

## REPORT COMMITTEE MEETING

A committee meeting was held at the Botany Bay Research Rooms on Sunday 19 February 2011.

Present were Blue Mountains FHS, Jan Koperberg; Botany Bay FHS, Heather Clarey and Allan Murrin (as Convenor of the 2012 State Conference to be held at Botany Bay); Illawarra FHG, Beverley Booth; Inverell District FHG, Muriel Resta and Picton & District FHS, Gail Hanger (and Gail's parents).

Apologies were received from Wyong FHG, Shoalhaven FHS and Ann Hodgens, Inverell District FHG.

Final report was given by Shoalhaven, most of which was published in the NSW-ACTION October 2010.

## REPORT INVERELL DISTRICT FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

Inverell reports that the State Conference planning is progressing well and they have received many enquiries. Cassie Mercer from the new *Inside History* magazine has agreed to sponsor two half page advertisements in the May/June and July/August editions of the magazine. The conference program is almost finalised and a draft copy was provided for the committee. As soon as the program is completed they will be working on promoting the conference. New England Community Mutual has agreed to Sponsor the Meet and Greet evening.

Ann Hodgens & Muriel Resta, Conference Convenors

## NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc.

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## **BOTANY BAY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY—PROGRESS REPORT**

Allan Murrin advised that Botany Bay had received good feedback from other societies. They are planning a free family history fair for the Friday, to target beginners and will be holding workshops from 1.00 p.m. on the Friday. Some of the proposed workshops are:

- social networking
- family website
- preservation of files
- tax benefits for societies

They are setting up a separate website for the State Conference and a Conference 2012 email. The focus will be on “tackling” and embracing technology.

Registration will be from Friday afternoon onwards and registrants will mingle in the evening.

It will be a challenge to fit 60 trade tables in the room allocated at Tradies and **Allan Murrin and Muriel Resta are both looking for feedback from Joy Vost** as to the total number of exhibitor tables made available at Shoalhaven for Saturday/Sunday.

It may be necessary to hold the Saturday night dinner at the Sutherland Entertainment Centre, to avoid the necessity to move tables out of the room before the Saturday night dinner and then replace in the room for the Sunday.

Tradies do have a shuttle bus, so this is a possibility for moving registrants between Tradies and the Sutherland Entertainment Centre.

Botany Bay is thinking of making closing time on the Sunday 11.30 am to 12.30 pm, then registrants can go and buy their own lunch during a one hour lunch break and return for a session until 2.30 p.m. To encourage people to stay, a major prize draw will be withheld until the end of the after lunch session.

Registration cost is a challenge at the moment, because there may be a smaller number attending, due to the city location.

Allan looking to Shoalhaven FHS's Audited Financial Report of the 2010 State Conference, as a guide to finances.

Allan Murrin had just returned from a RootsTECH Conference in Salt Lake City and gave a short report. He said that technology is changing the face of genealogy. So much is being digitised and put on the internet and we should all be

## **BOTANY BAY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY—PROGRESS REPORT, cont...**

prepared to blog, use Facebook and share.

Allan knows of one society that has gone totally electronic and they have put the money they have saved into other projects.

The Federation of Genealogical Societies organises a Conference and they put their time into helping societies and addressing problems experienced by societies. Information can be given as an overall class, on “how to access”, rather than a step by step class on subjects such as, Australian BDM’s, Early Church Records and other regular education classes.



**The Australasian Federation of Family  
History Organisations Inc.**

Meeting 8 February 2011, attended by Pam Valentine, Immediate Past President

I attended the meeting by teleconference although this may be the last teleconference meeting as these are proving quite expensive. AFFHO are investigating the use of SKYPE for their future meetings, and will give it a try the next meeting after the AGM.

Discussion took place on helping any societies affected by floods, cyclone or fires even if only to waive fees for the year. Qld, NSW and Vic representatives were asked to report any member societies affected.

Alfred James a member of Society of Australian Genealogists and Illawarra FHS was elected NSW Councillor.

AFFHO has been admitted to the membership of Council of Irish Genealogical Organisations.

The Congress Guidelines are still in process of revision with the view of having them finished for approval at the AGM.

Following a membership drive mail-out 8 new members joined.

A new National Family History Week Co-ordinator is being sought. A motion was put and carried to pay an honorarium to the co-ordinator to the amount

## **AFFHO REPORT, cont...**

of 10% of sponsorship received. The co-ordinator must be a member of AFFHO. The issue of NFHW becoming a month and the sponsorship to include New Zealand will be discussed after the AGM.

