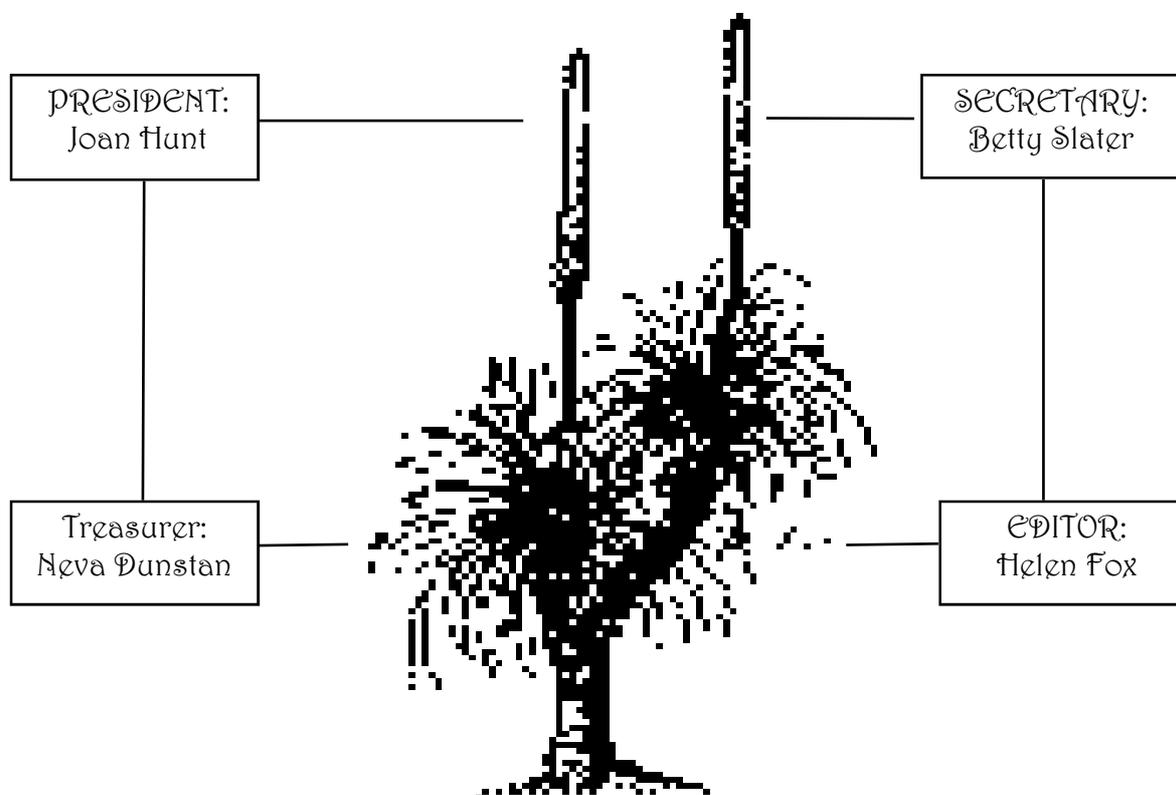


BALLARAT LINK

February 2008 - No.156



The Ballarat & District
Genealogical Society Inc.

THE BALLARAT & DISTRICT GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INC.

P O Box 1809
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Vic 3354
Australia

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The Society's Library is housed in the Australiana Room, Ballarat Central Library, 178 Doveton Street North, Ballarat 3350.

Australiana Room open for "members only" every Friday evening 5pm - 7pm.

Certain books from our collection can now be borrowed by members for 1 - 2 weeks, between 6 - 7pm on Friday evenings.

Membership

Single Membership:- \$25.00

Family Membership:- \$35.00

Overseas membership:- \$25.00

Membership year from 1st July to 30th June (Half price after 1st Jan)

Committee Members 2007 - 2008

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Committee	Barbara Harris	harryblt@netconnect.com.au
Committee	Cynthia Masters	stewm@iprimus.com.au

Program 2008

Meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the Ballarat Central Library, Doveton Street Nth, Ballarat. 7.30pm.

- February 26th Tom & Libby Luke from the Cornish Association of Victoria. "Researching Your Cornish Ancestors"
- March 25th Yvonne Izatt from International Settlers Group of G.S.V. "Beginning Non-European Research"
- April 22nd Liz Heagney - the researcher and compiler of names from the ex-prisoner of war memorial at Ballarat Botanical Gardens "Researching Prisoner of War records:"
- May 27th Beverley Spinks from the Descendants of Convicts Group of the G.S.V. "Researching your Convict Ancestors"
- June 24th Gary Powell - a member of BDGS will speak about writing and publishing his book.

Visitors are most welcome.

No meeting December or January.

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Contributions for May 2008 Link to be with the editor by the 30th April 2008

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DISCLAIMER

The Ballarat and District Genealogical Society Inc does not hold itself responsible for the accuracy of statements or opinions expressed by authors of articles published in this magazine.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

I wish you all a very happy beginning to 2008, with great success in your continuing family history research. There's no excuse not to make progress, now that so much more material is going on-line. Since the Australian Electoral Rolls have become accessible on Ancestry.com I have been able to find two men I have been trying to trace for thirty years, one in Queensland and the other in Western Australia.

