

ORAL HISTORY NETWORK NEWS

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CONTENTS

[Click arrow ► to see text](#)

ORAL HISTORY NSW & ORAL HISTORY AUSTRALIA

- Oral History Australia 2017 Biennial Conference, Sydney, September 2017
- OH NSW Workshop, Sydney, March 2017
- OH NSW & RAHS seminar, Sydney, April 2017
- OH NSW blog and Facebook

CONFERENCES, Australia

- Oral History Australia 2017 Biennial Conference, Sydney, September 2017
- Australian Historical Association, Newcastle NSW, July 2017
- National Labour History, Brisbane, September 2017
- ANZ Society of the History of Medicine, Melbourne, July 2017
- Museums & Galleries Australia, Brisbane, May 2017
- National Editors, Brisbane, September 2017

CONFERENCES etc. – Overseas

- Oral History Society, Leeds UK, July 2017
- International Oral History Association, Finland, June 2018
- International Federation for Public History, Italy, June 2017
- Advanced Oral History Summer Institute, USA, August 2017
- Columbia Center for Oral History Research Summer Institute, USA, June 2017
- Oral History Association, USA, October 2017

EVENTS

- History Week 2017
- Talk: Australia's forgotten businesswomen, Cabramatta NSW, March 2017

(Continued →)

NEWS

- ▶ Oral History Australia Journal No. 39, 2017 – Call for papers
- ▶ International Oral History Association Journal 2017 – Call for papers
- ▶ History Council NSW internships
- ▶ History Council NSW awards & prizes
- ▶ NSW Premier's History Awards
- ▶ City of Sydney Cultural & Creative Grants
- ▶ NSW Heritage Grants
- ▶ Community Heritage & Icons Grants – Australian Government
- ▶ 'How to Get a Job in History' – HCNSW resource sheet
- ▶ New galleries at State Library NSW
- ▶ Eastwood Rugby Club oral history project – assistance required
- ▶ A&NZ History of Education Society – research opportunity
- ▶ National Film and Sound Archive:
 - ▶ – Home preservation guide
 - ▶ – Memory of the World: Tasmanian Aboriginal recordings

READING & LISTENING

- ▶ Dictionary of Sydney:
 - ▶ – Trump that! Early American connections to Sydney
 - ▶ – 'Alternative histories': the myth of Sydney's foundational orgy
- ▶ *Beautiful Balts*, Jayne Persian
- ▶ ABC host Jane Hutcheon, reflections on the interviewer by Maxine Beneba Clarke
- ▶ *When Sonia met Boris. An oral history of Jewish life under Stalin*, Anna Shternshis
- ▶ *Independent Minds. A history of St George Girls High School*, Pauline Curby
- ▶ "Painful memories: interviewing survivors of trauma"
 - audio etc. from Oral History NSW seminar, December 2016

▶ CONTACTS etc.





Oral History Australia 2017 Biennial Conference

Moving memories: oral history in a global world

Sydney Masonic Conference and Function Centre, Goulburn Street, Sydney

13–16 September 2017



Registrations open 31 March 2017
Early bird deadline 30 June 2017

Moving Memories, our title and main theme, refers to memories generated across space and time, both local and national, as well as cross-cultural and international. It also refers to memories which have emotional impact on listeners: remembering which moves us to laughter or tears. The theme draws on some of the new directions in oral history that address: the impact of migration and asylum-seeking around the world; as well as the exchange between narrator and listener that is 'memory work', or the emotional labour that is involved in memory practices such as oral history.

See more details on themes etc. [HERE](#)

- Two bursaries are being offered to members of Oral History NSW who will be presenting at the conference – see [HERE](#).



🔊 Listen to short welcomes from keynote speakers,
now available on the conference website [HERE](#):

↔ **Dr Indira Chowdhury**, Founder-Director, Centre for Public History, Srishti School of Art, Design and Technology, Bengaluru, India

Prof. Dalia Leinarte, Director of the Gender Studies Centre, Vilnius University, Lithuania ➡



[Back to top](#)

Workshop: Capturing memories: oral history in the digital age

Saturday 11 March 2017

A practical workshop for all interested in recording the experiences of family, friends, local community, history of museum items or any other project incorporating memories of the past.

