

Spreading Branches

Narre Warren & District Family History Group Inc.

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Issue 129 – August 2021

“No time to say goodbye”

October Cemetery Walk at Cranbourne

*“We often sit and think of you. Of things you used to say and do;
We wonder why you had to die, Without a chance to say goodbye”*

The sudden passing of a loved one can sometimes leave us questioning whether their passing could have been delayed or prevented. We might wonder if things would be different if we had been there or paid more attention to their physical or mental pain. We hold onto regrets for unsaid words and undisplayed expressions of respect and appreciation and wonder if they knew how much they meant to us.

Our walk at the Cranbourne Cemetery will be paying respect to those who were suddenly taken, whether by accident or an undiagnosed health issue. Sadly, some of these people were by themselves when they passed, which left them with no one to say goodbye to.

Matthew Johnson, a labourer in the employ of Mary Einsiedel of the Cranbourne Hotel had been very despondent during his time there. He was suffering from a leg injury that doctors were not able to treat. Sadly, Matthew had frequently mentioned taking his own life to stop the pain, to the point of Mary and her son Ernest not taking any notice and not believing he would go through with it.

Matthew’s body was found on the railway line near Cranbourne on the morning of 10 March 1889. He had taken his own life and was buried in Cranbourne Cemetery. Matthew hadn’t discussed



his family or where he came from, so no one could be advised of his passing.

Mr Francis Callanan, known as Frank, was a former member of the Cranbourne Shire Council. At 27 years of age he was elected president of the Council. He was very interested in

the welfare of those in the district. He had been chairman of the Cranbourne Racing Club and a member of the Dandenong Agricultural Society and the Mornington and Pakenham Racing Clubs.

Frank was a grazier of 1200 acres at Coolebah in Pearcedale. He cleared the land from prickly moses, tea-tree and green scrub oak and introduced grasses and clovers. The father of two sons and two daughters had been in indifferent health for a while. Two days before his death he was admitted to the Dandenong and District Hospital where he passed away.

These are just a two of members of our community buried in Cranbourne. With us one day and suddenly gone the next.

We would love to see you at our next Cemetery walk planned for 24 October 2021 at 10.30 am, if Covid restrictions permit it. Please check our facebook page closer to the time.

Lyne McGregor



Narre Warren & District Family History Group Inc.

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Committee Members

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Cemetery Tours cemetery.tours@nwfhg.org.au	

Family History Research Room

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

Location

Cranbourne Library,
65 Berwick-Cranbourne Road,
Cranbourne.

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

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

October - April: 7.30 pm

2nd Wednesday of the month (except January).

May - September: 2.00 pm

3rd Sunday 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

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 AGM

Well, to be truthful I don't feel I have been President for the past nine months, as we have spent most of the time in lockdowns due to Covid-19 restrictions. Thanks to Eileen's skills with Zoom we have held our monthly committee meetings online, with the exception of two meetings in the homes of committee members in April and May 2021, then it was back into lockdown.

In December 2020 we held our delayed AGM via Zoom. We were sad to farewell committee members Wendy Goodwin and Anne Blair. We would have preferred to acknowledge their many years' contribution to the group in person. We welcomed Barbara Sharp to the committee, stepping into the role of Lorraine Taylor Research Room Manager. The role of publicity officer remained vacant, but then again, we have had hardly anything to publicise.

In April we held a general meeting preceded by dinner at the Cranbourne RSL. In May we again met at the Cranbourne RSL, this time we had a wonderful social lunch beforehand. In June we looked forward to meeting in person, but at short notice we went back into restrictions, and Patrick Ferry presented his talk about family records at the National Archives via Zoom. The July meeting was cancelled, and as I write, I have my fingers crossed that we will be able to meet in August for the AGM.

We provided photographs from the Max Thomson collection to the Narre Warren North Primary School. A large photograph adorns the outside wall at the entrance to the new administration building, and more than fifty smaller photographs are displayed inside. Max Thomson Mondays have become a regular feature on our facebook page and we get many good and interesting comments. Thank you to Lynne and Eileen for looking after this wonderful collection.

On 19 May we thanked our wonderful team of volunteers with a visit to Mallow House, the museum and home of the Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society for an informative talk and morning tea. It was so good to see each other.

