



The National Oral History Association of New Zealand
Te Kete Kōrero-a-Waha o Te Motu

Read inside about

- Dominion Road Stories
- NOHANZ Symposium Auckland 10th—11th May
- NOHANZ executive election — call for nominations

NEWSLETTER
ISSN 01147447

NOHANZ • P.O. BOX 3819 • WELLINGTON
www.oralhistory.org.nz

NOHANZ

Newsletter

Volume 26, number 3

December 2012

NOHANZ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Presidents

[Claire Hall](#) and [Sue Berman](#)

Past President

[Rachael Selby](#)

Secretary

[Pip Oldham](#)

Treasurer

[Michael Dudding](#)

[Linda Evans](#)

[Helen Frizzell](#)

[Ann Packer](#)

[Lynette Shum](#)

NOHANZ REGIONAL CONTACTS

We are building our network of regional contacts. Please feel free to contact the contact person for your area or another member of the Executive Committee

Auckland: [Megan Hutching](#)

Gisborne: [Susan Fowke](#)

Taranaki: [Claire Hall](#)

Wellington: [Paul Diamond](#)

Picton: [Loreen Brehaut](#)

Oamaru: [Jacqui Foley](#)

Dunedin: [Helen Frizzell](#)

www.oralhistory.org.nz

Newsletter

The Executive seeks material for the newsletters to be compiled in 2013. We welcome news and views from around the country about what is happening, courses that are being offered, reports on projects in progress or completed, websites and resources.

Send your news to:

NOHANZexec@gmail.com

NOHANZ April 2013

From the co-presidents

E te nui e te rahi, e te karanga maha o te motu, tēnā koutou, tēnā tātou katoa,

Greetings dear NOHANZ members, and welcome to the first newsletter for 2013. We hope you are all enjoying the extended golden summer. The good weather has evidently been a great motivator for oral history activity, as there is plenty to report in this edition of our regular newsletter.

The Wellington regional network recently hosted a well-attended gathering with more than 20 people attending this valuable meeting and networking opportunity. See p 2.

Supported by NOHANZ volunteers, Auckland Libraries worked in collaboration with the Auckland Theatre Company to deliver the Dominion Road Stories event as part of the Auckland Festival of Arts. Our photographs reveal the fun that was had. It was also a chance to gather some wonderful material for the Auckland Libraries archive, and an associated exhibition.

Some of the project workers will be talking at the upcoming oral history symposium in Auckland on May 10 -11. We encourage you to consider being part of the action, joining other oral historians and digital storytellers at the old council chambers in West Auckland. It's an affordable opportunity to enjoy both group discussions and participatory training.

The symposium is a hands-on, informal networking opportunity to keep you engaged in the year between biennial conferences. Thanks to the support of Auckland Libraries and ASB Trust, we're able to offer a great registration rate for NOHANZ members.

As announced last year, changes have been made to the Oral History Recording Agreement. We're keen to hear feedback from the membership on these changes – how they are working for you in practice – and your experiences of using the new form and explanatory notes.

News from the regions and suggestions for networking or growing oral history capacity in your area or field of expertise are, as always, welcome. Please keep sending us your ideas and articles for inclusion in the newsletter.

It's voting time again, and this year we are holding the NOHANZ BGM in conjunction with the Auckland symposium in May. The executive committee requires enthusiastic people able to play both governance and more active roles in supporting the wide range of oral history activity among our membership – in communities, academia, institutions, societies and families. Two critical roles need to be filled this year, as secretary Pip Oldham and treasurer Michael Dudding will be standing down. They have both done an outstanding job in their positions, and leave the ground well prepared for office holders stepping in.

There's more about the election process with this newsletter. If you can't make it in person, you can delegate a member at the meeting to vote on your behalf.

On behalf of the NOHANZ executive, thanks for your ongoing support and enthusiasm for oral history. We look forward to meeting many of you in person at the gathering in Auckland May.

Ngā mihi mahana ki a koutou,

**Sue Berman and Claire Hall,
Co-presidents**

Reports

Wellington Regional Meeting – February

About twenty people gathered at the National Library for a tour of the new Reading Rooms and presentations by Linda Evans, Curator of Oral History and Sound, Gillian Headifen, Research Librarian, Lynette Shum, Oral History Adviser, Bronwyn Officer, Senior Sound Conservator, and Leigh Rosen, Digital Archivist.