We have a great year of speakers planned to provide us with research ideas. If you can't get to our monthly meetings, don't forget that you can borrow the tape of any meeting. Check back in newsletters (many are now on our website) to see topics that you would like to hear, contact us on researchballarat@hotmail.com or Betty on 5331 7834, and we will send you the required tape. The Ballarat and District Genealogical Society's entire library collection catalogue is now accessible on-line on the Central Highlands Regional Library Corporation site. If you would be so kind as to put a clear link on the front page of the web-site, with something like these words: BDGS Library Catalogue On-Line Link, which would link to <http://chrhc.spydus.com/>, that will go straight to the Quickfind search window. Just to try it out I put in 'Ross Creek history' and up came the references to my book – one in the AR collection, two in the Ballarat non-fiction, one in the BDGS, and one each in the Beaufort, Maryborough and Wendouree non-fiction sections, with the call numbers, and the status of availability. I also tried with names of authors (Dianne Hughes), family names (Adams), and places (Irish family history) with great success. What this wonderful innovation means is that the BDGS research collection housed in the Australiana Room of the Ballarat Library can now be searched via its catalogue anywhere in the entire world! Wow!

About six months ago the BDGS committee made an arrangement to pay Simon Jack, AR librarian, to put our collection on to the library's catalogue. That has now been completed, and the Library is very kindly, free of charge, adding any of our new additions to the catalogue. The collection is clearly shown to be that of the Ballarat Genealogical Society Collection, and the status shows that loans are available only to BDGS members as of 22nd August 2007 (this means that members present their card and they can borrow – others can use the materials within the Australiana Room). This is a great move forward for the Society, and our web-site is ideally suited to provide the simple link.

I trust that you all had a very pleasant Christmas and New Year with your families, and that 2008 will keep you busy but happy as you continue to enjoy the many pleasures that family history research brings us.

Joan

Family Folklore - Fact or Fallacy?

Written by Amanda Larcombe.

“I hate to seem inquisitive, but would you kindly inform me who I am?”

The Importance of Being Earnest (1)

How many of us have a family mystery, an unexplained adoption, a disappearance, ‘premature’ birth or mysterious death? How about an ancestor with an occupation of dubious legitimacy, an odd coupling or ferocious ongoing feud that nobody would ever discuss that split generations apart? Haven’t we all a skeleton ... or two ... or more?

How much time should you spend researching a family ‘legend’ and where would you start? Is it likely just a waste of time?

In my family, so it goes, is the story of foundling twins left on the doorstep of the local church and raised in separate families. They allegedly lost touch only to re-discover each other when they accidentally met face to face in a city street. Identical young women finding each other by chance.

Initially by accident and subsequently by research I have proven that family legend a fallacy – but in this case the truth is proving stranger than the fiction.

Older members searched in vain for information about our foundling twins. They wrote to all of the institutions – the Church where the babies were believed to have been found, the charities that took in and fostered children in Melbourne in 1883 (or their modern equivalent). The answer, eventually, always came back the same. There was no record whatsoever of our twins.

In Oscar Wilde’s stage play *The Importance of Being Earnest*, a tongue-in-cheek, plum-in-mouth comedy about a foundling of unknown parentage who (having been abandoned at the Victoria Railway Station on the Brighton line ... ‘in a somewhat old, but capacious hand-bag’) wishes to marry into a society family. All ends happily when the bag in which the mystery baby was discovered is identified by the former governess. A miraculous identification ensues, the lineage of the foundling meets approval, and everyone lives happily ever after.

Are all of us in our family history quest not to some extent seeking identity? To satisfy a longing to fit in somewhere, wishing to comprehend our circumstantial existence?

Few of my own family connections are in Ballarat but fortunately I am still able to make use of the resources of the Ballarat Genealogical Society, Central Highlands Regional Library and Ballarat Mechanics Institute to do family history research. I was in the library one Sunday afternoon working on

my paternal tree when a name caught my attention, a name connected to my maternal side – that of my foundling great-grandmother.

How often does it happen to you? Are you a disciplined researcher, refusing to be side-tracked? Or do you find it easy to stray, follow a sideline that often proves a fruitless pursuit (but sometimes is interesting nevertheless)?

This time I did allow myself to be sidetracked and searched the name on a microfiche that I hadn’t seen before – *The Children’s Register*.⁽²⁾ I placed that fiche in the reader and there she was. While I was digesting this information there was a muffled squeal and giggles behind me. Two mature women delightedly hugged each other “I knew it!” They had found something exciting; I had found something as well. I had found my great grandmother ... “in the closet of the Ladies Waiting rooms at the Flinder’s street railway station’. Was that a toilet? She was supposed to have been left on the doorstep of a church ... not in a railway’s toilet!

I went home and phoned my mother – should we tell anyone else in the family? Would they be offended? My great-aunts – the daughters of the baby in question were amazed, thrilled. “So many times we waited for trains at that station. To think we probably went to the very same public waiting room. (We have since learned that the Flinders Street Railway Station was rebuilt later and it is most unlikely that they did ‘visit their mother’s WC’.)

But then the questions began – only one baby, what about her twin?

This was when my quest to debunk the entire fallacy began. I set out to prove that the babies could *not* have been twins. To my mind there was most likely already a legitimate baby in one of the adoptive families, or they were sisters but not twins, possibly the real mother became known to the adoptive parents – leading to another charitable act of taking-in, perhaps even a family ‘shame’ had been disguised.

Oh, how quickly we can jump to conclusions ...!

But my great-aunts were adamant. The babies were definitely twins – identical and the same age, as babies, children and adults. So then I had to try to find the other girl, but doubted that I would.

Unlike the name of the baby we knew, the known adoptive name of the missing baby came up a blank so the only other thing I could do was sort through every entry on the *Children’s Register*, investigate each name and date and by process of elimination single out every female baby foundling in 1883.

It took less time than I expected, but I was seeing stars from hours of scanning fiche.

After checking every entry I found only three female baby foundlings in Melbourne in 1883. But the stories along the way! If you haven't seen it before, take some time to read the circumstances of the children being placed into institutional care (such as it was) in the mid to late 1880s. There is every scenario you would expect and many situations you can't begin to comprehend. Babies (dead or alive) tossed into the Yarra, left under trees, on doorsteps, even found lying on the railway line.

