

## Special Edition for National Family History Month



Left to right: Prof. Hamish Maxwell-Stewart, Andrew Redfern and Anita Jacoby AM .

Alex Daw, our National Family History Month coordinator, has been working very successfully to provide a program and society opportunities for August 2023, National Family History Month.

### Opening Event

The theme for National Family History Month this year is *Secrets and Lies: using AI responsibly and handling sensitive subjects in your family history research*.

To help kick us off a great month of family history events, we have **Professor Hamish Maxwell-Stewart** and **Andrew Redfern** looking at the pros and cons of using artificial intelligence in family history research.

**Hamish Maxwell-Stewart** is a professor of Heritage and Digital Humanities at the University of New England as well as the CEO of digital History Tasmania. An author of several award-winning books, Hamish works on the history of crime, health and work with a particular emphasis on convict transportation to Australia. He was instrumental in the creation of the Diploma in Family History at the University of Tasmania and continues to work closely with family historians to increase access to archives through the application of digital techniques.

**Andrew Redfern** is a passionate family historian and technology enthusiast. Since his initial interest in researching his family tree in the mid-1980s, Andrew has developed a deep interest in how technology can enhance the way we explore and preserve our family histories.

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### Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations

GPO Box 1394, Canberra, ACT, 2601

www.affho.org

Contact: secretary@affho.org

#### 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.

#### AFFHO Council 2023-2024

Rosemary McKenzie	ACT	President	Gail Hanger	NSW/ACT	Association Rep.
Greta Gordon	NZ	Vice President	Jenny Harkness	VAFHO	Association Rep.
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Peter Forrestal	WA	Councillor	contributions to editor@affho.org		

*(From page 1) - NFHM Opening and Closing events*

Andrew is interested in the potential of artificial intelligence and machine learning to aid family historians. He has been exploring various AI-powered tools and software that can assist in genealogical research and is excited about the possibilities they offer.

This event will be held on **Tuesday 1 August 2023, at 5pm Eastern Australian time, by Zoom**. Please register and request the Zoom login details via our website's contact form, or Email [jan@jansquire.com](mailto:jan@jansquire.com) directly. Details will be sent 24 hours before the event. <https://familyhistorymonth.org.au>

**Closing Event**

AFFHO is delighted to have secured **Anita Jacoby AM** to speak about her recently published book *Secrets Beyond the Screen*. Anita is one of Australia's most distinguished television producers. Her book reveals one of the most extraordinary stories of all, long hidden within her own family. In her quest to establish the truth, Anita combines being a loving daughter with her investigative journalist skills, determined to find everything concealed from her family for more than seventy years. But by turning the camera on her father she's forced to question everything about him – and what she thought she knew about herself. And in discovering his secrets, she's compelled to reveal her own.

This event will be held on **Thursday 31 August at midday** in the **Metcalf Auditorium of the State Library of NSW**, 1 Shakespeare Place Sydney. See our website for details of how to book. <https://familyhistorymonth.org.au>

In between there are 38 events registered (and more coming) on our website from various Societies around Australasia. Find one that interest you and participate in **National Family History Month!** A number of societies responded to my request for events and they are featured below.

We have 6 confirmed sponsors and at least 10 organisations providing prizes for our attendees and societies. Go to our web pages for the latest updates.

Rosemary McKenzie, President AFFHO

**Tea Gardens Family Research & Local History Inc**

**19th August -10-12pm** - Local Christian Pattenon - *'1980s and a perspective from a child growing up locally at that time.*

Also a local video from Michael Rowe - 1980's

**21st August - 10.30 - 12pm** *Getting started with your family research*

To be held at our local Library, 135 Marine Drive, TEA GARDENS 2324

**Genealogy SA (The South Australian Genealogy & Heraldry Society)**

**Wed 2 August, 1pm ACST** - *Researching at the Australian War Memorial* with Shannon Sutton (Hybrid)

**Thu 3 August, 7.30pm ACST** – *Free Passage to Paradise* (Hybrid) A look at the people who applied for a free passage to South Australia between 1836 and 1840.

**Sun 6 August, 2pm ACST** – *Scotland's census records, what can we learn?* (Online via ZOOM)

**Wed 9 August, 7.30pm ACST** - *Stories from the Beehive Corner* – The De Rose Family - A Huguenot Connection (Online via ZOOM)

To register for Zoom attendance at any of these events please go to the Society website [genealogysa.org.au/whats-on/events-calendar](http://genealogysa.org.au/whats-on/events-calendar)

**Newcastle Family History Society Inc.**

Do you have Scottish ancestry?  
Are you interested in Scottish customs, traditions, superstitions, scenery, food and more?

