

GSQ e-NEWS

Issue 166 August 2020

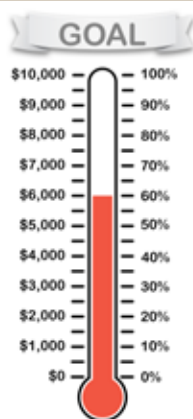
25 Stackpole Street, Wishart Q 4122
PO Box 1467, Carindale Q 4152
Phone: (07) 3349 6072
E-mail: info@gsq.org.au
Web: www.gsq.org.au

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.

CONTENTS

From the President	1
GSQ SIG Information	2
GSQ SIG Information	3
Upcoming education	4
GSQ Notices	5
TAG Report	6
Family History News	7-12



From the President

August 2020

August is National Family History Month. There are a number of events organised throughout Australia. Because of the COVID-19 outbreak, some of these events are available online this year. Check for details on <https://familyhistorymonth.org.au>

What does GSQ have organised for National Family History Month? In the past we've had Open Day and a Morning Tea celebration – both of these are not possible this year! In their place we're organising a **Research-a-Thon on Saturday 15 August**. GSQ will be open from 8.30am – 5.00pm on that day. For those wishing to go to GSQ, bookings will be essential to ensure that we adhere to our COVID Safe Plan – you could opt to stay for the whole day or book for a two and a half hour session or a number of two and a half hour sessions. The sessions will be as follows:

- Session 1: 8.30am – 11.00am
- Session 2: 11.30am – 2.00pm
- Session 3: 2.30pm – 5.00pm

If you wish to stay the whole day, you'll be able to book 8.30am – 5.00pm continuously; if you wish to book for 2 sessions you could book 8.30am – 2.00pm continuously, for example. (The 30 minute breaks are there to allow cleaning of equipment used by people leaving at the end of a session.) All bookings are to be done by emailing Secretary, Claire Rodwell on secretary@gsq.org.au.

As well, on **Monday 31 August** we're organising a giant Zoom meeting 2.00pm – 4.00pm during which people will share their ISO Research Findings – what they've discovered during the period of isolation. We can have up to 100 people at this Zoom meeting, so start thinking about what you'd like to share. Of course, if you haven't had any breakthroughs, I encourage you to register anyway – you might just learn something that will spark a new discovery for you! The details for accessing this Zoom Meeting will be available on the Events Reminder due for release in mid August.

Donation Drive: At the time of writing, our Donation Drive total has passed \$6000. This is an absolutely magnificent effort and I'd like to thank all who have donated to date. Our goal is \$10 000 by the end of August. Hence, it's not too late to donate. This can be done via the Website, in person at GSQ or by posting a cheque to GSQ, PO Box 1467, Carindale. 4152.

A Big Thank You to Helen McKinnon: On behalf of all members I'd like to thank Helen McKinnon, GSQ's Membership Officer, for her wonderful work in connection with Membership, particularly during the COVID outbreak. Helen has spent countless hours at GSQ assisting people wishing to join GSQ or renew membership. Additionally, she has continued as a member of the Management Committee, always ensuring that the Management Committee was made aware of emerging membership issues and providing her insights into any issue affecting GSQ. Helen has indicated that she is no longer able to continue as a member of the Management Committee and will be standing down as Membership Officer as from the Annual General Meeting on 10 October 2020. Many thanks, Helen, for your continuing contributions!

Digital Version of Pre 1856 NSW Records: An exciting discovery about the availability of these records at GSQ, without accessing the Microfilms, has been made. All will be revealed in the September eNews!

With my best wishes
Helen Veivers, President

Subject to the restrictions regarding the Covid-19 situation, some interest groups will be holding their meetings at GSQ. There is a limit of 20 people attending the groups. Some groups are conducting virtual meetings through the use of the Zoom platform.

DNA Interest Group

Our DNA group goes from strength to strength with using our virtual meeting platform. The DNA meeting held on Sunday 19 July was a great success with 45 folk signing in via Helen's GoToMeeting platform.

Shauna Hicks was our special guest presenter this meeting and did a talk titled 'Looking for Grandad & Who Was That Woman?'. We had some great feedback from members including 'Thanks so much Shauna, such an interesting journey'; 'Terrific presentation Shauna, thank you'; 'Excellent detective work using a wide range of sources'; 'Thank you for the presentation, Shauna. You've done a great amount of detective work' and lots more comments!

