

Spreading Branches

Narre Warren & District Family History Group Inc.

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Issue 128 – May 2021

In remembrance of Fred and Annie Sheard. An unfortunate end

Annie Cocking was born in about 1847 in Weston, a small hamlet in Nottinghamshire. She was the eldest of ten children. Her father farmed 30 acres, but according to the census returns, Annie seemed to have grown up with her mother's sister and her husband, a blacksmith, at East Retford, a few miles north of Weston.

Frederick Sheard was born on 29 Feb 1848 at Rawdon, Yorkshire. His parents were woollen weavers, and he had three sisters. Today Rawdon is part of Leeds. By age 13, Fred was an errand boy, and ten years later, in 1871, he was working as a groom at stables of a farmer east of Leeds. Annie Cocking had found work at the same farm as a laundry maid.

They married on 24 March 1877 in Annie's home

village, and two years later made the long journey to Australia, arriving in August 1879.

Newspaper reports detailed that Fred worked for a time as a kangaroo shooter in New South Wales, and as a stockman in Queensland, before they came to Beaconsfield in 1885 where they bought Patrick Kennedy's crown allotment 59B in the Parish of Pakenham, a farm of 64 acres. This farm was situated on the south side of Quamby Road.

Beaconsfield was a rural area when the Sheards moved here. There were few neighbours. The landowners who may have lived close by were William Piggott and Frederick Illingworth who both soon went to Western Australia. A bit further up was George Craik's first guest house, which in the 1890s was utilised as an inebriate's retreat. The

Barnes family, their near neighbours, were good friends. Renselier Barnes, a widower, was described as an invalid who was supported by his children, Isabella, Minnie and Renselier. He died in April 1886 of tuberculosis. Alice Barnes, Renselier junior's wife, said in 1921 that they were treated by the Sheards like they were their own children.

As time went on the area was slowly



Fred and Annie Sheard in front of their cottage

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Narre Warren & District Family History Group Inc.

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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.

NW&DFHG 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

Opening Hours for Research

Tuesdays and Saturdays 11 am to 3 pm

Research room phone number: (03) 5995 3032

Meetings

Location to be announced before meetings

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

A reminder that memberships were extended to the end of June 2022 for all members who were financial at the end of September 2020.

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

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

It is so good to see members back in the Lorraine Taylor Research Room. We reopened on 2 March with our Covid plan in place. Those members who have visited during the last two months have all enjoyed – socially distanced – reconnecting and researching. The plan is to increase our numbers in the room over the coming months and slowly get back to normal. We will keep you up to date via Falling Leaves.

Due to the Covid restrictions regarding numbers in a venue, we have been unable to hold a general meeting in the usual meeting room. Our secretary Eileen investigated other options and we held our first general meeting in over a year at the Cranbourne RSL on the 14 April. Before the meeting we gathered for dinner in the Tobruk Bistro with lots of laughter, good food and friendship. At 7.30 we moved downstairs to the function room, where our 'guest speakers' had all brought along military memorabilia relating to their ancestors and told us of their significance to their family. An old Gladstone bag with a treasure trove of badges, medals, diaries and mementos, letters and post cards from a POW, a diary entry telling of a son's death, a soldier's belt with unit badges and a connection to New Zealand, and photographs of the installation of defences at Darwin in 1941-1942. It seemed an appropriate place and month to be remembering our military connections.

As we are moving into winter our general meetings have changed to Saturday afternoon at 2 pm until October when we change back to Wednesday evening.

To help us all reconnect we have commenced a casual get together on the last Sunday of the month. We are gathering at a local venue for brunch and a chat, the venue will change each month. Falling Leaves will notify you of the date, time and venue each month.

The Cemetery Tours group is re-convening in May and we are looking forward to uncovering stories for our planned walk at Cranbourne Cemetery in October.

The Volunteers Morning Tea is scheduled for Wednesday 19 May at Mallow House, Koo Wee Rup. If no unexpected Covid restrictions pop up we will be able to celebrate and thank our volunteers for their work during the past two years.

