



Giving Voice to the Past

ORAL HISTORY NETWORK NEWS

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Dear Member,

Welcome to our May edition of Network News for 2023.

In June our popular full day online workshop [Capturing Memories](#) is back. This is a great opportunity for those new to oral history or anyone wanting a refresher, to delve into the essential planning and ethics of conducting interviews plus lots of helpful guidance on technical aspects, recording equipment and everything in between.

For those interested in the technical side of oral history, we are busily making arrangements to hold our in-person Mastering the Recording workshop in August. We hope to share booking information with you in our next edition, so please watch this space.

Our regular newsletter Network News is an important way for our members to stay informed and connected, and to share their work with the broader oral history community. If you have a project or interview you'd like to share please get in touch.

Lastly, whether you're a new member (welcome!) or have been with us over the years, we'd love to hear your feedback and suggestions via our short [Member Survey](#). We look forward to seeing you throughout the year.

*Alexandra Mountain
Editor, Network News*

Oral History NSW and Oral History Australia

Oral History NSW online drop-in chat 8 June 2023, 5:30-6:30pm, online via Zoom

Join committee members online from Oral History NSW to talk all things oral history. This is a casual forum to discuss, share and ask questions, advice, or your thoughts on oral history.

Free, for more information please visit our website.

Capturing Memories – online workshop

17 June 2023, online via Zoom

Oral History NSW presents a practical workshop for those interested in recording the experiences of family, friends, local communities, history of museum items or any other project incorporating memories of the past. This online workshop will equip you to undertake your own oral history interviews. Bookings are now open, visit the website for more info and to [register](#).

Mastering the Recording – in-person workshop

August 2023, in-person

Keen to learn more about the technical side of oral history? This hands-on training day will cover a range of topics, including the recommended ways to set up your digital recorder, microphone placement, audio editing and

processing, and archiving.

Bookings will open soon, keep an eye on our [events page](#) for further updates.

Grants and Awards

Oral History NSW administers grants and awards to support our members to access opportunities. Applications are now open for the Oral History NSW Community History Award. Visit our [website](#) for more information.

Register of Oral History Practitioners

Oral History NSW is compiling a register of members available for different aspects of oral history work – interviewers, transcriptionists, whatever your area of expertise! If you would like to be included on the register, visit our [website](#) and fill in the form.

News & Events

Call for Oral Historian, Canberra Mothercraft Society History Project

The Canberra Mothercraft Society is looking for an oral historian to conduct a series of oral histories with current and prior staff, Board Members, and policy makers to understand and preserve the history of the society. Ideally, the candidate would have a background in Women's Studies/History/Community based NFPs and with a particular focus on women's needs and experience. For more information, please see the Call for Applications [here](#).

Wilson History Oration, Professional Historians Australia

8 June 2023, 5:30 - 7:00pm (Online)

At the second annual Wilson History Oration, environmental historian, Dr Margaret Cook will explore the ways history can engage with the public, the media, other professions and policy makers. In discussing her work on floods, she will highlight how her role and training as a public historian shapes her scholarship and historical practice. Join in and consider these themes during one of our greatest crises in history: the climate emergency.

For more information and to register for the event, please visit [here](#).

Exhibition Preview - Grit and Gold: Tales from a Sporting Nation, National Library

8 June 2023, 5.30-6.30pm (In Person)

Sport is a storytelling machine. And for Australians that machine is prolific. Our popular imagination is crowded with stories drawn from sporting contests. Whether it is Ash Barty winning the Australian Open in 2022, Cathy Freeman running for gold at the Sydney Olympics in 2000, or the 'Bodyline series' of 1932-33, there are so many stories to tell. These stories, and many more, are explored in our new exhibition Grit & Gold: Tales from a Sporting Nation. Come along to welcome the Library's latest exhibition before it opens to the public. Enjoy a lecture on the exhibition highlights with curator Dr Guy Hansen, and explore the gallery while getting to know other Friends members. For more information and to register for the event, please visit [here](#).

Extreme Weather Events: Wildfire, Oral History Society

13 June 2023, 1-2.00pm (Online, GMT+1)

Holly Mercer, Professor at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, will speak about the Rising from the Ashes project which documents the immediate and ongoing impacts of the 2016 Chimney Tops II wildfires, one of the largest natural disasters in Tennessee history, by recording interviews with individuals who experienced the wildfires or their aftermath.

Dr Shirleene Robinson, Director, Curatorial and Collection Research at the National Library of Australia, will speak about the Badja Forest Road Fire oral history project. During the summer of 2019-2020, Australia experienced a catastrophic bushfire season. The NSW towns of Cobargo, Quaama and Nerrigundah and the surrounding regions were devastated. This project tells the stories of those affected by the fires.

