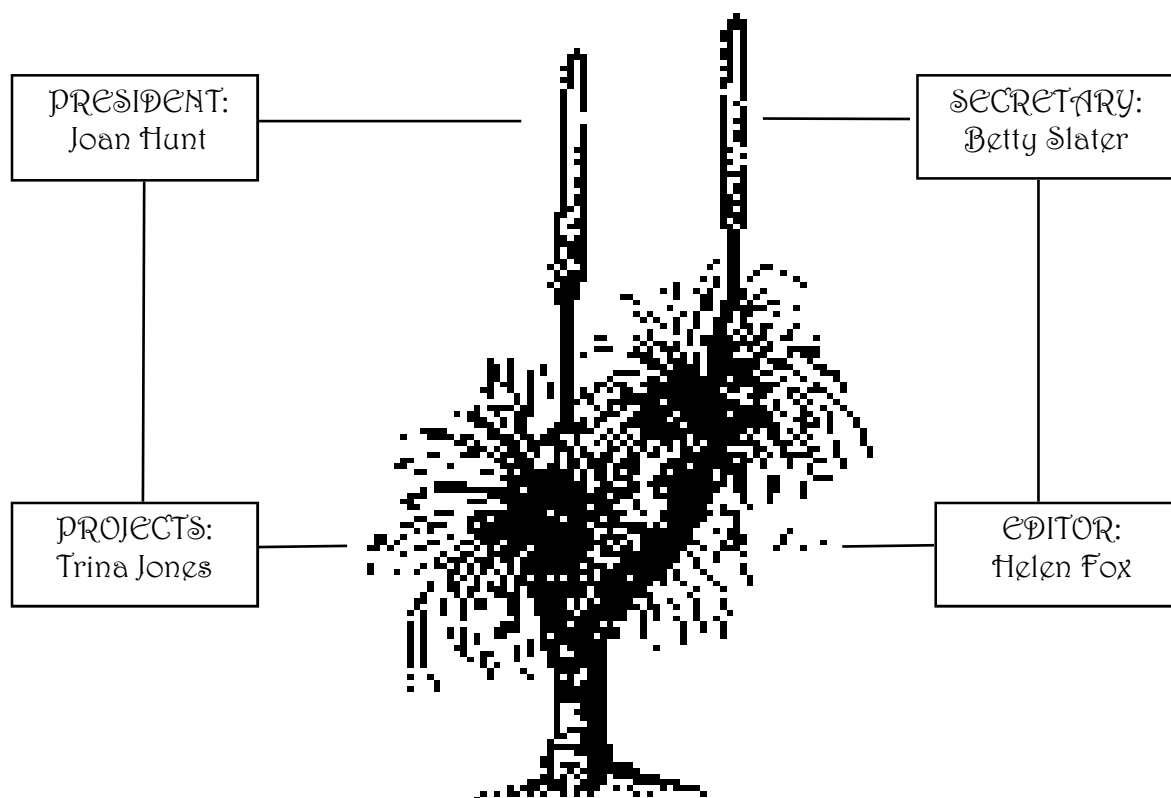


BALLARAT LINK

May 2007 - No.153



The Ballarat & District
Genealogical Society Inc.

THE BALLARAT & DISTRICT GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INC.

P O Box 1809
Ballarat Mail Centre
Vic 3354
Australia

www.ballaratgenealogy.org.au

researchballarat@hotmail.com

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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 2006 - 2007

President	Joan Hunt	joanhunt@netconnect.com.au
Vice President	Graeme Reynolds	
Secretary	Betty Slater	bslater@ncable.net.au
Assistant Secretary	Gayle Sellars	gaysel@ncable.net.au
Treasurer	Neva Dunstan	ndunstan@ncable.net.au
Librarian	Marie Murnane	m.murnane@damascus.vic.edu.au
Research Co-ordinator	Joan Hunt	joanhunt@netconnect.com.au
Publicity Officer	Rene Rawson	rene1@tadaust.org.au
Projects Officer	Trina Jones	tljones80@bigpond.com
Link Editor	Helen Fox	helen1940@hotmail.net.au

Program 2007

<u>February 27th</u>	Ballarat Old Cemetery visit followed by monthly meeting.
<u>March 27th</u>	Joan Hunt — Family History research in England.
<u>April 24th</u>	Amanda Taylor — Researching WW1 Soldiers.
<u>May 22nd</u>	Lis Allan (FGSV Dip F.H.S) — "Hospitals on the Goldfields"
<u>June 26th</u>	Joy Menhennet — Cornish in Ballarat and being a Bard.
<u>July 24th</u>	Professor Peter Griffiths speaking on "The Welsh on the Goldfields" (not confirmed)
<u>August 28th</u>	Joy Roy — English, Irish and Scottish on the Internet. Key resources found on the internet to assist with compiling family history. A master resource sheet for each country will be supplied.
<u>September 25th</u>	Eric Panther — Family history through postcards.
<u>October 23rd</u>	Linley Hooper GSV library, especially UK directories and electoral rolls.
<u>November 27th</u>	Show and Tell and Quiz Night, with Special End-of-Year Supper

Visit our web page for an update and confirmation of the above program

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

Visitors are most welcome.

No meeting December or January.

