



Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc.

Newsletter

DATE 12th June, 2015

Patrons

Mayor, City of The Blue Mountains
Federal Member for Macquarie
State Member for The Blue Mountains

Office Bearers

President

Yvonne Wright

V-President

Colin Brest

Secretary

Colin Brest

Treasurer & Research

Ian Kendall

Committee

Pauline Gibson

Ann Krasny

Ann Raaphorst

Caroline Spratt

Public Officer

Joan Edwards

Coordinators

Explorers' Tree

Editor: Rhonda Flowers

Layout/publishing:

John Arnold

Proof reader: Ian Kendall

Membership Secretary

Ann Raaphorst

Members' Interest &

Indexing

Joan Edwards

Web Master

Ian Kendall

Librarians

*Pauline Hincksman

Alison Tissington

Library Roster

Brian Meagher

Publicity

Pauline Gibson

Editor Newsletter

Pauline Gibson

WELCOME to all our members and any visitors to today's meeting.

Today's guest speaker is Madison Thompson from St Columba's High School will be our guest speaker. Madison, who is one of the School Captains, was one of two students, who won a trip to Gallipoli and then to London for Armistice Day 2014 with her essay on "Why is WWI Important to Australians".

Last month's guest speaker was **Cathy Jones**. Cathy's talk was on the suburb of Strathfield which included information about the Arnotts Biscuit family and some of the other prominent businessmen who lived in area in the early days of Strathfield.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc. will be held on **Friday, 10th July 2015** and will be held in the Presbyterian Church Hall, Macquarie Road, Springwood.

July Guest Speaker: Norma Thorburn from the St Mary's Historical Society will be our guest speaker talking about the early days of St Marys.

Committee Meeting: The Committee met on Friday 22nd May 2015 and held the following discussions.

Prior to attending to the Agenda, the committee welcomed Caroline Spratt as a new member. Caroline had expressed an interest in joining the committee at last month's meeting and came along on the 22nd May to see what was involved. It appears that it wasn't too daunting as Caroline is the committee's newest recruit. Any other member who thinks they would like to be part of the team, the next committee meeting is **10am Friday, 26th June 2015** in the small room behind our meeting hall at the Presbyterian Church.

2015 Seminar: Saturday 15th August.

As mentioned in the last Newsletter three of the guest speakers for our Seminar have now been secured but the fourth speaker was proving difficult to find. It was decided at the Committee meeting to change our idea of what we wanted in a fourth speaker and Colin emailed Lorraine Turtle of Turtle Consolidated Services to see whether she was available to come as our fourth guest speaker. Fortunately for the Society Lorraine is available and her topic will be "How to use other documents to find Immigration Information." This topic will include case studies and also touch on South Australian and Tasmanian Immigration.

Now that the guest speakers have been organized all that needs to be done is organize the catering – any member wishing to join the team of 3 and help with this please see Yvonne; the entertainment - unfortunately the Irish dancers we were hoping to get are not able to attend due to upcoming competitions. We are currently looking elsewhere. If anyone can offer a suggestion as to entertainment please advise one of the committee.

Family History Month: Last year during Family History Month, the Society provided extra tuition on family history to members of the public in Springwood Library. The Library has again approached the Society and we will again be offering this assistance for one week of Family History Month from 10am to 1pm. The date is yet to be determined. As there appears to be a need, Ian has kindly offered to provide tutorials on the film and fiche reader.

Marilyn Rowan, Transcription Agent: Super Saturday is back for the month of June. Marilyn Rowan is again offering full NSW Transcripts at **\$18.00** from midnight to midnight every Saturday in June 2015.

***Farewell and “Thank you” to Members, Pauline and Bob Hincksman:** The Society will be sorry to say goodbye to Pauline and Bob when they leave the Mountains for their “sea change” at the end of the month. Pauline has worked tirelessly in the family history section of Springwood Library for many years now and it is thanks to her and Alison Tissington that the Society’s section of the Library is running so smoothly. Bob has also done a wonderful job as our IT person in the Library. Pauline has been a great help with the morning teas and was solely responsible for the catering of our 2013 seminar. We will be sorry to see both Pauline and Bob leave and we wish them well in the new home in Port Macquarie.

Explorers’ Tree: The latest edition of the Explorers’ Tree will be available at this month’s meeting. For those members unable to attend the meeting they will find their copy in the concertina folder labelled “Explorers’ Tree” which can be found on the shelves in the Family History Section of Springwood Library.

What’s on:

BMACHO: The BMACHO Calendar of Events available for viewing with the Attendance Book.

William Cox Historical Festival and Open Day at the **Arms of Australia Museum** cnr Great Western Highway and Gardenia Avenue, Emu Plains, **Sunday 19th July 2015, 9am-3pm.** There will be a plaque unveiling at **11am.** A great day is planned with entertainment and activities for young and old. Admission is free.

Holroyd Local History Society: Commemorating the 200th Anniversary of the arrival of Rev. Samuel Leigh in Australia. He became the first Wesleyan Missionary in the Colony of NSW and subsequently the first Minister of Parramatta Mission. **When: Sunday, 9th August to 30th August 2015.** Enquiries: Liz, Parramatta Mission Heritage Committee, **9891 2277.** **Australian Biographical Dictionary** <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/leigh-samuel-2348>

What’s on continued:

Linnwood Historic House Open Day 25 Byron Road, Guildford, **Sunday 11th July, 11am-4pm** – Admission \$3 children under 5 free. American Independent’s Car Display, Trash n’Treasure plus much more.

Book Launch Bathurst Library, 70-78 Keppel Street, Bathurst, **Sunday 14th June 2015: Hill End & Tambaroora District** are launching their book “Golden Diggers, Hill End & Tambaroora District’s Contribution to the First World War” at 2pm. Free event including afternoon tea for catering purposes contact the Library **6333 6281**

Dating Old Photographs:

Old family photographs are a treasured part of any family history. In the course of family history research many people come across unidentifiable photographs. It is quite frustrating to find some wonderful photos but with no clue as to who is in the photograph or when and where it was taken. While it might not be possible to positively identify the person in the photograph there are a number of ways to identify the time frame in which the photograph was taken.

Solving the mystery faces and places in your old family photographs requires knowledge of your family history, combined with good old-fashioned detective work.

Not all old photographs are created alike. By identifying the type of photographic technique used to create your old family photos, it is possible to narrow down the time period when the photograph was taken. The vast majority of antique photographs taken in the 19th century were one of the following types - Daguerreotypes, Ambrotypes, Tintypes, Cartes de Visite and Cabinet Cards. Here are a few helpful websites

http://genealogy.about.com/od/photo_dating/ss/identification.htm; <http://www.phototree.com/identify.htm>; <http://www.cartes.freeuk.com/time/date.htm> <http://freepages.family.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~victorianphotographs/dated/dated.htm>

New websites required: The editor would be pleased to receive information of any helpful family history websites that have been visited and have not been listed in the Newsletter. Pauline’s email address p_gibson@ozemail.com.au

Websites: Some interesting websites for photographs **Pictures Australia** <http://www.nla.gov.au/what-we-collect/pictures>

Flickr <https://www.flickr.com/>; **Pictures of England** <http://www.picturesofengland.com/>.

Other - Holroyd Local History Society <http://holroydresearch.tripod.com/>;

UK Genealogy Common Acronyms and Jargon <http://www.oz.net/~markhow/acronym-uk.htm>;

Old Bailey Court London – covers 1674-1834 - www.oldbaileyonline.org; **Convict Creations** <http://www.convictcreations.com/history/>;

self
storage
plus

For all your
storage needs.

BLAXLAND • SPRINGWOOD