

WYONG FAMILY
HISTORY GROUP INC.



HISTORY GROUP INC.

Tree of Life

Official Journal of

WYONG FAMILY HISTORY GROUP INC.

ISSN 0815 0729

Website: www.wyongfamilyhistory.com.au

May 2016

Vol. 33, No 2

In This Issue:

2016 Recognition of Service 4

Computer Talk

One-Place Study8

University Course.....9

What is Happening with Family Tree Maker

Software?7

Worth a Look App9

Events

2016 Conference – Camden

Bus Trip 6

Flyer 14

ANZAC Ave. Wyong & ANZAC Rd. Tuggerah 13

Bus Trip to Rookwood 2016 Flyer14

National Family History Month Flyer.....15

Planned Events25, 26

from the Editor 5

from the President..... 3

Heritage Walk at Jilliby Cemetery..... 5

Mark Bundy 10

Members

A Timely Reminder24

New Members.....24

Publications

For Sale27

Latest Release18

Slides: An Intriguing Slice of the Past..... 19

Special Interest Groups 23

The Tales of Tailors's Wives

Episode 1. "Mystery Mary"11

Episode 2. "Skye Mary Mac"12

Episode 3. "Aunty Mary, [oh!] Aunty Mary"....21

Episode 4. " Mary the Twin".....22

Vale

Dennis Javes.4

John Edward Owen17



Member contributions are always welcome

Wyong Family History Group Inc.

Patrons: Karen McNamara, Federal MP for Dobell
David Harris, State MP for Wyong

Meetings, 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 10:00 am and 3:00 pm.

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

Office Bearers 2015 – 2016

President:	Kerrie Metcalfe, kerriem17@bigpond.com
Secretary:	Kerry Clarke, secwfhg2@westnet.com.au
Vice-President:	Roger Lewis
Treasurer:	Michele Gane
Management Committee:	All the above executive plus Helen Burkett, Lorraine Cameron, Wayne Dean, Esther Dean, Martin Fisher, Trish McDonald, Pam Mansergh, John Selwood
Assets Manager & Computer Administrator:	Roger Lewis
Bookstall Supervisor	Trish McDonald
Convict Group Co-ordinator:	June Johnston
Cottage Co-ordinators	Tuesday: Marilyn Cridland
	Wednesday: Trish McDonald
	Thursday: Lorraine Cameron
Cottage Roster:	Ann Cooke
eBranch Editor:	Kate Walter
English Group Organiser:	Esther Dean
FamilyTreeMaker Interest Group Co-Ordinator:	Martin Fisher
Fund Raising & Minute Secretary:	Esther Dean
Grant Applications:	Douglas Thomas
Guest Speakers:	Martin Fisher
iPad/Tablet Interest Group Co-Ordinators:	Kerrie & Melissa Metcalf & Roger Lewis
Journal Snippets:	Lynda Smith and Meg Gibson
LDS Film Orders	Marilyn Cridland
Librarian:	Glenise Clery
Librarian Assistant:	Dellas Johnston
Look & Learn Education Sessions	Kerrie Metcalfe and Trish McDonald
Project Coordinator:	John Selwood
Public Officer:	Esther Dean
Publications (Books & CDs) Printing	Roger Lewis
Publicity Officer:	Lorraine Cameron
Purchasing	Brenda Pimlot
Raffles:	Eileen Wheway
Research Officers:	Robin Wright and Trish McDonald
Scottish & Irish Group Organiser:	Gwen Bates
Scrapbook (Photos)	Helen Hord
Seminar & Events Organisers	Committee Members

Tree of Life Editor: Helen Johnston-Lord, heloora6@bigpond.com
Tuggerah Library 3rd Saturday of the Month: Annette Shearer & Christine Randall
Volunteers' Representative Helen Burkett
Webmaster: Kate Walter
Webpage Editor Kerry Clarke
Word Interest Group Helen Johnston-Lord

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

from the President

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



Time rolls on and here we are half way through the year. Everything has been going to plan at the Cottage with a number of interest groups, workshops and talk sessions taking place under the guidance of Trish MacDonald with our volunteers sharing their knowledge. It's important to remember we are not experts and have different areas of interest that we are willing to share with our members. It's my belief if you get one bit of information to help you discover your family it is worth the effort of attending.

We had our first trip to State Records on the 2th April 2016 with Glenise Clery and Michele Gane on hand to help members. It was a successful day for all those who attended.

The WFHG runs a Beginners Course every year, and this year it began on Friday 1st April 2016. The course is run by Trish MacDonald with presenters Helen Burkett, Glenise Clery and help from Lorraine Cameron. Quite a lot of preparation goes into the six (6) week course and it was pleasing to see a roll up of 22 people. I wish every one of them success in their research and hope to catch up at the Cottage in the near future.

I would also like to mention Annette Shearer and Christine Randall who volunteer every third Saturday at Tuggerah library. If you are free and feel like doing some research, or are in Tuggerah, go along and say hello to them between 9am and 12 noon.

Since we are kept up to date each Friday by our wonderful Secretary, Kerry Clarke, on what's coming up there's no need for me to say much here. Only, that it is always a pleasure to see members attend our events as they take a lot of thought and planning.

As a reminder, this year we have a bus going to State Conference at Camden. I attend Conference every year, and I am excited that our members have this opportunity to experience Conference for a day. If

you are planning on attending I know that you will not regret it. It's a fantastic day full of genealogy so book at the Cottage for Friday the 9th September 2016 for your chance to speak to different societies and commercial vendors as well as plenty of sales tables and free talks.

Sending out a big thank you to all our volunteers..... 🌳



2016 RECOGNITION of SERVICE

Kerrie Metcalfe, member 80, LM, President WFHG Inc

20 Years: Congratulations to PAM MANSERGH who achieved 20 years of service this April.

15 Years: Congratulations to both DENNIS JAVES and BRENDA PIMLOTT who achieved 15 years of service in February this year.

Vale Dennis Javes.

Sadly, Dennis passed away just before being awarded his 15 Years Recognition of Service. His daughter received the award on his behalf.

