#### **Newcastle Family History Society Inc.**

Telephone: (02) 4957 8296 Email: nfhsinc@gmail.com Website: http://www.nfhs.org.au/ Editor: nfhsnewsletter@gmail.com

**ABN:** 43 533 036 199



**Library Hours: Thurs:** 1.00pm – 3.00pm **Sat:** 10.00am – 3.00pm

#### Newsletter

Number 226

#### WANTED FOR YOUR JOURNAL—see page 9

Our September Journal has a fascinating theme: **My ancestor was ...** 

Deadline for articles: 5 August 2023

**July 2023** 



#### **July Meeting**

Tuesday 4 July—2.00pm General Meeting

## Christmas in July—trivia afternoon hosted by John and Judy Mulhearn

#### Meeting will only be held in the rooms—No Zoom

We look forward to members joining us for our Christmas in July trivia afternoon with John and Judy. Put on your thinking cap and enjoy a fun, light-hearted afternoon.

A Christmas themed afternoon tea will follow. We ask you to please bring a plate to share. Please see page 3 for details.

Mel Woodford (President)



# Zoom meetings will be back in August

#### Overview of June meeting

Our June monthly meeting was very well attended. We had 23 in the rooms and 17 on Zoom. Our member Julie Keating gave a very interesting, in-depth presentation on the Australian Agricultural Company (AA Co). This company was one that played a part in the lives of many of our ancestors so was keenly looked forward to. Julie, who has written a number of local history books, became fascinated with the AA Co and has done a lot of research into the company. This is a brief overview of Julie's talk. The full presentation can be viewed here.

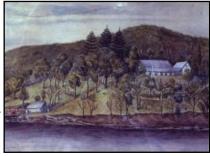
The AA Co is almost 200 years old being established in London in 1824, a joint venture funded by British and colonial interests, with John Macarthur (son of John and Elizabeth Macarthur) being the driving force. The company was initially granted a million acres of land in NSW, with the aim being to improve the fleece of merino sheep for fine wool production and to grow tobacco, flax, olives and other crops for export. Robert Dawson was appointed a chief agent and in 1825 he sailed from the Isle of Wight with 27 employees, their families, 800 merino sheep, eight cattle and six horses. After searching for suitable land, he established a base between Port Stephens and the Manning River covering an area of 500,000 acres.

The first settlement was at Carrington on the southern shore of Port Stephens in 1826. (Note this is not Carrington in Newcastle.) Within 12 months 1,000 head of cattle and 2,000 sheep were grazing. The land was not suitable for sheep and other crops were tried – wheat, maize, barley and silk, without success. By 1829 sheep throughout the colony were affected by disease and their condition worsened due to severe drought.

Dawson's residence, Tahlee House, was built in 1826 situated near the mouth of the Karuah River. It subsequently housed the next four super-

intendents. The Carrington settlement was home to more than 300 people but was closed by the company in 1856. The original Tahlee House burnt down and was rebuilt in the 1860s.

Captain Parry took control of the company in 1830 and realising the coastal region was not suitable for sheep and wheat, began moving its operations to Stroud. Other signifi-



"Tahlee" by Annie Brownrigg 1885

cant towns for the AA Co in this area were Telegherry, Booral, Alderley and Washpool. He also negotiated an exchange of the north-eastern part of the Port Stephens estate for 250,000 acres at Warrah (Liverpool Plains) and 313,000 acres at Goonoo Goonoo along the left bank of the

#### Overview of June meeting continued

Peel River (near Tamworth), which was a far more successful area for sheep and wool. A head station was set up at Calala near the river crossing (now Tamworth) and later moved to Goonoo Goonoo. There was an ongoing problem of the shortage of workers due to the end of transportation.

After gold was found on the banks of the Peel River in 1852, the directors formed the Peel River Land and Mineral Company (eventually delisted in 1959). This venture was short-lived and the company decided to focus on sheep and cattle production. At this time, they also expanded into Queensland purchasing a number of properties.

