

ORAL HISTORY NETWORK NEWS

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Conferences – overseas

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- International Institute of Social History, Ireland, April 2018
- Oral History Society, Ireland, June 2018
- Oral History Association (North America), Canada, October 2018

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Interpreting Memories – An Advanced Oral History Workshop

Presented by **Oral History NSW &
State Library of NSW**



How do we make sense of the memories that we record as oral historians? How do we begin to transform stories into histories? In this workshop with oral historian **Alistair Thomson** we'll consider a range of ways of approaching the interpretation of memories.

We'll note the changing ways that researchers have used memory as a historical source. We'll consider the factors that shape memory stories. We'll try out narrative analysis with interview extracts (from Al's interviews with migrants and war veterans) using the rich clues of sound, gesture, word and narrative form.

You'll finish up brimming with ideas and enthusiasm for working with your own interviews (or other people's interviews), armed with lists of further reading if you wish to deepen your understanding.

This interactive workshop with one of the world's leading experts in oral history is suitable for people who have some experience of oral history interviewing and who would like to deepen their skills in interpreting and analysing recorded interviews.

Places are strictly limited
More information and online booking [HERE](#)

When: Saturday 7 April 2018, 10:30 am – 1:30 pm (registration from 10 am)

Where: Macquarie Room, State Library of NSW

Cost: \$70 (Oral History NSW members) – \$80 non-members

The presenter:

Alistair Thomson

Professor of History,
School of Philosophical, Historical and International Studies,
Monash University

Al Thomson's research and teaching explores the ways in which different kinds of life story evidence can illuminate the past and its meanings in the present lives of individuals and society. His books have explored the histories and memories of war veterans, migrants, adult learners and post-WW2 families, in Britain and Australia. As an internationally renowned oral historian, he writes about the theory and method of oral history and life history research, including research involving recorded and written memory, diaries and letters, and family photographs. His current work explores the opportunities and challenges of digital (oral) history, and the history of fatherhood in 20th century Australia.

See details of Alistair Thomson's publications [HERE](#).

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Workshop, 21 April 2018:



Capturing memories: Oral history in the digital age

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.

Are you interested in recording the memories of your family, your community or your workplace? Then come along to this very popular and informative workshop to equip you to undertake oral history interviews.

Workshop leaders will be **Janis Wilton**, 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.

Reference notes provided. **Bookings essential – limited places**

More information, online booking, transport options & details on presenters [HERE](#)

When:

Saturday 21 April 2018 – Registration 9:30am. Workshop commences: 9:45am; 4:30pm

Where:

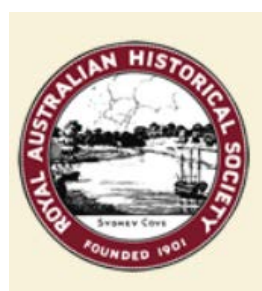
Information and Cultural Exchange, 8 Victoria Rd, Parramatta NSW 2150

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

Morning & afternoon tea included. Bring your own lunch, or purchase at nearby cafes.

Seminar, 4 May 2018:

RAHS / OHNSW Seminar: An Introduction to Oral History



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. Hear Oral History NSW Vice President, **Dr Scott McKinnon**, discuss the value of oral history and share examples from his own work.

About the speaker: Scott McKinnon is a Vice-Chancellor's Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of Wollongong and the Vice President of Oral History NSW. An experienced oral historian, he has worked on a range of projects in universities and in community history groups. Scott is the author of *Gay Men at the Movies: Cinema, Memory and the History of a Gay Male Community* (Intellect, 2016). He is the Vice President of [Sydney's Pride History Group](#).



When: 4 May 2018, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Where: RAHS, 133 Macquarie Street, Sydney

Cost: RAHS & OH NSW members: \$25. Non-members \$30. Book [HERE](#).

Enquiries: RAHS, Tel. 02-9247-8001. Email history@rahs.org.au

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Exhibition:



Serving in Silence? Australian LGBTI military service



In November 1992, the Australian government overturned a longstanding ban on gays, lesbians and bisexuals serving in the Australian Defence Force. Transgender service would continue to be banned until September 2010. Yet, LGBTI people were serving in the military long before these milestones, with a range of experiences.

To commemorate 25 years since lifting the LGB ban, this exhibition showcases the history of LGBTI military service in Australia since World War II.

This exhibition derives from a larger research project on the

history of LGBTI military service. The collection is being co-sponsored by the [Australian Lesbian and Gay Archives](#) and [Sydney Pride History Group](#) as part of Sydney's Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras Festival.

