



## Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc

# Newsletter

DATE 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2013

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Pauline Gibson

**WELCOME** to the second meeting of the Society for 2013. Our meeting last month had an extremely interesting speaker, Robert Nash from the Huguenot Society. Many of those who attended discovered hitherto unknown information regarding these French Protestants, Huguenots, and the persecution they suffered over the decades at the hands of the Rulers of those particular times. We learnt of their many talents, artistic and industrial skills and their final emigration to various parts of the known world.

Today instead of a guest speaker there is a "Show and Tell" and if it is anything like the one held last year, it should prove to be an interesting morning.

**Next meeting: 12<sup>th</sup> April 2013** - Will take the form of a discussion/problem solving workshop in which we pool our knowledge and discoveries to help each other with problems etc in Family History.

### **Items of Interest to Members:**

**Seminar 13<sup>th</sup> April 2013:** Following the discussion at our last General Meeting with regard to having the Bush Poet, Greg North, entertain us at our Seminar in April, it was ascertained that Greg was still available for that date at a cost of \$200.00. After much discussion at the Committee meeting, held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February last, it was decided that we ask Greg North to be the Seminar's entertainer. Greg North will be the after lunch entertainer at our Seminar.

Further details of our seminar as mentioned in last month's Newsletter. The cost of the Seminar is \$30.00. The cost of which includes morning tea, lunch, a seminar bag, guest speakers and the entertainment by Bush Poet, Greg North. Registration is from 8.45-9.15am with a Welcome address by Ian Kendal at 9.15am. The guest speakers are those as mentioned in last month's Newsletter with the addition of Greg North, Bush Poet, as the after lunch entertainer. Lunch will be from 1-2pm. The seminar will conclude at 4 p.m. A raffle will also be held with many prizes to be won. Tickets \$1.00 a ticket or 3 for \$2.00 will be on sale at the March & April meetings as well as on the day of the seminar when the winning numbers will be drawn. For those members who receive the Newsletter via email a Program and Booking form for the seminar will be going out with this email, all other members can pick up the flyer at today's meeting.

**Second hand books:** If members have any books they no longer want and would like to donate to the Society, could you please bring them to the seminar for sale on the day.

**Committee members required:** The committee, as it now stands, is two members short. Are there any members who could like to volunteer to join the current committee? Committee meetings are held on the last Friday of the month in the room under the Presbyterian Hall. Could any member who would like to join the committee either email the Secretary [kmmd8@bigpond.com](mailto:kmmd8@bigpond.com) or advise Audrey at the meeting.

## Members' Interests on the Blue Mountains

**Family History website:** This section of our website is being revamped. Could members please advise Joan of any deletions or additions they may have to their current interests.

**The term "Members' Interests":** Members new to the Society may be wondering what is meant by this term. By way of explanation: to further your research the Society has a form available for all members to fill in with the family names they are researching. Once filled in and given to the Society, only the name of your ancestor, place and date are posted on our website under the banner "Members' Interests". Visitors to the website can look to see whether anyone in our Society may be researching the same names as them. There is total anonymity as your membership number and not your name is placed alongside your entry, the only way you can be contacted is via the Society's email and directed to you through your highlighted membership number. There have been a number of connections found this way from previously unknown family members. The form can be found on our website, obtained from Ann Raaphorst at the meeting or from the Library.

**Chapman Codes:** The form "Members Interests" is fairly straight forward to complete but the heading "State/County (Chapman Codes) may be a bit confusing. Chapman Codes were devised c1974 by English genealogist Colin Chapman to help genealogists with some sort of uniformity in locating pre-1974 counties in the British Isles eg CHS Cheshire; CUL Cumberland. They have **no postal relevance**, but they are a help for family historians, especially when there are two or more places in the British Isles with the same name. They have been adopted in genealogy by many countries, including Australia. One website for the Chapman Codes is "Hall Genealogy Website" <http://rmhh.co.uk/chapcodes.html>. There are many other sites but this site has foreign country codes as well as the UK.

**Wanted in Hill End:** Hill End & Tambaroora Gathering Group have compiled a list of WWI diggers and nurses who lived in that area and about whom they are seeking copies of photos, stories or any information for a book to be published in 2014 in time for the Centenary of the Gallipoli landing. This list it will be available on the Notice Board in the Family History area of the Library. This Group also have a new website [www.heatgg.org.au](http://www.heatgg.org.au). Any member with ancestors in that area may find this a goldmine of information, others may just find it an interesting site to visit.

## What's on in Family History:

The tenth Beyond the Limits of Location Conference weekend will take place **Fri. 8<sup>th</sup> Mar-Sun 10<sup>th</sup> March 2013** at St Clement's Retreat & Conference Centre, Galong, NSW. For further information visit <http://www.yasshistory.org.au/>

## Royal Australian Historical Society (RAHS) -

Has some interesting lectures coming up. For their Calendar of Events visit their website <http://www.rahs.org.au/>. Some members may not have heard of the RAHS. It was founded in 1901 and is situated in a lovely old building built in 1871 and now known as History House, 133 Macquarie Street, Sydney. Their Library, located on the 1st Floor, contains an extensive collection of both written and pictorial resources on all aspects of Australian history. Included in the collection are printed books, pamphlets, newspaper cuttings, manuscripts, ephemera, journals, maps, microfilm, microfiche, photographs and glass slides and much more. It is open to the public for research from 10am-4pm Monday to Friday at a cost of \$5.50 per day.

**Rookwood Cemetery:** Rookwood Cemetery at 283 hectares is one of the largest burial grounds in the world and one of Australia's oldest cemeteries. It has been in continual use since its establishment in 1868 and over 800,000 people have been interred within the grounds. The Friends of Rookwood have many tours during the year. Their next Twilight Tour being **Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> Mar. 5.30pm-7.30pm**. The next Heritage Walk **Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Mar. 10am-12.30pm**. Each Tour costs \$15.00 and \$10.00 for members. For more information and details of all their tours for the year or to become a member visit [www.friendsofrookwoodinc.org.au](http://www.friendsofrookwoodinc.org.au). There will also be a leaflet on the Library Notice Board for anyone interested in what is happening through the year.

## Historic Linnwood: 25 Byron Road, Guildford Open Day, 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2013, 11am-4p.m.

Admission \$3.00. Edwardian Display "My Precious Child - Dressing the Edwardian Infant"; Art & Craft Stalls; Photographic Display; Trash 'n' Treasure stall; Sausage Sizzle & Refreshments

## Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations AFFHO puts out a quarterly

Newsletter "Newsflash" advising up and coming events. To find out what's happening in Family History around the country visit the website <http://www.affho.org/>.

**Websites:** **The British Newspaper Archive** a searchable database. It does cost to view a record. You can look up 100 pages over a period of 2 days for approximately \$10.50 <http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/>

**Historical Directories** <http://www.historicaldirectories.org/hd/> which have been digitised by Leicester University is a free and worthwhile site which can be searched by Location, Decade or Key Word - highly recommended.

**Ireland Reaching Out** ([www.irelandxo.com](http://www.irelandxo.com)) is a new Irish Government-sponsored programme seeking to connect people of Irish heritage abroad with their place of origin in Ireland.

**New - 1905 Valuation Rolls on Scotlands People** <http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>