



NSW and ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc. Newsletter

Newsletter for May 2025

Message from the President

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Welcome to this issue of our newsletter. I hope this finds everyone well and enjoying some family research time.

Planning for the 40th State conference is well under way. "They came from where?" is the theme that the Illawarra Family History Group has chosen. The speakers look really interesting with a variety of topics included in this theme. There are a couple I will need to make sure I get to. Early bird tickets are now open. I have already purchased mine! Looking forward to seeing everyone there.

Congratulations to the many societies and their members who have been helping the Museums of History NSW – State Archives Collection, index their Small Debt Registers. To date, we have helped index 24,000 tasks. The Small Books are still awaiting completion.

With the Annual General Meeting (AGM) to be held at the State Conference, nominations will be called for to stand on the Association's Management Committee. The State is divided into 4 areas, with 2 delegates from each area. Please do think about nominating someone from your society or group. We especially need another Northern Region representative.

I look forward to seeing you all in September.

Warm Wishes,

Gail.

May Management Committee Meeting

This was held on Sunday 4th May via Zoom. Our seven Committee Members and one Conference Representative were all present. Important points from that meeting were:

7. Conference Report

7.1- The 40th State Conference will be held as an in-person and virtual conference.

Dates: 12th – 14th September 2025 (12th Family History Fair; 13th–14th Conference with an AGM and Forum held.

Theme: "They Came from Where?"

Venue: The Fraternity Club, 11 Bourke Street, Fairy Meadow.
A [Facebook Page](#) and [Conference Website](#) has been developed. (See Upcoming Events).

There are 14 speakers, and the program is nearly complete. Due to one speaker pulling out 2 weeks ago negotiations for a replacement have not been finalised. The program will be added to the website as soon as this is done. The committee is very appreciative of the hours of work given to the website by webmaster David Guillaume and Andrew Griffiths.

There are over 30 exhibitor tables already booked.

Raffle tickets are now available on the [Trybooking](#) site.

7.2 - No society has yet indicated an interest in hosting the 2026 Conference. Could members please discuss this at your next Management Meeting? The Association will help.

8. Other Reports:

8.1 - Australian Federation of Family History Organisations (AFFHO)
Congress was held March 2025 in Brisbane, Queensland. For members who attended, it was great to see so many familiar faces and for others it was good to see people in person and not just on Zoom. Excellent speakers and conference facilities. A well-run conference.

8.2 - National Archives Report – Family Search in partnership with the National Archives is supporting the digitalisation of A907 – Australian Passenger Lists 1924 – 1964.

8.3 - Website Report – Please encourage your society to add their events, book launches or presentations to this site.

9. General Business:

9.1 - Grant Applications – A second draft framework was discussed at the meeting and finalised. An email will be sent to Society Secretaries with this information.

9.2 - Conference Guidelines (2025) These were finalised and will be available for members shortly.

9.3 – Dorothy Fellowes Website Awards (2025) Information has been emailed to your secretary. Please do consider submitting an entry. Email to our Secretary secretary@nswactfhs.org by Friday 11 July.

9.5 - NSW & ACT Zoom Groups:

Tech Support Group - Well attended.

Social Group - Minimal attendance as people now have other social outlets and more events are on Zoom. They will continue for the next few months and then be revised.

Office Bearers Network - Well attended.

Upcoming Family History Events in 2025

2025 Annual Conference
NSW & ACT
Association of Family History Societies

Hosted By: Illawarra Family History Group Inc

Save the Dates!

12, 13 & 14th September 2025

Friday 12th
Family History
Fair

13th & 14th
Conference

Presentations:
Irish Emigration,
AI & Genealogy,
DNA & much
more

Trade Tables Available
Contact: conference0925@gmail.com

Conference website: www.familyhistoryconference2025.org.au

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Tech Support Group Meetings: held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm – 9 pm on Zoom. The topic selected will be advertised on our private FB Page and an email sent to regular attendees.



Next Meeting 14th May - Using eHive – Gay Hendriksen

11th June – Topic TBA

9th July - Topic TBA

13th August - Topic 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 FHSs. Group selected will be advertised on our private FB Page and an email sent to the Secretary of your Society/Group.



Next Meeting 25th June – Presidents/Vice Presidents

27th August – Membership Registrars

22nd October – Publicity Officers

- ❖ **Social Group** – held on the **fourth Wednesday of every second month**

7.30pm – 9 pm on Zoom. After an introductory social chat, participants will be requested to share some information for a few minutes or a presentation on the specific topic.



27th August Topic: Discuss a precious family object.

If you would like to attend this group, please email Elizabeth our vice president:

vice-president@nswactfhs.org

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

