



Newsflash

Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations

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www.affho.org

Contact: secretary@affho.org

AFFHO Council 2020-2021

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Membership

Full membership is open to any organisation based in Australasia, which satisfies the Council it is primarily concerned with family history, genealogy, heraldry or allied subjects.

Associate membership is open to any organisation which satisfies the Council that it is interested in family history, genealogy, heraldry or allied subjects.

Newsflash contributions to editor@affho.org

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From the President

It was disappointing that we have had to postpone the AFFHO Congress which was due to be held on Norfolk Island in the first week of August 2021 owing to the outbreak of Covid-19 in many parts of Australia in late June 2021. It has subsequently escaped from MIQ (Managed Isolation and Quarantine) in Auckland, and we are now in lock down along with New South Wales and Victoria.

The Congress was in its final planning stages and the programme had many interesting talks and visits along with a trade show. I was looking forward to visiting Norfolk Island and meeting up with family historians, some of whom I have known from previous Congresses and others who I would be meeting for the first time. We will have to wait another year from 1st to 4th August 2022 to meet. The organisers from the Norfolk Island Museum will adjust the programme as necessary and there will be more updates as they become available.

National Family History Month is celebrated during August of every year and this year is no exception. The AFFHO Opening talk was given by Shauna Hicks where she explored Family History's role in 21st Century Society. The Closing talk was given by Fiona Brooker, and she gave us the insights to the British 1939 Register. Both of these talks are available for a limited time on the National Family History Month Website under the Webinar tab.

We commiserate with those who are in lock down as we are limited in being able to travel now so it is fortunate that many events have been moved to online and our connection to libraries, archives and family history organisations is much enhanced since the advent of the internet. Family history is a great interest to have and there has never been a time when so much research could be done at any hour of the day or night. Enjoy!

Robyn Williams, President AFFHO

Zoom speaker on British Raj Ancestors

Many groups are now considering having alternate talk programmes with one month a speaker who will be in person, to the next month being a Zoom speaker. It will mean that you can still have your larger choice of speakers who will connect with one person at your hall and their talk on Zoom and continue to satisfy your audience who prefer to see their speakers in person. As the organiser of speakers, you will continue to have the ability of choosing speakers from a much wider area to choose from, in fact the world is your oyster if you think about it.

So it will potentially mean that since I am based on the borders of Hampshire/ Berkshire you will now have the best of both worlds, the right speaker in a location which otherwise may not be considered due to the travelling distances involved.

Some available talks:

A grandmother's legacy: the early days

How Benjamin Hardy in 1798, a seventh generation weaver ancestor of Jenny Mallin from Mirfield in Yorkshire, sails to Madras with his British Army unit, fights for the next 22 years in India and decides to settle his family there for the next five generations. Through new research I have been able to offer more on the three ancestors that has an ancestry going back to the 17th century. They were all in the British Army and came from different backgrounds. This is a more indepth look at the start of the ancestors with a storyline which brings together the reasons for my family being linked to the British Raj.

A grandmother's legacy: the 170 year old recipe book

A large leather bound book, which was started off by my great great great grandmother, Wilhelmina Hardy in 1844 containing her Portuguese / German / English family recipes was then handed down to her daughter who did the same, and that book kept on getting handed down from generation to generation (my talk centres on the recipes, the history of those recipes and how that book evolves with each generation reflecting where the grandmothers were living at that time (i.e. we come across an early version of the coroma curry which great great grandma Maud wrote in 1900).

A grandmother's legacy: my ancestors professions in the British Raj

A detailed talk with fascinating sepia photographs provide the audience with interesting facts about the history of the infrastructure of India and the various professions of her grandfathers on the Indian railways, telegraph, founder of one of the first English medium schools in India and the military involvement of two of her great grandfathers who fought in the third Anglo Mysore war. all seen through the eyes of their granddaughter (Jenny Mallin).

Thrapston U3A Paul Ollett, Speaker Secretary. "Those who saw the talk by Jenny Mallin were well rewarded with a presentation which grasped one's attention and held it firmly for an hour as we were taken on a well-illustrated journey to many parts of the Indian sub-continent..."

