

John Adams Prize 2019-2020

Prize winner

Charles Fahey, 'Happy Valley Road and the Victorian Hill District: a microhistory of a Victorian gold-rush mining community, 1854-1913' *Victorian Historical Journal*, vol 90, no 2, December 2019, pp. 271-300.

Judges' Citation

This close-grained reconstruction of life on the Bendigo mining field draws on deep layers of research into the technological, demographic and family history of the area. By focusing on a small section of the field Charles Fahey investigates a side of mining which has been relatively neglected by earlier historians. This is a view not from the booming centre of the Bendigo but from the mining suburbs, where work and family life were insecure and often dangerous, and inevitably doomed to end when the gold ran out. Fahey makes a powerful case for a reconstruction of the methods and the findings of gold mining history in Victoria.

Judges

Professor Emerita Marian Quartly, FFAHS, Monash University

Emeritus Professor Graeme Davison AO, FAHA, FASSA, FFAHS, FRHSV