

Date/Time/Place: Monday 9th October, arrive 6pm for a 6:30pm start, Ikaros Hall, Arthur St, Unley

Title: The 1916 'Secret Census' of Greeks: Monitoring a 'Suspect Community'

Presenters: Yianni Cartledge & Prof Andrekos Varnava

Description:

This presentation looks at the 'secret census', which was carried out in secret by Australian special intelligence and catalogued all Greeks in Australia in 1916. The 'secret census' registered the names of Greeks and Greek businesses, as well their genders, ages, professions, places of abode, naturalisation status, modes of transport and distance from state capitals, with a view of possible internment if Greece, which was neutral, decided to join the Central Powers. This presentation also explores the attacks on Greeks during the period, and how anti-migrant sentiments, questions of wartime loyalties, and issues of naturalisation, all contributed to the monitoring of Greeks as a 'Suspect Community', as seen through the 'secret census' being conducted. This research also reviews and contests the generally accepted number of Greeks in Australia during this period, and has a South Australia focus.

Bios:

Yianni Cartledge is a PhD candidate at Flinders University, under the supervision of Professor Andrekos Varnava. His PhD thesis, titled 'Aegean Islander Migration to the UK and Australia, 1815-1945: Emigration, Settlement, Community Building and Integration', explores the migration of Aegean Islanders to the UK and Australia during the nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. Yianni's research interests include migration and the migrant experience, diaspora studies, Mediterranean histories (particularly the British and Ottoman Empires), and the history of modern Greece. An article from his Honours thesis, 'The Chios Massacre (1822) and early British Christian-humanitarianism' was published in *Historical Research* in 2020. His first edited collection is [*New Perspectives on the Greek War of Independence: Myths, Realities, Legacies and Reflections*](#) (Palgrave Macmillan, 2022).

Andrekos Varnava, FRHistS, is Professor in British Imperial and Colonial Histories at Flinders University, South Australia and an Honorary Professor in History at De Montfort University, Leicester. He has authored four monographs: [*Assassination in Colonial Cyprus in 1934 and the Origins of EOKA*](#) (Anthem Press, 2021); [*British Cyprus and the Long Great War, 1914-1925: Empire, Loyalties and Democratic Deficit*](#) (Routledge, 2020); [*Serving the Empire in the Great War: The Cypriot Mule Corps, Imperial Loyalty and Silenced Memory*](#) (Manchester University Press, 2017); and [*British Imperialism in Cyprus, 1878-1915: The Inconsequential Possession*](#) (Manchester University Press, 2009). He has edited/co-edited 16 collections, most recently: [*New Perspectives on the Greek War of Independence: Myths, Realities, Legacies and Reflections*](#) (Palgrave Macmillan, 2022); [*Exiting War: The British Empire and the 1918-20 Moment*](#) (Manchester University Press, 2022); [*After the Armistice: Empire, Endgame and Aftermath*](#) (Routledge, 2021); [*Comic Empires: The Imperialism of Cartoons, Caricature and Satirical Art*](#) (Manchester University Press, 2019). He has published over 60 articles/chapters, including in *English Historical Review* (2017), *The Historical Journal* (2014), *Journal of Modern History* (2018), *Historical Research* (2014, 2017, 2022), *Contemporary British History* (2019), *Social History of Medicine* (2020), *International History Review* (2021), *Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History* (2022), *Immigrants & Minorities* (2022) and *Labor History* (2023).