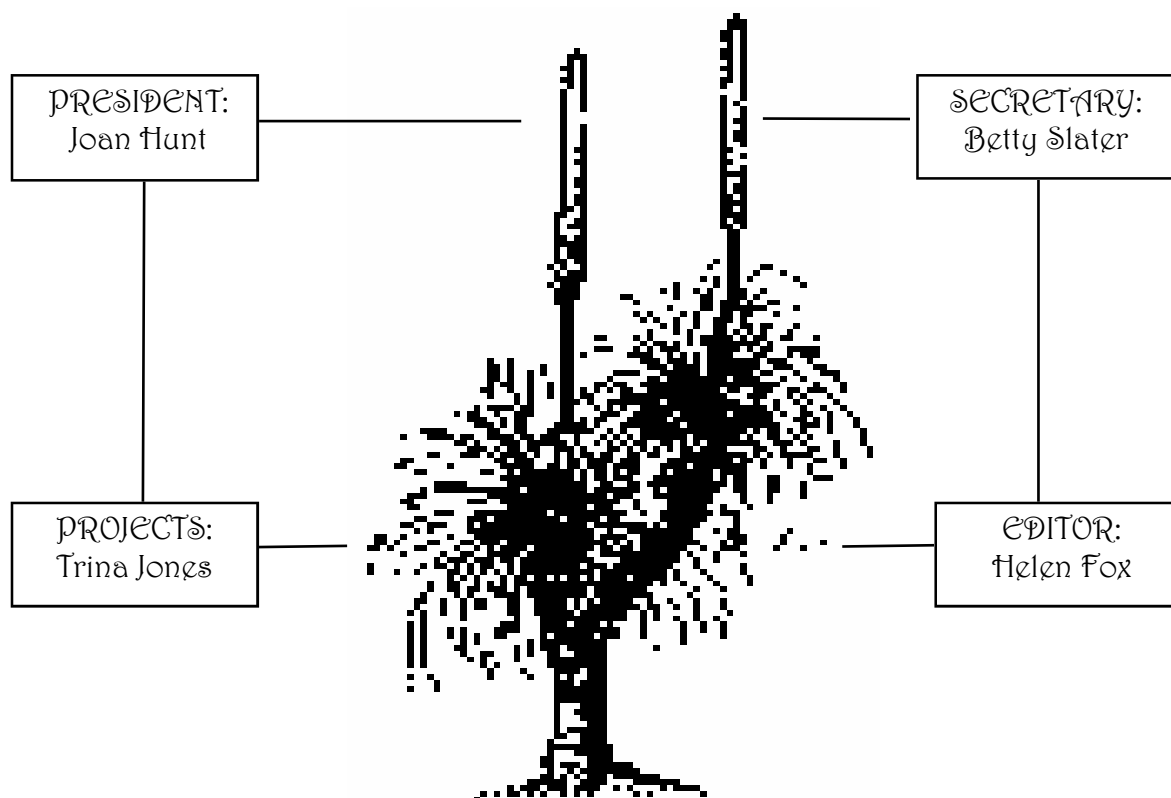


BALLARAT LINK

February 2007 - No.152



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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Published February, May,
August and November.

ABN 40 041 783 778

ISSN 0819-7199

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

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Program 2007

<u>February 27th</u>	Ballarat Old Cemetery visit. Meet at 7.30pm at the Cemetery gates — corner Creswick Road and Macarthur Street. At the conclusion of a guided tour the monthly meeting and supper will be held at the Ballarat Central Library Meeting room.
<u>March 27th</u>	Joan Hunt — Family History research in England.
<u>April 24th</u>	Amanda Taylor — Researching WW1 soldiers.
<u>May 22nd</u>	AIGS — Treasures in the AIGS library (To be confirmed)
<u>June 26th</u>	Joy Menhennet — Cornish in Ballarat and being a Bard.
<u>July 24th</u>	Irene Fullarton — GUM, Internet research sites (To be confirmed)
<u>August 28th</u>	Yvonne Izatt — Family History research in countries other than UK (To be confirmed)
<u>September 25th</u>	Eric Panther — Family history through postcards.
<u>October 23rd</u>	Linley Hooper GSV library, especially UK directories and electoral rolls. (To be confirmed)
<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 May 2007 Link to be with the editor by the 27th April 2007

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**Visit the Ballarat Genealogy
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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 am very grateful to the BDGS Committee for conducting the affairs of the Society so capably while I was overseas, especially the launch of the CD of the Old and New Ballarat Cemeteries and Crematorium Indexed transcripts of memorials and burial and cremation registers. The Family History Open Day was a great success once again, and planning is already under way for the event in 2007, proposed to take place on Sunday 4th November.

As for Gary and me, we had a wonderful twelve weeks which far surpassed our expectations in relation to our family history research. The highlight was our ten days in Villa di Tirano on the border between Italy and Switzerland from where Gary's great grandfather had emigrated to Bendigo in 1864. With the help of a bilingual friend we discovered the old family home, now derelict but still standing in the village, and the family property up on the hillside, still owned by Gary's third cousin whom he had never known about prior to our visit. One document we accessed at the local council office even had Gary's great grandfather's present address in 1865 as "in Australia", listed with Giovanni's widowed mother's details with those of his brother Agostino and his wife and children. All we had known from Giovanni's marriage certificate was the name of his parents at Villa di Tirano.

