

WYONG FAMILY
Founded 1969



HISTORY GROUP INC

Tree of Life

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Member contributions are always welcome

WYONG FAMILY HISTORY GROUP INC

Patrons: Craig Thomson MP for Dobell
Darren Webber MP for Wyong

Our meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month between February and November, at 'The Cottage', Wyong Community Cultural Centre, 6 Rankens Court, Wyong. Phone 4351 2211

Resources and research assistance at 'The Cottage' is available on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays between 10.00am and 3.00pm.

Fees: non-members \$10.00 per hour between 10.00 am and 12.00 noon and 1.00pm and 3.00pm. Members Free.

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Treasurer: Michele Gane
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Bookstall Coordinator: Trish McDonald	Librarian:Glenise Clery
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Cottage Co-ordinators	Publicity Officer:Jack Eglon
Tuesday: ...Marilyn Cridland	Raffles:Eileen Wheway
Wednesday: ...Trish McDonald	Research Officers: ..Robin WrightTrish McDonald
Thursday: ...Murray Hill	Research – Local:Janice Barrett
Cottage Roster: ...Ann Cooke	Snippets:Lynda SmithMeg Gibson
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Fund Raising: ...Esther Dean	
Grant Applications:...Murray Hill	

• Contact Members through 'The Cottage'. 02 4351 2211

FAMILY HISTORY TRACING SERVICE

Australian, International or Local Research

Trace your Ancestors and Discover their Past

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Church & Headstone Photos in Wyong & District

Enquiries to: The Secretary, WFHG Inc.

P O Box 247 Wyong, NSW, Australia, 2259

Email: secwfhg2@westnet.com.au

from the President

Kerrie Metcalfe, member 80, LM, President WFHG Inc.

August 2013



It's already half way through the year and it's time again for me to recall the past few weeks of our busy group's activities and achievements. Our committee is also busy with the day to day running of the group and they do a grand job.

In May we ran a very successful beginners course over three weeks with Trish McDonald and Esther Dean at the helm. It was wonderful to see new people taking up the challenge of tracing their family history and we welcome all those new members who have joined us. I hope you join us for the many events we plan as well as visit the cottage and get to know the other members as this is what it is all about, sharing new resources and knowledge to help you achieve your goals. If you sit at home or don't make time to join us you are wasting your membership and missing out.

At the end of April we joined with the Church of Latter Day Saints at Kanwal to hold a Family History Expo. What a great day this was. We were very lucky to be working with their organizer Kate Walter who was on top of everything all along the way. We now welcome her as a member of our group and hope to see more of her in the future. The day was packed with all manner of genealogy information with Family Search.org helping people to understand the new search pages of their website. Joy & Alan Murrin showed us how to get the best from BDM and our very own expert volunteers did look ups on Ancestry, Findmypast and other resources. The day was friendly and the venue, thanks to the Church of Latter Day Saints, was second to none. I was proud our group was part of this wonderful event and thank those who helped on the day and the members who came along and took part.

On the 25 May, 16 of our members enjoyed a bus trip to Rookwood guided by Harry Johnson Lord. They were shown some of the historic points of interest and given the chance to look up some of their own ancestors who are buried there. Thanks goes to Jean MacLeay's son who made it possible, when we were faced with no one available to drive the bus.

June the 1st was by far the highlight of the past three months when we celebrated our 30th birthday with a lunch at Club Wyong and on the same afternoon launched our long awaited Wyong District Pioneer Register. I was thrilled at the attendance and was so proud of the volunteers who put in so much effort to make the day the success it was. The Pioneer Register was very well received and is well worth having a look at even if you don't have family mentioned in the book.

A week after the birthday party we manned a profitable Bunning's BBQ. Once again a troop of volunteers joined forces to achieve this very important fund raiser which helped to boost our income.

The management committee appreciates those who volunteer to help out on the occasions when we need help to achieve our planned goals. It is a relief when we get the numbers needed for events to run well. If you are one of those who never come along and help, it would make the load lighter if you just occasionally came forward to assist. In this issue of the *Tree of Life* is the notice of the annual general meeting for the 12 September. If you think you could take on one of the many committee and **non**-committee positions please come forward or attend the meeting as our group's survival depends on you.

On the 20th June, 19 of us caught the 7.30 am train to Sydney to be shown through the NSW State Parliament House. This was hosted by our Patron and State Member for

Wyong, Darren Webber. The day was very informative and Darren went out of his way to make us welcome and show us all the points of interests as well as the chance to sit in on question time. There were some weary people at day's end but all enjoyed the day.

We have a new cookbook for sale thanks to Elizabeth Royle and will soon release an updated Noraville Cemetery Book/DVD as well as Transcripts of the Personal Notices (births, deaths marriages, anniversaries, in memoriams) from the *Wyong Advocate* (1932-1995).

The second half of the year has a number of interesting events on the agenda, such as another seminar; a trip to State Records Open Day in August by bus; a research visit to State Records in October; a volunteers BBQ and a recruitment information day. Also planning will begin for the Christmas Party. All ideas are welcome.

I hope you all enjoy your membership with us and we all make progress in our search for our ancestors. If you have any ideas please feel free to let a committee member know....

TOL



State Parliament House 20th June 2013

Convict Interest Group

Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month, 10am to 12. If you have a convict or think you may have a convict in you family then come along. We will assist you in any way we can with your research. At present we have a small compact group and would love for you to join us.

June Johnston

Convict Interest Group..... TOL

from the Editor

Helen Johnston-Lord member 505

July has brought us some surprises with the weather, a record run of over 20°C followed by chilly winds. After spending four and a half weeks in hospital, missing all of the June functions, I am slowly recovering. Many thanks for all the good wishes. Unfortunately our research has been on hold over this time.

I have been heartened by all the articles received this quarter, Jim Raines' story of his 4XGrandfather reminds us that those with ancestors who served with Lord Nelson should be very proud. If I have missed your article please let me know. I may have lost information during recent events.

When sending articles, send your photos as separate attachments in JPEG, PNG or PDF format. This allows for the best reproductions. The photo I have included is of my, then very young, father, Keith Spence, feeding chooks at Erina. It was taken in the late 1930s and is a scanned photo saved as a PNG.

June Johnston from the Convict Interest Group has suggested <http://www.thewomenhistory.org.au/history/guides/patients/RWHS405.htm> as a great site I have found for anyone researching Victorian births 1856 -1879.



Bendigo Bank has generously donated an iPad 2 for a raffle. Tablets and smart phones are helpful for research. Taking photos of old documents and photos helps preserve the originals, however it is not always possible to get square on resulting in a distorted image. There are apps to correct this, some are free and work on line, I am not sure of the privacy issues there. We use our iPads to take our family history files with us, transferring the file between computer and device ensures both copies are up to date. We use Reunion (a Mac specific program) however Ancestry and others have apps for this.

