



# MOXONS DOWN UNDER

A Newsletter for Moxons living in Australia & New Zealand

December 2019

## Editorial

Hi Folks.

Christmas Greetings from Margaret and me.

Sincere apologies for the lateness of this newsletter and for its brevity.

The lateness is due to my health – has not been 100% but is improving.

The brevity of the newsletter is due to absolutely no material from members and our focus on other branches of John's tree (non-Moxon) and Margaret's focus on finding her birth grandfather (her mother died at 92 not knowing her father's identity).

So, I guess we have all been a bit slack and consequently this newsletter is brief.

One interesting research project which is still on-going is reported below.

And a very merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year to you all.

Regards for now.

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## Vale Lynne Raskow (MX27)

Sadly, we must report that one of our members, Lynne Raskow, has passed away after a long battle with cancer.

Lynne's father was Francis Valentine Moxon who, with his wife Rosina (Rose), raised their children in Mt Druitt, Sydney.

Lynne married Brian Raskow and they raised three children.

## Contents

Editorial	1
Vale Lynne Raskow	1
Strange Case of Moxon Midwife	2
New Members	2
Access to Trees	2
Have You Done an Ancestry DNA test?	2
Lost Cousins	3
Where and When	3
About this Newsletter	3

The following obituary was published in Port Macquarie and other places.

“Raskow Lynne Robin

Passed away peacefully on Wednesday 18th September, 2019.

Late of Newport Village, Port Macquarie .

Dearly beloved Wife of Brian, loving Mother and Mother in law of Paul and Nicole, Sarah and Sam, and Mark. Adored Grandma to their families.

Aged 67 Years Promoted to Glory A Service of Thanksgiving for Lynne's Life will be celebrated in the Salvation Army Citadel, Lord Street, Port Macquarie on Tuesday 24th September, 2019 commencing at 1.30pm. Thence for Private Cremation.

In lieu of floral tributes, donations may be made to the Salvation Army in Lynne's memory a donation bowl will be a provide at the service.”

We extend our sincere condolences to Brian and his family, and to Lynne's brother, Frank, and his wife, Narelle, members of the Moxon Society.

# The Strange Case of the Moxon Midwife

In 1849, Robert and Sarah Moxon (MX01) settled in Bathurst, NSW after arriving from Stewkley, Buckinghamshire.

Their son, Thomas, fathered a daughter, Alice Sarah, in 1879 in Bathurst.

Alice became a midwife.

In 1928 she delivered a boy to an unmarried woman named Phyllis McDonald.

The strange part is that Nurse Moxon then adopted that son and raised him with the surname Moxon.

A year or two later, she did the same for another mother and child.

Alice Moxon raised both boys and her gravestone is inscribed with "Our dearest mother" and ascribed to both boys.

The son of the elder adoptee, who uses Moxon as his surname, has contacted the Editor to see if any light can be thrown on just why this strange arrangement occurred, and, in particular, who his grandfather might be.

It is, of course, easy to speculate that perhaps Alice Moxon was related or in some other way associated with the two unmarried mothers or even the fathers of the adopted boys.

The person who has contacted the Editor has now had his DNA tested but, as yet, the mystery remains unsolved.

Margaret is applying her best detective skills to solving this mystery.

Perhaps our next Newsletter will contain the answers.

## New Members

Please welcome to Moxons Down Under:

Cath Walker, Oberon, NSW (MX27)

David Hume, Yeronga, Qld. (MX01)

Heather Heather, Lavington, NSW (MX01)

Gretal Spizick, Graceville, Qld. (MX05)

**Come on – invite your family to join. Please!**

## Access to The Moxon Society's Ancestry trees

Have you asked for access to the Moxon Society tree to which your family belongs - for example MX27 Moxons of Silkstone, or MX01 Moxons of Cawthorne? You do not have to be a member of Ancestry to look at a tree. All members of our Society can ask for Read only access to their tree. Just send an email to Trevor at [webmaster@moxonsociety.org](mailto:webmaster@moxonsociety.org).

You were sent a new password (which is changed annually) in the November 2018 edition of the Moxon Magazine, that will give you access to MoxonResources section of the Society's website.

You'd be surprised at what you might find. Additionally, you may know of gaps in the tree, particularly in relation to deceased uncles, aunts, grandparents etc. on your Moxon side. Please let one of us know if you find errors or incomplete data.

## Have you done an Ancestry DNA test?

In the past couple of years, Graham Jagger and Chris Moxon in England have switched the Society's DNA research to Ancestry's autosomal tests. Like YDNA testing, Ancestry autosomal DNA continues to pick up Moxon male matches, albeit only within the last 5-8 generations and maybe not at all. However, it has the added advantage of picking up cousin matches of our female Moxon members and members whose most recent Moxon ancestor could have been 3-4 generations earlier.

Of those members who have tested with Ancestry, many of us - including me - have given approval for Graham and/or Chris to access the member's DNA. If you have not already done so, whether you are a Moxon, Moxham or Moxom descendant, please consider giving Graham or Chris your approval to access your Ancestry DNA test results.

With these matches, the Society gains new insights into how the various trees may relate to each other. The proof, however, would be triangulating these matches with a chromosomal browser and with Ancestry matches. This can only be done through [Gedmatch.com](http://Gedmatch.com) which has excellent tools to provide all sorts of insights into how testers may match others. For further information, Margaret should be able to assist. Contact [margaret.tucker2153@gmail.com](mailto:margaret.tucker2153@gmail.com)

## Lost Cousins

Some of you may not have heard of Lost Cousins.

It is an on-line community which facilitates the discovery of "lost" cousins by sharing details on its data base.

It's centred on UK ancestry and uses the 1881 English census as a primary source.

The facilitator and founder, Peter Calver, also distributes a monthly newsletter filled with useful and fascinating information.

His "Master Class" on DNA is particularly useful.

It's free to join, but paying a fee will get you access to much more.

See [www.lostcousins.com](http://www.lostcousins.com)

## Where and When?

Where did your Moxon ancestors live when they first came to Australia or New Zealand?

It would be useful to know this information so we can fill in some gaps.

It would be particularly useful as well if you have any old photos of your ancestors at work or play in those places.

In addition, it might be fun to search Trove, Australia's National Library's newspaper, magazine and book site where you can search for your ancestor and see if she or he made the news. But, please pass on that information to us so we can share it (even if it is a bit of a shock!!).

Please pass it on to Margaret, preferably by email so she gets the link and can follow it up if needs be.

This edition shows how varied our histories are and how much more interesting the newsletter is, if members contribute stories – please do so.

You could just send us what you remember of your own life, your parents' lives or your grandparents' lives and John would be happy to write the story for you.

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. Your editor is very happy to assist with the writing of items.

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