

WYONG FAMILY  
Founded 1983



Tree of Life

HISTORY GROUP INC.

# Tree of Life

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WYONG FAMILY HISTORY GROUP INC.

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HISTORY GROUP INC.

**Advance Notice** WYONG FAMILY HISTORY GROUP INC.

Presents **a Seminar:**

**DNA AND NSW STATE ARCHIVES' DELIGHTFUL DOCUMENTS**

**Sunday 6th November 2022 from 10:30am at Club Wyong**

Watch the 'Newsletter' for more details

**Enquiries** 'The Cottage' - 4351 2211

Cost: For WFHG Members is \$35.00 - Non-Members \$40.00



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## 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 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.
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### Office Bearers 2021

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President: Kerrie Metcalfe  
Secretary & Minutes Secretary: Pamela Andre  
Vice-President & Public Officer: Roger Lewis  
Treasurer: Michele Gane  
Management Committee:  
All the above executive plus Martin Fisher, Lyn Hagstrom, Regina Hogan, Dellas Johnston, Pamela Mansergh, John Selwood, Lynda Smith

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Assets Manager & IT Manager:	Roger Lewis
Bookstall Supervisor	Glenise Clery
Cottage Administrator	Tuesday: Lyn Hagstrom
	Wednesday: Helen Hord
	Thursday: Wayne Bermingham
Cottage Relief Administrators	Glenise Clery & Lorraine Cameron
Cottage Roster Planner:	Cheryl Whamond
Course Supervisor:	Ellen Sheerin
Electronic Journal Distributor	Lorraine Cameron
Grant Applications Planner:	Pamela Andre
Group Collector of Statistics:	Martin Fisher
Journal Snippet Readers/Submitters:	Lynda Smith & Meg Gibson
Librarian:	Lyn Hagstrom
Librarian Assistant:	Dellas Johnston
Local Research Officer & Project Organiser:	John Selwood
Membership Secretary & Irish Tips:	Pam Mansergh
Printing Publications – Books & CDs:	Roger Lewis & John Selwood
Proof Reading:	Helen Burkett, John Selwood & Lorraine Lonergan
Publicity Officer:	Lynda Smith
Raffle Organiser:	Christine McKenzie
Scrapbooking [Photos]:	Annette Shearer
Seminar & Guest Speaker Facilitator:	Regina Hogan
Subscription Site Snippets:	Patricia Andre
Tree of Life Editor:	Helen Johnston-Lord.
Unrelated Certificates Organiser:	Jacqueline Wieringa
Webpage Managers:	Roger Lewis & Kate Walter
Weekly Newsletter Editor:	Wayne Bermingham
Welfare	Pam Mansergh

Contact Members through 'The Cottage'. 02 4351 2211

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## GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

*Kerrie Metcalfe - President – LM80*

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I can't believe how fast the year is going! All the rain we have endured over the past few months is just a sign of how times have changed. However, the Group is adjusting as best it can and with the help of some generous members, we have been able to reinstate our pay site resources. Fund raising has resumed so we are slowly beginning to replenish our finances. Hopefully we will survive if there are no more setbacks and with the continued help and support from you, our members.

We have been running some very successful Information Classes and as members have been attending these it is most encouraging and so we will continue with them. Our Special Interest Groups are continuing with Gwen back on deck with the Irish and Scottish Interest group.

The Joy and Allen Murrin Seminar went well and was attended by many members and non-members. It was great to finally see people gathering again not to mention the great day we all had. Regina has kept us happy with some good guest speakers at our monthly meetings with Trish Cavanagh, the Vegemite girl, finally able to visit us and we had our own members Will Ferret and Tree of life Editor Helen Johnson Lord also as speakers.

A very successful bus trip, in May, to the State Archives at Kingswood was enjoyed by members who came away with lots of great information. We hope to have another trip later this year so if you intend visiting the archives start planning your research in readiness for the trip.

On the 5 August we are about to embark on our second family history course for the year which is at an Intermediate level. There are also some great upcoming events between now and December.

It's always unfortunate that occasionally we have to postpone events, but this is usually due to presenters having changed family circumstances, illness and at times inclement weather with which to contend. We regret these cancellations.

Keep an eye on the weekly Newsletter, the website, and the notice board at the Cottage for some interesting and exciting presentations coming up as well a couple of events. Wayne's weekly Newsletter gives you updates and links to lots of interesting places.

I would like to welcome all our new members and hope you are settling into your research with the help of our volunteers. Another good thing we have started and seems to be successful is the one-on-one help with understanding your DNA.

With the AGM coming up in September I would like some new

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people to consider stepping up and helping us to take the Group to a more secure position after all the

setbacks we have suffered since 2019.

That's all from me this time. ... 🌳

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## FROM YOUR EDITOR

*Helen Johnston-Lord member 505*

Hello All!

Winter is not my favourite time of the year. I suffer if the cold gets into my bones. I have visited The Cottage a few times in the last three months. The welcome is always warm and friendly, and the rooms are comfortably heated. Investigating a number of publications in the Library, I have found just what I needed to complete a research project. Transport for me these days is a problem, however, thanks to the generosity of members, I have been able to take advantage of the resources The Cottage offers.

Make sure your membership is up-to-date to be so you too can use our vast resources

Don't be surprised to see a few items from Wayne's Newsletter repeated in this issue. I hope they are appreciated by our wider readership.

Often, your submissions prompt me to research a place or time, thus expanding my knowledge and yours by way of an item in your 'Tree'.

Our recent Bunnings Barbeque at Tuggerah was a success, I believe the Bunnings price rise was not an issue, hopefully adding to the financial success of the day. Thank you all who helped. Another is scheduled for Bunnings Lake Haven on 28 August.

Presenting at our June meeting was a pleasure for me, sharing one of my many interests with others was fun. I wonder what else I can share. Please consider this idea, you don't have to create an elaborate presentation, however this is one way to expand your skills.

As Kerrie says 'keep an eye on Wayne's Newsletter' to keep up to date with what is happening with your group.

Your submissions are always welcome and remember, once you start writing, you will find your style and become addicted to writing. We are one of the places your stories will be appreciated. Our next deadline is 21 October 2022.

Stay Well, Stay Safe! ... 🌳

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# Wyong Family History Group Incorporated.

ABN 86 055 149 897



## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wyong Family History Group Inc. will be holding their Annual General Meeting at

**1pm on Saturday 10 September 2022**

in the Meeting Room of "The Cottage",  
Building 9, 6 Ranken Court. Wyong.

- Nominations are now open for all Executive positions.
- Nomination forms are available at The Cottage Tuesday to Thursday, 10am – 3pm.
- A copy of our Constitution is available for viewing by visiting our webpage:  
[www.wyongfamilyhistory.com.au](http://www.wyongfamilyhistory.com.au) or in the office at The Cottage.

Pamela Andre, Secretary  
Wyong Family History Group Inc.  
PO Box 247  
WYONG NSW 2259  
Phone 02 43512211

## A VISIT TO STATE ARCHIVES

*Wayne Bermingham member 623*

On a grey and wet Tuesday morning I joined 10 other members for the bus trip to State Archives & Records at O'Connell Street Kingswood in Western Sydney. Roger Lewis was our driver on the day and aside from an unexpected bump or two the drive down and back both went smoothly. While I would love to share some of the stories, comments and one-liners that caused howls of laughter among the group etiquette prevents me, that and the fact that what happens on bus trips stays on bus trips.

After a pit stop at Maccas and hot drinks for all plus a yummy plate of pancakes for Regina which she shared with me it was quickly, (well as quickly as some of our travellers could muster) back on the bus for the short drive to our anticipated destination.

Members wasted no time stowing their bags in the lockers before rushing off to the reading room where our pre-ordered packets sat ready for our arrival. Two of my 4 actually confirmed family lore stories while the other 2 managed to put several massive cracks in one of my long-standing brickwalls so my day was successful, educational, enlightening and a fun time. Going by comments from the others I have no doubt that their day was as equally rewarding for them with the main remarks being "I wish I had more time and when are we coming back again?"

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The smiling faces on our recent bus trip.  
If you're wondering where I am, well  
someone had to take the pictures.

