

# The Surf Coast Family History Group

Vol. 59 Autumn, March 2016 Edition

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

## Inverlochy Log



In this issue....

- Upcoming Events
- Australian connections of a migrant (part 4)
- New records and resources
- The Paton family

Quarterly Journal of The Surf Coast Family History Group

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## The Surf Coast Family History Group

The Group is housed in the Anglesea History House, 5 McMillan Street, Anglesea.  
McMillan Street Anglesea 3230



### MARCH OUTING

Tardie Homestead Birregurra

Thursday 10th March

Our special outing for the year.

- Visit the homestead
- Leaves History House 10.00am
- Talk on the Family
- See the sheep

Cost: \$33

Bookings: Jan Morris 5263 3085

Includes transport, morning tea & lunch.

### Forthcoming Meetings:

#### APRIL

Meeting 10.00am Thursday 14th @ History House

Speaker: Beryl O'Gorman

Topic: Irish *Records*

#### MAY

10.00am Thursday 12 May @ History House

Meeting Speaker: Kathryn Feather

Topic: DNA

#### JUNE

Outing 10.00am Thursday 9th June

*Soldiers Settlement* PROV. Exhibition @ Old Treasury Building. Leave History House 9.00am return 4.00pm

Booking list on front table or phone Jan on 5263 3085

### If you would like the Newsletter on email:

send your email address to us

[surfcoastfh@gmail.com](mailto:surfcoastfh@gmail.com)

### Library and Research Facilities

Tuesday 10.30am - 1.00pm

Wednesday by appointment

Saturday 10.30am - 1.00pm

Meetings held on

the 2nd Thursday of the month

commencing at 10am at History House

unless an excursion has been scheduled

5 McMillan Street Anglesea 3230

Visitors Welcome

Enquiries:

Chris Geurow: Phone 5264-7602

### Surf Coast Family History Group Raffle

Raffle drawn on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2015

First prize ticket no. A314 held by Maria of Malvern

Second Prize ticket no. A155 held by Susan Clarke of Anglesea

## Committee Members 2015 - 2016

Chairperson

Secretary

Treasurer

Committee Member

Committee Member

Committee Member

Website

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## Australian connections of a migrant (part 4)

by Susan Clarke

This story again concerns my husband's family, which I am researching as well as my own. It is the last in the series 'Australian connections of a migrant' for now. Who knows what other connections I may yet discover!

### Death on the goldfields

This story concerns James Thomas BRYANT who wrote his memoirs in New Zealand. He died in 1933, aged 84 years<sup>1</sup>. James was the son of Mary Ann BRYANT, sister of Elizabeth, my husband's great grandmother. The seafaring Bryant family was from St Ives, Cornwall, and Mary married a mariner with the same surname Richard Cogar BRYANT. This account is based on James' memoirs.

James wrote about his childhood in St Ives: attending Sunday School at Lady Huntingdon's Chapel, the landing of the pilchard catches, and going fishing before dawn with his grandfather. James spent a lot of time with his grandfathers because in 1852, when James was two, his father had left for the gold diggings in Australia. Mary looked after James and his younger sister Mary Ann (b. 1852) until times became so hard that she decided to follow her husband to Australia. The family travelled as intermediate passengers aboard the 'Donald McKay'. On arrival in Hobson's Bay in March 1861, after 108 days at sea, the ship was put into quarantine because there was smallpox on board.

In due course, the family was reunited with Richard and they all travelled in a coach to Ballarat, and then in a cart to Creswick. James wrote that his father had 'a fine large tent' with a good chimney. The area was called 'St Ives' because of the number of miners from that town who were all friends. Because the claim was not paying well, Richard moved his family three miles away to a gully where the pipe clay was 'blood red'. The three-roomed house had a roof of stringy bark and pipe clay. James was sent to the Wesleyan School in Creswick. His other reminiscences included learning to count in Chinese from workers in a Chinamen's claim, and having a lucky escape when rescued by Chinamen after he fell into a forty-feet-deep shaft on the diggings.

