

**Society Monthly News for December 2019**

All I want for Christmas.... Much of Social Media is obsessed with a consumerism theme at this time of year and many children (and others) desperately want that special 'thing'. For my part I would like some rain to fall on this parched continent, bringing relief to many farmers and re-filling precious water supplies.

Bush fires have continued to burn our treasured bush, destroying homes of humans as well as the food supplies and homes of our native fauna. The 'firies' have been on duty for weeks now and continue to keep us safe.

**Beyond Beginners Course** has proven to be very successful with some excellent feed-back from participants. I would like to extend my heart-felt gratitude to all the presenters whose input ensured the participants received the best advice we could offer on many aspects of Family History. I am indebted to both Jennifer and Sue who assisted with the organisation, morning/afternoon teas, as well as presenting some topics. These events can only happen when there is collaboration from many people. So once again many thanks to Amanda, Brian, Clive, Ken and Warren.

**Monthly Meeting:** Our last Meeting for 2019 will be held in our usual venue of CC Mac Adams Centre from 1.30pm on Saturday 14 December. We will open the doors at 12.30pm so members may mingle before the meeting. Clive will be showing us how to use Irfanview to label our photos. This is a "Christmas Meeting" and will culminate with an afternoon tea. Please bring a SMALL plate of 'goodies' to share.

**Member Support Groups:** These groups are for **financial members of PMDFHS**.

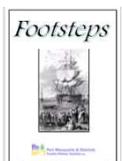
Most of our Support Groups have held their last meeting for 2019 with only **Convicts** and **Research Support** to be held prior to Christmas. The groups will re-commence in 2020

Group Name	Meeting Date	Meeting Time	Venue	Topics & Notes
Convict Studies	Mon 16 Dec	10:00am –12 noon	PM-H Library Tech. Room	
Research Support	Wed 18 Dec	1:00pm – 3:00pm	PM-H Library Tech. Room	Workshop using Irfanview
<b>2020</b>				
Writers' Group	Mon 3 Feb	1:00pm – 3:00pm	PM-H Library Meeting Room	Free choice
Research Support	Wed 12 Feb	1:00pm – 3:00pm	PM-H Library Tech. Room	
Convict Studies	Mon 17 Feb	1:00pm – 3:00pm** Note new time	PM-H Library Tech. Room	
DNA	Mon 24 Feb	1:00pm – 3:00pm	PM-H Library Meeting Room	
FamilySearch	Mon 9 Mar	1:00pm – 3:00pm	PM-H Library Tech. Room	

**Library Roster:** Our totally organised roster coordinator, Sue, has drawn up a draft roster for next year and this will be available very soon. We are sorry to have lost a few volunteers for the 2020 year through retirements, unavailability or ill health but I hope there may be a few more members willing to spend a couple of hours assisting in the library next year. It is not a hard task and doesn't require any special knowledge apart from the willingness to help. If you'd like to learn how the library runs we are taking names for an induction day to familiarise people with our collection

**Footsteps:** What a great way to spend an afternoon over the 'holidays' than to write a story or an article for Footsteps! There is always editorial advice available or 'ghost' writers who will help you. I'm sure there are people who have found something they'd like to share. Our members who attended the Beyond Beginners' Course could tell us if the 'tilde' has expanded their search results on Trove, for example.

Margaret is always looking for new or original articles or stories, however long or short. [editor@pmdfhs.org.au](mailto:editor@pmdfhs.org.au) and would like articles by 12<sup>th</sup> January.



**Website:** As our website is the initial contact for members of the public to contact our Society, it is essential that the website is maintained. Warren has spent many hours re-building the website after the recent outage. It is taking on a new, vibrant look and there are new pages being added gradually. Have you looked at our website recently? The new page on Members' Research Links looks enticing and I can't wait to explore the contents – it's like having a bibliography in digital form & you know how I love bibliographies! Well done Warren! If you have any good sources you would be prepared to share please contact Warren.

**Christmas Raffle:** We have obtained a wonderful donation for our Christmas raffle from Ancestry – a year’s World-wide Subscription. We are selling tickets for this NOW. If you would like the opportunity to win this wonderful prize, which will be drawn at the December Christmas meeting on 14 December, tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Tickets are available in the library on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, or at the meeting and Christmas luncheon in December. You could also contact the Secretary, outlining your payment method or deposit money in our account CLEARLY marked as ‘Christmas Raffle’ with your name. We hope you win!

**Another beginners’ DNA?** This could occur, with input from Ken or others early in the year. We have the beginnings of an interested group and as we have retained some room bookings for next year it may be a good idea to add your name to the list. So, if you receive a DNA kit for Christmas, speak with one of the more experienced members or email the Secretary who will put you in contact with a more experienced person should you want to discuss your options.



**Christmas Lunch:** The Golf Club is the venue for our Christmas Lunch on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December. We have a choice of two main meals and two desserts. Coffee and tea will be included. The cost for members is \$30 or \$35 for non-members. Members should have nominated their menu choices by now, but if you haven’t done so please contact Margaret asap. There is still room for anyone who would care to join us, but Wednesday will be the cut-off date for late-comers.



**2020 Summer BBQ.** This has been booked for 22 February at McInherney Park from 11am – 3pm. Cost remains the same at \$5. Everyone is most welcome to attend and help us welcome a new year of research and friendship. A list for names will be available at the December and February meetings or send the Secretary an email. We need to know for catering purposes. BYO plates, cutlery, glasses/cups, chairs but food – sausages, salads, slices, tea & coffee will be provided.

In 2020 we will be requesting everyone to **‘sign in’** when coming into the library. We are trying to establish usage patterns, so we are to meet our members’ needs more effectively. This will begin in January.

There has been a lady’s **aqua cardigan** in the filing cabinet since Winter. It was left behind in the Local Studies/Family History room. Have you lost it? If not claimed by the meeting in February it will find a new home.

**Chat and Coffee** will be continuing in 2020. Following the departure of Jan Shelley to Ballina, this group has rallied and will continue BUT the meeting will commence at **9.30am** on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month. First meeting will be **5<sup>th</sup> February** in the Meeting Room of the PM-H library. Jeff Stonehouse will continue to coordinate on behalf of the library but welcomes participation from other people who are interested in Family History.

Changes to our Banking details for EFT: The Holiday Coast Credit Union has merged and is now Regional Australia Bank. Our BSB number is still 721-000 but our account number has become **5032040** (which means it has added ‘50’ to the beginning of the account number).



On behalf of the hard-working committee I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas. May you spend the holidays with those you love. Travel safely and return in the New Year with renewed purpose to meet the research challenges you have set for yourself. Thank you for all your support this year.

**The PMDFHS Committee**

Members email contact: [secretary@pmdfhs.org.au](mailto:secretary@pmdfhs.org.au)

**‘like’ us on Facebook!**

Check our website: [www.pmdfhs.org.au](http://www.pmdfhs.org.au)

InfoEmail prepared by Diane Gillespie & Jennifer Mullin on behalf of the PMDFHS to keep members informed of upcoming events.