

Spreading Branches

Narre Warren & District Family History Group Inc.

Incorporated 1992 – Inc. No. A0023666M – ISSN Digital 2207 - 7855

Issue 140 – May 2024

We are moving to Berwick



We wish to advise members and friends that following the decommissioning of the admin building at the Casey Complex, the City of Casey is helping us relocate to our new home at 110 High Street, Berwick, early in July.

So, we've decided that this month's general meeting is a good time to close the doors at Cranbourne for good and get ready to go.

Our Cranbourne Research Room will close permanently on Saturday 15 June at 1.30 pm.

We have a great meeting planned for that afternoon and we hope to see many members and friends join us as we close the Cranbourne chapter of our history.

General Meeting, 15 June 2024 at 2 pm
Celebrate the last event at our Cranbourne home *see page 3*

Lunch at 12: Before the meeting you are all welcome to join us for our last lunch at the Conference Room, catered by L'Arté Central Social Enterprise Café. Lunch must be preordered by Thursday and paid for on the day. Please contact Eileen Durdin at secretary@nwfhg.org.au for a lunch menu.



Narre Warren & District Family History Group Inc.

110 High Street, Berwick, Vic 3806

Web: www.nwfhg.org.au Email: president@nwfhg.org.au Phone: 0412 084 671

ABN 15 397 153 919



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Lorraine Taylor 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.

Opening Hours for Research

Re-opening 23 July 2024

Tuesday and Saturday 11 am to 2 pm

Casual visitors \$5 per day

NW&DFHG is a member of:

Casey Cardinia Local History Reference Group	The Narre Warren & District Family History Group gratefully acknowledge the assistance and support of Connected Libraries and the City of Casey.
Genealogical Society of Victoria	
South Eastern Historical Association Inc.	
Royal Historical Society of Victoria	

Meetings

October - April: 7.30 pm
3rd Wednesday of the month
(no meeting in January)

May - September: 2.00 pm
3rd Saturday of the month.

Membership

Single \$35, Joint \$50. Payable 1 July each year.

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 \$20 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

NW&DFHG Catch-ups



Meet with other members and friends for a social chat and a bite on the last Sunday of the month at 10 am

next catch-ups

30 June 2024

Ducky on Clyde, Shop T11 Shopping on Clyde, 280 Berwick-Cranbourne Rd, Cranbourne East

28 July 2024

Robby's Cafe, 26 Woods St, Beaconsfield.



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

The highs and lows of the past few months have been a rollercoaster ride like no other for our group. We lost valued members and friends Maureen Stagg and Lyne McGregor. Both these wonderful ladies lost their lives to cancer. Our Sausage Sizzle King, Bob Neal and his wife Mary, have moved to Ballarat, and as a group we are losing our home of the past seven years here at Cranbourne Library.

For the first time that any of us can remember our life member and inaugural president, Lorraine Taylor, missed a milestone event. Lorraine broke her arm in a fall, and was unable to attend our thirty fifth anniversary celebration. We hope Lorraine will be well enough to come and see us again in the not too distant future.

Our two new team members in the Lorraine Taylor Research Room, Tracey and John, are settling in and we thank them for volunteering. In February, Lynne Bradley and Barbara Sharp hosted workshops for the volunteers in our research room. We have also welcomed a number of new members to the group and wish them success on their family history quest.

The project team continue to meet on Wednesdays and the cemetery tour team are working towards a walk at Emerald Cemetery in October 2024.

The history talks in March in the Cranbourne Library brought up some interesting questions, and all the ladies attending found some answers. The history talks on the third Thursday in the month co-presented with Heather Arnold at the Berwick-Pakenham Historical Society are very enjoyable and continue to be well received.

I joined Heather Arnold at the Heritage Open Day at Harewood House on Sunday 7 April and we talked to many visitors about local and family history. On Sunday 21 April we participated at the National Trust Heritage Festival at the Senior Citizens Centre, High Street, Berwick. As part of the Casey Cardinia Local History Reference Group we showcased Casey Cardinia Connections.

We held an open week in conjunction with the National Trust Heritage Festival. The Lorraine Taylor Research was open for free for five days from 13 to 17 May. Each day was busy with visitors and members.

