

ORAL HISTORY NETWORK NEWS

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



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

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NATIONAL CONFERENCE IN SYDNEY THIS MONTH

13–16 September 2017

Sydney Masonic Conference & Function Centre, Goulburn St.



Oral History Australia 2017 Biennial Conference

Moving memories: Oral history in a global world

Sydney, 13–16 September 2017



Register now for the conference [HERE](#)

The 2017 Conference features an exceptional line-up of over 100 speakers addressing topics such as Trauma and Migration, The Power of Storytelling and Navigating Family Histories, Emotions, and Memory.

More details [HERE](#)

Conference program now available

Click [HERE](#) to view the draft program

Pre conference Workshops. Places are filling fast!

Be sure to secure your spot for a pre-conference workshop or walking tour on 13 September.

Click [HERE](#) for pre-conference program details



Oral History NSW Annual General Meeting 2017

The OH NSW AGM was held on 9 August at History House, Macquarie Street, Sydney. For those who missed it, OH NSW President **Anisa Puri's** report is now available in full on the blog post [HERE](#). There were some changes to the committee for 2017-18: **Paula Hamilton** and **Catherine Freyne** were farewelled with thanks, and **Isabelle Barrett-Meyering** and **Minna Muhlen-Schulte** welcomed in their stead. The committee is listed in full [HERE](#).

The meeting was preceded by a presentation from **Dr Tanya Evans**: *Swimming with the Spit: Feminist oral sport history and the process of 'sharing authority' with 20th century female swimming champions in Sydney*. A summary is available [HERE](#), and a recording of her talk can be heard or downloaded [HERE](#) (32 min 52 sec – 7.49 MB)



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Capturing Memories: Oral History in the Digital Age

Saturday 7 October 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. Sat. 7 October 2017.

Registration 9:30 am. Workshop 9:45 am–4:30 pm

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

[More information/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.



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Seminar in Newcastle, & webinar:

Analysis of a Successful Failure

Hosted by Civil/Structural & Heritage Groups

This presentation is about the evolution of the science of hydrology in Australia and how the pioneer dam engineers created their own techniques for analysing their design parameters for construction of the infrastructure needed.

This is a case study of one such pioneer, Zihni Buzo, a world-renowned engineer who almost single-handedly managed the design and construction of a major dam need in Armidale.

When: Wed. 6 September 2017, 5:30 for 6:00 pm start.

Venue: Engineers Australia, Newcastle – Suite 3, Tonella Commercial Centre, 125 Bull Street, Newcastle West. (entry via Dick Street).

Cost: Free entry for members of *Oral History NSW & Engineers Australia* & students; (Non-members \$30)

Note: Attend in person or view by webinar – please choose from available options when registering.

More detail and online registration [HERE](#). Registration for webinar closes 6 Sept. 2017.



Tell Your Story: Life in Ku-ring-gai

In March 2017, Ku-ring-gai Council filmed and recorded the stories of 16 Ku-ring-gai locals. The **Tell Your Story** project was a video-based oral history program celebrating the lives of residents and providing a lasting historical treasure trove for the Library's Local Studies collection.

Now, with the exhibition 'Life in Ku-ring-gai', these fascinating stories are being revealed for the first time at Gordon Library.

When: Tues. 5 September to Sun. 10 September 2017

Where: Gordon Library, 799 Pacific Hwy. ([Library opening hours](#))

Contact: gordon.library@nsw.gov.au or (02) 9424 0120

Hosted by [Ku-ring-gai Council](#)

Oral History volunteer call out



Hurstville Museum & Gallery is looking for volunteers to assist with oral history projects that record and preserve local history of the St George area. Main tasks for the volunteer will be transcribing interviews and working with audio files in *Audacity*. There might also be the opportunity to assist in digitising oral histories from old cassette tapes. Good typing skills and eye for detail are essential. Knowledge of *Audacity* preferable.

Preferred availability: Once a week for 2-3 hours.

