



# 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 2022-2023

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
Greta Gordon	NZ	Councillor
David Ballinger	SA	Councillor
Maurice Appleyard	TAS	Councillor
Peter Forrestal	WA	Councillor
Gail Hanger	NSW/ACT	Assoc Rep
Jenny Harkness	VAFHO	Assoc Rep

### AFFHO Officers

June Penny	Public Officer, Archivist
Alex Daw	National Family History Month Co-ordinator
Jan Squire	Webmaster
Vicki Montgomery	Nick Vine Hall Awards
Rosemary McKenzie	Newsflash Compiler

### 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)

ISSN 1445-243X

## From the President

August was a very busy month for genealogists and family historians.

AFFHO began the month with an Opening Event from Professor **Larissa Behrendt** with the topic *Fictionalising the Family History* - History is full of silences and there are often gaps in the family history. This is particularly so for First Nations families given the impact of the removal policy. So how can those blank spaces be filled, what can be 'imagined' and what can be reclaimed? How can the process of creative writing help find the forgotten stories and missing links?

The Closing Event held on 31 August featured two speakers who gave us their insights into *How to Bring your Ancestors to Life!* **Catherine Wall** (YouTube Yorkshire's Hidden History) shared how to make history interesting, engaging and accessible for everyone. **Daniel Horowitz** (*MyHeritage*) demonstrated MyHeritage's latest tool DeepStory and how it can enhance your storytelling.

You can view these and other videos until the end of September at <https://familyhistorymonth.org.au/index.php/videos/category/general>

*History in Paradise*, the **16th Australasian Congress on Genealogy & Heraldry** was held on Norfolk Island from 2nd to 4th August 2022. It was hosted by the Norfolk Island Museum and by all accounts was a most interesting and successful congress. It was unfortunate that after travelling to Norfolk Island I tested positive to Covid-19 and had to isolate for the required seven days. I asked my friend and colleague Vivienne Parker to write up her thoughts on Congress and these are accompanied by photographs taken by Jan Squire and Rosemary McKenzie and I thank them for their contributions. As a recognition of outstanding service to family history in Australasia the AFFHO Council presents Meritorious Service Awards at Congress. Two Awards were presented at the Congress Dinner to very worthy recipients Linley Hooper and Martyn Killion.

**Linley Hooper** is a life member of the Genealogical Society of Victoria and she joined the society in 1970 and began as a volunteer Library Assistant in 1979 and has continued to volunteer in many capacities including as the representative for Victoria on AFFHO from 1987 to 1990.

**Martyn Killion** has been involved in family history in Australia for over forty years and joined the Society of Australian Genealogists in 1990 and was President of AFFHO from 1991 until 1996 and the NSW representative from 2015-2019.

*Robyn Williams, President AFFHO*

## Vale – Sue Myfanwy Lear

It is with deep sadness and shock that we share with you the loss of our President Sue Myfanwy Lear. Sue passed away unexpectedly on Friday 15th July 2022.

Sue became a member of Genealogy SA in 2014, and President in 2019 - it is in this role that she grew the Society to be one of the largest family history societies in the Southern Hemisphere.

Sue will be remembered by the Society for her vibrant and enterprising energy, drive, good humour, and her absolute love for family history.

Our thoughts are with Sue's family for whom she adored.

Council and members, South Australian Genealogy & Heraldry Society inc (t/a Genealogy SA)

David Ballinger FSAGHS  
Vice President  
South Australian Genealogy & Heraldry Soc. Inc..



## AFFHO Congress 2022 – Norfolk Island

*Vivienne Parker, NZSG.*

**Watawieh** – Hello, how are you? (in Norfo'k Island language)

*History in Paradise* 2022 AFFHO Congress, postponed from 2021 due to Covid-19 and the ensuing lock-downs was re-scheduled to 1-4 August 2022. You could travel to Norfolk Island either from Sydney on 29th July or from Brisbane on Saturday. Keith, my husband and I travelled from Auckland via Sydney and arrived on Friday so we had the weekend to explore the island, as well as taking a Bus Tour of the Island with Kim Davies (a Pitcairn descendant) who told us the history and local information.

