



Spreading Branches

Narre Warren & District Family History Group Inc.
Incorporated 1992
ABN 15 397 153 919

Inc. No. A0023666M
ISSN 1445 - 2162

Issue 55
February 2003

A Member of:
Genealogical Society of Vic - South Eastern Historical Assoc Inc
Vic Assoc of Family History Organisations - Royal Historical Society of Victoria

Christmas 2002

by Jenny Hayes

First of all I need to make a correction to a piece I wrote for the last newsletter. I know that "door knocking" for the Christmas Raffle is a very large task, but I did exaggerate just a little with the amount of stores covered. In fact, it was 317, not just over 400 as stated.

Without my helpers the 2002 Christmas Raffle would not have been an event. Many thanks once again to Jessie, Val and Shirley. Thanks also to the many members who so kindly donated goods. Along with 60 retail outlets who donated goods or vouchers, we raised \$1054, which will be spent on research material. Thank you everyone for selling so many tickets.

As is customary at our Christmas meeting, great fun was had. This time it was "The Weakest Link", then we all enjoyed a lovely supper.

The raffle winners were: -

- | | |
|------|--|
| 1st | Doreen Lawson |
| 2nd | Alix Wilson |
| 3rd | Jim Newso |
| 4th | Carol Llewellyn |
| 5th | Vi Beard |
| 6th | Matthew Cuthbertson |
| 7th | Barbara Sharp |
| 8th | Dot Fielder |
| 9th | Joy Robertson |
| 10th | Bill Taylor |
| 11th | Alix Wilson |
| 12th | Peter from Athlete's Foot, Fountain Gate |
| 13th | Steven Phelan |
| 14th | Deano c/- Maureen Torney |
| 15th | Steven Phelan |



The group thoroughly appreciates, and would like to thank all traders listed who sponsored us. Without your generous donations, the raffle would not have been possible: -

\$2 Shop
Upper Level Fountain Gate Shopping Centre
Active Images
Shop 215a Fountain Gate Shopping Centre
Bakers Delight
Shops 1006 & 2031 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre
Beacon Lighting
64 Lauderdale Road, Narre Warren



- * Away Day
Friday 21st February
LDS Wantirna
- * General Meeting
Wed. 12th March
Judy Scurfield - SLV
Map room
- * Away Day
Friday 21st March
Heritage Hill, Dand'g
- * General Meeting
Wed. 9th April
Sandra Riordan - Nat.
Archives, Melbourne
- * Away Day
Thurs. 17th April
Mystery Tour
- * General Meeting
Wed. 14th May

Inside this issue:

Murder Most Foul	4
Rand Daily Mail Entries	6
Freemason's Records	7
WW2 Service Records	7
Research Room Roster	8
One Hundred Years Ago	9
Ash Wednesday 1983	9
Speakers Corner	10
Spare Certificates	11
Away Days Details	12

Narre Warren & District Family History Group Inc.

P.O. Box 149, Narre Warren Vic 3805

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

President & Newsletter Editor:

Lynne Bradley 9704 9075 or fax 9796 7446
e-mail: lynbradley@yahoo.com.au

Correspondence Secretary:

Valma Newson 9769 9197 or fax 9769 9277
e-mail: vnewson@melbpc.org.au

Committee Members

President

Lynne Bradley

Vice President

vacant

Corres. Secretary

Valma Newson

Minute Secretary

Di Christensen

Treasurer

Robert Gibson

Membership Secretary

Lorraine Taylor

Librarian

Pam Lowther

Research Room Manager

Lorraine Taylor

Public Officer

Di Christensen

General Committee

Lyn Murray, Sharon Tavelli & Sandra Phelan

Newsletter Editor

Lynne Bradley

Publicity Officer

Val Holland

Research Officer

Diana Wheeler

Sales Officer

vacant

Supper Hostess

Jeanette Angee

Away Days

Diana Wheeler

Xmas Raffle

Jenny Hayes

Door Officers

Alice Pattison

& Shirley Peterson

Membership & Meetings

Membership:

Single \$25 + \$5 joining fee

Joint \$40 + \$5 joining fee

Payable 1st July each year.

Meetings are held in the Meeting Room at the Narre Warren Library, Overland Drive, Fountain Gate.

Nov - May: 8 pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month (except January)

Jun - Oct: 2 pm on the 2nd Saturday of the month

The cost is \$2 and includes a light supper.

Family History Research Room

Our Family History Research Room is located within the Narre Warren Library, Overland Drive, Fountain Gate.

Family History Research Room hours:

Tuesday 11 am to 3 pm

Thursday 7 pm to 9 pm

Saturday 11 am to 3 pm

We have an ever growing collection of books, maps and microfiche available to our members.

We also welcome visitors - a research fee of \$5.00 per day applies to non members.

Research Queries

We offer a research service for those unable to visit our Family History Room personally but please note that we can only research our own holdings and those of the local municipal libraries.

