SOUTH GIPPSLAND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY Inc.

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2012 Volume 3 No. 03

President's Annual Report

It is my pleasure to report on another year of progress and a year of interest for all members. We have been very happy to welcome several new members and appreciate very much their involvement and contribution to our society

I would particularly like to thank everyone for their support as my term of president draws to a close. It is a pleasure to be involved in a group where everyone happily works together, shares together and enjoys the fellowship. Thank you.

The members of the committee are a reliable and enthusiastic group. I am indebted to each of you. Thank you to Margaret Pegler for arranging the varied and interesting program and for standing in for me when needed. Thank you to Anne Larkins who deals with our correspondence and the newsletters and journals and to Zoe, our efficient minute secretary who also maintains contacts with members through email. Thank you to George Jenkins, our indispensible technology man who also handles our finances and the distribution of our newsletters. Our resources and data bases are constantly being added to by our enthusiastic librarian, Alison Marshall. Also appreciated is the role of Ken Swadling and Geoff Robb as part of the team.

The society was sorry to farewell Lorraine Standfield who for many years produced the newsletter greatly valued by all. We thank David Tattersall, Ken Swadling and Rosemary Abbey who have taken on this task. Elke Holm and Fay Marshman continue with the regular indexing of names from the local newspapers and Alison Marshall and Marion Moon handle the research enquiries. Kath Laing has continued to obtain sponsors for our newsletter. Our rooms are open for research on Thursdays and Fridays, thanks to our volunteers and to Lola Bailey who is there as a back-up.

Our achievements this year included the continuing expansion of research material and data bases. Alison continues to add the rate records and cemetery records and there are 83 schools in our data bases. We are indebted to Jodie Duckworth who has updated the Leongatha Cemetery records for the Cemetery Trust and photographed the headstones. We thank her for making these available to us. We are in the process of purchasing a 46" television to enhance our teaching programs and guest speaker presentations. The donations barometer for this was set up by George who would be pleased to receive further donations. George also put in a successful application for a Shire Discretionary Fund donation to assist with the cost of the TV. A "How to start your family history" program was presented by Alison one Saturday afternoon, but we were disappointed when only four new people attended. To assist members Alison, Margaret and/or Rosemary have made presentations on Ancestry, FamilySearch and making better use of our own resources.

Under Margaret Pegler, our monthly program has been varied and interesting, with a mix of teaching programs, local speakers, indexing workshops and social events. Our annual seminar with experienced speakers was once again a highlight of our year. Twenty-seven attended this day and we will need to work at building the numbers up again. We thank Anne Larkin, who with the assistance of members ably did the catering for the day. The "sharing segment" of our meetings is also of value as members share the excitement of the find or of new resources others may find helpful.

Our financial membership stands at 42 as some members come and go, but it is pleasing to note an increase in the regular attendance of members each month, including the newer members.

Together we have continued to build up our membership and resources of our Society.

Joan Lehmann (President)
August 2012

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SOUTH GIPPSLAND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY Inc.

PO Box 395
LEONGATHA
VIC 3953

ABN 22573024137. A0022359S.

Web: http://home.vicnet.net.au/~sggs/index.html

MEMBERSHIP

The **YEARLY MEMBERSHIP FEE** (due at the Annual General Meeting in August) is:
SINGLE - $30. COUPLE - $40. 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.

SGGS PROGRAM FOR 2012

Thurs. September 13, 7.30pm:

Three members speak about their families:
Geoff Robb, Marion Moon and Dorothy Giles

Thurs. October 11, 7.30pm:

Class on computer programs: Wills, War Records, World Connect, Victoria. etc.

Thurs. November 8, 7.30pm:

Speaker: To be advised.

Wednesday, December 12:

Christmas Dinner at Bair's Hotel. 6.30pm.
Speaker to be advised.

OFFICE BEARERS

President	Rosemary Abbey	(03) 5662 3059
Vice-president	Joan Lehmann	(03) 5674 3400
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	
Co-opted members	Helen Ebury and Geoff Robb	
Hospitality	vacant	
Newsletter	Rosemary Abbey	(03) 5662 3059
	Ken Swadling	(03) 5659 8239
	David Tattersall	(03) 5662 2387

EDITOR'S NOTES

Many thanks to members who have contributed articles to this edition of our newsletter. Please keep them coming - 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 - **roseabbmaillist@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.

Man is a history-making creature who can neither repeat his past nor leave it behind.

- W. H. Auden, 1963.

The South Gippsland Genealogical Society Inc. does not accept any responsibility for the opinions expressed, or the accuracy of the information contained in this newsletter. The editor reserves the right to publish abridged articles/letters etc. due to limited space.

Recent Library Acquisitions

- Local Newspapers 1750-1920 for England & Wales, Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.
- Pre-1841 Censuses and Population Listings.
- Understanding the History & Records of Nonconformity.
- How To Find My German Ancestors and Relatives.
- Wendish/Sorbian Information Sheets & Maps.
- Interviewing Elderly Relatives.

(All of the above kindly donated by Lorraine Standfield).

- Rates - Woorayl 1930 and Jeetho & Poowong (Korumburra) 1891.

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.

