Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc.

Newsletter

DATE: March, 2024

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Editor Newsletter

Tanya Kirk

Hello again as Autumn begins to show itself in the changing colours outside my window. That's important because looking out the window recently served to rest my brain. Like thousands of others worldwide, I spent last weekend tuned in to a variety of presentations that were part of Roots Tech 2024. How remarkable in this day and age, to be able to audit such an information laden event for free! Did you attend as well? Perhaps you picked up some excellent tips that might be useful to others. If so, let me know so I can include them in a future newsletter.

Our working bee at the Library was very successful. Thank you for the willing hands of Bill, Chris, Dorothy, Helen, Jan, Kate, Pat and Tanya. It meant that the boxes were unloaded and all shelves were properly organised. AND it was all completed by midday. A huge achievement. Thanks also to Bill for our

photographic record of the morning.





Our next fundraiser is fast approaching. Our Mother's Day Stall will be held Saturday 11th May. Please put the date in your calendars. We need helpers to set up, man the stall and clear up after. Of course, we also need donations so that we have saleable items. Some suggestions are pot plants, hand made items, baked goods (with a list of ingredients attached would be great).

This month's meeting of the Family History Society for 2024 will be held on **Friday 8th March 2024 at 10am** in our usual meeting place, the small hall behind the Presbyterian Church, right in the centre of town. Visitors are warmly welcome! Morning Tea will be served costing \$2 for tea/coffee and a biscuit.

This month's presentation will be given by Ian Kendall. As the 8th of March is "International Women's Day", Ian will speak on how to research female ancestors. Some of his own female ancestors will serve to highlight the vital roles women have played in our history.

Membership Fees Annual fees are now due for 2024. \$50 for an individual or \$60 for a joint or family membership. If you are new to the Society, then get your membership form online from our website or Facebook page, or pick one up from Ian at the meeting. Also, there is an additional postage fee if you prefer to have your 'Explorer' magazine posted rather than picking it up at our meetings. Our mailing fee is \$15.

Trade table - Our trade table is operating. This means that 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

Thank you to those of you who have already added your names to the volunteer roster. New faces are always welcome though so if you can be a Family History research assistant, even if it is only once, please give your name to Helen. Volunteering involves spending 2-3 hours of a Thursday morning at the Library and helping anyone who needs help with Family History research.

Also remember, that free access to Ancestry, Find My Past and Newspapers is available through the Library computers.

Explorer's Tree Magazine

2024's first issue will be at the March meeting for pick-up, but more items are always welcome. Please keep those written pieces coming in to Jan for the following issues of "The Explorer's Tree". 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.

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Upcoming Events:

Speakers at our meetings

Apr – Meryl Foster. "Nurses from Penrith In WW1".

May - Bob Allan - "Halverson Yacht family"

June - Steve Ford: "Colonial Musicians"

State Library of NSW – The Library is holding a zoom session at 10 am **20th of March**. The topics are beginning family history research and the records held by the state library. You can register online at the state library website or via the link. ttps://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/events/starting-family-history-research-9

May 11 2024 - BMFHS Mother's Day Stall in the Church driveway.

Affilliated FHS journals and Newsletters

From February (now available on our website)

Royal Australian Historical Society Newsletter – 1 Feb 2024

Royal Australian Historical Society Newsletter – 22 Feb 2024

From February (available at the Library after the meeting)

Yass and District "Boongaroon" Oct 2023

Swan Hill Genealogical a& HS "Mallee Roots" Jan 2024

Cool Shire FHG "Family Ties" Vol 9 Issue 1 March 2024

Wyong Family History Group "Tree of Life" - Feb 2024

Young & District FHG "The Lambing Flat Leader" Vol 46 - Feb 2024

Coff's Harbour District FHS "Genie Allergy" issue 113 - March 2024

Hawkesbury HS – Newsletter No. 157 – Feb 2024

Research Tips

From Roots Tech

- Hints on researching Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander family History. "Who's Your Mob?" https://youtu.be/KTBsfxhGSnA
- A possible way of putting a ding in a brick wall might be to look at surname mapping. For example: I had been stumped on moving further back than 1780 for an Irish ancestor of mine. However, by mapping his surname it showed that the name most likely originated in Germany. Now for the almost equally impossible task of locating some form of shipping record for the late 1690's to early 1700's. Piece of cake!!!???©

Just for Fun

See you soon.