Our accommodation, at Paradise Hotel and Resort, also the location for the Congress, came with a car as there is no public transport on Norfolk. We loved the scenery and the history - Keith summed it up by announcing "It is a good job I didn't come when I was younger, as I would have stayed here forever".

(A sentiment not repeated by any of the convicts I am sure!)

In the evenings, meeting up with new acquaintances and meeting old friends from previous Congresses is always exciting. Robyn Williams, AFFHO President, arrived via Brisbane on Saturday. We have heard from the Conference Organisers on Norfolk Island that there were: 138 Full Registrations, 35 Social Registrations, 2 Keynote Speakers and 21 Concurrent Speakers (26 Sessions). I cannot comment on them all but here is an overview for you.

Congress started with a Trade Show in Rawson Hall, in Burnt Pine Village. After lunch we had two presentations that had been pre-recorded: Emily Hanna told us of the Norfolk Island Resources held at State Library NSW and Scott Fairie explained Army Pay Books held at The National Archives in London. Professor Noam Levin of the Biodiversity Research Group at University of



*Professor Noam Levin  
A study of Norfolk Island maps at the Exhibition day.*



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Queensland then explained their studies on the impact of European settlement on Norfolk Island through historical maps and aerial photographs, and copies of his maps adorned the walls of the hall.

Early Tuesday morning the telephone rang in our room, it was Robyn, “Guess what?” she said... “I have just tested positive for Covid!” So Robyn was imprisoned at the hotel and that was the last we saw of the President—she missed all of Congress. When she was released from quarantine, she did manage to tour the island and make up for a bit of lost time before flying home to New Zealand.

The Congress opened officially on Tuesday with Ray Martin, Ambassador to Norfolk Island, and a very popular broadcaster who gave the opening presentation on ‘Discovering Who I am’. After Morning Tea we had a choice of three presentations to choose from: Convicts, DNA, or Norfolk’s First Settlement. After lunch we had three sessions with a choice of nine presentations followed by us all breaking into groups and going to Kingston, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, where guides took some of us round the Cemetery or the Island Museum. It was also an opportunity to go to the Research Centre at 9 Quality Row.

Professor Larissa Behrendt was the keynote speaker on Wednesday, she enthralled us with ‘Removal and Reconnection: A Personal Family History’, the story of Larissa’s aboriginal grandmother, a Stolen Child, of her children living in orphanages and their struggle for survival, and the eventual re-connection with the *Eualeyai/Kamilaro* people.

There was a choice of two presentations after Morning Tea and then we were off again this time to visit Government House, home to the Administrator of Norfolk Island and not normally open to the public. By special privilege, we were invited to walk inside and see the rooms and furniture, some of which were crafted by convicts. Then we went in our groups for the Guided Tour of the Cemetery or the Island Museum Tour. The Cemetery is still in use today by the Islanders, it is fascinating as there are many convict graves, stories of rebellion and hangings, wonderful headstones carved by fellow convicts. The Island Museum tells the story of the arrival of the Pitcairn Islanders to Norfolk Island, and life on the Island.

During the Congress some of the presenters could not attend so we had a few presentations from people who kindly stepped in to fill the gaps. On Thursday we had a



Above: Quality Row; Government House; St Barnabus Chapel.  
Below: All genealogists love hours in a cemetery!



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(Continued from page 3) - AFFHO Congress 2022 – Norfolk Island



Ray Martin, Ambassador for Norfolk Island, began the Congress. Larissa Behrendt closed the congress with 'Finding Eliza'. ... and many other interesting speakers, including Liz Rushen and Imogen Wegman



Walking tours and museum visits were included in the program.



Congress Closing Dinner and a show by 'The Bounty Girls' Presentations for the speakers.



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wonderful presentation by Professor Darryl Low Choy who told us he was born in Australia, and when he started school “I came home from school singing a song I had learnt, the song was titled ‘Ching Chong Chinaman’, my mother said to me you shouldn't sing that song because you're Chinese. At the age of five I had no idea whatsoever I was different, and in fact, it didn't really resonate with me what Chinese meant.” His parents and grandparents suffered generations of shame, being Chinese in a predominately white society in Far North Queensland under the White Australia Policy. Darryl has spent a lifetime since then researching his family history, all the way back to China - made more difficult because he has never learnt to speak Chinese.

