

DUBBO & DISTRICT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC



Newsletter 34 – January-February 2018

Location: Ground floor – Two storey Community Arts Building Western Plains Gallery, Cnr. Gipps and Wingewarra Streets, Dubbo.

Opening hours: Tuesday 1.00-4pm, Thursday 2.00-6.00pm, Friday 10.00-1.00pm, Saturday 10.00-4.00pm

Society webpage: www.dubbofamilyhistory.org.au

Society email: info@dubbofamilyhistory.org.au

Postal address: PO Box 868, Dubbo. 2830 NSW

Society phone no: 02 6881 8635 (during opening hours)

Management Committee

Linda Barnes	68878284	martinandlinda@gmail.com	Vice Pres/Librarian
Ken Fuller	68818128	kfuller8@bigpond.com	Treasurer
Robyn Allan	68844572	rpallan@bigpond.net.au	Minute Secretary
June Wilson	68825366	juniwil1943@gmail.com	
Karlyn Robinson	68855773	karlynrobinson@tpg.com.au	
Kathy Furney	68825533	kathyfurney47@gmail.com	
Lyn Smith	68850107	baretsmiths@bigpond.com	
Lesley Abrahams	68822242	labrahams@bigpond.com	

Management Committee Meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 10am in DDFHS Library. Members are welcome to attend these meetings, or simply contact any of the committee listed above if you have anything you would like discussed at the meeting.

Newsletter Information Please share any interesting information, news of an interesting website, or maybe a breakthrough with your family history, with other members. Contact Kathy Ph.68825533 or email kathyfurney47@gmail.com if you have anything that can be shared. We would love to print your item as it is exciting to hear about our members' research.

Website and Facebook Check out the website and Facebook regularly as there is often useful information on them. Regular updates, with information for our members, are being made to both, and don't forget to 'like' our Facebook page.

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Society News

Welcome to 2018 with our society. The rooms are relatively quiet during the holiday period so why not take the opportunity to come in and check out the multitude of journals we receive from other family history societies. We have a big section of hard copy journals but with technology we also receive many email copies from other societies. The societies who send us a copy by email are too numerous to mention, so please check out the list attached to the thumb drive. This is hanging on a hook near the hard copy journals.

Changed parking in front of Family History rooms. We have been advised that the Leadership Academy is using a room in the same building as Family History. Please note there will be bus zone in force for one hour in the morning and one hour in the afternoon. Also one of the disabled parking spots has been removed.

Membership fees for 2018 are now due. The Annual fee for renewal of current single membership remains at \$40.00, while joint membership fee is \$45.00 and family membership \$48.00. You can post your renewal to PO Box 868, Dubbo or you can still pay in person at the DDFH rooms if you so desire. If you are a new member there is an additional \$10 joining fee. For those who prefer to pay online, banking particulars for paying are as follow:
Bank – Westpac, BSB 032 646, account no 581832
Please ensure you enter YOUR **NAME and Membership Number** (if known) in the appropriate box. If required, receipts and membership cards can be picked up in the DDFHS Library.

Share your story the first of these popular events will be held on **Friday 16th February** starting at 2pm. **Lyn Smith** will share with us how she discovered her great-grandfather's secret past. It will be held at the usual venue of WPCC Community Arts Centre in Wingewarra Street. Please RSVP to June Wilson by Tuesday 13th February for catering. June can be contacted at juniwil1943@gmail.com or 'phone 6882 5366 or 0417 690 495. *Why not stay for chat over a cuppa after the talk. \$4 towards refreshments.*



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Yass and District Historical Society Inc. will be hosting a conference at St Clement's Retreat and Conference Centre, Galong from **Friday 2nd March to Sunday 4th March 2018**. Looks as though we will have to set the whole of March aside for conferences! The venue for this conference makes it well worth taking part, so why not get in early and book your spot. Please see the website www.yasshistory.org.au and follow the link on the homepage to *Whole Histories* for fuller details of the weekend and to download further brochures and registration forms.

15th Australian Congress on Genealogy and Heraldry A reminder that this congress will be held for the first time in Sydney in 2018. Early Bird registrations have now closed with over 350 people already registered. The congress will be held from **Friday 9-Monday 12th March 2018**. More information available on the website at www.congress2018.org.au

Glen Innes & District Historical Society invites you to their conference which will be held hot on the heels of the Australian Congress, over the weekend of **16th-18th March 2018**. Their theme will be "Many Cultures - Our History". They are planning an excellent line up of presenters and topics to expand the theme.

