



Kate Bagnall 白碧 @baibi

1 Mar · 41 tweets · [baibi/status/1366493831097589761](#)



March is Women's History Month, so each day I'm going to tweet a piece of work by a woman about Chinese Australian women's history... let's see how we go! (I'm a day late, so I'll post two today to catch up.) [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

Morag Loh and Christine Ramsay, 'Survival and Celebration: An Insight into the Lives of Chinese Immigrant Women, European Women Married to Chinese and Their Female Children in Australia from 1856–1986' (Melbourne: self-published, 1986) [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

Sophie Couchman, "Oh, I Would like to See Maggie Moore Again": Selected Women of Melbourne's Chinatown', in 'After the Rush', ed. Sophie Couchman, John Fitzgerald and Paul Macgregor (Melbourne: Otherland Press, 2004), pp. 171–90. [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

Alanna Kamp, 'Chinese Australian Women's "Homemaking" and Contributions to the Family Economy in White Australia', 'Australian Geographer' 49, no. 1 (2018), pp. 149–165, DOI: 10.1080/00049182.2017.1327783 [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

Manying Ip, 'Home Away from Home: Life Stories of Chinese Women in New Zealand' (Auckland: New Women's Press, 1990) [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

As a bonus today, here's a photo of Wong Sing Quan (Mrs T.F. Loie, b. 1886), among others, in Auckland in 1911 (Credit: May Sai Louie, reproduced in James Ng, 'Windows on a Chinese Past', vol. 2, p. 261) [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)



Pamela Tan, 'The Chinese Factor: An Australian Chinese Woman's Life in China from 1950 to 1979' (Dural, New South Wales: Rosenberg, 2008) [#chinozhist](#)
[#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

Mei-fen Kuo, 'The "Invisible Work" of Women: Gender and Philanthropic Sociability in the Evolution of Early Chinese Australian Voluntary Organizations', in 'Chinese Diaspora Charity and the Cantonese Pacific' (HKU Press, 2020), pp. 154–72
[#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

Angela Woollacott, 'Rose Quong Becomes Chinese: An Australian in London and New York', 'Australian Historical Studies' 38, no. 129 (April 2007), pp. 16–31 [#chinozhist](#)
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Sunday bonus! In 2016, Rose Quong was featured in the ABC's 'Having it Her Way' series – Rose's story was presented by Miranda Tapsell



Rose Maud Quong: Performer and academic

Reinventing yourself and starting a new life on the other side of the world takes a special kind of determination, especially when you're in your mid-forties. Rose Maud Quong did exactly that, and en...

<https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/archived/pocketdocs/rose-maud-quong...>

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Veronica Kooyman, 'The Family Yarn', Sydney Living Museums website,
<https://web.archive.org/web/20180314020031/https://sydneylivingmuseums.com.au/stories/family-yarn> + interview with Vivian Chan Shaw



<https://www.youtube.com/embed/5EQy7LhFYp8>

[#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

Julia Martínez, 'Chinese Women in Prostitution in the Courts of 1880s Darwin', 'Northern Territory Historical Studies' 30 (April 2019), pp. 28–42 [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

Helene Chung, 'Ching Chong China Girl: From Fruitshop to Foreign Correspondent' (Sydney: ABC Books, 2008) <https://helenechung.com/book/ching-chong-china-girl/> [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

Kirsten Wong, 'A Place to Stand: The Chun Family Experience', in 'Unfolding History, Evolving Identity: The Chinese in New Zealand', ed. Manying Ip (Auckland University Press, 2003), pp. 113–140 [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

Grace Gassin, 'All Eyes on You: Debutantes' Explorations of Chinese Australian Womanhood at the Dragon Festival Ball', 'Australian Historical Studies', 2021,



All Eyes on You: Debutantes' Explorations of Chinese Australian Wom...

(2021). All Eyes on You: Debutantes' Explorations of Chinese Australian Womanhood at the Dragon Festival Ball. Australian Historical Studies. Ahead of Print.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/1031461X.2020.1858895>

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You can also listen to Grace Gassin's ABC Radio Hindsight documentary, 'Dancing with Dragons: Chinese Debutante Balls'



Dancing with Dragons: Chinese debutante balls

The Dragon Festival Ball, held annually for forty years, was the crowning glory of the Sydney Chinese community's social calendar.

<https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/archived/hindsight/dancing-with-dragon...>

[#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

Denise A. Austin, 'Mary Yeung: The Ordinary Life of an Extraordinary Australian Chinese Pentecostal – Part I and II', 'Asian Journal Pentecostal Studies' 16, no. 2 (August 2013), pp. 99–137 [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

Jenny Kee, 'A Big Life' (Camberwell, Victoria: Lantern, 2006) (you can read a brief bio of Jenny here:



About Jenny

<http://www.jennykee.com/about-jenny>

) [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

Kate Bagnall, "To his Home at Jembaicumbene": Women's Cross-Cultural Encounters on a Colonial Goldfield', in 'Migrant Cross-Cultural Encounters in Asia and the Pacific', ed. J. Leckie, A. McCarthy and A. Wanhalla (Routledge, 2017), pp. 56–75 [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

Jan Ryan, 'Chinese Women and the Global Village: An Australian Site' (St Lucia: University of Queensland Press, 2003) [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

Julia Bradshaw, 'Golden Prospects: Chinese on the West Coast of New Zealand' (Greymouth: Shantytown (West Coast Historical & Mechanical Society Inc.), 2009) [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

Helene Wong, 'Being Chinese: A New Zealander's Story' (Bridget Williams Books, 2016)



Being Chinese - BWB Bridget Williams Books

Helene Wong writes eloquently of her New Zealand childhood, student life in the 1960s, coming of age in Muldoon's New Zealand, and coming to terms with 'being Chinese'.

