

Footsteps



State Archives & Records New South Wales



**Port Macquarie & Districts
Family History Society Inc.**

Life Members

Terry Browne, Kay Browne, Nora Kevan, Frank Maskill

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Diane Gillespie..... 6582 2730 president@pmdfhs.org.au

Vice-Pres:.... Rex Toomey 0447 543 323 rp2me@ezitree.com.au

Treasurer:.... Clive Smith 6586 0159 treasurer@pmdfhs.org.au

Secretary: Jennifer Mullin 0475 132 804 secretary@pmdfhs.org.au

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Jennifer Mullin 6584 5355 membership@pmdfhs.org.au

Sue Brindley 0407 292 395 roster@pmdfhs.org.au

Shirley Aitchison ... 6582 5488 editor@pmdfhs.org.au

Margaret Blight 6583 1093 rmblight@bigpond.com

AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY ~ 2016–2017

Acquisitions/Archives.....	Clive Smith
Footsteps.....	Shirley Aitchison
General Meetings Roster.....	Gwen Grimmond
Journals.....	Diane Gillespie/Sue Brindley
Library Roster	Sue Brindley
Membership.	Jennifer Mullin
Minutes	Jennifer Mullin/Bob Hincksman
Museum Heritage Group.....	Diane Gillespie
InfoEmail.....	Rex Toomey
NSW&ACT Association – Delegate.....	Clive Smith
Publicity	Pauline Every
Public Officer	Clive Smith
Research Queries.....	Research Team
Ryerson Index Transcribers	Kay and Terry Browne
Social Coordinator	Margaret Blight
Website/Facebook	Pauline Every

SUPPORT GROUPS

Family Tree Maker.....	Sue Brindley
Research Support Group	Clive Smith/Rex Toomey
RootsMagic Support Group	Brian and Lin Panisset
Writing Group	Noeline Kyle
DNA Support Group	Ken Hunt

CURRENT PROJECT COORDINATORS

Port Macquarie Gaol Break-up ver.2 Clive Smith

Swimming Pool Tile Stories. Yvonne Toomey

PM&DFH Society contact: secretary@pmdfhs.org.au or mobile 0475 132 804

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Events



Keep Saturday 5 August 2017 free for the Port Macquarie & Districts Family History Society's 'Family History Fair' to be held at Port Panthers. Planning is well under way for this interesting full day seminar. Expressions of interest also are being sought for anyone wishing to have a table at the event.

Coffs Harbour District Family History Society Inc. is presenting a seminar on Saturday 27 May 2017 at Cavanbah Hall, Harbour Drive, Coffs Harbour 10am–4pm. Shauna Hicks, a retired archivist and librarian indulging her time with family history research, writing and travelling will be speaking about Asylum Records: A place to look for missing ancestors; Victorian resources for family history research, archives you may not know but should, and Google tools for genealogy—'are you making the most of Google'. Call 02 6658 7955 or email: coffsgenie@gmail.com for further information.

NEW MEMBERS

Jennifer Mullin

Merry Foy – Lake Cathie

Christine Gamsby – Lake Innes

Robyn Hand – South West Rocks

MEMBER SUPPORT GROUPS

Members' only support groups are held at the Port Macquarie-Hastings Library. The cost is \$3 per person to cover the room hire.

RootsMagic

Wednesday 28 June and 30 August from 1:15pm to 3:15pm in the Library meeting room, cuppa available.

Mastering Ancestry (*formerly Family Tree Maker support group*)

Wednesday 24 May and 26 July from 1pm to 3pm in the Library meeting room, cuppa available. Bring your laptop if you have one – but not essential.

DNA

Monday 22 May, 26 June, 24 July and 28 August from 2pm to 3:30pm in the Library meeting room. Members do not have to complete a DNA test before attending this group. Bring your laptop if you have one – but not essential.

Family Search

Thursday 18 May, 15 June, 20 July and 17 August from 1pm to 3pm in the Technology Room of the Library, cuppa available. Bring your laptop if you have one, but not essential.

The writing group meets monthly, usually the first Wednesday in the afternoon – there are some vacancies, email Noeline Kyle: noelinekyle@gmail.com.

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

Venue for General Meetings: CC Mac Adams Music Centre, Port Macquarie

Thursday	Saturday	Wednesday
Committee Meetings 10.00am – 1.00pm <i>Meeting Room Library</i>	Monthly Meetings 1.30 – 3.30pm <i>CC Mac Adams Music Centre</i>	Research Support Group 1.00pm – 3.00pm <i>Technology Room Library</i>
4 May	13 May	17 May
1 June	10 June	14 June
29 June	8 July	12 July
3 August	12 August + AGM	16 August
31 August	9 September	13 September
5 October	14 October	18 October
2 November	11 November	15 November
30 November	9 December	13 December

FAREWELL TO ROY BURGES



Mr Roy Burges passed away in Port Macquarie on 2 February 2017. He was Vice President of Port Macquarie & Districts Family History Society in 2002, President in 2003, and took over from Lloyd Irwin as Treasurer.

Roy was born in England in December 1925, and came to Australia as a '10 Pound Pom' in 1949. Upon arrival in Sydney, he boarded with another family called Burgess (double 'S') in Hornsby who were friends of his father when he was in Australia. His grandfather, William, had been here in 1884 working as a carpenter but returned to England and established a building company in Wimbledon.

Roy's mother Gladys was terrified of the bombs during the Second World War and convinced Roy, who, after two years in the army had just left as a Staff Sergeant to come to Australia and make a home for her and his sister, Audrey. Audrey did come for a while but unfortunately died within a year or so and his mother returned to England. Roy had been a telephone engineer in the army and gained a job straight away with the Australian GPO. In 1950 he met June Potts at a Red Cross dance in Beecroft and they became engaged and married in 1952.

Roy's leisure pursuits included hockey (he played 1st grade), swimming (he was captain of the North Sydney Swimming Club) and road race cycling.

After Roy left the Post Office, he went to work at Watson Victor as an engineer and employed on equipment to be installed at The Daily Telegraph newspaper. When the Daily Telegraph offered him a job at twice his previous salary as an electronics engineer, he took it up and remained at the paper for over 20 years. During this time, he travelled overseas on several occasions to study and came back to install computer technology for the Women's Weekly and the Daily Telegraph.

In 1973, after 20 years he left the Daily Telegraph as he did not wish to work for Kerry Packer and went back to England. The entire family packed up and moved across the world where they settled in Hertfordshire. Roy went on to have a variety of employments with Harris Intertype, Roche Pharmaceuticals and BAE. After 13 or 14 years Roy and June returned to Australia in pursuit of (amongst other things) better weather!

There have been the odd incidents throughout his life that June now recalls with warm humour. In June 1954, June was heavily pregnant with their daughter Penny and time was drawing near. Roy had not returned home, June rang the Daily Telegraph to be told he was at sea with the picture equipment waiting for the Queen to arrive so the paper could get a scoop! This was not an isolated occurrence in the early days, floods in Maitland and the London to Sydney Marathon in 1968 where he was the communications engineer for the whole of Australia.



PRESIDENT'S TWO CENTS WORTH

Diane Gillespie

As I sit to reflect on the past few months for our Society, I realise we have begun the new year with great gusto. Excellent guest speakers and our inaugural excursion, as a group, to State Archives have been among the highlights.

