

# GSQ eNews

Tel: +61 7 3349 6072 secretary@gsq.org.au www.gsq.org.au Issue 216 / March 2025

**GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND INC** 



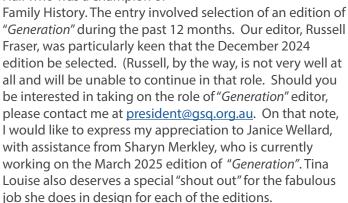
### Message from the President

**The Conference Month has arrived!!** After two years of planning we are almost at the dates for the GSQ Conference being held at Brisbane Technology Park, 21-23 March, 2025. It's not too late to book, if you haven't already done so – bookings close on 10 March.

It's also the time of the year when we ask members to nominate a member, a volunteer member, to be named as the winner of the Margaret Coleman Award for 2025. The Award will be presented at a Morning Tea on Saturday, 24 May in Volunteers' Week. Members of the Management Committee are not eligible to receive the Award. I need to receive Nominations no later than Friday14 March, to allow ample time for discussion at the March Management Committee meeting. To nominate someone, please complete one of the Forms available at our Resource Centre, or simply send a message with reasons for your nomination, to president@gsq.org.au.

GSQ is once again searching for new premises while we await a communication (expected in May) from our current Landlord. We've once again been in contact with the Anglican Church and have been asked to notify their Properties Manager, if we locate an Anglican Church Hall that appears to be under-used. The building would need to be on the southside of Brisbane and within a reasonable distance of the CBD. Should you have any other ideas for possible premises, please email me at president@gsq.org. au. Along with Treasurer, Mike Houlahan, Vice President, Alistair Henderson and Management Committee member, Paul Grevell, I am a member of the Property Group.

GSQ has entered the Nick Vine Hall Award for 2025. This award celebrates the work of Nick Vine Hall who was a champion of



In the February edition of eNews a call out was made for someone to take on the role of "Ëvents Coordinator". Nobody has expressed an interest at this stage and it has been suggested that the role title should be changed to "Social Organiser". This person would coordinate possible trips to such places as the State Archives, St Helena Island and so on. If interested in being GSQ's Social Organiser, please contact me at <a href="mailto:president@gsq,org.au">president@gsq,org.au</a>.

Here's to a very successful Conference!

Helen Veivers, President

#### **Please Note:**

GSQ's Resource Centre will be closed for research by GSQ members on Thursday, 20 March, 2025 – on this day Conference Attendees have been invited to visit our premises to have a look at our collection and to do some research. Thanks for your cooperation with this. The Premises will be open for GSQ members on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday of the week in question.

Helen Veivers, President

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### Committee Snippets

#### Points from February Management Committee:

- Succession Planning discussed;
- Date for Review of Strategic Plan selected;
- Donation, Transcription and Library Wish Forms updated;
- GSQ to seek opportunities to be involved in the Brisbane 200 Year celebrations to be held later this year;
- Property Group to meet on 18 February;
- Decision made on composition of the Committee for development of a new Website;
- Forever cloudbased storage discussed.

#### **Volunteer Coordinator Report**

I won't name all the volunteer roles that currently exist in GSQ, but I will reinforce that all these roles are filled by people who give their time freely to enable GSQ to function for the benefit of its members. In an organization like GSQ, we can't have too many volunteers. If you put your hand up, we will find a volunteer role that suits your skill sets (maybe from your occupation – present or past) and interests.

There are roles you can do from home and or at GSQ's Wishart premises. One such role is helping the Research Group. This group does family history research for members and non-members alike. It is an important source of income for GSQ. The benefit for you is helping other people learn more about their family history and honing your research skills.

It is something you can do at home and at GSO.

Perhaps helping to raise funds for GSQ is something you would like to do. If that is the case, helping at a Bunnings BBQ might be right up your alley. You have a bit of fun while helping to raise money for GSQ. And the best bit might be you don't need an excuse to visit Bunnings – you are there!

On the GSQ website, under Volunteer on the home page you will find a link which takes you to a document listing the types of volunteer roles we have. Please give a lot of thought to what you could do and I would be very happy to have a chat with you about finding a role for you.

