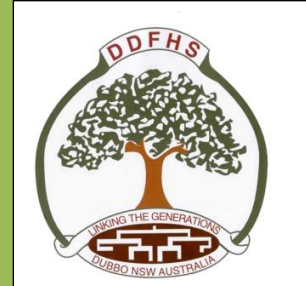


DUBBO & DISTRICT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC



Newsletter 39 – November-December 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	President/Librarian
Lyn Smith	68850107	baretsmiths@bigpond.com	Vice President
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	
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. *There are presently great items on Dubbo local history.*

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Society News



The last twelve months has been a busy one for the society, with Lesley Abrahams and Linda Barnes leading many projects to enable our records to be available to the public. A big push this year saw the completion of scanning of the 'Vincent Studios' huge collection of negatives donated to the society. It is pleasing to see so many of our members step up and volunteer to help out with the many projects currently being undertaken. A big thank you must go out to all our librarians who volunteer their time each week to ensure we are able to open our rooms to the public. However none of this would happen without the wonderful effort put in by our hardworking committee, led by our president Linda Barnes, and ably supported by Lesley Abrahams as project officer, and vice president Lyn Smith who is doing a great job on publicity. Treasurer Ken Fuller keeps our finances in order, while Karlyn Robinson manages our face book page, and wrote and published a book called 'Dubbo Pioneer Cemetery' in her spare time! Kathy Furney works on the website and puts out the newsletter with the help of other committee members, while June Wilson has been the organiser of our guest speakers for the year, as well as looking after our librarian's roster. Robyn Allan has been our hardworking secretary over the year, organising our meetings and arranging catering for all our events. *A huge thank you also to all our librarians and to everyone involved in the running of the society.*

Closing over Christmas the family history rooms will close for the Christmas/New year break at 4pm on **Saturday 8th^h December**. The rooms will be open again at 1pm on Tuesday **8th January 2019**.

Society membership will be due on the 1st January 2019. The price will remain the same with renewal being \$40 for a single person, \$45 joint membership and \$48 a family. You can pay direct to our bank account as per the information on our website, or come into the rooms and pay.

John Oxley the Explorer is the topic of many books and family history magazines. The September issue of 'History' the publication by the Royal Australian Historical Society, has an excerpt from 'John Oxley and the Accidental Discovery of Port Macquarie' by Tony Dawson in it. This article also includes a summary of his expedition through our area on his way to discovering Port Macquarie.

The Kindergarten by Geoffrey Sherington is another interesting article in the 'History' magazine. The idea of the kindergarten (children's garden) originated in Germany. The first concept is a far cry from a kindergarten as we know it today in Australia.

The Isle of Wight Council has digitised thousands of burial and crematorium records and made them available online for a small fee. Nearly 100,00 cemetery and 72,000 crematorium records can be searched on the island's Bereavement Services website at www.iw-bereavementservices.co.uk

UK Family Tree Journal for **November** has several articles relating to the First World War centenary, which may help with your research in this area.

Also in this magazine the story of DNA testing continues, as well as the Techy Tips segment. These are just some of the many interesting articles published each month in the magazine.

NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Conference Following is some useful information from the recent conference that our President Linda gathered for us. If you haven't looked at these websites previously they may help you with your research. It is amazing what different people are doing in the family history research area.

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Cora can be found at CORAWEB www.coraweb.com.au/ - a must-see website. There are guides to many different family history topic and links to an amazing number of websites listed by subject. At the conference Cora spoke about free home access to subscription data bases through major libraries using a public library card. Check out the National Library of Australia (with 129+ subscription databases), www.nla.gov.au/app/eresources and the New South Wales State Library (with 150+ subscription databases) www2.sl.nsw.gov.au/eresources/ She also spoke about her Plan for organising her family history research and estate planning – see her handout from the Conference at www.coraweb.com.au/HandoutSail.pdf

AMANDA IANNA (NSW BDM)

Amanda is the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages NSW. She reminded us that the organisation is bound by state government legislation but has to be self-funded and also return a dividend to the government. Either purchasing directly or through a transcription agent helps their income. You may have noticed on the right of your search results there is a column 'PDF Availability' which may show 'Unavailable' or 'Readily Available'. At the moment the Registry is unable to fund digitizing of their records but every time there is a request for a certificate it is digitised and made available on their website, so slowly there will be more certificates available for purchase as a PDF. They have also improved their turnaround-time so you should receive a certificate by post within a week.

