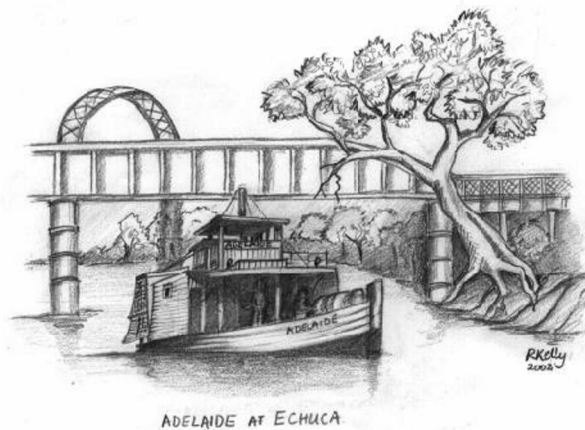


Bridges & Branches

Number 76 December 2009



**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 7.30 pm from September to April, and the third Saturday at 1.30 pm from May to August. No meetings December or January.

The **Research Room** is open and manned every Monday, and the first and third Friday of each month from 11.00am-3.00pm, the third Sunday of each month from 1.00pm - 3.00pm

At other times contact Pearl Collins for information. (5482 1139)

Family History Classes in the New Year.

Family History Classes will be conducted by E-MFHG again in April. Details of the classes, which will be held on Tuesday nights and Wednesday afternoons, will be advertised in the March addition of Bridges & Branches and the *Riverine Herald*

Coming Events

Thu 18th February 6.30pm for a Dinner Meeting at the Caledonian Hotel

Thu 18th March 6.00pm at the Moama Cemetery car park, for a walk before a Pizza tea at the Martin St room, followed by the 7.30pm meeting.

Wed 28th April A Group trip to Murchison and Rushworth has been planned, with a bus leaving Echuca and picking up along the route. More details in March B&B or from Helen.

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@inet.net.au or ksduarrant@ozsky.net or rrkelly@bigpond.com

President's Report

The last three months have been a very busy time for our group. So busy in fact Christmas has crept up on us at an alarming rate. We continue to have constant requests for research mostly on the internet and in doing this research for others, particularly those that do not live locally; we manage to find out more about the people who lived in Echuca in the past so it enriches the resources that we can provide for others in the future.

As a group we can be very grateful for our historic home, although it may not be the warmest place in winter or the coolest place in the summer it provides us with a great space to do research and meet with each other, as well as allow the public to come for their own purposes. We are indebted to the shire for its support.

We have one major project underway at the moment and this is the restoration of the Moama Cemetery Records. Anita Bartlett is the chairperson of the sub committee that is working on this project. Each member of the committee has been diligently working on particular tasks, and other members of the group have been assisting Anita in indexing records held by different groups in the community. The open day that was held in October provided the sub committee with a lot of valuable information, but we still need more help to clarify who is buried in the unmarked graves in the cemetery. We now have just over 3000 burials confirmed for Moama. Our "looking for list" started at 1400 names and this is now around 1000 names waiting some form of confirmation. We have received \$500 from the Moama Cemetery Group via the Murray Shire. This funding will help to verify some of the earlier NSW records that are more difficult to find. One of the incidental benefits of this project is that in the process we are finding that we are updating the records of other cemeteries in the area, so in the long term we will have extensive data bases on all local cemeteries. There was a detailed report on this project in the minutes of the November meeting.

John Howe, our secretary, has been working long hours to establish our group's deductible gift recipient status with the taxation department. This has been a complicated and time consuming process, particularly as he has had to wade through books of information from the taxation department. Thank you John for your diligence and hard work. The application was successful and everyone who makes a donation to our library fund will be able to include it in their income tax return.

The committee had to clean up the back yard after the winter rains and sewerage leak earlier in the year, so the grass jungle has disappeared and the rubbish has been removed. We also have a new notice board in the kitchen thanks to a donation from the O'Loughlin household.

Other additions to the rooms have been in the form of furniture. Lorraine Johnson, Craig Ash and I attended an auction at the old High school site in late November and purchased a number of items that we required for the rooms. There are two map drawers, some much needed shelving and a filing cabinet, all obtained at bargain basement prices. My thanks to Shirley Phylant and Ricky, Wilma and Ken Gamble, and Brian Cockerall who responded at short notice to pick up the purchased goods.

The last two meetings of the group have been very informative, but we have not had a

large attendance. We have tried to provide interesting speakers and or activities to encourage attendance. Next year we have a dinner meeting in February with Beverley Spinks coming from Melbourne to speak on convicts, and in March we have another cemetery walk, this time in the Moama cemetery, so please come and enjoy these events. There is no Christmas raffle this year, but we are planning to have another one in 2010 and make it bigger by selling in Hare Street.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all. May you enjoy the festive season with your families. *Judy McCleary*

Help Needed Please!

