



TEA GARDENS HAWKS NEST FAMILY RESEARCH GROUP Inc

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NEWSLETTER

July 2010

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Dear Fellow researchers,

This edition of the newsletter contains some helpful hints and memory "joggers" which we all need from time to time when doing family research. All of us, at one time or another, will encounter the dreaded "Brick Wall", a dead end from where there seems no way forward and our research is at a standstill. I hope that some of the tips in this edition will help you scale the walls and so make it possible for you to continue on your journey to new discoveries. I hope that you find it helpful and interesting. There are also many web addresses of sites you may not have come across before and they are all possible avenues for future research for the missing branch from the family tree.

Our AGM is coming up fast and will be held on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2010 10am in the Masonic Hall. More on the format of the day in the next email. I certainly hope that we will see all of the familiar faces and also be able to put faces to names we now only see in the mailing lists and email address book.

In the meantime, I would dearly love to receive any little anecdotes that you have come across while doing your research or other small short stories of your growing up and where you have lived before moving to this area. Anything you consider would be of interest or entertaining to fellow members is quite welcome.

If you are interested in Oral History, our local Historical Society is having a seminar on how to take and record Oral Histories in the Old Library - 9.30am - 7<sup>th</sup> August 2010. We need to know numbers by 24<sup>th</sup> July please. [rexlnt@tpg.com.au](mailto:rexlnt@tpg.com.au)

Happy and fruitful researching,

Rex Glover  
Editor

Some internet sites you may have not looked at yet.

Australian Newspapers Service: The Sydney Morning Herald has been digitised and issues from 1831 to 1954 are now available for viewing, and the first issue of The Queenslander is now available from 1866 to 1939. These may be found at <http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper>

Some websites for your Research

[www.microsoft.com/protect/yourself/password/checker.msp](http://www.microsoft.com/protect/yourself/password/checker.msp)

On this site you can check how secure is your password.

<http://www.ccansw.org.au/index.php/newspublicblog/cemeteries-index>

This is a site for NSW Cemeteries and Crematorium Indexes

<http://www.australiancemeteries.com>

Australian Cemeteries

[www.woronoracemetery.org.au/name-search.html](http://www.woronoracemetery.org.au/name-search.html)

Woronora Cemetery

<http://www.gravestonephotos.com/>

This site contains a rapidly expanding database of thousands of digital images of gravestones in England submitted largely by volunteers. If you find an image of a memorial, it will be sent to you by email, free of charge. All that is asked in return is a courtesy 'thank you'.

*(Taken from Kith & Kin – journal from Cape Banks FHS)*

Are you aware that you can search Queensland online for free.

Births: 1829 - 1914.

Deaths: 1829 - 1964.

Marriage: 1829 - 1934.

<https://www.bdm.qld.gov.au/IndexSearch/BirIndexQry.m>

You can find some Cemetery records for Brisbane, Qld online.

[http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/BCC:BASE:2141767752:pc=PC\\_899](http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/BCC:BASE:2141767752:pc=PC_899)

The same applies for New South Wales.

Births: 1788 - 1908.

Deaths: 1788 - 1988.

Marriage: 1788 - 1958.

<http://www.bdm.nsw.gov.au/familyHistory/search.htm>

Try the National Australian Archives for immigration and war records. This is also free.

<http://www.naa.gov.au/collection/recordsearch/index.aspx>

The Australian War Memorial is another one for assistance.

Check various sources available here.

\*Nominal Roll.

\*Collections.

\*Red Cross Wounded and Missing.

\*Commemorative Roll.

\*Roll of Honour.

<http://www.awm.gov.au/research/people/>

Another helpful free site where you send your information and ask for 'help', is-  
[genforum.com](http://genforum.com) Just type the surname in CAPITAL letters, but everything else in small type.

Some new additions to our library.

Burke's Landed Gentry of Ireland 1899  
Complete Peerage of England, Scotland, Ireland, Great Britain and the United Kingdom  
Treble Almanack and Dublin Directory 1822  
Ireland 1824 Pigot's Directory: Compendium of All Sections  
The Convicts and Exiles Transported From Ireland 1791-1820  
Map: Ireland c.1820  
The Scotch-Irish  
The King's County Directory, 1890  
Dublin Parish Registers: Dublin (St Patrick) 1677-1800  
Grenham's Irish Surnames  
Wives and Children of Irish Convicts: Petitioned by Husbands and Fathers 1825-1840  
The Family Tree Maker 2010 Little Book of Answers: Tips, Tools and Extras  
Presbyterian Churches in Australia  
Irish Town names 1901  
Hunter Valley Genealogy  
The Huguenot Book

A note from Shirley re some missing stock. Could you please check your shelves – just in case.

