



SOUTH GIPPSLAND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY Inc.



JUNE 2012

NEWSLETTER

Volume 3 No. 02

Committee Report...

Welcome to our new newsletter editors, Rosemary, Ken and David. Thank you for volunteering to take up the task; the newsletter is a highly valued resource of the society. As always, we hope members will be encouraged to submit articles relating to their research, brick walls they may have met, and other items of interest.

We also have great pleasure in welcoming new members, Faye Boag, Coral Hughes and Marie Murphy. We look forward to getting to know you more and trust your work with the society will enhance your research.

There have been a number of happenings around the group. We were privileged to hear from David Tattersall at the March meeting on his research into his parents and grandparents. David's journey involved much letter writing to his UK family to ensure he heard the stories before it was too late. He has since compiled this into a number of volumes that he had printed and bound. It was fascinating to hear the details, as so often we neglect to make time to contact family members before their stories are lost to us. Thank you David.

Our April meeting had us gathering at the Leongatha Library for a night of instruction to get the most out of the library's subscription to Ancestry. Rosemary ably led us, with assistance from George in the technical set-up. With two dozen members attending it was a bit of a tight fit in the room, but well worth the effort. A number of members then had opportunity to do their own research using their newly found skills. Thank you Rosemary and George, and a big thank you to the staff at the library for opening especially for us.

A special fund has been established for the purchase of a 46 inch LED LCD television for the society. This would be

used for teaching purposes and guest speakers' presentations, and eliminate the need to set up projector and screen, which will make it easier for all to use and give a much clearer image. Please see George for any details regarding this project.

The committee is also preparing for our Annual General Meeting in August, which seems to come around quickly. All positions will become vacant and members are asked to consider how they can help with the management of the society. Like most tasks, when people pull together a job becomes so much easier. A position on the management committee is not difficult and it would be wonderful to have some new ideas and enthusiasm from people. Also, members are advised that a special motion will be put at the AGM to increase the annual membership fee by \$5. Although we try to keep our subscription as low as possible, the increase in the cost of power for our premises leaves us little option. Even with the increase, it is still incredibly good value for money.

Indexing also continues to increase our resources and make those we already have more accessible. Local birth, death and marriage notices along with other relevant articles are collated and filed each month, rate books for the area are gradually being photographed and indexed, and our extensive local book collection is also being indexed. All these projects are adding to the value of our collection and the ease of research. We thank those involved for their commitment and time to benefit all members. There is an incredible amount of information available to researchers in the research room, and it would be wonderful to see more people taking advantage of the resources we have. Please do come in and have a look.

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MEMBERSHIP

The **YEARLY MEMBERSHIP FEE** (due at the Annual General Meeting in August) is:
SINGLE - \$25. COUPLE - \$35. STUDENT - \$10
and includes four newsletters.
The **JOINING FEE** for new members (other than students) is **\$10**.

Meetings held in the months of February to May and September to December will be held on the second Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in the Historical Society Rooms, McCartin Street, Leongatha.
Meetings held in the winter months of June, July and August will generally be held on the second Saturday of the month (unless otherwise notified) at 1.30pm in the Historical Society Rooms.

**The rooms are open for research
every Thursday and Friday
between 12 noon and 4pm**

The cost of self- or assisted research for non-members is **\$5 per visit**. If you join within a fortnight of the visit, the \$5 will be deducted from your membership fee.

Help from our Research Officers is available at **\$10 per query** plus stamped addressed envelope. Send your query to Post Office Box 395, Leongatha, Victoria. 3953.

OFFICE BEARERS

President	Joan Lehman	(03) 5674 3400
Vice-president	vacant	
Secretary	Anne Larking	(03) 5662 2087
Minute Secretary	Zoe Baillie	
Treasurer	George Jenkins	
Program	Margaret Pegler	
Librarian	Alison Marshall	
Research	Marion Moon	
Indexing	Elke Holmes	
	Faye Marshman	
Hospitality	vacant	
Newsletter	Rosemary Abbey	(03) 5662 3059
	Ken Swadling	(03) 5659 8239
	David Tattersall	(03) 5662 2387

EDITOR'S NOTES

On behalf of the editorial team of Rosemary, Ken and myself, I offer best wishes to Lorraine Standfield, our previous newsletter editor, for her new life in Cheltenham. It is testament to the quality of her editorship that it is taking three people to replace her!

Being a new member of the society, I am perhaps not as well known to members as Ken and Rosemary are - and I certainly have not their experience in genealogical matters, so I am going to be relying heavily on their knowledge (and the knowledge and contributions of other members of the society).

My contribution to the editorial team will be the typesetting and design of each issue of the newsletter. My experience in this field dates back to editorship of Leongatha Lyric Theatre monthly newsletters from the early 1970s, editorship of Coal Creek and Friends of Coal Creek newsletters during the 1980s, 90s and 2008, '09, and '10, and general typesetting and design skills as a result of my career in newspapers and printing since the late 1960s.

So, to repeat Lorraine's plea from our March issue - please think about sending articles about your research for publication in the newsletter. You never know who else is out there reading the newsletter who may find they can be of assistance to you in your research.

Contributions may be typed, handwritten, saved on a memory stick or CD and left at the society's room, or mailed to:

PO Box 395, Leongatha, Vic. 3953

or preferably sent direct via email to:

Rosemary Abbey - roseabmailist@yahoo.com.au

Ken Swadling - kenswadling@yahoo.com.au

David Tattersall - mushroomcrafts@dcsi.net.au

Please make note of the deadlines for the coming editions of the newsletter.

