

I wonder how many New Year resolutions were made this year to put those family history notes in order, catch up with your letter writing, or follow up some of those possible avenues of information, no matter how remote? Every genealogist could tell a story of how they left their research too late, only to find valuable sources of information have disappeared forever - usually with the passing of an elderly relative or the "spring cleaning" of a pile of old "rubbish". So keep to those New Year resolutions and don't let 1983 be the year when you left it too late!

The members of the mid-Gippsland Group of The G.S.V. wish to express their sympathy to Mrs. Audrey Bennett, after her husband, Mr. Harry Bennett, was lost at sea after a fishing trip on January 22nd. Mr. Bennett was a member of our group since its beginning in 1981, and Mr. & Mrs. Bennett were largely responsible for the groups foundation by inviting people interested in family history to their home in Moe for the inaugural meeting. Our thoughts are with Mrs. Bennett and her family during this difficult time.

#### OVERSEAS RESEARCH

##### Certificates in the British Isles.

Latest prices for obtaining birth, death and marriage certificates from the British Isles -

England and Wales	£10.10	Southern Ireland	£2.05
Northern Ireland	£ 5.10	Scotland	£9.00

These prices include return airmail postage.

Note: The cost of obtaining an overseas bank draught in Australia has risen considerably - see later notes on Australian research.

##### Scottish Wills

An article from the September 'Descent', published by the Society of Australian Genealogists Members are advised not to send any payment in advance when applying for copies of wills in Scotland. Postage costs prohibit the return of any excess money, therefore only credit is given. Unless you intend sending for more wills later, this credit is of course, wasted. Wills may be obtained from

The Scottish Record Office,  
P.O. Box 36,  
H.M. General Register House,  
EDINBURGH, E.H. 3YY

##### Scottish Census Returns

Also from 'Descent'.

"Census returns listing identified individuals in Scotland by name, occupation and household are held by the Registrar-General, General Register Office, New Register House, Edinburgh E.H. 1, 3YT. A census has been conducted in Scotland every 10 years from 1841, with the exception of 1941 (World War 2), but only the records from 1841-1891 are open for public research.

We understand that the General Register Office staff can only undertake research by correspondence provided the full names of persons for whom a search is to be made, and the full address at which they were resident on the census date, are provided by the enquirer ....." as these records are not indexed.

#### AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH

##### Overseas Bank Draughts.

As mentioned previously the cost of sending money overseas has increased considerably with the rise in bank draught charges. These may vary slightly with different banks, however, you must expect to pay approx. \$5-00 for each overseas bank draught. At present the rates at the Post Office are much cheaper - \$2-80 covers a cheque up to \$40-00, and after that 7 cents for every additional \$1-00. It would be well worth your while to "shop around".

### Dating Old Photographs

One of the most rewarding events in family research is to discover some old family photographs. However, this can lead to disappointment as often there is no clue to the date and identity of the photograph.

One book which may be helpful in dating such photographs is "Breeches and Bustles" by Elizabeth Scandrett, which is an illustrated history of clothes worn in Australia from 1788-1914. This book features mens, womens and childrens wear, including clothes, shoes, hats and hairstyles. For example - "1870-1880 saw the introduction of the bustle, hats and bonnets were small and heavily trimmed with lace, ribbon and flowers. Hairstyles were elaborately styled, either in a chignon or plaits and curls with a frizzed fringe. For gentlemen, baggy trousers were disappearing to be replaced by narrow trousers". This book may be available at your local library.

### Dating Old Army Photographs.

A book written by Ronald Montague and published by the Library of Australian History, "Dress and Insignia of the British Army in Australian and New Zealand 1770-1870", may be helpful in dating photographs of family members dressed in Army uniforms. It contains many illustrations of the uniforms and badges worn by soldiers in the various Army regiments during the pre-1870 period.