In February I attended the South Eastern Historical Association meeting at Hastings and in May the SEHA meeting was held at Wonthaggi. It's always an interesting day, lunch with friends from other local groups, a short meeting and a chance to see their rooms and how other groups operate. In March, Fay, Marianne and I attended the Casey Cardinia Local History Reference Group meeting at the Emerald Museum. On Saturday 25 May I attended the GSV Member Groups' day via Zoom – always a good chance to hear and learn from other groups around Victoria.

On 2 May our executive committee met with council representatives and looked at a number of local venues as a possible new home for our group and at places to hold meetings. Nothing in this world is ever perfect and every place has pros and cons.

Winter is on our doorstep and it's time to remind everyone that Covid is still around. The flu season is here too, so, if you're unwell, please don't come to our room, or if you must come, please wear a mask.

Jane Rivett-Carnac



General Meeting, 15 June 2024 at 2 pm **Clyde History Interactive Quiz**

Conference Room, enter via Casey Radio Entrance, 1/65 Berwick-Cranbourne Road, Cranbourne

Use your general knowledge and luck to solve Clyde history puzzles. Presented by Joan Vanderhorn introducing you to some never before published photos and stories.

Learn of people and events that made Clyde known state-wide and internationally. Get a head start by viewing the Clyde History website earlyhistory4clydevic.com

Joan, daughter of a dairy farmer, grew up in Clyde, attended the local primary school and later Dandenong High School. After teacher training in Frankston she taught nearby in Cardinia and Lyndhurst Primary Schools.

Joan used her teacher training working for non-governmental organisations in Indonesia and briefly in South Korea.

Valuable life long lessons were learnt in that small town community. The Clyde History website is a joint venture between Joan and her brother John Campbell.

Entry fee is \$5. We no longer have a raffle. Entry fees cover expenses for afternoon tea, speakers, and other meeting operating costs.

110 High Street, Berwick – Our new home

With our new location confirmed, it is timely to look at the history our new home.

The land our building was built on is part of crown allotment 18 in the Parish of Berwick. Allotments 17, 18 and 27, situated south of High Street, measured 874 acres. They cost the purchaser, Robert Gardiner, £5,240 in 1853/54, which would be about \$667,000 today. These were only some of his Berwick holdings.



Ten years later, Gardiner sold those allotments to Alexander Gibb of Campbellfield for £4,000. In 1875 Gibb sold 36 acres to the Board of Land and Works for the railway. Two years later, in December 1877, 35 acres, bounded by Reserve Street, Clyde Road, High Street and Gloucester Avenue, were transferred to his son James Gibb, who started to sell of individual lots straight away.

The rest of the land was transferred to James Gibb shortly before his father's death in March 1882.

On much of his farm land James Gibb grew oaten hay for the supply of Cobb and Co's Gippsland line of mail horses, and bred draught horses.¹

Between 1880 and 1886 James Gibb was the member for Mornington in the Victorian parliament, he was also a long time Councillor in the Shire of Berwick.

Gibb gave the post office and court house land to the Government, as an incentive that they erect the buildings. The expenditure to build them is believed to have been about £2000.² It was opened around early 1886 – a tender to furnish the post and telegraph offices was accepted in mid-October 1885. This post office was in operation until 1983.³

Just east of the new post office three further lots changed hands on 14 June 1888. On the first two lots the Temperance Hall and the Church of Christ had been built two years earlier. The land

surrounding them (this is where our new rooms are located, marked **x** on the plan on page 5) were sold to Henerge Lyle, a store keeper from Ascot Vale.

Henerge Lyle, had also bought land in Beaconsfield. In the 1890s he couldn't service his mortgages and was declared insolvent. Lyle Avenue, near the Beaconsfield Primary School, is named after the family. Eliza Lyle first leased, then sold some land in Beaconsfield to the Education Department. Lyle's Berwick land was purchased by an agent, Hugh Paul. After his early death, his wife sold it to Hannah Lydia Smith, the bootmaker's wife. She in turn passed it on to her son Sydney Albert Smith in 1914. In 1931 he sold it to the Churches of Christ.

The triangular piece of land at the end of Langmore Lane was transferred to the trustees of the Berwick Lawn Tennis Club, them being James Gibb himself, Malwyn A'Beckett and Dr Howard James, the Secretary of the Tennis Club. It seems a curious location for tennis courts, but they were in operation until the late 1940s, before relocating to the Recreation Reserve.