The company controlled a vast amount of land around Tamworth and the government felt that the development of Tamworth was being hampered by the absence of small to medium scale farms so they resumed some of the land in the 1890s then 100,000 acres by compulsory purchase in 1909, with further resumptions in 1938 and 1952. The AA Co sold the remainder of the Goonoo Goonoo property in 1985.

Another side to the story of the AA Co was coal mining. In the late 1820s the government was not handling coal mining operations in Newcastle very well, with convicts being used to mine the coal. An agreement was negotiated with the AA Co in 1830 to take over the coal leases in Newcastle with the exclusive right for them to mine coal in the district for 31 years. They also received a land grant of 2,000 acres west of Perkins

Street, including harbour frontage. Up until 1838 convicts continued to be used to mine coal before 60 skilled miners from the UK were sent out in 1840. When the AA Co took over the leases, they expanded by sinking a shaft (A Pit, Church Street on the hill between Brown and Darby Streets). A loading staithe (a landing stage for loading or unloading cargo) and wharf were erected at the bottom of Brown Street with an inclined plane of wood planking laid from the pit to the loading place. Australia's first surface railway was constructed with a steam engine used to wind the coal from the pit and to pull back the empty wagons from the harbour. On 10 December 1831 the first coal was loaded onto the Sophia Jane bound for India. New mines were opened in 1837 (B Pit, Nesca Parade) and 1843 (C Pit, Bingle Street).

In 1833 the AA Co built a bridge over Blane Street (now Hunter Street) so greater quantities of coal could be transported to the harbour. As the population increased and the Great Northern Railway



Opening ceremony in 1865 for iron bridge (demolished 1920) which replaced the low wooden bridge in use since 1833

extended into Newcastle, the height of the bridge caused issues with passengers travelling in carts along Hunter Street having to duck their heads and trains having to substitute a small engine for the ordinary locomotive. A replacement iron railway bridge opened in 1865 was constructed using a funicular railway system to transport the coal to the harbour.

In the late 1840s the monopoly on coal mining by the AA Co was challenged and following a coal inquiry the monopoly was ceased. As compensation, the company received the freehold title to its land holding in Newcastle. In 1848 the AA Co opened D Pit (opposite St Peter's Anglican Church, Hamilton). E Pit (between Everton and Dumaresq



AA Co Staithe layout - 1870 (Andrews: Coal, Railways and Mines)

THE AUSTRALIAN AGRICULTURAL COMPANY—STAITHE LAYOUT

Streets) was sunk to the south-west of D Pit and used as a ventilation shaft. D Pit was mined out by 1900 and much of the land then subdivided and sold. The F and Sea Pit Mines were in Brooks Street

The AA Co made important contributions to the development of Hamilton. It contributed to the school building fund and made donations to various churches and the Mechanics Institute as well as donating land for public recreation and sporting grounds. It also supported social functions and clubs. Interestingly between 1871 and 1880, all of the miners living in Hamilton worked at one of the AA Co pits, however by 1890-1900 only 23% of miners worked for them.

The last colliery to be developed by the AA Co in Newcastle was the Sea Pit, commencing production in early 1888 and located near Darby Street. In December 1888 the pit was renamed New Winning Colliery. It closed in 1916 as the seam had been mined out. The following year the shafts were sealed. The closure of Sea Pit bought an end to 87 years of coal mining in Newcastle by the AA Co. After this time the company concentrated on agricultural production. However, as well as retaining their land holding, they continued to operate loading staithes at Newcastle until 1920 when all coal loading was moved to The Dyke, Carrington. The staithes, embankments and railway were removed by the company which still owned the land. The iron bridge over Hunter Street was demolished over a period of two years up to 1923. Over many years following, the company sold most of their land to form suburbs such as Cooks Hill, Hamilton, The Junction, Islington and Mayfield.

