



Bully Tin

NEWSLETTER OF THE NEPEAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

No.209

2023 AGM REPORTS

President's Report

This year has seen a resurgence of personal contact with the easing of the COVID restrictions. With the welfare of our members in mind we continue observe safe distancing etc. Although the restrictions are easing, the committee has decided that we are retaining the restricted opening times for the time being as a precautionary measure. We have again commenced some of our pre-covid activities.

In August we finally had our open day to show off our renovated premises to our members and the local community. The day also included the book launch of the Society's new publication on the history of Emu Plains written by our own Lorraine Stacker. The day was a great success with a big crowd coming through the doors which included former teachers and students of the Emu Plains School. The day raised over \$1,300 for the Society which included new memberships (\$300), Raffles (\$300), second hand books (\$330) and our own publications, particularly Lorraine's new book (\$270). Copies of Lorraine's book can be purchased through the Society and is well worth the read.

Other Societies are also opening up as well and in January the Nepean Historical Society had their annual fair. Our intrepid bookstall ladies attended and reported that it was a good day with sales of our publications as well as purchases for our library.

Lorraine and Judy advised that there are a couple of fairs coming up and will keep us informed as to the details. I suspect that they are happy to be on the road again. The Western Sydney Records Centre (formerly the NSW State Archives) in Kingswood has invited the Society to have a table at their open day on Saturday 15th April 2023. Anyone interested in attending see Judy for details. There is the State conference coming up in September 2023 in Wyong and for the first time in a couple of years it will not be a virtual conference and you can attend in person. You can still attend on-line if you wish, just see Judy for details.

The social event of the year was the Society's Christmas party at the Henry in Werrington. I was

President: Stephen McKenzie
0422 911 651

Secretary:

Treasurer: Judith McLeod
0418 658 422

Library

Co-ordinator: Judith McLeod
0418 658 422

TEMPORARY LIBRARY HOURS

Tuesday 10am - 2pm

Wednesday Closed

Thursday 10am – 2pm

Saturday 2 - 5pm

Closed Mondays, Fridays, Sundays and Public Holidays

Address:

Old School Residence
Great Western Highway, off Lawson Street
Emu Plains NSW 2750

Postal Address:

P.O. Box 81
Emu Plains NSW 2750

Telephone:

(02) 4735 3798

Meetings:

First Saturday of each month (except January)
1.30p.m. at the Library

Internet Address:

www.nepeanfhs.org.au

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/nepeanfhs>

unable to attend due other commitments but from all accounts it was a good night and it is recommended for next Christmas.

Our biggest fund raiser for the year is the Christmas raffle which was drawn at the February meeting. The winner was Jan Evelyn. We are grateful for the support of our members in regards to these raffles and fairs as they raise funds to enable the purchase of materials to assist your research.

The DNA meetings are going great guns and a Facebook page has been created that provide upcoming events and the details of the topics covered. Between the leader and other attendees your questions can be answered. If you are interested in attending the meetings or joining the Facebook page, see a committee member to arrange an invitation.

For the time being we will continue to provide services introduced as a COVID initiative such as answering some research questions for members.

We are still an affiliated library with FamilySearch which provides access to their database.

Thanks to the team who managed to produce Bully Tin and Timespan during a difficult time as well as members who made contributions sharing their family history or experiences. These thanks are extended to the manager of the Facebook Page. These publications need stories to be successful and we all have a story to tell so consider doing one for Timespan.

A small group of people carry out a great deal of work for the Society, however, like many organisations a shortage of volunteers is a real problem. Please consider giving even a few hours a week in 2023.

There are a lot of people who helped us get through the year on behalf of myself and the committee I give our thanks.

We are losing 2 of our long-standing committee members after many years of service as they are moving out of the district. Their services were an immense help to the Society over the years. We wish Lorraine Stacker and Janet Brown all the best in their new locations and they will be sorely missed. Our secretary Alan Clarke is standing down from the Secretary position due to conflicting obligations. Alan stepped up last year as there was no one in that position and was a great help to the committee and Society.

I would like to thank our outgoing 2022 Committee and Executive for a job well done and to everyone for their continued support. It is a job I could not have done without their support

I wish the Society continued success in 2023.

Stephen McKenzie

Membership Secretary's Report

Now that Covid has slowed down and everyone is getting out and about, our membership is now starting to move forward again.

In 2022 we had a total number of memberships of 126 giving us a total of 147 members.

The breakdown of the of the 126 memberships is as follows:

- 106 single memberships
- 19 joint memberships
- 1 family membership

Included in our membership figures for the last year are 11 new memberships. Most of these came from a successful Family History Month.

I will not be standing for committee this year and would like to thank the Committee especially Judy Mcleod and members for their assistance and support over the last 12 months.