10 Years: Congratulations to the following members who achieved 10 years of service this year:

- JENNY ROBERTSON in January,
- FRED BATTS in February, and
- MARGARET ROSS, LES LEVER, RON BAKER and JULIE BAILEY in April.....



Kerrie Metcalfe presenting Certificates to Julie Bailey, Ron Baker and Pam Mansergh at the April General Meeting.



from the Editor

Helen Johnston-Lord member 505

I love this time of the year. Generally fine mild days and cool nights make living on the magical Central Coast very pleasant.

We have a wide range of Special Interest Groups and all are worth investigating, you never know where these can lead. See page 23 for a list, with more information available on the website.

I have joined the Weebly Website Special Interest Group. For many years I thought I would like a family web page and this has been a good start.

My own research always reveals some surprises about my family's history and helps make sense of stories I remember from childhood and some of the scraps of paper my mother kept. All I have to do now is put them into some sort of order for future reference. Maybe the webpage is somewhere I can share and record these stories. We will see.

Once again I thank all who have contributed and please keep your stories coming. We are always interested in how you broke down your brickwalls. There are many stories telling of people's experiences during waretime and we would be happy to include tales from your families.

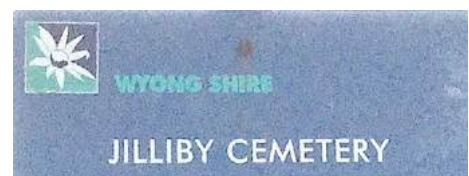
The deadline for the next *Tree of Life* is 20 July 2016.....🌳



HERITAGE WALK at JILLIBY CEMETERY

Kerry Clarke, Secretary, member 433

On Sunday 24th April, we hosted a Heritage Walk at historic Jilliby Cemetery. This was the first time we had attempted an event like this, so we were unsure of the interest of the members and public.



Our co-ordinating committee started planning back in November last year, deciding on a draft plan and settling on a plan of action. Our organiser John Selwood collected a list of members who were willing to assist on the day, and set about collecting information on interesting local people who were buried at Jilliby. We also decided to highlight the WWI soldiers who had returned from the War and who were also buried at Jilliby.

The two days before our Heritage Walk were cold and rainy, and we were seriously worried about whether we would be able to go ahead, but Sunday dawned fine and sunny, and we were able to get our tent up with the help of some extra hands. To our delight, over 20 people were there for the first walk at 10 o'clock, and a steady stream kept us busy all day – about 80 people went on the walks over the day. We even had over a dozen on the last walk of the day.

We couldn't have had such a successful day, without the assistance of so many of our members, both beforehand with publicity and information gathering, and our helpers in the tent supplying information to the many, many questions on the cemetery and the Wyong area. A special thanks goes to our Tour Guides on the day – especially Martin and Glenise who did an extra tour..... 🌳



At Jilliby Cemetery, 24th April 2016.

Left, Volunteers busy in the tent . Right, some of the folk enjoying the walk and the sunshine.



2016 Conference Bus Trip – Camden

Kerry Clarke, Secretary, member 433

The NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies will be holding their 2016 State Conference in Camden from 9th – 11th September. Friday 9th September is a day free to public and members, and there will be many stalls related to Family History and there will also be interesting speakers. See the Conference flyer on page 14.

We have many members interested in the bus trip to Camden for the first day of the State Conference. If you would like to go on Friday 9th September, ring the Cottage and book a place on the bus.

The cost will be \$25, and all seats will have to be paid for beforehand. Visitors will be welcome, but preference will be given to members' bookings first..... 🌳



WHAT IS HAPPENING WITH FAMILY TREE MAKER SOFTWARE?

Martin Fisher #653, Coordinator FTM Special Interest Group

I have been asked this question many times recently and I am pleased to say that all is well with Family Tree Maker (well, nearly all).

After the devastating announcement from Ancestry last December which left the Family Tree Maker community in shock there have been a lot of developments. Ancestry's announcement was based on a high level decision to no longer provide or support any off-line product, although they did include a final 12 months of support to existing FTM users.

The December announcement created a huge backlash from the FTM community with over 3000 negative postings on the Ancestry blog page within the first 24 hours and the protests continued to flow in during the following days. I believe there was in excess of 9000 negative postings within the first week. Following this unprecedented response, it was obvious that Ancestry had badly misjudged their market audience, the result being that they eventually announced in January that the FTM software had been on-sold to Software MacKiev (and that arrangements were also being put in place to allow RootsMagic users to sync their tree to Ancestry)

Software MacKiev is well known to users of the Mac version of FTM having been the developer of that software for the past 6 years, albeit under the constraints placed upon them by Ancestry, as a subcontractor. Since purchasing FTM from Ancestry, Software MacKiev is now the full developer of both versions of FTM without the need to refer anything to Ancestry and the plan is to grow both software versions concurrently, so we should see some exciting developments in the next few years. I understand that the new FTM will still retain the ability to sync to your Ancestry tree and the shaky leaf hints will still be available.

- ✿ And now to the not so good news for those who have versions earlier than the current models.
- ✿ If you don't use either Family Tree Maker 2014 or Family Tree Maker 3 Mac (i.e. you use an earlier version), then you should very seriously update now in order to take advantage of future updates and patches from MacKiev, but also the new upgrade offer and pricing.



Put another way, there is not going to be any support or updates for versions other than 2014 or Mac 3!

🌿 These new versions will not contain any discounted Ancestry subscriptions and the price of the full version is likely to be around the price of the current Family Tree Maker Platinum editions, but without any Ancestry. An effective price rise.

🌿 I also understand that to purchase the new upgrade (which will be a true upgrade) you will need to have a current version installed, i.e. *Family Tree Maker 2014* or *Family Tree Maker 3*. (Mac)

According to my web research Vic Gum, SAG and Gould Genealogy all have limited stocks of both the Deluxe (\$60) and the Platinum (\$99) versions as well as the Mac 3 (\$99) (Mac 3 not available at Gould Genealogy)

WFHG will continue to monitor all developments in this area and provide support to our members through our Family Tree Maker special interest group which meets on the second Thursday of each month 12:30 - 2:30pm.

