

DUBBO & DISTRICT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC



Newsletter 35 - March-April 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	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	ljabrahams@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 where Karlyn has lots of interesting snippets.

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Society News

Share Your Story for April will be held on **Friday 20th at 2pm** at the WPC Community Arts Centre in Wingewarra Street. We have been fortunate to secure **Kim Goldsmith** to share her story on **Miles Franklin**. Some of you may have attended the presentation given by Kim at the regional library in early March. Remember you must RSVP to June Wilson by Tuesday 17th April. You can contact her at juniwil1943@gmail.com or 'phone her on 68825366 or 0417 690 495. There is a \$4 cost towards afternoon tea.

The society held the **Annual General Meeting** on Sunday 18th March. We are pleased to tell you that Linda Barnes has now taken up the position of President of our society. Linda has previously been our Vice President and Librarian, thank you Linda for taking up the position of President. Other than this change the committee remains the same as last year.

Certificates of appreciation were handed out to **Robyn Allen** (not our minutes secretary Robyn Allan) and **Paul Woodford** for their work with the society. As well as being regular librarians, Robyn and Paul have been working hard on the Vincent's Studio negative collection. Paul has also been involved in our newspaper collection indexing, and recently became our official photographer.

This year we presented two members with the **Member of the Year certificate**.

Firstly we had **Lesley Abrahams** who has been managing the preparation of the thousands of negatives in the Vincent's Studios collection. Lesley has trained up a group of family history volunteers to work on indexing and filing these negatives. She is also coordinating the filing and indexing of a huge volume of newspapers held by the society. Lesley is a valuable member of the committee and a wonderful assistant to our librarian Linda Barnes. Lesley also finds time to be a volunteer librarian, write her family history up and research World War 1 history.

Our second Member of the Year is **Mary McMillan** who has been mainly responsible for getting the scanning of the negatives held in the Vincent's Studios Negative Project back on track. Her ability to research and solve problems with this project has been amazing. Mary has been involved on and off with the society for a number of years, and is also a regular librarian who is unstinting with her help to other members in using various websites we have available.

Our final award of **Life Member** for contributions to the society was also given to two of our long time members.

First was **Ken Fuller** who has been Treasurer for many years, keeping our finances in good stead with his watchful eye always on the accounts. As well Ken is responsible for our incoming correspondence.

Our second recipient of Life Membership was **Shirley Trethowan** who has been involved with our society for many years and still finds time to volunteer as a librarian at least twice a month.

Congratulations and a huge thank you to all these people for their ongoing contributions to our society.

Queensland Research Nola Walters is a long time member who has been searching for her ancestors, some of whom were in Queensland. After searching on Ancestry, she discovered a connection with Queensland State Library for the Police Gazettes of Queensland. From Ancestry she found reference to the person together with a year and a page number. After checking out the Queensland State Library website, she was not sure of her next step', so rang the library for assistance. She was directed to the front page, where under the heading of 'services' she went to 'ask us'. In this section there is a form to complete, which you then submit. Nola was sent a receipt by email and then within a matter of days she received 9 pages of information from the Library. These included a photograph which helped with her research. Nola found the staff at the library very helpful when she rang them, and you can see from the website that they are prepared to do two hours of research on your topic at 'no charge'.

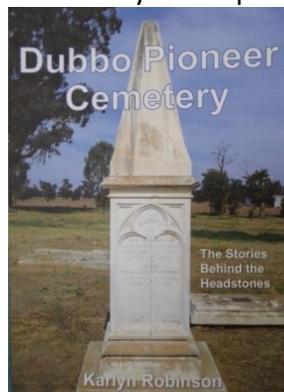
So, if you researching ancestors in Queensland, the Queensland State Library may be able to help you.

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The Biographical Database of Australia website has recently added another 250,000 records to the database, bringing the total to over 1.5 million records. You can search these records in our family history rooms, or if you wanted to you can subscribe for \$30pa and have all these records at your fingertips at home. Some of the new additions include further records relating to Tasmania, Norfolk Island, and NSW.

Conference The NSW ACT Assoc. of Family History societies will hold its annual conference at Batemans Bay from the 14th to 16th September 2018. Go to www.sailingintohistory.org.au for full information on the conference. Early bird registration is already available.

