

# Snippets

May 2015, Vol 15, No 5

Welcome to the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of Snippets for 2015. During May and June seminar opportunities for improving your knowledge and skills about family history continue, as do the various Special Interest Group meetings.

This month's afternoon Members' Meeting (20 May), commencing at 1:30pm, features a talk by Dawn Montgomery on [The Ryerson Index](#). This index is a most useful resource for discovering details about Australian deaths and burials.

With May upon us, planning for this year's Annual General Meeting (10 June) is well underway. Please consider nominating for a position on the Management Committee, and for those positions that will become vacant, particularly that of Secretary.

QFHS Draft Strategic Plan 2015 – 2020. Prepared by the Steering Committee, copies of the plan are in the meeting room at the QFHS Library and Resource Centre for your perusal. This document will help drive our Society forward over the next five years. To that end it is essential that members have an appreciation of, and input to, what the document may ultimately contain – a Members' Consultation Meeting is scheduled for Saturday 9 May (1:30pm).

## Calendar

- 01 May 2015 [Family Tree Maker® User Group](#)
- 02 May 2015 Library Assistants' Team Meeting
- 02 May 2015 [DNA Interest Group](#)
- 06 May 2015 [Management Committee Meeting](#)
- 08 May 2015 Fridays@QFHS - [All About FamilySearch microfilms](#)
- 09 May 2015 [QFHS Strategic Plan Members' Consultation Meeting](#)
- 09 May 2015 [Scottish Interest Group](#)

- 15 May 2015 [New Members' Welcome and Orientation](#)
- 16 May 2015 [Family History Writing Group](#)
- 16 May 2015 [The Master Genealogist \(TMG\) User Group](#)
- 17 May 2015 [Welsh Interest Group](#)
- 17 May 2015 [Trout Game](#)
- 20 May 2015 Members' Meeting - [The Ryerson Index](#) explained
- 23 May 2015 [Central European Group](#)
- 27 May 2015 Nominations close for 2015-2016 Management Committee Membership
- 28 May 2015 [English West Country Group](#)
- 03 Jun 2015 Management Committee Meeting
- 05 Jun 2015 [Family Tree Maker® User Group](#)
- 08 Jun 2015 Closed - Queen's Birthday
- 10 Jun 2015 [Annual General Meeting and Book Award Presentation](#)
- 12 Jun 2015 Fridays@QFHS – [DNA Basics](#)
- 13 Jun 2015 [Ireland to Australia: Researching your Irish ancestors](#)

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## Happenings

### QFHS Annual General Meeting (10 June, 7:30pm)

In June, the Society will hold its Annual General Meeting. Perhaps you would be interested in being on the Management Committee. All positions will be declared vacant at the AGM; our Secretary will not be nominating for the position in 2015-2016. Nomination forms are available with the May journal.

QFHS is run entirely by volunteers. We are always seeking people to assist within the Society with roles as diverse as office bearer and committee member, library assistant, and helper at events and meetings. If you would like to contribute to the work of the Society please email [secretary@qfhs.org.au](mailto:secretary@qfhs.org.au).

### QFHS Open Day

QFHS will hold its annual Open Day on Saturday 22 August, 2015, during National Family History Month. Further details will be announced as planning progresses.

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## Education - Workshops/Courses/Seminars

Fridays@QFHS: All about FamilySearch microfilms  
**Limited numbers so book early to avoid disappointment.**

When: Friday 8 May 2015 (10:00-11:30am)

Where: QFHS Library and Resource Centre

Presenter: Bev Bonning

Microfilms of primary resources, such as parish registers, cemetery records, or poor law records can help solve your research mysteries. Let



us show you how to identify those films.  
For more information & registration click [here](#).

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### Fridays@QFHS: DNA Basics

Limited numbers so book early to avoid disappointment.

When: Friday 12 June 2015 (10:00am to 4:00pm)

Where: QFHS Library and Resource Centre

Presenter: Chris Schuetz

How can DNA help you find family? Are you planning to submit a DNA sample for testing to assist in your research? This session is a primer for those intending to take DNA testing for all male and female lines.

For more information & registration click [here](#).

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### QFHS Trout Game

Limited numbers so book early to avoid disappointment.