This was my fourth trip to England but to spend three full weeks in London was the best opportunity yet to spend long hours at the National Archives at Kew, the newspaper reading rooms of the British Library at Colindale, the Family Records Centre just a short bus trip from our flat, the local history libraries at Westminster and Tower Hamlets, the Guildhall library, and so on.

This time I concentrated on my lines that came from Gloucestershire, so our three weeks in the Cotswolds included drives and walks around North Nibley, Wotton Under Edge, Berkeley, the Guitings and South Cerney, villages which have changed little over the past 160-180 years since my Hitchins and Richings ancestors left for Australia. I took the opportunity to research land records, wills, parish documents and newspaper articles at the Gloucester Record Office and I spent time with several distant cousins who are keen family historians. In one case we had to trace back nine generations to connect with my fourth cousin four times removed, a young woman still living within a very short distance from where our mutual ancestors lived in the late 1600s.

I trust that you all had a very pleasant Christmas and New Year with your families, and that 2007 will keep you busy but happy as you continue to enjoy the many pleasures that family history research brings us.

Joan

Hugh Gray - A prominent early Ballarat Pioneer

Hugh Gray, the son of Charles Gray and Robina Tait, was born on the 7th of January 1810 at Alox Clackmananshire Scotland. He married Elizabeth Paterson on 8th February 1831 in Glasgow Scotland. Elizabeth Paterson was born 13th of September 1808. These dates were written in Hugh's own hand writing in the family bible, compiled during 1852. The actual Bible is inscribed "Hugh Gray 1825", so it was probably a present for his 15th birthday from his parents. The bible is currently in very good condition given its age.

Hugh Gray was an instrument maker to Messer's Griffin & Co of London and Glasgow before sailing for Australia. He was also a lecturer on electricity and galvanism to the Calton Mechanics Institution. He invented a "new medical galvanic apparatus" in October 1850 with which he treated many obstinate cases of rheumatism, deafness and paralysis.



Hugh Gray

He spent his late 20's and early 30's giving many lectures around Glasgow and was involved with the Mechanics' Institution in Calton from 1840 up to the time of his departure in 1852. On the 21st of April 1842 Hugh Gray received a letter from the Calton Public library thanking him for a successful lecture at the local school and awarded him 3 years reading in the library free of charge. This letter still exists in the family today. (See copy of letter)

Hugh Gray was obviously held in high regard as many articles appeared in various publications denoting his departure to Australia. His friends contributed to buy a testimonial for him.

Until only recently we never knew what that testimonial was, only of its existence from a newspaper article.

"Mr Hugh Gray of Portland Street, having completed his arrangements for removing to Australia, and sails from Glasgow on the 10th Instant, it is intended by some of his friends to present him with a Testimonial of respect; and, to mature this matter, a Meeting will be held in Mr McKechnie's house here, on Saturday Evening, the 1st of May at eight O'clock, to which you are respectfully invited. 29 Jamaica Street Glasgow. April 30th, 1852"

Recently we uncovered a small silver snuffbox, which is engraved:

"Presented to Hugh Gray
by a few of his friends
on his departure to Australia
as a testimonial of their esteem.
Glasgow 7th may 1852."

Hugh and his wife Elizabeth with their eight children boarded the ship "Borneuf" which set sail from Glasgow in May 1852. While waiting to sail their youngest son Hugh Gray died in Glasgow.

Elizabeth's brother Robert Paterson and his wife Catherine also joined the journey to Australia. The "Borneuf" arrived in Geelong on the 28th of August 1852. Not long before the ship arrived in Geelong their son Gilmor Wilson Gray died. During voyages in these times many adults and children died from diseases such as measles, typhoid and scarlet fever, along with the sicknesses resulting from poor diet and stagnant drinking water.

Hugh Gray wrote a letter on the 19th December 1852 and it was published on the 22 of July 1853 in the Glasgow Sentinel.

(See www.ballaratgenealogy.org.au/art/gray.htm - as the letter is reproduced here) The article describes his and his family's life in Geelong before venturing to Ballarat. We can see he was a Carpenter, Blacksmith and Turner. While in Geelong Hugh ordered for a goat cart to be made and once it was ready he and the family made the journey to Ballarat. He moved the family in October 1853 and set up a Blacksmith's forge on Main Road Ballarat and was one of the first who plied this valuable trade on the goldfields. The original cartwheels are today still in the possession of our family. Hugh arrived in Ballarat in November 1853.

Hugh and his family would have been right in the midst of the Eureka Stockade uprising days before December 3rd, and from various letters written by Hugh, it shows this to be true. He was an onlooker, however many of his peers were involved and described the many goings on in the street in which he ran his business. Hugh Gray's business at the time of the Eureka Stockade would have only been a stone's throw from the point on Bakery Hill where 12,000 men stood protesting, burning their licences.

We know he had a Business licence for Main Road Ballarat issued on 26th of July 1857 and this is presumed to be for his Blacksmith business. Part of his business was sharpening picks for the diggers. Hugh listed his address as Main Road Ballarat on the 25th of January 1858 when he was one of the organisers of the Burns Festival held at the Unicorn Hotel. He also set up the Blacksmiths Association in Ballarat sometime in the 1850's. On the 19th of September 1857 he was admitted a member of the Convention Land and Reform League of Ballarat, which called for an immediate repeal of the Squatters Bill, and many requests for Parliamentary reform.

