



Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc.

Newsletter

DATE 10th August, 2018

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WELCOME to everyone at today's meeting.

Last month's guest speaker was Chesne Jones and her talk was about the commencement of the Girl Guides in the Blue Mountains. Those members present found it very interesting and Chesne's talk generated quite a lot of discussion.

Guest Speaker today: Today Bill Olive will be talking about the Blue Coat School - London (Christ's Hospital) and the Royal Philanthropic Society and its connection with Australia.

Next meeting: The next meeting of the Family History Society will be held on **Friday, 14th September 2018 at 10am** in our usual meeting place, the small hall behind the Presbyterian Church.

September Guest Speaker: Our member Jenni Hall has offered to be the guest speaker at this meeting. Jenni and her husband lived in Hong Kong for many years and over that time she saw the way traditional Chinese funerals were performed – this is the basis of her talk. Jenni's talk was inspired by an email that Colin sent out some time ago this gave her the idea that our members may find the topic interesting.

Committee Meeting: As there was nothing that needed discussing at a July committee meeting, this meeting was cancelled.

Raffle: There will be a raffle today of a brown teapot and infuser together with 2 Wedgewood dishes. Tickets are \$1.00.

Trade table - A reminder to bring along any unwanted items.

What's On:

NSW ACT Association of Family History Societies Annual Conference – 16th September 2018, Batemans Bay Soldiers Club "Sailing into History". Cost: Full Conference \$150. Registrations close 10th August. See website for full details and registration form – www.sailingintohistory.org.au

Glenbrook & District Historical Society. Walk – **Sept. 1st at 9am** – **Eastern Zig Zag Railway 1867** and the first improvement. The Lapstone Hill Tunnel route 1892.

Sept 29th at 9am – Glenbrook Heritage Walk. Historic sites, houses and West Portal of Lapstone Hill Tunnel 1892. (This is the last walk of the year.)

Bookings essential: Phone Doug on 4751 3275.

Cost: \$10 accompanied children under 16 years, free.

Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum – Open day **Sunday, 12th August, 2018** and **Sunday 26th August 2018.**

Blue Mountains Botanic Garden Mt Tomah: Saturday 11th August to 14th October – **Exhibition:** The Margaret Flockton Awards. A scientific botanical exhibition.

Saturday 18th August – Gondwana Garden Family Day.

Sydney Mechanics School of Arts, 1st Floor, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney

Wed. 29th August 2018 12.30-1.30pm. Free talk by Rick Searle on **Charles Ulm**, Australian Aviation Pioneer. All welcome. No Booking required.

Old Occupations: Here are a few old occupations which members have put forward:

Puddler: Vaughan Graham's great great grandfather was a puddler circa 1880. Puddling was the improved process to convert pig iron into wrought iron with the use of a reverberatory furnace.

Chandler: A candle seller, grocer, provisioner usually associated with small wares. Thank you Anne Devrell.

Ships Chandler: Usually associated with ship provisions.

Wanted old occupations contact Pauline p_gibson@ozemail.com.au.

A Genealogy Blog:

The article below was emailed to me by our Treasurer, Ian, from a blog he follows. Ian thought it may be of interest to our members:

"I was trolling through the internet and found this darling blog. The writer, Linda Elliot blogs about genealogy and has put together this list of: 10 Top Tips to Avoid Common Genealogy Mistakes. With the amount of Emails I receive asking questions about family trees I thought it was perfect to include in this month's newsletter. Here is the link to the site.

www.madaboutgenealogy.com

So here is the list of 10 things not to do:

1. **Not citing where the information came from.**
2. **Fishing for your genealogy with a very narrow net.**
3. **Be aware that many women died in childbirth.**
4. **Finding a famous person in history with the same surname and deciding you must be related.**
5. **Assume your ancestors knew how to spell.**
6. **Believing online family trees.**
7. **Not backing up your genealogy regularly.**
8. **Think you will never find someone.**
9. **Don't share your genealogy with family.**
10. **Don't think that DNA is a waste of money.**

I think we have all fallen into one of these mistakes at least one time or another. The goal is to learn from the mistake, build a bridge, get over it and not to be so fixated on the one thing we think we are certain of which ends."

Interested in Blogs, Ian would be the person to talk to.

Interesting Snippets: The "Holey Dollar"

"One of the 'finest known' examples of Australia's earliest coins was expected to fetch more than \$300,000 when it goes up for auction at the State Library of NSW for 3 nights from July 31st-August 3rd.

The extremely rare "holey dollar", one of only 300 still in existence has been in the same family since 1959 and was purchased for around 70stg or around \$2100 today.

The holey dollars valued at five shillings were created by stamping the centres out of 40,000 imported Spanish silver eight-real coins, known as "pieces of eight". The middle or "dump" became a secondary coin worth 15 pence.

The exterior ring of the coin bears the original Spanish stamp dated 1788 – coinciding with the First Fleet – while the inner ring is stamped "five shillings" on one side and "New South Wales 1813" on the other.

They were created by convict William Henshaw under the orders of Governor Lachlan Macquarie to ensure a reliable supply of money for the fast-growing colony. They remained in use until 1829.

To prevent the coins being taken out of the colony when ships were paid for supplies, their value was inflated. The technique of cutting and counter-marketing Spanish silver coins was already used by a number of Scottish Governors in the West Indies.

Convict Applications to Marry – some reasons for Refusals.

Our President, Yvonne, is a volunteer at the State Archives, Kingswood while going through the above Applications she has come across these refusals to marry:

*This man, on arrival, stated that he was married with 12 children.

*The woman, who was born in the colony, is a minor and appears to be only 13 years of age.

*No such person ever arrived on the "Burrell" in 1832.

*On arrival the woman stated that she was married and had two children. The letter attesting to the death of her husband appears to be a forgery.

*The application must be accompanied by the agreement of the assignee to keep both parties in his employ, before permission can be granted.

*The woman being in the Factory, permission of the visiting Magistrate must be obtained.

Websites: Free Genealogy Websites: www.myancestors.com.au;

Family Search https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Australia_Genealogy;

Australian Government <https://www.australia.gov.au/information-and-services/culture-and-arts/family-history>;

<https://www.gouldgenealogy.com/2011/02/12-must-visit-free-websites-for-researching-australian-genealogy/>



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