Here are some brief notes about some of the info members learned:

Now the Alexander Turnbull Library reorganisation has taken place, oral history enquiries and material are handled by several sections of the library, not a dedicated oral history section as in the past. Both oral history and general staff may be handling your collection or enquiry.

Accessing oral history material:
Plans remain on foot to place the Oral History Collection catalogue on line later this year. In the meantime research enquiries are best made using the *Ask a Librarian* link on the National Library website <http://tinyurl.com/cdss2y3>

Submitting oral history to the Library:
Following a discussion with the Curator and her acceptance of oral history material for appraisal, she will give you a *Media Deposit Form* to complete. This is a big help as it tells the library what digital files you want to deposit, file names and permissions etc.

Leigh Rosen went through Turnbull Library processes for preserving text, images and other non-audio material. Some things to remember are: keep file extensions, avoid punctuation in file names, one digital file per abstract, avoid embedding images in word documents, supply images at the best available resolution. You can discuss them with the Advisor or go to <http://tinyurl.com/citoapw>

Bronwyn Officer talked about preserving sound files and emphasised that preservation begins at home for oral historians, with care taken on recording quality, documentation and IT.

Future meetings

The next Wellington Regional Meeting is at the National Library on Tuesday 30 April.

Pip Oldham



Dominion Road Stories.

Auckland Libraries, West Auckland Research Centre Oral History team and NOHANZ volunteers participated in a weekend of story gathering as a part of Auckland Theatre Company's (ATC) Dominion Road Stories event 16-17 March.

We put together two supporting events for the weekend – the Story Emporium and the Story Caravan.

[The Story Emporium](#) was an opportunity for the public to add their Dominion Road Story to the record. The collection will be archived in the Auckland Libraries' Oral History Collection with written contributions alongside as a community archive.



Volunteers Megan Hutching, Rebecca Kunin, Ruth Greenaway and Sue Berman in the recording lounge

With the assistance of props from Auckland Theatre Company the War Memorial Hall Chamber Room was transformed into a two-sided 'lounge' for recording. A barrier with heavy curtaining for sound absorption divided the room to create two discrete recording environments. OH recording protocols were followed – a brief pre-interview, explanation of the agreement form and an understanding that Auckland Libraries will be the repository. Recordings were made on the Zoom H4N with lapel mics and despite two recordings often going on in the same room at the same time the quality of recordings is good.

People were really generous and keen to have their stories recorded. Interviews ranged from a 10 minute mini-recording to two hours' recording with one person who had had a lifetime on the road, and had travelled in from Kumeu to tell us all about it.

Many people popped up to the Story Emporium while waiting for a show to begin to see the exhibition of Dominion Road Shopkeepers on display. The posters are part of other work that Auckland Libraries is doing on [Dominion Road Stories](#) and link to a website of extracts from oral history interviews plus Sue Gee's wonderful photographs with shopkeepers. Posters, website, and sound recordings were available to the public for viewing and listening. NOHANZ Symposium attendees

"Everything in my day was delivered by horse and cart. When I was old enough I built a trolley and I had a little shovel, and I would follow the horses up Dominion Road, and when they did the business I would fill my trolley with manure... I sold it for sixpence a whole trolley load"

-Ralph Russell Newton b. 1920
Dominion Road Stories Oral History
Collection, Auckland Libraries, WHO-
1095-003



Right: Horse and cart, trams and people of Dominion Road c 1915, Ernest De Turret, Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries, 7-A11151

Below: Megan Hutching, Sue Gee, Sue Berman and Robyn Mason at [The Story Emporium](#). Shopkeeper Stories in back



will hear about this project in May.

Volunteers who helped on the day were busy, especially on the Saturday. (See some impressions below.) Thanks to Julia Barron, Sue Monk, Ruth Greenaway, Bruce Ralston, R. Bester, Lucia Davis, Megan Hutching, Robyn Mason and Rebecca Kunin for your hands and ears over the weekend. It was lovely also to have a visit from Lynette Shum up from Wellington to deliver training.

Free ice-blocks (thanks Tip Top) in exchange for a completed postcard helped bring in young and old, while face-to-face conversations identified more people for our 'must interview' list!

The post card at the top of this page draws on Auckland Libraries Heritage Images, with a quote from our recent oral history.

