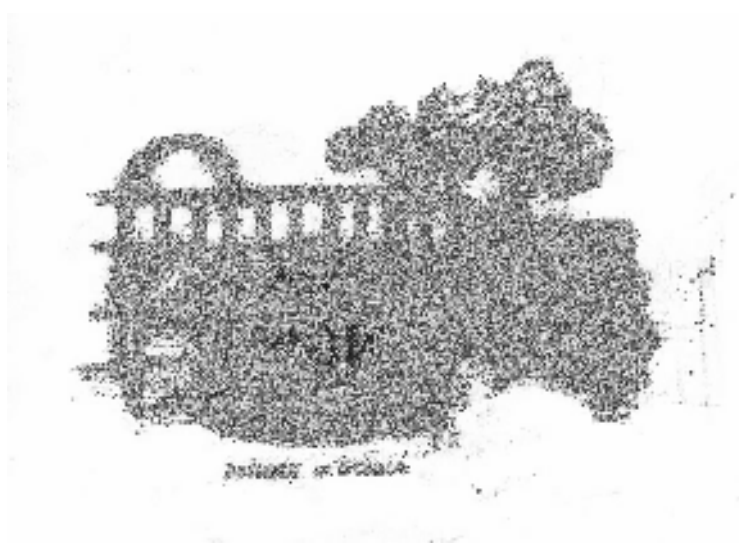


Bridges & Branches

Number 61

March 2006



**NEWSLETTER
of the
ECHUCA-MOAMA FAMILY HISTORY
GROUP INC.**

PO Box 707, Echuca, Vic. 3564

Echuca-Moama Family History Group Inc

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Meetings held in the Community Health Centre, Martin Street, Moama, on the third Thursday at 8.00 pm from Sept. to Apr., and the third Saturday at 1.30 pm from May to Aug. No meetings Dec. or Jan.

Lost, Stolen or Strayed

It is generally agreed that sending the incoming Newsletters around interested members of the Group, in the Newsletter packs, is a great innovation. However, at the moment a number of these packs seem to have gone missing. Would **everyone** please check their bookshelves and newspaper pile etc. to see if they can be located. Their absence leaves gaps in our files. Also, before leaving packs on someone's door step, **please** check incase they are actually out of town!

Cemetery Walks

Changing to evening Cemetery Walks during the Summer months has been a successful innovation, with good interest each month. The last evening walk for this season will be Saturday 11th March, when Peter Garfield's walk will feature "River Boat Men". The walk will leave the main gate at 7.00pm. The walk on Saturday 8th April will feature "Symbols and the Story They Tell". A gold coin donation for EMFHG funds is requested.

Help Wanted

Looking for any information on Henry David Pope born 29th October 1877 Dandenong.
Married Mary Elizabeth Hill in 1911, had a son Graham.
Moved to Sydney and had a shop in Pitt Street Sydney.
Henry was an electroplater and silver smith
contact *Dianne Marsh*, c/- Torrumbarry Post Office Torrumbarry 3562.

PRESIDENTS PAGE

Happy New Year to all members of EMFHG and readers of Bridges and Branches. What did you do over the holidays? I made use of a subscription to Ancestry.com to find extended family living in England and Wales, using the indexes to the 1851, 1861, 1871, 1891 and 1901 census records and then viewing the original census images online, which can be printed or saved to computer. I found a lot of information about my great grandfather's siblings and their descendants. It was great fun!

We have spent the \$500 grant from the Shire of Campaspe towards the purchase of a new computer system which has been installed in the research room, next to the micro film reader.

The following are some internet links which you might find useful and interesting.

- You can search the Western Australian 1841-1905 BDM Index online (free), at: <http://www.justice.wa.gov.au/portal/server.pt> Go to Family History, and then use the menu at side of page.
- The Argus newspaper can now be searched online at the National Library of Australia website for the period 1870- 1879. It is at <http://www.nla.gov.au/argus/> I put ECHUCA in the search box and it found 1198 articles. 236 for Moama, 134 for Rochester, 21 for Barmah and 69 for Howe.
- Deniliquin Genealogy Society Webpage is at www.bordernet.com.au/~denifhg
- Links to on-line transcriptions of UK births, marriages and deaths by county: <http://www.ukbmd.org.uk>
- UK Look-up Exchange Index - <http://aztecrose.tripod.com/LookupExchange.htm> For anyone who doesn't know what it's all about, it is an ever-growing list of volunteers who have resources in their possession and who are willing to do "look-ups". Why not take a look? Click on the area/county that you are interested in. Please take time to read the instructions if this is your first visit.

