

No. 7 September, 1982

Mid-Gippsland genealogists have been treated to a host of excellent guest speakers during the year, and the speakers at our July and August meetings were no exception. Country researchers are often disadvantaged due to the distance, time and expense involved travelling to Melbourne, so the time and effort these guest speakers take to share their knowledge with us is very much appreciated.

Guests have also been invited to the October and November meetings and a genealogical book display is planned for September.

July Guest Speaker - Daryl Wight.

It is unfortunate that winter ills and chills took their toll on the attendance at our July meeting. Those who did attend were treated to a very interesting talk by the former secretary of The G.S.V., Mr. Daryl Wight. Daryl is obviously very knowledgeable in many areas of genealogy, and we thank him for taking the time to visit us at Moe. His talk centred on two main topics - English research, and Port Phillip Records.

#### ENGLISH RESEARCH

Much research is centred around the certificates of birth, marriage and death, which are obtainable from St. Catherine's House, 10 Kingsway, London. WC 2B 6JP, at a cost of £10-10 (including airmail postage). The information contained on these certificates is, unfortunately, not as detailed as that contained on our Victorian certificates. English certificates usually show : -

Birth Certificate: the child's name, date of birth, father's name and occupation, mother's name, location.

Marriage certificate: date, name of both parties, location and sometimes the name of both fathers.

Death certificate: not very helpful - no details of parentage or children - often not even the wife's name.

Prior to 1837 this information must be obtained from Parish Registers, which began in 1538. The very early registers (Church of England) provided the following information:

Baptism: baby's name, father's name.

Marriage: names of both parties.

Death: name, date of death and perhaps "son of John Smith"

The census records of 1841 and 1851 can be very useful. Although census records were kept before this time, those from 1751-1831 are of no genealogical value. The 1841 census shows names of people in the house, but no relationships or birthplaces. The 1851 census has additional facts. It gives names, marital status, age, occupation, birthplace, relationships and county. Information from these is available from St. Catherine's House or the records of the Latter Day Saints, but you must be able to provide a fairly accurate address, as these are registered by means of locality.

A helpful marriage index of marriages prior to 1837 is Boyd's Marriage Index which lists 7 million marriages. This is available from the Society of Genealogists, 37 Harrington Gardens, London.

Wills: Prior to 1858 wills were proved in many locations, after 1858 at the Prerogative Court of Canterbury. To obtain a copy of a will you must provide full name, death date and county.

Newspapers, too, can be very useful in ascertaining details of births, marriages and deaths. Prior to 1750 only wealthy families entered these notices into newspapers, but after the early 1800's many provincial towns had their own newspapers, and details were often published in these. These newspapers are held at the appropriate County Record Offices.

Army and Navy Records: The main reference room of the State Library of Victoria has many published muster rolls of Officer classes back to the 1700's.

Non-Conformist Registers: (i.e. other than the Church of England). Prior to 1837 they are not very good, but from that time onwards, they are good.

PORT PHILLIP DISTRICT 1834-1851

Daryl suggested that you try the Parish records before you try the Government Statist. Geelong records are well documented - all records pre 1851 are held at the respective churches with the exception of the Church of England records which are missing. The records of St. James Church in Melbourne are held at that church.

Directories are useful in tracing a person's movements throughout the Port Phillip area. The earliest is 1839 which is a supplement to the M.S.W. Directory. The first Victorian Directory is 1841. The State Library also has electoral lists for towns.

Shipping lists can be consulted at the State Archives.

Inquests and wills commenced in 1841, and can also prove helpful.

Daryl Wight suggested some extra reading to provide background information on this era.

- |                                      |                     |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Place Names of Victoria           | - Les Blake         |
| 2. Pastoral Pioneers of Port Phillip | - Billis and Kenyon |
| 3. Georgiana's Journal               | - Georgiana Macrae. |
| 4. Port Phillip Gentlemen            | - Paul deServille   |

Report by Dawn Cowley

August Guest Speaker - Mick O'Sullivan "Publishing Your Family History".