During WW1 there was a shortage of wool shearers and the company moved from sheep to beef production. Southern estates were sold and properties purchased in Queensland and Northern Territory. Santa Gertrudis cattle were introduced in 1950s and Braham cattle in 1980. The company moved to wagyu beef in 2006 and today manage 382,000 head of cattle. According to the company's website, more than a million people consume their product each day.

The AA Co is the oldest continually operating company in Australia, celebrating its bicentenary in 2024. It is Australia's largest cattle and beef producer. It owns properties that cover 6.4 million hectares in Queensland and Northern Territory, being roughly 1% of Australia's landmass. The company specialises in grain fed beef and wagyu beef production.

There was so much more interesting information given in the presentation by Julie. It would take pages to give all the information. I would encourage you to listen to the presentation by clicking on the link given at the beginning of this overview.

We all thank Julie so much for her fascinating presentation on the Australian Agricultural Company. Photos were taken from Julie's presentation, courtesy of University of Newcastle, Living Histories.

## **Events and Outings**

#### **Future dates**

- 1 July—Irish SIG Open Day (see page 4)
- **4 July**—Monthly meeting—note 2.00pm—Christmas in July with Trivia and Festive Afternoon Tea (see below)
- **30 July**—10am-4pm—Scrapbooking SIG full day event—note this is a Sunday (see page 5)
- **1 August**—Monthly meeting—note 2.00pm—Dr Jan McLeod will share the story of her great-uncle, Private Lawrence Nicholas Kennedy
- 5 August—Articles due for Journal 243
- **12 August**—Scottish SIG Open Day (for National Family History Month—see page 6)
- 5 September—Monthly meeting
- **8-10 September**—NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Annual Conference *The Running Waters of History* (see page 7)

- **3 October**—Monthly meeting—Assoc Prof Jo May speaking on Newcastle Girls' and Newcastle Boys' High Schools
- 4 November—Articles due for Journal 244
- 7 November—Monthly meeting
- 1 December—Christmas lunch—11.30am—Poppy's Verandah Café, Gateshead

Every Monday (except public holidays) from 10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests, Hobart Road, 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.



## Irish Open Day Saturday 1 July

Newcastle Family History Society rooms 68 Elder Street, Lambton

9-10am

10am-3pm

An interesting talk on the Four Pillars of Irish Family History Research Library open for you to experience:

- A display of maps
- Notes re finding your ancestors in the various counties of Ireland
- Notable Irishmen who helped develop Australia
- · Family stories of Irish ancestors
- Numerous other items

Irish tea will be available for you to enjoy a cup

If you are of Irish descent and would like to contribute a story about your Irish ancestors, male or female, convict or free, then we would be glad to add it to the display.

To contribute stories, book into the talk or find out more information, please contact Pat on <a href="mailto:pat.healion1@gmail.com">pat.healion1@gmail.com</a>



## Scrapbooking

SIG



Imagine a whole day set aside for scrapbooking

Here's your opportunity

Sunday 30 July 2023 10.00am – 4.00pm Newcastle Family History Society 68 Elder Street, Lambton

Gather your photos and accessories

Bring your lunch

Join us for a relaxing day









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

The Scottish Special Interest Group will be presenting all things Scottish

Saturday 12 August 2023 10.00am – 3.00pm Newcastle Family History Society 68 Elder Street, Lambton

11.30am - enjoy entertainment provided by a Scottish piper Followed by readings of Scottish poet Robert Burns' poetry

Traditional Scottish morning tea available from 11.00am

#### **NFHS Mini-Conference**

This year Wyong Family History Group is hosting the NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies' 2023 Conference on

8, 9 and 10 September

For details check their website: https://unpublishedwater.weebly.com/

We will also be streaming the Conference in our rooms as we did last year.

If you would like to watch some or all of the presentations at the Mechanics' Institute with other members you can do so.