On Thursday, 13 May, along with other groups from the Casey Cardinia Local History Reference Group, we participated via Zoom in an online seminar in place of the heritage festival. I felt very proud of the work done by our Monuments and Memorials team Lynne, Fay and Eileen in the 'world premiere' of their video 'Along the Track and Past the Smoke'.

In conjunction with Heather Arnold and the Cranbourne library we have continued to hold monthly history hot spots. Twice we held face to face events, the others were presented online. A number of the talks were recorded and are available via the Casey Cardinia Library web page.

I joined the Genealogical Society of Victoria annual members' day via Zoom, and in March Lyne and I

attended the South Eastern Historical Association AGM held at Koo Wee Rup.

We're progressing with our delayed Cranbourne Cemetery tour 'No time to say goodbye', which is now planned for Sunday, 24 October 2021. The stories look interesting and we hope to be walking around our local cemetery soon.

Fund raising has been disrupted by all the restrictions. While we couldn't participate in a Bunnings sausage sizzle, we did receive \$300 from Grill'd as part of their local community support.

We are fortunate to have the continued support from both the City of Casey and the Casey Cardinia Library; the people we interact with are always helpful, which is very much appreciated by us.

On behalf of all the members thank you to the 2020-2021 committee: Lynne took on the role of treasurer. Eileen is the rock behind all of us, a great secretary, calm, organised and our Zoom Queen. She also organised all our Covid-19 compliance details. Fay gently nudged me when I got things wrong. Lyne grappled with the joy of missing or delayed postal deliveries. Moreyn kept cataloguing books. Marianne kept producing our fabulous Spreading Branches, and Kerry kept track of our membership. Barbara settled into being manager of a room that was closed more than it was open. Books continued to be indexed for our Casey Cardinia Combined Index.

We even managed to meet with other members at local cafes on a few Sunday mornings for a social chat over a coffee. My favourite memory of those catch-ups was the story by one of our members telling us about being the only lad who had a suit, hence he was asked to be best man at a wedding.

If nothing else came out of this terrible year, I have found what is important in life. It's people. Not just family or friends, but being able to sit with a group and talk about anything and everything, good or bad. This is what has made these bad times bearable. Technology kept the group functioning, but it is not the same as a hug or a chat around a shared table.

Jane Rivett-Carnac, President 2020-2021

General Meeting Saturday 18 September 2021, 2.30 pm

Researching your ancestors in Ballarat
with Di Christensen

Many of us have ancestors who came to Ballarat. Not all stayed there for very long, but many of them did. There are many places in Ballarat where you can find a trace of those ancestors. Di will tell you about many of them, and use some of her families to illustrate these places.

Via Zoom or at Cranbourne RSL if restrictions allow - details by Falling Leaves closer to the time.

Thank you volunteers

Thanks to all of our volunteers for their valued contribution to our group.

National Volunteer Week (Monday 17 to Sunday 23 May 2021) gave us an opportunity to celebrate our volunteers, even though we appreciate our volunteers all year around. Fifteen volunteers joined us on Wednesday, 18 May at Mallow House, Koo Wee Rup. We celebrated two years of valued service from our volunteers. Heather Arnold gave an interesting presentation on the Koo Wee Rup Swamp and the Koo Wee Rup Historical Society provided a very tasty morning tea. We also had a chance to wander around the museum at Mallow House. Normally at our Volunteer Morning Tea we present the "Shirley Award" to our volunteer of the year. Unfortunately the award winning volunteer wasn't at our morning tea, so we plan to present it when that volunteer attends a general meeting.



Secretary), Jane Rivett-Carnac (Treasurer/President), Marianne Roche (Newsletter Editor), Barbara Sharp (Lorraine Taylor Research Room Manager), Pam Tumath (Lorraine Taylor Research Room Manager).

The committee meets monthly, and communicates a lot via email to keep the group running. Most of our meetings during 2020-2021 were via Zoom. Everyone has their role to do, none of us is a professional, we all make mistakes, but we all assist others when required, and have a lot of fun doing it.

