

NEWSLETTER.

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

The September meeting seemed to have benefitted from the running of the second seminar. Several new people attended as well as many of the regular members. The evening consisted of finalising items from the Seminar and some general items of business. A very fruitful question and answer type session followed with many genealogical questions asked. Most seemed to be answered effectively with many of us learning of place names and changes around Gippsland.

NEW GROUPS.

Yarram and District have now organised a group to meet at Yarram. There are from fifteen to twenty members attending their early meetings. Mr. Jim Riddell, chairman of the South Gipps. Group, spoke recently of his trip to Scotland and Northumberland/Durham. We wish the group well in their meetings and research.

Australian GUM, have flowered and renamed themselves VICTORIAN GUM, meaning "Genealogists Using Micros". This is a subgroup of the G.S.V. and meets in the Society's Library in Melbourne. Their next meeting is Wednesday 28th November. They have approx 34 members at the moment and are gaining strength. Membership is open to all financial members of the G.S.V. (As is ours), and their aim is to promote the objectives of the G.S. of V. using computers. I guess it won't be long before computers make data searching a much easier job for family historians, especially if we can wrench our computers from our children who insist on using them for star war type games. They can be very useful, not only for sorting, comparing and storing data (information), but for printing out reports and letters. After all, some of this newsletter is produced on a home computer/wordprocessor.

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH DIRECTORY.

Most of us who receive the Ancestor or Genealogist or Western Ancestor or even Decent, will know that a new Research Directory will be published in March 1985. The entries will close on the 15th November so if you are interested in having your name(s) included a photocopy of the entry form can be obtained.

The 1984 Edition is being promoted as an International Edition with a wide circulation, thus it can be a very valuable resource to the researcher.

SEARCH FEES IN CIVIL RECORDS.

Mr. Bruce McMaster has handed us a sheet from the Government Gazette giving the official fees for searches and issuing certificates. As these are as we printed them in the December Newsletter, namely \$18 for search and issue of a certificate (\$10 if over 75 yrs.). It is interesting to note that there is no mention made of an "Extract". The Geelong Newsletter, held in our library feels there is a way to reduce the fee, it would do well to check.

LIBRARY ADDITIONS.

Genealogical Research Directory. Mid 1984. By Sainty and Johnson.

Members Interest Directory 1982. Western Australian Genealogical Society.

Members Interests 1984. Aust Institute of Genealogical Studies.

Birth, Death and Marriage Certificates in Aust. By Faye Young & Don Harris.

The Past Finders. Newsletter of Cairns branch of G.S. Queensland. June 1984. Surrey Hills. In Celebration of the Centennial 1883-1983. Don By K. Mooney.

POST OFFICE DIRECTORIES ON MICROFISCHE.

The purchase of these directories, recently made by our Group, has proved a bonus with a number of members furthering their research without having to make the tiresome journey to Melbourne.

QUEEN VICTORIA MARKET.

The Queen Victoria Market, commonly known in the past as the "Hay & Corn" stores. Anyone interested in the overall story of the Market would do well to obtain a copy of "Melbourne Markets 1841-1979". Edited by Mr. C.E. Cole. Enquiries to: Mr. K. Marriot. J.P. Secretary, Vegetables Growers Association of Vic. Box 403, 542 Footscray Rd. Footscray 3011.

ROSEDALE HISTORY.

On the 25th of November the Traralgon Historical Society will visit the town of Rosedale. The tour will commence at the Rosedale cemetery at 11.am. with cemetery records available for research purposes. Mr. Don Macreadie will also give a general talk on the history of Rosedale.

MORWELL HISTORY.

The National Bank of Morwell and the Morwell Brass Band are presently seeking details of their individual establishments in connection with their centenary. If you have any details please contact Mr. Bruce McMaster of Morwell.

DRIFFIELD HISTORY.

Mr. Lou Bond is conducting research into the history of Driffield. If you have any interest, or information on the area please contact Mr. Bond at 20 Hoyle Street, Morwell.

A QUICK QUIZ.

Do you have the following in your family background ???

1. Frametenter. 2. Ship-chandler. 3. Dog walloper. 4. Flesher.

The answers to the last quick quiz are as follows:-

1. Fellmonger. A dealer in hides and skins.
2. Cooper. One whose trade is to make barrels. A mender of casks etc.
3. Boniface. A general term for an innkeeper.
4. Scourger. One who punishes. (The handler of the cat-o-nine tails etc).

GENERATION GAP.

