



# Tree of Life

Official Journal of  
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## AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE GROUP

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

Member contributions are always welcome



## Wyong Family History Group Inc.

**Patrons:** Karen McNamara, Federal MP for Dobell

David Harris, State MP for Wyong

**Meetings,** from September 2015, are held on the 2nd Saturday of each month between February and November, at 'The Cottage', Wyong Community Cultural Centre, 6 Rankens Court, Wyong. Phone 4351 2211

Resources and research assistance at 'The Cottage' – available on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays between 10.00am and 3.00pm.

**Fees:** non-members \$10.00 per hour between 10.00 am and 12.00 noon and 1.00pm and 3.00pm. Members Free.

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### Office Bearers 2014 – 2015

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President: Kerrie Metcalfe, 02 4351 5430

Secretary: Kerry Clarke, [secwfhg2@westnet.com.au](mailto:secwfhg2@westnet.com.au)

Vice-President: Wayne Dean

Treasurer: Michele Gane

Management Committee: All the above executive plus Martin Fisher, Pam Mansergh, Helen Burkett, John Selwood, Roger Lewis.

Assets Manager: Roger Lewis

Bookstall Coordinator: Trish McDonald

Bookstall Assistant: Glenise Clery

eBranch Editor: Kate Walter

Computer IT: Roger Lewis

Convict Group Organiser: June Johnston

Cottage Co-ordinators  
Tuesday: Marilyn Cridland  
Wednesday: Trish McDonald  
Thursday: Lorraine Cameron

Cottage Roster: Ann Cooke

English Group Organiser: Esther Dean

Fund Raising: Esther Dean

Grant Applications: Murray Hill

Guest Speakers: Martin Fisher

Librarian: Glenise Clery

Librarian Assist: Jean Macleay

Membership Secretary: Pam Mansergh

Minute Secretary: Esther Dean

Project Coordinator: John Selwood

Public Officer: Esther Dean

Publicity Officer: Rob Fraser

Raffles: Eileen Wheway

Research Officers: Robin Wright and Trish McDonald

Research – Local: Janice Barrett

Scottish & Irish Group Organiser: Gwen Bates

Snippets: Lynda Smith and Meg Gibson

Social Secretary:

Tree of Life Editor: Helen Johnston-Lord, 0418 228 232. ([heloora6@bigpond.com](mailto:heloora6@bigpond.com))

Webmaster: Kate Walter

Volunteers' Representative: Helen Burkett

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



## *from the President*

*Kerrie Metcalfe, member 80, LM, President WFHG Inc.*

The Group has had another busy and successful year. I would like to thank the management committee that has worked hard to keep the group running smoothly. Many of them take on more than one role and it is these dedicated members that keep the wheels turning. So a big thanks to you all. It has been my pleasure to work with you all. I also extend my appreciation to all our volunteers who help out in many other ways and to everyone who keep the Cottage running through fundraising, clean ups and seminars. Our Group could not function without our research volunteers and Cottage Co-ordinators so thank you for your dedication to the Group.

This year our AGM is a month earlier than in the past. This is because every year the State Conference coincides with our AGM and some of us are away, so to avoid this in future, we have brought the AGM forward to August.

In September 2014 – Roger Lewis and I along with Glenise Clery attended the NSW ACT Association of Family Societies Annual Conference, hosted by Illawarra. Our Group has a table at this event each year where we can sell our publications. We mingle with other societies and keep in touch with all that matters to family history, the new, the old and the how to. Also from this Conference I found myself on the Association's Management Committee (a weak moment) however I have attended three meetings held at Botany Bay and from these meetings I have been able to keep informed on new ideas, and been involved in discussions on how best to handle the future of groups and societies such as ours in the ever evolving world of technology.

We held our 2014 Christmas Party at Club Wyong. Numbers were down on previous years so it was decided we would do it differently this year. After much discussion we have decided to have a Christmas afternoon tea at the Cottage on the last day before breakup.

The beginning of 2015 started with us spring cleaning the Cottage ready for opening and then it was time to formalize the planning for our ANZAC Heritage day at Wyong Golf Club. This proved to be a wonderful day and it was most pleasing to see so many of our members participate and also loan us their precious memorabilia for display. Our guest speakers provided interesting facts, stories and insights into the conflict.

Our beginners' course was run in May and was well attended with new members starting their family history journey. Thanks go to Trish McDonald for coordinating the course and our presenters:- Trish, Esther, Glenise & Helen who gave their time to prepare and provide such wonderful tuition. As well as the course it was a social time with goodies, made by Melissa, for morning tea. I think we made everyone feel relaxed and welcome.

John Selwood, with help from Eileen Eliassen, Ann Cooke, & Roger Lewis completed the records from Simplicity Funerals at Erina in Feb 2015 and they are now available as a book or CD. John also designed and organised our new group Banner, as well as six additional Anzac Banners. Jan Barrett and Meg Gibson have updated our local cemetery book records which at this stage are only available at The Cottage.

Murray Hill was successful with a couple of Grants during the year. One was to buy an overhead scanner, another from Council to assist with our rent payments and the latest grant will enable us to buy a new BBQ. Murray was also successful in securing two Federal Government grants for the commemoration of the Centenary of ANZAC. One was for the pull-up banners and the other for a project that we will be undertaking in 2016.

Library purchases of research material has been down this year as most Family History Groups have been producing books which relate to WW1 soldiers. Due to the limited space on our bookshelves we followed our decision to mainly purchase pioneer books and cemetery records which are more broadly used. I'm sure that new resources in both book and CD format will still be produced in the future and we will purchase these when they become available. As more and more

records appear freely on the internet and on paid subscription sites we will look to maintain our subscriptions to the most popular sites for the benefit of our members.

Quite a number of our long time members have donated books to the Group this past year as they consider "downsizing" both their accommodation and the wealth of resources that they have accumulated in the course of their research. While many of the items that have been donated are already in our Library holdings there were a number of books which we did not have that could prove quite beneficial to our members. I would like to thank everyone who has donated these resources. I was reminded recently that our Group obtained its first computer in the year 2000 and at that time we were proud to own 2 small shelves which held our book collection. When I think of the resources that are now available to our members, wow what a long way we have come! Our Librarian Glenise will have more details in her annual report.

As I write this we are preparing for our first 2015 seminar in August to celebrate Family History Month. Guest speakers are John Cann from State Records as well as Heather Garnsey and Martyn Killion from SAG.