The closing presentation by keynote speaker Professor Larissa Behrendt was entitled ‘Captured by Cannibals: the Life and Lies of Eliza Fraser’. Eliza was purportedly captured by the local *Butchulla* people after she was shipwrecked on their island in 1836, it was a fascinating story.

Congress 2022 was a wonderful opportunity to learn about the Pitcairn Islanders and their settlement on Norfolk Island, the Convicts and their sufferings, the wreck of the *Sirius*, stolen children, and life in early Australia. I even learnt how to catalogue all my books with *Librarything* thanks to Jill Ball. I do not have room to name all the presenters but we thank you all for your input into Congress.

The Congress Dinner was held at *Orn Daa Cliff*, at the opposite side of the island from the hotels so we were bussed there. We were treated to a feast of local produce, trumpeter fish and coconut-banana pie. The MC and musician for the evening was Trent Christian who kept the evening going with a swing. In the formal part of the evening, AFFHO Treasurer, Fay Carbis, announced the presentation of the Meritorious Awards to Martyn Killion and Linley Hooper. We Congratulate them both.

Then it was back to our hotels either to enjoy one more day on the Island or to pack and wing our way home next day.

Photographs: Jan Squires and Rosemary McKenzie.

## *Farewell Norfolk Island*



*Our Hosts: Maree Evans and Rose Evans*



*Fay Carbis (L) and Kerry Farmer (SAG) accepting Martyn Killion's award on his behalf.*



*Rosemary McKenzie (L) and Marvena Van Kann (GSV) accepting Linley Hooper's award on her behalf.*



## Society of Australian Genealogists - 90th Anniversary

The Society of Australian Genealogists held their first meeting in Sydney on 29 August 1932. The SAG is fortunate to have Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC, Governor of New South Wales as Patron of our Society. Upon discovering it was our 90th anniversary in 2022 Her Excellency generously offered to host an afternoon tea at Government House Sydney as part of the celebrations.

On Tuesday 16 August members of the Society excitedly gathered in the ballroom at Government House with Her Excellency and Mr Wilson for an afternoon of reconnecting and reminiscing. The Governor and Mr Wilson both demonstrated a keen interest in family history as they formally congratulated the Society on its milestone anniversary and later mingled with guests.



*Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC,  
Governor of NSW addressing members of  
Society of Australian Genealogists*

The Society has a packed calendar of events to both celebrate our anniversary and the wider family history community. We planned a number of events specifically for those new to family history to celebrate NFHM, including a two-day intensive *Beginners Practical Introduction to Family History* course, our first substantial face to face event since the Covid pandemic started.

Author and academic Dr Betty O'Neill will facilitate a full day writing family history workshop at our Research Centre and Library on Friday 26 August. We also have two online presentations focussing on immigration to Australia, the first with Dr Perry Macintyre AM and Dr Liz Rushen AM and the second with Kerry Farmer. We will be rounding out the month with a session of our popular *First Look at AncestryDNA* webinar.

For NFHM we are also holding two free public webinars on Tuesday 23 August and Tuesday 30 August respectively. The first will feature a varied panel of family historians focusing on publishing and creative methods to encourage attendees to *Do SOMETHING with your family history!* and the second will be a webinar with Associate Professor Tanya Evans, discussing her recent book, *Family History, Historical Consciousness and Citizenship: A New Social History*.

Finally, what better time than NFHM to launch a book titled *The Good Genealogist: how to improve the quality of your family history research*, by Danielle Lautrec, one of the Society's dedicated archives and education volunteers.

