

# What's on at the SAG: May – July 2008

All seminars and interest group meetings are held on the top floor of **RICHMOND VILLA**, 120 Kent Street, Sydney, unless otherwise advertised. We regret that there is NO disabled access to this area.

## ATTENTION ALL: Interest Group Charges & Booking Arrangements

We've received some feedback from members about both the recent price increase in admission charges for Society Interest Group meetings and occasional overcrowding in the seminar room. While average attendance at sessions in 2007 was 25, we had a couple of January sessions where double this number turned up. To prevent overcrowding and make attendance at our education activities a more pleasant experience for everyone we are introducing a limit of 40 bookings for all education activities held at Richmond Villa. From 1 May you can now book a seat for any of the Interest Group meetings, just as you book for all other activities.

The \$5 admission charge to Interest Groups for members had not been raised since 2001 and some increase is necessary to keep up with rising costs. So from 1 May the new fees will be \$8 for members and \$12 for non-members for all standard Interest Group meetings. We have introduced a section on the website under 'Courses' which allows you to see upcoming events and an indication of how many places are still available for each one. So if you decide on the day to just 'turn up' for an Interest Group meeting you can check the website before leaving home to see how likely it is you will be able to get in. **By booking in advance you will guarantee yourself a seat.**

## MAY 2008

**Friday 2: - 379 Kent Street. 10.30am-3.30pm. TMG "GETTING STARTED" WORKSHOP:** TMG is the most flexible and customisable family tree program on the market. Learn how to import your data; set TMG up the way you want; start entering new information; and get simple reports and charts. Topics covered will be determined by the preferences of participants. Presented by Carole Riley. Morning & afternoon tea provided. BYO lunch, or take advantage of the many cafes in Kent Street. [Bookings essential](#) & limited to 14 participants. \$60 (\$50 SAG members).

**Saturday 3: - 379 Kent Street. 9.00am. ORIENTATION TOUR:** An orientation tour of our library at 379 Kent St – discover how the library is arranged and the services we offer there. [Bookings essential](#). Members only & limited to 15 participants. FREE – donations always appreciated.

**Saturday 3: - Richmond Villa. 120 Kent St. 1.30pm – 3.30pm. IRISH JOURNALS:** The Irish journals held in the SAG library can be located by title in our online catalogue. Discover the genealogical gems that are hidden therein. Q & A time also. [Bookings essential](#). \$12 (\$8 SAG members). [Irish Interest Group meeting].

**Saturday 3: - Richmond Villa. 120 Kent St. 4.15pm. SAG ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** – see the notice in the March *Descent*.

**Monday 5: - 379 Kent St. 10.30am – 12.30pm. ELECTRONIC RESOURCES IN THE SAG LIBRARY:** Frustrated while using the electronic resources at 2/379, convinced that you were missing something? Join Alison Wolf for a hands-on session that will reveal tricks to successfully access our collection of 500 CDs. Learn how different sorts of searches work. Notes will also be provided, together with a set of exercises. [Bookings essential](#) & limited to 14 participants. \$40 (\$30 SAG members).

**Saturday 10: - \*\*\*Glover Cottages 124 Kent St (next to the Villa) \*\*\* (Please note change of venue) 10.30am – 12.30pm. FAMILY TREE MAKER:** Intrigued by this popular family history program? Join our discussion group led by presenters Larry Czarnik & Michael Brock. [Bookings essential](#). \$12 (\$8 SAG members). [Family Tree Maker User Group meeting].

**Saturday 10: - \*\*\*Glover Cottages 124 Kent St (next to the Villa) \*\*\* (Please note change of venue) 1.30pm – 3.30pm. THE LEAVING OF TAUNTON:** Peter Kettle will examine how all the sons of one family left Taunton for different careers in other places, principally London. [Bookings essential](#). \$12 (\$8 SAG members). [DPS Interest Group meeting].

**Friday 16: - 379 Kent St. 10.30am – 12.30pm. GET MORE OUT OF GOOGLE:** A hands-on session with Helen Dickinson to help you get better results from online searches. Bring names and places to search. [Bookings essential](#) & limited to 14 participants. \$40 (\$30 SAG members).

**Saturday 17: - Richmond Villa. 120 Kent St. 10.30am – 12.30pm. EMIGRATION FROM SCOTLAND:** Join the Scottish Interest Group for a look into the reasons why people left Scotland in previous centuries

for countries such as Britain, Australia and Canada, and what their expectations were when they arrived. [Bookings essential](#). \$12 (\$8 SAG members). [Scottish Interest Group meeting].

**Saturday 17: - Richmond Villa. 120 Kent St. 1.30pm – 3.30pm. PAF:** Recent software demonstrations using this program have generated significant interest among members. If you use this software, or are thinking of using it, this is a great opportunity to learn some of the tricks of the programme and meet with other users. [Bookings essential](#). \$25 (\$20 SAG members).

