

Snippets

July 2014, Vol 14, No 7

On Sunday 20 July we're welcoming to Brisbane Robert 'Duff' Wilson, the Senior Product Manager for Family Tree Maker® from Ancestry in Provo, Utah. He'll present a **full-day seminar** on using the Ancestry website and also getting the most out of the Family Tree Maker® software program. John Donaldson and Doug Elms, members of the team from VicGum (a Melbourne based association for family historians who use computers), will also be speaking. This is a not-to-be missed opportunity to hear from experts about Family Tree Maker® and to catch up with all the latest news and tips about the Ancestry website, its contents and its services. Not to mention a great chance to network with other FTM and Ancestry users during the day. We're holding this session at the Aspley Hornets Football Club – find out more about Duff Wilson [here](#), and about the event [here](#) or see our seminar list below.

Hot on the heels of this is our next seminar **Fortune and Misfortune**, where Bev Bonning, Sue Reid, and Chris Schuetz will inform and advise us about the Parish Chest and Poor Law of England and the records of nineteenth century bankruptcy in both England and Australia. Held on the 2nd of August and back at the Queensland Baptists Conference Centre, this will widen the range of resources for us to seek our families within, as well as explain the society in which our ancestors lived. See below for more information or go [here](#).



Don't forget, **renewing your QFHS membership** is now even easier online, as you can also pay directly from your account to the QFHS bank account. Please ensure you give your last name and membership number as the reference so we know who has rejoined!

Alternately, scroll down on the QFHS website homepage for the convenient "add to cart" options to choose the membership for you, then view your cart to be guided

through the payment process. For more information on your payment options go to <http://www.qfhs.org.au/join-us/join-qfhs-or-renew-membership/>

Calendar

- 02 July [Management Committee Meeting](#)
 - 04 July [Family Tree Maker® User Group](#)
 - 05 July [DNA Interest Group](#): medical pedigrees with Ann Swain
 - 11 July [Fridays@QFHS: Electronic Resources](#)
 - 12 July [Scottish Interest Group](#)
 - 16 July [Break down your brick wall: Members Meeting](#)
 - 18 July [New Members Welcome and Orientation](#)
 - 19 July [Family History Writing Interest Group](#)
 - 19 July [The Master Genealogist® User Group](#)
 - 20 July [Seminar: Ancestry and Family Tree Maker®](#)
 - 24 July [English West Country Interest Group](#)
 - 26 July [Central European Interest Group](#)
 - 27 July [Welsh Interest Group](#)
 - 01 Aug [Australian National Family History Month commences](#)
 - 01 Aug [Family Tree Maker® User Group](#)
 - 02 Aug [Seminar: Fortune and Misfortune](#)
 - 06 Aug [Management Committee Meeting](#)
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Happenings

Your Brick Wall at the July Members Meeting



A panel of three experienced researchers will help you break down your brick wall at the next members meeting on Wednesday 16 July at 1:00 pm. Mary King, Geoff Morgan and Trish Hickey will assist you to find possible solutions to your trickier family tree issues. You can submit queries prior to the meeting to guestspeaker@qfhs.org.au and queries will also be accepted at the meeting. Note that no research will be done at the meeting, rather suggestions will be made for you to pursue afterwards.

QFHS Open Day

The Society will hold its annual Open Day on Saturday 23 August, 2014, during [National Family History Month](#).

Tell your friends and neighbours who might be interested in exploring their family history to come along and see what our Society has to offer. There will be experts on hand to discuss your family history, representatives from the Special Interest Groups, and a

variety of open day goodies.

Education - Workshops/Courses/Seminars

Fridays@QFHS: QFHS Electronic Resources

Limited numbers so book early to avoid disappointment.

When: 11 July 2014

Where: QFHS Library and Resource Centre

Cost: \$11 members, \$15 non-members

Presenter: Dr Geoff Morgan

This workshop will explore the collection of CDs held by the QFHS Library and Resource Centre. Learn how to find a CD of relevance to your research and how to globally search CDs from Archive Digital Books Australasia. More information at

<http://www.qfhs.org.au/events/fridays@qfhs/>

Seminar: Ancestry and Family Tree Maker®

If you use the Ancestry website and/or the Family Tree Maker software program you can't afford to miss this event!

When: 20 July 2014: 10 am – 4 pm

Where: Aspley Hornets Football Club, 50 Graham Road, Carseldine, QLD 4034

Cost: \$45 for QFHS and/or VicGUM members, \$55 non-members

Presenters:

Robert 'Duff' Wilson, the Senior Product Manager for Family Tree Maker® from Ancestry in Provo, Utah on his first visit to Australia - more [here](#)

John Donaldson, an alpha tester for Family Tree Maker® and Past Secretary of VicGUM

Doug Elms, President of VicGUM, an association of family history researchers using computers (www.vicgum.asn.au)

The seminar will cover the following topics

- Ancestry and the Community
- The future for Family Tree Maker
- Ins and outs of Family Tree Maker
- Ancestry hints, search, and DNA
- Online Ancestry Member Trees (AFT)
- a Q&A session where you can pose your questions to the experts

Morning and afternoon tea, and a light sandwich lunch is provided (please advise any special dietary needs).

