

Welcome to our March 2015 Conference Newsletter

Family historians frequently deal with dates, anniversaries, formative moments, significant events. Do we know the importance of recording and observing them? Absolutely! For Port Macquarie & Districts Family History Society, 2015 is a special year of celebration:

- It is **30 years** since the founding of our Society with a small number of people interested in pursuing family history – what exciting changes there have been since then. Is your Society having an end of decade birthday this year? Please contact us if you are.
- It is **20 years** since we last hosted a State Conference. The theme then was *Place of Banishment* which paid tribute to the original discovery and settlement of Port Macquarie.
- In September this year, we are very proud to be hosting the 31st NSW & ACT AFHS Annual Conference. We issue a warm invitation for you to join us – and yes, there will be celebratory cake!

Congress 2015 Canberra 25-30 March: If you are attending Congress, please visit the NSW & ACT AFHS trade table that our Society is sharing. Say g'day to our Conference Treasurer Clive Smith who will be there with flyers, registration forms and information on all things relating to Conference 2015 in Port Macquarie.

Early Bird Conference Registration: Launched on 1st March and the bookings are arriving. If you are on our emailing list, you will have received the Launch Information letter and Registration Form. Online and downloadable Registration Forms, information and payment methods are available on our website <http://jennifermullin04.wix.com/2015-fh-conference>

If you are **not** receiving our Newsletters and information, please send an email to conference.pmdfhs@gmail.com so that we can add you to our list.

Third Master Class: Ken Hunt will present a Master Class on *DNA and Family History* on the Friday. Master Classes are an optional extra (\$5 per class). *Palaeography* (Brian Panisset) and *Public Records of Victoria* (Shauna Hicks) are the other Master Classes available.



So where are we at? Venues, catering and speakers have been confirmed. Registration bookings and Exhibitors bookings are rolling in. The Program is almost sorted, publicity is ongoing. Oh it's all go! We are really looking forward to seeing you in just over 5 months' time.

Jennifer Mullin (Conference Convener)
On behalf of the Committee

Accommodation: There are so many choices for accommodation in Port Macquarie. On the Conference website (Accommodation tab) there is a link to Port Macquarie Tourist Information Centre to help you decide.

FYI - the hotels nearest Panthers are Sails, Waters Edge (*formerly Country Comfort*), Aston Hill Motor Lodge, Le George, Macquarie Barracks (*Best Western*). For nearby cabins, there are Marina Holiday Park, Jordans Holiday Park, Melaleuca Caravan Park.

Rydges CBD is the where Meet & Greet and dinner will be and they are offering a discount if you quote **NSW & ACT Family History Society** (Regular price \$240/pn - Discount price \$165/pn)

Sponsors on board so far: We thank the following sponsors for their generosity and encourage you to support them in appreciation of their commitment:



- ❖ Ancestry ❖ Joy Murrin Transcriptions
- ❖ NSW Registry of Birth Deaths & Marriages
- ❖ NSW Transcriptions (Marilyn Rowan)
- ❖ Panthers Port Macquarie ❖ Rydges

Proudly hosted by Port Macquarie & Districts Family History Society Inc

PO Box 1359
Port Macquarie NSW 2444

Email: conference.pmdfhs@gmail.com
Website: www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nswpmdfhs/