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# The Henry Halloran Trust

## Annual Report 2016



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
SYDNEY



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SYDNEY

## Henry Halloran Trust

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|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Director</b> | <b>Professor Peter Phibbs</b>                        |
| <b>Period</b>   | 2016                                                 |
| <b>Project</b>  | The Henry Halloran Trust at the University of Sydney |



## About the Trust

The Henry Halloran Trust was established through the generous gift of Warren Halloran, and honours his father, Henry, an active advocate for town planning in the first half of the 20th century.

Henry introduced and implemented new concepts of town planning in the many settlements he established as part of his contribution to nation building.

Henry was a surveyor, valuer, engineer and town planner as well as a flamboyant and dynamic real estate developer who promoted and created new settlements throughout coastal NSW.

One of his lasting successes was the development in 1905 of the Seaforth Estate, a waterside suburb on Sydney's Middle Harbour. His other well-known settlements include Avoca on the NSW Central Coast, and Stanwell Park and Jervis Bay on the South Coast.

The Trust aims to become a leading voice and advocate for the advancement of liveable cities, thriving urban communities and sustainable development. The objectives of the Trust include:

1. To promote a collaborative cross-disciplinary environment where established scholars and leading practitioners, together with industry and government partners, can engage in leading-edge research developing innovative approaches to urban and regional policy, planning and development issues;
2. To support scholarly research into critical policy issues relevant to current practice in Australian and international urban and regional land management, encouraging the development of innovative approaches to the management of land and natural resources. In this regard land, natural resources and urban and regional development are to be given a broad interpretation.
3. To support academic, professional and public debate through public lectures and the publication of research that can beneficially transform current practice and encourage inspirational thinking about how to better manage urban and regional development.
4. To promote an inter-disciplinary international network of leading scholars and practitioners who will assist and advise the Director of the Trust in identifying critical issues and on priorities for research.



## **Introduction**

This report will focus on the 2016 activities of the Trust, using the objectives of the Trust as reporting framework. Annual reports for previous years can be found on the Henry Halloran Trust website. ([www.sydney.edu.au/halloran](http://www.sydney.edu.au/halloran))

## **Trust Activities in 2016 organised by Trust Objectives**

***Objective 1: To promote a collaborative cross-disciplinary environment where established scholars and leading practitioners, together with industry and government partners, can engage in leading-edge research.***

Keiran Thomas, our fifth Practitioner-In-Residence in collaboration with our Incubator project the Urban Housing Lab, has released his full paper on the outcomes resulting from the codification of Housing supply data across greater Sydney. Keiran completed his PIR under the guidance of Professor Nicole Gurran from the UHL and our own Co-ordinator of the PIR program, Dr Michael Bounds. His report outlines the purposes and benefits to a codified approach and the possible impact this might have on the decisions of policy makers with regards to zoning of medium density housing.

***Objective 2: To support scholarly research into critical policy issues relevant to current practice in Australian and international urban and regional land management, encouraging the development of innovative approaches to the management of land and natural resources. In this regard land, natural resources and urban and regional development are to be given a broad interpretation.***

The Director of the Trust, Professor Peter Phibbs, produced a short video about the ten year Housing New York City plan. This video details Professor Phibb's comparison between Sydney and New York's respective housing affordability crises. The video and is available on our website.

The Trust sponsored three University of Sydney PhD students to participate in a Chinese workshop. The Henry Halloran Trust is assisting the sponsorship of a high level Phd student workshop at the University of Sydney's new Suzhou Conference Centre.

## **Planning Training for Aboriginal Land Councils**

The Director of the Trust, Professor Peter Phibbs, was contracted by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment to provide short courses: "An Introduction to the NSW Planning system to NSW Land Councils"

## **2016 Research Grants**

A detailed description of the 2016 funded projects are shown in Appendix 1.