FindMyPast is sole major sponsor for Congress 2012 in Adelaide, a Forensic Genealogist has been engaged to speak.

Bookings have been made for venues for Congress 2015 in Canberra. Congress will be held at National Convention Centre; dinner to be held in Great Hall of Parliament House.

Please note AGM papers to be returned to PO Box in Adelaide so as to save double handling as president, Andrew Peake is currently A/secretary. There is a need for office bearers to come forward for nomination at the AGM.

NZ Representative suggested AFFHO hold bi-annual elections - could be worth discussing for NSW-ACT Assn.

June Penny appointed Hon. Archivist as AFFHO archives now held in Canberra. After discussion on "traditionally" honoured reciprocal rights between National & State associations, it was agreed to give members a letter of introduction when travelling overseas.

It was agreed to promote a major exhibition at the National Museum on Irish Heritage under the title of "Not Just Ned".

I advised the meeting that I was no longer president of the Association and that I believed one of the new executive would be nominating as the future representative. I have been a member since 1997.

The AGM will be held on 17 May 2011.

Pam Valentine  
State President  
2001-2010  
14 Feb 2011

**New AFFHO representative Heather Clarey, Botany Bay FHS – next teleconference will be the AGM 17 May 2011**

**National Family History Week this year is to be held 29 July to 7 August 2011.**



Your story, our history

**NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA  
SYDNEY CONSULTATIVE FORUM  
Meeting 7 February 2011**

I attended this Forum which was held at History House, 133 Macquarie Street, Sydney.

Michael Hoy, Sydney Director advised that the re-location of Darwin records was completed moving from the State Office to the National Office and some to the Brisbane office or agency. Adelaide Office records were underway to the State Library; some records held by NSW would remain in NSW. Hobart re-locations would take place in 2012.

Shake Your Family Tree open day will be held at all National Archives Offices on Friday 25 February 2011. Emphasis will be on audio-visual records and a Preservation Seminar will be held.

Groups receiving a Heritage Grant will also attend a 3-day preservation workshop.

I gave a short report on our last conference in Shoalhaven and advised that the mini-fair held on the Friday will again be held at our 2011 conference at Inverell. I informed them that Kay Radford and I did not seek re-election and gave the names of our new executive and new committee members. I advised that a member of the new executive will attend the Forums in future and that you had allowed me to come along today to say good-bye.

Meeting dates for 2011 to be advised. Members of the leadership team from Canberra will be in attendance at future meetings.

Pam Valentine, 7 Dec 2010

**New representative on the NAA Forum will be Jan Koperberg, Blue Mountains FHS. Proposed forum for 8 March 2011 postponed to a date to be advised.**

### **VISITS TO MEMBER SOCIETIES BY COMMITTEE**

Visits have been made to a number of family history societies and more are planned during the year. A number of societies put their names down on a list after Kay Radford displayed the current presentation at the State Conference and these should be sent out shortly.

### **DOROTHY FELLOWES WEBSITE AWARD**

The Dorothy Fellowes Award will be presented at the State Conference in September for the best professional and amateur websites. The committee is to confirm the judges and the prize. A *Tweentime* notice will be sent out when details have been confirmed.

### **WEBSITE REPORT**

Since the 2010 Conference I have designed an entire new website for the Association using the program Microsoft Expressions Version 2. This program was purchased by the Association in conduction with Central Coast Family History Society and both societies are using this program.

During the past several months I have received via the secretary items to include in the What's On page which seems to be very popular with our member societies.

I have published one NSWACTion to the site also.

Kay Radford

Feb 2011

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO SEND YOUR EVENTS TO THE SECRETARY FOR PLACEMENT ON THE ASSOCIATION WEBSITE, BY OUR WEBMASTER, KAY RADFORD, UNDER WHAT'S ON AND REMEMBER TO LOOK FOR THE EVENTS OF OTHER SOCIETIES. SUPPORT OUR MEMBERS**

## **FAMILY & HISTORICAL SOCIETIES FORUM**

This forum is organised by Dorothy and Pat from the Holroyd Local History Research group and family history and historical groups are invited to attend the forum. Each society or group submits a report, which is compiled into a newsletter and sent out. The individual reports detail the society or group activities and events, and concerns and problems can be discussed. Good networking.