Kim Davis, Volunteer Coordinator

#### **Membership Officer Report**

Welcome to our new members who have joined us recently...I hope to speak with you in the next few weeks to say Hi and see how you are going with your research on-line....and maybe meet you at the rooms at some point to say hi.

It has been lovely to see a few new members attending our Zoom and Interest Groups as well. If you would like any information about these groups, please contact the individual groups convenors for access to their meeting times, or I am happy to help you with how to do this.

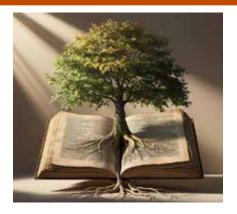
Just a reminder that when your membership is due, you will receive a reminder 4 weeks prior and another 1 week prior. Thank you to those who have renewed before your expiration date....it is very helpful. If unfortunately for some reason you are unable to continue with your membership, please let me know by email so I don't bother you with a follow up call.

For all our members, if you have any questions regarding your membership, please email me and I am happy to assist you. My email is: membership@gsq.orq.au

Leanne Taylor, Membership Officer

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## **GSQ Education Events**



#### Researching lives of Queenslanders in the 1800s

Mar 1 @ 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM AEST Presenter: Jan Richardson Virtual Via Zoom

Griffith University's Harry Gentle Resource Centre (HGRC) has recently launched a Dictionary of Biography concentrating on First Peoples, soldiers, convicts and early settlers of Queensland. However, the HGRC is much more than a Dictionary of Biography to which members of the public are invited to submit entries. Book here



#### Discovering the Treasures in Parish Records

Apr 12 @ 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM AEST Presenter: Pauline Williams Cost: Members \$21 Non-members \$31 Virtual Via Zoom

The Parish was the epicentre of local and church records prior to the introduction of civil registration, decennial censuses and Poor Law Unions in the 1830s. Parish records contain much more than baptism, marriage and burial registers.



#### Breathing Life into the ANZAC Fallen: Primary Research Innovation, Sources and Case Study (George Henry Jones Davies (1888-1917)

Apr 29 @ 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM AEST Presenter: Simon Davies Cost: Members \$21 Non-members \$31 Virtual Via Zoom

Breathing Life into the ANZAC Fallen: Primary Research Innovation, Sources and Case Study (George Henry Jones Davies (1888-1917)) On 24 Jan 1916, my Grandfather's cousin George Henry Jones Davies strolled up to the recruiting station in Coffs Harbour, diverting him from his chosen path as a Methodist Missionary towards an untimely and violent death only 18 months later.



## Part 1: Ireland, Land Records and Griffiths Valuation explained

May 3 @ 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM AEST Presenter: Bobbie Edes
Cost: Members \$21 Non-members \$31 Virtual Via Zoom

In this session Bobbie will be covering land records from Freeholders to Tithe Applotment to Griffiths Valuation to Valuation Revision in more detail. Why they are so important, how they can help you and what is available.

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#### **Containers for Change**

#### It's as Easy as 1, 2, 3...

Many thanks to those who have been supporting GSQ with this fundraising arm. One of the deposits early in the new year was for \$136.10, so a considerable sum. Please remember that all you have to do is to collect empty bottles and cans, including

wine bottles, download the Barcode from our website onto your phone or print out mechanism (or simply take one of the Pre-printed slips from the Reception Desk) and visit a Containers for Change depot – they're situated in most suburbs. What a painless way for GSQ to increase its bank balance!!



#### **Conference Snapshot**

#### The Countdown is truly on ...

With less than two weeks to register for the Conference, attendees are still booking to make this event the biggest in Queensland for the last 30 years. Registrations close at midnight on 10 March, 2025.

Masterclasses are now very limited. Sunday is fully booked but there are some spaces available on the Saturday. Parking for Friday is almost fully booked so don't delay if you require one of the remaining spaces.

Bookings for the Conference Dinner and the Heritage Tours are still available.

Whether you are coming to the Conference or not, remember you can participate in over \$5,000 worth of raffle prizes by purchasing raffle tickets online at Raffle | Connections 2025

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### **Interest Groups**

#### **Chinese Research Group**

The next meeting for the Chinese Research Interest Group will be on **Sunday, 16 March, w**hen Janis Hanley, with some help from Jan Richardson, will present on *A Far North Queensland road trip to Chinese market gardens and other Chinese sites*. The meeting is from 10 am to midday and is by Zoom.

