

WYONG FAMILY
founded 1983



HISTORY GROUP INC.

Tree of Life

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Members contributions always welcome.

WYONG FAMILY HISTORY GROUP INC.

Patrons: Emma McBride, Federal MP for Dobell
David Harris, State MP for Wyong

Meetings: Are held on the 2nd Saturday bi-monthly between February and October, at 'The Cottage', Wyong Community Cultural Centre, Building 9, 6 Rankens Court, Wyong. Phone 02 4351 2211

Resources and research assistance at 'The Cottage' – available on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays between 10:00am and 3:00pm. After hours by appointment.

Fees: non-members \$10.00 per hour between 10:00am and 12:00 noon and 1:00pm and 3:00pm. Members Free.

Office Bearers 2019 – 2020

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| President: | Wayne Dean |
| Secretary: | Pamela Andre |
| Vice-President: | Roger Lewis |
| Treasurer: | Michele Gane |
| Management Committee: | All the above executive plus Regina Hogan, Dellas Johnson, Kerrie Metcalfe, John Selwood. |

| | |
|---|--|
| Assets Manager & Computer Administrator: | Roger Lewis |
| Bookstall Supervisors | Niel and Julie Nielsen |
| Cottage Co-ordinators | Tuesday: Marilyn Cridland Wednesday: Helen Horde Thursday: Lorraine Cameron |
| Cottage Roster: | Cheryl Whamond |
| Education Co-Ordinator: | Kerrie Metcalfe |
| DNA Interest Group Co-Ordinator: | Stuart Purvis-Smith |
| Family Tree Maker Interest Group Co-Ordinator: | Martin Fisher |
| Grant Applications: | Roger Lewis |
| Group Collector of Statistics: | Eileen Eliassen, Martin Fisher |
| Guest Speaker Co-Ordinator: | Regina Hogan |
| Multi-Media & Facebook Group Co-Ordinators: | Roger Lewis, Ellen Sheerin |
| Journal Snippet Submitters: | Lynda Smith and Meg Gibson |
| Librarian: | Lyn Hagstrom |
| Librarian Assistant: | Dellas Johnston |
| Membership Secretary: | Pam Mansergh |
| Minute Secretary: | Pamela Andre |
| Project Coordinator: | John Selwood |
| Public Officer: | Roger Lewis |
| Publications (Books & CDs) Printing: | Roger Lewis, John Selwood |
| Publicity Officer: | VACANT |
| Scrapbook (Photos): | Annette Shearer |
| Seminar, Events & Trips Organisers: | Dellas Johnstone (<i>acting</i>) |
| Tree of Life Editor + Word Interest Group Co-Ordinator: | Helen Johnston-Lord. wfhgtol@westnet.com.au |
| Unrelated Certificates: | Jacqueline Wieringa & Kerry Clark |
| Webmaster: | Roger Lewis & Kate Walter |
| Tuggerah Library 3rd Saturday of the Month: | Annette Shearer & Christine Randall |

• *Contact Members through 'The Cottage'. 02 4351 2211*





Hello All!

Welcome back to our little Group. Some might say 2020 has started with a Bang! The heat, the bushfires, the ash and the smoke! Some of the fires too close for comfort. Before it was listed as contained the enormous Gospers Mountain fire burnt over 496,976 ha (1,228,050 acres). The Charmhaven fire consumed over 400 ha and the Kulnura fires were a worry to many.

Lynda Smith's story on page 18 is a timely reminder.

Of all the images in the media, I find the aerial photos give me the best idea of the devastation.

For us, the air conditioner has been a life support.

A very big **THANK YOU** to Carmel Peak for her final Volunteers' function, well done.

Your group urgently requires one of you to take on the role of 'Publicity Officer'. [see p 9]

Trip Organiser

The committee is also looking for a member to organise bus trips and outings for members. It does not require a lot of work as there are only a few outings each year so if this sounds like something you would like to do then please contact either Wayne Dean or Roger Lewis by emailing

wfhg06@westnet.com.au

We have endeavoured to share stories of our recent events in this issue.

Michelle Goldsmith from Tuggerah Library hosted a brief morning tea at the Library for our Library Helpers Annette Shearer & Christine Randall

and our Committee. Just a reminder that Annette & Christine are our regular helpers at Tuggerah Library. They are there 3rd Saturday of each month February to November, from 9:00 am to 12 noon.

Planning for this year's events is underway, there is a lot to digest. If you are eager to participate in our forthcoming events, enquire about our easy WFHG Members Payment Plan. The Events listed on page 34 are as at time of publication. Keep an eye on the *Cottage Newsletter* and the website for further information.

During 2019, we received a donation of Probate Microfiche from Robin Wright [LM 133]. As we already have this, we are keen to give it to someone else who is struggling and who has a Microfiche Reader. Any Group interested should email our office.

Remember to read your emailed copy of the weekly, informative *Cottage Newsletter* right to the end. I am assured any links included are safe.

We continue Jean Macleay's story of her Grandfather, George Herbert Cross on page 30.



I would like to welcome our new contributors and thank everyone for their stories. Remember, your stories help to make our publication

interesting and the deadline for the next *Tree of Life* is 20 April 2020.

Good and productive researching to everyone. ... 🌳

2020 Love Lanes Festival

Let's hope the weather is kind when Wyong Family History Group will be at the Love Lanes Festival in its 4th year to be held in Wyong. This year the group will again be situated in the Lee Academy Park [Wyong Town Park]

The Festival will be held on Saturday 8th February 2019, to link with Valentine's Day, across 3 laneways in Wyong CBD from 4.00pm – 9.00pm.

Wyong CBD Heritage Walk

We will be hosting guided Heritage Walking tours, these will give a peek into life in Wyong over 100 years ago. Registrations are essential and can be made at the Wyong Family History Group stall located in the Lee Academy Park.

Historic Wyong Virtual Reality

Take a virtual tour and experience historical Wyong right before your eyes! This activity will transform modern day Wyong into the Wyong of old. Be immersed in a world of horse and carriage, steam trains and post war monuments. In this virtual reality you can experience what the buildings and streetscape of Wyong looked like 100 years ago.



The Chapman Building installation

Share the love! Take your photo in front of the love mural on the outside of The Chapman Building. Tag the people you love and share with the hashtag #lovelanes2020

There will be an abundance of colour, sounds and smells of a food market plus the buzz, hype and vibe of a huge outdoor festival encompassing the theme of 'Love'.

Guests and stallholders will celebrate the fantastic food and entertainment from around the region. Beautifully designed stalls and dining under the stars allows for soaking up free live music across multiple stages, roving entertainment, circus precinct and art installations on local buildings. More information: www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/whats-on ... 🌳

Central Coast Council's Seniors Expo

Date: Thursday, 13 February 2020 - 10:00am to 2:00pm

Wyong Race Course

Morning tea will be provided

We will be here Too!

Join us at the Seniors Expo 2020 to discover a range of services available on the Central Coast.

The inaugural event, held at Wyong Race Course during Seniors Festival 2020, will feature a variety of

stallholders and key presenters from businesses, services and community groups around the Coast.

Gather valuable information from a variety of stallholders and hear from key presenters on topics related to positive ageing. ... 🌳

Bunnings' BBQs

Helen Johnston-Lord member 505

Whilst we were in recess over summer, Bunnings Tuggerah offered us several available dates for this worth-while fund raiser. Friday 27th December & Saturday 4th January were dates accepted. Apparently the Friday went reasonably well, I think Bunnings' customers were starved for sausage sandwiches.

Saturday 4th was a different story, the weather forecast was for over 40° temperatures and there were

concerns for our volunteers. Total Fire Bans were issued by the RFS and Bunnings advised the postponement of our BBQ to the next day. All those who had put their hand up were available, so another successful fundraiser was held at Bunnings Tuggerah on a day when the weather was much more friendly. The Bunnings customers were still craving their snags too. A huge thanks to all those involved. ... 🌳



Reflections: Volunteers' Thank You Luncheon

Helen Johnston-Lord member 505

Saturday 2 November saw many of our Volunteers meeting other Volunteers, having a chat and

enjoying the fare. Formalities were kept to a minimum and a very pleasant time was enjoyed by all.

The Bushfire haze was not too bad allowing members to enjoy the veranda and the somewhat restricted view.

I personally would like to thank

those who organised the day, the catering, the set-up and clean-up at the end of the day. Still volunteering so the rest of us can enjoy. Thank You! ... 🌳



November General Meeting Guest Speaker

Helen Johnston-Lord member 505

Kaye Vernon from Teapot Genealogy, was Guest Speaker at our November 2019 General Meeting. To allow her to fulfill a family commitment, she spoke at the beginning of the meeting.