For more talks and more information contact **Jenny Mallin**

<https://www.familyhistoryfederation.com/family-history-speaker-berkshire-jenny-mallin>



*Joseph and Wilhelmina—
colorized*



*Ophelia and her family—
colorized*

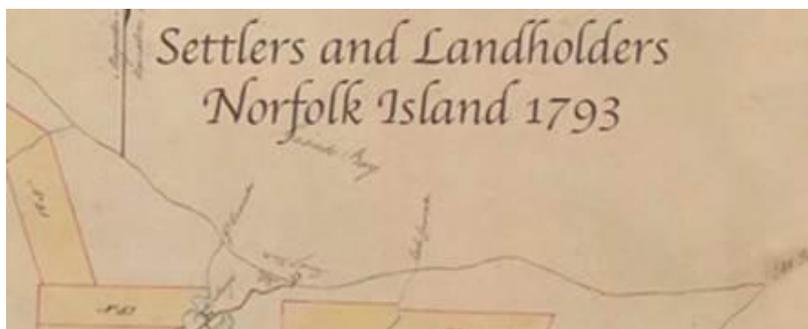


Uncle Eugene's wedding day— colorized

August 2021 Norfolk Island Bundle

Settlers and Landholders Norfolk Island 1793: Reviews the debacle produced by the flawed positioning of land lots and the strife with the over promise of actual land. Including is the list of land holders and lots locations on Norfolk Island in 1793 and owner of land grants and leases in 1796. A4 size, 32 pages includes 1793 land maps, name index and bibliography.

For book orders of *Settlers and Landholders Norfolk Island 1793* in August 2021 one will receive a complimentary copy of Turtle Bay Burial Ground Norfolk Island Booklet which features the of deaths on Norfolk Island 1791 to 1794. [More details](#)



Upcoming Heritage Webinars - Events - Tours

History Week Sept 4 - 9 Sep 2021

Webinar: Research using the Devonshire Street Cemetery Re-internment Records. [Join Australian History Research on Facebook](#) to see webinar on 4 September at 1.30pm (NSW time)

From the Ground Up - visit to Racecourse Cemetery Ulladulla [More details](#)



Image: Photographs of tombstones 1900-1901 by Josephine Ethel Foster Mitchell Library PXB 768

2022 Tours and Events

Feb - Mar 2022: Norfolk Island Colonial Families Under Wraps

March 2022: Foundation Day Norfolk Island

May 2022: Goodwin Munro Family Muster @ Hobart - the next generation

Details being announced soon

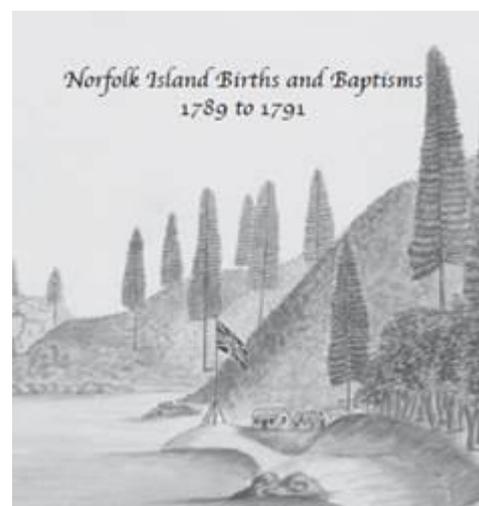
No passport is required for travel to Norfolk Island

Australian History Research in conjunction with Heritage Tourism are Quality Tourism accredited with the Australian Tourism Council.

Research Booklet

Norfolk Island Births and Baptisms 1789 to 1791

Includes all primary references to the births and baptisms on Norfolk Island 1789 to November 1791, index, bibliography and further readings. [More Details](#)



Family History ACT - *Heritage Matters* Exhibition

The Family History ACT (FHA)CT “Heritage Matters” Exhibition at the ACT Heritage library until 4th September, provides a rare opportunity for members to see how we have grown from less than twenty Canberrans to the almost seven hundred members who now comprise our learned and professional society. Along the way we have accumulated items and artifacts which trace our journey and are displayed for the first time in an organised and fascinating story.

