



ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC.

239 A'Beckett Street, Melbourne 3000

Sharon Betridge

Nomination for the Barbara Nixon Award

In mid-2017 Sharon Betridge responded to a notice in *History News*: 'Publication Volunteer Help Needed'. I met with Sharon over coffee and discovered that she was eminently qualified to assist our effort in Publications, particularly *History News*. Sharon had graduated as a B. Ed with majors in librarianship and History. She had worked as a school Librarian for over twenty years and was the author of several chapters in a Pearson school textbook.

Sharon joined the Publications Committee in September 2017. By early 2018 Sharon was appointed as co-editor of *History News*, and in June 2019 assumed the role of editor of this important RHSV publication.

Sharon brought a new energy to the publication and new ideas. She devised a new layout and increased the size of *History News* when the volume of articles warranted it. Sharon also increased the coverage of our affiliated historical societies. She introduced new features such as the series on stained glass windows by Bronwyn Hughes called 'Windows on History'. Sharon also introduced the idea of special themes. So far Sharon has helped energise the RHSV's push for diversity by having special issues on Indigenous History and immigrant communities in Victoria. Sharon completed an indexing course in recent times and has completed several indexes of *History News*.

Sharon Betridge has provided exceptional service to the RHSV during her four years of editing *History News*. Her passion and energy for this publication, a key item in the public face of the RHSV, is truly deserving of the Barbara Nixon Award.

Richard Broome AM, FAHA, FRHSV

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