

OFFICE BEARERS FOR 1997-1998

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Elaine Johnston Col Leviston Pam Pratt Don Tylee Leonie Robinson Bob Jones Jenny Draper Lori O'Connor David Grant Marion Cartledge Leonie Robinson Claire Wood **Florence Butcher** Anne Pawley **Robyn Byrne** Leonie Robinson vacant

Meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month, except December, at the Meeting Room, entrance at the rear of the Moe Library, Kirk St, Moe. Our Library will open at 7:00 pm, with meetings starting at approximately 7:30pm.

Fees 97/98: Membership Single \$16; Family \$22 Library: gold coin donation per visit for nonmembers

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There is a research fee of \$10 plus SAE for any enquiries requiring research, with additional charges for large amounts of photocopying and/or postage. Enquiries should be clear and concise.

Please direct all enquiries to The Secretary, PO Box 767, Morwell, 3840, and mark the envelope "Research Query".

Articles for this newsletter are accepted in good faith and, while every effort is made to ensure accuracy, the editor takes no responsibility for submitted items.



We welcome the following new members and wish them well in their research.

Annette Bishop Patricia Flores Graham and Lynette Hill Kaylene Lay Ian Mc Donald Helen McLennan Robert Budge Beryl Casey

While on the topic of memberships our group has 49 current members. Remember that as a member you are able to borrow books, magazines, etc from our library (at meetings or Wednesday afternoons between 1-4) , receive the newsletters and access our resources during Moe Library hours (check with Library staff that the meeting room is available).

New additions to our resources include

- Kew Asylum Case Books 1871-1912
- Electoral Lists 1841-1851
- AIGS Childrens Registers 1880-1966

- Ballarat Base Hospital Admissions 1856-1913
- Cornwall Family History Members' Interest 1993
- Slater's Directory of Glasgow 1881
- A reader which photocopies if you pay 50c for each copy.

We also continually receive newsletters and magazines from other genealogy groups and organisations.



££££££££££££££ Thanks to Pam and Ron Pratt I now know how to type £ on the computer. (In the last issue I asked if someone could tell me me how to do it.) Num Lock has to be on, then hold the 'Alt' key down and hit 0 1 6 3 on the number pad. Alternatively hold down the 'Alt' key and hit 1 5 6. Am I the only person who didn't know this? A continuing discussion/debate at our meetings has been whether or not to purchase a computer. The last meeting voted to not buy one for the moment.



The computer idea has been aved, for now

Transcription Agent, Joy Murrin, now provides an English Certificate Service. I have used Joy's services for transcriptions of my N.S.W certificates and have had no problems, and saved some money. Vicki Evans has used the new English service and was happy with how it all worked All the details are in our files. The cost is twenty -five dollars

Entries for the 1998 Genealog ical Research Directory must be posted by November 30th. See the entry form for details or, if you are on the internet, visit the GRD Home Page: http://www.ozemail.com.au/~grdxxx

Remember to copy your certificates, pop your name and address on the back and get them to Dawn for the Index to Extra B.D.M. Certificates No. 16. If you haven't checked out the previous indexes (no.s 1-15) do so as you never know who you might find and you could save yourself some money. They are available in our library or from Dawn for \$5.00 (includes postage). Enquiries: Dawn Cowley. Shannahan Parade, Newborough, 3825

If cross stitch is your cup of tea ask Dawn about a pack which is now available at her shop (Cowley's Craft Cupboard, 19 Rutherglen Road, Newborough). It allows you to get a cross stitch graph made from a photo.



Victorian Birth, Death and Marriage certificates now cost \$17.00, with or without the registration number.

The G.S.V. will be moving at the end of the year to 6,179 Queen Street. Lumley House, between Bourke and Little Bourke Street. All the details will be in December's <u>Ancestor</u>.

Cover Story- Strzelecki

Recently a festival was held in Morwell to commemorate two hundred years since the birth of Sir Paul Edmund de Strzelecki, also known as Count Strzelecki.

Needless to say the 'count ' was born in 1797, in Poland, to Francis Strzelecki and Anna Raczynski. He spent his youth in Poland and then spent time in other countries, eventually emigrating to England.

