



August 2003

QHTA NEWSLETTER

The newsletter of the Queensland History Teachers' Association Inc
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Date Claimers

19 September	Closing date for entries in <i>QHTA Historical Writing Competition</i>
Tuesday September 30- Friday October 3	Annual Conference of the History Teachers' Association of Australia - <u>in Brisbane.</u>
8 December	QHTA Junior History/SOSE DAY: QUT Carseldine Campus
12 December	Closing date for entries in the Simpson Prize competition

QHTA turns 40!

That's right ...there hasn't always been a Queensland History Teachers' Association It's now 40 years since forward thinking history teaching enthusiasts like QHTA Patrons John Sparkes and Russell Cowie established this association. It was in the heady days of 1963, which was one year after the Cuban Missile Crisis and Aborigines were finally able to vote in federal elections - if they were registered. 1963 was the year Betty Friedan published *The Feminine Mystique*, the Beatles released *She Loves You* and JFK was assassinated. The world was changing perhaps a little faster than it had been in the previous decade and QHTA was established to help teachers help students understand and cope with change.

It's been a successful 40 years during which many teachers volunteered their time to work on the Executive. For the next 40 years to be just as successful requires a new generation of History teachers to become actively involved. **Please consider joining the Executive and helping to run the Association.** For the time being there are enough experienced teachers still here to show you how it's been done - up to now.

Watch out for the 40th Birthday Celebrations to be held in conjunction with the National Conference.

2003 QHTA Historical Writing Competition

Sponsored by
Queensland Independent Education Union

Topics

Students in years 11 and 12 are invited to submit an essay and students in years 8-10, an essay or written response of some other appropriate genre (a report, diary entries, newspaper article, play, script etc). This topic may relate to an historical piece from ancient or modern times. The question which the essay is intended to answer must be clearly stated and must be historical in the sense that it addresses an issue concerned with causes or consequences or change of continuity in human affairs in an identified time period.

The entry may relate to a topic studied during the student's history studies at school and must be the original work of the student, in that the student has not received more assistance than is usually given during the researching and writing of essays or other genres submitted for assessment within the school curriculum. While teachers should feel free to comment on early drafts, the submitted entry must not contain any teacher's comments, corrections or marks.

Each school may submit no more than three entries in each of Years 8-10. In Years 11 and 12 a maximum of three Ancient History essays and three Modern History essays may be submitted at each year level. In instances where more than the permissible number of three entries in a given year level/category are submitted, only the first three removed from the envelope will be eligible.

Prizes

Prizes are awarded in the following categories, with each category having a 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize.

- Year 8
- Year 9
- Year 10
- Year 11 Ancient History
- Year 11 Modern History
- Year 12 Ancient History
- Year 12 Modern History



1st prize receives **\$100**

2nd prize receives **\$65**

3rd prize receives **\$35**

The judges may also award Highly Commended or Commended Certificates in each category.

The judges may decide not to award all of the above prizes.

Entries should be posted to:

Jo-Anne Cameron

The Gap SHS

PO Box 1

THE GAP 4061

Please clearly mark the envelope **Entries for the 2003 QHTA HISTORICAL WRITING COMPETITION** and ensure that they arrive by the closing date of **Friday, 19 September, 2003**. Entries received after this date will not be included in the judging.

NB: 19 SEPTEMBER IS THE ARRIVAL DATE NOT THE POST DATE.

Conditions of Entry

1. Entries must be of the following lengths:

Year 8: 500-800 words

Year 9: 600-1000 words

Year 10: 800-1200 words

Year 11: 1000-1500 words

Year 12: 1200-2000 words

NB: Any entries longer than the prescribed length, will not be judged.

2. All entries must be received by Friday, 19 September, 2003. Entries received after this date will not be included in the judging.

3. Entries must have a title page attached which includes the following:

- The student's name and year level
- The question or hypothesis being addressed in the entry
- The school's name, address, phone and fax numbers
- The name of the student's teacher (for purposes of contact)
- The following statement:

"I hereby declare that this submitted entry is the original work of the entrant, to the extent that no more than usual guidance was provided by others."

