

# Spreading Branches

Narre Warren & District Family History Group Inc.

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Issue 121 - August 2019

## Happy 15th birthday Casey Cardinia Combined Index

It seems like only yesterday when an idea to create a database to assist Casey Cardinia researchers find their ancestors was suggested. It had to be easy to use by researchers and easy for members of our group to index the resource. The database would record names that were in each resource and on what pages that they were on. We would call it the Casey Cardinia Combined Index (CCCI).

That was over 15 years ago. From its small beginnings the CCCI has grown to over 140 indexed resources. Over 134,000 names can be searched and it is still growing.

We have resources on histories of churches, schools associations, companies, buildings, etc. that have been indexed. By using the CCCI you may find records on people who have been involved in the

*Narre Warren and District Family History Group Inc*

### Casey Cardinia Combined Index

Search Index  
Click on box and type in the name you are searching for

Casey Cardinia Place List

Books Indexed

Casey Cardinia Reference Material

Click on down arrow and choose a town/suburb in the Casey or Cardinia Area

Click here for reference material on chosen town/suburb

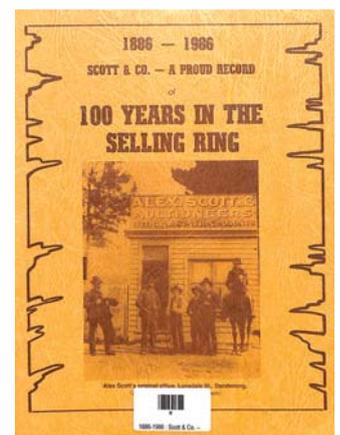
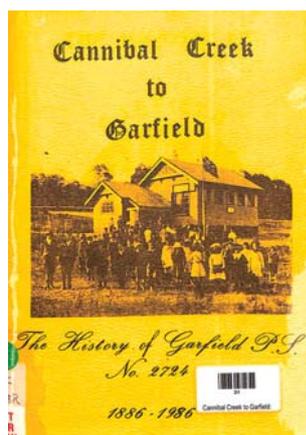
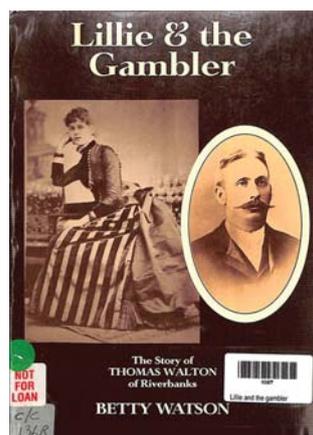
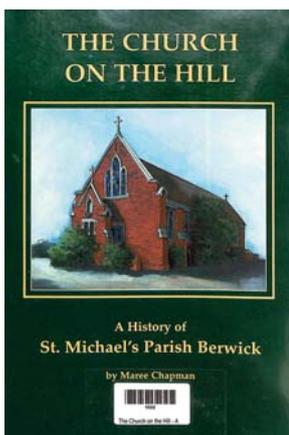
Close Index Database

Anglican Parish of Bunyip; Christ Church, Berwick; Koo Wee Rup Church of England; Narre Warren North Uniting Church; Narre Warren North Methodist Church; Parish of St John The Evangelist, Cranbourne; Parish of St John

the Baptist, Koo Wee Rup; St Joseph's, Iona; St Michael's Parish, Berwick; St Andrew's Uniting Church, Berwick; and Yannathan Union Church.

Among the schools are: Beaconhills Christian College; Beaconsfield Primary School; Berwick Grammar School; Cranbourne Primary School; Emerald Primary School; Garfield Primary School; Harkaway Primary School; Koo Wee Rup High School; Lang Lang Primary School; Narre Warren Railway Station School; Narre Warren State School, Webb Street; Officer Primary School; Yannathan Primary School

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# Narre Warren & District Family History Group Inc.

1/65 Berwick-Cranbourne Road, Cranbourne VIC 3977

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## Committee Members

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## 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.

## Opening Hours for Research

Tuesdays and Saturdays 11 am to 3 pm

Research room phone number: (03) 5995 3032

## 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

3rd 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.

**Bank:** National Australia Bank

**Branch:** Fountain Gate

**BSB:** 083 802

**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](mailto:research.officer@nwfhg.org.au)

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 guess last year's AGM with BYO chairs and tables in the then-vacant Casey Cardinia Library's old HQ set the pattern for meetings for the rest of the year. You'd have to agree that our general meetings have been a bit of surprise for most of us, including the committee! Let's see; there was the meeting we didn't have in February when we had the asbestos scare and had to cancel the meeting 90 minutes before it was due to start. It turned into the best car park gathering ever, if only we'd had drinks and snacks. Then there was the meeting we had in the Research Room because the library was closed that day and we had not thought to pick up the keys the day before. Just recently there was the meeting where the guest speaker got lost and arrived very late, and of course, the meeting with the 1st Cranbourne Scouts, which was a lot of fun.

We farewelled Di Christensen at our October meeting. Di has been an integral member of the group for a long time, but wherever she is, the internet ensures she is not lost to us completely.

We've enjoyed two fabulous celebrations in the last twelve months, our first anniversary at Cranbourne and our 30th birthday. Eileen and the rest of the committee did a fabulous job putting the day together. The cherry on the top of the cake was the dedication of the Research Room. It is a lasting acknowledgment of Lorraine's leadership and dedication to the group, and it was a privilege to be involved with it. We were privileged to have Cr Graeme Moore, Mayor of Cardinia and Cr Amanda Stapledon, Mayor of the City of Casey both with us on the day. While we did pat ourselves on the back, we also took the opportunity to thank many people who have helped us over the years.

We've done some great things in the past twelve months, John Uren and his sizzlers had a fabulous day at Bunnings, Jane and Lyne headed up another great cemetery tour at Lang Lang, we organised some life writing classes, and we picked up a Holt Australia Day Award. We participated in the VAFHO Expo at Hamilton, the Casey Heritage Festival at Tooradin and attended Local History Reference Group and South Eastern Historical Association meetings as representatives of NW&DFHG.

We're juggling seven Branching Out sessions with Heather Arnold during August for National Family History Month and co-hosting the Cemeteries: bringing history to life seminar in October with the SEHA. Then two weeks later we're at Bunyip Cemetery before we start winding down for the Christmas/New Year break. We will have earned a rest by then. Thank you to all members who have done duty, sizzled sausages, indexed, networked, researched and written stories plus countless

other things. Your contribution over the year was celebrated at our beautiful Volunteers' Morning Tea at the scout park.

