

This is the official e-news of Queensland Family History Society Inc



Snippets, Vol 20, No 17

At last – we are reopening on **January 5th** with our old opening hours back again and no longer needing to book in before visiting. Other COVID-19 restrictions remain for the time being. We hope to allow meetings in the library later in the year.

What a challenging year 2020 has been. We've all had to make changes to "the way we do things" but there have been some happy surprises as well.

QFHS has welcomed many members to our online meetings who would not otherwise have been able to come to our events. There's also been a plethora of resources made available to us at home via our computers – wonderful datasets, useful presentations, and, by the generosity of commercial providers, at-home access to the library editions of Ancestry, Findmypast, The Genealogist and Irish Ancestors. Of course, our permanent at-home access for members to My Heritage continues as well.

We have a great offer over Christmas and New Year for those yet to join QFHS – **free access** for a limited period to several of our popular datasets, and **discounted membership**. Do you know anyone who might be interested? Do let them know.

2021 is looking good with a great line-up of education events already scheduled – see below and book now so you don't miss out.

Wishing you a wonderful, happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

Chris Gibbs
QFHS President



Congratulations

**Lyndal Cosgrove
2020 QFHS Services to Family History Award**

This is presented annually to QFHS members who have made a significant contribution to family history.

Lyndal is the editor of the *Queensland Family Historian*, a member of the QFHS Management Committee, and Speaker Coordinator for the Members' Meetings.

Special Recognition for Eric Kopittke

Congratulations to Eric Kopittke, convenor of our Central European Special Interest Group, who has been elected to the board of the International German Genealogy Partnership ([IGGP](#))



**Members' Meeting: share
our Christmas traditions**

When: 16 December 2020 at 1.00pm

In these "unprecedented times" QFHS is having an unprecedented online Christmas members' meeting. Join us on Zoom and share your favourite Christmas traditions and stories!

We encourage you to dress in your favourite Christmas outfits! Or bring along some Christmas decorations to decorate what we see on your camera feed! Maybe a Christmas mug! Have fun! Be creative! .

Register Online Now

Calendar

December 2020

16 Dec - [Members' meeting: share our Christmas traditions](#)

17 Dec - [Library closes at 3pm for Festive Season](#)

January 2021

5 Jan - [Library re-opens for 2021.](#)

11 Jan - [Management Committee Meeting](#)

16 Jan - [Family History Writing Group](#)
[The Master Genealogist User Group](#)

17 Jan - [Welsh Interest Group](#)

20 Jan - [Members' Meeting- Ask the President anything about QFHS](#)

23 Jan - [Central European Group.](#)

26 Jan - [Closed - Australia Day](#)

28 Jan - [English West Country Group](#)

Happenings



Researching convict ancestors?

In 2021 Fridays@QFHS will feature two interesting talks by Jan Richardson

Researching convict ancestors: Delving into NSW and Tasmanian records 26 Feb 2021

How do the convict records of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land differ?
And how can these records be combined with civil records and newspaper reports to produce a more accurate and complete picture of the life of your convict ancestor?

[Register Online Now](#)

Convicts at Moreton Bay: Beyond the Chronological Register of Prisoners 30 April 2021

Regardless of whether your convict ancestor's stay at Moreton Bay was short or

long, how can you find information about why they went there, what happened to them at Moreton Bay, and what effect it had on the rest of their lives?

Beyond the Moreton Bay Chronological Register of Prisoners, records you may not have consulted include the Book of Public Labour, the Book of Trials, convict hospital registers, and the correspondence of the Moreton Bay commandants.

[Register Online Now](#)



AFFHO Congress 1- 5 August 2021

Hosts of the 2021 AFFHO Congress, the Norfolk Island Museum are pleased to advise that both Congress Registration and Travel Packages are ready to take your bookings!

