



## Welcome to our 2015 Conference Newsletter No. 4

Genealogy is more than just a hobby. It provides a way to connect with the past. It can take you through time and across continents....and to the Conference at Port Macquarie! Whilst we can't promise you perfect weather, we can offer you a combination of all the features that make a memorable event.

**Preliminary Program:** Subject to confirmation, here are the speakers to enjoy at the Fair & Conference:

**Family History Fair:** 5 talks for beginners: *Ancestry-FamilySearch-FindMyPast-NSW State Records-Trove*.

**Friday Master Classes primarily for Conference Delegates:** Three one hour long professional Master Classes - *Palaeography* (Brian Panisset), *Public Records of Victoria* (Shauna Hicks) and third to be advised. Cost \$5 each; maximum of 50 attendees and held in a room separate to the activities of the Fair.

**Conference:** Dr David Roberts will present the John Vincent Crowe Memorial Address and it will be very interesting to hear how the following speakers each distinctly present their talks on the *Journey of Discovery* theme - Carol Baxter, Dr Tracy Bradford, Fiona Burn, Heather Garnsey & Martyn Killion, Amanda Ianna (NSW BDMs), Dr Carol Liston, Ben Mercer and Clive Smith.

**Conference Registration Fee Announcement:** Early Bird Registration 1<sup>st</sup> Mar to 3<sup>rd</sup> Jul 2015 - **\$120** for attendees whose Society is a member of NSW&ACT AFHS; **\$140** for everyone else. The forms, information and payment methods will be on the Conference website on or just before 1<sup>st</sup> March.

**Website & Facebook:** Updated weekly with lots of information. Access them from the home page of Port Macquarie & Districts FHS [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nswpmfhs/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nswpmfhs/) and then click on the link/s.



**Local Interest Discovery - Wineries:** The Port Macquarie area was first planted with vines in 1859 so you have the prospect of discovering the wine and history in the area. The Douglas Vale historic vineyard and homestead (with an amazing family history room), is still producing a range of wines from Isabella grapevines planted by George Francis. Also well worth a visit are Cassegrain Winery, Long Point Vineyard, Bago Vineyards (with a challenging hedge maze), Rose's Vineyard and Innes Lake Vineyards. Find out more at <http://www.portmacquarieinfo.com.au/explore/category.aspx?id=10>

### Best Conference Cake Ever Recipe – in honour of our local wineries (hic!)

1 or 2 bottles port	1 tsp soda	1 cup butter	1 tsp sugar	Brown sugar
2 large eggs	Nuts	Baking powder	Lemon juice	2 cups dried fruit

Before you start, sample the local port to check for quality. Good isn't it? Now go ahead. Select a large mixing bowl, measuring cup, etc. Check the port again. It must taste just right. To be sure the port is of the highest quality, pour it into a glass and drink it as fast as you can. Repeat.

With an electric mixer, beat 1 cup of butter in a large fluffy bowl. Add 1 seaspoon of thugar and beat again. Meanwhile, make sure the port is of the finest quality. Open a second bottle if necessary. Add one arge legg, 2 cups fried druit and beat until high. If druit get stuck in the

beaters, just pry it loose with a drewscriber. Sample the port again, checking for tonscisticity. Next sift 3 cups of pepper or salt (it doesn't really matter which). Sample the port again. Sift ½ pint lemon juice.

Fold in chipped butter and strined nuts. Add a bablespoon of brown thugar, or whatever colour you can find. Wix mell. Grease oven and turn cake pan to 350 gredees. Now pour the whole mess into the oven and bake. Check the port again and go to bed.

Jennifer Mullin, *Conference Convener*  
On behalf of the Committee

Proudly hosted by Port Macquarie & Districts Family History Society Inc

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