Maitland & Beyond Family History Society Inc.

Newsletter for August 2017

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General Meetings.
The Annual Meeting followed by the General Meeting will be held on **Saturday 26 August at 2.00 pm.** please come along and support your Society.

Opening Hours
The opening hours are:-
- **Wednesdays** 9:30 am. to 3 pm.
- **Saturdays** 9:30 am. to 3 pm.

AGM Nominations
Reminder that nominations for the positions on the committee for 2017 – 2018 close 3:00 p.m. 12 August 2017.

Nominations are sought across all positions. Some of our current Office Bearers and Committee members have indicated they will be standing down and not seeking re-election, so we urge all members to think about getting involved in MBFH and consider nominating for a position.

MBFH can only keep going as a viable organisation with a committee that can keep it functioning and attend to the many tasks that need doing. No matter what your skills or interests, there is a variety of ways you can get involved. You don’t have to be an expert in family history research to make a contribution to the running of the society. MBFH can only benefit from the input of new people with fresh ideas, suggestions and initiatives that will continue to move us forward in our effort to provide the very best services for members we can.

Membership
The following are new members who have joined or re-joined since the June newsletter. Hayden Osborn, Christine Lee, Peter Purdon, Judi Purdon, Diane Price, Paul Murray, Lyn Hancock, Chris Daly, Janelle Cooper, Jenny Winsor.

Membership Renewals
Membership renewal was due by 30 June 2017 for the financial year 2017-2018. Single Membership $45, Pensioner/Student $40, Family $65, Junior under 16 yrs. $5.

Payment can be made by payment at the Barracks or by Bank Transfer
Account Name: Maitland & Beyond Family History Inc.
BSB: 721-000
Account Number: 100032654
**If sending payment by Direct Bank Deposit please include your name as the Reference so that we can identify your payment.**

Only those members who have renewed their membership will continue to receive Newsletters, notices, etc.

Membership Cards
Membership cards for 2017 – 2018 are now available for members who have renewed their membership.

Fundraising
**BBQ at Bunnings**
Our last Bunnings BBQs in June raised $929.55 for the Society

For those who would like to assist at our next BBQ on Friday 11-08-2017 the sheet is available at the Barracks for personal
completion or email availability to the secretary MBFH and your details will be added.

**Table Magnifier**

The Society has only one Table Magnifier left for sale. The magnifier have a magnification of 3.5 and LED lighting. The cost is $25.00. When sold out, we will be out of stock until more become available again.

**Mugs**

The Society has the above mugs with the society’s new logo for sale. The cost is $10.00

**USB Drives**

The Society also has for sale 8GB USB Drives for $9.00.

These above items are available from the office.

**Future Fund Raising** -

In future we are considering the following as fund raising items - Aprons, Max shopping bags, tea towels, bucket hats all with our logo on.

Any other fund raising suggestions would be greatly appreciated.

**Website**

Have you visited our new website? Our website has been up and running for a while now and Kerry Farley is doing a great job, so stop by and have a look. www.mbfh.org.au

**BDA-online & Findmypast**

As well as Ancestry we now have subscriptions to BDA-online and Findmypast. Access to these are available at the Barracks free as part of your membership.

**Library**

The books in the library are available to all members to read in the library or to take out on loan. Some special reference books are restricted.

**Death of a member**

With great sadness we notify members of the passing of our member Margaret Vernon who passed away 3.7.2017.

To her family and friends the society sends its sincere sympathy.
Banners

At the last monthly meeting Mark Farley was thanked for his generous donation of Family History banners.

Journal Feedback
In the July edition of Tracks and Trails that was sent to you on 1 July, there was an item about the limited availability of marriage registration records for Western Australia, and how to get round that using free access to Findmypast. MBFH exchanges journals with other Family History Groups and a very helpful representative from one of those groups has replied with some extra information. The website below enables you to search on a person’s name and it will provide the details of both parties to the marriage up till 1965, a big improvement on the WA government indexes up until 1936. It’s called the “Reverse” Western Australia Marriage Lookup and has been put together by volunteers, including the genealogy group called Perth DPS (Dead Person’s Society!). Just go to http://www.wamarriage.info/

Upcoming Events

**BBQ Bunnings**
Friday 11 August 2017
Friday 8 September 2017
Friday 13 October 2017
Friday 10 November 2017
Friday 8 December 2017

If you can assist with any of the upcoming BBQs please advise the Society.

