

How well do you know your convict?

Saturday 13 April 2024

ONLINE CONFERENCE PROGRAM

(The below program is subject to amendments)

SESSIONS	Session time Sydney (AEST)	Time in New Zealand (NZDT)	Time in Canada (EDT)	Time in UK (BST)	Time in SA (ACST)	Time in WA (AWST)
Welcome & Introduction	9:45am- 10:00am	11.45am- 12.00pm	7.45pm- 8.00pm (Friday)	12.45am- 1.00am	9.15am- 9.30am	7.45am- 8.00am
Andrew Redfern Researching Convicts: A Framework for Discovery	10:00am- 11:00am	12.00pm- 1.00pm	8.00pm- 9.00pm	1.00am- 2.00am	9.30am- 10.30am	8.00am- 9.00am
Case Study – Jill Ball "I want for nothing": Patrick Curry, Convict	11:00am- 11:30pm	1.00pm- 1.30pm	9.00pm- 9.30pm	2.00am- 2.30am	10.30am- 11.00am	9.00am- 9.30am
BREAK	11:30am- 11:45am	1.30pm- 1.45pm	9.30pm- 9.45pm	2.30am- 2.45am	11.00am- 11.15am	9.30am- 9.45am
Emily Hanna Locating convict records at MHNSW	11:45am- 12:45pm	1.45pm- 2.45pm	9.45pm- 10.45pm	2.45am- 3.45am	11.15am- 12.15pm	9.45am- 10.45am
LUNCH	12:45pm- 1:30pm	2.45pm- 3.30pm	10.45pm- 11.30pm	3.45am- 4.30am	12.15pm- 1.00pm	10.45am- 11.30am
Professor Janet McCalman AC (Interview) Demographic insights of the 19 th century	1:30pm- 2:00pm	3.30pm- 4.00pm	11.30pm- 12.00am	4.30am- 5.00am	1.00pm- 1.30pm	11.30am- 12.00pm
Associate Professor Carol Liston Convict women in England and records for Scottish convict women	2:00pm- 3:00pm	4.00pm- 5.00pm	12.00am- 1.00am	5.00am- 6.00am	1.30pm- 2.30pm	12.00pm- 1.00pm
BREAK	3:00pm- 3:15pm	5.00pm- 5.15pm	1.00am- 1.15am	6.00am- 6.15am	2.30pm- 2.45pm	1.00pm- 1.15pm
Matthew Cunneen Leaving the Fatal Shore: Convict Departures from the Australian Colonies	3:15pm- 3:45pm	5.15pm- 5.45pm	1.15am- 1.45am	6.15am- 6.45am	2.45pm- 3.15pm	1.15pm- 1.45pm
Case Study – Terry Gatward Researching Samuel Gatward - Convict [Bermuda & NSW]. Get caught stealing and see the World.	3:45pm- 4:15pm	5.45pm- 6.15pm	1.45am- 2.15am	6.45am- 7.15am	3.15pm- 3.45pm	1.45pm- 2.15pm
Sienna Brown (Interview) Author and Caribbean Researcher	4:15pm- 4:45pm	6.15pm- 6.45pm	2.15am- 2.45am	7.15am- 7.45am	3.45pm- 4.15pm	2.15pm- 2.45pm
Q&A Panel Dr Dianne Snowden AM, and Janette Pelosi	4:45pm- 5:15pm	6.45pm- 7.15pm	2.45am- 3.15am	7.45am- 8.15am	4.15pm- 4.45pm	2.45pm- 3.15pm
Close of event	5:15pm- 5:30pm	7.15pm- 7.30pm	3.15am- 3.30am	8.15am- 8.30am	4.45pm- 5.00pm	3.15pm- 3.30pm

Bonus recorded presentations will be available after the event from Dr Meg Foster and Dr James Findlay.



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Speaker Biographies

Andrew Redfern has been fascinated with convicts ever since primary school and discovered early on in his research several convicts on his direct lines. He was part of the team for Ironclad Sisterhood, a digitisation project telling the stories of more than 4700 convict women. A geek by nature, Andrew aims to use technology in creative ways to bring his ancestors stories alive and has recently been exploring how artificial intelligence can be part of the genealogist's toolbox. His presentations aim to be both informative and entertaining, often using quizzes and collaborative games to engage participants.

