

The Surf Coast Family History Group

Vol. 81 Spring, September 2021 Edition

(Sub group of the Anglesea and District Historical Society)

Inverlochy Log



From painting by Geoffrey Soames

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Quarterly Journal of The Surf Coast Family History Group

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FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH

Currently by appointment only
Tuesdays & Saturdays preferred

- Susan Clarke 0438 070 560
- Chris Guerow 0419 890 736
- Gwen Morgan 5263 1865
- Marilyn Robinson 5263 1338

All meetings, activities and open times are Covid 19 permitting
We will always work within government guidelines. This newsletter is available electronically. If you wish to receive an electronic copy please email us on surfcoastfh@gmail.com

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Web: <http://vicnet.net.au/~angenfh/home.htm>

General Meetings 2021

September Meeting

An event for September may be arranged at short notice if Covid restrictions permit. Members will be notified by email and/or *Nibbles*.

October Meeting Thursday 14 October AGM

Speaker: Cheryl Baulch
On her DNA experience
Location details to be advised

November Meeting

An event for November may be arranged at short notice if Covid restrictions permit. Members will be notified by email and/or *Nibbles*.

December Meeting

Christmas break-up
Traditional quiz
Come and share any family history discoveries you have made during the year.

Members will be notified of any changes
By email and/or *Nibbles*

Committee Members 2020/2021

Chairperson	Secretary	Jan Morris: davejanmorris@bigpond.com Mobile: 0448 526 311 Susan Clarke: susanclarke3230@hotmail.com Mobile: 0438 070 560
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Committee Member	Committee Member	

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responsible for the accuracy of the statements
or opinions expressed by authors of
articles published in this magazine**

News and resources

Over 9 million new Australian passenger lists online

Did your ancestors travel to, from or around Australia? To help you uncover details of their voyage, Findmypast has merged their vast collection of Australian passenger lists into one simple search and added over 9 million new entries.

<https://www.gouldgenealogy.com/2021/05/over-9-million-new-australian-passenger-lists-online/>

Victorian School, Education and Teachers photos on flickr

Photos from the PROV collection at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/public-record-office-victoria/collections/72157644609788008/>

Of Kin & Kind

PROV online exhibition: Community means being part of something bigger. It can be inherited from family or grow out of work, play or shared beliefs. This exhibition showcases different communities around Victoria, Australia, from the late 19th Century until today. It was drawn from the Victorian State Government's archived photo collection and submissions from street photographers.

<https://artsandculture.google.com/exhibit/uAISUfcxgbCkJq>

Biographical Database of Australia

BDA announced the addition of 13 new datasets in July:

- Sydney (City) St James C of E burials 1832-1856
- Convicts in Victoria 1840-1847 (443 convicts in Vic after end of transportation to NSW)
- Absconded Convicts NSW 1832, 1833, 1835, 1836
- Apprehended Convicts NSW 1832, 1833, 1835, 1836
- Convict Death Register NSW 1828-1879 (including Norfolk Is & early Vic & QLD)
- Permissions for NSW Convicts to Marry 1826-1851 (including early Vic & QLD)
- Coroners Inquests (12000 in NSW + some QLD & VIC) 1834-1859
- Courts of Criminal Jurisdiction 1788-1833 (NSW + early TAS, QLD & Norfolk Is)
- Probate Index 1790-1876 (mainly NSW + early TAS, QLD & VIC)
- Ship Musters Sydney NSW Departures 1816-1825 (17,000 passengers leaving the colony)
- 21st Regiment of Foot (Royal North British Fusiliers) 1833-1840 (many in TAS & WA)
- Sydney Gazette Index 1803-1807
- Deane Index to UK Colonial Office NSW correspondence 1823-1840.

<https://www.bda-online.org.au/>

Geelong Infirmary and WDYTYA

Read why records of the **Geelong Infirmary and Benevolent Asylum** were a crucial source used for the *Who Do You Think You Are* episode featuring Grant Denyer on 13 July 2021.

<https://geelonganddistrict.com/geelong-infirmary-and-wdytya/>

Quotes for this edition:

- * **We inherit from** our ancestors gifts so often taken for granted. Each of us contains within this inheritance of soul. We are links between the ages, containing past and present expectations, sacred memories and future promise. – Edward Sellner
- * **Research is what** I'm doing when I don't know what I'm doing – Wernher von Braun

The lady with the iron jaw

by Susan Clarke

When reading about the history of Aireys Inlet, I was intrigued by references to the proprietress of the Grand Hotel as “the lady with the iron jaw”. Apparently she acquired this epithet from her ability to draw corks with her teeth. So who was this lady with the mighty mandible?