**National Family History Month OPEN DAYS**

Researching Family History is more than about names and dates.
Have you ever wondered where your Family comes from?
How did they get here? Where did they settle?
Were they a convict? Are you related to someone famous?

**WHAT IS YOUR FAMILY’S STORY?**
Let us help you unlock your past.

Come along to “THE BARRACKS” (beside the Old Maitland Gaol)
Lindesay St, East Maitland.
When: Every Wednesday & Saturday in August
Time: 9.30am – 3.00pm
Phone: 02 4905 1878
Cost: depending on amount of research
Email: mdgs01@tpg.com.au
Website: www.mbfh.org.au

Jewish Cemetery
August 20 2017 10am – 12pm
Jewish Cemetery off South Park Road
Open day and walk around the cemetery

Rookwood Cemetery Talk
Wednesday 16th August, 2017 12 pm – 2 pm
Rookwood Cemetery is intrinsically linked to our nation’s heritage. Whether it is to remember a loved one, conduct family history research, reflect and learn about our country, or admire the artistic value of the monuments.

We are hosting Mark Bundy, who is the Operations General Manager and leads the history talks at Rookwood Cemetery.

His talk will include: an overview of Rookwood’s timeline over the last 150 years; Rookwood, Mortuary Station and the link between the two; and notables interred at Rookwood.

Handouts will be provided.

Please join us at: ‘The Barracks’, Lindesay Street, East Maitland.
For further information contact us on:
Phone: 02 4905 1878
Email: mdgs01@tpg.com.au
A charge of $5.00 for non-members

Rookwood Open Day
Rookwood Cemetery in Sydney is having an open day on 24th September, 2017 10am to 3pm.

If you are interested in this trip would you please let us know so we are able to organise the size of the bus and for a driver.

Cost per person for bus, we will not know until we have the numbers.

Research Requests
The following are research requests that we have received since the last newsletter. If you have information on any of the requests please contact Chris Barrett via an email to the society.

- Seeking information on George Ansell and Sarah Graham. They had a son Henry George who married (1)Emily Ada Shoesmith 1884 and then (2) Anne Humphreys/Humphries about 1901. They lived in the Windsor area and the person requesting the information thinks they were involved with horse training.
- Burial locations requested for George Clinch died 1840 and Robert Clinch/Clynch 1849. George died in East Maitland and Robert died in Sydney.
- Information required on Peter Scanlon/Scanlan 1806-1883 and his wife Mary Curran 1808-1855
and their children Catherine and Mary (both born in Ireland) and Peter born after the family arrived in 1841. The family lived in Duckenfield, also known as Duck Hole. The enquirer is focusing on Catherine who married Patrick Michael Scanlon in East Maitland in 1844.

- Person requesting assistance has a Goodwin/Maloy family tree partially completed. Asking for confirmation that what he has is correct, particularly the parents of John James Maloy who died in Scotland.

- Information required on James Callaghan and Elizabeth Lynum who were married in East Maitland in 1839 and they were living in Hinton. Interested to find what is available on them and their children. Daughter Margaret married John Gallagher in 1859 (Clarencetown).

- Information requested on the family of Jean Boyton and Merton Ronald Cox, married 1963 in Muswellbrook and Jean’s parents Ronald George Boyton married Sarah Jane Smith in 1940 in Wagga Wagga.

**Other Events.**

**Maitland Regional Museum**
Invites you to our **ANNUAL DINNER**
Friday 25th August, 2017
@ Blackbird Artisan Bakery John St. East Maitland 6.30 for 7.00 pm
$65/head or $125/Couple ($60/head-MRM members)

Nibbles + drinks @ 6.30 pm followed by meal @ 7.00 pm (includes WINE)
Professor Phillip Dwyer-University of Newcastle
Author of Citizen Emperor- Napoleon in
Power will enthral us with the story of *The life and death of Marie Antoinette*

Meet Maitland’s Own Marie Antoinette
Raffles-lucky door prizes
**PAYMENT:** EFT- use surname
**BOOKINGS:** 49334450 (leave message)
**RSVP-21st August**
A/C 513814800
Cheques-Please make to Maitland Regional Museum
Post to: MRM PO Box 92 East Maitland 2323
Receipts given on the night

**Windows into Wartime**
State Records have an exhibition of Windows into Wartime: Home front insights through the lens of NSW Government photographers.

This exhibition is free at the Western Sydney Records Centre until 9 September 2017.