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS

Could everyone please note that Email Research Enquiries and other mail should now be directed to

sggs3953@gmail.com

The old email account will remain active for a time, until people have had time to adjust.
Thank you.
Alison Marshall, Librarian.

SCOTTISH CATHOLIC ARCHIVES CLOSED

The Scottish Catholic Archives (SCA) at Columba House in Edinburgh has been closed without warning amidst claims of "mismanagement and indifference".

Whatever the causes, the primary problem was that there was no one left to take care of the place. The archives were unmanned. The Scottish Catholic Archives contain more than a million documents dating back 800 years, including letters from Mary Queen of Scots and papers relating to Oscar Wilde.

Details may be found at: http://bit.ly/QdJNlR

-Previously published in QFHS Newsletter, Aug. 2012.

CAN YOU HELP?

Can you help throw some light on an organisation known as the Knights of Gershom? It is believed to have been a type of lodge along the similar lines to the Freemasons and the Loyal Orange Order, and it was in existence in Australia until at least the 1920s.

It may have had some religious connotations (Gershom is believed to have been the son-in-law of Moses). I don't want to delve into their traditions or customs - I'm just interested in general information. If you can help, please contact Ken Swadling on 0409 776 894.

THE MOST COMMON SURNAMES IN SCOTLAND

The percentages are reckoned as a proportion of all surnames in Scotland.

1. Smith (1.2%) (occupational name)
2. Brown (0.94%) (nickname)
3. Wilson (0.89%) (patronym)
4. Robertson (0.78%) (patronym)
5. Thomson (0.78%) (patronym)
6. Campbell (0.77%) (nickname)
7. Stewart (0.73%) (occupational name)
8. Anderson (0.70%) (patronym)
9. Scott (0.55%) (ethnic name)
10. Murray (0.53%) (territorial name)
11. MacDonald (0.52%) (patronym)
12. Reid (0.52%) (nickname)
13. Taylor (0.49%) (occupational name)
14. Clark (0.47%) (occupational name)
15. Ross (0.43%) (territorial name)
16. Young (0.42%) (nickname)
17. Mitchell (0.41%) (patronym/nickname)
18. Watson (0.41%) (patronym)
19. Paterson (0.40%) (patronym)
20. Morrison (0.40%) (patronym)

Source: Moffat, A., & Wilson, J.F., The Scots: A Genetic Journey, Birlinn, Edinburgh, 2011.

Available from the West Gippsland Regional Library, call no. 941.1 MOFF.

WILL AND TESTAMENT

Have you ever wondered why a Last Will and Testament is almost always referred to simply as a Will, but the person who made it is called a Testator (Testatrix if female) and dies testate (intestate if no Will has been made or found)?

Until the Statute of Wills of 1540 the two were usually separate documents – a Will related to land (realty) and a Testament to movable or personal property (personalty); there were many more of the latter than the former as few people had any rights over the land they lived on so could not pass control to their descendants.

After 1540, when the statutes made it lawful to bequeath land, it became common practice to combine the two as the Last Will and Testament. The document became known colloquially as the Will, but testator and (in)testate – derived from the Latin for witness – survived.

Source: Litton, P.M., Pitfalls and Possibilities in Family History Research, Swansong Publications, Harrogate, 2010.

THE BRITISH NEWSPAPER ARCHIVE TO BE DIGITISED

The British Library, in partnership with brightsolid, the company behind family history websites such as findmypast.co.uk, launched the first 4 million pages of the library's digitised newspaper collection late last year.

This is the first phase of a 10-year project, in which new pages will be scanned and added to the website each year until the target of 40 million pages is reached. The collection is aimed at family historians, with at least one paper title covering each county in the UK, plus one or two national 19th century newspapers.

Using keywords, you can search the website by historical event, name, date or county. Family notices are the best place to start a search. By the middle of the 19th century, birth, death and marriage notices contain more information on ordinary people. 20th century notices usually include the mother's maiden name, and emigrants often placed notices in the newspapers of their old home towns. Finding notices in newspapers can help searches for births, baptisms, deaths and marriages in parish records and can lead to records of court cases, coronial inquests, etc.

Searching the archive is free, but to view an image you have to purchase time-limited pay-per-view credits or take out a subscription. There are four different subscription packages, ranging from £6.95 GBP (approximately $10.50) for a 2-day package of 500 credits, to £79.95 GBP (approximately $120) for a 12-month subscription with unlimited credits.

The website is: www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk

MORE IRISH RECORDS ONLINE THIS YEAR

The Irish family history website, findmypast has launched the Petty Sessions Order Books (1850-1910) online for the first time, one of the greatest untapped resources for those tracing their Irish roots.

The original Petty Sessions records are held at the National Archives of Ireland and were scanned by Family Search and have now been transcribed and made fully searchable by findmypast.

They cover all types of cases, from allowing trespass of cattle to being drunk in charge of an ass and cart. These were the lowest courts in the country which dealt with the vast bulk of legal cases, both civil and criminal.

This first batch of entries contains details of 1.2 million cases, with most records giving comprehensive details of the case including: name of complainant, name of defendant, names of witnesses, cause of complaint, details of the judgement, details of a fine if any, and details of a sentence passed down if any.

Another 15 million cases are to follow throughout 2012. This first batch of records is particularly useful for areas of the country for which family history records are notoriously sparse such as Connaught and Donegal.