In an effort to understand the circumstances of the time and maybe try to solve the mystery, further research has brought me to better understanding of life for women and children in history. In Melbourne in 1883 there was no formal Government child or women's welfare. Suicide and abortion were illegal, contraception mostly unavailable. Few women had independent means of support. Abandoning a child, dead or alive, was a criminal offence. Charities, mostly religious, were sometimes selective or exclusive with their support.(3) Babies were abandoned to their deaths by people unwilling or unable to care for them, or a 'lucky' few were found alive before the elements of nature or the Yarra River claimed them. Unmarried mothers were ostracised, abandoned married mothers and widows while at least 'respectable' without welfare were barely any better off.

Childbirth and illegal abortions threatened the health of young women, often complicated by malnourishment, overwork and lack of basic health care (particularly among women of the working classes) as did diseases such as tuberculosis and venereal disease. (4)

The three female foundlings whom I subsequently investigated were 'named' in the style of the day before being placed into foster care.

'Emily Station' - found at the Flinders Street Railway Station had her name subsequently changed to 'Daisy Flinders' before being fostered out; 'Annie Gold' was found exposed in a yard in Gold Street Collingwood by the police and 'Victoria Waterloo' was abandoned in Waterloo Street, St Kilda. Two of these three were abandoned on the same night, 13th June 1883.

'Daisy Flinders' was fostered out and became Daisy O'Connell, 'Victoria Waterloo' was fostered to a wet nurse and became Violet Walton, then later Violet Harvey when her adoptive mother re-married. I had found our twins.

At the age of around two to three weeks these babies were declared vagrant and therefore carried criminal records. It also became clear why there was never any official record of *twin* babies being found; one was abandoned in Melbourne and appeared in the

City Court, the other in St Kilda, appearing in the St Kilda Police Court.

"The female infant found in the ladies' rooms at the Flinders street station yesterday, was brought before the bench to-day [City Court 14th June 1883] and remanded to the Children's Hospital pending enquiries for the mother."

St Kilda Police Court Friday June 22nd 1883 "A female infant found on the doorstep ... was brought before the Bench as a neglected child. The Bench christened her "Victoria Waterloo", and sent her to the Industrial School for seven years."

But what of the circumstances in which the babies were found? It is generally agreed in the family that the babies were intended to be found alive, but why did somebody go to so much trouble to separate them? Are there any clues in the chosen places of deposit? Had their mother become ill or died and there was nobody available to provide for them? Was the young mother simply overwhelmed or unable to manage? Was it felt that individual babies would have a better chance of receiving charitable care than twins? Were there any clues as to their origin left behind with them?

I continued my research at the Ballarat Mechanics Institute and according to the newspapers of the day: "About half past 8 o'clock last night Constable Flannery, on duty at the Hobson's Bay [Flinders St] railway station, was informed that an infant had been left in the ladies' retiring room, ... he found, lying on the floor, a female child about three weeks old, alive and apparently quite strong. She was dressed in flannel and wrapped up in an old Indian silk shawl, on the inside of which are the letters "H.M.C."

On Wednesday night, at about ten o'clock, Mr John H Watmuff, of Waterloo-street, St. Kilda, on his return home saw some object on his doorstep.

Thinking it was a dog which had been there the night before, he was about to give it a kick, when he was astonished to hear the cry of an infant. He took the child, which was wrapped in a plaid shawl, and proved to be about two weeks old, into his house, and provided for it until a nurse had been obtained."

The Police Report of Constable Flannery details the trouble and expense caused to PC Flannery over the subsequent 24 hours in 'obtaining a woman and transport' for the baby and her appearance in court.

"I beg to apply for a requisition for nine and three pence, that being the expense I incurred in connection with the finding of the infant in question. I had a cab nearly an hour, to take the child from the Railway, the Hospital for Sick children, and from there to the Lying-in Hospital, and to take me back to the Railway Station."

“5/- for a Mrs Carter that took charge of the child at the City Court and accompanied me to the Royal Park with it.”

These two babies were abandoned on the same winter's evening but apparently far enough away from each other so as not to be connected. So began the real life series of coincidences that brought these separated twins together again.

There is much conjecture as to why they were abandoned so far apart. Is it plausible that their births had been registered? Unlikely but possible. It would be easier to trace the mother of new born twins than a single baby and abandoning children was a crime. Sometimes a reward was offered by the police for information on the parentage of an abandoned infant. In the report of Sergeant Joyce 1648 regarding 'enquiries relative to deceased child unknown abandoned at the Botanic Gardens St Kilda 20th August 1883': "I have to report that since the finding of the deceased child every enquiry has been made for the local police and Criminal Officers circulated for the purpose of finding the offender or offenders but without Success ... if a Reward was offered it might be the Means of inducing Some person to give information on the Subject."

The family folklore has it that our twin babies grew up as neighbours and attended the same church –The Baptist Tabernacle in Sackville Street Collingwood – throughout their childhood. Their obvious likeness caused speculation and comment but was stoically ignored by their adoptive mothers. The girls did not know they were adopted until they wished to marry when the absence of birth certificates caused the truth to come out. The lack of knowledge of origin was of little consequence to Daisy's future husband but Violet's fiancé took the news badly and it not only caused tension at the time but for the remainder of her life. The marriage went ahead but he moved his new wife interstate away from her neighbourhood and refused to allow contact with her friend/sister.

We can only guess at how much of this drama is truth or has become romanticised over time. Further research might be able to prove whether or not the girls really were neighbours and attended the same church. Marriage certificates document that the ceremonies took place in private homes, not in the church, which may support the story – especially considering Violet married a clergyman. The brides appear to be wearing the same dress in their wedding portraits, debunking the myth that they didn't know each other until they met as adults in a city street.

