



A.N.D.F.H.G. Inc. News Sheet

Issue 107 – Aug. 2020

ELECTED COMMITTEE 2020-2021

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| PRESIDENT | Peter Applebee |
| VICE PRESIDENT | Ivan Randall |
| SECRETARY | Suzanne Smith |
| TREASURER | Suzanne Smith |

GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| MINUTE SECRETARY | Tammy Martin |
| PUBLICITY | Jeff Cook |
| | Helen Stein |
| | Ian Cowley |
| | Margaret Flaiban |

APPOINTMENTS

| | | | |
|-----------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| LIBRARIAN | | FAMILY TREE MAKER CONVENER | Peter Applebee |
| AUDITOR | Shirley Bulley | LEGACY USERS GROUP CONVENER | |

From the Committee

Hello Members,

We are starting a new financial year with quite a number of faithful members coming back into the fold plus a few new members, which we welcome. What a year it has been for everyone! Let us all keep positive that 2021 will be better. Please remember that on entering the Ann Street premises you need to use the hand sanitizers provided and to sign the attendance sheet.

Our Annual General Meeting and barbeque last Saturday was quite well attended despite our Covid 19 restrictions which has really been quite flexible for our Group. As you can see from the front sheet, there are no changes to our Committee. We will of course keep you informed of any changes by email and on our website www.andfhg.org.au but in the foreseeable future, our monthly Saturday meetings will be on hold.

Our sub-groups Legacy and Family Tree Maker are active again with good attendances. Thursday Research Days are busy too, with people wandering in and out and chatting - please remember that we still need you to make a booking for a computer, but you can still bring your own laptop to use. For the moment we have not resumed General Meetings, we will advise you if and when this is about to take place.

We hope you enjoy reading this quarter's newsletter. If you have any stories or snippets of family history to share, please let us know.

Regards ANDFHG

Disclaimer

The Adelaide Northern Districts Family History Group Inc. does not accept any responsibility for the opinions or the accuracy of the information contained in this newsletter

LIBRARY DONATIONS JUNE 2020

1. An updated revised version of "SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HISTORY SOURCES" by Andrew Peake.
2. "THE CONFIDENTIAL CLERK" A study of Charles Flaxman in South Australia and his relationship with George Fife Angas BY Charles H Bright.
3. Dating Family Photos

Announcing the Launch of New Parish Chest Website

The following announcement was written by the Family History Federation:

***Comprehensive One-Stop Online
Shopping Experience for all Family
Historians!***



The Family History Federation formally launched Parish Chest at its AGM on 31 May 2020. Aimed at family historians at all levels, the Family History Federation believes this new comprehensive online shopping facility presents a wealth of information to researchers all in one place. It is a new companion website to Family History Books Online; both are in the Family History Federation family.

Several commercial websites already offer basic information required for creating a family tree, but there comes a time when the researcher requires more local detailed information about a particular area, parish or topic which will add to their family story, "put meat on the bones" and complete the picture! Parish Chest now has the answer as the Federation has brought together many data sets and much information, compiled and marketed by individual family history societies, with other genealogical goods and services. **It's all in one place for ease of access, shopping and purchase!**

The Family History Federation, an educational charity supporting family history worldwide, is confident that this ambitious project will assist researchers worldwide by making detailed local information more accessible in one place thus assisting their research. The content of Parish Chest already has a good base upon which to increase quantity, quality and type of information on offer and includes the following:

- - **Parish Registers:** Transcriptions of births, baptisms, marriages, deaths and much more from local FHS
 - **Memorial Inscriptions:** Information from gravestones across the country, compiled by local FHS

- **Nonconformists;** Baptists, Wesleyans, Independents, Quakers and many more nonconformist lists
- **Wills and Probate:** Indexes of wills and administrations
- **Military and Naval:** Militia lists and more
- **Directories:** Information from trade directories over the years
- **Poor Law Records:** Information on poor law and workhouses
- **Maps:** Essential for researchers; find one for your area
- **Census:** Many early censuses, few of which ever survived
- **Leaflets and Booklets:** Selection of How to leaflets and other useful booklets on many topics
- **Miscellaneous:** Coroners' notes, apprenticeships, ships, mining accidents and much more
-

The above list is an illustration of the present contents, much of which has been compiled and produced by dedicated and expert volunteers of family history societies; we would welcome and encourage information from all similar organisations in order to expand the content of the Parish Chest.