We are still looking for a Publicity Officer! Please consider joining the committee.

It has been good to be back in our room finally. Catching up with friends and members in person makes such a difference. I find myself smiling for no reason – being back among our members, working together, is good for the soul.

Jane Rivett-Carnac

Local and Family History Hot Spots 2021

Cranbourne Library Meeting Room, Casey Cardinia Libraries – 11 am to 12 noon
Lorraine Taylor Research Room, Narre Warren & District Family History Group - 12 noon to 1 pm

Local place names

Thursday 20 May

Heather Arnold. Discover the fascinating meaning behind the names of local towns.

New Zealand Family History

Thursday 17 June

Jane Rivett-Carnac. Tips and resources to help you trace your New Zealand ancestors.

Local Hotels: a history

Thursday 15 July

Heather Arnold. From Cobb & Co stops to Squizzy Taylor to an explosive end – hear some intriguing tales of local hotels and hotel keepers.

The building blocks of family history

Thursday 19 August

Jane Rivett-Carnac. If you're just starting or need a reminder on the how, when, where and why of family research join us on a walk through the

basics – hints and free places to look on the internet to build your family tree.

Our farming industry

Thursday 16 September

Heather Arnold. A celebration of farming and agriculture in our region – both past and present – and the local agricultural shows and festivals which showcased our produce.

Dead men do tell tales

Thursday 21 October

Jane Rivett-Carnac. You can learn a lot in a cemetery and get misled – it may be carved in stone but is it correct? Using death notices, funeral notices, obituaries and wills to find the living.

Finding your Irish roots

Thursday 18 November

Jane Rivett-Carnac. Paddy and Mick met in Kate's bar or so the story goes – looking for Irish connections – the hints and pitfalls of researching Irish ancestors.



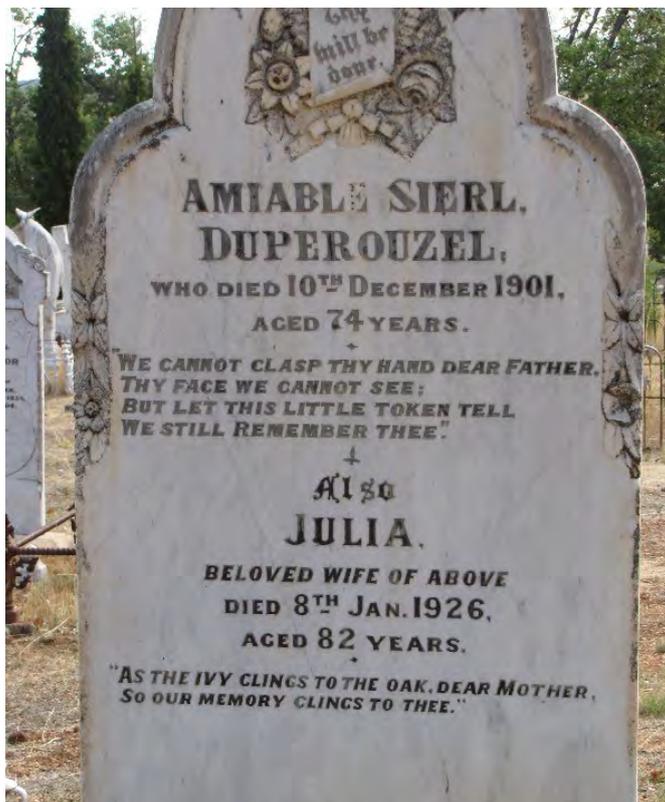
Casey
Cardinia
Libraries

A French convict added to my family tree

I love being a member of our family history group. The benefit of the collective knowledge, and access to information that I may not find on my own, is bountiful. Two recent examples spring to mind: our facebook page and the digital newsletters that come to our group from all over Australia.

