

Newsletter:

The Genealogical Society of Victoria, Mid-Gippsland Group.
Secretary: Dawn Cowley (Mrs.) 051 271780, Newborough Vic.
Chairman: John Pattison, Traralgon Vic.

No. 15 April 1984.

It was pleasing to see the increase of newcomers at our March meeting. The attendances have risen from an average of 25 in mid 1983 to approximately 40 at the last two meetings. The introduction of the Question and Answer session conducted at the conclusion of our recent meetings has proved very successful and an invaluable aid to all members and visitors.

AUSTRALIAN NEWS

The Australian Biographical and Genealogical Record - (From Descent - Australian Genealogical Society)

The A.B.G.R. is an independent, non-profit research and publishing project and has, as its main aim, the publication of Pocket Biographies of every person who came to or was born in Australia prior to 1842. It is planned to produce these volumes by 1988 as a lasting contribution to Australia's Bicentennial celebrations. They will form an invaluable source and comprehensive reference work for future generations of researchers and provide a means by which we may record our ancestors and the results of our research.

For persons who wish to record ancestors who arrived after 1842, a separate volume is planned. Entries in this category must be financially sponsored by the contributor. To date, over 1,000 persons have registered some 15,000 entries and the Project has issued its first Newsletter, which is circulated to all registered contributors.

This is by far the largest project of its type undertaken in Australia and everyone is encouraged to participate in and to assist with the Project.

For full details write to: The Secretary, A.B.G.R., P.O. Box 795, North Sydney, 2060. (Please enclose a stamped S.A.E.)

Parish Maps of New South Wales - (From Descent - Australian Genealogical Society)

The Crown Lands Office in Sydney has prepared a 'Guide to Parish Maps, N.S.W.' The State is divided into 141 counties and each county comprises a number of smaller areas called parishes. There are more than 7,000 parishes in N.S.W. These are civil subdivisions and quite separate from ecclesiastical parishes. Parish maps are the basic documents of local history, providing the names of original landholders and the boundaries of their properties. Copies of the guide are available free from the Crown Lands Office, 23-33 Bridge Street, Sydney, 2000.

Bendigo Area

All records pertaining to the Eaglehawk cemetery are housed at the Shire building, Eaglehawk, and on request are available to the public for perusal.

The Bendigo orphanage built in 1904 and run by the Catholic Church is shortly to close. Boys remained at the orphanage until the age of nine years and were then sent to St. Augustines Boys Home in Geelong. (still in operation). Where possible, girls were sent to families who were charitable enough to take them in. It is hoped that on closure of the orphanage the existing entry records will be forwarded to the Catholic Centre, Melbourne, and that they will still be available to the public.

Australian War Memorial

Those with a First World War soldier in their family background may be interested to learn that the Australian War Memorial can supply photographs for most troopships on which the soldier embarked for overseas duty by writing to the A.W.M., P.O. Box 345, Canberra, A.C.T., 2601, and enclosing a cheque for \$5.00 to cover the cost of postage for a 6x8 Black and White glossy photo of the troopship concerned. However, at the moment the A.W.M. has a 3 month delay on all existing photographic orders, as all plate glass and nitrate negatives are required to be copied onto safety film.

Microfilm Reader - G.I.A.E.

The Gippsland Institute of Advanced Education at Churchill has a microfilm reader and print out machine and also has copies of "The Yallourn Live Wire" and "The Financial Revue". Although students have priority in the use of the reader, the public is welcome to use it. The hours are:

Monday	9.00 am - 9.00 pm	Wednesday	9.00 am - 5.00 pm	Friday	9.00 am - 5.00 pm
Tuesday	9.00 am - 9.00 pm	Thursday	9.00 am - 9.00 pm		

Tasmanian B.D. & M.

The Genealogical Society of Victoria now has a microfilm copy of the index to the Births, Deaths and Marriages of Tasmania pre 1900.

A.B.C. Radio - Family Favourites.

On Sunday mornings at 9.02 am on A.B.C. radio, the programme 'Family Favourites' may be heard. As part of this programme, a special genealogical section begins at approximately 9.40-9.45 am, where listeners' research queries are answered by Nick Vine Hall. Makes very interesting listening.

Irish Tourist Board.

The Irish Tourist Board in Sydney could be very helpful if you are trying to locate information in Ireland.

Research in Hamburg and Northern Germany

Looking for your ancestors, lady undertakes research in the records of Hamburg and Northern Germany for a moderate fee. Please send your enquiries together with 3 international reply coupons to: Mrs. Helga Froeben, Julius Leber Strasse 38, D 2000 Hamburg 50, W Germany.

Please Note: No recommendation is made as to the competency of this searcher and that any arrangement made is on a purely private basis.

