

# *Redland Researcher*



proudly supported by Redland City Council

*The newsletter of  
Redland Genealogical Society Inc.*

*Issue No. 148*

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**Redland Genealogical Society Inc.**

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Patron: Les McFadzen

**Management Committee 2023/2024**

President	Helen Veivers
Vice President	Kevin Hughes
Secretary	Penny Stewart
Treasurer	Yvonne Weston
Assistant Treasurer	Val Burt
Librarian	Karen Hawkes
Membership Officer	Annette Hall
Displays Co-ordinator	Elaine Speck
Website Co-ordinator	Kevin Hughes
Archivist	Janelle Everest
Newsletter Editor	Greg Glidden
Committee Member 1	Lyn Smyth
Committee Member 2	Dianne Smith

**Special Interest & Other Groups**

DNA Interest Group Convenor	Kevin Hughes
Facebook Co-ordinator	Yvonne Weston
Magazine Interest Group Convenor	Annette Hall
Writing Interest Group Convenor	Helen Veivers
Zoom Group Convenor	Penny Stewart

**Life Members****2010** Denise Brady & Marel Donaldson, Foundation Members

Kaye Barber, Pamela Gilbert, Elaine Speck, Glenda Webb

**2013** Les McFadzen, **2016** Jeanne Dixon**Past Life Members****2011** Les Callaghan, **2019** Pat Misson**Management Committee Meetings** - first Wednesday of the month, February to December, 2pm.

**General Meetings** - second Wednesday of the month, February to December, 12:15pm to 2:30pm, at Donald Simpson Centre, Bloomfield Street, Cleveland. An entry fee of \$2 applies at each meeting to cover the room booking (and a lucky door prize ticket). Free parking is available at the Centre. Meals can be purchased from the Centre's café by those wishing to have an early lunch prior to the meeting.

**Annual General Meetings** - second Wednesday of July at 12:15pm, followed by a General Meeting.**Meetings are not held during January.**

**The RGS Collections** contain a range of resources for world-wide genealogical research in various formats. These are held in our Genealogy "Genie" Room in RCC's Cleveland Library, cnr Middle & Bloomfield Streets, Cleveland.

RGS members can use the RGS Library and its facilities, including accessing available online research organisations, at any time the Cleveland Library is open. **To obtain the Genie Room key**, members must present their **RGS** Redland City Council's Libraries Service card to the Cleveland Library Reception staff. It is not the same card you privately obtain for borrowing from the Council's Libraries. It is the card given to all joining members. You must activate this card at Cleveland Library each time you renew RGS membership by presenting it with your latest RGS Membership Card.

**Genealogical Research Assistants** (GRAs) are in the room to assist RGS Members and the General Public on***Tuesdays & Thursdays 9.30am to 12.30pm and Saturdays 12:30pm to 3:30pm***

**Volunteer GRAs:** Karen Hawkes (Librarian), Ian Barrett, Chris Boylett, Val Burt, Margaret Clark, Russell Clarke, Jeanne Dixon, Annette Hall, Laraine Haswell, Bev McFadyen, Sandra Pawluk, Eddie Richards, Irene Salvatierra, Dianne Smith, Penny Stewart, Helen Veivers, Robyn Waters, Charlotte Wruck.

**Redland City Council's Local History Collection:** The Local History Collection is housed in the Cleveland Library with much of it available online at [https://redl.sdp.sirsidynix.net.au/client/en\\_AU/search/asset/1007593/0](https://redl.sdp.sirsidynix.net.au/client/en_AU/search/asset/1007593/0). Georgia Bennett is Redland City Council's Local History Librarian; Gillian McNeill is Local History Technician.

## A Note from the Editor

The Annual General Meeting was held Wednesday 12 July 2023 and all positions were declared vacant. Dianne Smith previously had advised that she would not be standing for Secretary. Penny Stewart, Zoom Group Co-ordinator, was voted in to this position. A big welcome to you, Penny - we look forward to working with you on the Management Committee. Thank you, Dianne, for your years of dedicated service. Dianne will continue to work with us on the Management Committee in place of Jeanne Dixon as Committee Member 2. Jeanne did not stand for this position. Thank you, Jeanne for the years of service that you have given to the Society, many of them as our Librarian. I am sure that we will be needing to tap in to the knowledge that you have accumulated over these years.

Most Australian registries of births, deaths & marriages have increased their fees for the new financial year. Some good news though, South Australia now offers lower-priced Historic Images that will be sent to you by email.

On a sad note, long term member Pam Pullar passed away on 6 June 2023. A note on Pam, penned by our Membership Officer, is printed in this edition.

Greg Glidden

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### Copyright

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Requests to reprint articles should be directed to [redlandgs@gmail.com](mailto:redlandgs@gmail.com).

### Membership Fees & Payment

Single Membership \$35.00 per annum - Family Membership \$50.00 per annum

Payment by New Members and Renewing Members can be made to -

The Membership Officer at General Meetings, a GRA on duty in the Genealogy Room,  
or by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)

**When paying by EFT, please ensure that the following details are inserted in Payment Reference -**

IF A NEW MEMBER: *The word New + Surname* ~ IF RENEWING: **Membership No. + Surname**

**Members renewing by EFT** need to complete a Renewal Form, scan it, and email it to the Membership Officer.

**Banking details for EFT are provided on the Forms.**

*Redland Researcher* is free to Members. It is emailed unless otherwise arranged.