There is serendipity in the most unexpected places that add to the knowledge of your family, and newsletters turn up all sorts of clues and answers. When I was librarian for our group, I enjoyed reading the newsletters while cataloguing, and found a lot of information in the Geelong *Pivot Tree* magazine for my Pittard, Drew, and Rooney families, and on occasions, I came across other clues in newsletters from around the country. With my new presidential hat on, I find I am back reading the digital newsletters when they cross my desk. I was reading *The Mail* newsletter from the Descendants of Convicts group on the chance I might find something on my convicts. Alas nothing for the Atkins boys but I became engrossed in an interesting story about a French convict in Western Australia. His surname was ringing a faint bell, Deperouzel. I read a few other newsletters but the Frenchman would not go out of my head.

The next day I went into my family tree program, I typed in the surname and got a result, bingo, a distant Pittard cousin who married in Western Australia. Could it be that my mother's family had a convict on the tree? Mum had been interested



when I told her about the Atkins brothers in Dad's family, but she was quite sure there would be none in hers.

It didn't take me long to create the tree backwards from William James Pittard's marriage to Mary Jane Deperouzel in 1883. Sure enough the French convict Amiable Deperouzel was the father of Mary Jane. I lost the rest of the day expanding and verifying the story from the newsletter. I wish my mother was still here so I could tell her that her great grandfather's grandson married the daughter of a French convict – she would have been astonished.

Then I was looking at the various posts on our facebook page and came across the Ballarat Cemetery Trust asking for submissions to recognise women in the Ballarat Cemetery as part of their 150 year celebration. While this event was held in 2017, the cemetery trust is still accepting submissions, so needless to say a day later I had submitted two women to their project and shared our facebook post with my cousins, so they could add to the project. A few weeks later, I visited the Ballarat Cemetery webpage and found another woman connected to my family had been uploaded to their project. Two happy dances in a month, the adventure never ends thanks to the world of family historians and the internet.

Jane Rivett-Carnac

Fred and Annie Sheard *continued from page 1*

settled, first Craik's former property was subdivided into 10 acre lots, then came the Quamby subdivision which was initially a weekend campsite for a multitude of owners. The Luke family settled at Montuna, and in 1915 the properties around High Street were also subdivided.

The Sheards' property was mostly re-claimed ti-tree flats, and initially Fred would have grown cereal and root crops, and tended to a small orchard. In his later years he concentrated on dairying, and sold milk and cream to neighbours, and surplus

calves at the market. They also kept fowl, and Annie would make her own wine from grapes she grew. Everyone in Beaconsfield knew the Sheards. Fred was nick-named "Old Cock Robin," because he cheerfully whistled while working. Annie tramped every week to the railway station, a walk of three and a half miles to fetch the newspapers. The couple did not have any children, but Fred's nephew had been staying with them at one time, before he moved to the Mildura region.

In about 1916 a young boy, Reggie Brown, moved

to Beaconsfield with his mother, one of his sisters and his mother's new partner Adam Cook. It is not known where they lived exactly, probably somewhere on the Quamby Estate. Reggie used to go to the Sheards to buy milk. He was about eleven or twelve years old at the time. One day when he went there, the Sheards were not at home. He was curious, and decided to have a look around the house. In the bedroom he discovered a box, and inside he found some rolled-up bank notes. He helped himself to a ten-pound note, but was certain that there was a lot more money there. Fred Sheard soon realised he was down ten pounds and immediately suspected Reggie. At first Reggie denied that he had been in the house, but when Fred said he would go to the police, he owned up, and returned the money. He probably did not tell his parents what had happened, as his mother sent him to buy milk at the Sheards a few days later. Fred Sheard refused to sell him milk. On his return home Adam Cook was sent to the Sheards to sort things out, only to discover what had happened. The family left Beaconsfield shortly afterwards.

