



## ORANGE FAMILY HISTORY GROUP NEWSLETTER APRIL 2020



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### STUCK AT HOME?

Hello to all of our wonderful readers during this surreal time. All of us here at Central West Libraries hope that you're keeping safe and well – we miss seeing our 'regulars'!

On the upside of being stuck at home for the family historian there is no excuse to be bored! It is a great opportunity to organise your research and look for further clues. We really like this [Genealogical To-Do List While You Keep Your Distance](#). Lots of wonderful ideas.

Many libraries and archives are also offering webinars and other online programs. If you don't already follow us on [Facebook](#) 'Like us' now. We will add them to our feed as they come to our attention. We're also updating our [web site](#) to give you some ideas.

Behind the scenes the Library staff are still at work (with social distancing in place) and catching up on a raft of projects. We are currently packing boxes as our workroom area will be re-carpeted and painted in the next few weeks. Those of you who have been 'upstairs' in our Orange Library know that this will be a major undertaking. Chocolate is in order!!!! Wish us luck.

## **UPCOMING CHANGES TO BDM WEBSITE - WHAT IS CHANGING?**

During the month of March the Registry website is undergoing changes as part of a broader NSW Government project to consolidate over 1,000 websites. The aim of this project is to make it easier for customers and business partners to find what they need, and to locate easy to understand, consistent information around Government services.

### **What is changing?**

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### **When?**

The existing BDM website [www.bdm.nsw.gov.au](http://www.bdm.nsw.gov.au) will remain live until later this month and any existing bookmarks relating to our website will remain active. We'll automatically redirect traffic to the new site once it's ready.

The test site is now viewable at <https://preview.nsw.gov.au/births-deaths-marriages> and provides a link for you to give us feedback on the site.

### **What do I need to do?**

We'll keep you informed of the changes across this month. Please read all communications to ensure that you can continue accessing any information on our website that is relevant to you.

If you have any questions, please contact us via the existing email channels below:

- General enquiries: [bdm-familyhistory@customerservice.nsw.gov.au](mailto:bdm-familyhistory@customerservice.nsw.gov.au)
- Technical enquiries: [registry-support@customerservice.nsw.gov.au](mailto:registry-support@customerservice.nsw.gov.au)

## FIND AND CONNECT

This [website](#) was developed to help Forgotten Australians and Former Child Migrants understand more about their past and about the historical context of child welfare.

[findandconnect.gov.au](http://findandconnect.gov.au)

For many people who grew up in 'care', the search for records and information – so vital to identity and to the process of reconnecting with family – can be frustrating, complicated, time-consuming, expensive and traumatic. Three Senate reports have highlighted that the history of child welfare in Australia is little-known and little-understood.

The Find & Connect web resource brings together historical resources relating to institutional 'care' in Australia. You can use it to:

- read information about and view images of children's Homes
- get help to find records about your childhood in 'care'
- connect with support groups and services in your state/territory

You will not find personal information or private records on Find & Connect. This website contains only information that is already published and/or in the public domain, or information that stakeholders have agreed to place in the public domain to help those who experienced out-of-home 'care' access records.

However, this website can help you locate and get access to your own personal records which may be kept by government departments or past providers of 'care'.

The Find & Connect web resource has been developed by a team of historians, archivists and social workers from the University of Melbourne and Australian Catholic University, with funding from the Australian Government.

[findandconnect.gov.au](http://findandconnect.gov.au)

## DNA WORKSHOP

On Friday 28 February 2020, Marilyn Woodward from Heraldry and Genealogy Society of Canberra (HAGSOC) presented an interesting workshop on DNA to 15 participants. Marilyn is the co-ordinator of the Canberra HAGSOC DNA interest group. Marilyn was in Orange researching her own family history and offered to present a basic information session on DNA in family history – why do DNA testing: to verify research, to expand your family tree, to find an unknown ancestor, to prove or disprove family stories, to leave a legacy, to find biological family, to learn ethnicity, to break down a brick wall in research, or for fun and curiosity.

Marilyn also explained simply how DNA testing works and who can be tested. Marilyn discussed the DNA testing process, companies that offer testing and what you receive once you have tested. This includes online results, lists of matches to biological relatives, raw data files and methods for contacting matches.