### Disclaimer

*The opinions expressed in "Redland Researcher" are not necessarily those of the Management Committee, nor of Redland Genealogical Society Inc. The responsibility rests with the authors of submitted articles; we do not intentionally print inaccurate information. The Editor reserves the right to edit, abridge or reject material.*

## President's Annual Report - 2023

*Helen Veivers*

It's with great pleasure that I begin my Report by saying that it appears as if the COVID epidemic is at last behind us. Our Genie Room is now back to normal operation, with our no longer being restricted to the number of people within the room and when we can actually be open. What a sense of freedom this has brought!

As I've reported in previous years, our Genie Room is central to the society's being. It is here that we assist members and members of the general public to search for their ancestors. We are indeed fortunate to have sole access to the room provided by the Redland City Council through the Redland Library Services and to have access to Find My Past and the 1921 Census, in particular. Recently I signed a new Funding Agreement with the Council which extends to 30 June 2027. This replaces the Memorandum of Understanding formerly in place. I would like to thank Lauretta Rogers (Library Services Manager) and Georgia Bennett (Local History Librarian) for their assistance with this important initiative.

While the Genie Room is so very significant to our continued being, our Genealogical Research Assistants (GRAs) are pivotal to what we do. I would like to thank each and every one of our GRAs who give up their time to ensure our Genie Room is able to operate as it should. I'm going to single out our Librarian, Karen Hawkes who leads the team of GRAs. She has done an exceptional job with organising the Library and conducting meetings of GRAs. Thank you, Karen!! Through our Guest Speaker program we've attempted to augment our members' knowledge in a variety of areas. Our Guest Speaker for August 2022 was Helen Smith who provided an array of information on researching in Cornwall and Devon. Sally Romano demonstrated the writing of a family history in October, and we were treated to a fascinating study of research and where it can lead through a presentation by Jan Somers, titled "How DNA Helped find the Convict and the President in the family" in March 2023. Helen Smith returned again in April 2023 when she showed how research data may not always be what it seems through her presentation titled "Finding Charlotte". In May 2023 Kaye Nardella from the Museum of Lands, Mapping and Surveying provided very necessary clues for discovering records of land owned by our Queensland ancestors. Our very own Kevin Hughes was Guest Speaker for June 2023 when he provided what many members had been seeking "An Introduction to DNA". As well, through the year we conducted 2 Member driven presentations – Brick Walls in September 2022 and Which Family History Program in November 2022. Additionally, while it is strictly not a Family History topic, in January 2023 we learned from presenter Shae Miller from the Statewide Office of Advance Care Planning about what we can and should do for our future health and financial plans.

I would like to thank each and every one of the members of the Management Committee – the group has been a pleasure to work with. I'm going to single one member out for particular mention – Dianne Smith, our Secretary. Dianne has been Secretary of the Redland Genealogical Society for 8 years and in that time she has done an absolutely amazing job – Dianne is always prepared for whatever scenario may arise, her record keeping is meticulous and, indeed, she's gone beyond what could be expected of a Secretary! Dianne has decided not to re-contest the position of Secretary for 2023-2024. I thank you, Dianne, for your work for the Society over the past 8 years! There are many others, of course, who have contributed significantly to the Society during the past year – our ever-reliable Vice President, Kevin Hughes, managed the Society during my recent absence, took over the leadership of the DNA Group and has continued to manage the Society's website. Thanks so much, Kevin! Treasurer Yvonne Weston, who isn't with us today, appears to be able to manage the Society's finances wherever she is in the world with wonderful assistance from Assistant Treasurer, Val Burt. Thank you, Yvonne and Val. Yvonne has also continued to oversee our Facebook initiatives. In a typical Membership Officer way, Annette Hall has expressed great excitement at the recent increase in our Membership numbers – Annette knows all of our members by name which means we're able to personalise our interactions with members. Thanks, Annette! Greg Glidden has produced four wonderful editions of the quarterly "Redland Researcher" during the year. Thanks, Greg, for your diligence with ensuring it is a quality publication and for all the extra things you do for the Society. Elaine Speck has organised a number of displays for the Society during the year – these have included a display over an extended period at the Alexandra Hills Shopping Centre and others at the Redland Museum and the Donald Simpson Centre. These are an important way to advertise our Society to the Redland community. Our records have continued to be safely maintained by Archivist, Janelle Everest. Thanks, Janelle, for performing this valuable role. Ian Barrett has continued to work on Research Projects on behalf of the Society. Thank you, Ian. Thanks to Jeanne Dixon who as an additional Committee member has provided valuable historical information and insights to aid in decision making. Lyn Smyth has filled the role of Greeter at our meetings, although due to ill health during the

year, Lyn hasn't always been able to be present at meetings – this is where the true “spirit of the society” comes to the fore – somebody always steps in to take on the role. Finally, a thank you to our Patron, Les McFadzen, for his continuing support of our Society.

Thanks too to the co-ordinators of Interest Groups – these groups are so important to the overall running of the Society. Annette Hall has continued managing the Magazine Interest Group – we all look forward to her report at our monthly meetings – she has the knack of digging up something of real interest in one of the Magazines she's read. The Writing Group has continued to meet every two months in accordance with the agreed schedule with some of the Group's work being published in the “Redland Researcher”. The DNA Group has thrived under Kevin Hughes's leadership with the collective knowledge of the Group expanding exponentially. The Zoom Group, led by Penny Stewart, has continued to provide another way for members to extend their knowledge – Family Tree Maker sessions were a welcome addition. Because of increasing costs, particularly associated with Insurance, a decision was made to increase Membership Fees as from 1 April this year, with the cost of a Single Membership increasing to \$35.00 and a Family Membership to \$50.00. During the year we, and many other family history related organisations, wrote to the Honourable Tony Burk, MP, Minister for the Arts re the importance of maintaining ongoing funding for TROVE. Our efforts were rewarded with assurances that TROVE funding was safe.

