

ON TRACK

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



No. 112

June – August 2001

MID GIPPSLAND FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

PRESIDENT:	Sandra Dumble	5127 3025
VICE-PRESIDENT:	Raymond Hough	5167 1218
SECRETARY:	vacant	
TREASURER:	David Grant	51271505
LIBRARIAN:	Bob Jones	5634 7635
PUBLICITY:	Robyn Byrne	5167 1784
HOST:	Vicki Evans	
RESEARCH:	Claire Wood	
NEWSLETTER:	Robyn Byrne	5167 1784
WEBMASTER	Wes Halkett	

Website: www.vicnet.net.au/~mgfhs

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 01/02: 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



to new member
Leonie Bolding

AGM: The AGM was held after the July monthly meeting, with little change in the line up. As we now have a website someone is needed to maintain it and Wes Halkett has volunteered to do this. Mavis did not stand for secretary again and this position unfortunately has not been filled.

We need a secretary

In appreciation of Mavis's involvement in the society, since its beginning, she is now an honorary member. Congratulations Mavis and thank you.

Fees: for 2001/2002 are now due. \$20.00 single /\$25.00 family. Please fill in the membership form in this newsletter and forward it to the treasurer as soon as possible.

Members' Research: We have booked the Meeting room at the Library on the first Saturday of each month until the end of the year. Library hours are 9-12. Take the opportunity to use our resources and get some research done.

One person is required to be on duty in the room, if you are able to do this let one of the committee know. All the duty person needs to do is collect the key from the main desk of the library, open up, make sure things are put away and lock the room before returning the keys to the desk.

Saturday Morning dates are: 1st September
6th October
3rd November
1st December

The continuation of this next year will depend on the numbers of people turning up on the above days.

Gippsland Groups Meeting: We are hosting the Gippsland Groups meeting this year. It is on Saturday 27th October at the LEAD Centre in Newborough.

Website: our website address is www.vicnet.net.au/~mgfhs Thanks to Florence for setting this up. Check it out and contribute to it. Wes is interested in hearing from you.

Florence has also made a page at www.vicnet.net.au/~mgfhs/memberspage.htm where there are messages and issues just for members. There are no links to this page so you have to add it to your favourites.

New Books:

La Trobe & His Circle by State Library of Victoria. Articles written about early Victoria around Governor La Trobe's time.

Shire of Narracan Valuation Roll as at 12/10/1888. Like an electoral roll.

Wartime on the Richmond. Life in the Richmond River area of N.S.W. around the 2nd World War. Produced by the Lismore F.H.S.

Australian War Memorial travelling exhibition:

Mavis reports that local residents appreciated the Australian War Memorial travelling exhibition paying tribute to two of Australia's Military commanders – General Sir John Monash and Field Marshall Sir Thomas Blamey – which was shown at Powerworks Technology Centre, Morwell. Sir John Monash has many links with this area as he was the first officer in charge of the State Electricity Commission at Yallourn and was responsible for the birth of our great power industry.

Newsletter:

With the ever increasing costs involved in printing and posting this newsletter we may be looking at changing the format and using email or our members' page to distribute it. This may be a good time for others with an interest in publishing to get involved in the production of the newsletter. Don't hesitate to talk to me if you have some ideas or would like to try your hand at something.

Robyn.

Secretary needed

MID GIPPSLAND FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

AGM, JULY 26, 2001

President's Report:

The past year has been a combined effort with members contributing their time and offering assistance when required.

The introduction of another computer has made it easier for those visiting the room on a Wednesday afternoon and both computers have been used consistently. We have had a steady number of visitors to our library, some of whom have become members. The database of our holdings has been a positive addition which helps to answer queries regarding what is held in our library and where to find it.

Our general meetings have seen guest speakers such as Ann Lovison from the Yallourn North Historical Society, Robert Rea from Transvid Home Video Productions and Jenny Draper speaking on her trip to the UK. We also had 19 members and friends attend the February proof reading day at the Yallourn Cemetery, an informative & interesting evening at Airlie Bank Gallery, Morwell, and a recent visit to the Public Record Office, Melbourne. The cemetery proof reading has just about finalised the Yallourn Cemetery transcriptions which is the culmination of many hours of work by some members.

