

# HAWKESBURY FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

## MEETING NEWS

Wednesday 11 August 2021

Copies of the current Hawkesbury Family History Group Meeting news sheet including archived copies can be accessed at <http://www.hfhg.hawkesbury.net.au>

Find us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/HawkesburyFHG](http://www.facebook.com/HawkesburyFHG) & Library [www.facebook.com/HawkesburyLibrary](http://www.facebook.com/HawkesburyLibrary)

### HAWKESBURY FAMILY HISTORY GROUP ~ MEETING DATES ~ 2021

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11 AUGUST	HAWKESBURY PHOTOGRAPHERS – MICHELLE NICHOLS
8 SEPTEMBER	TO BE CONFIRMED
13 OCTOBER	TO BE CONFIRMED

## MEETINGS

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, meetings are currently being held by Zoom. Our schedule for the next few months may change due to circumstances beyond our control, however we will still meet virtually via Zoom, same time each month. Booking are via Eventbrite <http://hawkesburylibrary.eventbrite.com>

## NEWS

### Hawkesbury histories transcribed in Amplify project

Hawkesbury Library Service has been selected to participate in the Amplify project to transcribe the oral history collections. Amplify <https://amplify.sl.nsw.gov.au/> is a State Library of NSW platform that delivers digitised audio collections from cultural institutions all across NSW. The sound file is paired with machine-generated transcripts that can then be corrected online by volunteers. A selection of the Library's digitised oral history collection will be temporarily placed on the platform in the coming months, along with a copy of the interview, as interpreted by a machine. Volunteers can assist by listening to the interviews and then correcting the transcription to help make the information more accessible. It is a great way for researchers, volunteers and the public to get 'hands-on' with cultural heritage and listen in depth to the stories of our community. Our interviews date from the mid-1980s to the present and cover a wide range of the community who were interested in sharing their story. Staff will attend training and interviews will appear online shortly. If you have a story to share and interested in participating in a future interview, or any questions about Amplify, contact the Local History Librarian at [history@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au](mailto:history@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au) or 4560 4466.



## CELEBRATE FAMILY HISTORY MONTH ~ AUGUST 2021

### RESEARCHING FAMILY HISTORY FROM HOME

WEDNESDAY 18 AUGUST, 2 - 3PM

Research your family history online at home using Ancestry and Find My Past databases for free.

Session via ZOOM - BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL <http://hawkesburylibrary.eventbrite.com>

### FAMILY HISTORY - SOLVING YOUR BRICKWALL

WEDNESDAY 25 AUGUST, 6 - 7PM

Are you having difficulties with your family history research? In this free session, we will look at the steps to solve your brickwalls and tips to find your missing ancestors. Submit your questions (optional) via email by 22 August 11pm to [history@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au](mailto:history@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au)

Session via ZOOM - BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL <http://hawkesburylibrary.eventbrite.com>

### STATE RECORDS PRESENT POLICE SERVICE CARDS WEBINAR

FRIDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 10.30-11AM

Police Service cards cover the years 1913-1986. They show dates of employment and promotion, where stationed, personal details such as date of birth, hair and eye colour and record of offences and special service. In this webinar we take a look at these cards that tell us so much about the people who served.

FREE Bookings essential <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8748117343404091408>

## SURFING THE INTERNET..... SITES FOR FAMILY HISTORIANS

You may be interested in checking out the following sites. Both Windsor and Richmond libraries, provide free internet access to members, and FREE wireless for your devices.

Following the river, Exploring Dyarubbin, the Hawkesbury River By Marika Duczynski  
<https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/stories/following-river>

Australian Boer War Memorial  
<http://www.bwm.org.au/>

Ryerson Index  
<https://ryersonindex.org/>

Convict Records  
<https://convictrecords.com.au/>

Online measurement convertor  
[https://www.onlineconversion.com/length\\_common.htm](https://www.onlineconversion.com/length_common.htm)



## FOLLOW ON FACEBOOK

Hawkesbury Family History group [www.facebook.com/HawkesburyFHG](http://www.facebook.com/HawkesburyFHG)

Hawkesbury Library [www.facebook.com/HawkesburyLibrary](http://www.facebook.com/HawkesburyLibrary)

*Let us know of sites, that you have tried with (or without) success*

Hawkesbury Family History Group meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month (except January) Meets in the Tebbutt Room of Hawkesbury Central Library, 300 George Street Windsor NSW 2756. Email [history@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au](mailto:history@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au) Anyone interested in family & local history, welcome to attend.  
Enquiries: Local History Librarian T: (02) 4560 4466 E: [history@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au](mailto:history@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au)

## Notes from - The history of Photography in the Hawkesbury area

By Michelle Nichols, Local History Librarian, Hawkesbury Library Service

### BRIEF HISTORY

Understand the various historic processes of photography, for instance the equipment and processing procedures. See the following for history of photography in Australia. See [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Photography\\_in\\_Australia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Photography_in_Australia) & <https://www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au/artsets/51b88k>  
Some of the photographers who operated in the Hawkesbury include:

### ROBERT HUNT 1830-1892

Some of the oldest known photographs in the Hawkesbury attributed to Robert Hunt. He was born 1830 London and arrived in Sydney 1854. He was a skilled amateur photographer & a member of the Royal Society of NSW. Took views of Grose River/Valley from Survey Expedition of 1858.