## **Research Grant Round**

It was decided at the final board meeting of the year to fund the following two Incubators for the next three years:

## **Organising the 21st Century City: An International Comparison of Urban Alliances as Citizen Engagement**

*Assoc Prof Kurt Iveson, Prof John Keane, Dr Madeleine Pill, Dr Adrienne Keane, Prof Helga Leitner, Assoc Prof Mark Davidson, Prof Jane Wills, Prof Romand Coles, Prof Leo Penta*

In a growing number of cities, citizens are channeling frustration with existing citizen engagement processes into the creation of urban alliances that bring together diverse civil society actors to articulate and pursue common interests. The intention of such alliances is to enable citizens to play a proactive role in the shaping of their cities, as an alternative to the reactive role they are often ascribed in existing governance and planning frameworks. This will be the first international comparative study of these alliances. Through desk-based mapping and qualitative case studies, the project will examine their global extent, their different forms and activities, their relationship to existing forms of citizen participation in existing structures of urban governance and planning, and their effectiveness as infrastructures for citizen engagement and empowerment. The research will contribute to scholarly understanding of citizen participation in urban governance and planning. It will also make significant practical contributions to the efforts of citizens seeking to build new infrastructures for participating in urban governance, and it will also aid the efforts of those working in planning agencies who are seeking more genuine citizen participation.

## **Housing for Health: Fixing Infrastructure and Housing Policy in Indigenous Australia and Beyond**

*Assoc Prof Tess Lea, Prof Allan McConnell, Prof Michael Tawa, Prof Paul Torzillo, Dr Christian Tietz, Mr Adrian Welke*

The supply and maintenance of affordable housing and infrastructure remains one of the most vexed issues confronting Indigenous public policy. Houses remain in need of major repair or replacement; and often lack sufficient water supplies, washing facilities, or sewage infrastructure (the 'health hardware') to be functional. As a partial correction, the Housing for Health (HfH) program restores some function by testing and fixing vital health hardware. The greater challenge is ensuring better design, installation and maintenance in the first instance. This Incubator critically examines the policy obstacles to such systemic change while providing practical models for improved housing.

## Completed Research projects

Two of our 2015 projects were completed and final reports for these projects have been submitted;

- **Strategic:**  
Community engagement for the 'hard-to reach': Trialing participatory social network mapping in Tasmania (\$27,895)
- **Blue Sky:**  
Assessing environmental impacts of major transport infrastructure projects: where does human health fit? (\$24,291)

## The Urban Housing Lab Incubator project

In its 2015 funding round the Trust funded a 3-year research incubator project led by Professor Nicole Gurran. 2016 was another successful year for the Urban Housing Lab.

The Urban Housing Lab@Sydney hosted a series of events with the theme "urban planning and the supply of affordable homes." The series brought together international experts who shared their research and insights. The series commenced with a lecture exploring the role of government and the planning system in supporting new housing development and affordable housing provision in three jurisdictions: the UK, Hong Kong and Australia. The lecture featured three distinguished speakers - Professor Nick Gallant (University College London), Professor Rebecca Chiu (University of Hong Kong) and Professor Nicole Gurran (University of Sydney) – who shared their expertise and experience of the respective jurisdictions. Other presenters included Professor Glen Bramley, Professor Gurran, Andrew McNulty, Wendy Hayhurst and Professor John Landis

## In the press

The Sydney Morning Herald interviewed Dr. Somwrita Sarkar of the Urban Housing Lab. The interview focused on the growing inequality between Sydney's rich and poor, a trend that is increasing in parallel with the city's population.

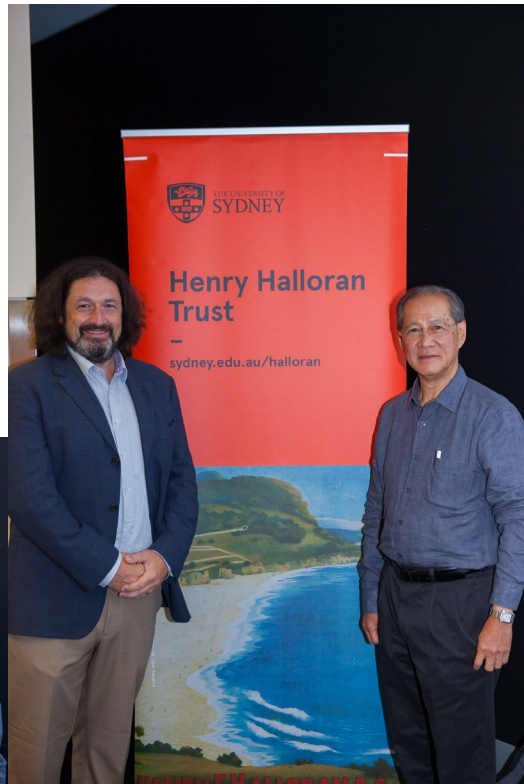
***Objective 3: To support academic, professional and public debate through public lectures and the publication of research that can beneficially transform current practice and encourage inspirational thinking about how to better manage urban and regional development.***

The year was a busy one for the Trust's public engagement program.

