



August 2015, Vol 15, No 8

Another bumper edition of Snippets for you. We hope you find lots of interesting items.

Our Guest Speaker at your Members' Meeting this month is Jim Gibson. Jim is a long term QFHS member and he will speak on The Blind Hero of Anzac. You don't need to book, simply come along.

Our annual Open Day will again be held from 10.00am to 3.00pm on Saturday, 22 August. If you have a friend or relative interested in family history encourage them to visit and talk to one of our volunteer guides. The one day of the year when we open our library to the public to showcase our wonderful collection of resources.

Have you provided your Members' Interests for inclusion on the web page? This is a great way to make contact with family around the world. An application form can be downloaded from the website.

Don't forget to check out what is available from local societies in National Family History Month.

Calendar

- 01 August - [National Family History Month commences](#)
- 03 August - DNA for Beginners at Wynnum Council Library
- 07 August - [FTM User Group Meeting](#)
- 08 August - [Irish Interest Group Meeting](#)
- 14 August - [Brick Walls: solving tough research problems](#)
- 15 August - [New Members' Welcome and Orientation](#)
- 15 August - [TMG User Group](#)
- 19 August - [Members' Meeting. The Blind Hero of Anzac](#)

- 22 August - [Open Day](#)
- 28 August - [Library Assistants' Team Meeting](#)
- 29 August - [FTM User Group Meeting](#)
- 31 August - National Family History Month concludes

Happenings



35 years old and having a Party!

Who: Past and present friends, members, and all who would like to join us

Where: Railway Hotel, Gympie

When: 15 August 2015

Cost: \$25 per person (includes finger food and cake)

RSVP: [Secretary](#)

Queries: Di Woodstock 0419 224 628

Bookings and payment 8 August

Did you know that August is

National Family History Month?

National Family History Month is an initiative of AFFHO (Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations).

This popular initiative has received broad support from some of Australia's leading government and non government organisations since its introduction in 2006. Originally only a week in August, it was expanded to include the whole month in 2013 to allow greater participation across Australia. There are lots of events being held in Queensland this month. Check them out [here](#)



When: Saturday 22 August, 10.00 am to 3.00 pm

Where: QFHS Library and Resource Centre, 58 Bellevue Avenue, Gaythorne

Come along and bring a friend!

Members' Meeting

The August meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 19 August. The Guest Speaker this month is fellow member Jim Gibson, and the topic The Blind Hero of Anzac. Jim is well known in the Society as a keen researcher of wooden churches. Some years ago he became interested in researching individuals on the Honour Boards in the churches. Two articles written by Jim appeared in the February 2015 edition of the Queensland Family Historian.



Commonwealth Electoral Roll (Tasmania) 1916 launched

A welcome addition to the QFHS Electoral Roll Series was launched at the National Archives (Brisbane) last Wednesday. The Commonwealth Electoral Rolls are an invaluable source of information for family history research.

The 1916 Electoral Roll provides name, title, sex, domicile, occupation, roll number, subdivision and division. While enrolment was compulsory, not all complied with the law. Congratulations to all involved in the publication.

Photo: Tony Swain presenting a copy of the CD to Greg Cope at the launch.



Only 62 days to go!

The first Queensland State Conference will be held on 3rd and 4th October 2015 at Riverglenn, 70 Kate Street, Indooroopilly.

Go to [website](#) now to view the program

You are invited to join us for:

- National and international keynote speakers
- One and a half days of talks and meetings
- More than 12 speakers giving 18 presentations
- Trade shows and society stalls
- Networking
- Socialising

Reunions

Burton / Sanderson Family Reunion

Descendants and other interested family members of Henry Burton and Harriett Sanderson are invited to attend a Burton Family get-together in Roma from 10am on Saturday, 29 August at the Lions Club Den - corner Powell and Watson Streets, Roma. Please bring family photos and stories to share. Everyone is welcome.