The remainder of the land was subdivided, and the lots in this area sold off over the years.

Lots 4 and 13 were owned by Catherine Hodgson, nee Fraser, from 1898. Her husband was James Charles Hodgson, the then Shire Secretary. They built a house there, but moved to New Zealand in 1906. There was a quick turnover of owners until September 1907, when, along with the neighbouring lots 2, 3 and 14, they were purchased by William Wade, whose family owned them for at least forty years. At this time the property was known as 'Chatsworth'.

Mary Ann Barker owned lots 5 and 12. She was the daughter of an early Victorian pioneer, Dr Edward Barker. She lived at 'Inveresk', at the end of Rutland Road, which she had bought in January 1900 for £1,030. Lots 5 and 12 were vacant land.

She was very well liked in the Berwick community and was given an illuminated address in book form at a social in 1914.

*"To Miss Barker, "Inveresk," Berwick,
Dear Miss Barker, — We, whose signatures are
attached herewith, representing your many friends
and wellwishers of Berwick and district, take this
opportunity of asking your acceptance of this address
as a token of the affectionate regard and esteem in
which you are held by all.*

*We desire to express our sincere appreciation of your
ever willing and self-denying efforts for the welfare
of all with whom you come into contact, and for the
advancement of the best interest of the town and
district in which you reside.*

Only those whose privilege it is to be intimately

¹ *Leader (Melbourne, Vic.)*, 25 Mar 1876

² *Essendon and Flemington Chronicle (Vic.)*, 19 May 1882

³ Casey Cardinia Links to our past blog.
caseycardinialinkstooourpast.blogspot.com/2020/10/identical-post-offices.html



associated with you in such work can fully appreciate the self-forgetting spirit and the willingness with which your kindly assistance is always given.

We sincerely congratulate you upon having gained the goodwill and affectionate esteem of all with whom you have become associated, and we trust that you may be spared to reside among us for many years to come, and that we may continue to enjoy the benefit of your assistance in the many spheres of activity with which we have always been so closely connected. We remain very faithfully yours."

When Miss Barker died in 1921 she directed the trustees of her estate that they should, "at the cost and expense" of her estate, "provide good and suitable homes and food for all animals and pets" belonging to her at the time of her death.

After Miss Barker's death her land was sold to Euphemia Elizabeth (Effie) Wilson, who later married John Frederick Sturken. They built a

house named 'Gowrie'. JF Sturken, after leaving his employment with a bank, was a commission agent in Berwick. Their daughter Betty Andrews inherited the house, selling it to John Lindsay Pearson in 1954.

An Alfred Smith, bought lot 6. It is possible that he was Alfred Smith junior, the bootmaker's son. In 1923 the land was sold to Walter Anderson, and shortly afterwards to Effie Sturken. Betty Andrews sold it to the Shire of Berwick in 1965.

In October 1975 the Properties Corporation of the Churches of Christ sold both building and land to the Shire of Berwick for \$45,000. Our new building is believed to have been built in 1985.

Marianne Rocke

Note: the street names in this area changed over time. I have used the current names in this story.

110 High Street, Berwick

How to find us:

Our new rooms are near the roundabout at the top of High Street in Berwick.

If coming from the west, do a u-turn on the roundabout, then take the first and only driveway on the left hand side (between the Masonic Hall and the old Church of Christ). The driveway is signposted 'Berwick Neighbourhood Centre'.



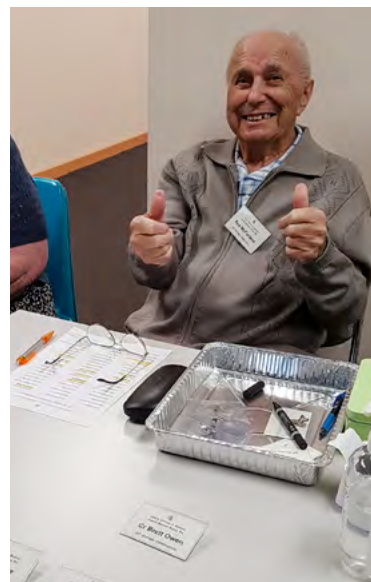
35th Birthday Celebrations

On Saturday, 18 May, in a joyful gathering of guests, past and present members, family and friends, we celebrated our 35th birthday in the Conference Room in the Cranbourne admin building. This was one of our last functions at Cranbourne before we move to our new home.

