

ONLINE CONFERENCE PROGRAM

(The below program is subject to amendments)

| SESSIONS | Session time Sydney (AEDT) | Time in Western Australia (AWST) | Time in South Australia (ACST) |
|--|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Welcome & introduction Ruth Graham, SAG CEO | 9.15am- 9.30am | 6.15am – 6.30am | 8.45am – 9.00am |
| New perspectives on Irish Catholic convicts in penal New South Wales Dr Damian Gleeson, Australian Religious History Fellow, State Library of New South Wales [NOT RECORDED] | 9.30am- 10.15am | 6.30am – 7.15am | 9.00am – 9.45am |
| The Dempsey Family: A brief look at five generations of Methodists Jennie Fairs, SAG Education Committee Member/Volunteer | 10.15am- 10.30am | 7.15am – 7.30am | 9.45am – 10.00am |
| Introduction to the Lutheran Archives in South Australia Benjamin Hollister (pre-recorded) | 10.30am- 11.00am | 7.30am – 8.00am | 10.00am- 10.30am |
| BREAK | 11.00am- 11.15am | 8.00am- 8.15am | 10.30am – 10.45am |
| Pre-recorded interview between Ruth Graham and Prof. Rebecca Probert about her research into historic English marriage law and practices | 11.15am – 12.00pm | 8.15am – 9.00am | 10.45am – 11.30am |
| Case Study: From Italy to Cowra & back again. The story of Frank McGuinn - a Catholic priest in the army. Andrew Redfern, SAG Education Committee Member/Volunteer | 12.00pm- 12.45pm | 9.00am – 9.45am | 11.30am – 12.15pm |
| SAG War Cry Digitisation Project – Salvation Army Publication Dr Alexandra Mountain, SAG Archival Project Manager | 12.45pm- 1.00pm | 9.45am – 10.00am | 12.15pm – 12.30pm |
| BREAK | 1.00pm- 2.00pm | 10.00am – 11.00am | 12.30pm – 1.30pm |
| Sisters of Saint Joseph founded in Colonial Australia Sr Josephine Dubiel | 2.00pm- 2.30pm | 11.00am – 11.30am | 1.30pm – 2.00pm |
| Researching Anglican Ministers at Moore Theological College Library Erin Mollenhauer, Team Leader Library and Archives, Donald Robinson Library, Moore Theological College | 2.30pm- 3.00pm | 11.30am – 12.00pm | 2.00pm – 2.30pm |
| The Rusdens of Maitland: A Colonial Anglican Family Dr Patricia Curthoys | 3.00pm- 3.30pm | 12.00pm – 12.30pm | 2.30pm – 3.00pm |
| Final questions, votes of thanks and close | 3.30pm- 4.00pm | 12.30pm – 1.00pm | 3.00pm – 3.30pm |

A pre-recorded presentation by professional genealogist, author and speaker Shauna Hicks outlining how to locate and use Church records in Australia will be provided prior to the session.

Additional related recordings will be provided with the recording pack following the conference.

Speakers

Damian John Gleeson, PhD specialises in late eighteenth and nineteenth century Irish-Australian history. He has been researching and publishing for several decades and is a regular contributor to *Australasian Catholic Record* and the *Silvermines Historical Society Journal* (County Tipperary). He is currently the Australian Religious History Fellow at the State Library of New South Wales, and his extensive study of the Library's Therry Collection forms the basis of today's presentation.

Shauna Hicks has been tracing her own family history since 1977 and worked in government for over 35 years primarily in libraries and archives in Brisbane, Canberra and Melbourne. In 2009 she established her own research and consultancy business. Since then she has written a number of family history guides and is a regular speaker at genealogy expos and conferences. Plus Shauna has undertaken research for both private and business clients. Shauna has a number of tertiary qualifications from Queensland universities including a Master of Arts in Australian Studies, a Graduate Diploma in Library Science and a Diploma in Family Historical Studies from the Society of Australian Genealogists. She is a Fellow of the Queensland Family History Society; a recipient of the Australian Society of Archivists Distinguished Achievement Award and the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations Services to Family History Award.

Jennie Fairs has a professional background in publishing and is a holder of the Society's Diploma in Family Historical Studies and A/Diploma in Local and Applied History (UNE). Jennie has also authored the best-selling Family and Local History Sources in the Sydney Area. Jennie is the Society's Chair of the Diploma and Certificate Committee, is a Supervisor for Society Diploma candidates and is Member of the Education Committee. She is also President of the Botany Bay Family History Society.

