

August Monthly Meeting
2pm – 5 August 2025

Acknowledgement of Country: President

The NFHS acknowledges and pays respect to the Traditional Custodians and Elders of the land on which we meet.

Welcome to Members and Guests: President

Those in attendance in the rooms: Mel Woodford, Benita Parker, Leurnyn McInnes, Clive Maddocks, Rosalie Bunn, Liza Moss, Paul Cooke, Ken Shilling, Kim Gray, Margaret Ashford, Beverley Richardson, Bert Groen, Robyn Jeffriess, Marilyn Bridges, Judy Clack, David Elliott, Jan McLeod, Jude Conway, Ruth Sewell, Kirstie Carrick, Clelia Park, Lea Harris, Heather Dunn, Diana Meredith,

Those on Zoom: Jane Ison, Lyn Hutchings, Paul Dangarfield, Marie Hughes (later).

Apologies: Sharyn Boyce, Ian Eckford

Society News:

State Conference in Wollongong 12-14 September. Mini Conference in the NFHS rooms Saturday 13 September & Sunday morning 14 September.

Mayfield Heritage Walk with Julie Keating – Monday 29 September from 10am followed by lunch at Wests Mayfield. Details in your newsletter.

New Members welcomed in July:

New Members

#1372 Karen Lonsdale, Rochedale, QLD

#1373 Jan McLeod, Kahibah, NSW

#1374 Cheryl Stratham, Seaham, NSW

#1375 Glenys Flegg, Engadine, NSW

Members Rejoined

#1324 Kathy Russell, Merewether

#759 Peter Poole, Merewether

#1120 Dean Barrett, Kahibah

I would also like to introduce our new member, **Ruth Sewell**, who has kindly offered to take on the position of **Membership Registrar**.

Guest Speaker: Benita Parker from the West Wallsend Heritage Group.

Most of you will know Benita from her wonderful podcast series *In the Shadow of Mount Sugarloaf* – all about the early history of the West Wallsend area. If you haven't already listened, it's a wonderful history & so well presented!

Today, Benita's topic is:

Bush to Bar

The story of Mary Johnston, one of the earliest people to settle in Westy and then later, wife of the owner of the Museum Hotel.

Q & A session.

Thank you to Benita.

An overview of this talk will be available in the September NFHS Newsletter, and a recording of the talk will be added to our NFHS YouTube Channel.

Raffle Draw – Fathers' Day (drawn next month).

Next month's meeting on Tuesday 2 September is at 2pm. We hope you will join us for our guest speaker, **Dr John Fluit**, who will speak to us about sickness in the early 19th Century, the major medical innovations throughout that century, & their impact.

This meeting will be followed by tea/coffee and informal discussion.