On 4 December 1894 a notice appeared in the *Colac Herald* indicating that Esther Blake, of Winchelsea, wife of Alfred James Blake, was applying for a victualler's license for “premises situate at Airey's Inlet, containing nine rooms exclusive of those required for the use of my family and servants”. The intention was to have the place ready for guests by 1 January 1895. The license was granted and the Grand Hotel was established. Esther ran it with the help of her son, John O'Hara, until 1900 when the place was gutted by fire. “The Grand” burned down on 16 July when a spark fell from the kitchen fire onto some clothing. The building was insured for 300 pounds sterling but it was stated that this amount did not even represent half the damage done.

So what were Esther's circumstances when she opened the hotel? According to one researcher, Esther's husband was an overseer on an outlying station and had no active role in the business, “though he evidently played an active part in the marriage, returning to Airey's Inlet on horseback every weekend” (Wright, p. 41). So what was Esther's family background?

Esther was born in 1850 in County Antrim, Northern Ireland, daughter of Michael Hall and Ellen (nee Keown). She married John O'Hara in 1869 at Ballycastle, Ireland and they had a son John born c1872, and a daughter Ellen, born in Coatsbridge, Scotland in 1875. John senior died that same year. It is not known how Esther initially lived her life as a widow, but in 1882 she travelled to Australia with her daughter to join Hall family members already here: sisters Ellen and Margaret had emigrated in 1861, and sister Margaret had also made the journey. Son John followed in 1884 travelling with his uncle Henry Hall and grandmother Ellen.

Esther married Alfred James Blake in 1887. When Esther applied for the hotel licence in 1894, she had two young children: Alfreda Mary Elizabeth born in 1887 and Ernestine Esther born in 1893. The births of both daughters were registered in Winchelsea. Esther did not rebuild the hotel in Aireys Inlet after the fire in 1900. Presumably she returned to live inland. She died on 22 September 1924 at the residence of her son-in-law Herbert Edwin Erwin (Alfreda's husband), “High View” at Wensleydale. Husband Alfred outlived her by several years, dying in 1940. Esther and Alfred are buried, together with daughter Alfreda, in Winchelsea Cemetery.



This photo shows Esther second from left in the back row, holding on to her husband's arm. It is thought to have been taken not long before her death. It is surprising to remember her title “the lady with the iron jaw”. [photo reproduced by kind permission of Murray Erwin.]

Sources

Clare Wright, 2014, *Beyond the Ladies Lounge: Australia's Female Publicans*, Text Publishing, p.41

https://images.findagrave.com/photos/2017/0/153793766_1483337234.jpg

More on census records for family historians
Susan Clarke

In the last edition of *Nibbles* I wrote a short piece about census records for family historians. Here are a few more observations about using these documents, which are of vital importance for our research.

It might be useful to remind ourselves about the process for the creation of Australian census records. The process has changed little over time: the head of the household or householder fills in the census return, called a household-er return, answering all the questions (which have increased over time as we would all have observed in the recent exercise) about all members of the household, including children, lodgers and servants.

Before returns went digital, the next step was the creation of the Collectors Books. The returns were collated and lists made of the results. This was done manually, and the results tabulated in columns. Here arises the first problem with which we are all too familiar: mistakes arising from misinterpretation of handwriting.

But this is only the start of the problems as one writer has explained:

The process of compiling lists from the returns and then copying the lists themselves was open to errors, such as incorrectly changing the wife and children's surname to that of the husband, and copying columns out of sync so that the wrong information appeared next to the names. It is therefore important to look at the original householder's return if at all possible.

When the lists were compiled the government kept a copy and made another copy to send back to the Home Office in England. There are often differences between the two copies so it may be worthwhile to check both, just in case. [<https://www.findmypast.com.au/articles/articles-and-guides/australian-censuses>]

And a word about English census records which many of us need to refer to as we go back through the generations. Many people are under the misapprehension that the first census was held in 1841. In fact national decennial censuses of the general population started in 1801 in order to ascertain the number of men available to fight in the Napoleonic Wars. A small number of these older records exist in local record offices.

I was lucky enough to find a record of my 3 x great grandfather in Fordingbridge, Hampshire in 1821. The Hantsweb online catalogue lists four pages of names in the manuscript listings used to compile the official census enumerators returns for the tithing of Fordingbridge town (ref.24M82/PO20/3/1). My ancestor is identified by his full name whereas examples of the women are Widow Elderton, Mrs Howes and Misses Joyce. It is only a list of names, but it still makes interesting reading because a few occupations are mentioned, e.g. Callaway, Office of Excise.

Billy George

ASTON VILLA & ENGLAND GOALKEEPER

William George was a footballer who played for Aston Villa from October 1897 to July 1911. His previous clubs were the now defunct Woolwich Ramblers, Army football for the Royal Artillery and for Trowbridge Town when he was on leave.

He was signed by Aston Villa from the Army for £50 in 1897.

He played in 356 league matches and 40 cup matches. While at Villa Park George kept goal in three Villa title winning sides in 1899, 1900 and 1910 as well as their 1905 cup winning side. Conversely he was also in goal when Villa suffered a humiliating F A Cup defeat against Southern League Millwall Athletic in 1900.

