

e-Bulletin

31 July 2011

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Hi OHAA (Qld) members, this is our second E-Bulletin. We hope you will find the information interesting and we appreciate any feedback. If you have information to share we would love to receive it. An occasional newsletter will also appear which will carry longer articles and photos and of course there is also the Blog on our website which we encourage you to check out as it is regularly updated with interesting articles.

Please send information for the E-Bulletin to editor, Lesley Jenkins at recordinghistory@optusnet.com.au or Suzanne Mulligan at mulligan@gil.com.au and use OHAA E-Bulletin in the subject line. The editor reserves the right not to publish if any information is judged to be inappropriate. Our web site: www.ohaagld.org.au

1. State Library of Queensland - Tea and Me

Whether it's English Breakfast, Chai or Rooibos, sipped from bone china, stoneware or titanium, Queenslanders enjoy a good cuppa. The State Library of Queensland is seeking special tea cups and tea-related stories from individuals and communities across Queensland. Visit the Tea & Me Facebook Page to share your special tea cup picture and story, or just tell us why you love a cuppa. The pictures and stories may be in the form of a special card, photograph, letter or other memento, or may be a tale told by text, sound or video file. Selected tea cups and stories will be displayed on State Library's iconic Queensland Terrace and online. Please send submissions to heritage@slq.qld.gov.au Submissions close 31 August 2011.

2. Queensland's RADF to support disaster recovery

Arts Minister Rachel Nolan announced the Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) would deliver \$2.047 million across 55 Queensland Councils, to support the arts industry and projects in local communities. Now in its 20th year, RADF funds art projects through Local Government and provides communities the opportunity and flexibility to shape their own arts and cultural priorities. After its successful pilot year, RADF funding will also continue for the Mentorship, Exchange and Fellowship program, administered Museum and Gallery Services Queensland to create professional development opportunities for staff and volunteers working in the state's regional museums and galleries. For information, visit http://statements.cabinet.gld.gov.au/MMS/StatementDisplaySingle.aspx?id=75438

3. International Oral History Conference

The next International Oral History Association Conference will be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina from 4-7 September 2010. The main conference theme is *The Challenges of Oral History in the 21st Century: Diversity, Inequality and Identity Construction.* For more information see http://www.iohanet.org/conferences/forthcoming.html

4. Bursary winners - National Oral History Conference

Congratulations to Catherine Cottle and Sandy Liddle who are the winners of the \$500.00 bursaries OHAA Qld offered to attend the National Oral History Conference in Melbourne.

5. Notice of the National OHAA Annual General Meeting

For those of you attending the National Oral History Conference, the National OHAA AGM will be held at the Village Roadshow Theatrette, State Library of Victoria, 328 Swanston Street Melbourne on Saturday 8 October 2011 at 4.30pm.

6. Oral History Journal 2011

Members will by now have received invoices for the renewal of membership due on 1 July 2011. To ensure you receive your copy of the 2011 Journal in the first mailout, please forward your payment to our Treasurer as soon as possible. If you are attending the Conference, financial members will receive their Journals there. Please email Suzanne Mulligan mulligan@gil.com.au if you are attending the Conference so we will have your Journal ready for collection. If you are still thinking about going to

7. Reading for Reconciliation

This is a reading program in Brisbane encouraging people to engage with local Indigenous writers and learn the shared history of the aboriginal people of South East Queensland. See http://www.abc.net.au/local/audio/2011/07/04/3260449.htm

8. Using Delicious

As members, you can access the bookmarking site Delicious through our web site by clicking our Newsletters tab. There are many useful resources shown there and you are welcome to add any relevant site you may come across to share with other members. Having these bookmarks on Delicious means you can call them up from any computer. If you haven't done so already, check it out!

