

THE  
MID GIPPSLAND  
FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY Inc.  
NEWSLETTER



ON TRACK

AUGUST 1992

No. 61

\*\*\*\*\* OFFICE BEARERS FOR 1992-1993 \*\*\*\*\*

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CEMETERY:	Eddie Tunn
SCHOOL RECORDS:	Fiona Kemsley
MISCELLANEOUS:	Michelle Freeman

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Meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month except December, at the Moe City Library, Kirk Street, Moe. The library will open at 7pm, with the meetings starting at approximately 7.30pm.

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There is a research fee of \$5 for any research query of the group. There may be an extra charge if there are large amounts of photocopying and/or postage. Please direct all enquiries to The Secretary, P.O. Box 767, Morwell, 3840, and mark the envelope "Research Query".

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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.

# Member Profile

## Barbara White



I was born at Burnley, and lived at Kyneton for a short while as Dad worked for the State Rivers. Dad started with the SEC in 1941 and this is when we moved to Yallourn. I went to school there, and remember when we had torrential rain the children to the East had to go home before Morwell Bridge flooded. I have no family ties with Gippsland - my mother and father's families were from Richmond, Ballarat and Beechworth, being Webster, Good, Earles and Shields.

I married in Yallourn. My husband Bill has ties with Gippsland through his family of White, Bruce, Noy and Bould. Bill is a member of the Cornwall Family History Society, as that is where his White family originated. We have three children and four grandchildren.

Besides our family history we are both interested in Bowls. I am also in CWA and am very keenly interested in handcrafts, china painting, crochet and cross stitch.

### ABOUT YALLOURN

Yallourn, the township was established in 1921 in order to win brown coal from an open cut mine. A power station and later a briquette factory were built. The surrounding timber was felled and milled in the area, then used to build the first timber houses. Later suitable clay was located nearby and brickworks were founded to produce bricks for homes, public and more permanent work buildings. Amenities began to appear. In 1930 the population was 2000 and the town boasted a Hotel, Health Centre, Hospital, Schools, National Bank, Post Office, Railway Station, Fire Brigade, Methodist, Presbyterian and Church of England Churches, and most sporting clubs. In 1947 the town continued towards 5000 with a Public Library and Kernot Hall. From 1971 we started to see the town's demise, until now only a big hole exists.

# A LITTLE HELP

## ~ "HUNDRED"

From Anglo-Saxon times until the 19C, English SHIRES were subdivided into hundreds, each consisting in theory of 100 HIDES or households, and each having its own court to deal with local affairs and apportion taxes. The number of hundreds per shire varied disproportionately, and in Kent and Sussex they were grouped into larger sub-units called "lathes" and "rapes" respectively. In the DANELAW counties of Yorkshire and the north-east midlands, the equivalent units were WAPENTAKES (from the old Norse "vapnatak" - the brandishing of weapons to show assent at a meeting). see CANTREF

## ~ "CANTREF" (Welsh - "hundred town ships")

An ancient administrative unit in Wales, essentially the equivalent of a large HUNDRED, though they were not organised into shires until the Acts of Union with England (1536/42). Each was generally divided into two commotes (with their own courts), whose lords originally exercised quasi-regal powers.

## ~ "DANELAW"

A term used from Aethelred Unraed's (Ethelred the Unready's ) reign (798-1016) for the part of England, south of the Tees and roughly NE of a line from London to Liverpool, where Danish legal and social customs prevailed from the late 9thC until after the Norman Conquest. It represents the area settled during Alfred's reign by Viking armies centred on Yorkshire, the NE midland FIVE BOROUGHES and East Anglia, the districts where Danish influence on place names and society is most observable. Conquered by Edward the Elder and Aethelstan, the Danelaw was granted legal autonomy by Edgar (957/9 - 75).

..... these notes were transcribed by Florence Butcher from The Illustrated Dictionary of British History - General Editor: Arthur Marwick.



LET'S VISIT A LONDON RECORD  
OFFICE with ROSEMARY WIGG.

#### SOMERSET HOUSE.

This was actually a palace at one time and still has statues in its huge courtyard. You have to walk right across this courtyard to get to the Wills section. Here, you look at volumes, from 1867, of who left wills. I didn't expect to find anything here, as most of my ancestors had left the country by then, and I didn't. However, it was interesting to watch the goings-on. For 25p you could call up any will and look at it.