Welcome Night to the Echuca area.

Pearl and Craig will be representing our Group at the "Welcome Night" to be held at the Moama Bowling Club, at 8.00pm, on 3rd April. If anyone would care to join them they would be most welcome. It is a great chance to make know our Group's activities to new comers to the area..

The Editors welcomes articles, notes, queries, book reviews, comments and any items of interest. Contributions to Bridges & Branches are accepted in good faith but the Echuca-Moama Family History Group Inc or the Editors, do not accept responsibility for the accuracy of information nor for the opinions expressed.

Items can be emailed to:-

pcollins1@iinet.net.au or ksduarrant@ozsky.net or rrkelly@iinet.net.au

Some Glass History

Every family has a story, history, to tell and it didn't dawn on me that one day we'd be researching and writing our families' histories. Life certainly isn't boring.

When the Waranga-Mallee channel was built through the Rochester area in the early 1900's many teams of horses, also bullock teams shifted massive amounts of earth with their scoops, making a path for this liquid gold that would soon be coming through. In 1906 the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission (SRWSC) was set up and in 1907. Dr Elwood Mead, an American engineer and irrigation expert, was persuaded by the Victorian government, to head up the *recently created SRWSC. He worked with closer settlement authorities, so named because of the dividing up of bigger holding into small ones to accommodate irrigation to create a series of irrigation areas. And it was because of his vision and enterprise over the following eight years that laid the foundation of irrigation, as we know it today. It was he, who finally overcame the prejudice and argument that existed against the introduction of intense culture under irrigation. All that good land being carved up!

Land was purchased at a range of locations, White Cliffs (now Merbein), Swan Hill, Nyah, Cohuna, Bamawm, Rochester Nanneella, Koyuga and Tongala. Elwood Mead also toured England, Europe and the USA in 1910 to attract immigrant farmers to these wonderful new irrigation settlements. Around 50,000 came during the next three years. Assisted steamship passages and rail fares were available for prospective settlers on these irrigation blocks, which were valued at £8-0-0 to £15-0-0 per acre. Terms for repayment were fixed at 6% of the capital value per annum for 31½ years.

Mr J. Roy was appointed district accounting officer. Amongst the migrants to take up these offers were the Glass brothers Alf and Nelson, from Wiltshire, England. They came with their references and were met at the Rochester Railway Station by Mr Roy who brought them out to Nanneella to show them two blocks. One was previously forfeited and the other one abandoned. They made a choice and then had to be "discerned whether suitable applicants or not" by Mr Roy who then introduced them to Mr Elwood Mead. A Mr Huland who knew Alf and Nelson in England, recommended them as "suitable English settlers with farming experience". Their home was two storage room (quote) on 90 acres with some? fencing. Now to learn to irrigate the property. After much trial and error, they decided that this area "was very suitable for what they wanted to achieve". They grew fruit and vegetables and bought a few cows and sold cream to the creamery at Nanneella, gradually increasing their stock numbers. Alf and Nelson were amongst the first to install milking machine in the district.

Amongst the English known to the Glass's who came out to Australia were Mr W.S. Locke and his wife. They opened the first store in Nanneella west of where the present one is. Mr Bob Smith also came but he returned to England, joined the army and on discharge came back to Nanneella with his bride and bought a property in the district. Alan their son, now lives in Moama.

In the 1920's Nelson met his heart throb. In 1929 he bought a farm north east of the original. He married Kit Wilson from the Strathallan store in 1930 and Joe their son is on the home property still.

Joe and Pat Glass 13.2.2006

Ed: What happened to Alf?

Research---does it ever finish?

Around 3 years ago, I began to take an interest in my family's history. I started looking at my Mothers family. It has been a time consuming interest, a journey full of frustration, but a wonderful lot of excitement each time I finds another member of the family.

My great great grandparents, John and Sarah Aplin arrived at Port Philip in May 1848 on the *William Stewart* as assisted migrants from England. Along with Sarah and John were two sons, Walter and Samual. Sarah and John had 6 more children after arriving in their new country. One of the children born to John and Sarah was my grand grandmother, Louisa Aplin. The name of Aplin disappears from later records and the name of Taylor appears against the children's name, but that is a story for another time.

In 1867 Louisa, daughter of John and Sarah Aplin, then 16 years married James Waters 34 years, on Colbinabbin Station. Louisa and James had a number of children, one being my grandmother Catherine, born 25 February 1870.