Unfortunately, one of our founding members, Lorraine Taylor, was unable to join us for our milestone event. She had recently had a fall and broke her arm. This was the first time that she missed a great celebration. We were happy to welcome another of our founding members, Val Holland.



the birthday cake together with other life members present: Rex McFarlane, Anne Blair, Eileen Durdin, Lynne Bradley, Fay McCourbrie, Jane Rivett-Carnac. The wonderful celebration cake was made by Abbey Blair (Bites by Abbs), Anne's granddaughter.



Our guest speakers were MP Gary Maas, MLA for Narre Warren South, Cardinia Shire Cr Mayor Jack Kowarzik, and Garry Howe, editor of the Star Newspaper Group. They related their personal interest in family and local history. Following their speeches, each of them presented a number of our members and friends certificates for volunteering their time to our group during the last twelve months. Volunteers are the life blood of our group and we recognised and thanked thirty-one members for their contribution.

Our president, Jane Rivett-Carnac, told us about the highlights of our history, including the very valuable Casey Cardinia Combined Index with now over 200,000 entries, our Casey Cardinia Remembers project that photographs and records the many names on plaques, memorials and honour boards throughout Casey and Cardinia.

After the speeches were done, Val Holland cut





Then the chairs were pulled back so that L'Arté Central could serve afternoon tea of sweet and savoury delights.

The room was decorated with photoboard of our history, the newest, covering the last five years of our activities, put together by Kerry Maxwell.

Guests were able to look at our range of publications, in particular our fifteen books for our cemetery walks, and see examples of our projects we have been working on over the years: the Max Thomson Photographic Collection, and the Poole and Wanke Collections.

Our thanks go to the organising committee, Jane, Fay, Eileen and Lynne. Also to all the helpers on the day: Rex welcoming the guests, Moreyn and Barbara serving tea and coffee, Cameron and

Marianne taking photos. After the party, many people helped with cleaning up, including all of the above mentioned, Tracey, Anne, Brian, Russell, Darryl, David, John, Trevor, Peter and Frances.

The volunteers recognised for their contribution in the past year were: John and Maureen Abbott, David Allen, Heather Arnold, Val Barnett, Anne Blair, Lynne Bradley, John Byrne, Di Christensen, Moreyn Dimsey, Eileen Durdin, Ian George, Gary

continued on page 8

Glassborow, Penny Harris-Jennings, Robyn Jones, Hellen Kemp, Bev Lambie, Kerry Maxwell, Fay McCoubrie, Rex McFarlane, Mary McGrath, Lyne McGregor, Bob and Mary Neal, Judy and Russell Owen, Jane Rivett-Carnac, Tracey Roberts, Cameron and Marianne Rocke, and Barbara Sharp.

Jane Rivett-Carnac



Chris Armstrong, Grace de Visser, Trevor Shingles and Pam Tumath



Mary and Bob Neal, Lynne Bradley, Fay McCoubrie and Barbara Sharp waiting for the final guests



Mary Rozanski and Wendy Goodwin



Lynne Bradley, Maureen Abbott, Anne Blair, Eileen Durdin and John Abbott before the festivities begin



Jane Rivett-Carnac, Val Holland, Fay McCoubrie



*Maureen Abbott, Gary Maas, Lynne Bradley
right: Eileen Durdin, Tracey Roberts, Garry Howe, Kerry Maxwell*



**See more photos at: pix4press.smugmug.com/
Pix4Press-5/Narre-Warren-Family-History-Group**

Volunteers' Morning Tea

We held our volunteers morning tea on Monday 20 May at Wilson Botanic Park and enjoyed a video presentation followed by a guided bus tour of the park. After coffee and cake we announced this year's Shirley Award winner, Eileen Durdin, and presented volunteers' certificates to two of our volunteers who were unable to come to our birthday party two days before.