For further information and to register, please contact: [Jenny Power](#) or [Anne Maree Hollier](#) or [Geoff Morgan](#)

Education - Workshops/Courses/Seminars

Fridays@QFHS

The following sessions will be held at the QFHS Library and Resource Centre, from 10.00am to 11.30am on dates shown below. You can register for a session at the library or on the [website](#). Numbers are limited so book early to avoid disappointment.



Confused about searching on findmypast? Come along and learn a variety of search methods for locating records relating to your family.

Presenter: Rosemary Kopittke

When: 11 September 2015

Preparing for an overseas research trip?

How to get ready for that long awaited overseas research trip: what to pack, what are the 'must-takes', where to go and much more.

Presenters: Sue Reid and Charlotte Sale

When: 9 October 2015



Surnames

Where did they come from? What different types are there? How can knowledge of surnames help you research your family history? What resources and tools are available for your quest?

Presenter: Chris Schuetz

When: 13 November 2015

Members' Noticeboard

Caloundra Family History Research Inc. Free Open Day

Celebrating National Family History Month and Sunshine Coast seniors' week on Saturday, 15 August from 9:30am to 12.30pm. Venue is at gate 2, Corbould Park racecourse, Pierce Ave, Little Mountain.

Morning tea is sponsored by Cota Queensland. Enabling people of all ages to come together and further develop intergenerational connections through family history research. For further details, contact Roz on (07) 5493 1197 or [website](#)

Web Wanderings

Victorian Places Website

The State Library of Victoria has launched a new website called 'Victorian Places'. It lists every town and suburb in Victoria and provides a history for each place with, photos, maps, excerpts from newspapers and current demographic information available [here](#)

New from Findmypast

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

New South Wales Registers of Convicts' Applications to Marry 1825-1851

This database contains over 26,000 records. Convicts in Australian penal colonies were actually encouraged to marry as Governors believed that marriage and family life were good for both morality and stability. The Governor had to give permission before any marriage could take place and copies of the banns would be sent by the local clergy to the Colonial Secretary.

Each record contains a transcript as well as an image of the original document. Some approved marriages did not go ahead, so you might find more than one successful application for your ancestor. Search [here](#)

Victoria Prison Registers 1855-1960

Over 7,000 records have been added to this collection and include a transcript and scanned image of the original registers; many include a mug shot photographs of individual prisoners.

They list fascinating details about not only the prisoners' offences, sentences and incarceration, but also biographical information such as their name, date of birth, country of origin and occupation. Go [here](#)

Australia Convict Ships 1786-1849

Containing over 188,000 records, Australia Convict ships 1786-1849 includes the details of some of the earliest convict settlers in New South Wales. They do not cover every convict who arrived in Australia on those early ships, as many have been lost or scattered to other places. Each record contains a transcript and a black and white image of original documents. Available [here](#)

Australia Convict Conditional and Absolute Pardons 1791-1867

Containing almost 27,000 records, this database lists the details of convicts who built new lives in New South Wales. The records list the details of pardons by the Governor and date back to the earliest days of the colony. Each record contains a transcript and an image of original documents. As well as listing the names of pardoned convicts, the records also include the name of the ship they arrived on, the term of the sentence they served, any additional notes, and details of their release. Enjoy searching [here](#)

Crime, Prisons & Punishment

findmypast.co.uk has added 1.9 million criminal records to their collection, making them available to search and download for the first time. From the Home Office, Metropolitan Police and Prison Commission, these records span from 1770-1935, and reveal many ordinary and extraordinary stories of criminals, victims and law enforcers. You can search [here](#)

Registers of Criminal Petitions (HO18)

The Registers of Criminal Petitions HO 18 contain just over 19,000 further records. Some petitions have additional documents attached, such as returns of convicts recommended for early release by the governor, newspaper cuttings and other documentation. It is worth browsing through the connected images as some petitions are quite lengthy documents that will give details of family circumstances and the grounds on which they are hoping to appeal their sentence. Details [here](#)