I've said for some years that the key to our Society's survival was to increase membership and am pleased to report that there has been a steady increase in membership during 2022-2023. Our Membership Officer will report these details in her report. One of the initiatives from our new Funding Agreement with the Redland City Council is to aim to increase our membership by 10% by June 2027. I urge you all to talk about our Society and what we do - having a supply of our Business Cards will assist with this – and to participate in Society activities where possible. By doing these simple things you could assist the Society in attaining this goal.

Thank you one and all for your support of the Redland Genealogical Society. It is truly appreciated. Without your support the Redland Genealogical Society would not be the successful organisation it is. In closing, I wish those members newly elected to the committee a successful year and to all members a happy and healthy year ahead.

### Membership Officer's Annual Report - 2023

*Annette Hall*

The 13<sup>th</sup> of June 2007 was when RGS Associate Membership was introduced. Before that, members had to join the Genealogical Society of Queensland and tick a box on their form to become a Redland Branch member.

30<sup>th</sup> June 2020 was the date that RGS ceased to be a Branch of GSQ. We still had a mix of members until the last of the GSQ/Redland Branch members was due to renew in February of this year.

Over the last few years, the membership has slowly increased - in 2020 there were 11 new members, 2021, 12 new members and in 2022, 20 new members. To date this year, we have had 19 new members. Hopefully this will keep growing.

Recently, I processed the 400<sup>th</sup> Membership for our Society. Our total number of members to date is 112.

By the way our very first member No. 1 is still with us today, Matt MAHADY.

### Website Co-ordinator's Annual Report - 2023

*Kevin Hughes*

The RGS web site is fully up and running well.

There are currently 19 exchange magazine sites, from the various Genealogy or Family History Societies, in the Members' Section of the website, and an additional 59 magazines have been added there in the past year.

I would highly recommend that our RGS members have a look through these added Magazines as there are many interesting articles there.



## Treasurer's Annual Report - 2023

Yvonne Weston

**Redland Genealogical Society Inc****Statement of Income & Expenditure**for the year ending 30/04/2023

INCOME			EXPENDITURE		
Memberships	3	\$2,859.25	Advertising	2	\$0.00
Bank Interest	4	\$0.16	Bank Fees	3	\$30.00
DNA Interest Group	5	\$133.50	Float	4	\$0.00
Donations - attendances	6	\$616.00	Fundraising-Christmas/functions	5	\$555.00
Donations - 50/50 scheme	7	\$10.75	Fundraising - raffles	6	\$44.70
Donations - library box	8	\$97.20	Fundraising - trips	7	\$0.00
Donations - Other	9	\$119.40	Library Subscriptions	8	\$2,204.97
Library - members' purchases	10	\$693.70	Insurance	9	\$932.48
Newsletter Advertising	11	\$0.00	Meeting Room hire	10	\$605.00
Starter Kit/Work Book sales	12	\$63.00	Newsletter - expenses	11	\$47.52
Fundraising - brick wall research	13	\$204.00	Postage (incl. Newsletter)	12	\$47.70
Fundraising - bring and buy	14	\$0.00	Post Office Box Rental	13	\$148.00
Fundraising - Christmas	15	\$666.00	Purchases - books	14	\$224.00
Fundraising - raffles	16	\$374.50	Purchases - CDs	15	\$0.00
Fundraising - trips	17	\$0.00	Purchases - DVDs	16	\$0.00
Refunds	18	\$3,208.00	Purchases - fiche/USB	17	\$0.00
Sundries	19	\$0.00	Purchases - furniture	18	\$0.00
Members' badges	20	\$30.00	Purchases - lib. Equipment	19	\$144.83
Fundraising - Functions	21	\$10.00	Purchases - stationery	20	\$359.25
Grants	22	\$1,238.00	Refunds	21	\$3,208.00
Term Deposit	23	\$42.00	Society Memberships	22	\$270.00
			State Govt Fees	23	\$58.60
			Sundries - Administration	24	\$113.45
			Term Deposit	25	\$0.00
			Members' Badges	26	\$30.00
			Internet - Administration	27	\$123.94
			Guest Speakers	28	\$36.00
			Square Fees	29	\$1.85
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>\$10,365.46</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>\$9,185.29</b>
Opening Balance 1/5/2022		\$1,740.77	Closing balance 30/4/2023		\$2,920.94
		<b>\$12,106.23</b>			<b>\$12,106.23</b>

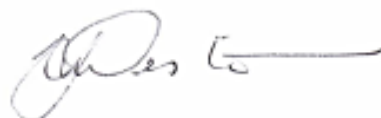
**STATEMENT OF CURRENT ASSETS**

Heritage Bank Limited - Club Cheque Account	\$2,920.94
Heritage Bank Limited - Club Term Deposit	\$7,000.00
Floats held	\$60.00
Advances held	Nil

There are no liabilities.

The Association keeps financial records in a way which properly records the Association's income and expenditure and dealings with its assets and liabilities.

Treasurer



Meeting date: 12 July, 2023

## Librarian's Annual Report - 2023

Karen Hawkes

The year started off with my being appointed as the new Librarian, taking over from Jeanne Dixon. I would like to thank Jeanne for her guidance in helping me to take on this role. We started the year with 19 GRAs and at present we have 18 GRAs, with 5 resigning during the year and 4 new GRAs coming on board.

As COVID restrictions have eased, we now have 6 chairs in our Genie Room where we have welcomed 843 members and visitors. Members have borrowed a total of 125 books, CDs, magazines, and Journals. A list of our books and CDs is on the Society website for viewing. We also had many visitors to our Genie Room following our Society displays at various venues. Many of these visitors became new members.

