



Together we can achieve much more!

# Newsflash

## Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations

GPO Box 1394, Canberra, ACT, 2601

[www.affho.org](http://www.affho.org)

Contact: [secretary@affho.org](mailto:secretary@affho.org)

### AFFHO Council 2020-2021

Robyn Williams	NZ	President
Vicki Montgomery	VIC	Vice Pres
Margaret Doherty	QLD	Secretary
Fay Carbis	QLD	Treasurer
Rosemary McKenzie	ACT	Councillor
Kerry Farmer	NSW	Councillor
<i>No nomination</i>	SA	Councillor
Maurice Appleyard	TAS	Councillor
<i>No nomination</i>	WA	Councillor
Gail Hanger	NSW/ACT	Assoc Rep
Jenny Harkness	VAFHO	Assoc Rep

### AFFHO Officers

June Penny	Public Officer, Archivist
<i>vacant</i>	National Family History Month Co-ordinator
Jan Squire	Webmaster
Vicki Montgomery	Nick Vine Hall Awards
Rosemary McKenzie	Newsflash Editor

### 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](mailto:editor@affho.org)

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### From the President

As the days get darker and we are heading into winter then this is a good time to review your family history research. This is what I am currently doing having not looked at some of my more remote family links for many years! I can now identify errors and fill many of the gaps in some of the trees and add more biographic information ready for the book I'll write one day. There are now many more websites, databases and indexes available online which can be viewed at any time of the day and this has enabled me to fill the gaps in some of my research and to take some family lines back much further. This has also helped turn some DNA hints into identified relationships.

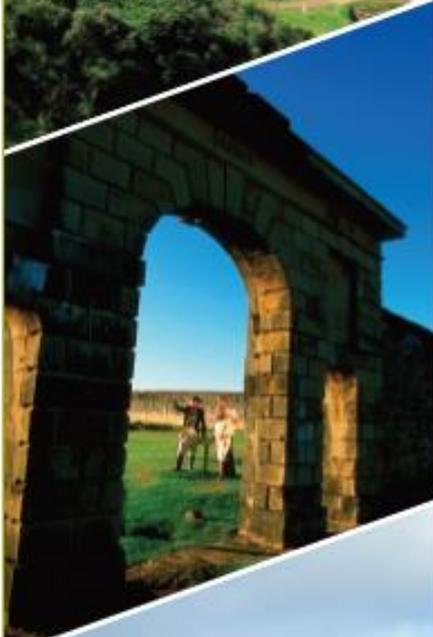
AFFHO held its AGM on Tuesday, 11th May 2021 and we welcome Rosemary McKenzie to the Council representing Heraldry and Genealogy Society of Canberra (HAGSOC) and thank Nick Reddan who has been the representative for the last six years. Nick served as Treasurer for this period and we thank him for his work on this portfolio and the extra tasks he undertook over the years. We thank Fay Carbis for accepting the role of Treasurer. It is disappointing that we do not have a representative on Council for South Australia or Western Australia.

Congress 2021 - *History in Paradise* is to be held on Norfolk Island from 1st to 5th August 2021 - just two months away. This is AFFHO's 16th triennial conference which has been held regularly since 1978. It is where we gather to listen to interesting speakers, have plenty of time to mix and mingle with others who share our interests and where we honour some of the stalwarts of our family history community. If you would still like to attend it is not too late to register.

<https://affhocongress2021.com>

I'm looking forward to Congress and meeting many of our readers. Do come and talk to me and other members of AFFHO Council – we are interested in your views on family history, archives, and associated subjects.

*Robyn Williams, President AFFHO*



**01 - 05 Aug 2021**

**16<sup>th</sup> AFFHO Congress**

*Held on beautiful & historic Norfolk Island – a unique event for genealogists & historians. We hope you can join us.*

## History in Paradise

*Hosted by Norfolk Island Museum*

A range of interesting speakers, covering topics such as stories from Norfolk Island's Second British Settlement, Female Immigration to Australia in the 1830s, and the use of DNA in genealogical research have been organised for concurrent sessions.

The program for the week includes special museum and cemetery tours within World Heritage listed Kingston and a great Island-style Congress dinner Fish Fry.

### **Keynote Speakers: Ray Martin**

One of Australia's most respected television journalists and entertainment personalities, and also among the most awarded stars of Australian television, having won the coveted Gold Logie five times. Norfolk Island is honoured to have Ray Martin as official Brand Ambassador. Ray returned to the Island in 2016 with an open brief to experience its quirkiness and charm and maintains a particular fascination with the historical connection with Australia.

