



On Tape

Newsletter of the Oral
History Association of
Australia, Queensland
Branch Inc

June 2002

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Hello fellow oral historians and welcome particularly to our new members!

Good news for our Queensland Branch. We have secured a grant from the Gaming Machine fund to run a conference in November. A flyer is included in the newsletter. Please copy and distribute it to other interested parties. The more the better!

Also attached is a flyer regarding the National Conference in Perth in September 2003. Call for papers closes on 30 August 2002.

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I've also included a flyer for the Small Museums Conference at Redcliffe on 31 August 2002. It has a couple of items of particular interest to oral historians and you may find the rest of interest as well.

I've done a few oral history interviews in the last few months using my Sony Mini Disc recorder with an accompanying Sony tie-clip microphone. The sound quality is excellent. I also record on a Sony TCM-2 Cassette Recorder for ease of transcribing on my Dictaphone.

I've interviewed veterans from both World Wars, a retired policewoman and a former hairdresser who did her apprenticeship in the 1950s. They've all had very interesting lives and I was overwhelmed by their generosity in sharing their memories with me.

It's membership renewal time again so for all members (apart from those recently joined) please forward your membership fees as soon as possible. As a small not-for-profit organisation we rely on your continued support through your membership. Fees have increased slightly this year but are still very reasonable. So please complete the form on p.10 and return it to The Treasurer ASAP. Those members who are unfinancial will see a small red spot beside their address

Suzanne Mulligan
Editor

ORAL HISTORY WEB SITES

Here are some more oral history sites to add to your Favourites. Please let me know about any others that you have found. It's always interesting to see how other oral historians present their work and it's very satisfying to see oral history presented in a readily accessible format.

<http://www.beyond9-11.org/> - artists, musicians and writers respond to the events of September 11

<http://www.le.ac.uk/emoha/> - the East Midlands Oral History Archive

<http://www.heard.org/exhibits/bs.html> – the boarding school experience for American indians

<http://www.kosovomemory.iom.int/> – the memories of people from Kosovo

<http://www.lucidplanet.com/IWA/> - Iowa Women Artists oral history project

<http://lcweb.loc.gov/preserv/care/record.html> – Library of Congress – cylinder, disc and tape care – has much useful information

<http://www.preserveyourhistory.com/> - Preserve Your Family History

<http://historymatters.gmu.edu/mse/oral/> - Making Sense of Oral History – a guide by Linda Shopes presenting an overview and specific information about undertaking an oral history project.

<http://www.museum.vic.gov.au/hearhervoices/> - “Hear Her Voice” presents stories of women who have undergone the migration process.

<http://personalhistoryhelp.com/> - a guide to compiling a personal history.

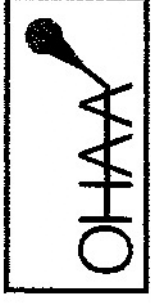
<http://fas-history.rutgers.edu/oralhistory/orlhom.htm> – an oral history of World War II from the American perspective.

<http://www.localheroes.8m.com> – an oral history of World War II from an Australian perspective.

<http://www.stg.brown.edu/projects/1968/> - The Whole World Was Watching – an oral history project on the people who witnessed the events of 1968 in the United States.

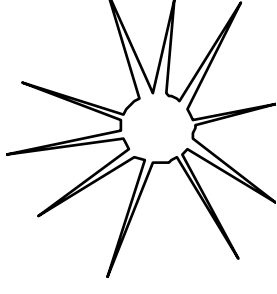
The Oral History Association of Australia's web site is at:

<http://cwpp.slq.qld.gov.au/ohaa/>



Oral History Association of Australia Queensland Inc.

BRISBANE IN NOVEMBER



CALL FOR PAPERS AND EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Oral History Association of Australia
Queensland Inc.

16 – 17 November, 2002

Queensland State Library
South Bank, Brisbane

Aims of the Oral History Association of Australia

- ◆ to promote the practice and methods of oral history.
- ◆ to educate in the use of oral history methods.
- ◆ to encourage discussion of all aspects of oral history.
- ◆ to foster the preservation of oral history records in Australia.

Oral History Association of Australia Queensland Inc.
State Conference 2002

The Queensland Branch of the Oral History Association will be running several workshops and a weekend conference at the Queensland State Library, in central Brisbane, on the weekend of the 16/17 November.

The committee is calling for Expressions of Interest from individuals and groups who would like to contribute a paper relating to their oral history work or to run a skills development workshop. Examples and analysis of community projects are particularly encouraged, along with workshops in oral history and new media.

Queensland based regional members are encouraged to contribute and to apply to RADF for funds to attend. Limited funds are also available from the Association to assist those wishing to present a workshop or paper.

You may contact the Convention Organiser for further information or send details of your presentation or workshop to:

Lesley Jenkins
93 Petersen Street
Wynnum Q 4178
Phone: 07 3393 3804
Email: ljenkins@gil.com.au
Fax: 07 3904 7943

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

The deadline for Expressions of Interest is the 1 September. Conference fees will be \$30 per day for members and \$35 per day for non-members.

