

Tea Gardens Hawks Nest Family Research Group Inc

“Spanning the Years”



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TEA GARDENS HAWKS NEST FAMILY RESEARCH GROUP Inc
Shop 3 Masonic Centre, 209 Myall Street, Tea Gardens NSW 23243
Postal Address: PO Box 250 Tea Gardens NSW 2324

Email: teagardensfrg@gmail.com

WEB: <http://teagardenshawksnestfamilyresearch.tidyhq.com.au>

OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2017-2018

PRESIDENT: Karl Lackmann

VICE PRESIDENT: Lesley Turner

SECRETARY: Anne Shannon

TREASURER: Daphne Frew

LIBRARIAN: Shirley Cox

EVENTS COORDINATOR: Ros Bridger

WINDOW DISPLAY: Jenny Little

NEWLETTER: Judith Glover

COMMITTEE: Stephanie Dee, Sue Bailey, Margaret, Munright, Jan Winn

PUBLIC OFFICER/HON. AUDITOR: Ross Taylor

PATRONS: Jan Winn, Norm Cruickshank

OPENING TIMES and MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

SATURDAY—every 2nd and 4th—10am—2pm

SUNDAY and MONDAY— 10am—2pm

MEETINGS HELD —3rd Monday at 9am—all members are welcome to attend

MEMBERSHIP—1st August—31st July \$15 Joining Fee

Annual Fee \$30—Single

\$40—Family

Membership March-July —Joining Fee + half year subscription.

Fees may be paid at Shop 3 or by direct banking stating your name and member number.

Direct Debit: Account Name: Tea Gardens Hawks Nest Family Research group Inc

Holiday Coast Credit Union: **BSB No** 721 000 **Account No.** 67652

Reference—Your Surname and member number (if known)

A LITTLE 'BIT' ABOUT OUR LIBRARY

Our library now has just on 4000 books, CDs, folders and magazines, It has grown from very small beginnings.

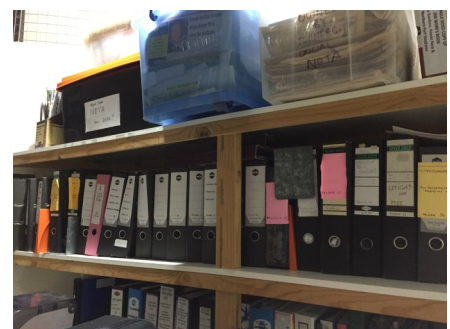
Our first acquisitions came from a generous donation from Cape Banks Family History Society – books, magazines and microfiche. Members of our new group made donations and also lent many volumes which are still part of the collection. These were displayed in shelving which came from the old library in Hawks Nest, thanks to the Progress Association, and which has now been modified to fit Shop 3.

As our collection grew it became necessary to find a cataloguing system which suited our members needs and which we could afford. This was eventually supplied by AGAMA, a program developed for small schools in the Northern Territory. All our resources are now catalogued under the Dewey Decimal System, and are easily searched for by keyword. The program also works as a borrowing system for members and for community visitors and researchers who are welcome to use what we have. Queries from those outside our area are usually about local families and history, and these can often be answered from our comprehensive local section. (It should be noted that as the Myall Coast Historical Society have no premises or museum we have been able to work with them and build up and catalogue our local resources to complement their knowledge.)

Community involvement has been extremely important in the development of our library: shelving, furniture and help with construction as well as donations have come such diverse sources as the local hotel, the Masons, the local hardware store and of course from our members. Books and other resources have been donated by or brought to our attention from the various service clubs, especially Rotary, the local library, the Op Shops and people who have come in off the street after looking at our window displays and offered books, photographs and other realia. Members have also found treasures at garage sales and the Dump Shop!

Many of our members, past and present, have helped with the library over the years – currently folders are being set up to contain newspaper articles and information gleaned from genealogical magazines. Hours have been donated to typing, preparing indexes, collating, covering and repairing and all the other usual library - related jobs. Displays have been prepared for the window, for stalls at community events and for the workshops and seminars we have held.

Our Accession Register lists all purchased and donated items. All of these and items of our own compilation are catalogued and classified in AGAMA. Items on loan from members are accessioned separately according to lender's name and are not priced. However they are included in AGAMA .



TGHNFRG HAPPENINGS



Once again, our group participated in the local Lady Lions' Australia Day Breakfast in the Park. Members surprised Jean with a certificate of thanks for the beautiful Christmas Cake she made and decorated which was won & shared by our member Helen Penman.



