

# Newcastle Family History Society Inc.



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

## Newsletter

Number 235

### WANTED FOR YOUR JOURNAL—see page 4

The theme for our September Journal 246 is:  
**Down t' Pit**

Deadline for articles: **Saturday 27 July 2024**

May 2024

### May Annual General Meeting

**Tuesday 7 May—7.30 pm**

**Meeting will be held in the rooms and via Zoom**

The Annual General Meeting of the Newcastle Family History Society Inc. has been called for Tuesday 7 May 2024 commencing at 7.30pm. The meeting will be held in the Society rooms at 68 Elder Street, Lambton as well as via Zoom.

All positions on the Management Committee will be declared vacant and nominations are now sought for the following elected positions:

President	General Member 1
Vice-president	General Member 2
Treasurer	General Member 3
Secretary	

Also see AGM  
attachments in the  
newsletter email

Nomination forms for the above elected positions are available as an attachment to the newsletter; at the Society's rooms; and on our website from 2 April 2024. All forms must include the signature of the nominee, proposer and seconder, as well as the date. Nominations close on 30 April 2024 and forms should be emailed to the Secretary or placed in the provided envelope and left in the Secretary's pigeonhole at the Society. They may also be posted to our NFHS Secretary, PO Box 296, Jesmond NSW 2299 to arrive no later than 30 April 2024.

Our Society depends on people volunteering for roles not only such as those mentioned above, but also for the many non-elected positions which keep the Society running. You are encouraged to self-nominate for any of the following:

Librarian	Journal Editor
Facebook Administrator/s	Publicity Officer/s
Website Coordinator	Newsletter Editor
Snippers Coordinator	IT Officer
Assistant Secretary	Assistant Treasurer
Sandgate Group Coordinator	Cleaning Coordinator
Publications Officer	Research Coordinator
Maintenance Officer	Membership Registrar
Guest Speaker Coordinator	

Forms for the non-elected positions will also be available from 2 April 2024 with the self-nominee required to sign, date the form and return to the Secretary by 30 April 2024 as outlined above.

Karen Smith (NFHS Secretary)

[nfhsinc@gmail.com](mailto:nfhsinc@gmail.com)

### Zoom link for May AGM

Topic: **2024 NFHS AGM**

Time: **May 7, 2024 07:30 PM** Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89839706607?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89839706607?pwd=UVVEbmhHOST0aStFTDM0bzJBbU54QT09)

[pwd=UVVEbmhHOST0aStFTDM0bzJBbU54QT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89839706607?pwd=UVVEbmhHOST0aStFTDM0bzJBbU54QT09)

Meeting ID: 898 3970 6607

Passcode: 200219

If you would like to join by Zoom but feel you need some assistance, please contact our Secretary (email address above).

Mel Woodford (President)

### Overview of April meeting

#### Women of the *Tellicherry*

Once again, our April monthly meeting was a huge success. We had 21 members and visitors in the rooms and eight joined via Zoom. Remember that if you can't get to the rooms, there is always this option of watching on Zoom from the comfort of your home. Jim MacDougall was once again the lucky winner of our raffle. His wife Margaret won last month and Jim the month before. There is definitely some luck in that household.

Our guest speaker, NFHS President Mel Woodford, honoured the women on board the convict transport *Tellicherry* with an extremely interesting presentation. Mel told us why she was interested in this ship and that she is producing a publication about the ship and the women on board. She guided us through how she had carried out the research and many of the pieces of information she had found.

Since 2005, Mel has had a fascination with the convict transport *Tellicherry*, arriving in Australia on 15 February 1806. She learnt it had brought her 4x great grandfather (one of the Wicklow Rebel Leaders of the 1798 Irish Rebellion) to Australia, as well as the woman who would become her 4x great grandmother.

Over the years she has spent considerable hours researching this ship, and many of those on board, and through this research she discovered links to the Hunter Valley and to other members of the NFHS. This research will form the basis for a NFHS publica-

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## Overview of April meeting

(Continued from page 1)

tion in the near future. Members of the NFHS Convict SIG have enthusiastically researched some of those on board the *Tellicherry* and our female convict bonnet makers have made two complete sets of bonnets which we will feature when the publication is finally launched.

**Unusual cargo** - The *Tellicherry* was a mixture of convicts as well as free men and women. It held an unusual cargo. There were five unconvicted Wicklow Rebels from the 1798 Rebellion. The government was very keen to send them far from Ireland, never to return. They could take their wives and children if they wished.



Arthur Devlin and John Mernagh, two of the rebels were unmarried. Martin Burke's wife, Rachael, did not accompany her husband. Michael Dwyer and his wife Mary chose to leave their young children with family, to follow at a later date. Hugh Vesty Byrne and his wife Sarah chose to leave their eldest son behind but to bring their two youngest, Michael, 5, and Rose, 2. Sarah was also expecting her fourth child, who was born along the way. Her name was Ann.

