



THE CAMDEN VALLEY VOICE

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March 2018

The Camden Area Family History Society Inc.

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122-130 Argyle Street, Camden in 1938....



And again in 2014





From the Editor

This month the big news is all about the upcoming 15th Australian Congress on Genealogy and Heraldry at the Sydney Convention Centre this weekend commencing Friday 9th March.

Unfortunately I have been a little distracted for the last 2 weeks or so and therefore the Valley Voice has been somewhat rushed to get it ready for our March meeting. Hopefully better next month.

As usual any members who have articles for both the next edition of Camden Calling and April's Valley Voice please send them to me at w.sims@bigpond.net.au or cafhs2570@gmail.com all submissions will be greatly appreciated.

Happy Birthday To the following members for March 2018

Judy Bull 20th Mar
Fred Gibson 26th Mar
Lesley King 28th Mar
Meredith Oxley 7th Mar
Robert Wheeler 17th Mar



Inc.

Research Room, Library/Museum Complex, John St. Camden

The research room is currently open

Thursday 10:00am to 3:00pm

Friday 10:00am to 3:00pm

Saturday 9:30am to 12:00 noon

**There is a charge of \$10.00 per
session for non-members to use our
resources,**

There is a volunteer on duty whenever the research room is open. They are only too happy to assist with any inquires.

**If you would like to volunteer to assist
in the research room please contact the**

MEETINGS

Our meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month (except January) at 7:30pm in the Meeting Room of the Library/Museum Complex, John St. Camden.

To help cover the cost of supper we ask for a gold coin donation.

Visitors most welcome.

MEMBERSHIP

SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE

Normal	Pensioners/Concession
Single \$30	Single \$25
Couple \$35	Couple \$30



CAMDEN AREA FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY General Meeting

This Month on March 6th, Geoff Howe will be speaking on the book written about Janet's uncle who served in the RAF.

For Your Diary

Friday 9 – Monday 12 March 2018 – 15th Australian Congress on Genealogy and Heraldry at the Sydney Convention Centre

Friday 14 to Sunday 16 September 2018 - the 2018 Association Family History Conference at Batemans Bay Soldiers Club

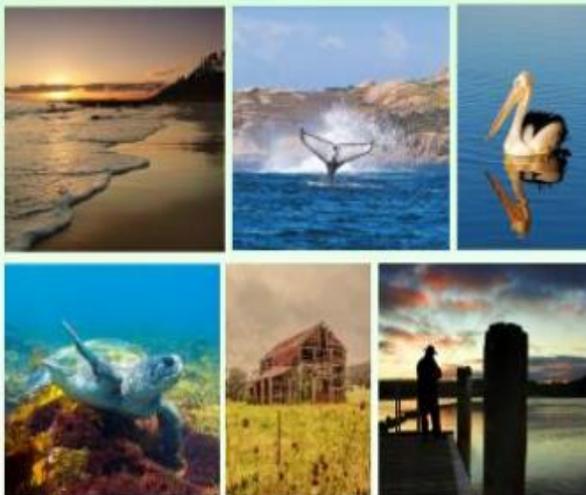


**NSW & ACT Association
of Family History Societies Inc
ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2018**



Sailing into History

**Friday 14—Sunday 16 September 2018
At the Batemans Bay Soldiers Club**



Photographs: Courtesy Eurobodalla Shire Council ©2017

PROGRAMME

Friday 14th September

**9.00 – 4.00 FREE Family History Fair
open to the general public**

Free public talks; workshops for conference registrants

Help desk to assist with family history research

For conference registrants

6.30 – 8.30 Meet and Greet

Saturday 15th September

8.30 Open

9.00 – 3.30 Conference

4.00 Annual General Meeting

6.30 – 10.00 Conference Dinner

Sunday 16th September

9.00 – 1.00 Conference

For further details access

Website: www.sailingintohistory.org.au

Email: info@sailingintohistory.org.au



NSW ACT Association of Family History Societies Annual Conference: Newsletter No. 3



Sailing into History

Date: 14 to 16 SEPTEMBER 2018

Location: Batemans Bay Soldiers Club

Hello everyone,

Welcome to the third 2018 Conference newsletter. The Conference Organising Committee is still sailing along nicely and making steady progress. There is so much to report.

The full programme has now been finalised.