The past year has also seen the Mid Gippsland Family History Society appear on the "World Wide Web" due to the effort of Florence. I would like to congratulate Florence on the work she has put into the page.

I would like to thank the Committee for their input and contribution over the previous 12 months, also, a thankyou to all members who have been involved and supportive of the activities of the group during 2000/2001.

Sandra Dumble
President.

Contributions for this newsletter can be emailed to
sbyrne@i-o.net.au

Thanks to Wes for passing on the following fact sheet from the National Archives of Australia.

Finding WW1 Military Service Information

World War I Service personnel dossiers held by the National Archives in record series B2455 contain information such as the serving member's enlistment, discharge and postings, the mustering or trade to which the member belonged and casualty advice. You can purchase copies of service dossiers from our World War I Personnel Records Service. For information on using this service see Fact Sheet 63 – Sources of information about military service. You can obtain a dossier using the request form in our leaflet *Australian Service Records from World War I*, or the order form on our website at www.naa.gov.au/forms/ww1dossier.html

This fact sheet identifies additional sources of information about World War I Service personnel.

Where did WWI personnel serve?

The dossiers will tell you to which unit a person was attached, and the dates of attachment. Information about these units, what they did and where they served can be found in Unit War Diaries held by the Australian War Memorial. See Fact Sheet 63 for contact details.

In what battles did they fight?

Histories of particular battles, and the names of the units participating in them, can be found in C E W Bean (ed.) *Official History of Australia in the War of 1914-1918* (Angus and Robertson, Sydney). This 12 volume work is available in most large libraries. The Unit War Diaries referred to above may also have information about the battles in which a unit was involved.

What medals did they earn?

While each WWI Service dossier includes stamp imprints showing each medal that was issued during the period of service additional medals were sometimes issued at a later date. For verification of the medals an ex-serviceman or ex-servicewoman is entitled to, contact the Army Honours and Awards Directorate. See Fact Sheet 63 for contact details.

The Directorate can issue original medals if they were never previously issued. These can be supplied only to a surviving member or if they are deceased, the closest surviving next-of-kin.

Continued next page

Can replacement or replica medals be obtained?

The Army Honours and Awards Directorate cannot issue replacements for lost medals. Several commercial businesses provide replica medals. These businesses can be found in the Telstra Yellow Pages under 'Medals' or 'Medal Mounting'. The National Archives does not recommend or endorse the services of any particular company.

Is there a photograph?

World War I dossiers do not include photographs. The Australian War Memorial holds a large collection of photographs including some photographs of individuals and groups. This collection can be viewed on the Australian War Memorial website at www.awm.gov.au/awm_search/photo.asp

Volume 12 of the Official History of Australia in the War of 1914-1918 *Photographic record of the war* contains over 750 indexed photographs taken by the Australian official photographers but only a small number of these are of individuals.

Where are they buried?

Honour Rolls held by the Australian War Memorial (and on the Internet at www.awm.gov.au/database/roh.asp) give details of the burial place of those killed on service (including the plot number, the name of the cemetery, and the town or area of its location) or of memorials to the missing.

To find the burial place of WWI service personnel who died after the war, or for further information about war graves, memorials (other than the Australian War Memorial) or memorial plaques, contact the Office of Australian War Graves:

Office of Australian War Graves Tel: (02) 6289 1111
PO Box 21 Fax: (02) 6289 4861
WODEN ACT 2606

Copies of pension records

Veterans' case files, which include medical, hospital, clinical, social work, rehabilitation and pension files, are not generally available for public access. See Fact Sheet 54 for more information.

If you have any questions about your entitlement to see Veterans' case files, or if you have a special need to have access to the information they contain, our reference staff can explain the possible options open to you.

Continued next page

What do all the abbreviations mean?

With each WWI dossier supplied the National Archives include an information sheet that explains many of the abbreviations and acronyms that occur in dossiers. There are many other abbreviations that we are unable to explain. For help with interpretation, or for information about other aspects of the dossier, the Military Historical Society of Australia may be able to help.

Federal Secretary
 Military Historical Society of Australia
 PO Box 30
 GARRAIN ACT 2608

How to obtain information about service other than in World War I?

See Fact Sheet 63 for sources of information about military service in other conflicts.

