

Spreading Branches

Narre Warren & District Family History Group Inc.

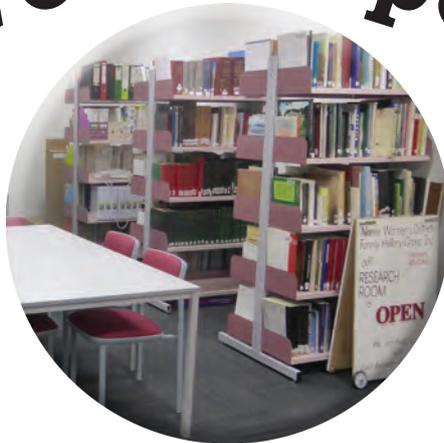
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Issue 113 - August 2017

Welcome to Cranbourne



We are open



5 September 2017





Narre Warren & District Family History Group Inc.

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ABN 15 397 153 919



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Research Room Manager research.room.mgr@nwfhg.org.au	Anne Blair

Opening Hours for Research

Tuesdays and Saturdays 11 am to 3 pm until further notice

On 9 September the research room closes at 1 pm due to our General Meeting being held at the Cranbourne Library Meeting Room.

Meetings

Cranbourne Complex Meeting Room, 65 Berwick-Cranbourne Road, Cranbourne

Entry Cost \$3

October - April: 7.30 pm

2nd Wednesday of the month (except January).

May - September: 2.00 pm

2nd Saturday of the month.

Membership

Single \$35, Joint \$50. Payable 1 July each year. Casual visitors \$5 per day.

Membership Renewal

You are welcome to renew your membership by Direct Deposit into our bank account. Details:

Bank: National Australia Bank **BSB:** 083 802

Branch: Fountain Gate **Account No:** 539450013

Please don't forget to use your name as a reference.

Please email a copy of your renewal form to the Membership Officer.

Research Queries

We offer a research service for those unable to visit our Research Room personally, but please note that we can only research our own holdings and those of the local municipal libraries. The cost for this service is \$15 per hour plus photocopying expenses. All research queries can be sent to the Research Officer at the above postal address or email: research.officer@nwfhg.org.au

Family History Research Room

We have a large collection of books, maps, microfiche, CDs and journals from all over the world available to our members and visitors.

Location

Cranbourne Library, 65 Berwick-Cranbourne Road, Cranbourne.

NWDFHG is a member of:

Casey Cardinia Local History Reference Group
Genealogical Society of Victoria
South Eastern Historical Association Inc.
Royal Historical Society of Victoria
Victorian Association of Family History Organisations
Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations Inc.

The Narre Warren & District Family History Group gratefully acknowledge the assistance and support of Casey Cardinia Libraries and the City of Casey.

Disclaimer: Contributions made to this newsletter are accepted in good faith and the Committee does not accept responsibility for accuracy of information of submitted articles nor opinions expressed.

President's Report

I always seem to struggle with the President's report, but this year seems worse. I need to sum up the past year favourably and provide the required level of optimism for the next one. But, my mind keeps looking back on our time here at the Narre Warren Library. I have never known the family history group to be anywhere else. We have grown in numbers, knowledge and ability while we've been here. And I find myself deeply saddened at the thought of leaving. I expect many members feel the same way.

But, there is a silver lining to this cloud. We are going to a bigger room, to which we will have independent access and easier parking. And, our local history librarian and her archives are coming with us. Our new location will offer us plenty of opportunities to become even stronger than we are now. It's all going to be up to us really.

I cannot praise this year's committee highly enough. I have seen them struggle with new things but not give up and I've seen them encourage and support each other in so many ways. They have never forgotten to put their sense of humour in their pockets, along with their other hats. Many of them also perform VIP roles, cemetery tour duties, workshop duties and volunteer in the Research Room. It's been a privilege to work with them all and I admire their dedication to the advancement of NW&DFHG with awe.

Our VIPs have also done a brilliant job for the Group throughout the year; always there, always reliable, always fabulous. Thank you to Wendy E (away days), Rex McFarlane (door), Alice Pattison (fundraising/sales), John Uren (sausage sizzles) and Moreyn Dimsey (supper hostess) and Laurie Stephenson (web). Our VIPs are not listed in each newsletter, so I've listed them here.

It's been another successful year for us. John Uren survived a baptism of fire at Bunnings that ended up being a very profitable day. The cemetery tour group put together two spectacular cemetery tours for Harkaway, we had a great away day to the RHSV and our workshops continue to be well attended. We've had some amazing guest speakers and some new contributors to the newsletter via the writing competition. We have collaborated with the local

history librarian and the Narre Warren Mechanics' Institute and I have presented sessions or acted as guest speaker for the SEHA Seminar Day, Berwick Evening View Club, Vic Gum and the Pakenham Central Probus Club.

It was very encouraging to see so many invitations being issued to this year's Volunteers' Morning Tea. Our members have volunteered in the Research Room, indexed books, sizzled sausages, helped at cemetery tours, relabelled books, talked to the public about family history at events and promoted the Group's interests in many ways.

On a personal note, I'd like to take the opportunity to thank everyone for their support throughout the past year. I am relieved that the committee have decided to transfer much of the work now done by our president to the secretary, bringing us into line with how most other organisations work.

It seems fitting to close this report by thanking the staff at the Narre Warren Library for their hospitality, friendship and assistance during our time together there. I have never known them to be anything other than friendly and obliging and we wish them a bright and happy future in their new home.

We would like to express our appreciation to the City of Casey and Casey Cardinia Libraries for their continued support. We had some worries at first, about being listened to and having our position acknowledged, but this was not the case. We'd particularly like to express our appreciation to Sue Hamilton and Grant Newman from the City of Casey for their advice and assistance, and probably most importantly, their reassurances.

It's very likely that by the time this is published in our AGM reports, we will have closed the Research Room door at Narre Warren Library for the last time. Perhaps we'll even have opened the doors (we'll have two) at Cranbourne. I hope to see the majority of our members there. I understand that it will be difficult for some, and I hope we don't lose touch with them. I think there'll be exciting times ahead for those who do make the move with us and I can hardly wait to see what they will be.

Lynne Bradley

Next meeting: 9 Sept 2017 2 pm

The Sperry New Holland Factory

Welcome to our first meeting in our new home. For most of us this will be the first time we will see our new rooms at the Cranbourne complex (please use library entrance).

