

Ryde District Historical Society and Family History Group e-NEWSLETTER APRIL 2018



NEWS UPDATE

- **LAUNCH OF GLADESVILLE HERITAGE WALKING TRAIL**
Come along and celebrate the launch of City of Ryde's latest publication 'Gladesville Heritage Walking Trail' which covers the area from St Andrews Presbyterian Church to Wharf Road. The event also celebrates the completion of the renovations to The Clock Tower on Wharf Road. The launch will take place at the intersection of Victoria Road and Wharf Road near the Sheridan Clock on April 18, 10 am to 11 am. *See attached flyer for event details.*
- **BOTANY BAY HERITAGE FAIR**
The Botany Bay Family History Society is holding its annual heritage fair on *28 April 10 am to 4 pm* at the Tradies Club at 57 Manchester Road North Gymea with plenty of free parking onsite. The theme this year is 'My Culture, My Story'. Entry is free. There will be many speakers on different history and family history subjects as well as an extensive selection of stall exhibitors available to purchase from.
- **OLD CORNER SHOP OR SMALL BUSINESS PHOTOS**
Do you know of any corner shop/small businesses/service providers, in your street or area? We are looking to add photos of these small businesses that are tucked away from the main roads and shopping centres to the RDHS photo collection. The business does not need to be currently operating. If you know of any, please contact rdhs1@bigpond.com with the address and we will make arrangements to have a photo taken to add to our ever growing collection.
- **ANZAC DAY SERVICE 2018**
This year's local ANZAC Day Service will be held at Anzac Park, Anzac Avenue, West Ryde. The Service is open to the community and will start at 9 am and conclude at 10 am. A morning tea will be provided afterwards for attendees at the Ryde-Eastwood Leagues Club a short walk away. If any RDHS member is attending and has a Society green polo shirt, please wear it on the day so the community is aware of our presence as a group.
- **RDHS POLO SHIRTS AND JACKETS**
If you would like to order a polo shirt (\$30) or jacket (\$55) please contact Sabina via rdhsfhg1@gmail.com for order forms and payment details.



MEETINGS! SAVE THE DATE

Here is a list of guest speakers planned for the Society's meetings at Willandra in the coming month – save the date in your diary so you don't miss out! *Tuesday Meetings start 7 p.m. and Saturday Meetings start 10 a.m.*

Tuesday	10 April 2018	'Cooper Tank Works' <i>Guest Speaker: Lucy Cooper</i>
Saturday	14 April 2018	'Secrets, Spies and Spotted Dogs' <i>Guest Speaker: Jane Eales</i>



WHAT'S ON TALKS, EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS

TALK: [THE LEGACY OF JACK MUNDEY: 50 YEARS AFTER KELLY'S BUSH](#)
TIME: 4 APRIL 2018 2PM to 3PM
VENUE: *History House, 133 Macquarie Street Sydney, NSW + [Google Map](#)*
COST: FREE

Without the green bans of the 1970s and after, the face of Sydney and many other Australian cities would be very different today. This illustrated talk will cover radical unionist Jack Munday's leading role in the fight against the 'slash-and-burn' philosophy of the green ban era – with a review of his ongoing legacy and inspirational leadership over half a century of dedicated activism. Join speaker **James Colman** (a Sydney-based architect, planner, freelance writer and part-time university lecturer) as he explores this iconic figure.

TALK: [THE 1857 DUNBAR DISASTER](#)
TIME: 14 APRIL 2018 2PM to 3PM
VENUE: *Sydney Mechanics School of Arts, 280 Pitt Street Sydney*
COST: \$3 Members \$6 Visitors – No bookings required

John Lanser, researcher and historian, will speak of the story of Sydney's most famous wreck. On the night of 20 August 1857, the 'Dunbar' arrived off Port Jackson in a rising south-easterly gale. During the ensuing storm the ship was carried side on to the rocks between the lighthouse and The Gap and within minutes the hull began to break up and all

but one of the passengers perished. Not until the following morning was the colony aware of the terrible disaster. (*Hosted by City of Sydney Historical Society*)

TALK: [YOUR HERITAGE HOUSE EXPLAINED](#)
TIME: 19 APRIL 2018 6.30PM to 8PM
VENUE: Ryde Library, 1 Pope Street Ryde, 2112 [View Map](#)
COST: Gold Coin Donation

Join us for to learn about some processes for renovating Heritage homes from a Council perspective. Gain insightful information on renovating and restoring period homes. Michael will explain what heritage listings are; explain common myths surrounding them & provide simple & practical examples of skills useful in the maintenance of heritage and period homes. *Michael Edwards* is a Heritage Architect and Heritage advisor to City of Ryde. Refreshments provided.

TOUR: [YARALLA ESTATE OPEN DAY](#)
TIME: 29 APRIL 2018 (Various Tour times from 10AM to 1PM)
VENUE: Dame Eadith Walker Hospital, Concord West NSW [+ Google Map](#)
COST: \$15 Concession: \$10 Child Entry: Free

The next [Open Day at Yaralla](#) will be on Sunday, 29th April, 2018. The grounds will be open from 9:30 am. Other than the time for your tour you, are free to visit the Squash Court and Stables complex, or just wander around the grounds until the gates close at approximately 2:30 pm. This is a scheduled time event and **bookings are essential**.

RDHS MAIL BOX

PRINT JOURNALS*

Irish Roots, First Quarter, 2018.

Family Tree, UK, March, 2018.

Liverpool Genealogy Society Inc., *"Links & Chains"*, February, 2018.

Burwood and District Family History Group, *"Ances-Tree"*, March, 2018.

Port Macquarie and Districts Family History Society Inc., *"Footsteps"*, February, 2018.

