

General Meeting

THURS 11TH JUNE

Guest Speaker
Pat Perrett
Alison Homestead:
Past, Present and
Future

SEMINAR

From Early Arrivals
to the Latest
Technology

SAT 15TH AUG



ROOKWOOD TRIP
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WORKSHOPS AND
FREE TRAINING
SESSIONS

WFHG e-Branch



From the Editor

Hi Members

I would like to take a few lines to thank all those who regularly contribute to the e-Branch. A lot of people do a lot of work each month to compile all the resources that I just cut and paste together.

Please feel free to contact me with suggestions and contributions. We would love to hear any little family history stories you have stumbled across. Maybe you had some success with a particular database, or learnt something new? Maybe you found an interesting relative. Maybe you want to send in a letter saying thanks to someone who helped you out with your research this month. Happy researching!

Email: wfhgweb@westnet.com.au

Kate Walter
e-Branch editor

In this edition:

- * Library updates
- * Snippets from other journals
- * Research tips from Jean and others
- * News about upcoming events

AND MORE

Upcoming

FREE Mini training sessions - held at the cottage

[For more info click here](#)

June

Tues 16th 10am What program should I use (Kerrie Metcalfe)

Tues 23rd 1pm *Reading old handwriting* (Esther Dean)

July

Tues 7th 10am Webinar - getting the most from a census (LC)

Bits and Pieces

August 2015 National Family History Month

<http://www.familyhistorymonth.org.au/index.php>

Family history and genealogy is one of the most popular hobbies around the world.

Family history is the *second biggest subject on the web* with sites receiving billions of hits per year.

There are over 250,000 Australians who are members of family history related organisations so the month has broad appeal across Australia.

National Family History Month is an initiative of AFFHO ([Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations](#)). This popular initiative has received broad support from some of Australia's leading government and non government organisations since its introduction in 2006. Originally only a week in August, it was expanded to include the whole month in 2013 to allow greater participation across Australia.

Special Interest Groups



English

4th Tuesday of the month
10am - 12pm

Scottish and Irish

4th Thursday of the month
Scot: 10am - 12pm
Irish: 1pm - 3pm

Convict

2nd Wed of the month
10am - 12pm

FamilyTree Maker

3rd Thursday of the month
1-3pm

Watch this space: A new special interest group is on its way, inspired by a successful training session on using Microsoft Word

University of Tasmania

Family History course - free and online

<http://www.utas.edu.au/arts/introduction-to-family-history>

Ever wanted to know more about your past?

Introduction to Family History is designed for people interested in their own family histories or genealogy in general. You will learn how to research family history accurately and efficiently using the growing range of online family history resources. You may be surprised at what you discover and what you can share with family and friends.



Online: *Introduction to Family History* is a fully online unit to enable flexible study.



Free access to Ancestry.com Library: Gain 1 month free access to billions of historical documents, millions of historical photos, plus local narratives, oral histories and other resources that span from the 1500s to the 2000s.



Free Study: Study is free for Semester 2, 2015 with a HECS Scholarship* ([*conditions apply](#)).

Note from editor:

I did this course, at it's last offering and it was excellent. You need to be ok on a computer, or be prepared to spend a while learning your way around the online learning system. I think about 6 hours a week would have been a reasonable time commitment, I often spent less.

I am often at the cottage on Wednesdays and would be happy to help people work out the online systems. **We could perhaps run a special interest group for the duration of the course.** If you are interested in this please call or email me and register your interest. (Permission pending from the committee - I only just had this thought while I was putting the e-Branch together and haven't had time to check if its ok!)

I'm happy for people to call me if there are specific questions about my experience I can help with.

