

GSQ e-NEWS

Issue 169 November 2020

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November 2020

From the President

GSQ's Annual General Meeting (AGM) was conducted, as planned, at the Upper Mt Gravatt Progress Hall on 10 October 2020 – as advised previously, it was conducted at this venue because our premises at Wishart was not considered large enough when allowing for the regulated and required social distancing. The following members were elected to the Management Committee: President: Helen Veivers, Vice President: Jan Bimrose, Secretary: Claire Rodwell, Treasurer: David Barnes, Sue Grant (Assistant Treasurer), Kerry Beeton (Membership Officer), Bob Dean, Graeme Moulton, Kim Davis and Sally Romano. On behalf of GSQ I would like to thank all those who accepted nominations for the various positions and for membership of the Management Committee. Our intention is to work towards obtaining the very best outcomes for all members. During General Business a letter from member, Helen Connor, was read out – in this letter Helen expressed concern that the AGM was held as a face to face meeting, rather than as a Zoom Meeting or a combination of Zoom and face to face. It was explained that holding the meeting as a combined face to face and Zoom meeting had been discussed at the September Management Committee Meeting and was not supported by members of the Management Committee due to concerns that the proposed set-up may fail, leaving many members unable to access the meeting. It was also felt that holding the meeting totally as a virtual meeting would disadvantage those who do not utilise Zoom.

At the most recent meeting on 19 October 2020 Life Membership was discussed. The Management Committee is seeking communication from members who would like to nominate a current member of the Society for Honorary Life Membership – according to GSQ's current Constitution and By Laws, those so nominated would need to have contributed significantly to GSQ and to genealogy in Queensland for at least the past 10 years. If you would like to nominate somebody for this honour, please contact Secretary, Claire Rodwell by emailing secretary@gsq.org.au no later than Friday, 13 November.

Recently, a small charge has been added to the use of Credit Cards at GSQ (1.29%). This has been done because an historical search revealed that GSQ is being charged \$1200 by Westpac for the Credit Card payment facility. GSQ cannot afford to lose this amount of money on an annual basis. The charge is very small and very much in keeping with that charged by businesses and other organisations.

On Saturday 24 October a very successful virtual event, a Researching Irish Ancestry seminar, was conducted. The 122 Attendees were not only GSQ (and QFHS) members – they came from within other areas of Queensland, from every state in Australia and from New Zealand. Speakers at the seminar included Dr Jennifer Harrison, Pauleen Cass, John Grenham, Chris Paton, Cathie Sherwood and Helen Smith. It was an absolutely marvellous event – and these are not just my words – all of the feedback received has indicated what a top rated event it was!! On behalf of GSQ I would like to both congratulate and thank all those involved in the planning and execution of the seminar – Cathie Sherwood, Bobbie Edes, Helen Connor and Ailsa Corlett. (Elsewhere in this edition of eNews you'll find the list of Raffle Prize Winners – there were 22 Prizes and 2 Lucky Door prizes.)

Helen Veivers
President

OPEN

- Monday • Closed
- Tuesday • 10am - 2pm
- Wednesday • Closed
- Thursday • 10am - 2pm
- Friday • 10am - 2pm
from 13 Nov
- Saturday • 12noon - 4pm
- Sunday • Interest Groups

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GSQ Notices



Snippets from 19 October 2020 Management Committee Meeting

- The renewal of the Lease at Stackpole Street discussed;
- Quotes from Dell for the new computers accepted;
- Christmas Closure period 12 December 2020 – 18 January 2021 determined; Christmas Raffle to be organised; Christmas Afternoon Tea 2.00pm, Saturday 12 December;
- **Additional Opening Day** – as from Friday 13 November GSQ will be open each Friday (10.00am – 2.00pm) in addition to Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays;
- Ailsa Corlett and Helen Connor appointed as Webmasters.

GSQ will be organising a Christmas Raffle once again this year, with the Raffle being drawn at the Afternoon Tea organised for Saturday, 12 December at 2.00pm at GSQ. The Christmas Raffle prize is to consist of a Christmas Hamper – last year we ended up with several hampers!!

Members are asked to contribute an item/s for the raffle prize – if unsure about what to donate, anything that could be eaten or drunk at Christmas time will be eminently suitable. Obviously, donated items need to be non-perishable.

All donated items should be delivered to GSQ no later than **Wednesday, 9 December.**

Tickets will be available for sale at GSQ and also on-line, priced at \$1.00 each.



*You are invited to Afternoon
Tea on Saturday, 12 December
at 2.00pm at GSQ.*

This is an opportunity to catch up with fellow GSQ members before GSQ closes for Christmas.