Further information

If you have further questions please contact the National Archives as follows:

National Archives of Australia	Tel:	(02) 6212 3900
PO Box 7425	Fax:	(02) 6212 3999
Canberra Mail Centre ACT 2610	Email:	refact@naa.gov.au

Before you go mailing off your \$16.20 read this - part of a notice from the Aus-Vic-Gippsland mailing list.

'The website in question is www.naa.gov.au, where a "World War I service record request" can be found. You need to specify that you require a digital copy, posted on the web, for it to be the **free one**. They are \$16.20 per record posted to you on paper.'

Thanks to Bob for passing this on.

****I should have asked them BEFORE they died!***

****Genealogy is like playing hide and seek: They hide...I seek!***

NOSTALGIA

I remember the cheese of my childhood
And the bread that we cut with a knife,
When children helped with the housework
And the man went to work, not the wife.

The cheese never needed an ice chest
And the bread was crusty and hot.
The children were seldom unhappy
And the wife was content with her lot.

Remember the milk from the billy
With yummy rich cream on top?
Our dinner came from the oven
And not from the fridge in the shop.

The kids were a lot more contented,
They didn't need money for kicks,
Just a game with their mates in the paddock
And sometimes the Saturday flicks.

I remember the shop on the corner
Where a penn'orth of lollies was sold
Do you think I'm a bit too nostalgic?
Or is it I'm just getting old?

I remember when the 'loo' was the 'dunny'
And the pan man came in the night,
It wasn't the least bit funny
Going out the back with no light.

On daytime trips to the outhouse
Many items of interest we saw,
On the squares of cut-up newspaper
That hung from a string the door.

The clothes were boiled in a copper
With plenty of rich creamy suds,
And the ironing seemed never ending
As Mum pressed everyone's duds.

I remember the slap on the backside
And the taste of soap if I swore,
Anorexia and diets weren't heard of
And we hadn't much choice what we wore.

Do you think all that bruised our ego?
Was our initiative quite destroyed?
We ate what was put on the table
And I think life was better enjoyed.

Brownie holds hidden memories

LONDON — The old Box Brownie picked up for a few pounds in a charity shop was a splendid find.

But the undeveloped film inside turned out to be more of a treasure.

New owner Don Roccoforte had it developed and was fascinated.

Only one frame had

been exposed, an evocative portrait of an attractive dark-haired woman in her 30s with two young boys in the foreground.

Mr Roccoforte immediately determined to try to find out who they were.

Weeks of trans-Atlantic detective work followed before the California-

based camera collector received the stunning news:

The woman was his wife Jacqueline's aunt in a picture taken around 50 years ago, and one of the boys, her cousin.

The couple have now unravelled the coincidence, which leads back to Mrs Roccoforte's native

Lancashire, where many of her family still live.

The camera was bought from a Salvation Army shop in Preston by a friend of Mr Roccoforte also living in Lancashire, who knew of his interest in

photographic memorabilia and thought it would be an ideal gift.

—DAILY MAIL

Thanks to Ray for the poem.
I spotted the newsclipping in the Herald Sun.

Who's Surfing Where!

From Kaye's Collection

This is the Web site I put up for the Clan MacMillan Society in Australia
<<http://clanmacmillanus.freesevers.com>>
And this is its sister site - My Home page-
<<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~kayemac>>



Pam's Picks

Melbourne General Cemetery <www.mpx.com.au/~cbryce/>
NSW court cases <www.butterworths.com.au/nswcases/>
PRO updated shipping where I found the ship my grandfather came on in 1888 <www.vic.gov.au/prov/unassisted1.asp>

Bob's Best

The URL below is a searchable database of the PALMER INDEX which is an old English newspaper (The Times, I think).
<<http://history.chadwyck.co.uk/noframes19/search>>

From Eastman's On line Newsletter

<<http://www.ellislandrecords.org>>

This new searchable database contains the records of 22 million immigrants to America who came through Ellis Island. The records cover the years 1892, when Ellis Island first opened, to 1924.

Newcastle-Upon-Tyne Registers Online

The Newcastle-Upon-Tyne (England) Registrars have a new Web site with the capability to search birth and marriages online. Death registration indexes are expected to be added soon.

Marriages and birth indexes are now available from 1837 to 1870. Later records are being added as the volunteers complete their tasks.

