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NEWSLETTER
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NOHANZ

Newsletter

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NOHANZ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President Ann Packer

Secretary Sue Monk

Committee:

Rosemary Baird

Belinda De Mayo

Marina Fontein

Sue Gee

Lynette Shum

NOHANZ REGIONAL CONTACTS

We are building our network of regional contacts. Please feel free to contact the 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](#)

Canterbury: [Rosemary Baird](#)

Oamaru: [Jacqui Foley](#)

Dunedin: [Helen Frizzell](#)

Newsletter editor: Ann Packer

We welcome contributions to the NOHANZ newsletter, published three times per annum.

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From the President

Conference 2016: Christchurch

The NOHANZ exec committee is pleased to announce our 30th anniversary conference will be held in Christchurch in 2016. Dates are yet to be finalized but it is expected to

be in October, to coincide with the city's Heritage Week.

Given much – though not all – of our activity involves the past, this seems fitting; there has also been much oral history work carried out in Christchurch since the earthquakes. We expect to hear about this in presentations.

The theme will be: *Our History*.

A conference subcommittee will be set up shortly in order to get the all-important Call for Papers sent out in time for those who need support from their institutions to attend, and for our colleagues across the Tasman to make arrangements to attend.

Ann Packer

More NOHANZ matters

From the Treasurer:

The Treasurer advises that subscriptions for the 2015/16 financial year are now due and invoices will be sent shortly. Following the decision of the BGM in September, new membership fees are \$45 for waged, \$30 for unwaged and \$75 for institutions.

This is an interim step – from 1 April 2016, individual rates will be \$50 and \$35.

Community groups, libraries, museums and historical societies with 50 or fewer members and small businesses with five or fewer employees are eligible to pay the single waged rate; they may send up to two people to conferences and NOHANZ events at members' rates.

Institutions are eligible for three copies of each newsletter and two Journals, and may send up to three people to conferences and NOHANZ events at members' rates.

Exec changes:

We're sorry to announce that Wairarapa oral historian Lizzie Catherall, who was elected to the NOHANZ exec at the BGM, has had to withdraw from the committee for family reasons.

The **Treasurer** position left vacant at the BGM in September has been filled on a temporary basis by Denis Packer, who also keeps the NOHANZ membership database. If you believe you have the skills and commitment required to fill the Treasurer's position until the next BGM in 2016, please contact NOHANZ exec: nohanzexec@gmail.com

Regional

Nelson

As NOHANZ rep for Top of the South for the past few years, I was not aware of any other members, and the people engaged in similar work in hospices were not interested in joining the Association. However, a group recently received training through the Alexander Turnbull Library in conjunction with Nelson Provincial Museum and Nelson Libraries, and I was invited to join them at their first post-training get-together in March. Golden Bay Museum at Takaka was also represented.

I am hopeful that the Association will gain at least an institutional member through my urging, and the group enthusiastically started discussing plans for a joint project covering the Nelson region, possibly with a theme of local craftspeople. It will be interesting to follow their progress; an abstracting course was their next planned move, and I trust I will be able to encourage them suitably before the first flush of enthusiasm dies away.

Loreen Brehaut

Christchurch

The Christchurch network of NOHANZ oral historians met on 24 February. It was a great evening of food, wine, and questions. We discussed some of the key challenges around the ethical dilemmas that can arise recording an interview. It was very interesting to hear about the different experiences we've all had, and there were lots of helpful suggestions. There were also plenty of creative ideas for the next conference and we plan to do some peer review of recordings at the next regional meeting. There were only four of us present but we are hoping for a bigger attendance at our next meeting on 26 May.

Rosemary Baird

Wellington

The date for the next Wellington Regional Meeting is 5.30pm - 7.30pm, 20 May 2015, at the National Library, Aitken St. This promises to be an interesting meeting as Prue Langbein and Belinda De Mayo have kindly agreed to tell us about their recent oral history projects.

Prue will reflect on interviewing seven-year-olds about every facet of their lives. Her oral history award, Seven by Seven, was the first for a project involving children. Belinda will present highlights from her completed Northern Maori Schools project in which she collected Far North stories.

Please advise [Marina Fontein](#) if you would also like to present current work to this meeting.

It is hoped that the following Wellington regional meeting will hear about two very different outcomes from oral history interviews – the new exhibition at Te Papa, and a book featuring refugee oral histories.

Auckland

The next Auckland meeting is planned for Wednesday 29 July, 2015.

Venue: Whare Wananga, Level 2, Central City Library, Auckland, 5.30pm-7.45pm

We plan to discuss Managing an Oral History Project and are currently inviting speakers on such topics as managing digital files and the business side of things – paper work, planning for business expenses, costing and controlling the budget.

Afterwards, we hope most of the group will be available to move on to dinner at a local café, since the chance to mix socially is a valuable part of these get-togethers.