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Contributions for August 2007 Link to be with the editor by the 27th July 2007

**Email address:- helen1940@hotmail.net.au
Phone (03) 5344 9440**

Visit the Ballarat Genealogy website:-

www.ballaratgenealogy.org.au

Webmaster:- Daryl Povey

EMAIL :-

povey@sebas.vic.edu.au

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,

Who can believe we are already so far into the year? Everyone is busily involved in various research projects and activities. In particular, Trina Jones has been working on finalising the information for the Ballarat Petitions CD which will be launched at 2.00pm on Wednesday 8th August at the Ballarat Archives Centre of PROV by Shauna Hicks, Access Services Manager of Public Record Office Victoria. We hope to see you there to help celebrate what will be a unique research tool. The database on the CD will have approximately 10,000 entries on it, transcribed by BDGS volunteers from the petitions sent to Ballarat Council in the early 1860s, asking for a range of improvements to the City. These petitions are housed in the Ballarat Archives Centre PROV as VPRS 2500/P0, inwards correspondence to Ballarat Council. Trina has digitally copied every petition, so a link will take you from the transcribed name to the actual petition which the resident signed. We expect that many people will find ancestors on the petitions about whom they previously had no hard evidence that he or she was on the Ballarat goldfields at the time.

We have now set our annual Family History Open Day for the first weekend in November, as that is the same weekend that the City of Ballarat celebrates the Ballarat Heritage Festival. The Australiana Room at the Ballarat Library will be open that weekend and BDGS members will be available to assist people, both beginners and experienced, with their family history research, using the books, microfiche, microfilm and CDs in the Society's extensive collection. We hope to have an excellent speaker on a topic of great interest to family historians to address us on Sunday afternoon, followed by a sumptuous afternoon tea. A brochure with full details will be enclosed with your next copy of "Ballarat Link".

You will see in this issue the news that access to birth indexes and registration certificates will be limited later this year, so it will be timely for you to acquire those certificate you need while you have the chance. Instead of access up to 1920, it will now be to 1907 only, for births.

Recently I have had cause to revisit my paternal grandmother's family, which I thought I had completed many years ago. Frank Cullenane, my great-uncle, and his father-in-law Harry Grist, are believed to have been responsible for choosing the cast for the 1906 Ned Kelly film, and Frank played the part of one of the bushrangers. So, my recent research has been most interesting. What wonderful stories we unearth when we undertake our fascinating hobby.

All the best with your research,

Robert Fox— “a few things he remembered during his life”.

The following has been copied from a book submitted by Greta Bain

I was born May 15th 1874 in Victoria Street London, close to Buckingham Palace and the Houses of Parliament. My father was a London policeman who done duty in the House of Lords for 20 years, he retired on Pension when he was 47 and took a small general shop at Maidenhead and was able in time to buy himself a very nice house in Maidenhead. My father and mother both lived to 85 and saw their golden wedding and had a very happy life together.

I left school when I was 13, my father wanted me to be a cabinet maker. I went to the army and navy stores to learn the trade but did not like it so left and took a job as a Page Boy with John Bright son, afterwards I went with Lord and Lady Kinnock at Perth Castle a very fine mansion 7 miles from Perth. From there I went with Lord and Lady Mexbory and then I went Lord Derby as Match Footman. In those days there was a great demand for tall men. I was 6ft 3". I had to dress every day in a royal blue coat with silver lace, red plush britches and flesh coloured stockings, patent shoes with silver buckles. I had to have my hair powder every day. Lord Derby was a very rich gentleman he owned most of Liverpool. He had a good number of racehorses he won the Derby and Oaks. Knowsley Hall a very fine mansion about 7 miles from Liverpool a large estate consisted of 13 lodges, fine woods and thousands of pheasants. He gave very large shooting parties. All the famous people used to come and stay at Knowsley in those days including Royalty. The indoor servants was 45 and 40 horses in the stables.

From there I went as Under Butler to the Duke of Fife and Princess Louise who was the eldest daughter of King Edward the 7. They had 2 daughters Princess Alexandra and Princess Maud. After 2 years I was made Butler. Their London house was in Portman Square. Their Scotch house was Mar Lodge about 9 miles from Balmoral. Mar Lodge was a very large and fine Mansion amongst the hills the River Dee running beside of it. Very fine salmon fishing and deer stalking and 18 hole golf course. On deer stalking days they used to bring the deer in front of the house. I used to take gallons of Scotch Whisky out to the fillies who drank it neat in horn mugs, Then the pipers would play and dance around them.

Beside the house was a very large ballroom which contained thousands of deer heads which some were shot by some of the Crown Heads. Also a private chapel where the Duke and Princess are now buried. They entertained a great deal. Most Sundays they came from Balmoral to lunch and tea which included Queen Victoria, King Edward and Queen Alexandra, the German Emperor, King of Norway, the King of Greece, the Grand Duchess of Russia, King George and Queen Mary and their children often came to stay at Mar Lodge. My wife and Bob and Eva came to Mar Lodge and used to stay in a cottage not far from the house during their school holidays for seven years. I was very popular amongst the people of the estate as I had charge of the wine cellar which contained 160 gallons of very fine old Scotch whisky. One year the Duke of Sutherland lent us his yacht and we went to Norway, went up most of the fiords, also Germany and Holland.

The Princess suffered from niritis and the doctors advised her to spend the winter in Egypt which we went for several years. We used to start from Tilbury in December and return about May. The P & O company gave us a row of first class cabins, some were made into a sitting room for the Princess, 10 altogether used to go which was the Princess Louise, The Duke of Fife, Princess Alexandra, Princess Maud, the family doctor, myself, valet and 3 lady's maids.