Please email Claire Rodwell on secretary@gsq.org.au for catering purposes if you intend to come along.

GSQ Christmas Closure period

12 December 2020 – 18 January 2021

May the Christmas season fill your home with joy, your heart with love and your life with laughter. Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and we look forward to seeing you in 2021.



GSQ Notices

Did you know that GSQ has an active & informative Facebook page?



Did you know GSQ has a Facebook Page? To find it type 'Genealogical Society of Queensland - GSQ' into the Facebook search field and hit enter. Many links to events and genealogy related news are posted throughout each month as well as our weekly GSQ Blog. To keep in touch by ticking the 'Like' button you will have the new page items feed directly into your Facebook page.

The page co-ordinator (Bobbie Edes) is always on the lookout for new genealogy related pages or news, and would love to hear of any you know of. Please email facebook-twitter@gsq.org.au with your discovered links, so we can share with our members.



Our GSQ October bloggers have featured a variety of stories by Sue Bell, Bobbie Edes, Sharyn Merkley and Meg Carney. If you haven't already checked them out follow this link for each weekly blog: <https://gsq-blog.gsq.org.au/> This same link also shows all previous blogs published by GSQ, so it's a great resource.

To all those inspiring writers out there, this is an invitation to send your 1,000 word story to our GSQ Blog Co-ordinator, Bobbie. We've had a fabulous line up of stories this year and dates are now filling on our 2021 blog calendar. Please submit your story for consideration

via facebook-twitter@gsq.org.au now. It should be a Word document with single line spacing and images attached separately.



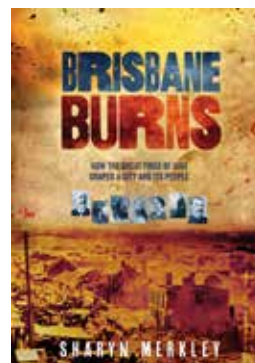
book of the Month

The November book of the month is:

"Brisbane Burns: How the Great Fires of 1864 shaped a city and its people"
by Sharyn Merkley.

In 1864, two devastating fires – one in April and the other in December – swept through the fledgling town of Brisbane, with nearly 70 shops, offices and homes in Queen, George, Elizabeth, and Albert Streets destroyed. This fascinating book brings to light the heart-wrenching (and at times uplifting) stories of those who were affected by the blazes, those who lost their homes and their livelihoods.

Sale Price will be \$20.00 from 1st – 30th November 2020.





GSQ Notices



Vacant Positions at GSQ

Currently, there are a number of vacant positions at GSQ. Please consider taking on one of these positions to help make your society even better. If interested, please contact either President, Helen Veivers (president@gsq.org.au) or Secretary, Claire Rodwell (secretary@gsq.org.au)

The positions are as follows:

Education Coordinator: You will be responsible for organising and running GSQ's education program. This requires coordination with Presenters, accessing bookings on the website and ensuring that everything is ready for a presentation, whether it be virtual or face-to-face and preparing monthly reports for the Management Committee. Planning for the actual Education program for 2021 is well underway.

Volunteer Coordinator: As the name suggests, the Volunteer Coordinator is responsible for organising volunteers when they are required. The largest part of the position involves the supervision of Research Assistant rosters and, getting volunteers mobilised for events such as Open Days, special Morning/Afternoon Teas etc

Facebook Assistance: Our current Facebook coordinator has requested some assistance with working with the "New Look" Facebook page – if you have any experience with this particular aspect of Facebook, please contact Bobbie by emailing Facebook-Twitter@gsq.org.au.

Marketing Officer: This is a really important role. GSQ hasn't had a Marketing Officer for some time. Post COVID it will be imperative that we advertise what GSQ does – and does very well! This role would involve liaising with various forms of media (print, radio) etc to ensure that the people of Brisbane (and further abroad) are aware of what GSQ is all about. The Marketing Officer would also liaise with our Facebook Coordinator to ensure that the GSQ message was consistently advertised.

Bookshop Coordinator: This role is multi-faceted. It would involve controlling the purchasing of books to sell in GSQ's Bookshop, ensuring the Bookshop section on the website is up to date and advertising in eNews and in other media the items available in the Bookshop.



Legacy Family Tree Webinars

FREE Family History Webinars from Legacy Family Tree

What is the cost: There is no charge to register and view the live webinar. **However**, 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. If you cannot make the live event, downloads of the recording are just \$9.95 each or yearly memberships give you access to everything.

