



e-Bulletin

31 March 2025

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Hello Everyone. This month those living in Brisbane and surrounds, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast and northern New South Wales had an unwelcome surprise in the form of TC Alfred. I'm aware some people had only minor problems while others suffered devastating losses. And the rain continues to wreak havoc in the West. Not a happy month for many.

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. RHSQ Upcoming Events

Wednesday, 9th April 2025, 12:30pm

Join us on for the next instalment of our Wednesday Lunchtime Lecture Series, "Introducing the Queensland Atlas of Religion " presented by Assoc-Prof. Geoff Ginn. For more information, or to reserve your spot, please follow the link:

<https://rhsgapril2025lecture.eventbrite.com.au>

Wednesday, 14th May 2025, 12:30pm

Join us for the next instalment of our Wednesday Lunchtime Lecture Series, "Matthew Flinders & His Imprisonment on Mauritius (1803 – 1810)" presented by Marc Serge Rivière.

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

<https://rhsgmay2025lecture.eventbrite.com.au>

The Moreton Bay Settlement Conference – Celebrating 200 Years Since the Relocation of the Colony from Redcliffe to the Brisbane River

Saturday, 17th May 2025, 8:30am – 4pm

Join us for a day jam-packed full of historical talks at the Commissariat Store! Talks will centre around the early colony with topics ranging from convicts, soldiers, botany, medicine, and more. For more information, or to reserve your spot, please follow the link:

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

Wednesday, 11th June 2025, 12:30pm

Join us for the next instalment of our Wednesday Lunchtime Lecture Series, "SEACOM – The 1960s SUPER HIGHWAY That Modernised Communication in Queensland" presented by Dr Jim Griffin & Mr John Rostron.

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

<https://rhsgjune2025lecture.eventbrite.com.au>

Hannah Winsome Watson
Manager
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2. Community Heritage Grants

The Community Heritage Grants (CHG) program supports community organisations to care for Australian moveable, cultural heritage collections. Since 1994, this program has provided more than \$9.3 million dollars in funding to over 1,700 projects across Australia. Applications are now open for the 2025 Community Heritage Grants. Applications close for first time applicants on Thursday 8 May. Previous recipients have an extended deadline of Tuesday 3 June. Find out more [here](#).

3. An Oral History of Activism with Aunty Millie Ingram

In honour of International Women's Day, Wiradjuri Elder Aunty Millie Ingram gives an oral history of her life. Born in Cowra in 1940 and raised on the Erarnbie Mission in Central New

South Wales, she spent her formative years living in a nation that told her — over and over — that her voice didn't matter. Listen to her [here](#).

4. Harmony and Disharmony

Words and Silences Volume 11, Number 1, 2023-2024. This issue provides readers with a glimpse into the oral history projects and ideas that were shared during the XXI IOHA Conference, "Harmony and Disharmony." Read this Journal [here](#).

5. Responses to COVID-19 in Australia oral history project

The COVID-19 virus was first identified in December 2019 with the first Australian case recorded 20 January 2020. The pandemic's effects in Australia and across the globe continue to be profound. We're recording up to 250 interviews with a diverse range of Australians to ensure that stories of the COVID-19 pandemic are captured for present and future generations. Find out more [here](#).

6. Stories of service: Australians in the Second World War

Are you interested in learning more about Australia's servicemen and women in the Second World War? Whether you're tracing your family's military history or exploring the broader stories of service, you'll be guided through the extensive records available in the national archival collection, including those made accessible through the WWII Digitisation Project. Date and time - Tuesday 8 April, Friday 11 April 10 to 11 am. The seminars are identical so you only need to register for one of the sessions.

Location - National Archives of Australia, Queensland Office, 16 Corporate Drive, Cannon Hill QLD 4170

Cost – Free

Find out more [here](#).

7. Riverhood — oral histories in the Murray Darling Basin

The Murray Darling Basin is the most important river system in Australia, and the most contested. What does it mean to live by those rivers, through the droughts, the floods, and the water politics that shape these communities? A beautiful and evocative history of the Murray Darling Basin, as told by people who live there. Listen to the story [here](#).

8. 22nd National Oral History Conference, South Africa

Venue: To Be Confirmed

Date: 6 October (Training) & 7 to 10 October 2025 (Conference)

THEME: *Oral history, (un)told stories and (living) archives: pursuance of relentless struggles for human dignity*

ABSTRACTS DUE: 5 May 2025

"In South Africa where oral history has now come of age, theorising about issues of orality is no longer confined to the academy and scholarly publications, but community-based oral history practitioners have also embraced this methodology, which has empowered some to produce popular publications. Most importantly, oral history now forms an important component of the school history curriculum. One of the major challenges that still needs to be confronted, however, is how to channel the oral history materials collected through

interviews into the archives where they can be made publicly accessible and thus help decolonise the historiography.” Find out more [here](#).

9. New Book Chronicles COVID-19 Oral Histories in Vermont

“Edited by journalist and historian Garrett Graff, 'Life Became Very Blurry' recounts the pandemic experiences of more than 110 Vermonters in their own words. In spring 2020, as a deadly new virus raged worldwide, upending lives in countless ways, some Vermonters turned to local historians for insights on how the state weathered its last major pandemic: the global influenza outbreak of 1918 that killed more than 50 million worldwide.” Find out more [here](#).