Thank you to the committee and VIPs who have done all those things on top of their committee and VIP duties. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to work with you. It's a wonderful thing to see hidden talents emerge, we've come to expect a witty poem from Kerryn Maxwell now and then. Now she's composing little songs and ditties, not only that; she's managing to rope in other performers too. I love what doing that brings to meetings and other occasions, I think you do too.

The fact that the Casey Cardinia Combined Index is 15 years old was pointed out to me last week. I can remember when it was just an idea. What a marvellous job Eileen and her indexers have done over the years.

We've had a lucky run with grants, \$830 from the City of Casey for an overhead scanner, \$1,000 from the Dept. of Social Services for desktop publishing and PDF software and \$2,000 from Be Connected, to be put towards three laptops to replace the black computers in the Lorraine Taylor Research Room.

There are challenges for us to overcome in the next twelve months. We're talking to the City of Casey to see if we can secure some storage space within the complex to take the pressure off the Research Room. We will need to purchase, program and load resources onto three new laptops, and purchase the software that will allow the librarian to process the newsletters that come in as PDFs to the computers. We will need to attract new members and new volunteers to the Research Room and possibly start thinking about what we'd like the family history group to be when we're celebrating our 35th birthday and how we're going to get there. But, as volunteers ourselves, it's one step at a time.

*Lynne Bradley*

### **September general meeting Monuments, memorials and family history**

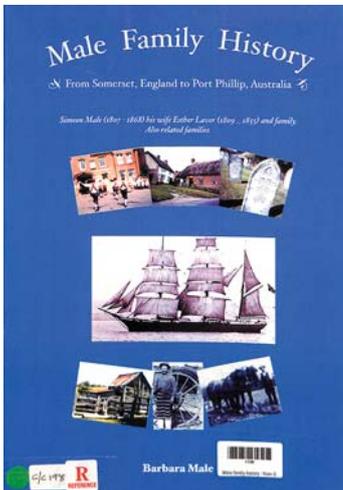
We're asking members to tell us about interesting monuments and memorials they've come across in their travels or while researching their family history. The M&Ms don't have to be in Casey Cardinia, (although the M&Ms team would love that) they can be anywhere. We'd love you to bring a picture of your M&M too, if you can.

**Saturday, 21 September 2019 • 2 pm**

*Cranbourne Complex Meeting Room,  
65 Berwick-Cranbourne Road, Cranbourne.  
Use Casey Radio entrance.*

**CCCI**—continued from page 1

Other resources include associations, companies, buildings, etc. such as *Berwick and District Agricultural & Horticultural Society Inc.*; *Bunyip Mechanics Institute Hall*; *Dandenong Markets*; *Koo Wee Rup Football Club*; *Narre Warren Fire Brigade*; *Narre Warren Mechanics Institute*; *Pakenham Racing Club*; *Pakenham Scout Hall*; *Scott & Co.*; *Shelley Memorial Hospital*; *Toomuc Valley Orchards*; *Salisbury House, Upper Beaconsfield*.



Family histories have also been indexed as part of our Casey Cardinia Collection. They include *the Ellett family; descendants of Isaac Edey; life stories of the Hart, Webb and Moran families; the Stephenson family; a biography of Ron 'Mick' Andrews; life and times of Norman Moralee; the Male family; the Moysey family; the Nicol family; the Andrews*

*family; Bourke and Smith families of Pakenham and Nar Nar Goon.*

Other indexed resources are about events in the Casey Cardinia area. You could find people that were affected by the Ash Wednesday fires in Upper Beaconsfield and Cockatoo, and those in the making of the Cardinian Embroidery.

All the books that the group has published have been indexed and included on the CCCI.

We would like to thank Meredith Bell, Anne Blair, Jeanette Angee, Lynne Bradley, Graeme Brownfield, Ray Carter, Jenny Coates, Moreyn Dimsey, Eileen Durdin, Wendy Eldridge, Helene Hayes, Jenny Hayes, Bev Lambie, Elizabeth Phillips, Barbara Sharp, Lorraine Taylor, and Pam Tumath who have indexed resources over the last fifteen years. They have all contributed to making the CCCI a useful tool for anyone researching people and places within the Casey Cardinia area.

Our Research Officer and the Cemetery Tour Group regularly use the CCCI and they will all tell you what a great tool it is in finding information on Casey Cardinia people and places. If you have a query on anything to do with the Casey Cardinia area, visit the Lorraine Taylor Research Room and see if the CCCI can assist you.

*Eileen Durdin*

## Ballarat Briefings

There have been quite a few changes in researching in Ballarat. PROV is now located at the Eureka Centre, 102 Stawell Street, Ballarat East.

Opening hours are Monday–Thursday 10 am–4.30 pm. Closed Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Phone 0418 296 666.

The Australiana Collection from Ballarat Library will also be located at the Eureka Centre, as will the collection belonging to the Ballarat and District Genealogical Society.

It is uncertain as to when these will be available to the public.

Contact the Eureka Centre for more details Phone (03) 5333 0333

The Eureka centre is open 10–5 seven days a week.

*Di Christensen*



## Thank you

To the President, Committee & Members of NW&DFHG



Dear Lynne,

Our 30th Birthday Celebration was an afternoon I will never forget.

The pictorial display was wonderful and brought back some lovely memories, Thank you so much Eileen and any helpers you may have had.

I was surprised to see my family arrive which was most unexpected. Thank you Lynne for arranging them to come. I think over the years it has not been more than 'ah yes Mum's at family history again'. It was lovely for them to see what we have done over the years.

It was a wonderful afternoon—you all did a great job, and to see some of members from the past was really nice. The afternoon was organised to a T.

The next surprise was to see the front cover of *Spreading Branches* with all my family there, I was really stunned to see it.

I appreciate the honour you Lynne, the Committee, and Members have bestowed on me.

Regards,  
Lorraine Taylor

## Welcome to our new members

John and Elaine Williams  
Janette Windsor

# Bunyip Cemetery Tour—27 October 2019 ... a taster

## Winner of the Stawell Gift 1879

Elisha Stephen Grose was born at Creswick in 1856. His parents, Thomas and Charlotte Grose, arrived from Plymouth in 1847 on the *Cressy*, and disembarked in South Australia. They made their way to the copper mines at Burra, where Thomas found work. When gold was discovered in Victoria, Thomas left his family behind and set out for Ballarat. After some success on the goldfields, his family joined him, and they settled at Creswick.

Edward, the eldest son, apprenticed as a printer and later became the proprietor of the *Ballarat Star* and *Creswick Advertiser* newspapers. Elisha followed in his brother into the printing industry. In 1893 Elisha was a newsagent in Creswick.