David Tattersall.

COPY DEADLINES FOR NEWSLETTER

February meeting for the March newsletter

May meeting for the June newsletter

August meeting for the September newsletter

October 31 for the December newsletter.

Perhaps you can help . . .

We have received the following research enquiry:

For the surname
BELSHAW

VALE KEN LEHMAN

It is with sadness we note the passing of Ken Lehman, husband of our President Joan. Although not a member, Ken was always happy and supportive of Joan's involvement with our group. He assisted in setting up for seminars and our VAFHO conference, attended our Christmas functions and was always willing to open his home for our BBQ nights. He was a pleasure to know. We extend our condolences to Joan and her family.

THANK YOU, LORRAINE!

Contributed by
Alison Marshall



After many years as our friend, fellow researcher and newsletter editor, a number of members gathered to farewell and thank Lorraine Standfield for her great contribution to our group. We gathered together over a lovely lunch at Bair's Hotel in Leongatha.

Under Lorraine's guidance the newsletter grew in size and quality, making it one that our group as a whole could be proud of. Lorraine has since moved from South Gippsland and now resides with her family in Cheltenham for the next stage in her journey - with closer access to all the archives!

If political history teaches us anything at all, it teaches us that we learn nothing from it.

- Anon.

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Hosted by the
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To be exhibitors or to donate items for our Raffle/Sample Bags, a non-refundable fee of \$20 applies to non-profit groups and societies, and \$50 applies to Businesses.

For information, contact The Narre Warren & District Family History Group on 9704 7372 or 0411 539 182.

Recent Library Acquisitions



"Victoria's Early Church Records" - CD.
(Purchased).

"The Settlement of Amey's Track, The Early Years"
by Dorothy Williams. (Purchased).

"Mitchell's Island" by R & W Gow.
(Kindly donated by Ken Swadling).

"Your Life Story".
(Kindly donated by Rosemary Abbey).

Reminder! Research Enquiries

The South Gippsland Genealogical Society offers a Research service for people unable to visit our room. However, please note that we are only able to research our own holdings and those of the local municipal library. The fee for this service is \$10 per hour. Please mail your research queries, together with a stamped, addressed envelope, to the society's Research Officer.

South Gippsland Genealogical Society
PO Box 395, LEONGATHA. VIC. 3953.



SGGS PROGRAM FOR 2012

Thurs. April 12	7.30pm	Computer Night at Leongatha Library - Rosemary on Ancestry.com
Sat. May 19	1.30pm	Beginners' Class
Thurs. May 10	7.30pm	Indexing of local books
Sat. June 16	9am-4pm	Seminar. Computer programs for family history using archival books, photos, Tasmanian research, Italian, Welsh, mining records, education, convicts.
Sat. July 14:	1.30pm	Guide to our library
Sat. August 11	1.30pm	Annual General Meeting. Speaker: Joseph Sestokas on Yallourn migrants.
Thurs. September 13	7.30pm	Class on computer programs, war records, world connect, Victorian wills.
Thurs. October 11	7.30pm	Local speakers on their families
Thurs. November 8	7.30pm	Speaker: Janet Wilson on the Radovick family of Korumburra.
Wednesday, December 12: Dinner at Bair's Hotel. 6.30pm. Speaker TBA		

PROTECT YOUR FAMILY FROM IDENTITY THEFT

Written by Lorrie Barzdo for the Caloundra Clipper Newsletter, November 2010.

Perhaps identity theft has not happened to anyone you know, but fraudulent use of information such as names, dates and places of birth is a very sensitive issue nowadays.

At a recent meeting of our Family History Society, a representative of the Police Fraud Squad gave us all a shake-up when explaining that the current wave of crooks don't break into your house these days to steal your plasma TV, but to grab a few bills off the fridge or office desk in order to get your bank details, names and addresses and other identity information. He also gave severe warnings of posting full details of your family on the internet on one of the many commercial family history sites.

Names and birth details can often be used to apply for a birth certificate, then a driver's licence, bank account, and then to full identity information. Suddenly, you have lost your identity!

I don't have any problem with people submitting perhaps the "bare bones" of present day family, e.g. just your first and last name, country of birth and year, same for your grandparents and grandparents, and then maybe having extra information for far older generations.

However, beware if you make a Gedcom (or .ged file) from your genealogy software program and send it straight to a web page or to a friend or distant family member, who ignores your request to not share it with all the world. It could easily be added to their tree on Ancestry, Findmypast, GenesReunited, or one of many other sites, in the blink of an eye. When it's gone, it has gone.

Here are some tips on how to add some protection:

If you want to transmit data from your computer program, first temporarily "privatise" your tree (always read the Help section of any of these programs), select the part or branch that you want to share and then create a Gedcom or .ged file. After you have saved this type of file, you can go back to your main file and "un-privatise" to go back to normal.

Privatising means that names and data for those who could still be alive will not be shown. For example, if your Auntie Jane was born in 1928 and you haven't included a death date in your data because she is either still alive or you don't know when she died, she will only be shown as a "living individual" attached to her parents. The same protection will apply to yourself, your children and grandchildren.

An option: If you don't wish to go to the full extent of sending someone a Gedcom file, which I rarely do for anyone these days because it can be easily and simply added to another person's tree, then do the following:

You can just share small parts of your tree or information in a Word Document as a text file that you can copy easily from most genealogy software programs. Copy a text report of part of your tree into MS Word or text program, then "prune" the tree and take out the twigs or side branches that you don't want to send. If they want to put some of that data into their tree, then they will have to type it in themselves, and hopefully check that theirs matches correctly when doing so!