We have increased our online profile with our own Facebook page and our website continues to keep people informed. At present we are developing an exciting new presence on the internet *One Place Study* website. This site will allow the world to read about the people and places within the Wyong district and we will be continually adding new information to the site.

The monthly eBranch has been very informative and, thanks to Kate, our members get this newsletter each month. Our *Tree of Life* continues to be circulated every three months thanks to Helen Johnston-Lord. This journal goes far and wide and Helen appreciates any stories from our members on their ancestors as your story might just make a connection with someone else as a consequence. Our Secretary sends out weekly reminders of what's on next week so members know what we are doing and shouldn't miss anything of interest. Our Training Sessions, that began this year, have been successful and we hope to provide more in the future. .... TOL

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## *from the Editor*

*Helen Johnston-Lord member 505*

With our Annual General Meeting being moved to August, this is now our reporting season, therefore In this issue you will find reports from our Special Interest Group Co-ordinators. After reading one of these reports, you may like to join one of these Groups.

Monthly General Meetings are always interesting and from September 2015, will be held from 1 pm. on the **second Saturday** of the month until November this year and everyone is hoping for good attendances. The Cottage will be open for unassisted research from 11 am on these Saturdays.

In preparation for the recent bus trip to Rookwood Cemetery and with the centenary of the ANZAC landing in mind, Harry gave a presentation 'Remembering the Fallen', a visual tour of many of the War Graves at Rookwood. This was at the May meeting.

At the July meeting and continuing with the ANZAC interest, Pauline Eade shown here with Martin Fisher, shared some of the photographs she had taken on an emotional ANZAC Day 2015. Pauline and her husband had won tickets in the ballot to attend the ceremonies at ANZAC Cove and Lone Pine.

The same meeting our President Kerry Metcalfe presented Max Farley with his 15 year certificate also shown here.

I attended Helen Burkett's Mapping Workshop in June. I like the idea of being able to see in the wider world where my family came from and where they went. This is a good way of plotting their travels. If you enjoy





travelling, this is also a handy way of logging your travels. Many years ago, Harry and I travelled extensively around Australia. Harry painstakingly embroidered these on the back of a jacket, which is a lovely keepsake,

The cold weather is not my friend and this year I embarked on a project to create something with all the wedding photographs we have in our collection. If you would like to contribute early wedding photos to my project, I would appreciate this. Sharing your stories and breakthroughs can inspire others and we would like to hear of any results you have achieved this winter or any time. Just a paragraph or two may inspire others. The deadline for the next *Tree of Life* is 20 October 2015..... TOL



*The most recent group to visit Rookwood Necropolis*

## Mini Training Sessions

WFHG Free Mini Training Sessions (duration 30 minutes to one hour) these sessions will take place at 10 am unless otherwise stated.

TOPIC	DATE	PRESENTOR
Using Ryerson Index (repeat)	Tuesday 11 August 2015	John Selwood
Tracing Your Workhouse Ancestors	Thursday 20 August 2015	Esther Dean
Preparing for a visit to State Records Kingswood	Tuesday 29 September 2015	Glenise Clery

\*The above workshops will be repeated if required ..... TOL

## Don't Let Us End Up Like This.

Extract from Article page 5 *Australian Family Tree Connections* July 2015. Mount Isa F & HS closure. "Mount Isa Family & History Society Inc. wishes to inform your readers that the Society is voluntarily winding up as from 30 June 2015. We regret having to close down but due to the lack of members willing to carry the load and the belief that it is all on the internet it is just too hard to keep going"..... TOL

## Convict Interest Group

*June Johnston member 307.*

In the last 12 months we have only had a couple of new people join us to investigate their Convict relatives. We have had pretty good results, as our group is now quite small we can spend more time assisting with how to use resources of Wyong Family History Group, which are quite extensive.

We meet 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month 10am to 12. Many months there have been about 4 people attend each month.

I will keep the Group going for the time being, I enjoy coming each month, gives me time to do some of my own research at the same time.

Do not hesitate to drop by if you have any questions regarding convicts or convicts families that you are researching..... TOL



## English Interest Group

*Esther Dean Life Member #23*

The English Interest Group commenced in June 2014 with an attendance of 8 members. Since then we have met each month (except December) and the attendance has varied between 8 and 14 and not always the same members.

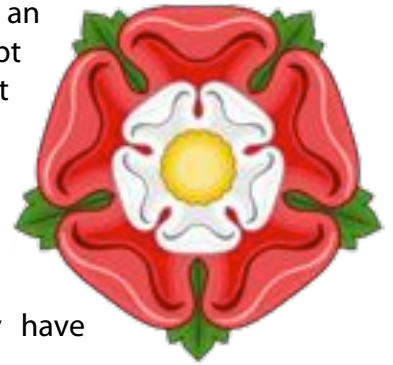
We decided to study a specific County each month and already have researched Gloucestershire, Hampshire including Isle of Wight, Middlesex and London, Lincolnshire, Suffolk, Northumberland, Yorkshire, Lancashire, Kent, Cornwall, Somerset and Devon.

Members are encouraged to bring forward any problems they have encountered and those present endeavour to help solve them.

We have also looked in depth at English wills, Workhouses, Curious Fox and other websites of interest.

The data projector has been well used and I must thank Helen Burkett for her skill in showing us how to navigate our way around the various websites.

All members whose research takes them back to England would benefit from coming along to this Interest Group and we look forward to seeing them on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. at The Cottage.....TOL



## Family Tree Maker Group

*Martin Fisher member 653*

In May 2014 we launched the new format, monthly Family Tree Maker SIG with an initial attendance of 18 members. Since that inaugural meeting some 40 of our members have attended one or more of our monthly meetings with a current average of just over 10 members per meeting.

Our meetings usually have a main topic or an item of general interest, sometimes accompanied by a short tutorial video, and then the meeting is thrown open to discuss any challenges members have in using the program.



In previous lively meetings we have discussed and learnt about such topics as:-

- Hidden Managers
- Data Error Reports
- How to sort out and backup your files
- Making a practice tree
- How to merge family trees
- Moving your family tree from other software into Family Tree Maker
- Deleting a ghost
- Ending a relationship (some may wish that it was as easy as pressing a button)
- Making and printing charts
- How to use research notes and research To-Do lists.

All of these topics have been received enthusiastically by attendees with even the most experienced of our FTM users learning new tips and ways of doing things. This group is always very pro-active and the laughter and chatter emanating from the room during our meetings can attest to the members enthusiasm.