The Princess Royal, Louise, Duchess of Fife, Duke of Fife and the Princesses Alexandra and Maud

One year we stayed for a while at Gibraltar . The Governor used to give us his house on European Point. Some days we went across to Spain to Ronda and lots of places there of interest. Then one year we went to Khartoum Sudan. We stayed at the palace. Outside the bedroom I had was where General Gordon was killed. We went to Omdurman and saw the battlefields also General Stalin's house where he was prisoner. steamer was waiting for us to take us up the Nile. The crew was mostly Egyptians, the engineer was English, the cook Italian, also a Dragoon who explained the writings on the tombs. The

was prisoner. We left the P&O boat at Port Said there a special train would take us to Cairo there a steamer was waiting for us to take us up the Nile. The crew was mostly Egyptians, the engineer was English, the cook Italian, also a Dragoman who explained the writings on the tombs. The Princess spent a lot of her time sketching which she was very good at.

On Dec 13th 1912 (should read 1911) we left Tilbury in the P&O ship Dellie (sic Delhi), the weather was very bad enormous seas were running and ship must have got out of its course. The Captain must have mistook the Cape Spartell Light House for Gibraltar and we run aground on some rocks about 1 o'clock in the morning. I was in bed I slipped an overcoat over my night clothes and went along the corridor to find out what had happened, the lights were out. I met a steward with a candle who said the Captain was shut up in his cabin with a bottle of whisky. Poor man he knew it was the finish of his career.

The first officer now took charge he was sending SOS out. They got one or two lifeboats in the water but they were smashed to pieces by the heavy waves. About 4 o'clock in the morning a French Battleship came to our rescue but had to stand out to sea owing to the weather. They launched a small motor boat which held 4 men and came along side our ship and towed the life boat with the women and children in it. They landed them alright. On return to pick us up a big wave and they were in the sea they were all drowned their bodies were all stretched on shore when we landed. About 5 o'clock the Battleship London came to our rescue and launched a big lifeboat with Admiral Craddock and 5 sailors who took the Princess, the Duke and their 2 daughters to try and land ashore but a big wave turned them all out in the water. With the help of the sailors they got ashore. Myself, the Valet and 3 maids after a time one of the almost last boats got in it but was nearly ashore when we were put in the water the next wave put us on land. We had to walk several miles to Cape Spartell Light House where they gave us hot coffee.



Cape Spartell Lighthouse

The Duke who had been out for a walk when he came in he said to me Fox if you go out put your helmet on. I think I have got sun stroke. He went to bed with Pneumonia and died at Aswan 3 days afterwards. Doctors from Cairo and London came but too late. We came back to England on the Battleship Powerfull, landed at Plymouth. King George and Queen Mary met us. Back to London by special train. The Duke's body was taken to Marlborough Lodge and buried in their Private Church.

In 1914 when the war had just started I went with the Grand Duke Michael of Russia and Countess Torby to Kenwood Hampstead. Kenwood is a very fine mansion very large room, Adams ceilings. Lovely grounds and lake. The Duke gave large parties mostly 30 for Lunch and 50 for Tea. Royalty and the Prime Minister and Cabinet used to come and a lot of Russians. 1916 The Russian Revolution came and the Duke lost his 36 thousand a year which he got from Russia. They gave up Kenwood and moved to a small house in Cambridge gate Regents Park. I left then and went with Sir George and Lady Cooper at Hursley Park, Hursley who made the house into a hospital for 50 officers. I had charge of the staff.

In 1919 my wife was taken very ill in London with flu. The doctor told me the best thing for her to live in the country as she would not be well in London. The Railway Hotel, Chandlers Ford was changing hands. I saw Sir David Faber who owned the brewery and took over on May 13th 1919. My wife was ever so well after that. Bob and Eva were both in banks in London, I gave them the choice to stay there or come with me to Chandlers Ford. They settled to come with me.

1934 Bob and Nora decided to get married. I handed over the business to them. My wife and I celebrated our Golden Wedding and 54 years of happy married life. No man could have had a better wife than I had. I thank God for giving me such a wonderful partner.

This book was given to Greta Bain (nee Davis) by her aunt Gertrude Elenora Chuter in 1986.

Robert Fox (whose memories are recorded here) is the father of Robert Fox who married Nora who was the cousin of Gertrude Elenora and Beatrice Annie Chuter the mother of Greta.

At the time of his memories being recorded Robert Fox resided at 56 Hursley Road, Chandler's Ford, Hants.

OUR GUEST SPEAKERS

February Meeting:

A large crowd assembled at the gates of the Ballarat Old Cemetery to be given a guided tour of many graves of interesting residents of Ballarat's past. Neva Dunstan and her guides took about a dozen people each, giving a most interesting commentary about each chosen grave site, and answered the Many questions put to them. As the light failed, we returned to the Ballarat Library meeting room for the rest of the meeting, including a short presentation by Colin Holmes about his White family of Essex.



Members tour of the Ballarat Old Cemetery

March Meeting:

Joan Hunt spoke about researching in England, with an emphasis on the research centres available in London.

Using a PowerPoint presentation to illustrate the buildings, documents and websites available, Joan described the various facilities and records available at the National Archives (which used to be called the Public Record Office), Guildhall Library, British Library Newspapers Centre at Colindale, Family Records Centre, the Society of Genealogists, and Westminster Archives, which are all in London.