### Western Australian Research.

#### 1. The Western Australian Genealogical Society

The W.A.G.S. has a library in Perth which is open to the public, and run on a similar basis to the G.S.V. library in Melbourne. For people unable to visit the library the society members will carry out a search of the ready reference indexes e.g. directories and cemetery records, and forward printed material on W.A. research, for the cost of \$5-00.

A journal "Western Ancestor" is published quarterly and is available to non-members at \$6-00 p.a. Queries may be published in "Western Ancestor" at a charge of \$2-00 per entry to non-members. A directory of members interests is also available - \$2-00 plus .85¢ postage.

Address: Western Australian Genealogical Society,  
P.O. Box 7,  
WEST PERTH W.A. 6005

#### 2. Certificates.

The information contained on certificates prior to 1896 is very basic, and contains very little secondary information.

Birth Certificates - give very few details of parents except father's name and profession, and mother's name and maiden name. No details of parents ages or marriage are given, or details of other children.

Marriage Certificates - give names and ages of both bride and groom, also their father's names and profession. However, no details of places of birth or mother's names.

Death Certificates - again only basic information and does not show place of birth, husband or wives name, marriage details or children. It does give name, age, sex, profession, cause of death and place of death.

Certificates cost \$5-00 each and a search over a 5 year period costs \$2-50.

Address: The Registrar General,  
Oakleigh Building,  
22 St. Georges Terrace,  
PERTH W.A. 6000

#### 3. The Battye Library.

Passenger lists for arriving vessels are held by the State Archives section of the Battye Library. Also held at the library is a vast collection of material including family histories, pedigrees, district histories, card indexes of arrivals, biographical information, convicts, directories, transcriptions of parish registers and tombstone inscriptions.

Address: Battye Library,  
40 James Street,  
PERTH W.A. 6000

## 4. Probates

Wills and administrations are available for inspection by the public at the probate office of the Supreme Court and copies can be obtained for the current fees (which are very reasonable). There is a card index of wills etc. and this is used by the staff of the court. If you have a reasonably accurate date of death it would be worth while writing for a copy of the will.

Address: Probate Office,  
Supreme Court Building,  
St. Georges Terrace,  
PERTH W.A. 6000

## 5. Dictionary of Western Australians.

A "must" for Western Australian researchers is the "Directory of Western Australians" 1829-1914. Three volumes of the proposed eight volume work have been published so far, and provide an invaluable research source to 1868. As far as possible every white resident of W.A. until 1868 is listed with many details which may include - name of ship and date of arrival, place of origin, and personal details (occupation, residence, husband or wife, children etc.) There is a separate volume listing those who arrived in bondage and details of their crimes and sentences are added.

Note - This book is available from The G.S.V. library or Latrobe Library.

WATCH YOUR STEP LADIES.

Another clause from "An Act for the Reform and Regulation of Female Apparel." passed by the N.S.W. Parliament in 1864.

Section VIII "That it shall not be lawful for any female under sixteen or over forty to wear any boots with military or high heels, which shall exceed in height 3 inches, nor any Boots made of Buffalo, or Cow-hide, nor any Boots with Brass or German-silver Eyelet-holes, nor any Boots with Leather Laces, or Black Boots with pink, red, blue or green binding, nor any Boots which, for colour or configuration, shall draw the attention of the passengers either to the large sized or expressively elegantly shaped foot of the wearer, under a penalty of Ten Shillings, the same to be earned at the Wash-Tub in a Laundry at the usual rate of payment; which fine may be remitted by the nearest Police Magistrate, provided the Offender have a bona fide offer of marriage while so employed.

from "Australian Memories"  
edited by Mary Buckle.

Victorian Research

"The Medical Practitioner".

An interesting register for those who have a doctor in their family history, 'The Medical Practitioner' is available at the Melbourne Library. It lists all doctors since registration of medical practitioners began in Victoria, to the present day. Additional information given -

- . date of becoming a doctor
- . place of training
- . residence
- . married status, and, for women, whether they practice under their married or single name.
- . changes of address.