Kaye's topic was "The Plight of Children in the 19th and early 20th Century".

And included stories from indexing the book "The Forgotten, Children in Homes and Reformatories".

I found her talk interesting, informative and inspiring and at times very sad. The conditions in Day Orphanages were harrowing to say the least. Kaye mentioned the role played by Emily Ruth Kent as one very effective reformer in these institutions.



Years of Service Certificates Awarded

After General Business, President Wayne Dean thanked the following members for their continuing support of our Group and awarded Years of Service Certificates.

15 years - Elaine Middleton, Susan Drake, Owen Powell, Vicki O'Haire.

20 years - Peter & Gwen Bates.



Member Profile for Peter & Gwen Bates.

Kerrie Metcalfe (80) LM

Peter Member No. 69 & Gwen Member No.70 have been members of the Wyong Family History Group for 20 years and were presented with their certificates of service at the last General Meeting on 9 November 2019.

They joined the group on the 17 November 1999 and have been

instrumental in the growth of the



group over these past twenty years. They hosted social BBQ's in their own home when we only had a small room at the Oasis Centre and helped at many of the early fund raising Bunnings BBQ's.

They attended and helped on the Bookstall when Maitland used to have an annual fair, and also helped at the many Australian Day events we took part in.

Peter was Treasurer from 2005 – 2007. Gwen was the Librarian from about 2004 to 2008. Gwen set up the accessioning system the library still uses today as well as the way the Journals are stored and displayed. They were both on hand to help set up when we moved into the *Cottage* in 2005.

We started to run Beginners Classes at the San Remo Neighbourhood Centre in about 2003-4 and Gwen was the presenter for the Scottish and Irish how to classes, she soon started up a Scottish and Irish Special Interest Group (SIG) which ran for a number of years and is about to be rekindled by no other than Gwen. At a few of our information events



held at the *Cottage* Gwen put up a wonderful display of Scottish and Irish memorabilia and books.

They have made donations to the group over the years of books, CD's, and a patchwork quilt to raffle, also a patch work quilt for our conference in 2009 which is now displayed on the wall in our meeting room.

This couple has made a wonderful contribution to our Group and I commend and congratulate them on their 20 years' service. ... 🌳



Transport

Members – Transport to and from The Cottage is a problem for some of our members.

If you have any ideas, email The Secretary:
secwfhg2@westnet.com.au

or phone (02) 4351 2211 during open hours. ... 🌳



Vale Norman Barrett Member No 45

November 2020 Kerrie Metcalfe.

It is an honor to write about Norm, member No.45, on behalf of the Wyong Family History Group. Norm joined our group on the 13 November 1998 (21 years ago)

I met Norm and Janice when I joined the group in 2001. Jan was a keen researcher but in all the years that Norm was a member I don't think he spent 1 minute doing research **but**, Norm supported Jan, particularly in her role when President. In the early days Norm cooked many a barbecue at their home in order to raise funds for our group.

Our group had several homes before we settled into our present location. Norm was always on hand to organise and help move our resources from one location to the next.

It was never a problem for him to carry out many odd jobs about our Cottage.

Norm was our designated bus driver for several years and drove



members to the State Archives at Kingswood where he would sit in the bus or under a shady tree and read a book for up to five hours while we searched the records.

Rookwood cemetery was another place he ferried our members to in order to find their ancestors. Here he would make sure members got to their destinations by driving to the many sections of this large cemetery.

For many years Norm was the cook at our Bunnings' barbecues plus he would transport the supplies for these events, stay all day and see to the cleanup.

Norm was beside Jan at all our events lending his support to Jan and the Group.

In more recent times he would drive Jan in to attend our meetings and once again sit in his car with a book. (I think he may have found his book more interesting than our meetings)

Norm was the epitome of the quiet achiever. He was well liked by all, and would help with anything as long as it wasn't a computer! Or Research

He played a large role in the progress of our growing group.

He will be missed by all who knew him

Rest In Peace Norm. ... 🌳

PUBLICITY OFFICER:

- **We need you NOW**
- *Could you fill this important voluntary role?*
- *Could you beat our drum?*
- **You could meet some interesting media folk.**
- *Most of this position can be achieved working from home.*
- *Computer skills required to source all types of media to **promote** our special events, meetings and items of interest.*



- Contact **Wayne Dean or Roger Lewis**
wfhg06@westnet.com.au

Publicity: the giving out of information about our group for advertising or promotional purposes.

Filling In The Gaps

Elaine Middleton member 177

It was when I decided to write my father's biography that I needed to fill in the gaps.

This took me on an interesting journey which included meeting WFHG's volunteer, Regina Hogan.

This is how the early life of my father began. His mother, Hilda Ann Louise Jarvis, nee Gale worked as a housemaid and cook in her father's Mornington Hotel at Mortlake which was for boarders only. When the hotel was being painted, Hilda showed an interest in the painter, Fred Stephen Jarvis. Her father would sit on the steps that led into the kitchen and continuously tell her all the reasons



she shouldn't have anything to do with this man, and if she did, then he would disown her. A young independent woman being told, 'don't'!!

Yes, Hilda left home and married Fred Jarvis on the 17th March 1902.

After the death of their first born in 1903 whom they had called Arthur, after Hilda's father, they left on the 15th April 1903 on the

Waikare a Steamship of the 'Union Steam Ship Co. of N.Z. Ltd travelling in Steerage, destination Auckland. While living in Auckland, New Zealand, Fred and Hilda had 4 children. Ruby Adel b. 17-04-1904; George Ernest b. 08-07-1906; Emil Durham b. 06-12-1908; Nellie Ereca b. 25-06-1910.

Then I hit a brick wall – when did they return to Australia? As I had found their departure, I felt confident that I should be able to find their return journey. But not so.

So what did I know? I knew that dad had said that he was pretty sure he was three years of age when he returned, and although I only had part of the story.

I knew they were in Australia in October 1912 because of an article found by the wife of my second cousin, Ron Jarvis, and sent to me.

Patricia, an avid Researcher herself sent this article, telling me the date of the Propeller Newspaper (Hurstville) to be 18th October 1912.



A Brave Oatley Girl.

RUBY JARVIS.

The nine-year-old girl who saved her sister from a burning building at Oatley on

October 5. Mr. Jarvis, on opening the dining-room door, was terrified when a rush of flames met his gaze. He realised that the house was on fire, and set to work to save his children. He got his two little boys out safely, and then Ruby called

out, "Where's Nellie?" her little sister, aged two. The flames got such a hold and the smoke was so thick that Mr. Jarvis was, for the moment, almost helpless to find his little daughter, but Ruby, in heroic manner, secured her from the room, wrapped a wet blanket round her, and placed her on the verandah. (By permission of "The Sun.")

This then gave me a second brick wall because it meant the original article in 'the Sun' newspaper should have more information, e.g. where was Hilda?

So, this was confirmation that dad was 3 years of age. He would have turned 4 in the December of 1912. I also knew that Nellie was born in Auckland as I have her birth certificate. This meant they returned between June 1910 and 18th October 1912.

It was when I called in to renew my membership 2019-2020 that I met a willing volunteer in Regina Hogan who offered to look for the return of the Jarvis family from Auckland to Sydney.

After much time and effort, which I will not detail here, Regina found that Mr & Mrs Jarvis and family comprising of 2 boys and 2 girls aged between 14 and 1, left Auckland as steerage passengers on the *Maheno* 8 April 1912. They arrived in Sydney 12 April 1912.

Regina then went on to find the

References:

NSW BDM / NZ BDM / NSW, Australia,
Departing Crew & Passengers Lists 1816-1825, 1898-1911 / Information passed from Hilda to my mother / Research by Patricia Jarvis / Research by Regina Hogan.

story of the *Maheno* and sent me a copy of *Vale – Maheno* with relevant references. In 1935 at the end of her commercial life she was sold to a ship-breakers yard in Japan. While under tow about 50 miles off the coast the towline broke in a cyclone and she drifted off and disappeared. Three days later she was found beached at Fraser Island.



This is the wreck still on Fraser Island today, and this is a photo of

my sister and her husband in front of this wreck.

So Regina had given me much more information than I could have hoped for.