Some of the topics planned for upcoming meetings are:-

- How to manage Sources
- Managing your media
- Linking and Syncing with Ancestry.com
- Utilizing the power of FTM reports
- Using Family Tree Maker to create a book
- And many more as yet to be determined topics.

If you use Family Tree Maker come along and join in the fun, who knows you may learn something new. If you think you know it all then come along and teach some of us poor unfortunates who are still learning.....TOL

## Microsoft Word Interest Group.

*Helen Johnston-Lord member #505.*

This Interest Group developed from a Mini Training Session held in May 2015.

We meet on 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month from 12.30 pm and this is a 'hands on' session with participants bringing their laptop or other device.

So far we have discussed formatting pictures within a document and creating labels and their many uses.

We hope to cover creating an index as well as a table of contents and their uses, footnotes and endnotes, newspaper type columns, tables, styles and templates as well as using Word to produce a book or perhaps a photo collage or a poster.

Particular requests are addressed as we proceed or may have to be taken on notice and followed up during another session.

Those wishing to join our Group who are interested in topics already covered, will find others are interested in revisiting and revising these topics.....TOL



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### Electoral Roll update

*This article is taken directly from Society of Australian Genealogists' E journal for this month*

In early 2014 the Australian Electoral Commission began to enforce restrictions on access to the current electoral roll - in effect only allowing individuals to check their own enrolment details. The electoral roll, both in its current digital form and in microfiche and microfilm in libraries and archives, is of course a key genealogical tool and the lack of access to the current edition meant that the tracing of present day family members and long lost relatives was severely hampered. However, as part of the inquiry into the 2013 federal election the question of access to the current electoral roll was revisited and in May this year the AEC's heightened restrictions were withdrawn.

This is fantastic news for family historians as this means we can once again visit AEC offices to examine the current electoral roll for genealogical research purposes. Any individual can again examine the electoral roll for any name - though electronic recording of the data is not allowed. For further details of how to access the electoral roll please visit [http://www.aec.gov.au/Enrolling\\_to\\_vote/About Electoral Roll/](http://www.aec.gov.au/Enrolling_to_vote/About_Electoral_Roll/) ....TOL



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### 1841 Census: Date Was Changed To Avoid Haymaking

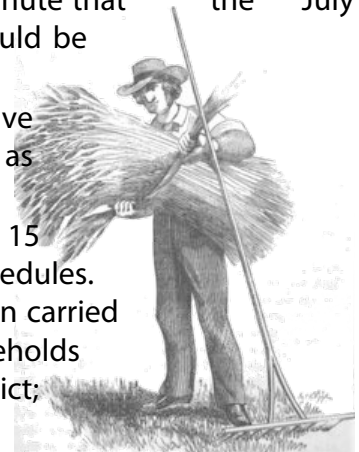
*<http://lostcousins.com/newsletters2/midsummer15news.htm>*

Since 1851 British censuses have taken held in late March or early April, but as everyone reading this newsletter will know in 1841 the census was taken on Monday 7th June (based on the inhabitants residing at the address on the previous day).

However, this wasn't the date originally planned - the Population Act, 1840 specified Thursday 1st July as the date of the census. Unfortunately it was realised at the last minute that the July date would conflict with haymaking, so many agricultural labourers would be away from home.

The Census Amendment Act, specifying a new date in June, didn't receive Royal Assent until 6th April 1841 - so it's a wonder that the census went as well as it did!

Other amendments introduced were the rounding down of ages over 15 to the nearest multiple of 5 years and the introduction of household schedules. I've seen comments suggesting that a census couldn't possibly have been carried out on a single day, but a trial run was held to determine how many households an enumerator could visit in one day, depending on the type of district; following this pilot study 35,000 enumerators were appointed.





In practice, however, there must have been many households where there was nobody at home when the enumerator came to collect the form, and whilst this wouldn't have been an insurmountable problem if the schedule had been correctly completed by the householder (since it could have been left out, or with a neighbour), a significant proportion wouldn't have been sufficiently literate to read the instructions and fill in the form..... TOL



## Volunteer Creates a Forest of Family Trees

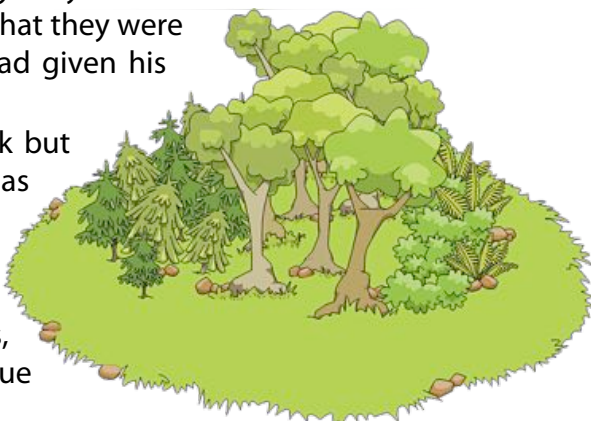
*An interesting submission from Lynda Smith (one of our wonderful "Snippet" contributors. It has been reproduced, with permission from Lost Cousins online newsletter 20 June 2015*

A volunteer is helping patients at Scarborough's hospice to plot their place in history and leave a priceless legacy for their families. Derek Hardwick has devoted thousands of hours to creating intricate hand-written family trees for patients with life-limiting illnesses. The longest was a whopping 13ft long and the furthest back he has ever gone was more than 1,000 years to the time of Alfred the Great. Among his most poignant successes was helping a woman whose own life was coming to an end to trace the history of her mother who had died two weeks after she was born. For others, there has been the surprise of discovering that they had relatives who were deported to Australia for crimes which in more modern times would hardly warrant a fine. Derek is currently on his 76<sup>th</sup> family tree.

The only one he has ever started and not completed is his own. "I just don't have time to work on mine," he said. "I'm rushed off my feet but it's so rewarding. A lot of our patients have told me that it's something to pass on to their families." Derek faced his own personal tragedy before becoming a volunteer for the hospice. His son was just 11 when he died after battling cancer. The tragedy ultimately led to Derek's early retirement from his post as a geography teacher at Graham School where he had taught for 34 years. He planned to devote some of his retirement to following his interest in tracing his own family history. His wife, Jane, a staff nurse at Saint Catherine's, had other ideas. "She told me she would let the hospice know I had an interest in family trees," he said. "I haven't stopped since. It takes my mind off my own problems."