*At this meeting we welcome **Heather Arnold**, Local History Librarian for Casey Cardinia Libraries to talk to us about the history of our new home in what was originally the Sperry New Holland Factory together with some interesting Cranbourne history.*

**Welcome to our new
and returning members
Judy Owen, Barbara Sharp,
Maureen Trotter, Patrick Ferry,
Angela Roberts, Alaine Dawson,
Sue Gibson, Terry Fennell, and
Corrine Brewis**

Member of the Year 2017

Kerryn Maxwell

Each year the President asks the committee to single out one person who has contributed to most of the group's activities throughout the year. Someone who has gone out of their way to assist fellow members and visitors, someone who has assisted with fund raising or fund raising ideas and last, but not least, someone who regularly attends our meetings. The votes are cast by silent ballot so that no one is influenced by another's opinion or feels pressured to vote a particular way. The previous year's winner is ineligible, so too is the President. No one, except for the President knows the winner's identity, until the award is presented.

We had a clear and very popular winner this year who has won the award not only for the contribution they have made to the family history group in the past year, but for the way they have done it.

Our 2017 Member of the Year has become more involved with our activities over the past couple of years and the general feeling was that she is really blossoming. She's been described as always being a very pleasant person to work with, always happy to try new things and willing to learn. Although not always confident, she keeps on having a go and is friendly to others. She always looks happy and the things she has done go towards making our group a friendly, welcoming place to enjoy researching and socialising. Brighter and more capable than she realises, she's a pure delight to work with. What a lovely way to be seen by your fellow committee members!



Kerryn Maxwell has participated in, and contributed to our cemetery tours and publications by researching soldiers, presenting the tour, providing the plants that adorn the graves along with the poppies and signs. She helped organise and present our 2016 Christmas meeting, donating the many plants that were given out as prizes as well as doing the lion's share of the sausage sizzle preparation this year. Kerryn is a regular volunteer in the Research Room and the person responsible for this year's Hostess with the Mostest Award at our Volunteers' Morning Tea. Not content with crafting up a beautifully thought out and presented award, Kerryn wrote a poem to accompany it (read below). It's that kind of thoughtful attitude that the committee have chosen to reward and encourage.

Lynne Bradley

And the Shirley Award goes to ... Mary McGrath

Mary, Mary, quiet as a fairy
You're there at short notice, at the drop of a hat
With suppers, and cemeteries and in the libr-u-ary
And like magic, you do this and that,

Mary, Mary, friendly and kind
You always smile and are early
For sizzling sausages and counting stock
That's why you're picked for the "Shirley"

The 'hostess with the mostest'
Is what we'll call you
And it is with much pleasure
That the N.W.D.F.H.G. awards you this treasure



New Honorary Life Members

Our Life Memberships are hard to come by. You don't get one for just 'being there' nor do you get one for helping out every now and then. You get one because over a long period of time you have consistently contributed to the advancement of the group in your own unique and special way. And that's not all; we require you to do it with grace and flair and a generosity of spirit that reflects upon us well and encourages others to do the same.

Rex McFarlane

Every successful group looks to their elder statespeople to help navigate stormy seas or cruise calm waters. We look to our elder statespeople to represent us with the same pride, honour and dignity with which they represent themselves.

When we think of our elder stateswomen, we think of our Honorary Life Members, all of which are women. But who do we think of when we look for an elder statesman? We have no male Honorary Life Members, yet Rex McFarlane has represented the Narre Warren & District Family History Group over the years with nothing but pride, honour and dignity. And he's also managed to throw in a fair bit of humour along the way. So, today we're going to rectify that situation and honour Rex and his service to the family history group with an Honorary Life Membership.

Rex joined the group in June 2005 with encouragement from his daughter Eileen. We welcomed Rex to the group in the August 2005 edition of Spreading Branches. We learned from Rex's profile that he'd only been in the district for three months and was married to Barbara, and that Eileen was only one of Rex's seven children. We learned that Rex liked to collect bottles and stamps and that Eileen had successfully nagged him to start collecting relatives too.

Just two years after joining us Rex was elected to the position of Vice President, filling a long vacant and important role for the family history group. He saw a job that needed to be done and decided to do it. After only twelve months in that job he was nominated for Member of the Year for taking on a position outside his field of expertise and doing a great job.

Just one of the many duties Rex has mastered over the years with us is counting microfiche at stock takes. One year, thanks to the librarian, the microfiche became the 'fiche', the ladies who

counted fiche with Rex became the mermaids and of course, Rex was known as the merman.

In 2009 Rex was awarded the Shirley Award at that year's Volunteers' Morning Tea. The Shirley Award is awarded every year with a different theme, to a volunteer who has been noticed for all the right reasons. In 2009, it was fittingly named The Triton Award, after the mythological Greek God of the



Sea who is usually represented as merman. It very nicely summed up the impact Rex had had on the group in just four years.

The award recognised the many ways Rex had assisted the family history group including, but not limited to stock takes, sausage sizzles, chairing general meetings, and continually attending committee meetings despite being the only male amongst 9 women! The fact that everything Rex had done, had been done with dignity and humour was especially noted.

In addition to being our Vice President or VP, in 2012 Rex also became a VIP when he took on the role of Door Officer. He held both jobs until 2014 when he relinquished the Vice Presidency.

As Vice President, Rex was continually seen whenever and wherever we needed assistance or support He was always there, always contributing, and he still is today.

Rex leads by example and attends most of our functions and events. He has chaired meetings and in-house activities, kept our presidents on their toes with points of order, supported our cemetery tours, sausage sizzles and expos. In fact, it would be easier to list those things Rex has not done for the Narre Warren & District Family History Group.

Rex is still our Door Officer and at cemetery tours, he's our Gate Officer. That's quite an important role. Rex is often the first person our visitors and guests encounter and we can't think of anyone better to represent us in this way.

Ladies and Gentlemen, on behalf of the 2016-2017 Committee and Members of the Narre Warren & District Family History Group I congratulate and present to you our newest Honorary Life Member – Rex McFarlane.

Lynne Bradley, President

Anne Blair

Some people are blessed with the ability to easily see an opportunity to contribute in a meaningful way. The groups and organisations they belong to are more blessed to have them on board. Anne Blair is one such person and we are extremely fortunate indeed to have her amongst our ranks.

