



ORAL HISTORY  
———NSW———

# ORAL HISTORY NETWORK NEWS

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### **► Oral History NSW Membership & Contacts**

### **Oral History NSW membership renewals**

Renewals are now due, and renewal notices have been emailed.

If you have not received the reminder, please check your SPAM folder, or renew at:

<https://www.oralhistorynsw.org.au/membership/membership>

# Oral History Australia Biennial Conference 2019

## *Intimate Stories, Challenging Histories*

**10—13 October 2019**

State Library of Queensland, Brisbane

Through oral history recordings we hear the intimate stories of everyday lives, and we create histories that challenge orthodoxy and speak truth to power. Oral history drills beneath the big histories of state, society and politics, and illuminates ordinary people's extraordinary lives.

The 2019 Biennial Oral History Australia Conference takes place in our 40<sup>th</sup> 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 conference will include oral history training workshops, and a selection of history walks and tours.



**REGISTRATIONS now open**  
**Book before 1 August 2019 for early-bird rates.**

### Conference links:

- [Conference home page](#)
- [Registration information](#)
- [Registration on Eventbrite](#)
- [Keynote themes & speakers](#)

For further information or to join the conference mailing list, email [oralhistoryqld@gmail.com](mailto:oralhistoryqld@gmail.com)



**Keynote speakers** will include Associate Professor **Katrina Srigley** from **Nipissing University** in Canada, co-editor of *Beyond Women's Words: feminisms and the practices of oral history in the twenty-first century* (2018), and currently co-researching *Gaa Bi Kidwaad Maa Nbisiing: A-Kii Bemaadzijik, E-Niigannwang: The Stories of Nbisiing: the Land, the People, the Future*; and *Nbisiing Anishinabek Biimadiziwin: to understand the past and shape the future*, in partnership with Nipissing First Nation.

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## Oral History NSW & Royal Australian Historical Society Present: **Mastering the Recording**

A hands-on training day to help you become confident with the technical side of oral history.

**STRICTLY LIMITED TO 10 PLACES**

*To maximise the effectiveness of the training,  
we are restricting the number of participants to 10.  
Bookings will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis.*

**Please indicate your interest in attending this workshop by emailing  
[membership@oralhistorynsw.org.au](mailto:membership@oralhistorynsw.org.au) \***

In this full day training workshop, you will learn:

- the recommended ways to set up your digital recorder
- microphone placement
- editing and processing audio using Audacity
- backing up and archiving

You will NOT just be watching how it's done. You will be actively involved in each stage.

As this workshop is very hands-on, it is recommended that you bring with you any digital recorder and laptop computer you already own. If you do not currently have any equipment, you will be able to share the equipment we will be providing.

**Cost:** \$160 for members of Oral History NSW or RAHS; \$180 for non-members; \$190 to attend and to also become a new member of Oral History NSW.

**Where:** History House, 133 Macquarie Street, Sydney

**Date & Time:** Saturday, 27 July 2019, arrive at 9:30am for 9:45am start.  
Expected completion is 4:30pm.

**\* ENQUIRIES AND TO GO ON A WAITING LIST:**

**Now fully subscribed**, but email: [membership@oralhistorynsw.org.au](mailto:membership@oralhistorynsw.org.au) if you would like to go on a waiting list in case there is a cancellation by someone who has already booked, or to register interest in a repeat of this workshop if one is planned.

Waiting list places will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis.

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## Hazel de Berg Award for Excellence in Oral History: 2019 nominations now open

Every two years, in conjunction with our national conference, **Oral History Australia** (OHA) presents an award to recognise a person who has made an outstanding contribution to the field of oral history over a considerable period of time.

The award is named after **Hazel de Berg**, one of Australia's pioneering and most prolific oral historians, who recorded just over 1300 interviews during her lifetime.

From 1957, Hazel de Berg documented Australia's social history by recording poets, novelists, historians, painters, musicians and scientists – people who were contributing to the ongoing intellectual life of Australia.

A significant number of her interviews are now held in the oral history collection of the National Library of Australia as the *Hazel de Berg Oral History Collection*, a collection which comprises approximately 1300 hour-long taped interviews.



