eTeam Quarterly Report December 2024

Since our last quarterly report we have produced the December Journal, 248, continuing our popular 'Medical Matters' theme from 246. Very good feedback included one member who gave a copy to her GP and received very favourable comments; Cessnock FHG sent thanks and the comment 'impressive publication'; a rejoining member, on receiving back copies, commented on the great efforts that go into it.

One comment led us to review one thing – a reader couldn't locate the information about the back cover illustrations. We realised that our cross-reference to location was fine for print copies but apparently not for digital. So, we will refer to page numbers in the future.

How to deal with the huge numbers of back copies stored in the Blue Room was decided: Archives folders now in the storeroom contain two copies of each Journal where possible; other duplicate copies in archives boxes on the CD shelves will be distributed to members and visitors – duty volunteers will be asked to give visitors a back issue of the Journal and a society brochure. We will also pursue a suggestion of distributing them to aged care facilities. This applies to the black and white cover issues; the newer coloured cover issues will be reviewed later. Back issues had also been given to every participant at the Sandgate tour.

State Library will now receive digital copies of the Journal rather than print, as the number of digitally delivered copies far outweighs the Australia Post-delivered ones, 229: 94 (their criteria). They would also like digital versions of past issue if we are willing, to reduce their print holding. We will probably do this, over time.

Our budget is in good shape, although a final statement isn't yet available due to some glitches in the recording of printing numbers. Marie is dealing with that.

Future issues of the Journal will include a statement that no personal contact details will be included in our publication and that any contact needed is to be via the editor's email.

This information will also be included in our Style Manual, which is currently under review by the group.

Future issue themes are: 249 – Writer's Choice; 250 – celebration of our 250th Journal; 251 – Heroism; 252 – 20th century migration; 253 – Writer's Choice; this takes us to March 2026.

Another very successful, enjoyable year for the eTeam!

Margaret Ashford Journal Editor NFHS