To book your seat at our rooms, please send **your name** and the reference **Wyong23** along with a direct debit for **\$30** to our NFHS bank account:

Account Name: NFHS

BSB: 650-000

Account: 501 652 808

Further details will follow as we receive them.



## YouTube channel—exciting news

#### Did you know?

As part of the preparation for the State conference last year, a Newcastle Family History Society YouTube channel was set up by our IT Officer, Clive Maddocks.

We have exciting follow up news! This YouTube channel is now being used to house recordings of our general meeting guest speakers. At this stage we have two presentations available to be viewed: Dr Jude Conway's presentation on Professor Beryl Nashar and Julie Keating's presentation on the Australian Agricultural Company.

This will provide the opportunity for those unable to attend the meetings to be able to watch the presentations at their leisure.

To view presentations, either click here or Google "Newcastle Family History Society YouTube".

Mel Woodford (President)

## Courses and Learning

#### **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 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday—will be meeting at West Leagues Club at New Lambton	Laraine Cross	nfhsresearch78@gmail.com
Scottish Family Research	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday – 1.00pm	Mel Woodford	nfhspresident@gmail.com
English Ancestors	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	Karen Smith	abc26715@bigpond.net.au
DNA	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday – 1.00pm	Sandra Jones	sjones11@bigpond.net.au
Irish Ancestors	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday—will be meeting at West Leagues Club at New Lambton	Pat Healion	pat.healion1@gmail.com
Cemetery Research	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday every 2 <sup>nd</sup> month—June, August, October, December, February, April	Pat Healion	pat.healion1@gmail.com
Ancestry Users	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday	Mel Woodford	nfhspresident@gmail.com
Scrapbooking	4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday	Pat Healion	pat.healion1@gmail.com

Please email the facilitator to join a group. Any questions, please contact Pat at <a href="mailto:pat.healion1@gmail.com">pat.healion1@gmail.com</a> or text 0427 577598.



### New Members

We welcome the following new member 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.

#1290 Julie Searant

# 1291 Paul Kiem

Sharyn Boyce (Membership Registrar)

## Turtle Consolidated Services

Over the years many of our members would have used the services of Transcription Agent Laurie Turtle. We have received the following updated information with regard to new website and email addresses.

New Website: www.turtleconsolidatedservices.com.au

New email: colpitts1788@gmail.com

Address: PO Box 144, Kurrajong NSW 2758

Phone Number: 02 4573 1559

Turtle Consolidated Services continue to offer all their usual services including:

- The NSW BDM Transcription Service
- The State Records Retrieval Service
- The English Certificate Service
- SA BDM Transcripts and a limited Tasmanian BDM service up to 1899
- General research and index searches when necessary

Karen Smith (Secretary)

Publications Group meets: 3rd Friday of even months (except December) from 10.00am to 12.00noon—may be held by email or Zoom depending on the need

#### General

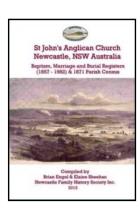
## Sales of our Publications helps pay our expenses. We make more than we spend but to do that we need to keep producing information.

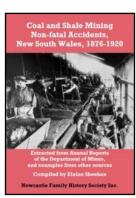
Could Librarians please read the instructions in the sales procedures folder. The Publications Officer uses this book to accurately report to Management what we sell and assists in knowing what Publications need to be reprinted or reproduced. Librarians help by filling in the sales sheets and writing receipts that identify what is sold. All display copies of books have been priced.

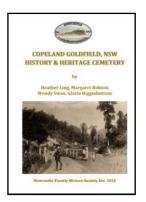
The next Publications Meeting is on 18 August at 10.00 at the Society. Anyone is welcome to join us or share ideas for new or updated Publications or take an idea to produce a Publication for the Society. If you have anything to suggest email Jane on <a href="mailto:nfspublicationsofficer@gmail.com">nfspublicationsofficer@gmail.com</a>.

