Snippets 2024



Image: State Library of Queensland, via Wikimedia Commons



Volume 24 No 2

We were delighted to present, at the Volunteers Morning Tea in December last year, the Services to Family History Award 2023 to long-time volunteer, Rosie Gall. Rosie has been a member of QFHS since August 2007 and she demonstrates many of the qualities we value in our volunteers – steadfastness, good humour, compassion, thoughtfulness, professionalism, an enquiring mind, innovation – and then some.

The complete nomination, outlining Rosie's contribution to the Society over many years, is published in the most recent issue of *Queensland Family Historian*.



All members should have received their copy of the *Historian* but <u>here</u> is a quick link to the issue - see page 7.

Congratulations, again, Rosie. You are indeed a most commendable volunteer.

Rosie, pictured left, received her award from President Allana.

Image provided by Alex Daw

Air conditioning at the Research Centre.

We are hiring a monster mobile air conditioning until Brisbane City Council approves our application for re-installation of six reverse-cycle air conditioners.

Thank you to Dette Glenday, Trevor Rigby, Cheryl Gribble, Charlotte Sale, Allana O'Kane and Caroline Brudell for offering to fill the roster to attend the Research Centre by 8.30am Tuesday-Thursday and Saturday to set up and turn on the monster unit.

While starting the air conditioner early helps reduce the thermal load before the facility heats to uncomfortable temperatures, early closure of the Research Centre is still a possibility on very hot or humid days. As advised in last month's Snippets, closure of the facility remains at the discretion of the Library Assistants, whose health and comfort we must consider and without whom we cannot open the facility at all.

If you are planning to visit the Research Centre after midday, please phone beforehand to ensure the Research Centre will be open for business in the afternoon.

Thank you for your understanding.

Vale Richard Cosgrove We were saddened to learn of member Richard Cosgrove's passing on Saturday.

Richard was a key figure in the team of volunteers who spent several months preparing the building at 46 Delaware St for our relocation from Gaythorne. Richard's energy and commitment were remarkable.

We extend sincere condolences to his wife and our fellow Management Committee colleague, Lyndal Cosgrove.



Management Committee

Research Centre News

New opening hours:

SAT midday-3pm TUES, WEDS, THURS



A defibrillator in the Research Centre Management Committee has purchased a defibrillator and Facilities Manager Alan Bourne has installed the glass-fronted cabinet housing it on a wall in the Research Centre. Library Assistants have been familiarised with the defibrillator's use during their recent Training and Consultation sessions.

You may be interested to view a short video illustrating its function <u>here.</u>

Our Library Assistants do not have first aid training but the defibrillator is highly automated with clear audible spoken instructions so, if it is ever needed, it is quite simple to use.

10am-3pm





The Technology Advisory Group (TAG) got together earlier this month to think about the future and the many issues that we confront.

From changing technology to changing patterns of use of our resources, we can think of many projects that are needed to maintain and expand our technology offerings to the membership.

The projects include website upgrade, network upgrade, PC upgrades, library catalogue upgrade, improving access to in-house resources, supporting digitisation expansion and many others.

However, the one clear message is that we need more volunteers to help with the tasks ahead. If you have any experience with Information Technology or just like to play with electronic devices, then please consider exercising your talent for the betterment of the society. Any skill set can be utilised and, if there is a particular area that you want to increase your expertise, then we can help you in that regard.

Please contact us via Volunteer Coordinator, Caroline Brudell at volunteering@qfhs.org.au

Clem Ditton, TAG Convenor



Take a look at the <u>Volunteer</u> page on the QFHS website.

You will find information on the roles currently available and how to express interest in them.

If you're unsure of how you can contribute, simply supply a few details and our Volunteer Co-ordinator, Caroline Brudell, will be in contact for a chat. There really is something for everyone!

We rely completely on the support and contributions of our volunteers. Why not join us? Volunteering is 'win-win' – it benefits both the individual and the Society.