*At the SAG celebrated its 90th birthday  
we arranged for  
Melissa Hulbert (current president)  
to read out*

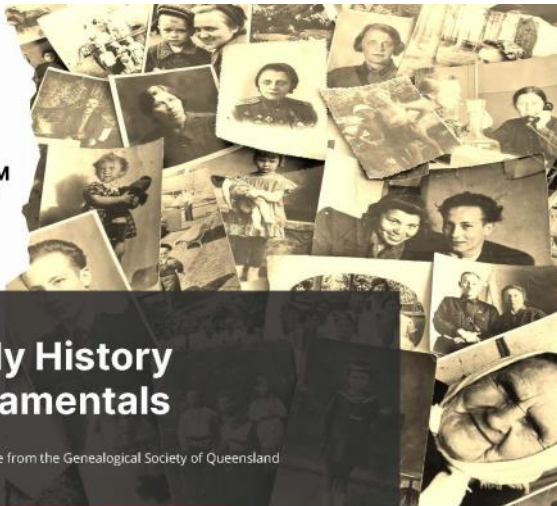
*Martyn Killion's **AFFHO Meritorious Service Award**  
nomination, which had been awarded on  
Norfolk Island at the AFFHO Congress.*

*Kerry Farmer then  
presented Martyn with the Award.*





Tuesday  
6 Sep @ 7 PM  
for 4 weeks



## Family History Fundamentals

An online course from the Genealogical Society of Queensland

### About the course

Start your family history research on a solid foundation. Presenters are experienced GSQ researchers. All sessions to be recorded and available until 2 weeks after the Q&A session.

### What does it cost?

All 4 sessions:  
GSQ/QFHS members: \$70  
Non-members: \$90

### Course program

Virtual event via Zoom

- 6 Sep – Where do I start? The basics of family history research.
- 13 Sep – Finding records. Primary and secondary records, indexes, online search strategies, archives, newspapers, sharing research.
- 20 Sep – What we might find and where. Civil registration, census, parish records. This session has an Australian focus.
- 27 Sep – Q&A session. Presenters to respond to questions submitted by registrants.

### Payment

GSQ/QFHS Members \$70  
Non-members \$90  
Book & pay online:  
[www.gsq.org.au/events/](http://www.gsq.org.au/events/)

+61 7 3349 6072  
[education@gsq.org.au](mailto:education@gsq.org.au)



Genealogical Society of Queensland Inc

New Zealand Society of Genealogists  
Te Rangapū Kaihikohiko o Aotearoa  
Family history - Preserving our past for the future



Do you have family members who resided in New Zealand for any time?

New Zealand's national genealogical organisation, the NZSG may be able to help you with your Kiwi family wherever you are in the world.

- Research service – help is only an email away
- Extensive library with online catalogue – members can request a look up
- Ever increasing online resources and Education classes
- Access to member only collections including First Families and Certificates
- Ability to subscribe to the Kiwi Collection – for members only

Find us at [www.genealogy.org.nz](http://www.genealogy.org.nz)

New Zealand's national genealogical organisation, the NZSG can help you with your Kiwi family, wherever you are in the world :

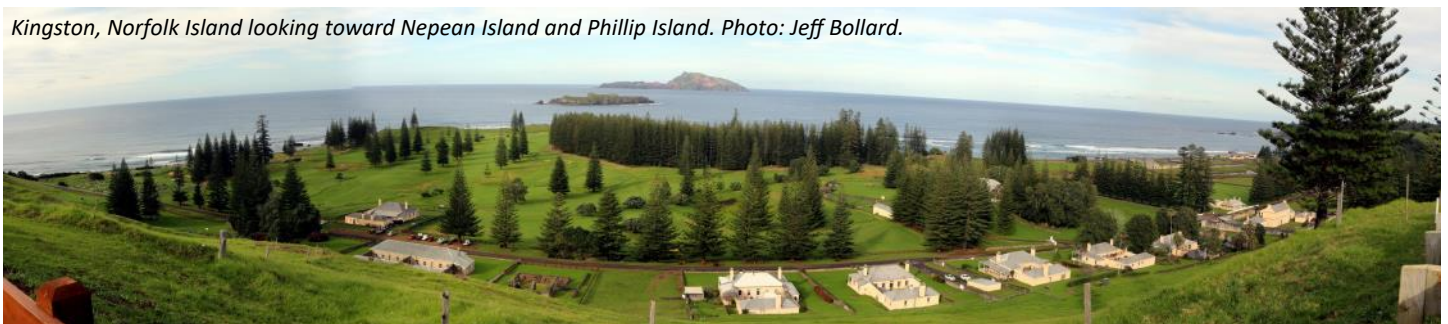
- research services - help is only an email away
- extensive Library - borrow books if resident in NZ or request look-ups
- ever increasing online resources and Education classes
- access to member-only collections including First Families and Certificates
- ability to subscribe to the Kiwi Collection (see over)

Find us at [www.genealogy.org.nz](http://www.genealogy.org.nz)

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Family history - Preserving our past for the future



Kingston, Norfolk Island looking toward Nepean Island and Phillip Island. Photo: Jeff Bollard.



