

DUBBO & DISTRICT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC



Newsletter 43 – July-August 2019

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
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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 always 'like' our Facebook page where Karlyn has lots of interesting snippets. *Don't forget to check out "Window on Women" series currently featured on Face book.*

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Society News

NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Conference is on from **11-13 October 2019** at Wahroonga in Sydney. If you would like to receive information regarding the Conference and the newsletters, go to <http://exploringthepast.khs.org.au>

Closer to home, the **RAHS or Royal Australian Historical Society** will be holding a conference in conjunction with Tamworth Historical Society at Tamworth on the **14th and 15th September**. Fittingly this association has an interesting article in their June 2019 issue of their magazine "**History**" on Calala Cottage at Tamworth, where Tamworth Family History group is based. At one time this cottage was the residence of the third Governor of New South Wales, Captain Philip Gidley King and his family. See this magazine in our rooms for the full story.

RAHS or Royal Australian Historical Society not only put out a **Magazine** they also publish a **Journal** twice a year. The **June** issue of the **Journal** contains several interesting articles, one of which is titled "*The Women in Arthur Phillip's Life*". Besides being the first governor of New South Wales, he was married twice, as well as having a third relationship. This article by Michael Flynn has wonderful details about this subject.

An article on the "*Histories of the Chinese in Regional NSW 1850-1950*" by Janis Wilton is also an interesting read. I am sure we all remember in our youth the many Chinese market gardeners and Chinese restaurants in Dubbo, but do we know anything of their life or how they came to be in regional New South Wales.

Have a look through this Journal for these and other stories such as "Barbed Wire Fencing on NSW Railways" and "How the Bells Line of Road came into being across the Blue Mountains".

Vincent's Studios Photo Index and how to use it. With the launch of our Vincent's Studio collection, we are receiving many inquiries to search the index and look at the photographs on our system. The **index** to photographs is available free for all members and visitors to peruse on each of the computers in the main office. Click on the **Vincent's Studio Photos** symbol on the front screen.

If you look at the index and find some names that you might want to check in the photographic collection, you will need to come into the rooms when one of our operators is available. Operators are available **every Tuesday between 1pm and 3.30pm**, and on the **first and third Friday** each month between **10am and 12.30pm**.

You need to enter particulars of each image you wish to peruse on the **order form** available in our rooms, so they can be located on the system.

If you are satisfied to receive the photograph mentioned in the index, without first checking the actual photo, again you must complete the **order form** available in our rooms. **Each copy is \$5** which must be paid at the time of ordering.

The photos can be emailed to you, or downloaded to your USB or CD and then collected by you. If you wish the USB or CD to be posted there will be an additional \$10 fee for postage. You should bring in a sealed, unused, USB stick for the operator to download the photos onto. This is to avoid the possibility of our computer receiving a virus. You may take a photograph of the Vincent's Studio photo, but there will still be a **\$5 fee** for each shot to cover the administration cost of the system.

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WINDOW ON WOMEN published on our Facebook page by **Karlynn Robinson**, has had some interesting topics recently. The latest story relates to **Mary Cunningham**, who members may remember we featured in an earlier issue. We were searching for a descendant to return to them a school fob pendant presented to her by her students at Talbragar School in 1911. As it turned out one of our members Philip Palmer is her grandson, who was very excited to receive the pendant into his care.

Another featured woman was **Sarah Graham** who is an ancestor of member Michael Graham. Not only are her descendants still in the area, the property where she settled "Dilladerry" is still held by the Graham family.

A different woman who has featured was the notorious **Kate Leigh** known as the '*Queen of the Underworld*'. Kate was born in Dubbo and lived in the town for the first twelve years of her life. It is believed she returned to Dubbo at one stage and ran a pub for a short time.

Look up our Facebook page to read the full stories on these women, and then watch for the next instalment in this interesting topic.

