

# ***Historical Archives for Slovenian Australians – NSW***



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## **Questionnaire to establish an archival information bank**

Participation in this questionnaire is voluntary. Your input, however, will help the Historical Archives for Slovenian Australians in NSW (HASA), which was established on February 9, 2003, and has its registered premises at the St. Raphael Slovenian Mission, Merrylands (Sydney), to research and record aspects of the history of the early Slovenian immigration to Australia. It will also form a part of the bank of information provided by individuals in the wider Slovenian community.

\* The spaces provided are not meant to be restrictive. Please expand your answers, numbered accurately, onto additional paper as necessary \*

### **1. Personal Information**

- 1.1 Name (in full): \_\_\_\_\_  
Maiden name (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.2 Current address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone/fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.3 Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
Place of birth \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.4 Father's full name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
Place birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.5 Mother's full name: \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of birth \_\_\_\_\_  
Country of mother's birth: \_\_\_\_\_

- 1.6 Your nationality: \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.7 Your citizenship(if dual citizenship, please state both)? \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.8 Do you hold Australian citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of issue: \_\_\_\_\_  
Place of issue: \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.9 Education details: (Please indicate nature of attained qualifications and place of issue): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 1.10 Present employment status (employed, self-employed, retired): \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.11 Your current nature and place of employment (if retired, state your last employment): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 1.12 Other background information ( e.g., awards, achievements, special positions held): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**2. Arrival in Australia** (For those not born in Australia)

- 2.1 From which country did you migrate to Australia (Austria, Italy, Argentina, others; name of airport or seaport): \_\_\_\_\_
- 2.2 If you came from Slovenia, through which countries have you travelled before migrating to Australia (name countries, migrant camps, time spent there, etc): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2.3 Reason for leaving Slovenia (consequence of WW2, economic reasons, family, studies, employment, others): \_\_\_\_\_
- 2.4 Reasons for migration to Australia: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 2.5 Date of arrival to Australia: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2.6 How did you travel to Australia (name of ship or airline; as assisted migrant, independent, etc):  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2.7 In which city did you disembark: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2.8 Did you spend time in lager/hostel (where and how long): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2.9 Did you arrive as a single migrant or with a family (describe the family):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2.10 What were your first impressions of Australia: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2.11 What difficulties did you face (homesickness, prejudice, language, unemployment, others): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2.12 Where was your first permanent residence: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2.13 Where were you first employed: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2.14 Did you take formal lessons in English: \_\_\_\_\_ Where: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2.15 In the main, what language do you now speak at home: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2.16 With whom do you speak mostly in Slovenian language: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2.17 In which language do you prefer to speak today: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2.18 Did your language change over the years (dialect, mixing Slovenian/English words): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2.19 Do you feel the Australian Slovenians should preserve Slovenian language in Australia? Why: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. **The Family**

3.1 What is your current marital status? \_\_\_\_\_

3.2 When and where did you marry (include proxy marriage if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3.3 Describe your family: (names; date of birth etc): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3.4 Nationality of your spouse? \_\_\_\_\_

3.5 If you were not born in Slovenia, do you feel a personal connection to its culture?

\_\_\_\_\_

3.6 Regardless of involvement, please describe your feelings about Slovenian cultural life in Australia: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3.7 Do your children /grandchildren speak/read/write Slovenian: \_\_\_\_\_

3.8 Did they take formal lessons in Slovenian? \_\_\_\_\_

Where and how long: \_\_\_\_\_

3.9 Do you think it is important that the youth of the Slovenian community learn the Slovenian language? \_\_\_\_\_ Why? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3.10 Are your children /grandchildren involved in the Slovenian community activities (describe where and how – dancing, plays, at church, etc): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3.11 Do your children/grandchildren have Slovenian friends? \_\_\_\_\_

3.12 Do you still have relatives in Slovenia (parents, brothers and sisters): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- 3.13 How often do you communicate with them (circle or underline):  
 frequently                      sometimes                      rarely                      never
- 3.14 Are you interested in Slovenian current affairs: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.15 How do you access this information (radio, letters, papers, internet): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.16 Do you subscribe to any Slovenian publications (describe which ones): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.17 Do you listen to the Slovenian radio broadcasts (circle or underline): \_\_\_\_\_  
 frequently                      sometimes                      rarely                      never
- 3.18 Do you access Slovenian web sites on the internet (show the most used ones): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.19 Have you visited Slovenia since you migrated: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.20 How long after you migrated did you visit your homeland: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.21 How often have you visited Slovenia: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.22 What emotions did the visit/s evoke: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.23 When was the last time you visited Slovenia: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.24 Have your children visited Slovenia: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.25 Would you consider returning to Slovenia on a permanent basis: \_\_\_\_\_  
 If yes, why: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- If not, why not: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**4. Social Life**

4.1 Do you live near other Slovenians: \_\_\_\_\_

4.2 Do you socialise with other Slovenians? Describe your association (where, on what occasions, how often): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4.3 Are you a member of any Slovenian club or organisation? (Indicate your length of membership, position held etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4.4 Have you actively participated in the Slovenian community? If so, please detail:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4.5 If not, was there a reason?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**5. General**

5.1 If you were born in Slovenia, have you maintained any Slovenian customs?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5.2 If you are a second or subsequent generation Slovenian Australian, do you follow any Slovenian customs: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



5.10 What are your best/worst memories since migrating to Australia? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5.11 Anything else that you would wish to add or remark on: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**“Personal information will be free to use by the researchers only if a direct and personal permission has been obtained from the giver of the information or, in the case of his death, by the permission of his next of kin”.**

**Signed below, I agree with the conditions contained in this document, and allow HASA to use the information herein for the purpose of the archival work.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Interviewee  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Interviewer  
Date \_\_\_\_\_