[holroydresearch@optusnet.com.au](mailto:holroydresearch@optusnet.com.au)

## **DESTRUCTION OF MENTAL HEALTH RECORDS**

Dr Greg de Moore and various societies wrote to NSW State Records and various members of parliament, both federal and state, but without much success.

## **PARRAMATTA FEMALE FACTORY**

The Parramatta Female Factory Precinct Action Group has been formed to help save the Female Factory and precinct. The group proposes having this historical site managed by a government body with the expertise to conserve and interpret them as a heritage, cultural and tourism venue for the people of Australia, in accordance with the guidelines for the Burra Charter.

Blog: <http://pmattafemalefactoryactiongroup.wordpress.com/>

Information Link: <https://sites.google.com/site/convictfemalefactories/>

## **INVERELL SUGGESTS FINDING A MAJOR SPONSOR FOR STATE CONFERENCE**

Inverell have suggested exploring the idea of obtaining a major sponsor for the State Conference to help the host society cover costs such as travel, accommodation and guest speaker fees. Secretary has typed out a draft and has submitted to the committee for approval. We will keep you informed once we are able to contact suggested sponsors.

## **GUIDELINES**

Request a copy of the Copyright Guidelines, Disaster Plans and Objects, Rules & Guidelines from the Secretary.

## **NEWCASTLE SUGGESTS EXPLORING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A STATE REGISTER OF EVENTS**

Newcastle suggested exploring the establishment of a State Register of events, i.e. seminars, expos, fairs, local conferences, etc so that events are planned clear of other events. The subject was discussed and it was established that NSW & ACT Assoc only advertises the events of member societies on the website in WHAT'S ON, but members have to remember to submit events to the secretary for submission to the webmaster. Secretary advised Newcastle and thanked them for their suggestion.

(Secretary does try to forward emails advising upcoming events from emails submitted to the association).

## **GLEN INNES REQUEST THROUGH INVERELL**

Glen Innes have suggested a bright, catchy sign for putting up on the wall or attaching to emails to promote and suggest researchers join their local family history group. Committee members will see what they can design and put forward at the next meeting.

## **INVERELL TO DONATE A BANNER TO NSW & ACT ASSOC**

Inverell District Family History Group have offered to donate a banner to the NSW & ACT Assoc, for advertising purposes. They feel that the old banner only advertises the State Conferences and needs a facelift. Offer accepted. Treasurer offered to look into the design and purchase of the new banner.

## **LOOKING FOR GUIDELINES FOR SOCIETIES WISHING TO RE-WRITE THEIR CONSTITUTIONS/OBJECTS AND RULES**

Societies are to be directed to the NSW Fair Trading website and the model constitution at

[http://www.dft.nsw.gov.au/Cooperatives\\_and\\_associations/Associations/About\\_the\\_constitution.html](http://www.dft.nsw.gov.au/Cooperatives_and_associations/Associations/About_the_constitution.html)

This can be downloaded or a copy can be obtained from the nearest NSW Fair Trading office or secretary can email the Model Constitution in Word format as an email attachment.



**NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies  
2011 Annual State Conference will be held at  
Inverell NSW  
from Friday 16 September to Sunday 18 September 2011**

**Check their website at  
[http://www.inverellfamilyhistory.org.au/state\\_conference.htm](http://www.inverellfamilyhistory.org.au/state_conference.htm)  
For the following information**

- **Conference program and registration form**
- **Conference trading table booking form**
- **Newstead North tour flyer—Monday after the conference**
- **Conference flyer**

Information on the Conference is being updated regularly.  
Please bookmark this page and check often for updates

**NEXT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

This will take place on Sunday 15 May 2011 at 1.00pm  
at the Botany Bay Research Centre

Items for the Agenda should reach the Secretary at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

Email: [nswact@gmail.com](mailto:nswact@gmail.com) or [jank@eftel.com.au](mailto:jank@eftel.com.au)

## EVENTS FROM WHAT'S ON

### **MARCH 2011 - Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc.**

Celebrating their 25th birthday in March next year. Lunch will take place at the Zig Zag Motel Lithgow on Sunday, 13 March 2011, 12.00 for 12.30 pm. at which they will have a large display of family charts/trees and lots of photo's depicting the 25 years of the Society. Contact the Society for further information.