The items on display include archive documents, books, photos from the time that our male members had hair, early equipment, and a number of gems that you would be particularly interested in, including:

- The precious Minutes of the first meeting of the Society in 1964
- The very first issue of TAS in 1976.
- Memorabilia from the two Congresses which HAGSOC organised and hosted in 1986 and 2015
- Photos and papers from the “cemetery picnics” where members organised regular trips to cemeteries in Canberra and the surrounding districts to record details from headstones, thus ensuring the preservation of vital family history data
- The Irish SIG travellers, including the 1996 visit to Ireland and the ten weekend workshops at St Clements in Galong (where apparently there was good food and Irish music as well as excellent speakers)
- Projects with National Library of Australia, National Archives of Australia and National Museum of Australia
- Photos of our various homes – Coombs building, Griffin Centre, Narrabundah, Hughes primary school and Cook Community Hub.



A 25-minute video showcases interviews from the Oral History project and a preview of two FHA)CT ACT Heritage funded projects. Hear interviews with Pam Ray, June Penny and Barbara Moore sharing stories of the early days of cemetery picnics, the first TAS printing, and the Roadshows. Grahame Thom speaks about the all-important First Congress held in Melbourne in 1977 where Australasian genealogists, heraldists and historians met to discuss issues of the day.



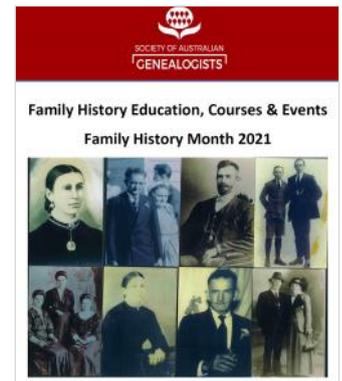
The Exhibition is showcased on a series of seven storyboards telling our story from “The Beginnings” through to “Out and About”. They are worth a visit just by themselves. This production was put together by a team under the leadership of Kerrie Gray, each of whom was responsible for a specific task. It is proving popular and is also a backdrop to a series of four presentations by FHA)CT speakers, the first of which was booked out on the first day the talks were advertised.

Visit the exhibition by making a booking through the ACT Heritage Library [website](#) (ignore that it says the booking is for 2 August - an IT glitch!). Keep going through the site and register to attend at whatever date and time you wish.

We hope you enjoy it when we can return!

National Family History Month at SAG

The Society of Australian Genealogists held two very successful free webinars during National Family History Month. The webinars were designed to complement each other, with the first highlighting the myriad of education opportunities available in Australia and overseas for those interested in taking their learning about family history research further, and the second discussing the variety of career paths available that are directly or indirectly connected to the family history industry. Each event included a presentation from SAG's CEO, Ruth Graham, followed by a panel of SAG members speaking about their own experiences studying, setting up their own business as a researcher or working in a related field. Well over 150 people from all around Australia registered for each event and there was some very lively discussions on both evenings.



The Society of Australian Genealogists also chose National Family History Month to hold its first virtual conference dedicated to assisting those with First Nations of Australia ancestors to uncover their family stories. The full day program included a wonderful variety of organisations, professional family historians, academics and amateur researchers who highlighted particular resources or spoke about their own personal journeys into their family history. Following on from this event the Society plans to establish a First Nations Research Group to enable members with First Nations ancestry to work together to continue their research and share resources.

Image courtesy of By TimJN1 - Bradshaw Art, CC BY-SA 2.0,
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=22779917>

RootsTech Connect 2022

FamilySearch has announced that RootsTech Connect 2022 will take place on 3-5 March 2022, as a fully virtual family history event.

Organisers are hoping to repeat the success of this year's festival, which welcomed more than one million visitors from over 240 countries.

Building on last year's success, RootsTech Connect in 2022 will remain completely virtual and free. Registration will open in September 2021.

The in-person events anticipated for London this fall and Salt Lake City in 2022 will not take place. Rockwood said they are part of the RootsTech experience, however, and will be re-evaluated each year as RootsTech continues to seek the best opportunities to expand connections with audiences worldwide. For future events, RootsTech plans on offering a hybrid online and in-person model with content that is expanded and accessed throughout the year.

Keep an eye out for RootsTech registration to open in September 2021! For reminders and updates, visit RootsTech.org, and click on **Subscribe for Updates**. You can also follow RootsTech on [Facebook](https://Facebook.com/RootsTech), [Instagram](https://Instagram.com/RootsTech) and [Twitter](https://Twitter.com/RootsTech).