She then showed examples of County Record Offices in Essex, Gloucestershire, Bristol, West Yorkshire and Leicestershire, and Local Studies Libraries in various towns in West Sussex and Gloucestershire, highlighting the sorts of records available in them, and the catalogues of records which are available on-line.

A major point Joan made was that, although there is a great deal of information on-line, there is much that will never be available in any way other than going in person, or employing a researcher, to read through and make notes. In particular this applies to land holdings, churchwardens' records, and maps and plans which often hold valuable details about villages and their inhabitants of the past.

A short presentation was made by Bill Johnson who showed the beautiful bound volume of 477 pages plus appendices of family trees, with photographs, reproduced documents and full index which he has produced on his forebears, entitled "Of Mutiny, Mutton and Gold".



Joan Hunt speaking on Researching in England

April Meeting:

Amanda Taylor, on the eve of Anzac Day, gave an impressively interesting PowerPoint presentation on young men from Ballarat and district who died of disease, or wounds or were killed in action in the First World War.

Amanda now has 1650 biographies in her database, much of which was developed through extensive research, including the hundreds of letters which were published in the Ballarat "Courier" by the families of soldiers who wrote home. Amanda gave a case study of three young Ballarat men – Tom, Dick and Harry – and illustrated their histories with photographs of action on the battlefields.

Letters from Thomas 'Titch' Rowlands described the snowy conditions he was fighting in before he was badly wounded at Bullecourt, although it was broncho-pneumonia that killed him as he was about to embark for home at Bristol in 1919. J.L. 'Dick' Simpson placed a letter in a bottle before setting off with the 8th Battalion on a troopship, and that bottle was found in 1955 on a beach at Albany, resulting in a book being written called "A Soldier from Ballarat". He was killed in action on 20th April 1918. Harry Borlase Clark kept a detailed diary which survives and wrote letters home, before he died on 7 October 1918, providing an invaluable eyewitness account of his experiences.

Amanda's book "Dinkum Oil" is available for purchase at the Ballarat Library, in the Australiana Room, the name meaning 'the true facts'. Biographical information about hundreds of soldiers can be found in this well-indexed book.

WWW Genie Links

Genetic Genealogy

DNA testing has become the latest tool for genealogists to supplement historical records especially in the United States where it has become very profitable for the companies concerned. Tests can confirm that participants share a common ancestor. They can also reveal 'non-paternity events' which could be distressing for some. The results provide an 'ancestral signature' which could place an individual within the overall patterns of genetic history which have been compiled relatively recently.

Blood of the Isles

<http://www.bloodoftheisles.net/>

This website provides information on the research used by Brian Sykes to write the book *Blood of the Isles : Exploring the genetic roots of our tribal history*, Bantam Press, 2006. DNA samples were collected from 10,000 volunteers throughout Britain for The Oxford Genetic Atlas Project.

The samples were used to construct maternal and paternal genetic maps which showed the genetic roots of people in England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales. These maps are also relevant to the origins of the descendants of the millions of people who emigrated from the British Isles.

Brian Sykes explored the extent to which the ancient Celtic tribes were affected over the centuries by invasions by the Romans, Anglo-Saxons, Vikings and Normans.

Genetic Genealogy

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Genetic_genealogy

At Wikipedia this article provides some background to investigations into the relationship between genealogy and genetic material as well as comprehensive overall information about the DNA testing. It lists a number of specific DNA-Genealogy mailing lists and discussion forums including those at Genforum and Rootsweb which has a membership of 750 subscribers from around the world.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/>

The Seven Daughters of Eve

The Seven Daughters of Eve is an earlier book by Brian Sykes about how he used analyses of ancient DNA to genetically link modern humans to prehistoric ancestors and their migrations.

Mitochondrial DNA tests trace maternal ancestry into the distant past. Sets of characteristic mutations on the mitochondrial genome can be traced along a person's maternal line to a specific prehistoric woman, called a 'clan mother'. Sykes identified seven major mitochondrial lineages for modern Europeans. The 'clan mother' of each group in turn shared a common maternal ancestor, the so-called 'Mitochondrial Eve' whose genetic material has been passed down to her offspring for well over 100,000 years. Scientific researchers also have a paternal 'Adam' but his history is not nearly as long.

World Families Network

<http://www.dnalist.net/>

This searchable database contains a list of about 7,000 Surname DNA Projects.

These mostly small groups have conducted genetic genealogy projects which used genealogical DNA tests to trace the link between surnames and male lineage.

Such genetic genealogical projects are heavily dependent on communication via the internet, such as family history forums where paper trail pedigrees can be posted. The World Families Network homepage has many links including FAQs which are most informative about the infinite range of tests available and how to interpret the results.

Cyndi's List

<http://www.cyndislist.com/surn-dna.htm>

This webpage by Cyndi Howells lists Surname DNA Studies and Projects. It has links which provide background information as well as a search by surname for Family Tree DNA Surname Projects.

Genetic genealogy is a rapidly growing field and perhaps we should all learn more about it.

As individual testing of DNA has become more widely available and more affordable the practice could become mainstream in the future.

Jennifer Burrell

jburrell@ncable.net.au

MEMBERS ONLY

Available to borrow :-

Audio Tapes of Guest Speakers talks.