A few years later, in early 1921, Adam Cook, by now no longer living with Reggie's mother, spent a short time with a fellow hawker and dealer, Theodore Henry Christensen, in the Romsey and Lancefield area. One day Cook told Christensen about Reggie and the £10. Christensen was born in Victoria, but spent some time in Western Australia where he spent some jail time for stealing a cash-box from a hotel. In 1915 he enlisted and served 2½ years overseas. Details of his service are sketchy, and it is doubtful that he spent any time at the front. He married a widow with four children, in Dorset. Shortly after, in 1917, he was discharged from the army as being permanently unfit for war service. In June 1920, Harry, with his wife and now five children were repatriated to Melbourne.

Around the same time Christensen offered some lodgings to a Mr John King, also known as John Matthews. They may have known each other in Western Australia. King was a (violent) career criminal, who had recently been released from jail. King and his siblings had grown up as state wards after their father's death when John was about 11 years old. At the end of his "upbringing" with the



The Sheard's farm on Quamby Road, Beaconsfield

Christian Brothers in 1887 he joined a larrikin gang that took pleasure in fighting police. He turned into a violent thug. In 1889 he held up a man in order to rob him, and shot at him when the man had the tenacity to shout "police." After a stint in prison he went to Western Australia, South Australia, South Africa, and New South Wales, serving many jail terms, before resuming his criminal career in Victoria.

Christensen passed on Cook's story of Reggie's ten-pound grab from a roll of banknotes, to John King.

Back in Beaconsfield, on the morning of Monday, 13 June 1921, John Larkin, who lived on the Quamby Estate, headed to the Sheards to buy milk. He quickly realised that something was not right. He did not find the old couple and the milk was not ready. He also noticed that their fowl were still locked up. He went across Quamby Road to consult Mrs Warmbrunn, who lived in the house closest to Sheards' farm. A little later Alice Barnes joined them, and together they went to the cottage. When there was no reply to Alice Barnes' knocking on the door, she pushed the door open and was confronted by the black cattle dog 'Laddie'. Once she was able to enter the humble abode, she saw that there had been a disturbance at the house, with drawers pulled out and boxes strewn on the floor. Frightened she ran out of the house and called Mr Larkin and Mr Warmbrunn. Peering through a window they saw blood on the floor, and the contents of the house in wild confusion. One of the men rushed to the Cardinia Park Hotel to call the police.

When Constable Lombard arrived from Berwick he

continued on page 6

discovered the bloodied bodies of the old couple. They had been violently murdered. There are numerous articles in the newspapers of the day, so I won't repeat all the gory details. The state of the house suggested a hurried search for money. Constable Lombard sought the help from Detectives who took over the case. Black trackers were brought from Dandenong to assist in searching for any clues – to little avail.

The people of Beaconsfield were devastated that such a friendly old couple had met such a terrible death. Gossip ran rife – hawkers, who regularly offered their wares, men who took the opportunity to seek shelter in barns overnight, and any strangers, all aroused suspicion.

The well-attended funeral was held by Rev James Wilson at the Berwick Cemetery on 16 June 1921. The grave remains unmarked.

A number of people in Beaconsfield were interviewed by the police, and they recalled seeing a yellow car in the area on Saturday morning 11 June. A man had asked Alice Barnes' daughter Nellie if she could tell them where a Mr 'Shell' lived. After she fetched her mother, the man repeated his question, and Alice Barnes asked him if he meant Mr Sheard, which the man said was right. Other witnesses reported that there were three men in a yellow car they saw. Only one of the men spoke. The publican at Cardinia Park Hotel, as well as a labourer lodging at the hotel, recalled a man asking for a bottle of beer on Saturday morning, saying that he was with some others and that their car was parked nearby. Both described the yellow car and the man who got out of the car, but they did not see any of the other men clearly.