Remember that in many countries now, it is illegal for you to give out personal details about anyone unless you have their written permission. This doesn't mean you can't share your information, just a warning to be vigilant about what and with whom you share.

Only pass information along knowing how and where it will be used.

More treasure in TROVE

The following Victorian newspapers are intended to be made available to the public on TROVE during the 2011/2012 financial year:

The Argus - 1955-1956; Morwell Advertiser & Weekly Chronicle 1887-1888; Morwell Advertiser 1988-1954; Mornington Standard 1889-1908; Mornington & Dromana Standard 1908-1911; Mornington Standard 1911-1920; Traralgon Record & Morwell, Mirboo, Toongabbie, Heyfield, Tyers & Callignee Advertiser 1883-1886; Traralgon Record 1886-1932; Warragul Guardian & Buln Buln & Narracan Shire Advocate 1879-1894; Warragul Guardian & West Gippsland Advertiser 1894; Warragul Guardian 1895-1900; West Gippsland Gazette 1898-1930.

The above list is by no means all that are intended to be made available this financial year, but are those issues most relevant to people researching ancestors who lived in the Gippsland area.

Genetics

by Sinead Morrissey

My father's in my fingers, but my mother's in my palms.
I lift them up and look at them with pleasure -
I know my parents made me by my hands.

They may have been repelled to separate lands,
in separate hemispheres, may sleep with other lovers,
but in me they touch where fingers link to palms.

With nothing left of their togetherness but friends
who quarry for their image by a river,
at least I know their marriage by my hands.

I shape a chapel where a steeple stands.
And when I turn it over,
my father's by my fingers, my mother's by my palms

Demure before a priest reciting psalms.
My body is their marriage register.
I re-enact their wedding with my hands.

So take me with you, take up the skin's demands
for mirroring in bodies of the future.
I'll bequeath my fingers, if you bequeath your palms.
We know our parents make us by our hands.

- From Maisie Egger on Lanarkshire Rootsweb List.

Life is a jest; and all things show it.
I thought so once; but now I know it.
- John Gay, "My Own Epitaph", 1720.

SGGS MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Family Name being researched	Time period covered	Suburb/Town	State/County	Country
MEMBER: BEV JOHNSON				
Johnson, Thomas	1800+	Kilmuckridge	-	Ireland
Conley	1850+	Armagh	-	Ireland
Johnson	1880+	Trafalgar	Victoria	Australia
Vine	1880+	Aldershot	-	England
Patten	1850+	-	-	Scotland
Vine	1840+	Twyford	-	England
Bennett	1800+	Dover	-	England
Williams	1800	Bristol	-	England
Meldrum	1800+	Kinross	-	Scotland
White	1850+	Portsmouth	-	England
Simcox	1850+	West Bromwich (Newtown)	Staffordshire	England
MEMBER: GEOFF ROBB				
Robb	1800s	Castlederg	Tyrone	Ireland
Miller	1800s	Workington	Yorkshire	England
Pope	1800s	-	Dorset	England
Ashinhurst	-	-	Dorset	England
Shore	1700s?	-	-	England
Monahan	1700s?	-	-	Ireland?
MEMBER: ANNE LARKING				
Larking	1800-1900	-	Kent	England
Larking	1900s	-	NSW and VIC	Australia
Golding or Golden (James)	1800-1900	-	Victoria	Australia or New Zealand
Sault (Richard)	-	-	Victoria or Tasmania	Australia
Woollett or Woollatt (Charles)	-	-	Victoria or Qld.	Australia
Drummond	1800-1900	-	Victoria	Australia
Tydeman	-	-	New South Wales	Australia
Minogue	1800-1900	Portland	Victoria	Australia
Minogue	1800-1900	-	County Clare	Ireland
Bennett (George or Samuel)	-	-	Dublin or Victoria	Ireland or Australia



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FROM COVENTRY TO QUEENSLAND

Contributed by Ken Swadling

In 1863, the silk weaving industry in Coventry, Warwickshire, collapsed due to external economic conditions. The weavers and their families, who had enjoyed a good living from their industry, were suddenly without an income. Normally, distressed families could turn to Parish Relief, but the Poor Law was funded by levies on households and businesses, many of which were also affected. There were insufficient resources available. When all else failed, the silk weavers and their families had no choice but to emigrate to the colonies.

The night before they left their homes, the families attended a farewell church service in which the sermon below was delivered. In the 19th century, many Britons were forced to emigrate, often in large groups. There is every reason to believe that similar services were conducted for them in their home parishes. The sermon conveys a deep and poignant sense of the sadness and despair of the time, and contains no expectation that the emigrants will ever return.

The following is an extract of the farewell sermon, as printed in *The Coventry Herald and Observer*, 30 January 1863, and reprinted in Smith, Helen V., "The Distressed Cotton Operatives Immigration Scheme" in *History & Genealogy 2011 Number One, Unlock the Past*, Adelaide, 2011 p203.

Due to space constraints the sermon has been further edited for publication here.

FAREWELL SERMON TO EMIGRANTS

Rarely, I think, has this Church witnessed a service so solemn and so genuine as that which we hold tonight. We pray that the memory of this service may long linger in your hearts. You will carry with you, I well know, into the new country of your adoption other and very different recollections of your old home, and some of these recollections will of necessity be bitterly painful. The keen sufferings of your last few years have left scars on your hearts which can hardly ever be effaced. I know you cannot easily forget the weary days during which you were forced to eat the bitter bread of charity, the sickening hope against hope with which you longed for the speedy coming of better times; the cries of your children, pining for the warmth and food which they had never been wont to lack.

