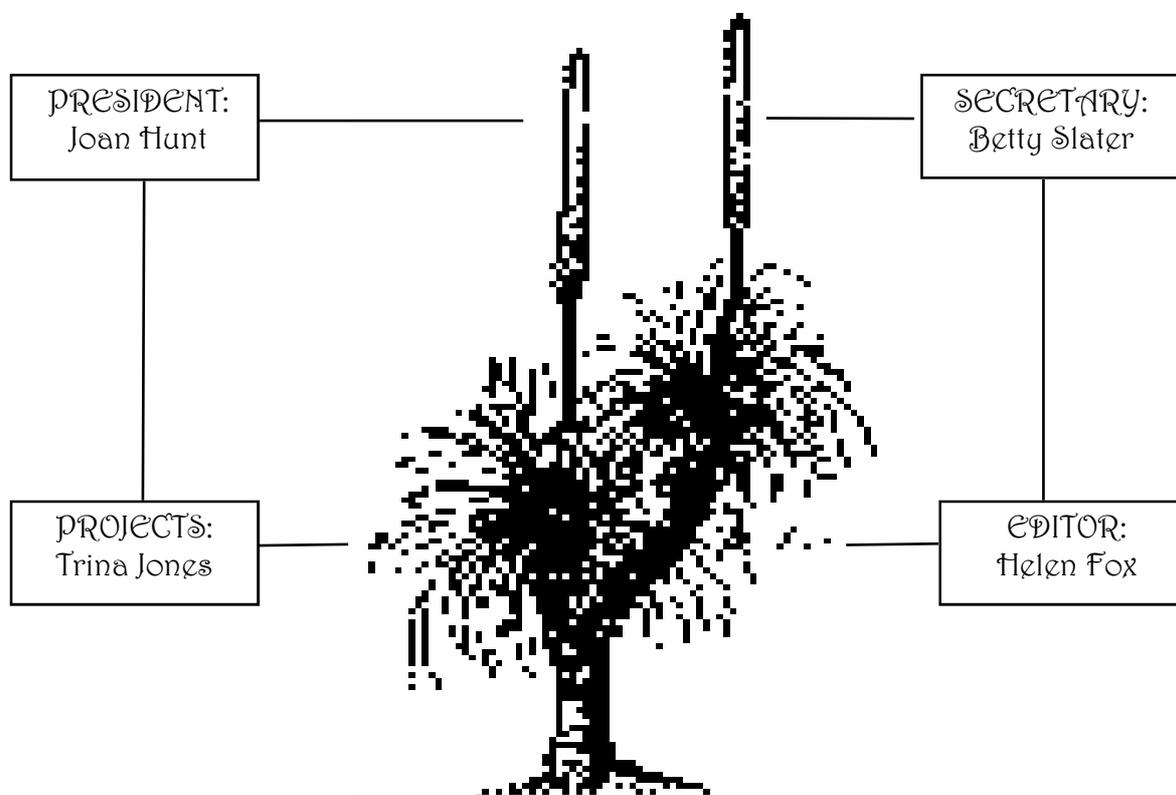


BALLARAT LINK

August 2006 - No.150



The Ballarat & District
Genealogical Society Inc.

THE BALLARAT & DISTRICT GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INC.

P O Box 1809
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Australia

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

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

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

Membership

Single Membership:- \$25.00

Family Membership:- \$35.00

Overseas membership:- \$25.00

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

Committee Members 2006 - 2007

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Link Editor	Helen Fox	helen1940@hotmail.net.au

Program 2006

February 28 Joan Hunt spoke about researching your family history.

March 28 Jeff Atkinson, author of "Mary Proctor", spoke about researching convict history.

April 2 (Sunday) Jim Quinn conducted a guided tour of the Chinese sections of the Ballarat Cemeteries.

April 25 Excursion Meeting was held to the Gold Museum, Ballarat.

May 23 Susan McLean, Vice-President, Genealogical Society of Victoria :- Scottish family history research.

June 27 Kate Prinsley, Executive Director, Royal Historical Society of Victoria, spoke about their library.

July 25 Annual General Meeting. Helen Harris, OAM, Secretary of the Victoria Police Historical Society, spoke about Cops and Robbers: - Researching 19th century police and criminal records in Victoria.

August 22 Betty Slater :- Family history research for the beginner and the experienced researcher.

September 26 James McKinnon, the Manager, Public Programs, PROV. Currently Acting Manager at the Geelong Heritage Centre. He will speak about his experiences researching using Victorian records.

October 24 Michael Taffe :- Records and research information available in the Ballarat Catholic archives.

November 28 Show and Tell and Quiz Night, with Special End-of-Year Supper.

Visit our web page for an update on 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 November 2006 Link to be with the editor by the 31st October 2006

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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,

At the end of October, Ballarat City will host the 10th World Conference of Historic Cities. This is a great honour, and judging by the amount of façade restoration going on around the city centre, we intend putting on our very best appearance. The Events and Festivals arm of Ballarat Council has come up with a Heritage Weekend to attract both locals and those from far afield who would enjoy coming to Ballarat at this auspicious time.