Hugh Gray was the President of The Caledonian Society in 1858 and again in 1877 and a committee member during other times. On Friday the 23rd of November 1860 Hugh Gray was made a life member of The Caledonian Society at a meeting held by the committee of management at the John O'Grout Hotel in Main Road, after consideration of his efforts for the society over the previous years.

Hugh was also very involved as one of the first promoters of the Mechanics Institute. He was chairman of the Grand Exhibition Science and Art show in August 1863 where he explained the purification of Silver, performed chemical experiments including those involving explosive gases, and displayed the process of glass blowing.

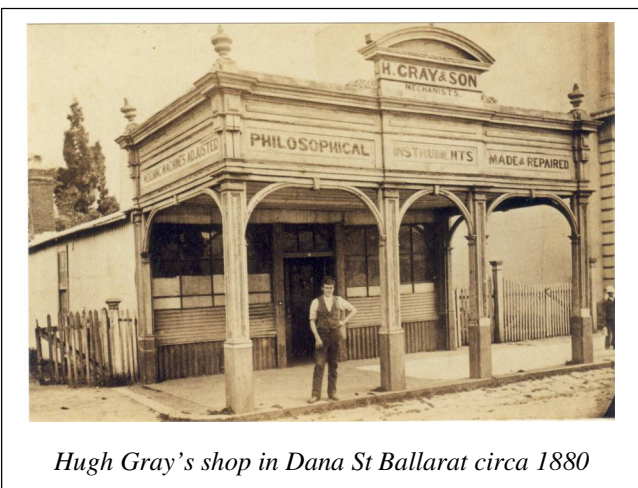
Hugh Gray began the Philosophical Association of Ballarat and on the 14th of March 1869 a meeting was held to establish a code of regulations and elect members, resulting in Hugh becoming the Secretary. This meeting was held at the Edinburgh Castle Hotel.

On the 28th of June 1870 he also formed the Ballarat West Bowling club. A meeting was held at the Edinburgh Castle hotel at 7.00pm and Hugh was named the Secretary of the Club.

Hugh Gray was on the Old Pioneers Committee in 1872 and a gathering was held on the 26th of August 1872 at the Royal Alfred Hall.

He obviously occupied the Dana Street Property, which was adjacent to the corner of Armstrong Street and next to the bank from sometime around 1866 until about 1877. Today the Salvation Army have their building on it (currently addressed 7 Dana St) and all remnants of Hugh's shop no longer exist. A photo exists of Hugh's shop taken not long before it was torn down. (See photo) He and his son Charles, who also classed himself as a blacksmith, executed all kinds of "cunning work in Iron, and steel and brass ". They also performed repairs of mathematical and Philosophical instruments and repairs/construction of clocks. He was also an avid inventor – inventing a working "gold saving apparatus" after many others failed before him. This machine was a more efficient way of extracting the gold from the dirt.

While in the Dana Street property in September 1874, he also invented a machine for cutting shoe laces from hides, "made scales to weigh up to 600 oz that would turn by 1/4 grain, and one by a 200th part of a grain, or, with an hydrostatic apparatus attached, by the 300th part of a grain". He also extracted from poppies grown in his own garden, opium containing 25% of morphia. He made and erected, with the help of Charles Gray, all the weighbridges in the district.



Hugh Gray's shop in Dana St Ballarat circa 1880

He valued properties for the Ballarat Shire Council from 1863 to at least 1866. A letter written by the Town Clerk in 1866 compliments Hugh Gray on his skills and states that he performed his duties "duly to the satisfaction of the borough of Ballarat".

In 1866 the borough of Sebastopol paid him 50 pounds for property valuations. Also in 1868 he was appointed valuer for the central ward of the borough of Ballarat.

He and his wife Elizabeth came to Melbourne for a change from running the business and lived on the corner of Wattletree Road and Dandenong Road in Armadale. The house is no longer there – it is now part of Wattletree Road and the medium strip.



Hugh and Elizabeth Gray

Elizabeth died on the 23rd of January 1878. Hugh died two years later at the residence of his daughter and son in law in East Prahran, on Wednesday the 2nd of June 1880 at approximately 4.30am from “dropsy and aneurism of the heart”. He was described as having broad shoulders, stout build, middle height frame and a Grey beard.

Hugh Gray was my partner’s Great Great Great Grandfather and my Great Great Great Great Uncle. Bizarre but true.

If anyone were researching the Gray and Ralston families originating in Ballarat I would love to hear from you. I am currently putting together a book on the life of Hugh Gray and his descendents.

Peter Spark
704 Eureka St
Ballarat East Vic 3350
peterspark@hotmail.com phone 0418 110 922

What are Deposit Journals? **NSW Immigration Deposit Journal Index 1853-1900 [Microfiche]**

1 folder

Indexes reels in the State Archives. Lists the names of immigrants who were sponsored by someone in the Colony to emigrate.

Alphabetical by the immigrants name, also includes the name of the sponsor, and details about place of origin, relationship to sponsor, etc. The introductory information to the Index has been photocopied and filed in the folder with the microfiche.

