

Newcastle Family History Society Inc.



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Thurs: 1.00pm – 3.00pm
Sat: 10.00am – 3.00pm

Newsletter

Number 223

WANTED FOR YOUR JOURNAL—see page 3

Our June Journal is always a popular theme
Free choice

Deadline for articles: **6 May 2023**

April 2023

April Monthly Meeting

Tuesday 4 April 2023—7.30pm

“RAAF 77th Squadron”

by Lesley Gent OAM

Lesley, an Historian/Archivist and a life member of RAAFANSW, whilst having never been in the Air Force is part of the Air Force “fabric”. She has been a Researcher/Secretary/Treasurer of 77 Squadron Association and having had close contact with them, wrote a book for them “Killed in Service”. Lesley now provides all the research for Air Force Association NSW.

77 Squadron was formed on 16 March 1942 at Pearce, Western Australia with Kittyhawk aircraft. They served in Darwin and the Pacific Islands. At war’s end, January 1946, they were sent to Japan as part of the British Commonwealth Occupation Force with Mustangs aircraft. June 1950 saw the Squadron still overseas and posted to Korea at the outbreak of hostilities. The Squadron came home to Williamtown, with Meteor aircraft, December 1954 having been overseas for 12 years. They received the Sabres in 1956, followed by the Mirage in 1969. The Hornet arrived in 1987 and more overseas service during the Middle East troubles. The F35 Lightning is the latest plane to be operated by the Squadron and again they are called upon for many roles.

You can read more about Lesley as well as listen to an interview between Gareth McCray OAM and Lesley [here](#).

The meeting will be held in the Society rooms as well as via Zoom (see link below).

If you would like to join by Zoom but feel you need some assistance, please contact our Secretary on nfhsinc@gmail.com.

Mel Woodford (Vice-President)

Topic: **April Monthly Meeting**

Time: **Apr 4, 2023 07:30 PM** Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81470611620?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81470611620?pwd=bC9QZVdDR3RIYkYUQ3eGFoQ3ZROT09)

[pwd=bC9QZVdDR3RIYkYUQ3eGFoQ3ZROT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81470611620?pwd=bC9QZVdDR3RIYkYUQ3eGFoQ3ZROT09)

Meeting ID: 814 7061 1620

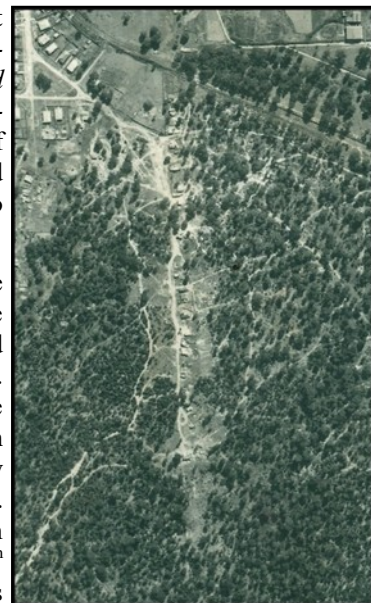
Passcode: 497850

Overview of March Monthly Meeting

Another very interesting meeting was held at the Society rooms and via Zoom in March with 21 in the rooms and 11 on Zoom. I don’t know about you, but the only Hollywood I knew of until now was the one with the huge sign on the hill in LA. But thanks to member Lachlan Wetherall, that has changed. It was fascinating to listen to Lachlan tell us about our very own *Hollywood* in Lambton.

Hollywood was a depression era shanty town. But where was it located? Why was it there? How did it come to be? How did it get its name? Who lived in *Hollywood*? How long did *Hollywood* exist? What happened to *Hollywood*? Lachlan, a great lover of local history and maps, provided a great deal of information to answer these questions.

Hollywood was located in the Lambton Council area on the boundary between Lambton and Wallsend, behind Jesmond Park. The majority of the huts were positioned on Crown land which was allocated for a road (now part of the Newcastle by-pass). Interestingly, this road has been noted on maps since the late 19th century, and the highway bypass planned since 1945. Geographically this area was on the edge of Council areas, but for those living there, it was also living on the edge socially and economically. Although it is not known officially why the area was called *Hollywood*, Lachlan feels it was a sarcastic reference to the unglamorous state of the area.



Aerial view showing Hollywood in 1944

In the late 1920s Australia’s economy suffered greatly for reasons such as Newcastle suburban coal mines closing down contributing to rising unemployment, and the stock market crash in 1929, followed by the Great Depression of 1930-31. This saw the rise of many shanty towns across Australia, numerous being in our region such as Lambton, Carrington, Newcastle and Stockton. Records of *Hollywood* show people living there from the early 1920s with an

(Continued on page 2)

Overview of March monthly meeting continued

(Continued from page 1)

increase in numbers from 1929. Many unemployed men and their families having lost their homes and jobs, settled in *Hollywood* as there were benefits to living here such as: being away from police presence; close to timber; ready access to coal; close to the tramway with a tram stop being near Jesmond Park; close to Jesmond Public School; access to water (Jesmond Park opened in 1924 and the Jesmond Progress Association successfully campaigned for public water to be installed in the park in 1929).

Records show that in 1936 there were 63 people living in *Hollywood*. By 1954 numbers had grown considerably due to other shanty towns closing down, such as Newcastle and Stockton. By the end of 1954, records indicate there were 82 adults and 55 children living in 39 dwellings. The houses were very primitive with bush pole frames, brattice walls, dirt floors and corrugated iron roofing. These huts housed large families in small rooms. This photo taken of a hut in 1941 shows it erected on stumps which would have been considered “flash”.

