

Spreading Branches

Narre Warren & District Family History Group Inc.

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Issue 147 – February 2026

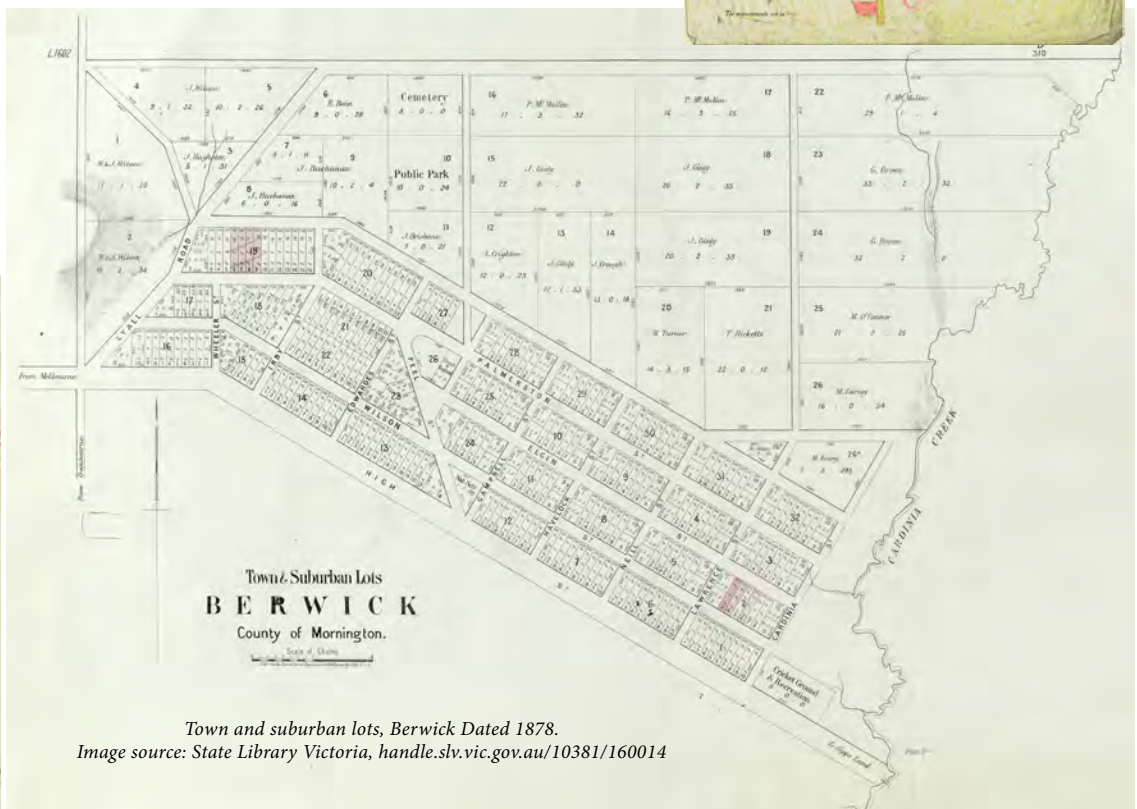
Land Titles Collection: Berwick, Beaconsfield, Officer

One day I decided that I wanted to identify all the original owners of the parcels of land in the township of Berwick. The 330 town lots were mostly half acre lots. There were also 28 suburban lots which measured from 1½ to 33½ acres.

One of the Berwick township plans shows surnames and initials of the first owner and the date of purchase, but gives no further information. Newspapers sometimes reported on the land sales which took place in auction rooms in Melbourne from 1858. They sometimes also recorded the purchasers' names and the price paid. But unlike for land selections, PROV does not hold any detailed land files for these allotments.

Certificates of title and some other property documents can be viewed and downloaded at PROV only on site, and not from home. Once this collection was available I visited PROV many times to collect many certificates of title, search notes and memorials. From those files I compiled a list of all the owners, and their names have been added to the Casey Cardinia Combined Index.

See page 9.



Town and suburban lots, Berwick Dated 1878.
Image source: State Library Victoria, handle.slv.vic.gov.au/10381/160014



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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

Tuesday and Saturday 11 am to 2 pm

Casual visitors \$5 per day

Research room phone number: (03) 8905 4239

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

Coffee Catch-ups

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

Our next Coffee Catch Ups will be:

Sunday, 29 March

Matilda's, 121 Grices Road, Clyde North

Sunday, 26 April

Squatting Frog Nursery, 376-382 Heatherton Road, Narre Warren North

Sunday, 31 May

Something Good, 1/2 Beaconsfield-Emerald Road, 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

As I write we are only weeks into the New Year, I can't help but think about the many people dealing with the loss of homes to fires in Victoria, while many in Queensland have had homes inundated by floods. It reminds me of the fires that devastated Marysville in 2009 and the loss of their local history when the historical society building was lost. If you visit Marysville today the Historical Society and Museum are a reminder of what has been lost, and also the resilience of a community as it recovers and remembers the past.

Family history is very much a story of resilience, as we try to uncover and remember past families. If asked what you would have grabbed before evacuating, invariably we would say photographs. Are they still in albums or maybe a box, do you have time to find them? Today it would be easy if we had scanned those precious images of the past and had them stored in the cloud, or maybe on a portable hard drive, or USB. They could also be on your phone or on a laptop. If you're still thinking

one day I should do that, maybe this is a reminder to start before it's too late.

If you don't have a scanner at home or know how to scan a photograph please talk to any of our committee members and get help. We can also help you scan documents or even your grandmother's embroidery.

We have some interesting speakers and topics scheduled for this year and in May we will have another Discovery Day with four different topics relating to change and family history. The cemetery team are starting to look into stories for our walk in Harkaway Cemetery in October. The project team have another busy year ahead and would welcome more helpers to their merry band.

I hope this year brings success in finding the answers to the road blocks in your research and the joy of sharing that discovery with friends in the Lorraine Taylor Research Room.

Jane Rivett-Carnac

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Upcoming General Meetings

at Lorraine Taylor Research Room, 110 High Street, Berwick. Entry fee is \$5 to cover expenses for tea and coffee, speakers, and other meeting operating costs.

March General Meeting

Wednesday, 18 March – 7.30 pm

FamilySearch – How to use Full Text Search

Presented by **Alan Fleming**. Alan is a professional genealogist with a diploma of family history from the University of Tasmania. He holds classes to enable students to understand Ancestry, Find my Past, My Heritage and FamilySearch and to navigate their way around those sites.

Alan will teach us how we can search millions of records in FamilySearch much more quickly by using full text search.

FamilySearch invested in handwriting recognition technology, so that those records are becoming searchable too.

April General Meeting

Wednesday, 15 April – 7.30pm

Quilts of Valour Australia Inc.