Janet Brown

Society News

2023 COMMITTEE

At the Annual General Meeting of the Society held on March 4th 2023 the following members were elected to serve on the committee for the coming year.

Executive Officers

Stephen McKenzie	President
Joy Harper	Vice-President
.....	Secretary
Judith McLeod	Treasurer

Committee

Kathy Constantine	Sally Easterbrook
Stephen Ford	Barbara Gow
Mary Searle	Kathrine Thompson
Malcolm Towle	

We would like to welcome both new committee member, Barbara Gow and returning committee member, Sally Easterbrook and to the committee.

Currently we have no Secretary and one vacancy on the committee, if you would like to stand for either of these positions please email:

secretary@nepeanfhs.org.au

LOOK UP SERVICE

While the Library is operating on restricted opening hours, we will continue to offer a free look up service for members. If you have a record on FamilySearch, Ancestry, Find My Past, The Australian Biographical Database or from a Cemetery book or CD you would like looked up send an email to:

lookup@nepeanfhs.org.au

TIMESPAN

TIMESPAN NEEDS YOUR STORIES

Articles are always needed; they can be of any length. Stories can be about any people or events, not only those connected with the Nepean area. Articles about how you undertook your research or 'smashed through' a brick wall, or where you need assistance, are also welcome.

Timespan is the perfect vehicle for sharing!

Please send your stories to:

Timespan Editor
PO Box 81 Emu Plains 2750
publications@nepeanfhs.org.au

GENERAL MEETINGS

April 1: "The Ryerson Index"

Speaker: Bob Atkins

The presentation will provide up-to-date information about the Ryerson Index.

These updates will be demonstrated live during the presentation. The presentation is also to encourage local members to become involved in the Ryerson Index in respect to past and current local newspapers.

May 6: "The Pitt Family of 'Sunnyside', North Richmond"

Speaker: Carol Roberts

June 3: "Rookwood General Cemetery"

Speaker: Mark Bundy,

The presentation will cover details of Rookwood's history, the story behind its development and evolution, and its significant link to our nation's heritage. It will also cover the first burial that took place on the 5 January 1867 as well as many stories about some of those interred as well as some quirky facts.

DNA INTEREST GROUP

DNA meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday of the month, 1 - 2.30pm. They cover all levels, whether you are thinking about having a DNA test, just starting out or seeking more advanced information, come and join us for a DNA meeting.

Upcoming topics are:

April 15: Ethnicity and DNA

How can the ethnicity revealed by DNA tests help in solving Family History mysteries? Focusing on a case study in how DNA and ethnicity percentages have been used to solve one such mystery.

May 20: Family Tree DNA and MyHeritage

FTDNA offers some specialised DNA testing, like Y (male) and X line tests. MyHeritage has its perks too, like the chromosome browser and the ability to see what your shared matches share between them. Find out how these sites can help you with your DNA research.

June 17: DNA Workshop

Hands on Workshop for DNA. Need help or a second opinion on what you've been doing with your DNA research? Bring your devices (or your log in details) and your questions!

If there is something you would like to learn about, let us know and we will try to cover it.

dna@nepeanfhs.org.au

EVENTS/SEMINARS

Open Day - Western Sydney Records Centre

The day will include:

- Drop-in tours
- Expert talks (limited spaces)
- Stalls (Nepean FHS will be there)
- Relax, eat & play

When: Saturday 15 April 10am – 4pm

Where: Western Sydney Records Centre, 161 O'Connell St, Kingswood

For further information or to book a talk:

<https://my.mhns.wa.gov.au/234530>

Botany Bay Family History Society is holding a Heritage Fair which will include the following:

- Trade tables with information to assist you with your family history.
- Book Sales
- Free family history informative talks throughout the day

When: Saturday 22 April 10am – 4pm

Where: Gynea Tradies

<http://www.botanybayfhs.org.au/>

2023 NSW & ACT FHS Annual Conference

The Running Waters of History.

Wyong Family History Group is hosting the 2023 annual conference, 8–10 September at Toukley.

The 2023 conference will be a live event, with a virtual component. Bookings now open.

<https://unpublishedwater.weebly.com/>

Coming Events

Saturday April 1 – General Meeting 1.30pm – Speaker – Bob Atkins – The Ryerson Index

Saturday April 15 – DNA Interest Group Meeting 1-2.30pm – Ethnicity and DNA

Saturday May 6 – General Meeting 1.30pm – Speaker – Carol Roberts – The Pitt Family of 'Sunnyside', North Richmond

Saturday May 20 – DNA Interest Group Meeting 1-2.30pm – Family Tree DNA and MyHeritage

Saturday June 3 – General Meeting 1.30pm – Speaker – Mark Bundy – Rookwood General Cemetery

Saturday June 17 – DNA Interest Group Meeting 1-2.30pm – DNA Workshop