One great hint was that the results are sent as raw data files which can be downloaded from any company for use with third party sites. You can pay an “unlock fee” and upload your results to other databases without having to retest. Ancestry and 23&ME DO NOT allow this with their results though. Another hint was to set up a separate email account for the other company. DNA is the latest tool and needs to be used in conjunction with traditional family research.

Resources Marilyn suggested:

- **Genie1.com.au/links** for links to useful websites, books, forums, videos, webinars
- **ISOGG.org wiki** – International Society of Genetic Genealogy Wiki
- **Books**
  - *The DNA Tree Guide to DNA Testing & Genetic Genealogy* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition) – Blaine Bettinger
  - *DNA for Genealogists* (2017 ed). – Kerry Farmer - An Unlock the Past booklet

One suggestion from the meeting was to investigate if there was enough interest in forming a DNA interest group here in Orange as part of the Orange Family History Group. Please see the expression of interest advertisement for your consideration.

Julie Sykes  
Librarian  
Orange City Library



Marilyn Woodward from Heraldry and Genealogy Society of Canberra (HAGSOC) presenting DNA workshop



Presenter – Marilyn Woodward at Orange City Library

## **EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST DNA INTEREST GROUP**

At the seminar on DNA given by Marilyn Woodward from HAGSOC on 28 February 2020 at the Orange City Library, members of the audience indicated they would be interested in belonging to a DNA interest group in Orange.

This DNA interest group would run on similar lines to that formed by HAGSOC – they would meet bimonthly.

If you are interested, please contact Family History Librarian Julie Sykes at Orange City Library on 02 6393 8105 or email [library@cw1.nsw.gov.au](mailto:library@cw1.nsw.gov.au)

## **NURSE JULIA KIDD**

Nurse Julia Kidd was a highly respected resident of Orange who ran the Eureka Private Hospital in McLachlan Street, East Orange, for more than 40 years.

Born at Kings Plains in 1868 Julia Margaret was the only daughter of Jesse and Johanna Lindfield. In 1880 the family moved to a farm at Canobolas and, in 1896, Julia married Ernest Albert Kidd, a blacksmith of Lucknow. Their sons, William Ernest and Claude were born in 1896 and 1899 respectively. Ernest contracted pneumonia and died in 1901 at just 27 years of age.

Julia took up nursing in an effort to support her young family. She opened the Eureka Private Hospital, which she ran single-handedly; she even washed patients' clothing and the children's nappies herself. Nurse Kidd's patients often commented on the quality of her nursing skills, her kindness and compassion.

Nurse Kidd was known for her generosity and regularly supported local charities and causes, including Orange District Hospital and the establishment of a Catholic church in East Orange (later St Mary's). A prominent worker in the Catholic community, Julia acted as secretary for the Patrician Brothers' School fund and served on the committee of the local branch of the Self-Determination for Ireland League of Australia.

Nurse Julia Kidd died in Orange on 20 March 1941, aged 72 years.

## NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

*Central Western Daily* - 20/11/1945: Soldier's Plan for nudist colony. by a staff reporter. If the plans of an Orange serviceman are carried into effect, Orange will soon have a nudist colony. The serviceman who expects to be discharged in a few weeks told me yesterday that he already had his sun-bathing area chosen. He does not wish his name disclosed but told me he had no objection to revealing the details. Near Canobolas. His nudist colony will be for mixed sexes and will be "*somewhere near Mount Canobolas.*" So far he has had nine applications for membership and expects more. The applications will be investigated to make sure that they are genuine. "*There is nothing wrong with nudism*" said the soldier. "*We need all the sunshine we can get and I know of no better way than nudism.*"

*Central Western Daily* - 18/11/1947: Obituary. Mr J.G. Lynch.

Many residents of Orange and district will regret to hear of the death of Mr Joseph Gabriel Lynch which occurred at Lewisham private hospital on Friday at the age of 55 years. For some years he and his wife and members of the family had been living at 42 Victoria Street, Burwood. Mr Lynch conducted a chemist's shop in Summer Street for several years and disposed of it to Mr S.F. Shearman in 1939, when he removed to Sydney. During their residence in Orange Mr & Mrs Lynch and family resided in a cottage in Sale Street, near the Baptist Church and were popular with all sections of the community. In addition to his widow he is survived by Joan (Mrs S.F. Jones); Dorothea (Mrs H. Govers), Kevin, Margaret, Irene and John. Following a Requiem Mass at St. Mary's Church, Concord yesterday morning the remains were laid to rest in the Catholic portion of the Rookwood cemetery.

