



# A.N.D.F.H.G. Inc. News Sheet

## Issue 74 – Feb. 2016

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### **ELECTED COMMITTEE 2015-2016**

**PRESIDENT** Peter Applebee  
**VICE PRESIDENT** Ivan Randall  
**SECRETARY** Margaret Flaiban  
**TREASURER** Suzanne Smith

### **APPOINTMENTS**

**LIBRARIAN** Gillian Swansson  
**DOCUMENT SCANNER** Sharon Norman

### **GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**MINUTE SECRETARY** Tammy Martin  
Helen Stein  
Jeff Cook  
Ian Cowley

**FAMILY TREE MAKER CONVENER** Peter Applebee  
**LEGACY USERS GROUP CONVENER** Shirley Bulley

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## **From the Committee**



Hello Members,

A very Happy New Year to everyone and hope you all enjoyed your Christmas break. This is the first newsletter for 2016 and we hope that you enjoy the contents. As you know we are always on the look-out for articles to include in the newsletter so if you have any interesting people in your trees and you think we would like to hear about them, please contact a committee member. We have some interesting speakers coming up in this second half of the year, so please come along on the last Saturday of the month and join in. The last page of all our newsletters outline the speaker and the topic.

Our Legacy and Family Tree Maker User Groups are still very active and attendance is quite high for both and also on Thursdays. However, we have noticed in the past few months that members are inadvertently downloading updates on their laptops (windows updates download automatically). This has resulted in our Telstra internet usage per month spiking to the maximum and being slowed as a result. We would ask that you update your laptops before you come to Ann Street as a matter of courtesy. Since this problem arose, we have had to upgrade our internet allowance resulting in the cost of our Telstra account being higher.

To cover this extra cost, the Committee has made a decision that we will be increasing our annual membership fee to \$25.00 as from the 1st July 2016. We are a non-profit organization and this is the first increase in membership since the group's inception nearly 10 years ago. We are sure you appreciate this situation.

Thank You.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>1<sup>st</sup> Feb.</p> 			<p>4<sup>th</sup> Feb.</p> <p>Mid-Week Research Day 10 am – 4 pm</p>		
				<p>11<sup>th</sup> Feb.</p> <p>Mid-Week Research Day 10 am – 4 pm</p>		<p>13<sup>th</sup> Feb.</p> <p>Research and Committee meeting 1 pm – 4 pm</p> <p>Committee Meeting 1 pm</p>
				<p>18<sup>th</sup> Feb.</p> <p>Mid-Week Research Day 10 am – 4 pm</p>		<p>20<sup>th</sup> Feb.</p> 
				<p>25<sup>th</sup> Feb.</p> <p>Mid-Week Research Day 10 am – 4 pm</p>		<p>27<sup>th</sup> Feb.</p> <p>Guest Speaker Afternoon 1 pm – 4 pm</p>

## First World War hospital diaries now online

Diaries of 247 First World War hospital camps, hospital ships, convalescent hospitals and veterinary hospitals are now available to [read online](#). The National Archives digitised the documents as part of Disability History Month.

These [war diaries](#) reveal different methods of treating injured and disabled soldiers, and give insight into life in hospital during the First World War.



The diaries give fascinating details about daily routines, operations and special events, including Christmas services: on board Hospital Ship Vasna in December 1918, 'a generous supply of gifts were obtained from the Red Cross Depot in Basra and were distributed by the Matron to all patients, passengers and staff.' Read more about Christmas aboard hospital ships on [our blog](#).

They also illustrate the challenges involved in setting up hospitals in battlegrounds and at sea, and the logistics of nursing thousands of soldiers and animals back to health. [The war diary for HMHS Erinpura](#) reveals that in just 15 voyages in 1918, the ship had carried '6126 sick and 4067 troops'.