Topics include:

- introduction to oral history and the nature and reliability of memory
- preparing and structuring an oral history interview
- ethical issues, ownership, copyright and appropriate documentation
- choosing and using a digital recorder
- processing the interview - preparing a summary log
- interview transcription, aided by free downloadable software
- saving sound files, storage and preservation

Reference notes provided.

When. 9:45 am–4:30 pm, Sat 11 March 2017. Registration 9:30 am.

Where. RAHS, History House, 133 Macquarie Street, Sydney

Cost. \$105 non-members; \$95 Oral History NSW & RAHS members

Morning & afternoon tea included

Booking essential – limited places.

[Enquiries/Bookings](#)

Workshop leaders will be **Pauline Curby**, an experienced oral historian; and **Andrew Host**, whose 35 years of experience as a sound engineer can help you get quality recordings that will stand the test of time. Both are members of Oral History NSW.

Pauline Curby has worked as a freelance professional historian since the early 1990s and has undertaken consultancies in oral history, environmental history and heritage, as well as writing a number of commissioned histories. Her publication, *Randwick* won the NSW Premier's Award (Regional and Community History), 2010.

Pauline is the recipient of the NSW History Fellowship, 2011 and is a member of the Professional Historians Association (NSW & ACT).



Andrew Host has been professionally immersed in audio for 36 years, starting in commercial radio in Sydney, and then working a further 16 years in independent recording studios in the advertising industry.

In 1998, Andrew moved into Compact Disc and DVD duplication, which also involved restoration of old audio and video. Since 2010, Andrew's focus has been on audio preservation and enhancement.

Andrew has been a member of Oral History NSW since 2012, and has been on the executive committee since 2013 where he now serves as Treasurer.



[Back to top](#)



RAHS / OH NSW seminar:

An introduction to oral history: key principles that everyone should know

Friday 21 April 2017, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

History House, 133 Macquarie Street, Sydney

Members of OH NSW & RAHS: \$25; non-members \$30

Enquiries: 02-9247-8001

Jointly presented by Oral History NSW and the Royal Australian Historical Society, this talk 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. Come along and hear Oral History NSW President **Anisa Puri** and Vice-President **Scott McKinnon**, discuss the value of oral history and share examples from their own work.



Anisa Puri is a professional historian, heritage consultant, and the President of Oral History NSW. Anisa has worked on large-scale national oral history projects—she managed the Australian Generations Oral History Project from 2012-2015, and is currently involved with the HIV/AIDS Volunteers History Project. Her first book, *Australian Lives: An Intimate History* (with Professor Alistair Thomson) features interviews from the Australian Generations Collection and will be published by Monash University Press in 2017.



Scott McKinnon is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Western Sydney University, Vice President of Oral History NSW and President of Sydney's Pride History Group. An experienced oral historian, Scott has conducted several projects investigating the history of the Sydney LGBT community and he has written and recorded an oral history podcast series, PridePod. His first book, *Gay Men at the Movies: Cinema, memory and the history of a gay male community* was published by Intellect Books in November 2016.

[BUY TICKETS](#)

Keep up with latest news and developments on the
Oral History NSW Blog – See [HERE](#)



Join the Oral History NSW Facebook group [HERE](#)

[Back to top](#)



- **Oral History Australia, 2017 Biennial Conference**

Sydney, 13–16 September 2017, hosted by Oral History NSW (see p. 3 above).

Further information on *Oral History Australia's* webpage [HERE](#), or:

OHAC Secretariat, DC Conferences,

tel. 02-9954-4400, or email ohac2017@dcconferences.com.au

- **The Australian Historical Association Conference 2017**

Entangled histories*

University of Newcastle, 3–7 July 2017.

Abstract proposals due 31 March 2017. See details [HERE](#)

* **Note:** See the 'Working with memories: Australasian oral history' strand:
[More details](#)

- **15th Biennial National Labour History Conference**

Workers of the world

University of Queensland, 23–25 September 2017. [More details](#).