The beaming smile of member Peta Baigent even before she began researching at State Archives. If you think she was pleased to be there you'd be right. ... 🌳



Peta Baigent #978 State Archives 24 May 2022  
Photo-Wayne Bermingham #623



State Archives group 24 May 2022  
Photo: Wayne Bermingham #623

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## MEN'S SHED PRESENTATION

*Roger Lewis Vice President LM 127*

On a June Monday, I visited the Mannering Park Men's Shed for morning tea and to officially thank them for the work they have done for our Group, specifically the sign in computer cupboard and brochure holders. On behalf of our Group, I presented a framed Certificate to the Men's Shed. The president of the Men's Shed, Joe Lavin then acknowledged our group and added that they enjoyed helping organisations like ours.

The President then invited me to give an outline of our Group's history and how we operated, a few of the 20 plus men asked a few questions about research and how could they get a family tree started, of course my answer was 'join us and learn to do it yourself with the help of our volunteers'. ... 🌳



At the San Remo Mens Shed: John Gallagher, Joe Lavin, John Vella and Rod Cameron with Roger Lewis

**WYONG FAMILY HISTORY GROUP INC**  
**MONTHLY HELP & CHAT GATHERING BY Zoom.**

When: 3rd Wednesday of the month  
Time: From 7:30 pm  
Where: Your place

We usually have a subject to get the conversation started.

Members receive an email the day before the meeting with a link to join.

We continue this gathering where people can informally share their discoveries and stories.

Join us, meet other members, and see what they have discovered.

Think of it as a kitchen table discussion, an opportunity to Learn and Laugh.

Stay with us for as long as you like. Not a meeting, but a gathering.

**All Welcome!**

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Monthly Help & Chat Gathering By Zoom

**NEW MEMBERS**

A very warm welcome is extended to our new members, and we look forward to meeting and helping you at 'The Cottage'. Contact any of our members by sending an enquiry to:

Member's Name & No.

C/- Wyong Family History Group Inc., P O Box 247, Wyong NSW 2259.

No	Member	No	Member
1004	Loretta Nicholls	1010	Maureen Beattie
1005	Les Hartwig	1011	Robert Patton
1006	Norelle Hartwig	1012	Fiona Heiuk
1007	Julie Deaves	1013	Lorraine Keating
1008	Michael Porter	1014	Lindsay Baker
1009	Susan Porter	1015	Elaine Baker

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**MEMBERS SAVINGS PLAN**

Throughout any given year, WFHG Inc. offers a range of events, both educational and social, which we think will be informative and interesting for our members, and the wider community.

To ease the demands on members' pockets, the Group has introduced a variety of payment options for these events.

We hope this will help members afford to book early and start paying in small instalments.

Would you like to go to one or some of our events but don't want to pay out all that money in one go?



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Instead of paying the full amount for an event why not pay small amounts on a regular basis into our Members Savings Plan?

We are now giving members the opportunity to pay in instalments for those events, seminars, workshops, courses etc. that they wish to attend Put a few dollars away whenever they want then use their savings to pay for the special event that they want to attend.

Payments can be made by PayPal, Direct Deposit, (or EFT or Cash at the Cottage) (payment details on our website Home page

[www.wyongfamilyhistory.com.au](http://www.wyongfamilyhistory.com.au)) ... 🌳

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## NEVER GIVE UP

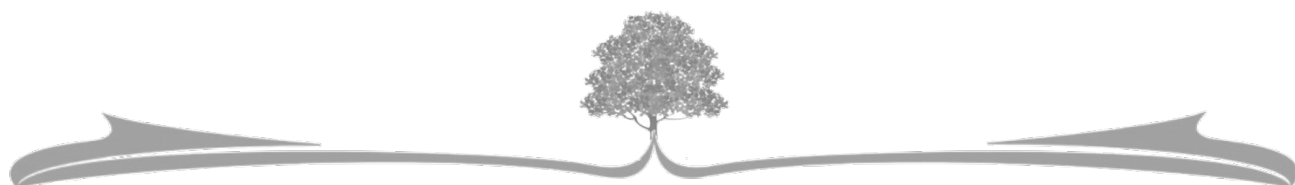
*Pamela Andre member 810*

The saying "Never give up" comes to mind as I am typing this. I have for quite a while been trying to find a birth of a Descendant on my Son-in-law's Family Tree. This female Descendant from the 1851 and 1861 English Census said that she was born in Sydney, New South Wales and from age given her birth would have been circa 1804. Despite searching NSW Births, Deaths and Marriages, Findmypast and even at the time Family Search, I could not find one that fitted in. Recently I thought I would go back and search again and it was not until I went into Family Search that I believe I may have found the birth. The birth year was 1802 but with other information provided, it is a record that I could not dismiss. Many of you would understand my delight in finding this record. I know it still has to be proven and to do so I can apply to GRO for a copy of the birth. I just wanted to let you know about this record which was added to Family Search on 22 September 2021. The Record is "United Kingdom, British Armed Forces and Overseas Vital Records 1761-2005". The Source Publication Title is GRO Regimental Birth Indices 1761-1924.

Of late when either at home or at the cottage, I have found myself going back to Family Search and being surprised what records are there. Above is a good example.

*I hope writing this will encourage you to go back and search again for that elusive ancestor. You never know what you may find. Remember new records are being added all the time. GOOD LUCK ... 🌳*

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## THE MYSTERY THAT WAS CYRIL.

*Lynda Smith, LM 2*

For many years, my tenuous link to a celebrity has been my father's cousin, Lee TAMAHORI, a New Zealand film director. Lee's grandmother Reta was my grandfather's sister. Dad never met Lee as his side of the family moved to Australia in 1931 and Lee was born in 1950.

I knew that Reta had married a Cyril Cecil THOMPSON in 1926 and that they had had a daughter, Patricia. She went on to marry Philip [Piripi] TAMAHORI, of Māori descent, and Lee was one of their children. I found a newspaper entry for Cyril in 1930, describing a motor vehicle accident. Cyril was a passenger and sustained serious head injuries, requiring an operation. In the 1931 Electoral roll Reta is listed as 'married' but living alone. Perhaps Cyril's brush with death prompted a visit home to England?

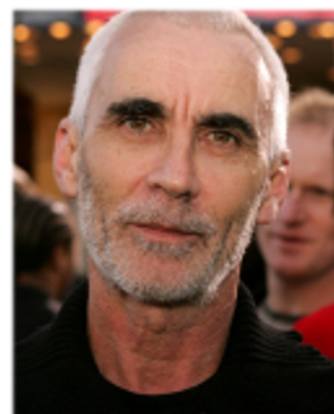
The family story was that Cyril joined the Merchant Navy and when WW2 began, he ended up on a ship heading for England. He did not return. I followed Reta's life and discovered assorted NZ Electoral Roll entries for her. She was calling herself a widow by 1946, so I started searching for Cyril's death as a merchant seaman.

Unfortunately, at this stage, I had no date of birth for Cyril, nor his parents' names, so I could not definitely claim any of the Cyril THOMPSON's that I located. I decided to send for his marriage certificate. The email copy came within a week and provided me with an approximate year of birth [1903] and a set of parents: Robert John Lewis THOMPSON and Amy BODMAN. The certificate also confirmed that Cyril was born in England, specifically in Catford, a suburb of London.

At the same time, my husband Alan was searching for biographical information on Lee TAMAHORI, as I had little on him. Alan came across a biographical website that covered not only Lee's Māori side of the family, but also his mother's THOMPSON side. Had I not sent for the MC, I would have accepted this writer's information. He had correctly identified the PRENTICE and SMITH lines and I had been able to verify the TAMAHORI side from other sources, so I believed that the researcher had been just as diligent with the THOMPSON side. He had found a Cyril THOMPSON, born in NZ and had happily added the details to the biography.

"Lee's maternal grandfather was Cyril Cecil Francis Thompson (the son of Francis Louis Thompson and Catherine Garland). Lee's great-grandfather Francis was the son of Charles Abel Thompson and Sophia Matilda Lough, who were from Middlesex, England. Catherine was the daughter of Alex Garland and Ellen.

Lee's maternal grandmother was Lulu Reta/Rita Margaret Prentice (the daughter of John William Archibald "Jack" Prentice and Ivy Alfreda Rose



Smith). John was the son of John Prentice and Nora. Ivy was the daughter of William John Smith and Ellen Waterson, who had partial roots in Stratford, Essex, England."

<https://ethnicelebs.com/lee-tamahori>

No-one claims the authorship of this article and the sources used do not specify where the THOMPSON information came from.