Activities such as open gardens, open houses, walking trails, etc., are being planned, but the Ballarat & District Genealogical Society have agreed to be involved in the RESEARCH stream. This will include the Gold Museum, Ballarat Mechanics Institute, and Ballarat Archives Centre of PROV being open for tours or talks. Ballarat Library will have the Australiana Room open on Saturday morning 28 October, and members of BDGS will be on hand to help both beginners and advanced researchers to access the resources we have in our collection. On the Saturday afternoon Neva Dunstan and her team of guides will conduct and provide commentaries on historic walking trails of the Ballarat Old Cemetery. The following day, Sunday 29th October, the Australiana Room will be open from 11am until 4pm, when anyone interested in gaining some assistance at any stage of their family history research will be helped by our volunteer Ballarat Genies members. At 2.30pm we will have a special event and afternoon tea, at which we will celebrate the 90th birthday of the founder of the BDGS, Lois Reynolds, when it was then called the Ballarat Group of the Genealogical Society of Victoria. This will be a wonderful opportunity for members to express their gratitude to Lois for creating our Society, and for her strong and continued support to the present day, as well as for the particular project which was brought to fruition by her, the transcription of every headstone in the Ballarat Old Cemetery. This was a project which Lois and her friend Hazel Williams began in the early 1970s, and now provides us with an invaluable record of inscriptions which in large numbers have now disappeared through depredations of time and vandalism. It should be remembered that many of the transcriptions of cemetery records and headstones of townships surrounding Ballarat, now available in the BDGS collection, resulted from projects facilitated and supervised by Lois over the years.

As this issue contains the annual report I shall leave you to read through that to bring you up to date with the other happenings in the Ballarat Genies.

As for myself, I am off to Europe for three months from mid August, in London and other parts of England, Scotland and Italy. Lucky me. I wish to thank Graeme Reynolds, as vice president, for steering the ship in my absence, ably assisted by our incoming secretary, Betty Slater.

Happy researching, one and all.

Joan



THE WYETTS OF BEACONSFIELD

With Beaconsfield being in the news this year, my own family's involvement with the town and the mine may be of interest.

My great grandparents, John and Harriett (Ball) Wyett arrived in Melbourne in 1852/3. John, the son of Abraham and Martha (Bagster) Wyett, travelled alone, arriving in December 1852, aged 20. Harriette travelled with her parents, Joseph and Jane (Parkhouse) Ball, and 5 siblings, and arrived in February, 1853 at the age 13. John had been employed by the Bank of Ireland in London, and with the help of an excellent reference, he obtained employment with the bank of Australasia, in Melbourne, and then Williamstown. He and Harriett were married at St. Stephen's church in Richmond in 1859.

The couple moved to Beechworth, where John accepted a position at the bank, then upon his resignation from the bank, the family relocated to Yandoit, central Victoria, where John was appointed postmaster in 1863. He also operated a general store from the post office building, and they remained in Yandoit until 1871. They then undertook the hazardous trip overland, with 5 small children, through the uncleared forests of Gippsland to Foster, where John became the first postmaster, as well as being involved in several other enterprises.

In 1880 John and Harriette made their last move, to Beaconsfield in Northern Tasmania, accompanied by their 9 surviving children □ 2 young sons had died at Yandoit. He and his two eldest sons, George and Robert, had devised a plan to operate a horse drawn railway from the Tasmania Gold mine to the nearest port on the Tamar River, Beauty Point. A special act of parliament, known as 'Wyett Tramway Act 1881', was passed, and John obtained the right to build and operate a tramway at Beaconsfield. The tram had room for 30 passengers, with longitudinal seats facing outwards, and at first was for passengers in town only, but later extended to the port, a route of 10 kilometres. Shortly after the opening of the extension, steam power took over from horse power. Extra passenger cars and another locomotive were added. Then John took on a further contract, carrying the goods of the Tasmania Gold Mine Company on 12 flat cars supplied by the company. With booming passenger numbers, a seventh tram car was added in 1890. His eldest son George became mine manager and youngest son Albert later became an accountant at Beaconsfield. The tramway was still operating in 1899, running people all over Beaconsfield.

By 1900, 300 tons of freight was being transported each week to and from the mine. About this time the ownership of the suburban tramway was taken over by the mine company, it finally closing in 1914.

John and Harriette became involved in all aspects of town life, and were well respected by everyone. John died in 1904, Harriette in 1909, and as was the habit of the day, their obituaries extolled their lives and good works. Both are buried in the Beaconsfield cemetery. A few years later a service was held at Holy Trinity Church, Beaconsfield, for the purpose of dedicating new altar rails of polished blackwood, with a brass plaque inscribed □ 'To the glory of God, and in memory of John William and Harriett Mercy Wyett'.

My grandfather, Albert Edwin Wyett, was the youngest child of John and Harriette. In 1904 he married Esther Jane Cardwell, daughter of James and Annie (Paynter) Cardwell. Esther was also quite a pioneer, having left her home in Bendigo as a young woman, to train as a nurse at the Launceston General Hospital, then recognised as the premier training hospital in Australia. She was the matron of the Beaconsfield Hospital at the time of her marriage, and 8 years older than Albert. Their youngest child, Alberta Joan (Wyett) Ward, my mother, is 93 years old and lives in Launceston, she is the only surviving grandchild of John and Harriette Wyett.

John and Harriette's second daughter Edith (Eddie) wrote down a 'potted' family history for her children in her middle years, this has been a wonderful source of family anecdotes, and details of everyday life. She later married Morgan Eastman, whose father, the Rev Eastman, had been a chaplain at Port Arthur.

With mine accidents receiving much publicity recently, we are reminded how dangerous this work is.