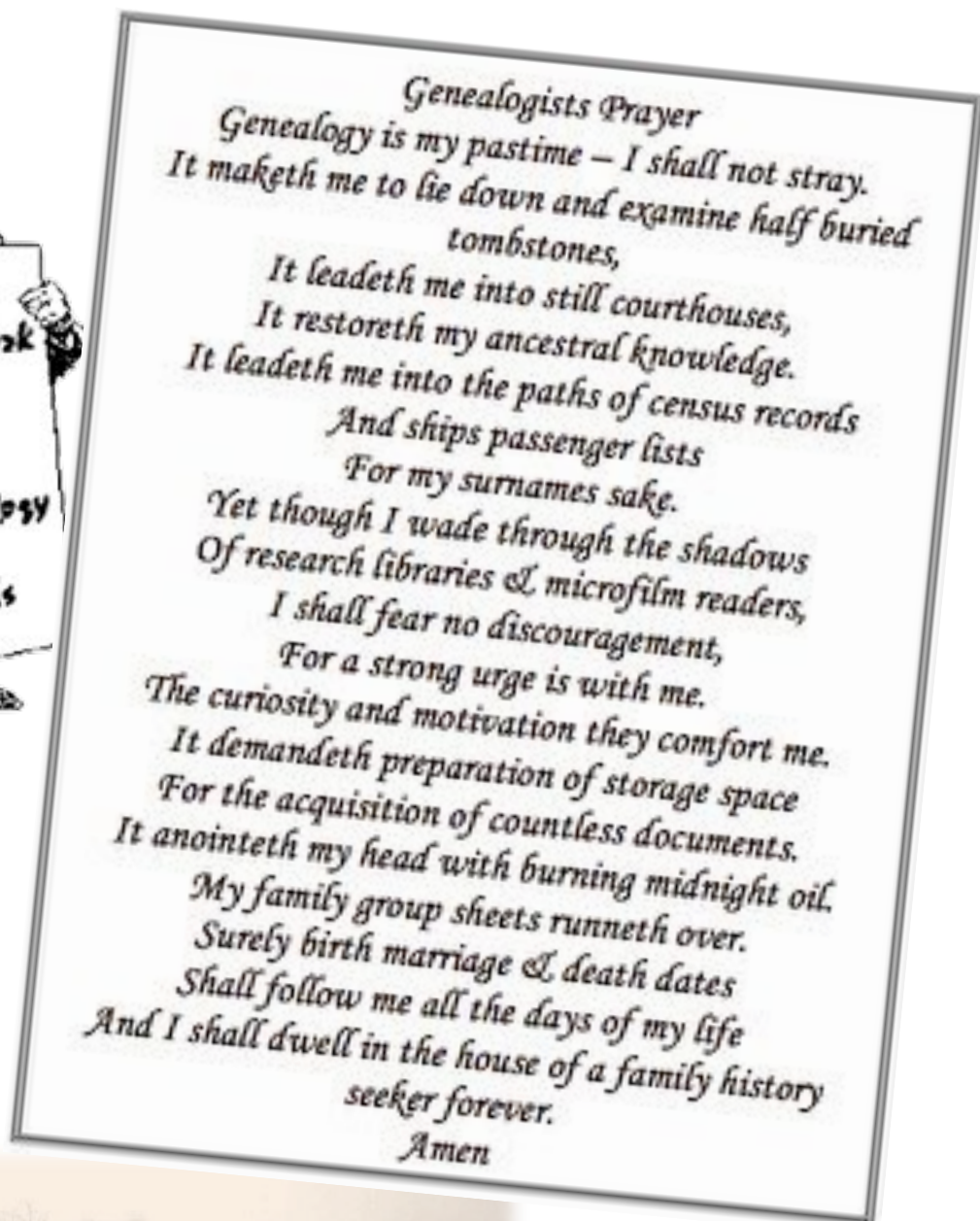
Derek now spends every Friday in the Scarborough Day Hospice where he has helped 76 patients trace their family tree. His detailed charts are all hand-written and include photographs he finds on the internet of people, homes and places that shaped a patient's history. Every story, he says, throws up interesting facts and fascinating surprises. He traced one ancestor who was sentenced to hang for being the lookout at a mugging – but then was transported to Tasmania instead. And one of his most touching successes was helping an elderly lady whose mother had died when she was just two weeks old. The patient didn't even know her mother's name but Derek's persistent detective work meant he was able to find her and the patient was able to die finally knowing her roots at last. For another patient, there was the surprise of finding that he and Derek were related – albeit through an ancestor who died in 1590! The pressure to complete the family trees becomes particularly intense when patients whose health is failing take a turn for the worse. Derek remembers burning the midnight oil to complete one chart for a man who he knew didn't have much time left. When it was finally completed, he prepared to hand it to the family only to be told that the man had died the previous day. "It seemed so sad but they told me later that they were able to have it out on display at the funeral and it had given his family so much to talk about and remember," he said.

Derek makes no charge for his many hours of work but grateful patients often make a donation to the hospice as a thank you. A single chart can take him up to three months to complete which is why he is unable to help everyone who would like to make use of his skills. Referrals come to him via the hospice. For the patients, there is the pleasure of being able to pass on a unique





keepsake to their families but for Derek the pleasure is two-fold. "I love all that social history, the rags-to-riches stories, the families with 16 children, the way people survived," he said. "And it's great to be able to help people. It can be very poignant, particularly when people say, 'Now I've got something to pass on to my family.'" Patient Paul Green, pictured with his family tree, said that Derek had traced his history back to the 1500s. "The hours he put in – it was just amazing," he said. .... TOL