- Taken from the AIGS newsletter April 2012.

And we think we have a hard life!

Contributed by David Tattersall

Ann Watson, photographed in 1915, when she was 85.

One of my ancestors on the maternal side, Ann Watson (born in Norfolk in 1830) gave birth to 16 children as follows (the children with names in italics died in infancy):

William Frederick 1848, Alice Ann 1851, *Frederick John 1852, Frederick John 1853,* John Elijah 1854, *Rose Emily 1855, Sarah Jane 1856, Sarah Jane 1857, Frederick James 1859, Rose Emily 1860, Rosina Emily 1861,* Sarah Rose 1862, *Frederick Charles 1863, Rosina Emily 1864,* Rosina Grace 1866, and *Charles Edward 1869.*

It is interesting to note that of the 16 children, eight were born in either November or December, and six of these died shortly after, perhaps indicating the damp and cold of winter contributed to bronchial infections causing death. The other five to die young were born in September, February and March - all cold and potentially wet months.

Ann was widowed at 49, didn't re-marry, and lived to 89, outliving her husband by 40 years. She is reputed to have run a hotel in Yarmouth in her later years.

They bred 'em tough in those days!

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF AUSTRALIA READING ROOM

The Victorian Archives Centre is located at 99 Shiel Street, North Melbourne, and the reading room is operated jointly by the National Archives and the Public Record Office Victoria (PROV).

Material from both archives may be viewed in the Shiel Street reading room. Different access arrangements and charging regimes apply to PROV material. Information explaining the differences is available in the reading room or can be sent prior to a visit.

Opening times for the reading room are 10am to 4.30pm weekdays and at the same times for the following Saturdays in 2012:

30 June; 14 and 28 July; 11 and 25 August; 8 and 29 September; 13 and 27 October; 10 and 24 November; and 8 December.

Contact details: Postal address: PO Box 8005, Burwood Heights 3151.

Tel: (03)9348 5600; Fax (03) 9348 5628; Web site: http://www.naa.gov.au

You can submit an advance request to view records. Allow up to 48 hours for their retrieval.

It would also be useful to refer to the NAA publication: *Finding Families: The Guide to the National Archives of Australia for Genealogists* (344 pages), which can be bought from the NAA's on-line shop or downloaded free of charge.

Genealogy Is…

• finding that my family went through some terrible times, but also knowing that they survived.
• listening to old stories told by our elders and passing those precious stories down.
• finding cousins I had not seen or heard from in fifty years.
• the realisation of how important family is.
• the sharing of information with others who, like me, love the research.
• not only sharing the excitement of finding a new ancestor, but also sharing the frustrations of not being able to find what you are looking for.
• people who volunteer their time and energies for the various historical societies.
• people who give of their time to transcribe old documents and microfilm, and who share that knowledge, whether it is through books sold by historical societies or on web pages.
• people who share old photographs, old letters and their old family stories, not expecting anything back other than a thank you and the knowledge that they have helped another in their family quest.
• people who go above and beyond what is asked of them because they love genealogy. They love the fun of it, the frustrations of it and the excitement of it.
• the knowledge that you are passing down something of worth; that you are leaving behind a little something of yourself. It is the knowledge that through all of your research you may have made a difference, however small it may be.

(Author unknown). Source: Queensland Family History Society on-line newsletter, June 2012, Vol 12, No.6.

PARISH REGISTERS

The commencement dates and survival rates of parish registers varies widely within the British Isles. In England. hundreds of registers survive from various dates in the 16th century; in Wales only four registers pre-date 1550, with another 65 beginning between 1550 and 1600; in Scotland (where the keeping of registers for baptisms and marriages began in 1551) less than 20 registers pre-date 1600; in Ireland there are no pre-1600 registers (the first requirement to keep them was in 1634); the first parish register in the Isle of Man dates from 1598; a few parish registers in the Channel Islands begin in the 16th century but more than half date from the 17th century.

Never assume, if your research moves from one country to another, that a similar situation will exist as far as parish registers are concerned. Those in Ireland and Scotland generally begin later, survive less often, and contain less information, than those in England and Wales.

Source: Litton, P.M., Pitfalls and Possibilities in Family History Research, Swansong Publications, Harrogate, 2010.

I can trace my ancestry back to a
protoplasmal primordial atomic globule.
Consequently my family
pride is something inconceivable.
I can't help it. I was born sneering.
- Pooh Bah in "The Mikado" 1885, by W. S. Gilbert.

Find & Connect:

Australian orphanage and child migrant records

Find & Connect is a project that only began late last year which is designed to connect forgotten Australians, former child migrants, orphans and those in Children's Homes to their families as well as information and records, and to see where their story fits into the broader historical context.

Covering all states of Australia, this project aims to compile information on each 'Home' whether it was Government run, privately run, or run by a religious organisation such as Catholic, Anglican, Salvation Army etc. Places include Reformatories, Training Centres, Rescue Agencies, Orphanages, Children's Home, Industrial Schools and more.

This is a BIG project as information is being compiled on who hold the records of the children who stayed there, the people who worked there, as well as details on the home itself. Compiling this information is going to take time but there are dedicated researchers on the team and there is already a lot of information on the website. When completed it will be a valuable record of historical information.

