19 December, 2011

Ms Louise Darmody Sound Memories 5 Toongarah Road WAVERTON NSW

Dear Louise

Now that the fourth volume of the O'Donnell family saga has been completed and posted to my family around the world – in Ireland, the United States and Italy – I wanted to write to express my sincere thanks for the superlative job you have done in capturing the tales of the various family members and weaving their disparate voices into a tapestry that my family will cherish forever.

As you know, this exercise represented a significant investment for me, but one I do not for a minute regret, as it has yielded so much more than the simple dollars to my whole family.

I want to acknowledge how vital your role has been, beyond that of interviewer and producer, to the person who has helped strangers open up and reveal genuine insights into what makes them unique, in a way that they have found positive and affirming. I know how very much my aunties and my father have gained from your skilled and empathetic interviewing techniques, and how very happy they have been with the final product – ultimately the only test that matters.

Through taking this oral history journey with three generations of my family, you have now become an honorary O'Donnell, and I know that all those you interviewed regard you with a mixture of awe at your professional skills coupled with affection for your kind and encouraging questions.

On behalf of everyone involved in this project, and particularly as 'the client', please accept my heartfelt thanks for your wonderful CDs.

I would be more than happy to share my Sound Memories experiences with anyone who would like to hear what it's like first hand, or for you to use this letter as a testimonial. Just let me know how I can help.

Warm regards,

Deirdre O'Donnell