



NSW and ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc. Newsletter

Newsletter for May 2023

Message from the President

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Hi and Welcome to this edition of the Newsletter,

Our Annual Conference is fast approaching. It will be held in Toukley, with our hosts the Wyong Family History Group. Have you booked a place, either in person or on line? Don't miss out - The EARLY BIRD option is closing at the end of June.

This year I have made the decision to attend in person and am looking forward to seeing many of you there.

The Annual General Meeting and Forum will be held in a virtual capacity the week after the conference on 17th September at 2pm. Current delegates and society secretaries have been sent notification. Please ensure your society's membership is paid and contact information is up to date so our Secretary Mel can send out the meeting papers.

Did you know that Western Australia has updated their BDM web site? It is very easy to search and parents' details are available. Today I was lucky and found an extra child for one of my families. You are also able to purchase online documents for \$20.00 (uncertified copy). I haven't tried this out yet.

Best Wishes to all our members, *Gail.*

May 2023 Management Committee Meeting

This was held on Sunday 21st May via Zoom. All nine committee members were present. Some important points from that meeting were:

6. Treasurer's Report:

6.3 Membership – it was decided the fees will not be increased for the 2023 - 2024 financial year.

7. Conference Report:

7.2 Conference – Wyong - Ticket sales are steady. Trade tables have all been booked and there is a waiting list. The Virtual setup component is under control. Program changes have had to be made due to speakers needing to change days, times or not being able to attend. Setup for the raffles will be confirmed over the next month. The intention is for tickets for the main weekend raffle to be sold through the Try Booking site and also in person at the venue – more information in the next newsletter. On Friday there will be a Raffle with local based prizes and a smaller Raffle at the Saturday night dinner.

8. Other Reports:

8.1 Australian Federation of Family History Organisations (AFFHO) - Congress will be held in 2024/2025 in Queensland in conjunction with the Queensland State Conference (dates to be advised). A new President and Treasurer have been elected with the positions of Vice President and Secretary vacant.

8.3 Website Report – slowly more societies are adding their events to the What's On page. Societies to be encouraged to add their events as this is a free service. Some societies have commented that other society's members are attending their Zoom events.

9. General Business:

9.3 - NSW & ACT Association Evening Zoom Groups – All three Zoom Groups are running well:

Tech Support Group:

- o March – Open Artificial Intelligence (AI's) new application Chat GPT presented by Ian Tait from Picton and District Historical and Family History Society.
- o April – Aspects of Cyber Security presented by Ralph Davis from Ku-ring-gai Historical Society.
- o May - a presentation and demonstration by Mark Wonson from Picton and District Historical and Family History Society on how they integrated WordPress and One Drive to enable the sharing of 1,000+ photos from the Frank Baker Collection.

Social Group:

Livelier groups with the introduction of a topic for discussion at each meeting. These have included: How did you discover how your ancestors arrived in Australia and research tips you used to solve your brick wall. Knowledge is shared with all participants.

Office Bearers Network Group:

April – this was the inaugural meeting for this group. This session was for Presidents and Vice Presidents with 19 attending. Future sessions for other society positions are advertised below.

We would like to say a Special Thank You to all the above presenters Ian, Ralph and Mark and to our committee members who host our groups – Mel, Elizabeth and Richard. Your effort and time is genuinely appreciated.

9.5 – Dorothy Fellows Website Awards: entries close 15th June 2023. Information has previously been sent out to the Secretary of your Society.

9.7 Business without notice: Member of the NSW & ACT Association of Family History Society's Management Committee and CEO of the Society of Australian Genealogists, Ruth Graham, has been appointed to the UK-based Family History Federation's executive committee as their international representative. Congratulations and Best Wishes were given to Ruth from all the Management Committee.

Upcoming Family History Events in 2023

38th Annual Conference of the NSW and ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc. "The Running Waters of History".

Conference Organisers: Wyong Family History Group

Dates: 8th, 9th and 10th September 2023

Venue: Toukley 50 Plus Leisure Centre, 1 Hargraves Street, TOUKLEY, NSW.

Details: <https://unpublishedwater.weebly.com/>

Early bird Full Registration: \$155 (cut-off date 30th June)

Full Registration: \$175 after 1st July 2023

Virtual Conference: single ticket \$50

Virtual Conference: Access for Groups \$150.



Tech Support Group Meetings: held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm- 9pm on Zoom. Future Topics will be advertised on our private FB Page, and on the Association website.

14 June - TNG (The Next Generation of Genealogy Site Building) Software – Mark Wonson

12 July TBA,

9 Aug TBA

13 Sept TBA

11 Oct TBA

8 Nov TBA



Office Bearers Networking Group: held on the fourth Wednesday of every second month 7.30pm – 9pm on Zoom. This group is aimed at members with specific positions within FHS's. Group to be advertised on our private FB Page and on the Association website.

28 June Secretaries FHS Group

23 Aug Treasurers FHS Group

25 Oct TBA



Social Group – held on the fourth Wednesday of every second month 7.30pm – 8.30pm on Zoom, alternating months with the Officer Bearers Networking Group. After an introductory social chat, participants will be requested to share some information for a few minutes on the specific topic. Future Topics will be advertised on our private FB Page and on the Association website.



26 July – how you have shared your family history research with others.

27 Sep – demonstrate or discuss a website, FB page or group that you have found invaluable.

22 Nov - TBA

If you haven't attended any of our evening Zoom Group meetings this year, to attend, please email Mel, our Secretary, at (secretary@nswactfhs.org) for the Zoom details. Please specify which group you wish to participate in.

To have your Family history event advertised in this newsletter, please forward details to our Secretary (secretary@nswactfhs.org). Please request that it is added to our next Newsletter.

Could Secretaries of all member societies please ensure that our email address, secretary@nswactfhs.org is in their email address book, as some mail has been bouncing back with the message “unauthorized mail is prohibited”?