The bus trip to State Records in August should be interesting and remember the Annual General Meeting in September.

Please take the time to let us know if you want your *Tree of Life* posted to you (back page) and remember the deadline for the next *Tree of Life* is 25 October 2013.....TOL

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**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2013
WYONG FAMILY HISTORY GROUP INC.
Notice of Intention for the 2013 AGM**

To be held at The Cottage
on the 12th September 2013 at 3.00pm.
Nomination forms for all positions on the
Management Committee are available from the Cottage
Only fully paid members are eligible to nominate/vote.

Rookwood Historical Tour

Kerry Clarke member 433

A very enjoyable day was spent on our Rookwood Historical Tour on 25 May. Five of our members found troublesome gravesites they have been searching for, although Jean Macleay is already planning another trip down with secateurs and heavy-duty gloves to clear her gravesite of very thorny brambles. The rest of us enjoyed the information Harry had about the local historical personalities, businessmen and women and the mausoleums and vaults in the different denomination areas. We spent time at the heartbreaking Circle of Love commemorating babies lost at birth, and children that are no longer with us, but never forgotten. We wondered at the intricate woodwork in the Greek Orthodox Church, had lunch in a Chinese War Memorial and toured the poignant Australian War Graves section.

The weather gods smiled on us, and although overcast and cool at Tuggerah, the skies cleared and we were treated to a spectacular autumn day – and after such an early start, we really enjoyed our morning tea in the Reflections Café when we first arrived. The plastic step-stool brought in by Doug Thomas was greatly appreciated by all when alighting from the bus – it made that last step just a little easier.

A special thank you goes to our newby bus driver Lindsay Macleay, who patiently drove around the many winding roads in Rookwood all day – I think he knows his way around now. Our expert Rookwood guide Harry Johnson-Lord, who, although not at all well, soldiered on and gave us a memorable, informative and successful day.....TOL



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30th Birthday Celebrations.

Kerry Clarke member 433

Our 30th Birthday Luncheon was a wonderful success. The decorations were spot-on, the programme varied and interesting, the meal and cake were delicious, and from the feedback we received, everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Our foundation member Lynda Smith spoke on the development of the group over its 30 years, and Lorna Clayton gave a very interesting talk on the history of her family in the Wyong area.

After a delicious lunch, Helen McIntyre launched our latest publication the new Wyong and District Pioneer Register, which was very well received. We all then had a well deserved afternoon tea, joined by some of the 200 contributors to the Register.

Thank you to the organising committee who combined all the encouragement, ideas, and expertise to bring this event together.

We can now look forward to our next 30 years. TOL



Main Picture; Marilyn Cridland and Helen McIntyre; clockwise, cutting cake are Eileen, Kerrie and Linda; Lorna Clayton and Kerrie and Linda.

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Do You Recognise These Photos

Kerry Clarke member 433



I am in the process of making up a photo catalogue of all the photos we have been given or acquired over the years. Some are in hard copy, some in digital format. We can name most of the photos we have, but some have come to us without names or dates attached.

In the next few magazines, I will be asking for assistance in identifying some of these photos. If you can help, contact me on secwfhg2@westnet.com.au.....TOL



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Save the Date.

State Records Are having an Open Day on Friday 30th August 2013

WYONG FAMILY HISTORY GROUP Have booked a bus, so 16 lucky people will be able to attend this day, cost \$25 please book and pay at the Cottage

The Open Day at Western Sydney Records Centre will provide a rare opportunity to see behind the scenes of the State government archives.

Highlights of the day are:

- Tours of the state-of-the-art record storage facilities and conservation lab, and an opportunity to see a special selection of original Treasures of the Archives.
- Guest speakers will present talks throughout the day on the theme of Transport, Travel & Tourism, including Christine Yeats, RAHS Senior Vice President, who will speak about 'Exploring the north coast of NSW by train', Gail Davis on Family history in transport records' and John Cann with the presentation 'Dear Sir, the Premier wants a new car!'
- Of special interest to record keeping professionals will be small group briefings by the digital archives team on the approach being taken by State Records to the challenges of our digital future.
- Relax in the beautiful grounds where there will be stalls hosted by historical and genealogy groups, plus souvenirs, a range of food options and a display of vintage military vehicles. More information available on our website.

RAFFLE

We have been fortunate to have a wonderful prize donated by Bendigo Community Bank, Wyong for a special Raffle to be drawn at the Annual General Meeting in September.

It is an APPLE IPAD 2, 16GB with WiFi and Bluetooth capabilities.

Tickets are \$2 each, and are available from the Cottage, and will also be on sale at the Seminar on 17th August.

This is a wonderful prize, useful for many of today's digital processes, but would also make a terrific Christmas present for children or grandchildren.

iPad 2

If you are not attending the Seminar, make sure you get your tickets before the September AGM, to be in with a chance of winning this excellent prize.



 **Bendigo Bank**

Joao Francisco

Jim Raine member 471

Joao was born 15th February 1779 at Sao Joao, Nandufe, Viseu, Madeira, a Portuguese Colony, his name probably also included 2 or 3 Family Names, his Parents were Manoel Francisco and Maria Ferreira who married on 16 February 1773, both born and married in Nandufe, Viseu, Tondela, Madeira.



As Joao would have dressed in the English Navy.

The Family traces back Manoel Fernandes, Da Ribalda Du Francisco and Maria Da Rosa, married 20 December 1681, all Families in Madeira.

John joined the English Navy on 24 November 1803, and a volunteer would have received £ 2/10/- bounty money, (\$5 about equal to three months wages at today's values). In his Pay Book No. S.B.1071, the Navy listed him as John, rated as Ordinary Seaman.

He was assigned to the Ship *Leviathan* a third rate 74 gun Ship of the Courageous Class with Captain William Henry Bayntun commanding.

The *Leviathan* with Joao on board was fourth in line in Admiral Lord Nelson's column at the Battle of Trafalgar on 21 October 1805. She fired on both the French ship *Bucentaure* (74 guns) and the Spanish ship *Santissima Trinidad* (136 guns) before forcing the surrender of the Spanish 74-gun ship *San Augustin*. HMS *Leviathan* lost 4 of her crew with a further 22 injured.