The Find & Connect website at (http://www.findandconnect.gov.au/) is easy to use. Firstly you choose which state you'd like to search, then you are presented with a few options:
- you can search by name of organisation or suburb
- look for an organisation alphabetically or by date
- look for a public figure alphabetically
- or browse a category

http://www.findandconnect.gov.au/sa/biogs/SE00032b.htm

An example can be seen at the site for the Sacred Heart Orphanage (1940-1979) in South Australia. (http://www.findandconnect.gov.au/sa/biogs/SE00032b.htm)

It gives a summary of the orphanage, where it was, the dates it ran from and to, who the records are managed by, who it is run by, links to relates series and online resources, and a gallery of photos (though there aren't always photos).

When you are looking for information relating to Australian children's "out-of-home" care, or have information on any places or people that were involved with these "Homes" the website to look at will be Find & Connect.

- Information from the Gould Genealogy newsletter July 2012.

KELVIN JOHNS
25 McCartin Street, Leongatha
Supporting the Local Community
Phone: 5662 2136. Fax: 5662 5056

MAPS OF THE BRITISH ISLES

The examination of the built environment where our ancestors once lived can help to contextualise our ancestors' stories. Changes in landscape can be plotted across time, allowing us to note the development in lines of communication such as roads, canals and railways, as well as the effects of land enclosure and the development of social housing.

Britain was organised into a series of historic counties up to 1974 and a map showing their locations is at www.abcounties.co.uk/counties/map.htm. The most detailed 19th and 20th century maps are those produced by the Ordnance Survey.

The present collection can be viewed at the Get-a-Map service at www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/oswebsite/getamap, whilst historic examples are available from several sources.

Old Maps (www.old-maps.co.uk) is a joint venture between the Ordnance Survey and Landmark, and carries the earliest County Series maps at 1:10560 scale.

A Vision of Britain Through Time (www.visionofbritain.org.uk/maps) carries the first series of the OS for England and Wales from 1805-1869, maps from the Revised Series from 1902-5, and several Britain-wide collections. In addition are various other maps series at different scales as recent as 1948, including county boundary maps, sanitary district maps showing civil parishes, and more. Two further sites with useful maps for Britain are Cassini Maps (www.cassinimaps.co.uk) and Alan Godfrey Maps (www.alangodfreymaps.co.uk).

Pre-dating the OS series are a set of English county maps from 1787 by John Cary, available at http://homepage.ntlworld.com/tomals/index11.html

Mapseeker (www.mapseeker.co.uk) also carries older colour maps for some of the larger towns, cities and counties across the country, with the site also listing the sites from whence they were obtained, and a search tool for towns and villages.

GENMAPS has an extensive collection of old maps for Britain which is free to consul at (http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~genmaps/index.html), while Baedeker's Old Guide Books (http://contueor.com/baedeker/index.htm) hosts many town plans on its site from 1910 for the whole island.

The National Library of Scotland's dedicated map site at www.nls.uk/maps/index.html has over 20,000 digitised maps, including town plans from 1580 onwards, Timothy Pont's maps from the late 16th century and OS returns from the mid 19th to early 20th centuries.

For a set of OS town plans from 1847-95, visit http://sites.scran.ac.uk/townplans/townplans.html.

Tom's Big Chest of Old Welsh Maps (http://homepage.ntlworld.com/tomals/Welsh-Maps-of-Samuel-Lewis,1833.htm) contains Samuel Lewis's maps for the country from 1833, while John Ball's Welsh Family History Archive provides additional maps and gazetteer resources at www.jlb2005.plus.com/wales/index.htm, including a glossary on how to interpret Welsh place names, and a Sounds of Wales site, where you can hear the pronunciation of over 220 Welsh place names.

The Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland at https://maps.osni.gov.uk carries both historic and current maps for the country, though registration is required for the site, and the Modern Ordnance Survey for the South is available at www.osi.ie.

Historic Irish town-land maps are online at www.pasthomes.com, with additional historic maps for Ulster at www.ulsterancestry.com/free-ultster-maps.html. Several additional Irish maps are available at www.failteromhat.com including a map of the Irish Free State and a road map of the island from 1877.

For Irish poor law union maps visit www.movinghere.org.uk/deliveryfiles/PRO/MFQ1_925/0/1.pdf.

Source: Paton, C., Tracing Your Family History on the Internet, Pen & Sword, South Yorkshire, 2011.

5th ANNUAL

LITERARY FESTIVAL

Coal Creek, Korumburra

Saturday, Oct 13, 2012

GUEST WRITERS INCLUDE:

Honey Brown: Author.
Richard Shears: Author, journalist, photographer.
Sergiu Pobereznic: Ex-principal dancer, writer, artist, composer, choreographer.
Shirley Barber: Author and illustrator.

Full details on www.coalcreekvillage.com.au

UNDERSTANDING NUMBERS IN 17TH CENTURY AND OLDER DOCUMENTS

In the 17th century and earlier, numbers tended to be written in Roman numerals for the years and items of money. Dates can present some problems at first; for example, "jaj" is the sign for a thousand; it is a corruption of "im", which was originally written as four vertical strokes; the first and last were elongated while the middle ones degenerated into "a". Four is often written as "iiii" instead of "iv" and the last "i" of a sequence is usually written as "j". Hence viij = 8.