Our monthly meetings have captured a variety of speakers and topics, all relevant to us as family historians. We have been fortunate to hear from Bill Oates, from Armidale, who spoke about Saumarez House in February. John Graham provided our members with an update on the extensive Ryerson Collection in March. Our Vice-President, Rex Toomey and his wife Yvonne have been involved with the development of this index and they took the opportunity to not only host John but to spend time with him updating the programming of the index. In April, our treasurer, Clive Smith donned his other hat as President of Port Macquarie Historical Society, and spoke to our meeting about the photographic collections held at the Museum.

The biggest event for our Society in the past three months, was the trip by 17 family history enthusiasts to NSW State Archives. We travelled to Kingswood in cars and spent two half-days and a full day engaged in personal research at the Archives. This trip was expertly organised by our passionate secretary, Jennifer Mullin. (A comprehensive report is included elsewhere in this journal) The staff at Kingswood Archives were very helpful and no request was too difficult for them. Our members discovered some amazing snippets—from a 200-year-old promissory note to some interesting Wills, probate packets and school records. We also took a guided tour behind the scenes. Many of the members were stunned at the amount of material stored there. It is a long trip from Port Macquarie to Kingswood and reasonable accommodation was obtained not far from the archives, allowing us to maximise our time at the Archives.

Later in March many of our members travelled to Wauchope to join with the Wauchope Historical Society to hear Dr Carol Liston discuss land records and Christine Yeats from the Royal Australian Historical Society explain how our ancestors furnished their homes. As part of Heritage Week, a free seminar expertly led by Rex Toomey on the value of Trove, was open to not only Society members but also to members of the public.

I was recently asked by a new member, what my preference was between Ancestry, FindMyPast, My Heritage and FamilySearch. This question led me to ponder how family history research has changed over the past 40 years. Sometimes I feel that the ready access via these websites may just be making things too easy. We need to be mindful that these marvellous sites are mainly a means to an end and we should always, where possible, try to view the original records as some errors in transcriptions are inevitable over the many millions of records now available. Verification through a second source is always a bonus.

I would like to thank the hard-working committee for all their efforts over the past few months—they have certainly excelled in their efforts in keeping the Society on track. I appreciate their dedication. I would also like to thank other members who step up to lead the various support groups we conduct and all those who volunteer to help in the library, do research and the many other tasks that keep the Society moving forward.

FROM THE EDITOR

Shirley Aitchison

Now is a great time to start writing for the next journal – your family history journey into the past. Maybe write about your successful research endeavours, finding your long lost relatives or a cousin you have never known about through the DNA process. Have you found family by contacting people via your favourite research engine who are also researching your family? It is amazing who you can find around the world. You may like to share your successes while searching records at one of the State Archives, or at the National Archives.

A commentary is included in this journal about the recent Society group visit to the State Archives and Record NSW. Also included are three short stories written by people from the Society's writing group

Please send your contribution(s) to the editor by 30 June 2017 at: editor@pmdfhs.org.au with 'Footsteps Article' in the subject line. The editor will confirm receipt of your article.

Photos and illustrations are important and will always enhance a story. Please attach photos separately as JPGs and indicate the preferred position for them in the article. Articles should be limited to 1500–1550 words with up to four photos, or up to 1800 words without photos.

Articles submitted for publication in Footsteps should generally be the work of the author submitting the articles. Where the writing is not the work of the author, permission must be sought from the original author and the source of the work must be indicated in the article when it is submitted.

Views expressed by authors and contributors to this journal are not necessarily those of the Society. All articles and items in this journal are subject to copyright unless otherwise indicated. No portion of this journal may be reproduced without written permission of the Society.

Members whose articles are published in Footsteps, will have their names included in a draw in May the following year. The person whose name is drawn will receive a one year's PMDFHS subscription.

LIBRARY CORNER...WITH JEFF

Jeff Stonehouse

Wauchope District Historical Society

The WDHS, currently homeless, recently approached Council about setting up a space in the Wauchope library to offer research assistance to the community and to also temporarily store the Society's book and clippings collections while it continues the search for a more permanent home. A research corner has now been set up and we are just waiting for details of when volunteers will be available for duty. Their book collection will be added to our library catalogue to allow for security tagging and allow access to their holdings via our online catalogue.



THE DINA DIARY – No. 3

Using Genetics for Genealogy

Ken Hunt

Is your Family Tree as accurate as you believe it to be? As family history researchers, we are well aware of the biases and mistruths that exist in some documents. The reasons for the lack of truth may be because the originator offered an outright lie; that names have been anglicised or changed—for example when immigrating; that mistakes were made in the transcription of one document to another; or that the information was misheard or incorrectly recorded. Whatever the reason, it is frustrating when, after much time spent using the information contained in a document, we find it to be misleading or untruthful. Or, worse still, we may remain unaware that the information is false.

DNA testing does not give you the names of your relatives, but on the other hand, if properly interpreted, it does not lie. Using a DNA test, along with documentation, can enhance and test the resources that we currently use.

According to Blaire Bettinger and Debbie Parker Wayne's book *Genetic Genealogy in Practice*¹ the major advantages of using DNA in family history research are that it can: corroborate existing documentary research; offer clues that will guide documentary research; and provide the researcher with evidence where no known documents exist.

Let's look at each of these ideas in turn.

Corroborate existing documentary research

If you have a document such as a census and you are not sure whether the Smith shown in it is your Smith, finding a living relative of that Smith and testing DNA will tell you whether that line is related. Similarly, that *Not The Parent Expected* (NPE) event which is causing such an insurmountable brick wall in your research may benefit from eliminating (or otherwise) certain lines from your enquiries. For example in this diagram (Figure 1) an NPE occurred a few generations ago. The resulting child in turn had

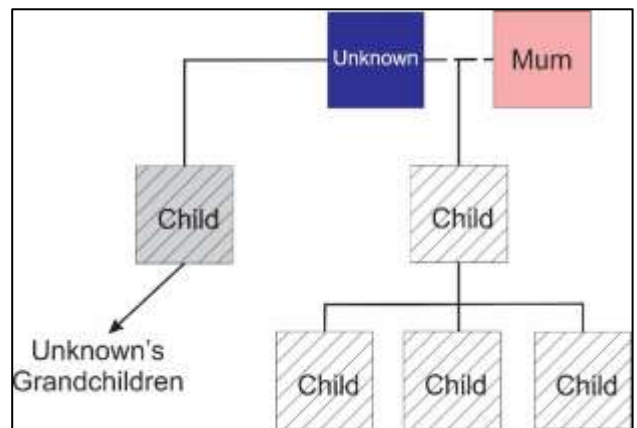


Figure 1

children some of whom are living today. If, through documentary research, we have an idea of who the father may be, then by testing one of his living offspring and comparing it to one of the living children of the mother's offspring we can see if they match. If they do, then you have corroborated your existing documentary research.

Offer clues that will guide documentary research

The second benefit of DNA testing is to direct and guide the researcher to look at specific documents and locations. If we find that there is no match between the existing children of both the parties tested, then by looking at the matches to our living relatives we may be able to determine other people that could be the father or his relations.