Edie recounted an incident when she was newly married and Morgan was working down the mine.
....I felt very unwell, and that evening two near tragedies happened. Before Morgan left for the 4 o'clock shift...., he lit a large fire in the bedroom,.... and advised me to go to bed. I took a large dose of chloradine, hoping to ease the pains, which got worse, then I took another.... pulled the heavy 'possum rug... around me, and knew no more till he wakened me, dazed and ill, to find the window and door open....the room full of smoke and Morgan frantically shaking me... Later I heard of his narrow escape from the mine, in time to save my life.

The men coming off day shift had mentioned that the air was pretty bad, and a dislodged boulder brought a sudden rush of it, putting their candle out. Hurrying in the darkness to gain the pit, the lad some little distance behind, stumbled and fell. Morgan turned back and helped him along the drive. By the time they reached the iron ladder, their only exit, both were nearly overcome, and it was only by Morgan pushing the lad up rung by rung ahead of him, fearing every moment he would fall back on him, that they at last reached the pit mouth and fresh air. They rolled about in agony on the frosty ground trying to get the gas out of their lungs, and it must have been an hour before they were able to start for home. He took Jim home first, then when he opened our back door he was met by a wall of smoke.....

Fortunately this story had a happy ending, leaving me with some wonderful anecdotes of family life to give a human side to the history.

Submitted by Jenny Colvin



Petition

**Ballarat Council Correspondence
20 November 1871**

Memorial For cancelling DK's License

(name is Daniel Kennaston, but will use initials only)
Ballarat East Novr 17th 1871

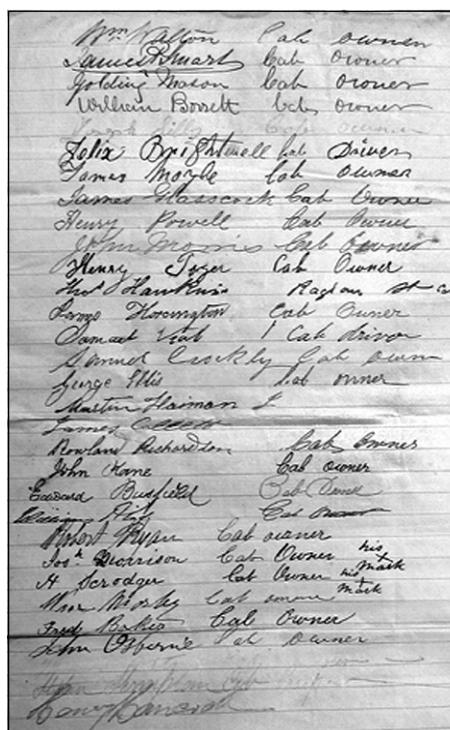
To His Worship the Mayor and Members of the Council of the City of Ballaarat

Petition of Cab owners, Drivers, and Proprietors of other Public Conveyances residing and plying for hire within the City of Ballaarat and the Borough of Ballaarat East and Sebastopol respectfully sheweth that one DK has been publicly charged with the offence of seducing and harboring young girls and has escaped punishment only by reason of the inadequacy of the law under the circumstances shown: that by reason of such conduct, he being a Cab owner and driver, all other persons following the like occupation suffer as a class in public estimation: The undersigned, therefore desire to express their detestation of such conduct and most respectfully ask the Council to aid them in their laudable efforts to maintain the respectability of their class by at once cancelling the license of the Said DK and taking such other steps as they (the Council) may consider to be right and proper to prevent him the said DK from further following the occupation of

driver within the City of Ballaarat and adjacent Boroughs

Signed

Wm WALTON	James COLLETT
James SMART	Rowland RICHARDSON
Golding MASON	John KANE
William BORRETT	Edward BUSHFIELD
Joseph SILLS	William KING
Felix BRIGHTWELL	Robert RYAN
James MOYLE	Joseph MORRISON
James GLASSCOCK	H SCRODGER
Henry POWELL	Wm MORLEY
John MORRIS	Fred BAKER
Henry TOZER	John OSBORNE
Thos HAWKINS	Stephen SHRIMPTON
Samuel VEAL	Henry HANCOCK
Samuel CROCKLY	
Martin HARMAN	



This is an example of the petitions which have been indexed from Ballarat Council Correspondence although it is from a different time period.

Source: PROV, VPRS 2500/PO, Unit 24

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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.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT **AGM JULY 2006**

From July 2005 to June 2006 the pace of activities of the Ballarat and District Genealogical Society has been fast and furious. Many wonderful members have contributed to the achievements of the Society, including the monthly meetings, the cemetery walks, the special events, the research enquiries and the smooth and efficient administration.

Meetings were very well attended, with an average of 42 members and visitors each month. The 2005 AGM speaker was Dr Liz Rushen who gave us an insight into researching women in family and local history, followed by Vivienne Worthington in August who talked about publishing her Withers family history. Susie Zada gave us many great ideas on researching houses and land in September, and Jim Quinn told us about the Chinese living at Ballarat during the nineteenth century in October. As usual, our Christmas break-up in November took the form of a Members' Night, with lots of fun and historical trivia and good food. We started 2006 with a huge gathering of 62 people to hear Joan Hunt talk about how both beginners and the more experienced can undertake family history research using both usual and unusual resources. In March Jeff Atkinson talked about the themes in his book based on convict ancestors Mary Proctor and William Fitches. We were hosted by the Ballarat Historical Society in April, when president Roger Trudgeon told us about the Society's historical collection and members showed us many fascinating items such as clothing, photographs, scrap books, documents, maps and objects, and we were given a guided tour of the Gold Museum. In May Susan McLean, vice-president of the Genealogical Society of Victoria, spoke on how to research Scottish ancestors, and Kate Prinsley, Executive Officer of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria was our guest speaker in June when she told us about the value of the RHSV's collection for local and family history research.