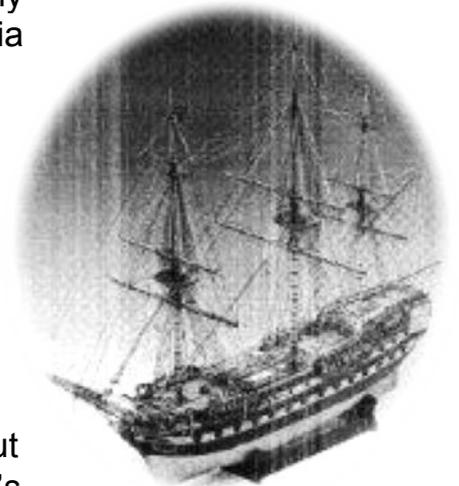
The *Leviathan* was launched on 9 October 1790 and in 1816 was used as a 650 man prison hulk. In 1848 the Ship was broken up.

Joao married Harriet Cramp in Eastbourn, Sussex, England in 1812, they had two children, John and Ann.

Harriet formed a relationship with a William Hurd, a child was born in 1818, he was known as William Francisco. They then had two more children and were married in Eastbourne in 1829. They had four more children.

Joao was reported missing at sea in 1816, on report states he went whaling in New Bedford, USA, however, this has not been verified.

Joao was my 4XGrandfather, matriarchal side.....TOL



Model of The Leviathan



The Hulks in Portsmouth Harbour

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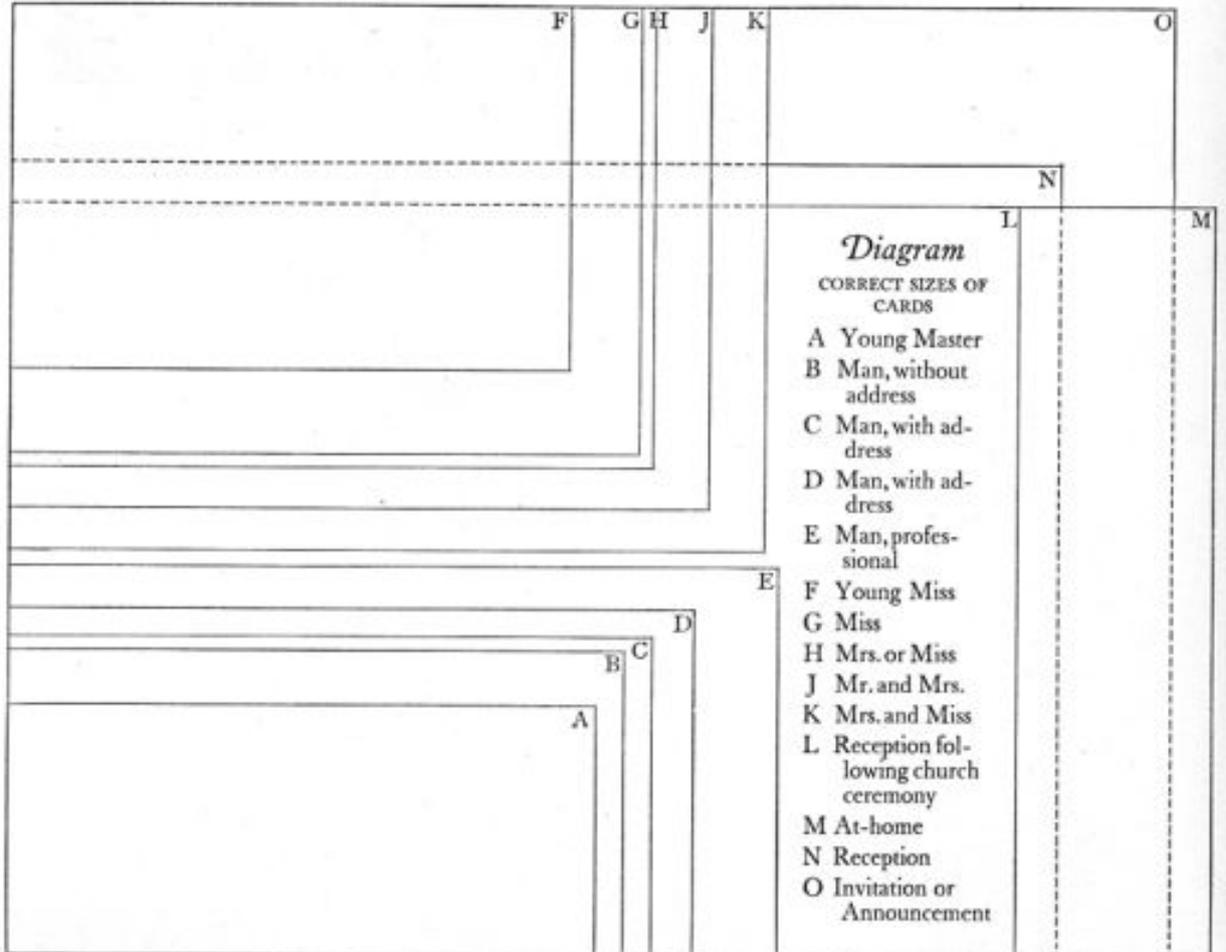
The Visiting Card.

Harry Johnston-Lord Member 504

In this day and age the card one is handed is mainly the stock standard business card which measures 90mm x 55mm (3.5" x 2.25" approx).

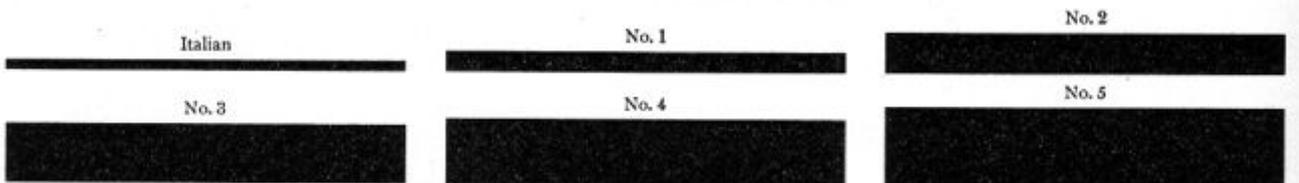
In days gone by things were more complicated. Below is reproduced a chart of *some* card sizes as required in the 1920's. The illustrations are not to scale.

In addition there are sizes for Death Announcement and Acknowledgment of Condolence



Cards. The announcement card had to be 6 5/8" (158.75mm) x 5 3/4" (146.00mm) when folded with a No.2 black border as below and envelope to match. The acknowledgment card had to be 4.875" (123.8mm) x 3.125" (97.65mm) with a No.3 black border and envelope to match.

EXAMPLES OF MOURNING BANDS



Further card sizes were required for wedding stationery, invitation cards and announcement cards. These were not just one size for each use either: there were several sizes with different applications in each case.

The information above is taken from the American Type Founders Company Specimen Book and Catalogue of 1923.TOL

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WYONG FAMILY HISTORY GROUP INC.

presents a

Family History SEMINAR



DATE

SATURDAY 17th August 2013



VENUE

**Club Wyong [RSL] cnr Anzac Ave
& Margaret St, Wyong**



TIME

10.00 am - 4.00 pm

WYONG FAMILY HISTORY GROUP INC.