Registers of Criminal Petitions (HO19)

Containing over 77,000 records, the Registers of Criminal Petitions (HO 19) consists of registers of correspondence relating to criminal petitions. The records include copied letters that often refer to previous correspondence which may or may not have survived, and will usually give the outcome of the appeal. The registers also note the criminal's place of imprisonment. Search [here](#)

Judges' Report on Criminals (HO47)

Containing almost 7,000 records, Judges' Report on Criminals (HO 47) is comprised of transcripts and images of foliated handwritten letters and reports from judges on cases and criminals and include petitions for free pardons and reductions and commutations of sentences. The records within this set are name rich as defendants, judges, witnesses and victims are all named. They are also of significant genealogical value as details of the family circumstances were often recorded as grounds for clemency. Go [here](#)

British Army, Northumberland Fusiliers 1881-1920

Over 94,000 records have been added to the British Army, Northumberland Fusiliers 1881-1920 records. The transcripts list the details of men who served with the regiment during the Fourth Ashanti War (1895-1896), Sudan, Boer War, North West Frontier and the First World War. Each record consists of a transcript that can include the soldier's

name, residence, rank, battalion, enlistment, transfer and discharge details and any additional notes. Available [here](#)

Shropshire, Shrewsbury St Julian's Parish, 1831 census

The Shropshire, Shrewsbury St Julian's parish, 1831 census contains over 630 records from the ecclesiastical parish of St Julian in Shrewsbury, Shropshire. The 1831 census only recorded the names of the head of each household. Each record includes a transcript and image of the original document held by the Shropshire Archives. As well as listing the names, addresses and marital status of each head of household, the records can also reveal the number of buildings and families they were responsible for, the number of servants within their household, whether families worked in agriculture, trade or otherwise and the number of men, women and youths under the age of 20. Go [here](#)

Was Your British Ancestor a Slave Owner?

Slavery was abolished in the British Empire in 1833. Those who had owned slaves were compensated at the time for their financial losses when they lost their slaves. Historians from University College London (UCL) have catalogued the 46,000 British subjects who were compensated by the British government for losing in total 800,000 slaves as a result of abolition.

You can learn more about the Legacies of British Slave-ownership and also search the database for your ancestors by starting [here](#)

Battle of Britain and the London Blitz

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Britain. From July to September 1940, England was subjected to a sustained Luftwaffe attack. Adolf Hitler intended to achieve air superiority over the Royal Air Force, before launching an invasion. Instead, Britain's Royal Air Force held firm, giving Hitler his first major defeat of the war. To find out more about those who flew in the RAF during the war, see The National Archives useful [guide to resources](#)

Although the invasion of Britain never occurred, the Luftwaffe continued its terrifying and deadly bombing campaign. The London Blitz began on 7 September 1940, and, for 57 consecutive nights Londoners were subjected to an aerial onslaught. The Bomb Sight project is a fascinating online map of the drops using the London WW2 bomb census, which was taken between October 1940 and June 1941. Now researchers can explore where the bombs fell online, plus the website includes an evolving archive of memories and photographs from the period. Check it out [here](#)

WW2 Grave Records Release

Original World War 2 records for 1.7 million individuals commemorated by the Commonwealth Graves Commission (CWGC) will be revealed on 15 August. Details will include personal headstone inscriptions, date of death, rank, regiment and some documents which show the journey of the deceased to their final resting place. Available via the 'casualty search' option on the CWGC [website](#)

Another insightful set of records with a link to VJ Day is The National Archives' Japanese Index Cards of Allied Prisoners of War [here](#)

You can browse the index online, but to view an actual document you will need to either visit The National Archives or request a quote to have a copy sent to you. The 50,000 cards provide details such as: name, nationality, rank, camp, parents' names, date of birth and service number.