When: Sunday 17 May 2015 (10:00am to 4:00pm)

Where: QFHS Library and Resource Centre

Master: Ann Swain

Allow yourself the privilege of having a fun day in family history and play the Trout Game! The game simulates researching an English family (the Trout family) using eleven types of records. The aim is to see if you can get back to the 1500s. Use the game to see how good a researcher you are using basic research techniques that do not involve computer use, and find out why you may have brick-walls in your research.

Cost is \$5.00 which includes morning and afternoon tea (BYO lunch). To book, contact Ann Swain by email: [a.swain@bigpond.com](mailto:a.swain@bigpond.com) or telephone (07) 3352 5537.

For more information click [here](#).

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### Ireland to Australia: Researching your Irish ancestors

When: Saturday 13 June 2015

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

Presenters: Dr Richard Reid and Mary King

Topics:

- Learning to think of Irish research in a new way
- The great tide of emigration: 19th century Irish emigration to Australia
- There is no person starving here: Australia and the Great Famine in Ireland, 1845-1850

This seminar will show how Irish research has changed and how to use these changes to dispel the myth that Irish research is too difficult to undertake. During the presentations, ideas for investigating Irish ancestors and an understanding of how the Great Famine impacted Australia will be developed.

For more information & registration click [here](#).

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Webinar at QFHS – Qld State Archives presentation

Topic: Convict Records held at Queensland State Archives  
When: Tuesday 2 June 2015 (11:00am-12:00 noon)  
Where: The webinar will be projected for members in the QFHS Library and Resource Centre



No registration required.

For more information click [here](#).

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## Members' Noticeboard

### QFHS Strategic Plan Members' Consultation Meeting

When: Saturday 9 May 2015 (1:30pm)

Where: QFHS Library and Resource Centre

Please come along to this meeting so that you may learn about what is proposed for the future of QFHS, and importantly to provide your input into the planning process.

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### QFHS Members' Meeting

When: Wednesday 20 May 2015 (1:30pm)

Where: QFHS Library and Resource Centre

Guest Speaker: Dawn Montgomery (following the formal part of the meeting)

Topic: [The Ryerson Index](#)

This Ryerson Index is a very useful, and free, resource for family history research. It provides an index to death notices appearing in Australian newspapers. The date range covered extends from the 1803 Sydney Gazette to newspapers published within the last week or so. The Index also includes many funeral notices, and some probate notices and obituaries.

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### In Time and Place

The first Queensland State Conference will be held in October, with speakers addressing fascinating aspects of local, family and social history.

When: Saturday 3 & Sunday 4 October 2015

Where: Riverglenn, 70 Kate Street, Indooroopilly

Cost: A range of prices, listed [here](#).

Thanks to the generous support of the State Library of Queensland, the Conference Organising Committee is delighted to offer regional support to 15 country delegates - details [here](#).

For more details or to book, go [here](#).

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### Immigration and your Ancestors Seminar (GSQ)

The Southern Suburbs Branch of Genealogical Society of Queensland Inc. is hosting a Seminar -

When: Sunday 3 May (10am to 3pm)

Where: Scout Den, Carson Lane, Upper Mount Gravatt

The four speakers and topics are:

## Morning Session

Helen Smith: They came from afar – but did they stay

Shauna Hicks: What was the voyage like

## Afternoon Session:

Eric Kopittke: Hamburg Immigration Lists

Rosemary Kopittke: Queensland Customs House Immigration Lists

Admission cost: \$25 paid on the day; includes morning tea. BYO lunch, or purchase from nearby outlets. For further information or to register, email:

[southernsuburbs@optusnet.com.au](mailto:southernsuburbs@optusnet.com.au) or telephone : (07) 3208 2518

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## The Annerley-Stephens History Group Inc.

This Group meets on the first Thursday of each month at the Annerley Community Hub, 556 Ipswich Road from 6pm.

- Women in War: Finding Your Female Ancestors

When: Thursday 7 May 2015

Where: Annerley Library – 450 Ipswich Road (Corner of Waldheim Street).

Hear of historical events and get practical detail on how to research the history of your female ancestors. Speakers will be from Genealogical Society of Queensland.