Our next GSQ DNA Meeting is on **Sunday 23 August** from 9:30am (sharp) till 1pm. Our three presentations will be Michelle Patient talking on the new WATO Beta V2 site; How to export your DNA results from the major testing companies by Judy, Ailsa & Bobbie and DNA Update by Helen Smith. As this is a long meeting we will be having three presentations plus a roundup of our Mentoring groups. If you have a question for this segment, please email dna@gsq.org.au beforehand.

Wednesday evening 26 August 7pm - 8:30pm is the time of our next *Drop In Clinic* which will be virtual like last time. For any GSQ member to get one-on-one help from our DNA team you will need to email us your query so we can allocate you a one-on-one zoom session during that time-frame. Again, the email to use is dna@gsq.org.au

Last, but certainly not least, August is National History Month organised by AFFHO. There are lots of talks including DNA ones, organised by the various genealogical and family history societies and to keep abreast of what's happening visit <https://familyhistorymonth.org.au/> The opening and closing sessions will be free.

German Interest Group

The German Group due to meet in September. Further information will be included in the September eNews.

Scandinavian Interest Group

The next meeting of the Scandinavian Group is on **Sunday 20th September** from 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM at the Resource Centre. There will be more information in the September eNews.

Family Tree Maker Group

The next meeting of the FTM User Group should be on **Sunday 13th September 2020** at 10.30 am. The library will be open from approximately 9.00 am. **However, it will only take place if Covid 19 restrictions are not reintroduced.**

Anyone upgrading their Microsoft operating system to Office 365 should ensure you do a new FTM backup first. You can then retrieve your FTM data from your hard drive if necessary. Also, while on lockdown, check the GSQ website and your local library for free access to various genealogical databases.

This group is a networking group that can help beginners and assist both Mac & Windows users and hopefully overcome any FTM problems they may face. GSQ members and researchers contemplating purchasing a family history programme, are welcome to attend our future meetings when GSQ advise us that the meeting room is open again.

People with laptops should bring them along so the participants can help solve your particular problem(s). Advance notice to the convenor on lesmcfadzen@outlook.com of your problem(s) will assist in setting the meeting Agenda.

Monday Morning Natters

Monday 3rd August, 10am -12 noon has been converted to a Zoom meeting.

Topic for this meeting: *Wear a hat. What styles of hat did your ancestor wear?*

Subject to the restrictions regarding the Covid-19 situation, some interest groups will be holding their meetings at GSQ. There is a limit of 20 people attending the groups. Some groups are conducting virtual meetings through the use of the Zoom platform.

Writing Group

The Writing Group held an enjoyable meeting via Zoom on 21 June, with 14 members able to participate. Our next meeting is scheduled for **Sunday 16 August**. Group Convenor, Pauline, is adopting a 'wait and see' approach as to whether this meeting will again be via Zoom or whether it will be possible to meet face-to-face.

Contact Pauline on pstirland@hotmail.com if you wish to be added to the Group email list.

Legacy User's Group

As emailed to all members of the SIG earlier please make contact if you have any questions. Remember that at this time you can watch Legacy webinars that are on each week and available free for the 7 days after showing

English/Irish Interest Group

The English/Irish SIG will meet at the GSQ Resource Centre on **Sunday 2nd August**. All members of GSQ are invited to attend and share their research interests into their ancestors from England, Ireland and Wales. The Resource Centre will open as usual at 10 o'clock with the meeting itself starting at 10.30a.m. There will be some time available after the meeting for individual research, though access to computers may be limited. The library will close at 1.30p.m.

If you plan on attending please email Janice **by Saturday 1st August** on janicewellard1@gmail.com so the appropriate seating arrangements can be organised. Other Covid19 precautions – social distancing and hand hygiene – will be in place. Please do not attend if you are unwell. We look forward to getting together for our first meeting in six months.

Scottish Interest Group

Our meeting on Sunday 5 July 2020 was our first meeting since March, with the meeting running to a more informal & relaxed format, which created a much lighter atmosphere than previous meetings.

Several acquisitions were introduced to the group. Among these were two Bruce Durie books, "Scottish Genealogy" & "Understanding Documents for Genealogy & Local History". Thank you, Alistair. Thoughtful discussion was conducted on future acquisitions.

Research assistance was given to several members & their respective brick walls, with all members assisting in one way or another. In some cases new approaches were identified.

The meeting concluded with an interesting & informative presentation on Lanarkshire by Alistair.

