

# Laura Owen

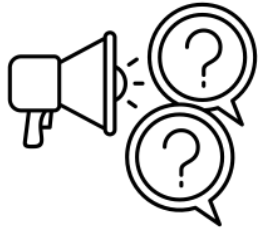
Oral Historian & Heritage Consultant

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# Why Oral History?



Add **personal stories** and **experiences** to your collection, **boosting engagement** with physical objects by **bringing them to life**.



**Empower communities** and **engage new audiences** with your collections, projects, and work by **recording** and **sharing their stories**.



Create **digital audio** and/or **visual content** to broaden access to your work, collections, and projects.

# My Services

## Oral history training

Effectively train volunteers, staff, or community groups in oral history recording to optimise your project or collection

## Oral history recording

Add high quality or long form oral history interviews to your collection, recorded by a professional Oral Historian

## Oral history project consultancy

Plan the best oral history project possible by consulting me for pre-application advice or engage me on your project team post-funding

# Oral History Training

If you have chosen someone to interview, then the chances are that they have important stories to tell relating to your organisation, local area, project, or collection. But you often only get one chance to record an interview.

Comprehensive oral history training for your staff, volunteers, or group will ensure that the interviews you are recording are of the highest quality, and can be used across various outputs successfully.

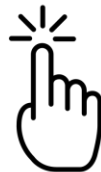
## Packages:

I offer three packages to meet your needs, whether you are a small organisation looking for one-off training, or a larger organisation looking for ongoing training and support:

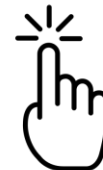
### Bronze Package



### Silver Package



### Gold Package



# Bronze Package

A basic package that covers the essentials



1 full day of oral history training at your venue; including an introduction to oral history and a workshopping session on topics and themes relevant to your project or organisation



Equipment recommendations



Access to an oral history handbook



Creation of bespoke permissions forms



Advice on summarising and transcribing interviews

# Silver Package

A more advanced course for larger projects or organisations

2 full days of oral history training at your venue, with a choice between:

- ✓
  - *2x introduction to oral history sessions*
- OR***
- *1x introduction to oral history session and 1x follow up review session for those already recording interviews*
- ✓ Equipment recommendations
- ✓ Access to an oral history handbook
- ✓ Creation of bespoke permissions forms
- ✓ Advice on summarising and transcribing interviews
- ✓ Up to half a day of ongoing support or consultation

# Gold Package

Multiple training sessions tailored towards large organisations or projects wanting to fully train their staff or volunteers in oral history practice

Up to 4 full days of oral history training at your venue, with any combination of the following:



- *Introduction to oral history sessions*

**OR**

- *Follow up review sessions for those already recording interviews*



Equipment recommendations



Access to an oral history handbook



Creation of bespoke permissions forms



Advice on summarising and transcribing interviews



Up to one day of ongoing support or consultation

# Oral History Recording

Are you looking for a professional Oral Historian to record interviews for your organisation, collection, or project?

My oral history recording service includes:

Start up meetings

Interview recording

Obtaining consent forms

Research

Interview  
transcription/summary

Follow-up admin

Get in touch to find out how I can support your oral history recording with any or all of the above services. This can be flexible and thoroughly bespoke to fit your needs.

# Oral History Project Consultancy

Are you looking to develop an oral history project and apply for funding?

Have you received funding but need to map out your oral history and engagement phases?

Are you looking for an Oral Historian to manage your project from start to finish?

I am **experienced** in both **project development and delivery** and am available for both **short and long term consultancy** on oral history and **community heritage projects**.

# Why work with me?

With over 5 years' experience of oral history, developing and delivering heritage projects, and **project evaluation**, I take oral history out of the realm of the archive and into communities through active participation and celebration.

I am currently expanding my client base across the UK and am looking to work with new partner organisations to deliver thorough and meaningful oral history training to staff, volunteers, and communities, ensuring that best practice is taught and adhered to in a way that is accessible.

I offer a bespoke service, specially tailored to your organisation and needs, bringing my experience in project development, delivery, evaluation, and community engagement to your project or organisation. If your needs fall outside of the 3 set packages I offer, get in touch for an informal chat and no-obligation quote.

# Testimonials



St Marylebone  
Parish Church

“

*Laura delivered an amazing 1-day training session with a group of our volunteers and staff members. From start to finish she kept everyone engaged and really thinking about the best ways and methods to conduct an oral history interview.*

*The training was well-paced, extremely informative, and fun. Everyone came away feeling confident and excited to get started with interviewing.*

*I would highly recommend Laura's training and would not hesitate to ask her back to run further sessions with us.*

**Ginny Simmonds, Head of Heritage at St Marylebone Parish Church**

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## “ Akāдеми

*Akademi's Oral History Project has been a real highlight for us, and we have received glowing praise from all of our partners on Laura's diligence, sensitivity, and approachability. She delivered a 6-week bespoke oral history training programme to participants from 2 South Asian dance schools and 1 primary school in north London.*

*All of our students were new to oral history and Laura was careful in how she introduced this field of work, adapting the delivery based on their needs. The young people were able to confidently collect oral histories from elders and community members and were also able to offer each other peer-feedback, as facilitated by Laura. The project evoked themes of migration, diaspora, identity in the context of South Asian history, and Laura was able to facilitate these workshops sensitively.*

**Shivaangee Agrawal, Heritage Project Manager at Akademi**



# Testimonials

Craftspace 

“

*I worked with Laura over 5 months on a community project in Coventry exploring cultural background and family history through designing and making jewellery, where oral history drew out these themes to inspire our crafts.*

*Laura was incredibly flexible in both planning and delivery, and was able to switch from in-person to online delivery if needed. She worked incredibly well with all of the personalities in the group, as well as building a rapport with the women leading the creative sessions.*

*This was my first oral history project and I learned so much from Laura. As well as introducing our group to the basics of oral history recording, she then recorded in-depth interviews with some of our participants which she wove into a beautiful film with archival footage from the Media Archive of Central England.*

*Laura was a joy to work with and contributed so much to the project, both creatively and logistically.”*

**Emma Daker, Exhibitions and Project Development Manager at Craftspace**

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# RUGBY

Art Gallery  
& Museum

## Testimonials

*“Laura was really friendly and welcoming, she made sure the environment was relaxed and gave plenty of opportunities for questions. She created a great atmosphere for learning.”*

*“The timing of the training was managed well. The day was well thought out and the different stages of the training such as interviewing techniques, practice, and copyright were very useful.”*

Oral history volunteers at Rugby Art Gallery & Museum

# Get in touch

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