<http://www.penrithcity.nsw.gov.au/index.asp?id=665>

Immigration Deposit Journal indexes, 1853-1900

New South Wales

CDROM

Ringwood

<http://www.erl.vic.gov.au/family/cdrom.htm>

Willoughby City Library 4 3/11/2004

Shipping Arrivals and Departures

Unassisted Passengers 1826-1900: which include

* Reports of Vessels Arrived 1826-1853 *Microfilm*

* Passengers Arriving 1854-1900 *Microfilm*

Willoughby City Library 5 3/11/2004

Assisted (Bounty) Immigrants 1828-1842 *Microfilm*

Assisted Immigrants to N.S.W. arriving Sydney

1838-1896 *Microfilm*

Assisted Arrivals at Port Phillip 1839-1851

Microfilm

Assisted Immigrants to Moreton Bay 1848-1859

Microfilm

Immigration Deposit Journals 1853-1900 *Microfilm*

**This looks as though the term Deposit Journals relates to records of immigrants being deposited, so may be just an alternative to disposal list. It would be worth looking at the actual microfilm, but it is obviously something that relates only to New South Wales

MEMBERS ONLY

Available to borrow :-

Audio Tapes of Guest Speakers talks.

Ph. Trina on 5339 6170

RESEARCH QUERIES

Please contact the research team at
researchballarat@hotmail.com

What's New at PROV
by Shauna Hicks,
Senior Manager Access Services

Next Stage of Outward Passengers Index Launched in December 2006 PROV launched the next stage of the Outwards Passenger Index (1862-1876) which lists passengers departing from Victoria to go interstate, to New Zealand or overseas to the UK or Foreign Ports. The index now covers from 1852 to 1876 and contains 507,112 names which is an incredible number of people leaving the state during that time. It can be accessed on the PROV website at www.access.prov.vic.gov.au and click on the link to 'Digitised Records and Online Indexes' and scroll down to 'Immigration'.

PROV Seminar Program 2007

The new brochure for the Seminar Series Feb - Jun 2007 is now available from PROV reading rooms or download online at

www.prov.vic.gov.au/events/patrn.htm

Topics covered include making the most of the online catalogue; miners and Chinese market gardeners; family history research at PROV and NAA; will and probate records and education records.

Local History Grants Program

Applications for Local History Grants Program for 2007 are now being accepted. Administered by PROV, the LHGP supports projects that preserve, record and share Victoria's local history.

Further information is available at

www.prov.vic.gov.au/lhgp/welcome.asp

or contact Information Victoria on
1300 366 356

Ballarat Archives Centre (BAC)

Displays

A display of records and photographs from the 1956 Olympic Games entitled "The 1956 Olympic Games Come to Ballarat" is on display until March 2007 at the Ballarat Archives Centre. The display includes photographs from the rowing events at Lake Wendouree, Olympic ephemera and official reports. A new display exploring petitions sent to the Ballarat City Council will go on display at BAC in March of 2007.

BAC is only open Mondays and Tuesdays from 9:00am - 4:30pm but the displays are outside our office in the foyer so people can come in and look at them Monday - Friday during normal business hours of the State Government Offices.

Ballarat Archives Centre Brochure

A new brochure to assist those travelling to BAC is now available in the Ballarat and North Melbourne Reading Rooms.

The brochure includes a map showing how to get to BAC, public transport information, opening times and contact details.

Lauren Bourke

Regional Archivist

Public Record Office Victoria

Lauren.Bourke@dvc.vic.gov.au

Ph: 5333 6611

Graves of Tasmania

For well over 18 months now we have been busy photographing all headstones, wall plaques etc at Cornelian Bay Cemetery in Hobart and have finally finished.

As you can imagine, this was a mammoth task and we now have DVD's of both Church of England and Methodist sections for sale. It was decided we would proceed this way so all the photos could be captured on a single DVD but CD's are also available on request for anyone who does not have a DVD reader in their computer (There are over 20,000 photos in the Church of England Section and this equates to 5 CD's) DVD's also include a map of the Cemetery which is handy for anyone visiting the state and looking for their ancestors grave

The Methodist section also includes Scottish, Jewish, Feature Gardens, French Expedition, Garden Crypts and the Hobart War Cemetery which includes A.I.F Walls, Hobart War Garden of Remembrance and The Lawn graves.

For more information, prices, articles etc go to

<http://gravesoftas.dynup.net>

At the present time we are also compiling a database of all unmarked graves which will also be available free of charge on the website. At the present time we have also listed about 60% of the paupers buried at Cornelian Bay Cemetery (about 5,000).

CD's of various Municipalities are also for sale and I would point out that these have been purchased (in multiples) by the State Library of Tasmania and can be viewed at branches of the Library (in Tasmania) for anyone not wishing to purchase.

Sue Guinan

Tasmania

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.

WWW Genie Links

Newspapers Online

Old newspapers can take us back in time to provide historical and social background to the world of our ancestors. In an ideal online world for family historians, entire newspapers would be accessible as digitised images. There would be a searchable index and of course, all entirely free. Then the internet would truly be the means to access a world wide library at your fingertips. This may come true in the future as there are some promising examples both in Australia and further afield.

Australian Periodical Publications 1840-1845

<http://www.nla.gov.au/ferg/browselist.html>

This is a digital library created by the Australian Cooperative Digitisation Project. A list of about 70 titles of early Australian publications can be browsed. Newspapers include *The Adelaide Independent and Cabinet of Amusement* 1841, *The Geelong Advertiser* 1840-1845 and *The Melbourne Times* 1842-1843. There is a subject list but the material is not fully indexed.