This new one-stop genealogy shop is always open and our aim is to despatch orders within three days. Some information can be downloaded immediately to get people started on their research.

The website address is www.parishchest.com

Our sister website address is www.familyhistorybooksonline.co.uk

Our main website address is www.familyhistoryfederation.com

The Family History Federation, formed in 1974 and granted charitable status in 1982, promotes interest in researching family history worldwide and it specifically encourages researchers to join their family history societies. The Federation encourages and urges local societies to fully engage with local archives and other similar organisations to ensure that records survive and are accessible. Some societies have uploaded their journals and, indeed, researchers can join a local society via the Parish Chest and even renew their present subscriptions too.

Source: Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter

Military Service – Nominal Rolls

By Andrew G Peake

Records relating to Military Service from the Boer (South African) to more recent conflicts have been available for many years. The National Archives of Australia has digitised the personnel records relating to World War I and some progress has been made for servicemen and women for the Second World War, although there is still some way to go. You can request the digitisation of a particular service record through the NAA but it is now becoming quite expensive, but it can be seen as a memorial to your ancestor.

Electronic Nominal Rolls have been available on the internet, but recently some changes have been made, so it is worth repeating where to go to find them.

Boer (South African) War, 1899-1902

Initially troops were raised with a range of titles by individual Australian Colonies and after Federation in 1901 the Commonwealth Government also sent troops. They were largely mounted infantry, and in addition, medical and nursing staff. Commitment was generally for twelve months when they returned home and were replaced by new troops.

The Oz-Boer Database Project is a good site to search for names:

http://members.pcug.org.au/~croe/ozb/ozb_1st.htm

This site has largely replaced the hard-back publication, *Official Records of the Australian Military Contingents to the War in South Africa*, by P L Murray, 1911 (with a more recent facsimile). This publication has no consolidated index, and has many errors.

State and National Archives have some original records of troop enlistments.

Boxer Rebellion, 1901

I don't know of a consolidated nominal roll of those who went to China for the Boxer Rebellion, however, it was largely naval personnel and not a significant number, e.g. HMCS *Protector* from South Australia.

World War I, 1914-1919

Australia was an active participant sending troops (military and naval) to New Guinea, the Middle East, France and Belgium.

Probably the best modern data base is The AIF Project, by the University of New South Wales at:

www.aif.adfa.edu.au/index.html

This is a consolidated index of all Australians who enlisted and left Australian shores, and includes not only enlistment details but also some later material, such as date and place of death on returning to Australia and burial place, although not for everyone.

The Australian War Memorial has on its website the original Nominal Roll, however the names are not in strict alphabetical order and consequently is not easy to search for common surnames. There is also an Embarkation data base. They can be found at:

https://www.awm.gov.au/advanced-search/people?facet_related_conflict_sort=8%3AFirst%20World%20War%2C%201914-1918

The Nominal Rolls include details for 322,828 individuals and the Embarkation Rolls, 338,619 names.

It is also worth checking the indexes to the Australian Red Cross and Missing Files (31,995 results) at the AWM at: <https://www.awm.gov.au/advanced-search/people?roll=Australian%20Red%20Cross%20Wounded%20and%20Missing>

[%20Files&facet_related_conflict_sort=8%3AFirst%20World%20War%2C%201914-1918](#)

South Australia has a separate database for Red Cross enquiries in this state (1916-1919) and can be found on the State Library website at:

<http://guides.slsa.sa.gov.au/c.php?g=410211&p=2794840>

It is also worth checking the RSL Virtual War Memorial. This includes personnel for all conflicts, but is a work in progress. <https://vwma.org.au/explore/conflicts>

I would recommend that researchers add to this site with details of family members. (I have done so.)

World War II, 1939-1945

The National Archives of Australia holds the enlistment files of all personnel and these are being gradually digitised and are available on their website through their Record Search portal,

<https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/SearchScreens/BasicSearch.aspx>

It should also be remembered that the digitised files do not include the medical file, which remains confidential.

The Nominal Roll is available on the Department of Veterans Affairs website, <https://nominal-rolls.dva.gov.au/>

The website has been recently revamped for the better and the same website provides access to the Nominal Rolls for the Korean War, Vietnam War and a start has been made on the First Gulf War (1990-1991). A search can be made on a number of fields, and not just surname and forenames (or initials), but also service number. Importantly you can now search on forename/s, a significant feature for women who may have changed their name by marriage.

