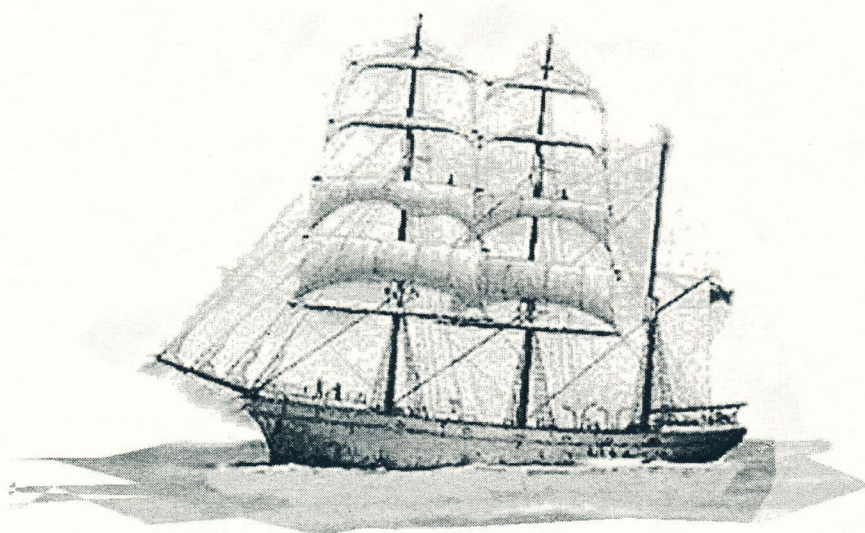


The Surf Coast Family History Group

Vol.37, Summer - December 2009 edition (Sub group of the Anglesea and District Historical Society Inc.)

INVERLOCHY LOG



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Quarterly Newsletter of the Surf Coast Family History Group

Surf Coast Family History Group
C/o P.O. Box 98 Anglesea Victoria 3230

**The Society is housed in the Anglesea Historical Society Museum
5a McMillan Street Anglesea 3230, entrance 4 Community Precinct**

Library and Research Facilities

Tuesday 10.00am - 12.00noon
or until 2.00pm on request

Meetings are held

The 2nd Thursday of the month
Commencing at 10.00am at the
Historical Society Museum
McMillan Street Anglesea 3230

Visitors Welcome
Enquiries—Norma Morrison
Phone 5261 6239



**CHRISTMAS
FOOD
HAMPER
RAFFLE**

Five raffle tickets are
attached for our annual

Christmas raffle. Please sell these and re-
turn the ticket butts and money to the mu-
seum or Thelma Western's letterbox (22 B,
Sixth Avenue) by Friday 16th December.
The raffle will be drawn on Saturday 19th at
12.30.

URGENT:

We need volunteers to sell raffle tickets out-
side IGA. Fridays 4th, 11th and 18th and
Saturdays 5th, 12th and 19th mornings only,
10am to about midday.

Offers appreciated —
Phone Thelma - 5263 2865

Forthcoming Meetings

Thursday 10th December

Christmas Party

"How Our Family Celebrated Christmas"

January 2010— No Meeting

Thursday 11th February 2010

Heritage Day Preparation

Visitors Welcome

All meetings held at the Museum.

Surf Coast Family History Group Committee

Chairperson	Norma Morrison	normamor@tpg.com.au
Vice Chairperson	Pat Hughes	on leave of absence
Second Vice Chairperson	Harry Davies	bevhenry@netspace.net.au
Secretary	Yvonne Schneider	ymschneider@bigpond.com
Treasurer	Thelma Western	tdwestern@yahoo.com.au
Librarian	Rose Johnson	justrose_69@msn.com
Committee Member	Colin Wood	cnwood2@bigpond.com
Committee Member	Christine Guerow	5264 7602

The Anglesea Family History Group does not hold itself responsible
for the accuracy of the statements or opinions expressed by authors of
articles published in this magazine.



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Two weeks ago several of our members attended the Colac Family History Seminar, and what a great day that was. There were four guest speakers, all of whom gave very interesting talks. Thanks Colac.