Over subsequent generations the families had lost touch until one day a young woman was visiting the family of a church friend. She commented on how

very alike the voice of her hostess was to that of her own relative. So the descendent of Violet met the daughter of Daisy and the families again were re-united.

Stranger than fiction.

SOURCES

- (1) *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Oscar Wilde 1895.
- (2) The Children's Registers of State Wards in the Colony of Victoria. New Series and Receiving House 1880-1889. Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies Inc. 1986. Central Highlands Regional Library.
- (3) *Sex and Suffering*, Janet McCalman.
- (4) *Sex and Suffering, Women's Health and a Women's Hospital*. Janet McCalman. Melbourne University Press 1998.
- (5) *The [Melbourne] Herald*, Thursday Evening June 14, 1883.
- (6) *St Kilda Telegraph*.
- (7) *Melbourne Argus* 18th June 1883.
- (8) *Prahran Telegraph* 16th June 1883.
- (9) *Expenses incurred by Constable Flannery 780 in connection with deserted infant found at Flinders St Station 20/6/83*. Melbourne Police District, Russell Street Station. Public Record Office.
- (10) *Report of Sergeant Joyce 1648 relative to deceased child unknown*. Melbourne Police District St Kilda Station 20th August 1883. Public Record Office.



USEFUL INDEXES

Bendigo Petition Index:

The following site is a link to an index to the Bendigo Goldfields Petition of 1853 signed by 5000 diggers re mining license fees:

<http://www.slv.vic.gov.au/collections/treasures/bendigopetition/index.html>

Helen Doxford Harris OAM has published Victorian Government employment applications on her site. To find applications for employment in the Victorian Government in the 19th Century.

Go to <http://members.ozemail.com.au/~hdharris/applications.htm>

West Bourke Electoral Roll, 10 April 1850:

Published in the Melbourne Morning Herald, Thurs June 6th 1850, the roll has been indexed by Lenore Frost. It includes freeholders and residents living at Brighton, St Kilda, Williamstown, South Yarra, Dandenong, Merri Creek, Plenty, Moonee Ponds, and many other places.

www Genie Links

USEFUL ADDRESSES (reproduced from "Practical Family History" August 2007)

British Library Oriental and Indian Office Collections. www.bl.uk

British Library Newspaper Library. www.bl.uk

Catholic Central Library.
www.catholic-library.org.uk

General Register Office. www.gro.gov.uk

College of Arms. www.college-of-arms.gov.uk

Commonwealth War Graves Commission.
www.cwgc.org

Corporation of London Record Office.
www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/archives/clro

The Family Records Centre.
www.familyrecords.gov.uk

General Register Office of Eire. www.groireland.ie

General Register Office of England and Wales.
www.familyrecords.gov.uk

General Register Office of Northern Ireland.
www.groni.gov.uk

General Register Office of Scotland.
www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk

Huguenot Library. www.huguenotsociety.org.uk

Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain.
www.jsgsb.org.uk/index.shtml

London Metropolitan Archives.
www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/lma

National Archives of Ireland.
www.nationalarchives.ie

National Library of Ireland. www.nli.ie

National Library of Scotland. www.nls.uk

National Library of Wales. www.llgc.org.uk

National Maritime Museum. www.nmm.ac.uk

National Monuments Record Centre – England.
www.english-heritage.org.uk

Ordnance Survey (Enquiries)
www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk

Parliamentary Archives. www.parliament.uk

Public Record Office of Northern Ireland.
www.proni.gov.uk

Society of Friends Library (Quakers)
www.quaker.org.uk

Society of Genealogists. www.sog.org.uk

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.
www.familysearch.org

The Federation of Family History Societies.
www.flhs.org.uk

The Guild of One-Name Studies.
www.one-name.org

The Institute of Heraldic & Genealogical Studies (IHGS) www.ihgs.ac.uk

The National Archives.
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk



RESEARCH QUERIES

Please contact the research team at
researchballarat@hotmail.com

MEMBERS ONLY

Available to borrow :-
Audio Tapes of Guest Speakers talks.
Ph. Betty on 5331 7834
or email at bslater@ncable.net.au



BDGS Computer programs



BALLARAT

Ballarat 1865 Directory
Ballarat 1904 Directory
Ballarat Cemeteries
Ballarat Petitions 1860-66
Ballarat Sport 1916
Gold Fields Hospital Index

VICTORIA

1870 Melbourne Directory
Argus Newspaper Victoria Birth Index 1914-1931
Argus Newspaper Victoria Marriage Index 1931-1941
Cemeteries Various
Cornish in Bendigo
Creswick Primary History
Crown Land Licences Vic 1856
Gold Fields Victoria 1862
Land Tax Registrations Vic 1888
Marine Births, Deaths, Marriages. Victoria 1853-1920
Marriage Index. Victoria 1921-1942
1892 Melbourne Directory
Mining Accidents
Newspaper Deaths 1988-92
Northcote Cemetery
Sands and Kenny 1857-61
Stratford Cemetery
Vic Police Gazette 1886-90
Yea Baptisms
Yea Burials
Yea Goldmines
Yea Marriages
Yea Presb Church Registers
Yea Rates 1869-1904
Yea Rates 1905-25
Yea Rates 1926-41
Yea Rates Surname Index

NSW

1787 Army Index
A. G. C. I. Records Search
Bounty Immigration. NSW 1828-1842
Colonial Correspondence Index
Convict Movements 1827-53
Convicts and Employers Index
Free Rail Passes 1880-92
Immigration Deposit Index
Landholders 1848
N. S. W. Census 1828
Patkeys Misc Registers
Rookwood Cemetery Transcriptions
Unassisted Arrivals 1842-56
Wives & Children of Convicts

