



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

ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21

Management Committee

Peter Godfrey	President
Betty Vanderlande	Secretary
Chris Dodson	Membership Secretary
Leon Daly	Treasurer
Vacant	Program Planner
Terry Craig	Fundraising Coordinator
Amanda Batterham	Publicity Officer
Verna Nazzari	Library Coordinator

Appointed Positions

John Wiseman, Editor of *Between the Lines*

Betty Vanderlande Website Administrator

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HIGHLIGHTS AT A GLANCE

- Year-end membership was at 99 which was an increase on the previous year.
- Good meeting day attendances with excellent speakers.
- We have a healthy cash balance at year end of \$19,831
- Our year has been impacted by the COVID outbreak, with the need to partially close the library and to cancel some of our monthly meetings. Currently we are back to normal.

MEMBERSHIP

Renewals for the 2021/22 year are currently standing at 84.

Last year we started the year on July 16 with 93 members. This late start was due to Library closure. We gained only 6 new members for the rest of the year. Now we are back to normal and have a good range of speakers for our meetings so our membership will increase.

Thank you for your continuing support.

TREASURY

The Annual Accounts have again been prepared by Treasurer, Leon Daly. Here is a brief statement of our financial activities for the year:

Income:

Subscriptions	\$3,380
Meeting days	\$ 262
Fund Raising	\$ 244
Grant	\$1,500
Library	\$ 529
Other income	\$ 720

Expenses:

Rental	\$5,729
Other cash expenditure	\$4,502

Full statements are available in the library.

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The end of year cash balance of accounts held by the society amounted to \$19,831

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 \$244, which is down on previous years due to less monthly meetings, thanks Terry for your efforts. He is always on the lookout for prizes so if you have those items around your home, you don't need but are in good condition, please consider donating them to us.

PROGRAMME

We are still without a Program Planner so I (Peter Godfrey) have been doing this role in the interim. I have done this because I don't want to see our Monthly meetings end. The strength of a Society lies not only with the committee but involves all members. Please think about taking on this role. 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.

2020

January	Peter Godfrey	Convicts Sent To Australia
February	Don Whittington	Infamous People In Fremantle Graves
March	Sandra Playle	Only A Boy But A Hero
April	Julie Martin Posponed	A Cool School In The Kimberley -
May	Closed	
June	Closed	

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July Closed

August Closed

September Keith Good Who Do You Think I Am (Plus AGM)

October Cancelled

November Julie Martin A Cool School In The Kimberley

December Christine Timoney An Introduction To Ireland Reaching Out

2021

January Ian Simon Family Search Update - Cancelled

February Cancelled

March Darryl Brady Advancing Your DNA Tree

April Phil Sullivan Western Australia's 10th Light Horse

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.

The primary online subscriptions in the library are Ancestry and Find My Past but 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 are also now a FamilySearch Affiliated library which means we now have access to the images on their site. We also have subscription magazines to:

Who Do You Think You Are,
Family Tree Magazine,

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Also we 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 Amanda Batterham for stepping into the breach.

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

- Can you Help section of the West Australian.
- Various newspapers: Sound Telegraph, Cockburn Gazette, Mandurah Mail, Mandurah Coastal Times, Fremantle Gazette, Examiner Newspapers – Armadale/Gosnells/Serpentine
- 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: Springfield Retirement Village, Bethany Waters Lifestyle Village
- Gwyn Williams FHWA, Lyn Watt Publications, FHWA, National Archives, Nedlands Local Studies, Webmaster: Chris Loudon, and Western Ancestor Mike Murray/Lesley Silvester and PR Liana Fitzpatrick FHWA
- Various other organizations: Active Aging Rebekka Jarvis, Rockingham District Historical Society, Warnbro Shopping Centre, WASSARIANS.
- 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.

We now have a *Facebook* page and since the page's inception in May of 2019, the society's page started with a small following of 18 and has steadily grown over time and now stands at 105. With so much uncertainty that surrounded the COVID-19 virus and the effect, it could have on the community, it was great to see that people were still able to support the society.

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NEWSLETTER - *Between the Lines*

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. Thank you, John for your hard work on the BTL, 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. Without our volunteers our library could not function the way it does, thank you to all of you.

SUMMARY

In 2020/21, despite the COVID outbreak, we have tried to keep you abreast of what is happening on the Genealogical front. In addition, 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 contact one of us on the committee and/or nominate for a position at our AGM.