



# **MAKING COMMUNITY ORAL HISTORIES**

Annual Conference of the Oral History Society  
in association with London Metropolitan University  
Friday 6th – Saturday 7th July 2007  
at London Metropolitan University,  
16 Goulston Street, London E1 7TP

# **PROGRAMME**

# FRIDAY 6<sup>th</sup> JULY

10.00am	Registration opens (in The Atrium, Goulston Street Entrance) Coffee
10.30am – 11.30am	<p><b>Optional beginners' advice sessions</b> (Note that attendance is limited to those who have pre-booked)</p> <p><b>1. Funding</b> (led by Rob Wilkinson, National Lottery Officer, London Borough of Camden, and Jo Reilly and Jane Stancliffe, Heritage Lottery Fund) (Room 1.15)</p> <p><b>2. Equipment</b> (led by Rob Perks and Mary Stewart, British Library Sound Archive) (Room 1.18)</p>
12.00 – 1.00pm	<p>Welcome from John Gabriel (London Metropolitan University) and Graham Smith (Chairman, Oral History Society) who will introduce (Room GSB.01)</p> <p><b>Colin Prescod</b> (Chair of the Institute of Race Relations) <i>Who belongs? Race, class, community and history</i></p>
1.00pm – 2.00pm	<p>Lunch (Exhibitions, stalls, posters) (The Atrium)</p> <p>1.20-2.00pm <b>Nirmal Puwar</b>, <i>Evoking community histories for film: short films and Q&amp;A session</i> (Room GSB.01)</p>
2.15pm - 4.00pm	<p>Presentations: <b>What Community?</b> The Conference will split into the following sessions: choose one</p>
1	<p>Chair: Annette Day (Museum of London) (Room 1.15)</p> <p><b>Armanda Hysa</b>, <i>Reconstructing the past through oral histories: the case of the Old Bazaar of Tirana</i></p> <p><b>Marilyn Scott, Rib Davis</b>, <i>Inventing a community</i></p> <p><b>Bea Lewkowicz</b>, <i>Creating community: Reflections on the making of an oral history archive</i></p>
2	<p>Chair: Craig Fees (Room 1.16)</p> <p><b>Dien Luu</b>, <i>Engaging communities in oral history work: the process</i></p> <p><b>Lynda Pearce</b>, <i>'Stealing our memories': Foundation myths and identity amongst the coalmining communities of Kent</i></p> <p><b>Helen Klæbe</b>, <i>Sharing Stories: Creative ways of making community history relevant to everyone</i></p>
3	<p>Chair: Jenny Harding (London Metropolitan University) (Room 1.18)</p> <p><b>Pip McKever, Kath Smith</b>, <i>Rediscovering communities &amp; community life through reminiscence</i></p> <p><b>Kayleigh Milden</b>, <i>Cornish Braids: Narratives of Cornwall's communities</i></p> <p><b>Ian Roberts</b>, <i>The Telling Tales Out of School Project: Exploring the history of elementary education in the community of North Tynedale and Redesdale in Northumberland, 1870 To 1944</i></p>
4	<p>Chair: Joanna Bornat (Open University) (Room 2.35)</p> <p><b>Ino Maragoudaki</b>, <i>Taking communities' oral histories online and the issue of sustainability: The Memorynet Project</i></p> <p><b>Ajamu</b>, <i>Tongues Untied</i></p> <p><b>Alan Dein</b>, <i>'There goes the neighbourhood' - King's Cross Voices: Community oral history in the heart of urban transformation</i></p>

4.00pm – 4.30pm	Tea	(The Atrium)
4.30pm – 5.30pm	Plenary: <b>Alistair Thomson</b> (University of Sussex) <i>Oral history and community history in Britain: personal and critical reflections on 25 years of continuity and change</i> Chair: Joanna Bornat (Open University)	(Room GSB.01)
5.30pm – 6.00pm	Oral History Society AGM (All welcome)	(Room GSB.01)
6.00pm – 7.00pm	Guest Speaker Alan Dein introduces writer and artist <b>Rachel Lichtenstein</b> who discusses how she has used oral history as a tool to develop non-fiction writing and art-based projects exploring East London history	(Room GSB.01)
7.00pm – 8.00pm	<b>Wine Reception</b> sponsored by the Folklore Society	(The Atrium)

