

DECEMBER 1982

Number 6.

With the Annual General Meeting held in November, the Mid Gippsland Group has completed its successful second year as a Country Group of the G.S.V. As well as the elections of office bearers for the coming year, a guest speaker, Mr. John Jaxon, spoke at the meeting on the subject of Scottish Land Records.

Elected Office Bearers for 1982-83.

Chairman:	Mr. Frank Robinson. (re-elected)
1st Vice Chairman & Program Organiser:	Mr. Don Maccready.
2nd Vice Chairman & Assist. Secretary:	Mrs. Lyn Gorman.
Secretary:	Mrs. Dawn Cowley.
Treasurer:	Mrs. Mavis Lynch (re-elected)
Librarian:	Mrs. Gaye Rogers (re-elected)
Editorial Staff:	Mrs. Lynn Gorman, Miss Julie Stevens & Mr. Frank Robinson.
Research Committee:	Mesdames Gaye Rogers & Jean McHally, Messrs Don Maccready & David Totnell.
Book Buying Committee:	Mesdames, Rogers & Cowley, Misses Bush & Stevens.
Publicity:	Mesdames Ruth Hutchison, Laraine Rameslaar.
Tea Roster:	Mrs. Laraine Rameslaar.

Chairman's Report for 1981-82, delivered at the annual general meeting.

Dear Members,

It gives me a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction to be able to present this report for the year ending November, 1982, to our second Annual General Meeting.

We have gone through a period of consolidation, membership wise. It is rather difficult, with our form of membership, to actually count numbers, but we can look at the people who regularly attend and gauge from that. We have had a slight increase and a lot of visitors.

I believe that with our organisation this year we have looked at the needs of our members and tried to cater for them. Our meetings have been varied. They ranged from book sales to book making, they have covered local histories and specific Genealogical research hints. Worknights have been included and these ranged from self help to helping the G.S.V. with Transcriptions.

Our thanks go to the G.S.V. for providing speakers, you for suggesting local speakers and activities and our Program Secretary Dawn, for following up the suggestions and making them a reality.

Our Secretary Karen, has ably provided the personal link which helps any group run smoothly. She has received and dealt with her duties with gusto and managed to make all feel welcome and part of the night. The Bus trips to the G.S.V. would still be on the drawing board without her, and the meeting venues have been capably handled. Karen was the foundation secretary of this Group. An unenviable task with an enormous amount of problems. She has decided not to stand for re-election so that she can devote a little more time to her own research. We wish you well, and a personal thanks for all your help.

We are in a stable financial state thanks to the work of our Treasurer, Mavis. We have been able to gather a few helpful items, as well as the tea and biscuits that the fund was established to do. We look forward to the continuation of the good work.

Some of the projects undertaken have included the Display at the Traralgon Show, Indexing the Moe Cemetery and also Transcribing Tombstones. Thanks go to you for participating, and to the respective people who were the major instigators. Mavis for the Show, Gaye for the Index, Joan, David and Irene for the Headstones.

Thank you to the sub committees that, like British Airways, "worked with the minimum of fuss". The researchers who took the time to answer most of the many queries. Don and Audrey who were able to help with that 'local knowledge', that is so important to put things in perspective.

Our Editorial Committee, to both Lyn and Julie, congratulations on a job well done. You have presented a newsletter that is interesting, readable and helpful. When I've had the privilege to meet with other members of the G.S.V. groups, most have taken the trouble to comment favourably on the newsletter. This has become a link between us and other Groups.

I know that there are many I have not mentioned individually. Please accept my thanks for the part you have played this year. My hope is that you have gained as much from others as I have gained from you. Let us look forward to this coming year with enthusiasm. Bring your ideas for areas to be covered, and improvements to be made. It's your group. Let's make it work.

Regards, Frank Robinson. Chairman.

Secretary's Report 1981-82.

Over the last two years as secretary, I have watched our group get over the first stumbling blocks. Like any other organisation the first twelve months are the hardest, and now we have, hopefully, settled down. To Mavis and Frank, I have enjoyed working with you, and as they once again take on their positions, will do an excellent job.

Secretary's report cont.

In the last twelve months my job has been greatly unburdened by the formation of Committees, by our ordinary members. I wish to sincerely thank Hugh McGregor for ALL his help over the last two years, with the photocopying. I have enjoyed my two years as secretary and feel that it is time for someone else to have a go. I wish Mrs. Dawn Cowley all the best as the incoming secretary. I am sure that she will do an excellent job. Finally thank you to all the members of our Group who have helped me.