Where: Hurstville Museum & Gallery, 14 MacMahon Street, Hurstville

Please send your Expression of Interest to Bethany MacRae: bmacrae@georgesriver.nsw.gov.au

For more information please call (02) 9330 6444

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All History Week events are now live on the *History Council NSW website* and a full program is available for download [HERE](#) (PDF 3.8 MB).

Here's a brief selection!

History Council NSW Annual History Lecture 2017

The Popular is Political:

Struggles over national culture in 1970s Australia

How did popular culture make sense of the social change of the 1970s? HC NSW is excited to announce **Associate Professor Michelle Arrow** (Macquarie University) will be delivering our 2017 Annual History Lecture. See more detail [HERE](#).

When: 6–9 pm, Tuesday 5 September 2017

Where: The Mint, 10 Macquarie Street, Sydney

Cost: \$45 HCNSW members / \$50 general admission / \$30 students

For student deal, contact: admin@historycouncilnsw.org.au

Book [HERE](#).



HUNTER:

Stepping out on the Coast: Exhibition and History Week Open Day



Brisbane Water Historical Society host an exhibition on the Central Coast's biggest pop culture performances. Their History Week Open Day will also feature a presentation by Emeritus Professor Richard Waterhouse.

When: Sat 9 Sept, 10:30am-1:30pm

Exhibition: Fri 1 Sept to Thurs 30 Nov.

Where: Henry Kendall Cottage and Museum,
25-27 Henry Kendall St, West Gosford

Cost: Entry by donation. [READ MORE](#)

DUNGOG:

Popular Culture in Dungog: The Role of the James Theatre

Join [Dungog Historical Society](#) for an exhibition exploring the role of the James Theatre in Dungog popular culture since 1912. The display will consist of photographs, interpretive panels and a small display case with memorabilia.



When: Saturday 2 September to Sunday 10 September 2017,
9:00am-12:30pm

Where: Dungog Library, 17 Mackay Street, Dungog

Cost: Free

Contact: mkingston5@bigpond.com or 02 4992 2094

See location map [HERE](#).

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NEWCASTLE:



Pop! Celebrate popular culture across the decades

Celebrate History Week with Newcastle Region Library. View some of their favourite pop culture items from the Heritage Collection and discover the stories behind them.

When: Mon 4 to Wed 6 September 2017, 1pm-4pm

Where: Newcastle Region Library, Laman St, Newcastle

Cost: Free

[READ MORE](#)

WESTERN SYDNEY:



State Archives Open Day

State Archives and Records NSW is hosting an Open Day at the Western Sydney Records Centre, Kingswood. Learn about your history – your house history, your family history and your local history. See treasures from the State archives collection and tour behind the scenes! This is an event not to be missed!

When: Friday 8 September 2017, 10:00am- 4:00pm

Where: State Archives NSW, Western Sydney Records Centre, 161 O'Connell Street, Kingswood.

Cost: Free

Contact: email info@records.nsw.gov.au or 02 9673 1788

PARRAMATTA:



The **City of Parramatta Research and Collection Services** team are having an open day to share memories of popular culture in Parramatta across the decades and invite the public to bring their own stories and items for appraisal if they would like to donate them.

Read more [HERE](#)

When: Friday 8 September 2017, 10:00am – 4:00pm

Where: Jubilee Hall, Parramatta Town Hall, 182 Church St, Parramatta

Cost: Free

Contact: anamuren@cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au or tel. 02 8839 3322

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Mozart and 'The Doll': the Elizabethan Theatre Trust and the Institutionalisation of Cultural Hierarchy

When the Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust was established in 1954, its brief was to stage European classical plays, operas and (eventually) ballets and, at the same time, to encourage the writing of Australian plays featuring local themes and local accents.