The QFHS website has more information [here](#).



Seminar: Fortune and Misfortune: Parish Chest, Poor Law, and Bankruptcy

When: 2 August 2014

Where: Queensland Baptists Conference Centre,
53 Prospect Road, Gaythorne

Cost: \$15 members, \$20 non-members, includes morning tea

Presenters: Bev Bonning, Sue Reid, and Chris Schuetz

This seminar will give insight into topics rich in record keeping, with opportunities to find family members in unexpected ways. The records from the Parish Chest provide a contemporary and revealing insight into the social fabric of the parish. Your family may be here if they received or donated charity, or served their time administering their local parish. For some, bankruptcy was just a part of doing business but it could also change lives—and for us—leave a paper trail in both England and Australia.

More information at <http://www.qfhs.org.au/events/qfhs-seminars/fortune-and-misfortune/>

Fridays@QFHS: Overlooked Resources at QFHS

When: 8 August 2014

Where: QFHS Library and Resource Centre

Cost: \$11 members, \$15 non-members

Presenter: Ann Swain

Are you neglecting valuable resources at the QFHS Library and Resource Centre, information sources that are not available on general or subscription websites? This seminar will make you aware of these and ensure you have fewer brick walls. More information at <http://www.qfhs.org.au/events/fridays@qfhs/>

Fridays@QFHS: Beginners' Course

When: 12 September 2014

Where: QFHS Library and Resource Centre

Cost: \$11 members, \$15 non-members

Presenter: Max Hill

A beginners' class for those people who have little or no family history experience. If you wish to start the journey to find your ancestors but do not know where to begin this course is for you. More information at <http://www.qfhs.org.au/events/fridays@qfhs/>

Members' Noticeboard

Genealogy Sunshine Coast Inc.

Genealogy Sunshine Coast holds a regular meeting on the second Saturday of each month at the Genealogy Sunshine Coast Resource Centre located in Petrie Park, Nambour. More details at: <http://bit.ly/1jEiYDP>

Book Launch "On Bielby Road"

When: Saturday, 26 July from 2pm-4pm

Where: Carroll Community Centre, OLR Church

Entry is via Moggill Road, Kenmore.

The Bielby Road (Kenmore) story includes information on the portions of land through which the road passed in 1875. The parameters are Gap Creek, Brookfield, Moggill, Chapel Hill and Fleming Roads, as well as Cedarleigh. The book will be of particular interest to all those who live within these parameters, and the Launch is open to everyone. For more details, contact the author, Pat Dryden at: pjdryden@bigpond.com

Huguenot Society of Australia, Qld. Branch – Date Claimer

When: Sunday 27 July 2014, from 2pm

Where: Toowong Library meeting room,

next to the library on the top floor of Toowong Village.

Everyone is invited to hear Huguenot Society of Australia Secretary Robert Nash talk on 'The Huguenot Artistic Tradition in Australia' on. Entrance is by gold coin donation and includes refreshments. There is plenty of free parking. For more information, contact Dawn Montgomery on (07) 3822 6569 or billyblue1802@hotmail.com

'Call To Arms' Centenary Celebration

When: 2 and 3 August

Where: Laidley Pioneer Village & Museum, Drayton and Pioneer Streets, Laidley

This event will mark the 100-year anniversary of World War I. Over the course of the weekend there will be numerous displays and demonstrations featuring the Laidley Light Horse Troop, live music, lots of lovely food, plenty of entertainment for the kids, and a fancy dress competition. There's plenty more to see and do over the weekend so bring the family to be a party of our centenary celebration. For more details, go to:

<http://bit.ly/1qLtrCI>

Talks at the State Library of Queensland

Aspects of Immigration for Family Historians

When: 04 July

For more details and to register, go to: <http://bit.ly/1tMVOSi>

Family Connections to WWI

When: 01 August

For more details and to register, go to: <http://bit.ly/1phzhNq>

Where: State Library of Queensland, Cultural Precinct, Stanley Place, South Bank

Cost: Free

Web Wanderings

More at the National Archives of Australia

Beyond Trove, the National Archives of Australia are continually adding to their already

vast collection of digitised records. You can search the collection via:

<http://www.naa.gov.au/collection/search/index.aspx>

With the anniversary of WWI, their “Discovering Anzacs” web site has now been released. See <http://discoveringanzacs.naa.gov.au/>

