



FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the July newsletter. Thanks to everyone who requested poster packs following our last issue, it was great to receive so many requests. If you didn't get round to requesting a pack you can email me at sorpin@unimelb.edu.au and I'll get a pack in the post to you.

This month we updated our creative commons licence for the content of the web resource and this newsletter – if you're wondering what that means Mike explains it all in the article below. Also in this month's newsletter we have an update on the Records Access Documentation Project (RADP) which is in it's final stages, a reminder of a couple of exhibitions around the country and of course the regular update from our State based Historians.

I hope you enjoy this issue and for those in the chillier southern states – I hope you stay warm! Have a great month everyone.

Sal Orpin

Communications and Liaison Officer

RECORD ACCESS DOCUMENTATION PROJECT

The Find & Connect Records Access Documentation Project (RADP), funded by FaCHSIA to improve the accessibility of records relating to Forgotten Australians and Former Child Migrants, is starting to wind up.

The majority of the 29 recipients of the RADP grants have submitted their series descriptions and related information. Over the next few weeks, Find & Connect staff will review this material and work collaboratively with the organisations to prepare new entries for the web resource.

Most of the participants used the Excel indexing tool created specifically for the project. The tool is intended as a basic 'entry level' archival listing tool (while still conforming to archival standards) for organisations who either do not have significant information technology expertise, or who do not wish to engage with more complex database systems.

The tool is freely available for anyone to use. You can download it along with associated training material at:

<http://www.findandconnect.gov.au/australia/RADP002.html>

We have received plenty of positive feedback suggesting that the project has succeeded in it's aim to improve accessibility of records. One organisation commented that the tool has made life easier: *"as we can search and know what records we hold for each child. It's great!"*

Others comments included:

"Time spent searching for records has been reduced from 4 weeks to 4 days."

"We found the project very beneficial and feel we have achieved a lot in making the records more available to Forgotten Australians and former Child Migrants."

This newsletter is published by the Find & Connect web resource project team. For enquiries please email the editor: sorpin@unimelb.edu.au

NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR DATA SHARING

Since first going 'live' in November 2011, the Find & Connect web resource has been published under a Creative Commons licence (<http://creativecommons.org.au/>), except where otherwise specified.

As some of you may know, Creative Commons is a widely used system which helps publishers of data, information and knowledge to clearly outline what users (and other publishers) are allowed to do with their content. Creative Commons doesn't replace copyright. Instead, it means we can retain copyright while allowing people more freedom to distribute and use our work – provided they meet certain obligations.

Until recently, the information on Find & Connect was published under a Creative Commons licence which meant people could share our content, but were not allowed to change or build on it in any way.

But we felt this was too restrictive. The Find & Connect team believes in the importance of public knowledge and open data – subject to privacy and related issues – wherever possible and want to support these ideals in our own work. Also, our content is presented in a particular way for

a particular purpose, but if our users want to re-mix or alter it for another context we don't want to stop them.

Therefore, we have now updated our Creative Commons licence to Attribution-NonCommercial-Share Alike. This means:

people need to acknowledge us when they use our content (Attribution); people should not use our work for commercial purposes

(NonCommercial); and people can download, harvest, copy, remix, build on or mash-up Find & Connect content in any way they want, provided any derivatives are made available under the same terms and conditions as the original content (Share Alike). We try not to restrict what you can do with our content and ask that you show an equal commitment to sharing accessible public knowledge.

You can find out more about our Creative Commons licence here: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/au/>. And, if you do use our data, please let us know. We would love to see what you can do with it!

Mike Jones

Lead Archivist



STATE SNAPSHOTS

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

This month I have been preparing new entries for the ACT site that have been missing from the database. The ACT site review helped to focus my attention on some important elements of the history that should be included, a list that it is naturally always growing. I have continued to assist with research in NSW now looking at the period from the 1940s - 1980s. This period is very relevant for the ACT after the Child Welfare Agreement Ordinance in 1941 legislated for children in the ACT to be sent to institutions in NSW.