In 1839 he came to Australia after travelling extensively in America, Canada, South America, Chile and Argentina. During his travels he examined many geological sites. In Australia he planned to examine the meteorology of the Dividing Range, south to Bass Strait and Van Diemen's Land.

He set out on his journey at the end of 1839, travelling with James McArthur, James Riley, two convicts and an Aboriginal guide, Charlie Turra. By early March 1840 the group was in the high country and Strzelecki climbed and named Mt. Kosciusko. The party continued travelling south through Corryong to Omeo, past Ensay and the Tambo River. A lot of this area had been explored by Angus McMillian but the land between the McAllister River and Westernport was unknown.

Strzlelecki continued west naming places and features along the way. The whole area of Gippsland was named by him in honor of Governor Gipps. Lake King was named after Captain Philip Parker King, a friend of *continued next page*

Strzelecki's. Other streams were also named after friends, the largest of these being the La Trobe River.

After crossing this river the country and weather became unforgiving. It took them 12 days to travel the 24 miles to Boolarra and they were eventually forced to abandon the horses and some of their gear. They continued on to Corner Inlet and on to Westernport arriving in Port Phillip in May 1840. It had taken 5 months to travel from Sydney.

Strzelecki moved onto Tasmania completing many expeditions on the island and surrounding areas, returning at one stage to South Gippsland. He spent a further six months in N.S.W., finally leaving Australia, after four years, in 1843.

He published his book 'Physical Description of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land in 1845 and received good reviews. This was the same year he became naturalised as a British subject.

In the years following he worked in Ireland during the Potato Blight, was involved in the work of Caroline Chisholm, Charles Dickens and Florence Nightingale. He was honored with varied awards for his geological and philanthropical work and was knighted in 1869. Strzelecki died in his sleep in 1873.

Locally, cairns in recognition of Strzelecki are located at Heyfield, Loy Yang, Koornalla, Mirboo North, Korumburra and Corinella.

References <u>Gippsland Heritage Journal</u>, Vol 3., No 2, Issue 5, 1988. Article by Jean Court.

Snowy River Country, Vol 8, Autumn 1988.

The Express, 25 September 1997 pp 12-13, continued 29 September 1997, pp8-9. Article by Lech Paszkowski.

La Trobe Shire Combined History Group

On the 13th Sept. Elaine and Mavis attended a meeting with members of local historical societies. As a result the La Trobe Shire Combined History Group was formed. This group aims to provide a united approach to council on matters of common concern. The group will meet quarterly.



Claire has been busy with the following research queries. Can you help?

Moncrieff: Brothers William and Charles believed to have lived in the Sale/Traralgon area in the 1880s.

Contact Gwen Moncrieff., 26 Boronia Ave, Geraldton, WA 6530, ph.099213865

Bagot: Lesley, Maude, Thomas and Claude-students at Morwell North Primary School. Also Miss Doris A Tinkler, teacher there 1926-1930. Contact Helen Bagot, 1 South Road, Warragul, Vic 3820

Neilson: William. Chemist in Traralgon 1850s/60s. Contact Margaret T. Campbell, PO Box 163, Lara 3212



Florence no longer has the time to continue with some of the valuable work she does for our group so if you would like to get involved in the cemeteries or complete an updated members' interest book have a chat to her or any of the committee.

Members of our group volunteer to staff our library on Wednesday afternoons, assisting people with their research. These afternoons are proving quite popular with members and non-members alike. From July, through to the end of September 74 entries were recorded in the book about 40 of these were non-members. If you'd like to be involved in these afternoons let Pam know Traralgon Record. Menser Massing

HOTELS

Mr Thomas Walker was the proprietor of The Grand Junction Hotel, propietoress of The Crown Hotel was J.E Ross and proprietor of The Club Hotel was C.B. Duncan.

BUSINESSES

You could buy tea from Bain and McDonald, all the latest novelties from W.D. Leslie & Co and a suit for £3 from J. Stuart.

If you lived in Cowarr you could get goods from Wm. Scott at the general store and in Toongabbie you could by stationery and fiancy goods from J.W. Wrigglesworth.

