



Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc.

Newsletter

DATE: March, 2020

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State Member for The Blue Mountains

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Tanya Kirk

After a Summer of fire, floods and pestilence, it feels good to settle into the gentler rhythms of Autumn. We can take the time to organize those documents and images so that we can be a little more prepared for next summer. And *that* was one of the main interest topics that were identified at our last meeting. So...

What's On At This Month's Meeting?

1. After the general meeting, Colin will give a short talk on the Ba'hai pioneers in Australia. Then
2. We will split up into two interest groups to share and discuss ideas, hints, finds, problems, solutions, etc. Group 1's topic is the island of Ireland. Group 2's topic is organising and storing research, resources, photos etc

Also

No-one has put themselves forward to take Yvonne's place as President. This is a serious problem that needs to be resolved quickly. The bylaws governing societies indicate that we must have a President to continue operating. Please consider stepping up to help us out.

Unfortunately, we will have to **cancel April's meeting** due to a clash with Easter and problems with the Hall having prior bookings on other dates. The next meeting of the Family History Society will be held on **8th May 2020** at 10am.

Please add our **Street Stall** to your calendar for the **2nd May 2020**. This will be the week before our next meeting. We'll need volunteers to be at the stall for an hour or two (8am set up – 1pm pack up) and to donate items for sale. This is the week before Mother's Day so hopefully people will spend up.

Explorer's Tree Magazine

A huge THANK YOU to Rhonda and Terry (and John) for organizing this quarter's Explorer's Tree. And... for coming from Bathurst to visit and hand deliver it.

If you would like to contribute an item for the next magazine send it to Rhonda at: rwflowers@optusnet.com.au

Membership Fees: Thank you those who have already paid their membership fees. If this is still on your 'to do' list, then remember that it is \$30 for an individual or \$40 for a joint or family membership. If you are new to the Society, then get your membership form online from our website or Facebook page, or pick one up from Ian at the meeting.

Sharing Our Knowledge: One of the best ways to break down a brick wall is to get help. Between us we have a wealth of knowledge and skills to share. However, our website needs your up-to-date information to reflect this. Why not take the time to download the Member's Interest Form, complete it, and get it to Ian so he can update the site. <http://sites.rootsweb.com/~nswbmfhs/index.htm>

Contents

From the editor	186
President's Message	187
Mersey Office Bearers 1981–2019	188
<i>The Old Watch House</i> , Peter Marlowe	189
Branch Reports	191
<i>Tasmanian Timeline 1803–2010</i> , Helen Anderson	196
<i>The Robinson Collection of Photographic Negatives</i> , Erin Wilson	200
<i>The Discovery of Coal set the Mersey Afire</i> , Peter Marlowe	203
<i>Sheffield—Kentish District</i> , Barbara Wells	207
New Members' Interests	213
New Members	214
Help Wanted	215
<i>Civil Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages in Mersey Branch Area</i> ,	
Ross Warren	217
<i>Archibald George Hughes Black</i> , Helen Anderson	223
<i>Genealogist's Dilemma</i> , Pat Coy	227
<i>Ellen Pratt née Donovan, Alias 'Campbell Town Nell'</i> , Dianne Honan	233
<i>The Lawler Brothers' War Stories</i> , Betty Keep	238
<i>The March of the Eighth Army Through Endless Miles of Blue</i> , Cpl R P Bryant	237
<i>Recently Digitised Records from Libraries Tasmania</i>	239
<i>What is that Publication About?</i> Maurice Appleyard	240
Library Acquisitions	242
Society Sales	244

Next meeting: The next meeting of the Family History Society will be held on **8th May 2020 at 10am** in our usual meeting place, the small hall behind the Presbyterian Church. Guest speaker to be advised.

Trade table - Once again our trade will be operational, so any unwanted items can be brought to our meetings, starting with our first meeting of the year.

Springwood Library: Thank you Helen for your efforts with the Library Roster. Also, thanks to you and Margaret for stepping up and doing extra time to fill in the gaps. Spending a few hours at the Library with someone from the Society is a great way to socialise and learn as well as help others. Why not give it a go.

The computers at Springwood Library are up and running again. Access to the computers has changed though. You will need your Library membership number and pin/password. Also, take the time to ask the Librarians to add the password FAMILYHIST to your library membership so that you can login to the Family History resources then follow the prompts on screen.

Three more journals have arrived at the Library.