PHOTOS WANTED: If anyone has photographs taken at the State Conference in 1989 hosted by Lithgow & District Family History Society their publicity officer Helen would love to hear from you. Please contact Helen at [taygun@bigpond.com](mailto:taygun@bigpond.com)

### **MARCH 2011 - Heraldry & Genealogical Society of Canberra Inc**

HAGSOC, particularly members of their Irish Special Interest Group, will be involved in the Not just Ned Irish Exhibition at the National Museum of Australia (NMA), from 17 March to 31 July, staffing the finding Irish families area each Friday throughout the exhibition and on other special days.

Their role will be to help exhibition attendees find their way through the resources available, most of which will be internet based, although there will be some book based resources available.

Where: National Museum of Australia, Lawson Crescent, Acton Peninsula, Canberra

When: 17 March to 31 July 2011, HAGSOC will be there each Friday and on other special days.

Check HAGSOC website: <http://www.hagsoc.org.au/> or contact Kerrie Gray, Vice President, Education and Events, HAGSOC [ckgrays@gmail.com](mailto:ckgrays@gmail.com)

Check NMA website: [http://nma.gov.au/exhibitions/irish\\_in\\_australia/](http://nma.gov.au/exhibitions/irish_in_australia/)

### **SENIORS' WEEK 2011 : from Sunday 20 March to Sunday 27th March**

#### **MARCH 26 : Central Coast Family History Society Inc**

Celebrating Seniors' Week with an Open Day at the Centre. We will provide one on one assistance to get visitors started on their research. In the Lions' Community Hall we will once again conduct lectures on various subjects. Entry \$5.00

Visit the CCFHS Bookstall or the folk from FamilySearch - enjoy a sausage sizzle and a great day with us on 26 March 2011. GO EARLY TO CAST YOUR VOTE IN THE NSW STATE ELECTION AND THEN COME SPEND THE REST OF THE DAY WITH US. Contact the Society for further information or watch the website at [www.centralcoastfhs.org.au](http://www.centralcoastfhs.org.au)

Date: Saturday 26th March 2011 all day event

Venue: Our Research Centre and the Lions' Community Hall at the rear of our building

Time: Doors Open at 9 am - closing time around 2.30 - 3 pm

Entry Fee: \$5.00

Sausage Sizzle will be available or bring your own lunch

Tea & Coffee will be available.

Trading Tables - Demonstrations - Tours of our Library

One on one assistance with your research and Speakers as listed below

Dr. Carol Liston - Linking family and local history

Carol Liston is an Australian historian who specialises in the history of early New South Wales (1788- 1860). Her research covers early colonial history with interests in people (convict, colonial born and free immigrant and their family histories), local history, heritage and the built environment. Her particular interest is the colonial development of the County of Cumberland

Greg Lawrence - Lifetime memories and stories

Greg's company Lifetime Memories and Stories specialises in capturing family stories and preserving them for future generations, through oral history techniques or helping families produce their own family history books. He has produced numerous books for families and his passion is helping pass on a legacy of family stories and preserve them for their descendents. Greg is a native of New Zealand in 1980 making Australia his home! Margaret Ertner - Getting the best out of films from FamilySearch & why it is so important to order films in to verify your research with primary records Margaret a retired school teacher and tutor, conducts our outreach educational events to various groups and organisations all over the Central Coast. Margaret is a firm believer in the importance of seeking where ever possible the primary records for her research. Margaret will explain why the films from FamilySearch can be a very important part of your research. Please phone the centre on 4344 6512 during opening hours to book your place.

## EVENTS FROM WHAT'S ON, cont

### APRIL 2011 : Blue Mountains Family History Society's Seminar

Springwood Baptist Church Hall, 313 Macquarie Road, Springwood Saturday, 9 April 2011

"Boat People – 1788 – 1922"

WHY THEY CAME, THE PASSAGES ON THE BOATS AND WHAT THEY DID WHEN THEY ARRIVED IN AUSTRALIA

8.45 to 9.15 a.m. Registration

9.15 to 9.30 a.m. Welcome: Ian Kendall, M.C.

9.30 to 10.30 a.m.. Convicts and Colonists: An overview of the boat people 1788-1922: Christine Yeats, Manager, Public Access, State Records NSW.

10.30 to 11.00 a.m. Morning Tea

11.00 to 12 noon. The sweet, the sour, the seditious ...and the swashbuckling: Gay Hendriksen, Curator, Parramatta Heritage Centre.

From British prison to the shores of NSW convict female factory women met the challenges of transportation. A glimpse of this unique aspect of Australian history.

12 noon to 1.00 pm. Assisted Scottish Passages: Ray Thorburn is a full time family and social historian. He is going to talk about the different waves of people who came from Scotland.