Irish research bonanza Friday 16 February

An information-packed four hours was delivered by international speakers from the Ulster Historical Foundation

Congratulations to the following volunteers for organising and delivering such a successful event:

Irish Research Group:

Dale Fogarty, Convenor Amanda Gotthard Lesley Boshammer Ruth Linde Maureen Finnane

Carolyn Grimward

Management Committee:

Alex Daw Caroline Brudell Allana O'Kane and Barbara Richardson Cherrie Cameron Laurie Lee

Event videographer, Laurie Lee, recorded all four presentations and is working to make them available to all registrants from 3 March. Details to follow.

The Society is grateful to all volunteers involved for your efforts to provide members and the wider community with this special opportunity to further their Irish family history research.

Raffle prizes: an AncestryDNA kit and other prizes were generously donated by Alex Daw, while subscriptions to John Grenham's very useful website *Irish Ancestors* and guide books on Irish genealogy published by Unlock the Past were provided by QFHS. Congratulations to all winners:

- * Jameson's Irish whiskey Mairin Langridge
- * Galway Pipe Old Tawny Port Jocelyn Gould
- * Ancestry DNA kit Elizabeth Nunn
- * John Grenham's Irish Ancestors subscriptions Rosslyn Clayton and Dyanne Jackson
- * Irish research guidebooks Unlock the Past Robert McIntosh

Thank you to Clem Ditton whose name was drawn for one of the prizes and who generously regifted it so another member could enjoy.

President's Update

Dear Members

While we can all become addicted to the discovery of the facts about our ancestors, it is the fleshing out of their lives that often requires deduction and supposition. One of my ancestors was a saddler in Dalby in the 1860s and I don't need his diary as a primary source to know what his working life entailed. To create the story of his life, I can gather information from other sources and suppose that his working life was likely to be very similar. How to go about writing those stories in a lively and faithful-to-known-facts manner is our challenge.

We have two events coming up that address biography and story and can assist our reflection on the skills and techniques of story writing:

- Nancy Edwards will facilitate Talking about... writing a biography
- Alex Daw will lead the Book Club discussion of Anne Funder's Wifedom: Mrs Orwell's invisible wife – a life revealed and created from a few of her letters

Reading biography and fiction based on a life and noting the devices and mechanisms that authors use to tell stories is invaluable in developing our creativity and honing our writing skills. By happy coincidence, member Rob Adamson submitted the following to share in Snippets: *I'd like to draw your attention to an excellent book recently published by Kate Grenville (author of The Secret River, etc). In Restless Dolly Maunder, Kate Grenville uses family memories to imagine her way into the life of her grandmother. A historical novel is another way of putting an ancestor into a very readable life. <u>https://www.goodreads.com/en/book/show/135953596</u> Thank you, Rob, for that timely suggestion.*

If you are interested in developing your writing and creative thinking skills and haven't already registered for **Talking about...** and/or **Book Club**, I encourage you to do so. Details are elsewhere in this newsletter. And why not check out the Family History Writing special interest group <u>here</u>?

The next General Meeting for members will be held online on Tuesday 26 March, 7.30-9pm.



The bi-annual General Meetings, in March and September, with the AGM in June provide members with three major reporting occasions annually. All members are invited to attend to receive reports from the President and Treasurer about the state of the Society – our finances, progress regarding the lease with Brisbane City Council and associated Applications For Works, activities in the various priorities identified in the Strategic Plan Update 2023-2026, and status of the development of a new constitution. **Members will vote on the proposed increase to fees as described in detail on** <u>page 33 of the February issue</u> of the Society's journal, *Queensland Family Historian*.

If you cannot attend but would like to register your vote, you may complete a Proxy Form, available <u>here</u>.

The agenda for the meeting and various reports will be available for your perusal online <u>here</u> 14 days before the General Meeting. If you have items for the agenda, please <u>email</u> <u>the Secretary.</u>

While a degree of formality is required – Minutes will produced, the agenda will be followed and the vote re fees will be conducted appropriately – we would like the General Meetings to be as informative and interactive as possible. As a general rule, we try to avoid getting bogged down in meeting protocol unless the matter is substantive and requires such rigorous attention to detail. With a time limit set at 90mins, we are hopeful many members will see the benefit of contributing to the functioning of the Society by attending. Registration is essential to obtain the Zoom link to the meeting – see the Events section later in Snippets. If you'd like to attend but are unfamiliar with Zoom, please <u>contact the</u> <u>Secretary</u>, Helen Evans, for assistance.