His international career was limited and he had 3 caps with the England team in 1902.

He was sold to Birmingham City as a player/trainer in 1911.

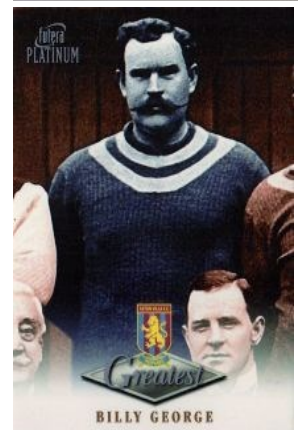
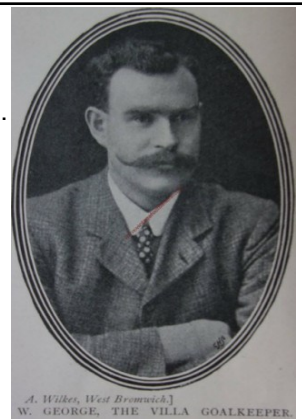
He is regarded as one of the greatest – if not the greatest – goalkeeper in the history of the club. For many seasons was at the top of his form, after a superb opening display against WBA.

Quick on his feet, splendid reach, full of resource, punches the ball with great power, fields well, and a grand kick.

A rare good man on a side, and an ornament to the game — *The Villa News and Record*, 1 September 1906. George also played 13 first-class cricket matches as a batsman with Warwickshire. He also played county cricket for Wiltshire and, in 1900, for Shropshire while a club professional player at Shrewsbury.

Billy George had a son Kenneth Thomas George who Married Marjorie Talbot, Marjorie was my 3rd cousin 2x removed..

Continue.....



Family Group Sheet

by Patricia Hughes.

William George

1874 – 1935 **ASTON VILLA & ENGLAND GOALKEEPER**

Wife

LYDIA HELEN BERRIDGE 1896 – 1982

Son

KENNETH THOMAS GEORGE

BIRTH: 20/09/1912 in Peterborough, Northamptonshire, England

DEATH: 21.06.1958 in Shipley, Yorkshire, England

Wife

MARJORIE TALBOT

BIRTH: 7 Oct 1921 in Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

DEATH: 1999 in Bradford, Yorkshire, England

Relationship Events

Marriage

25th Jul 1942 in Frizinghall, Yorkshire,

West Riding, United Kingdom

Son

PETER WILLIAM GEORGE

BIRTH 25/02/1947 in Shipley, Yorkshire, England

DEATH Oct 2003 in Leeds, Yorkshire, England

Marjorie Talbot was born in 1921 in Sydney NSW, years later her family returned to England where Marjorie met her future husband Kenneth Thomas George, the son of Billy George. They lived in Yorkshire West Riding. Their son is part of a group in Cornwall that is part of an organisation that are putting together a military Museum.



France, December 1916. Unidentified members of the Australian 5th Division, enjoying a "smoko" near Mametz, on the Somme.

Some are wearing slouch hats, steel helmets, sheepskin jackets and woollen gloves, demonstrating both the variety of official battledress, and how it was modified and augmented, for local conditions.

Sources William George Aston Villa Goalkeeper
First Australian Imperial Force
Both from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

William George

Born 29 June 1874 in St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, Shropshire [registered in Atcham, June 1874].

Baptised 4 October 1874 in St. Chad's, Shrewsbury

Census Notes According to the 1881 census, William is one of six children to Henry and Fanny. With two lodgers, they live at 17 St Alkmonds Square in Shrewsbury. His father is a Post Office porter.

George joined the Royal Artillery on 3 December 1888, he was only fourteen years old.

Census Notes According to the 1891 census, William is one of many Royal Artillery boys at the Royal Artillery barracks in Woolwich.

A William Talbot who was Part of my Talbot line came to Australia in 1914, he joined AIF Gallipoli & Flanders.

The **First Australian Imperial Force (1st AIF)** was the main expeditionary force of the Australian Army during World War I

An all volunteer force, by the end of the war the AIF had gained a reputation as being a well-trained and highly effective military force, playing a significant role in the final Allied victory. However, this reputation came at a heavy cost with a casualty rate among the highest of any belligerent for the war. The AIF included the Australian Flying Corps (AFC), which consisted of four combat and four training squadrons that were deployed to the United Kingdom, the Western Front and the Middle East throughout the war. After the war, the AFC evolved into the Royal Australian Air Force; the remainder of the 1st AIF was disbanded between 1919 and 1921. After the war the achievements of the AIF and its soldiers, known colloquially as "Diggers", became central to the national mythology of the "Anzac legend". Generally known at the time as *the* AIF, it is today referred to as the *1st AIF* to distinguish it from the Second Australian Imperial Force raised during World War II.

