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OPEN

- Monday • Closed
- Tuesday • 10am - 3pm
- Wednesday • 10am - 3pm
- Thursday • 10am - 3pm
- Friday • 10am - 3pm
- Saturday • 12noon - 4pm
- Sunday • Interest Groups
- 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the month • 6pm-9pm.

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From the President

This month's column seems like a good time to talk about all things "Census". As you are all no doubt aware, August 9 was census night for Australia, and wasn't that one of the great debacles in data gathering history, eh? Well, so you might think – but you could be wrong also.

Initially the web-site crashed from overload. Or hacking. Or denial of service attacks. Or poor technology implementation. Or... insert your problem of choice here depending on what wild theory you currently ascribe to. Personally, I think the problem was mainly to do with the first option, overload. As some prominent politician whose name I currently can't remember (I am over 60 after all) said at the time, what happened was "blindingly obvious". Well, it was. I could see that there was a problem waiting to happen on August 9, so much so that I logged on and did our census return on August 6 – and the site let me do it! Quite a few other people did the same thing. But the ABS did not advertise the fact that people could log on early, or later in fact if they so wished, in fact staggering the load on the system and saving a lot of people a lot of angst on the night. No, it was an all or nothing effort and the ABS thereby suffered the consequences. The problem on the night was not due to bad technology or evil intent – it was all down to bad PR!

The bad PR consequences are something Marg and I have had to deal with personally – because we have signed up this year as Census Field Workers. We have just completed our first day out in the field chasing up recalcitrant households who have not completed their census returns. I hope no GSQ member – we are all good family historians after all, and filling in a census return should be second nature to us all, considering how we rely so much on historical census returns for our research – falls into this category. If you do, you may well be getting a knock on your front door from either of us! Oh, the embarrassment! Anyway, after our total one day of experience so far of knocking on doors, we have to say that people are very accepting of the problems experienced. It is all good to have a bit of a laugh about it initially, and that moves us onto giving our clients new forms and urging them to complete the return asap – so as not to have to face another visit from us. Of which there can be up to five, overall, this census!

I am not so sure that this new system is the best way to go about it really. Consider the old, old days – back in the 1800s. In those times the enumerator interacted directly with his clients, and recorded everything himself on the forms supplied to him. Once he had visited a place and taken down the information, he did not have to return again. He had only to re-visit those households that he had missed on the first run-through, and there would not have been many of those.

Then, in more recent census events here in Australia, the census worker would initially visit a household and drop off the document. They would then return a few days later and collect it, again only having to revisit households if they were absent on the return visit, or had forgotten to leave the forms out for collection. I think this was, in retrospect, possibly the best system.

This time around, we are armed with online computer systems, mobile phones and apps! We have spent time doing training, recording it, and devising how we are going to divide up our workload.

We have access to online mapping, a knowledge base, and have to advise our area supervisor when we are going into the field and return home, for safety reasons. And we have to do it all five times (possibly) over. We have the same phones, but Marg is having all sorts of problems working the app, but I have not – though I could do with a third hand trying to manage the phone, a map, paperwork, and my bright yellow satchel full of other "stuff". I think I am yearning for the "good old days".

cont'd overleaf



From the President cont'd

But this census hasn't been all that bad really. It started badly, as I said at the beginning. However, it has picked up, and as Marg and I head out into the field, the number of returns has risen past the two thirds target that the ABS was aiming for with online completions. Meaning, less work for us!

Remember, get your census in early – though you have till September 23 – and we won't visit you!

Geoff Doherty
president@gsg.org.au

Joan Reese Memorial Writing Competition



The winner of the Joan Reese Memorial Writing Competition 2016 is Anne Pollitt. The winner was announced on Saturday 20th August at the Proof Seminar and presented by Jennifer Harrison, GSQ Patron.

Anne's winning story will be published in the December issue of *Generation*.

Redlands

The next meeting of the Redland Genealogical Society will be held on Wednesday, 14 September in the Donald Simpson Centre, Bloomfield Street, Cleveland, commencing at 12.15pm.