BOOKS!Book Review

"Yinnar Football Club 1884-1984" by Hugh McGregor.

The centenary of the Yinnar Football Club this year prompted the commissioning of a book to commemorate the past 100 years on and off the footy ground. This project was undertaken by Hugh McGregor, and the result is a book packed with photos, names and interesting and entertaining anecdotes of the personalities who have made up the Yinnar Football Club and its supporters.

There is no doubt that the local football fans will have a host of memories revived and many will relive the highs and lows of 'their' era of association with, or interest in, the club. The nature of the book makes it a very useful aid to the family history researcher with earlier generations in the Yinnar district. The author has somehow managed to obtain a vast number of photographs - the earliest being of the Fairbairn brothers, Alan and Stan, who played in the mid 1880's, with Stan captaining the 1887 team - and with team photos dating from 1898. Many players are identified in the early photographs, so they could prove to be a great find for a reasearcher trying to locate photos of a Yinnar predecessor.

Congratulations to Hugh - a member of our group - for his achievement.

"Yinnar Football Club 1884-1984" sells for \$10.00 plus postage. Enquiries to Hugh McGregor, 5 Cherry Crescent, Morwell, 3840.

New Books in Our Library

1. The Local Historians Encyclopedia (England).
2. The Genealogical Gazetteer of Scotland - Smith.
3. The Third Fleet Convicts.
4. Sources for South Australian Biography - Peake.
5. Compiling Your Family History - Gray.
6. Roots and Branches - Ancestry for Australians - Lea-Scarlett.
7. Latter Day Saints papers on:
 - a) Major Genealogical Sources in England and Wales.
 - b) Major Genealogical Sources in Scotland.
 - c) Major Genealogical Sources in Ireland.
8. German Pioneer Families in Australia.
9. A History of Scotland and Guide to tracing immigrants.
10. The Long Farewell - Charlwell.
11. Victorian History 1835-1900.
12. Port Albert)
13. Greenmount) not the names of the books - but their histories.

Library Reminder

Only those holding a current Mid-Gippsland Group membership card are eligible to borrow from the library. We rely totally on your honesty and integrity over this matter and trust this easily comes within the capacity of all people attending our meeting. Non-members are welcome to view the library material at Meetings only.

Publications available through our group.

The following books are available through our group.

1. 'Planning Your Family Reunion' by Debra Squires and Linda Barraclough. Cost: \$3.50
2. 'Ancestors for Australians' Cost: \$4.00
3. 'Family and Local History Sources in Victoria' by Frances Brown, Don Meadley and Marjorie Morgan. Cost \$4.00

If you wish to purchase any of these please see Mavis or Dawn.

The 1933 Edition of Victoria and Riverina

An original and worthwhile book which has recently come to notice, is the 1933 Edition of 'Victoria and Riverina' with which is incorporated Victoria and Riverina 1931 and Victoria and Riverina 1931-32. A biographical record of some of the pioneer families of Victoria and The Riverina. Fully illustrated and indexed.

This book is very much after the style of 'Victoria and Its Metropolis' Volumes I,II, & III, which was published in Melbourne in 1933 by McCarron, Bird and Co., 479 Collins Street, Melbourne. The Editors of this book scoured the country for suitable recipients for their volume and it was quoted by one such subscriber that he considered his time and money well wasted when his copy was not forthcoming but it eventually arrived and apparently surpassed all expectations.

It is assumed that the above volumes would be available by inter-library loan from the State Library or housed at The G.S.V. but please enquire personally.

SEEKING HELP

Mr. Peter G. Evans of 37 Charles Street, Cheltenham, Victoria, 3192, is seeking information in regard to members and late members of the 8th Field Artillery Brigade, 1st A.I.F. (WW1) who were, at the time of enlistment, living in the area of Gippsland. Details are sought for the express purpose of compiling a history of that unit.

Following are a list of the names of the above Gippslanders. N.J. Bromley, H.L. Cameron, H.C.N. Claxton, A. Deans, A.R. Gay, E.T. Gay, J.E. Griffiths, A.A. Le Roux, H.C.N. (Lodge) Claxton, D.Mc.Moffat, A.W. Neal, R.H. North, R.B. Pairman, H.J. Perrior, R.W. Pryor, A. Reynolds, G. Ridgeway, J.K.C. Robertson, A. Roth, O.A. Searle, J. Seehusen, M.C. Sheehy, A.E. Thomas, W.H. Thomas, W.G. Thomas, J.R. Williams, J. Yates and L. Young.

