Cape Banks Family History Society Inc.

ABN 31 178 078 400

Founded 1985

Member FFHS, AFFHO, ACT & NSW FFHS, RAHS

PO Box 67, Maroubra, NSW Australia 2035

NEWSLETTER

Edited by Lindsay Harden

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February meeting: Guest speaker, Doug Edwards, gave an entertaining talk on "Life in Submarines". He was accompanied by his wife, Chris and we also welcomed a former member, Terry Brogan, and other visitors, Susie Solomon, Del Stitz. Del, daughter of Daphne, was the lucky winner of the romantic Valentine's Day raffle.

30th Anniversary Dinner of Cape Banks Family History Society was held at Juniors @ the Junction on Friday 13th March. It was well attended and, as you can see from the photos, a good time was had by all.

Members looking at some of the memorabilia

30th Birthday Cake

Society Foundation Members L to R:
Dianne Walker, Jan Gallagher, Shirley Harper, Pat Willcox and Jan Glasby

National Trust Heritage Festival

Cape Banks FHS

Open Day

Saturday 18th April

10.00 am to 4.00 pm

Starting at 11.00am Margaret Phillips will be conducting a free two hour

Beginners' Workshop

Beginners Workshop: This is an ideal way to learn the correct procedure to begin tracing your family and learn of the numerous facilities and records available in this workshop conducted by education officer Margaret Phillips. Please place your name on list in research room to attend the class.

Southern Courier article: CBFHS was thrilled with a recently published article about our society. As a result we have already had bookings for Margaret's Beginners Workshop so we urge any members who wish to attend to book in for this session as there is a limit on attendees.

Bus Trip: Thursday 30th is the date booked for our next excursion which will begin with a guided tour of the Emu Plains Cemetery conducted by members of the Nepean Family History Society where we shall return for a visit. After lunch we'll move onto the Nepean Historical Society and visit their Coat of Arms Museum. Your $25 will include the bus trip, entrance fees and tour costs. Lunch is B.Y.O. but I am sure a cup of tea or coffee will be available. Please put your name on the list now at the rooms and payment would be appreciated by Wednesday 22nd April.

Bowen Library Meeting Venue: CBFHS has been approached by the management at Bowen Library with a fabulous offer of holding our monthly meetings in the Vonnie Young Auditorium. As most of you would be aware, this is a most pleasant venue with excellent facilities for guest speakers and members alike. Limited parking is available under the library, in the parking area opposite in the centre of Anzac Parade and 2 hour restrictions in the surrounding streets finish at 8 p.m. meaning attendees could park any time after 6. A bus stop is right outside the front door. A fantastic benefit from this change would be that CBFHS would be regularly featured in the bi-monthly *"What's On"* booklet from the library's marketing department and, occasionally, we may even find speakers at our meetings on their website or a separate flyer. A great opportunity not to be missed!

The BBC has a fascinating website for you to explore when you have time to idle away. A recent article on the early days of the UK postal service told of Charles Dickens lobbying, in 1859, to have his own personal letterbox. So one of the earliest wall-boxes to be introduced in Britain was installed outside his home in Hingham, Kent. A letter about this was uncovered by Dickens enthusiast Jennifer Ide, a tour guide at his Gad's Hill Place home. Over 14,000 letters written by Dickens are recorded in the Oxford Pilgrim Edition between 1820 and his death in June 1870. http://www.bbc.com/news/blogs-magazine-monitor

Discussion Group: The next discussion group is scheduled for *Saturday 30th May.* Suggestions for topics are sought and offers to lead the group on that day are welcome. Please contact Lee Bevan on 9661 4214.

St Jude's Church at Randwick is having a tour of this historic church and buildings on Saturday 2 May at 2pm. Afternoon tea will also be served.

Strickland House, 52 Vaucluse Road, Vaucluse is having a rare Open Day on Sunday 3rd May from 10 to 4. See inside this 1850s mansion, Carara, listen to talks by members of the Woollahra History and Heritage Society Inc. and enjoy the spectacular harbour views whist picnicking in the grounds. All for a gold coin donation.