A range of interesting speakers, covering topics such as stories from Norfolk Island's Second British Settlement, Female Immigration to Australia in the 1830s, and the use of DNA in genealogical research, have been organised for concurrent sessions. Key Note Speakers will include media personality and history enthusiast Ray Martin, and professional historian and author Babette Smith. In addition to the Congress speakers, the program for the week includes special museum and cemetery tours within World Heritage listed Kingston, and a great island-style Congress dinner Fish Fry! Details about concurrent speaker sessions will be available soon.

More details including on-line registration can be found [here](#). Make sure to take advantage of the early bird registration at \$400 by booking and paying prior to 28 February 2021.

If you plan to attend and should QFHS decide to have a table at the event, would you be available to assist. Perhaps a couple of hours per day. If so, email the Vice-President at vice-president@qfhs.org.au to discuss further.

FH DU 2021 ...more places



available to all

Good news! Bookings have been re-opened for Family History Down Under 2021. See [here](#) for conference details and to make your booking.

Date: 22-26 March 2021

Venue: Maroochy RSL, Maroochydore Qld

Important Alert

If you have booked accommodation for this event at the Novotel Sunshine Coast Resort we recommend that you double check with your accommodation provider. One of our members recently discovered that her accommodation at the Novotel had been cancelled following the decision to move FHDU 2021 to the Maroochy RSL.



Registering for Zoom presentations

Just a friendly reminder that your email address is vital when you register for a Zoom presentation. Please double check that you have entered a correct and current email address.

We have had a couple of instances recently where people have missed sessions because they gave the incorrect email address. For instance, instead of an email address <name>[@gmail.com](#), they have put <name>[@gmail.com.au](#).

Often we need to change the Zoom link at the last minute, especially with free events, and if you do not supply a valid email address, you will miss out on any last minute notifications.

Immediately after registering for an event on Eventbrite, you should receive a confirmation email. If you do not receive this confirmation, it may be that the email address you gave was not valid. In fact, you should receive three emails generated by Eventbrite: one immediately after you register, a second two days before the event, and a third shortly before the event begins. If you are not receiving these

notifications, email marketing@qfhs.org.au so we can check.



[Consolidated Index to the Queensland Government Gazette 1859-1919](#)

The *Queensland Government Gazette* contains a wealth of information on a wide range of topics. However, finding information on particular individuals can be a daunting task. Each volume has an index to the Notices in the *Gazette*, but no consolidated index has been available to make the information more accessible to researchers.

This publication indexes 124,395 entries to Notices in the *Queensland Government Gazette* between 1859 and 1919.



Education - Workshops/Courses/Seminars



Putting your ancestors in their place: ten steps to a one place study

Presenter/s: Dr Janet Few

Family historians normally focus on their own direct ancestors, but these ancestors did not live in isolation. They had neighbours and workplaces, they lived in villages with churches, schools, shops, and institutions. In order to understand families of the past, they need to be 'put in their place' by investigating the localities of which they were a part.

One-Place Studies differ from traditional local histories in that they focus on people, their relationship to their communities and to each other; bringing family and local history together, to the benefit of both fields. A One-Place Study involves dissecting a small, definable, geographical area to examine the individuals, buildings, and processes of the past in as much detail as possible.

These studies are undertaken by individuals, or groups who have an interest in the history of a particular community, be it a parish, town, hamlet, or a single street. This talk describes ten steps that you might take in pursuit of this exciting branch of historical research, wherever in the world your place might be.

When: 3 February 2021 from 7.00pm to 8.30pm

Cost: \$15 QFHS and GSQ members and \$25 all others

Where: In your own home - **online via ZOOM**

[Register online now](#)

Findmypast Library Edition: available records and how best to search them



Presenter: Rosemary Kopittke

Queensland Family History Society currently has a worldwide subscription to Findmypast, featuring predominately records from Britain, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, the USA, and Canada.

There are a variety of ways to search the records, but which way will achieve the best results?

Join our presenter, [Rosemary Kopittke](#) to learn how to make the records work for you.