Extract from the "Sunderland Mirror" dated January 4th 1840:

"At Ponsontown, Mrs. Hemsworth, of a son, the father of which is 102 years old ." Well, Well !!

N.S.W. CERTIFICATES.

The following are fees to be paid for searches and supply of Births, Deaths & Marriage certificates in New South Wales. It is effective from 1st September, 1984.

1. For furnishing a certified copy of a recording in a register kept under the Act or a certificate of result of search including fee for search under any one name in respect of a period not exceeding 5 years.. .. \$9.00
2. For furnishing a certified extract from a recording in the register of adoptions (where the extract contains particulars additional to the name and date and place of birth of the child), including the fee for search under any one name in respect of a period not exceeding 5 years. \$9.00
3. For furnishing a certified copy of a recording in a pre-1900 register kept under the Act where applicant has provided the relevant number of the recording. \$7.00
4. For furnishing any other certified extract from a recording in any register, including the fee for search under any one name in respect of a period not exceeding 5 years. .. \$6.00
5. Provided the full period of any search is nominated when an application in respect of items 1, 2 or 4 is lodged, for continuation of search in the respective indexes to the registers of births, deaths or marriages under any one name in respect of each period of 10 years, or part thereof. \$7.00
6. For search against any one name in the index of legitimations or in the index to the register of adoptions, including the fee for a certificate of result of any such search ...\$9.00
7. (a) For search against any one name in the registers of births and the register of parentage information in respect of a period not exceeding 10 years pursuant to an application under Section 48A(1) of the Act.. .. \$9.00
(b) For continuation of search under any one name in respect of each period of 10 years, or part thereof \$7.00
8. For giving priority to a search or to the issue of a certified copy, extract or certificate of result of search, in addition to any other fee \$6.00

Indexes to Pre-1900 Records (N.S.W.).

Copies of the Registry's Indexes to pre-1900 records in microfiche form have been made available to the Archives Office of N.S.W., the Society of Australian Genealogists, the Genealogical Society of Utah and other organisations such as the European Family History Society, the Hurstville Historical Society and Municipal/Shire Libraries. (A copy is also at the Genealogical Society of Victoria).

HOW MANY NAMES?

How many names are on your family tree? The world record, according to the Guinness Book of Records, is 6820 names on a chart, 18 X 15 feet (5.4 X 6 metres) showing the family back to 1562.

CONVICT COLLEENS: *

Bridget Burke, 17, from Dublin City: sentenced to 7 years' transportation for theft in the summer of 1814. Her mother petitioned for pardon, Her victim certified his forgiveness.

The court replied, "Bridget Bourke is no fit object of mercy. She is one of those abandoned prostitutes who infest our streets at night for the purpose of robbing the unwary." The only fit place for Bridget Burke was the English colony of Botany Bay.

This crime and the comment was typical of the contemporary picture of the Irish women convicts - rebellious, intractable, dissolute, vile, depraved whores. In the words of Governor King: "The refuse of Ireland...What an importation." Or in the words of Governor Hunter: "The disgrace of their sex...far worse than the men...generally found at the bottom of every infamous transaction committed in the colony."

But the Irish background of Bridget and the nature of her crime was really as atypical of her transported sisters as her colonial life was typical. Bridget Burke settled with her husband, a former Irish convict, as pioneer farmers in the newly-opened District of Airds. She gained some measure of material success, social position and respectability.

Why has the contribution of the transported Irish women played no part in the story of Australia's social and economic development during the foundation years of white settlement? Why have these Colleens, more so than their English sisters, been damned for almost 200 years as vile, degraded women.

Why are they not recorded as the wives/partners of the men who opened up the farms and settlements along the Parramatta, the Hawkesbury, and the Nepean Rivers ; down South to Jervis Bay and beyond; up North the to Hunter River, to Newcastle; west to the Blue Mountains, to the unknown plains of Bathurst and beyond. The answer is simple. Until now there has been almost no concrete historical evidence to show the distortion inherent in the assumptions of a few supposedly respectable contemporaries - officials, chaplains and Governors in England and N.S.W.

The task of unearthing that evidence had proved extremely difficult until now. Many convicts were Roman Catholics and, since the colony had no priests, most chose not to be married by a clergyman of another faith, or to have their children baptised

They left no records, no traces other than official notations of pardons, applications for indulgences granting of tickets-of-leave, certificates of freedom, or listing in Musters. How then to recreate their individual lives in Australia?