On 14 April 1879 Elisha Grose marked his place in history when he won the second running of the Stawell Gift. Thirty-five runners contested five elimination heats, with fifteen men advancing to the semi-finals. Elisha was handicapped on 5.9 metres, he had won his heat in thirteen and a half seconds, he won his semi-final in twelve and a half seconds and advanced to the final. In the final, Elisha Grose and Harry Boughen, dead heated in thirteen seconds. The two men agreed to a run-off after an agreed rest period. The run-off ended in controversy when Harry thought Elisha had jumped the starter's gun and stopped running after 22.8 metres. Elisha kept running and was declared the winner of £35. Harry lodged a protest, but the judges concluded that Elisha had not jumped the gun. It was reported in later years that Elisha and Harry never spoke to one another again and each

claimed to their dying days that they had won the race outright—not in a dead heat.

On 1 September 1879 Elisha married Hannah Elizabeth Purdy. Hannah was born on 8 July 1857 in Hobart. Her family moved to Ballarat during the gold rush as well. Elisha and Hannah had five sons. Three of their sons were involved in the printing trade, either as composers or printers. Thomas, the eldest, was employed as a skilled monotype operator with the Government Printing Office Melbourne. In 1898 Elisha went into partnership with Lachlan Ross at the *Bairnsdale Courier*. In 1906 H. W. Bentley and Co., printers in Fitzroy dissolved their partnership with Elisha, who was then living in Collingwood.

Elisha lived in various Victorian towns, including Heathcote, Toora, and Drouin, and around 1920 settled in Bunyip, where he died from pneumonia and heart failure on 24 August 1936, a few weeks before his eightieth birthday. He is buried at Bunyip Cemetery in an unmarked grave in the Methodist section.

## Bunyip Cemetery Tour

Hope Street, Bunyip

Sunday 27 October 2019 10 am

Tea and coffee served at end of the tour.

\$ 5 per adult – bookings essential

cemetery.tours@nwfhg.org.au  
or Jane 9796 1421

## Morning Tea and a chance to shop for free

You've heard us talk about Be Connected before. Well, we've just got a Be Connected grant to put on a fabulous morning tea and look at some of the Be Connected course modules about online shopping such as the online shopping overview, introduction to internet safety and paying safely online. We're



going to go through these quite quickly, but don't worry, you can pick it all up again when you get home if you want to. And, to celebrate our partnership with Be Connected and thank you for coming along we're giving away a \$200, \$100 and \$50 Visa online shopping card as door prizes to get three lucky online shoppers started. Just think of how many family history books you could buy!

Members and visitors are welcome but places are limited. You can book online at Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/morning-tea-and-a-chance-to-shop-for-free-tickets-68386795747>

or contact Lynne [president@nwfhg.org.au](mailto:president@nwfhg.org.au) to secure your spot for 9.30 am Wednesday 16 October at the Casey Complex Meeting Room.

Lynne Bradley

# Cemeteries: bringing history to life

## Presenters

9.30 am for 10.00 am start

10.00 am - 10.45 am

*Jan Rigby & Lois Comeadow (Brighton Cemeterians)*

Friends of cemeteries groups and Brighton Cemeterians

10.45 am - 11.30 am

*Val Wilson (Mornington & District HS)*

Mornington Cemetery and its website

11.30 am - 11.45 am

Light morning tea provided

11.45 am - 12.30 pm

*Libby Skidmore (Bass Valley HS)*

Mourning Customs

12.30 pm - 1.15 pm

*Jane Rivett-Carnac (NW&DFHG)*

You can learn a lot in a cemetery: dead men do tell tales.

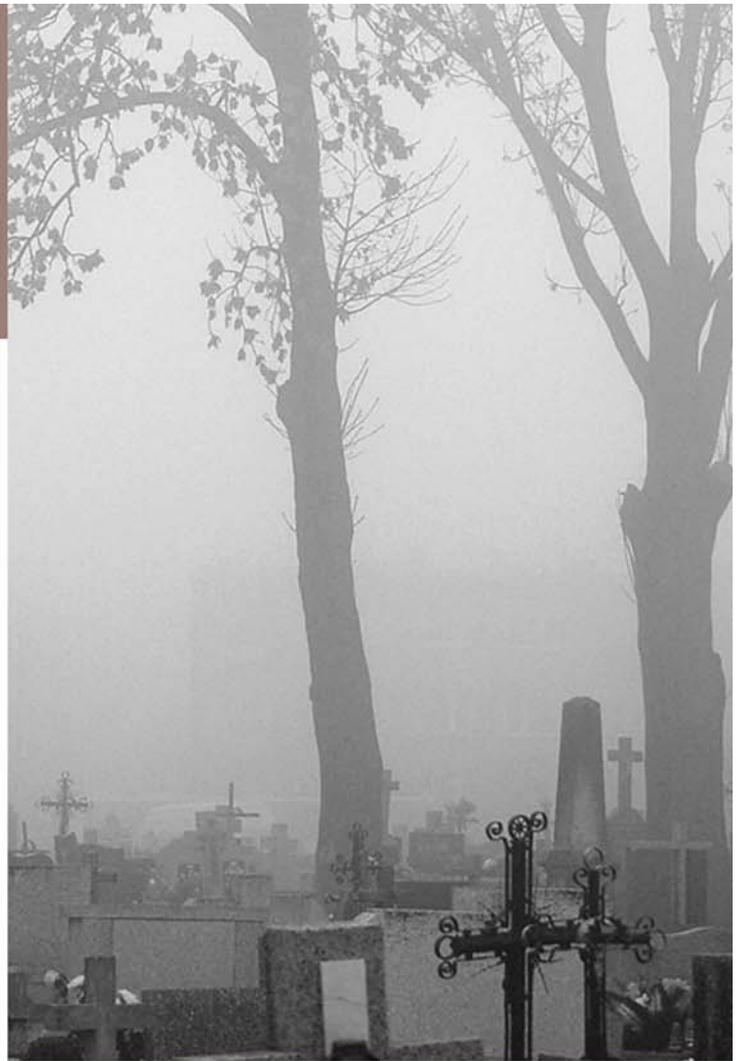
1.15 pm - 2.00 pm

BYO lunch (tea and coffee available)

2.00 pm

*Dr Celestina Sagazio (SMCT)*

Interesting cemetery tales and humorous epitaphs.



A free cemetery seminar presented by South Eastern Historical Association & Narre Warren & District Family History Group.