Most Genealogists would like to see the results of their years of work rewarded by the publishing of their family history. While many may feel this is quite beyond their means it was very interesting to hear the guest speaker at our August meeting, Mr. Mick O'Sullivan from the Latrobe Valley Printers.

Mick explained the modern method of "off-set printing" which is ideal for family historians as photographs can be reproduced with excellent clarity. Reproducing maps, charts, and designs (e.g. family crests or a coat of arms) is a simple matter using off-set printing.

The cost of printing is usually the main concern to genealogists, however, there are many ways this can be reduced. The quality of paper, the number of photographs, the binding and the setting (or layout of the pages) of the book are all factors which determine the cost. The setting is a considerable expense in printing but this can be substantially reduced if the writer is prepared to do this himself. If this is being considered a good quality electric typewriter with a carbon ribbon is necessary.

Copyright is effective only for 50-60 years after publication, however, to avoid any problems it was suggested that only photographs personally owned by the writer be published.

Financial assistance is available from the Government who pay a "Book Bounty" worth 1/3 of the publishing costs if your book qualifies on the following points:

- the minimum number published must be 1,000
- it must not contain advertising
- it must have at least 40 pages
- it must contain some historical content.

It was emphasized that it is impossible to give an estimate on the cost of printing and publishing a family history, however, Mick did show an example of a book which would be suitable and adequate for most family histories. This was a paper back book of 104 pages, containing 30 photographs. Cost of publishing was \$1,600 for 1,000 copies. If 320 copies were sold at \$5.00 each, or 500 copies at \$3.20 each, publishing costs would be covered.

After listening to Mick, perhaps publishing your family history is not such an impossible dream after all !!.

OVERSEAS NEWSEnglish Certificates at a Cheaper Rate.

The following is an extract from a letter received by one of our members:-  
David Wright, 71 Island Wall, Whistable, Kent CT5 1EL is prepared to offer the following service :

3/...

"Make a five year search, obtain certificate and return to enquirer for 8, and multiple searches as follows:

3 certificates £21  
5 certificates £35  
10 certificates £62

A charge of £1.50 will be made for each unsuccessful search.

Overseas applicants must remit in sterling, and preferably write with prior details of searches required (enclosing two international reply coupons) to avoid unnecessary bank charges.

The indexes begin on 1st July 1837. Please note that they give nothing except the name and registration district. St. Catherine's House charges £2.40 for unsuccessfully checking given data against the original entry.

For marriages prior to 1912, it is essential that both parties' surnames are known unless an entry is required regardless of the spouse's name.

Death entries: Many of these are exceedingly difficult or quite impossible to locate. An age and location are absolutely essential for a search. (Ages are given in the indexes only from 1866). The details on certificates are so sparse, that in many cases a full entry will often leave considerable doubt as to the identity of the deceased.

Postage: All overseas charges include return airmail postage, but no guarantee can be given for safe delivery, especially for multiple requests; for safety's sake, please add £1 (minimum) towards registration if considered necessary."

#### Canadian Research

One of our members, Mrs. Ruth Hutchison, is researching in Canada and has details and addresses for obtaining birth, death and marriage certificates in Canada. Registrations and certificates in Canada are handled by the Department of Health in each Province. The current fee for Saskatchewan Province is \$5-00 (Canadian) for a certificate, which includes a 3 year search. These certificates contain only basic details. A letter from Saskatchewan Province, Division of Vital Statistics, states that "information regarding deceased persons will not be released to persons other than immediate family members or next-of-kin."

