



Snippets, Vol 21, No 1

Welcome to 2021!

QFHS has a great year ahead, no matter what COVID constraints we may continue to have. There's plenty of interesting and helpful events coming up and the Special Interest Groups continue to provide assistance and support with online meetings for the time being. Don't forget our beginners course, Finding your family, which will kick off in February on Monday evenings - tell your friends or consider refreshing your skills.

Our management committee continues to explore options for a new premises, with several expressions of interest with the BCC at present. It's also working hard at the due diligence process to bring to members the question of amalgamation with the Genealogical Society of Queensland, before the year is out.

The key concern for our premises is the safety of volunteers, members and guests, therefore QFHS will continue to follow government guidelines and, from time to time, this may mean closing for periods at short notice. Alternative ways to meet, learn and research with QFHS are being set in place - Zoom, online access to data sets and presentations, and the ask QFHS email service are just some of them.

Our old visiting hours are back (see below) and you no longer need to book a time to attend. However changes may still need to be made at short notice so please check the website regularly for any updates.

It will be a busy and fruitful year - we hope you're ready to research with enthusiasm.

Best wishes



Congratulations

QFHS Queensland Family Historian Editorial Team

Runner-up in the 2020 Nick Vine Hall Award

The Nick Vine Hall Award is awarded annually by the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations (AFFHO) to member societies for the best family history journal/newsletter in Australia and New Zealand.

Important Notice

Library opening date delayed

Due to current Government COVID requirements regarding wearing of masks, QFHS has decided to postpone the 2021 opening of our Library. The planned re-opening date is now **Saturday 23rd January** from **10.00 am**. Please continue to check the QFHS Website for any updates.

Calendar

January 2021

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

23 Jan - Library Re-opens for 2021

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

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

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

February 2021

3 Feb - [Putting your Ancestors in their Place: ten steps to a one place study](#)

5 Feb - [Family Tree Maker User Group](#)

6 Feb - [DNA Interest Group](#)

- 10 Feb - [Management Committee Meeting](#)
- 12 Feb - [Fridays@QFHS - Findmypast Library Edition: Available records and how best to search them](#)
- 13 Feb - [Irish Interest Group](#)
- 14 Feb - [Colonial India and the Far East Interest Group](#)
- 15 Feb - [Finding Your Family: a beginners course in research](#)
- 17 Feb - [Members' Meeting - St Lucia and the Art Deco Mansion: What drove the man who built it? With guest speaker Ruth Bonetti](#)
- 20 Feb - [New Members' Welcome and Orientation](#)
- 20 Feb - [The Master Genealogist User Group](#)
- 22 Feb - [Finding Your Family: a beginners course in research](#)
- 26 Feb - [Fridays@QFHS: Researching convict ancestors: Delving into NSW and Tasmanian records](#)

Happenings



Don't forget our first members' meeting for 2021.

Ask the President Anything about QFHS

When: **Wednesday 20 January**
1.00pm -3.00pm

This meeting will be conducted online via **ZOOM**.

Be quick! Registrations close **Tuesday 19 January at 5.00pm (Qld time)**.

[Register Online Now](#)

SAVE THE DATE

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 14 May 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?

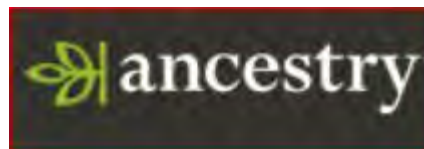
Beyond the Moreton Bay Chronological Register of Prisoners, records you may not have consulted include the Book of Public Labour, the Book of Trials, convict hospital registers, and the correspondence of the Moreton Bay commandants.

[Register Online Now](#)

Building research trees at Ancestry

Presenter: Christine Woodlands

When: Friday 12 March 10.00 am - 12.00 noon



Planning on developing a new skill this year ? This *Fridays@QFHS* workshop might be what you're looking for.

An essential tool for solving your DNA dilemmas is quickly building ancestral trees for your genetic cousins. In this session, we will explore using the power of Ancestry hints to build trees to search for the common ancestors your genetic cousins share. The session will include case studies and useful resources will be provided to use after the session.

[Register Online Now](#)



Need help searching for New Zealand Ancestors ?

Presenter: Sarah Hewitt

When: Friday 16 April 10.00am - 11.30am

Fridays@QFHS have announced a new event:

New Zealand Sources

New Zealand Society of Genealogists Board Member, Sarah Hewitt, will present an overview of the records available to find your family in New Zealand including how to access them from outside of New Zealand.

[Register Online Now](#)



AFFHO Congress 1 - 5 August 2021

Don't forget to take advantage of early bird registration for the Norfolk Island congress at \$400 by booking and paying prior to 28 February 2021. More details including on-line registration can be found [here](#).

The congress will feature 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.

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.

**FHF REALLY USEFUL
Family History Show
Saturday 10th April 2021**



Members who remotely attended this Family History Federation event in 2020 found the program interesting and good value.

ALL TALKS available for at least 7days

Early Birders get Best Value

- Show Tickets only £7.50 - until 31st January 2021

For more information on speakers and presentations see the FHS website [here](#).



