



February 2017, Vol 17, No 2

The Society is now back into full swing with many new members keen to delve into their ancestry. The first of our Fridays@QFHS will be held on 10 February, and our first seminar on Saturday 4 March, at the Queensland Baptist Conference Centre. Our popular six week Beginners Course will commence on 13 February. This course is fully booked but will be repeated in June.

Dr Jan Jones is our Guest Speaker at the Members' Meeting on 15 February. Jan will have some interesting stories of the South African side of the Boer War. Do come along and bring a friend.

Calendar

- 02 Feb - [English West Country Group](#)
- 03 Feb - [Family Tree Maker User Group](#)
- 04 Feb - [British Wills with Ann Swain - 9.30am at Logan River and District Family History Society](#)
- 06 Feb - Management Committee Meeting
- 10 Feb - [Fridays@QFHS - How did they meet?](#)
- 11 Feb - [Irish Interest Group](#)
- 13 Feb - [Finding your family: a beginners course in research Week 1](#)
- 15 Feb - [Members' Meeting - The Boer War: a different perspective](#)
- 18 Feb - [New Members' Welcome and Orientation](#)
- 18 Feb - [The Master Genealogist User Group](#)
- 20 Feb - [Finding your family: a beginners course in research Week 2](#)
- 25 Feb - [Family Tree Maker User Group](#)
- 27 Feb - [Finding your family: a beginners course in research Week 3](#)
- 03 Mar - [Family Tree Maker User Group](#)
- 04 Mar - [Seminar - Family history on the cheap](#)

Reminder: The library will be closed on 1st, 4th, and 5th Monday nights. More detail on the [website](#)



Interested in helping with proofreading?

QFHS has been publishing research indexes since 1988; to date we have produced 40 CDs. There are currently a number of other projects underway which you may be interested in helping to finalise for publication by proofreading for us.

Proofreading is not easy. It requires very close attention to detail over sustained periods – our aim is to produce indexes which reflect the original records. If you are interested in assisting the society in this way and in testing your skills [contact Jackie Buttress](#). Jackie will arrange to meet you in the library on a Saturday to explain the process and to give you the relevant documentation. The ‘test’ 1969 electoral roll file, which contains a number of introduced, typical ‘indexer’ errors, will be emailed to you. You need to be familiar with Excel and preferably have some experience in indexing.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Perhaps you have an interest in technology

To enable your society to move forward we need members willing to assist the Technical Advisory Group. Technology is forging ahead at record speed and we need capable members to keep your society equal with like- minded societies, if not ahead of the rest. We need people with an interest in any of the following areas:

- Project management
- Web site design and development
- Software development
- Hardware virtualisation
- Database management
- Machine (PC) setup and management
- Network skills
- Graphic skills

If you can assist please email our [Technical Advisory Group](#)

Experience in other areas - publicity, marketing?

Do you have experience in any other area? Do you feel you have no specific skills but would like to volunteer. Perhaps you can spare a few hours a week, a day a week, a day a month?

Many members have done wonderful work over many years and have earned a break. We need new volunteers to learn from the experienced few. I am sure all members have been a recipient of help with research during their membership so now may be the time to give back. Remember, this is your society - make it great!

We can all learn new skills and you will make new friends. Contact [Secretary](#)

Happenings



**Family and Local History Conference and Fair
19 - 21 May 2017 on the Gold Coast**

Early Bird registration [close 1 March 2017](#)

Make sure you [subscribe](#) to the mailing list to be first with latest news.



Members' Meeting

The first Members' Meeting of the year will be held on Wednesday 15 February at 7.30 pm. The Guest Speaker will be Dr Jan Jones and the topic ***The Boer War: a different perspective.***

Originally from South Africa, Jan will speak from the Afrikaans point of view, and from his own family records. Visitors welcome.

Education - Workshops/Courses/Seminars



How did they meet?