Dubbo Pioneer Cemetery This book, researched and published by our very own Karlyn Robinson, has just become available. Those of you who regularly check our Facebook page would see where Karlyn was publishing information about various headstones in the Pioneer Cemetery on the Butlers Falls Road. It is sad that so few head stones remain in this old cemetery, but we are fortunate that Karlyn took on the project of photographing each headstone, and then researching each person buried there. Well done and thank you Karlyn and her helpers. If you would like a copy of this interesting book it can be purchased in our Family History rooms at \$40 a copy. There is a copy on the stand as you go into the rooms, if you wished to peruse it. Karlyn will be the presenter at our monthly share your story on the 18th May, when her book will be officially launched, so make sure you keep the date free to come along for this.



Share Your Story in March was presented by Lesley Abrahams who has undertaken a huge amount of research on the name of **Hungerford** including the small town of Hungerford on the New South Wales/Queensland border. Lesley is a descendant of the extremely hardy Hungerfords from Ireland who immigrated to Australia in 1828. This is a large family as the first Hungerford (Thomas) had eight sons in a family of nine children. If you would like a copy of the full presentation, which includes photographs and current information on Hungerford please contact Lesley at labrahams@bigpond.com or 'phone 6882 2242.

Anzac Day will be here soon, so members may be interested in research that Lesley Abrahams has completed on soldiers from Dubbo and district who went to World War 1, and who were injured or died as a result of their service in the German offensive in the first six months of 2018. If you are interested in this theatre of World War 1, or had an ancestor involved you could contact Lesley for more information. She has completed an extensive document on the subject.

United Kingdom Family Tree Magazine for March has an article relating to World War 1, but this looks at the wives and mothers of the soldiers. It is interesting reading relating to those left at home to worry about their loved one overseas and the strain of day to day living on their own. There is mention of 'spiteful gossip' by a neighbour relating to the alleged drunkenness of a serving husband in France, what a heinous crime!

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CAN YOU HELP?

Horse Troughs Did you know that during the 1920's and 1930's horse troughs were donated to many country towns in New South Wales and Victoria by Annis and George Bills. They were donated through a trust fund provided for in the will of George Bills with over 300 troughs being installed. There are known to be several of these troughs in the Hunter Valley region namely at Scone, Branxton and Greta. They were usually placed in parks or garden areas, generally under the care of the local Council. These troughs had a dedication/inscription on a raised backing to the trough that read: DONATED BY ANNIS & GEORGE BILLS AUSTRALIA. *Do you know of any such trough(s) in Dubbo or a surrounding town?* Below is a picture of one trough found in Dubbo, there is believed to be another one at Wongarbron? If anyone has any information on such a water trough please contact Mark Small at smalley58au@yahoo.com.au You can see more on this subject at billswatertroughs.wordpress.com



Information on the early rail history of Dubbo, in particular the **Boradze depot** (in the current ARTC triangle) and the Fettler's camp, also known as **Tin Town**. If you have information on any of the above, contact Dr. Jodie Benton of OzArk Environmental & Heritage Management Pty Ltd at jodie@ozarkehm.com.au

Do you know what a **Boradze depot** is? Well I didn't until we received this inquiry. Dubbo is one of only two places in New South Wales that had a Boradze depot in its railway precinct. It is where fresh timber was brought then bored, adzed and treated to make new railway sleepers. I believe Tin Town as it was known, was along the railway line in what is now Chelmsford Street.

Ada Mildred Thompson was a nurse in WW1 who died of Spanish 'flu at Woodman's Point on 1st January 1919. Gary Marsh is a member of the Friends of Woodman Point Recreation Camp formally the Woodman's Point Quarantine Station. Apparently she was part of the Boonah Tragedy, so called because this was the name of the ship returning from war with soldiers who had the Spanish 'flu and who were quarantined at Woodman's Point. Ada Thompson was one of the nurses who volunteered to nurse these returning soldiers, but subsequently died of the 'flu herself. If you know of anyone who may be related to Ada Mildred Thompson, or if you can provide any information on her, please contact Gary Marsh at gary.marsh8888@gmail.com

Soldier Settlement Schemes were implemented in many parts of New South Wales after WW1. Margo Piggott is searching for information on this scheme, she is particularly interested in information relating to such properties around Biddon and Gilgandra. If you can help her out at all with any information please contact her at margaret.piggott@bigpond.com