Things happen quickly and according to the MacKiev website as at 30 April, 2016 "If you already have FTM 2012 or Mac 2 or earlier, you can get an upgrade for a discounted price.".. MF..... 🌳

ONE PLACE STUDY

Kerry Clarke, Secretary, member 433

- So what is a One-Place Study?
- Quite simply it's a study of a particular place and the people who have lived there over the years. By 'place' we mean a defined geographical area. Most one-placers choose to study an area, or small town, and the area immediately around it within its official boundaries. By 'people', we generally mean everyone who lived in that place, not just those related to the one-placer's ancestral family or people who were famous.
- 'One-place studies' are a great way of finding out what life was like in the place your ancestors lived. Over 2,000 places worldwide have been registered with them in under two years! Could your special place be one of the areas studied?
- A one-place study brings together both the local history and family history dimensions to give a much fuller picture of what life was like in that place and why families came and went.
- Wyong Family History Group has made a One Place Study of the Wyong area, but there are studies in countries including Australia, Canada, Italy, England, America, and New Zealand.



- Check out these sites – www.wyongoneplacestudy.weebly.com
- <http://register-of-one-place-studies.org.uk/index.html>
- There are new places being added every week – the total ‘places’ are now 2121.....🌳

UNIVERSITY COURSE

Helen Johnston-Lord member 505

The University of Tasmania offers an Online course in Family History. Some of our members have completed one or more units. Maryanne McDonald has been an enthusiastic student and as part of the ‘Writing Family History’ unit created stories about seven ladies named Mary she has researched. We have included the first of these stories on page 10.

This is an interesting series of units for anyone who can spare between four and six hours a week and reasonable internet access. Helps keep the little grey cells active..... 🌳

WORTH A LOOK APP

Helen Johnston-Lord member 505

Tiny Scanner

I love this app for iPhone. It is so easy to use. I don't have a smart phone, however I almost always have my trusty iPod with me. With this app I can scan photos, documents or receipts without touching the original article. It allows me to scan black and white, greyscale and colour as well as straighten and ‘unkeystone’ an image.



I can save to the camera roll or share the images if I connect to the internet.



This is a small portion of a full page image of His Highness Seyyid Burghash, Sultan of Zansibar, signed EHILL in a 1875 publication “Home Words for Heart and Hearth” which is approximately A5 in size. I was quite pleased with the results.

I started with the free version and quickly upgraded to the full version. The version I have works on both the iPod and iPad and is available through the Apple Store. There is also an Android version available.....🌳



MARK BUNDY

Harry Johnston-Lord member 404

The April meeting had a very interesting speaker, Mark Bundy, from R.G.C.R.T. What's that you ask? It is the Rookwood General Cemeteries Reserve Trust. Mark had a presentation showing the story of Rookwood Necropolis and how it expanded from 200 acres to the more than 750 acres it occupies today.



Martin Fisher and Mark Bundy.

There was no holding back or hiding details either, Mark had the knack of describing in an open way what happens in the cemetery and how things are done without 'sugar coating' or covering up. As an example, his description of exhumation was - - - - - shall we say graphic, but interesting. It was an interesting informative talk and Mark is an engaging and entertaining speaker.

Before taking questions, Mark ended by telling us this had been the first talk given as part of a new initiative and we were guinea pigs. The initiative is to raise public interest in Rookwood and to show it is not just a burial place..... 🌳



Harry chats with Mark.

The Tales of Tailors' Wives

Maryanne McDonald, member 782

"This series of six 250 word and one 1,000 word tales are about my ancestors, all Mary's. I have been researching my "Six Mary's" and their families, but many facts are still unfounded. As always: An 'ongoing discovery'.

"Three were born on the Isle of Skye, Scotland, one on mainland Scotland, one in County Tyrone, Northern Ireland and two in Victoria, Australia.

"Four were born as a Macdonald/McDonald^[1], two marrying a

- [1] Born Macdonald in Scotland and McDonald in Australia
- [2] Sept. Family groups of a Clan with name variations

Macdonald/McDonald and one a Sept[2] of the Clan Donald.

“Two married a Tailor ~ Donald, one married a Tailor ~ William Donald and was a Tailoress herself, two had father’s as a Tailor both ~ Donald and one was taught by Tailor ~ Donald. The other Tailor was a Neil.

“With scant knowledge of their genealogy in the early years, these tales are based purely from my imagination of what I thought their lives would have been like.

For the first five tales I have used gaelic words, as they would have up until their emigration to Australia in 1854.”

Scottish/Gaelic – Episode One

- [1] Mary
- [2] Mother
- [3] Fortune-Teller
- [4] Visionary
- [5] Tailor
- [6] Seals in the Sea/Selkies on land after shedding their skin
- [7] Presbyterian Church
- [8] Story-Teller/Poet
- [9] Social gathering (keli)

Author’s Note: This Mary Macdonald is my ggg grandmother.

Episode 1. “Mystery Mary”

My name is Mairi[1] and it has been many a long year since I roamed the glens and braes on The Isle of Skye where I was born in the mid eighteenth century.

I knew what my future would offer as my dear Mither[2] was an Auger[3] and some say a Mumpre[4].

These predictions were confirmed by a travelling Tinker foretelling that my life would be loving, albeit harsh and that I would marry a Taillear[5].

My husband Neil was indeed a Tailor and we had a bonny bairn Donald. He was born on Skye late in the eighteenth century.

Neil loved to tell his son tales of Myth and Mystery. Donald’s favourite was about the Selkies[6] and the lore of these mysterious creatures.

Our life as a family was very happy despite the hard long winters on our beautiful Highland Island. Our simple way of living with Neil stitching the plaids and I caring for my family was rewarding.

The Kirk[7] filled our Sundays with prayers, kinship and unity. We would gather together for a hearty meal at

Scottish/Gaelic – Episode Two

- [1] House
- [2] Tailor
- [3] Trousers
- [4] Father
- [5] Story-Teller/Poet
- [6] A drink of Whiskey
- [7] Twilight
- [8] Long Shawl
- [9] Tartan cloth slung over the shoulder
- [10] Old
- [11] Mary
- [12] St Mary’s Church, Dunvegan, Diurinish Parish, Isle of Skye

Author’s Note:

[a]”Passed/Passing”. Many say not to use this terminology for death. My view is that the Soul Passes and the Body Dies.