*Hazel de Berg interviewing physicist Professor Harry Messel, 1972. David Moore, courtesy National Library of Australia*

**Read more about the award criteria & history, and download the nomination form [HERE](#).**

**Deadline for nominations is 1 August 2019**

The awardee will be announced during the 2019 Biennial Conference in Brisbane in October 2019.

### NEWS & EVENTS

#### Call for contributions

#### *Circa: The Journal of Professional Historians Australia*



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](mailto:circa@historians.org.au)

See [HERE](#) for more detail. **Deadline for abstracts for the next edition: 31 July 2019**

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## 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**



Seminar:

historycouncilnsw

## Orange Readers & Writers Festival: Memory, Research & the Family Historian



*Photo by Sam Hood, courtesy of the State Library of NSW*

Are you a keen family historian? Have you collected objects and pictures while undertaking your family and local history research? What meanings have you made of these?

An interactive workshop with **Associate Professor Tanya Evans** who will be drawing on her research with family historians over the past ten years.

Full details & registration [HERE](#).

- **When:** Friday, 2 August 2019, 10:30 am–2:30 pm
- **Where:** West Room, Orange City Library (part of Central West Libraries), 147 Byng Street, Orange, NSW
- **Cost:** \$15 HCNSW members; \$20 others (includes lunch)

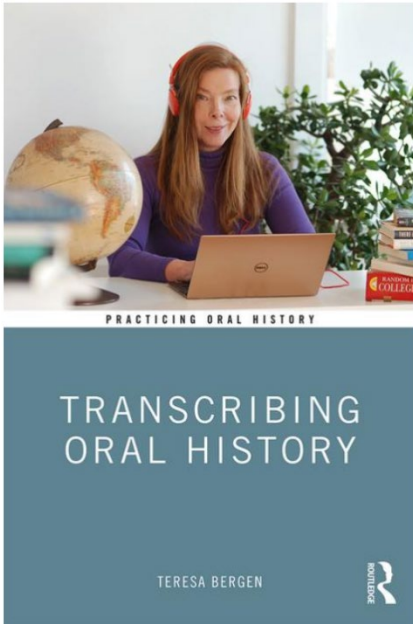
Read more about the **Orange Readers & Writers Festival** [HERE](#).

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### **Transcribing Oral History**

1st Edition

**Teresa Bergen. Routledge, 2019**



“Transcribing Oral History offers a comprehensive guide to the transcription of qualitative interviews, an often richly debated practice within the oral history field. Beginning with an introduction to the field and an overview of the many disciplines that conduct and transcribe interviews, the book goes on to offer practical advice to those looking to use transcription within their own projects.”

*(Publisher’s description)*

Read more [HERE](#).

This publication is part of Routledge’s **Practicing Oral History** series.

Now available to order from [www.Routledge.com](http://www.Routledge.com).

Due for release in August 2019.

See [HERE](#) also for Teresa Bergen’s discussion in The Oral History Review’s blog, about transcription issues and practice, as drawn from her book.



### **Video introduction to oral history interviewing**

Sarah Rood of **Way Back When** Consulting Historians has made a seven-minute instructional video for The Australian Museums and Galleries Association Victoria (AMaGA Victoria) introducing some of the main considerations for newcomers who are about to embark on an interview project.

Watch the video on YouTube [HERE](#).



### **Carol McKirdy writes about her Oral History NSW award-winning 2018 entry**

We asked Carol McKirdy, last year’s recipient of the Oral History NSW **Community History Award**, to tell us about her winning entry *The Egyptian Life Stories of the Sutherland Shire Oral History Project*.

Read her response in the Oral History NSW blog [HERE](#).

**Carol McKirdy** receiving the NSW Community History Award from Scott McKinnon of Oral History NSW, 8 September 2018.

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## Grassroots oral history groups in Greece

By Riki Van Boeschoten

“ One of the most interesting aspects of the oral history scene in Greece is the mushrooming of local grassroots oral history groups all over the country. In 2011 the first oral history group was established in Kypseli, a neighbourhood of Athens badly hit by the severe social consequences of the economic crisis, but the movement gradually spread to other neighbourhoods of the capital.



“At the end of 2014 there were a total of eight groups, almost all of them in Athens. But the next year the movement began to spread to other areas as well.