Do you have a story of your family during war? We would like to hear from you on (07) 3892 2975 or email: [annerleybrisbane@gmail.com](mailto:annerleybrisbane@gmail.com).

Entry is free. Refreshments and food from 5:30pm for a 6pm start. Telephone: Robyn to book your seat (07) 3403 1735.

- History in the Pub: Chardons Corner Hotel

When: Saturday 23 May (11am to 1pm)

Where: Chardons Corner Hotel (corner of Ipswich and Cracknell Roads)

The Annerley-Stephens History Group Inc. invites you to a community discussion on the history of the district and to add your stories about the Chardons Corner

Hotel. Bring your personal photos and memorabilia with you to the hotel. Do you have a story about this hotel? We would like to hear from you: Call (07) 3892 2975 or email:

[annerleybrisbane@gmail.com](mailto:annerleybrisbane@gmail.com)

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## Qld State Archives Seminars for May & June 2015

Where: Qld State Archives - Lecture Theatre Two

Topics: Nurses in Queensland (Friday 15 May, 10-11am)

Basic Catalogue Search (Tuesday 23 June, 10-11am)

Where: Qld State Archives – Public Search Room

Topic: Using Microfilm & Indexes (Tuesday 23 June, 1-2pm)

For more information click [here](#).

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## Project ManyHands

Volunteers are wanted to join Project ManyHands to extend the family surname indexing provided by Australian family histories: a bibliography and index. This requires persons willing to expend time and money, and to follow detailed instructions as to which/how titles are to be indexed, for no reward other than the satisfaction of doing it. Anybody wishing to join this project should contact Ralph Reid - email: [intohistory@optusnet.com.au](mailto:intohistory@optusnet.com.au).

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## Web Wanderings

### Queensland Cemetery Records 1802-1990

This FamilySearch.org index combines several indexes, cemetery transcriptions, burial and other records from cemeteries in Queensland. The collection, containing 2,069,202 indexed images, also includes some areas of New South Wales, Norfolk Island, Tasmania, and Western Australia. Search the records [here](#).

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### New Newspapers at Trove

Details of newspapers recently added to the Trove website are available [here](#).

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### Findmypast

The following are available via subscription, or free at the QFHS library.

- New South Wales Gaol Photographic Books (1871-1969). Contains over 29,000 records, and consists of entries of prisoners from 14 gaols around the state. The records contain transcripts and scans of the original prisoner entries, and mug shots of individual inmates. Search [here](#).
- New South Wales Government Gazette Indexes (1832-1863). Consist of over 1.2 million transcripts containing rich details of life in NSW. The information is of an administrative and bureaucratic nature and can reveal details of your ancestor's property, occupation, transactions, and other useful biographical information. Each record includes a transcript of the original document. Search [here](#).
- Essex Wills Beneficiaries Index (1505-1916). Contains more than 156,000 records. The index records all people mentioned in a will, with the exception of witnesses and those with the same name as the testator – e.g. beneficiaries, relatives, executors, trustees, occupiers of property, adjacent landowners. Each record contains a transcript and an image of the index. Search [here](#).
- Craven's Part in the Great War (1914-1919). Contains in excess of 4000 records. It was designed to serve as a memento of the part that the district of Craven in Yorkshire played in the Great War. The memorial is divided into two main sections. The first is a nominal roll containing names, ranks and regiments, while the second section is a roll of honour. It includes photographs supplied by the families of the deceased. Search [here](#).
- British Newspapers (1710-1953). Fifteen (15) new titles and in excess of 5.3

million articles have recently been added to the collection, which now stands at over 124 million articles from across England, Scotland and Wales. Substantial additions have also occurred to existing titles, including the Fife Herald and Derbyshire Courier. Search [here](#).