Call Kate on 0412 819 561 / wfhgweb@westnet.com.au

Ancestry update

Reuters [recently reported](#) that Ancestry “is exploring a sale that could value it at between \$2.5 billion and \$3 billion, including debt.” According to unnamed sources, Permira (a buyout firm that owns most of Ancestry) “has hired investment banks to run an auction for the company.” It’s far too soon to say what this might mean for paying customers, users of Ancestry Library Edition and corporate and community partners. The sale of a company can mean possible changes in direction and organization. Ancestry currently boasts delivery of 15 billion genealogy records to 2.1 million subscribers, and has stated its intent to acquire additional records at an aggressive pace. In an ever changing corporate and technological environment we believe it’s important to retain ownership and responsibility of our own data.

Our best advice to those whose master family trees are on Ancestry? Download and backup your data! We’re not being alarmist. This announcement is just a good opportunity to do something we routinely recommend anyway.

FOLLOW THESE STEPS

First, **download your current tree(s)** to GEDCOM files onto your computer. Under the Trees tab, choose Create and Manage Trees. For each tree you have there, choose Manage Tree, then Export Tree.

Next, **check your sources!** The Ancestry help section states, “Any pictures, charts, books, views, or similar items found in the original file will not be included in the [downloaded] GEDCOM. Vital information, notes, and *sources* are usually retained after conversion.” Check your GEDCOM to see whether your source notes are intact. Then make sure you have copies of documents, videos, photos and other items you may have attached to your tree. You don’t want them to disappear, should there be a hiccup (or worse) in service.

Finally, if you have used AncestryDNA, **download a copy of your raw DNA data.** [Click here](#) to learn how. We especially recommend this step! These tests are expensive. Tests for loved ones who are now deceased can’t be re-rerun. And Ancestry [has disposed of DNA samples in the past](#) when the company has switched directions. (Again, not trying to be alarmist, just cautious.)

If you have relied on Ancestry or any other cloud-based service to host your *only or master family tree*, we recommend you do your homework and consider your options.

[Please click here](#) to read a blog post about keeping your master tree on your own computer at home, and which software may be best for you.

Welcome to our newest members:

Mr Anthony 'Tony' JACKSON

Mr Raymond DEARING

Mr Paul BEAZLEY

Mrs Christina WHEELER

Tell the Office of National Statistics what family historians need from the UK 2021 Census

A consultation on what family historians need from the 2021 census began on 4 June.

“ The next census in England and Wales will be in 2021 and as part of the census research programme, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) today launches a 12 week public consultation asking users for their views on the topics that the 2021 Census might include. [...]”

Full story and links:

<http://www.sog.org.uk/news/article/tell-the-office-of-national-statistics-what-family-historians-need-from-the>



State FHS Conference REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Port Macquarie and Districts Family History Society hosts of the 2015 Annual NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc. Annual Conference.

The Early Bird Registration forms are now available for you to download at <https://jennifermullino4.wix.com/2015-fhconference> You will be given several options either pay online or download the form. It is up to you how you proceed. If you are a WFHG Member you are entitled to receive the discounted price for the Conference of \$120.00 but you will need to contact the secretary Kerry Clarke for the special code you need to use to secure the discount. If filling out the form I don't think you need it just add the name of your Society to the form. As long as the Society is a member of the Association you are eligible.

A reminder early birds are from 1 March to 3rd July 2015. You have plenty of time to register. After that it will cost you an extra \$20.00. Credit Card payment is only acceptable if using the On-line registration choice. Full details are on the noticeboard at the Cottage for your information. Dates for the Conference are 11th – 13 September 2015

Getting to know: TROVE

What is TROVE?

Trove helps you find and use resources relating to Australia. It's more than a search engine. Trove brings together content from libraries, museums, archives and other research organisations and gives you tools to explore and build.

Trove is many things: a community, a set of services, an aggregation of metadata, and a growing repository of fulltext digital resources.

Best of all, Trove is *yours*, created and maintained by the [National Library of Australia](#).

Find TROVE at: <http://trove.nla.gov.au>

Over the next few editions of the e-Branch we will bring you some articles from Trove

Making the most of Trove: meet the tilde, '~'

Hopefully by now you're familiar with the wonders of Trove for family and local history research. History comes alive through over one million family notices, articles and advertisements. Are you making the most of Trove? Do you want to search for a common name but you're getting too many results? Here's a tip which will help.