Anne joined the group in December 2001. We could not find her 'Welcome to the Group' in Spreading Branches, nor a member profile. But, Anne was featured among the members who were profiled in Kindred Spirits, the history of Narre Warren & District Family History Group's first twenty years. From this we learned that Anne had inherited her brother-in-law's love for family history.

Anne joined the Research Room volunteers the year after, and our August 2002 edition of Spreading Branches welcomed Anne to the roster. She completed her first duty on Tuesday 24 September 2002 with Lorraine Taylor. Anne still does duty in our Research Room at least once a month.

In 2003 Anne was elected to the position of Treasurer, a job she held for four years. Anne



is responsible for the transformation of our Treasurer's duties. She is the person who took up the challenge of replacing our old paper based accounting system with e-record, a computerised system from the Australian Tax Office.

February 2004 saw Anne present her first talk as a guest speaker to one of our general meetings as part of a combined in-house activity. She has gone on to present talks to us as an official guest speaker.

Anne is an integral member of both the monuments and memorials team and the cemetery tours group. She has indexed for the Casey Cardinia Combined Index, held the VIP position of Super Hostess coordinating the delivery of refreshments at general meetings, workshops, cemetery tours and events. Her name has been listed in almost all sausage sizzle and stock take reports throughout the years.

In August 2012 Anne returned to the committee as our Publicity Officer for the next two years. In August 2016, she was elected to the position of Secretary and although relinquishing this title today, she has nominated for the Research Room Manager's position.

Anne has also contributed to the newsletter, her first contribution appeared in the November 2003 edition, entitled The Collins Settlement Sorrento 1803.

Anne was presented with our Member of the Year Award at the 2016 AGM and was a very popular and deserving winner.

In 2009 when talking about the group, Anne commented that we had 'matured with age' (like a good bottle of red). And so has Anne Blair, not so much with age, but with experience. Anne has not let small things like inexperience or an imagined lack of knowledge hamper her. She has just rolled up her sleeves and jumped right in, at times briefly paddling like crazy to stay afloat until she got the hang of it.

If we require our Honorary Life Members to lead by example, with flourish and flair then Anne Blair has certainly done that for us and more. Anne is always quick to help those around her, often without having to be asked. And so, today we would like to officially recognise the contribution that Anne has made to the Narre Warren & District Family History Group by awarding Anne an Honorary Life Membership.

Ladies and Gentlemen, on behalf of the 2016-2017 Committee and Members of the Narre Warren & District Family History Group I congratulate and present to you our newest Honorary Life Member – Anne Blair.

Fay McCoubrie, Vice President

Do you read genealogy blogs on the net?

There are so many blogs to choose from. One I really like is “Diary of an Australian Genealogist”, written by Shauna Hicks since 2011. <http://diaryofanaustraliangenealogist.blogspot.com.au> You can follow this blog by email, so you will receive new posts when they are published.

This blog is most interesting; it covers Shauna’s fortnightly family history doings, special events in her family’s life, her writings and her presentations. Shauna is very generous in sharing her presentations with her readers.

Links on this blog will take you to Shauna Hicks History Enterprises www.shaunahicks.com.au Click on “resources” on the top of this page.

This lists Shauna’s publications, many of these are in our research room, but they can also be purchased from Gould Books. There is also a link to the families Shauna is researching.

Scrolling down on the resources page you find links to a large number of power point presentations she has given, they are usually more than 50 pages. These include a range of interesting topics:

- Demolishing brick walls
- True confessions: my geneaffair with the public curator (mainly focused on Queensland)
- Google tools for genealogy: Are you making the most of Google?
- Warning warning: avoiding common genealogy mistakes includes a number of sub-topics (48 pages)
 - Genealogical proof standard
 - Family stories
 - Certificates, dates, name variations
 - Tunnel vision and collecting ancestors
 - Citations
 - Not keeping up with what’s new
 - Backup
 - Writing your stories
 - Who inherits?

Shauna has indexed all of the Victoria Association of Victoria Family History Organisations (VAFHO) conferences. Topics are listed in alphabetical order. We have most of these conference papers on our shelves. There are many very interesting and relevant articles to be found here.

At the bottom of “resources” are book reviews written by Shauna.

In 2013 Shauna Hicks’ blog was selected for permanent preservation in Pandora, the National Library of Australia’s web archive.

Shauna’s website is www.shaunahicks.com.au

Take a few minutes and check this blog. You may be there for several hours as it is so worth reading.

For National Family History Month August 2017, Shauna has designed 31 genealogy activities for you to try out - <http://www.shaunahicks.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Shau-na-Hicks-31-Genealogy-Activities-for-Researchers-During-National-Family-History-Month-August-2017.pdf>

Di Christensen

Rootsweb mailing lists

Have you ever used Rootsweb mailing lists in your research? <http://lists.rootsweb.ancestry.com/> They are a very worthwhile source of information and help.

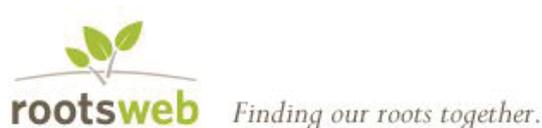
There are 32,466 mailing lists, which include countries, counties, surnames etc. For example there are 36 mailing lists for Cornwall and 14 lists of Lincolnshire. The archive, going back many years, can also be searched.

In recent months I searched for information on the BRAND family in Lincolnshire. Within hours I received an email from a lady in the USA who emailed me copies of some pages from relevant parish registers with the BRAND family mentioned. So helpful.

This past weekend I needed help with a Cornish family so posted a message to the Cornish list. Again within hours I received a message on the list from a fellow member of the Cornish Association of Victoria who lives in the USA. He sent me several pages of information with leads to follow up. With his help, and that of our CAV librarian I have found my great great grandparents’ marriage and the surname of my great great grandmother.

My mother would be astounded at the almost instant replies I have received. It certainly beats posting a letter, waiting for it to be received, read and eventually answered, maybe taking several months.

Di Christensen.