To express interest please email: nohanz-ex-ec@gmail.com with Auckland meeting in subject line.

All members north of Hamilton for whom we have email addresses will be notified when details are finalized.

Oral history news

Cambodian Refugee stories in new book

In what's believed to be a world first, Niborom Young, herself a refugee from the Pol Pot regime, began recording oral histories of Cambodian refugee women in their own language, Khmer, in 1993. With support from the National Library, Friends of the Turnbull Library and her mentor, Judith Fyfe, Niborom's book is a written record of the stories of women whose stories had never been heard.

We hope to include a longer interview in our next newsletter, following the launch of the book.

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/dominion-post/capital-life/68085604/cambodian-refugees-stories-told-in-new-book>





*Above: Niborom interviewing the late Ngoc Chou Tran in 1993
Previous page: Niborom (standing at far right) and interviewees or family representatives at the handover of the project at the Alexander Turnbull Library, February 2009.*

The Nursing Education and Research Foundation Oral History Project

A ceremony was held in Wellington recently to mark the launch of the NERF OH Project website. Dr Jill Clendon, Nursing Policy Adviser/Researcher, New Zealand Nurses Organisation, says this project has given them the opportunity to make nursing history in New Zealand more accessible for student nurses, educators, researchers, members of the public and, possibly most importantly, family members. "We have grappled with issues of consent, privacy and confidentiality and

while public online platforms such as this will always hold a degree of risk, we believe we have addressed these issues appropriately at this stage." She says the web design was a challenge that the developers embraced and resulted in a new platform for this type of work.

"We hope that the site will only continue to grow and become the 'go to' site for people interested in New Zealand's history of nursing. The web address is www.nursinghistory.org.nz and we hope you will take some time to visit the site and listen to some of the oral history interviews stored there."



Wellington Hospital Graduation 1965. From left: Cynthia Gee (nee Ng), Joy Pemberton and NERF interviewee and NOHANZ member Lorna Wong (nee Ngan).

WORLD WAR I

Listen to this

While we've been bombarded with splendid radio and television sound and pictures of the Kiwi experience of WW1, this via Oral History Queensland's monthly e-bulletin has a poignant immediacy.

Australian soldier Henry Miller Lanser's recorded message to his family back home, shortly after Christmas 1914, is thought to be the only one of its kind in the world. The three-and-a-half minute

greeting was recorded on a hand-pressed shellac disc at the studio of an Armenian businessman in Cairo, while training in Egypt prior to the Gallipoli landing. It is now on display at the Australian War

Museum in Canberra. Wounded twice in Gallipoli, Miller was promoted to Second Lieutenant and died on the Somme in November 1916.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-02-24/an-anzacs-voice-lives-on-nearly-a-century-after-his-death/6129884>

Chinese Poll Tax Heritage Trust Research Project on Chinese Laundries in New Zealand

Laundry work was one of the main occupations that Chinese immigrants to New Zealand took up after the gold rushes, along with market gardening and fruit and vegetable and grocery stores. Chinese laundries were so prevalent by the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, they became an ethnic stereotype.

The Chinese Poll Tax Heritage Trust has commissioned a project to research and produce a book about the history of

Chinese owned and operated laundries in New Zealand, from the earliest in the 1890s to the 1960s and 1970s when few remained. To ensure that this significant part of New Zealand's social history is not lost, the project aims to preserve memories of those times.

If you know of anyone in the Chinese community, or anyone else, who may be willing to share information, photographs or their memories of Chinese laundries, please contact: Joanna Boileau, 09 528 1174/022 671 0334, joanna1boileau@gmail.com



*Christchurch City Libraries: Arch 978:
Sun Lee Laundry, 112 Oxford Terrace, Christchurch, 1950. Photographer Albert James North.
Christchurch City Libraries, Arch 978-1-064.*

Pukekohe market gardeners

Recordings and abstracts of interviews with six Chinese market gardeners from Pukekohe were presented to Andrew Baker, chairman of the Franklin Local Board, by the chairman of the Chinese New Zealand Oral History Foundation, David Wong, at a recent ceremony in Pukekohe. The project received a \$2000 grant from the Board.



Andrew Baker (left) receives a sponsor certificate from David Wong.

From the Alexander Turnbull Library

Oral History catalogue records online

by Ruth MacEachern

Associate Chief Librarian, Research Access

Since the library's oral history catalogue became available online in September, through the Tapuhi database, we have noted a steady increase in research requests for oral history items. We have also been working to make oral history catalogue records discoverable via the National Library's Online Channel. This work is scheduled for completion in the next month and we expect this to lead to a significant increase in

research requests, especially from people previously unaware of the oral history collections, or unfamiliar with how they can be accessed or used. We are therefore developing communications and business processes to assist staff and researchers.