Merchant Navy Crew Lists for 1915

A volunteer project has made details of surviving First World War Merchant Navy crew lists from 1915, available to search online for the first time. Containing details of 36,000 voyages, and personal details of 750,000 seamen, these are a must for any historian or genealogist researching this period. Search [here](#)

Victorian Prisoners' Photographs

Record series PCOM 2/290 and 2/291 are formed of photographs and personal information of prisoners in Wandsworth between 1872 to 1873. Searchable by name and offence, these are ready to download [here](#)

The Marriage Locator

This website enables you to interpret the Marriage Index created by the General Register Office for England and Wales. By using it you can determine where your ancestors were married - not just which Registration District, but which church! The purpose of this website: to deduce, from the year, quarter, volume number and page that you have acquired from the GRO indexes, where the marriage took place. This is still a work in progress, and not all the data needed for all marriages is yet available. New data is continually being added. Check it out [here](#)

Inventor Ancestors?

Did you have an inventor in the family? Inventors would often apply for a patent. Information on patent applications for the Victorian era – and beyond – is kept by the British Library. To locate a patent application prior to 1890, researchers will need to use the British Library's paper indexes, which are not yet digitised so you will need to visit the Library or use its research service (fee payable) if you are not able to go in person. If the application was after 1890, then a search of the individual's name on the digitised patent database can be conducted [here](#)

Admiralty Court Records

Are you on the lookout for 17th century records to help with your family-history research? The MarineLives project is a collaborative public-history project, to digitise, transcribe and annotate the manuscript records of the English High Court of Admiralty. The original records date from the 1650s and 1660s. The archive is a fascinating insight into individual seventeenth-century seamen who were a boisterous lot, especially when 'in drink'. As well as records like witness statements, it includes documents such as the disciplinary code drawn up in 1647 by the master of the Mayflower, an English ship engaged in the slave trade. The complete set of digital images of this archive is now available [here](#)

Ireland Reaching Out Creates “Reverse Genealogy”

Ireland Reaching Out is a non-profit organisation. Ireland XO volunteers worldwide are networking with people of Irish descent in their local areas, by connecting people with the home parishes of their ancestors. Volunteers then invite the descendants to visit the homeland. Ireland Reaching Out hopes to build a database of the Irish diaspora containing 30 or 40 million names.

The website includes a message board and encourages Irish descendants to post messages about their ancestry. It also explains the concepts of civil parishes, ecclesiastical or church parishes, townlands, baronies and poor law unions. You can visit Ireland Reaching Out [here](#)

Irish Parish Registers Online

Images of Roman Catholic parish registers are now free to view on the National Library of Ireland's (NLI) [website](#)

These records date from the 1740s to the 1880s and cover 1091 parishes across Ireland. Typically, the parish registers include information such as the dates of baptisms and marriages, and the names of the key people involved, including godparents or witnesses. You will find researching easier if you have some idea in which parish your ancestors lived as the digital images will be searchable by location only, and will not be transcribed or indexed.

Using Online Databases to Locate Irish Ancestors' Baptisms, Marriages And Burials

The best place to start your research is with the transcriptions of Church baptisms, marriages and burials which are available on: <http://www.rootsireland.ie> for 30 of the 32 counties and at: <http://www.ancestryireland.com> for Counties Antrim and Down, including Belfast.

Using these indexed records, you can identify relevant records and then view a digital image of the microfilmed register which cover the period up to 1880/81 [here](#)

It is important to remember that the registers available only cover the period up to c.1880, the church record datasets [here](#) generally cover the period up to 1900 (or in the case of civil records, up to 1921).

Watch these free [online tutorials](#) for more details.

The National Library of Ireland Places Adds Catholic Parish Registers Online

The National Library of Ireland has placed the entire collection of Catholic parish register microfilms held by the National Library of Ireland online. Involved are over 370,000 digital images of the microfilm reels on which the parish registers are recorded and which will be accessible free of charge.