Following the tragic loss and injury of defence personnel in Afghanistan in 2010 a resident in Victoria learnt of the need to reach out to wounded ADF personnel and honour their sacrifice for serving Australia on a combat deployment. Victorian resident **Helen Comport**, learnt how touched an injured soldier was by the warmth of the quilt he was awarded by American Quilters.

She was inspired to establish an Australian organisation. Through consultation and support from the Victorian Quilters Guild and the Berwick RSL sub-branch, the first meeting took place in February 2012. From there it grew to be in every state and territory of Australia. The quilts are such a powerful symbol in a traumatic time.

May General Meeting

Saturday, 16 May - 2 pm

In May we celebrate the women in our families. Please bring along a photo, a story or maybe an item belonging to a female relative and share a few words about what makes that woman memorable.

The Oscar Wanke Diaries – 1919

Anecdotes and things we learn

Do you know about the Oscar Wanke Collection? It is a collection of photos, documents, and diaries, donated to the group by Oscar's granddaughter Barbara Sharp. The collection gives us an understanding of the Dandenong area in the early 1900s. The 1919 diary is just one of 15 diaries that are in the collection, giving us a snippet of the life of Oscar, his wife Min, and their three-year-old son Ronnie. To tell their story I rely on the anecdotal memory of Barbara to fill in a lot of the gaps. Barbara has already used the information in the collection to put together her own family tree, and each year when we delve into the stories of Oscar's family, Barbara learns that little bit more about her own ancestors.

Very rarely in any old photo collection can you tell someone the exact date that a photo was taken. The photo above showing the family was in *Spreading Branches - Issue 142 - November 2024*. We now know it was taken at Mendelssohn's Studios on Friday, 14 March 1919. The family had a full day in town: *We bought a stove for mother & it was a hell of a price. I.X.L. stove. We got our photos taken at*



Mendelssohn's Studios. I paid £2 deposit on a suit for Dick at Lincoln Stuart. Min bought an umbrella. Min picked up the photo on 16 April when she and Ron went to town with Addie.

The original photo had been part of the Oscar Wanke Collection all along. It was in a wooden frame and the frame was hiding the word "Mendelssohn". Unfortunately, someone cut off the

top of the cardboard around the photo to make it fit into the frame.

Barbara and I were excited to confirm where Min went to school. When driving past the school, bordered by Princes Highway, Clayton Road, and North Road in Clayton, Ron (Barbara's dad) always said that his mother (Min) went to school there. Barbara was a bit sceptical as she knew that Min grew up in the Mulgrave area and thought it was a long way to travel to school. I had grown up in Clayton South and always knew this school as Clayton North Primary School. We checked their website and found out that when the school first opened in 1865, the school was called the Mulgrave State School.¹ Yeah!!! This was the evidence we needed as proof of Ron's anecdote. It also made us

understand why Oscar and Min went to picnics and fundraised at the Mulgrave School picnics. On 8 January we gave 4/- to the Mulgrave school picnic and on 30 January Fine day – lovely day for the picnic. Min Ron Lil & I went to the picnic & had a good time. The Dippers from Berwick also had their picnic. They would always go to Mordialloc beach for the annual Mulgrave school picnic, but who the 'Dippers' were will be a query for another day. Here is a photo from the Oscar Wanke Collection of the school in 1909.²



THE NEW SCHOOL AND SCHOLARS.
OPENING A NEW STATE SCHOOL AT CLAYTON.

1 www.claytonnorthps.vic.edu.au/page/223/Our-History

2 *Weekly Times*, 17 July 1909

When I first introduced everyone to Oscar, Min, and Ron, I said that they were living on Gladstone Road, Dandenong. I should have been more specific, as we thought it was 97 Gladstone Road, on the corner of Heatherton Road. This was the only place where Barbara recalled they had lived, so we had no reason to doubt it. But when transcribing Oscar's 1919 diary, we have learnt that this isn't quite right. They didn't move into their 97 Gladstone Road home until the end of 1919.

Unfortunately, we have not been able to identify where they were living prior to the move. The 1913, 1914, 1915, and 1919 electoral rolls, all have Oscar Wilfred and Minni Ida Wanke living at Gladstone Road, Dandenong. Without any house numbers being included, we don't know exactly where in Gladstone Road. However, we do know that on 10 August they *showed some buyers through the house* and on 28 October Oscar *motored into D'nong in the morning & saw Rodgers about buying our house, but he did not buy it & Mr Collins bought it for £595 cash*. And on 9 December *The man who bought the place came here to do some plowing*. Maybe someone else can solve that mystery.

What AI knows about 1919

If you need to know something these days you ask 'AI'. When I asked AI what was happening in Australia in 1919 the response for key events included:

- **Spanish flu pandemic:** Despite quarantine efforts, the flu reached Australia in January 1919, leading to closed state borders, mandatory mask-wearing, and the shutdown of public spaces.
- **Post-war unrest & riots:** Tensions over labour, high prices, and the return of soldiers led to violent outbursts, including the Fremantle Wharf riot in May and the Red Flag riots in Queensland.
- **Paris peace conference:** Prime Minister Billy Hughes represented Australia, securing a mandate over German New Guinea, joining the League of Nations, and successfully opposing a racial equality clause.
- **First flight England to Australia:** Ross and Keith Smith completed the first aerial flight from England to Australia in a Vickers Vimy.
- **Cultural moments:** Premiere of *The Sentimental Bloke*, and the Archibald Prize was established following the death of J F Archibald.
- **Politics:** The Nationalist Party under Billy Hughes defeated the Labor Party in the December federal election.

After living through the Covid years most of us can relate to the Spanish flu pandemic. The other events were more specific to those living at that time. With Oscar's and Min's diary entries we learn how these events affected their lives much better than AI can tell us.

Bush Fires

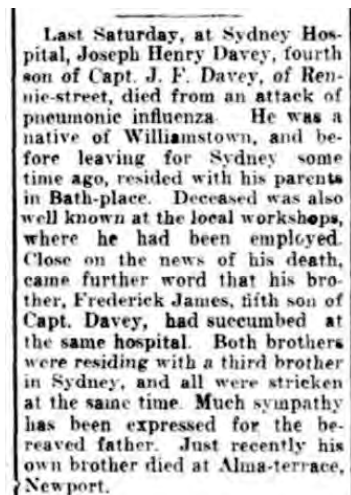
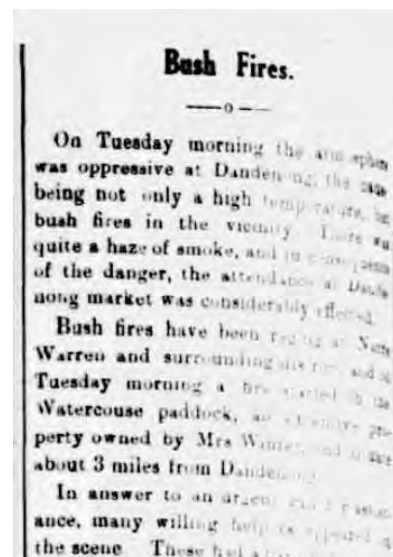
Oscar's main concern at the start of the year were bush fires. On 27 January and the three following days he recorded: *The bush fires are burning all around the hills & the police paddocks; The bush fires are burning fiercely; The bush fires have died away*. For another two weeks there was lots of reports of *Very hot day - Very smoky*.