British Commonwealth Occupation Forces Japan, 1945-1952

No electronic database is known to exist. A hard copy Nominal Roll has been published as, *Disarming the Menace: Australian Soldiers with the British Commonwealth Occupation Forces Japan 1946-1952*, by Neil C Smith, Mostly Unsung Military History, Brighton, Victoria, 2012. Not an easy title to access.

Korean War, 1950-1956

See details under World War II. Up until recently there was only a published preliminary nominal roll, which only included surname, initials, service number and unit.

Vietnam War, 1962-1973

See details under World War II. Up until recently there was only a published preliminary nominal roll, which only included surname, initials, service number and unit. The new electronic data base now includes the periods that the individual was in Vietnam and whether they were regular or national service enlistments. Troops were generally posted to Vietnam on a twelve-month rotational basis.

First and Second Gulf War, 1990-1991, 2003-2009

A start has been made on a Nominal Roll for the First Gulf War on the Department of Veteran Affairs website, but is incomplete.

A Nominal Roll, although probably not complete, for the First Gulf War, 1990-1991, can be found in, *Operation Damask: The Gulf War Iraq-Kuwait 1990-1991*, by Frederick Kirkland, Plaza Historical Services, Sydney, 1991. Another obscure publication which may be difficult to find.

Later Conflict

Too recent for anything to be available.

British Atomic Tests in Australia, 1952-1963

Although not strictly an armed conflict, the Atomic Tests included a significant number of Australian military personnel. The published preliminary Nominal Roll, provides details of 16,716 members of the Australian Defence Forces and Australian civilians. The full title is, *Preliminary Nominal Roll of Australian Participants in the British Atomic Tests in Australia*, August 2001. Not an easy title to come by, and it may be necessary to access it through the State Library.

A FAMILY HISTORIANS DREAM COME TRUE!

By Margaret Flaiban

Whilst staying housebound and only communicating by phone/email/face time etc during the Covid 19 virus pandemic, some of us have been cleaning out cupboards and wardrobes and generally keeping busy. I received a phone call from my sister in law, saying she had found a shoe box belonging to my brother containing lots of photographs as well as my father's leather-bound photo album, which had been sent to my brother possibly in the late 1970s when my father passed away. She asked if I would like to see them, but they need to be returned. Of course, I jumped at the chance to view, scan, date if possible and name the people I knew. These photos are the ones I used to browse through as a four-year-old on cold wet weekends in England, even then wondering who these people were. I had been under the impression that these photos had been thrown out or destroyed and I had often thought about them over the years, especially when photographs are so vitally important in family history. Little did I know my brother had them all the time.

I organized to pick them up from my brother's driveway and distanced myself and promised to return them as soon as possible, which will be done during the next few months when we have the 'all clear'. The sad part about this story is that my brother has dementia, so is not able to share the excitement in renewing the 'friendship' with these photos. I am sure he would be able to fill in so much lost stories.

After looking through all the photos and putting them into some kind of order, e.g. generations, then family members I could identify and writing on the backs of the photos as to who they were, then picking out the photos I could not identify, I scanned them and sent some of them by email to various cousins and great nephews in an attempt to identify these ancestors. The response has been amazing and has re-connected me with distant cousins. With the help of a cousin,

we are 95% sure that Photo #1 is my maternal grandfather Dick Brown born 1881 East Yorkshire. The 'widows peak' (named because the hair grows to a point on the forehead)



Photo #1

is pronounced and has been carried through to various other family members.

This is one of the earliest photographs of a family member I have managed to find. He looks quite young, so can only surmise it was taken around 1910.

Photos #2 and 3 are very early photographs of my Mum - Hilda Brown born 28.3.1910 East Yorkshire, as a very young lady – typical 1920/30's look! I did not know these photos existed until now. #2 looks like it has been torn from a larger photo. I wonder what was at the other side of it!



Photo #2



Photo #3.



Photo #4.

I was instantly sent back to Summer 1950 when I saw this photo of my Mum and me. I can still remember a warm afternoon having this photo taken by my Mum's friend on a small Kodak Box Brownie. I had other photos taken on the same day, which I still have.

