



Spreading Branches

Narre Warren & District Family History Group Inc.

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The Argus May 29, 1860

MORNINGTON PLOUGHING MATCH

The annual ploughing match of the Mornington branch of the Port Phillip Farmers' Society was held on Thursday last, at Mr. Creighton's farm near Cranbourne, and notwithstanding the unfavourable state of the weather, was the most successful yet held in that district. Both the attendance and the number of entries were large, and the work done was very good. Implements of the most indispensable kind were also shown on this occasion, the prizes being offered now instead of at the time of the produce show. In the regulations for the guidance of the ploughmen, a departure was made from the usual custom in one respect, and apparently with advantage. Instead of declaring that every furrow shall be of a certain width and depth, the men were allowed to use their own judgement in varying the thickness or breadth of the furrow slice so as to give the best form to the ridges. This manifestly has to be done always, if the ridge is not to be as flat as the ground it is made from, and it is better to allow the judges to award the best prizes for the ploughing, without hampering them with a regulation which must be broken. All the members of the society and visitors present were hospitably entertained at dinner by Mr. Creighton, who also provided liberally for the wants of the men in the field. There were 13 horse-teams and seven bullock teams entered in all. The prizes were awarded as follow, viz: -

FOR PLOUGHING

Men ploughing with horses – First prize, £6, to Alexander Milne; second prize, £4, to Thomas Miller; third prize, £2, to John Woods ploughing for Mr. Malloy.

Men ploughing with bullocks – First prize, £4, to James Buchanan; second prize, £2, to A. Creighton.

TEAMS

Best team of mares or geldings at work in the field – First, silver medal, to Messrs. Creighton; second, silver medal, to Mr. Durling.

Best team of bullocks at work in the field – First, silver medal, to Mr. Malcolm McLellan.

IMPLEMENTS

Wheel plough – First silver medal, to Messrs. Rossiter.

Swing plough – First silver medal, to Mr. Ecclesfield.

Grubber or cultivator – First silver medal, Messrs. Brisbane.

Harrows – Silver medal to Mr. A. Patterson.

Roller – Silver medal to Messrs. Creighton.

Cart for general purposes – Silver medal to Mr. Ecclesfield.

Harness – Silver medal, to Mr. Robert Patterson.



*** Sat, 14th May, 10 – 4.**
Sausage sizzle at The Warehouse, Narre Warren.

***Sat, 11th June at 2p.m.**
General Meeting
Note: change of day and time for winter meetings.
Jan Jozsa - "Go On, Tell Great Grandma's Story" -

***Sat 9th July at 2 p.m.**
Annual General Meeting.
Please bring a small plate

***Sat 13th Aug at 2 p.m.**
General Meeting

***Sat 10th Sep at 2 p.m.**
Leone Fabre – "Compiling your Family Medical History".

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Narre Warren & District Family History Group Inc.

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<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~nwfhg>


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Newsletter editor: Jenny Coates, jnnyb@aol.com or 9707 1914

Committee Members

President	Lynne Bradley	Newsletter Editor	Jenny Coates
Vice President	Di Christensen	Publicity Officer	Wendy Goodwin
Corres. Secretary	Danielle Steckis	Research Officer	Lynne Bradley
Minute Secretary	Eileen Durdin	Sales Officer	Alice Pattison
Treasurer	Anne Blair	Supper Hostess	Sandra Phelan
Membership Officer	Meredith Bell	Away Days	Di Christensen
Librarian	Pam Lowther (Temp)	Christmas Raffle	Jenny Hayes
Assistant Librarian	Vacant	Research Room Manager	Pam Lowther
Door Officer	Shirley Peterson	Public Officer & VAFHO Rep	Di Christensen

<u>Membership & Meetings</u>	<u>Family History Research Room</u>	<u>Research Queries</u>						
<p>Membership: Single \$25 + \$5 joining fee Joint \$40 + \$5 joining fee Payable 1st July each year.</p> <p>Meetings are held in the Meeting Room at the Narre Warren Library, Overland Drive, Fountain Gate. Nov - May: 8 p.m. on the 2nd Wednesday of the month (except January) Jun - Oct : 2 p.m. on the 2nd Saturday of the month</p> <p>The cost is \$2 and includes a light supper.</p>	<p>Our Family History Research Room is located within the Narre Warren Library, Overland Drive, Fountain Gate.</p> <p>Family History Research Room hours:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">Tuesday</td> <td>11 a.m. to 3 p.m.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thursday</td> <td>7 p.m. to 9 p.m.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Saturday</td> <td>11 a.m. to 3 p.m.</td> </tr> </table> <p>We have a large collection of books, maps and microfiche available to our members. We also welcome visitors - a research fee of \$5.00 per day applies to non-members.</p>	Tuesday	11 a.m. to 3 p.m.	Thursday	7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	Saturday	11 a.m. to 3 p.m.	<p>We offer a research service for those unable to visit our Family History Room personally but please note that we can only research our own holdings and those of the local municipal libraries.</p> <p>The cost for this service is \$10 per hour plus photocopying expenses. All research queries can be sent to the Research Officer at the above address.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>
Tuesday	11 a.m. to 3 p.m.							
Thursday	7 p.m. to 9 p.m.							
Saturday	11 a.m. to 3 p.m.							

