



# e-Bulletin

**30 September 2020**

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Hello Oral History Queensland members. Here is your ninth e-Bulletin for 2020. Please let me know about any projects you are working on or have recently completed so I can share that with members.

If you have any information to share in our e-Bulletin please email me at [mulligan53@inet.net.au](mailto:mulligan53@inet.net.au) and use OHQ E-Bulletin in the subject line. If you have an event coming up, let me know as soon as you can to ensure it gets in the e-Bulletin in time. The editor reserves the right not to publish if any information is judged to be inappropriate. Please visit our web site: [www.ohq.org.au](http://www.ohq.org.au) and "**Like**" our Facebook page. We try to put some interesting information related to oral history on our Facebook page as well as on our Blog, particularly a lot of posts related to COVID-19. Feel free to add a comment. **All** feedback is very welcome.

**Suzanne Mulligan**

## **1. Membership Renewals**

For any members who have not yet renewed this financial year, please do so as soon as you can. I know it's been a crazy year and many of you will have had a lot to deal with. However, we would really like you to continue to be a valued member of OHQ and hope that you will make your payment on-line to our Oral History Queensland bank account.

Bank of Queensland BSB 124001  
Account number 20355175  
Account Name: Oral History Queensland Inc

Please remember to **include your name in the payee box**. You may also pay via cheque posted to Oral History Queensland, PO Box 3296, BIRKDALE Queensland 4159, if you prefer. The Membership Form [here](#) provides all these details as well. Once you have

renewed your membership, you will continue to receive the annual Oral History Journal and of course our e-Bulletins. If you have paid in the last week, please ignore this.

## 2. “Goodna Girls”

Vanessa Rouse, ANU Press says:

“I am pleased to announce the release of ‘Goodna Girls: A History of Children in a Queensland Mental Asylum’. Author Adele Chynoweth argues, “the book tells the story of how the Queensland Government locked up status offenders in an adult psychiatric facility and later, how that Government excluded those adult survivors from the Commission of Inquiry in Abuse of Children in Queensland Institutions 1998-9.”

‘Goodna Girls’ is proudly published by ANU Press. It can be purchased or downloaded for free [doi.org/10.22459/GG.2020](https://doi.org/10.22459/GG.2020)”

## 3. OHA Biennial Conference, Tasmania 2021

Oral History Australia and Oral History Tasmania have released a Call for Presentations for the upcoming OHA Biennial Conference to be held in Launceston, Tasmania from 14-16 October 2021. The conference theme is ‘Oral History in Troubling Times: Challenges and Opportunities’. Organisers advise that while the plan is to meet in solidarity and optimism for the biennial conference in Tasmania in 2021, if that proves to be impossible due to COVID-19 restrictions the conference will run online. Please visit Oral History Australia’s website for more information and details about submitting a proposal:

[www.oralhistoryaustralia.org.au/article/2021-conference-call-for-presentations](http://www.oralhistoryaustralia.org.au/article/2021-conference-call-for-presentations)

The deadline for presentation proposals is **1 March 2021**.

## 4. OHQ Annual General Meeting

We had our AGM and General Meeting on 29 August using Zoom and we had a good roll up of members attending. Elisabeth Gondwe was re-elected as President. Joan Kelly was elected Treasurer and Sasha Mackay was re-elected Secretary. Of course, we’ve had an active financial year with the successful national conference in October and then we’ve had COVID to deal with since March. The meeting was a good opportunity to talk about projects and the future. We can only hope things will improve.

## 5. Tasmania Newsletter

For your interest and information, you may read the Tasmania Newsletter “Real to Reel” for August 2020 [here](#). Please note, this newsletter will be deleted on 14 October 2020.

## 6. Audio-Visual Record of Australia during COVID-19

The National Film and Sound Archive of Australia aim to ensure that key moments in Australian history such as the COVID-19 crisis are collected and preserved. The National Film and Sound Archive of Australia (NFSA) has announced the measures it is taking in order to collect and preserve a wide range of audio-visual records of the ongoing COVID-19

crisis. Read more [here](#). See also <https://www.australiainlockeddown.com/> and the [Australia Locked Down](#) Facebook page.

## 7. Small Museums Conference 2020

The [2020 Small Museums Conference](#) will be held on the Redlands Coast at the Historic Ormiston House, 16 October – 18 October 2020 inclusive. The theme 'Environment, Heritage, Sustainability' will explore the rapidly changing landscape and the measures museums need to navigate in order to retain their important place in Queensland's cultural heritage sector. Access the conference program [online](#). Supported by Griffith University and Museums & Galleries Queensland, [registration](#) is minimal. Network with like-minded volunteers and professionals, while discovering how Queensland's small museums can be established as foremost thinkers in the movement towards historically and environmentally sustainable museums. We look forward to seeing you there .

## 8. Victory in the Pacific

"State Library of Queensland launched its new online community engagement tool [Explorer](#), celebrating the 75th Anniversary of Victory in the Pacific Day in Queensland. Explorer is the Library's new online community contribution platform enabling audiences and communities of interest to engage with our collections beyond the catalogue and to upload stories, comments, and other images to be shared alongside the curated sets and content. The 'Victory in the Pacific Day' set of images was launched [online](#) on 12 August. The collection showcases the end-of-war experience, boasting stunning original images of Victory Parades throughout Queensland from Brisbane to Blackall, images of joy and celebration from forces stationed in Papua New Guinea and across the Pacific, and heart-warming reunions of loved ones. We encourage you to look more deeply into this time in Queensland's history, share your own stories and contribute new knowledge online."

