



e-Bulletin

30 November 2025

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Hello Everyone. Christmas is almost upon us as we hope for happier times. This last month has been difficult for me because my mother passed away after a long illness. She had dementia and my sister cared for her for about three years. I wrote and delivered the Eulogy which was made fairly easy because she had written a lot of her story and I had done an oral history with her. A message to those who still have their mother, be sure to get her stories if she's well.

Also this month, I was honoured to be nominated for the John Oxley Library Medal for 2026. I was told – “While your nomination did not win the award this year, the judging panel asked me to let you know that you were nominated, and your work was highly commended.” I attended with fellow OHQ Member Anne Monsour. See **Item 9**.

If you have any information to share in our e-Bulletin, the project you're working on, or anything interesting to oral historians, please email me at mulligan53@iinet.net.au and use OHQ E-Bulletin in the subject line. Thank you to those who have passed on information to share. 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 that is judged to be inappropriate. Please visit our website: www.ohq.org.au and “**Like**” or “**Follow**” our **Facebook page**. We try to put some interesting information related to oral history on our Facebook page. Feel free to add a comment. All feedback is very welcome.

Suzanne Mulligan

1. You Can Take the Boy Out of Brunswick

“A renowned oral historian, Barry York has also recorded many hours of interviews with Brunswick residents from earlier days that are now held in the archives of the National Library of Australia.” Read story [here](#).

2. OHA 2025 Journal *Studies in Oral History* now available

The 2025 issue of the Oral History Australia journal *Studies in Oral History* is now available [here](#). A highlight of this year's issue is that it contains an article by Alessandro Portelli based

on his keynote presentation to the 2024 OHA Biennial Conference. This is the last issue to be published by journal editors Carolyn Collins and Skye Krichauff. Many thanks to you both.

3. New Zealand Newsletter – November 2025

Read the New Zealand Newsletter for November 2025 [here](#). Be sure to Save the Date for their Conference in 2026. Sat & Sun 19-20 September with workshops on Fri 18 September 2026, held in Christchurch.

4. New OHA Journal Editors & OHA Constitution Update

The latest news item from OHA announces the appointment of new editors for our journal *Studies in Oral History*. The new joint editors are Dr Mia Martin Hobbs and Dr Geraldine Fela. They will take over editorship of the journal with the 2026 issue. A Call for Papers for that issue is expected to be released as soon as practicable.

This news item - available at: <https://oralhistoryaustralia.org.au/news/new-journal-editors-2025/> - also refers to the update of the OHA constitution to provide for expanded national committee membership. The updated constitution, a list of the new national committee and the 2025 President's report are all available on the OHA Governance page
- <https://oralhistoryaustralia.org.au/about/governance/>

5. Death of Gwladys McLachlan

Another OHA news item is an obituary of one of our Hazel de Berg winners, Gwladys McLachlan. Gwlad received the Hazel de Berg award at the 2022 biennial conference in Launceston. She was a life member of Oral History Victoria and the only Victorian to date to be awarded the Hazel de Berg Award for Excellence in Oral History. See the obituary here: <https://oralhistoryaustralia.org.au/news/vale-gladys-mclachlan-oam/>.

6. Paul Thompson Turns 90

On the international front, you may also be interested to hear that Paul Thompson, the founder editor of the UK's journal *Oral History* has just turned 90. To celebrate this milestone, the Oral History Society published the following article
- <https://ohs.org.uk/general-interest/paul-thompson-founder-editor-of-oral-history-at-ninety/>

7. Driven: every car has a story

Take a drive down memory lane, celebrating the milestones we've shared with our cars, the adventures across bitumen, sand and dirt, and the enduring passion driven by our love for them. [Driven: every car has a story | State Library of Queensland](#)

8. Toondah Harbour Oral History Project

As the east coast of Australia remains under threat of overdevelopment and loss of habitat a monumental decision was made in April 2024 by the Federal Environment Department to

refuse the proposed development application (PDA) for Toondah Harbour by Walker Group Corporation. Read full story [here](#).

9. State Library's 2026 Fellows and Medallists



[Anne Monsour & Suzanne Mulligan](#)

past John Oxley Library Medal recipient [here](#).

"Meet State Library's 2026 Fellowship and Medal recipients uncovering Queensland's history. On Thursday 6 November 2025, State Library celebrated the 2026 recipients of its research Fellowships and John Oxley Library Medals. One of our flagship programs, this annual event is a highlight for Queensland's history, research, and academic communities. This year also marks 21 years of supporting research that uncovers and preserves Queensland's past." Congratulations to all those who received Fellowships and Medals. Find out more and see a video of an address by Emeritus Professor Kay Saunders AO, a

10. Royal Historical Society of Queensland Upcoming Events

Book Launch: The Moreton Bay Settlement

Friday, 5th December 2025 at 5:30pm

The book launch of the publication for the Wunya Ngulum event in September 2024 is ready go ahead on Friday 5th December at 5:30pm at the Commissariat. We would love to have you all. Entry is free with books for sale.

For more information, or to reserve your spot, please follow the link

<https://moretonbaybooklaunch.eventbrite.com.au>

Wednesday Lunchtime Lecture: Peter Moffat of Irvinebank – North Queensland & His Tragic Marriage

Wednesday, 10th December 2025, 12:30pm

Join us for the next instalment of our Wednesday Lunchtime Lecture Series, "Peter Moffat of Irvinebank – North Queensland & His Tragic Marriage" presented by Dr Ruth Kerr, Honorary Secretary of the RHSQ & Adjunct Professor at UQ.

For more information, or to reserve your spot, please follow the link:

<https://rhsqdecember2025lecture.eventbrite.com.au>

Separation Day 2025

Wednesday, 10th December 2025, 5:00pm

Join us for another Separation Day celebration! This year's speaker will be Claire Moore and Jane Prentice, followed by an award ceremony for Megan Martin and Rod Beattie.

For more information, or to reserve your spot, please follow the link:

<https://rhsqseparationday2025.eventbrite.com.au>

Wednesday Lunchtime Lecture: Life on the Beat – Insight into a Street Copper

Wednesday, 14th January 2026, 12:30pm

Join us for the next instalment of our Wednesday Lunchtime Lecture Series, "Life on the Beat – Insight into a Street Copper" presented by Robert Cochrane of the Friends of the

Queensland Police Museum. **For more information, or to reserve your spot, please follow the link:**

<https://rhsqjanuary2026lecture.eventbrite.com.au>

Wednesday Lunchtime Lecture: Hannah Rigby – The Last Convict Woman of Moreton Bay
Wednesday, 11th February 2026, 12:30pm

Join us for the next instalment of our Wednesday Lunchtime Lecture Series, "Hannah Rigby – The Last Convict Woman of Moreton Bay" presented by Jane Smith.

For more information, or to reserve your spot, please follow the link:

<https://rhsqfebruary2026lecture.eventbrite.com.au>

Any queries, contact Manager Hannah Winsome Watson,  (07) 3221 4198 – 

www.queenslandhistory.org –  info@queenslandhistory.org.au

The Royal Historical Society of Queensland

"Nothing revives the past so completely as a smell that was once associated with it." — Vladimir Nabokov [GoodReads Quotes]