When: Every day, 12:00 to 6:00 pm, till Sunday 4 March 2018

Where: TAP Gallery, 259 Riley Street, Surry Hills

Cost: Free. See more details, and location map [HERE](#).

THE CONVERSATION



Shirleene Robinson in *The Conversation* talks about her interviews with lesbian women who served in branches of the Australian military as part of a [project examining LGBT Australians in the military](#).

"I have interviewed more than 25 lesbian women who served in branches of the Australian military between the 1960s and the present as part of [this project]. Many of these women have told me of how they realised and acted on their sexuality while in the military."



See the full article [HERE](#).

Dr. Shirleene Robinson is an Associate Professor and Vice Chancellor's Innovation Fellow at Macquarie University

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Broome Winter School

12 – 14 June 2018



Goolari Media Enterprises Sound Recordist Arthur Hunter with course participant Kylie Weatherall at the accredited oral history training in Broome

The nationally accredited oral history training course will be delivered over three days at the annual Broome Oral History Winter School, by **Dr Elaine Rabbitt** (PhD oral history) and **Goolarri** Sound Recordist **Arthur Hunter**.

Elaine recently conducted her workshop in Perth, which was attended by two of Oral History Queensland members from Supreme Court Library Queensland. The feedback was very positive, and you can read Katee Dean's report [HERE](#).

See [HERE](#) for full details, including:

- who should attend
- workshop content
- certification
- costs
- student testimonies



Charles University, Czech Republic Department of Oral History–Contemporary History

Oral History–Contemporary History Master's program

Admission to the **Oral History – Contemporary History** program is open until **July 31 2018**. The course is a 2-year Master's study program in a combined (part-time) form of study and as the name suggests, the program aims to educate students in contemporary history as well as in methodology of oral history.

The department is a part of Faculty of Humanities, Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic, and we also closely cooperate with the Oral History Centre at the Institute of Contemporary History, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic.

More detail for applicants [HERE](#).

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History Council NSW awards & prizes



HC NSW's program of awards and prizes foster excellence in Australian historical writing, showcase and reward best practice, and advance and promote public understanding and appreciation of history. They offer a number of yearly awards and prizes totalling \$6,500 in prize money.

Submissions for the History Council of NSW's 2018 awards and prizes are now open. All submissions for the below prizes and awards must be made by **31 March 2018**. Nomination forms and further information can be found [HERE](#).

- **Aboriginal History Prize** – Encourages students and other beginning historians (up to post-doctoral career) in the writing of Australian Aboriginal history, including Torres Strait Islander history, from original sources. The winner will receive a \$1,000 prize.
- **Deen De Bortoli Award for Applied History** – Generously funded by the De Bortoli family, the purpose of the award is to encourage historians writing Australian political, social, cultural and environmental history to approach their subjects in ways that use the past to inform contemporary concerns and issues. The winner will receive a citation and a prize of \$5,000.
- **Max Kelly Medal** – The Max Kelly Medal plus a prize of \$500, generously donated by Geoffrey Jones, is awarded annually to a 'beginning' historian for a work of excellence in any aspect of Australian history.

The History Council of NSW also supports [Create NSW](#) in its administration of the NSW Premier's History Awards and Fellowships. If you have any questions please [contact](#) the Council, and subscribe to the e-newsletter to receive announcements.



**Professional Historians Association
National Conference 2018
MARKING TIME
Sydney 30 – 31 August 2018**

See here for the [CALL FOR PAPERS](#).
Deadline for abstracts is **Monday 26 March 2018**

Kevin Bradley awarded Public Service Medal



The award is for: "Outstanding public service through the digital preservation of audio visual heritage material."

Kevin is Acting Assistant Director General, Collection Management at the National Library of Australia, where he has been the driving force in the development of innovative approaches to preserving, and providing Australians with access to, the library's significant collection of unique [oral history and folklore recordings](#).



He has also been President and Executive member of the [International Association of Sound and Audiovisual Archives](#) (IASA) and [UNESCO's Memory of the World](#) Subcommittee on Technology and Information for the All Program Technical Committee.

See the full citation [HERE](#).

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From the Oxford University Press blog:



Context Matters: Interviewing Political Women in the Age of Trump

In this, the second in a series of guest posts considering the role and significance of oral history during our current political climate, Natalie Fousekis reflects on interviewing women involved in California politics in the years leading up to and following the historic presidential candidacy of Hillary Clinton.