Auckland Libraries have commissioned photographer Solomon Mortimer to take black and white portraits of people and places on Dominion Rd for exhibition later in the year, with a range of oral history recordings.

Links:

www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz
<http://www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/dbtw-wpd/virt-exhib/DominionRoadStories/index.htm>
<http://www.autdominionroadstories.co.nz/story-emporium.htm>
<http://www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/dbtw-wpd/virt-exhib/DominionRoadStories/index.htm>

Sue Berman, Oral Historian, West Auckland Research Centre, Auckland Libraries.

Volunteer impressions of [The Story Emporium](#) event:

[It] was a wonderful event to be a part of. I was surprised by the way visitors responded with interest to the material displayed in our space, particularly the historical photographs, with images jogging memories and stories. People were happy to share their own Dominion Road stories in short form and many were able to have their stories recorded on the day, with several other leads to be followed up. Time spent talking about the project in a public forum has created active community involvement, and will add to the richness of the overall project. – *Rebecca Kunin*

It was a day of surprises at the event, part of the Auckland Arts festival, I interviewed two women about their childhood memories of living in the area. One lady grew up in the 1930s during the Depression and was the daughter of the local GP. She caused a bit of a stir at Brixton Rd primary school when she wouldn't drink free milk because it had been sitting the sun. "The doctor's daughter won't drink the milk!" She remembers how hard it was for her mother to feed the family – they ate copious amounts of pumpkin from their garden but had very little money because families would pay the doctor in kind with cushions, vases and hens!

Another woman remembered her childhood in the 1940, [living] in one of the first state houses at what is now Furron Park – it was swamp in those days and she remembered playing in the swamp and the foundations of the house sinking into the swamp. She recalls the feeling of privilege at living in a state house, having previously lived in a basement. As a teenager, once she started working, she and her friend had money to buy material and make a new dress every weekend for the Saturday night dance. She remembered standing on the kitchen table and her father measuring the hem while her mother pinned it up.

I think this project provides a great model for capturing stories across Auckland. Well done to all who organised the event. – *Ruth Greenaway*

Everyone has stories. Everyone wants to talk. A chance to put my training into practice. Dived in the deep end. Survived and learnt. Great community event. – *Bruce Ralston*

People came to look at photos and realised their story was of interest too, so volunteered to sit in the cosy fifties lounge and pour out stories. "Mum, you have to go and talk to them," was how one woman introduced herself. She'd lived over the road from the hall for 50 years from 1945. Her topics included how her father bought the house, walking to school, trips to George Walker's auction house, trams, elocution lessons, live-in grandparents and so on. This was a privilege to be involved in, and fun. – *Sue Monk*

Recording Agreement Form

Feedback received to date suggests people like the new layout of the *Oral History Recording Agreement Form*. However, *Explanatory Notes for Interviewers* have been updated to Version 1a after a mistake was spotted in the document header. This version is now available on the NOHANZ website. More feedback is welcome at any time – nohanzfeedback@gmail.com.

**Auckland Symposium:
*Describing the wave: NOHANZ Auckland
Regional oral history symposium, May
10 & 11 2013***

The theme reflects the many and varied ways writers, historians, librarians, archivists, academics, artists and storytellers engage with oral history, both as a methodology and an information source. It's also, says symposium organiser and NOHANZ co-president Claire Hall, "a playful nod to the sound wave, a format that characterises the data we create and manipulate as oral historians in the digital age".

The two-day event brings together a diverse range of views and experiences on making and working with oral testimony. It will also showcase some of the ways oral history can be used post-production, in books, academic writing, and digital storytelling.

"The programme responds to some of the most common questions and training demands out there in communities, and is designed to offer both creative inspiration and hands-on advice to fledgling and experienced practitioners alike," Claire says. "Rather than presenting definitive solutions to 'making' or 'doing' digital oral history, the symposium encourages collaborative practice, and the sharing of ideas and experiences."

Presenters from professional and community-based organisations will talk about their experiences working with oral history as commissioners, practitioners, researchers and collection managers.

Training sessions are streamed, with a workshop for beginners and one for experienced practitioners each day.

It's hoped the symposium will foster relationships and collaborative practice across Auckland and beyond.