POLITICS

Mr Mason was the recently elected member of parliament and was entertained at a luncheon by Mr Bodycomb, Shire president. Mr Bermingham, president of the Agricultural Society. Mr F and McKinnell, secretary.

RECREATION

Cricket and cycling were all the go but the bicycle road race was post-poned because of rough and boisterous weather. The local Show was also creating a lot of interest.

MISCELLANEOUS

The following people had parcels to pick up at the Railway Station; Loader, Walker, Farmer, Purnell, West, Goodsir, Waite (4), Hutton, Rooney, Campbell,

From 'THIE TURARA

What and who made the local ne

Penglase, Matthews, Barker, Moller, Kleesattel, O'Regan.

PETTY SESSIONS

COURT

J.T. Smith appeared in the court of petty sessions for neglecting to have his child vaccinated. Joseph Keogh and Alfred Williams appeared for neglecting to send their children to school the required number of days.

WANTED

Mrs Dear advertised for a 'useful' girl, about 15, but she must sleep at home.

LADIES' COLUMN

The Training of Girls: some of the advice given included feeding daughters hot soup and a chop every day for three months to make them stand up straighter. In the same helpful column some hints for young ladies getting engaged were: 'Do not always have your own way. Allow him to have his once in a while' and 'Above all, try to win the fiavour of your prospective mother-in-law.'

OBITUARIES

Mr Fuge of Tyers died in a mining accident, leaving a wife, two daughters and a son to mourn his loss.

Miss Muldoon died from an attack of typhoid fever in Kalgoorlie.

Cr West's mother died, at the ripe age of 74, in Mortlake. She was a resident in the Traralgon area for some 40 years and was survived by four sons, Henry, Walter David and Richard.

LGON IRIECOIRID'

s in October-November 1897

Mrs Poynder, wife of the Rev. G. Poynder, died, aged 31 a few days after giving birth to a daughter.

Mr W. Sharp one of the oldest residents of Morwell, and at one time the only chemist, died.

Constable Murcutt's mother died.

A verdict of accidental drowning was returned at an inquiry into the death of Florence Johnstone Butters, aged nine. Mr W. K. Cross, aged 24 died after a

brief illness. Master Percy Bain succumbed to an attack of croup, he was eight.

WANTED useful girl about 15, sleep at home. - Apply MRS DEAR, Traralgon.

A Tithe PEOPLE'S MART Transform-Peas (hand-thrashell), Oats, Barley, Rye, What, and Seef Polatoes, all varietics, from 34 bag. Buggy and Spring Cart, Harness, Plough, Wire Netting; also a First-class Pony. Sale every Saturday.

To Let,

COTTAGE, good gar-A Sifedcondbard Lidenty water. En quire MRS. NATE, Star Hotel.

For Sale.

A WEATHER-BOARD BUILDING, 14 = 160, substant at Transform West School, the same to be removed. For particulars apply MISS AVERY, Seymour Street.

For Sple or 'To Let.

ULEAP and on Easy Terms.-Several First-class Farms in Callignee and adjoining districts, some of which are highly improved, and are now comed with a dense cost of Ecolish grasses.-Apply C. R. WILKES& Co., Teoralgon.

MENTAL SCALES FOR HOUSE-WIVES

Ten common-sized eggs weigh one pound. Four tenspoons are equal to one tablespoon.

Soft butter the size of an egg weighs one ounce.

One quart of sifted flour, well heaped, one pound.

One pint of coffee and sugar weighs twelve ounces.

One pint of best brown sugar weighs thirteen ounces.

One and one-third pints of powdered sugar weigh ore pound.

Two tcacups, well heaped, of coffice, weigh one pound.

Two teacups, level, of granulated sugar weigh one pound.

Two teacups of soft butter, well packed, weigh one pound.

One tablespoon, well rounded, of soft butter weighs one ounce.

One pint, heaped, of granulated sugar weighs fourteen ounces.

Two tablespoonfuls of powdered sugar or flour weigh one ounce.

Two and one-half teacups, level, of the best brown sugar weigh one pound.

Two and three-fourth tercups, level, of powdered sugar weigh one pound.

One tablespoonful, well heaped, of granulated coffee or best brown sugar, equals one ounce.