#### Useful Addresses

<u>Italy</u>	Institute Centrale di Statistica, Via Cesare Balbo 16, Rome, Italy.	Director, Istituto Genealogico Italiano Bonte Guelfi Ganajani, Via Torte 14, Firenze (Florence), Italy.
	Instituto di Genealogia e Araldica, Via Antonia Gerasi 5 A, Rome, Italy.	
<u>India</u>	India Office Records, Commonwealth Relations Office, 197 Blackfriars Road, London, England.	Secretary, Christian Burial Board, 184 Lower Circular Road, Calcutta 17 India.
<u>Canada</u>	Alberta: Division of Vital Statistics, 10405-100 Avenue, Edmonton T 5J0A6 (births from 1887, Marriages and deaths from 1898)	British Columbia: Division of Vital Statistics, Ministry of Health, Parliament Buildings, Victoria V8V1x4 (Births, marriages & Deaths since 1872)
	Manitoba: Office of Vital Statistics, 104 Norway Building, 401 York Avenue, Winnipeg R3C0V8 (births, marriages, and deaths since 1882.)	New Brunswick: Registrar General of Vital Statistics, Box 6000, Fredericton E3B5H1 (births, deaths and marriages from 1888 - incomplete before 1920).



VICTORIAN NEWSGenealogical Society of Victoria, Directory of Members' Interests.

The Directory of Members' Interests 1982-83 has been completed and copies of this are available from Mavis Lynch at \$4-50 each. This is a completely new edition and names have not been duplicated from previous editions.

Genealogical Bookshop

At last a Genealogical and Australian Bookshop in Melbourne ! This shop, at 405 Day Street, Brighton is run by Elizabeth Larking, a keen researcher of her own family tree, who "found it frustrating that the only place I could buy books was in Sydney or by mail order." Her partner in the bookshop is Kathleen Georgiades who has a strong interest in Australian Literature. An article in "The Sun", July 23rd quotes Elizabeth "We believe the 2 subjects go hand in hand. When you are digging up your family history you need to know about the time in which they lived, how they dressed and general living conditions."

"The Australian section is not limited to history but to literature in general, with quite a large section devoted to children's books. There's also a section of books on English, Scottish and Irish ancestry and a few precious copies on how to research German, Polish and Italian ancestry. One of their most popular books is an address book of who and what to contact for more information all around the world."

Elizabeth and Kathleen have accepted our invitation to present a display of their books at our September meeting. A subcommittee to purchase books for our library has been formed, so we expect to have some informative and interesting additions to the library after this meeting.

Ph. (03) 596 2712, Melbourne Genealogical and  
Australian Bookshop.

G.S.V. Meeting

Our Chairman, Mr. Frank Robinson, was fortunate in being able to attend the September meeting of The G.S.V. in Melbourne. He reported a very informative meeting and the following points arising from this meeting will be of interest to members.

1. The G.S.V. has received a letter from the Public Records Office regarding a film which is to be made available to The G.S.V. The subject matter of this film is Assisted Immigrants, (which should be of interest to most of us), but as yet we have no further details. We will keep you informed.
2. Cemetery Trust Charges - A complaint has been received by The G.S.V. that people have been charged by some Cemetery Trusts to carry out a personal search of cemetery records. Investigations by The G.S.V. found that Cemetery Trusts do have the prerogative to charge for a search of their records if they so wish. Therefore, it would be wise to make enquiries concerning charges before beginning a search of cemetery records either personally or by post. Please Note that most Cemetery Trusts now charge \$8-00-\$10-00 to make a search of their records in answer to a postal query.
3. Family Rate - The G.S.V. had planned to introduce a family rate for membership for some time. However, The G.S.V. is a registered Corporate Company and the Ministry of Corporate Affairs has restrictions regarding children under 18 becoming members of a corporate company. This matter has delayed the introduction of the family rate but The G.S.V. hopes to be able to make an announcement at the next (October) meeting.
4. Seminar For country groups - The interest shown by country people the Seminar on Genealogy, held in August was very disappointing. There were only 35 country applicants, therefore, city people were invited to make up the numbers. The two members from our group who attended, reported that the seminar was well worthwhile - very interesting and informative and covered a wide range of topics. For those researchers who missed out perhaps you should watch for details of the next seminar.

