



Draft program

The final program will be provided when available.

Venue: Portside Conference Centre, 207 Kent Street Sydney
(near Richmond Villa)

Tickets: www.sag.org.au

SATURDAY

- 10.00am** **Welcome and overview – Martyn Killion**
- 10.15am** **DNA success stories – Louise Coakley**
Case studies will demonstrate how combining DNA testing with genealogy can help knock down research brick walls and connect biological family members.
- 11.00am** **morning tea (provided)**
- 11.30am** **Ten million tests and counting. How to get the most out of your Ancestry DNA results – Michelle Patient**
How to identify your closest shared matches, understand what matches might mean and use trees to work with the matches. How to use Chrome extensions to Ancestry, find groups of related people, identify paternal or maternal matches and manage your results in Ancestry.
- 12 noon** **Going beyond Ancestry – Kerry Farmer**
The benefits of testing more than one person and what the other testing companies show you, such as chromosome browsers and ethnicity results.
- 12.30-1.30pm** **lunch break (lunch not provided)**
- 1.30pm** **Using DNA to solve Irish brick walls - Maurice Gleeson, based in London and joining us via a recorded webinar**
Irish research can have its challenges, but DNA research is helping to break down some of those old genealogical brick walls. This session will provide some examples of how it might be done.
- 2.15pm** **Third Party Tools for beginners, GEDmatch and DNAGedcom – Veronica Williams**
Why use third party tools for your research? This session will explore some of the key features of these tools and how to get started.
- 2.45pm** **afternoon tea (provided)**
- 3.15pm** **DNA case studies from the SAG DNA Research Group**
Long and winding road - Christine Woodlands
Pick up some tips and techniques as Christine shows how a 4th cousin match on Ancestry DNA and a tree with four names led to the elusive Thomas Cahill and his family.
Missing in Action - Barbara McAlary
Barbara shows how an ancestor was found 100 years later through DNA!
- 3.45pm** **First Contact & No Tree! – Mel Hulbert**
Strategies for making contact with DNA matches, getting them to respond, how to deal with people who don't have public trees, finding trees on other sites.
- 4.15pm** **Finish**



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SUNDAY

- 10.00am** **Welcome and overview – Heather Garnsey**
- 10.15am** **The ethics of DNA testing – Louise Coakley**
DNA testing considerations: Privacy, ethics, risks. Is my DNA safe? Who owns it? Can I manage kits for relatives? Getting informed consent. Tips for managing multiple kits and sharing results, and more.
- 10.30am** **Third Party Tools - next steps – Sandra Gamble, SAG DNA Research Group**
An overview of the more advanced analysis features of GEDmatch and DNAGedcom, including how to identify triangulated groups and what to do next.
- 11.00am** **morning tea (provided)**
- 11.30pm** **Chromosome mapping and DNA painter – Louise Coakley**
This session demonstrates how to map the DNA segments you share with relatives onto DNA Painter's chromosome browser, and use them to see how new matches are related.
- 12.15-1.15pm** **lunch break (lunch not provided)**
- 1.15pm** **Diahan Southard, based in the US and joining us via recorded webinar**
topic TBA
- 2.00pm** **Y-DNA & mtDNA – Kerry Farmer**
What is Y-DNA and mtDNA, and why test them? What type of questions can they help solve?
- 2.30pm** **afternoon tea (provided)**
- 3.00pm** **Tools to organise and analyse your data**
Part 1 - Combine the power of Genome Mate Pro and Evernote to make your DNA research more productive – Veronica Williams
An introduction to the Genome Mate Pro database application, where you can store all your DNA data in one place. Track your communications with matches, store their pedigree information, analyse and map your chromosome results, plan your next steps. Add the Evernote application to track and record more complex analyses and retrieve historical correspondence.
Part 2 - Excel spreadsheets – Danielle Lautrec
If you cannot cope with Genome Mate Pro or Evernote, try Excel! How to make notes, document confirmed matches and common ancestors, log correspondence, sort and filter.
- 3.50pm** **Q & A Panel**
If the weekend still has not answered your questions, perhaps the panel can help!
- 4.30pm** **Finish**



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Speaker bios

Louise Coakley has been researching family history for more than 20 years and using DNA since 2011. Louise convenes a DNA Interest Group, a DNA Drop-In Clinic, uses DNA to assist others searching for biological relatives, and maintains a [website](#) and blog to guide beginners. She created and leads the Facebook support groups [Using DNA for Genealogy – Australia & NZ](#) and [DNA for Genealogy – UK](#) and several other DNA groups and projects.