This statement must be signed by the student and by the student's teacher, parent or guardian.

4. In Years 11 and 12, while it is acceptable for a particular student to have one entry each in Ancient and Modern History, they are not permitted to have two entries in the same category.

5. Entries submitted will not be returned as the cost of mailing is prohibitive. Copies should be submitted instead of the original. After the judging, winners may be asked to supply their entries on disk or by email.

Criteria for Assessment

Entries will be judged according to the following criteria:

Relevance

The entry must address the stated question.

Content

The entry must deal with appropriate historical facts, concepts and opinions. It should be free from factual errors and unsupported assertions.

Research

There should be considerable evidence of substantial reading about the topic from an appropriately comprehensive range of sources. At Years 11 and 12 in particular this should include both primary and secondary sources. The manner of referencing and format of the bibliography must be consistent and accurate.

Critical use of Sources

The student must use evidence in a manner which displays her/his ability to critically and effectively analyse, interpret and evaluate sources in the process of addressing the stated question.

Communication

The entry should be a logical, cohesive and fluently developed response which allows the widely accepted conventions of the chosen genre, paragraphs and a conclusion. The language which is used must reflect an appropriate level of sophistication and be free from mechanical errors.

Presentation

This should be clear, neat and legible. If the entry is typed/word processed one and a half spacing should be used.

Length

The entry must be of the approximate length indicated. Any entry longer than the prescribed lengths will not be read.

National History Challenge

August 1st was the Final Date for State/Territory Co-ordinators to receive entries. Dates for judging can be found on the QHTA website.

Simpson Prize 2004

...a competition for Year 9 and year 10 students
entries close December 2003

'Ordinary people doing extraordinary things.'

Task:

Refer to the original ANZACs and to the ANZAC spirit evident in Australian society at other times to explain the extent to which you agree with this statement.

Formats:

Students may respond with a 900-1200 word essay OR, for the first time in this competition, a 15 minute audio/visual presentation (cassette or video).

Prizes:

Winners and two teachers travel to Turkey for the April 2004 ANZAC service at Gallipoli.

Entries close Friday, 12 December 2003. Brochures and other material are in all secondary schools.

The Simpson Prize 2004 is a project supported by funding from the Commonwealth Department of Education, Science and Training. For more information see the QHTA website.

HOT HISTORY **The 2003 NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE HISTORY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA**

30 SEPTEMBER – 3 OCTOBER 2003
BRISBANE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Details and registration forms have been in your school for some time. If you haven't already registered you can do so now by using our contact details at the start of this Newsletter. Come along and hear great speakers, participate in exciting workshops and discuss challenging ideas!!!

This is a wonderful opportunity for Queensland teachers to experience all the excitement of a national conference – come along for one day or every day. Meet teachers from other states and share experiences – make new friends, do new things. Make Brisbane your destination in the second week of the September break.

JUNIOR HISTORY SOSE DAY **8 December**

Call for PRESENTERS !!! Coo-ee !!

Come on. You know that others would be interested in what you have created. Please share your ideas with other interested History/SOSE teachers. Need some feedback? Ask the audience at your workshop. This is an opportunity to do more than add 'workshop presenter' to your CV. It is a chance to engage in some professional discussions concerning a topic, teaching approach, assessment technique or something else of your choice.

Phone, email or write to QHTA today with your proposals. (Contact details on p1)

Talk to us and one another - All you need is e-mail. Send an email to:

lyris@rite.ed.qut.edu.au

with the words

subscribe qhta end

in the message space. Leave the subject line blank.

