

Newsletter No. 12 - September, 1983

The exciting news this month concerns our seminar on family history, planned and organised by our Mid-Gippsland Group. Don't miss this opportunity to hear some first class guest speakers discuss a variety of topics which will have appeal for everyone interested in family research.

DATE: Saturday 1st October, 1983
TIME: 9.45 am - 4.00 pm.
VENUE: Regional Education Centre, Haigh Street, Moe.
COST: \$5.00
LUNCH: B.Y.O.

Afternoon tea is provided.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Mrs. Marjorie Morgan - Topic "408 Souls".

Mrs. Morgan will speak on the methods of research used to trace the people aboard the ill-fated "Catarraqui", wrecked on King Island in August 1845. Mrs. Morgan has travelled to England, Canada, Ireland and King Is. in the course of her research, which is the basis of her latest book.

Miss Frances Brown - LaTrobe Library.

Miss Brown will speak on resource material available for family history research at the La Trobe Library.

Mr. Keith Holden - Topic "Convicts and Convict Records"

Mr. Michael Dempsey - Topic "Records obtainable from the Government Statist Office."

Also, Elizabeth Larking from the Melbourne Genealogical and Australian Bookshop will have a selection of books on display during the lunch break (12.30-1.30) and after the seminar at 3.30pm. Please feel free to browse or buy - at your leisure!

Looking forward to seeing you there !!

OVERSEAS NEWS

New Zealand Birth, Marriage and Death Certificates.

Address - The Registrar General,
Levin House,
Private Bag,
Lower Hutt. N.Z.

Cost - \$7.00 (NZ)
Searches --\$1.00 (NZ) for every year
of search.

AUSTRALIAN NEWS

Boer War Records/WWI Records- Tasmania and Western Australia.

Those interested in Military books and war veterans will probably be aware of the availability from the LaTrobe Library front desk of "Records of Australian Contingents to the War in South Africa, 1899-1902". This book, listing all those who enlisted for the Boer War, is on restricted loan only. The Library holds one (original) copy only, and this book, on the Collectors list, is valued at approx. \$400. (By. Lieut-Col P.L. Murray.) This book has been reprinted in a facsimile edition of a limited number of 500, and is presently available from Mr. John Burrridge 91 Shenton Road, Swanbourne, W.A. 6010. Price \$50 plus \$5 postage.

Also available from Mr. Burrridge at \$35 (limited edition of 200) is "Tasmania's War Record". It includes Tasmania's involvement in WW I, page 1.216 and the Muster Roll from page 219-370 plus details on approx. 15,000 soldiers eg. 1st unit transfers, W.I.A KIA Rank, length of time away etc. Available also - W.A.'s "Fighting Son's of The Empire" at \$50 plus \$5 postage. (Presumably 1st WW). Contact Mr. Burrridge for further information on books available. Please enquire before sending money.

Australian Birth, Marriage and Death Certificates.N.S.W.

The Principal Registrar of
Births, Deaths & Marriages,
3rd Floor, A.M.P. Centre,
50 Bridge Street,
SYDNEY N.S.W. 2000

Cost \$8.00

W.A.

The Registrar General,
Oakleigh Building,
22 St. George's Terrace,
PERTH W.A. 6000

Cost \$5.00

TAS. (post 1900)

The Registrar-General,
G.P.O. Box 875J,
HOBART Tas. 7001

Cost \$10.00

VIC

The Government Statist,
295 Queen Street,
MELBOURNE Vic. 3000

Cost: \$16.00 for full certificate of event which occurred less than 75 years ago.
\$8.00 for full certificate of events which occurred more than 75 years ago.

Library of Australian History - Historical Book Brochures.

The Library of Australian History are compiling a completely new mailing list of those who wish to receive their regular brochure listing books of historical and genealogical interest. If you wish to be included on their mailing list, your name and address must be sent to: The Library of Australian History, 17 Mitchell Street, North Sydney NSW 2060 by the 15th October, 1983.

LOCAL NEWSAugust Guest Speaker - Mrs. Lois Maynard.