VIPs (Very Important Persons and their Positions)

Maureen Abbott (Supper Host/Hostess), Lynne Bradley (Casey Cardinia Local History Group Representative, Genealogical Society of Victoria Representative, Research Officer, South Eastern Historical Association Representative, Web Master), Steve Brodbeck (IT Support Officer), Eileen Durdin (Casey / Cardinia Officer, Web Master), Fay McCoubrie (Casey Cardinia Local History Group Representative), Rex McFarlane (Door Officer), Mary McGrath (Supper Host/Hostess), Lyne McGregor (South Eastern Historical Association Representative), Jane Rivett-Carnac (Casey Cardinia Local History Group Representative, South Eastern Historical Association Representative), John Uren (Sausage Sizzle Coordinator)

As a member of the group you may know some of our volunteers, but do you realise how many volunteers we have supporting our group, and how that keeps our group running or even what needs to be done to ensure our success. Let me introduce you to our volunteers that keep the group active. These volunteers have given their time, expertise, strength, positivity, support, etc. to our group between May 2019 and May 2022.

Committee Members

Anne Blair (Lorraine Taylor Research Room Manager), Lynne Bradley (President/Treasurer), Moreyn Dimsey (Librarian), Eileen Durdin (Secretary), Wendy Goodwin (Publicity Officer), Kerryn Maxwell (Membership Officer), Fay McCoubrie (Vice President), Lyne McGregor (Correspondence



the social media posts, especially Max Thomson Mondays, that they post on Facebook regularly.

Lorraine Taylor Research Room Volunteers

Maureen Abbott, Anne Blair, Lynne Bradley, Di Brodbeck, Moreyn Dimsey, Eileen Durdin, Wendy Goodwin, Robyn Jones, Hellen Kemp, Bev Lambie, Kerryn Maxwell, Fay McCoubrie, Lyne McGregor, Judy Mehegan, Jane Rivett-Carnac, Barbara Sharp, Pat Sherwell, Maureen Stagg, Lorraine Taylor, Brenda Wheeler, John Williams

The Lorraine Taylor Research Room is open Tuesdays and Saturdays between 11 am and 3 pm. We could not open without at least two volunteers per session. They are enthusiastic to assist all visitors and members to the Lorraine Taylor Research Room with any family and local history questions.

Spreading Branches

Anne Blair,
Lynne Bradley,
Di Christensen,
Moreyn Dimsey,
Eileen Durdin,
John Elliott, Meg Hunter, Kerryn Maxwell, Lyne McGregor, Jane Rivett-Carnac, Marianne Roche, Barbara Sharp, Lorraine Taylor, John Uren, Ray Welsford

Four times a year we receive our newsletter Spreading Branches that is full of interesting stories and information about our group. This great production would not happen without our fantastic Newsletter Editor, proof-readers, and of course those who submit their stories.

Spreading Branches
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In remembrance of Fred and Annie Sheard. An unfortunate end

Annie Cording was born in about 1847 in Western, 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 name and her husband, a blacksmith, at East Barford, a few miles north of Weston.

Frederick Sheard was born on 29 Feb. 1848 at Rawdon, Yorkshire. His parents were woolen weavers, and he had three sisters. Today Rawdon is part of Leeds. By age 15, Fred was an errand boy, and ten years later, in 1871, he was working as a groom at stables of a farm east of Leeds. Annie Cording 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 chucker at New South Wales, and as a stockman in Queensland, before they came to Queensland in 1882 where they bought Patrick Egan's crown allotment 59E in the Parish of Palombum, a farm of 64 acres. This farm was situated on the south side of Quandy Road.

Queensland 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 Hingworth who both were sent to Western Australia. A lot further up was George Craig's first guest house, which in the 1990s was utilised as an infirmary's annex. The Sheard family, their near neighbours, were good friends.

Patrick Egan, a solicitor, was described as an invalid who was supported by his children, Isabella, Mervin and Frederick. He died in April 1896 of tuberculosis. Anne Sheard, Patrick Egan'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

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Casey Cardinia Combined Index (CCCI)

Lynne Bradley, Moreyn Dimsey, Eileen Durdin, Bev Lambie, Jane Rivett-Carnac, Marianne Roche, Barbara Sharp

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 here for reference material on chosen town/suburb

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

The CCCI is a database that records names in our Casey Cardinia resources and on what pages they can be found. Our indexers were able to keep indexing during all the lockdowns. Over the last two years, volunteers have indexed 51 resources adding over 35,000 records to the CCCI.

