

Conference Newsletter No. 4 June 2025

Have you made your conference bookings yet? The early bird prices end on <u>July 31</u> which is next month already. The complete program is now on the website <u>www.familyhistoryconference2025.org.au</u> with a great range of speakers and topics. Partners are welcome to book and attend the social events on Friday and Saturday nights.

If your group is planning to have a table at the trade fair, the conference committee would appreciate hearing from you before <u>July 31</u>. Information on this is on the website under the Exhibitors tab.

The conference committee would also like to hear as soon as possible from any person or group planning to take part in the online version of the conference so that arrangements can be finalised.

We have received many generous donations for our raffles. Tickets for the Saturday raffle can be purchased when you book. Friday raffle tickets will be available at the trade fair.

I hope that visitors are able to extend their stay in the Illawarra where there is much to see and do. There are areas of natural beauty - miles of beautiful beaches, the escarpment, bush walks and lookouts. The more adventurous can jump off Bald Hill in a hang glider, jump from a plane at Skydive the Beach or ride the zipline at Treetop Walk. Other interesting places are Symbio Wildlife Park and the Hindu Temple at Helensburgh, the Seacliff Bridge, Wollongong Art Gallery, Botanical Gardens and the Nan Tien Buddhist Temple, the largest such temple in the southern hemisphere. With over 100 nationalities represented in the local

population, which partly inspired our conference theme, a wide variety of local restaurants reflect many of these. The old image of belching smokestacks is no longer reflective of the area.

The Illawarra Family History Group is looking forward to meeting and reconnecting with participants at the conference.

Judy Bull

Conference convenor