A reminder to everyone that Christmas is fast approaching and so is our Hamper Raffle. Remember this is our main fundraiser for the year, and a basket is already in our library to receive your donations of goods.

At the November meeting there will be a talk on Wills, Administrations and Probates. Bring along any old wills that you have used in researching your family history.

For December please bring along a plate to share, and your short talk on Christmases past. Perhaps you have a funny story or you can tell us how your family celebrated Christmas or about the Christmas gifts you received as a child. This will be followed by our Break-Up for 2009.

The Committee and I wish you all the best for the Christmas season, and may next year be a happier year for everyone.

Norma Morrison

PRESERVING YOUR RECORDS

All electronic ways of recording photos, audio etc. changes rapidly over the years. How can you ensure what you record today will be able to be accessed in 10, 20 or more years. There are few rules we should work by:

1. Paper records are the easiest to access and are available to anyone without any specialist equipment. However the paper needs to be stored carefully and needs to be acid free. Acid free paper is not expensive. Paper records need to be stored in acid free archival boxes.
2. Photos vary in their length of life. The old photos that were washed carefully after being printed have lasted well. Photos printed on paper have been around since about 1860. They were not as durable as photos printed on glass or tin but were much more affordable and so there are a lot more of them around. We probably all have photos taken over 100 years ago that are well preserved. Coloured photos have not lasted as well and now that many people print their own photos on inkjet printers the life of today's photos is not long. We can record our photos on CD's or DVD's, have them printed with special long life ink and have them professionally printed using acid free papers and special inks. This of course we would only do with very special photos.
3. When using CD's we need to be aware that
 - a. The life of a CD is probably only three to five years unless you use gold plated CD's which are more expensive. A recommended one is "Delkin E film gold DVD" about \$8 each.
 - b. How long will CD's be the preferred method when using computers. We all remember the small floppy disks, and before that the larger ones. Even now small portable hard disks are very popular. Therefore anything we store electronically needs to be updated and transferred to newer technology.
4. Movie, video has the same pitfalls as CD's. Many people had family film taken on super 8mm, which was the preferred method in the 1950's. In order to keep them they had them transferred to video and now to DVD.

MEMBER STORY

THE WOOD FAMILY'S MIGRATION TO AUSTRALIA

By Colin Wood

The branch of the Wood family to which I belong owes its existence in Australia to Francis Wood—a farmer of Riplingham, Parish of Beverly, Yorkshire, England. Although his farming enterprise in Riplingham was in excess of 238 acres and was providing him with a very lucrative living it was only leasehold and it is thought that his desire to own a stretch of land of his own was the driving force behind Francis's decision to make the move to Australia.



Francis Wood Junior arrived Australia 7th April 1853

But Francis was not the first of the Wood family to migrate to Australia. Francis and his wife Hannah had twelve children, eight of whom lived to adulthood. John the eldest son decided on a career in the Merchant Navy. Unfortunately his life was cut short when he died from fever while evacuating British subjects from Persia and was buried at sea somewhere between the Mediterranean and the West Indies.

Of the remaining children, it was decided that Charles and Francis Junior were to be entrusted with the family "nest egg" and to migrate to Australia with the specific instructions to purchase land.

And so it was that Charles accompanied by Lydia, his bride of just one month—brother Francis junior—and two sisters Mary and Margaret set sail from Liverpool on the 15th November 1852 aboard the "Albatross", a sailing ship of 1030 tons, finally arriving in Melbourne, after being becalmed in the tropics for three weeks, on the 7th April 1853. The Purser on the "Albatross" was one Samuel Rendell who also left the ship at Melbourne and made his way to Geelong. On 23rd September 1853 Samuel travelled up to Melbourne and at St Peters, East Melbourne married Margaret Wood. Margaret and husband Samuel returned to Geelong where it is believed that Samuel had other relatives. A son—Samuel Francis—was born in Australia.

Just ten days after the marriage of Margaret and Samuel, her sister Mary married Bartholomew Prescott Crompton, also at St Peters East Melbourne. But back to the "nest egg". Contrary to their fathers explicit directions, the two brothers in their wisdom decided to go into business in Melbourne.

