



e-Bulletin

31 October 2025

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Hello Everyone. I hope you're all well and working on your projects. If you're experiencing any "road blocks" send us an email and we'll try to help. Also we now have Al Thomson available to provide help.

You now have the opportunity to be an Editor of our wonderful journal *Studies in Oral History*.

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@jinet.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. Digital Storytelling Workshop

Oral History Queensland is holding a workshop on 22 November 2025 at 12 Payne Street, Auchenflower. Our facilitator, Elena Volkova, is a transmedia storytelling facilitator and producer, oral historian, and writer. She held the position of President of Oral History Queensland (2007–2011) and contributed to a seminal work, "Oral History: Australian Generations" (Monash University, Radio National, and National Library of Australia). Her creative practice, *Story Labyrinths*, is grounded in the traditions of oral history, life writing, and digital storytelling. This is a great opportunity. Don't miss out. Find out more about the workshop and registration [here](#).

2. Ask Al Thomson – Ideas and Skills Exchange Session

As advised by email on 22 October, this session hosted by our OHV Committee Member, past President of Oral History Australia and experienced oral history trainer Professor Al Thomson, the **Ideas and Skills Exchange session** provides an opportunity for OHV members to ask questions and share experiences and discoveries in oral history.

These are a very informal and conversational session so no matter where you are at on your 'oral history journey' you are most welcome to dial in and have a chat with Al. These sessions are held on the last Tuesday of the month.

Ensure your device has a dedicated microphone and webcam.

Event Starts at **5:30 PM AEDST**

Last Tuesday every month, 5.30pm to 6.30pm.

A reminder to members that membership of any state association entitles you to a member discount at any state association event. Check for Upcoming Events on the Oral History Victoria website [here](#).

3. Prime Minister's Literary Award

Critical Care: Nurses on the frontline of Australia's AIDS crisis by Geraldine Fela has received the 2025 Prime Minister's Literary Award for Australian History. The 2025 Prime Minister's Literary Awards celebrate the exceptional talents of emerging and established Australian writers, illustrators, poets, and historians. Find out more [here](#).

4. International Oral History Association Conference

The Polish Oral History Association was born out of the need to provide a formal framework for the developing and diverse activity of Polish humanities scholars engaged in oral history. It was established in January 2009 in Kraków, and it brings together historians and researchers from many other humanities disciplines from all over Poland who are professionally involved in oral history. It represents the Polish community on the international arena. See Oral History in Poland

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kbUk8YLtPm4>

The 23rd International Oral History Association conference took place in September 2025 in Kraków. Oral History Victoria has uploaded, the plenaries (featuring luminaries including Mary Marshall Clark) to YouTube. Enjoy!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tzemRsB5pk>

Leading Singaporean oral historian Mark Wong has been elected the new president of the International Oral History Association (IOHA). Find out more about him [here](#).

5. Volunteering Queensland Newsletter & Media Release

Read Volunteering Queensland Newsletter [here](#) and Media Release: Volunteering Report provides test for new government [here](#).

6. Two Book Reviews

Emeritus Professor of History at Monash University Marian Quartly reviews two books - *Playtime: A History of Australian Childhood* by Emily Gallagher | La Trobe University Press | \$36.99 | 320 pages; and

Fathering: An Australian History by Alistair Thomson, John Murphy, Kate Murphy and Johnny Bell, with Jill Barnard | *Melbourne University Press* | \$39.99 | 432 pages
Read reviews [here](#).

Also, you can see a video of the launch of *Fathering* on the OHA YouTube channel [here](#).

7. 2025 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards

“The Winners, Highly Commended and Finalists of the 2025 Gallery and Museum Achievement Awards (GAMAA) were proudly announced by Museums & Galleries Queensland (M&G QLD) on Tuesday 9 September, at a special awards presentation hosted by Museum of Brisbane.” Find out more [here](#).

8. Member Discounts on Training

A reminder to members that membership of any state association entitles you to a member discount at any state association event. Learn more [here](#).

9. Australian Historical Association and The Guardian

The Australian Historical Association has begun a three-month trial of a new column in *The Guardian*. The first article is by La Trobe University's Roland Burke - [The fledgling UN tried to rein in mass-scale misinformation. The world turned its back and is now paying the price](#). If successful, we can look forward to a monthly column that explores current events through an historian's unique perspective and expertise. Please support.

10. Brisbane 100

Oral History Queensland was invited to participate in the Brisbane 100 Event on 1 October 2025 at the Brisbane City Hall. This event was part of the celebration to commemorate Brisbane becoming a large city in 1925 when many councils amalgamated to form one council body. Over these last 100 years Brisbane has transitioned from a sleepy town to a bustling city. Three members of OHQ participated:

Lena Volkova sat at a small table with a chair for herself and the other for a steady stream of people who shared their stories with her. She said, “Everyone loved Brisbane.” They were talkative and generous with their stories. Lena will edit the recorded stories and give participants a copy. They got a good taste of what oral history is, being a bit apprehensive at the beginning, but then starting to open up and talk frankly about their experiences of Brisbane. Some spoke about their research and shared their knowledge of its history, as well as snippets of their life stories related to our city.