Family History Seminar

SATURDAY 17th August 2013

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME:

ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE:

MEMBERSHIP NO: (If Applicable)

PAYING BY CASH / CHEQUE / M.O.

RECEIPT NO:

DATE:

Postal Address: - P.O. Box 247, WYONG 2259

WYONG FAMILY HISTORY GROUP INC.

Presents

Family History Seminar

- Arrive 10.00am for Registration.
- 10.30 – 12 noon. Ann Howard, a local historian and author, who lives on Dangar Island has written a number of books on the history of the Hawkesbury and also has a connection with Dr. Barnardos, having written an article about the placement for adoption of children by Barnardos in Australia and other colonies.
- 1.00pm – 2.15pm Mr. Bill Hoyles from Dr. Barnardos will talk on the history of Barnardos in the UK and Australia, the records that have been kept and how to access them, and general knowledge of how to find records of other institutions in NSW. He will also give some case examples of family searches, some successful and some not.
- 2.15pm – 2.30pm Afternoon Tea
- 2.30pm – 3.45pm Dr. Tanya Evans from Macquarie University will be speaking on her use of family history in her latest public history project on the history of the Benevolent Society.
- Finish 4.00pm.
- Cost \$20.00 with afternoon tea provided.
- Lunch available at Club Wyong - at your own expense.
- Venue Club Wyong [RSL], cnr. Anzac Ave and Margaret St Wyong.
<http://www.wyongrsl.com.au/>
- **Bookings Essential by 10 August 2013**

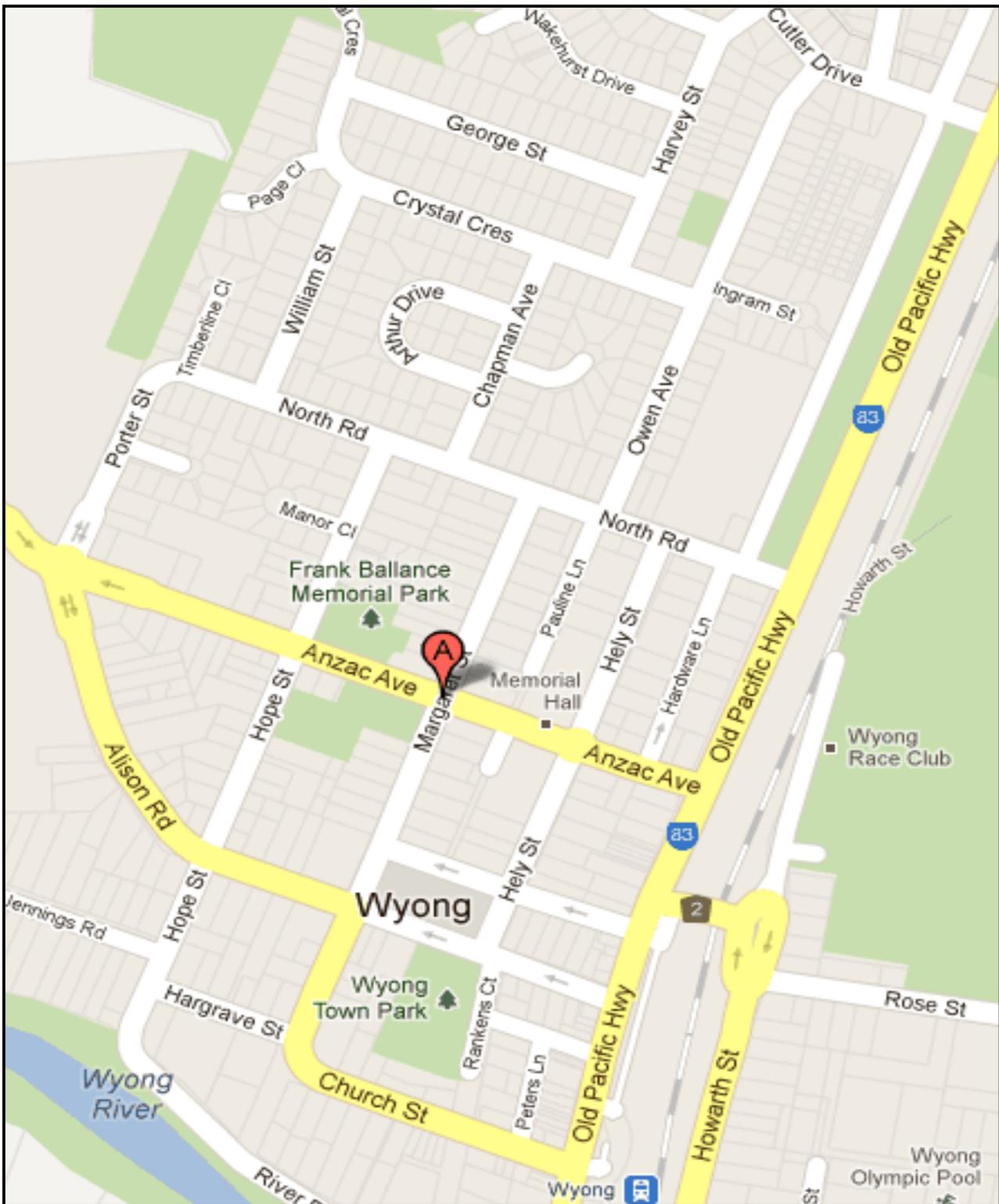
Contact for further information

The Cottage: - 4351 2211

Secretary: - Kerry Clarke

4392 1279

Vice President: - Trish McDonald 4351 2211



Wyong Family History Group Inc.
P.O. Box 247, Wyong 2259
4351 2211
President: - Kerrie Metcalfe 4351 5430
Email WFHGInc: - secwfhg2@westnet.com.au
Website: - <http://rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nswwfhg/>

The Myths Of My Childhood

Jean Macleay, member 359



John Frederick Small

As far back as I can remember my family told me many times that we were descended from John Small who arrived on the first fleet, but not as a convict. Oh no. John was a sergeant in the marines, the marines being the body of men who stood between the wicked convicts and the ship's crew as protection. Of course the truth has emerged since that John was indeed convicted as being a 'highwayman' and sentenced to death at the Devon Lent Assizes in 1786, later to be commuted to 7 years transportation.