We have renewed our online subscriptions to *The Biographical Database of Australia*, *TheGenealogist*, *FindMyPast* and *RootsIreland*. We also have renewed our magazine subscriptions to *Family Tree Magazine UK*, *Who Do You Think You Are?* and *Irish Roots*. The Redland City Council Library subscriptions are *Ancestry* and *FindMyPast*, which now has access to the 1921 Census of England and Wales. The Redland City Council Library is still looking into adding the FOLD3 subscription into their *Ancestry* subscription.

In September 2022, several GRAs culled a small number of books, magazines, and journals from our library shelves. They then were offered to members and visitors at our monthly meetings.

In October 2022, *IGI Family Search* CD training was given to all GRAs by Annette Hall on Computer #1 in the Genie Room. This was met with great enthusiasm. We thank Annette for her expertise.

We had various books, journals and CDs donated and recommended to our library, resulting in approximately 70 new acquisitions. Thank you to all who have donated, including those who have also donated spare notepaper, CD cases and miscellaneous items for use in our Genie Room.

Recently Pam Gilbert kindly donated all of her remaining books and journals to complete our collection of *The Pioneer Register* by Dr. James Smee. These are currently in the process of being catalogued. Thank you to Pam for her generosity.

This year we welcomed Georgia Bennett, the new Local History Librarian with a special interest in Family History to the Redland City Council Library team alongside Gillian McNeill, the Local History Technician. We thank them both and their team for supporting us in our Genie Room.

We would like to say "farewell" to a lovely lady, Pam Pullar, who visited our Genie Room on a regular basis. She will be missed.

A BIG Thank YOU to all GRAs for their contribution, support and team work throughout the year, especially those GRAs who have filled in to do extra duty days.

If you would like to join our team, as we are in need of more GRAs, you would be very much welcomed.

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### What's involved in being a Genealogical Research Assistant?

You need to be able to give three hours a month. You need some knowledge of Family History, of using computers, a library catalogue & finding titles, of making cash entries & record keeping. You will need to be able to say, "I don't know; however I will try to find out for you". You will be introduced to the Library Genie Room & its Holdings, after which you will then work alongside a more experienced GRA.

Our Genie Room opening times for which GRAs are required are 9.30am to 12.30pm Tuesdays & Thursdays, and 12.30pm to 3.30pm Saturdays. You will also be able to do your own research when not busy. Knowing that you have helped another researcher is very satisfying & GRAs often find that they have learnt something new in the process as well. If you feel you would like to know more about what is involved before deciding to volunteer, it can be arranged that you shadow one of our current GRAs for a session.

Please give me (Karen Hawkes) a call or talk to me at one of our meetings or in the Genie Room.

Without our GRAs our Genie Room cannot function!

Will You Join Our Team To Help Others?

## Displays Co-ordinator's Annual Report - 2023

*Elaine Speck*

Well! since Covid we are really quite back to normal doing our Displays.

Our first Display was at the Alexandra Hills Shopping Centre for Seniors Month from 4 to 7 October 2022. We had a reasonable position opposite the Optometrist. As is often the case now, we can sometimes be restricted as to how many Display Boards we can use, which was the case here. However, on that week there was an empty shop opposite us, so we put our Boards and Banner in front of the closed shop. I noted at this display that quite a few of the interested people were younger. While we sold quite a few Starter Kits there was obviously quite a problem with people having the \$3 cash on them. We have since decided to give the Starter Kits out free.

My second Displays report was thanks to Greg who looked after the day for the REDLANDS SENIORS EXPO on 9 October 2022 at the Donald Simpson Centre, as I was unable to attend. He reported that this display was well worth the effort. We had a good position and Kevin was able to erect our Display Boards and Banner which attracted a lot of attention. Three Starter Kits were sold, and 8 people took home Membership Application Forms. We were lucky to have the Local Council History Group situated opposite us. Our Local History Librarian, Georgia Bennett, has a great interest in Family History and has noted that she wishes to work closely with us, also doing what she can to encourage new members to our Society.

The third Display was at the Redlands Museum for Heritage and Harmony Day. This was a very successful day, and we were well received. We had a very good position as you came in the back entrance. I was asked twice if I was happy with the spot and I replied, "Yes thank you". Thanks to Kevin we also had some new information sheets to display on our boards, which were very impressive. I took my life-sized models dressed as a Convict and a Colonial Lady which always adds to the theme of the day.

I feel that the Displays that we have done during the last year have been well worth the effort. Thanks to all those who volunteered to help on our displays with special thanks to Kevin and Greg for being my partners on these days.

## Zoom Group Convenor's Annual Report - 2023

*Penny Stewart*

We have covered a wide range of topics over the past year. These have included the following research databases -

Google  
FamilySearch

FindMyPast  
National Archives of Australia

Different State Archives in Australia  
National Archives of UK

Additionally, specific Zoom sessions were held on the software, Family Tree Maker, with participants encouraged to bring along their problem areas. Participants also were taken through the processes of uploading media, adding facts, merging trees, as well as backing up data, and synching with Ancestry.

A dedicated technological face-to-face computer session was also conducted at the Victoria Point Library where attendees brought along their laptops. The basics of computing were presented to enable attendees to have a good understanding of how to enhance their genealogical skills.

One on one sessions were also conducted at the Cleveland Library for members who had specific problems with their software or getting started with Zoom.

It is hoped to increase the number of face-to-face sessions in the coming year aimed at both Family Tree Maker and general computing knowledge. Whilst Zoom is undoubtedly a great avenue sometimes giving participants the ability to use their personal laptops is a definite advantage.

A lot is planned for the coming year. Members are again encouraged to consider joining our sessions.

A special thank you should be extended to History Queensland who allow us to use their Zoom facility.



