



ACT Region Heritage Symposium
EVERYDAY HERITAGE:
*conviviality, creativity,
 care.*

SATURDAY
15 AUGUST 2026
9.30am to 4.00pm

*National Film & Sound Archive
 1 McCoy Court
 Acton Canberra*

CONVENED BY HERITAGE PARTNERS



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Morning sessions

8.45–9.15 am *Venue Open & Registration*

9.30 am *Introductory Session*

Professor Tracy Ireland
Welcome MC

Delephene Fraser
Welcome to Country

Linda Roberts, President National Trust
ACT Conveners welcome

Chris Steel MLA, ACT Minister for Heritage
Minister's Opening Address

10.00 am *Session One: Intergenerational Knowledge Exchange*

Dr Kate Bagnall
Family History for a Multicultural Australia

Dr Alexandra Dellios
*Grandparenting Care, Migrant Intergenerational Knowledge Exchange
and Family Heritage*

Angus Jones
*Co Creating Everyday Heritage through Participant Led Documentary:
A Lifetime to Learn*

Prof Darius von Güttner-Sporzyński
Community, and the Making of Catholic Heritage in Canberra
Q&A

11.20–11.50 am *Morning Tea*

11.50 am *Session Two: Consuming Heritage*

Dr Madeline Shanahan
*An Ode to Everyday Food Ritual; or The Story of How My Grandmother 'Invented'
Toasted Sandwiches*

Dr Anna Wong
Katsup and dark cake: recipes, empire and everyday heritage at Mugga Mugga cottage

Dr Bryan Levina Viray
Salo salo (eating together): Communal dining as cultural infrastructure in the ACT

Dr Bethaney Turner & Dr Naomi Zouwer
Soil Seeds Stories: Food growing as heritage practice in the ACT
Q&A

Afternoon sessions

1.15—2.00 pm *Lunch*

2.00 pm ***Third session: Caring for the Everyday***

Ashley van den Heuvel
Everyday Heritage in the Family Archive

Dr Caitlin Allen
Everyday heritage, communities and duty of care – does heritage governance support what matters most?

Dr Anna Howe
Signing the shops as places of everyday heritage

Hannah Neville
Place Archive: Capturing everyday heritage to shape locally resonant places

Rachel Freebody & Noah Watson
Digital heritage interfaces in everyday moments

Q&A

3.35 pm Professor Tracy Ireland
MC reflections and wrap up

4.00 pm ***Networking Drinks and nibbles***

Keynote Speakers

Dr Kate Bagnall

Kate is a social historian whose research explores the intersections of migration, family and the law in Australia's past. With a particular interest in Chinese Australian history, Kate works closely with community and family historians to enrich and broaden public understandings of migrant history and heritage. She is Senior Lecturer in History at the University of Tasmania.

Dr Madeline Shanahan

Madeline is the Director of Underground Heritage and an expert member of the ACT Heritage Council. With more than two decades of experience in heritage, she is the author of a range of publications on food and identity, including the recently released *Archaeologies of Food in Australia* (Sydney University Press). Her research focuses on food, recipe books, domestic life and ritual.

Ashley van den Heuvel

Ashley is a Lecturer for the Culture and Heritage Major in the Bachelor of Arts at the University of Canberra. Ashley's research focuses on visual culture, technology, and heritage interpretation, informed by her cross-cultural experiences and care for the past. She is from the South Coast of New South Wales (Walbunja/Thaua).

Dr Caitlin Allen

Caitlin has three decades of experience as a heritage practitioner and archaeology and is now a Senior Lecturer in Heritage at the Sydney School of Architecture, Design and Planning – The University of Sydney. She is a member of the Research Centre for Flourishing Cities and her research interests focus on heritage and wellbeing, and communities and heritage governance. She is currently the President of Australia ICOMOS and a Member of the Sydney Opera House Conservation Council.

Dr Alexandra Dellios

Alex is a historian and senior lecturer in the Centre for Heritage and Museum Studies at the Australian National University. Her research considers the public and oral history of migrant and refugee communities, their experiences of settlement, and working and family life. She has published on: child migration, popular representations of multiculturalism, immigration centres and hostels, the intersections of migrant, industrial and labour heritage, public history practices, and cultural heritage management.

Rachel Freebody

Rachel is a Digital Archiving Cadet at the National Archives of Australia. She is currently completing post graduate coursework in Digital Archiving and holds a degree from the University of Canberra in Culture and Heritage Studies. Rachel has a range of industry experience across other institutes such as the National Museum of Australia, the National Gallery of Australia and the University of Canberra. Through these experiences she has developed skills in physical and digital preservation, visitor experience and records management.