- **Australian and New Zealand Society of the History of Medicine**

Health, medicine and society: Challenge and change

Australian Catholic University, Fitzroy Campus, 14–15 July 2017.

Conference details [HERE](#)

- **Museums Galleries Australia National Conference 2017**

Museums and galleries in their cultural landscapes

Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, 14–17 May 2017. [DETAILS](#)

- **8th IPEd National Editors Conference**

Advancing our profession

Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, 13–15 September 2017. [DETAILS](#)

CONFERENCES etc. – Overseas

- **Oral History Society (UK)**

Remembering beliefs: The shifting worlds of religion and faith in secular society

Leeds Trinity University, Horsforth, **Leeds UK**, 14–15 July 2017. [DETAILS](#)

- **International Oral History Association, XX Conference 2018**

Memory & Narration

University of Jyväskylä, **Finland**, 18–21 June, 2018.

(Website not yet available – details to be provided in later editions of Oral History Network News)

- **Fourth Annual Conference of the International Federation for Public History**

Ravenna, **Italy**, 5–9 June 2017

Details [HERE](#)

[Back to top](#)

CONFERENCES etc. – Overseas (Cont'd):

- **15th Annual Advanced Oral History Summer Institute**
Methodology, theory and practice of oral history
University of California, Berkeley, **USA**, 7–11 August 2017
Details [HERE](#). Apply online [HERE](#).
Applications due: **15 April 2017**

-
- **Columbia Center for Oral History Research, Summer Institute**
Oral history and ageing
Columbia University, City of New York, **USA**, 5–16 June 2017
Details [HERE](#).
Applications due: **1 April 2017**

-
- **Oral History Association (USA) 2017 Annual Meeting**
Engaging audiences: Oral history and the public
Minneapolis, Minnesota, **USA**, 4–7 October 2017
Details in call for papers [HERE](#)
(See also the OUP Blog article on the [2016 Meeting](#))

EVENTS

History Week 2017

2–10 September 2017

History Council NSW's History Week 2017 seeks to examine, unravel and understand Australian 'popular culture'. As History Week enters its 20th year, History Council of NSW members are invited to celebrate popular culture across the decades, to investigate its construction and analyse its impact on communities and individuals. Details [HERE](#).

Register your History Week event [HERE](#), or contact the History Council NSW at admin@historycouncilnsw.org.au if you have any questions.

Registrations & applications close 30 June 2017.



History Council NSW Speaker Connect: Australia's Forgotten Colonial Businesswomen

8 March 2017

The Council's first Speaker Connect talk for 2017 will take place on International Women's Day! Hosted by Fairfield City Museum and Gallery at Whitlam Library, Cabramatta, **Dr Catherine Bishop** will share some of the strange and wonderful stories she found when researching Australia's early female entrepreneurs.

Book now

[Back to top](#)

TWO CALLS FOR PAPERS:



Call for papers:

Oral History Australia Journal No. 39, 2017
Moving memories: oral history in a global world

Contributions are invited from Australia and overseas in three categories:

- A** Papers on the themes of Oral History Australia's Biennial National Conference to be held in Sydney in September 2017
- B** Articles/project reports describing specific projects or conference reports, the information gained through them, and principal outcomes or practice issues identified in the process.
- C** Reviews of books and other publications from Australia or elsewhere that are of interest to the oral history community: may include reviews of static or internet-available exhibitions, or any projects presented for a public audience.