## Research Sports - Urban Research Festival 3

9 March

In order to help choose what research projects to fund, the trust hosted an event for four finalists to present their proposals to an audience. Featured at this event was a presentation from our Practitioner in Residence, Julie Walton. Julie addressed the question: "Can planning systems co-exist with a weak political donations regime and retain their integrity?"



### **Smart seeds judging panel**

24 March

Professor Peter Phibbs was among the judging panel for this event. Smart Seeds is an innovation competition for young professionals focused on solving challenges in the urban design and infrastructure sectors. Multidisciplinary teams develop a creative concept to solve a real infrastructure challenge and present it to industry decision makers. It is a unique space where our future leaders can influence the legacy of our current leaders.

The event was attended by managers and senior managers from participating organisations including TfNSW, UrbanGrowth NSW, Sydney Water, Veolia, Ventia, Optus, Infrastructure Partnerships Australia, Commonwealth Bank of Australia, Lendlease and GHD as well as other senior professionals in the urban development sector.



## **Value Capture: Opportunities and Risks**

9 June

Professor Peter Phibbs, the Director of the Henry Halloran Trust, lead a conversation about what Value Capture is and how it helps fund things that would make cities better places.

He was joined by two recent graduates of the Urban Planning program, Michael Cuthbert and Richard O'Gorman Hughes who have completed research studies on Value Capture in Sydney. Chris Johnson, CEO of The Urban Taskforce joined Professor Nicole Gurran from the University of Sydney in response to the presentations and took questions from the audience.

## **The Fourth Annual Henry Halloran Trust Lecture**

### **"Housing Affordability in Australia and the UK: Common Problems and Common Solutions"**

Professor Meen from the University of Reading, UK

27 July

We have had overwhelming interest in Professor Meen's presentation and further works



## **Metropolitan Planning and Governance - Lessons for the Greater Sydney Commission from North America**



16 August

The city-wide approach to metropolitan planning has a long history in North America. One of the key exemplars of this approach is Portland, Oregon. Ric Stephens, the President of the International Society of City and Regional Planners, discussed what has been going on in Portland and drew some lessons for metropolitan planning in Sydney.

This event is co-sponsored by with Australian Institute of Urban Studies (NSW Division), Western Sydney University and JBA Planning

### **Jack Munday and the Green Bans - Lessons for today and the future**

19 October

Presented by Jim Colman - Sydney based architect, planner and part time University lecturer and Kurt Iveson – Associate Professor of Urban Geography at the University of Sydney.

This lecture focused on Millers Point and the Rocks being transformed by the sell off by the current government. The audience were encouraged to reflect on what the area could have looked like if the former Liberal premier, Bob Askin had got his way and how through the efforts of Jack Munday and the green bans we were able to preserve such an important part of the city. Looking at the various current plans for Sydney we can't help but ask the question that was asked at the time of the green bans - Whose city is it?

### **Women's Travel North and South: Changing Societal Trends and the Travel Patterns**

25 October

This Event was co-hosted with The Urban Housing Lab and presented by Dr. Sandra Rosenbloom; Professor of Community and Regional Planning at the University of Texas at Austin, USA and the Director of the Innovation in Infrastructure program at the Urban Institute, Washington, DC.

This presentation discussed how Women are more impacted, generally negatively, than men by major societal trends like globalization, urbanization, motorization, and sociodemographic transitions because they have less access to better transport services and technologies, display very different travel patterns in which are embedded multiple domestic and parental responsibilities, and suffer more fear and anxiety in travel.

### **Towards a New Generation of Metropolitan Innovation Strategies?**

27 October

Presented by Nicolas Buchoud, chair of the Grand Paris Alliance, a trusted and skilled advocate of cities and their ability to invent a more sustainable future.

