

Snippets

November 2014, Vol 14, No 11

Where does the year go? The last members meeting for 2014 is coming up this month on the 19th of November. At this meeting we celebrate the year's achievements, as well as presentations of the Award for Services to Family History and Pre-Separation Certificates. Come along and support your fellow society members and enjoy an evening of family history chat.

On a completely different note, our recent stocktake has noticed a number of books are missing from the print library. Although we don't operate a lending library, books do occasionally find their way to strange places, and it would be great to see them back on the shelves. A list of the missing books can be found [here](#).

Calendar

- 01 Nov 2014 [DNA Interest Group](#)
- 05 Nov 2014 [Management Committee Meeting](#)
- 07 Nov 2014 [Family Tree Maker® User Group](#)
- 08 Nov 2014 [Scottish Interest Group](#)
- 14 Nov 2014 [Fridays@QFHS: Scottish Research: How to get started](#)
- 15 Nov 2014 [Family History Writing Group](#)
- 15 Nov 2014 [The Master Genealogist® User Group](#)
- 19 Nov 2014 [Members Meeting: Celebrations and Awards](#)
- 21 Nov 2014 [New Members' Welcome and Orientation](#)
- 22 Nov 2014 [Central European Group](#)
- 23 Nov 2014 [Welsh Interest Group](#)
- 27 Nov 2014 [English West Country Group](#)
- 03 Dec 2014 [Management Committee Meeting](#)
- 05 Dec 2014 [Family Tree Maker® User Group](#)

Happenings

Mt Thompson Open Day Postponed

Due to unforeseen circumstances the 80th Anniversary Open Day of Mt Thompson Crematorium (Holland Park) has now been postponed until early 2015. It was to be held on Saturday, 8th November.

Education - Workshops/Courses/Seminars

Fridays@QFHS: Scottish Research: How to Get Started

When: 14 Nov 2014 from 10:00 am to 11:30 am

Where: QFHS Library and Resource Centre

Presenter: Chris Schuetz

Researching in Scotland is not difficult but it is a little different to other places, so it may help to have some pointers. Come along hear from an experienced researcher of Scottish records. More information at <http://qfhs.org.au/events/fridays@qfhs/>

Members' Noticeboard

Talks at the Queensland State Archives

How to get the best out of Queensland State Archives' online catalogue

When: 2 December, 11am - 12 noon

Where: Queensland State Archives, 435 Compton Road, Runcorn

Cost: Free

For more details and to register, go [here](#).

Web Wanderings

Historical Queensland Births, Deaths & Marriages Updated

More than 1.5 million historical images are now available online from Queensland Births, Deaths and Marriages. For the latest additions to the historical listing, go [here](#).

NSW Births, Deaths & Marriages Website Upgrade

Some members have been having difficulties with the new site when a first or given name is required. Wild cards can be used when a name is not known. Wildcard ? will replace one character and wildcard * will substitute for any number of characters (full first name). The indices on the new site are being updated constantly so births which have a 100-year embargo are available on the day after the 100 year anniversary of the registration. The same holds for marriages and deaths. You do not need to wait until 1 January 1915. If all else fails you can go [here](#).

Free Settler or Felon: Hunter Valley Region

This site is a searchable database with references to convicts, settlers, bushrangers and more. Go [here](#).

British History Sources 1500 – 1900

This site brings together a range of digital resources related to early modern and nineteenth century Britain with a single federated search that allows sophisticated searching of names, places and dates. Find it [here](#).

Post-1996 Wills and Probate for England and Wales

The Probate Service for England and Wales has added a searchable database online for post-1996 wills and grants of probate, to complement its soldiers' wills offerings already available. The database is free to search, but a fee is charged for a full copy. Enjoy searching [here](#).

New to FindMyPast

Sussex, Surrey and London records including courts, wills and apprenticeship records. Go [here](#) for more information.

Four million Yorkshire BDM Records comprising scanned images of the original handwritten registers held by six Yorkshire archives and spanning the years 1538 to 1989. Go [here](#) for more information

Irish Newspapers. Go [here](#) for more information.

WW1 British Army Medal Index Cards. Go [here](#) for more information.

Inheritance Disputes Index 1574 – 1714. Go [here](#) for more information.

Access to findmypast is free at the QFHS library or via subscription at findmypast.com

RootsIreland.ie Adds Subscription Options

The Irish Family History Foundation, RootsIreland.ie, is the largest online database of Irish family records. The website's owners have now changed from a "pay per view" business model to a subscription model. The pay per view service is closed and no further purchases of credits can be made. You can read more [here](#) with a detailed explanation available [here](#).

Church of Ireland Gazette now Fully Searchable

All 52 editions of The Church of Ireland Gazette for 1914 are now available online in a fully searchable format. It provides the longest-running public commentary on the Church's affairs and provides an invaluable insight to the opinions and attitudes of members of the Church of Ireland through changing times. A quick guide to using the search engine is available [here](#).

Map of more than 250 Cemeteries of Texas, USA

A map showing nearly all known cemetery plots across Hopkins county, Texas, is

available [here](#). A list of the cemeteries is available [here](#).

US Civil War Soldiers' Graves Database

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Grave Registration Project has a fully searchable database online, free to access and search. It documents the final resting places of both Union and Confederate Civil War veterans. Place of birth as well as place of enlistment may be listed. The website can be found [here](#). To search the database at no charge, go [here](#).

