

ONLINE CONFERENCE PROGRAM

(The below program is subject to amendments)

SESSIONS	Session time Sydney (AEDT)	Time in Western Australia (AWST)	Time in Queensland
Welcome & introduction Ruth Graham, SAG CEO	10.00am- 10.15am	07.00am- 07.15am	09.00am- 09.15am
Beyond begats: Writing up your Irish family history Dr Jeff Kildea	10.15am- 11.15am	07.15am- 08.15am	09.15am- 10.15am
Pre-Recorded: Online Sources for Irish Research: Using census and death records to research sex workers in early twentieth century Dublin Dr Ciara Breathnach and Dr Rachel A Murphy	11.15am – 11.45am	08.15am- 08.45am	10.15am- 10.45am
BREAK	11.45am- 12.00pm	08.45am- 09.00am	10.45am- 11.00am
Pre-Recorded: Researching the Ulster Plantation Period Ulster Historical Foundation	12.00pm- 1.00pm	09.00am- 10.00am	11.00am- 12.00pm
LUNCH	1.00pm- 2.00pm	10.00am- 11.00am	12.00pm- 1.00pm
From the Dardanelles to Dungannon, Kiangunu, Pittsbugh and beyond: success, sorrow, death and daily life from a collection of Irish family papers, 1810/1954 Dr Richard Reid	2.00pm- 3.00pm	11.00am- 12.00pm	1.00pm- 2.00pm
CASE STUDIES: Using landdirect.ie (the Property Registration Authority) to research ancestral landholdings in Ireland Marianne Spencer Young and Ruth Graham	3.00pm- 3.45pm	12.00pm- 12.45pm	2.00pm- 2.45pm
BREAK	3.45pm- 4.00pm	12.45pm- 1.00pm	2.45pm- 3.00pm
Introduction to the Irish Genealogical Research Society Nick Reddan	4.00pm- 5.00pm	1.00pm- 2.00pm	3.00pm- 4.00pm
Close of event	5.00pm 5.10pm	2.00pm- 2.10pm	4.00pm- 4.10pm

Bonus Recording: Ruth Graham in discussion with Dr Ciarán Wallace about the latest news from Ireland's Virtual Record Treasury: <https://virtualtreasury.ie>

In Search of...

My Irish Ancestors

Saturday 11 March 2023 AEDT



Dr Jeff Kildea is a retired barrister and an honorary professor in Irish studies at the University of New South Wales. He has written several books and articles on the history of the Irish in Ireland and in Australia. In 2021 he published *Leaving Home: Stories of my Emigrant Ancestors*, a book about his family's history. For more information see jeffkildea.com.

Presentation abstract:

For more than 40 years I have been researching my family's history. Not getting any younger, I dreaded the prospect that when my time was up all that work might end up as landfill or disappear into cyberspace. So, I spent the quiet months of the 2021 Covid lockdown turning that research into a book which I have now published. The result is both a tribute to my ancestors, most of whom came from Ireland, and a legacy that will preserve their memory among their descendants. In this talk I will speak about some of my Irish ancestors and describe how I went about turning their stories into an interesting narrative rather than a series of begats.



Dr Ciara Breathnach and Dr Rachel A. Murphy

Dr Ciara Breathnach is Associate Professor in History and Course Director MA (History of Family), within the Department of History at the University of Limerick. She is an Irish Research Council Laureate Awardee (2017/32) and recently won a Fulbright Scholar Award in 2022 to undertake research on death and the Irish immigrant community in New York City 1880-1922. Dr Breathnach is also a Past President of the Society for the Study of Nineteenth-Century Ireland

Dr Rachel A. Murphy lectures on the MA History of Family in the Department of History at the University of Limerick and is an Irish Research Council Laureate Fellow on the Death and Burial Data, 1864-1922 (IRCLA) 2017/32. Dr Murphy is a consultant to the Irish Historic Towns Atlas project based in the Royal Irish Academy. Dr Murphy is Chair of the Irish Historic Towns Atlas Digital Working Group, and a member of the National Library of Ireland's Genealogy and Heraldry committee.



Ulster Historical Foundation

The Ulster Historical Foundation was established in 1956 and is an educational non-profit organisation aiming to encourage an interest in the history of the province of Ulster; promote a positive image of Northern Ireland overseas; strengthen the links between Ireland and those of Ulster descent; broaden access to historical documents and records for Irish and Scots-Irish genealogy; and to inspire pride in Irish and Ulster heritage and culture.



