

MICHELLE NICHOLS

About Michelle



Michelle Nichols OAM MA Grad Dip LAH Dip FHS has been employed as the Local Studies Librarian by Hawkesbury Library for over 30 years. As part of this role she has co-ordinated the Hawkesbury Family History Group since its inception in 1982 and produced its journal, *The Hawkesbury Crier*. A keen researcher and professional genealogist, she has over the years provided family history classes and presentations. She has authored a number of publications, *Disastrous Decade: Flood & Fire in Windsor*, *Hawkesbury Pictorial* and *Hawkesbury 1794-1994* and has been editor of several journals as well the *Hawkesbury Pioneer Register 1 & 2*. Michelle regularly contributes articles for publication. In 2001, Michelle received an OAM for her local history work. She is on the board of the Society of Australian Genealogists and is a member of the local Heritage Advisory Committee. She is also member of numerous historical societies. Combining her passion for photography and history, she transcribes Hawkesbury cemeteries www.hawkesbury.net.au/ with her husband, Jonathan Auld. In her spare time she updates her various social media pages and blog <http://hawkesburyheritage.blogspot.com.au/>

Her topic

[Discovering the hidden riches in public libraries: Fostering family history in Local Studies Collections Intermediate](#)

Countless people the world over are in the process of exploring their family history. Not only is research undertaken on specific individuals and also families but also on the localities and communities these people belonged to. There is little doubt in the 21st century, our public library resources are underrated by family historians but there is much to be appreciated.