

Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences Research Seminar Program 2022

Tuesday 3rd May (12-1pm)

To be held via Teams Meeting

Associate Professor Shino Konishi

Shino Konishi is an Associate Professor in the IHSS. Specialising in Aboriginal history her research interests include histories of exploration and cross-cultural encounters, including the role of Indigenous intermediaries and Indigenous biography.



'Wolves about their prey': Intimacy and violence in Eyre's expeditions.

This paper explores the role of violence within the intimate microcosm of the colonial overland expedition. As in other imperial contexts, violence, and the threat of violence, was often used in a disciplinary fashion by European explorers in order to assert their control and authority over colonised subjects. Violence was also employed by Indigenous people as an assertion of agency, independence, and resistance, particularly by Indigenous intermediaries who often accompanied the explorers in the nineteenth-century. Through a focus on Edward Eyre's explorations of southern and central Australia from 1837 to 1841, and his relationships with the young Aboriginal guides he attached to his expeditions – Cootachah, Joshuing, Neramberein, and Wylie - this paper will retrace the growing tensions between the expedition members, and the contribution of those tensions to the dramatic events that unfolded.