Our activities included a Sunday afternoon excursion with Jim Quinn who took us to both Old and New Ballarat cemeteries' Chinese sections and extended the information he had given at the October meeting on the field trip. We had a highly successful Family History Open Day at the Library on Sunday 16 October 2005, when Shauna Hicks, Senior Manager Access Services, launched Part 2 of the Index to Ballarat East Petty Sessions. This was the culmination of a lengthy and comprehensive project made possible by the generosity of a band

of volunteer members of the Ballarat Genies. The volunteer indexer have completed indexing the names and details of those who signed 1860s petitions to Ballarat City Council, in VPRS 2500 of the Ballarat Archives Centre, Public Record Office Victoria, funded by a Local History Grant. Trina Jones is now working on the rough data to prepare it for publication on CD. The volunteers are now working on indexing the Ballarat East Rate Books, and also volumes of residence licences relating to the early land holdings in Ballarat. These people deserve our gratitude: Gwenda Bayley, Greta Bain, Janette Costin, John Earnshaw, Trina Jones, Kath McDonald, Marg McKenna, Helen McLaughlin, Gill McLaughlin, Meryl Rowse, Betty Slater.

During the year the BDGS signed an agreement with the Central Highlands Regional Library Corporation to have our library collection entered on the Library's catalogue for access by researchers online, and this work has now started, with assistance from Betty Slater and Graeme Reynolds. We also entered into an agreement with the Genealogical Society of Victoria to produce a CD with a searchable database which will include the burial and cremation registrations as well as the headstone inscriptions of the Old and New Cemeteries and the Crematorium.

As a result of these activities we have received very good publicity, which included Jenny Burrell's articles being published by several genealogical magazines, and ABC and newspaper Interviews with Jenny and Betty and Neva. The Ballarat Genies were represented at the Yarrowonga-Mulwala Family History Expo, the Bendigo Area Family History Expo of the Australian Institute Of Genealogical Studies in March 2006, and the Congress held in Darwin of the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations. Joan Hunt and Helen Fox represented the BDGS at the annual Country Groups meeting at the Genealogical Society of Victoria in May. Helen has done a great job in producing and editing our quarterly newsletter "Ballarat Link", which is distributed to all members by Tricia Hilder and Jenny Colvin.

Neva Dunstan has kept the Society's finances very well organised and actually helped augment them by her co-ordination and supervision of regular guided walks at the Ballarat Old and New cemeteries, aided by a dedicated team of guides. Publicity for monthly meetings and other activities has been consistently gained for us by the hard work of Rene Rawson, supplemented by Trina Jones' information and membership brochures which keep up to date on forthcoming speakers and events.

We have no retiring committee members this year, but welcome Marie Murnane as our incoming Society librarian who will be inducted into the position by past librarian Betty Slater who now becomes our secretary. Gayle Sellars has been a wonderful assistant secretary who has helped with general secretarial duties over recent months. The innovation of a Research Team replacing a Research Officer has proved highly successful, and the team of Rene Rawson, Kath McDonald, Jenny Burrell, Betty Slater, Joan Hunt, and Bev Beattie has dealt with scores of enquiries through the year. Ill-health in her family has required Bev to take a break and we are very grateful for the work she did; Bev is replaced by Neva Dunstan who has already undertaken a lengthy enquiry for which the research is no doubt very thankful. The research done by the Society is a great source of income which enables us to purchase more books and other materials to help us all with our family history research. So, I wish to extend very warm and sincere thanks to all these people, and others who help in many ways, such as Jill and Brian Dore who organise supper after each meeting, Stewart Masters who cares for our microform machines, and all of you who support and encourage the work of the Society in so many ways.

This year has been most enjoyable and rewarding to me and I thank you all for making this Society loads of fun, extremely interesting, and intellectually satisfying. It is a great honour and a real pleasure to be associated with you. Thank you.

Joan E. Hunt,
President,

Ballarat & District Genealogical Society Inc.
Tuesday, 25 July 2006

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.

Part 11, 1890-1921.

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

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

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

On Thursday 3 August PROV officially launched its collaborative digitizing project with the Genealogical Society of Utah which will eventually see all wills, probates and inquest files freely available on the PROV website.

Digitising commenced in November 2004 and after processing and quality control checking, the digitised images are transferred into PROV's digital archive. At the present time wills up to the 1880s are available online.

Follow the steps below to browse what is now available.

Go to the PROV website www.prov.vic.gov.au

Select Access the Collection from the left hand menu
Go to Searching and select Find by Number

Enter 7591 and hit the search button (7591 is the VPRS number for the wills series)

Select Accessing the Records

Select Consignments

Select Consignment P0001

Select Unit No 1

Select Item No 1 (or any other item number)

The item details screen will appear and you can see the box View Digitised item to the right of the Order item box.

Select View Digitised item and you will be viewing the digitised will.

PROVguide 68 Ordering Wills and Probate Records (available online under Search Tools) has been amended to include the digitised images and if you are working from a reference in the probate index, it is easier to follow the steps in PROVguide 68 to find the exact digitised file that you want.

The procedure above is only if you want to have a quick browse and see what the imaging is like.

PROV would welcome feedback on this new service.