Although most of the people who lived in *Hollywood* were there because they were down on their luck, there was also an unsavoury side. There were criminals, drunks and violent people. One such story is that of the murder of John “Slack” Maher who was shot dead and thrown down a disused mining shaft. John, a regular at the illegal two-up ring in the nearby bush, had been a boxer in the 1920s before becoming a loan shark. Eventually his brother Michael was arrested and tried for murder, however he was acquitted by the jury as there was conflicting and uncertain evidence from witnesses. This case still remains an “unsolved murder”. You can read about the murder of John Maher [here](#).

There were though, many wonderful memories of life in *Hollywood*. In 2008 the *Newcastle Herald* published an article which included recollections of Norm Surman who lived in *Hollywood* until 1947 when he was 15. He remembered the men who did have jobs heading off to work; the women walking to Jesmond Park to fill their water buckets; cutting timber to sell as pit props; kids playing in the bush; and catching crawchies (yabbies) in the creek. Norm stated that of the many places he had lived in his 68 years, his happiest memories were of the time at *Hollywood*.

Towards the end of 1956, the Council voiced concerns about the living conditions in *Hollywood*. This was also the time of new social housing alternatives such as Windale, leading to the eviction of the residents from 1957, and by January 1960 all had left and the site was demolished. This resulted in the families losing their homes, some having lived in them for decades.

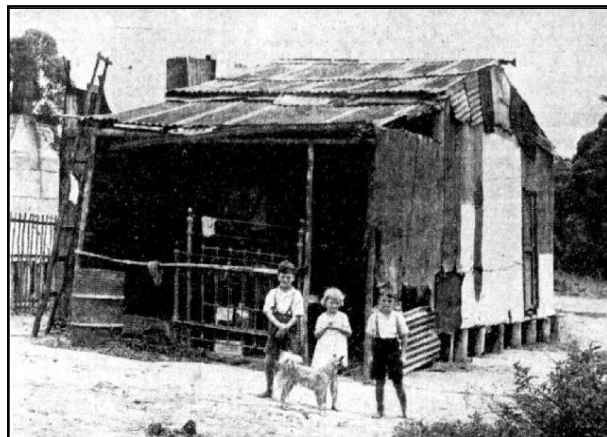
So, where does that leave *Hollywood* now? Because the by-pass construction through this area is fast approaching, there have been archaeological surveys occurring over the last few weeks. Although all traces of *Hollywood* will be obliterated, there is some saviour in that the archaeological digs have uncovered numerous articles that will be documented and retained. Some of the items found include: foundations of buildings (one with a poured concrete slab); a toy gun; marbles; corrugated iron; drainage systems; jars; combs; and ornaments.

What does Lachlan want to leave us with? There is a need for never-ending vigilance ensuring we watch out for those living on the edge. Public housing was supposed to help however we still have many people in need of assistance.

Lachlan has a very interesting local history website you can view [here](#). You can read an article titled *Hollywood – depression era shanty town* by clicking on the tab for Then and Now Articles. Also since February 2015, Lachlan has published monthly articles in Lambton’s *The Local* and has just completed his 94th article.

Thanks so much Lachlan for a wonderful, interesting and informative presentation on an area of Lambton that most of us had never heard of. The photos are either screenshots from Lachlan’s presentation or copied from his webpage.

Lea Harris (with Lachlan’s assistance)



The family occupying this two-roomed structure at Hollywood, near Jesmond, has been at the camp for almost nine years, and three of the four children were born there. After some years of unemployment, the breadwinner is working in Sydney on the basic wage, and the family are saving to build their own home. The youngest boy in this group celebrates his seventh birthday in the camp. A baby completes the family. (Newcastle Sun, 24th January 1941, retrieved from Trove, National Library of Australia.)



Excavated foundations



A child’s marbles



Toy gun

Covid and Duty of Care

Covid update

From time to time, we need to update our Covid rules so that they reflect the current information provided by the NSW Government. For the most recent information you can visit <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/stay-safe>.

Upon arrival at the NFHS you will need to sign in with your membership number, name, time of arrival and phone number. You can also check your temperature. When leaving you will need to sign out.

It is no longer compulsory to wear a mask, but the NSW Government highly recommends it if you are in a public area where you cannot socially distance. Masks will still be available for purchase at the front desk.

As the Delta and Omicron forms of the virus are aerosols, doors will need to remain open to allow through ventilation and the up-

right fans will be used to ventilate the computer area. If the temperature in the rooms warrants it, close the doors and turn on the AC. Please turn off when you leave the room.

Please clean the area where you have been working with the wipes provided as an added protection for yourself and others.

Remember you can always borrow books via 'click and collect' as well as in person. Contact the Librarian at nfhslibrarian@gmail.com to organise click and collect.

We aim to maintain as healthy an environment as possible at the NFHS rooms and all are welcome to attend. Remember to socially distance. If you are still hesitant, wear a mask to safeguard yourself from any aerosol droplets.

If you are unwell, please stay at home.

Management Committee (20 October 2022)

Journal and Newsletter

June Journal

Our June Journal (No 242) is always a popular choice for members' articles. It is a free choice so you can spread your wings and use your imagination. The eTeam invites you to send in some interesting information or discoveries about your family history with any focus you like. Send your article by **6 May 2023** to nfhseditor@gmail.com.

September Journal

Our September Journal (No 243) has the theme of "My Ancestor Was ..." Let your imagination run wild. Maybe you could share your ancestor's occupation, character, hobby. Send your article by **5 August 2023** to nfhseditor@gmail.com.

