



**FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY OF
ROCKINGHAM & DISTRICTS INC.**

ANNUAL REPORT 2018/19

Management Committee

Peter Godfrey	President
Peter Heptinstall	Secretary
Chris Dodson	Membership Secretary
Leon Daly	Treasurer
Rae Matthews	Program Planner
Terry Craig	Fundraising Coordinator
Pamela Lydford	Publicity Officer
Verna Nazzari	Library Coordinator

Appointed Positions

John Wiseman, Editor of *Between the Lines*

Mal Hughes, Auditor

Betty Vanderlande Website Administrator

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HIGHLIGHTS AT A GLANCE

- Year-end membership was at 108 which was an increase on the previous year.
- Record meeting day attendances with excellent speakers.
- We have a healthy cash balance at year end of \$27,882.87

MEMBERSHIP

Renewals for the 2018/19 are currently standing at 86 which is well down on last year at this stage. I think this is a pattern across all organisations such as ours, however we don't give up our recruiting drives.

TREASURY

The Annual Accounts have again been prepared by Treasurer, Leon Daly and audited by Mal Hughes.

Here is a brief statement of our financial activities for the year:

Income:

Suscriptions	3,945
Meeting days	1,308
Fund Raising	913
Library	1,321
Other income	731

Expenses:

Rental	5,147
Other cash expenditure	5,271

Full statements are available in the library.

During the year we took a new subscription to FOLD3 which is now available in the library.

The end of year cash balance of accounts held by the society amounted to \$27,883

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FUNDRAISING.

Terry Craig still continues to brow beat us at our meetings for those odd dollars you have that go towards our raffles. You will see that our total fundraising was \$913 for the year partly due to Terry's efforts. He is always on the lookout for prizes so if you have those items around the house you don't need but are in good condition please consider donating them to us.

PROGRAMME

Rae Matthews has done a stirring job organising our Monthly speakers as our Programme Planner. Thank you Rae. Once more we have had a wonderful selection of speakers and all talks have been well attended by our members and others from the community. Here is a list of the speakers we had during the year.

2018

5 th May	The Statue of Liberty and Freemasonry by Peter Strickland
2 nd June	Are Your Photos in a Shoe Box by Julie Martin
7 th July	Van Gogh by Carl Altman
4 th August	Historical Fiction by Linda Moore
1 st September	Lives in Archives by Gerald Foley
6 th October	York Museum AIF Project by Diane Oldman
3 rd November	The 'Hougomont' last convict ship by Bevan Carter
December	Christmas Quiz

2019

5 th January	Emilliah The Suffragists in WA by Miriam Crandell
2 nd February	Pioneers, Convicts and WW1 by Peter Godfrey

May 2019

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- 2nd March Scanning, Sharing and Organising Photos by Julie Martin
- 6th April The animals that served in world war WW1 and WW2

We have more interesting talks coming up in 2019; please watch the website or my updates.

LIBRARY

Thanks to our wonderful team of helpers who volunteer their time for library duty and cleaning, for without them the library would not function as well as it does. I have noticed over the last few weeks that our library is well patronised during the opening times. I urge all members to publicise our library among their friends and advise them about what a great satisfying hobby Family History Research is.

Our computers have been upgraded to windows 10, and beside Ancestry and Find My Past we also have subscriptions to: The Genealogist, Families in British India, Forces War Records and Fold 3 for you to access at a very reasonable rate. We also have subscription magazines to:

Who Do You Think You Are,
Family Tree Magazine,

We also have a well stocked library of books and other periodicals to assist with your research.

PUBLICITY

We filled the role of Publicity Officer thanks to Pamela Lydford stepping into the breach. However when she took over she indicated it would only be for a short time. That time is now up and we require the services of someone else. This is not a difficult role and one that requires very limited computer work. Please give it some thought.

This is who we send out the posters for monthly talks to.

- Can you Help section of the West Australian.
- Various newspapers: Sound Telegraph, Cockburn Gazette, Comment News – Coast 2 Coast, Mandurah Mail, Mandurah Coastal, Fremantle

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Gazette, Examiner Newspapers – Armadale/Gosnells/Serpentine, Senior Newspaper