## Birth, Death and Marriage Certificates

REVISED FEES  
FROM JULY 1, 1992

Full Certificate (Search & Issue)	\$30.00
If Registration No. Supplied	\$15.00
Change of Name Certificate	\$30.00
Priority Fee (Additional)	\$26.00

### Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages

295 Queen Street, Melbourne

Tel: 603-5888 (Recorded Information)

603-5800 (General Enquiries)



## Mining Elders' Memories

The most valuable resource for a genealogist is the memories of older relatives.

To make an interview as effective as possible, schedule it in advance and explain why you want to talk. Take a tape recorder, paper or laptop computer, and a list of good open-ended questions that stimulate memories and yield more than "yes" or "no" answers.

Older people usually enjoy the opportunity to recollect their younger days, but don't overtire your interviewee. Do the interview in several stages if necessary. If possible, bring along old photographs.

Leslie Griffith Jacoby, who has been studying her genealogy for more than 20 years, recommends creating an interview outline.

**History and family.** Find out historical information, including your family's country of origin, military service, religious affiliations and traditions.

**Family names.** Learn the names, birth and death dates of all family members the relative knows.

**Childhood and home life.** Ask about your relative's own childhood, including stories surrounding his or her birth, siblings, parents, grandparents and places where they lived.

**Education.** Ask about schools attended, favorite teachers, and subjects and activities most enjoyed.

**Church.** This is an important category, because many church records offer more information than government records. Ask about church affiliation, baptisms, marriages, funerals and cemeteries.

**Marriage and family life.** Find out when this relative was married, where the spouse was born, where they first lived as a couple and facts about their children.

**Social and business life.** Ask about this relative's occupation, social club memberships and honors received.

# Dennis O'Riorden

**BACK - BY POPULAR DEMAND !!**

So many people both learnt from and enjoyed Dennis' last talk that many people want him back again. This time Dennis will talk on Irish, English and Australian research. Dennis is also bringing a friend who will talk on Scotland.

WHEN: 19th September 1992

WHERE: Church of L.D.S. (Mormons)  
Kosciusko Street  
Traralgon.

TIME: 9.00 am - 3.30 pm

COST: Your time

BYO lunch and drinks

Please ring Ruth Ryan on 741414 if you are interested, to give her some idea of numbers.



## AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES

### VICTORIAN REGIONAL OFFICE

We are moving all information service and searchroom facilities from our BRIGHTON premises to our new location at:

**CASSELDEN PLACE,  
2 Lonsdale Street,  
Melbourne**

as from 10 August 1992.

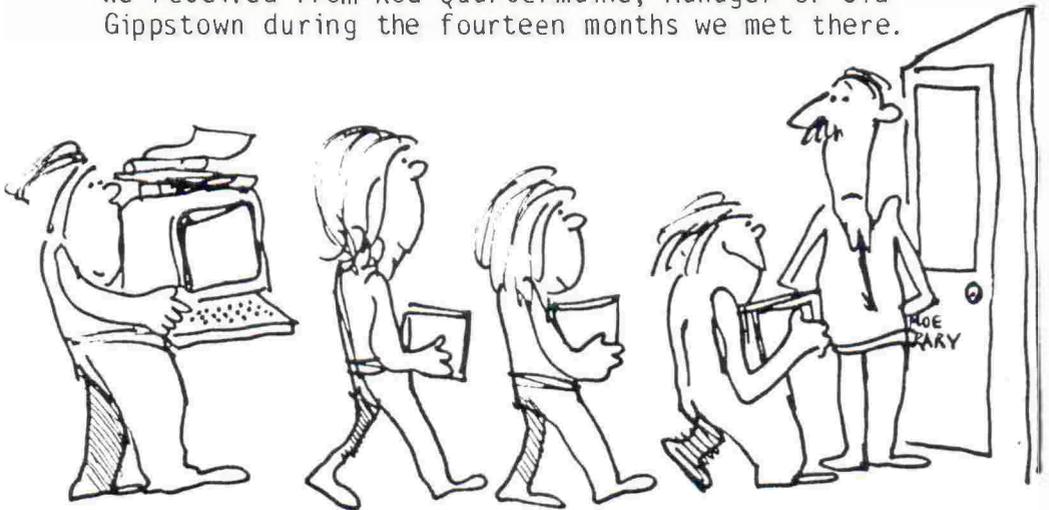
For all information service enquiries we can be contacted on (03) 285 7999, facsimile (03) 285 7979 or by mail to GPO Box 4325PP, Melbourne 3001. If you are planning to visit Australian Archives Victorian Office after this date to conduct research or examine archival material, please contact the above number to confirm your arrangements.