Full details of the weekend programme is planned to be uploaded to the Conference Website www.sailingintohistory.org.au together with registration and trade table forms by 7 March, for enquiries contact info@sailingintohistory.org.au

Early bird registrations will open on 9 March and close on 6 July 2018. Registrations will close on 9 August. It is planned that registrations can be made using the Conference Website. Also the forms can be downloaded and scanned/emailed or posted. Details are on all the forms.

As many people will arrive in Batemans Bay on Thursday, we are planning an evening river cruise as an optional extra at your own expense. Expression of interest can be noted on the registration application. There are a minimum number of 30 with a maximum of 100. It will be a chance for the Organising Committee and others to have a relaxing time together. For information on many other local social activities in the Eurobodalla region go to www.eurobodalla.com.au our event is listed in the 'What's On' section.

If you are interested in alternative travel arrangements, Premier Buses have an offer (referred to as Red Tickets) that could almost be too good to be true, available for pensioner/seniors card holders. Travel on the \$2.50 (seniors) train ticket to Bomaderry then from Bomaderry to Batemans Bay on the bus for another \$2.50 one way. For full details and conditions about the Red Tickets you must phone Premier Buses on 133410. There are other discount offers detailed on their website www.premierms.com.au

One of the features of the Conference is the Forum, held on Friday afternoon. This is an opportunity for members of the family history community to ask questions, discuss problems and offer solutions and suggestions. The topic that is most prominent is the survival of family history societies. There are a number that are failing to thrive and yet others are going from strength to strength. It would be of great interest to all, to hear these experiences. To share what some societies do to maintain and grow and also to hear how other societies that are finding it challenging to survive. We can all benefit from an open discussion and each other's support.



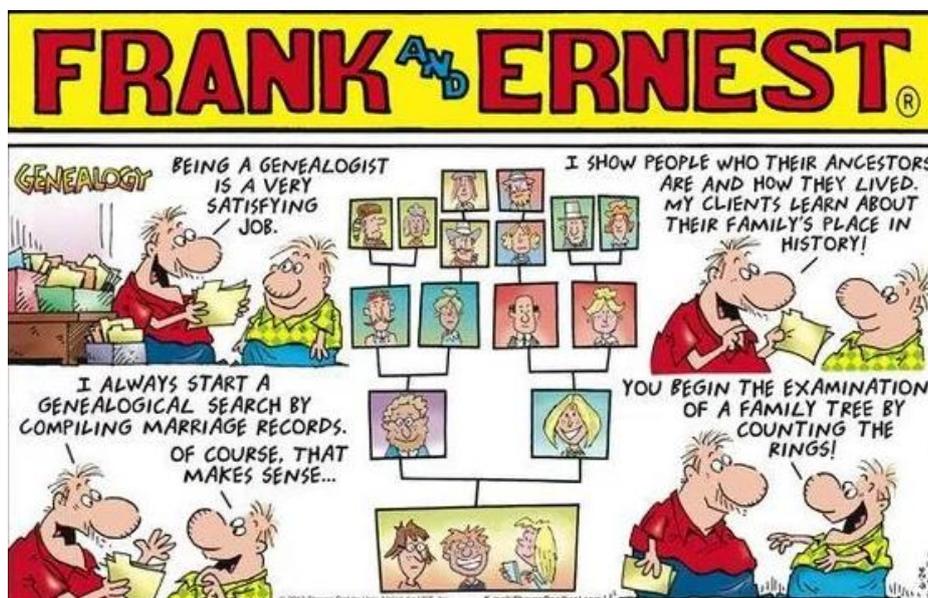
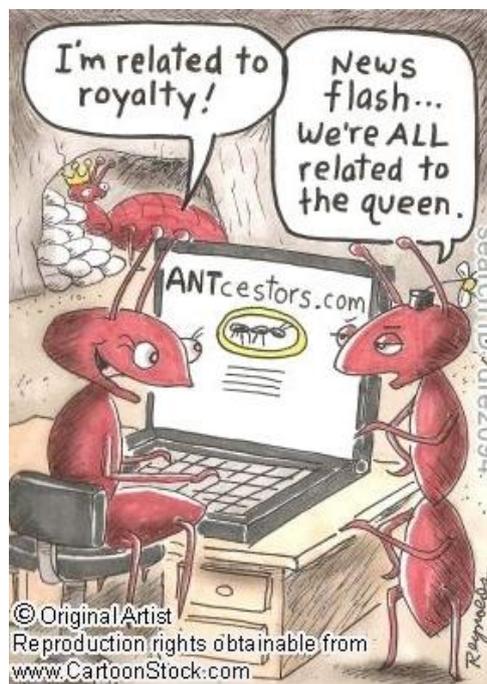
Featured guest speaker is Mr Bob Atkins representing Ryerson Index. Bob has been researching his family history since 1970 and started using Ryerson in 1998 when it was first inaugurated. He became an indexer in 2009 and now serves on the Ryerson Committee of Management. He is currently the indexer for the Central Coast Advocate and Muswellbrook Chronicle from its inception in 1898, as well as, working through the 1946 funeral notices of the SMH. He is at present developing a program to engage Family History Societies to participate in indexing. During Bob's presentation he will highlight the background of the Index and explain the interaction between the Ryerson Index and the Australian Cemeteries Index, both amazing resources for family historians.