At our next meeting on **Sunday 6th September**, meeting Bill Cunningham will give a Presentation on the County of Moray
Sláinte Alistair & Ian

DNA Drop-In Clinic

Wednesday evening 26 August 7pm - 8:30pm is the time of our next Drop-In Clinic which will be **virtual** like last time. For any GSQ member to get one-on-one help from our DNA team you will need to email us your query so we can allocate you a one-on-one zoom session during that time-frame. Again, the email to use is dna@gSQ.org.au

Convict Connections Group

The next meeting is on **Sunday 9th August** at 10am, *subject to the GSQ instructions regarding the Covid-19 situation*.

Val Blomer has prepared an interesting programme of talks for the coming meetings. Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings whether you have a convict or not. Our interest covers all people in the colony of NSW until Queensland became a separate state. We have the Resource Centre open from 9:00am until 3:00pm on our meeting day to allow for plenty of personal research time. The short 'formal meeting' followed by the talk commences at 11:00am.

Upcoming GSQ Education Events

These education events will be at your place via ZOOM unless otherwise notified.



British Newspapers

September 12 @ 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Cost: \$25 – \$40

Presenter: Pauline Williams

Pauline has been researching her family history for over 30 years and has regularly presented talks for GSQ and other organisations on a wide range of topics. She convenes GSQs Writing Group, contributes to GSQs blog, and regularly writes for Generation.

Click [HERE](#) to book for this event.



Researching military ancestors

September 19 @ 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Cost: \$25 – \$40

Presenters: Cathie Sherwood and Sharyn Merkley

This course is designed to take you through the various record collections in Australia and overseas to help you locate your elusive military ancestors. Through your research, you may be able to glimpse what life could have been like for an individual during a time of great upheaval and unrest. Muster rolls, service records, maps and war diaries all help to build a clearer picture. Whether your ancestor came as an escort for a convict ship or served in World War 1 or World War 11 or any other military conflict in which Australians were involved, then this is the course for you. (Limited to 14 participants).

Click [HERE](#) to book for this event.

Irish Ancestry Annual Seminar

October 24 @ 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM



The program will be virtual because of COVID-19 and because of this we are able to have overseas speakers. The exciting group of presenters includes: John Grenham, Chris Paton, Jennifer Harrison, Pauleen Cass, Cathie Sherwood. and Helen Smith.

The program presentations will cover:

- Ireland in a family history context;
- Land & Valuations, including Tithe, Griffith Valuation, Valuation Revision lists;
- Republic of Ireland archives;
- Northern Ireland archives;
- Workhouse correspondence and Poor Law Records
- Migration to Australia.

VIRTUAL

More details soon.

New Zealand Research

October 17 @ 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Cost: \$25 – \$40

Presenter: Ailsa Corlett

Have you come across Ancestors who went to New Zealand, but not sure how to find out more about them?

New Zealand has been the First in the World for many Global Events – did you know that in 1893 NZ Women were the first in the World to be granted Voting rights, and you can see on the Women Suffrage Petition Roll, the Signatures of the Ladies who signed it – and All for Free. Now isn't this a Great idea to get a copy of Great Aunt Mary's Signature to add to your Family History!

Come along and learn just what resources are available to help solve your New Zealand puzzles.

**Research Support and Chat
for GSQ Members Only**
Put in your Diaries
Monday 2 -3pm – Weekly



**Research Support & Chat for
GSQ Members Only**
Put in your Diaries
Thursday 11 - 1pm – Weekly

Monday afternoon Zoom meetings are still proving to be very informative, with a large number of GSQ members joining in to share and chat about their Genealogical Journey.

Recently we have had demonstrations on how to record your sources in both Family Tree Maker as well as in Ancestry. Robyn Dean showed how she uses Ancestry for recording all her family information, downloading of files and documents and also linking or attaching them. She then syncs down to her Family Tree Maker program on her computer so that the information is retained and not lost.

Newspapers and Trove are still a great resource to use, and despite a learning curve on using the new site, Trove is still producing great results for assisting in your research.

Paul has had some success with his German research and will join the German SIG of GSQ. Lesley has been assisting with some ideas for him.

FamilySearch is growing in popular use, and many of us were booked into the Presentation done by Cathie Sherwood on Saturday 25th, regarding getting the best out of FamilySearch.

Up coming events are discussed so that everyone is well prepared to join into these Presentations.

