



# LAUNCESTON BRANCH NEWSLETTER

## Library

## Hours:

**Tuesday**

10am–3pm

Monday - Thursday:  
By appointment



## Workshop

Thursday

**23 November**

2pm

At the Launceston  
LINC, Civic Square

## Online Resources

Including the Ryerson  
Index. See last page for  
response slip



**Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. Launceston Branch Library**

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**No. 55**

**November 2017**

## From the Library:

**The Stables library will be closed** for the holiday period:

**Tuesday 5 December** at 3:00pm,

reopening **Tuesday 16 January 2018** at 10.00am.

## Working Bee at the Library

**Monday 15 January from 9:30am.**

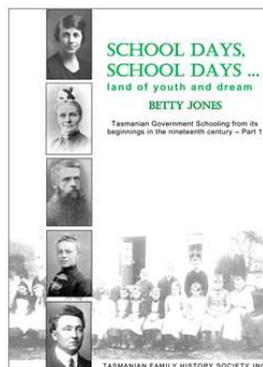
Volunteers are appreciated to prepare the Library for the opening on

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup>.

## New Release

**"SCHOOL DAYS, SCHOOL DAYS ... land of youth and dream"**

A collection of articles written by Betty Jones for the Society, which have appeared in *Tasmanian Ancestry* over the past eleven years.



Published by the Tasmanian Family History Society, this book will appeal if you:

- are interested in Tasmania's early education system;
- are keen on local history or that of particular schools;
- have an ancestor who was a teacher;
- are curious about where your forebears attended school; or
- just like to be reminded of your own school days.

Well over 500 schools are mentioned in the book, which is available at all TFHS Inc. Branch Libraries. Cost \$30.00 / Members \$25.00.

## You're Invited!



# CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Beauty Point Waterfront Hotel  
Saturday, 25 November, 2017, 12 for 12.30  
3 Course Meal Cost \$35.00 per person  
Bookings close Tuesday, 21 November, 2017  
*Please pay when Booking*



*Please book at the Library, or let the Secretary know if you will be attending by Tuesday 21 November. Payment is also required by this date.*

**Volunteers** are always welcome to do duty at our Branch Library. Come along any Tuesday (10am-3pm) to see how the library works, you may like to be trained to work on the desk as a "Duty Officer".

### **New Resource Material and Acquisitions**

When you are in the Library, ask one of our friendly Duty Officers to show you the latest research resources and acquisitions.

### **Unusual Terminology**

*From Michelle Holmes. Member No.6788*

Having recently received an 1849 Death Certificate for my 3 X Great Grandfather I was mystified by the word used for the cause of death, stated as "sencetitude".

A search of various dictionaries and even Google did not come up with anything resembling this word. I then searched my very old Webster's Dictionary and found the word "senectitude" from the Latin senectus meaning "old man or old age". Obviously an original misspelling by the Registrar when he could have used a much more simple term.

### **DNA Discussion Circle**



During September we held our second DNA Discussion Circle, with topic areas ranging from the types of tests available and the process involved, through to examples of how DNA testing has led to successful discoveries.

If any members are interested in attending an ongoing DNA Discussion Circle would they please register their interest by coming into the Branch Library or contacting us by email. With enough interest we may investigate alternative location options to allow increased attendance.

*Our members enjoyed chatting 'all things DNA'*

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## **A Very Pleasing Result**

From Patricia Lansdell. Member no. 5568

With DNA being such an interesting topic at the moment and certainly proving to be a whole new tool in helping with family research I have been asked to share a recent discovery as a result of the test that I had done through Ancestry.com.

I have been researching my family tree since 2001 hoping in particular to find my father's siblings all of whom he knew so little about. His parents separated and deserted the children in 1906 at Plumstead, England. My father William Green was aged 8 at the time and he and his four siblings were placed into the Woolwich Union Workhouse prior to being sent to the Goldie Leigh Homes at Plumstead. It was from there that each child had been sent to different locations across England during a period of nine years.