10. History Queensland Newsletter

Oral History Queensland is a member of History Queensland. Their March 2025 Newsletter is [here](#).

11. “Front Up” and “Tales from a Suitcase”

Recently while searching for something else, I discovered “Front Up” on SBS OnDemand <https://www.sbs.com.au/ondemand/tv-series/front-up> This relatively old series began in 1994 with the wonderful Andrew Urban who sets out on a quest to unveil the hidden stories of everyday Australians. His unwavering belief that there are no ordinary people, propels him to engage with individuals from all walks of life.

Also “Tales from a Suitcase” <https://www.sbs.com.au/ondemand/tv-series/tales-from-a-suitcase> This series depicts the stories of people who moved to Australia from various countries and the impact of the government's post-war immigration policy on their lives. The series began in 1996 with interviewer Joanna Penglase.

I'm so pleased to discover SBS is showing these series again. I'm looking forward to watching them for the second time.

12. Museum & Galleries Queensland Grants List

Museums & Galleries Queensland has compiled a list of grant opportunities available for museums, galleries and other cultural organisations in Queensland. Find out more [here](#).

13. Queensland-Smithsonian Fellowship Program

“How to apply for a Queensland–Smithsonian Fellowship in 2025, targeted project areas, what supporting documentation is needed, and how the department assesses applications.” Find out more [here](#).

14. Black Summer Bushfires Project

"After the Black Summer bushfires, people from Cobargo, Quaama, Nerrigundah, and surrounding regions spoke with oral historians working for the National Library of Australia

(NLA) to record their memories and experiences of the Badja Forest Road bushfire." Find out more [here](#).

15. Victorian Oral History Award to Alexandra Pierce

"The 15-episode podcast, Women, Conscription, War, tells the story of the Melbourne women who opposed the Vietnam War and the National Service Act from 1965-1972." Listen [here](#). See the other winners of the Victorian Community History Awards [here](#).

16. Salvaging Water-damaged Documents and Photos

Here is a link to a YouTube video on salvaging water damaged documents. It was created by the Queensland State Archives. Watch video [here](#).

17. The Charitable Purpose

March 2025 e-newsletter. Commissioner's Column:

"In anticipation of a federal election, we have updated our advocacy guidance, and we will be promoting that to charities to ensure they understand the rules. Charities can advocate and run campaigns during elections, including evaluating and ranking policies, if it serves their charitable purpose. Charities should be careful not to support or oppose a particular political party or candidate as this will run the risk of being found to have a disqualifying purpose." Read more [here](#):

18. New Zealand Newsletter

Read the latest (December) National Oral History Association of New Zealand Newsletter [here](#).

19. Zoom in for Two OHA Conference Papers – Save the Date

Mary-Ellen Ryan and John Mickel will present their Oral History Australia Conference paper at **10.00am on Saturday the 10th May via Zoom** Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83998735676?pwd=KjTxMXC5vha5FhQQDCzhGUx1vDJsne.1>

Meeting ID: 839 9873 5676

Passcode: 410678

OHQ Member **Mary-Ellen Ryan** will present *Elite Oral Histories cast new light on Premier Joh Bjelke-Petersen's 'strong man' leadership*.

John Mickel, *Bjelke-Petersen – Nutter or Strategist*.

Read further descriptions for both [here](#).

20. Siobhan McHugh Celebrates 40 Years in Australia

"This post is dedicated to my 40th anniversary in Oz. I was honoured to be the speaker at the annual Saint Patrick's Day Dinner of the [Aisling Society](#), a group formed 70 years ago in Sydney to nurture cultural and historical aspects of the Irish-Australian tradition. It was a perfect opportunity to reflect on the major societal changes I've witnessed in that time, in

both countries.” Read more [here](#).

21. National Library Fellowships

Applications for 2025 National Library of Australia Fellowships and Creative Arts Fellowships are now open. Researchers and creators are encouraged to apply for 9 philanthropically funded fellowships offered by the National Library of Australia. Find out more [here](#).

22. Journal of Australasian Mining History

Have you ever recorded an oral history interview with an Australian miner, or been involved with a project that collected oral histories of the mining industry in Australia? If so, the editor of the Journal of Australasian Mining History would like to hear from you. Articles are invited for submission to the Journal for publication by 1 July. If interested, contact OHQ on info@ohq.org.au for further details.

23. Oral History Basics Workshop Report – 29 March 2025

The latest OHQ Basics Workshop was held on 29 March with a small enthusiastic group in attendance and facilitated by Elisabeth Gondwe. See the report by Kirstyn Lindsay [here](#).

24. Hazel de Berg Collection to Memory of the World

“Made up of 1,301 tapes, the Hazel de Berg oral history collection captures the voices of 1,290 Australians, including artists, writers, composers and scientists. The National Library is proud to house this collection, which will be added to the UNESCO Australian Memory of the World Register this year.” Find out more [here](#). Also check out the National Library of Australia Facebook page’s post, dated 27 March 2025.

25. RecordSearch Masterclass

“Join National Archives of Australia for their online masterclass, where expert Reference staff will share insider tips and tricks to help you master RecordSearch, their powerful online records database. Discover how to refine your searches, uncover hidden gems, and confidently explore the vast national archival collection.” Find out more and register [here](#).

“You remember too much,
my mother said to me recently.
Why hold onto all that? And I said,
Where can I put it down?” — Anne Carson, *Glass, Irony and God* [from
GoodReads Quotes]