Karen Bush.

October Guest Speaker: Major C. Stephen.

The Mid Gippsland Members were pleased to have Major & Mrs Stephen as guests at our meeting in October. As Major Stephen is the President of the G.S.V., his visits to the country Groups provide an important link between us and the G.S.V. in Melbourne. Major Stephen spoke on the upsurge of interest in Family History in recent years. He said most people of English descent can trace their ancestors back to 1600 and Europeans often further. However many Genealogists strike a blank wall in their research which often coincides with the families migration to Australia. While there are well documented records of their people who were transported to Australia, research into free settlers and assisted immigrant often pose a problem. One of these problems is caused by the fact that when names were recorded (e.g. for shipping lists), they were usually spelt phonetically or at the best, the whim of the recorder. As so many migrants were illiterate they had no idea how their names were spelt and therefore couldn't correct any errors.

The second problem is caused because of illegal immigration, much of which occurred during the Gold rushes in the 1850's.

Our thanks to Major Stephen for taking the time to attend our meeting and we hope to see him as our guest again in 1985.

November Guest Speaker: Mr. John Cairns-Smith-Barth.

John entertained a large group of interested members when he spoke on Scottish Land Records on which he has vast knowledge and experience. As John has carried out extensive research himself into Scottish immigrants he was able to inform us about this subject and answer our questions on Scottish research.

The Scottish Land Records are unique in that they have been recorded since 1617. The Scottish system differs from the English land system, as Scotland still has a Feudal Land System, ie. all land is vested by the Crown which is then responsible for its distribution. The Sasine Register, held by the Sasine Office records and registers all land distribution. If your ancestors have owned land in Scotland since 1617 it will be recorded in the Sasine Register.

All records are indexed under the names of the owners and the indexes are available for public research. However the description of the land in these registers could be very vague and possibly not even note if a house or building was on the land. Records of land which was inherited will include a writ stating how the land was inherited through the generation, (a valuable source of information for genealogists).

The only land not recorded is non-feudal land :-

1. Royal LAND (parts of northern Scotland).
2. Land belonging to the Crown or the Prince of Scotland.
3. Parts of Renfrew and Ayrshire.
4. Manse and Glebes (church lands).
5. Kindly tenants.
6. Leases (not recorded unless more than 99 years duration.).
7. Booking Tenure of Paisley (these records have been lost).

For early Land records write to:-

Scottish Record Office,
New Register House,
Princes Street,
EDINBURGH.

For recent land records:-

Keeper of the Register of Sasines,
Meadowbank House,
London Road,
EDINBURGH.

A cassette recording has been made of John's talk and is available for borrowing.

Scottish Descendants in Australia.

Mr John Cairns-Smith-Barth, Councillor of the G.S.V., is compiling pedigrees of families who emigrated from Scotland. So far his comprehensive research has resulted in 44 volumes and is still expanding. Anyone who has Scottish ancestors is more than welcome to contact John.

Mr. J. Cairns-Smith-Barth,
26 Willis Street,
Armadae, 3143.

Phone: Home: (03) 509 2641
Work: (03) 604 8871

Historic Australia:

"Historic Australia" is a new magazine which may be of interest to genealogists. It contains articles on such things as early pioneers; historic people; places and events; antiques; and reviews on genealogical books. "Historic Australia" also publishes some interesting letters and articles written by readers on their families and research, which may provide some valuable clues. It is published bi-monthly by D.B.S. Publishing Pty., Ltd. and is available from newsagents for \$3.75 per copy.

International Genealogical Research Directory 1983.

Entries for the International Research Directory for 1983 close 30th April 1983. Subscription fee of \$10.95 includes up to 15 of your entries published in the Directory posted direct to you when published. Entries must be submitted on a special application form available from:

Library of Australian History,
17 Mitchell Street,
North Sydney,
N.S.W. 2060.

Census of N.S.W.

The Census of N.S.W., November 1828, has been published in book form. It records over 36,500 people resident in N.S.W. in 1828. Details are given for each person: Full name, age, status (free or bond), ship & year of arrival or born in Colony, sentence (if Transported), religion, occupation, employer, abode, livestock, total & cultivated land. Family Groups are indicated A cross reference index of employers.