Benjamin Hollister has been a professional historian since 2007. Currently contracted as a Reference Archivist with Lutheran Archives, he also owns and operates History Helper, a historical research business, focusing on German-Australian migration, general family history services, and specialist family history services for adoption and Stolen Generation cases. He also offers education, mentoring and publishing services to other researchers, and provides historical tours, presentations and digital literacy mentoring to the general public. Ben has provided professional services to the AIATSIS Family History Unit and the US production of 'Who Do You Think You Are?', and speaks and teaches regularly at a state, national and international level. A Distinguished Certified Professional with the Australian Library and Information Association and a member of the Australian Society of Archivists, Ben holds tertiary qualifications in information management, educational management, and applied history, and vocational qualifications in business management, and event management and design.

Professor Rebecca Probert read jurisprudence at Oxford and then worked as a Research Assistant at the Law Commission for two years before studying for an LLM at University College, London. She is current on the faculty of the University of Exeter Law School. Professor Probert is recognised as a leading authority on marriage and its relation to family history and genealogy. She is regularly commissioned to write for genealogy magazine *Who Do You Think You Are?* and has appeared a number of times on the popular BBC series drawing on her research into the law relating to bigamy and divorce to provide advice to Kim Cattrall, Martin Shaw, Maggie Beer and Olivia Colman on their ancestors' legal entanglements. She has also appeared on *A House Through Time*, *Historic Houses*, *Harlots*, *Heroines* and *Housewives*, and *Heir Hunters*.

Andrew Redfern began studying his family history in the mid-1980s, becoming truly engrossed during the COVID pandemic and its associated lockdowns. With a particular interest in telling the stories of his ancestors, and not just finding their birth and death dates, Andrew employs technology in creative ways to share the lives of his ancestors with friends and family. He considers himself fortunate to have a family full of rogues and vagabonds who had many interactions with various authorities and therefore has numerous records to explore. Andrew has recently started a one name study of the surname Redfern to try and work out his paternal roots.

Dr Alexandra Mountain is a public historian with experience managing collaborative archive projects. She earned her PhD in History from the University of Pittsburgh in 2019, and then held Allan Selig Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She started her work at the Society of Australian Genealogists in 2022, and has thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the Archive and all its wonderful oddities.

Sr Josephine Dubiel is a member of the Congregational Leadership Team for the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart and is based in North Sydney. This Religious Congregation was founded by St Mary MacKillop and Fr Julian Tenison Woods in Penola South Australia in 1866 to respond to the needs in education and social welfare. Today communities serve across Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, Timor Leste, Brazil and Peru. Josephine's first 30 years of ministry was committed to the



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field of education, mainly in schools in South Australia. Lately she has served in administration roles for the Congregation, in a portfolio which includes responsibility for History and the Archives. Further information can be found on the website www.sosj.org.au.

Erin Mollenhauer is the Team Leader, Library and Archives, at the Donald Robinson Library, Moore Theological College, Sydney, and has worked there since 2012. She is responsible for the rare book collection and the Samuel Marsden Archives, a collecting archive focusing on Anglicanism and evangelical Christianity. Erin holds a Master of Information Studies (Librarianship) from Charles Sturt University, and a Graduate Diploma of Archives and Records Management from Curtin University.

Dr Patricia Curthoys works as a professional historian, having been employed on a range of Australian history projects by academics and both government and non-government organisations. She has mainly published in the area of Australian religious history, most recently contributing to Marion Maddox's edited collection, *Charles Strong's Australian Church: Christian Social Activism 1885-1917* (2021). She has recently been awarded the 2023 Australian Religious History Fellowship, at the State Library of New South Wales, for a project entitled 'Anglican White Female: A Study of Rose Selwyn'.

Gemma Beswick is GLAM sector professional having worked in libraries, museums and galleries in local government and higher education settings for 15+ years. Alongside her professional career, Gemma is a passionate genealogist with research interests including: Australian First Nations, Convict Australia, England, Ireland and Scotland as well as early Australian collectors and collecting institutions.

Our co-hosts

Vanessa Cassin is a learning and development professional with extensive experience in providing training and assessment in the trustee industry, both as an in-house trainer for the NSW Trustee & Guardian and as an assessor for Western Sydney University the College's Registered Training Organisation. Vanessa is also a genealogist who has been researching her own family history for over 20 years.

Ruth Graham is the Chief Executive Officer of the Society of Australian Genealogists. Ruth has worked in Australia and the United Kingdom for higher education and professional associations including: London Business School, The Royal College of Surgeons of England, the Australian Computer Society, and the University of Sydney.