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Shepparton
Family History Group Inc
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www.vicnet.net.au/~shepfh

*Newsletter No 52
November 2016*



SHEPPARTON FAMILY HISTORY GROUP inc

Shepparton Family History Group Inc report

Volunteer Grant

The Australian Government invited non-profit organisations to apply for Volunteer Grants through an open process under the Strengthening Communities – Volunteering sub-activity. All successful applicants were notified in June.

The Shepparton Family History Group were successful in obtaining a grant to purchase a new duplex laser colour photocopier / printer. This was purchased from, and installed by, Solar City Office Equipment, Shepparton. This has improved the printing capability of our computers and also caters for scanning of larger documents (up to A3) direct to a computer.

Book Sales

“Early Settlers of Shepparton and District Book Three” continues to sell steadily in the twelve months since it’s launch last year. The book may not have been produced without the assistance of a Public Records Office of Victoria “Local Histories Grant” which we received in 2013.

Christmas Break

Our rooms will be closed after Wednesday 21st December and re-open on Friday 6th January 2017.

Membership

Members please note that 2016/17 subs were due from July and payable to:

The Treasurer, P.O.Box 1529 Shepparton Vic 3632.

Current membership is: Single \$25.00. Couple \$45.00. New member joining fee \$5.00

Renewal subscriptions can now be paid by direct deposit to our bank account. Please ensure that you include your surname and the word “subs” in the banking details box to help our treasurer identify the deposit.

National Bank Wyndham St Shepparton, BSB: 083894 Acc No: 03832 8159

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Coming Events

Christmas break up

All members are asked to come along to our rooms for afternoon tea and a chance to catch up with fellow family history members on Wednesday 21st December from 12.30 pm to 3.30 pm. (a small plate appreciated)



Our rooms will be closed after Wednesday 21st December and re-open on Friday 6th January 2017

Deniliquin Family History Expo

Deniliquin Genealogical Society Inc are once again hosting one of their very well organized Family History Expos. 13th and 14th of October 2017 is the date to set aside to make sure that you can attend this worthwhile event.

Recent Library Additions

- *The Fenton Hall Story 1903—2003*. A documentary record of a Harston Family and Farm, by John Lawry
- *Australian Migrant Ships 1946—1977*, by Peter Plowman
- *Names that Must Not Wither, Tatura's World War II Roll of Honour*, by Tony Ford
- *My Life*, by James C Crawford
- *The Centenary of Sacred Heart Church: Tatura 1912-2012*, by Damien Finlayson
- *The History of the Municipal Employees Union in Victoria 1885-1985*, Allyn Best
- *50 Years On. The History of the Shepparton RSL Club 1966-2016*, by Peter Matthews and Noel Hussey
- *Reflections on the Wall, The Vietna, Veterans Memorial*. Photographs by the Smithsonian Institutions Office of Pringe Photographic Services
- *Elmore Field Days—First 50 Years*
- *Great Company 1260 3SR*
- *Our Scottish Highland Roots*. The McLennan Family
- Mooroopna Heritage Trail
- *Shepparton Agricultural Society—140 years-A Pictorial History of the Shepparton Show—* Geoff Allemand and Peter Matthews
- *Pioneers of the District, Book 4—Echuca Moama FHG*

Vale : Lorraine Phillips

It was with deep regret that we learned of the recent passing of Lorraine.

A valued member of the SFHG, we remember with thanks Lorraine's contribution during her time with the SFHG.

We extend, on behalf of all members, sympathy to her husband and family.

Vale: Pearl Collins

(Echuca Moama F.H.G.)

We extend our sympathies to the Echuca Moama Family History Group, on the passing of Pearl. Our members got to know Pearl through her family history workshops and our visit to the E.M.F.H.G.

Family history is the poorer with the loss of Pearl

Research requests

Recent name requests to our researchers:

Mcbean family who settled at Old Crossing Place [now Mitchelton Winery] 1840's
Rachel Mary Tomkins
Mary Rodda (Scott) B-1904 D-1929
Margaret Mills nee Marshall b 1889

New Members

The Shepparton Family History Group welcomes our new members,

We look forward to seeing you at our rooms and successfully continuing your family history research.

Please avail yourself of our large selection of magazines and newsletters.

These include the GSV Ancestor, Australian Family Tree Connections, British Family Tree as well as Victorian and interstate newsletters.

They are very informative and may help you solve some of your brick walls.