Ph. Trina on 5339 6170

Ballarat Petitions 1860-1866 VPRS 2500/P0

In the mid-1860s the brickmakers and carters in the neighbourhood of Mopoke Gully were not happy. They had carted three quarters of the bricks so far used in the building of Ballarat and now their businesses were constrained by the impassable state of the streets in their locality.

The problem was sludge, a fine slurry of clay from the gold mining activities of sluicing and puddling, and it was particularly troublesome in that low-lying area near the Eastern Cricket Ground.

This was just one of an overwhelming percentage of petitions to the Ballarat Council calling for attention to the state of the streets. It seems that at least half of the more than 200 petitions in the time period related to the making of roads and footpaths and associated drainage works such as deepening culverts, improving channels, raising embankments and constructing bridges. The Council was called upon time and time again to ensure that conditions were improved so that the inhabitants could go about their business without the uncivilised inconvenience caused by sludge. Residents also voiced some opinions about the toll gates which would have provided revenue for road making. Some thought this was a double tax for ratepayers.

While Lydiard Street was the legal and financial centre of Ballarat, it was evident that Market Square in Doveton Street was the commercial hub during the 1860s. It was here that crowds assembled to sign the largest petitions to council from farmers, salesmen, produce merchants and others. The longest one with over 1000 signatures objected to a Council decision to build sheds in the centre of Sturt Street as a separate retail market for dairy and garden produce. The proposed relocation of the market caused a furore much like the present day one about the relocation of the Ballarat Saleyards. Other market issues included the improvement of facilities, the granting of agents' licences, the reduction of fees, closures on certain days and the opening of adjacent streets due to increasing business.

Meanwhile on the other side of town there was controversy at the Black Swamp. A few years later in the late 1860s its transformation into a vast expanse of clear water, newly named Lake Wendouree, was considered one of the greatest achievements of the Ballarat West Council.

During the 1860s all the land around the Swamp had been taken up for industry and private residences. This mixed use planning (or lack of it) resulted in conflicts about mining in the Swamp Reserve, reserving an acre of land at the Swamp Quarry for a public school and whether industries like the Tannery and Soap and Candle Manufactory were a nuisance.

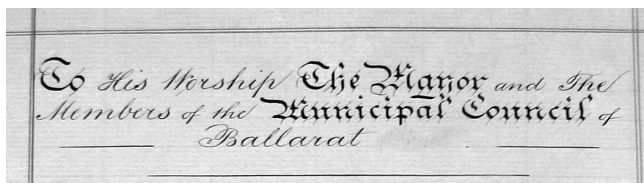
In 1861 a group of concerned residents wrote requesting that Council 'will not water the streets with swamp water owing to the scarcity of the same'. Another in 1866 called for the clearance of the swamp on Lake Wendouree for boating pursuits.

As the popularity of the destination grew about 100 residents asked for a continuation of the road to the west end and another 50 or so asked for the road from the township to be extended to Lake Wendouree. Others petitioned for streets leading to the lake to be constructed. The residents of Wendouree Parade alerted the Council to the dangerous state of the approaches to their houses and called for the alteration of sludge channels, extra drains, and a footpath.

Benevolence was expected of councillors as shown by the 26 kind hearted souls who in 1861 signed a petition testifying to the impoverished circumstances of a widow and 'earnestly and respectfully' soliciting Council to grant her an exemption from paying Her rates. There were several other expressions of compassion from neighbours for the authorities to remit the rates of widows and elderly people.

A longing for sounds of the home country and perhaps an indication of the secular nature of Ballarat was demonstrated by the petition for a public meeting of ratepayers to be held to consider obtaining a peal of bells for the Town Hall. Joan Hunt has commented in the Petitions Exhibition, which is on display at the Ballarat Archives Centre until the launch of the CD in August, that five years after this request was made, the Alfred Memorial Bells were purchased. They were installed in the new Town Hall tower and rung for the first time on Christmas Day 1871. Today Ballarat Town Hall is one of only four town halls in the world with a peal of bells.

One of the most unusual petitions sent to Council was one to close the cemetery. From the addresses of the signatories it was evident that they were talking about the Ballarat Old Cemetery. This request was made because a recently widowed man had visited the cemetery and found part of his wife's body exposed. It was thought that the sexton was being rather lax about the depth of coverage after burials especially in common ground where more would take place.



Petitions received by the Ballarat Council are in boxes of General Correspondence VPRS 2500/PO at the Ballarat Archives Centre of the Public Record Office of Victoria. The complete files are in the process of being indexed by name and subject by PROV volunteers Diane Hughes and Pam Weller. They considered that the petitions were so interesting that it became a separate indexing project undertaken by a team of volunteers from the Ballarat & District Genealogical Society over the last three years.

The degree of difficulty of this mammoth task was quite high as the names in the original documents were not neatly written by a trained clerk with the same ink pen. They were signatures and as such varied from painstaking attempts by barely literate people, to the scrawl and flourishes of busy professionals. One Irish girl named Mary gave her address as 'Den the Rud' (down the road). Unfortunately not all signatures were decipherable but the indexers did their best with reference to existing lists. On rare occasions mistakes appeared on a petition and occasionally there was a doubling of names or a retraction. Quite often the first signatures on a petition were those of notable dignitaries who would have been considered influential in whatever the cause.