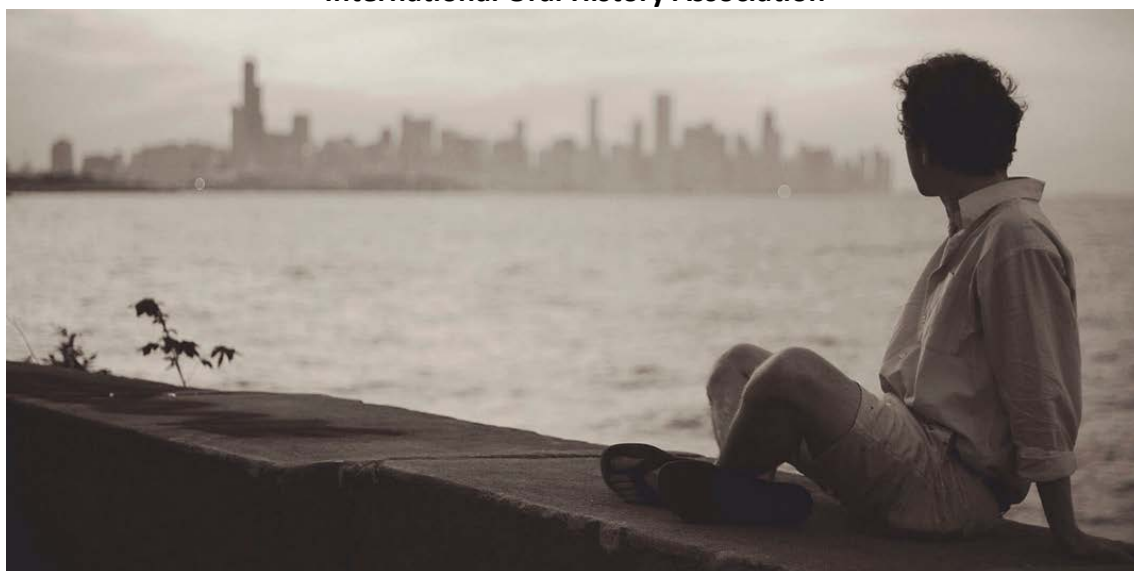
Deadline for submissions: 1 April 2017

Download the full Call for Papers [HERE](#).

All contributions must adhere to the Journal's Style Guide (see [HERE](#))



International Oral History Association



Call for papers: "Words & Silences"

The Journal of the International Oral History Association
Oral History and Emotions

See the full Call for Papers [HERE](#).

Deadline for submissions: 30 June 2017

[Back to top](#)

History Council launches Internship Program

The History Council of NSW launches its new Internship Program, providing opportunities for students to gain experience in a history organisation. [READ MORE](#)

History Council NSW awards & prizes – nominations now open

The History Council of NSW is delighted to announce its awards and prizes for 2017 are now open. This program of awards and prizes fosters excellence in Australian historical writing, showcases and rewards best practice, and advances and promotes public understanding and appreciation of history.

- **The Deen De Bortoli Award for Applied History** (\$5,000), generously sponsored by De Bortoli Wines – [2017 Nomination form \(pdf 221.KB\)](#)
- **The Aboriginal History Prize** (\$1,000) – [2017 Nomination form \(pdf 201.KB\)](#)
- **The Max Kelly Medal** (\$500), sponsored by Geoffrey Jones – [2017 Nomination form \(pdf 155.KB\)](#)

Nominations close Friday 31 March 2017

[Read more](#)

NSW Premier's History Awards



The State Library of NSW has opened nominations for the NSW Premier's History Awards 2017 are now open. A total of \$75,000 in prize money will be presented across prizes in five categories. [Read more](#) [HERE](#).

Entries close Friday 7 April 2017

Cultural and Creative Grants



Projects and initiatives that provide opportunities for creative participation, enhance creativity in the public domain and strengthen the sustainability and capacity of the City's cultural and creative industries (available in amounts over \$5,000 and up

to \$50,000). [Read more](#) [HERE](#). **Applications close Monday 13 March 2017**

Heritage Grants



The Heritage Near Me Incentives program has recently been announced, developed to complement current State Heritage funding programs. It provides funding opportunities and support directly to owners and managers of local heritage items. The program runs from 2016 to 2019, with \$16 million available in funding. [Read more](#) [HERE](#).

Community Heritage and Icons Grants Program

The Program will provide funding for a range of interpretation, communication, promotion and volunteer activities that promote community participation and awareness of places listed on Australia's National Heritage List. [Read more](#) [HERE](#)

Applications close 2 pm (AEDT) Thursday 23 March 2017



Australian Government

Department of the Environment and Energy

[Back to top](#)



Resources: How to get a job in history

The History Council of NSW has compiled a handy resource sheet based on its popular 'How to get a job in history' seminar, supported by Macquarie University's PACE Program. The sheet is filled with top tips from our seminar speakers, research resources, links to job search websites and forums, and helpful links from some of the Council's cultural partners. Find out more [HERE](#).



