

# The Australian Society of Mayflower Descendants Inc.

\*\*\**Dispatches from Downunder*\*\*\*

September 2024 edition

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## Governor's Message – Bill Elliott -

At the recent General Board of Assistants Meeting (5-8 September 2024 in Asheville, North Carolina), the following GSMD Member Society Commendation Award was announced.

## Recognising David Joseph Magee



The Australian Society of Mayflower Descendants Inc. (AUSMD) seeks to nominate our Treasurer, David Magee, for a GSMD Member Society Commendation Award to recognise his work in both transforming our financial systems and guiding the adoption of *Microsoft 365* throughout our Society.

As a small Society, all costs need to be examined carefully, and David promoted our adoption of the *Microsoft 365* provided free for not-for-profit corporations like AUSMD, for both improving our communication and centralising our data collection and storage. We now hold all meetings on Microsoft Teams and have been provided with 25 licences for the *Microsoft 365* suite of programs incorporating cloud storage which can be used by all BOA members and those active on our various committees. David has guided this technology adoption and become our unofficial IT guru.

As the Australian Society needs to operate both in Australian dollars and US dollars, the Treasurer's role and our banking procedures are rather more complex than might be the case for societies operating in a single currency. David has led the adoption of *QuickBooks* by AUSMD to cover these functions, as we need to maintain accounts in both currencies.

David has also been very effective in assisting and writing clear instructions for people needing to deposit into our accounts in alternate currencies, as well as providing helpful instruction for those joining in our *Microsoft 365* links.

The resourcefulness that David Magee has shown in the implementation of operating systems and processes, has brought rigour and clarity to our administration as we move forward as a new Mayflower Society.



Photo taken at the General Board of Assistants Meeting (5-8 September 2024 in Asheville, North Carolina)

Nancy Soule (Chairman of the Awards Committee), Lee Woody (Governor of Virginia Mayflower Society) and Jane Schleinzer (Member at Large, AUSMD DGG) who accepted the award on David's behalf.

In the back row at the management table are Chris Schlosser (Member at Large), Collier Weise (Captain General) both are members of AUSMD, Jim Wheaton (Councillor General) and Bart Henson (Treasurer General).

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## Governor's Message – Bill Elliott

### A Major Milestone for AUSMD in August 2024

As the newest Mayflower Society and the first in the southern hemisphere, the Australian Society of Mayflower Descendants Inc (AUSMD) reached an important milestone with the admission as a full member of our previously junior member Matilda Lea. Matilda is a George Soule descendant and perhaps even more importantly for those of us in Australia, she is the granddaughter of Orel Lea, one of our most enthusiastic Charter Members who sadly passed away in May 2023.

For any Mayflower Society it is important to nurture our junior members (we have 7 AUSMD Junior members) and encourage them to be the future of our society. Thus, it is important for us to encourage parents and grandparents to sign up their offspring as juniors, so they can become aware of the Mayflower story, particularly as in Australia, where unlike the USA, 1620 and the Mayflower are not celebrated in our education systems.

We are very proud of Matilda's contribution to the society as a junior and look forward to her taking an active role in the work of AUSMD in the future.

Welcome Matilda Lea and congratulations !!

*Editors note: Did you happen to read Matilda's letter on our website -*

*<https://www.mayflowersociety.org.au/post/our-first-junior-member-earns-mayflower-descendant-status>*

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## The final arrangements for AUSMD Annual AGM

It will be held on 12 October 2024 in

*The Courtyard Room,*

at the [Customs House Hotel](#), 161 Nelson Place,  
Williamstown, Victoria.

**Brian Haynes (Local Historian) will be our Guest  
speaker during lunch**

**Cost for AGM including morning tea and 2  
course**

**Gourmet lunch is \$85.00.**

Menu will be provided at a later date.