Presenter: Chris Schuetz

With Valentine's Day approaching, this might be a question we ask of our ancestors. This presentation provides a different, fun, and light-hearted way to look at and extend our records. It also looks at extracting more information from our records and using this information together with other sources to find answers, particularly for Britain, and emigrants to Australia. Participants can bring known answers for a straw poll to share how our own ancestors met.

When: 10 February 2017

Where: QFHS Library and Resource Centre

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

[Register online](#)



Seminar

Family history on the cheap

Presenter: Shauna Hicks

Family history can be an expensive and time consuming hobby, but there are ways to save both time and money. Shauna will be outlining her favourite tips and Register online Register online strategies over three sessions.

Session 1: Essentials looking at home sources, BDMs, both certificates and alternative sources, genealogy societies and family history societies.

Session 2: Overview of websites to make the most of Google, the internet, and social media.

Session 3: Making the most of libraries and archives both in Australia and overseas.

Shauna is the author of a number of research books published by Unlock the Past, including *Family history on the cheap*, now in its 2nd edition.



When: 9.00 am to 12.30 pm on 4 March 2017

Where: Queensland Baptists Conference Centre

Cost: \$20 members and \$30 non-members

[Register online](#)



Research in Victoria

Presenter: Helen Vince

This workshop looks at the tools and resources available for researching family history in the state of Victoria. See how much can you research without leaving sunny Queensland and the options available for research on a visit to Victoria. Hints on those hard to find relatives.

When: 10 March 2017

Where: QFHS Library and Resource Centre

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

[Register online](#)



Contribute to Wikipedia: what and how

Presenter: Dr Kerry Raymond

Learn what local and family history information can be added to Wikipedia, and learn how to add the information to Wikipedia. This is an hands-on computer course. Participants should have basic computer skills, e.g. using a web browser, Register online Register online copy-and-paste, basic word processing such as Microsoft Word. The presenter, Dr Kerry Raymond, is a local and family historian, and is the first Wikipedian-in-Residence at the State Library of Queensland.

When: 24 March 2017 10.00 am - 12.00 noon

Where: QFHS Library and Resource Centre

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

Note: This is a workshop so numbers are limited. Book early to avoid disappointment.

[Register online](#)



A full day *Family Tree Maker* seminar is to be presented by John Donaldson and Doug Elms from VicGum at the Queensland Baptists Conference Centre in Gaythorne on 23 May (9:30 am-3:30 pm). Lunch will be provided.

Cost: QFHS & VicGUM members - \$45; non-members - \$55.

Registration for this seminar will be open in the near future, via the QFHS website.



did you know?

QFHS has a very experienced Research Team who will undertake research on your behalf. We do encourage you to conduct your own research by visiting the Library and Resource Centre but when this is not possible, QFHS offers limited research assistance to members and non-members. Members of QFHS who live further than 50 km from the Brisbane GPO are entitled to two (2) hours free research per year.

A member of our Research Team will undertake the research at the Library and Resource Centre. For further information go [here](#)

QFHS Buddy Program

Are you a new member? Experienced members are waiting to assist you to get you started on your family



history journey.

Buddies are experienced QFHS members who will assist new members by meeting at an agreed time to provide one-on-one guidance, encouragement, and sharing of experience. The arrangement is available for between three and six months. Email Coordinator [here](#)

If you would like to be a Buddy to a new member email Coordinator [here](#)

Printed and electronic journals and newsletters

Due to printing and postage costs, many societies we exchange with, or subscribe to, now provide their journal or newsletter in electronic form. Members can request access to these publications and read at your leisure, at home.

If you would like access please [email](#) and receive a password. A list of new arrivals will then be emailed to you regularly.

Members' Noticeboard

The Royal Historical Society of Queensland

- On Wednesday 8 February from 12.30 pm, Dr. Jack Ford from the American Civil War Round Table (Qld. Division) will discuss the number of civil war veterans who came to Queensland after 1865 - many of whom are buried here.
- 18 February 2017: Bus Trip to Warwick – The RHSQ is working with the Warwick and District Historical Society to put together a bus trip to view historic Warwick. It promises to be a really fun day out. The bus we have hired has a lift to help those who have trouble with stairs. Please book quickly as seats are almost sold out – registrations close 10 February 2017.
- Please also note that the launch of David Moore's new book *The Curse of Mungana* will be held on Saturday 25 February 2017 at 10 am at the Commissariat Store Museum.