At the age of twelve my father was sent to the training ship "Exmouth" on the Thames at Grays where he spent two years prior to joining the merchant navy. His naval career took him all over the world before meeting my mum and settling in Launceston.

It was very obvious at family functions that he was very subdued and chose not to share with us his painful childhood memories and loss of his own family.

Sadly he passed away in 1968 and finally I decided to try to find his family and bring them together on paper and into an album as a personal tribute to him and the Green Family. I considered it important to myself, my daughters and my grandchildren so that they had an understanding of the hardships that this wonderful man had endured.

Gradually through Ancestry I established where his parents and three of his siblings had gone and I have had the pleasure of meeting first cousins as a result.

My father's eldest sibling Edith Rose has been a real mystery. I have sent for several marriage certificates, searched world records all with the hope that I could find her but to no avail.

I decided to do the Ancestry DNA test mainly to see where my ancestors were from and was delighted with the interesting results showing a large percentage being Irish and Scandinavian.

I do not have my own family tree on Ancestry as I have over the years seen mistakes that have been entered and others presume it is correct without proving it is and just pull a family tree together.

Since having my own DNA done I feel differently about helping others that match especially knowing that there is a genuine family connection. As a result I am delighted to say that I have been able to solve mysteries for several people, now distant cousins. In particular the West family from Soham in Cambridgeshire. It has been rewarding to work with them and share opinions on different aspects of our family tree.

My latest and most exciting match has come about by a gentleman in England contacting me to see if his surname meant anything to me as he was searching for his paternal grandfather. The name meant nothing to me but I shared with him how my own paternal grandfather had also disappeared but last year I discovered through Ancestry that he had died in Canada. I also shared with him that the biggest mystery on my own family tree has been searching for my father's eldest sister Edith Rose Green last shown in early 1918 as being next of kin on my father's Army records. I then received an immediate reply telling me that Edith was indeed his grandmother. To say I was excited would be an understatement.

If it had not been for my DNA test I would never have found Edith. There are mistakes even on the G.R.O. records with the spelling of her married surname plus she chose to marry as Rose rather than Edith.

I now have more first cousins but it is the feeling of fulfilment and closure that overwhelms me and I am so very grateful that this close branch of my family tree has been solved.

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## **British Interest Group**



**Meetings on the 1st Wednesday of the month  
Meeting Room 2 on 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of the LINC building, Civic Square  
from 2:00 to 4:00.**

We are a small group of enthusiastic members of the Tasmanian Family History Society Inc., Launceston Branch, with an interest in anything associated with British research. The meetings are generally of an informal nature, designed to enable the discussion of either a specific subject, current problems being encountered, or more usually, both.

### **BIG Scottsdale and Derby Bus Trip**

*From Sandra Duck. Member No.1033*

On Wednesday 4 October, 15 members including Marion Sargent from the Launceston Historical Society travelled to the Scottsdale Military Museum, where the interesting exhibits are enhanced by the realism of the sound effects. The Legerwood Wood Carvings and plaques told a moving history commemorating local participants in the First World War. The Derby School House Museum was a journey back in time for those of us old enough to remember.

Fortunately, the weather was kind to us and we were very impressed with the items of interest at the various locations. We would like to express our appreciation to our bus driver Therese Binns.

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## **Workshop at Launceston LINC, Room 1**



**Thursday 23 November, 2 pm – 4 pm**

### **Using Online Resources for your Family History**

This workshop is open to Members and Non-members, and will include a presentation from John Graham of the Ryerson Index, along with a presentation by our own Robyn Gibson on using the LINC website (including the Tasmanian Names Index).

#### **Application to attend the Branch Workshop**

I wish to attend the above workshop on 23 November 2017

Name/s: .....

Address: .....

Phone/Mobile:..... Membership Nos: .....

Please return the completed form as soon as possible to the:

The Library Co-ordinator, TFHS Inc. Launceston Branch, PO Box 1290, Launceston. 7250

Or register in person at the Branch Library by Tuesday 21 November.

*Fee of a gold coin donation payable on the day.*