

# The Surf Coast Family History Group

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Vol. 24, Winter - August 2005 edition

(Sub group of the Anglesea and District Historical Society Inc.)

## Inverlochy Log



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Quarterly Journal of The Surf Coast Family History Group

**The Anglesea Family History Group**

c/o P. O. Box 98 Anglesea 3230

**The Society is housed in the Anglesea Historical Society Museum**

**McMillan Street Anglesea 3230**

**Library and Research Facilities**

Monday 10am-2pm  
Friday 10am-12noon

**Meetings**

The 2nd Thursday of the Month  
Commencing at 10am at the  
Historical Society Museum  
McMillan Street Anglesea 3230

**Visitors Welcome**

**inquiries: Ring**  
Norma 52616239  
Pat Ph 52896686

**Forthcoming Meetings**

**August 11th : Group Session**  
**Memorabilia day**

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**September 8th: Victorian Land Records**  
**Speaker: Norma Morrison**

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**13th October 2005**

**AGM Meeting**

**"The Birch Story"**

**How to Start your Family Story**  
**Speaker: Thelma Western**

**Nomination Forms Available**  
**Family History Rooms**  
**on the front Desk**

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**November 10th "Life on the Gold Fields"**  
**Speaker: Pat Hughes**

**Committee Members 2004-2005**

**Chairperson**  
**Vice Chairperson**  
**Secretary**  
**Treasurer**  
**Librarian**  
**Committee Member**  
**Committee Member**  
**Committee Member**

Norma Morrison: 52 616239  
Pat Hughes: 52 896686  
Helen Mann: 52 632189  
Thelma Western 52 632865  
Rose Johnson: 52 561510  
Dulcie Quinlan: Not Available  
Colin Wood: cnwood@esystit.com  
Nielma Wood: cnwood@esystit.com

The Anglesea Family History Group does not hold itself responsible for the accuracy of the statements or opinions expressed by authors of articles published in this magazine

# Glimpses into the Past

## Anglesea Families who served in the Volunteer Air Observer Corps at Anglesea's Loveridge Look-out 1942/5

**D**uring 1938 Mrs. Bertha Loveridge from Anglesea's 'Anglecrest' financed a modern scenic lookout erected on the Crown Land reserve. This structure, designed by H.L. Coburn from Ballarat, was in memory of her late husband James Loveridge.

Little did she realise that in four years time the look-out would take on a new role after the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor, attacked Darwin, and increased submarine activity along our coast.

On 26/2/1942, two hours before daybreak, a Japanese Yokosuka



Glen E14y

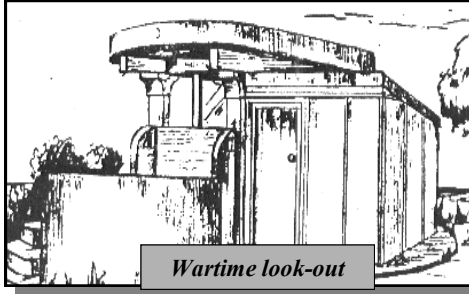
E14Y floatplane was catapulted from long range submarine I-25 north of King Island, for a reconnaissance flight of Melbourne and Port Phillip bay to observe shipping and future targets.

After reaching Cape Otway the light seaplane flew east via Lorne, Aireys Inlet and Anglesea to Point Lonsdale. Then north across Portarlington, Laverton and the Williamstown Rifle Range to the mouth of the Yarra River.

It then returned southwards via the Cape Schanck lighthouse, and out to sea to rendezvous with the I-25 north of King Island.

Four months later on 22/6/1942 Anglesea's Loveridge look-out took on a wartime role.

A stark sign stated : -  
**RAAF PROHIBITED AREA**  
verifying that the Volunteer Air Observers Corps had commenced operations at our seaside township. A group of 56 local volunteers,



Wartime look-out

who knew very little about aircraft, kept the observation post open between 1942 and 1945 scanning the skies for friend or foe. They played an important role in the ground warning strategy of the RAAF. In our zone the effort was divided into two divisions - ground radar station 13 at Cape Otway and 14 across the sea at Wilson's Promontory, backed by air observation posts at Lorne, Anglesea and Torquay.

A small room was extended from the side of the look-out structure by local builder Les Hedley (watched over by "young Bill" Hale.)

It was lit by a kerosene lamp, the windows were covered by draw curtains, and a small pot-belly stove kept personnel warm during the cold winter nights. Numerous cloud and aircraft "ident" charts were fixed prominently to the inside walls. Binoculars and compasses were at the ready. Log books were kept.