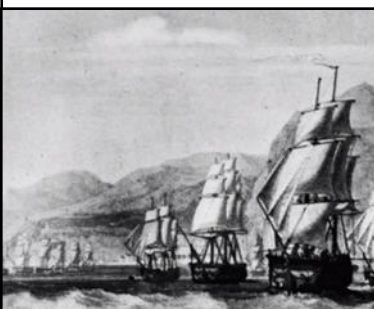
**Identifying the women and girls on board** – Mel's starting point was to take a look at the convict indents from the State Records of NSW, a primary source. Here she could find the name, where each convict was convicted, when they were convicted, and the term that they were given. Later convict indents provided more information.

**National Archives of Ireland, Dublin** - Almost 39,000 Ireland-Australian transportation records are held at the archives which provided wonderful details on each of the convicts who were to be transported on all of the ships. Dr Harding's *Journal of Attendance* (17 June 1805) provides details on convicts aboard the hulks and in the gaols in Cork awaiting transportation, including each of the convicts on the *Tellicherry*.

**Changes to the female convict list** – Changes to the convict list could occur at any stage. Of the 36 female convicts who sailed on the *Tellicherry*, 26 were inspected by Dr Harding. An additional 19 female convicts inspected that day who were to depart on the *Tellicherry* did not. However, another eight did.

**Names and ages of the women** - The women were not that dissimilar in age to each other. In records it can be found that many of the women remained in contact with one another, so it is likely that at least some formed a bond of friendship and support. The women were convicted in Dublin City, Wicklow, Meath, Limerick, Clare, and County Kerry. Dublin, Wicklow and Meath are not that far apart from one another with Limerick, Clare and County Kerry being further away to the south-west. There were also seven women on board who came free (one of these being the baby born on board).

**Cork Harbour and the Departure on 31 August 1805** - Cork Harbour, where the *Tellicherry* departed from, was a stronghold



of the British Navy at this period in time. It was an incredibly busy harbour. The East India Fleet was due to depart on 28 August. But unfavourable winds caused a delay until the 31st. That last day of August must have been an amazing sight, as three battleships led the way out of the harbour, followed by two frigates, 38 transport ships, 19 East Indiamen (see photo below left), along with convict ships the *William Pitt* with 120 female convicts from England and the *Tellicherry* with almost 170 Irish convicts. The convict ships parted company with the East India Fleet part way and continued on towards the Cape. The *Tellicherry* spent three days in Madeira and the *William Pitt* remained there for some time.

**Captain Thomas Cuzens** - (note – different spellings of the name in primary sources Cuzons/Cousins) - Those aboard the *Tellicherry* were fortunate in that Captain Cuzens was a kind man. He looked after the wellbeing of all on board, not generally the norm on many convict ships. The area set aside for the female convicts was small and cramped. The captain then set aside the hospital for the Wicklow Rebels and the free women. He permitted the convicts to spend as much time as possible on deck to ensure their health remained good.

**Surgeon John Connellan** – (note – different spellings of the name in primary sources Connellan/Conlon) - John Conlon, the surgeon aboard the *Tellicherry*, had been an informer during the 1798 Rebellion. The government was keen for him to leave Ireland. It appears he may have struck up a relationship with one of the female convicts from Dublin by the name of Catherine Brady, who became his housekeeper and moved from place to place with Conlon. In some musters, Catherine is identified by the name Conlon.

**The Paracensus** - A wonderful resource which is often overlooked is the Paracensus of Australia. It is a collation of primary sources from 1788 to 1828, providing a first-class starting point from which to gather data.

Shown here is just a small section of the codes used in the Paracensus and the source that each code refers to. There are two full pages of code/

A11	The 1828 Census of New South Wales (Sainty and Johnson, Editors)
A12	Convict shipping indents
A13	1822 New South Wales Convict Muster
A14	1825 New South Wales Convict Muster
A15	1811 New South Wales Convict Muster
A16	Tasmania BDM Registers
A17	St. John's Parramatta Parish Registers
A18	1819 New South Wales Convict Muster
A19	1806 New South Wales Convict Muster
A20	Bigge Report
A21	State Library of New South Wales, Dixon Library Card Indexes
A22	Colonial Office Records
A23	Kerrison James Collection
A24	St. Luke's Parish Registers
A25	St. John's Launceston Parish Registers
A26	Sydney Gazette

source combinations so you can see the extent of the resources that were accessed to create the Paracensus.

Mel continued her presentation by giving some **details of the lives of some of the women** as well as some questions that are still to be answered. One of the women that Mel discussed was Mary Gow.

Mary is believed to be an English lass who was married to one of the soldiers on board the *Tellicherry*. The NSW Corps was to receive an additional 28 Privates who arrived on the ship. Mary's son John was born not long after their arrival in NSW, but sadly her husband, also named John, died a few months later, leaving her a widow in a new land with a newborn baby. She did not remarry until 1810.

Mel spoke about the **musters** and how some are more helpful than others. In the 1822 muster, none of Mary's children are named, nor are their ages given. Mary is recorded as the wife of T. Calledge in Windsor. And in the 1825 muster, the wife of Gullledge, Windsor.

