



Moxons Down Under

A Newsletter for Moxons living in Australia & New Zealand

December 2013

Editorial

I'd like to wish everyone a very merry Christmas – or the compliments of whatever festive season you might be celebrating.

And may 2014 be full of fun, love and prosperity.

I hope that any of our members who live in bush fire prone survived the recent fires and are safe and well.

The editor's cousin, Dr Wendy-Louise Walker, lives in the Blue Mountains near Sydney and she moved to temporary accommodation when the fires were at their worst – fortunately, all is now well.

Wendy was possibly the first researcher of Moxon genealogy in Australia. In the early 1980s she spent many hours in libraries and registries viewing original documents and microfiche readers, writing letters to all sorts of possible sources, and finally writing it all down and sending it her family.

Those of us who belong to the Joshua Middleton Moxon branch owe Wendy much gratitude.

As you will read elsewhere in this newsletter and in the Moxon Magazine, Wendy was one of the 27 Moxons who gathered in Parramatta to meet and celebrate Joshua's (and his wife, Louisa's) life and achievements.

Family is important and it is worthwhile for families to take a

break from their busy schedules every now and then to spend some time getting to know each other, and to share experiences.

The fires (as well as other disasters like cyclones, floods and break-ins) should cause us all to think about our valuable goods, and how safe they might be in the case of a disaster.

“Valuable goods” will probably include your family photos, your genealogical research and any stories you have written or collected.

Let's hope you think about making digital copies of everything and storing the copies in some other location – e.g. on a second portable hard drive which you leave at a friend's place (i.e. not the one you use for your usual backups, which probably sits next to the PC), or even on the cloud, using something like DropBox, Google Drive or MS Sky Drive.

That way they'll be there for you and your loved ones after the disaster.

And while you're sorting through all your family history, how about writing a short story about an ancestor and sending it to me for inclusion in the newsletter?

Regards for now.
John Bruce Moxon
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New Members

A big welcome to the following new members of the Moxon Society who live Down Under:

- Lyal Moxon, Dickey Beach, QLD MX26
- Major Frank Moxon, Port Macquarie NSW MX26

And re-joining:

- Dr Wendy Louise Walker, Leura NSW MX26

Joshua & Louisa Moxon Muster

To celebrate the lives and achievements of Joshua Middleton Moxon and his wife Louisa Mary (nee Wilkinson), 27 of their descendants gathered in Parramatta on 6 October 2013

Parramatta was chosen as the venue for this muster because it has a rich history and was the site of the second white settlement after Sydney Cove.



Eight of Joshua and Louisa's 14 children married and had children. They were:

- George Joshua,
- Henry Percy,
- Herbert Middleton,
- Edith Emma Chiffins,
- William Thorpe,
- Arthur Frederick,
- Alfred John, and
- Mary Susan.

Four of these families were represented at the Muster; those of: George, Henry, Arthur, and Alfred.



All born with Moxon as a surname.

Back row:
John Allan, Rebecca, Ray, Sarah, Lyal, Shirley,
Alana, Bruce, Frank, Danielle.
Front row:
Arthur, Roslyn, John Bruce, May, Lachlan.

People brought their photos and research, and there was great interest in the material that was shared.



A short film was shown which included photos of some of the places where Joshua and Louisa had lived (Dodworth, Silkstone and Grenoside for Joshua, and Hailey and Hoddesdon for Louisa.



One of three inns in Grenoside, where Joshua was born in 1840. His father, Isaac, was an inn-keeper. Was he born here?

It also included a photo of the church in London in which they were married, and the street in Balmain, Sydney where they lived in 1868-71, as well as the house in Newtown that we believe Joshua was living in when he died in 1894.

In addition, we saw photos of some of Joshua's stone carving and building works in Sydney.

A separate slide show had photos of some of Joshua

and Louisa's children and grandchildren.



Mortuary Station at Haslem Creek Necropolis (now Rookwood Cemetery). Joshua did much of the stone carving. Below, is the same building re-erected in Canberra, with the bell tower on other side, and used as All Saints church.



An extremely enjoyable High Tea was served, while people mingled and met cousins they'd never met before.

Mortuary station at Redfern (below) which still stands – Joshua also did much of the stone carving on this beautiful building.



The house in Newtown where Joshua died in 1894.

The following article is an edited version – the full version is posted on the UK and International Moxon Society Facebook Group – Ed.

The Moxon Gathering: Lynne Raskow

How do I start to describe such a wonderful event in my life?

Leaving London in the early morning, before we realized, an announcement was being made that we would shortly be arriving in Llandudno in North Wales.

We arrived at this amazing old-fashioned Queens Hotel, right out of the 1940s! As I approached the front desk to announce that we had arrived for the Moxon Gathering, I felt a tap on my shoulder, and who should be behind me but my 5th Cousin, Ken Moxon.



I went for a walk with members Judy (Moxon) Huggett and Birget Moxon around the delightful town of Llundudno, finding a little market, passed the Methodist Church, built of local stone and lots of stained glass windows, and many unique and interesting little shops, all with many hidden treasures inside.