Not long after James, his mother and sister arrived in Australia, Richard was offered an opportunity in Otago, New Zealand, and the family was separated once again. Tragedy followed: Mary Ann died on 31 March 1862 at Bloody Gully, Creswick, five days after giving birth to a daughter Elizabeth Jane<sup>2</sup>. She is buried at Creswick cemetery, together with the baby, in a grave that has no headstone.

James and Mary Ann were escorted back to Melbourne by a family friend, and this time they travelled on the newly opened railway from Ballarat (opened 11 April 1862<sup>3</sup>). Richard decided that James should join him in New Zealand, while Mary Ann was sent back to England. The siblings never saw each other again. James made his life as a teacher in New Zealand, while Mary Ann is known to be living with her maternal grandfather in St Ives in 1871<sup>4</sup>. I have not yet established what happened to her after that because Mary Bryant is a very common name in that part of the world. Richard married again and became police superintendent at Queenstown and first Lake Wakatipu harbourmaster. He also built the Glacier Hotel at Kinloch. His descendants established a memorial to him in October 2012<sup>5</sup>. Mary Ann and baby Elizabeth are the only members of the family to remain on Australian soil.

Postscript: Bryant has carried down the generations as a middle name for the Clarke males – from my father-in-law, to my husband, to my son.

<sup>1</sup> The 'Memoirs and Reminiscences of J. T. Bryant 1850-1933' are held in the Owaka Museum, New Zealand (Misc-MS- 0917)

<sup>2</sup> Victoria BDM Registration numbers 1218 & 4130

<sup>3</sup> <http://vicsig.net/infrastructure/location/Ballarat>

<sup>4</sup> 1871 England, Wales & Scotland Census: R.G.10/2333/67/27

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.scene.co.nz/lakeside-memorial-unveiled-to-queenstown-pioneer/304109a1.page>

### RESEARCH AT THE STATE LIBRARY

A reminder that the State Library of Victoria provides some very useful online Research Guides. Those of particular potential interest to family historians are:

- Aboriginal people and family history (revised 29 Dec 2015)
- Australian colonial forces and family history (revised 29 Dec 2015)
- Early Australian census records (revised 25 Jan 2016)
- Maps for family history (revised 29 Dec 2015)
- Publish your family history (revised 29 Dec 2015)
- Researching your ancestors from the British Isles (revised 1 Feb 2016)
- Researching your multicultural ancestors (revised 29 Dec 2015)
- Researching your Victorian ancestors (revised 2 Feb 2016)

See the complete list at: <http://guides.slv.vic.gov.au/>

**Merrill O'Donnell**, who gave us a wonderful presentation on 11 February entitled 'Pioneers and Suffragists', has provided the link to the 1891 monster petition:

<http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/about/the-history-of-parliament/womens-suffrage-petition/womens-petition>

Postscript: even though 30,000 women signed the petition, it was rejected in Parliament and it took another 17 years before Victorian women could vote in Victorian elections. They had the vote Federally, but not in the state elections until 1908.

## Early Anglesea Families: The Patons

by Marilyn Wendt and Susan Clarke

The Paton family's first connection with Anglesea dates back well over 100 (1894) years to the time when Rev. George Heyer & Clara Heyer (Clara Sophia's parents) lived at Grovedale. He was minister of the Lutheran Church there and they would travel to Anglesea for picnics and holidays. (1)

### Rev. Frank Hume Lyall Paton and Clara Sophia Paton (Heyer)



Both are buried in Burwood Cemetery, Evans Street, Burwood

<b>Rev. Frank Hume Lyall Paton</b>	Married 19 Feb 1896	<b>Clara Sophia Heyer</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> child and 3 <sup>rd</sup> son of Rev. Dr John Gibson Paton		3 <sup>rd</sup> child and 1 <sup>st</sup> daughter of Rev. George Heyer (1843-
<b>Born:</b> 26 August 1870, Aniwa, New Hebrides (now Vanuatu)		<b>Born:</b> 3 September 1875, Geelong Victoria <b>Died:</b> c. 18 July 1966, Melbourne Victoria

Rev. Frank Hume Lyall Paton with his wife and family first came to Anglesea for the 1912 Christmas holidays. For several years the family rented the Parker's house which was just below 'Blink Bonnie', along with the Forrest family<sup>4</sup>. One memory (Peggy) of living at Parker's house was sitting on the veranda eating apricots and throwing the stones over the railing and coming back the next year finding a forest of young apricot trees<sup>1</sup>.