### Treatment of disability

The diaries record how people with both physical and mental disabilities were treated on board hospital ships, particularly in the years following Armistice as they attempted to return home from across the world. People are often referred to as 'mental cases' and 'invalids', and on some hospital ships were involved in concerts to motivate troops. There are accounts of the treatment of people with mental health issues, which differed according to rank, including instances of confining them in wire cages. Fatal incidents are also recorded, such as one patient throwing himself overboard.

### Disease on hospital ships

The hospital war diaries note the various diseases experienced on board, such as small pox, scurvy and venereal disease. They also include details on eradicating vermin from ships and sourcing local food.

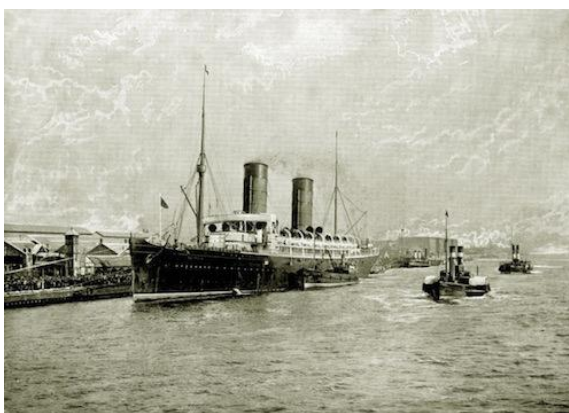
The diaries sometimes include complaints about hospital food, especially with the introduction of unknown local food.

### **The full scale of war**

William Spencer, author and military records specialist at The National Archives said: 'The diaries provide rare 'behind the scenes' accounts of the startling amount of logistics needed to run the war. That is why making these diaries available online is an important project, not just for researchers but for public understanding in bringing to light the full scale of the war.'

### **New Passenger Lists Go Online on TheGenealogist**

The following announcement was written by the folks at [TheGenealogist](http://TheGenealogist):



*RMS Campania, one of the ships included in the passenger lists.*

TheGenealogist has just released five million Emigration BT27 records as part of their growing immigration and emigration record set. These contain the historical records of passengers who departed by sea from Britain in the years between 1896 and 1909. These new records significantly boosts the already strong Immigration, Emigration, Naturalisation and passenger list resources on TheGenealogist.

Uniquely TheGenealogist allows you to track transmigration of people across countries routing through British ports on their way to America.

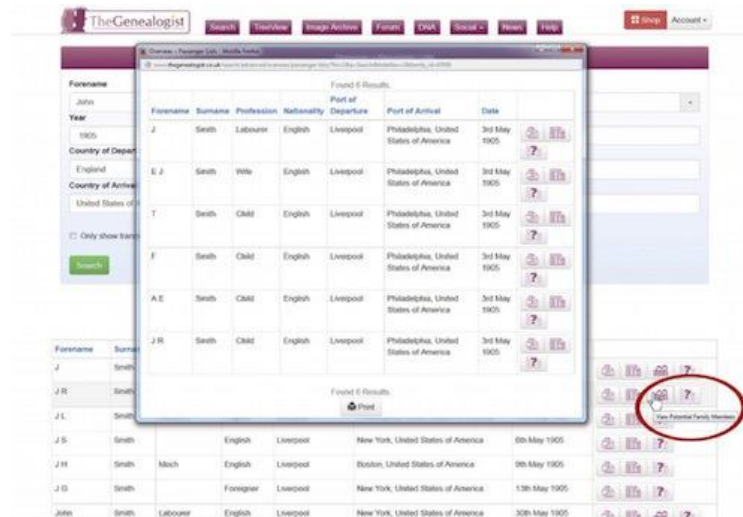
TheGenealogist is the only website with the facility to discover families travelling together on the same voyage using our SmartSearch technology.

TheGenealogist has further revealed that these records will be shortly followed by the release of many more unique migration records.

The searchable records released today will allow researchers to

- Find people using British shipping lines and travelling to places such as America, Canada, India, New Zealand and Australia in the Passenger lists of people leaving from, or passing through the United Kingdom, by sea which were kept by the Board of Trade's Commercial and Statistical Department and its successors.