Catholic parish registers from Ireland are to be made available online free by the National Library of Ireland by mid-2015. Around 390,000 images of Catholic parish register microfilms, the library's entire collection, have been digitised and will be searchable but by parish location only. They will not be transcribed or indexed by the NLI, and the black and white images will be of the microfilms of the original registers, which – in some cases – were in poor condition when the microfilming took place. Prior to the 1901 census these records are the single most important source for genealogists researching Irish families. Dating from the 1740s to the 1880s, they cover 1,091 parishes throughout Ireland, and consist primarily of baptismal and marriage records. Many records from this period were destroyed in the Four Courts fire of 1922, so these parish registers are to be cherished.

Grave controversy: South Australia is planning to re-use graves. Whilst there is nothing unusual in this it is causing a huge controversy as they are going to re-use WW1 & WW2 graves of servicemen who died of injuries or natural causes after the war. Read more at http://www.gouldgenealogy.com/2015/02/help-save-south-australian-graves/

Seniors Forum: Cape Banks FHS was represented by Lee Bevan and Jan Gallagher at the Seniors' Week Forum held at Bowen Library on St Patrick's Day. So the mixture of green shamrocks and red poppies decorations appeared very appropriate in *"Rabbitohs"* territory. Some gratifying interest was shown.

A.S.C.C.A: the Australian Seniors Computer Clubs Association also held a forum with a focus on "*Meet your Ancestors"*. Seven of our members attended and after listening to the speakers all of us were given a book full of websites and interesting suggestions which I am sure you will be able to borrow.

Women of the Empire: An ANZAC Commemorative Exhibition: Randwick City Library has joined forces with the Dressing Australia Museum of Costume and the Waverley Library to bring this stunning collection to Sydney for the first time. Admire first-hand the uniforms and costumes of Australian and New Zealand Women of the First World War. This display explores the personal stories of 30 women and the impact of the WW1 on their lives. Detailed personal stories illustrate each costume, bringing to life the social history of the era. Visitors are transported back to a time of great hardship and sacrifice. The exhibition will be launched on 20th April and run until 30th May, 2015.

Poppy Project: What a fabulous response we have had to our Poppy Project aimed to commemorate personnel who served in World War 1 and especially those close to members of CBFHS. Lee Bevan originally made a grey cotton banner to hold 48 cards and poppies but recently she had to add a *"petticoat"* to it so it can now hold 60; others have been pinned down the side of the board. A final count has yet to be made and it is never too late to add to our board if you have not already done so. Thank you so much to you wonderful volunteers who knitted all those beautiful red poppies to share with other *less-talented* knitters! And thanks to all who contributed their gold coins for the poppies. Now for further good news! Our Poppy Project banner is going to be displayed at Bowen Library, as a part of *"Randwick Remembers*, from the 20th April and there are plans for all our surplus poppies plus over 100 knitted by the Randwick Knitting Group to lead the way up the staircase to the library and into the Women of the Empire exhibition.

Ancestry.com has just announced the release of 12 million images from the National Archives of Australia of personal service dossiers for those who served during WW1 in the AIF, Australian Flying Corps and Australian Army Nursing Service. All can also be found free as follows.

Researching WW1 Australian Personnel:

- Australian National Archives www.naa.gov.au
- Australian War Memorial at awm.gov.au
- UNSW Study of Armed Conflict and Society (ACSACS) at https://www.aif.adfa.edu.au/
- *Commonwealth War Graves* www.cwgc.org/
- Imperial War Museum, London www.ukniwm.org.uk

The Silver War Badge could be worn on civilian clothes to identify those discharged as a result of sickness or injury, and was intended to protect the wearer from harassment by the public who might deem them unpatriotic. Issued on 12th September 1916, 100,000 of the 1.2 million issued going to Australians.