The group is growing and staying strong, and will continue to be held each Monday afternoon from 2 – 3pm. Email Ailsa Corlett of tag@gsq.org.au to be added to the invitation which gets sent out each week.

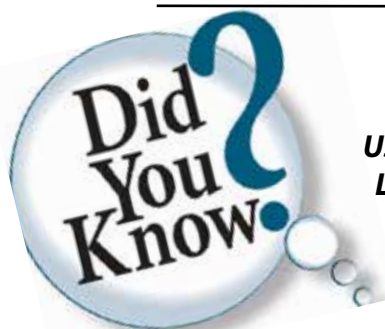
facebook

Our GSQ Facebook page is continuing to draw in both members and non-members. If you're a member of Facebook then you can search for GSQ Genealogical Society of Queensland in the search box and our page will come up. Ticking 'Like' on that page will ensure that our posts feed into your Facebook.

We try to put up links to news within the family history world, so keep an eye on it, you might just find a new site that you've never used before. It also pays to go back over past posts as again, you may find another site unknown to you. GSQ also appreciates it if you spread the love around and share our news with your Facebook friends.

The Thursday Zoom group which is between 11 am – 1pm is also still going well at this stage. Many have returned to GSQ to do research there as the Library is open that day between 10am – 2pm. But we still have a large number keen to join in and discuss their research problems, joys and generally see if we can help each other with our family history.

Please send to Ailsa at tag@gsq.org.au your email and questions so that you be added to the list regarding the Zoom invitations



**Using Historical Context to
Learn About An Ancestor**

Understanding the historical context of the stories of your ancestry can provide important insight into your personal family history.

Are you looking to find what your ancestor's life was like in a certain period? You may not be able to place them between censuses for example.

So it is important to look at the historical context of the area(s) and time period(s) our ancestors lived in. In this case, even though you may not find information specifically about the person you were looking for, you will be able to paint a pretty clear picture of their life during those years by looking for information about the community around them. There are a lot of records out there to use for this type of search. County histories, newspapers, and city directories are a few of the most available ones, and you can also use online search engines to look for other histories and articles as well.

Sometimes it's fun to pick an ancestor you don't know a lot about, find out where they were living at a certain time (census records are good for this), and then learn all you can about what that area was like at the time they were living there. By the time you're done, you'll feel you know them better!

TAG (Technical Advisory Group) News

It has been an interesting month in relation to trying to get the ScanPro machine working really well and onto a newer computer.

With many thanks to the donation we received of a number of computers that were no longer needed, it has given the TAG team plenty to be able to use and experiment with in relation to updating and changing over the very old computers to newer versions. But of course changing to newer Technology does not come without its issues.

The ScanPro is now attached to one of the newer computers we have, running Windows 10, 64 bit, with the latest ScanPro software also installed. I learnt this month that Microsoft removed from Windows Version 8 upwards the drivers for Firewire cards.

Legacy drivers have been installed and the ScanPro machine appears to be working better now than it did previously, in relation to both microfilm and microfiche.

Also a major factor was ensuring that it is running on a newer power board and dedicated just for this computer and machine only. This appears to have now eliminated the time out errors, but they may still occur if you run the microfilms too fast.

I also now have another computer, set at Windows 7, 32 bit, onto which we will gradually change all the old pre-installed CDs which are on Computer 5. This will allow these CDs to be continuously used while they can. Some of these older CDs contain a wealth of information, some of which is not available on the internet now. Once the newer machine is up and running, we will advise.

***Do I need to buy that Certificate ?***

Recently I have been compiling details regarding a family who lived in Dunedin, Otago, New Zealand as well as in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. This started off due to some high DNA matches between myself and other family members, but we are still working out just how this particular family fits into our known family members.

Quite an interesting family to research, and I have gathered lots of details from Ancestry, FindmyPast, Trove and PapersPast, and the Victorian State Archives from which I have obtained a copy of an inquest. All without me spending any funds on purchasing certificates. But there was something about the person in the inquest that really intrigued me to want to know more about her. Nothing regarding her death in 1895 on Trove or NZ's Paperpast, and yet she had a number of children still living at the time. The interesting thing was that the family has also seemed to have just gathered the details I had and nobody I asked has applied for any of the official certificates. Her inquest stated she had 6 living children, which at the time was what we considered to be correct.

As Victoria currently has Historical Certificates downloaded on special for \$20 each, I decided to find out a bit more of what was written on her actual death certificate.

