

ON TRACK

Newsletter of *the*
Mid Gippsland Family
History Society Inc.



NO. 110

Dec 2000 -Feb 2001

PRESIDENT:	Sandra Dumble	5127 3025
VICE-PRESIDENT:	Raymond Hough	5167 1218
SECRETARY:	Mavis Lynch	5133 6773
TREASURER:	David Grant	5127 1505
LIBRARIAN:	Bob Jones	5634 7635
PUBLICITY:	Robyn Byrne	5167 1784
HOST:	Vicki Evans	
RESEARCH:	Claire Wood	
CEMETERY RECORDS	vacant	
SCHOOL RECORDS:	Anne Pawley	5174 8291
NEWSLETTER:	Robyn Byrne	5167 1784

Meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month, except December, at the Meeting Room, entrance at the rear of the Moe Library, Kirk St, Moe. Our Library will open at 7:00 pm, with meetings starting at approximately 7:30pm.

Membership Fees 00/01: Single \$20 ; Family \$25
Library: gold coin donation per visit for non-members

Our library is open to the public Wednesday afternoons between 1pm and 4pm. Volunteers from our group are available to assist with research at this time.

There is a research fee of \$10 plus SSAE for any enquiries requiring research, with additional charges for large amounts of photocopying and/or postage. Enquiries should be clear and concise.

Please direct all enquiries to The Secretary, PO Box 767, Morwell, 3840, and mark the envelope "Research Query".

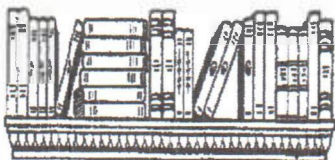
Articles for this newsletter are accepted in good faith and, while every effort is made to ensure accuracy, the editor takes no responsibility for submitted items



I hope everyone had an enjoyable Christmas and that this year is a good one, particularly in regards to re-searching those elusive ancestors.

Meeting dates for this year are:

January 25th	July 26th
February 22nd	August 23rd
March 22nd	September 27th
April 26th	October 25th
May 24th	November 22nd
June 28th	SEE YOU THERE!!



The library catalogue is now on computer. Bob has been working hard and set it up using Inmagic. At the January meeting he gave a demo and we gave his instructions a trial run. It is all go!

Index to Tasmanian Convicts (CD)
Index: NSW Convicts 1788-1842 (fiche)



Due to major renovations the LDS Family History centre Teralgon is closed until May.

The centre in Moe is open as follows: Tuesday nights 7- 8.30pm.

Friday nights 7-9pm.

Friday 16 Feb, 2nd & 16th March, 6th & 20th April, 4th & 18th May

10.30 am-4.30pm. Friday 23rd Feb, 9th & 23rd March, 13th & 27th April,

11th May 12.30pm- 4.30pm. Friday 30th March closed.

Check notice on door for changes.

Phone Wanda Moyle 5127 6046 or 0412 989 208

For Your Information

Information on Melbourne Archives Centre from the Public Record Office website
www.prov.vic.gov.au

Melbourne Archives Centre Open Two Saturdays Each Month

The Melbourne Archives Centre is open on the second and last Saturday each month (except where public holidays occur). Following are the dates of opening during 2001:

January: Saturday 13th
February: Saturday 10th and 24th
March: Saturday 31st
April: Saturday 28th
May: Saturday 12th and 26th
June: Saturday 30th
July: Saturday 14th and 28th
August: Saturday 11th and 25th
September: Saturday 8th and 29th
October: Saturday 13th and 27th
November: Saturday 10th and 24th
December: Saturday 8th

Melbourne Archives Centre is located at: Level 2, Casselden Place, 2 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne (corner Spring and Lonsdale streets)

Opening hours are: 9:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday and on open Saturdays. Please note that there are no record deliveries to the Melbourne Archives Centre on Saturdays. All original records to be consulted for use on Saturdays must be ordered in advance.

Contact our Reference staff for advice: Telephone: (03) 9285 7999 (or toll-free outside Melbourne 1800 657 452)

Fax: (03) 9285 7953 E-mail: ask.prov@dpc.vic.gov.au

Post: Reference Services, Public Record Office Victoria, PO Box 2100, North Melbourne, VIC 3051

Also from the PRO

“PROBATE DATABASE

Available now

The Probate Database that has been available in our search rooms for some time is now available on-line.