I have been tracing my family history for around 2 years now, but I have met a problem with my Great Grandfather, who was born in Finland.

His name was Jonas Wilhelm Wilhelmsen Kock, and he arrived in Australia in April 1882, aboard the *Hornby Castle* via Liverpool UK. He was listed in the ships passenger and crew listing as a ships carpenter and after he was naturalised in 1891 he was known as Jonas William Williamson (William or Bill).

In 1885 he married my Great Grandmother, Martha Louisa Clee from Sandy Creek in North Eastern Victoria. In 1886 they had a daughter Sarah Aulricka, (known as Aulricka) and in 1890 Martha died.

Jonas subsequently gave his daughter into his sister-in-law's keeping till after he was naturalised and then set off for Echuca, where he had friends who had come over with him on the *Hornby Castle*. One was a Charles Thorpe and the other was a man named Johanssen(?) later Johnson.

It appears Jonas William Williamson worked in the area as a "contractor" and during this time he left his daughter with the Thorpes. Aulricka, who was somewhere between 6-9 years old at the

time, went to school in Echuca. (I am hoping that finding her school records may indicate her age at the time). She remained with the Thorpe's till she was 16 years old and used their name.

The problem is that during this time Jonas disappeared, with one family story telling that he died in a bridge building accident and his daughter telling her children that he returned to Finland and was never heard from again.

This is the problem I am trying to solve... what happened to Jonas William Williamson??

Hopefully someone in the Echuca area may have memories of this family and can give me a clue.

Aulricka returned to Echuca in the early 1920's where her husband Thomas Hetherington was the manager of Wharparilla Station, and her 4 children also attended school in Echuca, till around 1932.

My name is -

Zara Hetherington Struik, 4743 Snowy River Way

Dalgety NSW 2628

Ph. 02 64565079

email: zahether@optusnet.com.au

The EMFHG have an odd assortment of equipment, surplus to our requirements, all of which needs a home. It includes micro-fiche readers, computer monitor screens, a printer etc. If anyone is interested please speak to Judy or a member of the Committee ASAP

More Help Needed

The following notice was found on the online site, in the personal notices of the Argus Newspaper (Melbourne, Vic: 1848-1954) Wednesday 1st March 1854. Page 4 <http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/home>

DIED

At the residence of G. F. A. WILSON, Esq; Mrs Margaret FLATTERY, grandmother of R.M. TREACY, Esq; Melbourne.

I have been unable to find a death for Margaret Flattery on the Diggers CD or on the online site for Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages, or the NSW BDM site. Name variations like Slattery, Flaherty have been unsuccessful. I have found no women Flattery or name variations on the Public Records Office of Victoria immigration sites, arriving with the approximate age of 70 years in 1854.

G.F.A. Wilson was my 3 times great grandfather; his wife was Margaret

Henrietta Treacy, a sister to R.M. Treacy. Margaret and R. M. Treacy's parents were George Seward Treacy and Maria Winter. George and Maria Treacy with their seven children arrived from King's County (Offaly), Ireland at Port Phillip in 1841. I have been unable to find birth date/place or parent names for George Seward Treacy and Maria Winter. Maria died in 1845 aged 41 years but there was hardly any detail on her death certificate, certainly no parent's names. As yet I have been unable to find a death for George Seward Treacy in Australia or New Zealand.

I am looking for suggestions of where to look next please or contact with descendants of Treacy, Winter or Wilson who are researching the same lines. A death certificate would be very helpful as it should show children, parents and husband.

Ruth O'Connor

rocdo@bigpond.net.au

Notice Board

The EMFHG has a new Notice Board for the use of members. It is now in place on the south wall of the kitchen. Members should check the Board when they are at the room, because in future notices and reminders will be put on the Board rather leaving them on the table in the Research Room.

Dinner at the Cal. Thursday 18th February, 2010,

The EMFHG is planning to start our 30th year with a Dinner at the Caledonian Hotel, Echuca, commencing at 6.30pm. Our Guest Speaker will be Beverley Spinks from the Descendants of Convicts Group.

It is hoped that we will have a good 'roll-up' of members and friends to start our 30th year with a BANG!

Booking can be made by adding you name to the list on the Notice Board in the Research Room or by contacting the Secretary before the end of January.

Finding My Grandmother

My mother is now 78 years of age and about 30 years ago she was told “out of the blue” that she was adopted. It came as a complete and utter shock to us all. Mum’s parents had both passed away at this time so she questioned an elderly aunt who told her that it was in fact true and that Mum had been about 2 years at the time. She had no real information to pass on. We just let it go because my mother was not interested in finding out anything as she had had a wonderful childhood with two loving and caring parents.