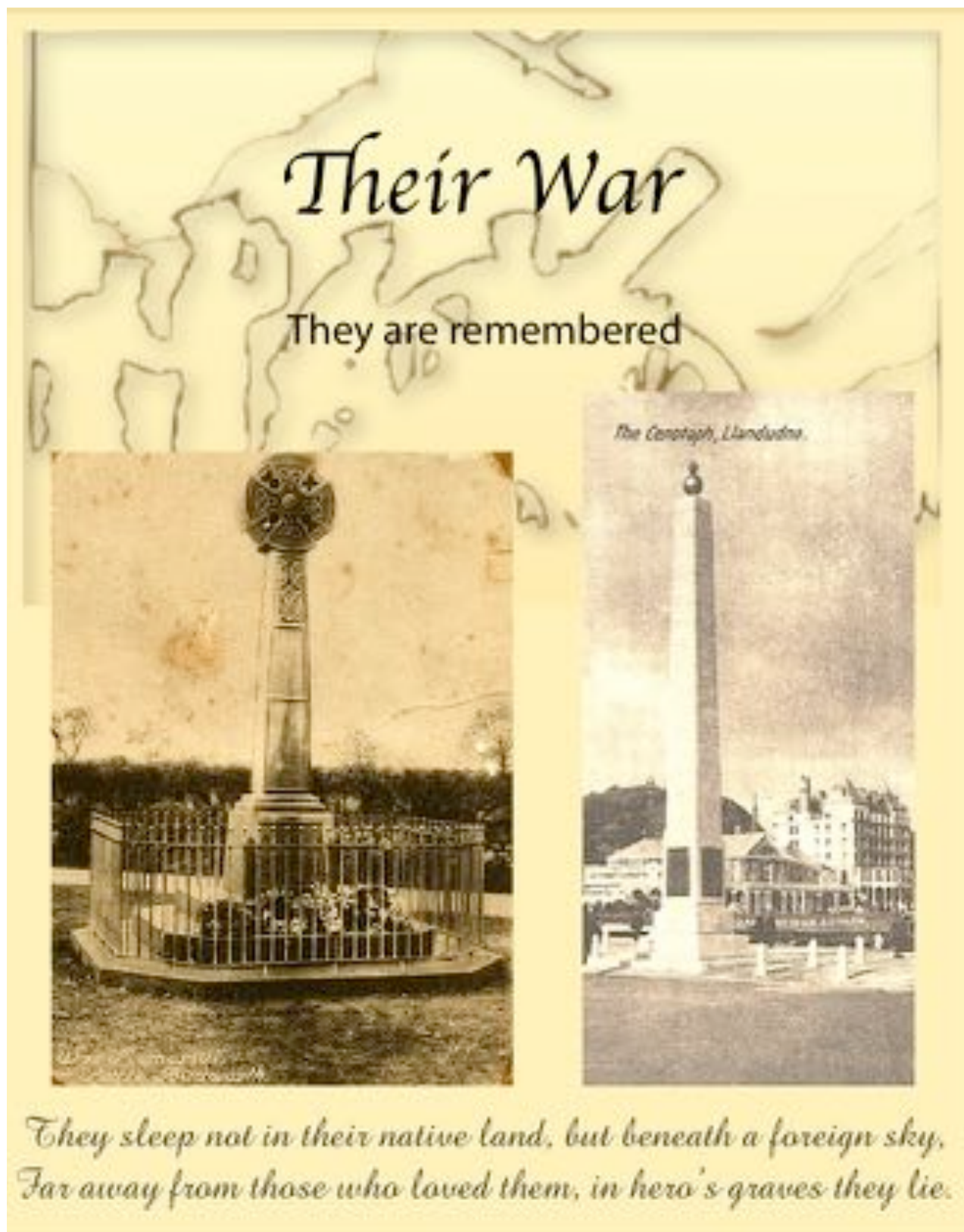
## Lessons

*Helen Johnston-Lord Member 505*

We are supposed to learn the lessons of history and not make the same mistakes.

Family History can teach us so much about ourselves and our ancestors, although I am not sure about their mistakes.....TOL



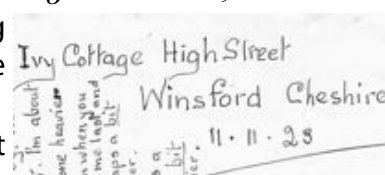


## War Memorials

*Helen Johnston-Lord, member 505*

At a time when the Centenary of World War I is being commemorated, we have been including photographs of some of the War Memorials we have in our collection.

In this issue, I am including two from England. These were amongst photos I inherited from my Mothers family. Llandudno is a seaside resort in Wales and the picture is part of a fold out postcard featuring many views.





Little Budworth is a civil parish and village between Winsford and Chester and features the Historic St. Peter's Church. Some of my relatives still worship in this church.

I came across a letter written by Ralph Oakes date 11<sup>th</sup> November 1923. The letter appears to be in response to one received by his mother-in-law (my great-grandmother) from my grandparents, and includes family and town gossip, comments on how Edith and Tom will be sweltering, lamenting his inability to 'see the world' and how his family are keeping out the cold.

This passage caught my eye and reads:

"This morning being Remembrance day a big crowd gathered round the War Memorial at the front of the High St. Schools.

"The works buzzer blew at 15 seconds before and everybody stood absolutely silent for 2-minutes. Then a bugler sounded the "Last Post" and all cleared off home or to church.

"I don't know whether this business is altogether wise. Certainly it keeps before us the memory of the sacrifice of our brave lads, but it renews the sorrows of many thousands who lost dear ones and seems like hurting a partly healed wound."

I found this an interesting comment given recent commemorations in England and here. Ralph would have been about 48 at the time of this letter and was a school teacher who died in 1955. As the address on the letter is Winsford, I like to think the



War Memorial mentioned is Little Budworth.

I am not sure of any war service by this branch of the family although there are a few photos of the family in uniform of the time. (More research required here I think.)

The two coloured photos are of the same memorials in 2014..... TOL

## Something To Think About.

*Harry Johnston-Lord, member 504*

In this period of remembrance for World War One I thought I would put this up. Can you work out what it is?

Although it actually dates from 1943 it would have been awarded during World War One had it existed.

The answer is somewhere later in the issue..... TOL





## From "Tourists" to "Hard Thinkers"

Submitted by Harry Johnston-Lord, member 504

On page 335 of "*The War Illustrated*" under the heading 'Humour From The Wards' with the by-line Ward Muir I found the following"

To which, for the benefit of psychologists and future historians, I must take leave to add, as not without significance, the list of nicknames bestowed on the various contingents of Australian troops that, one by one, followed each other overseas to help the Homeland. It appears that in Australia this series of forces which, as the months and years dragged on, were raised and then shipped westward, were called : 1. The Tourists ("the six-bob-a-day tourists") ; 2. The Dinkums (*dinkum*, a common Antipodean word for "good"); 3. The Super Dinkums; 4. The War Babies; and 5. The Hard Thinkers.

I think it will be admitted that "The Hard Thinkers" is shrewd.

Our hospital, ever since the Gallipoli period, has always housed hosts of Australian patients. Once, in my ward, two of these fine fellows, in adjacent beds, were recovering from the operating-table experience, and still under the influence of the anaesthetic, were maundering in the manner typical of that state. The first of them kept groaning, "I want to go home! I want to go home!" And at last the second - equally unconscious, but with an odd effect of sudden, clear headed exasperation - exclaimed, "Then you'd better learn swimming!"

