

Newsflash

No 36

ISSN: 1445-243X

June 2010

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The major issue confronting AFFHO in recent times has been the announced closure by the National Archives of Australia (NAA) of its branch offices in Adelaide, Darwin and Hobart in order for the National Archives to meet its budget requirements. This would have saved a relatively small amount of money, much less than what the Government is now spending (\$35 million) on advertising in support of the mining super tax. Interesting priorities!

However, there is good news. The Darwin repository has been saved and NAA will be co-locating with the Northern Territory archival authority. I recently learnt that a co-location deal will shortly be announced in South Australia with SA State Records. Ironically this will probably involve re-releasing premises that NAA sold off nearly ten years ago, and has been vacant ever since. I have still to learn what progress is being made in Tasmania to keep a branch office open in that state.

These positive outcomes are a good reflection on the lobbying by the historical community (including family historians) to their state/territory and federal politicians.

Another piece of good news is an arrangement that AFFHO has reached with *Ancestry.com.au*. The AFFHO Council had a recent telephone link-up with Ancestry to make it be known to its member societies, arrangements that can be entered into by family history societies. The full text of the announcement appears elsewhere in *Newsflash*. Many societies have published in various formats monumental inscriptions in their local area, plus other historically related records. These have been

Australasian Federation of
Family History Organisations
PO Box 3012, Weston Creek ACT 2611
Ph: (Secretary) 0400 913 866
www.affho.org

AFFHO Council

Andrew Peake	SA	President
Jeanette Hahn	ACT	Vice President
Allan Murrin	NSW	Secretary/Treasurer
David Bryant	NZ	Councillor
vacant	NT	Councillor
Rosemary Kopittke	QLD	Councillor
Alan Fincher	VIC	Councillor
vacant	TAS	Councillor
Margaret Hickey	WA	Councillor
Pam Valentine	NSW	Assoc Rep
Marionne Diggles	QLD	Assoc Rep
Di Christensen	VIC	Assoc Rep

AFFHO Officers

June Penny	Public Officer
Peter Applebee	Web site: webmaster@affho.org
Peter Applebee	2012 Congress (SAGHS)
Lesle Berry	Coord Nat Family History Week
Graham Jaunay	Editor: graham@jaunay.com
Barry Weeden	Auditor

Current Projects

Save the Census
Australasian Strays Index
Index of Indexes
National Family History Week (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.

Current members are listed at: www.affho.org

Together we can achieve much more!

Past • Present • Future



National Family History Week

marketed for some time and now the return has dwindled to a trickle. Here is an opportunity for societies to get a further return on their past investment by negotiating an arrangement with *Ancestry*. The Affiliate Program is another way for societies to generate additional income.

Furthermore, *Ancestry* has offered to AFFHO member societies (and only AFFHO member societies!) short term access to *Ancestry* during *National Family History Week* in August. This should be a further incentive to societies to register their events on the *National Family History Week* web site, www.familyhistoryweek.org.au if only an Open Day. This is all about attracting new members to family history!

In July AFFHO has the AGM—join us for the tele-conference. Details have previously been sent to you electronically.

As previously I encourage you to forward the *Newsflash* to your members, if you have an electronic newsletter.

Andrew Peake
President

NATIONAL FAMILY HISTORY WEEK 2010

National Family History Week this year will be held between the 31 July and the 8 August 2010.

Add your event to the list on the *National Family History Week* [NFHW] web site at:
www.familyhistoryweek.org.au

Any event that supports family history can be

added to the site. Be sure to mention this web site and our sponsors in any advertising undertaken by your society or library. It is important to add to what is available in every state and territory in Australia, even if it is a low key event such as an 'open day' for your library. If you are looking for ideas, check out what is happening elsewhere from the Events already listed on the web site.

We are very keen to see events listed. We seek financial support from sponsors to help fund publicity and they check the web site regularly to see what is happening. To date we have sponsorship from *FamilySearch* and the *National Archives of Australia* and others will be coming on-board. Continuing financial support is very much dependent on the success of the Week, which is measured by the number of events that take place during the Week.