Used in conjunction with the microfiche Probate Index, the Probate Database will provide all the references needed to order wills and probate and administration files for viewing at the Melbourne Archives Centre. The microfiche Probate Index is available in our search rooms and at many genealogical organisations and libraries. **(Including ours – ed.)**

Step 1: Consult the microfiche Probate Index at your local genealogical organisation or library (or in our search rooms).

Step 2: Enter the file number obtained from the index into our Probate Database search engine.

Step 3: Use the search results to order probate and administration files and wills for viewing at the Melbourne Archives Centre. You must be registered as a PROV researcher to order any records. See the ORDERING AND VIEWING RECORDS page for details on obtaining a search ticket.

Limitations

The Probate Database is a work in progress. At present it covers the period 1841 to 1964. It will be updated as data-entry is completed to eventually cover the period to 1988.

The 1970 to 1992 section of the microfiche Probate Index includes Public Record Office Victoria series, consignment and unit (that is, box) numbers for probate and administration files (not wills). You can use those references with the file number to order records to be retrieved to the Melbourne Archives Centre.

Public Record Office Victoria holds wills as well as probate and administration files up to 1988. For access to records created after that time, researchers should contact the Probate Office directly.

For Your Information cont.

Genealogical Society of Victoria

Level 6, 179 Queen Street, Melbourne Victoria 3000

Telephone: 9670 7033 Fax: 9670 4490

Homepage: < <http://www.gsv.org.au> >

Library Opening hours

Monday	1.00 pm – 6.00 pm
Tuesday to Thursday	10.00 am – 3.00 pm
Friday	10.00 am – 8.00 pm
Saturday	10.00 am – 3.00 pm
Sunday (*monthly)	10.00 am – 3.00 pm

*Sunday following the last Saturday of the month except December.

Administration Hours

Monday to Friday 8.45 am – 4.00 pm

The Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies

1/41 Railway Road, Blackburn Victoria 3130

PO Box 339 Blackburn Victoria 3130

Phone: 9877 3789 Fax: 9877 9066

Homepage <www.alphalink.com.au/~aigs>

Library Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday	10.00 am – 4.00 pm
Monday evening	7.00 pm – 10.00 pm
Tuesday evening	7.00 pm – 10.00 pm
Friday	1.00 pm – 4.00 pm
Saturday	10.00 am – 4.00 pm

Who's Surfing Where!

Not a lot of contributors this issue but still some sites you might like to check out.

Pam's Picks

pictures from several sources

www.pictureaustralia.org

Pubs and inns England

www.pubsindex.freereserve.co.uk

Geelong interest names

www.zades.com.au/geelong/gdnamesb.htm#D



Bob's best

Mailing list for convicts

AUS-CONVICTS-L@rootsweb.com

Lesley Uebels "Claim a Convict " site where you may find details of your convict and can note if anyone else is also researching the same line.

www.users.bigpond.net.au/convicts/index.html

The Cheshire Family History Societies with the co-operation of the Cheshire County Council's Registration Service have been working to make the indexes to the county's Births/Marriages/Deaths freely accessible on the Internet. You will find them at <http://CheshireBMD.org.uk>

Return of The Member's Profile

Years ago issues of 'On Track' used to profile members. I am reintroducing the "Member's Profile" beginning with our President.

Name: Sandra Dumble (nee Romeril)

When and why did you get started researching your Family History?

I have been seriously researching my family for approximately 3 years but had been interested in the subject for quite some time. When I finally decided I had time to devote to family history I was surprised at the amount of information I already had at my fingertips. Over the years, photographs, letters, newspaper articles, family memorabilia, had been passed on to me for safekeeping which makes me think I was predestined to take on the role of family historian. I began in order to learn more about my grandmother who died in 1924, when my father was 3 years of age, and who I bear a striking resemblance to.

Names researching:

ROMERIL, LEGG, WATSON, BRADY, RANKIN, LAWES, McKENZIE, SAMSON

How far back have you researched?

One line in particular to 1663 with another to mid 1700's and another early 1800's.

Who were your first ancestors to arrive in Australia?

Most of my ancestors seem to have arrived in the early 1850's but the one with the most information is John McKenzie of Kintail, RossShire, Scotland, his wife Janet (nee Tolmie) and their seven children who arrived at Geelong on 31st October, 1854 on the ship "The Hornet".

The ship sailed from Liverpool on 29th July 1854 and John McKenzie was listed as passenger 120, a ploughman, Presbyterian, able to read and write. He was 42 years of age and his wife 39 years. John was engaged to work for a squatter, Thomas Vicary, at Yan Yan Gert Station, Birregurra. Wages were 92 pounds per year.