Annual General Meetings (AGM)

Heather Arnold, Di Christensen

We are required to have a volunteer to chair the elections at our AGM. Heather Arnold chaired the elections at our AGM on Saturday, 17 August 2019 and Di Christensen chaired the elections at our first Zoom AGM on Wednesday, 9 December 2020.

Accounting Services

Gary McCoubrie (Fay's son), Robin McCoubrie (Fay's late husband)

Gary is a Certified Practising Accountant and each year he audits our financial records.

The committee is always looking at improving our processes and we did look at how we report our financial records and was e Records the best financial system for our group. Robin looked at various financial systems that we could use to enter our financial records into and seeing what reports we could obtain. We decided to remain with e Records.

Robin passed away in December 2020, he had been a volunteer for the group over many years. Robin's fun character was evident when he co-hosted our Crazy Whist Christmas Meetings. Robin had also volunteered at cemetery tours, sausage sizzles and many other events.

New Members Sessions

Anne Blair, Lynne Bradley, Moreyn Dimsey, Eileen Durdin, Wendy Goodwin, Jane Rivett-Carnac, Pam Tumath

Our New Members Sessions started in May 2018 after an influx of new members when we moved

to the Casey Complex, Cranbourne East. They were held on the first Thursday of the month and continued to June 2019. Not only were the new members assisted with their research but were introduced to all our resources and where to find them.

Local and Family History Hot Spots

Eileen Durdin, Jane Rivett-Carnac

This is a joint project with Casey Cardinia Libraries. Once a month, either Jane or Heather Arnold, Local History Librarian, Casey Cardinia Libraries gives an interesting presentation and afterwards attendees can visit the Lorraine Taylor Research Room. Unfortunately most of these presentations have had to be via Zoom. The hand outs for Jane's presentation were formatted by Eileen.

Casey Cardinia Local History Reference Group Heritage Day

Fisherman's Cottage Tooradin – Saturday, 4 May 2019



Moreyn Dimsey, Eileen Durdin, Wendy Goodwin, Kerry Maxwell, Mary McGrath, Jane Rivett-Carnac

Our display table was inside the Fisherman's Cottage. Unfortunately not many attended the event but we had a fun entertaining day networking with all the other local history groups.

VAFHO Family History Expo

Hamilton History Centre, Monivae College, Hamilton – 1 June 2019

Wendy Goodwin, Kerry Maxwell, Lyne McGregor, Jane Rivett-Carnac

Our volunteers displayed all our cemetery books and were ready to answer any Casey Cardinia questions. The crowds were down for the expo but it was a fun weekend away.

Branching Out at Casey Cardinia Libraries – August 2019

Lynne Bradley, Moreyn Dimsey, Eileen Durdin, Fay

McCoubrie, Jane Rivett-Carnac

For National Family History Week we ventured on a project with Casey Cardinia Libraries. Heather Arnold, Local History Librarian and two of our volunteers held sessions at various Casey Cardinia Libraries so people could ask family or local history questions. Sessions were held at Bunjil Place, Cranbourne, Doveton, Endeavour Hills, Emerald, Hampton Park, and Pakenham Libraries.

South Eastern Historical Association (SEHA) Cemetery Seminar

Cemeteries: Bringing History to Life – Sunday, 13 October 2019



Lynne Bradley, Moreyn Dimsey, Wendy Goodwin, Fay McCoubrie, Mary McGrath, Lyne McGregor, Jane Rivett-Carnac, Robyn Robie

The seminar was jointly hosted by SEHA and our group and held in the Casey Complex Conference Room. There were five interesting speakers who gave presentations on different aspects of cemeteries and mourning clothing.



BeConnected Morning Tea – Wednesday, 16 October 2019

Anne Blair, Lynne Bradley, Moreyn Dimsey, Eileen Durdin, Fay McCoubrie, Mary McGrath, Jane Rivett-Carnac

We eventually got enough people to join the online BeConnected classes, so we could get a grant through the BeConnected Program. We had a lovely morning tea, catered by L'Arte Central, where we learnt how to shop online and some shopping vouchers were given away.

