

# Snippets

**August 2014, Vol 14, No 8**

This Saturday is our seminar Fortune and Misfortune: Parish Chest, Poor Law, and Bankruptcy, where you can hear all about the Parish Chest and Poor Law of England and the records of nineteenth century bankruptcy in both England and Australia. 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 the QFHS Open Day, very soon now on Saturday 23rd August. A great opportunity to chat to others about the challenges and joys of your family tree – we understand the addiction! See below for more details.

Once again our marvellous Library Assistants have the opportunity to refresh their knowledge and discuss a range of issues to do with library duty. If you're an LA please do your best to attend one of the Library Assistants' meetings, as they are a wonderful chance to improve the library's use and make your duty days smooth running. Details are in the Calendar section below.

The role of Secretary to the Society is currently being filled on an acting basis by Bev Young, however an appointment to the role must be made. If you would like the opportunity to boost your organisational and communications skills, please contact her at [secretary@qfhs.org.au](mailto:secretary@qfhs.org.au) to discuss volunteering as Secretary to QFHS.

We are also seeking volunteers to help as library assistants. It's a great way to make friends and learn more about family history. If you would like to contribute to the work of the Society please email [secretary@qfhs.org.au](mailto:secretary@qfhs.org.au).

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**Calendar**

- 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](#)
- 08 Aug [Fridays@QFHS: Overlooked Resources at QFHS](#)
- 09 Aug [Irish Special Interest Group](#)
- 13 Aug Brisbane Exhibition Wednesday: QFHS library OPEN today
- 16 Aug [New Members Welcome and Orientation](#)
- 16 Aug [The Master Genealogist® User Group](#)
- 20 Aug [Members meeting: The 1893 Flood](#)
- 23 Aug [QFHS Open Day](#)
- 29 Aug [Library Assistants' Meeting](#)
- 30 Aug [Family Tree Maker® User Group](#)
- 31 Aug Australian National Family History Month concludes
- 01 Sep [visit by Caloundra Family History Society](#)
- 03 Sep [Management Committee Meeting](#)
- 05 Sep [Family Tree Maker® User Group](#)
- 06 Sep [Library Assistants' Meeting](#)
- 06 Sep [DNA Special Interest Group](#)

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## Happenings

### QFHS Open Day

The Society will hold its annual [Open Day](#) at the QFHS Library and Resource Centre, 58 Bellevue Avenue, Gaythorne from 10 am to 3 pm on Saturday 23 August 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.

Come and chat to an experienced researcher from one of the Special Interest Groups about that elusive ancestor, or find out about those microfiche records/maps/cemetery room records (etc etc) you've been "meaning to get to".

There will be experts on hand to discuss your family history, representatives from the Special Interest Groups, and a variety of open day goodies.

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## Education - Workshops/Courses/Seminars

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

When: 02 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 [Fortune and Misfortune](#)

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### **Fridays@QFHS: Overlooked Resources at QFHS**

When: 08 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 [Fridays@QFHS](#)

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### **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 [Fridays@QFHS](#)

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### **Seminar: Inmates: asylums, prisons, and hospitals**

When: 04 October 2014

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

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

Presenters: Shauna Hicks and Pauline Cass

Looking for ancestors behind bars, in asylums or in hospitals? Accidents, illness, old age and infirmity – many records exist to help track your ancestors in the dark patches of their lives. Shauna and Pauline will explain the records available and how to use them.

More information at [Inmates](#)

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## Fridays@QFHS: The Australian Joint Copying Project

When: 10 October

Where: QFHS Library and Resource Centre

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

Presenter: Ann Swain

The Australian Joint Copying Project, begun in 1945 to copy Australasian material held in UK repositories, produced over 10,000 reels of microfilm records. This talk presents an overview of the AJCP and, through convict examples, illustrates material of interest to family historians in this valuable but under-utilised resource. More information at

[Fridays@QFHS](#)

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## Members' Noticeboard

### Breaking News: The Master Genealogist® software to be discontinued

Sad news – an announcement was made today by Bob Velke, the owner of Wholly Genes, Inc. In it he explains that the relatively small market for the advanced features of TMG combined with his personal health have lead to this decision. The announcement can be read [here](#).

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### 'Call To Arms' Centenary Celebration: Laidley

When: Over the course of the weekend of 2 -3 August 2014

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

This event marks the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of World War 1. Bring the family to see numerous displays and demonstrations. The Laidley Light Horse Troop will feature, and there will be live music, lots of food, plenty of entertainment, and a fancy dress competition. Find out more [here](#).

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### WWI Centenary Event: Scarborough

When: Tuesday 5 August 2014, commencing 1:00 pm and service at 4:45 pm

Where: Jamieson Park, Scarborough

This event marks the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of World War 1. There will be displays of an authentic WWI campsite, war animals, the Light Horse Association, the French Foreign Legion Association, vintage military vehicles and more. Guest singer at the Ceremonial Sunset Service is Normie Rowe and MC is Rupert McCall – note that a cannon shot will be fired during the service. Enquiries to Cheryl Barrett 0410 173 480 or Gary Lancaster 0414 642 521.