Well what a difference this has made and it has certainly sorted out the correct number of living children and just who was who at the time of her death. Everyone was considering that amongst the 6 living children, her last child who was living, was a part of that number. But NO, she has been left off, and a son whom we had thought had died earlier on, was still living. So why is her last child whom we know was alive missing from her death certificate. The certificate actually answered many other questions as well and helped to prove some dates on which I was working regarding migration between England, New Zealand and Australia.

So was it worth getting that certificate – Yes.

But now I have more questions than what I did before, but the DNA connection is now coming closer to finding answers.

So certificates can answer lots of unknown or unanswered questions. My general rule is, if it is a direct line – all certificates are purchased, if possible. Side lines, will depend on what information I can gather from known and reliable resources – and in this case usually I would not have purchased a certificate as I had obtained an inquest giving me quite a bit of information, but it did not give me the full details, so her death certificate in this particular case, has been a most valuable item to purchase.

Thanks to Ailsa Corlett for this interesting story.

Family History News

A New Rule of Genealogy Discovered: Number Thirteen

Here are the previous 12 Rules:

- Rule One: When the baby was born, the mother was there.
- Rule Two: Absence of an obituary or death record does not mean the person is still alive.
- Rule Three: Every person who ever lived has a unique birth order and a unique set of biological parents.
- Rule Four: There are always more records.
- Rule Five: You cannot get blood out of a turnip.
- Rule Six: Records move.
- Rule Seven: Water and genealogical information flow downhill.
- Rule Eight: Everything in genealogy is connected (butterfly).
- Rule Nine: There are patterns everywhere.
- Rule Ten: Read the fine print.
- Rule Eleven: Even a perfect fit can be wrong.
- Rule Twelve: The end is always there.



As I said back in November of 2019, you never know, there might be another rule somewhere out there in the genealogical universe waiting to be discovered. Well, here it is:

Rule Thirteen: Genealogists abhor a blank field.

Other than my obvious borrowing from the old scientific saying from physics known as, horror vacui, or plenism, commonly stated as “nature abhors a vacuum,” attributed to Aristotle, this came to me as I was correcting entries in the FamilySearch.org Family Tree. It seems like some genealogists are compelled to fill in a blank even if they have no idea what should go there. Hmm. I might say that some people are compelled to fill in a blank even if they have no idea what should go there and not attribute all that extra stuff to genealogists but in my experience, it is genealogists that obsess over empty fields such as birthdates before there could possibly have been any birth records.

Genealogy should be source-based. This means that when we add information (an event) to our family tree, it should be based on a valid historical source not just our speculation about the event. You might want to look at Rule Two (above) and think about the fact that empty fields may simply reflect the last of a record and not a failing on the part of the researcher.

Take some time to think about what you are adding to your own family tree and take some more time to think about what you add to an online public family tree.

Thanks to James Tanner for this post.



Webinar: Was your ancestor in trade or business?

Tuesday, 11 Aug 2020 - 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Business and trade records can tell us a lot about how a person was making a living. This webinar will focus business and trade records in the NSW State Archives Collection.

FREE but [registration required](#).

NSW State Archives & Records also has a YouTube Channel called *Archives Behind the Scenes* that highlights specific items in the collection. Access the channel [HERE](#).

YouTube LIVE

Best Tips for Reading Old Family Handwriting

August 7 @ 5am (AEST)

Presenter Lisa Lisson

Faded, old handwriting stalling your genealogy research? Simple tips for deciphering that old faded handwriting and learning more about your ancestors. Click [HERE](#) to access.

Read more about deciphering old handwriting in your genealogy research in this post: [HERE](#).

Family History News



**FREE Family History Webinars
from Legacy Family Tree**

What is the cost: There is no charge to register and view the live webinar. BUT, the recording is available to view for the next 7 days - for free! Watch it as many times as you would like, pausing and taking notes, during the free viewing period.