John was one of the

Windsor and Richmond Gazette (NSW: 1888-1954, Friday 15 July 1927, page 3

JOHN FREDERICK SMALL

Mr. John Frederick Small, who died at Neutral Bay on the 7th instant, at the age of 76 years was a member of a family which has been associated with New South Wales since the time of the first settlement. One of the wordens in charge of prisoners who arrived in Sydney in the first fleet was John Small. His son, a second John Small, pioneered the cedar-getting trade of the Clarence River, took up Woodford Island in that river as a cattle run, and finally moved his family to a home on the banks of the river. The family settled at what is now known as Tyndale on May 1, 1839. The late Mr. John Small's father, Mr. John F. Small, was a son of the second John Small. Thus Mr. Small, despite his great age, was a native-born Australian of the third generation. He was also a grandson of Mrs. Rebecca Oakes, the first white female born in Australia, who died at Parramatta in the eighties of last century, aged 93 years.

Mrs. Small – a daughter of Mr. George R. Powell, of the Clarence River – three sons – Norris, Stanley and Barton and two daughters – Alice and Mary – survive Mr. Small. He also leaves a very wide circle of relatives, including his father's sister, Mrs. Howard, the last surviving member of the family of the second John Small.

The funeral took place at the Northern Suburbs cemetery.

National Library of Australia

88 male and 20 female convicts aboard the *Charlotte* in the first fleet. He did gain the nickname of 'the sargeant' in later life, possibly after he was appointed a constable at Ryde.

But my immediate family was not alone in

Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 – 1954), Friday 4 March 1938

FIRST WHITE GIRL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Sir,-In the second leader in to-day's "Herald" occurs the statement that the maternal grandmother of the Oakes family was born in September, 1788, and was the first white girl born in Australia, her father being a sergeant in the Sirius. So far as I know, this error was first made by the late Archdeacon Oakes. When it was corrected in the "Herald" he altered the statement to "the first free born child" born in Australia. But neither was that correct. There were 19 free-born girl babies born in Australia before Rebecca Small, who later married Francis Oakes; every one of the 19 was just as free-born as was the ancestress of the Oakes family. The full list of earliest baptisms may be seen on the walls of the genealogical exhibition, 91a Phillip Street.

Prior to her death on January 30, 1883, at the age of 94 years. Rebecca Small (Mrs. Francis Oakes) was, I believe, the oldest living colonial born white woman. This may have given rise to the belief. In the records, Rebecca's father, John Small, does not appear to have come out as a sergeant of the Sirius. He may have become so later on. He was called "the sergeant" in the early nineties.

I am, etc.,

MARY E. J. YEO.

Yass, Feb. 26.

National Library of Australia

passing on this myth for here it is recorded in an obituary in the Windsor and Richmond

Gazette of 15 July 1927 and as we all know if it is in the newspaper it must be true. In the same article is the story my Aunt Jean told me many times that Rebecca Small was the first white girl born in Australia. The records show that Rebecca was not born until September 1789, 21 months after the fleet's arrival. Common sense tells us that many children would have been born even within the first few months of settlement.

My family stuck to their 'free settler' and 'first white baby story' probably until Mollie Gillies book *The Search for John Small* was published in 1985. However as far back as 1938 a letter in the Sydney Morning Herald from Mary E.J. Yeo gives the truth of the matter.....TOL

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But Edith Was There!

The date of the Elliot Family photograph

Mary E Manser member 358

Some years ago, after my brother asked me for information about our mother's family, I wrote to our cousin Roseanne (Elliot) Campbell asking what she could tell me about our ancestors, the Elliot family. In reply she sent me some notes on the family made in the 1970's by Aunt Joan, our Uncle Ted Elliot's wife. These were largely based on oral recollections which Joan had gathered from members of the family, plus typed extracts from some documents which she had been shown by them. They included a typed transcription of a letter written to our Grandmother Elliot in 1939 by Grandfather's aunt, Lucy Elliot (an Anglican nun known as Sister Lucilla, living at Broadstairs in England) replying to a letter asking her about a family group photograph which Grandmother had found among Grandfather's possessions after his death. In her letter Aunt Lucy, then

aged nearly ninety, names the various members of her family who were in the photo. Her four brothers, Gilbert, Tom, John and Philip, standing at the back; her mother's father, John Cork, sitting next to her mother who has her eldest grandson Elliot Thompson on her lap. Aunt Lucy identifies herself and four of her sisters - Elliot's mother Jane was on her mother's right, Minnie on the left with Lilla leaning against her,



Carrie in the plaid dress in front of Jane and herself as 'the little one', and also adds that "*Edith was not there nor Papa, but all the rest of the family*". She comments that it was taken in the garden of 'The Beeches' (the family home in Newcastle under Lyme in Staffordshire) by her eldest brother Gilbert who 'got someone to remove the cap after he arranged it' and that John Cork had died soon afterwards and Jane the following year. In her notes Aunt Joan mentions that she last saw the photo nearly 40 years before, which would have been in the 1940's.

Aunt Joan's notes gave me a lead into my research into the Elliot family, but how I wished I could see that photograph although it seemed there was little chance it still existed since my grandmother had moved many times in the years after my grandfather died. However,

when I made contact with another cousin, Marie Louise (Elliot) Potter, I was overjoyed to find that she has both the photograph, a glass plate positive in surprisingly good condition, and the original letter about it - she generously sent me digital copies of both.

Initially I accepted Lucy's identification of the family, including that of the child on her mother's lap, without question but as I became more involved with research into the family doubts began to creep in. At first I just wondered why Edith and her father, Liddle Elliot, were not there when the photo was taken - one would have expected them to be present on such a special occasion. More serious problems with the date of the photograph arose when I realised that, although Elliot's birth was registered in the April-June quarter of 1863, he was baptised on 25th March that year so he would have been born in March, while John Cork's death was also registered in the April-June quarter of 1863. So Elliot could not have been much more than 5 months old when his great-grandfather died but the child on Mary Ann's lap, although its head is blurred because it had moved, is clearly a toddler not a baby - it is quite tall, sitting up and is wearing shoes. That it is wearing a dress was not a problem as it was the custom at that time to keep boys as well as girls in dresses until they were about four years old.

This discovery made me look more closely at the others in the photograph and I realised that the apparent ages of the younger girls did not fit a date of 1863. By then Lucy, who was born in 1850, would have been 13, Lilla 15 and Carrie 17 while in the photograph they look to be about 6, 8 and 10. Also the picture was clearly taken in the summer; the girls are in summer dresses without shawls or other wraps, which makes it unlikely that it could have been taken outdoors in that part of England before June or July.

I put the problem to Marie Louise and asked for her thoughts on the matter. She agreed that there did seem to be a problem and had the ingenious idea of assessing the age of the baby on Mary Ann's lap by comparing it with a photograph of one of her granddaughters, who was about 15 months old, sitting in the same position on her mother's lap. This confirmed our feeling that the child was indeed a toddler about 18 months old, not a baby of three to five months. Marie Louise also agreed that the girls looked too young for the photograph to have been taken in 1863 and asked various members of her family to assess their ages and they came up with ages which agreed with my suggestions.