<u>Family History Research Room Information Sessions</u>	<u>Publications for Sale</u>
<p>For new members who would like to discover exactly what we have in the Family History Research Room - or for those members who are currently not using the holdings we have to their best advantage. Pam Lowther is currently holding friendly and informal information sessions with small groups of members. Morning, afternoon and evening sessions are available. For further information or to reserve a place at the next session please contact Pam on 0402 847 175.</p> <p>Members: No charge Visitors: \$5 charge.</p>	<p>Microfiche: <u>Berwick Cemetery</u> Register & Headstones 1867 to 1999 = \$22.00 <u>Harkaway Cemetery</u> Register & Headstones 1863 to 1999 = \$6.00 <u>Pakenham Cemetery</u> Register & Headstones c1850 to 1999 = \$22.00 + \$2.50 postage and packing for 1, 2 or 3 sets of fiche</p> <p>Books: Harkaway Primary School - Origins to 1975 by Jennifer Boyer = \$20 (postage included)</p>

The Narre Warren & District Family History Group gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the City of Casey in allowing us the use of the facilities at the Narre Warren Library.

Narre Warren & District Family History Group Inc.

Annual General Meeting

Saturday 9th July 2005

At 2.00 pm

The Meeting Room, Narre Warren Library
Overland Drive, Narre Warren

AGENDA

1. The reading and acceptance of the minutes of the 2004 AGM
2. The reading and acceptance of the committee reports
3. Election of Office Bearers for 2005-2006

President	Vice President
Minute Secretary	Correspondence Secretary
Treasurer	

4. Election of Committee Members for 2005-2006

Librarian	Newsletter Editor
Publicity Officer	Research Room Manager
Membership Secretary	

All positions will be declared vacant and a ballot will be held if two or more persons nominate for the same position.

Nominations in writing to the Correspondence Secretary.

Nomination and Proxy forms available from the research room and the Correspondence Secretary - (contact details on page 2)

*** Only financial members may vote at the AGM
- Membership fees are due 1st July**

South Bourke and Mornington Journal September 23, 1891 Pakenham - From our own correspondent

On Friday night last a grand concert and ball was held in the Mechanics' Institute, the proceeds from which are to be devoted to renovating the Hall. Mr. D. Robertson was in the chair, and stated in consequence of the long programme encores would not be permitted. The concert proved most enjoyable, and at its conclusion a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the performers. The hall was soon cleared, and dancing commenced about eleven o'clock, and continued until about 5 a.m. The most noticeable dresses were those of Misses Banks, Wicker, Buck, Wilson, Kennedy and Pittard (2).

From the President's Desk

With the knowledge that the AGM is just around the corner the members of this year's committee have taken a long and honest look at the way we're operating to see if it can, in fact be done better. The number of committee members has been a concern for a long time. Each year the committee seems to grow and the designated positions that once fulfilled our needs are not necessarily doing so now. We have an unofficial IT Officer, a Sausage Sizzle Co-ordinator and a Fundraising Co-ordinator, if we added these to the committee our numbers would swell to 22 (counting the Public Officer) which would be 1/5 of the membership. Clearly this is not the ideal situation! We decided that the only reasonable thing to do was to divide the committee into those that are involved in the day to day running of the group and/or the Research Room and those that are not.

So, as of the 2005 AGM, the committee will consist of: President, Vice President, Correspondence Secretary & Minute Secretary & Treasurer (Executive Committee) and Librarian, Research Room Manager, Publicity Officer, Membership Officer & Newsletter Editor – a total of 10 people. These positions will be declared vacant at the AGM and nominations called for as they have been in the past.

The other positions – Assistant Librarian/s, Door Officer, Research Officer, Sales Officer, Supper Hostess, Away Days Co-ordinator, Christmas Raffle Co-ordinator & VAFHO Rep will be our 'VIP' jobs and will not be declared vacant and nominated for every year – only on a voluntary basis. The Public Officer's position is not one that is nominated for every year.

This in no way demeans the job that is being done by these wonderful people. Their work is crucial to our success as a group. We know it and we thank them for it, and hope that they will continue to do so.

Please think about coming along to the AGM, nominating for the Committee, a VIP job or even library duty – we can always use the help.

Lynne

AUSTRALIA'S WAR DEAD PROJECT

from Barbara Emberson

The Victorian Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages is working on a database project covering all Wars where Australian servicemen and servicewomen lost their lives on active service overseas. This project is intended to celebrate their lives and recognize their sacrifice.

Donations of photographs and additional information of deceased service personnel are being sought from the public. More information is in the March 2005 issue of 'Ancestor' or contact the Registry.

ST. KILDA GENERAL CEMETERY: 150 YEARS

By Travis M. Sellers

In June this year, the St. Kilda General Cemetery will celebrate its 150th anniversary with events planned for Sunday 5 June. The Friends of St. Kilda Cemetery Inc is an incorporated, not-for-profit organisation. It was formed in 1998 with the objective *"to promote the conservation and appreciation of the St Kilda Cemetery as a place of remembrance, of historic importance and of natural beauty"*. A special souvenir newsletter of *Cemetery Conversations* has been produced to mark the occasion. Below is an edited extract:

"The origins of the historic St. Kilda General Cemetery can be traced as far back as July 1850 when the Melbourne City Council moved a motion:

"That his Worship the Mayor be requested to apply to his Honor the Superintendent [Charles Joseph La Trobe] for the reserve of a suitable portion of land south of the Yarra, to be used as a general cemetery by the inhabitants of South Melbourne, St. Kilda and Brighton".