Catherine met and married James Patrick Webb. Their first child Voilet Louisa was born 1892 and registered in Echuca with Catherine registering her maiden name correctly as Waters. The next two children Lawrence James & Gertrude Mary were born at Perricoota Station. Again Catherine registered her maiden name as Waters. The next child Margaret Lillian was born in Echuca, and Catherine registered her maiden name as Hill. At no time did Catherine change her married name. So the question that is now consuming me is why did she change her maiden name?

Had her father died and mother re married? I have no idea. I cannot find any registration of a death of James Waters. I

cannot find any marriage of Louisa to a Hill. I cannot find any death of Louisa Waters or Louisa Hill. Are they still on this earth? I think not.

A guess one day all will be revealed and I will be very excited. But until then-----

Margaret Hart

Margaret.Hart@sci.monash.edu.au

(03) 5482 6235

Great grandparents

* * * * *

John Hastie, born 1818 Jedburgh Scotland, son of Robert Hastie, a stonemason, & Jane Oliver. John married Elizabeth Jane Emerson in 1844, Co. Down Ireland. Elizabeth Jane daughter of Samuel Emerson and Ann Brown. six children were born in Ireland. Robert 1844, Anne 1845, William 1847 (dec), William 1849, Samuel 1852, Ralph 1854. In December 1854, John and Elizabeth and their five children sailed from Liverpool to Australia on the *Red Jacket* arriving at Geelong March 1855. John went to the property of the Learmonth Brothers at Ercildourne, Ballarat West District as Station Manager. Three more children were born – Jane 1856, Catherine 1858, James 1860.

In 1875 John bought land at Ballan Vic. John died 1891. Elizabeth Jane died 1908 both at Ballan. Only William, Samuel and James married. Only Samuel (my husband's grandfather) and James had children. Samuel had four boys and James three boys and two girls.

Robert died at Jerilderie NSW 1883. Anne died 1934, Samuel died 1932, Ralph died 1898, Jane died 1939, Catherine died 1918 all at Ballan. William died 1909 NZ. James

Martinus and Margareta HOLZER

Martinus, born 1807 and Margareta, nee Kock, born 1809, Holzer, arrived in Australia on the barque *Dockenhuden* in April, 1852 with their nine children - Martin, 1830; Anton, 1832; Anna Marie, 1835; Johannes, 1837; Maria Eva, 1841; Georg Joseph, 1843; Odilia Christine, 1845; Heinrich, 1847 and Catherina Sophia, 1849; born in Erbach and Oberwalluf, Germany. The family was fleeing Germany with many others for political reasons. Martinus died at 84 years in 1889 and Margareta in 1887 and are both buried in the Boroondara Cemetery.

Martinus' occupation is noted as a Countryman and Brickmaker. After arriving in Melbourne, Martinus, his sons and his partner Augustus Fritsch operated the Fritsch Holzer Brickworks in Camberwell Road, Hawthorn. Many old buildings around Melbourne were built of these bricks, including the Boroondara and Brighton Cemeteries, many Victorian State schools and some State Government buildings. Members of both the Holzer and Fritsch families were involved in running the business. The brickworks closed in 1971 after more than a century in business, due to protests from local residents about the industrial pollution of the air. The area is now the Fritsch Holzer Park.

The family was quite wealthy, with properties in the Camberwell/Hawthorn area. Unfortunately, my descendant Georg Joseph was somehow disinherited, and was buried in an unmarked grave in the Boroondara Cemetery.

Robyn Dyson

The man who does things makes many mistakes, but he never makes the biggest mistake of all - doing nothing.

James and Maria WALKER

My great great grandfather, James Walker, born abt 1838, is first recorded in Victoria as being married to Maria Ann Mason on 4th March, 1863 at St. James Church, Melbourne. His parents were Henry Walker and Matilda, nee Fisher. They had nine children by this marriage - William Henry, 1865; James Edward, 1867; Elizabeth Mary, 1867; Sidney, 1872; Lorraine, 1875; Florence, 1878; Myrtle May, 1882; Ellen Matilda, 1885; and Eric Charles, 1888. They were all born in Cranbourne, went to the local school at Clyde North and lived mostly in the eastern suburbs of Melbourne (Hawthorn, Heidelberg, Blackburn and Surrey Hills) as adults.

James worked his 60 acre farm in Clyde, near Cranbourne with his father in law William Mason Snr. and brother in law William Mason Jnr. until 1887, when there was just 9 acres left. He then moved to Haines Street, Hawthorn where he died in 1915. Maria died in 1925 and both are buried in the Box Hill Cemetery with their son William Henry.