**BOOKS MISSING AT STOCKTAKE MAY 2010**

Occupational sources  
Forgotten children  
Nymagee  
Official Post Office directory  
Encyclopedic dictionary Volume 3  
Writing and publishing  
Shipping and Immigration  
Londoners' occupations  
Family history for dummies  
Violet Emily Pickup  
Gundagai North cemetery  
Port Fairy  
First in last out  
Floating brothel  
Their ghosts may be heard

Memories = Life in Australia  
Queen of the north  
Historical sketch of NSW facsimile  
Yacaaba and Tomaree  
Bulahdelah school centenary  
Legge's camp  
Tea Gardens Public School history  
History of Steiglitz

**There are also some CD's missing – these are not for loan**

NSW Pioneers  
NSW Federation  
NSW Between the Wars  
Various cemeteries compilation  
Blayney cemetery  
Newcastle crematorium  
NZSG Index 1 & 2

As your family tree grows, sooner or later you'll inevitably hit a 'brick wall' in your research. It'll probably seem as though the trail for your ancestors has gone cold. But don't fret - solving these mysteries is one of the joys of family history.

## Checklist

- Re-examine everything; a small error in your research can create a knock-on effect. An incorrect date, or name, may be the cause.
- Don't limit yourself to the birth, marriage, death and census records. There are millions of other resources, try them all.
- Be wary of name variations, particularly as you begin to go further back in time. Expect differences in spelling.
- Remember that people's ages may also vary, they may have been liberal with the truth, or simply not known their exact date of birth.
- Research collateral lines - investigating more distant branches of the family may lead you to solving the problems in your direct line.
- Discover more about the history of the area and time period in which your ancestors lived: understanding exactly how they lived is key.
- Continue to ask for help from your family, and the new relatives that you uncover with your research.

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### *LABOURER FOUND DROWNED - MYSTERY UNRAVELLED. 1910*

*The body of the man James Newitt, who had been missing from the Rutherford Hotel since Sunday afternoon, was found this morning floating in a dam in Goodyer's paddock at Rutherford, just off the road leading to Farley. The discovery was made by Mr. Edward Simpson, whilst mustering stock in the paddock, and information subsequently conveyed to the Police. Senior constable Dolman and Constables Byrne and Swan proceeded to the scene with the police cart, and the body was removed to the Rutherford Hotel to await the inquest. The body was floating face downwards and a stone, weighing between eight and ten pounds, tied in a black handkerchief, was fastened around deceased's neck. Deceased, who was a married man, about 50 years of age, was a labourer, and known as a hard-working industrious man.*

### *THE INQUEST*

*An inquest touching the occurrence was held at the courthouse this afternoon, by the Coroner (Mr J. McKensy, PM).*

*Senior Constable Dolman deposed that at about 9 o'clock this morning, accompanied by Constables Byrne and Swan he went to a large dam in Goodyer's paddock at Rutherford, close to the Great Northern Road. He there saw the body floating in the water, face downwards, with a large stone about 8 or 10lbs (pounds) weight, tied in a handkerchief around deceased's neck. The body was dressed in trousers and shirt and boots. He found a coat and vest corresponding with the trousers at the Rutherford Hotel, where he had been staying. His hat was also there. Deceased was reported missing on Sunday night.*

*Mary Ann Turner, a married woman residing at Branxton, deposed that deceased was her brother. He was 50 years of age and married, but living apart from his wife, who resided at Hillgrove. Deceased had a fall from a horse at one time, and since then when he took liquor he complained of pains in the head. About four months ago, when at her place, deceased, who had been drinking, stated that he would do away with himself. She said, "you will do no such thing".*

This man was Rex's great grandfather and finding this piece from the Singleton paper, solved so many mysteries relating to his grandmother, her half sister and brother, and her early life.

## 'GRANDMA AND THE FAMILY TREE'

There's been a change in Grandma, we've noticed her of late,  
She's always reading history or jotting down some date.  
She's tracking back the family, we'll all have pedigrees.  
Oh, Grandma's got a hobby, she's climbing Family Trees.

Poor Grandad does the cooking and now, or so he states,  
That worst of all, he has to wash the cups and dinner plates.  
Grandma can't be bothered, she's busy as a bee  
Compiling genealogy - for the Family Tree.