Teaspoons vary in size, and the new ones hold about twice as much as the oldfashioned spoons of thirty years ago. A medium-sized teaspoon contains about a drachm.

One generous pint of liquid or one pint of finely-chopped mest, packed solidly, weighs one pound, which it would be very onvenient to remember.

Bertie Boardman, a Gippsland Farmer and Photographer c 1910-1977.

With a view to recording Bertie Boardman's Photographic history and acclaim, I am seeking any information regarding this man's life, photographs, achievements and equipment i.e. cameras and Photographic manuals.

Known to have farmed and photographed in the Jeeralang/Jumbuk, Hazelwood and Trafialgar areas c 1910-1977, Bertie's cameras, dark room equipment, manuals and many photographs were sold at his Trafalgar farm clearing sale c 1977 after he suddenly lost his sight.

It is thought that some of these goods (in which I have no personal interest apart from viewing them and obtaining details) may have been purchased by a person from Hillend or Willow Grove.



Alma Glover, River Road, Toongabbie, Vic, 3856. ph. 03 5192 3468

In the last <u>On Track</u> Alma asked for the name of a local who could restore an old photo album. Apparently Peter Lendon is the man, his details are in the Yellow Pages under Bookbinders. His shop is in Yarragon.



MENTAL ILLNESS A CENTURY AGO.

Following are some notes I 'whipped' up after reading an interesting article in The Sunday Age 5 October 1997 titled 'A life sentence'. The article by Kate Nancarrow discusses the treatment of the mentally ill now compared to 100 years ago and includes patient records from 1897.

The article points out that today a lot of mental illnesses can be treated or managed with drugs, counselling and support and that patients no longer spend years in hospitals, unless they pose a danger to themselves or others. It then continues on to explain that this was not the case a century ago. At that time anyone institutionalised was lucky to ever be released. Those committed to asylums were likely to stay decades rather than months and they often died an early death.

Misery, despair and mania brought on by common life events resulted in hospitalisation as did conditions such as epilepsy or syphilis which, today, can be treated or contained with drugs. Religious mania and masturbation were listed as 'causes of insanity' and even victims of sunstroke ended up in mental hospitals.

60% of female patients admitted to Kew Mental Asylum in September and October of 1897 had just given birth, suffiered a miscarriage or the death of a baby. These women were hospitalised for years with little hope of returning to their fiamilies.

The following patients' records from 1897 (with an added 1997 assessment) accompany the article and make further interesting reading.

So much for the good old days!

continued next page

Sorry saga of delusion,

. :1

SARAH TWIGG

Admitted Yurra Bend Asylum, 10 February, 1898

Age : 50.

Duri stion of pass attack: weeks, Supposed cause: Unknown, Subject to epilepsy; No.

Suicidai: No.

Delusions: Of persecutions. Says certain nurses are related to each other, and to her relations, and are sent here to persecute her. Hallucinations: None.

10 February 1898: Has ideas that her husband keeps a woman at his house for criminal purposes and that poison has been put into her food by this woman. Otherwise is quiet and well conducted so far. The side of her face seems slightly paralysed.

18 March: Quite well physically. She still has some delusions about her



Samh Twigg: Today she would be in ho spital only briefly.

husband and about polsoning but otherwise la quite ra ti on a t. 22 June: Is well behaved and industrious, No change. Delusions seem to be fixed.

Hebove.

1899: This patir new a s this a cay examined by themspector of a sylum s and miself. She was found to

have retained her delusions of poisoning and had to be removed from the cottage as she became abusive and destroyed certain flowers in the 'square. Is very exalted in her general manner and appearance.

16 May: Still very exalted and abusive at times. Allowed to go on the square to attend chapel.

24 January 1902: No change in her delusional mental condition, At times abusive, especially to Dr Watkins or anyone who cannot fulfil her requests which are many, but which are mainly the result of delusions. Good bodily health. Eats and sleeps well.

1 November 1908: Died aged 60.

1997 diagnosis: Schizophrenia, Likely treatment today: Brief hospitalisation. Major tranquillisers (anti-psychotic medication) plus rehabilitation and community support.

