



historycouncilnsw

Announcement to the Australian Historical Association, 11 July 2019

THE VALUE OF HISTORY

The four History Councils of NSW, South Australia, Western Australia and Victoria have adopted a joint statement about the Value of History.

Announced at the annual meeting of the Australian Historical Association held in Toowoomba on July 11, the statement emphasises the value of studying the past and telling its stories.

The Value of History statement focusses on seven ways in which history is essential, by:

- shaping our identities,
- engaging us as citizens,
- creating inclusive communities,
- contributing to our economic well-being,
- teaching us to think critically and creatively,
- inspiring our leaders, and
- providing a foundation for future generations.

The History Councils call on individuals and organisations in Australia to endorse, share, and use this statement about the value of history in contemporary life. The ideas expressed in the statement can be incorporated into projects, funding applications, training materials, mission statements, websites, marketing materials, submissions and other organisational outlets.

Dr Liz Rushen, Chair of the History Council of Victoria, says: 'With common agreement, commitment, and open conversation about why history is important, we believe the historical community can better articulate history's critical role in the public sphere.'

The four independent History Councils are the peak/coordinating bodies for history in their respective states and have worked co-operatively to create the Value of History statement for all Australians to use.

Accompanying document: Joint statement on 'The Value of History'

Further information:

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