

Family History Conference : Port Macquarie 11-13 September 2015

NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc.

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Welcome to our August 2015 Conference Newsletter



August is National Family History Month

Thanks to an initiative of AFFHO, the whole month of August celebrates Family History. It is exciting to know that over a quarter of a million people are members of family history related organisations.

Best wishes to all of you who are holding or attending special events this month and encouraging others to enjoy our "hobby".

Left: c.1906 Three generations of the Robinson family outside their home at Abington (Armidale area) (from Hanly family collection)

Conference News – the excitement is building - only four weeks to go!

Speaker Tracy Bradford is unable to attend, so Wendy Holz who works with the Family History Team at State Library will present "*Gems to be found in The Mitchell Library*".

Publicity for the Fair and Conference is continuing with posters in most of the local retirement villages, libraries, and shopping centres; the local monthly Focus magazine ran an article in August, and will feature a Q & A article in September. Stories with a "come to the Fair" hook will be sent to newspapers in the local and surrounding areas; radio ads will start soon and we are hoping for a live cross from the Fair by our local ABC.

In the last Newsletter, we told you about Richard Grimmond and his marathon model-making effort. The good news, in Richard's words "*after 7 months 2 days and 2 hours they are finally FINISHED in time. Whew!*"



So 20 lighthouses are ready to light up your life - or your Conference dinner table anyway! They will each have a little *For Sale* sign, as they will be

offered for \$10 each during the dinner. Gwen Grimmond will be very pleased to have her dining room table available again!

Master Classes have proved so popular that we extended the number of places available from 50 to around 60 and if you were on a waiting list, you will have received an email from our Treasurer Clive Smith.

There are many interesting **exhibitors** coming and you're sure to find something of interest, as well as a bargain or two. At the time of writing, 18 commercial companies and 21 Family History/Historical Societies have booked tables. Details for set up arrangements will be sent to exhibitors early in September.

There's still time to **register** for the Conference (cut-off date is 28th August) so if you are thinking about coming, check out our website for the latest information and the Registration Form to download. You never know you just might meet a new second cousin or knock down a brick wall and add two new branches to your family tree! And you're sure to find many others who agree that their ancestors sat around thinking up obscure baby names and alternate surname spellings.

See you very soon.

*Jennifer Mullin (Conference Convener)
On behalf of the 2015 Conference Committee*

Proudly hosted by Port Macquarie & Districts Family History Society Inc

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Click on Conference link on our website: www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nswpmfhs/