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The 1825 muster lists the names and ages of the children. Two of Mary's daughters married into prominent families in the Singleton district. Her eldest, Charlotte, married Richard Alcorn, who owned a succession of inns in the area. Jemima married into the Singleton family, after whom the town is named. Sadly, Mary is buried in an unmarked grave at Whittingham Cemetery with her son Isaac, who died in his 20s.

**Sydney Gazette Shipping News: Arrival** - Once the *Tellicherry* arrived, those who were unwell were transferred to the General Hospital. The next morning, Captain Cousins, Surgeon Conlon and the Wicklow rebels went to Government House to meet Governor King, where they were entitled to be granted 100 acres along the Cabramatta Creek. They were also entitled, as new settlers, to draw rations for 18 months and receive two assigned convicts who would also be fed (or victualled) by the government. The Colonial Secretary's office took charge of the convict indents, and the convicts were transferred up the river to Parramatta, where a brief muster was carried out and many of the convicts were assigned. The government took the tradesmen. Next, the military and ex-officers had their turn, they were often land holders, and most of the female convicts went into domestic service. Some women went to the female factory at Parramatta.

**1806 Muster** - The 1806 muster showed exactly where most of the female convicts of the *Tellicherry* were assigned from the outset. Mary Johnson, Mel's 4x great grandmother was already with John Mernagh, her 4x great grandfather. Their children were born a short while later, Elizabeth, her 3x great grandmother, in 1810.

**1814 Muster** - Unfortunately, the 1811 muster does not provide a great deal of information. However, the 1814 muster does. There are

many changes of circumstance with a lot of the women. This muster tells whether they are receiving government rations, whether their status is free or if they are still considered convicts; as well as who they were married to or living with and how many children were with them. Some of the women had married other *Tellicherry* convicts.

The convicts who were transported to Australia, both male and female, had differing life experiences, with some faring far better in their new land than they would ever have done back home.



**Bonnet tribute to the women of the *Tellicherry*** - The women of the *Tellicherry* are a part of so many family histories. They are among the matriarchs and pioneers of NSW. As a part of the *Roses from the Heart* initiative of Dr Christina Henri, Artist in Residence at the Cascades Female Factory, a bonnet tribute has been made for each of the women and girls aboard the ship to acknowledge the part they played in the history of Australia.

Mel's research is ongoing.

Thanks so much Mel for a fascinating presentation. We appreciate how much time and effort you have put into this research and look forward to seeing your book published.

If you missed Mel's presentation and would like to listen to it now, you can click on this [link](#) to our YouTube channel and catch up.

Lea Harris (with assistance from Mel Woodford)

# Podcasts

## General

A few more podcasts have been recorded since the last newsletter. These are available for you to enjoy on the Newcastle Family History Society website by clicking the links below or visiting our webpage and selecting the Podcasts tab from the home page. You can also find these podcasts on services such as Spotify, Podbean, Google, Apple and Amazon.

### 'Bad Girls' of the Newcastle Industrial School and Reformatory

Farewell to Paradise—In this concluding episode of the 'Bad Girls' series, Jane Ison examines the last months of the Newcastle Industrial School, recounting the events of the final two riots in 1871. To listen to this podcast, click [here](#).

### The Wonderful World of Genealogy

How, When & Why Did They Come? - In Episode 4 in this series, Maree and Ken Shilling explore various methods that can be used in understanding your ancestors' arrival in Australia. To listen click [here](#).

### 'Felonious Females' - convict women sent to Newcastle and the Hunter Valley

Sophia Lovell—The sixth episode of my series has now been released. In Episode 6, together with our member Robyn Jeffries, we recount the life journey of Sophia Lovell from her convict origins to that of a respected figure in her community in the Hunter Valley. To listen click [here](#).

Mel Woodford (President)



# Journal and Newsletter

## Research – did you know?

Every member of the Society is entitled to publish short details of their families of interest in the Journal once per membership year, for no charge. Why not take advantage of having a wider audience to help you with your research? If you'd like to do this, send your information to [nfhseditor@gmail.com](mailto:nfhseditor@gmail.com).

We can't guarantee in which issue your request will be published, but can guarantee that we will keep a file of requests and work through them as space allows.

**New members** – if you've joined since the Members' Interest Directory was published, you might like to get started with your research this way! And don't forget to check the MID to see if someone else in the Society is also working on 'your' people.

Marg Ashford (Editor)

## Journal and Newsletter Deadlines

	Newsletter	Journal
June	11 May	27 April
July	15 June	
August	13 July	
September	10 August	27 July
October	14 September	
November	12 October	
December	16 November	26 October

## From the eTeam

Journal 245 is available at the Library for the members who usually pick their Journal up. There's still quite a few awaiting their owners - and you're missing out on some great articles! The eTeam hopes you enjoy our latest offering.

## September Journal (247)

**Down t' Pit.** What's your mining connection? Did your people mine for yellow gold or black gold? Maybe even salt? Where did they mine? Success and failure; joy and tragedy; any mine, anywhere, any time. How about mining your family mining history and sharing it in the September

journal? Please send your story to us by **27 July 2024**, by email to the editor or into the pigeonhole in the library.

