



Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc

Newsletter

DATE: 8 June 2011

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JUNE GENERAL MEETING

The June General Meeting will be held this Friday 8 June 2011 in the Upper Hall of the Springwood Civic Centre at 10.00 am. After the general meeting and morning tea Ian Kendall will give a brief instruction on the safe use of USBs and will then speak about HOW TO access the wealth of information to be found online at *Trove* on the National Library of Australia website. Originally Ian was going to talk about using *Ancestry* and Suzanne Voytas was going to talk about HOW TO use the *Digger* CD-ROMs on PC1 in the family history section of the library. Suzanne will give this talk in August.

July General Meeting – We will have a guest speaker, Beth Matthews, a researcher from Parramatta, who has done research on the women who went through the Parramatta Female Factory. Beth did research for Gay Hendriksen for the travelling exhibition, 'Convict Women Transported'.

OUTINGS

The May outing to Liverpool Genealogy Group was a success. The members who attended were very impressed with the research rooms, the friendly Liverpool members and the networking. It is always good to see the facilities of other societies and to get new ideas. Our members were provided with lunch and a few of our members found new information, researching in the afternoon.

We have now been invited to Ku-ring-gai Historical and Family History Society research rooms at Gordon and an outing will be planned before the end of the year.

JUNE OUTING

The June outing is a tour of St Marys township and has been organised by Don Graham. The outing is scheduled for Thursday 16 June, the Thursday after the General Meeting. We are to meet in the usual place, that is the Northern car park of the Springwood Railway Station at 9.00 am. Travel will be by carpooling. If you would like to go, please put your name down on the form available on the table near the staircase, on Friday.

THE EXPLORERS' TREE MAGAZINE

The Explorers' Tree magazine is available today, please collect from Audrey's table. If you are missing any back issues, they could be in the black concertina file in the library (on top of the cabinet at the back of the family history section, where the NSW State Records' *ARK* reels are stored).

LUCKY DOOR PRIZES FRIDAY

We have two \$5 vouchers made available by Joy Murrin Transcription Service. Collect your raffle ticket for the draw, when you sign the attendance book.

RESOURCES

Joan Edwards pointed out at a recent committee meeting, that the society has obtained 247 resources by purchase or donation in the last 12 months. Suzanne Voytas and Jan Koperberg recently attended the Port Macquarie Family History Fair and met up with Pauline and Bob Hincksman, who were on holiday. They helped with moving the publications. Three new books were purchased, *The Winding Sheet* (cemetery/death customs through the ages), *Harvesting the Hastings* (Port Macquarie farming families) and *The Breaking up of the Port Macquarie Penal Settlement*.

Q & A

We ask the questions and you give the answers:

Q: Define 'cad' in the Victorian era

Q: What is an anilepiman? Do you have one in your family tree?

Give or receive your answers at the general meeting.

INTERESTING WEBSITES

<http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~spire/Yesterday/index.htm>

For those with English ancestry the Yesterdays site, link above, has been updated with hundreds more records of people from all over the British Isles as they passed through Derbyshire. Hundreds more Wills added School records showing several pupils who immigrated to Australia. See Weston on Trent for latest records. If link fails Google Yesterdays Journey.

TRANSCRIPTIONS

Marilyn Rowan, Transcriptions.com.au has Thrifty Thursdays during June. Full NSW transcriptions for \$16.00

WHAT'S ON OUT OF AREA

Saturday 9 July at 2.00 pm

The Education Room of the Heraldry & Genealogy Society of Canberra, Cook Community Hub, 41 Templeton Street, Cook, ACT

HAGSOC is running a special half-day education session to help people use Scottish records. The session is called Penetrating Scotch Mist and is in two parts:

1. Civil registration and censuses, including county boundaries, use of parishes & registration districts, naming patterns and surname distributions.
2. Old Parochial Registers (OPRs), Testaments (Wills), Sasines (Land Records) and the schisms in the Church of Scotland.

Check HAGSOC website: <http://www.hagsoc.org.au>

Until 31 July 2011

National Museum of Australia 'Not Just Ned' exhibition. Many of Australia's greatest stories are Irish stories and there are nearly 500 rare and unique objects from Australian and international collections that have been brought together to tell these stories at the National Museum of Australia in Canberra. See the complete set of Kelly gang armour and other interesting items. The exhibition opened on St Patrick's Day and will close on 31 July 2011. Accommodation and transport packages available on the website www.nma.gov.au/tickets

16, 17, 18 September 2011

NSW & ACT Association of FHS's State Conference to be held at Inverell, hosted by Inverell District Family History Group. Get your registration form and program http://www.inverellfamilyhistory.org.au/2011_conference

28 to 31 March 2012

13th Australasian Congress on Genealogy & Heraldry will be held in Adelaide. The registration booklet is now being circulated and should be available online at the Congress website shortly. You can also ask for a copy from Genealogy SA (the SA Genealogy & Heraldry Society Inc)

WHAT'S ON LOCALLY

Valley Heights Loco Depot Heritage Museum

atmuseum@optusnet.com.au

Open Days: Sunday 12 June and 26 June

Springwood Historical Society

richardmorony@optusnet.com.au

Meeting Friday 17 June – guest speaker Dr Neal Blewett

Glenbrook & District Historical Society

Phone Doug: 4751 3275 or Tim 4739 2384

Walks and talks – Eastern Zig-Zag, Knapsack Viaduct and mine shaft. Saturday 18 June.

Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society

westring@bigpond.com

Open days at Turkish Bath Museum Mt Wilson

Sunday 19 June

Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society

frank.holland@bigpond.com.au

Visit to Zig-Zag Railway

Monday 27 June

REMOVAL OF WILDCARD SEARCH FACILITY

Most of you will be aware that the NSW Registry of BDMs has removed the wildcard search facility from their internet index search. Wildcard * searching is an extremely useful search strategy when dealing with names that have a potential to be spelt in several ways. For example, *Ann* could be listed as *Ann*, *Anne* or *Annie*. With the wildcard the search provided a search for *Ann** and it would bring up all possibilities. The only way around this is to search each variation of a name. Sometimes a wildcard reveals a typo and any other variation that may not have been considered. The broader ? replacement is still allowed such as in *Clark?*. This only provides one replacement letter and more importantly does not allow for a no letter search. Thus a *Clark?* search for example, will not produce *Clark*.

The wildcard was causing the server at the Registry to 'crash' on occasions. NSW Registry of BDMs advise they are looking in to ways of re-introducing the wildcard without it causing problems.

Family history is a game of hide and seek – they hide – we seek. Thanks Hervey Bay via Joan Edwards.

e-NEWSLETTERS –

Hawkesbury Family History Group <http://www.hawkesbury.net.au/community/hfhg/newsletters.html>

FindMyPast Irish Family History records www.findmypast.ie - compliments of Brian Meagher

National Archives of Australia 'Memento' <http://yourmemento.naa.gov.au>.

Proformat News (South Australia) subscribe at www.jaunay.com/newsletter.html

Australian Government has listed patents going back to 1904 <http://pericles.ipaustralia.gov.au/ols/auspat/>

Anyone wanting the following .pdf newsletters, let me know:

June edition of the Cowra "Eagle Tales"

or the Khanterintee the newsletter of the Kiama Family History Research Centre