



## Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc

# Newsletter

DATE 13<sup>th</sup> March, 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

Terry Flowers

### 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 Hinckman

Alison Tissington

### Library Roster

Brian Meagher

#### Publicity

Pauline Gibson

### Editor Newsletter

Pauline Gibson

**WELCOME** to all our members to the second meeting of the Society for 2015. At our first meeting for the year, Amanda Blanch, a member of the Nepean District Historical Group, was our guest speaker. Amanda gave a very informative talk from very early bricks, onwards. Amanda also set up an interesting display of bricks that had been discovered in archaeological digs. After Amanda's talk, bricks will never be looked at in the same way again.

**Today's Guest Speaker:** We welcome Trish Skehan back once again. Today Trish's topic relates to Tea. She will be talking about the Bushells Tea family and all things associated with tea. **Do you have a favourite teapot? Bring it along Friday for a display.**

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

**April Guest Speaker:** As this meeting will be before Anzac Day with this year being the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Gallipoli landings, it seemed appropriate to have a guest speaker on the topic of WWI and including WWII. Speaker yet to be confirmed. - **Members with medals, photos or other memorabilia from either WWI or WWII are encouraged to bring them along for a display to be set up prior to our meeting and viewed during morning tea.**

**Items of Interest to Members:** The Committee met on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2015 and the following items were discussed:

**\*Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc. Committee:** Following the request for two additional members to the committee, the committee would like to welcome Terry Flowers as our newest recruit. If there were still someone who feels they would like to be a part of the committee, you would be most welcome. Terry has already made his presence felt bringing new ideas on how to help the Society move forward in 2015. By way of a reminder, the committee meets in the small room behind the big hall where we currently hold our meetings. They are held once a month on the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month commencing at 10am and usually last around 2 hours. Should anyone be interested please contact either the President or Secretary.

**\*2015 Seminar, 15<sup>th</sup> August:** Ideas are now well underway on how best to present our seminar in August. The topic "Our Heritage - Waves of Immigration" is similar to that already proposed last year and concerns immigration through the decades. It is hoped to have four guest speakers for the following topics:

1. 1830 to 1850 Free Immigration 1845 -1868 (Bounty, sponsored, own passage). Looking to engage the services of Ray Thorburn from Kiama.
2. 1850 to 1900 These records are held by State Records. Hopefully John McCann will be able to attend.
3. 1922 to 1960 - National Archives. Waiting for confirmation
4. 1960 onwards. During this time there was a big Asian migration. For this period we are hoping to obtain a speaker from one of Fairfield City Council's Libraries. Cabramatta comes under Fairfield Council's umbrella. Waiting on confirmation. - As yet nothing is set in concrete and could be subject to change, depending on what guest speakers are available.

### 2015 Seminar cont'd:

**\*Catering.** As is the usual practice the Society will be doing its own catering. At our last seminar Pauline Hincksman did a wonderful job of the catering. As Pauline and Bob are planning a "sea change" in the not too distant the committee are seeking someone who would be interested in forming a sub-committee to take charge of all aspects of catering from Morning Tea (Plates of food-cakes, biscuits etc. hopefully donated by Members. Lunch consisting of soup, rolls, salads, cold meats and chicken is proposed.

**\*Cost:** It is proposed that a fee of \$40.00 be charged for the Seminar. Hopefully this will cover the cost of providing the food, gifts for guest speakers as well as making a small profit for the Society. There will also be a small amount to be made from a raffle. This apart, the most important thing is for the Society to appear to be proactive.

**\*Entertainment:** Following lunch there is usually a half hour devoted to some form of entertainment. This year we are investigating providing Irish dancing, bagpipes and possibly a banjo player. All still to be confirmed.

**Street Stall:** Please keep in mind our next Street Stall, **Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2015** in the Presbyterian Church grounds. Unwanted items including donations of cakes, which would go down well on a Saturday stall, jams, etc. would be welcome.