Society Fellow and founding member, Shauna Hicks has been providing guidance to a working party established to update the Society's Collection Development Policy. While the title of the policy may sound a bit dry, the guidance it provides to the Society is essential to give direction to what resources we hold. With limited space, finances and volunteer effort to consider, we need to be sure that the resources we purchase or develop in-house fit our objectives (and that resources no longer fitting our objectives and/or are readily available elsewhere) are removed according to agreed procedures. Management Committee is grateful for Shauna's considerable expertise, so generously shared, and the work of Alex Daw, Rosie Gall and Carolyn Grimward (also generously volunteered) in working through the issues. Thanks are also extended to Rosemary Kopittke, Mary Geiger, and Eric Kopittke for their contributions during this week to assessing the treasures we have in storage with a view to our development of appropriate digitisation projects. We are committed to providing members with access to more resources.

Our members regularly give presentations elsewhere and are recognised authorities in their areas of interest. Sue Reid, Charlotte Sale and Dale Fogarty are three such members giving presentations to other societies in coming weeks.

Please remember that both the Genealogical Society of Queensland (GSQ) and QFHS welcome members of both societies to their education events and each extends discounted pricing to members of the other society.

Upcoming seminars at GSQ that will interest QFHS members are:

* British Newspaper Archive, presented by Sue Reid, 2 March 9-11am.

* Researching Italian Ancestors, presented by Charlotte Sale, 16 March 9-11am For a discounted price, use the code allocated to QFHS members: **4032.** Register via the GSQ Events Calendar <u>here</u>.

Both presentations will be delivered via Zoom and those who register will have access to the recording for a limited time.

Dale Fogarty will deliver a presentation to the Society of Australian Genealogists (SAG) Irish Research Group and has arranged for QFHS members to attend at the SAG member price:

* Cork: County in Focus, 12 March 6pm via zoom.

QFHS members may register at the SAG member price of \$5.00 using the code **QFHSIrish2024**. Details of the program and the link to the



event registration page <u>here</u>. Those who register will also have access to the recording.

We are fortunate that Brisbane will host the Australasian Congress 2025, the major family history conference in this part of the world, in March next year. GSQ is organising the event for AFFHO (Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations) and has published a **Call for Speakers**. Further details are provided elsewhere in Snippets and all members are encouraged to consider if they could develop a presentation for the conference.

And don't forget **the world's largest genealogy conference, Rootstech, on Thursday 29 February-Saturday 2 March – free to attend online** with an amazing number of classes and presentations. I hope you've all registered and can set aside some time to participate. If the US time zone does not suit, most sessions will be recorded and available afterwards.

Finally, an announcement about the **Journal Article of the Year: Members Choice Award 2024.** Instead of inviting the membership at the end of the year to nominate a

QUEENSLAND FAMILY HISTORIAN

Journal of the Queensland Family History Society Inc.

February 2024

Volume 45 Number 1



single article, from all four issues, that has captured your imagination, highly engaged your interest or provided you with valuable new leads to further your research, we will invite responses after the publication of each issue, while your reading is still fresh in your memory.

The first survey will be distributed within the week, with responses to be received within 14 days. The data will be collated from the four surveys and the **Journal Article of the Year: Members Choice Award 2024** will be announced at the Volunteers Morning Tea in December.

I encourage all members to participate and encourage our published authors with your positive comments. The first issue of Queensland Family Historian is <u>here</u> on the website.

Best wishes to all

Allana O'Kane President



What's on?