The South Bourke and Mornington Journal reported on Thursday, 30 January 1919 that due to fires there was quite a lot of smoke in the Dandenong area. Fires had been raging in Narre Warren, and some of the fires were started at the Watercourse Paddock, owned by Mrs Winter; Police paddocks, on the Stud Road; and fire also extended to the estate of Mr C E Taylor at Lysterfield. It was great to read that the Aussie spirit was around in 1919, as many willing helpers appeared on the scene to answer urgent calls for assistance and many residents in the locality rendered valuable help in combating the fires.³

The Spanish Flu

Oscar referred to it as influenza. Reading through his 1919 diary brought back memories of the Covid pandemic. If you ask AI about the Spanish flu the similarities of the spread of the Covid virus are very scary. Like Covid there was a lot of misinformation spread about the Spanish flu, but they didn't have television or social media to spread any "fake news", just radio, newspapers, and the grapevine.

Oscar first mentions deaths from the flu on 4 February: *The influenza is raging very bad in Dandenong & several have already died from it* and on 16 February: *Two people in Dandenong died from the influenza*. Then there are people they know as on 24 May *George Masters died today of influenza*;



3 South Bourke and Mornington Journal, 30 January 1919

15 June *Joe Davey died today of influenza*; and on 18 June *Fred Davey died today from influenza*. Joseph Henry Davey and Fredrick James Davey were brothers living in Sydney at the time, passing away at the Sydney Hospital within days of each other.⁴

It was said that there was no vaccine for the Spanish flu. But on 8 February *Min Ron & I drove up to Berwick to Dr Griffith to (get) inoculated* and then on 14 February *Min Ron & I got inoculated for the second time & the doctor charged us 25/- dam stiff*. Did this make Ron ill as on 15 February? *Oscar drove Ron to the chemist as he was not too well*.

It wasn't until July that friends and family were recorded as getting the flu. On 23rd *Albert & family have got the flu also Roy Baine. Old man got the flu too*. On 26th *Min got crook & it turned out to be flu*; the next day *Ron got the flu today too*; and just one day later *I got the flu today & did not go to do any work until about Aug 15th*.

They had lit a fire in their room which was noted in the diary most days. Oscar felt pretty seedy for the rest of July and most of August. Min seems to have gotten the flu worse than the others and Oscar did his best looking after her. On 30 July *Min spent most of the day in bed. I made noodle soup for the first time certainly it was not perfect, but it was eatable*. On 31 July Oscar spent most of the day in bed and *Min got out & done a bit of cooking & got worse*. On 1 August *Both & Ron in bed most of the day. Did not feel too well*. On 2 August *Dick came to our rescue – This was a dam cold wet week*. On 4 August *Langley came out today to see Min & she had a slight touch of pneumonia*, so Oscar took *Min into the hospital today*. Oscar visited Min most days, on the 6 August *he drove to D'nong to see Min, I took Ron too. Took a few flowers to Min*. Min had other visitors too, Oscar wrote on 9 August *Wal & Alf Brown were here to see me but I had gone to D'nong to see Min & they met me at the hospital* and on 10 August *Dick Ron & I went to see Min*. On 12 August Oscar *bought Min home from the hospital today. Paid the nurse £3-14-6 for Min's expenses*, and on 13 August *he motored to D'nong & brought Min's medicine home today. Paid Langley £3-13-6*. It would have taken Min a while to get over the flu, and she needed some assistance at home on 17 August *Min got a girl to work for her for a few weeks*, and on 29 August *Min sent girl away today*. Min wasn't the only one going in and out of hospital with the flu. On 6 August *Wallie Hansen & Albert Sutton went home from hospital today*. On 7 August *Albert was taken to the hospital today staying for a week* and on 14 August *Albert went home from the hospital*. And on 15 August *Roy Baines came home from the hospital today*.

A growing family

I am taking out my poetic licence here to say by the end of April 1919 Min and Oscar knew that Min was pregnant with their second child. These three different entries, that are only days apart are recorded because Min is having a few issues with the pregnancy on 23 May - *Up the camel looking for deserts* (no one seems to know what this means, and it could refer to something else altogether); 24 May - *Took Minnie to Nurse Wickens today* (Nurse Wickens was a midwifery nurse); and on 26 May - *Took out a life policy for £200* (was this because the family was growing?)

It wasn't until October before the baby came along. On the 5th *Min Ron & I drove up to Erdmann's & left Ron up there. I left Min in D'nong at Mrs Wickens*. Every second day Oscar would visit Min. And on 13th *Min got a little baby girl today*. In the 1919 diary, Oscar never mentioned the baby's name, even when on the 15th *I went in to see Min & got baby registered*. Beside the information given to us by Barbara, we also checked the Victorian BDM website, so we know 'the baby' as Evelyn Adelaide.

Birth certificate	
Record information	
Event:	births
Registration number	26590 / 1919
Family name:	WANKE
Given name(s)	Evelyn Adelaide
Place of event:	DANDENONG, VIC, Australia
Personal detail	
Mother's name	<Unknown Family Name>, Minnie Ida
Mother's family name at birth	WEIST
Father's Name:	<Unknown Family Name>, Oscar Wilfred

Oscar kept visiting Min and on the 26th *he drove to Henrys & brought Ron home & also brought Min & the baby home. Paid Mrs Wickens £7-7-0 for the job*. This is an interesting entry, it shows what the costs were for having a baby in 1919, and more so as Oscar referred to it as 'the job'.

We read next about Evelyn on 24 November when *Min & the baby have got a cold*. Evelyn was quickly included in the family activities: on 25 November *Min & Ron & baby went with Beatie Exner to D'nong*; on 4 December *Dandenong Show – Min Ron baby & Minnie Hansen went to show in Hansens jinker. Ronnie's birthday he is 4 years old today*; on 9 December *Min Ron & baby went to D'nong with Ordish*; on 23 December *Min got a present for the baby from Cass*; and on 30 December *Min & baby went to D'nong with Mrs Joe Armstrong*.

New House

With a baby on the way and both Oscar and Min struggling to recover from the flu, it would have been exciting to move into a new house.