In Ireland, the problem was even worse. To understand the responses of the transported Irish women, it was essential to understand the circumstances of their individual lives in the old country. What were their crimes? When and how committed? Where did they live? What was their life-style before conviction? Readily available Irish records for some 2000 women were even sparser than those in N.S.W.

Many of the transported Irish women were from the counties, family women, working women, some left young children behind.

No pattern has emerged as to why some were saved from death, or others released from sentence of transportation. A pregnant woman could not be hanged till after the birth of her child, but could be transported.

A plea of innocence, even the written testimonials of priests, chaplains and respectable neighbours had little apparent affect on the decision of trial judges.

The number of convicted women who left young children behind in Ireland is one of the more poignant features of the petitions.

The records in the care of the Keeper of State Papers in Ireland, show clearly that, although vicious and criminal women were convicted, hanged or transported, women and girls of entirely different backgrounds were also sentenced to exile.

It was the countrywomen from all the counties of Ireland, who brought the patterns of their lives - and their memories from their homeland - to N.S.W. They were the women of Ireland, drawn by the circumstances of their times, the working women, the family women who came without choice.

For most, the shores of Cork were the last sight they would ever have of Ireland.

Yet in the new world, many of these girls and women took up the challenges, the opportunities.

There were of course, some who could never reconcile themselves to loss of family, friends, home and children. For others, freedom only came with the official notation against their names, "Free by Death."

But amongst these transported Irish colleens were many whose Australian lives show how they tried to carve a new life to establish families, to work with husband/partner to raise their Australian-born children.

To these children their mothers were not Ireland's refuse. They were the family women, the working women, the women of their native land, Australia.

* Extracts from Sydney Morning Herald, 17:3:1984. Article by P. Robinson. Complete list of Irish Women Convicts was with the article. Now in our library.

MELBOURNE GENERAL CEMETERY.

The Melbourne General Cemetery in North Carlton, set on 43 hectares contains some 300,000 ex citizens of Melbourne since its opening in 1853. It was originally designed by Baron Ferdinand von Mueller and has been opened and closed several times since. A major alteration took place in 1933 when the entrance gates were shifted to their present place to enable 2.4 hectares to be used for burials.

The Cemetery contains many notable people of Australia's history, such as; Sir Redmond Barry, Sir Isaac Isaacs, Sir Charles Hotham, John Pascoe Fawkner, Peter Lalor and Robert Hoddle. As well as many not so well known Australians who are still some-one's ancestors.

The office is open between 9 and 11 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday each week, when the Secretary will look up the Register and give a map and grave plan of the area, if you call.

Summarised from an article in the Melbourne Living section of The Age. Date Unknown.

RECORDS?

The record for the greatest number of first names is held by Don Alfonso de Bolbon of Spain (1866-1934). He had 89 names. The longest Surname is that of Mr. Adolf Wolfgschlegelstienhauselbergdorff. He also has 26 first names, one for each letter of the alphabet.

CENSUS RETURNS

We often wonder both when English Census Returns were made and which prove to be of use. After all what do they contain? This extract from an article in the Hertfordshire Family magazine could answer that.

The 1801 Census was a little more than a counting of the population in each parish, excluding all those, such as soldiers, sailors etc, who formed no part of its ordinary population. The army at home (including militia), the men of the Royal Navy ashore, were not included in the population of the places where they happened to be at the time of the census until 1841. The men of the Royal Navy and others on board vessels (naval or mercantile) in home ports were first included in the population of those places in 1851. Others temporarily present, such as gipsies, persons in barges etc were included in 1841 and perhaps earlier. The inclusion of people in barges could be important in Hertfordshire because of the many canals. For instance, Ware was an important centre for barge families. Up to and including 1831 the returns were mainly made by the overseers of the poor, and more than one day was allowed for the enumeration. From 1841 the returns were made under the superintendence of registration officers and the enumeration had to be completed in one day. The exact dates of the 19th century are as follows:-

10 March 1801	30 May 1831	8 April 1861	6 April 1891.
27 May 1811	7 June 1841	3 April 1871	1 April 1901
28 May 1821	31 March 1851	4 April 1881	

SHIPPING.

Have you ever wondered what the ship looked like that your forbears came to the colony? Well apparently the State Library of Victoria have a collection of photographs that are not indexed, of many ships. They also have copies of the Lloyds Shipping register, that describes most ships for insurance purposes. Another source is the Biddle Notebooks, which lists ships entering (and leaving) the port of Melbourne.

Recently the Sydney Genealogical Society have acquired a "Ships' Log Index". There are over 1000 ships logs, Shipboard Diaries etc describing life on board the various ships. This could be another valuable source.