We are of course continuing to describe uncatalogued oral history collections at appropriate levels to enable discovery, access and use. Please let us know if there is something you would particularly like to see made available.

Again, we would like to acknowledge and thank interviewers and interviewees. The oral history collections are a fantastically rich resource of considerable research value.

We are delighted with the increasing recognition these collections are receiving.

If you have any feedback, please contact Rachel Esson by email:
Rachel.Esson@dia.govt.nz

ATL Oral History Training Services assessment

Following an assessment of the Alexander Turnbull Library Oral History activities in 2013, the Library has started work to explore the focus of its training services.

As part of the information-gathering phase, two online surveys, sent in March 2015 to NOHANZ members and the wider database, had a good response rate. One survey asked oral history practitioners for their input, while the other asked training providers about their courses and experience. The survey closed Monday 20 April.

The training services assessment will also include meetings with representatives of stakeholder groups, including NOHANZ, MCH, and other relevant organisations. This work is expected to conclude by the end of June 2015.

For further details, please contact: Ruth MacEachern, Associate Chief Librarian, Research Access:
Ruth.maceachern@dia.govt.nz

Oral History Training workshops

There are still a few vacancies in the following workshops:

Wellington

[Abstracting oral history](#): Saturday and Sunday 4 & 5 July 2015 8.45am-1pm

Scene on a mail launch in the Marlborough Sounds showing Dorothy Pascoe talking to a woman who is hand sewing. Pascoe, John Dobree, 1908-1972 :Photographic albums, prints and negatives. Ref: 1/4-045757-F. Alexander Turnbull Library.

Masterton

[The Essentials of Oral History Research](#)

Saturdays 23 May & 27 June 2015
8.45am-4.30pm

Newly announced workshops:

Auckland

The Essentials of Oral History Research

Saturdays 25 July & 15 August 2015
8.45am-4.30pm

Abstracting oral history: Saturday and Sunday 31 October—1 November 2015
8.45am-1pm

Palmerston North

The Essentials of Oral History Research

Saturdays 10 October & 14 November 2015
8.45am-4.30pm

Christchurch

The Essentials of Oral History Research

Saturdays 17 October & 14 November 2015
8.45am-4.30pm

Abstracting oral history: Saturday and Sunday 28 & 29 November 2015 8.45am-1pm.

For further details, registrations, bilingual courses, further workshops and oral history advice, email atloutreach@dia.govt.nz, or keep an eye on the [NOHANZ website](#)



History of Emotions conference, 3–5 September

The Stout Centre in Wellington is holding a conference in September on the history of emotions. Associate Professor Anna Green says there has been a lot of interest in recent years in the history of emotions, notably the establishment of a Centre of Excellence in Australia.

“But what if we took a New Zealand perspective on this rich and fascinating field? How can we trace emotions in history? How are emotions represented? New Zealanders have famously been described as a ‘passionless people’ yet our cultural history is full of narratives of repression and explosion – *In My Father’s Den, Whale Rider, Once Were Warriors, Dark Horse*. Are we specialists in the dark side? Or do we narrate a skewed version of our national character? Why do emotions matter and what can they tell us? What is ‘new’ in thinking about emotions?”

Keynote speakers are Professor Joanna Bourke, Birkbeck College, London, and Philip Armstrong, associate professor in English at the University of Canterbury and co-director of the New Zealand Centre for Human-Animal Studies.

Papers are invited from any discipline or theoretical frame which tackle in some way the history of emotions – and oral historians surely have a lot of material to draw on.

Possible topics include: History of emotion in daily life; Representation of emotion in Maori culture; Expression of emotion in daily life; Emotional speech patterns; Emotion and memory and Emotion in extremity. Abstracts (maximum 200 words) should be sent to [Lydia Wevers](mailto:Lydia.Wevers@victoria.ac.nz) as soon as possible.

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

NOHANZ May 2015



Fast Forward: Oral History
in a Time Of Change

OHA National Conference in Perth – Reminder

The theme of the biennial national conference of Oral History Australia will be held in Perth, Western Australia from 9 to 12 September 2015.

Fast Forward: Oral History in a Time of Change will focus on changes in technology and their impact on the recording and application of oral history.

Even more relevant this side of the Tasman are some of the supporting themes:

- recording the history of disasters – and the right time to interview survivors
- the uses of oral history in museum displays, theatre, cinema and television
- community and indigenous oral history projects
- the ethical dimensions of accessibility, plagiarism and the protection of intellectual property.

<http://www.ohq.org.au/blogs/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/2015-National-Conference.pdf>

Stop Press

NOHANZ Conference 2016 will be held over Labour weekend, to align with Heritage Week. Labour Day 2016 is Monday 24 October. We will be also offering a range of workshops associated with the Conference.