For more information, look at the Northumberland & Durham Family History Society Web site at: <<http://www.geocities.com/NDFHS>>

Claire's Contribution

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

An information resource, providing copies of old newspaper articles from Victoria, Australia dating as far back as the 1800's. You are able to search the archives and if you see something you like, you can use an order form to purchase that particular article(s).

Some of the newspapers indexed so far are

Argus - 1857

Avoca mail - 1874, 1875

Bairnsdale Advertiser - 1882, 1883

Ballarat Star - 1855, 1856

Bendigo Advertiser - 1858

Boort Standard - 1888

Box Hill & Camberwell Express - 1889

Brunswick & Pentridge Press - 1858, 1860

Buninyong Telegraph - 1873, 1974

Carisbrook Mercury - 1893, 1896

Clunes Guardian & Gazette - 1866, 1868, 1869, 1872

Dunolly & Burnt Creek Express - 1862, 1863

Geelong Advertiser - 1845

Herald - 1857, 1859 two pages only at this time.

Illustrated Melbourne Post. - 1862

Kyneton Guardian - 1876, 1877

Landsborough Times - 1867

Lorgnette - 1877

Majorca News - 1863, 1864

Maryborough & Dunolly Advertiser - 1857, 1858, 1859, 1861

Mount Alexander Mail - 1873

North Western Chronicle - 1860, 1861

Omeo Telegraph - 1884, 1886, 1888

Port Fairy Gazette - 1890, 1891

Portland Chronicle - 1856

Portland Mercury - 1842, 1843

Port Phillip Herald - 1847 one page at this time.

St. Arnaud Mercury - 1864

Shepparton Advertiser - 1887

Sun - 1902

Table Talk - 1885, 1886, 1896, 1908, 1923.

Talbot Leader - 1864, 1865, 1866, 1867, 1868, 1869

Tambo & Orbost Times - 1889

Tarnagulla Courier - 1864, 1865

Tarrangower Times - 1858, 1859

Victoria Police Gazette - 1854

Walhalla Chronicle - 1871, 1872, 1881

Williamstown Chronicle - 1856, 1857, 1860, 1867

Weekly Times - 1869

Western District Reporter - 1896





Bob has also passed on the following note from the Police UK mailing list.

'We have had a successful trial run at using e mail to contact the Metropolitan Police Museum (London) regarding Family History and general Met Police History enquiries.

E mail should be addressed to **new.scotland.yard@met.police.uk** and in the subject box Historical Museum Enquiry. A paper printout will then be passed via internal post to the museum, which is not at New Scotland Yard. So there will be delays etc. The reply will be via ordinary post. Repeat - the reply WILL BE VIA SNAIL MAIL. So your snail mail address MUST be included, or no reply will be possible. Please remember the two lads at the Museum do not know what you know. They will want to know what 'evidence' you have that your man, and most are men, women only offically sworn in in 1919, was in the Metropolitan Police. 'Evidence' such as him being shown in the census of At address or on the birth/marriage certificate of and date

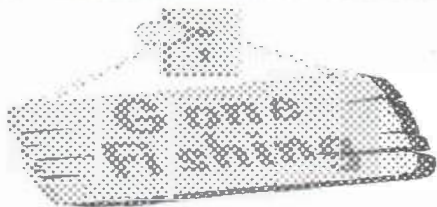
Remember they have no information on any other police force apart from the Met. Do remember they receive, or will receive, many such requests so please take some time and trouble to set out clearly what information you have and what you require. They will, as I have said above, only have a paper printout of your message, so please take as much time as you would in writing a letter. For instance you should not expect a reply asking for clarification of dates. For as I have said, there will be no email reply, so no quick 'just checking' message will come to you. Not yet anyway.

You can cc to me if you like as I have some information (non police) not at the museum, so may be able to assist. The two lads are not family historians, but 'keepers' of the artefacts and paper records not held at the Public Record Office (PRO) Kew. They have NO access to the records at KEW. They can only therefore refer to, or have knowledge of, what they have in the Museum.'

Paul Rason

Chairman, of the Friends of the Met Police Museum

Paul@rason.freeseve.co.uk



Member's Profile

Bob Jones
Librarian

When and why did you get started on your family history?