¹ Bettinger, Blaine T. and Debbie Parker Wayne, *Genetic Genealogy in Practice*, Arlington, Va. National Genealogical Society, 2016

Autosomal				X-DNA			Name	Email
Details	Total cM	largest cM	Gen	Details	Total cM	largest cM		
▲	1922.4	151.1	1.4	✕	0	0	*Margaret	.com
▲	1742.7	150.3	1.5	✕	0	0	*Dorothy	.com
▲	1036.7	73.1	1.9	✕	0	0	*Derek	.com
▲	737.7	71.4	2.1	✕	0	0	*Paul	.com
▲	93.1	43.7	3.6	✕	0	0	Glenn	gpond.com
▲	48.1	11.9	4.1	✕	0	0	Robert	t.net
▲	47.6	10.6	4.1	✕	0	0	Melinda	yahoo.com
▲	46.8	12.2	4.1	✕	0	0	Andrew	zds.ac.uk
▲	40.8	11.9	4.2	✕	0	0	Audrey	shoo.com
▲	40.5	18.0	4.2	✕	0	0	E	hotmail.com

Figure 2

The list shown in (Figure 2) is of my autosomal DNA matches copied from a free program of DNA tools called GEDMatch. The first column titled 'Details' allows me to see if the match is a true one by clicking on the letter

'A'. The second column indicates the total amount of centiMorgans (cM) that a match has with me—the greater the number of cM, the closer the match. The third column shows the segment of the chromosome that has the largest number of cMs and the fourth column estimates the distance in generations that the match is from me. I know that the top four matches—those with the greatest number of cM—are my two paternal aunts and two maternal cousins. The 5th match on the list (Glenn) I have corresponded with but I did not know whether the match comes from my paternal or maternal side. By comparing his DNA against my known relations, I find that Glenn only matches one of my cousins, therefore indicating that I should be looking for a match on my mother's side of the family tree. I now need to turn to documentary information by comparing the names on my family tree with Glenn's to find a common ancestor.

Provide the researcher with evidence where no known documents exist

DNA testing is a popular choice for adoptees trying to find their birth family when official department and adoption records have failed them. Finding a match can mean locating their birth parents, siblings and/or cousins.

In March, I attended a talk by professional genealogist Kerry Farmer, on DNA for Family History, hosted by the Lake Macquarie Family History Group. According to the website 'Linked in', Kerry is a professional genealogist specialising in instruction in family history in the areas of Australian, English and Scottish records, DNA testing, immigration records and genealogy software. She is a writer of online genealogy courses, a speaker at genealogy events and the author of 'Arrivals in Australia since 1788', 'DNA for Genealogists' (3rd ed.) and co-author of 'Which Genealogy Program?' (3rd ed.). Kerry is also a coordinator of The Master Genealogist Sydney group and a member of the Education Committee of the Society of Australian Genealogists.

Her opening remarks were on the similarities between learning to drive a car and acquiring the ability to use genetic genealogy. I find this analogy appropriate. We can get by without needing a car, but owning and driving one makes travel that much easier and more comfortable. So does using DNA for family history research. Yes, we may feel anxious about learning the intricacies of the subject, but with practice and use we become more proficient at it. Her talk was thought-provoking and she spent a lot of time answering questions from an interested group of family historians. I ended up buying her e-book version of 'DNA for Genealogists' and look forward to reviewing it in a future edition of DiNAs Diary.

SPIT, SPAT

Margaret Yates

‘Don’t you dare spit’ says a mother. ‘She just spat at me’ says a small child.

Well, now it’s ok to SPIT and say SPAT
So, I SPAT and SPAT into a tube—urgh,
added the stabiliser solution of blue,
screwed it on tight and shook and shook.
Mine turned a pretty shade of lime-green—eeee.
Then boxed it off and waited patiently.
The results came back—how can that be!
I always understood I was
ENGLISH – SCOTTISH and a weeeee bit of Irish
But alas they tell me differently!

They say I’m Europe West 59%—Aghast! Irish 23%—Devastated (with all due respect to the proud Irish); Great Britain 9%—Shocked; Scandinavian 5% and Other 4%. Where is my Scottish?

My sister did a test too, and yes she is my sister. She said she always knew I was her sister—but then, she is older than me.

Now, I started looking at the matches that Ancestry had found for me and upon investigation the first few were all relating back to the one family name of SPRING (*English*)—was this some specific DNA family trait of spitting into a small tube.

Alas no, as finally I found others who had spat and they related to three different branches of my tree—INETT (*English*), SNELLING (*English*) and BROWN (*Scottish*).

One particular family group I found had given spit specimens so I wrote to the administrator of the group saying that they all matched, to varying degrees, both my sister and myself. The reply came back: ‘That’s strange, as they are myself, my mother, brother and father.’ The mother and both her children linked back to the SNELLING family. Now we are trying to find where the father joins into my family tree other than by marriage.

Most links I have found go back 5 generations to my 3 x great grandparent via a sibling or one of their children. So grow your tree tall and broad, get the siblings and their spouse/s too.

My husband’s cousin and his first wife kept telling me that ‘there is Chinese in the family’. I thought that very strange, so I asked if the cousin would like to do a DNA test, and if she could ask a male of the family to do one too. They each agreed and yes, the results do show that they are cousins to each other. Matches have been found that go back seven generations to the CHIN family of England. The DNA proved that there is no Chinese as the results show the female as 97% Great Britain; 3% Other (non-Asian) and the male as 83% Great Britain; 9% Irish; 6% Scandinavian; 2% Other (non-Asian). This now debunks the family myth of Chinese in their ancestry.

WIZARD'S RECORDS OF OZ

Rex Toomey

(OR, how we followed the 'Yellow Brick Road' to State Archives and Records NSW)

It started off as a great idea at a committee meeting! Why not organise a coach trip to the State Archives and Records NSW (SRNSW) for our members and have the Society partially subsidise the event? A lot of initial planning was undertaken such as getting prices from coach companies for travel and accommodation. Interest from our members was then sought for our visit that had been booked for 8th to 10th March. There was also a lot of excitement generated by the prospect of unlocking family treasures lurking in this incredible state government repository. However, the desire to fill a 49-seat coach was always going to be a challenge. By February 2017 the confirmed numbers were under 20, hence a more pragmatic approach was to organise a car pool for the final group of 17 definite starters.



So, what is SRNSW? It is the statutory body established by the State Records Act 1998. It provides for the creation, management and protection of the records of public offices of the State and for public access to those records. This includes managing and providing access to the New South Wales State Archives collection, a unique and irreplaceable part of Australia's cultural heritage dating back to 1788.² Located at Kingswood, the building has the capacity to store 520 kilometres of records with about 80 kilometres used to house State archives. Stage 3 has the capacity to hold 350,000 type 1 boxes whilst recent stage 6 was completed and has the capacity to store 135 linear kilometres or 750,000 type 1 boxes.³

In the weeks leading up to the 8th March, various members of the group contacted SRNSW to organise the staged delivery of document packets and to book the on-site document cameras. The holdings of Probate, Stamp Duties, Divorces and Bankruptcy record 'packets' at SRNSW are of special interest to all family historians, and these were very high on the list of interest to the group members. However, SRNSW holds many thousands of other types of state government records.



Research and enquiry desk at SRNSW — photo: Rex Toomey

On the day of our departure, most of the group were up early for the start of a long day. Yvonne and I took two passengers, Shirley Gamack and Anne Pope who arrived at our home ready to leave at 7am. There were four cars in the 'pool' with two members of the group opting to drive solo. After a mostly uneventful trip, we were the first to arrive at SRNSW just after 1pm with all others arriving shortly after. Upon entry, we were given our access lanyards which had to

² <https://www.records.nsw.gov.au/about-state-records>

³ Email: G. Davis, 14 March 2017

be worn at all times whilst on SRNSW premises. At 1:30pm, we had lunch in the conference room that had been specially set aside for our members. After lunch, event organiser Jennifer Mullin addressed the group explaining the SRNSW rules. From then on with help from the extremely knowledgeable staff, it was full-on research and copying the contents of the pre-ordered 'packets' with the use of our amazing smartphone camera stands (see this edition's Computer Corner). These stands worked a treat in taking good steady photographs of document images, and staff at SRNSW were quite intrigued by them.