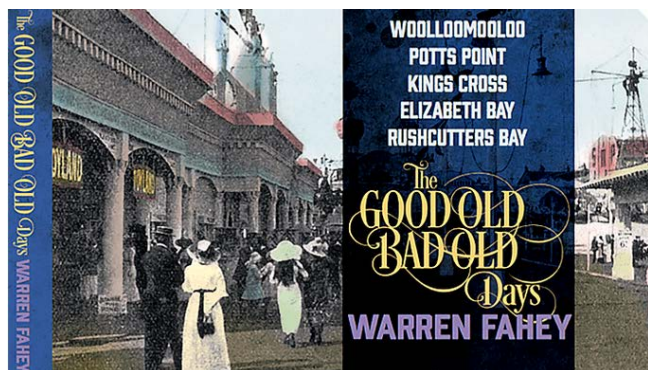
While it succeeded in these aims, a vigorous debate emerged about whether the 'slice of life' plays like *Summer of the Seventeenth Doll* and *The One Day of the Year* really qualified as 'high' culture.

Join [Richard Waterhouse](#) for a fascinating exploration of 'cultural hierarchy', and the proletarian Australian plays that challenged the notion that 'high' culture was somehow separate and more pure than the culture of everyday life.

- **Wednesday 6 September 2017, 12:30 – 1:30 pm, Mitchell Theatre.**

FREE – bookings essential.

[Book online](#)



Warren Fahey – the Good Old Bad Old Days

Join cultural Historian Warren Fahey as he talks, sings and leads us on an eclectic romp through the colourful history of Sydney's inner east from Kings Cross to Rushcutters Bay.

Discover the colourful history and surprising stories of all five precincts, Woolloomooloo, Potts Point, Kings Cross, Elizabeth and

Rushcutters Bay, in this fascinating exploration of the social history of Sydney's most famous neighbourhoods — and their high life, low life and, sometimes, very low life.

Ride the scenic roller-coaster over the snow-covered mountains of the forgotten White City at Rushcutters Bay; see the naughty boys waving their willies at the ferries approaching Woolloomooloo Bay; chase 'peeping Toms' in Elizabeth Bay; tap to the tunes of cabaret's greats at the Silver Spade, Potts Point, or dare to be different in yesterday's Kings Cross.

Relive the antics and the era, one ripping yarn (and song) at a time.

- **Tuesday 5 September 2017, 12:30 – 1:30 pm, Mitchell Theatre.**
FREE & open to the public – no bookings required.

See [HERE](#) for the full range of upcoming events at the SMSA.



NLA Scholarships & Study Grants closing soon

The 2018 round of [Summer Scholarships](#) and [Asia Study Grants](#) are both closing on **30 September 2017**. Are you a postgraduate researcher who would benefit from a 6-week residency at the Library, with special access to the Library's collections? Or perhaps you have a special research interest in Asia, and need to delve deep into our remarkable Asian-language or Asia-related collections?

The NLA offers annual [Summer Scholarships](#) to support younger scholars undertaking postgraduate research requiring special access to the Library's collections. Preference for **Norman McCann Scholarships** will be given to those working in the disciplines of Australian history, Australian literature, librarianship, archives administration or museum studies. Preference for **Seymour Scholarships** will be for those undertaking biographical research.

The scholarships are tenable for a period of six weeks commencing in the second week of January each year. Scholars have privileged access to the Library's materials and facilities, as well as sustained interaction with many of its staff.

The Library also offers annual [Asia Study Grants](#) to assist scholars in Australia to undertake research relating to Asia through a four week period of intensive access to our Asian language and Asia-related collections.

With the support of the Harold S. Williams Trust Fund and private donors, we have been able to expand our former Japan Studies Grant scheme to include research across any of our Asian language or Asia-related collections. The grants program is no longer limited to Japan studies. More information on our rich and varied Asian collections is available [HERE](#).



Vale Graham Carbery

14 January 1947 – 5 July 2017

Graham Carbery – teacher, activist, Victorian Football League senior umpire, and archivist and historian for the gay and lesbian community. While Graham was an important gay liberation and law reform activist from 1972 onward, most notably with groups such as the Gay Teachers and Students Group and the Homosexual Law Reform Coalition, his legacy is the extent and longevity of the [Australian Lesbian and Gay Archives](#), which he founded and committed much of his life to for the past 40 years, and which includes an extensive oral history collection.

Graham is survived by his partner of 45 years, Gary Jaynes, and will long be remembered and honoured by the Australian Lesbian and Gay Archives.