Dating from the 1740s to the 1880s, they cover 1,086 parishes throughout Ireland, and consist primarily of baptismal and marriage records. More details [here](#)

Reviving the Statistical Atlas of the United States with New Data

The Statistical Atlas of the United States was published by the Census Bureau and was full of statistical data from the census records. It also mapped things you can't see

directly, including crop yields, the prevalence of disease, the provenance of people and was last published for 2000. Nathan Yau has created a series of fascinating maps of the country built with data he has pulled from a variety of government websites. You can read a lot more [here](#)

Free Online Canadian Obituaries Database

The Drouin Institute has added 246,000 recent obituaries to its website for a total of 1,685,650 Canadian obituaries, from 1999 to 2015. The obituaries can be found [here](#)

Why is it so Hard to Find Genealogy Information in the Areas of Prussia, Poland, and Germany?

The answers to this question are actually quite simple and brief; although achieving an appreciation and understanding of their response is often somewhat more elusive. This page features a number of YouTube links to help you visualise the world during World War II. You can find the links [here](#)

Preserving and Digitising Newspapers

Archivists using the latest conservation technology are racing to digitise 300 years of newspapers before they crumble to dust. This fascinating article describes a huge project by the British Library that is preserving newspapers. Read more [here](#)

Crew Lists of Ships Hit by U-boats During World War 11

This site is very much a work in progress, but a valuable addition to shipping resources. Go [here](#)

General items of interest

Cyndi's List

This very popular website has just turned 20. The creator, Cyndi Howells volunteers her time to update the website regularly. She has written a piece about on her blog about "how it all began". You can read the article at: <http://cyndislist.blogspot.com.au/> The Cyndi's List is a free, categorised and cross-referenced index to genealogical resources on the internet. Available [here](#)

Touching History Colonial Walking Tours

The Rowan Tree Heritage and Cultural Services provide personal, authentic, quality tour services which specialise in Australian Colonial History. These tours are for visitors who want something different and are curious to know what set Australia on its journey to today. Visitors will discover the iconic and hidden places and stories of Australia's Colonial past in Sydney and its surrounds.

Tailored individual and group tours of Sydney, Blue Mountains and other locations are available on request - price dependant on nature of tour request. For more [information and online bookings](#)

New Series of Who Do You Think You Are?

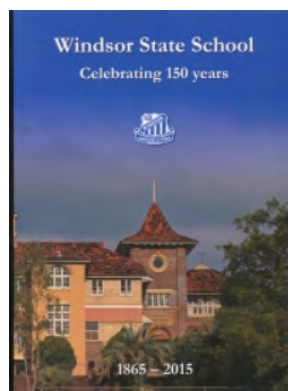
The next Australian series of WDYTYA starts on SBS Television at 7:30 on Tuesday, 4 August, and features Geoffrey Rush, Toni Collette, Luke Nguyen, David Wenham,

Dawn Fraser, Peter Rowsthorn, Grieg Pickhaver and Ray Martin. You'll find more details [here](#)

Genealogy's Often-Misspelled Words

Many of the words used in researching your family tree are difficult to spell. A few words to memorise [here](#)

Book Review



In his forward to the book the present Principal, Stephen O'Kane, points out that Windsor State has always had a strong sense of community spirit and support. Unlike many school histories which are essentially pictorials Rob Price has cleverly interwoven local history, educational developments, and personalities to bring to life 150 busy years.

He has chosen to present much of this by decades which allows major events to receive more in depth coverage while not losing sight of more every day episodes. Student memories from as far back as the early 1900's bring a sense of "belonging" to the history. Hundreds of photos illustrate the text be they of a simple slate and its pencil or the formal class groups.

It would be difficult to think that a Windsor past student would be unable to identify with something in these 160 carefully crafted pages. Overall Windsor's link with its community shines through. Review courtesy of Pam Masel.

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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