## Submission of Articles

For all issues, you can send your typed item to [nfhseditor@gmail.com](mailto:nfhseditor@gmail.com) or deliver it to the Society library addressed to the Editor. We can also accept handwritten items if that's your preference.

Margaret Ashford (Editor, eTeam)

# Thank you

Once again, a huge thank you to Rosalie Bunn for volunteering to produce the newsletter for me whilst I'm away for three months. Rosalie will do the newsletter in a different format to the one I use, however I know she will do a great job and you will be just as happy with it.

Lea Harris (Newsletter Editor)

# Membership Registrar role

Do you enjoy helping out your Society? Do you have a few spare hours each month? Do you have a basic knowledge of Excel spreadsheets?

If you answered yes, then you could be the person the Society needs.

We are looking for a new Membership Registrar. This role is a voluntary position and is NOT a Management Committee role.

An added bonus—the computer is supplied by the Society for you to carry out this role.

If you are interested in taking on this role, please email me at [Membership Registrar](#).

Sharyn Boyce (Membership Registrar)

# Events and Outings

## Future dates

**3 May**—Book Launch—Jesmond Sports Club (see pages 9 and 10)  
**7 May**—Annual General Meeting (see page 1)  
**9 May**—Mothers' Day raffle drawn (see page 11)  
**11 May**—Print Orientation session (see page 8)  
**19 May**—Sandgate Cemetery Tour (see page 6)  
**25 May**—Digital Orientation session (see page 8)  
**28 May**—Whitsunday *Caledonian* newsletter emailed  
**4 June**—Monthly meeting—Julie Keating—Frederick Menkens, Architect  
**14 June**—Excursion to Old Courthouse, Minmi and lunch (see below)  
**2 July**—Monthly meeting—Christmas in July and trivia with John and Judy Mulhearn  
**27 July**—Articles due for Journal 247 (see page 4)  
**6 August**—Monthly meeting—Dr Ann Hardy—Very early days of Newcastle  
**28 August**—Lamas *Caledonian* newsletter emailed  
**3 September**—Monthly meeting  
**14 September**—Mini State Conference (see page 6)

**1 October**—Monthly meeting—Dr Rosalie Bunn—50th Anniversary of the Open Foundation  
**12 October**—Print Orientation session  
**26 October**—Digital Orientation session  
**26 October**—Articles due for Journal 248  
**5 November**—Monthly meeting—Assoc. Prof Nancy Cushing—'The Australian Horse at War'  
**28 November**—Martinmas *Caledonian* newsletter emailed  
**1 December**—Christmas Fair (Christmas Once Upon a Time)  
**6 December**—Christmas lunch  
**19 December**—Library closes for Christmas/New Year break

**Every Monday (except public holidays) from 10.30 am**—Coffee and Chat, Wests, Hobart Road, New Lambton (upstairs, to the left of the coffee shop at the low tables and chairs). 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.

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## Old Minmi Courthouse Excursion

**Friday 14 June 2024**  
**11.00am**

The owner will give us a tour of the old courthouse and put on display old documents and artefacts he found on the premises. Menu will cater to gluten free needs. If we can get 40 members to come he will close off bookings just for us which will mean we'll have more time to look around with no other distractions.



**40 Church Street**  
**Minmi**

RSVP to Rosalie by 7 June at

[nfhsvicepresident@gmail.com](mailto:nfhsvicepresident@gmail.com)

[minmicourthouse.com.au](http://minmicourthouse.com.au)

# Events and Outings continued

## **Sandgate Cemetery Tours are Back!!!**

Members are asked to note **Sunday 19 May 2024** in their diaries for our first Sandgate Cemetery tour since before Covid interrupted all our plans.

The tour will focus on the Primitive Methodist section – a now not-well known denomination which had a huge impact on Newcastle-Coal Fields societies back in the 1800s and well into the 1900s.

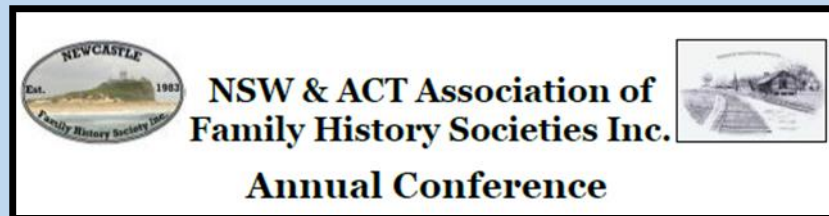
Attached is a flyer outlining how to register for the tours. They will start at 9.30 and depart half-hourly after that until early afternoon.

The Sandgate planning group is thrilled to be back in action after such a long break.

Margaret Ashford (Co-ordinator, Sandgate Planning Group)

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## **NFHS Mini-Conference**



## **SAVE THE DATE**

**Saturday 14 September—9.45am onwards**

**for our Mini State Conference in the NFHS rooms (via Zoom)**

**\$10 per person**

**Great speakers and topics, raffles, morning/afternoon teas and an opportunity to share a fun day with other members**

## **Condolences**

It is with heavy hearts that the Management Committee informs you of the passing of our long-time member Maree Shilling. Maree has been a very active member of the Society for many years and has contributed to so many facets of the Society's activities. She wrote, co-wrote or edited many publications for the Society for which we are extremely grateful. Maree was our Secretary at one time and she and Ken did library duty together until not so long ago. She was a long-standing member of the team contributing articles, ideas and editorial support. More recently Maree was such an enthusiastic founding member of the podcasting group and has been an active member of the Scottish SIG group where she contributed so much knowledge and vitality to the groups. Maree was the most gentle, kind and compassionate person and was always willing to assist other members. She will be missed so much, but most of all, for the beautiful person she was.