The tilde is a symbol on your keyboard which you can get to by holding down the shift key and pressing the grave accent (to the left of the number 1). This is how you can tell Trove how close together the words you're searching for should be. Say you have a common surname like White, Black or County? Try this search: add a title, Mr or Mrs, and the surname in inverted commas and then add the tilde and a number immediately after that. Here's how it would look in Trove:



This tells Trove to look for the words 'mr' and 'white' within three words of one another. This will increase your chances of finding your ancestors. Experiment with this search and see what you find.

You can find more search tips like this in Trove's Help Centre: <http://help.nla.gov.au/trove/using-trove/finding-things/power-searching>

LIBRARY UPDATES

FROM THE LIBRARY

Did you know... that there are many more CD's with obscure pieces of information to explore. So this time let's again click on CD collections on the desktop and open 'England and Wales'.

Have a look at CD417 'British Universal Directory of Trade, Commerce and Manufacture 1791'. Comprehending Lists of the Inhabitants of London, Westminster and Borough of Southwark and all of the Cities, Towns and principal Villages in England and Wales with the Mails, and other Coaches, Stage-Wagons, Hoys, Packets and Trading Vessels. In the section "Anecdotes of London" it tells us that "The beft grafs fed ox is worth 16 shillings, The beft grafs fed bull is worth 16 shilling, The beft goofe 3 pence, a pheafant 4 pence and the beft pigeons 3 for a penny".

There is also the details of imports and exports into and from Great Britain from Chrifmas 1784 to Chrifmas 1785 (no mention of Australia in these years); the name and address of all those in the House of Peers both town and country residence; an alphabetical list of the Royal Navy of Great Britain 1781. In the London Directory we are given the names, profession and residence of all London business from dealers in horfes to cheefemonger to watchmaker etc. etc.

You could spend all day exploring the little gem and surely you will find an ancestor.

Cheshire Marriages 1557-1812 is CD106. These are in date order and are a transcription of the church records, consequently easy to read. These cover Taxal, Lymm Disley, Marple, Christleton and Gansworth.

Try looking at the Dorset & Wiltshire Postal & Commercial Directory 1865 CD023. This directory contains a brief descriptive account of each town, parish, village and hamlet. An example: "East Grimstead is a hamlet in West Dean parish 1 mile east of West Grimstead and 2 ½ W of West Dean. The church is of the modern English style. The chancel window is stained glass, representing the Crucifixion. There is an infant school. Letters from Romsey arrives 10am dispatched at 4pm.

This is an absolute treasure trove of great detail and again could take a whole day of browsing.

Finally you could explore 'The National Gazetteer of Great Britain and Ireland'. There are 4 volumes listing every city, town, village and hamlet with a short description and history of each. This is great detail and background for your story.

Some of the text in the above volumes is quite small so use the "Ctrl+" to read more easily. Don't forget to take your memory stick (or buy one at the cottage) so you can snip and save the details you want. You must be able to find the elusive great, great uncle Charlie in one or more of these disks if you have any idea of the area in which his family lived.

