

ORAL HISTORY NETWORK NEWS

No 90, March 2019

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Conferences – Australia

- Oral History Australia Biennial Conference 2019, Brisbane, October 2019
- ▶ Museums Galleries Australia National Conference, Alice Springs, May 2019
- Australian Historical Association Conference 2019, Toowoomba Qld., July 2019
- Prison Medicine: Health & Incarceration in History, Parramatta NSW, May 2019

Conferences – overseas

- Oral History Association 2019 Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA, October 2019
- Oral History Society, Swansea UK, July 2019
- Korean Oral History Association, Seoul, June 2019
- Professional Historians' Association of New Zealand/Aotearoa, Wellington NZ, April 2019
- Oral History Network Ireland, Limerick City, Ireland, June 2019
- Oral History NSW, Membership etc.



Father Christmas arriving in a Bristol Sycamore helicopter at the Woomera School.

Photo courtesy of Colin Mackellar.

See: Father Christmas always arrives in a helicopter, Listening to the Past, p. 12 below



OHA Biennial Conference Intimate Stories, Challenging Histories 10–13 October 2019



State Library of Queensland, Brisbane

The deadline for offers of presentations has now been extended to 8 March 2019



The 2019 Biennial Oral History Australia Conference takes place in our 40th anniversary year. **Oral History Queensland** and **Oral History Australia** are presenting the conference in partnership with the **State Library of Queensland** and **Queensland Memory**.

The main conference will be on Friday 11 October and Saturday 12 October 2019. Oral history training workshops will be held at a Brisbane venue on Thursday 10 October. Following the conference, on Sunday 13 October, a selection of history walks and tours will introduce participants to the region's rich and diverse communities of memory.

Deadline for proposals: 8 March 2019

To download a PDF of the **Call for Presentations** and how to submit a proposal, see **HERE**.

See **HERE** for keynote themes and speakers.

General information about the conference is available on the conference home page.



Bursaries for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander presenters at the 2019 OHA conference

In recognition of 2019 as the United Nations Year of Indigenous Languages, Oral History Australia (OHA) is pleased to announce it is offering two bursaries of up to \$750 each for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander oral historians who have had a proposal accepted to present at the 2019 Biennial OHA Conference, Brisbane, 10–13 October 2019.

Please see details **HERE**:

Closing date for bursary applications is 1 May 2019.



Oral History Australia Journal No. 41, 2019 Call for papers - Special issue: **Oral History and the Emotions**

See the full call for papers HERE for more detail on the theme, and where to forward contributions.

Contributions are invited in three categories:

A. Papers on the theme 'Oral History and the Emotions'. Papers in Category A may be submitted to the Oral History Australia Editorial Board for peer-review.

> **Deadline (for Category A papers submitted** for peer-review): 31 March 2019

Deadline (for Category A papers not submitted for peer-review):

31 May 2019

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.

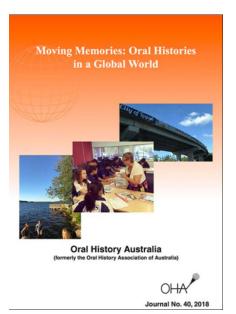
Deadline: 31 May 2019

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: 1 April 2019

2018 OHA Journal now available

A copy is now available via a password-protected link in the national website. All financial members should have received a notice from their state oral history organisation advising the login details. If you have not received this advice, please contact your state association.









Congratulations to Alistair Thomson, who has received an award for **Teaching Excellence in Humanities and Arts** in the 2018 Australian Awards for University Teaching by Universities Australia. In a career spanning three decades, Alistair Thomson has established an international reputation for ground-breaking history teaching. His innovative teaching partnerships with industry and community organisations sees students research and write history, as well as gain the skills needed to work in the history and cultural industries. He is currently President of Oral History Australia.

Read more **HERE**.







18 April - 19 May 2019

Registrations open

The Australian Heritage Festival is an inclusive event, encouraging different interpretations of heritage and culture around the country. The organisers invite a diverse range of events to create one big festival across the nation. The theme this year is:

Connecting People, Places and the Past.