ANCESTOR'S FORENAMES

As you trace your families surname back in history and are bogged down or confused by people of similar forename? This article from the September 2016 Gippsland Genealogical Society Inc newsletter may provide an answer.

Our ancestors worked from a relatively small palette of forenames, and if we go back to the 16th and 17th centuries we find that roughly half the male population of England was represented by just three names, John William and Thomas.

Although there was a slightly larger pool of female names to choose from, the top five (Jane, Margaret, Ann, Elizabeth and Mary) were used by over 40% of women.

ABSTRACT OF THE "PASSENGER ACT, 1852"

- The height between decks is not to be less than 6 feet
- There are not to be more than two tiers of berths on any deck, and the bottom of the lower deck must be at least 6 inches above the deck.
- The berths are to be securely constructed, and not to be of less dimensions than after the rate of 6 feet in length by 18 inches in width for each statute adult, and sufficient in number for the proper accommodation of the passengers contained in the "passenger lists".
- Single men above 14 are to be berthed in a separate compartment in the fore part of the ship or in separate rooms, if the ship be divided into compartments and fitted with enclosed berths.
- Not more than two passengers, unless members of the same family, are to be placed in one berth, nor are persons of different sexes, unless husband and wife, to be placed in the same berth.

Ref: "Information for People Leaving Great Britain 1854"

PROV Reading Room Opening Hours

The Victorian Archives Centre reading room is open Monday to Friday 10:00am to 4:30pm (excluding public holidays) and on the second and last Saturday of every month.

Record retrieval times are 10:30am and 2:30pm in the Reading Room. To have your records ready for viewing, order your items online by 8am (for 10:30am pick up) or 11.30am (for 2:30pm pick up).

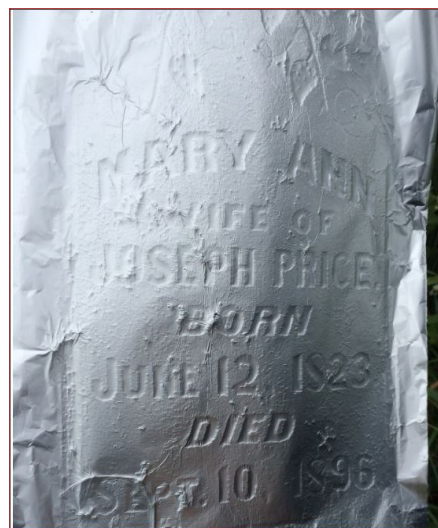
The Ballarat Archives Centre is open 9:30am to 4:30pm Mondays and Tuesdays.

The Bendigo Regional Archives Centre reading room (BRAC) is open Wednesday and Thursday 10:00am to 4:30pm (excluding public holidays).

Reading Older Headstones

One handy tip for reading old headstone inscriptions can be to wrap the headstone in aluminium foil and then using a damp sponge carefully rub over the foil. This can reveal a copy of the previously unreadable headstone lettering.

(see page 8 "Websites of Interest" for a website detailing other hints for reading older illegible headstones.)



OLD OCCUPATIONS AND TRADE NAMES

Here are a few of the odd occupations which you may find on old census forms.

- Baxter—Baker
- Boniface—Inn keeper
- Chaisemaker—Carriage maker
- Colporter—Peddler of books
- Cordwainer—Shoemaker
- Crocker—Potter
- Duffer—Peddler
- Fletcher—Maker of bows and arrows
- Gerber—Tanner of hides
- Hayward—Keeper of fences
- Hillier—Roof tiler
- Hind—Farm labourer
- Kempster—Wool comber
- Lavender—Washer woman
- Lormer—Maker of horse gear
- Malender—Farmer
- Peruker—Wig maker
- Puddler—Wrought iron worker
- Scrivener—Professional writer
- Sorter—Tailor
- Tide waiter—Customs inspector
- Tipstaff—Policeman
- Weber—Weaver of cloth
- Whitewing = Street sweeper

Article from "Lakes Entrance Family History Resource Centre Inc"

Genealogy is...