It is believed that they had a Hardware and China business in King Street Melbourne but attempts to verify this have not been fruitful. There is also the possibility of business operations in Geelong and Portland. But as no records of these operations have been found it would appear that if they did exist they were not very successful.

Back in England, Francis Senior had become very concerned about the goings on in Australia and decided that



Francis Wood senior arrived Australia 21st December 1854

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Hannah Wood arrived Australia
21st December 1854

he and his wife Hannah, together with the two other unmarried children would emigrate post-haste to sort out the situation in Australia.

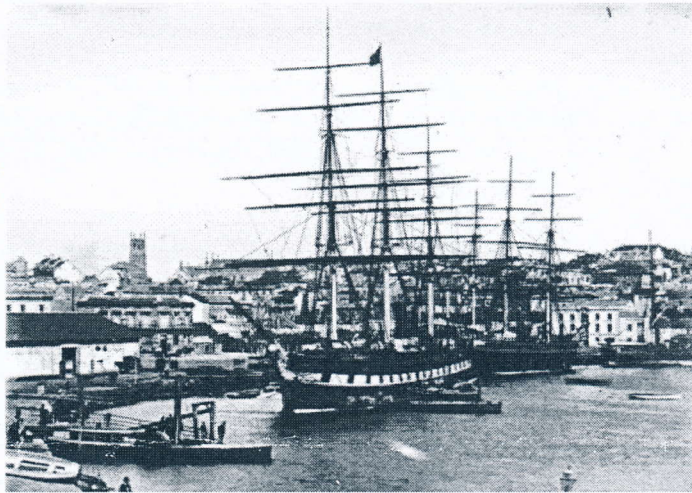
On 12th September 1854 Francis Snr (aged 51) and his wife Hannah (aged 52), daughter Elizabeth (aged 20) and son (aged 18) set sail from Liverpool on the "Falcon" (1072 tons) arriving in Melbourne on 21st December 1854.

On arrival in Melbourne Francis snr decided to continue in commerce and become involved with the King Street business. He was also instrumental in opening up a General Store on the goldfields at Break O'Day Gully near Bendigo.

Once the store was established at Break O'Day, Francis Snr returned to Melbourne and decided to pursue his original plan, to purchase land in Australia.

On 22nd April 1855 he selected Crown allotment 59, Parish of Yarram Yarram, County of Buln-Buln. This property he named "Riplingham" after the village of his birth in Yorkshire. Several family members followed Francis' lead and also purchased properties in the area. And so began a long association of the Wood family in the Yarram district of South Gippsland where I was born, as was my father and his father before him.

In 1864, Sarah, the final member of the family still living in England, and who had become estranged from her husband Thomas Linforth, decided to also to make the move to Australia with her three young children. She sailed on the steam assisted sailing ship "Great Victoria" (2000) tons leaving Liverpool on 10th September 1864, arriving Melbourne on 28th November.



Great Victoria at Circular Quay, Sydney, New South Wales in 1865, the year after Sarah travelled to Australia on it

And so it was that after twelve years and three ships the entire family of Francis and Hannah Wood were settled in Australia, most of them living in the Yarram district.

The information contained in this story has been extracted from the "Wood Family History" compiled by my cousin in 1977—thanks Alec

Colin Wood

LIFE IN THE 1500'S

MARRIAGE Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May and still smelled pretty good by June. However, they were starting to smell, so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odour. Hence, the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married!

BATHING Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children, last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying, "Don't throw the baby out with the bath water."

ROOFING Houses had thatched roofs-thick straw-piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip off the roof. Hence the saying "It's raining cats and dogs."

CANOPY BEDS There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed. Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. That's how canopy beds came into existence.

FLOORS The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the saying "dirt poor." The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on floors to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they adding more thresh until when you opened the door it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entranceway. Hence the saying a "thresh hold."