Homesick though he often excusably is, the "Ozzi"(sic) - this is our amicable *nom de guerre* for the Australian - is, as a rule, a superb specimen of mankind, and, despite the many jokes anent\*\* his somewhat casual interpretation of the word Discipline, makes a fierce and fearless fighter.

\*\* 'in regard to, about, concerning. .... TOL



Caring: Nurses and soldiers in a Somme field hospital

## Making A Mould.

Harry Johnston-Lord 2010

Have you an object from your history which you would like to reproduce as a 3D object? This is an easy and cheap way to make a mould using easily obtained materials. The mould is flexible and should pick up undercutting reasonably well, allowing moulds to be taken of some plaques with relief and undercut. The result is not museum quality but is not far short of being so.

The materials:

1. Silicon sealant - the one that cures with a vinegar smell,
2. Cornflour
3. Acrylic artist paint
4. Baby oil.

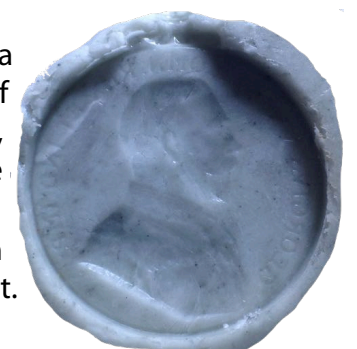
The method:

In a disposable container put enough silicon to cover the object well, a minimum of 5mm would be best. Add about half that quantity of cornflour, a small amount of colour and two or three drops of baby oil, then stir well to mix everything thoroughly. You have two or three minutes to do this but you will find the mix will start to stiffen.

Dust your hands well with cornflour and knead the mix well. You can either push the object into the dough or push the dough over the object.



The Medal



The mould

If you are dealing with undercuts start the moulding process a little earlier so the dough is softer.

The dough stiffens fairly quickly so don't get distracted. Allow the mould to cure for at least half an hour – more is better, before carefully peeling it free of the object, which should happen easily. If you can get mould release that can help.

You can make a plaster cast in the usual way.

I took a mould of a medal replica as a trial and was pleased with the result. .... TOL



*a little closer*



*The cast*

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## Recent Additions To Digitised Newspapers On Trove

The National Library of Australia <<http://www.nla.gov.au/>> is pleased to announce that the following newspapers, digitised by the National Library through the Australian Newspaper Plan <<http://www.nla.gov.au/australian-newspaper-plan>> program, have been recently added to Digitised newspapers and more on Trove <<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper>>.

Many of these newspapers are currently being added to Trove and further issues will become available shortly.

### *New South Wales*

Blue Mountains Daily (Katoomba, NSW: 1939)  
The Blue Mountains Times (Katoomba, NSW:  
1931 – 1937)  
Daily Examiner (Grafton, NSW: 1915 – 1954)  
The Enterprise (Katoomba, NSW: 1913)

Katoomba Times (NSW: 1889 – 1894)  
Manilla Express (NSW: 1899 – 1954)  
The Record of the Blue Mountains (Katoomba,  
NSW: 1924)

### *Queensland*

Bowen Independent (Qld.: 1911 – 1954)

Pittsworth Sentinel (Qld.: 1919 – 1954)

### *South Australia*

Adelaide Chronicle and South Australian  
Advertiser (SA: 1839 -1840)  
Adelaide Chronicle and South Australian  
Literary Record (SA: 1840 – 1842)  
Evening Journal (Adelaide, SA: 1869 – 1912)  
Port Adelaide News (SA: 1878 – 1883)  
Port Adelaide News and Commercial and  
Shipping Gazette (SA: 1878)  
Port Adelaide News and Lefevre's Peninsula  
Advertiser (SA: 1883 -1897)  
Port Augusta Dispatch (SA: 1877 – 1880)  
Port Augusta Dispatch and Flinders' Advertiser  
(SA: 1880 – 1884)

Port Augusta Dispatch (SA: 1884)  
The Port Augusta Dispatch, Newcastle and  
Flinders Chronicle (SA: 1885 – 1916)  
The Port Pirie Standard and Barrier Advertiser  
(SA: 1889 – 1898)  
South Australian Gazette and Colonial  
Register (Adelaide, SA: 1845 – 1847)  
South Australian Gazette and Mining Journal  
(Adelaide, SA: 1847 – 1852)  
Times (Victor Harbor, SA: 1987 – 1999)  
Whyalla News (SA: 1940 – 1954)

### *Victoria*

Church of England Messenger (Melbourne,  
Vic.: 1905)

Hamilton Spectator and Grange District  
Advertiser (South Melbourne, Vic.: 1860 –  
1870) .... TOL

## WYONG FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

# SEMINAR

### *“From Early Arrivals to the Latest Technology”*

SATURDAY 15th August 2015

WYONG RSL (CLUB WYONG)

cnr Anzac Ave & Margaret St, Wyong 2259

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

COST: \$25.00 per person

Bookings must be made and paid for at the cottage by  
Thursday the 6<sup>th</sup> August

Come and join with us as we travel the wonderful journey from these early arrivals in NSW, through the history of our local district, to discovering the marvels of using current technology to trace your family history.

#### Speakers

**John Cann** NSW State Records

#### *‘Discover Wyong’*

Discover Wyong talk is a lot of fun but showcases many record types including surveyors field books, school records, land correspondence and probates. A historical view of your local area showcasing a wide array of our records.

**Martyn Killion** SAG

#### *‘Ascertaining Arrivals in New South Wales’*

This talk focuses on sources which can help ascertain the immigration details of ancestors. Immigration records and indexes as well as unusual sources such as Unemployment Registers are covered.

**Heather Garnsey** SAG

#### *‘Using Google for family history’*

While many of us ‘google’ regularly, few of us use this search engine to its full potential. This session demonstrates how you can tailor searches to get the best results for family history, and looks at tips for searching for names, dates and genealogically specific items on the net.



# WYONG FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

*presents*

## *Making the Most of ANCESTRY.com*



## SEMINAR

SATURDAY 21st November 2015  
WYONG RSL (CLUB WYONG)  
cnr Anzac Ave & Margaret St, Wyong 2259  
10:00am - 4:00pm

### **Ben Mercer (the person)**

Ben's love of history started as a young boy with his research into his two grandfathers' experience in WW1. This passion for his family's history has brought Ben to work for the biggest genealogy company in the world – [Ancestry.com](http://Ancestry.com). Ben joined the Ancestry team in March 2014 as the Content Manager for Australia and New Zealand. Ben is responsible for acquiring historical collections and maintaining relationships with Ancestry's partner cultural institutions – archives, libraries, museums and societies.

