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## Editorial

This issue is dominated by responses — largely solicited — to an article featured in the last *AHA Bulletin*, Alan Ryan's 'Developing a strategy to "save" history'. This piece, which was delivered as a paper at the last AHA conference, provoked a range of reactions from secondary school teachers and others involved in framing secondary school history curricula across Australia. While the responses are varied, many call on teachers in both secondary and tertiary education sectors to form a united front to 'save', or at least defend, history. There is no doubt that there is a gulf between the two areas which requires a bridge. Perhaps it is symptomatic of this gulf that the national conference of the History Teachers Association of Australia, to be held in Perth later this year, co-incides (or clashes) with the regional AHA conference in Hobart. Further responses on this issue will be welcomed.

This issue also draws members' attention to a number of AHA activities and events. The Hobart AHA, and the Adelaide conference in 2000 are the major forthcoming events, but those living in Sydney are reminded of the conference on 'virtual histories, real time challenges', to be held in early July. This one day symposium is sponsored by the State Library of New South Wales and the AHA, in association with the Centre for Cross-Cultural Research, ANU, and the History Teachers Association of New South Wales. AHA members should note the AHA's response to the National Archives discussion paper, *Making Choices*, reproduced in this *Bulletin*. Further, members should be aware that the AHA has been awarded a major grant by the National Council for the Centenary of Federation, to assist in the publication of historical monographs. Details are included in this issue.

AHA members are also urged to think about attending the next International Congress of Historical Sciences (CISH) to be held in Oslo next year. Anthea Hyslop's piece on AHA history is timely in providing some background to the AHA's relationship with CISH.

As this issue was in preparation for press, AHA members were shocked to learn of the sudden and unexpected death of Paul Bourke, in Otago, New Zealand. Paul was a past president of the AHA and his death is a great loss both to the Association and to Australian historians more generally. We hope to be able to pay a more appropriate tribute to Paul in the next issue of the *Bulletin*.

Jan Gothard  
Editor

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