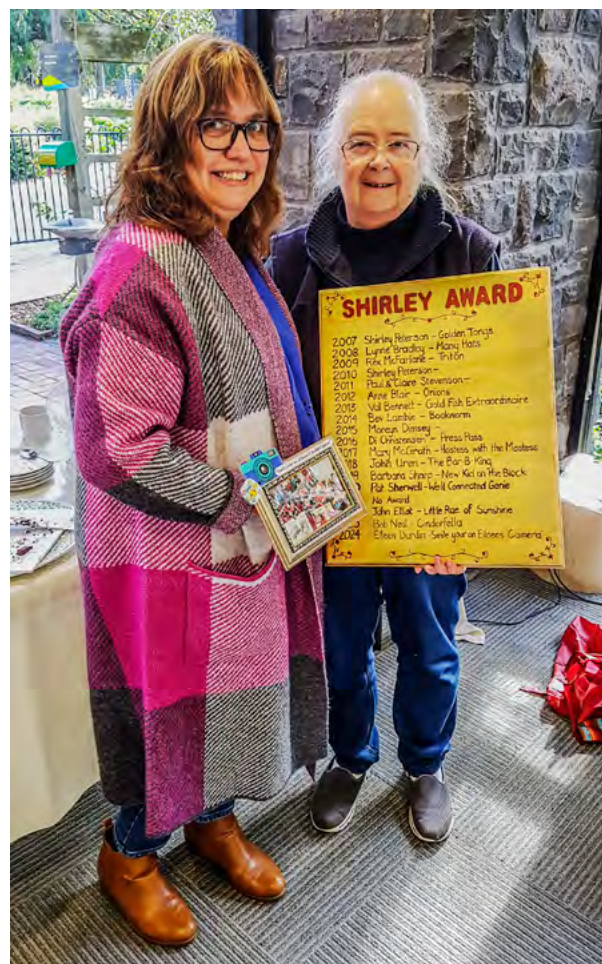
The 2024 Shirley Award

When you visit the Lorraine Taylor Research Room you will see the various honour boards for Member of the Year and Life Members. The Shirley Award stands apart, not because it is not significant, it's because it recognises the many ways our volunteers contribute to our success in a fun way.

From the original 'Golden Tongs' to Shirley Peterson for her enthusiastic embracing of coordinating and helping a Bunnings Sausage sizzle, to the 'Many Hats Award', 'Hostess with the Mostest', and 'Cindafella', each reflects on a volunteer of our group, and their value to us.

Over the years many photographs have been taken of our group. Not all of them were taken by the same person. I can remember at least six photographers at our cemetery walks. Hundreds of hours were spent by a small team scanning and cataloguing the Max Thomson Collection. Many photographs have been taken of our guest speakers and at other events.

And then there are the countless photos that were in our display at our 35th birthday party on



Saturday 18 May. They are the happy snaps to remember the laughter and friendship at many occasions. So, who was behind the camera that recorded the ordinary moments, meetings, moving days and memories?

Congratulations and thank you for the photographic record of us in our ordinary moments. This year the Shirley Award is the 'Smile, you're on Eileen's Candid Camera'. Congratulations Eileen Durdin. Thank you for all the happy snaps of our happy group in happy times.

Jane Rivett-Carnac

Ballarat Briefings

Festivals

The annual Begonia Festival has just been held with many visitors from interstate and local areas.

The Ballarat Heritage Festival ended on 26 May. facebook.com/BallaratHeritageFestival

There were tours of public buildings, talks at various locations, the Ballarat steam train was available for rides, there was a Vintage Car Show and the Ballarat Antique Fair and much much more.

Ballarat Library

The main Ballarat library in Doveton Street North has recently been redeveloped at a cost of \$7.48 million. In the children's section there are trees, cubby houses to play in, and it is suggested that picnics could be held here. I feel that this will not be like the quiet times I remember in libraries. Up the staircase are meeting rooms, workstations, a maker space with sewing machines and 3D printers.