## Writing Interest Group Convenor's Annual Report – 2023

Helen Veivers

This year we've continued meeting in the Elders Room in the Cleveland Library. While the number of people attending has been quite low, some very in-depth discussion has occurred, and wonderful writing produced.

Our meetings always start with the opportunity to write. It amazes me the diversity of ways people respond to the same writing task. Tasks have included Giving your interpretation of a family history photo, Describing a time when you were scared, If I Could Meet One Ancestor and My Favourite Ancestor. Members have submitted some very interesting samples of their writing for others to read and critique. We learn so much from these sessions.

In August all members brought along a favourite family history photograph, and we discussed how these could possibly be used as part of writing; in September, following Sally Romano's presentation at the General Meeting we discussed Sally's ideas and how we could utilise them to develop and publish our own family history book. Discussion at the November meeting centred on autobiographies with most members indicating they did not wish to develop an autobiography at this stage. Writing for a different voice, a difficult writing style to develop, was the topic for the March and May meetings. Some in the group have demonstrated a high level of skill with this form of writing.

All members of the group would like to have more RGS members attend our meetings. They're held in the Elders Room in the Cleveland Library on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the months of March, May, July, September, and November, commencing at 1.00pm. Why not come along!

## Newsletter Editor's Annual Report - 2023

Greg Glidden

The *Redland Researcher* continues to be published in February, May August, and November.

Successful publication is attributed to the ongoing support from our members and the pool of talent that exists amongst them. I have said this before, and it bears repeating – "Without this it would be difficult for our newsletter to continue".

To publish each edition, an adequate stock of a variety of articles in different lengths, and a range of other information is essential. On the rare occasion that stocks became low, an SOS to members resulted in this promptly being set right.

A special thanks is due to the members who are regular contributors, and to the Writing Interest Group for the themed topics sent to me from time to time.

Members often approached me about the suitability of articles that they could contribute. This always is welcomed. I am sure all members have something worthwhile sharing, be it short or long stories, snippets of research information, a poem perhaps. We do have some poets amongst us!

During the past twelve months, Cooroy-Noosa Genealogical & Historical Research Group has agreed to Reciprocal Visiting Rights. Agreements have been made with Botany Bay Family History Society to exchange its magazine *Endeavour*, and with South Australian Genealogy & Heraldry Society for *The South Australian Genealogist*. The latter has not yet agreed to Reciprocal Visiting Rights.

Seventeen magazines are available in the Members' Section of our website for accessing by members in the convenience of their homes. These magazines are otherwise available to them only by paid subscriptions.

For the convenience of members, links are included in the Members' Section to several magazines and newsletters that are freely available online.

There is a lot of helpful information to be gleaned from reading these magazines and newsletters, and I encourage members to do so.

Thank you one and all for your support. You have made my task so much easier for publishing each edition.

## Magazine Interest Group Convenor's Annual Report - 2023

Annette Hall

The Magazine Interest Group consists of those members of the Society, fourteen at present, who subscribe privately to various Family History Societies around the world. Journals issued by these societies are circulated among the members until they have all read them. Once circulation is complete, all but one is placed in our Library for the use of all Society Members.

Due to Copyright issues, some of our members have had to gain permission from the Family History Society to which they subscribe, to enable them to pass on their e-journals to the Group. Of the three e-journals, only two are being passed on to the MIG members.

At present we circulate twelve English journals, one Scottish, two Australian, one New Zealand, and one from British India.

Thanks to all members of the MIG group for their generosity.

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### A Brief History of the Postal System

Mo Clark



Does anybody write letters anymore?  
Do you receive Christmas cards in the mail?  
Do you still post Christmas cards or Birthday cards?

Well! back in the early 1800s, there were no postage stamps, mail was sent by land and sea, and people paid when they received the letter on delivery.

The Australian Aborigines used message sticks. Ancient Egypt and Persia had delivery on foot or by horse or camel. China postal system began around 202BC. Rome, under Augustus Caesar, had a postal system some 2000 years ago, around the time of the birth of Jesus Christ.

In North America, a mail system began in the late 1600s. Delivery was by friends, merchants, and native Americans. Then came deliveries by horse and cart, stagecoach and of course by Santa Claus at Christmas time. When people built houses with fireplaces, Santa tried to come down the chimney, but that was not very successful if the fire was going. And it was a dirty sooty entrance.

So now we come to 1835 – 1837 when Roland Hill created a new postal system in Great Britain.

This led to the first postage stamp in the world. It was introduced on 6 May 1840, had an image of Queen Victoria, and became known as "The Penny Black".

And a new hobby emerged - *Stamp Collecting!*

Some methods of handling mail over the centuries –

- Air Mail
- Barrel Mail (Island in the Galápagos est. 1793 by Whalers & Fishermen)
- Carrier Pigeon
- Camel and Horseback
- Morse Code
- Pony Express (USA)
- Postman on bicycle
- Postman on foot
- Postman on motor scooter
- Rocket Mail (1930s, unsuccessful)
- Stagecoach (Cobb & Co)
- Surface Mail - bus, train, van
- Surface Mail – steamship (international)



Can you think of any others?

## Australian Hospital Ship Centaur

Pam Gilbert

This year is the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the sinking of the Hospital Ship *Centaur* off the southern tip of Moreton Island. The ship was on its way to Milne Bay in New Guinea to drop off medical staff and the 2/12<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance personnel. On the 14 May 1943 it was torpedoed by an enemy submarine, even though, as a Hospital Ship, it was fully lit with three Red Crosses on each side.