Jean Macleay #359

New Acquisitions for May 2015

Books

CEM009	<i>The Cemeteries at Come-by-Chance and Goangra.</i> Includes isolated graves on properties in the district, photographs, inscriptions and other records. Indexed.
CHR016	<i>St. Bernard's Roman Catholic Church Hartley NSW. Records of Marriages 1844 - 1854 and Burials 1847 - 1857.</i> Marriages give full name and residence of bride and groom, date and place of marriage and names of all witnesses. Burial details include name, residence, date, age and occupation.
CHR017	<i>St. John's Church of England Hartley NSW. Births, Marriages and Deaths 1857 - 1905.</i> Also includes Baptisms performed out of the District on 26/03/1866 and Baptisms performed at the Eskbank School on 06/10/1878.
COU017	<i>Warialda Court House Death Records 1856 - 1974.</i> This publication draws from Moree, Warialda and Bingara registers. The indexed registry records provide entry number, date, death place, surname, christian name, age, parents, burial date, burial place and where born. Indexed.
LHS218	<i>Rylstone Area - History of Settlement Second Edition.</i> Includes details of early settlement as well as biographies of many of the pioneers of this area.
LHS319	<i>Bucketty to Brunkerville.</i> This book attempts to provide some historic background to the area and also gives brief biographies of a sample of those who settled permanently and whose families pioneered the district.
SHI006	<i>The First Fleet</i> by Rob Mundle. This book, written in 2014, tells of the day to day workings on individual ships, battling all that nature could throw at them. It is a tribute to Capt. Arthur Phillip, his officers and crew and includes details of over 1400 men, women and children who sailed with them to the "other side of the world".

Glenise Clery. #284

SNIPPETS: Extracts from family history magazines and journals

SNIPPETS FOR JUNE 2015 E-BRANCH

AUSTRALIAN FAMILY TREE CONNECTIONS MAY 2015

Pgs 24-28 William Peter BRIGGS Convict and Skilled Carver.

DESCENDANTS OF CONVICTS' GROUP VICTORIA INC. MAY-JUNE 2015

Pgs 9-12 Great Britain's Exiles sent to Port Phillip, Australia, 1844-1849: Lord Stanley's Experiment Part 1.

Pgs 14/15 Albany Convict Gaol.

FAMILY TREE (U.K.) MAY 2015

Pg 7 Oswestry Cemetery Project, Shropshire. 22,000 burials online at www.oswestrycemeteryproject.org.uk.

England's immigrants 1330-1550 at www.englishimmigrants.com.

Pg 8 Records of Bedlam go online. Bethlem Royal Hospital's records from 1683-1932 can be viewed at www.findmypast.co.uk/bethlem.

Pgs 14-16 Research in the workshop of the world. Birmingham – where and how to find records.

Pgs 26-29 Electoral records. Details and websites.

Pgs 60-63 Get me to the church on time! Part 2. Article regarding records created after civil registration began in England and Wales in 1837.

INSIDE HISTORY MAY- JUNE 2015

Pgs 26-29 What's New Online.

Pgs 34-39 Mapping your ancestors. Where to find land and property records, parish maps and plans.

Pgs 40-43 Law & Order. The Prosecution Project. Investigate your ancestors' criminal history. prosecutionproject.griffith.edu.au/search-page.

Pgs 54-59 The world of the workhouse.

MORNINGTON PENINSULA FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC. MAY 2015

Pgs 15-17 Pioneer Women of the Mornington Peninsula.

NATIONAL BOER WAR MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION MAY 2015

Pg 7 Shore School and the Boer War.

Pg 10 How many Australians ACTUALLY fought in South Africa 1899-1902? Part 5 - Their Ages.

PICTON & DISTRICT HISTORICAL & FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC. MARCH 2015

Pgs 2/3 Continuing the notes on "Old Picton" article in the Picton Post in 1930. Number of names mentioned.

SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIAN GENEALOGISTS MARCH 2015

- Pgs 21-25 Bible Stories – The Andrew Bible or “Who was Winifred Eagleton?” Were Lavinia Jane Andrew and Winifred Eagleton one and the same person?
 Pgs 32-34 My Data and Ancestry.com. Answers to questions about using online trees.

VICTORIAN G.U.M. INC. NEWS MAY 2015

- Pgs 4-9 Opening the Doors to Family Tree Maker Part 2 – the Date Door.
 Pgs 11/12 Reunion – Find – Part 4 (final)
 Pgs 18-23 Starting in Legacy 8.
 Pgs 24/25 HDMI Cables Can be a rip off.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INC. MARCH 2015

- Pgs 23-26 Exploring the Context of ‘A Ghost of a Moment in Time’. The WAGS 11th Battalion – Cheops Project (Part 2).