**The Explorers' Tree:** The first issue of our magazine for 2015 will be available at today's meeting. Please remember to obtain your copy. Rhonda will now be looking forward to receiving your articles for the June and October issues. One suggestion is perhaps a story relating to an ancestor or ancestors who fought in WWI and the effect it had on them and their families.

**Member's fees reminder:** Paid your fees yet? Fees for single membership - \$30.00; \$40.00 per couple plus \$7.50 for postage of Explorers' Tree if required.

**Ancestry.com** advises that there have been corrections and additions to the 1911 England and Wales Census. It is recommended that you re-visit this Census.

### What's On:

**Botany Bay Family History Society 2015 Heritage Fair - Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2015, 10am-4pm.** Sutherland District Trade Union Club, The Kingsway Gynea. Gail Davis will be presenting a talk and hosting a stall.

### What's On cont'd:

**\*Penrith City Library** presents its **14<sup>th</sup> Annual History Conference "The Makings of a City: From Guard House to Gallipoli.** When: **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2015.** Where: Bonyngue Concert Hall, Joan Sutherland Performing Arts Centre, 597 High Street Penrith. Time: Registration 8.30am, Conference 9am-4pm. Cost: \$50 including all presentations, conference pack, tea and coffee on arrival, lunch, morning and afternoon tea.

**\*Family History Fair - Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2015, 10am-4pm** Penrith City Library (Lower Lounge area). Entry fee: gold coin donation.

"Meet me at Bebarfalds Corner" was a phrase that came to mind recently. **Bebarfalds** was a store that stood on the corner of George and Park Streets and was a well-known meeting place, hence the popular phrase. How many members remember the early Department Stores in Sydney, some of which would have been there during your ancestors' time? There was **Waltons** opposite **Bebarfalds**, **Farmers** cnr George and Market Streets, **Curzons**, **McCathies** and **Hordern Bros.** on one side of Pitt Street with **June Millinery** opposite - here you could purchase all your millinery requirements to make your own hat; **McDowells** cnr George and King Streets; **David Jones** in Market Street as well as on the cnr George and Barrack Streets. Not forgetting **Mark Foy's Limited** at the top of Liverpool Street now the District Court, **Anthony Horderns** Brickfield Hill, with **Marcus Clark's** near Central Railway and **Grace Bros** on Broadway. For hardware there was always **Nock & Kirbys** in George Street and for the men, **Gowings**. Information on some of these stores and on some of their founders can be seen at - **Sydney** [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George\\_Street,\\_Sydney](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Street,_Sydney);

**Mark Foy's**

[http://www.dictionaryofsydney.org/entry/mark\\_foys](http://www.dictionaryofsydney.org/entry/mark_foys);

**McCathies** <http://www.pittwateronline.com/city-department-stores---gone-and-mostly-forgotten.php>;

**Curzons**

<http://www.powerhousemuseum.com/collection/database/?irn=154273> other interesting information can be found on this page from the Power house Museum archives.

**Shops and Shopping: a short history**

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/heritagebranch/heritage/alotinstorech2.pdf>;

**Anthony Hordern & Sons**

<http://www.collectingbooksandmagazines.com/ah.html>

**Websites: BBC History Today** <http://www.historyextra.com/> This website relates to a subscription magazine but you can also read some of the interesting stories free online. **The following two websites have appeared on the BMFHS Face Book page. To discover more interesting sites visit our Face Book page:**

Queensland has digitised suffrage petitions etc. Thousands signed for suffrage in Queensland visit

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-09-17/suffrage-petitions-enter-the-digital-age/5741804>;

50 free family genealogy sites to visit <http://familyhistorydaily.com/genealogy-resources/50-free-genealogy-sites/>;

10 Free Irish History genealogy databases <http://www.irish-genealogy-toolkit.com/free-Irish-genealogy.html>;

An excellent site for all things genealogical <http://www.searchwhateveraustralia.com.au/>;

Internet surname database - history and origins of family names <http://www.surnamedb.com/>

self  
storage  
plus

For all your  
storage needs.

BLAXLAND • SPRINGWOOD