It definitely pays to obtain primary documents! Using the new information I gleaned on Cyril, Ancestry then had many hints to follow. I discovered that Cyril was one of five children born to Robert and Amy. One child had died between 1901 and 1911 Census records being filled out. Robert and Amy had married in 1895. For many years, Robert worked with a plasterer, putting up the thin strips of timber called lath. By 1911 he had taken on a warehouse job. The 1921 Census had Robert and Amy living at 12 Merchiston Road, Catford, with Ethel 21 and Sidney 19 still at home. Cyril's mother Amy died in 1948 and his father Robert in 1958.

With the added information, I tried the Merchant Navy Records again, and found that Cyril had been a steward on **M.V. Narragansett**, an oil tanker owned by the Mexican Petroleum Co. The ship was making an unescorted trip from England to Texas, presumably to get a load of oil, when it was torpedoed by a German U Boat [U15], caught fire and sank with all 49 lives lost. I checked the NZ Merchant Navy Roll of Honour 1939-1945 but Cyril was not listed there. Cyril's death was commemorated on The Tower Hill monument, and an entry was added to the "*UK, World War I and World War II Shipping and Seamen Rolls of Honour, 1914-1945*" (see page 15 for more on this monument ed.)

"2nd Steward, age 38, born London, died 25 March 1942, M.V. Narragansett" and on the database, *U.K. Merchant Seaman Deaths 1939-1953*: Cyril Cecil Thompson, Age 38 : Birth Year :1904, Birthplace: London, Death : 25 March 1942, Place of death: at sea, Spouse: Marjorie.

The Tower Hill Memorial Register also lists Cyril as "son of Robert and Amy Thompson, husband of Marjorie A Thompson of Brixton Hill, London."

Ok, who is Marjorie?

I decided to go back to Ancestry and look more closely at the THOMPSON family. Other researchers had Cyril marrying a Marjorie Alice TIDMARSH in 1936 in Wandsworth. So only part of the family story was correct. Cyril



*12 Merchiston Road, Catford*



*M.V. Narragansett*

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hadn't waited until 1939 to leave NZ. ... I checked the 1939 Register, and there was an entry for Cyril and Marjorie. They were together in 1937 and 1938, also in Wandsworth.

So far, I have not found a divorce for Cyril and Rita. I wonder if Marjorie knew about Cyril's life in New Zealand?

Marjorie continued to use the THOMPSON surname. She moved in with her widowed mother, Martha TIDMARSH in 1946 and they lived together at 79 New Park Rd., Wandsworth until her death in 1962. Marjorie died in hospital on the island of Jersey, so perhaps she was on holiday at the time. She left her estate of over 3000 pounds to be split between her two older brothers, George Thomas TIDMARSH and James Hollman TIDMARSH.

By 1946, Reta/Rita THOMPSON was calling herself a widow. I don't know if this was because she had been informed of Cyril's death, or if it was practical for her to do so. She spent some time in Sydney over the years, and stayed with my grandparents in Greenwich. Reta formed a relationship with Frank CARTER, also known as Fred, in the 1960s. They lived as a married couple in Napier. Frank was a butcher in his early years and then worked as a ship's cook on the **SS Maunganui** and **SS Aorangi**, both of which did transpacific voyages to Vancouver. It seems that he died in 1968. By the 1970s, Reta was with a David MABEY. I believe he died in 1978. Reta died in Napier on 25 June 1983.



So, some of the mystery of Cyril has been solved, but other questions remain unanswered. ... 🌳

Sources: [NZ BDM online indexes](#), [Ancestry.com.](#), <https://ethnicelebs.com/lee-tamahori>, [Google images](#), [NZ Paperspast website](#), [Find my past for 1921 census records](#).

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## Did You Know ?

*Helen Johnston-Lord member 505*



The swift is a medium-sized aerial bird, which is a superb flyer. Sleeping, eating, bathing and even mating on the wing, swifts rarely touch the ground. They are also the fastest birds in level flight, with an impressive top speed of 69mph.

Swifts are plain sooty brown, with a white throat, but in flight against the sky they appear black. They have long, scythe-like wings and a short, forked tail. Swifts are summer visitors, breeding across the UK, but are most numerous in the south and east. Spending their winters in Africa, swifts migrate 3,400 miles twice a year, stopping off to refuel in places like Portugal and France along the way. ... 🌳

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/wildlife-guides/bird-a-z/swift/>

Image: [https://www.flaticon.com/free-icon/swift-bird-shape\\_47080](https://www.flaticon.com/free-icon/swift-bird-shape_47080)





# Their War

## They are remembered

... As we marched down to the quay  
This clipping from the paper  
Shows us young and strong and clean  
And there's me in my slouch hat  
With my SLR and greens  
God help me  
I was only nineteen ...

**I WAS ONLY 19**

*Helen Johnston-Lord member 505*



On 18 August, we commemorate **Vietnam Veterans' Day**, the Anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan in 1966. We remember the sacrifices of those who died and say thank you to almost 60,000 Australians who served during the 10 years of our involvement in the Vietnam War.

Over the years, many Australian towns and cities have acknowledged this day by erecting copies of the Long Tan Cross.

**Australian War Memorial** (<https://www.awm.gov.au/wartime/55/long-tan-cross>)

The brass plaque on the cross bore the simple inscription:

*In memory of those  
members of D Coy and  
3 Tp 1 APC Sqn who gave  
their lives near this  
spot during the battle  
of Long Tan on 18TH August 1966  
Erected by 6RAR/NZ  
(ANZAC) Bn 18 Aug 69.*



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

EKN/69/0085/VN

*The memorial dedication service held on the site of the battle of Long Tan on 18 August 1969 by members of 6RAR/NZ (ANZAC) to honour the fallen soldiers of 6RAR from both deployments to Vietnam. Veterans of the battle of Long Tan line either side of the cross while the remainder of the battalion are assembled under the surrounding rubber trees.*



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The original Cross was removed, (believed to be by a Catholic farmer for his father's grave) sometime after the war in Vietnam ended.

The original Cross was subsequently found and was displayed in the Dong Nai Museum. The base in which it sits hid the damage which occurred when the Cross was removed from its initial site on the Long Tan battlefield.

### **The Long Tan Cross Comes Home Permanently**

In 2017 the Vietnamese government permanently gifted the original Long Tan Cross to Australia.

Australia's Ambassador to Vietnam Craig Chittick received the Long Tan Cross from the Dong Nai Province People's Committee at a small ceremony at the Dong Nai Museum in Biên Hòa in November 2017.

An Australian Defence Force member then travelled with the cross on its journey to Australia.

The original Long Tan Cross went on display in its new permanent home at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra on 6 December 2017.

### **The Replica Cross**

During the 80's, the local population around Xa Long Tan constructed a replica of the Long Tan Cross and placed it at the original site. Over the following years the surrounding landscape underwent many changes, but the blood red was constant.



### **Monument Australia**

([monumentaustalia.org.au](http://monumentaustalia.org.au)):

The Battle of Long Tan (18 August 1966) took place near the village of Long Tan, in Phuoc Tuy Province, South Vietnam during the Vietnam War. The action was fought between Australian forces and Viet Cong and North Vietnamese units after the 108-man D Company, 6th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment (6 RAR) clashed with a force of between 1,500 to 2,500 men from the Viet Cong 275th Regiment, reinforced by at least one North Vietnamese battalion and D445 Provincial Mobile Battalion.

Eighteen Australians were killed and 24 wounded, while the Viet Cong lost at least 245 dead which were found over the days that followed. A decisive Australian victory, Long Tan proved a major local set back for the Viet Cong.

Australia's military involvement in the Vietnam War began with the arrival of the Australian Army Training Team Vietnam (AATTV) in South Vietnam during July and August 1962. Australia's participation in the war was formally declared at an end when the Governor-General issued a proclamation on 11 January 1973.

However, the end-date of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War has officially been amended to 29 April 1975 to reflect Australia's further involvement in the war during the fall of Saigon in 1975. The Department of Veterans Affairs and the Australian War Memorial, in Canberra now recognise this new date.

## Rookwood Necropolis

*Harry Johnston-Lord member 504*

In the Anglican Portion of Rookwood Necropolis there is a small area set aside as a burial place for the remains of Australian Soldiers repatriated from Vietnam. These were the first War Dead to be brought home from where they fell for burial on Australian Soil. It was not a memorable sight. Although it was mostly grass covered the terrain was uneven and the plinths matched the ground.