The cost for this service is \$10 per hour plus photocopying expenses. All research queries can be sent to the Research Officer at the above address.



Family History Research Room Information Sessions

For new members who would like to discover exactly what we have in the Family History Research Room - or for those members who are currently not using the holdings we have to their best advantage.

Friendly and informal information sessions with small groups of members are currently being held by Pam Lowther.

Morning, afternoon and evening sessions are available.

For further information or to reserve a place at the next session please contact Pam on 0402 847 175.

Members: No charge

Visitors: Gold coin donation please.

Publications for Sale

Microfiche:

Berwick Cemetery

Register & Headstones 1867 to 1999 = \$22.00

Harkaway Cemetery

Register & Headstones 1863 to 1999 = \$6.00

Pakenham Cemetery

Register & Headstones c1850 to 1999 = \$22.00

+ \$2.50 postage and packing for 1, 2 or 3 sets of fiche

Books:

Harkaway Primary School - Origins to 1975

by Jennifer Boyer = \$20 (postage included)

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

Bevic Auto Parts
Cnr. Victor Cres & Princes Highway, Narre Warren

Big Bomber
Cnr. Webb Street & Princes H'Way, Narre Warren

Bi-Lo
Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Bob Jane T-Mart
Overland Drive, Narre Warren

Brundrett's & Sons Pty Ltd
Brundrett Road, Narre Warren North

Café Courtyard
Upper Level Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Café Piatsa
Shop 1002 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Christou Hair Studios
Shop 1045B Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Coffee & Creams
Shop FC14 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Dom's Barber Shop
7a, 420 Princes Highway, Narre Warren

Dominic's
Shop 2062 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Edwards Sofa's by Design
94 Victor Crescent, Narre Warren

Fairies Happening
Shop 1067 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Farm Gate
Shop 2032 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Fountain Gate Hotel
Shop 54 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Fountain Gate Liquor Barn
Narre Warren Nth Rd, Fountain Gate

Games World
Shop 1082 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Gold N Power
Shop K1 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Good Choice Gifts
Shop 212 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Good Luck Fresh Seafood
Shop 2037 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Home Delights Pty. Ltd.
Shop 1079 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

House
Shop 1151 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Hungry Jacks
Narre Warren Nth Rd, Narre Warren

Ivan's Deli
Shop 2033 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Just Jeans
Fountain Gate Shopping Centre



Kenny's Cardiology
Shop 2104 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Kodak Express
Shop 213 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Lenard's
Shop 1005 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Madonna's Pizza & Spaghetti Bar
Shop FC12 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

McDonalds Family Restaurant
41 Brechin Drive, Narre Warren

Michel's Patisserie
K203 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Nando's
Shop 1121 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Narre Pet & Aquarium Centre
Cnr Webb St & Princes Highway, Narre Warren

Narre Warren Chicken & Seafood
30 Webb Street, Narre Warren

Narre Warren Newsagency
34 Webb Street, Narre Warren

Narre Warren Pharmacy
2-8 Victor Cres, Narre Warren

Narre Warren Produce & Pets
Unit 6, Lauderdale Road, Narre Warren

Narre Warren Super Bowl
14 Lauderdale Road, Narre Warren

Nutshack
K204 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Ozmosis
Level 2 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Picture Corner
Shop 2025a Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

The Post Shop
Shop 52 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Prouds The Jewellers
Shop 1102 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Ranch House Mowers
15 Regency Drive, Narre Warren

Rebound Leisure Club
5 Rebound Court, Narre Warren

Richard Edwards Pharmacy
36 Webb Street, Narre Warren

Russell's For Hair
39 Webb Street, Narre Warren

Safeway
Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Senrera
Shop 2055 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Shaver Shop
Shop 1035 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre



(Continued on page 5)

Murder Most Foul

by Jenny Boyer

Martin August Dubberke was born in Pomerania, Prussia around 1842. Known as August or Gus, he was said to have been a sailor who jumped ship. Arriving in Harkaway as early as December 1864, he quickly established himself as a respectable young man and set about farming in Beaumont Road. Early in 1867 Gus joined the well known Wanke family by marrying Augusta Emilie Henrietta Bertha, the fourth child of Johann Gottlieb Wanke and Helena Muller at the Lutheran Church in Harkaway. The marriage seemed a long and fruitful one, producing eleven children, the first nine being girls! The first daughter died as an infant and the second, Selina Augusta no doubt became her mother's right hand, assisting with the raising of the children.

Selina attended Berwick and Harkaway State schools, leaving as soon as she turned fourteen. When she was twenty-one Selina married Edward Christopher Sangal, the German born son of David Sangal and his wife Ann (nee Schadigis). Edward was a market gardener, and had been a resident of Elmsford, on the Keysborough plains since the early 1880s. Nine years older than Selina, he was described as hardworking, sober and industrious. The couple had four children, David Henry born in 1891, Emily Grace, known as Minnie, born in 1892, Ethel May born in 1897 and Nellie Ada, born in late 1900. Everything indicated a normal happy family situation. David assisted his father in the gardens while Minnie helped Selina with the care of the two younger children. However it appears the couple were ill matched. Selina complained of Edward's dour nature and his increasing gloomy periods as he worried about his ability to support the family. However, neighbours saw him as a caring, respected and successful family man and farmer.