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Narre Warren & District Family History Group 2017 Writing Competition Terms & Conditions



- The Competition is open to financial members of NW&DFHG only.
- The Competition will start with February edition of the newsletter and finish with the November edition.
- Topic to be family history related and be fresh unpublished work.
- Article or story should be between 300 to 600 words (+ or - 10%) and clearly identified as a writing competition entry.
- Entries should be appropriately referenced.
- Articles or stories should be submitted by email to the newsletter editor or left on usb at the Research Room. Please advise the newsletter editor by email of entries left at the Research Room.
- Entries may be accompanied by no more than two photos of suitable size and quality for publication (high resolution, .jpg files, separate to text).
- No proof reading or editing will be done by the newsletter editor, articles and stories will be published as submitted.
- All entries will be published in Spreading Branches during 2017.
- Members may submit no more than one entry per edition.
- Members will be asked to vote online for the best story or article in each edition.
- At the end of the year, the author of the story or article receiving the most votes will be declared the winner. Prizes: 1 year Ancestry UK+ subscription; 1 year Prahran Mechanics' Institute membership
- In the event of a tie – Heather Arnold (Local History Librarian for Casey Cardinia Libraries) will be asked to declare a winner.
- Voting instructions will be emailed to all financial members.

Writing Competition—Entry One

Several violent deaths in the family



How many violent deaths could one person expect to find in one side of their family? On my mother's side there were at least 5.

1- Growing up I was told of the death of my Grandfather Charles James (known as James) O'Connor. His death certificate states an inquest was held at Traralgon and his death was caused by "injury to the brain and hemorrhage accidentally received through being run over by a chaff cutter on 13th. April, 1932"¹. A newspaper reported "James was taking a chaff cutter, lead by 2 horses when, at the top of a hill the horses bolted. James, walking beside the machine, ran after the horses and jumped on the shaft, when part of the harness on one of the horses broke and the shaft fell with James falling to the ground and the front wheel of the vehicle passing over him. A doctor was summoned and pronounced life to be extinct."² James left a wife, 8 children aged 13-1yrs. and a dairy farm.

2- My Grandmother's brother, "Albert John (Jack) Fischer died on 22nd. August 1929 from shock and hemorrhage, the result of a gunshot wound willfully and maliciously inflicted by Ernest Edward Hully, at Stradbroke West on 20th August 1929."³ A Murder trial was held, the result of which Hully was "found not guilty on the grounds of insanity at the time of committing the offence. The court directed the accused be kept under strict control at the Metropolitan Jail during the Governor's pleasure"⁴. It was believed Hully committed the

offence while sleep walking and that he could be a danger to himself and others. Jack left a wife and a young son.

3- A violent death happened to James' father Charles James (known as Charles & Chas) O'Connor on 5th. Sep. 1926 at Traralgon, he was 64yrs. According to the inquest the death certificate states he died of "Exhaustion & shock following a hemorrhage, from the cut in the neck and together with the effect of some irritant poison. And I find that the cut in the neck was self inflicted and the poison was self administered"⁵. My aunt says the family believed he suffered from throat cancer.

4- Another violent death happened to Daniel O'Connor, brother of Charles, on 16th. Sept. 1903 at Willung South, he was aged 44yrs. The death certificate states an "enquiry was held and death was by Suffocation"⁶. He left a wife and 7 children and an 8th was born after his death. The news paper reported "extraordinary case of suicide occurred. The body of Daniel O'Connor, a well-to-do farmer, was discovered on the roadside. There was a string was round his neck attached to the stirrup iron of his horse's saddle. He was evidently dragged some distance" "He had been peculiar in manner for some days"⁷

5- On 9th. June 1884 my Great, Great, Grandfather "Timothy O'Connor was killed by a falling tree at Carrajung, aged 58yrs." No inquest was held.⁸

Susan Arlove

1 Death Certificate

2 Gippsland Times 14/4/1932

3 Gippsland Times 29/8/1929 "Youth Committed For Trial" Enquiry held by Deputy Coroner

4 Gippsland Times 14/11/1929 "Stradbroke Murder Trial"

5 Death Certificate

6 Death Certificate

7 Morwell Advertiser 18/9/1903

8 Death Certificate

Writing Competition—Entry Two

Emily's choice



Emily Phoebe Murfitt was born in 1859 at Clerkenwell England, the second daughter of William and Elizabeth.

I knew the basics of Emily's life she married William John Rooney in 1883 at St John's Church of England Ballarat.

Their daughter Daisy was born in July 1884 and died six months later. In July 1885 Emily gave birth to a son and named him William after his father. Emily and her husband were living at 117 Crompton Street Ballarat when she died on 21 September 1915 aged fifty six¹.

Until recently that was all I knew about Emily, while searching on TROVE I found a small two line report of her disappearance from home, hours later I had progressed to the inquests at PROV and I knew a lot more about Emily.

The local paper reported that Mrs Rooney was missing and that there were fears for her safety, there was also a reward of three pound offered for information. Emily was described as five foot four, of stout build with a dark complexion, brown hair turning grey and wearing a long dark coat, a green flannelette blouse, a small round hat with purple pansies on the side and elastic side boots. Emily was last seen going towards Sebastopol on a tram on 21 September².

On the 11 October the paper reported that at an inquest held by Mr Reed Murphy he had given a verdict that she had taken her own life while mentally disturbed and had drowned in a waterhole on a farm at Cambrian Hill. Statements were tendered by her family, a farmer and police³.

Her son William stated that he last saw his mother on 29 August she was in perfect health and sound mind. In 1913 Emily had been assessed at the Dana Receiving House she suffered for a while from a religious mania. She was a temperate woman and living amiably with her husband the letter shown was her handwriting. William didn't know what she meant by wrong medicine.

Emily's sister-in-law Annie Murfitt stated that she remembered her leaving home on 21 September, to send a telegram of sympathy to Bendigo and also to get some plaster at the chemist for her husband. She seemed well and cheerful when she left us.

She gave her husband some medicine, Annie never heard him complain of wrong medicine. Robert Gent her brother-in-law attended the morgue and identified Emily's body.

William David farmer of Cambrian

Hill six miles from Ballarat stated that on 9 October about 2pm he saw a body in a waterhole in his paddock, a handbag was hanging on a post, he didn't remove the bag, but went for the police.

Constable Dark stated that he found the body lying face down wards in about twelve feet of water and brought the body to the bank and had it removed to the Ballarat morgue. The bag hanging on the fence contained a plaster, a set of false teeth, a pair of spectacles, several tram tickets, some receipts (3) and 3 pence halfpenny in coppers, also two small pencils, a small looking glass and a packet of sticking plaster, a small pocket knife and two handkerchiefs. He made enquires but no one saw the lady in that locality the body had been in the water some time.