Bunyip Cemetery Walk – Sunday, 27 October 2019

David Allen (Lynne B's husband), Heather Arnold, Anne Blair, John Blair (Anne's husband), Lynne Bradley, Moreyn Dimsey, John Elliott, Wendy Goodwin, Kerryn Maxwell, Fay McCoubrie, Rex McFarlane, Mary McGrath, Lyne McGregor, Judy Owen, Russell Owen, Jane Rivett-Carnac, Marianne Roche, Barbara Sharp, Val Slade



77 people joined our cemetery walk. Our volunteers' roles varies for each of our cemetery walks and they all work well to make it a successful event. These roles included story researchers and writers, fact checkers, book editors, typesetters, proof-readers, tour guides, grave spotters, book sellers, photographer, attendance fee collectors, assistance in setting up and packing up. We also acknowledge the assistance and support from the volunteers of the Bunyip Historical Society and the Bunyip Cemetery Trust.

Lorraine Taylor Research Room & Storeroom Revamp



Anne Blair, John Blair (Anne's husband), Lynne Bradley, Moreyn Dimsey, Eileen Durdin, Rhys Marchant (Eileen's nephew), Fay McCoubrie, Robin McCoubrie (Fay's late husband), Terrence McFarlane (Eileen's brother), Jane Rivett-Carnac

We spent the first two weeks of 2020 refurbishing the Lorraine Taylor Research Room and our new store room. We used the Casey Complex Conference Room to plan where the furniture was going to be moved too. L'Arte Central donated some excess cupboards that they no longer required. John's carpentry skills came in handy for the backing on the computer table and hanging up things in cupboards. Rhys' and Terrence's strength helped with moving all of the large pieces of furniture. Unfortunately, not long after our revamp we went into lock down, so not many have had a chance to use the spacious revamped room.

There are heaps of other activities that volunteers are involved in for the group and I apologise for not recognising everything that volunteers do for our group. We are always appreciative of the support of family members and friends that support the group.

Thanks again to all our volunteers!

Eileen Durdin

Local and Family History Hot Spot Thursdays 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

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.

If you have missed any of the recent talks you can view them here: <https://www.cclc.vic.gov.au/local-history-videos/>



Getting side-tracked

Sometimes when researching a name for a cemetery walk an interesting person or story side-tracks me and Joseph Thompson Arblaster was one such person.

Joseph, known as Joe, was one of twelve children, born in Staffordshire, England, in 1841. He had very little formal education, and at the age of eight, he was taking meals to his father and brothers at the coalmine daily. He was lowered 360 feet down the mineshaft, then using his feet he felt for the iron railings. He found his way in the dark through 1,200 feet of tunnels to where his father was, then the reverse to get back to the top of the mine head. The following year, aged nine, he was working in the Cannock Chase Colliery. At the age of fourteen, he was working alongside his father and older brothers at the coalface. He was paid a shilling a day for twelve hours work. He continued to work in the Staffordshire coalmines until he was twenty-two years old.

In 1863, his father received a letter from Richard, his son in Victoria, telling him that he was making thirty-three pounds a week working on the goldfields of Taradale and Elphinstone. Joe announced he was off to Victoria, quickly arranging the money to pay for his berth on the *Whirlwind*, and set sail for a new life.

He disembarked at Williamstown in August 1863, made his way to Taradale, and joined his brother Richard working their own claims and labouring for others. Joe was a good athlete and he added to his income by winning many footraces in the 1860s. In 1867, Joe sent money to his family in England so that his younger brother Amos could join them in Victoria.

Joe married Ellen Sheahan at Kyneton in 1869, and the young couple soon after moved to Eaglehawk along with Amos and his wife to join their brother Richard there. Joe and Ellen had five children. Ellen died in October 1879 leaving three surviving children aged from eight to one-year-old baby Clara.

A year after Ellen's death, Joe married a young widow, Christina Houlden. Their first child died aged just one month in 1881, but two more daughters were born, Mabel in 1882 and Sophia in 1884.