In peak times Edward employed casual labour in the gardens and in 1901 he employed the services of August Tisler, a young German born man who had arrived in the colony in early 1900 and had previously been a sailor. August was seven years younger than Selina and was obviously seen as more interesting and exciting than the burdened Edward. After some time neighbours noticed August paying more attention to Selina than was entirely respectable. Their meetings became a talking point, though Edward was oblivious to them. In early 1902 Selina became pregnant with her fifth child. Realising that

the child was August's, Selina and Tisler plotted a way they could escape the situation they found themselves in.

One night early in August 1902, eleven year old David Sangal woke as his mother came into the room he shared with his sisters and sat on his bed. David could hear noises of a violent struggle and his father calling to Selina. Selina sat with her head in her hands, cringing as the noises became more violent. Eventually Edward called desperately to David. David leapt out of bed to go to his father's aid but Selina held him and kept him from going. Eventually the noises changed. From those of a violent struggle they became a thudding sound and then a moaning and gurgling sound and then eerie silence. Selina told the terrified David to go back to sleep and she left the room, but David lay awake listening to murmurs of voices and more movement in the next room.

On the morning of the 8th of August 1902 David awoke and found his mother cooking breakfast. There were strange stains in the room, but she appeared nonchalant and indicated that Edward was probably out working. The children all eventually woke and went outside to play. After searching for his father, David found Edward's slippers near the edge of the well and ran to tell Selina. She appeared horrified but somehow quite calm and eventually called police. The police searched the well and raised to the surface, the battered and bloodied body of Edward. Selina played the part of the grieving widow well. Lamenting her husband's concern about finances, Selina told police he was depressed and had often talked of suicide. But it soon became apparent that this was no suicide. That afternoon Crawford Henry Morrison, a Melbourne medico, conducted an inquest on Edward's body in the family home. The jury was made up of local men, Alex William Pearson, John Rogers the foreman, Robert Orgill, James William Garner and Messrs Brock, Close and Dale. Morrison and the jury concluded that Edward's death was due to haemorrhage from multiple wounds and that those wounds were not self inflicted.

The ensuing investigation soon pieced together the story that Tisler had entered Edward's bedroom and stabbed him to death, and both Selina and August were sent to trial in Dandenong on a charge of wilful murder. It was not hard for the jury to come to its

(Continued on page 5)

DISCLAIMER:

Contributions to this newsletter are accepted in good faith and the Committee do not accept responsibility for accuracy of information of submitted articles nor opinions expressed.

The deadline for contributions to the August edition of Spreading Branches is April 15th



(Continued from page 4)

conclusion when the evidence seemed so damning and each accused blamed the other. At the conclusion of the much publicised three day trial the jury reported after only two hours of deliberation that "on the 8th August 1902, at Keysborough near Dandenong, Edward Christopher Sangal died from haemorrhage caused by wounds not self inflicted or caused by accident but that he was murdered. We find August Tisler and Selina Sangal guilty of the wilful murder of Edward Christopher Sangal".

The judge summed up the finding in the following manner. "Believing your story of the transaction between you, it shows that the whole purpose and intention of this dreadful crime was an adulterous passion so vile and desperate that while weltering in the blood of your slaughtered victim you engaged in the supreme act of the devilish desecration of the marriage bed. It is futile for me to enlarge upon the enormity of the crime. The jury, Selina Sangal, have recommended you to the mercy of the Governor in Council. I advise you not to look for mercy upon earth; but I advise you both to look to the Almighty, Who has mercy when the circumstances of mankind forbid." The sentence of death was passed on both prisoners but the judge, intimated to Selina that she was entitled to plead her pregnancy for an arrest of execution. After consultation with counsel, Selina put forward the plea, and it was decided that her case should be considered by a jury of medical experts the next day. Tisler, however found no such sympathy and after being visited by Pastor Herlitz, his sentence was carried out at Melbourne Gaol on the 17th October 1902, a little over two months after the crime.