At the end of the morning!!!

Many thanks from our group to the local Surf Club men who willingly came and helped set-up and fold-up our gazebos. We will once again call on them for help at the next 'GreyFest' which will be held on 7th April 2018.

Community spirit here in Tea Gardens Hawks Nest was again shown, our Family Research Group lent our gazebos to the local Myall Masters Swimming Club for their annual carnival.



Just recently Kate Washington, Member for Port Stephens, dropped in for a chat, while on her way to Taree. Our new blue shirts look pretty good.

Orders are being taken if you would like to purchase a shirt with your name and Family Research logo, the list is in Shop 3.



Coming events

March 21st —Seminar—Registration details back page

March 31st —No huge garage sale in the Masonic Hall this year, we all feel we are getting a little old-er and need to cut down on the workload. Instead we are holding a 'Mini Market' out the front of Shop 3.

Cakes and or slices are needed as well as small bric-a-brac to be left at Shop 3 from 7am + helpers for the morning.

April 7th—GreyFest at Hawks Nest

April 9th—Open Day—Workshop to be advised.

April 9-10th—NEWCASTLE- Digital Access to Collections Workshop to be held at New Space University Newcastle.





BOOK LAUNCH

On **Saturday 17th March**, our Patron and local Historian Janis Winn will be launching her new book at the Baptist Church, Myall Street, Tea Gardens at 1.30pm - **“HAWKS NEST A BIRD’S EYE VIEW”**.

Following the launch there will be afternoon tea and a display of private collections including old lamps, irons, dolls, pelicans and old kitchen wares etc. Cost will be a \$5 donation on behalf of the Myall Historical Society.

SEMINAR

21st March 2018 is our Seminar to held at the Tea Gardens Hotel 10am - 4pm



Marilyn Rowan will be the first speaker and her topic is: **“Deciphering the information from Transcriptions”**.

Marilyn is just back from attending the RootsTech Conference in Utah USA and no doubt will give us some insight to her trip.



Jason Reeve is our second speaker and his topic:

“ Using Ancestry.com for Family History and An Introduction to DNA”.

A way of finding new details about your unique family. Jason is also just back from Utah.

Jason has kindly donated a DNA kit to be raffled and drawn on the day and the winner will also receive a 12 month membership to TGHNFRG.

We are extremely fortunate to have these two experienced speakers to come to our group.

A registration form is attached and needs to be filled out and emailed back with your payment and lunch order by the 12th March 2018. Lunch is included with your registration.

WHAT IS ROOTSTECH?

RootsTech is a family history and technology conference and trade show held annually in the Salt Palace Convention Centre, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA.

The first **RootsTech** was held in February 2011, drawing around 3,000 people. It was held again in February 2012, drawing 4,500 people. It was decided to move the event for 2013 to late March, and it drew 6,700 registered attendees and over 13,600 remote attendees. RootsTech has become the largest genealogy and family history conference held in North America. Many attendees and vendors come from other countries around the world. The 2014 event was moved to February, held 6–8 February at the Salt Lake City Salt Palace. Nearly 13,000 attended the 2014 RootsTech Conference in person, with over 100,000 remote participants . Wikipedia

ANCESTRY NEWS from Ancestry Monthly Newsletter -February 28th 2018

VICTORIAN ASYLUMS

Was an ancestor of yours admitted to an asylum? Or perhaps a paper trail has gone cold and you're not sure where else to look? Ancestry's latest dataset could help.

The collection contains more than 49,000 records from the Public Record Office Victoria's archives on asylums, a rich source of information for family historians.

The huge digitisation project took three months to complete. Jody Taylor from Ancestry oversaw the work, and while the records are generally in good condition, the most difficult part of the digitisation was ensuring that all pages of the volume were captured to a high quality.

Tara Oldfield, from the Public Record Office Victoria, says that the collection spans from 1862 to 1936, although each asylum registers across different dates. There are records in the collection on Ancestry from 15 asylums across Victoria, including:

Ararat Asylum, Ballarat Asylum, Belmont / Glen Holme / Landcox Licensed Houses, Cloverdale Licensed House, Collingwood Asylum, Kew Asylum, Kew Cottages, Lara Inebriate Retreat, Merton Licensed House, Mont Park Hospital for the Insane, Mt Ida Licensed House, Northcote Inebriate Asylum, St Helens / Pleasant View Licensed House, The Tofts Licensed House, Yarra Bend Asylum.