Your calendar for the coming weeks



Seminars, Workshops, Courses and Conversations

26 Feb 10am (hybrid)	Book Club: Wifedom: Mrs Orwell's Invisible Life
28 Feb 10am (online)	Talking about Researching a Biography
7 Mar 7pm (online)	Learn@QFHS - Photogenealogy: an introduction
14 Mar 10am (in person)	Irish Research Day
14 Mar 7.30pm (online)	What's New?
20 Mar 1pm (hybrid)	Presenting 'We, the undersigned'
26 Mar 7.30pm (online)	Members General Meeting
27 Mar 7.30pm (online)	Talking about everything automobile related

*hybrid events are those allowing members to attend either online via Zoom or in person at the Research Centre.

Bookings are essential. Please check website for more information.

Other important dates

Central European Interest Group's 40th Anniversary Celebration Date claimer! 1 Jun 10am More details to come.

Members Lounge Socials - date claimers!All in-person events - details and registration links to be provided10 Apr 10amCoffee and Chat. Theme: wartime stories5 Jun 10amToowong Cemetery

- 7 Aug 10am Let's get together over a coffee for National Family History Month
- 9 Oct 11am Diamantina Health Care Museum (to be confirmed)

4 Dec 10am Coffee and Chat. Theme: Christmases past.

New Members Welcome and Orientation

24 Mar 9.30am (online)20 Apr 9.30am (in person)



14 Mar - 10am		
16 Mar - 9am		
17 Mar - 10am		
21 Mar - 7pm		
23 Mar - 10am		
28 Mar - 12pm		

Please check the QFHS website or contact the group convenor to confirm your meeting location. **Meetings may vary between online or in person** at our **Family History Research Centre - 46 Delaware Street, Chermside.**

Learn more about QFHS SIGs

Would you like to learn more about a particular interest group or perhaps join them for a meeting? Click <u>here</u> and select an interest group. You can contact the SIG Convenor if you have any questions or would like to join a meeting.

Members Noticeboard



Connections is in Brisbane 21-24 March 2025

The Australasian Conference 2025 **Connections - Past, Present, Future** has been announced. This is Australasia's premier event for local and family historians, ancestry researchers and genealogists, and it will be held in Brisbane on 21 - 24 March 2025.

Keynote speakers announced include Judy Russell (the Legal Genealogist), Dr. Nick Barrett, (well known for work on BBC's Who Do You Think Your Are?) and Hamish Maxwell-Stewart (CEO of Digital History Australia).

More details <u>here</u> where you can sign up for the Conference newsletter.

Call for Speakers at Connections Past - Present - Future

Are you a passionate historian, industry expert or research professional willing to share your experiences, insights and knowledge with colleagues, peers, experienced researchers, and novice family historians? Proposals are now invited for speakers to present educational sessions at the Australasian Conference 2025, **Connections Past -Present - Future**, held in Brisbane from 21 to 24 March 2025. More information is available <u>here</u>.

Journals: a rich resource

Make sure you include journals published by family history and genealogy societies in your research resources.

You never know what gems they may contain - why not take some time to browse through the various titles?



E-journals received from other family history and genealogy societies in the last few months:

Australia

SAG Descent 53 4 2023 12 **New South Wales** Botany Bay Endeavour 157 2023 12 Bridges Branches 132 2023 12 Cape Banks Kith Kin 151 2023 11 Casino The Crossing 143 2023 11 Goulburn Argyle Bulletin 98 2023 11 Milton Ulladulla Pigeon House 57 2023 12 Newcastle Journal 244 2023 12 PFFF Newsletter 54 2023 11 PFFF Newsletter 55 2024 03 Richmond Tweed Cedar Log 158 2023 12 Roma Maranoa Enquirer 103 2024 01 Wyong Tree Of Life 41 2 2024 02 Young Lambing Flat 46 1 2024 01 Northern Territory Gensoc NT Progenitor 42 1 2023 03 Gensoc NT Progenitor 42 2 2023 06 Gensoc NT Progenitor 42 3 2023 09 Queensland