PROV will be adding new digitised images each week until the series is complete online. The actual digitising of the wills was completed in July 2006.

Shauna Hicks

Senior Manager Access Services

Public Record Office Victoria

PO Box 2100, North Melbourne VIC 3051

Phone 03 9348 5608

Fax 03 9348 5656

Email shauna.hicks@dvc.vic.gov.au

Ballarat Cemeteries CD

The culmination of a joint project between the Genealogical Society of Victoria and the Ballarat & District Genealogical Society.

Genealogists throughout Australia and indeed many other parts of the world will warmly welcome the availability of a comprehensive new index for interments in the Ballarat Cemeteries. Of all early settlements in Australia Ballarat can lay claim to having the richest treasure trove of burial records both in volume and diversity of goldrush immigrants.

For the Ballarat Old Cemetery there are 35,000 burial records in 11,000 graves from May 1856 to May 2005 as well as transcriptions of headstones, many of which have now become unreadable or no longer exist. The names of some pre-1856 burials are known, such as that on an 1853 wooden headstone. This wonderful work began in 1973 when Ballarat Historical Society members, Hazel Williams and Lois Reynolds first recorded information from selected headstones in the Ballarat Old Cemetery. The work was continued in the 1980s by the Ballarat Group of the Genealogical Society of Victoria and cemetery records were computerised by the Ballarat General Cemeteries Trust. This resulted in the publication by the GSV of the first Ballarat burial index on microfiche in 1989. Graeme Reynolds, son of Lois, has brought the Ballarat Old Cemetery transcription record up to date for this new publication by including new memorials on old graves erected as recently as June 2006.

At the planned launch in Ballarat on the 29th of October 2006 a most honoured guest will be Lois Reynolds, now in her 90th year. This year is especially significant as it is the 150th anniversary of the establishment of the Ballarat General Cemeteries Trust, the body which has generously provided the registers for indexing and publication.

A total in the order of 130,000 of records will now be easily accessible in a searchable database available on CD-ROM. These include 70,000 for the Ballarat New Cemetery (1867-2005) plus headstone transcriptions and 25,000 cremations for the Ballarat Crematorium (1958-2005).

Included on the CD are current maps of the

Ballarat Old and New Cemeteries showing location of the various sections.

The Ballarat Cemeteries are a final testament to the lives of immigrants of many nationalities and faiths as evidenced by inscriptions in German, Gaelic, French, Welsh, Hebrew and many hundreds in Chinese script. The Chinese outnumbered every other ethnic group except the English. Among those who brought their skills to their adopted land were the pioneers of law and order and government - squatters, lawyers, clergymen, doctors, architects, journalists, merchants, hoteliers, engineers, astronomers, inventors, artists and artisans, entrepreneurs, investors and philanthropists who generously enriched the cultural life of their new home. Men of all these professions as well as characters of the black sheep variety were laid to rest in Ballarat along with many of their wives and children. While there were victims of disease and disasters, often associated with mining, there were those who lived to a grand old age. Areas were reserved by the Cemeteries Trust for charitable institutions such as the Benevolent Home, Nazareth House and orphanages. Many graves remain unmarked but some have impressive monuments erected by the rich or by public subscription. The memorials to the soldiers and diggers who died in the Eureka uprising of 1854 are fenced separately.



Headstones in the Ballarat Old Cemetery taken 28th May 2006.

Background information to the cemeteries and the crematorium is included in the introduction written by Graeme Reynolds. He details the history of the project, the pitfalls encountered and advice about interpretation of the data, especially the transcriptions which were compiled from a variety of sources over more than thirty years. The Ballarat Old and New Cemeteries registers show: Name, Age, Date of burial, Residence, Occupation, Area, Section, Location. There is also a useful key to the abbreviations used in the remarks. The Crematorium register shows: Name, Age, Date of death, Date of cremation, Residence, Name of applicant, Memorial location. Graeme has noted that because of tenure on the crematorium memorials the preservation of register entries is vital.

Orders for the Ballarat Cemeteries Index CD can be made with payment of \$49 plus \$6 postage and packaging to The Genealogical Society of Victoria Inc, Level B1, 257 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000 or the Ballarat & District Genealogical Society, PO Box 1809 Ballarat Mail Centre, Victoria 3354. 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 Jennifer Burrell

Family History Open Days

The Ballarat & District Genealogical Society will hold two Family History Open Days in the Australiana Room at Ballarat Library when personal guidance will be given to beginners and to advanced researchers, on Saturday 28th October from 9.30am till 1.00pm, and on Sunday 29th October from 11.00am till 4.00pm.

At 2.30pm on the Sunday there will be an official launch of the Ballarat Old and New Cemeteries and Crematorium database of burial registrations and headstone inscriptions on CD.

There will be a cemetery tour of the Ballarat Old Cemetery, cnr Creswick Road and Macarthur Street at 2.00pm on Saturday 28th October and at 10.30am on Sunday 29th October – adults \$6.50; concession/child/members \$4.00. Bookings to 5330 7005.

RESEARCH QUERIES

Over the past three months the BDGS Research Team has been very busy with enquiries. Readers of the 'Ballarat Link' may be able to help by contacting us with information relating to the followings:

Alan Collie of New Zealand is researching the Ryan family and wants to contact present day descendants in order to hold a family reunion. The family is that of Catherine RYAN (later Mrs William Collie) who was born on 4 October 1859 in Ballarat, where all her brothers and sisters were born to John Ryan and Honara Anorah Dowlan. John Ryan, who was a quarryman in Ballarat living at 710 Darling Street, had at least two brothers, Bryan and Thomas. Bryan Ryan owned the Eastern Station Hotel in Humffray Street, and a number of the family are buried in the Old and New Ballarat cemeteries. Please contact Alan at www.stayatwanaka.co.nz if you can help him.