In her handwritten letter to Dear Will Emily expressed concern that she had given him wrong medicine and told him she would rather meet God than go to the mad house and she signed it your loving wife⁴.

Emily held a Miners Right over the land at 117 Crompton Street on which was a five room weatherboard house with outbuildings. Her estate would go to her husband except her jewellery that would go to her son included a broach, silver watch and locket and a muff chain. I have the muff chain and watch. Emily was buried with her baby daughter at Ballarat New Cemetery^{5,6}.



Roney Family, Crompton Street, Ballarat

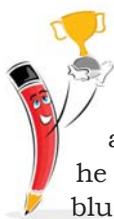
1 Victoria Birth Death and Marriage Certificates
2 TROVE Ballarat Courier: 23 September 1915, 24 September 1915, 6 October 1915. Ararat Chronicle: 28 September 1915.
3 TROVE Ballarat Courier: 8 October 1915, 11 October 1915. Bendigo Advertiser: 8 October 1915. Ballarat Star: 11 October 1915.

4 PROV Inquest VPRS 24/PO Unit 993 Item 1915/1256
5 PROV Wills Probate VPRS 7591/P2 Unit 543 Item 144/220, VPRS 20/P3 Unit 620 item 144/220
6 TROVE The Age: June 1916

Jane Rivett-Carnac

Writing Competition—Entry Three

One man's treasures ...



For reasons best suited to another story at another time, my brother John and I did not share our childhood years in the same family. But, we do share a love of family history. Some time ago he handed me an old, cracked and worn, blue shopping bag. He told me that these were his 'treasures'. He said that I could hang on to them for as long as I needed them, but eventually, they must be returned.

The bag's contents belonged to Arthur Anderson (1892-1972). A paper trail of birth, death and marriage certificates would reveal that Arthur was John's grandfather and my great grandfather. But as we know, sometimes official records don't tell us the whole story. I didn't know Arthur as well as John did, but I do have fleeting memories of him.

Arthur must have been a sweet tooth; his treasures are protected from the ravages of time by two boxes. One is a cardboard Bester's Chocolates box. I've never seen one of these before. My anxiety seems to increase in direct relation to the degree the lid is lifted. What if I find something that doesn't make me happy? Funnily enough, the thought that something here might make me happy never occurs to me! I know that once I open the first piece of folded paper, I will be past the point of no return. Too late!

A beautiful old certificate dated 23 September 1900 informs me that Arthur was member number 68 of the Sunbury Band of Hope. He signed the pledge abstaining from all intoxicating liquors. What a disappointment the rest of us must be to him. I notice that this pledge did not prohibit the use of tobacco though. There's a tin that once held a selection of Hanover's finest assortment of cocktail biscuits with photos in it. There isn't one photo of Arthur here in which he's not smoking a cigarette.



Arthur Anderson (far right) and his brothers at an Anderson family reunion

A small envelope postmarked July 1957 contains a letter from the Chairman of the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works congratulating Arthur on his retirement after twenty-eight years. I hadn't realised that Arthur had retired just before I was born.

I'm curious about a postcard of Corporal Jeremiah Brown, the Waterloo veteran and his two granddaughters which was apparently presented to visitors to the Cyclorama, Melbourne, on the veteran's 99th birthday on 14 March 1891. I wonder who went to the Cyclorama? It wasn't Arthur, he hadn't been born yet.

A small white card with a patch of Anderson tartan and the words 'Jessie Anderson 1958' catches my eye. I know exactly what it is. Arthur's grandfather James settled in Werribee in the 1840s, and every year the Anderson family gathered at Chirnside Park in Werribee. I remember going to the reunions as a child sometimes. Those were the days when children were seen and not heard. I was so scared of the great aunts in their cabled cardigans and pleated tartan skirts. It's hard

to believe that my sisters and I are great aunts now. Times have changed. Where did the time go?

An extract of birth from the Office of the Government Statist dated 21 February 1908 is barely keeping itself together, and tells me that Arthur was born on 17 June 1892. So many bits and pieces of paper with scraps of information about one family or another and little note books fill the box. I come to the realisation that Arthur

was compiling family history information and drawing up family trees over a long period of time.

Sometimes the most important things you find are intangible. Things you can only hold in your mind and heart. I hadn't expected to find a connection to Arthur in this way, after all this time. I realise that through John, Arthur has things to tell me, and that now I am ready to listen.

Lynne Bradley

Casey Cardinia Remembers – Narre Warren Mechanics Institute

<http://www.caseycardiaremembers.org.au/narre-warren-mechanics-institute-hall/>

Our Annual General Meeting was held at the Narre Warren Mechanics Institute this year. It's a good opportunity to highlight this fabulous old hall which celebrated its 125th anniversary last November in our Casey Cardinia Remembers spot.

We don't often get the chance to witness the unveiling of the monuments and memorials we survey, but we were very excited to be invited to the small ceremony on the day the plaques were unveiled.

There are two plaques here, one is outside in the garden while the other is just inside the doors as you go in. But, you probably won't see it until you're on your way out.

There's a small memorial garden at the rear of the hall (photo below) that's dedicated to the memory of Judith Ann Allen. Judith Allen loved the hall and spent a great deal of time there over the years doing volunteer work. Judith's family were present at the unveiling and it seems a fitting tribute for someone who loved the hall as much as she did.