Our heartfelt condolences go to her husband Ken and their family. Maree will always be remembered.

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, 68 Elder Street, Lambton, monthly at 10.00 am unless otherwise stated. Groups and contact details are below. Please email the facilitator to join a group.

Group	Meeting date	Facilitator	Contact email
Convicts in Australia	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday	Laraine Cross	<a href="mailto:nfhsresearch78@gmail.com">nfhsresearch78@gmail.com</a>
Scottish Family Research	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday—1.00 pm—February to November	Mel Woodford	<a href="mailto:nfhspresident@gmail.com">nfhspresident@gmail.com</a>
English Ancestors	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	Karen Smith	<a href="mailto:abc26715@bigpond.net.au">abc26715@bigpond.net.au</a>
DNA	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday—1.00 pm	Sandra Jones	<a href="mailto:sjones11@bigpond.net.au">sjones11@bigpond.net.au</a>
Irish Ancestors	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday—suspended till August	Pat Healion	<a href="mailto:pat.healion1@gmail.com">pat.healion1@gmail.com</a>
Cemetery Research	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday—suspended till August	Pat Healion	<a href="mailto:pat.healion1@gmail.com">pat.healion1@gmail.com</a>
Ancestry Users	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday—February to November	Mel Woodford	<a href="mailto:nfhspresident@gmail.com">nfhspresident@gmail.com</a>
Scrapbooking	4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday—April 2024 date to be confirmed	Karen Smith	<a href="mailto:abc26715@bigpond.net.au">abc26715@bigpond.net.au</a>

## Cemetery Research SIG and Irish SIG

### PLEASE NOTE

Please note that both these SIG groups have been suspended until August 2024. Please watch the Facebook group as to when they will resume.  
Pat Healion (Facilitator)

## All things Scottish

Scottish SIG meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 1.00 pm  
from February to November

## Scottish newsletter



The next issue of the *Caledonian* Scottish Newsletter will be emailed on 28 May 2024, being the Scottish quarter day of Whitsunday.

Reminder that if you would like to be included on the email list for this newsletter, please send an email to Lea on [nfhsnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:nfhsnewsletter@gmail.com).

Scottish SIG group

## YouTube

A reminder that at our monthly meetings, guest speakers are now recorded and the presentations can be viewed on the Society's YouTube channel. This is a fabulous way for those who are either distance members or just can't make it to the meeting, to be able to still enjoy our speakers. Or even if you were at the meeting, you may wish to listen to the presentation again.

To view these, either go to our Society webpage and click on the YouTube tab on the Home page, or type 'YouTube Newcastle Family History Society' into your search engine.

Mel Woodford (President)

## Female Convicts of the Hunter Valley



The Female Convicts of the Hunter Valley website provides information about the female convicts who came to the Hunter Valley, north of Sydney, New South Wales, at some stage during their lives.

Thanks to Glenn Matthews for all his hard work to bring this website to fruition. To view this fantastic new resource, click [here](#).

Mel Woodford (President)

## Library Roster

Date	Librarian 1 (get key)	Librarian 2
<b>Saturday Library Roster</b>		
<b>Morning 9.45 am to 12.30 pm</b>		
<b>Afternoon 12.30 pm to 3.00 pm</b>		
4 May am	Volunteer	Sheila F
4 May pm	Volunteer	Sandra J
11 May am	Sharyn B	Nouvelle T
11 May pm	Sharyn B	Nouvelle T
18 May am	Bert G	Wendy G
18 May pm	Noelene L	Christine F
25 May am	Marie H	Volunteer
25 May pm	Marie H	Jude C
<b>Thursday Library Roster</b>		
<b>12.45 to 3.00 pm</b>		
2 May	Alison M	Clelia P
9 May	Jane I	Rosalie B, Bert G
16 May	Marilyn M	Jane I
23 May	Karen S	Rosalie B
30 May	Marilyn M	Jane I

## Library Volunteers

As usual, we are looking for Library volunteers to fill the gaps in between our regular volunteers. We currently still have a few vacancies for our May roster.

Can you help please?

Without volunteers, we are unable to keep the rooms open for our members and visitors to continue with their family history research.

If you could spare three hours to assist to fill these gaps, please complete the volunteer form at this [link](#).

Once again, thanks to our wonderful volunteers.

Mel Woodford (President)

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## Library Orientation—New Members!

Did you tick the 'interested in Library Orientation' box on your membership application form? If so, you'll soon be receiving a personal invitation to come to our next scheduled sessions.