These things you will not easily forget – it is not right that you should, for there was a chastening, a sanctifying power in them. God grant that this power may not be wasted. But along with these sad recollections, we trust that brighter and happier memories will constantly mingle; memories of the universal sympathy for your sufferings shown by all ranks of your countrymen, from the first Lady in the land and her Royal son down to toiling artisans almost as poor as yourselves.

When the news of the grievous sufferings brought about of late on English weavers of all kinds, by no fault of their own, reached our Colonies in the Southern Seas, the intelligence woke up a noble spirit of sympathy, an eager readiness to help. One project started by the men of Queensland for helping the starving artisans of the mother country had a close connection with your destiny. They determined to send an invitation to 500 English weavers to come and share the blessings of their own good land. "A land of brooks and water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley".

They raised a goodly sum – many thousands of pounds – to pay the passage out of their invited guests, and give them a warm welcome when they landed. The invitation was given to weavers alone, though their peculiar skill had no value to Australia, though they would have to serve a new apprenticeship, and be worth comparatively little.

Now I tell you all this for a purpose. You are not going out as common emigrants; you go under special circumstances, charged with special duties. You owe a debt of gratitude to Queensland. The special welcome that is waiting for you there will render you marked men. You have accepted a gracious favour at the hands of the colonists; they have the right to look for a gracious return – a return in the shape of ready loyalty to your new rulers, manly religion in the new state of life unto which it has pleased God to call you.

And we, too, whom you leave behind you in Coventry have likewise claims of our own to make upon you. When the invitation to Queensland was communicated to the members of your Relief Committee it was not without many misgivings that we ventured on your behalf to accept it. And for those misgivings there were valid reasons. If we send you at all, we must send you fully equipped for the journey; indeed, you had suffered so much from anxieties and privations that we felt bound not to expose you to the hardships of so long a voyage without more than usual provision for your comfort and welfare. Out of the common Fund, therefore, we were forced to take no small portion for your sole benefit. Was this fair to the rest? Was it right to help a few so largely at the expense of the many? Might not the suffering weavers left behind clamour at the undue favour shown to you? Again there came the question, are people nurtured as you have been, people accustomed to breathe the close atmosphere of the weaving-shop, fit to face the rough life of Australian settlers?

Nevertheless, we put all these misgivings to silence. We gave you far more than your just share of the common Fund, and yet I am proud to say that, as far as I know, not one word of selfish complaint has been uttered by your less-favoured fellow sufferers who will be stinted for your sakes. We may still feel some little doubt about your fitness for Australian life, yet we reckoned that the last three years, during which you have been driven from your own delicate trade to rough labour of many kinds, will prove no bad discipline for the pleasant and healthy hardships that await you midst the downs and farmsteads of Queensland.

And therefore we send you forth, not without some misgivings, not without many regrets, but still with our warmest wishes, our most earnest prayers for your welfare and success. But sending you forth in this wise, we strongly declare that we have strong claims upon you. You may leave Coventry, but you cannot leave the duties which you owe to Coventry. It is possible that these duties may assume a peculiar form. Should these bad times continue – which God forbid – you will hear of our distress in your Australian homes. If such news as this reaches you, you must remember how you suffered and how you were helped yourselves. You will then, I fully believe, be in the midst of plenty; you must share that plenty with those you left behind.