TASMANIA

Hobart Mercury BDM
Tasmanian Colonial Collection 1803-1923
Tasmanian Colonial Index 1816-1889; N. F. Is.
1792; NSW 1823-1848
Tasmanian Convicts Search
Tasmanian Federation Index
Tasmanian Miscellaneous Parish Records 1837-1953

GENERAL

Family Archive Viewer
G. R. D. 2007

QLD

NIL

W. A

Arrivals
Esperance W. A. Arrivals
Passenger Arrivals - 1839 to 1890
Police Gazette Inquests 1876 to 1903
W. A. Marriage Index 1915 to 1933

AUSTRALIA GENERAL

Convict Ships
Early Australian Electoral Rolls
Free Settlers 1788-1828
Grd 2007
Parish Registers in Australia
Trollope Victoria and Tasmania

NT

Northern Territory BDM

SA

Bound for SA Ships B.D.M.
Bound For South Australia 1836-1851
Gold Seekers SA to Vic
SA Deaths 1916-72
SA Deaths Registrations 1842 to 1915 - Digger
SA Early Births
SA Early Deaths
SA Early Marriages
South Australian Births

ENGLAND

National Burial Index 2nd Edition
Pallots Marriages
Universal Directory 1791

ENGLAND - 1856 1920 UK maps

ENGLAND - London Lying in Hospital

ENGLAND - Parish Registers

Buckinghamshire Vol 1 Marriages
Buckinghamshire Vol 9
Cambridgeshire Vol 1
Cheshire Vol 1
Cornwall Vol 1
Derbyshire Vol 1
Devon Vol 1
Dorset Vol 1
Essex Vol 1
Gloucestershire Vol 1
Hertfordshire Vol 1
Leicestershire Vol 9
Lincolnshire Vol 9
London Vol 1
Middlesex Vol 1
Norfolk Vol 1
Nottinghamshire Vol 1
Shropshire Vol 1
Somerset Vol 1 Phillimore
Suffolk Vol 1 Phillimore
Surrey Vol 1
Wiltshire Vol 1
Yorkshire Vol 1

ENGLAND – U. K. Census material

Barton Regis, Glos 1891 *1 to 7*
Christchurch 1901 *1 & 2*
Cornwall, Stratton 1871 *1 to 4*
Coventry 1871 *1 to 4*
Daventry, Northants 1871 *1 to 4*
Dorset, Dorchester 1861 *1 to 6*
EastWest Kingsbury, Somerset 1841 *1 & 2*
Edgbaston, Worcs 1891 *1 to 5*
Gateshead 1871 *01 to 15*
Huntingdon, Huntingdonshire 1871 *1 to 5*
Leicester 1871 *1 to 5*
Leominster, Herefordshire *1 to 5*
Lincolnshire (Caistor) 1871 *1 to 4*
Maidstone 1871 *1 to 9*
Newport Pagnell, Buckinghamshire 1901 *1 to 5*
Nottinghamshire 1871 *1 to 7*
Oxford, Oxfordshire 1871 *1 to 7*
Preston 1871 *01 to 13*
Rotherham 1871 *01 to 13*
Stourbridge 1871 *01 to 13*
Surbiton & Esher, Surrey 1901 *1 to 4*
Sussex, Brighton, The Palace 1891 *1 to 3*
West Ham, Essex 1851 *1, 1b, 2 & 2b*
Westminster 1901 *1 to 5*
Wiltshire (Calne) 1871 *1 to 3*

WALES

Wales Index

IRELAND

1831 Tithe Defaulters
Irish Wills

IRELAND - Royal Garrison Artillery members

Antrim, Ulster and Waterford RGA
Clare RGA
Cork RGA
Cork RGA Introduction
Donegal RGA
Dublin RGA
Limerick RGA
Londonderry R.G.A. Militia Attestations
Sligo RGA
Tipperary RGA
Wicklow R.G.A

SCOTLAND

1825 Central East Scotland
1825 central Scotland
1825 Highlands
1825 Sthn Highlands
1825 Sthn Scotland
Lanark F.H.S. members research 2005

CORNWALL

Cornwall 1851 Census
Cornwall 1901 Directory
Cornwall Gazetteer

NEW ZEALAND

NZ Electoral Roll 1893

Happenings of 100 years ago

Two well known Ballarat residents had an exciting experience yesterday. They drove out on a business mission to Bungaree district, and during the course of their trip called at the residence of Mr T Loughlin, at Warrenheip. After driving inside the large gates a stop was made, but the horse took the winkers off and taking fright started to make a rapid and exciting tour of Mr Loughlin's grounds. One of the occupants of the buggy had got out when the trap entered the gates, and the other passenger also got out later on, and made his exit so hurriedly that he hardly knew what had happened until he ploughed into the chocolate soil. The horse continued for some time, but was eventually brought to a halt. The buggy was considerably damaged, but Mr Loughlin considerably came to the rescue of the travelers and lent them another trap in order that they might continue their journey through Bungaree.

Ballarat Star **June 8th 1907** **page 6**

News from PROV
by Lauren Bourke,
Regional Archivist

News from Regional Archives

Ballarat Heritage Weekend May 10-11

PROV is taking part in this year's Ballarat Heritage Weekend. PROV staff will be at the mining exchange on the Saturday and Sunday to answer any questions and provide advice on researching at PROV and the Ballarat Archives Centre. Lauren Bourke, Regional Archivist will also be delivering a seminar on Saturday from 10:30am-12:00pm on Researching at PROV and BAC.

Display on Volunteer Contributions at PROV

Visitors to the Ballarat Archives Centre will see a new display showcasing the contribution volunteers make to PROV. The display 'Volunteers at PROV' looks at the wide variety of projects and activities volunteers contribute their time and expertise to in order to improve access to records. These include indexing and transcription projects, research for exhibitions, digitisation of records and tours of the archive. 'Volunteers at PROV' will be on display until March 2008.

