

## **Associate Professor Bruce Pennay**

### **Citation for the Conferral of Doctor of Arts**

Associate Professor Pennay was employed by the University and its predecessor organisation at Goulburn for 22 years, and, since his retirement, he has been an active and productive adjunct. His contribution to the wider community in the Albury-Wodonga area support the values of the university and provide an invaluable link to the wider community.

When his paid employment ended in 1998, he became an Adjunct Associate Professor and took up state-wide responsibilities within history and heritage. He served terms as a Councillor of the Royal Australian Historical Society, and as an appointee on the NSW Heritage Council History Advisory Panel from 2004 to 2011.

Since retirement Associate Professor Pennay has focused more sharply his broad research interest in regional history and post-war immigration into unravelling stories of the Albury Wodonga Growth Centre experiment and the conservation and interpretation of the Bonegilla and Benalla Migrant Camps. Record of his publications shows how he facilitated history work both within scholarly circles and the wider public sphere.

In recent years Associate Professor Pennay has published three histories, twelve academic journal articles and twelve academic journal book reviews. He has acted as an examiner of research degree theses from other universities, and assessed proposed journal articles. He wrote thematic histories for six local government heritage studies and undertook heritage significance assessments of collections in four regional cities. He was a successful advocate in winning National Heritage listing for Bonegilla Migrant Camp and, then, State Heritage listing for Benalla Migrant Camp.

The mix of his scholarly work and community engagement activities is exemplified in the activities he has recently completed.

This month he and his colleagues have launched a virtual study tour web site of the Bonegilla Heritage place. Its primary target is secondary school teachers and students following the National History Curriculum. Both Albury and Wodonga City Councils supported the project, and the web site is hosted at Wodonga, but sends the viewer to Charles Sturt University, where it is based.

With support from both cross-border councils and funding sponsorship from the Murray Darling Basin Authority, he arranged commemorative activities to mark the centenary of Hume Dam on 28 November 2019. The mini-conference he organised with the help of another group of colleagues and the local historical society, attracted wide public attention.

With his service to the community through such activities Associate Professor Bruce Pennay represents the values that Charles Sturt University promotes within the University and with our regional communities. He has for many years lived these values through his professional work and engagement with communities.

It is with great pleasure that I present to you Associate Professor Bruce Pennay, Doctor of Arts (*honoris cause*).

**Dated this Eighteenth Day of December Two Thousand and Nineteen**