When SRNSW closed at 5pm, we headed off to the pre-booked accommodation about twenty minutes away. This was Gateway Lifestyle Nepean Shores Resort on Tench Ave Penrith, just a stone's throw away from the Nepean River. We all felt very safe in this 'gated' community with its mix of self-contained cabins and motel style rooms. Most members of the group met for dinner at Penrith Panthers Club just five minutes away and enjoyed a pleasant evening recounting the day's adventures and discoveries.

The following day, we returned to the Kingswood venue just after 9am to start the 'full day' of research. At morning tea around 10am in the conference room, we were welcomed by Martyn Killion, public events co-ordinator for the SRNSW. Martyn then introduced us to Gail Davis who was to be our guide on a 'behind the scenes' tour of SRNSW. At 10:30am, the whole group set out on a wonderful journey that left us all amazed at the size and extent of the SRNSW collection. It also staggered our imaginations trying to figure out how they actually know where every box and piece of history is stored. The highlight of the tour was a visit to the Conservation Laboratory where we could see first-hand how our precious history is maintained and repaired. At the end of the tour, we all thanked Gail for her extensive knowledge and for allowing us the chance to 'peek' behind the scenes.



Long compactus 'behind the scenes' at SRNSW — photo: Rex Toomey

That evening, most of the group again had dinner at Penrith Panthers Club. This time we encountered a much busier venue than the previous evening. Many of us ended up eating in smaller separate groups as we competed against the large crowd there for the evening meal specials, members badge draw, etc.

Our last morning dawned clear after some overnight rain. A few energetic members decided on an early morning walk and knocked on our door at 6:30am just as I was about to enter the shower. After quickly throwing on some clothes to answer the door, I passed up the most generous offer to join them! Our final day at SRNSW was once more full on although by now, most members of the group had achieved what they set out to do. During the morning, some of the group left early and others commenced the long drive north after morning tea. By midday, Yvonne and I were among the last to leave, although I did see Amanda Short still hard at work with her camera 'tripod' on some obviously intriguing but important part of her family history jigsaw puzzle. We arrived home just after 6pm after some dreadful traffic congestion

on the M7 motorway and M1 freeway near Newcastle. Most of the others in the group were safely home between 4pm and 5pm after a safe journey home.



Anne Gaffney with her 'large will' at SRNSW
photo: Rex Toomey

Over the three days of our visit, it was also wonderful to see members of the group helping each other. This included things such as holding down badly creased documents to be photographed and assisting to get the in-house document camera working. Anne Gaffney probably took out first prize for the largest and most interesting find. This was a huge multi-page manuscript will of a distant relative of hers from the Tooths family (of brewing fame). It was so large it had to be displayed in one of the research offices on its own table.



The PMDFHS group at SRNSW March 2017 (gloves are not off!) photo: Sarah SRNSW

In conclusion, everybody agreed these three days were a great success despite one USB drive being left there in a computer overnight! The SRNSW staff were amazing and could not do enough to help the group. In hindsight, it was agreed that the coach tour with a much larger number would never have worked. As it was, with our seventeen members and several others at SRNSW doing their own research, the whole work area was mostly taken up and we had the staff literally run off their feet—and we thank them for a wonderful three days.

RESEARCHING THE HISTORY OF THE WILLIAM STREET COTTAGE

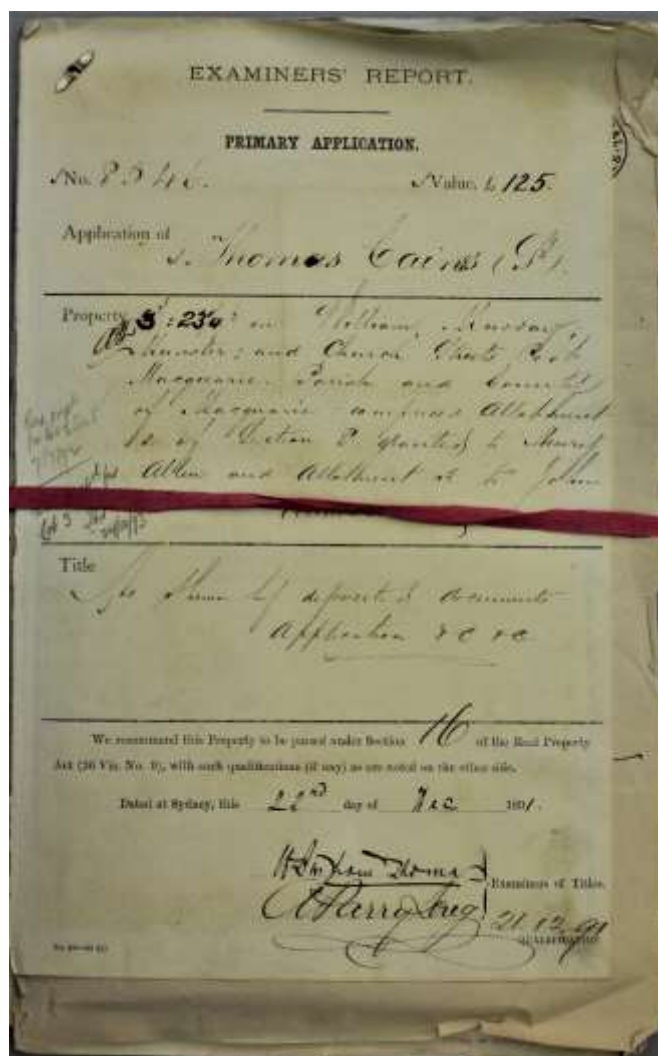
— A POSTSCRIPT —

by Rex & Yvonne Toomey

In the previous Footsteps (February 2017), we discussed using the free historical search facility on the NSW Land and Property Information (LPI) website www.lpi.nsw.gov.au. This mainly covered the Torres Title documents of this property which started on 19th July 1892. This was when the first Certificate of Title under the Torrens Title System was issued to Thomas Caines, Volume 1064 Folio 150. It was mentioned that this title was a conversion from 'Old System' the precursor to the 'Torrens System'. The process that describes this conversion is 'Primary Application' and documents arising from Primary Applications have the number recorded on them, usually in the top right hand side – for this property it was '8546'.



98 William St., Port Macquarie
photo courtesy: Yvonne Toomey 23rd April 2013



Primary Application Bundle SRNSW
photo courtesy: Jennifer Mullin

The Primary Application 'packet' consists of documents referring to the prior ownership of the land in question. These packets may hold a few or substantial number of documents such as copies of wills, birth, marriage and death certificates, mortgages (current and discharged), transfer deeds, statutory declarations, etc, all relating to that parcel of land. This is because prior to the Torrens System, there was no simple or standard system of dealing with land ownership. Therefore, all prior documents dealing with the land had to be kept together, a most risky (if they were ever lost) and cumbersome task.

Unfortunately, these packets are not available on the internet but may be viewed and photographed at State Archives and Records of NSW at Kingswood. Fortunately, our Secretary Jennifer Mullin kindly agreed to obtain images of the documents in this packet on her return trip there.