"Discovering Who I Am" – a lifetime spent in journalism has seen Ray Martin witness some of the defining moments of his time. Looking into his own history he finds his forbears too were on the frontline of nation shaping events – discovering an ancestor at the scene of Australia's greatest armed rebellion. On his maternal side he walks in the footprints of his indigenous ancestors to solve a long-standing family mystery. And he follows his convict trail back to Ireland to find a notorious bandit with a rebel heart.

### **Keynote Speakers: Babette Smith**

An independent historian who holds an adjunct position with the University of New England. In 2015 she was awarded an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for her services to Australian history.

"Family History" – its significance in Australian historiography, its importance in current debates and future challenges. The uncovering of convict society that began in the eighties made a significant contribution to Australian historiography, yet today this story risks being lost. Recognising both its intrinsic significance, but also its potential importance in negotiating full reconciliation with Indigenous people, family history societies must ensure this does not happen. Babette will argue that this dilemma is not confined to Tasmania and Australian family history societies need to be at the forefront of debate.

"RESISTANCE" – covert, subversive, but alive and kicking, resistance was a feature of all the penal colonies including the secondary punishment settlements. Examples about male and female convicts will illustrate the variety and form it took. Prisoners individually made their point in many ways, often at risk to themselves. When they acted collectively, however, they turned 'resistance' into power. Have we underestimated just how powerful the convicts were? What might be the implications for interpretation of Australian history in the longer term?



*Congress Registrations can be made online at: [affhocongress2021.com](http://affhocongress2021.com)*

## About Norfolk Island

Norfolk Island's story is really quite incredible with Polynesian migration 'book-ending' four distinct settlements of people. As the most westerly point of Polynesian migration, human habitation began 750 years ago with Polynesian contact.

Following two British penal settlements (1788-1814 and 1825-1855), the descendants of the Polynesian women and Mutiny on the Bounty men arrived in 1856 from Pitcairn Island, and their rich cultural legacy shapes the Island today.

The Island's history, heritage and culture are equally matched with a stunning pristine environment and unique bio-diversity. These can be seen within the rainforests in the National Parks; an unspoilt marine reserve of reef that fringes the World Heritage Site in Kingston; and at the Island's beaches.

## Travel Packages

Travel packages have been arranged in conjunction with Norfolk Island Travel Centre.

Depart Sydney: 30 July to 6 August 2021 / Depart Brisbane: 31 July to 7 August 2021.

Auckland packages now available – contact Norfolk Island Travel Centre for more information.

Please contact **Christan Davies** at [christan@travelcentre.nf](mailto:christan@travelcentre.nf) or phone 1800 1400 66 to receive an Information Pack offering a range of accommodation choices including the conference venue, Paradise Hotel and Resort.