Anne Monsour and the Australian Lebanese Historical Society used pull up banners which were very popular. People were reading them and then telling stories. The story of the Lebanese in South Brisbane is very significant with the first shops being in the cultural centre area.

Suzanne Mulligan was unable to attend in person but she provided a short video about two of her interviewees who had lived in Brisbane. This video was added to a loop which played in the City Hall with Digital Songlines and the biography of Premier Theodore on the LCD screen in the far left of the room as you would have seen it as a speaker. It was played many times.

If OHQ attends a similar future event, we would need to have better signage such as that which the Australian Lebanese Historical Society had. Also we needed more room and a quieter space.

11. Royal Historical Society of Queensland Events

RHSQ Manager Hannah Winsome-Watson says:

"I am writing today to extend a formal invitation to you all to our upcoming AGM on Thursday 20 November at 5:30pm, and Separation Day on Wednesday 10 December at 5pm.

Our AGM this year will be held at the Commissariat and will be FREE, so that makes it one of the best things in life! This year's Clem Lack Orator is Assoc. Prof. Ray Kerkhove. Many of you know him and what a great speaker he is, we look forward to the day. Evolving Perspectives on Australia's Frontier Wars. The Pivotal Role of Past and Present Queensland Historians and Some Personal Experiences with Blending Oral, Historical and Ethnographic Sources.

You can reserve your spot here: <https://rhsq2025agm.eventbrite.com.au>

Visible, Uncontrollable and Permeable – Wednesday Lunchtime Lecture, [WLL Coronial Investigations into Suspicious Aboriginal female deaths in QLD Tickets, Wed, Nov 12, 2025 at 12:30 PM | Eventbrite](#)

Separation Day

There is also, of course, our annual Separation Day. Also at the Commissariat, and is \$35 for members and \$45 for non-members. This year's speakers will be Claire Moore and Jane Prentice. There will also be an award ceremony for two medal recipients as well, Megan Martin and Rod Beattie, friends of the Society. As mentioned above, it will be held on Wednesday 10 December at 5pm.

You can book your tickets here: <https://rhsqseparationday2025.eventbrite.com.au>

Our monthly lunchtime lecture is the same day, just a few hours prior "Peter Moffat of Irvinebank, North Queensland & His Tragic Marriage." It will be presented by Dr Ruth Kerr, our Honorary Secretary.

You can book for that here: <https://rhsqdecember2025lecture.eventbrite.com.au>

We all look forward to seeing so many of you there. Thank you always for all of your ongoing support of the RHSQ. Queensland's history deserves promotion and we are all privileged to be contributing to that mission in our own ways.

Kind regards,

Hannah Winsome Watson

Manager"

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The Royal Historical Society of Queensland acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land and pays respect to Elders past, present and future.

12. History Queensland Newsletter

Oral History Queensland is a member of History Queensland. Read their latest newsletter [here](#).

13. Australian Society of Archivists' Conference, Sydney, Australia

"The conference aims to bring together a wide range of perspectives and stories on our profession and practice by showcasing what archives mean to communities, institutions and individuals. It is also a space to explore where we have been, are, and want to develop as a sector." 10 – 13 November 2025. Find out more [here](#).

14. New Zealand Historical Association Conference, Auckland, New Zealand

"Many Hands Make History: To tell the many and varied stories of our past we need many and varied storytellers in the present. He Rau Ringa e Oti ai: Many Hands Make History celebrates the many different people, organisations, modes, topics and approaches of history-telling in Aotearoa. The conference aims to foster connections across our history community." 25 - 28 November 2025. Find out more [here](#).

15. Expressions of Interest for the position of editor of the OHA journal *Studies in Oral History*.

The news item calls for Expressions of Interest for the position of editor of the OHA journal *Studies in Oral History*. The deadline for expressions of interest is **22 November 2025**. This is a position that could be shared by two people. Find out more [here](#) and [here](#).

16. China International Exhibition of Oral History

The China International Week of Oral History has been renamed the China International Exhibition of Oral History. From October to December, over thirty events will be held across the country under themes such as oral history and war, music, sports, food, intangible cultural heritage, urban memory, public welfare, industrial heritage, and artificial intelligence. Please see the poster inviting oral history projects from around the world to participate by submitting posters, work photos, or project images. These materials will be printed and displayed in Beijing for the entire year.



"Memory is like patches of sunlight in an overcast valley, shifting with the movement of the clouds. Now and then the light will fall on a particular point in time, illuminating it for a moment before the wind seals up the gap,

and the world is in shadows again." — Tan Twan Eng, *The Garden of Evening Mists* [Good Reads Quotes]