As this book retails at \$89.00 it is unlikely you will find it under your Christmas tree this year, or in the local library. However it may be worthwhile making enquiries about this book as it contains extremely valuable information.

'Census of N.S.W., November 1828',

Edited by K.A.Johnson & M.R.Sainty.

Available from Library of Australian History, 17 Mitchell Street, North Sydney, N.S.W. 2060. \$89.00

Ladies Must Not Frighten The Horses!

Did you know that in 1864 the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of N.S.W. passed an "Act" for the 'Reform and regulation of Female Apparel'. An Article in the Book "Australian Memories", edited by Mary Buckle quotes the Act, of which section III reads.

"That it shall not be lawfull for any female above the age of forty to wear, deck or bedizen herself in any under skirt or petticoat, the patten of which shall be red and black striped, tub or barrel pattern, nor any other pattern approaching to chess or draught board pattern, or any other pattern or colour, which shall be likely to cause the taking of fright of any Horse, Ox, or Ass, or be calculated to cause the unnecessary barking of puppies, or draw forth the precocious remarks of small Boys"

Victorian Research:

Griffith Valuation Records: These are now available for viewing at the G.S.V. library. These records are one of the most important sources of 19th. century Irish research. Between 1848 - 1864 there were approximately 7 million people in Ireland. Under the terms of the British Poor Law all properties in Ireland were to be listed and assessed for taxation. The Griffiths Valuation records were the result of this assessment, listing:-

- *the names of the head of each household.
- *the names of the tenants.
- *the size of the property and whether the owner or occupier.

The 1981 microfiche has also arrived at the G.S.V. library along with a 2nd. microfiche reader and printer, however don't forget to make a booking if you are visiting the library to use the microfiche.

Public Record Office.

It is unfortunate but staff at the P.R.O. have been forced to put a freeze on all correspondence for 6 months. This means no enquiries will be answered by the P.R.O. during this period. It is possible that this freeze will be reconsidered again in January. We will keep you informed.

Victorian Certificates.

Dear Sir/Madam,

It has come to our attention, in the most insidious manner, of the recent escalating cost of Victorian Birth, Death and Marriage Certificates. Considering, that other states are compiling indexes for public access, we feel that we are being unnecessarily victimized in this matter. The high cost of research is detrimental to our research, (AND, OF COURSE, OUR POCKETS), as we consider that we are doing a service in the long term, of retaining biographical history of individuals and families. It is imperative that we be able to continue to have access to these records, at a reasonable price, or our research and the upkeep of family history and biographical matter will come to a sudden halt.

R. I. P.

DIED IN THE PRICE OF LIFE!

We encourage with the utmost urgency, that members of groups and individuals, write at their earliest convenience to their local member of Parliament, in an attempt to either having the cost of certificates drastically reduced or to having an index made available, as in other states of Australia, and the United Kingdom.

Signed,

LAST OF THE BIG SPENDERS.

(Name and address supplied.)

As you are no doubt aware the price of Victorian birth, marriage and death certificates has risen to:

*\$8.00 for search and certificate of events which occurred more than 75 years ago.

*\$16.00 for search and certificates of events which occurred less than 75 years ago.

South Australian Research.

This article is continues from the previous newsletter, which dealt with S.A. certificates, Part 1, Births.

Part 2 - Marriages.

SCHEDULE 1. 1 July, 1842 - 24 Aug. 1856.

- when married and where.
- names and surnames.
- ages.
- ranks(trade or calling).
- signature and description of parties (bachelor or spinster)
- name of clergyman, officiating minister or registrar.
- when registered.
- signature of Deputy Registrar/Officiating minister.
- witnesses.

SCHEDULE 2. 25 Aug. 1856 - 1868.

- when married.
- names and surnames of both parties.
- age.
- trade or calling.
- residence at time of marriage.
- names and surnames of fathers of both parties.
- church, chapel or other place in which solemnized.
- witnesses showing trade or calling and residence.
- signature of celebrant.

Schedule 3. 1868 - Dec. 1907.

No change except if under 21 parental or guardian consent, and addition of the condition of both parties (e.g. bachelor or spinster.)

SCHEDULE 4. Dec. 1907 - 30 April 1937.

- when married.
- names and surnames in full.
- place and country of birth.
- condition.
- trade or calling.
- residence at time of marriage.
- names and surnames of fathers of both parties.
- place in which celebrated.
- witnesses with trade or calling and residence.
- signature of celebrant.