March Journal

If you do not get your Journal emailed, make sure that you collect your March Journal (No 241) from the front desk next time you visit the Society.

Receipt of your Journal

Reminder that our Journal is sent to many members as a PDF. If you would like to change your preference so you receive your Journal as a PDF, please send a message to our Membership Registrar on nfhsmembership@gmail.com.

About the eTeam

The eTeam is a collegiate group who plan and work well together. We have attached our revised Style Sheet to this newsletter so members and contributors can see the decisions that the team makes for every article sent to us.

The eTeam welcomes new members. Do you have time to join this group to help put together and occasionally write for our award-winning Journal? We already have one team member who does the layout and formats each Journal but we need someone to join us to learn how we edit, who may be able to take over from Jane who has now done the editing for over six years. It is a really rewarding position. This is what Jane does and we will soon need someone to take these jobs on. It's not really as bad as it looks!

1. maintain the editor email and the eTeam Gdrive
2. ensure there is enough paper to print the Journal
3. accept contributions
4. do an initial proofread
5. email articles to the two other initial proof readers
6. communicate to contributors any queries or additions that might be added to their article
7. consider and make any corrections suggested by the proof readers
8. send that corrected article and any provided images to the formatter who will add them to the Journal
9. in consultation with the eTeam make editorial decisions regarding content to fill gaps in the Journal
10. coordinate print day

Journal and Newsletter Deadlines

	Newsletter	Journal
May	15 April	
June	13 May	6 May
July	10 June	
August	15 July	
September	12 August	5 August
October	16 September	
November	14 October	

Jane Ison (eTeam)

Scottish Open Day



Do you have Scottish ancestry?
Are you interested in Scottish
customs, traditions, superstitions,
scenery, food and more?

Pop this date in your diary to visit the
Society rooms where the Scottish
Special Interest Group will be
presenting all things Scottish

Saturday 12 August 2023
10.00am – 3.00pm

Do you have anything Scottish in your
collection which you would be willing to
include in the display? If so, please send
an email to Mel on

nfhsvicepresident@gmail.com

Events and Outings continued

Future dates

1 April—Library Orientation—Print (see page 10)
4 April—Monthly meeting—Lesley Gent OAM speaking on the RAAF 77th Squadron
15 April—Beginning Genealogy Course Day 3 (see page 7)
21 April—Book Launch for People of Newcastle Vol III (see page 6)
22 April—Library Orientation —Digital (see page 10)
23 April—Courses—Researching your Scottish Ancestors and Cemetery Research (see page 9)
26 April—Carrington Heritage Walk (see below)
2 May—Annual General meeting
6 May—Articles due for Journal 242
6 May—Library Orientation—Print (see page 10)
21 May—Tentative Whitebridge Cemetery Tour
27 May—Library Orientation —Digital (see page 10)
6 June—Monthly meeting—note 2.00pm
1 July—Irish SIG Open Day
4 July—Monthly meeting—note 2.00pm—Christmas in July with Trivia and Festive Afternoon Tea

1 August—Monthly meeting—note 2.00pm
5 August—Articles due for Journal 243
12 August—Scottish Open Day (for National Family History Month—see page 4)
19 August—Course 9-11am—details to be advised
5 September—Monthly meeting
3 October—Monthly meeting—Prof Jo May speaking on Newcastle Girls' and Newcastle Boys' High Schools
4 November—Articles due for Journal 244
5 November—English Ancestors SIG Day—note this is a Sunday
7 November—Monthly meeting

Every Monday (except public holidays) from 10.30am—Picnic in the Park—Regent Park, New Lambton. Anyone is welcome to attend. This is a great opportunity to have an informal catch-up with other members. Some great discussions occur about any number of family history topics.

Bring your own coffee, morning tea, chair, hat and sunscreen.

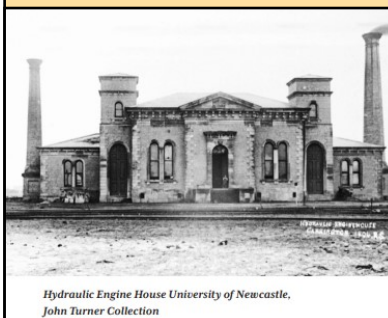
Pat Healion (Events Organiser)

Carrington Heritage Walk

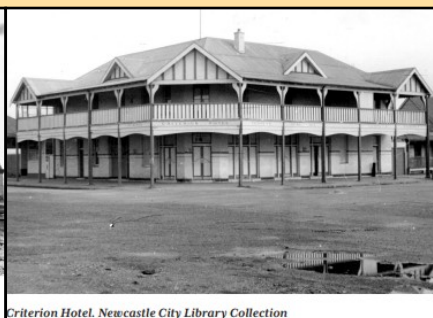
Come along and join us to learn of the fascinating heritage of Carrington.

Julie Keating will lead us on a walk around Carrington giving the history of the many buildings in this suburb.