Karen Purnell of Queensland is researching the names of BENBOW and WARNE, who had daughters born at Lake Wendouree (then called Black Swamp) in 1859 and 1862. If you can help please contact Karen on lpu60872@bigpond.net.au.

Nikki Ryder is researching Mary SPENCER who married James WALKER but after he died she remarried George King KELLEY in Ballarat in 1872. If you can help Nikki please contact her at granik@westnet.com.au

Shelley Hodgetts is seeking information about Arthur Cecil KERR who was born in 1899 in Ballarat but was with his two sisters at the Ballarat Orphanage from 1908. If you can help Shelley please contact her at shelley.hodgetts@bigpond.com

BDGS was recently donated a family bible and photographs about a family, so if you recognise it as yours we will have information for you:

The third annual Family History Feast, organised by the State Library of Victoria, Public Record Office Victoria, National Archives of Australia (Victorian Office) and Victorian Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages, will be held on Saturday 30 September 2006. For more information email vijay.aruldass@dvc.vic.gov.au or phone 03 9348 5600.

WWW Genie Links

Scotland

It is relatively plain sailing to trace Scottish ancestors because the records contain very detailed information and it was usual to identify the mother by her maiden surname.

Scotlands family

www.scotlandsfamily.com/

This is a new Scottish genealogy portal which points you to what is available in the way of 'free-to-view' online births & baptisms, marriages, deaths & burials, census records, ship passenger lists, county & parish maps, gazeteers and photographs etc. as well as discussion forums on Scottish genealogy. One interesting link is to a list of people who were married or died in Victoria, who gave their birthplace as Lanark(shire).

Scotlands People

www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk

This is the official government source of genealogical data held at the General Register Office of Scotland. There is a free search of the index to Wills & Testaments 1513-1901 for which you must register. You will immediately receive by email a security token and password which will enable you to login to access the free search. It would be a good idea to get some practice here with Soundex and Spelling Variants before you decide to become a paying customer.

As well as comprehensive background information, FAQs and sample images there is an occupations glossary containing over 1500 definitions and variants so the opportunity is there for lots of useful browsing.

There is also a free surname search of all records which will show the number of instances of that surname in each of 13 categories. This is a rough guide of what may be found but beyond that you must 'pay-to-view' records of Births & Baptisms and Marriages & Proclamation of Banns from Old Parish Registers 1553-1854. Deaths & Burials for this period are not yet indexed. From 1855 when civil registration began there are Births to 1905, Marriages to 1930 and Deaths to 1955. You can also view digital images of census records every ten years from 1841 to 1901, except for 1881 which are transcriptions.

Scottish Archives Network (SCAN)

<http://www.scan.org.uk/researchrtools/emigration.htm>

Between 1852 and 1857 the Highlands and Islands Emigration Society assisted almost 5000 individuals to leave western Scotland for Australia.

These emigrants can be found in the searchable database which can be browsed by any of these fields - Family Number, Surname, Residence, Parish, County, Departure Date Order, Port of Departure Order, Port of Arrival Order and Name of Ship.

There is often useful information about family groups in the 'Remarks' which contain fascinating comments to delight genealogists.

Here are just a few examples:

"£36.5.0 Very poor & destitute family, but a very suitable one for Australia."

'£26.3.2 A very interesting old couple. They have 2 sons + a daughter on their way to Victoria + will be accompanied by a widow with 4 children. The old woman walked 8 miles to Broadford and returned in the evening.'

"Promissory Note £43.17.1 Hale strong man of his age. Very fine family of children."

"Received no aid, rather too many children but as McLean is married to a sister of Hugh McPhail and John McDiarmid to the wife's sister, it was approved that the whole family might proceed together."

'£5.9.3 1/2 Son-in-law of Donald McKinnon. A very useful intelligent man.'

"£13.10.9 Man appears to have suffered much for want of food. Lived in a gravel pit covered in with heather for 18 months."

FreeCEN Scotland Free Census Project

<http://www.freewebs.com/mmjeffery/index.htm>

Free-to-view online searchable database which is constantly growing. It is worth a look to check on the progress of the project for each county.

GENUKI - Scotland

<http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/sct/>

Comprehensive directory of resources for genealogists.

Family Search Library Catalog

http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/FHLC/frameset_fhlc.asp

Do a place search in the Latter Day Saints (LDS) library catalog for what is in the International Genealogical Index (IGI). If you find a six figure batch number, search the IGI by putting a 'C' in front of it for christenings or an 'M' for marriages. Of course this isn't just for Scotland. Try it for any place of interest.

RootsWeb Message Boards Scotland

<http://boards.ancestry.com/mbexec?htx=board&r=rw&p=localities.britisles.scotland>

Here are message boards for the Scottish counties, each with thousands of messages. You could find people who will do free lookups for you.

Jennifer Burrell

jburrell@ncable.net.au

CEMETERY TOURS

Ballarat and District Genealogical Society Inc

BALLARAT OLD CEMETERY

(Cnr Creswick Road & Macarthur Street)

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 at both cemeteries

Entry

Adults \$6.50

Concession and Children \$4.00

Enquiries: Neva Dunstan - phone 5330 7005

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

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.