I cannot find any record of James arriving in Victoria around 1846, the year indicated on his death certificate. He would have been only around 8 years old. Also, I cannot find any record of either of his parents coming to Victoria at this time. Did he swim?

New Members

Rosemary Bowen
Glenda Duke
Margaret Hart
Peter Haynes
Paula Jones

Welcome to the Group.

MARRIED

On Monday the 19th inst. At St Peter's Church,
Mr George Seward Treacey, to Julia, youngest
daughter of Daniel O'Reilly, Esq, of Elizabeth Street, Melbourne

The above notice is from 'The Argus' newspaper, Tuesday 20th July 1852.

I have been unable to match this with a marriage in Digger's Pioneer Index or a certificate from Victorian BDM's.

George Seward Treacy/Tracy/Tracey born Circa 1803, arrived at Port Phillip in 1841 with his wife Maria Winter and their seven children. George's wife, Maria died in 1845, leaving him in a position to remarry. I have been unable to find a death for George Seward Treacy.

George also had a son named George Seward Treacy born Cir 1834 in Ireland. George Seward would have been old enough to marry in 1852. He married Catherine McRae on 20th October 1857 at the Independent Church, Collins St, Melbourne. From the Index of the Divorce

Cause Book, I was able to find that George Seward and Catherine were divorced in 1861.

On George Seward Treacy's Victorian Death Certificate in 1910, it states under :
If Married – Single.

Information is needed please for where and how to gain access to marriage records for 1852 at St Peter's Church, Melbourne.

Contact with other researchers with a Daniel O'Reilly or Julia O'Reilly in their family trees, who lived in Melbourne around 1852, would be appreciated.

Ruth O'Connor

1 Morton St. Rochester, 3561

Victoria, Australia.

E-mail – rocdo@bigpond.net.au

Alfred John RANDALL

My father was a soldier
His hat turned up one side
And with five hundred horses
He crossed the ocean wide
And when he reached the shores of Egypt
They fought the desert war
Then to recover from his injuries
He came to England's shores

And that is where he met her
And he never could forget her
No matter how he tried
So when he came back home again
He brought a Pommy bride
And those that were who spurned her
And the Aussie sun it burned her
But nought on earth could dim the spirit of
This lovely Pommy bride

Now many years have come and gone
Since the day she died
But I know some day we'll meet again
And she'll take me by the hand
And again I'll walk beside
My mum, the Pommy bride.

Written for the first time by Ken Randall today 5.12.2005, his 79th birthday. It has been composed for many years in Ken's head and is about his father and mother who married in England.

Alfred John Randall 23.3.1892 – 16.4.1978 and his mother

*Alice Frances Banks 4.9.1885 – 10.10.1974
Their children are Beryl, Ken b. 1926 and a still born baby (1928)*

Ken's children are Gregory, Stephen, Neville and Philip.



MEMBERS' Profiles



Please contact EMFHG Inc for a printed copy of our newsletter if you would like to read our members profiles.

Fees may apply.

Two's Company!

My Great Auntie Eva May Louisa Pope was born in 1889 at Richmond. She first married in 1912 to Charles Frederick Bunnett and had two children. After Charles died in 1932, she married Henry Fearon Bell in Bendigo in 1935. Henry died in 1960 age 82 yrs, and at the spritely age of 75 yrs, in 1964 Eva married Wootton Charles Lansell. She certainly didn't stay single for long. When she died in 1975 aged 86 she was buried with her first two husbands in the Bendigo Cemetery. I wonder why she wasn't buried with Wootton who had died in 1971.

Dianne Marsh

More New Members

Helen Meddings
Joan M. Mitchell
Adrain Moore
Carolyn Nunan
Liz Prentice
Margaret Schroder
Marlene & Keith Ward
Beverly Wells
Welcome to you all.

Gregory

My great great grandfather, William Gregory was born in Dublin in 1822 and graduated from the Royal College of Surgeons of England 1849. He returned to Finglas and married Maria Blakeley in Dublin 1849. William's father William, also a surgeon, ran the Doctor Gregory's Lunatic Asylum at Finglas Bridge but William and his wife and their daughter, Mary Charlotte, set sail for Australia aboard the *Marco Polo* in 1853. William set up his medical practice in Lenox Street in Richmond in Melbourne, in 1854. He and Maria had three more children, William Robert, and twins, Emily Maria and Adolphus Henry. William died in Lenox Street, Richmond, in 1873, and Maria died at Carrum, in 1889.

Mary Charlotte Gregory married a seed merchant, William Wallace Cuthbert from Liverpool, and had two children, Mary and James.

William Robert died at 17 years of age.