AUGUST

- 5 August - *Tracing Australian and New Zealand World War One Ancestors* by Helen V. Smith
- 5 August - *Using DNA to Solve Adoption and Unknown Parentage Mysteries* by Michelle Leonard
- 11 August - *Working with Different Family Tree Views on MyHeritage* by Uri Gonen
- 19 August - *The Advance of Research Habits over Recent Decades — And...* by Tom Jones, PhD, CG
- 25 August - *How to Use MyHeritage DNA Results to Enhance Your Family...* by Michelle Leonard
- 26 August - *Slack for Genealogy Projects* by Thomas MacEntee

SEPTEMBER

- 2 September - *Using Chromosome Browsers, Segment Data and Triangulation* by Michelle Leonard
- 9 September - *Cyndi's List in Practice* by Cyndi Ingle
- 15 September - *Reconstructing the Murphy Family Using DNA & Documentary...* by Melissa Johnson, CG
- 18 September - *Your DNA questions answered live with Diahhan* by Diahhan Southard
- 23 September - *Introduction to VPNs* by Thomas MacEntee

If you cannot make the live event, downloads of the recording are just \$9.95 each or yearly memberships give you access to everything. The Legacy Webinar website with more information is available [HERE](#). Download the 2020 Family History Webinars PDF [HERE](#).

Bring out your news!

Have you found an interesting article or discovered something new that you would like to share with other GSQ members? Email enews@gsq.org.au by the **24th of the month** to be included in the next month's eNews.

GSQ Book(s) of the Month – August 2020

We are pleased to announce that we will be putting one or more of our Bookshop Inventory on **SPECIAL** each month.

Our August Author and Society Member is Beryl Roberts.

Beryl has two books in the Bookshop and they are:

He made his mark: Joshua Jeays and Mudgeeraba Memories.

He made his Mark: Joshua Jeays tells the story of a Leicester-born master builder who became a successful developer, alderman and mayor of Brisbane.

On 26 February 1853, Her Majesty's barque Agricola dropped anchor in Moreton Bay, 109 days out from England. Among those who disembarked were Joshua Jeays, a 40-year-old master builder, his wife Sarah and their four children.

Joshua Jeays was an advocate for the separation of Queensland from New South Wales. He built many of the public buildings in Brisbane, including old Government House. Both civic leader and businessman, he became the fourth Mayor of Brisbane.

GSQ only have **one copy** of this special book, which documents the early life of Brisbane and during the month of August the book can be bought at a **discounted price of \$27.00** to the quickest buyer.

Mudgeeraba Memories: Memories of Mudgeeraba, Bonogin, Austinville and Springbrook. This is a collection of memories written by some of Mudgeeraba's past and present residents and family members many of whom were initially associated with the Mudgeeraba State School Reunion, held on the 16 October, 1988.

GSQ only have **three copies** of this book which includes contributions from representatives of the Abraham, Anderson, Andrews-Wintle, Kevin Berigan, Cormack, Davenport, Davidson, Dennis, Firth, Hardy, Knack, Master, Moffat, Morton, Morton, Rayner, Rosin, Schneid, Schmidt, Sehmish, Smith, Spowart, Starkey, Weir, Winterburn (nee Walters) families.

The book can be purchased this month only for **the discounted price of \$24.00**, don't delay to get information on your family.

All the books can be bought through the GSQ shop: Books.

<https://www.gsq.org.au/gsq-shop/he-made-his-mark-joshua-jeays/>

<https://www.gsq.org.au/gsq-shop/mudgeeraba-memories/>

Family History News



IMPORTANT UPDATE

Most of this information was sent to those who had already booked on 8 July

As advised in our 9 June update Family History Down Under (FHDU) is being deferred to 2022. This will now be known as FHDU 2022. We hope to announce the date and location soon.

A different, though similar, all new, event will be held in 2021. This will be known as FHDU 2021. The date and location is now confirmed.

Family History Down Under 2021 (FHDU 2021)

Date: 22-26 March 2021

Venue: Sunshine Coast Convention Centre and Novotel Sunshine Coast Resort, Twin Waters, Qld.

Speakers and program: we expect to start announcing speakers and a preliminary program in August

Bookings: we aim to open for bookings once the key speakers are announced and a preliminary program is available. See the last FHDU newsletter (9 June 2020) for more information.

Family History Down Under 2022 (FHDU 2022)

Date: March/April 2022

Location: we are currently negotiating with candidate venues and hope to confirm the date and place early in August.

Speakers and program: we expect to announce more speakers and publish a preliminary program once the date and venue are settled.

If you have previously booked for this (prior to the deferral) your current booking will automatically carry over to 2022 unless you choose to cancel. If you would like your present FHDU booking to be used for FHDU 2021 instead, you will need to cancel the current one, and do a new booking.

There is time to decide

Are you thinking of cancelling? You might want to hold off for now ... as we're working on an exciting program which will be announced in the next 1-2 months. So, hold off, check the speakers and program, and then decide. Our cancellation policy allows you to receive a 100% refund right up to a month before the event, so that gives you plenty of time to decide.