The Conference Organising Committee is appealing to Societies members to consider volunteering one to two hours over the weekend to assist us in providing a great weekend for everyone. You will not be expected to give any more than one hour per day at a time, with your support all will run smoothly, until the next newsletter.

Suzanne Voytas – Conference Convenor

NSW&ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc. www.nswactfhs.org





A Few Excerpts from Eastmans Online Genealogy Newsletter submitted by Bob Lester for your information

Beauty Secrets of Our Ancestors

This is an advertisement from the 1902 Sears Roebuck catalog. The ad promises that **Dr. Rose's French Arsenic Complexion Wafers** "possesses the 'Wizard's Touch' in producing, preserving and enhancing beauty of form and person in male and female by surely developing a transparency and pellucid clearness of complexion, shapely contour of form, brilliant eyes, soft and smooth skin, where by nature, the reverse exists."

Note: I had to look up the word "pellucid." It means:

translucently clear.

mountains reflected in the pellucid waters"

synonyms: translucent, transparent, clear, crystal clear, crystalline, glassy, limpid, unclouded, gin-clear

"the pellucid waters"

Very white skin was all the rage at the time, mostly amongst women. Prospective buyers of Dr. Rose's French Arsenic Complexion Wafers were led to believe that regular use of the wafers would make even the ugliest person beautiful by clearing up any facial "disfigurements" and even softening angular features. And of course, the buyer was repeatedly assured that this particular dose of arsenic was completely safe.

In fact, the wafers apparently worked well but had one serious side effect: they often killed people.

Dr. Rose's French Arsenic Complexion Wafers were just that: wafers containing arsenic that the user was told to eat. Sometimes the user simply fell ill. However, amongst the elderly or more frail users, the user sometimes died.

Sometimes the "good old days" weren't all that good. Thank you Sears Roebuck.

In case you cannot read the wording in the above ad, here is the full text:

Every lady a possible buyer of this celebrated complexion preparation and beautifier. Regular size, also large size boxes, can be sold constantly at a very good profit.

PERFECTLY HARMLESS when used in accordance with our directions, it possesses the "Wizard's Touch" in producing, preserving and enhancing beauty of form and person in male and female by surely developing a transparency and pellucid clearness of complexion, shapely contour of form, brilliant eyes, soft and smooth skin, where by nature the reverse exists.

THE GREAT TROUBLE HITHERTO has been how to make this beautifying principle safely available and at the same time avoid what is detrimental and injurious. Arsenical solutions have utterly failed, and until a recent discovery by



a French physician and chemist, the internal administration of arsenic has been attended with more or less danger as well as disappointing results. In the direction for which they are intended **their effect is simply magical**, the most astounding transformation in personal appearance being brought about by their daily use. **Even the coarsest and most repulsive skin and complexion**, marred by freckles and other disfigurements, slowly changes into an unrivaled purity of texture, free from any spot or blemish whatever; the pinched features become agreeable, the form angular gradually transforms itself into the perfection of womanly grace and beauty. Used by men the favorable results are the same. **All danger is averted in these complexion wafers**, prepared by our experienced chemist, and the remedy taken in the manner directed on each box is absolutely innocuous, while the peculiar virtues of the remedy remain unimpaired and intact. Taken as directed the wafers will be found a **positive, safe and magical specific** for all sorts of **skin troubles, unsightliness and imperfections**, being in reality the only beautifier of the complexion, skin and form known. Guaranteed a **sure cure for freckles, moth, pimples, vulgar redness, rough, yellow or muddy skin**, and other facial disfigurements are permanently removed and a deliciously clear complexion and round up of angular forms assured.