# WE'VE MOVED !

As of the August meeting, the Moe City Library is the new home for our group. During the past month a group of diligent workers has managed to transfer all of our library collection, microfiche readers and microfiche to our new premises. Library material is available for anyone (including members of the public) to use during the library opening hours. Members will be able to borrow material on meeting nights, which remain the fourth Thursday of each month except December. On meeting nights, the library will be open at 7.00pm, and the meeting will commence at approximately 7.30pm. We have been requested to have our meetings completed by 10.30pm.

The group is very appreciative of the co-operation we received from Rod Quartermaine, Manager of Old Gippstown during the fourteen months we met there.



## WILLOW GROVE CEMETERY

Congratulations to Karen Healy, Dot Needham and Eddie Tunn on the publication of their book on the Willow Grove Cemetery. With a history, map, headstone transcriptions and details from the burial register, they have produced a very comprehensive and useful book. A copy of it is in our library.

# HOUSEHOLD WORDS.

A WEEKLY JOURNAL

CONDUCTED BY CHARLES DICKENS.

N<sup>o</sup>. 37.]

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1850.

[PRICE 2d.]

A VISIT TO THE  
REGISTRAR-GENERAL  
..... continuing .....

The primitive pothook and hanger, plain, schoolboy looking writing, in which each letter has its own distinctive though awkward character, is their delight. The fourteen thousand

"Chiels among us tak'ing notes" have of course to be supplied with regular books, and forms, and rules, and the issue and account-keeping of these forms, is in itself a laborious and onerous duty. The books are oblong folios, with limp leather covers, which permit of rolling up, if necessary, when the Registrar sets off from his house to go over his district in search of subjects for entry on the pages. The books are three in number; and the colour of the cover of each indicates its purpose. Births are bound in a cheerful red; the contriver of the marriages' book was evidently determined to have a joke carried into every wedding party, - for the marriages are clad in green; whilst the third book in its

cover indicates its serious purpose: the deaths are black.

It seems a simple matter enough to make an entry in an official book, all rules ready for the purpose, and to make that entry at the proper time, and with the needful formality; and yet it is found that when thousands of different persons have this duty divided amongst them, it is difficult, almost to impossibility, to get the thing done with accuracy. To promote the object in view, all the plans that ingenuity can contrive are adopted. The printed forms are abundantly supplied; inspectors are constantly going about the country to examine the books, give suggestions, and report on the character and qualifications of the Registrars. Letters are eternally issuing from Somerset Place, pointing out any irregularities, and insisting upon correction; and above all this, a "general caution" is enclosed in the pages of each register book, recounting how certain misdoers have met with punishment. Here is a list of sinners gibbeted as a warning to negligent Registrars:-

The Registrar-General wishes it to be distinctly understood, that the commission of any one of the irregularities specified below cannot be permitted by him to pass with impunity. A Registrar of births and deaths in the City of London, was publicly dismissed, 25th April 1845, for having parted with the custody of one of his register books, and having made part of an entry, with the intention of obtaining the signature of the informant to it at a subsequent period. Another Registrar at Askrigg, Yorkshire, was publicly dismissed, 22nd Nov. 1845, for having inserted false dates of registration in his register book of births. [He had thereby rendered himself liable to be prosecuted for felony]. A third Registrar at Liskeard was publicly dismissed, 11th January 1847, for having omitted, for several weeks, to inform himself of the births and deaths that had occurred in his district, and having omitted, without reasonable cause, to register certain deaths respecting which he had received due notice. [He had,

by the latter irregularity, rendered himself liable to a fine of fifty pounds on summary conviction before the magistrates upon the complaint of any common informer or other person]. A fourth Registrar at Westbourn, Sussex, was publicly dismissed, 30th March 1848, for not having made the whole of an entry (the signature of the Registrar included) at the time and in the presence of the informant; the entry having been completed, and the signature of the Registrar attached to it, in the absence of the informant, and after the informant had signed it. But a worse case still follows; a Registrar at Liverpool was publicly dismissed, 9th September 1848, for having wilfully made a false and counterfeit register of a pretended birth. For this offence he was, December 1848, tried at the assize, convicted of felony, and sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour.