My father, Frederick Lewis Fortier was one of the few who got up to the deck, and was talking to a friend, Tom Hegarty, who had gone to school with my mother in Cronulla, NSW. Tom was part of the medical personnel. When my dad realised that his brother, Alan David Fortier, was not on the deck, he immediately went down into the ship to find him; it was then the torpedo reached the fuel tanks and the ship went down in 3 minutes. Both my dad and his brother were part of the 2/12 Field Ambulance.



The lifeboats were not able to be launched, and those who survived managed to get onto a raft. Those who could not get onto a raft were taken by sharks. Survivors were picked up the following afternoon (May 15<sup>th</sup>) by the USS *Mugford*, well to the north of where the ship had gone down, and quickly taken to Brisbane, breaking the curfew on radio silence to get ambulances on stand-by. The military and medical survivors were taken to Greenslopes Military Hospital and the Merchant Navy survivors were taken to a public hospital.

When he was discharged from hospital and given leave to return home to Cronulla, Tom Hegarty called on my mother and told her what had happened to my dad.

Of the 64 survivors, Dr Leslie Outridge, whose family came from Redland Bay, was the only doctor to survive. Sister Ellen Savage was the only nurse to survive with 11 nurses lost. Sister Savage later received the George Cross for assistance to others on her raft. Of the 2/12<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance, 198 were lost and only 15 survived.

After the sinking, families had to live with the stigma that the ship was also carrying ammunition and explosives to New Guinea, however reading the statements from the Merchant Navy survivors, and those who had been the ones to search the ship prior to its sailing, this was not the case. These statements are held by the National Archives.



According to David Mearns, the Shipwreck Finder, if the rumours had been true, the ship would have blown up completely. The ship was found 2,000 metres down, all in one piece and sitting on its hull.

Since its discovery at the end of 2009, I have researched a lot of the *Centaur* story and have given more than 20 talks around the Redlands, Brisbane, and nearby areas on this tragedy.

There has been quite a lot of activity this year with extra memorial services, and a documentary film being made.

Our local Federal Member, Mr Henry Pike, ran a competition for Primary School children asking them to write a story on what they knew about the *Centaur* and any act of bravery of a soldier.



Our great granddaughter, Lola, aged 8, and a Grade 3 pupil of the Thornlands Primary School wrote the story below after coaching from her mother, grandmother, and great grandmother (me). She won the competition and received a Certificate and an EFTPOS card for \$200.

In view of this competition Lola was given permission by her school to accompany us to Point Danger at Coolangatta, where we like to go each year for the annual Memorial Service. This service is completely run by the children from the Centaur Primary School at Banora Point, NSW. The school was renamed in the 1990's to honour three of their past pupils who had been lost on the ship, so the service is always held on the nearest school day. However, this year it was raining at Point Danger, so the service was transferred back to the school hall.



We decided that it would be appropriate for Lola to lay the family wreath. As Lola was in her Thornlands school uniform, guests were intrigued as to who this little girl was. Following the wreath laying, everyone was invited to the grassed area outside and each handed a small white envelope, including several hundred of the school students. We were then asked to open our envelopes at the same time and several hundred butterflies came out. It was beautiful!

After lunch, (or in Lola's case, chocolate cake) the sun came out and several of us retrieved our wreaths (with permission of course) and headed up to Point Danger and laid the wreaths again at the memorial there. So, Lola got to do it twice. She even managed to get a few more butterflies to take with us.

Below is the story with which Lola won the competition.

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### Lola's Story

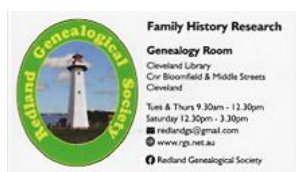
"My great great grandad Frederick Fortier and his brother Alan Fortier were on the hospital ship The Centaur. They were members of the 2/12th Field Ambulance. On the 14 of May 1943, it was sunk without warning by a torpedo from an enemy submarine. Frederick showed bravery because he was about to jump off the Centaur after it was hit, then realised his brother was not on the deck and went to find him. Frederick and Alan both drowned when the Centaur sunk. This has impacted me and my family because my great grandma lost her dad and uncle when she was only a little girl, and all she has is memories and stories to tell us. My mum took me and my sister to the Australian War Memorial to find their names.

For the 80th Anniversary I got to go to the Point Danger Memorial at Coolangatta with the Centaur State School students, to lay a wreath for my great great grandad and great great great uncle.

Their bravery inspired me to dream big and to try everything, because they had to be brave to fight against the Japan and German soldiers. I show bravery by standing up for my friends and standing up for myself. I encourage my friends to try their best, try new things, be brave and to encourage others as well."

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### RGS Business Cards



The heart of our Society lies within the resources of our Genealogy Room.

The lifeblood of the Society is our membership.

Our Displays Co-ordinator plays an important role in recruiting new members. Members, too, can assist too by giving one of these cards to anyone showing an interest in family research. Perhaps members have Community Notice Boards in their area on which some can be pinned.

Please help to keep your Society growing by collecting some Cards at a General Meeting or from the Genie Room.

## Remembering Pam Pullar

Annette Hall

One of our long time Members, Pam Pullar, passed away on the 6 June 2023. She had been in Palliative Care in Wynnum for two weeks prior to her passing.

Pam had been a member of the Genealogical Society of Queensland before changing her membership to RGS Associate membership on the 9 June 2010. She was also a member of the Magazine Interest Group and for some time now, subscribed to three overseas Family History Societies, sharing their Journals with the Group.

Pam was passionate about Family research and never left a stone unturned just in case it was that little bit of information that had been eluding her. Anyone who spent time with Pam would know of her ability to tell a good story and have everyone laughing.

