

HCV E-news - 21 April 2020

HCV Executive Officer <info@historycouncilvic.org.au>

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To: HCV Executive Officer <info@historycouncilvic.org.au>



Dear colleague --

We hope that all our Friends and supporters are well and safe.

In this E-news we are pleased to share the following items:

HCV news

- We are hiring!
- Introducing our new Chair, Peter McPhee

News from elsewhere

- *Returning our Ancestors* - Watch now!
- Enter the Victorian Community History Awards
- Advice for collections in buildings closed by COVID-19

HCV news

We are hiring!

Our Executive Officer (0.2 FTE) is planning to retire during the second half of 2020. We are therefore recruiting someone to succeed her.

Initially, and for a period that will conclude with the retirement of the current employee, the new appointee will job-share with the current Executive Officer (also 0.2 FTE). During that period, the new appointee will focus on our long-standing *History Roadshow* program and will receive hand-over guidance about other duties from the current Executive Officer.

We're looking for someone with:

Knowledge and understanding of the history profession

Interest and skill in promoting the value of history

Administrative experience and organisational skills (with a good eye for detail)

Excellent interpersonal, communication and written skills

General competence with audio/visual media and specific experience with online conferencing platforms

Please visit https://www.historycouncilvic.org.au/we_are_hiring for the Position Description, including information on how to apply.

Applications close by email at 5 pm on Monday 4 May 2020.

Interviews will be held via Zoom during the morning of Friday 8 May 2020.

Introducing our new Chair, Peter McPhee

In our last E-news, we mentioned briefly the appointment of a new Chair for the HCV. We are extremely grateful for the leadership provided by Emeritus Professor Graeme Davison in recent months and delighted that he plans to stay on the Board for a while longer. We are also very pleased that Emeritus Professor Peter McPhee has accepted appointment as the next Chair. Via [a new page on our website](#), Graeme introduces Peter to you, while Peter pays tribute to Graeme and offers insights into the HCV's future.

News from elsewhere

Returning our Ancestors - Watch now!

This documentary, launched via YouTube in March by the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council, is a call to action to support Traditional Owners in the repatriation of their Ancestors. In the film, Uncle Jim Berg asks the broad Victorian community to help Aboriginal People in this process:

"You may know somebody who has bones, skeletons, under the bed or in the sheds. We need them so we can find peace and we can have closure."

This film explores the responsibilities of Victorian Traditional Owners to their Country, Culture and Ancestors. It looks at the reasons why Ancestors were stolen from Country, the need for them to be returned and the ways in which they can be protected on Country.

For Council, Traditional Owners and all Victorians, *Returning our Ancestors* is a landmark film in promoting awareness, engendering respect and calling for action to return and protect Ancestors.

Watch: [Returning our Ancestors](#)

Enter the Victorian Community History Awards

Have you recently completed a history project, book, exhibition, oral history or article? Entries are now open for the 2020 Victorian Community History Awards presented by PROV in partnership with the Royal Historical Society of Victoria.

Award categories include the Victorian Premier's History Award, History Publication Award, Digital Storytelling Award, Community Diversity Award and Oral History Award presented in collaboration with Oral History Victoria, among others. Prizes range from \$500 to \$5000.

Click [here](#) to learn more. Entries close 8 July 2020.

Advice for collections in buildings closed by COVID-19

Many collecting organisations have closed to the public because of COVID-19, and most (if not all) personnel are working from home. The collection stores face extended closure and there are new risks to consider when people aren't around on a regular basis. *Closed by COVID-19* is a Practice Guide for managers of heritage collections that are closed at short notice because of an epidemic or pandemic. First published on 27 March 2020 on two Australian websites, [Australian Institute for Conservation of Cultural Material](#) and [Blue Shield Australia](#), it is now also available in Dutch, translated by [FARO \(the Flemish interface centre for cultural heritage\)](#).

Please share this information with your friends and networks.

Kind regards,

History Council of Victoria Inc
ABN 29 687 468 421
Association Registration No. A0045117K

Email: info@historycouncilvic.org.au

Twitter: @History_Vic

Mobile: 0418 814 957 (Margaret Birtley AM, Executive Officer)

Website: www.historycouncilvic.org.au

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