

ON TRACK

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



No. 114

December 2001 - February 2002

MID GIPPSLAND FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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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 payable July
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

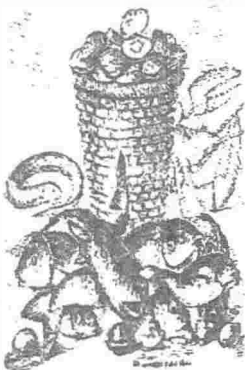
Meetings 2002

The meeting dates for this year are listed below. The program for the first half of the year has been confirmed and is also listed.

January 24th	Research night
February 28th	Computers with Norm Corry
March 28th	Research Night
April 25th Anzac Day	Members' night – bring along family war memorabilia and stories
May 23rd	Visit to The Old Brown Coal Museum, Yallourn North
June 27th	School records with Ann Pawley
July 25th	Annual General Meeting
August 22nd	
September 26th	
October 24th	
November 28th	

Wanted people to take on positions on the committee. Because of other commitments Ray will not be running for President again at the AGM in July. I am also looking at having a break from the job of Editor and would like to see a couple of people get together to produce the newsletter. Please consider taking on a role and speak to the current committee about what is involved and where your interest lies.

Also For Your Diary



Lakes Entrance Over Easter Lakes Entrance is celebrating its Fishing Heritage with a number of activities including displays, exhibitions and the launching of a book, tape and CD Rom, 'Casting the Net' an oral history of the early fishing families of the Gippsland Lakes.

More details:

Lakes Entrance Family History Resource Centre

ph 5156 5529

Email jgwhaddy@i-o.net.au

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South Gippsland Genealogical Society Seminar

Saturday April 6th

Uniting Church Hall, Peart Street, Leongatha, \$20.00 per person, tea, coffee and lunch provided

Speakers are;

Lesle Berry: Privacy Laws & family skeletons

Faye Guthrie: Shipping News - Whats new?

Jenny Harkness: Cemeteries & other death records

Jenny Carter: Adding the juicy bits

Hazelwood Cemetery Walk led by our own Claire Wood.

Morwell Historical Society is planning a series of events to coincide with the Victorian Heritage Festival 2002. This includes, HAZELWOOD CEMETERY, a guided walking tour around the 1879 historic cemetery focussing on gravestones where many of our rural pioneers have been laid to rest.

Date: Saturday April 13 at 11 am

Venue: Hazelwood Cemetery

Enquire.s: Elsie McMaster (03) 5134 1149



Opening of The Old Brown Coal Mine Museum, Yallourn North

Sunday April 21st. From 12 .30.

State Library Tour

organised by us for us

Saturday May 25th

11.00am

The tour takes one and a quarter hours and will focus on genealogy. Numbers are limited so get your name down now.

Travel arrangements will be finalised at the next couple of meetings.

Member's Profile - Lucille Sleep

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

I made contact with distant relatives and found a comprehensive book about my mother's family a few years ago, became interested and wanted to know more so joined the Family History Group, and got quite a deal of help. In effect I have only started researching in the last year or so.

Names Researching: The main name I am researching is NEVILL, and this has led me to look at HARVEY, PORTMAN and CRUMP

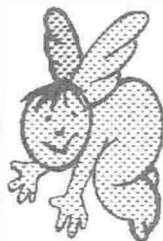
How far back have you researched? On the Nevill line back to 1824.

Who were your first ancestors to arrive in Australia? My great grandfather - Edwin Nevill arrived on the ship "Diana" in 1852 aged 12, with his sister, aged 10, brother aged 20, and an older married sister with her husband. I am sure there is a story about this but haven't yet tracked it down.

Who is your favourite ancestor? At this time my favourite ancestor is my great grandmother Mary Anne who married Edwin Nevill - had 15 children, many of whom died at an early age. She had her first child when she was 15 years old in 1863 and her last one (my grandmother) in 1892 at the age of 44. Spent all this time in Stuart Mill. I often wonder what sort of life she must of had - when my grandmother was born, my Edwin owned and ran a hotel in Stuart Mill (one of 18 at the time in Stuart Mill). I have found the cemetery where both Edwin and Mary Anne are buried along with several of their children. Some of the family still live in the area. I have quite a good photo of Mary Anne and I would love to have had the opportunity to sit down with her, with a cup of tea, and hear her story.

Most interesting find? A bundle of letters written by my mother to my father before they were married - date from September 1933 to end of August 1935 when they were married. I am sure my mother was not aware that my father had kept them and I found them after they were both dead. The letters give an interesting insight into life in Prahran in the Depression, my mother's hopes and looking forward to being married - my father at that time spent most of his time looking for work (he was a carpenter) in the country (he spent some time in Traralgon).

If the family tree fairy could give you the answer to one question which would it be? why my great grandmother Mary Anne was born and christened Mary Anne Harvey, was married as Mary Anne Portman, with permission from her "only living parent" John Portman - but all the children's birth's show her maiden name as Mary Anne Harvey. Her mother's name was not Harvey.



