



ORAL HISTORY
— NSW —

Giving Voice to the Past

ORAL HISTORY NETWORK NEWS

No.101, March 2020

ISSN 2206-866X <https://www.oralhistorynsw.org.au/>

This month applications for the Oral History NSW Community History Awards have opened, acknowledging the work of individuals or community groups who are recording the histories of their communities. After a dynamic discussion about Creating on Country earlier this month, next we will look at the strengths and challenges of biography in April's History Matters seminar, as well as an introduction to oral history by our Vice President Scott McKinnon.

As the situation regarding COVID-19 (Coronavirus) unfolds, the health and safety of our members is paramount. Please ensure you've checked the relevant websites for any updates to events or conferences before proceeding with travel arrangements, and monitor the Australian Government Department of Health [website](#) for updates and advice.

Oral History NSW will continue with our scheduled events as planned, and will inform participants of any changes as they arise. Updates on our activities will be posted via our website, facebook and in our newsletter.

As always, we'd like to hear from you with any feedback or suggestions for us, and look forward to seeing you.

Maria Savvidis

President, Oral History NSW

Oral History NSW & Oral History Australia

Seminar – An Introduction to Oral History

21 March 2020, History House, 133 Macquarie Street, 11am-1pm

This seminar introduces historians of all kinds to the possibilities and pitfalls of ‘making memories’ or doing oral history interviews with people about their experiences of the past. It asks why oral histories matter as an historical source, and explores the various ways in which they can be used. Join Oral History NSW Vice President Dr Scott McKinnon as he discusses the value of oral history and shares examples from his own work. [Tickets](#) \$25-30

History Matters: Writing a Life: Reflections on Biography

1 April 2020, State Library of NSW 5.30pm - 6.30pm

Biography is one of the most enduring and popular forms of life writing. It attracts millions of readers and encompasses anything from celebrity gossip to a book size rescue of someone from oblivion. In latter years new forms of biography and personal memory sources have emerged which strengthen its claims as the best way to write history. Our two presenters this month discuss the strengths and challenges for the biographer. [Tickets](#) \$5 for PHA and OHNSW members.

Oral History NSW Community History Award 2020

Applications are now open for the 2020 *Oral History NSW Community History Award*. The award is designed to acknowledge the work of individuals or community groups who are recording the histories of their communities. Eligible projects may include the development of new oral history collections, digital and multimedia projects (including websites or podcasts) and printed publications based on oral history interviews. [Applications](#) due Monday 30 April 2020.

Workshop: Capturing Memories: Oral History In The Digital Age

2 May 2020, History House, 133 Macquarie Street, 9.30am-4.30pm

A practical workshop for all interested in recording the experiences of family, friends, local communities, history of museum items or any other project incorporating memories of the past. This popular and informative workshop will equip you to undertake your own oral history interviews. Workshop leaders will be Janis Wilton, an experienced oral historian and Andrew Host, whose 40 years of experience as a sound engineer can help you get quality recordings that will stand the test of time. Places are limited and [bookings](#) are essential.

CALL FOR PAPERS: Oral History Australia Journal No. 42, 2020

Special Issue: *Intimate Stories, Challenging Histories*

Deadlines:

Articles/project reports - 30 April 2020

Reviews of books and other publications - 30 April 2020.

More information and submission guidelines [here](#)

News & Events

The Power of Podcasting for Storytelling

Podcasting has become an increasingly popular way to tell stories, the number of podcasts grows each year. On this course you will explore exactly what a podcast is and why it's so powerful for storytelling. You'll develop your own plan for a podcast, produce a script, and finally investigate different platforms for publishing your brand new podcast.

[Online](#) course, starts 20 April 2020

Record and Document Community History (AHCILM404) Course

22-23 March - Community Media Training Organisation, Sydney NSW

The *Record and Document Community History Course* is an exciting opportunity for anyone who is invested professionally and or personally in recording and documenting the stories that our communities are built on. This [2-day event](#) will provide you with the rich skills and knowledge, theory and practice, to research, prepare and record an oral history project.

2020 Community Heritage Grants (CHG) Program

The *Community Heritage Grants (CHG) Program* provides grants of up to \$15,000 to community organisations such as libraries, archives, museums, genealogical and historical societies, multicultural and Indigenous groups. The grants are provided to assist with the preservation of locally owned, but nationally significant collections of materials that are publicly accessible including artefacts, letters, diaries, maps, photographs, and audio visual material. Applications close 4 May 2020 5pm (AEST). For details on how to apply, visit the [guidelines and application form](#).

Local History Back Up - Federation of Australian Historical Societies

To coincide with Blue Shield Australia's annual MayDay campaign on the first day of May, the Federation of Australian Historical Societies is launching a national project to encourage historical societies to join the *Local History Backup*. One of the chief purposes of the project is to seek publicity and recognition of the work of your society and the importance of maintaining and preserving your collection. [More information and how to](#).