See the full blog post [HERE](#), including audio clips.



Breaking away from passive history in the digital age

By [Stéphane Lévesque](#) Adjunct Professor, University of Ottawa, on 15 October 2015, in [Public History Weekly](#).



“In *Teaching History in the Digital Age*, [Mills Kelly](#) recounts a teaching anecdote with millennial students. At the beginning of a history class, an avid student informed Kelly that he had “fixed” the Nuremberg video they watched during the previous session.

“Fixing” History

Stunned, Kelly decided to show this modified version to the class. It was the same Universal Newsreel but much of the music track had been replaced with new background music: bass notes from the movie *Jaws* and passages from Mozart’s *Requiem*. As the student then explained, the new music was much more appropriate to the seriousness of the situation. “From now on, Professor Kelly,” he insisted, “you should use my version.” Kelly, the scholarly historian, tried as much as he could to explain that the remix was very creative but not the original source of the time. Unimpressed, the student shrugged his shoulders and replied: “Yeah, but mine’s better.” Welcome to the digital world! ...

Technology and its impact on “doing history”

The impact of technology on history is such that the American Historical Association (AHA) just released the first ever guidelines for the evaluation of digital scholarship in history. Around the world there is growing evidence of this impact, from digital archives and oral history collections through to data management software, serious games, digital learning resources, and MOOCs (massive open online courses). ... ”

Read the full article [HERE](#).

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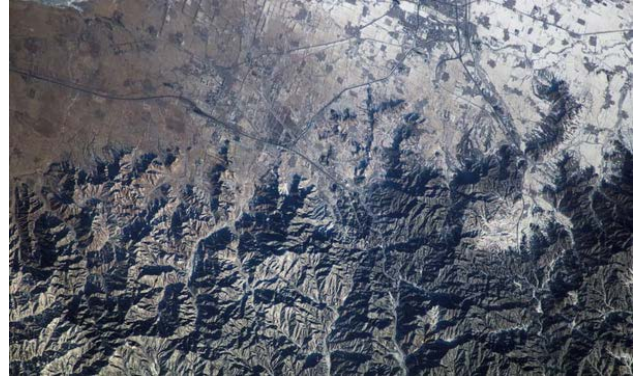
Making Public History in China

Some Patterns of Making Public History in China (1)

Li, Na: *Public History Weekly*, 26 October 2017

“ The oral history of an intangible heritage — disappearing tradition and culture, including traditional arts, and a variety of folk cultural forms — has flourished at both national and provincial levels [in China]. In some cases, oral histories excite the official gaze. Tianjing Intangible Heritage Conservation Centre, for example, has conducted about 92 oral history interviews of the inheritors and collected about 400 hours of oral history. Also, the Veteran Oral History Project, an effort to salvage veterans history, funded by the prestigious National Funds for Social Research, reflects a research focus that attracts national attention. In Guangzhou, the Center for Oral History Data, based on local archives and funded by the municipal government, was established in 2016. It is part of the local chronicles, funded by the provincial government, and is the first of its kind in China. ”

Read the full post [HERE](#).



Some Patterns of Making Public History in China (2)

Li, Na: *Public History Weekly*, 23 November 2017

“ The “Chinese and the Pasts” project is designed to better scale the landscape of public history in China. The project takes place in a social context marked by a freer and unprecedented flow of information, creative knowledge sharing, and a growing consumption of history in China’s first fifteen years of the twenty-first century. ... The project differs from the previous studies in the following ways: Firstly, it emphasizes places or sites of public history. Secondly, the project utilizes new media and digital storytelling. Thirdly, it adds oral history interviews with selected questions to each section. ”

Read the full post [HERE](#).



ORAL HISTORY AUSTRALIA JOURNAL No. 39, 2017

Moving memories: Oral History in a Global World

Commencing with the current 2017 issue, the Journal is now published in electronic format only, and is available to OHA-affiliated state oral history association members through a password-protected link. Log-in details are issued to members annually when a new issue becomes available.

See current issue member access details [HERE](#).

See [HERE](#) for access to previous issues of the Journal.

