



Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc

Newsletter

DATE 8 November 2011

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NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING

The November general meeting will be held this coming Friday 11 November 2011 at 10.00 am in the Upper Hall of the Civic Centre, Springwood and will be followed by the Annual General Meeting, after a minute's silence at 11.00 am for Remembrance Day.

DECEMBER – there will be no meeting in December or January. Our next general meeting will be the second Friday in February and will be held in the Springwood Frazer Memorial Presbyterian large church hall, 160 Macquarie Road, Springwood.

DECEMBER CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Don't forget our Christmas lunch, to be held on Friday 9 December 2011 at the Blue Mountain Hotel Lawson. We have booked for 12.00 noon and lunch will most likely be served at 12.30 pm. Husbands, partners, friends are welcome. Please pay by Friday 11 November at the general meeting.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Our Christmas raffle will be drawn at the Christmas lunch. We are still collecting raffle prizes, so if you have any items for the Christmas hamper (first prize) or any other items suitable for raffle prizes, please bring them along on Friday or you can drop them off at the library. I will leave a box at the library on Friday, until the end of November.

SECOND-HAND BOOK STALL

Coles Property Management had to change our booking for the second-hand bookstall and we are now holding the stall at the Winmalee Shopping Centre on Friday and Saturday 16 and 17 December. A number of people have offered to help on both days. Anyone else willing can see me at the meeting on Friday or phone me 02 4754 1544 or email me j.koperberg@bigpond.com

NOVEMBER OUTING

The November outing is to Ku-ring-gai Historical Society's Family History Group at Gordon on Thursday 17 November 2011. At this stage, Suzanne Voytas is car-pooling and a number of people are catching the 7.30 am train from Springwood.

A form will be available on Friday – so if you wish to attend, please add your name to the list. Ku-ring-gai will give a tour of their premises and resources and will provide lunch for Blue Mountains members.

This will be the last outing for the year. We would like to thank Don Graham for the time and effort put into organising most of the outings this year and thank Suzanne Voytas for organising the outings to Liverpool Genealogy Group and Ku-ring-gai Historical Society.

THE BOB HOWARD AWARD AND THE COOLGARDIE SAFE AWARD

We mentioned at the last meeting that in addition to the Bob Howard Award for best-researched article each year, we now have a new Award, the Coolgardie Safe Award, for the best article that does not fit the criteria of the Bob Howard Award. The Coolgardie Safe Award will be presented to the author of an article that is *worth preserving and presents a breath of fresh air*. So, keep those articles coming!!! Send them to Audrey King apk2777@gmail.com or if you do not have a computer, give the articles to Audrey and she will type them on your behalf.

LIBRARIANS' AWARD

Just for a bit of fun, Pauline Hincksman and Alison Tissington decided to give out the occasional Librarians' Award. Last month the Award went to Gwen Freer – she was the first member to return magazines to the library, with a slip of paper inside containing her name. This saves the librarians going through the whole "Borrowing Book" to find out where to mark off returned magazines.

THREE PRESENTERS

Many thanks to Joan Edwards, Ian Kendall and Audrey King for their help at the general meeting in October, presenting their ideas for *writing your family history*. The committee thought we might start off the first meeting of the year, in February, with a repeat and you can go to the same person or swap and go to another person.

Thank you also to Ian Kendall for his presentation on the use of the Index series, compiled by Joan Edwards and published now every two years.

BMACHO – Ian has also put the BMACHO *Heritage* newsletter Index for 2011 on the BMFHS website. This Index was also compiled by Joan Edwards and is a handy reference
<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nswbmfhs/res/bmacho.htm>

PRIDE OF WORKMANSHIP AWARD

Congratulations to Suzanne Voytas, who received The Rotary Club of Springwood's Pride of Workmanship Award 2011 at a dinner on 24 October 2011. Suzanne received this Award for her family history research. Suzanne wrote a book "Elizabeth 1828" and researched every woman who was transported on that particular convict transport ship.

Quote sent in by Suzanne from unknown author:
Some family trees have beautiful leaves, and some have just a bunch of nuts. Remember, it is the nuts that make the tree worth shaking

TRIBAL PAGES

Audrey King sent a link to Tribal Pages, where she has had some good results. I tried and got a hit straight away. Here it is <http://tribalpages.com/search.html>

LUNCH HOUR AUTHOR TALK

In Her Own Words – The Writings of Elizabeth Macquarie. Robin Walsh presents a wonderful book reviewed by ABC 7:30 report.
Wednesday 23 November 1 – 2 pm
Parramatta City Library – FREE – but booking required.
Ring 02 9806 5159

CONVICT ERA WATERCOLOURS

The State Library of NSW has won its campaign to bring a unique album of 35 convict era watercolours "home" to Australia after paying \$1.75 million at an auction in Canada in the early hours 17 October 2011
Read more: <http://www.smh.com.au/entertainment/art-and-design/library-pays-175m-for-historical-album-20111017-1lt8e.html#ixzz1b6fdAy61>

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DUE END DECEMBER

Membership is due for renewal 31 December 2011. Please fill in a membership renewal form, available from Audrey King, at the library or by download from our website. You can pay at the AGM on Friday, pay at the library on Tuesday or Thursday, between 10.00 am and 1.00 pm or you can post your payment to PO Box 97, Springwood, 2777. To download form, go to <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nswbmfhs/forms/MembershipFormP2.pdf>
Membership remains the same - \$25 single and \$30 joint. If you require POSTAGE of the three magazines for next year, there is an INCREASE. Postage will now be an additional \$7.50.

LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS

The Library Volunteers will be in the Springwood Library up until Thursday 15 December and at Katoomba Library up until early December (please check with Ian Kendall if you want assistance with research at Katoomba. Volunteers will not return to the libraries until February. There could be volunteers in the Springwood Library during January, but we have not rostered guaranteed days.

BORROWING OF MAGAZINES

Remember to check the current exchange magazines made available on the table in the hall. Please ask for assistance from Pixie Hallinan, so that you record the Vol No, month and correct name of the magazine/s you are borrowing. If you don't already have a sheet for borrowing, there are blank sheets at the back of the book.

LOCAL EVENTS

Sunday 13 Nov & Sun 27 Nov – Valley Heights Loco Depot Heritage Museum. Sunday 27 Nov is a special Day for Christmas. Check with the Depot at atmuseum@optusnet.com.au

The events have slowed down, now that the year is drawing to an end.

There will be a newsletter in December and January to keep you up to date with "things" and our next magazine *The Explorers' Tree* will be published in March and will be available at the March general meeting.

ONLINE

COWRA: If you would like a copy of the Cowra e-newsletter, "Eagle Tales", please let me know and I can forward a .pdf copy.

TROVE: From Marg M, the Hunter Valley Rootsweb List Admin: The Australian Town & Country Journal is now on Trove from 1870 –1907. Currently the Maitland Mercury cuts out at 1893. The AT&CJ has a lot of Hunter Valley info. Could be worth a look-see!