Jane Ison (Publications Group Coordinator)









## Journal and Newsletter

#### **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. There is a lot of scope for your imagination. Send your article by **5 August 2023** to <a href="mailto:nfhseditor@gmail.com">nfhseditor@gmail.com</a>.

#### **December Journal**

Our December Journal (No 244) has the theme of "Memories". What memories do you have of your ancestors? Put pen to paper and share them with us. Send your article by **5 November 2023** to <a href="mailto:nfhseditor@gmail.com">nfhseditor@gmail.com</a>.

The year 2023 also represents 40 years since the Newcastle Family History Society was formed. The December Journal will also highlight some interesting stories about 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 <a href="mailto:nfhsmembership@gmail.com">nfhsmembership@gmail.com</a>.

#### Journal and Newsletter Deadlines

	Newsletter	Journal
July	10 June	
August	15 July	
September	12 August	5 August
October	16 September	
November	14 October	
December	11 November	5 November
January	No newsletter	
February	13 January	

#### Reminder re collection of Journals

If you haven't already done so, remember to collect your June Journal (No 242) and any other back copies you haven't collected, next time you are in the Society rooms.

#### **Feedback**

We would love to know what you think of the Journal, especially the June issue. Please send your feedback to <a href="mailto:nfhseditor@gmail.com">nfhseditor@gmail.com</a>.

Jane Ison (eTeam)

## 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 <a href="https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/stay-safe">https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/stay-safe</a>.

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 <a href="mailto:nfhslibrarian@gmail.com">nfhslibrarian@gmail.com</a> 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)

## Members' Interest Directory

Our Members' Interest Directory (MID) 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.

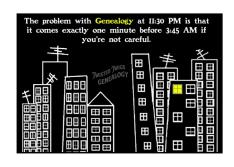
Please email completed forms to Membership by 14 July 2023. Thank you. This is YOUR LAST CHANCE to submit your forms.

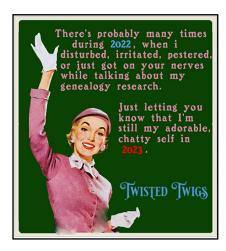
We are still deciding on how we are going to produce the MID this year - whether it will be digital, hardcopy, or just available on our website. What are your thoughts? Please contact Sharyn by email at <u>Membership</u> or by phone on 0408 629 768.

Sharyn Boyce (Membership Registrar)

PROTES DIRECTORY FURIN	Number	
MEMBERS INTERESTS DIRECTORY FORM		
MENCATE IN	Title	
Surname NFHS Members Interest Directory	Members Interest V YES □	Vebsite
I hereby give permission production and the state of the		Period
have at least control of the l	ntry # 183	
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1		







## Library News

Part of our job of maintaining the library is to remove books and other items that are no longer useful in order to make room for new acquisitions. Below are books that have been withdrawn during the last few years, mostly because they were out-of-date. We will continue looking for others that should be withdrawn and will report to members in due course.

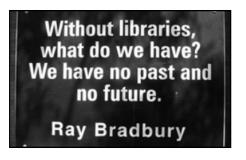
Library Withdrawals

Creator	Title	Call No
Johnston, W & A Kerr	Scottish clans & their tartans 33rd edn [1947]	P1/18/02
Whyte, Donald	Introducing Scottish genealogical research 4th edn [1982]	P2/10/04
McLaughlin, Eve	St Catherine's House 8th edn [1991]	N5/05/03
Rogers, Colin D	Family tree detective: manual for English or Welsh ancestry [1985]	M2/10/04
Perkins, John P	Current publications on microfiche by member societies 5th edn [2002]	L2/40/02
Heraldry & Genealogical Society of Canberra	Family history for beginners [1993]	L2/10/25
Colwell, Max	Ships and seafarers in Australian waters [1973]	A7/12/06
Hawkings, David T	Bound for Australia [1988]	A5/50/12

Jim MacDougall (Librarian)