Access **indexes** to issues of the Journal [HERE](#) (2017 indexes to be added soon)

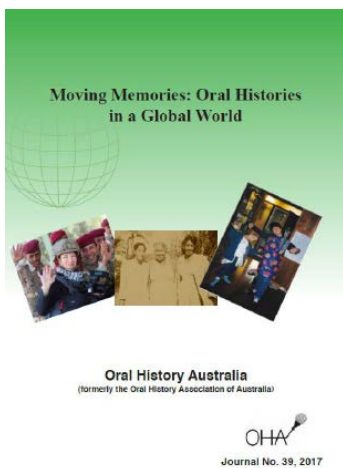
Call for papers for OHA Journal No. 40, 2018

See [HERE](#) for the full call for papers for the next issue of the Journal, including description of categories, themes etc. Submission deadline for 2018 issue:

1 April 2018

(Submissions for peer-review of papers for the 2018 issue are now closed.)

See [HERE](#) for more details and guidelines for contributors etc.



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Canadian Oral History Association's 2017 Journal now on open access

The 2017 issue of *Oral History Forum d'histoire orale* has just been made available in an open access format. Following is the Table of Contents. Click on PDF to view content of each item.

- **Editorial note**, Janis Thiessen. [PDF](#).
- **Article (peer reviewed)**
 - Building the Oral History Program at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights
Heather Bidzinski, Jodi Giesbrecht, Rhonda L. Hinthner, Sharon Reilly. [PDF](#)
- **Reviews**
 - Memory, Subjectivities, and Representation: Approaches to Oral History in Latin America, Portugal, and Spain. Hendrikje Grunow. [PDF](#).
 - Marching Through Suffering: Loss and Survival in North Korea. Immanuel Kim. [PDF](#).
 - Dedicated to God: An Oral History of Cloistered Nuns. Nancy Nason-Clark. [PDF](#).
 - Serve the People: Making Asian America in the Long Sixties. Chris Bettinger. [PDF](#).
 - What We Learned: Two Generations Reflect on Tsimshian Education and the Day Schools.
Elaine Coburn. [PDF](#).
 - Reclaiming the Personal: Oral History in Post-Socialist Europe. Sara Rzayeva. [PDF](#).
 - The Vimy Trap: Or, How We Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Great War. John Bell. [PDF](#).
 - Negotiating Genocide in Rwanda: The Politics of History. Samantha Lakin. [PDF](#).

Holding the baby



Ever wondered what parenting in the past was like? Discover tales of love and worries, family support and postnatal depression, working mums and stay-at-home-dads in this podcast and travelling exhibition.



Sad to give it up

John chose to stay at home and look after his baby son Joe in the early 1990s, when you didn't see many other dads looking after babies. John and Joe talk together about what the decision meant to their relationship. See transcript & audio [HERE](#).

Not judging

Eva and Norah met at Stepney City Farm when they were both new parents in the mid-1980s and formed a friendship that lasts to this day. They discuss their different paths: Eva returned to work outside the home while Norah became her childminder. See transcript & audio [HERE](#).



See the [Holding the Baby](#) website for audio & transcripts
of four more stories in this series.

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CONFERENCES etc. – Australia

- **Museums Galleries Australia National Conference 2018**

Agents of Change

Meat Market, **Melbourne**, 4-7 June 2018. Details [HERE](#).

- **Professional Historians Association National Conference 2018**

Marking Time

Sydney, 30 – 31 August 2018 – See here for the [CALL FOR PAPERS](#).

Deadline for abstracts is **Monday 26 March 2018**

- **The German-Australian Genealogy and History Alliance**

GAGHACon 2018,

Australisches Deutschtum: Reconnections – Recollections – Resilience.

This conference will be the first time researchers from across Australia will gather to network and discuss German-Australian history, heritage and culture.

Adelaide, 17–19 August 2018, Details [HERE](#).



GERMAN -
AUSTRALIAN
GENEALOGY
& HISTORY
ALLIANCE

- **Oral History Australia National Conference 2019**

The next national biennial conference will be held in **Queensland** in 2019.

Details will be posted to the [OHA website](#) as they become available.



CONFERENCES etc. – Overseas



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

Memory & Narration

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

- **International Institute of Social History
Twelfth European Social Science History Conference
*Time in oral history and life stories***

Queen's University, Belfast, **Ireland**, 4–7 April 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. See details [HERE](#).

Oral History NSW is offering one grant of \$1,200 AUD to any member undertaking research based on or concerning oral history and presenting a paper at this conference in 2018.

Application deadline: 1 March 2018

Details, including eligibility criteria & application form, available [HERE](#).



- **Oral History Association 2018 Annual Meeting
*Oral history in our challenging times***

10–13 October 2018, Concordia University, Quebec, **Canada**.

See 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.
- 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. See more about the award & past recipients [HERE](#).
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 the RAHS website [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?

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 2018) is

26 March 2018.

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

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