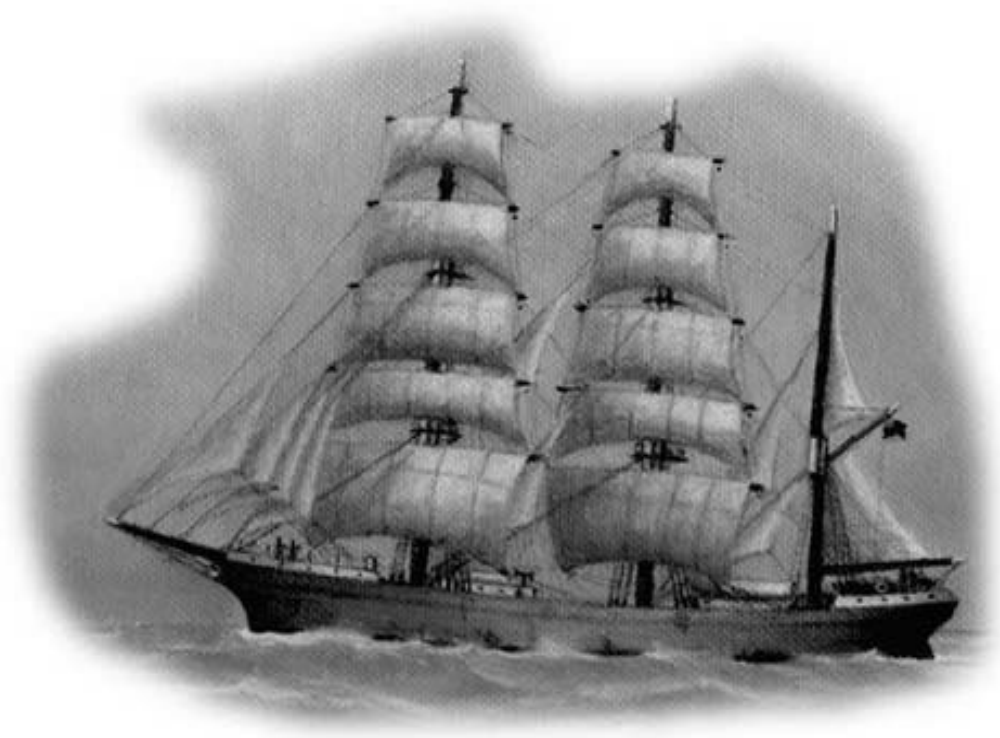


The Surf Coast Family History Group

Vol. 38, Winter-June 2010 edition

(Sub group of the Anglesea and District Historical Society Inc.)

Inverlochy Log



In this issue....

- Members Story
- New acquisitions
- Guest speakers
- Irish 1901 online

Quarterly Journal of The Surf Coast Family History Group

The Surf Coast Family History Group
c/o P. O. Box 98 Anglesea 3230

**The Society is Housed in the Anglesea Historical Society Museum
McMillan Street Anglesea 3230**

Library and Research Facilities

**Tuesday 10.30am - 1.00pm
Saturday 10.30am - 1.00pm**

Meetings held on

**The 2nd Thursday of the Month
Commencing at 10am at the
Historical Society Museum
McMillan Street Anglesea 3230**

Visitors Welcome

enquiries:

**Norma Morrison Phone 52616239
Pat Hughes Phone 52896686**

Forthcoming Meetings

**July 8th Meeting:
Brian & Beryl O’Gorman
“Netting your Irish Ancestors
on the Net”**

**August 12th Meeting: Ian Duncan
“Finding Grandma”**

**Sept 9th Meeting: Noel Lindsay
“Henry Condell”
Mayor of Melbourne**

**October 14th Meeting:
AGM**

Please submit topics of interest

Committee Members 2009-2010

**Chairperson
Secretary**

**Treasurer
Librarian
Committee Member
Committee Member
Committee Member**

Newsletter Editor/ Vice Chairperson

**Norma Morrison: normamor@tpg.com.au
Yvonne Schneider gertschn@bigpond.com**

**Thelma Western: tdwestern@yahoo.com.au
Rose Johnson: 03 52561510
Christine Guerow: 03 52647602
Colin Wood: 03 52647755
Harry Davies: 03 52631726**

Pat Hughes pathugs@bigpond.com

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

The Surf Coast family History Group

Monthly Meetings

Your local family history group run meetings each second Thursday of the month at 10 am

In March there was a lot of excitement when a guest speaker arrived dressed in the Cornish National Tartan.