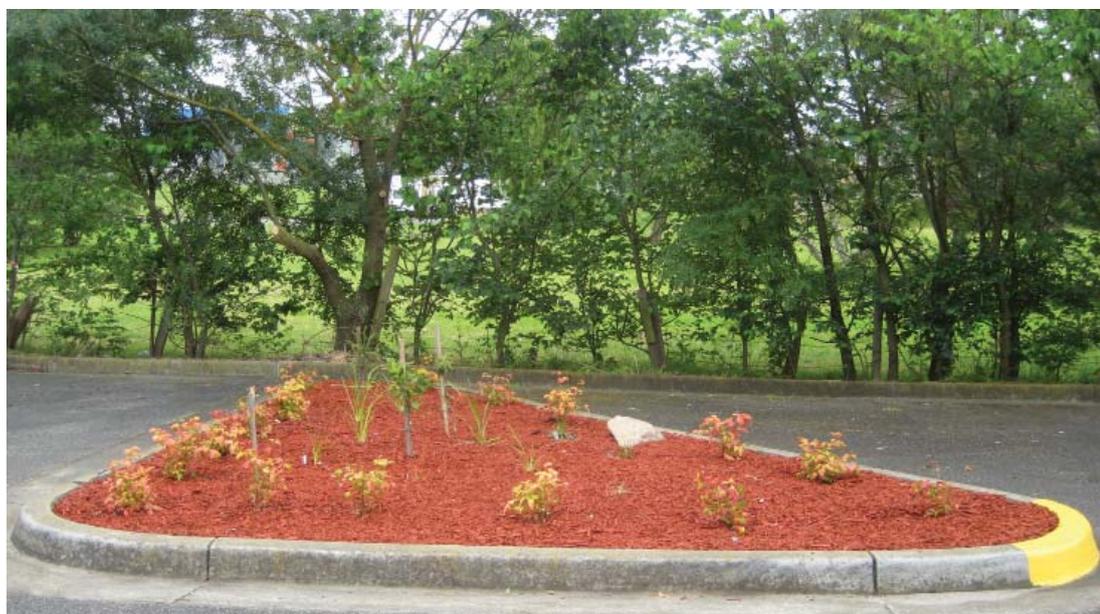
The second plaque is one of the small blue plaques placed in Mechanics' Institutes across Victoria by the Mechanics' Institutes of Victoria Inc. (MIV). It tells us a little of the history of Mechanics' Institutes in general and then of the Narre Warren Mechanics Institute specifically, and was unveiled by Judith Graley MP.

I remember Judith Allen, it's probably about twenty-five years ago now that my eldest son and I attended pottery classes held in the hall and Judith



was one of the ladies in the office. It's funny how our monuments and memorials take on another layer of importance when you have known the person being remembered.

I must admit, it's one of the few times I have personal knowledge of someone who is being



remembered on a plaque. We've only lived in the City of Casey for the past 30 years. I expect there are many memories out there, sad, happy, even funny stories and memories about people on plaques and other memorials on Casey Cardinia Remembers. Do you have one? Perhaps you'd care to share it on our website.

Lynne Bradley

Melbourne University archives

Katie Wood, archivist responsible for access and outreach, talked to us at our AGM on 12 Aug 2017.



Katie has been at the Melbourne University archives for nine years; she has now commenced a PhD in 'Women in the Metal Trades'. She gave us a brief introduction to the archives—this was most interesting and I admit I had not considered using them in my research. However, much

interest was shown by members and I am sure when Wendy Eldridge organises a tour in November, there will be a long list of members hoping to attend.

The first archivist was Frank Strahan, who toured Victoria in search for material. He was aptly described by Prof. Stuart McIntyre as having 'the instincts of a magpie, the appetite of a goat and the steadfastness of a zealot in a sea of indifference'. I loved this description—it could apply to many genealogists.

Katie gave us an example of records they have in

their collection from our local area. This included an inventory of 'Inveresk' at 93 High Street in Berwick.

Searching the website you can find references to many topics, including university records (student cards for every student), photographs, matriculation rolls 1880-1905, a database which listed student, father's name and his occupation and the results for the student.

There are also records from temperance organisations, community and welfare organisations, political organisations, artists, galleries, theatres, literature and publicity, and YWCA (Dandenong and Berwick branch).

Latest additions to the catalogue are the registration cards for WW2 from the Red Cross tracing service for soldiers missing in action and possible Prisoners of War.

While the archive is located in Brunswick, the reading room is at the Baillieu Library at the University's Parkville Campus. If you order records before midday, they should be available the following day.

Contact the archive by phone 8344 0590 or 9035 4337 or by email archives@archives.unimelb.edu.au website <http://archives.unimelb.edu.au>

The archive also has a Facebook and twitter presence.

Di Christensen

Narre Warren & District Family History Group 2017 Workshops

Date	Time	Topic	Tutor
Monday 18 Sep	7 pm–8.30 pm	<i>Exploring North American Connections</i>	Jane
Monday 16 Oct	10.30 am–2.45 pm	<i>Seniors & Ageing Positively Festivals*</i>	Jane, Lynne & Heather
	10.30 am–11.30 am	<i>You can learn a lot in a cemetery (Jane)</i>	
	11.45 am–12.45 pm	<i>Finding records at PROV (Lynne)</i>	
	1.45 pm–2.45 pm	<i>Historical societies can help you with your family history (Heather)</i>	
Monday 20 Nov	7 pm–8.30 pm	<i>Remembering military ancestors</i>	Jane

Venue: Meeting Room, Cranbourne Library, 65 Berwick-Cranbourne Road. For evening workshops please use Casey Radio entrance, for daytime events please use library entrance.

* On seminar days there will be a 15-minute break between class 1 and class 2, and a lunch break and time for a visit to our research room or a general chat between class 2 and class 3.

All workshops are free to members and \$5 for visitors. Visitors may

participate in one, two or three sessions in daytime workshops for just \$5.

Our workshops have been very successful again this year. We've received good feedback from those attending and enjoyed the company of quite a few visitors. We realise we

can't please everyone with dates, times and topics, but we think we've got something for everyone.

Contact the Research Officer for bookings or more information:

Lynne 8787 5558 or research.officer@nwfhg.org.au

Thank you to our Research Room volunteers

Sadly we are saying goodbye to three of our RR volunteers.

Nowella Ahlgren joined in June 2002, and soon was rostered on duty in the Research room on Thursday nights. Nowella would come in after a very busy day teaching in primary school. I was fortunate to be rostered on with Nowella many times over the years and I enjoyed her company very much indeed. With both of us researching Scandinavian ancestry Thursday nights were most interesting. Before it was decided to cancel Thursday night openings Nowella had already informed me that she would not be able to travel to Cranbourne after a hectic and tiring day at school. She has a very cheerful and helpful manner and we will miss her. Thank you Nowella, and best wishes from us all.

Steven Smith joined the group in September 2008 and joined the Research Room volunteers in July 2009. Steven has spent many hours in the Research Room and has been a committee member for some years. Steven and his wife Rachelle have also been very active in the Cemetery Tour group. He is taking leave from family history for the moment and we wish him well in the future, wherever that may be.

Di Christensen

Di Christensen was one of our early volunteers after the room opened in 1992, her first day on duty has not been recorded, but is believed to have been in 1993.