Events across Australia will be held at historic buildings, landmarks, shipwrecks and sacred sites. The festival will bring together communities from all walks of life to recognise and celebrate heritage and culture through ceremony, song and dance, performance art, art in various media and artefacts, talks on books and stories, and guided tours of towns, places and spaces. The Australian Heritage Festival will bring to life all chapters of Australian culture and history, telling the stories of diverse and distinctive experiences that make up our communities.

See the Festival website HERE. Register your event HERE.



Frances Rush awarded OAM

Oral History NSW congratulates long-time member Frances Rush on being awarded an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) last week for work with communities. Frances first worked in oral history in the early 1990s. She was a committee member of Oral History NSW from 2005 to 2011.

Her oral history projects include People of the Cross (with Gina Lennox) held at the State Library of NSW; interviews on the social impact of polio in Australia held at the National Library of Australia; Stuff Happens — an oral history project on squalor and hoarding for the NSW Public Guardian & Catholic Community Services; and interviews for the Forgotten Australians and Former Child Migrants Oral History Project.

SEEKING INFORMATION – Lilian Egan interview

In the late 1970s or early 1980s an interview was recorded with Lilian, a retired school teacher, aged in her 90s, at her home in Stanmore NSW. Lillian's great-nephew recalls the occasion, but cannot remember the name of the interviewer, the organisation or institution for whom the interviews were being conducted, nor the name of the series. Lilian spoke about travelling as a young girl to their new farm at Gunnedah by wagon. Amongst the other topics she talked about was her sister **Annie Egan**, her service with the Australian Army Nursing Service and her death on 2 December 1918 whilst nursing victims of the Influenza epidemic at North Head Quarantine Station.

If anyone has any information about this interview or where to locate a copy, please contact **Alison McCallum**, who is a volunteer assisting two of Annie Egan's nephews draft a submission to have her WW1 service recognised. Phone Alison on (07) 3356 8240 to leave your contact details; or email her at:

mccallumalison8@gmail.com



Monash University:

PhD Scholarship in Historical Studies: 'Australian Fathers and Broken Families'

As part of the successful Australian Research Council Discovery Project, 'Fatherhood: an Australian History, 1919-2019', Monash University Arts Graduate Research is funding a PhD scholarship on the topic 'Australian Fathers and Broken Families', for a 3-years, 3-months fixed appointment.

The research project team comprises **Professor Alistair Thomson** (Monash, project leader), **Dr Kate Murphy** (Monash), **Dr Johnny Bell** (Monash), **Professor John Murphy** (University of Melbourne) and **Professor Michael Roper** (Essex University UK), and will be supported by an advisory committee comprising leading national and international historians of the family.

The successful applicant will engage with and be supported by this collaborative research team. The primary supervisor for the PhD research will be internationally-renowned oral historian **Alistair Thomson**, who has supervised more than 30 graduate research students to successful completion at Monash and at the University of Sussex in England. Associate supervisor will be social historian **Dr Kate Murphy**.

For full details see **HERE**. Closing date for expressions of interest: **15 March 2019**.

ÖUTS

Digital Histories

Digital history is not just a buzz word. It is a revolutionary approach to historical scholarship and teaching that has the power to alter how we understand and explore the past. The digital history node at the Australian Centre for Public History at the University of Technology, Sydney, examines the implications of new technologies for history-making, and empowers staff and students to embrace the digital humanities, data science and the internet's democratisation of historical knowledge and research. Node Leader: Alana Piper.

Questions the digital history node investigates in its research and events include:

- What are the implications of the digital sphere for history?
- How can digital methods reshape the way we analyse the past?
- How can big data create new histories and forms of historical knowledge?
- What types of digital literacies does the contemporary historian or history student need?
- How can digital platforms change the way we engage with our audiences and collaborators?

The Digital Histories node is currently conducting a brief survey to assess the digital skills and needs of UTS staff and members of the Australian Centre for Public History. You can complete the survey **HERE**. **!**



Lane Cove Historical Society:

Lane Cove History Prize

The aim of the Lane Cove History Prize is to encourage original research into the history of Lane Cove and its environs, extending knowledge of the area and its people. It is intended that the research will contribute to an enriched understanding of Lane Cove, both past and present. The winner will receive \$2,000.

For the 2019 prize, entrants may submit either:

- an essay (5,000 to 7,000 words),
- a digitally-produced oral history (30 to 45 minutes duration) with transcript, or
- a DVD (7 to 10 minutes)

For full details, conditions of entry and entry form, see **HERE**.