Rev. FHL Paton was born on the island of Aniwa, in the New Hebrides, where his father John Gibson Paton was a missionary. Frank was educated in Melbourne and Glasgow and attended the Ormond Theological College. He and his wife Clara served as missionaries in Tanna in the New Hebrides until 1902 when he left due to ill health. He then worked as Foreign Mission Secretary for the Presbyterian Church and agent for the John G Paton Fund. He was appointed minister of the Deepdene Presbyterian Church in 1926 and continued until his retirement in 1936.

The Deepdene Presbyterian Church, Burke Road, which was opened in 1916, was renamed the Frank Paton Memorial Church after it was rebuilt in brick in 1941. This was to honour Frank Paton for his work in Foreign Missions and in Deepdene. Since 1977 it has been called the Frank Paton Memorial Uniting Church<sup>5</sup>. During the 'Great War' he and his brother Fred volunteered for service abroad as Chaplains<sup>6</sup>.

Rev. FHL Paton purchased lot 2 Harvey Street and Lot 12 Parker Street from Mary E. Link for a total of 30 pounds in 1914. Their cottage named 'The Hut' was constructed on Lot 12 by local builder Walter Harrison in 1916, after arranging a loan of 200 pounds through J.M. Carroll of the Union Trustees to be paid back in monthly instalments of 2 pounds. Their friend the Rev. JL Forrest built on the adjoining rear block Lot 2 in Harvey Street. The Patons shared a river boathouse near Parker Street with the Forrest family. This was later sold to the Hunt family.



Rev. FHL and Clara Paton with Rev. Wilkin at 'The Hut'

Originally 'The Hut' consisted of one large living room with a log fire place, a tiny kitchen with fuel stove, and one little dressing room and a wide veranda. It became known as "The veranda with a house attached". The 1919 fire narrowly missed both these holiday cottages<sup>7</sup>. Rev. FHL Paton also purchased Lot 11 (1 acre) on the corner of Parker and Jackson Streets for 35 pounds from Ross in 1920. Lot 11 was then subdivided into two parts. Ken and George Paton each erected a house on a part of this lot.

The Geelong Advertiser reported 16/1/1917 that the Rev FHL Paton and Rev. JL Forrest conducted the opening service of the Presbyterian Church at Anglesea. The Paton family donated a Communion Table at the opening of the new Uniting Church in 1994<sup>1</sup>.

<b>Francis Heyer</b>		
B: 31 Oct. 1898, Geelong Vic.	Died in infancy age 18 months.	
D: 23 April 1900, Aniwa, New Hebrides		
<b>Prof. Sir George Whitecross</b>		
Married: 11 July 1931	Alice Watson	
B: 31 August 1902, Geelong	Children: 4	B: 2 January 1905
D: 16 June 1985 Melbourne		D: 20 January