This is the photo album my Dad must have bought in the Middle East, so he could put all his RAF photos into it, during his time in the Middle East. The leather is very soft and the engraving shows the Sphinx and pyramids. It was so nice to feel it once again after so long.



Photo #5.

My nephew who had looked at the photo album and the miscellaneous photos before I collected them said there was a photo of the famous German Field Marshall Rommell amongst them. There certainly was! I cannot verify this but the story handed down to my brother and then to my nephew is that my Dad traded the photo from a

German Prisoner of War most probably with cigarettes as everyone smoked during this time. My Dad certainly did all his life!



Photo #6. Field Marshall Rommell.

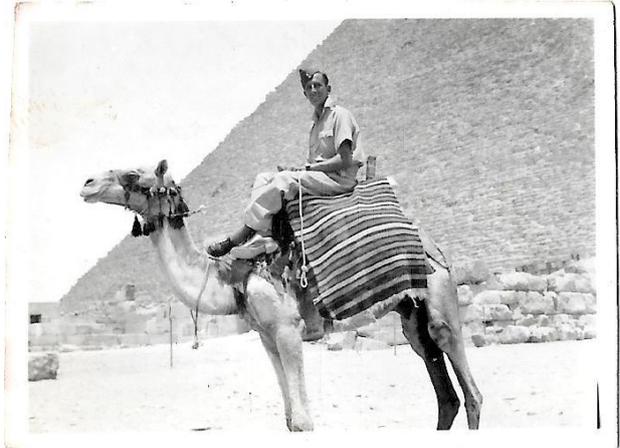


Photo #7 A rare photo of my Dad at the Pyramids circa 1941.

Photos #8 and 9 shows my Mum circa 1964 with her sister Dorothy (Auntie Dolly) taken at Bridlington, Yorkshire on one of their many holidays together. She was very close to her mother and sisters, who all lived in the same back-to-back houses and had always relied upon each other. The early part of my life was particularly worrying for my parents with my health suffering quite badly. The doctors advised my parents to move away from the small house we lived in, and move to where the air was better and cleaner. So we moved to the outskirts of the town, which meant my Mum did not see her parents and sisters for weeks. When I was a little older, Mum decided that most Saturdays she would take two buses and visit them, so this was the 'normal' routine which in turn, kept me in touch with all my cousins as well.



Photo #8



Photos #9

My Mum and my Auntie Dolly were inseparable - Dolly was the last of the four sisters to pass away. She had many family secrets and stories and I wish I had asked more questions when I went back in 1974 just after my Dad had passed away, but her husband (my Uncle Bob) was very ill, so I didn't press her too much. I was told a lot of information about my Mum and Dad's life during that visit and actually went back to the house I grew up in.

So, the moral of this article is that *please ask questions and identify photos* while you have time. I am very lucky that I was given these photographs to scan - I certainly feel privileged and thank today's technology that I was able to preserve these great memories forever.

Margaret Flaiban

Pandemic Prompts Growth in Family Tree Digging



I am normally in favour of anything that encourages people to research their family tree. However, I am not so sure we need to wait for a worldwide pandemic before starting such research! In any case, an article by Steve Meacham published in the (Australian) *Sydney Morning Herald* details the major growth in genealogy research in the

past 3 months:

Since words like “pandemic” and “coronavirus” became part of everyday parlance, Australians have sought solace in researching their family histories in increasing numbers.

Tapping into this desire to know more, the National Library of Australia announced a new series of *Family History for Dummies* online tutorials as the international and local shutdowns took effect.

“They were booked out within minutes,” says Alison Dellit, the library’s assistant director-general. “Normally, we get around 100 people signing up for our online classes. In April, we had 356, and around a third of those lived in regional Australia.”



Other evidence of the recent growth in family history research can be found in many places:

“It’s all more accessible now. Cemetery records, gravestones, birth certificates — you can find them all now at home on a computer.” says Brisbane-based Marg Doherty, secretary of the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations.

“I always warn people who go to [Trove](#) to be prepared,” said Alison Dellit. “You might hope to find a convict in your family tree, but you could end up with a politician.”

The article goes on to describe the recent growth in genealogy research in Australia and elsewhere. You can read Steve Meacham’s article at: <https://www.smh.com.au/national/pandemic-prompts-growth-in-family-tree-digging-20200707-p559t6.html>.

Source: Eastman’s Online Genealogy Newsletter

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