In 1882 after many years of hard labour and a number of injuries,

Joe purchased a blasting powder business at Flora Hill, Back Creek that he ran for two years. He then purchased five acres at Job's Gully, Eaglehawk, and built the "Arblaster's Granulated Excelsior Powder Works" factory. He was supplying 'safety powder' to the miners and producing for the military. The factory officially opened on 26 October 1886 when Mrs Arblaster baptised the new engine with champagne and named it The Christina.

On 23 February 1887, Joe was in Sydney staying with his brother Richard, who had moved his family there three years earlier, when he received a telegram to come home. At 11 am that day an explosion had destroyed the factory, killing two men and six boys. One of the boys killed was Joe's eldest son Samuel, who was sixteen. The many reports in the newspapers tell of the horror and devastation. Only two workers escaped injury – the engine driver, and fifteen-year-old Philip Meurer.

Joe set about rebuilding his factory only for the newspapers to report another fire and explosion on 20 November 1888. Philip Meurer, who had survived the early explosion was a month from his seventeenth birthday when he died in hospital from burns and shock.

The factory was rebuilt again, but Joe had been replaced as licensee. He took on the job of travelling the mines for orders. Another explosion and blaze occurred at the factory in 1890, but no injuries were reported.

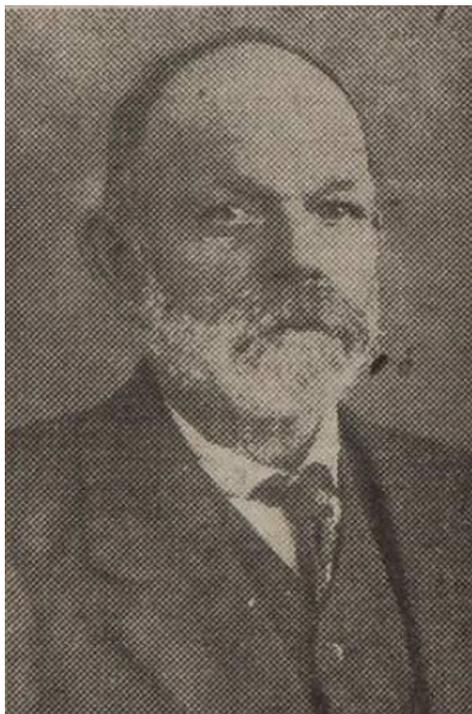
At the age of seventy-three, Joe was interviewed by the local paper. His story was told over four editions of the Bendigo Independent in July 1914. It is a story of a man's determination to better his life. Despite Joe's lack of education, he overcame injury, tragedy, and misfortune. He worked hard to create a business that would support his family, and he prospered.

His daughter Mabel went on to be a successful photographer with her own studio in Bendigo. An interesting woman – but I am getting side-tracked again.

Joe died in 1920, his wife Christina died in 1927 and both were buried in the Eaglehawk cemetery in Bendigo.

How does this connect to Cranbourne cemetery? Well you will need to join us in October at our next cemetery walk 'No time to say goodbye' to hear the answer.

Jane Rivett-Carnac



Ballarat Briefings

Greetings to all. In Ballarat today the sun is shining but the air is cold and still. Some weeks ago we all thought that lockdowns were a thing of the past in Victoria, but NO, they are still with us.

On Friday my eldest daughter Jane and my cousin Fiona celebrated their birthdays – born on the same day some years ago. However, their celebrations were different. Jane at home in Melbourne and Fiona out at a Ballarat restaurant. During the week we heard that Marcus, our son and his wife are permitted to leave Fiji for Brisbane quarantine in a few weeks' time and then travel to Western Australia for a new job. His 15-year-old business suffered greatly during Covid.

Ballarat Cemeteries

There are two cemeteries in Ballarat. The Old Cemetery, which was established in 1854, covers twenty acres, and the New Cemetery, established in 1867, covering 136 acres, and is sometimes called Invermay Park. I don't use that name, as I do not wish to change all my ancestors' burial sites in my records, but it seems to be called this on Ancestry trees. There is also the crematorium, located within the New Cemetery. Near the crematorium is the rotunda which houses the Book of Remembrance.

I have relatives buried in both cemeteries – and locations are easy to find through Ballarat Cemetery's deceased search <https://web.ballaratcemeteries.com.au>

It is very easy to use, although sometimes it can be difficult to find someone. Today I was searching for Elizabeth Beck, my great great grandmother and eventually found her under that name in the grave of her daughter Sarah Goddard, buried with several other family members.