The Argus Index 1870-1879

<http://www.nla.gov.au/argus/>

The aim of this project is to match the best service in the world which is available to researchers in the United Kingdom and the United States where they can consult indexes to *The Times* and the *New York Times* that cover the whole period of their 200 years of publication.

On this site we are told that, "Australia lacks a continuous index to any of its quality newspapers. Researchers in Australia spend many hours searching for material that an index can guide them to in seconds. *The Argus*, published in Melbourne from 1846-1957, was the quality newspaper of record in the nineteenth and first part of the twentieth century. It is the primary resource for data on 19th century Australia and is widely recognised as the general Australian newspaper of record for this period. In size, range of news, accuracy and objectivity of reporting and its literary content, the Argus is without peer."



It has taken two years to complete the index for just one decade. By 2010 it is hoped that the remaining twelve years will be done and perhaps by that time the paper itself may have been digitised so that users of the index will have online access to the articles that the index has identified.

***The Times* (London) 1785-1985 Digital Archive**

<http://www.gale.com/Times/>

This is the world's largest newspaper archive available on the internet. It contains full-text and full-image articles as published for 200 years in PDF files, home delivered to your computer, but at a cost. Samples can be viewed and requests can be made for a free trial.

Richard Heaton's Local Newspaper Master Index

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~dutilleul/ZOtherPapers/Index.html>

This free site has approximately 600 transcripts from a list of over 80 titles of newspapers, mostly from Southern England but also from other parts of the United Kingdom. In addition there is a searchable index of the transcripts consisting of over 40 000 names from various dates between 1725 to 1870.

Among the 100 or so 'taster' samples of extracts are gems such as the selling of a wife for one shilling in 1872 and a descriptive paragraph of an 1819 cricket match between married and single females on Marchwood Marsh in Hampshire witnessed by 2000 spectators.

The availability of more digitised archival newspapers would be a big help to researchers.

To my knowledge there are no newspaper archives online in the Ballarat area. However, there is one good local example of a useful surname index to a newspaper with references to look up the item on microfilm at local or state libraries.

***Creswick & Clunes Advertiser* Index 1859-1865 by Sue O'Neill**

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~pobjoyoneill/CRESWICK.htm>

This index gives page and column references as well as clues to the nature of the subject matter, such as Unclaimed Letter, Police Court, School Examination, Land Grant, Advertisement, etc.

*West Wimmera Mail & Natimuk & Goroke
Advertiser 1887-1920*

<http://www.ballaratgenealogy.org.au/goroke/index.html>

This is a collection of newspaper extracts from Goroke, Natimuk and the surrounding area supplied by Daryl Crabtree and John Martin. It has no surname index but makes for interesting browsing.

The Ryerson Index to Contemporary Death Notices

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~nswsdps/dpsindex.htm>

This newspaper index named for Joyce Ryerson of the Sydney Dead Persons Society is normally updated weekly and has been at RootsWeb since 2002. It contains well over a million entries for predominantly NSW & ACT (100 publications) but there are many tens of thousands of death and notices for the last few years up to 2006 from other Australian newspapers, Qld (14), Vic (5) and SA (4).

Would anyone like to become the Ballarat coordinator?

RootsWeb Australian and New Zealand Records Databases <http://userdb.rootsweb.com/aus/>

This collection of contributed databases contains 714 395 records with 71 605 distinct surnames. These cannot be browsed, they can only be searched by surname and given name (optional). The search can be limited to a state or territory and in the choice of eight different types of records you can select Newspaper Indexes. Of course this will be absolutely random but you might be lucky.

Unfortunately Jenny Fawcett's very useful free online indexes website, **Genseek**, is down until sometime later this year.

Jennifer Burrell jburrell@ncable.net.au



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)

**Ballarat East Petty Sessions
VPRS 290 Unit 69 Item 906
Tuesday 14 Dec 1915**

Application for a Hawkers and Pedlers foot licence £1

Application for a Hawkers and Pedlers licence with animals All paid £2

BABA Boota
BARR James
BARR James Jnr
CHOWDREE Nabob
CLARKE Frederick
DALY Dennis
DALY Michael
DAVIES Andrew HR
DEEN Nazam
DEEN Pellie
FITZGERALD William
GRANAT Harris
GREENWOOD Albert
HOFSTEEDE JE
KHAKI
KHAN Allum
KHAN Chandoo
KHAN Fatta
KHAN Froze
KHAN Golab
KHAN Goola Hassan
KHAN Nabob
KHAN Nazaroo
KHAN Rudah
KHAN Taroo
RUDAH Soldier
KREEME Abdul
MAHOMED Fatta
MAHOMED Jan
McCANN James Anthony
McKENNA William Edward
MORRISON James D
AH NOP
PHOLA
O'FARRELL Patrick
RAHILLY John
SINGH Hardit
SINGH Soondah
SINGH Sunder
SYKES William
THOMPSON Henry S
WOODYATT Thomas



DOVE [Digitisation of Vital Events] Project

by Richard Ratcliffe Federation of Family History Societies [FFHS] Officer for Legislation Monitoring

Following the collapse of the Regulatory Reform Order on Civil Registration [RRO] in November 2004, the General Register Office (England and Wales) [GRO] decided to proceed with the digitisation of the Indexes to Births, Marriages and Deaths from 1837 onwards. This was one of the proposals in the RRO which was strongly supported by the FFHS particularly as this proposal did not require any primary or secondary legislation for it to go ahead.