About 13 years ago, just as I was about to become a grandmother, I became really interested in tracing Mum’s birth. She had never had a birth certificate and of course there wasn’t one under her last name. Luckily, a cousin of a cousin worked at the BDM registry and he looked up all births in the January of the year of my mother’s birth and found an entry for a Mary Carmel, my mothers names, on her birth date and a last name of McKay. I sent for a copy of her birth certificate and when it came we discovered that she was born at the Women’s Hospital, Melbourne, to a 17 year old girl from Yarrawonga.

We applied to the Adoption Organization in Victoria but they were unable to find any information at all regarding mum. Finally, after a couple of years I rang a group called VANISH and told them my story. I gave them the meagre amount of information that I had and they said they would get back to me soon. About 10 days later I was at work and I got a call from Helen at Vanish. She said “Maree I have found Marie “ (Mum’s mother) a slight pause followed and then she said “and she’s alive”.

Well I didn’t know whether to laugh or cry or be sick. Helen asked if I would tell

Mum, and I said that I needed a little bit of time to get used to this information and to find the right time to tell her. I told my brother and he was as stunned as me and we decided to wait a little while until the right time presented itself. Helen rang me a week later and asked how Mum took the news and I told her that we were having difficulty finding the right words to tell Mum. She asked if I would like her to ring and tell Mum and I agreed. Mum lives with my brother and his wife and I arranged for them to be home when Helen rang. Mum was surprised, but not shocked with the news and within 2 hours had been put in touch with a brother. He had known for years that his mum had a child but his other brother didn’t. Within a week we had organized a get together to be held on Marie’s 90th birthday.

It was the most wonderful day. We met Mum’s 2 brothers, their wives and all of their children. They were so friendly and welcoming it was fantastic. As Marie stepped from the car, we all just gasped at the resemblance between Mum and her Mum was unbelievable. They even had the same arthritic fingers.

And Marie was just so glad to have found her “little Carmel”. Her immediate questions of Mum were did you have a happy childhood and did you marry a good man and Mum was able to assure her, that was the case. Marie’s story was heartbreaking – I have a video of our meeting and any one who watches it is reduced to tears if not outright sobbing.

Marie was 17 years old, living in Yarrawonga with her mother and 2 young brothers. Her father had died 10 years earlier and life had been a struggle for the family, so Marie was working at a hotel in the town, and as happens she fell in love

and became pregnant to a young fellow and when she told him he just took off to the West. Two months later he wrote and said if she joined him he would marry her but they could never come back. She answered that if he couldn't face everyone then he wasn't worth marrying. The local priest suggested that Marie go to Melbourne and stay at the unmarried mothers home until she had the baby.

After giving birth to baby Carmel they both went to St Joseph's Babies Home in Broadmeadows. Marie and Carmel lived there until Carmel was 27 months old. During the week Marie worked in the laundry and helped to look after the babies and children as well as take care of her own baby. She couldn't bear to leave her little baby. On Sundays she would take her baby into Melbourne and visit an Aunt – the only other member of her family beside her mother, who knew that she had had a baby.

One day one of the Nuns came into the room and said that there was a lovely woman who was looking for a little baby girl but unfortunately they didn't have any babies at that time. Marie at that moment made a decision. "She can have my little

Carmel". Mum was given to "the lovely lady" and she was taken home to the Mallee and was a much loved and cherished child.

Marie returned to her mother and brothers in Yarrawonga - they were desperately in need of her support – there was no widows pension at that time. Naturally she missed her baby desperately and suffered a nervous breakdown. Eventually she fell in love and married and had her boys but she never forgot her little Carmel. She prayed for Carmel every night and when her grandchildren came along they were asked to say a special prayer and of course they never knew who for until the story unfolded. Marie died 3 months after we had all met.

The last week of her life, while in hospital, Marie told one of her grandsons that she was happy and at peace. She had found her "little Carmel". Knowing that Mum had been cared for and loved as a child and had a happy and loving family of her own, gave her the peace she had always prayed for.

Maree Maher

New Members

John Britton Kevin Davis Elaine Gould Judith Gray Tina Kline Jan Osborn
Rod & Kaye Newman Maree Power John Stephenson John Viney

Welcome to you all.

Family Reunion

The Great Great Grandchildren of Charles & Euphemia Yeaman

have arranged a Family Reunion to be held at Echuca on the weekend of 10th & 11th April 2010. If you are a descendant of Charles & Euphemia or if you are related to any of their descendants we would welcome your involvement.

