

## **12th Australasian Congress, Genealogy and Heraldry**

It's hard to believe that we are already into the second month of the year - it doesn't seem that long ago that we were celebrating Christmas!

Our new website has been up and running for one month and we have already had over 11,000 visitors! Have you noticed that more and more information is being added on a regular basis? News Flash is situated on the right hand side of the home page - this is a great spot to look to see what is 'new' on the website and in the genealogy world. Take some time to explore the website and you will soon become familiarized with the new format and will be able to find your way around easily.

In January I was very fortunate to represent WAGS at the 12th Australasian Congress on Genealogy and Heraldry that was held in Auckland. This was my first time at a Congress, I thoroughly enjoyed it and took every opportunity I could to meet and talk with representatives from other Societies. The presentations were great and too numerous to mention however you will find them listed in Preserving the past for the future - a very large and informative book that includes most of the papers presented at the Congress. This book has many websites mentioned and will be in our library.

After returning from New Zealand I was interviewed by Liz Pye on Curtin 100.1FM radio. We discussed the Congress and WAGS's 30th Anniversary. The next event is "Afternoon tea at East Perth Cemeteries" on 15th March. This is a great chance to meet other WAGS members socially and celebrate our 30th Anniversary. National Trust guides will take you on a tour to see the resting place of many of our early settlers and you can talk to Yvonne Coate about her research into Lonely Graves. Even if your ancestors weren't early settlers this is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the history of WA. To help with catering, please book your ticket as soon as possible! Further details are on the calendar: [Afternoon at East Perth Cemeteries](#)

On 10th February we held an Orientation Session for 35 new members. Many people stayed in the library after the session and did their own research. A special thank you to Bev Russell and Laurie Price, the presenters, and to Karen Tregenza, Mike Murray, Olive Sampson and Ray Lewis who helped during the day.

The National Archives Shake Your Family Tree Day is on 25th February - for further details have a look at: [Shake Your Family Tree](#) , you can also download the program for the day.

Until next time, good luck with your research.

Liana Fitzpatrick