



December Newsletter



Image: AI generated depicting an Australian Christmas lunch.

The December newsletter is finally here - later than usual, but for a good reason! I've been busy revamping the website and adding courses for the first half of 2025.

As the year draws to a close, it's the perfect time to reflect on the stories we've uncovered and the connections we've made in 2024. Family history has a

remarkable way of bringing us together, no matter where we live. During the holidays, some of us might enjoy backyard barbecues (that's me!) while others gather by the fireplace, but we all share the same love of discovery—those eureka moments when we uncover the lives of those who came before us.

This season, whether you're decking the halls, sharing quiet moments with family at the beach or in the mountains, or simply taking stock of your achievements, it's a time for **connection** and **renewal**.

At Family History Academy, we've been privileged to be part of your journey this year. From exploring innovative tools like AI and chromosome mapping to decoding historical records and mastering advanced writing techniques, our courses are designed to inspire, challenge, and empower you at every turn.

Looking ahead, we're thrilled to announce an exciting line-up of courses for 2025. These offerings will help you deepen your expertise, spark your curiosity, and explore groundbreaking approaches to family history research. Whether it's honing your forensic genealogy skills, breaking down brick walls, or making the most of spreadsheets to analyse and visualise data, there's something for everyone.

And don't miss *The Snapshot Interviews*! This new, free series of conversations with leading family historians promises fresh insights, behind-the-scenes stories, and plenty of inspiration—and you'll even get the chance to ask the questions!

As we say goodbye to 2024, thank you for being part of our learning community.

Ready to dive into new [family history](#) adventures? Sign up for a course, reserve your seat for the Snapshot Interviews, and let's make 2025 a year of discovery together!

Cathie

SPOTLIGHT: *The SnapShot Interviews: A Conversation with ...*



Let me introduce you to a new and exciting initiative: *The Snapshot Interviews*. This free monthly series brings you conversations with leading family historians from across the globe. Explore their unique journeys, gain expert insights, and behind-the-scenes stories. Best of all, you can join the discussion by submitting your questions ahead of time or during the session!

Why You'll Love It:

- **Fresh Perspectives:** Insider tips and strategies from experts in diverse genealogical niches.
- **Exclusive Access:** Discover the challenges and triumphs behind their research.
- **Interactive:** Shape the conversation with your questions.

Mark Your Calendar:

The first interview launches on **12 February at 7:30 PM Eastern US**, featuring **Catherine Desmarais** and **Michael Ramage**. Their combined expertise will offer practical tips for genealogists of all levels.

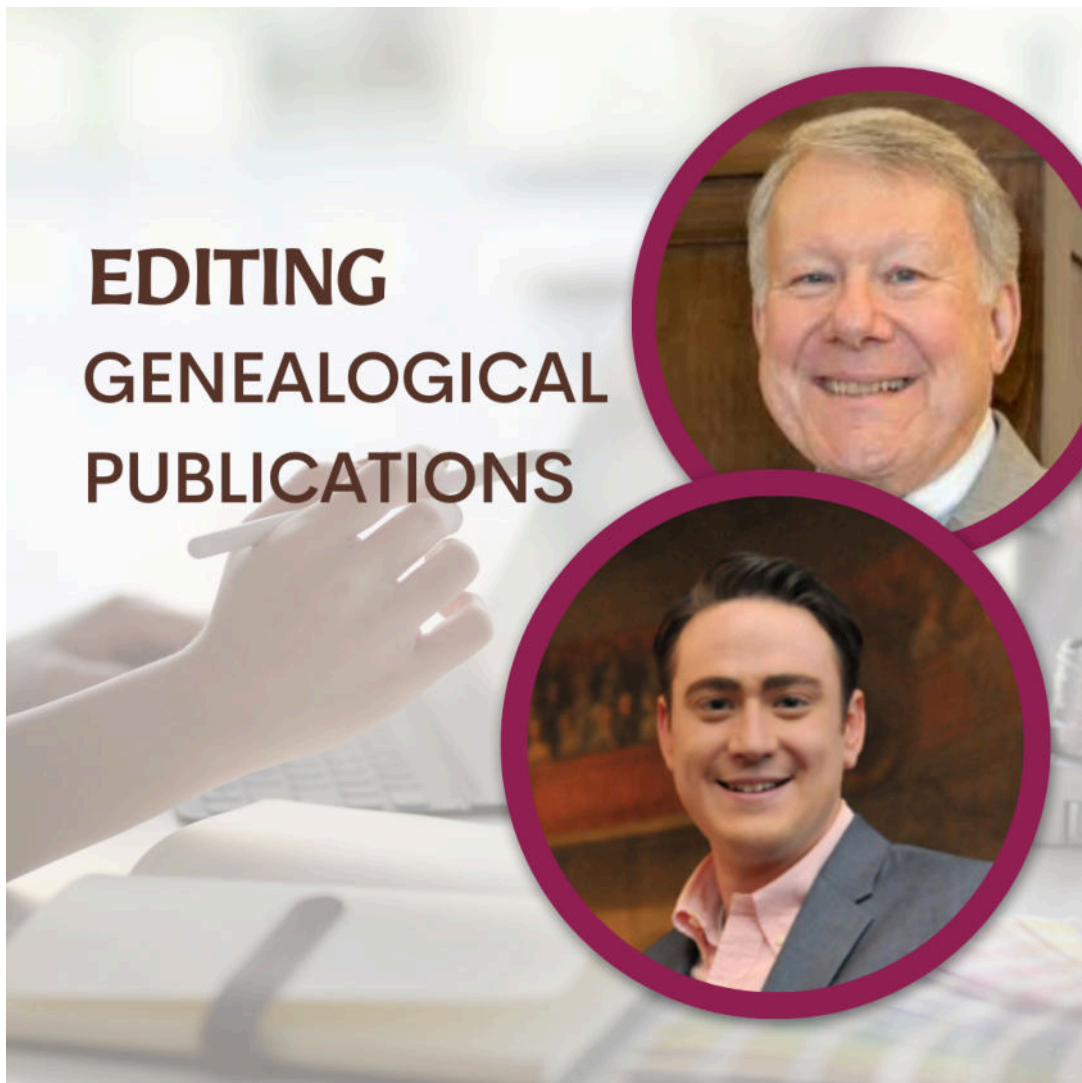
Explore the rest of the 2025 schedule. Join the conversation and sign up today to be part of *The Snapshot Interviews*.