Come and join us and bring any memorabilia. For further information call
Cherill Johnson (Yeaman) ph (02) 6657 1091 or email ljo96777@bigpond.net.au or
Kay Wearne (Yeaman) ph (03) 5482 2872 or email wearnebk@mcmedia.com.au

Back To Timmering **24th October 2009**

Timmering is located half way between the larger communities of Rochester and Kyabram. All that is left of this once self supporting community is the third, fourth and fifth generation families with their stories to tell. Yes, Timmering once had all the usual facilities needed to service the community including the must have blacksmith, hotel, wine tavern and two schools. The last service to serve the community was the Timmering Presbyterian Church, which closed its doors for the final time on the fourth of May last year.

Stories to tell! The Nanneella hall was a buzz when one hundred and fifty decedents and folk that have aquired properties during the one hundred and fifty years of settlement, gathered to renew their relationships and share stories and photos of old.

The Heritage group, a growing group of about twenty members has been meeting monthly for the past five years, gathering stories, photos and memorabilia. About twelve months ago during a meeting, member Murray McDonald suggested to the group to hold a "Back to Timmering". The date was set, invitations sent to known decedents and the public, then out of the sheds, cupboards and even a few special photos that take pride and place in our homes came forward. One very important piece being The Great War Honour Roll 1914-1919 of Teachers and Scholars of the Timmering East State School No 2177, which was being housed in a shed at Deakin Shire unbeknown to members of the group, also the original teacher's desk from that same school was produced.

Joan Jenkins a member of the group and

member of the Echuca Moama Family History Group has collected, recorded, laminated to protect and restore hundreds of photos from the Timmering and Nanneella area.

My interest is the Fraser/Stewart/Campbell/Rae/McQueen and Ingram families who settled in the area. My Great Grandfather Donald Fraser selected and cleared three hundred and twenty acres of land on the corner of now named Webb and Watson roads. His brother Alexander and sister and brother-in-law George and Margaret McQueen settled over the road south of his property. Shortly afterwards followed another brother Hugh, the Ingrams, Stewarts, Campbells and Rae families. My Great Great uncle Hugh Fraser built the original Timmering Presbyterian Church for the sum of one hundred pounds on land donated by Daniel McDonald. This Church has held the base of my family research as most of my ancestors were Scottish and came via Port Phillip to Central Victoria. My Great Grandfather Donald Fraser and his wife Elizabeth nee Stewart and their sons Thomas, William, John, Hugh and Alexander and daughters Janet and Elizabeth were prominent members of this Church. At the closing of the Church, a walk back in time for me, were the Honour boards, bearing many family names, the Hymn board erected in memory of my Great Grandparents Michael and Mary Rae, and the silver collection plates in memory of the other set of Great Grandparents Donald and Elizabeth Fraser. A framed memory board with photo of the original Church and Great Great uncle George McQueen who served the Church in many ways including Superintendent of the Sunday School for

many years. Dolly Ingram and her Mission band, and pews bearing family names, stirred many memories. The majority of our ancestors marriage certificates state that they were married in this Church.

The Timmering East State School No 2177 was situated at the corner of Gillies Rd and Sly Rd, to the West of land owned by George McQueen who played a big part with correspondence trying to keep the school open. In letters to the Education Board he explained that the numbers were only low at the time of writing when scholars had to stay home and help with farm chores. The School has long gone but you can view a memorial plaque that has been erected on the roadside at the site of the old school. The school was opened in 1879 and closed it's doors in 1945.

The year 2011 will see the launch of a

Hard lives on the W.A. Goldfields

During our recent trip to W.A. we visited the Boulder Cemetery to search for the grave of a great aunt of mine who I knew was buried there. With the generous assistance of the staff we located the grave and discovered there were three people buried in it. The two plaques tell a sad story.

My great aunt Eva May Moore died 22nd March 1910, with her was a 17 month old girl, Grace Irene James, who died on 23rd November 1910, the daughter of Eva's sister Elizabeth, and a three year old boy, Kenneth Rutland Casey, who died on the 3rd September 1913, the son of her sister Esther,

The four Rae girls, Florence, Elizabeth, Esther and Eva May had left Kerang, in Victoria, in the late 1890s to travel to the W.A. goldfields of Kalgoolie / Boulder. I

book to be titled 'The Channel of Hope' which is being published by the Heritage Group with many of the photos and stories of the district settlers, including the introduction of irrigation to the area.

Good news for the Heritage Group to hand, is that a Government grant has been secured and that part of this money will be used to build a heritage room onto the Nanneella Hall to house the ever growing memorabilia for future generations to enjoy.

A great eight hours was had by all, most going home with photos and stories to add to their particular family memorabilia.