- When:** Wednesday 26 April 2023—10.00am (the walk takes approximately one hour and is on flat terrain)
- Meeting point:** Corner of Cowper Street South and Wilson Street
- Cost:** Free
- Numbers:** Limited to 25 people—so first in, best dressed—but you need to book
- Lunch:** Following the walk, we will enjoy lunch (at your own cost) at the Cowper Street Diner (Carrington Bowling Club)
- Booking details:** To book, send an email to Mel on nfhsvicerepresident@gmail.com. You will need to indicate in the email whether or not you wish to stay for lunch
- To learn more:** For more information on the walk, see Council's website [here](#)



Hydraulic Engine House University of Newcastle,
John Turner Collection

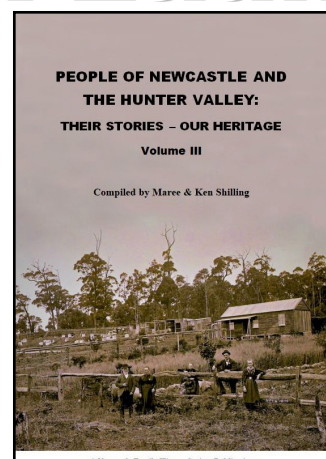
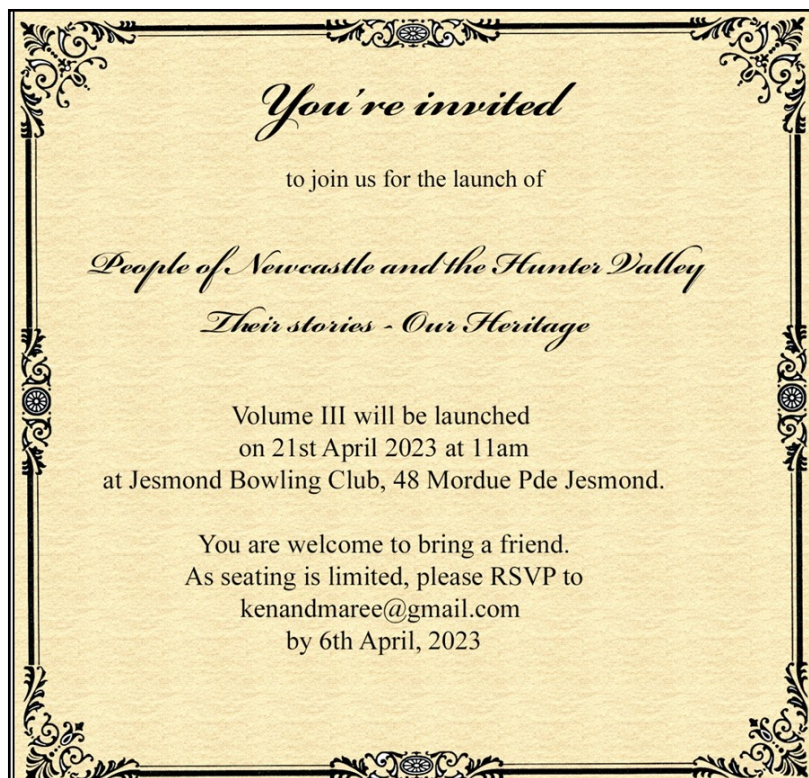


Criterion Hotel. Newcastle City Library Collection



Carrington Street Scene, 1937 Greg and Sylvia Ray's www.phototimetunnel.com

PofN Vol III Book Launch



Lunch following the Launch

Jesmond Bowling Club has been very generous in allowing us the use of their facilities free-of-charge. They will also open their bistro for us after the launch so that anyone who wishes to do so may enjoy lunch and a chat with other members of the group. If you wish to stay for lunch, please let us know by emailing kenandmaree@gmail.com.

Ken and Maree Shilling

General

Our **next Publications meeting** will be held on Friday 14 April 2023 in the Society rooms. Anyone who has any ideas for updates, future publications or suggestions, please contact Jane at nfhspublicationsofficer@gmail.com. You are all welcome to attend.

Exciting news—we have **our first publication available as a download**. Visit the Society webpage [Shop](#) to purchase.

The *Geographic Encyclopedia* written in 1892, published first by us in 2004 and prepared in digital form in 2023, may be downloaded for \$30.00. This was once produced as a very large book but we recommend that a digital copy would be best to download.

Remember to **continue checking the website as more publications** are added for download.

Pre-orders for Vol III of *People of Newcastle and the Hunter Valley* are now being taken. The form is attached to this newsletter email. There are also printed forms on the reception desk that may be used or an email can be sent to the Publications Officer (nfhspublicationsofficer@gmail.com) outlining the required order. Payment needs to accompany the order.

Some clarification as to the costing for the three volumes of *People of Newcastle*. The first time a member purchases a volume, a 10% discount is applicable on each volume as each is a standalone publication, however part of a series. For example, if you purchase Vol I now, you would receive a 10% discount. If you purchase another copy of Vol I a couple of months later, you would pay full price. The same for Vol II and Vol III.

If you wish to purchase the three volumes at the same time there is already a bulk discount, however the member discount will also be applied.

	Cost	Less 10% discount	Plus postage if applicable	Total
Printed versions				
All three volumes in colour	\$140.00	\$14.00	\$20.00	\$146.00
All three volumes in B&W	\$95.00	\$9.50	\$20.00	\$105.50
USB versions				
All three volumes each on a wafer USB in a DVD sized storage case	\$95.00	\$9.50	\$10.00	\$95.50

We use Australia Post satchels which can be recycled into your soft plastic recycling. The books are wrapped inside in paper.

These publications will not be available for download from our online shop this year.

Courses and Learning

Beginning Genealogy Courses

Would you like to trace your family tree and discover who your ancestors were?

How do you begin this quest?

Become a family history detective!

Newcastle Family History Society is running a course over three days to help you begin this addictive quest. During February/March/April, we will present seven units to get you started, whether computer aided, or good old paper and pencil.

On Sunday 19 February from 10.00am-4.00pm, and Saturdays 18 March and 15 April from 9.00am-11.00am, join a group of like-minded people to begin your journey of discovery.