**Monday 19: - 10.00am – 12.00pm. BUSBY BORE WALK:** Devised by Government Mineral Surveyor, John Busby in 1826 at the request of Governor Darling, his plan proposed to bring water from the Lachlan Swamps (now Centennial Park) by gravity, via a tunnel or 'bore' to a reservoir at the Racecourse (now Hyde Park). The 2 hour tour finishes at Fox Studios, where you have the opportunity to stay for lunch, at your own cost. Meet at the Robertson Road Gates, Centennial Park at 9.50am. [Bookings essential](#) & limited to 30 participants. \$22 (\$20 SAG members).

**Saturday 24: - Richmond Villa. 120 Kent St. 10.30am – 12.30pm. ARCHIVES IN KENT:** This session will give an overview of the three main archives in Kent for research, including the facilities, as well as a description of the type of material they hold for researchers. The second half of the meeting will be a Q & A session, so bring along your research queries. [Bookings essential](#). \$12 (\$8 SAG members). [London & Home Counties Interest Group].

**Saturday 24: - Richmond Villa. 120 Kent St. 1.30pm – 3.30pm. MY ANCESTOR WORKED FOR THE INDIAN RAILWAYS:** The start of the Indian railway network commenced in 1854. Because most railway companies were privately (rather than government) managed there is no comprehensive body of archival information for researching ancestors who worked for the Indian railways. After watching some railway footage on DVD, the group will pool their knowledge and resources to create a research resource for Railway staff in Colonial India. [Bookings essential](#). \$12 (\$8 SAG members). [South Asia Interest Group meeting].

**Saturday 31: - Richmond Villa. 120 Kent St. 10.30am – 12.30pm. SCOTLANDSPEOPLE WEBSITE:** Learn about this 'pay-to-use' website to obtain instant online images of Scottish births, marriages, deaths, census, wills & testaments, from the 16th to the 20th century. Presented by Kerry Farmer. [Bookings essential](#). \$25 (\$20 SAG members).

**Saturday 31: - Richmond Villa. 120 Kent St. 1.30pm – 3.30pm. FAMILYSEARCH.ORG:** This internationally recognised website is free-to-access. Search techniques for databases and the on-line catalogue to its exceptional library of filmed original documents (LDS films) will be demonstrated. Presenter Vicki Eldridge. [Bookings essential](#). \$25 (\$20 SAG members).

## JUNE 2008

**Monday 2: - Richmond Villa: 120 Kent St. 10.30am – 4.30pm. WRITING FAMILY HISTORY:** Designed for anyone who is having difficulty starting to write their family story. Includes identifying a focus, sourcing material and putting pen to paper. Presented by Peter Beale and developed from personal experience in writing family memoirs. Manual provided. [Bookings essential](#) & limited to 8 participants. \$75 (\$60 SAG members).

**Tuesday 10: - 10.00am – 12.00pm. TOUR OF THE POWERHOUSE DISCOVERY CENTRE – Collection Stores at Castle Hill.** This recently opened offsite storage and collection care facility is one of the few publically accessible museum storage facilities in Australia, housing one of the world's greatest collections of science, technology, design, social history and decorative arts. [Bookings essential](#) & limited to 35 participants. \$25 (\$20 SAG members) Morning tea included. Parking facilities available, or use the Hillsbus 610/615 bus service from the city.

**Saturday 14: - 379 Kent Street. 9.00am. ORIENTATION TOUR:** An orientation tour of our library at 379 Kent St – discover how the library is arranged and the services we offer there. [Bookings essential](#). Members only & limited to 15 participants. FREE – donations always appreciated.

**Saturday 14: - Richmond Villa. 120 Kent St. 10.00am – 12.30pm. FROM THIS DAY FORWARD - Finding English Marriages.** This session looks at how to find marriage records in England both before and after 1837. If FreeBMD, Pallot's and Boyd's all sound like foreign terms or you simply can't match up your ancestors, this session is for you. Presenter: Martyn Killion. [Bookings essential](#). \$25 (\$20 SAG members).

**Saturday 14: - Richmond Villa. 120 Kent St. 1.30pm – 3.30pm. NSW BDM INDEXES FOR BEGINNERS:** Heather Garnsey will demonstrate how to search them effectively, revealing why the CDs & old microfiche are sometimes better than the internet version. [Bookings essential](#). \$25 (\$20 SAG members).

**Monday 16: - 379 Kent Street. 10.00am. ORIENTATION TOUR:** A one hour tour of our library at 379 Kent St – discover how the library is arranged and the services we offer there. [Bookings essential](#). Members only & limited to 15 participants. FREE – donations always appreciated.

**Saturday 21: - Richmond Villa. 120 Kent St. 10.30am – 12.30pm. GENES REUNITED:** Peter Kettle will demonstrate how to track down those missing cousins and discover if someone else is tracing your family. [Bookings essential](#). \$25 (\$20 SAG members).