The staff at the cemetery are most helpful, and reply to a query very quickly. Phone 5332 1469 or email enquiries@ballaratcemeteries.com.au There are also touch screens at the entrances to both cemeteries which show locations of graves. Plans are also available. At the Norman street entrance of the New Cemetery is the Gatehouse café which serves delicious food and coffee.

There are many notable Ballarat citizens buried in both cemeteries. In the Old Cemetery are the monuments to the diggers and the soldiers who died in the Eureka battle in December 1854.

In December 1994, we attended a ceremony at the Old Cemetery commemorating the 140th anniversary of this event. This was led by the late Peter Tobin (image below), who assisted in the formation of the Eureka Commemorative Society, ensuring that the Eureka uprising was recognised as a nationally significant celebration of the birth of democracy in this country.

The New cemetery has a special grave which has interments of 26 children from the Ballarat Orphan Asylum.

I am unsure as to how many of my ancestors and their families are buried in the cemeteries but feel it may be close to or over 1,000.

Cemetery Locations

The Old Cemetery is on the corner of Macarthur street and Creswick Road, not far from Lake Wendouree.

The New Cemetery and Crematorium are in Doveton Street North, and the Gatehouse Café is through the Norman Street entrance.

Website: www.ballaratcemeteries.com.au

References

The Silent City. A History of the Ballarat General

Cemeteries by Dorothy Wickham and Peter Butters

CD Ballarat Cemeteries and Crematorium. Indexed transcriptions of Memorials in the Old and New Cemeteries and burial and cremation registers published by GSV and Ballarat and District Genealogical Society

* I am very proud that my mother Hazel Williams transcribed headstones at the Old Cemetery. It took her and friend Lois Reynold many years to finish this task.

Di Christensen



Research Room Roster

Please find a replacement yourself if you cannot do duty.

September 2021			
Tuesday	11 am-3 pm	Saturday	11 am-3 pm
		4	Lynne Bradley Eileen Durdin
7	Maureen Abbott Moreyn Dimsey	11	Barbara Sharp Robyn Jones
14	Fay McCoubrie Lorraine Taylor	18	Di Brodbeck Judy Mehegan
21	Barbara Sharp Eileen Durdin	25	Lyne McGregor Hellen Kemp
28	Jane Rivett-Carnac Moreyn Dimsey		

October 2021			
Tuesday	11 am-3 pm	Saturday	11 am-3 pm
		2	Maureen Stagg Lynne Bradley
5	Maureen Abbott Eileen Durdin	9	Hellen Kemp Jane Rivett-Carnac
12	Moreyn Dimsey Barbara Sharp	16	Barbara Sharp Robyn Jones
19	Fay McCoubrie Lorraine Taylor	23	Lyne McGregor Eileen Durdin
26	Maureen Abbott Moreyn Dimsey	30	Barbara Sharp Maureen Stagg

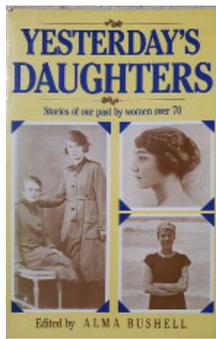
November 2021			
Tuesday	11 am-3 pm	Saturday	11 am-3 pm
2	Melbourne Cup CLOSED	6	Barbara Sharp Lynne Bradley
9	Jane Rivett-Carnac Moreyn Dimsey	13	Lyne McGregor Eileen Durdin
16	Barbara Sharp Maureen Abbott	20	Di Brodbeck Judy Mehegan
23	Fay McCoubrie Lorraine Taylor	27	Barbara Sharp Hellen Kemp
30	Jane Rivett-Carnac Eileen Durdin		

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

New in the Lorraine Taylor Research Room

Casey Cardinia Books

- * Heart and Soul: A History of the Lang Lang Football Club by Bob Utber
- * Old Men Talk: Stories & history of veterans cricket at Endeavour Hills & Narre Warren North Cricket Clubs by Rob Wilson
- * Yesterday's Daughters by Alma Bushell