This Mary Macdonald is my gg grandmother.

the end of the long days of scripture. The menfolk, Shenachies^[8] of the clan would tell tales and the womenfolk sing old folk-tales of love and yearning.

The Ceilidhs^[9] were a long awaited event in the community. All the clan would gather for the traditional dancing, singing and no doubt a wee drop or two from the distillery.. ***“Tinker, Tailor,”***

Episode 2 “Skye Mary Mac”

Where I was born and where my bones are laid to rest are not in the same place. Both are in the Highlands of Scotland. I was born on the mainland early in the nineteenth century of the Macqueen Clan and interred on my beautiful Isle of Skye.

My working life began in the ‘Big Hoose^[1]’ as a seamstress when I was but a lassie. I travelled to Skye with the family to continue my duties. As I had no one left in my family, they treated me with kindness.

I met my Donald, a Taillear^[2] in the big hoose and we shared more than a kinship, working together on Trews^[3] and Kilts. We married and had six bonnie bairns – Ann, Christina, Marion, Hector, Donald and Mary.

Not only did Donald continue his Faither's^[4] legacy as a Tailor, he was a Shenachie^[5], keeping our bairns awake at night with tales of woe, adventure, history and mystery.

We would then take a Dram^[6] in the Gloamin^[7], I wearing my Arisaid^[8] and Donald with his Plaid^[9] to ward off the chill of the Highland air.

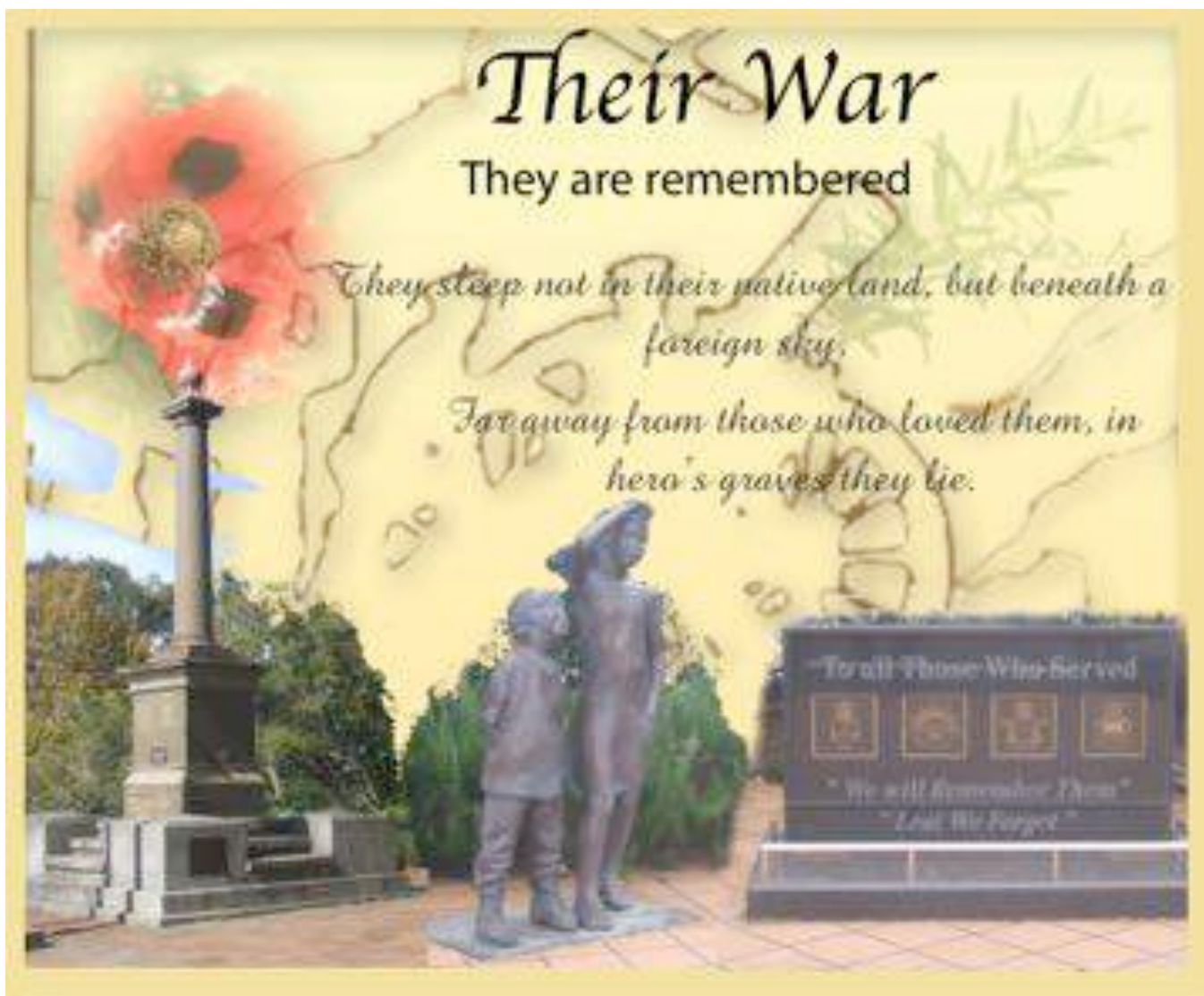
I did not make Auld^[10] bones, passing^[a] at peace in the knowledge that my husband would take care of our now grown offspring.

Who was to know that my husband and six children would never be buried with me.

My name Mairi^[11] Macdonald (nee McSwain) does not appear on any headstone in the St Maoi Ruadh^[12] churchyard....***“A Common Thread”***
(More from Maryanne on page 18 ed.)



*Mary Macdonald (1836 - 1899) and Ann Macdonald (1822 - 1890)
Both were Mrs John Brass.
Ann first in 1855 then Mary in 1895.*



The Memorials featured above are all in Wyong. The 2016 ANZAC March started at the Rankins Park War Memorial and proceeded to the Wyong RSL car park. At the conclusion of the March a service was held at this memorial.