All of our members who attended our last meeting to hear Mrs. Lois Maynard speak were rewarded with a very entertaining evening. Lois has spent many years researching the German branch of her family tree and her work culminated in 1982 with a reunion of 600 descendants of the Dahlenburg family which was held in the Barossa Valley, S.A. and with the publication of an excellent family history book. Her book is well worth reading as she has some new ideas for setting out the family tree so everyone can follow and understand it clearly. (how often do you get lost in a muddle of grandparents, great grandchildren, cousins etc. when trying to read someone else's family history?). The quality and standard of the publication are also first class.

Lois outlined her research and told us of her experiences, both good and bad, in organising the reunion and publishing her book. We all hope to achieve something worthwhile with our research and Lois showed us that it can be done with determination, hardwork and an understanding family.

A folder containing addresses, suggestions and information was donated to our library by Lois.

Church of the Latter Day Saints Library - Kosciusko Street, Traralgon.

Note the changes of opening times - every SECOND Monday afternoon from 3rd Oct.
12.00 to 3.00 pm

- Friday 7.00 to 10.00 pm
- Saturday 1.00 to 5.00 pm.

Calendar

Meetings - Mid-Gippsland Group

- September 22nd : Guest Speaker, Mrs. Dorothy Schnabl,
Supervisor of Cemetery Records, The G.S.V.
- October 1st : Family History Seminar
- October 27th : Guest Speaker, Mr. Neville Drummond
Education Department to speak on records held by them.
- November 24th : Annual General Meeting.

Library Additions

- MacMillan Electoral Roll 1965 don. Lorraine Ramselaar.
- Parish Maps of England and Wales - (restricted use, see Librarian).

Letter from an emigrant in Australia 1884.

Typed as originally written with few capital letters and some spelling mistakes spacing is added where a comma or full stop should be, words in brackets do not occur in the letter but are a guess at what is meant.

1 March 18th/84

Tong looked for come at last.

Dear brothers and Mother and all, after a good while I think its time I sent you a few lines just to let you know how we are going on, well we had a capital Passage never was a better made by the old ship and none of us was sick we happened of some friends coming over that had been home to London and we got on first rate, for the woman was sick all the way and Emma waited upon her or else she said she would have died

2 and we have been to see them two or three times and they are very kind to us and Lizy call her grandmother watson well sister lizzie came on board to meet us with a friend of hers and we had nothing to pay for our luggage nor did the officers look at them, so after all we managed it very well, we came ashore about 12 at noon and the first feed we had was mutton Chops and if you had seen us Polish off about 5 each you would not have forgot it for we had no breakfast that morning, well now

3 we went to Glenroy and a nice place it is and its about 9 miles from Melbourne and its out in the country well I started to work 5 weeks before Christmas and its in a shoeing shop there are three fires and I have one of them and the money is 2 guineas per week we start at six in the morning and work till $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4 with an hour to breakfast and an hour to dinner so its 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours per day and finish at one on Saturdays so its 48 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours per week there are very few people.

4 that work more than 8 hours per day out here that is in towns well now its all very well for people to think of coming out here to better themselves but there are people here as sharp as ever the Londoners are and some of the Passengers that came out on the John Elder with us went back before she did, but I am not sick yet for though we cant save much money we can live better for meat is cheap here and we live about 5 minutes walk from the market and leg of prime mutton 3 pence per pound and lamb 3d a side.

5 and bread is 5d per ..?.. and grocery is about the same as at h.. but tined salmon is eleven pence a tin but Rabbits are 1S (shilling) per Pair but we mostly have mutton or lamb and green Peas, and timart are 20 lbs for 1 shilling and grapes 4d per lb and Plums 1 1/20 lb Potatoes 25 lbs for 1 shilling and we all burn wood here and its 1/3 (one & threepence) per cwt. thats rather dear and houses like the one we left in grove Vale are about 14 shillings per week well ours is a wood cottage of 3 rooms not very big and its 9 shillings a week well a great many houses are wood and corrugated iron roofs