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## Web Wanderings

## Update to NSW BDM Searches

The NSW BDM family history searches have been updated – with the wild card feature now returned. There are still a few issues being worked on. Check it out [here](#).

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## South Australian Soldiers, Sailors and Nurses Images

This is a recently opened site on Flickr that gives superb portraits of South Australian WWI soldiers, sailors and nurses. Move the cursor across images for details. Go [here](#) to explore the site.

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## New Index to Burials at Cemetery Hill, East Perth

More than 10,000 burials took place from 1830 to 1899 in the East Perth Cemeteries. No burial register was kept, by either the Church Wardens or the caretakers. A comprehensive biographical database on the inhabitants of Cemetery Hill has now been generated and can be searched [here](#).

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## Recently Added to Digitised Newspapers on Trove

Trove offers free online access to more than 700 Australian newspapers. More newspapers have been recently added to Trove, the list can be read [here](#).

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## 650,000 WWI Military Records of the Fallen

The Genealogist now links the War Office records of soldiers who died in WWI to their war graves or memorials. The 650,000 records provide full details including full name, birthplace, place of residence, place of enlistment, rank and service number, cause and date of death, and regiment. Available at QFHS for free or via subscription at: <http://www.TheGenealogist.co.uk>

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## 450,000 New RAF Records

450,000 service records of the Royal Flying Corps and Royal Air Force, including 342,000 Airmens records, have been released online. The records contain information about an individual's peacetime and military career, as well as physical description, religious denomination and family status. Next of kin are often mentioned, and this too has been fully indexed. Read more about these records [here](#), access them for free at the QFHS library or via subscription at findmypast.

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## Dorset Hospital Records Online

This new website [here](#) includes a growing number of transcripts of the patient admission registers, which date back to 1847, as well as lists of staff and benefactors.

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## Ancestry Additions

- Updated – Great Britain Atlas and Index of Parish Registers. Based on The Phillimore Atlas, this is incredibly useful, showing parishes in England, Scotland and Wales from 1538 – 1832. It is a huge help when you're trying to locate your ancestor's parish records. find out more [here](#).
- Updated - Lancashire, England, Baptisms, Marriages and Burials from 1538 – 1812. The Lancashire Parish collections have quadrupled in size and now also

link to the Phillimore Atlas.

- Updated - New South Wales Public Service Lists 1858 – 1960. More than 630,000 records have been added, including lists of public, ecclesiastical, and other colony officials.

Available free at the QFHS library or via subscription.

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### **“Enhanced” Online Indexes to Ireland’s Civil Registration Records**

This database covers all civil records from 1845 to 2013. It encompasses all non-Catholic marriages from April 1845 and all births, deaths and marriages from January 1864.

Online database index entries have more information than those available in the GRO’s Public Search Room or those microfilmed by the Church of Latter Day Saints in 1959. Find out more [here](#).

A word of caution, in the original hard copies a birth, marriage or death entry noted more than one first name. In the new online database only the first name appears. This is a big drawback when seeking one possible record from many with the same name (Mary Murphy for instance). Read more [here](#).

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### **Check out Guide de Genealogie**

If your ancestors lived in France you may find the Guide de Genealogie website helpful. You can use Google Translate to convert most of the web site’s pages into English. The site includes:

- A guide to researching ancestors in France
- A list of archives: vital records, parish registers, and more
- Family papers: military record and pictures
- History of all French families during WWII

Guide de Genealogie is available in French [here](#) or in machine-generated English translation [here](#).

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### **USA Historical Maps Explorer**

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) now provides access to more than 178,000 maps dating back to 1884. The maps can be searched by location by starting with current maps and can be found [here](#).

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### **Tennessee Family Bible Records Online**

A new database allows browsing of more than 1,500 family Bible records held at Tennessee State Library & Archives (TSLA). Individual names in most Bibles for surnames A to J have also been indexed. You can see if TSLA holds a Bible record for your family [here](#).

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### **Digitised Historic Maps New Hampshire and New England, USA**

The University of New Hampshire has placed four new sets of digital historic maps online.

- *Hurd Town and City Atlas of New Hampshire*, originally published in 1892
- *Atlas Accompanying the Hitchcock Geology of New Hampshire*, originally published in 1878
- *Gazetteer of the state of New-Hampshire*, originally published in 1817
- *Historic USGS Maps of New England*.

The online collection of 1100 topographic maps includes complete coverage of New England from the 1890s to 1950s. You can access all the maps [here](#).

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### **FamilySearch Introduces Two New Mobile Apps**

FamilySearch has released two new mobile apps that will make it easy to take your ancestors with you, FamilySearch Tree and FamilySearch Memories. Everything you add will sync with your tree at FamilySearch.org, so information will be accessible from any device and will be preserved for future generations. Both apps are free and available [here](#).

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## **General items of interest**

### **Free Family Record Forms**

Long before the invention of home computers that could generate forms, many families recorded their important family events within their Bibles. These were often ornate with beautiful artwork. Many of these forms are available online to admire, or download and use. All of the forms are available free of charge. Find the forms [here](#).