After that all will be revealed. If you have any problems give us a call on 07 3378 5425

Professional development Project for the Pacific

At a regional meeting of History and Social Studies Teacher Associations held in Samoa in April 2003, the end of the current three year funding period was announced by **Lau Dr Asofou So'o**. The program had been funded in 2000-2003 by the Sasakawa Pacific Island Nations Fund (SPINF) of Japan. The *HistoryCOPs* project continued some of the TTPF (Teaching the Pacific Forum) activities from 1995-2000 and embarked on a new program of regional linkages and professional development activities, particularly with the history teacher associations set up in recent years in Kiribati, Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands and with existing associations in Fiji, PNG, Samoa, Cook Islands and Tonga and also maintained links with teacher associations in New Caledonia, Queensland and PREL, a regional education network in the North Pacific. Dr Asofou acknowledged the support of the National University of Samoa who had housed *HistoryCOPs* and the support of the Samoa History Teacher Association after the shift of the SPINF funded projects from Australia to Samoa. Dr Asofou acknowledged the support of SPINF and in particular the assistance of Ms Reiko Hayakawa of SPINF who had been the guiding force behind the project in 2000-2003, and during its earlier phase as a regional project known as TTPF in 1995-2000. The meeting also acknowledged the support of Grant McCall and Max Quanchi, the coordinators of the 1995-2000 TTPF project. Dr Asofou's work as Director from 2001-2003 was also acknowledged. At the meeting the delegates from Samoa, Tonga, Fiji, Niue and New Caledonia decided to develop a new regional project, with new aims and objectives and to seek funding for a three-year period from outside sources. The Fiji History Teachers Association (FHTA) offered to host the new body and to coordinate activities over the three year period 2004-2007. The Tongan History Teachers Association announced it would host the following three year period. Mr Paula Motu, President of the FHTA is now working with a sub-committee to develop an application for funds and to write a project description reflecting the needs identified by delegates at the meeting in April. The new regional body is to be called **HOOPSS** (Histories of Oceania in Pacific Secondary Schools) and will focus on the development of a historical consciousness of Oceania in the school curriculum and on linkages across Oceania between History and Social Studies teachers, institutions, libraries and archives.

The Student Virtual Parliament

Students experience transparent democracy and become part of democracy daily. Any primary, secondary or tertiary student can have a national voice on any issue at any time. It motivates students to take an interest in civil and social issues.

Teacher Trudi Watts at Darlington Primary School, WA was one of the first teachers to invite students to participate, recently she said *"The Student Virtual Parliament programme started with students mildly interested, however, once they had experienced seeing their own issues and comments in print the interest escalated to one of real excitement."*

The Student Virtual Parliament is an international initiative. Many schools in Australia and New Zealand are already participating with other countries about to follow. Students across the country set the agenda, debate and vote online any time. Operating continuously it produces a concise collective expression of student opinion on the issues of the day. The student voice in each school, electorate, state and for the whole country can be seen at a glance.

How it works

It's like a free floating student "opinion market" – transparent, continuous, live and competitive.

Students submit opinions and ideas in the form of placards directly into a virtual chamber leaderboard any time – no waiting to be asked. Placards are concise opinions or ideas expressed in 12 words or less and may be linked to a more detailed comment. All opinion placards compete daily for votes and are ranked live in the leaderboard. A dedicated debating forum is also opened automatically for each placard. The "Big Issues All Opinions" leaderboard is now operating. Single issue polls will be opened from time to time.

It's a continuous polling technique that lets students across the country vote daily and submit new opinions any time. This enables students to express their changing priorities through time. The polls show voting results in selected sample periods such as last 24 hours, three days, seven days and 30 days. Repeat votes by the same people are filtered automatically to show unique votes only in the selected sample period.

Results are presented in a concise format that is ideal for elected officials and the media to review any time.

All opinion placards and postings in the attached debating forums are reviewed promptly by forum editors before publication. The forum specifies strict rules for publication. Placards and postings that attack others in the school community or that are considered defamatory, sexist, racist or inciting of violence are not published.

Primary and Secondary schools can register for immediate access at www.studentparliament.net. The annual access fee is \$95 per school paid on invoice. This entitles all students in your school to continuous access for 12 months.

To download the full letter to schools which also includes comments of support from many Ministers and Senior Parliamentarians [click here](#).

To download the instruction letter issued to students [Click here](#)

To see the student voting chambers click www.studentparliament.net.