240,000 More British Newspaper Pages Online

In the last month, 240,000 extra pages from 1790-1954 were made searchable at The British Newspaper Archive (<http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk>) which is available free at the QFHS library, or at the National Library of Australia with their readers card (free online to Australians) or via subscription. You’ll find more information and a full list of recent additions at: <http://bit.ly/1mCgcPy>

Records Online for Spa Fields Burial Ground, London

Records for another of London’s most historic nonconformist burial grounds are now available on Deceased Online. The Spa Fields records range from 1778 to 1849 and feature all the registers from The National Archives (TNA) RG4 collection. Although a tiny area, the old Spa Fields site includes nearly 114,000 records. Located in Clerkenwell, the site no longer exists as a burial ground but is a park managed by the London Borough of Islington. Available via subscription. You can read more at: <http://bit.ly/1sSEzC0>

More than 4 Million Devon Parish Records from 1538 – 1915

Spanning 1538 to 1915, the Devon Collection is a rich source comprising over 4 million fully searchable transcripts of the handwritten parish registers held by the record offices in Barnstaple and Exeter. Available via subscription or free at the QFHS library, you can view these new records at: <http://100in100.findmypast.co.uk/>

Historical Wills of Scottish Soldiers Go Online

The wills of 31,000 Scottish soldiers are being made available online by the National Records of Scotland as part of commemorations of the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War. The documents include the last wishes of 26,000 ordinary Scottish soldiers who died in the Great War.

In addition to the wills from the Great War, there are almost 5,000 from Scots soldiers serving in all theatres during the Second World War, several hundred from the Boer War and Korean War, and wills from other conflicts between 1857 and 1964. The Soldiers’ Wills are available at: <http://www.ScotlandsPeople.gov.uk>

Irish Genealogical Research Society Launches 1901 Townland Database

The 1901 *Index to Townlands* is the key to identifying all land divisions in Ireland, and it is for the first time being made available online as a searchable database.

There are just over 64,000 townlands in Ireland. They are Ireland’s most basic and ancient land divisions, measuring from just a few acres to several hundred. The new

database can be used to either locate a particular townland and the various land divisions it forms part of, or to identify the names of all townlands which fall into a given District Electoral Division or Civil Parish. This database is being made available free at: http://www.irishancestors.ie/?page_id=5392

United States Death Indexes & Records Searchable Online

This website is a directory of links to other websites with online death indexes, listed by state and county. Included are pointers to death records, death certificate indexes, death notices and registers, obituaries, probate indexes, and cemetery and burial records. You can also find information on the site about searching the Social Security Death Index online. The listings are listed by state with a few large cities also having separate indexes as well. If you are looking for a death record, start first at:

<http://www.deathindexes.com>.

USA's Sources for Immigrants Through the Years

With more than 40 million immigrants, the United States is the top destination in the world for those moving from one country to another. You can read more and look at some very interesting maps showing where ancestors came from in an article at:

<http://bit.ly/1mf6Leu>

Finding Ancestors in the West Indies

This article *Ancestors from the West Indies – A Historical and Genealogical Overview of Afro-Caribbean Immigration, 1900–1930s* is an excellent introduction for people researching ancestors from the West Indies. It can be found at:

<http://1.usa.gov/1oj966R>

FamilySearch.org to Add “Hints”

FamilySearch will soon release a feature called “hinting.” With this tool, the site will automatically search for records that match people in your family tree. When you go to an ancestor’s page, the web site will show you what it has found just for that person amongst the vast collections of records. FamilySearch does the searching and finding, for you. Read more at: <http://bit.ly/1pRiMVz>

Closure of Some Ancestry.com Services

Ancestry has announced the closure of some services: MyFamily, MyCanvas, Genealogy.com, Mundia and the Y-DNA and mtDNA tests. If you have any data in these services, you will need to extract or transfer it before 5 September 2014. From that date these services will no longer be available to access. Read more details at:

<http://ancstry.me/1rRiGyL>

General items of interest

Wanted: Queensland's and Australia's Missing Newspapers

Is there a pile of old newspapers under your bed, in your shed or under the floorboards? Do you want to help preserve our social history for future generations? The search is on for specific newspapers that are missing from the extensive newspaper collections at the State Library of Queensland as well as other state libraries and the National Library of Australia.

The newspapers will be saved to ensure their preservation for future generations. Access will be available through the libraries. For a full list of the wanted newspapers, go to www.nla.gov.au/anplan

More information from SLQ at: <http://bit.ly/1pRiZbi> and from the NLA at: <http://bit.ly/1ILpDkh>

Interactive D-day Landings Scenes: 1944 and Now

Here is a fascinating study of the history of World War II versus today. Photographs have been taken of locations in France and England to match archive images taken before, during and after the D-day landings. The first photos you see will be those taken in 1944. Click on a photo to see the image taken 70 years later. View the “then and now” photos at: <http://bit.ly/TxGL1b>

How Do You Pronounce “Ye”?