We believe that the success rate in deciphering these signatures is high due to a combination of local knowledge and experience in interpreting the handwriting of long ago, as well as highly skilled proofreading. Sincere thanks must go to the following volunteers: Greta Bain, Gwenda Bayley, Jennifer Burrell, Kathleen McDonald, Margaret McKenna, Helen and Gill McLaughlin, Rene Rawson, Meryl Rowse, Betty Slater and coordinator Trina Jones, B&DGS Projects Officer.

Researchers will now have ready access to the names of the men, and a sprinkling of women, who were behind many ideas which shaped our city. We have readable lists of the names of the people who agitated for various works to be done. These 'movers and shakers' from many parts of the world approached the members of the municipal council in writing with their ever so politely worded requests and proposals to make Ballarat a better place to live.

From a genealogical point of view these documents, sometimes termed memorials, are of great interest because they were neighbourhood petitions founded on local knowledge. Even where addresses and occupations were not given most requests to Council place people in quite small localities. Proof that ancestors were residents of the Ballarat goldfields during these days of heady civic progress may not be found in any other records. It is for this reason that the indexing of petitions was considered to be very important.

Never again will it be necessary to handle the delicate pieces of paper, and in some cases parchment, which have survived in the archives for 140 years. As well as a database of just on 10,000 names, digital images have been made of the petitions by photographer and project manager Trina Jones. Researchers can now view the original documents on the CD with their full preambles and signatures as links from the surname database.

The Launch

Shauna Hicks of the Public Record Office of Victoria will officially launch the Ballarat Petitions 1860-1866 CD at 2.00 pm on Wednesday 8th August 2007 at the Ballarat Archives Centre in the glasshouse on the corner of Mair and Doveton Streets.

Advance orders for the CD of Ballarat Petitions 1860-1866 to:
Ballarat & District Genealogical Society Inc.
PO Box 1809
Ballarat Mail Centre
Victoria, Australia 3354

Price per CD including GST is \$30.00 plus \$5.00 postage and packaging.
Email enquiries to researchballarat@hotmail.com

www.ballaratgenealogy.org.au

Jennifer Burrell

DID YOU KNOW?

HOW TO FIND YOUR MINER ANCESTOR?
MINING SHAREHOLDERS INDEX – A CD DATABASE - 9,000 mining companies and 228,000 shareholders recorded in the Victorian Government Gazette 1857-1886. Includes:

- Name of shareholder,
- address,
- occupation (listed after 1872),
- number of shares purchased,
- value of each share,
- name of mining company,
- location of mining operations,
- date of share purchase,
- Government Gazette Reference Number.

The full page from VGG can be accessed on LandData at Ballarat Archives Centre, and this CD is available at the Australiana Room, Ballarat Library

A DIGITISED BRITISH NEWSPAPERS PROJECT IS STARTING?

1800-1900 date range, national, regional and local British newspapers, to be launched mid 2007. It will present like this: and can be found at:
<http://www.bl.uk/collections/britishnewspapers1800to1900.html#outline>

BIRTHS AND DEATHS AT SEA – Database at PROV

If you discover an ancestor has been born or died at sea, consult the database at Public Record Office Victoria (including Ballarat Archives Centre). If the entry is there, you can download the full certificate and print it out for just the cost of the photocopy.

Many of the petitions relate to country areas, while others are Melbourne municipalities.

HOW DO I FIND?

MELBOURNE LYING-IN HOSPITAL RECORDS 1856-1879

Go to: <http://www.thewomens.org.au/ourhistory> and follow the link from 'Patient Records'

USEFUL INDEXES

MUNICIPAL PETITIONS INDEX 1856-1863

This is a searchable CD of 91 petitions signed by 23,960 resident householders, who were requesting to have an area proclaimed a municipal district, extracted from the Victorian Government Gazettes 1856-1863.

The lists include:

Name of petitioner, address, occupation (when stated), municipality, date, petition number, and the reference number of the Victorian Government Gazette where the petition was listed.

Many of the petitions relate to country areas, while others are Melbourne municipalities.

MARRIAGES IN INDIA

The complete index to Bengal marriages 1855 to 1896 is now available, being a total of 234,000 names. Find the index at:

<http://members.ozemail.com.au/~clday/>

Happenings of 100 years ago

An exciting bolt occurred in the City yesterday. A horse attached to a spring dray, in which was a galvanized iron tank, the whole turn out belonging to Mr E Tuxen, contractor, was being driven along Ascot street, when the jolting of the tank scared the horse, which took the bit in its mouth. Two boys who were in the cart were tumbled out, but escaped injury, and the horse set out on a lengthy tour of both city and town. It galloped down Eyre street into Grant street, and over the bridge, and then turning came up the hill and rounded the goal into Lydiard street. Dodging vehicles and pedestrians with wonderful facility – or luck – it crossed the railway line, and went half way up soldiers Hill. Again the animal retraced its steps, and coming full tilt down Lydiard street, swung off at Mair street, went through Camp street and so got on to Sturt street, taking to the footpath opposite the Post Office, where it was captured, thoroughly exhausted. Curiously enough, not the slightest damage was done either to horse, cart or harness.

Ballarat Star June 8th 1907 page 6

GENEALOGIST'S PRAYER : God grant me the serenity to accept the ancestors I cannot find, the courage to find the ones I can and the wisdom to document thoroughly.