As the police made no progress in finding a motive for the killings locally, they concentrated on the men in the yellow car. On 28 June they arrested John King. He was remanded in custody as the police made further inquiries. The police also arrested a second man, Edward Jenkins, the owner of a yellow car, who was a regular driver for criminals – including Squizzy Taylor. Shortly after the arrests, the Detectives drove the two men to Beaconsfield in the yellow car to find out if any of the witnesses could identify either the car or the men. Nellie Barnes was certain that the man she spoke to was neither King or Jenkins, but she thought the car was a match. The publican and the labourer both said that the man who spoke to them was not King, another witness said that the man he saw was not clean shaven like King was now. Yet another said that although the car he saw was yellow he thought that the shade of yellow was different.

As Jenkins had documentary evidence that his car was garaged on the night in question, and his girlfriend gave evidence that he was at home, he was not remanded. However, the police believed that they were lying and the garage records were falsified.

Christensen, meanwhile, disappeared from Melbourne in early July, telling his wife he was going sheep shearing in the country. Warrants for his apprehension were not successful.

Shortly before the coroner's inquest began on 12 August 1921, Adam Cook went to the police informing them that he had told Christensen about Reggie's theft of Sheard's money. Although he had met John King in Western Australia, he did not know that King and Christensen lived together around the time of the murders. The coroner took about 25 statements over the course of the inquest. Among them, Winifred Blackburn, King's mistress at the time, gave the most damning evidence. She stated that King told her that he had to get up early on Saturday morning. On Sunday evening he informed her that he wouldn't be home that night as he had business in Beaconsfield to attend, and that he would come into some money soon. King was also in possession of a blood-stained suit, but forensics were then not advanced enough to determine whose blood it was.

Both Jenkins and King insisted that they had not met before they were taken to Beaconsfield by the police. On conclusion of the inquest the Coroner found that on 12th June Frederick Sheard and Annie Sheard were struck and killed by John King, alias Matthews, and by another man not yet identified, aided and abetted by Edward Jenkins, and that King and Jenkins were guilty of wilful murder. They were committed for trial at the Supreme Court, Melbourne on 15th September.

On 14 September it was reported that the Crown Law department had abandoned the case. It was felt that the case against either of the men was not strong enough to secure convictions.

The Sheards' farm and livestock were put up for auction on 4 August and realised good prices. The new owner was Henry Ferguson who with his family resided in Beaconsfield for many years.

Marianne Roche

Sources:

Coroner's Inquest VPRS30/P0/1938 491

Grisly and gruesome: Shocking, callous and cruel
www.heraldsun.com.au/podcasts/in-black-and-white

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?*

School days

Everyone goes to school, but all our memories are different. Comparison from when you went to school with the schooling experience of your children or grandchildren differs greatly. By sharing some stories of the schools in the Casey Cardinia area you may recall some of your school days.

There was a time when teachers at school were an intricate part of the community. William Charles Warby was the head teacher at the Harkaway Primary School from 1898 to 1909. He was a postmaster at Harkaway from 1890 to 1900. William was a well-respected teacher and worked continuously to improve the school buildings and grounds. William and his wife Agnes were active pioneers contributing to the growth of the area, attending a bazaar which was held to raise funds for the building of the Harkaway Mechanics Institute. They were also members of the Harkaway Tennis Club.

Laurie Dyer started conducting religious instruction classes in 1942. Laurie would ride a lady's Malvern Star bicycle (in all kinds of weather) from Dandenong to Narre Warren where he conducted religious instruction at Narre Warren Railway Station School, then proceed to Narre Warren North before returning to Dandenong. For some years he also attended at the Narre Warren East State School. He travelled by bicycle for eight years and what he carried with him had to be seen to be believed.



*Above: William Warby at the organ in the classroom at Harkaway State School
Below: William Warby at the easel with Harkaway's very attentive pupils*



Beside the organ he also played the piano, auto harp and mouth organ very well. Over 35 years his work was exemplary and his influence on hundreds of children had beneficial effects.¹

Physical education classes were fun for some and nightmarish for others. Only recently gymnasiums and swimming pools have been built at schools.