Regina then very kindly took on the hunt for the rest of the newspaper articles about the fire at Oatley in the October of 1912. Yes, once again, more than I could have hoped for, Regina found not just 'The Sun Newspaper's' article, but found the story in three other newspapers as well, 'Singleton Argus on Sat 12 Oct 1912; 'The Sun' 10 Oct 1912; and 'The Sun Sunday' 13 Oct 1912. The article told me that Hilda was at a friend's place and on the way home saw her house on fire, Hilda fainted. I now had both gaps filled. Thank you, Regina. ... 🌳

Ancestral Road Trip

Wayne Bermingham member # 623

Back in 2016 my lovely wife Elizabeth and I drove to Quirindi, a picturesque little country town on the Liverpool Plains of N.S.W., hoping we may discover some information about her ancestors who had settled in the area many years before. Research indicated at least four branches of her family lived in the region from the early 1820s and a cottage built by her maternal Great Great Grandfather Joseph Baldock and his brother John which I understood was still standing though with nothing more to go on other than it was built at Long Point near Wallabadah so we held little hope of locating the old building until a chance conversation with a volunteer from the Quirindi



Rural & Heritage Museum.

John & Joe Baldock are two brothers of 14 children born to Bounty Immigrants Thomas and Hannah Baldock (nee Lusted) who arrived here on the ship *Prince Regent* in 1839 with four of their children the youngest at the time was Sarah who was born at sea 13 days before arriving in Sydney.

In 1844 John Baldock left Glennis Creek NSW to go to Wallabadah at the age of 16 to work. His first employment coming to this district was sinking a dam then later he was employed on the Northern Rd - now the New England Hwy. At 27, John returned to Glennis Creek & married Sarah Howlett on 20 Feb 1873. He returned to Wallabadah with Sarah & took up residence on his selection of 44 acres at Long Point in a hut by the creek where John and his brother Joe built the slab cottage. Later the kitchen building was carried over from across the creek to where John had purchased 7 acres from a Chinese couple, rebuilding the kitchen into the slab hut with the breezeway built between the two buildings.

While visiting the Quirindi Rural & Heritage Museum we got talking to one of the ladies who asked what drew us to the area. Well of course I couldn't pass up the opportunity to explain, in some detail it must be said, all about the wife's ancestors. From what we were told the Baldocks were and are still very well known in the region and mention of the cottage met with a most positive and helpful result. Not only did she know exactly where the old slab cottage was but she also had the phone number for the lady who was taking care of the property and promptly rang to let her know that she was soon to have two young visitors. Thinking nothing about being referred to as young it wasn't until we arrived at our destination where we were greeted by an elderly looking lady, Moira Scanlon, who asked if my wife and I were the youngsters she



was expecting. Moira was pleased to see us and thrilled to meet an actual descendant of the original builders. She told us she had been grazing her 10 cows on the property for several years and that she was about to buy two more cows so she would have an even dozen. I must point out that Moira was then 93 years young, a most remarkable woman who still cut her own firewood, milked her own cows and cooked a big pot of pea & ham soup once a week. I can only hope I'm half as spritely as she should I get to that age.

Back to John Baldock ... on settling down on his farm he acquired a horse team & commenced carrying cargo, mainly wool from Walgett to Morpeth. John & Sarah raised 11 children. John died at age 92 and Sarah died 18 months later aged 89. Frederick Baldock (their 7th child) lived on the farm till his death in 1974. Fred never married and never had power, water or plumbing installed in the cottage.



He cooked on a wood stove & water came from tanks. Fred died in the cottage as did his parents. The cottage was empty for 21 years, sheds collapsed, windows broke & cows wandered the yard. Moira Scanlon & her children have taken up the restoration, care and maintenance of the slab cottage. These days the cottage has been turned into a B&B for those who want to get away from it all yet still have a roof over their head.

On a personal note I think it's amazing that after all these years the cottage is still standing and still being used. I'm so glad we took this little road trip and I'm looking forward to another visit before too long.



This plaque commemorates the builder and the restorer though it was somewhat overgrown. ... 🌳

A Tribute to Old Genealogists

Kerrie Metcalfe LM (80)

Composed from snippets of an article in an online Journal from New Zealand.

They were avid indexers who, despite their individual indexing quirks, regularly produced accurate indexes of any material they could find.


Teams of now nameless indexers did the work. Some of them were very ill and only survived because indexing was a regular exercise. Many have now passed on. There are many genealogists who have contributed much to the many indexes that have been produced over the years.

Many Groups and Societies have introduced new resources that needed to be publicized. That was


how genealogists learnt. Some unknown genealogist would be ferreting around in the National Archives, Church Archives etc. and find a new resource. They would quietly inform others and voila, it became common knowledge.

Many modern genealogists don't know how the "stuff on the computer" got found and got made into a useable format". It is all the result of the old indexers and genealogists who went to great length to find, record and index various resources. 🌳





Special Interest Groups





Here at **Wyong Family History Group Inc.** we currently offer a range of Special Interest Groups [SIG] where members with common interests meet, learn, practice and share their special interest.

SIGs are free to members and go for one to two hours.

Current Groups are:



-  Computer/Social Media
-  DNA
-  Family Tree Maker
-  Microsoft Word & Office
-  Scottish/Irish
-  [UTAS] The Diploma of Family History



We also run information sessions. These sessions are usually an hour or so and may just give your research and what you do with it, a boost.

 Cottage Information morning – Thursday 6th February
10.00am Lots of information. All welcome.

No Bookings Required

Special Interest Groups New & Returning in 2020


Moderators for all our Special Interest Groups are ready to start a new year this quarter. The scheduled dates and times for all our SIGs can be found on page 34.

Gwen Bates is ready to recommence the Scottish/Irish Interest Group.

New SIG! The University of Tasmania (UTAS) runs The Diploma of Family History course made up of eight fully online units to enable flexible study.

This group will be a place where members who have done the course will support those who are

doing it now or thinking about doing it in the future. Our aim will be to answer any questions you have and share tips and ideas that helped us through. It will be moderated by Ellen Sheerin, Kerrie Metcalfe, Regina Hogan and Helen Johnson Lord and will take place bi-monthly. Check the weekly newsletter or the events sheet in the Cottage Hall for when it is on.

The Microsoft Word SIG has been expanded to include Microsoft PowerPoint and Microsoft Excel with Ellen and Helen returning as moderators. ... 

2009 State Conference 'From Home To Hinterland' Remembered 10 Years On.

Helen Johnston-Lord



Newer members may not be aware that Wyong Family History Group Inc. organised and hosted the 2009 NSW & ACT State Conference. A committee of eight prepared and planned the Conference held at the Wyong Race Course Function Centre 18, 19 & 20 September 2009. I was interested to learn Christine Yeats was one of the Speakers. Christine is one of the presenters at our Hits &



Misses Seminar on 1 March this year.

The successful event was attended by 237 folk from all over NSW as well as Queensland & New Zealand.

You can read a full report on this Conference on our Website. Tree of Life, Vol 25. No 3 November 2009.



A Reminder For Members

Members are reminded that anytime they are at 'The Cottage' for any purpose, they have to wear their membership card and do so in such a manner that it is clearly displayed. Bags are not allowed past the foyer. Please use the lockers provided. You may take in research folders and a purse. Food and drink are not allowed in the research areas.

Books which can be borrowed from the library (i.e. Books without a 'NOT FOR LOAN' mark), can only be out for two weeks at a time. Please record them in the red 'Loan Book'

When returning any journals, books or magazines, please note the date returned in the book and then place them in the tray on the Library table. The volunteer on duty will place them back on the shelves that day. ...

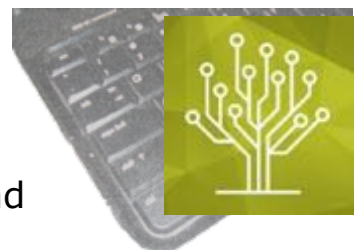


RootsTech London, October 2019.

Regina Hogan #533



RootsTech, the family history and technology conference, has been held in Salt Lake City, Utah since 2011. I have always had a keen desire to attend but for whatever reason have never



managed to organise the trip to the United States. When RootsTech announced they would also hold a conference in London in October 2019 I was very interested.

I sent a message to my 3rd cousin Jill Ball, who was an Australian ambassador for RootsTech London, asking her opinion on my travelling alone to the conference. She assured me that I would not be 'alone' and gave me a few tips on where to stay and other travel suggestions. So I was off to London!

Through a dedicated Facebook page of Aussies attending RootsTech in London I met another Central Coaster, Janelle. We organised to have lunch together before our London adventure and found we had a lot in common including both having completed the Diploma of Family History through UTAS.

I arrived in London a few days before the start of the conference. Again through the Aussie RootsTech Facebook page, I met two other Aussie ladies, Cathie and Pauleen, and we organised to meet for dinner at the Sky Garden in the heart of London. We enjoyed a lovely evening with amazing views over London.