Some November offerings:

- November 3 - *Australian Census Substitutes* by Helen V. Smith
- November 10 - *Why I Love — and How to Use — the Newspaper Collections at MyHeritage* by MyHeritage Webinars, Sunny Morton
- November 11 - *Deeds Not Words: Finding Your Merchant Marine Ancestors* by Michael L. Strauss, AG
- November 17 - *Separating and Merging Identities of Same-named Men* by Shannon Green, CG

There are more coming up in November & the rest of the year. The Legacy Webinar website with more information is available [HERE](#).

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.

Family Tree Maker Users' Group

The next meeting of the FTM User Group will not be until **Sunday 8 November** 2020 at 10.30 am. The library will be open from approximately 9.00 am.

Our 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.

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.

Writing Group

The Writing Group had its final meeting for 2020 via Zoom on 18 October and were delighted to welcome three new members to the group. We reviewed pieces of writing submitted by two members and both felt that the comments from Group members were very helpful. We discussed some possible topics for the Joan Reese Memorial Short Story competition for 2021 and will forward a recommendation to the Management Committee for approval. Details will be published in the December issue of Generation.

On more technical issues, we refreshed our knowledge of some basic structure and grammar tips, looked at some features in Word to help in putting our written work together, and reviewed various software options for creating family tree charts that could be included in our stories.

The timing of a Writing Group meeting in December would be too close to Christmas and New Year, so our next meeting will be in **February 2021**; whether this is at Wishart or via Zoom will be decided closer to the date.

Do contact Pauline on pstirland@hotmail.com if you have any queries about the Group.

English/Irish Interest Group

As the English/Irish SIG only meets on the first Sunday of even-numbered months, our next meeting is not until **Sunday 6th December**. As usual, it will be held at the GSQ Resource Centre. Further details of this meeting will appear in the next eNews.

Until then – enjoy your English, Irish and Welsh research.

Legacy Users' 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.

German Interest Group

The next meeting of the German Group will be on **Sunday 29th November** doors open 10.00 a.m. and finish at 1.30 pm.

Ian Miller will be enlightening us with a talk about the *Pepplers of Hessen, Mecklenburg, and the New World*. I am sure that all of us will learn something about how to go about German research. Perhaps we will be able to help you with your search.

A gold coin donation is welcome on the day.

Monday Morning Natters

November Natters on **Monday Nov 2** 10am -12 noon has been converted to a Zoom meeting

Topic for this meeting: Have you tried using a digital photobook for your family history?

Convict Connections Group

Our meeting in October was productive. All managed to further their research. Our discussion revolved around diaries, journals, letters and first-hand accounts relating to colonial Australia. While most had difficulty in reading printed and transcribed passages from Margaret Catchpole's letters because of the spelling and punctuation, it was easier than attempting to decipher her handwriting! However, her descriptive way of writing may have given some the urge to read not only her letters in full but also why she was transported. Our discussion also looked at the value of the convict muster rolls, the 1828 census and the Biographical Database of Australia.

At our next meeting on **Sunday 13 December**, GSQ will be somewhat transformed into the hulk, *Phoenix*, which was used as an extension of the old Sydney Gaol. Join us for a fun day from 9am, and please bring along a plate of finger food to add to our luncheon spread.

Scottish Interest Group

Bill Cunningham gave an interesting talk on Moray research at our September meeting. Copies are available in the library or by request from the Convenor.

Our next meeting will be held on **Sunday 1 November** at 10:00 am. At this meeting, Marg Thomas will do a county presentation on Midlothian (Edinburgh), which will be of interest to many members.

For those missing a trip to Scotland this year, a series of free heritage videos has been made available on YouTube by Carney Heritage Productions. They are accessed at:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLXwn9GRubrx8IH_JUclorQ/videos

Census Books – 1851 English Census:

GSQ has a number of 1851 Census Books for several English Counties which it is offering to members free of charge. While not all counties are represented, the one in which your ancestors lived, just may be. They have been placed just inside the door at GSQ and will be available until the end of November, so why not come in to check them out! You would not necessarily have to book in to GSQ for the day, providing all you did was check out the Books and take what you required – if you wish to stay to research/chat, a booking would be required. You do this, of course, by booking with Secretary, Claire at secretary@gsq.org.au (GSQ is currently open 10.00am – 2.00pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays and 12.00noon – 4.00pm on Saturdays. From Friday 13 November we'll also be open on Fridays 10.00am – 2.00pm.)