Images courtesy of Hassell

New galleries at the State Library of NSW

The Library has secured \$15 million in private donations for new world-class galleries. The Library is on track to deliver an exciting new gallery experience set to open in early 2018, the President of the Library Council of NSW officially announced recently.

Read more [HERE](#).



Eastwood Rugby Club oral history project – call for assistance

Eastwood Rugby Club – a Rugby Union Club located in Marsfield in the North West of Sydney – is celebrating its 70th anniversary this year and as part of marking this milestone, they'd like to capture the memories of some of the people who helped establish the Club. Most of them would now be in their 90s and their memories are important as much because of the community of that time as they are of the Football Club.

Details are not fixed yet, but its anticipated around six interviews would be recorded. Most of the celebrations will occur from June onwards so they'd like the interviews completed by say May. Arrangements can be flexible. **Contact:** Robert Frost, general Manager, Eastwood Rugby, admin@eastwoodrugby.com.au 0412-489-694

[Back to top](#)



Australian & New Zealand History of Education Society (ANZHES)

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY:

ANZHES Oral History Fellowship, \$15,000

ANZHES is seeking a suitably qualified Early Career Researchers to assume the position of ANZHES Oral History Fellow to manage an Oral History Project. The project will collect oral histories and other memorabilia from former and current members who volunteer to participate.

See [HERE](#) for details & how to apply. See [HERE](#) for scope of the project

Applications close 30 July 2017



National Film and Sound Archive

Check out their exciting new website [HERE](#)

Home preservation guide



Your audiovisual collection may not be as large as the NFSA's, but it's very important to you and your family. Your memories, the music that you enjoy, etc., deserve the best care if you want them to last. Would you know what to do if your photos, discs, etc. suffered water damage? Are you storing them properly? The NFSA can help! They have a guide on how to care for your audio, film, video and photographs, and protect them from water and fire damage.

Check out the home preservation guide on the new NFSA website [HERE](#).



MEMORY OF THE WORLD

Tasmanian Aboriginal recordings inscribed in the UNESCO Australian Memory of the World Register

On 9 February 2017, NFSA celebrated the inscription of the 1899 and 1903 Fanny Cochrane Smith Tasmanian Aboriginal recordings into the [UNESCO Australian Memory of the World Register](#). These are the only sound recordings of Fanny Cochrane Smith (1834-1905), the last known fluent speaker of any one of the original Tasmanian Aboriginal languages. Her words and songs provide

a unique insight into Tasmanian Aboriginal society, culture and spiritual life.

See the full article by Rod Butler [HERE](#), including audio clip

Image: Fanny Cochrane Smith, courtesy Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery

[Back to top](#)



New items from the Dictionary of Sydney

Updates of some new items from the [Dictionary of Sydney](#):

• Trump that! Early American connections to Sydney

(View the full post [HERE](#))



Billy Blue 1834 by JB East Courtesy: Mitchell Library, State Library of New South Wales (a928634 / ML 560)

The American Australian alliance is a 20th century phenomenon that frequently celebrates 'the ties that bind us'. And if we look back in Sydney's history we find the connections go back much further than 1908 and the [Great White Fleet](#) visit; indeed they go right back to the start of the white invasion of Sydney.

At least three convicts who were transported in the first few years were African Americans: John Moseley, [John Randall](#), and perhaps most famously, [Billy Blue](#) who said he was born in [Jamaica, New York City](#) (the same suburb as Donald Trump). Billy Blue ran a North Shore ferry service and became such a well-known figure his name still graces [Blue's Point](#).

Listen [HERE](#) to Dr Lisa Murray & Nick Healey on 2SER talking about the topic

• 'Alternative histories': the myth of Sydney's foundational orgy

(View the full post [HERE](#))



BLACK-EYED SUE, and SWEET POLL of PLYMOUTH, Taking leave of their Lovers who are going to Botany Bay.