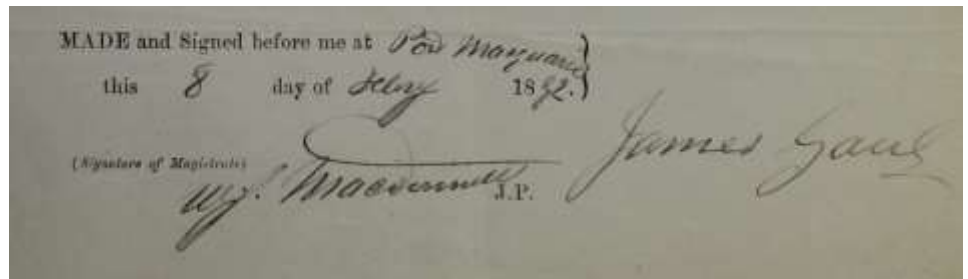
From these images, it was determined the packet contained 24 documents consisting of:

- Application to bring lands under Real Property Act by Thomas Caines
- Examiners Report
- Caveat – Lodgement, Supreme Court Papers and Withdrawal
- Search Log of Prior Owners
- Handwritten land descriptions
- Statutory Declarations (SDs)

The original Application and Statutory Declaration of Thomas Caines (senior) stated he resided at Port Macquarie and was a contractor. He added that his wife's late mother Ann Anderson of Port Macquarie gave the land to him about 1856 for his 'own use and benefit forever'. This was supported by the owner of the adjoining land, Edward Wesley in his Statutory Declaration in which he stated he was a freeholder of Port Macquarie where he had resided for thirty-three years. He added that the land in question had 'been in the sole occupation of possession and enjoyment of Thomas Caines of Port Macquarie ... for the last 33 years.'

The four other Statutory Declarations were made by James Blair (the elder), saddler, Thomas Escott Edwards, shoemaker, Charles Wilkins, cabinet maker and James Gaul, shoemaker, all long-term residents of Port Macquarie. They too supported the claim of Thomas Caines in his statement that he was the sole owner and occupier for the period from 1856. From an historical point of view, these Statutory Declarations are most informative.

They provide legal evidence of the time each of these deponents had been in Port Macquarie, but from a family history perspective also provide copies of their signatures.



Signature of James Gaul — photo courtesy: Jennifer Mullin

As previously mentioned, the Primary Application packet also included details of a caveat being lodged. A caveat is a form of statutory injunction provided for under the Real Property Act. When lodged, it effectively prevents the registration of any dealing until the caveat is formally withdrawn. This caveat was lodged on 22nd March 1892 by George Stansforth Henry Pidding, contractor of Gladesville. The caveat claimed the original owner of the land was the late Dr Thomas Pidding and this is confirmed in the Vendors Index 1825–1848 page two where the land was mortgaged to Thomas Pidding. Research revealed he was a surgeon in Port Macquarie in 1839¹ but died on 18th May 1840 at Parramatta². The caveat was withdrawn on 5th October 1893 but there were no reasons given for its withdrawal. At that point, the new title was available to be released to Thomas Caines.

Thomas Caines (senior) was born in Parramatta around 1828 possibly the son of Thomas Cains a convict who arrived in Australia on 5th May 1818 on the *Neptune*.³ Thomas married Jemima Houston on 26th March 1853 at St Thomas' Church, Port Macquarie.⁴ It was Jemima's mother Ann that Thomas said had given him the land. Her name was Ann Anderson (at the time of the bequest), nee Waterson, formerly Houston and later Thompson.



Jemima Caines, nee Houston
photo courtesy: Yvonne Caines

Ann Waterson, the daughter of Robert Waterson (a mariner) and Mary Stewart was born around 1815 and married James Houston (1807–1838) on 4th February 1834 at Scots Church, Sydney⁵. There were three children from the marriage (Mary Anne, Jemima and Margaret) before James died from a kick from a horse on 28th December 1838⁶. He was the victualler of the Port Macquarie Royal Oak Hotel at the time. When he died, Ann lost the hotel licence and shortly after, married James Anderson on 25th May 1840 at St Philip's Church, Sydney. There were two children from this marriage, William and George, both of whom died young. Her second husband James died on 6th February 1843 at Port Macquarie⁷ aged 34. Finally, at age 44 Ann married John Thompson aged 58 on 26th January 1859 at Port Macquarie⁸ but she died just five days later⁹. Ann was married three times but each marriage lasted only a brief time, four years, three years and five days! Her major legacy was the land on the corner of William and Murray Streets for which her son-in-law was later able to claim ownership after living there for over thirty years. A sad note to this story is that Thomas Caines died in Port Macquarie on 8th March 1898. His wife Jemima, lived on until 15th April 1925 aged 94. Her obituary commented upon 'her amazing vitality' and her love of 'fishing from one of the wharves with the zest and energy of a person half her age.'¹⁰

¹ Port Macquarie Historical Society. *The Winding Sheet*. 2014 CD edition, p274

² Trove: <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article32183261>

³ Ancestry.com trees and family history from Yvonne Caines.

⁴ PMDFHS. *Church of St Thomas Port Macquarie, Early Parish Registers*. Port Macquarie 2013, p162.

⁵ *The Winding Sheet*, op. cit., p284

⁶ Trove: <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page4246276>

⁷ *The Winding Sheet*, op. cit., p393

⁸ *The Winding Sheet*, op. cit., p698

⁹ *The Winding Sheet*, op. cit., p542

¹⁰ Trove: <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page11456430>

FIND & CONNECT

Shirley Aitchison

While searching for items to include in this issue of Footsteps, I found this useful website 'Find & Connect' <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/about/>. Although Find & Connect is a resource for forgotten Australians and former child migrants or anyone interested in the history of child welfare in Australia, it can also be a valuable resource for family historians. It holds an abundance of information and photographs, predominantly designed as a resource for people researching historical information about Australian orphanages, children's homes and other institutions.

You will not find personal information or private records on Find & Connect. This website contains only information that is already published and/or in the public domain, or information that stakeholders have agreed to place in the public domain to help those who experienced difficulty accessing out-of-home 'care' records. However, this website can help you locate and get access to your own personal records which may be kept by government departments or past providers of 'care'.

The Find & Connect web resource has been developed by a team of historians, archivists and social workers from the University of Melbourne and Australian Catholic University, with funding from the Australian Government. The first version of the web resource was released in November 2011 and a redesigned site was launched in 2013. It is a 'work in progress', and the web resource will continue to be enriched and expanded. Find & Connect welcomes any information, feedback or questions that you may have.

The website was developed to help Forgotten Australians and Former Child Migrants understand more about their past and about the historical context of child welfare. For many people who grew up in 'care', the search for records and information – so vital to identity and to the process of reconnecting with family – can be frustrating, complicated, time-consuming, expensive and traumatic.

The following link is one example of what is available – [printable version of Searching for Records of a Parent or Grandparent](#) pdf. This information is for people who are searching for records about their parent or grandparent. It may be helpful for anyone doing family history research about people who spent time in orphanages, children's homes or other institutions.



Brighton Beach State School
Courtesy: State Library of Victoria

My interest in this site took me to the page on orphanages. During some of my primary school years I attended the Brighton Beach State School in Victoria which was next to an orphanage. The school and orphanage had a working relationship that provided the facilities required to benefit students from the community and the orphanage. I found the following article on the Find & Connect site about the orphanage, and the memories given by a student who attended during the 1950s (around the time I was there).