If you wish to attend the launch event, please RSVP Karen at 07 3373 7855 by [email](#) by 23 February 2017 or go to [website](#)

Upcoming Talks at the Wynnum Library

23 February - Myrtle Beitz will make a presentation on Lota House. 2017 marks the 150th anniversary of Lota House. It was the second house built in the Wynnum-Manly area and still stands today as the Edwin Marsden Tooth Memorial Home. Come and hear Myrtle Beitz tell the tale of this grand old lady.

30 March - One hundred years ago, on Easter Monday 1917, the Wynnum and Manly Sailing Club held the "Great Picnic" on Green Island 'in aid of our returned boys'. Come along and hear Kate Harbison discuss this event and others of that period a hundred years ago.

Located at 55 Bay Terrace, Wynnum QLD. For more information email Kate [here](#)

Genealogical Society of Queensland

A lot of work by a small team has gone into the creation of the new website and GSQ thanks them. Explore the new GSQ website [here](#)

Upcoming History Events - Brisbane Square Library

One city, many histories: **International Women's Day celebration** – Wednesday, 8 March, 5.30 pm - 6.30 pm. What does the history of women look like when we trace it through the footsteps of women? Join historian Dr Katie McConnel, Curator of Old Government House for this special International Women's Day talk. Book by calling (07) 3403 4166.

Treasures from the City Archives: Entertaining Brisbane – Sunday 12 March, 11.00 am - 12.00 pm. Join city archivist, Annabel Lloyd, for a 'white gloves' look at treasures from the archives which show what people have done for fun, leisure and celebration in Brisbane across the decades. More details available [here](#). Book by calling (07) 3403 4166.

Brisbane Square Library is located at 266 George Street, Brisbane, Qld.

Web Wanderings

Register of immigrants, Toowoomba: 1880 – 1888

This register contains names of immigrants, date of admittance at Toowoomba, name of ship upon which they made the passage to Australia, destination from Toowoomba and date of leaving. Note that many of the immigrants listed in this register originate from Ireland. Go [here](#)

Over 14,000 new entries in the Justices of the Peace Index 1857 - 1957

This series was created by the Supreme Court, Moreton Bay, later to become known as the Supreme Court of Queensland and now known as the Supreme Court, Southern District, Brisbane. To date, the years 1857 to 1957 (with gaps) have been indexed. Justices of the Peace are required to sign an oath of allegiance prior to carrying out any duties as justices. Go [here](#)

More new releases from the Queensland State Archives can be found [here](#)

Annual Immigration/ Shipping Reunions: 28-30 July 2017

The Maryborough Family Heritage Institute Inc. will be holding 140th anniversaries for the arrival of *Saraca*, *City of Agra* and *Lammershagen* 1877 voyages to the Port of Maryborough, Queensland.

Weekend activities planned include: Portside by Night tour, display of family trees

and memorabilia, Saturday reunion lunch, shipping books for sale, Gatakers by Night and Sunday in the Park train rides.

A year book is to be compiled on each of the journeys and, where possible, family stories of the passengers and descendants of *Saraca, City of Agra and Lammershagen 1877 Voyages*. We would appreciate hearing from any descendants who would like to contribute stories and photographs to these publications, which will be on sale during the celebration.

All descendants, families and friends of the above ships are invited to attend, as are members of the greater community. Please see Maryborough Family Heritage Research Institute Facebook page for the passenger lists for 2017 Celebrations. To register your interest, [email](#) Maryborough Family Heritage Inst Inc.