LADIES, YOU CAN BE BEAUTIFUL. No matter who you are, what your disfigurements may be, you can make yourself as handsome as any lady in the land by the use of our **French Arsenic Wafers. We recommend ordering one dozen large boxes and then carefully follow our directions.**

No. 8R99 Our price, per dozen boxes, \$3.30; per box of 50 treatments... 35¢

No. 8R100 Our price, per dozen boxes, \$6.00; per box of 100 treatments, 67¢

If by mail, postage extra, per box, small, 3 cents; large, 3 cents.

Note: The word "moth" in the above ad probably is a typo error. It probably was supposed to read "moles."

New Records Added This Week to Findmypast

The following announcement was written by Findmypast:

There are over 291,000 new records and newspaper articles available to search this Findmypast Friday, including;

[Suffragette Collection Update](#)

An additional 3,000 records have been added to our recently released Suffragette collection. The new additions consist of fully indexed newspaper reports taken from The Suffragette (later The Britannia). The paper was edited by Christabel Pankhurst and was the official organ of the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU). In 1915, the newspaper title changed its name to reflect the WSPU's patriotic ideals and was used to campaign for the war effort while retaining a focus on women's issues.



At its peak the Suffragette had a circulation of around 40,000 and was used to announce the activities of suffragettes and upcoming meetings. It was also packed with interviews, first-hand accounts and articles related to a wide range of women's issues.

[Suffragette Newspaper Collection Browse](#)

Browse 271 issues of the Suffragette and Britannia. The collection holds issues from 1912 up to 1918 when publication ceased.

[Devon Baptisms](#)

Over 30,000 new records have been added to our collection of Devon baptisms. The collection now contains over 2.6 million records of baptisms spanning 400 years of the county's history. Individual entries will contain an image and transcript of an original document. Records will reveal a combination of your ancestor's date of baptism, place of baptism, parent's names, father's occupation and parent's residence.

Devon Baptisms covers most of the Anglican parishes in the English county of Devon and has been published in partnership with Plymouth & West Devon Record Office, and with the South West Heritage Trust.

[Devon Banns](#)

An additional 39,325 records have now been added to our collection of Devon Banns. Banns of marriage, more commonly known simply as the 'banns' or 'bans' (from a Middle English word meaning 'proclamation', rooted in the Old French) are the public announcement in a Christian parish church of an impending marriage. Their purpose is to prevent invalid marriages by allowing anyone to raise any canonical or civil legal impediment to the marriage.

Spanning the years 1629 to 1918, the Devon Banns collection was published in association with the South West Heritage Trust and Parochial Church Council. Records include both transcripts and images of original documents that will reveal your ancestor's banns dates, intended spouse's name and couple's residences.

[Devon Marriages](#)

Over 79,000 new records have been added to our collection of Devon Marriages. The collection covers the years between 1507 and 2002 and consists of images and transcripts that have been made available online thanks to the assistance of volunteers of the Devon Family History Society. While the collection is made up of Anglican parish registers, other religious denominations, with the exception of Quakers and Jews, often registered these events in their local Church of England parish even after the Toleration Act of 1689. Between 1754 and 1837 it was illegal to marry anywhere other than a Church of England parish. Transcripts and images will reveal your ancestor's marriage date, spouse's name, and parish, bride's maiden name, groom's occupation and names of witnesses.



[Devon Burials](#)

31,351 new records have been added to our collection of Devon Burials. The collection consists of original Anglican parish registers and burial registers from Ford Park Cemetery and Torquay Cemetery. Devon burials now contains over 2.1 million records spanning 450 years that will reveal your ancestor's birth year, death year, burial date and burial location.

[Devon, Plymouth & West Devon Parish Registers Browse](#)

This week's new additions to our collections of Devon parish baptisms, banns, marriages and burials are also available to browse. Our browse function allows you to explore thousands of pages of original registers spanning three centuries of Devonshire history. All the images were created from the original registers held at the Plymouth & West Devon Record Office.

[British in India](#)

Over 56,000 records have been added to our collection of British in India records. The new additions contain biographical and service data on the families and officers of the East India Company taken from an index compiled by Lieutenant-Colonel Kendall Percy-Smith. The collection allows you to explore names of British people who either lived, worked or travelled in India from as early as 1664 up to 1961. This collection includes carefully indexed records of births, marriages, divorces and deaths. With one record you may reveal numerous family names and

[**A Digital Project is Underway to Recreate Ireland's Public Record Office Destroyed by Fire in 1922**](#)

A project is under way to digitally recreate the building and contents of the Public Record Office of Ireland, which were destroyed by an explosion and fire at Dublin's Four Courts in 1922. The six-story Victorian building went up in flames on 30 June 1922 during the Civil War. Seven centuries of Ireland's historical and genealogical records were lost, seemingly forever.