Jill Ball is a former librarian, teacher and IT specialist, Jill (aka GeniAus) Ball, is an amateur genealogist from Lake Macquarie, Australia. Family is important to Jill who has been chasing her ancestors for thirty years and, in retirement, devotes every spare moment to genealogy activities. She is particularly interested in harnessing technology for family history. Jill has presented at international, national and state education, IT and genealogy conferences and enjoys sharing her knowledge in face-to-face and online presentations. Since Covid came along she has embraced Zoom for genealogy education and enrichment. Jill has served as an Ambassador at a number of RootsTech conferences. Closer to home Jill serves on the Education Committee of The Society of Australian Genealogists and is a past President of The Lake Macquarie Family History Group. On three occasions Jill has been voted by fellow genies as Australia's Gold Genealogy Rockstar.

Emily Hanna has worked with the State Archives Collection and has managed the Western Sydney Reading Room for many years, providing advice and guidance on using the collection. Working closely with the public, students, academics and government agencies using the collection, Emily has an excellent knowledge of the many ways archives can be used to inform historical research. Emily regularly presents talks and webinars featuring the State Archives Collection. In her current role Emily is honoured to be working with the First Nations Community Access to Archives team to surface language, culture and heritage material in the Collection.

Emeritus Redmond Barry Professor Janet McCalman AC is the author of four multi-award-winning social histories: *Struggletown* (1984), *Journeyings* (1993), *Sex and Suffering* (1998) and most recently *Vandemonians: The Repressed History of Colonial Victoria* (2021). In 2020 she co-edited with Emma Dawson *What Happens Next: Reconstructing Australia after COVID-19*. Since 1998 she has taught and researched interdisciplinary history and built a series of longitudinal prosopographical datasets. In 2018 she was made a Companion of the Order of Australia.

Adjunct Associate Professor Carol Liston is an Australian historian who specialises in the history of early New South Wales (1788-1860). Her research covers early colonial history with interests in people, local history, heritage and the built environment. Her particular interest is the colonial development of the County of Cumberland (Greater Western Sydney), using land records, family history and surviving buildings to document the past. Her current research project is being conducted in collaboration with Dr Kathrine Reynolds and is focusing on the convict women of England and Scotland. Carol is a former co-editor of *The Journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society* and is currently a member of their Council.

Matthew Cunneen is a second-year PhD candidate at the National Centre of Biography, School of History, at the Australian National University. His thesis will provide new insights into what sort of convicts left the Australian colonies after becoming free and the circumstances surrounding their departures. Matthew has worked as a research editor for the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, written for the *Australian Book Review*, and co-edited Number 4 of the *ANU Historical Journal II* and Number 7 of the *Australian Journal of Biography and History*, the latter a special issue on convict lives in which two of his papers were published.

Terry Gatward was born in Luton, Bedfordshire, and emigrated initially to Auckland, New Zealand, in 1985 before moving to Sydney in 1988. His Gatward family lived for nine generations in Therfield, Hertfordshire from around 1650. Before this, they lived in Wicken in the Fenlands of Cambridgeshire. He has actively researched the Gatward Family for over 50 years in a one-name study. He completed the Diploma of Family History with



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the University of Tasmania in Aug 2017 and the SAG Family History Diploma in 2020. He particularly enjoys collaborating with other Gatward researchers to bring to life the unknown stories of Gatward families and notable individuals from across the ages.

Sienna Brown was born in Kingston, Jamaica and spent her childhood there before moving to Toronto, Canada and now lives in Sydney, Australia. As a highly creative person Sienna has been a professional dancer, producer, director, teacher and an editor and writer of documentaries and educational films. Her debut novel *Master Of My Fate*, published in 2019 by Penguin Random House, won the MUD Literary Prize at Adelaide Writers Week for the best debut novel by an Australian writer and was shortlisted for the ARA Historical Novel Prize in 2020. In 2021, she was commissioned by ABC Radio National, the History Listen Series to create *Caribbean Convicts in Australia*, a podcast based on her research for *Master*. In 2022, she was appointed Research Associate at Western Sydney University. Her position is being funded by a three-year Australia Research Council (ARC) Discovery Project Grant administered through the Writing & Society Research Centre. You can find out more about Sienna's book and podcast here <https://www.siennabrown.com.au/>