Around the same time when the governing authorities in Sydney were finalising legislation that would eventually lead to the opening of the Melbourne General Cemetery at Carlton in 1853, it is hardly surprising that the Council saw the need for a general cemetery south of the Yarra. One general cemetery north of the city would be of little benefit to the inhabitants who resided in the growing southern towns. Travelling over unmade roads and across the Yarra River that required payment of a toll was not an easy task as it is today.

Some time prior to November 1851, the surveyor-general Robert Huddle and probably with his assistant, Henry Boorn Foot undertook a survey for a proposed 20-acre cemetery east of St. Kilda on the border with Prahran. The location was within the neighbouring Caulfield survey which at the time was entirely Crown land that had yet to be released for sale to the public. The timing of the survey and subsequent consent was far from ideal. The discovery of gold that year would in more ways than one cause delay and so it would be another three and a half years before the Cemetery became a reality.

On 11 January 1855, the Executive Council officially appointed the first trustees, the names which were subsequently published in the *Victorian Government Gazette*:

Augustus Frederick Adolphus Greeves, Esquire
Charles Hunt Symonds, Esquire
Francis Edes [sic] Beaver, Esquire
John Matheson, Esquire
William Lane, Esquire, and
Robert Kerr, Esquire.

Establishing a 20-acre cemetery on the site of a sandy scrub bush and eucalyptus flat in just four and a half months was a remarkable achievement and by no means an easy task for the first Trustees. Nor did it help that the Colonial Secretary's Department - responsible for cemeteries - had a narrow view of what was required to establish a cemetery and the cost entailed. For the year 1855, the Legislative Council voted a total of £2,000 shared amongst all cemetery trusts as a *loan* but limited towards fencing purposes only. In spite of this, the Trust was able to obtain a £522 government grant on 22 March 1855 to erect a basic wooden picket fence and main entrance gate. In contrast, the fledgling Melbourne General Cemetery was advanced £1,500 *unconditionally* the year before when they had a closing balance of £744 in 1853.

Though the Cemetery had opened for interments in early June 1855, a formal survey of the land had yet to be carried out. This explains the reason why many of the 70 burials undertaken in 1855 are located bordering the east and west boundary fence. When the survey was completed and presented to the Executive Council on 15 July 1856, it contained provision for 20,000 graves. Sydney Smith then resurveyed the area in 1863, making further provision for Jews, Society of Friends (Quakers) and Other Denominations. Unlike other cemeteries, no provision in either survey appears to have been made to separate private and public graves. Instead pauper interments were located adjoining private graves.

When the Cemetery first opened, next to no humans lived nearby who would have cause to complain. By the 1860s, this had all changed. The earliest known attempt to close the Cemetery was in 1864 when East St. Kilda residents signed a 'memorial'. A more spirited effort was made in February 1865 when a deputation that included the well-known stockbroker J. B. Were condemned *"a crowded cemetery near the centre of population"* arguing *"streams of underground water brought undesirable drainage to the surface"*. Interestingly, five of Were's nine surviving children - Jonathan Henry (1838-94), Nicholas (1842-67), Fanny Elizabeth (1846-99), Francis Wellington (1853-1946) and Charles Brooking (1854-1944) - all lie interred close together.

In March 1883, the Trustees appointed Charles St. George Truelove (c1850-1909) as secretary-manager, a position that would allow them to delegate day-to-day managerial decisions.

How a person with a background as an art furniture dealer, theatrical clothing designer and choirmaster came to manage a major Melbourne cemetery is one of great mirth. The next twenty years would play out like a soap opera culminating in Truelove's dismissal in disgrace and a board of inquiry appointed to investigate serious charges of criminal misconduct.



Chas. Truelove

Source: Smith, J., "Cyclopedia of Victoria" (1904) Vol II p 208
Image kindly supplied by Shirley & David Joy

After the dismissal of Truelove in 1905, the Trustees were faced with a number of pressing issues. The first was to repair the damage caused by Truelove. The second was to satisfy the Health Department the Trustees were capable of fulfilling the powers invested in their trust. The third was to earn the confidence of the public as well as the monumental masons. And finally, they had to maintain the Cemetery in an increasingly difficult financial position.

On 25 March 1954, a deputation from the St. Kilda Cemetery Trust attended a meeting before the Minister of Health, the Hon. William Barry (1899-1972) M.L.A. Sir Archie Michaelis, chairman of the Trust would open the

meeting by stating, "We came along to see you because we are in dire straits about the St. Kilda Cemetery". Little did the participants at the meeting know that this would mark the beginning of the end of the Trust that had served continuously since 1855. No longer with any land available to sell, and having lost £2,900 in the past three years, the deputation sought an urgent increase in fees as a means of avoiding using surplus funds amounting to £9,629. The increases were duly approved. By the 1960s, the cemetery was in dire straits. In July 1966, after years of government indifference, the airman Stacey) David Martin upped the ante and wrote directly to the Premier, Henry Bolte. In his letter of 23 June 1966, Martin warned "that unless financial help is forthcoming from the Government, we all propose to resign and pass the responsibility of the Cemetery to the Department of Health". No longer could the Health Department stall the matter. A mass resignation would be the last thing the government authorities needed; a decision would have to be made.

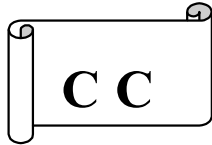
In February 1968, the trusteeship of the cemetery passed to The Necropolis Springvale. And so, after 113 years, the St. Kilda Cemetery Trust bowed out with little fanfare and the Cemetery entered a new chapter in its history".