Published 15th March 1792 by Rbt. Sayer & Co. Fleet Street London.

Definitely NOT an image of an orgy.... 'Black-eyed Sue and Sweet Poll of Plymouth taking leave of their lovers who are going to Botany Bay', London : Published by Rbt. Sayer & Co., 1792 Courtesy National Library of Australia (nla.obj-135226580)

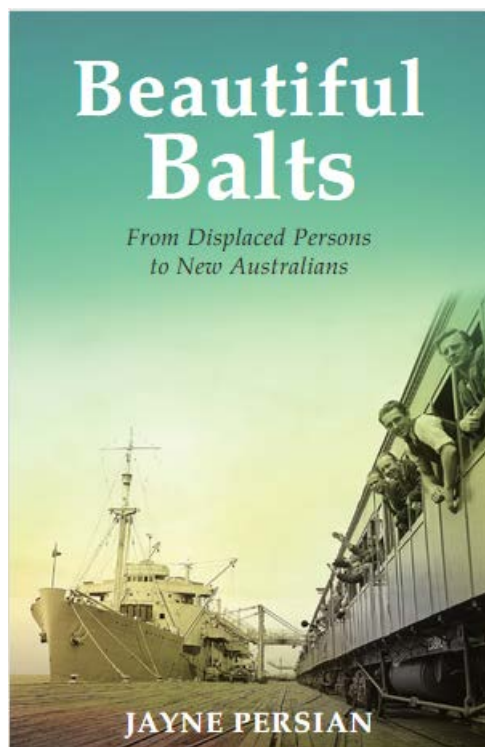
6 February marked the anniversary of a night of salacious activity which took place at The Rocks in 1788, barely a fortnight after the First Fleet made landfall. Only problem is, this so-called 'Scene of Debauchery & Riot' never actually happened.

Historian [Grace Karskens](#) has written a [compelling article](#) for the Dictionary of Sydney on how the myth of Sydney's foundational orgy came about and has lived on despite being fairly resoundingly debunked.

Listen [HERE](#) to Dr Lisa Murray & Nick Healey on 2SER talking about the topic

Browse the full list of entries in the Dictionary of Sydney [HERE](#)

[Back to top](#)



Beautiful Balts

Jayne Persian

New South, June 2016

170,000 Displaced Persons arrived in Australia between 1947 and 1952 – the first non-Anglo-Celtic mass migrants.

Australia's first immigration minister, Arthur Calwell, scoured post-war Europe for refugees, Displaced Persons he characterised as 'Beautiful Balts'. Amid the hierarchies of the White Australia Policy, the tensions of the Cold War and the national need for labour, these people would transform not only Australia's immigration policy, but the country itself.

Beautiful Balts tells the extraordinary story of these Displaced Persons. It traces their journey from the chaotic camps of Europe after World War II to a new life in a land of opportunity where prejudice, parochialism, and strident anti-communism were rife. Drawing from archives, oral history interviews and literature generated by the Displaced Persons themselves, Persian investigates who they really were, why Australia wanted them and what they experienced.

Publisher's order form [HERE](#).



Maxine Beneba Clarke

Author of *The Hate Race* and *Foreign Soil*

Portrait: ABC host Jane Hutcheon:

reflections on the interviewer as she appears on ABC TV's *One Plus One*

Extract: . . . "Occasionally, just when her subject is getting comfortable, Hutcheon shoots across an off-track comment, quickly batting the conversation into another space altogether. "... And your dad left the family..." As an interviewer, her manner is deliberate. Direct. Leaves little room for decoy, *if ever a subject were so inclined*. And yet, there's a superb restraint about her provocations that somehow elicits exchange rather than withdrawal."

Read *The Saturday Paper* article [HERE](#).



When Sonia Met Boris.