- Finding that my family went through some terrible times, but also knowing that they survived.
- Listening to old stories told by our elders and passing those precious stories down,
- Finding cousins I have not seen or heard from in fifty years
- The realisation of how important family is.
- The sharing of information with others who, like me, love the research.
- Not only sharing the excitement of finding a new ancestor, but also sharing the frustrations of not being able to find what you are looking for.
- People volunteering their time and energy for the various historical societies.
- People who give their time to transcribe old documents and microfilm, and who share that knowledge.
- People who share old photographs, old letters, and old family stories, not expecting anything back other than a thank you and the knowledge that they have helped another in their family quest.
- People who go above and beyond what is asked of them because they love genealogy. They love the fun, frustration and excitement of it.
- The knowledge that you are passing down something of worth; that you are leaving behind a little of yourself. It is the knowledge that through all your research you may have made a difference, however small it may be.

the hotel and posts provided a place to tie up horses. "There used to be a rail and a horse trough" Mr Moss said.

Hotel carries a lot of memories

Wally Mumford bought Tallygaroopna's Victoria Hotel five years ago. While the outside structure of the hotel remained the same, Mr Mumford has renovated the inside by concreting the floor, opening up some of the smaller rooms and redecorating the place.

Old farming photos and photos of the town's former businesses don the walls of the Early Settlers Lounge, telling a tale of years gone by.

Open from 11 am daily Mr Mumford said the hotel was still an important part of the community.

"It is a meeting place like all country pubs," he said.

Other previous owners and licensees of the Victoria Hotel include F.T.Humphries, Cyrus Ford, Annie Ford, John Inglis, Matthew P. Mangan, Anne Dorothy Carr, Roy Ernest Trews, Samuel C. H. Emmer-son, Jens Marius, Rasmussen, William Voice, Redmond O'Keefe, William Thomas Knight (this application was refused), Percy Thomas Ward, May Veronica Ledwich, G.A. and M. Simmons, Victoria Hotel (Tallygaroopna) Pty Ltd, Nominee A.J. Hughes and Nominee V.J.Hunter, Freda M. Hunter, J.A and K.M. Banks, R.C. and M. E. Duncan, C.J. and M.H. and J.H. Kierce, G.R. and G.J. Mellino, G.R. and J.M. Eddy, Areo Nominees Pty Ltd, J.C. Tucker licensee, Les and Aileen Lawson, Wally Mumford, and licensee Julian Ferella and Naomi Vass.

Shepparton News
August 27 2003

A Good Old Country Pub

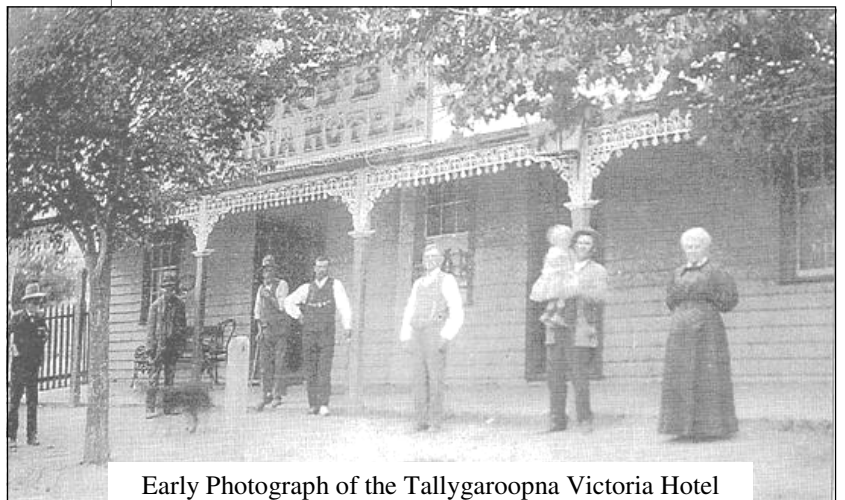
The Victoria Hotel, Tallygaroopna, was opened by F.T. Humphries in 1887.

A list of the hotel's owners supplied by the Liquor Commission of Victoria showed Cyrus Ford as the first owner of the hotel in 1893 so we can only assume there were no detailed records of the hotel's owners before that time.

Roy Moss, 83, formerly of Tallygaroopna, has spent 55 years frequenting the Victoria Hotel and is one of the longest serving patrons in the area.

Mr Moss has seen the hotel undergo many changes yet he has fond memories of the establishment since his childhood days.

He remembered gaslights lit up the street outside



Early Photograph of the Tallygaroopna Victoria Hotel

Footnote:

The Victoria Hotel Tallygaroopna was completely destroyed by fire in 2012, only two months after being inundated by floodwaters, with the loss of many historical items.

The Shepparton News March 1995

50 YEARS AGO

Goulburn Valley prisoners of war picked 336,000 cases of tomatoes up to March 7, 1945, *The News* reported 50 years ago.