- The Homestead Act of 1862 in America gave free land to settlers who developed it for at least five years, and became a particular magnet for Norwegians, Danes, and Swedes, who arrived in their millions. To reach America, it was necessary to travel initially to England in order to then board one of the large transatlantic passenger ships and this preliminary journey has been recorded for many transmigrant passengers within the BT27 records. For the first time these can be easily found using the unique transmigration button.
- SmartSearch identifies potential family members travelling together. When our system recognises groups of people on the same voyage as a potential family it displays a family icon. This then allows you to easily view the family.



- These fully indexed records enable family historians to search by name, port of embarkation, port of destination, country of departure, country arrival and nationality.

This release adds to TheGenealogist's British & International Immigration and Emigration records that already include the useful Naturalisation and Denization records.

Those with ancestors who travelled out of Britain will welcome this fascinating new release from TheGenealogist that reveal the details of the coming and going of passengers and is a precursor of a set of unique records joining the collection shortly.

Nigel Bayley, MD of TheGenealogist said: "We intend to make researching migrating ancestors easier with our new smarter interfaces and adding more records covering a growing range of countries."

### **An example from the passenger list records:**

Within the passenger lists, on TheGenealogist, we can find the passage of the Dunottar Castle from Southampton to Cape Town in South Africa on the 14th October 1899. One of the passengers was the young Winston Churchill who, at that time, was a member of the Press and was going out to report on the start of the Second Boer War.

Two days before his ship's departure the war had broken out between Britain and the Boer Republic. At the news of this conflict Mr Churchill had obtained a commission to act as a war correspondent for The Morning Post newspaper. In return he was to be paid £250 a month for his services.

Overseas » Passenger Lists » Full	
Title	Mr
Forename	Winston
Surname	Churchill
Port of Departure	Southampton, England
Port of Arrival	Cape Town, South Africa
Date	14th October 1899
Profession	Press
Gender	Male
Nationality	English
Age	36
Marriage Status	Married
Ship Name	Dunottar Castle
Ship Number	98152
Shipping Company	Castle Line
Master Name	H Rigby
Ship's Destination	South Africa
Voyage Length	65 Days
Source	BT27 Piece: 0312

After spending a number of weeks in the Colony he managed to get himself onto an armoured train, loaded with British soldiers, performing a reconnoitre between Frere and Chieveley in the British Natal Colony during November 1899. A Boer commando force, however, had placed a big boulder on the track and the train crashed into it. The Boers, having succeeded in stopping the train, then opened up with their field guns and rifle fire from a vantage position.

After a fight a number of the British were taken prisoner, but the locomotive, decoupled from the carriages and laden with men, managed to escape. Churchill, unfortunately for him, was not one of those on-board the loco. Without his sidearm, which he had left on the train, he had no option but to surrender to the Boers. Churchill was then imprisoned in a POW camp in Pretoria. After being held captive for about four weeks Churchill escaped on the evening of 12th December 1899. He did this by vaulting over the wall to the neighbouring property and taking flight.

If we look at Churchill's travelling companions on the ship out to Cape Town, scheduled to take 65 days, we can see that was sailing with a mixture of merchants, a jeweller, an actor, a Peer of the Realm (Lord Gerard), an optician and a couple of lawyers. The Hon A. Campbell was also listed, he was another member of the press corps who had made it on to that particular Castle Line sailing to the war zone with Churchill.

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**CASTLE LINE,**  
DONALD CURRIE & CO., MANAGERS  
CARRYING THE BRITISH AND COLONIAL ROYAL MAIL.

LONDON & THE CAPE COLONY, NATAL, MAURITIUS, MADAGASCAR & EAST AFRICA.

SCHEDULE B.  
FORM OF PASSENGER LIST.

Master *Castle* No. *98152* *H Rigby* 2009 *South Africa*

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the Persons actually taken on board this Ship are as follows, according to the requirements of the Passenger Act, for 1000 Tons, for a Voyage of 65 Days.