Please come along. All GSQ members are welcome, whether they are experienced researchers or newbies.

If you are attending, please email me at the email address below, and I will send you the Zoom link. I will be online about 9.45 am on Sunday, 16 March.

Contact the group coordinator at <a href="mailto:chineseresearchgroup@gsq.org.au">chineseresearchgroup@gsq.org.au</a>

\* Non-GSQ members can attend two meetings without being a GSQ member.

#### **Colonial & Convict Interest Group**

It is with real pleasure that an upgraded pdf version of our Colonial and Convict Group research tool will be released soon. This is an essential tool that offers professional guidance and methodology for all family historians.

Soon to be released also is an upgraded opportunity to formalise your connections to your convict ancestors. Entitled, a Certificate of Proof, this document verifies your relationship, as evidenced by your family history research. Our sincere thanks are extended to Helen Connor for the time and effort she has devoted to both of these projects.

Visitors are very welcome to attend our next meeting on **Sunday,13 April,** where our members will present a short talk about their research findings. Fleur will give a presentation about old occupations. Our meetings are available via zoom for those who are unable to attend in person. Doors open at 9.30 and the meeting commences at 10am. We certainly hope to see you there!

Meanwhile, members of our group will be assisting at the Connections Conference commencing on Friday 21st March. This promises to be an essential date for your diaries.

Contact Bev Murray at <a href="C&C@qsq.org.au">C&C@qsq.org.au</a>

#### **DNA Interest Group**

Our next DNA SIG meeting is **Sunday 27 April** at 9:30 AM. Queensland time via Zoom. The remainder of 2025 meetings are in the GSQ calendar. Some of the meetings in 2025 will be hybrid, that is, both by Zoom and in the GSQ Resource Centre.

If you're interested in learning more about DNA, email <a href="mailto:dna@gsq.org.au">dna@gsq.org.au</a> and ask to be added to the email list.

Non-members of GSQ can attend two DNA Interest Group meetings before they must join GSQ.

#### English/Irish/Welsh Interest Group

The next meeting of the English/Irish/Welsh SIG will be **Sunday 6 April** and will be a hybrid meeting.

The April presentation will be on the Irish County of Kilkenny by Kim Davis.

If you have English, Irish or Welsh (or all three!!) ancestors, this is the Interest Group for you. Do you have a bit of a brick wall? Bring the problem ancestors with you – the group may be able to make some suggestions that may at least knock a brick off the wall, if not the entire wall!

I look forward to seeing everybody on Sunday 6th April either in person or via ZOOM.

If you are not on my mailing list, please email me at irisheng@gsq.org.au so I can email you the link to the zoom meeting. That will be sent a day or two before the meeting.

Convenor, Kim Davis

#### **Family History Technology Group**

Our first session for the year will be on **Sunday 9 March** starting at 10am. This is a Zoom session, and we would like to encourage all GSQ members to join us. Check out the GSQ events calendar for details.

We cover topics like – File management and storage; various software programs especially ones to use with family history; help in relation to GSQ website usage; common Windows/PC or Mac problems etc. We work together as a group to help each other to overcome issues; swap ideas and to help increase your confidence and knowledge on these matters.

Send email to <a href="mailto:fhtech@gsq.org.au">fhtech@gsq.org.au</a> to be added to our group and receive the link for Zoom for the meeting.

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### **Interest Groups**

#### **German Interest Group**

The German group meets odd numbered months and our next meeting will be **Sunday 30 March**; everybody welcome. Starting time 10.00.am, it is a hybrid meeting..

Should you wish to attend via Zoom please forward an email to <a href="mailto:germangroup@gsq.org.au">germangroup@gsq.org.au</a>. Non members of the society may attend for two meetings but after that we hope you will join GSQ as a member.

#### **Scandinavian Interest Group**

The next meeting of the Scandinavian group is **Sunday 18 May** at GSQ.

We have an email group with Scandinavian news and details about coming meetings. If you are not in the group and would like to be, please let me know. Email Steinar on <a href="mailto:scangroup@gsq.org.au">scangroup@gsq.org.au</a>.