He moved to Larpent when his six month contract expired. The family prospered due to John's farming experience (he had grown grain for whisky in Scotland) and by the 1860's had bought blocks of land for each of his children when the Irrewillipe Run was opened for sale. John died in 1889 and was buried at the Colac Cemetery.

Favourite Ancestor:

I have a diverse range of ancestors ranging from the Ag Labs, Millers, Mariners to one of the first Psychiatrists in Victoria, a bucketful of Teachers and a newspaper editor. However, I think the one that intrigues me the most is a lady called Granny Reid who is said to have sat around smoking an old clay pipe in her latter years. She was illiterate, of Irish descent (Dublin) and first pops up on a Marriage Certificate in 1857. There were two other marriages (questions arise as to their legality), children born with questionable fathers and property acquired. She is a mystery which will take perserverance and time to unravel but I think it will be worthwhile.

Most interesting find:

There have been quite a few but probably unlocking the family of my gggrandfather in Dorset, England. He was a mariner who is said to have "jumped ship" and swum up the Yarra River to escape. I found he had 13 brothers & sisters and I have been able to locate and correspond with four of their descendants, one of whom still lives a short distance from their original birthplace, Burton Bradstock.

If the family tree fairy could give you the answer to one question which would it be?

Did my ancestors deliberately try to conceal information in order to give me a challenge?

Family history is never dull, it keeps you on your toes!!!!

ENGLISH ORIGINS ONLINE

The following article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright 2001 by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author.

I can announce that the new "English Origins" is now available. Here is the official announcement from Origins.net:

Origins.net, in collaboration with the Society of Genealogists, announces the launch of English Origins. This will operate on a similar 'pay per view' basis to the company's existing Scots Origins service.

The Society has agreed with Origins to allow important parts of its unique collection of British Isles material to be made available over the Internet, no longer restricting access to those able to visit the Society's Library in London.

The initial datasets are all of English records and will appear on the new English Origins site. Others may appear on different parts of the Origins site in due course.

The English Origins database currently includes over one million names, covering the period 1568 to 1850, and including the indexes listed below. These indexes provide rich genealogical and biographical details and also allow you to locate otherwise inaccessible source documents.

- * Vicar-General Marriage Licence Allegations Index, 1694-1850
- * Faculty Office Marriage Licence Allegations Index, 1701-1850
- * Bank of England Will Extracts Index, 1717-1845
- * London City Apprenticeship Abstracts, 1568-1850
- * London Consistory Court Depositions Index, 1703-13
- * Archdeaconry Court of London Wills Index, 1700-1807

Other records, which will be added to the collection over the course of 2001, include:

- * Boyd's Marriage Index, over 6 million records
- * Apprentices of Great Britain, 1710-74; over 600,000 records
- * Boyd's Inhabitants of London, 14th-19th centuries; 60,000 families
- * Boyd's London Burials; 50,000 names
- * Prerogative Court of Canterbury Wills, 1750-1800; 333,000 records

Access to the English Origins database is by credit or debit card, via a secure payment system. The charges are: £6 for 48 hours continuous access to the database, with hard copies of original documents (which can be ordered online) costing £10. A free surname search facility is available to determine whether there are any potentially interesting records for a given surname.

Members of the Society of Genealogists are allowed one free 48-hour access each calendar quarter. This will allow members to view a maximum of 150 of the Society's online records during each of these accesses. Additionally, members will be given a 20% discount on orders made via English Origins for hard copies provided by the Society, i.e. £8 instead of £10.

**You can find more information and even access
English Origins
online at:**

<http://www.origins.net/>

The readers of *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter*, voted RootsWeb the best genealogy site on the World Wide Web for the year 2000.

<http://www.rootsweb.com>

With the centenary of Federation the newspapers have had some interesting articles on the way we were. Here is one from the *Sunday Herald Sun*, January 28, 2001.

Cost of living in the 1900s

WE ate mutton, chicken and rabbit and wore hand-me-down clothes.

We travelled by tram, train, bicycle and horse and cart. We lived in small houses, heated in winter by wood, coal or kerosene, which also served to provide fuel for lights.

Mangle and coppers were used for washing clothes and a privileged few had a kerosene-powered refrigerator.

Welcome to Australia in 1900.

The population was 3,733,493 and the minimum wage was \$4.07, though a lowly farm laborer might earn only \$1.50 to \$2 a week.

A fully trained nursing sister earned \$2 a week, plus board.