<b>Francis Heyer</b>		
B: 31 Oct. 1898, Geelong Vic. D: 23 April 1900, Aniwa, New Hebrides	Died in infancy age 18 months.	
<b>Prof. Sir George Whitecross</b>	Married: 11 July 1931	Alice Watson
B: 31 August 1902, Geelong D: 16 June 1985 Melbourne	Children: 4	B: 2 January 1905 D: 20 January 1994
George graduated Bachelor Arts (1924) with first-class honours in sociology and philosophy and Masters(1926). He was Victorian Rhodes Scholar for 1926 and read law at Magdalen College Oxford where he developed a passion for jurisprudence. He was appointed Chair of Jurisprudence at the University of Melbourne in 1931 and in 1951 he became vice-chancellor, first to be chosen from inside the university. He retired in 1968 having received honorary doctorates from the universities of Sydney(1955),Queensland(1959),Western Ontario, Canada(1959), Glasgow (1963),London(1963) and Tasmania(1963). Melbourne University conferred an honorary LL.D in 1971 <sup>8</sup> .		
<b>Rev. James Kennedy (Ken)</b>	Married: 1932	Florence May Gibbons (May)
B: 25 October 1904, Geelong D: 28 March 1974	Children: 2	B: 14 August 1904 D: 30 July 1999
Ken attended Scotch College, Melbourne 1914 – 1922 <sup>9</sup> . He moved to rural Victoria and was inducted into Presbytery of Mortlake 1938 <sup>10</sup> . Ken is buried at Grovedale with his wife, May.		
<b>Clara Margaret (Peggy)</b>	Married: 17 November 1932	Rev. Hedley Percival Bunton
B: 23 July 1908, Kew Vic. D: 15 May 2002 Sydney NSW	Children: 5	B: 18 January 1906, Tasmania D: 23 October 1997 Sydney
Peggy received her B.A. and Dip Ed at the Melbourne University where she met Hedley. <p>“At the Melbourne University I met my future wife, Peggy Paton, who belonged to the famous Paton missionary family of the New Hebrides. She had hoped to go as a teacher to the Presbyterian Church in Korea but eventually decided to go to China with me.”<sup>11</sup></p> <p>“At the end of 1973, just over 41 years after we first went to live and work on the South China coast in Canton and then in Hong Kong, we left on retirement. Our lives had been linked for so long with the Chinese people, our children had been born and brought up among them, and we ourselves owed so much to their friendship and their culture that it was hard to leave.”<sup>11</sup></p> <p>In 2004 the family laid Peggy's ashes to rest beside those of Hedley's in "The Island", i.e. the small piece of ground in the middle of the driveway's "round about" in front of the garage.<sup>1</sup></p>		
<b>Elizabeth Heyer (Betty)</b>	Married: 22 December 1941	Dr Frank Richard Ashton OBE
B: 12 February 1911, Geelong D: 28 May 1971, Melbourne	Children: 0	B: 10 November 1901 North India D:
Betty married Dr Frank Ashton just before Hong Kong fell to the Japanese in 1941. <p>Ashton, who had qualifications from Edinburgh and Liverpool, was a third generation missionary for the London Missionary Society <sup>12</sup>.</p> <p>They were interned at Stanley Camp during the occupation of Hong Kong by the Japanese 1941-45 <sup>13</sup>.</p> <p>After the Second World War, Ashton was superintendent of the Nethersole Hospital, Hong Kong (one of the oldest missionary hospitals in Asia) until 1963. In 1958, he was awarded OBE “for public services in Hong Kong”.</p> <p>In 1967 he published a history of the hospital entitled <i>Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital, Hong Kong. 1887 – 1967</i>.</p>		
<b>Frances Amy</b>	Married: 1954	Rev. Dr Robin Hugh Steele Boyd
B: 2 March 1918, Melbourne D: 24 April 1998, Melbourne	Children: 2	B: 14 May 1924 D:
<i>Continued page 6</i>		

Francis and Robin rebuilt the garage at the Hut when it looked like disintegrating. Family were not game to trust their cars in it, so it became a woodshed before being rebuilt. They also helped to rebuild the veranda during the 1950's with the help of other family members<sup>1</sup>.

Robin H S Boyd was a missionary of the Irish Presbyterian Church and Vice-Principal of the Gujarat United School of Theology for 20 years. He wrote about Christianity in India from the practical situation of an Irish missionary who has served in that nation as a teacher of theology and a presbyter of the Church of North India. He received a Foundation Scholarship in Classics at Trinity College Dublin in 1943<sup>14</sup>. Frances is buried at Bellbrae Cemetery.

