

## MEDIA RELEASE

### **SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIAN GENEALOGISTS CELEBRATES NINETIETH ANNIVERSARY OF TRACING FAMILIES TOGETHER**

**15 August 2022**

#### **Australia's oldest genealogy society provides education and training opportunities to amateur hobbyists and professional researchers**

The Society of Australian Genealogists will celebrate its ninetieth anniversary in August 2022.

Over the last nine decades, the Society has supported education and training for Australia's family historians through courses, lectures, site visits, magazines, research articles, contributions to documentaries and popular TV shows, and the largest dedicated genealogy family history research centre, library and archives in the country.

The Society's President, Ms Melissa Hulbert, said the anniversary was an opportunity to recognise the efforts of members, volunteers, staff, donors, and fellows who have contributed to the Society's enduring success. "The Society is the mainstay it is due to the passion, commitment, interest, and generosity of our community," she said.

The COVID-19 pandemic caused many of the Society's activities to move online, enabling greater training and networking opportunities for family historians across the country and internationally. Interest in connecting with family has increased in Australia since the pandemic began. Ms Hulbert anticipated the Society would continue to grow as more Australians joined the rapidly expanding past time and those working in the sector professionally.

"As family historians, we recognise the importance of the passage of time. We are excited about the coming 90 years, as technology and increased connectivity continue to transform genealogy and introduce it to new generations".

Jan Worthington, Fellow and Honorary Member of the Society, said that such research can be both challenging and rewarding. "Genealogical research is a journey in which you can discover research and story-telling skills, understand the history that shaped your ancestor's lives, solve mysteries, and even help you reflect upon your identity".

Ms Hulbert said, "For 90 years, the Society has helped ordinary Australians achieve their family history goals, as we trace our families together".

The Society will celebrate the anniversary through a series of activities including a morning tea, video competition, prizes, lectures, a special edition of the quarterly magazine *Descent*, and public webinars, details of which can be found at [www.sag.org.au/events](http://www.sag.org.au/events).

The media is welcome to attend the Society's birthday morning tea at 09.30 Monday 29 August 2022 at Glover Cottages, 120 Kent Street Millers Point. Interviews and media visits can be arranged by contacting Ruth Graham or Melissa Hulbert via the details below.

### **About the SAG**

The Society of Australian Genealogists is a community of passionate family historians - all are welcome to join as members, enthusiastic amateurs alongside professional genealogists. In 2022, the Society celebrates 90 years of tracing families together. We support our members and the public with: online events, online courses, special interest and research groups, operating Australia's largest dedicated family history library, research support, access to 60,000+ records within a manuscript and image collection, a specialist family history bookshop, and with fellowship across the Society. You can find out more at: [www.sag.org.au](http://www.sag.org.au).

### **Media contact**

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TRACING FAMILIES TOGETHER FOR  YEARS  
#SAG90

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