

Tomaree Family History Group Newsletter

MAY 2010



From the Secretary

Thank you to all who supported our **Mothers Day Breakfast** and Raffle. I am sure those who were present really enjoyed the morning.

Prize winners were:

1st Set of coins

Marg O'leary

2nd Pen

Belinda Frazer [Marilynne's daughter]

3rd Bag

Trish Robinson

Minor prize winners are:- Tom Parrott, Alf Scales [2 prizes], Brian A 'Hearn, R Wardell, P Hickey, Deborah Bennett, Vince Hughes, Gordon Thwaite, Ben [Anne Short's grandson], A Everett, Valerie Dawes, Graham Chapman, Sophie [Anne Short's granddaughter], Audrey M, J Duffy, Juliett Bryson, Jim Ebsworth, G Shannon, Noele Gray. If you haven't already done so please pick up your prize from the Resource Room.

Our next big event is our **ANTIQUÉ VALUATION DAY** on **19TH JUNE**.

We held 2 of these two years ago and they were a great success. Please spread the word amongst your family, friends and workplace. Admission : \$5 per person, which includes one free valuation. Time: 10am

Where: Tomaree Library Complex. At the next workshop we will be calling for helpers to run the day.

8am set up. Helpers needed.

Morning Tea will be available: Scones with tea/coffee \$2.50

Lunch will available:
Homemade soup with bread + tea/ coffee \$5
Homemade sandwiches + tea/ coffee \$5
Cold drinks \$1.50

If you can help by making soup or sandwiches please let me know.

We will need people to work in the kitchen

Coffee/tea makers

Soup

Dishwashing

Someone to take the money so food handlers do not have to handle money

There will be a raffle:

1st prize box of fruit & vegs

2nd prize bottle of wine

Donations of lucky door prizes would be most welcome.

Please spread the word!!!!!!

At the last two Executive meetings the committee has been working on a criteria for **Life Membership**.

Birthday greetings are sent to June Burgess on 2nd, Susan Dann on 21st and Debrah McGarrigle on 26th.

The newsletter is going out a little earlier than usual as I am going away for a couple of weeks to the Solomon Islands.

The **next workshop** will be on **5th June**. Please try and come along as the Executive put a lot of time into organizing these mornings. Marie will gladly accept renewal subs. Make sure you fill in a form in legible hand writing.

Don't forget to spread the word about our Antique Valuation Day.

Best Wishes to all
Marilynne Sharp
Secretary
Phone: 49810177

FOR THE DIARY:

• Dates for your Diary:

- June 5 Workshop
- June 19 Antique Valuation Day
- July 3 Workshop
- August 7 Workshop
- Sept 5 Father's Day breakfast/ Workshop
- Oct 2 Workshop T.F.H.G. WILL HOST A GENEALOGICAL SEMINAR [Keep reading your Newsletters for more information as speakers are confirmed]
- Nov 6 Workshop
- Dec 4 Christmas Function



Inside this issue:

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <i>From the Secretary</i> | 1 |
| <i>Mailbag</i> | 2 |
| <i>What is a GEDCOM?</i> | 3 |
| <i>Member Services</i> | 3 |
| <i>Membership Renewal Form</i> | 4 |
| <i>My Research Interests</i> | 5 |

Mailbag



What's new on the internet? [from Gould]

While Australia is a little behind the rest of the world in online genealogy content, it is coming bit-by-bit and as some significant databases have gone online recently.

FAMILYSEARCH

In amongst the 300 million new records that Family Search added to their Pilot Site a few weeks ago were:-

Australia Births and Baptisms 1792 – 1981

Australia Deaths and Burials 1816 – 1980

ANCESTRY

Ancestry.com.au continue to add to their collection, by adding the following:

Queensland, Australia, Passenger Lists, 1848 – 1912

Western Australia Post Office Directory 1910

Western Australia Post Office Directory 1926

FAMILY HISTORY SA

While not new, the following from Family History SA have been updated and extended South Australian Cemeteries Burials now includes Nailsworth North Road Anglican Cemetery – up to 1900

South Australian District Constables 1853 to 1920

South Australian Marriages 1836 to 1855

South Australian Naturalizations

South Australian Police 1838 to 1920

BDM REGISTRATIONS

New South Wales Births, Deaths & Marriages. This index contains the births, deaths and marriages recorded in NSW between the years: births 1788 – 1909, deaths 1788 – 1979 and marriages 1788 – 1959

Queensland, Births, Deaths and Marriages

Index records are available for births registered up to and including 1914, deaths registered up to and including 1964 and marriages registered up to and including 1934.

Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages

The Historical Index contains entries relating to births in Victoria from 1853 to 1908, marriages in Victoria from 1853 to 1942, deaths in Victoria from 1853 to 1985 and church baptisms, marriages and burials in Victoria from 1836 to 1853.

Western Australian Births, Deaths & Marriages

Free online searching of Western Australian birth, death and marriage indexes is available from the following ranges of years: Births 1841 to 1932, deaths 1841 to 1965 and Marriages 1841 to 1936.

The family -
that dear
octopus
from
whose
tentacles
we never
quite
escape,
nor, in our
inmost
hearts,
ever quite
wish to.

-Dodie Smith

On the Gould site I noticed this article and I thought it might be useful for our members.

What is a GEDCOM?

Gedcom is an abbreviation that stands for **G**enealogy **D**ata **C**ommunications. In short, it is the language [file format] by which different genealogy software talk to one another. All recent genealogy software supports **Gedcom** imports and exports.

Why do I need to know about it?

Can you imagine spending years and years typing in thousands of names, dates places and citations, only to find that when you upgrade your trusty five-year old desktop computer to a new swish little laptop you have to update your genealogy software too? Then you find out, your genealogy program won't work on Windows 7 [or has since been discontinued]...what do you do? Would you consider starting all over again? If you have your files saved into GEDCOM you won't have to.

If this happens to you, the first step to do, is to save your current files into GEDCOM, because if your files are in this format you can then bring them into ANY current genealogy software. Then secondly look for another program.

Another reason to send copies of your genealogy data to your reli's who are also researching the family, there is a good chance that they may not be using the same program as you, so to be sure they can read it – the safest way is to save your file as a GED and send that.

Another thing you will need to know about GEDCOM is that it is good, but not perfect. Not all the data fields in a genealogy program are specified in GEDCOM. Or your present genealogy program might be perfectly happy with a birth date listed as "after 1847 but before 1952" However once that information is exported to a Gedcom file and then imported into a family tree program, the birth date may say something else, or typically is left blank. Despite all the shortcomings, GEDCOM is still a simple and somewhat effective method of transferring genealogy data from one program to another. Most of the data will transfer properly, and then there are easy ways of reviewing the data to look for errors.

Generally names, dates, places and relationships do transfer without a problem, text, events, notes and source citations may not always work perfectly. The exact problems encountered will depend upon the two genealogy programs involved. But for a family tree of 1000's using GEDCOM to transfer your data still saves a lot of work, although retyping from scratch also does have its merits too.

Member Services

FOR NEW MEMBERS:

- Books and magazines can be borrowed from the Resource Room [not cds], please see the duty person.
- Photocopying/printing in the Resource Room must be paid for. [money to duty person]
- Stuck for a gift for a special occasion? Enquire about our Family Tree Certificates
- Tomaree Family History Group's first book "The Lives and Crimes of the Convicts who arrived in Sydney in 1791 on the Salamander" is available for \$25.
- Donations of food for morning tea are always welcome.
- The Secretary writes the monthly newsletter and the Tomaree Tattler. It is then sent to Michelle for distribution. Any correspondence should be sent directly to Marilynne not Michelle.
- Transcription order forms are available in the Resource Room.
- Please give the names you are researching to Michelle who will put them on our website. Fill out the details on the My Research Interests Form at the end of this newsletter. If you are unsure of what is held at the repositories have a look at their website or the Archives folder in the Resource Room.



Tomaree Family History Group Nelson Bay NSW Inc.



APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP

I _____ /
We _____

(PRINT full name of applicant(s))

Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Phone No.: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Occupation: _____

E-mail: _____

Hereby apply to renew my membership of the Tomaree Family History Group Nelson Bay NSW Inc., an incorporated association. I agree to be bound by the rules of the association for the time being in force.

Annual Subscription Due: (Please Tick):

Single \$30.00

Couple \$40.00

Enclosed is my cheque/cash for the above amount.

Signed: _____