Early in 2005, the GRO invited applications from interested companies to carry out the digitisation programme. From a short list of three companies, the GRO selected Siemens as its preferred partner and the contract to proceed was signed in July 2005. This requires Siemens to digitise the existing paper records of Births, Marriages and Deaths held by the GRO and to re-key the index fields; to set up a new computerised system that is capable of storing all the historical records in a digitised format and to make it easier to locate appropriate register entries. The original paper register entries will continue to be the legal record for a person's life events but by digitising the Registrar General's copy of the events, the GRO aim(s), to offer a more efficient certificate production service and improved service streams for customers.

From the time that the GRO announced its intention to proceed with the DOVE the same FFHS team (Geoff Riggs, Else Churchill and Richard Ratcliffe) that gave evidence to the Parliamentary Scrutiny Committee had been meeting with the representatives from the GRO and urging them to use this unique window of opportunity to upgrade the current indexes of Births, Marriages and Deaths. In February 2006, the GRO confirmed that the DOVE project was under way and that the digitised indexes will include the following enhancements.

Birth indexes will show the Mother's maiden surname from 1837.

Death indexes will show the age of death from 1837.

Marriages indexes will show the surname of the spouse from 1837.

The full forenames will be recorded as part of the digitisation programme but may not be shown in the indexes – but the GRO does intend to include at

least two forenames where there are two or more forenames recorded. These were the principal Improvements put forward by the FFHS team. It is still pressing the GRO to include all forenames in The digitised indexes. Siemens began scanning of historic births in February. The first batch of births to be scanned will be for the years 1911- 1934 with 1837-1910 to follow. As the data is captured, an index reference will be created, which will incorporate the existing GRO reference. Any inaccuracies in the current indexes should be addressed as the reference will be created from the actual image and not the copy.

Throughout the project Siemens will be working very closely with a dedicated team from the GRO at Southport. This team is overseeing the whole project and carrying out the Quality Assurance checks on the data capture and data verification which has been completed by Siemens staff in Chennai. In Chennai, Siemens staff will be working in teams which focus on specific areas of England and Wales so that each team becomes familiar with the area place names and surnames. Throughout the project the GRO is insisting on an extremely high standard of data capture and verification – contractually this has to be 99.5%. The FFHS team has been assured that the end product will be the most accurate index possible. The contract milestones for the digitisation programme that have been agreed are:-

12 th June 2006	Balance of historic births completed
31 st October 2006	Historic deaths completed
31 st May 2007	Modern births completed
30 th September 2007	Modern deaths completed
31 st December 2007	Historic marriages completed
31 st May 2008	Modern marriages completed
31 st May 2008	Still birth records completed

The whole project is expected to be completed by the second half of 2008. While it is still too early to say when the index will be available to researchers, the launch of this very important and urgently needed index will be accompanied by articles in all the popular family history magazines as well as leaflets at the Family Research Centre, The National Archives (England) and other outlets. In the mean time keep checking the GRO website for news updates.

Reproduced from the Journal of Lincolnshire Family History Society Vol 17 No. 4 November 2006 pp.147-8



Are you researching Victorian Volunteer Defence Forces personnel?

Thomas Corfmat, one of the founding members of the Victorian Colonial Infantry Association and staff member of the State Library of Victoria has completed an important project, the *Index to Victorian Volunteer Forces personnel from the Victorian review, 1860-1861: stating name, rank, regiment and company*.

This *Index* provides over 4,300 names of members of the various volunteer forces appearing in the *Victorian review: a journal of the Volunteer Forces and Civil Service, Bankers' and Insurance Record, and Literary Gazette* published in Melbourne between 1860 and 1861.

The *Victorian Review* published information specific to the volunteer forces including reports of regimental meetings held, reports of activities relating to various regiments, instructions and procedures for personnel, advertisements for parades and rifle matches, lists of competitors in rifle matches and results of matches, letters from personnel, short articles on military matters and news from and about interstate volunteer forces.

The compiler's intention was not to refer back to the entries in the *Victorian Review* but to create a list of Victorian Volunteer Forces personnel showing name, rank, regiment and company as an aid to Victorian Volunteer Forces research. The value of this *Index* lies as a quick reference to Victorian volunteer personnel for 1860 and 861 given the absence of volunteer force service musters (held at the National archives of Australia, Series B5395) for these years.

Interest in the defence of the Australian colonies increased after the mid 1850s in response to the Crimean War between 1853 and 1856 and the New Zealand Maori Wars during the 1840s and 1860s. It was as a result of these events that the number of citizens joining volunteer forces increased dramatically.

The *Index* is on 2 Microfiche and costs \$17 (GST exempt) including postage and handling within Australia.

It can be purchased from the:
Imaging Studio
State Library of Victoria
328 Swanston Street
Melbourne 3000
Victoria

Telephone: + (03) 8664 7332
Email: microfilmsales@slv.vic.gov.au

It is planned to make the *Index* available online in the future through the Library's web site.

Grant Hamston
Genealogy Team



USEFUL INDEXES

(Western Australian Post Office Directories
on-line)

The complete set of Western Australia post office directories have been made available online with funding from the Friends of Battye Library Maude Sholl Bequest and the Bizzaca Family.



DID YOU KNOW?

Preston Public Cemetery in the City of Darebin now has a searchable site by surname.

Details given include the surname and first name, the area and grave number, the date of burial and the age at death.



HOW DO I FIND?