Mr. Neil Thomas gave a talk to our local Anglesea family history Group.

Neil's connection to Cornwall was that his great grand parents had landed in Portland in 1852. The great grand father left for the gold fields leaving behind his wife in Port Fairy. The wife made more money with her vegie garden in Port Fairy than he did on the gold fields. They later farmed at Yambuk.

At one stage they owned the Yambuk Hotel. Neil's story is interesting as all family history stories are.

Neil's told the story about 7 Cornish men who sailed from Cornwall to Australia. Their ship was the 37 ft "Mystery" open Mounts Bay Lugger built in Newlyn.

Times were hard and the seven Cornishmen, all related by either blood or marriage and share holders in the Mystery, made the decision to try their luck at the Australian gold rush over a pint in the Star Inn, Newlyn. It was suggested that the Mystery be sold to cover the passage. Captain Richard Nicholls, with a couple under his belt and in good spirits, said: *"I'll take you in the Mystery"*; and so an amazing adventure was born.

The Mystery measured just 37 feet in length, had a beam of 11 feet 6 inches and weighed 16 tons. After beaching the boat to sheathe her hull with zinc and decking her in fore and aft, the vessel was ready for the epic journey ahead. Leaving Newlyn on Saturday 18 November 1854, the "Mystery" travelled about 11,800 nautical miles in 116 days before arriving in Melbourne on 14 March 1855.

The story does not end there. Pete Goss has built a wooden lugger and followed in the wake of seven Cornishmen who made a heroic journey to Australia 154 years ago. Proud of his West country roots and an enthusiastic wood-worker, the project is something Pete has wanted to do since

Cont.....

he heard about the inspirational voyage of the "Mystery".

The "Spirit of Mystery" was launched on Saturday 21st June and set sail for Australia on 20th October 2008, arriving on 9th March 2009.

The original crew of the "Mystery" consisted of: Captain Richard Nicholls; Brothers William and Richard Badcock; Job Kelynack and his cousins Charles Boase and Philip Curnow Matthews; with Lewis Lewis as general handyman and cook.

Mr & Mrs Neil Thomas



**The Cornish tartan reflects the colours
of Cornwall
Gold represents the
Celtic Kings of Cornwall**

**Blue represents the sea of
the Cornish coastline**

**Black and white represents the
flag of St. Piran**

**Red represents the Cornish chough's
red beak and legs**



WHERE DID THE ANDERSON FAMILY COME FROM?

Where did my ancestors come from?

This is the question we are all trying to answer when we begin our family history search.

The Anderson family, a well known Aireys Inlet family in the 1800's and 1900's has answered that question through DNA.



Descendants of Wesley Anderson gather at Mountain House

The Anderson's have always know that the dark complexion they inherited was not of aboriginal descent, but rather came from Wesley Anderson, an American Negro who came to Australia in 1839.

Wesley, the son of a Negro slave, was born in Pennsylvania about 1821.

He went to sea and spent some time in England. At the age of 18 he landed in NSW, Australia. The following year he married a widow, Sarah Jane Black on 25th April 1840. Sarah was twelve years older than her husband.

Wesley came to this area about 1850. He decided to settle at Loutit Bay, now Lorne, and set off from Moriac with his family in a wagon pulled by a team of bullocks. Being unable to cross the valley and river he lowered his wagon, family and bullocks down the cliff on ropes and drove the team around the beach at low tide. He later selected land at Bambra and Wormbete.

The many Anderson descendants have often wondered just where Wesley's parents originated from. With the development of DNA testing they asked one of the direct male descendants of Wesley to agree to be tested. Neville Anderson happily cooperated with the procedure. From the testing done on a sample provided by Neville, they discovered what they had assumed.

Wesley's parents had come from Africa.



Mountain House at Aireys Inlet, a boarding House run by the Anderson family.

REPORT FROM DNA ASOLUTIONS (extracts)

By profiling Neville Sherwood Anderson's Y Chromosome, the part of DNA that only men have and is passed on from father to son, we can identify key markers that are passed down from generation to generation, allowing us to trace his ancestors and reveal their epic journeys.

Cont.....

Neville's DNA indicate he is from what is known as the Haplogroup Eza.

It is the most common haplogroup in Africa today.

This dominance in African genetics is thought to have occurred during the spread of the Bantu people of Western Africa approximately 3,000 years ago.

They are thought to have brought the knowledge of early agriculture to the rest of Africa as they spread eastward and southward. Remnants of their language was spread to many parts of Africa.