Local History Panels on Dubbo streets I recently read one of these panels on Brisbane Street which gave the story of **John Dunn** who was a member of the Ben Hall bushranger gang. It is probably not a well-known fact that this young (19 years old) bushranger was captured near Coonamble and subsequently taken to Dubbo where he was kept in the police barracks before being taken to Sydney to be hanged. The panel near the corner of Brisbane and Wingewarra Streets makes for interesting reading.

Hint for Research Our local history rooms contain a Pandora's Box of information for anyone researching their family history, whether it be local, Australia wide or overseas. Come in and check out the wonderful array of journals and publications to be found on the shelves. In addition to this, our members have access to several on line web sites, such as Ancestry, My Heritage, British Newspapers and others.

Training Sessions The next session will be held on **Monday 26th August** at 11am. The topic for this session will be "**Following a convict's paper trail in the UK and the colonies**". This is a topic relevant to many of us, and will be presented by Jo Murphy. The course is \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members. You must book in with Linda Barnes on 6887 8284 or email her at martinandlinda@gmail.com

UK Family Tree Magazine for July 2019 has an informative article on "**Finding your Irish Family Records Online**". Those of us researching Irish Family History find it very difficult, with many records destroyed in the many uprisings against the English as well as the Civil War in 1922. There has been an exciting upsurge in digital projects in recent years which may make your task of researching easier. In this article, **Chris Paton** gives us the latest information on new web sites now on line relating to Ireland, and what will be coming on line in the future.

Norfolk Island Ever thought of a holiday on Norfolk Island, here is a perfect excuse to go! The **19th March 2020** will be the **230th anniversary of the wrecking of HMS Sirius on Norfolk Island** and the island will be hosting special events to mark the occasion. The author of "**Great Convict Stories**" **Graham Seal** will be presenting workshops on various matters, as well as other presenters. There is a special 7 day package deal being offered, so google Norfolk Island Travel Centre for more information, or check out the flyer in the family history rooms near the 'sign in' book. Sounds good!!

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Share Your Story for July was presented by well-known local sports identity and family historian **Geoff Mann**. He told us how his father's love of family and history inspired him, and he shared his father's meticulously annotated albums with those present. One of these albums covered his father's service in WW1 in the islands around New Guinea. Not only did it contain wonderful photos, but beautifully written comments on every photo. He had several other albums which his father had faithfully compiled. Over the years Geoff himself has built up an extensive library on sport in the western region. Afterwards those present were able to look closely at his family memorabilia and enjoy a chat over afternoon tea.



Linda Barnes and Geoff Mann



Some of the wonderful history Geoff brought along to browse through

Journals in our rooms it was pleasing to hear a story from one of our members on his success in researching a family history. Having obtained some information from various websites, he decided to sit down and read through the journals we receive from the area he was researching. 'Lo and behold' after going through several journals thoroughly and patiently, he came up with information relating to the woman he was researching. It shows that if you persevere, have patience and read, you may turn up exciting information.

Share Your Story for August will be held on **Friday 16th August** at the Western Plains Cultural Centre. For August you will be fortunate to have two presenters, not just one. We have **Bob and Di McKeown** giving a presentation on the history of their busy life and family. People may remember Bob being a partner in McKeown's Real Estate in Dubbo. Make sure you keep the date free, the presentation will commence at **2pm** with a \$4 cost towards afternoon tea. You should make sure to arrive a little early, as sometimes we are forced to change the actual venue on the day. The last presentation was held in the theatre upstairs in the old school building.

Peterloo Massacre will have its' 200th Anniversary on 16th August 2019. This massacre took place not in Australia, America or a third world country, but in Manchester, England on the 16th August 1819 when at least 60,000 people gathered on St. Peters Field, Manchester to rebel against the standard of living they were enduring. By the end of the day at least **fifteen** (15) men, women and children were dead, with up to 700 injured. They had rallied to demand change for the common people after years of war, skyrocketing prices and loss of employment with the industrial revolution. It was a turning point in British politics and society. You can read the whole story by **Adele Emm** in the **August 2019** issue of the **UK Family Tree magazine**. This is only one of many interesting stories in this magazine held in our rooms.