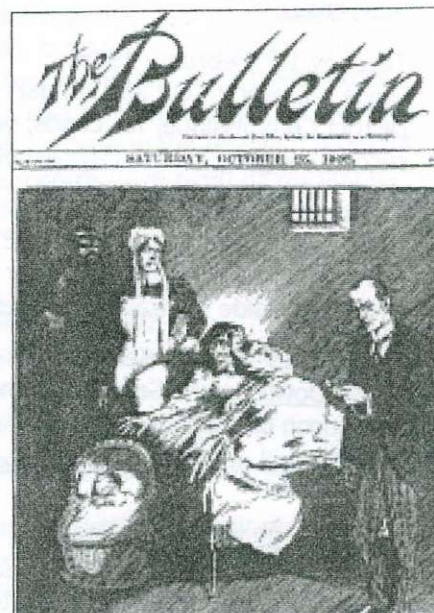
This period in Australian history came just after the 1890s, a time of great change, with calls for social, prison and other reform growing, and the emergence of the first wave of feminism. Cultural and social issues, closely linked to economic and religious pressures of the times meant that women were continually judged and assessed according to moral guidelines. Those who were found guilty of crimes were most often those who society felt had behaved in a way that challenged traditional paternalistic concepts of appropriate female behaviour. Although Selina had clearly gone outside those guidelines, the

community balked at the thought of a pregnant woman or one with a baby at the breast being sent to the gallows. Selina prepared for her impending death, unaware that her

sentence had been deferred, while political activists, feminists and artists used influential newspapers such as the Sydney based newspaper The Bulletin to create a public furor. One of the most famous of these was a cartoon by Norman Lindsay depicting Selina with

a baby at her breast being summoned to the gallows. Selina's sentence was commuted to life in prison and the baby, a girl named Myrtle May, was born in a hospital in East Melbourne soon after.

Selina remained in prison, being released after serving 17 years. She lived the rest of her life out in Melbourne under the alias of Lena Saunders, dying in Prahran in 1935. And what of the real victims in this tragedy? The children have so far not been traced. They certainly did not live and die under the name of Sangal. It is hoped that a check of the Children's Registers will reveal they were adopted and lived the rest of their lives in as much normality as could be expected. Any information on the fate of the children would be gratefully received.



New members

Welcome to the Group:

Robin Allison
Fay McCoubrie
Karen Chugg

(Continued from page 3)

Sheedy-Muir
Victor Cres, Narre Warren

Spotlight
Narre Warren North Rd, Narre Warren

Terry White Chemist
Shop 2020 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

The Athletes Foot
Shop 1045A Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

White With One
Shop 1098 Fountain Gate Shopping Centre



Entries in the Rand Daily Mail Johannesburg, Transvaal, South Africa 1903 that refer to Australia.

from Leanne Cairnduff

Marriages

Tuesday 17th February 1903:

Doyle – Cawood - On 26th January at the Cathedral Pretoria, by Rev. Godfrey, Richard D Doyle, of Nylestroom, District Commissioner for Lands, youngest son of Andrew Doyle, "The Retreat" New South Wales to Myra May second daughter of S D Cawood of Grahamstown, Cape Colony.

Tuesday 17th February 1903:

Congreve – Sutherland – On the 3rd February, at the Berea Presbyterian Church Durban, by the Rev. A S McPhee HD assisted by the father of the bride Elizabeth Donella, eldest daughter of the Rev. A C Sutherland MA B?D of Adelaide Australia to Frederick James Congreve of Johannesburg.

Tuesday 15th September 1903:

Tait – Dowlinson St George's Cathedral, Cape Town. On the 17th August John Tait of Melbourne to Minnie Dawlinson of Melbourne.

Deaths

Thursday 5th February 1903:

Buchanan – At the New Military Cantonments (Pretoria) on Wednesday the 28th January 1903, very suddenly, Andrew Buchanan, eldest son of the late Mr. Andrew Buchanan, of Blackwood, Victoria, Australia. Also see Thanks

Saturday 7th February 1903:

Marshall – On the 5th Instance at Pretoria Clive Ernest George infant son of E and A Marshall, aged 12 months late of Durband and Australia

Tuesday 17th February 1903:

Turner – At Melville on Sunday February 22nd H Howard Turner, aged 26 years, eldest son of Harry and Annie E Turner of Adelaide South Australia. The same notice appeared in the papers of Tuesday 24th February, Wednesday 25th February and Thursday 26th February 1903.

Tuesday 25th August 1903 and Wednesday 26th August 1903:

Whitby – On the 16th July at Glenelg, South Australia Geoffrey MacDonald, son of P E R and N S Whitby, aged 3 years.

In Memoriam

Wednesday 25th February 1903:

In loving memory of William Anthony Maloney who died at Brisbane, Queensland on February 25th 1895? Rest in Peace. Inserted by J P Maloney Belfast, Transvaal

Thanks

Friday 13th February 1903:

Buchanan – Mrs. Buchanan desires to tender her most sincere thanks to Lieutenant Beamish and Sergeant Roberts, Mr. Langston and Mr. Marshall, also to her late husband's fellow employees, for their great kindness and generosity in her sad bereavement.

These papers are available at the State Library of Victoria's Newspaper Room. They cover the period 24th September 1902 – 31st December 1912. They are a must for anyone with ancestors in South Africa during this time.

There is also a column for Fiancialles that appears to be the same as Engagements. The South African Directory appears in most issues and covers Johannesburg, Pretoria, Potchefstroom, Klerksdorp, Durban and Natal.

