

THE
MID GIPSLAND
FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY Inc.
NEWSLETTER



Watching the World Go By —L-r: John Caddaye, J. B. Jones, John Flewin, Sam Cooper, Joe Buckley, outside Twomey's Hairdressing Saloon, c. 1920.

ON TRACK

OCTOBER 1993 NO. 68

MRS L. E. RAMSELAAR
P.O. BOX 28
MOE VIC 3825
TELEPHONE: (051) 27 38 94

OFFICE BEARERS FOR 1993-1994

PRESIDENT:	Mavis Lynch
VICE-PRESIDENT:	Karen Healy
SECRETARY:	Andree Tumney
TREASURER:	Anne Pawley
LIBRARIAN:	Jean McNally
LIBRARY ASSISTANTS:	Shirley Connaghan Florence Butcher Rosemary Wigg
PUBLICITY OFFICER:	Michelle Freeman
FUND RAISING:	vacant
RESEARCH OFFICER:	Gay Rogers
CEMETERY RECORDS:	Eddie Tunn
NEWSLETTER EDITOR:	Claire Wood
SCHOOL RECORDS:	Anne Pawley
MISCELLANEOUS:	Michelle Freeman

Meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month except December, at the Moe City Library, Kirk St, Moe. The Library will open at 7pm, with the meetings starting at approximately 7:30pm.

There is a fee of \$5 for any enquiries requiring research, with additional charges for 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".

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

MEMBER'S PROFILE

I, Gweneth Curnick (nee Jackson), was born in Melbourne, the eldest child of a South Gippsland dairy farmer and a city girl.



My Great, Great Grandfather Robinson Jackson was an engineer, born at Brancepeth, Durham. He came to Australia in 1853, bringing with him his son, 10 year old Charles. Robinson Jackson became manager of the Railway workshop at Williamstown in Victoria. Charles became a farmer.

My Mother's Blain family came from Nichol Forest, Cumberland, arriving in Victoria in 1862 and farmed at Mount Prospect near Ballarat. My Grandfather Blain left the farm and became a successful businessman.

The first school I attended was Koorooman East followed by Kardella South Primary, then Leongatha High School. After leaving school, I worked as a clerical typist for Gippsland & Northern Stock and Station Agents in Leongatha until I married five years later.

Marriage to Doug, a primary school teacher, meant moving around Victoria looking for promotion. We have five children, born in four different places - Horsham, Colac, Warragul and Korumburra.

Four of the children have been to uni, and each has a science degree. The fifth is a fitter & turner. We also have six young grandchildren. Doug has little interest in family history, so I have endeavoured to trace his ancestors as well as my own.

I have always had an interest in my family history, but it was not until about 1965 that I started making notes in an exercise book - never dreaming that in 1993, I would have a whole room equipped with a computer, fiche reader, printer, copier, books and loads of folders.

In 1984, I joined the Mid-Gippsland Family History Society and shortly afterwards became an assistant Librarian, serving with four different Librarians over the years. For the past six years, I have also been an assistant Librarian with the L.D.S Family History Centre in Traralgon.

Learning to help other people has been a great benefit to my own research. I have recently finished entering my family onto the P.A.F. programme. I am a member of the G.S.V. & A.I.G.S (plus a couple of Family History Societies in England, including the Isle of Man)

When my mind becomes bogged down with names, dates and place names etc., I like to spend time in the garden. This gives me exercise as well as enjoyment. I am a member of the Local Horticultural Society.

Since Doug has retired, we go caravanning for 2 to 3 months each year and have seen most of Australia. Doug enjoys mountains, waterfalls, caves and lookouts, but I seek out the cemeteries.

QUIZ

contributed by Jean McNally

1. Match these occupations with the appropriate definition
 - a. Lotseller
 - b. Cadger
 - c. Furner
 - d. Higglor
 - e. Fletcher
 1. A carner, pedler of small wares
 2. One who haggles
 3. One who puts feather to arrows
 4. A Baker
 5. A Streetseller
2. What is the date of Lady Day and in what year did it change ?
3. When was the first secret ballot ?
4. How many ships transported the convicts of the first fleet. Name them ?
5. When did George Bass & Mathew Flinders survey the coast of Victoria ?
6. Who were the first Englishmen to settle in Victoria, and in what year was it ?
7. Who was the first to land in Port Philip - Batman or Fawkner ?
8. Where is\were
 - a. Brandy Creek
 - b. Cunningham
 - c. Grant Island
 - d. Wild Cattle Creek
 - e. May Day Hills
 - f. Heartbreak Hills

answers elsewhere in this newsletter

From Second Best Bed: a diversion on wills by Fenton Bresler -

"I leave nothing to my grandson because he squandered a large gift, deserted his mother and was a slacker in World War II". The Grandson successfully sued the Estate for defamation!