A few years ago steps were taken to make the area more presentable. These photographs of the restored area are the work of Julie Rusten. (Friends of Rookwood)

The turf lines were still visible because the turf was recently laid but the overall appearance is so much better. The provision of a bench on the Eastern wall is a good addition.



## I WAS ONLY 19

*Mum and Dad and Denny saw the passing out  
parade at Puckapunyal  
It was long march from cadets  
The Sixth Battalion was the next to tour  
It was me who drew the card  
We did Canungra and Shoalwater before we left  
And Townsville lined the footpaths  
As we marched down to the quay  
This clipping from the paper  
Shows us young and strong and clean  
And there's me in my slouch hat  
With my SLR and greens  
God help me  
I was only nineteen  
From Vung Tau riding Chinooks to the dust at Nui  
Dat  
I'd been in and out of choppers now for months  
And we made our tents a home, VB and pin-ups  
on the lockers  
And an Asian orange sunset through the scrub*

*And can you tell me, doctor, why I still can't get to  
sleep?  
And night time's just a jungle dark and a barking  
M16?  
What's this rash that comes and goes  
Can you tell me what it means?  
God help me  
I was only nineteen  
And a four week operation  
When each step could mean your last one on two  
legs  
It was a war within yourself  
But you wouldn't let your mates down  
'Til they had you dusted off  
So you closed your eyes and you thought about  
something else  
Then someone yelled out "Contact, front"  
And the bloke behind me swore  
We hooked in there for hours, then a God-  
almighty roar  
Frankie kicked a mine the day that mankind  
kicked the moon*



God help me, he was going home in June  
 I can still see Frankie drinking tinnies in the Grand Hotel  
 On a thirty-six hour rec leave in Vung Tau  
 And I can still hear Frankie lying screaming in the jungle  
 'Til the morphine came and killed the bloody row  
 And the Anzac legends didn't mention mud and blood and tears  
 And the stories that my father told me never seemed quite real  
 I caught some pieces in my back that I didn't even feel  
 God help me

I was only nineteen  
 And can you tell me, doctor, why I still can't get to sleep?  
 And why the Channel Seven chopper chills me to my feet?  
 And what's this rash that comes and goes  
 Can you tell me what it means?  
 God help me  
 I was only nineteen

Source: [Musixmatch](#)

Songwriters: Kennedy Shannon Lee / Levinson Timothy James / Cheung Ka-ho / Harrison Dale Anthony / Sabir Kenneth Spencer / Tamplenizza Richard / Fellows Simon Luke / Schumann John Lewis

I Was Only 19 Lyrics © Universal Music Publishing Pty. Ltd.

## THE TOWER HILL MEMORIAL

*Helen Johnston-Lord member 505*

The Tower Hill Memorial is in London's Trinity Square Gardens near the Tower of London. It commemorates men and women of the Merchant Navy and Fishing Fleets who died in both World Wars and who have no known grave.

In the Second World War, losses were considerable in the early years, reaching a peak in 1942. The heaviest losses were suffered in the Atlantic, but convoys making their way to Russia around the North Cape and those supplying Malta in the Mediterranean were also particularly vulnerable to attack. In all, 4,786 merchant ships were lost during the war with a total of 32,000 lives. The First World War section of the Tower Hill Memorial commemorates almost 12,000 Mercantile Marine casualties who have no grave but the sea. The Second World War extension bears almost 24,000 names.

[Source](#)

[Text: Commonwealth War Graves Commission](#)

[Photos: Commonwealth War Graves Commission](#)



## A REMINDER FOR MEMBERS

*Members are reminded that anytime they are at 'The Cottage' for any purpose, wearing membership cards in a manner that it is clearly displayed is obligatory.*

*Your courtesy is appreciated. ... 🌳*

## TRANSPORT

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

If you have are able to help, email The Secretary:

[secwfhg2@westnet.com.au](mailto:secwfhg2@westnet.com.au)

or phone [02] 4351 2211 during open hours. ... 🌳






## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Here at **Wyong Family History Group Inc.** we offer a range of Special Interest Groups [SIG] where members with common interests meet, learn, practice and share their special interest. Moderators/Co-ordinators are keen to share their knowledge with others. Please support them.

All are held at 'The Cottage'. Times are available on our Calendar. [see page 30 **Error! Bookmark not defined.** ]


***BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL – Remember, if you book and are unable to attend, please phone and cancel.***

SIGs go for one to two hours, we are asking for a \$2.00 donation to help keep our resources up to date.


 **Breaking through Brickwalls** – Helen Burkett moderates our Brickwall Group this year broadening it to cover UK, Australia and Convict questions. Ann Cooke has kindly offered to assist her, especially with the latter two subjects as she has more expertise in NSW than Helen does and she has convict family too.




Helen has gathered very many resources and concentrated on more obscure websites over time and intends to show one or more of these each month. They will also be looking at the lesser used resources at our own Centre. Watch the weekly newsletter or enquire at 'The Cottage' for more information.

 **Multi-Media Devices** – Roger Lewis & Ellen Sheerin continue this group helping attendees sort through their questions no matter what the media or device.



 **DNA Special Interest Group** – After the DNA test, you may be wondering about the next step or how to understand your DNA results. Whether or not you already have your results back, why not come along to our DNA SIG meetings for some guidance. DNA enthusiasts old and new, all welcome! ... Stuart Purvis-Smith



 **FAMILY TREE MAKER** – This popular SIG will continue with moderator Martin Fisher. Watch the Newsletter for topics for the next session.



***Numbers are limited – Bookings Essential ...*** 



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## GENERAL MEETINGS ROUNDUP

Helen Johnston-Lord member 505

**May:** Held in Building 1 of The Wyong Community Cultural Centre, this was a well-attended meeting with our much-anticipated Guest Speaker, Trish Cavanagh.

With the business of the meeting over, Trish Cavanagh was introduced.

Delightful Trish was the then 7-year-old little girl marching on the top of the iconic Vegemite jar in the 1959 TV commercial. Trish spoke about the history of Vegemite entwined with her experience with the production of the advertisement. In the 'good old days' no residuals were paid, none the less, she has had a good relationship with the brand. Amongst her memorabilia were the cap she wore for the add and the book, *The Man who invented Vegemite*.

Refreshments with Vegemite sandwiches, Vegemite Saos, some with cheese, kept the theme alive.

Terry Joyce (member #897) really got into the spirit of the day with her self-made earrings [made using, guess what? *Answer page 31*].

**June:** A meeting on a long weekend is sometimes a hit and miss event. In the absence of others, Pamela Andre took the helm of this encouraging meeting.

After the meeting and presentation of Certificates, responding to Regina's request to share your interests, I took the floor to present one of my little collections. This led to a very pleasant discussion about where my interest in fashion came from.

My thoughts: You never know what folk find interesting.

Thoughts from Annette Shearer member 492

*'The Guest Speaker at our June General Meeting was our very own Helen Johnston-Lord.'*



*Helen showed us a small sample from her very extensive Library.*

*Because fashion keeps changing, this helps us to date photographs that we may have found whilst researching our Family Tree.*

*Helen's knowledge is as vast as her Library and I'm sure we need to have her back to expand our knowledge even further.'*

**July:** Another meeting with some of our Committee MIA. These days, the business of the meeting is dealt with in a timely fashion. This being done, Regina introduced Sabrina Elias, Senior Archivist from Australian Jewish Historical Society. ([www.ajhs.com.au](http://www.ajhs.com.au)) Sabrina explained her role and what she was confronted with when she first joined the organisation and the progress made in conservation and digitisation of their vast records. Her brief tour of their website revealed a wealth of information including: A Walk of Jewish Sydney, Podcasts, Marriages and Military Records. Sabrina also mentioned the Australian Jewish Genealogy Society ([www.ajgs.org.au](http://www.ajgs.org.au))

Another very interesting speaker, thank you Regina.