The issue of the 23rd September 1903 is well worth looking at. It has a list of the Potchefstroom Traders with many beautiful pencil sketches of the businesses and the traders. I posted a full list of these traders to SOUTH-AFRICA-L at Rootsweb in 2002 under the heading of Potchefstroom Traders which you can search for in the archives at <http://listsearches.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/listsearch.pl?list=SOUTH-AFRICA>

**Thursday 27 February, 2003
2pm - 3pm**

Nick Vine Hall is the expert on this day.
Register on the day of the forum by clicking on the
link on the SLV Home page:
www.statelibrary.vic.gov.au

You can look at other forums at:
[http://www.experimedia.vic.gov.au/onlineforum/
archives.html](http://www.experimedia.vic.gov.au/onlineforum/archives.html)

For further information contact Anne Burrows
Email- aburrows@slv.vic.gov.au
Phone 8664 7190

Di Christensen



Freemason's Records

by Jeanette Angee

If anyone has ancestors who were involved in the
Freemason's, I found that the society is quite happy
to give out information. The result of my enquiry
about my great-grandfather, James Armstrong
(1844-1915) was as follows:

The records of the United Grand Lodge of Victoria
show that Mr James Armstrong, age 32 years,
occupation stereotyper, was initiated in the Australia
Felix Lodge No. 474, English Constitution on the 13th
November, 1876. He subsequently resigned from that
Lodge and joined the Victoria Felix Lodge No. 86 in
1889. James served that Lodge as Worshipful Master
in 1891 and again in 1895. He resigned from Victoria
Felix Lodge No. 86 in December, 1905. Felix Lodge
No. 86 held their meetings in Freemasons Hall,
Collins Street, Melbourne.

The contact for this information:
Freemasonry, Victoria,
Masonic Centre of Victoria,
PO Box 154, East Melbourne, 3002.

Family History Seminar

Friday 21st March, 10am

An introduction to family history resources in the
library collection of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria.
Cost: \$12.00 (members); \$15.00 (non-members)

♦ All current members of the NW & DFHG are also
members of the RHSV.

Phone: 9326 9288 or Website: <http://www.historyvictoria.com.au>

When going through some old records I found an
address where relatives could apply for details of
WW2 army records, but this was in January 2001. I
made a call and discovered that since the National
Archives was preparing a Nominal Roll for WW2
(similar to the one we have in the research room for
WW1) that all the records have been forwarded to
the National Archives in Canberra.

Contact Details:
National Archives of Australia
Defence Service Records WW2
PO Box 7425, Canberra Business Centre, ACT. 2610
Phone: 1300 886 881
<http://www.naa.gov.au>

This now the same as WW1 and the Boer War
records. Any personnel who served in WW2 and
afterwards as well, may still have their records at
Central Army Records Office, GPO Box 939D,
Melbourne, Vic., 3001 but the others have all been
sent on. I have visited the website and you can now
view the WW2 Nominal Roll as well as print off a
Service Certificate. It is great!



Northcote Cemetery

The Northcote cemetery is located in Separation
Street, Northcote about 500 metres down from the
Northcote Plaza off High Street. Access to this
cemetery is restricted. (The gates are locked). Access
can be gained by appointment, which can be made
with the Preston Cemetery in Kingsbury (Reservoir).
They are the current owners.

Northcote cemetery records are kept at the Preston
cemetery office. The reason behind the restricted
access to this cemetery is due to it's restoration and
security. In past years, mainly in the 80's, the ceme-
tery was vandalised and it was not managed to the
point that the weeds had overgrown the cemetery.
Most grave stones are gone due to thieves. The
records are the only way to find the locale, names
and dates of persons buried there. It is a small
cemetery, but contains over 3000 burials.

* This information was seen by Doreen Lawson on
the Aus-Vic List at Rootsweb. Doreen forwarded it on
to us, just in case it might be of some help to anyone
and is reprinted with the kind permission of the
author - Steve Parker.



Research Room Duty Roster

<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
	<u>March</u>	
4 Diana Wheeler/June McAlpine	6 Donald Connop/Lynette Murray	1 Betty Jones/Win Preston
11 Mary McGrath/Lorraine Taylor	13 Di Christensen/Nowella Ahlgren	8 Jessie Eth'ton/Lorraine Taylor
18 Alice Pattison/Jenny Patterson	20 Gail Quinn/Valma Newson	15 Val Holland
25 Anne Blair/Lorraine Taylor	27 Leanne Cairnduff	22 Jeanette Angee/Pam Lowther
		29 Lynne Bradley
	<u>April</u>	
1 Judie Kohn/June McAlpine	3 Donald Connop/Lynette Murray	5 Win Preston/Betty Jones
8 Mary McGrath/Lorraine Taylor	10 Di Christensen/Nowella Ahlgren	12 Jeanette Angee/Jessie Eth'ton
15 Jenny Patterson/Alice Pattison	17 Gail Quinn/Valma Newson	19 Closed - Easter Saturday
22 Anne Blair/Lorraine Taylor	24 Leanne Cairnduff	26 Pam Lowther/Lorraine Taylor
29 Diana Wheeler/June McAlpine		
	<u>May</u>	
	1 Donald Connop/Lynette Murray	3 Val Holland/
6 Mary McGrath/Lorraine Taylor	8 Lynne Bradley	10 Betty Jones/Win Preston
13 Judie Kohn/Jenny Patterson	15 Di Christensen/Nowella Ahlgren	17 Jessie Eth'ton/Lorraine Taylor
20 Lorraine Taylor	22 Gail Quinn/Valma Newson	24 Jeanette Angee/Pam Lowther
27 Alice Pattison/June McAlpine	29 Leanne Cairnduff	31 Val Holland