Can you help? You might be researching or have information on the following family. If you are you may be able to assist with the following enquiry. William Thomas GREEN & Rose Hannah FLACK married 1896 in Dubbo, son Frederick Charles Green (1915-1983). His daughter Rozlyne Green is hoping there may still be some relations living in Dubbo. Please send any information or contact Chris Starkey at starkeyc@optusnet.com.au

State Library Victoria advises some new digitised records are now available online for those researching the life and times of their Melbourne metropolitan ancestors – a selection of Sands & McDougall directories ranging from 1860 to 1974 have been digitised and uploaded to the State Library website – and searching by keyword/name is a breeze!

Something to note, from 1902 onwards, the directories also cover country Victoria, and I've found that some Albury businesses (just over the river from Wodonga in NSW) have adverts listed too.

You'll find detailed street by street information for Melbourne and the suburbs, and lengthy lists of names for country areas. Though, keep in mind, it wasn't compulsory to be listed.

You can access the collection of directories via the SLV's digitised collection library

(<https://archivalaccessvictoria.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=665ac37edfe004ea0dff68947&id=aac6dbd5e8&e=de421c6f9a>)

– and while you're there, you should definitely check out the other records they have listed.

Also, the Melbourne History Workshop (part of Melbourne Uni) has digitised a collection

(<https://archivalaccessvictoria.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=665ac37edfe004ea0dff68947&id=4d6480bbc3&e=de421c6f9a>)

of these directories as well – every year between 1857 and 1880. So, if you can't find it on the SLV website, try Melbourne Uni.

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Family Search Website Did you know that 70% of the documents on FamilySearch.org cannot be found using name search? A **search by locality** will yield much better results.

When visiting FamilySearch.org you will see a prompt to register for a free FamilySearch account or to sign in to their existing account to continue enjoying all the free expanded benefits FamilySearch has to offer. Since its launch in 1999, FamilySearch has added millions of users, billions of various historical records, and many fun, new features like [Family Tree](#), [Memories](#), [mobile apps](#), [digital books](#), and [dynamic help](#). In order to accommodate continued growth of these and future free services, FamilySearch must assure all its partners that its content is offered in a safe and secure online environment. **Patrons creating a free account and signing in fulfills that need.** Patron sign in will also enable FamilySearch to satisfy the ongoing need for user authentication. This authentication can deliver rich, personalized discovery, collaboration, and help experiences. Simply put, signed-in visitors can access more searchable content and enjoy more personalized services.

“A large percentage of our current site visitors are not benefiting from much of what FamilySearch has to offer because **they don’t realize the need to simply sign in with their free account to do so,**” said Steve Rockwood, FamilySearch CEO. “They are basically arriving in the parking lot but not coming inside for the main event,” he said about website visitors who do not sign in.

FamilySearch is committed to patron privacy and does not share personal account information with any third party without a patron’s consent.

See [Registering to Use FamilySearch.org](#) for information about creating a free account.

On Line Wills for England and Wales Wills and other probate materials dating from 1996 are already on the internet. Now the database has been expanded to cover the years from 1858 – the year Probate Service records begin – to 1996. Including indexes and source documents, it is one of the country’s largest online resources, and will complement the public’s growing interest in genealogy.

Despite a will being intensely personal, many people do not realise that it is, barring a few exceptions, a public document.

Although they will not be able to read the wills at their computers for free, users can search the database at home and then buy copies for **£10 each**. The wills, covering England and Wales and owned by Her Majesty’s Courts and Tribunals Service (HMCTS), and were painstakingly scanned in by hand.

HOW YOU CAN CLICK INTO HISTORY

Log on to www.gov.uk/search-will-probate and create an account.

Choose the section you wish to search – Wills and Probate 1996 to present; Wills and Probate 1858 to 1996; or Soldiers’ Wills.

There are two search fields – the surname of the deceased and year of death. Both must be filled in. You can also carry out an advanced search, which requires more information.

In the 1996 to present section, a list of results will appear, giving the names, date of probate, probate number, date of death and registry of each person with that name. For instance, for a person called Stanley Wood who died in 2005, there are 12 results. To order a document, click ‘Add to basket’.