Readers interested in becoming a member, or wish to purchase a copy of the newsletter can contact the Friends of St Kilda Cemetery at PO Box 261 St. Kilda Vic 3182 or via email info@foskc.org.

About the author: Travis M. Sellers is editor of "Cemetery Conversations" and serves on the committee of Friends of St. Kilda Cemetery Inc. For many years now, Travis has been researching the Brighton General Cemetery and has produced a website on the notable interments. <http://www.brightoncemetery.com>

~ South Bourke and Mornington Journal - September 23, 1891 ~
Obituary

The grim hand of Death has been busy of late amidst our little community, and the wailing of bereaved ones is to be heard in diverse places. 'Tis sorry comfort, and hard to realise the truth of the words that it is "all for the best". Doubly hard is the trial when the mainstay of the family is taken to "that land from whose bourne no traveller e'er returns". However *sic transit gloria mundi*, and those who remain can at most enjoy but a brief sojourn till they "cast anchor beyond the vale". Many of our readers will learn with regret of the death of Mrs. T. J. Rossiter, a very old resident of the County of Mornington, having arrived there in 1847. She then resided with her father at Gladys Park Station, near Berwick. She was married on the 1st September 1854, and still remained in that district until 1888, when she left with her family for Spring Grove, near Cunnamulla, Queensland where she died. We clip the following from the *Cunnamulla Argus*, of Tuesday, 1st September 1891: - "We deeply regret having to record the death of Mrs. Rossiter, wife of Mr. T. J. Rossiter, of Spring Grove. The deceased lady had been ill scarcely a fortnight, and up to the night of her death no one, not even Dr. Murray, who had visited her the day previous, anticipated the fatal result. The cause of death was congestion of the liver, probably accelerated by an attack of syncope. Mrs. Rossiter was very highly esteemed by all who knew her, and in the home circle her loss must be keenly felt. The funeral took place on Saturday, when nearly all the residents of the town attended, the business places closing as the procession moved through the streets. In the absence of a clergyman, the police magistrate conducted the burial service. A rather sad circumstance attending this visitation was the fact that Mr. Rossiter was absent from home on a visit to Melbourne." We are sure Mr. Rossiter's many friends in this district will join with us in an expression of sympathy for his bereavement.



Casey- Cardinia Family History Contacts

Casey Cardinia Family History Contacts is a new item that aims to bring together researchers interested in families within the Casey-Cardinia region.

It is a free service, open to anyone (you do not need to be a member of NW&DFHG) researching any family that has a connection to the region. **Only** names with a connection to a Casey-Cardinia area will be published. This segment relies on your input. If we have enough entries it will continue. Please email the editor (Jenny) directly with your entries. jnnyb@aol.com

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Researcher</u>	<u>Email</u>
Aurisch	Harkaway		Barbara	Barbara@sharpbuilding.com.au
Duff, James	Nar Nar Goon	1860+	Garry	forest40@bigpond.com
Hammond	Dandenong	1860+	Jenny	jnnyb@aol.com
Harbrow	Narre Warren	1860+	Jenny	jnnyb@aol.com
Inglis	Berwick	1850s	Jenny	jnnyb@aol.com
Murphy	Clyde	1853+	Jeanine	greigs@hotmail.com
Wanke	Harkaway		Barbara	Barbara@sharpbuilding.com.au
Wanke	Dandenong		Barbara	Barbara@sharpbuilding.com.au
Weist	Dandenong		Barbara	Barbara@sharpbuilding.com.au

Dandenong Journal - 18th August 1943

Lysterfield

Newlyweds Mr. & Mrs. Jack McIntyre of Kellett's road, received the time-honored 'tin-kettling' from district residents last Friday night. Over fifty were present and under 'Captain' E. Exner, they certainly made a great din. Rumor has it that it took Jack the whole of the next day gathering up the tins! Everybody enjoyed the evening immensely, the time being passed pleasantly with cards and musical items. Mr. Yates presided at the piano and items were given by Mrs. M. Alberni snr., Mr. W. Taylor, Mr. Alberni jnr., Mrs. A. Thompson, Mrs. Jack McIntyre and Mr. Yates. On behalf of the assemblage, Messrs. Drummond and W. Crawford voiced the good wishes of all present to Mr. And Mrs. McIntyre and thanked them for a jolly evening. A very tasty supper was served.

South Bourke and Mornington Journal - December, 20 1899

Berwick

The annual licensing court was held at Berwick on the 15th inst. The bench consisted of Messrs. Cresswell P.M. (chairman), T. Smallman P.M., C. G. Holmes P.M. Renewals of licenses for the different hotels were granted, no objections being raised. The application of Mr. Michael O'Connor, of Menzie's Creek for a roadside victualler's license for premises situated at Menzie's Creek, was refused on account of the premises being within a distance of ten miles from the nearest hotel. The same applicant applied for a colonial wine license at the same premises, which was granted. Mr. Coburn appeared on behalf of the applicant. Charles F. Hogan, Gembrook Hotel, Pakenham, was granted a temporary license to sell and dispose of liquor at the race meeting to be held at Pakenham, at 3rd January next.

W. A. Hitchen's application for a temporary license to sell and dispose of liquor at the Lang Lang Races on the 30th December, was adjourned until the 22nd inst., on account of the applicant not having got the necessary authority from the racing club.