## English Parish Register Transcripts.

The G.S.V. Library in Melbourne has a copy of the English Parish Register Transcripts by N.J. Vine - a list of all known transcripts of English Parish Registers held in Australian libraries.

## Probates in Victoria.

It appears that the cost of obtaining a copy of a will has risen sharply. A member was recently notified of the cost of obtaining a will (consisting of one page) from the Office of the Registrar of Probates. The cost - \$11-00 !! Payable only by Duty Stamps or Money Order. The search fee being in the vicinity of \$10-00. And the one copied page \$1-40. (Who said Ned Kelly was dead?). Lond Live Ned !!

Back to Alberton School.

There is to be a 125th anniversary of back to Alberton School No. 1 on the 12th March 1983.

## Programme :

Back to School 1-30 p.m. with a short talk by Peter Nixon, roll call and afternoon tea. Family dance 8.00 p.m. Souvenirs available.

Some history of the school which, of course, is bound up with the history of the district, which was first settled in 1840. In 1855, four half acre lots were withdrawn from public auction in the township of Alberton to provide land for a National school, the secretary of the patrons being R.T. Newton, a friend of John Batman. The school opened on the 22nd February 1858 with George W. Groves as Head Teacher and Thomas J. Connor as assistant. In 1873, when common schools became state schools and were numbered in alphabetical order, Alberton became No. 1. Some of the names of pupils who attended Alberton School were Morse, May, Stares, Coulthard, Casboll, Mills, Harrap, Avery, Rendall, Webber, Bland, Smith, Dawson, Brain, Mowat, Mulvaney, Wigg, Hepburn, Stockwell, Soderholm, Sheils, Austin, Ray, Webb, Attenborough, Young, Newton, Bartling, Hawkins, Vardy, Irving, Baily, Sweet, Tucky and many others.

Our member, Mrs. Joan Graham, would be happy to help with any enquiries (051) 27 3122.

Walhalla

Our mid-Gippsland Group library now has a copy of the Walhalla cemetery register. Our thanks to Graeme and Yolande Reynolds who donated this register which will prove immensely valuable to anyone researching Walhalla. At present, the register is on a restricted loan to members. Contact librarian, Gaye Rogers, (051) 274259.

A Search for a Cemetery.

Two members of the Tanjil South Centenary Committee are trying to unearth a disused cemetery in the old Tanjil township. Locals in the Willow Grove and Tanjil South areas say they know the cemetery is in the hills "somewhere" but no-one is sure where the exact site is. However, one thing is for sure - the site will be gone by 1984-85 as it is in the area to be covered by the Blue Rock dam. The main problem with trying to locate the cemetery, or the names of people buried there, "is that it is not on the Health Commission records and no other apparent records have been kept."

The Centenary Committee is researching the history of Tanjil South for celebrations in 1987. They will also include, in their research, some information on the colourful past of old Tanjil, which used to be about four miles north of Tanjil South, as the crow flies. The township had its beginnings when gold was discovered in 1859. By about 1865 the town began to grow and flourished until the gold ran out. It eventually died about 1901, leaving very little behind.

A man named Edward Gladman was awarded the government reward of £250 for the discovery of gold in the Tanjil area in 1859, in what is known as the Baw Baw Gold field. Gladman received the reward, but was not the first man to find gold in the area. He was, however, astute enough to get himself off to Alberton and report his find in the Gippsland Guardian. His best mate had been left behind in the Tanjil gullies, enraged at the trickery played on him by Gladman. While this argument is of little consequence today, it was a raging controversy at that time. The mate, Hugh Maney Stewart, had found gold on the Bull Beef Creek in 1858. He was so disgruntled over the reward that he took to prospecting on his own, living as a hermit, and dressing in possum skins; he was later to be known as the local Robinson Crusoe.