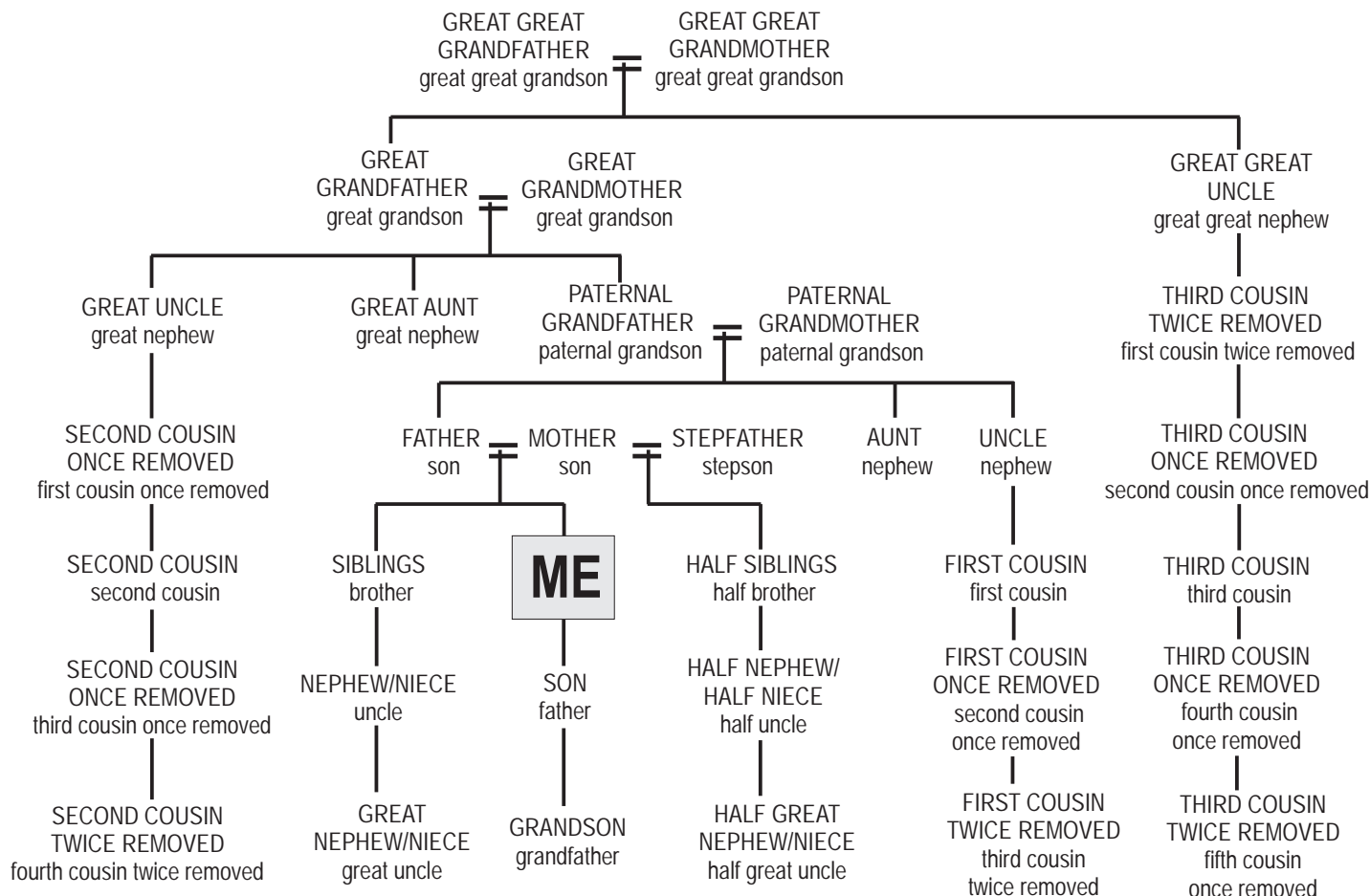
We have, however, other claims upon you. We have made sacrifices for you – we ask for some return. Shall I tell you of one plain claim we have? You are many of you deeply in debt, and your debts out of sheer kindness have been forgiven. When your hands, in your new country, are full of all manner of store, remember that kindness, and pay back to the uttermost farthing all you owe in Coventry.

But things such as these I will leave to your honour, and on our behalf I will make but one more claim. We have in some measure trusted our fame in your hands. On your conduct it will depend whether your native place earns a good or an ill name in the Queen's Land. Be jealous, then, for her ancient reputation. Never forget that you have been citizens of no mean city. Make her name a name of honour, so that years hence your children may raise their heads proudly when they say, "We are sprung from Coventry men."

*Death is only an horizon, and an horizon
is only the limit of our sight.*

- Traditional, sometimes attributed to William Penn.

HOW WE ARE RELATED



MY RELATIONS' RELATIONSHIP TO ME IS IN CAPITALS - that is, they are my XXX.
my relationship to my relations is in lower-case - that is, I am their xxx.

SEPARATED BY WAR

Contributed by
Marg Tattersall



OFFICE OF THE MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Wellington. 1st June, 1916.

This letter was amongst papers kept by my grandmother, who finally married her fiancée, Edward Leonard Elliott, on his return to Australia after the end of World War I.

She was the Barbara Mary Vogele referred to in this letter. When I was about 20, she told me she and Edward were engaged for five years.

The war prolonged their engagement when Edward joined his brother, who was living in New Zealand. Both men were miners. Edward was working at the Globe Mine, Reefton when he made his request to return to Australia in 1916 to marry Barbara Vogele.

They were finally married at Eaglehawk, Victoria, on October 22, 1919. Barbara's father, John Adam Vogele, was the son of Georg Michael Vogele and came with him to Australia in 1858. They came from Germany, seeking gold. John Adam was six at the time.

Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 27th ultimo with reference to the application of Edward Leonard Elliott of Globe Mine, Reefton, for a permit to leave New Zealand for the purpose of getting married.

With reference to this application, I have to inform you that the father of the lady whom Mr. Elliott proposes marry in Australia has been established to be a German. The lady name is Barbara Mary Vogele.

Under these circumstances, I regret that the application of Mr. Elliott has had to be declined, and I see no reason for altering the decision come to in connection with the matter.

Yours faithfully,

Minister of Internal Affairs.

P. C. Webb, Esq., M.P.,

Wellington.

FINDING BIRTH CERTIFICATES

A Masterclass by Peter Calver, founder of LostCousins

It's very frustrating when you can't find an ancestor's birth certificate - but often the 'brick wall' only exists in our imagination. Let's look at some of the key reasons why a certificate can't be found...

The forename you know your ancestor by may not be the one on the birth certificate: sometimes the name(s) given at the time of baptism would differ from the name(s) given to the registrar of births; sometimes a middle name was preferred, perhaps to avoid confusion with another family member, often the father. There can be all sorts of reasons why a different forename is used - one of my ancestors appears on some censuses as 'Ebenezer' and on others as 'John' (which I imagine was the name he was generally known by).

Middle names come and go: at the beginning of the 19th century it was rare to have a middle name, but by the beginning of the 20th century it was unusual not to have one. Some people invented middle names, some people dropped middle names they didn't like, and sometimes people simply forgot what was on the birth certificate. For example, one of my relatives was registered as Fred, but in 1911 his father - my great-grandfather - gave his name as Frederick.

The surname on the certificate may not be the one you expect: if the parents weren't married at the time of the birth then usually (but not always) the birth will be recorded under the mother's maiden name (the exception is where the mother was using the father's surname and failed to disclose to the registrar that they weren't married).