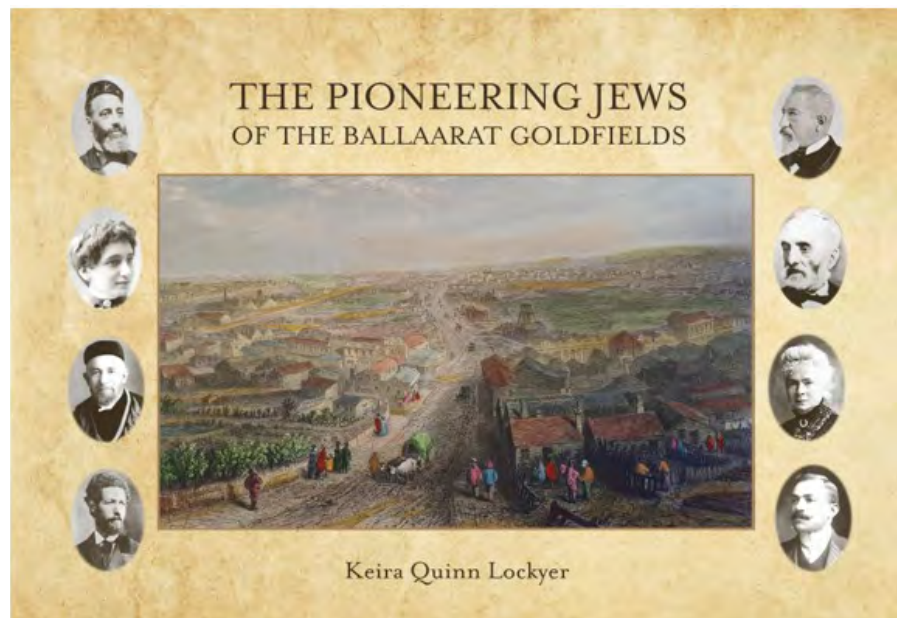
And there are books as well – the collection has over 70,000 items, including adult fiction, adult non-fiction, young adult, junior, DVDs, audiobooks, large print books and reference books.

A heritage room is being created for historic item viewing, family research and exhibitions. I believe that this will not duplicate the collections at the research hub at the Eureka Centre. I am very interested to visit this heritage room



Jewish families in Ballarat

A book is about to be released in Ballarat - The Pioneering Jews of the Ballaraat Goldfields. Written by Keira Lockyer, there are one hundred stories and anecdotes and over 300 images of various pioneers: Saul Solomon, Herman Deutsch and Aaron Flegeltaub.



- Jewish involvement with the Eureka rebellion, Lola Montez, bushrangers and two royal princes
- Five Jewish Mayors of Ballarat and information on the Jewish synagogue
- A comprehensive list of over 450 male Jewish pioneers and their families
- It will be for sale at \$75.

Contact keira.lockyer1@bigpond.com

Hopefully this book will be available in various libraries.

Chinese graves in Buninyong Cemetery

Recently the Buninyong Cemetery Trust marked 25 graves of Chinese migrants buried in the cemetery. They have each been marked with a stone plinth and a plaque identifying their names, homes and burial dates. The chair of the Cemetery Trust said the restoration is something of an acknowledgment of the harsh treatment directed to Chinese migrants during the gold rush.

The State Government, in 1855, had imposed a tax of 10 pounds on any Chinese person coming into Victoria. Arriving by ship from southern China, they disembarked at Robe in South Australia, and walked the very long distance to Ballarat, Buninyong and elsewhere.

The Chinese section is now flanked by two 'unicorn' statues which were imported from China.
(as reported in the Ballarat Times, 1 March 2024)

Di Christensen

VALE Maureen Patricia Stagg

1943-2024

Maureen and her husband Barry joined our group in May 2010. In 2012 Maureen became a valuable member of the research room volunteer team. She attended away days, helped at the Cranbourne History Expo and at other events. When we moved to Cranbourne, Maureen continued to do duty in the research room until her health prevented her participation. Always happy, she was a delightful person to share a day with and enjoyed a good laugh. Our condolences to her husband Barry and her family.



VALE Lynette 'Lyne' Arlene McGregor 1963-2024



Lyne joined our group in 1996 and served as vice president in 1997-98. She was membership officer 1999-2000 and newsletter editor 1998-2000. After a break for a few years, she rejoined the group in April 2009. Since that time she took on various roles, such as newsletter editor again, correspondence secretary, publicity officer and an integral member of the cemetery tours group. For many years she was our representative to the South Eastern Historical Association, a regular research room volunteer and willing helper at sausage sizzle days. Lyne was a passionate, enthusiastic member of the cemetery team. We will miss her input and her love for our soldiers. Our condolences to her two daughters, and her extended family.