*Central Western Daily* - 20/12/1947: Obituary. Mrs M.E. Wheeler.

The death took place at Burwood on December 12, of a native of Orange, Mrs Mary Elizabeth Wheeler at the age of 65. Mrs Wheeler is survived by her husband Mr Bert Wheeler of Rozelle and one son. She was a life member of the committee of the Board of United Charities and a life member of the board of the Balmain District Hospital. A sister is Miss Olive Hunt, of McLachlan Street, Orange, while brothers are Messrs. Jack (Western Australia), George, Harold and Alfred Hunt. Interment took place in the Field of Mars cemetery, Ryde.

*Central Western Daily* - 2/1/1948: Obituary. Mr E. Chapman.

Edward Ernest Chapman. Many persons in Orange and district will regret to learn of the passing of Mr Ted Chapman formerly "mine Host" of the Metropolitan Hotel. He died in Sydney on December 22, after a short illness. he married Miss Rita Perrottet and had a family of two children. Ted was a veteran of the 1914-18 War and also did his bit in the last war. He was a committeeman of the Orange R.S.L. branch at one time.

Ted's nature and his generosity was one which endeared him to his many friends and they will deeply regret his passing. His widow is living at "Cheverton" 290 New South Head Road, Edgecliff.

His wife was Margaret Mary Aloysius (Rita) Chapman (nee Perrottet) they married 1925 - Their marriage is in the Leader Orange 6/5/1925. Her second marriage, 7/2/1957 to Charles Hugh Hicks. She died 23/7/1987.

*Central Western Daily* - 3/1/1948: Obituary. Miss E. Arey.

Many residents of Orange and district will regret to hear of the death at her residence 44 Chandos Street, Ashfield, on December 31, of Miss Ethel May Arey at the age of 67 years. Miss Arey was the eldest daughter of the late Mr Robert Arey, for many years manager of the Orange Gasworks and also caretaker of the Gosling Creek Reservoir, and the late Mrs Arey. The family, which lived in the cottage at the reservoir was noted for its musical attainments and unbounded hospitality. Ethel Arey and her sisters, Maud, Beatrice, Nellie, Annie, Myra and brother the late Mr Ellwood Arey were all excellent singers and helped to make the choir at the Orange Methodist Church at that time one of the outstanding musical combinations in the West. No local entertainment was complete without the services of one or more of the Arey family. One of the sisters Beatrice who married Mr G. Melville, now a retired school inspector was a visitor to Orange last month and stayed at Hotel Canobolas with her son an architect, who was in Orange in connection with building operations at the Emmco factory.

*Central Western Daily* - 6/1/1948: Obituary: G.M. Gilchrist.

A former well-known western district shearer a native of Gilgandra, who spent most of his life at Orange, collapsed and died on the train at Burwood, when travelling to the South Coast on Boxing Day. He was Mr George McDermott Gilchrist, aged 47, of 127 East St., Lidcombe. Until a few years ago Mr Gilchrist followed shearing and rural work in most parts of western New South Wales and always made Orange his headquarters. Recently he had been living with his brother at Lidcombe, where he spent Christmas Day. He was the youngest member of a family of three brothers and is survived by William Gilchrist of Pilliga; and Claude Gilchrist of Lidcombe. The remains were cremated at the Rookwood crematorium.

*Central Western Daily* - 8/1/1948: Obituary. Mrs M. Plunkett.