Lydia Connell

NEW SOUTH WALES

As the Records Access Documentation Project draws to a close we in NSW are beginning to hear about the excellent work record holders have been doing to index their files and photographs. More than a dozen indexing and cataloguing projects were funded in NSW and this work will make a real difference to those searching for their histories and those of their loved ones.

The Find & Connect team has been working behind the scenes on a website review. This means the site is updated less often than usual. Please bear with us, but don't stop asking questions or suggesting upgrades.

Naomi Parry and Lydia Connell

NORTHERN TERRITORY

This month our focus on upgrading histories of institutions already on the NT Find & Connect site began with the Retta Dixon Children's Home, which officially started operating after World War 2 on Bagot Reserve. We will be adding a much extended history as well as more photos and links to new digitised original records at the National Archives. Meanwhile, Megg is nearing the completion of her research into the juvenile justice system, so look forward to new pages exploring this neglected area of the history of child welfare in the Northern Territory. For a taste of what is to come see the history of Her Majesties Gaol and Labour Prison, Alice Springs (1938 - 1996).

Karen George, Gary George and Megg Kelham

QUEENSLAND

In June I attended a public seminar on British Child Migrants held at the National Archives of Australia, Cannon Hill. Thank you to Mairi, whose fine research underpinned this content rich presentation that certainly increased my knowledge of the topic. This month I received feedback from recipients of the federal government grant for the Records Access Documentation Project and was happy to hear how beneficial the project has been to these organisations in relation to accessing records. Lastly, I have updated the entry for Nazareth House, Wynnum North, and have added current photos of the institution.

Lee Butterworth

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

This month inquiries from Forgotten Australians have taken us out into the community. We visited the Glandore Community Centre, formerly Glandore Boys' Home, to photograph an Honour Roll of boys who served in World War 1. We discovered the Centre has a collection of colour slides from the Home. At the Mt Barker Library's Local History Centre we found that volunteers have indexed the local Courier newspaper and collected other material relating to the Salvation Army Boys Home, Eden Park. At the Heritage Room at Highgate Park (formerly the Julia Farr Centre) we saw the significant collection of records preserved by another volunteer. These trips emphasized the importance of liaising with local communities to unearth the treasures quietly collected by local historical societies and centres.

Gary George and Karen George

TASMANIA

Caroline Evans is on leave.

VICTORIA

In June, we visited the Salvation Army Southern Territory in Blackburn. It was good to talk about how we can improve information on Find & Connect about Salvation Army Homes. We followed this up with a visit to the Salvation Army Heritage Centre in Melbourne. They have lots of interesting historical material - such as War Cry, one of the Salvos' publications

News from our historians around the country.

- and we're looking forward to doing more work with these valuable resources. We also attended a very successful forum, organised by Dallas Neighbourhood House, which promoted awareness among service providers about the needs of Forgotten Australians.

Sarah Green and Rosemary Francis

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Thanks to the efficient digitisation services of the National Archives of Australia, the Find & Connect web resource is able to publish documents that will interest people who were at Children's Homes in WA during the 1950s. Files relating to the visit of a UK 'child welfare' official, John Moss, are now available online. These files give particular insight about the system for child migrants, but also give an adult glimpse into the world of all the children in the large children's homes in WA. Please start at www.findandconnect.gov.au/wa/biogs/WE00957b.htm and explore from there. These files have not previously been digitised, so please spread the word that they're now available.

Deb Rosser

EVENTS DIARY

TAS

8 June - 25 August 2013

ON THEIR OWN – BRITISH CHILD MIGRANTS EXHIBITION

Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery

This exhibition tells the stories of children who were transported across the world as part of the Child Migration Scheme.

www.tmag.tas.gov.au/whats_on/exhibitions

VIC

29 Aug 2013 - 27 Jan 2014

INSIDE: LIFE IN CHILDREN'S HOMES AND INSTITUTIONS

Melbourne Museum

Inside shares the experiences of some of the half a million children who spent time in institutional 'care'

<http://museumvictoria.com.au/melbournemuseum/whatson/coming-soon/inside/>



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