#### **Library Roster**

Library Roston					
Date	Librarian 1 (get key)	Librarian 2			
Saturday Library Roster					
Morning 9.45am-12.30pm					
Afternoon 12.30pm-3.00pm					
1 July am	Lea H	Sandra J			
1 July pm	Lea H	Sandra J			
8 July am	Sharyn B	Nouvelle T			
8 July pm	Sharyn B	Nouvelle T			
15 July am	Marie H	Heather D			
15 July pm	Marie H	Jude C			
22 July am		Noelene L			
22 July pm					
29 July am					
29 July pm					
Thursday	Library Ros	ster			
1.00-3.00p	m				
6 July	Alison M				
13 July	Jane I	Rosalie B			
20 July	Marilyn M	Jane I			
27 July	Karen S				



#### **Library duty volunteers**

We are urgently in need of some extra library volunteers to keep our rooms open on Thursday afternoons and Saturdays. Our numbers have dwindled once again and we are finding it very hard to keep the library open some weeks — many of our volunteers are being asked to do multiple duties each month.

If you could spare 3 hours once a month to assist an experienced volunteer it would make such a difference to our Society.

Everyone has something to offer and we all help one another in a friendly, supportive atmosphere. Doing library duty is very rewarding and you also learn so much each time you do.

Please consider offering your support by emailing me at <a href="mailto:nfhspresident@gmail.com">nfhspresident@gmail.com</a>

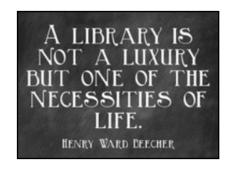
Mel Woodford (President)

#### **Library Orientation 2023**

May Orientation was very successfully run. We're gradually working our way through our ever-growing list so if you haven't been invited yet, 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 (<u>nfhsorientation@gmail.com</u>).

Margaret Ashford (Group Leader)



### Miscellaneous

#### **Email Addresses**

President	nfhspresident@gmail.com
Vice-President	nfhsvicepresident@gmail.com
Secretary	nfhsinc@gmail.com
Treasurer	nfhstreasurer@gmail.com
Courses	nfhscourses@gmail.com
Events	nfhsevents@gmail.com
Journal	nfhseditor@gmail.com
Librarian	nfhslibrarian@gmail.com
Maintenance	nfhsmaintenance@gmail.com
Membership	nfhsmembership@gmail.com
Newsletter	nfhsnewsletter@gmail.com
Orientation sessions	nfhsorientation@gmail.com
Publications	nfhspublicationsof- ficer@gmail.com
Research	nfhsresearcher@gmail.com
Sandgate group	nfhssandgategroup@gmail.com
Used book sales	nfhslibrarian@gmail.com
Webmaster	nfhswebmaster@gmail.com

## Change of password for member area of website

As of **Wednesday 3 May**, the password for the Member area of our website will be **68Elder**.

**Note**: 68Elder is all one word.

#### **Snippers Group**

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

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#### Attachments from other Societies

NSW and ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc. newsletter— Issue 7

Wyong FHG—General Meeting—Saturday 8 July—guest speaker Geoff Cannon on "Maps and Wyong"

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

## 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 (President)



#### **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.



#### Family History ACT (FHACT) 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 (FHACT)

The E.M. Fletcher writing competition is open now until 15 July 2023. All information about how to enter is available  $\underline{\text{here}}$ .

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 FHACT.

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 FHACT 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.

FAMILY HISTORY ACT

Every family has a story - write yours now!

