



Join us for what promises to be a fascinating double seminar on the cultural history of migration and health in Victoria.

Dr Karina Smith will discuss her recent exhibition and book on Caribbean migration, while Dr Caroline Clark will tell us why gold was once used to treat alcoholism (yes, gold).

When: Thursday 27 August 3-5pm

Where: Room C410, Building C, Footscray Park

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Caribbean migrants have been moving to Melbourne in small numbers since the 1960s. This paper will draw on research for 'Callaloo: The Caribbean Mix in Victoria' exhibition which was displayed in Melbourne's Immigration museum in 2009/2010 and for a subsequent book, 'Adding Pimento: Caribbean migration to Victoria, Australia' (2014) based on oral history interviews with community members. It will look at how different experiences of migration to Australia, in conjunction with the process of 'settling in' to Australian society, unites and divides the Caribbean diasporic community in Victoria and, by extension, connects and disconnects them to Australia and the Caribbean.

**'Australia didn't call me.
I came to Australia':
Caribbean migration to
Victoria from the 1960s to
the 2000s.**



Dr Karina Smith is a Senior Lecturer in the College of Arts. A literary and gender studies scholar, her research focuses on postcolonial literature and theatre, as well as migration and diasporic communities, particularly the Caribbean and African diasporas. She is co-editor of the recent book 'Adding Pimento: Caribbean migration to Victoria, Australia' (2014).

This presentation explores treatments for alcoholism around the turn of the 20th century and their resonances today. In the 1890s, a new American treatment promoted the use of a gold compound to treat alcoholism, as a 'magic bullet' which would eliminate the disease. Most doctors dismissed it as a quack cure, but it was very attractive to drinkers and their families who were desperate, as well as to politicians who liked the idea of an 'instant' cure. The search for a 'magic bullet' to cure drug addiction continues today, and with similar tensions; drug treatments for heroin dependence are controversial, while the lack of a medical treatment for 'ice' dependence is deplored.

**'Good as gold':
Treating alcohol
problems in Melbourne
a century ago**



Dr Caroline Clark is a Research Officer in the Centre for Cultural Diversity and Wellbeing, where she is investigating drug trends in Melbourne's Western region. Her PhD explored the early history of treatment for alcohol problems in Victoria. She has worked in the alcohol and other drugs field for over 20 years, in community development, research, and workforce education.