Professor Darius von Güttner-Sporzyński

Professor Darius von Güttner-Sporzyński is Campus Dean of the Canberra Campus at Australian Catholic University. A historian and Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, he researches religion, memory, identity and political culture, with a particular interest in the ways communities create, sustain and interpret heritage. He is also Academic Director of ACU Rome.

Dr Anna Howe

Anna majored in Geography in her BA (Hons) at Sydney University before coming to Canberra in 1974 when, as an urban geographer, she joined the Department of Urban and Regional Development. Moving to Melbourne in 1976, she completed her PhD at Monash University, then spent some 40 years in aged care research and policy development. On her return to Canberra, Anna revived her interest in the unique urban character of the national capital which she pursues as an active member of the National Trust ACT, the Australian Garden History Society and the Friends of the Australian National Botanic Gardens. Living in Hackett, she has come to know the mid-century modern character of this and other 1970s suburbs and differences between suburbs established in earlier and later eras of Canberra's growth.

Angus Jones

Angus is a First-Class Honours graduate from the University of Canberra, where he completed a Bachelor of Arts in Film Production before undertaking an Honours year that combined his passion for storytelling with cultural heritage. Born in Hobart and now based in Canberra, Angus developed an early appreciation for history through his father, an archaeologist whose ethical, collaborative work with Aboriginal communities inspired his own approach to research. Alongside the guidance of his university educators, these experiences shaped his commitment to cultural preservation, participant-led storytelling and respectful community engagement.

Angus recently commenced a Graduate Certificate in Archaeology at Flinders University and hopes to continue his research and higher education in cultural heritage, archaeology and ethical storytelling, with the goal of building a career working alongside communities to preserve cultural knowledge through collaborative research, documentary and heritage practice.

Hannah Neville

Hannah is an urban planner, engagement practitioner, founder of Place Archive and an artist. Her unconventional career has spanned many jurisdictions and bridges planning, placemaking, community engagement, digital entrepreneurship and the visual arts. In recent years, Hannah has come to focus on the discord between her industry and the communities built-environment projects serve. She advocates for places that are grounded in their heritage, responsive to their context, culturally resonant, inherently local and strengthened by lived experience and community insight.

Dr Bethaney Turner

Bethaney is a researcher whose work explores the relationships between people, place, and the environment, with a particular focus on community heritage and environmental change. For more than a decade, she has worked with local governments, cultural institutions, schools and community organisations to understand how communities value, experience and care for places. Using participatory and ethnographic approaches, Bethaney's research examines cultural landscapes, food systems and everyday practices that contribute to community wellbeing and resilience. Her work demonstrates how community knowledge and action can contribute to addressing environmental and social challenges, while informing more inclusive approaches to heritage, sustainability and climate adaptation. She is currently an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Arts and Design at the University of Canberra.

Dr Bryan Levina Viray

Bryan is a heritage researcher-practitioner and performance studies scholar whose work bridges critical heritage, theatre, and dance anthropology. He recently completed a PhD in Humanities and the Arts, specialising in Critical Heritage Studies, at the Australian National University. He holds the CHOREOMUNDUS International Master of Arts in Dance Knowledge, Practice, and Heritage and has undertaken advanced graduate training in anthropology and completed a BA (Theatre Arts), Cum Laude, at the University of the Philippines Diliman, where he served as an Assistant Professor. His essays have been published in international journals. He currently works as a Research Officer and Casual Sessional Academic at ANU.

Noah Watson

Noah is a graduate of architecture and a sessional tutor at the University of Canberra focusing on digital design skills in architecture. Through his studies and into his professional industry and academic life, Noah has developed a passion for the urban environment, digital fabrication & technologies as well as the relationship that these two themes have with cultural processes.

Dr Anna Wong

Anna is the Director, ACT Galleries, Museums & Heritage and leads the management, conservation and interpretation of Canberra's significant cultural collections and heritage places, including Canberra Museum and Gallery, Lanyon Homestead, Mugga Mugga Cottage and Calthorpes House.

Anna is passionate about connecting people with the stories, places and objects that shape community identity. Her work focuses on preserving and interpreting the Canberra region's diverse heritage while fostering opportunities for public engagement, learning and inclusion. She has a particular interest in how everyday experiences, traditions and material culture contribute to collective memory and understanding of the past.

Dr Naomi Zouwer

Naomi is an artist, researcher and arts educator with over two decade's experience making cultural collections accessible through community co-design and participatory, arts-based public programs. She has developed and delivered curriculum-aligned learning programs and community engagement initiatives for the National Museum of Australia, National Gallery of Australia, National Portrait Gallery, Australian Parliament House, National Arboretum and National Library of Australia, working directly with curators, educators and communities to translate collections and exhibitions into co-designed workshops, children's trails and activity resources for schools, families and adult audiences. Naomi is currently a lecturer in teacher education (creative arts specialists) at the University of Canberra.

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