When: 12 February 2021

Cost: \$15 QFHS and GSQ members and \$25 all others

Where: In your own home - **online via ZOOM**

[Register online now](#)



Finding your family: a beginners course in research

Presenter/s: QFHS Tutors

This six week course will be very comprehensive for someone wanting to start researching their family history, but unsure of the process. Content will include home sources, organisation, BDM certificates, archives, libraries, newspapers, overseas research, and much more. Registrations will be limited to 8 people.

The cost includes:

- The book, *Where do I start?: a brief guide to researching your family in Australia and New Zealand* by Shauna Hicks 2nd Edition (rrp \$25).
- For non-members, complimentary use of the QFHS Library and Resource Centre and members' area of the website for the term of the course.

Please note: This is an evening course 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm AEST (GMT+10)

The course accommodates 8 participants only.

Ticket sales close on Monday, 8 February 2021.

When: Commences 15 February 2021

Cost: \$60 QFHS and GSQ members and \$90 all others

Where: In your own home - **online via ZOOM**

[Register online now](#)

The 1939 Register: why is it invaluable?

Presenter/s: Dr Penny Walters



The UK 1939 Register was used to produce 40 million Identity Cards during World War II, when rationing was introduced.

The Register provides a huge bridge between the last published census (1911) and 1939. People were more honest in their information-giving, providing exact date of birth and relationships, as they wanted their rations.

From 1948 the Register was used as the National Health Service Register, and was updated until 1991, giving women's new surnames when they got married, hand written above their name.

The online UK 1939 Register is a relatively unknown tool for genealogists from outside the UK.

When: 9 March 2021 from 7.00pm to 8.30pm

Cost: \$15 QFHS and GSQ members and \$25 all others

Where: In your own home - **online via ZOOM**

[Register online now](#)

Members' Noticeboard



Library & Resource Centre Opening Hours

Closure for the Festive Season

QFHS Library and Resource Centre will be closed from **3.00 pm Thursday 17 December 2020** until **10.00 am Tuesday 5 January 2021**.

Online collections, datasets and subscription sites will continue to be accessible via the QFHS website ...so plenty to keep your research progressing during the break.

COVID-19 restrictions at our Library and Resource Centre in 2021

Restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic are easing, but the Management Committee is taking a cautious approach to ensure the ongoing safety of members and volunteers.

We begin 2021 by removing the need to book before you attend our Library and Resource Centre and returning to the January 2020 opening hours.

Monday (2nd & 3rd of month)	6 pm – 9 pm
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday	10 am -- 3 pm
Saturday	10 am – 4 pm
Sunday (1st, 2nd, 3rd of month)	10 am – 4 pm
Sunday (4th & 5th of month)	1 pm – 4 pm

Other conditions still apply for the time being, including filling in Contact Register sheets, maintaining social distance, and no direct access to the print library. Further information about visiting arrangements will continue to be updated on the QFHS website and via Snippets as we progress in the New Year.

We hope to be able to allow meetings in the library again sometime later in the year.



Holiday special offer for non-members

To celebrate our Online Access program we're offering access for **non-members** to the following QFHS datasets over the Christmas break (**no login necessary**).

Commonwealth Electoral Roll (Qld) 1969 from midnight Christmas Eve until midnight 28 December

Queensland Cemetery Collection from midnight 31 December until midnight 3 January 2021

Times are all Australian Eastern Standard Time.

Along with this, QFHS has a **MEMBERSHIP SPECIAL OFFER** of \$70 (single) or \$105 (dual) from 25 December until midnight AEST on 31 January. Select Single or Dual new membership with discount code.

Discount Code '20XMAS20'

Remember this offer expires at midnight 31 January 2021

Join QFHS Now



Help needed to support QFHS essential services.

Would you like to help out with any of these tasks? We are always happy to welcome helpers and you would be shown what to do. Some can be done from the comfort of your own home.