People of Haplogroup Eza who are outside Africa have ancestors taken from the western part of the continent where the slave trade was at its most prominent.

Slaves were taken to America, Puerto Rico and many South American nations.

This report certainly confirms what the Anderson family knew of their ancestor.

Wesley Anderson was indeed an interesting character.

Not only did he carve roads out of the bush and clear land for agriculture but he also discovered coal in this area.

James Bonwick described in 1857(1) his visit to Wormbete:

"Accompanied by Mr. Hopkins, the son of the benevolent Henry Hopkins Esq., of Hobart Town, I paid a visit one forenoon to the Reservoir and the Coal Field of Wormbete. The Wormbete Coal was discovered last year by Wesley Anderson, an intelligent man of color, in Green Gully, or Black Diamond Creek, divided from Retreat Creek by a range of hills.

Wesley died on the 4th of September 1859, at the age of only 38.

His body was taken to the Winchelsea cemetery for burial; however the trustees of the cemetery decreed that he could not be buried in the cemetery, no doubt because he was black. As aboriginals were not allowed to be buried in their relatively new cemetery and as Wesley was black like aboriginals, it seems he also was banned from being buried there and was not allowed to have a headstone.



Mrs Anderson and daughter outside the Inlet Hotel

He was buried just outside the cemetery. When his wife died forty years later, she was buried in the cemetery and has a headstone to mark her resting place.

The actual site of Wesley's burial can no longer be identified.

Some say it is beside an unnamed tombstone just outside the perimeter road.

Others claim he was buried further beyond the cemetery in what is now a reservoir.

Although his burial site has been lost his name is recorded on the Winchelsea Cemetery index.

Cont.....

Jack Wesley and Mary Anderson, with their children, including John (Jack) Wesley Anderson, moved to Aireys Inlet from Bambra, where the children had attended school.

Jack's son, Albert Wesley, was to build the Inlet Hotel and Mountain House, and became heavily involved in business and community life, starting the Post Office and store.



Albert Anderson with the Aireys Inlet lighthouse in the background.

After the death of Mary Anderson, another of their properties, Kingsford Cottage, was sold to Mr and Mrs H Sutherland, who also purchased the leasehold of the general store and milk bar on the Great Ocean Road.

The remaining Anderson

estate, consisting of the house, and five blocks, was offered for auction on 27 December 1958.

Wesley's many descendants can now be sure of their ancestry and they know just why some of them have a darker complexion.

New acquisitions

Schools of Geelong & District

Patients in the Melbourne Hospital (CD)

Investigator Index (CD)

Hotels, Pubs and Inns of the Geelong Country Districts

coming in August "Scots in Geelong" (CD)

The Surf Coast Family History Group

For Sale:

Schools of the Surf Coast Shire
Anglesea to Wurdi Bolue

Surf Coast Cemetery Records on CD

Contact: Norma Morrison

Phone: 52 616239

Research!

Do your research in the comfort of your
own home

We have Microfiche Readers for Hire
\$5 per week

with the Victorian Pioneer index

Please enquire: Pat 52 896686

1901 Irish Census Now Online Through National Archives of Ireland

The 1901 Irish census became available online on June 3, 2010, thanks to the digitization project of the National Archives of Ireland. Interested genealogists and historians can now view the transcriptions and original census images for free.

National Archives staff expect the 1901 census records to be as popular for researchers as the 1911 Irish census.

1901 Irish Census

On March 31, 1901, census enumerators gathered information from approximately 850,000 households throughout the 32 counties of Ireland. It includes the following:

- Name
- Relation to head of family
- Age and sex
- Place of birth (Irish county or other country)
- Marital status
- Religion
- Occupation
- Read and write
- Irish speaking
- Disability (deaf, dumb, insane, etc)

The originals of Form A were filled out by the householder, not a census enumerator, so genealogists can enjoy the handwriting of their ancestors. Unfortunately, the back of the form containing street address was not microfilmed as it was on the 1911 census.

Other forms, completed by the enumerator, include information on the house and outbuildings. These include details such as number of rooms and type of building materials, as well as number of families in each house and how many rooms each family occupied, giving a researcher a good picture of poverty or wealth.

<http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/>

LIBRARY OPENING TIMES

Tuesday 10.30 AM—1.00 PM

Saturday 10.30AM—1.00PM

**For more details contact
Pat Hughes 03 52896686 or
Christine Guerow 03 52647602**

Surface Mail

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