Somewhere about 25 years ago when my eldest daughter came home from school with a project to do on the family tree. I realised then how much I didn't know. It hasn't been continuous until the last few years. Hot and cold.

Names researching:

Jones, Marshall, Tonks, Hardie, are the main ones.

How far back have you researched ?

Am only back to 1800 in England & Scotland.

Who were your first ancestors to arrive in Australia?

Great grandmother Betsy Dyer, 1849 in Newcastle N.S.W.

Who is your favourite ancestor?

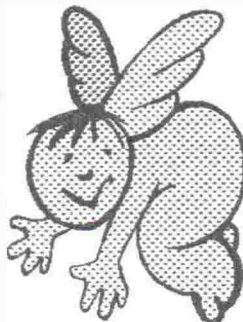
My great-grandfather John Jones. I have a photo of him over my computer but I know very little about him. He is a mystery and a challenge.

Most interesting find?

My Wife's great-great grandfather. He was quite a colourful character. Was supposed to go with Burke & Wills on their fateful expedition but his Wife kicked up a fuss. Was a policeman on the goldfields at Beechworth and has made the history books being involved in the shooting of a digger, and a few other stories.

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

Full particulars of the complete family of my grandfather's. It was this that started me off 25 years ago and I still do not have it. I don't believe in fairies.



NEWSLETTER NOTES

This is just a selection of items from some of the newsletters we have received lately.

The Kerang and District members' interests is included in their April Newsletter.



Mallee Roots (Swan Hill), May, is a centenary edition and looks at **Swan Hill at the time of Federation**. Their website is <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~shghs/>

The Pivot Tree (Geelong), April, Focuses on agriculture, **has a history of the Botanical Gardens including an 1854 petition regarding the location of the gardens which has about 150 names listed**. Nurserymen of Geelong, federation celebrations in Geelong and mentions a website for **RSL Honour Boards** www.rslvic.com.au

May, *Blarney* (Irish Ancestry), mentions website **Rootsweb's Irish Church Record, Tipperary, Limerick, Waterrford,Clare**. Freepages. genealogy.rootsweb.com/~irishchurchrecords/index.html

Yarram Geneological Group, February

Gippsland Timeline from Aus-Vic-Gippsland mailing list, **Obituaries** Foster Mirror 1965-66: 1985-1987, Early Settlers Index, Articles from the Gippsland Standard.

Re flections (Bass Coast), May, Interesting article on what happens after census night

Belfast Genies(Port Fairy), Spring, The Victoria Cross list of Australian Victoria Crosses won during 1914-18, Northern Russia 1919 and 1939-45 wars.

Continued next page

Wattle Bark, Maryborough, winter 2001 has an interesting article on **institutional care**, in fact the whole newsletter is interesting.

Origins, Cairns, June 2001 has some **tips on using the IGI**

GUM June 2001 **websites relating to Australian goldrushes** in the 1850s as well as useful hints for genealogy software in all *GUM* newsletters

Swan Hill - members interests

Sale - list of their holdings

Who was Catherine Brown?

The extra death notices on a certificate can be very interesting. I recently sent for a certificate which had a sad death.

Catherine Brown at seven months old had died in 1890 at Richmond after having diarrhoea for four weeks. The parents of the baby were not known, neither was the place of her birth.

She evidently died at the home of the informant, Mary Lynch, who made her mark. Was Mary a relation of the child, who did not wish to name the parents? Was it a baby farm? Had Catherine been abandoned on someone's doorstep? Who named her? Was it just a convenient name or had it been pinned to her clothing if she was abandoned?

Catherine was buried at the Melbourne General Cemetery on December 2, 1890.

Is it any wonder we have problems finding some of our ancestors. If Catherine had lived to marry and raise a family her descendants would have come to the proverbial brick wall.

Pam



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

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	\$ 5.00
Gippsland Crematorium Register	1985-1995	\$ 9.00
Gippsland Crematorium Transcriptions	1985-1995	\$ 9.00
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	\$ 9.00
Toongabbie Cemetery Transcriptions	1873-1994	\$ 8.00
Trafalgar Cemetery Register	1887-1995	\$ 9.00
Trafalgar Cemetery Transcriptions	1886-1994	\$ 8.00
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."