9. Sunshine Coast Regional Council grants

Local community groups that have a project due to start from January 2012 are encouraged to apply for the current round of council's Community Grants Program, which is open now and closes Thursday 1 September. Groups can apply for funding of up to \$15,000 for projects that have a start and a finish date, such as festivals, club house upgrades, community gardens, oral histories, sporting equipment, revegetation works and sun-safety measures. For more information see http://www.mysunshinecoast.com.au/articles/article-display/apply-now-for-a-council-grant,22196

10. OHAA Qld's successful grant

OHAA Qld has been successful in receiving a grant to conduct workshops in regional areas. At our next committee meeting we will be discussing how this grant money will be allocated and we would like to ensure we get a good spread across the state. Some areas are already being considered and we would like to invite regional members to tell us if you have a project that would benefit from a workshop run by our trainers.

11. Oral History and Film

American, Suzanne Snider has set out to compile a list of films that make use of oral history. The distinction between these 'oral history films' and other documentaries is a fragile one: the films must use oral history strategies. Students should be able to recognize, in these films, the kinds of qualities that distinguish an oral history approach from a journalistic approach. Alternately, the film may be one project/byproduct of an oral history archive or effort. This is how she is defining it for her list. Please feel free to contact Suzanne with suggestions.

12. Plagiarising oral histories

Dr Siobhan McHugh, Faculty of Creative Arts, University of Wollongong has raised (on the H-NET/OHA Discussion List on Oral History) the very serious issue of her oral histories being plagiarised for fiction work. Siobhan's post says –

I have written several non-fiction books – essentially social history - that have primary oral history research at their core. People have used my books as background research for their own works, from fiction to television documentary, which is of course fine, once my work is acknowledged, as it mostly has been. But now someone has picked the eyes out of one of my books ('Minefields and Miniskirts' (Doubleday 1993 and Lothian 2005), about Australian women's involvement in the Vietnam war), lifting numerous incidents and even using the same form of words at times, spoken by a 'fictional' character for a 'fictional' work. The only acknowledgement is that my book was the 'inspiration' and it is listed in a bibliography.

I believe this clearly breaches my intellectual property - and the moral rights of the women I interviewed for my book, who granted me the right to use their interview in a defined context. But the perpetrator is arguing that because these are 'real life' events, they are essentially in the public domain. Yet most of the recycled stories, not to mention the quotes, can ONLY be sourced in my book: they were unique personal experiences, relayed first-hand. I think legal action will be required to address this vexed issue, which has implications for any non-fiction writer. Is our work to be open slather for any writer of 'fiction' or can we assert intellectual property rights over its use? If anyone knows of a precedent in how non-fiction narratives may or may not be mined for re-use, with specific reference to oral histories, I'd be most grateful to hear of it. I spent about three years researching and writing 'Minefields and Miniskirts' and am not happy at having it usurped in this manner!"

You can view Siobhan's post at http://h-net.msu.edu/cgi-bin/logbrowse.pl?trx=lx&list=H-Oralhist&user=&pw=&month=1107 Look for date 2011-07-11 and look at this date and subsequent dates for follow up posts in response. (Note: Suzanne Mulligan received Siobhan's permission to reproduce this post as it would be of interest to our members). Please also check out Siobhan's essay "The Power of Voice" at http://transom.org/?p=15508

13. Read the latest news and events on Museum & Gallery Services Qld Blog

In this blog, M&GSQ keeps you up-to-date with the latest news and events related to the museum and gallery sector in Queensland. Take a look at www.magsq.wordpress.com Also check out the main M&GSQ site http://www.magsq.com.au/ site for a number of interesting links including details of the grants available.

14. Queensland Dragon: Chinese in the North and on the Darling Downs

Stories from the Darling Downs' rich multicultural community add a fresh dimension to the new Queensland Dragon: Chinese in the North and on the Darling Downs exhibition at Cobb & Co Museum, Toowoomba till 26 August 2011. See

http://www.magsq.com.au/02 cal/details.asp?ID=1027&strUsername=mulligan@gil.com.au&varRefer=965854741741153154123790971154153741641734356965641123854

"Death steals everything but our stories." from *The Sandalwood Tree* by Elle Newmark