It was probably only the last couple of months that her health took a turn for the worst and she wasn't able to get to two of her favourite places in Cleveland. One was the Genie Room at the Cleveland Library where she could read and borrow books. She didn't let new technology beat her either and was often on the computers and the Microfiche Reader printer, zooming in so she could read the small print. The Donald Simpson Centre was another venue she frequented, where she met up with friends, often for lunch.

Some of the Magazine Interest Group members and GRA's emailed me to say, "She will be missed by us all", "No more visits by a Grand Lady" and "She had a sharp and enquiring mind".

She was all of that and "yes" she will be missed by many!

### Members' Interests

Please contact Members through the Society's email: [redlandgs@gmail.com](mailto:redlandgs@gmail.com)

**Member's Name: Greg GLIDDEN**

**Membership No: 159**

SURNAME	COUNTRY	Town/City	STATE – COUNTY - PROVINCE	Year or Range of Years
FRENCH	INDIA	Cawnpore, Darjeeling, Dehradun, Delhi, Lucknow, Meerut, Mooltan		1845-1865
GLIDDEN/GLIDDON	USA		UNKNOWN	<1804
GLIDDEN/GLIDDON	USA		VERMONT	©1804
GLIDDEN/GLIDDON	USA	Detroit/Wayne	MICHIGAN	1850-1972
HOEY	ENGLAND		HAMPSHIRE	<1824
HOEY	ENGLAND	Winchester	HAMPSHIRE	©1824
HOEY	ENGLAND	Devonport	DEVON	©1826
HOEY	IRELAND	Limerick	LIMERICK	1844-1845
HOEY	INDIA	Cawnpore, Darjeeling, Delhi, Lucknow, Mooltan		1845-1865
JACKSON	AUSTRALIA		VICTORIA	<1864
JACKSON	AUSTRALIA	Robe	SOUTH AUSTRALIA	<1864
JONES	AUSTRALIA	Robe	SOUTH AUSTRALIA	<1864
WILLIAMS	USA		NEW YORK	©1822



## Snippets



### GRO Online View Digital Images

The GRO has implemented a new service that provides historical certificates at £2.50 per image.

The image is automatically processed upon payment. It will be displayed in JPEG format, which can be viewed, printed, or downloaded by the applicant. Ensure to do so; three months from date of placement of order, it will be deleted.

This service currently is available for Birth entries from 1837 up to 100 years ago and Death entries from 1837 to 1887.

Full details of this new service will be found in the document "Online View Digital Image Service" in the FAQ section of the GRO's website.

### Free newsletters

Newsletters are published regularly by the Manchester & Lancashire Family History Society and three of its Branches -

- |                                 |                        |                                    |                              |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| • Anglo-Scottish FHS            | <i>e-Scotia</i>        | • Manchester & Lancashire FHS      | <i>M&amp;LFHS Newsletter</i> |
| • Bolton Family History Society | <i>Bolton's Genies</i> | • Oldham & District Family History | <i>e-Owls</i>                |

Hyperlinks to these four newsletter have been added in the Members' Section of our website.

### RootsIreland

The following new datasets were added during June –

- County Cork Dromtariffe RC baptism 1801–1902
- County Kerry Moyvane RC marriages 1831–1905

Members can access this organisation's data in the Genie Room.

## Presentations at General Meetings

**May presentation** was "Where to Start with Historical Land Research". Kaye Nardella, Senior Curator of the Museum of Lands, Mapping & Surveying, demonstrated how to use their website. It contains a wealth of Queensland historical information, including Maps & Plans, Land Administration, and Photographs. There are Histories of Mapping & Surveying of Land, Aerial Photography & Imagery, and The Development of Map Products & Technical Processes. An Artifacts Gallery contains photographs of equipment used in bygone days.

Kaye provided an Historical Maps Topic Guide, which has been emailed to all members. The website contains a link to an online request for assistance. Website address is <https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/arts/heritage/museum-of-lands>

**June presentation** was "An Introduction to DNA" by Kevin Hughes, our DNA Interest Group Convenor. Using the Ancestry website DNA page, with which most of us are familiar, he demonstrated the aids available to assist with sorting through the multitude of matches arising from our test results.

Kevin provided a simple introduction to what can be a complex matter, especially for those of us beginning to utilise DNA results for family research.

## Wandering Through the Web

### A Very Modern Map of Britain's Ancient Roman Roads

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/roman-road-subway-map-underground-londinium>

Those who like to dabble in a little ancient history may be interested in this.

### A History of Parish Registers in England

[https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/History\\_of\\_Parish\\_Registers\\_in\\_England](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/History_of_Parish_Registers_in_England)

This document gives a summary of changes in English laws from 1538 to 1837.



In an EMERGENCY  
dial **TRIPLE ZERO**  
(000)



For NON-  
URGENT Police  
contact call  
**POLICELINK**

### Crime Prevention Corner

## Pedestrian Safety

We are all pedestrians at some time - as pedestrians we are especially vulnerable to injury, unlike people in vehicles, we are not protected by seat belts, airbags, or metal.

As pedestrians, it's important to be aware of traffic and surroundings and never assume a driver or rider has seen you.

#### Tips for walking safely:

- Cross roads, railway and tram tracks at designated crossings (pedestrian crossings, traffic signals or pedestrian refuges) wherever possible.
- If there is no crossing within 20 metres, cross by the shortest and safest route.
- At railway level crossings, wait for the boom to rise, warning lights to stop flashing and bells to stop before crossing – a second train may be approaching.
- Stay alert – wearing headphones and using a mobile phone will reduce awareness of what is happening around you.
- If you have been drinking alcohol, walk safely by staying on footpaths and cross at designated crossings.
- Always walk on footpaths or nature stripes where possible.
- If there is no nature strip or footpath, walk so you are facing oncoming traffic.
- Never walk along tram or railway tracks.
- If walking somewhere dark, carry a torch so you can still see the ground when confronted with headlight glare.
- Be very cautious of traffic near crests of hills and curves. If a vehicle is approaching, make sure you have a safe escape available and be ready to use it.
- NEVER assume a driver has seen you.