NSW State Archives and Records has new website

Lots of new features and a new search engine. Take a look [here](#)

Ryerson Index Update - Searching by Given Name

The Ryerson Index is a free index to death notices appearing in Australian newspapers. The date range covered extends from the Sydney Gazette of 1803 up to newspapers published within the last week or so. The Index also includes many funeral notices, and some probate notices and obituaries. The Ryerson Index is well on the way to 6 million entries, expected some time this year. And it's still free! They have just implemented a given name search – you don't need to have a surname. You can now search on any one of the primary fields, with all other fields available to filter results. Enjoy searching [here](#)

Census Find Sheds New Light on St Kilda's (Scotland) History

Not all census records are found online. A few census records have been misplaced over the years. A 250-year-old census came to light during cataloguing by the National Register of Archives for Scotland (NRAS). The census lists 90 people living on the remote archipelago on 15 June 1764 – 38 males and 52 females, including 19 families and nine individuals.

The find is historically important because no one living today was aware of any census records prior to 1822. The new discovery is the oldest known record of the population of St Kilda, a small group of islands about 40 miles west of Benbecula in the Outer Hebrides. Today, the islands are uninhabited. You can read more about the newly-discovered records in an article [here](#)

Oklahoma Birth and Death Record Indexes are now Online

Ok2Explore is a free searchable index of births and deaths that occurred in the state of Oklahoma. Included is limited information on births occurring more than 20 years ago and deaths occurring more than five years ago. The site contains **indexes**, not all the information from these records. Once you have determined that a record of interest is on file, you can apply for a certified copy of that file. The certified copies cost money but do include all available information from the original records. You can access the new *Oklahoma State Vital Records Index* [here](#)

North Carolina Publishes a New Online Collection of Tax Records

The North Carolina State Archives has released a new digital collection. The bulk of the records are from the Colonial and Revolutionary War eras, but some lists date from as late as 1853.

Lists sent to the General Assembly are from various counties and give the names of the heads of households and others who were subject to taxation. Horses, cattle, livestock, and other luxury goods such as carriages and coaches are also often referenced. Information about slaves may also be present in these lists. You can learn more [here](#)

Pittsburgh, PA Cemetery Records Now Online

Interment.net, is an online cemetery records archive recently added over 668,000 records from 29 cemeteries located in the greater Pittsburgh, PA area. These records have dates of death from the 1750s to present day. You can browse them [here](#)

Early Canadiana Online: History and Genealogy Treasures

Early Canadiana Online is a multilingual virtual library of digitised historical publications about Canada, including books, magazines, and government documents, from the 16th to the early 20th century.

Genealogists will find that Early Canadiana Online holds a wealth of resources for Canadian research, including early city and county directories and voters' lists, local and family histories, biographies, and government documents such as civil service and militia registers. You can find Early Canadiana [here](#)

New from FindMyPast

Available via subscription, or for free at the QFHS library.

[British Newspapers](#)

[Dorset Memorial Inscriptions](#)

[Gloucester Apprentices 1595-1700](#)

[Huntingdonshire Marriages 1754-1837](#)

[Leicestershire baptisms](#)

[Leicestershire banns](#)

[Leicestershire burials](#)

[Leicestershire marriages](#)

[Leicestershire Marriage Licences, 1604-1891](#)

[Leicestershire Marriage Licences, 1604-1891 Browse](#)

[Leicestershire Parish Records 1538-1915 Browse](#)

[Leicestershire wills and probate records 1490-1941](#)

[Leicestershire wills and probate records 1490-1941 Browse](#)

[Leicestershire electoral registers 1836-1974 Browse](#)

[Middlesex Monumental Inscriptions 1485-2014](#)

[Northumberland & Durham Monumental Inscriptions](#)

[Roxburghshire, Kelso Dispensary Patient Registers 1777-1781](#)

[Rutland baptisms](#)