### ROBERT S. MILLINGTON 1833-1909

Robert Millington was born about 1833 and educated in Sydney, and recorded as a saddler and pharmacist. He was one of earliest photographers based in the Hawkesbury during the 1850s and 1860s. He worked as a professional photographer in Windsor from about 1856 until the 1860s, focussing on his photography and operated for about 10 years. He left Windsor, settling in Inverell. See <https://www.daa.org.au/bio/robert-s-millington/biography/>

### THOMAS CHAMPION 1800-1887

Thomas Champion, born 1800 Somerset, migrated with his family to Australia in 1842. They moved to Windsor in the late 1840s and were here by 1849. Champion was an early photographer working by 1867. He spent time in various locations throughout NSW. His journal is held by the National Library of Australia and microfilm copy held by Hawkesbury Library. Thomas died in 1887 Parramatta and he is buried at St. Matthews CofE cemetery, Windsor. More information see <http://www.rooksbridge.org.uk/history/tchampion.html>

### THOMAS BOSTON 1843-1883

Thomas was born in 1843 in Essex and migrated with family in late 1850s. By 1861 recorded as watchmaker in Newtown. Learnt the skill of photography by 1867 and worked with his brother Edmund in Newtown. By 1874 he was established in Windsor and set up his studio in George Street and resided in Macquarie Street. He was a skilled photographer and many examples survive. In 1883 a fire broke out in Boston's Buildings in George Street. Thomas died not long after the fire and was buried at Waverley Cemetery.

### WILLIAM HENRY BROADHURST 1855-1927

William was born at Maitland in 1855, and later was employed as a surveyor's assistant. Interested in photography, he established a business publishing postcards c.1900 and operated until his death. Locations he captured included Hawkesbury and Blue Mountains regions. Subjects include landscapes and buildings. He died 1927 aged 72.

### J. H. BLOOME

Bloome was the Licensee of the Royal Hotel (Macquarie Arms) in Thompson Square from 1900 and established the Royal Studios, Windsor. He left the district in 1904.

### FRANK HARVEY RODDA 1862-1933

Frank Harvey Rodda was born on a property in 1862 in Wellington. He worked in the banking industry for 30 years. He married in Windsor to Emily Tebbutt, daughter of the astronomer John Tebbutt. Rodda died at Roseville in 1933 in his 72nd year. He was an enthusiastic amateur photographer when living in the Hawkesbury and shot many beautiful scenic views around the district as well as buildings, sporting teams etc. He died in 1933.

### ALFRED & GEORGE WOODHILL

Alfred Meredith Woodhill 1835-1908 with his sons established general stores in popular NSW country towns including Richmond and Kurrajong. George was an alderman on Richmond Council. He died aged 75 in Manly in 1940. Both were keen photographers. Examples of their photographs of Tasmania, Melbourne and the Hawkesbury are held by the State Library of NSW with copies available at the Hawkesbury Library.

### ROBERT ADAM PYE 1864-1951

Robert was born about 1864 and worked as a chemist in Windsor from the 1880s. Pye also practised photography and produced a number of postcards turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. He died 1951 aged 87 and is buried Windsor Presbyterian Cemetery.

### HAROLD DERWENT BURCH 1905-1967

Harold Derwent Burch born 1905 in Maraylya. His family moved to the Peninsula and his father was foreman at the Tannery on South Creek. He established a Garage near McQuade Park and was a noted mechanic. He was a passionate photographer, during the fifties and sixties, taking many views around the district. He died in Windsor in 1967.

### STAN STEVENS 1924-2002

Stan Stevens born in Richmond in 1924. He was a journalist & photographer and spent much of his life writing and photographing the Hawkesbury community. He was a respected journalist and editor of the Hawkesbury Gazette for more than 30 years. Stan was an author of several publications and also a noted photographer. He died in 2002.

### JOHN SHARKEY

First Government Printing photographer. More information see <https://www.photo-web.com.au/sharkey/default.htm>

### CHARLES HENRY KERRY (1857-1928)

More information see <https://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/kerry-charles-henry-6940>

Abbreviated notes by Michelle Nichols