ANZAC Avenue Wyong and ANZAC Road Tuggerah

These two streets in our Shire were officially named on 12 August 1916 and 26 August 1916 respectively. They were named in honour of the men who went to the Great War. Each street was planted with trees, generally by family members of those who went to the war.

In recognition of the naming of the streets in August 1916 our Group will be holding a plaque unveiling on the same date, a centenary on from each event, to further honour the memory of Wyong's and Tuggerah's brave men.

The ANZAC Avenue plaque will be unveiled in Frank Balance Park and the Tuggerah plaque will be unveiled in the grounds of Tuggerah Hall.....🌳



2016

ROOKWOOD CEMETERY BUS TRIP

Monday 20th June

Our upcoming bus trip to Rookwood cemetery will be held on Monday 20th June 2016. This year will be mainly a research trip for those who want to check that their ancestors are still 6 feet under and that none have escaped although we are currently organising for Rookwood General Cemeteries Trust to give us a brief guided tour for those who are interested in its history.

If you have no relatives in Rookwood, you are still more than welcome to come with us and explore the history that is within the boundaries of the largest necropolis in the Southern Hemisphere.

Do your homework!!! Bring a folder with the names and locations of the graves. This can be done beforehand on the internet for the Independent, Catholic and Anglican Sections. The offices can sometimes tell you the names of others in the graves as well.

What to take? We suggest a brush, water and soft cloth (for cleaning headstones), hand clippers to clear overgrown graves, umbrella (rain or shine), raincoat, warm clothing, sunscreen and hat. And of course a camera. Also bring *plenty* of drinking water and your packed lunch

There will be 3 pickup points, Toukley leaving at 7:10am SHARP, Wyong Leagues Club at 7:20 and Tuggerah at approximately 7:45am

We plan on leaving Rookwood for home about 3.30 pm.

Contact The Cottage to make your booking Cost: \$25.00 per person.





Cowpastures and Beyond

**YOU ARE CORDIALLY
INVITED TO THE**

**NSW & ACT ASSOCIATION OF
FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETIES INC.**

2016 STATE CONFERENCE

FRIDAY 9TH – SUNDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER 2016.

CAMDEN CIVIC CENTRE.

**WHY NOT STAY A WHILE TO SEE SOME OF
THE HISTORIC BUILDING OR DO A HISTORIC
WALKING TOUR OF CAMDEN**

For more information on the
2016 Conference – Cowpastures and Beyond
nswact2016conference@gmail.com



Camden Park



Picton Post Office



Camelot



Nepean House



NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc
2016 State Conference
Hosted by
Camden Area Family History Society Inc
Picton & District Historical & Family History Society Inc.





Be part of National Family History Month in August 2016!

It is a great opportunity to find out about researching your family history and understanding the social context within which our ancestors lived. There will be hundreds of events held throughout Australia and online. Start tracing your family tree, talk to distant relatives

Attend a family history seminar or workshop	Listen to a webinar , podcast or Google hangout
Write your life story or interview a relative	Look at genealogy magazines at your newsagent
Organise your family photos	Have a family reunion
Visit your local genealogy/ family history society	Visit areas of family significance
Browse the genealogy section of your local public library	Explore family history sites on the internet
Organise and label your family photos	Check out the online calendar for events in your area

For lots of other great ideas visit www.familyhistorymonth.org.au to see events in your local area including online events. Plus there are some great prizes to win in the giveaway. Sponsors as at 1 April 2016.

Major Sponsors in 2016

		
		
Like to be a sponsor? Contact us Info @familyhistorymonth.org.au	Launch Sponsor since 2006  	Media Sponsor 

Prize Sponsors in 2016 - see www.familyhistorymonth.org.au for details.

Vale

John Edward Owen 1943 - 2016



John Owen member #276 passed away on Monday 28 March 2016 at Wyong Hospital. John joined the Wyong Family History Group Inc. on the 29 June 2007 after completing the *Getting Started with Your Family History Course* run by

the group. It was soon after that he offered to set up our very first website and thanks to John



John Owen attending the Getting Started Course in 2007.



John helping with research at an Information Day.

the group had entered the 21st Century and we made our mark in cyberspace. He continued as webmaster until April 2014

John enjoyed helping members who were interested in putting their family tree on the web and helped several members achieve this in way of their own websites. It was never any trouble for John to spend hours at a person's home, on the phone or at his own home, showing them how to manage their website.

His preferred program for family history data was *Family Historian* and he soon

converted some of us to using it and was generous in his offer to help members understand it. This lead to a Special Interest Group being held at the Cottage every month with five or six members attending his presentations on the use of *Family*



John and Doug Thomas escort Jan Barrett away during a Christmas skit 2008

Historian. It soon included Jill Ball who travelled up from Hornsby.

Not only did John introduce us to a website he also was Editor of our *Tree of Life* from September 2009 to September 2011

He helped at a number of events and took part in a skit at one of our Christmas parties playing the part of a Red Coat in charge of convicts. John also helped with selling rotary raffle tickets at Lake Haven Shopping Centre. It is with sadness we farewell John who has now joined his ancestors.

Our condolences go to his wife Ellen and their family.....🌳



John and his wife Ellen relax on the veranda of the Cottage.

Wyong Family History Group Inc. Publications

Latest Release

BOWDEN FAMILY FUNERALS, Wyong - 76 pages.

Covers funerals conducted between July 1999 and January 2015.

Contains – 1714 entries arranged alphabetically. Details include Full name, Date of Death, Place of Death, Age, Date and Place of Burial, Date and Place of Birth. Also indicates if a Coroner's Inquest was held and, where available, the Year of Arrival, if born overseas.

Book-\$ 20-00 +p&h

CD-\$15-00 + p&h

[plus postage]



SLIDES: AN INTRIGUING SLICE OF THE PAST.

Lynda Smith LM2.