Dr Richard Reid was once well-known to SAG members for his work on the story of the Irish in Australia. He gave his very first lecture on that topic – an Irish convict settler in the Illawarra – in the early 1980s and in 1984 co-lead SAG's first ever overseas tour, a tour of Ireland, with the then President Keith Johnson. A number of other tours followed with co-tour leaders Pat Gordon and Dr Perry McInytre. Richard's ANU doctorate, awarded in 1992, was for an analysis of Irish assisted immigration to NSW and this was subsequently published as *Farewell My Children: Irish Assisted Immigration to Australia, 1848/1870*. He has also published widely and lectured all over Australia on the topic of the Irish in Australia, and in 2011 was the Senior Curator for the National Museum of Australia's large exhibition on the Irish in Australia, 'Not Just Ned – a true history of the Irish in Australia'. He is a SAG Fellow and a Fellow of the Federation of Australian Historical Societies.

What put bread on the Reid family table, however, was his position at the Australian War Memorial as a Secondary Education Officer then Historian, and subsequently as the Senior Historian for the Commonwealth Department of Veterans' Affairs Commemorations Branch. In 1993 he was the Memorial's Executive Officer for the return of the Unknown Australian Soldier and he went to France with the Memorial's Director to bring the soldier home. He has also written widely, and lectured all over the country, on the topic of Australians at war. Richard finished his career as the Australian historian on JHAS, the Joint Historical-Archaeological Survey of the Anzac battlefield in Turkey. between 2009-2015

Presentation abstract:

In late 2022 a collection of archival material relating to the Reid and related families was donated to the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland in Belfast. Those documents and images are the written and visual remnants of many lives, of personal experiences lived through in other times – swimming across a famous strait, watching family members die, serving the British Empire in a distant land, and making one's way as an immigrant in a new country. This presentation will try to give the flavour of some of what can be encountered in those 'family papers'.

In Search of...

My Irish Ancestors

Saturday 11 March 2023 AEDT



Marianne Spencer Young is a Melbournite and developed a fascination with genealogy during her teenage years. She married in Ireland in 1979 and lived there until 2011 when she returned to Queensland. In Ireland she transcribed over 30,000 church register entries for the protestant Diocese of Ferns and now volunteers at her local library as a family history educator, speaks at family history societies and community organisations. Marianne is a Co-Lead of the SAG's Irish Research Group.



Nick Reddan started his involvement in genealogy when recovering from having his appendix removed early on new year's day 1988. He was always made aware that his REDDAN family was from county Clare in Ireland. Another stimulus was the memorandum of his great great grandfather William Swan CROKER who came to Australia in 1840. It mentions his father working for over 40 years at the Customs House in Dublin together with a large number of family connections. Fortunate to spend three years in London in the early 1990s he started his connection with the Irish Genealogical Research Society (IGRS). Always wishing to share his research he has developed a personal website sharing his gleanings from old Irish newspapers and other sources. In 2007, Nick was made a fellow of IGRS. Later that year he started the Registry of Deeds Index Project Ireland which has grown into a very useful project opening the deeds up to a widening audience.

Over the years he has given many talks on genealogy subjects in Australia and overseas. In addition, he has held volunteer positions in Family History ACT (including president for 6 years), NSWACT Association of Family History Societies and Australasian Association of Family History Organisations (including 6 years as treasurer).

Presentation Abstract:

Nick will give some background to the Irish Genealogical Research Society and the unique resources that can assist your research into your Irish families. He will also mention some sources that may help researching further back than 1800.



Dr Ciarán Wallace is a researcher of Modern Irish and British History, and has experience in teaching Irish Studies, at Trinity College Dublin, Dublin City University and Liverpool John Moores University. His professional service roles have included being Secretary to the Irish Historical Society and a convenor of the Dublin History Research Network. Dr Wallace was the Deputy Director of the Virtual Treasury in its project form as Beyond 2022 and is now Keeper of the Virtual Record Treasury of Ireland and its Public Engagement Lead.

Our co-hosts

Vanessa Cassin is the Education Manager of the Society of Australian Genealogists. She 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. Vanessa has identified ancestors from Co. Clare, Co. Tyrone, Co. Galway and Co. Cork and her late father-in-law had strong ancestral connections to Dublin.

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. Ruth has been researching her family history since her teens with her Irish roots stemming from her Northern Irish born mother (Co. Tyrone) and her late in-laws born in Co. Clare and Co. Galway.