Creating White Australia

Edited by Jane Carey and Claire McLisky
Contents

Contributors........................................................................................................... v
Introduction
Creating White Australia: new perspectives on race, whiteness
and history ........................................................................................................ix
Jane Carey & Claire McLisky

Part 1: Global framings: Australian whiteness
in an international context ........................................................................... 1

1 White, British, and European: historicising identity
   in settler societies .................................................................................. 3
   Ann Curthoys
2 Reworking the tailings: new gold histories and the cultural
   landscape .................................................................................................. 25
   Benjamin Mountford & Keir Reeves
3 Trans/national history and disciplinary amnesia: historicising
   White Australia at two fins de siècles .................................................. 44
   Leigh Boucher

Part 2: Whiteness on Indigenous missions
and reserves .................................................................................................... 65

4 Colouring (in) virtue? Evangelicalism, work and whiteness on
   Maloga Mission ......................................................................................... 67
   Claire McLisky
5 ‘A most lowering thing for a lady’: aspiring to respectable
   whiteness on Ramahyuck Mission, 1885–1900 .................................... 85
   Joanna Cruickshank
6 Calculating colour: whiteness, anthropological research and the Cummeragunja Aboriginal Reserve, May and June 1938 ................................................................. 103
   *Fiona Davis*

Part 3: Writing and performing race: creation and disavowal .................................................. 121

7 Theatre or corroboree, what’s in a name? Framing Indigenous Australian 19th-century commercial performance practices .................................................. 123
   *Maryrose Casey*

8 The Wild White Man: ‘an event under description’ ............... 140
   *Maggie Scott*

9 Perpetuating White Australia: Aboriginal self-representation, white editing and preferred stereotypes .................................................. 156
   *Jennifer Jones*

Part 4: Gender and whiteness .................................................................................. 173

10 A word of evidence: shared tales about infanticide and others-not-us in colonial Victoria ................................................................. 175
   *Marguerita Stephens*

11 White anxieties and the articulation of race: the women’s movement and the making of White Australia, 1910s–1930s ................................................................. 195
   *Jane Carey*

12 Whiteness, maternal feminism and the working mother, 1900–1960 .............................................................................................. 214
   *Shurlee Swain, Patricia Grimshaw & Ellen Warne*
Contributors

Leigh Boucher is a lecturer in the Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations at Macquarie University, Sydney. He is the co-editor (with Katherine Ellinghaus and Jane Carey) of *Re-orienting whiteness* (Palgrave, 2009) and is currently researching the relationship between historical writing, settler colonialism and political rights in the 19th-century British world.

Jane Carey holds a Monash Fellowship at Monash University where her current research explores the politics of population in British settler colonies. She is the co-editor (with Katherine Ellinghaus and Leigh Boucher) of *Re-orienting whiteness* (Palgrave, 2009) and has published articles in *Gender and History* and the *Women’s History Review*.


Joanna Cruickshank is a lecturer in history at Deakin University. She has published on 18th- and 19th-century religious history in Britain and Australia. Forthcoming publications include an article on the friendships of British Methodist women in the *Journal of Eighteenth-Century Studies*, a co-authored chapter (with Patricia Grimshaw) on Moravian missionaries in far north Queensland and a book on the 18th-century hymn writer Charles Wesley, to be published by Scarecrow Press in late 2009.

Fiona Davis is a postgraduate student in the School of Historical Studies at the University of Melbourne. Her PhD thesis topic is ‘Black, white and shades of grey: the story of cultural exchange on Cummeragunja, 1900–1950’.

Patricia Grimshaw is a Professorial Fellow in the School of Historical Studies at the University of Melbourne, where for several decades she taught Australian and American history and contributed to the Gender Studies Program. She has written extensively on women’s history, and engaged with the history of settler colonialism and whiteness studies. With Shurlee Swain and Ellen Warne, she is currently completing a book, ‘Balancing acts: working mothers in twentieth-century Australia’.

Jennifer Jones holds an ARC Post Doctoral Fellowship at the Australian Centre, School of Historical Studies at the University of Melbourne. Her project examines rural women’s cross-racial collaboration in the Country Women’s Association of NSW during the assimilation era. Jennifer’s first book, *Black writers and white editors: episodes of collaboration and compromise in Australian publishing history*, was published by Australian Scholarly Publishing in 2009.

Claire McLisky is a white Australian woman descended from colonial-era Scottish and English settlers. She grew up on Bundjalung land in northern New South Wales. In early 2009 Claire was awarded her PhD in Australian history, from the University of Melbourne, with a thesis exploring faith, power and subjectivity in the lives of Protestant
missionaries Daniel and Janet Matthews. She has recently set off for two years travelling, living, and working overseas.

Benjamin Mountford is a Rae and Edith Bennett Travelling Scholar, reading for a DPhil in Imperial History at Exeter College, Oxford. His doctoral research examines the importance of 19th-century perceptions of China in shaping an Anglo-Australian understanding of the British Empire.

Keir Reeves is a Monash Research Fellow co-housed in the Tourism Research Unit and the National Centre for Australian Studies at Monash University. Keir is the exhibition reviews editor for History Australia, and an editorial board member of Sporting Traditions, and the Heritage Council of Victoria. He is a contributing co-editor of Places of pain and shame: dealing with difficult heritage (Routledge, 2009) and Deeper leads: new approaches in Victorian goldfields history (Ballarat Heritage Services, 2007).

During her studies at the University of Melbourne, Maggie Scott was inspired by lecturers such as Tracey Banivanua-Mar and Jane Carey to pursue research into historical and contemporary Indigenous resistance to colonialism, critical race theory and alternative narratives of history. In 2008 Maggie completed a thesis encompassing some of these interests in the story of William Buckley. She currently tutors ‘Writing Angles’ and ‘Popular Culture and the Moving Image’ at RMIT and is adapting her thesis into a screenplay.

Shurlee Swain is a professor at Australian Catholic University and a Senior Fellow in the School of Historical Studies at the University of Melbourne. She has written extensively on the history of women, children and welfare, and is currently completing a book with Patricia Grimshaw and Ellen Warne, ‘Balancing acts: working mothers in twentieth-century Australia’.
Marguerita Stephens was a working gardener before returning to study history at the University of Melbourne. Her PhD on race relations in colonial Victoria, with a close focus on the Coranderrk Aboriginal Station, was awarded the Dennis-Wettenhall Prize for Research in Australian History, 2004. She holds a Research Fellowship in the School of Historical Studies, University of Melbourne and is a participant in the Manuscript Sponsorship Program at the University’s Writing Centre for Scholars and Academics.

Ellen Warne is a lecturer in history at Australian Catholic University where she teaches in a range of Australian and international history units. She has written on Christian women’s use of maternal activism to achieve political aims in 19th- and early 20th-century Australia, and is currently completing a book with Shurlee Swain and Patricia Grimshaw, ‘Balancing acts: working mothers in twentieth-century Australia.’