

KATE BAGNALL

Title

Early Chinese Australian families: Putting your Chinese ancestors in context

Summary

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.

Abstract

This talk is aimed primarily at people with a Chinese ancestor who arrived in Australia or New Zealand in the nineteenth or early twentieth century. It will help them understand the historical context in which their ancestor/s arrived from China and built new lives here. Kate will discuss the Chinese social, economic and familial patterns that resulted in Chinese men migrating mostly without their wives and families and the results this had on Chinese family formation in Australia and New Zealand, particularly intermarriage with white and Indigenous women. The talk will be richly illustrated with relevant archival and photographic material and draw on the latest historical scholarship.

Audience

Intermediate

Australian and New Zealand family historians with some Chinese background and others interested in the history of the Chinese in Australia and NZ.