Registration 10:00am

First Session 10:30 - 12 Noon.

*"Ancestry search tricks - Ancestry's lesser known gems"*

LUNCH BREAK 12noon – 1:00pm followed by a session of informal questions and answers

AFTERNOON BREAK 2:00 – 2:30pm Raffle drawn during this break.

(Major Prize ..... 12-month World Heritage Membership to Ancestry.com.au valued at \$299.95)

Second Session 2:30 – 3:30pm

*"Using DNA to discover your family history". AncestryDNA allows you to discover your family history when the archival record fails. Learn how to use DNA for genealogy.*

**BOOK NOW AND BEAT THE RUSH**

Bookings at The Cottage 4351 2211 or online. [www.wyongfamilyhistory.com.au](http://www.wyongfamilyhistory.com.au)

Cost.....\$20.00 members.....\$25.00 non-members

## New Members

A very warm welcome is extended to all new members and we look forward to meeting and helping you at 'The Cottage'. Contact any of these 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
741	Michael Griffiths		745	Paul Beazley
742	Kevin Richards		746	Christina Wheeler
743	Anthony (Tony) Jackson		747	Sally Fox
744	Raymond Dearing			

*Members are reminded that anytime they are at 'The Cottage' for any purpose, they have to wear their membership card and do so in such a manner that it is clearly displayed.*

*Bags are not allowed past the foyer. Please use the lockers provided. You may take in research folders and a purse. Food and drink are not allowed in the research areas.*

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

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



## WFHG Inc Planned Events

- MTS indicates Mini Training Session.
- From September, General Meetings will be on Saturdays at 1 pm.

	2015	Event
August	Tue 4	Committee Meeting 10 am.
	Wed 5	MTS - Irish Training Session 10 am
	Tue 11	MTS – Using Ryerson Index 10am Microsoft Word Interest Group 12.30 pm – 2.30 pm
	Wed 12	Australian Convict Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon.
	Thu 13	Special General Meeting 'The Cottage' 2 pm ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 3 pm
	Sat 15	Volunteer Help at Tuggerah Library 9 am – 12 noon. WFHG – Seminar 10 am – 4 pm
	Thu 21	MTS – Tracing Workhouse Ancestors Family Tree Maker Interest Group 1 pm – 3 pm
	Tue 25	English Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12noon.
	Thu 27	WFHG – PR Tuggerah Library Scottish Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon. Irish Interest Group 'The Cottage' 1 pm – 3 pm.
	Sat 29	WFHG Tablet Workshop

## Continuing WFHG Inc Planned Events

	<b>2015</b>	<b>Event</b>
September	Tue 1	Committee Meeting 10 am.
	Tue 8	Microsoft Word Interest Group 12.30 pm – 2.30 pm
	Wed 10	Australian Convict Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon.
	Fri 11 – Sun 13	NSW & ACT State Conference
	<b>Sat 12</b>	<b>General Meeting 'The Cottage' 1 pm</b>
	Thu 17	Family Tree Maker Interest Group 1 – 3 pm
	Sat 19	Volunteer Help at Tuggerah Library 9 am – 12 noon.
	Tue 22	English Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12noon.
	Thu 24	Scottish Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon. Irish Interest Group 'The Cottage' 1 pm – 3 pm.
	Tue 29	Committee Meeting for July 10 am.
	Wed 30	MTS – Preparing for State Records visit.
October	Fri 2	Irish & Scottish Workshop 10 am - noon
	Sat 3	Pioneer Dinner
	Sun 4	Alison Homestead Family Day
	Sat 10	General Meeting 'The Cottage' 1 pm
	Tue 13	Microsoft Word Interest Group 12.30 pm – 2.30 pm
	Wed 14	Australian Convict Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon.
	Thu 15	Family Tree Maker Interest Group 1 – 3 pm
	Sat 17	Volunteer Help at Tuggerah Library 9 am – 12 noon.
	Thu 22	Scottish Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon. Irish Interest Group 'The Cottage' 1 pm – 3 pm.
	Sat 24	NSW State Records Bus Trip
	Tue 27	English Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12noon.
	Sat 31	WFHG – Tablet Workshop
November	Tue 3	Committee Meeting 10 am.
	Sat 7	Volunteers' Thank You Lunch
	Tue 10	Microsoft Word Interest Group 12.30 pm – 2.30 pm
	Wed 11	Australian Convict Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon.
	Sat 14	General Meeting 'The Cottage' 1 pm
	Thu 19	Family Tree Maker Interest Group 1 – 3 pm
	Thu 21	WFHG – All day Ancestry Seminar Volunteer Help at Tuggerah Library 9 am – 12 noon
	Tue 24	English Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12noon.
	Thu 26	Scottish Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon. Irish Interest Group 'The Cottage' 1 pm – 3 pm.
December	Tue 1	Committee Meeting 10 am.
	Tue 10	Microsoft Word Interest Group 12.30 pm – 2.30 pm
	Wed 11	Australian Convict Interest Group 'The Cottage' 10 am – 12 noon.
	Thu 10	Christmas Afternoon Tea Cottage Closes until January 2016.



## New Book - Isaac Barrow - Blue Mountains Map Maker

Barrow Lookout at Blackheath stands proudly above the cliff line and looks directly over the waterfall, Govetts Leap and down into Govett Gorge towards the Grose Valley.

Who was this man Barrow? Why was he given the honour to such a prestigious lookout?

Brian Fox's most recent book "Isaac Barrow - Blue Mountains Map Maker" details the life story of this remarkable man. Isaac and his family had moved from Sydney to Yass, where young Isaac the son was born. Moving again, to Gundagai the family survived the greatest loss of life in a flood in Australia's history, (1852). He was educated at the Church of England Grammar School in Melbourne and employed as a surveyor with the Victorian Crown Lands and Survey. One of his assigned projects was to survey the NSW / Victorian border.

The book can be viewed and purchased via the web site, postage free, or further details can be obtained from Brian 0407 067 081

Price \$25 plus \$5 postage if direct from author, 19 Weeks Place, Bathurst, NSW, 2795.... TOL



### Australian Convict Interest Group

Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month, 10 am to 12. If you have a convict or think you may have a convict in you family then come along. We will assist you in any way we can with your research. At present we have a small compact group and would love for you to join us.