You're looking for the wrong father: often the best clue you have to the identity of your ancestor's father is the information on his or her marriage certificate. Unfortunately marriage certificates are often incorrect - the father's name and/or occupation may be wrong. This is particularly likely if your ancestor never knew his or her father, whether as a result of early death or illegitimacy. Not many people admit to being illegitimate on their wedding day - and in Victorian Britain illegitimacy was frowned upon, so single mothers often made up stories to tell their children (as well as the neighbours). Whether or not the birth was legitimate young children often took the name of the man their mother later married, so always bear in mind the possibility that the father whose name is shown on the marriage certificate is actually a step-father.

You may be looking in the wrong place: a child's birthplace is likely to be shown correctly when he or she is living at home, but could well be incorrect after leaving home. Many people simply didn't know where they were born, and assumed it was the place they remembered growing up. The most accurate birthplace is the one given by the father or (especially) the mother of the person whose birth you're trying to track down; the least accurate is likely to be the one in the first census after they leave home.

You may be looking in the wrong period: ages on censuses are often wrong, as are the ages shown on marriage certificates - especially if there is an age gap between the parties, or one or both is below the age of consent (21). Sometimes people didn't know how old they were, and ages on death certificates can be little more than guesses. Remember too that births could be registered up to 42 days afterwards without penalty, so many will be recorded in the following quarter - and they could be registered up to 365 days afterwards on payment of a fine. In my experience, where the marriage certificate shows 'of full age' it's often an indication that they were under 21!

The birth was not registered at all: this is usually the least likely situation, but it did happen occasionally - most often in the first few years of registration, though it wasn't until 1874 that there was a penalty for failing to register a birth.

The GRO indexes are wrong: this is also quite rare, but did happen occasionally despite the checks that were carried out.

How can you overcome these problems? First and foremost keep an open mind - be prepared to accept that any or all of the

information you already have may be wrong. This is particularly likely if you have been unable to find your relative at home with their parents on any of the censuses.

Obtain all the information that you can from censuses, certificates, and other sources (such as Army records): the less information you can find, the more likely it is that the little you already have is wrong or misleading in some way. For example, if you can't find your ancestor on any censuses prior to his marriage, you can be pretty certain that the information on the marriage certificate and later censuses is wrong in some material way.

Don't assume that just because something appears in an official document, it must be right. Over half of marriage certificates I have seen include at least one error, and as many as half of all census entries are wrong in some respect (I'm not talking about transcription errors, by the way). Army records are particularly unreliable - one of my relatives added 2 years to his age when he joined the British Army in 1880, and knocked 7 years off when he signed up for the Canadian Expeditionary Force in 1914.

Consider how and why the information you have might be wrong by working your way through the list above - then come up with a strategy to deal with each possibility. Sometimes it's as easy as ordering the birth certificate for a sibling to find out the mother's maiden name; often discovering when the parents married is a vital clue.

If you can't find your ancestor on the census with his or her parents then you should be particularly suspicious of the information you have - it's very likely that some element is wrong, and it is quite conceivable that it is ALL wrong.

Middle names that could also be surnames often indicate illegitimacy - it was usually the only way to get the father's name on the birth certificate. Unusual middle names can provide clues - I remember helping one member find an ancestor whose birth was under a completely different surname by taking advantage of the fact that his middle name was Ptolemy!

Make use of local BMD indexes (start at UKBMD), and also look for your ancestor's baptism - sometimes we forget that parents continued to have their children baptised after Civil Registration began. Consider the possibility that one or both of the parents died when your ancestor was young - perhaps there will be evidence in workhouse records. Have you looked for wills?

Could the witnesses to your ancestor's marriage be relatives? When my great-great-great grandfather Joseph Harrison married, one of the witnesses was a Sarah Salter - who I discovered (after many years of fruitless searching) was his mother. Her maiden name wasn't Salter, by the way - nor was it Harrison - but I'll save the story of how that particular mystery came to be solved for another time!

Finally, remember that you're probably not the only one researching this particular ancestor - and one of your cousins may already have the answers you're seeking. So make sure that you have entered ALL your relatives from 1881 on your My Ancestors page, as this is the census that is most likely to link you to your 'lost cousins'.

Note: this is a revised version of an article first published in April 2010; it covers such important issues that I think it's worth repeating, especially since there are nearly 10,000 new members who have joined since then.

From Lost Cousins newsletter

Peter Calver, Founder, LostCousins. © 2012 Peter Calver.

Internet Sites and Snippets

PHILLIMORE'S PARISH REGISTERS

Phillimore's Parish Registers [Marriages] are available online at: <<http://www.uk-genealogy.org.uk/cgi-bin/search.cgi?action=loadDB&DB=8>>

RESEARCHING SOLDIERS

Philip Maddocks wrote: For more specialist information perhaps contact a researcher such as Kevin Asplin (other researchers are available) go to

<<http://www.britishmedals.us/kevin/intro.html>>

I can vouch for Kevin as he did some excellent work for me in the past but you have to make your own choice. Kevin has come up trumps for me as well, solving a mystery surrounding a Guardsman.

Also, for information about Waterloo soldiers - David Milner has compiled a register of British soldiers who served at the Battle of Waterloo. He is happy to answer any questions and can be contacted at: <battle.veterans@gmail.com>

- Charani and Pat Hase on ENG-SOMERSET Rootsweb list

SOMERSET WILLS

This is a link that might be useful re wills in Somerset:

<<http://dea.byu.edu/index.php?page=somerset>>

SOMERSET PARISH REGISTERS

For those of you who do not know, Ian Sage has a site which lists all the parishes in Somerset and where you can find a transcript for that parish. Many of the parishes have been transcribed by people here in Somerset or around the world, who have an interest in Somerset families. It is one of the best organised comprehensive sites I have seen for the whereabouts of transcribed parish registers. See:

<http://myweb.tiscali.co.uk/ian.sage/PR/pr_index.html>

These are the parishes with transcriptions available online only. Not all transcriptions are online.