Details:

Name: _____
Address: _____
Suburb/Town: _____ State: _____ Postcode: _____
Phone (w): () _____ Fax (w): () _____
Phone (h): () _____ Fax (h): () _____
E-mail: _____

CALL FOR PAPERS

Presentation or Workshop Outline (max 500 words)

Book Review

Davies, Hunter. 1998. *Born 1900 – A Human History of the Twentieth Century – for Everyone Who Was There*. London: Little, Brown and Company.

This book is a collection of people, objects and institutions that were born in 1900 in Britain. Hunter Davies says in his introduction that his father-in-law set him off as he had “always envied him the neatness of knowing he was the same age as the century.” Davies felt that the best way of looking back at the century would be “with the people who were there, through human eyes and ears, memories and emotions.” He tested out on his father-in-law one of the questions he would ask his other interviewees concerning the secret of his long life. Davies said “I expected a grunt, or silence, or that he’d turn on his TV to watch the racing. ‘Keep your bowels open and trust in the Lord,’ he said with a smirk.”

Davies found his subjects by writing to the editors of some leading provincial newspapers and received a flood of responses. The number of the very old are increasing. In 1951 there were only 271 people over 100 in Britain and in 1991 it was over 4400. Davies’ book has 20 interviewees with diverse backgrounds and lives. He tried to have another family member present “to help out or reassure” and “asked them to dig out in advance any photographic albums or other memorabilia.” He also tried to check memories with families or known facts, not always successfully. As other oral historians have found – “People’s memories are true to them, whatever they have chosen to remember, and have to be accepted as such.”

Davies has also included some things that began in 1900 that would be of interest to people outside Britain. These have been well researched and make very interesting historical reading including Mercedes, West Ham United (which gives a history of soccer), Freud’s *The Interpretation of Dreams* and Hamburgers. The best known person born in 1900 is the Queen Mother. Davies’ request for an interview was politely refused. Nevertheless, Davies wrote an informative chapter about the Queen Mother.

The interviews were done when the subjects were aged 96 and 97 and the book published in 1998. Some had already died by the time the book was published. I so enjoyed meeting this people through the book that I wondered how many had made it to 2000. I was surprised and encouraged to find some of them lived on their own, enjoyed their independence and were still very active. My favourite was Anne Westman who “lives alone in an expensive apartment block in St John’s wood, London.” Every day at lunchtime she goes out in the street to flag down a cab to take her to lunch at either the Savoy, Claridge’s or the Churchill in Portman Square. She is very particular about her appearance and doesn’t look or feel her age. She booked the Savoy for her interview with Davies who said that as they walked into the restaurant “I could sense people looking at her, not just because she was about the only woman in the entire dining room but because she looked like she must be Somebody.”

During an interview with Albert Charlton who spoke of his early working life when he was forced to go “down the pit”, Davies asked who had forced him to go. Davies said this “stopped his flow” and he wished he hadn’t asked. “One of the things about talking to 96-year-olds is not to cross-examine too much. It doesn’t just slow them down, it stops them in their tracks, derails them from their memories.” This is probably something we’ve all experienced in our interviews and need to be careful about.

There is such a wonderful variety of people in this 378 page book. I picked it up for \$19.60 from Clouston & Hall Booksellers when they had their annual book sale in Brisbane recently. You can also get it from them by mail order through their warehouse in Canberra by phoning 1800 026 168 or check their web site at <http://www.pcug.org.au/~clouhall/>

Review by Suzanne Mulligan

What's Happening in Logan City

Transitions exhibition:

On Wednesday 12 June the official opening of *Transitions* photography exhibition was held at the Logan Art Gallery.

This multifaceted collaborative project was funded by Logan City Council and conducted by final year photography students of the Logan Campus of Griffith University.

Historic photographs collected during the course of the Libraries and Cultural Services oral history project were framed together with current photos of the same location to demonstrate the enormous changes in this vibrant city.

Students were also asked to document life in Logan in 2001, and themes such as recreation, education, spiritualism, commerce, transport and communication were explored. A series of vistas of the city were taken from Daisy Hill and Shailer Park, and a series along picturesque Slacks Creek.

A further component of the project involved a boat trip along the scenic and under utilised Logan River. The images produced from this excursion were allocated reference numbers, and randomly placed on the wall above linear aerial photography along the floor. Patrons were asked to place a sticker on the aerials indicating the location of the numbered photographs. This produced a great response from local residents.

Logan River Tinnie Trail:

The Logan River will soon be given further publicity with the Queensland Heritage Trails Network project, which is planned for completion later in the year. The *Logan River Tinnie Trail* is a heritage trail along the river, designed to be a self-navigating river trip. For those without access to a dinghy, it can also be negotiated from your armchair, simply by reading the book outlining the history of the river and strategic locations along it.

The 45,000 word publication will include extensive primary source research complemented with oral history interviews from local residents, as well as a range of historic photographs.