Date *14th October 1899* *Castle*

NAMES AND DESCRIPTIONS OF PASSENGERS.

No.	Name	Age	Sex	Rank	Profession											Remarks		
					Merchant	Passenger	Seaman	Engineer	Steward	Deck	Cabin	Passage	Other	Other	Other		Other	
1	Mr. Austin	35	M	Capt.														Cape Town
2	Mr. de		M															
3	Mr. de		M															
4	Mr. de		M															
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Source: Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter.

## The University of Tasmania Courses

The University of Tasmania is launching a fully online Diploma in Family History in 2016. This exciting program will provide plenty of opportunities for archival and genealogical sleuths to improve their repertoire of skills. The course will consist of eight units, six of which will be on offer in 2016.

- *Introduction to Family History*
- *Writing Family History*
- *Convict Ancestors*
- *Place, Image, Object*
- *Writing the Family Saga*
- *Founders and Survivors*

We are delighted to offer students who have already completed *Introduction to Family History* and/or *Writing Family History* the opportunity to continue their studies.

### *Convict Ancestors*

Starting in April this unit will use the wealth of expertise in convict history at the University of Tasmania to walk students through Australia's UNESCO-listed convict archive. It will include important information on how to read and interpret convict records as well as a host of tips for making sense of trial records and information gleaned from other judicial and penal series. This unit is a must for anyone interested in the nation's convict past.

### *Place, Image, Object*

This unit, planned for June 2016, will provide students with ways of understanding how objects, images and buildings can provide a valuable context for family history. The material past, all too often neglected, can add powerful insights into the lives our ancestors lived.

### *Writing the Family Saga*

Adventure or romance, tragedy or triumph, legends of extraordinary feats or quiet tales of everyday struggles. What kinds of stories are there in your family tree? This unit, which builds on *Writing Family History*, will commence in June 2016 and introduce students to key skills for the writing of fiction and/or non-fiction based on genealogical records.

### *Founders and Survivors*

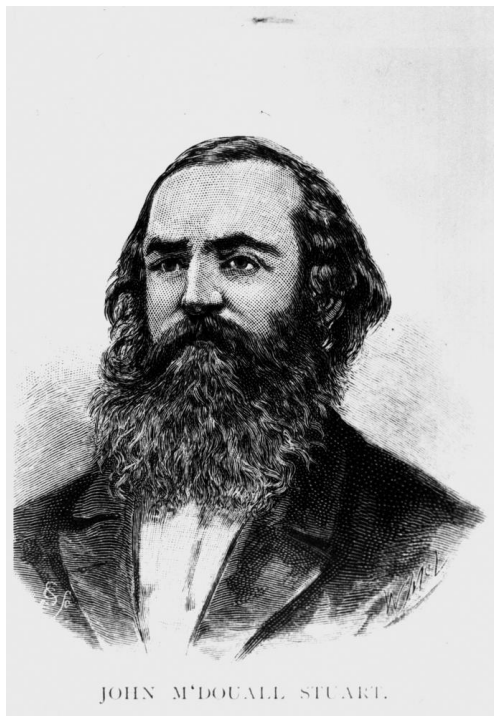
This unit will provide students with an in-depth knowledge of the inner workings of the transportation system. *Convict Ancestors* will be a pre-requisite, so make sure that you sign up for that unit if you wish to enrol in this detailed exploration of the lives led by transported convicts and their descendants. The unit is planned for an October 2016 start.

**1.30 pm Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> February.**

# Rick Moore

of the John McDouall Stuart Society

## “The Golden Age of Exploration”



John McDouall Stuart already had an established reputation as an explorer when, in 1859, the South Australian Government offered £2,000 reward for the first person to cross Australia from south to north.

Setting out from Adelaide in 1860, he eventually reached the centre of Australia--the first European to do so.



Adelaide Northern Districts Family History Group Inc.

Committed in Promoting Family History Research.