Bonus for those who do both events

If you do both events (FHDU 2021 and 2022), you will receive a bonus discount voucher.

Website

We're working hard on things, including getting our website updated with all the relevant information you're wanting to know. This will be up soon.

3 reasons to join the FHDU Facebook group

1. First announcement of speakers and other developments;
2. Watch introductory videos from the speakers announced so far;
3. A place to interact and ask questions about FHDU.

[Click here](#) to join the Family History Down Under Facebook group.

Stay connected

Also check out our Facebook [event](#) where you can see who else says they are going - and add yourself to the list. And be sure to get your genealogy friends to visit the [website](#) and sign up to the FHDU newsletter.



Online Tree or Genealogy Software? Deciding Where to Keep Your Data

Genealogy researchers need tools for recording names, dates, places, relationships, sources, family stories and photos. You might want to mine records and family trees on genealogy websites, and share your family history online. In the past, the most robust option for these tasks was traditional desktop software. Sure, online trees were great for finding cousins and getting record hints, but software offered the best tools for recording information on your ancestors, documenting sources and creating charts.

But technology has blurred the line between desktop programs and online trees. Software now embraces online features such as automated searching and syncing with websites, and online trees are more robust with attached media, record sources and more. Nowadays, you might find that a combination of the two methods—or even an online tree alone—best suits your needs.

To make an informed decision on what option is best for you, you'll need to know the basics on the best family history software and online family trees. In this article, we'll go over your tree-keeping options and help you choose what's right for you.

Either genealogy software or an online tree can help you accomplish essential research tasks, and a combo of the two adds flexibility. Consider these benefits of each option.

Option 1: Genealogy Software

The most popular programs have been around for years and include many features and friendly user interfaces. These include: Ancestral Quest 16 (Win + Mac); Family Historian 6 (Win); Family Tree Builder 8 (Win + Mac); Family Tree Maker 2019 (Win + Mac); Legacy Family Tree 9 (Win); Reunion 12 (Mac); RootsMagic 7.5 with Treeshare (Win + Mac).

These programs make it easy to navigate in your family tree, add citations for various sources and create reports and wall charts you can print or share as PDF files. Most of these programs are inexpensive and don't require any ongoing fees, except for optional upgrades. And your files reside on your hard drive, where you have complete control over them.

Option 2: Online Tree(s)

Most family tree websites let you build your tree from scratch or start it with a GEDCOM file generated from your genealogy software. Online trees offer several advantages over traditional software: You never have to pay for a software update. You can access your tree from any computer or mobile device, and you don't have to worry about backing it up. You may be able to make your tree public or private and, either way, invite relatives to collaborate on it with you. See Ancestry; FamilySearch Family Tree; findmypast; Genes Reunited; Geni; MyHeritage.

Option 3: Software-Tree Combo

While the general trend in genealogy land is away from software and toward online trees and mobile apps, a combination of them still gives you the most flexibility, e.g. Ancestry syncs with Family Tree Maker & RootsMagic; FamilySearch syncs with Legacy Family Tree & RootsMagic.w

For one thing, software helps you keep multiple online trees up to date. Many genealogists put their family tree on several websites to take advantage of hints from the sites' databases, and to connect with other researchers interested in those families. It's worthwhile to have your family tree on any site where you've had a DNA test, so you and your matches can see how you're related. You might want to put your family tree on sites with connections to nationalities you're researching. Findmypast and Genes Reunited, for example, have strong British and Irish collections. Finally, having your tree on a site with a mobile app lets you access it on your phone.

Thanks to Rick Cromer & Family Tree magazine.

Family History News

What Websites Should You Know?

What makes a website one that every genealogist should know? It's obvious that genealogy websites, those that hold databases and records, are important but what other types of websites make the list? When I consider websites, I think in terms of what information they provide and what types of information and sources genealogists need. That can include these types of websites:

