

The Explorers' Tree: Rhonda is still needing articles for the October issue of our Magazine. Rhonda's email address is rwflowers@optusnet.com.au.

Raffles. There is no raffle this month. If any member has an unwanted item he/she would like to donate, that would make a good raffle prize, it would be appreciated.

Trade table - A reminder to bring along any unwanted items.

What's On:

NSW ACT Association of Family History Societies Annual Conference – 16th September 2018, Batemans Bay Soldiers Club "Sailing into History". Cost: Full Conference \$150. Registrations close 10th August. See website for full details and registration form – www.sailingintohistory.org.au

Glenbrook & District Historical Society. Walk – **July 14th at 1.30pm "Dunn's Steam Sawmill Site" and earth dam.** Brookside Creed, Lennox Bridge and the old stone quarry.

Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum – Open day **Sunday, 22nd July, 2018.**

Old Occupations: As mentioned in the last Newsletter, when there is not a lot to report in the Newsletter, I am running out of ideas of how to fill a 2-page sheet and make it interesting. One of our members, Judy Barham, suggested we could put in old unusual occupations. Judy has started this section with one of her own:

Calenderer: A person who smooths and glazes cloth.

I have two:

Cordwainer: A shoemaker. (See Website below)

Black Borderer: Someone who puts black lines around funeral cards.

I look forward to receiving any old occupations you may have come across, either in your own research or one you have stumbled upon p_gibson@ozemail.com.au. Thank you Judy.

Governor Macquarie and the Female Factory:

Thanks to Caroline Spratt I went to a talk to be given by Patrick Dodd on the Parramatta Female Factory and Governor Macquarie at the Mechanics Institute Sydney, last Thursday and I now have something for the Newsletter. The talk was very interesting and while I knew a lot of the information I did learn some new facts: For instance, Lachlan Macquarie and his wife Elizabeth came to Australia by accident. Originally Miles Nightingall an Army Officer, who was later knighted, was appointed commander-in-chief of New South Wales in 1808 but due to ill health, was unable to take up the position.

While walking, in Berkeley Square, Lachlan Macquarie and his wife were approached by Lord

Castlereagh and Lachlan was asked to take up that position to which he consented. In 1809 Lieutenant Colonel Lachlan Macquarie was appointed captain-general and commander-in-chief of New South Wales.

On his arrival in the colony in 1810 most of his achievements are probably known to most: how he set out proper street grids, numbered houses, prevented cattle from coming into Sydney churning up mud, created Hyde Park, upgraded Parramatta Road and installed our first road tolls, toured all over the Colony with Elizabeth who refused to remain behind He also encouraged exploration of the Colony including the crossing of the Blue Mountains in 1815 and established the first bank and brought in currency. These are only some of his achievements. Most importantly of all he treated all men as equal which was deeply resented by the upper classes especially when in June 1810 at a dinner held at Government House to celebrate the King's birthday to which the military officers and gentlemen of the colony were invited, he threw open the lawn at Government House so that the populace could enjoy the music and marvel at the verandah, adorned like 'an illuminated orange grove.

Due to Elizabeth's insistence of travelling with her husband she had a number of miscarriages but in 1814 she gave birth to a boy, Lachlan Macquarie Jnr. Sadly their son became a drunk and a gambler and died in 1825 after falling downstairs drunk at the age of 31 leaving no heirs.

After leaving the colony in 1822 Lachlan Macquarie returned to his home on the Isle of Mull where he is buried in a Mausoleum on a small patch of land surrounded by a circular brick wall. This Mausoleum and the surrounding area, once neglected by the Scots has been restored by Australia and is now maintained and owned by Australia. So it can now be said that Governor Macquarie is buried in Australia.

Parramatta Female Factory:

In 1818 Governor Macquarie laid the cornerstone for the erection of the Female Factory designed by Francis Greenway, an ex-convict, to house 250 females. The factory was completed in 1821 and became a place of assignment with some inmates being sent out to work. It became a marriage bureau, provided the first health service and was a place of punishment for absconding female convicts. One form of punishment was to shave their heads. It was known as the factory as cloth-linen, wool and linsey woolsey were also manufactured there. It was also the site of the colony's first manufactured export producing 60,000 yards (55,000 m) of woven cloth in 1822. The women also did spinning, knitting, straw plaiting, washing, cleaning duties and if in third class, rock breaking and oakum picking. It is thought that **1 in 9** people are descendants of the women in the Female Factory.

Websites: The Honourable Cordwainers' Company – www.thehcc.org;



Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc.

Newsletter

DATE 13th July, 2018

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WELCOME to everyone at today's meeting.

Our member, Anne Devrell, was our June guest speaker and Anne gave a very interesting talk on the School of Arts.

Guest Speaker today: Today Chesne Jones will be speaking about the Girl Guide Movement.

Next meeting: The next meeting of the Family History Society will be held on **Friday, 10th August 2018 at 10am** in our usual meeting place, the small hall behind the Presbyterian Church.

August Guest Speaker: Bill Olive will be our August guest speaker and will give a talk on his special interest, the Bluecoat School, which was established in the 16th century in London and various counties around England. Members should find the talk different and very interesting.

The Committee met on the **22nd June 2018** when the following was discussed:

State Delegate: Colin Brest was happy to accept the appointment of delegate to the Annual State Conference and he is looking forward to reporting what's what following the Conference in September.

Newsletters: The Newsletter was discussed again and ways to fill it with interesting items, when there is not very much to report on following committee meetings. Any input from our members would be most welcome and any items can be sent to Pauline at p_gibson@ozemail.com.au.

Crocheted Rug: Yvonne brought the beautiful rug crocheted by John Gordon to the meeting and it was discussed on how best to utilize it. It was decided that it would be used for our Christmas raffle with the sale of tickets of \$1.00 commencing in September.

Street Stall: It was decided to hold our next street stall in September, on a date yet to be discussed with the Church.

Photo Albums: There was further discussion regarding the Photo Albums which are stored in the Library and which were discussed at the June meeting. It appears that they were not donated to the Society from the Estate of Colin Slade but forwarded to the Society by a Solicitor acting on behalf of a deceased client who had no family. This Solicitor was of the opinion they would be of some use to the Society. The Albums bear the name "Sadler". It has been decided that Ian will scan some of the photos and put them on the Society's Facebook page in the hope they will be recognized by a friend or relative of the deceased. As family historians we all know how important photos are and how they are very hard to find. You may come across a distant relative in the course of your research who may have photos but when asked about them, have replied "Yes, we have photos but we don't know who they are".

Donation of Microfiche: Ros Pickering had kindly donated microfiche containing the Blue Books Returns of the Colony 1822-1857. These will be placed in the Library. Thank you Ros.