¹ Little Hills - 1839-1977

Even just competing with other schools was a challenge to get to the event. A pupil from the Narre Warren Railway Station School recalls, *when children wished to compete in sports, usually with Hallam Valley, they left school at lunch time, walked there, played their games, then walked back.*²

The Beaconsfield State School participated in physical education classes, like many others.

The photo on the next page shows the boys are exercising on a horizontal bar, with their boots in a neat line under the end of the trestle. There were not many safety measures in place if one of the boys had a fall, but safety was a lot different back then.

The whole school joined in with general exercises.

Disciplinary actions have changed remarkably over the years. Teachers used to give pupils the cane or strap, with the punishment being recorded in a corporal punishment book. Children would try to avoid their punishment in various ways. At the Modella State School, *John Shandley also remembers Miss Sillett. He recalls the times when he received the strap from her for various misdemeanours. As Miss Sillett delivered the downward blow he would drop his hand causing the poor woman to hit her own knee.*³

Getting to and from school has also changed. *Children of today are driven to school, whereas children in years before had either walked or rode ponies.*⁴ Pupils got to school in whichever way they could, but we forget the various challenges in getting large equipment to



Above: Laurie Dyer with a portable organ on the handlebars, flannel graph board in his right hand, and an object lesson strapped on top of his brief case at the rear.

Below: Laurie Dyer with all his school equipment plus two passengers



the schools. Around 1910, the Yannathan Primary School purchased a piano for the school. *The piano was sent to the Caldermeade railway station, and some parents brought it out to the school on horse and dray.*⁵

Absenteeism through illnesses at schools have always been a concern. The Covid-19 outbreak

2 2924 Narre Warren Railway Station School History

3 Modella – A Brief History

4 2924 Narre Warren Railway Station School History

5 Yannathan Primary School 2422 – Centenary 1881–1981



Physical education at Beaconsfield State School c1910



has affected all schools, but different pandemics have been affecting our school lives for years. In the Narre Warren North area, *all Sunday Schools in the circuit, except Fern Tree Gully, closed in Feb 1919 because of an influenza epidemic, and this happened again in 1937 with the outbreak of infantile paralysis.*⁶

We have all seen changes of the education system over the years, and I have only captured a few things that differ in today's schools. It is normally the school friends that we reminisce about the most. School friendships are one thing that has not changed.

Eileen Durdin

6 From Tent to Township – 1863-1993 – 130th Anniversary – Narre Warren North Uniting Church

Research Room Roster

Please find a replacement yourself if you cannot do duty.

May 2021			
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>11 am-3 pm</i>	<i>Saturday</i>	<i>11 am-3 pm</i>
		1	Eileen Durdin Jane Rivett-Carnac
4	Moreyn Dimsey Maureen Abbott	8	Robyn Jones Barbara Sharp
11	Fay McCoubrie Lorraine Taylor	15	Di Brodbeck Judy Mehegan
18	Barbara Sharp Eileen Durdin	22	Lynne McGregor Hellen Kemp
25	Jane Rivett-Carnac Moreyn Dimsey	29	Lynne Bradley Robyn Jones

June 2021			
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>11 am-3 pm</i>	<i>Saturday</i>	<i>11 am-3 pm</i>
1	Barbara Sharp Fay McCoubrie	5	Lynne McGregor Lynne Bradley
8	Maureen Abbott Eileen Durdin	12	Hellen Kemp Jane Rivett-Carnac
15	Moreyn Dimsey Barbara Sharp	19	Di Brodbeck Judy Mehegan
22	Fay McCoubrie Lorraine Taylor	26	Robyn Jones Eileen Durdin
29	Maureen Abbott Moreyn Dimsey		