- **Genealogy** (subscription websites, free websites, website with lists of people, databases);
- **History** (timelines, encyclopedias, articles, digital collections);
- **Repositories** (libraries, archives, museums, government facilities);
- **Government** (BLM, government archives, libraries, recorder's offices);
- **Maps** (digitized maps, map collections, finding aids, databases);
- **Cemeteries** (indexes, images, databases, education);
- **Records** (digital collections, indexes, transcriptions, abstracts);
- **Education** (classes, webinars, videos, podcasts, articles, tutorials, institutes, conferences, seminars);
- **Finding Aids** (link portals, research guides, repository finding aids);
- **Technology** (apps, how-to's, software, freeware, educational articles);
- **DNA** (education, methodology, tutorials, tools, testing);
- **Books** (retail, presses, libraries, digitized books, library catalogs, authors);
- **Periodicals** (digitized newspaper and book websites, periodical indexes, finding aids, portals, publisher websites);
- **Images** (digitized collections, newspaper and book websites, catalogs, preservation);
- **Wikis** (family history, DNA, images, education);
- **Social Media** (genealogy, curating, sharing, networking);
- **Organizations/societies** (lists, records, information, education); and
- **Tools** (search engines, calculators, translation websites, reference works, dictionaries, knowledge engines, crowdsourcing).

Family historians need access to different resources, sources, and information. In order to do that we need to have a good understanding of what is available. And it's not enough to know what is available but you also need to know how to best use the website.

Take some time to make your own list of must-have websites and then learn more about that site so you are taking full advantage of it. Beyond just exploring the website, you can do this by reading the website FAQs, liking their Facebook page, following them on Twitter, reading their blog, signing up for their newsletter, and participating in educational opportunities (like webinars) where they explain the website.

Gena Philibert-Ortega is an author, instructor, and researcher. She blogs at [Gena's Genealogy](#) and [Food.Family.Ephemera](#). You can find her presentations on the [Legacy Family Tree Webinars website](#).

Family History News



FAMILY HISTORY FEDERATION WEBSITE PODCASTS

We are now able to move forward with a series of podcasts.

The concept:

- To promote awareness of the Federation and its member societies;
- To generate new society members;
- Continued support to the family history community as we are not able to have a physical presence at family history exhibitions and fairs;
- To continue to assist family historians even when "normality" returns.

How the podcasts will work

We will produce a series of themed podcasts with a format similar to that used by Radio 4 Gardeners Question Time–Family History Question Time. These will be streamed on our website using standard recording media mpr3, mp4 etc. Podcasts will last about half an hour over Zoom and be set up at regular intervals remaining on our website once produced and initially broadcast.

The series will be promoted amongst our societies all of whom should be encouraged to participate. The number of panellists in each podcast should be three or four with a chairman/moderator. We would expect the participants to be "proficient" in the subject being discussed. We may invite experts from other organisations to participate.

A Chairman/Moderators would ask the questions.

Questions will be developed before the podcasts and circulated to enable the participants to prepare. All panellists are led by the moderator, should be disciplined enough not to hog the cast or talk over each other. We will provide guidelines and any training.

We will use Zoom initially without a video facility and participants would ideally use a headset rather than a built-in microphone. This will be purely for clarity. It also means that people can contribute from their own living rooms rather than meeting in a "studio".

This way we can also rehearse the podcast before the final recording. There will be a logistic headache if we have to edit content. An introduction can be added and we can trim audio if needed.

We can also record PowerPoints with talk overs and then develop this to include live speakers

Getting the message out

Like all aspects of what we try to do we need to promote this to all our societies and the general public. The success of the project depends on the participation from societies and everyone's help in promoting it.

Themes

We have a series of themes ready to go but welcome ideas from societies. We are particularly interested in both regional and county themes as these will be of special interest to society members. We can work from "basics" through to specialist subjects.

The first podcast will be launched August/September with regular additions made to the programme.

What to do next

Please let us know if you have any ideas for niche themes and if you would like to participate. We want this to be a "Society based" programme rather than being a one-sided Federation initiative.

For further information please email admin@familyhistoryfederation.com

Queensland Genealogy Society Question

Over the past month or so I've taken up the hobby of searching my family tree. So far I've traced my family to over 8 different countries and I've found family from different states. Reaching out and researching has become a bit addicting, haha.

I have a list of bookmarks that I set up when I first took interest and your North American Links page <https://www.gsq.org.au/learn/web-links/north-american-links/> is one of them.

I love the different pages there and they have helped me numerous times after I hit a dead end. Knowing that a number of family members passed through Ellis Island, I've been trying

to find records and today I came across this page that not only is loaded with resource for finding family, but it's geared toward finding family through Ellis Island itself. The page is <https://www.yourlawyer.com/library/new-york-city-history-ellis-island/>

and I think it would make a great addition to your section! Learning the history was a fun read and there are a ton of tips that I made sure to mark down. Thank you for all the help over the past month, it's greatly appreciated!

Best Wishes, Jan Baker