



NSW and ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc. Newsletter

Newsletter for October 2022

Message from the President

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Well, this year's Annual Conference is over. I hope everyone enjoyed the presentations, and found out something new. I always come away with something new to research that I didn't know.

Congratulations to Newcastle Family History Society Inc. and Maitland and Beyond Family History Inc. for a well-run conference.

The Annual General Meeting and Forum was held the week after the conference. I had the pleasure to be re-elected as President. The rest of the positions and the committee were returned unchanged.

While Wyong Family History Group Inc. continues on the committee, they have had a change of delegate. So welcome to Martin Fisher to the committee.

I would like to thank both Roger Lewis and Wendy Condon who served on the Committee for several years as delegates and alternate delegates for their region and society. We will miss your input and knowledge.

Lastly, I am delighted to announce since the AGM, Wyong Family History Group Inc. have put their hand up to hold the 2023 Annual Conference and its hoped this will also be a face to face conference.

Best Wishes to all our members, Gail Hanger.

August 2022 Management Committee Meeting

This was held on Sunday 14th August 2022 via Zoom. One committee member was unable to attend.

Some important points from that meeting were:

1. **Newsletter:** It was decided to hold over the upcoming Newsletter, which is usually produced after each Committee Management Meeting until completion of the 37th State Conference and the AGM and Forum. Hence the delay with sending this out.
2. **New Members:** The Treasurer advised that three new member societies had joined the Association. Welcome to - Cessnock District Historical and Family History Society, City of Canada Bay Heritage Society and Wyalong District Family History Group.
3. **The 37th State Conference "Riding the Waves of History"** being organized by the Newcastle Family History Society Inc. with Maitland and Beyond Family History Inc. was progressing well. The virtual Conference presentations are via Zoom or YouTube and may also be watched via YouTube for a week after the Conference. The Twitter account and blog were working well with lots of comments. Several Societies had decided to hold the Conference on their own premises.

We are sure the members had a great day. Could you please forward to the Secretary (secretary@nswactfhs.org) any photos of this day which could be added to our next newsletter?

4. **Congress 2022:** History in Paradise, the 16th Australasian Congress on Genealogy & Heraldry was held on Norfolk Island from 2nd to 4th August 2022. It was hosted by the Norfolk Island Museum. Congress started with a Trade Show in Rawson Hall, in Burnt Pine Village. The Congress opened officially on Tuesday with Ray Martin, Ambassador to Norfolk Island, and a very popular broadcaster who gave the opening presentation on 'Discovering Who I am' Congress 2022 was a wonderful opportunity to learn about the Pitcairn Islanders and their settlement on Norfolk Island, the Convicts and their sufferings, the wreck of the Sirius, stolen children, and life in early Australia. Thanks to Vivienne Parker, NZSG. Article in AFFHO Newsflash September 2022.
5. **National Archives Report:** The digitalization of World War 2 Records are proceeding.
6. **The Association Website:** The NSW and ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc. website has a "What's On" page which publicizes upcoming educational events. Member Societies can also advertise for free their meetings, presenters and events on this site. Please check it out at <https://www.nswactfhs.org>
7. **Technical Support Group Meetings:** If societies would like a recording of a specific monthly topic, please let the Secretary know as this can now be arranged.

General Family History News

2022 Conference

Thank you to everyone who attended our recent Annual Conference. It was great to have so many attendees over the two virtual days. We had twelve member societies' sign up to hold mini conferences in their rooms & by all accounts they had a great time enjoying each other's company as they watched the presentations. If you took some photos, we would love to see them & share them on the website & Facebook pages, with your permission.

Thank you to those who gave us feedback via the online survey – it was good to hear your thoughts. Your suggestions for the 2023 Conference have already been passed on.

