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**National Library of Australia seeks interviewees for  
Forgotten Australians and Former Child Migrants Oral History Project**

As the Prime Minister announced in his Apology on November 16<sup>th</sup>, the National Library is conducting oral history interviews to record the lives and experiences of Forgotten Australians and Former Child Migrants. These will be collected from across Australia, will be preserved in the National Library of Australia, and be made publicly available, subject to any access conditions imposed by interviewees.

The National Library has been collecting oral history since the 1950s and holds the largest oral history collection in Australia with over 40,000 hours of recordings. Along with social history and folklore interviews, the collection also contains interviews with many notable Australians.

The Forgotten Australians and Former Child Migrants Oral History Project will run for three years and aims to document a rounded history of the experiences of children in institutional and out of home care and the lifelong impact of these experiences on their lives and their families. The project will also interview a selection of advocates, welfare officers, employees of institutions and administrators.

Along with undertaking interviews, the Library is interested in collecting related materials including photographs, posters, badges, reunions, diaries and published autobiographies.

The Library is working closely with the National Museum of Australia which is developing an exhibition about the history of institutionalised care of children, and there is a joint website for these two national history projects at <http://forgottenaustralianshistory.gov.au/> The Library is also working with the



Australian National Maritime Museum which is developing an exhibition about Child Migrants.

Since the Apology, there has been widespread interest in being interviewed for the project, and the Library will be selecting individuals to build a collection revealing the diversity and complexity of the experiences.

With so many people wanting to tell their story, the Library will be selecting people to interview. If you would like to express an interest in being interviewed, then please contact the Forgotten Australians and Former Child Migrants Oral History project on 1800 204 290 (cost of a local call from a landline) or email Joanna Sassoon on [jsassoon@nla.gov.au](mailto:jsassoon@nla.gov.au)