Australian Lesbian and Gay
Archives

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The **Dictionary of Sydney** has been publishing freely accessible, reliable & authoritative information about Sydney's history since November 2009. Every day they provide facts, information, images, multimedia, insights and stories about Sydney to thousands of students, teachers, history lovers and researchers all over the world.

Since December 2016, the Dictionary of Sydney has had no ongoing operational funding.

The Dictionary's content is being moved onto a new sustainable platform at the State Library of New South Wales, where it will be supported and preserved for posterity, but to keep adding to the Dictionary and telling more of Sydney's stories, **the Dictionary of Sydney needs OUR help**. See [HERE](#) for details on how to donate.

The Dictionary of Sydney's Second Fleet Project



The Dictionary of Sydney was successful in securing a grant from the **Australian National Maritime Museum** through the **Maritime Museums of Australia Project Support Scheme** (MMAPPSS) to produce seven new entries on the **Second Fleet**.

The new entries include a thematic essay, **Second Fleet**, by Michael Flynn as well as articles encompassing the voyage of the ships **Lady Juliana**, **HMS Guardian**, **Surprise**, **Neptune**, **Scarborough** and the store ship **Justinian** by Penny Edwell.

The *Scarborough*, detail from Plate VI in 'Voyage from New South Wales to Canton, in the year 1788 : with views of the islands discovered', Thomas Gilbert, 1789, Mitchell Library, State Library of New South Wales (DSM/Q981/26A1)

The previous MMAPSS grant the Dictionary received resulted in the publication of 11 entries on the First Fleet. That project can be viewed [here](#).

The Dictionary is grateful to the Australian National Maritime Museum for their assistance in increasing our coverage of the Second Fleet.



The *Supply* at anchor, and the *Sirius* with her convoy coming into Botany Bay 20 January 1788 by Charles Gore, 1789, courtesy Dixon Galleries, State Library of New South Wales (a2060001 / DG V1A/8)

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Podcast:



Image: Wollongong City Libraries

Shacks of the Royal National Park

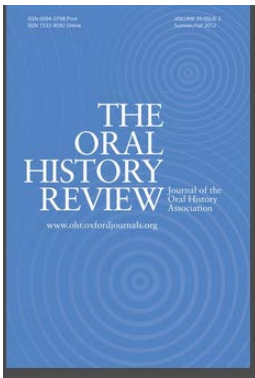
As part of the [Illawarra Stories](#) project, [Wollongong City Libraries](#) are now making oral histories of owners of shacks in the Royal National Park available online. The shacks and their communities have a fascinating history from people staying in the Depression era to generations who have enjoyed holidays there. These podcasts can be downloaded so others can listen to memories of how the shacks were built and experiences of fishing, surfing, dances, bonfires, storms and bushfires. Available from Saturday 2 September 2017, 9:00am

Listen to the podcast [HERE](#)



Hosted by [Wollongong City Libraries](#)

From the OUP Blog:



Listening for change: the *Hear, Here* project

In [OHR 44.1](#) Susan McLeod reviewed [Hear, Here](#), a project of the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse that utilizes innovative techniques to connect the public with oral history. The OUP Blog invited the project's founder, Ariel Beaujot, to join the blog to discuss making oral history accessible, and the possibility for using the past to intervene in the present.

“How might we, as oral historians, make the voices of those who have lived and live in our communities available to all? For the past 10 years oral history programs all over the country have been digitizing their collections and putting them online. This has allowed researchers easier access to their subjects, and family members and friends to hear the voices and stories of their loved ones. But what about making the work that we do as oral historians more accessible to the average person who lives in a town with strong oral history collections but may not have any immediate or obvious connection to the narrators? This is the work that [Hear, Here](#) seeks to do. *Hear, Here* is a location-based project that allows anyone to access short oral histories on the street through a toll-free number.”