THANK-YOU

I would like on behalf of the Mid-Gippsland F.H.S. to take this opportunity to thank Mr Wolfe Becker of DECOR MANOR, Hotham St., Traralgon. He kindly donated scraps of mountboard to our Group. This board is usually used to mount photos, portraits and paintings etc. It also makes excellent dividers for our microfiche. It is really heartening to see local businesses help and support local non-profit organizations such as ours.

Jean McNally
Librarian

NEW HOURS

LDS CHURCH TRARALGON

MONDAY	9:30 - 3:30
WEDNESDAY	9:30 - 3:30
FRIDAY	7 pm - 10 pm
SATURDAY	10 am - 3 pm

THE GIPPSLAND MAILMAN

(cont from Aug newsletter)
contributed by J. G. Rogers

14-3-1856. The [Gippsland] Guardian was agitating for an alternative route for letters by sea instead of by overland route, and stated

"But what will our readers think when we tell them that there is no road to Gippsland at all! There is not even a line of road marked out!. The mails are carried by packhorse over bush tracks, and we may fancy what those tracks are like when we are told that during the ensuing winter they are likely to be rendered impassable even for a packhorse! The person who carries the mails to Gippsland, is a first rate bushman, and performs his journeys admirably; but to be in the saddle almost constantly is very fatiguing, and he once imagined he could relieve himself and add to his comfort by travelling in a light spring cart - vain imagination".

Charles Du Ve, an old Gippslander, in later years (1911) commented -

"In the grand old times the mail from Melbourne left the G.P.O. on an afternoon, and came as far as Dandenong. Next morning the mailman saddled up his horse and got as far as Davy O'Connors at the Bunyip, where he often picked up a traveller for Gippsland, who had been waiting at Davy's hostelry perhaps for two or three days, to be piloted through the renowned gullies - otherwise 5 boggy creeks, the mailman's fee for this was fl- or as much as the traveller liked to bestow. This day's journey lead to Moe, (the Moe Inn) kept by "Commissioner Bob", otherwise Mr. R. Farley".

THE GIPPSLAND MAILMAN (cont)

After another interval, the Gippsland Road, hitherto all bush track, was cleared; the gullies avoided by a track discovered by two Gippsland bushman and squatters, Archie Campbell and Ken Bennett, coaches were put on and the miles piloted by two well known drivers - Tom Plows and Con Hilderbrand.

From the Guardian 18-12-1857.

"Conveyances of mails during 1858 to and from Dandenong and Sale one a week, and to and from Sale and Port Albert once a week - contract awarded to L. J. Michel for £990-".

Guardian 4-6-1858

"FATAL ACCIDENT" - The late heavy rain during the last few days has swollen the rivers and creeks to an extent beyond what they have been for several years, and unfortunately in the transmission of the overland mails from Melb., a mailman in attempting to cross the Morwell River met with his untimely end. His horse from the force of the stream was carried under a log, and unable to extricate himself, the man also on his part was equally unable to battle with the element and met with a watery grave".

Guardian 11-6-1858

"FATAL ACCIDENT - The case of death from drowning which we gave publicity to last week, and which was reported as occurring at Morwell - appears happily to be without foundation".

Guardian 25-6-1858

"Mails to Melbourne - now delivered twice weekly - Tuesday & Saturday. Contractor L. J. Michel".

continued next issue

Yallourn

REVISITED

an exhibition

Yallourn Revisited provides an overview of the town's 60 year history - its design, housing, gardens and lifestyle. The exhibition shows that Yallourn lives on not only in people's memories, but also in the landscape.

