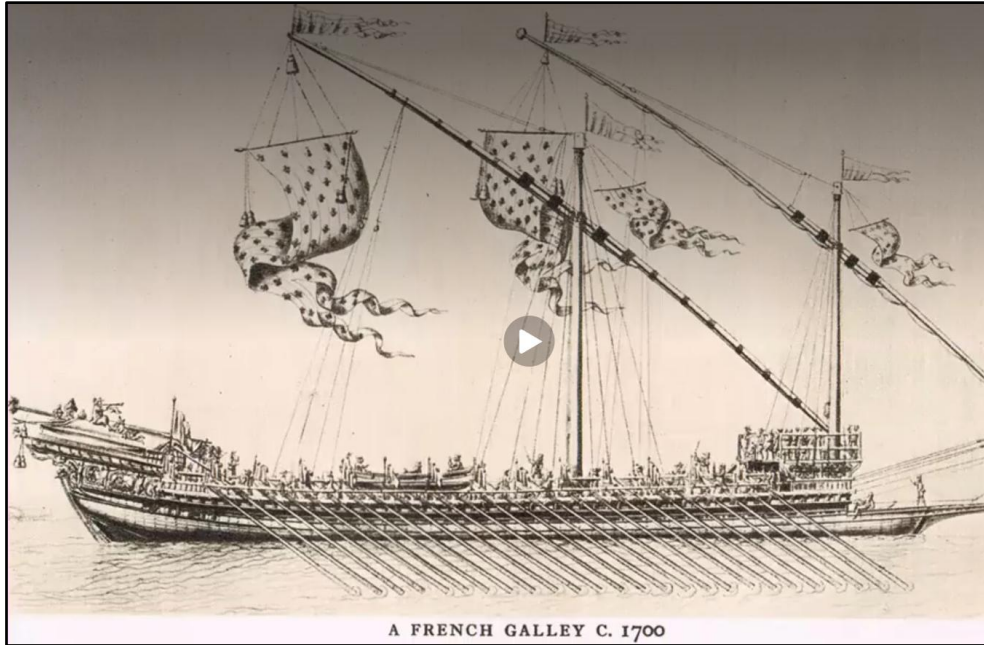


“Galley Slaves” a Harrowing Tale

Our most recent presentation (16 May 2026) *The Galley Slaves: Martyrs for Their Faith*, researched and presented by Robert Nash, was a thoroughly entertaining and informative event, if somewhat unpleasant in its subject matter. It reminded us how much some of our Huguenot ancestors suffered. For HSA members, the videorecording of the presentation is now in the Members Only section of this website.



AGM Sees Changes

The Society’s Annual General Meeting was held on 16 May following the above presentation. Following the “retirement” of our outstanding and long-serving President Dr Marcia Cameron, Pamela Summers has stepped up to take on this role. Pamela has been a very valuable member of the Committee for several years now. Marcia remains on the Committee. Additionally, two very valuable Committee members, Judith Staveley (a foundation member) and Sarah Staveley have also retired. Their places have been taken by Cathie Bartholomew (returning to the Committee) and Richard Bédard.

HSA Support for Refugee Education

On Sunday 14 June Robert Nash and Neil Renaud represented our Society at the SSI Allianz Refugee Scholarship awards ceremony. We are an associate sponsor of these scholarships via an annual donation. The ceremony was held as part of the SSI Spirit of Welcome Community Festival at the Community Refugee Welcome Centre, Lilyfield. There were 36 scholarship recipients across three states. Robert spoke eloquently on our behalf during the ceremony.

The SSI Allianz Refugee Scholarship Program provides one-off annual scholarships to students with refugee/asylum seeker backgrounds, who are preparing to undertake study or have existing skills recognised in NSW, Queensland and Victoria.



Our 2026 Program

NSW CHAPTER PROGRAM FOR 2026



Meetings take place at Gordon Baptist Church – Garden Square annex, Garden Square/Park Avenue, Gordon, commencing at 2.00pm (*venue to be confirmed for the last meeting of 2026*). All welcome. Free for members (visitors \$10).

Note: Members are able to attend any Chapter meeting in any state. For 2026 meetings of the Victorian and Queensland Chapters, see "Activities 2026" <https://huguenotsaustralia.org.au/our-society/activities/>

Saturday 14 February 2026	'REVEALING THE HUGUENOTS' Speaker: Neil Renaud Held
Friday 10 April 2026	EDICT OF NANTES LUNCH (12.00 noon) La Bouitte French Bistro, 197 High Street, North Willoughby Held
Saturday 16 May 2026	AGM and 'THE GALLEY SLAVES: MARTYRS FOR THEIR FAITH' Speaker: Robert Nash Held
Sunday 28 June 2026	HUGUENOT HERITAGE CHURCH SERVICE, St Swithun's Anglican Church, Pymble, at 2.00pm
Saturday 15 August 2026	'DRÔME: A HUGUENOT CONTEXT' Speaker: Judith Staveley
Thursday 10 September 2026	SPRING PICNIC Venue to be confirmed
Saturday 14 November 2026	'LOUIS XIV OF FRANCE' Speaker: Dr Matthew Glozier

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BENEFITS OF HSA MEMBERSHIP

(as of 11 November 2025)

- Free entry to all meetings/presentations (including those of state chapters), including afternoon tea
- Receipt via email of a link to view any live online access provided for meetings/presentations
- Receipt of the Society's biannual newsletter *Huguenot Times* via email or post
- Access, via password, to the "members only" area of the website, containing research resources and recordings of past presentations
- Free research assistance and access to the Society's library (by arrangement), for historical/genealogical research relating to Huguenots
- Receipt via email of the Royal Australian Historical Society's *eNewsletter*
- Receipt via email of notifications (e.g. flyers) of upcoming events
- Invitations to social occasions such as lunches and picnics
- Entitlement to vote at general meetings, including the annual general meeting
- Entitlement to stand for election to, and be a member of, the Society's committee
- Opportunity to contribute to the Society's annual fundraising, supporting the SSI refugee educational scholarship program.