Closing date: Friday 31 August 2019

Call for papers:







Conference:

Prison Medicine: Health & Incarceration in History

2—3 May 2019, Old Parramatta Gaol,
Parramatta

Researchers, scholars, historians, policy makers, doctors, nurses and other stakeholders are welcome to submit an original research paper or presentation on the theme of the history of health and health services in prisons. We invite responses to this theme in a variety of formats:

- formal papers (20 minutes long)
- panels (75 minutes long including 15 minutes for Q and A)
- posters, and
- flash presentations (5 minute presentations in which a speaker describes an area of research).

See the full details of the conference and the call for papers **HERE**. Note: closing date for abstracts has been extended to Monday 10 March 2019

Further enquiries: **Dr Vanessa Witton,**Research Assistant, School of Medicine | Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health
Email vwitton@uow.edu.au

Conference duration: Two days with an evening 'Ghost Tour' of Old Parramatta Gaol.
Location: Old Parramatta Gaol cnr. New & Dunlop Streets Nth Parramatta.

Directions: Beside the historic Lennox Bridge, a 10 minute walk from Parramatta Station and River Cat ferry wharf.

Newcastle Writers Festival 2019:



History Council of NSW Masterclass Memory and Monuments

The impulse to memorialise people and events has led to the establishment of a range of monuments in urban landscapes. Increasingly, monuments have been verbally or physically attacked and, in some cases, removed. This masterclass will focus on the ongoing histories of monuments, testing the implications of preservation and removal, and how memorials can be revived, reinterpreted or replaced. The three speakers will address Captain Cook, countermemorials and the 'statue wars'; the memorial to the band on the *Titanic* in Broken Hill; and the coal monument in Newcastle.

Join the History Council of NSW with **Richard Neville** hosting guest speakers **Nancy Cushing** (University of Newcastle), **Stephen Gapps** (Australian Maritime Museum) and **Tamson Pietsch** (Australian Centre for Public History) as they share their skills and experience and discuss this timely and somewhat controversial topic. Read more about the event and the speakers **HERE**.

This is a free event, but places are strictly limited so please register.

When: Friday 5th April 2019, 11am to 1pm

Where: Level 3, Room x321, NewSpace, University of Newcastle

Cnr. Hunter and Auckland Streets (Enter on Hunter St).

Cost: Free, but registration is essential. Please register **HERE**.

Contact: admin@newcastlewritersfestival.org.au



Job opportunity at the History Council of NSW

A rare opportunity is available for someone to join the History Council of NSW as their **Programs and Administrative Officer**.

As part of a small and dedicated team, the Programs & Administrative Officer will be required to undertake take day-to-day administrative tasks and event coordination in the HCNSW office. This includes membership services, social media, program coordination, bookkeeping and support for the Executive Officer, to whom this position reports.

Applicants should be prepared to work occasional flexible hours to assist with evening and weekend events.

To find out more and apply for this role see **HERE**. Closing date: **Sunday 3 March 2019**



NLA's digital classroom The Use & Influence of Science

This classroom resource – one of many for year 3 through to senior years – is aligned to the **Australian Curriculum: Science for Year 9 students**. It draws on the National Library of Australia's **Oral History and Folklore Collection**, which has recorded the thoughts and stories of thousands of influential Australians from all disciplines.

It engages students with a rich selection of historical sources and challenges them to draw their own conclusions—not only about science and technology, but about the people behind the discoveries. It highlights four influential Australian scientists and uses their oral history recordings, giving some background to their major discoveries and exploring their early influences and the struggles they faced before and after their successes.

By bringing a personal side to science, this resource gives students a better understanding of the role of scientists; the responsibilities that come of great discoveries; and the ways in which ideas, career paths and goals are shaped and redefined throughout a person's life.

Access this resource HERE.

See more on NLA's digital classroom, and resources for year 3 through to senior years HERE.





The Australian Centre for Public History will be hosting GLAMSLAM in partnership with the State Library of NSW,

9 am - 5 pm, 15 March 2019 at the State Library.

GLAMSLAM is a day for all those working in or with galleries, libraries, archives and museums – to come together and talk about the pressing issues facing cultural institutions and to share their work.

