

Updates Newsletter No. 34 - 29 July 2009.

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1. Genealogy talks in Qld and NSW.

I have been invited to give these talks:

- Pittsworth Qld, this Saturday, 1 Aug 2009, 10am–2pm, 'Getting Started in Family History' and 'Black Sheep and Vanishing Relatives'. See www.judywebster.com.au/talks.html. Bookings are essential: Gail Parish, (07) 4693-7028 or 0407-937200.
- Armidale NSW, Sat. 17 Oct 2009, 'Resources in Qld'. See www.judywebster.com.au/talks.html.
- Sydney NSW, Sat. 31 Oct 2009, 'North of the Border'. See www.judywebster.com.au/talks.html.

2. Mental asylum case books.

Queensland mental asylum case books start in 1860. They usually give the patient's age, marital status, number of children, occupation, country of birth, residence, religion, mental disorder and its onset, and changes in behaviour and physical condition. Some include letters or a photograph. Information from these case books (unlike Public Curator insanity files) has traditionally been available only to close relatives, in special circumstances, via an expensive Freedom of Information application - but I now have access to some of the older case books. If you want a copy of the record for someone admitted to Woogaroo/Goodna between 1860 and the early 1900s, ask me for a quote (specify 'Goodna case book').

3. *Darling Downs Gazette* BDM indexes on-line.

Toowoomba and Darling Downs FHS are putting indexes to 'Darling Downs Gazette' birth, death and marriage notices on <http://tddfhs.blogspot.com/2009/06/darling-downs-gazette-index-online.html>. They include many notices for events in other States.

4. CuriousFox and Freepages searched by Google.

Did you know that a Google search will locate entries on Rootsweb Freepages <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com> and CuriousFox www.curiousfox.com? If you list your research interests there, you are much more likely to be contacted by others who are researching your family.

5. Immigrants on the *Diana*, May 1858.

Lisa Burton, email burtonlisa61@hotmail.com, is seeking information about immigrants on the '*Diana*' to Moreton Bay, May 1858.

6. Web sites worth a mention (Queensland / elsewhere).

- Family History Week events: www.familyhistoryweek.org.au
- Databases for Australia: <http://userdb.rootsweb.ancestry.com/aus/>

7. My research / copying services.

Family 'carer' duties often take me away from Brisbane. I will continue to provide an Archives research/copying service, but please be tolerant of delays. I give priority to paying clients. If you want *free* advice, see 'Published guides and free advice' (below).

8. Published guides and free advice for Queensland.

Before asking me questions about Queensland research, please check whether the answer is here (but note that my Web site will move to www.judywebster.com.au later this year):

- www.judywebster.com.au/tips-qld.html
- book '*Tips for Qld Research*' (latest edition, described on www.judywebster.com.au/publicat.html)
- www.judywebster.com.au/index.html
- www.archives.qld.gov.au/research/briefguides.asp
- www.slq.qld.gov.au/info/fh
- www.naa.gov.au/about-us/publications/fact-sheets/index.aspx
- www.judywebster.com.au/prof.html