June Johnston

Convict Interest Group.....TOL

### The Answer.

This is the **Dickin Medal**, awarded to honour animals who served with "conspicuous gallantry or devotion" while associated with any branch of the Armed Services. Some consider this to be the animal equivalent to the Victoria Cross and call it so.

In 2014 it was awarded to Warrior, a warhorse from World War One in recognition of all serving animals in World War One.

At least two Australian carrier pigeons attached to the Australian Army have received the Dickin Medal:



**Blue cock No. 139:** attached to Detachment 55 Port Craft Company, Madang 12 July 1945. Awarded the Dickin Medal for gallantry carrying a message through a severe tropical storm thereby bringing help to an army boat with a vital cargo, in danger of foundering.

**Blue cock No. 879:** attached to the US forces, Manus Island, Admiralty Islands 5th April 1944. Awarded the Dickin Medal for gallantry carrying a message through heavy fire thereby bringing relief to a Patrol surrounded and attacked by the enemy without other means of communication.....TOL



*Blue Cock 139 at the AWM, Canberra.*

## PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

## **BOOKS & CDs**

<b>Brought in by the Tide.</b> <i>[A guide to tracing convict ancestors in one place.]</i>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 10.00 + p&h
	<b>CD</b>	\$ 5.00 + p&h
<b>Central Coast Roll of Honour.</b> <i>[Includes the full names, rank, type of service &amp; date of death where known of over 12,000 men &amp; women of the Central Coast who were in the Armed Forces. 400 pages fully indexed. Includes 138 stories and photographs.]</i>		\$ 20.00 + p&h
	<b>Book</b>	\$10 in Australia)
	<b>CD</b>	\$ 15.00 + p&h
<b>Simplicity Funerals Bateau Bay NSW 1963 – 2006</b>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 20.00 + p&h
<b>Simplicity Funerals Bateau Bay NSW 2007 - 2011 + Wyong &amp; Toukley</b>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 20.00 + p&h
<b>Simplicity Funerals Bateau Bay [Toukley and Wyong 1963 - 2011]</b>	<b>CD</b>	\$ 25.00 + p&h
<b>Simplicity Funerals Erina 1985 – 2013</b>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 35.00 + p&h
	<b>CD</b>	\$ 15.00 + p&h
<b>Simplicity Funerals Woy Woy 1991 – 2013</b>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 20.00 + p&h
	<b>CD</b>	\$ 15.00 + p&h
<b>Wyong &amp; District Pioneer Register (Published 2013)</b> <i>[673 pages. Fully indexed compilation of all previous Pioneer Book entries, extensively updated references to over 13,500 individuals. Contains: Birth, Marriage &amp; Death details; some photos, personal stories, obituaries for some individuals. Includes a brief history of Wyong.]</i>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 50.00 + p&h
	<b>CD</b>	\$ 40.00 + p&h
<b>Wyong &amp; Lakes District Advocate, Personal Notices (1932 – 1995)</b> <i>(available separately- see below)</i>	<b>Two Volume set Book</b>	\$ 48.00 + p&h
<b>Contents Volume One</b> – 514 anniversary notices, 1078 birth notices, 4,000 marriage notices, 4,790 in memoriam notices & 238 miscellaneous event notices, includes church photographs	<b>Book Volume 1</b>	\$ 28.00 + p&h
<b>Contents Volume Two</b> - 11,973 deaths, obituary & probate notices, includes Church and cemetery photographs	<b>Book Volume 2</b>	\$ 28.00 + p&h
	<b>CD</b>	\$ 38.00 + p&h
<b>Wyong Courthouse Death Records 1930 – 1953</b>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 20.00 + p&h
	<b>CD</b>	\$ 15.00 + p&h
<b>Wyong Township Residents Index 1930 – 1939</b>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 10.00 + p&h
	<b>CD</b>	\$ 10.00 + p&h
<b>The Anglican Parish of the Brisbane Water Area</b> <i>[Baptisms, Burials and Marriages with notes from Albert Glennie's Diaries and Miscellaneous Entries. Includes Kincumber, Mangrove, Wyong, Tuggerah, Cooranbong, Woy Woy &amp; the Hawkesbury River.]</i>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 10.00 + p&h
	<b>CD</b>	\$ 10.00 + p&h
<b>CEMETERY</b>		
<b>Jilliby Cemetery, Wyong Shire, NSW [Updated 2009]</b>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 20.00 + p&h
<b>Noraville Cemetery, Wyong Shire [1869 - 2012]</b>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 20.00 + p&h
<b>St Barnabas &amp; Yarramalong Cemeteries, Wyong Shire NSW</b>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 10.00 + p&h
<b>Ronkana Cemetery, Wyong Shire NSW</b>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 10.00 + p&h
<b>All 4 Cemetery Books</b>		\$ 50.00 + p&h
<b>Wyong Shire Combined Cemeteries</b>	<b>CD</b>	\$ 25.00 + p&h
<b>Palmdale Cemetery</b> <i>[30,000 names, not all from Wyong]</i>	<b>CD</b>	\$ 10.00 + p&h
<b>Gravediggers Index of Wyong Shire, Compiled by Mr A V McKenzie &amp; his son Clive.</b> <i>[Gravediggers' records, up to mid 2008 of Wyong Shire cemeteries.]</i>	<b>Book</b>	\$ 20.00 + p&h
	<b>CD</b>	\$ 15.00 + p&h
<b>Genealogy Recorder</b>		\$ 10.00 + p&h

# WYONG FAMILY HISTORY GROUP INC.

## Research Centre

'The Cottage', Wyong Community Cultural Centre,

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

**Open:** Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10.00am – 3.00pm. At other times by appointment. Public Holidays – Closed.

Tuggerah Library, Westfield: Workshop 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday 9.00am – 12 noon (WFHG members available to help)

Contact the Group as follows:

The Secretary

Wyong Family History Group Inc.

P O Box 247

Wyong NSW 2259

Telephone: (02) 4351 2211

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

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

*WFHG thanks Ms Karen McNamara MP, for her assistance in the production of this issue of the Tree of Life.*

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### **Remember deadline for next 'Tree of Life' is up to 20 October 2015**

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### **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE GROUP**

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

### **FAMILY HISTORY TRACING SERVICE**

**Australian, International or Local Research**

***Trace your Ancestors and Discover their Past***

***Also available***

***Church & Headstone Photos in Wyong & District***

**Enquiries to: The Secretary, WFHG Inc.**

**P O Box 247 Wyong, NSW, Australia, 2259**

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