- From the Somerset Rootsweb List

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE STRAYS

More marriage strays have been added to the online data base and it now has almost 10,000 Northants residents, who married in other counties available to view at: <<http://www.familyhistorynorthants.co.uk/northants%20strays.htm>>

Traditional Poem

For those who think this has nothing to do with genealogy, wrong! It is a reflection of how the ordinary person moved house from such as Aboyne to the big city of Aberdeen.

Aboyne was a haven for Glasgow evacuees during WWII. I had an aunt who was a "caregiver" for the wee souls separated from their families.

GRANNY FRASER'S FLITTIN'

It was on a Monday mornin', fu' weel I mind the scene
When Granny Fraser flitted frae Aboyne tae Aberdeen.
The village folk they a' turned oot tae see her on the road
The horse it couldnae pu' the cairt, ye should have seen the load.

There was airmchairs, bath-chairs, rockin' chairs as weel
Cradles, ladles, a pun' o' fish for meal.
There was woollen shawls, mothballs, jeely pans and jaur's
An' Grandpa near fell aff the top wi' Granny's chest o' drawers.

There was wee pots, teapots, a pair o' wally dug's,
Big pots, floor pots, Granny's cheeny jugs.
There was stew-pots, what-nots, ye ken the kind I mean
At Granny Fraser's flittin' frae Aboyne tae Aberdeen.

Noo John MacNab the policeman, he cried for volunteers,
It was the first time he had ta'en his jaiket aff in years.
Tae get the dunkey movin' every man did play his pairt
They jist got hauf-way up the street when a wheel fell aff the cairt.

An' there was face-towels, auld bowls litterin' the street,
Claes props, alarm clocks a' roon' aboot yer feet.
There was golf clubs, washtubs litterin' the lane
An' Grandpa's Ne'erday bottle it was runnin' doon the drain.
There was fur coats, porridge oats mixed up wi' the glaur,
A big spear, souvenir frae the Zulu war.
There was antique tight breeks o' Eighteen-seventeen
At Granny Fraser's flittin' frae Aboyne tae Aberdeen.

Noo Geordie Broon the blacksmith, he weighed near twenty stone,
He lifted up the cairt hissel' an' put the wheel back on.
He got the load securely tied amid the scoffs an' jeers
An' as the lorry left the street he got three rousin' cheers.

An' there was old spats, tile hats, some things I couldnae say
Tin trays, auld claes she wouldna throw away.
There was floor mats, corn grub mixed up wi' the rest
An' bottles of some nippy stuff my granny liked the best.
There was lawn-mowers, plus-fours tied on wi' a rope,
An' a big flag some wag tied tae the top.
On the tail-board, encored, lookin' like the Queen
Was Granny Fraser flittin' on the road tae Aberdeen.

(As sung by Iain MacKintosh)

flittin' - moving house; *wally dug's* - porcelain dogs;
cheeny - china, porcelain; *claes prop* - clothes stand;
Ne'erday - New Year's Day; *nippy* - fresh, revivifying

- From Maisie Egger on Lanarkshire Rootsweb List.

NICK'S CLOTHING

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MONOGENESIS VERSUS POLYGENESIS

Contributed by Ken Swadling

The information below is taken from Davis, Graeme, *Your Family Tree Online*, Howto Books Ltd, Oxford, 2009. The subtitle of this slim volume (163 pages) is "How to trace your ancestry from your own computer". If you are tracing British ancestors, you only need to read as far as page 4 to find a quick, easy and interesting activity:

Go to <http://www.nationaltrustrnames.org.uk> and type in the surname you are interested in. Select the year 1881.

See a map of the distribution of this surname in England, Wales and Scotland at the time of the 1881 census. (Unfortunately, Ireland is not yet included).

If there is one centre on the map for the surname, it is an example of monogenesis (it will be the place of origin of that name, and there will be a single founder of the surname). Everyone with that surname is probably related.

If there are only two or three centres, it probably indicates that there was an early branching of the family. The map at right below shows a wider distribution for the surname Everson.

If the surname is widely spread, it probably indicates polygenesis, where the name has originated independently in many different places. Not everyone with that surname will be related. It helps if you have an uncommon or unusual name. For example, names such as Davis, Smith, Jones, Martin, Taylor etc would have had many different origins.

Copies of *Your Family Tree Online* are held in the West Gippsland Regional Library Corporation, call number 929.1 DAV.



BURIED TWICE IN THE SAME GRAVEYARD?

Contributed by Margaret Pegler

On a recent trip to Kangaroo Island we stopped to look at the little roadside cemetery on the way to the Cape Borda lighthouse. A plaque told us that it was the Harvey's Return Cemetery, the resting place of sixteen persons who had lived at the lighthouse complex.

It was well-kept, with a neat fence and several memorials. Most were white-painted wooden crosses and some were substantial headstones. We wondered why it was such a long way from the lighthouse area, and why one man appeared to have been buried twice! A white cross bore the inscription "In Memory of G. Woodward, Died Sept 13 1858" and a taller white cross said "In Memory of G. W. Woodward, Died 13th Sept 1858".