Cemeteries in all States of Australia

This site has buttons for each State. Choose the State and there will be a list of every cemetery. Select the cemetery you want, and contact details are given. Some have a look-up facility and some of them have photographs of headstones.

http://www.ozgenonline.com/aust_cemeteries/

How the British conquered the world, a name at a time

By CHARLES CLOVER
London

THE biggest concentration of people called Salt is in Stoke-on-Trent, as is the greatest number of people called Pepper, according to a study that maps the spread of British names across the globe. The number of people with either surname is roughly equal, so the reason for this is likely to be that both Salts and Peppers derived their names from people who made pots for condiments in the Potteries, according to the authors of the study.

What the study of 20,000 British surnames over five generations has enabled researchers to do for the first time is to track the migration of people with British names and to see where the largest concentration of people of that name lives.

The name Blair, for example, originated in the west of Scotland. The number of Blairs in Britain has grown 50 per cent since the 19th century to 12,473 today. They are outnumbered, however, by their 27,379 cousins in the US. There is also a respectable concentration of 2581 Blairs in Tasmania.

A database of more than 100 million people's names in the US, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand and Canada was used to track the British migration. The authors of the study say that the size and extent of the diaspora of British people living abroad, such as prisoners and settlers to Australia, and Scottish and English colonists in Ireland, were unknown until the latest developments.

The authors have devised a ranking of the most adventurous and least adventurous names. There are relatively few Yorkshire names, such as Broadbent or Illingworth, in the US. This may be because Yorkshire has been prosperous and not subject to major disruptions. The Welsh are less travelled than the Scots, the English or the Irish. The most travelled names, not surprisingly, tend to be from Scotland or some of the grimmer north England towns such as Bradford or Halifax. There are, for instance, fewer McDonalds in Britain now than in 1881 and more in the US.

Professor Richard Webber, one of the authors of the study, said: "The conclusion we've come to is that

people think people migrate randomly to another country whereas in fact migration flows are very specific ... Scots went to Tasmania in the 1890s, for instance."

The reasons for names disappearing extend beyond migration. Researchers compiled a list of "most embarrassing" names, which people have tended to change.

There were 3211 Cocks in Britain in 1881, but only 826 in 1996. Likewise, the number of Handcocks, Smellies, Haggards, Willys, Piggs, Hustlers, Nutters and Glasscocks has also fallen.

TELEGRAPH
LINK

www.spatial-literacy.org

Copied from the Melbourne Age 29/06/2006 page 17 and submitted by Graeme Reynolds



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

OLD INN BURNED DOWN

One of Ballarat's oldest landmarks, the Cattle Yard Inn, a weatherboard structure that has stood opposite the cattle yards for over half a century, was gutted by fire which broke out in the building last night. When the Ballarat City Fire Brigade arrived the flames had a firm hold and there was no chance whatsoever of saving the structure or its contents. The INN was owned by Mrs E PETCH who had been the licensee for a number of years. Three months ago Mrs Petch transferred to a modern hotel alongside also named the Cattle Yard Inn. Fortunately an easterly wind was not blowing last night otherwise the new building would have suffered severely. The old Inn building was insured, but there was no insurance on the contents. Two men who had been living there lost everything excepting the clothes in which they stood. Under the direction of Lieut.C. Daw the Ballarat City firemen worked very hard in the face of intense heat and blinding smoke. A thousand feet of hose was run out, and with the assistance of the Reo motor pump, which produces pressure of 200lb the water was directed on the fire. There was a good deal of stock in the cellar and this was also not covered by insurance. The showers of sparks, the leaping flames and the dense volumes of smoke and lurid reflection in the sky all helped to attract a big crowd of people to the scene.

Ballarat Courier

Saturday 4th January 1930

Page 4.

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.

DISPLAY OF PETITIONS

The Ballarat Archives Centre of Public Record Office Victoria will display a number of interesting petitions from March till September. It coincides with the launch of the searchable database on CD prepared by the BDGS volunteers. They have indexed hundreds of petitions dated 1856-1866 from VPRS 2500/P0, which is Inwards Correspondence to Ballarat Council. The date and details of the launch will be in the next "Ballarat Link". You can view the display in the foyer, ground floor, State Government Offices, Corner Mair and Doveton Streets, Ballarat when you visit the Ballarat Archives Centre, open to the public Mondays and Tuesdays 9.30 till 4.30pm.



Beaufort and District Family History Day

This will be held on Sunday, 18th. March, 10.00 am. till 4.00 pm. at the Pyrenees Shire Hall, Lawrence Street, Beaufort.

Your chance to enjoy a day with Local Groups who will be displaying special items from their collections as well as offering advice and assistance with local and family history.

Refreshments available.

Gold Coin Admission

Further details: Pam Weller phone 53493055
pam_weller@hotmail.com

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

CEMETERY TOURS

“It was more interesting than you would think!!” This was the comment made by a little boy (11 or 12 years) after a cemetery tour at the Old Ballarat Cemetery.

School groups are taken on a one hour tour of the cemetery which was gazetted in 1856 and had been a burial ground from 1848. The cemetery is situated on 17 acres and is 1 ½ kilometres from the city centre. The multicultural nature of Ballarat from the very beginning is evident even at the front gates of the cemetery, which were designed by a local architect Mr. Joseph Doane, who had arrived in Ballarat in 1853 from Canada with his three brothers. Mr Doane designed many of the Methodist Churches in the Ballarat district.