Melbourne Orphanage, Butler Street Brighton c1920–1930
Courtesy: State Library of Victoria

The Melbourne Orphanage was established in 1926; formerly known as the Melbourne Orphan Asylum. It was situated at 'Windemere', in Butler Street, Brighton where it accommodated boys and girls aged between 3 and 16. After the Second World War, the Orphanage began to admit children from broken homes in addition to orphans. In 1954 a social worker was appointed – the first in a charitable children's home in Victoria.

In January 1956, the Melbourne Orphanage was declared an approved children's home under the Children's Welfare Act 1954. The school on the site of the Melbourne Orphanage was the Brighton Beach State School (No. 2048) and it educated children from the Orphanage and from the local community. The school's centenary history, published in 1978, referred to its 'special character imparted by the presence of orphans. Friendships were formed, but the camaraderie of the children at Windemere distinguished them.'

A student at Brighton Beach in the late 1950s remembered his friendship with children from Melbourne Orphanage, who were allowed to come home with him to play as long as he had a note from his parents. Kids at the school played together in the orphanage gardens and in the 'big drain'. He also recalled how, on Fridays, the Orphanage cooked fish and chips for their children, who happily swapped their meals for the 'outsider' children's cut lunches.

Brighton Beach State School had access to the Orphanage's facilities. A student from the 1950s remembered his 'Handwork' classes at the Orphanage: We had to assemble before a gate that connected with the Melbourne Orphanage and then proceed to a big work-room. Handwork was a very relaxing and worthwhile subject (we made things like toothbrush holders, marionettes and masks) ... Brighton Beach was somewhat special because it taught handwork—few other schools also had access to the facilities that the Orphanage offered.

'I have similar memories of this school; the craft classes, enjoying spending time at the orphanage with the children who lived there and the friendly environment at the school.'

In 1956, in view of overseas trends, a commitment was made to move students out of the Orphanage into family group homes. These were located in the Glen Waverley vicinity, with an administrative and counselling facility in Ferntree Gully Road. The phasing in of Family Group homes began in 1959 and was completed in 1963 with 14 family group homes established. The Melbourne Orphanage building in Brighton was demolished. A name change in 1965 to the Melbourne Family Care Organisation reflected this new direction.

KEEPING MY TREE CLEAN – NO. 3

Brian Panisset

Where did we find the information that is in our family tree? When we start researching, it is easy to miss this rather important aspect of discovering our ancestors, and going back over the source material to record it can be a pain in the anatomy. Yet there are good reasons to do it. Firstly, some sources are more reliable than others. If I can see an image of an original document, I'll be a lot more confident in the authenticity of my records than if I am simply picking up a transcription that somebody else has made, and that I cannot cross-check. If I am limited to a transcription – there is no original image for me to see – then I can form a view about the reliability of the source information. Transcriptions of parish registers (especially if I can find more than one transcription that is independent of the others, and they agree with each other) are more reliable than somebody's family tree posted on the internet. So recording sources helps me to gauge the reliability of the information I have collected.

Secondly, if I choose to review the less reliable sources and see if I can find some more reliable sources that have become available since I collected the initial information, I can increase my confidence in the integrity and accuracy of my family tree.

So we have made a conscious effort to record the sources of the information that our genealogy software contains. Obviously, we have not been as diligent as we should, because I have recently run a report that tells me what events in people's lives don't show the source of that information. That is 59 pages to plough through ... but I will be a lot happier when I know how much credibility I should give to that set of information!

Notice to descendants of Major Archibald Clunes Innes

Visitors all the way from Scone, Perthshire, Scotland, will be passing through Port Macquarie mid-September 2017, on their motor trip from Cairns to Sydney.

The gentleman's wife is a direct descendant of the grandparents of Major Innes, who were from Caithness. They are keen to meet up with any of his descendants who are still residents in our area. We have provided them with information regarding sites they could visit that have links to the Major, and arranged for one of our knowledgeable 'Innes' members to meet with them while they are here.

If you are a descendant of Major Innes, and would like to meet up with these Scottish visitors, please contact our society secretary with your (contact) details.

Johnston Reunion Notice

Descendants of William and Isabella (nee Cunningham) Johnston from Whitsome, Scotland, who arrived in Australia in 1817 and settled in the Bathurst and Wingham districts, are invited to a reunion on 5–6 August 2017 at Wingham Golf Club, Wingham, NSW. Enquiries to Margaret Chaffer: margareтчaffer@bigpond.com

A Writing Group Exercise

Shirley Aitchison

The PMDFHS writing group convened by Noeline Kyle meets each month to discuss and share writing techniques and experiences. At the session each member presents a short story of around 500–600 words on a given topic they have prepared during the previous month. For my short story below, we were asked to write about an ancestor's wedding photo. Two other writing group stories follow from Shirley Drewett and Beryl Walters.

MY ANCESTOR'S WEDDING PHOTO

As a background to my photo, my father was born in 1905 and emigrated alone to Australia from England on the 'Baradine' in 1924. After he and my mother married in 1929, they visited his family in England in 1930 and returned to Melbourne in 1932.

My mother died in 1978 and in 1980 my father decided to visit his sister in England. It was the first time he had seen her for close to 50 years. In 1982 Aunt Dolly (my father's sister) came to Melbourne with her daughter Grace and grandson Carl for a visit. Aunt Dolly brought with her a few family photos, one of which was a family photo of her brother Elden's wedding. The wedding had taken place in 1922 at the Parish Church of St Mary Southtown, in the County of Suffolk, England.

In 1983 my daughter Fiona aged 13 at the time, being interested in her family in England, had the foresight to sit with my father (her grandfather) and ask who the people were in the photo, and recorded their names. My father died suddenly in November 1983.



The wedding photo I have today, is the older of two I have of my family in England. The photo includes my father, his three siblings, my grandparents and three of my great grandparents as one great grandmother was deceased. As I never met any of my grandparents in England or Australia, this is an important photo.

The significance of this photo, apart from having a photo of my ancestors, is that I can now identify people in some other photos I have. Other interesting aspects of the timing of the photo are the clothing fashions of the day in 1922, and that at that time, England was still suffering from the great depression following the First World War.

Apart from meeting Aunt Dolly, Grace and Carl in 1982, I didn't meet any of my father's family until I went to England in 2002 and again in 2013. I have now met three first cousins in their 80s and 90s, a first cousin once removed and another twice removed with whom I now maintain contact.

I believe that apart from being lovely to keep, wedding and other old photos serve as a valuable resource for identifying family. I am also getting to know my ancestors while working to identify 'who's who' in my collection of old family photos.

THE SIMMONS FAMILY STORY

Shirley Drewett



Arthur Cecil Simmons

Life as he knew it had come to an end, chased by the police, charged, sent away to do time. His mother had recently died, leaving him with eight half siblings and a step father who could not control a defiant Arthur Cecil Simmons at the ripe old age of eleven.

It doesn't end there though, Oh no! this intriguing life just keeps giving, and giving. It all goes back to 6 June 1879, when Arthur was born in Merriwa, NSW amidst circumstances that were not ideal, for his start in life was challenging for all those around him.

Arthur's mother Caroline, was married to David Simon, and they had five children. But Caroline had sought romance in the arms of 'Richard Simmons', and this liaison resulted in an unplanned pregnancy.

Richard Simmons, himself a married man was the father of Arthur. Richard and his wife Mary had recently become the proud parents of twin boys. Richard and Mary would go on to have a total of eleven children, while Caroline and her husband David Simon added one more child to their marriage, making a total of six.

Some years later, after the death of Caroline's husband, the now mother of seven married Jenkins David, a smelter. They added to the growing list of children with two of their own. That of course made our Caroline the mother of nine children. So where does that leave a very young Arthur; he now has a stepfather and eight half siblings to share his mother with.