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### **Irish Genealogy Site Removes Personal Data**

The Irish government closed part of its genealogy website recently after warnings that potentially sensitive personal details were available to all. The online records contained data such as dates of birth and mothers' maiden names, frequently used as security questions for accounts such as online banking. You can read more [here](#).

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### **DNA Identifies Australians Killed at Battle of Fromelles**

Another 20 Australian soldiers killed at the Battle of Fromelles in 1916 have been identified using DNA technology. The 5th Australian Division suffered more than 5,500 casualties (dead and wounded) in just 24 hours of brutal fighting near the French village of Fromelles on 19 July, 1916. The latest remains to be identified were among 250 Australian and British dead uncovered in a mass grave at Pheasant Wood near Fromelles in 2009. More details are [here](#).

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### **Introducing the Partners Project**

Partners of current serving members of the Australian Defence Force have shared their stories with the Australian War Memorial as part of the Partners Project. If you would like to contribute, or if you have any questions, please contact the oral history staff via email at: [filmsound@awm.gov.au](mailto:filmsound@awm.gov.au). More details of the partners project are [here](#).

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### **Millions of Staffordshire Records Online**



The Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Archive Service and findmypast will make 2.8 million documents available online. The baptism, marriage and burial records span from 1538 to 1900. You can read more in an article in BBC News [here](#).

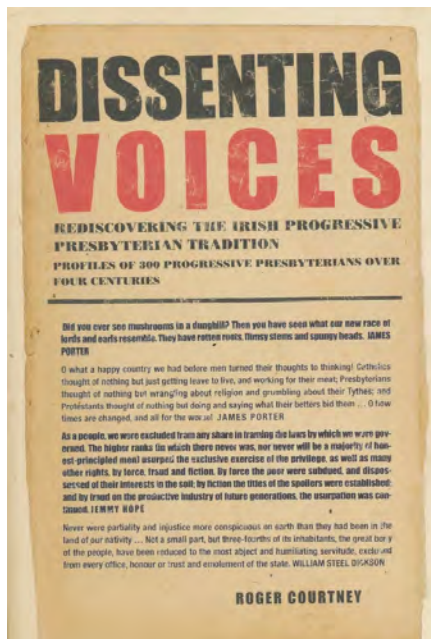
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## Fascinating Snapshot of Victorian Street Traders

This collection, taken by pioneering photojournalist John Thomson in 1877, shows what life was really like for thousands of working-class Londoners in Victorian Britain. View the pictures and a video [here](#) or download a pdf of the book from [here](#).

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## Book Review



Courtney, R. *Dissenting Voices: Rediscovering the Irish Progressive Presbyterian Tradition*

Roger Courtney presents brief biographies of more than 300 Presbyterians in Ireland, the first being John Livingstone, born 1603. By presenting these chronologically one can track developmental trends in the Presbyterian tradition over 400 years. This book puts paid to the stereotypical belief that there are two religions in Ireland - Catholic and Protestant. The 'dissenting voices' in the latter withstood persecution. They were independent thinkers who, with an emphasis on education, were able to make both a practical and an intellectual contribution to the practice of democracy.

Indexed and sourced, 408 pp. Published by the Ulster Historical Foundation, 2014. Review courtesy of Pam Masel.

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## Trivia

### The High Cost of Searching for Your Ancestors

Are you willing to spend up to \$18,000 a year to discover your roots? An "authoritative" report from Global Industry Analysts, Inc. claims that such expenses are not unusual. You can read more [here](#).

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### Squabbles Over Iceland's DNA

BBC News has an interesting article describing a quandary within the country. deCODE Genetics, an Icelandic company, is asking all residents to donate DNA samples. Iceland also has a database containing the genealogy of the entire nation dating back 1,100 years. Read the full story [here](#).

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### The Real Captain Blackadder was a Dundee War Hero

The names of Blackadder, Darling, Lieutenant George and Baldrick will be familiar to



many, thanks to the BBC's Blackadder series. But they may be surprised to learn that the characters really did exist. Specialist military genealogy website Forces War Records has the proof and set out uncovering other servicemen who shared names with the fictional stars of *Blackadder Goes Forth*. Details may be found [here](#).

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### **Queensland Woman Without Birth Certificate 'Doesn't Exist'**

Charmaine Webster doesn't exist because she doesn't have a birth certificate. Read more about it [here](#).

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### **The Backup Song**

(to be sung to the tune of the Beatles' song 'Yesterday')

Yesterday,  
All those backups seemed a waste of pay  
Now my database has gone away  
Oh I believe in yesterday

Suddenly,  
There's not half the files there used to be  
And there's a deadline  
Hanging over me  
The system crashed so suddenly.

I pushed something wrong  
What it was I could not say  
Now my data's gone  
And I long for yesterday-ay-ay-ay.

Yesterday,  
The need for back-ups seemed so far away.  
Thought all my data was here to stay,  
Now I believe in yesterday.

(with thanks to Sunni Freyer, 1998)

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## **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](mailto: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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