



THE CAMDEN VALLEY VOICE

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The Camden Area Family History Society Inc.
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From the Editor

Last meeting we had an interesting talk from our President, Ray Herbert on the 1916 activity during WW I. Over the next few months we have arranged for April a representative from ServiceNSW Gregory Hills to advise on the many services available at the new centre. Marilyn Rowan in May to speak on Transcription services, and a Speaker from The Oaks H.S. to speak in June. In July this year we are moving our meeting to a restaurant in the Camden Area for a Xmas in July dinner and with our annual conference coming up in September our meeting in September will be a “last minute discussion” on arrangements and assistance required for the Conference.

As you may be aware from Tony’s report on the Conference we now have a new Conference 2016 website up and running at www.cowpasturesandbeyond.org.au however we now also have our own Camden Area Family History Society webpage at www.cafhs.org.au which is independent of the Camden History website and is managed internally by us.

Our meeting this month will be held on Tuesday 1st March at 7.30pm and we will be addressed by Janet Klepatzki who will talk about the many numerous and perplexing issues she came across while researching her family to get to the point of publishing her Family History in book form.

Camden Area Family History Society Inc. Research Room, Library/Museum Complex, John St. Camden

The research room is currently open
Thursday 10:00am to 3:00pm
Friday 10:00am to 3:00pm
Saturday 9:30am to 12:00 noon

There is a charge of \$10.00 per session for non-members to use our resources,

Volunteers are on duty whenever the research room is open and they are only too happy to assist with any inquires.

If you would like to volunteer to assist in the research room please contact the Library Co-ordinator Tony Jackson on 4655 1098 letting him know when you are available.



*Happy Birthday
To the following members
For March 2016*

**Fred Gibson Janice Johnson
Lesley King John Wheeler**



MEETINGS

Our meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month (except January) at 7:30pm in the Meeting Room of the Library/Museum Complex, John St. Camden.

To help cover the cost of supper there is a gold coin donation.

Visitors most welcome.

Normal	Pensioners/Concession
Single \$30	Single \$25
Couple \$35	Couple \$30

NSW&ACT Association of Family History Societies 2016 State Conference 9th – 11th September 2016.

The first good news is that the Conference Web Site is now up and running thanks to a lot of hard work by Warren Sims, thank you Warren. The address is cowpasturesandbeyond.org.au The other bit of good news is that it has been decided that members of Camden & Picton Societies who are helping out over the weekend will get a discounted registration fee, the fee for members will be \$100.00, this can only be paid directly to Barbara by cash or cheque or by EFT not by Card. For those who are interested I have copies of the Registration Forms available tonight.

We are still looking for local companies who are willing to donate products for use on the Raffle on the Friday, at the Fair, if you have any contacts or know of any local company that may be able to assist please see one of the Conference Committee. We also have a number of advertising flyers we wish to distribute around the district, so again if you are able to assist please take a handful of flyers with you. We are in discussions with a number of interesting speakers with Talks on the Friday all aimed at beginners and those just starting out on Family History, further details will become available as they are confirmed.

Tony Jackson

Conference Convener



The Hand Loom Weavers of Paisley, Scotland – Aileen Trinder

Aileen Trinder from Pastkeys has sent details of a transcription article which may be of interest to members.

Some years ago, at one of the Conferences down south, Ray Thorburn spoke about the Scottish clearances where a group of these hand-loom weavers from Paisley Scotland were sent to Tasmania. The Beejapore arrived in Sydney on 7th January 1853 from Liverpool after a voyage of 85 days – the shortest on record. She brought 911 emigrants and news to the 12th October. Of the adult emigrants one half were from the Isle of Skye and about 200 were Paisley weavers; 56 children died on the passage principally from scarlet fever and measles, and the vessel was placed in quarantine. The ones who arrived at Sydney were the first group & were selected by the Emigration Commissioners in London at the request of some Colonists who were over there at the time.. The Colonists said that, if the men who came out had their families with them, they would be less likely to desert their employers to take off to the goldfields & also that the weavers would have been used to being shepherds at different periods so wouldn't find that work monotonous.. Unfortunately, measles spread throughout the ship and the mortality amongst the very young children and babies was extremely high, both before and after arrival when the ship was placed in quarantine.

Details are available at www.pastkeys.com.au with 2 PDF docs available for download with a printable label if you wish to burn the transcriptions to CD.

1939 British Register – now available on Find My past For Free

In December 1938 it was announced in the House of Commons that in the event of war, a National Register would be taken that listed the personal details of every civilian in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. This Register was to be a critical tool in coordinating the war effort at home. It would be used to issue identity cards, organise rationing and more. On September 1st, 1939 Germany invaded Poland, putting the wheels in motion for Britain to declare war on the 3rd. On September 5th, the National Registration Act received royal assent and Registrar General Sir Sylvanus Vivian announced that National Registration Day would be September 29th.

Having issued forms to more than 41 million people, the enumerators were charged with the task of visiting every household in Great Britain and Northern Ireland to collect the name, address, marital status and other key details of every civilian in the country, issuing identity cards on the spot. The identity cards issued were essential items from the point the Register was taken right up until 1952, when the legal requirement to carry them ceased. Until that point, every member of the civilian population had to be able to present their card upon request by an official (children's cards were looked after by parents), or bring them to a police station within 48 hours. The reasons were numerous – it was essential to know who everyone was, of course, and to track their movements as they moved house, as well as to keep track of the population as babies were born and people passed away. The 1939 Register, then, represents one of the most important documents in 20th century Britain. The information it contains not only helped toward the war effort, it was also used in the founding of the National Health System NHS.

This Register is now available free on Find My Past if you have a subscription, CAFHS has such a subscription so as a member you can use this register to trace family members who may have been living in England at that time



for Your Diary

Central Coast Family History Society Inc Seminar

Seminar 2016 will be held on Saturday 5th March 2016 at the Gosford Lions Community Hall rear of our cottage 8 Russell Drysdale Street, East Gosford commencing at 9.15 am with the official opening. More information visit their webpage <http://www.centralcoastfhs.org.au/>

Open House at Historic Linnwood

The Friends of Linnwood invite you to Open House at Historic Linnwood, 25 Byron Road, Guildford on Sunday 13th March 2016 between 11.00am and 4.00pm. there is a \$3 admission fee and there will be Arts & Craft stalls, Displays by the Triumph Sports owners Association, NSW, Western Sydney Woodturners and the Smocking Arts Guild of NSW. Devonshire Teas and Cakes will be available.

Further Information call Dorothy – 9632 9203 or Helen – 9807 3224

Kiama Family, Local & Social History Expo

The Kiama Family History Centre will be holding a Family, Local & Social History Expo at the Kiama Pavilion, Bong Bong Street Kiama from 9.30am – 4.00pm on Saturday, 16th April, 2016. Entry to this event is free.

Date: 16 April 2016 Time: 9.30am to 4.00pm

Place: Kiama Pavilion, Bong Bong Street, Kiama Cost: Free

More Details: 02 4233 1122 or fhc@kiama.nsw.gov.au

Botany Bay Family History Society

In association with the Sutherland Shire Citizens Heritage Fair and the National Trust, Botany Bay Family History Society invites you to attend their 2016 Heritage Fair on Saturday 7th May 2016 at the Tradies Club Gynea 10am to 4pm.