Many of us have encountered “ye” in old documents. Of course, we have all seen tourist shops labeled as “ye olde” something-or-other. This article explains the usage of “ye”: <http://bit.ly/1pRjdzd>

Decoding the Long S in Old Documents

The “long s” of eighteenth-century (and earlier) typography seems strange to us today but was common at one time. It is not a lower-case “f” as many think. Instead, it is “a long s”. You can learn more in an article at: <http://bit.ly/1mCh6vf>

New Online Collection of USA Civil War Records

The new FamilySearch.org/civil-war landing page provides a quick overview of the vast array of historic records and aids for those researching casualties and veterans of the Civil War. Families can also freely preserve historic photos, stories and correspondence of family members who served in other periods of the armed forces for future generations at: <http://www.FamilySearch.org> You can read the full announcement on the FamilySearch Blog at: <http://goo.gl/4WDxb7>.

FindMyPast Buys Mocavo

More records will be available to you at QFHS since the purchase of Mocavo by findmypast, as the latter is available at our library. The following was written by the teams at FindMyPast and at Mocavo: <http://bit.ly/1pFv7jT>

The Death of Microfilm

Genealogists love microfilm. Unfortunately, microfilm and microfiche are about to disappear as the demand for microfilm and microfiche equipment is dwindling. Without demand, manufacturers no longer can afford to manufacture the necessary equipment. The problem is economics: microfilm is expensive. Those who wish to preserve data find it faster, easier, and cheaper to scan documents on computer scanners and then make the information available as disc images than it is to do the same thing on microfilm. You can read more at: <http://bit.ly/1vpL0bw>

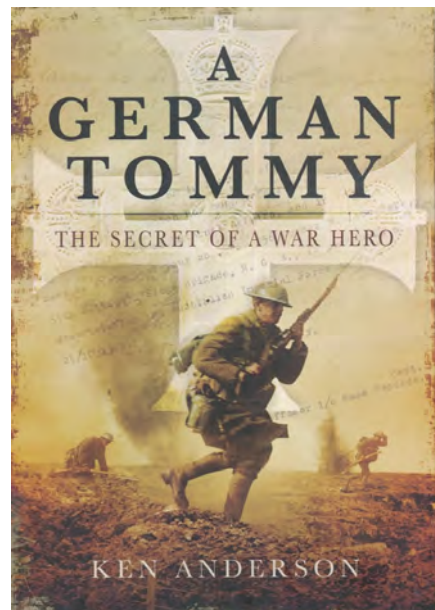
Sir Tony Robinson Reviews Life Before World War I

In a video presentation, Sir Tony Robinson uses the records available today to get a better understanding of what life and times were like before World War I. If your ancestors lived in England at that time, you can obtain a better understanding of their lives, thanks to this video. You can view the 44-minute video at:

<http://youtu.be/gCSXXsrytBs>

Book Review

Ken Anderson's work, *The German Tommy*, relates the amazing tale of Walter Schwarz and his World War 1 exploits. On first hearing snippets of this one tends to think it may be an interesting fabrication - but no. Schwarz, the grandson of German immigrants, joined the Australian army. While in England before being sent to the French theatre of war he felt that maybe his German ancestry would preclude his service. He deserted, invented a truly British persona for himself, and then enlisted in a British regiment. As Walter Lancelot Merritt he served with distinction and it was only after he had been presented with his Military Cross with bar by King George V that he revealed his true identity. He sought a pardon for his actions. His war record can be checked via the Australian War Memorial website and it is quite clear that the pardon was granted with all reference to desertion to be expunged. Review courtesy of Pam Masel.



Trivia

Richard III's Family Descendants Lose Battle

Descendants of the family of Richard III, the last king of England to die on a battlefield, have lost a legal battle over where his recently discovered remains should be re-interred. Three high court judges ruled that the twisted and traumatised skeleton found under a council car park should remain in Leicester, and said it was "time for King

Richard III to be given a dignified reburial, and finally laid to rest". The judges rejected the claim that justice secretary Chris Grayling was under a legal duty to set up a wide-ranging consultation over the reburial site. More at: <http://bit.ly/1r8Eecp>

Your Family Tree Explained

This cute video explains the mysteries of great-great-aunt, great-great-great-uncles, and of second cousins once removed. Find out who your nibblings are at:

http://youtu.be/PM79Epw_cp8

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all those who have taken time out to send items of interest to our "Snippets" mailbox at - snippets@qfhs.org.au

The more we receive, the more frequently we can produce a Newsletter. If your submission does not appear in this issue, we will try to include it in a future edition.

Please note that reference to any product does not imply endorsement. Members are cautioned to evaluate products prior to purchase.

Pauline Macfarlane

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