On 18 August Oscar *motored to town & paid £10 deposit to Mrs Barnes for 5 acres of land which Mr*

⁴ Williamstown Chronicle, 21 June 1919



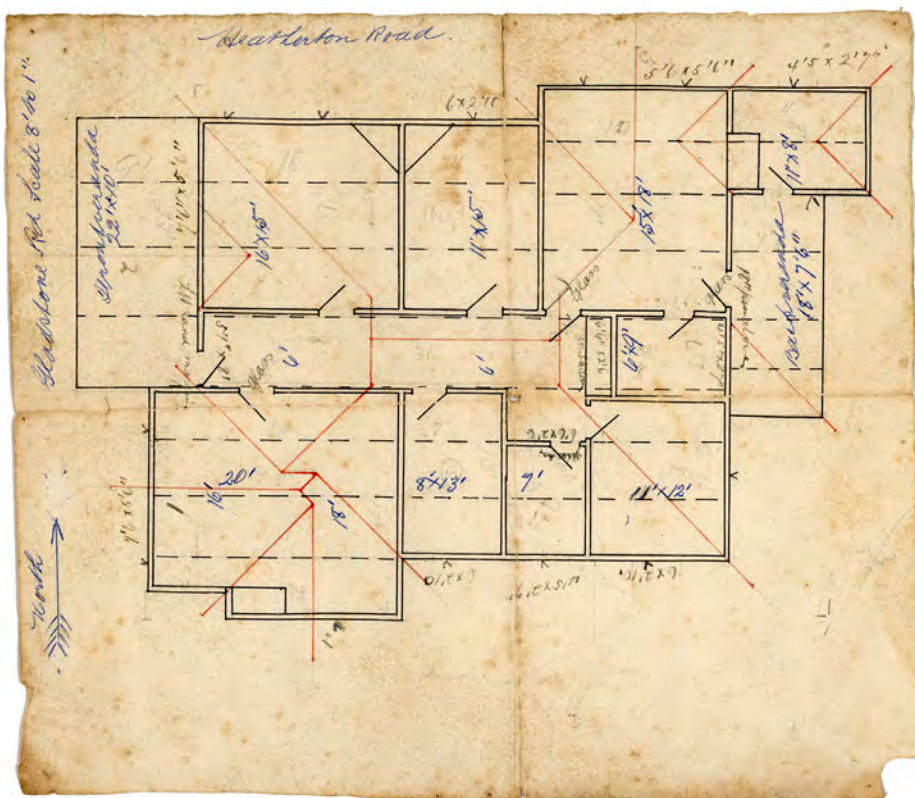
Weist bought for Min, and on 2 September Paid bal on land today for Mins new home. It wasn't until the second day of October that the title was transferred to Minnie Ida Wanke. The property was on the corner of Gladstone and Heatherton Roads, known as 97 Gladstone Road, Dandenong. In the late 1950s Oscar and Min subdivided the land. The ownership of the last part, the house, was transferred to Evelyn Adelaide Brown and Ronald Leslie Wanke on 26 November 1968 after the death of Minnie Ida Wanke. They sold it on 26 October 1970.⁵

These are the developments that Oscar recorded for the building of their house over 105 years ago. Maybe, anyone who has had a house built for themselves recently can relate to these timelines and building processes. On 28 August they started Making out plan of our house. On 8 September Dick (Min's brother) started working for us today. And Dick kept working for them, despite on 12 September Dick

sprained his arm today and then he was assessed on 16 September when Dick went to D'nong to see about his hand, he has muscular rheumatism.

During September they got supplies and were getting things set up. On the 3rd Oscar biked to Dandenong to see about blocks for our house; on the 4th he was Making out quantities for our house near Kriegels (Kriegels also lived in a house in Gladstone Road); and on the 8th Dick & I started to make some cement blocks for our house. On the 9th Dick & I started to cart sand round to our new house – 3 loads, and by the 19th they had carted 20 more loads of sand to the house and bought a bag of bran. On the 15th Oscar biked to Dandenong in the morning & from there to Ferntree Gully quarry & ordered some metal for concrete. On the 10th they started bringing wood to the site: Dick & I carted sand to our new house & we chopped some wood too – 5 loads; on the 13th I bought a red gum tree from Buckhurst for £2 for to split blocks; on the 19th Dick & I were carting with Duke in dray & Ordish's 2 horses in lorry – we carted hardwood; and on the 20th Dick carted 2 loads of HW from station that was the last of the first trunk – I stacked the HW in lengths.

They started work on the house in the week of 22 September when Dick & I drove down to the job & set it out to dig it out for concreting; on 23 September Dick & I carted a truck of metal for the house – 8 3/4 yards in 6 loads; and on 24 September Dick & I done half a day's work at the house & felled the redgum tree. For the next two weeks they worked on preparing the redgum tree



5 Certificate of Title – Vol. 4257 Fol. 851350

which wasn't an easy task. On 25 September *Dick & I started sowing the red gum tree*; on 30 September *Dick & I gave the redgum tree hell – We were both bugged by night*; on 1 and 9 October they *went to Dandenong and bought galenite (gelignite) to blow up the limbs of the red gum tree*; and finally, on 11 October *Dick blasting up the limbs of the red gum tree*.

During October Oscar and Dick continued working on the house. Some specific records were: 13th *dug out the foundation for the house*; 14th *putting down the concrete in the trenches*; 16th *working at the concreting*; 17th *finished concreting & started to lay brick in the afternoon*; 20th *working at the house doing brick work*; 22nd to 27th *working on brickwork at the house*; 29th *started to cart the blocks & redgum tree down to the new house*; and 30th *carted a truck of HW to the new house*. On 31st Oscar worked by himself *carted a load of hardwood from the station & 5 cwt of nails – stacked all the timber we carted the day before*.

On 5 November *Dick left here today*, which left Oscar to work on the house by himself, so there are not many specific dates during November that the house was worked on. On the 3rd Oscar *started putting blocks in for the new house – started dinner time*; on the 4th *putting in block for the new house*; 8th *finished putting in the blocks for the house*. On 21st he *started work again at our new house*; and on 22nd *worked at the new house putting down the floor joist*. On 26th *Arti Walter & Aly Brown came down to help me – Artie is staying at our place while he is working at our house*. Not everything went to plan on the 29th *I went to see George Keys about bricks & he would not let me have any*.

Luckily WorkSafe wasn't about in 1919, at least one incident occurred on 29 November *I ran a splinter in my hand 1 1/8 inches long & went to D'nong to get it*

taken out. How many other incidents occurred that Oscar didn't record in the diary?

In December there were still numerous days when Oscar, Alf, and Artie were working either on the house, the shed or the dike. It wasn't until the 30 December that they finished the shed and Artie and Oscar bricked in the stove.