Kerry Farmer has been teaching family history classes since 1997. With degrees in both science and the arts, she is the Chair of the Education Committee of the Society, and a regular speaker at conferences and Society events on a wide range of topics. Kerry is the author of *DNA for Genealogists* (4th edn, 2017).

Heather Garnsey is the Society's Executive Officer. Heather started her family history at 11 and joined the Society in 1979, quickly becoming a volunteer library assistant and cemetery transcriber. She's involved in most facets of the Society's day-to-day operations, as well as media work, education and the Society's Diploma and Certificate courses, and was part of the team that hosted Congress 2018 earlier this year.

Maurice Gleeson was voted *Genetic Genealogist of the Year 2015* (SurnameDNA Journal) and *Superstar Genealogist, Ireland 2016* (AngloCeltic Connections). He runs a variety of Y-DNA Surname Projects (for the surnames Gleeson, Farrell, Spearin, Maloney, O'Malley, among others), helps adoptees find their birth families, organises the DNA Lectures at Genetic Genealogy Ireland each year, and has a blog called [DNA and Family Tree Research](#).

Mel Hulbert is a Vice President of the Society. Her background is in astronomy and physics and she currently works at Sydney Observatory. Her interest in genealogy started at an early age. Mel is a member of Botany Bay Family History Society, a regular presenter at the Society and is a member of the SAG DNA Research Group.

Martyn Killion is the President of the Society and has been researching family history since 1977. He was President of the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations from 1991 to 1995, joined the SAG Board in 1999 and was the Convenor of Congress 2018.

Danielle Lautrec is the Society's Education Officer and also its Archives Officer. Both roles are combined with studies for the University of New England's Graduate Diploma in Local, Family and Applied History. Danielle was project manager for Congress 2018, is a regular presenter at the Society and loves assisting people with their research.



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Barbara McAlary is a retired school teacher and Principal. Barbara has completed SAG's Certificate of Genealogical Research and a Diploma of Family History with the University of Tasmania. Through the use of DNA, traditional genealogy and genealogical travels Barbara has made some exciting discoveries about her family history. She is a member of the SAG DNA Research group and the Burwood & District Family History Group.

Michelle Patient is a member of the Society's Education Committee, a Past President of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists and regularly presents on DNA, technology and other aspects of genealogy. She created and leads the New Zealand DNA Users Group and the Commemorating the Missing support group on Facebook, and co-founded CeCe Moore's [DNA Detectives Down Under](#) Facebook group which helps members who are looking for close biological relatives.

Diahan Southard has worked with the Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Foundation, one of the first efforts to create a correlated genetic and genealogical database. She holds a degree in Microbiology, is an internationally known speaker and the founder of [Your DNA Guide](#). Diahan is the author of several quick guides on genetic genealogy, a regular contributor to [Genealogy Gems](#), featured writer for Family Tree Magazine and a regular contributor to Genealogy Today.

Veronica Williams has been researching her family history for over 10 years and has become passionate about genetic genealogy since being tested in 2010. She's a member of the SAG Education Committee and co-ordinates the SAG's DNA Research Group. Veronica has completed the Certificate in Genealogical Research with the Society. Veronica is the DNA officer for the Cassidy Clan, co-administrator of the FTDNA Coats surname project and a volunteer Greeter and Leader at Wikitree.com.

Christine Woodlands describes her enthusiasm for family history and genetic genealogy as a 'retirement project' after a career in the Australian public service. She's using genetic genealogy to break down brick walls in researching her family as well as helping family and friends do the same. She's a member of the SAG DNA Research Group and had an article published in the June 2018 Descent Journal about using DNA.



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