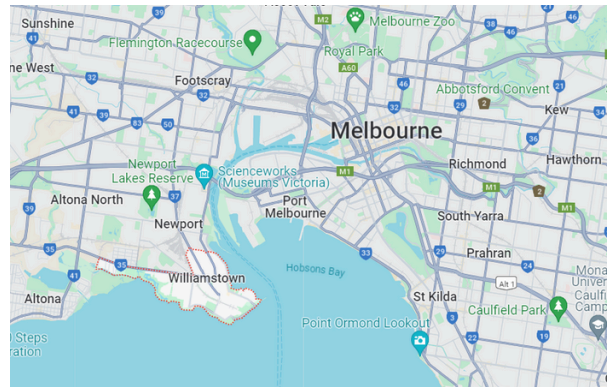
Additional activities (currently being planned) for  
Friday and Sunday till lunchtime (additional cost),  
may include:

- tour of [The National Gallery of Victoria](#)
- walk around historical Williamstown
- Ferry ride back to Melbourne Southbank  
Promenade
  - Casual Dinner at Southbank
  - Casual Dinner in Williamstown

Please contact [secretary@mayflowersociety.org.au](mailto:secretary@mayflowersociety.org.au)

**Booking form - [click here](#)**

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## **New Monthly Activities for AUSMD Members -Pilgrim 101 and Cousins Coffee**

We have some new initiatives to help keep AUSMD members in touch and also help us all to learn more about our Pilgrim ancestors and their lives.

Many of you attended the first Pilgrim 101 talk presented live by our Member at Large, Beth Lambright on 17 August, entitled Saints, Strangers, and Sources: How Do We Know What We Know. The next Pilgrim 101 session will be held online at 10 AM on Saturday 19 October, and will be entitled Kings, Cardinals and Churches: Reformation in the Countryside, and will be presented by Bruce Harrington immediate past Mayflower Governor of Washington state. It will be held a week after our AGM in Williamstown in Victoria and will be a great follow-on for those who have had a chance to meet each other at our AGM and the surrounding social weekend. We hope to have a lot of members attending the AGM on Saturday 12 October and some of the associated activities, between Friday 11 October and Sunday 13 October.

This Pilgrim 101 series was devised jointly by the Pacific Northwest Mayflower societies, Oregon and Washington state, and delivered by Beth and Bruce to their members last year. It was very well received there, and they began thinking about recording the sessions so that they could be offered to members of other Mayflower societies. Australia has been the first to take up this opportunity, to learn a little bit more of our forebears. We are hoping shortly that the first part of the series will be able to be accessed by members on our website. Included in the information was a valuable listing of links to Mayflower records, including suggestions for those who wanted to read further.

Starting on Saturday 14 September at 10 AM we will be holding the first of our Cousins Coffee mornings. This is to allow Mayflower members whether in Australia or located overseas to get together to learn about each other and also to have some discussion on issues associated with their Mayflower Heritage. I am hoping that very many of you will be able to attend on 14 September to meet your cousins!

The Cousins Coffee will be held every second month alternating with Pilgrim 101, and the second Cousins Coffee will be held on Saturday 9 November at 10 AM Brisbane time. I am looking forward to seeing you online for Pilgrim 101 and for the Cousins Coffee events !

**Bill Elliott - Governor and DGG**

**The Australian Society of Mayflower Descendants Inc.**





The Australian Society of Mayflower Descendants, Inc.

**COUSIN'S COFFEE ONLINE  
THIS WEEKEND!**

Join us for friendship and conversation:

September Topic:

"Who are you, meet and greet and how did you discover  
your connections to your Mayflower Ancestors:

**WHEN: Saturday, 14th September 2024**

TIME: 10:00 AM (Brisbane, Australia)  
Friday 5:00 PM (West Coast, USA - 17 hours behind)  
Friday 7:00 PM (Mid West, USA - 15 hours behind)  
Friday 8:00 PM (East Coast, USA - 14 hours behind)



Hope to See you There!!



Meeting Online  
via TEAMS  
(log in details  
located in the email)

Our Next Pilgrim 101 will be held on Saturday 19th October 2024  
Our Next Cousins Coffee will be held on Saturday 9th November 2024



## **MEMBERSHIP INTERACTIVE CHALLENGE**

Things you can do to become an active Member of the Australian Society.

Each Quarter we will challenge you with 5 checklists of things you can do to become an active member.