Neal Fraser
Member 1210

don't know why they chose Boulder, perhaps to join future husbands already there. I knew that Florence's husband James Robert Rolls was born in Bendigo, they married in Boulder in 1910. Elizabeth married Albert Ernest James in Boulder in 1899.

Esther married Thomas G. Casey in 1908.

Eva May died aged 22 years within a year of her marriage in 1909. Two years later her husband Ernest P.N. Moore married her sister Florence, whose husband had also died.

The Boulder Cemetery has many old graves and is well maintained and restored.

Lorraine Haines

**Walter and Annie Guthrie (nee Fleming),
Can anybody help me?**

I seek information about my ancestors Walter and Annie Guthrie (nee Fleming), who were known to have lived in Rochester, Victoria.

Walter Guthrie married Annie Fleming at Gisborne in 1870, the year after Walter had arrived in Melbourne from Leith in Scotland. Walter was 5ft 6in tall, with an open face and sandy hair, and I have evidence that he was likeable and generous.

Walter was hopeless with money and soon got himself into trouble. He was made insolvent in 1873, in Macedon. With Annie and their two children Catherine Dewar and William James, Walter left Macedon and went to work as a clerk for Thomas Spencer, at the Victoria Mill, in Rochester. They lived in a cottage that went with the position. The two children were baptised in the Presbyterian Church, Rochester in May, 1874. My Nana, Annie Fleming Guthrie, was born in Rochester in October, 1874. Her birth notice was published in the Rochester Express.

The following year, Walter was dismissed by Thomas Spencer, charged with embezzlement. One charge was dismissed, but he was found guilty on a second charge. Walter was imprisoned in April, 1875. I can only assume that Annie and the three children returned to her family in Macedon, until Walter was released 18 months later.

There are some big gaps in my research about my family. I am hoping that someone may have information that may help me.

I do not know what happened to the family from the time of Walter Guthrie's release from prison in May 1876, until about 1885. Catherine Dewar Guthrie, his daughter, has on her two marriage certificates that she was born in Echuca, which I know is incorrect,

but did she live in Echuca as a child?

Does anyone know where the family was between 1876 and 1885?

Does anyone know what happened to Walter Guthrie?

Between 1887 and 1889 there are mentions in the Kyneton and Gisborne local papers of Miss Annie Guthrie singing at the Working Men's Club, Upper Macedon, with her uncle Gavin Fleming. By this time her brother William and sister Catherine were old enough to be working. I have evidence to suggest that William was in Melbourne.

If Walter Guthrie had died by 1887, perhaps mother Annie and her youngest daughter, also Annie, had returned to the family circle in Macedon.

Does anyone have any information about Walter Guthrie's death?

The death certificate of Annie Guthrie (nee Fleming) in 1902, gives her name as Annie Morrison. It shows that she is buried at Gisborne. It states her second husband's name as Henry Morrison. I have not been able to find any records for Henry Morrison.

Does anyone know who Henry Morrison was, and if and when he and Annie Guthrie married?

The family remained fiercely loyal to Walter Guthrie, always. If there is anyone who has even the smallest piece of information, I would be grateful for it. I am keen to piece together the life of my Nana, whom I now know to be a strong and kind woman, who held the family together, throughout her adult life. I am inspired by her story.

Please contact me if you can help me.
Anne Pitkethly, 1 Von Nida Crescent,
Rosanna, 3084, Victoria.

Thomas and Jane Mitchell

Thomas Mitchell was born in Galway, Ireland in June 1808 and arrived in NSW in 1832. In 1844, Thomas married Jane Malody at Cooma, NSW, and in 1847, their son Thomas was born at Yass.

Soon after, Thomas Mitchell and his brother in law, Hugh Callaghan, sometimes O'Callaghan, jointly held the lease of *Tulla Station*, some seventy miles north west of Moama. Hugh had married Jane's sister Ann.

By November 1850, Jane and Thomas were living in Moama where their second daughter Margaret was born. Thomas was running a prosperous business carting meat to the miners at Bendigo and in 1852 he and Jane, took their daughter Margaret to Bendigo to be baptized by a priest from St Francis Church in Melbourne.

When land was auctioned in Echuca on the 1st April 1855, Thomas purchased the first block to be sold. It was next door to the Hopwood Inn, which is now the Echuca Club. At the sale he also bought the block of land surrounding the Police Station. In 1858 Thomas built the Echuca Hotel. He had planned to open a butchers shop but after a very public dispute with Henry Hopwood, who already ran a butchers shop in the town, Thomas converted the building into a hotel. He then built a brick residence at 20 Dickson Street, on a block which ran through to Watson Street. After she had completed her education Margaret opened a school on her father's land fronting Watson Street. In 1878 Margaret married Hugh McKenzie.