They started preparing for the move on the 17 December *E A & kids were here today & helped Min pack things* and on the 18th *E A came out to help pack things up*. E A was Ella Armstrong. On the 24th *Ordish carted 4 loads of the wood down to our house*. On Christmas Day, Oscar wrote *I was packing up all day as busy as a fart in a bottle*. And on Boxing Day *Ordish bought 3 loads of furniture down to our house & Jack also carted 2 loads and Oscar was packing up things all day & Helping Ordish get his loads on*. The big move was on Saturday, 27 December: *Artie came down from Narre with two horses in lorry & took some loads of furniture down to our new house & we left the old homestead; Min & Ron & baby & Ella Armstrong came down in the lorry with a cover over it & rained all the afternoon & evening everything was arse up & in the night some young chaps slept in the lorry; We had to cook outside in the wet; and Ordish carted 3 loads of furniture for us*. And it was great to read that on the 28 December it was the *First Sunday in our new home* and they *fixed up shelving & got things straighten up a bit*. Yeah – they were in their new home!!!

There are more stories to tell of Oscar's family in 1919. We will continue his story in the next edition of *Spreading Branches*. Thanks to Barbara for her anecdotal memory and Marianne Rocke for assistance in transcribing Oscar and Min's writing.

Eileen Durdin



Min and Oscar named their new house 'Everon', after their two children. This photo was taken in 1922.

continued from page 1

Application search notes document the history of deeds when a piece of land was converted from the General Law system to a certificate of title. They are a quicker way to trace those older pieces of land than the memorials which are

"LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1906."
"REVENUE AND FINANCE DEPT."
"COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL ACT 1906."
"REVENUE DEPT."

21.

AN ASSESSMENT to the GENERAL RATE for the SHIRE OF
In the Year 1906, after the Rate of the Shillings and Pence in the Pound, by virtue
of the Statute in that behalf made.

SOUTH EASTERN PROVINCE.

BERKSWICK DIVISION.

REV.

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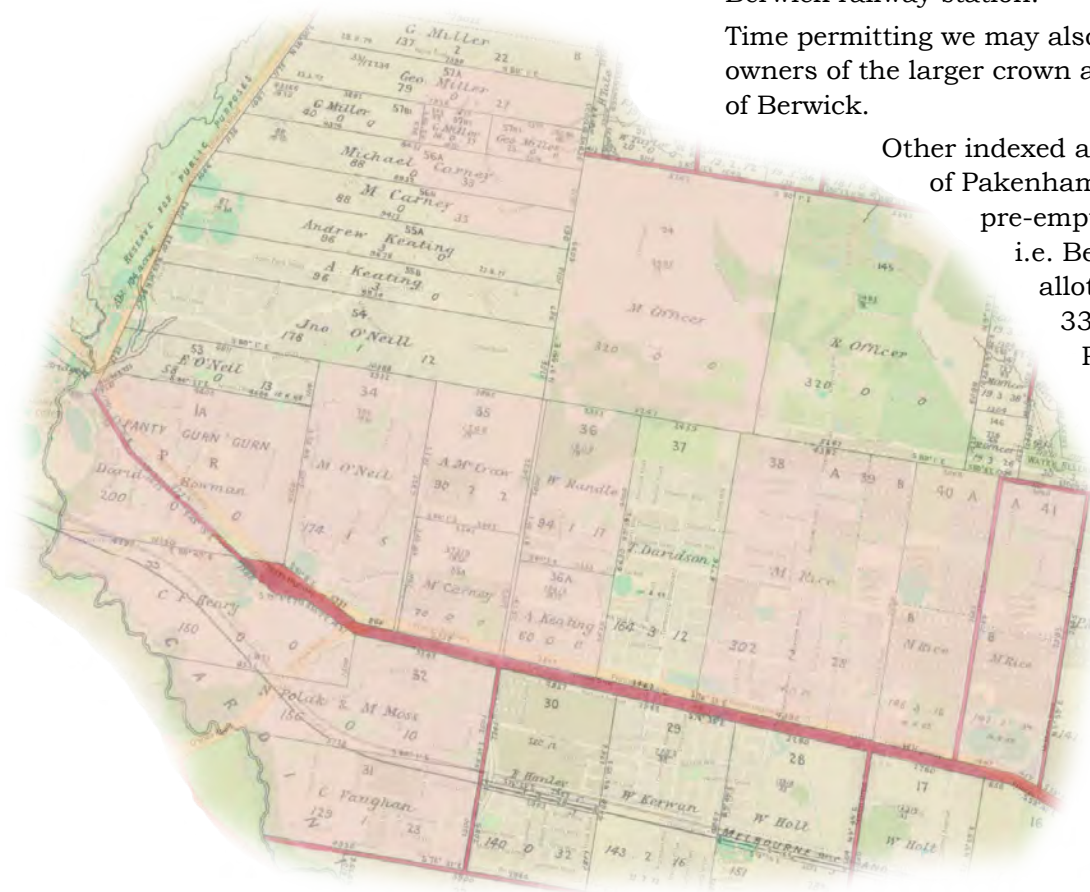
2

2

Time permitting we may also be able to index early owners of the larger crown allotments in the parish of Berwick.

If you are interested
in land research,
please come into our
research room to
find out more.

Marianne Rocke



How to search Land Titles

Step 1: Search the Casey Cardinia Combined Index for the name of a person you are interested in. In this example I searched for George Brown, a Berwick storekeeper. The results show that he owned land in all the areas covered. Take a note of the name of the folder and the number of the title/s.
I chose Town Lots Folder BER-T19: Title 1444-641

CASEY CARDINIA COMBINED INDEX		
Search Report		33 Records Found
Name	Book	Page
Brown, George	Land Titles - Berwick Crown Allotment 18 Lots; Compiled by Marianne Rocke; Year: 2026; Location of titles to be found on Land Titles Hard Drive	Berwick Crown Allotment 18 Lots Folder: Title 1016-156
Brown, George	Land Titles - Berwick Suburban Lots; Compiled by Marianne Rocke; Year: 2026; Location of titles to be found on Land Titles Hard Drive	Berwick Suburban Lots Folder: Title 469-785, 481-059, 540-828, 2055-905
Brown, George	Land Titles - Berwick Town Lots; Compiled by Marianne Rocke; Year: 2026; Location of titles to be found on Land Titles Hard Drive	Berwick Town Lots Folder BER-T4: Title 354-634; Berwick Town Lots Folder BER-T11: Titles 354-635, 354-636, 354-637; Berwick Town Lots Folder BER-T14: Title AP52329; Berwick Town Lots Folder BER-T15: Title AP43184; Berwick Town Lots Folder BER-T16: Titles AP48106, AP56908; Berwick Town Lots Folder BER-T19: Titles 1001-146, 1001-147, 1444-641; Berwick Town Lots Folder BER-T23: Titles 482-384, 482-385, 482-386; Berwick Town Lots Folder BER-T25: Title 395-975
Brown, George	Land Titles - Pakenham & Mt Misery Land Lots; Compiled by Marianne Rocke; Year: 2026; Location of titles to be found on Land Titles Hard Drive	Pakenham & Mt Misery Land Lots Folder PAK-34-36: Title 1381-161, 2056-144



Casey Cardinia Combined Index
Narre Warren and District Family History Group Inc

Page 1 of 2
Friday, 27 February 2026

Step 2: On the Casey Cardinia laptop go to the 'Histories – Places' section. The Land Titles Collection is described here. Select the Berwick Town Lots folder, which will open to a listing of all subfolders (screenshot below left)

garden around the new house they built adjoining the earlier farmhouse.