[Rutland banns](#)
[Rutland burials](#)
[Rutland marriages](#)
[Rutland Parish Records Browse](#)
[Yorkshire & Derbyshire Methodist Baptisms](#)
[Yorkshire & Derbyshire Methodist Marriages](#)
[Warwickshire Burials](#)
[Scotland Mental Health Institutions Admissions 1857-1859](#)
[Scotland Prison Registers Index 1828-1884](#)
[Ireland, Society Of Friends \(Quaker\) Congregational Records](#)
[Ireland, Petty Sessions Court Registers](#)
[Ireland Dog Licence Registers](#)
[Queensland, Mackay, Funeral Notices and Funeral Director Records](#)
[Queensland Passports Index 1915-1925](#)
[Victoria, Australia Court of Petty Sessions Records](#)
[PERSI monthly update](#)

General items of interest

Incubation Chambers Help Libraries Save Old Newspapers

The University of Connecticut is undergoing a restoration project to revive 19th century Chilean newspapers. Over the centuries, the newspaper has become brittle and awkwardly creased in ways that make it difficult to read. The University is using a humidification chamber that relaxes the pages, allowing for a series of follow-up techniques to restore and eventually digitise the print. You can read more about the process in an article [here](#)

FamilySearch: #52Stories Project

Maybe your New Year's resolution is to write your personal history to share with your family and leave for future generations. The task, however, can seem daunting. Where do you start? FamilySearch can help with its #52Stories project. Each week in 2017, FamilySearch, the world's largest genealogical organisation, will publish topic questions designed to trigger your memories. You just need to focus on the topic and write a response. More details [here](#)

Treasures in the QFHS CD Collection

Educational Sources – Part 1 (Focus: Students)

School and education authority indexes and publications are rich sources of data for family history research. The QFHS Library & Resource Centre has available a sizeable digitised collection of such records. For example, the series of *Qld School Pupil Indexes* [QSPI] (Vol 1-6), a selection of *Qld School Admission Registers*, *The Harrow School Register* (UK, 1801-1893). From the computer network's Main Menu, a keyword search of the *List of CDs* or the Library Catalogue for "school" will reveal these CDs among many others.

The data for the QSPI CDs were obtained from a variety of sources, including school admission registers, school histories published in association with school

jubilees and centenary celebrations, as well as from local histories that include lists of pupils at the local school/s. The breadth of information available for any pupil is dependent upon the nature of the source. Admission Registers provide the richest source of data, whereas school and local histories may merely present lists of pupils and the year they were enrolled. Nonetheless, the information provided, however brief, may be enough to provide clues to break down brick walls in your research. The 88 *Qld School Admission Registers* provide varying data, depending on whether the register is for a primary school, infants' school, state high school, normal school, for example. Generally the registers provide the pupil's name, age, date of admission, religion, the class enrolled in and the child's address. In most instances the name of the enrolling parent, address, and parent's occupation will also be provided. In some instances, the child's birth date will be recorded, but these are not always accurate, particularly in times past where birth certificates were often not produced on enrolment. Registers for State high schools usually provide the name of the previous school, which can be very useful for tracking the locations in which families lived. Note, however, that these documents are images from the original registers, and therefore are not searchable. To use them requires scanning through a school's register until the required record is found.

Geoff Morgan

Trivia

Two Baby Boys are Twins, but an Italian Court Says They Aren't Brothers

Sixteen months ago in California, a surrogate mother gave birth to twin boys. The babies were the sons of a gay Italian couple who had used IVF to have children. But when the two men returned to Milan with their newborns, a clerk at the registry office refused to transcribe the babies birth certificates, barring the men from registering the boys as their legal children. Actually, that part isn't news. The Italian courts then issued a strange ruling: Despite being twins, the court said, the two boys aren't brothers! Details may be found in an article [here](#)

Woman Gives Birth to her Own Grandson

A California woman was told that she couldn't have children. A few years later, her mother delivered the younger woman's first child, conceived through IVF with the younger woman's husband and eggs removed from the younger woman's body. According to the grandmother, "The attachment for me was not an issue as people have predicted, because in my mind it was biologically their baby," she said. "I was just a deluxe Easy-Bake Oven."

You can read the full story [here](#)

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

Disclaimer: This newsletter is produced in good faith, and information received is deemed to be accurate, but the editor takes no responsibility for incorrect information supplied. [Editor's note: The opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of the Editor or of QFHS.]

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