The Guest Speaker at this meeting will be *Anne Scheu, Coordinator, Distributed Collections, Queensland Memory, State Library of Queensland*. Annes's topic is *Linking to Queensland's memory: past and future*. Visitors very welcome. \$2.00 admission with Lucky Door prize.

Members of the society have been busy promoting genealogy during the past month with displays at Birkdale State School's Fete, the Redland Wellness and Enablement EXPO and in Cleveland's Stockland Shopping Centre each day during Seniors Week

Monday Morning Natters

September Natters is on Monday 5th September. It's International Photo month so bring along a photo(or photos) you would like to date and between us we can look at ways to do that.

Bring along a USB so you can take home the document with all the web links in it.

All welcome, come along and share a cuppa and a chat with fellow family historians. Gold coin donation for morning tea please.



North Brisbane

The North Brisbane Branch of GSQ holds its meetings on the first Friday morning of each month (except January) at the Brisbane North Area Scouting Centre at 23 Sicklefield Street Alderley. Doors open at 8.45 am.

North Brisbane Members are able to borrow from our extensive library of books, magazines, fiche and CDs for a small fee.

The next meeting will be held on Friday 7th October at 9.00 am. There will be no meeting at Sicklefield Street Alderley on Friday 2nd September because the Branch members are having an excursion.

Visitors are welcome.

Beaudesert

Meetings are held at our rooms 15A William Street, Beaudesert, on 4th Wednesday of each month, commencing at 10.00am.

The library is open each Wednesday from 10.00am to 2.00pm.

The next meeting is 28th September 2016.



The GSQ Management Committee is keen to establish a Fund-raising committee. If you have any past experience in this area, or would just like to be involved, please email Carole Williamson (GSQ Vice-President) on info@gsg.org.au

GSQ in your local BCC library - Free But Booking Required

Library	Course	Date	Time	Contact
Kenmore	Exploring Ancestry.com	Thursday 2 November 2016	6pm-8pm	07 3407 0258
Fairfield	Exploring Ancestry.com	Saturday, 26 November 2016	10:30am-12:30pm	07 3403 8615

EVENTS

Bookings are essential for all GSQ education sessions and courses.

Use the Calendar of Events on the home page of www.gsq.org.au Alternatively send a cheque to GSQ at PO Box 1467, Carindale, Q 4152 or call in at Stackpole Street. Email info@gsq.org.au or phone 3349 6072 for further information.

Note: There is onsite parking available at the venue.

Saturday 15 October • 9.00am - 3.30pm

Save the Date!

Ireland: Church, Famine and Immigration – a day to assist researching your Irish Ancestors

Venue: Queen Alexandra Community Centre
340 Old Cleveland Road, Coorparoo 4151

The day will include presentations on:

- Dr Perry McIntyre – Chair, Great Commemoration Committee, Sydney - *Irish Immigration*
- Dr Jennifer Harrison – researcher, author and family historian, Patron, GSQ - *Great Irish Famine*
- Helen Smith – author, researcher, family historian - *Online Sites for Irish Genealogy*
- Bobbie Edes – family historian - *Land*
- Rev Dr Chris Hanlon – President, Catholic Historical Society of Qld - *Catholic Church in Queensland*
- Helen Smith - *Social Media Sites for Irish Family History*
- Q & A session so bring your Irish Family History questions along.

Morning tea & lunch will be provided.

Cost \$50 members \$60 non-member

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL



The editors of *Generation* are looking for stories for the December issue of *Generation*. The theme is: **where did my family or ancestors travel to for their holidays; how did they travel there, and what did they do whilst on holiday?** We need the story by Monday 7th November. The story, with photos if you have them, may be emailed to editor@gsq.org.au

Sunday 23 October • 9.00am - 12.30 pm

Save the Date!

Introduction to Family History

Venue: GSQ Resource Centre
25 Stackpole Street, Wishart 4122

The presenter, Janice Wellard, has over 30 years' experience using records from Australia, England, Scotland, Ireland, Canada and the United States. This course will cover using all the main genealogy records such as BDMs, Census, immigration, Parish registers, and so on. This course is suitable for both new and inexperienced researchers.

Participants need to bring their own lunch, a notebook and a USB stick if they wish to stay and do further research using GSQ's resources including subscription databases & Janice will be available to assist participants with their individual research.