At a later stage I spent some time dating the dresses worn by the older girls and their mother and found that the wide 'pagoda' sleeves, the tiered skirts and V-shaped bodices were fashionable in the mid-1850's but not in the 1860's. The large plaid of Carrie's dress was also in vogue in the mid 1850's. One can also see that the two youngest girls are still in short skirts and the puffed sleeves and wide necklines of their dresses are typical of children's dresses of the time. The Elliots were a prosperous middle-class family and although living in the Midlands, would have been dressed in the current style not that of the previous decade.

Putting all this together we have reached the conclusion that Aunt Lucy was mistaken both in her identification of the child and the date of the photograph. It seems that the child on Mary Ann's lap is her youngest daughter Edith, who was born in 1855 and the photograph would have been taken in the summer of 1856 or at the latest 1857. Lucy may well have remembered another occasion when a photograph was taken which included John Cork and Elliot, or indeed not recalled a photograph being taken at all and was guessing a date and occasion for the photograph.

I also wonder now about others in the photo. How well could the old lady see at the age of 89 and how well did she remember her father and grandfather, both dead for over seventy five years in 1939. Aunt Lucy wrote that her father was not in the photograph, but it seems incredible to me that 'Papa' would not have been included in a family photograph

taken at such an early date in the garden of the family home by his eldest son. Also we have another photograph of the person she names as her grandfather, unfortunately without a name, as well as a matching one we can recognise as her mother. I can't help thinking that he is Liddle Elliot not his father in law John Cork, It seems likely that our great grandfather, Philip Elliot, brought all three photographs with him when he migrated to Queensland in 1884 as reminders of his parents and his brothers and sisters. I also wonder about the naming of her brothers - she names them in order of age, which we would read from left to right, but the young man on the left is more like Philip in later photographs than the one on the right and also looks to be the younger – sadly we will never know if that is so unless other photographs come to light from an unexpected source.

In spite of these doubts this photograph is a wonderful family treasure. That it was taken outdoors by an amateur photographer at such an early date is quite most unusual and it is amazing that it has survived for over 150 years and has travelled so far.TOL

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Looking for my Slacks.

Rosalie Walker member 91

The Slacks are of my father's maternal line. My ancestor Harold Slack aged 16 and his brother William aged 18 arrived in Australia in December 1852 on the *Chasley*. Their brother Thomas also came and Robert the eldest brother was sent out in 1854 to bring all of them home but decided to stay. This we know from correspondence with their sister Margaret which has survived the ravages of time.

I first visited Derby in June 2011 when it rained most days. I spent a day at Matlock looking up Parish records. A visit to the Derby Family History Group gave me a lot more information on burial sites and where family Wills were deposited. Unfortunately time did not permit me to go into Hayfield and Glossop in the High Peak area.

While in London I also spent time at the British Library looking up records on Sir Francis Alexander Slack of the Indian Civil Service in late 1800s and early 1900s. Although not of my direct ancestry Sir Francis was very useful to me having produced a book *An Account of the Family of Slack or Slack of Brownside, Co. Derby* in 1924. During his research he had been in contact with my 2 x great-grandfather Harold in Wollombi and I was able to obtain a lot of exact dates of births and marriages of Harold's 10 children and numerous grandchildren that I previously did not have.



Holding Wills at Lichfield

Sir Francis married Caroline Cave and they lived in Bengal. He was appointed as Acting Governor of Bengal by the King. Sir Francis Slacke restored the 'e' to the end of his surname with the leave of the government of Bengal, given in their letter No. 1776 A.D.d/July 1900. This spelling of Slacke was used by the family in the 1400 and 1500s.

His son **Slacke, George Cave** Major I A Burma Commission, served in the Military Department within India from 1903 to 1912. He held various positions Bengal Legislative Council.

In July of 2012 I booked with Customised Heritage Tours so that I could visit the family sites in the High Peak Area and Lichfield to pick up wills from the records office. We checked into the George Hotel at Hayfield and then it was off to dinner with Kate, our Darby researcher and her partner at the 'Pack Horse Inn'.

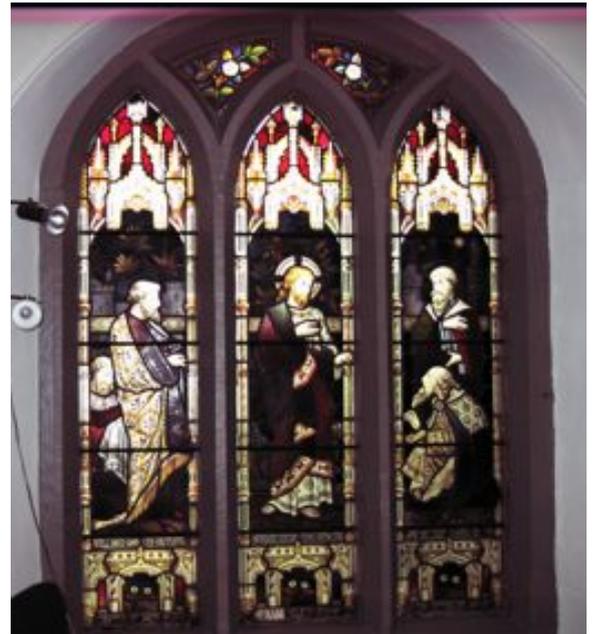
Glossop town roots are deep in English history, occupation in Roman, Saxon, Norman and medieval times. Melandra the most northerly of the three roman forts in Derbyshire

was situated here.

Glossop Hall and much of the town was part of the estate of the Dukes of Norfolk. The town is now industrial and residential and surrounded by a belt of arable and pasture-land to the edge of the moors. I felt in some ways it was similar to but hillier than the Wollombi/Hunter area so that might be why William and Harold settled there.

Hayfield, is built of grey stone and a lot of the buildings have remained much the same over the last few centuries. John Wesley visited Hayfield in 1755 to preach. The old fair at Hayfield prompted the writing of *Come Lassies and Lads*.

The church of St Matthew, where my family worshiped was rebuilt in 1386, and again in 1818 with the addition of a new tower in 1894. It is the final resting place of my 3 x great-grandparents Robert Slack and Margaret nee Kershaw. The church has many stained glass windows including one given in memory of Robert and Margaret Slack.



