection management, archives, and oral history sectors. She has written and produced award winning interpretive/site-specific theatrical and immersive experiences relating to historic events, places, and people and to activate historic spacesand buildings. Available for short- or long-term contracts.

Dr Ramesh Somasunderam

BA, Grad. Dip (Applied Heritage Studies) MA (History), PhD
M: 0403 500 552
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A: 254 Vahland Avenue, WILLETTON WA 6155

I am an original researcher and an expert in regard to the Indian Ocean and its strategic significance, British colonial history in South Asia and migration history and heritage in Western Australia from South Asia. Publications include ‘Strategic Significance of Sri Lanka’, Stamford Lake (PVT) LTD, 2005; ‘The Future of the Indian Ocean – The building of the Kra Canal’; ‘British Infiltration of Ceylon (Sri Lanka) in the nineteenth century: A study of the John D’ Oyly Papers between the periods of 1805 to 1818’; ‘Sri Lankans in Western Australia’ in *A Changing People: Diverse Contributions to the State of Western Australia,* Department of Premier and Cabinet Office of Multicultural Interests, 2004; and ‘Sri Lankan Tamils in Western Australia: Problems and Issues Pertaining to Integration in a New Society’ Thesis, Curtin University, 2000.

PROFESSIONAL HISTORIANS (ASSOCIATE)

W P (Bill) Reynolds

Cricket Researchers
T: 08 9330 2166
E: billcricket@bigpond.com.au

Member of Australian Society of Sports Historians. Member of Association of Cricket Statisticians and Historians. Specialises in cricket history and player records. This covers club histories, WA cricket grounds and players etc. from Test cricket level to club to Country Week to Darlot Cup (localprivate schools). Regular contributor to national and international cricket publications. Has over 30years' experience and authored *100 Not Out - a History of Country Week Cricket in WA and Makingthe Grade – the history WACA District cricket*. Availability part-time.

Jacqui Sherriff

BA Grad Dip App.Her Studs Cert Museum Studs
M: 0400 050 115
E: jacquisherriff.heritage@gmail.com

Historian, researcher, curator, and heritage manager with over twenty years' experience working with various community groups, organisations and state and local government. Qualifications in history, philosophy, heritage management and museum studies. Extensive experience in oral, social and institutional histories, heritage and significance assessments, conservation planning and delivery, thematic histories and municipal inventories, interpretation and community engagement planning and delivery, and place and collection management.

GRADUATE HISTORIANS

Stuart Everett

BA (Hons)
M: 0438 607 674
E: stuart@everett.email

I am an early career researcher with experience in oral, archival, biographical, legal, social and local histories, as well as the preparation of Heritage Impact Statements and Conservation Management Plans. I have an especially strong interest in the local histories of Western Australia and other states, especially in terms of Aboriginal history, settlement, violence and labour dynamics. I also have experience in collections management and curation. My research interests include the histories of labour dynamics across the British empire, the intersections of sport and ideology, and the diasporic histories of war, trade and the complex histories of communities moving across the former British empire.

Alyssa Gilchrist

BA (Hons)
M: 0401 763 732
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W: quac.com.au

An experienced historian and archaeologist who has been working in heritage consulting in Australia for over 14 years, since 2008 Alyssa has been part of a business partnership, operating the consultancy Qu.A.C. Archaeology and Heritage. In 2017 Alyssa co-founded and became Director of Alliance Archaeology Pty Ltd, a partner firm of heritage professionals who work together on large-scale historical archaeological projects Australia-wide. Alyssa has formal qualifications in Australian history and archaeology and extensive experience in historical research and writing, aswell as in conducting heritage assessments. Alyssa has previously undertaken a wide variety of historical and archaeological work for a variety of clients including state and local government, industry (mining and construction), professional (architects and other heritage consultancies) and non-profit organisations (such as historical societies). Available for long- or short-term projects.

Carmel Given

BA Cultural Heritage, Grad Dip Library Studies
M: 0400 930 597
E: carmel.j.given@gmail.com

Carmel is a cultural heritage professional and highly skilled historian and writer, with more than twenty years' experience in producing content about Western Australia's history. Carmel is also a qualified librarian with expert skills in archival and digital research. Her strong contextual knowledge supports a wide range of work in both Historic Heritage and Aboriginal Heritage fields. She has worked in private consultancies, State government, and remote Aboriginal communities. Her project portfolio includes collaboration with Traditional Owners and knowledge holders, and professional colleagues in the disciplines of architecture, planning, urban design, landscaping, and archaeology to deliver holistic solutions for all aspects of WA history and heritage. Carmel is a strong advocate for reconciliation and truth telling.

Malcolm Traill

The History Trail
BA, MA, Grad Dip Library Studies
T: 08 9845 1556
M: 0437 410 041
E: malcolm@thehistorytrail.com.au
A: PO Box 5716, ALBANY 6332

Specialist in Albany and the Great Southern region of WA. Experienced in library research as a former Battye Librarian/Historian and Albany Local Studies Librarian. Projects include conservationplans and heritage impact statements (in conjunction with heritage architects, H+H Architects) for Denmark District Hospital, Vancouver Arts Centre, Scots Church Albany, and White Star Hotel.
Worked on interpretation plans with designers for the Albany Welcome Walls, Brig Amity, Albany Golf Club, Albany Waterfront Project, and Kalgan Crossing site. Also has museum exhibition experience, Indigenous project skills, municipal heritage inventories, and oral history capability.

HISTORICAL RESEARCHERS

Judith Murray

Judith Murray Cultural Heritage + History
BA Cultural Heritage (Hons), BA History & Museum Studies
M: 0400 073 114
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Experienced in the research of local history and the built environment. Specialising in the researchof people, places and buildings to provide documentary evidence for conservation management strategies, conservation management plans and assessments, heritage reports, heritage impact statements and significance assessments. Particular interests include the Arts and Crafts period and early vernacular structures. Working as a heritage consultant/ historian for over twenty years and specialising in the southwest area. Supporting Australia ICOMOS through institutional membership.