



On Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> of May 2015 the Editorial Collective of *Lilith: Feminist History Journal* was pleased to host *Flesh and Blood: A Feminist Symposium on Embodied Histories*. This one day event celebrated and built upon the rich tradition of placing the body at the centre of feminist historical analysis. Two of the leading members of this historical tradition, Professor Joanna Bourke and Professor Joy Damousi, were the opening and closing keynote speakers. Both of these historians are internationally renowned for their scholarship on gendered bodies of the past and, spoke at the symposium on areas of new research within this field.

Alongside our keynotes, we had an exciting program of papers. We were delighted to be able offer three sessions throughout the day, with two parallel streams in each. Panels were chaired by academics from across Australia and the wide range of topics explored the theme of '*Flesh and Blood*' from many different angles. The interdisciplinary nature of the papers fostered a wonderful and supportive atmosphere in which to share research and develop new collaborations. Presenters were at varying stages of their careers, from new graduate research students to seasoned professionals. As a new initiative the Collective engaged in and encouraged live tweeting. The enthusiastic contribution of attendees, created a digital archive under the hashtag #fleshandblood2015, which can be viewed at:

<https://twitter.com/hashtag/fleshandblood2015?src=hash>.

With over 60 registrations for the day, the symposium was intellectually stimulating, educative and hospitable. The response from those who attended has been unanimously positive. There has been strong encouragement for similar events in the future. The Lilith Collective is extremely grateful to the ANU Gender Institute for the generous funding, which enabled us to consider this project in the first place. We certainly hope to be able to repeat this success in the future.

