



e-Bulletin

31 March 2013

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Hi OHAA(Qld) members, here is your third E-Bulletins for 2013. 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. Please also check out our Blog which is updated weekly. You can send information for the e-Bulletin to Suzanne Mulligan at mulligan53@inet.net.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. Visit our web site: www.ohaaqld.org.au.

Suzanne Mulligan

1. OutStories Bristol

OutStories Bristol (<http://outstoriesbristol.org.uk/>) is a volunteer community history group gathering the stories of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people living in or associated with Bristol (England) and its surrounds. OutStories Bristol was formed in November 2008 with the following aims:

- Record the life stories of LGBT people through oral history interviews.
- Collect and preserve documents, artefacts, memorabilia.
- Archive the material in appropriate public institutions so it is accessible to everyone.
- Put on exhibitions, talks and guided tours.
- Support theatre and performance work; story-telling.
- Provide a resource for researchers, journalists, archivists and the public.

In the UK summer of 2011, OutStories joined forces with Bristol's museum, M Shed (<http://mshed.org/>), to begin preparations for a 2013 exhibition on Bristol's LGBT history, based on oral history interviews from Bristol residents, present and past. Funding was

obtained from the National Lottery Fund which enabled the purchase of equipment, provision of professional oral history training and development of the physical museum exhibit.

The resulting exhibition, *Revealing Stories*, is the first M Shed exhibit to be created by a community group, and was launched on 2nd February 2013, for LGBT History Month. *Revealing Stories* includes collaborations between OutStories Bristol, LGBT community members, M Shed museum, the Bristol Records Office and four local Bristol schools. The resulting exhibit is groundbreaking in its coverage of LGBT histories in such a high-profile public cultural institution, something which was unthinkable just a decade ago.

For the exhibition, 42 oral history interviews were conducted and audio-recorded by trained OutStories volunteers. Volunteers were trained by Julia Letts (julia.letts@virgin.net), an oral history producer and trainer who runs training for the Oral History Society (UK) and the British Library. Initial training included instruction in how to prepare for an interview, forming open-ended questions, encouraging interviewees to open up, guiding interviewees to provide authentic personal recollections rather than rehearsed anecdotes, technical training with the audio equipment and legal issues around consent and copyright. Importantly, the training also instilled in the volunteer interviewers respect for the interviewees and for the process of oral history gathering.

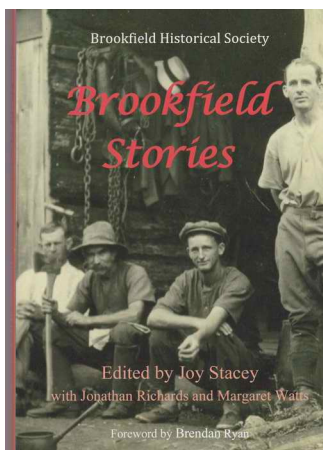
Interview summaries were created by the interviewers, and these, along with the audio files, will be stored in the Bristol Records Office so they will be accessible by community members and researchers in perpetuity. OutStories Bristol will continue to collect oral histories from Bristol's LGBT community into the future.

Kim Moody

2. The State Library of Queensland wants your oral histories

Zenovia Pappas from SLQ says she'd only be preaching to the converted if she started telling us about the value and importance of oral histories. What you might not know is that oral history, as a powerful conveyor of human memory and story, is something that the John Oxley Library at the State Library of Queensland (SLQ) is keen to collect. Zenovia recently addressed the OHAA's Qld branch executive committee where she discovered that the SLQ's desire to collect oral histories and our requirements may not be so well known to the oral history community and beyond. So here is some information to get you thinking about oral history projects you may have completed or are planning to undertake and whether these projects would be something you'd like to deposit with the SLQ – see <http://www.ohaql.org.au/blog/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/SLQ-wants-your-Oral-Histories.pdf>

3. Brookfield Stories book launch



On 6 March 2013 OHAA-Qld member Joy Stacey (pictured) had her *Brookfield Stories* launched at the historic Brookfield Hall. The book launch was very well attended with at least 100 people who enjoyed an evening being entertained by a string trio and the Brookfield Choir prior to the official launch. Jonathan Richards, the President of the Brookfield Historical Society was the M.C. for the evening.



Brookfield Stories was an oral history project begun by Brendan Ryan (the first president of the historical society) 10 years ago and has continued since then by other society members. Joy Stacey took on the task of editing the transcripts of the recordings to form them in to this book for the Society's 10th anniversary. Joy introduced the book to the audience thanking all those involved in bringing it to publication including the interviewees and the Brisbane City Council with its generous support. Joy then introduced Councillor Margaret de Wit who officially launched the book. Councillor de Wit spoke about the strong sense of community which Brookfield had and she enjoyed reading some excerpts from the book. She was particularly pleased to see a reference by interviewee Olive Daetz to the stables at the site of the Brisbane City Hall. She said recent excavations for the renovations of City Hall had uncovered evidence of the stables.