On Saturday 11 May, Jim and I will introduce you to the huge array of print resources and how to find them and on Saturday 25 May, Mel will lead you through the wonders of digital resources available in the Library. We have thousands of items in our collection, many of which are unique because they've been created for the Society by our members. If you're unsure whether you ticked the box or you've now decided you should have, just send me an email and I'll add your name to the lists – [nfhsorientation@gmail.com](mailto:nfhsorientation@gmail.com).

Marg Ashford (Library Orientation Leader)

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## Library Declutter

- In an effort to declutter the front bench ALL the NSW transcription agent applications have been moved into the Blue Room near the computers as this is where people need them.
- Please leave any empty red Journal boxes (there are three in total) on the bench ready for the next issue to be printed.
- Please do not use the Publications cupboards as a place to dump any stuff that you find. If you are really pressed to find a spot to store something, please put it at the bottom of the next cupboard below any spare Journals.
- I am beginning to apply decent labels to show everyone where things are kept and so things can be put away.

Jane Ison

# Mystery Objects

Make sure that you visit the library during May and look at the mystery objects in the Rare Book Cupboard. See if you can work out what they are – but for hints and the answers you'll have to wait for the June Journal to arrive!

Margaret Ashford



# New Members

We welcome the following new and rejoined members to our Society and 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 (see page 7).

#1324 Kathleen Russell, Merewether  
 #1326 Lynn Howlett, Medowie  
 #1328 Debbie Hogan, Elernmore Vale  
 #1330 Leurnyn McInnes, Heatherbrae  
 #1308 Marilyn Wood, Greengrove (rejoined)

#1325 Narelle Austen, Spain  
 #1327 Leonie Nolan, Whitebridge  
 #1329 Beverley Anastasiou, Rankin Park



## General

NFHS relies on publication sales to help pay for the important initiatives being undertaken by your Society. The Publications group only meets twice a year - in March and in October. **The next meeting will be held on 18 October from 11.00 am to 1.00 pm.** The rest of the time members work on their individual projects and keep in touch by email. Could you help in even a small way or could you suggest some topic that might become one of our Publications? Contact Jane on [nfhspublicationsofficer@gmail.com](mailto:nfhspublicationsofficer@gmail.com) with any suggestions.

## What are downloads?

For members who are not sure about what we mean by the word 'download' and why NFHS is working to make all our publications available as a download, here is some information.

Downloads are copies of what NFHS authors have written that may be paid for and put immediately onto your own computer or onto a USB. The cost of any NFHS publication nowhere near covers the cost of the research and the time that the authors put into the task of creating the work. After that work is finished and formatted, more hours of work go into getting the Publication ready so it can be either printed, put on a USB or downloaded. Once this work is done, the sale price of that Publication includes the cost of all the resources that have been used to make a printed copy or a copy of the file on a USB. As costs rise, printing - especially colour printing - is becoming more expensive. USBs of our Publications are not as popular as books.

Once the files are finished, a download of one of our Publications costs us nothing to make and purchasers get their book immediately. For this reason any download will be cheaper than any book or USB that has to be made.

Our newest two publications will be available to purchase through the NFHS shop on our website as soon as possible after their launch on 3 May 2024. Keep your eyes peeled for those downloads if you believe that this is the best way for you to store and read your books.

## Upcoming publications

Two publications are about to be launched by the Society. In two parts, *They Served Their Country*, edited by Maree and Ken Shilling; and *Behind the Sandstone: Hidden Stories of Sacrifice*, compiled by Margaret Ashford. Details of the launch are on page 10.

The order forms for the new NFHS publications being launched on Friday 3 May have already been sent but are attached to this newsletter as well. Printed order forms are also available on the counter in the reception room at the Library if you would prefer to use an already printed form to order. Any orders will be available at the launch or at the Society's rooms from Saturday 4 May.

Jane Ison (Publications Group Coordinator)

### ***They Sent Me North: Female Convicts in the Hunter (2024)***

Database Expanded, Revised and Edited by:

Elizabeth James with Mel Woodford

Downloadable version prepared by NFHS IT Officer Clive Maddox

This publication is available as:

- A download of 419 pages

#### **Download Price: \$30**

This work is a comprehensive record of the convict women who came north from Sydney. They often arrived through the settlement at Newcastle but some travelled north as settlers with their families once free.

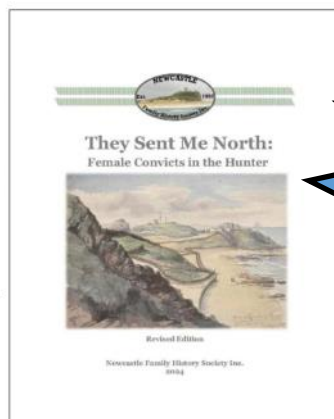
#### **It comprises three distinct parts:**

**Part 1** provides a database of almost 1,800 women who came to Newcastle and the Hunter Valley. As well as noting the ship and year of arrival, further information and references are provided.

**Part 2** contains biographies of 73 of these women (from the 2019 edition). Some of the stories are told by descendants, others by local history researchers looking to uncover the unique lives and circumstances of the women in the early Hunter Valley.