RESEARCH

The BDGS Research Team is being kept very busy, thanks to Jenny Burrell, Neva Dunstan, Kath McDonald, Rene Rawson, Betty Slater and Joan Hunt. If you can help with information about any of the following, please contact us on researchballarat@hotmail.com:

- * William Rickman lived in Ballarat 1852-1881, possibly working in a hotel
- * Alfred Jessop lived in Ballarat 1862-1874
- * James Green married Helen Shewlin and lived in Creswick in the 1880s
- * Thomas James Pincott was associated with Pincott's Reservoir, 1867
- * William Walton married Mary Ann Adamson and lived Ballarat 1852-1866
- * William & Mary Chancellor had children born Ballarat East 1890s
- * William Wigney, coachbuilder, married Elizabeth Ditchburn in 1863
- * George Morgan Read married Jane Johnston in 1868 at Barrabool
- * Archibald Chisholm and family arr. 1854 from Strathglass, Inverness
- * James Alexander Stark worked on Ballarat East Town Hall gardens
- * James Dawson, coachbuilder, married Emily Worth at Ballarat in 1868
- * Stephen Hatton Austin and Thomas Austin, brothers, attended SMB
- * Richard Langmead Brooking married Jane Mortimore
- * John Carter married Mary Anne Jolly in 1864
- * Henry Ah Chan and family lived in Ballarat East
- * John Cook Tainsh, father and son, killed by lightning 1885, buried Ballarat
- * Stephen Pidgeon, son of Ansley and Ellen Pidgeon of Ballarat
- * Hans Carl Hansen and son Charles Christopher Hansen, 1861-1920
- * Robert Whitrick married Mary Anne Sage
- * Catherina Haub married Henrich Konrad Haintz at Ballarat in 1863
- * Philip and Eliza Meagher of Redan, 1870-1907, buried Ballarat
- * William Ordell Raymond Buntine, 1880-1948, and son Arthur 'Lone' Buntine
- * William Harold Treloar, pilot with the Australian Flying Corp
- * George Augustus Eicke and brother Frederick Eicke of Dowling Forest

HELP WANTED

This photo was thought to have been taken around 1908 at Little Bendigo .
Ernest BOREHAM 3rd from right in front row.
Emily BOREHAM (his sister) 3rd from right in back row.



Dawn Collins wonders if any member can add any more information and she can be contacted at
PO Box 667 Burnie, Tas. 7320
or
dcollins@southcom.com.au

New Access Policy for Births, Deaths and Marriages, Victoria:

The Victorian Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages will release a new Access Policy later this year. This policy governs the way people access records and the manner the Registry distributes the information it holds. Specific to family historians, the new access policy will state that the restriction period for birth records will increase from 75 years to 100 years.

Restriction periods surrounding death and marriage records will remain unchanged, 10 years and 60 years respectively.

Changes to the policy are driven by a need to better protect personal information held by the Registry as well as bring the Victorian registry in line with national standards.

Additionally, life expectancy has risen since the last access policy review and without an increase in the access period of birth records a growing portion of the Victorian community would be left exposed to identity related crimes.

Further information and a release date of the new access policy will be made available shortly

Quiz from November 2006 General Meeting BDGS

QUESTIONS

1. What is meant when you see that a shipping record mentions "the Downs"?
2. What was the date of the first public announcement of gold discovery in Victoria?
3. When was Victoria formed as a State separate from New South Wales?
4. What are the three land measurements used on parish plans in Victoria, shown as a.r.p.?
5. When were potatoes introduced as a crop in England?
6. What does the term "Mrs" actually stand for?
7. What is a palimpsest?
8. Many christenings were recorded in Latin. What would be the English name of a child who was recorded as: Cardus, Hieronymus, Ludovicus, Egidius .
9. Why is the date of 30 March 1851 of importance to family historians?
10. If your ancestor was an armiger, what would you know about him?
11. In a coat of arms what colour would a line be if it was called azure?
12. If your ancestor's occupation was that of a fletcher, what work would he do?
13. What is the Public Record Office in London now known as?
14. What is the next index that the Ballarat Genies will be making available?
15. Where will you find the Family Records Centre?
16. What is the major difference between English and Australian census records?
17. How much do you pay for a Victorian birth, marriage or death certificate:
 - if you apply by mail
 - if you apply on-line
18. Within the Public Record Office Victoria, what does VAC stand for?
19. When did civil registration of births, marriages and deaths commence in England?
20. What does the Freebmd site provide?

Compiled by Joan Hunt on behalf of the Ballarat & District Genealogical Society.

Answers can be found on page 15



What's New at PROV

Ballarat Archives Centre (BAC)

Displays

A display of petitions sent to the Ballarat City Council has gone on display at the Ballarat Archives Centre until September. The petitions give an insight into the issues that concerned the residents of Ballarat in the nineteenth century. Amongst the records are petitions for the purchase of the Town Hall bells in 1866 and a request by the wives and daughters of local farmers for the establishment of a market for farm produce in 1873.

Seminar — Digging Into the Archives: Research at the Ballarat Archives Centre.

Wednesday 27 June 2007 10.00 am to 12.30 pm.

The BAC holds a wealth of records of the Central Highlands Region relating to municipalities, courts, mining and other local activities. This seminar uses records held at BAC to show how to prepare and undertake research and how to use records there, at the Victorian Archives Centre (VAC) and online to find what you want. It will conclude with a tour of BAC.

The cost is \$15 or \$10 concession (GST included) and bookings can be made by contacting BAC (ph: 53336611) or at VAC reception (ph: 93485600).