DNA Interest Group

Our GSQ DNA group held its recent GoToWebinar meeting on 25 October when we featured '*Mucking Around with Paint*' with Gary Lambrides demonstrating the various features in DNA Painter. A DNA update roundup was also presented and an interesting RootsTech London 2019 talk by Michelle Leonard '*DNA is Dynamic - How To Ignite Your Ancestral Research*'. Due to unforeseen circumstances we have had to postpone our previous planned talk by Cheryl DeVenish but hope to hear that in the near future.

The next DNA meeting is on **Sunday 15 November** from 9:30 am to 12 midday via GoToMeeting.

There is a **DNA Clinic** coming up on **Wednesday 25 November** from 7pm - 8:30pm. GSQ members are welcome to request a virtual one-on-one help session with one of our DNA Team to chat about their DNA problem. Please email us (address below) if you'd like a spot.

If you're not already a member and would like to join our friendly group then drop us an email on DNA@gsq.org.au and we can add you to our list.

Scandinavian Interest Group

The Scandinavian Group will celebrate end-of-year with a get-together at a Scandinavian Café on **Sunday 15 November** at 12:30. If you would like to come to the function, please email steinarau@gmail.com so that we will know how many to book for.

Regards, Steinar Johansen



Upcoming GSQ Education Events

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

Using Facebook for Family History Research

November 7 @ 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Cost: \$25 – \$40

Presenter: Ailsa Corlett

Social Media contact in the way of Facebook now plays a very large part in our genealogical research. You can: join so many groups that may assist you in helping to break down that brick wall you have; find photographs of the country towns of yesterday year when our ancestors were living there; ask for help with spelling or knowing just where that place is today, especially if you cannot find it on today's maps; set up your own special private family group, so that you can easily share copies of photos and documents just between your own family members; search for other records that other genealogists might have put up and stay in touch with family members.

Click [HERE](#) to book.



Brick Wall Workshop

November 14 @ 9:00 AM - 12 NOON

Cost: \$35 members \$50 non-members

Presenters: Cathie Sherwood and Christine Meehan.

Do you have an ancestor whom you just can't find in a census or find his/her baptism or marriage? When you do a search are there so many entries that you can't work out how to narrow them down or choose which ones to choose to view? This frustrating experience – hitting the brick wall – occurs to all family historians at some time. Two experienced researchers, Cathie Sherwood and Christine Meehan, will offer a very practical problem solving workshop which will be of interest to people who have tried, they believe, absolutely everything.

The details of your brick wall, including where you have already searched, MUST be submitted no later than **Tuesday 3 November** to cathie@ancestrydiscovery.com.au This gives the presenters sufficient time to become familiar with your brick wall to provide you with the best possible outcome. Please submit your brick wall details as a Microsoft Word/PDF attachment.

The workshop is to be presented virtually via Zoom. There are just a few places left, so book now on the GSQ website. Click [HERE](#) to book.

Australian Joint Copying Project (AJCP): Originally we were to have a presentation by Helen Smith on 21 November 2020, but after having a 'discussion' with Helen, a decision was made to postpone this session largely because the National Library of Australia planned on producing a Webinar on this very topic. The Webinar was first screened on 14 October 2020 and can be viewed now by searching for Australian Joint Copying Project using your favourite search engine – ensure it's the Mini Learning Webinar – 14 October, 14 minutes 46 seconds in length.

GSQ ZOOM Meetings

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



**Research Support & Chat
for GSQ Members Only
Put it 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.

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.

Upcoming 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 is emailed out each week.

The Thursday Zoom group which is between 11am – 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 can be added to the list regarding the Zoom invitations

Wednesday Nights at GSQ via Zoom 7 - 9 pm - 2nd & 4th Wednesday

These meetings have been organised by Ailsa Corlett, particularly for those who are in the workforce and so unable to attend the very popular Monday Zoom meetings. They are however open to all GSQ members. There will be opportunities to discuss research problems with other attendees and to provide information and ideas you have discovered.

Dates for these meetings are as follows:

Wednesday, 11 November

Wednesday, 25 November

If anyone wishes to join either or both of these meeting please contact Ailsa Corlett on tag@gsq.org.au, so that your name and details can be recorded and links sent to you prior to the meeting.

Fortnightly Wednesday Morning Zoom Group 11 am - 12:30 pm fortnightly

A fortnightly Zoom meeting has been convened every second Wednesday morning at 11am; this is on the opposite Wednesday to the night meeting (ie on the alternate week). Each of our friendly meetings run for about 90 minutes or so and has a discussion topic with those present all contributing their thoughts & knowledge on the subject one by one. The meeting is convened by Research Assistant, Bobbie Edes. If you'd like to join Bobbie's meeting then please email facebook-twitter@gsq.org.au with the heading: **Bobbies Fortnightly Wednesday Morning Zoom group** and ask to be added to the Wednesday morning email list for the link.

