

President's Report – 2 July 2019 GM

Another very full month coming up for the NFHS in July.

It's 'all-go' on the publications front with our long-awaited volume on the female convicts of Newcastle & the Hunter Valley about to be finalised. Our launch will be held at the Lovett Gallery on Tuesday, 30 July at 5.30pm in conjunction with the launch of a month-long exhibition of the convict bonnets made by our members & friends as a tribute to the women who came to our area after transportation to Australia in the first half of the 19th Century. My very special thanks to the wonderful team of Society members who are all working incredibly hard on all sorts of jobs at the moment to pull everything together.

Another team of Society members are working just as hard putting our exhibition of convict bonnets together. It's going to look amazing with all the hard work which has gone into it. The initiator of the *Roses from the Heart* Australia-wide project, Dr Christina Henri, is flying up from Hobart to be with us for a week to attend the launch & meet those who have been making the bonnets for the past 12 months. Our lovely Sharyn has volunteered to billet Christina for the week as she was very keen to stay with likeminded people rather than in an hotel.

We have recently had a very pleasant day trip to Wisemans Ferry with lots of historical interest for all those who attended. Don't forget to check out our website for the latest photos of the day. Pat is now working on our next excursion at the end of this month which will be a Newcastle Convict Walk on Friday, 26 July. Again, check our website & our Facebook Group for details. We hope to see you there.