With the discovery of gold the area was soon opened up, and fossickers, prospectors, miners and others started moving into the region. Firstly to an area that was to become the Russell's Creek township, then by 1865, there were reports of good payable gold being found on the Tanjil River a few miles from Russell's Creek. A rush ensued and by 1867 quite a little town had been erected, huts, houses and other commodities were in evidence. In 1870, a school was in use, although run on rather unorthodox lines. A police residence was housed in a disused store and manned by a lone Constable, he was reported to have nothing to do as the town was peaceable. The move

of this Constable to Walhalla was said, in effect, to have been made to ease the Constables rheumatism. Tanjil township being recorded as having a damp atmosphere.

A considerable number of claims and gold mines were operational by the mid 1870's, along with further town buildings, which included an hotel, butcher, stores etc. Mails were delivered in and out of the town via Walhalla by Cobb & Co.

The Tanjil township grew and prospered, surrounded by hills and gullies that rang to the tune of pick and shove.

As with all settlements, people lived and people died. The need for a cemetery of the town was becoming increasingly urgent. Especially with the deaths of five children from diphtheria in the one month. The nearest gazetted cemeteries of that time were at Sale and Rosedale, although some people would have travelled that long distance to have relations buried, not all would have been able to.

"So what happened to all those people who died during the 30 odd years of the towns existence?"

While the Health Commission does not appear to recognise the Township as having an Official Cemetery it is a well known fact that the cemetery was in use, at least seven burials were known to have taken place. Doubtless this is only a tithe of the figure.

The main purpose in seeking public help is to find out about the people who were buried at old Tanjil in the hope that some of the families who have lived in Gippsland for a number of decades will have old documents belonging to their grandparents or other relatives. Some one may even have the official registration of the cemetery.

Some commonly known residents and miners from the Tanjil township and surrounding areas are - Charles Gadd, Jesse Hasthorpe, Bess Olsen, William Varney, Henry Godridge, J. McDonald, E. Polland, S. Williams, W. Harris, R. Buchanan, J.M. Bryant, S.A. Morrison, J. Robinson, G. Welch, J. & M.. Clark, G. Child, Redman, Westneat, Hart, Stratton, Carr, Wright, Duggan, Westaway, Aitken, Cadden, Hamptom, Dubber, Watten, Rolphe, Gully, Puls, Chaunney.

The Tanjil Cemetery is known to exist a short way from the old township, which is near Willow Grove and about 20 miles from Moe.

Readers with any references to the cemetery, the miners or townspeople, are asked to contact Gaye Rogers, 68 Hennessy Street, Moe Ph. (051) 27 4259. The information is required for historic research.

#### Victorian Goldfields

For background information on the Victorian goldfields watch the T.V. Series, "Peaches Cold", a program by Bill Peach on the ABC 7.30 p.m. each Thursday.

#### LOCAL NEWS

At the January meeting it was decided that the groups aim for 1983 would be to complete some project which would be of value to our local group and also benefit The G.S.V. Firstly we plan to complete the transcribing of the Moe Cemetery headstones, then we would welcome suggestions for the major project. Some suggestions which have already been made are - copying church records or transcribing headstones from another local cemetery.

#### Library additions

Tapes - "Researching the Family" by Mrs. J. Wills, Oct 1981  
"Shipping and Immigration" by Mrs. Marjorie Morgan, April 1981.

Both these tapes are a useful source of information for the genealogist and members are encouraged to make use of them.

"Faithfulls of Omeo" - The history of the Faithful family of Omeo  
- donated by Hugh McGregor

"Walhalla Cemetery Register" - donated by Graeme and Yolande Reynolds.

Backcopies of the newsletter for December 1982 are still available from the librarian.

Editorial Lyn Gorman, Julie Stevens, Frank Robinson.

NEWSLETTERS:

Due to the increase in postage, it was passed at the Annual Meeting, that the cost for the Newsletter will rise to \$3.00 per year. This is to be paid by the June issue to cover postage only.