#### **Scottish Interest Group**

Our next meeting will be on **Sunday 2 March** at 10:00 am. We will conduct the meeting as a hybrid ZOOM and on-site meeting, so if you would like to join us remotely please contact us at <a href="mailto:scotgroup@gsq.org.au">scotgroup@gsq.org.au</a> to join our list and receive the credentials. Members and guests are most welcome.

At this meeting, our regular lecture will be on Lanarkshire Records, and Alistair Henderson will be the presenter. This is also the meeting where we elect our office bearers for the next year, so offers of assistance are welcome.

#### **Writing Interest Group**

The Writing Group held its first meeting for the year on 16 February via Zoom. Guest speaker, Greg Carlill spoke about Writing and Illustrating Histories with Al. He provided valuable ideas about using Al, as well as discussing its challenges and limitations.

Our writing exercise drew attention to the evidence we may seek to answer questions or solve mysteries of some family photos. Members found the exercise helpful as a guide to examining photos in their collection carefully, as well as helping to answer some questions they have had about 'un-named' photos.

The next meeting will be on **20 April, Easter Sunday**, 10.00am-12.00pm via Zoom for those able to attend. The meeting will focus on the use of humour in writing family stories. We will share strategies and language tips to add variety to our writing.

#### Joan Reese Short Story Competition 2025

The topic for the Joan Reese Short Story competition 2025 is A short story from family history research you have undertaken. We discover many interesting stories when researching family history. These stories may relate to an individual, an event which impacted on ancestors' lives or how a mystery or brick wall was solved. What was its significance to your research? This should be clearly explained. Share your story with the readers of Generation. The prize for the winning entry is \$200 and is partly funded by GSQs Writing Group. GSQ looks forward to reading your stories.

**Entries close on 25 May 2025** and the winner will be announced at GSQs Open Day on 23 August 2025. Full details of the competition, including judging criteria and entry requirements can be found on GSQs website.

More information is available by emailing <u>secretary@gsq.</u> <u>orq.au</u>



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#### GSQ in your local BCC library

GSQ presents topics at your local Brisbane City Council Libraries. These presentations are free but you need to book at the library. The Council pays GSQ a fee for presentations so tell your friends about them as Council monitors the popularity of the presentations and decides how many will be offered.

Library	Topic	When	Time	Booking
Ashgrove	Beginner Guide to DNA	Saturday 12 April	11am to 12 noon	3407 1940
Ashgrove	The journey to publishing my family history book	Saturday 17 May	11am to 12 noon	3407 1940
Everton Park	DNA for genealogy step two: Beyond ethnicity	Saturday 24 May	12:30 to 2:30pm	3403 8615
Wynnum	The journey to publishing my family history book	Thursday 29 May	11am to 12 noon	3403 2199

#### **GSQ Blogs**

Our GSQ Bloggers for the month of February were Jennifer Harrison, Pauline Williams, Catherine Thompson and Stephanie Ryan with an interesting array of stories ranging from the Brisbane floods of 1890, to Brisbane Immigration in 1849-1850, to extending your family history research to Scottish names.

The blogs are released early each Monday morning and are also published on our GSQ Facebook Page and GSQ Facebook Group.

This is a direct link to the blogs page itself: <a href="https://gsq-blog.gsq.org.au/">https://gsq-blog.gsq.org.au/</a> but it can also be reached by clicking on the 'Blog' information box link 2nd from the right at the bottom of the GSQ Website homepage.

Contact Bobbie on blogs@gsq.org.au

#### **GSQ Facebook Page**

Our GSQ Facebook Page is a public page, so you don't have to be a Facebook member to see what is posted there.

Each Monday we publish the GSQ Blog for the week and interesting genealogy news and articles from all around the world are published on the other days of the week.

The GSQ Education program is published with the Events coming up in the next month or so. These presentation advertisements always include a link which takes you directly to the GSQ Events webpage for the particular event.

Please feel free to Like or Follow us and also to leave a comment on any of our posts and if you do this a few times, it should bring our posts into your daily feed.

Contact enquiries to Bobbie Edes & Catherine Thompson on <a href="mailto:facebook@gsg.org.au">facebook@gsg.org.au</a>

#### **GSQ Facebook Group**

GSQFB was set up to provide a Facebook presence where GSQ members and non members can interact.