Officer - Sands & McDougall **1910**

Brunt, Andrew, farmer
 Brunt, George, farmer
 Carey, George H., farmer
 Cummins, Michael, farmer
 Harris, Solomon, farmer
 Lecky, James, farmer
 McMullen, Patrick, farmer
 Patterson, John D., farmer
 Payne, George, storekeeper
 Post Office – Lister, Mrs F., Post Mistress
 Railway Station – Mrs F. Lister
 Rix, Henry J., farmer
 State School
 Stephens, Augustus A., grazier

Rythdale-Officer-Cardinia Football Club

A reunion and joint celebration of the three premierships of the ROC Football Club was held on Sunday 24th April 2005 at the Officer Recreation Reserve.

Organiser and author Fay McCoubrie launched a book that records the stories of the Life Members of the club from its inception.

For more information contact ROC directly or Fay via the newsletter editor: jnnyb@aol.com

~ Mothers ~

by Lynne Bradley

Mothers Day is a time to appreciate what you have if you are lucky enough to still *have* your mother and a time for remembering for those of us who aren't that lucky. Some mothers have incredible good fortune while others have had incredibly heavy crosses to bear. Motherhood is a lucky dip in many respects – you never know what you're going to get. It's for this reason that I salute all mums – past, present and future – Happy Mothers Day.

Susan Bain

Susan Stewart must have been a remarkable woman. She was born in Scotland in 1838 and arrived in Victoria in 1857. After her marriage to Robert Bain in 1859, the couple settled in Berwick. Susan was no stranger to grief – her two-year-old son Edwin died in 1875, her daughter Susan died in 1876 at just 19 months, and in 1887 her husband died, leaving her to parent 9 children on her own. Susan continued to run the Border Hotel (the Berwick Inn - a landmark in Berwick), continuing the Hotel's tradition of service to the community until she retired in 1907, just a year before her own death. Although most of her children were adults by 1887, the youngest were only 7 and 10 years old. But her grief did not end then. In 1891 her daughter Maggie died aged 24 and in 1900 Susan buried Catherine, her eldest daughter. In 1902 she lost two sons - Robert aged 35 died suddenly in January and 32 year old Harry died of pneumonia in April – both deaths occurring at the Hotel. On the morning of Robert's funeral she received a telegram from military authorities in South Africa informing her that her youngest son Donald was dangerously ill but news received the following day was encouraging and Donald recovered. Unbelievably, 1908 saw her lose another two sons, James and McCulloch aged 43 and 31 respectively died within a few days of each other in a heat wave in January, six months before her own death in June. At the time of her death only three of Susan's eleven children - Jane, George & Donald were left to mourn her passing along with the people of Berwick. An obituary in the South Bourke & Mornington Journal reports that Susan Bain's funeral was probably the largest seen in Berwick at the time.

Ann Bethune

11th March 1870

It was probably a day like any other when Ann Bethune's two eldest sons, Alexander and Robert were out in a paddock in Lyndhurst with the cows. Ann was buying goods from a hawker when the boys rushed up to her and said that a snake in the scrub had frightened Robert. She later recalled noticing that he was a little pale but as neither child had given her any cause for alarm she went about her business. Fifteen minutes or so went by when she saw Robert take a drink of water and collapse. She knew something was very wrong and questioned the boys more thoroughly about the snake and whether or not he had been bitten – Robert, in a typical six year old's fashion told his mother "only a little". Ann immediately examined his leg and found two tiny puncture wounds with a bruise between them. She applied the first aid of the time and pushed up the wounded skin, cutting it off then trying to suck the poison from the wound. She put the child into a cart and set off for Dandenong, meeting W. Gamble along route who applied gunpowder to the child's leg and used a handkerchief as a tourniquet. Along the way they gave Robert brandy but he continued to deteriorate. His mother later testified that he was very giddy by this time. Who knows whether it was the snakebite or the brandy – but you have to do something! By the time they reached Dandenong and medical help in the way of Dr. Phillips, Robert had been given half a pint of neat brandy. The doctor injected fluid into the boy's arm but he was now 'insensible' as his mother put it and was having difficulty breathing and died soon after.

Louisa Hewish

Louisa Hewish lost her only son Frederick in a riding accident on the 5th April 1892. Frederick was just 25 years old and was riding home from Dandenong with his uncle at about 10 o'clock one night. They were only about 100 yards from home when Frederick's horse suddenly went down and threw him to the ground. He was carried to the house and died at 2 o'clock the following morning, never regaining consciousness. The horse was thought to have stumbled on a tree stump. Frederick was a quiet and unassuming young man who lived with his parents. He had an older sister Catherine but his mother seems to have taken his loss badly and her words are quite poignant considering that Louisa's husband John and daughter Catherine were alive at the time. This 'In Memoriam' notice was published in the South Bourke & Mornington Journal on the 2nd April 1902.

IN MEMORIAM

Of Frederick John Hewish, accidentally killed April 5, 1892, aged 24 1/2 years.

I miss my dear son day by day,
Since his dear face was called away,
Your thoughts for me were ever true,
So different from the other few.

Fond were the ties that are broken,
Dear the loved one that has gone,
Long is there one who is waiting
To join him on yonder bright shore.

Had I been on the spot when he died,
My pain and my sorrow no more would feel;
One kiss from his lips, one look from his eye,
Would make me content and willing to die.

