

**Newcastle Family History Society Inc
Management Committee Meeting
Thursday 17 July 2025 at 10am
Minutes**

Meeting Commenced: 10.05am

Welcome to all.

Acknowledgement of Country: MW

Present: M Woodford R Bunn M Hughes S Boyce
K Carrick E Groen L Harris K Smith (Minutes)

Apologies: Laraine Cross

Minutes of the Meeting of 19 June 2025 as circulated and in the Gdrive. Copy to be placed on Gdrive & on the front noticeboard (by the Secretary), and in the Member's section of the website (by the Webmaster from updated Gdrive) after approval.

Corrections/Amendments:

Motion (Minutes): *"That following a review of the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 19 June 2025, it was agreed that the Minutes were a true and accurate record of the meeting, noting that any adjustments submitted to draft copy had been completed."*

Moved: R Bunn *Seconded:* E Groen *Carried:* Passed

Abstentions: Karen Smith, Laraine Cross

Business Arising/Updates/General Business:

1. Key Safe has been installed.

- Thanks extended to Gil Bunn for his assistance.
- Second spare set of keys have been placed in the safe.
- S Boyce to purchase a hook to hang the key in the lock box.

- Access code to be made available to duty librarians, SIG convenors, Clelia Park and Alison Morris. M Woodford to write a full list of those who require the code.
- There will be a 3 month trial of the system to assess whether the code needs to be changed periodically.

2. Further Security for NFHS rooms – possible grant application.

3. Snippers Bookshelves in Front Office Need Securing.

- G Bunn has offered to complete this task.

4. Submission From Library Group re Book Donations – as circulated.

- Members to be informed via NFHS Newsletter that donations are restricted to subject matter relating to local and family history.

5. 2025 NSW/ACT Conference – Update.

- Mini-Conference in the rooms – as yet few members have booked to attend.

6. Follow Up from Tingira Hills Aged Care Facility (EG)

- E Groen chaired a talk at the centre on Thursday 11th July.
- Positive feedback from attendees.
- Residents shared their memories and local history stories.

7. Outside Flag is now Mended

- E Groen has repaired the NFHS flag.

8. NFHS Publication on Midwives

- A volunteer group, led by R Bunn, has been formed with the view to publishing Heather Ling's research on local midwives.
- The group is currently in the process of collating and organising Heather Ling's research notes and other related materials

9. Update on Recent Events & Future Planning for 2025

(a) Lunch at The Beach Hotel

- Thank you to M Hughes & S Boyce for organising the event.
- The lunch was well attended.
- M Hughes' talk was very informative and enjoyed by both NFHS members and the general public.

(b) Christmas in July plus Trivia with John & Judy Mulhearn

- This was an enjoyable event and despite the weather was well attended.

(c) Possible excursions

- Mayfield Heritage Walk with Julie Keating tentative date 29th September 2025. Participants restricted to 22.
- NFHS Xmas Lunch at Poppy's. To be booked for 1st Friday in December. Approx 40 guests
- Visit to Murrook Cultural Centre (near Williamstown)
<https://www.murrook.org.au/> for a look into Worimi family history/history. Exhibitions, cultural activities, café.
- Morning or afternoon tea at Miss Porters House.
- Lochinvar Excursion.
- History Cruise – Central Coast.
- Sydney History Walks.
- Other possibilities?

(d) Beginners' Courses

- K Smith and L Cross to determine dates Sept/Oct 2025.

(e) AI Overview Focussing on Benefits for Family Historians

- A presentation by M Woodford re: the application of ChatGPT/Transkribus to family history in late 2025.

Reports:

Correspondence: (as per Gdrive)

Motion: *“That the Correspondence Report be accepted.”*

Moved: K Smith *Seconded:* S Boyce *Carried:* Unanimously

Treasurer’s Report: (as per Gdrive)

Motion: *“That the Treasurer’s Report be accepted.”*

Moved: M Hughes *Seconded:* L Harris *Carried:* Unanimously

Motion: *“That the invoices for payment and additional notes be accepted.”*

Moved: M Hughes *Seconded:* K Smith *Carried:* Unanimously

Membership Report: (as per Gdrive)

Motion: *“That the Membership Report be accepted.”*

Report to be updated.

Business Without Notice:

- NFHS has received a request from Tweed Heads FHS to have permission to send a copy of our quarterly journal to their members. In the light of similar requests regarding the distribution of the NFHS monthly newsletter, the request was not supported by the NFHS Management Committee members.

Close of Meeting: 12.08pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, 21 August 2025 at 10am