Drapers and clothiers earned \$3 to \$7 a week while masons and butchers brought home \$1 a day.

The life expectancy for men was 51.06 years and 54.76 for women.

Ninety-eight per cent of Australians were Christian, men outnumbered women and most were of Celtic or Anglo-Saxon origin.

Melbourne beat Fitzroy 1.0 (34) to 3.12 (30) in front of 20,181 people at the MCG. And 95,000 people watched Clean Sweep win the Melbourne Cup.

At the Paris Olympic Games in 1900, Australia brought home two gold medals for swimming and three bronze medals for athletics.

The average maximum temperature in summer in Melbourne was 26.5C. And the average minimum temperature during winter in Melbourne was 6C.

At the turn of the century there were about 200 privately owned cars in Sydney and Melbourne — most steam-powered and locally hand-built.

A four-room, brick cottage in Richmond Hill, Melbourne, cost \$200 while the sale price for a double-storey, brick house in Essendon was \$800.

House rents were about 80 cents a week in Brunswick and \$1.30 a week in Camberwell.

A bottle of ale was 10 cents and a cheap, three-course meal was 5 cents.

In 1900, 37 per cent of the population was under 15 while only 4 per cent were over 65.

Today 21 per cent of the population is under 15 while 12 per cent is over 65.

At the turn of the century, the median height of 11-year-old boys and girls was 135cm. Today it is

more than 148cm. And their median weight has increased from 28kg to 40kg.

A single first class train fare from Sydney to Melbourne return cost \$12 in 1900, while a second class return fare was \$8.

At the turn of the century, school was compulsory for children aged between six and 14. But most stopped studying at 13.

Doctors advertised miracle cures such as Dr Williams' Pink Pills, which "cured" influenza, and Kutnow's Improved Effervescent Carlsbad Powder, which "cleansed all the inner organs and dispels biliousness, languor, nervousness, headache and nausea".

Advertisements purporting to cure impotence were also scattered throughout the classified columns. Self-proclaimed "French specialist" Professor Hermann, of Collins Place, Melbourne, said he had the "guaranteed cure" for "lost manhood from youthful folly and excesses".

Only South Australian and Western Australian women had the right to vote at the turn of the century and no female was admitted to the bar.

— ADAM ZWAR



How Many Relatives Do you Have?

1 YOU

2 parents

4 grandparents

8 great grandparents

16gg grandparents

32 ggg grandparents

64 gggg grandparents

128 ggggg grandparents

256 gggggg grandparents

512 ggggggg grandparents

1,024 gggggggg grandparents

2,048 ggggggggg grandparents

4,096 gggggggggg grandparents

8,192 ggggggggggg grandparents

16,184 gggggggggggg grandparents

32,768 ggggggggggggg grandparents

65,536 gggggggggggggg grandparents

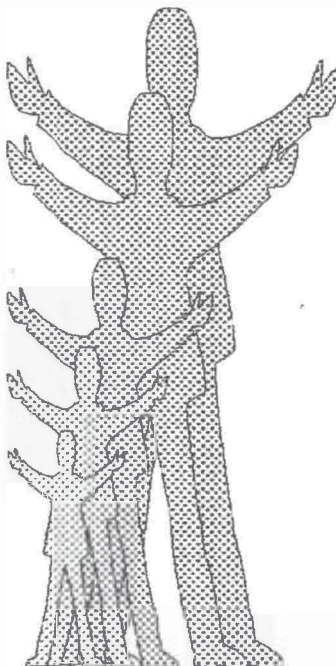
131,072 ggggggggggggggg grandparents

262,144 gggggggggggggggg grandparents

524,288 ggggggggggggggggg grandparents

1,048,576 gggggggggggggggggg grandparents

2,097,152 ggggggggggggggggggg grandparents



Is it any wonder that we spend so much time on genealogy?

Thanks to Sandra who forwarded on these statistics from a mailing list.

NEWSLETTER NOTES

This is just a selection of items from some of the newsletters we have received lately. Thanks to Pam for helping out with this.



Twigs and Branches, Terang Dec. 2000- an article on **Livery Companies**.

Leeton FHS Oct 2000 information and photos of **Stanbridge soldier settlers**.

The Crossing Place, Casino Dec 2000-a useful tip - if you are having trouble reading a microfiche on the reader, try placing a thin sheet of yellow paper under the fiche.

Descent Dec 2000 Community access to government records and **Huguenot families in NSW**.

Reflections, Bass Coast, May 2000, **Galway research**.