Amounts of currency are shown in the following examples:

li or lib (which can look like "liv") = £
s = shilling (20s = £1)
d = penny (12d = 1s; which was written as 1/-)
ob = halfpenny (not often found)
summa = total or sum
xix li iiis iiijd = £19 3s 4d.

Source: Cory, K.B., Tracing Your Scottish Ancestry,3rd ed., Polygon, Edinburgh, 2004.

Reading Old Documents

In Parish Registers, you will often find the long "s" looking like an "f", but without the little horizontal line; the letter "t" was not always crossed; a capital "F" was often written as "ff"; "z" and "y" were interchangeable. The word "possesses" looks like "poffeffef"; the name "Russell" looks like "Ruffell" and "Finlay" is written as "ffinlay".

Source: Cory, K.B., Tracing Your Scottish Ancestry, Polygon, Edinburgh, 2004.

Ye Olde Confusion

Another point to bear in mind when reading documents created a long time ago is that the word "ye" does not always mean "the". There are two forms of the word - the pronoun and the adjective.

1. Ye - pronoun. Old English. Equivalent to the modern "you", as in "Oh ye of little faith" = "Oh you of little faith".

2. Ye - adjective. Late Middle English. A word that was created as a result of scribes in the 14th and early 15th centuries using the Anglo Saxon character þ called a thorn (which stood for the sound made by "th"), for the letter "y" as a convenient abbreviation when writing "the".

Later, when printing was first introduced to England by Caxton in 1476, the early compositors used the same abbreviation, printing "ye" when the adjective "the" was required. Of course, readers of these documents at the time they were created were well aware of this convenient abbreviation, and pronounced the word "ye" as "the" where the adjectival form was required.

Sources: Shorter Oxford English Dictionary, 2007; Authors'& Printers'Dictionary, 1953.

AIGS

Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies

Alexander Henderson Award

For the best Australian family history

and the

Don Grant Award

for the best Australian historical biography with a family history focus.

Application forms for each of these awards are available from the AIGS website www.aigs.org.au

or by contacting the AIGS office, Unit 1, 41 Railway Road, Blackburn, Vic. 3130, Phone 9877 3789.

Entries close November 30.
Winners and placegetters announced in May.

Scottish Christian Names and Forenames

In the north of Scotland, some names which are generally thought of as male are used for girls, so if you are searching through the index for a female whose name is Nicholas or Bruce or John, and you do not find it there, it is always worthwhile checking the male index. For instance, a Lord Provost of Edinburgh, Charles Lawson, married a lady called Graham Stoddart.

There are also some names which are generally thought of as feminine, but are used for boys, such as Ann or Primrose (the latter being a surname used as a Christian name). If you do not find the name in the male index, it may have been included wrongly in the female index. This also applies in cases where the subject bears a surname as a Christian name, and where consequently the sex is not obvious.

Source: Cory, K.B., Tracing Your Scottish Ancestry, 3rd Ed., Polygon, Edinburgh, 2004. Available from the local library system, call no. 929 107 204 11 COR

SCOTTISH SURNAMES - PATRONYMICS

A patronymic is a surname formed by using the father's Christian name, and this you will find mainly when using Shetland records. For example, a John Donaldson's son would have Johnson as his surname, and if his Christian name were Peter, then in turn his son would have Peterson as his surname. Manson is an example of a surname derived from a Christian name, being a contraction of Magnusson, son of Magnus. Just to make it more interesting, Donald and Daniel are interchangeable, so John Donaldson may have been born the son of Daniel.

Source: Cory, K.B., Tracing Your Scottish Ancestry, 3rd Ed., Polygon, Edinburgh, 2004. Available from the local library system, call no. 929 107 204 11 COR

VALUE OF HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS' VOLUNTEER LABOUR

The Federation of Australian Historical Societies considers that the value of Historical Society members' volunteer labour is $45 per hour. On that basis, they calculate that volunteer labour from the history and heritage movement across Australia is 100,000 members donating an average of one hour each or twelve per year, amounting to $54 million.

Source: Queensland Family Historian, Vol 33, No.2

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11 convenient locations throughout South Gippsland

TROVE GOES MULTILINGUAL

The first non-English language newspapers have just been added to Trove, the State Library's free online search service.

Through the Australian Newspapers Digitisation Program, selected German, Italian and Estonian community newspapers have now been digitised.

They include German newspapers The Adelaider DeutscheZeitung (1851 and 1860-1862), Suedaustralische Zeitung/Sud-Australische Zeitung (1850-1851) and Sud-AustralischeZeitung (1860-1874), an Italian newspaper, Il Giornale Italiano (1932-1940) and an Estonian newspaper Meie Kodu (1949-1954).

Through the Library's newspaper digitisation project, 7 million pages, from a total of 270 newspapers, are now available online through Trove.

