



NEWSLETTER

No. 42

MAY, 1989.

Genealogical Society of Victoria
Mid Gippsland Group

Chairman : Mr G. Sephton, Boolarra

051 - 696285

Secretary : Mr F. Robinson, Mirboo North

056 - 681433

CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER :

At our meeting on 23rd March, Mr Jim Riddel of the BENA ANCESTRAL CENTRE RESEARCH & CRAFT CENTRE, spoke on the holdings of the centre and the trials and tribulations of setting it up. The holdings were the genealogical records of Janet Reakes who has retired from this aspect of her career. More information on the centre can be found elsewhere in the newsletter.

On April 27th. we were entertained by Mr Don Dunbar who spoke on the Dunbar Family History and his experiences when researching this in Northern Scotland. After his interesting talk we spent the supper time admiring the photographic records of his trip.

It is pleasing to note the new members and visitors attending our recent meetings. It is hoped that the longer serving members of our group can provide the help and guidance they are seeking. Thanks also to Jeanne Drane who has volunteered to take on the role of treasurer while Irene is on holiday.

MEETING PROGRAM 1989 :

The following are the arrangements for the next two meetings.

MAY 25th: WORKSHOP & RESEARCH

JUNE 22nd: SPEAKER - John Hewson. Will speak on the History of Post Offices in Victoria, specializing in the Gippsland area.

AUGUST MEETING :

On 24th August the West Gippsland Group of the Genealogical Society of Victoria will have a guest speaker, Mr Jack Loney. Mr Loney the well known marine historian will speak on "Great Days of the Tall Ships". The Group invites the Mid Gippsland Group to attend this evening. The West Gippsland Group meets in the Catholic Education Office, corner of Connor and Witton Streets, Warragul at 8 p.m. There will be a charge of \$3.00 for GSV members and \$5.00 for non-members.

P.R.O. SERVICE :

If you want Inquests from the P.R.O., select the inquest number and inform one of the workers who will help you fill out a form. Then for country people only, the P.R.O. will bring the said Inquest to the city, photocopy it and then send it to you with the invoice.

Submitted by Jean McNally.

P.R.O. BUS SERVICE :

The free bus service from the city to Laverton is no longer operating due to lack of support.

Submitted by Jean McNally.

CHURCH BAPTISMS :

Did any churches baptize illegitimate children in the past?

Submitted by Jean McNally.

G.S.V. MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS :

Effective 1st April 1989.

JOINING FEE	\$10.00
ORDINARY MEMBERSHIP	\$28.00 p.a.
JOINT MEMBERSHIP	\$42.00 p.a.
STUDENT MEMBERSHIP	\$20.00 p.a.
LIFE MEMBERSHIP	\$500.00
"ANCESTOR" SUBSCRIPTION ONLY	\$20.00 p.a.

All fees paid on or after 1st April 1989 are payable at the above rates, regardless of the due date for renewal.

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA MEMBERSHIP FEES :

Single ordinary member	\$22
Student in secondary/tertiary college	\$14
Pensioner	\$14
Unemployed (for 6 months or more)	\$14
Joint ordinary membership	\$29
Joint students/ pensioner	\$20

Send to: State Treasurer
Genealogical Soc. of Tasmania Inc.
54 Roslyn Avenue
Burnie 7320

Submitted by Shirley Connaghan.

THE COCKER CONNECTION - THE STORY OF BENJAMIN COCKER AND HIS SONS :

Four Yorkshire brothers emigrated to Tasmania and Melbourne. They traded as Cocker Bros Merchants on the site of Young and Jacksons Hotel in Melbourne and Cocker Alley still exists nearby. Later Benjamin jnr. became a professor in U.S.A., Joshua the first British Consul in Tonga, William was elected to the Provincial Assembly in Vancouver Island: David prospered in Devonport.

Written by the Rev. Dr. Mark Dalby M.A., a great great grandson of Joseph Cocker, this book concludes with a selection of unpublished family letters which vividly recall the hardships and achievements of the early pioneers in the 1850's and 60's.

Publishers Regency Press London, April 1989. Priority reserved copies may be ordered from J.M. Cocker, "Glenlyon", Lebrina, Tasmania, 7254, including \$14.95 not later than 15th May 1989.

NEW ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY :

Library Books

- Family & Local History
An ordered approach towards Publication of Your Research
Brown, Meadley, Morgan.
- A Grave Look at History
(A photographic journey through Australian cemeteries)
Lionel Gilbert
- Glimpses of Australia Volumes 1 and 2
(An album of photographic gems)
- Index to extra and stray B.D.M. certificates Dawn Cowley
- Wandiligong - A valley through time
Wandililong Preservation Society

Cassette Tapes

- International Settlers Group
Jack Miller
- Military Records
Alan Box
- P.R.O. - The Records and how to find them
Margaret Burns
- The workings of the State Library
Frances Brown

There are innumerable newsletters and research directories coming in all the time from Genealogical Societies throughout Australia. If you have an interest in a particular area in Australia, then chances are we have a newsletter from that area that could contain just what you are looking for! USE THE LIBRARY That's what its for!

Submitted by Florence Butcher.

INDEX TO EXTRA & STRAY B.D.& M. CERTIFICATES :

A full index to Dawn Cowley's holdings of these certificates as at January 31st 1989 is available from Dawn Cowley at a cost of \$7.00 including postage. There are over 4000 names listed. The index is available from Dawn Cowley "Takamuna", 27 Shanahan Parade, Newborough 3825. Updates will be printed each six months - first one due early August.

INFORMATION SOUGHT - WILSON (McCALLUM-WILSON) - WITHERS :

John McCallum Wilson (parents James WILSON, Eliza McCallum) born 1812, Ayrshire, Scotland. Arrived Sydney 1839 on "Formosa". Married Mary WITHERS (parents unknown WITHERS, unknown WATERS, born Cork, Ireland 1813. Arrived N.S.W. 1837.) at Pinchgut on the Manaro, 1842. Overlanded to Gippsland 1843.

Children: Janet (b.1843, m.John Hargrave 1866)
Mary Jane (b.1844, m. Robert Dowling 1864)
Robert (b.1846, d.1893, unmarried)
William (b.c.1849, d. 1866)
Isabella (b.1852, m. John McInnes 1870, d.1934)
Elizabeth (b.c.1855, m. ? McGuigan ?, d.1893-97)
John McCallum (b.c.1857, m. Johanna Mary Hayes 1895, d.1905)
Alexander (b.1860,m. Ellen Cima nee Stewart 1885, d.1932)
Frederick (b.1861, m. Annie Short 1885, d.1937)
Male and female died young.

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OLD CHURCH — BENA

INFORMATION SOUGHT - WILSON - WITHERS :

The family were living at Clydebank in 1847. John McCallum Wilson purchased land outside Sale in 1854-55 in an area known as "Square Forest" or "Rose Forest". He later owned property in the Newry-Upper Maffra area. He died in 1893. His wife died in 1897. A James McCallum Wilson who lived in Gippsland in the 1850's is possibly a brother.

Any information would be greatly appreciated.

Melinda van Klaveren 4/86 Elgin Street, Morwell 3840 Victoria.

CORRESPONDENCE :

All correspondence should be addressed to our Secretary
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Contributions are accepted in good faith and the Newsletter Committee do not accept responsibility for accuracy of information or opinions expressed.

Compiled for the MID-GIPPSLAND G.S.V. by the Newsletter Committee, Melinda van Klaveren, David McInnes and Lyn Sephton.
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