She has no time to baby-sit, the curtains are a fright,  
No buttons left on Grandad's shirt, the flower bed's a sight.  
She's given up her club work, the serials on TV,  
The only thing she does nowadays is climb the Family Tree.

She goes down to the courthouse and studies ancient lore,  
We know more about our forebears than we ever knew before.  
The books are old and dusty, they make poor Grandma sneeze,  
A minor irritation when you're climbing Family Trees.

The mail is all for Grandma, it comes from near and far,  
Last week she got the proof she needs to join the DAR.  
A worthwhile avocation, to that we all agree,  
A monumental project, to climb the Family Tree.

Now some folks came from Scotland and some from Galway Bay,  
Some were French as pastry, some German, all the way.  
Some went on west to stake their claim, some stayed near by the sea,  
Grandma hopes to find them all as she climbs the Family Tree.

She wanders through the graveyard in search of date or name,  
The rich, the poor, the in-between, all sleeping there the same.  
She pauses now and then to rest, fanned by a gentle breeze  
That blows above the Fathers of all our Family Trees.

There were pioneers and patriots mixed in our kith and kin  
Who blazed the paths of wilderness and fought through thick and thin.  
But none more staunch than Grandma, whose eyes light up with glee  
Each time she finds a missing branch for the Family Tree.

Their skills were wide and varied, from carpenter to cook  
And one (Alas!) the record shows was hopelessly a crook.  
Blacksmith, weaver, farmer, judge, some tutored for a fee,  
Long lost in time, now all recorded on the Family Tree.

To some it's just a hobby, to Grandma it's much more,  
She knows the joys and heartaches of those who went before.  
They loved, they lost, they laughed, they wept, and now for you and me  
They live again in spirit, around the Family Tree.

At last she's nearly finished and we are each exposed.  
Life will be the same again, this we all supposed!  
Grandma will cook and sew, serve cookies with our tea.  
We'll all be fat, just as before that wretched Family Tree.

Sad to relate, the Preacher called and visited for a spell,  
We talked about the Gospel, and other things as well,  
The heathen folk, the poor and then - 'twas fate, it had to be,  
Somehow the conversation turned to Grandma and the Family Tree.

We tried to change the subject, we talked of everything  
But then in Grandma's voice we heard that old familiar ring.  
She told him all about the past and soon was plain to see  
The preacher, too, was nearly snared by Grandma and the Family Tree.

He never knew his Grandpa, his mother's name was ... Clark?  
He and Grandma talked and talked, outside it grew quite dark.  
We'd hoped our fears were groundless, but just like some disease,  
Grandma's become an addict - she's hooked on Family Trees!

Our souls were filled with sorrow, our hearts sank with dismay,  
Our ears could scarce believe the words we heard our Grandma say,  
"It sure is a lucky thing that you have come to me,  
I know exactly how it's done, I'll climb your Family Tree!"

*Acknowledgements: Poem by Virginia Day McDonald*

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### Destiny

In 1944, two middle aged ladies met at church in Cessnock; the church, St John's Anglican Church, was where these two ladies met on most Sunday mornings. They addressed one another formally, even though they had known one another for years.

Mrs Spink most proudly told Mrs Booth of the arrival that morning of her new grandson. Mrs Booth also had a new grandchild, a granddaughter Judith, by now six months old, and the two ladies were quite excited about these children. Mrs Booth's granddaughter was in Sutherland and Mrs Spink's grandson was in Cessnock.

Over the ensuing months and years, these two ladies met regularly and indeed swapped baby photos of the children of whom they were so proud.

In the late 1950s, Mrs Booth's daughter, Frances, along with her husband, Stan, and their three children moved back to Cessnock from Oak Flats, principally to be able to look after the ailing Mr and Mrs Booth and also Stan's elderly parents.

These two children eventually met in 1962 and started dating and fell in love. When Rex went to tell his maternal grandmother he had met this wonderful girl, Judith Teggin, and was going to marry her; the old lady's face beamed and her eyes welled up with emotion. She was so excited and happy for both of us. It was only then that the story of the swapping of tales and photos was made known to the children. The two ladies could not have dreamed that their grandchildren would ever meet; let alone marry one another, this is the story behind the family ties of Rex and Judith Glover.

Unfortunately by the time of our wedding in 1966, "Ma" Booth had died but "Nana" Spink was there to see these children happily married; children who had been united since babies by a bond between their grandmothers were now united in love.

Rex Glover 2010