SCHEDULE 5. May 1937 - 31 Aug. 1963.

- addition of age last birthday.

SCHEDULE 6. 1 Sept. 1963 - to date.

1st. schedule under new Australian Marriage Act of 1961.

- date.
- name of church or other place.
- suburb and state.
- according to (e.g. rites of C. of E.).
- surnames.
- Christian or other names.
- usual occupation.
- usual place of residence.
- conjugal status.
- birthplace.
- date of birth.
- father's full name.
- mother's maiden name in full.
- witnesses' full names.
- signature of celebrant.

Western Australian Research.

The Western Australian Genealogical Society has published a directory of members interests for 1982, available from the Society, P.O. Box 7, West Perth, W.A. 6005. Price \$2.00 plus 85c. postage.

Queensland Research.

The immigration records of Queensland are held at the Queensland State archives, 162 Annerley Road, Dutton Park, Queensland, 4102.

Brief Guide To The Use Of Immigration Records:

Queensland State Archives collects and preserves the public records of Queensland and makes them available for members of the public. Unfortunately we do not have sufficient staff to undertake research for private individuals. However for persons unable to visit the Archives, we will answer specific questions from indexed records only, provided that sufficient details, (e.g. full name, of immigrant, approximate date of arrival, place of origin, etc.) are given.

Approximately two-thirds of 19th. and 20th. century records relating to immigrants are indexed by name of immigrant or name of ship.

The records of the Immigration Department held in the Archives contain lists of immigrant ships arriving in Queensland from Europe from 1848 onwards as well as lists of passengers per ship from 1848. In the early years, the information given is usually fairly limited and may be confined to the name of the immigrant, the date of arrival and the name of the ship. However in later years, particularly in the twentieth century, much more comprehensive information is given.

Our records of immigrant arrivals in Queensland are incomplete for two reasons. Firstly not all the passenger lists have survived

to the present day, and secondly, usually only those people classified as migrants under the terms of the Immigration Acts were officially recorded. Persons coming under the provisions of the immigration acts included those receiving land orders, or assisted by free passes from the government. Where immigrants disembarked in another Colony and travelled overland or by coastal ship to Queensland we have no record of their arrival. In this case a record may survive in the State Archives of the relevant state.

In addition to the central records of the Immigration Department some incomplete series of records from Immigration Agents at Rockhampton, Bowen, Cooktown, Mackay, Maryborough, Toowoomba, and Townsville are also held. These can be useful as they frequently give details of where the immigrant went after arrival in Queensland and by whom he or she was employed.

Records relating to land orders are also held. Land Orders were granted to immigrants by the Government to allow them to select or purchase certain categories of land to a specified value. Records of land orders issued usually give name of immigrant, name of person to whom the land order was issued, and in some cases details of the ship and date of arrival. Details of the land purchased or selected using the land order are not given.

Local News.

Walhalla.

One of our members is fortunate in having in their possession a "Judge's Notebook" which belonged to Judge Warden Foster, who presided over court cases in Ballarat and Walhalla. The notebook is dated 1854-1876 and records details (including names of parties involved, solicitors, witnesses, etc.), of all the cases heard by the judge during that time. Most of the court cases were heard at Walhalla, however some of the earlier ones were at Ballarat.

The context of the Judge's notebook is being and eventually will be added to our group library. Family researchers, particularly those who have connections with old Walhalla, will find this interesting reading.

Boolarra.

The "Boolarra Link" Newspaper has published an article on the history of the Boolarra Primary (State) School, in its October edition. The article begins the history of the school since it began in 1864, listing head teachers, assistant teachers, the years they taught at Boolarra, and the names of many of the pupils.

Morwell, Traralgon, Rosedale.

It would be advisable for these people to read the Morwell Historical News. This magazine is largely written by the late Historian, Mr. Ivan Maddern, and deals with such interesting topics as:-

Early Rosedale, the town and its inhabitants.

The Rosedale Cemetery (listing burials).

Early squatters and station owners and their holdings around Rosedale, Traralgon, Morwell and outer areas, listing the names of the cattle runs and their whereabouts.

There is a great deal on the early Rosedale, Morwell and Narracan Shires, listing councillors, Shire Presidents and the term in which they served, etc.

The early schools in the area have been dealt with; these include Morwell, Traralgon, Toongabbie and Cowarr, just to name a few. Listing teachers and in some cases all the pupils.