FOOD In those old days, they cooked in the kitchen with a big kettle that always hung over the fire. Every day they lit the fire and added things to the pot. They ate mostly vegetables and did not get much meat. They would eat the stew for dinner, leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight and then start over the next day. Sometimes stew had food in it that had been there for quite a while. Hence the rhyme, "Peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot nine days old."

BACON Sometimes they could obtain pork, which made them feel quite special. When visitors came over, they would hang up their bacon to show off. It was a sign of wealth that a man could "bring home the bacon." They would cut off a little to share with guests and would all sit around and "chew the fat."

TOMATOES Those with money had plates made of pewter. Food with high acid content caused some of the lead to leach onto the food, causing lead poisoning death. This happened most often with tomatoes, so for the next 400 years or so, tomatoes were considered poisonous.

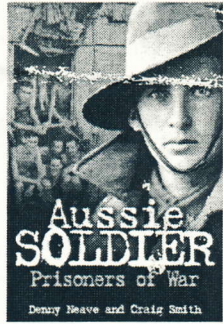
BREAD Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the burrit bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and guests got the top, or "upper crust."

WAKE Lead cups were used to drink ale or whisky. The combination would sometimes knock the imbibers out for a couple of days. Someone walking along the road would take them for dead and prepare them for burial. They were laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days and the family would gather around and eat and drink and wait and see if they would wake up. Hence the custom of holding a "wake."

THE BELL England is old and small and the local folks started running out of places to bury people. So they would dig up coffins and would take the bones to a "bone-house" and reuse the grave. When reopening these coffins, 1 out of 25 coffins were found to have scratch marks on the inside and they realized they had been burying people alive. So they would tie a string on the wrist of the corpse, lead it through the coffin and up through the ground and tie it to a bell. Someone would have to sit out in the graveyard all night (the "graveyard shift") to listen for the bell; thus, someone could be "saved by the bell" or was considered a "dead ringer."

And that's the truth... Now, whoever said that History was boring !!!

<p>At Surf Coast Family History Group we research records using</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ CD'S ◆ Microfilm ◆ Listings ◆ Books ◆ Internet ◆ and more 	<p>Research!</p> <p>Do your research in the comfort of your own home.</p> <p>We have Microfiche Readers for hire \$5 per week With Victorian Pioneer Index</p>	<p>The Inverloch Log</p> <p>Share your exciting discoveries with others by submitting your findings for publication in the 'Inverloch Log'</p> <p>Send to Jan Morris at janmor@netspace.net.au</p>
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BOOK REVIEW
Aussie Soldier Prisoners of War
 Denny Neave and Craig Smith

This collection of heartfelt stories and anecdotes from Australian POWs will take you on their very personal journeys. Surviving as a prisoner of war required as much strength of character as any hard fought battle. Some lived to tell their tales about extreme suffering, mateship and hardship and many would carry with them forever the memories of those who died.

Almost 35,000 Australian service personnel were taken prisoner during the Boer War, World War 1, World War 2 and the Korean War. As POWs are relatively few in number, their stories often take a back seat when it comes to tales about battles and conflict situations.

Like most soldiers, former prisoners do not like reliving the horrors of war and their time in captivity. Aussie Soldier: Prisoners of War is a collection of the stories of our Australian POW's. Interviews, questionnaires, written records, images and letters provide an insight into captivity and the joy and fears that came with their release.

For many POWs their struggles would not end with their long hoped for return to Australia and their families. For some the long term effect on health both physical and mental, would affect them and their families for years to come.

These vivid and compelling stories highlight the contradictions of war: the compassion and generosity on the one hand and the cruelty, hate and indifference on the other.

LIBRARY OPENING TIMES
TUESDAYS 10.00AM - 12 NOON
OPEN UNTIL 2.00PM IF REQUESTED ON THE DAY
PLEASE NOTE: WE ARE CLOSED DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
Internet Research at Surf Coast Family History
\$4 per hour
Assistance provided if needed

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Surface Mail

If undelivered return to
The Surf Coast Family History Group
P.O. Box 98 Anglesea
Victoria 3230



Peter Matthews
PO Box 44
Anglesea

3230