Who's Surfing Where!

Don

I recently found an ancestor on the Geelong and District Newsgroup when someone listed some local Geelong deserters from ships in 1840-50's???, based on local records that were not included in the published books on deserters. I have been looking for 5 years as it was rumoured that he had deserted but I could not find confirmation until now.

Geelong & District newsgroup

<http://www.zades.com.au/geelong/gdmail.htm>



More of Bob's Beauties

Hugh Wallis of Ontario, Canada (on the London list) has developed a fantastic new facility for searching IGI batch numbers for UK using only a surname and the actual batch numbers for each location (as clickable links) without your having to retype the surname. It is at:

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~hughwallis/IGIBatchNumbers.htm#Page>

Hugh Wallis also believes that middle names are an invaluable resource for finding clues to family relationships but has have seen very little written about their use as research pointers in any of the literature, nor has he seen this issue discussed much on the mailing lists. He have not seen any middle name indexes or search tools available anywhere either. BUT - of ten a person's middle name is the same as the maiden name of their mother or a grandmother or reflects some other familial connection (maybe the name of a patron or benefactor) and so it seems obvious to him that they have significant value in genealogical and family history research.

If you are wondering where this is all leading just go to

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~hughwallis/LondonMiddleNamesIGI.htm>

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Others

Developments involving the imminent on-line release of the 1901 UK census at <http://www.census.pro.gov.uk/news.htm>

U.S. Census images online, go to:

<http://www.ancestry.com/search/io/main.htm>

Email me some of your favourite sites!

Bits and Pieces

Tasmanian Help

You may recall member Carol Furmston who left for Tasmania some time ago. She still keeps in touch and has passed on the following information. "When using the TAMBOT (Tombstone & Memorial Inscriptions of Tasmania) keep in mind that this is only a record of the actual headstones present when the register was done, in other words if you don't have a headstone you don't get an entry in the register. It seems to have come about from the lack of actual registers for some cemeteries. So if you don't find someone you are looking for don't give up."

Carol has offered to help members out with their Tasmanian research. See Robyn for her contact details.

Victorian Wills, Probate and Inquests Service

Lyn Morgan has also contacted the group offering a service re Victorian Wills, Probate and Inquest records at the PRO. She writes, "If you have a death date (year) I will see if your ancestor has any records and sight and arrange photocopying. Cost for this service \$10, plus photocopying."

Lyn Morgan

Phone: (03) 9598 8562

Write: 39A Grange Rd, Sandringham, Vic 3191

email: lynmorgan@ozemail.com.au

-I'm not stuck, I'm ancestrally challenged-
-Genealogists live in the past lane-

MOE'S GREATEST SOCIAL OCCASION

Moe's greatest social occasion, the first Mayoral ball, took place on the day of its most historic occasion, last Wednesday, when the Borough became the City of Moe.

The official party, led by the Mayor and Mayoress, Cr. And Mrs. E. Scott, arrived at 9.30 at Shaw's Ballroom walking to their seats between the lines of a guard of honour formed by a team of dancers brought from Melbourne by Mr. Merv Burrage.

Cr. And Mrs. Scott were followed by the Town Clerk, Mr. F.E. Bartlett and Mrs. Bartlett, the other councillors and their wives, the Minister for State Development, Mr. A.J. Fraser, M.L.A., Mr. A.A. Buchanan, M.P., and Mrs. Buchanan, Cr. A. Hall, President of the Shire of Morwell, and Mrs. Hall, Cr. Phil Mouritz, President of the Shire of Naracan and Mrs. Mouritz, Cr. A.B. Munro, President of the Shire of Waragul, and Mrs. Munro, the City Engineer, Mr. B.R. Boon, and Mrs. Boon, his assistant, Mr. B.R. McLennan and Mrs. McLennan, the City Solicitor, Mr. W. J. White, and Mrs. White, and Sergeant and Mrs. Tom Jenkins.

When the official guests were seated at the head of the hall, the dancers gave an exhibition called A Bouquet of Waltzes.

Their leaders, Mr. Max Bond and Miss Norma Connelley, then danced the Nyaalinga Waltz, an old-time dance worked out by Mr. Burrage for the occasion.

Bill Collins, who was M.C., said he thought it would be only fitting if Cr. And Mrs. Scott were to lead the official guests in the Valetta Waltz.

But he spared His Worship this, and said that, "for the benefit of the other councillors", it would be a fox-trot.

The official party danced alone for a few minutes before everybody joined in.



Shady Creek Inn

Of all the stories that were told along the adventurous Old Sale Road during the 1860's I find this one at the Shady Creek Inn the most fascinating. The Inn was between the now Buln Buln and Moe, the road has changed its direction a few times, so the original site is now well hidden in the bush. All that remains is the Head Stone, at the cemetery, of Dr. Hadden and a few mounds from other graves.