I walked into the room where the AGM was being held and meet all my **WONDERFUL RELIIES!!!** The first person I spoke to was Trevor Jordon – Editor of the Moxon Magazine, and had the most interesting conversation with him.

I purchased two books, which I want to share with everyone back home (haven't worked out how yet!). The first book was Don Moxon's facsimile of Elizabeth Moxon's 1741 *English Housewifery* (which of course I got signed personally by Don) and the other was *Index to the first fifty issues of the Moxon Magazine* compiled by Chris Moxon, and I think that I shall probably use this book quite a lot to access back issues of the magazine.

Before the AGM started I met Scott and Vivien Hults-Moxon from Birmingham, Alabama, and gave them both a big Aussie hug!

Then our meeting commenced! It was a very informative meeting and wasn't a bit dry or boring.

I felt proud when Margaret Tucker Moxon was acknowledged in the AGM for all her efforts with the Website and everyone was very appreciative of how easy it is to use and move around the website now. Again I felt proud when Margaret & John were acknowledged for their efforts in joining up so many new members in Australia.

Before the AGM ended, I presented little mementoes of Australia to all those present at the Gathering.

Scott Hults-Moxon presented to the secretary a bag of 'Moxon' Coat-of-Arms badges, as a contribution to the AGM. I have 35 badges to bring back to Australia! A tremendous vote of thanks to Scott!

Brian and I sat with Doris Moxon and her daughter Marlene and son-in-law David Hamilton and Scott Hults-Moxon for dinner. What a wonderful evening, having a scrumptious 3 course meal, with a choice of 3 entrées, main and dessert.

After a refreshing night's sleep it was time for breakfast. Lo and behold, due to John Moxon (John de Wight) deciding to collect all the name badges at breakfast, Brian and I were left in the dark a bit when it came to names at breakfast! But we muddled through.

Breakfast was another wonderful gastronomical delight.

I had my traditional breakky of porridge and toast with VEGEMITE!!! I took my jar down to breakfast, announced to everyone, should they like to try some Vegemite, I had some to share; Don Moxon (I think) was game enough to take a serving and Scott also took a serving. I'm sorry to say that there were no other takers

At 9.00am we met outside on the front steps to take the '2013 Gathering' photo, and at 9.30am we hopped aboard our comfy coach to start our wonderful day of sightseeing around the north of Wales.



At Blaneau Ffestiniog we all boarded the train, which was an absolutely delightful little steam engine with 'Thomas the Tank Engine' type carriages attached. Brian looked but couldn't find the Fat Controller! And I kid you not, it really was that type of surroundings and setting!

The train trip lasted about two hours and wound through the most spectacular views of the landscape that can only be described as Wales! We travelled through small tunnels, past waterfalls, saw the magnificent landscape of slate valleys, wonderful little glens/gullies of forest ferns (where I'm sure fairies live!).

In all it was a magical train ride! Brian and I were able to purchase a book giving the history of the Ffestiniog Railway.

The carriages were tiny but comfortable, with a light service of snacks and drinks offered. I had a Welsh Cider which was very nice but it came in such a large bottle. Luckily I was able to talk Ken into sharing with me!



Unfortunately, all good things much come to an end, and so did our train ride – I could have easily spent another hour on the train, taking in the views and the smell that you can only associate with a steam train!

At Porthmadog our coach took us to Caernarfon for lunch at The Black Boy Inn.



Ken told us that from the early 16th Century the Black Boy Inn was always referred to as The Black Boy Inn but in the 60/70's it became politically incorrect to have the name of 'black boy', and so to keep the history going, the owners changed the name to read 'The Black Buoy Inn'. Thankfully, there is only one sign now that says 'black buoy' and all the old signs have re-emerged' and hold their original places on the Inn.

What a delightful (have I used that word before? Sorry, but it describes so many wonderful sights) historical inn.

I decided that I would forgo tea and coffee and have a very quick look around the

town, and hopefully a quick look at Caernarfon Castle. Unfortunately, time was constrained, and I was only able to view the Castle's walls on the outside, and contribute very quickly to the economy of Caernarfon.

Back at the hotel. Brian and I decided to take in the peaceful and spectacular views from the terrace with a drink prior to heading to the Dining Room for more delectable food.

Because this was our last dinner together, there were lots of lively conversations going on over tea and coffee but in the end Brian and I excused ourselves and headed to bed.

Before nodding off to sleep, Brian said to me "your rellies are not bad", which, coming from Brian, was a great compliment to me and the Moxon Family!

With that thought going through my head I dropped off to sleep. Another advantage of the Queens Hotel, is that it is situated in a very quiet part of the town, no speeding cars, no drunken people swaggering home, etc. Just beautiful ringing Church bells waking us up ... divine!

Breakfast was our last meal together at the 2013 Gathering. This time there were extra pots of tea and coffee ordered, as I think no one really wanted the weekend to end!

