

Society Monthly News for October 2017

Monthly Meeting. The next meeting of our Society will take place on Saturday 14th October at the usual venue of **CC Mac Adams Music Centre**. The guest speaker will be **Phil Lee**, President of the **Macleay Valley Historical Society and Museum**. He will be talking about this society and its unrivalled collection of resources relating to the Macleay Valley. Members should know that there is a very strong connection between **Port Macquarie and Kempsey** especially in the 19th Century. As usual, the venue will open at 12:30pm to allow members to **socialise** before the meeting commences at 1:30pm.

Society Website Award. Members will be pleased to learn that our Society was awarded the **Dorothy Fellowes Website Award** (Category A) at the **September 2017 State Conference** held at Orange. This award recognises websites created and maintained by a Society member, in our case **Pauline Every**. Congratulations to Pauline and our Society for this recognition. **Most members** are aware of and use our Society website for updates on speakers and events. Use the URL www.pmdfhs.org.au or search Google with 'PMDFHS'.



Upcoming Society Events:

Annual Christmas Social Event. This will take place at the **Port Macquarie Golf Club** function room on Thursday 14th December 2017 from 12 noon. All members and their guests are invited at a cost of \$25.00 per person. Menu options are **Mains:** Traditional Turkey & Ham or Tomato Basil Marinated Chicken, **Dessert:** Plum Pudding with Brandy Custard or Pavlova, Cream & Mixed Berries. Members with 'special dietary requirements' will be accommodated. A list will be available at the October General Meeting and **you are invited** to add your name to the list for catering purposes. Otherwise please contact Jennifer, our Secretary on 0475 132 804.



An enjoyable time WILL be had by all!

NSW State Records Visit. Another visit to **State Records** at **Kingswood** is being planned. The dates are **19th to 21st March 2018** and accommodation has been arranged for up to **20 persons**. Costs will be advised shortly. Members may remember how the **2017 Kingswood** visit was so successful for those who went. Please email the Secretary if you are interested as the numbers will be limited.

Member Support Groups:

(These are held in PM-H Library Meeting Room or Technology Room and are free to attend for members.)

Research Support Group: Wed 18th October 2017 1:00pm-3:00pm; focus: Digital Panopticon & Tooths Brewery records (Yellow Cards).

DNA support group: Mon 23rd October 2017, 1-3pm.

Mastering Ancestry (formerly Family Tree Maker Support Group): Wed 22nd November 2017, 1-3pm.

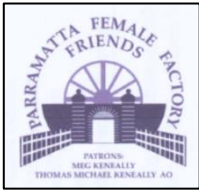
Family Search Support Group: Thu 26th October 2017, 1-3pm with facilitator Robyn Denley.

Roots Magic Support Group: Wed 25th October 2017, 1:15pm-3:15pm.

Events Planned by Others:

Douglas Vale Historic Homestead & Vineyard. A Spring Open Day 'packed full of surprises' is being held at Douglas Vale on Saturday 21st October 2017 between 9:30am and 2:30pm. There will be a timber sailing ship exhibition, children's book workshop, Westport School stalls, craft stalls, treasure trove and bargain basement. Devonshire teas and BBQ will be available as well as the wine tasting. Entry is by gold coin donation.

Armidale Family History Group. A **one-day seminar** has been organised for 21st October 2017 at the Research Centre, Kentucky Street, Armidale. Titled 'An Amazing Resource – **Our Female Ancestors**', it will have four sessions covering pioneer women in Australia's history. The cost is \$35 per person or \$60 for a double. Morning and afternoon tea will be provided, thus bring your own lunch.



Friends of the Parramatta Female Factory. The **'It's A Riot'** event will commemorate the lives of those who made a break for it 190 years ago. Will be held at the Cumberland Hospital, Fleet Street, Parramatta on Friday 27th October 2017. To book for **tours and exhibitions** use this site: <https://www.facebook.com/events/469021826787685>. More details are available from PFFF, PO Box 1358, Parramatta, 2124.

SRNSW Webinar. A webinar about **NSW Probate Records** will be broadcast on Tuesday 7th November 2017 between 10am and 11am. These are extremely important records to all researchers and this webinar should not be missed. To watch it live, you **must register** before 7th November and this can be done on the SRNSW website at: www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/webinars.



National Family History Congress. The 15th Australasian Congress on Genealogy and Heraldry will be held at the International Convention Centre (ICC) in Darling Harbour, Sydney. The theme is 'Bridging the Past & Future' and will take place between 9th and 12th March 2018. It is expected to be a major event in the Family History calendar. For more information go to the website by Googling 'Congress 2018'.

Other Items of Interest:



Society Coffee Mugs. These are still available to purchase in the new contemporary style with the Society name and logo for \$12.00 (at cost). Besides the mugs, members are also able to purchase **name badges** (\$13 each) and **shirts/blouses** (\$36 each) with the Society logo. Please place your orders at the General Meeting through **Pauline Every (Publicity Officer)** and pay the **Clive Smith (Treasurer)**.

Clipboards. The Society requires quality **clipboards** that can be used at seminars. If you have any at home gathering dust, please bring them to the General Meeting. They will help meet a very **vital need** for people struggling to make notes when speakers are giving their presentations.



FamilySearch Microfilms. Now that these are no longer able to be ordered from the FamilySearch catalogue, members should be aware that Port Macquarie-Hastings Library is an affiliate. This means that many of the microfilms that have been digitised may now be viewed at our local library.

Biographical Database of Australia. This is a not-for-profit project started many years ago by genealogists and historians. There are over 1.5 million entries related to people arriving or born in Australia mainly in the 18th and 19th century. Searching the index is free at www.bda-online.org.au but there is an annual subscription fee of \$30 to view the details of each search. Recently many early convict records were added to this collection.



Real Face of White Australia Transcribe-a-thon. This was held on the weekend of 9th – 10th September and is now finished.

Library Roster. Our Society is always looking for assistance with the **Library Roster**. Please contact **Sue Brindley** if you can help. Besides helping others, Library Duty is a wonderful way to learn about new FH resources. If you are unable to attend at your rostered time, please let the PM-H Library staff know.

Afternoon Tea. At the **General Meetings**, if you are able help with the catering, please contact **Gwen Grimmond**.

Research Assistance. Another reminder that this is now being offered on a **Saturday! Library volunteers** are available on the second **Saturday** of the month, prior to the monthly meeting. This is for **members only** who are unable to come to the Library during the week. To use this facility, please contact the **Secretary**.

The PMDFHS Management Committee
Members email contact: secretary@pmdfhs.org.au

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Check our website: www.pmdfhs.org.au

InfoEmail prepared by Rex Toomey on behalf of the PMDFHS to keep members informed of upcoming events.