



Newsletter

DATE: August, 2024

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Proofreader: Ian Kendall

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Ian Kendall

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Helen Allen

Editor Newsletter

Tanya Kirk

Welcome to Family History month. Wow! Have you checked all the different events that have been organized for this month? Are you thinking of attending some of them? We'd love your feedback. Think about sharing some of it next month or perhaps as a presentation next year. I've listed a few in the upcoming events below but there are too many for me to list all of them.

Thank you to all the volunteers that helped out at the Street Stall last month. Thank you also for the many and varied donations that made it a real treasure trove for shoppers. While the morning got off to a very slow and cold start, there was a rush towards the end, and we were very happy with making over \$400 in profit.

This month's meeting of the Family History Society will be held on **Friday 9th August 2024 at 10am** in our usual meeting place, the small hall behind the Presbyterian Church, right in the centre of town. Visitors are warmly welcome! Morning Tea will be served costing \$2 for tea/coffee and a biscuit.

This month's presentation will be given by Ann Krasny. Her topic is "Sharing Family History via a Family Reunion."

Membership for 2024 is \$50 for an individual or \$60 for a joint or family membership. If you are new to the Society, then get your membership form online from our website or Facebook page or pick one up from Ian at the meeting. Also, there is an additional postage fee if you prefer to have your 'Explorer' magazine posted rather than picking it up at our meetings. Our mailing fee is \$15.

Trade table - Our trade table will be operating again, so you can donate any unwanted good quality items to the table display. If something from the table catches your fancy, please drop some cash in the Society's moneybox for the item, then take it. Remember that if your donated items don't sell, you will need to take them home again.

Library News

Helpers are always needed and very much appreciated. Our street stall brought quite a few enquiries, so if you feel you are able to assist others with their research, why not have a chat to Helen about when you could become part of the Library team. Even a one off to test the waters would be appreciated.

Explorer's Tree Magazine

Jan is still needing a few more pieces for our final 2024 magazine. And of course, there is always next year to make a start on. After Helen's excellent tips on writing your family history last month, I hope some of you have taken the leap and committed pen to paper. Why not share your efforts with us. You know we will enjoy reading it. Please send your work in a Word Document, with photos or images as attachments to Jan Koperberg j.koperberg@bigpond.com for upcoming issues of "The Explorer's Tree". Remember to include references and sources if they come with the article.

Next month's meeting of the Family History Society will be held on **13th Sep 2024 at 10am** in our usual meeting place, the small hall behind the

Presbyterian Church. The guest speaker will be Allan Murrin on Mastering the Family Search Website

Upcoming Events:

- Family History Month is organised by the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations. They regularly have a long list of What's On events but specifically for Family History month please check this website <https://www.affho.org/whats-on/> or this Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/AFFHOFamilyHistoryMonth>
- NSW State Library is running several free courses for Family History Month. They are all online. Topics include: Starting your Family History Research, Next Steps for Your Family History Research; Off the Beaten Track – the Library's resources; Artificial Intelligence and Family History. Check the website for these and many more: <https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/whats-on>
- As always, you might want to use this month to finally schedule that trip to the Museums of History NSW (This used to be called NSW State Archives). Make sure you search the Collection and order your items before you go they are already waiting for you to collect. <https://mhnsw.au/collections/state-archives-collection/>

Research Tips

From Facebook legend Fiona Hawke:

AG and Ethel Foster were Australian historians and are renowned for their work photographing, sketching and recording the epitaphs of graves in the Devonshire Street Cemetery.

If you are looking for an ancestor who may have been buried in the Sydney Burial Ground, it is worth starting at Project Gutenberg Australia and checking out Colin Choat's compilation of AG Foster's transcriptions of headstones. That list will refer you to the relevant page number. From there you go to the Mitchell (State) Library of NSW's digital collection to view the sketchbook.

Colin Choat's webpage: https://gutenberg.net.au/Devonshire-street/_devonshire-home.html

Direct link to Colin's Epitaph Index: <https://gutenberg.net.au/Devonshire-street/Foster-epitaph-index.pdf>

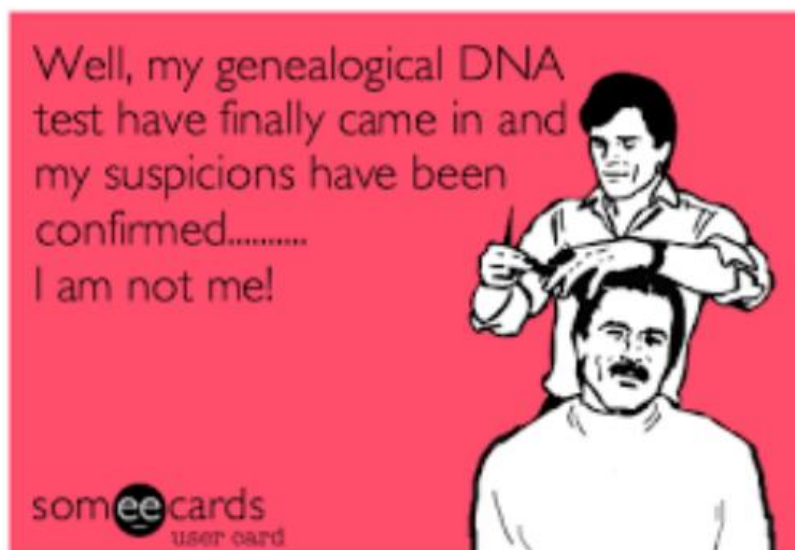
Mitchell Library catalogue page (click on "digital version of this item"): <https://primo-slnsw.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/f/1ocrdt/ADLIB110633971>

Dead Central - an article by Elise Edmonds including photographs about Arthur and Ethel Foster's work: <https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/stories/dead-central>

Australian Cemeteries Index where almost all of Devonshire Street burials have been detailed: <https://austcemindex.com>

Keith A Johnson & Malcolm R Sainty's "Sydney burial ground 1819-1901" at the NLA: <https://catalogue.nla.gov.au/catalog/2348129>

Just for Fun



See you Friday.
Tanya