



Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc.

Newsletter

DATE 12th February, 2016

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Pauline Gibson

WELCOME back to all our members for the first meeting of the Society 2016. Hoping you all had an enjoyable Christmas/New Year break and are looking forward to another interesting, educational and informative year with the Society and enjoy the company and support of fellow family historians as we all progress in our search for those elusive lost ancestors.

Workshop/Guest Speaker: There will be NO guest speaker for our first meeting of the year. Instead, please bring along to the meeting a **PHOTO** from **YOUR schooldays**, think back to your time at school, and write something down, an anecdote or memory. We will then discuss these in small groups, writing down some recollections that can be used as snippets in future editions of *Explorers' Tree*.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc. will be held on **Friday, 11th March 2016** and will be held in the Presbyterian Church Hall, Macquarie Road Springwood, commencing at 10:00am. Morning tea (gold coin donation) will, as usual, be before our guest speaker.

March Guest Speaker: Our speaker for the March meeting is yet to be organized and will be announced in the March Newsletter.

Items of Interest to Members: The Committee met on 22nd February 2016 and the following items were discussed:

Raffle: The winner of the Christmas raffle was **Yvonne Wright**. It was decided that details of the winner would be shown on the first page of our website. The Society made \$101 from the sale of raffle tickets. Once again "Thank you Carolyn Kendall" for your kind donation of the framed needlework and "Thank you" to all those members who supported the raffle.

Christmas Party: What an enjoyable time was had by those members who attended our Christmas party on the 11th December last year. The feedback from members commenting on the excellent venue; good food; beautiful meal, whilst catering for those who had special dietary needs; plenty of parking, and also close to the Railway Station was pleasing.

Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc. Committee: At the AGM one place on the Committee remained vacant but the Committee was very pleased to receive an offer from Anne Devrell and that offer was confirmed at the Committee meeting. So welcome to Anne onto the Committee and look forward to working with her in that capacity.

Research & Other Requests: **Doreen Hodges** has request assistance in finding her cousin who resides/resided in the Mountains. Committee members' suggestions were forwarded to her. Other assistance always welcome.

Treasurer's Reports for November 2015 & December 2015 were received and adopted. At the 31st December 2015 the Society had \$9,090.11 invested with the Commonwealth Bank and ING. There was \$180 in un-presented cheques outstanding.

The Explorers' Tree: The first issue of our magazine for 2016 is about to be delivered to the printer and will be available at our March meeting. It will be our **100th Edition**. Rhonda Flowers, our editor, would like to thank all those members who contributed articles but also hopes that members will start thinking about articles for the June and October issues. Articles, short or long, reminiscences, biographies, historical events our ancestors lived through, places our forebears lived etc, all are worthy.

Saturday 14th May 2016: High Tea & Writing Event. Please keep this date free. Yvonne Wright has some wonderful plans for a significant event enthusiastically endorsed by the Committee. Something to look forward!

Cookbook: The Committee are seeking interest in the possibility of printing a cookbook of our ancestors' recipes. Ian's grandmother's "specials" immediately come to mind. Your ideas please!

Member's fees reminder: Membership fees are now due. Fees for single membership - \$30.00; \$40.00 per couple plus \$7.50 for postage of Explorers' Tree if required. March 31 is the final date and members become unfinancial from April 1. Caroline Spratt has taken over as Membership Secretary. Many thanks to Ann Raaphorst for her dedication in the past few years.

Suggestion Box: A reminder that as in previous years the Society has a suggestion box, available at our monthly meetings, for members to put forward any ideas or suggestions they might have as to how the Society can be improved. Ideas/suggestions for Speakers are **VERY** welcome.

Fellowship of First Fleeters: will be meeting in the Presbyterian Hall, Springwood on Saturday 12th March. They are interested in a guided historical tour of Springwood and in our Research Centre at Springwood Library. Terry Flowers has further information.

Public Officer: our long-standing, but ever dedicated Public Officer, Joan Edwards attended the last Committee meeting and spoke to members about roles and responsibilities and recent changes made by the Office of Fair Trading for Incorporated Bodies, BMFHS is an incorporated body and reports annually to the Office.

The Griffith Genealogical & Historical Society is publishing a pictorial book to celebrate the city's centenary. 'Centenary of the Griffith District 1916 to 2016'. \$35.00 + \$13.40 postage. PO Box 2703, Griffith NSW 2680.

Springwood Library: Mountains of Stories. Sat 5th March, 10:00am to 3:00pm, Bookings essential, \$25. Creative Writing Workshop series, first of 6 sessions.

What's On:

***Central Coast Family History Society: Seminar 5th March 2016** – Lions Community Hall, 8 Russell Drysdale St, East Gosford. Amanda Ianna, Registrar, NSW Births, Deaths & Marriages (to be seen in the ABC program to be aired on 11th Feb at 8pm "Hatch, Match, Despatch", will be one of the speakers.

Registration forms can be found at

https://gallery.mailchimp.com/46037a108f8bbb3b07a102975/files/Seminar_2016_01.pdf

***Kiama Family History Centre: Family, Local & Social History Expo – Sat 16th April 2016.** Speakers include: Ray Thorburn, Gail Davis, Carole Riley & Allan Murrin. 9:30am to 4:00pm, Kiama Pavilion, Bong Bong Street, Kiama, FREE. More details 02 4233 1122. Many popular exhibitors and display tables available.

***Society of Australian Genealogists** – ph. 9247 3953: Fri 19th Feb (10:00am-1:00pm) *Hands on @379 – County of Cambridgeshire*. Bookings \$15 non-members. Thurs 25th Feb (10:00am-3:00pm) *Getting Started with Family History*. Bookings essential \$70 non-members. Sat 27th Feb (1:30pm-3:30pm) *Convict Transportation and Research*. Bookings essential \$35 non-members.

***Huguenot Society of Australia Inc.** in association with the Royal Australian Historical Society, have published a new book – *A New Tapestry: Australian Huguenot Families* - \$40. A collection of 30 Australian families of Huguenot origin written or co-written by a family member, edited by Robert Nash, soft cover, 23cm 409 pages, available from the Society of Australian Genealogists.

***Blue Mountains Historical Society Inc.:** Sat 5th March (10:30am) Annual McLaughlin Lecture – David Stratton: *The History of Australian Cinema*. Entry FREE. Wentworth Falls School of Arts, W'worth Falls.

***Hawkesbury Family History Group, Windsor NSW:** Wed 9th March (10:00am) John Cann – *All about Court & Gaol records from State Records*. Tebbutt Room at Hawkesbury Central Library, Deerubbin Centre 300 George St, Windsor. All welcome to attend. FREE. Wed 13th April (10:00am) Babette Smith – *Penal Conditions & the making of the Australian Working Class*. Tebbutt Room at Hawkesbury Central Library, Deerubbin Centre 300 George St, Windsor. All welcome to attend. FREE.

***Royal Australian Historical Society:** RAHS Evening Event – Wed 17th Feb (5:30pm-7:30pm) *History is Hot*: University of NSW postgraduate students present their research. History House, 133 Macquarie St Sydney. FREE.

Some interesting blogs to follow:

Olive Tree Genealogy: <http://olivetreegenealogy.blogspot.com.au/> | Dear Myrtle: <http://blog.dearmyrtle.com/>

Genealogy Bank: <http://blog.genealogybank.com/> | The Genealogy Blog: <http://www.genealogyblog.com/>

Diary of an Australian Genealogist: <http://diaryofanaustraliangenealogist.blogspot.com.au/>

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