

The Labour History Society SA

Invites you to hear

Rachel Harris

speak on

Fuse Caps and Femininity: Munitions Production in World War II

South Australia

2.00 pm, Sunday 18 February 2018

**at the Box Factory, 59 Regent Street
South, Adelaide**



Rachel will consider the experiences of the five thousand or so female munitions workers in South Australia during World War II. She will first examine the economic conditions that shaped women's employment in the state's munitions factories between 1940 and 1945, with a focus on the relatively poor wages and dangerous working conditions that were often

encountered. She will then look at the topic through a gendered lens, arguing that narratives of domesticity were utilised in South Australia by employers, government and the press in order to encourage people to see women's industrial employment as an extension of their feminine work in the domestic realm, rather than an activity through which to form a new and lasting sense of identity.

Rachel Harris is the inaugural 2017 recipient of the Labour History Society Tom Sheridan Scholarship. She holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Queensland and a Bachelor of Arts (Honours in History) from the University of Adelaide. Rachel is a PhD candidate in the Department of History at the University of Adelaide. Her doctoral thesis considers the lives of civilian women in South Australia during World War II.

Photo: State Library of SA: B7798/412

All welcome - FREE EVENT – no booking necessary – afternoon tea provided.

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