

## How long is the interview?

Interviews vary in length but are generally between 1 to 2 hours. While it is hoped that most can be done in one sitting, if you begin to tire please feel free to take a break.

## After the interview?

Your interview will be uploaded to our digital archives and transcribed.

## Who will listen to my story?

Interviews can be made available to any library patron for research or general interest. Extracts of interviews are used in a variety of ways in accordance with conditions indicated you select in the Interviewee Release Form. This includes for research, books, journal articles, exhibitions, broadcasting and online.

## Mosman Voices: oral histories online.

It is now possible to listen to extracts and read the transcripts from selected interviews held in the Mosman Oral History Collection online at: [www.mosmanvoices.net](http://www.mosmanvoices.net)

## May I recommend others?

Most of those who are interviewed are recommended by family, friends or neighbours. If you are aware of someone who would be interested in this program please call the Local Studies Librarian for further information.

**A note:** Your personal details are not on public access thereby ensuring your privacy.

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Telephone 9978 4091  
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**Mosman**  
COUNCIL

# Mosman Oral History Program



MOSMAN LIBRARY  
LOCAL STUDIES SERVICE

**MOSMAN**  
LIBRARY

## **Local Studies at Mosman**

Mosman Library is committed to the collection and preservation of the history and heritage of Mosman. The Local Studies Collection holds a variety of materials about Mosman. These include books, photographs, artworks, manuscripts, family and community archives, ephemera, pottery and oral histories.

## **Mosman Oral History Program**

The aim of this program is to document the history of Mosman through the memories of those who have lived, worked or attended school in the area.

## **Why record an interview?**

Interviews are spontaneous; the interviewee responds to questions that recall experiences, ideas and emotions. When listening to an interview we have the pleasure of hearing a personal interpretation of an event or a time past. A voice brings a story alive and gives the listener an identity with which to associate. History becomes a reality making these recordings valuable historic records.

## **What do I talk about?**

Many people believe that they have nothing to say. This is not true. You would be amazed how much is recalled once an interview commences.

## **Who will be interviewing me?**

Mosman Library has a group of experienced oral history interviewers who volunteer their time to participate in this important program.

Once you have indicated to the Local Studies Librarian that you would like to be interviewed, an interviewer will contact you to arrange a suitable time.

## **Where will the interview take place?**

Generally an interview is undertaken in the interviewee's home. If this is not convenient, the interview can be carried out in the library.

## **What do I need to do before the interview?**

### **Preparation:**

It is not necessary to do any preparation. However, it can assist in the retelling of a story if you use visual prompts including photographs or ephemeral materials such as concert programs, magazine articles or other items collected over the years.

### **Documentation:**

You will receive two forms prior to the interview:

#### **1. Interviewee Information Form**

This needs to be completed prior to the interview as it will provide the interviewer with background information.

#### **2. Interviewee Release Form**

This allows you to control how your interview is to be used, permitting the Library to make the best possible use of your interview. Before completing this form you may wish to discuss it at the interview session.