Tragically, Arthur's mother Caroline died at the young age of forty, leaving her nine children to be cared for by her husband Jenkins. One wonders if he had time to grieve, given the immense responsibility that had been flung upon him.

As time progressed following the death of Caroline, it became more evident that Jenkins was struggling to cope with this large family and attend to his employment as a smelter for which he was paid two pounds per week. It wasn't long before Arthur Cecil was running the streets and getting into trouble with a gang of other children living it rough.

One night around 1890, as most people slept, the peaceful night was disturbed by a loud commanding knock on the door. Jenkins was confronted by two burly policemen, who had his eleven year old stepson, Arthur in tow. The policemen explained to Jenkins how they had found Arthur running around the streets with another young person getting into mischief.



Arthur Cecil Simmons
with his daughter, Leila
(the mother of Shirley Drewett)

When Arthur appeared before the court, it was revealed that he had no previous arrests and had been attending school. These facts went in his favour and he was offered the opportunity to go to the boy's industrial school and live on board the Industrial Ship *Sobraon*.

The boys on board these ships would be provided with healthy food, clean clothes, be given an education, and would learn the skills needed to live on a ship with discipline and respect.

Arthur's stepfather agreed to pay an amount of two pounds and sixpence for Arthur to be taken into care aboard the *Sobraon*. Jenkins had conceded that he could not control Arthur.

This is just the beginning and the story continues into adulthood and beyond with just as much intrigue and excitement that has been attracted to Arthur since his questionable birth.

WHEN I FIRST MET LAURIE

Beryl Walters

Laurie Gertrude Walters (1907–2001) was my favourite character, and late mother-in-law.

She is with me every day in my kitchen, and for once she is smiling. She doesn't say anything, doesn't have to, for I know what her answers would be anyway to all the frustrations and quandaries I share with her. That's why I keep Laurie's photograph there on the wall beside the telephone, it reminds me of all the fun we had over the many years I knew her.

When you first meet your boyfriend's mother you cannot imagine whether a long term relationship will develop or not, as the case may be. But develop it did in my case, and the longer she lived, the closer we became. She was typical of women of that era: born on a farm; received basic schooling; helped raise her younger siblings; attended church regularly; married a local lad; frugally raised her family and played her part in the community.

But what a contradiction this woman was, with her country humour – often risqué and decidedly rude – to my small-minded city slicker ears and her strong, unwavering Christian faith borne out by her fair-mindedness and discretion. Provoked by her adult sons with jokes and stories of their old country neighbours, she would begin to cackle, red-faced and bent double, at these 'old chestnuts', yet later that same day she would be slipping her widow's mite into the church's weekly brown envelope. After another rowdy, raucous cards night around the kitchen table, she would check that everyone was comfortable in bed then retire to her bedroom to say her prayers before turning out her light.

Over the years I learned how her stern, even abrupt, manner hid an innate shyness, especially with strangers, when she could become tongue-tied and flustered. She never held a paid job, nor learned to drive a car, and hadn't written out a cheque until after her husband Allan's death, but her talents were many and included home, gardening, and dairy duties, child rearing, sewing and 'plain cooking' as she would emphatically state. For many years she slaved at their banana plantation on weekends with Allan, where snakes and spiders were frequent pests, and where the banana sap completely destroyed her finger nails. All this effort was to educate their four children to the Leaving Certificate and beyond – to teaching, nursing, and district administrator careers.



Not quite five feet tall and burdened with an enormous bust, she would strap herself into a painful, wired corset every day to take some of the pressure and weight off her shoulders and spine. Three of her four children were home-birthed with the help of the local midwife, and during her bout of rheumatic fever a good friend cared for the children so that she could rest and recover. Neighbours always looked out for each other in good times and bad. She made a complete recovery and lived to 93 years of age with sound mind. Laurie's life-long 'cross to bear' was the condition known as 'psoriasis' which plagued her life and caused a certain amount of embarrassment. Her fierce determination in all things meant that she always turned out looking her best for country balls, dinners, Masonic Lodge functions, and social gatherings. Alcohol was denied except at communion so I could always feel her displeasure when it was shared by the family.

Family holidays with her took place for years. We would spill out of the car after a long journey and be greeted with cups of tea and home made biscuits and cakes. Revived quickly, we would set off for a swim at the beach, followed by more cups of tea and home cooked meals including delicious desserts. Visitors came and went frequently as her hospitality was well known and appreciated. Sometimes I would go and stay with her and we would 'slum it', eating what we liked, playing cribbage all day and sharing confidences – mostly mine, and always her policy of 'zip the lip', accompanied by brushing her right hand across her lips, meant that my concerns were not 'spread' indiscriminately with others. We didn't discuss politics, religion, philosophy, history, literature or arts – didn't have to – yet we enjoyed each other's company and remained best friends always.

THE PERILS OF WOMEN WEARING LONG CLOTHING IN THE 1800S

Lesley Moore

My great grandmother Elizabeth Ann Mester (nee Jones) lost her sister Mary Ann Coster (nee Jones) in 1882 to a tragic accident. I learnt this from a relative, Russell Jones who wrote a story about the Jones family.

Below is what he wrote about the event:

‘On January 30 1882, a bushfire broke out right near the old Wattle Villa homestead. While the menfolk were beating out the fire around the house, the fire spread eastward. My Aunt, Mary Ann Coster, saw the fire and went to help put it out, using a bush. Instead of using the bush in a sweeping action, thus sweeping the burning grass back into the fire, apparently she was belting the fire straight onto the earth, an especially dangerous method.

Women in those days wore their skirts long, just clearing the ground. The result was that her skirt caught fire and all her clothing burnt from her. Father came on the scene a little later and had to take off his singlet to wrap around her body, and then carried her home. The womenfolk tore sheets into bandages, damped these in salad oil and bandaged her completely. But it was to no avail. Mary Ann Coster died of her burns.’

LONELY GRAVE SITES

Shirley Mann

Many years ago when looking for a property at Kelso which once belonged to my husband Bill’s family, we came across some headstones sitting alone in a bare paddock close to the road on the O’Connell Highway going towards Oberon from Kelso. Not thinking that we would find any family, we went through the dilapidated fence and found that there were 16 headstones. Yes, there were some family names from Bill’s family, Below are the names we found recorded on the headstones. Good luck to anyone who finds a connection to these graves.

Name:	Death date:	Age:
Mary McAllister	24 December 1900	67 years
Robert Hall	21 October 1877	3 years
Sabina Hall	6 April 1837	23 years
Miriam hall	6 April 1855	24 years
George Herbert Hall	not shown	not shown
John Spicer	13 February 1880	59 years
Selina Sarah West	9? January 1862	18 months
Samuel Janes West	2 April 1817	6 months
Major West	18 December 1867	not shown

Editor’s note:

After checking the Australian Cemeteries Index, some names supplied were in the index, but not those listed above. The Macquarie Plains Methodist cemetery has been disused for many years. The few headstones bear inscriptions dating from the 1830s to 1900. It occupies a narrow site that probably once was an early churchyard and the only access to it is through the adjoining property (source: Australian Cemeteries Index).