- Scanning and digitising of materials to go online for our members
- Indexing records that have been scanned

- Knowledge of video making and video camera skills, to help with short promotional videos
- Gardening around our Library and Resource Centre (no heavy work or mowing)
- Library cataloguing –previous experience needed for this one

If you are interested in helping or would like to find out more please contact secretary@qfhs.org.au.

Help needed with our IT architecture

As you know we have steadily built our QFHS computer system over the last 24 years. John Perryn and the TAG team are the brains and beauty behind this. In 2020 to keep our members busy online, we loaded lots of datasets and searchable collections onto the system. In 2021 we need to consolidate this work and also review and plan for future needs. We are looking for people with IT skills and inquiring minds who would like to make a contribution to the TAG team. It's rewarding and fun. If you would like to help out please send us an email - tag@qfhs.org.au. Thanks.



Web Wanderings

Subscription sites are still offered at-home through the QFHS website. If you have any problem accessing them please email Secretary.



Australian & New Zealand 'Find a Grave' Index

Still trying to locate a grave? Take advantage of the continuing free online access for QFHS members by checking Ancestry. The Library Edition has recently updated its 'Find a Grave Index' covering Australian and New Zealand graves 1800s - current. To search login to QFHS Website and select [Online Access](#)



New Education Records Released 4th December 2020

Records for an additional quarter of a million individuals were recently added to The Genealogist's College and University registers. This release includes records from England, Scotland, Ireland, The Netherlands, New Zealand and even a college from Portugal. See further detail on The Genealogist [homepage](#)



[Scottish Monumental Inscriptions](#)

Findmypast has announced the publication of a vast new online collection of Scottish Monumental Inscriptions in collaboration with Society partners across the country.

Published online for the first time and available exclusively at Findmypast, "Scotland Monumental Inscriptions" enables anyone, anywhere in the world to discover their Scottish ancestors and explore the nation's historic burial grounds from the comfort of home.

Spanning almost 1000 years of history with records dating back to 1093, this comprehensive online archive covers over 800 burial sites in 688 parishes (80% of the nation) across all 34 historical Scottish counties.

Other recently released records include:

[Caribbean First World War Rolls of Honour](#)

Find out if your Caribbean ancestor fought for Britain in the First World War with new rolls of honour from The Bahamas, Barbados, St Kitts & Nevis and Bermuda. Many of the men listed in this collection served in the British West Indies Regiment.

[British Armed Forces Soldiers' Wills 1850-1986](#)

Covering over 130 years of British military history, discover the last wishes of your hero ancestors in these important records.

[British Red Cross & Order of St John Enquiry List, Wounded & Missing, 1914-1919](#)

Unlock valuable details of the First World War's wounded and missing that you won't find in other sources.

[Ireland, Londonderry \(Derry\) War Memorial 1914 -1918](#)

The Diamond War Memorial lists hundreds of locals who lost their lives in the Great War.

[Online Genealogical Index - OGI](#)

Here's an interesting online index that might prove helpful.

Enter the country, county, town and approximate year, and OGI will check its database of 406,009 online data sets and list those that hold data for the given town and year. Give it a go!

Online Journals

Log in required to access these journals. Click [here](#)