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



Fletcher

July

2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Red—SIG Groups Blue—Volunteer Groups Green—Courses Purple—Meetings Black—Library Open Brown—Events						10am-3pm— Library open 9-10am—Irish talk 10am-3pm—Irish Open Day Articles due for Journal 243
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	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
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	9.30-11.30am— Library Group 10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	1pm—Scottish Fam Research		10am—Ancestry Users 1-3pm—Library open	10.00-4.00pm— Publications print- ing	10am-3pm— Library open Submissions due for August newslet- ter
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	10am—English Ancestors 1pm—DNA	10am-2pm— Snippers	10am— Management Com- mittee 1-3pm—Library open		10am-3pm— Library open
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	9.30-11.30am— Library Group 10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	10am—Irish Ancestors		10am— Scrapbooking 1-3pm—Library open		10am-3pm— Library open
10am-4pm—	10.30am—Coffee					
Scrapbookiing SIG	and Chat, Wests					

## August

2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
Red—SIG Groups Blue—Volunteer Groups Green—Courses Purple—Meetings Black—Library Open Brown—Events		10am—Convicts in Australia 12.30-1.55pm— Library open 2.00pm—General Meeting	10am-2pm— Snippers	10am—Cemetery Research 1-3pm—Library open		10am-3pm— Library open Articles due for Journal 243
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	1pm—Scottish Fam Research		10am—Ancestry Users 1-3pm—Library open	9.30-12.00— Editing meeting— Journal 243 12.00-4.00pm— Publications print- ing	10am-3pm— Library open 10am-3pm - Scottish Open Day Submissions due for September newsletter
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	9.30-11.30am— Library Group 10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	10am—English Ancestors 1pm—DNA	10am-2pm— Snippers	10am— Management Com- mittee 1-3pm—Library open	10am-12.00 Publications meeting 12.00-12.30— Cover printing— Journal 243	10am-3pm— Library open
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	10am—Irish Ancestors		10am— Scrapbooking 1-3pm—Library open	9.30-12.00— Journal printing— Journal 243	10am-3pm— Library open
27	28	29	30	31		
	9.30-11.30am— Library Group 10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests			1-3pm—Library open		