FAMILY RESEARCH QUERIES.

Most of us are now aware of the Genealogical section at the end of the Family Favourites Program, Sunday morning on 3LO (Family Favourites, Box 9994, Sydney 2001). Are you non-country type members aware of the expanded section called "Family Tree" in the Miranda section of the Weekly Times. Occasionally there are letters outlining their research or area histories also printed. So if you have a friend who gets the Weekly Times, ask them to pass them on. After all, most aspiring "country people" subscribe.

USEFUL BOOK?

The General Publishing Company, Baltimore, U.S.A. have published a book called "General Alphabetical Index of Counties, Towns, Townlands, Baronies etc of Ireland" (I really hope that is the title, it was said quickly).

SEMINAR REPORT.

The second family history seminar conducted by our group was held on Saturday, September 15th at the Regional Education Centre, Moe. Attendance was up on last year, as 55 people forsook the beautiful sunshine of the day, and settled down to the serious business of absorbing as much genealogical information, and as many research tips and ideas as the four guest speakers were able to impart.

This proved to be a great deal as the guests were excellent speakers, with extremely thorough knowledge of their fields of special interest.

Linley Hooper - Librarian of the G.S.V. explained very clearly and logically the intricacies of the G.S.V. Library, and with the aid of a sketch map of the library room, was able to convince us that it's not such a bewildering maze after all!

Research in Ireland was Jim Flahavin's selected topic and he was extremely knowledgeable in this area. Though research involving Irish records is not a simple matter - perseverance will usually bring results. His outline of the complexities of land boundaries underlined the need to do ones homework with care before attempting overseas research.

Research Officer for the G.S.V., Joan Wills, encouraged us to use the facility of the research team of the G.S.V., as their combined fields of specialised interest made them very valued and valuable assistants. She emphasised the need to keep queries simple and to the point - only including such background information as is necessary to the query. Her tips on framing research queries were of great value, Joan pointing out that a well presented query is obviously more likely to be answered with speed and accuracy than one where the background information blocks out the question!

Anyone with ancestry in Cambridgeshire got a head start in their research by listening to Colin Holt, who has studied the county at great depth, and had an enormous amount of information at his fingertips. His experiences in collecting and collating this information made it clear that there is indeed a mountain of information available in England - extending through all counties, and gave fresh ideas for gathering further information on our families.

Those in attendance browsed and bought from Mr. Larking of the Genealogical and Australiana Bookshop, Bay St., Brighton, who again set up a display of books and charts available to the genealogist.

A very willing and hard working group of members assisted in many ways on the day - setting up and cleaning the conference room, preparing lunch for the guests and providing morning and afternoon tea, as well as washing endless cups and saucers. A sincere thanks to all of these people, and to those who, by attending, ensured the all round success of the day.

Dawn Cowley.

SEMINAR TAPES.

During the seminar on the 15th of September the speakers were recorded. Duplicates of these tapes are held in our Library for loan at a cost of 50c. per month. This helps recoup the expense of taping and replacement when they wear. The First Seminar Tapes are also available under the same conditions. They include Marjery Morgan, Michael Dempsey, Keith Holden and Frances Brown.

LIVERPOOL MUSEUM OF EMIGRATION

The Merseyside County Museum is developing a major international maritime museum on Liverpool's historic waterfront. One of the important objectives will be to tell the story of the thousands of Europeans who passed through the Port of Liverpool during the 19th or 20th centuries on their way to make a new life in the United States, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.

The Museum hopes to incorporate an "Emigration Bureau" to assist visitors with preliminary enquiries into how their ancestors may have started their journey indicating the main sources both here and in their home countries which may help to piece the story together.

The Museum is interested to hear from people whose ancestors passed through Liverpool on the outward journey, the reason which led the families to emigrate from Europe, their experiences in transit, and how their lives developed once they reached their destination.

If you can assist please write to:-

Richard A. Foster, M.A., Director of Museums,
William Brown Street, LIVERPOOL, L3 8EN. (From R.H.S.V. Magazine).

IT'S ALL RELATIVE

A number of newer members have been confused with trying to work out the relationship within their own families. The following table may be of assistance.

Example - Your father's first cousin is your 1st cousin once removed (one generation away from you) and not your second cousin. Your grandfather's first cousin is your first cousin twice removed (two generations away from you).

C = cousin B = brother GGF = great grandfather
U = uncle GF = grandfather 2GG = great great grandfather
R = removed