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE? MAY 2015

- Pgs 17-21 20 top tips to find your missing ancestors. (Excellent suggestions.)
 Pgs 22-28 The battle for Gallipoli.
 Pgs 49-51 Best Websites – Metal Workers.
 Pgs 52-56 Focus on Shipwrecks. How to trace ancestors lost at sea.
 Pgs 59-61 Focus on Poll Books.
 Pgs 71-73 My ancestor was a Butcher.
 Pgs 81-86 The Black Country. Websites and other resources.
 Meg Gibson. Member 43.

IRISH Research Tip!

Research confirms just how important the extended family network is in Irish life.

In a recent case I used a cluster of marriage records (church and civil). A close examination of the names of the recorded witnesses – the best man and the brides-maid – opened up the research. At first the witnesses appeared to be unrelated to the bride and groom. A closer examination proved that the male-witness, who I assumed was best-man for the groom, was in fact the bride's 'about-to-be' stepfather.

I was fortunate in this case to have an unusual stand out name which allowed me to develop a most interesting line of enquiry for this family history. It makes me wonder how many actual family links we may be missing, not realizing that the Kelly or Murphy is in fact an in-law or cousin. We might expect to see this phenomenon in a rural setting where families living in close knit communities would act as witnesses to each other's marriages. I have also seen this in my own urban family history.

When Irish genealogy first launched the Dublin parish registers online, I searched for my own Wyse family members. Among my many discoveries, I found my great aunt Mary Wyse acting as witness to a marriage in the Pro-Cathedral in 1896.

***Married 16 Aug. 1896, in the Pro-Cathedral Dublin,
Bernard Breslin, of 4 Northern Ireland (Terrace?), TO Mary Delaney of 70
Marlboro St.***

***The groom was the son of Michael Breslin & Julia Coffey, the bride was the
daughter of Michael Delaney & Ellen Johnston.***

Witnesses William Beechin and Mary Wise.

Initially I thought that great-aunt Mary must have acted as brides-maid for a friend. Further research proved Mary Wise was in fact a witness for the groom, her cousin! This meant that the information on the groom and his parents was highly pertinent to my own family history and allowed me to bring this branch of my family back to an earlier generation. I had known little or nothing of this family up to this point.

The fact that witnesses often prove to be family members has been replicated in a number of cases I have worked on for clients recently. Witnesses to a marriage should ***never*** be ignored!

By Eneclann Research Expert, Carmel Gilbride

Source: Eneclann Newsletter dated 9th May 2015

RECENT UPDATES TO SUBSCRIPTION SITES AT THE COTTAGE



Another 340,000 names were added to the Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council records in the West Midlands UK on 29th May 2015.

The records that are currently on Deceased Online are for Heath Lane Cemetery, Oldbury Cemetery and Tipton Cemetery.





- [Queensland Wills Index 1857-1940](#)
- [New South Wales, Returned Soldiers Settlement Loan Files 1906-1960](#)
- [New South Wales, Closer Settlement and Returned Soldiers Transfer Files 1907-1936 & 1951](#)
- [Society of Friends \(Quaker\) Births 1578-1841](#)
- [Society of Friends \(Quaker\) Marriages 1578-1841](#)
- [Society of Friends \(Quaker\) Burials 1578-1841](#)
- [Southwark St George the Martyr Workhouse records 1729-1826](#)
Source: Findmypast Friday Update 2nd May 2015
- [Victoria Parliamentary Papers, 1852-1899](#)
- [Australia BillionGraves Cemetery Index](#)
- [New Zealand BillionGraves Cemetery Index](#)
- [BillionGraves cemetery indexes for England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales](#)
Source: Findmypast Friday Update 9th May 2015
- [Exclusive Dublin workhouse registers and Board of Guardians minute books](#)
- [Northern Territory birth, death and marriage indexes, 1870-1918](#)
- [Over 2.2 million new British newspaper articles](#)
- [Over 19,000 additional baptisms and burials from Nottinghamshire, England](#)
Source: Findmypast Friday Update 15th May 2015
- [Over 530,000 additional Victoria inward passenger lists, 1839-1923](#)
- [City of London, haberdashers, apprentices and freemen, 1526-1933](#)
- [City of London, ironmongers, apprentices and freemen, 1511-1923](#)
- [British Royal Navy, foreign awards to officers index, 1914-1922](#)
Source: Findmypast Friday Update 22nd May 2015
- [Over 1.1 million new Irish newspaper articles](#)
- [Images added to Merchant Navy crew lists from Anglesey and Devon, UK](#)
- [Baptisms from North Cray, North West Kent, England](#)
- [Burials from North Cray and Swanscombe, North West Kent, England](#)
Source: Findmypast Friday Update 29th May 2015