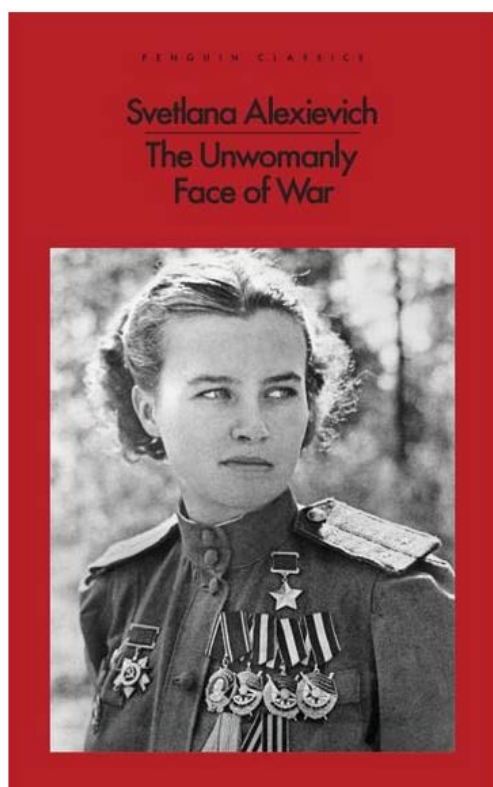
– Ariel Beaujot, 23 June 2017

Read the full blog post [HERE](#).



Ariel Beaujot is an Associate Professor of History at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. In April 2015 she and her students created the *Hear, Here* project, a location-based oral history project in downtown La Crosse, Wisconsin.

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The Unwomanly Face of War

By Svetlana Alexievich,

Translators: Richard Pevear, Larissa Volokhonsky

Penguin Classics, August 2017

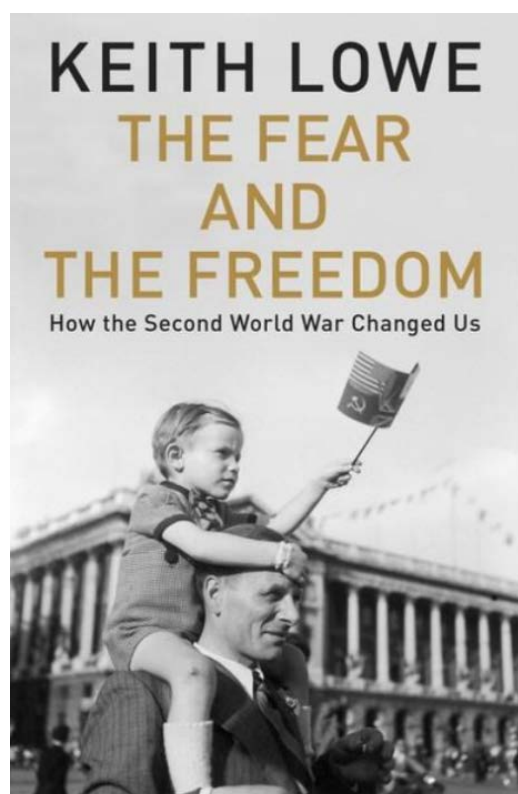
"Extraordinary. . . it would be hard to find a book that feels more important or original" - Viv Groskop, Observer (BBC Radio 4 Book of the Week). The long-awaited translation of the classic oral history of Soviet women's experiences in the Second World War – from the winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature.

"Why, having stood up for and held their own place in a once absolutely male world, have women not stood up for their history? Their words and feelings? A whole world is hidden from us. Their war remains unknown... I want to write the history of that war. A women's history."

In the late 1970s, Svetlana Alexievich set out to write her first book, *The Unwomanly Face of War*, when she realized that she grew up surrounded by women who had fought in the Second World War but whose stories were absent from official

narratives. Travelling thousands of miles, she spent years interviewing hundreds of Soviet women – captains, tank drivers, snipers, pilots, nurses and doctors – who had experienced the war on the front lines, on the home front and in occupied territories. As it brings to light their most harrowing memories, this symphony of voices reveals a different side of war, a new range of feelings, smells and colours.

Source: [Booktopia](#)



The Fear and the Freedom.

How the Second World War Changed Us

By Keith Lowe

Penguin Books, July 2017

The Second World War was one of the most catastrophic events in human history. But how did the experience and memory of bloodshed affect our lives in the years that followed?