Interpretive signage will be erected in parks along the river to indicate sites of cultural heritage significance. This project aims to inform local people of the role of the river as a transport route in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and its value for recreation to current generations.

Mary Howells
Cultural Services Project Co-ordinator
Logan City Council

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Please send me a copy of the Registration Brochure

Name: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ State: _____ Postcode: _____

Phone (w): () _____ Fax (w): () _____

Phone (h): () _____ Fax (h): () _____

CALL FOR PAPERS

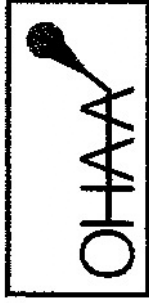
Presentation Topic:

Please enclose an abstract (500 words max) of your presentation. If you would prefer, your details and abstract may be forwarded by email. Typed single space using Times New roman size 12 font.

Preferred format:

- 90 minute workshop
- 60 minute workshop
- 45 minute paper including Question Time

DEADLINE: 30 August 2002



Oral History Association of Australia Inc.
ABN 11 814 143 273

FROM ALL QUARTERS

**CALL FOR PAPERS AND
EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST**

Oral History Association of Australian Inc.
National Conference

4-7 September 2003

The Rose and Crown Hotel
Guildford, Western Australia

25th Anniversary of Oral History
Association Inc. in Australia

Proposals are invited for presentation at the
National Oral History Conference to be held on
Thursday 4 to Sunday 7 September 2003

Its title "From All Quarters" signifies inclusivity, encompassing delegates and presenters from all geographical areas; presentations covering all topics with an Oral History component; delegates at all levels of expertise and experience. Papers and workshops will range over the whole field of Oral History theory and practice.

Examples might include:

- Reviews and sound bites form completed projects
- Planning and progress on long term projects
- Demonstrations of best practice and methodology
- Virtual tours of Oral History Collections
- Works on latest equipment
- The role of the Oral Historian in Education
- Profiles of Oral History practitioners and their work
- Archiving and preserving Oral History records
- Any other topic with an Oral History focus

SEPTEMBER IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

This is the month when the wildflowers begin to bloom. Combine coming to the Conference with a visit to historic locations in New Norcia 114 kms north of Guildford and Rottneest Island a 50 minute Boat Trip. In the South West – Margaret River and also the internationally renowned Tree Top Walk. Visit the art galleries and wineries of the Swan Valley and walk around old Fremantle.

THE VENUE

Established in 1841, the Rose and Crown Hotel is the oldest hotel still trading in Western Australia. Guildford was founded in 1829 and has a wealth of historical buildings within walking distance of the Hotel. Guildford is less than 15 minutes drive from Perth Airport and under 30 minutes by train from Perth. Double and single accommodation will be available at the Rose and Crown Hotel/Motel.

Biographical Details

Title: Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss/Dr./Prof

Name: _____

Details: _____

Please contact the following for further details and send call for paper and/or expressions of interest to:

Margaret Hamilton 10 Regelia Turn ELLEN BROOK WA 6060 Phone/Fax: (08) 9296 9306 Email: guy12mar@ellenbrook.net	or	Jan McCahon 15 Letsom Way LANGFORD WA 6147 Phone (08) 9470 4026 wk (08) 9358 0529 hm Fax: (08) 9470 4802 wk Email: emailjan@iprimus.com.au
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DEADLINES

30 August 2002	Call for papers closes
31 October 2002	Notification of acceptance
28 February 2003	Submission of full paper for publication in journal
13 June 2003	Publication of Registration Brochure
25 July 2003	Early bird registration

DELEGATE FEES

Early Bird Member	\$198	Late Member	\$250
Non Member	\$210	Late Non Member	\$290
Concession Early	\$198	Late Concession	\$210

SOCIAL EVENTS

Tuesday 2 nd	New Norcia & Pinnacles tour
Wednesday 3 rd	Rottneest Island tour
Thursday 4 th	President's Welcome Function
Friday 5 th	A Film Night
Saturday 6 th	Dinner at Rosehill Country Club

Oral History Association of Australia (OHAA)

Membership of the OHAA includes a subscription to the Journal of the Association, published annually. There are branches of the Association in all Australian States. Northern Territory members are attached to the SA Branch and ACT members to NSW. Branches hold regular meetings, run workshops and publish regular newsletters, and also provide a friendly and informative forum for those interested in oral history from any perspective.

Membership Fees (1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003) (please tick the appropriate box)

Individuals _____ **\$35**

Institutions _____ **\$55**

Students, Pensioners, unemployed _____ **\$25**

Household _____ **\$45**

I wish to join OHAA (please tick) _____

I wish to renew my membership _____

Name _____

Address _____

Occupation _____

Pension/Student No. _____

Interest(s) _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

**Not registered for GST. I enclose cheque/money
Order for the amount/s listed: \$ _____**

Please return this form to:

The Treasurer
OHAA Queensland Branch Inc
PO Box 548
ANNERLEY QLD 4103

Payment received (Office use only)