.... to be continued

## Can you help ?

Seeking information about land held by a Miss EUGENA HAKENDORF in the Iraralgon district some 40-50 years ago. Contact: Tony Satchell, 77 Munro Ave, Ashburton, Vic 3147

### MEMBER'S INTEREST DIRECTORY

Florence Butcher is gathering data for a member's interest directory for our group. It has been some years since we last produced such a booklet, so it could provide you with a very valuable outlet for advertising your family interests. Florence has sheets available on which you can record your family names, etc. She is really keen to get this off the ground, so flood her with entries as soon as possible. There is room for 22 names on each sheet, so go to it!!

### NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

Advertising will be accepted for this newsletter at the following rates:

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Full page .... \$10  
Half page .... \$5  
Quarter page . \$2.50

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Please contact the editor for further details or if you wish to avail yourself of this service.

## NEWS FLASH

HERE'S THE  
LATEST INFORMATION  
ON.....

## THE SEMINAR

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 5th 1992

- \*\* Ian Morden - Ordnance & Survey Maps
- \*\* Fay Guthrie - The PRO and its records
- \*\* Jenny Carter - English parish records & Census
- \*\* Florence Chuck - Immigration. White slavery

VENUE: Moe City Council Reception Room  
COST: \$10 per head  
TIME: 9.45am - 4.00pm

Morning and afternoon teas provided  
MacBETH BOOKS AND MICROFICHE FOR SALE

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

At our Annual Meeting in July, Don Macreadie, Chairman of the group for the past two years, decided not to renominate for the position. In his report to members he summarised the activities of the group for the preceding twelve months, and thanked the members for their support of him in his duties as Chairman. Mavis Lynch was elected to the position of Chairman for 1992/3. Likewise, Gay Rogers, having carried out the duties of secretary for the past year, chose to stand aside, and Sally Shine was duly elected to the position.

Treasurer Anne Pawley somehow managed to bring us to the end of the financial year in a very healthy position, due in no small measure to the work done by Fiona Kemsley in fundraising. It is pleasing to see that these two are prepared to continue in their respective positions, so we look forward to another prosperous year.

Thank you Don, Gay and Anne, and may the new executive of the group enjoy a happy and successful year.

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1884/85....

TANJIL, a mining and postal township, 90 miles E. of Melbourne, and 15 miles N. from Moe, on the Tanjil river. There is one hotel, State school, one church and two stores. Tanjil is an older settled place than the rest of the Shire. Population, about 150.

**THEY'VE DONE IT AGAIN !!**

Is anyone thinking of purchasing any of the B.D. & M. indexes on microfiche? If so, check your prices. As of 14 June 1992, the costs are:

Victorian Pioneer Index	\$225	NOT	\$215
Issue 1: 1889-1895 B.D.M.	\$60	NOT	\$56
Issue 2: 1896-1913 D. & M.	\$100	NOT	\$97
Issue 3: 1896-1913 Births	\$115	NOT	\$110
Issue 4: 1914-1940 Deaths	\$85	NOT	\$81
Issue 5: 1914-1930 Marriages	\$85	NOT	\$80
Issue 6: 1941-1960 Deaths	\$75	Not	\$70

# A LONELY GRAVE

CHARLTON JOHN KINCHANT

Charlton Kinchant was the overseer of the Tyers Station, eleven miles north of Traralgon, Gippsland.

On or about the 25th May 1859, Kinchant left the station to go to the village of Traralgon to obtain the services of Mrs Windsor, to attend to his wife Anne, who was about to be confined.

