

GSQ e-NEWS

Issue 125 MARCH 2017

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OPEN

Monday • Closed
Tuesday • 10am - 3pm
Wednesday • 10am - 3pm
Thursday • 10am - 3pm
Friday • 10am - 3pm
Saturday • 12noon - 4pm
Sunday • Interest Groups
2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the month • 6pm-9pm.

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From the President

March 2017

Hello everyone. I hope that all members, by now, have been onto the new GSQ website with the temporary login provided to you in mid-January and then changed your password, provided the extra little bit of information required, and had a good exploration of the site. If you haven't, you should do so. Once you become familiar with the new site, you will find it very easy to use and move around on.

I was wondering what I might talk about this month, when I heard a terrible tale just last week at GSQ. One of our regular volunteers received an email that looked like a normal utility bill, and, in a moment of distractedness she clicked on the attachment. Next thing she knew, her computer was encrypted with Ransom-ware and a message was on the screen demanding hundreds of dollars for the key to decrypt it! Getting past this sort of encryption is virtually impossible these days and several high-level police departments around the world have recommended that the money just be paid as a means of least disruption for the person targeted, as the ransomers usually do provide the unencrypt key.

There are two morals to this story. One is to never click on an attachment in an email you are not one hundred percent sure is legitimate. The second - and only reliable way to avoid this happening to you, is to have - and rigidly practice - a backup regime! Of course, you say, "I will get onto that tomorrow" - and as we know, tomorrow never comes. You should be thinking about what you can do right now, because it can happen to you. It did happen to our fellow member and as a result she stands to lose hundreds of dollars or years and years of family history data, or possibly both, because she did not have her data backed up.

If you do have a backup of your data in this situation, you can just go out and buy a new machine and continue on your way. You will have to do this because your old machine is unusable, unless you can get into its base settings and reformat the whole drive, and reinstall the operating system from scratch. If a new computer is more expensive than the ransom, pay it, get the decrypt key - then do a backup straight away!

Just by chance, and concurrent to this cautionary tale, I happened to read an article about backing up data. There are many ways of going about it, from really serious methods where disk images are taken every hour/day and copies are kept on physically separate machines, in the cloud and physically removed from the property where your original data is held - down to casually copying something piecemeal onto a usb stick or portable hard drive every now and then. I admit I tend to operate at the lower end of the scale, and I am sure a lot of you have heard my sorry tales about my portable drives suddenly deciding to not work at unfortunate times. Even I need to be more diligent in my practices.

The strong message that comes through from the article is that to maintain a successful backup regime, you need to first find the system that best works for you, and then **you must have the mindset and the diligence to maintain it!** That is where the problems begin to creep back in, when the backups are not done at regular intervals.

So there you go - what are you going to do now towards saving the files that are precious to you??...

Geoff Doherty

president@gsq.org.au

BRANCH & INTEREST GROUP NEWS

North Brisbane Branch

The North Brisbane Branch of GSQ holds its meetings on the first Friday morning of each month (except January) at the Brisbane North Area Scouting Centre at 23 Sicklefield Street Alderley. Doors open at 8.45 am. North Brisbane Members are able to borrow from our extensive library of books, magazines, fiche and CDs. The next meeting for 2017 will be held on Friday March 3rd. The Guest Speaker will be *Mr Stewart Armstrong from the National Trust*. Visitors are welcome at our meetings.

Redlands Branch

The next meeting of the Redland Genealogical Society will be held at the Donald Simpson Centre, Bloomfield Street, Cleveland, on Wednesday 8 March, commencing at 12.15pm. The Guest Speaker at this meeting will be *Sue Laidlaw, representing the Anglican Archives for South East Queensland*. Admission \$2.00 with Lucky Door prize. Visitors very welcome."

Beaudesert Branch

Meetings are held at our rooms 15A William Street, Beaudesert, on 4th Wednesday of each month, commencing at 10.00am. The library is open each Wednesday from 10.00am to 2.00pm. The next meeting is 22nd March 2017. Visitors are very welcome.

Scottish Interest Group

The next meeting of the Scottish Interest Group due to take place at GSQ is on Sunday 5th March when the library will open at 0930 am. Our normal meeting beginning at 10.30 will include a help session for those with research problems. A computer & projector will be available to catch upon the latest changes to the scotlandspeople website. On completion of the meeting the library will remain open for research. If possible advise the Group Secretary or President in advance of any research problems you have as it will assist in setting the agenda. Visitors are welcome.

Family Tree Maker Users' Group

The FTM User Group will begin at 10.30 am on the 12th March, although the library will be open from 9.00am. This group is a networking group that can help beginners and assist both Mac & Windows users overcome any FTM problems they may face. All members should have loaded their Mackiev 2014.1 upgrade by then. People with laptops should bring them along so the participants can help solve your particular problem(s). The GSQ library has Wi-Fi access but it is not suitable for downloading the new Mackiev upgrade. GSQ members and researchers contemplating purchasing a family history programme, are welcome to attend our meeting. Advance notice to the convenor on mcfadzen@bigpond.net.au of your problem(s) will assist in setting the meeting Agenda. Any GSQ members and researchers contemplating purchasing a family history programme, are welcome to attend our meeting.