These recordings of "ordinary" people of Brookfield tell the story of its growth and a way of life now long past. It is a wonderful example of how oral history can be used to tell the story of a community. The book is on sale in the Brookfield General Store, the hairdressers and the Brookfield Produce Store as well as the Museum on market mornings. You may also order it by emailing Joy Stacey joy.stacey@bigpond.com (\$25.00 plus postage).

4. A reminder – International Museum Day 2013

The International Council of Museums (ICOM) has celebrated International Museum Day (IMD) since 1977 to encourage public awareness of the role of museums in the development of society. IMD is celebrated each year on 18 May. This year, the IMD theme is Museums (memory + creativity) = social change. This optimistic theme in the form of an equation gathers several concepts that are essential to defining what a museum is today, highlighting the universal nature of those institutions and their positive influence on society. It summarises the complexity of museum tasks (reconciling their traditional mission of conservation with the innovation necessary for their sustainability) and recalls their remit to contribute to community development and unity. See <http://network.icom.museum/international-museum-day>

5. Community Heritage Grants

Community Heritage Grants of up to \$15,000 are available to assist in preserving cultural heritage collections of national significance. Not-for-profit organisations, such as historical societies, regional museums, public libraries and Indigenous migrant community groups, are encouraged to apply. Applications close 1 May 2013. Guidelines for the Community Heritage Grants program are available online at www.nla.gov.au/chg

6. Joan Child Oral History

Dr Barry York, Museum of Australian Democracy, has written a short blog about Joan Child, AO, who was Australia's first female Speaker of the House of Representatives. Her death on 23 February 2013 has been mourned by all sides of politics. When elected in 1974, she was the Australian Labor Party's first female Member of the House and only the fourth woman to sit in the House. Born in Melbourne in 1921, she became Speaker in 1986 but resigned from the position after the move to the new Parliament House. Listen to this short excerpt, as she recalls her early experience with seating arrangements—in the Caucus and in the Chamber where she sat across from a self-styled misogynist. Aged 87 at the time of interview, her voice is strong, engaging and lively. Her philosophy of parliament comes through in the excerpt, as does her love for the old "warm and welcoming" provisional building - . <http://moadoph.gov.au/blog/from-the-oral-history-collection-joan-child/>

7. A Night at the John Oxley Library

New for 2013 is a monthly series of evening talks where we delve into Queensland's rich and diverse history. Join regular host Dr Kate Evans from ABC Radio National in conversation with an array of expert panellists in the intimate setting of the John Oxley Library. Guests will have an opportunity to join the discussion and get up close to historical treasures on display. <http://www.slq.qld.gov.au/whats-on/calevents/general/talks/night-in-jo>

8. Queensland's Untold Stories: Contemporary and Historical

6 March 2013: 9.30 am to 1.00 pm

I am pleased I made the time to attend the State Library of Queensland's 'Untold Stories: Contemporary and Historical' Forum. Leah Purcell, the special guest was an excellent choice. An 'actor, writer, director and producer', Leah spoke openly and empathetically about her personal experiences of working with human stories in film, television, theatre, song and text. The stories were everything. As well as sharing ideas about how to get people talking and the different ways to tell a story, Leah's presentation highlighted the importance of respecting other people's stories. Listening to Leah, I was powerfully reminded that collecting and telling people's stories is an awesome responsibility and if done respectfully, is a complex process. This complexity was evident throughout Leah's presentation and for me as an oral history practitioner was a reminder of the human dynamics involved in collecting and sharing people's stories.

The Forum also included four ten minute case study presentations: World War One stories and the novel, *In Falling Snow*; the State Library's *Floodlines* exhibition; the Maryborough Open House Program; and the importance of gathering stories in the Wujal Wujal community. These case studies were engaging, informative and illustrated the variety of ways stories can be used.

For me, the Forum was enjoyable, thought provoking and an affirmation of the power of storytelling. But above all, it was a reminder of the care required when entrusted with another person's story.

Anne Monsour

9. Australian Copyright Council Seminar Program - Brisbane

The Australian Copyright Council offers a range of practical and informative seminars on Australian copyright law to assist creators and consumers in dealing with copyright material in the digital age. The informed and engaging presenters will ensure you are aware of your rights and responsibilities in regard to copyright law. A range of seminars will be offered for general audience, education institutions and libraries from 13-15 May in Brisbane. For more information, visit <http://www.copyright.org.au/seminars>

10. New National Accredited Short Courses Available

Upgrade your skills or further your knowledge in areas such as community development, working with culturally and linguistically diverse groups, facilitating groups to develop great project ideas, and writing funding applications. You will also learn how to project manage your activity, whether it is a project or an event, negotiate contracts, manage volunteers, market your activity and much more. This nationally accredited training, the Certificate IV in community culture, provides a hands on approach linking theory with practice, providing

creatives, volunteers and community workers with great skills to help them in their current role or for seeking work in a related area.