July 2021			
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>11 am-3 pm</i>	<i>Saturday</i>	<i>11 am-3 pm</i>
		3	Lynne Bradley Hellen Kemp
6	Jane Rivett-Carnac Lorraine Taylor	10	Lynne McGregor Eileen Durdin
13	Barbara Sharp Moreyn Dimsey	17	Di Brodbeck Judy Mehegan
20	Fay McCoubrie Maureen Abbott	24	Lynne Bradley Robyn Jones
27	Jane Rivett-Carnac Eileen Durdin	31	Barbara Sharp Hellen Kemp

August 2021			
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>11 am-3 pm</i>	<i>Saturday</i>	<i>11 am-3 pm</i>
3	Fay McCoubrie Lorraine Taylor	7	Lynne McGregor Lynne Bradley
10	Moreyn Dimsey Jane Rivett-Carnac	14	Eileen Durdin Robyn Jones
17	Barbara Sharp Maureen Abbott	21	Di Brodbeck Judy Mehegan
24	Jane Rivett-Carnac Lorraine Taylor	28	Barbara Sharp Hellen Kemp
31	Eileen Durdin Moreyn Dimsey		

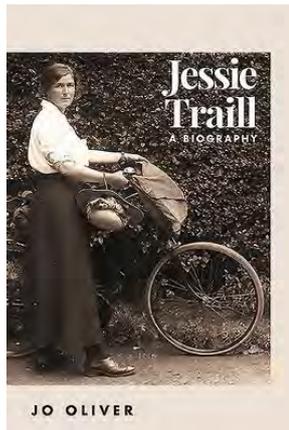
Spreading Branches August 2021 We would like to read your articles or stories. Please submit your contributions by 15 July 2021

New in the Lorraine Taylor Research Room

Books

Casey Cardinia Books

- * That Little Train: Puffing Billy by Peter Cuffley
- * Puffing Billy: Spirit of the Dandenongs by Nick Anchen
- * A Community Spirit The history of the Emerald Mechanics' Institute by Chris A'Vard-Britton
- * If you faint, fall backwards! or medicine, warts and all by Frank Madill
- * Jessie Trail: A biography by Jo Oliver
- * Haileybury College, the first 100 years by Don Chambers



- * Finding our ancestors: Laurieton Cemetery by F K Mitchell
- * Finding our ancestors: Herons Creek Cemetery by F K Mitchell
- * Finding our ancestors: Camden Haven Valley Cemetery by F K Mitchell

Newspapers Casey Cardinia

- * Ash Wednesday 1983 Bushfires

Victorian CDs

- * Discovering Walhalla's History
- * When the whistle blows: State Coal Mine Wonthaggi
- * Our men are down there: State Coal Mine Wonthaggi

Magazines

- * Tasmanian Ancestry Vol 41, No 4
- * The Genealogist Dec 2020
- * Traces: Uncovering the Past No 13
- * The South Australian Genealogist Dec 2020, Feb 2021
- * Irish Roots Issue 4 2020
- * Family Tree Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr 2021
- * Kent Family History Society Dec 2020



Vic Books

- * Box Hill by Andrew Lemon
- * Aspects of Heritage in Box Hill by Box Hill Historical Society Inc
- * Steam on the Lens: Vol 2 Walhalla Railway construction by John Kirby
- * A Day in Walhalla by Scott Gallop
- * The State Coal Mine and Wonthaggi 1909-1968 by John M Coghlan
- * Early schooling in Victoria by John Daniels

NSW Books

- * Finding our ancestors: Kendall Cemetery by F K Mitchell

Happy Reading

Moreyn Dimsey
Librarian

Ballarat Briefings

Ballarat Heritage Festival 7-30 May

<https://ballaratheritagefestival.com.au>

The festival has been extended over three weeks to enable more people to attend. Events include walking tours, Arch of Victory precinct tour, Steam train shuttles, Heritage Tram rides, Ballarat Foto walks and a picnic in the Ballarat New Cemetery. There is so much for all, but many require bookings.

The recent Begonia Festival held in March was deemed a great success.