The guide and museum at the lighthouse provided the answers. Captain Woodward had been the first head light keeper. A month after the lighthouse began working he

tripped while out hunting wallabies, and a piece of wood pierced his eye. His fellow keepers were unable to attract the attention of any passing ships and his wound failed to heal. He died a month later and the men made a coffin from boards on the site.

The ground around the lighthouse was too rocky for them to dig a deep enough grave and his body was taken about a mile from the area and buried. This area was still very rocky and the grave was quite shallow, with rocks piled on it to increase the depth. After a severe storm some time later, much of the ground was washed away, and part of his coffin was exposed. The authorities removed his remains for re-burial in the little cemetery, where the earth was easier to dig and some people were already interred. The original cross was also moved and hence the two memorials.

I looked up Captain Woodward's death on the SA Death Index to try to find a bit more detail, but failed to find it. Another that I searched for was also not found, so it looks as though some of these remote early deaths slipped the net of the recording authorities.

Captain Woodward made several voyages to South Australia bringing migrants to the Colony. He was the Captain of the "John Bartlett", which arrived in Port Adelaide on 15 November 1849, and the passenger list includes Mrs Woodward and son as cabin passengers.

An entry in the "South Australian Register" of 14 October 1889 is for the death of Sarah, relict of Captain G. W. Woodward, at her son's home in Adelaide, in her 85th year. The same newspaper on 6 June 1912 records the death of George Woodward, only son of the late Captain G. W. Woodward.



GIPPSLAND'S OLDEST WOMAN

Contributed by Dorothy Giles

Beatrice Susan Yapp, born at Omeo in 1895, was 106 when she died at the Omeo Hospital in December 2001. She was the daughter of Elizabeth Sims and Richard Thomas Yapp. Elizabeth was born at Bothwell, Tasmania in 1859, and died at Omeo in 1926. Richard was born at Leominster, Herefordshire, England in approximately 1845 and died at Omeo in 1933.

Elizabeth and Richard had 11 children, of whom Beatrice was the ninth. Only six of their offspring married.



From notes submitted by a relative:

Richard Yapp was manager of Cassilis Station (near Omeo) and he and Sims were two of the first three to take out a selection. Later they acquired Brookville land, then sold that to buy more at Bindi. They also bought 150 acres at Tongio and Junction Creek, then came to Bindi to work for a squatter. When Bindi Run was opened for selection they selected 100 acres at Tongio in 1875.

The Yapp family stayed on at Bindi and when Richard and Elizabeth died the children formed a company to run the farm. Beatrice was the last family member to remain, farming there until she was 90 (or 95). She then spent her last years in the Omeo Hospital.

Beatrice Yapp's connection to William Francis Giles, whose mother was Johanna Bridget Giles (nee Nolan):

- Beatrice's mother was Elizabeth Yapp (nee Sims)
- Johanna's mother was Alice Nolan (nee Sims). Elizabeth and Alice were sisters.
- Beatrice and Johanna were first cousins
- Bill Giles was Beatrice's second cousin
- Bill Giles was a former proprietor of the Great Southern Star at Leongatha.

Although Beatrice Yapp was the topic of fascinating stories and anecdotes about "the old days" related by Bill Giles and his mother Johanna, it was long after Bill died in 1985 that members of his family actually met this remarkable woman in about September 1998.

By then she was 103, believed to be the oldest woman in Gippsland and a patient in the Omeo Hospital, where she had lived for the last eight years. She was very alert, and related stories of her life on the property and tales of her extended family.

Beatrice's father, Richard Yapp built the original slab hut on the property at Bindi which he named Leominster after his birthplace in Herefordshire. Adjoining the property was Armit's historic Bindi Station.

Over the years, the house was added to, including a spacious kitchen believed to have once been a local church moved onto the farm.

By the time Dorothy Giles (wife of Bill Giles) visited the property in 2007 with permission of Bill and Lou Armit of Swifts Creek, the place was showing signs of age and neglect. By then it had been purchased by the Armits who used it for shearers' accommodation.

Bill and his mother Johanna spoke of the long weekend and some Christmas holidays spent at Bindi with Beatrice, her sister Elizabeth, and brothers Arthur and Bert, who seemed to be the only ones left. Home style hospitality, big roast meals, plenty of conversation and laughs always made for great hospitality especially enjoyed by the city visitors.

Born on the property, Beatrice spent more than 90 years there. Excursions to Bairnsdale in the early days meant taking the horses, staying overnight at Ensay with fresh horses needed for the jinker of buggy to continue the next day.

When her brothers and sister died in 1975, Beatrice continued running the property with the help of long-time family friend, Bert Lee.

A devout Catholic, Beatrice attended the Omeo church for Sunday Mass. She was amused that Mass was shifted to the Omeo Hospital on the occasion of her 105th birthday. Beatrice quipped, "I think I am the first woman to close the Omeo church on a Sunday!" She also mentioned that she was confirmed by the first Catholic Bishop of the Sale Diocese, Bishop Corbett.

In her younger days, she was a keen sportswoman, and was particularly good at golf, as the family had the Tall Timbers Golf Club on their property.

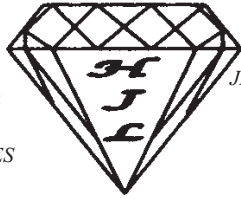
She said her father, Richard, earned money handling meat. His father had been a butcher. She said he had 30 shillings in his pocket when he arrived in Melbourne, and walked from Melbourne to Bairnsdale. Beatrice said that not one of her siblings went out to work - they all worked on the family farm.



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