Whilst at Traralgon, Kinchant called upon Peter McColl, the publican there, and collected two bottles of porter for his wife, and then left with the intention of returning to the station. On the following day, Kinchant had still not returned home, and William McAlpine, later to become superintendent of the Tyers Station, became anxious as to Kinchant's whereabouts. In the meantime, Mrs Anne Kinchant, 23 years, had been confined of a son, whom she named Charlton John Kinchant. She was assisted with the birth by Mrs McAlpine.

On the 15th June 1859, William McAlpine travelled to the Traralgon Inn and enquired of Peter McColl if he had seen Kinchant. Finding that Kinchant had been at the Inn and purchased two bottles, McAlpine gathered several local men together, and a search for Kinchant took place. At the crossing log over the Glengarry (Latrobe) River, a coat, hat, rifle and a tomahawk were found. It was rumoured that Kinchant had drowned. Nothing further was known of Kinchant until the 11th of August 1860, when on that date, Alexander McRae left his home after dinner, taking a gun to do some shooting. He heard some ducks on the banks of the Glengarry, and followed up along the stream, where he saw some rags in the limb of a tree, which upon closer inspection, proved to be human remains. He first saw one boot and on coming closer saw a second in the water. It occurred to McRae that the remains were those of Charlton Kinchant.

On being told by McRae that the remains of Kinchant had been found, Mr John Campbell wrote to Dr. William K. Jamieson (of Sale) and informed him of the discovery, and asked what was to be done.

Monday the 13th August 1860, saw Dr. Jamieson, Mr Campbell, Mr Turnbull J.P., and several others go to the Glengarry River and remove the remains to the Traralgon Hotel. At an inquest on the 16th August 1860, a number of witnesses, including Alexander McRae, gave evidence that they recognised the trousers and boots, and a knife in the boot as having belonged to Kinchant.

The final conclusion was that Charlton J. Kinchant was accidentally drowned while crossing the Glengarry River near Traralgon on or about the 26th day of May, 1859.

After the inquest, the remains of Kinchant were placed in Traralgon's first cemetery (now Vicrail land). His grave would be in close proximity to that of the infant Smythe whose burial place is marked by a poplar tree, enclosed within a wire compound.

Kinchant and Smythe are only two of the supposed 12 burials that took place in Traralgon's first burial ground before the railway line was built through the middle of the cemetery.

The death of Charlton Kinchant was not officially registered. His age at death was 27 years. He was supposedly born at Whittington or Shropshire, England. He was also supposedly married at Geelong in 1855/56 to Anne Evans, also of Shropshire. However a marriage cannot be found for the couple on the B.D.M.index. It seems the marriage was not registered, or did not take place.

At his death, Kinchant was survived by his wife, Anne, his infant son, Charlton jnr, and a daughter, 2 year old Myra, born previously at Tyers Station. Just before the death of Kinchant, a notice appeared in the Gippsland Guardian (Port Albert paper).

It read:

2/5/1859

"All persons holding orders for money drawn by me, or bills for goods furnished, resting unpaid, must present them before the 10th June 1859 to Messrs Turnbull and Co., of Port Albert, as I intend leaving the district of Gippsland."

(Signed) C.J.Kinchant

River Tyer's Station

(Gippsland)



## JORDAN GOLDFIELD

In addition to the main towns of Red Jacket and Jericho on the lower Jordan goldfield, there were other smaller settlements that also played their part in our goldfields history.

Downstream from Blue Jacket existed Violet Town and further downstream again, Swingler's Flat settlement. To the north-east of these places, Dry Creek catered for a small group of miners, while to the north of Dry Creek, Victor's Quartz was in operation and provided a living for several miners and their families.

Violet Town - also known as Jolly's - was a very small settlement, where Mary and George Jolly came during the earliest of the Jordan goldrush days. Mary and George came from Newcastle in England, arriving per the "Emmigrant" in 1852. George had been in the glass making trade, but once in Australia turned his hand to other occupations. The Jolly's moved to the remote Violet Town valley on the Jordan River from the Ovens diggings. The area had a small acreage of flat ground, and the Jolly's utilised this by growing fruit trees and produce which they supplied to others in the near vicinity.

They also operated a wayside tavern, and built themselves a comfortable home, renowned for its "Cloth of Gold" rose bushes that stood each side of the gateway.

The Jolly's were not the first at Violet Town. This credit, it is believed, goes to Jane and Thomas Theobald, who conducted a shanty there, but later moved out along McEvoy's Track where they operated another wayside inn. The Theobald's both died at Morwell.