**Monthly Zoom Meetings.** I find these meetings an injection to my sometimes-waning family history research. Many topics are informally discussed with ideas to follow up. Short discussions about an ancestor or two make an interesting mix. Why not join us for a while for our next session? Stay at home where it is warm, in your pj's if you wish, and put faces to names. ... 🌿



## MEMBERS' MILESTONES

Congratulations go to the following members, who were presented with certificates for reaching these milestones in the last three months:

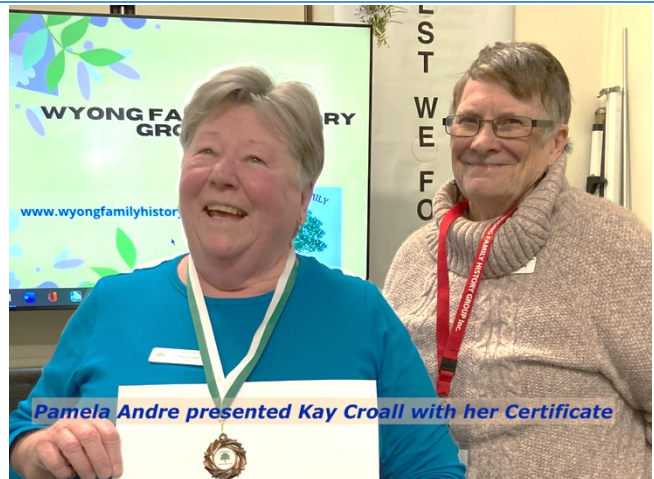


#265 Lyndall Hall – 15 years	#278 Peter Carroll – 15 years
#270 Kay Croall – 15 years	#279 Joy Pilkington – 15 years
#271 Anne Levett – 15 years	#594 Leonie Baldwin – 10 years

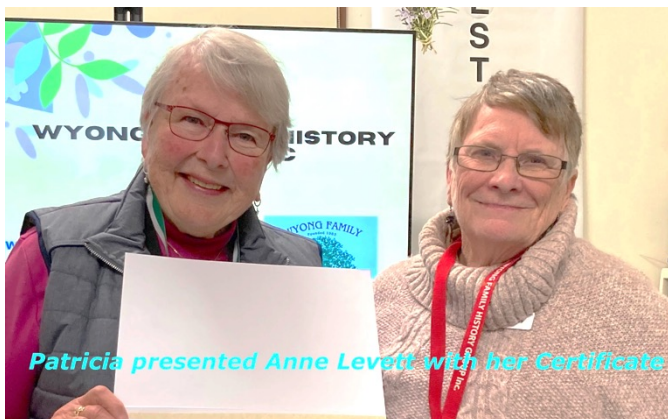




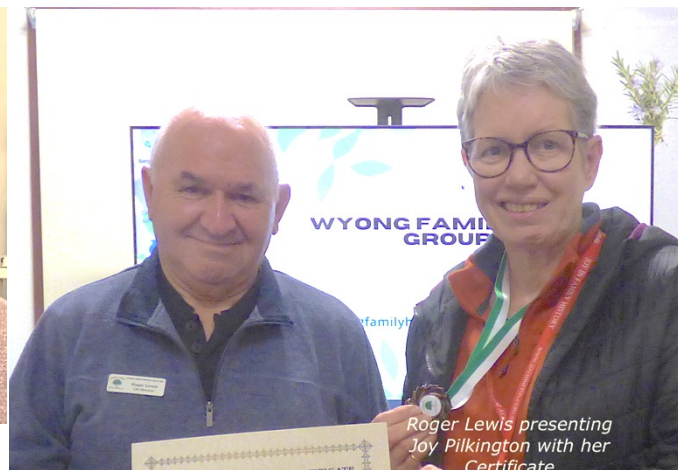
Pamela Andre presented Lyndal Hall with her Certificate



Pamela Andre presented Kay Croall with her Certificate



Patricia presented Anne Levett with her Certificate



Roger Lewis presenting Joy Pilkington with her Certificate

Thanks for your continued support and congratulations to All ... 🌳

## MARGARET - I HAVE FOUND YOU!

*Lynda Smith. LM2.*

Back in 1983 a distant cousin, Sybil WALSH, supplied me with a hand drawn family tree of my SMALLHORN family. Over the years I have added to it as I have confirmed descendants of the ten original children of Samuel and Mary SMALLHORN and the following seventeen children of my g great grandfather, their first born Australian son, Alfred. I have almost finished entering these details into my Ancestry tree, working from child seventeen back to child one. Along the way I discovered the will of child nine, William John SMALLHORN, born 1875. In this document, written in 1944, he mentions bequests to his grandchildren **Barry, Robin, Philip and Frank EDWARDS**, and any others to follow. Now that was a surprise! To my knowledge, William did not have any children of his own, only two step-children and neither of them married anyone called EDWARDS.



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Using "FamilySearch.org.", I discovered that a child called Margaret was born in 1909 to William and his wife Ethel. Who knew? Sybil certainly did not.

Name:	<a href="#">Margaret Smallhorn</a>
Event Type:	Birth
Event Date:	10 Jan 1909
Event Place:	Hobart, Tasmania, Australia
Event Place (Original):	Hobart, Tasmania, Austrailia
Sex:	Female
Father's Name:	<a href="#">William John Smallhorn</a>
Mother's Name:	Ethel Maud Smallhorn

---

Ethel presumably left him shortly after this event and moved to Victoria. Eventually she divorced William in 1925 and remarried a William John AHERN in 1926. Strangely, Ethel claimed in her divorce request that she and William S never lived together as man and wife and that he had deserted her. I don't know where Margaret spent her childhood. I searched all the records I could find, including TROVE and could not find a marriage for Margaret to someone called EDWARDS. I then moved on to other children and left the mysterious Margaret alone.

Caroline Webster SMALLHORN, born in 1866 was the third child. She and her elder sister Sarah Kate lived in the family home "Erinaville" in Sandy Bay for their entire lives. They cared for their parents and then, as they aged themselves, their niece Julie SMALLHORN moved in and helped care for them. Sarah died first and she left everything to Carrie, as she was called in the family. Carrie left a will, leaving most of her estate to Julie, but left shares to her nieces and nephews, called **Barry Merefield EDWARDS, Philip Charles EDWARDS, Robin Louise EDWARDS and Francis Bernal EDWARDS**. These names were starting to haunt me. How do these people fit into my tree?



*Erinaville, taken in Nov. 2011.*

So, I tried again, this time searching TROVE for anyone called Merefield or Bernal as I felt these were very unusual names. I struck gold. I came across a Charles Merefield EDWARDS. I then used Familysearch and discovered he had a brother called Bernal EDWARDS. I searched via Ancestry.com and found that Charles and Bernal were sons of a Welshman, Richard James EDWARDS, who was a prominent contributor



to the Tasmanian media. He was married twice and had many children. He ended his days as a tobacconist in Liverpool Street, Hobart.

Charles M EDWARDS named one of his sons Bernal Boyd EDWARDS. I found that he had joined the RAAF in WW2 and his next of kin was a Margaret EDWARDS. That was interesting. Other Ancestry researchers have him marrying a Margaret SMALL and having four children- you guessed it, **Barry, Philip, Robin and Frank**. Did Margaret change her name or is this a typo? I haven't found a marriage as yet.

I then focussed on Bernal B and Margaret's whereabouts using Electoral Rolls. They spent most of their adult lives in various parts of Hobart. In the 1972 Electoral Roll they were in Kingston Beach, but by 1977 they had moved to sunny New South Wales, to 2 Wordsworth Avenue, BATEAU BAY. I could not believe this! By 1980 however, Bernal was living in Sydney, with his eldest son Barry, in Cronulla, and Margaret was not with them. I also found that their youngest son Frank Bernal EDWARDS had died in Tasmania in 1982, without a will. His Letters of Administration state that his estate was to go to his father as his mother had died previously. It also gave his father's current address - 9 Robinson St., Cronulla. I checked the Ryerson Index and found Bernal's death in 1985 in NSW.

EDWARDS Bernal Boyd	Death notice	13FEB1985 Death 76 at Narrabeen, late of Cronulla	Sydney Morning Herald	18FEB1985
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Bernal was cremated and his ashes are to be found at Palmdale Lawn Cemetery. Now to Margaret. At least now I had a range of dates to work with. By this time, it was after midnight and my husband had gone to bed. I was determined to find this lady. I had previously searched Ryerson for Margaret EDWARDS, but the name was too common, and I had no references to narrow the search. I tried again, but still had no luck, so I revisited Ancestry.com. This time, with all the added data entered, I was given a hint that gave me access to Findagrave and there she was.