A number of men in my immediate family started having slides created from their photos in the 1960s. This practise continued until the mid 1970s. I remember snoozing through a number of 'slide nights' as a teenager and I confess I found the whole idea quite boring at the time. Over the last few years however, my opinion has changed. As older members of the family have died, my husband and I have become the default owners of a wide selection of 35mm film, projectors, assorted cameras, piles of photos in and out of albums and literally hundreds of slides. These have all become invaluable to me, but the job of identification is a little daunting.

Of the three men, [my uncle, my father in law and my father] my father kept the best labelled slides. He managed to identify a number of locations, dates and even some of the people in the slides. He stored most of them in a large timber box that had small box sections inside it. He used this to try and classify the slides into some sort of logical order so that he could create the slideshows he wanted. Over the years, however, the order became disturbed. It was left to me to try and re-establish this order.

The vast majority of Dad's slides were taken on a Kodak Instamatic, with click on blue flash cube. The films were mostly processed by Kodak and I discovered that each batch has a unique month, letter and number printed on the cardboard. Colour was also used at times. This allowed me to group all the slides from each batch together, and made identification a little easier. I also noticed that it took quite a long time for Dad to use up a roll of 24 or 36 photos, so one box of slides could cover the events of a number of months. We were living in Papua New Guinea from 1966 to early in 1972 and it appears that the film was sent away , often in batches, for processing back in Australia.

Sadly, my Mum has developed macular degeneration over the last few years. She can't help me identify anything visually now, but her memory is still sharp, so she can tell me the stories that go with some of the events or people depicted. I recently scanned all of Dad's slides using a natty gadget called a Qpix digital film scanner. This gadget will scan 4 slides at a time or a strip of film negative. Once you have completed scanning, the images can be downloaded onto your computer for further editing and labelling and photos can then be printed off as required.

Whilst sorting and labelling, I discovered that a number of slides were missing from their batches. I initially thought these may have been faulty ones long discarded, but then I noticed that some crucial slides

were MIA. I distinctly recalled a late 1960s colour shot of my grandmother's home in Artarmon, but could not find it anywhere. I checked with my cousins and none of them had a colour photo of the house. As the house has now been demolished, I was very upset that this slide was missing.

Last year my mother and sister moved into smaller accommodation. They found that they had limited storage space for items such as photo albums and packets of photos. I had room, so I offered to store them for the time being. Recently, my sister asked me to take another small suitcase home. It was full of loose photos and pieces of paper from her past. I thought I would check through the piles and scan any photos that also related to me. To my delight, I found that the case also included 2 small yellow boxes of slides. My husband can attest that I did my infamous 'I found it' dance of joy when I discovered the slide of my grandmother's house inside one of these boxes! I immediately emailed my eldest cousin and told him the good news.

This group also included some classic shots of me as a teen and some places that no longer exist.



"This shot of my father, sister and myself in our Clark pool is such a gem." – Lydia

From 1968 to the end of 1971 we lived in Rabaul. In the 1990s and more recently, a series of volcanic eruptions and earthquakes have decimated the town and changed the harbour forever. Many of the places that we used to visit are sadly no more. This shot of my father, sister and myself in our Clark

pool is such a gem. Our pool collapsed

in an earthquake just before we came 'south'. A quake measuring 8.1 hit on July 26, creating a tsunami in the circular harbour. It was both frightening and exciting to experience.



The main street in Rabaul taken about 1970

The next one is of the main street in Rabaul taken about 1970. The whole area is now covered by volcanic ash and lava.

Sadly, some of the slides have been affected by humidity and the images need more restoration than I can manage. I shall have to save my pennies and find such an expert so that I can preserve these gems for future generations.....🌳

The Tales of the Tailors Wives – Episode 3. “Aunty Mary, [oh!] Aunty Mary

My name is Maire^[1] Macdonald and I am eighteen. This is a new beginning. What would become of our teaghlach^[2]. We are leaving our beloved Highland Isle of Skye for this new colony of Astrailia ^[3]?

I am the youngest born nighean^[4] of our kin^[5]. Faither^[6] Donald, now a relict^[7] my two braithers^[8] and three piuthars^[9] along with ten-year-old Mary Bethune sept^[10] embarked the *Edward Johnstone*^[a] from this strange city of Liverpool in that land called England.

The people were speaking in a strange tongue and I had to wonder what this taisteal^[11] to this new land would bring. We all have to leave our native Gaelic tongue behind and learn to speak this English.

The seventy-eight day turas cuain^[12] was grueling and said that

Scottish/Gaelic – Episode Three

- [1] Mary
- [2] Family
- [3] Australia
- [4] Daughter
- [5] Family
- [6] Father
- [7] Widower
- [8] Brothers
- [9] Sisters
- [10] An ancestral family connection
- [11] Journey
- [12] Ocean journey

Author's Note:

[a] *Edward Johnstone*: Dep. Liverpool
17 Jun 1854. Arr. Portland Bay,
Vic. AUS. 3 Sep 1854. 356 souls on
board. Record # 694 Macdonald
and Bethune
This Mary Macdonald is my gg Aunt.

'it was as short journey'. A wee lassie died on board.

Portland Bay was a welcome sight. What this new life would bring is strangely exciting, yet daunting. My brothers, sisters and I will be separated from our Father. He came on his own account, where as we are on a disposal list for employment in the local western district.

Father and young Mary would travel to a place called Warrnambool, some 60 miles east on the coast. Father Donald, a tailor by trade would perhaps retire as he is now sixty-three and has young Mary to tend to.

I have inherited my grandmothers 'gift' of visions and what I see for my life to come is 'full of adventures, babies and husbands [in that order!]. ***"As ye Sew, so shall ye Reap"***

Our family has a document titled "The Unholy History of some McDonalds", gg Mary features well and a real 'trick'.....!!! Three Husbands and three children that are recorded.

Episode 4. "Mary The Twin" "

Auld^[1] Donald, a Tailear^[2] and neighbour on the Isle of Skye taught me in the ways of stitching, like young Donald his son who was his apprentice. I loved to stitch and could help Belle, my Ma in our hame^[3] with repairing our clothing.

My Da Rory is sad as our croft^[4] of 4 acres is being taken away by the laird^[5]. Our kin^[6] are to be divided. This was called the 'Highland Clearances'^[a].