EDWARD HICKMAN

Admitted Kew Asylum, 1 September, 1897

Form of Insanity: Chronic mania, Brought in by: Attendants at Sunbury, Previous residency: Ballarat asylum, Age: 60,

Occupation: Shepherd.

Duration of Illness: Almost 20 years, Subject to epilepsy: No. Suicidal: No.

1 September 1897: Patlent brought from Sunbury Asylum, is said to be fairly quiet in his behavior. Was in habit of feeding and taming sparrows.

2 September: Slept well last night. 21, July, 1898: No mental

disappointment



Edward Hickman: Spent 25 years in Kew Asylum.

improvement. Good bodily health. 23 February 1900: Quiet. Fond of reading 'The Times', which he gets from London.

10 January 1901: In the courtyard, patient is quiet and generally seen dodging behind shrubs. He comes out occasionally and shouts out something he has read in 'The Times'.

1September 1903: Still interested in spanows. Appears to have a clear idea of dates, says he is annoyed by other patients and if he does not get 'The Times' to date he complains.

27 April 1906: An old man in G ward says he cannot sit down. He was born in London and receives 'The Times' every week. Has a peculiar voice, is moherent, and demented. Deaf in the left ear. Knows this is the year 1906. Is much bent and looks weak chested.

Wants to go back to Sunbury because he thinks he can easier get away from there to London. He is at Kow because of convenience for the Master in Lunacy, Rambles along from subject to subject; speech barely comprehensible.

23 August 1906: Still interested in sparrows; they are very tame with him and one or two will take bread off his tongue.

22 February 1907: Received two wounds in scalp after mug thrown by patient McMahon. A horsehair stitch was inserted and wounds dressed with carbolic.

13 July 1922: Dect aged 85 1997 diagnosis: Probably chronic schizophrenia.

Likely treatment today: Brief hospitalisation. Alajor tranquillisers (anti psychotic medication) plus rehabilitation and community support.

CHARLOTTE LOUISA BROWN

Admitted Kew Asylum, 31 August 1897 Form of Insanity: Mania, puerperal. Previous residency: Canterbury. Age: 29. Duration of present attack: Three months. Supposed cause: Confinement four months ago. Subject to epilepsy: No. Sulcidal: Yes Delusions: Of a fleeting character. Haljucinations: Of hearing. 31 August: This patient's husband informs me that his wife has been ill for three months after confinement of three weeks. She appeared to go on fairly well. Child was full time but has since de d of bronchitis. Labor good Child would now have been four months old.

6 September: This patient is very restless and is in great dread of some calamity going to happen to her. Sleepless at right and have got reports that she is addicted to self-abuse. But there is no apparent external reason why she should do so, except that the

continued next page

and death

labia are much swollen.

29 November: Appears to be brighter. Takes food and sleeps better. More tractable and has been tried without the camisole during the day, which she had to be in at both day time and night. Since it has been removed she has been reported to have behaved fairly. Well 1. 1.

27 January 1898: Tried outside. 31 January; Returned, her friends not being able to control her bad habits. 24 August: Left again.

3 November: Returned.

1997 diagnosis: Puerperal psychosis Likely treatment today: Approximately three-week admission with child into mother-baby unit, with Intense support and psychotherapy plus: major tranguillisers (few months maximum), anti-depressant (one year) lithium (one



year) and possible ECT. (electrocompulsive therapy) if patient failed to respond. Discharge with psychiatrist following plus family aid/protection services support if appropriate,

KATE WILLIAMS

Admitted Kew Asylum 3 Suplember 1897 Form of Insanlty: Mania , puerperal. Age: 29.

Occupation: Plasterer's wife. Duration of Iliness; Fortnight. Supposed cause: Confinement and death of baby. Delusions: Of persecution. Hallucinations: None, 6 September 1897: is very much run down physically. Takes food fairly well but does not sleep well. 15 November: Secreted a knife in her gown a few days ago which was not discovered until she handed it over to her husband.

13 November: She attempted to jump out of the sewing room window but was prevented by the attendants from doing so. Sent to S ward for observation.