Many wonderful and heartfelt hugs and kisses were in abundance and perhaps a bit of a sad time for me, as I don't know if I will be given the opportunity to attend another Gathering – Maybe God will Bless me and give me another opportunity.

I was able to give my heartfelt thanks to Ken and Joan for such a wonderful venue and weekend, said goodbye to Scott and Vivien and wished them a wonderful tour of Scotland, exchanged contact details with Judy and Doris (Moxon). I feel a little sad, but with a wonderful feeling of belonging to such a big and loving family!

(Thanks to John Moxon of Southampton, John Earnshaw, and Scott Hulst-Moxon for the photos – Ed.)

Moxons Down Under report 2012-13

(This report was sent to the UK for the AGM – it is reprinted here for the information of Down Under members – Ed.)

In December 2012, the Moxons Down Under group within the Society was handed over to my husband John and me by Margaret and Simon Moxon of Brisbane. We live in Sydney, and have been members of the Moxon Society since 2005.

We arranged an account with our Building Society in Parramatta and deposited the transferred funds, amounting to \$182.70. We

have a tax file number and an ABN. The account is reasonably healthy, and currently able to pay expenses, including all current website expenses for the Moxon Society.

Not all membership fees come to us, some are paid directly to the Society through an English bank account or more often via PayPal.

Sadly, one member, Mrs M. Johnston of Brisbane passed away earlier this year, but her son Alan has taken over her membership. Otherwise all members except one renewed their membership, and we have attracted 10 new members. Some of these are newly found cousins of John's, but others are people who have discovered the Society

through social media, the website or through Ancestry. I have made sure to publicise the Society on genealogy lists and on social media. It has been very rewarding to chat and comment to other members around the world on our Facebook group.

John (Bruce) Moxon is now the newsletter editor. The first of these has been distributed by hardcopy to all Australian/New Zealand members and has been uploaded to the website. Just type "Down Under" into the search box and it will be listed.

Our branch of the Moxon Society is holding a Moxon Muster in Parramatta, NSW on Sunday October 6. Numbers are not yet finalised, but we expect 25-30.

INCOME 2012-13

From Brisbane account	\$ 182.70
Membership fees	\$ 355.00
Total income	\$ 537.70

Income and Expenditure Statement 2012-13

EXPENSES 2012-13

Bank fees	\$ 30.00
Postage	\$ 131.15
Webhosting	\$ 17.50
Domain	\$ 108.00
Website plugin	\$ 25.00
Total expenses	\$ 311.65

\$281.65 reimbursed to ME& JB Moxon - 9/7/2013

Surplus \$ 226.05

NOTE: A number of Australian and New Zealand members paid directly to The Moxon Society (UK) via Paypal or UK standing order/cheque via UK bank accounts

Account No: 200665536

BSB 641800

Moxons Down Under: Moxon Society

One of our members, Lynne (Moxon) Rascow is attending the Wales Gathering this year with her husband Brian. We expect a full report!

*Margaret & John Moxon
Co-ordinators, Moxons
Down Under: The Moxon
Society
Northmead, NSW*

Award for John Bruce Moxon

Your editor, John Moxon, has been honoured with an award during the recent National Disability Awards.

The award ceremony was held in the Great Hall of Parliament House, Canberra and was attended by many people who work in the disability field, all endeavouring to improve the lives of people with disabilities by improving their access to education, housing, support services, employment, transport, and equipment.



John and Margaret Moxon. You won't see John in a suit very often.

John has served for over 35 years in a voluntary capacity on a number of local, state, and national organisations. He has been president of a number of these organisations, including the Australian Quadriplegic Association (now SCIA), Physical Disability Council Of Australia (now PDA), Physical Disability Council of NSW, and Active Job Services.

All of these roles were in addition to his full time paid employment both in the NSW Public Service, and while running his own business for the 10 years prior to retirement in 2008.



Finalists for the nine awards, before the dinner and ceremony. (Realm Hotel, Canberra)

John feels very honoured to have had his efforts recognised by being presented with the "Lesley Hall Lifetime Achievement in Disability Award".



John with Assistant Minister for Disability, Sen. Mitch Fifield. 26 November 2013

Family Trees

When the late John Moxon Hill passed away in 2010, his computer files and hard copy documents were handed over to the Society.

John had designed his own family tree program in the late 1990s, and it is not longer compatible with Windows or Mac OS.

Our new membership secretary, Chris Moxon and Margaret Tucker Moxon, did a stocktake to determine which family trees had no gedcom files.

With the help of Ken Moxon, John Earnshaw and others, we are busily creating these files so that they can be uploaded to Ancestry or opened in any other family tree program.

The adequacy of this method of sharing trees is being tested.

More information will be shared soon.

Margaret would appreciate your updated family tree information so that the Society's records can be kept up to date.

Please contribute a story about your family.

And have a great Christmas and New Year.

Moxons Down Under Newsletter is produced for the benefit of the members of the Moxon Society who live in Australia and New Zealand.

Contributions are very welcome.

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