REGISTER NOW

Featured Courses

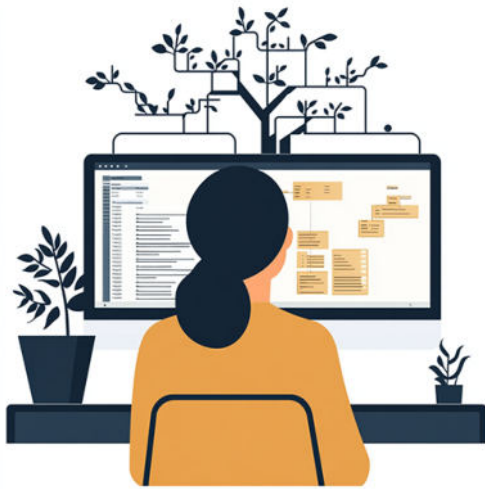
Editing Genealogical Publications:

Journals, Magazines & Newsletters



Join **Tom Jones** and **Josh Taylor** in this essential 4-week course that takes you behind the scenes of editing genealogical journals, magazines, and newsletters. Discover how to lead an editorial team, perfect your layout and design skills, and navigate contracts and submissions like a pro. Whether you're just starting out or looking to level up, this is your path to becoming a professional editor in genealogy.

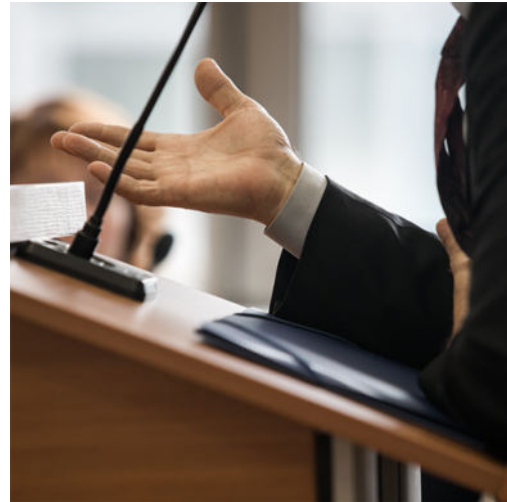
EXPLORE THE DETAILS



Discover the Power of Spreadsheets

Turn your data into discoveries in this 3-hour workshop with **Fiona Brooker**! Supercharge your genealogy skills with spreadsheets, learn to organise research objectives, build timelines, colour-code DNA matches, and even construct dynamic family trees. If you've mastered the spreadsheet basics, this session will transform how you approach family history research!

EXPLORE THE DETAILS



Forensic Genealogy: Becoming an Expert Witness

Join **Melanie Proctor** in this specialised workshop and discover what it takes to become an expert witness. Learn to write forensic reports, navigate jurisdictional legal requirements, and confidently present evidence in court. This is your gateway to expanding your genealogy career into the legal arena!

[PS: This course is incredibly popular and has already booked out almost half the available spots. Don't wait—secure your place today!]

EXPLORE THE DETAILS



Make family history part of your holidays

Turn your holiday gathering into a family history event! Create a small **quiz** using your research—questions about ancestors, family traditions, or historic events. Or, compile a short **slideshow** of photos and ask relatives to share their memories. It's a fun way to **share** your discoveries and connect across generations.

Looking for more ways to bring family history to life? Check out our [courses](#) designed to inspire creativity and connection in your research.

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Family History Academy

Capalaba, QLD Australia



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