Wagga Wagga and District Family History Society Inc., *"Murrumbidgee Ancestor"*, Feb 2018.

Casino and District Family History Inc., February, 2018.

Campbelltown and District Family History Society Inc., *"Ghostbuster"* November, 2017.

**Print journals can be accessed at the Research Centre at 'Willandra' at monthly meetings or Friday mornings*

TREASURE TROVE - NEWSPAPERS

'TROVE' is a wonderful resource for a range of Australian newspaper and publications – there is so much of interest for both researchers and family historians. To see a current list of digitized papers and their publication periods available click [here](#)

Check out this tale from the [NLA BlogSpot](#) regarding 'murder, salvation and an unusual choice of vocation' as well as more interesting stories in the latest edition of National Library's digital magazine *Outbound*

STAYING SMART ONLINE

Our modern online technology is a wonderful thing but it comes with some downsides, one of which are a variety **SCAMS** from unscrupulous criminals. To stay safe online takes ongoing vigilance and knowledge. **Peter Rich**, our IT technician, recently received a supply of pocket guides '*The Little Black Book of Scams*' from the **ACCC** (Australian Competition & Consumer Commission) which can help you spot, avoid and protect yourself against **SCAMS**. Download a digital copy of the book at <http://www.accc.gov.au/littleblackbookofscams> . To stay one step ahead of the scammers you can also sign up for Government alerts at <http://www.scamwatch.gov.au>. Below are 5 ways to stay smart online:

1. Limit what you share

Be careful about how much personal information you share online. Information like your date of birth or address can be used by criminals to steal your identity.

2. Create strong passwords

Create strong passwords that are hard for others to guess. Weak passwords – like those with just a single word, or a sequence of numbers – are easy for criminals to guess using automated software. One tip is to think of "passphrases" – sequences of at least 12 characters that include a combination of words, and include numbers, symbols, and both lower- and upper-case letters. Remember – the longer your password is, the stronger it is.

3. Update your software

Keep your computers, phones and tablets updated with the latest software. Software updates often contain fixes for security threats, so by updating to the latest version, you're protecting yourself from those threats.

4. Back up your data

Security threats, like ransomware aim to stop you from accessing your files unless you pay a ransom. By regularly backing up your data, you're giving yourself a back-up plan. If you have less data to lose, it can be easier to cope with an attack like this.

5. Avoid online scams

Look out for suspicious emails and messages that come to your Inbox. If you don't know the sender, or you're not expecting the email or message, always think twice before clicking on links or opening attachments. **To find out more about how you can stay smart online, visit <https://www.staysmartonline.gov.au/>**

BITS AND PIECES

❖ THE RETURN OF 'WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE' AUSTRALIAN SERIES

Well it has been a long wait, but the 9th Australian series of '[Who Do You Think You Are?](#)' is due to air on **Tuesday 17 April at 7.30pm on SBS Television**. The 8th series aired in 2016 and had a strong fan base but it has taken close to 2 years for the next instalment to appear. New episodes of the British version have been airing but the 'down under' series has been keenly awaited. Keep the date in your diary!

❖ **MILES FRANKLIN'S LAST HANDWRITTEN DIARY FOUND**

Imagine the heart stopping surprise when *Kim Goldsmith* opened an old suitcase in her Dubbo home to find the last diary that her ancestor **Miles Franklin** wrote in her own hand! The suitcase was gifted to her from her late grandfather and had laid idle waiting for exploration at a suitable time. The diary was Franklin's 47th - last one before she died of heart failure in her Sydney home. The diary has been gifted to the State Library of NSW. Listen to the ABC radio interview podcast with Ms Goldsmith [here](#)

❖ **HISTORIC MEDICAL TOOLS FOUND IN TASMANIA**

A large collection of over 3,000 surgical pieces and equipment, ranging from the 1850's convict era to the early 20th century has recently come to light out of storage. The Collection of Medical Artefacts, also known as *COMA*, has finally found a home at the Jane Franklin College in Hobart after years sitting in storage. The collection is available for viewing by appointment. This [ABC News article](#) gives the details.

❖ **ROXY THEATRE RIPE FOR REDEVELOPMENT**

There are plans afoot to bring back to life the historic **Roxy Theatre** in Parramatta's CBD. This will include a \$96 million redevelopment with a 27 storey office tower. The Spanish mission style façade will stay as well as including a 700 seat theatre, ballroom, function centre, restaurants, cafes and shops in the redevelopment. The redevelopment will be situated at the rear of the façade.

❖ **LATEST WEBINAR FROM STATE RECORDS NEW SOUTH WALES**

The latest live webinar from State Records NSW's is scheduled for **Wednesday 11 April from 10am to 11am** and will cover the subject of Bankruptcy and Insolvency Records in NSW. The webinar is free and all you need to do is [register](#). If you are experiencing problems registering for the webinar email State Records at info@records.nsw.gov.au.



HOT WEBSITES

Try these Web sites to further your research!

<http://www.hemyockcastle.co.uk/measure.htm>

Old weights, measures and length terminology as well feudal castle terms.

<http://www.slq.qld.gov.au/resources/family-history/convicts>

British Convict transportation registers 1787-1867 data base from British Home Office (HO) records

<http://aircrewremembered.com/>

Comprehensive site dedicated to those (incl. Austlns) who served with 'Bomber Command'

<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/immigration/Pages/introduction.aspx>

Canadian Immigration including child immigration schemes – 1800's onwards

http://www.barnardos.org.uk/what_we_do/our_history.htm

History of the UK Barnardo charity and site to request information about relatives

<http://www.cartedevsite.co.uk/>

Photographers of Great Britain and Ireland 1840 – 1940. Lists, studios, dating old photos