Di was on duty on Thursday nights as she worked at the City of Berwick during the day. She continued duty until recently, though says she missed some duties after her knee reconstruction and due to a broken leg last year.

From July 1994–July 1996 she was Research Room Manager, and again during the last 12 months.

Marianne Rocke

Research Room Roster:

Until further notice our research room will be open on Tuesdays and Saturdays only.

Please find a replacement yourself if you cannot do duty.

The Research Room Manager will be able to send you a contact list.

September 2017			
Tuesday	11 am–3 pm	Saturday	11 am–3 pm
5	Moreyn Dimsey Bev Lambie	9 (Meeting. Open to 1)	Shirley Peterson Lorraine Taylor
12	Maureen Abbott Joyce Masters	16	Brenda Wheeler Robyn Jones
19	Jane Rivett-Carnac Fay McCoubrie	23	Wendy Eldridge Wendy Goodwin
26	Anne Blair Maureen Stagg	30	2 volunteers needed

October 2017			
Tuesday	11 am–3 pm	Saturday	11 am–3 pm
3	Maureen Abbott Joyce Masters	7	Eileen Durdin Wendy Goodwin
10	Mary McGrath Moreyn Dimsey	14	Lorraine Taylor Shirley Peterson
17	Bev Lambie Anne Blair	21	Brenda Wheeler Wendy Goodwin
24	Jane Rivett-Carnac Mary McGrath	28	Di Brodbeck Judy Mehegan
31	Maureen Stagg Maureen Abbott		

November 2017			
Tuesday	11 am–3 pm	Saturday	11 am–3 pm
		4	Lynne Bradley Wendy Eldridge
7	MELBOURNE CUP DAY	11	Robyn Jones Wendy Goodwin
14	Fay McCoubrie Moreyn Dimsey	18	Brenda Wheeler Lynne Bradley
21	Bev Lambie Mary McGrath	25	Lorraine Taylor Shirley Peterson
28	Jane Rivett-Carnac Anne Blair		



Spreading Branches November 2017 edition

We would like to read your stories. Please submit your articles and entries to the writing competition by 15 October 2017



Narre Warren & District Family History Group Inc.

Appendix 1
July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017

NAB Account	
Balance brought forward July 1, 2016	\$ 1,711.39
Receipts July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017	\$ 8,146.45
Sub Total	\$ 9,857.84
Less Payments July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017	-\$ 8,627.18
Sub Total	\$ 1,230.66
Plus ING Transactions July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017	\$ 1,200.00
Total	\$ 2,430.66
Balance at NAB account June 30, 2017	\$ 2,430.66

ING Direct Regular Account	
Balance at June 30, 2016	\$ 20,967.33
Transfers from NAB Account	\$ 1,000.00
Sub Total	\$ 21,967.33
Transfers to NAB Account	\$ 2,200.00
Sub Total	\$ 19,767.33
Interest July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017	\$ 348.36
Balance June 30, 2017	\$ 20,115.69

ING Direct Account 3	
Balance at June 30, 2016	\$ 0.47
Transfers from NAB Account	\$ -
Sub Total	\$ 0.47
Interest July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017	\$ -
Balance June 30, 2017	\$ 0.47

ING Direct Monuments & Memorials Account	
Balance at June 30, 2016	\$ 1,345.75
Transfers from NAB Account	\$ -
Sub Total	\$ 1,345.75
Interest July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017	\$ 22.29
Balance June 30, 2017	\$ 1,368.04

Cemetery Tours Receipts	
Participants October 2016	\$ 210.00
Donation October 2016	\$ 20.00
Book Sales October 2017	\$ 290.00
Sub Total	\$ 520.00
Participants April 2017	\$ 145.00
Donation April 2017	\$ 10.00
Book Sales April 2017	\$ 245.00
Sub Total	\$ 400.00
Total	\$ 920.00

Cemetery Tours Expenses	
Printing October 2016	\$ 62.00
Refreshments supplies October 2016	\$ 10.00
Sub Total	\$ 72.00
Printing April 2017	\$ 840.40
Refreshments supplies April 2017	\$ 14.00
Sub Total	\$ 854.40
Total	\$ 926.40

Sausage Sizzle	
Takings on the day	\$ 2,335.60
Less Expenses	\$ 567.50
Total	\$ 1,768.10

Summary of Income and Expenses for 2016 - 2017

Summaries updated:
2 Aug 2017 at 3:35 PM

Narre Warren & District Family History Group Inc.

Receipts Category Name	Total Receipt Amount	GST Amount	GST-exclusive Amount	Omit from Total*
A1 Interest Received	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
A2 Dividends	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
A3 Refunds from suppliers (GST-free)	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
A4 Refunds from suppliers (Taxable)	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
A5 ATO/BAS Refunds Received	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
A6 Loans Received	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
A7 Sale of Assets	40.00	0.00	40.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
A8 Other Capital Receipts	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
A9 Other Non-Capital Receipts	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
A10 Bankings				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A11				<input type="checkbox"/>
B1 Membership Fees	2,657.50	0.00	2,657.50	<input type="checkbox"/>
B2 Research Room Sales	1,026.50	0.00	1,026.50	<input type="checkbox"/>
B3 Print-Outs	110.65	0.00	110.65	<input type="checkbox"/>
B4 Visitors' Fees	130.00	0.00	130.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
B5 General Meeting - Door	696.00	0.00	696.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
B6 Fundraising	2,723.90	0.00	2,723.90	<input type="checkbox"/>
B7 Sundries	28.00	0.00	28.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
B8 Donation	365.90	0.00	365.90	<input type="checkbox"/>
B9 General Meeting - Raffle	368.00	0.00	368.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Total	8,146.45		8,146.45	

