



ORAL HISTORY
— NSW —



Giving Voice to the Past

ORAL HISTORY NETWORK NEWS

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Dear all,
Welcome to the August edition of Network News.

I would like to introduce myself as the new editor. My name is Gwyn McClelland and I recently took up a position as Japanese Lecturer at New England University, Armidale, bringing with me a regional perspective to the network. I have a background as an oral historian with continuing research in Japanese history and I am pleased to be able to participate in Oral History NSW's activities in this way. Thanks to the President, Maria Savvidis for her excellent work in producing the previous [editions](#) of Network News.

It is painfully evident that the repercussions of Covid-19 are being experienced both around the world and in Australia and in this issue, I include some reflections on interviewing during the pandemic, including a resource from the British Library and Oral History Society, UK as well as a researcher's reflections on her project conducted during the crisis. Another aspect is a reduction in events and conferences, although online conferences and webinars seem to be experiencing something of a boom.

Updates on our activities will be posted via our website, facebook and right here in the newsletter. We'd like to hear from you with any feedback or suggestions for us, and look forward to seeing you online throughout the rest of the year.

Gwyn McClelland
Editor, Network News

Oral History NSW & Oral History Australia

History Matters: History - what is it good for?

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2 September 2020, online via Zoom 5.30pm - 6.30pm

Public history shapes our communities' understandings of the past. This series explores the issues that stimulate and bedevil the work of public historians. Join historians Emma Dortins, Mark Dunn and chair Madeleine Shanahan for what will be a fascinating discussion.

[Register](#) for this free event via State Library of NSW.

Oral History NSW Regional Engagement Grant 2020

This grant aims to raise the profile of oral history in regional areas and extend its expertise and use throughout New South Wales. It is aimed at librarians, archivists, museum curators, artists, film-makers, independent oral historians or community groups based in regional areas in NSW who wish to develop an oral history project that illuminates some aspect of their regional area which is of significance or interest to others.

[Applications](#) have been extended until 30 September 2020.

Oral History Australia Journal : Change of name and Call for Papers

The first issue of the Oral History Australia journal under the new name Studies In Oral History will be based on the theme 'Oral history, place and environment'. To be considered for peer review, articles should be between 5,000 and 8,000 words (excluding references). See CFP below.

[Submissions](#) due 30 November 2020.

News & Events

Finding Your Ancestors - Researching Aboriginal Family History in NSW - RAHS

1 September 2020, 7-8 pm online

Ray Ingrey is a Dharawal person from the La Perouse Aboriginal community. Ray has a number of leadership roles within his community, including Chairman of the [Gujaga Foundation](#). Ray is leading language, culture and research activities in his community which has a real focus on telling the Aboriginal story of coastal Sydney through the eyes of those that have ancient connections to that place. [Register](#) for this event free online.

History Week 2020: Annual History Lecture - Coronavirus at the end of history

8 September 2020

As we emerge from lockdown, our world has been forever altered but worse may still be to come. In this Annual History Lecture, Professor Stan Grant asks: are we condemned to ignore the lessons of history? For more information and to register [click here](#).

Oral History interviewing during Covid-19

The British OHS has released the final version of the British Library [guidance](#) on remote interviewing during the Covid-19 pandemic. It continues to be a working document so please email comments to us we will revise and update it as required over the coming weeks and months. You can also download it as a [pdf here](#).

Oral History and Power - Workshop Series

Columbia University Oral History Master of Arts Program

Oral Histories are always created within the context of power relations, and oral historians think critically about the power dynamics that shape their work. This free online public programming series will explore the interrelationships of oral history and power, from the use of oral history as part of community organizing to the complex negotiations of power within the field of oral history and within the oral history encounter.

24 September 2020: *1 or 2 Things to Consider When Staging Oral Histories of Black and Brown Trauma*. Online via Zoom, for more information and to register click [here](#).

Call for papers

Genealogy

This Special Issue of *Genealogy* invites essays on the topic "Articulating Continuity, Documenting Change: Life-Storytelling in Oral History and Folklore". Contributions, as an example, may focus on oral history (as practiced in once oral cultures), folklore (as a form of traditional expression), and research outcomes (as in oral history projects); the fields where life-storytelling has been actively pursued as a means to maintain or illustrate cultural, ethnic, national, and familial continuity.

[Proposals](#) due by 31 October 2020.

Studies in Oral History (Formerly Oral History Australia)

The first issue of the Oral History Australia journal under the new name Studies In Oral History will be based on the theme 'Oral history, place and environment'.

This special issue invites reflections upon the ways in which oral history can illuminate and expand our understanding of place and environment. We invite broad and varied interpretations of this theme.

To be considered for peer review, articles should be between 5,000 and 8,000 words (excluding references) and [submissions](#) are due 30 November 2020.

Reading & Listening

Interviewing in a pandemic

Carolyn Ellis has written a piece about issues that arose in doing online research about the pandemic with a survivor of the Holocaust (who is 93 years old). It is entitled "A Researcher and Survivor of the Holocaust Connect and Make Meaning during the COVID-19 Pandemic" and can be accessed [here](#).

Equipment review

Doug Boyd writes up a review for USB microphones 'THE BUMBLEBEE' on his [blog](#).

The Crossing By Lily Doron, 2020

Refugees traveling to Europe from Turkey typically depart from Izmir and arrive on the island of Lesbos across the Aegean Sea. For many, this is the most terrifying part of the journey. The crossing is extremely dangerous. You will [hear](#) three refugees from Syria, Iraq, and Afghanistan, describe their experiences crossing the Aegean Sea with their families. They speak of storms rolling in and boats twisting and turning in the waves.

The help they ask for sometimes goes unanswered and they worry about their children, unable to protect them from the sea. These interviews were conducted in July 2016.

Conferences

SouthWest Oral History Association Conference (USA)

11-12 September, online via Zoom

The theme of the conference is Oral Histories of (Re)Vitalization. From time immemorial to present-day, in the Southwest and beyond, the idea of home has invoked both harmony and tension as nations have fought over their claims to the land. Homelands are the center of life, which oral histories encapsulate and express as ways to revitalize and support thriving beings.

Read more about the full conference program [here](#) and register online [here](#).

Texas Oral History Association Conference (USA)

September 11-12 September 2020, online via Zoom

For more information and updates regarding the conference and to register please visit the

official [webpage](#) or follow on [Facebook](#).

Oral History Association - USA

21-24 October 2020, online via Zoom

The theme for the Oral History Association's annual meeting is 'The Quest for Democracy: One Hundred Years of Struggle', [find out more](#).

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

Victoria University of Wellington, 20-22 November 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? For more conference information [click here](#).

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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