## Cranbourne Complex Meeting Room

(Casey Radio Station entrance)

1/65 Berwick-Cranbourne Road,  
Cranbourne East

- ample parking
- buses run from Cranbourne railway station to the complex

Reserve your place at:

**[eventbrite.com.au](https://www.eventbrite.com.au)**

Or contact:

- Lynne Bradley: 0413 182 551
- Heather Arnold: 0407 521 637

## Sunday 13 October 2019

## Member of the Year 2019

This year we presented the 21st Member of the Year Award. I know that because I had to order another board to start off the next ten years. I'm excited to be able to say that we have three nominees this year that are not on the committee. Perhaps time and a gentle nudge will fix that.

Each year by secret ballot, committee members nominate someone from the group who has consistently caught their eye. Committee members are asked why they voted for this person, not because their choice needs to be justified, but it helps the President compile the awards speech. A list of every event, job or duty is kept from AGM to AGM. Its primary purpose is to compile a list of invitees for the Volunteers' Morning Tea. Members' names are ticked off for doing duty, committee or VIP work, indexing, cemetery tours, sizzling sausages, helping at events and anything else we've done that required people power. This list sometimes helps committee members decide who to vote for. Their votes are tallied by the president and announced at the AGM.

Members must have contributed to most of our activities during the past year, sometimes going out of their way to assist other members and visitors. They would have assisted with fund raising and regularly attended our meetings.

### Our nominees for 2018-2019 were:

*Eileen Durdin:* Eileen was the only member of NW&DFHG to have worked on or attended every single job or event on our list. I think that says a lot about our Secretary's dedication to the group and how she goes above and beyond the Secretary's job description. She was also nominated for her meticulous planning and execution of our 30th birthday party.

*Moreyn Dimsey:* new to the committee, Moreyn was nominated for the friendly way she works with other members and volunteers. She is always willing to help with whatever needs doing.

*Meg Hunter:* Meg was nominated for the lovely and fun attitude she brings to events. One committee member said that they'd had the privilege to work with her at the sausage sizzle and it was a lot of fun. She is willing to help and is an inspiration in researching.

*Lyne McGregor:* as an active member of the group Lyne consistently undertakes many varied tasks. She's a committee member, RR volunteer, and regularly attends meetings and events. Her continued effort and participation in the work she does as a leading member of the cemetery tour group should be recognised.

*Pat Sherwell:* Pat was nominated for being involved and trying hard. Well done Pat, we can't ask more than that!

*Barbara Sharp:* Barbara was nominated for many reasons. Her willingness to try new things was mentioned a couple of times. Her indexing work and her assistance with cemetery tours was also mentioned. The fact that Barbara has helped with sausage sizzles, Research Room duty, and participates in meetings and the writing classes was noted. One committee member commented 'she has her toes in everything, helping out whenever she can'. And, that is true, but the one thing that was continually mentioned, and the most admired quality of all, was Barbara's attitude. She always has a smile on her face, regardless of what she is doing and that can be infectious, it spreads cheer to those around her – and that is why our 2019 Member of the Year is Barbara Sharp.



*Lynne Bradley and Barbara Sharp*

Congratulations to all our nominees.

*Lynne Bradley*

## Then And Now

# The Max Thomson Collection

*We all enjoy looking at old photos and try to put stories to them.  
Have you ever wondered what their story would be in today's world?*

### Haystacks

It is hard watching the Australian farmers' plight of feeding their livestock during another drought. Not only are the stock dehydrating from lack of water but also starving from lack of fodder. It is great to see bales of hay being trucked to the farms in need, giving them some relief.

I knew we had a few photos in the Max Thomson Collection to do with harvesting and haystacks but didn't know how to put them into a story as I knew nothing about farming, until I visited my farming relatives Lindsay and Brenda Evans. Lindsay is a sixth generation farmer who grew up on their family farm in Truganina. Brenda is my mum's cousin and grew up in the Dookie and Shepparton area. Brenda married Lindsay in 1981 and was well suited to the lifestyle of a farmer's wife. As Lindsay told stories and answered all my questions I could tell that farming isn't an easy job, but he loves it.

There was a time when farmers all over Australia were making haystacks and feeding their stock with sheaves of hay.

Harvesting would occur as the wheat and oats was turning from green to brown. Farmers who had no

horses would manually swing a scythe to cut the wheat and would have to rake it. Harvesting was easier with a horse drawn mower with sickle blades, and now a binder cutter is used.

The hay was tied into bundles called sheafs. The sheaves would then be stacked into larger groups called stooks. These were then left in the fields to cure for approximately 3 weeks or until the hay was dry enough to break.

Farmers collected the sheaves after curing and then began to build a haystack. Haystacks were built to store the hay to keep it dry. A 100-ton haystack would be built with approximately 24,000 sheaves of hay. The lower base sides of the haystack were 12 feet high and then the hay was stacked differently to look like a roof. The roof was built to the same height (as the base) or higher depending on the width of the haystack. The flat sides of the haystack would normally face north and south, as this was direction where the worst of the weather came from. Wiring went over the top of the haystack with weights (e.g. tractor tyres) on either end to keep the haystack together.

*Harvesting at Tyrone, King Road, Harkaway - c1908  
Bob Kelly is in the white hat on the left and the others are unknown. The dog is resting in the shade of the stook.*





*Large haystack's location is unknown - c1908*

To build a haystack like this needed three teams of two collecting the hay. One person would pitch the hay to the wagon while the other stacked the wagons. They would strategically stop the wagons around the haystack so that the hay could be pitched to the farmer who was on the haystack doing the stacking. A good farmer could pitch a sheaf of hay up to whatever height and make sure that it landed at the feet of the stacker with the head of the sheaf heading in the right direction ready to be stacked. Lindsay guesstimates that it would probably take seven farmers about one week to build a stack.

Then along came the sheaf hay elevator. It would raise and drop the sheaves onto the haystack. The time for the hay stacking was reduced to four farmers working six days. I am told that this was very hard work. While a haystack was built the hay had to be kept dry, and Brenda recalls a stormy night when she was standing on top of a half-built haystack with others at 2 o'clock in the morning

trying to lay down a tarpaulin to cover the hay.

Haystacks were normally used within twelve months and would rarely see two winters. When haystacks got wet, the hay turned black on the outside. This black hay could be cut off, but it was a problem if the hay got mouldy and musty. Rats and mice were a nuisance as they ate the grains and made the haystacks unstable. Snakes were also common residents in the stacks.