<https://www.bwb.co.nz/books/being-chinese/>

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Alanna Kamp, 'Chinese Australian Daughters' Experiences of Educational Opportunity in 1930s–60s Australia', 'Australian Historical Studies', 2021, DOI: 10.1080/1031461X.2020.1868543 [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

Nikki Loong (ed.), 'From Great Grandmothers to Great Granddaughters: The Stories of Six Chinese Australian Women' (Katoomba, New South Wales: Echo Point Press, 2006) [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

Annette Shun Wah, 'Grandma's Chinese Whispers', in 'Family Journeys: Stories in the National Archives of Australia' (Canberra: National Archives of Australia, 2008), pp. 19–28

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Elizabeth Kwan, 'Matriarch of Darwin's Chinese Community', 'Inside Story', 7 March 2019,



Matriarch of Darwin's Chinese community

Lim Lee See (Granny Lum Loy) (c. 1887–1980)

<https://insidestory.org.au/matriarch-of-darwins-chinese-community/>

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Janis Wilton, 'Golden Threads: The Chinese in Regional New South Wales' (Armidale, New South Wales: New England Regional Art Museum in association with Powerhouse Publishers, Sydney, 2004) [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

On the topic of Chinese Australian woman in regional NSW – here's one of my favourite photos, of Emma Tear Tack and family! You can read about Emma's story in this blog post by Gill Oxley

Emma Tear Tack nee Lee Young

In 2011 I wrote a blog post about a photograph of an unknown Chinese Australian family held in the State Library of Victoria collection. With very few details to go on, in my post I wondered whethe...

<http://chineseaustralia.org/emma-tear-tack/>

(Source: handle.slv.vic.gov.au/10381/45774) [#chinozhist](#) @WomensHistoryMonth



Julia Martínez, 'Patriotic Chinese Women: Followers of Sun Yat-sen in Darwin, Australia', in 'Sun Yat-Sen, Nanyang and the 1911 Revolution', ed. Lee Lai To and Lee Hock Guan (Singapore: ISEAS, 2011) pp. 200–18 [#chinozhist](#)
[#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

Sybil Jack et al. (eds), 'Chinese Australian Women's Stories' (Sydney: Jessie Street National Women's Library and the Chinese Heritage Association of Australia Inc., 2012) [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

Sophie Couchman, 'Chang Woo Gow: The Man and the Giant', in 'An Angel By the Water: Essays in Honour of Dennis Reginald O'Hoy', ed. Mike Butcher (Kensington, Victoria: Holland House Publishing, 2015), pp. 85–101
<https://sophiecouchman.files.wordpress.com/2018/07/couchman-2015-chang-woo-gow.pdf> [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

In that last reading, [@sophiecouchman](#) looks into the story of Kin Foo, who toured Australia as the wife of Chang Woo Gow, as well as Chang's Australian wife, Catherine Santley. See pic here:



Chang the Chinese giant with his wife Kin Foo, c. 1871

Chang Woo Gow (1840s-1893), known as Chang the Chinese Giant, made the first of his public appearances in London in the mid 1860s. Thousands of people lined up to see his eight foot tall frame and wi...

<https://www.portrait.gov.au/portraits/2010.32/chang-the-chinese-giant-with-his-wife-kin-...>

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[@sophieecouchman](#) Michelle Cavanagh, 'Shen, Margaret (1942–1994)', 'Australian Dictionary of Biography' (Canberra: National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, 2018), <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/shen-margaret-20708/text31504> [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

Mavis Moo, 'I Just Bore it Quietly', in 'Plantings in a New Land: Stories of Survival, Endurance and Emancipation', ed. Chek Ling (Brisbane: Society of Chinese Australian Academics in Queensland, 2001), pp. 28–44 [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

Diana Giese, 'Astronauts, Lost Souls & Dragon : Voices of Today's Chinese Australians' (St Lucia: University of Queensland Press, 1997) [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

If you have a spare 10 minutes today, why not watch this interview with Lily Ah Toy, born in Darwin in 1917, recorded in 1995 for 'Australian Biography' <https://www.nfsa.gov.au/collection/curated/australian-biography-lily-ah-toy> (more info and resources here: <https://www.australianbiography.gov.au/subjects/ahtoy/bio.html>) [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

Kate Bagnall, 'Chinese Women in Colonial New South Wales: From Absence to Presence', 'Australian Journal of Biography and History' 3 (2020), pp. 3–20, <http://press-files.anu.edu.au/downloads/press/n6404/pdf/article01.pdf> [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#) [#OpenAccess](#)

Norma King Koi, 'Discovering My Heritage: An Oral History of My Maternal Family – the Ah Moons of Townsville', in 'Histories of the Chinese in Australasia...', ed. P. Macgregor (Melbourne: Museum of Chinese Australian History, 1993), pp. 287–95 [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

To finish off my [#WomensHistoryMonth](#) tweets about women in [#chinozhist](#), I want to mention our new edited collection 'Locating Chinese Women: Historical Mobility between China and Australia' (HKU Press, 2021) – now available to purchase online!



'Locating Chinese Women' includes 10 chapters on questions of mobility and

modernity in Chinese Australian women's lives over the late 19th and early 20th centuries, including: business women, weddings, education, White Australia, biography, + more. [#chinozhist](#) [#WomensHistoryMonth](#)

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It has been quite a journey from our initial symposium in 2014 to the finished book in 2021 – but big thanks to my co-editor [@JuliaTMartinez1](#), and contributors [@sophiecouchman](#) [@SophieLoyWilson](#) [@KuehBihun](#) [@MissPom](#) [@paulmacgregorCH](#) [@alanna_kamp](#) and Antonia Finnane [#chinozhist](#)

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