INTEREST GROUP NEWS

German Interest Group

Our next meeting is on the Sunday 26th March. *Stella Brosing will be giving us a "practice session on reading and writing German Script."*

Doors open 10am followed by a short meeting 10.15am and then Stella will set us all to work.

There will be time for individual research and we will do our best, to suggest ways of finding those annoying Ancestors that keep evading your best efforts.

Our tea break is something we always look forward to. Doors close at 2.15pm. Looking forward to seeing you.

Well, I think that is about it for this month.

Take Care, Marg.

Convict Connections Group

Convict and Colonial Connections met on Sunday the 12th February 2017 for it's Annual General Meeting and election of committee members.

New position bearers are:-

CONVENER: Sue Burgess

SECRETARY Carol Bergen

TREASURER: Carlene Harris

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Val Blomer

OFFICER OF CLAIMS:

To be revisited at the April 2017 meeting

WEBSITE MANAGER:

To be discussed with Steve Fletcher and Helen Connor re Convict Connections website to GSQ to maintain.

LIBRARIAN: Robyn Fletcher

Expectations will be that, meetings will be on the second Sunday of every second month until December, any variance with this will be discussed by the group and Secretary of GSQ will be informed.

Next meeting 9th April 2017.

Writing Interest Group

The Writing Group next meets on 23 April 2017. Doors open at 10am with the meeting from 10.30am to 12.30am. Doors close at 2pm.

More details will be published in the April eNews. For more information contact Pauline at pstirland@hotmail.com.

DNA Interest Group

Ancestry announced that they have now tested 3 million people for autosomal DNA and also sold 1.4 million kits in the last quarter of 2016.

I recently attended Rootstech in the USA. Ancestry had another sale there and brought 200, 000 kits to the conference and they were selling heaps! It would not be surprising if Ancestry announced 5 million people tested by the end of 2017. That is a fair number of potential cousins!

The next DNA SIG meeting is on Sunday 19th March at 9.30am. All are welcome.

Legacy Family Tree Users' Group

Any member using (or thinking of using) Legacy Family Tree software is welcome to join us at 1:00 pm on Sunday 12 march for our next meeting.

We will be discussing how people use cloud storage (such as DropBox or OneDrive) to enable them to access their data files from their home computer, laptop or tablet anywhere and at any time. Then we will look at how to organise the Events/Facts recorded for your ancestors' lives to ensure that the information is readily available in the appropriate forms with the least effort.

As always, there is no one size that fits all and different members will explain how their method suits their particular needs.

For more details, email Bob at fortiter@live.com.au.

INTEREST GROUPS & NEWS

English/Irish Interest Group

The English/Irish group will meet again on the first Sunday in April – Sunday 2nd April at GSQ.

At this next meeting we will continue our tour around counties in England, Wales and Ireland with two group members presenting – one on research in an Irish county and another on research in an English county. All members of GSQ are welcome to join us for these meetings which are held on the first Sunday of even numbered months of the year.

The doors of GSQ open at 10 o'clock for these Interest Group meetings with the actual meeting starting at 10.30. Following the meeting the resources in GSQ library are available for group members to use until 2.30p.m. Bring along your lunch and join fellow members with interests in English and Irish research. Only cost is a gold coin donation. We look forward to seeing you there!

Military Interest Group

The next military group is on Saturday 25 March with doors opening at 10am and the meeting commencing at 10.30.

At this meeting, Wendy Mason will discuss the Japanese attacks on Darwin and then Horn Island in Queensland. She will also mention other raids by the Japanese looking at how they affected the people living nearby and those in other parts of Australia. She will discuss the government's response and the role of the media. Wendy will look at how the attacks changed family and community life and the arrival of US troops. New members are very welcome and light refreshments will be available..

Monday Morning Natters

February Natters is on Monday 6th March 10:00 am to 12 noon.

This month we will be discussing the Brisbane City Council website and what genealogical information we can find.

All welcome, come along and share a cuppa and a chat with fellow family historians. Gold coin donation for morning tea please.

Joan Reese Memorial Writing Competition

The topic for 2017 is a short story from your family history research titled "*The ancestor I'd most like to meet and why*". You may supplement your story with a photo, and any other relevant material.

The prize is a one-year single membership subscription to GSQ

Closing date for entries: **Monday 15 May 2017**. No entries will be received after this date.

Enquiries may be directed to GSQ Writing Group Convenor, Pauline Williams, on pstirland@hotmail.com.

Scandinavian Interest Group

The Scandinavian Group will have the next meeting on Sunday 19 March at 12:30pm.

No Guest speaker this time.

All welcome.

