



Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc.

Newsletter

DATE 10th June, 2016

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WELCOME members and any visitors to today's meeting of the Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc. Our guest speaker today is Greg Clancy and his topic sounds very intriguing "**Hitler's Lost Spy**". We will have to wait find out what this story has in connection with the Blue Mountains. Our last guest speaker was Margot Riley from the State Library. Margot's topic was: Identifying photographs; Photography and Fashions. Margot brought along a wonderful collection of old photographs all of which has stories attached to them. After the meeting Margot met with some of our members who had brought along some old photos for a possible identification of what year they may have been taken.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Society will be held on Friday, **8th July, 2016** commencing at **10am** in the Presbyterian Church Hall, Macquarie Road, Springwood. (See note on page 2)

Guest speaker for July meeting: Stephen Ford will be the guest speaker at this meeting. Stephen will be talking about Land & Property Information where he is a researcher. He plans to present a case study of a property in the Springwood area to demonstrate what can be researched.

Committee Meeting: The members of the committee met on Friday, **3rd June** and the following was discussed:

The Explorers' Tree Magazine: As Rhonda and Terry will have returned from their trip in time for the July meeting, members will be able to collect their June copy of the Explorers' Tree at this meeting.

Coolgardie and Bob Howard Awards: Vicki Edmunds, the Springwood Librarian, has advised Yvonne that she will be available to present these Awards at our July meeting. We appreciate her time and the effort she puts in.

High Tea: What a great event the High Tea turned out to be. Feedback from those who attended was very positive, everyone appeared to enjoy not only the delicious food but the interesting stories that were told.

The caterers did a great job on the morning organizing the preparation of the food, along with those members who came and helped to set up the hall. Our IT man, Ian, did a wonderful job with the photos that were supplied to him and with the music. Thank you to all those members who supplied their China for use on the day. Thank you to everyone who helped at the end of the day with the clearing up which was finished in no time at all. Suffice it to say "thank you to everyone".

The raffle was won by a visitor, who actually had the winning ticket drawn twice but declined the second draw. She chose the rug crocheted by John and on the second redraw, Bronwyn won the teacups.

You will all be anxious to know the financial results for the function: after deducting expenses for the food and hall hire, the Society made **\$795** for the event and **\$163** for the raffle, a great result.

Memories of a Special Woman in My Life - The Book:

As you are aware the Society intends to publish a book on the stories that were read at the High Tea and these will be sold at \$10 per copy. Any member who was unable to attend the High Tea and would like to contribute a story and photo (if available) or any member who has already supplied a story but would like to supply an extra story, could you please email it to Ian together with a photo by the end of June for inclusion in the book.

Future General Meetings: Changes are happening within Springwood Presbyterian Church in accordance with new Government rulings and it may not always be possible to hold our future meetings in our usual hall. It may become a month by month decision as to where our meetings will take place. Should the venue change at any stage, members will be advised by email.

Blue Mountains Historical Society Offer: This Society is hoping to obtain accreditation as a Museum. To obtain this, it is necessary for it to have changing exhibitions and the Society has asked our Society if we would like to display some items as part of an exhibition on the last two Sundays in June and July namely **26th June** and **31st July** and also **2nd July**. It was decided at the committee meeting that Ian would supply copies of the books he has on Mathew Everingham and our Society would also lend our wonderful book full of photos of soldiers from WWI. Members may like to keep these dates in mind to pay a visit to the Historical Society or on any of the last Sundays in the month when its exhibitions are held.

Blue Mountains Historical Society, 101 Blaxland Road, Wentworth Falls.

Social Outings: A reminder the next social outing will be on **Tuesday 14th June**. A walk around Mt Victoria Historic Village and lunch at the Imperial Hotel. Taking the 9.37am train from Springwood. Depending on numbers we may be able to arrange a tour of the Mt Victoria and District Historical Society Museum. For more information, contact Ann Krasny (h) **4754 1746**.

Fund Raising Table: A reminder that if any members have any unwanted items they are willing to pass on to the Society, can they bring them along to our general meetings for sale on the day. Anything not sold will go towards a future garage sale. Each week we have been making small amounts of money that soon add up.

Family History Month: August commences Family History Month and the Society has been asked by

Springwood Library if we will again attend the Library to promote family history with drop-in information sessions presented by our library volunteers from **10am-1pm** – A Taste of Family History? It has been decided that the **1st-5th August** would be the most suitable time as it would coincide with a talk being given by Gail Davis Senior Archivist Research and Publications at State Records, Kingswood - “General introduction to State Records resources for family history”. Gail’s talk is scheduled for 10.30am on **3rd August**. Extra volunteers will be required to help during this week, if you are interested you might approach Yvonne or Colin.

30th Anniversary: This year marks the Society’s 30th Anniversary and it is proposed to mark this auspicious occasion with a morning tea following our AGM in November. While plans are only in their early stages, it is proposed to have an Anniversary cake made, invite the founding member Jenny Tresize to cut the cake and also invite our local member Trish Doyle. Members will be asked to contribute by bringing a plate. The committee is open to any other suggestions regarding the celebration of this milestone.

What’s On:

Glenbrook Historical Society walks – 25th June commencing at **1.30pm** Historical Cox’s Road walk along section of this historic road following the ridge top from Woodford Trig.

9th July at 1.30pm Dunn’s Steam Saw Mill Site and earth dam, Brookside Creek, Lennox Bridge, old stone quarry. Cost \$8.00 Bookings essential, contact Doug **4751 3275**.

Sydney Living Museums - Rose Seidler House, 71 Clissold Road, Wahroonga - Sunday, 21st August 10am-4pm, Experience all things 1950s as they celebrate 21 years of 50s Fair. Cost: Early Bird \$35 until 17th July, Adult \$49, Concession \$42 Bookings essential **9989 8020**.

Old unusual occupations: Has any member discovered an unusual occupation of one of their ancestors, if so, could you please email Pauline with details as an item of interest for the Newsletter.

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“Black Borderer” - someone who puts black borders around funeral cards.

Alternatively, someone may have an ancestor dying from an unusual complaint that members may not have heard.

Interesting Web site: Australian Immigration [National Maritime Museum Sydney - Welcome Wall](#) Click on the *Welcome Wall* link to access information about the Welcome Wall and to search the online database available from the *Find your name link*. This link allows you to launch the virtual Welcome Wall and there is also a text based version of the database available. Information provided includes name, comment, vital dates, origin, arrival details, where first settled and wall location.
[Australia's Virtual Immigration Wall of Honour](#) This free site, created by Janet Reakes, offers the opportunity to record the arrival of your family into Australia and to make contact with other descendants/researchers. The online data lists names, birthplace, county, country and arrival details.