Inserted by his sorrowing mother,

LOUISA HEWISH.

Boring Farmers!? – by Jenny Coates

So you've looked up the Post Office Directory and found that great grandfather was a farmer. Boring? No! Directories contain a wealth of information if you just know how to look at them. No, I don't mean squinting in a menacing manner. I mean using those family history antennas you didn't know you had. Just taking small country towns as an example, you can learn much about your ancestor's life. While the aspects I am about to mention are good general rules, remember they are just that – generalisations that sometimes don't apply to your situation.

A listing of 'farmer' generally indicates men who actually physically work on their land, sometimes in mixed farming, with a leaning often towards cattle, sheep or dairy herds (though 'farmer' can also mean agricultural occupations). Look at other listings in the town or in nearby towns. Is there a creamery or butter factory? If so, it is likely that dairy farming is the main occupation. If there are grain silos, you may find out that great-grandfather was a wheat farmer. A listing of 'grazier' usually indicates a person who had large tracts of land and who followed one main occupation such as sheep or cattle farming. They were usually wealthy and wanted to let everyone know that they were a cut above the farmers! Prominent families may have diaries or account books lodged at the State Library or their probate records may show an account they had with your ancestor. <http://www.slv.vic.gov.au/catalogues/index.html>

Have a look at other listings in your town. Does the town have its own church or bank? If services such as church, banking or solicitors visit from another town (often called an agency), this may indicate the main town supplying your ancestor's town; where they shopped, what roads they traveled and where you can find further evidence of an ancestor's life. Don't know what the nearest town was? (<http://www.arta.com.au/vic.html>) Likewise, is there a school listed? Where did grandfather go to school if one wasn't listed in his locality? Do they have records or have they been deposited at the Public Records Office? <http://www.prov.vic.gov.au/archivesvictoria/t1tbmain.asp>

Does the town have a Coffee Palace or Temperance Hall? This may indicate a high level of participation in conservative religions such as Methodists or members of the Salvation Army or even the Christian Women's Temperance Movement. Now that you have a clue about your ancestor's denomination you can track down that elusive baptism or explain why great-grandfather disapproved of dancing! Were there more than one or two hotels? Usually this indicates a large town (check how many stores there were) or may indicate a transient and predominantly male population such as those found on the goldfields. If a town appeared overnight and disappeared just as quickly, your ancestor probably lived in a tent or wagon. Are there boarding houses in the town? This indicates the place at least once held an attraction for holidaymakers and was also probably close to a railway line. Find a map and see where the railway line went and what sort of goods it carried. It was common for dairying areas to have dedicated 'milk trains' to cities or major rural centers. The introduction to many directory entries for small towns includes distance from a large city and how to travel there (e.g. 32 ½ miles by rail, thence 6 miles by coach.)

Is there a Mechanics Institute or Hall? This usually indicates a community that has a population that can support a center for learning and a library. There may be an influential school teacher or a wealthy farmer who has the time to dedicate to the support and administration of such an institute. Membership of these Institutes was often by subscription. Do any records of members exist? Have a look at some of the histories of Mechanics' Institutes that have been published. If you are really lucky you may even find out what your ancestor was reading! (try a 'Google' search using "Mechanics Institute" and your town name.) The events at Mechanics' Institutes or Halls were often reported in local newspapers. Great grandmother may have sung at a celebration, while great grandfather may have made a speech at a farewell for soldiers, or participated in a debate. These amusements were talked about events and were often reported in local newspapers. (<http://catalogue.slv.vic.gov.au/>) Not sure **when** to look? Find a chart of the dates of full moons. Such events were often held on the night of a full moon to assist participants to return home on unlit country roads. (<http://www.liceofoscarini.it/didattic/astronomia/astro/english/calendarmonth.phtml>)

If sawmillers are present in the community, it may indicate a terrain that was hilly and heavily treed. Market gardeners indicate a rich soil and often flat land, though this is not true for many areas of the Dandenong Ranges. Look at other occupations and try to deduce how they may have interacted with your ancestors. Was the Post Master also listed as the schoolteacher or another occupation? This tells you where mail was picked up by residents. It may have been a private home, school, store or even railway station, often located near the center of town. This may be how your ancestor knew another resident and how he turned up as a witness on a document.

As an example, in 1929 Garfield was a thriving community. It boasted 2 motor garages, 2 blacksmiths, a café, 5 stores (including a confectioner), a brickmaker, a land agent, a music teacher and its own doctor, policeman, Post Office, Hall, J.P. and school. Clearly business was booming, supporting a rapidly growing and in many ways, wealthy community who had both leisure time and money. Over 100 residents including fruit growers, and market gardeners were listed in Sand's and McDougall's directory. Today Garfield is a shadow of its former self. The motor garages and life giving railway were actually part of the reason for Garfield's demise as transport became easier and people no longer had to shop or work in their own town. A look at directories for other periods will probably show the development of Garfield and the slowing of growth, so don't just look at the period you are interested in. Look around at other dates to get a real feel for your town. This is not a complete list of the clues you can get from directories. They are examples and suggestions to get you to use some lateral thinking, so get out there and use those antenna!