Caloundra Clipper 123 2023 12 CQ Genie Ologist 148 202 02 GSQ Generation 47 2 2023 12 RHSQ Bulletin 892 2024 02 Whitsunday Branching Out 2023 11 South Australia South Australia Genealogist 50 4 2023 11 Tasmania Tasmanian Ancestry 44 3 2023 12 Victoria AIGS The Genealogist 17 08 2023 12 Summer Bridges Branches 132 2023 12 Narre Warren 139 2024 02 Peninsula Past Times 173 2024 02

Canada

BCGS Cariboo Notes 41 1 2024

United Kingdom

Family History Federation Bulletin 41 2024 01SoG Genealogists Magazine 34 08 2023 12

England

Ireland JGSI Vol 24 2023

Scotland Shetland Coontin Kin 128 2023 12 Tay Valley Historian 127 2024 02

> New Members Welcome and Orientation



Get ready to make the most of your membership

These orientation sessions will be **held in person at the QFHS Family Research Centre**, **46 Delaware St Chermside**. It's your opportunity to learn more about our research resources, services and learning opportunities.

Not a new member but need an update on accessing resources at our Family History Research Centre? You're very welcome to join the sessions.

Session details: Sunday 24 March 9.30am - 12pm (online) Saturday 20 April 9.30am - 12pm (in person at the Research Centre)

Bookings are essential ... please email welcome@qfhs.org.au.



Members Lounge

Meet fellow members and share common interests. We'll be providing many opportunities to do so with our learning and sharing events,

plus informative and enjoyable social activities.

Most events available free to Members

Activities included in the Members Lounge 2024

Book Club – every two months, members only, starting Monday 26 February

Family History Toolkit - every two months, alternating with Book Club. Members only

Presenting... guest speakers on a variety of interesting topics - monthly

Socials - mostly in-person activities every month: a film, excursion, coffee morning. Scheduled variously throughout the month as the activity dictates.

Talking about... – monthly, online. Join the conversation on a variety of engaging topics. Non-members are also welcome to attend.

Trout Game - an annual in-person activity. Use the game to assess your basic research skills and see if you can get back to the 1500s

What's New? - monthly, members only. What's new at the Society & in the wider Family History world - people, resources, events.

Events

Most of our speakers donate their time for the larger education benefit of our members. We are particularly grateful for the donation of time and effort from our own members. Their knowledge & expertise are valuable gifts to the Society and our members, and we thank them, one and all.

Volunteers Training and Consultation



Friday 23 February 9.30am

at QFHS Chermside also via Zoom for those who cannot attend in person

All volunteers are invited to morning tea followed by training and consultation.

Library Assistants who did not attend the LA sessions in January are requested to attend this session.

Register here for Volunteers Training and Consultation

Book Club



Wifedom: Mrs Orwell's invisible life Monday 26 February 10am a Members Lounge free event

Let's read the book that's flying off the shelves in bookshops and libraries at the moment.

The book is part biography, part memoir, part ...(<u>read more</u>)

Family historians will be interested to discuss the challenges of writing a biography, the lost art of letter writing, and how much truth is revealed in letters. Fascinating!

Register here for Book Club - Wifedom

Talking about ...



Researching a Biography

Wednesday 28 February 10am (AEST) Online

Click here for more information

Register here for Talking about...

Learn@QFHS

Photogenealogy: an introduction



Presenter: Ann Larkham

Thursday 7 March 7pm - 8.30pm (AEST) Online Tickets \$15 - \$25

Click <u>here</u> for more information

Register here for Learn@QFHS

Irish Research Day



The Irish Research Group invites you to immerse yourself in your Irish family history research in the company of others. Ask questions. Tackle brick walls.

> Thursday 14 March between 10am and 3pm

at the Family History Research Centre

Register here for Irish Research Day

What's New?



What's New? a Members Lounge free event

Thursday 14 March 7.30pm a Members Lounge free event

Click <u>here</u> for more information

What's New? begins with us sharing what we're working on, and what we've discovered lately. Alex Daw then provides a curated round-up of what's new in the Society's resources, and in and around the wider family history community.

Presenting...



We, the undersigned... Petitions in the National Archives

Presenter: Eve Terry, NAA a Members Lounge free event

Wednesday 20 March 1pm

Click <u>here</u> for more information

Register here for Presenting...

