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Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/lmfhg/>

Members' Discussion Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/lmfhgdiscussion>

Next General Meeting via Zoom:

Saturday 14th November 1:30pm
Heather Garnsey – The Sydney Benevolent Asylum and its Triangle of Care.

Speers Point Library:

Assistance currently suspended

The Chronicle Topic: Irish research - what you have found and what remains a mystery. Deadline 27 January 2021.

Marmong Point Hall Opening:

Wednesday 2nd December 2-5pm.

Blog:

<https://lakemacfhg.blogspot.com/>

Website and Members Interests:

<http://https://www.lmfhg.org.au/>

Robert Eldridge

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LAKE MACQUARIE FAMILY HISTORY GROUP INC NEWSLETTER



November 2020



EVENTS AND UPDATES

A Note from the President

As we have changed the date for our General Meeting this month to the 14th November we are sending out this email prior to our monthly Committee Meeting on Friday. Should you have items or suggestions for discussion please contact the Secretary, Warren, or me prior to Friday 13th November.

Our October general meeting with guest speaker Kerry Farmer was a success with a record number of members and guests joining in. The fees we collected from non-members nearly covered the speaker's fee. Thanks to our Treasurer, Karen, for organising the registrations and collecting the money for this event.

I am thrilled to welcome two new members, Helen and Leonie, to our Group. It is pleasing that we can increase our membership base in these Covid times. Leonie was one member who took advantage of our Wednesday hall opening last week; thanks to Karen for giving Leonie an orientation to our services and facilities.

Several other members called in on Wednesday during our opening times to chat, exchange library books and seek research assistance. Robert and Karen were busy dispensing help while Linda, Jean and I spent time culling library resources and updating our library catalogue. We will open once again on Wednesday 2nd December when we draw the names of the winners in our Christmas Cheer Members' giveaway.

To date we have transferred 850+ books onto our new online library catalogue. We have added all the books donated by Helen Windon to our library catalogue, these will be ready for you to borrow once they are processed. It has been interesting to note that some of these titles are only available in a few public libraries around Australia. We are grateful to Helen for her generous donation.

You should be receiving the latest Chronicle which is another bumper issue. in your mailboxes this week Thanks to our editors Elspeth and Glynda who work quietly and tirelessly to compile this publication and to proofreader, Linda, who runs her eagle eye over it.

We have several avenues for you to connect with fellow members, please read our blog posts, chat on Facebook, give us a call, drop us an email or visit our website to say G'day.

Stay safe, Stay well,
Jill Ball – President

The Sydney Benevolent Asylum and its Triangle of Care

In 19th century Sydney the Benevolent Asylum was a place of temporary refuge for destitute ex-convicts, deserted wives and abandoned children and by the 1870s it was the main lying-in hospital for single pregnant girls. From the 1850s it also forged close relations with the Randwick Institute for Destitute Children and Liverpool Asylum. The surviving records can tell us a great deal about the people it helped.

The Sydney Benevolent Asylum and its Triangle of Care with Heather Garnsey

**You are invited
to a free event via Zoom
14th November 2020 1:30pm-2:30pm**



**20 free spaces available for visitors
For registration please contact:
lakemacfhg@gmail.com**

A link to join this Zoom session will be emailed to members this week and placed in the Members' Discussion Group on Facebook.

Library News from Lake Macquarie Council

Several members who recently met via Zoom with Jess Dowdell, Lifelong Learning and Engagement Coordinator at Lake Macquarie Council, raised some concerns about the time limits imposed for family historians visiting the Speers Point Library. Jess has responded:

“Based on current health advice our recommended times are still quite short for library spaces. Have got confirmation on two questions below.

- How long is our recommended time in a branch? **45min**
- How long can people use computers? **Recommended time of 30min**

I am still talking to the library team at Speers Point about having longer booked appointments at the family history computers. I will let you know the outcome.”

We thank Jess for her interest in our concerns.

DNA Kits on Sale

If you are considering a DNA test now is the time to buy a kit at discounted prices. Experts suggest testing first with Ancestry, the company with the largest database. Kits are currently on special until November 23rd.

<https://www.ancestrydna.com.au/ancestrydna/sale>

Give the gift of family this Christmas.

An AncestryDNA® test can help your loved ones uncover fascinating new details within their family tree.

ONLY **\$89*** ~~\$129~~ [Order now](#)

Delivered in 3 business days†

*AUD. Offer ends 11.59pm (AEDT) on 23 Nov 2020. Price excludes shipping, includes taxes. †Express shipping only. AU metro and key regional areas only.

More Free Online Learning

Genealogists need to be Lifelong Learners. Here are just a few links to learning activities for you.

Hawkesbury Family History Group – Kerry Farmer

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/o/hawkesbury-library-service-11842492197>

State Records and Archives NSW – Upcoming and Recorded Webinars

<https://www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/webinars>

Legacy Family Tree Webinars

<https://familytreewebinars.com/>

Scottish Indexes Conference

<https://youtu.be/MmxWSAVP0vw>

Lake Mac History Illuminated 2020 Videos Online

Two videos have been posted to date

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCa4VT-AP8fyxM3bw22wwnBg>

Irish Ancestors?

Please start preparing your articles for the next issue of The Chronicle. **Irish research** - what you have found and what remains a mystery. Deadline 27 January 2021.