Recently added and updated collections (April 2015)

UPDATED 1871 Census of Canada	351 691 0
NEW Oklahoma, Creek Equalization Records, 1912-1921	363 4
UPDATED Web: Canada, Manitoba, Birth Index, 1866-1912	4762 00
UPDATED Pennsylvania, Church Records - Adams, Berks, and Lancaster Counties, 1729-1881 ...	1797 73
NEW Minnesota, Indian Allotment Records, 1888-1919	6124
UPDATED 1891 Census of Canada	4790 154
UPDATED UK, Select Cemetery Registers, 1873-2014	5259 6
UPDATED Connecticut Death Index, 1949-2012	172 756 3
NEW New Zealand, Teacher and Civil Service Examinations and Licenses, 1880-1920 ...	205 044
NEW New Zealand, Sheep Returns, Owners and Officers, 1879-1889	303 01
UPDATED Victoria, Australia, Assisted and Unassisted Passenger Lists, 1839-1923 ...	165 696 6
UPDATED UK, Soldiers Died in the Great War, 1914-1919	703 810
UPDATED UK, WWI Service Medal and Award Rolls, 1914-1920	652 614 5
NEW New York, Veterans' Home Resident Case Files, 1897-1963	24 90
NEW UK, WWI War Diaries (France, Belgium and Germany), 1914-1920	40 27 70

NEW UK, WWI War Diaries (Gallipoli and Dardanelles), 1914-1916	333 50
UPDATED Texas, Passenger Lists, 1893-1963	102 770 8
UPDATED Georgia, Passenger and Crew Lists, 1904-1962	101 94
NEW Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, Records, 1875-1940	295 887 9
NEW Canada, Imperial War Service Gratuities, 1919-1921	17 70 2
NEW Utah, Select Union Pacific Railroad Personnel Records, 1890-1965	49 84
NEW Web: Gloucestershire, England, Gaol Registers, 1815-1879	31 49 7
NEW New Mexico, World War II Records, 1941-1945	118 97 6
UPDATED West Yorkshire, England, Select Rate Books, Accounts and Censuses, 1705–1893 ...	42 22 95
UPDATED U.S., Lists of Men Ordered to Report to Local Board for Military Duty, 1917–1918 ...	61 34 80
UPDATED Puerto Rico, Passenger and Crew Lists, 1901-1962	126 950 5
UPDATED London, England, Workhouse Admission and Discharge Records, 1659-1930 ...	703 560 9
NEW Sweden, Selected Indexed Death Records, 1899-1941 (in Swedish)	225 350 2
UPDATED U.S., Select Crew Lists and Manifests, 1890-1963	215 138 7
UPDATED Web: Preble County, Ohio, Marriage Index, 1808-2000	21 01 80
UPDATED Web: Preble County, Ohio, Death Index, 1835-2010	70 17 7

NEW Cluj, Romania, Kolozsvár Jewish High School Students, 1940-1944	11 44
NEW Serbia, Jews Murdered Near Sabac, 1941	10 55
NEW Lübeck, Germany, Neuengamme Victims, 1945	11 95