Originally animals were fed the sheaves of hay. Then chaff cutters were used and the feed was bagged. The sheaves could also be put into a thrashing machine to extract the seeds for replanting.

Lindsay and Brenda built their last haystack in Truganina in 2007 and moved to Seymour in 2009. Lindsay was due to retire, but he is still working making bales of hay to sell. Lindsay's haystack making techniques were passed onto their children

but as it is such a labour-intensive process it will be a thing of the past. Thanks to Lindsay and Brenda for all this information and the fun I had finding it all out.

Today hi-tech machinery makes life easier for farmers to sow and harvest crops. On the internet you can buy machines that do virtually anything. However, none of these can help any farmer if there is no RAIN.

*Eileen Durdin*



*Bringing in the sheaves on a skidcart - c1908*

## Sister Kirkpatrick—a mystery

The Oak Tree Memorial shelter at Cranbourne has a plaque with the names of eighty-five men and two women. The women are Sister Kirkpatrick and Nurse J Robertson.<sup>1</sup>

The Cranbourne Avenue of Honour was planted in 1919, with name plaques in memory of the local soldiers and two nurses, placed beside each tree.<sup>2</sup> The Avenue, opened by the Cranbourne Patriotic Association on 9 August 1919, represented the service of the 59 men who served, and the two local nurses, Aileen and Norah Lehman.<sup>3</sup> Over the years some trees died, others were planted, individual name plaques disappeared and with them memories. A new plaque was dedicated in April 1953, but it is not known if it contained any names.

The Cranbourne State School Honour Roll 1914-1918<sup>4</sup> also has a Sister Kirkpatrick commemorated. And then there is a Nurse E Kirkpatrick named on the Clyde North State School No 118 & District Roll of Honour 1914-1919, along with the Nurses A. and N. Lehmann.

The local newspapers, unfortunately, do not help to identify Nurse/Sister Kirkpatrick either. However, there was a Kirkpatrick family with tentative links to the area, whose three daughters were involved in nursing during the war.

### The Kirkpatrick family

Alfred Kirkpatrick was born in England at Walsall, Staffordshire, the second son, and one of six children of John and Ann Kirkpatrick. They came as a family to South Australia in the early 1860s. Alfred, his elder brother Joseph Allott Kirkpatrick and Edward Quin went into partnership as graziers in the Bourke district of New South Wales. The family property and pastoral business, Buckanbe Station, was registered as A & J Kirkpatrick & Co. On 2 December 1869 at Wilcannia, Alfred married Mary Theresa Alice Quin, the sister of Alfred's business partner. They had eight children—four of them had their births registered in New South Wales, three in South Australia, and one in Victoria.

During the Boer War 1899-1902, the second son, Hedley John Kirkpatrick, served in South Africa, as Trooper 1071 with the 1st Australia Horse, before he was commissioned to the 2nd South African Scottish Regiment and then to the 6th Dragoons

Guards rising to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He was awarded the DSO (Distinguished Service Medal), was mentioned in despatches, received the Queens medal with five clasps and the Kings medal with two clasps. Hedley married in South Africa and served as Colonel commanding the 9th South Africa Infantry Brigade in the German East Africa campaign of 1916-1917. In civilian life Hedley was Commissioner of Police in South West Africa.<sup>5</sup> He retired in 1934 and moved to the Seychelles Islands.

His elder brother Alfred, better known as Ottie, may also have served in Africa, as both the men's names are on the Tilpa Boer War Memorial. In 1916, aged in his forties, Ottie enlisted in World War 1 and served in the 69th Australian Flying Squadron in France and England as a qualified first class flying mechanic. He rose to the rank of Sergeant. When he returned to Australia he applied for a soldier settlement block and lived at Wilgamere Station, New South Wales.

Madeline Theresa Kirkpatrick, known as Birdie, was born 28 April 1878 at Dunrobin, Brighton, South Australia. She was the fifth child born to Alfred and Mary. Madeline made her debut at the Bourke District Ball in 1895. In 1898 she was bridesmaid at the wedding of her elder sister Edith, who married Ernest McArthur of Camperdown at Mount Victoria. Madeline also made the wedding cake.<sup>6</sup> In 1912 she made another wedding cake when her youngest sister Kathleen married Thomas Perkins.<sup>7</sup>

From 1912 to January 1914 Madeline is mentioned in the local newspaper. In December 1912 she was acting matron at Wilcannia Hospital,<sup>8</sup> where her mother Mary Kirkpatrick had laid the foundation stone in 1879.<sup>9</sup> In 1913 Birdie was fundraising for an ambulance stretcher, giving smallpox vaccinations to the people of Tilpa and in November the newspaper noted she was paid ten pound for the period that she had been acting matron.<sup>10</sup> She then moved to Victoria and found work at Colac, not far from her sister Edith, who was living at Camperdown.

It is not clear when Madeline left for France, but a 1915 newspaper reported that Sister Madeline Kirkpatrick, formerly of Dr W. H. Brown's Hospital Colac, was tending to the wounded in a field hospital at Dunkirk, the men calling her 'Sister Australia'.<sup>11</sup> Madeline had written home of her

1 <http://www.caseycardiaremembers.org.au/oak-tree-memorial-cranbourne/>

2 <https://www.casey.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files-public/user-files/City%20%26%20Council/About%20Casey/military.pdf>

3 *The Argus*: 1 September 1919, *Dandenong Advertiser*: 5 December 1918

4 [http://vhd.heritage.vic.gov.au/search/veterans\\_result\\_detail/190340?person\\_id=44388](http://vhd.heritage.vic.gov.au/search/veterans_result_detail/190340?person_id=44388)

5 *Western Herald*: 3 Jan 1903

6 *Western Herald*: 10 July 1895, 17 December 1898

7 *Western Grazier*: 2 November 1912

8 *Western Grazier*: 14 December 1912, 13 December 1913

9 *Sydney Mail & New South Wales Advertiser*: 7 June 1879

10 *Western Grazier*: 14 December 1912, 13 September 1913, 15 November 1913, 13 December 1913, 10 January 1914

11 *The Ballarat Star*: 26 February 1915

experience in France and this letter was published in the *Argus* newspaper.<sup>12</sup> She was thirty-five and living at 29 Emanuel Avenue, Acton, England when she worked for the British Red Cross for a month in January 1915.<sup>13</sup> She returned to Australia on the *Afric* in late February 1915.