Pop this date in your diary to visit the Society rooms where the Scottish Special Interest Group will be presenting all things Scottish

**Saturday 12 August 2023**  
10.00am – 3.00pm

Do you have anything Scottish in your collection which you would be willing to include in the display? If so, please send an email to Mel on [nfhsvicepresident@gmail.com](mailto:nfhsvicepresident@gmail.com)

## Win, win, win!

August is National Family History Month (NFHM) in Australia and New Zealand. It is the month where many organisations associated with family history hold events to celebrate and advertise their resources.

Is your organisation holding an event? We encourage you to list your event on our NFHM website – and the bonus is that you may win one of our sponsors products. There are subscriptions, gift vouchers and other items which are desired by family historians.

Visit our website <https://familyhistorymonth.org.au>

- If you are an organiser – list your event
- If you are interested in family history – check out the programmes in your area or being delivered by audio visual link (mostly zoom)
- AFFHO are sponsoring the opening and closing talks which are free – just register and attend on the day. See elsewhere for details.

The following sponsors have donated Prizes:

Products, Subscriptions or Vouchers

- The competition for individuals opens on 1 August 2022 and closes on 30 August 2022.
- Prizes for the opening and closing events are available to those who register and attend the events.
- Prizes available for societies who enter their events
- Visit <https://familyhistorymonth.org.au/index.php/competition-page>

*(For all prizes please read the Terms and Conditions on the NFHM website.)*

**PRIZES for Event Organisers who are genealogy societies or similar.**

- 1 x SAG membership
- 1 x MyHeritage 12 month World

*Waiting confirmation*

- 1 x NAA membership.

**PRIZES for individuals**

- 1 x \$50 digital Memento voucher.
- 1 x SAG DNA conference ticket for November 2023
- 1 x copy of *The Good Genealogist* book from SAG
- \$100 Gould Genealogy ebooks discount coupon
- Unlock the Past publications value \$100
- 1 copy of *Family History for Beginners and Beyond* (FHA CT)
- 1 copy of *Every Family Has a Story 2022* (FHA CT)
- 1 x GSQ education credits up to the value of \$150.
- 1 x GSQ membership

*To be confirmed:*

- 2 x Ancestry DNA kit (one for an Australian resident, and one for New Zealand).
- 2 x Ancestry 12 month UK heritage subscription. (one for an Australian resident, and one for New Zealand)



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(From page 3) - **Win, win, win!**

- 1 hour consult with Deb Carter, Ancestry genealogist.
- 2 x individual memberships to NAA.
- 2 hour block of GSV research.
- One copy of *Family History for Beginners and Beyond*. (from GSV)
- Findmypast - 2 x 12-month pro subscriptions.
- Findmypast - 1 x 12 month membership



**Find  
my  
past**

**Prizes for those who register and attend the Opening Ceremony on 1 August 2023**

- \$50 Genealogy ebooks discount coupon.
- 1 x MyHeritage 12 month subscription.

To be confirmed:

- 1 individual memberships to NAA.



**Prizes for those who register and attend the Closing Ceremony via Zoom on 31 August 2023**

- Unlock the Past publications (print and ebooks) – value \$50 Winner;
- 1 x MyHeritage 12 month World subscriptions



To be confirmed:

- 1 x Memento \$150 Gift Voucher.
- 1 individual memberships to NAA.



*Thank you to all our Sponsors*



memento

## *NFHM Events Calendar*

For the full list of events, links to the events and how to register, go to:

[https://familyhistorymonth.org.au/index.php/nfhm-events-calendar/monthcalendar/2023/8/-](https://familyhistorymonth.org.au/index.php/nfhm-events-calendar/monthcalendar/2023/8/)

**Tuesday 01 August**

- 02:00pm - 03:00pm Just One Piece of the Puzzle: Connecting your Family History With SLAS staff Chloe House & Amberlei Darlington Beresford

**Wednesday 02 August**

- 01:30pm - 02:30pm Writing your Family History
- 02:00pm - 03:30pm Using TROVE for Family History research. Training room workshop with Matthew Johnston & SLAS staff : Workshop

**Thursday 03 August**

- 02:00pm - 03:00pm Book Launch an "in conversation" with Yvette Blackwood and author Lenny Bartulin, about his new novel. *The Unearthed* - a novel of the West Coast of Tasmania.
- 07:00pm - 08:00pm Researching your Ancestors from India and Sri Lanka

**Saturday 05 August**

- 09:00am - 11:00am Getting to know your sources: Investigating sources : On-Line
- 02:00pm - 04:00pm Ivanhoe Genies : Workshop
- 02:00pm - 03:00pm Vandemonians Book Talk

**Monday 07 August**

- 01:00pm - 02:00pm A Chinese Family History

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## NFHM Events Calendar

<https://familyhistorymonth.org.au/index.php/nfhm-events-calendar/monthcalendar/2022/8/>