Name:	Margaret Edwards
Death Date:	1977
Cemetery:	Palmdale Lawn Cemetery & Memorial Park
Burial or Cremation Place:	Palmdale, Central Coast Council, New South Wales, Australia



I found out that Bernal and Margaret are in adjoining niches in the Bellbird Gardens section. Bernal's plaque says "Together again". Their eldest son Barry died in 2016 and his wife Fay in 2020. They are in the same section. So, now I have some relatives to visit, and this little mystery has finally been solved.

*Resources: Trove, Ancestry.com.au, Ryerson Index, Sybil Walsh's family tree.*

*Tasmania's People Name Index:*

[https://libriestas.ent.sirsiidynix.net.au/client/en\\_AU/names/](https://libriestas.ent.sirsiidynix.net.au/client/en_AU/names/)

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## OUR JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY AND CONNECTIONS WITH JOY & ALLEN MURREN

*Roger Lewis Vice President LM127 &  
Helen J-L Member #505*

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On a wet and miserable day 40+ folk attended both an inspiring and uplifting seminar.

After a couple of minor problems with computers, we finally got under way.

Joy and Allen complemented each other well while presenting their programme. It was truly interesting to listen to their banter and hear them both recount and expand on their family history.

I am sure everyone went away with fresh ideas about researching family histories. ... *Roger*.

This oft postponed Seminar finally happened early in July.

Accessibility at Club Wyong is a little slow, however once in the room, this event was a very worthwhile way to spend a gloomy Saturday.

Registration for this Seminar was a different experience with Martin Fisher ably handling the computer. Tickets in the generous raffle, however, were sold in the time-honoured way. Thanks to all who donated prizes including vouchers from the Murrins.

For those wishing to buy lunch at the Club, menus were distributed and collected, in an effort to ease the push at the lunch break.

Joy and Allen's investigations into their families as well as accounts of discoveries in transcripts they have researched over many years.

I found Joy's history as a transcription agent and how the process has evolved fascinating.

At the end of the day, Joy and Allen were thanked and the raffle was drawn.



Raffle winners: Pamela Andre, Judy Calder, Lorraine Cameron, Glenys Cleary plus an absentee. ... *Helen*.

Again, THANK YOU to the Organisers! ... 🌳

## LIFE MEMBERS



From time to time our Group awards a Life Membership.

These 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
Meg Gibson	43	20 Feb 2021
Gwen Bates	70	20 Feb 2021

## AN OLD BOOK:

*Lynda Smith Life Member 2*

*We make a brief return to this view of how life was reported in 'The History of the Year 1876' ... ed*

*Memories.*  
*That's How it Was*  
*Back in the Day.*

66 Pg. 24 ... Sept. 21 1876 ... **Drunk under Extraordinary Circumstances.**- At Consett to-day, a man, M'Mullan, was charged with being drunk under very remarkable circumstances. It appears that shortly after midnight the driver of a mineral train observed a man, who turned out to be the defendant, lying between the rails, and before the train could be stopped the engine and fifteen wagons passed over him. The driver returned to where M'Mullan was lying, and, strange to say, found him fast asleep and uninjured. He was fined 10s. And costs, the magistrates remarking he had had a most marvellous and providential escape. 99

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Consett>

**Consett** is a town in the northwest of County Durham, England, about 14 miles (23 km) southwest of Newcastle upon Tyne. ... 🌳





**WYONG FAMILY HISTORY GROUP Inc.**

## **FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH**

***Do you want to know your Family History  
but just don't have the time?***

***For a reasonable Fee***

Let us research either the Paternal or Maternal side of your family.

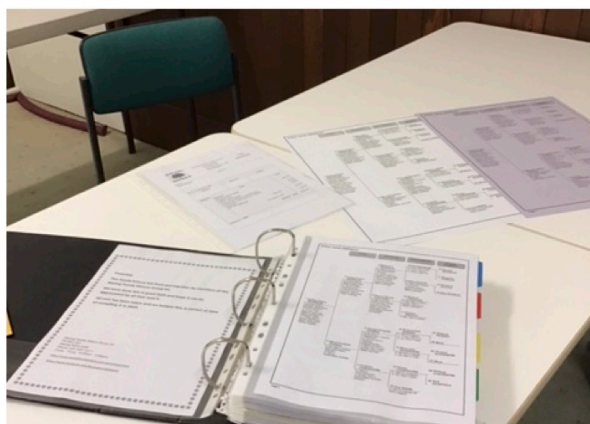
**Starting at \$50.00 for both Grandparents we are currently offering a variety of Family History Packages. Each additional person costs \$25 including printing.**

Other costs may be incurred for certificates or transcripts (after consultation with the client)

**You will receive an A3 Ancestral/Pedigree Chart showing your line, and an A4 display folder of information and stories we may find as well as all the documents you pay for.**

All research will be done by our volunteers, some have a Diploma of Family History or have been researching family history for many years. Researchers use our resources, our access to paid genealogical sites, societies in places of interest to your subject also newspapers and State Archives.

**WYONG FAMILY HISTORY GROUP INC.**  
P.O. BOX 247  
WYONG, N.S.W. 2259  
PH: 4351 2211 Tuesday – Thursday  
10:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Email: [secwfhg2@westnet.com.au](mailto:secwfhg2@westnet.com.au)  
Web Address:  
[www.wyongfamilyhistory.com.au](http://www.wyongfamilyhistory.com.au)



*Example of what you may receive.*



NSW & ACT Association of  
Family History Societies Inc.



# Annual Conference

## 16, 17, 18 September 2022

This year's State Conference will again be held  
Virtually due to the ongoing uncertainties  
Of Covid-19.

For details check the website, Facebook, & the Conference Newsletter.

Theme:

# Riding the Waves of

# History

Hosted by: Newcastle Family History Society Inc. [www.nfhs.org.au](http://www.nfhs.org.au)  
and Maitland & Beyond Family History Group Inc. [mdgs.org.au/](http://mdgs.org.au/)

[www.ridingthewavesofhistory.com.au](http://www.ridingthewavesofhistory.com.au)

## PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

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

Publication	Type	Price
<b>DIGITAL RELEASE</b>		
<b>Wyong &amp; Districts Anglican Church Records 1838 – 1987</b> <span style="color: green;">NEW!</span>	<b>USB</b>	<b>\$ 50.00 + p&amp;h</b>
This USB contains over 15,000 primary records including Baptisms 1838-1927, Marriages 1838 -1967 and Burials 1837-1987 with links to copies of the original church register pages for Gosford Parish until the early 1900s and thereafter for Wyong, The Entrance and Toukley/Budgewoi Parishes. System requirement is any version of MS <span style="color: green;">windows</span> from XP to Win10 with approximately 10GB hard disk space		
<b>BOOKS &amp; CDs</b>		
<b>Bowden Family Funerals – Wyong. July 1999 – January 2016</b>	<b>Book</b>	<b>\$ 20.00 + p&amp;h</b>
	<b>CD</b>	<b>\$15.00 – p&amp;h</b>
<b>Central Coast Roll of Honour.</b>	<b>Book</b>	<b>\$ 20.00 + p&amp;h</b>
	<b>CD</b>	<b>\$ 15.00 + p&amp;h</b>
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 photographs.		
<b>Gosford Times Marriage and Death Notices 1892-1954</b>		
<span style="color: red;">Last Copy – Special Price</span>	<b>Book</b>	<b>\$ 27.00 + p&amp;h</b>
	<b>CD</b>	<b>\$ 20.00 + p&amp;h</b>
Incorporating the Wollombi Express (1892-1906) and Wyong District Advocate (1906-1920) Contains entries for 5892 Deaths and 1400 Marriages with many relevant details.		
<b>People of Wyong Book 1: Health and Service Providers</b>	<b>Book</b>	<b>\$ 35.00 + p&amp;h</b>
Includes: Doctors, Dentists, Fire Brigade, Ministers [298 pages]		
<b>People of Wyong Book 2:</b>	<b>Book</b>	<b>\$ 40.00 + p&amp;h</b>
Includes: Bank Managers, Public Servants, Business People, Organisations. [252 pages]		
<b>People of Wyong Book 3:</b>	<b>Book</b>	<b>\$ 42.00 + p&amp;h</b>
Includes: Timber Industry, Dairying, Agriculture, Poultry, Fishing and Transport. [297 pages]		
<b>People of Wyong Book 4:</b> <span style="color: green;">NEW!</span>	<b>Book</b>	<b>\$ 42.00 + p&amp;h</b>
Includes Wyong Abattoir, Norah Head Lighthouse Keepers, Notable Residents, Wyong Court House, Political Reps. 257 pages. Fully Indexed. Coloured and b&w photographs		
<b>People of Wyong Book 5:</b> <span style="color: green;">NEW!</span>	<b>Book</b>	<b>\$ 42.00 + p&amp;h</b>
All Wyong District Schools both former and current, public and private, with a list of each school's Head Teachers. 270 pages. Fully Indexed. Coloured & b&w photos of each school		
<span style="color: red;">Purchase all 5 books in this series at the same time and receive 10% discount</span>		
<b>Place Names of the Wyong Shire</b>	<b>Book</b>	<b>\$ 7.00 + p&amp;h</b>
<b>Simplicity Funerals Bateau Bay NSW 1963 – 2006</b>	<b>Book Out of Print</b>	
Records available on combined CD.		
<b>Simplicity Funerals Bateau Bay NSW 2007 – 2011</b>	<b>Book</b>	<b>\$ 20.00 + p&amp;h</b>
Includes Wyong & Toukley		
<b>Simplicity Funerals Bateau Bay NSW, Toukley and Wyong 1963 – 2011</b>	<b>CD</b>	<b>\$ 25.00 + p&amp;h</b>
<b>Simplicity Funerals Erina 1985 – 2013</b>	<b>Book</b>	<b>\$ 30.00 + p&amp;h</b>
	<b>CD</b>	<b>\$ 15.00 + p&amp;h</b>
<b>Simplicity Funerals Woy Woy 1991 – 2013</b>	<b>Book</b>	<b>20.00 + p&amp;h</b>
	<b>CD</b>	<b>\$ \$ 15.00 + p&amp;h</b>
<b>The Anglican Parish of the Brisbane Water Area</b>	<b>CD</b>	<b>\$ 10.00 + p&amp;h</b>
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.		