Two of Madeline's younger sisters joined the war effort together. Constance and Florence had sailed from Melbourne on the P & O Liner *Arabia* in 1916 on their way to England to do munitions work, when the ship was torpedoed in the Mediterranean. A letter to their parents detailing their harrowing experience was published in the *Western Herald*.<sup>14</sup>



First World War recruitment poster. Image British Red Cross

She was listed as a nurse from 18 December 1916. She first worked at Gifford House until April 1917, then between December 1917 and July 1918 at Manor House in Malmsbury, Wiltshire. She also did munitions work.<sup>15</sup> For her work with the YMCA at Havre between September 1918 and May 1919 she was entitled to a British War Medal. Florence returned to Australia in July 1919 on the *Orsova*.<sup>16</sup>

Hedley, Ottie, Constance and Florence Kirkpatrick are all listed on the Tilpa War Memorial New South Wales.<sup>17</sup>

Madeline Kirkpatrick was living with her parents in Malvern East after she returned from France. She joined the Malvern branch of the Nursing Division of St John Ambulance.<sup>18</sup> Alfred Kirkpatrick died at the family home in 1919. Both Florence and Ottie returned from Europe after their father's death.

In June 1921 Madeline, Constance and their

mother Mary, aged seventy-three, sailed to South Africa on the *Ceramic II* to visit Hedley and his family. Ottie accompanied his mother and Madeline on the *Themistocles* on their return trip in January 1922.<sup>19</sup> Constance returned in 1923 on the *Suevic*. Florence went on a separate trip to Europe on their return. Shortly afterwards the ladies moved to Orion Street, Vermont.

Neither Madeline, Florence or Constance married. In 1924 Florence and Constance went on a 1600-mile road trip in a little Fiat to Adelaide and back.<sup>20</sup>

The Kirkpatrick sisters continued to support the Red Cross. *The Argus* reported in 1940 that Birdie and Connie Kirkpatrick and the Vermont Red Cross Op shop had raised thirty-six pounds.<sup>21</sup>

Constance, who died in 1966, lived at Cockatoo for around twenty years.<sup>22</sup> She won prizes at the Berwick and Dandenong show with her Sealyham terriers in 1927 and 1928. Madeline died at Vermont in 1969, and is buried in a public grave at Fawkner Memorial Park.

In June 1927, Florence Kirkpatrick bought a 100 acre grazing property in Berwick. It was situated between Soldiers Road and Clyde Road. At the 1929 Berwick show she won 2nd prize with her sheepdog. Florence kept the property for ten years.<sup>23</sup> She may have moved to Seaford for a short time before living at Ringwood and later at Kilsyth. She died in 1972, and her ashes were scattered at Springvale Botanical Cemetery. Alfred and Mary Kirkpatrick, and their children Alfred, Constance and Mabel are buried at Brighton Cemetery.

### Mystery solved?

While we have learnt more about this Kirkpatrick family and their war service, it is still not clear which of the three women, who nursed in England and France, is the Nurse Kirkpatrick on the plaque and honour rolls. On electoral rolls from 1912 to 1924 Madeline was the only one of the three sisters to list her occupation as a nurse, but her war service was much shorter than that of her sisters.

The honour board at Clyde may have an error with the lettering—the scribe may have misheard or misread the name. Until we have any concrete evidence, let us remember all the three sisters, who nursed and comforted the wounded soldiers during World War 1.

Jane Rivett-Carnac

12 *The Argus*: 25 February 1915

13 <https://vad.redcross.org.uk>

14 *Western Herald*: 20 January 1917

15 <https://vad.redcross.org.uk>

16 National Archives Australia series MT147/1

17 <https://www.warmemorialsregister.nsw.gov.au/content/ottie-kirkpatrick>

18 *Punch*: 18 October 191

19 Public Record Office Victoria: Outwards and Inwards passenger lists

20 *The Herald*: 10 June 1924

21 *The Argus*: 4 September 1940

22 *Dandenong Journal*: 27 June 1935, 22 May 1946, *The Argus*: 26 September 1952

23 Berwick Shire Rate Books 1927-1937

## Casey Cardinia Remembers - the good, the bad and the ugly

Do you hate seeing your name spelled incorrectly? Well, I wonder how you'd feel if you saw a monument or memorial supposed to be honouring your memory, deeds or achievements but didn't spell your name correctly.

Well, sadly there's a few around the City of Casey that are in this category, so they're the ones at the top of my list of bad M&Ms.



Jacob William Hessel commenced teaching at the Harkaway Lutheran School in 1862. When the school was taken over by the Victorian Education Department in 1876, Jacob Hessel became the first teacher of Harkaway State School. He remained there until December 1882 when he went on leave due to ill health. Hessel Road is named in his honour, only sometimes, perhaps most of the time, we see Hessel Road. To the best of our knowledge, Jacob Hessel never signed his name this way. His naturalization papers at the National Archives of Australia are repeatedly signed Hessel, advertisements, letters and notices he placed in papers are also signed this way. His teacher records and those of his wife spell their surname this way, so does the family headstone that he erected in Harkaway Cemetery. So why do we see Hessel Road in Google maps, council heritage documents and local history publications? Jacob Hessel was an educated man; he knew how his name should be spelled. But perhaps the worst insult is in Ernst Wanke Road, leading up to the Hessel Road intersection you see a free-standing sign for Hessel Road and not 100 paces further on, the street sign

indicates that you are about to turn into Hessel Road. One sign can be clearly seen from the other, yet it seems no one checked, or no one cared. No wonder the rest of us are confused!



I always think of Sidney John Webb as the father of Narre Warren. Webb Street is named after him, and the oak trees that line the Princes Highway were planted by him. He agitated for the railway station, donated land for the school and the Narre Warren Mechanics Institute in Webb Street. He lived at Holly Green, a farm that was situated where the Fountain Gate Shopping Centre now is. When John Lloyd took over the property, he built a new home in the 1930s and named it Brechin.

Part of the gardens can still be visited today, but you might not realise what they are. They're opposite Fountain Gate Bingo, just behind the Telstra shop. It just looks like a big roundabout





near Savers. When we first surveyed the site in December 2011, we found a plaque informing us of the property's history. We could not help but notice that Sidney had been incorrectly spelled Sydney. The plaque may have looked good when it was first put up, sadly it doesn't say when that was, nor who is responsible for it. When I went back today, I had to look hard for it. It's sitting on a little section of grey picket fence which has enormous plants in front of it, totally obscuring it from view, which might be a good really because it's an eyesore and it's wrong.

There's a plaque on the old shire offices at Cranbourne that lists the names of the nine original Cranbourne Roads Board members who first met in the building on 27 April 1860. The problem here affects two of the nine men, Christopher Bond Peed and Patrick Thompson. According to the plaque, they were Christopher Bond and Peed Patrick Thompson. What a shame!



