



Newsletter

DATE: July, 2020

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Tanya Kirk

Well another month has rolled passed in the extraordinary year. I journaled my thoughts to include in my family's history and I hope you have managed to do something productive and creative with this time as well.

The committee has decided that it is time to conduct their first meeting again and all going well, this will take place at the end of July. So by this time next month there might be some good news about us all getting together again. Fingers crossed!

Library News

I am sure that you are all aware that the Library is open again for short visits. However, thanks to Brian Meagher from our group we are sure that the Family History section is not open for Volunteer purposes. Brian visited the Library at the end of June hoping to spend a bit of volunteer time in the Family History section, even though there was no roster out. He discovered that the two council computers are not allocated to us while the Library's 'Safe Distancing' Policy is in place. This affects the Society's laptops which are located too close if anyone is using the Council computers. Unfortunately, we do not know how long this will last.

As Brian reminds us though, FHS members who have Library cards can enjoy being at home and having Find My Past and Ancestry sites available to us.

Explorer's Tree Magazine

Rhonda is happy to receive your contributions for our next edition.

rwflowers@optusnet.com.au

Online Research

The new look of Trove appears to be causing some concerns in the chat rooms as people have to shift out of 'automatic' and into 'how do I do this?' mode. I guess like all things, its just a matter of practice but I know I have been frustrated a time or two as I look for something that's located in a different place. I hope you are having a bit better luck with it. Has anyone discovered a useful tip to share? Some of you may find this link by Karen King-Cain useful. 'How to use the new Trove interface' ...

<https://www.facebook.com/kittebel/videos/10223277145221804>

Who Are We?

Please remember that you are all welcome to send me a brief piece to include here. (tanya2fbr@gmail.com). Thanks to Jan for the following...

I am Jan Koperberg, I was born in Bondi, NSW, but have lived in the Blue Mountains most of my life, 45 years in North Springwood (as it was in 1967), now Winmalee and 7 years in Springwood.

I retired from full time work at a local medical practice at the end of 2005 and began my family history research in 2006. I had been fascinated since packing up my parents flat in Bondi in 1986, to find my parents' wedding certificate. The certificate had the names of my grandparents, and I could see my paternal grandfather was Jens Nielsen Skulander. I asked my mother where he came

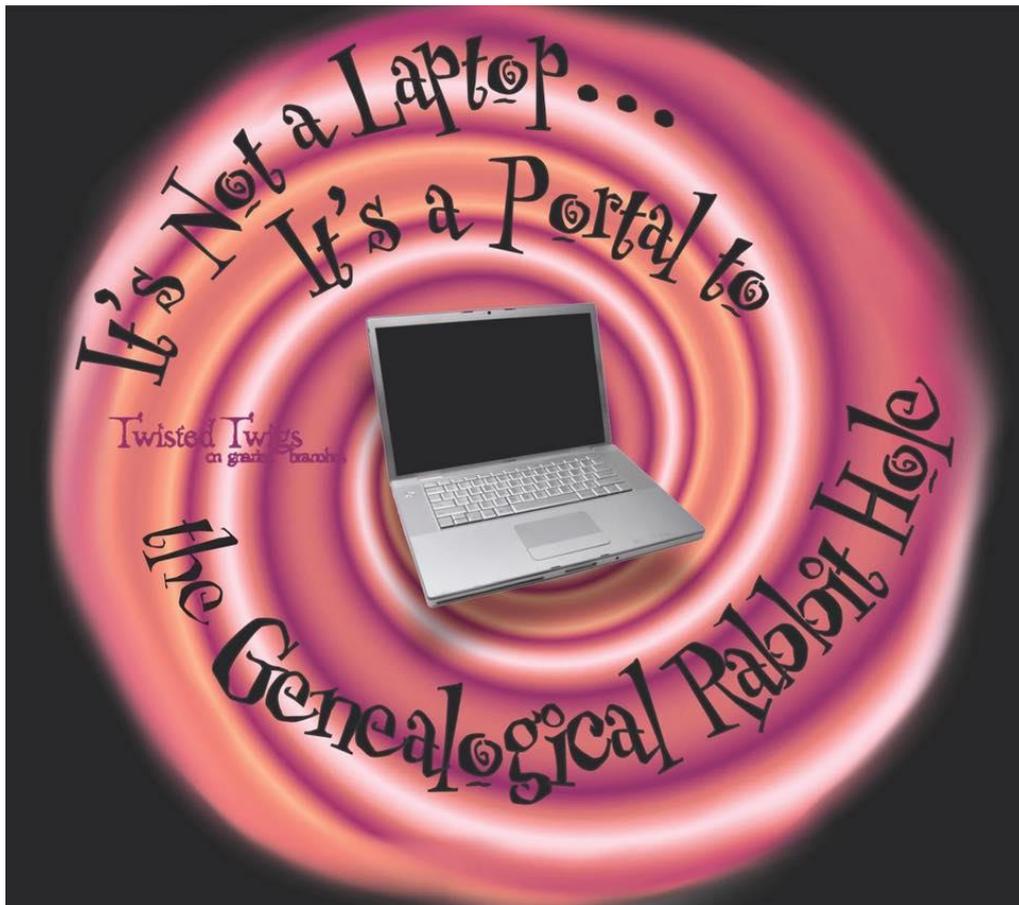
from and she said she thought his father was from Denmark. I had to find out more!

My involvement with the Blue Mountains Family History Society happened 'out of the blue', when I attended a "Showcase" at the Society of Australian Genealogists during the winter of 2006. At Showcase I met up with Suzanne Voytas, Pauline Gibson, and Don Graham. Pauline and Don suggested I attend Blue Mountains Family History Society meetings, which were then held in the upstairs hall of the former Blue Mountains City Council Chambers. I did, and by October, I was being encouraged to take on the role of Secretary, in November 2006. I was working part time and was not able to attend the AGM, but I accepted the position and so began my journey through the BMFHS. Audrey King said that as I was new to the role, I could do the correspondence and Lynne Tocher could take the minutes. Audrey later took over the minutes from Lynne and eventually I took over the minutes. I think I was Secretary for three years, then Vice-President for a couple of years and then President for a couple of years.

In 2010, the then President of Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc (BMACHO), John Leary OAM, of whom BMFHS is a member, asked if I would take on the role of Secretary for BMACHO. This was in addition to my role with BMFHS. I was hesitant, but I accepted. This made me the BMFHS representative on the BMACHO committee, a role I still hold today. I was Secretary of BMACHO up until March 2018, when Fiona Burn took on the role, but I continue as Correspondence Secretary.

I have also been on the committee of the NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies and was Secretary for a couple of years. While on this committee, I was the BMFHS representative, and attended most of the family history conferences. I was on the RAHS Council 2014-2017 and their Affiliated Societies Committee, helping to organise the history conferences and was their representative at the National Archives of Australia Consultative Forum. I still do the RAHS eNewsletter every three weeks.

Just for Fun



Stay safe and healthy everyone.