**NSW & ACT Family history conference**
The 2017 NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Conference will be held at Orange on 22 – 23 September 2017.

The organizers will be presenting their Program 2017 NSW & ACT Association of
**Family History Societies Conference** with the theme *Your Family Story: telling, recording and preserving.*

Highlights include opening the cage on your jailbird ancestors, telling your family story through food, dating Australian portraits through dress, Chinese connections and guest speaker author William McInnes.

There is also an exciting program of workshops with experts covering everything from writing to DNA, preservation, photography and copyright.

With the exception of the Conference Dinner all events will be held in Orange’s Cultural Precinct on the corner of Byng Street and Lords Place (Orange Civic Theatre/Orange City Library/Orange Regional Museum/Orange Regional Gallery).

For more information and registration form go to the website: [https://yourfamilystoryinorange.wordpress.com/](https://yourfamilystoryinorange.wordpress.com/)

**Congress 2018**

The Society of Australian Genealogists is hosting the next Australasian Congress on Genealogy and Heraldry in 2018 at the International Convention Centre Darling Harbour Sydney.

Further information can be obtained at [www.congress2018.org.au](http://www.congress2018.org.au)

**Johnston and Henderson Reunion**

Descendants of WILLIAM and ISABELLA (nee Cunningham) JOHNSTON from Whitsome, Scotland, and William's friend Michael Henderson, who arrived in Australia in 1817 and settled in the Bathurst and Wingham districts are invited to a reunion to celebrate 200 years since their arrival in Australia, **5-6 August 2017** at Wingham Golf Club, Wingham, NSW.

Enquiries to Margaret Chaffer – margarethaffer@bigpond.com

**Armidale 2017 Annual Seminar**

Armidale Family History will be presenting their annual seminar on **Saturday 21 October 2017 9.15 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.** at the Research Centre Kentucky Street, Armidale.

Registration 9.15 a.m. - 9.45 a.m.

The theme of the seminar is **AN AMAZING RESOURCE – OUR FEMALE ANCESTORS**

These are the following speakers and their topic:-

- **‘Not Just Pin Money: Colonial Women in Business’**
  Dr. Catherine Bishop

- **Difficult times for our Pioneer Women**
  Jillian Oppenheimer, OAM

- **Challenging Women?: Living Alone on the early 20th Century Australian Frontier**
  Dr. Catherine Bishop

**Cost**: $35.00 or $60.00 for a couple

R.S.V.P. by 16 October 2017

For further enquiries please phone Margaret 0408415462 or Diane (02) 6771 4681
**Dixon Family Reunion**
The Descendants of Frederick Horatio and Jane (Nee Eckford) Dixon are holding a family reunion at Maitland on **25 November 2017** to celebrate the 200th Anniversary of Fred arriving in Australia. Some of the associated families are Baker, Bell, Black, Capp, Cliff, Coward, Eckford, Gallen, Hills, Mitchell, Muirhead, Paterson, Suters, Tait, Volmer and Walters.

Contact **Allan Shepherd  0419 601 226** or email **alshep724@gmail.com**

**Maitland Regional Museum**

Maitland Regional Museum is now open in Brough House, 73 Church St. Maitland (next to Pender Place).

This is the first step in the attainment of a bespoke Regional Museum for Maitland.

MRM Committee meetings are held in Brough House the first Wed each month and all are welcome.

**MRM Open: Sat & Sundays 10.00 - 3.00 pm or by appointment.**

**Group visits can be arranged—including MT, lunch or AT and optional tours of Grossmann House—disability access available.**

Please go along and support the Museum—learn about Les Darcy's musical talent, Maitland’s 1860 religious riot, see an alleged murder weapon and much more.

You are also invited to become a MRM member or volunteers there are many interesting and varied tasks awaiting an eager volunteer.

Also housed in Brough House is the **Clothing Museum.**

Both Museums work collaboratively and both displays can be seen when visiting.

For more information contact the museum on 02 49334450

**DNA TEST**

After 10 years, the wife starts to think their child looks kind of strange so she decides to do a DNA test.

She is astounded to find out that the child is actually from completely different parents.

Wife: Honey, I have something very serious to tell you.

Husband: What’s up?

Wife: According to DNA test results, this is not our child.

Husband: Well, you don't remember, do you? When we were leaving the hospital, we noticed that our baby had pooped. Then you said: - John, go change the baby please, I'll wait for you here ..........