And now we're running out of room, so we won't mention the thorn in my side, the Lyndhurst War Memorial that gives the impression that only eight men from the Lyndhurst area enlisted in both World Wars.

Lynne Bradley



## Seeking William Arch James

NEW SOUTH WALES POLICE GAZETTE.

22 Oct., 1924.

### Deserting Wives and Families, Service, etc.

Kiama.—A warrant has been issued by the Kiama Bench for the arrest of WILLIAM ARCH JAMES, charged with wife desertion. He is 54 years of age, 5 feet 11 inches high, medium build, dark complexion, brown hair, bald on top of head, grey eyes, brown moustache turning grey, sharp features, aquiline nose, coal scar on the centre of the forehead; slouching gait; a labourer. Complainant, Ann Minnie James, Barney-street, Kiama.

For quite some time I have been trying to solve the disappearance of my paternal grandfather, William Arch James, who disappeared some time after 1924 after leaving his family in Kiama on the south coast of NSW. William worked mainly on farms and there are several theories within the family as to what happened to him. One is that he was supposed to have gone to work for a Mr Bourke at Appin NSW, then Dapto and then on to Narrewan/Narre Warren in Victoria and was never heard of again. Many years later a family member produced a newspaper clipping about a W A James who had been gored to death by a bull, but when and where this was is unknown. William was an Englishman (born 1870). Another possibility was that he may have returned to England. I realise that the possibility of solving this mystery is unlikely but would appreciate any information that your readers may have.

Kind Regards, Dianne Gray

Contact: [research.officer@nwfhg.org.au](mailto:research.officer@nwfhg.org.au)



### Member Profile: John Williams

<i>Place of birth</i>	Richmond, Victoria
<i>Occupation</i>	Retired bus driver
<i>Family</i>	5 siblings, married to Elaine, 3 children
<i>Time in district</i>	25 years
<i>Hobbies</i>	Genealogy
<i>Names researching</i>	Williams, Lockwood, Bradie, Firth, Thompson, Leane
<i>How long researching</i>	38 years

## Hamilton Family History Expo 1 June 2019

This year's family history expo was hosted by the Hamilton History Centre at Monivae College. The college was originally established in 1954 at Monivae Homestead as a day school, two years before the present college was built. It is the largest Catholic boarding school in the Western District. The original homestead was built by Acheson Jeremy Sidney French in 1838, who named the nine hundred acre property for his ancestors in County Galway, Ireland.



Monivae Homestead. Photograph: [www.monivae.com](http://www.monivae.com)

On Friday morning Jane, Lyne, Kerryn and Wendy left Melbourne with our books for sale, the Max Thomson folders and warm coats. We had planned on visiting Geelong Eastern Cemetery so Kerryn could find a few ancestors, but the weather was against us and Kerryn had left her notes back in Melbourne, so we had a quick visit to Armour Antiques instead. Unfortunately the museum was closed, but we browsed in the shop with its vast collection of military history. It shouldn't come as a surprise that Jane found a couple of books to buy. Once back on the road we had an interesting drive, slowing down in each community to spot memorials and old buildings. There were signs pointing the way to the memorials of Alan Marshall and Mary Mackillop. Kerryn told us all about a volcanic rock called a bomb and kept pointing out signs to wineries.

We found our motel, explored the town centre and enjoyed dinner at Alexandra House, built in 1874. Then it was the Alexandra College for Girls, today it's a hotel and sportsman club. We returned to our accommodation, which was listed as budget—and it was! The family unit that could sleep six adults only had a small table and two chairs. Breakfast for two arrived with an "I'll be back in twenty minutes with the other breakfast!" Shades of Basil Fawlty. We were excited to find electric blankets, because we couldn't get the heater to work. Just as well the beds were comfy, the place was quiet and we had a sense of humour.

The expo was held in the foyer and two indoor basketball courts at Monivae College. The three talks were interesting and well presented.

- Col Hutchinson, archivist for the AFL/VFL, gave an informative talk on the many families that have provided two or three generations of footballers. He touched on links to families in Hamilton, and pointed to information and photographs that can be found about the early players and teams.
- Jason Reeve presented a practical talk on using Ancestry and an introduction to DNA with time for a Q&A that Kerryn and Lyne found beneficial.
- Rob Hamilton gave an excellent presentation on Freemason's records. He had an extensive display of regalia and explained the progression of the awards to help you identify details from family photos. He also explained how and where to research a freemason and what you could find in the records, all of which are freely available.

Thirty groups and organisations had travelled from as far as Warragul, Bendigo and South Australia. It was a pity that not more visitors availed themselves to the knowledge and information assembled.

The local Rotary group sizzled sausages, and we had a coffee cart to keep us awake. We chatted with visitors, talked with our fellow exhibitors and applauded Susie Zada for being announced as the winner of the Victorian Association of Family History Organisations (VAFHO) Frances Brown Award.

After we packed up, we had enough daylight left to drive out to the cemetery. Kerryn and Lyne went exploring, while Jane and Wendy kept the car warm. Hamilton Cemetery is large, well laid out with interpretive signs and, interestingly, unfenced.

In the evening we had a very enjoyable dinner at the Caledonian Hotel with Di and Robert Christensen. We shared our motel experiences, which generated a lot of laughter—especially when we realised that we had forgotten to order breakfast.

On Sunday morning we started our journey home with our first stop at Pierrepont Winery at Tarrington, followed by a visit to the Volcanic Centre at Peshurst. This is located in the beautiful old council offices, where we finally saw and touched the bombs Kerryn had been telling us about. We treated ourselves to classic country pies at the Mortlake bakery. In the end we missed the turn off to Alan Marshall's memorial and arrived back home satisfied with all we had seen and done. We'll have to go back and explore some more.

*Jane Rivett-Carnac*

# Lorraine Taylor Research Room Roster

Please find a replacement yourself if you cannot do duty.

