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**Facebook Page:**

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

**Members' Discussion Group:**

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

**Next General Meeting:**

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

**Speaker 11:00am:** Bob Atkins –  
Ryerson Index Part 1.

**Speaker 2:00pm:** Bob Atkins –  
Ryerson Index Part 2

**Speers Point Library Volunteers:**

Recommencing shortly

**The Chronicle**

**Next Topic:** Researching our non-British ancestors. Please submit articles no later than 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

**Marmong Point Hall Opening:**

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 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



April 2021



## A Note from the President

Several months ago I received an invitation from [Familysearch](https://www.familysearch.org/) in Salt Lake City to be interviewed for their blog. As I was thrilled to have an opportunity to highlight family history in Australia I accepted this invitation. I subsequently had a lengthy online interview and then an opportunity to read a draft of the article written by Debra Woods from [Familysearch](https://www.familysearch.org/). The article was finally published last week. If you would like to have some information on my background you can access the post here: <https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/jill-ball-genealogist-australia/>.

While on the subject of blogging I am proud to report that our blog, <https://lakemacfhg.blogspot.com/>, has had 4,967 visits since its launch last May. I expect that, after our post this week, we will hit the 5,000 milestone. If you have any stories that you have previously written for other publications please consider submitting them to me for publication on our blog where they can reach a new and different audience. As these posts are indexed by the Google search engine they have the potential to act as “[Cousin Bait](#)”.

Last Saturday Karen and I represented LMFHG at the second session of the Lake Mac Libraries Family History Course. We are delighted to welcome, Brian and Chris, Diane and Margaret, attendees at the course, who have joined LMFHG. I will be presenting the May session of the course with Melissa Hulbert, President of the SAG.

We are most grateful for the anonymous donation we have received to cover the cost of our zoom account for the coming year. Please remember to reach out if you need help with your research at Karen's Wednesday at 6pm sessions or we can zoom with you individually to discuss your issues.

Next week I will be representing LMFHG at the second meeting of the Cultural Collections Consultative Committee of Lake Macquarie City Council. It is pleasing to see that as well as Councillors, Council Officers and people from the Museum sector there is representation from family history and history groups.

Thanks to those who volunteered to join the team for genealogy help service at Speers Point Library. I will notify you, and anyone else who can assist, of the dates of our training/orientation session with Council.

Stay safe. Stay well.

Jill Ball – President

**Please see over page for change of meeting time on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> April**

## 17<sup>th</sup> April - Meeting Arrangements – CHANGE

Please note that our guest speaker, Bob Atkins from the [Ryerson Index](#), will be presenting his talk in two parts – Part 1 at 11a.m, followed by our meeting and lunch break. Part 2 will be at 2pm. There will be no discussion group this month.



Bob Atkins – Ryerson Index

## Colonial Massacres

Jennifer Debenham braved the elements to be the guest speaker at our meeting last month. Jennifer, a Research Assistant on The Colonial Frontier Massacres in Australia, 1788-1930 Project, reported on her research and the history of the project.

The map and database produced from the project, <https://c21ch.newcastle.edu.au/colonialmassacres/map.php> is an exceptional resource that tells of a dark period in Australian history.

## Secondhand Books for Sale



Please have a look at the list on our website.

<https://www.lmfhg.org.au/books.html>

## Ireland Reaching Out

Did you know that for every person living in Ireland there are ten of Irish ancestry living elsewhere? The Ireland Reaching Out site, <https://irelandxo.com/>, may already hold the key to your Irish Family history!

## The Five Most Popular Posts on our LMFHG Blog

[Trove Tuesday - Toronto Honeymoon](#)

[A Shark Attack](#)

[Beautiful Bride from Bolton Point](#)

[Lake Macquarie People, 1915](#)

[Trove Tuesday - Natives of Scotland](#)

## Are you making use of the at home access to FindMyPast from Lake Mac Libraries?

New this week at FindMyPast:

[UK Electoral Registers & Companies House Directors](#)

These publicly available records are perfect for tracing long lost relatives or house history. Search over 2.9 million new entries.

[Search these records](#)

[Cambridgeshire, Licensed Victuallers](#)

Did your ancestor run a pub in Cambridgeshire? Find out with this unique resource, including new records from Newmarket, Ely, Whittelsey and Thorney.

[Search these records](#)

## With Conviction Conference

The NSW/ACT Conference hosted by Port Macquarie will be a virtual event this year.

Details on the Conference website:

<https://conference2021.wixsite.com/pmdfhs>

A poster for the 'With Conviction' conference. The title 'With Conviction' is at the top in a large, bold font. Below it is a magnifying glass icon and the tagline '...beyond reasonable doubt'. The text 'NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc Annual Conference 2021' is below that. The date 'Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> September 2021' and time '8:30am - 5:00pm' are prominently displayed. It mentions 'Virtual Conference EARLY BIRD Individual Registration \$10' which includes a 'FREE Virtual Goody Bag'. It also says '\$\$ You can also purchase raffle tickets with your registration \$\$' and 'Special pricing for Societies holding a local event' with the URL 'https://www.trybooking.com/BPPBF'. There are two boxes: one for 'We have 8 speakers booked' listing Carol Baxter, Kerry Farmer, Martyn Killion, Dr Hamish Maxwell-Stewart, Perry McIntyre, Jason Reeve, Clive Smith, and Dr Penny Walters, with a note 'More to be announced Replays will be available'; the other for 'Raffle Tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5 : 7 for \$10 : 12 for \$15 : 20 for \$20' and 'Fantastic Prizes include' listing 2 x Ancestry 12-month World subs, 2 x Ancestry DNA Kits, 2 x Traces 12-month digital subs, and 2 x My Heritage DNA kits & 12-month subs, plus 'and many more excellent prizes'. At the bottom are logos for Ancestry, MyHeritage, NSW Family History, and Joy Murrin. The text 'Presented by Port Macquarie & Districts Family History Society Inc' and contact information 'Email: 2021conference@gmail.com Website: conference2021.wixsite.com/pmdfhs' are also present. A small '2021 04 16' is in the bottom right corner.

Thanks to Robert Ball for proofreading the newsletter.