Narre Warren & District
Family History Group Inc.

Annual General Meeting Saturday, 17 August 2024 at 2 pm

110 High Street, Berwick

Agenda

1. The reading and acceptance of the minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting
2. The reading and acceptance of the Committee Reports
3. Election of Office Bearers for 2024-25
 - President
 - Vice President
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
4. Election of Committee Members for 2024-25
 - Correspondence Secretary
 - Librarian
 - Newsletter Editor
 - Publicity Officer
 - Lorraine Taylor Research Room Manager
 - Membership Officer

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

As detailed in Clauses 34.6 and 34.7 of our Constitution, Proxy Forms sent by mail or email must be received by the President at least 24 hours prior to the AGM and members holding Proxy Forms must lodge them with the President prior to the commencement of the meeting.

Completed nomination forms need to be lodged with the Secretary by 10 August 2024. Forms may be left in the 'nomination box' in our new Lorraine Taylor Research Room or posted to 110 High Street, Berwick Vic 3806. Nomination forms are also available from the Secretary at secretary@nwfhg.org.au

* Please note that only financial members may vote at the AGM. Membership fees are due 1 July.

New in the Lorraine Taylor Research Room

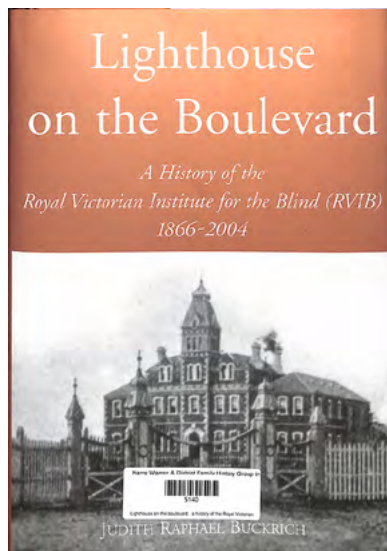
Casey Cardinia Books

- * More than meets the eye: Warner's Nurseries, the first 100 years 1914–2014 by Stella M Barber
- * 1st Devon Meadows Scout Group; a brief history by Bob Neal
- * Emerald of Yesteryear – Open for business 2024 Calendar
- * Gemco players community theatre: the story so far



Victorian Books

- * Lighthouse on the boulevard: a history of the Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind 1866–2004 by Judith Raphael Buckrich
- * St Kilda 1841–1900: Movers and shakers and money makers by Carmel McKenzie
- * Pioneer and Hardy Survivor: The Prahran Mechanics since 1854 by LB McCalman



Magazines

- * Family Tree December 2023 to April 2024
- * Ancestor March 2024
- * Genealogists' Magazine December 2023
- * Irish Roots No 129 Issue 1 2024
- * The Genealogist Spring 2023
- * The South Australian Genealogist November 2023 and February 2024
- * Tasmanian ancestry Volume 44 No 4



Happy Reading



Moreyn Dimsey
Librarian

Spreading Branches August 2024 We would like to read your articles or stories.
Please submit your contributions by 15 July 2024

Still more volunteers needed. We need more volunteers to help out in the Lorraine Taylor Research Room. The times would be once a month on a Tuesday or a Saturday from 11 am – 2 pm.

There are always two volunteers on duty, so you would never be alone. Please give it a thought.
Contact Barbara Sharp research.room.mgr@nwfhg.org.au

The Lorraine Taylor Research Room will re-open at 110 High Street, Berwick on 23 July 2024

Roster Tuesdays and Saturdays 11 am–2 pm

Please find a replacement yourself if you cannot do duty.

July 2024			
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>11 am–2 pm</i>	<i>Saturday</i>	<i>11 am–2 pm</i>
23	Maureen Abbott Fay McCoubrie	27	Jane Rivett-Carnac Eileen Durdin
30	Barbara Sharp Tracey Roberts		

August 2024			
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>11 am–2 pm</i>	<i>Saturday</i>	<i>11 am–2 pm</i>
		3	Lynne Bradley Barbara Sharp
6	Barbara Sharp Moreyn Dimsey	10	Barbara Sharp Jane Rivett-Carnac
13	John Byrne Barbara Sharp	17	Lynne Bradley Barbara Sharp
20	Jane Rivett-Carnac Fay McCoubrie	24	Robyn Jones Jane Rivett-Carnac
27	Maureen Abbott Eileen Durdin	31	Eileen Durdin Lynne Bradley

Upcoming General Meetings 110 High Street, Berwick

Entry fee is \$5. We no longer have a raffle.