The graves of many notable and ordinary people are visited. Ballarat’s first millionaire is popular with school children. John Winter made his fortune from gold on his property “Bonshaw” and had other large properties. His home “Lauderdale” was designed by Joseph Doane and is on the register of the National Trust and Heritage Victoria.

FM Claxton, who was a city councillor and Mayor three times, sat on many Ballarat committees, has a large memorial with an inscription which states he was a “good and useful citizen”

Tilly Thompson – Australia’s first commercial traveller, John Brittain & Captain Henry Evans Baker – both connected to the Ballarat Observatory, and Townsend Macdermott – Victorian Solicitor General and his pet terrier “Peggy” have interesting stories.

There are enough graves in the cemetery to justify a separate tour of graves of those people connected to Eureka. As well as the Eureka Miners and soldiers, we visit Dr. Timothy Doyle, the Scobie family, John Basson Humffray, Anastasia Hayes and graves of people who prospered at the time; were professionals at the time; or who were miners at the time.

Other graves of interest include one which has a connection with the Kelly gang, another with Australian explorers, and another has a connection with Squizzy Taylor’s gang. Ministers of Religion and Doctors are represented and are interesting in that they invariably died at a young age reflecting the harsh conditions in which their Parishioners / patients lived and of which they were so much a part.

Community groups have in recent times asked for a tour of the New Cemetery which is in addition to tours which we take during the Begonia Festival. The first burial here was in 1867 so it’s almost as old as the Old Cemetery. There are beautiful views of Ballarat from the higher parts and the newer sections along Doveton Street are picturesque.

King Billy’s resting place was chosen carefully and is in a beautiful spot.

The graves of many old Ballarat families are visited, and so is the grave of Bruce Ruxton’s grandfather. It was unmarked until a member of the BDGS Inc. wrote to Mr. Ruxton suggesting a headstone would be fitting. It was done.

Christian Hans Peterson is visited. He was killed while crossing Lydiard Street near the Post Office corner. He left a sum of money for the construction of the Bird Fountain in Sturt Street, near the hospital.

The Jewish section in the Old Cemetery is visited and can be taken as a separate tour as well.

Both cemeteries have large Chinese sections which are visited and the story of the Chinese is touched on. The trek from Robe by many Chinese is a story in itself.

Billy Butterfly is buried in the Lawn Section, and I’m sure there are many others whether they are “important” or “ordinary” people whose stories are worth telling.

We visit 90 graves in the Old Cemetery and 70 in the New Cemetery and it’s a wonderful history lesson of the city of Ballarat and its people and very, very interesting.

BALLARAT OLD CEMETERY
(Cnr Creswick Road & Macarthur Street)

BALLARAT NEW CEMETERY
(Cnr Lydiard & Norman Streets)

Tours are conducted:-

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

Also 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

RESEARCH

A number of very interesting enquiries have come to the BDGS Research Team over recent weeks, here are just a few of them.

Judith Duncan is researching John Roberts, the son of John Roberts and Mary Taylor, who was born in 1840 in Caernarvonshire and married Mary Clarke, who was born in 1843 in Ayrshire Scotland, at Soldiers Hill, Ballarat in 1864. They lived at Durham Lead and Buninyong before going to Clunes where the next seven of their children were born up to the early 1880s.

Ralph Neale is researching descendants of the 480 passengers who arrived on the ship 'Schomberg', which was wrecked at Peterborough, Victoria, without loss of life; the passengers were rescued by Captain Doran of the 'Queen' and arrived in Melbourne on 27 December 1855. Please contact Ralph on 9890 0067 or at 17 Carlyle Cres, Mont Albert, 3127.

Elias Abassie (Abuassie/Abreassie) was a hawker around Ballarat about 1890s till 1906; possibly Syrian, he married Sarah Jane Wallace in Ballarat in 1897 and their children included Edith Elvina Abuassie who married Bertie Oscar Saville in 1924, Maud Abassie who died in 1922 aged 23 years, Leslie George Abassie born 1912, Stanley John born 1910, and William James born 1906, by which years they were in Melbourne.

Michael Donegan, hotelkeeper in Ballarat in 1860s, and wife Margaret (nee English) whose children included James b. 1849 and Catherine b. 1850, and came from Limerick, Ireland in 1853.

David Patullo (1877-1973) and Martha Ellen, nee Brereton (1871-1961), had 23 children; he was son of James Patullo (1842-1927) and Mary Ann, nee Parker (1853-1925) who were on the central Victorian goldfields.

If you can help with any of the above please contact us on researchballarat@hotmail.com

Ballarat East Petty Sessions — Series VPRS 290/P

Part 1, 1858-1889.

Price is AUS \$35 plus \$5 postage & handling.

Set of 15 fiche, approx 55,000 names.

Ballarat and District Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 1809.

Ballarat Mail Centre

Vic 3354

Australia

Part 1, 1858-1889.

Price is AUS \$35 plus \$5 postage & handling.

Set of 15 fiche, approx 55,000 names.



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

Webmaster:- Daryl Povey

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



Welcome to

Ian Russom & Bev Wilson of Ferntree Gully

Pauline Riches of Scarsdale

Dr John Rail of Littlehampton, UK

Ronald Wilson of Burwood

If undelivered return to
**Ballarat & District
Genealogical Society Inc.**
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Ballarat Mail Centre, 3354
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