**Saturday 21: - Richmond Villa. 120 Kent St. 1.30pm – 3.30pm. TMG CHARTS:** TMG creates fully customisable charts and draws them in separate software (*Visual Chartform*). Learn what charts are available and how to make them look the way you want them to. Presented by Graham Grant. [Bookings essential](#). \$12 (\$8 SAG members). [TMG User Group Meeting].

**Friday 27 – Sunday 29: - IRISH RESEARCH WEEKEND AT GALONG.** Speakers will be Joan Kavanagh, historian from Co. Wicklow while others may include Keith Johnson; Perry McIntyre; Kevin Bradley, Richard Reid, Cheryl Mongan & from. Keep an eye on our website – we will load the programme as soon as we get it. Last year's event was very successful, so don't delay in booking. [Bookings essential](#). Numbers limited to 30 participants. \$300 incl. meals & board.

**Saturday 28: - Richmond Villa. 120 Kent St. 10.00am – 3.30pm. WHERE DID THEY GO IN THE BRITISH EMPIRE?:** Join Kerry Farmer and Sylvia Murphy as they take you on a tour of some of the lands coloured pink on world maps at the end of the C19th, when the British Empire comprised 50 distinct governments. We will spend time in Canada, South Africa, the West Indies (Caribbean), Asia, New Zealand and the South Pacific, giving you an introduction to how to begin your family history research in these places. [Bookings essential](#). \$55 (\$45 SAG members).

## JULY 2008

**Wednesday 2: - 9.30am - 4.00pm. NATIONAL ARCHIVES RESEARCH DAY AT CHESTER HILL:** The Sydney branch of the National Archives has a diverse collection of material, documenting the full range of Australian Government activities since Federation in 1901. Our visit will start with a guided tour and morning tea. Spend the rest of the day researching - for a better understanding of the records held, log onto [www.naa.gov.au](http://www.naa.gov.au) There are no eating outlets, so BYO lunch. [Bookings essential](#). \$45 (\$40 SAG members). Pick-up at Richmond Villa 8.30am sharp.

**Saturday 5: - 379 Kent Street. 9.00am. ORIENTATION TOUR:** An orientation tour of our library at 379 Kent St – discover how the library is arranged and the services we offer there. [Bookings essential](#). Members only & limited to 15 participants. FREE – donations always appreciated.

**Saturday 5: - The Bowlers Club. 95-99 York St. 10.00am – 4.00pm. FAMILY TREE MAKER FOCUS DAY:** Members of the FTM users group will conduct this all-day seminar. Programme will be on our website shortly. Morning & afternoon tea provided. Make use of the excellent eating facilities around the Queen Victoria Building. [Bookings essential](#). \$60 (\$50 SAG members).

**Monday 7: - 379 Kent St. 10.00am. ORIENTATION TOUR:** A one hour orientation tour of our library at 379 Kent St – discover how the library is arranged and the services we offer there. [Bookings essential](#). Members only & limited to 15 participants. FREE – donations always appreciated.

**Saturday 12: - Richmond Villa. 120 Kent St. 10.30am – 12.30pm. ANCESTRY DATABASES:** there's more there than just the English census! Exploring the range of online resources for Australian and UK research. Presenter - Heather Garnsey. [Bookings essential](#). \$25 (\$20 SAG members).

**Saturday 12: - Richmond Villa. 120 Kent St. 1.30pm – 3.30pm. DEAD PERSON SOCIETY:** Join us for a group session on genealogical computing and the internet. [Bookings essential](#). \$12 (\$8 SAG members). [DPS Interest Group meeting].

**Friday 25: - 379 Kent Street. 9.00am – 6.00pm. LIBRARY LOCK-OUT:** A special day specifically for out-of-town members with extra help on-hand to assist with using computers, finding resources and research advice. **Any places not taken up by out-of-town members by 5 July will then be available to city members.** Morning & afternoon tea & lunch provided. Members only. [Bookings essential](#) & limited to 28 participants. \$50.

**Saturday 26: - Richmond Villa. 120 Kent St. 10.30am – 12.30pm. WORLDVITALRECORDS.COM:** A new player in the field of historic resources on-line. Databases and original records: Census, directories, gazetteers, newspapers, electoral rolls and more. UK, Australia, USA and more. Learn about searching this site. Presenter Vicki Eldridge. [Bookings essential](#). \$25 (\$20 SAG members).

**Saturday 26: - Richmond Villa. 120 Kent St. 1.30pm – 3.30pm. PALAEOGRAPHY:** Found an old document but cannot decipher it. Jeremy Palmer will reveal some of the challenges involved, including how to make transcripts and abstracts. This session will be a guide to self-help in this complex subject, with some practical examples for the audience to transcribe. [Bookings essential](#). \$25 (\$20 SAG members).

**\*\*\* Don't forget to make a booking for any interest groups you would like to attend. It only takes a minute to guarantee your place. \*\*\***