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

NOHANZ Election 2013

The Biennial General Meeting of New Zealand Oral History Association will be held in West Auckland at 4.30 pm on 10 May, the first day of the Auckland symposium. (See formal Notice of BGM attached.)

We invite nominations from members keen to join the NOHANZ executive committee this year.

The executive delivers the association's core objectives:

- to promote the practice and methods of oral history
- to promote standards in oral history interviewing techniques, and in recording and preservation methods
- to act as a resource of information and advise on practical and technical problems involved in making oral history recordings
- to act as a co-ordinator of oral history activities throughout New Zealand
- to produce an annual journal and regular newsletters
- to promote regular oral history meetings, talks, seminars, workshops and demonstrations
- to encourage the establishment of NOHANZ branches throughout New Zealand
- to compile a directory of oral history holdings to improve access to collections held in libraries, archives and museums.

Executive roles include president / co-presidents, secretary, treasurer, past president/co-presidents, and four additional executive committee members. All positions are contestable and we encourage you to consider what support you might be able to lend NOHANZ in this coming term.

In particular, we seek members to fill the roles of NOHANZ president, secretary and treasurer. Both Pip and Michael will be standing down from the committee at this

year's Biennial General Meeting (BGM) in May. Sue and Claire will remain on the executive as immediate past presidents but not necessarily in the president role.

The role of president requires an overview of the business and direction of the association. The committee meets in person or via Skype/conference call every 6-8 weeks. Specific tasks are defined annually by strategic planning. Regular activities include production of three newsletters and an annual journal. Next year is a conference year, and the current executive is soliciting support from an experienced Wellington-based conference committee. Other activities include the development and support of regional meetings, and training and relationship-building events like the one being trialled this year.

The secretary's role is crucial to the business of the executive. We seek a capable minute-taker and administrator, as this role involves recording meeting business, compiling and sending out agendas, and maintaining contact with members and stakeholders, mainly through the executive email account.

The treasurer – ideally someone with sound financial recording and reporting experience – is responsible for preparing an annual budget with the executive, and monitoring spending against the budget throughout the year. This role also involves monthly account management, and preparing financial statements for NOHANZ committee meetings, and for end-of-year review and subsequent presentation to NOHANZ general membership at the NOHANZ BGM. Voting for these and other positions on the executive committee will take place at the BGM, 10 May at 4:30pm in West Auckland (Day One of the NOHANZ Symposium).

Nominations can be made by current members on the form included with/attached to this newsletter and available on the website.

We encourage you to submit your nomination as soon as possible. We invite nominees to submit a brief biography or introductory statement for distribution to voters via email. Please submit both by **23 April**, to give members a chance to consider candidates prior to voting day. In accordance

with the NOHANZ constitution, nominations from the floor will also be eligible.

You can lodge a vote in absentia by nominating someone who will be at the meeting to vote on your behalf. To take advantage of this system, you will need to return a signed representative voting form. This form is included in the newsletter and available on the website.

Interested in finding out more about the committee and these roles? Call Sue Berman – 021 0414427 – or speak with an executive member. See website or newsletter for details. <http://www.oralhistory.org.nz>

If you are unable to come to the BGM but have questions or comments please contact the Secretary: nohanzexec@gmail.com

Snippets

New Zealand Oral History Awards:

Last year's Friday-before-end-of-May closing date for the New Zealand Oral History Awards caught some NOHANZ members by surprise. Applications for this year's awards close a month earlier, on Friday 26 April 2013 at 5pm.

The awards provide financial help for recording interviews relating to the history of New Zealand/Aotearoa and its close connections with the Pacific, and which contribute significantly to our understanding of New Zealand's past and its people. Recipients have a year in which to finish their project.

The 2012 awards reached from Kaeo to Manapouri and the Chathams, covering communities such as the Lebanese in Wellington and West Coasters in Auckland, and groups including the AIDS support network, Monte Cecilia Housing Trust and Christchurch nurses.

<http://www.mch.govt.nz/funding-nz-culture/ministry-grants-awards>

Stout Research Centre Public History Seminars:

Anna Cottrell, who received a grant to record Women of the Chathams, will talk about her documentary work over 25 years as part of Stout's 2013 seminar series. Wednesdays, 4.10pm, 12 Waiteata Rd, Kelburn.

