Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations
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Current Projects
Save the Census Index of Indexes
National Family History Month (AUS)
National Family History Month (NZ)

Membership
Full membership is open to any organisation based in Australasia, which satisfies the Council that it is primarily concerned with family history, genealogy, heraldry or allied subjects.

Associate membership is open to any organisation which satisfies the Council that it is interested in family history, genealogy, heraldry or allied subjects.

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A word from the President

As we approach Christmas and New Year many of us will be thinking of family and holidays. In December we get very little time for family history but this is a time when we may meet up with some of the older members of our families. If asked they will often give us clues to previous generations. One of the questions I asked an aunt recently was “How did you celebrate Christmas when you were a child?”. The answer was very revealing as it led me to understand some of the hardships of the early 20th century living. It also gave me some more family history as she told me about the comings and goings of some of the people I only know by name.

I have also been delving into the newly released 1939 Register which has details of 41 million people in England and Wales. This was the basis for issuing identity cards and ration books as well as conscription lists. Even though I thought I knew where to find my Williams family I have not been able to identify them from the many thousands of Williams families. I do hope that you have more luck than I have had.

With very best wishes for the festive period.

Robyn Williams
President
AFFHO

May you have a wonderful Christmas . . . and find many of your missing links as a special Christmas treat.

Together we can achieve much more!
News from Caloundra

After seeing the great array of interesting events on offer for National Family History Month, by the associations and groups on the Sunshine Coast, Caloundra Family History Research Inc wondered how successful their Open Day on Saturday 15 August would be. Thankfully, due in the main to widespread publication by local community newspapers, magazines, television and websites, it was a resounding success.

The celebration commenced when the resource centre at the SCTC opened at 9.30 am, and 24 visitors were welcomed to the library. They came from the greater Caloundra area, as well as the Hinterland. A dozen CFHRI members heeded the call to assist in providing free research advice, and information on what the group has available for those commencing their family history research. The group was also pleased that their Patroness, Judy McArdle could spend the morning at the Library, and along with all those present, enjoyed the lovely morning tea in the meeting room.

Visitors are always welcome at the CFHRI resource centre, where there is plenty of parking and wheelchair access. The library is located at the Sunshine Coast Turf Club, and is accessed through Gate 2 on Pierce Avenue. A map is on the website at <www.caloundrafamilyhistory.org.au>. For further information on the group’s activities, contact Valerie 5437 3879, Roz 5493 1197, and Dawn 5492 2208 or email the Secretary <caloundrafamilyres@y7mail.com>.

Contributed by Roz Kuss
VP and Publicity Officer
Caloundra Family History Research Inc.
WA Genealogical Society News

Two special interest groups at the WA Genealogical Society are collaborating on a project focusing on Internal Migration within the British Isles. Other special interest groups have indicated their interest in this project.

The project is expected to comprise two parts:

1. Collecting and presenting stories from members’ family trees about migration between England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales and the Isle of Man (prior to any emigration outside the British Isles) or within these countries. These stories could be presented and discussed at Society meetings and written up for the Society journal, Western Ancestor.

2. Undertaking literature research into population patterns of internal migration in different periods of modern history, trying to uncover the social and economic reasons for moving country, as described by historians and sociologists. Although we may never discover the reasons for most particular families, the socio-historical research may suggest possible reasons our families moved away from their original homes.

The Enrolled Pensioner Guard Special Interest group is correlating a database on all those pensioner guards who arrived in Western Australia, called the Ships Project. Volunteers are using resources from all over the world to determine who was in WA as an Enrolled Pensioner Guard. Margaret Hickey (former AFFHO WA representative) spent time at the National Archives of UK looking for information on our Guards, we look forward to the end result. For further information please contact <www.wags.org.au/groups/sigepg.html>.

SITUATION VACANT

AFFHO Council is seeking a new Editor for Newsflash following the resignation of the current Editor Don Mountain upon completion of this issue.

Newsflash is published four times a year, in March, June, September and December. It is produced as a .pdf file suitable for electronic transmission to member Societies.

Don is willing to provide some assistance to the new Editor.

The editorial tasks are not onerous. The ability to produce an easy-to-read layout, keeping in mind the average age of the readership, is essential, together with basic English and grammatical skills.

Currently the newsletter is produced using Adobe InDesign on a Macintosh computer, however the simplicity of the production means that it can easily be produced using other programs and computer platforms.

Interested? Contact the Secretary, Margaret Doherty or current Editor Don Mountain at the email addresses shown on page 1.