The records cover details such as name, age, relationship status, next of kin, length of stay, general health, and whether the patient is considered dangerous or suicidal. Tara says that or the best search results, it's good to narrow down the search terms as much as you can. *"It's helpful to first know the name of the asylum where the person was a patient, the year and rough date of admission."*

Family historians who are trying to find an ancestor who has disappeared from other records may find these datasets just as valuable. Paper trails can often lead to the most unexpected of places, and reveal fascinating stories.

The [Victoria, Australia, Asylum Records, 1853-1940](#) are available now on Ancestry.

Convict Records:

Ancestry have recently added more Convict Records to their index 1787-1867.

City Directories:

Also added is a new collection of city directories. 1736-1943. These directories can be useful for placing people in a particular place at a particular time and can typically tell you where an ancestor lived and worked.

A Good Hint:

Stuck in your family history research or just need a break? Find your grandparents in your tree and 'add a story'. Write a few sentences about your favourite memories with them. Do the same for everyone in your tree that you personally knew.



Some Things You Keep—Food for thought

Some things you keep, like good teeth, warm coats, bald husbands. They're good for you, reliable and practical and so sublime that to throw them away would make the garbage man a thief.

So you hang on, because something old is sometimes better than something new, and what you know often better than a stranger.

These are then my thoughts. They make me sound old, old and tame and dull at a time when everybody else is risky and racy and flashing all that is new and improved in their lives. New husbands, new careers, new thighs, new lips. The world is dizzy with trade-ins. I can't keep track, but I don't think I want to.

I grew up in the 50's with practical parents, a mother, God bless her, who washed aluminium foil after she cooked in it, then reused it and still does. A father that was happier getting old shoes fixed than buying new ones.

They weren't poor, they were just satisfied. Their marriage was good, their dreams focused, their best friends lived barely a wave away.

I can see them now, 50's couples in Bermuda shorts and banlon sweaters, lawnmower in one hand, tools in the other. The tools were for fixing things – a curtain rod, the kitchen radio, screen door, oven door, the hem of a dress. Things you keep.

It was a way of life, and sometimes it made me crazy. All that re-fixing, renewing, re-heating, I wanted just once to be wasteful. Waste meant affluence. Throwing things away meant there'd always be more.

But, then my father died, and on that clear autumn night, in the chill of the hospital room, I was struck with the pain of learning that sometimes there isn't any "more". Sometimes what you care about most is all used up and goes away, never to return.

So, while you have it, it's best to love it and care for it and fix it when it's broken and heal it when it's sick. That's true of marriage and old cars and children with bad report cards and dogs with bad hips. You keep them because they're worth it.

Written by unknown —taken from Heritage & Heraldry

At 2017 NSW Family History Conference held in Orange NSW, we were asked to write a short story about someone in your family you greatly admired. Gosh I thought, who would I write about, I had never really thought that I greatly admired any of my relatives. They were just relatives, Aunts, Uncles, Grandparents, always there and the little I knew about them was sufficient for me, but the exercise was to think and after searching my head for inspiration, I thought about my paternal grandmother.

Charlotte Ada Emerton was raised by her father, (a heavy drinker who died when Charlotte was 17) and her elder sister who was 14 when their mother died while pregnant with her 8th child. My grandmother was 3 and her younger brother 2 and there were four older siblings.



It started me thinking about her growing up without a mother, her schooling and her working life. Yes, like all, I should have asked more questions. All I know is that Charlotte Emerton's job was 'A Companion' to Mrs Merewether, (Newcastle Merewether family). Her job was to accompany Mrs Merewether when she went on outings. Her Companion in the coach.

Growing up, she would tell me how she had lots of 'sickness' and was hospitalised many times both before and after she married. Grandma raised 3 well educated sons and lived all of her 59 ½ years married life Cessnock in the weatherboard home grandpa built about 1909. She always wore stockings, had her hair cut very short (like a boy I thought when I was a teenager) did her shopping by bus or had her grocery orders delivered from the local Co-Op Store. Her great loves were her garden, she would bury all the vegetable scraps everywhere in the garden, her fernery, church, cooking, crocheting and playing cards. Most of all she loved her family. Grandma died aged 86.

Putting myself into her situation made me really appreciate the loving, compassionate, kind and soft hearted person she was to all her family. Judith Glover Member no 8



A TRUE STORY

“Do you have a pair of scissors please?” was the question an old gentleman asked the girl in the Office. “Why?” she asked, “Well after you scan this huge old photo of my dad in his first WWI uniform, I want to cut it up as nobody wants an old photo these days”.

