



Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc

Newsletter

DATE 11 July 2014

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WELCOME members to the Society's sixth meeting of 2014.

JULY Meeting: The July meeting will be held on Friday, 11 July 2014 at the Presbyterian Hall, Macquarie Road, Springwood at 10:00 am. The guest speaker will be **Ian Palmer, President, "Fellowship of First Fleeters"**.

The Fellowship is an organisation comprised of descendants of those who arrived in Sydney Cove with the First Fleet on 26 January 1788.

Ian Palmer is currently the national President of the Fellowship having previously served as its Vice-President for a number of years. Ian is descended from two First Fleeters; John Palmer, who was the purser on HMS *Sirius* and later the Colony's First Principal Commissary, and, Richard Morgan, a convict transported on the *Alexander*. His wife, Robin also is actively involved in the affairs of the Fellowship and is directly descended from two First Fleeters herself, William Eggleton and Mary Dickenson.

Recently, Ian Palmer spoke at the unveiling of a statue and painting commemorating Governor Arthur Phillip's contact with the local Wallumedegal people on February 15, 1788 at what is now Looking Glass Bay. Then State Governor, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir performed the official unveiling.

The Fellowship was formed in 1968 and since then over 8000 descendants have established their lineage and joined the Fellowship. Links have so far been established in 136 families to no fewer than 191 individual First Fleet Ancestors. There are currently over 1770 active members.

Membership is open to anyone who can prove his or her relationship to a First Fleeter – convict, marine, seaman or Government Official. Associate and Friend membership is also welcomed.

The Fellowship has its headquarters in "First Fleet House" at 105 Cathedral Street, Woolloomooloo, an historic section of Sydney, and has established a series of Chapters covering Sydney suburbs, regional NSW, Victoria, the ACT, Queensland and Western Australia.

ITEMS of Interest to Members: The Committee last met on Friday, 25 June. Items under discussion were:

- Bi-Annual Seminar – Saturday 9 May 2015, Springwood Presbyterian Hall. "Heritage" theme – wear a kilt or French beret
- Number Plates Booklet has been reprinted due to car-club demand
- Cake and Book Stall – 21 November 2014
- Christmas Luncheon – Friday 12 December 2014, Grand View Hotel Wentworth Falls (easy walk from the railway station).

MENTORING: Seeking Help for a Difficult Ancestor or Brickwall?

Check our Mentoring Book for a list of those who may be able to assist you with your difficulty. The Book is available at each meeting. Also our research Volunteers at Springwood Library may also be able to assist.

- Springwood: Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00am – 1:00pm.
- Katoomba: 2nd & 4th Tuesdays 10:00am – 12:00noon.

Don't forget our **Suggestion Box**. Keep those suggestions coming in!

NEWS:

*** Springwood Library will be temporarily closed.**

Monday 4th August until Sunday 7th September 2014.
This is to allow the link from the Library to the new Cultural Facility to be built.

During this time the After Hours Book Bin will remain open for items to be returned (make sure you wrap any CDs carefully so they don't become damaged). Other branches can be called to renew items over the phone. Perhaps you might like to take the opportunity to visit one of our other library branches during this time. Blaxland Library 4739 4284, Lawson Library 4759 1446, Wentworth Falls Library 4757 2095, Katoomba Library 4780 5750, Blackheath Library 4787 8893.

Also of course, our research centre will be closed and volunteers will have a month off.

*** NSW Registry of Births Deaths and Marriages – LifeLink** is now up and running with a few hiccoughs. This new web application for searching NSW BDM records: 1. Executes from a single search screen; 2. Has a cleaner layout (although only 10 records at a time can be viewed); 3. Refreshes for events daily (you don't have to wait for a full 12 months to see newly released items); and, 4. Ordering of certificates, including PDF certificates, has been made easier (but **not** less expensive).