## Registration: Full Congress Package – AUD\$600pp

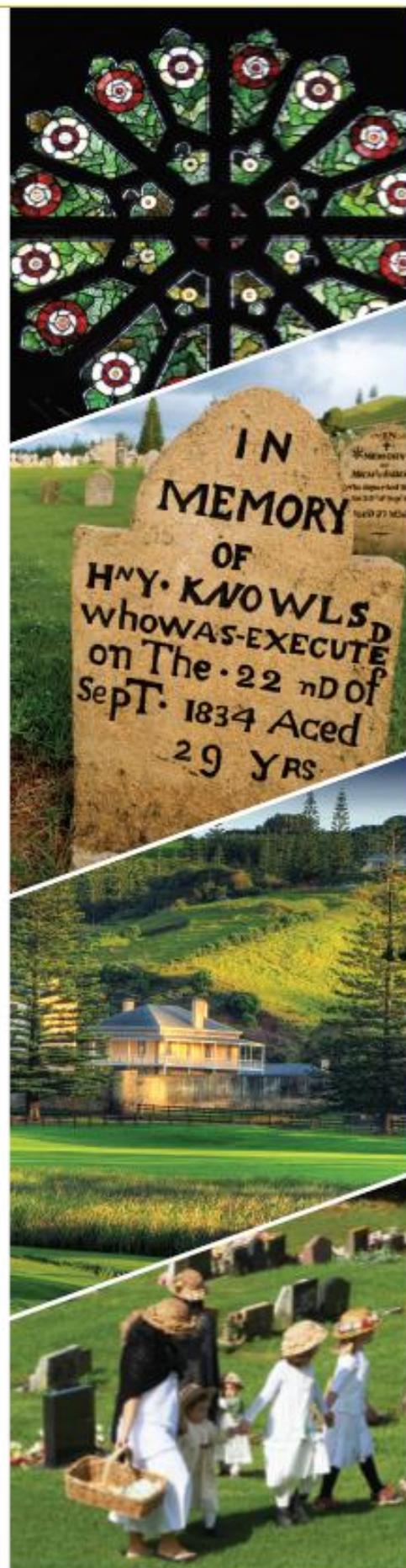
**Congress Registration includes:**

Entry to Trade Show | Entry to Congress | Lunch and morning tea for duration of Congress | Congress Dinner | Welcome Bag | Electronic copy of Congress Papers

Social Registration is available to travelling partners not attending the Congress who would like to attend the Dinner and Trade Show, at the rate of \$120.

## AFFHO Congress Program

<b>Thurs 29 July</b>	Auckland arrivals (Air Chathams)
<b>Fri 30 July</b>	Sydney arrivals
<b>Sat 31 July</b>	Brisbane arrivals Half Day Island Tours available (Sydney/Auckland) Trade Show – Bump-in
<b>Sun 01 Aug</b>	Trade Show – Rawson Hall
<b>Mon 02 Aug</b>	Half Day Island Tours available (Brisbane)
<b>Tues 03 Aug</b>	Congress Day 1 Welcome from hosts and AFFHO opening speaker – Ray Martin
<b>Wed 04 Aug</b>	Congress Day 2
<b>Thurs 05 Aug</b>	Congress Day 3 Closing of Congress   Congress Dinner
<b>Fri 06 Aug</b>	Sydney departures
<b>Sat 07 Aug</b>	Brisbane departures
<b>Mon 09 Aug</b>	Auckland departures



Details: [www.norfolkislandtravelcentre.com/event/history-in-paradise-2021-affho-congress/](http://www.norfolkislandtravelcentre.com/event/history-in-paradise-2021-affho-congress/)

## Northamptonshire Hearth Tax Index 1673-74

Members of your affiliated societies may be interested to hear that I have recently launched a fresh index of the 1673-74 hearth tax lists for Northamptonshire, England along with a detailed introduction. There are over 22,000 records, providing names and other details of the vast majority of householders in the county sorted by name, by parish/town and in their original order. It is the most complete snapshot of local residents earlier than the 1841 census.

It is available as a set of PDFs waiting to be downloaded from Parish Chest.

<https://www.parishchest.com/northamptonshire-hearth-tax-index-1673-1674-10546.php>

I would be grateful if you share this news with your member societies to pass on to their own membership.

with best wishes,

Francis Howcutt.



## Queensland Family History Society Inc

### How QFHS survived during COVID-19

Our QFHS library is open again after the Easter COVID lockdown. The Management Committee is encouraging members to come into the library to read, research and meet old friends.

Back in March 2020 when COVID 19 first appeared we had to introduce access restrictions. In the intervening period our members have become well versed in searching our on-line resources both our QFHS records and datasets and our QFHS library subscription sites.

Our financial year ends 31 March. And during this COVID year we have been able to report that membership has grown by 4% and our financial position has improved with a modest surplus.

As the management committee we would like to claim this success. But with all volunteer societies, it is the hard work done previously that has held us in good stead.

The society produced a Strategic Plan which identified some key areas to retain members and add benefit to the society. These included:

- 1 Remote Access - Building more capacity for members to do on-line research.
- 2 Encouraging more 'regional members' to join.

In 2019 the society loaded a considerable number of datasets and searchable collections. And in 2020 we accelerated this to load over 12 million data lines.

This together with addition subscription site available on our website, allowed members to keep busy with their research and safe at home.

The percentage of 'regional' members has steadily increased. We are nearing 40% of our members live outside the greater Brisbane area. This is pleasing as it builds a larger and broader membership base.

Another factor has been the uptake in members using Zoom. Since the COVID lockdown all our SIG (Special Interest Groups), education and new member orientation meetings have been via Zoom. Again, we have seen more regional members joining these groups and conversations.

As I said earlier, we know need to work on a solution to reactivate the library and continue to provide equity to all members.

Chris Gibbs.

QFHS President.

## New website

History Queensland, the umbrella group for family and local history groups in Queensland, has a new website.

Have a look at <https://www.historyqueensland.org.au>.