Publication	Type	Price
<b>Wyong Agricultural Association</b> <b>Last Copy – Special Price</b>	<b>Book</b>	<b>\$ 27.00 + p&amp;h</b>
	<b>CD</b>	<b>\$ 15.00 + p&amp;h</b>
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 [248 pages with fully indexed]		
<b>Wyong Courthouse Death Records 1930 – 1953</b>	<b>Book</b>	<b>\$ 20.00 + p&amp;h</b>
	<b>CD</b>	<b>\$ 15.00 + p&amp;h</b>
<b>Wyong &amp; District Pioneer Register (Published 2013)</b>	<b>CD</b>	<b>\$ 35.00 + p&amp;h</b>
Fully indexed compilation of all previous Pioneer Book entries, extensively updated references to over 13,500 individuals. Contains birth, marriage and death details, some photos, personal stories and obituaries for some individuals. Includes a brief history of Wyong. 673 pages		
<b>Wyong &amp; Lakes District Advocate, Personal Notices (1932 – 1995)</b>		
<b>Volume One</b> <b>Last Copy – Special Price</b>	<b>Book</b>	<b>\$ 27.00 + p&amp;h</b>
Contains 514 anniversary notices, 1078 birth notices, 4,000 marriage notices, 4790 in memoriam notices and 238 miscellaneous event notices. Includes church photographs		
<b>Volume Two</b>	<b>Book Out of Print</b>	
Contains 11,973 deaths, obituary & probate notices as well as Church and Cemetery photos		
<b>Volume 1 and 2 available on combined CD</b>	<b>CD</b>	<b>\$ 35.00 + p&amp;h</b>
<b>Wyong Remembers:</b>	<b>Book</b>	<b>\$ 19.00 + p&amp;h</b>
The history of the Wyong War memorial and Centenary of ANZAC events. (53 pages)		
<b>Wyong Shire Combined Cemeteries 2017</b>	<b>CD</b>	<b>\$ 25.00 + p&amp;h</b>
Includes Jilliby, Noraville, St Barnabas & Yarramalong and Ronkana Cemeteries		
<b>Jilliby Cemetery, Wyong Shire, NSW</b>	<b>Book Out of Print</b>	
<b>Noraville Cemetery, Wyong Shire 1869 - 2012</b>	<b>Book</b>	<b>\$ 20.00 + p&amp;h</b>
<b>St Barnabas &amp; Yarramalong Cemeteries, Wyong Shire NSW 1886-2001</b>	<b>Book</b>	<b>\$ 15.00 + p&amp;h</b>
<b>Ronkana Cemetery, Wyong Shire NSW 1825 - 2016</b>	<b>Book</b>	<b>\$ 15.00 + p&amp;h</b>
	<b>CD</b>	<b>\$ 10.00 + p&amp;h</b>
<b>Wyong Shire Cemetery Records Index to August 2016</b>	<b>Book</b>	<b>\$ 25.00 + p&amp;h</b>
	<b>CD</b>	<b>\$ 20.00 + p&amp;h</b>
This index has been compiled from the WFHG Inc. 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 those unmarked. 220 pages		
<b>Wyong Township Residents Index 1930 – 1939</b>	<b>Book</b>	<b>\$ 10.00 + p&amp;h</b>
	<b>CD</b>	<b>\$ 10.00 + p&amp;h</b>
<b>Palmdale Cemetery</b>	<b>CD</b>	<b>\$ 10.00 + p&amp;h</b>
[30,000 names, not all from Wyong]		
<b>Genealogy Recorder</b>		<b>\$ 10.00 + p&amp;h</b>
<b>SUPER SPECIAL - 2 BOOK PACK !</b>		
<b>Simplicity Funerals Wyong Shire NSW 1993 – 2011</b>		
<b>Bowden Family Funerals Wyong, July 1999 – January 2015</b>		
	<b>2 x Books</b>	<b>\$ 25.00 + p&amp;h</b>
<b>Great Value for these records which are not on the Internet. Nor are they available from any other source. Usually priced at \$40.00 for the two books, buy both now for only \$25.00</b>		

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## STREET FLOODS IN LAMBETH

*Just a small extract of this account of the 1877 floods in England ... ed.*

*Submitted by Beryl Whatson (nee Pittard) member 46*

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66 In woeful contrast to this interior was another, a few paces further on, occupied by a widow, her son, and daughter. In no land, savage or civilized, have I seen a human abode less attractive and more filthy. The mother, who goes out "charing," had seemingly neither the time nor the opportunity to render her apartment habitable. It was at her own invitation I followed her, as she said she had something to say to me. At a loss to conjecture what her communication might be, I made my way along a dark passage to a small doorway and stepping over an accumulation of turnip-tops and mingled garbage, entered a room measuring about eight feet by ten feet. The walls were begrimed by smoke, and such portions of the floor as were seen were black and damp. The tidal overflow had registered its rise by partially cleansing the walls to a height of four feet, and by leaving the paper hanging in mouldy bags around. In one corner stood the remains of six sacks of coal and coke, "the gift of the good gentleman." On a dark unwholesome bed lay a heap of ragged coverings, bestrewn with some articles of tawdry finery, and on one corner sat a little girl, whose bright dark eyes shone through a mass of matted hair. A broken chair was propped against the wall, near a chest of drawers warped and wasted by the water. The fire burned with a depressing glimmer, as fitful gusts of foul air found their way through a heap of ashes on the hearth: over

the mantelpiece hung a series of small photographs, making up the collection of family portraits of husband and children who had passed away.

"I am sick of it all," said the woman. "I wish I were out of it, done with it, God knows! Look at me, sir. Do you see that bruise on my face? My daughter struck me down with her fist this morning, because I would not let her sell the clothes off my back. She wont (sic) work; she lives upon me. She had been out all-night last night, and came home this morning like a mad woman, and I have driven her from my door! " She came home! I involuntarily glanced round the home of this unfortunate outcast, but saving the pictures, and the bits of cheap finery, there was nothing there to woo her back from the streets. The widow went on to say that she had some comfort in her son, who makes good wages in a mason's yard. "I live for my boy and he lives for me, but since the floods he has been troubled by a hacking cough; I don't like to hear it, and it don't leave him, sir. As for myself, I have never felt right since that awful night, when with my little girl I sat above the water on my bed until the tide went down."