Emily Maria married William Charles Huybers and they went to America.

Adolphus Henry, my great grandfather, married Mary Josephs, nee Wrought, and owned the Bayview Hotel in Frankston, where the Grand Hotel now stands. They had four children, Hilda, my grandmother, William, Kathleen and Dorothea. Hilda married Arthur George Wilcox and had three children. Arthur, lived three days, Hilda, my mother, and Mary. Hilda married Herbert Lindsay Grant Fegent and that is where I began. I married Lawrence James Trewartha and we had three children, Ian, Judith and Neil. I have a brother, Howard who married Rhonda Isobel Ford and had three children, Shelly (still born) Scott and Renae.

Lesley Trewartha

William Joseph Bolger

During a holiday in the UK last year we travelled to Liverpool where my grandfather, William Joseph Bolger was born. According to his birth certificate he was born at 34 Roscommon Street, Everton, in the Registration District of West Derby and Toxteth Park in the County of Lancaster.

He was born on 3rd June 1869 to Philip Bolger and Catherine Toole. He was the youngest of 7 children and came to Australia with his parents, sister Mary and brother Michael c.1889. He died on 1st January 1950 in Malvern and is buried in Springvale Cemetery.

We have photos of Roscommon Street but it is very different now to 1869. The housing is modern but there are beautiful trees and open spaces.

I do not know at this stage on what ship my ancestors came to Australia, but hopefully I will be able to find out in due course.

Margaret Grigg

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New book for research

I have obtained a new family history book "The Skene Family in Australia 1852-2002: Descendants of George Skene and Marion McConchie"

Third son, George Skene was born in Kirkcudbrigh, Scotland in 1796 and he married Jane Ireland before they travelled to Mt Elephant station in Victoria.

The Skene name is noted to be also spelt Skien, Skein & Skeen.

If anyone has these names I'm happy to do lookups.

Robyn Kelly, 81 Shackell St, Echuca 3564

Ph 03 801311 rkelly@iinet.net.au

William Ross Thomson

William (Willie) Ross Thomson (1831-1918) was born Tain, Ross-shire, Scotland, the third son of David Thomson, a wood turner, and Mary Ann Ross. He married (1) Elizabeth Barker in 1862 at Mt. Camel, near Redcastle, Victoria, at the home of Edward Barker and his wife, Eliza, nee Leswell, Elizabeth's parents.

William, a blacksmith, had arrived on the Victorian goldfields about 1854, via Adelaide, with his older brother John, who went missing in Ballarat about 1856 after a rich find of gold and was not seen again. William paid rates at Beechworth in 1859, then lived in the Heathcote area. He bought title to 80 acres at Toolleen in 1875 and made his home there. His blacksmithing is evident in grave enclosures at Axedale, White Hills, Bendigo, and the Barker grave at Redcastle.

Edward and Eliza Barker and seven children born in Newington, Westminster (Eliza b 1830 m William Walsh, James b 1833, Edward b 1836, Elizabeth b 1839, Laura b 1841, Sina Gage b 1844 m Robert Kirk, and John George b 1847) arrived at Port Phillip on the ship *Maitland* in 1850, and walked behind drays to their new home on Mr. Chadwick's Edward River run north of the Murray River. Twins were born there in 1850, Peter and Elisha. A few years later the family moved to Heathcote and then farmed at Redcastle.

Children of William and Elizabeth Thomson: Annie b 1865, Emy b 1867 m Will Walker of Fenton's Creek, Edward (Ted) b 1870 (my grandfather, also a blacksmith) m Christiana Hansen, and Lily b 1873. (Three children died in infancy). Elizabeth died in 1876, and in 1877 William married (2) Laura, sister of Elizabeth; their two daughters were Laura

Isabella b 1878 m Charles Pascoe, and Margaret May b 1881 m Richard Wade.

Children of Ted and Christiana Thomson: Emy b 1904, Margaret Isabella b 1905, and Freda b 1908.

John Jones

Marg Brughera brughera@melbpc.org.au

* * * * *

John Jones (1815-1884) son of Griffith Jones and Elizabeth Thomas, was born in Llanfairfechan, Caernarvonshire, Wales, on the 6 January 1815. He was their eldest living child. The younger children were: William b 1816, Richard b 1819, Grace b 1825, Catherine b 1826, Jane b 1829, Margaret b 1833, Griffith (Glan Menai, his bardic name) b c.1836. As Glan Menai, Griffith appeared at many eisteddfods, and had several books published.