The major activity public engagement activity of the Trust in 2016 was the third **Festival of Urbanism**. This was held between 1<sup>st</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> of August

The Festival has established itself as an annual Sydney event.

The theme of this year's two-week festival was "City Limits", which drew attention to the impact of intelligent planning and new technologies, and how they might transform rapid urban growth into an improved quality of life for city residents.

The Festival of Urbanism provides an important media platform for the University to demonstrate expertise and leadership in urban planning and policy. It presents a great opportunity for its urban planning experts to continue to drive the debate and provide

commentary on the key issues facing Australian society and the broader global community.

A full list of the Festival events is contained in Appendix 2.





***Objective 4: To promote an inter-disciplinary international network of leading scholars and practitioners who will assist and advise the Director of the Trust in identifying critical issues and on priorities for research.***

In a proud milestone for us at the Henry Halloran Trust was our first visiting scholar, Professor John Landis from the University of Pennsylvania. Professor Landis was with us from January until July. He delivered a public lecture about affordable housing, and was very active in our Urban Lab Incubator project, providing strategic advice on key trends in similar US research centers.

The Trust also welcomed our second visiting scholar, Associate Professor Kristian Ruming. Dr Ruming is a leading Australian Urban scholar from Macquarie University.

## APPENDIX 1

### DETAILED LIST OF NEWLY FUNDED PROJECTS

#### 2016 Funding Round

##### STRATEGIC

##### **Including health and health equity in strategic land use planning in the Sydney area - \$27,640**

*Dr Patrick Harris, Dr Jennifer Kent, Associate Professor Peter Sainsbury, Associate Professor Elizabeth Harris*

Including health within strategic land use planning is under-researched, despite an unequivocal evidence base linking health outcomes with the built environment. This partnership project investigates the inclusion of health and health equity in three 'district' plans being developed and implemented under Sydney's metropolitan strategic planning framework. We will use established social science methods to unpack the ways in which the plans are made and developed, including

collaboration between the planning and health systems arising through this process. The project provides a unique opportunity to further develop a translational partnership and interdisciplinary approach to policy research to inform future partnership projects.

## **BLUE SKY**

### **Urban design and health: A large-scale natural experiment of residential relocation - \$18,605**

*Dr Klas Gebel, Dr Melody Ding, Dr Liang Ma, Associate Professor Geoff Morgan.*

Aspects of urban design, such as walkability, greenspace, and access to infrastructure and facilities, are believed to have profound effects on health. However, almost all the evidence comes from cross-sectional studies, which are potentially subject to reverse causality. Using the largest cohort study in the Southern Hemisphere, this project analyses urban design impacts on health through a natural experiment of residential relocation to provide early causal evidence in this area. Identifying environmental determinants of population health will inform policy and interventions that could result in health, economic, environmental and social benefits for Australia and elsewhere

### **Mass-movements: what are the impacts of rapid greenfield development on wellbeing, connection and crime? (\$24,396)**

*Dr Garner Clancey, Dr Jennifer Kent.*

The population of Camden local government area (LGA), part of the South-West Growth Corridor, is projected to increase by 192.67% between 2015 and 2036 (.id, 2014). This is the largest forecasted percentage increase in any LGA in Australia. Available data suggests that new residents moving to this growth corridor are likely to experience lengthy commutes to work and higher than average mortgage and financial stress. This project will explore the impacts of these conditions on social connections, guardianship, supervision of children and crime.

### **Nature in cities: can urban planners enhance human wellbeing using biodiversity? (\$23,465)**

*Assoc. Prof. Dieter Hochuli, Dr Caragh Threlfall, Dr David Kendal.*

In a rapidly urbanizing world, the conservation and promotion of nature when planning cities is often overlooked. However, the recognition that nature plays a significant role in human wellbeing is increasingly built into discussions of what our cities should look like in the future. We will identify the specific components of landscapes and biodiversity that are associated with enhancing wellbeing, and create guidelines for promoting evidence-based and ecologically –informed approaches to planning nature in cities.