Australian Family Tree Connections, December 2000-
Family Tree Maker Version 8.

GUM December 2000 – Will be holding information sessions on buying or upgrading genealogy programs. Tuesday 29th May and Wednesday 28th November 3.30-7.00. On page 5 a funny look at the gender of computers.

Ancestor December 2000 – **Aussie Cossies 1870s-1950s** A brief History, **Records of BMDs in England and Wales 1538-1837**, Tracing your Journey **Migration Records held by the National Archives of Australia**, GRO Index.

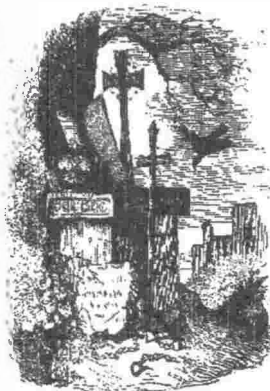
Lakes Entrance FH Resource Centre are compiling a **Far East Gippsland Pioneer Register**. See the December *Fiche-ing Around* for details.

**The 4th Victorian State Family History Conference,
From Gold to Federation 1860-1901,
will be held on the
27th, 28th and 29th April 2001
at the Scots School Albury.**

My holiday reading was Colleen Mc Cullough's latest novel, *Morgan's Run*. It is a work of fiction but Richard Morgan was Mc Cullough's husband's four times great Grandfather. The book follows Richard Morgan's life from Bristol to the prisons and hulks of England to Port Jackson and Norfolk Island. Anyone with an interest in convicts and Norfolk Island would find it good reading.

Yvonne Emerton (related to our Vice President) has offered to do research, in Melbourne, for our members. Her fee is \$15.00 per hour. She can be contacted at 17 Highland Crescent, Mooroolbark, 3138.

Cemetery Update The proof reading of Yallourn Cemetery is completed due to members, their spouses and friends (nineteen in all!) who tackled the task on Sunday 11th February. Thanks to all those who attended and to Florence for initiating those new to the activity and coordinating the experienced. A reminder that the cemetery coordinator's position is vacant if anyone is interested in taking it on.



Isn't genealogy fun? The answer to one problem leads to two more!



Mid Gippsland Family History Society, Inc

P.O. Box 767 Morwell, Vic 3840

Or contact Jean McNally,

Phone: 03 5174 3137

Fax: 03 5176 0520

E-mail: mac@net-tech.com.au

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

All prices are inclusive of GST

Books (postage cost on application)

Childers Cemetery Register & Transcriptions	1879-1994	\$ 5.50
Gippsland Crematorium Register	1985-1995	\$16.50
Gippsland Crematorium Transcriptions	1985-1995	\$16.50
Hazelwood Cemetery Transcriptions 2 vols	1879-1995	\$33.00
Moe Cemetery Register	1891-1996	\$22.00
Moe Cemetery Transcriptions 2 vols	1881-1997	\$33.00
Toongabbie Cemetery Register	1872-1995	\$16.50
Toongabbie Cemetery Transcriptions	1873-1994	\$16.50
Trafalgar Cemetery Register	1887-1995	\$16.50
Trafalgar Cemetery Transcriptions	1886-1994	\$22.00
Traralgon Cemetery Transcriptions 2 vols	1872-1994	\$44.00
Walhalla Cemetery Transcriptions	1869-1995	\$16.50
Willow Grove Cemetery Register & Transcriptions	1898-1993	\$16.50

Microfiche (postage included)

Childers Cemetery Register & Transcriptions	1879-1994	\$ 4.40
Gippsland Crematorium Register	1985-1995	\$ 8.80
Gippsland Crematorium Transcriptions	1985-1995	\$ 8.80
Hazelwood Cemetery Transcriptions	1879-1995	\$16.50
Moe Cemetery Register	1891-1996	\$11.00
Moe Cemetery Transcriptions	1881-1997	\$16.50
Toongabbie Cemetery Register	1872-1995	\$ 8.80
Toongabbie Cemetery Transcriptions	1873-1994	\$ 7.70
Trafalgar Cemetery Register	1887-1995	\$ 8.80
Trafalgar Cemetery Transcriptions	1886-1994	\$ 7.70
Traralgon Cemetery Transcriptions	1872-1994	\$27.50
Walhalla Cemetery Transcriptions	1869-1995	\$11.00
Willow Grove Cemetery Register & Transcriptions	1898-1993	\$ 5.50

All Cheques made payable to "Mid Gippsland F.H.S. Inc."