5. Meeting for Chairmen and Secretaries - A Special meeting will be held on Saturday 25th September at The G.S.V. library, for Chairmen and Secretaries of The G.S.V. Country Branches. Some points on the agenda are :- what finance is needed by country branches and what assistance is available from The G.S.V.

:-discussion on research  
undertaken by country branches.

Your suggestions for matters to be discussed at this meeting are welcome.

Researching Teachers In the Family.

The Victorian Education Department will provide details of former teachers employed by the Education Department for your research. Such information may include date and place of birth and a detailed account of the teacher's career and schools where they taught. The address is: History Section, Education Department, 3rd Floor, 449 Swanston Street, Melbourne. 3000

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN RESEARCHAnnouncing a New Publication

"Sources for South Australian Family History" by A.G. Peake - gives an extensive coverage of the availability and whereabouts of S.A. records. Available from the S.A. Genealogy and Heraldry Society, or the author, Mr. A.G. Peake, 14 Tudor Street, Dulwich, S.A. 5065. 81 pages, hardcover, price \$7-00 non-members plus \$1-20 postage.

South Australian Certificates.Part One - Births - Pre-Civil registration.

Main Sources: Church of England, Holy Trinity, 1836-1843 (Baptism, marriage and Burials.)  
Church of England, St. John's, Adelaide, 1841 to date (Marriage)

Civil Registration

Commenced on 1st July 1842.

1st July 1842-June 1856 (Schedule 1)

Name (if any), where born, sex, name and surname of father and maiden name of mother, signature, description and residence of informant, when registered and signature of deputy-registrar, name if added after registration.

23rd May 1856 - December 1874 (schedule 2)

Same information but added residence of parents.

December 1874 - July 1907 (schedule 3)

Name (if any), where born, sex, name and surname of father, name and maiden name of mother, signature, description and residence of informant, when registered, signature of deputy-registrar, name if added after registration.

18th July 1907 - January 1908 - June 1948 (schedule 4 & 5)

Name (if any), when and where born, sex, name, surname, age and birthplace of father - same of mother - year of marriage, no. of previous issue, living and deceased, rank/profession of father, signature, description and residence of informant, when registered, signature of registrar, name if added after registration of birth.

June 1948-January 1968 (schedule 6)

Layout of certificate was re-arranged with same information. This was changed in November 1961.

January 1968 to date (schedule 7)

Surname, christian names and sex (of child), date of birth and place of birth, father's surname and christian names, age and place of birth, occupation, mother's surname and christian names, age and place of birth, former married surnames, age and place of birth, usual residence, year of previous marriages and no. of previous issue, living and deceased, name, description and residence of informant, date of registration.

NB: S.A. birth certificates did not give names and ages of previous issue or actual date and place of marriage until 1907 when year of marriage and the age, birthplace of parents were introduced.

CORRECTION

The address given in the last newsletter of Gould Books was their previous address. The new address is: Gould Books, P.O. Box 126, Gumeracha, S.A. 5233.

LOCAL NEWSCalendar of Events

11-09-82 Bus Trip to the G.S.V. Library  
 23-09-82 Monthly meeting. Genealogical book display by the Melbourne Genealogical and Australiana Bookshop.  
 28-10-82 Monthly meeting. Guest, Major C. Steven, President of The G.S.V.  
 25-11-82 Annual General Meeting and Election of Office Bearers. Guest speaker Mr. J. Cairns-Smith-Barth.

NEW ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY.

John Little and Family, Geelong 1820-1957	by J.G. Rogers
The Old Melbourne Cemetery 1837-1922	by M. Morgan
Royal Heraldry-Beasts and Badges of Britain	by J.P. Brooke-Little
Recollections of Early Gippsland Goldfields	by Richard Mackay
	don. Mick O'Sullivan (LVP)
When Pants were Patched,	by Bert Thompson
	don. Bert Thompson
Issac Johnson of Woodbridge 1754-1835	don Bev Reynolds
West Terrace Cemetery	don Bev Reynolds
Endeavour and Achievement - Highlights in the story of Australian Development	
Australia's First Bank - Wales	don Mrs. Jean McNally
How to use the Shipping & Probate indexes	don. Jean McNally
Guide to Daylesford Historical Society's Museum	

Family Query.