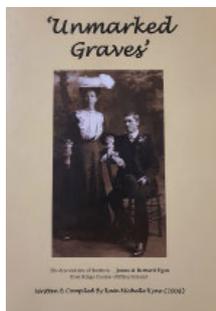


Victoria Books

- * Rural Australia and the Great War: Tarrawingee to Tangambalanga by John McQuilton
- * Tallygaroopna and District: Times and tales by Elsie Brady

Family Histories and Biographies

- * Unmarked Graves by Kate Michelle Kyne
- * Arthur Henry's Memoirs
- * The Neal family
- * The Holmes Book: Ancestors from Northern Ireland & the Isle of Skye by Margaret Bassington



Scotland Books

- * Crofts & Crofting by Katharine Stewart
- * Patrick Sellar & the Highland Clearances by Eric Richards
- * The making of the Crofting Community by James Hunter
- * Scottish Exodus; travels among a worldwide clan by James Hunter
- * History of Skye by Alexander Nicolson
- * History of the Highland Clearances by Alexander Mackenzie

Magazines

- * The Genealogist Autumn 2021
- * Irish Roots Issues 1 & 2 2021
- * Family Tree May & June 2021
- * Traces: Uncovering the Past No 14 & 15
- * The South Australian Genealogist May 2021
- * Ancestor June 2021
- * Western Ancestor March 2021

Moreyn Dimsey
Librarian

Pioneer Register seminar

Free seminar via Zoom 14 October 2021

In partnership with the Genealogical Society of Victoria, the Royal Historical Society of Victoria (RHSV) is holding a free Zoom seminar on one of the jewels in its crown – the Pioneer Register. This will be of great interest to those interested in family history or wanting to know more about this unique collection and how it can help your research. Jillian Hiscock, the RHSV Collections Manager will be delivering the seminar.

The RHSV has collected and maintained a register of early colonists in the state of Victoria which is of great historical value. It contains more than 2200 forms.

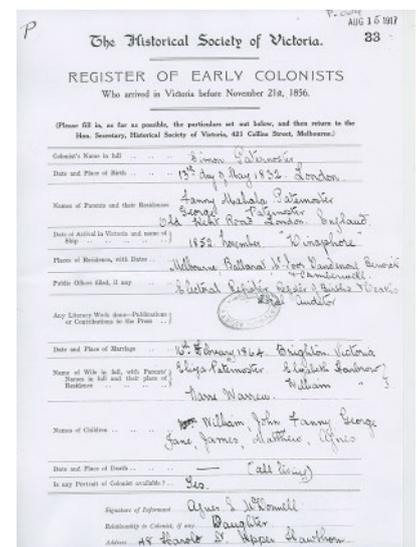
People were invited to fill in the forms of their relatives and associates in order to capture information about individual colonists as well as their familial relationships.

Information requested in the registers included: full name; date and place of birth; name of the parents and their residences; date of arrival in Victoria and name of ship; places of residences in Victoria and with dates; public offices held; literary work, publications, inventions or other work of public benefit; date and place of marriage; name of wife

in full, with parents names and place of residence; names of children; portrait if available; signature and relationship of the information provider.

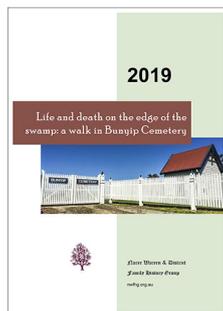
Although not requested, many people sent in multiple photographs and longer letters outlining their family's history. An RHSV volunteer, Val Rohde, has been working on the Pioneer Register catalogue for over 2 years. Val is enriching the catalogue by linking the Pioneer Register records to other appropriate manuscripts, maps, images and books in the RHSV Collection ensuring that researchers can maximise the value of the Register.

www.historyvictoria.org.au/event/pioneer-register-seminar/



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.

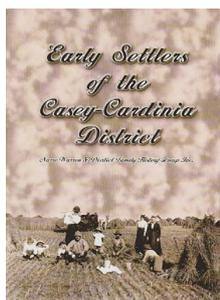
There is an eclectic mix of stories about well-known identities who appear in published histories and are fortunate to have headstones marking their final resting place and stories of people long forgotten, whose only trace is an entry in the register.

\$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/