John became a blacksmith, and married Mary Roberts, daughter of Richard Roberts and Margaret Williams. Their home was in Brynderwen at Fachwen, near Dinorwic, Caernarvon, site of the quarry where John Jones worked. The house was still occupied in 2004. Children of John Jones and Mary Roberts: Elizabeth b 1845, m Robert Roberts 1869 and emigrated to the USA, Richard b 1847, Margaret b 1852, m Thomas Closs Williams who was a union representative for the quarrymen, and Griffith (Griff) my grandfather, b 1857 who attended University College in Aberystwyth, studied theology at New College in Edinburgh, and emigrated to Melbourne in 1886 on the ship *Hampshire*. He preached at the Welsh Church in Melbourne, and to the Welsh miners in Ipswich Queensland. Rev. G.R. Jones married Christina Cameron, daughter of Donald and Eliza Cameron of 'Dunan', at Merino in 1895.

He was inducted into Presbyterian churches at Merino, Broadford and Kerang, serving his community until 1925, when his poor health caused him to retire. He continued to preach as a supply minister in Melbourne. He died in Sandringham in

1949; his wife Christina died in 1956.

Children of Griffith and Christina were: Margaret b 1896 m Dr. John Grieve, Ian b 1900 m Margaret Thomson (my parents), Dilys b 1903 m Finlay MacNab, and Mary b 1907 m Hodgson Boazman of Roma

Aunt Emma's glass beads

When I was a little girl I used to admire the two strings of orange glass beads that sat on my mother's bedroom dressing table. One string was a clear dark orange and the other although glass was opaque and a different shade. One still bore the price tag. My mother never wore either string. I always wondered where these beads had come from. After the depression there were no extra funds to buy 'things' that would not be used. Did she inherit these and if so from whom?

When my parent's house was divided up in 1964, the two strings of beads went to my elder sister. I was unmarried and no where to store things.

Just the other day, my sister was having a 'clean up and disposal' and passed the two strings to me, one still with the price tag on. My joy knew no bounds.

The three Stavelly girls Essey, Annie and Emma owned a clothing, haberdashery and manchester shop in Maryborough Victoria from about the late 1800's to about 1925.

They were sisters to my maternal grandmother who had died in childbirth in 1908.

I now know that the beads came from the shop when Aunt Emma had her clearing sale. I guess they were given to my

Family books for research

mother, Emma's eldest niece.

Pearl Collins

'At the Ford of the Birches' – The history of Ballybay, its people and vicinity by James H Murnane & Peadar Murnane 1999. Ballybay is located in Monaghan Ireland.

'Marrabel and District – The Legend of Curio'. Marrabel is located in the North Mount Lofty Ranges of South Australia and tells of the families and the district Rodeo's.

'Quorn and District Centenary 1878-1978'.

'The Quiet Waters By – Mount Pleasant District 1843-1993' – by Reg Butler.

This book takes in the towns of, Springton, Mt Crawford, Eden Valley, Tungkillo, Gumeracha, Mount Torrens, Rockleigh, Harrogate and Palmer in South Australia to mention a few.

'Head of the Waters' A district history of Black Springs, Manoora and Waterloo', by Alison Palmer 1992.

If any reader has an interest in any of these

Too many people hit the hay when they should be making it.

The Echuca Moama Family History Group Inc owns 9 £1 English postage stamps. Do you need to send a SSAE from England to get your research results. Pearl Collins has them at her place. According to exchange rates our dollar buys 43 p worth of English money.. so every stamp is worth about \$2.50pm I'd be pleased to sell them to you! ph 03 54821139

My Norman Saga

The first, Joseph Norman was born 1858, at Great Wilbraham Cambridgeshire UK. The first child born to Charles Norman and Catherine Nunn, came to Australia after June 1881. He married Emma Jane Walker in Ballarat in 1884. They had 5 children: Catherine Elizabeth, Mahala, Florence Emma, Elsie May and Charles Joseph. In 1897 when Charles Joseph was 4 years old, Emma married Frank Daniel Johnston at Ballarat. I have not found a death for Joseph as yet.

The second, Joseph Norman, aged 23, a farm labourer from Cambridgeshire, came to Australia on the *Quetta* in 1888 as a free passenger. He was under engagement but left no forward address of person to whom engaged or a private residence. He arrived in Cooktown Qld, and then was transported to Townsville Immigration Depot.