Lauren Bourke

Acting Documentation Officer

Public Record Office Victoria

Lauren.Bourke@dvc.vic.gov.au



News from the Library

Now in our Library collection.

St Patrick's College Ballarat 1893-1993.

Written by Br. P. C. Naughtin.

Ballarat High School Centenary Book which was launched in April 2007 is being ordered and will be added to our collection when it arrives.

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.

Some older census occupations

ACATER - supplied food provisions, e.g. a ships chandler

ACCIPITRARY – falconer

ACCOUCHEUR / ACCOUCHEUS - assisted women in childbirth

ALL SPICE - name for a grocer

AMBLER - officer of the Royal Stable who broke in horses

ANKLE BEATER - young person who helped to drive the cattle to market

APRONEER - term used in London for a shopkeeper

AQUARIUS (EWAR) – waterman

ARKWRIGHT - skilled craftsman who produced "arks" (wooden chests or coffers)

BACK WASHER - employed to clean the wool in the worsted manufacturing industry

BACKMAKER - made "backs", vats, tubs, a Cooper

BACK'US BOY - kitchen servant (from "back of the house")

BAL MAIDEN - female mine worker who worked on the surface (also a Pit Brow Lass)

BALISTER - archer most commonly a crossbowman

BANDSTER - bound the wheat sheaves after harvest

BASIL WORKER - worked with sheep and goat skins

BEAVER - made felt used in hat making

BESOM MAKER - made brooms

BIDDY - female servant usually of Irish stock

CAFENDER – carpenter

CAMBIST – banker

CAMERIST - lady's maid

CARDROOMER - term for anyone who worked in the carding room of the mills

CARTOMANCER - fortune teller who used cards

CHIFFONIER - wig maker or rag picker

CHINGLOR - roof tiler who used wooden shingles

CLOD HOPPER – plowman

COSTERMONGER - fruit seller

DEXTER – dyer

DOG LEECH – veterinarian

DONKEY BOY / DONKEY MAN - driver of a carriage for passengers

DUFFER - peddler of cheap goods

EARTH STOPPER - one who plugs up animal holes

FISH FAG - female fish monger

FOOT STRAIGHTENER - one who assembled watch and clock dials in watch making

FUNAMBULIST - tightrope walker

GABELER - tax collector

GUINEA PIG - an unattached, or roving person whose fee was usually a guinea

HOWDY WIFE – midwife

LOBLOLLY BOY - ship's doctor's assistant or errand boy

OWLER - sheep or wool smuggler

PARGETER - applied ornamental plaster to buildings

PEDASCULE – schoolmaster

PROTHONARY - law clerk

QUARREL PICKER – glazier

SEDGEMAN - skilled workman who applied sedge (type of grass) used as an early roofing material

TASKER – reaper

TIGER - small groom or pageboy in livery

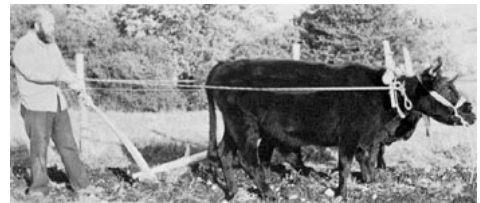
TWEENIE / TWEENY - maid who worked "between the stairs" she assisted the cooks and the housemaids

VILLEIN - one who paid dues to the lord of the manor in return for use of the land

WARRENER - in charge of a portion of land used for breeding rabbits and other small game

WATTLE HURDLE MAKER - made a type of fence from wattle to keep the sheep in

WHACKER - horse or oxen team driver



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

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)

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

HELP WANTED

Members are entitled to 1 free entry per year. Please quote Membership No.

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)

**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

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.

ANSWERS from page 12

1. Area at mouth of Thames from where ships left.
2. 7 July 1851 James William Esmond announced in the Geelong Advertiser that he had unearthed both alluvial gold and quartz specimens above the north bank of a creek opposite Donald Cameron's home-
stead at what became Clunes township.
3. 1 July 1851
4. Acres, roods and perches.
5. In the 17th century, along with turnips and red clover.
6. Mistress – until about the end of the 18th century a woman, whether married or unmarried, in the same social class as a man who was addressed as 'Mr', was styled Mrs
7. A sheet of parchment from which the original writing has been erased and on which new material has been written – e.g., which I found among petty sessions records at National Archives.
8. Cardus = Charles, Hieronymus = Jerome, Ludovicus = Lewis, Egidius = Giles.
9. That is the date of the 1851 English census
10. That he was entitled to bear arms. The Harleian Society has printed lists of those who received grants of arms from 1687 to 1898.
- 11 Blue – and it would always be horizontal
12. He made arrows
13. The National Archives
14. Ballarat Petitions
15. In London – 1 Myddelton Street
16. Australia did not keep the original records, but destroyed them after compiling the statistics
- 17 \$25.80 if you apply by mail
\$17.50 if you apply on-line

18. Victorian Archive Centre
19. July 1837
20. Access to indexes to births, deaths and marriages from 1837

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 \$6.50

Concession and Children \$4.00

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

John & Margaret Simpson of Haddon
Margaret Cooper of Meredith
Carol Fenyvesi of Craigeburn
Suzanne Newton of Mackay, Qld
Colin Holmes of Ballarat
Kylie Allison of Ballarat
Marilyn Anderson of Rosewood, Qld
Lyn Hedger of Alfredton

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