The reader will understand why I have brought him face to face with a group of the people who suffered from the Lambeth floods, in preference to photographing a street under water.

It is with the people and their surroundings that I have chosen to deal, in order to show that the floods have inflicted a permanent injury upon them, and that a succession of such disasters may at last affect the health of the metropolis at large.

The group was taken by special permission in front of the rag store of Mr. Rowlett. The Rowletts have occupied the house for twenty-seven years, but it is only in recent times that the water has invaded their premises. The family may be described as prosperous, at least they were prosperous, but the losses caused by the inundations and the failing health of Mr. Rowlett—who is now a confirmed invalid—have narrowed their means. In Mrs. Rowlett's own words, "The water has taken us down a bit, and the last midnight flood was too much for my old man. He has now severe congestion of the lungs. Had it not been for the shop-boy, our losses would have almost been beyond repair. The boy was on the watch, and in time to enable us to save a few things: he appeared below the window, shouting, 'The tide! the tide!!' We knew what that meant and saved all we could. Our heaviest loss was made four years ago. It was so heavy we had to part with our horse and van to keep things going. Our goods, rags, and waste-paper were soaked, and we sold tons for manure. We have never been able to recover our losses. Since the embankment was built, part of our business has gone down the water with the wharves. The beach pickers don't pick up so much old iron and things now. At first I was too proud to take help, but now I am fain to get a little assistance when I can. As

they say, the - water might be stopped if the Government would only do it. You see the water don't come into the drawing-rooms of fine folks. We would hear more of it if it did. It's never been into the Parliament Houses yet, sir, has it?" I assured the good woman that it had not, but that the question of the floods would be in the House before long, and that something would probably be done.

"We saved our piano you see," continued Mrs. Rowlett, "it's what I prize most, next to my daughter who plays it. I had her taught by times, as I could spare the money. We have nothing to leave our children, but they got a good education, so my girl if she needs to work can teach music. I bought the piano as poor folks buy most things, by paying a few shillings or a few pence at a time to dealers who supply everything. Our conversation was interrupted by the entrance of a pretty, poorly clad little girl, who said, "Mrs. Rowlett, mother sent me to pay the twopence for the boots, and I was to ask if you had another tidy pair of stockings for Nell. "No, darling, I have not, but I will keep a look out for a pair. Mrs. Rowlett explained that the girl was one of a large family, and that the twopence was payment for a pair of boots and a pair of stockings she had picked out of a heap of rags and paper. 99

*Victorian London - Publications - Social Investigation/Journalism - Street Life in London - by J. Thomson and Adolphe Smith, 1877*

*We hope to continue this poignant story of the 1877 floods in London, soon. ... ed. ... 🌳*



## AN OLD BOOK

Lynda Smith Life Member 2

More from this view of how life was reported in 'The History of the Year 1876' ... ed

*Memories.*  
*That's How it Was*  
*Back in the Day.*

66 Pg.9 [February 26 1876] The First Steam-Ferry Boat of London.- On this day the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress were present at the launch of the first steam-ferry-boat of the port of London, which is to ply over the Thames Tunnel from the Tunnel pier to Rotherhithe. The boat was named the *Jessie May*, after the Lord Mayor's third daughter, who performed the ceremony of christening.



99 <http://www.forgottenhighway.co.uk/rotherhithe1.html> "The Jessy(ie) May was 79ft long and had 42ft wide decks with an 8ft 9ins depth 149 tonnes and had Maudslay and Field 30hp engines. The Pearl was slightly bigger. The boats looked nearly rectangular in shape.

They had two sets of steering gear, worked from the top of each paddle box. This was in order to keep the decks clear. The funnels were placed on the sponson near the paddle boxes.

On the deck were 3 rows for vehicles and two at the sides for passengers. It could hold twelve two horse carts, maximum 50 tones (sic).

The engine room skylights were placed between each cart track. Each end had a hinged platforms that could be raised and lowered by chains and winches.



The 30hp engines drove a pair of paddle wheels via disconnecting apparatus. This meant that one paddle wheel could be disconnected while the other wheel was still in motion. This gave the ferry excellent manoeuvrability in the river Thames.

The boat had a draught of 2'6" but were restricted within Wapping Wharf in "low water spring". ... 🌳

## WFHG Inc. PLANNED EVENTS

- Subject to change.
- Note: Unless otherwise stated, All our meetings, interest groups, information sessions and courses are held at 'The Cottage'.
- **SIG** = Special Interest Group
- **Info** = Information Session

	2022	Event
Aug	Tue 2	Committee Meeting 10:00 am
	Fri 5	Intermediate <b>Course</b> commences

	<b>2022</b>	<b>Event</b>
August	Tue 9	<b>Rookwood Cemetery Talk - Mark Bundy. Info Session 10:00 am</b> Bookings essential. \$5 per person
	Thu 11	Family Tree Maker <b>SIG</b> 10:00 am – 12:00 noon
	Fri 12	Intermediate <b>Course</b> – week 2
	Sat 13	<b>General Meeting</b> - guest speaker <b>Mark Dunn</b> , author of <b>The Convict Valley 1:00 pm</b>
	Tue 16	DNA <b>SIG</b> 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm
	Fri 19	Intermediate <b>Course</b> – week 3
	Sat 20	WFHG Open Day BBQ – 11:00 am
	Tue 23	<b>Workshop: How to photograph effectively in a cemetery.</b> 10:00am at The Cottage, then on to Jilliby Cemetery. BYO camera & lunch. Bookings essential. \$5 per person
	Wed 24	Monthly <b>ZOOM</b> Catch Up 7:30 pm
	Thu 25	Brickwall <b>SIG</b> 10:00 am – 12:00 noon
	Fri 26	Intermediate <b>Course</b> – week 4
	Sat 27	Multi-Media <b>SIG</b> 10:00 am – 12:00 noon
	Sun 28	Bunnings <b>BBQ – Lake Haven</b>
	Tue 30	Committee Meeting for September 10:00 am
September	Sat 3	Rookwood Cemetery <b>Bus Trip</b>
	Thu 8	Family Tree Maker <b>SIG</b> 10:00 am – 12:00 noon
	Sat 10	<b>ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1:00 pm</b>
	Thu 15	PowerPoint <b>Workshop</b> 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm
	Fri 16 – Sat 17 NSW & ACT Conference	
	Sun 18	Family History Fair at Maitland
	Tue 20	DNA <b>SIG</b> 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm
	Wed 21	Scottish / Irish <b>SIG</b> 10:00 am – 12:00 noon
	Thu 22	Brickwall <b>SIG</b> 10:00 am – 12:00 noon
	Sat 24	Multi-Media <b>SIG</b> 10:00 am – 12:00 noon
	Tue 27	Committee Meeting for October 10:00 am
	Tue 28	Monthly <b>ZOOM</b> Catch Up 7:30 pm
October	Sat 8	<b>General Meeting 1:00 pm</b>
	Tue 11	Ryerson Index <b>Info</b> 10:00 am
	Thu 13	Family Tree Maker <b>SIG</b> 10:00 am – 12:00 noon
	Tue 18	DNA <b>SIG</b> 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm
	Wed 19	Scottish / Irish <b>SIG</b> 10:00 am – 12:00 noon
	Fri 21	<a href="#"><i>Tree of Life Deadline</i></a>
	Sat 22	Multi-Media <b>SIG</b> 10:00 am – 12:00 noon
	Wed 26	Monthly <b>ZOOM</b> Catch Up 7:30 pm
	Thu 27	Brickwall <b>SIG</b> 10:00 am – 12:00 noon
	Tuesday November 1 <sup>st</sup> November Committee Meeting 10:00am Afternoon - Melbourne Cup Day <b>Afternoon Tea</b> 2:00 pm. 	
	Sunday November 6 <b>Seminar – DNA &amp; State Archives</b>	
	Sunday December 4 <b>Christmas Function</b> 	

Terry's earrings ... specimen jars

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## 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.

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](mailto:secwfhg2@westnet.com.au)

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

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

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**Remember, Member contributions are always welcome and 21 October, 2022  
is the closing date for submissions for next issue of the "Tree of Life".**

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### 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](mailto:au_gosford@ldsmail.net)

**The WFHG has an affiliated agreement  
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WYONG FAMILY  
founded 1983



HISTORY GROUP INC.

### 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.*