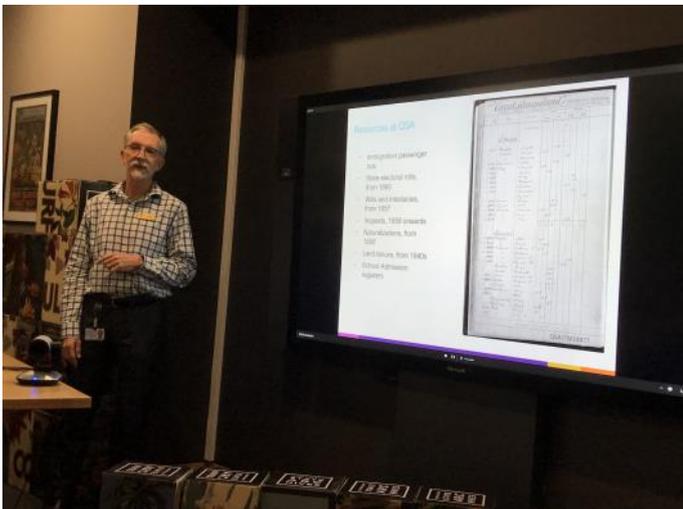
## History Queensland's AGM

The photos show History Queensland's first AGM using Zoom together with a live meeting which proved very successful. This was hosted by the State Archives of Queensland and we thank them for the wonderful occasion and the use of their technology. We also thank Niles Elvery for organising it and for presenting an interesting talk about the Archives followed by a Behind The Scenes Tour.



*Photo left – from left: HQ Patron, Shauna Hicks; MC members Niles Elvery, Helen Turner, Jacqui Brock (in back) Linda Ely; inaugural Association president, Heather Wort; MC members Ann Metcher (hiding) and Fay Carbis; and representing Fassifern District Historical Society Inc. Peter and Iris Skinner.*

*Photos below; HQ Executive listening to Zoom participants at AGM, then Zoom participants; Bottom photos – Niles Elvery presenting to the audience*



## NZSG Kiwi Collection Online: a new generation of Kiwi

The NZ Society of Genealogists (NZSG) has just launched a new online edition of its flagship product, the Kiwi Collection - a powerful online research tool for members researching their New Zealand family history.

### What is Kiwi Collection?

Kiwi is a database of indexed record sets and transcriptions representing the work of hundreds of NZSG members over the past two decades, either as individuals or through NZSG projects. Available only to individual NZSG members, the purchase cost associated with Kiwi not only supports that ongoing effort, but also helps fund the Society's other work.

The new online version is the gateway to a vast, meticulously compiled index of over 11m records across 312 record sets, allowing users to locate the records they need and find exactly where and how to access them.

Record sets indexed currently include everything from Gazette notices, cemetery records, shipping passengers and hotel licenses to rolls of honour, land applicants, probates ... and the intriguingly named Pandora's Box (an index of over 380,000 records from official Government publications and a miscellany of regional histories, schools lists and periodicals). Another new addition is the national index for Notices of Intention to Marry.

Kiwi also includes indices for the NZSG's exclusive record collections: Pedigree Registrations; Pre-1856 New Zealand Marriages; NZSG Certificates; NZSG First Families; and NZSG Obituaries, as well as indexes to The New Zealand Genealogist from 2016. Information from these NZSG Record Collections is available to NZSG members only, for their personal research, and is a major benefit of NZSG membership.

While most records indexed require you to contact an NZSG Officer, Branch or other holder of the record set to get the full record details, you can deduce a lot from the indexed information – and in some cases you might not even need to look at the full record to satisfy your curiosity! Of course, viewing the original record can often provide broader context or add information that is otherwise unexpected. Most importantly, Kiwi helps you compile your research to-do list before you go any further – saving you a lot of time and helping you 'connect the dots' across resources.



Name	Date	RecordType
ROBERTS	1871	Andersons Bay Cemetery Headstones - Dunedin
ROBERTS	1871	Otago Nominal Index
ROBERTS	1814	Andersons Bay Cemetery Headstones - Dunedin
ROBERTS	1871	Otago Nominal Index
ROBERTS	06 Dec 1932	Land & Deeds - Death Certificates
ROBERTS	1927	Andersons Bay Cemetery Headstones - Dunedin
ROBERTS	1871	Otago Nominal Index
ROBERTS	1851	Andersons Bay Cemetery Headstones - Dunedin
ROBERTS	1871	Otago Nominal Index

### Introducing Kiwi Collection Online

Taking the Kiwi Collection online makes records easier to update on a continuous basis and far more accessible to subscribers regardless of their location. It has also enabled NZSG to offer subscription options that cater for short-term as well as regular ongoing research needs.

