

**August Monthly Meeting**  
**2pm – 2 September 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, Clive Maddocks, Rosalie Bunn, Beverley Richardson, Ken Shilling, Jude Conway, Margaret Ashford, Liza Moss, Paul Cooke, Sandra Boyd, Jane Ison, Clelia Park, Julie Keating, Diana Meredith, Lea Harris, Bert Groen, Judy Clack, Sylvia Heath, John Fluit.

**Those on Zoom:** Lyn Hutchings, Sharyn Boyce.

**Apologies:** Ruth Sewell, Heather Dunn, Marilyn Bridges.

**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.**

**# No New Members in August:** Current membership is 229.

**# Paul Cooke – item of Library News.**

**# Margaret – item of Sandgate News.**

**Guest Speaker:** Dr John Fluit

To be introduced by Margaret Ashford.

Today, John's topic is:

***Major Medical Innovations of the Nineteenth Century***

In this talk Dr Fluit will be looking at what sick people were faced with at the start of the 19th century, and the major medical innovations and their impact throughout that century. These ranged from quack cures and bloodletting to effective surgery, from brandy to ether as anaesthetic and from certain death from infections to survival on antibiotics and sterile operating conditions. A question for everyone to ponder before the meeting: 'What are the two achievements or innovations, that over the history of mankind, have had the greatest impact on improving the health of the world's population.'

**Q & A session.**

**Thank you to John.**

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

**Fathers' Day Raffle Draw – Winners:**

Marilyn Maddocks, Heather Dunn, Margaret Ashford, Clive Maddocks, Virginia Petherbridge, Carolyn Russell.

**Next month's meeting** on Tuesday 7 October is at 7.30pm. We hope you will join us for our guest speaker, **Chas Keys**, retired Deputy Director General of the SES whose topic will be 'Is the Lower Hunter ready for a flood like 1955's – or bigger?'

**This meeting will be followed by tea/coffee, viewing of items from John's Medical Museum and informal discussion.**