

Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc.

Newsletter

DATE: February 2025

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Tanya Kirk

Welcome back to another year of social get-togethers with people who share your interest in Family History. I know we all enjoy discovering new hints and tricks to help our research along. Welcome also to any new members and visitors to our first meeting of the year.

To facilitate the general welcome back, our post meeting session this month will be a group sharing and discussion activity with the **theme** "Family History – What hooked you in?". Why did you start down the research path and what have been some of your most unexpected or exciting discoveries? What were some of your most useful sources? What about mistakes? We've all made them. How did you fix things? How have you shared your work?

The Christmas Lunch last December was a resounding success. I think we all enjoyed the change in venue. Congratulations to Anne Devrell who won the rug donated by John Gordon. The raffle raised \$122 for our Society.

We have had a request for assistance with research from John and Heather Moxon. Can you help? Please give any information to Ian or one of the Committee members.

"We wondered if your Society would know where the Dobroyd property would have been at Springwood in the 1930s and 1940s. Two of my cousins once lived there, Henry Green and Charles Richard Green. This is an article I recently found.

Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842 - 1954), Monday 29 July 1946, page 14

DEATHS - GREEN-July 28 1946 at his residence, Dobroyd, Springwood Henry Green late of Bourke aged 89 years At rest."

First meeting: The first meeting of the Family History Society for 2024 will be held on **Friday 14th February 2025 at 10am** in our usual meeting place, the small hall behind the Presbyterian Church. Visitors warmly welcome! Morning Tea will be served costing \$2 for tea/coffee and a biscuit.

Membership Fees Annual fees are now due for 2025. \$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 will be operating again this year, 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

- 1. The volunteer roster for February has been distributed. If you think that this is the year you might give volunteering a go, please let Helen know so she can add you on to the schedule.
- 2. There is a new 2025 booking diary available at librarians' desk
- 3. Journals received from other societies in 2022 have been removed from the shelf and will be brought to the February meeting. Members will be able to keep them for a donation.
- 4. Alison will be putting the black plastic dividers is as time permits
- 5. Link to access current digital journals and newsletters http://tinyurl.com/bmfhslink

Explorer's Tree Magazine

2025's first issue will be at the March meeting for pick-up, but more items are always welcome. Please keep those written pieces coming to Jan for 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.

Next month's meeting of the Family History Society will be held on 14th March 2025 at 10am in our usual meeting place, the small hall behind the Presbyterian Church. Guest speaker will be Geoff Nadin on his book, "Treasure House"

Research Tips

The SAG Family History Research Centre & Library will is open on Tuesdays and Thursday each week, and the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month from 10.00am - 4.00pm.

Our collection is a treasure trove of resources for family historians and genealogists to learn from! Our dedicated family history library collection contains the Society's print and electronic items which cover both Australian and international material (especially England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland). Our diverse collection includes BDM indexes, biographies, cemetery transcriptions, burial registers, local histories, parish registers, published family histories, shipping records and more!

We provide access to the major commercial sites such as Ancestry, FindMyPast, The Genealogist, MyHeritage, British Newspaper Archive, Discovery (National Archives UK), Biographical Database of Australia and much more. We also have more than 2,200 electronic databases covering both Australian and overseas topics.

We are also an 'affiliate library' of FamilySearch and have increased access to digital collections. For more information: https://sag.org.au/ or Our Family History Research Centre & Library is at 2/379 Kent Street Sydney.

Upcoming Events:

Speakers at our meetings...

- 1. Feb 14- members sharing "Family History What hooked you in?".
- 2. Mar 14- Geoff Nadin on his book, "Treasure House"
- 3. April 11-Stephen Ford, Australian Military Research
- 4. May 9- TBC
- 5. Jun 13- Tanya Kirk on Kirks in the Blue Mountains
- 6. Jul 11- Ann Krasny on the Blackfriars School

RootsTech - March 6-8, 2025 (that's USA time, 7-9 March in Oz). Free virtual registration; Conference sessions cater for beginners through to experts.

https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/registration/online/

SAG: The 2025 Preliminary Program of events for the Society of Australian Genealogists is now available. https://sag.org.au/

Connections – 17th Australasian Congress on Genealogy and Heraldry & 5th Queensland History State Conference. Attend in person 21-24 March in Brisbane, Qld. Registrations close 10th March. https://www.connections2025.org.au/

See you soon. Tanya