

KATE BAGNALL

About Kate



Kate Bagnall has over fifteen years' experience in researching and writing about the lives of Chinese Australian families, from the 1850s to the 1930s. Her ground breaking doctoral research was the first large-scale study of relationships between white women and Chinese men in colonial Australia.

Kate has a particular interest in the lives of women and children, and in linking Australian families and communities back to China. Kate has worked with many descendants of early Chinese settlers to help them find out about their families' pasts, including for Natalia Hooker's revealing biography of her famous grandfather, L.J. Hooker. Kate has published widely in the field and presents regularly in academic and community circles. She runs a small historical research, writing and editing consultancy in Canberra (www.katebagnall.com).

Her topics

Early Chinese Australian families: Putting your Chinese ancestors in context

Intermediate

In this talk historian Kate Bagnall will outline the history of Chinese families in Australia and New Zealand over the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, discussing topics such as intermarriage, the migration of Chinese women and children, divided families and adoption.

Finding your Chinese roots: Tips for tracing your Australian family's Chinese origins

Intermediate

In this talk, aimed at people with some Chinese heritage, historian Kate Bagnall will look at how we can use Australian sources to find family connections back to China – from clues in how Chinese names were written down to working out what's recorded on a Chinese headstone – and what to do when the connection is made.