The night before RootsTech started, Jill Ball had rallied the Aussies for a dinner at the Custom House Hotel, situated near the conference venue. Around thirty Aussies from all over Australia, including my new friends Janelle, Cathie and Pauleen, attended and it was a great night. Also dining there that night was one of my favourite authors, Nathan Dylan Goodwin. Nathan writes genealogy crime fiction and he kindly agreed to have his photograph taken with me which was a real thrill.

RootsTech, hosted by FamilySearch, was held over three days at the Excel convention centre in Royal Docks, London. With over 90 speakers from all over the world presenting a vast range of subjects, the hardest thing was deciding who to see! There were three speakers representing Australia -Kerry Farmer, Brad Argent from Ancestry.com and one

of my new genimates Cathie Sherwood.

There were also keynote speakers each day. Dan Snow, a popular English historian, broadcaster and television presenter gave his talk on day one of the conference. What a great storyteller! He had the audience captivated with the sometimes painful tales of his own family, including the part his grandfather played in the Battle of the Somme.

Other keynote speakers were Steve Rookwood the CEO of FamilySearch, who gave an interesting recount of the history of FamilySearch. Kadeena Cox, a young British Paralympic gold medalist who told of her life after having a stroke and being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. What an amazing young woman she is! Day three's keynote speaker was the entertainer Donny Osmond. Donny's presentation included old video clips, while sharing some of his family stories. He also managed to weave in a few songs including 'Puppy Love'.

With the RootsTech mobile app on my phone I was able to browse the conference schedule and highlight

the speakers I wanted to see. It also enabled me to download the speakers handout notes.

All of the presentations I attended were great but some of the stand out speakers were;

- Diahan Southard -Ask the wife. A DNA research strategy
- Myko Clelland - Beyond the British Census
- Shannon S Christmas - Unlock the secrets in your DNA with GEDmatch

And then there was the exhibition hall with 60 exhibitors demonstrating their products and services, as well as a Demo Theatre and Discovery centre where attendees could ask for help with their own research questions. The exhibition hall was very popular and was always a throng of activity.

Nearly 10,000 people from 42 countries attended RootsTech London. I was glad to be one of them and loved the whole three day experience. The highlight? Definitely catching up with old genie mates and making new ones.



Impetus Required

Lynda Smith LM 2



Many years ago, I spent considerable time entering my family history records into an online computer program. Shortly after I 'finished', the program caught a virus and my information was scrambled. I found this incredibly frustrating, so I returned to keeping paper records, but also subscribed to Ancestry, Family Search and Findmypast to access their records. I decided that I would wait until I retired to digitise my work again. Retirement continues to elude me and my mountain of paper continues to grow. My 57 A4 size folders now have their own room in my home.

On New Year's Eve 2019, my world changed. We received phone notifications from the Rural Fire Service to 'watch and act' as there was a bushfire close to us. We also received panicked calls from our three children, who have smart phones that allow them to access information more efficiently via assorted Apps. That is another thing that has to change. Our 'dumb' phones are not good enough anymore, so we will be upgrading as soon as possible.

Our son, who lives locally, came over to help us do what we could to clear leaf litter and clean gutters etc. It was an incredibly hot day and I had been unwell, so I was sent inside to 'find what we should take with us', should we need to evacuate. You can see where this is going. I realised the need to grab our important papers, medications and some clothes, but what next? How much time did we have? How much room did we have? I have been married over 45 years and

between us, my husband and I have a number of hobbies, collections and precious things that we have inherited. How do you decide what to take? Most of what we value is irreplaceable. When I saw footage of people being evacuated from Mallacoota, they had hand luggage



or a pet, but not much else. What had they left behind and would it be there when they return?

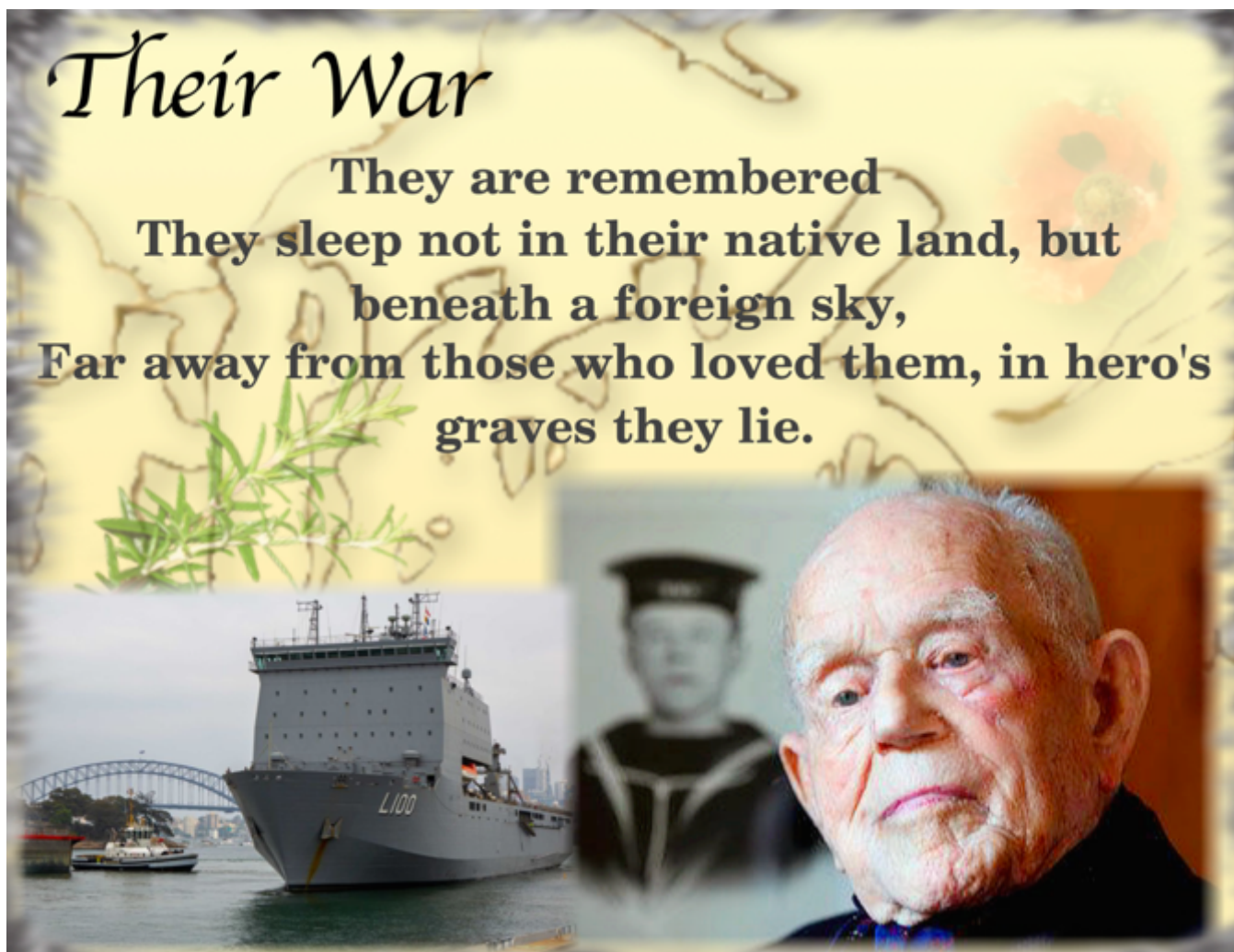
There was no way I could take all of my folders, scrapbooks, our cats, suitcases of clothes, computer hard drives, USB collection and everything else that I considered to be important. Thankfully, the crisis passed and we did not need to evacuate. It did make us think very seriously about the practicalities for any future occasions. I have now started the process of creating Ancestry trees. I have also



catalogued what is on each USB I currently have and I have a ton of scanning to do. It will take a long time, but I have made a start... and not too soon. Yesterday, on our way home from babysitting at Gorokan, we drove up Hiawatha Rd, to find the RFS had the road partially closed. There was a grass fire on the left hand side of the road, near the

corner of our street. Thankfully, the RFS had it under control, but again, it set the heart rates soaring. Be prepared people. Back up and digitise. Have a plan.

<https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/plan-and-prepare/bush-fire-survival-plan>



The Last of The Last

Claude Stanley Choules 1901 – 2011

Helen Johnston-Lord member 505

Claude Choules was born in Pershore, Worcestershire, on 3 March 1901 and raised in nearby Wyre Piddle. The son of Harry and Madeline (née Winn), Claude was one of seven children, although two died in early childhood. His mother left home when Claude was five, returning to the stage as an actress, and he and his older brothers were raised by his father. His older brothers, Douglas and Leslie emigrated to Western Australia in 1911.