GSQ in your local BCC library - Free But Booking Required

Library	Course	Date	Time	Contact
Nundah	Irish Immigration – why they left Ireland and where they went"	Saturday, 4 March	1:30-3pm	3407 8701
Kenmore	Using newspapers for family history	Thursday, 13 March	5:30-7:30pm	3407 0258
Corinda	Queensland Family History online	Thursday, 27 April	2pm to 4pm	3407 7701
Garden City	Exploring Ancestry.com	Saturday, 6 May	10:00am -12 noon	3403 7745

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES @ GSQ



Did you know? GSQ now has informative talks on the 4th Wednesday night of the month, gold coin donation

Wednesday 2 March • 7.00 - 8.00 pm



Introduction to DNA

At GSQ, 25 Stackpole St, Wishart

Presenter: Helen Smith

DNA is the latest tool everybody is talking about for family history research. What is it? How can it help? What tests and which company and why?

Gold coin donation for members.

Saturday 1 April • 8.30 - 11.45 am



Advanced Excel Pivot Tables and Charts

At GSQ, 25 Stackpole St, Wishart

Presenter: Joyce Matheson

This course covers learning about two of Excel's most powerful features - Graphs (a great way to visualize numbers) and Pivot Tables (allows you to summarize and explore data interactively). Recommended for people with basic Excel skills. Participants are to arrive by 8.30am and bring their computer with Excel installed. Numbers limited to 6 attendees

Cost: Member \$25 Non-member \$35

(includes morning tea)

Monday 3 April • 2.00 - 4.30 pm



Using Evernote for Family History

At GSQ, 25 Stackpole St, Wishart

Presenter: Helen Connor

Evernote is a cross-platform app designed for notetaking, organising and archiving. This course will take you through the basics of using Evernote with a focus on its application to family history research. Participants will need to bring their computer with Evernote installed. Limited to 6 places

Cost: Member \$25 Non-member \$35

(includes morning tea)

Bookings are essential for all GSQ education sessions and courses.

Use the website, www.gsq.org.au and click on the Events button on the menu bar Alternatively send a cheque to GSQ at PO Box 1467, Carindale, Q 4152 or call in at Stackpole Street.

Email info@gsq.org.au or phone 3349 6072 for further information.

Note: There is onsite parking available at the venue.

Saturday 4 March • 9.30 - 11.30 am



Treasures in the GSQ Library

At GSQ, 25 Stackpole St, Wishart

Presenter: Elaine Lucas

Join Elaine for an informative morning discovering the hidden treasures in the GSQ library.

Cost: Gold coin donation

(includes morning tea)

Monday 6 March • 2.00 - 4.30 pm



Hands on Ancestry

At GSQ, 25 Stackpole St, Wishart

Presenter: Judy Lofthouse

Having trouble with Ancestry.com? Getting too many hits to make sense of? Then come to a hands-on session at GSQ. Learn how to sort out the information Ancestry has. Learn to not only print your results but email them home for you to save on your computer at home. This will feature Ancestry.com Institution version. **Limited to 10 places.**

Cost: Member \$25 Non-member \$35

(includes morning tea)

INTERESTING LINKS AND INFO



The top 3 off-line maps for Android

We already know there are lots of great navigation and maps apps for when you do have a data connection, but what about when you need your location when you're offline? Offline GPS is a vital feature for any maps app. Ironically, it seems you're most likely to get lost when you don't have a connection. Click [HERE](#)

Lancashire Cemetery & Cremation Records on DeceasedOnline

This post tells you what records are available from DeceasedOnline as well as a short intro to Lancashire Records. Click [HERE](#).

Find Your Ancestor in WW1 Red Cross Military Files

If you are searching for an ancestor who fought in World War One, the Red Cross Military Files are a valuable resource. During the war the Red Cross provided vital services for prisoners of war, and wounded or missing soldiers. Click [HERE](#)

Genealogy as a social phenomenon

James Tanner writes about his recent attendance at the very large genealogy conference called RootsTech 2017 gave me pause to reflect on the interesting social consequences of such a gathering. Click [HERE](#)

8 Reasons You Can't Find Squat About Your Ancestors Online

Whether you search online, or offline at libraries, courthouses, or archives, many times our ancestors can be elusive.

Sometimes they just cannot be found. Whether it be a birth date, census entry, or death date - or anything else of interest to us - we just can't seem to "score." Click [HERE](#).

Guide to Understanding Catholic Records

Findmypast's Catholic Heritage Archive is a ground breaking project that will eventually see as many as 100 million Catholic records published online for the first time ever. Since this is a new record set, we've put together this comprehensive guide to understanding your search results. Click [HERE](#)

Unpicking the Past: Revealing Secrets in Old Military Photographs

In this exclusive webinar, Findmypast's in-house military expert Paul Nixon explains how to uncover clues in your old military photographs, which in turn open up further avenues of research. Click [HERE](#)

A Complete Tutorial on Genealogy Organization | The Sunburned Penguin

If you are anything like me, you have binders and file folders full of records, memorabilia, research, etc. on the many branches of your family tree. And you probably also have digital folders full of images with helpful names like IMG0009524.jpg. In fact, for me the digital files are the most numerous and (especially with the photographs) duplicated in various folders as I've imported from here, copied from there, switched computers two or three times — you get the idea. This is a complete tutorial on Genealogy Organisation and well worth a visit - click [HERE](#).



Simon's Cat

For all you cat lovers out there, a bit of fun with the YouTube adventures of Simon's Cat. Click [HERE](#) to enjoy.