A family member, Clare Boyd-Macrae, has written in her blog about the importance of 'The Hut' in Anglesea to the family. She observed that it was a constant in the life of the Paton (and Heyer) families who as ministers and missionaries moved all over the world, living in different houses and mission fields. The Hut was the closest they came to an 'ancestral seat', and is a location of huge family significance. (15)

References:

<sup>1</sup> "The Hut" by Peggy Bunton

<sup>2</sup> The life of Rev. Dr John Gibson Paton [www.bunton.id.au/patontre.life.html](http://www.bunton.id.au/patontre.life.html)

<sup>3</sup> Rev. George Heyer 1843-1921 Clara Elisabeth Heyer nee Kummer 1847-1924 [www.bunton.id.au/patontre/heyer.html](http://www.bunton.id.au/patontre/heyer.html)

<sup>4</sup> Lindsay Braden's Research Notes On Early Anglesea Families (ADHS Inc.) 1999 p.25

<sup>5</sup> Early Balwyn and Deepdene Churches, in Balwyn Historical Society, A Compilation of Newsletter Articles, January-December 2010 p.3

<sup>6</sup> Rev. Frank H.L. Paton 1870 – 1938 and Clara Sophia Paton nee Heyer 1875 – 1966  
[www.bunton.id.au/patontregdae.html](http://www.bunton.id.au/patontregdae.html)

<sup>7</sup> Lindsay Braden's Early Anglesea Houses and Structures (ADHS Inc.) 1999 p.10

<sup>8</sup> J.R. Poynter, Biography – Sir George Whitecross Paton – Australian Dictionary of Biography. <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/paton-sir-george-whitecross-15033> (4/11/2015)

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.scotch.vic.edu.au/greatscot/2009mayGS/80.htm>

<sup>10</sup> *Camperdown Chronicle*, 20 September 1938

<sup>11</sup> Retrieved from: *Forty Years of China* (<http://www.bunton.id.au/china40y/index.html>) by Hedley Bunton

<sup>12</sup> The Chronicle of the London Missionary Society 1926

<sup>13</sup> Biographical Dictionary of Medical Practitioners in Hong Kong: 1841 - 1941

<sup>14</sup> Trinity College Dublin web site

<sup>15</sup> Clare Boyd-Macrae Blog: Leaving, Friday January 16, 2015 10:24pm

## INTERNET SITES OF INTEREST

Victorian Places website at <http://www.victorianplaces.com.au/>

The website combines original research with newly digitised sources to provide the historical and current context for over 1600 Victorian settlements including cities, towns, villages, suburbs and shires. Entries are illustrated with historical and recent photographs held in private collections and provide references to sources for further reading.

Passengers in History website at <http://passengersinhistory.sa.gov.au/>

This new website is an initiative of the South Australian Maritime Museum. It brings together two resources: A passengers database developed by the SA Maritime Museum, which includes entries for 250,000 passengers and 20,000 voyages to South Australia between 1836 and 1961

A list of ships' logs and diaries, titled Log of Logs, which lists logs, letters and diaries of voyages to Australia

At the beginning of the new year, Public Records Office Victoria again opened a number of officially closed records, making public hundreds of records relating to Victoria's history. The records are of particular interest to family historians waiting on files that mention members of their family tree.

The full list of opened records is at:

<http://prov.vic.gov.au/blog-news/personal-victorian-histories-revealed-in-newly-opened-archives>

WW1 hospital diaries go online from UK National Archives. See news item at:

<http://www.centenarynews.com/article/ww1-hospital-diaries-go-online-from-uk-national-archives>

The diaries cover not only UK forces, but also units from Australia, Canada, India and New Zealand who fought as part of the British Empire. They are part of a large series of records, WO 95, which contains many more diaries scheduled for digitisation as part of The National Archives First World War 100 centenary program. To read a description of this series and to search, go to: <http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/r/C14303>