## The Australian Women's Register

**Entry type**: Resource **Entry ID**: AWH003782

## Gwen Harwood interviewed by Alison Hoddinott [sound recording]

Reference ORAL TRC 2289

Date Range 8-Apr-88 - 21-Apr-88

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Finding Aid Timed summary and transcript (typescript, 108 p.)

## **Details**

6 tape reels (ca. 3 hrs)??Tasmanian writer Gwen Harwood speaks with a friend about her childhood in Brisbane; her family background; her schooldays; houses she has lived in and their relationship to her writing; early married life in Tasmania; her father's service at Gallipoli; women in her family; interest in music; the recent presentation of her Doctorate of Letters; her children; friends; contact with Rodney Hall; starting to write when her children were young; the relationship of science and art; her philosophy of poetry; relationship of music & poetry; her friendship with Elizabeth Jolley; other writers she enjoys; recites her poem about Schroedinger's cat; animals she has lived with; poems to friends and occasional poems; Tomor Tony Riddell to whom her poetry books are dedicated; music exams and teaching music; life in Brisbane during World War II; impact of the War on women's experience as housewives; her use of pseudonyms; her friendship with Hal Porter; the problem of using friends and family as "material"; recites an excerpt from "A Public Place"; her poetic technique; going to writers' festivals; poetry and truth.

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