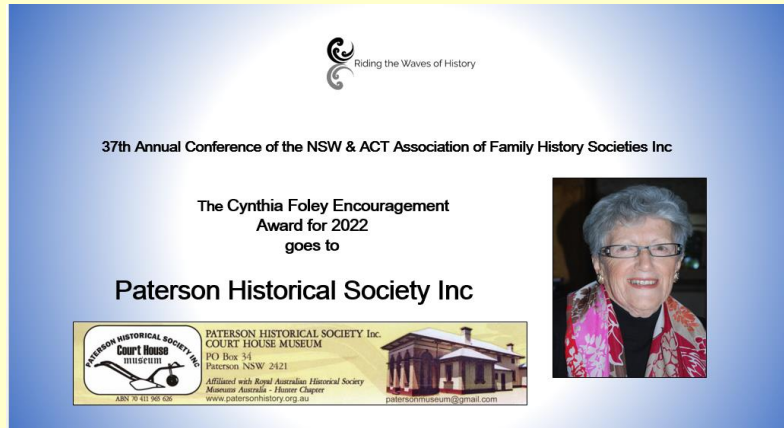
We were so pleased to welcome everyone to The Barracks, next door to Maitland Gaol, for the third day of the conference which took the form of a Trade Fair. We had only expected local family history societies & historical societies to attend but were delighted to find groups from much further afield keen to be part of the day. It was a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the company of so many groups who set up trade tables in the extensive grounds of Maitland & Beyond FH. There was an all-day BBQ, morning & afternoon teas, an exhibition of female convict bonnets from the Maitland area, some lovely entertainment, a great raffle & loads of wonderful catching up with old friends & new. It was a fabulous day!! (Perhaps the first of many such annual days at MBFH).

Congratulations to the winners of the Dorothy Fellows Website Award 2022:



A big Thank You to our judges who were last year's winning webmasters – Patricia Fearnley (BBFHS) and Graeme Hill (Bathurst FHG).

The Cynthia Foley Award was won by:



Zoom Technical Support Group Evenings

Our Tech Support Group meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm. This group shares ideas about things which relate to how societies manage their technology. Group members often help each other solve problems – they also present information about how they implement various technologies. The topics for discussion are suggested by the members of the group in response to their society's current needs.

For 2023, it is envisaged that most meetings will have a topic for discussion. If you have expertise in a particular area, we would like to hear from you. Conversely, if you have a problem, please let us know so that we can find another member to assist you at this meeting. Others will also benefit from this knowledge. Please contact our Secretary - Mel Woodford at secretary@nswactfhs.org

It's a great group & new members are always welcome. You do not need to be particularly tech-savvy to attend – it's all about sharing & learning from one another.

If you are interested in joining, please email the NSW & ACT AFHS Secretary at secretary@nswactfhs.org and you will be emailed the Zoom log in details.

Zoom Social Group Evenings

Our Zoom Social Evenings continue each month. We meet on the second Friday of the month at 7.30pm. Here members can catch up with each other over a wine, tea or coffee, discussing family history topics. Have you found an interesting ancestor? Broken down a brick wall lately? Have you heard a good guest speaker? What are you currently researching?

If you are interested in joining, please email The NSW & ACT AFHS Secretary at secretary@nswactfhs.org and you will be emailed the Zoom log in details.



Upcoming Family History Events in 2022 and 2023

Ancestry DNA & NSW State Archives: Delightful Documents

Date: Saturday 6th November

Time: 10.30am – 3.30pm

Venue: Club Wyong – 18 Margaret St, Wyong

Cost: Non-members \$35.00

Bookings : www.wyongfamilyhistory.com.au

38th Annual Conference of the NSW and ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc. “The Running Waters of History”

Conference Organisers: Wyong Family History Group

Dates: 8th, 9th and 10th September 2023

Venue: Toukley 50 Plus Leisure Centre

More details to follow in upcoming Newsletters

To have your event advertised here please forward details to our Secretary (secretary@nswactfhs.org)

Please don't forget to visit our new website www.nswactfhs.org for all news and current events.

Further information can be found on our two FB Groups - NSW & ACT AFHS Inc Members Group Private (you must answer the questions to join) and NSW and ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc (Public).

Social Group Dates (Zoom): **2nd Friday of the month at 7.30pm** : 11th November.

Technical Group Dates (Zoom); **3rd Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm** : 16th November.