Footsteps: Port Macquarie and Districts

TABLE OF CONTENTS	
Society Organisation and Contacts.....	2
Areas of Responsibility – 2019–2020.....	2
President's Two Cents' Worth	3
Welcome to New Members	4
36 th Annual Conference of NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies 2020	5
From the Editor	5
On NOT Finding That Elusive Ancestor Again!	5
An Unresolved Curiosity – Who was my Maternal Great, Great, Great Grandfather?	8
Treasured letters from my Great, Great Uncles, Robert and Walter Pasley	10
Headstones.....	14
Letters from the Prime Minister	15
Our Coming Bicentenary.....	15
37 th Annual Conference of NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies, Port Macquarie 2021	18
Footsteps Contributions.....	18
Genealogy Never Stops – My Research Journey Over The Years	19
The Modern-Day Migration of the Maitland Family	20
My Mother's Leather Case.....	22
The Bush Fire	24
Did You Know?.....	25
The DiNA Diary – No 12.....	26
The Computer Corner Number 58.....	28
Society Membership Fees.....	30
Publications for Sale.....	31
Port Macquarie & Districts Family History Society Inc.....	32

Cover Photo: The L'Estrange family on a camping trip along the Tweed River, NSW, circa. 1904. Photo from Creative Commons Public Domain, via Queensland University of Technology.

THE GAZETTE

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Among other items, The Gazette has a large report on the Queensland National Bank with features on the following people: John Piper Mackenzie, Thomas McIlwraith, BD Morehead, Arthur H Palmer, Samuel Grimley, Walter Vardon Ralston, Edward VP Reid, Edward B Forrest and Edward Deshon

What Is A Webinar?

Put simply, a webinar is a seminar that is accessed on the internet instead of physically going to a venue. This makes it possible to easily attend seminars that are held overseas, or interstate or if you have mobility issues.

A webinar is exclusive to the attendees. However, small groups often get together at a venue and act as one attendee. Being part of a small group can help cut costs and promote discussion but can be frustrating when there is a need for interactive responses, difficulty with sound/video/screen size or re-watching the event.

Webinars can take a variety of forms from very simple, (the sound of the speaker talking over a Powerpoint presentation), to complex video conferences that allow the audience to be seen and heard by the speaker as well as other audience members. Generally, the cost increases with the complexity of the webinar. Whichever style of presentation is chosen, the speaker is recorded during the event and this becomes available for those who want to review the presentation. For a free example of what you might expect, have a look at TED Talks. These are non-participation webcasts (shorter edited videos of live events) rather than webinars but the presentation is similar.

As with any seminar, there are usually accompanying notes that you can download and print off.

To fully participate in the webinar, you may be asked to join a chat (typing a conversation with other participants), post questions/answers or complete online surveys/polls.

I'm Interested but how do I join one?

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storage
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Example

<https://familytreewebinars.com/upcoming-webinars.php>

This website lists a few upcoming genealogy webinars. 'Using Fold3.com To Your Advantage' will be held on 25th March 2020 and is free. (It is also part of the upcoming MyHeritage Marathon that was detailed in last month's newsletter)

Step 1: Register

Step 2: Complete the Registration Form Details

Step 3: Register and make a note on your calendar

Step 4: Check the confirmation email for details about logging in, resources etc

Step 5: On the day, use the link in the confirmation email

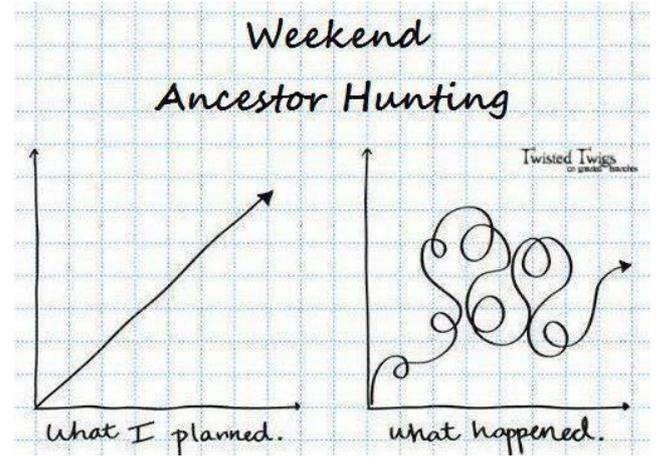
to log in to the webinar. Its good to do this 15-30 mins early in case there is a problem with the internet connection and just to give yourself time to prepare.

That's it. I hope this has been helpful.

Tanya

Note from John: While reading through the causes of death on some old certificates, I noticed a previously unknown disease in a lady's details... CPT. Further investigation showed the cause of death was chronic palpitations of the tongue. I guess she liked a good chat. 😊

Is This You Too?:



What's On:

Blue Mountains History Conference: 'Industrial Heritage' – Sat 16th May 2020. Lithgow Workman's Club. Bookings are now open through

<https://www.trybooking.com/BIITC>

Parramatta Female Factory - Commemoration and UNESCO World Heritage Petition Presentation. Saturday 7 March 9.30am - 12:00pm Venue: Cumberland Hospital, 5 Fleet Street, North Parramatta