The whispers soon came that I was to go with Auld Donald and his kinfolk way, way, away to the colony of Astrailia^[7]. It was said that the colony needed young lassies with stitching ability, so I was chosen to go with the Macdonald's^[b].

My twin Ann and I would be separated; I was a verra scarit^[8]. I have never been beyond our parish of Duirinish^[9]. I love my hame and am wondering if I will ever see her and my kin again?

I know the Macdonald's will love and care for me as their own but I

Scottish/Gaelic – Episode 4

- [1] Old
- [2] Tailor
- [3] Home
- [4] Small plot of farmland with dwellings in the Highlands
- [5] Owner of a Scottish estate
- [6] Family
- [7] Australia
- [8] Very scared
- [9] Parish in Inverness Shire, SCT
- [10] Town
- [11] English persons

Author's Note:

- [a] Highland Clearances:
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Highland_Clearances
- [b] Trove article: 'Report to the Emigration Commissioners'
Sydney Morning Herald, 1842-54
trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/12960735
- [c] *Edward Johnstone*: Dep. Liverpool
17 Jun 1854. Arr. Portland Bay 3 Sep 1854. 356 souls on board.
Ships Record # 694 Macdonald and Bethune

will miss my Ma and Da very much.

Liverpool toon^[10] was full of Sassenachs'^[11] and the dock a sight to see. There were many children from Skye who would be my shipmates as we set forth for a new life, land and adventure.

We sailed on the *Edward Johnstone*^[c] 17 Jun 1854 and docked in Portland Town, Victoria, Australia 3 Sep 1854. What a sight this new land that I will call home. White sandy beaches, unlike my beloved Skye.

My name is Mary Bethune and I am ten years old. ***"A Stitch in Time"***

This Mary, a Sept of Clan Donald is related to me through this ancient system, which still exists. I am a proud Clan Donald [NSW] council member.

More of Maryanne's interesting stories in future issues.
ed..... 🌳



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

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

Current Groups are:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 🌳 Australian Convicts | 🌳 English & Welsh |
| 🌳 Facebook | 🌳 Family Tree Maker |
| 🌳 iPad/Computer | 🌳 Microsoft Word |
| 🌳 Scottish & Irish | 🌳 Weebly Webpage |

More information about these groups is on the Website or phone The Cottage during open hours. Upcoming dates are included on our Planned Events Pages (25 & 26)..... 🌳



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
769	Pat Healion	780	Vera Parfoot
770	Stuart Purvis-Smith	781	Christine McKenzie
771	Robyn Purvis-Smith	782	Michael Kelly
772	Natalie Westall	783	Janis Kelly
773	Patricia McDonald	783	Janis Kelly
774	Beverley Stephenson	784	Robyn Regan
775	Mavis King	785	Julie Paterson
776	Janice Lawrenz	786	Margaret 'Marlene' Sweeney
777	Lorraine Lonergan	787	Fay Kuilder
778	Heather Hocking	788	Carolyn Byles
779	George Parfoot	789	Joyce Barclay

A Timely Reminder for Members

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

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

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

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



WFHG Inc **Planned Events**

- **Note:** Unless otherwise stated, all our meetings, interest groups, workshops and mini training sessions are at 'The Cottage'.

	2016	Event
May	Tue 3	Committee Meeting 10:00 am.
	Wed 4	Weebly Web Site Interest Group 10:00 am – 12 noon.
	Thu 5	M.T.S. Using WFHG Online Catalogue 10:00 am – 12 noon
	Fri 6	Beginners Course Final Day 10:00 am – 12 noon.
	Tue 10	Microsoft Word Interest Group 12:00 noon – 1:30 pm
	Wed 11	Australian Convict Interest Group 10:00 am – 12 noon.
	Thu 12	Family Tree Maker Interest Group 12:30 – 2:30 pm.
	Fri 13	Find My Past Webinar + Q&A 10:00am – 12 noon
	Sat 14	No General Meeting for May 2016
	Fri 20	Filing Workshop 10:00 am – 12 noon
	Sat 21	Volunteer Help at Tuggerah Library 9:00 am – 12 noon
	Tue 24	English & Welsh Interest Group 10:00 am – 12 noon.
	Wed 25	Scottish & Irish Interest Group 10:00 am – 12 noon.
	Sat 28	Computer/Tablet Int. Group 10:00 am – 12 noon.
	Sun 29	Social BBQ - Check the website for details
	Tue 31	Committee Meeting for June 10:00 am.
June	Wed 1	Weebly Web Site Interest Group 10:00 am – 12 noon.
	Sat 4	Referencing Workshop 10:00 am – 12 noon.
	Tue 7	Mini Training Session – Ryerson Index 10:00 – 11:00 am
	Wed 8	Australian Convict Interest Group 10:00 am – 12 noon.
	Thu 9	Family Tree Maker Interest Group 12:30 – 2:30 pm.
	Sat 11	General Meeting 1:00 pm.
	Tue 14	Mini Training Session – Family History Maps using FTM and/or Google Maps –10:00 – 11:00 am. Microsoft Word Interest Group 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm.
	Wed 15	Mini Training Session FreeBMD/FreeREG 10:00 – 11:00 am.
	Sat 18	Volunteer Help at Tuggerah Library 9:00 am – 12 noon
	Mon 20	Rookwood Bus Trip – see page 14 for details
	Wed 22	Scottish & Irish Interest Group 10:00 am – 12 noon.
	Sat 25	Facebook Interest Group 10:00 am – 12 noon
	Tue 28	Committee Meeting for July 10:00 am.

WFHG Inc **Continuing Planned Events**

- **Note:** Unless otherwise stated, all our meetings, interest groups, workshops and mini training sessions are at 'The Cottage'.