	embe					2023
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Red—SIG Groups Blue—Volunteer Groups Green—Courses Purple—Meetings Black—Library Open Brown—Events					1	10am-3pm— Library open
3	4	5	6	7	8	
	10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	10am—Convicts in Australia 6.00-7.25pm— Library open 7.30pm—General Meeting	10am-2pm— Snippers	1-3pm—Library open	NSW/ACT Annual Conference	NSW/ACT Annua Conference Library closed due to conference
10	11	12	13	14	15	
NSW/ACT Annual Conference	9.30-11.30am— Library Group 10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	1pm—Scottish Fam Research		10am—Ancestry Users 1-3pm—Library open	9.30-12.00— Feedback/Planning Journals 243/244 12.00-4.00pm— Publications print- ing	10am-3pm— Library open Submissions due for October news- letter
17	18	19	20	21	22	2
	10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	10am—English Ancestors 1pm—DNA	10am-2pm— Snippers	10am— Management Com- mittee 1-3pm—Library open		10am-3pm— Library open
24	25	26	27	28	29	3
	9.30-11.30am— Library Group 10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	10am—Irish Ancestors		10am— Scrapbooking 1-3pm—Library open		10am-3pm— Library open
Octo	ber Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	<b>202</b> 3
1	2	3	4			Saturday
Red—SIG Groups Blue—Volunteer	10.30am—Coffee		4	5	6	
Green—Courses Purple—Meetings Black—Library Open Brown—Events	and Chat, Wests	10am—Convicts in Australia 6.00-7.25pm— Library open 7.30pm—General Meeting	10am-2pm— Snippers	5 1-3pm—Library open		Library closed
Green—Courses Purple—Meetings Black—Library Open		10am—Convicts in Australia 6.00-7.25pm— Library open 7.30pm—General Meeting	10am-2pm—	1-3pm—Library open	13	LABOUR DAY LONG WEEKEND
Groups Green—Courses Purple—Meetings Black—Library Open Brown—Events  8  LABOUR DAY LONG WEEKEND	and Chat, Wests	10am—Convicts in Australia 6.00-7.25pm— Library open 7.30pm—General Meeting	10am-2pm— Snippers	1-3pm—Library open	6	Library closed
Green—Courses Purple—Meetings Black—Library Open Brown—Events  8	and Chat, Wests  9  LABOUR DAY	10am—Convicts in Australia 6.00-7.25pm— Library open 7.30pm—General Meeting  10 1pm—Scottish Fam	10am-2pm— Snippers	1-3pm—Library open  12  10am—Ancestry Users 1-3pm—Library	13 10.00am-4.00pm— Publications print-	Library closed  LABOUR DAY LONG WEEKEND  10am-3pm— Library open Submissions due for November newsletter
Green—Courses Purple—Meetings Black—Library Open Brown—Events  8  LABOUR DAY LONG WEEKEND	9  LABOUR DAY LONG WEEKEND  16 10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	10am—Convicts in Australia 6.00-7.25pm— Library open 7.30pm—General Meeting  10 1pm—Scottish Fam Research  17 10am—English Ancestors 1pm—DNA	10am-2pm—Snippers  11  11  18  10am-2pm—Snippers	1-3pm—Library open  12 10am—Ancestry Users 1-3pm—Library open  19 10am— Management Committee 1-3pm—Library open	13 10.00am-4.00pm— Publications printing	Library closed  LABOUR DAY LONG WEEKEND  10am-3pm— Library open Submissions due for November newsletter  2 10am-3pm— Library open
Green—Courses Purple—Meetings Black—Library Open Brown—Events  8  LABOUR DAY LONG WEEKEND	9  LABOUR DAY LONG WEEKEND  16 10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	10am—Convicts in Australia 6.00-7.25pm— Library open 7.30pm—General Meeting  10 1pm—Scottish Fam Research  17 10am—English Ancestors 1pm—DNA	10am-2pm— Snippers  11  12  18  10am-2pm—	1-3pm—Library open  12 10am—Ancestry Users 1-3pm—Library open  19 10am— Management Committee 1-3pm—Library open  26	13 10.00am-4.00pm— Publications print- ing	Library closed  LABOUR DAY LONG WEEKEND  10am-3pm— Library open Submissions due for November newsletter  2 10am-3pm— Library open
Green—Courses Purple—Meetings Black—Library Open Brown—Events  8  LABOUR DAY LONG WEEKEND	9  LABOUR DAY LONG WEEKEND  16  10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests  23  9.30-11.30am— Library Group 10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	10am—Convicts in Australia 6.00-7.25pm— Library open 7.30pm—General Meeting  10 1pm—Scottish Fam Research  17 10am—English Ancestors 1pm—DNA  24 10am—Irish Ancestors	10am-2pm—Snippers  11  11  18  10am-2pm—Snippers	1-3pm—Library open  12 10am—Ancestry Users 1-3pm—Library open  19 10am— Management Committee 1-3pm—Library open	13 10.00am-4.00pm— Publications printing	Library closed  LABOUR DAY LONG WEEKEND  10am-3pm— Library open Submissions due for November newsletter  2 10am-3pm— Library open
Green—Courses Purple—Meetings Black—Library Open Brown—Events  8  ABOUR DAY LONG WEEKEND	9  LABOUR DAY LONG WEEKEND  16 10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests  23 9.30-11.30am— Library Group 10.30am—Coffee	10am—Convicts in Australia 6.00-7.25pm— Library open 7.30pm—General Meeting  10 1pm—Scottish Fam Research  17 10am—English Ancestors 1pm—DNA  24 10am—Irish Ances-	10am-2pm—Snippers  11  11  18  10am-2pm—Snippers	1-3pm—Library open  12 10am—Ancestry Users 1-3pm—Library open  19 10am— Management Committee 1-3pm—Library open  26 10am— Scrapbooking 1-3pm—Library	13 10.00am-4.00pm— Publications printing	Library closed  LABOUR DAY LONG WEEKEND  10am-3pm— Library open Submissions due for November newsletter  10am-3pm— Library open