National Archives of Australia	Queensland State Archives
<p>16 Corporate Drive, Cannon Hill  <b>Phone:</b> (07) 3249 4200  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.naa.gov.au">www.naa.gov.au</a></p>	<p>435 Compton Road, Runcorn  <b>Phone:</b> (07) 3131 7777  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.archives.qld.gov.au">www.archives.qld.gov.au</a></p>
<p><b>Important!</b> Before visiting, you should check NAA's requirements at <a href="https://www.naa.gov.au/help-your-research/research-centres#before-you-visit">https://www.naa.gov.au/help-your-research/research-centres#before-you-visit</a>. Bookings are not essential but may be required if busy. Phone 07 3249 4200 to plan your visit and to find out more about COVID-19 health and safety measures in place.</p> <p>Open - Wednesday to Friday 9:00am to 4.30pm  Closed – Saturday to Tuesday and Public Holidays</p> <p>Free on-site parking is available.</p> <p>The strengths of their Brisbane facility collection are -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• immigration records that date from the 1850s</li> <li>• post office and mail service records and photographs</li> <li>• works plans which cover everything from iconic buildings such as the General Post Office and Customs House, to defence service homes built in typical Queenslander fashion.</li> </ul> <p>For details of regular Events, you can register on their website to arrange a subscription to their free newsletter .</p>	<p><b>Important!</b> Due to a limited number of researcher tables, only visitors with online bookings are permitted to use the Reading Room. Pre-booked sessions are available at 9am-12.30pm and/or 1.30pm – 4.30pm, on Monday to Friday and on the second Saturday of each month.</p> <p>Follow links on website to make a booking or for online research.</p> <p>QSA's archival collection comprises of millions of public records dating back to the early Moreton Bay penal settlement of 1823. Free on-site parking is available.</p> <p>The QSA holds informative Seminars and Events throughout the year, on their premises, and at external venues. Check "<i>What's on</i>" in their website for details or <b>keep up to date by arranging a free subscription to "qsa bulletin"</b>. The link is on their website.</p>

## Where to get your Certificates

Prices are based on Historical Certificates, where available

This information is a guide. Please check websites for full details of types of certificates available, how to place orders and how to make payments.

**NOTE: Prices are changed regularly by these government agencies.**

### Queensland

Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages (Qld)  
Level 32/180 Ann St, Brisbane City QLD 4000  
PO Box 15188, City East, Qld 4002  
Phone: 13 74 68  
Hours: Monday-Friday 8.30am – 4.30pm  
**\$24.70** Historical Image – Download  
**\$24.70** Historical Source Image – Download  
**\$34.70** Historical Certificate – Postage included  
<https://www.qld.gov.au/law/rbdlm>

### New South Wales

NSW Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages  
GPO Box 30, Sydney, NSW 2001  
Phone: 13 77 88  
**\$35.00** with Registration Number  
**\$48.00** w/out number (includes 10-year search)  
Postage included  
Credit card charges extra  
[www.bdm.nsw.gov.au](http://www.bdm.nsw.gov.au)

### Transcription services:

[www.joymurrin.com.au](http://www.joymurrin.com.au)  
<http://www.transcriptions.com.au/>

### Victoria

Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages  
GPO Box 4332, Melbourne, Vic 3001  
Phone: 1300 369 367  
**\$22.00** Uncertified Historical Image - Download  
**\$54.40** Historical Certificate – Postage extra  
[www.bdm.vic.gov.au](http://www.bdm.vic.gov.au)

### Australian Capital Territory

(Pre 1930, apply to NSW)  
Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages  
GPO Box 158, Canberra City, ACT 2601  
Phone: (02) 6207 3000  
**\$70.00** – Postage included  
Historic Death and Marriage Indexes are available.  
<https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/s/article/births-deaths-and-marriages-forms-and-fees-tab-payment-options>

### South Australia

Births, Deaths & Marriages  
Consumer & Business Services  
GPO Box 1351, Adelaide, SA 5001  
Phone: 131 882  
**\$30.25** Historical Image - Emailed  
<https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/family-and-community/births-deaths-and-marriages/family-research>

Also, use their link to [Genealogy SA](#) for an online name search for BDMs **also** to search a number of other worthwhile resources!

### Western Australia

Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages  
PO Box 7720, Cloisters Square, Perth, WA 6850  
Phone: 1300 305 021  
**\$20.00** Uncertified Copy – Postage included  
<https://bdm.justice.wa.gov.au/>

### Tasmania

Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages  
GPO Box 198, Hobart, Tasmania 7001  
Phone: 1300 135 513  
**\$61.08** – Postage included  
[www.justice.tas.gov.au/bdm/home](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au/bdm/home)

### Northern Territory

Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages  
GPO Box 3021, Darwin, NT 0801  
Phone: (08) 8999 6119  
**\$52.00** – Postage extra  
(1856-1863 check NSW)  
(1863-1870 check SA)  
[www.nt.gov.au/justice/bdm](http://www.nt.gov.au/justice/bdm)

### New Zealand

Registry of Births, Deaths, Marriages & Citizenship  
PO Box 10-526, Wellington 6143 New Zealand  
**\$(NZ)25.00** Printout - Emailed  
Printout has more information than a certificate  
(Visa, MasterCard & American Express accepted)  
[www.bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz/Home/](http://www.bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz/Home/)