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)

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.

GUEST SPEAKERS

May meeting:

Susan McLean, Vice President of the Genealogical Society of Victoria spoke to us about researching your Scottish family's history on Tuesday 23 May. She outlined the types of records available, and a map of Scotland showing the counties, then went on to detail various certificates and records relating to births and baptisms, marriages and deaths or funerals.

Parish registers span the period 1560 to 1855. Civil registration commenced in Scotland in 1855 which meant that reliance was no longer on kirk records but on certificates which followed the same pattern as the comprehensive ones we have in Victoria. Susan highlighted the very interesting influence of John Knox and his followers in relation to death records, which involved records resulting from charges being made for the digging of the grave and ringing of bells, as well as fines being imposed for such matters as playing bagpipes or drinking on Sundays.

In relation to marriages, a certificate of proclamation confirmed that a couple were married and brought with them the testament that they were married. Naming patterns of the Scots can be very useful, especially when children carry the mother's surname as a middle name, and a Scottish woman retains her maiden name through life. Because of this Scots usually have two personal names as well as their surname. For example, the mother's name may be Mary Bell and the father William Craig, so the daughter would become Mary Bell Craig, or the son would become William Bell Craig. (Note that the Australiana Reference Reading Room holds excellent resources for Scottish research in the Ballarat Genies' collection).

June meeting

Kate Prinsley, Executive Officer of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria encouraged our members to visit the RHSV at 239 A'Beckett St, Melbourne (6326 9288) to use the primary material in the collection, part of which is available on-line at www.historyvictoria.org.au.

The RHSV started collecting in 1909 – letters, diaries and reminiscences about early Melbourne and the Port Phillip district. The collection is private rather than public or government records, and its strength is that it is ordinary, typical, everyday lives of people that are captured. Kate referred to manuscripts including school records, prison records, some shipping lists, and the Pioneers' Register which began in 1917 when a form was sent to pioneer families to complete and was updated from

the 1950s. This includes 3000 families' names. There are 2000 items in the map collection, many Sands and McDougall directories to 1974, the CS Smith collection of ships and ships' voyages, an inventory of newspapers, and a wonderful collection of ephemera such as tickets, menus, invitations and so on. The RHSV was the first institution in Victoria to start collecting photographs and there are 30,000 items including glass negatives, glass plates, carte de visites, and every other type of photograph dating back to the 1850s.

July meeting

Helen Doxford Harris OAM, past Secretary of the Victoria Police Historical Society and founder of the Avoca Historical Society spoke about researching 19th century police and criminal records in Victoria. The basic source for Helen's information is VPRS 937 from the Public Record Office Victoria, and the collection in the Police Museum, as well as her own website: <http://members.ozemail.com.au/~hdharris/index.html>. Helen especially noted Unit 459 of that Series which covers the Ballarat District. She used many examples of documents which are in that series including records of conduct and service and defaulter's sheets recording misdemeanours, in relation to members of the police force.

The Infant Life Protection Act of 1890 developed out of the practice of 'baby farming' and required an application for registration and the keeping of a roll book with information on the children 'adopted'. Helen also discussed the important information in the Police Gazettes from 1853, which are indexed from 1859 by subject, e.g., in 1881 there is a list of absconders from industrial schools. The microfiche indexes are available at the Ballarat Archives Centre PROV. She also referred to the Gibson Index which has 45,000 indexed names extracted from criminal offence records.

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)

RESEARCH QUERIES

Please contact the research team at researchballarat@hotmail.com

Victorian Registry Prescribed Fee Increase

From 19th June 2006 there will be an increase for some existing Registry fees.

The new prescribed fees will be:

- * Certificate fee - comprised of application for search of the Register and application for issue of a certificate certifying the results of a search of the Register. \$25.80
- * Application to register change of name (adult or child) \$58.80
- * Application to alter Register \$58.80
- * Application for document acknowledging identity. \$84.60
- * Application to add registrable information to an entry \$58.80

If your application for any of the above is received on or after 19 June 2006 you will be required to pay the new fee.

Please note that if a customer purchases an uncertified copy of an historical record and they either download the image online or apply via mail or in person and quote the correct registration number customers will only pay \$17.50. Uncertified copies are only available for historical records and cannot be used for proof of identity purposes.

Registration numbers can be obtained by searching the Registry's indexes.

For example, if a customer wishes to purchase an 1878 birth record they have two options:

1. purchase an uncertified copy (download the image online or apply via mail or in person and quote the correct registration number) and pay \$17.50

or

2. purchase a certificate (online, via mail or in person) and pay \$25.80.

The changes to the prescribed fees have been introduced to meet the changing requirements associated with countering identity fraud and implementing improved information security measures to better protect people's personal information.

Fees for commemorative certificates and marriage services at the Old Treasury Building are not being changed.

If customers have any questions they can visit the Registry's web site at

www.dvc.vic.gov.au/bdm.htm

or contact the Registry's customer service team on 1300 369 367, 8.30am - 4.30pm, Monday to Friday (except public holidays).



News from the State Library of Victoria

Coming events in Genealogy

31 July – 4 August As the State Library of Victoria's contribution to the inaugural *National Family History Week*, the Genealogy Team will be offering a special program of orientations to the Genealogy Centre on Monday 31 July, Wednesday 2 August and Friday 4 August from 10am to 11am. The sessions are free however as numbers are limited bookings are essential to Suzie on (03) 8664 7016.