Hugh and Ann Callaghan had also moved to Echuca and Thomas and Hugh again formed a business partnership, including several agricultural ventures. Thomas sold his hotel to concentrate on his agricultural

interests, and later moved to *Pine Ridge Farm* in Echuca South, where he lived until his death. In contrast, Hugh Callaghan became more involved with hotels, and at various times owned the Palace, American and the Royal hotels. Hugh died on the 10th July 1862, and when his wife Ann died, on the 20th November 1899, she left the Royal Hotel to the "The Little Sisters of the Poor".

Over the years, Thomas Mitchell was very involved in community affairs. He was elected to the Borough Council and served as Mayor in 1872. He was one of the organisers of the Echuca Agricultural Society, and a Trustee of the Echuca Cemetery. Thomas also took a leading part in obtaining a grant to establish the Echuca State School.

Thomas died on the 30th May 1896. He had outlived his wife Jane, who died 22nd May 1890, and his four sons. Thomas born 1847, died 18th March 1875, John died 20th January 1883, leaving a widow and small children. His third son, Edward with his brother in law, Hugh McKenzie ran a mail service for about ten years, with their stable at the corner of Percy and Anstruther Streets. Edward died 26th October 1895. Frederick, who was born in 1853, died 17th August 1860. Four daughters survived Thomas, Mary Jos, Margaret, Catherine and Ellen.

Thomas and Jane Mitchell, Hugh and Ann Callaghan and Margaret McKenzie, together with a number of their children were buried side by side at the Moama Cemetery.

Shirley Durrant

Many thanks to Mr Ken McKenzie, great grand son of Thomas and Jane Mitchell, who provided most of the information

William Baden Collier 17.5.1900- 30.11.1957

My father was a great storyteller. He was the elder child of a second marriage and by the time he was a teenager his mother had lost two husbands and several children to illness and an accident.

He recounted several times (to my receptive mind) the sinking of the *Titanic*, the passing of Haley's Comet and lots of stories about his upbringing. He walked 6 miles to school each day. No wonder he started school at 8 yrs and left at 11. He said his childhood was spent alternating with his younger brother, time at Maldon and Footscray where his mother's brother Sam Stockton lived. He told me that he had had more meals of underground mutton than he cared to recall, mostly because he caught them. They were poor. I never doubted the history lessons on which I was being fed. He died when I was 17 and when in the first months of nursing training, I was asked by an elderly patient what my surname was. On declaring it as Collier I was asked where my father was born. "Maldon", I said, "and he lived around the back of the Mount" (Tarrengower). It was because dad had instilled great pride in me that Collier was the name to be proud of, I told my patient. She quickly asked me "Was he Will or was he Don?" On saying it was Will she then told me about my father, the home they lived in (Maldon) but more importantly my grandmother, who had died nearly 30 years previously to the present moment 1958.

Twenty three years later in 1981, I set off on the expedition of a lifetime, the trail of family history. No microfiche, CD's, Internet, not a lot of Family History Groups, but a heap of enthusiasm, I visited and in particular the man who held the cemetery records (such as they were) at

Carisbrook and a relative to a witness at my grandfather's inquest. He said I should visit an elderly man just across the river.

He was waiting for the District Nurse to call. The door was open so I called out. "Come in" was the enthusiastic response. He was a bit startled, but I quickly declared my reason for the visit.

"Do you remember the Stockton Family?" "Oh, they've been gone years, they lived down that road, small house, dirt floor, he died about the start of the War and she went to live with someone in Melbourne". My grandmother was the eldest of 11 who lived down that road, small house, dirt floor but what a wealth of community input, commitment to family and great stories. After a plethora of birth, death and marriage certificates I found he was absolutely right! Now I wish that elderly man was alive to tell him what a gem his memories proved to be to me.

So the moral of the story is- take a break from the computer screen and visit the haunts of your ancestors. You will be so enriched as you meet people who were woven in the fabric of yesteryear. I don't have many photos but what a rich tapestry of stories.

Footnote:

Grandmother was born in Bourke St Melbourne, in 1855 and saw Burke and Wills set off for the Gulf of Carpentaria in 1860, from the top end of Collins Street. Her story was "There were lots of camels". Dad was named Baden because he was born on the day that Lord Baden Powell was released at Mafeking during the Boer War. His mother was given a cup. Where's that gone? Great basis for stories!