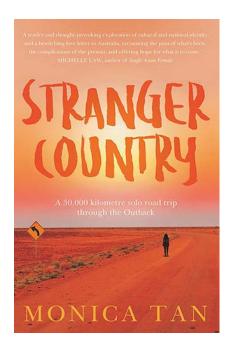
Combining discussion with provocations, Lightning Talks, showcase booths and opportunities to meet and GLAMJAM these issues along with two keynote presentations, GLAMSLAM 2019 will aim to map out the challenges and opportunities facing Galleries, Libraries, Archives and Museums, and think about how we might work together to tackle them.

The keynote speakers for GLAMSLAM 2019 will be **Julian Meyrick** (Flinders) and **David Ritter** (Greenpeace Australia Pacific).

Read more about event details & costs **HERE**. See the program **HERE**. **REGISTER HERE**.

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Stranger Country

Monica Tan. Allen & Unwin Launching 6 March 2019

Tracks meets Wild in this account of Chinese Australian journalist Monica Tan's 6-month odyssey though outback Australia.

'Will I ever really belong to this country? As a Chinese Australian? As a non-Indigenous Australian? . . . I was 32 years old and barely knew the country of my birth. It was time to change that.'

What happens when a 32-year-old first-generation Australian woman decides to chuck in a dream job, pack a sleeping bag and tent, and hit the long, dusty road for six months?

Thirty-thousand kilometres later, Monica Tan has the answer, and it completely surprises her. — Allen & Unwin website HERE.

Monica Tan is the former deputy culture editor of *Guardian Australia* and co-host of the *Token* podcast. *Stranger Country* is her first book.

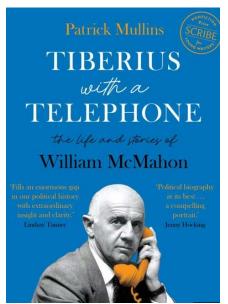
Join the launch by federal senator **Mehreen Faruqi**, followed by Monica hosting a conversation on what it means to be Australian in 2019, joined by author and *Guardian* editor **Bridie Jabour** (*The Way Things Should Be*), academic and assistant museum curator **Mariko Smith**, and filmmaker **Tyson Mowarin** (*Connection to Country*):

• 6:30 pm, 6 March 2019, The Vanguard Newtown, 42 King Street Newtown.

Register and read more about the event HERE.

Tiberius with a Telephone The life and Stories of William McMahon

Patrick Mullins, Scribe, October 2018



'Tiberius with a telephone' was the moniker the then-ascendant leader of the opposition, Gough Whitlam, used to mock prime minister William 'Billy' McMahon about his political intriguing. It's also the title of a new account of the long-neglected McMahon, Australia's 20th prime minister, and the events that led to his government being tumbled from power, so ending an unbroken 23-year Liberal-Country Party reign."

— Duncan Hughes*

A man whose life was coloured by tragedy, comedy, persistence, courage, farce, and failure, McMahon's story has never been told at length. *Tiberius with a Telephone* fills that gap, using deep archival research and extensive interviews with McMahon's contemporaries and colleagues. It is a *tour de force* – an authoritative, compelling, and colourful account of a unique politician and a vital period in Australia's history."

— FAHS eBulletin 186, Feb-2019

*Read the full Duncan Hughes' review in The Age HERE.



Listen to a podcast of Patrick Mullins interviewed by Philip Adams on ABC RN's Late Night Live, November 2018 HERE.

Find hardback or e-book HERE.

Circa: The Journal of Professional Historians

Call for contributions

The journal Circa is divided into four sections that reflect recurring themes in professional history:



- Explorations: Issues we face as professional historians
- Discoveries: Discovering and telling a story
- Reflections: Thinking about history, its impact on us and our role in understanding it
- Practices: Practical advice and guidance for professional historians

The journal also publishes book reviews.

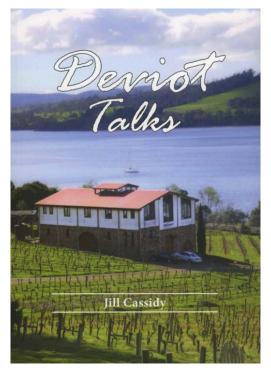
For more information, contact the Editor, Chris Cheater, email circa@historians.org.au

Deadline for abstracts for the next edition: 31 July 2019



The 2018 issue of the delayed open-access e-journal of the **Canadian Oral History Association** has just been made available.