Stained Glass Window in memory of Robert and Margaret

Their only son to remain in England was Christopher who married Mary Jane Drinkwater. He eventually inherited the family Paper Mills from his father. The last of the mills closed a few years back and remains unused and is falling into ruins. Armed with the previous year's information I visited the graves of Christopher and Mary Jane marked by a cross of Red Granite. Christopher died 16 August 1905 aged 64 and Mary Jane died 28 August 1928 aged 80 years. Next to this site is an Obelisk of Red granite where Christopher's Uncle John (died 15 December 1892 aged 79 years) and Aunt Mary nee Wild (died 11 March 1905) who cared for him after the death of his father Robert. This is also the site of John's son Albert (20 April 1843 – 22 December 1901) and his wife Mary Jane (6 June 1846 – 7 June 1921). Albert's eldest son, Norman (25 March 1869 – 1 Oct 1935) and his wife Victoria (6 Oct 1881- 13 April 1938). It's great what one can find out from headstones.



Near the Paper Mill

Christopher is the last of the family to use a Family Crest. The family motto is *Lente sed Certe (Slow but Sure)* and is the only family to use a snail on the crest although originally a lion couchant proper was used.

In the early 1800s much of the surrounding land of Hayfield was owned by the three Slack brothers; Robert, John and Thomas. The town still remains mostly rural dotted with horses, sheep and cattle.

We stayed two nights in Hayfield and found Swallow House that Harold and William lived in before they left. It is now turned into units, the same as the previous place at Bank Vale and John's



Family home, Hayfield now accommodation units

home at Oaklands. Next night we stayed at Chapel en le Frith, which the Slacks owned back in the 1700's. It is now a B&B and a working farm.

The Town Hall had paintings of John Slack and his wife Eliza. We found the hall opened, as they were having a ballroom dancing lessons, we were let us in to take a photo of paintings. They announced a Viennese Waltz, and I thought here it is Friday night and ballroom dancing. Reminds me of when I was young and my Dad was emcee on a Friday night. We were not able to see the memorials of the Slacks in the church as it was closed and the vicar wasn't prepared to open it before Sunday. As we were back in London then we missed seeing inside the church. According to local history the Slacks gave the money for the church organ, and all sorts of other things including the building for the school and Town Hall.

Everyone seemed to know who the Slacks were as they were a major employer in the district.



Mike Slack and me

Spent some time with Mike Slack, Norman's grandson who lives at Higginbotham Farm in Birch Vale near Hayfield. Now in his 70s with a head of white hair reminded me of photos I've seen of Great Uncle Astley, grandson of Harold of Wollombi. He told us about a group photo of Norman hanging in the bar at the Royal Oak Hotel and we took a photo of it, which was the cricket group dinner of 1911. Mike grew up in Birmingham where his father was a

policeman.

I come from a long line of Robert Slacks. They include Robert born 1624 who married Mary Buckley, Robert who married Dorothy Yeaveby 1710 who married Ann Pickford 1752 Robert married Ellen Bradbury Mary Tym (my line 2nd marriage) Robert married Nancy Ibbotson; Robert married Margaret Kershaw 1831. She was born 23 July 1810 and died 19 October 1849 and Elizabeth Wagstaffe

Robert and Margaret's children four of whom were the ones to come to Australia.

Robert married Sarah Brown/Bellingham and Maud North nee Jenkins. Robert immigrated to Australia with wife Sarah and lived in Victoria, NSW and Queensland.

William Edward immigrated to Australia and married Sophia Maidens. He owned an Inn and Race Horses in the Hunter and Newcastle.

Harold immigrated to Australia (my line) and married Mary Eleanor Elizabeth Bartley born in Australia the daughter of retired Army NCO and Mounted Police Officer, William Bartley and Mary nee Walker.

Thomas Samuel immigrated to Australia, married Ann Addison Toshack (a twin) who came to Australia with her Scottish parents and siblings. Lived in Wellington area of NSW and was a Sergeant of Police.

Christopher remained in England and Married Mary Jane Drinkwater 17 December 1873 and ran the family business.

Margaret born 7 September 1843 and died 23 March 1883 remained in England and Married Frederick Bennett on 17 April 1873.

James Kershaw born 25 Oct 1846 and died 5 Dec 1846 aged six weeks.

Full details of Harold and Mary Eleanor line is in our Family Pioneer Register but a brief summary their son Harold John married Clara Themily Bailey and their daughter Ada Australia married Raymond Spurgeon Walker (my grandparents). Harold and Clara's son Astley Stanton inherited the family property of Holly Brook at Wollombi that was originally purchased by William Bartley. A grandchild of Astley still has the original writing desk belonging to William Bartley.....TOL

NEW MEMBERS

A very warm welcome is extended to all new members and we look forward to meeting and helping you at 'The Cottage'. Contact any of these members by sending an enquiry to:

Member's Name & No.

C/- Wyong Family History Group Inc.

P O Box 247, Wyong NSW 2259

No	Member	Research Interest
647	Elaine Teele	Forrester & Sullivan
648	Marjorie O'Donoghue	Blewitt, Allen, Batchelor, Coice, Gaudern, O'Donoghue, Matthew & Ingrey
649 650	Daniel & Elizabeth Lamb	Lamb, Jacks & Poland
651 652	Neil & Julie Nielsen	
653 654	Martin & Susan Fisher	Fisher, Brigg, Beverley & Hall
655	Chester Robinson	Ward Butler, Simpson, Reid, Currell & Eckert
656	Peter Frame	Lawler & Frost
657	Kate Walter	
658	Carmen Peek	
659	Richard Barker	Barker
660	Kerrie Rule	Williams, Sternbeck, Seckold & Yeatman
661	Judith Stewart	Stewart, Targett, Clinch, James, Myers and Blake
662	Jon Young	Butler, Coyne, Bice, Smith, Young, Jenner and Nelson
663	Donald Davis	Davis/Davies

Members are reminded that anytime they are at 'The Cottage' for any purpose, they have to wear their membership card and do so in such a manner that it is clearly displayed.

Bags are not allowed past the foyer. Please use the lockers provided. You may take in research folders and a purse. Food and drink are not allowed in the research areas.