September 2019		October 2019		November 2019	
11 am-3 pm		11 am-3 pm		11 am-3 pm	
Tue 3	Anne Blair Mary McGrath	Tue 1	Fay McCoubrie Maureen Abbott	Sat 2	Di Brodbeck Judy Mehegan
Sat 7	Hellen Kemp Kerryn Maxwell	Sat 5	Eileen Durdin Robyn Jones	Tue 5	CLOSED Melbourne Cup
Tue 10	Moreyn Dimsey Wendy Goodwin	Tue 8	Anne Blair Lynne Bradley	Sat 9	Lyne McGregor Pat Sherwell
Sat 14	Di Brodbeck Judy Mehegan	Sat 12	Lyne McGregor Barbara Sharp	Tue 12	Anne Blair Brenda Wheeler
Tue 17	Fay McCoubrie Maureen Stagg	Tue 15	Moreyn Dimsey Mary McGrath	Sat 16	Hellen Kemp Barbara Sharp
Sat 21 <i>open to 1.30 pm</i>	Lyne McGregor Pat Sherwell	Sat 19	Hellen Kemp Kerryn Maxwell	Tue 19	Fay McCoubrie Maureen Stagg
Tue 24	Brenda Wheeler Jane Rivett-Carnac	Tue 22	Wendy Goodwin Brenda Wheeler	Sat 23	Robyn Jones Wendy Goodwin
Sat 28	CLOSED AFL Grand Final	Sat 26	Di Brodbeck Judy Mehegan	Tue 26	Moreyn Dimsey Jane Rivett-Carnac
		Tue 29	Jane Rivett-Carnac Maureen Stagg	Sat 30	Eileen Durdin Kerryn Maxwell

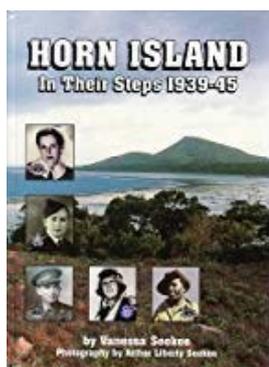
## New in the Lorraine Taylor Research Room

### Magazines and Journals

- \* *Who Do You Think You Are* Sep 2018 - Mar 2019
- \* *The South Australian Genealogist* Volume 33
- \* *The Genealogist* Dec 2018/ March 2019
- \* *Irish Roots* No 108  
Issue 4 2018/No 109 Issue 1 2019
- \* *Tasmania Ancestry newsletter*  
Volume 39 No 3 and 4
- \* *Western Australian Journal* Volume 14 No 5
- \* *The Pivot Tree* No 139/141
- \* *Ancestor* Dec 2018/Mar 2019
- \* *Genealogists' Magazine* Mar 2019
- \* *Traces: Uncovering the past* No 6

### Books

- \* How to write your personal or family history
- \* *Australians in peril: tracing your WW2 Australian military ancestors*
- \* *Google: the genealogist's friend*
- \* *A poor sort of memory: a memoir of the Royal Military College Duntroon*
- \* *Horn Island 1939-1945: a record of the defence of Horn Island during WW2*



- \* *Arrows of hope: selected convict stories* Volume 3
- \* *A tribute to those who served* Volume 1  
West Gippsland Genealogical Society
- \* *Those flannelled fools: Daylesford and District Cricket 150 years on*
- \* *From a veritable wilderness: the history of the Mornington Racing Club*
- \* *Convict assignment in Western Australia the Parkhurst apprentices 1842-1851*
- \* *E. E. Kurth and his work: reflections on a creative life*
- \* *The history and family tree of John Marriott and his wife Emma Kitchen*
- \* *Blueprint for recipes: a chronicle of Joseph Henry Walker*
- \* *The settling of Gippsland: a regional history*
- \* *Style manual for authors, editors and printers*



*Moreyn Dimsey*

### Spreading Branches November 2019

We would like to read your articles or stories.  
Please submit your contributions  
by 15 October 2019

## Publications for sale

### ***Peace at last: a World War 1 walk in Lang Lang Cemetery (2018)***

We uncover the stories of 98 soldiers from the Lang Lang district and the 48 families who waved goodbye to them and prayed for their safe return. Just over half of these families sent two sons or more. Not everyone's prayers were answered in the way they'd hoped for, prayers for the return of 24 fathers, sons, husbands and brothers were not answered at all.

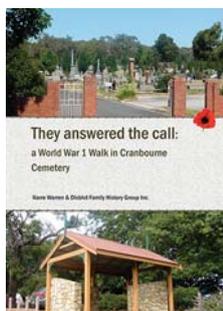
\$20 + \$13.80 postage + handling



### ***They answered the call: a World War 1 walk in Cranbourne Cemetery (2018)***

Stories of the courage and sacrifice of 111 men and 1 woman with connections to Cranbourne Cemetery or the Cranbourne area through their families, are told in this book. Sixty-five families waited for their return, also with courage and sacrifice and for some there was a happy ending. But, for others, there was not. Seventeen men did not return, 9 died on French battlefields, 6 died in Belgium, 1 at Gallipoli and 1 at Mudros. Two unfortunate soldiers died in training camp, never leaving Australian shores.

\$20 + \$13.80 postage + handling



### ***For some the bell tolled: a World War 1 Walk in Harkaway Cemetery (plus Avenue of Honour) (2017)***

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 Military Medal, one was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, and one a Distinguished Service Order. Others were mentioned in dispatches.

\$20 + \$13.80 postage + handling



### ***Ordinary people, interesting lives: A walk in the historic Harkaway Cemetery (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.

\$15 + \$8 postage + handling

### ***Sacrifice and Patriotism: a World War 1 Walk in Pakenham Cemetery (2016)***

This book tells the stories of 64 families who watched and supported 120 men and one woman as they enlisted. They include 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.

\$20 + \$13.80 postage + handling



### ***100 men, 100 years: a World War 1 Walk in Berwick Cemetery (2015)***

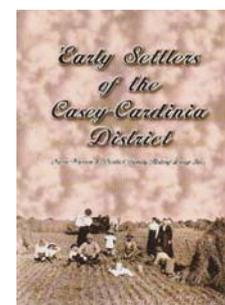
examines the cemetery's connections with the Great War. Our stories embrace 100 men from over 70 families – all linked to Berwick Cemetery and the community it served. Twenty-eight men did not return; they are still in France, Gallipoli, Belgium, Malta, Palestine, at sea and 6 have no known grave.

\$20 + \$13.80 postage + handling

### ***Early Settlers of the Casey-Cardinia District (2010)***

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.

\$30 + \$13.80 postage + handling



### ***Kindred Spirits.***

### ***20 years of the Narre Warren & District Family History Group 1989 – 2009***

\$25 + \$13.80 postage + handling

### **Cemetery Tour booklets**

Pakenham Cemetery (2011)	\$10
Cranbourne Cemetery (2012)	\$10
Lang Lang Cemetery (2013)	\$10
Berwick Cemetery (2014)	\$15
Pakenham Cemetery (2015)	\$15

Add \$8 for postage + handling.

Order forms are available from the Research room or download from [nwfhg.org.au/publications/](http://nwfhg.org.au/publications/)