New Nationally Accredited Short Courses Available:

1. Working with Communities
2. Developing an idea and securing funding
3. Managing an event/project

For more information, visit <http://www.creatinglinks.com.au>

11. Lesson Plans for School Students

A recent discussion on the H-OralHist Discussion List was prompted by the following question:

I'm getting ready to teach an oral history workshop/class to high school students and I'm a little intimidated and worried about keeping their interest for an hour. I've done similar workshops with senior groups, but they're pretty easy to please.

It's a group of 8 students from Clark Street Community School (9-12 grade) who are interested in learning about oral history. They are going to be doing a permanent display for their school about the history of Middleton Alternative Senior High School using archival materials and oral history.

What lesson plan ideas or fun-tivities would you suggest or have you done successfully with this age group?

For responses click here - <http://www.ohaaqld.org.au/blog/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/Oral-History-Lesson-Plans.pdf>

12. Australian Generations Project update

Please find attached a short progress report which I presented to the Management Committee last week. As you can see, we are still looking for about 60 participants to meet our target of 300 interviewees. Our priority groups are men born in the 1960s and 1980s, post-war migrants and people with no higher education. We're particularly interested in attracting participants based in metro NSW and metro QLD. Please feel free to recommend any networks that may be useful to tap into. (Report here - <http://www.ohaaqld.org.au/blog/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/Progress-Report-21-March-2013.pdf>)

Anisa Puri

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[Australian Generations on Twitter](#)

[Australian Generations on Facebook](#)

13. AFTRS Workshop – a reminder

I'm hosting a day-long workshop on radio documentary fundamentals at The Edge at the Qld State Library on April 13.

I've worked in radio now for around 14 years and am more passionate now about radio documentaries/features than I've ever been. It's a richly layered world that can work across the fields of oral/social history, journalism, poetry, writing and sound design. With its ability to weave complex material into compelling narratives, the radio documentary is often likened to the feature film. Now, thanks in part to the internet, radio documentaries are not only growing in popularity around the world, but there's a raft of new forums opening up for producers. If you're an audio buff, a journalist, a storyteller, or simply an aficionado of quality radio documentaries, come along. Bring your inspiration or maybe an idea you'd like to workshop into a proposal.

I'd love to see you.

Hamish Sewell

To book, go to: <http://www.open.aftrs.edu.au/course/I576>

hamishsewell.com

www.thestoryproject.org.au

14. Date claimer – Basics workshop 1 June 2013

OHAA-Qld will be running a basics workshop at the Kenmore Library in Brisbane on 1 June 2013. There will be more details in our next e-Bulletin.

15. Oral History Symposium - Auckland New Zealand

From: Sue Berman srberman@gmail.com

Kia ora - Warm greetings to our international colleagues. Are you travelling to New Zealand in May, or have you always wanted to visit but never had an excuse?

We invite you to join the inaugural National Oral History Association of NZ (NOHANZ) regional oral history symposium in Auckland on May 10/11. The symposium is a two-day training and networking event for people working with, or interested in, oral history and digital storytelling. Everything you need to know about the symposium can be found here:

<http://www.nzohsymposium.net/>

If you'd like to come, please fill out the registration form on the website and pay your fee via on line banking. All NOHANZ members qualify for the subsidised registration rate. Through the Oral History Association of Australia's arrangement with New Zealand, members of OHAA are welcome to register at NOHANZ membership fees.

There are two training work streams each day, and places in these sessions will be allocated on a first in, first served basis.

If you need an invoice, please email symposium administrator Claire Dann at nzohsymposium@gmail.com detailing who you'd like it made out to and she'll send you one.

Please don't hesitate to pass this on to others who may be interested.

On behalf of NOHANZ and our symposium co-host Auckland Council Libraries – West Auckland Research Centre, nau mai, haere mai - we look forward to welcoming you in May.

PS. Looking forward - in April of 2014 NOHANZ will be hosting a full biennial conference in Wellington. A call for papers will be made.

16. Family Tree Open Day

History Queensland has advised us about the annual “Shake Your Family Tree” at the National Archives at Cannon Hill. For more information click here - <http://www.ohaaqld.org.au/blog/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/Family-Tree-open-day.pdf>

17. Redcliffe Family History Group

History Queensland has forwarded this information: For members in the area, Redcliffe & District Family History Group invites you to visit them for their Open House on Saturday 20 April 10am to 3pm. Ample off-street parking, bus routes 693, 694 and 695. Enquiries, contact Leonnie on ph. 07 3885 3533.

**The difference between false memories and true ones is the same as for jewels: it is always the false ones that look the most real, the most brilliant.
~Salvador Dali**