Only the members of the group can see what you post. Here you can ask questions, and share your genie successes and frustrations. It is an interactive space where you will also learn more about the resources GSQ has and how to continue your research.

You don't need to be a GSQ member to join the group. Email Rhoda at <a href="mailto:gsgfbgroup@gsg.org.au">gsgfbgroup@gsg.org.au</a>

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#### RootsTech 2025 March 6 – 8 – Online Worldwide – FREE!

Join the world's largest family discovery event • 6–8 March 2025 • Plus an on-demand learning library available anytime • Brought to you by FamilySearch.

FamilySearch has announced the theme for RootsTech 2025! This year's theme is DISCOVER—one word, endless possibilities.

#### Join Rootstech online to experience:

- 200+ new online sessions in over 26 languages
- Join keynote sessions live from the comfort of your own home
- · Chat online with other attendees worldwide
- · Get digital syllabi and class handouts

Register or learn more about speakers and the program at <a href="https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/">https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/</a>

## Bookshop News Something for everyone - available now!



- Discover Scottish Church Records \$29.50
- The Ones That Got Away: Ancestors On The Move - \$10.50
- Evernote for Family Historians \$9.00
- Discover Scottish Land Records \$17.50
- The Family History Book \$33.90
- Your Family History. A Step-by-Step Guide to Getting Started - \$25.00

## Coming Soon

- Closing Hell's Gates by Hamish Maxwell Stewart
- Queensland's St Helena Island by James M Gray
- Tracing Your Scottish Ancestors by Tristram Clark
- Tracing Your Irish Family History on the Internet by Chris Paton
- Co-intelligence by Ethan Mollick
- Tracing Your Scottish Ancestry Through Church and State Records by Chris Paton

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## **GSQ ZOOM Meetings**

## Monday Morning ZOOM for GSQ members only starting at 11:00 AM AEST

The group is up and running for the year. We looked at Immigration and the group shared their experiences. The group looked at reason for death on the death certificates and we certainly found some weird occurences.

Please come along with information about what you did over the break in relation to your family history research.

Did you manage to get any time to do anything; did you break down a brick wall? Did you do that clean up and sorting as we all plan to do?

Come and join Helen and Ailsa with your cuppa (and all pets welcome) on Monday Zoom. Email us on <a href="mtzoom@gsq.org.au">mtzoom@gsq.org.au</a>

## Wednesday Night ZOOM, open to everyone and FREE starting at 7:00 PM AEST

Everyone is welcome to join the Wednesday Night Zoom. It is a Zoom session that is Free and Open to anyone to join. You do not have to be a GSQ member, just have an interest in Genealogy and Family History. *The Zoom sessions are on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday Nights of the month and start at 7:00 PM AEST*. Anyone throughout the world can join in.

The 2nd Wednesday Nights are for Topics and Help and the 4th Wednesday we have a guest speaker for you. Please check the GSQ events calendar.

**Mar 12** is the usual topic night. There is no Zoom on the 4th Wednesday night for March.

Please email <a href="mailto:wedpmzoom@gsq.org.au">wedpmzoom@gsq.org.au</a> to be added to the list inviting you join us on these great and enjoyable evenings

#### Research Learning & Support for GSQ Members Only 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month starting at 11:00 AM AEST

On 5 March 2025 we are planning to have a presentation by Catherine Thompson on 'Facebook and Genealogy: How to use Facebook to find out more about your genealogy'.

At our recent Learning Aid session, we looked at English directories. The websites that the teams found amounted to several pages, a great resource for years to come.

The group funds have donated a book to the GSQ Library titled 'Cracking the code of old handwriting' under: UK/411/012.

Our meetings are on the 1st and the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 11am and they usually go for about 90 minutes with notes distributed afterwards. Any financial GSQ member can attend these Wednesday morning Zoom sessions, and non-member guests are welcome to come along to two meetings to sample the great benefits of joining GSQ.

To go onto the mailing list, please contact <a href="mailto:wedmorningzoom@gsq.org.au">wedmorningzoom@gsq.org.au</a> and ask to be included.

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## **Family History News**

For March 17, St Patrick's Day, here are some Irish things to get you in the mood.