See the contents listing, and access articles **HERE**.



Deviot TalksBy Jill Cassidy

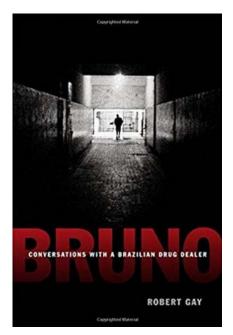
Jill Cassidy worked in the history department of the Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery for 20 years and is now an Honorary Research Associate. She is President of Oral History Tasmania, and received the Hazel de Berg Award for excellence in Oral History in 2015.

Deviot Talks is about the history of Deviot on the West Tamar River. Deviot is easy to bypass, nestled as it is on the banks of Kanamaluka/the Tamar River between Sidmouth and Robigana, and stretching westwards. But it has had a fascinating history, from its beginnings in pastoralism, through the orcharding boom of the early twentieth century, to a holiday destination and now a thriving settlement of commuters and retirees. This is the story of Deviot, told in part in the words of its past and present residents.

See a full content list and order form **HERE**. Enquiries: email **jill@deviottalks.com** or tel. 0418 178 098

Bruno: Conversations with a Brazilian Drug Dealer

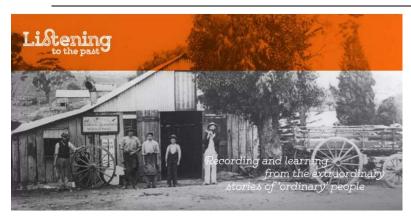
Robert Gay. Durham; London: Duke University Press Books, 2015



My book tells the story of a young man who, in the early 1980s, became involved with the Brazilian drug trade. Posted to the border with Bolivia, he took advantage of his role as a corporal in the Brazilian Navy to supply cocaine to Rio de Janeiro's favelas which were increasingly under the control of a criminal organization known as the Comando Vermelho (CV). Eight years into his career as a trafficker, he was arrested in Rio and sent to a civilian prison where he joined the CV and emerged as one of its leaders. ...

"The book is essentially a recorded conversation between me and 'Bruno' that I conducted over the course of seven visits to Rio between January 2007 and March 2008. I first met Bruno in 1999, a few days after he was released from prison. It wasn't until seven years later, however, after we had become friends, that he literally turned to me one day and said, 'I'm ready to tell my story'— a story he hadn't told anyone and that was tearing him up inside.
— Robert Gay

See author's full interview in Oral History Review blog. Available in Australia through Amazon.



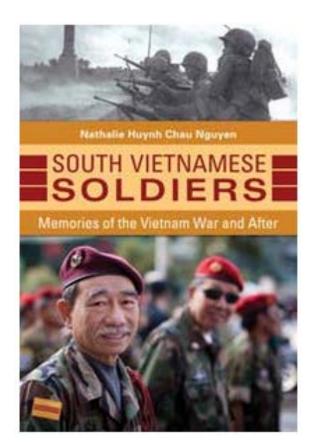


Top 5 posts for 2018 on Listening to the Past



- 1. How to make an excellent oral history recording: top tips from an audio engineer. State Library of South Australia audio engineer, Peter Kolomitsev, gave his top tips for making excellent recordings of oral history interviews. Listen HERE.
- 2. Choosing suitable audio equipment for oral history interviews: perspectives of an audio engineer. In this post, the audio engineer at the State Library of South Australia explained what equipment to use for excellent quality oral history recordings, and what to avoid and why. Listen HERE.
- **3. Father Christmas always arrives in a helicopter.** Oral history interviewees recall Father Christmas arriving in an Alouette helicopter on the school oval in Woomera. Listen **HERE**.
- **4. 'Living fossils' in the desert**. The salt lakes around Woomera are usually dry, but on the rare occasions when it rains, they come to life with ancient-looking creatures called shield shrimps or tadpole shrimps. Listen **HERE**.
- **5.** Mournful crows, burning legs on metal slides, and other memories of summer. Oral history interviewees recalled the effects of the extreme heat of summer in Woomera on roads, play equipment and crows. Listen HERE.

See the full post HERE.