The Observer's job was to identify or describe all planes passing by, and report anything of an unusual nature. They had a direct telephone line to Geelong area Control, where reported information was collated and plotted on a large map table. This was then passed onto Melbourne H.Q. at Preston.

Scanning the sky



### MOVEMENT REPORTS

By 1945 Anglesea had made a record total of 3000 aircraft movement reports. The type of aircraft mainly seen were: Ansons (either on submarine patrol or navigational exercises), Oxfords, Kittyhawks, B25 Mitchells, Spitfires, Beaufighters and later Liberators and Mustangs.



Reporting to Geelong HQ

### B25 MITCHELL CRASHES

On the 1/12/1944 at 11.10 AM, Joyce Graham, who was Anglesea's Chief Observer, was watching a modified RAAF B25D/J Mitchell (A47-24) testing alterations out to sea at the Torquay Firing range. After loosing height it crashed into the ocean. Geelong Control was notified, and search operations were directed to a large oil patch. Two crew members were lucky to escape - three did not survive.

### FIRST & LAST WATCH

Log book entries show that the first recorded watch was carried out by Wm. Hale Snr. between 7am. and 10am. on 22/6/1942. Although V.P. day was 15/8/1945 the Look-out's operations did not cease until 20/9/1945. Mrs. M. Russell conducted the last watch.

*When I recently called to the lookout, the elevated scenic area was packed with excited whale watchers. It was hard to envisage that wartime circumstances happened there over 58 years ago.*

■ Lindsay Braden.

*A researcher for the Anglesea and District Historical Society.*

## Members Story

### Excursion to the National Archives in North Melbourne

Friday May 27th 2005

I am standing in the foyer of the National Archives with other members of the Anglesea Family History Group. We have signed in, been issued with passes and deposited our belongings in the lockers provided. The more experienced members of our group have already collected and perused pre-ordered documents in the time available to us before the tour was due to start. I was told bios were a “no no” and realised why when I had the opportunity to look at some of the beautifully hand written documents that dated back to the 19<sup>th</sup> century. How easily they could be defaced with a pen of any sort.

The Harry Nunn Reading Room, where we start the official tour was first opened in April 2004. It has ample space for researchers, workstations spread out on long tables with provision to plug in laptop computers. There are computers with online access and rows of bookshelves with information of all kinds available. Nothing is cluttered. Liz, one of our two guides, tells us the staff members are so helpful and have so much expertise. This is the only facility where both State and Federal records are available in the one area.

Smaller research rooms are available for those requiring complete privacy and there is a meeting room large enough to cater for groups such as ours. No cameras are allowed in the main area but there is a separate facility for digital photography. The microfiche room is popular with family history researchers. It holds a vast range of government records – passenger lists from ships and will and probate files being the most commonly sought after.

We start our behind the scenes tour in the photocopy room. Some extremely large documents are outsourced but most documents are copied here and sent out for a minimal charge. Behind the counters are long rows of shelving holding the enormous volume of documents that have been brought out of the archives in response to researchers' requests. Then it is down to the Repository in the goods lift to see where these documents have come from.

Ken, our other guide, tells us to huddle close together as we negotiate the airlock doors that take us into the storage area. Here the temperature is kept at 20°C. The Cool Room, where microfilm and items such as plate glass negatives and film are stored, is kept at 10°C. This room, however, is not on our itinerary. We are told ninety of the 120 shelf-kilometre capacity we are walking past is occupied – the work of transferring records into acid free archival boxes is well underway.

Cont.....

Up and down the rows we walk, stopping to look at ephemera along the way. Such items as the beautiful roll-top Austral Desk; a chart which was presented to the Chamber of Commerce by the Director of the Flagstaff Observatory showing the progress of 300 voyages to Australia made between 1858-1863; a reproduction of the Chronological Tree of Victoria presented to parliament; mug shots of Ned Kelly; Jeff Hook's "Ban the Bomb" cartoon done for the Gas & Fuel Corporation and a cedar pigeon-hole cabinet from the Harbour Trust. We could have spent more time looking at these pieces of our past.

We finish the tour in the corridor servicing the back entrance and Car Park. This corridor is a gallery of photographs of the researchers who work here. Each one is taken with a piece of archival history and underneath is written a little about their area of expertise and their reason for choosing that particular exhibit to be photographed with. This corridor alone is worth a second visit.

Back in the foyer we thank our guides and head for the coffee shop. Behind us in the exhibition space is the current display "Forgotten Faces; Chinese and the Law". We are given copies of Memento and Proactive, the magazines of the National Archives and the Public Record Office (respectively). I am now registered to access the Public Record Office on line. As a relatively new member of the Family History Group this visit has given me a greater incentive to start digging.