Christmas Truce on the Western Front: Read more again at the http://www.bbc.com/news/magazine of 25th December 2014. The *"Christmas Truce"* by soldiers in 1914 took top brass by surprise and they attempted to restore order by moving *"contaminated"* units e.g. Scottish volunteers were sent home after two weeks of drinking tea and playing football with the Germans but none faced the firing squad for fraternisation as too many men had been involved. Had all the propaganda on both sides been undone in the space of an evening by singing from the opposite trench, the sound of a harmonica or bagpipes, or a candle lit to guide those walking unarmed through no man's land? Newspapers in Great Britain and Germany gave accounts of the phenomenon of fraternisation and photographs were posted by the press.

Testament of Youth: Many of you will have read in the past Vera Brittain's poignant novel of the same name as this movie which is having an advanced screening at the *RITZ* theatre, Randwick on April 22nd at 10.00 a.m. As a *"Seniors Morning Movie"* the Ritz is also offering morning tea. Although we are not into promoting commercial enterprises, this sounds like an opportunity for some of our members to attend a movie together.

Dates to Remember

April

10th Monthly meeting: - *Early Randwick Residents – Fiona Archinal*
11th R&DHS Meeting: *The Battle of Waterloo: Aust. Military History pre Gallipoli – Craig Wilcox*
11th April to 26th May: National Trust Heritage Festival
18th Open Day at CBFHS *(10.00 am to 4.00 pm)*
18th Beginners' Workshop *(11.00 am to 1.00 pm) with Margaret Phillips*
20th Women of the Empire Exhibition launch at Bowen Library
25th ANZAC DAY Centenary
30th Bus Trip: *Emu Plains Cemetery and the Nepean Family Family History Society*

May

2nd St Judes Church tour at 2 pm
8th Monthly meeting: *Family History –Einer Docker, Assistant Curator, Powerhouse Museum*
16th R&DHS Meeting: The Maroubra Bra Story – Mark Scott
31st Boer War Day

National Trust Heritage Festival – 12th April to 26th May 'Conflict and Compassion'

Local exhibitions include:-
20 April – 30 May: Women of the Empire: An ANZAC Commemorative Exhibition at Bowen Library, Maroubra Junction and Waverley Council Library, Denison St, Bondi Junction
14 April – 29 May: Randwick Military Hospital Photographs, Volunteers Coffee Shop, Prince of Wales Hospital
17 April – 23 May: '*Your Friend, your Enemy*' S. H. Ervine N.T. Gallery, Millers Point
April – 24 May: Lemnos 1915: Then and Now, Level 1, State Library of N.S.W.
13 – 30 April: www.woollahra.nsw.gov./library/local_history/world_war_1_remembered

Program booklets from the National Trust of NSW describing these exhibitions plus many other fascinating walks and talks are available at the rooms.

Duty Roster

MAY		JUNE	
Sat 2nd	H. Brombey, E. James	Mon 1st	M. Morscheck, D. Griffin
Mon4th	M. Morscheck, D. Griffin	Wed 3rd	J. Gallagher, V. Little
Wed 6th	J. Gallagher, V. Little	Sat 6th	H. Brombey, E. James
Sat 9th	M. Allen, C. Humphries, L. Bevan	Mon 8th	**CLOSED ~ Queen's birthday**
Mon 11th	L. Harden, H. Fatouros	Wed 10th	P. York, C. Jones
Wed 13th	P. York, C. Jones	Sat 13th	M. Allen, C. Humphries, L. Bevan
Sat 16th	D. Walker, J. Goodes	Mon 15th	L. Harden, H. Fatouros
Mon18th	L. Harden, H. Fatouros	Wed 17th	J. Glasby, M. Dennis
Wed 20th	J. Glasby, M. Dennis	Sat 20th	D. Walker, J. Goodes
Sat 23rd	J. Galpern, L. Potter	Mon 22nd	J. Robertson, D. McCamley
Mon 25th	J. Robertson, D. McCamley	Wed 24th	H. Brombey, V. Little
Wed 27th	H. Brombey, V. Little	Sat 27th	J. Galpern, L. Potter
Sat 30th	H. Brombey, R. O'Hehir	Mon 29th	M. Dennis, R. O'Hehir