Land Titles Collection

ARC 012: compiled and collated by Marianne Rocke. The collection includes Berwick town and suburban lots, including parcels of land of crown allotment 18 on either side of Gloucester Avenue between High Street and the Berwick Railway Station. Parts of the parish of Pakenham are also included in this collection - the Crown pre-emptive section 1A – i.e. Beaconsfield, crown allotments 31, 32 and 33, south of the Old Princes Highway, and the beginning of the hill areas on the north side between Beaconsfield and Officer, including Mount Misery.

The index to these files has been incorporated into the Casey Cardinia Combined Index and is searchable by name only, not by address. While the files can be browsed, if you are looking for a specific person they are navigated using the Casey Cardinia Combined Index by using the following steps:

1. Search the index for your person of interest. A shortcut to the index is on the desktop of this computer.
2. If you find a reference to a file or files in the collection note the name of the folder and the number of the title/s.
3. Open the relevant folder to find the title/s.

[Berwick Crown Allotment 18 Lots](#) | [Berwick Suburban Lots](#) | [Berwick Town Lots](#) | [Pakenham & Mt Misery Land Lots](#)

[A more detailed description of the collection's use can be found here.](#)

Living Memories

Index of file:///F:/caseycardinia/places/ARC 12 Land titles/Berwick Town Lots

 Up to higher level directory

Name

 BER-T1

 BER-T10

 BER-T11

 BER-T12

 BER-T13

 BER-T14

 BER-T15

 BER-T16

 BER-T17

 BER-T18

 BER-T19

 BER-T2

 BER-T20

As there are over a thousand Berwick Town Lots titles, they are stored in individual section folders. Select the relevant folder, in this case BER-T19, which is section 19, containing the Primary School and the allotments to the east of it.

Select the folder, and it will show all titles of this section.



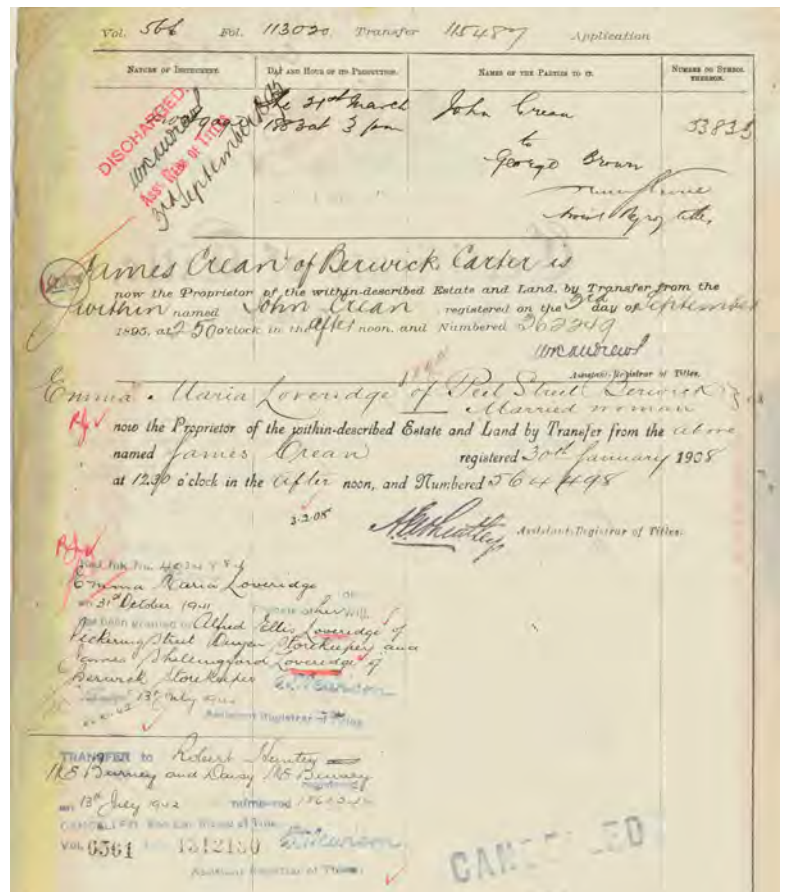
Spreading Branches - Issue 147 - February 2026

10

Up to higher level directory

Name	Size	Last Modified
10363-961.pdf	34 KB	03/08/2025 9:19:09 am
1263-553.pdf	546 KB	18/07/2025 9:55:02 am
1379-706.pdf	1205 KB	18/07/2025 9:55:26 am
1444-641.pdf	880 KB	18/07/2025 9:55:31 am
289-660.pdf	1479 KB	18/07/2025 9:55:02 am
3370-989.pdf	774 KB	18/07/2025 9:55:44 am
3398-408.pdf	641 KB	03/08/2025 9:19:08 am
3400-945.pdf	1068 KB	18/07/2025 9:55:58 am
3400-946.pdf	929 KB	18/07/2025 9:56:08 am
3423-579.pdf	973 KB	18/07/2025 9:56:22 am

Step 3: Select title 1444-641, and open the pdf file. Officially titles are referred to as volume (Vol.) and folio (Fol.), but for the ease of an index they are abbreviated. Title 1444-641 refers to Vol. 1444 Fol. 288641. (Only the last three digits of the folio are relevant. The first three numbers of the folio are never used.)



In this example the only reference to George Brown is on the second page of the title. It shows that he provided a mortgage to the owner of the allotment, John Crean. The land was used as security.

The first page of the title shows John Crean of Berwick as the owner. It shows the size of the land (2 roods and 16 perches), and that it is crown allotment three in Section nineteen in the township and parish of Berwick. It shows the date of transfer from the previous owner, and a sketch of the allotment.

On the second page in the top margin is the number of the parent title (Vol. 566 Fol. 113020), and a reference to the transfer instrument (115487). The subsequent owners are listed below. The first transfer was to James Crean (John's son), then to Emma Maria Loveridge (James' sister). If land was subdivided, each subsequent owner is listed with a new title reference. This will allow you to trace the land backward and forward in time.

This index can only be searched by name, not by address. If you'd like to trace the owners of a particular property, please get in touch with us.