Members Lounge Socials



Let's get together for a coffee and share our family's Wartime Stories

Wednesday 10 April 10am

at Cafe 63, Pickering St, Enoggera

Image: Pixabay.com

Register here for Members Lounge Social



Short Story Writing Competition

Every family has a story

- write yours now!



Family History ACT invites all family historians to enter the 2024 E. M. Fletcher Short Story Writing Competition.

- 500 to 2000 words on a family history theme.
- Prizes of \$1,000 for best short story, \$500 for runner-up (sponsored by UTAS), and a bonus \$100 prize for FHACT members.
- Open to individuals over 18 years.
- Entry fee of \$20.00 for FHACT members and \$30.00 for non-members.
- No limit on the number of entries.
- Terms & Conditions and Entry Form available at <u>familyhistoryact.org.au</u> or by email from <u>writingcompetition@familyhistoryact.org.au</u>

Competition closes 15th July 2024

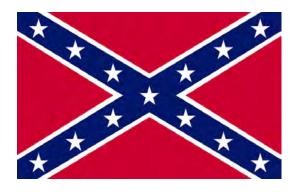


Family History ACT Is a registered business name of The Heraldry & Genealogy Society of Canberra Inc



Proudly supported by the Family History program at the University of Tasmania

What's Online



A new index, <u>Australasian</u> <u>Volunteers in American Civil War</u> <u>1861-1865</u> has been added to our Online Access/Searchable Datasets/Military page for members to research.

This index provides details about people mentioned in a collection of books donated by James M.Gray that can now be found in the QFHS Print Library. The books deal mainly with Australian and New Zealand volunteers who fought in the American Civil War and those buried in Australia.

For members unable to visit the Family History Research Centre, we provide a short Look-Up Request. Simply note the item of interest and complete the Look-Up form <u>here.</u>

QFHS Subscriptions to International Databases

QFHS provides free access to an extensive range of information available through the library editions of the following websites (check the QFHS website for member login details)

From home

MyHeritage TheGenealogist (United Kingdom)

From the Research Centre at Chermside

Ancestry Biographical Database of Australia British Newspaper Archive Emerald Ancestors (Northern Ireland) Findmypast Irish Ancestors (Ireland) MyHeritage

TheGenealogist (United Kingdom)



QFHS is a FamilySearch affiliate library. You can reach limited-access FamilySearch databases and images on the QFHS computers.



For the past several years, we have chosen an illustrated cover from *The Queenslander* to add to the header for Snippets.

The Queenslander was the weekly summary and literary edition of the *Brisbane Courier*, the leading journal in the colony - and later, federal state - of Queensland since the 1850s. It was launched by the Brisbane Newspaper Company in 1866 and discontinued in 1939.

With weekly publication spanning 60+ years, there were many (out-of-copyright) images to consider as a header for Snippets. This year we have chosen a lively image from the 19 April 1928 issue: a man sits dozing on the edge of a jetty while dangling a fishing line over the side. A small boy is cheekily pulling up the fishing line from behind him. It has a lovely vintage feel.

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 interesting to members our newsletter will be. 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.

The Family History Research Centre is located on the traditional lands of the Turrbal & Jagera peoples.

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.]

Permission to reprint articles from QFHS 'SNIPPETS' NEWSLETTER is granted unless specifically stated otherwise, provided: (1) the reprint is used for non-commercial, educational purposes; and (2) the following notice appears at the end of the article: "Previously published in QFHS 'SNIPPETS' NEWSLETTER with the appropriate date and volume number (eg QFHS 'SNIPPETS' NEWSLETTER January 2009 Vol 9 No. 1). The last few years of Snippets editions are available from: http://www.qfhs.org.au/library/snippets/

Copyright © 2024 Queensland Family History Society Inc, All rights reserved. You are receiving this email because you are registered with QFHS to receive electronic communications.

> Our mailing address is: Queensland Family History Society Inc PO Box 78 GEEBUNG, Qld 4034 Australia