7 August 1898; Bodily health improved. Fatter. Has bad habit of, rubbing her hair off at the temples. Still retains her suicidal tendency and is troublesome in endeavoring to assist other patients to commit suicide. 8 December: Hanged herself in closet. Found about 1pm today. Cause of death: suffocation by hanging. 1997 diagnosis: Puerperal psychosis, Likely treatment today: Sulcide is a real risk in this group. As an Inpatient, would be closely supervised and would have ECT.

Patients' records extracted from the Public Record Office.

1997 assessments by associate profiessor Anne Buist of the Austin and Repatriation Medical Centr departmen tof psyc

The camisole: Used until the '50s to restrain patients. in marie I and W. W. dit Sint Following is a list of lists which have been printed in some newsletters we have recently received from other groups. If you are interested in a particular area it is worth having a look at the newsletters from that local group, as they often contain some local historical information.

Lists, Lists and more Lists

List of extra birth certificates held by members- death and marriages to come. <u>The Family Link</u>, Sale and District F.H.G. Inc., Sept 1997.

List of Employees on 'Wooroowoolgen' Richmond River-to be continued Also some unrelated Victorian B.D.M. certificates. <u>The Crossing Place</u>, Casino and District Family History Group Inc., Sept 1997.

In <u>The Pivot Tree</u>, <u>Geelong</u> Family History Grpoup Inc., July 1997 Stray certificates- surnames A-G.

Also Children in the Immigrants Home Melbourne on the 31st August 1860.

As well as a list of Victorian Railway Officers and Agents, 1880. For example, in Moe Butters, William, Station Master and Beck, W.J, Snr Police Constable were responsible for keeping law and order on the local tracks.

A list of 'Symbolic carvings of the monumental masons' is in <u>Mallee</u> <u>Roots</u>, Swan Hill Genealogical and History Society Inc., Aug 1997. Two examples, branch of tree lopped off from the main trunk-death when young and ivy-hope, immortality, remembrance or friendship.

<u>I need contributions for the</u> <u>newsletter</u>



Mid-Gippsland Family History Society.Inc P.O. Box 767 Morwell, Vic 3840 or contact J. McNally, Phone: 03 5174 3137 Fax: 03 5176 0520 E-mail: mac@net-tech.com.au

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

Books (postage cost on application)

Childers Cemetery Register & Transcriptions		1879-1994	\$5.00	
Gippsland Crematorium Register		1985-1995	\$15.00	
Gippsland Crematorium Transcriptions		1985-1995	\$15.00	
Hazelwood Cemetery Transcriptions	2 vols	1879-1995	\$30.00	
Moe Cemetery Register		1891-1996	\$20.00	
Moe Cemetery Transcriptions	2 vols	1881-1997	\$30.00	
Toongabbie Cemetery Register		1872-1995	\$15.00	
Toongabbie Cemetery Transcriptions		1873-1994	\$15.00	
Trafalgar Cemetery Register		1887-1995	\$15.00	
Trafalgar Cemetery Transcriptions		1886-1994	\$20.00	
Traralgon Cemetery Transcriptions	2 vols	1872-1994	\$40.00	
Walhalla Cemetery Transcriptions		1869-1995	\$15.00	
Willow Grove Cemetery Register & Transcriptions		1898-1993	\$15.00	
Microfiche (postage included)				

Childers Cemetery Rejuster & Transcriptions	1879-1994	\$ 4.00
Gippsland Crematorium Register	1985-1995	\$ 8.00
Gippsland Crematorium Transcriptions	1985-1995	\$ 8.00
Hazelwood Cemetery Transcriptions	1879-1995	\$15.00
Moe Cemetery Register	1891-1996	\$10.00
Moe Cemetery Transcriptions	1881-1997	\$15.00
Toongabbie Cemetery Register	1872-1995	\$ 8.00
Toongabbie Cemetery Transcriptions	1873-1994	\$ 7.00
Trafialgar Cemetery Register	1887-1995	\$ 8.00
Trafalgar Cemetery Transcriptions	1886-1994	\$ 7.00
Traralgon Cemetery Transcriptions	1872-1994	\$25.00
Walhalla Cemetery Transcriptions	1869-1995	\$10.00
Willow Grove Cemetery Register & Transcriptions	1898-1993	\$ 5.00

All Cheques made payable to "Mid Gippsland F.H.S. Inc."