



Australian  
National  
University

Humanities  
Research  
Centre



TUESDAY 14 MAY 2024



Image: Women's rights demonstration in Melbourne to mark International Women's Day, 8 March 1975. National Archives of Australia

## 'The Future of Our Past' ~ Memory Activism and the Feminist Temporalities of International Women's Year 1975

10:15 am  
Tuesday  
14 May

Baldessin Bld.  
Room E4.11  
Level 4

Followed by  
Morning Tea

Rising from the ashes of patriarchally induced historical amnesia, feminist history is now delivered to us in discontinuous 'chunks' of activist time or tenuously connected crests and troughs. The perception that this narrative gives us of discontinuity spurs feelings of disconnection as feminists struggle to forge links with their predecessors. It often leaves new generations of activists feeling as if they are burdened with the overwhelming task of beginning feminism anew. Yet, there is a long history of memory activism that saw feminists striving to ensure the intergenerational transmission of feminist knowledge so that younger women would be aware that they could build directly on their predecessors' momentum to realise their feminist futures. In this paper, I carry out an analysis of feminist 'time, place, everywhere' by framing International Women's Year (1975) in Australia as a crossroads where intergenerational feminist desires for historical and affective connection intersected.

### Professor Sharon Crozier-De Rosa



Sharon Crozier-De Rosa is Professor in History at the University of Wollongong. Her research focuses on memory cultures, emotions and affect, and histories of activism from anti-colonial to feminist to archival. She currently leads an ARC Discovery Project on gender, social movements, and cultural heritage, and books include *Remembering Women's Activism* (with Vera Mackie, 2019), *Shame and the Anti-Feminist Backlash: Britain, Ireland and Australia, 1890-1920* (2018), and *Sources for the History of Emotions* (with Katie Barclay and Peter Stearns, 2020). She is Deputy Editor of *Women's History Review* and President of Irish Studies Association of Australia and New Zealand.

### HRC 2024 Annual Theme – Time, Place, Everywhere

2024 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> year of the ANU Humanities Research Centre (HRC). To celebrate, the HRC is supporting research into different ideas of time and place and paying respect to Indigenous people through the theme of 'everywhere'.

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