Books which can be borrowed from the library (i.e. Books without a 'NOT FOR LOAN' mark), can only be out for two weeks at a time. Please record them in the red 'Loan Book'

When returning any journals, books or magazines, please note the date returned in the book and then place them in the tray on the Library table. The volunteer on duty will place them back on the shelves that day.... TOL

WFHG INC Planned Events

	2013	Event
August	Thu 1	Start of National Family History Month.
	Fri 2	Family Historian Workshop Interest Group 1 pm – 3 pm.
	Mon 5	Bank Holiday.
	Thu 8	General Meeting 'The Cottage' 3 pm.
	Tue 13	Family Tree Maker Workshop 'The Cottage' 1 pm – 3 pm.
	Wed 14	Convict Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon.
	Sat 17	WFHG Seminar at Club Wyong (Wyong RSL) 10.am – 4 pm.
	Mon 19	Busy Bee Day from 10 am + Recruitment Day 1 pm.
	Thu 22	Scottish Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon. Irish Interest Group 'The Cottage' 1 pm – 3 pm.
	Fri 30	State Records Open Day Bus Trip – bookings open.
	Sat 31	End of National Family History Month.
September	Tue 3	Committee Meeting 10 am.
	Fri 6	Family Historian Workshop Interest Group 1 pm – 3 pm.
	Sat 7	Start of NSW History Week.
	Wed 11	Convict Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon.
	Thu 12	WFHG Annual General Meeting 'The Cottage' 3 pm.
	Sun 15	End of NSW History Week.
	Mon 16	Busy Bee Day from 10 am.
	Fri 20	to 22 September, NSW & ACT STATE Conference, Canberra.
	Sat 21	Volunteer Help at Tuggerah Library 10 am – 2 pm.
	Thu 26	Scottish Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon. Irish Interest Group 'The Cottage' 1 pm – 3 pm.
October	Tue 1	Committee Meeting 10 am.
	Fri 4	Family Historian Workshop Interest Group 1 pm – 3 pm.
	Wed 9	Convict Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon.
	Thu 10	General Meeting 'The Cottage' 3 pm.
	Sat 12	NSW State Records Bus Trip.
	Sat 19	Volunteer Help at Tuggerah Library 10 am – 2pm.
	Mon 21	Busy Bee Day from 10 am.
	Thu 24	Scottish Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon. Irish Interest Group 'The Cottage' 1 pm – 3 pm.
	Sat 26	Combined Volunteers' Thank You Lunch. & Social Barbecue.
November	Fri 1	Family Historian Workshop Interest Group 1 pm – 3 pm.
	Tue 5	Committee Meeting 10 am.
	Wed 13	Convict Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon.
	Thu 14	General Meeting 'The Cottage' 3 pm.
	Sat 16	Volunteer Help at Tuggerah Library 10 am – 2pm.
	Mon 18	Busy Bee Day from 10 am.
	Thu 28	Scottish Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon. Irish Interest Group 'The Cottage' 1 pm – 3 pm.
December	Tue 3	Committee Meeting 10 am.
	Fri 6	Family Historian Workshop Interest Group 1 pm – 3 pm.
	Wed 11	Convict Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon.
	Thu 12	WFHG Christmas Party.
	Fri 13	'The Cottage' closed for Christmas Break.

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

More details at
<http://rootsweb.ancestry.com/nswwfhg/publications.html>

CDs

Palmdale Lawn Cemetery and Memorial Park. \$ 10.00

DVDs

NEW Wyong and District Next Generation Register (2013) \$ 40.00

Wyong Shire Cemeteries \$ 50.00

Wyong Grave Diggers. \$ 25.00

WYONG FAMILY HISTORY GROUP Event \$ 5.00

The Anglican Parish of the Brisbane Water Area \$ 25.00

Central Coast Roll of Honour..... \$ 40.00

Wyong Township Residents Index 1930 - 1939 \$ 10.00

Simplicity Funerals Bateau Bay, Wyong & Toukley..... \$ 25.00

Wyong Courthouse Death Records 1930 - 1953 (Published 2009) \$ 25.00

BOOKS – *Pioneer*

NEW! Wyong and District Next Generation Register (2013) \$ 50.00

Wyong and District Pioneers 1910 - 1930 Supplementary Information \$ 20.00

Wyong and District Next Generation Register 1930 - 1950 \$ 25.00

SPECIAL! – Twin Pack Pioneers \$ 30.00

BOOKS – *Convict*

Brought in by the Tide – Research Guide..... \$ 10.00

Convict Trail..... \$ 8.00

BOOKS – *Cemeteries*

Jilliby Cemetery, Wyong Shire, NSW [Updated 2009]..... \$ 25.00

Noraville Cemetery, Wyong Shire NSW \$ 25.00

St Barnabas & Yarramalong Cemeteries, Wyong Shire NSW..... \$ 15.00

Ronkana Cemetery, Wyong Shire NSW..... \$ 15.00

All four Cemetery Books..... \$ 75.00

The Anglican Parish of the Brisbane Water Area (Pub. 2009) \$ 25.00

Simplicity Funerals Bateau Bay NSW 2007 – 2011 + Wyong & Toukley \$ 25.00

Simplicity Funerals Bateau Bay NSW 1963 – 2006..... \$ 40.00

Central Coast Roll of Honour. (Published 2009)..... \$ 40.00

Wyong Courthouse Death Records 1930 - 1953 (Published 2009) \$ 25.00

Wyong Township Residents Index 1930 - 1939 \$ 10.00

Gravedigging Index of Wyong Shire,
Compiled by Mr. A V McKenzie and his son Clive. \$ 25.00

Guide to Researching Your Family Tree \$ 6.00

Genealogy Recorder..... \$ 10.00

GENE-GEMS

Gene Jotter, Recording Family History Information A5 size \$ 2.50

GENE-GUIDES

Gene-Guide No 1 – Australian Military Records \$ 4.00

Gene-Guide No 2 - Gene-Scottish, Guide to Scottish Research \$ 2.50

Gene-Guide No 3 – Gene-Ireland, Guide to Irish Research \$ 2.50

Postage and Handling extra !

WYONG FAMILY HISTORY GROUP INC.

Research Centre

'The Cottage', Wyong Community Cultural Centre,

6 Rankens Court, Wyong (entrance via the old school grounds)

Open: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10.00am – 3.00pm. At other times by appointment.
Public Holidays – Closed.

Tuggerah Library, Westfield: Workshop 3rd Saturday 10.00am – 2.00pm (WFHG members available to help)

Contact the Group as follows:

The Secretary

Wyong Family History Group Inc.

P O Box 247

Wyong NSW 2259

Telephone: (02) 4351 2211

Email The Secretary: secwfhg2@westnet.com.au

Website: <http://rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nswwfhg/>

WFHG thanks Mr. Craig Thomson MP, for his assistance in the production of this issue of the Tree of Life.

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Electronic Tree of Life.

Due to our ever increasing membership numbers and the lack of volunteers to help collate our magazine *Tree of Life*, we now publish our magazine on our website. We appreciate that some members do not have access to the internet or email, so we are giving you this opportunity to request that the magazine continue to be sent to you in hard copy.

If you wish to **KEEP** receiving the magazine *Tree of Life* by post, fill in the form below and post it back to the Secretary, WFHG, PO Box 247, WYONG 2259, or return it to the Cottage before our next issue which will be in October 2013. If we do not receive your request by then, we will presume you are willing to access and download the magazine from our webpage.
<http://rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nswwfhg/resources-01.html>

NAME..... MEMBER NUMBER.....

ADDRESS.....

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