General items of interest

First AIF Order of Battle 1914-1918

This is a reference tool for the reader or researcher of Australian military history and for the genealogist. It lists where units were raised, when they departed Australia and where they served. It is available [here](#).

Family Names of the United Kingdom

A project is underway called Family Names of the United Kingdom, set to create the largest ever database of the UK's family surnames. It will contain more than 320,000 surnames, with the intent to include all surnames in the UK with more than 20 current bearers. You can read more about it [here](#).

Petition for Early Release of England & Wales BDM Records

A campaign has been launched to enable greater public access to historical English and Welsh birth, marriage and death records, and your help is needed. You can read more about it [here](#), and in an online petition site [here](#).

Hebridean Connections

A website which brings Hebrideans and their descendants together has been launched to share the Isles' culture, history and genealogy. The site includes a database reaching back to the mid-15th century. Add to this a huge array of photographs, documents, stories, songs, recordings, maps, ephemera and background history, and the result is a collection that brings the history of these island communities to life, found [here](#).

Hawaii State Archives Go Digital

Hawaii's state archives are going digital. Officials said legislative records will go online first, but the more than half a million records will eventually include historic documents such as an 1849 petition. Some documents are already online, the remainder are expected to be completed by October 2015. Read more and watch a video [here](#).

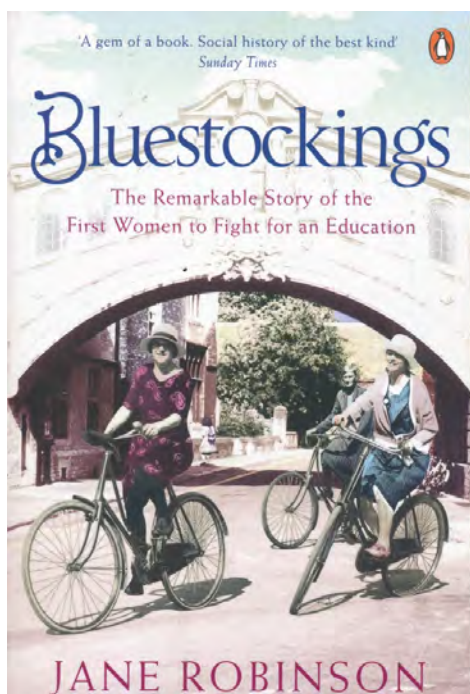
Reading Headstones

If you've tried to see what's on a badly deteriorated gravestone, you'll find the blog post at <http://organizeyourfamilyhistory.com/reading-hard-read-gravestones/> enlightening. It shows how to make visible all carving on a headstone, long after it becomes illegible, whilst leaving the headstone unaltered by the technique.

Familypedia

Familypedia is a wiki, part of the commercial Wikia site. It is a place where you can create articles about your ancestors and easily link them to other articles about where and when they lived. The site is primarily text-based with biographical pages about deceased individuals. If you have an interest in genealogy wikis, check out the free Familypedia [here](#).

Book Review



In *Bluestockings* Jane Robinson traces women's fight for an education in Britain. Generally education of a more serious nature was considered wasted on women in earlier times. An upper class home, or an enlightened father, were the only possibilities for obtaining an education for a woman.

There were some progressive schools such as the Casterton School founded in west Yorkshire in 1823, these were the exception rather than the rule. Thoughts of invading academia were years away, girls were not even taught the basics let alone the standard classical education provided in boys' schools. Ms Robinson traces women's long battle to acquire a university education that was

not a token "certificate". Even the wearing of academic dress was a contentious issue while biology, let alone medicine, were rarely taught to women. Classics courses strenuously avoided mentioning *Oedipus Rex*! English literature could also have its risky moments.

This is a timely reminder to modern women that the education choices they have today came after a long battle.

Bluestockings is well researched and sourced with an extensive bibliography. 261 pages, published by Penguin in 2010. Review courtesy of Pam Masel.

Trivia

Seeking Favourite Family Recipes

Miss Andi Gannaway, a student from the University of Queensland, needs five volunteers to recreate the recipes from their past, and has asked if any QFHS members would like to take part. The recipes could be for anything but she wishes to feature gravy, scones, sponge cake, stew and dumplings.

Andi plans to video a re-enactment of cooking each recipe and, depending on the volunteer's privacy needs, will publish these videos and recipes on "The Past is Delicious" website, still in development. For further information, contact Miss Andi Gannaway via email at andi.gannaway@uqconnect.edu.au

Tall Tale: the Genetics of Human Height

It's no secret that if your dad is tall and your mother is tall, you are probably going to be tall. But fully understanding the genetics of height has been a big order for scientists. How tall or short a person becomes is estimated to be 80 percent genetic, with nutrition and other environmental factors accounting for the rest. People have become taller on average during recent generations because of factors including improved nutrition. Go [here](#) for more information.

Donor Sperm Son Seeks to Reflect the "Truth"

A man conceived using anonymous donor sperm has applied to have his birth certificate changed to record his father's name as unknown. His present birth certificate lists the man who raised him as the father, even though there is no biological connection between the two. You can read more in an article [here](#).

Long Lost Family Reunited

A family was rediscovered when an Australian woman read of a 70th wedding anniversary in an English newspaper. A heart-warming story of family reconnection. More details [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

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