Dr Dianne Snowden AM is an historian and genealogist and is currently President of the peak-body Australasian Association of Genealogists and Record Agents. Dianne was a pioneer in the use of family history techniques in academic research, successfully doing so as part of her PhD (2005). Dianne was a founding member of the Female Convicts Research Centre (Tas) and is currently President. She is also President of the Friends of the Orphan Schools (Tas), which she founded in 2007. She is the author and co-author of several publications, including *White Rag Burning: Irish Women Committing Arson to be Transported* (2018); *Voices from the Orphan Schools: The Children's Stories* (2018); *Van Diemen's Women: A History of Transportation to Tasmania* (with Joan Kavanagh, 2015; winner of Australian Historical Association (AHA) Kay Daniels Award 2018); and *Patchwork Prisoners* (with Trudy Cowley, 2013; shortlisted for the AHA Kay Daniels Award, 2014). Her most recent publication is *Always There: Hobart City Mission 1852-2022* (2022). In 2017, Dianne was admitted to the Tasmanian Honour Roll of Women for her contributions to history, heritage, and education, and was awarded Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for significant service to the community as an historian and genealogical researcher, to higher education, and to heritage groups.

Janette Pelosi has worked for over 25 years at Museums of History NSW (NSW State Archives) where she is currently Lead Archivist. Janette is a Professional member of the Australian Society of Archivists, and was the Convenor of the NSW Branch. She is also a Professional member of the Professional Historians Association and the current Vice President of The Society of Australian Genealogists. Janette received a 2012 Mander Jones Award for her paper on theatrical archives and was the winner of Rockdale City Council's Ron Rathbone Local History Prize 2008 for a history of the Rockdale Volunteer Fire Brigade. Janette has previously been Convenor of the SAG's Certificate and Diploma Committee and Croker Prize for Biography Committee.

Dr Meg Foster (FRHistS) is an award-winning historian of banditry, settler colonial and public history. Meg's current research project explores the impact of the colonial past on current attitudes to crime and policing. She is an intersectional historian who has experience working across race, class and gender histories as well as imperial, colonial, ethnographic and public histories. Meg has published widely, contributing articles to *Law and History Review*, *Rethinking History* and *Public History Review* as well as *Australian Historical Studies*, where her most recent piece won the Aboriginal History Award from the History Council of New South Wales. Meg has also contributed book chapters to publications by Routledge, Bloomsbury Academic and Australian Scholarly Publishing. Combined with TV, radio and podcast appearances, reviews, newspaper articles, blog posts, and artistic collaborations, Meg has a breadth of experience engaging academic and public audiences, and a passion for making connections between history and the contemporary world.

Her first book, *Boundary Crossers: The Hidden History of Australia's Other Bushrangers*, was published with NewSouth (University of New South Wales Press) in 2022. This book was longlisted for the British Academy



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Book Prize in Global Cultural Understanding and the Davitt Award in non-fiction crime writing. The following year, Meg was elected a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society in recognition of her contribution to history.

Dr James Findlay is an Associate Lecturer in the discipline of history at The University of Sydney. He teaches Australian history and researches historical film and television studies, convict history, Australian popular culture, and public history. He has been an Australian Film Institute Research Collection Fellow, was the Archival Project Manager for The Society of Australian Genealogists, and has worked extensively in film and television production, mostly in the field of documentary.

Your hosts for this event

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. She has discovered five convict ancestors so far.

Ruth Graham has been the Chief Executive Officer of the SAG since early 2020 and prior to that worked in education and research management in the UK and Australia. Ruth has been researching her own family history since she was a teenager, primarily looking to England, Ireland, Scotland, and the USA. Ruth has research interests in the Marshalsea Prison/Southwark; 19th century female activists and philanthropists such as Elizabeth Fry and Caroline Chisholm; and making sense of political policies that for hundreds of years enabled slavery, incarceration, and servitude – and how that impacts their descendants. She has researched convicts from families of her cousins and is ever hopeful to find one in her own.