The new order, as it emerged after 1945, saw the end of European empires and the birth of two new superpowers, whose wrangling would lead to a new, global Cold War. Scientists delivered new technologies, politicians fantasized about overhauled societies, people changed their nationalities and dreamed of new lives. It was an era of wonder and terror.

As well as analysing the major changes, *The Fear and the Freedom* uses the stories of how ordinary people coped with the post-war world and turned one of the greatest traumas in history into an opportunity for change. This is the definitive exploration of the aftermath of WWII – and the impact it still has today on our nations, cities and families.

Source: [Booktopia](#)

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SHOOTING THE PAST



ABC Radio National's *Shooting the Past*

This program brings you Australian history through a new lens. Each episode features an historical event or era, and starts with a single photograph and the question: what is going on in this picture?



Introducing *Shooting the Past*

Friday 25 August 2017

A new history program from ABC RN. **Shooting The Past** brings you Australian history by using a photograph to discover the story behind it. Begins Friday September 1 at 1.30 pm on ABC RN, ABC Radio app and iTunes.



Download this item as MP3 (1.66MB)

Next episode:

All hands on deck

Friday 8 September 2017

Clare Wright massages the meaning behind an intriguing photograph which reveals a very different view of the White Australia era.



Download this item as MP3 (22.77MB)



See website for all episodes [HERE](#)

From the blog of the [Center for the Future of Museums](#) (10 August 2017):

AI and the Future of History



“If you could chat with any historical figure, who would you choose? That question (or a variants such as “who would you invite to dinner”) is used as a pick-up line, debated on the web, even used in in job interviews. Now, thanks to advances in artificial intelligence, it’s close to becoming a *practical* question, one with disruptive implications for museums that strive to help audiences engage with the past. What if museums and archives could actually invite people to speak with the dead?”

Read the full blog post [HERE](#).

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- **Oral History Australia, 2017 Biennial National 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

- **8th IPed National Editors Conference**

Advancing our profession

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

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

Workers of the world

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

- **Australian Society of Archivists**

Diverse people, diverse collections, diverse world

University of Melbourne, 25–28 September 2017. Details [HERE](#)

Information Technologies Indigenous Communities 2017 Conference

(being held alongside ASA Conference)

- **Verne Harris**, Director of Archive and Dialogue at the Nelson Mandela Foundation, will be a keynote speaker at this conference. See [HERE](#)

- **NSW Family History Conference**

Orange NSW, 21–24 September 2017

See website, program and registration [HERE](#).

- **Royal Australian Historical Society Conference**

Finding Lost Places, Lost People

Cowra Services Club, Cowra NSW, 28–29 October 2017

Download program and booking form [HERE](#).

More details and online booking [HERE](#).



- **International Oral History Association, XX Conference 2018**
Memory & Narration

University of Jyväskylä, **Finland**, 18–21 June, 2018. [DETAILS](#)

NOTE: the IOHA has a scholarship fund to assist people who meet certain criteria to attend the IOHA conference in Finland in 2018. (Oral History Australia has contributed \$1500 to this fund.) **Application deadline 30 December 2017**

Details, including selection criteria, available [HERE](#).

- **Oral History Association (USA) 2017 Annual Meeting**
Engaging audiences: Oral history and the public

Minneapolis, Minnesota, **USA**, 4–7 October 2017

[DETAILS](#) (See also the OUP Blog article on the [2016 Meeting](#))

- **Pears Institute for the Study of Antisemitism**
Beyond camps & forced labour: current research on survivors of Nazi persecution

Birkbeck, University of London & Wiener Library, **London UK**, 10–12 January 2018. [DETAILS](#)

- **Oral History Society**

With the Oral History Network of Ireland, QUOTE Hub,
Queen's University Belfast

Dangerous Oral Histories: risks, responsibilities and rewards

Queen's University Belfast, **Ireland**

28–29 June 2018. **Call for papers** & details [HERE](#).

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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 13-16 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 (October 2017) is

27 September 2017.

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

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