India Dixon, State Library of Queensland

## 9. Remote Interviewing Resources

"The Oral History Association [USA] is proud to announce the release of its new suite of remote interviewing resources. These resources are a product of the COVID-19 pandemic and the requirement to cease face-to-face interviewing for the health of both narrator and interviewer. By March 2020, many of us found ourselves sheltering in place, trying to learn how to do our jobs from home. For those working in oral history, remote interviewing became a pathway to continue essential oral history work. This guide is meant to be a resource to practitioners as they work through the numerous questions that arise with this method."

<https://www.oralhistory.org/remote-interviewing-resources/>

## 10. Royal Historical Society of Queensland News

OHQ is a member of RHSQ. Here is the latest news from Manager, Sophie West:

Dear members

I'm pleased to let you know that we will be resuming the Wednesday talks next month. The next one will be at 12.30pm on 14 October and is on '*Stone & Ink*' in *Designs, Devils, Details: the Queensland Government Printing Office*.

Due to COVID-19 and social distancing requirements, it is limited to 30 places and must be pre-booked here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wednesday-talk-stone-ink-in-designs-devils-details-tickets-119187225199> (no phone or email bookings). Thank you for your understanding. We are looking at also offering the option to watch via live stream for those who would prefer not to attend in person – we will confirm nearer the time whether this is possible.

Please do get in touch if you have any questions, and thank you for being patient with us in these strange times!

Best wishes

Sophie West  
Manager  
[info@queenslandhistory.org.au](mailto:info@queenslandhistory.org.au)

## **11. 1918-19 pandemic - State Library NSW exhibition and series of podcasts**

From 5 September 2020 until 24 January 2021, there is an exhibition at the State Library of New South Wales, drawing on materials from the Library's collection, which compares the Pandemic of 1918-19 with the current COVID-19 pandemic a century later. The exhibition is curated by Elise Edmonds, Senior Curator at the Library and author of the article 'Unprecedented' The response to the Covid-19 pandemic contains echoes of the 1918–19 influenza outbreak. <https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/stories/unprecedented>

In conjunction with the exhibition, the Library has made available a series of podcasts: [The Gatherings Order - a new podcast series](#)

This five part series rakes through the archives of the State Library of NSW with historians, public health experts and scientists to trace the path of the 1918-19 pandemic. An eerily familiar story of loss, resilience and discovery in a world turned upside down.

## **12. Request for Oral and Family Historian**

We have received the following request:

"I wonder if I could ask your assistance on a little matter. I am an 80 year old who migrated from Scotland some 53 years ago and my family here in Australia are anxious that I leave a commentary on my life before I expire! I would like such a record to have some professional input and thus I am looking for someone expert in that field to assist me in producing such a document. In addition it seems logical that a family tree be done as well, so likewise I need someone (the same one?) to assist there as well. If you can advise me as to where I can find such a person or people I would gratefully appreciate it."

This gentleman lives in Brisbane. If you are interested, please email me before 15 October at [info@ohq.org.au](mailto:info@ohq.org.au)

### **13. Bill Bunbury and the Art of Storytelling**

“Bill Bunbury was a great ABC broadcaster and oral historian who spent nearly forty years recording and recovering the stories of our people and places. If it wasn't for him these wonderful stories would be lost forever.” [Here's](#) an interview Bill did with ABC radio in November 2017.

Bill Bunbury gave an excellent presentation “Hear, Hear for Oral History” at the national oral history conference in Brisbane in 2007. You can read the presentation and listen to the interview excerpts [here](#). You can also see the video [here](#) (note – the audio and video are a little out of sync for the first couple of minutes).

### **14. Lockdown Stories**

“The ABC [Compass](#) team has just been told we cannot film any more stories. After months of preparation, we had been about to leave for Nagasaki to film a TV story about the 75th anniversary of the atomic bomb but overnight, the shoot was cancelled. Suddenly, I was looking at working from home. But working on what? At about 3:00am, I had a thought: “There must be film students going into lockdown who have access to gear and are great stories.””

Read the story [here](#) and watch the result on iView.

### **15. Peer Support Meeting**

On 19 September we had a Peer Support Meeting hosted by OHQ member Anne Monsour. We had a good turnout for that event with participants talking about their projects and asking for advice on how to proceed. Among others, one person is doing an autobiography of a local retired doctor and another is working on an epidemic that touched Queensland in the 1980s. The participants appreciated the opportunity to further their knowledge. Anne said she would have another meeting in about three months.

### **16. Oral History and COVID-19**

“The Oral History Association’s [USA] ‘Oral History Review’ solicited essays on the implications of interviewing during and about COVID-19.” You may read the OHR [here](#).

### **17. Engaging Through Social Media**

One of our members recently participated in a presentation by Anne Scheu and Myles Sinnamon from the State Library of Queensland about using social media. They gave a list of links that members should find useful [here](#).

*“The advantage of a bad memory is that one enjoys several times the same good things for the first time.” -- Friedrich Nietzsche [from GoodReads Quotes]*