New Arrivals in the Research Room

Books:

Bairnsdale - Looking Back
 Bullumwaal - Some Memories
 Challenge of the High Country
 Dargo - Crooked River: A Pictorial History
 Gippsland- My Home Ground
 Ghosts & Gold in the Victorian High Country
 Grandstand Riders
 Gwenth Wisewould - Outpost Doctor
 Little Ships of the Lakes
 Notes on Gippsland History - Vol 1: The Exploration of Gippsland
 Notes on Gippsland History - Vol 2: The Beginning of Gippsland
 Omeo's Golden Years
 Our Historic Omeo Town
 Stony Creed - A History
 The Ballad of Bungil Bottle
 The Gippsland Lakes - Australia's Chain of Sparkling Lakes
 The Snowy - It's Cattlemen, Rivermen & Engineers
 The Story of Gippsland Shipping
 This Bold Venture
 Victoria's Forgotten Goldfields
 Victoria's Wonnagatta Murders
 Wonnagatta Moroka National Park



All of these books on Gippsland
 were donated to the Family
 History Group by one of our past
 members - Vyn Wills.

Local History

One Hundred Years Ago



Narre Warren

The re-opening of St. John's Church was celebrated by a tea meeting and concert, which took place on Saturday evening in the Mechanic's Institute, which was very tastefully decorated for the occasion. The secretary, Mr. F. G. Giles, was well supported by willing assistants, and the result must have been very gratifying to the Rev. Mr. Harvey, who has taken an energetic interest in the welfare of the church. The tables which were artistically laid out, were presided over by Mrs. S.E. Winter, Mrs. W. Bailey, Mrs. F.G. Giles, Mr. G.W. Robinson, Misses Yates, Winter, Harvey, Robinson and others. After a most enjoyable tea the pleasure was supplemented by a concert, the Rev. H. Harvey presiding. Miss Wood contributed the overture, and Miss Edith White, Miss Hughes, Miss Mabel White, Mr. Tranthen and Mr. Evans, of the Melbourne Philharmonic Society, contributed the programme to a large audience.

The annual meeting of the Mechanic's Institute was held on Monday evening. Mr. G.W. Robinson occupied the chair. The secretary presented the annual report and balance sheet which shewed - receipts, £46 18s 5d; expenditure £64 1s 8d; total receipts, £901 16s; total expenditure, £1029 7s 11d; number of visitors, 1419; number of books, 741. The following gentlemen were selected officers for the ensuing term: - Mr. G.W. Robinson, President; Mr. F.G. Giles and Mr. S.E. Winter, Vic President; Mr. R.H. Kerr, Secretary and Treasurer; Committee, Messrs. J.T. Moysey, J.E. Asling, C.R. Winter, Wm. Randle and C. Earle.

Pakenham

The rainfall for January was very light, only registering 125 points.

Very hot weather was experienced last week, ranging 94 deg. to 104 deg. Rain will be welcome.

Mr. Gus Mayger was married in Melbourne on Monday to Miss E. Stone late head teacher of the Roman Catholic schools here. Miss Stone was on Friday last the recipient from her friends of a handsome silver tea kettle and sugar basin, and in the evening entertained at a dance. After the honeymoon Mr. and Mrs. Mayger will settle down in Pakenham where Mr. Mayger will follow out his profession of dentist. We wish both him and his wife every possible happiness and future prosperity.

Compiled by Leanne Cairnduff from
The Mornington & South Bourke Journal
February 04th & 11th, 1903

Twenty Years Ago



Ash Wednesday
16th February 1983

That fateful afternoon of Wednesday 16th February, 1983 started off as a far from normal day. At 7am the temperature had already reached 34 degrees Celsius, there was a strong northerly blowing and it had been declared a day of Total Fire Ban. There had been a drought the year just passed and the country was as dry as dry could be. Later in the day, the humidity would reach an all time low, around the 10 % mark.

Over 200 fires were reported on this day all over the state, with emergency crews stretched to the limit. By 3:00 pm the temperature had reached 43 degrees Celsius and the humidity was at 8% with a northerly wind reaching 105 kph. All hell was about to break loose. A fire was reported in South Belgrave and was approaching townships at a great rate of speed.

