

Society Monthly News for December 2017



Monthly Meeting. The last Monthly meeting of our Society for 2017 will be on Saturday 9th December at the **CC Mac Adams Music Centre**. This will be a very 'laid-back' event with several short computer and website demonstrations by Rex Toomey. Members are also asked to bring along a **SMALL** plate of Christmas treats to share with other members. There will be plenty of time to partake of the 'Christmas Spirit of 2017' during afternoon tea. The venue opens at 12:30pm to allow members to **socialise** before the meeting commences at 1:30pm. Please note there is **no General Meeting in January 2018** and the first monthly meeting for 2018 will be Saturday 10th February 2018.

Upcoming Society Events:

Christmas Social Event. This year's PMDFHS Annual Christmas Function will take place at the **Port Macquarie Golf Club** function room on Thursday 14th December 2017 from 12 noon. 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 with cream & mixed berries. Special dietary requirements will be accommodated. Forty-two people are already coming with a maximum number of fifty! If you haven't done so, please add **your name** to the list and party along with **your friends**. Payment **MUST** be made by the Saturday meeting. Finally, a big '**thank you**' from the Society to all the people who have **donated prizes** to the raffle. Please remember this is just a **social event** and an **enjoyable time** is guaranteed to be had by all!



Summer Bar-B-Que. On 24th February 2018, the Society will be hosting a Summer Bar-B-Que at McInherney Park, Port Macquarie. This annual social event is very popular and ALL members and their guests are invited! The cost is \$5.00 and as previous, it is a BYO everything EXCEPT for meat and salads. Tea & coffee will be available. There will be a list available at the general meeting so that you may register your interest. New members are especially invited to come along and meet with others in the Society.

NSW State Records Visit. The visit to **State Records** at **Kingswood** has been arranged for 2018. The dates are **19th to 21st March 2018** and accommodation has been booked for up to **20 persons** with many places already filled. Costs will be advised shortly. Please contact the Secretary if you are interested.



April Fair. The Society is currently planning a **Family History Fair** to be held in conjunction with the Port Macquarie Heritage Festival in 2018. It will be held at Port Panthers on **21st April 2018**, so please mark that date in your calendar. Ancestry have agreed to come along and give presentations about using the Ancestry.com.au website and DNA testing. The committee is still waiting for members to submit a theme or catchphrase for this Fair especially as it will be the 200th anniversary of the arrival of John Oxley in our area. The committee has agreed to award a prize of a free transcription or historical image up to the value of \$25 for the best theme! So, put your thinking caps on... Contact the Secretary with your idea/s.



Other Society Matters:

FindMyPast: This week the Society made a gift of \$1,200 to the PM-H Library to go toward the cost of FindMyPast (FMP) at the library. The cost of the 'library' edition of FMP is quite high and the committee decided it was an excellent way our Society can help maintain one of the many useful facilities of the library.

Research: The Society occasionally receives family history research requests relating to our area. These may come from all around Australia or other countries. If you can assist in undertaking research for these enquiries, we would love to hear from you. It would not take up a lot of your time and give you the chance to do some

The PMDFHS Committee

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

new and fresh research. You would also be helping the Society and somebody who needs our help. All reference material will be provided by the Society.

Member Support Groups:

(These are for **Members** and are held in PM-H Library Meeting Room or Technology Room at NO cost.)

Research Support Group: Wed **13th December 2017** 1:00pm-3:00pm; focus: Family History Filing Systems.

Mastering Ancestry (with Family Tree Maker support): Wed **28th March 2018**, 1-3pm.

Family Search Support Group: Mon **12th February 2018**, 1-3pm with facilitator Robyn Denley.

This group has been revamped and will now meet in the **Technology Room**. Pauline Every is co-ordinating this group. There are 10 computers available in this room & if you don't want to carry your laptop it is advisable to call her on 0466 988 300 to let her know that you would like to use one.

Roots Magic Support Group: Wed **28th February 2018**, 1:15pm-3:15pm.

DNA Support Group: Mon **26th February 2018**, 1-3pm.

Writing Group: The Writing Group will return in **March 2018**.

The format of this group is also revamped; more details in 2018.

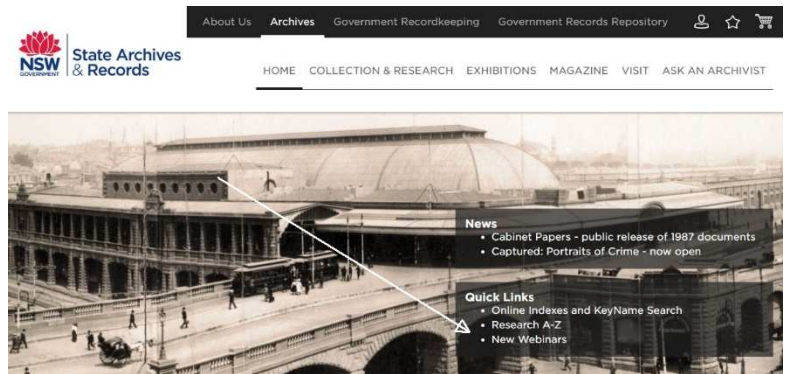
Events Planned by Others:

SRNSW Webinars. The State Records of NSW has recently announced its program of the six free webinars for 2018. Each webinar will focus on the wonderful resources of the State Archives collection and how to access them. To view these webinars, you **MUST** register your interest by going onto their website:

www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/webinars.

(the link is on the SRNSW main website page).

You can also access the 2017 Webinars there too.



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 have the Society name and logo and are available to purchase for \$12.00. 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 **Clive Smith (Treasurer)**.

Library Roster. Over the **Christmas period**, there will be no PMDFHS members available at the library between 14th December 2017 and 15th January 2018.

The **2018 Roster** is now ready, and your Society is always looking for assistance. 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. The Society is always looking for help preparing afternoon tea at the **General Meetings**. If you can assist, please speak to **Gwen Grimmond**.



Research Assistance. Don't forget 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** unable to come to the Library during the week. To use this facility, please contact the **Secretary**.

Footsteps. Contributions to the **February 2018 edition** are now eagerly sought by the Editor. This edition has a theme of 'Your Ancestors as Travellers' however, submissions on **ANY** topic are always welcome.

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