Courses will be held at the Newcastle Family History Society Rooms at 68 Elder Street, Lambton. It may be possible to provide a Zoom link – this will depend on numbers and the number of distant participants interested in attending.

When: Sunday 19 February - 10.00am to 4.00pm – Pat Healion, Karen Smith
Saturday 18 March – 9.00am to 11.00am – Kirstie Carrick
Saturday 15 April – 9.00am to 11.00am – Laraine Cross
Venue: Newcastle Family History Society, 68 Elder Street, Lambton
What to bring: Your lunch/morning tea and a mug - tea, coffee and milk supplied
Paper, pens and pencils, and an eraser
Your questions and any tips you may have

Day 1 – Sunday 19 February 2023

10.00am Getting started with your family research 1 - Pat
11.15am Getting started with your family research 2 - Pat
1.00pm Births, deaths and marriages - Karen
2.15pm Using Trove to enhance your research - Karen
3.30pm Any questions, comments ...

Day 2 – Saturday 18 March 2023

9.00am Research logs and citing your research sources - Kirstie

Day 3 – Saturday 15 April 2023

9.00am Free and subscription websites for family research - Laraine
10.00am Using the Ryerson Index to enhance your family history research - Laraine

Cost: Sunday 19 February - \$10.00 per session/\$30.00 per day for NFHS members
\$20.00 per session/\$60.00 per day for non-members

Saturday 18 March - \$10.00 for NFHS members. \$20.00 for non-members

Saturday 15 April - \$10.00 per session/\$15.00 per day for NFHS members
\$20.00 per session/\$30.00 per day for non-members

Payment must be made at least one week prior to the course date

To **book**, email Pat at pat.healion1@gmail.com

Payment can be made by direct debit as follows:

BSB: 650 000

Account No: 501 652 808

Ensure you include your name when making payment

Courses and Learning continued

Special Interest Groups

Members of the Society are welcome to join one or more groups and share their knowledge as well as learn something new. All the groups meet in the NFHS rooms, monthly at 10.00am unless otherwise stated. Groups and contact details are as follows:

Group	Meeting date	Facilitator	Contact email
Convicts in Australia	1 st Tuesday—will be meeting at West Leagues Club at New Lambton	Laraine Cross	nfhsresearch78@gmail.com
Scottish Family Research	2 nd Tuesday – 1.00pm	Mel Woodford	nfhsvicepresident@gmail.com
English Ancestors	3 rd Tuesday	Karen Smith	abc26715@bigpond.net.au
DNA	3 rd Tuesday – 1.00pm	Sandra Jones	sjones11@bigpond.net.au
Irish Ancestors	4 th Tuesday—will be meeting at West Leagues Club at New Lambton	Pat Healion	pat.healion1@gmail.com
Ancestry Users	2 nd Thursday	Mel Woodford	nfhsvicepresident@gmail.com
Scrapbooking	4 th Thursday	Pat Healion	pat.healion1@gmail.com

Please email the facilitator to join a group. Any questions, please contact Pat at pat.healion1@gmail.com or text 0427 577598.

Please note **Military Family History SIG** is in recess until further notice.

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Courses

Courses were planned in 2019 and after a few courses were run, Covid meant that many planned courses could not be run.

The Beginners Course over two days has been run a number of times and hopefully will be run again mid-year. Other courses have been presented individually or presented as part of Seminar Sunday. So, to date the following courses have been presented:

- Citing your sources, source logs
- Births, deaths and marriages (BDM site)
- Using Evernote
- BDM Desktop NFHS rooms
- Trove
- Free and subscription websites for genealogy
- Getting Started with Family History

To run a course, I need someone to volunteer to provide the input. The following are suggestions for courses to be run:

- Finding Convict Ancestors: using records in Great Britain, Ireland and Australia
- Contribution of Fort Scratchley towards Newcastle
- Military ancestors
- Maintenance of military memorabilia
- Criminals in the family: use of NSW Archives' resources to fill out their lives
- Finding English ancestors
- Finding Scottish ancestors
- Irish records: The four pillars of Irish Genealogy
- The Ryerson Index
- Using your digital equipment
- DNA
- Introduction to Family Search
- Introduction to Find my Past
- Aboriginal family and Torres Strait Islander relatives' family research
- Shipping Records
- Publicans in the family
- Medical terms and what they mean
- German ancestors
- Occupations from the past
- Old photographs: types
- Dating them, using fashion, etc
- Introduction to Legacy
- Introduction to My Heritage
- Introduction to Ancestry
- Introduction to Family Tree Maker
- Using land records to find Irish ancestors
- Writing your story: historical context; writing styles; writing packages to help you write your book
- Paleography: reading old handwriting
- Researching Scottish Family history
- Using ScotlandsPeople
- Introduction to DNA terminology
- 'V' rolls and their use in early NSW colonial genealogy
- Writing a genealogical report
- Cemetery research
- Photographing headstones, cemeteries
- Using Find a Grave; A Billion Graves; Australian Cemetery Index; and other sites
- Heraldry: it's history and use in family history research
- Using Google resources in family history
- Social media and family history
- Mapping your family's history
- Digital records of your family history
- Using census documents to research your family history: England and Wales, Scotland, Ireland

We will organise to run these courses face to face and via zoom, for members near and far. If you can offer a course or a suggestion for a course, please contact Pat at nfhscourses@gmail.com or text Pat on 0427577598.

Courses—Sunday 23 April 2023

Finding your Scottish Ancestors

9.00—10.00am

by Kirstie Carrick

Kirstie will lead you through areas of research to find your Scottish ancestors. Kirstie has completed a Diploma of Family History from UTAS and another from the University of Strathclyde. You will find her presentation interesting and profitable if researching any Scottish ancestors.