## SATURDAY 7<sup>th</sup> JULY

(9.30am Registration for Saturday only attendees)		
10.00am – 11.45am	Presentations: <b>Whose Interview?</b> The Conference will split into the following sessions: choose one	
1	Chair: Michelle Winslow (University of Sheffield) <b>Kate Field</b> , <i>I interview, you take part, we research, they...exploit? Oral histories of health and illness and the DIPEX project</i> <b>Janette Hilton</b> , <i>Why oral history projects are constructed in the community: A reflection on what agenda drives a project</i> <b>Peter Sturley</b> , <i>The challenge of recording an industry</i>	(Room 1.15)
2	Chair: Rob Wilkinson (Camden Council) <b>Jamil Iqbal, Ansar Ahmed Ullah</b> , <i>Tales of Three Generations of Bengalis in Britain: Who did we interview?</i> <b>Nadja Middleton</b> , <i>What use is a facilitator to a griot?: A StoryCorps facilitator's account of helping build a historical collection of stories African Americans share with loved ones</i> <b>Ann Westgarth</b> , <i>Oral History in multi-cultural communities</i>	(Room 1.16)
3	Chair: Graham Smith (University of Sheffield) <b>Johanna Kahatjipara</b> , <i>Praise songs and the Ovaherero community: How we remember the colonial war against the Germans</i> <b>Rodger Harris</b> , <i>Oral History and Ethnic Communities</i> <b>Pam Schweitzer</b> , <i>Sites and Signs of Remembrance: Tracing the emergence of minority communities and their local support systems through the oral testimony of ethnic elders</i>	(Room 1.18)
4	Chair: Cynthia Brown <b>Verusca Calabria</b> , <i>The purpose of oral history: Who speaks? The constitution of the subject in community oral history projects</i> <b>Paul Thompson, Brenda Corti and Janet Turner</b> , <i>The shaping of collective memory in a volunteer project</i> <b>Heather Williams</b> , <i>Bridging the Years: An inter-generational project celebrating the community heritage</i>	(Room 2.35)

11.45am – 12.15pm	Coffee <i>London after the bombs: reflections of 7 July 2005</i> Recordings by Mohini Patel (BBC, 2006)	(The Atrium) (Room 1.15)
12.15pm – 1.15pm	Plenary: <b>Polly Russell</b> (Content Specialist, British Library) and <b>Rosamund Grant</b> (Cookery writer, former restaurateur and worker with families and children in social care), <i>Why stop there? My life goes on: An interviewer and interviewee debate the life story process</i> Chair: Annette Day (Museum of London)	(Room GSB.01)
1.15pm - 2.30pm	Lunch (Exhibitions, stalls, posters) 1.45-2.30pm <b>Christine Coates</b> (Librarian, TUC Collections), <i>Voices on the Web: TUC Library Digitisation Projects</i>	(The Atrium) (Room GSB.01)
2.30pm – 4.15pm	Presentations: <b>Which Audience?</b> The Conference will split into the following sessions: choose one	
1	Chair: Rob Perks (British Library) <b>Joanna Bornat</b> , <i>The politics of community oral history: Exploring Living Memory 1981-1991</i> <b>Stacey Bains, Jitey Samra</b> , <i>Coming To Coventry: Stories from the South Asian pioneers</i>	(Room 2.35)
2	Chair: Pam Schweitzer (European Reminiscence Network) <b>Robert Eliot, Bridget Wilkins, Catherine Dixon</b> , <i>Enabling community voices to be heard: an oral history of the Town Mill, Lyme Regis</i> <b>Barbara Applin</b> , <i>Taking the pulse of Basingstoke</i>	(Room 1.15)
3	Chair: Beth Thomas (National History Museum, Wales) <b>Colin Stott, Laura Matthews</b> , <i>The Our Town Project</i> <b>Rachael Anderton, Emma Lewis</b> , <i>Voices Of Newport</i>	(Room 1.16)
4	Chair: Mary Stewart (British Library) <b>Jack Latimer</b> , <i>Interactive memories: sparking reminiscence on the web</i> <b>John and Bonnie Dodson</b> , <i>Bland County History Archives</i>	(Room 1.18)
4.15pm – 4.45pm	Tea	(The Atrium)
4.45pm - 5.45pm	Closing plenary <b>Refugee Communities History Project</b> <i>Considering audiences: evaluation, impact and responses</i> Speakers: <b>Sarah Lowry, Sofia Buchuck, Annette Day</b> Panel for discussion: Zibiah Alfred, Jenny Harding, Jessica Mullen Chair: John Gabriel (London Metropolitan University)	(Room GSB.01)
6.00pm – 7.30pm	East End Walk ( <i>fully booked</i> ): meet at main entrance, Goulston Street Rachel Kolsky and Diane Burstein of Go East London lead a walking tour in and around Brick Lane where the streets still echo with the stories of immigrants who have made this area their home. From the houses of the silk weavers to the soup kitchen for the Jewish poor you will hear the stories of the lives and work of communities past and present, the Huguenots, Jews and Bengalis.	
7.30pm	Optional conference dinner ( <i>pre-booking essential</i> ) in Brick Lane Bangladeshi restaurant, <b>Café Naz</b> ( <i>cash bar available for purchasing drinks</i> )	