Bendigo Regional Archives Centre (BRAC)

BENDIGO'S earliest historical records are to have a new home as construction of the Bendigo Regional Archive Centre is well underway. The Bendigo Regional Archives Centre (BRAC) partnership initiative between Public Record Office Victoria (PROV), City of Greater Bendigo and the Goldfields Library will provide resources for genealogical, local and social history research, and offer assistance to local historical societies within the region. This will include a specialised storage repository and a public reading room at the Goldfields Library.

Work has commenced in identifying and cataloguing archival documents for the Centre's collection. So far, these include records of the City of Greater Bendigo and other state and local government agencies, such as rates, council minutes, and courts. It is anticipated that cataloguing the collection will not be completed for several months.

EXHIBITION NEWS

'Victorians at Work' – PROV's Latest Travelling Exhibition

PROV has developed a new travelling exhibition. Entitled 'Victorians at Work', it draws on PROV's vast photographic holdings, dating from the mid nineteenth century to the late 1960s to offer a fascinating look at the many different types of work

undertaken by people in Victoria. 'Victorians at Work' is on display at the Victorian Archives Centre from 26 November 2007 to 29 February 2008. It will then be offered on loan as a PROV travelling exhibition for venues and organisations throughout Victoria.

For more information on the exhibition and for enquiries on borrowing 'Victorians at Work' in 2008, please contact Public Programs on (03) 9348 5600.

'Centenary of Women's Suffrage'

The centenary of women's suffrage in Victoria is to be celebrated in a new PROV exhibition that looks at the key historical records from the campaign that gained Victorian women the right to vote in 1908. The 1890s petitions and some of the other records are among the few tangible records that remain of the women's suffrage movement's struggle to gain political rights. The centrepiece of the display is the 1891 Women's Suffrage Petition, a roll of paper over 100 metres long containing signatures from nearly 30,000 women collected by door knockers in Melbourne and across the State in early 1891. The 'Centenary of Women's Suffrage' exhibition will be on display at the Victorian Archives Centre from 13 March to 14 June 2008.

PROV SEMINAR SERIES AND ARCHIVAL SUPPORT PROGRAM 2008

The Seminar Series program for February to June 2008 and the Archival Support Program 2008 will be available from early February as inserts in PROV's newsletter 'PROactive', from PROV Reading Rooms and the 'Events and Programs' pages of the PROV website. Both programs feature a range of new seminars and material for anyone who wants to know more about archives and the type of research subjects that can be undertaken at PROV.

Archival Support Program - Computers and Small Archives

An initiative of Public Record Office Victoria and the Australian Society of Archivists, supported by the National Archives of Australia, this program offers advice and instruction to the many local custodians of collections of historical documents. Sessions are aimed at historical societies, small archives and museums, but also interest individuals preserving private collections for the future. In this seminar, find out about using software to manage and improve access to your collection, including creating catalogue databases, publishing material to websites and digitisation.

Hear about the practical and technical issues involved in creating access to electronic records, including protecting and preserving data.

Old Castlemaine Gaol Saturday 24 May 2008
Cost \$25.00

A Picture Speaks a Thousand Words - Researching Photographs in the PROV Collection.

There are thousands of photographs dating back to the mid 1800's in the PROV collection. Some are easy to find while others are hidden away amongst correspondence and registers. This seminar explores how these intriguing photographs may be found and used in your research and includes a look at some of the storage and preservation issues associated with photographs. Includes a brief tour of PROV's newest touring exhibition 'Victorians at Work - Photographs from the State Archives'. Bookings are Essential.

Victorian Archives Centre
Thursday 21 February 2008, 1.30 to 3.30 pm.

Women in the Archives: Women with a Mission. PROV's annual Women's History Month seminar.

In this year celebrating 100 years of female suffrage in Victoria, PROV presents this seminar with the Australian Women's Archive Project (AWAP) comprising: Special guest Professor Joy Damousi, Head of School of Historical Studies, University of Melbourne speaking about the life and times of Margaret Cuthbertson, first female Inspector of Factories in 1894; Dr Nikki Henningham, Executive Officer of AWAP, an overview of AWAP in Victoria; and a PROV representative looking at records about women at PROV. Bookings are essential.

Victorian Archives Centre
Thursday 13 March 2008, 2.00 to 4.00 pm.

For further information or to make a booking please contact James McKinnon at james.mckinnon@prov.vic.gov.au or phone 03 9348 5675.

A Reminder to members that they are required to show their membership card in the Library to obtain access to the Society's computer/CDs and the research material that is kept in the filing cabinet.

UPDATED PROVGUIDES

The following PROVguides have been updated and are available online at www.prov.vic.gov.au through the Research Tools menu, and in PROV Reading Rooms:

PROVguide 5 Cemetery Records

Now contains information about a recent records transfer from VA 4780 Melbourne (New) General Cemetery Trust, a "Locating a Burial" section with contact website for Cemeteries and Crematoria Program, and a reference to the 1992 National Trust publication "Cemeteries: Our Heritage".

PROVguide 61 Divorce Records

Updated contact details regarding accessing divorce records created after 1918 through the Victorian Supreme Court and Family Court. A link to divorce records held at BAC, a link to film & fiche finding aids, and more searching information have been added.

PROVguide 72 PROVguides Numerical List

Contains new PROVguide titles & subject headings.

PROVguide 73 PROVguides Subject List

Contains new PROVguide titles & subject headings.



Ballarat Botanical Gardens

On the afternoon of Sunday 16 December, Rosemary Manion of the Friends of the Ballarat Botanical Gardens, was our guide as we wandered on a lovely sunny day along the pathways between the historic trees, beautiful garden beds, and gorgeous statuary that make up the lakeside gardens.

Members, especially Jenny Burrell, contributed to the information provided by Rosemary, and made the afternoon a most enjoyable and interesting experience.