LIST YOUR EVENT NOW.

The Week will be launched on the 31 July 2010 by Hazel Edwards in Melbourne (venue to be announced). Hazel has written an excellent publication, *Writing a Non Boring Family History* (Hale and Iremonger, \$20).

To do justice to your intriguing ancestors, in a non-boring way, is a challenge.

As the Week gets closer, please encourage your local newspaper to include information, as the ultimate objective of the Week is to encourage society membership.

AGREEMENT WITH ANCESTRY.COM.AU

CONTENT FOR ACCESS

Ancestry has been working with a number of societies to bring their collections to a wider audience through a process known as 'Content for Access'. This involves a society providing *Ancestry* with the right to use some of its collections in exchange for access to *Ancestry*. The type of material *Ancestry* is interested in includes, but is not limited to; cemetery transcriptions (we currently have records from over 1000 cemeteries), newspaper transcriptions, pioneer registers, etc. In exchange we provide the society with a number of log ins to *Ancestry* (World Deluxe) for a number of years—the specific details are worked out on an individual basis. For many societies this provides a very cost effective way of gaining access to *Ancestry* and many of the societies who have already undertaken this process have seen a significant growth in membership simply by being able to provide access to *Ancestry* in their rooms.

If you're interested in finding out more about this process simply contact Brad Argent via email (bargent@ancestry.com.au) or (02) 9267 5068.

AFFILIATE PROGRAM

By having a simple *Ancestry* advertisement on your society's web site you could be generating revenue. *Ancestry's* 'Affiliate Program' allows you to get 25% of every sign up to *Ancestry* made through your site—we even encourage you to get your members to take up a subscription this way. For more information go to www.ancestry.com.au/affiliates.

FAMILY HISTORY WEEK

As part of our ongoing contribution to family history in Australia, *Ancestry* is happy to announce that it will provide all AFFHO members (and members of AFFHO affiliated bodies) with free access to *Ancestry* for the duration of *National Family History Week 2010*. To take advantage of this offer please email Brad Argent (bargent@ancestry.com.au) with *Ancestry FHW 2010* in the subject line by no later than 4 July 2010.



13TH
Australasian
CONGRESS
GENEALOGY & HERALDRY

Adelaide,
South Australia
28th - 31st March
2012



South Australian Genealogy
& Heraldry Society

13TH AUSTRALASIAN CONGRESS

CALL FOR PAPERS

The 13th Australasian Congress, Genealogy and Heraldry, is to be held in Adelaide, South Australia on the 28th to 31st March 2012. The theme of the Congress is –

Your Ancestors in their Social Context

The organising committee is now calling for papers to be presented during the Congress by both national and international speakers.

A *Registration of Speaker Interest Document* is now available on the website: www.congress2012.org.au/

Applications will close 31 July 2010

The committee also invite all interested in Family History, Genealogy and Heraldry to visit the website to register their interest, read our newsletters, keep up to date with details of this exciting Congress.

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010

The business year for AFFHO had slow start with the necessity of a Special Council Meeting in order to fill vacancies that remained unfilled following the AGM. However, this meeting ensured the activities of the Federation, with vacancies filled, particularly with Allan Murrin of Botany Bay FHS agreeing to jointly fill the critical roles of Secretary and Treasurer.

A number of initiatives took place during the year:

- Web site – The AFFHO web site had not been updated for some years. Peter Applebee of the Adelaide Northern Districts FHG agreed to take on the role of webmaster and during the year most areas have been upgraded. The member data base in particular has been corrected with new web site and email addresses.
- AFFHO *Newsflash* – Graham Jaunay of the South Australian Genealogy and Heraldry Society agreed to become Editor of *Newsflash* and quarterly editions have appeared. This is largely circulated via the Internet and now only a handful of copies need to be sent through the Post.
- National Family History Week – Once again under the stewardship of Lesle Berry, AFFHO had a successful National Family History Week in the first week of August. Significant financial support was received from the National Archives of Australia and FamilySearch to make this a very successful Week in promoting family history in Australia.
- Congresses – The 13th Congress will be held in Adelaide in 2012 and the 14th Congress in Canberra in 2015. There is a separate report regarding progress with the 13th Congress. It has been agreed that there will be a set rotation of the AFFHO Congress, so there is some certainty with forward planning.
- Nick Vine Hall Award – The second Award was presented at the launch of National Family History Week.
 - o Category A – Botany Bay FHS, *The Endeavour*, Editor John Levy
 - o Category B – Genealogical Society of Victoria, *Ancestor*, Editor Lesle Berry.

In late 2009 the National Archives of Australia announced the closure of its branch offices in Adelaide, Darwin and Hobart. AFFHO, together with like minded historical societies lobbied hard against the closure of these branch offices. Finally the Special Minister of State reversed his intention

with a 'guarantee that a physical National Archives presence will be maintained in every state and territory.' While the battle has been won, there is still uncertainty as to what this will mean. National Archives has announced that they will be sharing a repository in Darwin, but we have yet to learn what will be happening in Adelaide and Hobart. In other words a significant Battle has been won but the War has yet to reach a satisfactory conclusion.

I wish to acknowledge the time and effort given by my fellow Councillors, all of whom have other family history commitments, plus that of the AFFHO Webmaster, Peter Applebee and *Newsflash* editor, Graham Jaunay, who promote the public face of the Federation.

Andrew G Peake
President

NEWS FROM MEMBER SOCIETIES

CALL FOR PAPERS

The 13th Australasian Congress, Genealogy and Heraldry, is to be held in Adelaide, South Australia on the 28th to 31st March 2012. The theme of the Congress is –

Your Ancestors in their Social Context

The organising committee is now calling for papers to be presented during the Congress by both national and international speakers.

A Registration of Speaker Interest Document is now available on the web site

www.congress2012.org.au/

Applications will close 31 July 2010

The committee also invite all interested in Family History, Genealogy and Heraldry to visit the web site to register their interest, read our newsletters, keep up to date with details of this exciting Congress.

NSW & ACT ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETIES 2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

A Most Suitable Place 17–19 September 2010

Bomaderry Bowling Club

Hosted by Shoalhaven Family History Society.

A Most Suitable Place was how Alexander Berry, the first land holder of the Shoalhaven described the area when he first sighted this beautiful region.

The application details and information is available at: www.shoalhaven.net.au/fhsconference2010

NEWS AND NOTICES

PRACTICAL GENEALOGY FOR FAMILY HISTORIANS

Flinders University is again offering a course in genealogy or family history which is available to the general public. It is offered as a series of modules or workshops, each of 6 hours. Students may take all four modules, or they may take only the modules of their choice. Those who successfully complete all four modules will be awarded a Certificate of Achievement issued by Flinders University.

Participants who successfully complete the full course may also be credited 6 units toward the Flinders University Graduate Certificate in Applied History and Heritage Studies (which requires a total of 18 units), or toward the Flinders University Graduate Diploma in Applied History and Heritage Studies (36 units).

Practical Genealogy for Family Historians will be taught by Graham Jaunay on the premises of the State Library on North Terrace. All course materials will be made available to students. Limited places are available.

The course consists of the following modules or workshops, each of six hours:

1. Saturday 31 July: Accessing the primary research stream—the family
2. Saturday 14 August: Accessing the secondary research stream—the paper trail
3. Saturday 28 August: Interpreting the Record
4. Saturday 11 September: Climbing the genealogy barriers

For further information and enrolment forms please contact:

Associate Professor Peter Monteath
Director of Studies
Department of History

Newsflash Issue 36

Telephone. 08 8201 5568

Email: peter.monteath@flinders.edu.au

UNLOCK THE PAST EXPO 2010

For details see: www.unlockthepast.com.au/events

South Australia

30–31 July 2010 9:00–5:00pm
West Adelaide Function Centre
57 Milner Road Richmond

Queensland

Caboolture / Caloundra / Cooroy-Noosa area - 5 July 2010

Gympie area - 6 July 2010

Hervey Bay - 7 July 2010
Hervey Bay Family History Association.