Payment details

Members—\$10 per course or \$15 for the two if paid a week in advance

Non-members—\$20 per course or \$30 for the two if paid a week in advance

Money to be deposited into the Society account or paid at the rooms

Ins and Outs of Cemetery Research

10.00—11.00am

by Pat Healion

Pat will present all you need to know to start researching the cemeteries where your family members are buried, taking photographs for your records, using various deceased search engines, various databases that might help, cleaning headstones without destroying them in the process, ways of reading headstones, and many other aspects to help your research.

Registration details

You need to email Pat on nfhscourses@gmail.com

If you don't do this, then Pat won't know you are wishing to attend and won't be able to email any notes or details to you

Cemetery Research SIG

Are you interested in doing some cemetery research? Do you embarrass your family by always visiting cemeteries? Could you combine this interest while contributing to the Society's research items? If you answered yes to any of the above, you might be interested in the

Cemetery Research SIG

What is the group about? It is simply those interested in recording their own family's grave information and of other graves that interest you. It is particularly important if you have family members in unmarked graves. You can start with your family members and then maybe with another interested member or friend, record grave details from nearby graves, record a section of the cemetery, record the whole cemetery, or isolated graves you know the location of.



Our aim is simply to record family and friends' grave information, then branch out. It is an excellent way to browse through a cemetery, get plenty of fresh air and some gentle exercise. We can provide a sheet to record details on and scan them for the Society's files.



We can meet to discuss aims, possibilities and other details at 10am on Thursday 6 April at the NFHS rooms, over the phone or via email.

If you are interested, please contact Pat Healion on 0427577598 or email me at pat.healion1@gmail.com

Library Roster

Date	Librarian 1 (get key)	Librarian 2
Saturday Library Roster		
Morning 9.45am-12.30pm		
Afternoon 12.30pm-3.00pm		
1 Apr am	Sharyn B	
1 Apr pm	Sharyn B	
8 Apr am	Closed due	to Easter
8 Apr pm	Closed due	to Easter
15 Apr am	Karen S	Sandra J
15 Apr pm	Karen S	Wendy G
22 Apr am	Lea H	
22 Apr pm	Lea H	Jude C
29 Apr am	Marie H	Noelene L
29 Apr pm	Marie H	
Thursday Library Roster		
1.00-3.00pm		
6 Apr	Alison M	Clelia P
13 Apr	Jane I	
20 Apr	Marilyn M	Jane I
27 Apr	Karen S	

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Library duty

We do have a few gaps in the Library roster for April. If you could spare a few hours, please complete and submit your interest on the form at <https://nfhs.org.au/calendar/>

Attending the Orientation Sessions is not a prerequisite for volunteering on the library roster - you will always be rostered with an experienced volunteer. All our members have valuable experience which they can share with others. Please volunteer if you have the time - the NFHS needs you!!



Library Report

Members may not be aware that this year marks the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Society. This year also marks the 30th anniversary of the beginning of our 'Snippers' collection in the library, which now covers a whole wall of the front office. These are clippings from the local newspaper on all sorts of items of interest, going back as far as 1879. Karilyn Pawley has been the driving force behind the Snippers Group and we owe her a big vote of thanks for the countless hours she has put into this huge project. Thanks are also due to long-time member Val Walker for compiling the *Domestic Notices and Index of Deaths, Funerals, In Memoriam & Probate Notices* from the *Newcastle Herald* over the last 20 years – a really useful resource. Many members have come and gone in the Snippers Group over the years. Following is a list of the founding members of the group:

Karilyn Pawley	Tracy Lyons
Nell Berriman	Wilma Marshman
Vicki Coles	Eric Marshman
Nancy Edge	Susan McCarthy
Nita Fraser	Carol Newman
Gail Goddard	Win Shepherd
Judith Laughlan	Nancy Taylor
Gwen Lyons	Norma Tonks

A framed list of this original group is on the wall near the Snippers' shelves.

From humble beginnings (in a member's garage!) the Society library has grown into one of the finest family history libraries in the state. We have a large variety of resources, many of which are not used to their potential by members. If you would like to know more about what's available to help with your family history or local history research, sign up for one of our library orientation sessions.

Can I remind members again that they are encouraged to borrow books from our library to take home to read. Those books not available for loan have a red dot stuck on the spine. Also, back issues of many journals from other societies are being discarded from the library – these are free for the taking, so please take as many as you can carry!

Jim MacDougall (Librarian)

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Library Orientation 2023

March Orientation was a great success, involving 8 members in the Print session (we can only comfortably fit 8 people in the Monica Gibbs Library) with Jim and Marg, and 15 for digital either in the rooms with Mel or on Zoom. The group varied from people just starting their research to those who've been doing it for years but are keen to find out about resources they're not familiar with, eg our Pioneer Registers, Miners' Super Fund, how the books are organised, the Paracensus, Find My Past (free access at our Library), exchange journals, as well as how we actually obtain the resources! The enthusiasm and enjoyment of these sessions was great to see.

April Orientation will be 1 April (no joke!) for Print and 22 April for Digital. Invitations have already gone out for those sessions to new members or 'rejoiners' who ticked the box on the Membership form to say that they want to do Orientation.

We're gradually working our way through our ever-growing list so if you haven't been invited for April you'll still be on the list for whenever we can plan another set of sessions.

If you are interested or you're unsure whether you've already told us you're interested, please email Marg (nfhsorientation@gmail.com).