(From page 4) - **NFHM Events Calendar**

### Tuesday 08 August

- 01:00pm - 01:30pm French Huguenot ancestry and Australia : On-Line
- 02:00pm - 03:00pm Uncovering the stories of Chinese Australian families with Dr. Kate Bagnall, University of Tasmania : Combined on-site/digital event

### Wednesday 09 August

- 02:00pm - 03:00pm Government Archives & Preservation – Geilston Bay Repository A guided tour with Nicki Ottavi, Archivist, Tasmanian Archives & Special collections. \* Bookings essential – maximum of 10. Contact Allport 6165 5584 : Workshop

### Thursday 10 August

- 11:00am - 12:00pm Soldiers and Aliens
- 02:00pm - 03:30pm Using the Names Index for Family History research. Training room workshop with Matthew Johnston & SLAS staff: : Workshop

### Saturday 12 August

- 09:00am - 11:00am Convict research beyond Ancestry and Newspaper resources beyond Trovebeyond Trove. : On-Line
- 09:30am - 10:30pm Introduction to the GSV and our Resources : On-Line
- 10:45am - 12:00pm Researching Your Family History : On-Line

### Sunday 13 August

- 12:00pm - 03:00pm CAFHOV Chinese Family History Day 2023

### Monday 14 August

- 01:00pm - 02:30pm Online websites: FindMyPast, TheGenealogist and the British Newspaper Archives : On-Line

### Tuesday 15 August

- 02:00pm - 03:00pm Mrs Allport is the greatest flirt in the colony. The Journals of Mary Morton Allport's Mother, Ann Floyd Chapman- part two With SLAS staff Kate Vermey : Combined on-site/digital event

### Wednesday 16 August

- 12:00pm - 01:00pm Ship Fest - Passenger & ship records (NAA, SLSA, SRSA)
- 02:00pm - 03:00pm Service records, awards and uniforms with NAA – Bruce Kay & Nick Hams : Combined on-site/digital event

### Thursday 17 August

- 02:00pm - 03:00pm Government Archives & Preservation – Geilston Bay Repository A guided tour with Nicki Ottavi, Archivist Tasmanian Archives & Special collections \* Bookings essential – maximum of 10. Contact Allport 6165 5584 : Workshop

### Friday 18 August

- 02:00pm - 03:00pm "'A curious mixture' – commonplace books in the Tasmanian Archives and State Library with Archivist Jen Jerome : Combined on-site/digital event

### Saturday 19 August

- 10:00am - 12:00pm Growing up in the 80s
- 02:00pm - 03:00pm History of Australian Motherhood

### Monday 21 August

- 10:30am - 12:30pm Getting Started with your Family Research

### Tuesday 22 August

- 11:00am - 12:00pm British Surnames
- 12:00pm - 01:00pm Picture this! Guide to PhotoSearch (NAA SA)
- 02:00pm - 03:00pm Join artist Jane Giblin for a talk & tour of her new exhibition, Dear Kate: The vision of the Mitchell women : Exhibition

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(From page 5) - **NFHM Events Calendar**

### Wednesday 23 August

- 02:00pm - 03:00pm A Stitch in Time – the Rajah Quilt and the women who made it With Dianne Snowden, Author and Historical Researcher : Combined on-site/digital event
- 02:00pm - 03:30pm ScotlandsPeople website : On-Line

### Thursday 24 August

- 02:00pm - 03:00pm On the trail of survey diagrams and field notes With SLAS staff Elizabeth Brown : Combined on-site/digital event
- 07:30pm - 09:00pm Victoria and Tasmania Discussion Circle : On-Line

### Monday 28 August

- 10:00am - 12:00pm Find your Irish family history (webinar) : On-Line

### Tuesday 29 August

- 02:00pm - 03:00pm The Art of Yarning With Dean Greeno : Combined on-site/digital event

### Wednesday 30 August

- 02:00pm - 03:00pm Old Boots and Cloth Scraps: A Surprise Find of Early Colonial Garments and Footwear at Anglesea Barracks With Dr. Jennifer Jones-Travers : Combined on-site/digital event

### Thursday 31 August

- 02:00pm - 03:00pm Administration of Justice - Who metered out the extreme penalties of Tasmanian Courts With Brian Rieusset, Author and Historical Researcher : Combined on-site/digital event

tell us  
about your

event

we want to hear  
from you!

## What did your Society do to celebrate National Family History Month?

Each of our organisations celebrate National Family History Month with many different activities. Share your stories with us via the September edition of *Newsflash*. Your story could provide inspiration for other societies to host a similar activity to promote family history, not just for a month but throughout the year.

Send your stories and pictures to [editor@affho.org](mailto:editor@affho.org)  
for inclusion in the next *Newsflash*.

