

Natasha Abrahams is a doctoral student at Monash University in the School of Social Sciences. Her research takes place in the intersection of gender, science and the mass media. Her dissertation argues that the sexual division of labour within the household is promoted by news reporting of scientific findings pertaining to sex differences.

Joseph Bristow is Distinguished Professor of English at the University of California, Los Angeles. His recent books include (with Rebecca N. Mitchell) *Oscar Wilde's Chatterton: Literary History, Romanticism, and the Art of Forgery* (Yale University Press, 2015) and an edited collection, *Oscar Wilde and the Cultures of Childhood* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2017). Since spring 2018, he has served as co-editor (with Rebecca N. Mitchell and Charlotte Ribeyrol) of *Studies in Walter Pater and Aestheticism*. He is completing a study of the Crown prosecution of Oscar Wilde.

Dr. Ann Erskine completed her PhD with Griffith University in 2018, supervised by Associate Professor Jock Macleod. Her doctoral thesis, entitled “Representations of fear and the construction of text in Charlotte Brontë’s *Jane Eyre*,” argues that fear, not rage (and rebellion), is the primary emotion of the novel and is fundamental to the shaping and orienting of the narrative. Ann is an independent scholar, living in Bali.

Kathryne Ford is currently completing a PhD at the Australian National University. Her research examines the tension between Dickensian heroism and anxiety, with a particular focus on aspects of Charles Dickens’s *oeuvre* that conflate life-writing and fiction. Kathryne also has a BA (English Technical and Professional Writing) and an MA (English Literature), both from the University of Memphis, has presented at conferences in Australia, New Zealand, the United States and the United Kingdom, and has published an article on Neo-Victorian biofiction, memory and authorial agency in the *Australasian Journal of Victorian Studies* (2016).

Dr. Katie Hansord completed her PhD at Deakin University in Melbourne. Her research interests include poetry, gender, and political culture, and her PhD examines the politics and poetics of Australian women’s poetry during the colonial period, foregrounding the significance of print culture and broader women’s poetry traditions. She has published articles on the poetry of Eliza Hamilton Dunlop, Caroline Leakey, and Louisa Lawson in *JASAL*, *ALS*, and *Hecate*.

Marie S. Heneghan is a PhD candidate at the University of Southern Queensland, Australia, having completed her undergraduate studies at the University of Queensland. Her project explored reader-criticism theory in Rushdie’s *Shame* and McEwan’s *Atonement*. She was the recipient of a travel bursary to present a paper on “Oscar Wilde’s Contradictions of Pattern: The Art of Religious Ritual” at the 2018 BAVS Victorian Patterns conference. She is currently in the final year of her PhD, and her thesis investigates idolatry in the Victorian novel from the mid-Victorian era to the *fin-de-siècle*. Her research posits the rise of secularism in nineteenth-century Britain as not a gradual decline of religion but a complex process in which religion and secularism are intermingled.

Judith Johnston formerly taught nineteenth-century British and Australian Studies at The University of Western Australia and is now an independent scholar. Her major publications include *George Eliot and the Discourses of Medievalism* (2006) and *The Journals of George Eliot* (1998) edited with Margaret Harris. Her most recent monograph, *Victorian Women and the Economies of Travel, Translation and Culture, 1830-1870* was published with Ashgate in 2013.

Jock Macleod is Associate Professor of Literary Studies at Griffith University. He researches the cultural and political networks and institutions through which English literary culture was produced, circulated and consumed in the nineteenth century. His most recent book is *Literature, Journalism and the Vocabularies of Liberalism: Politics and Letters, 1886-1916* (Palgrave, 2013). He is the co-editor (with Peter Denney) of *Liberalism, Literature and the Emotions in the Long Nineteenth Century*, a special issue of *Occasion* (2018), and is currently working on “*Some Imagined Good*”: *A History of the English Weekly Review of Politics and Culture from the Spectator to the New Statesman*.

Imogen Mathew is a Lecturer in Professional Military Education at the Australian National University (ANU). She is also completing her doctorate in Australian literature at the ANU. Her research interests include paratextual studies, 19th century fiction, Aboriginal Australian literature, and cross-cultural reception. Her writing has been published in the *Journal of the Association for the Study of Australian Literature*, *Contemporary Women’s Writing* and *Australian Humanities Review*.

Dr. Marija Reiff is an assistant professor at the American University of Sharjah, and former Presidential Graduate Research Fellow at the University of Iowa. Her research revolves around Victorian literature, religion, and theatre, and she is currently editing a book manuscript on late-nineteenth century commercial theatre and its ties to religion, particularly focusing on the works of Henry Arthur Jones, Arthur Wing Pinero, and Oscar Wilde. She has published various book chapters and biographical entries, and she has peer-reviewed articles published in *Women’s Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, *Coleridge Bulletin*, and *Victorian Review* (forthcoming).

Dr. Lucy Sussex is an Honorary Fellow at Federation and La Trobe Universities. She has abiding interests in women’s lives, Australiana and crime fiction. She has edited four anthologies, including *She’s Fantastical* (1995), which was shortlisted for the World Fantasy Award. Her award-winning fiction includes the novel *The Scarlet Rider* (1996, reprint Ticonderoga 2015). She has five short story collections, and has edited the work of Ellen Davitt and Mary Fortune. Her *Women Writers and Detectives in the Nineteenth Century* (2012) examines the mothers of the mystery genre. Her *Blockbuster!: Fergus Hume and The Mystery of a Hansom Cab* (Text), won the 2015 Victorian Community History Award. She is a 2018 Creative Fellow at the State Library of Victoria.

Dr. Meg Tasker, Adjunct Associate Professor of Humanities, has recently taken early retirement from Federation University (Australia), and is looking forward to life as a Victorianist-at-Large. She is currently General Editor of *AJVS*, and co-editing a forthcoming double issue of the *Journal on Pre-Raphaelitism in Australia*. Her

publications include the 2001 biography of Francis Adams, *Struggle and Storm* (MUP), a Mulini Press edition of Adams's bush-ranger novel *John Webb's End*, and many articles on Australasian writers in London c. 1890-1910, which came out of the ARC Discovery Project "Unbecoming Australians" (2003-06). She has long been involved in both the Australasian Victorian Studies Association (AVSA) and the Association for the Study of Australian Literature (ASAL).

Professor Lydia Wevers has recently retired from her post as Director of the Stout Research Centre for New Zealand Studies at Victoria University of Wellington. Her published books include *Country of Writing: Travel Writing About New Zealand 1809-1900* (2002), *On Reading* (2004) and *Reading on the Farm: Victorian Fiction and the Colonial World* (2010). She has edited and written many anthologies and papers on literary topics, and been an active member of both the Australasian Victorian Studies Association (AVSA) and the Association for the Study of Australian Literature (ASAL). Lydia is currently working on a history of colonial reading, focusing on Dickens and Trollope, which follows on from *Reading on the Farm*.