



Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc

Newsletter

DATE 10th May, 2013

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WELCOME to the fourth meeting of the Society for 2013. Last meeting there was no guest speaker so a Q&A was held. Some of the topics discussed were British Army Records in particular for regiments going to Canada, Military and Forces War Records and information regarding Master Butchers. Suggested places to seek help were Rootsweb, Canadian Immigration Records, Census Records and for all things pertaining to trade unions, business, professional associations and industry bodies Noel Butlin Archives <http://archives.anu.edu.au/collections>.

Today's guest speaker is Patricia Skehan who is the Publicity Officer for the Canada Bay Heritage Society. Patricia has a wide range of topics on which she speaks but today she will be speaking about the little known "Canada Bay Exiles" who arrived in Sydney in 1840.

Next meeting: 14th June 2013 - Ken Goodlet, a local historian and author, who has recently written a book to coincide with the Bicentenary of the Blue Mountains Crossing entitled "Blue Mountains Journeys" will be our guest speaker.

Items of Interest to Members:

Members of the Committee met on Friday, 26th April 2013. As our Secretary, Kathleen Doyle, is currently overseas and will be for a couple of months, Yvonne Wright has agreed to fill the position in the interim and was welcomed accordingly. The following was discussed:

Seminar 13th April 2013: What a great day the Society had for its seminar. The weather was beautiful, the speakers were all extremely interesting, the entertainment was great and the food was excellent. Pauline Hincksman really did the Society proud with the lunch she provided and the cakes and slices provided by our members were plentiful and delicious. A big "thank you" to Pauline for all the hard work she put in on the day and also a big "thank you" to all the members who provided cooked items and other necessities that went towards making it a very successful day.

(Most of those who attended looked forward to going home, getting on their computers and putting some of this new information to the test.)

Ideas were discussed of ways to make some extra money for the Society. One idea was to hold the occasional morning tea in the Presbyterian Hall on a Saturday offering Devonshire Teas and enlisting the help of members with homemade cakes, slices and scones. Another idea was to have, towards the end of November, either a street stall or a stall in the entrance of the Presbyterian Church. To achieve this we would need the help of members who would be interested in making craft items or who would be prepared to make cakes, slices, etc., or for the keen gardeners amongst our members, perhaps to pot some small plants. To ascertain the feelings of members towards either of these ideas there will be a survey on the Treasurer's table for members to indicate whether they are interested or not. No names at this stage just a tick if interested, it will depend on the response as to whether either idea will be taken further.

Library News:

The Balmain Cemetery Book has now been accessioned and is on the shelves in the Library, the CD has been put on the computer.

Guest Speakers for the coming months:

12th July 2013 Yvonne Stewart will be speaking on the Benevolent Society

9th August 2013 Lorraine Purcell who belongs to the Hill End and Tamboora Historical Society.

13th September 2013 Lorraine Turtle from Turtle Consolidated Services is to be our guest speaker. Lorraine has been a guest speaker before and has proved to be very interesting. She has quite a number of topics she can speak on. There will be a list of all Lorraine's topics on the Treasurer's table and members are invited to put a tick against the topic that interests them the most - the topic with the most ticks will be the one chosen for Lorraine's visit.

Guest speakers - Some members may wonder at times what an invited guest speaker has to do with family history. It is difficult to find guest speakers who are willing to visit the Mountains to speak about research for just an hour. In an attempt to make the meetings interesting, the next best thing is to invite a guest speaker who can speak on historical events that may have taken place during the lifetime of an ancestor. The term Genealogy is more concerned with tracing lineages whereas Family History combines genealogy and events that have occurred during an ancestor's lifetime. Think what events and how many changes someone in their 90s may have experienced in their lifetime.

What's on in Family History:

Sat. 11th May, 2013 Presbyterian Ladies College, Croydon, turning 125 years - Open Day & Fair, 12.00-8.30pm.

***Family History Classes** - The Hawkesbury Library will be holding the following family history classes at the Hawkesbury Central Library. Classes are suitable for beginners or persons wanting a refresher course. Advanced strategies for Family History - **Tuesday, 14th May, 6.30-8.30pm**. The session will focus on creating profiles, producing timelines and plotting ancestors. Suitable for family historians wanting to enhance their research. All classes \$10 each ~ bookings essential ~ T: 4560 4466 Email history@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

***Sat. 18th May-16th June Hartley District Progress Association 1813 Committee**, Exhibition: "A Moment in Time". Visit www.hartleyvalley.org.au/hartleyrocks

What's on in Family History continued:

*Emu Plains Celebrations:

50th anniversary of the transfer of Emu Plains to Penrith, and, the 150th anniversary of the dedication of the Emu Plains cemetery.

11 May 2013 - Breakfast Function at South Creek farm (site of Blaxland's farm) and the launch of the re-enactment trek

11 May 2013 - Family Camp Out on the banks of the Nepean River

19 May 2013 - Historical Festival at Mamre Homestead

25 & 26 May, 2013 - "Back to Emu Plains Weekend" incorporating the 50th Anniversary of Emu Plains becoming part of Penrith City and the 150th Anniversary of the dedication of Emu Plains General Cemetery (the oldest general cemetery in our City):
- The weekend will include tours by the Nepean District Historical Society

- Open house at the Old School Residence, the home of the Nepean Family History Society for family history researchers, Saturday and Sunday.

- Launch of a book on the Emu Plains Cemetery by the Nepean FHS. For more details contact Colin Dickson on 4732 7645 or visit Penrith City Council <http://www.penrithcity.nsw.gov.au/index.asp?id=7756>.

***The Hills District Historical Society Open Day – Saturday, 18th May 2013 - 10am-4pm** Travel back in time and see how transport has evolved in the Hills District., Photographic Display, Outdoor Exhibition including a penny farthing, 1930s bus, vintage cars, etc. Refreshments available. The Hills District Historical Society, Building 10, Balcombe Heights Estate, Seven Hills Road, Baulkham Hills. For Information contact Secretary on 96342670, or email thehdhs@gmail.com or visit their website at <http://sites.google.com/site/hillsdistricthistoricalsociety>

***Sat. 11 May 2013 Glenbrook & District Historical Society** - Walk: "In Their Footsteps" - new walk following the explorers' route through to the Lagoon campsite Doug Knowles: 4751 3275
Tim Miers: 4739 2384

***Fri 17th May 2013 National Trust Heritage Festival**: Community Milestones: Greg Patmore: The 1911-1912 Ironworks Strike. Where - Lithgow Library Learning Centre Contact Kay Shirt: local.studies@lithgow.nsw.gov.au

***International Museums Day 2013 Lithgow** <http://icom.museum/> Celebrating International Museums Day in Lithgow **10am-4pm Sat. 18th May** free entry into Eskbank House & Museum, Lithgow Small Arms Factory, Newnes Hotel, **19th May** Simmos Museum, Glen Davis. For full details contact Wendy Hawkes 6354 9999

Websites: Links to free websites containing Parish Registers, Monumental inscriptions and Census info where available with dates for the United Kingdom - <http://dustydocs.com.au/>; **Irish Ancestors** <http://www.irishtimes.com/ancestor/>; **British History On-line** <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/browse.aspx>; **Isle of Man Government** <http://www.imuseum.im/>; **Ordinance Survey Ireland (osi)** National Mapping Agency <http://www.osi.ie/About-Us/Welcomes-to-OSi.aspx>; **Genuki - UK & Ireland Genealogy** <http://www.genuki.org.uk/contents/>; **RootsWeb** - the Internet's oldest and largest free genealogical community. An award winning genealogical resource with searchable databases - join a mailing list - www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/