- British Mariners, Trinity House Calendars (1787 to 1854). These are now fully searchable by surname. The records contain the details of British Mariners who petitioned for aid from the Corporation of Trinity House of Deptford Strond. Trinity House was responsible for the supervision of lighthouses and buoys around the English coast and also distributed charitable funds to disabled seamen and their families across the United Kingdom. Applications for help known as 'Petitions' and were submitted by seamen or their relatives to Trinity House. Each record contains an image and a transcription. Most records will include the petitioner's name, their relationship to the mariner, their age, location, circumstances and the date of their petition. Search [here](#).
- Royal Artillery Officer Deaths (1850-2011). Contains more than 17 000 records. The index lists the details of commissioned officers who were died during WW1, WW2, Kosovo, Bosnia, Borneo and Iraq. Each record includes a transcript of details found in the original records. Search [here](#).
- Royal Artillery War Commemoration Book (1914-1918). An alphabetical list of 3505 Officers of the Royal Regiment of Artillery who died during WW1. Each record includes an image of the original record and a transcript. Search [here](#).
- Royal Artillery Officers (1716-1899). Contains more than 7400 records. Officers in this list served in many countries. Each record includes an image from the original publication and a transcript. Search [here](#).
- Royal Artillery, 80th Field Regiment (1939-1945). Provides details for the 978 men who served with the Regiment. Each record is a transcript of information found in original records. Search [here](#).
- Clacton Roll of Honour (1914-1918). Contains the records of more than 1100 men from Clacton-on-Sea in Essex who were killed during the First World War. Each record contains a transcript and an image. Search [here](#).
- United States Civil War Pension Files Index (1861-1934). Contains more than 1.3 million records of pension application cards for veterans and their beneficiaries. Each record includes a transcript, with many including an image of the original index card. Most transcripts will list the applicant's name and year of application. The images may reveal the veteran's unit, the time he applied for the pension, names of his widow or children, pension application numbers, previous pension application numbers, certificate numbers, and the name of his attorney. Search [here](#).

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### The Prosecution Project

The Prosecution Project is digitising and transcribing court registers, and linking them to other resources such as the newspaper reports on the National Library of Australia's Trove website. Find more information [here](#).

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### Rare 1928 Photos of England in Colour

In the late 1920s and early 1930s National Geographic sent photographer Clifton R. Adams to England to record its farms, towns and cities, as well as its people at work and play. Adams happened to record it all in colour using the Autochrome process. These images vividly show how your English ancestors may have lived. View them [here](#).

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### UK Ordnance Survey Adds Four New Products to its Open Data Portfolio

A resource for anyone wanting to know where their UK ancestors lived or worked. If you find an address in an old record, this website probably can show you the location on a free map. More details [here](#).

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### Illinois Civil War Soldier Photos Online

One of the biggest collections of Illinois soldiers is available here. It is a repository for photographs of more than 8,000 Illinois soldiers who served in the Civil War. In addition to the names, regiments and companies in which soldiers served, other relevant information is included when it has been verified: where the soldiers were from originally, their residence at enlistment, the dates and the studios where the photographs were taken, and whether the photographs are tintypes, cartes-de-visite, or cabinet cards. Search [here](#).

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### Michigan Death Certificates (1921-1939)

Digitised images of Michigan death certificates from 1921 to 1939 are now freely available online. Search [here](#).

For the years 1897 to 1920 search [here](#).

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### Polish American Marriage Database (1892-1940)

Compiled by The Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut and the Northeast Inc. This database contains the names of couples of Polish origin who were married in select locations in North-Eastern United States. Browse [here](#).

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## General items of interest

### Online Copies of Irish Ancestor

This journal, published since 1937, contains hundreds of articles on Irish genealogy. The articles can be searched by family name and first name. Access is free [here](#).

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### The Digital Public Library of America (DPLA)

The DPLA is a general-purpose library that has a wealth of genealogical material. A search on the word "genealogy" returns a list of thousands of items available via the



library's online portal. An "item" might be information about a book, a photograph, a manuscript, a sound recording, music score, chart, map, moving image, or other object. An introductory video about the Digital Public Library of America may be viewed [here](#).

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### Digitised Genealogy and Family History Publications

More than 80 000 digitised genealogy and family history publications from the archives of some family history libraries are available at the following websites:

- [Google Books](#)
- [Archive.org](#)
- [Allen County Public Library](#)
- Brigham Young University - [Harold B. Lee Library](#)
- Brigham Young University, Hawaii - [Joseph F. Smith Library](#)
- [Church History Library](#)
- Houston Public Library – [Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research](#)
- Mid-Continent Public Library – [Midwest Genealogy Center](#)
- [Pennsylvania State University Libraries' Digitized Collections](#)

The menus and search methods vary from one site to another. Try searching for both people's names and their locations. Also, consider searching for keywords associated with fraternal organisations, religious affiliations, for example.