Bundaberg - 8 July 2010
Bundaberg Genealogical Association

Gladstone - 10 July 2010
Genealogical Society Gladstone District

Southern Queensland/Northern New South Wales

Nerang - 23 August 2010
Gold Coast Family History Society

Ballina - 24 August 2010
Players Theatre
Swift Street Ballina.

Casino - 25 August 2010
Casino and District Family History Group
Upstairs Room 5, School of Arts Building
Walker Street Casino.

Tweed Heads - 26 August 2010
South Tweed Sports Club
4 Minjungbal Drive Tweed Heads South.

Toowoomba - 1 September 2010
Toowoomba and Darling Downs Family History Society

New South Wales

22–23 October 2010 9:30–4:30pm
Parramatta RSL
cnr Macquarie and O'Connell Streets Parramatta

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Monumental inscriptions and burials: Braidwood Old General Cemetery and Braidwood Lawn Cemetery, 1840-2008.

A new release of this publication, that contains 1662 memorial transcripts and 479 names. Fully indexed with a plan of each section.

Cost \$25.00 plus \$2.90 postage and handling. Available from the Heraldry & Genealogy Society of Canberra Inc., GPO Box 585, Canberra ACT 2601.

TAMIOT (Tombstones and Memorial Inscriptions of Tasmania), CD

Originally published on microfiche, this invaluable index to transcriptions of headstones and memorials transcribed in Tasmania before 1999 is now available on CD. Included in this new release are headstones from the Wynyard area that were omitted in the original publication. The major public cemeteries in Launceston (Carr Villa) and Hobart (Cornelian Bay and Kingston) are not included.

Cost \$50.00 plus \$5.50 postage and handling. Available from TFHS Inc, PO Box 191, Launceston TAS 7250

A photographic index to the Tasmanian Mail

Seven volumes covering the period 1894 to 1924 of photographs which appeared in the *Tasmanian Mail*.

Cost \$27.00 per volume, plus \$10.50 postage and handling for each four volumes. Available from TFHS Inc., Launceston Branch, PO Box 1290, Launceston TAS 7250

Index to The Weekly Courier

Six volume index to photographs, BDM notices and personal items of interest to family historians, which appeared in the *Weekly Courier* from 1901 to 1913.

Cost \$30.00 each volume, plus \$10.50 postage and handling for each four volumes. Available from TFHS Inc., Launceston Branch, PO Box 1290, Launceston TAS 7250

BRITISH LIBRARY AND BRIGHTSOLID PARTNERSHIP TO DIGITISE UP TO 40 MILLION PAGES OF HISTORIC NEWSPAPERS

- Mass digitisation to make millions of newspaper pages available online and in the Library's reading rooms
- Innovative deal will help safeguard the future of the world's greatest newspaper archive

A major new partnership recently between the Library and online publisher *Brightsolid*, owner of online brands including *Findmypast* and *Friends Reunited* will deliver the most significant mass digitisation of newspapers the UK has ever seen with up to 40 million pages from the national newspaper collection will be digitised.

Each year the Newspaper Library at Colindale is used by 30,000 researchers in subjects ranging from family history and genealogy to sports statistics, politics and industrial history. This vast resource is held mainly in hard copy and microfilm, necessitating a trip to the north London site.

The partnership will enable the digitisation of a minimum of four million pages of newspapers over the first two years alone.

The program will focus on specific geographic areas, along with periods such as the census years between 1841 and 1911 and key events and themes.

This resource will be available for free to users on-site at the British Library and copies of all scanned materials will be deposited with the Library to be held in the national collection in perpetuity.

Note: Australia is well advanced with its own digitisation process through the National Library of Australia, *Historic Australian Newspapers, 1803–1954* digitisation program. More information at, www.nla.gov.au/ndp