**Family History Down
Under 2021 changed to
online delivery.**

23-26 March 2021 | FHDU 2021 will now be offered as a fully virtual (online) event. Please check the FHDU website [here](#) for more details.



**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](mailto:example@gmail.com), they have put <name>@[gmail.com.au](mailto:example@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.



[Classification List of the Queensland Locomotive Enginemen, Firemen, and Cleaners 1912](#)

Prepared from the Chief Mechanical Engineer's Office Classification List of the Queensland Loco. Enginemen, Firemen & Cleaners July 1912, this index covers position and dates of appointments for those employed in these positions.

Listing 1,565 entries, the index gives dates of appointment to the Service and to the current position. The list also gives dates of appointment to intermediate positions, order of seniority, and occasional remarks about how the seniority has been determined.

[Queensland Railways Appointments and Removals 1890](#)

Prepared from the Report of the Queensland Railway Commissioners for the eighteen months ended on 30th June 1890, this index covers appointments and removals in Queensland Railways for the previous twelve months. Listing 1,020 entries, this index names people not mentioned in the Queensland Government Gazette indexes and gives the reasons for the appointment or removal – something we often cannot ascertain. The original returns also detail the rate of pay or salary for both the appointments and removals.

[Queensland Railway Dismissals 1879](#)

This index provides information on the employees of the Ipswich and Rockhampton Railway Workshops at the time of the rail dispute in May 1879, prior to the commencement, in 1889, of the regular publication of lists of persons employed in

the railway service. A total of 140 men from a workforce of 455 were discharged

[Queensland Railway Employees 1889 -1940](#)

The Queensland Railway Index 1889-1940 was compiled by the Queensland Family History Society between 1997 and 2003. It indexes almost 370,000 people employed during this period giving name, age, position, district and reference in the Queensland Government Gazette.

This dataset contains images of the original Queensland Government Gazette.

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

Commencing 15 February 2021

Don't miss this opportunity. The beginner's course is only offered twice per year and is limited to 8 participants.

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



The planned re-opening date for QFHS Library is now **Saturday 23rd January from 10.00 am**. Please continue to check the QFHS Website for any updates.

Library & Resource Centre Opening Hours

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.



Exciting new project needs your help.

If you are isolated at home and want to do something worthwhile and interesting, then the QFHS Digitisation Team has a project that we think will interest you.

Project aims. To develop and promote a new research option for those searching for families in early Queensland.

Project steps

1. we are indexing all names contained in the books nominated for the annual QFHS Family History Book Award and local histories currently available in the Research Library.
2. include all names in QFHSdatasearch.
3. re-catalogue the books in these categories and make them available to borrow by members.

If members are unable to visit the library due to distance or disability, they will be able to request more information on any individual. Information about families and their everyday lives. A valuable asset to researchers.

How you can help.

The QFHS Digitisation Team is seeking volunteers to help index these treasures by inputting information from scanned book indexes provided into a spreadsheet. You can choose the book you would like to index, or we can pick one for you.

All you need to be involved is a computer, internet connection, Excel, and a willingness to learn. No prior historical knowledge or training is necessary. There is also no minimum time commitment for volunteers. Whether you can do a little or a lot, all contributions are welcome. There are 200+ books to index so, as they say, the more volunteers the merrier.

For more information and to register your interest, contact digitisation@qfhs.org.au



Subscription sites are still offered at-home through the QFHS website. If you have any problem accessing them please email secretary@qfhs.org.au



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 Headstone Collection just released.

This January release expands the Headstone Collection with over 55,000 new records. These are great for finding ancestors' names, dates and other details. The fully searchable records with images allow family history researchers to find the inscriptions recorded on their ancestors' graves

To search login to QFHS Website and select [Online Access](#).



Search Over 1.6 million Irish Directories, English vital records and more

Recent releases include:

Ireland, Belfast & Ulster Directories

This collection is a detailed window into the population of Belfast city and the north of Ireland at a time of massive change. Trace the residents of Belfast year by year and

find your ancestor's address and occupation and explore where they lived.

Sussex, Eastbourne Newspaper Notices

Discover your ancestors in this unique index from the Eastbourne Gazette, 1858 to 1931, and Eastbourne Chronicle, 1865 to 1874.

Nottinghamshire Baptisms

Discover if your British ancestors were born in the county of Nottinghamshire. Search more than 850,000 records dating from 1538 to 1980 and find out when they were born and who their parents were as well as what was their religious denomination.

Nottinghamshire Burial Index

Reveal if your British ancestor was buried in Nottinghamshire. Explore records from 1539 to 1917. A full list of parishes in this collection is available on the Nottinghamshire parish coverage page.

To search login to QFHS Website and select [Online Access](#).



Tackling Townlands

Some of the most common questions on the Ireland XO Message Board relate to Townlands. What are they? What is the difference between a Townland and a Parish? Are there any local resources available?

The Ireland XO website and message board might help with your research. See more details [here](#).

Online Journals

The latest list of online journals will appear in the February edition of Snippets.