- Accessible on any device with an internet connection and web browser, with a fully responsive display to fit even mobile devices with small screens
- Almost 2 million new records (highlighted in blue on the Search screen) added since Kiwi v2 was released on USB
- Regular updates to existing collections, periodic addition of new collections, and continuous release of school records and certificates no longer under privacy time restrictions
- Records no longer complying with NZSG's strict privacy guidelines have been removed
- Integrated search across all records and record sets
- Integrated 'Record Source' help files for every record set, often including fascinating details about how the record set has developed and who has been involved
- Comprehensive, printable online user guide to help you make the most of your subscription
- Non-renewing online subscription – annual (\$50) or monthly (\$20) – available exclusively to NZSG members through the NZSG website

(Continued on page 7)

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- One login - accessible to subscribers simply by logging into the NZSG website member portal

Search screen of the new-look Kiwi Collection Online

Whether you're starting out on your New Zealand family research journey or you've made some progress in piecing things together, Kiwi Collection Online will introduce you to resources every New Zealand family historian should be using. [www.genealogy.org.nz/kiwi](http://www.genealogy.org.nz/kiwi)

## SAG Scottish Day



Image 05-009983\_023 from our collection of George Innes Laing

Bring out your tartan and highland dress as bookings are now open for the next virtual conference from the Society of Australian Genealogists, In Search of ... My Scottish Ancestors, on Saturday 19 June 12:30pm - 6:30pm.



There will be a mixture of international and Australian presenters, most presenting live on the day. As a special inclusion links to pre-recorded presentations including those from Scottish experts Dr Bruce Durie and Michelle Leonard will be provided to all attendees. Bruce and Michelle will also join us live from Scotland for a panel discussion at the end of the event.

There are breaks between presentations and recordings will be available to all who register. There will be presentations from: Myko Clelland (Find My Past), Kirsty Wilkinson (Ancestry), Cathie Sherwood, Kerry Farmer, Dr Bruce Durie, Michelle Leonard, Visit Scotland, and more. The full program will be available closer to the event.

Current details and information on how to book are available at: <https://www.sag.org.au/event-4301980> - all welcome!

## Chris Paton is coming!

<https://www.qfhs.org.au/events/discover-scottish-kirk-session-records>

**When:** Tuesday, 31 August 2021 - 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm AEST

**Where:** Online event

**Limit:** 25

### Discover Scottish Kirk Session Records

**Presenter:** Chris Paton

In this session, genealogist Chris Paton will discuss the year's most significant genealogical records release in Scotland, the kirk session records compiled by presbyterian parishes across the country, which are now available to consult on ScotlandsPeople.

Chris will explain what the kirk session was, how it fitted into the church courts hierarchy, and how the records presented can assist the genealogist.

In addition to discussing the new system that is now available on ScotlandsPeople, Chris will also discuss the records not available online, and show how to locate the relevant volumes that may help with research.

From antenuptial fornication and illegitimacy cases, to church census and vaccination records, the session will be called to order, and you are requested to 'compear' before it.

Our speaker: [Chris Paton](#)



## Branding for *HAGSOC* and *Family History ACT*



As you are aware there has been a change to how HAGSOC has been representing itself recently. Many will be aware that our website address is 'familyhistoryact.org.au', and that on the website we refer to ourselves as both 'Family History ACT' and 'The Heraldry & Genealogy Society of Canberra Inc.'. Indeed, we have been using these terms interchangeably which has caused some confusion.

To dispel some myths and clear up any misunderstanding, HAGSOC has not 'changed its name' to Family History ACT. And we are not 'formerly known as' HAGSOC. Let me explain ...

'The Heraldry & Genealogy Society of Canberra Inc.' is still our registered legal name. (ABN 50 317 924 321) This title is to be used in all legal and financial documentation.

'Family History ACT' is a registered 'Business Name' for HAGSOC that we have been using for the last few years. This is not a 'Trading as' name: Rather it is our business name which can be used for advertising, general reference or where a formal (legal) name is not necessarily required.

In recent years a number of family history organisations have changed their names. For example, The Western Australian Genealogical Society Inc now uses the operating name *Family History WA* and the Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies now refers to itself as *Family History Connections*. The fact that other organisations are changing their names is not a reason, in itself, for us to change. But it is a reflection of the challenges facing all family history groups to keep pace with changes in the way family history is undertaken in an increasingly technological age, to attract new members and to remain relevant to the next generation of family historians.