Thank goodness the office girl gave him a phone number to ring to ask what to do with the photo. After speaking with the gentleman, it became clear that this son didn't have a lot of time for his dad. Growing up with a step-mother and a father he couldn't relate to, he had left home when quite young and had drifted from job to job for years until he found his soul-mate and married.

His birth mother had died a few days after giving birth to him and his early years were spent with various aunts until his father found a 'house-keeper' who arrived with her own child. The couple eventually married and so began the 'horrible' years.

His father was a 'box maker' before signing up for WWI and after returning home from the war, started up a 'bootmakers' business in the inner city. This son was to work for his dad as an errand boy and often found his dad lying down resting on the huge sacks at the back of the shop. “Loafing” was his expression of words, “he had three or four other men working for him, so he would take the time off to rest, which mad me pretty mad with him”.

Before cutting up the photo I asked him if I could do a search on his dad's records, to which he replied, “yes, but you probably won't find anything.” After a few hours searching the National Archives, downloading and printing off the information gained on his Army career, I took it around to the gentleman and left it with him to browse through the paper-work. His dad had served in the 17th Infantry Battalion, 1st A.I.F. in Gallipoli, and Canakkale, Turkey from May 1915—June 1916. It read where his dad was discharged from the Army because of 'Epilepsy, possible a form of war neurosis'.

I visited this gentleman a few days later and asked him had he read the paperwork. He was astounded at what he read and when I asked him what he thought about his dad now, he said “I am so sorry at not knowing about his illness and that could explain why he often laid down. I wonder if he could feel a 'fit' coming on and this would be the best place to be, out the back away from everyone. I wish now I had known, it might have changed things but it is too late now”. But those were the times!

This man is 91 now and told me his dad and a few mates had started the RSL at Kogarah. I suggested to him that he donate the photo and information to the Kogarah RSL as he had previously given them all his dad's medals.

How fortunate he asked for scissors at the Office and how astute was the secretary to forward him on to someone who was able to help him understand his father after all these years. His dad died at the age of 57, so the son has carried his 'critical' feelings for a long long time.



Not sure where I found this wonderful poem.

Remembering Anzac Day

He was getting old and paunchy, And his hair was falling fast,
And he sat around the R.S.L., Telling stories of the past.
Of a war that he once fought in, And the deeds that he had done,
In his exploits with his mates; They were heroes, every one.
And 'tho sometimes to his neighbours, His tales became a joke,
All his mates listened quietly, For they knew where of he spoke.
But we'll hear his tales no longer, For ol' Jack has passed away,
And the world's a little poorer, For a Digger died today.
He won't be mourned by many, Just his children and his wife.
For he lived an ordinary, Very quiet sort of life.
He held a job and raised a family, Going quietly on his way;
And the world won't note his passing, 'Tho a Digger died today.
When politicians leave this earth, Their bodies lie in state,
While thousands note their passing, And proclaim that they were great.
The Media tell of their life stories, From the time that they were young,
But the passing of a Digger Goes unnoticed, and unsung.
Is the greatest contribution, To the welfare of our land,
Some smoothie who breaks his promise, And cons his fellow man?
Or the ordinary fellow, Who in times of war and strife,
Goes off to serve his country, And offers up his life?
The politician's stipend, And the style in which they live,
Are often disproportionate, To the service that they give.
While the ordinary Digger, Who offered up his all,
Is paid off with a medal, And perhaps a pension, small.
It is not the politicians, With their compromise and ploys,
Who won for us the freedom, That our country now enjoys.
Should you find yourself in danger, With your enemies at hand,
Would you really want some cop-out, With his ever-waffling stand?
Or would you want a Digger His home, his country, his kin,
Just a common Digger, Who would fight until the end?
He was just a common Digger, And his ranks are growing thin,
But his presence should remind us, We may need his likes again.
For when countries are in conflict, We find the Digger's part,
Is to clean up all the troubles, That the politicians start.
If we cannot do him honour, While he's here to hear the praise,
Then at least let's give him homage, At the ending of his days.
Perhaps just a simple headline In the paper that might say:
"OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING, A DIGGER DIED TODAY."