The third, Joseph Norman died 29 March 1921, at the Echuca Hospital, as a result of an injury inflicted by a F.J. Cook (as of inquest 19 April 1921) His usual residence was the Pastoral Hotel in Echuca. Religion C/E. He was buried in an unmarked grave at the Echuca Cemetery on the 30 March. Grave no 319 in the Circle Section. His age on death record was 55 yrs, parents unknown. According to the inquest reports on 'The Gunbower Tragedy' in the Riverine Herald dated 30 & 31 March, and 1 & 20 April, and the 11 May 1921, Joseph was a widower and had been residing at the Pastoral Hotel for 6 months prior to his death. No relatives having been located, A number of his sporting comrades undertook to defray the burial expenses and placed a floral wreath on his grave. His age quoted as being between 50-58yrs. He was described as a man of temperate habits, a reserved man that kept to himself.

I would be interested to know:

When the first Joseph died and where he is buried. Joseph had two brothers also in Ballarat, being James Leonard and John Nunn Norman. These Normans were first cousins to my grandfather Henry Simpkin.

Then, who was the second Joseph ? He came on the same ship as my grandfather in 1888, from Cambridgeshire.

Maybe he is one of the following Joseph's in the 1888 census.

Jos (15 yrs) b. March Cambridgeshire?

Jos (18yrs) b. Great Wilbraham?

Jos (19yrs) born March Cambridgeshire (lodger)?

Finally, who was the third Joseph? Was he one of the above?

Helen Hastie, Tongala

* * * * *

A Long Wait

My Grandfather Charles William Pope, born 1892 had 4 older sisters and 2 older brothers. One of his sisters Nellie Ethel Pope may have had Downs Syndrome and had the mental age of 3 yrs all of her life. When her parents Henry and Rosa died, Nellie went to live with Mrs Phillips in Fitzroy and when they couldn't look after her she went to live with Mrs Phillip's sister in Echuca. Nellie died in Echuca hospital in 1981 aged 98 yrs and is buried in the Echuca Cemetery.

When Nellie's Father died in 1932 his will stated that the estate couldn't be settled until Nellie's death some 49 years later. There is still money today sitting in trust for the descendants of Henry and Rosa. So it just goes to show it could be years before a will is finalized.

Dianne Marsh

Your most obedient servant - David Thomson

Public School
Wamboota
17th Mar. 1890

J.C. Maynard Esq.
Chief Inspector,
Dept. Pub. Instruction
Sydney
Sir,

I have the honor, most respectfully, to seek permission to close the school one Wednesday during the months of April and May as the Cricket Club to which I belong intend to play for a "Ten Guinea Trophy" which has been kindly given by one of the gentlemen in the district, and, as I am one of the principal members of the Wamboota C.C. I would very much like to assist my club in trying to win the "Trophy". As it is likely that two of the matches will be played on Wednesday I will feel greatly obliged if you will grant me permission to close school. I cannot give you the dates on which I wish to close as the drawing does not take place until next week, and, if I were

David Thomson was appointed to the Wamboota School, in 1884. The first Department teacher. Wamboota was later to become Wamboota.

The "Trophy" in question, was the *Dobinson Trophy* which had been presented by A & J Dobinson, Drapers of High Street, Echuca, for competition between cricket teams from Wamboota, Cummergunja, and Echuca.

Permission was apparently granted because David played in one match, on a Wednesday. The four McKindlay brothers were also in the team. In the first match against Cummergunja, Wamboota was comprehensively beaten with David being bowled for 1 run. However, in a later game, he top scored with 22 runs. After four matches, Cummergunja were the undisputed winners of the trophy.

On the 28 March 1894, David Thomson married Susan McKindlay at St Andrew's, Echuca and they took up residence at Gentleman's Halt, in the Hawksbury Valley.

In 1908, David was the head teacher at Uranquinty, south of Wagga Wagga. During the summer school holidays, David, Susan, with their three daughter, were staying in Melbourne, with other members of the McKindlay family, when Susan contracted typhoid fever. At the end of the holidays, David left Susan in a Melbourne hospital, and the girls with her family and returned to Uranquinty to open the school at the start of the new year. Just three weeks later, on the 1 March, David died of typhoid in the Wagga Wagga Hospital. When she recovered, Susan and the girls returned to Echuca where they lived with her sister, Helen, and their widowed mother, in Heygarth Street. After their mother's death, Susan, Helen and the girls moved to Melbourne.

George and Annis Bills

The names of Annis and George Bills became known throughout Australia and other parts of the world on plaques recording their gifts of drinking troughs for horses.

George Bills, who came from England as a boy, made a fortune in Australia and on his death, about 45 years ago, bequeathed £70,000 to build drinking troughs "for horses and other dumb animals wherever they are needed in the world."

This gift enabled 7000 concrete horse troughs to be built - 400 of them in Australian cities and country towns.

