

HISTORICA



Dr Stephen Gapps (MPHA)

Dr Stephen Gapps (MPHA) is Australia's leading academic and professional expert on Historical Re-enactment and 'Living History'. He completed a PhD Thesis in 2002 titled 'Performing the Past: A Cultural History of Historical Re-enactment'. He has worked as an academic Historian in the fields of Public and Australian history. His understanding of performance and history is of the highest level. He has a broad historical knowledge with expertise in the history of Colonialism and brings the skills of an Historian into the cultural production of history in popular public events and film and television.

Stephen has worked for the last ten years as a Consultant Historian in a wide range of significant projects for Government, Industry and Media. He has conducted many Heritage Assessments, as well as written interpretive strategies for various organisations. Stephen is a Public Historian who works within industry, government and media, and is committed to fostering the wonderful possibilities of performance and history through working with the public.

Stephen has combined this high level of academic understanding of how the public relates to their histories with a practical experience and knowledge. Stephen knows re-enactment from the inside out - he has been a re-enactor himself for over fifteen years in various guises from Colonial Australian history to the American Civil War. Stephen has been very involved in the public performance of history since 'immersing' himself in the terrain of historical re-enactment when he commenced his PhD studies. During this time Stephen has designed and coordinated numerous re-enactments and living history displays and performances.