Nicol Brown owned the Inn, constructed of saplings and slab bark roof, dirt floor. His first wife had died along with a young daughter, they are buried in the cemetery. He then married a young attractive woman, who had been employed at a Melbourne Hotel, and brought her back to Shady Creek. Here she obviously longed for more company than this isolated place could supply, and was very attentive to any visitors, especially Billy the mailman who travelled on horseback between Shady Creek and Walhalla. This caused a lot of tension between Nicol and his new partner, and he turned out to be a very jealous man.

His reason to be concerned about the mailman paying his wife too much attention came to a head when one morning he saw her pinning a puggaree around the mailman's hat before he left for Walhalla. He said nothing at the time but when Billy returned on the next trip, Nicol Brown went out to the stable where he was taking the saddles off his horses, and, with a gun in his hand, called the mailman out, giving him 5 minutes to say his prayers, then shot him in the doorway of the stables.

After he had fired the shot, he returned to the house, caught his wife by the hair, and threw her to the floor. He attempted to kill her but was stopped by two drovers who were staying at the Inn. She escaped into the forest and as the story goes was never seen again in the district. After a scuffle with the drovers, he pleaded to be left alone for a while during which time he got a barrel of blasting powder and with a lighted candle dared anyone to come near him. In the meantime Ted Rowley, one of the drovers, rode to Rosedale to get the nearest policeman, 36 miles away.

Nicol Brown was later found at the site of his former wife and child's grave. He was arrested and sentenced to imprisonment for life. After 19 years he received a pardon at the time of Queen Victoria's jubilee in 1887.

Irene Arnott

NEWSLETTER NOTES

Instead of the usual list of different articles which can be found in the newsletters I will explain about the newsletters.

We exchange newsletters/journals with about 50 other Family History/Genealogical Groups. In the filing cabinet there are manilla folders where the newsletters from each group are filed together. They are interesting reading, especially if you are interested in the particular area they are from as they often contain local history, stories, newspaper articles and most now have web site and email addresses.



Members are able to borrow the folders.

The groups we exchange newsletters with are from

Ararat	Mount Isa
Bass Coast	Narre Warren & District
Benalla	Nathalia
Wyalong District	Port Fairy
Carr	Sale & District
Casino & District	Shepparton
Cobram	South East (SA)
Colac & District	South Gippsland
East Gippsland	Southern Peninsula
Echuca-Moama	Stawell
Euroa	Sunbury
Geelong	Swan Hill
Gisborne	Terang & District
Hamilton	Toora
Heyfield	Wangaratta
Kerang & District	West Gippsland
Lakes Entrance	Wodonga
Leeton	Yarram
Lithgow & District	Wonthaggi
Mallee	Hughenden(QLD)
Maryborough	Central Coast(NSW)
Mildura & District	
Mornington Peninsula	

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We also receive Ancestor, The Genealogist, Australian Family Tree Connections and newsletters from the special interest groups; Victorian GUM (Genealogists using Computers), Scottish Ancestry Group, Port Phillip Pioneers, Irish Ancestry Group and 1850s Group.

Take time to check out the newsletters you never know what you may find.

Hope this fellow is not in your family tree!!

submitted by Bronwyn Pulis

Many many years ago
when I was twenty three,
I got married to a widow
who was pretty as could be.

For if he was my uncle,
Then that also made him brother
To the widow's grown-up daughter
Who, of course, was my step-mother.

This widow had a grown-up daughter
who had hair of red.
My father fell in love with her,
and soon the two were wed.

Father's wife then had a son,
Who kept them on the run.
And he became my grandson,
For he was my daughter's son.

This made my dad my son-in-law
And changed my very life.
My daughter was my mother,
For she was my father's wife.

My wife is now my mother's mother
And it makes me blue.
Because, although she is my wife,
She is my grandma too.

To complicate the matters worse,
Although it brought me joy,
I soon became the father
Of a bouncing baby boy.

If my wife is my grandmother,
Then I am her grandchild.
And every time I think of it,
It simply drives me wild.

My little baby then became
A brother-in-law to dad.
And so became my uncle,
Though it made me very sad.

For now I have become
The strangest case you ever saw.
As the husband of my grandmother,
I am my own grandpa.

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



Mid Gippsland Family History Society, Inc

P.O. Box 767, Moorilla, Vic. 3810

Or contact Jean McNilly,

Phone 03 51743137

Fax 03 51760520

E-mail moc@net-tech.com.au

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

Books (postage cost on application)

Childers Cemetery Register & Transcriptions	1879-1994	\$ 55 00
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
Traralgon Cemetery Register	1887-1995	\$16 50
Traralgon 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	\$110 00
Moe Cemetery Transcriptions	1881-1997	\$16 50
Toongabbie Cemetery Register	1872-1995	\$ 9 00
Toongabbie Cemetery Transcriptions	1873-1994	\$ 8 00
Traralgon Cemetery Register	1887-1995	\$ 9 00
Traralgon 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 FHS, Inc"