Marianne Roche

Broadbent's Official Road Guide

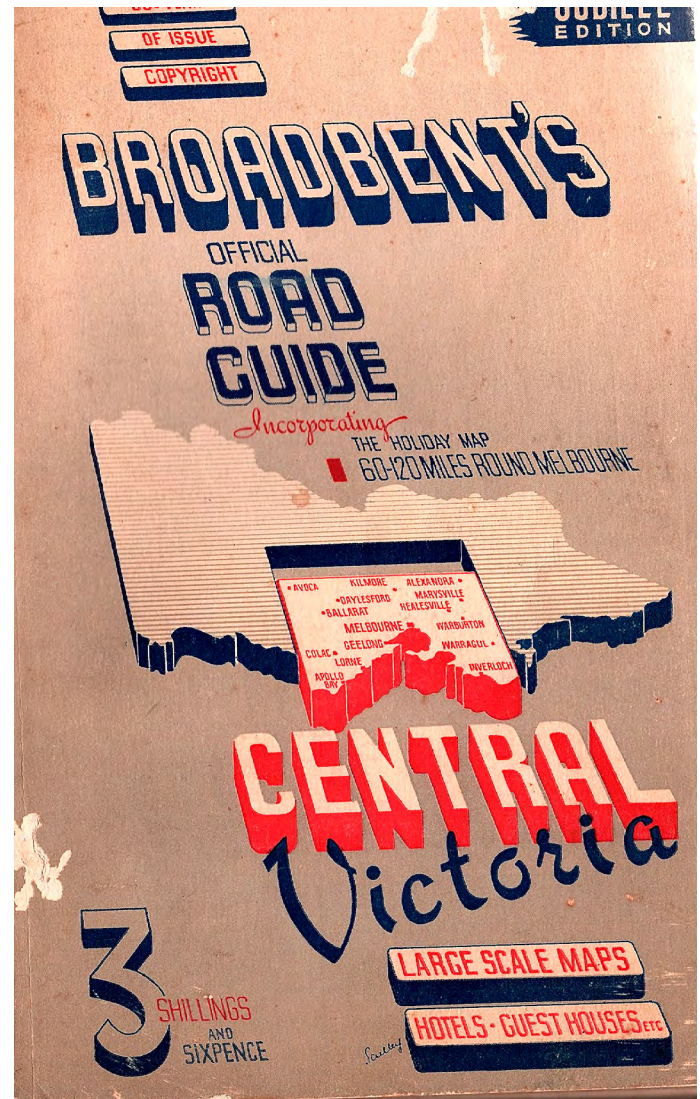
Are you going on holidays and not sure where to go? Do you need directions on how to get there? Have you booked somewhere to stay?

Find the answers to these questions in a book recently donated to our library.

Broadbent's Official Road Guide – Jubilee Edition is a historical Victorian road map and guidebook for motorists. It contains detailed routes, mileage, points of interest, and local advertisements, as well as a large fold-out map of Victoria. First published in 1896, this Jubilee Edition marks the 50th year of issue and appears to have been published in 1946.

George Broadbent was born in Geelong, Victoria in 1863. He was a cyclist, map maker and a newspaper motoring columnist. He set many Victorian and Australian cycling road records. George was a foundation councillor of the League of Victorian Wheelmen, Vice-President of the Good Roads Association and a founding member of the Royal Automobile Club of Victoria. He died in 1947 at the age of 83.

Moreyn Dimsey



MORDIALLOC

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Follow this Road to Happiness

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All facilities for enjoyment are available at Mordialloc —Swimming, Fishing, Boating, Tennis, Bowls, Golf, Cricket—and Fun for all from XMAS EVE to EASTER at the

CARNIVAL

No. 14 OUTLET

Dandenong Road—Prince's Highway (East)

Set Speedo. at Zero.

00.0 MELBOURNE. — Central Post Office (Elizabeth Street). Proceed easterly along Bourke Street.	3.8 Cross Chapel Street (tramlines)..
0.1 Turn right into Swanston Street.	5.1 Bear to right over branch tramline—Wattle Tree Road.
0.6 Cross Prince's Bridge and proceed along St. Kilda Road.	5.9 Cross tramlines.—Glenferrie Road to left.
1.5 Domain Road off to left (tramlines).	6.1 Turn to left under railway bridge and then immediately to right along railway line.
1.9 Toorak Road off to left.	6.8 Pick up tramlines and follow.
2.5 Commercial Road off to left (tramlines).	6.9 CAULFIELD.—Post Office on right.
2.9 High Street off to left (tramlines).	7.0 Bear to right (leaving tramlines).
3.3 ST. KILDA JUNCTION.—Turn	8.0 CARNEGIE.—Cross-road.

NOTE.—This outlet leads also to South Gippsland Highway, which branches to right at a mile past Dandenong (19.5 miles from Melbourne) to Tooradin, Lang Lang, San Remo, Inverloch, Korumburra and Leongatha—all are shown on the "Easy-folding" Map.

The Fern Tree Gully Road—to the Dandenong Ranges—branches to the left at 10.5 (half-mile beyond Oakleigh).

KINGSWOOD FARM Guest House

2 Miles off Prince's Highway. **OFFICER** 33 Miles from Melbourne.

Situated in Beautiful Forest Hills. Kangaroos, Foxes, Hares and Rabbits Abound. Good Fishing—Trout, Blackfish, etc. Cyclists and Hikers Catered for. Tennis Court. Wireless and Player Piano. Log Fires. Own Farm Produce.

An Ideal Place for a quiet, restful holiday, and guests will find Homely, Comfortable Accommodation.

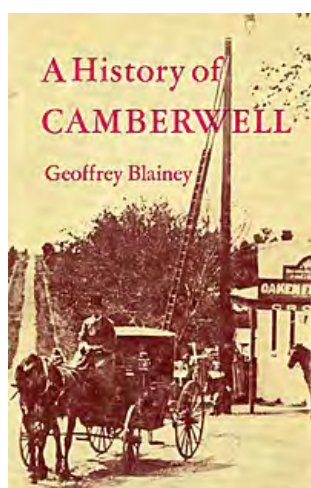
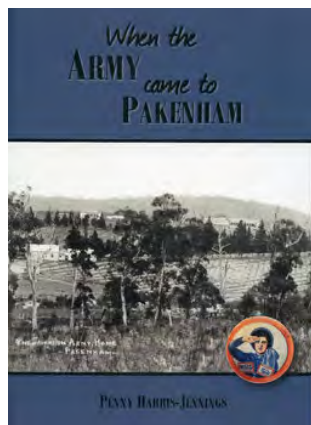
MODERATE TARIFF

Phone: Officer 20. Proprietress: MRS. C. McDOUGALL.