A considerable amount of biographical information on early squatters, explorers, station holders, and settlers has been compiled, this also includes sections on early Morwell residents.

There are of course many references to other miscellaneous items such as Port Albert, shipwrecks, coach roads and trips, cemeteries, (listing burials), other early burials, district roads, streets, rivers, stations, their names and meanings, and many other items of interest. It would however be worth reading this magazine particularly if your ancestors came from these areas. If you don't find a reference to any members of your family, you will still learn a considerable amount about the settlement of this area of early Gippsland and the battles of the early pioneers.

The Morwell Historical Society News, is available at the Moe, Morwell, and Traralgon libraries.

For further information on Morwell read:

A Souvenir History of Morwell, by I. T. Maddern.

Steamhorse to Power, by Prue McGolarick.
 For the Narracan Shire read:
 So Tall the Trees by John Adams.
 Mountain Gold, by John Adams.
 For Traralgon read;
 A History of Loy Yang, 1844-1978, by Kathleen M. Huffer.
 The above named books are only a small selection. There are further local histories of the area in the local libraries.

Library Books

At the November meeting it was decided that books borrowed from our library could be borrowed free of charge, for 1 month. However, a rate of 50 cents per month would be charged on all books overdue. The librarian reports that many books are now overdue so please check your bookshelves. Also a request that these books be treated with reasonable care and returned in the same condition as when they were borrowed.

New Library Additions.

Following the book display by Elizabeth Larking from the

"Melbourne Genealogical And Australiana Bookshop," at our July meeting, seven new books have been purchased for our library. These books were carefully selected to cover a wide range of basic genealogical information, both in Australia and overseas.

- *1982 Address Book for Family History Searchers, by J. McClelland, lists hundred of addresses in Australia and overseas.
- *How to Record Your Family Tree, by P. Palgrave-Moore.
- *Discovering Local History, by David Iredale.
- *Handbook on Irish Genealogy. How to trace your ancestry and relatives in Ireland.
- *In Search of Ancestry, by G. Hamilton-Edwards. Widely acclaimed definitive work on English Genealogical Research.
- *In Search of Scottish Ancestry, by G. Hamilton-Edwards.
- *English Parish Register Transcripts Ed. by N.J. Vine Gall.

Research at Its Best.

A letter came the other day, it was from a bloke upit the city. E wanted ta know if is grandpa an my grandpa was brothers or not. Well I cant ask me grandpa cos e lives in the cemetery, and I cant ask me ol mam cos es gone to Queenslan with the barmaid. An I cant ask me muther, cos I dunno oo she is. Anyway me grandpas father was married four times an I dunno how many brothers e had. He mighta had alot I reckon. Anyhow I asked da missus what I oughta do about the letter, an Merle said, I reckon we oughta k e e p the letter an lite the fire with it in da mornin, cos ya know theres a shortage of paper up er right now. I reckoned Merle was right, cos Merles a pretty smart woman. Anyhow I coulnt answer da blokes letter cos e didnt putta stamp en onvelope in it.
 THE MORAL OF THIS STORY IS.....?

Queries.

1. Bloomfield. James Bloomfield(s) married Fanny Meehan? possibly in Belfast, Ireland. After Fanny was widowed she came to Australia with several of her children in 1855, and married Henry Hawkins. Daughter Margaret Coey Bloomfiel b.c. 1845 m. John Deering in Melbourne 1865. They had 2 children. Fanny (m. William Bailey), and Lawrence (m. Gladys Crane).
 Contact Mrs. Dawn G. Walker, 117 Orange Ave., Mildura, Vic. 3500.
2. Blair-Anderson. Does anyone know of wife and or descendants of William Blair, farmer of Moe (1997-8). Also Sarah Blair believed to have married Ewen Anderson producing a daughter(1871) and a son, George Albert Anderson(b. 1815 Warragul. d. 1934 W.A.)
 A Contact Mrs. Beryl Taylor, 32 Tranmore Way, City Beach, W.A. 6015.
3. Elsden-Stone. If you know of descendants of Harriet and John Stone, (nee Elsdén), from the Hazelwood area, contact either our research committee or Mrs. C.M. Willcox, Smoky Bay, S.A. 5680.

BEST WISHES FOR A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Next Meeting Thursday 27th. January, 1983. 8.00 p.m.
 Regional Education Office, Moe.

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