Check the Library's website (www.slv.vic.gov.au) for details of other activities.

Fliers are also available in the Genealogy Centre and Newspaper Reading Room.

19 August 9am - 5pm The Genealogy Team will have a State Library of Victoria stand at the *Family and Local History Treasure Chest* organized by the Victorian Association of Family History Organisations to be held at Dallas Brooks Centre, 300 Albert Street, East Melbourne. Activities on the day will include displays, book sales and childrens' activities as well as information stands.

Admission : \$10

30 September 10am – 3pm Our annual *Family History Feast*, a collaborative effort between the major Victorian government agencies for genealogical research - National Archives of Australia (Victorian Office), Public Record Office Victoria, Registry of Births, Death and Marriages and the State Library of Victoria. To be held in the State Library of Victoria Theatre.

Bookings to Public Record Office Victoria 03 9348 5600 or by email to vijay.aruldass@dvc.gov.au

Free but bookings essential as numbers limited. Lunch at own expense.

Looking forward to meeting some *Link* readers at all or some of the above events.

Anne Burrows

Genealogy Librarian

State Library of Victoria

aburrows@slv.vic.gov.au

MEMBERS ONLY

Available to borrow :-

Audio Tapes of Guest Speakers talks.

Ph. Trina on 5339 6170

DID YOU KNOW?

Scottish Naming Patterns

The Scottish named their children as follows, although this was not always the case!

1st Son named after Father's Father
2nd Son named after Mother's Father
3rd Son named after Father
4th Son named after Father's oldest brother
5th Son named after 2nd oldest brother or mother's oldest brother

1st Daughter named after Mother's Mother
2nd Daughter named after Father's Mother
3rd Daughter named after Mother
4th Daughter named after Mother's oldest sister
5th Daughter named after 2nd oldest sister or Father's oldest sister

The Public Record Office Victoria website allows a simple search by surname from 1991 to 1995 inclusive to find Probate Records

Gives: Surname, personal names, occupation, suburb or town

And: Reference numbers for ordering

<http://www.prov.vic.gov.au>

HOW DO I FIND?

Research in Angus and Dundee

Angus, formerly known as Forfarshire encompasses the coastal towns of Arbroath, Carnoustie and Montrose, Forfar, Brechin and Kirriemuir, Glamis and the Angus Glens.

Dundee, as Scotland's fourth largest city, occupies a stunning location at the mouth of the River Tay. Settlements have existed on this site since at least the 11th Century. Dundee became an important market town and trading port and by the 16th Century, was the second richest town in Scotland through its trade in coarse woollen and linen goods.

<http://www.dundeeroots.com/>

Photographs

At the following site I did a search for five places near Ballarat and found this number of images:

Castlemaine: 739

Smythesdale: 28

Piggoreet: 31

Daylesford: 716

Clunes: 176

www.pictures.libraries.vic.gov.au/site/central_highlands/cardbox/7864.html

Members of Parliament

The Royal Historical Society of Victoria has an excellent link to a database on all Victorian MPs since 1851.

<http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/re-member>

Death Duty Registers

The National Archives has started making Death Duty registers available online. These registers can add useful details to what you may already know from a will, or help you decide if getting a copy of the will would be useful.

At present, the documents online only cover the years 1796-1811, but there are twelve from Hawkesbury in that period.

Definitely worth a look at

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>

CRESWICK ADVERTISER June 11th 1879

No man can be suspicious of others without making others suspicious of him, and no man can spend his time in talking against the honesty of others without exciting the feeling that he himself will bear watching.

There are some men in the world so mean that they skin the milk at the top and then sigh because they can't turn it over and skim it at the bottom.

If a man would live quietly in the world he must learn to keep his eyes and ears open and his lips barred.

100years ago

The City and Sebastopol brigades were called to Beverin Street, Sebastopol, about two o'clock this morning, an eight-roomed unoccupied house, recently bought by Mr Charles Burt, being on fire.

No water was available, and the brigadiers could do little to prevent the spread of flames, and the place was totally destroyed.

THE COURIER, Ballarat, Friday, July 21, 2006

USEFUL INDEXES

Scottish Census Records

Indexes and images for 1851 Census for Scotland are now available on-line. Already available are the census indexes for 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891 and 1901.

The website for ScotlandsPeople is: www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk

Publicans

Go to the website of the State Library of Victoria, select 'Catalogues and Databases', enter 'publicans' in the 'search for' box and find the reference to the Cole/Tetlow Index where 20,000 licensees are listed
www.slv.vic.gov.au

Blacksmiths

Blacksmiths (and related trades) in the UK and Australia. An index created by the webmaster that contains the names of blacksmiths, whitesmiths, shipwrights, wheelwrights, goldsmiths, copper-, brass-, and ironworkers, etc. Includes some photos.

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~blacksmiths/>

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

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

RESEARCH QUERIES

Please contact the research team at
researchballarat@hotmail.com

Ballarat East Petty Sessions Series VPRS 290/P

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

Welcome to



Marie Wilson of Ballarat.
Norman Lewis of Ballarat.
Judith Vanderkley of Delacombe.
Sandra Fishwick of Ballarat.
Ian Harvey of Wycheproof.
Rita Simpson of Sebastopol.
Catherine Dickson of Daylesford.
Patricia McLay of Gisborne.
Alison Allen of Invermay
Alan Raymond Collie of Auckland, NZ.

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