Old residents of Orange will regret to learn of the death in Sydney on January 1 of Mrs Maude Plunkett a member of the well-known and respected Hudson family. She married Mr William Henry Plunkett a contract painter who predeceased her 14 years ago. Mrs Plunkett was an active worker for the Red Cross and other charitable organisations. Of recent years she went to reside with her son at Port Kembla. She leaves a family of four sons and three daughters, Edward, Jack and Harold (all of

Sydney) and Warwick (Port Kembla) and May (Mrs H. Dillon, Bathurst), Daisy (Mrs H. Plummer, Melbourne) and Lorna (Mrs K. Lester, Sydney). Three brothers and two sisters also survive. They are: Edwin, Hubert and Shepherd (all of Orange); Mrs Hamilton (Sydney) and Mrs R.J. McDonald (Wagga). Her funeral left St Barnabas Church East, Orange on Monday last, Rev A.J. Richards conducting the service. Interment took place in the Church of England section of the Orange Cemetery.

*Central Western Daily* - 9/1/1948: Obituary: Miss H. Williams.

The death occurred suddenly at Manly on Wednesday, December 21, of Miss Hettie Williams at the age of 67 years. She was a daughter of the late Mr & Mrs John Williams and was born at Byng. At the time of her death Miss Williams was spending a holiday at Manly from her position at Grace Brothers, where she had been employed for the past 30 years. One brother and five sisters: Charles (Guyong); Mrs F. Banham (Sydney); Mrs J. Harris (Orange); Mrs L. Johnson (Sydney); Mrs H. Eslick (Bloomfield) and Miss O. Williams (Sydney) survive her. The remains were cremated at the Northern Suburbs Crematorium.

*Central Western Daily* - 10/1/1948: Orange Natives.

Colonel Eric Hennessy M.C. B.S.O. the second Australian soldier to enter Bardia in the first great drive against the enemy in the Middle East during the last war, is holidaying in his native town, Orange and is the guest of his parents Mr & Mrs Percy Hennessy. He is accompanied by his wife and two children. Eric's many friends are always pleased to greet him.

Mr James Johns an officer of the New South Wales Fire Brigade, has been appointed third officer with headquarters in Sydney. Previously Mr Johns had controlled the stations at Broken Hill and Wollongong. He is a native of this city and a son of Mr Williams Johns one of our oldest residents.

*Central Western Daily* - 8/10/1949: Obituary. Death of Mr Horace Hughes.

The death occurred early yesterday morning of Mr Horace Hughes aged 69 at Orange Base Hospital. Mr Hughes was an accountant in Orange for 20 years and for the past 17 years he was a partner in the firm of Hughes and Aird. The late Mr Hughes was an Englishman and he migrated to Australia at the end of World War 1. He spent ten years at Cloncurry, Queensland where he acted as secretary of several big mining companies. When he came to Orange Mr Hughes opened an accountancy business and was well known to all businessmen in this city. Mr Hughes was a keen bowler and was one of the oldest members of Orange Bowling Club and served in several official capacities. For many years he was the secretary of the Western Districts Bowling Association. Mr Hughes acted as secretary of the Orange Stock Selling Agents Association. When he first came to Orange Mr Hughes took a prominent part in musical organisations in the

town. He was a talented violinist although he had suffered from deafness since childhood. Mr Hughes was conductor and producer of several musical comedies in Orange. He was a staunch supporter of the Masonic Lodge. Mr Hughes is survived by his wife. The other members of his family live in England.

*Central Western Daily* - 7/6/1954 : Obituary - Mr J.F. McKinlay.

The death occurred suddenly on May 27, at Greenslopes (Repat) Military Hospital of John Frederick McKinlay. "Jock" as he was generally known was the only son of Mr & Mrs Fred McKinley. He was born at Ayr, North Queensland on 5/12/1915 and educated at Mt Morgan Rockhampton and Maryborough. He was chosen as a cadet (Air Force) to train at Point Cook in 1936 and graduated in 1937 as a pilot officer, then going over to England to be attached to the R.A.F. and rising to the rank of Squadron-Leader. He saw service during the war at various parts of the British Isles and Canada. Returning to the R.A.A.F Australia in 1943, where he served at Darwin and places north of Australia until the end of the war. He was then a navigational officer with A.N.A for several years. Jock and his family lived in Orange N.S.W. until recently and at the time of his death he was a popular manager of one of the Caltex service stations at Southport Queensland. Keenly interested in the Air Force Association and R.S.S. and A.I.L.A both in Orange and Southport he will be missed by the members. He leaves his widow (Jean) and four young children: Janis, Sandra, Bruce and Kerry.