JASON REEVE (ANCESTRY)

Jason spoke about changes in Ancestry DNA. They now have over 10 million samples that provide their reference database. This has allowed them to readjust the definition of many areas and the results will be more specific. Rather than 'Scandinavia' you will be given either Finland, Sweden or Norway for example. He also discussed privacy concerns with providing a DNA sample – something worth reading, talking and thinking about.

TIM SHERRATT (TROVE TIPS & TRICKS)

Tim describes himself as, 'A historian and hacker who researches the possibilities and politics of digital cultural collections'. He was the manager of Trove at the National Library of Australia and is currently Associate Professor of Digital Heritage at the University of Canberra. Check out his digital heritage handbook at <https://timsherratt.org/digital-heritage-handbook> Tim reminded us that Trove is not just newspapers (it is an amazing collection of collections) and suggested using other zones to access things like oral histories, maps, diaries and photographs. On the Trove website there are guides to ways of searching that increase the accuracy of a search. This link will get you started. <http://help.nla.gov.au/trove/using-trove/finding-things/power-searching>

TERRY AND WENDY NUNAN (THINKING OUTSIDE THE SQUARE)

Terry and Wendy are local historians and authors. They gave some intriguing examples of their research. Terry is researching and documenting historical land ownership in the Illawarra and down the coastal strip to Moruya and as a consequence of this has produced a CD called 'Accessing Historic land Records Online with the NSW LRS Historical Land Records Viewer'. This gives a step by step guide to using the amazing digitised land records that are now available at NSW Land and Property Information (the old Land Titles Office). Searching is rather complicated so the CD is a great help. It is available for borrowing in our library. Linda Barnes

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Research Inquiry We have received an inquiry from Yvonne Pascoe regarding a fob pendant necklace which has come into her hands. The pendant is engraved on the front with letters 'MEC' while on the back it has 'from Talbragar pupils 8-12-11'. If you have any information that may be able to help Yvonne she can be contacted at pascoeyvonne@gmail.com The pendant may have belonged to May E Cunningham but Yvonne is looking for more information about it.



Share Your Story for October saw those attending treated to some of **Jen Cowley's** family history. Jen is also the author of a book called "Grandpa's Hat", which is intended to help children through the difficult time of loss and grief. Jen's story of her own family's experiences had us all enthralled, and many of us purchased a copy of her book. "Grandpa's Hat" was written with the support of Rotary clubs of Dubbo and Coonabarabran, and the proceeds from its sale go to the National Association of Loss and Grief (NALAG).



Jen signing her book for Lesley Abrahams



Paul Woodford, Phil Palmer, Michael Graham



Jen signing her book for Di Chase

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The Cynthia Foley Encouragement Award is given annually at the NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Conference. As we know Cynthia was instrumental in establishing the Dubbo & District Family History Society in 1983. Although no longer the president, Cynthia still has a strong connection with the Dubbo society.