THE COMPUTER CORNER – NO. 47

Smartphone Camera Stands

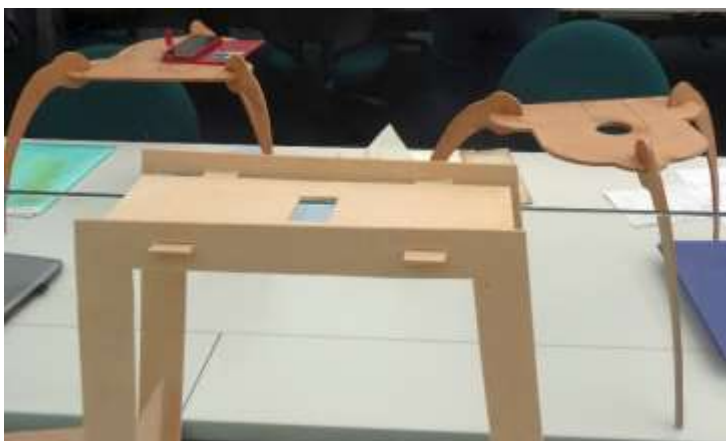
Information for Family Historians using Computers

Rex Toomey

In late 2016, the Society proposed a ‘coach trip’ to State Archives and Records (SRNSW) in Sydney. Whilst the SRNSW has many microfilm readers and scanners, it only has two on-site document cameras available. With many people all needing to make copies at the same time, I realised that access to equipment could be an issue. The obvious solution was for members to take their own handheld digital cameras or smartphone cameras. These provide sufficient image quality to be a most effective alternative to document scanners.

Handheld cameras work most times and they do require a steady hand. In addition, if a large document is to be photographed, many images may need to be taken and later ‘stitched’ together. However, stitching works best with images of the same resolution or are taken at the same distance, something very difficult to do by hand thus a stand is required. Time to ask ‘Mr Google’ if there are any solutions out there in ‘internet-land.’

My search returned several suggestions of smartphone stands, both metal and wooden but none of these appeared suitable. Thinking about what was required, I decided to design and build my own stand (which could be dismantled) from MDF board and the result appears in the photo below. Standing 42 centimetres high, it was the ideal platform for both A4 and A3 documents. This smartphone stand was a great hit when demonstrated at a committee meeting, however people (including me) had concerns as to the steadiness of the platform.



Photograph of the two smartphone stands in use at SRNSW photo: Rex Toomey

After that meeting, Sue Brindley did some research on the internet and discovered a ‘tripod’ design www.instructables.com/id/iPad-Document-Camera-Stand/ for a similar but more stable stand. In addition, it had a wider camera ‘platform’ for those using the larger notepad devices. Several of these were constructed for members and found to be more acceptable to use during our SRNSW visit in March 2017. They were smaller and much easier to use than my ‘giant’ which wobbled perilously every time I pressed the shutter button.

In general, the tripod design is very stable and useable in most situations. This is the design to choose if you plan to build your own smartphone platform for everyday documents. Despite its ungainly appearance, my original stand worked very well in scanning 270 pages of a book in two and a half hours.

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FEES

	Renewals	New Members	
	Payable at 1st July each year	1st July to 30th June	1st Jan to 30th June
Single	\$30.00	\$35.00	\$20.00
Family	\$40.00	\$45.00	\$25.00
<i>Footsteps</i> Journal editions—November, February, May, August	4 issues included in Membership fees		
	Subscription is available to Non-Members at \$15.00 for one year.		

FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH

The Society will undertake family history research for an initial fee of \$20, which includes up to 10 photocopies, a written report, a list of records used, entry in *Footsteps* (where appropriate) and suggestions of other resources. There will be an additional \$15 per hour for further research.

Please make your initial enquiry to the Research Officer at: secretary@pmdfhs.org.au and include details of relevant information and sources already researched. Alternatively, enquire via mail and include a business size, stamped, self-addressed envelope to the Research Officer, PO Box 1359, Port Macquarie NSW 2444.

INFOEMAIL

Our Society newsletter, InfoEmail, is emailed on a regular basis to members who have provided an email address. Remember to keep your email address up to date so you do not miss out. Please email us if you are not receiving the InfoEmail.

If you do not have an email address, but have a computer with internet access, the InfoEmails are available on our website at www.pmdfhs.org.au to download and read. Journal reviews now have their own separate tab on the left side of the Society's website.

RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

General assistance with family history—local, Australian and overseas—is available for members and non-members in the Local Studies Room at the Port Macquarie Library. Our volunteers are on duty to help on most Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10am to 3pm, with a break over Christmas.

RESEARCH SUPPORT GROUP

The Research Support Group for members is held from 1pm to 3pm on the Wednesday after the General Meeting, in the Technology Room. A focus topic, following on from the General Meeting demonstration, is followed by general family history assistance. Entry by small donation, cuppa available.

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

Port Macquarie & Districts Family History Society Inc.

Publication Name	Member Price	Normal Price	Weight
Church of St Thomas Port Macquarie Baptisms, Marriages and Burials (B&W)	\$27	\$30	905g
Can You Remember? Memory Joggers for writing a Life Story (A5 booklet – pink cover – 16pp)	\$3.00	\$3	25g
Starting Your Family History (A5 booklet – yellow cover – 20pp)	\$3.00	\$3	30g
Pedigree Chart & Family Group Sheets 1 chart, 16 group sheets (A5 booklet – blue cover – 40pp)	\$5.00	\$5	54g
Certificates of Freedom Records for PM Convicts: Runaways, Robbers & Incurable Rogues (Book)	\$27	\$30	440g
Certificates of Freedom Records for PM Convicts: Runaways, Robbers & Incurable Rogues (CD-ROM)	\$18	\$20	n/a
Port Macquarie Index to Colonial Secretary's Papers 1796-1825 (CD-ROM)	\$10	\$15	n/a
Harvesting the Hastings – Farming Families (CD-ROM in colour)	\$27	\$30	n/a
Sydney Gaol Records for Port Macquarie Convicts April 1821-1826 (CD-ROM)	\$27	\$30	n/a
General Cemetery Port Macquarie – Transcriptions & Images (CD-ROM) <i>Only six left</i>	\$27	\$30	n/a

Note: All CD-ROM purchases include postage

Postage Australia Wide		
Up to 250g (Large letter)	\$3.00	Holds one book only
250g to 500g (Large letter)	\$5.00	
Over 500g (Prepaid satchel)	\$15.00	Holds several books

Postage charges must be added to the cost of the items purchased. When ordering several books, calculate the total weight and use the table above to calculate postage cost. For **ALL** overseas rates, please contact the Secretary. Collection of items instead of postage may be possible. Please contact the Secretary (*see page 2*).

An order form is available at: www.pmdfhs.org.au

Please complete the order form and send with your payment to:
The Secretary, Port Macquarie & Districts Family History Society Inc.
PO Box 1359, Port Macquarie NSW 2444

Make cheques/money orders payable to: Port Macquarie & Districts Family History Society Inc. If you would like to order over the internet and pay by direct deposit, please send an email to secretary@pmdfhs.org.au for the Society's banking details and a direct deposit reference. Pre-payment is required, however Local Government Libraries can be invoiced.

PORT MACQUARIE & DISTRICTS FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

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Our Research Home

Local Studies/Family History Room
Port Macquarie-Hastings Library
Corner of Grant and Gordon Streets
Port Macquarie NSW 2444

Our Meeting Room

CC Mac Adams Music Centre
Gordon Street
Port Macquarie NSW 2444
(between Port Macquarie Olympic Pool and Players Theatre)

The Port Macquarie & Districts Family History Society is affiliated with:

The Royal Australian Historical Society

The Parramatta Female Factory

A Committee Member of the
Society of the NSW & ACT Association
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