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Tanya Kirk

Hello from Ian, writing the Newsletter again this month.

Our **October Meeting** will be held on Friday 13 October 2023 at 10:00am in the small Hall at the Springwood Presbyterian Church. Our guest speaker for this meeting will be **Steven Ford** who has now confirmed that he will be presenting at our October meeting. Steven has worked on several episodes of "Who Do You Think You Are" and will talk about some of his work with the program. However, he will mainly be talking about conducting research on NSW Land Records. Steven has spoken to the Society several years ago and great interest developed from his previous talk. If you are interested in the HISTORY of YOUR HOME as well as where your ancestors may have lived in NSW, this talk will be of great interest.

Next month's meeting of the Family History Society will be held on **10 November 2023 at 10am** in our usual meeting place, the small hall behind the Presbyterian Church. This meeting will be our Annual General Meeting. Our Secretary has emailed all members with the required Notice of AGM along with a nomination form for Executive and Committee positions.

As previously advised, the following Notice of Motion for the AGM is proposed: *That the Annual Fee for Membership be \$50 for single membership and \$60 for Family Membership for the 2024 Membership Year and subsequent years.*

It is 7 years since our last increase in our Membership Fee and in that period our costs have risen dramatically and for the year 2023, we have made a loss of \$1,489.17, fortunately we have had some funds in reserve, but these have been depleted especially during the COVID years. Our costs for 2023 included:

- \$1,155 Printing of Explorers' Tree
- \$475.20 RAHS Membership Insurance
- \$1,001.00 Storage Rental
- \$500.00 Hire of Presbyterian Hall

The sum of these fixed costs equals an expenditure of \$62 per member. It is only with Morning Teas, Trade Table and Street Stalls that we can set the annual fee as low as \$50.

Members are always able to pay their membership by instalments privately.

Trade table - Our trade will be operating again this month, so you can donate any unwanted good quality items to the table display. If something from the table catches your fancy, please drop some cash in the Society's moneybox for the item, then take it. Remember that if your donated items don't sell, you will need to take them home again.

Library News

Can you help? Helen would really appreciate having some new volunteers at the Library. Even if you can only manage a one-off session, it would be very helpful. Thank you to Helen for organizing the Volunteer's roster. It's good to

know that we are back up and running in Springwood. If you or someone you know needs some Family History research help, we are there on Thursday mornings to assist.

The Explorers' Tree Magazine

A big thank you to the members who often contribute to our magazine. Remember though that the magazine is there for all members. If it's been a long time, or you haven't ever sent something in, why not take this opportunity to submit a piece. "*The Explorers' Tree*" magazine always needs more items. Please send your stories, in a Word Document, with photos or images as attachments to Jan Koperberg. j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Remember to include references and sources if they come with the article.

NEW WEBSITE

We have been unable to update our website at Rootsweb since May this year following changes to the Rootsweb server. Rootsweb have also announced that as at 1 January 2024 all the hosted family history websites at Rootsweb will become static, ie unable to be updated. As of the 7 October 2023 I (Web Master, Ian Kendall) have been able to finally access the Rootsweb site. I will prepare the site to become static. Because of these issues we now have a brand new website.

<https://bmfhs.com>

This website is a WordPress site (for those of you interested) and hosted privately by us. The site is composed of static pages (giving details of our Society), a home page with the latest news and POSTS. These posts consist of items of interest (SAG, BMACHO, FindmyPast etc), copies of Newsletters to download, Membership forms etc to download and reports of Activities and a Gallery of photos.

As well, the site has a Membership area. People are able to register for membership of the site (NOT membership of the Society) to login, share with other members of the site and post member articles to the site. Please have a look at the new site, let me know of access or other problems with the site, and more importantly tell me nice things about the site.

Digital Journals & Newsletters Received - September 2023

Richmond/Tweed Family History Society - Cedar Log No. 157 September 2023

RAHS - Newsletter 14 September 2023

Yass Historical Society - Yandoo - August 2023

Australasian Fed of Family History Org - Newsflash - September 2023

Bathurst District HS - Newsletter No.136 Oct-Dec 2023

Young & District FHG - Newsletter September 2023

Family History ACT (HAGSOC) - The Ancestral Searcher Vol46 No2 Sept 2023



Find My Past

UK Electoral Registers & Companies House Directors

A combination of electoral registers and the Companies House directory, this set now spans from 2002 to 2023, with 12,245,106 new records added.

Index to Death Duty Registers 1796-1903

Another big update comes to our death duty registers. These 1,129,583 new records may shed light on the inheritance left behind by your forebears.