Margaret Ashford (Group Leader)

Members' Interest Directory

Our Members' Interest Directory is due to be updated this year. Please see the form attached (both Word and pdf formats) to the newsletter email for all members to complete so the database can be revised.

Please email completed forms to [Membership](#) by 30 June 2023. Thank you.

We are still deciding on how we are going to produce the MID this year - whether it will be digital, hardcopy, or just available on our website. What are your thoughts? Please contact Sharyn by email at [Membership](#) or by phone on 0408 629 768.

Sharyn Boyce (Membership Registrar)

Membership Renewals

We still have members who haven't renewed their membership to date. Time is running out as our AGM is in May and if you are not a financial member it means you are unable to vote.

For the members who have renewed, your new membership card and receipt are waiting for you in our AIR-CONDITIONED rooms during opening hours.

To renew your membership, please see renewal form attached (both Word and pdf formats) to this newsletter email. **Renewals can be paid by direct debit - please ensure you quote your Name and Member Number in the reference.**

Sharyn Boyce (Membership Registrar)



New Members

We welcome the following new members to our Society and we encourage you to enjoy your research in our Library. You are welcome to join any of our Special Interest Groups (SIG) to help with your research.

#1282A&B Helen Macartney & Gus Sharpe
#1284 Darren Howell

#1283 Jan Martin
#1285 Delia Bright

Rejoined: #1099 Peter Johnson

Sharyn Boyce (Membership Registrar)

Annual General Meeting

The NFHS AGM will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 2 May 2023. Further information will be provided shortly.

Mel Woodford (Vice-President)

Save the date for AGM
Tuesday 2 May

New Research Group

Expression of Interest

Members are invited to submit an expression of interest in joining a newly formed Research Group for NFHS.

Role

To join a small group of like-minded members in providing fee attracting research assistance upon request from members of the public or members of the society.

Essential Criteria

- Being comfortable around a computer, either a laptop or a PC (use of iPad/tablet/phone for group research not suitable)

- Being familiar with online or NFHS resources.

Desirable Criteria

- Having regular access to Ancestry.
- Having easy access to Genealogy publishing programs such as Family Tree Maker or Roots Magic7/8

Contact Details

To express your interest, please send an email to Laraine Cross on nfhsresearch78@gmail.com.

Laraine Cross

Miscellaneous

Email Addresses

President	nfhspresident@gmail.com
Vice-President	nfhsvicepresident@gmail.com
Secretary	nfhspinc@gmail.com
Treasurer	nfhstreasurer@gmail.com
Courses	nfhscourses@gmail.com
Events	nfhsevents@gmail.com
Journal	nfhseitor@gmail.com
Librarian	nfhslibrarian@gmail.com
Maintenance	nfhsmaintenance@gmail.com
Membership	nfhsmembership@gmail.com
Newsletter	nfhnewsletter@gmail.com
Orientation sessions	nfhsorientation@gmail.com
Publications	nfhspublicationsof-ficer@gmail.com
Research	nfhresearcher@gmail.com
Sandgate group	nfhssandgategroup@gmail.com
Used book sales	nfhslibrarian@gmail.com
Webmaster	nfhwebmaster@gmail.com

Snippers Group

Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesday from 10.00am to 2.00pm

* * * * *

Attachments from other Societies

Family History ACT—information on the 2023 E.M. Fletcher writing competition

Wyong FHG April Meeting—15 April 2023—speaker Lynda Smith—*Using Non-Written Sources to enhance your family history stories*

Wyong FHG Family History Seminar—29 April 2023—*Acres and Army*

Wyong FHG 40th birthday celebration—3 June 2023

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Newcastle Family History Society Inc. Copyright Licencing Agreement

Previous newsletters have given an explanation about our new Newcastle Family History Society Inc. Copyright Licencing Agreement and a copy of the actual Agreement.

Thanks to all those who have already signed and submitted the Agreement. A reminder to those who have not as yet done this, you still can.

Mel Woodford (Vice-President)

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Disclaimer

Although all reasonable care is taken, the Newcastle Family History Society Inc. accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of information, which is printed in good faith from other sources, or for any opinions expressed in this newsletter.

* * * * *

Password for Member Area of website

The password for the Member area of our website is **FamilyHistory**.

Note: FamilyHistory is all one word.

Family History ACT (FHA CT) 2023 E.M. Fletcher Short Story Writing Competition

Our very talented NFHS member, Beverley Richardson, won the coveted prize last year.

<https://www.familyhistoryact.org.au/writingcompetitioninformation>

<https://www.familyhistoryact.org.au/writingcompetition>

Use these links above. As the image to the right is only an image, those links don't work.

2023 E.M. Fletcher Writing Award Family History ACT (FHA CT)

The E.M. Fletcher writing competition is open now until 15 July 2023. All information about how to enter is available [here](https://www.familyhistoryact.org.au/writingcompetitioninformation).

This exciting short story writing competition is back for 2023, with cash prizes - 1st prize of \$1,000 sponsored by Family History ACT, 2nd prize \$500 sponsored by the University of Tasmania and a special Family History ACT member only prize of a \$100 society voucher. The competition will be judged to select the best short story of 1,500 – 2,000 words on a family history / genealogy theme.

We also welcome **three new judges** to the 2023 competition – Heather Garnsey, Bernadette Thakur and Jenny Higgins.

Heather is best known for her 35 years working with the Society of Australian Genealogists (SAG). She retired from this very full-time position in February 2020 hoping to finally spend more time on her own family history. Heather is an Honorary Fellow of FHA CT.