At the conference this year Nick Reddan (President of HAGSOC) and Gina Tooke (Secretary of HAGSOC) presented the **Cynthia Foley Encouragement** certificate on behalf of the NSW and ACT Association of Family History Societies, to the Hall School House Museum Family History Unit. The Hall School House Museum was represented by Alistair Crombie and Katrina. Katrina while a graduate student has been helping the Museum organise and make more accessible their rich collection of records that provide context for the families that have connection to the Hall/Ginninderra area. <http://museum.hall.act.au/>



The conference in 2019 will be hosted by Ku-ring-gai Historical Society and will be held at Knox Grammar School in Wahroonga on Sydney's North Shore. The society is already sending out newsletters regarding this annual conference which will be held **11-13 October 2019**. If you would like to receive information regarding the Conference and the newsletters, go to <http://exploringthepast.khs.org.au>

Research Inquiry Another request for information this time on **Clara Eileen May Stevens** who was born in London, England and lived in Dubbo for some time before marrying John Desey Wilton from the south coast at the Methodist Church in Dubbo on 25 September 1929. Her bridesmaids were Miss L Brown of Dubbo and Miss T Simpson of Cumnock. Clara came to Australia when she was 18 and it is thought that the Salvation Army found her a place to live and work in Dubbo. It is possible that she worked as a house maid for a Doctor, name may have been Curry. If you any information on any of the names mentioned in relation to the marriage, please contact Rosalie at gandrwalker@bigpond.com.au

Visit to Warren Recently Linda Barnes and Karlyn Robinson from Dubbo and District Family History Society travelled to Warren to meet up with their counterparts at the Warren Historical and Family History Society. Although only forming recently their group already have over 700 books ready to go on the shelves. Linda and Karlyn were excited to meet so many keen and enthusiastic members, and exchange ideas and see the progress of their work. Below are some of the Warren members.



Warren members

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Presentations As well as visiting the Warren society, Karlyn Robinson along with Lyn Smith gave a presentation to the Association of Independent Retirees in Dubbo recently. This was very well received, with new members signing up after the event. Our hard working projects officer Lesley Abrahams was recently the guest speaker at the Macquarie Regional Library, giving a presentation on our huge project of scanning all the negatives held in the Vincent's Photographic Studios collection.

Scottish Ancestry More information relating to Scottish ancestry is regularly being added to the internet. The website www.scottishindexes.com has recently added over 133,000 High Court records to their online indexes, making it easier to find out about your criminal ancestors, including those who were transported during the Victorian period. To help you get the most out of these records, Scottish Indexes have also added new how-to guides to their Learning Zone, which include examples of the records and also video tutorials. Scottish Indexes is a genealogy and historical records website, providing free high-quality indexes to over 700,000 historical records, from paternity records to criminal records, property records and health records. The ever-expanding Learning Zone has easy to follow guides to help you trace your Scottish ancestors in a variety of records, both online and offline.

IRISH RESEARCH from President Linda Barnes.

It's been quite a while since I looked at Irish research online and I'm amazed at what is now available. Just a simple "Irish Genealogy" search will reveal a wide range of websites. Of course many of them will cost but many of them are free or reasonably priced. The first that amazed was <https://www.irish-genealogy-toolkit.com/irish-death-records.html> this website has up-to-date advice on Irish Research. The following from their website concerns Irish death registration but also applies to births and marriages: **'Irish deaths records - register entries and certificates'**

Irish family historians rarely need to cough up for a legal copy of their ancestor's death certificate. You can get one, sure, if that's really what you want - follow the instructions at certificates.ie or GRONI's Death Certificate Online Ordering Service. But a legal copy isn't required for most genealogical purposes. Family historians need only the information noted on a copy of the register entry.

Online images of these register entries can be viewed as follows:

Deaths 1878-1921 anywhere on the island - free at IrishGenealogy.ie

Deaths 1922-1966 in the Republic of Ireland - free at IrishGenealogy.ie

Deaths 1864-1966 in Northern Ireland - small fee at GRONI's Geni service.'

Taking their advice I went looking at <https://www.irishgenealogy.ie> and discovered that you can find a free certificate. Some of the earlier ones are still not available but you may be lucky. Another interesting site is <https://www.irelandxo.com/ireland> which allows you to connect with different areas of Ireland.

Do have a look at your Irish research and consider checking out what is now available. You may be able to break that brick wall. What else have you got to do in the next few months! Good luck, Linda Barnes.

See you all in the New Year, and don't forget to renew your membership for 2019