Choules was 13 on the outbreak of the First World War, and the family received letters from Douglas and Leslie who had joined the Australian Imperial Force and landed at Anzac Cove during the Gallipoli Campaign. Choules was able to leave school when he turned 14, at which point he attempted to enlist in the army as a bugler boy but was rejected as he was too young.

Choules' father then arranged for him to train to join the navy instead, and in April 1915, at age 14, he joined the nautical training ship *TS Mercury*.

This training ship was moored on the River Hamble, near Southampton, Hampshire, and had a dormitory ship called *HMS President* that had previously been *HMS Gannet*. The commander of the *Mercury* training site was the cricketer C. B. Fry, and Choules' time there included trips to Netley Hospital as part of the *Mercury's* dancing team. The examinations taken by Choules following his training on the *Mercury* qualified him to attend the advanced class on the naval training ship *HMS Impregnable* situated at the Devonport naval base in Plymouth.

Choules transferred there on 10 October 1916, for what was to be the final stage of his training before joining the Royal Navy's Grand Fleet.

On 20 October 1917, Choules joined the battleship *Revenge*, which was the



Choules and his future wife
Ethel Wildgoose
aboard SS *Diogenes*, 1926

flagship of the First Battle Squadron and stationed at Scapa Flow in the Orkney Islands. While serving aboard it, Choules saw action against a German zeppelin, and witnessed the surrender of the German Imperial Navy at the Firth of Forth in 1918, ten days after the Armistice, as well as witnessing the scuttling of the German fleet in Scapa Flow.

In 1926, along with 11 other Royal Navy senior sailors, Choules travelled to Australia on loan as an instructor at Flinders Naval Depot. He travelled in *SS Diogenes* on a six-week voyage from London to Melbourne, and it was on this voyage that he met his future wife Ethel Wildgoose¹ who was travelling to Australia to carry out work for the Victoria League. Choules



German Fleet in Scapa Flow

¹ [One of my mother's many UK cousins, married a Phyllis Muriel Wildgoose in 1927, am I in for a Wildgoose chase? ed]

decided to transfer permanently to the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) after sampling and agreeing with the Australian way of life.

He took his discharge from the RAN in 1931, but remained in the reserves and rejoined the RAN in 1932 as a chief petty officer torpedo and anti-submarine instructor. He never returned to England after leaving.

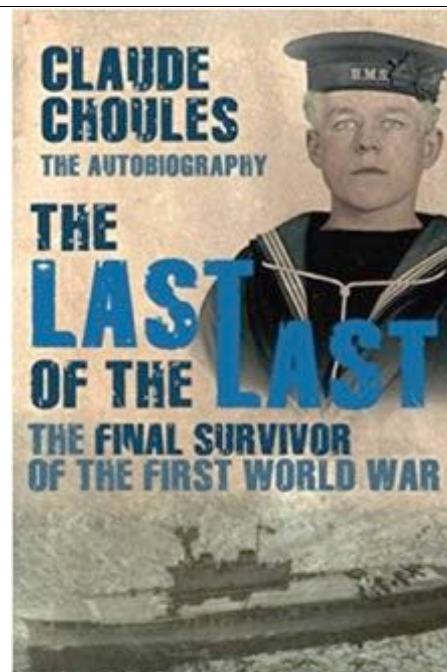
During the Second World War, Choules was the acting Torpedo Officer at HMAS *Leeuwin*, the naval base at Fremantle, Western Australia, and also served as the Chief Demolition Officer on the western side of the Australian continent. He was tasked with sabotaging Fremantle harbours and related oil storage tanks in the event of a Japanese invasion. Choules was also responsible for dealing with the first German mine to wash up on Australian soil during the war, near Esperance, Western Australia.

Choules remained in the RAN after the Second World War and transferred to the Naval Dockyard Police (NDP) to allow him to remain in service until 1956, as retirement from the RAN for ratings in those days was at age 50, while personnel could serve until 55 years old in the NDP.

Claude still had work to be done at sea ... crayfishing. And teaching a new generation about boats.

Choules and his wife Ethel were married for 76 years, until her death at age 98. Choules shunned celebrations of the Armistice, because he was against the glorification of war. His autobiography *The Last of the Last* was first published in Perth in 2009, followed by an annotated edition for UK readers in 2010.

On 13 December 2011, the former Royal Fleet Auxiliary landing ship *Largs*



Bay was commissioned into the Royal Australian Navy as HMAS *Choules*. The decision to name the ship after Claude Choules came about because of his status as the last surviving veteran of World War I; the naming recognises the service of enlisted sailors as part of celebrations of the navy's centenary (the ship is only the second vessel named after a sailor), and also acknowledges the ship's previous service under British control (Choules served in both the Royal Navy and the Royal Australian Navy during his career).

On 10 April 2014, the Pershore Town Council decided to honour Choules by naming a street ("Claude Choules Close") after him, in recognition of the fact that he was born in the town.

In November 2009, Choules became the oldest recipient of the Australian Defence Medal. (The medal was established in

2006 to recognise members of the Australian Defence Force who have served for more than four years after 3 September 1945

Mr Choules died in his Perth nursing home in May. Aged 110, he was the last known surviving combatant of more

than 70 million military personnel mobilised during the Great War.

Despite his long and distinguished naval career, Mr Choules had become increasingly pacifist.

His family has said they want Mr Choules to be remembered as a sensitive family man and a dedicated seaman who despite 41 years of service strongly opposed war.

You may remember images of HMAS Choules during the recent bushfire emergency.



Evacuees from Mallacoota heading for HMAS Choules, 3 January 2020

WFHG 2019 Jingle & Mingle Christmas Celebration

Helen Johnston-Lord member 505



I believe yesterday should get a big write-up. I have not enjoyed myself so much in ages. From the spacious comfortable venue down to those gorgeous little xmas trees you made [Helen]. The company was really pleasant with enjoyable chat, and the thought that had gone into the games etc. was outstanding. Congratulations to all the organizers and a big thank you from Bruce and I.

Cheers, Jean Macleay.

Our 2019 Christmas Function was held in the air-conditioned comfort of the Wyong Golf Club on Sunday 8th December. No problem with parking

and access was good for those of us less mobile.

Being waited on with well-sized helpings was just so relaxing. We were pleasantly surprised at the generous vegetarian meal served to a guest on our table.

Formalities were kept to a minimum with Kerrie Metcalfe, Wayne Dean and



Glenise Clery, Pam Andre and others concentrating



Bruce Macleay, Michele Gane, Jean Macleay & Pam Andre

David Harris delivering short addresses. David was accompanied by his wife Sherelle whilst Emma McBride sent her apologies.

Melissa Metcalfe had us participating in several games, including Christmas Trivia, throughout the day. Martin Fisher supplied a welcome Christmas play list for background music and Helen Johnston-Lord read several stories of Christmas memories provided by members. John Selwood's supply of NSW Christmas Bush added just the right touch to the very simple but effective decorations.

Then of course there was the raffle. Members had very generously donated enough goods for at least 16 raffle prizes. Many of the winners were present and if they were drawn again, very generously requested a redraw.

Those who had availed themselves of the WFHG Members' Payment Plan, were surprised at how simple it was and how well it had worked.



Melissa Metcalfe & Joy Pilkington



Regina Hogan & Lyn Hagstrom:
"And the next winner is ..."

We hope to do it again at the end of 2020. ... 🌲



Lynda Smith, John Selwood,
Michelle Gane & Ellen Sheerin
pinning messages on a Christmas Tree



Listening to David Harris



Martin Fisher and Roger Lewis, contrary to appearances, not a raffle prize between them.



WYONG FAMILY HISTORY GROUP Inc



BEGINNING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

A 4 Week Course Includes:-

- 🌳 *How to Begin Research*
- 🌳 *Charts*
- 🌳 *Australian Records*
- 🌳 *Software*
- 🌳 *Record Keeping*
- 🌳 *Filing & Organising*
- 🌳 *Convicts*
- 🌳 *Google*
- 🌳 *& Much, much more*

Begins: Friday 6 March 2020

then each Friday to 27 March 2020

Time: 9:30 am – 2:30 pm

Where: Wyong Family History Group's Cottage, Wyong

Cost: \$50 for full course or \$20 per day - pay in advance.

Book & Pay: on line: www.wyongfamilyhistory.com.au

Payment Options: Direct Deposit, PayPal, in person at the Cottage or
Members take advantage of our Payment Plan

Enquiries: 'The Cottage' – 4351 2211,
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Email: wfhg06@westnet.com.au.

