Contributors

Thomas Ashby is a British Academy–nominated Japan Society for the Promotion of Science postdoctoral fellow at the University of Tokyo. He works primarily on intellectual history and the early modern world, particularly the history of English republicanism in global context. Connected to this, he also undertakes research on the English encounter with Japan in the Sengoku and Edo periods. Prior to moving to Japan, he completed a PhD at the European University Institute in Florence, Italy, on 'The Temporal Republic of Algernon Sidney', which he is now revising into a book. His recent publications include interventions on English republican ideas, the history of liberty and the philosophy of love, as well as a co-edited dual-language volume, *Le Républicanisme d'Algernon Sidney* (Classiques Garnier, 2025). He has a profound interest in historiography and the intellectual history of the history of political thought. Alongside his research, he serves as an editor of *Global Intellectual History*, an advisory board member of the *History of European Ideas* and a co-organiser of the Association for Global Political Thought.

Jaume Aurell is professor of medieval history at the University of Navarra (Spain). He combines topics from his field of expertise, such as medieval historiography and royal self-coronation rituals, with approaches to modern historiography. His publications include *Historians' Autobiography as Historiographical Inquiry* (Cambridge University Press, 2025); *30 Great Books That Made History: A Global Canon* (Polity, 2025); *What Is a Classic in History: The Making of a Historical Canon* (Cambridge University Press, 2024); *Medieval Self-Coronations* (Cambridge University Press, 2020); *Theoretical Perspectives on Historians' Autobiographies* (Routledge, 2016); *Authoring the Past: History, Autobiography, and Politics in Medieval Catalonia* (University of Chicago Press, 2012).

Alison Bashford is scientia professor of history at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, and director of the Laureate Centre for History & Population. Previously Vere Harmsworth Professor of Imperial and Naval History at the University of Cambridge, she is a fellow of the British Academy and honorary fellow of Jesus College, Cambridge. Her most recent books are *Decoding the Hand: A History of Science, Medicine and Magic* (Chicago, 2025) and *Gondwanaland: Modern Histories of an Ancient Supercontinent* (Pittsburgh, 2026, co-edited with Pratik Chakrabarti and Jarrod Hore). In 2026 and 2027, she is a fellow of Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin.

Matthew Birchall is a postdoctoral research fellow at the Laureate Centre for History & Population at the University of New South Wales. He works on the economic and intellectual history of colonisation in Australia and New Zealand, with a particular focus on chartered companies. He received his PhD from the University of Cambridge in 2022.

Ian Britain is a historian, biographer, cultural commentator and editor. He has held posts as research fellow or lecturer at The Australian National University, the National Library of Australia, Oxford University, Melbourne and Monash universities, and is a former editor of *Meanjin*. His books include *Fabianism and Culture* (1982), *Once an Australian: Journeys with Barry Humphries, Clive James, Germaine Greer and Robert Hughes* (1997), and *The Making of Donald Friend: Life & Art* (2023). He has contributed articles and reviews on history, biography, fiction, painting, film, theatre and opera to various publications, including the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, *Australian Historical Studies*, *Australian Book Review* and the *Times Literary Supplement*.

Emma Carson completed her PhD at the University of Adelaide in 2024. It examined more than 1,000 letters that were exchanged between 22 Australian military personnel and their romantic partners during World War II to see how long-term separation influenced their relationships, gender performance and emotional expression. More broadly, Carson is interested in Australian social history, the history of emotions and gender history. She has produced chapters in books by the international publishers Routledge and Bloomsbury, and has written articles for the *Conversation* and the Australian War Memorial's magazine *Wartime*.

Emile Chabal is professor of contemporary history at the University of Edinburgh. He has a particular interest in the political and intellectual history of postwar Europe, on which he has published widely. His most recent book is a major intellectual biography of the Marxist historian Eric Hobsbawm, entitled *The Age of Hobsbawm: The Life of a Revolutionary Historian* (Harvard University Press, 2026).

Matthew Cunneen is a PhD candidate at the National Centre of Biography, The Australian National University. His thesis examines former convict departures from the Australian penal colonies to overseas destinations between 1788 and 1901. Using mixed biographical and historical-demographic methods, his research explores the role of time in settler formation and the colonisation of Australia. He has previously published on fragmentary evidence, obscure lives, historical reconstruction and the methodological challenges of recovering the lives of groups in Australian colonial history.

Derek Drinkwater, formerly a long-serving officer of the Department of the Senate, holds a PhD (political science and international relations) from The Australian National University. His publications include *Sir Harold Nicolson and International Relations: The Practitioner as Theorist* (Oxford University Press, 2005) and *The Biographical Dictionary of the Australian Senate*, *Vol. 1: 1901–1929* (Melbourne

University Press, 2000) (assistant editor). He is a contributor to the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, and '*Order, Order!' A Biographical Dictionary of Speakers, Deputy Speakers and Clerks of the Australian House of Representatives*. Derek has also published in the fields of parliamentary history and biography. In 1989–90, he served as a researcher for the first volume of the *Official History of Australia's Involvement in Southeast Asian Conflicts 1948–1975* (*Crises & Commitments,* 1992)

Karen Fox is a senior academic research editor for the *Australian Dictionary of Biography* at the National Centre of Biography, School of History, The Australian National University. Karen specialises in Australian and New Zealand history, focusing on the nature of historical reputations; the history of fame and celebrity; women's, gender and feminist histories; imperial and colonial history; and biography and life writing. She is the author *of Māori and Aboriginal Women in the Public Eye: Representing Difference, 1950–2000* (2011) and *Honouring a Nation: A History of Australia's Honours System* (2022).

