

Society Monthly News for December 2024



At our December meeting on Saturday 14th December, some members will be speaking on interesting snippets from their research. Do you have a story or some interesting family history snippets to share? Please contact Diane as soon as you can. It will be a 'Christmas Meeting' and we ask that members bring a SMALL plate of Christmas goodies to share, so don your Christmas attire and join the fun.

Port Macquarie & Districts Family History Society is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85273341961?pwd=OOSqTC2yfKuia1yY8ojGiZj2yv8F7M.1>

Meeting ID: 852 7334 1961

Passcode: 594431

The only **Support Group** meeting left in 2024 is the Ancestry/FTM group which will be held in the Library Meeting Room from 1pm – 3pm on Monday 9th December. If you are coming, we would appreciate you booking in so we have enough chairs and afternoon tea supplies. Text or call Diane on 0416 311 680.

We will be having a break over the Christmas/New Year period to recharge our batteries.

We had a marvellous Society Christmas dinner with all the trimmings last Friday night at Noshtalgia. Camaraderie, conviviality and fun were in abundance. We held trivia, had raffles and Family History Lucky spaces where a couple of members won cash. The raffles were well supported. Thank you to Dawn for her superb organisation, to Jennifer for photocopying the trivia, Janet for handling the raffles so expertly and Clive for making sure the bill was paid! Thank you to Andrew, Andrea & staff for their superb hospitality. Thank you everyone who attended. I hope you enjoyed the evening as much as I did.

Christmas is rapidly approaching! Thank you to the very generous members who have donated goodies for the Christmas raffles which will be drawn at the General Meeting in December. There is a Christmas hamper as well as 15+ prizes. Have you purchased your tickets yet? They will be available for sale this week at the library on Tuesday and Wednesday or at the meeting on Saturday.



2025 Upcoming Events: Save the date: **8 February** – Full day Seminar at CC Mac Adams Centre with **Andrew Redfern**.

There will be two sessions - 'Practical uses of AI in Family History' & 'Fascinating Family History' Doors will open at 9.30am. Coffee and cake to follow. The General Meeting will be after Andrew's talks. Cost for the day is \$25 for members and \$35 for non-members, which will include coffee or tea & slices/cakes on arrival, a catered lunch and afternoon tea. Please book at the General Meeting in December. Bookings are essential!

We will be holding a **Summer BBQ** to meet & greet members at McInherney Park on 22nd February. Cost is \$10 which covers sausages, salad, tea & coffee. Bring your own plates, cutlery, chairs – a laid-back way to begin our 40th year in 2025.

2025		
JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
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31	31	31

The calendar for 2025 is taking shape. All support groups will be on Mondays from 1pm – 3pm, except Research Support - which is the Wednesday after our General Meeting. We will be conducting a Beginners' Course in April – to tie in with Heritage Week & our popular Next Steps course is scheduled for July/August (National Family History Month NFHM). Are you interested in visiting Museums of History NSW (State Archives) in 2025? Please let us know so we may plan.

The PMDFHS Committee

Members email contact: secretary@pmdfhs.org.au

'like' us on Facebook!

Check our website: www.pmdfhs.org.au

Info Email prepared by Diane Gillespie & Jennifer Mullin on behalf of the PMDFHS to keep members informed of upcoming events.

The question was raised at the committee meeting about hosting the **2026 NSWACT State Conference**... What do you think? We have hosted 3 previous conferences – all with very different outlooks, but each one was very successful. Is there a prominent speaker (Australian or international) you have heard and would like us to bring to Port? Dream big! Please share your thoughts with Committee members. I am not dismissing it out of hand but it would require commitment from members to assist with organisation & planning. Are 2025 40th birthday celebrations enough for us?

Other news –

- Family Search is digitising 'Displaced persons from WWII'. Ancestry is digitising 'Pay Cards for Victoria WWI'
- **Trove** has been undergoing maintenance and has been down the previous 2 Fridays so if you were trying to access it, please be aware that scheduled maintenance may impede your ability to do so.

**On behalf of the Committee we wish you and your family
a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year**

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