Pearl Collins

**Echuca High School has Closed
and We Need Your Help!**

The school closed last month after 97 years of providing state education for the district. The school began in 1912 in the old town hall, now the Echuca Library. There were seven members of staff including the principal. The school was built on the current site and opened in April 1914 with 54 pupils. Over the next ninety seven years thousands of students entered its doors and enjoyed not only a well rounded education, but a wonderful, bush environment for their sporting activities. When the school was first established it was considered too far out of town, but now it is in the heart of the historic port area. Unfortunately the school will be demolished and most likely the site will become the approach to the new bridge that will be built over the Murray River. There

will be no physical reminder of where the school stood only the memories of those that were educated there, and the memorabilia that we can collect and preserve for the future.

It is important that all the records of the school be digitally preserved so any one of our readers who have documents that relate to their time at the school, or their parents or grandparents era, then we would like to hear from you. The preservation process has started already and if we could have the opportunity to scan documents that you have to add to our collection we would be extremely grateful. You can contact me at judymc@bordernet.com.au or on 0354 826718.

More information on the history of the school in a later Bridges and Branches.
Judy McCleary

Do you know where I am Buried???

Part of 'The Moama Cemetery Records Project'. Please call Anita on 043 999 2767. or email details to emfhg9@hotmail.com or write to PO Box 707, Echuca 3564, if you can help. All of these people died in Echuca but we are yet to confirm at which Cemetery they are buried

Bardwell	Clara Matilda	55	1966	Baker	Barbara Ann	20	1967
Barker	Alfred	64	1943	Baker	Ernest	60	1930
Barker	Edward	31	1945	Ballantyne	John	29	1891
Barker	Hector	56	1926	Ballard	Edward John	76	1941
Barlow	Alban Francis William	37	1919	Ballard	Garry Robert	1day	1943
Barry	Thomas	35	1895	Barberis	Jos	84	1911
Barwood	James Edward Templer	65	1930	Barden	Violet Maud	25	1926
Bateman	Edward	28	1895	Bell	Barbara	79	1909
Beardsley	George Henry	78	1951	Bellinger	Florence	58	1961
Beardsley	George William Bancroft	39	1952	Bennett	Esther Irene	34	1942
Beecham	Nora Cath	28	1932	Bennett	James	43	1886
Badger	David	64	1890	Bhagwan	Singh	80	1926

New to Library —21st Aug., – 25th Nov. 2009



Donated by Carole Miller *; Wendy Hicks, +; Lorraine Johnson #; Shirley Durrant <, Merrilyn McClean >; Judy McCleary ^; Glennys Main ##, Rosemary Fraser ~; Claire Horsfall >>; A. Bartlett <<; Marj Grant ++; John Howe ^^; Pearl Collins !!; S. O'Loughlin {; B. Ellis ((; R. Owen)); Lorraine Haines **;

C.D's

Victorian Pioneer Index 1836-1888	1 CD
* BDM Historical Index Northern Territory 1870-1913	1 CD
Argus Newspaper Vic Births 1914-1931, Marriages 1931-1941	1 CD
Commissioners of Peace Vol. 1 1865-1915	1 CD
Commissioners of Peace Vol 2 1916-1935	1 CD
+><Phillimores Parish Registers Marriages Devon Vol 2	1 CD
Vic Police Gazettes 1855, 1864, 1865, 1868, 1870, 1876, 1885	7 CD
Vic Police Gazette Compendium 1871-1875, 1886-1890, 1891-1895	3 CD
# Vic Police Gazette Compendium 1896-1900	1 CD
NSW Police Gazette Compendium 1862-1900	1 CD
St Aloysius Moama Death Register Jan 1936- June 2009	1 CD
^ New Zealand Burial Locator	1 CD
Free Passengers to NSW 1826-1837	1 CD
~ Index to Ararat Hospital Records Male 1896-1910	
Unit 3 1889-1896 Units 1-5 1865-1894 Female 1896-1917	1 CD
~ Index to Ararat & District Names & Events 1857-2007	1 CD

FILMS

>> Pastoral Times, Apr 2 1881 – 29 Dec 1883, Jan 5 1884 – Jan 26 1886,
 Jul 3 1886 – 29 Dec 1888
 Rochester Express, 2.9.1877 – 28.12.1899; 4.1.1900 – 24.4.1902
 Rochester Express 1.5.1902 – 29.9.1904; 6.10.1904 – 23.2.1907

FICHE

Bendigo Advert. Index – Funerals, Inquests 9 1885-1886 3 Fiche Box 6

BOOKS

Title & Author	Located
* Have Missed this altogether	Local
* Ballendella Red Cross 1958-2008	Local
St Aloysius Moama Death Register Jan 1939 – June 2009	Local
Hendersons Aust Families, A Genealogical & Biographical Record by Alexander Henderson	Aust
## Old River boats of the Murray by Dacre Smyth	Aust
## 100 Years of Melbourne Trams by MTA	Vic
## The Australian Army at War 1899-1975 by John Laffin	Military
## Australian Transport by Max Colwell	Aust
## To Sail beyond the Sunset by G.M. Finney	Aust
~ Berri Community News 1952-53	Aust
# Western Land Leases NSW by Rusheen Craig	NSW
Echuca Village Settlement School 1903-1908	Local