Cost: \$35 for members and \$45 for non-members

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL



The Right to Privacy - Care & Selectivity in What You Publish About Others

Privacy! We all have different thresholds on this topic. Some people do not post any information anywhere and others invite you right into their daily lives.. [Read more here.](#)

Tips for handling inherited research. You've just been handed the family research of your grandmother, or great-uncle, or perhaps some even more distant relative who heard that you "do genealogy" – and now you are wondering what to do with it. [Read more here.](#)

Interesting post from Amy Johnson Crow about who you should include in your family tree. [Read more here.](#)



English/Irish Group

The English/Irish group will continue their tour around the counties of England, Wales and Ireland at their next meeting. A member of our group will present information they have learnt about Suffolk, an English county.

The group next meets on the first Sunday in October, Sunday 2nd October, with the library of GSQ available both before the meeting (from 10 o'clock) and after the meeting (until 2.30p.m.). The meeting itself starts at 10.30 a.m. Members of the group are very happy to help others with their research questions.

Come along for a relaxed time focussed on English/Irish research. We look forward to seeing you there

Scottish Interest Group

The next meeting of the Scottish Interest Group will take place at GSQ on Sunday 4th September commencing at 10 am. Our normal meeting beginning at 10.30 will include a help session for those with research problems.

A computer & projector will be available to look at the *scotlandspeople* website. On completion of the meeting the library will be open for research. If possible advise the Group Secretary or President in advance of any research problems you have as it will assist in setting the agenda.

Visitors are welcome.

Convict Connections Group

The next meeting of the group will be on Sunday 9th October. More information will be included in the October edition of eNews.



Family Tree Maker Users' Group

The FTM User Group will meet as usual at the GSQ Library on Sunday 11th September 2016 at 10.30 am until 12.30 pm. This group is a networking group that can help beginners and assist both Mac & Windows users overcome any FTM problems they may face. People with laptops should bring them along so the participants can help solve your particular problem(s). We provide support for earlier FTM versions as well as the current 2014.0 & 2014.1 versions. Advance notice to the convenor on mcfadzen@bigpond.net.au of your problem(s) will assist in setting the Agenda.

GSQ members and researchers contemplating purchasing a family history programme, are welcome to attend our meeting

Legacy Family Tree Users' Group

Our next meeting will be on the afternoon of Sunday, September 11. One of the key roles of our family history software is to share information with family members. At the meeting, we will compare the various tools in Legacy Family Tree for electronic publishing and how they can be tweaked to achieve the result you want. You do not need to be an expert computer user to take part, just bring your laptop, your enthusiasm and a willingness to learn.

There will be more details in the next eNews. To join the group email list, contact Bob at fortiter@live.com.au

Scandinavian Group

The next meeting of the Scandinavian Group will be on 18 September at 12:30 with Odd Steinar as our guest speaker, talking about *Scandinavians in Australia*. All welcome.

German Interest Group

The next meeting of the German Group will be on the 25th Sept. Our speakers that day will be Noel and Dell Bergmann.

Our speaker on the 31st July is Robin Kleinschmidt talking on the *Lutheran Churches in the 19th Century in Brisbane* at 12md.

Looking forward to seeing you all.

Writing Group

The Writing Group's final meeting for 2016 is scheduled for October 16. At the August meeting, we generated lots of ideas for topics for October. We saw this (almost) end-of-year gathering as an opportunity to bring together what we've learnt, as well as to celebrate our successes. More details will be provided in October's eNews.

Contact Pauline on pstirland@hotmail.com to be added to the group's mailing list.

Military Interest Group

The next meeting will be on **24 September** not 10 September as was advertised. Sorry for any confusion.

Member, Chris Edes will present on the navy in the First World War with an emphasis on the Royal Navy. You can also bring any military questions you have and the members will do their best to solve them.

Please come along. Morning tea will be provided. Everyone is welcome.

DNA Interest Group

DNA testing is reaching an exciting phase. See more information in the September issue of *Generation*.

The next meeting will be 9.30am 18th September where we will be talking about X DNA

All welcome.