Tankers from Narre Warren, Berwick, Cockatoo and Belgrave were dispatched to the South Belgrave area. By this time there were large fires burning in Cockatoo and Beaconsfield, a wind change was predicted for midnight so everyone had to dig deep to prepare for the change. At 8.55pm that evening, 3 hours earlier than expected, the unimaginable occurred. The change came through.

A call was received from the Narre Warren tanker that they and another tanker from Panton Hill were in trouble and trapped. They were situated on St Georges Road, Upper Beaconsfield, on the top of a hill. When the change came through the fire traveled from High St, (Guy's Hill) up the hill to St Georges Rd, a distance of half a kilometre, in 11 seconds, with such speed and

ferocity, they never stood a chance. The radio went dead, fire-fighters were fighting for their own lives, trying to take cover by getting under their trucks for protection. Usually a wind change will last 15 minutes and then the rain comes, this one lasted two hours and there was no rain.

Forty seven people, fire-fighters and civilians, were to die on this day at fires all over the state. Forty six of these people died when the wind changed. The fire was later recorded by experts to have produced 120,000 kw of energy for every one metre of the fire line. A fire-fighter can stand up to 4,000 kw of energy.

At dawn the next morning two burnt out fire trucks

(Continued on page 10)



Speakers Corner

by Di Christensen

February:

Jenny Harkness - LDS

Jenny will talk about the holdings at the Wantirna LDS Library, which we will be visiting later in the month.

March:

Judy Scurfield - Map Room State Library of Vic.

Judy will talk about the Map Collection in the State Library. Those who visited last year will remember how interesting it is and the availability of maps related to our own research.

April:

Sandra Riordan - National Archives, Melbourne

Sandra will talk about the Defence Department records held in the Archives.

April 23-27, 2003
Tenth Australasian Congress-
 see GSV Website for details
 or in our research room

The Second Fleet

from Lorraine Taylor

After the arrival of the First Fleet, it was two years before further ships would arrive from England.

A flag was raised at South Head on the evening of the 3rd June 1790 - a signal that a ship was coming in.

It was the Lady Juliana, a vessel of the second fleet with more convicts. Many convicts (267) died on this trip. The owners of these ships were paid for the voyage and not the number of convicts to arrive safely as was the case with the First Fleet.

Further information on the Second Fleet can be obtained from a book in our library - *The Second Fleet - Britain's Grim Convict Armada of 1790* by Michael Flynn (reference only)

It contains an alphabetical list of names (male & female), sentence, crime, ship and often village/town of origin.

(Continued from page 9)

and twelve fire fighters where discovered by Narre Warren First Lieutenant, Frank Clarke at St Georges Rd, Upper Beaconsfield. One of those on the truck was his Captain, and 5 other members from Narre Warren. May they never be forgotten and may they rest in peace.

- Narre Warren Fire Brigade website
<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~nwfb/>

At the entrance to the Rebound Leisure Centre in Narre Warren is a plaque reads:-

In memory of our fellow
 firefighters who gave
 their lives for others at
 Upper Beaconsfield 16/2/1983

John Richard Minett
 Dorothy Ellen Balcombe
 Lloyd Huon Donovan
 Murray John Forsythe
 Neil Rodney Henry
 Darrell John Wilkes

Ash Wednesday 1983 Statistics:

Area Burnt: 2,100 sq kms or 250,000 hectares

Deaths: 47

Fire Fighters Dead: 14

Houses Destroyed: 2,090

Farms Damaged: 1,230

7,000 cattle

20,000 sheep

6,000km's of fencing

International Firefighters' Day is observed each year on 4th May. By proudly wearing and displaying blue and red ribbons pinned together or by participating in a memorial or recognition event, we can show our gratitude to firefighters everywhere.

Editor's note: fires are once again raging on many fronts throughout Victoria and the rest of Australia while this newsletter is being compiled. It's 44 degrees outside but I'm sitting in an air-conditioned room, cool and comfortable knowing that in many parts of the country men and women are fighting fires in horrendous weather conditions and I can't help but be moved by their bravery and dedication to their fellow man.

So, this edition of Spreading Branches is dedicated to the memory of the Narre Warren firefighters who lost their lives in Upper Beaconsfield on February 16, 1983 and to the volunteer firefighters of the Casey-Cardinia region and elsewhere who serve and protect us, our property and our heritage.