SATURDAY, 14TH JUNE 1919
FURNITURE SALE
LEONGATHA

E. A. COLE has been instructed by Mr Geo. Ford, Brown Street, Leongatha, to sell by auction on above date, his Household Furniture, Governess Cart, Pony and Harness, &c., as under -

Piano, Linos, Cane Chairs, Small Tables, Tiles and Railing, Whatnot Oak Bookcase, Dining Extension Table (8ft), Oak Cabinet, Sewing Machine, Sideboard, Couch, Chairs, Hall, Mirror, Rocker, 2 Wardrobes, Chest Drawers, Washstands, Double and Single Beds, Stretchers, Kitchen Table, Cupboards, Crockery, Pots, Pans, Tubs, Wringer, Hose, Flat Irons, Wheelbarrow, Saddle, Bridle, Garden Tools, Fowls and numerous Sundries.

E.A. COLE, Representative

(Source: Great Southern Star 6 June 1919)

SGGS MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Family Name being researched	Time period covered	Suburb/Town	State/County	Country
MEMBER: ROSEMARY ABBEY				
Abbey	Pre-1848	Elland	Yorkshire	England
Abbey	1848+	-	Victoria	Australia
Cameron	1800+	Tomchrasky	Inverness shire	Scotland
Cameron	1862	Prahran	Victoria	Australia
Collier	Pre-1850	-	Fifeshire	Scotland
Collier	1850+	Melbourne/Lilydale	Victoria	Australia
Grey	Pre-1854	Stroud	Gloucestershire	England
Grey	1854+	Geelong	Victoria	Australia
O'Brien	Pre-1850	Miltown Malday	Clare	Ireland
O'Brien	1850+	Melbourne/Lilydale	Victoria	Australia
Rhodes	Pre-1920	-	Inverness shire	Scotland
Smith	Pre-1940	-	Yorkshire	England
Wild	Pre-1848	-	Yorkshire	England
Wilson	Pre-1840	-	London	England
Wilson	1840+	Prahran/Lilydale	Victoria	Australia
Wrigglesworth	Pre-1890	Hull	Yorkshire	England
Wrigglesworth	1924+	Melbourne	Victoria	Australia
MEMBER: DAVID TATTERSALL				
Tattersall, Robert	1856+	-	Lancashire	England
Tattersall, William	1809+	Middleton	Lancashire	England
Tattersall, Wilfred	1908+	Ottawa	Ontario	Canada
Tattersall, Frank	1916+	New York	New York	USA
Walker, Wm Phillip	1809+	Greenwich	Kent	England
Wilson, Arthur Dallas	1857+	Blackburn	Lancashire	England
Brownbill, Mary	1856+	St Helens	Lancashire	England
Watson, James	1801+	Great Yarmouth	Norfolk	England
Watson, Frederick	1850+	Great Yarmouth	Norfolk	England
Lambert, Thomas	1850+	Lambeth	Surrey	England
Norgate, William	1805+	Great Yarmouth	Norfolk	England
Stevens, Thomas	1826+	Norwich	Norfolk	England

FEAR GOD AND HONOUR THE QUEEN

Contributed by Dorothy Giles

Kangaroo Island situated off the coast of South Australia boasts no fewer than three lighthouses, strategically placed to ensure the safety of ships in this important waterway.

Most interesting is the Cape Borda lighthouse situated on the island's western coastline. Built in 1858, the lighthouse has a quaint, square shape, not a traditional tall round tower, but a squat building placed on a rocky, elevated site.

The white painted lighthouse is complemented by other buildings such as lighthouse keepers' dwellings, today available for holiday stays, a museum and other service buildings. A National Parks officer conducts daily excursions over the site and fires off the canon at 1pm every day. Interesting accounts of the history of the place, stories of shipwrecks and details of the harsh lives and the isolation of the lighthouse keepers and their families are presented in the museum.

Notable is the God-fearing keeper, Alfred Charles Webling who was born in 1837 in Surrey, England and died in South Australia in 1931.He was lighthouse keeper of Cape Borda and another island location, Cape Willoughby in the 1870s and 80s.

Alfred Webling had 10 children to his first wife Mary and named them after the first letters of the then popular concept, "Fear God and Honour the Queen". Regrettably Mary died before Alfred's quest had been realised.

The family were:

Florence (26/11/1870 - 14/2/1951), Ethel (28/11/1871 - 8/12/1973), Alice (30/6/1873 - 30/11/1874), Rose (27/7/1874 - ?), Gertrude (23/4/1876 - 8/3/1930), Olivia (30/9/1877 - II/l/19700, Deslandes (3/4/1879 - 23/4/1953), Alf (1/6/1880 - 1965), Norrie (26/l/1881 - 8/l/1965), D'Arcy (15/7/1883 - 2/1952), Hilda (6/4/1885 - ?), Octavius (6/11/1886 - 6/11/1886). On November 6, 1886 Mary died in childbirth.

On April 18, 1890 Alfred married Emma Jane and had twin girls: Ella (22/6/1903 - 1998) and Stella (22/6/1903 - 2004). Of the first family, Ethel lived till she was 102, the twins also lived to a ripe old age - Ella aged 95 and Stella 101 years.

Alas Alfred never got to realise his goal, if he had, he would have been father to 24 offspring.

OF SKELETONS AND CLOSETS

Ah, yes, but they will make fine ancestors.
- Francis Stephen Forbes

The first rule for beginners in genealogical research is to start with yourself and work backwards. We each have two parents, four grandparents, eight great grandparents, and so on. In other words, the number of our forebears doubles with each generation as we go back in time.