- Libraries: Baldivis, Safety Bay, Warnbro and the Rockingham Central Library.
- Members of Parliament: Local – Roger Cook MLA, Paul Papalia MLA, Hon. Mark McGowan MLA. and Federal Member Hon. Madeleine King
- Retirement Villages: Tuart Lakes National Lifestyle Villages, Springfield Retirement Village, Bethany Waters Lifestyle Village
- Judith and Frankie WAGS, Gwyn Williams WAGS, Lyn Watt Publications, WAGS, National Archives, Nedlands Local Studies, State Library: Leonie Hayes and Tricia Fairweather, Webmaster: Chris Loudon, and Western Ancestor Mike Murray/Lesley Silvester and PR Liam Fitzpatrick WAGS
- Various other organizations: Active Aging Rebekka Jarvis, Donna Cochrane City of Rockingham, University of the Third Age (U3A), Rockingham District Historical Society, Rockingham Woodworkers Club, Warnbro Shopping Centre, WASSARIANS.
- The Society brochure is in the process of being updated, and is ready to be published. We are applying for a grant from the City of Rockingham for this purpose.
- The Active Aging group run by Rebekka Jarvis from City of Rockingham continues to distribute by email and ordinary mail to citizens on the Seniors Distribution List.
- A new information flyer for the local Libraries is being designed and will be printed and distributed.

We attended the Seniors Expo again at the Mike Barnett sports centre. This is always a great way to meet people and spread the word to the wider community. On the day following we held an open day in the library which was a great success. We are finding that a lot of people in the community are becoming interested in Family History.

The number of non-members attending our meetings suggests that this publicity continues to be successful.

NEWSLETTER - *Between the Lines*

May 2019

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John Wiseman has continued as the editor of our quarterly magazine *Between The Lines* that continues to include some very interesting and informative items. These have been from contributions by many of our members, and outsiders. Thanks you John for your hard work on the BTL, and we also acknowledge our local politicians for assisting with the printing of it.

Members are provided with a copy and it is posted on our website every quarter.

VOLUNTEERS.

I have always had a great admiration for our many volunteers who help us out in so many ways. To be able to thank them in a practical way we have a volunteers lunch each year just before Christmas. This is catered for by Rae Matthews with help from myself and has turned out to be well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all. When I rang one of our long standing volunteers so that she could attend our AGM to pick up a Loyalty Award, her reply was "I only sit in the library on a Friday". But without our volunteers our library could not function the way it does.

SUMMARY

In 2018/19 your committee has worked hard to maintain the momentum of the past years with respect to reaching out to the community. We attempt to attend the activities organised by the City of Rockingham, however this always depends on the number of volunteers we have from within our membership.

I would like to thank the Committee for its support in the management of our Society in the past year. For the help of them and our many volunteers we rely on in the Library, meeting days, and all those happenings that occur behind the scenes, a big thank you. We are always on the lookout for not only new members but for existing members to become more active in the running of our Society. We have a small committee and if the positions are not filled it means that some members need to take on extra duties to keep your Society operating smoothly. If you can help in any way at all please

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contact one of us on the committee and/or nominate for a position at our AGM on 5th May.

I have continued to do research for other people during the year and have found it very interesting to learn about their families, and where they came from, including some Non-European people, Pioneers, Convicts and WW1 Soldiers for the AIF. (I gave a talk about one of them during the year). I know I have said this before but if you have never visited the National Archives in Canberra site for a WW1 Soldier you have missed a treat. In my opinion it is one of the best websites.

It is always difficult to measure how well we are doing in serving the needs of our community with their Family Research, so all we can do is to continue to put the word out about the benefits and the joys in finding that ancestor, cousin etc to prove where we came from, and the associated family history attached to them.

At the end of this report I attach a brief statistical chart to give you some idea of how we went throughout the year.

I wish you well in your research, and don't forget the magic words,
NEVER GIVE UP LOOKING.

Peter Godfrey,
President

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FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY OF ROCKINGHAM & DISTRICTS INC. MEASUREMENT REPORTING SHEET 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019

ACTIVITY FINANCIAL YEAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	TOTAL
LIBRARY USAGE													
LIBRARY RESEARCH # Members	24	37	40	45	44	34	26	17	12	27	32	38	376
LIBRARY RESEARCH # Non-members	1	1	2	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	7
LIBRARY SALES													
GRO CERTIFICATES ORDERED (#)	3	1	3	4	0	2	0	1	0	1	1	2	18
GRO CERTIFICATES (# persons)	2	1	2	4	0	2	0	1	0	1	1	2	16
MEMBERSHIP													
TOTAL NUMBER (progressive total)	90	99	99	103	103	104	105	106	106	106			106
NEW MEMBERS (by month)	9	0	4	0	1	1	1	0	0	*	*	*	16
MEETING DAY													
TOTAL IN ATTENDANCE	25	31	39	29	33	23	27	33	35	32	49	41	397
VISITORS	5	1	8	11	4	4	1	6	8	6	17	9	80

* Not included in year-end total (free period). Added to total number 1st April in following year.