South Vietnamese SoldiersMemories of the Vietnam War and After

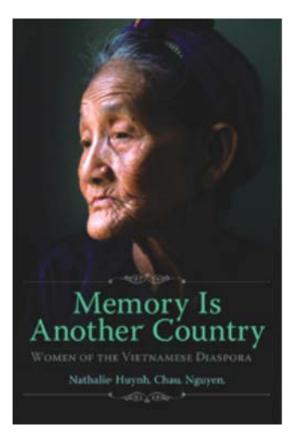
Nathalie Huynh Chau Nguyen March 2016, Praeger

Published on the 40th anniversary of the end of the war in Vietnam, this book brings to life the experiences and memories of South Vietnamese soldiers—the forgotten combatants of this controversial conflict.

"South Vietnam lost more than a quarter of a million soldiers in the Vietnam War, yet the histories of these men—and women—are largely absent from the vast historiography of the conflict. By focusing on oral histories related by 40 veterans from the former Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces, this book breaks new ground, shedding light on an essentially unexplored aspect of the war and giving voice to those who have been voiceless.

More detail **HERE**, and links to reviews **HERE**.

See *Oral History Review* blog for an interview with the author **HERE**.



Memory Is Another Country: Women of the Vietnamese Diaspora

Nathalie Huynh Chau Nguyen August 2009, Praeger

Reveals the experiences of Vietnamese women refugees since the end of the Vietnam War. ... This book is a valuable and original contribution to the field of diaspora studies. Based on in-depth oral narratives of forty Vietnamese women, it deals with themes both universal and specific to this diaspora: divergent memories in families, the significance of homeland, the return to Vietnam, cross-cultural relationships, intergenerational tensions, and the issues of silence and unspoken trauma among Vietnamese refugees.

See more detail, author information, reviews etc. **HERE**.



Oral History Australia Biennial Conference 2019 Intimate Stories, Challenging Histories

State Library of Queensland, Brisbane, 10-13 October 2019



See details **HERE**

The call for presentations has been extended to 8 March 2019



Australian Museums and Galleries Association
 Our People, Our Places, Our Practices

Alice Springs (Mparntwe), NT, 13-17 May 2019

See details HERE.







Australian Historical Association Conference 2019: Local Communities, Global Networks

Monday 8 – Friday 12 July 2019, at University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba

How have the local and the global intersected, inspired

and transformed experiences within and from Australia's history? How do the histories of Indigenous, imperial, migrant and the myriad of other communities and networks inform, contest and shape knowledge about Australia today? The conference theme speaks to the centrality of History for engaging with community and family networks. Constructing livelihoods within an empire and a nation that have had a global reach, local communities have responded in diverse ways. The varieties of historical enquiry into this past enrich our understanding of Australian and world history. Paper and panel proposals are welcomed on any geographical area, time period, or field of history, especially those relating to the theme of 'Local communities, global networks'.

For all program and registration details, visit the conference website **HERE**.







• Prison Medicine: Health & Incarceration in History

Old Parramatta Gaol, Parramatta, 2 & 3 May 2019
See the full details of the conference
and the call for papers HERE.

Note: closing date for abstracts has been extended to Monday 10 March 2019

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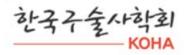


Oral History Association 2019 Annual Meeting
 Pathways in the Field: Considerations for those Working In, On and Around Oral History

Salt Lake City, Utah, USA, 16–19 October 2019 See details HERE.



Oral History Society
 Oral History @ Work. Recording Change in Working Lives
 Prifysgol Abertawe – Swansea University, U.K., 5–6 July 2019



Korean Oral History Association
 Beyond 'Oral History' and Back to Oral Histories

Details **HERE**.

Tenth Anniversary Conference Seoul, South Korea, 1 June 2019. Details HERE.



 Professional Historians' Association of New Zealand/Aotearoa, Conference 2019:

After the War – What's next?

Massey University, Wellington NZ, 13–14 April 2019

Note: Call for papers open till 31 March 2019

Details and registration HERE.

Oral History Network Ireland

Líonra Stair Bhéil na hEireann

• 2019 Oral History Network Ireland Conference Oral History in a Digital World

Mary Immaculate College, Limerick City, Ireland, 28–29 June 2019
Details 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 2019) is

26 March 2019.

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

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What 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**.