#### **Genealogy Links:**

The National Archives of Ireland

www.nationalarchives.ie

Census of Ireland 1910 -1911

www.census.nationalarchives.ie

Irish Genealogy – Church Records Online

www.irishgenealogy.ie

Public Record Office of Northern Ireland

www.proni.gov.uk

www.proni.gov.uk/guide to

church records.pdf

The National Library of Ireland

(including the Office of Chief Herald)

www.nli.ie

The Garda Síochána Museum & Archives

(including former RIC records)

www.policehistory.com

Property Registration
Authority (registry of deeds)

www.prai.ie

Association of Professional Genealogists in Ireland

www.accreditedgenealo-

gists.ie

*Irish Family History Society* www.ifhs.ie

Ulster Historical Foundation www.ancestryireland.com

The Irish Genealogical Research Society

www.irishancestors.ie

Kabristan Archives (Old Irish & Indian

Graveyards)

www.kabristan.org.uk

Roots Ireland

www.rootsireland.ie

North of Ireland Family

History Society

https://www.nifhs.org/

The Military History Society of

Ireland

http://www.mhsi.ie/

The Irish Historical Society

https://www.irishhistoricalstudies.ie/

#### **Anglican Record Project**

The Anglican Record Project, which is the work of Mark Williams, is an ongoing endeavour to make the registers of baptism, marriage and burial from Church of Ireland parishes available in a digital format (ie as indexed transcripts). The Project feeds into the Library's long-term goal of digitizing and indexing all of its parish registers for a worldwide audience. Online records at https://www.churchofireland.org/about/rcb-library/ anglican-record-project



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## **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. 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 March/April offerings:

Mar 1 – From Spit to Screen: The Journey of Your DNA Sample by Paul Woodbury, MEd., AG – 3:00 AM AEST

Mar 1 – Streamlining Genealogical Research Plans with Al: A Step-by-Step Guide by Diana Elder. AG, AGL - 5:00 AM AEST Mar 12 – RootsTech 2025 Recap by Daniel Horowitz – 4:00 AM AEST

Mar 13 – *Danish Probate Records* by Jenny Hansen, AG AGL – 10:00 AM AEST

Mar 15 – Researching your Hampshire Ancestors by Gill Thomas – 4:00 AM AEST

Mar 19 – The Influence of Free and Cheap Land on Migration by Annette Burke Lyttle, CG – 10:00 AM AEST

Mar 20 – Off the Boat: Tracing Your Ancestor back to the Old Country by Alec Feretti – 4:00 AM AEST

Mar 26 – Start your Family History Journey for Free with MyHeritage by Diane Henriks – 4:00 AM AEST Mar 29 – Picture the Past: An Introduction to Al Images for Family Historians by Steve Little – 4:00 AM AEST

Apr 4 – DNA Meets the Paper Trail: Pedigree Triangulation Strategies for Early 19th-Century Research by Diana Elder, AG, AGL – 7:00 AM AEST

Apr 4 – Breathing Life into Ancestral Stories: Using Social History in Genealogical Research by Robyn Smith – 8:00 AM AEST

Apr 4 – Organizing Your Genealogy Files by Drew Smith – 9:00 AM AEST

Apr 4 – GPTs for Family History: Unlocking the Potential of AI by Andrew Redfern – 10:00AM AEST

#### Two exciting events are coming to GSQ ...

#### **Digging Deeper**

A course over four weeks

5 June - British Courts and Convicts – Jan Richardson

**12 June – Immigration** – Helen Connor

19 June - Military - Sharyn Merkley

26 June – England & Wales, Scotland and Ireland Pauline Williams, Ailsa Corlett and Helen Connor

### Beyond the Family History Roadblock: Finding Hidden Ancestors

Do you have a genealogy mystery that has you stumped? GSQ invites members to submit their brick wall research challenges for assistance from our panel of experienced genealogists on **Saturday 5 July 2025**. Your brickwall details must be provided by Saturday 7 June.

More information soon ... check the website

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## Enjoy March...

Enjoy March! It's the beginning of Autumn now & hopefully the cooler weather. The conference starts on 21 March, Rootstech on 6 March and St Patrick's Day 17 March. Have a great month of genealogy!

Send any contributions to <a href="mailto:enews@gsq.org.au">enews@gsq.org.au</a>

#### **CONTACT**

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