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/stout-centre/about/events>

Treaty Settlement Histories Project:

A major new project at Manatū Taonga the Ministry for Culture and Heritage, recording Treaty of Waitangi settlements from all perspectives, includes two oral history projects that focus on the leaders of the settlements process and iwi experiences.

<http://www.mch.govt.nz/>

50th anniversary of the cassette tape:

Did you know the audio cassette is 50 years old? Though it's already history for those members now using digital technology, it was the advent of the cassette that made portable recording and playback accessible to all, notes the Feb 2013 enews from tech suppliers Sound Techniques.

www.soundtq.co.nz

OHAA Oral History Network News

Expanded indexes for OHAA journals from 1979 to 2012 are now available.

www.ohaansw.org.au/

Links to explore

<http://www.h-net.org/lists/>

Link into international oral history discussion list here.

Christchurch Liaison person

Lorraine Ritchie has had to resign as NOHANZ liaison in Christchurch as she has moved to Invercargill. We thank Lorraine for her commitment at a time of great upheaval following the earthquakes.

Digitising Heritage Audio Collections?

The Digitisation of Heritage Audio is now available online on the National Library website.

<http://natlib.govt.nz/collections/caring-for-your-collections/heritage-audio-digitisation>

Dates for your diary

April

Friday 26 April: Closing date for **Oral History Awards**: 5pm.

<http://www.mch.govt.nz/funding-nz-culture/ministry-grants-awards/new-zealand-oral-history-awards>

Tuesday 30 April: Wellington Regional Meeting, National Library, 5.30pm, Tiakiwai, Lower ground Floor (Aitken Street Entrance)

May

Friday & Saturday 10 & 11 May:

Auckland Symposium & BGM

www.nzohsymposium.net

June

June 10-21 2013: **Columbia University Oral History Summer Institute:**

Telling the World: Indigenous Memories, Rights, and Narratives, at Columbia University, New York City, will explore the themes of indigenous memories, narratives and rights through local and global perspectives. Faculty includes experts on American Indian life, and indigenous cultures from Canada, New Zealand and other areas of the world. The institute will focus on traditions of telling and ways of knowing in primarily oral cultures.

Applications due: April 15, 2013

http://library.columbia.edu/indiv/ccoh/education/summer_institute.html

September

21-24 September, 2013: **Oral History Association of Australia biennial conference**

"*She said, he said: reading, writing and recording history*" is jointly hosted by The Oral History Association of Australia, History SA and the University of South Australia.

(Biennial National Conference of the OHAA and 21st State History Conference.) Adelaide, South Australia

www.ohaa.org.au/article/biennial-conference

October

9-13 October 2013: **OHA Annual Meeting**

(Oral History Association of the United States)

"*Hidden Stories, Contested Truths: The Craft of Oral History*". The Skirvin Hilton Hotel, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Deadline for submission has passed.

<http://www.oralhistory.org/>



Alexander Turnbull Library workshops

Wellington

There are still a couple of gaps in our *Abstracting Oral History* workshop, Saturday and Sunday 25 & 26 May 8.45am-1pm, \$180

<http://natlib.govt.nz/events/abstracting-oral-history-wellington>

Auckland

There are also spaces still in *Recording Seriously*, the second day of *Essentials of Oral History Research*, Saturday 20 April 8.45am-4.30pm. This builds on *Day One*, so completion of a previous *Day One* or similar course is a prerequisite. \$150

<http://natlib.govt.nz/events/essentials-of-oral-history-day-two-auckland>

Waiting list only at this stage for *Abstracting Oral History*

Dunedin

We are pleased that we can offer the whole series in Dunedin for the first time

The Essentials of Oral History Research Day One: Introduction to Oral History Saturday 4 May, 8.45am-4.30pm; *Day Two: Recording Seriously* Saturday 8 June, 8.45am-4.30pm. \$300 for the two days

Abstracting Oral History workshop, Saturday and Sunday 29 & 30 June 8.45am-1pm, \$180

<http://natlib.govt.nz/files/oralhistory/oralhistoryworkshop-dunedin-2013.pdf>

Reduced fees for all workshops is available for Community Services Card holders and full-time students.

Funding

Up to \$500 per applicant is available to assist with the cost of training, including travel and accommodation. The Jack Ilott Oral History in Education Trust Fund can be accessed through

<http://tinyurl.com/c7s4e5h>