Morag Fraser is an Australian journalist and arts commentator, a former editor of *Eureka Street* magazine, and an adjunct professor of social sciences and communications at La Trobe University. She was a judge of the 2007 National Biography Award, the Miles Franklin Award (2005–11), and the Mildura Writers' Festival Philip Hodgins Award (2009–11). She has been chair of the Melbourne Writers' Festival, *Australian Book Review* and Australia's oldest artists' colony, Montsalvat. She is currently writing a biography of the poet Peter Porter.

Lydia Allison Fucsko is a researcher, environmental activist, amphibian conservationist and internationally published wildlife photographer. She holds a PhD from Swinburne University of Technology and was mentored by the eminent herpetologist Michael J. Tyler. With multiple qualifications from Australia's leading universities, her academic expertise encompasses environmental education, psychology, counselling and vocational training. Lydia has authored numerous scientific and interdisciplinary publications and is recognised for her contributions to conservation science and education. In tribute to her impact, *Tantilla lydia* and *Tantilla carolina* were named in honour of both her and her mother, Karolina Fucsko, née Laszló, a Hungarian freedom fighter.

Kate Fullagar is a professor of history at the Australian Catholic University, president of the Australian Historical Association and fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities. She is the author of *The Savage Visit: New World Peoples and Popular Imperial Culture* (University of California Press, 2012) and *The Warrior, the Voyager, and the Artist: Three Lives in an Age of Empire* (Yale University Press, 2020). Her most recent book is *Bennelong & Phillip: A History Unravelled* (Simon & Schuster, 2023). She is now working on a biography of an unknown woman spy master from the eighteenth century.

Emily Gallagher is a historian at The Australian National University. She began her career as a teacher in Sydney before deciding to pursue her passion for history and writing in Canberra. Her first book, *Playtime: A History of Australian Childhood* (La Trobe, 2025), won the Australian Historical Association's W.K. Hancock Prize and was shortlisted for the Prime Minister's Literary Awards and ACT Literary Awards in 2026. Emily is also a research editor for the *Australian Dictionary of Biography* and a research fellow on an ARC-funded project writing the first history of grandparenting in Australia.

Adrian Jones is a former associate professor of European history at La Trobe University, where for many years he was a colleague of John Hirst. An expert in Russian, Turkish, French and Balkan histories, he was appointed OAM in 2008 for 'service to history education as a lecturer and author'.

Matthew Jordan is head of the Historical Publications Section in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and general editor of *Documents on Australian Foreign Policy* (*DAFP*). He has published mostly in the area of Australian foreign policy history, focusing on the role that ideas of race and nation have played in shaping Australia's attitudes to the world. This includes a number of articles and book chapters on the origins and nature of the White Australia policy and a documentary study of *Australia and the Rhodesian Problem, 1961–1972* (UNSW Press, 2017). More recently, he has published *DAFP* volumes on *Australia and the Suez Crisis, 1950–1957* (with Robert Bowker) and *Australia and Nauru* (with Stephen Henningham and Colin Milner). He is currently finalising two *DAFP* volumes on the liberalisation and abolition of the White Australia policy from the 1940s to the 1970s.

Skye Krichauff is an ethno-historian who combines the methodologies of history, anthropology and oral history. She is interested in colonial cross-cultural relations, the relationship between history and memory, and how societies live with historical injustices (in particular, how Australians live with the enduring legacies of colonialism). She has worked as a history researcher for Aboriginal community organisations and as an expert historian for South Australian Native Title Services, and is co-author of 'The South Australian Frontier and its Legacies' website. She is currently employed as a senior lecturer at Adelaide University.

Ian Kumekawa is an anniversary fellow at the Center for History and Economics at Harvard University and a lecturer in history at MIT. His most recent book is *Empty Vessel: The Story of the Global Economy in One Ship* (John Murray/Knopf, 2025). His next book, *The Business State: Empire and Big Business in the Twentieth-Century British State* (University of Chicago Press, 2027).

Patrick Mullins is a Canberra writer and author of six books, including *Tiberius with a Telephone* (2018), *The Trials of Portnoy* (2020) and *The Stained Man* (2026). He is an adjunct at the National Centre of Biography, The Australian National University.

Melanie Nolan is a professor of history, the general editor of the *Australian Dictionary of Biography* and director of the National Centre of Biography at The Australian National University, Canberra, Australia. She is a fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia. Her most recent book is *Biography: An Historiography* (Routledge, 2023).

Madeline Pentland is a PhD candidate in the School of History at The Australian National University, researching gender identity and the collaboration of women in contemporary Australian politics. Madeline graduated from the Australian Catholic University with a first class bachelor of arts (honours) degree in 2023, receiving the University Honours Medal for her thesis, 'Keeping the Histories Honest: Framing a Political Legacy of Natasha Stott Despoja'. In 2021, Madeline received the Presiding Officer's Prize during the Victorian Parliamentary Internship.

James Watson is a historian of nineteenth- and twentieth-century Australia in Canberra, where he is a postdoctoral research fellow at the Australia Institute and an honorary research fellow at The Australian National University in the School of History. He is the author of *Asbestos Nation: The Story of the Most Dangerous Dust in Australia*, as well as a forthcoming biography of the archaeologist Robert Etheridge junior. He is currently writing a political history of the GDP in Australia.

Richard Whatmore is Bishop Wardlaw Professor of Modern History at the University of St Andrews and fellow of the British Academy. He co-directs the St Andrews Institute of Intellectual History. His most recent books are *Terrorists, Anarchists and Republicans. The Genevans and the Irish in Time of Revolution* (Princeton, 2019), *The History of Political Thought. A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford, 2021) and *The End of Enlightenment. Empire, Commerce, Crisis* (Allen Lane, 2023).

This text is taken from *Australian Journal of Biography and History: No. 12, 2026*, published 2026 by ANU Press, The Australian National University, Canberra, Australia.