When you tick the page with all five items send it to us so we can add you to the Membership Challenge Leaderboard.



1. Write an article or blog for the Newsletter, Website or Mayflower Quarterly. Submit articles big or small.



2. Join our Facebook page: Australian Society of Mayflower Descendants. Submit photos; make comments; like our posts.



3. Submit a profile to be included in our Newsletter.

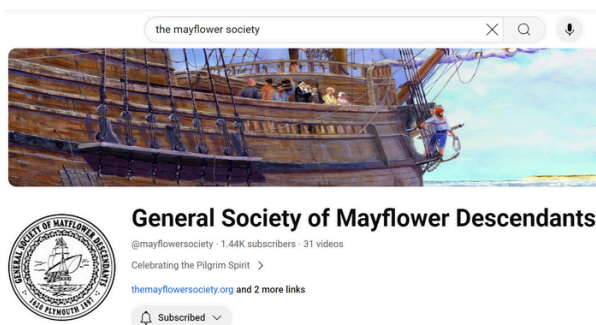


4. Tell us about any historical sites in your area that have connections to USA/Mayflower.



5. Read a book about the Mayflower and write a book review.

Contact Connie Lynn Riley, Secretary and Publicity Chair for forms, submissions or questions - [publicity@mayflowersociety.org.au](mailto:publicity@mayflowersociety.org.au)



**Did you know the General Society of Mayflower Descendants have a YouTube channel?**

You can locate it via -

<https://www.youtube.com/@mayflowersociety>

You will find many interesting videos including some recipes where you can recreate the food of the Pilgrims.

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If you would like to share your Member Profile please complete the template, located in the link below, and forward to [secretary@mayflowersociety.org.au](mailto:secretary@mayflowersociety.org.au)

## Member Profile template link

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### Juniors membership news

Don't forget to check out all the resources on our [AUSMD website](#)  
or through the [General Society of Mayflower Descendants](#)

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### Members celebrations this quarter

#### Birthdays

Christine Schlosser - 19th July

Cary Stone-Greenstein - 24th July

Jeanette Wells - 26th July

Steve Arnold - 6th August

Jessica Schleinzer - 12th August

Graham Andrews - 14th August

Colin Harrison - 15th August

Greg Geoghegan - 23rd August

Marti Bobertz - 28th August

Christina Cannes - 2nd September

Bill Tooley - 5th September

Keenan Granger - 8th September

Richard Shaw - 11th September

Andrew Wells - 13th September

Victoria Newman - 19th September

Philip Keeslar - 21st September







**Anniversaries**

Bill and Chris Elliott  
 Keenan and Jesska Granger  
 Philip and Somwang Keeslar  
 James and Yoko Bottlinger  
 Jeanette and Andrew Wells  
 congratulations to all!



**Quarterly Membership  
 Overview  
 as at  
 September 2024**

<b>Total Membership</b>	<b>61</b>		
Regular Members:	56	Australian Residents	35
Associate Members:	15	USA Residents:	18
Junior Members:	7	Overseas Residents:	3

<b>Members by Family Groups</b>			
Isaac Allerton	1	John Howland	12
John Billington	2	William White	2
William Bradford	4	Priscilla Mullins	1
Willilam Brewster	2	Richard Warren	9
Stephen Hopkins	3	Thomas Rogers	2
James Chilton	3	Myles Standish	1
John Alden	1	George Soule	10
Edward Fuller	3		

<b>Welcome to New Members for 3<sup>th</sup> quarter 2024</b>		
AU73	Christina Cannes	July 2024
AU74	Matilda Lea	August 2024
AU75	Quentin Lea	August 2024





The Australian Society of Mayflower  
Descendants, Inc.

[governor@mayflowersociety.org.au](mailto:governor@mayflowersociety.org.au)

<https://www.mayflowersociety.org.au>

Proudly Affiliated with:

- Federation of Australian Historical Societies - <https://www.history.org.au/>
- History Queensland - <https://www.historyqueensland.org.au/>
- The Royal Historical Society of Queensland - <https://www.queenslandhistory.org/>

please check out their websites for information and news on upcoming events.

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