Bernadette was awarded the T.T. Reed Family History Book Award in 2021 for her book *Irish Settlers in South Australia: the Hayes and O'Toole Families*. This Award is made annually by the South Australian Genealogy & Heraldry Society to the person producing the best family history in a given calendar year.

Jenny is a long term FHA CT member and has been researching family history for over forty years, working as a private researcher and a family history librarian at the National Library of Australia. She is currently employed as a family history researcher at the Australian Dictionary of Biography at the Australian National University.

Every family has a story - write yours now!



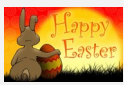

<https://www.familyhistoryact.org.au/writingcompetitioninformation>



UNIVERSITY of TASMANIA

April

2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
Red—SIG Groups Blue—Volunteer Groups Green—Courses Purple—Meetings Black—Library Open Brown—Events						9-11am—Library Orientation (Print) 10am-3pm—Library open
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	10.30am—Picnic in the park	10am—Convicts in Australia 6-7.25pm—Library open 7.30pm—Monthly Meeting	10am-2pm—Snippers	10am—Cemetery Research SIG 1-3pm—Library open	 GOOD FRIDAY	Library closed due to Easter Submissions due for May newsletter EASTER SATURDAY
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
 EASTER SUNDAY	 EASTER MONDAY	1pm—Scottish Fam Research		10am—Ancestry Users 1-3pm—Library open	10am-4.00pm—Publications printing	9-11am—Beginning Genealogy Course - Day 3 10am-3pm—Library open
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	10.30am—Picnic in the park	10am—English Ancestors 1pm—DNA	10am-2pm—Snippers	10am—Management Committee 1-3pm—Library open	10am-12.00 Publications meeting 11am—Book launch for PofN Vol III—Jesmond BC	9-11am—Library Orientation (Digital) 10am-3pm—Library open
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
9-10am—Finding your Scottish ancestors 10-11am—Cemetery research	9.30-11.30am—Library Group 10.30am—Picnic in the park	 ANZAC DAY	10am—Carrington Heritage Walk	10am—Scrapbooking 1-3pm—Library open		10am-3pm—Library open
30						

May

2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Red—SIG Groups Blue—Volunteer Groups Green—Courses Purple—Meetings Black—Library Open Brown—Events	10.30am—Picnic in the park	10am—Convicts in Australia 6-7.25pm—Library open 7.30pm—Annual General Meeting	10am-2pm—Snippers	1-3pm—Library open		9-11am—Library Orientation (Print) 10am-3pm—Library open Articles due for Journal 242
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	9.30-11.30am—Library Group 10.30am—Picnic in the park	1pm—Scottish Fam Research		10am—Ancestry Users 1-3pm—Library open	9.30-12.00—Editing meeting—Journal 242 12.00-4.00pm—Publications printing	10am-3pm—Library open Submissions due for June newsletter
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	10.30am—Picnic in the park	10am—English Ancestors 1pm—DNA	10am-2pm—Snippers	10am—Management Committee 1-3pm—Library open	12.00-12.30—Cover printing—Journal 242	10am-3pm—Library open
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Tentative—Whitebridge Cemetery Tour	9.30-11.30am—Library Group 10.30am—Picnic in the park	10am—Irish Ancestors		10am—Scrapbooking 1-3pm—Library open	9.30-12.00—Journal printing—Journal 242	9-11am—Library Orientation (Digital) 10am-3pm—Library open
28	29	30	31			
	10.30am—Picnic in the park					

June

2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
Red—SIG Groups Blue—Volunteer Groups Green—Courses Purple—Meetings Black—Library Open Brown—Events				1-3pm—Library open		10am-3pm—Library open
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	10.30am—Picnic in the park	10am—Convicts in Australia 12.30-1.55pm—Library open 2.00pm—General Meeting	10am-2pm—Snippers	10am—Ancestry Users 1-3pm—Library open	9.30-12.00—Feedback/Planning Journals 242/243 12.00-4.00pm—Publications printing	Library closed due to King's birthday long weekend Submissions due for July newsletter
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	King's Birthday 	1pm—Scottish Fam Research		10am—Management Committee 1-3pm—Library open	10am-12.00 Publications meeting	10am-3pm—Library open
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	10.30am—Picnic in the park	10am—English Ancestors 1pm—DNA	10am-2pm—Snippers	10am—Scrapbooking 1-3pm—Library open		10am-3pm—Library open
25	26	27	28	29	30	
	9.30-11.30am—Library Group 10.30am—Picnic in the park	10am—Irish Ancestors		1-3pm—Library open		

July

2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
Red—SIG Groups Blue—Volunteer Groups Green—Courses Purple—Meetings Black—Library Open Brown—Events						10am-3pm—Library open
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	10.30am—Picnic in the park	10am—Convicts in Australia 12.30-1.55pm—Library open 2.00pm—General Meeting—Xmas in July and Trivia	10am-2pm—Snippers	1-3pm—Library open		10am-3pm—Library open Submissions due for August newsletter
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	9.30-11.30am—Library Group 10.30am—Picnic in the park	1pm—Scottish Fam Research		10am—Ancestry Users 1-3pm—Library open	10.00-4.00pm—Publications printing	10am-3pm—Library open
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	10.30am—Picnic in the park	10am—English Ancestors 1pm—DNA	10am-2pm—Snippers	10am—Management Committee 1-3pm—Library open		10am-3pm—Library open
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	9.30-11.30am—Library Group 10.30am—Picnic in the park	10am—Irish Ancestors		10am—Scrapbooking 1-3pm—Library open		10am-3pm—Library open
30	31					
	10.30am—Picnic in the park					