- Cooroy Noosa Missing Link 47 2020 11 (PDF)
- Ipswich Bremer Echoes 38 3 2020 11 (PDF)
- Isle of Wight Journal No139 2020 11 (PDF)
- Narre Warren FHG Issue 126 2020 11 (PDF)
- Tree Of Life Vol 37 4 2020 11 (PDF)
- Dumfries Galloway FHS NL98 2020 11 (PDF)
- Aberdeen NE Scotland No 157 2020 11 (PDF)
- Bedfordshire Vol 22 8 2020 12 (PDF)
- Cornwall Issue 176 2020 06 (PDF)
- Cornwall Issue 177 2020 09 (PDF)
- CQ Genie Ologist No 137 2020 09 (PDF)
- CQ Genie Ologist No 138 2020 12 (PDF)
- Gallus 119 2020 10 (PDF)
- Genie Allergy 100 2020 12 (PDF)
- GenSoc Gladstone Timeline Vol 23 2 2020 11 (PDF)
- Maranoa Enquirer No 93 2020 09 (PDF)
- Milton Ulladulla Pigeon House Tidings 51 2020 12 (PDF)
- Parramatta Packet Vol 26 3 2020 11 (PDF)
- Peninsula Past Times 160 2020 11 (PDF)
- Qld History Journal Vol 24 No 07 2020 11 (PDF)
- West Middlesex FHS Vol 38 4 2020 12 (PDF)
- Caloundra Clipper No 111 2020 12 (PDF)
- Central Coast E Muster 28 2020 12 (PDF)
- Cornwall Issue 175 2020 03 (PDF)
- Essex Family Historian 172 2020 12 (PDF)

- GenSoc NT Progenitor Vol 39 4 2020 12 (PDF)
- Hampshire GenSoc Vol 47 Issue 3 2020 12 (PDF)
- JGSGB Bulletin 91 2020 10 (PDF)
- London Westminster Metropolitan 168 2020 12 (PDF)
- NZ Family Tree 2020 12 (PDF)
- Shemot Vol 28 3 2020 12 (PDF)

General items of interest

Family History Research Project

Invitation to Participate

A research team at the University of Newcastle in Australia (Drs Shaw, Donnelly, Burke and Parkes from the School of Education) are conducting research into family history and DNA testing and its impacts on people's understanding of themselves and their place in history as well as some general demographic information.

This study is an Australian first and presents an opportunity to be involved in a new worldwide project about exploring the past. QFHS members are invited to participate by completing an online survey (approximately 20 minutes to complete). If you are interested you can access the survey [here](#)



**19th Century Police
Officer service histories
now online.**

Hallo hallo hallo! Did a family member serve in the Queensland Police force ?

Since July 1997 the Police Museum has been maintaining and adding to a database of Queensland police officers. In the lead up to the Queensland Police 150th birthday in 2014 a concerted effort was made to ensure the list was accurate for the years between 1864 – 2014. The Museum also holds information on officers who served between 1842 and 1863.

Records include biographical data; entry and separation dates; lists of rank attainment; station transfers plus other data such as reward and award information;

family details; death and burial data.

To increase access to this information about the service of police officers the Museum is now using online collection management site eHive to store this documentation as a PDF. Where an image such as a portrait or a copy of a swearing-in certificate can be found, it will also be added to the entry. Both the PDF and any associated image can be downloaded for future reference.

Currently there are 25 officer service histories on [eHive](#). The site hosts 208 of objects and 1528 photographs. Although only a small collection at the moment Museum staff will be adding many more records over coming months.

Find out more including Museum visiting hours via [Police Museum website](#).

Christmas Special

NSW Family History Transcriptions



Some of us might be dreaming of a Christmas treat with a difference.

Full NSW Certificate Transcripts are on offer for \$18.00 until New Years. Further detail available [here](#).



Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

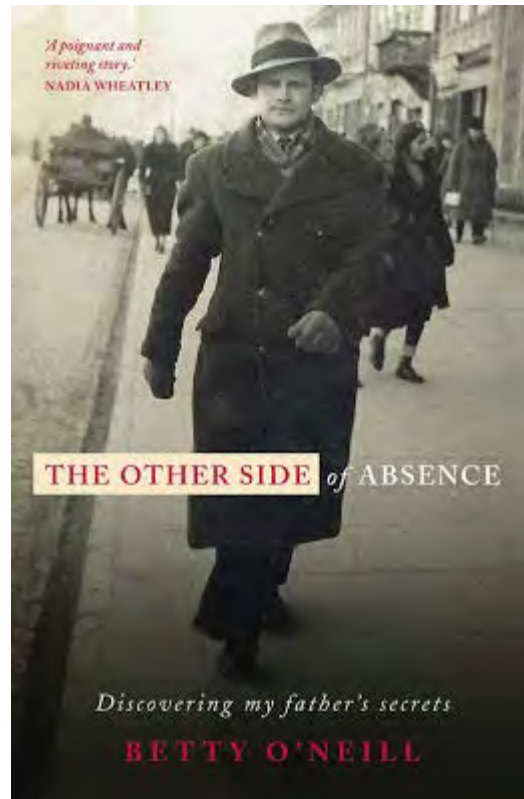


Starting to update your diary for 2021? Check the Calendar on QFHS website for

upcoming SIG meetings. At this stage meetings are still being conducted online and registration is required. If you are still unsure about ZOOM and using it please do contact your [Convener](#) for assistance.

Book Review

The Other Side of Absence by Betty O'Neill published this year by Impact Press, an imprint of Ventura Press.



Reviewed by Alex Daw

One of the themes that run through both my family history and that of my husband's family history is that of abandonment: children being abandoned by their parents in orphanages or foster homes or similar. I have often wondered about the psychological damage that is passed down from generation to generation as a result and or the social outcomes for the children. If I had the intestinal fortitude for undertaking any more university study, this is the area to which I would devote a thesis.

Betty O'Neill has taken on this subject and dealt with it most engagingly and sensitively. Something that is required when dealing with family history and a subject that is deeply personal to her lived experience. The book is prefaced with many recommendations from other authors and indeed the trouble with reading books like this one is that, invariably, they make you want to read more books! There are seventeen pages of books listed in the Bibliography at the back! There is no help for me.

O'Neill hooked me from the get-go on the first page with the line:

"The first time I met ... my father, I was nineteen."

This book is fractured in terms of genre. Yes, it is a memoir but it is also a detective story or mystery of the kind that genealogists or family historians love best. It is interesting on so many levels. As the title indicates, the subject of the book is an absent father and the author's desire to discover why her father left her and her mother a week or so after he arrived in Australia. The author had only brief contact with her father when she was 19 and he attempted to re-connect when she was a Uni student. The several meetings they had subsequently became disturbing and worrying, ultimately leading to another separation when her father returned to Poland in 1974. After her mother died, Betty decided to find out once and for all, her father's story. And what a journey that became.

The thrill of the chase

As a family historian, I related strongly to the thrill of the chase, made even more interesting by the addition of a foreign country, the use of interpreters, the challenges of bureaucracy and so on. O'Neill is nothing if not intrepid and dogged in her pursuit of the truth. There is much to admire in this work. It certainly was a page-turner and I polished off the 300-page volume in about two days flat. I learned heaps from the author's journey, particularly about Poland in the Second World War, of which I was alarmingly ignorant. Yes, improvements could be made. For example, it was disappointing to see the photos of her father's prisoner card were virtually unreadable. I'm not sure if this is down to the quality of the print-run or the exigencies of gaining access to it in the first place which did not sound easy. But there was a map of where the concentration camps were where her father was held. Thank you.

What's the point of studying history?

The book is broken into three parts: the author's childhood and meeting with her father for the first time as a young student, the trip to Poland to find any living relatives/friends and neighbours to search for the truth and finally a reconciliation with the truth and mapping of the way forward by the author which is truly impressive. What do we do with the truth once we know about it? What is the purpose of history or historical research? In this instance, a shift from a personal to community history and reflection on the consequences of war for families and descendants. Fabulous stuff. I commend it to you.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all those who have taken time out to send items of interest to our "Snippets" mailbox at - snippets@qfhs.org.au

The more we receive, the more frequently we can produce a Newsletter. If your submission does not appear in this issue, we will try to include it in a future edition. Please note that reference to any product does not imply endorsement. Members are cautioned to evaluate products prior to purchase.

Editor



Disclaimer: This newsletter is produced in good faith, and information received is deemed to be accurate, but the editor takes no responsibility for incorrect information supplied. [Editor's note: The opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of the Editor or of QFHS.]

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