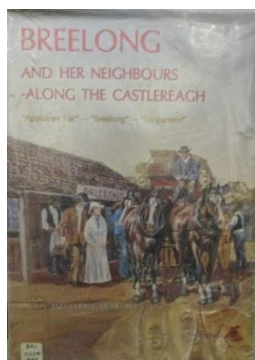
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Under the 1858 to 1996 section, a page from the probate calendar for that year is returned in search results, providing summaries of names, birthplace and other details. These must be typed into an online ordering form on the right of the screen.

Click on 'Proceed to checkout' to pay. Some documents take up to ten days to be sent as electronic copies. The files can be accessed for 31 days.

Irish Ancestors Many of us are searching for information on our Irish ancestors. The North of Ireland Family History Society offers a wealth of resources for anyone searching in the six counties of Northern Ireland and three Irish border counties. It may well be worth your while to check out their website at www.nifhs.org for more information.

BREELONG AND HER NEIGHBOURS ALONG THE CASTLEREAGH a book compiled by John and Cheryl Mudford was published in 1988. This book covers information on colonisation as well as indigenous knowledge in the Breelong, Appletree Flat and Eringanerin area. This excellent reference book contains maps, illustrations etc. and is available to read in our Family History rooms as well as at Dubbo Regional Library.



Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. advises that the 2018 Lilian Watson Family History Award *for a Book* however produced or published on paper, dealing with a family or biographical history and having significant Tasmanian content is now open. If you have written your family history and it has Tasmanian content think about applying for this award.

Entries Close 1 December 2018. Further information and entry forms are available from TFHS Inc. Branch Libraries *or* www.tasfhs.org *or* The Secretary PO Box 326, ROSNY PARK, TAS 7018 Email: secretary@tasfhs.org

Can you Help? Seeking information on the following families who lived in the Geurie/Wellington area. Arthur Michael KONZA/CONZA born 1882 in Maryvale (registered Wellington) to John and Elizabeth Konza.

Clara Ann FIELD born 1879 Louth (registered Bourke) to Joseph and Sarah Field. Arthur and Clara married in Wellington in 1901. Arthur deserted and moved to New Zealand. Clara lived for some time with Francis James WILSON at Geurie before he too deserted her. There were a number of children from both unions. Clara died 1920 in

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Wellington. I am hopeful that there may be descendants of the above families still in the area who may care to shed some light on my ancestors. Please contact Raewyn Donald at raewyndonald@gmail.com

Trove Newspapers There are over 200 million articles already on the National Library's Trove Newspapers website and more are added every month. If you are not very experienced in searching Trove Newspapers, open the website at <http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/> and click on **Help**, then open the **Using Trove** link where you should find some helpful tips. Basically, you have to think about how things would have been written in the paper at the time, which can be quite different from today. Use of forenames was less common than today, so a man who might be called Bill Smith today, would possibly be referred to in an old newspaper as Mr W (or Wm Smith) and his wife Mary, would probably have been called Mrs Wm Smith. You can often narrow down your Trove search by combining a place name (or occupation) with a surname and if you get too many hits, it is simple to refine the results, perhaps to a state, single paper or date range.

Keep in mind that the articles are indexed from the old newspapers using Optical Character Recognition (OCR) which can result in errors occurring in the text due to the poor quality of the newspapers. Remember also that you can search NSW Government Gazettes from 1832 to 1900.

UK Family Tree Magazine for December 2017 has an interesting article on how to use the results from your DNA testing for family tree research. The same magazine has information on how to trace your ancestors in the early 1800's.

Free Websites There are many free websites where you may be able to find information to help you in your family research. Just a few are: Society of Australian Genealogists; <http://midas.sag.org.au> ScotlandsPlaces; <https://scotlandsplaces.gov.uk> Share History; www.sharehistory.org The Society of Genealogists; www.sog.org.uk/search-records/index-of-the-document-collection

A Pictorial History of Wellington contains over one hundred photographs, providing a pictorial record of the town of Wellington NSW. By Carole Gass and Judith Hart and printed in 2003 this publication shows a photo of the Oxley Museum at Wellington on the cover. This very interesting Museum is open 1:30 to 4:30, Monday to Friday. A copy of the book is available in our Family History rooms as well as at the Regional Library.