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### Think Twice Before You Merge Your Family Tree

Megan Smolenyak has published an article of great interest for all genealogists. She discovered that most of the published reports of Hillary Clinton's ancestry contain at least 25% of information that is incorrect. It seems that two women with the same name were born in the same area within a short time of each other. Most writers claim the incorrect one as Hillary's grandmother. Read the article [here](#).

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## Reunions

### Ashgrove State School Scholarship Class – 1950 Reunion

Are you interested in what happened to your fellow students after 1950?

Please contact Colin Williams on (07) 3354 3393 or via email: [colrosw@bigpond.net.au](mailto:colrosw@bigpond.net.au)

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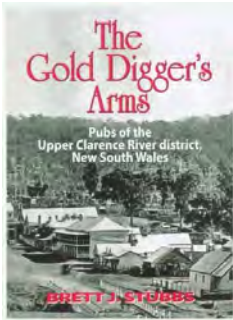
### Cobcroft Family Reunion/Celebration

This event will commemorate/celebrate the 225th Anniversary of the arrival in Australia of John Cobcroft and future wife Sarah Smith. The reunion will be held in Wilberforce NSW, on the weekend of 27/28 June 2015, exactly 225 years after John and Sarah arrived in NSW. The link to the Facebook group called "Descendants of John Cobcroft and Sarah Smith" is [here](#).

For more details, contact Anne Cobcroft: mobile 0423 954 880, or Warren Luxford: mobile: 0408 468 148.

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## Book Review



In *The Gold Digger's Arms*, Brett Stubbs presents local history with a difference. It is a history of the Upper Clarence River District, the area bounded by the Great Dividing Range in the west, the Richmond Range in the east, Tenterfield in the south and the Queensland border in the north. From the 1840s dray traffic was criss-crossing this area as settlement pushed north. Obviously, a pub would follow; they were wayside inns. In its busiest period, the area supported at least 50 pubs. Today only six remain operational. Numerous maps and photographs support this history, together with biographical details of some of the better-known publicans. The work is sourced and indexed.

(119 pp, Tankard Books 2009)

Review courtesy of Pam Masel.

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## Trivia

### Florida's Underwater Cemetery

Located in the Atlantic Ocean, east of Key Biscayne, Florida, the Neptune Memorial Reef was created in 2007. The Neptune Society's ultimate goal is to create a 16-acre underwater city containing the remains of 125 000 people. Currently, the reef is the final resting place of a few hundred. Read more about the memorial reef [here](#).

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### Wounded as a Slave, Died Free

Thanks to a genealogist's death certificate research, a Civil War story has been uncovered and the original story corrected. Hannah Reynolds was the lone civilian death at the Battle of Appomattox Court House. She died a slave at 60, hours before the war to end slavery unofficially came to a close. A century and a half later, Reynolds' story is being rewritten: a new discovery by a genealogist shows that she lingered for several days – long enough to have died a free woman. Read her story [here](#).

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### Mother Gave Birth to her Own Brother and Sister

Ellen Brown, a woman from Wales, gave birth to all three of the children in the picture at the link below. But only one, is her 'official' child. Read her story [here](#).

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### Guild of One-Name Studies

Paul Howes is the new Chairman of the Guild of One-Name Studies, with its worldwide organisation with more than 2600 members. Paul will be the 14th Chairman of the Guild in its 36 year history. More details [here](#).

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## “I Un-Friend You and I Un-Marry You”

A New York County Supreme Court judge ruled that a woman is able to serve divorce papers to her soon-to-be ex-husband via Facebook. Read the story [here](#).

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## The Burger-King Wedding

Joel Burger and Ashley King are getting married, finally uniting the two warring families of the fast food kingdom – a Burger-King wedding. This should be an interesting entry in some genealogy databases, details of which may be found [here](#).

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## Man Killed by Falling Headstone

A man decorating a gravesite died when a headstone fell on him in Pennsylvania. Stephen Woytack was kneeling beside his mother-in-law’s headstone as his wife was on the other side tying a cross on with string. The stone fell on Woytack, killing him. Read the story [here](#).

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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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