For more information and to register for the event, please visit [here](#). NOTE: You must be a registered member of OHS to attend.

Our Queer Futures, State Library of New South Wales

22 June 2023 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM AEST (In person)

The social and legal situation for LGBTQ people in Australia has progressed remarkably across the last 60 years, yet discrimination, discomfort, and danger remain ever-present realities for queer people. Responding to content from our Pride (R)evolution exhibition, host Geraldine Fela is joined by Eloise Brook, Betty Hounslow, Ghassan Khassiseh and Liza-Mare Syron as they consider the contemporary landscape for LGBTQ people in Australia - imagining queer futures as they reflect on the past.

To register for the event, please visit [here](#).

The Pen/Jean Stein Grants for Literary Oral History 2024

The PEN/Jean Stein Grants for Literary Oral History recognize literary works of nonfiction that use oral history to illuminate an event, individual, place, or movement.

For more information, please visit the Pen America website [here](#). You do not have to be a US citizen or working on US oral history projects to apply, but the proposed work does need to be in English.

Entries for the 2024 cycle will be accepted April 1 to June 1, 2023.

Lane Cove History Prize 2023

Calling all local and oral historians! Sponsored by the Lane Cove Historical Society, the competition is open to all with an interest in Lane Cove and its past. Submissions can be written essays, oral histories or DVDs. For more information visit the [website](#).

Entries close 31 August 2023.

Call For Papers

NZHA 2023 Conference - Practical history in the real world

21-24 November 2023, University of Canterbury, Ōtautahi Christchurch

Papers are welcomed from teachers, students, researchers, archivists, curriculum developers, historical practitioners, and those with a general interest in history. Please note that presenters at the conference must hold a current NZHA subscription. For more information visit the NZHA [website](#).
Deadline 30 June 2023.

Reading & Listening

Course: Recording and Documenting Community History

In this blog post, published on April 29 2023, OHNSW Committee member Emma Ramsay writes about attending the recent CMTO course presented by Dr Elaine Rabbitt. To read the full post, visit [here](#).

Best Practices for Collection, Confidentiality, and Privacy of Student Oral Histories

In this article, Kelly Bartlett shares key learnings from the project, Archiving the Diverse Voices of the Champlain College Community. Read more about the project and how oral histories can address archival silences [here](#) in Archival Outlook, published by the Society of American Archivists.

STUDIES IN ORAL HISTORY JOURNAL

The latest issue of Studies in Oral History Issue 44 focuses on Migrant Voices: Community Collaboration and Telling Migration Histories. To view or download the full issue visit the OHA [website](#).

Conferences

41st Australian Historical Association (AHA) Conference
3-6 June, ACU Melbourne

The theme of the conference is “Milestones” to mark the 50th anniversary of the Australian Historical Association, and to encourage reflection: on the historical profession in Australia, how far the nation has come, and the many things it still has to deliver. This conference will be an opportunity to take stock of what has been, interrogate the place of historical knowledge and teaching in contemporary society, and ponder potential futures.

Visit the conference [website](#) for more information.

**Oral History Network of Ireland 2023 Conference: Power and Resistance
16-17 June, Dooley’s Hotel, Waterford Co., Waterford**

At every stage of the process, oral history projects may be impacted by and engage with issues of power and resistance. Oral histories offer unique insights into the operations of power and resistance in our societies in the past and present. This is not confined to issues of political power and resistance but can include everything from power dynamics within personal relationships, to understanding minority-majority group experiences. Visit the [conference website](#).

**Oral History Society: Making Histories Together
23-24 June 2023, Nottingham Trent University, UK**

Collaboration in the planning, collection, analysis, and dissemination of oral histories as a means of democratising historical research has become a common aspect of doing oral history work across settings and disciplines. Yet an exploration of these processes is often left out of published accounts. This [conference](#) aims to explore the knotty issues of collaboration, power and partnership working in oral history.

International Oral History Association: Oral History in a Digital and Audiovisual World

25-28 July 2023, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

The 22nd IOHA conference theme is "Oral History in a Digital and Audiovisual

World”.

More information about the conference can be found [here](#).

Network News is published by Oral History NSW for its members and subscribers 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 or contact the Editor: networknews@oralhistorynsw.org.au

What Membership of Oral History NSW gives you:

- Oral History Network News, our e-newsletter keeping you in touch with current topics and events of interest to oral historians
- Discounts on oral history seminars and training workshops
- Opportunities for informal exchange of ideas and experience
- Awards and Grants – [find out more](#) about our awards & support for oral historians
- Discount on the Biennial National Oral History Conference held around Australia
- 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 acknowledges the traditional custodians of the lands on which we live and work.
We pay our respects to Elders past and present, and extend this respect to all Aboriginal and
Torres Strait Islander people.*

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