In Person: Building 9, 6 Rankens Court, Wyong.
[enter via the old school yard]





STATE RECORDS BUS TRIP

Friday 28th March 2020

TO BE CONFIRMED

as well as your research,
A guided tour is planned.

Cost: \$25 per person

Pick-up times and places available upon request.

[Starting shortly after 7:00 am]

If time permits, there will be a comfort stop at McDonalds, St Marys.

The bus will leave State Records no later than 4:00 pm.

More information available on our website.

BOOK and PAY on line at www.wyongfamilyhistory.com.au
or **contact** the 'Cottage' on 02 4351 2211, Tuesday to Thursday
10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Take advantage of our Members' Payment Plan.

email wfhg06@westnet.com.au



Colonial Secretary's Papers
Convict
Dame Schools
Probate
Immigration
Police Gazette
Shipping
Naturalization
Land Grants
Naval Officers' Reports
Will Books
Maritime Records

PLEASE NOTE ... IF THIS YOUR FIRST VISIT

A reader's ticket is necessary and free, and can be organised online at www.records.nsw.gov.au; It will be waiting for you when you arrive.

If you wish to speak to staff at State Records prior to this trip the phone number is 02 9673 1788

Surveyor General
Recreation & Culture
Schools
Indent
Conservation & Environment
Unemployed in Sydney
Crew & Passengers
Pardon
Chinese Migration
Census & Musters
Inquest
Historic Photographs

REMINDER - State Records is out of the way and there are no shop facilities. **It will be necessary to bring your lunch.** There is a lunchroom available with a microwave oven, refrigerator and tea/coffee making equipment. Lockers are also available for bags etc.





WYONG FAMILY HISTORY GROUP INC.



STATE LIBRARY VISIT



FRIDAY 3rd April 2020

Travel by train

Meeting point — Macquarie St. Entrance

Time — Not later than 10:15AM

Members come along and join the fun

It is anticipated that

AN EXCELLENT DAY

will be had by all.

To book your spot contact the Cottage Coordinator

Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday,

10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Phone: 4351 2211





WYONG FAMILY HISTORY GROUP Inc

Presenting



Hits and Misses SEMINAR



with

Jason Reeves from
Ancestry.com

and

Christine Yeats,

President Royal Australian Historical Society



SUNDAY 1st March 2020, 10:00 am - 3:30 pm
At Tuggerah Community Hall, 9 Anzac Road, Tuggerah

Programme:

- 10:00 am Registration
- 10.30 am sharp Welcome and Introduction
- 10:40 am **Jason Reeve**, Using Ancestry.com for Family History
A short break
- 11:45 am **Jason Reeve**, An Introduction to AncestryDNA (including Q&A)
- 12:30 pm *Lunch*
- 1:15 pm **Christine Yeats** 'The Ubiquitous Mrs in Family History'
A short break
- 2:10 pm **Christine Yeats** 'Criminal Court Records'
- 2:55 pm Q & A
- 3:15 pm Raffle draw and closing thank you
- 3:30 pm Close

Tea & Coffee
Available all day



Raffle Prize donated
by Ancestry.com

Cost: For WFHG Members is \$30.00 Non-Members #35.00
Includes Sausage Sizzle Lunch

Book & Pay on line: www.wyongfamilyhistory.com.au

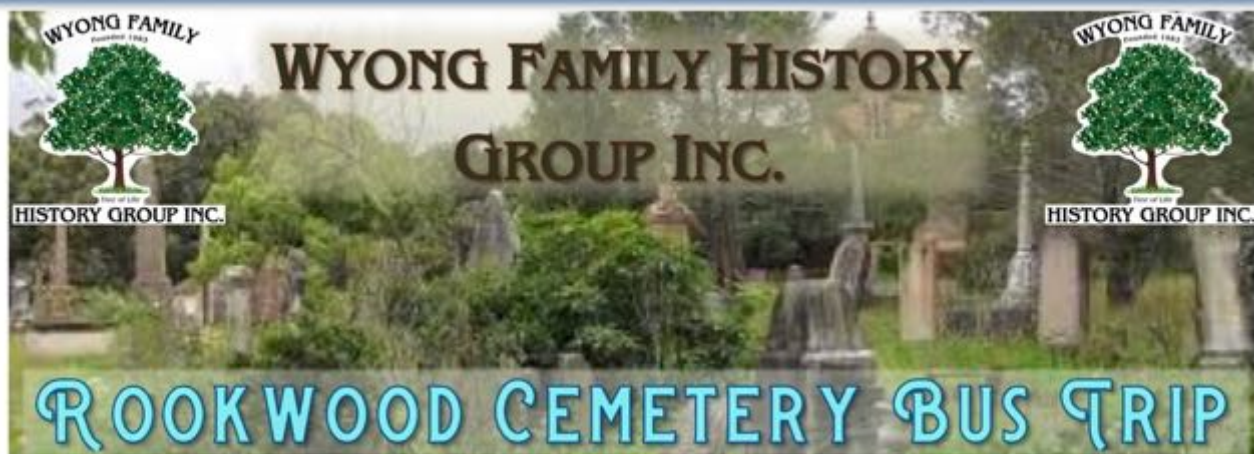
**Payment Options: Direct Deposit, PayPal, in person at the Cottage or
Members, take advantage of our Payment Plan**

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Email: wfhg06@westnet.com.au.

In Person: Building 9, 6 Rankens Court, Wyong.
[enter via the old school yard]

 **ancestry**

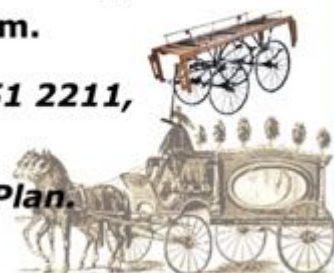


Monday 25th May 2020

There will be 3 pickup points, Toukley leaving at 7:10am SHARP, Wyong Leagues Club at 7:20 and Tuggerah at approximately 7:45am. We plan on leaving Rookwood for home about 3.30 pm.

Contact The Cottage to make your booking on 02 4351 2211, Tuesday to Thursday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Take advantage of our Members' Payment Plan.
email wfhg06@westnet.com.au



Save the Date

NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc

Annual Conference 2020

Date: **Friday 11 to Sunday 13 September**



Hosted by: Newcastle Family History Society Inc.
www.nfhs.org.au
with the support of the Maitland and Beyond Family History Group Inc. mdgs.org.au/

Location: Wests New Lambton, Newcastle

www.ridingthewavesofhistory.com.au

State Conference: 2020 NSW & ACT FHS Conference

Newcastle FHS Inc, in association with Maitland & Beyond FHS Inc is hosting the 2020 state family history conference from 11-13 September at New Lambton, near Newcastle. The theme is Riding the Waves of History and you can view the conference website and sign up for their newsletter to keep up to date with developments at www.ridingthewavesofhistory.com.au.

In 2021 the Association will be returning to Port Macquarie for the 37th annual state conference. Ask the coordinator at the Cottage about our pre-payment scheme we have set up, if you are thinking of going. ... 🌳

Life Members

From time to time our Group awards a Life Membership. To date the following fourteen members have been recognized for their commitment and contribution, helping us become the Family History Group we are today. ... 🌳



| Name | Memb No. | Date of Award |
|-------------------------------|----------|---------------|
| The Late Keith Shakespeare | 01 | Sept 1994 |
| Lynda Smith | 02 | 08 Dec 1995 |
| The Late Patricia Irwin Sharp | 03 | 14 Sept 2001 |
| Marilyn Cridland | 11 | 13 Sept 2007 |
| Pam Mansergh | 14 | 13 Sept 2007 |
| The Late Esther Dean | 23 | 13 Sept 2007 |
| Janice Barrett | 43 | 13 Sept 2007 |
| Kerrie Metcalfe | 80 | 9 Sept 2010 |
| Roger Lewis | 127 | 20 Sept 2012 |
| Robin Wright | 133 | 20 Sept 2012 |
| Trish McDonald | 194 | 09 Oct 2014 |
| Glenise Clery | 284 | 09 Oct 2014 |
| Michele Gane | 174 | 03 June 2018 |
| John Selwood | 79 | 03 June 2018 |

Census 2021

The next Australian Census will be taken in 2021 and as family historians we all need to encourage others to agree to have their census form retained for 100 years. The family history community fought hard to get this question included in the census, but in the last Australian census held in 2016 less than half of all respondents (48%) agreed to do so. This was a fall from the 60% who ticked 'yes' in 2011. As we get closer to the next census date you'll hear more about this, but it's a good time to start encouraging everyone you know to have their form saved for posterity and for the benefit of future family historians. (Taken from the *December Descent*). ... 🌳



George Herbert Cross

Jean Macleay member 359

Continuing My Grandfather's Story

When we left this story last issue, George's sobriety was doubtful ...