Family History Matters at GSV

'Ancestor' journal wins Nick Vine Hall Award 2021

It has just been announced by AFFHO that the GSV's *Ancestor* journal has won the 2021 Nick Vine Hall Award for the best family history journal/newsletter in Australia and New Zealand, in category B for societies over 500 members.

The announcement was made at the beginning of the 2021 AFFHO National Family History Month opening session (by Zoom of course). This makes the fifth time the journal has received this award since 2009 - a real endorsement of the continuing value of the GSV's journal to genealogy and family history.

Jenny Redman, President GSV, congratulated the Ancestor Edit team at its Zoom proofreading meeting this week: 'Once again your excellent work in producing journal has been recognised'.



This Award honours Nick Vine Hall AM. With the Census due next week it is timely to recall that Nick represented AFFHO at a National level in a Save the Census Campaign in the mid-1980s. Nick was a strong voice in the campaign, which resulted in the Federal Government accepting the Saving our Census and Preserving Our History report. This permits citizens across Australia to 'opt in' and allow retention of their Census information, under closed access for 99 years, by the National Archives of Australia, and in so doing, make a valuable contribution to preserving Australia's history for future generations.

Stop Press for Queensland History!

Recently the Wednesday morning Zoom group met for their Topic session to look fully at the wonders of Familysearch, especially as GSQ is an Affiliate Member of that site. Record numbers for this usually small group logged in on the 4 August for Family History Month, all thoroughly enjoyed the presentation given. Bobbie Edes, the Convenor, has received a lot of feedback in response to her question as to whether those present felt it would make a good Saturday Morning Presentation for GSQ.

This is currently being arranged so keep an eye on our public GSQ Facebook Page for the Event which will be available to book via our [GSQ Website](#).

Genealogical Society of Queensland - GSQ runs several Zoom sessions on a Monday (except the 1st Mon) and Thursday each weekly, one twice a month on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday mornings and one on the first Monday of each month (Monday Morning Natters). We also have two night Zoom sessions, on the second Wednesday night each month for GSQ members only, and another on the 4th Wednesday night of each month, for anyone to join free.



Website improvements coming to prov.vic.gov.au

Important login information for after 9 August 2021

On the 9th of August we are excited to launch our new search and online ordering system which will make ordering and managing your record and copy requests a whole lot easier.

This system will replace our current catalogue 'Access the Collection' for North Melbourne records. Get ready to:

- View thumbnails as you search, making digital records easier to find and download.
- Select records as you search.
- Order digital copies directly from the item page without needing to fill out a separate form.
- Access your own personal Dashboard which will display your past and future orders, pick up and viewing times and links to copies.



Important information for the first time you login

Your last two years of history will be maintained so that once we launch, you'll be able to login with your email address (your user ID will no longer be needed).

For your first time logging into the new system you'll need to reset your password. Click on 'Forgot my password' to do this. Unsure?

[Watch our short tutorial.](#)

Important information for regional users

If you are ordering records for Ballarat or Bendigo you will need to continue to use our old [Access the Collection catalogue](#) until we changeover our regional sites in late 2021/early 2022.

We appreciate your patience as we bring you our brand new system.

Other service updates

- The North Melbourne Reading Room is currently closed until the 9th of August to allow for the systems changeover, and record ordering is unavailable.
- Unfortunately we also need to cancel any records currently out on order to ensure all records are accounted for during the new system changeover.
- Copy requests are also on hold until the 9th.
- In the meantime, have your say and participate in our survey:



With the new system about to launch, we will be able to publish ad hoc copies of records straight to our site. But just because we can, does that mean we should? We want to hear what you think!