You can access the full list of 2020 additions by going to the QFHS Website and clicking on the Resources tab. From the drop down list click on electronic journals.

Note: you need to be logged in to the Website to access these resources.

General items of interest

Google that, but...

by Judy G. Russell | Nov 24, 2020

Hoping to improve your searching techniques using Google? Here's an interesting blog recently published by The Legal Genealogist. According to Judy Russell:

"The reality is, Google has different search engines focused on different resources. And just going to the Google search bar in your browser is often not enough to get you where you want to go. "

See more detail [here](#). You might save yourself time spent on those frustrating searches.



QLD BDM New Records Released

The Queensland Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages have just released 51,661 new records that are available to search for free via their Family history research service.

1921 Births - 20,437 records

1946 Marriages - 11,741 records

1991 Deaths - 19,483 records

Click [here](#) for access to the Family History research service.

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.

Central European Group - upcoming events in 2021

Saturday 23 January "A brief trip through 1000 years of German history" - Eric Kopittke.

Saturday 27 March "Politics & War and its impact on Germans in Queensland" - Peter Row based on his research on Armand Ranniger.

Book Review

Notorious Strumpets & Dangerous Girls: Convict Women in Van Diemens' Land: 1803 - 1829 by Phillip Tardif published by Collins/Angus & Robertson, 1990.

(excerpt from an extended review)
by Anne Mackay



A few months ago, after our Covid lockdown, I went to Stanthorpe for a few days with friends. We visited a winery there and I wandered over to the bookshelves that held an interesting collection of books. The title of this book stood out from the rest so I took it down and browsed through it. I was amazed at the enormous volume of information that had been collated on the almost 1700 women whose histories are held in its pages.

When I arrived home, I checked to see if QFHS had a copy and was pleased to see that not only is there one in the print library but also one in the lending library. I'd love to share some details about this fascinating book with others in the society especially those who have convict forbears.

The rather delicious title refers to a label given to a convict called Julia Mullins by the Surgeon-Superintendent, Matthew Burnside, of the Transport "Providence". He said of this woman "She is a notorious Strumpet and a most dangerous Girl ... The trouble which she gave me is unaccountable, repeatedly I have been obliged to put her into Irons and confined her to the Coal-Hold Hard labour or solitary confinement ought to be assigned her."

There are 1801 pages in this book. I have browsed through the different sections and found it to be a truly fascinating and readable book.

The book begins with an introduction that details the numbers of convicts and women convicts in particular sent to Australia. It describes the society these

women came from, the types of crimes they were convicted of and the places they came from. This leads on to details about the voyage these women had to Van Diemen's Land; the lives of these women in Van Diemen's Land and the conditions in which they lived are also discussed.

Then follows a biography of each of the almost 1700 women. These are organised alphabetically under each ship with ships arranged chronologically by their arrival date in Australia.

Each biography is divided under a series of headings including:

- **Serial number**: this number was given by the author to assist in cross-referencing and indexing.
- **Name**: that recorded on the transportation register plus all other known names and aliases.
- **Police Number**: this numbering began in the mid 1820s and used the initial of the surname and the name of the ship.
- **Convicted at**: the court where she was convicted and sentenced to transportation
- **Conviction date and sentence**: Transportation began at the conviction date.
- **Transported for**: the crime for which she was transported
- **Gaol report**: details of behaviour in the British prison, her "connexions and former course of life", marital status, children, religion etc.
- **Stated this offence**: apparently this was sometimes called "the confession".
- **Ship Surgeon's Comments**: This is where the quote "notorious strumpet and dangerous girl" is found in the record of Julia Mullins.
- **Description**: native place, literacy, height and age (year in which it was recorded at trial).
- **Colonial experiences**: major events in the convict's life which include offences committed and punishments, marriage, musters (like a census but taken at irregular intervals), freedom.
- **Sources that correspond to those recorded in the Bibliography.**

You can see that if you were a descendant of one of these women there may be information in this book from a number of different sources. In the case of Julia Mullins 11 different sources were used showing how comprehensive these biographies are.

At the rear of the book are a number of informative appendices.

I found it interesting to see the minor infringements that resulted in transportation. There is a popular saying that people were transported for stealing a loaf of bread. I had little idea that vagrancy attracted such a drastic

penalty as in the case of Mary White from Cork, Ireland. She was sentenced to 7 years!

This book was written as the result of the author researching his own Tasmanian convict ancestors and realising that there was a need to consolidate the information available on Van Diemen's Land convicts from the many existing sources. The result is an outstanding work that is a must read for those with convict ancestors as well as those interested in early Australian history.

Thanks to Anne Mackay for considerable time spent reading and reviewing this very detailed resource. Anne's full review will appear in the February edition of Queensland Family Historian. The book is available from QFHS lending library Call No LL D5/10/6.

Interesting in reading more book reviews? In addition to Anne's excellent review the February edition of Queensland Family Historian will also feature Sue Reid's review of another essential guide: *Family History for Beginners and Beyond*, 16th ed. The Heraldry & Genealogical Society of Canberra Inc., Danny O'Neill ed. 2020.

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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