Open Monday to Wednesday
9am - 5pm
Until the end of March 1994

Centre for Gippsland Studies
Monash University Gippsland Campus
Churchill, Vic 3842.
(051) 226 356



NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

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

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

- 01: a5, b1, c4, d2, a3
- 02 The year began and ended on 'Lady Day', the 25th of March. The calendar was changed in 1752 making January 1st the new year.
- 03: 1854
- 04: Alexander, Charlotte, Lady Penrhyn, Prince of Wales, Scarborough
- 05 Supply ships were borrowed, Fishburn, a Golden Grove
- 06 Captain Arthur Phillip's ship was Sirius and his consort was Supply
- 05: 1797-1798
- 08 Henry Brothers in 1834 at Portland Bay
- 07 Batman landed 20th May 1835
Fawkner's party left Tasmania 27th July 1835
- 08 a: Marriguil, b: Lakes Entrance, c: Phillip Island
d: From Wild Cattle Station by the Tarralin River,
e: Beechmore, f: Callignee

ANSWERS TO THE QUIZ

REGISTRY OF BIRTHS DEATHS AND MARRIAGES

Department of Justice

SCALE OF FEES

As from 1 September 1993 (Reviewed Annually).

Civil Records (1853 to date)

For each search in any one name extending over a period not exceeding five years and issue of a certified copy or an <u>extract of entry</u>	\$32.00
For each additional search of five years, or part thereof	\$16.00
For issue of a certified copy or an extract of an entry when the official registration number is quoted	\$16.00
For issue of each additional certified copy or extract of the same entry	\$16.00
For issue of Change of Name certificate	\$32.00

Early Church Records (1837-1853)

For each search and issue of a certified copy or Extract of an Entry	\$32.00
--	---------

The requested document will be forwarded as soon as possible but may not be despatched for one to two weeks after receipt of appropriate fees and sufficient information to locate the relevant entry.

Priority Issue and Service

Additional fee for urgent issue of extracts and certified copies of an entry \$27.50.

When documents are urgently required, priority service will be given to their issue on payment of a priority fee of \$27.50 for each document in addition to normal fees. Document will be despatched, when circumstances permit, within two working days of receipt of fees and adequate information.

From the Essex Journal - the will of John Holder

"To my eldest son John, for his undutifulness, disobedience & other frequent misbehaviour, I give and bequeath the dish cloth that he once told me in the midst of company was fit to be tied to my backside, & nothing else of any kind or sort whatsoever"

Oh! To have seen John's face when he heard that.

I have memories of our mother turning down the covering on our beds very carefully to make sure no snakes had hidden themselves there.
(*Jessie Heesom*)

Mum sewed bags together with a bag needle and string, covered them with whatever she could find and these were our blankets.
(*Ethel Priest*)

Dad and the father, with the tiny home-made coffin on the seat of the jinker between them, drove in pouring rain to the Hazelwood cemetery.
(*Kath Ringin*)

Because diphtheria was so contagious we were kept in a little shed to wait for the train to take us to the isolation ward at Sale hospital.
(*Ena Mildern*)

I'll never forget the 1944 fires as long as I live. People were ordered to leave their houses but I wouldn't go - we would have lost the house if I'd left.
(*Ada Robinson*)

When food was very scarce, Mum boiled up thistles and stinging nettles to make a kind of soup for us.
(*Lottie Wright*)

from *Women of the valley*

NEW BOOKS

Yallourn Power Station, a history 1919 to 1989: pioneers in power / by Colin Harvey. Morwell: SECV, 1993. \$40

Women of the Valley: Morwell & district 1844 - 1944 / edited by Ann Dettrick & Elsie McMaster. Upper Ferntree Gully: Rex Thompson, 1993. Available from Mrs E. McMaster, 2 Harold St, Morwell. 3840. \$12:50 plus p&p.

From "*Book of epitaphs*" by *Raymond Lamont Brown*

"Grieve not for me my husband dear,
I am not dead but sleeping here,
With patience wait, prepare to die,
And in a short time, you'll come to I"
To which the husband carved below
"I am not grieved my dearest wife,
Sleep on, I've got another wife.
Therefore I cannot come to thee.
For I must go and live with she."

The Mid-Gippsland Family History Society
invites
Past & Present Members
family and friends
to
celebrate The Society's 13th Anniversary
with
An Old Fashioned Family Picnic
on
Sunday December 12th at 12 noon to stumps

The picnic is to be held at the home of Dot
and Ian Needham, River Connection Road, Willow
Grove (adjacent to Blue Rock Dam. B.Y.O. lunch,
and drink. Raffle and Old Fashioned games.
Further Information, contact Karen on
056 261235, or Michelle on 740649

Best wishes to Dot Needham who has recently had an
operation in Melbourne on her shoulder. Dot will
be recuperating at home for a couple of months.



Please address all correspondence to: Mid Gippsland Family
History Society, Inc., P.O.Box 767, Morwell, Vic 3860.