Photo courtesy of Jenny Burrell

HOW DO I FIND?

Australian Red Cross Wounded and Missing Persons:

These files consist of approximately 32,000 individual case files of Australian personnel reported as wounded or missing during the First World War.

Go to: <http://www.awm.gov.au/redcross/index.asp>

Tasmanian Pioneers:

The Colonial Tasmanian Family Links database is designed to provide an initial online genealogical research resource. It links individuals with other members of their families living in Tasmania in the 19th Century. The information about individuals is based primarily on records of births, deaths, and marriages and similar events, held in the Archives Office and the linkages have been developed by family historians associated with the former National Heritage Foundation in the late 1990s.

The database contains approximately five hundred thousand entries.

Go to: <http://portal.archives.tas.gov.au/menu.aspx?search=8>

Medical Ancestors:

Trace your Medical Ancestors by accessing the Royal College of General Practitioners which has a very useful "Tracing Your Medical Ancestors" page on its website. This does not provide you with on-line indexes or databases, but does give very useful advice about where to look for information.

Go to: <http://www.rcgp.org.uk>



Planning a visit to Ballarat to make use of our Research Library?

Do you think you may need help with or advice about using our material and equipment?

Please contact our Librarian in advance so that arrangements can be made to have one of our members available to help you on the day of your visit.

CONTACT

Betty Slater - researchballarat@hotmail.com

or

PO Box 1809, Ballarat Mail Centre, Victoria 3354

DID YOU KNOW?

The location of every Australian town:

If you are looking for Australian place names, where the place is situated and where to buy a map of the area, go to: <http://www.ga.gov.au/map/names/>

How to find UK and Ireland details for each village?

The village by village contact site for anybody researching family history, genealogy and local history in the UK and Ireland.

Every UK county, town and village has a page for family history, local history, surname and genealogy enquiries. Use the search box to find your village or town. <http://www.curiousfox.com/>

Past and Present maps for 4 time periods in England are available:

Each *Past & Present* map is centred on a city or town and covers an area of 15km x 15km using four Ordnance Survey mapping series to cover four different periods: the mid 19th century, the late 19th century, the 1920s and the present-day. All four maps cover exactly the same area. To achieve this, the three historical maps have been enlarged from their original inch-to-the-mile to match the 1:50,000 scale of the present-day one. The addition of the familiar National Grid on all four maps enables easy comparison across the four time periods.

Historical notes, details of the original maps used and web-links for local history societies and other sources of information are also provided. All in all, comparing the past with the present has never been easier!

Ballarat East Petty Sessions Series VPRS 290/P



Part I, 1858-1889.

Price is AUS \$35 plus \$5 postage & handling.
Set of 15 fiche, approx 55,000 names.

Part II, 1890-1921.

Set of fiche, containing 70,000 names
Price is AUS \$45 plus \$5 postage & handling.

Ballarat and District Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 1809.
Ballarat Mail Centre
Vic 3354

RESEARCH QUERIES

Magnus BLANCE married Emma Elizabeth LOWTHER; he died 1870, coroner's inquest; did Emma remarry?

Annie WALKER aka SCOTT, son Frederick 1860-1862 born Ballarat; she died Ballarat Mental Asylum 25 May 1896. She was born at Walled Lake, Michigan, America

Valentine CHISHOLM married Sarah GILDAY; baptisms of their children, R.C. Ballarat and Windermere, required.

Thomas Edward HOBILL (1858-1931), died Ballarat and his wife Lydia Eleanor (nee Craig), died Ballarat East 1938

William Richard Hayman CREBER, architect of Creswick Town Hall, son of William Snell & Eliza CREBER, arrived on "Cheapside" 18 August 1846; Ballarat 1856-1875

Rev. Thomas Hugh INDIAN, a Methodist minister, arrived from England 1911, to Ballarat East Circuit 1917

Christina McLEAN, died 1865 at Ballarat; her husband Neil McLEAN died 1878. Buried Ballarat Old Cemetery

Thomas Brandon KNOWLES married Lavinia Ann PHILLIPS, born Ballarat East, in 1899. What is his connection to Frances Rosina STAFFORD, also born Ballarat?

Geoffrey HAYES wants to contact Sue DICKINSON as they are both researching the DICKINSON family – anyone know her contact email please?

HELP WANTED

Members are entitled to 1 free entry per year. Please quote Membership Number. Member additional queries and Non Member queries may be submitted at a cost of \$10.00 per entry. This will cover a query of up to 140 words in length. (Approx 13 x A4 lines of print)

.....
"Nostalgia isn't what it used to be!"
"History lessons are a thing of the past"
.....

**Visit the Ballarat Genealogy website:
www.ballaratgenealogy.org.au**

Webmaster:- Daryl Povey

Email :- povey@sebas.vic.edu.au

SEARCH LIST & INDEXES

Dave Evans Mining Accidents Index
The Surnames List.
Ballarat School of Mines Entrance Book 1910-1914.
St Augustine's Orphanage — Geelong Admissions and Discharges 1856-1878.

MESSAGE BOARDS

Australian (Ancestry.com)
FamilyHistory.com
GenForum
RootsWeb Email Lists
School Friends

ADVICE / INFORMATION

Anti-Virus Info
Ballarat Research
Book Sellers
Convict Research
Digitisation Projects
Email Lists
Finding Names
Military Research
Norfolk Island
Shipping & Passengers
Writing a Family History

MEMBERS ONLY

Microfiche and Reader available to borrow.
- Vic. BDM's
- Vic Pioneer Index
- Ballarat Old & New Cemeteries
- Consolidated Cemeteries (Ballarat District)
- Ballarat Base Hospital Admissions
- Consolidated Schools (Ballarat District)

RESEARCH ENQUIRIES

\$20 PER HOUR — non members
\$10 PER HOUR — Members

Research enquiries may be forwarded to the Society's Research Officer C/O our Postal Address or researchballarat@hotmail.com
Please include sufficient relevant details.