Other records in the Bankruptcy files show "that the household furniture was sold for £6.17.6, and the horse and sulky for £17.0.0. A further note by the Official Assignee states" With regard to the sum of £74.10.0 alleged to be due

by Hunter Bros to the Estate it appears that the Bankrupt entered into an agreement with James Channells for the sale of certain C.P. land at Bellingen upon certain terms. There is now a balance of £74.10.0 due by Mr Channells under the agreement. The Bankrupt also appears to have mortgaged his interest in the land

to Hunter Bros and they intend to rely on their security. The matter is therefore one for adjustment between that firm and Channells, and it does not seem probable that there will be any amount available for the Estate in respect of the land in question." So poor old George was left with nothing, not even the land he had hoped to eventually own freehold. Drink was probably his only consolation.

Which of the people in these files was the one who "took grandpa down and taught him to drink?" This is the story Aunty Vic, George's youngest daughter, reiterated many times that a man with whom George went into business cheated him but also got him onto 'the drink'. Life must have been bad enough for this family without their father and husband coming home drunk and abusive. I have been told that George beat the boys mercilessly and it has been hinted on occasions that he sexually abused his eldest daughter, my aunty May. One cannot imagine that grandma would want to have any more children after 1911 when things appear to have gone from bad to worse, but as was the way in those days George prevailed.

So throughout this sorry period children continued to be born. Annie Milba was born in October 1914 and only lived for 4 months until 2nd February 1915. Rose Dorothy was born in August 1916 and lived for 20 months until August 1918. Victoria Eileen his



youngest child was born on 1st January, 1918. Grandma often spoke of her two beautiful lost babies. In this photo of grandma she is nursing Rose.

Bonville school opened on 3rd February 1902 and shows a record of attendance of the Cross children. The records include the date each pupil started school, their age, their religion and father's name, his address and occupation and on the right hand side columns showing which year the children were in each class. Unfortunately on the far right hand side is a column that has been cut off by the photocopier. It would have shown the date they left school. Aunty May is shown as starting in first class on 29th January 1907 but the family must have moved away for a period in that year because she started again in first class on 4th February 1908.

Other families whose names are familiar in these school records are the Hunts, Randalls and Channells.

Below is a summary of the Cross history at the school.

BONVILLE, N.S.W. School records

1902 to 1929

Register No. 27 19th January 1907 May Cross age 7, religion E.C. (Church of England?) starting in 1st class. (There are no entries for kindergarten, so apparently children commenced in 1st class) Father shown as George Cross of Bonville ***Labourer** Shown to be in her first year of school 1907. No other entries after this date.

Register No. 41 4th February May Cross, 8 years old. Date of leaving last school 27th September (1907?) Left last school in 1st class. Father George Cross of Bonville ***Sleeper cutter**. The records then show that she was in second class in 1909, third class in 1910 and fourth class in 1912. No entries for May after this date.

Register No. 93 14th November 1911 (the date 25th June is written under his name, but this is not his birthday) Age 6.5 yrs religion E.C. Father George Cross ***Teamster**. He was in first class in 1911, Second class in 1914, third class in 1915, fourth class in 1916. (Further columns cut off by photocopier)

Register No. 100 29th November 1912 Edie Cross, age 6, E.C. religion. Father George Cross of Bonville is shown as ***Teamster**. She is shown as being in first class in 1912, second class in 1915, third class in 1916, fourth class in 1917, fifth class in 1918 and sixth class in 1919. The final column shows "Left" but not when (photo copy cuts off)

Register No. 140 8th February 1915, Phillip Cross (26th Oct under name) 6.3 years old, E.C. Father George Cross Bonville ***Teamster**. Phillip was in first class in 1915, second class in 1917, third class in 1918, fourth class in 1919 and fifth class in 1920 (Any further columns cut off by photocopier.

Register No. 142 6th September 1915 Ida Cross (21st Aug. under name) age 5.0, E.C. Father George Cross ***Labourer**. Ida was in first class in 1915, progressed to second class first term 1917, third class 1918, fourth class 1919, fifth class 1920 and sixth class in 1921.

Register No. 193 29th January 1918 Herbert V Cross, age 6.0 E.C. Father George Cross of Bonville ***Teamster**. Bert was in first class in 1918, second in 1919, third 1920, fourth 1921, fifth 1922. (Further columns cut off)

There are no records at this school for Stanley (to be expected) or Victoria. Vicki would have started by 1923 or 1924, so grandma must have come to Sydney by then.

* Note George's various occupations.

Firstly the Randalls had three girls who started on 5th October 1909 in second, third and fourth class. Their father is described as a farmer. I know Kevin Randall through a mutual friend. He lived with his partner Graham Cann on their property "Cobar Station" near Miles in Central Queensland. We stayed on their property for about a week fossicking for fossilized wood which they mined commercially for export.

We hope to continue this very interesting saga in our next issue. 🌳

Publications For Sale

More details at: <http://www.wyongfamilyhistory.com.au/publications>

BOOKS & CDs

Bowden Family Funerals – Wyong. July 1999 – January 2016

Book \$ 20.00 + p&h
CD \$15.00 – p&h

Brought in by the Tide. [A guide to tracing convict ancestors in one place.]

Book \$ 10.00 + p&h

Central Coast Roll of Honour. [Includes the full names, rank, type of service & date of death where known of over 12,000 men & women of the Central Coast who were in the Armed Forces. 400 pages fully indexed. Includes 138 stories and photos.]

Book \$ 20.00 + p&h
CD \$ 15.00 + p&h

| | | |
|--|-----------------------|----------------|
| Gosford Times Marriage and Death Notices 1892-1954 incorporating the Wollombi Express (1892-1906) and Wyong District Advocate (1906-1920) <i>Contains enteries for 5892 Deaths and 1400 Marriages with many relevant details</i> | Book | \$ 27.00 + p&h |
| | CD | \$ 20.00 + p&h |
| People of Wyong Book 1: Health and Service Providers – includes: Doctors, Dentists, Fire Brigade, Ministers [298 pages] | Book | \$ 35.00 + p&h |
| People of Wyong Book 2: <i>Includes: Bank Managers, Public Servants, Business People, Organisations. [252 pages]</i> | Book | \$ 40.00 + p&h |
| People of Wyong Book 3: <i>Includes: Timber Industry, Dairying, Agriculture, Poultry, Fishing and Transport. [297 pages]</i> | Book | \$ 42.00 + p&h |
| Place Names of the Wyong Shire | Book | \$ 7.00 + p&h |
| Simplicity Funerals Bateau Bay NSW 1963 – 2006 – Out of Print – available on combined CD. | | |
| Simplicity Funerals Bateau Bay NSW 2007 - 2011 + <i>Wyong & Toukley</i> | Book | \$ 20.00 + p&h |
| Simplicity Funerals Bateau Bay NSW, Toukley and Wyong <i>1963 - 2011</i> | CD | \$ 25.00 + p&h |
| Simplicity Funerals Erina 1985 – 2013 | Book | \$ 30.00 + p&h |
| | CD | \$ 15.00 + p&h |
| Simplicity Funerals Woy Woy 1991 – 2013 | Book | \$ 20.00 + p&h |
| | CD | \$ 15.00 + p&h |
| Wyong Agricultural Association [248 pages]. <i>Covers the history of the Wyong Agricultural Association as reported in local newspapers; lists of Office Bearers; photos of founders and first Committee; plus the minutes of all meetings held from 1 May 1913 to 18 June 1930 with fully indexed list of names</i> | Book | \$ 35.00 + p&h |
| | CD | \$ 15.00 + p&h |
| Wyong Courthouse Death Records 1930 – 1953 | Book | \$ 20.00 + p&h |
| | CD | \$ 15.00 + p&h |
| Wyong & District Pioneer Register (Published 2013) [673 pages]. <i>Fully indexed compilation of all previous Pioneer Book entries, extensively updated references to over 13,500 individuals. Contains: Birth, Marriage & Death details; some photos, personal stories, obituaries for some individuals. Includes a brief history of Wyong.</i> | Book | \$ 50.00 + p&h |
| | CD | \$ 35.00 + p&h |
| Wyong & Lakes District Advocate, Personal Notices (1932 – 1995) (available separately-see below) | Two Volume set | |
| | Book | \$ 45.00 + p&h |
| Contents Volume One – 514 anniversary notices, 1078 birth notices, 4,000 marriage notices, 4,790 in memoriam notices & 238 miscellaneous event notices, includes church photographs | Book Volume 1 | \$ 25.00 + p&h |
| Contents Volume Two – 11,973 deaths, obituary & probate notices includes Church and cemetery photographs | Book Volume 2 | \$ 25.00 + p&h |
| | CD | \$ 35.00 + p&h |
| Wyong Remembers: <i>The history of the Wyong War memorial and Centenary of ANZAC events (53 pages)</i> | Book | \$ 19.00 + p&h |