George Jolly became involved in the mining game and became a member (along with others in the Jordan Valley) of the Gippsland Mining Board.

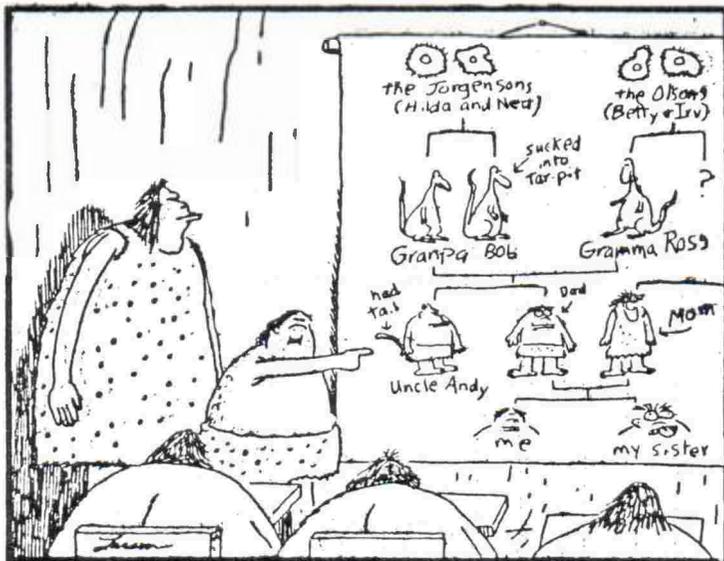
A small school did operate at Violet Town for a short time in 1870, although mostly the Jolly children and a few others were compelled to walk to the school at Red Jacket, or miss out altogether. The Violet Town residents and miners were also compelled to use the Red Jacket cemetery, the closest to their settlement. Mary Jolly and her two sons, David and Nathaniel are buried at Red Jacket. They are among the few that have their graves marked by a headstone.

When the alluvial mining died away during the early days of Violet Town, the gold was won by means of hydraulic sluicing, evidence of which still remains.

A careful perusal of the area will also reveal the where-abouts of the Jolly's old home, some hut sites, a well made hand built stone wall, and a tramway track, situated steeply above the river near Jolly's old house site. Also the old packer's track or bridle track is still intact. All this is almost lost to the scrub and undergrowth. The everpresent blackberries are a curse to the region.

The area can be reached by the extremely steep Violet Town Track by four wheel drive only (dry weather road) or by the main Red Jacket Road. Again, four wheel drive is advisable.

Gay Rogers.



Dirk brings his family tree to class

# BOOK NEWS

**Maggs, Alberta, 1930.**

Chicory bag aristocracy : the Richardson family of Phillip Island / Alberta Maggs. — [Chirnside Park, Vic. : A. Maggs], 1990. — vi, 34 p. : ill., ports. ; 30 cm.

Available from Ms A Maggs, 73 Country Club Dve, Chirnside Park Vic 3116.

Includes index.

CIP confirmed.

ISBN 0 7316 8918 6 \$22.00

1 Richardson family. 2 Chicory — Victoria — Phillip Island — History. I. Title.

**Scanlan, Richard, 1924.**

The Scanlan story : Ireland to Australia 1866. — [Ladley, Qld : R. Scanlan, 1990]. — 82 p. : ill., geneal. tables, ports. ; 25 cm. Cover title.

Written and compiled by Richard Scanlan.

Available from Mr R Scanlan, M/s 204, Ladley Qld 4341.

ISBN 0 646 03114 7 (not printed on item); price unknown.

1 Scanlan family. 2 Queensland — Genealogy. I. Title.

Mrs PRICE died 1797

At a very advanced age, Mrs Price, mother of Thomas Price, esq., formerly of Rushulme. She had experienced great vicissitudes of fortune, which she bore with uncommon fortitude and christian resignation. She was confined to her bed nearly twelve months, and, what is very extraordinary, during that time she cut two teeth, and her hair which had been grey many years, changed to its natural colour.

The Gentleman's Magazine, March 1791



Please address all correspondence to: Mid Gippsland Family History Society, Inc., P.O.Box 767, Morwell, Vic 3840.