### **Yvonne Schneider**

The 1787 Constable's Census of Westmorland is accessible on line at : -  
<http://edenlinks.rootsweb.com/lgp/RECORDS/CC/CCINDEX.HTM>

### **IRISH MARRIAGE**

John McHamil aged 97 years( been married 4 times before) married Widow  
McInespy aged 89 years ( been married 6 times before) December 1808  
Maghera

**I believe that their would be no children to this marriage**

### **Make a note in your diaries**

Annual Luncheon to be held on Friday 28th October 2005

at the Anglesea Golf Club

Tickets will be \$20 per person

FORMS AVAILABLE NOW



## The Surf coast Family History group-Members Interests

Patricia Hughes email: [patluv57@iprimus.com.au](mailto:patluv57@iprimus.com.au)

Name	Years	Place	Country
Wilkinson	1665-1831	Bampton	Westmoreland
Wilkinson	1831- 1880	Kendal	Westmoreland
Wilkinson	1786-1880	Sedbergh	Yorkshire
Oldfield	1724-1900+	Llanarmon-yn-lal	Denbigh, Wales
Oldfield	All before 1724	Youlgreave	Derby
Hughes	All before 1765	Tri'r Lian	Denbigh, Wales
Jackson	All Before 1788	Hackthorpe, Lowther	Westmoreland
Lange	All Before 1830	Danzig	Preussen

### Bendigo

**On the goldfields of central Victoria, Australia, appeared an African American boxer named Abingego. He was so popular with the gold miners that they started to call their town of tents after him. The Bishop of Sandhurst was not amused and tried to quell the practice, but to no avail. Today the city named after that African American exists and flourishes under the name of Bendigo.**

#### Skeletons in the Closet

Written by Yvonne Schneider

Every family has them  
skeletons  
hidden in the closet  
buried out of sight  
in a past that's slightly murky  
secrets, dark and dirty  
but generations later  
they're looked at  
in a very different light.

Every family has them  
bastards  
born outside of wedlock  
not sure who's their dad  
to sow wild oats for men was fine  
then say, "*No, it's not mine*"  
but nowadays it seems  
to stay unwed  
is more than just a passing fad.

Every family has them  
black sheep  
those who don't conform  
to the letter of the law  
but take Ned Kelly and Robin Hood  
some say outlaws can be good  
were they common thieves  
who loved to steal  
or heroes, champions of the poor?

So maybe you discover  
your mother was your aunt  
or you weren't the first born son  
if delving into family history reveals  
that great-grandfather so and so  
was a convict on the run  
it doesn't make you any different  
from the person down the street  
we all have family secrets  
ask anyone you meet  
and if you're told they're blue bloods  
with the perfect family tree  
you can bet the skeletons in their closet  
are ones you wouldn't want to see.

**New Acquisitions**  
**CD: Index to Prerogative Wills of Ireland**

**Exciting News: We release our Surf Coast School Index on CD soon**  
**Selling price \$40.00**

**To make an order Please contact:**  
**Norma Morrison 52 616239 or P.O. Box 98 Anglesea 3230**

**Cornish News**

Cornish Wrestling competition held recently in Lostwithiel in Cornwall. These competitions were held all over the world wherever the Cornish mined. The prize was always a Championship Belt and one of these turned up recently here in Victoria Australia.

At the Cornish Festival held in Bendigo in 2002 a competition was held under the guiding eye of Colin Roberts. Colin formerly from St. Columb Major in Cornwall has worked hard to promote Cornish wrestling in Australia. It is recorded that as a young man Sir John Quick participated in such contests at Long Gully in Bendigo.

Thanks to Sue Davey for photograph.

More of Sue's photographs can be seen on the Website of Gorseth Kernow at:

<http://www.gorsethkernow.org.uk/>

Information provided By Tom & Libby Luke from the  
"Cornish Association of Victoria, Australia"



**Australian Indexes & Databases Website**

Very useful list of databases - whether online, on disc or where they can be viewed:

<http://www.nla.gov.au/pathways/jnls/austjnls/browse/geoghist.html>

**MEMBERS REMINDER**

Don't forget to checkout our records we have on Microfiche We have the IGI for all counties in England & Wales. Check our Library We have some new and exciting Books, Microfiche, Films

Why don't you come and use the Internet to check  
Census online  
Plus much more.....

## Surface Mail

If undelivered return to  
**The Surf Coast Family History Group**  
P. O. Box 98 Anglesea  
Victoria 3230