Ballarat and District Genealogical Society Inc
Cassette Tapes □ Speakers and Topics



Date Range: 26th September 1989 to 25th October, 1994

Box No. 2 □ Tapes No. 26 to 61

No.	Date	Speaker	Topic
26	26.9.1989	Colin Holt	Immigration from Cambridgeshire
27	27.2.1990	Ettie Pullman	Family History Through Newspapers
28	27.3.1990	Ada Ackerly	Gems from Vic PRO
29	24.7.1990	Warren Shears	Victorian Cemeteries □ Next 100 yrs
30	25.9.1990	Sue McLean	Scottish Research
31	23.10.1990	June Huggins	History of Ballan Red Cross
32	26.2.1991	Bruce Fullarton	Future of Victorian BDM
33	26.3.1991	Liz Allen	My visit to Salt lake City
34	23.4.1991	Gary Presland	Victorian Police Historical Museum/Records
35	25.6.1991	Del McDonnell	Yorkshire Pudding and all that
36	23.7.1991	Anne Farrell	Victorian Adoptions
37	27.8.1991	Linda Brumley	Chinese in Ballarat
38	1991	Roger Porteous	Masonic Records
39	Feb.1992	Joan Hunt	Records available for Genealogy Research
40	24.3.1992	Peter Mansfield	Writing History for Newspapers
41	April 1992	Norm Strange	Bombing of Darwin
42	23.6.1992	Val D'Angri	Conservation
43	27.1.1992	Roy Huggins	Pioneers of the Gordon District
44	Aug. 1992	Barbara Cooper	Chinese in Ballarat
45	27.7.1992	Meg Barry	Women from the Goldfields
46	22.9.1992	Ann Beggs □ Sunter	Artists of Ballarat
47	25.5.1992	Ian Willcox	Surnames
48			Early Stagecoaches in the Ballarat Region
49	23.2.1993	Peter Butters	Francis Jago House/Bootmaker
50	23.3.1993	Lois Reynolds	St. John Anglican Church Ballarat
51	27.4.1993	Richard Vurlow	Resources Held at Latter Day Saints Ballarat
52	22.6.1993	Graeme Reynolds	Residence Areas of Ballarat
53	24.8.1993	Ian Morden	Maps
54	28.9.1993	Brian Kelly	Computers Family Genealogy Ver 5.0
55		Yvonne Hiscock	The Lindsays of Creswick
56	22.2.1994	Peter Mansfield	A New Library
57	24.5.1994	Graham Fricke	Eureka Trails
58	26.7.1994	David Karmouche	Gold Museum Society
59	23.8.1994	Anne Beggs Sunter	Early Education in Buninyong
60	27.9.1994	Geelong Group	Family History Records in Geelong
61	25.10.1994	John Scarce	Victorian Birth, Death, Marriage Records

CEMETERY TOURS

Ballarat and District Genealogical Society Inc

The Cemetery tours during the Ballarat Begonia Festival will be on Saturday 8th March for the Old Cemetery and Sunday 9th March for the New Cemetery. Tours, which take 2 hours, will start at 1.30 pm from the main gates of both cemeteries. Fees of \$10.00 for Adults and \$7.00 Concession are used by the Ballarat & District Genealogical Society to buy research resources and these are available for use by the public in the Australiana Room at the Ballarat Library. If the weather is "hot" a sun hat and a bottle of water is strongly suggested.

Inquiries: Neva Dunstan 5330 7005 or ndunstan@ncable.net.au

Ballarat Cemeteries CD

Included on the CD are current maps of the Ballarat Old and New Cemeteries showing location of the various sections.

A total in the order of 30,000 of records will now be accessible in a searchable database available on CD-ROM including 70,000 for the Ballarat New Cemetery (1867-2005) plus headstone transcriptions and 25,000 cremations for the Ballarat Crematorium (1958-2005).

Enquiries to:-

<http://www.ballaratgenealogy.org.au/ballarat-cemeteries-cd.htm>

Orders for the Ballarat Cemeteries Index CD can be made with payment of \$49 plus \$6 postage and packaging to:-

Ballarat & District Genealogical Society, PO Box 1809 Ballarat Mail Centre, Victoria 3354.

OR

The Genealogical Society of Victoria Inc, Level B1, 257 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000

For a modest donation the B&DGS research team would take digital photos of headstones on request.

Enquiries to researchballarat@hotmail.com

www.ballaratgenealogy.org.au

Ancestry.com is now available on the Library computer

Bookings are required and should be made at the Library desk

CEMETERY TOURS

Ballarat and District Genealogical Society Inc

BALLARAT OLD CEMETERY

(Cnr Creswick Road & Macarthur Street)

1 and 2 hour tours available.

Eureka graves tour.

Jewish section tour.

1 hour Sunday afternoon tour requires a booking at the Information Centre.

BALLARAT NEW CEMETERY

(Cnr Lydiard & Norman Streets)

1 and 2 hour tours available .

Tours are conducted:-

1. During the Ballarat Begonia Festival.
2. On request for community or school groups.
3. During Eureka week in December.

Tours are conducted throughout the year but preferably not during the winter months.

Entry

Adults \$10.00

Concession and Children \$7.00

Enquiries: Neva Dunstan - phone 5330 7005



Visit the Ballarat Genealogy website:- www.ballaratgenealogy.org.au

Webmaster:- Daryl Povey EMAIL:- povey@sebas.vic.edu.au

Welcome to



Margaret Grech of Whittlesea

John Heath of Ascot Vale

If undelivered return to
**Ballarat & District
Genealogical Society Inc.**
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