Ballarat Cemeteries

www.ballaratcemeteries.com.au

The Ballarat New Cemetery is celebrating its 150 years of existence with 150 stories of the women who shaped and built Ballarat and whose last resting place is in this cemetery. Our president has referred to this in her article on page 4. I have

submitted three stories, one on my mother and on two great grandmothers.

Eureka Centre

www.eurekacentreballarat.com.au

There are various live events but some are live streamed and you can view archived content on YouTube

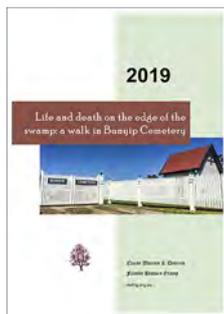
- * Thursday 6 May at 5.30 pm - Talking History with Dr Bill Garner
- * Every Friday in May from 5.15 pm - The Trouble with Heritage
- * Saturday 15 May at 2 pm - Mining Mud and Medals – the story of World War One Tunnellers from Ballarat – Yvon Davis

Bookings are required to visit the Centre to access PROV and also the Ballarat Genies Collection. However, some are available online.

Di Christensen

Publications for sale

Life and death on the edge of the swamp: a walk in Bunyip Cemetery (2019)



It is one hundred and thirty-three years since ten acres were set aside for a cemetery at Bunyip, however, the official burial register didn't begin until 1894 when six year old William Henry Barnes was buried. Nineteen of the first twenty recorded burials were of children. We believe the first actual burial to take place here was of Henry Manley in

August 1886 – his story is featured in this book.

Thirty-one more stories of life and death on the swamp are also told in the book. Elisha Grose, winner of the second Stawell Gift is buried here in an unmarked grave, as is Mary Clifford, a poor deserted child of fourteen years of age who met a cruel and untimely death. As did Catherine O'Donohue while out collecting for charity and Elizabeth Gallaher who died while pregnant with her eighth child. Maria Little's life was cut short while on a bus tour, and Joseph Henderson lost his life at Garfield railway station in 1915.

We also have stories of triumph over tragedy and adversity like returned soldier Edwin Hobson, or the incredible story of how John Mannix overcame a horrific childhood and ultimate desertion by his mother to make a better life for himself and his family at Iona. William Rogers also had a rough start in life, sent to Canada as a Home Child at ten years of age with his seven year old brother Augustus. William eventually came to Australia as an adult and made a wonderful life for himself and his family.

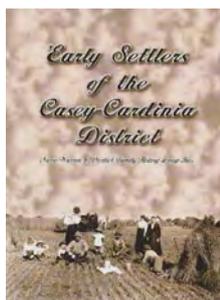
There is an eclectic mix of stories about well-known identities who appear in published histories and are fortunate to have headstones marking their final resting place and stories of people long forgotten, whose only trace is an entry in the register.

\$15 + \$8 postage + handling

Early Settlers of the Casey-Cardinia District (2010)

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. Detailed biographies give an insight into the early days of many Casey Cardinia families and individuals.

\$30 + \$13.80 postage + handling



World War 1 walk cemetery books

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

Stories of 98 soldiers from the Lang Lang district and the 48 families who waved goodbye to them and prayed for their safe return. 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.

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

We tell the stories of courage and sacrifice of 111 men and one woman with Cranbourne area connections.

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

This book contains 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.

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

Includes stories of sets of brothers, a father and his son, a nurse and a sailor along with two Indigenous soldiers. Soldiers who received awards, 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.

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

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.

each book \$20 + \$13.80 postage + handling

Ordinary people, interesting lives: A walk in the historic Harkaway Cemetery (2016)

Abounds with 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

Kindred Spirits. NW&DFHG 1989 – 2009

\$25 + \$13.80 postage + handling

Cemetery Tour booklets

Pakenham (2011), Cranbourne (2012), Lang Lang (2013) \$10 each

Berwick (2014), Pakenham (2015) \$15 each

Add \$8 for postage + handling.

More details, order forms and indexes are available on our website at nwfhg.org.au/publications-2/