Assuming that a generation lasts 25 years, we would have to go back only 20 generations to find that we are descended from approximately 1,000,000 people who were alive at the same time. Twenty generations would span a period of 500 years. This would take us back to the early 1500s.

Let's also assume that all our ancestors originated in Britain. About 4,000,000 people lived in the British Isles in 1500. This means we would be descended from a quarter of Britain's population who lived at the beginning of the 16th Century.

That would cover a wide range of personalities and occupations. We could be descended from princes and paupers, bishops and bartenders, concubines and con-men, saints and sinners. It would be an unusual family tree that didn't have skeletons in its closets.

But that's part of the fun in genealogy. Wouldn't it be boring if all our ancestors were goody two-shoes?

AUSTRALASIAN CONGRESS ON GENEALOGY AND HERALDRY

The 14th Australasian Congress on Genealogy and Heraldry will be held in Canberra from March 26-29 2015. The theme of the congress will be: "Generations Meeting Across Time".

Canberra is a great place for family history research. It has the National Library of Australia, the National Archive of Australia, the Australian War Memorial and many other important national research institutions.

To learn more about the congress go to: www.congress2015.org.au

The opening reception for the congress will be held in the War Memorial and the Congress Dinner will be at Parliament House.

London Tax Records Now Online at Ancestry

Millions of historic tax records are now available online for the first time. Family history website Ancestry.co.uk said more than 12 million tax returns are in the collection of land tax records from 1692 to 1932. Land tax existed from the 17th to the 20th century, before being abolished in 1968, and the collections list the owners and occupiers of properties subject to the tax in England and Wales.

For more details go to:
http://www.genealogyblog.com/?p=19994

-Previously published in QFHS Newsletter, Aug. 2012.

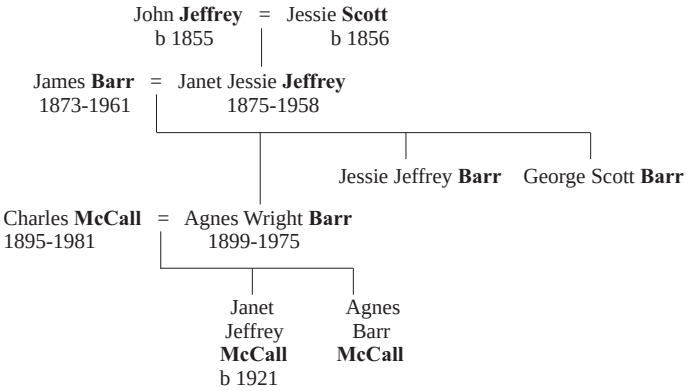
WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Contributed by Ken Swadling

My mother-in-law, bless her beautiful heart, was christened Janet Jeffrey McCall. At first sight, it seems unusual that a girl would be given a male name as her second Christian name. However, Janet was born in Scotland in 1921 and was named in accordance with a long-standing family custom.

In Janet's family, children were often given the maiden surnames of their mothers or grandmothers as their middle name. Daughters could also be given their mother's or grandmother's first names.

As shown in the chart below, Janet was given both the maiden surname and the Christian name of her maternal grandmother, Janet Jeffrey.



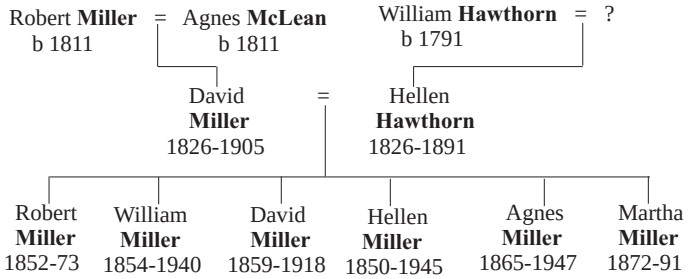
Janet's younger sister, Agnes, was given the maiden surname and the Christian name of her mother. The girls' aunt, Jessie, was given her mother's maiden surname and her middle Christian name, and their uncle, George, was given the maiden surname of his maternal grandmother.

This is only one of a variety of naming customs in Scottish families and is of interest because it may help in identifying preceding generations of the one family. At the very least, it gives a starting point for research.

Another Scottish branch of my family tree used a much more common naming custom, one which was not restricted to Scotland:

The eldest son was named after the paternal grandfather, the second son after the maternal grandfather and the third son after the father.

This was certainly the case with the first three male children of my Great Great Grandparents, David Miller and Hellen Hawthorn, as shown in the chart below:



The eldest son, Robert Miller, was named after his paternal grandfather; the second son, William, was named after his maternal grandfather, and the third son, David, was named after his father.

However, as always, there are exceptions to keep us on our toes:

- The maternal grandfather, if he was a man of substance, might be given preference over the paternal grandfather.
- A son could be named after a godfather or after the father's patron.
- If a christened son died young, there would be a gap which would seem to defy the naming convention.
- If a christened son died young, subsequent boys might be given the same name as him.

There was a similar pattern as far as female children were concerned:

The eldest daughter was usually named after the maternal grandmother; the second daughter after the paternal grandmother, and the third daughter after the mother.