**Part 3** of the publication gives a brief outline of the work undertaken by members and volunteers for the *Roses from the Heart* project which recognises the contribution made by the female convicts sent to Australia. The book contains coloured images of some of the bonnets made for that project.

The Publication contains an extensive bibliography. It is fully indexed and searchable and contains links to each biography.



New

Publication

### ***They Sent Me North: Female Convicts in the Hunter (2024)***

A reminder that the 2nd Edition of *They Sent Me North* is now available for purchase on our [website](https://www.nfhs.org.au/Shop) and is available as a downloadable only pdf.

Mel Woodford

## Book Launch

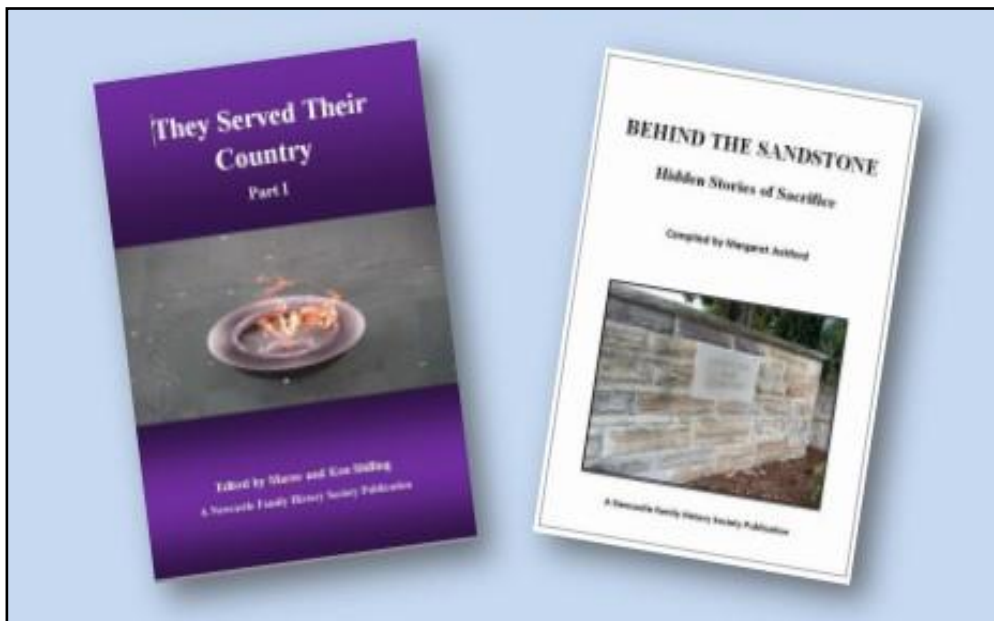
On behalf of all the book compilers, thank you to those members who have said they will attend the book launch on Friday 3 May. We hope it will be a successful day. All the books will be available for purchase after the launch, through the usual purchase methods.

The after-launch prices are:

*They Served Their Country* Vols 1 and 2 – \$50 each

*Behind the Sandstone – Hidden Stories of Sacrifice* – \$30

Margaret Ashford



## Miscellaneous

### Email Addresses

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Treasurer	<a href="mailto:nfhstreasurer@gmail.com">nfhstreasurer@gmail.com</a>
Journal	<a href="mailto:nfheditor@gmail.com">nfheditor@gmail.com</a>
Librarian	<a href="mailto:nfhslibarian@gmail.com">nfhslibarian@gmail.com</a>
Membership	<a href="mailto:nfhsmembership@gmail.com">nfhsmembership@gmail.com</a>
Newsletter	<a href="mailto:nfhnewsletter@gmail.com">nfhnewsletter@gmail.com</a>
Orientation sessions	<a href="mailto:nfhorientation@gmail.com">nfhorientation@gmail.com</a>
Publications	<a href="mailto:nfhspublicationsofficer@gmail.com">nfhspublicationsofficer@gmail.com</a>
Research	<a href="mailto:nfhresearcher@gmail.com">nfhresearcher@gmail.com</a>
Sandgate group	<a href="mailto:nfhssandgategroup@gmail.com">nfhssandgategroup@gmail.com</a>
Used book sales	<a href="mailto:nfhslibarian@gmail.com">nfhslibarian@gmail.com</a>
Webmaster	<a href="mailto:nfhwebmaster@gmail.com">nfhwebmaster@gmail.com</a>

### Snippers Group

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

\* \* \* \* \*

### Attachments from other Societies

Wyong FHG—General Meeting—Guest Speaker Karen Rogers—Topic *The Fascinating World of One-Name Studies and Surnames*—Saturday 11 May 2024

\* \* \* \* \*

### 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.

### Password for member area of website—from 8 May 2024

The password for the Member area of our website is  
**Podcasts**

**Note:** Podcasts has a capital P.

# Mothers' Day Raffle

## Mother's Day Raffle

Handcrafted with love  
especially for you!

Get in  
quick



Drawn  
9 May

Tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5

Available at the rooms or by direct debit

**BSB: 650 000 Account No: 501 652 808**

**Ref: Your Name + MDR**

**Drawn 9 May at 2pm**

Designed & handcrafted by Dennis Baker.