Folder	
>> Darlington by Parks & Wildlife Services Tasmania	Tasmania
<< Kyabram Cemetery Pre 1944	Local Folder
A History of the Catholic Church in the Moama Parish	Local
Women of the Settlement by John Sigley	Vic
# Western Homestead Leases 1891 by Rusheen Craig	NSW
St Aloysius – Moama Deaths	Local
Interments – Moama Cemetery 1857-1899 2 nd Copy	Local Folder
Interments – Moama Cemetery 1900-1939 2 nd Copy	Local Folder
Bottcher, Storm, Holschier Families	Biog
~ Timmering Presbyterian Church 1883-1983	Local
++ 1851 Angus Census Parish of Glamis; and Callender	Scotland
++ 1851 Census – Killin; Aberfoyle; and Port Menmieth	Scotland
## Bushrangers by Harry Nunn	Aust
## In Defence of Lives & Property by Edgar F. Penzig	Aust
## Blood on the Wattle by Bruce Elder	Indigenous
## Pioneer & Settlers by Catherine & Ronald Berndt	Indigenous
## Australia Flies Heroes by Bill Condon	Aust
## Turning Points by M. Page & Robt Ingpen	Aust
## Explorers of Australia by A S Sampson	Aust
## The Turbulent Years by J. R. J. Grigsby	Aust
## Murawina by Roberta Sykes	Indigenous
## Convicts & the Colony by A. C. L. Shaw	Aust
## Readings in Aust History	Aust
## An Emerging Identity by Tim Gurry	Aust
## A Land Half Won by Geoffrey Blainey	Aust
## The Women were there by Nance Donkin	Aust
## A Concise History of Australia by Robt. Lacoer-Gayel	Aust
## Mapping the Paddocks by Chester Eagle	Aust
## How Surnames Began by C. M. Matthews	Gen Res
^^ Memoirs of a Stockman by Harry H. Peck	Vic
!! Among the Pioneers	NSW
{ Lost Schools of the Pyrenees by D. Western	Vic
Born in the English Colony of NSW 1788-1800 by Dr. CJ Smee	Aust
Echuca Benevolent Soc. Inc. Comm for the Aged 131 st Report	Local
## Websters Biographical Dictionary by Merriam Webster	Gen. Res
## The MacMillan Dictionary of Biography by Barry Jones	Gen. Res
## The Concise Dictionary of National Biography Part 1 and Part 2	Gen Res
## Australian Dictionary of Biography Vol 1 A – H 1788-1850	Aust
## Australian Dictionary of Biography Vol 2 I - Z 1788-1850	Aust
## Australian Dictionary of Biography Vol 3 A – C 1851-1890	Aust
## Australian Dictionary of Biography Vol 4 D – J 1851-1890	Aust
## Australian Dictionary of Biography Vol 5 K – Q 1851-1890	Aust
## Australian Dictionary of Biography Vol 6 R – Z 1851-1890	Aust
## Australian Dictionary of Biography Vol 7 A – Ch 1891-1939	Aust

## Australian Dictionary of Biography Vol 8 Ci – Gib 1891-1939	Aust
## Australian Dictionary of Biography Vol 9 Gil – Las 1891-1939	Aust
## The Macquarie Book of Events	Aust
## The Young Australians	Aust
## Australia's Heritage Vol 1 to Vol 21	Aust
((Family History of Hills & Flowers of Moama	Biog
!! Bandages & Bedpans, Pills & Stethoscopes by Helen Stevens	Local
)) Mayors & Councillors of Echuca	Local
** Family History & Local History on the Eastern Goldfields of W.A.	West Aust
> Locating Lost family Members & Friends by K. W. Hinckley	USA
Echuca-Moama Murray River Neighbours by Helen Coulson	Local
^ Convict families that made Aust Vol 3. by Dr CJ Smee	Convicts
^^ Australia – Map Series Gazetteer	Aust

Bridges & Branches by e-mail

Bridges & Branches is sent by e-mail to members who prefer that option. If you are not on the e-mail list and would like to be, please contact John Howe at the Group's address and he will make the change. (see page two)

The EMFHG has received a copy of, My Heritage, Family Tree Builder, it is a free genealogy software program. If any members would like to try it, please contact Lorraine who has the details.

The nice thing about teamwork is that you always have others on your side!

If undeliverable return to
Echuca-Moama
Family History Group Inc.
P.O. Box 707
Echuca Vic 3564
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**SURFACE
MAIL**

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