However, thanks to new technology, historical research and careful archival practise, Trinity College Dublin says these losses "are not irrecoverable". The "Beyond 2022: Ireland's Virtual Record Treasury" project will see the creation of a virtual reality reconstruction of the Public Record Office.

The completed virtual reality project will be made available on the centenary of the Four Courts fire in 2022. The project website is <http://www.beyond2022.ie>.

You can learn a lot more in an article by Philip Bromwell at <http://bit.ly/2H3khPN>. A video that explains the project is also available at the same address.



Over 650,000 Criminal Records Added to TheGenealogist

The following announcement was written by the folks at TheGenealogist:

[TheGenealogist](#) has added **651,369 quarterly returns of convicts** from The National Archives' HO 8 documents to their **Court & Criminal Records collection**. With this release researchers can find the details of ancestors that broke the law and were incarcerated in convict hulks and prisons in the 19th century.

The new data includes:

- **651,369 Records** covering the years 1824 to 1854
- Quarterly returns from **Convict Hulks, Convict Prisons and Criminal Lunatic Asylums**

These **fully searchable** records are from the **The Home Office: Sworn lists of convicts on board the convict hulks and in the convict prisons (HO 8)**. They give the family history researcher fascinating facts that include the particulars of age, convictions, sentences, health and behaviour of the convict, as well as which court sentenced them and where they were serving their sentence.

Read TheGenealogist's article "Criminal records of convicts on the Hulks" at:

<https://www.thegenealogist.co.uk/featuredarticles/2018/criminal-records-of-convicts-on-the-hulks-739/>

About TheGenealogist

[TheGenealogist](#) is an award-winning online family history website, who put a wealth of information at the fingertips of family historians. Their approach is to bring hard to use physical records to life online with easy to use interfaces such as their Tithes and newly released Lloyd George Domesday collections.

[TheGenealogist's](#) innovative SmartSearch technology links records together to help you find your ancestors more easily. [TheGenealogist](#) is one of the leading providers of online family history records. Along with the standard Birth, Marriage, Death and Census records, they also have significant collections of Parish and Nonconformist records, PCC Will Records, Irish Records, Military records, Occupations, Newspaper record collections amongst many others.

[TheGenealogist](#) uses the latest technology to help you bring your family history to life. Use [TheGenealogist](#) to find your ancestors today!

About The National Archives

[The National Archives](#) is one of the world's most valuable resources for research and an independent research organisation in its own right. As the official archive and publisher for the UK government, and England and Wales they are the guardians of some of the UK's most iconic national documents, dating back over 1,000 years. Their



role is to collect and secure the future of the government record, both digital and physical, to preserve it for generations to come, and to make it as accessible and available as possible. [The National Archives](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/) brings together the skills and specialisms needed to conserve some of the oldest historic documents as well as leading digital archive practices to manage and preserve government information past, present and future.

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/> <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/>

How to Preserve Your Family Memories, Letters and Trinkets... and How Not To

Quoting from an article written by Kelsey Mckinney in the New York Times:

Recently, someone wrote to Mary Oey, a conservator at the Library of Congress, asking for help archiving her father's personal papers. He was a Holocaust survivor, and he had used his diaries and papers as primary sources to teach schoolchildren about his experience. He had laminated them to keep them safe, and — Ms. Oey gave a mournful sigh as she told this story — lamination is a terrible way to preserve documents. There was no way to save this patron's history.

"The only way to extricate paper from lamination is to use lots of solvents to dissolve the plastic," Ms. Oey said. "Some stiffer laminations, we don't know how to get off, and it doesn't protect the document. The lamination itself can ruin a document beyond repair."

The article then goes on at some length about the proper and the improper ways to preserve family valuables, including papers, love letters, photographs, furniture, wedding dresses, record collections, and more. This should be required reading for all genealogists! The author also mentions the preservation efforts of Denise Levenick, a well-known genealogy blogger.

You can read *How to Preserve Your Family Memories, Letters and Trinkets* at: <http://nyti.ms/2G0fkGf>.

My thanks to newsletter reader Jim Henderson for telling me about this story.