Once again, knowledge of this naming custom can provide an avenue for research. We didn't know the name of the maternal grandmother of the youngest generation shown in the Millers' chart. However, the first daughter was named Hellen and, if the custom was followed for the Miller girls, we can guess that Hellen's maternal grandmother was also named Hellen.

The second eldest daughter was Agnes, which was the name of the paternal grandmother. So far so good. However, the youngest girl was named Martha.

In other words, if we assume that the maternal grandmother's name was Hellen, the custom seems to have been followed for the first three children of each gender except the third daughter, Martha. However, Martha could not have been named after her mother if her mother's and grandmother's names were the same, because that name had already been given to her oldest sister, Hellen.

Well, that was the theory. When we finally found the maternal grandmother, she turned out to be Martha Kelly! Oh well, we may have outsmarted ourselves with our theory, but at least we got the girls' names right, if in the wrong order.

Most importantly, we re-learned what should be called Genealogist's Rule Number One: Never Assume Anything!

No marriage for Lent

In England, until 1886 marriages could only take place between 8am and 12 noon; the time was then extended to 3pm and, in 1936, to 6pm. Marriage was also forbidden at certain times of the year, principally during the 40 days of Lent (Ash Wednesday to Easter Saturday) and the 24 days of Advent (preceding Christmas day).

Source: Litton, P. M., Pitfalls and Possibilities in Family History Research, Swansong Publications, Harrogate, 2010.

FOUNDLINGS

Many single or destitute mothers abandoned babies in places where they could be found and cared for. These children often received the Christian name of the parish's patron saint, or the location where they were found, such as Church or Porch. Parish registers may identify foundling children as such.

Sadly, you will have little hope of tracing their parentage, but at least you will know you have reached the beginning of the line.

- Anthony Adolph in *Tracing Your Family History*, Collins, 2008.

LINCOLNSHIRE PARISH MARRIAGE RECORDS

findmypast.co.uk has added 49,184 new Lincolnshire Parish Marriage Records. These records span the period from 1700 to 1837 and cover more than 200 parishes.

Details may be found in the findmypast.co.uk blog at: http://bit.ly/Ozcjfr

-Previously published in QFHS Newsletter, Aug. 2012.

BOOK REVIEW

Kennett, Debbie

"DNA and Social Networking: a Guide to Genealogy in the Twenty-First Century"

History Press, UK, 2011.

(Hard cover, 233 pages, illustrated, indexed. Available from Gould Genealogy, $39.95 plus postage (740g).

This is a very useful description of some new tools for genealogists, and how to use them. When scientists developed DNA tests for anthropological studies on how mankind spread out from Africa, some family historians were quick to see the possibilities.

The first DNA and clan studies began last century, about 12-15 years ago. Many in the forefront were amateur genealogists, who pushed laboratories to carry out the tests they needed. They had existing expertise in conventional surname or One-Name studies. For some time, the tests were of limited use on only some family lines. Now these tools are much more useful, and there is a new one that can look at any family line back to about seven generations to examine links to fifth cousins.

Social networking started for most of us in 1981 with the Genealogical Research Directory. Online surname mailing lists were used from the late 1980s. Kennett shows where to find surname lists as well as detailing the latest websites - not just Facebook and Twitter, but also specialised genealogical sites, as well as blogs and wikis. She patiently demystifies what otherwise might be a bewildering array of choices.

This book is a great place to start for those who want to go beyond traditional genealogical methods. It's an up to date overview of two new tools for pursuing family by other means. The author has good experience in running a One Name study using both of these techniques.

Source: Christopher Shuetz, Queensland Family Historian, Vol 33, No.2.

THE HONOURABLE EAST INDIA COMPANY

It is quite likely, if you have British ancestry, that you will have an ancestor or two who lived in India and/or were born there of English or English/Indian parents.

The Honourable East India Company was the dominant power in India by 1691, and the British Empire in India was recognised.

In 1947 the records of the HEIC were transferred to the British Library's Oriental and India Office, known as the India Office Library.

This collection is very well indexed and contains details on individuals from many of its sources including records of birth, baptism and so on. Records include ships' passenger lists for those coming and going.

These records may be found at http://indiafamily.bl.uk/UI.

The Indiaman, a magazine covering the British in India, has a website www.indiaman.com which may also be worth investigating.

Source: Anthony Adolph, Tracing Your Family History, Collins, 2008.

DID YOU KNOW?...

Family historians researching British antecedents need to be aware that the United Kingdom and the British Isles are not the same. The British Isles (geographically) includes Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland); the whole of Ireland; the Isle of Man; the Channel Islands, consisting of the Bailiwick of Jersey and the Bailiwick of Guernsey (which includes the smaller islands), and any other offshore islands.

The Isle of Man and the Channel Islands are British Crown Dependencies and are considered part of the U.K. for the purposes of defence and census taking; otherwise they have their own parliaments, laws, civil registration systems, and systems of land holding (similar to the manorial system), and while their parish registers are similar to those of England and Wales they are not identical.

When checking any set of records, particularly online, make sure they refer to the British Isles and not just to the U.K.

Source: Litton, P.M., Pitfalls and Possibilities in Family History Research, Swansong Publications, Harrogate, 2010.

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