Especially over the last few years we have seen an exponential growth. By the end of 2018, 37 groups had been created since 2011, out of which 30 were still active. About half of them were located in provincial towns beyond the capital and all together these groups have collected more than 600 interviews. ... ”

See the full post on the [International Oral History Association](#) website [HERE](#).

## The Blossoming of Oral History in Greece

“ Andromache Gazi, author of the recently published [Oral Testimonies as Independent Museum Exhibits: A Case Study from the Industrial Gas Museum in Athens](#), shares her perspective on today's rapidly growing oral history community in Greece.



“During the last decade, an extraordinary interest in oral history has developed in Greece. This has manifested, among other things, in the founding of the Oral History Association in 2013, the blossoming of oral history groups all over the country (more than 12 alone in Athens and more than 15 in the rest of Greece), the proliferation of oral history research projects, many of which culminate in the creation of [private or/and public oral history archives](#), the growing inclusion of oral testimonies in museum exhibitions, and the spread of audiovisual art projects experimenting with oral narratives.”

See [HERE](#) for Andromache Gazi's full article in [The Oral History Review](#) blog.

### Report:



## Greek Oral History Association 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference Komotini, Greece, June 2018

A report by [Riki Van Boeschoten](#)  
For the [International Oral History Association](#)  
website [HERE](#)

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**Oral History Australia  
2019 Biennial Conference  
*Intimate Stories, Challenging Histories***

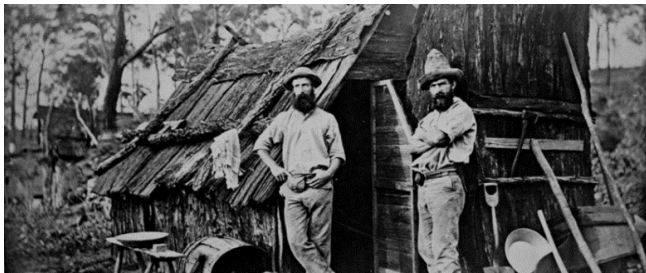
State Library of Queensland, Brisbane

10–13 October 2019

See [HERE](#) for keynote themes and speakers.

General information about the conference is available on the  
conference home page [HERE](#).

See also [page 2](#) above



**25<sup>th</sup> Annual Australasian Mining History  
Association Conference**

Atherton, North Queensland,

7–14 July 2019

See [HERE](#) for latest information, accommodation,  
registration form, and abstract template. *Book early  
for accommodation!*

For further information, contact Ross Both: [rosannb@bigpond.net.au](mailto:rosannb@bigpond.net.au)

**2019 Royal Australian Historical Society Conference  
*Illuminating the Past.***

West Tamworth Leagues Club, 14 – 15 September 2019



On 9 November 1888,  
Tamworth became the first city in  
Australia to have its streets lit by  
electric streetlights. It is therefore  
fitting that Tamworth is the location  
of the 2019 RAHS Conference as the  
theme this year is *Illuminating the  
Past*. What do different historical  
records reveal about our past? How  
do we share our history with new  
audiences in an enlightening and  
informative way? What must we do  
to protect and share historical  
sources so that the vivid insights  
they provide don't disappear into  
darkness?

More information on the program will be available soon.

Image: Tamworth Historical Society

<http://www.tamworthhistoricalsocietynsw.org/>

See the conference website [HERE](#).

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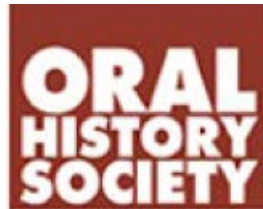


- Oral History Association 2019 Annual Meeting:  
*Pathways in the Field: Considerations for those Working In,  
On and Around Oral History*

Salt Lake City, Utah, USA, 16–19 October 2019

See details [HERE](#).

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- Oral History Society:  
*Oral History @ Work. Recording Change in Working Lives*

Prifysgol Abertawe – Swansea University, U.K., 5–6 July 2019

Details [HERE](#).

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Call for papers, posters, audio-visual presentations:



- International Oral History Association  
XXI Conference

Singapore, 22–26 June 2020

For full details, see [HERE](#).

The deadline for all proposals is **31 August 2019**

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**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 (August 2019) is

**26 July 2019.**

Forward copy to the Editor: [networknews@oralhistorynsw.org.au](mailto: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](#).

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