



ABN 96 027 096165

# Armidale Family History Group Inc.

PO Box 1378  
Armidale, 2350  
N.S.W.

## 2017 ANNUAL SEMINAR

**WHEN: SATURDAY, 21 OCTOBER 2017 9.15 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.**

**REGISTRATION BETWEEN 9.15 a.m. - 9.45 a.m.**

**WHERE: RESEARCH CENTRE, KENTUCKY STREET, ARMIDALE**

### **'AN AMAZING RESOURCE – OUR FEMALE ANCESTORS'**

**DR CATHERINE BISHOP**

**'Not Just Pin Money: Colonial Women in Business'**

**GRAHAM WILSON, OAM**

**'Go Bush Young Lady or Get Out'**

**Jillian Oppenheimer, OAM**

**Difficult times for our Pioneer Women**

**DR CATHERINE BISHOP**

**'Challenging Women?: Living Alone on the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Australian Frontier'**

**Some resources will be for sale during the day**

**COST: \$35.00 or \$60.00 for a couple**

**See reverse for the programme including session descriptions.**

**Please bring your own lunch. Soup will be available. Morning and afternoon tea will be provided.**

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**R.S.V.P. by 16 October 2017 to The Secretary, Armidale Family History Group Inc.**

**Please find enclosed my cheque/money order/cash for \$ ..... being the booking and payment for the seminar on 21 October 2017. (Receipts will be issued on the day)**

**Name ..... Title .....**

**Address .....Contact number.....**

**Email .....**

**For further enquiries please phone Margaret 0408415462 or Diane (02) 6771 4681**

## PROGRAMME

**Registration 9.15 a.m. - 9.45 a.m.**

**9.45 a.m. Welcome and opening**

**10.00 a.m. Dr Catherine Bishop 'Not Just Pin Money: Colonial Women in Business'**

Memorialised as domestic helpmeets, 19<sup>th</sup> century Australasian women in fact had a variety of roles. Many were in business. From milliners and dressmakers to ironmongers and booksellers; from publicans and boarding-house keepers to butchers and taxidermists; from school teachers to ginger-beer manufacturers: these nineteenth-century businesswomen have been hidden in the historical record but were visible to their contemporaries. This talk will bring the stories of these entrepreneurial women to life, with fascinating details of their successes and failures, their determination and willfulness, their achievements, their tragedies and the occasional juicy scandal.

**11.00 a.m. Morning Tea**

**11.30 a.m. Graham Wilson 'Go Bush Young Lady or Get Out'**

For the past two decades, Graham has researched bush schools in Uralla, Armidale and Glen Innes districts. His talk will highlight how women were employed and what their training involved. He will also include their sense of isolation and the wonderful contribution they made to the school environment.

**Lunch 12.30**

**1.30 p.m. Jillian Oppenheimer: 'Difficult times for our Pioneer Women'**

In the nineteenth century, when families sailed from Britain to Australia, they knew that they were leaving their families and friends and a familiar lifestyle. They were aware that a new world lay ahead, and it would be months before they arrived at their destination. While the long voyage was an adventure in itself, with its varied climate, and unfamiliar skies and stars, the ships' passengers learnt that life in their new country would be very different from 'home', and they would have to adapt to people and places which they could not anticipate or imagine.

Women were dependent on their families for home and food. Their fathers and husbands, whether workers or property owners, made decisions that included whether they were to live in urban or rural districts. After the Napoleonic wars, the men of all 'classes' were equally aware of the struggle to live in Great Britain when soldiers were no longer needed to fight wars. The differences between Britain and Australia, which were not only separated by the great distance, but there was vast space and land for work in distant colonies.

The landscape, weather, vegetation and climate were all completely different. Life was a challenge that no one could have imagined when they left their homeland on the other side of the world.

For the women who ventured far from the coast and new colony of Sydney, it was most often the Scottish families who were prepared to travel long distances into the interior to make their home and bring up their children and adapt themselves to the new lifestyle and climate of their new country.

The lifestyle of the female population in the Australian landscape in the nineteenth century, and how they adapted to their new homeland, needs to be rediscovered. English, Scots, Irish and Germans made up the majority of the incoming population, and deserve to be researched again to help us understand the nationality of Australians as they moved into the twenty-first century.

**2.30 p.m. Afternoon Tea**

**3.00 p.m. Dr Catherine Bishop: 'Challenging Women?: Living Alone on the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Australian Frontier'**

Australia's 'frontier', across which Indigenous people and white settlers negotiated, persisted into the 20<sup>th</sup> century in many areas. This talk will introduce some white women who challenged ideas about women's role by living and working alone in outback areas. Some are well-known, others less so. This talk will focus on four lone white women, who engaged with Indigenous communities and white settlers in different ways: missionary Annie Lock, anthropologist Daisy Bates, pastoralist Isabella Price, and the intriguing Rebecca Forbes.

**A separate sheet will be available at the seminar containing the speakers' biographies.**