In an effort to modernise our name, to make it more electronically searchable and to appeal to a younger cohort of future members, Council has decided to adopt the title of 'Family History ACT' for general use.

'The Heraldry & Genealogy Society of Canberra Inc.' will remain our legal name, but we will now refer to ourself as **Family History ACT** or **FHACT**. Our logo will not change, but our branding will be altered to reflect our new naming convention and will soon begin to appear on our new website and in publications and marketing materials. Other examples are shown below.

If you have any questions please contact the [secretary@familyhistoryact.org.au](mailto:secretary@familyhistoryact.org.au).



## E.M. Fletcher Writing Competition

Have you sent in your short story for the 2021 EM Fletcher Writing Competition?

Many of us begin a family history because we want to ensure our family stories are preserved. Short stories are a great place to start, are generally quicker to write than a book, and more likely to be read by family and friends. The competition is a great opportunity to try your hand at writing a short story.

The competition closes on 15th July, so there is still time to submit your entry. Don't miss out on the chance to win \$1,000 and a special HAGSOC members only prize. All information about the competition including an entry form and terms and conditions are on the website. Enquiries should be directed to:

[writingcompetition@familyhistoryact.org.au](mailto:writingcompetition@familyhistoryact.org.au)

**Every family has a story - write yours now!**

<https://familyhistoryact.org.au/index.php/activities/writing-competition>

## The Harry Gentle Visiting Fellowships at Griffith University

### About Harry Gentle and the Fellowships

Harry Gentle was a Griffith University alumnus who studied politics and history in the 1980s in the Griffith School of Humanities. He left a generous bequest upon his death to support the ongoing study of Australian history to the 1850s. With that support the Harry Gentle Resource Centre at Griffith University is developing a portal of research dedicated to the study of the peoples and lands of Australia, with an initial focus on the area that became Queensland and its borderlands in the nineteenth century. We encourage creative approaches to documenting, representing and interpreting that history.



Centre for Social and Cultural Research

Our aim is to offer an online portal of interactive resources, research publications, commentaries and research aids to facilitate access to published and unpublished information for this period, an era of important intercultural encounters. We seek to document particularly the lives and experiences of those persons, groups and organisations that have not been the subject of historical investigation. We acknowledge the diverse people, groups and claims on country that made up the early colonial period, including Indigenous diplomats, resisters, interpreters and guides, convicts and free-born, shipwreck survivors and settlers, religious and military – the whole range of contributors to a new era.

We invite applications from innovative scholars in a discipline relevant to digital history or the creative arts to join us for a period as Visiting Fellow, and contribute to the aims of the Harry Gentle Resource Centre. The outcome of your research on resources related to the early settlement of Queensland may be presented via creative works such as photographic or art exhibitions, short stories or historical documentaries as well as through conventional publication.

### Fellowship specifications

Three Fellowships are available for commencement in August 2021. We offer shared office space, staff access to Griffith University resources and the growing digital resources of the Harry Gentle Resource Centre. An honorarium of \$7,500 is attached to each Visiting Fellowship. The duration of the Fellowship is flexible up to a period of one year.

The Harry Gentle Resource Centre is located within the Griffith Centre for Social and Cultural Research, and Visiting Fellows will have the opportunity to engage in the Centre's research events and culture. A Visiting Fellow will be asked to present a public lecture towards the end of their tenure and to contribute to our publication output in print and digital forms. We also expect Visiting Fellows to submit an interim report on their progress and a final report on outcomes at the conclusion of the fellowship.

### How to apply

Please send us a proposal outlining the project you intend to complete during the Fellowship. Applications should be submitted by 11 June 2021, with a commencement date of 1 August 2021. For information including consultation about suitable approaches and methods please contact the Director of the Harry Gentle Resource Centre Professor Mark Finnane via email at [m.finnane@griffith.edu.au](mailto:m.finnane@griffith.edu.au).

The Fellowship application should include:

- Personal details of the applicant (name, contact details, etc.)
- A biographical note and short CV (2 pages)
- Title of the project and abstract (up to 100 words)
- Key words (up to 5 words)
- Detailed description of the project (up to 500 words)
- Proposed project timeline (up to 200 words)
- Research outcomes and results (up to 200 words)
- Attach a key research output, or an excerpt of at least 1000 words
- Indication of research progression -- has this project commenced? Have you applied to other funding bodies?
- Referees (2).