*Central Western Daily* - 14/3/1958: Mr F. Kershaw.

Mr Francis Kershaw died at his home in Bondi early this week. Mr Kershaw was on the staff of the Orange Railway Superintendent's office for 10 years from 1926 to 1936. In 1936 he went to Sydney where he worked for the Department of Railways until his retirement about 10 years ago. He was cremated in the eastern suburbs crematorium on Wednesday morning.

Francis Kershaw - died 11/3/1958 74 years. Wife Marie Muriel Kershaw. They lived at 104 Moulder St, Orange.

*Central Western Daily* - 23/12/1970: Obituary - Mr William Lionel (Bill) Fitzpatrick.

Obituary - Mr William Lionel (Bill) Fitzpatrick, who died recently in Orange after a short illness was a son of a very old and well-respected local family. Born in Orange 57 years ago Mr Fitzpatrick was the son of the late Mr & Mrs W. Fitzpatrick who spent their lifetime in the district. Mr Bill Fitzpatrick was educated in Orange married Miss Beryl Coyte of Borenore. He was a master carrier in Orange for some years, after being employed by Leaheys Ltd when that firm conducted a Summer St grocery store. Mr Fitzpatrick was employed at Email at the time of his death. A keen follower of racing. Mr Fitzpatrick was granted a trainer's licence by the Western District Racing Association. He trained horses for some of the best-known sportsmen in Orange and

the Central West. Mr Fitzpatrick is survived by his widow, two daughters Pat (Mrs H. Molloy), Robin of Orange, son Bob also of Orange, Sisters Doreen (Mrs B. Horton, Sandy Point, Joyce Mrs S. Crooks, St Mary's, Dulcie (the late Mrs P. Baker of Orange) and Thelma (Mrs C. Turner, Berry. Mr Fitzpatrick was interred at Orange following a service at Holy Trinity Church of England.

*Central Western Daily - 2/2/1978: Death of Mrs Crossly.*

A well-known former Orange woman died in Glen Innes on Tuesday after a short illness. Mrs Josie Crossley 41 was wife of former science master at Canobolas High School, Mr Keith Crossley. The Crossley's lived in Orange from 1969 to 1975 when they moved to Glenn Inness. Mr Crossley was made deputy headmaster at Glen Innes High School. Mrs Crossley was a former president of the Orange and District Historical Society and honorary archivist with Orange City Council. She was also a member of the ABC concert committee and took an active interest in many other organisations in the town, including the Autumn Festival. A number of Orange people will attend the funeral today at the Glen Innes Church of England. She is survived by her husband Keith and their three children Paul, Megan and Karen.

*Central Western Daily - 19/11/1992: District Leader will be missed.*

A leading figure in the Australian country newspaper industry. Doug McGregor died in Mudgee on Thursday night after a short illness. Mr McGregor aged 76 had been the proprietor and chairman of directors of the *Mudgee Guardian* newspaper for the past 22 years. He was manager of the *Central Western Daily* from 1945 to 1970. He was a life member of the NSW Country Press Association, a member of its executive for many years and president from 1975 to 1977. He was also a long serving executive of the Audit Bureau of Circulations. Mr McGregor was widely respected in country Australia for his deep commitment to decentralisation and issue he promoted vigorously through his newspapers and his many community activities. He was known throughout the Central West for his involvement in many community and sporting activities. He had a particular love for golf, boxing, rugby league and athletics. His community interests saw him as a keen Rotarian supporter of Legacy and the RSL and a member of many other clubs and organisations. He was the leading figure in the development of the Kanandah Retirement Village in Mudgee, stepping down as chairman only this year. He was a member of the inaugural committee to establish Wontama Home for the Aged in Orange and a foundation member of Orange Legacy and The Trinity Memorial Kindergarten. Mr McGregor was a pioneer in the establishment of the Orange Field Days. He was a keen painter and organised the founding of the Orange Art Group and Orange Festival of Arts. Douglas Harvey McGregor was born at Warialda NSW. in August, 1916. He married Poss Knight of Coonabarabran, in July 1940 and is survived by her, their four children, Dinah, Lindie, Alexander and Scott and their families.