## APPENDIX 2

### The Festival of Urbanism- 1 – 12<sup>th</sup> August

#### 1 August

##### **The Festival of Urbanism City Limits Launch Event**

Addressed by the University of Sydney's Professor Robyn Dowling, Greater Sydney Commission CEO, Sarah Hill, the University of Sydney Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Stephen Garton.

#### 2 August

- **The Henry Halloran Trust Blue Sky Research Showcase**

Five of our top researchers presented their latest research findings.

- **NSW PIA Presidents Award Lecture - Putting the public interest back into planning**

This event asked: "Are planners doing enough to address the big social and economic issues facing our cities? Have they lost sight of the public interest?" Co-presented by NSW PIA, Patrick Fensham addressed the critical questions facing planning in Sydney, including many highlighted by Elizabeth Farrelly in her SMH article: 'Where are all the city planners'.

#### 3 August

##### **Urban design within limits: design led planning for adaptation and mitigation**

Co-presented by The Sydney Environment Institute, Greater Sydney Commission Environment Commissioner Rod Simpson was joined with Civil Engineer and University of Sydney Associate Professor, Abbas El-Zein and Lissette Collins on a panel discussing how defining and 'working-back' from environmental limits lead to a more distinctive and liveable built environment.

#### 4 August

##### **Aboriginal astronomy: Star mapping in the city**

Muruwari man Willy Stevens encouraged the audience to look to the stars to learn from Indigenous knowledge systems that understand, explain and predict nature.

#### 6 August

##### **TRANSFORMATION, REGENERATION & GENTRIFICATION - SYDNEY ARCHITECTURE WALKS**

Taking the form of a two-hour urban provocation, this architectural walking tour explored the how, why and what of recent urban and architectural transformation in Sydney's dynamic inner-city neighbourhoods. The walk was lead by architect Eoghan Lewis.

#### 8 August

##### **Is Sydney losing its edge?**

A frank conversation on the divergence of Sydney and Melbourne's cultural policy. Presented by the University of Melbourne's Dr Kate Shaw, with The University of Sydney's Dr Oliver Watts, co-presented by Sydney Ideas.

## **10 August**

### **Game of Homes**

As house prices soar, it's increasingly difficult for people to enter the Sydney housing market. Professor Phibbs discussed the strategies you can adopt to change the situation.

## **11 August**

### **Urban Super Powers: Human-centred technology and the city design of the future**

This presentation addressed the questions; Should we be stoked or spooked about the role that technology plays in shaping our future city? A conversation on what we might seek to gain or have forgotten as we embrace future technology innovation with University of Sydney's Professor Joellen Riley, Dean of Sydney Law School, informatics expert and interaction design researcher, Associate Professor Martin Tomitsch and transport Management and Director of the Business School Doctoral studies program, Professor Stephen Greaves.

## APPENDIX 3

### THE ADVISORY BOARD

#### Members

Dr Gary Cox - Roehampton Regeneration Project Manager, UK

Dr Deborah Dearing – Executive Director of Place Development, Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority

Professor Roland Fletcher – Professor of Theoretical And World Archaeology at the University of Sydney

Mr Glenn Grimshaw – Recently resigned from a role as principal advisor at the NSW Treasury to return to full-time study

Martin Payne, Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning, the University of Sydney.

John Toon, Honorary Associate Professor, Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning, University of Sydney

Professor Tong Wu (Chair), Emeritus Professor, Office of the Vice Chancellor, University of Western Sydney.

#### 2016 Advisory Board Meetings

Meeting 1: 16<sup>th</sup> March

Meeting 2: 25<sup>th</sup> May

Meeting 3: 31<sup>st</sup> August

Meeting 4: 22nd November

## APPENDIX 4

### Income and Expenditure Statement 2016

#### Income

Carried Forward from 2015

Interest Income 2016

#### Total Income

#### Expenses

##### 2015 Research projects\*

##### Salaries

Director's salary

Casual salaries (Beecroft , Singh and  
Organiser Festival of Urbanism)

Teaching Buyout

#### Total Salaries

##### Other

Academic Advisor

#### Contractors

Practitioner-In- Residence

#### Research dissemination

#### Utilities and Communications

#### Other

#### Total Non Salary Expenditure

#### Total Expenses

Balance at end of period