NZSG Kiwi Collection



## Nearly 12 million New Zealand records and counting!

With over 300 different record sets, and an ever increasing number of records, the Kiwi Collection covers a wide array of record types and includes indexes to the NZSG's collections.

Available only to NZSG members  
NZ\$50 annually or NZ\$20 for a month  
[www.genealogy.org.nz/kiwi](http://www.genealogy.org.nz/kiwi)

# Sands of Time

LOCAL AND FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE

**FRI 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER – SUN 23<sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER**

History Redcliffe is proud to partner with History Queensland to host the 4<sup>th</sup> Queensland State Local and Family History Conference on the Redcliffe Peninsula in the Moreton Bay Region.

Located at the Redcliffe Dolphins Leagues Club, this conference has something for everybody. Whether you're a seasoned historian, research novice or are just feeling a little curious, come along and find out something new!

- INTERESTING SPEAKERS
- DNA
- TRADE EXHIBITS
- FREE WORKSHOPS
- RESEARCH TIPS
- GENEALOGY RESOURCES
- 3 WORLD CLASS KEYNOTES



**Jennifer Harrison**



**Shauna Hicks**



**Michelle Patient**

**Register now at [sandsoftime.org.au](http://sandsoftime.org.au)**

## FREE WORKSHOPS


# Sands of Time

#SOT22  
LOCAL AND FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE  
21-23 OCTOBER 2022

As part of the *Sands of Time* Local and Family History Conference to be held at Redcliffe Dolphins Leagues Club, we are delighted to offer a range of free pre-conference workshops on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2022.

- Preserving surveying heritage by genealogy process  
Bill Kitson
- The research process: effective research tips  
Rick Aindow
- Building digital resources to understand genealogy in context  
Mark Finnane
- Resources to assist with Queensland historical land research  
Kaye Nardella


**Book now at [sandsoftime.org.au](http://sandsoftime.org.au)**




**FHA CT**

Saturday 8 October 2022 **Talking about Convicts**


**Damned Lives and Statistics: Big Data and Convict Life Course**  
Professor Hamish Maxwell-Stewart



**Convict lives in early New South Wales: reconstructing biographies from online sources**  
Mr Michael Flynn



**Using Mr Bigge's Enquiry two hundred years on**  
Associate Professor David Roberts



**Hybrid half-day seminar Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October**  
**Commencing at 9.30 am**

Hosted by Family History ACT, this seminar is open to anyone who would like to learn more about Australia's convict past.


You can attend via Zoom or in person at the Family History ACT Library in Canberra (note places are capped for in-person attendance so book early). Cost: \$30 for FHA CT members

\$40 non members

For more information and registration  
<https://www.familyhistoryact.org.au>

## BEN HOLLISTER

**VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM**



**WHEN**  
Saturday 12 November 2022  
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM AEST

**PAYMENT**  
GSQ/QFHS members \$20  
Non-members \$30  
Book & pay online:  
[www.gsq.org.au/events](http://www.gsq.org.au/events)

This session will be recorded and available for one month after the event to registered attendees.


**GERMAN MIGRATION TO AUSTRALIA & THE LUTHERAN ARCHIVES**

Who were the first Germans in Australia? When and how did they arrive? This Cook's Tour of nearly 200 years of Germans arriving in Australia will give a good foundation to understanding the push and pull factors, routes and peoples who made German and Germans the largest ethnic group after migrants from the British Isles.

The Lutheran Archives are the only national religious archive in Australia. With a mandate to preserve the story of the Lutheran Church in Australia, in all its forms, it has developed a diverse collection that can help researchers uncover many facets of history beyond church register entries.

**ABOUT BEN HOLLISTER**

Ben Hollister has been a professional historian since 2007, and a historical researcher since 1997. He currently owns and operates History Helper, a historical research business.



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