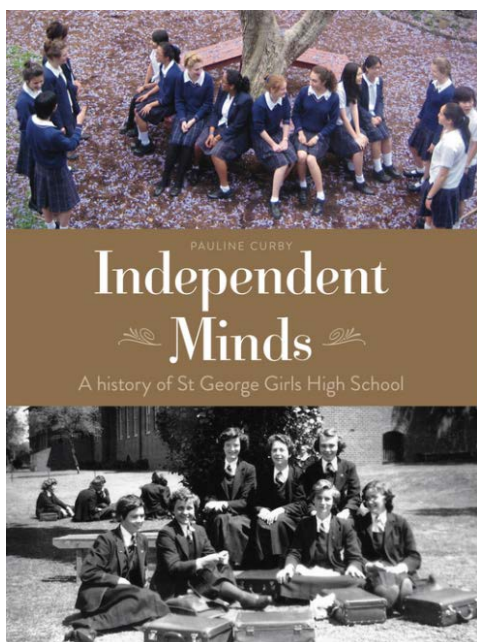
An Oral History of Jewish Life Under Stalin

Anna Shternshis

Based on an unprecedented number (474) of in-depth oral history interviews with Soviet Jews, this book reveals previously unknown stories of everyday life for Jews in the Soviet Union, as well as how individual Jews responded to notorious instances of repression

Oxford University Press, Oral History Series. See more and purchase details [HERE](#).

[Back to top](#)



Professional historian [Pauline Curby](#) has recently published *Independent Minds*, a history of St George Girls High School, with [NewSouth Books](#).

Drawing on the recollections of past and present students, teachers and parents, *Independent Minds* brings to life the impressive history of Sydney's St George Girls High School. In the school's early years, students wore white hats and gloves, with botany the only science subject taught. Today, students excel across many areas and the school enjoys a longstanding reputation as one of the best in the state. Throughout its century history, the school has remained committed to nurturing intelligent and engaged young women.

See publisher's website for purchase details [HERE](#).



Oral History NSW Seminar, 3 December 2016

Painful memories: interviewing survivors of trauma

Our understanding of the history of disasters, wars and epidemics can be greatly enhanced by listening to the memories of survivors. And yet, recalling and recording memories of traumatic experiences can be challenging for both interviewee and interviewer. In this seminar, we explored the practice of interviewing survivors of trauma.

Our panel shared stories from their research and reflected on the challenges involved when interviews explore painful memories.

Dr Christine Eriksen discussed vicarious trauma and self-care for interviewers undertaking research with survivors of trauma:

[Dr Christine Eriksen Audio Presentation](#) (8.31 MB) - 18'09"

Click [here](#) to read more about Christine's work and for a list of her publications.

Alison Wishart discussed her experiences conducting interviews with Australian armed services personnel on deployment in Afghanistan:

[Alison Wishart Audio Presentation](#) (9.00 MB) - 22'28"

Click [here](#) to see Alison's blog.

Unfortunately, due to a technical error, the audio of **Robert Reynolds'** talk at this seminar is unavailable.

Click [here](#) to see details of Robert's work.

[Back to top](#)



Membership of Oral History NSW Inc. gives you:

- Regular Seminars and Workshops.
- Opportunities for informal exchange of ideas and experience.
- Biennial National Oral History Conferences – next conference is in September 2017 in Sydney.
- Subscription to the annual Oral History Australia Journal.
- Oral History *Network News*, the monthly email newsletter keeping you in touch with current topics and events of interest to oral historians. Notices received requesting oral historians for particular projects are also published here.
- Awards and Grants – the Oral History Australia Hazel de Berg Award for Excellence in Oral History recognises oral historians who have made an outstanding contribution to oral history in Australia over a considerable period of time. From time to time Oral History NSW makes available grants to members undertaking research based on, or concerning oral history, who wish to participate or present papers at an international oral history conference.
- ALSO, as Oral History NSW is an affiliated member of the Royal Australian Historical Society NSW all members may attend the RAHS Conference at members' rates. See RAHS website www.rahs.org.au

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?

Letters/comments – anecdotes – news items –
links to websites using oral history –
relevant resources for oral historians.

Closing date for items for the next issue (April 2017) is

28 March 2017.

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

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ABN 73.605.987.834

PO Box 261 Pennant Hills NSW 1715

E. secretary@oralhistorynsw.org.au

T. 02-8094-1239

www.oralhistorynsw.org.au

[Back to top](#)