6 and Tom said I was to send word how wages are in this colony well Brick-Tayers get from 10 to 12 shillings aday for 8 hour and Smiths that are used to making Ploughs and farm Implements such as reapers and gets the same wheelwrights gets 1 shilling and 1/1 (one & a penny) an hour and although melbourne is afine Town and there is plenty of work, there is plenty of men to do it and in sydney the Emmigrants that have come out have held large meetings and decided to write home to the Towns from which they came and let people know what a swindle the advertisements are to get people out here when there is not work enough for those that are there so you see if living is cheap rent is dear, well I am looking out for a place to start for my self and if I can get a start I think I can get on, for cart horses are 7/- a set and light Horses and ponies 6/- and we shoe one in an hour and sometimes in 1/2 an hour and my boss is an Irish man and nearly as big again as jack watkins but he takes the fire and slog in all day like a horse well I thought there was no very heavy horses here but there are some quite a big

7
8 as those in london and this is a wonderful Place for racing there are Hundreds of race horses kept and sports of all sorts for this is the mastre (master) country for holidays and three parts of the people are Irish, st. patricks day was a holiday with them, and on the 21 of april is the anniversary, of the 8 hours association and thats a general Holiday and the different trades all turn out in Prosession with bands and emblems and the farmers are to be first we are going to have a forge on the lorry and make shoes through the streets

9 well i was going to send some money for mother this time but once willie boy was taken ill the other night in a fit and we thought he was dieing for his face turned black and we sent for a doctor and he came and Put leaches on his temples and its 10 shillings a visit besides the money for the medicine, he prescribed 2 powders and a small bottle of stuff and 2 leaches which was 4/8 (four & eight pence) so you see doctering is expensive out here and he is better but not well yet all of us are well except him we think it is his teeth as so many children have fits in this country.

10 well the weather this summer has been about as hot as it was in July and august at home and when the hot northwinds blow its fit to stop ones breath which last for 3 or 4 days sometimes and then we get a change and then its a sea breeze, well what stun me is the sunrise at the East and goes to the northward as it goes on to the west and at 12 o clock it is full north instead of south as at home and our east is your west but its us the other side of the globe that accounts for it well beer is four pence Per Pint or 3 Pence for aglass.

11 about a tumbler, and spirits they never measure but just hand you the bottle and glass and if you take too much they will help you next time, and you get about as much for three pence as we do here for 6 pence and the beer is something like Taylors & walkers ale or worse English old Tom 3/6 (three & six pence) per bottle and Hollands is 4/1 every sort of spirits are sold out of bottles and not taps as in London there are no Beer shops here but all full licensed Hotels as they call them some are not larger than mr. giles against you (?), well now I think we can do very well here and we saw aunt Lizy and steve last week

12 and they were well and was here for 4 days with us he has a better Place than many trades men for they have wood, and house rent free and milk and eggs to further orders, and when we go to see them I just pay the hen house a visit and wet my throat with a little new milk and steven and lizz are very fond of the boy will he bought him a money box on the 10 of march as they was here on our wedding day the children grow fast , and i suppose bob is back from america as you sent word he could not stand it but I am satisfied to stop here if we have our health as well as we have had we are all look fat and well (the last 2 sides were not numbered) and we hope you are all the same and we all send our love to you all and Lizzie often talks about Plaistow and grandmother and the children and if you think I have left out anything I might have said you must say so when you write give our love to agnes and the children and Bob if he is home, and give my respects to my old mates rose and

deer (at the rose & deer pub??) and the rest of them and i will rite again before long and you can just send us a drop of mr giles stout for that would go down now and when you write send it to aunt lizy at Glenroy as we may be moved before you get this

(next side)

Please remember us to mr kabinett and his wife and I think this is all for this time so with our kind love to all and kate andjames and rose and all the Rest we are yours Brother & sister W&E Flegg

mr. w.Flegg
mr.s. Johnsons
c/o Hon. W. McCulloch,
Glenroy Moonie Ponds
Victoria

march 20

willie is better today this will come by John Elder we shall?.... the day you get it by the telegraph

(This letter is now in the possession of Mrs. Jean McLally)

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Editorial: Lyn Gorman
Julie Stevens
Frank Robinson