Donated by Chris and Dennis Baker.

# May

# 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
<b>Red</b> —SIG Groups <b>Blue</b> —Volunteer Groups <b>Green</b> —Courses <b>Purple</b> —Meetings <b>Black</b> —Library Open <b>Brown</b> —Events			10am-2pm— <b>Snippers</b>	1-3pm—Library open	11am— <b>Book Launch</b> —Jesmond Sports Club	10am-3pm—Library open
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	10am— <b>Convicts in Australia</b> 6.00-7.25pm—Library open 7.30pm— <b>AGM Meeting</b>		10am— <b>Ancestry Users</b> 1-3pm—Library open	9.30-12.00—Editing meeting— <b>Journal 246</b>	9-11am— <b>Library Orientation (Print)</b> 10am-3pm—Library open <b>Submissions due for June newsletter</b>
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	9.30-11.30am— <b>Library Group</b> 10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	1pm— <b>Scottish SIG</b>	10am-2pm— <b>Snippers</b>	10am— <b>Management Committee</b> 1-3pm—Library open	9.30am-3.30pm— <b>Publications printing</b> <b>Cover printing—Journal 246</b>	10am-3pm—Library open
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<b>Sandgate Cemetery Tour</b>	10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	10am— <b>English Ancestors</b> 1pm— <b>DNA</b>		10am— <b>Scrapbooking</b> 1-3pm—Library open	9.30-12.00— <b>Journal printing—Journal 246</b>	9-11am— <b>Library Orientation (Digital)</b> 10am-3pm—Library open
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	9.30-11.30am— <b>Library Group</b> 10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	<b>Caledonian news-letter to be emailed</b>		1-3pm—Library open		

# June

# 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
<b>Red</b> —SIG Groups <b>Blue</b> —Volunteer Groups <b>Green</b> —Courses <b>Purple</b> —Meetings <b>Black</b> —Library Open <b>Brown</b> —Events						10am-3pm—Library open
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	10am— <b>Convicts in Australia</b> 12.30-1.55pm—Library open 2.00pm— <b>General Meeting</b>	10am-2pm— <b>Snippers</b>	1-3pm—Library open	9.30-12.00— <b>Feedback meeting</b> <b>Journal 246/</b> <b>planning meeting</b> <b>Journal 247</b>	Library closed for King's birthday long weekend
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<b>King's Birthday long weekend</b>	<b>King's Birthday long weekend</b>	1pm— <b>Scottish SIG</b>		10am— <b>Ancestry Users</b> 1-3pm—Library open	11.00am— <b>Old Courthouse, Minmi</b> followed by lunch at the <b>Courthouse Restaurant</b>	10am-3pm—Library open <b>Submissions due for July newsletter</b>
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	10am— <b>English Ancestors</b> 1pm— <b>DNA</b>	10am-2pm— <b>Snippers</b>	10am— <b>Management Committee</b> 1-3pm—Library open	9.30am-3.30pm— <b>Publications printing</b>	10am-3pm—Library open
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	9.30-11.30am— <b>Library Group</b> 10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests			10am— <b>Scrapbooking</b> 1-3pm—Library open		10am-3pm—Library open
30						



# July

# 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Red</b> —SIG Groups <b>Blue</b> —Volunteer Groups <b>Green</b> —Courses <b>Purple</b> —Meetings <b>Black</b> —Library Open <b>Brown</b> —Events	10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	10am—Convicts in Australia 12.30-1.55pm—Library open 2.00pm—General Meeting	10am-2pm—Snippers	1-3pm—Library open		10am-3pm—Library open
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	9.30-11.30am—Library Group 10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	1pm—Scottish SIG		10am—Ancestry Users 1-3pm—Library open		10am-3pm—Library open Submissions due for August newsletter
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	10am—English Ancestors 1pm—DNA	10am-2pm—Snippers	10am—Management Committee 1-3pm—Library open	9.30am-3.30pm—Publications printing	10am-3pm—Library open
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	9.30-11.30am—Library Group 10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests			10am—Scrapbooking 1-3pm—Library open		10am-3pm—Library open Articles due for Journal 247
28	29	30	31			
	10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests					

# August

# 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
<b>Red</b> —SIG Groups <b>Blue</b> —Volunteer Groups <b>Green</b> —Courses <b>Purple</b> —Meetings <b>Black</b> —Library Open <b>Brown</b> —Events				10am—Cemetery Research 1-3pm—Library open		10am-3pm—Library open
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	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—Editing meeting—Journal 247	10am-3pm—Library open Submissions due for September newsletter
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	9.30-11.30am—Library Group 10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	1pm—Scottish SIG		10am—Management Committee 1-3pm—Library open	9.30am-3.30pm—Publications printing Cover printing—Journal 247	10am-3pm—Library open
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	10am—English Ancestors 1pm—DNA	10am-2pm—Snippers	10am—Scrapbooking 1-3pm—Library open	9.30-12.00—Journal printing—Journal 247	10am-3pm—Library open
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	9.30-11.30am—Library Group 10.30am—Coffee and Chat, Wests	10am—Irish Ancestors				