Call for papers

New Zealand Oral History Conference: Ko wai mātou? Who are we?

Victoria University of Wellington, 3-5 July 2020

A common thread runs through the contemporary work of many philosophers, economists, geneticists, historians and novelists world-wide. Who are we? What unites us? What separates us? As Aotearoa New Zealand grapples with the consequences of colonisation 250 years on, questions of personal and collective identity resonate on multiple levels. Do we share any form of collective identity? We invite papers that explore “who are we?” in different and interesting ways.

[Proposals to be received by 18 April 2020](#)

Reading & Listening

Remembering Migration : Oral Histories and Heritage in Australia

Edited by Kate Darian-Smith & Paula Hamilton

[Palgrave Macmillan](#), 2019

This book provides the first comprehensive study of diverse migrant memories and what they mean for Australia in the twenty-first century. Drawing on rich case studies, it captures the changing political and cultural dimensions of migration memories as they are negotiated and commemorated by individuals, communities and the nation. The focused and thematic analysis in the book explores how these histories are re-remembered in private and public spaces, including museum exhibitions, heritage sites and the media. Written by leading and emerging scholars, the collected essays explore how memories of global migration across generations contribute to the ever-changing social and cultural fabric of Australia and its place in the world.

Carving up the Country, Radio National

250 years ago Captain Cook’s crew came ashore at Kurnell, south of Sydney, and carved the date and name of his ship in a tree and sailed northwards, claiming possession of the ‘whole eastern coast.’ But the land marked by the British already belonged to the First Australians. Gamilaraay woman Marika Duczynski travels to the Gulf country of north west QLD, then across the Blue Mountains, to Western NSW, looking for trees that have become symbols of our contested history but also markers of [a culture bound in deep time](#).

Feminographies: Narrating the Female Self in the Feminist Age

[Watch](#) a recording of Lynn Abrams presenting on feminist oral history practice in her Kathleen Fitzpatrick Memorial Lecture at the University of Melbourne in April 2017.

The Picture the Homeless Oral History Project

Picture the Homeless was founded in 1999 in New York on the principle that homeless people have civil and human rights regardless of our race, creed, color, gender identity, sexual orientation, or economic, disability, or migration status. This [oral history project](#) was conducted by Lynn Lewis, working with co-founders Lewis Haggins and Anthony Williams, after meeting them at the first *Picture the Homeless* public meeting at CHARAS/El Bohio in January 2000.

Conferences

Narrating Working Lives: Ruptures, Turning Points, Trajectories

Greek Oral History Association, Rethymnos, Greece, 29-31 May 2020

[More information and call for proposals](#)

Oral History Network of Ireland Conference: Storytelling and Oral History

Maynooth University, Maynooth, Co Kildare, Ireland. 19-20 June 2020

[Conference website and more information](#)

International Oral History Association Conference. Harmony & Disharmony: Bringing Together Many Voices

Singapore, 22-26 June 2020

As the IOHA conference enters Southeast Asia for the first time, the theme is also an invitation for reflection by the international oral history community to consider how we can help and support one another through friendships, networks and alliances.

[Conference website and more information](#)

Urgent Histories - The 39th Australian Historical Association (AHA) Conference

Deakin University, Geelong Waterfront Campus, 29 June - 3 July 2020

[Conference website and more information](#)

New Zealand Oral History Conference: Ko wai mātou? Who are we?

Victoria University of Wellington, 3-5 July 2020

[More information including call for proposals](#)

PHA National Conference. History Transmitted: connect – consider – challenge

Brisbane 28-29 August 2020

[More information including call for papers](#)

Oral History Network News is published by Oral History NSW for its members and all others in the wider community with an interest in oral history. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of Oral History NSW, and information on services does not imply endorsement.

Do you have a contribution for the next edition? Letters, comments, news items, links to projects and sites using oral history and relevant resources for oral historians are welcome.

Forward copy to the Editor: networknews@oralhistorynsw.org.au

What Membership of Oral History NSW gives you:

- *Oral History Network News*, our regular e-newsletter keeping you in touch with current topics and events of interest to oral historians
- Regular seminars and workshops
- Opportunities for informal exchange of ideas and experience
- Awards and Grants – [find out more](#) about our awards & past recipients
- Biennial National Oral History Conferences around Australia
- Subscription to the annual *Oral History Australia Journal*
- As an affiliated member of the Royal Australian Historical Society NSW, our members receive discounts to the [RAHS](#) Conference, workshops and seminars



ORAL HISTORY
— NSW —

***Oral History NSW acknowledges the traditional custodians of the lands on which we live and work.
We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging, and extend this respect to all
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.***

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ABN 73.605.987.834 Editor: Maria Savvidis networknews@oralhistorynsw.org.au
Our mailing address is: PO Box 261 Pennant Hills NSW