*** Guest Speakers – Upcoming speakers are:**

8 August: David Carment (Woodford Academy)

12 September: Ian Kendall (DNA & Family History)

*** Fairfax News Store** - Downloads from the Fairfax News Store are now free. This is an excellent resource for tracking down recent BDM notices mentioned in the Ryerson Index, and other recent articles. Coverage is from 1990s to the present day.
<http://newsstore.fairfax.com.au/apps/newsSearch.ac>

*** 1827 Liverpool (UK) Ships' Musters** © J. Fawcett

The 1827 Musters are not a record of every ship in and out of the English port of Liverpool. They are a record of ships and their crews for whom musters were lodged at the port of Liverpool in 1827. To understand why this collection of records was created, see [Liverpool Ships Musters 1772 – 1850](#). Lists for January to August 1827 are now available, see: <http://j.fawcettblog.com>.

*** From our Suggestion Box – FIND A GRAVE**

<http://www.findagrave.com>. This website is owned by Ancestry.com but operates totally separately from it. At this site you can, as its name says, find a grave. But more, this site enables you to submit rich content including pictures, biographies and more as well as search.

WHAT'S ON:

*BMACHO CALENDAR

Saturday 12 July: Glenbrook & District Historical Society Walk: Dunn's Sawmill site – earth dam, Brookside Creek, Lennox Bridge and stone quarry

Doug Knowles: 4751 3275 Tim Miers: 4739 2384

Sunday 13 July: Open day Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum - atmuseum@optusnet.com.au

Friday 18 July: Springwood Historical Society Meeting
richardmorony@optusnet.com.au

Sunday 27 July: Open day Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum - atmuseum@optusnet.com.au

***The Hawkesbury Family History Group** a support and information group for family historians co-ordinated by the Hawkesbury Library Service. Meetings are held every 2nd Wednesday of the month (except January) commencing at 10:00am in the **Tebbutt Room** at **Hawkesbury Central Library, Deerubbin Centre 300 George Street, Windsor. 13 August 2014:** Dr Perry McIntyre, Single female emigration in the 1830s & 1840s

*** Society of Australian Genealogists (SAG) - Serving In The Force:** Tracing Your NSW Police Ancestors - Janette Pelosi, State Records, will examine the history of the NSW Police Force and the colonial police forces. She will introduce records held by State Records, including those in the Archives Resources Kit, and discuss how to search these. Other organisations and police records they hold will also be covered. **Saturday 26 July 10.30am – 12.30pm**
120 Kent Street \$20/\$30 – Phone 02 9247 3953

Manorial Records - Jeremy Palmer Manorial records are an often, untapped source for ancestry in England and Wales, yet they offer a surprising amount of information about our ancestors. The seminar will discuss the history of the manorial system, local manorial officials, records that were generated by the manor & how these can be accessed and utilized by family historians. **Sat 16 Aug - 10.30am - 12.30pm -120 Kent St - \$20/\$3030 – Phone 02 9247 3953**

*** Port Stephens Family History Society** - Presents a Seminar with Graphologist, Meryl Bolin, "Reading Between the Lines". How do you write your signature? Are there lots of curls and flourishes? Do you always cross your t's and dot your i's? According to graphologists, how you write says a lot about who you are. Deciphering your special character from a sample of handwriting is a definitive science, like a fingerprint, it is unique. Meryl has practiced the science of graphology for over 50 years.
2nd August 2014 10.30am — 2pm Club Lemon Tree [Bowling Club] Ph: 4982 3587 or 4982 4115

WEBSITES: Some interesting websites you may find interesting and/or helpful:

*Jamaican Family Search <http://www.jamaicanfamilysearch.com/> * Cyndi's List <http://www.cyndislist.com/> (331,833 links)

* Irish Probate Calendars (1858 – 1982) <http://www.willcalendars.nationalarchives.ie/search/cwa/home.jsp>

* Biographical Database of Australia – <http://www.bda-online.org.au> (costs \$25 for a year's subscription) * Australian

Cemeteries – <http://austcemindex.com/> * Oral Histories – <http://www.sydneyoralhistories.com.au> * Australian Women's Register

– <http://www.womenaustralia.info> * The Benevolent Society Asylum – <http://www.sydneybenevolentasylum.com>

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