Research Room Roster

JUNE			2 Nowella Ahlgren GE, BI & AUS Di Christensen AUS	4 Pam Lowther IT & CEM Carolyn Jones GEN
	7 Ann Blair TAS Diana Wheeler ENG & NSW	9 Gail Quinn Eileen Durdin IT	11 Jeanette Angee GEN Lorraine Taylor ENG & GEN	
	14 Judy Kohn Lorraine Taylor ENG & GEN	16 Valma Newson Win Preston WLS & SHP	18 Lyn Bradley Betty Jones	
	21 Fay McCoubrie Meredith Bell	23 Donald Connop Di Christensen AUS	25 Shirley Peterson Val Holland GEN	
	28 Helen Hayes Lorraine Taylor ENG & GEN	30 Gail Quinn Nowella Ahlgren GE, BI & AUS	2 Lorraine Taylor ENG & GEN Jeanette Angee AUS	
JULY	5 Jenny Patterson ENG & GEN Judy Kohn	7 Win Preston WLS & SHP Donald Connop	9 Pam Lowther IT & CEM Shirley Peterson	
	12 Diana Wheeler ENG & NSW Meredith Bell	14 Valma Newson Eileen Durdin IT	16 Lyn Bradley ENG & GEN Val Holland CO	
	19 Lorraine Taylor ENG & GEN Helen Hayes	21 Gail Quinn Win Preston WLS & SHP	23 Carolyn Jones AUS & SA Betty Jones	
	26 Ann Blair TAS Fay McCoubrie	28 Donald Connop Di Christensen AUS	30 Jeanette Angee AUS Lorraine Taylor ENG & GEN	
AUGUST	2 Lorraine Taylor ENG & GEN Jenny Patterson	4 Nowella Ahlgren GE, BI & AUS Eileen Durdin IT	6 Pam Lowther IT & CEM Lyn Bradley ENG & GEN	
	9 Judy Kohn Meredith Bell	11 Valma Newson Gail Quinn	13 Carolyn Jones AUS & SA Lorraine Taylor ENG & GEN	
	16 Diana Wheeler ENG & NSW Helen Hayes	18 Donald Connop Di Christensen AUS	20 Jeanette Angee AUS Shirley Peterson	
	23 Lorraine Taylor ENG & GEN Ann Blair TAS	25 Eileen Durdin IT Win Preston WLS & SHP	27 Val Holland CO Betty Jones	
	30 Fay McCoubrie Jenny Patterson			

Legend

▶ AUS Australia	▶ ENG England	▶ GE Germany	▶ SHP Shipping
▶ TAS Tasmania	▶ WLS Wales	▶ GEN General	▶ CEM Cemeteries
▶ VIC Victoria	▶ BI British Isles	▶ CON Convicts	▶ IT Computers

Monuments and Memorials Project

This gargantuan task is underway and with Pam Lowther looking after all things photographic and Jenny Coates keeping us on the straight and narrow with all things historical how can we go wrong?

The big question is how can **you** help? You could volunteer to 'do' an area, but if you don't want to do that there's still plenty of ways you can help. If you have first hand knowledge of a Casey-Cardinia district you could list the M&Ms that you know, you could offer to guide someone else around your district or you could help us gain access to buildings where honour boards, etc. are displayed. Please think about contributing in some way no matter how small – it will all help!

Contact Pam on 9704 9598 or email: pamelalowther@optusnet.com.au for further information.

Lynne Bradley

Sausage Sizzle May 14th at The Warehouse

Our sausage sizzle on the 19th February was a great success. After expenses we raised \$317.65. Thanks to my terrific assistants Mary McGrath, Danielle Steckis, Anne Blair, Val Holland, Eileen Durdin and Carolyn Jones. Thankyou also to Jeanette Angee and Anne Blair for donating and cutting up the onions, which is a tear jerking job.

We are holding four sizzles this year, the next being on Saturday the 14th May (not the Mother's Day weekend but perhaps we'll catch all the Mum's returning those saucepans!) So again I'm looking for helpers. If you could spare a couple of hours on this day it would be appreciated, and remember – More Fundraising – More Resources!

If you can't help out, perhaps you could pop down to The Warehouse at Fountain Gate for one or two of our yummy sausages. See you there!

Shirley Peterson

Quotable Quotes

What do you mean - "My Birth certificate expired?!!!"

~ Member Profile ~

Nolan Hoxha joined the group in November 2004. He was born in Yarra Junction and has lived in this area for 30 years. He is married to Laura and has two sons. Nolan enjoys collecting football and cricket cards. Surnames Nolan is researching are Wynd and (sadly for him!) Smith. Say hello next time you see Nolan in the Research Room.



Fred's a Gem - Really!

I used to think that there were just two alternatives for the average person to consider when thinking about what to do with their body when they no longer have a need for it – burial or cremation. But, now I've found something else – I have discovered that I could have Uncle Fred cremated and his ashes turned into a diamond. There is a company in America (where else?) that takes cremated remains and turns the carbon contained in those ashes or remains into real man made diamonds.

Apparently they purify 200 gms of cremated remains by heating them and converting the carbon contained therein to graphite. The graphite is then put into a diamond press which recreates the natural forces of heat and pressure and a rough diamond crystal forms. This might take months but is sure quicker than nature who takes a million years – the stone is then cut and polished and certified, and for an additional fee is set in a setting of your choice. So, theoretically, you could wear Uncle Fred around your neck or finger for the rest of your life and then pass him down to your descendants. I wonder how Uncle Fred would feel about that?

According to the website, prices start at \$3,000 for .2 carats and just \$14,000 for a 1 carat diamond, not bad I suppose if you take into account the fact that it can take up to 18 months to create a diamond this size.

