



Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc

Newsletter

DATE 13 June 2014

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

JUNE Meeting: The June meeting will be held on Friday, 13th June 2014 at the Presbyterian Hall, Macquarie Road, Springwood at 10:00 am. The guest speaker will be **Steve Rawling AM**, President of the Kurrajong Comleroy Historical Society. He is currently undertaking research in Heritage listings of the Kurrajong district. Steve is also a musical entertainer having written and performed songs to recount the history of the Kurrajong Comleroy district recounting the exploits of the bushrangers and the building of the Bells Line of Road.

EXPLORERS' Tree: The June issue of *Explorers' Tree* will be available for members at the June Meeting. Those receiving the Journal by post should have already received theirs. Unclaimed issues are held in the Concertina Folder in the Springwood Library Research Centre. This is a bumper issue and a great read. Audrey is always ready to receive your contributions, so sit down today with pen and paper (or computer) and write a short or long article for our highly regarded Journal.

JULY Meeting: **Ian Palmer** from the First Fleeters will be our speaker at the July meeting.

ITEMS of Interest to Members: The Committee last met on Friday, 23 May. Items under discussion were:

- Library Volunteers – assistance for Tuesdays is required
- Family History Week – Patou from Springwood Library has reminded us that August is Family History Month. Suggestions?
- Social Outings – there has been a request for these to recommence.
- Cake Stall – there will once again be a cake stall held in November.
- Vote of thanks – to Margaret Chapman for Meeting Morning Teas.

NSW & ACT Federation of Family History Societies Inc. We are a member of the Federation and require a delegate who is able to attend meetings in the City. Please approach any Committee member should you wish to be BMFHS delegate.

BI-ANNUAL Seminar: Our next Seminar will be held in 2015 and planning has begun. Discussion of a possible theme has taken place with ideas for Multicultural Emigration and Family History, and Celtic Family History being two possible topics. Other suggestions are welcome. Also offers of Seminar Committee and Coordinator are encouraged.

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 that 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

*Ancestry

Ancestry.com have "retired" two of their modules. Firstly, their **Y-DNA and mtDNA** module (for discovering family relationships with DNA testing – Y-chromosome for males and mt-mitochondrial for females) has been replaced with a new service, AncestryDNA. This service uses an autosomal DNA test that surveys a person's genome at more than 700,000 locations. Alternatively, Family Tree DNA whose main focus is genetic genealogy is a better option (I am a personal opinion!). Neither is cheap, but I believe Family Tree DNA offers better value for money.

Secondly, My.Family.com has been "retired". This family connection and chat service can be replaced by non-Ancestry services such as ThisLife by Shutterfly, Carousel - the gallery from Dropbox and Chatbooks

*Marilyn Rowan – NSW Family History Transcriptions

Every Saturday during June 2014, nswtranscriptions.com.au are offering Full NSW Transcripts for \$18.00 (regular price \$20.00). Also Happy Hour orders made 8pm-10pm AEST daily are \$19.00. See their website for other services and prices.

*Having Trouble using the INTERNET for research?

This Occasional Paper, *Heritage and the Internet*, by BMACHO is worthwhile downloading and reading. <http://www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au/imagesDB/wysiwyg/OccasionalPapers1C.pdf>

WHAT'S ON

* Parramatta & District Historical Society NEWS

New exhibition in *LUCAS GALLERY* in Hambledon Cottage in June! The Exhibition theme is *JOURNEYS* and there are six different adventures on display. The photographs of the first aeroplane journey from Penrith to Parramatta are amazing. Looking at the aircraft, tied to a gum tree in Parramatta Park so it will not be moved by the wind gives some idea of how frail it was. You are eligible to receive a free MAP of the Great North Road when you come to the cottage, just ask one of our volunteer guides for your copy.

Telephone Betty on 9635-6924, Ken on 9871-4155 or Trevor on 9654-2224, or email parramattahist@tpg.com.au

*Society of Australian Genealogists (SAG) 02 9247 3953

UK Criminal Records - Jeremy Palmer A convict ancestor's arrival was the end of a process that left many records for today's family historians. Quarter Session and Assize records, along with local newspapers and other UK sources can help establish your convict ancestor's origins and the circumstances that brought him/her to this country.

Saturday 21 June 10.30am – 12.30am Bookings Essential

120 Kent Street \$20 members/\$30 non-members

What's on cont'd:

*BMACHO CALENDAR

Sunday 8 June: Open day Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum - atmuseum@optusnet.com.au

Friday 20 June: Springwood Historical Society Meeting: Guest speaker: Wendy Hawkes: Sir Joseph and Dame Mary Cook. - richardmorony@optusnet.com.au

Sunday 22 June: Open day Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum - atmuseum@optusnet.com.au

Saturday 21 June: Glenbrook & District Historical Society Walk: The Mountain Murders – Lee Weller's gravesite and old stone quarry.

Doug Knowles: 4751 3275 Tim Miers: 4739 2384

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.**

9 July 2014: Dr Anne-Maree Whitaker, William Cox and Cox's Road

13 August 2014: Dr Perry McIntyre, Single female emigration in the 1830s & 1840s

***Royal Australian Historical Society: WORKSHOP:** What's in a Name? Uncovering the historic significance of place names. Speaker: Bruce Baskerville

When: June 21, 2014 @ 11:00am - 2:00pm

Where: History House 133 Macquarie Street Sydney NSW

Cost: RAHS Members \$20.00, Non-Members \$25.00

Contact: History House 0292478001 history@rahs.org.au

*National Family History Month

National Family History Month is August this year. Find out what is on in your area by logging on to www.familyhistorymonth.org.au

***Congratulations** to Past President, **Jan Koperberg**, who was elected to the Council of the Royal Australian Historical Society. Jan is also the Secretary of BMACHO - Blue Mountains Association of Heritage Organisations.

WEBSITES: There are now a number of websites in Australia that contain Aboriginal family history. **Cathy Dunn's** website on the South Coast of NSW contains a deal of information: <http://www.australianhistoryresearch.info/tag/aboriginal/>
AIATSIS – Australian Institute Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Studies: <http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/research/resources.html>
Manuscripts, pictures & oral histories in the National Library relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders: <http://www.nla.gov.au/muragadi/>. **Centre Indigenous Family History Studies:** <http://www.cifhs.com/default.html>
CoraWeb - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders: <http://www.coraweb.com.au/abor.htm>

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