[Participate in our online survey now.](#)



Saturday 23rd October 2021

12:30 pm - 6:30pm AEST

Virtual Event via Zoom

Live Q & A Research Panel from 5:30 - 6:30pm

Bookings and Payment

Early Bird Price if booked by 30th September 2021:

GSQ/QFHS Members \$50 / Non-Members \$65

Price from 1st October 2021:

GSQ/QFHS Members \$60/Non-Members \$75

Book online at: www.gsq.org.au/events/

Payment may be made by:

- Credit card (online, by phoning GSQ 07 3349 6072 or at GSQ)
- Cash (at GSQ)
- Bank transfer (note details at time of ordering) OR
- Cheque by post: GSQ, PO Box 1467, Carindale, QLD 4152



Genealogical Society of Queensland, Inc
 25 Stackpole Street, Wishart, 4122 Phone: 07 3349 6072
 Web: www.gsq.org.au Email: events@gsq.org.au

Program

12:30pm — 12:45pm **Welcome & introduction to the day**
12:45pm – 1:30pm **Making Sense of the England & Wales Census**
Paul Milner
 Census records are some of the most important resources for British family history. Paul will explore the background to the census and how to find missing people.

BREAK
1-4:5pm – 2:30pm **England & Wales 101: an introduction to English & Welsh Research.**
Cathie Sherwood
 Cathie will explore the records available to family historians. She will give tips and hints on where records are located and how they may be utilised.

2:30pm – 3:15pm **Blessings & Curses of Tracing Welsh Ancestry.**
Darris G. Williams
 This session illuminates the many advantages and some of the disadvantages and peculiar challenges in doing your Welsh family history and genealogical research.

BREAK
3:30pm - 4:30pm **Treasures hiding in Findmypast Records.**
Myko Clelland, Findmypast
 In this talk, Myko gives an overview of the treasures in the family history databases held on the Findmypast website. Myko also gives us some tips on the best ways to search the website.
Mapping your Ancestors with TheGenealogist
Mark Bayley, TheGenealogist

Mark demonstrates the map record collections and tools that are available for researching your British roots. The talk features Tithes, The 1910 Land Survey, Surname Maps and an innovative tool to view these maps in relation to modern-day maps - MapExplorer..

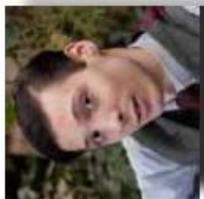
BREAK - drawing of the raffle.
4-4:5pm – 5:30pm **The People, the Places, the Life behind Doors: the world of the Workhouse**
Kirsty Gray
 Kirsty will showcase the workhouse system in England & Wales. She will examine why people were sent to the workhouse, what happened to them & where to find records.

5:30pm – 6:30pm **English & Welsh Research Panel - Live Q & A**
Myko Clelland, Mark Bayley, Kirsty Gray, Cathie Sherwood
 Hosted by Judy Lofthouse, GSQ Education Committee.

Note: See re times that there is three 15 minute breaks.



Speakers' Biographies



Myko Clelland

Myko Clelland is the British based genealogist, spokesperson & regional licensing manager for FindMyPast, he is regularly seen discussing family history on television, radio, online & in print. He holds a Masters degree in genealogy (distinction) and is a qualified adult education teacher.



Paul Milner

Paul Milner is a native of northern England, is a professional genealogist and internationally known lecturer with 30 years of experience, specializing in British Isles research. Paul has been designing genealogy workshops, writing books, and lecturing for over 35 years.



Mark Bayley

Mark Bayley works as the head of online development for TheGenealogist and company director at S&N British Data Archive, Mark has been involved in many aspects of genealogy and the family business from an early age. During his time at university, he followed a passion for technology, studying Computer Science.



Cathie Sherwood

Cathie Sherwood has been investigating her ancestors for over 40 years and would describe herself as someone who is passionate about history and addicted to family history. She is a great believer in the value of family history education and regularly attends and presents at conferences, seminars and institutes in Australia and overseas.



Kirsty Gray

Kirsty Gray is a professional genealogist and 'people finder' who runs her own research company Family Wise Limited. As a freelance author, she has published articles in family, local and social history magazines and handbooks across the globe. She has been researching the story of her paternal West Country family for many years.



Darris G. Williams

Darris G. Williams has a bachelor's degree in Family and Community History. He was a co-founder of the FamilySearch wiki. Darris is presently the FamilySearch Wiki Team & Community Trees Manager, freelance genealogist, and family history instructor. A special area of interest has been Welsh family history.

Don't miss out on our World Class seminar to learn more about Finding Family from renowned specialists, covering England & Wales Records for research. This will be an exciting day of learning with live Q & A's on a research panel.