Bobbie uses GSQ's Zoom portal and there is a new link each meeting.

And the
winners are...

RAFFLE & LUCKY DOOR PRIZE WINNERS

ANCESTRY

1 x Ancestry World Subscription - Kim Davis

1 x year subscription to UK Heritage Plus - Dianne Kennedy

ALBOX ARCHIVAL SUPPLIES

1 x Welcome Door Mat - Roseann Creagh

2 x 40mm Albox Archival Albums - Helen Smith

ARCHIVAL SURVIVAL

Voucher for \$50 - Theo Cominos

FAMILY TREE MAKER PROGRAM

1 x 2019 Family Tree Maker Program - Paul Cummings

FINDMYPAST

1 x year top level subscription to FindMyPast - Judy Lofthouse

GOULD GENEALOGY

1 x \$50 ebook voucher - Peter Cass

1 x \$50 ebook voucher - Vicki Sciacca

\$50 discount voucher off FHDU 2021 extras (which will include workshops, recordings, dinner) - Cathie Sherwood

IRISH NEWSPAPER ARCHIVES

6 x 1 year subscriptions to irishnewspaperarchives.com:

Mike Rainbow

Robyn Dean

Sally Romano

Di Edelman

Georgie Snow

Lisa Molloy

LEGACY FAMILY TREE

1 x Legacy Family Tree Program - Trish Mullins

1 x one year subscription to Legacy Tree Webinars - Alison Campagnolo

MOMENTO PHOTO BOOKS

1 x \$100 voucher - Anne Morahan

MYHERITAGE

1 x Full MyHeritage subscription - Dianne Kennedy

1 x Full MyHeritage subscription - Maureen Finane

ULSTER HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

1 x *Researching Presbyterian Ancestors* book - Ann Peut

LUCKY DOOR PRIZES

Book *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors* 5th Edition by John Grenham - Ann Mackay

Stand Up Desk Mat - Anne Morahan

And the
winners are...

Photos Tips For Cemetery Research – Which Photographs You MUST Take!

by Lisa Lisson

Usually when I do on-site research at a cemetery, I only have one visit to get all of the clues and pertinent information. It's important to have a plan and the needed supplies for a successful trip.

Now on to the photographs...I have found if I take specific photographs, I can capture important information about the cemetery quickly and easily.

Below are the photographs I take at each cemetery.

#1 The Front Entrance

Take a photograph of the front entrance of the cemetery. Make sure to include close-up photographs of any signage. You will often find a sign with information about the hours of operation as well as a phone number of the office.

You definitely want to make note of the office phone number. You may need to contact them in the future if you turn up something else in your genealogy research or want to pursue the burial records.

If a cemetery map is posted at the entrance, take a photograph of that as well!

#2 The General Layout of the Cemetery

I like to take photos of the general landscape and lay out of the cemetery. I am a visual person, so those photos help to trigger my memory as I put together the clues once back home. Additionally, by taking time to notice the landscape, additional information such as size, stone types and age of various sections can be noted.

#3 The Ancestor's Gravestone(s)

Now for the fun part! Start taking photographs of your ancestor's gravesite. Take a photo of the front AND THE BACK of the gravestone. Obviously take a photograph of the front of the gravestone. Then walk around behind it and take a photograph of the back. Important information about the deceased or even another ancestor can be found on the back of a gravestone.

#4 The Tombstones On All Sides of My Ancestor(s)

Once you've finished taking photographs of your ancestor's gravestone, step back and look around. Take photographs of the gravestones on either side of your ancestor and in front of /behind of your ancestor.

#5 Every Gravestone in the Family Plot

Is your ancestor buried in a family plot? If so, take photographs of every gravestone in the plot.

Even if you do not know the identity and relationship of every person buried in the family plot, take the photograph anyway. They were buried there for a reason.

#6 The Family Marker, if present.

Take a photograph of the family marker if one is present. This seems intuitive, but well, I've overlooked this previously and missed a big family history clue. Don't let that happen to you!

#7 (Optional) Interesting Tombstones and Symbolism I Might See

Tombstones come in a variety of shapes, sizes and artistic styles. I take photographs of interesting and unique tombstones even if the deceased is not part of my research. Tombstone engravings and styles can be quite symbolic. The more I understand the symbolism of tombstones, the better I am able to evaluate the tombstones of my own ancestors.

Next time you find yourself researching your ancestors in a cemetery, grab your camera and start capturing the images of your trip. Back home when you sit down to analyze your research notes, you will be glad you did!