New in the Lorraine Taylor Research Room

Casey Cardinia Books

- * When the army came to Pakenham by Penny Harris-Jennings
- * Haileybury Hundred 1892-1992
- * Lives cut short and lives well lived: a walk in Lang Lang cemetery by NW&DFHG
- * Former store & post office Main St Narre Warren North: Conservation management plan
- * Scot's Presbyterian Church Dandenong: Centenary History 1854 - 1954

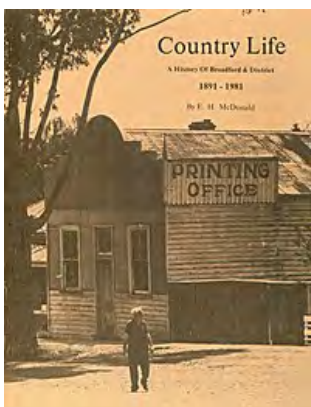


Australian Books

- * Jungle Warfare: with the Australian Army in the South-West Pacific

Victorian Books

- * A history of Camberwell by Geoffrey Blainey
- * Country Life: A history of Broadford & District 1891 - 1981 by E H McDonald
- * A history of Loy Yang 1844 - 1978 by Kathleen Huffer
- * Within the plains of paradise: a brief social history of Rhyll, Phillip Island
- * A history of the city of Springvale: Constellation of communities by Gillian Hibbins



Magazines

- * Ancestor Vol 37 No 8 Dec 2025
- * Family Tree Nov 2025 & Dec 2025
- * Gipps-Land Gate Nov 2025 by Dandenong & District Historical Society
- * Tasmanian ancestry Vol 46 No 3 Dec 2025
- * Western Ancestor Vol 16 No 2 Jul 2025



Happy Reading.

Moreyn Dimsey,
Librarian

The Lorraine Taylor Research Room is at 110 High Street, Berwick

Roster Tuesdays and Saturdays 11 am–2 pm

Please find a replacement yourself if you cannot do duty.

March 2026			
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>11 am–2 pm</i>	<i>Saturday</i>	<i>11 am–2 pm</i>
3	Lynne Bradley Jan Whitaker	7	Robyn Jones Eileen Durdin
10	Lynne Bradley Jenny Bramich	14	Barbara Sharp Lynne Bradley
17	Jane Rivett-Carnac Barbara Sharp	21	Eileen Durdin Jan Whitaker
24	Jane Rivett-Carnac Barbara Sharp	28	Barbara Sharp Lynne Bradley
31	Fay McCoubrie Jane Rivett-Carnac		

April 2026			
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>11 am–2 pm</i>	<i>Saturday</i>	<i>11 am–2 pm</i>
		4	CLOSED EASTER
7	Moreyn Dimsey Barbara Sharp	11	Robyn Jones Jan Whitaker
14	Jenny Bramich Maureen Abbott	18	Barbara Sharp Eileen Durdin
21	Barbara Sharp Fay McCoubrie	25	CLOSED ANZAC DAY
28	Fay McCoubrie Barbara Sharp		

May 2026			
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>11 am–2 pm</i>	<i>Saturday</i>	<i>11 am–2 pm</i>
		2	Jan Whitaker Barbara Sharp
5	Fay McCoubrie Jane Rivett-Carnac	9	Barbara Sharp Lynne Bradley
12	Lynne Bradley Jenny Bramich	16	Jane Rivett-Carnac Robyn Jones
19	Jane Rivett-Carnac Barbara Sharp	23	Barbara Sharp Robyn Jones
26	Maureen Abbott Fay McCoubrie	30	Eileen Durdin Lynne Bradley

Spreading Branches May 2026

We would like to read your articles or stories.

Please submit your contributions
by 15 April 2026

We need more volunteers. 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

Publications for sale

NEW! Lives cut short and lives well lived: a walk in Lang Lang Cemetery (2025)

Visiting Lang Lang Cemetery we learnt about the lives of fifteen families, including that of a policeman, a post mistress, a teacher, as well as farmers and farm labourers. We found out about children who died in tragic circumstances, and a woman who was involved in many community activities.

\$20 + \$5.50 postage + handling

Life and death in the hills: a walk in Emerald Cemetery (2024)

On our first visit to Emerald Cemetery we explored the lives of an Indigenous artist, a socialite, a co-founder of Amnesty International Australia, a writer and poet, and many ordinary people.

\$20 + \$5.50 postage + handling

Casey Cardinia Connections at Dandenong Community Cemetery (2023)

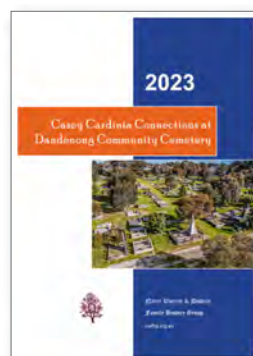
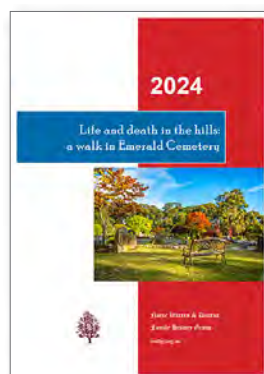
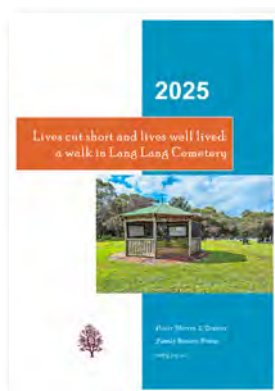
We explore a cemetery a bit further afield at Dandenong. Many people with Casey Cardinia connections are buried at Dandenong. The cemetery has a fascinating early history. We researched the lives of residents, who after living in Narre Warren, Lyndhurst, Hallam, Lang Lang and other places, were buried at Dandenong.

\$20 + \$5.50 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 + \$5.50 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.

\$20 + \$5.50 postage + handling

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

This book 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.

\$20 + \$5.50 postage + handling

World War 1 walk cemetery books

- **100 men, 100 years: a World War 1 Walk in Berwick Cemetery (2015)**
- **Sacrifice and Patriotism: a World War 1 Walk in Pakenham Cemetery (2016)**
- **For some the bell tolled: a World War 1 Walk in Harkaway Cemetery (plus Harkaway Avenue of Honour) (2017)**
- **Peace at last: a World War 1 walk in Lang Lang Cemetery (2018)**

Each book \$25 + \$8.50 postage + handling

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

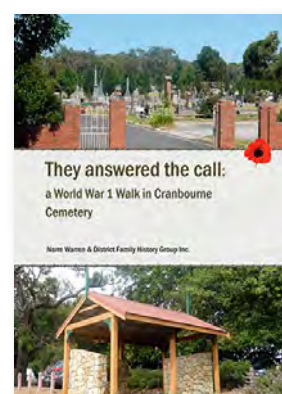
This book \$25 + \$15.30 postage + handling

Cemetery Tour booklets

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

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

Add \$5.50 for postage + handling



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