FAMILY REUNIONSDavies

On February 19th, 1984, descendants of William and Emmeline Davies (nee Emmeline Hurrell) held a reunion at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Melbourne. William and Emmeline arrived in Australia in 1853 on the ship "Earl Grey", emigrants from Devon, England, and soon settled in the Bittern area on the Mornington Peninsula. They eventually produced thirteen children, all but two of whom survived to adulthood. Their children were: Mary Ann, John, William, Emmeline, James, Richard, Charles, Walter, Alfred, Albert, Francis, Edwin and Emmaline.

The descendants of the abovenamed thirteen had spread far and wide and, with the exception of some small groups, had become, literally, strangers to one another.

The reunion was originally planned to celebrate the 100th birthday of William Phillip Davies, grandson of William and Emmeline. Sadly, William Phillip died three months short of his centenary but it was decided to go ahead with a family gathering, the first of what is hoped to be many.

The reunion was very successful, particularly from the research point of view. Much valuable information was obtained, charts showing information were corrected where necessary, as well as being added to and perused and discussed until they were finally taken down at the conclusion of the day.

Progress in family research from that day has really moved forward, as many addresses, names and other contacts were spoken of, noted down and followed up in the ensuing weeks. Results are already to be seen, as many gaps apparent on the charts on February 19th are now filled, and I have no doubt that success in the other areas is not far away.

I would encourage fellow researchers to organize a reunion and then sit back and enjoy it. On reunion day, I didn't eat or sit for a minute and only closed my mouth to listen to the stories related to me by fellow Davies'....I came home exhausted, famished and hoarse, but Oh! so elated at the success of our day.

Dawn Cowley.

Two members of the Mid-Gippsland Group recently attended successful reunions which were held on the weekend of 11-12th March, 1984.

MONIGATTI

Descendants of Angelo Monigatti and Martha Frenscella recently held a reunion in Eaglehawk's Canterbury Gardens. The reunion celebrated 100 years for the Monigatti family in Australia. Angelo and Martha had 11 children, and about 250 of their descendants attended the reunion. Their last surviving child, Pius John Monigatti (known as Jack), of Rochester, attended, as did members of the Pianto, Rogers, Metcalf and the Fitzsimmons families, as well as many Monigattis.

The reunion started with a Mass, celebrated by a great-grandson, Fr. Dennis Crameri, followed by a welcome speech by Brendan Monigatti, who briefly outlined the early members of the Monigatti family. During the afternoon, many took advantage of viewing the family photographs which were on display.

Angelo Monigatti was born in Switzerland in 1863, and came to Australia from Naples (Italy) in 1884, on the ship, "Ligura". He was a Boer War veteran, and became an Australian citizen in 1901, three months after Federation. On the death of his wife on the 16th April, 1906 after the birth of twins, Angelo placed five of his children in St. Aidians Orphanage, Bendigo, and returned to South Africa. He remained there, managing a gold mine until he was forced to return to Eaglehawk in 1913. He died of Miners Complaint in May 1914.

Angelo and Martha had 42 grandchildren, 170 great-grandchildren, and so far have 106 great-great grandchildren - a total of 318 descendants, most of whom live in or around Bendigo and Eaglehawk.

RADNELL

Four hundred and 42 descendants and friends signed the roll book at the recent two-day Radnell reunion at Tarnagulla. The two-day reunion was spent in meeting old and new relatives, recalling the day of yore, looking at photographs and family trees. Entertainment on the Saturday night was given by flautist, Kristen Perry, who is a great-great granddaughter of William John Radnell. Some met relatives or the first time in more than 40 years.

On Sunday morning, March 11, a remembrance service was held at the graveside of Charles and Sarah Radnell when Mr. Don Clark spoke of the early history of the Radnell family in Australia. The group then moved to Laanecoorie, where the first born, William was buried in 1953.

The oldest person at the reunion was Mrs. Chris Radnell, 93; the youngest was Keira Scott, who was born on November 26, 1983, while Ken Harwood and Lynn Sacco travelled the furthest, from Karratha, W.A.

OVERSEAS NEWSBritish Museum Catalogue of Printed Books. (From Descent - Australian Genealogical Society)

A most useful reference for family history research, which is often overlooked by genealogists, is the above series of some 308 volumes. Containing an estimated 7½ million entries, these books list, by author's surname and christian name, all the printed books held in the British Library section of the British Museum, up to the year 1978. If your ancestors ever wrote a book or pamphlet, which was published in the British Isles, during the last 200 years, particulars will probably be listed in the catalogue, and a photocopy obtained from the British Library, if the material is out of copyright. A complete run of the catalogue is held in the General Reference Section of the State Library of New South Wales, Macquarie Street, Sydney, 2000. (It may be worthwhile checking with the State Library of Victoria to see if they, also, have a copy of this catalogue).

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