	2016	Event
July	Wed 6	Weebly Web Site Interest Group 10:00 am – 12 noon.
	Sat 9	General Meeting 1:00 pm
	Tue 12	Microsoft Word Interest Group 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm
	Wed 13	Australian Convict Interest Group 10:00 am – 12 noon.
	Thu 14	Family Tree Maker Interest Group 12:30 – 2:30 pm.
	Sat 16	Volunteer Help at Tuggerah Library 9:00 am – 12 noon
	Wed 20	Closing date for " <i>Tree of Life</i> " copy
	Fri 22	Workshop Using Google 10:00 – 12 noon.
	Sat 23	Computer/Tablet Interest Group 10:00 am – 12 noon.
	Tue 26	English & Welsh Interest Group 10:00 am – 12 noon.
	Wed 27	Scottish & Irish Interest Group 10:00 am – 12 noon.
August	Tue 2	Committee 10:00 am.
	Wed 3	Weebly Web Site Interest Group 10:00 am – 12 noon.
	Tue 9	Microsoft Word Interest Group 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm.
	Wed 10	Australian Convict Interest Group 10:00 am – 12 noon.
	Thu 11	Family Tree Maker Interest Group 12:30 – 2:30 pm.
	Fri 12	ANZAC Avenue, Wyong – Centenary unveiling
	Sat 13	Annual General Meeting 1:00 pm
	Sat 20	Volunteer Help at Tuggerah Library 9:00 am – 12 noon
	Tue 23	English & Welsh Interest Group 10:00 am – 12 noon.
	Wed 24	Scottish & Irish Interest Group 10:00 am – 12 noon.
	Fri 26	ANZAC Road, Tuggerah – Centerary unveiling.
	Sat 27	Facebook Interest Group 10:00 am – 12 noon



Publications For Sale

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

BOOKS & CDs

NEW! Bowden Family Funerals – Wyong. July 1999 – January 2019	Book	\$ 20.00 + p&h
	CD	\$15.00 – p&h
Brought in by the Tide. <i>[A guide to tracing convict ancestors in one place.]</i>	Book	\$ 10.00 + p&h
Central Coast Roll of Honour. <i>[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.]</i>	Book	\$ 20.00 + p&h
	CD	\$ 15.00 + p&h
Place Names of the Wyong Shire	Book	\$ 8.00 + p&h
Simplicity Funerals Bateau Bay NSW 1963 – 2006	Book	\$ 20.00 + p&h
Simplicity Funerals Bateau Bay NSW 2007 - 2011 + Wyong & Toukley	Book	\$ 20.00 + p&h
Simplicity Funerals Bateau Bay [Toukley and Wyong 1963 - 2011]	CD	\$ 25.00 + p&h
Simplicity Funerals Erina 1985 – 2013	Book	\$ 35.00 + p&h
	CD	\$ 15.00 + p&h
Simplicity Funerals Woy Woy 1991 – 2013	Book	\$ 20.00 + p&h
	CD	\$ 15.00 + p&h
Wyong & District Pioneer Register (Published 2013) <i>[673 pages. Fully indexed compilation of all previous Pioneer Book entries, extensively updated references to over 13,500 individuals. Contains: Birth, Marriage & Death details; some photos, personal stories, obituaries for some individuals. Includes a brief history of Wyong.]</i>	Book	\$ 50.00 + p&h
	CD	\$ 40.00 + p&h
Wyong & Lakes District Advocate, Personal Notices (1932 – 1995) <i>(available separately- see below)</i>	Two Volume set Book	\$ 48.00 + p&h
Contents Volume One – 514 anniversary notices, 1078 birth notices, 4,000 marriage notices, 4,790 in memoriam notices & 238 miscellaneous event notices, includes church photographs	Book	\$ 28.00 + p&h
Contents Volume Two - 11,973 deaths, obituary & probate notices, includes Church and cemetery photographs	Book Volume 2	\$ 28.00 + p&h
	CD	\$ 38.00 + p&h
Wyong Courthouse Death Records 1930 – 1953	Book	\$ 20.00 + p&h
	CD	\$ 15.00 + p&h
Wyong Township Residents Index 1930 – 1939	Book	\$ 10.00 + p&h
	CD	\$ 10.00 + p&h
The Anglican Parish of the Brisbane Water Area <i>[Baptisms, Burials and Marriages with notes from Albert Glennie's Diaries and Miscellaneous Entries. Includes Kincumber, Mangrove, Wyong, Tuggerah, Cooranbong, Woy Woy & the Hawkesbury River.]</i>	Book	\$ 50.00 + p&h
	CD	\$ 40.00 + p&h

CEMETERY

Jilliby Cemetery, Wyong Shire, NSW [Updated 2009]	Book	\$ 20.00 + p&h
Noraville Cemetery, Wyong Shire [1869 - 2012]	Book	\$ 20.00 + p&h
St Barnabas & Yarramalong Cemeteries, Wyong Shire NSW	Book	\$ 10.00 + p&h
Ronkana Cemetery, Wyong Shire NSW	Book	\$ 10.00 + p&h
All 4 Cemetery Books		\$ 50.00 + p&h
Wyong Shire Combined Cemeteries	CD	\$ 25.00 + p&h
Palmdale Cemetery <i>[30,000 names, not all from Wyong]</i>	CD	\$ 10.00 + p&h
Gravediggers Index of Wyong Shire, Compiled by Mr A V McKenzie & his son Clive. <i>[Gravediggers' records, up to mid 2008 of Wyong Shire cemeteries.]</i>	Book	\$ 20.00 + p&h
	CD	\$ 15.00 + p&h
Genealogy Recorder		\$ 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 3rd Saturday 9.00am – 12 noon
(WFHG members available to help)

Contact the Group as follows:

The Secretary

Wyong Family History Group Inc.

P O Box 247

Wyong NSW 2259

Telephone: (02) 4351 2211

Email The Secretary: secwfhg2@westnet.com.au

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

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

The Fine Print

No part of the "Tree of Life" may be reproduced without written permission from Wyong Family History Group Inc. The Group does not accept responsibility for information contained or opinions expressed by authors of the articles published in the "Tree of Life".

Unless an article is marked copyright, Family History Groups have permission to re-print items from the "Tree of Life" providing the source is acknowledged and it is only used for the purpose of family research. Copyright remains the property of the submitter. ©

Remember, 20 July 2016 is the closing date for items to be included in the next issue of the "Tree of Life".



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