Taken from "*Dugulluba Times*" and used with permission from Graham Popple Member number 22 from Logan River and District Family History Group

Sound Out Your Family History

I have just been reading an article in the November "Family Tree" magazine which I thought some of you may like to take a look at. It's an article regarding the use of the medium of sound to help you to understand what your ancestors may have done during their life time. These are basically English sites where you can listen to different topics. For an example you can listen to a 12 episode series about "The War that Changed the World" or ex farmers talk about traditional farming techniques. A lot of these sound tracks are free and others can be purchased on Cd's. You can listen to them online on your computer at home or if you have a laptop, iPad or similar then you can listen to them wherever you want to. You can also get "You Tube" videos such as one where you can hear watch old fashion ploughing with horses, which I am sure a lot of your ancestors would have done. There are a lot of different sites where you can find these recordings from all over the English mainland, thus enabling you to listen to the different dialects from all over England, Wales and Scotland. I am also sure that you would find sites with Irish dialects as well. I will give you a list of sites to check out and leave the rest to you.

Check out the BBC iPlayer Radio at www.bbc.co.uk/radio which has a good selection of the First World War including the 12 episode series mentioned above. Also at the BBC iPlayer Radio they have documentaries on history at www.bbc.co.uk/radio/categories/factual-history The British Library Sounds archive at <http://sounds.bl.uk> has recordings of WWI veterans in its 50,000 recordings online. In all the British Library has over 6.5 million sound recordings, but if you want to listen any of the ones not at the site you will have to go to the library itself.

SoundCloud at <https://soundcloud.com> which has a veteran recalling his experience at Gallipoli at <https://soundcloud.com/archivesplus/fusilier-2>

If you have ancestors who made gloves go to <http://familytr.ee/BL.JohnCornelius> and listen to an eight minute interview. (Don't miss the "." in the middle of tr.ee)

At YouTube you can find audio recordings as well as videos from well known poets, actors and even Kaiser Wilhelm II. The Kaiser's 1914 recording can be found at <http://familytr.ee/youtubekaiserww1>

Many archives around the country have audio recordings in their collections, so why not try out the county archive your ancestors came from and listen to people who would have talked similar to that of your ancestor.

There are also audio books that may interest family historians which you can get free at such websites Open Culture www.openculture.com/freeaudiobooks,

Thought www.thoughtaudio.co, Lit 2go—<https://etc.usf.edu/lit2go> and Scribl—<https://scribl.com/info/podiobooks-now-scribl>.

Podcasts is another form of audio files you can find. They may have been radio programmes which are now available on computers and mobile media players. These can be found at sites such as www.historyextra.com/podcasts and <http://familytr.ee/HistoryScotlandpodcast>.

Well I hope this has given you some food for thought. Maybe you could pass on sites that you find interesting and what may help other members.

Graham Popple Member No. 22

Thank you Graham, hopefully some of our readers and members will find this interesting.



Guest Speakers

Wednesday 21 March 2018

**Marilyn Rowan, NSW Birth, Death, Marriage
Topic-Transcriptions**

Deciphering information from Transcriptions.

Jason Reeve from Ancestry

**Topic – Using Ancestry.com for Family History &
An Introduction to Ancestry DNA**

A way of finding new details about your unique family!

Raffle Ancestry DNA Kit to be drawn by Jason Reeve

**Venue Tea Gardens Hotel, Silver Dolphin Room, Marine Drive Tea Gardens
10am to 4pm**

Cost Members \$25 or non-members \$30 includes your pre-ordered lunch

Pre order Lunch, please write your choice on the slip at the bottom;

- Chicken Schnitzel, chips & salad
- Grilled fish, chips & salad GF OPTION
- Battered fish, chips & salad
- Salt and pepper squid, chips & salad
- Bangers and mash
- Tea & Coffee included

Please complete Registration form and returned with your payment
by Monday 12 March 2018
email:teagardensfrg@gmail.com

Names: 1. _____ 2. _____

Contact details-email address: _____ Phone: _____

Lunch order: 1. _____ 2. _____

Member Non Member

- Cash To be paid at Shop 3/209 Myall Street Tea Gardens 2324
- Cheque Please make cheque payable to **Tea Gardens Hawks Nest Family Research Group Inc.**
Can be paid at Shop 3 or mailed to; TGHNFRG Inc., PO Box 250, Tea Gardens 2324
- Direct Debit Account Name: Tea Gardens Hawks Nest Family Research Group Inc.
Holiday Coast Credit Union, BSB No.: 721 000 Account No. 67652
Reference - Your Surname and 21/3 e.g. Smith 21/3 as payee