Payments Category Name	Total Payment Amount	GST Amount	Private Use GST-exclusive Amount	Amount Claimable	Omit from Total*
A1 Wages	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
PLUS Other (Deductions from wages/salaries) **	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gross Wages (Total of A1 and Other)	0.00			0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
A2 Private Drawings	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
A3 Superannuation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
A4 ATO/BAS Payments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
A5 Refunds to Customers (GST-free)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
A6 Refunds to Customers (Taxable)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
A7 Bank Charges	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
A8 Interest Paid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
A9 Loan Repayments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
A10 Purchase of Assets	1,075.59	0.00	0.00	1,075.59	<input type="checkbox"/>
A11 Asset Improvements	29.90	0.00	0.00	29.90	<input type="checkbox"/>
A12 Other Capital Payments	168.00	0.00	0.00	168.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
A13 Petty Cash Reimbursement	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
A14 Credit Card Repayment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
B1 Purchases - Research Room	1,741.03	0.00	0.00	1,741.03	<input type="checkbox"/>
B2 Membership - Group	245.50	0.00	0.00	245.50	<input type="checkbox"/>
B3 Subscription - Magazine	330.85	0.00	0.00	330.85	<input type="checkbox"/>
B4 Meeting Room - Hire	495.00	0.00	0.00	495.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
B5 Postage	204.05	0.00	0.00	204.05	<input type="checkbox"/>
B6 Expenses - Fundraising	96.35	0.00	0.00	96.35	<input type="checkbox"/>
B7 Sundries	419.86	0.00	0.00	419.86	<input type="checkbox"/>
B8 Insurance	1,347.00	0.00	0.00	1,347.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
B9 General Meeting - Raffle	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
B10 Newsletter - Postage	87.70	0.00	0.00	87.70	<input type="checkbox"/>
B11 Expenses - Research	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
B12 Expenses - Ask Granny	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
B13 Stationery	106.90	0.00	0.00	106.90	<input type="checkbox"/>
B14 Equipment Repairs - Research Room	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
B15 Guest Speaker	90.30	0.00	0.00	90.30	<input type="checkbox"/>
B16 Gifts/Presentations	107.05	0.00	0.00	107.05	<input type="checkbox"/>
B17 Expenses - Publishing	942.20	0.00	0.00	942.20	<input type="checkbox"/>
B18 Expenses - Monument And Memorials	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
B19 Expenses - Sausage Sizzles	567.50	0.00	0.00	567.50	<input type="checkbox"/>
B20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
B21 Transfer to ING Direct Regular Account					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
B22 Volunteers Morning Tea	153.42	0.00	0.00	153.42	<input type="checkbox"/>
B23 Printer Cartridges	258.98	0.00	0.00	258.98	<input type="checkbox"/>
B24 Newsletter - Printing	160.00	0.00	0.00	160.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
B25 Copy Paper	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Total	8,627.18	0.00	0.00	8,627.18	

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Publications for Sale

For some the bell tolled: a World War 1 Walk in Harkaway Cemetery (plus Avenue of Honour)

This book tells the stories of 36 families of Harkaway who watched, waited and pined for the 66 men and 2 women who enlisted and tried to make it safely back to home. Ten did not return.

Most of the men served in the infantry across 18 battalions predominately in the 14th, 21st, 24th and the 59th. Four local lads served in the Light Horse, 3 in the Pioneers, 3 in the 4th Field Ambulance, 6 in the Machine Gun or artillery units. 1 soldier served with the Tropical Force in New Guinea until 1920.

Two were awarded the MM (Military Medal) and 1 was awarded the MSM (Meritorious Service Medal) and 1 the DSO (Distinguished Service Order). Others were mentioned in dispatches.

For some the bell tolled: a World War 1 Walk in Harkaway Cemetery (plus Avenue of Honour)
\$20 + \$6 postage + handling

Ordinary people, interesting lives: A walk in the historic Harkaway Cemetery

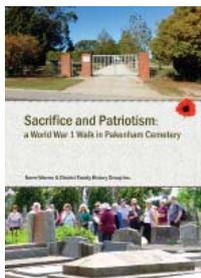
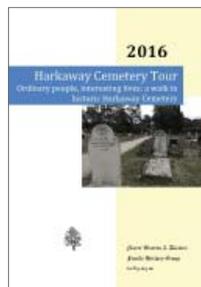
(published 2016) abounds with people who, once arrived, had to create a roof over their heads, people who needed to grow crops or nurture their livestock to be able to eat, neighbours who no longer remained strangers, faces who became familiar at church or school or the general store or railway station.

Our volunteers researched and wrote the stories of families that travelled thousands of miles to a country on the other side of the world. A country with people who didn't necessarily speak the same language or held the same beliefs.

Ordinary people, interesting lives: A walk in the historic Harkaway Cemetery
\$15 + \$4 postage + handling

Sacrifice and Patriotism: a World War 1 Walk in Pakenham Cemetery

(published 2016) tells the stories of 64 families who watched and supported 120 men and one woman as they enlisted.



This book tells the stories of sets of brothers, a father and his son, a nurse and a sailor along with two Indigenous soldiers. Soldiers who received awards, soldiers who served as troopers, gunners, sappers, drivers, and signallers; in the Light Horse, Pioneers, Railway Unit, Anzac Police and Provost Corps and in the Cyclist Battalion.

Sacrifice and Patriotism: a World War 1 Walk in Pakenham Cemetery \$20 + \$6 postage + handling

100 men, 100 years: a World War 1 Walk in Berwick Cemetery

(published 2015) examines the cemetery's connections with the Great War. Our stories embrace 100 men from over 70 families – all linked to Berwick Cemetery and the community it served.

Twenty-eight men did not return; they are still in France, Gallipoli, Belgium, Malta, Palestine, at sea and 6 have no known grave.

100 men, 100 years: a World War 1 Walk in Berwick Cemetery \$20 + \$6 postage + handling

Early Settlers of the Casey-Cardinia District

(published 2010 by the Narre Warren & District Family History Group Inc.) is a 274 page book complete with index to people, properties and ships; plus a bibliography. There are over 300 entries containing birth, death and marriage information for individuals and families, many of which were submitted by descendants of those people and include photographs not published elsewhere. In many cases detailed biographies have been written by descendants or compiled by the family history group, giving an insight into the early days of many Casey Cardinia families and individuals.

Early Settlers of the Casey-Cardinia District
\$30 + \$16 postage + handling

Kindred Spirits. 20 years of the Narre Warren & District Family History Group 1989 – 2009

\$25 + \$11 postage + handling

Cemetery Tour booklets

Pakenham Cemetery Tour (2011)	\$10
Cranbourne Cemetery Tour (2012)	\$10
Lang Lang Cemetery Tour (2013)	\$10
Berwick Cemetery Tour (2014)	
“Murder & Mystery”	\$15
Pakenham Cemetery Tour (2015)	
“Indomitable Women”	\$15

Add \$4 for postage + handling.

Order forms are available from the Research room or download from nwfhg.org.au/publications/