1.00 to 2.00 p.m. Lunch

2.00 to 2.30 p.m. Entertainment: Jim Lowe, Folk Singer

2.30 to 3.30 p.m. European Immigrants: Gary Luke is a NSW committee member of the Australian Jewish Historical Society who will talk about European and Jewish immigration in the period 1788 – 1922.

3.30 to 4.00 p.m. Afternoon tea and finish

For further information, please contact Jan Koperberg Phone: 02 4754 1544 Email: jank@eftel.com.au

### APRIL 2011 : Camden Area Family History Society Inc

30th April 2011 : Undercroft Oxley Street, Camden NSW SEMINAR : Your Amazing Story

Registration will commence at 9 am in the foyer.

Entry through Oxley Street, there is plenty of off-street parking on site and at Woolworths car park opposite.

The cost of the Seminar is \$25.00 per person and this price includes an information pack, with "finger-food" luncheon and both morning and afternoon teas provided.

#### SPEAKERS

Jennifer Higgins, Family History Reference Librarian, Reader's Services, with the National Library of Australia, will talk about Trove - a wealth of information.

Wendy Gallagher, Senior Archivist with the State Records of NSW will present an overview of the rich resources in the NSW State Archives, relating to land occupation and ownership.

Doug Barrett, Research Officer and Secretary with Camden Historical Society will describe some of the valuable resources held within the Society's files.

Carol Baxter, author, genealogist and historian will talk about her book *Family Tree tips : Writing interesting family histories*.

Jo Oliver, Local Studies Librarian with the Camden/Narellan Library Service will talk about the latest updates in the library service.

Any additional information please contact: Tony Jackson 02 4655 1098

### MAY 2011 : Port Macquarie & Districts Family History Society

**Digging a Bit Deeper - a Family History Fair with a difference** is being held by Port Macquarie & Districts FHS on Saturday 21st May 2011 at Panthers Port Macquarie. Four speakers throughout the day will help expose the bones of lesser known resources from within: Trove; AJCP (Australian Joint Copying Project); State Records; and Country Newspapers.

More **details, table** and **accommodation** booking forms are available at: [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nswpmdfhs](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nswpmdfhs)

Email enquiries to: [events.pmdfhs@yahoo.com.au](mailto:events.pmdfhs@yahoo.com.au) We look forward to seeing you there.

### JUNE 2011 : Coff's Harbour District Family History Society Inc.

#### UNLOCK THE PAST EXPO

Coff's Harbour FHS are pleased to announce an Unlock the Past Expo on 3rd and 4th June at CEX Vernon Street (in the central CBD) Coff's Harbour. The Expo will run from 9am - 5.30pm each day and there will be 28 talks and approximately 40 trading tables. Cont....



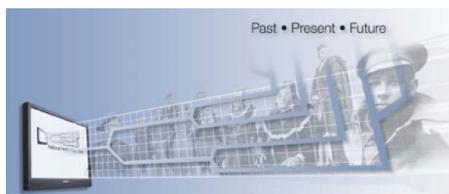
## EVENTS FROM WHAT'S ON, cont

re booking of tickets is available on their web site at a cost of \$10 for one day or \$15 for two days. Tickets will also be available on the days for \$15 for one day or \$20 for two days.

This is an important Expo for beginners and experienced researchers, the talks will be on a variety of resources with expert speakers. Visit the website <http://www.unlockthepast.com.au> or email [aimee@unlockthepast](mailto:aimee@unlockthepast)

### **JUNE 2011 : Shoalhaven Family History Society Inc**

**Shoalhaven Family Local and Cultural History Fair** is to be held at the Nowra School of Arts on Friday and Saturday 17th and 18th June 2011 - groups interested in booking a trade table please contact Joy Vost - [jcvost@people.net.au](mailto:jcvost@people.net.au) for further details as early as possible as space is limited and only the early applicants will be accommodated.



## **NATIONAL FAMILY HISTORY WEEK, 2011**

National Family History Week this year will be held between the 29 July and the 7 August, 2011.

Add your event to the list on the NFHW website at

[www.familyhistoryweek.org.au](http://www.familyhistoryweek.org.au)

**For full details of the societies coming events please refer to the What's On page on our Website.**

<http://www.nswactfhs.org/whatson.pdf>

**NSW-ACTION 22 placed on the website by:**

**The Webmaster—Kay Radford for the Editor, Jan Koperberg**