Entry fees cover expenses for afternoon tea, speakers, and other meeting operating costs.

Saturday, 20 July 2024, 2 pm – General Meeting



Brick Walls

Knocking down family history brick walls can be daunting. We invite you to bring your problem along and as a group we will work to show you ways to solve your roadblock. In a round table discussion, we will help you find avenues you may not have investigated that could be your key to the next generation.

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Saturday, 17 August 2024, 2 pm – Annual General Meeting

“Doctor, Teacher, Gardener, Spy. Stories from ASIO files”

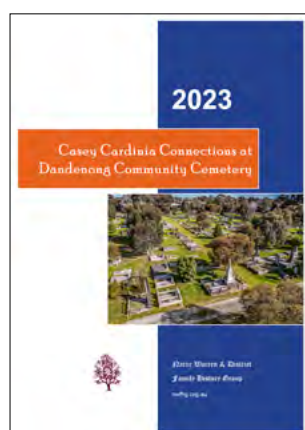
Step into the clandestine world of intrigue and mystery! Unveil the enigmatic lives of a doctor, a teacher, a gardener, and an undercover operative, as Patrick Ferry, State Manager of Victoria at the National Archives of Australia, unravels a riveting tale straight from ASIO’s secretive archives. These seemingly ordinary individuals possessed secrets that caught the eye of the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation. Who were they, really? What compelled ASIO to track their every move? Join us on a thrilling journey through covert operations and concealed identities.



Image: NAA: A432, 1963/2272

Publications for sale

Casey Cardinia Connections at Dandenong Community Cemetery (2023)



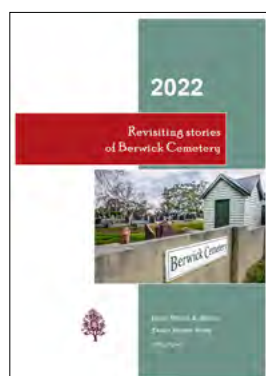
This year we explored a cemetery a bit further afield at Dandenong. Many people with Casey Cardinia connections are buried at Dandenong. We explored the cemetery's fascinating early history, and the lives of residents, who after living in Narre Warren, Lyndhurst, Hallam, Lang Lang and other places, were buried at Dandenong.

\$20 + \$10.60 postage + handling

Revisiting stories of Berwick Cemetery (2022)

We re-visit fifteen graves at Berwick Cemetery to find out more about the people buried here. They include the families of a publican, a doctor, a policeman and many other pioneers. Some died in tragic circumstances, others after long and fulfilled lives.

\$20 + \$10.60 postage + handling



No time to say goodbye: a walk in Cranbourne Cemetery (2022)

This book tells the stories of twenty-six people who died suddenly, without giving them or their families a chance to say goodbye. Some died in accidents at work or on the road. Others' deaths were caused by unexpected illness, murder or by their own hands.

\$20 + \$10.60 postage + handling

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

The official burial register of Bunyip Cemetery didn't begin until 1894 when six-year-old William Henry Barnes was buried. Nineteen of the first twenty recorded burials were of children.

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Cemetery Tour booklets

Pakenham (2011), Cranbourne (2012), Lang Lang (2013) \$15 each

Berwick (2014), Pakenham (2015) \$20 each

Add \$10.60 for 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.

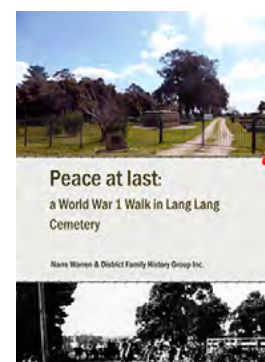
Our volunteers researched and wrote the stories of families that travelled thousands of miles to a country on the other side of the world. A country with people who didn't necessarily speak the same language or held the same beliefs.

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World War 1 walk cemetery books

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



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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.

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

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