| | | |
|---|-------------|----------------|
| Wyong Township Residents Index 1930 – 1939 | Book | \$ 10.00 + p&h |
| | CD | \$ 10.00 + p&h |
| The Anglican Parish of the Brisbane Water Area <i>[Baptisms, Burials and Marriages with notes from Albert Glennie’s Diaries and Miscellaneous Entries. Includes Kincumber, Mangrove, Wyong, Tuggerah, Cooranbong, Woy Woy & the Hawkesbury River.]</i> | CD | \$ 10.00 + p&h |
| Jilliby Cemetery, Wyong Shire, NSW <i>[Updated 2009]</i> | Book | \$ 20.00 + p&h |
| Noraville Cemetery, Wyong Shire <i>[1869 - 2012]</i> | Book | \$ 20.00 + p&h |
| St Barnabas & Yarramalong Cemeteries, Wyong Shire NSW <i>[1886-2001]</i> | Book | \$ 15.00 + p&h |
| Ronkana Cemetery, Wyong Shire NSW <i>[1825 - 2016]</i> | Book | \$ 15.00 + p&h |
| All 4 Cemetery Books | | \$ 50.00 + p&h |
| Wyong Shire Cemetery Records Index to August 2016 <i>[220 pages] This index has been compiled from the Wyong Family History Group’s cemetery database. It includes burials (and niches) at Jilliby and Noraville Cemeteries and the burials at Ronkana, St Barnabas (Yarramalong) and Yarramalong Cemeteries. Books have been produced for each individual cemetery that provide additional details such as photographs, headstone inscriptions and, in the case of Ronkana, St Barnabas and Yarramalong cemeteries, newspaper death, funeral or probate notices for some of the burials. The WFHG Inc. acknowledges the work of Mr Vince McKenzie and his son Clive, gravediggers, whose records form the core of our index. We also acknowledge the CC Council Bereavement Officers for their contribution to our records. Contains: Cemetery maps; Deceased details – name, age, date of burial, grave location (section, row, plot), some records have birth dates and maiden names. Includes all Graves including Unmarked Graves.</i> | Book | \$ 25.00 + p&h |
| | CD | \$ 20.00 + p&h |
| Palmdale Cemetery <i>[30,000 names, not all from Wyong]</i> | CD | \$ 10.00 + p&h |
| Genealogy Recorder | | \$ 10.00 + p&h |

WFHG Inc Planned Events

- *Subject to change.*
- *Note: Unless otherwise stated, All our meetings, interest groups, master classes and courses are held at 'The Cottage'.*
- *Information Sessions: Detailed list available on website.*

| | 2020 | Event | |
|----------|--------|---|----------------------|
| February | Sat 1 | General Meeting 1:00 pm – Guest Speaker: Carolyn Kingsmill | NSW Seniors Festival |
| | Thu 6 | Cottage Information Morning 10:00 am | |
| | Sun 8 | Central Coast Council's Love Lanes Festival 4:00 pm – 10:00 pm | |
| | Tue 11 | Microsoft Word/PowerPoint/Excel Interest Group 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm | |
| | Wed 12 | NSW Seniors' Festival Commences | |
| | Thu 13 | CCC's Seniors' Expo, Wyong Racecourse 10:00 am – 2:00 pm Family Tree Maker Interest Group 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm | |
| | Sat 15 | Volunteer Help at Tuggerah Library 9:00 am – 12 noon | |
| | Tue 18 | DNA Special Interest Group 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm | |
| | Wed 19 | UTAS Diploma of Family History Interest Group 10:00 am – 12 noon | |
| | Sat 22 | Computer/Tablets/Social Media Interest Group 10:00 am – 12 noon | |
| | Sun 23 | NSW Seniors' Festival Concludes | |

| | | | |
|-------|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| March | Sun 1 | WFHG SEMINAR "Hits & Misses" Tuggerah Hall | National Trust Australian Heritage Festival |
| | Tue 3 | Committee Meeting 10:00 am | |
| | Fri 6 | Intro. to Family History Course <i>Week 1</i> . 9:30 am | |
| | Tue 10 | Microsoft Word/PowerPoint/Excel Interest Group 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm | |
| | Thu 12 | Family Tree Maker Interest Group 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm | |
| | Fri 13 | Intro. to Family History Course <i>Week 2</i> . 9:30 a | |
| | Wed 18 | Scottish/Irish Interest Group 10:00am – 2:30 pm | |
| | Fri 20 | Intro. to Family History Course <i>Week 3</i> . 9:30 am | |
| | Sat 21 | Volunteer Help at Tuggerah Library 9:00 am – 12 noon | |
| | Fri 27 | Introduction to Family History Course <i>Week 4 – final day</i> 9:30 am | |
| | Sat 28 | State Records Bus Trip | |
| | Mon 30 | Launch of New Digital Resource Wyong & Districts Anglican Church Records 1838 – 1987 10 am at St James Anglican Church, Wyong. | |
| | Tue 31 | Committee Meeting for April 10:00 am | |
| April | Fri 3 | State Library Train Trip | |
| | Sat 4 | General Meeting 1:00 pm | |
| | Mon 6 | Master Class [to be advised] | |
| | Thu 9 | Family Tree Maker Interest Group 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm | |
| | Friday 10 to Monday 13 Easter Break | | |
| | Tue 14 | Microsoft Word/PowerPoint/Excel Interest Group 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm | |
| | Wed 15 | UTAS Diploma of Family History Interest Group 10:00 am – 12 noon | |
| | Sat 18 | Volunteer Help at Tuggerah Library 9:00 am – 12 noon National Trust Australian Heritage Festival Starts | |
| | Tue 21 | DNA Special Interest Group 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm | |
| | Wed 22 | Scottish/Irish Interest Group 10:00 am – 2:30 pm Deadline for May Tree of Life copy | |
| | Sat 25 | ANZAC Day | |
| | Tue 28 | Committee Meeting for May 10:00 am | |
| May | Sat 2 | Computer/Tablets/Social Media Interest Group 10:00 am – 12 noon | |
| | Wed 6 | Master Class – Filing & Organizing Your Family History | |
| | Sun 10 | Mothers' Day | |
| | Tue 12 | Microsoft Word/PowerPoint/Excel Interest Group 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm | |
| | Thu 14 | Family Tree Maker Interest Group 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm | |
| | Sat 16 | Volunteer Help at Tuggerah Library 9:00 am – 12 noon | |
| | Mon 18 | National Volunteers' Week National Trust Australian Heritage Festival Scottish/Irish Interest Group 10:00 am – 2:30 pm National Volunteers' Week Ends | |
| | Tue 19 | | |
| | Wed 20 | | |
| | Sun 24 | | |
| | Mon 25 | Rookwood Bus Trip To be confirmed | |
| | Sun 31 | WFHG Seminar To be advised | |

Wyong Family History Group Inc.

Research Centre

'The Cottage', Wyong Community Cultural Centre,

6 Rankens Court, Wyong (entrance via the old school grounds)

Open: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10.00am – 3.00pm.

At other times by appointment. Public Holidays – Closed.

Tuggerah Library, Westfield: Workshop 3rd Saturday 9.00am – 12 noon

(WFHG members available to help)

Contact the Group as follows:

The Secretary

Wyong Family History Group Inc.

P O Box 247

Wyong NSW 2259

Telephone: (02) 4351 2211

Email The Secretary: secwfhg2@westnet.com.au

Website: <http://www.wyongfamilyhistory.com.au>

WFHG thanks Ms Emma McBride, for her assistance in the production of this issue of the Tree of Life.

Remember, Member contributions are always welcome and 21 April 2020 is the closing date for items to be included in the next issue of the "Tree of Life".

Local LDS Family History Centre

Akora Road, Wyoming [near ALDI]

Opening Hours: Tuesday 6 – 8 pm,

Friday 10 am – 2 pm

Generally closed during school holidays.

Open at other times on request

Free access

Ph: 4329 3603

Email: au_gosford@ldsmail.net

The WFHG has an affiliated agreement with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints which permits our members to access restricted files and images from the computers in The Cottage.

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AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE GROUP

To promote and encourage the research and preservation of family and local history, to assist members and others in family history research. To develop and maintain a Public Library and research, collect, preserve and maintain its resources in its Library.

Member's contributions are always welcome.