And in an effort not to miss any marketing opportunity, you could also have Fido's remains turned into diamonds – if you wanted to. For anyone interested enough, the company have a website at: www.lifegem.com

It leaves me wondering – just because we **can** do something, **should we?**

By Lynne Bradley



PRO Resources

<http://www.prov.vic.gov.au/access/online.htm>

New Zealand's Roll of Honour 1899-1945

<http://www.nzmrangloboerwar.org.nz/index.html>

19th Century Victorian marriages of Cornish women

http://www.aardvark.net.au/~tricia.j/cornish_females.html

History of the Australian Army

<http://www.defence.gov.au/army/LINKS/history.htm>

Family Records UK

<http://www.familyrecords.gov.uk/>

Great War Index

<http://www.lightage.demon.co.uk/GREATWARINDEX.htm>

National Service (Royal Airforce) Association

<http://www.nsrafa.com/home.htm>

WA Defence Force

<http://www.firstaif.info/west-aust/>

Australian Navy

http://www.battleships-cruisers.co.uk/australian_navy.htm

Australian War Graves Photographic Archive

http://www.australianwargraves.org/australia_m.html

Kokoda Trail I

<http://www.battleforaustralia.org.au/kokoda1.html>

Korean War Project

http://www.koreanwar.org/html/korean_war_database_s.html

New Members! - Welcome!

Neville Luke

Shirley Norris

Barbara Emberson

Judith Green

Dianne Ewer

Patricia Foster

Robert Player

Ann Laws

Kathryn Langham

Karyn Dinicolantonio

Michelle Humphreys



Thank-you!

To our member Keith Towe for his very generous and thoughtful donation of a scanner for our rooms. Pam Lowther has already thought up a dozen things we can do with it so it will be put to very good use.

Speakers Corner

Shauna Hicks, Senior Manager Access Services, Public Record Office Victoria gave a very interesting talk at our **March** meeting on the changing face of the PROV, its website and the new website to be launched in July. All members enjoyed her talk and went home eager to put some of Shauna's helpful advice into practice. www.prov.vic.gov.au

Members came to the fore at our **April** meeting (the meeting closest to Anzac day) with very entertaining stories of women's contribution to the war effort during WW1 and WW2. For a list of websites helpful when researching men, women and civilians during all wars, see My Connected Community in the Shared Files section.

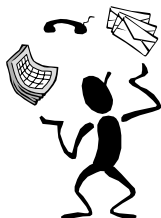
June - Saturday 11th-Jan at 2p.m. "Go On, Tell Great Grandma's Story" - Jan Jozsa will be talking about her great grandmother's life in Ballarat., using information from Grandma's scrapbooks and letters.

July - Saturday 9th - AGM

September - Saturday 10th- Leone Fabre - Compiling your Family Medical History and why this will help you."

Away day

On 12th April eight people made the trip to the Cornish Association of Victoria in Hughesdale. We were warmly welcomed by the President, Lindsay Chapman, his wife Alison and other committee members. They were extremely helpful in assisting us find information on our Cornish forebears. The CAV has the largest holdings of Cornish related resources outside of Cornwall.



Spreading Branches – August 2005

The deadline for the Aug 2005 edition of Spreading Branches is 15th July 2005.

DISCLAIMER:

Contributions 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.

South Bourke & Mornington Journal

Wed January 24 1883

Mrs Edmonds was an old resident of Eumemmerring, and though her business did not bring her in contact with many of us, yet those who did know her, respected her many kindly qualities. Her off hand manner, her extreme concern for those who were in trouble and her generosity where she thought that real need existed are well-known to most of us. Her departure leaves a gap in the ranks of "manly women," of which this colony of old could boast a goodly corps.

Braeside Family History Open House

This fabulous annual event will be on again at the Braeside home of the Latter Day Saints. Information and displays from many countries, computer programmes, books, microfiche and films will be available. Speakers may be heard through out the day on various subjects starting at 10.30 Refreshments at reasonable prices. The Narre Warren & District Family History Group will have a display there and be in attendance all day. The Geelong Family History Group, Southern Peninsula Group, Port Phillip Pioneers, Mornington Peninsula groups and many others will be there.

Entry is FREE!

Time: 10 am to 3 pm

Date: Saturday 21st May 2005

Place: Latter Day Saints, near Cnr Springvale & Governor Roads, Braeside

The Herald, Monday evening, January 23rd 1882

THE HOTELS LIST OF ARRIVALS

BEACONSFIELD

Beaconsfield House 18th January

Mr. & Mrs. T. F. Fallon and family (2)	
Mr. And Mrs. Bartrop and family (6)	
Mrs. Joske and child	Messrs. Horsfall(2)
Misses Joske (2)	Mr. Hodgkinson
Misses Hodgkinson (2)	Mr King
Mr and Mrs Turner	Mr and Mrs King
Mr and Mrs Balhary(?)	Messrs Balhary (2)
Mr Jas. Rodger	Mr H. Moss
Mr G. Ramsden	Mr Braim (?)
Mr and Mrs Anderson	Mr Andrews
Miss Hardy	Mr Jackson
Mr Thomas	Mr R. Jones



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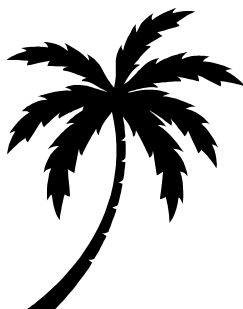
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