Spare Certificates

Name/s	Date	Event	Place
Densley, Priscilla	19/01/????	Birth	Avoca, Tasmania
Depson, Martha	08/12/1832	Marriage	Speen Berkshire, UK
Derrick, Albert James	23/12/1931	Death	Hawthorn, Vic
Develing, James	18/04/1864	Death	Whooril, Vic
Devonport, Jessie	03/09/1877	Birth	West Masterton, NZ
Dewhurst, George	21/10/1838	Birth	Campbell Town, Tas.
Dick, Barbara	07/09/1904	Death	Alexandra, Vic
Dickenson, Ethel May	06/03/1889	Death	Hotham, Vic
Dillon, Mary Ann	23/03/1842	Convict App. to Marry	Tasmania
Dillon, Michael	10/02/1891	Marriage	Melbourne, Vic
Dillon, Mitchell Joseph	29/12/1905	Death	Gippsland, Vic
Dineen, Unnamed	15/10/1869	Death	Bullengarook, Vic
Disney, Thomas William	01/10/1854	Birth	Creswick, Vic
Dixon, Frederick Reginald	18/08/19??	Marriage	Melbourne, Vic
Dixon, John Henry	17/06/1919	Death	Warragul, Vic
Dixon, William	22/07/1916	Death	Ballarat, Vic
Dobson, David	06/04/1865	Birth	Scoresby, Vic
Dodd, Margo Huntley	23/07/1923	Birth	Prahran, Vic
Doll, Levi	15/09/1886	Death	Kawa Kawa, NZ
Donahough, Margaret	20/11/1849	Bapt.	NSW
Donnelly, Rosina	24/03/1878	Birth	Collingwood, Vic
Donolly, Margaret	26/08/1872	Death	Melbourne, Vic
Doolan, John	28/07/??70	Marriage	Geelong, Vic
Dooling, James	19/06/1902	Death	Glenlyon, Vic
Dore, David	05/09/1831	Burial	Berkshire, UK
Dormer, Phillip John	01/09/1905	Birth	Rutherglen, Vic
Douglas, Eleanor Jane	14/01/1839	Birth	Campbell Town, Tas.
Douglas, James Sandilands	??/??/1872	Birth	Dunedin, NZ
Doutch, Leslie Baden	28/01/1901	Death	Nth. Carlton, Vic
Dove, Bertha May	11/08/1906	Birth	Kensington, Vic
Dow, Florence	16/12/1917	Death	Ararat, Vic
Down, James	09/12/1828	Bapt.	Speen, UK
Downes, Clarence Rignold	03/03/1923	Marriage	Sth. Yarra, Vic
Downey, William	15/08/1926	Death	Heidelberg, Vic
Downs, Daniel	21/07/1876	Marriage	Geelong, Vic
Downs, Patrick	17/05/1864	Death	Lake Lake Wollard, Vic
Downs, Timothy	04/12/1894	Death	Tungamah, Vic

Transcriptions of any of these certificates can be obtained by sending a self addressed stamped envelope and \$5.00 per certificate to our Librarian at PO Box 149, Narre Warren, Vic 3805.

Light Horse & Field Artillery Museum

by Bill Taylor

A visit on Tuesday 26 November 2002, to the Light Horse Museum started out with rain, lightning and a power failure, but that had no effect on what was to follow.

We were welcomed by Bernie Dingle, owner, curator, tour guide and general dogsbody (Bernie's words). Bernie and his wife have put a tremendous amount of time, effort and money into the museum.

The information on WW1 was extensive and is housed in two huge tin sheds. Some of the displays had full size fibre glass horses looking like they were ready to take off. The number of horses used during WW1 was amazing, they were not just for riding but

also to pull the first aid wagons, the camp ovens, food, supplies and the gun carriages.

The collection of uniforms, medals and personal gear was also most interesting.

The 5 members & 1 visitor enjoyed the day enormously.

Bill Taylor (the visitor)

Light Horse & Field Artillery Museum
200 Bessie Creek Road, Nar Nar Goon, Vic. 3812
03 5942 5512
[http:// www.oldcmp.net/dingle1.html](http://www.oldcmp.net/dingle1.html)

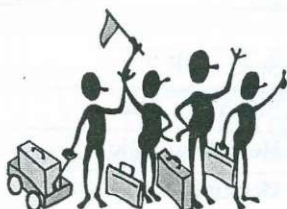
If undeliverable please

return to:

P.O. Box 149

Narre Warren Vic 3805

research room



Away Days

Friday 21st February:

LDS Wantirna

This centre specializes in Irish Records.

Cost - none but a donation is welcome.

Lunch - take own lunch, hot water is available.

Transport - Car pool (meet at Narre Warren Library at 9.30 am)

Please place your name on list in Research Room.

Friday 21st March:

Heritage Hill, Dandenong

Guided tour starts at 10 am

Please place your name on list in Research Room.

Mystery Tour

Thursday 17th April

WANTED - 30 fun loving people with a sense of adventure to embark on a 'Mystery Tour' (of the historical variety).

Your involvement will make this fun(d) raising venture a success.

You can expect to be away for most of the day. Your transport to ?, conducted tour of ? and light lunch at ? are all included in the \$30 cost. You will also have plenty of free time to explore ? at your leisure.

1/2 payment is needed by 28th February and 1/2 by 31st March 2003, we regret that because of the cost of the coach hire this will not be refundable (extenuating circumstances excepted). Family & friends are welcome- we need 30 people to make this a worthwhile exercise. All enquiries to Lorraine 9704 6672