By his will, George Bills directed that the name of his wife, Annis (who died before him) should be associated with this charity for the benefit of animals. Mr and Mrs Bills had no children.

Two of his brothers came from England with George Bills. One of them became his partner as a wire-mattress maker in Sydney. The other went into a similar business in Melbourne.

George Bills left bequests in his will "for all his employees who had worked for him for five years or more and he also directed that £7 a week should be paid for life to a cripple boy in England who was the child of an old friend."

With the gradual disappearance of the horse from our roads, there was no need for more horse troughs, but the income from the Bills fortune was still used for animal welfare.

The George Bills Estate recently gave £5000 to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to build a rescue centre in Melbourne for injured stray animals.

The above report was found as a cutting from an unknown, undated newspaper. It probably appeared in about 1962, because George Bills died in 1927 at Baldwyn. His

wife, Annis, had died in England in 1910.

In actual fact at least five Bills brothers, and their parents Richard and Elizabeth (Harper) Bills and came to Australia, Henry (c1845-1936); Richard (c1857-1919); George (c1859-1927); John (c1864-1950); and Walter (c1867-1948) and all died in Victoria.

There was a story that one of the Bills brothers was a bird catcher, living on Perricoota Station. It was said that he caught cockatoos, galahs and parrots, which were shipped to Europe for sale. The story goes, it was on one of these sales trips, that George Bills saw wire-mattresses being made in Germany, and he returned home with the idea of producing the wire-mattresses in Australia. This he did most successfully, manufacturing the well known BBB mattresses.

The likelihood of a brother being a bird catcher at Perricoota is made more probable by the fact that the Bills family are known to have been in the area. On the 19 March 1877, an infant son of Richard and Elizabeth Bills, died and was buried at Moama, then in 1906, Walter Bills married Emily Adeline Lyons also at Moama. Emily's father, Thomas Lyons, was one of the early selectors on the blocks of land close to the Murray River, between Moama and Perricoota Station. Both Thomas and Emily's mother, Rhoda (Pridmore) Lyons were buried in the Moama Cemetery.

It is fitting that there is still one of the Bills Troughs at both Moama and Echuca. Unfortunately neither are in working order. Perhaps in 2007, their restoration would be a fitting project for one of the districts service organisations, to mark the 80th anniversary of George Bills' death, and his generous donation for the welfare "of horses and other dumb animals".

Shirley Durrant

New to the Library
25th October, 2005 - 15th January, 2006

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Books

Title & Author	Located
< Life! Nestle Magazine Winter 2005 Nestle	Misc.
# The Mansion at Werribee Park Parks Vic.	Vic Res.
Pyramid Hill – Profiles of our past 1960-1971 Pyramid Hill FHS	Local
# Army Cadets in Echuca John F. Muir	Local
** Land Freeholders from townships Parish Plans Book 1 by Roger Porteous	Vic
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## William & Elizabeth Stewart Family Tree by Jean McLean	Biog.
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Echuca – Moama FHG Inc. Members Interest Directory	Local
Maryborough Vic. 1854-1954 by Harold V Nunn	Vic
+ Toronto Public Library Genealogy Guidelines	Fold O/Seas

Riverine Herald - Films -

Reel No.	Years
8964	1 st Jan 1876 - 30 th Nov 1876
8965	2 nd Dec 1876 – 30 th Oct 1877
8966	1 st Nov 1877 – 31 st Aug 1878
8967	2 nd Sept 1878 – 28 th Feb 1879
8968	1 st March 1879 – 31 st July 1879
8969	1 st Aug 1879 – 17 th July 1880

Monster Garage Sale

The EMFHG is planning to hold a Garage Sale at Pearl's residence, **4 Porter St**, Moama, on Saturday 6th May. Members may either hold their own stall with a % of takings to the Group or donate goods for a combined Group stall. We will need plenty of staff on the day.

All those treasurers no longer needed, will be most welcome. Why not make this a win, win, win situation. You get a tidy house, the Group makes a handsome profit and you will get access to more research material. For further details contact Pearl Collins or Carol Miller

Discovery Bus Trip

The EMFHG is organizing a trip to Melbourne to visit the GSV, or PROV or the State Library in April, for a days research.

At our March Meeting Iris Pearce will be our speaker, and she will suggest what you need to do prior to going, to get the most out of a visit to one of these venues. Each has a vast collection of resources, so good preparation is time well spent.

If you are interested in being part of this excursion, would you please let John Howe or one of the committee know **ASAP**, so we can decide whether we will need a bus, or if cars are the best option.

If undeliverable return to
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