Mrs. Pam Jennings, 72 Simon's Road, Leopold 3224.

Francis Robert Cuthbert STREETER

b. 1856, Richmond d. ? lived at Maffra 1880's, later Traralgon c. 1913.

m. Marie Harriet James 1879, Collingwood, Children all born at Maffra.

Nellie c 1881, Francis Joseph c 1882, Maria Olivetta c 1884, Florence Maude c 1886, Arthur c 1894, Albert c 1900, William c. 1889, Frederick c 1902, Edie, Jack Daisy, Lillie, Charles.

Arthur Kent SHARPLEY

b. Tipperary d. Geelong 1895,

m. Margaret Paisley b. Scotland, Died 1908, Melbourne. Children:

1. Robert 2. William, 3. Aquilla, 4. Joseph, 5. Anna, 6. Emma, 7. Thomas b 1870, died Maffra, married 1897 to Elizabeth Whitelaw who died 1923, Maffra.  
 8. Arthur, 9. Joseph, 10. Agnes, 11. Joseph, 12. \*Walter, born 1886 and died 1960 at Melbourne (married Florence Streeter).

Thomas was a painter from 1877 to 1902 at least, in Maffra and probably lived there. My grandfather, Walter, worked with him and met Florence. Walter Sharpley became Shire Secretary at Walhalla about 1914.

Thomas Sharpley (No. 7 above) married Elizabeth Whitelaw. Children:

Robert m. Mary Wilson	Agnes m. Arthur Robertson
Margaret m. Alex Leslie	Isabel m. Norman Mathison
Thomas Jnr. m. Maree Tatterson	Keith m. Alma Creig.

All except Isabel lived and died at Maffra.

\* Grandmother married Walter Gordon Sharpley 1913 in Melbourne, died 1970, Melb.

MID-GIPPSLAND GROUP OF THE G.S.V. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 25th November, 1982 8.00 p.m. Education Dept. Regional Office, Cnr. Kirk and Haigh Streets, Moe.

Office Bearers Retiring.

Chairman	Mr. Frank Robinson	Editorial Committee	Mrs. Lyn Gorman
1st Vice Chairwoman	Mrs. Dawn Cowley		Miss Julie Stevens
2nd Vice Chairman	Mr. Don Macreadie		Mr. Frank Robinson
Secretary	Miss Karen Bush	Research Committee	Mrs. Audrey Bennett
Treasurer	Mrs. Mavis Lynch		Mr. David Tatnell
Press Secretaries	Mrs. Laraine Ramselaar		Mrs. Joan Graham
	Mrs. Ruth Hutchison		Mr. Don Macreadie
Librarian	Mrs. Gaye Rogers	Program Organizers	Mrs. Dawn Cowley
			Mr. Don Macreadie

NOMINATION FORM

I . . . . . and . . . . .  
(Proposer's Signature) (Seconder's Signature)

hereby nominate . . . . .  
(Candidate's name in block letters)

for the position of . . . . .

I ACCEPT THIS NOMINATION  
and if elected, give my consent to act as an Office Bearer.

.....  
(Candidate's signature)

W . . . . . a . . . . .  
(Proposer's signature) (Seconder's signature)

hereby nominate . . . . .  
(Candidate's name in block letters)

for the position of . . . . .

I ACCEPT THIS NOMINATION  
and if elected, give my consent to act as an Office Bearer.

.....  
(Candidate's signature)

This form should be returned to the Honorary Secretary, Mid-Gippsland  
Group of The Genealogical Society of Victoria, 64 Langford Street, Moe. 3825.

Editorial : Lyn Gorman  
Julie Stevens,  
Frank Robinson