In a special report on the shortage of labor for tomato picking, THE NEWS reported that 270 growers clamoured for pickers in the 1945 season compared to 182 the previous season.

“The area planted for this season and last are so close, around 3000 acres, that the difference does not matter.”

This season 740 prisoners worked on the harvest.

The prisoners were from camps built on farmland between Murchison, Tatura and Rushworth during world War 11.

The article followed a claim of government bungling on the allocation of labour for the tomato harvest labelled “Tomateering”

The Shepparton News January 12 1995

Three escaped prisoners of war were captured by Shepparton police at Pine Lodge, 50 years ago.

A 25 year old marine engineer, a merchant seaman, and a merchant army officer who had escaped from a Goulburn Valley internment camp were found hiding under camouflaged tent in timber at Pine Lodge.

THE NEWS reported they were surprised by Constable F Watson.

During the previous week police had also found an army officer hiding near a Tamleugh swamp and two other German soldiers who lit a fire at Arcadia.

The men, all part of a mass escape by 20 German prisoners of war. Four were still at large, the newspaper reported.

The Shepparton News May 16 1957

A Photostat copy of what is probably the earliest extant reference to Shepparton now hangs in the committee room of the Town Hall. It was discovered by the Town Clerk (Mr Ray West) whilst looking through early newspaper files in the Melbourne Public Library.

The copy has been mounted and framed under the heading” 1853—An Early Record of Shepparton (then known as MacGuire’s Punt). Photostat of advertisement in the Melbourne Morning Herald, August 12, 1853.”

The advertisement itself states--”The Ovens Diggings, - Emu Inn, Lower Goulbourne River—John K. Hill begs most respectfully to inform the public that he has purchased the above premises, lately occupied by Mr P. McGuire, and having obtained a publican’s licence, trusts, by attention to the wants of his customers and by moderate charges, to merit a share of public support.

“J.K.Hill intends making improvements upon the premises, for the better accommodation of his patrons, and expects shortly to complete the New Punt, now building. He also begs to inform parties proceeding from Bendigo to the Ovens, that the nearest and best road to the now flourishing gold field of the Ovens is by Barrows Inn on the Campaspie River, and from thence across the plains to the Emu Inn, and then along the banks of the Broken River to the Sydney Road at Benalla.

“Parties proceeding by this road will find the crossing much improved, a road like a bowling green, good accommodation, a well stocked store, capital feed for their cattle, a first-rate glass of grog, and the strictest attention to their wants.”

Under this declaration the Town Clerk has noted that “The Emu Bush Inn was the first building in Shepparton, erected in the early 1850’s”

WE NEED YOU !

Volunteers are an essential part of every organisation, if you can help with indexing, newspaper cataloguing or even being on duty during our open days, it will help to ease the workload on some of our overworked members and improve our club’s resources.

Could you spare some time to learn about our resources and then help others with their research?
If so we would love to hear from you. Please call at our rooms during opening hours.

TALLYGAROPNA PIONEER PASSES DEATH OF MR. GEORGE H. CLOSE

To have enjoyed a lifetime of 95 years in good health, with mental and physical faculties unimpaired, and only one period in hospital—the last week—was an experience that fell to the lot of Mr. George Henry Close, Tallygaroopna's grand old man, who died in Mooroopna base hospital on May 25, as recorded in last Monday's issue.

The funeral, which was largely attended, took place to Wunghnu cemetery on Monday afternoon, the services being conducted by Rev. Alan Wilkie (Methodist), with Messrs. Kittle Bros. As funeral directors.

A son of the late John Thomas and Louisa Close, the deceased first saw the light at Mount Cameron, near Carisbrook. As a young man he accompanied his father and uncle to the shearing sheds of New South Wales and became recognised as a first class shearer, for which he was paid £1 per 100 sheep, the pay in Victoria being only 12/6 per 100. His best pay was £50 for 13 weeks and his highest tally was 109 sheep for a half day.

When 20 years of age he came to live at Tallygaroopna, where his father had selected two years previously. In those two intervening years they spent part of their time ringing trees and clearing the land so that it was productive from the commencement of occupation.

Mr. Close married Miss Eliza Katherine Moss, a member of a well known Numurkah family, the family settled on a block next to his father's selection, where they reared two sons—George (now living in Shepparton) and Albert (of Warragul). His wife died about 1937 after 57 happy years together. He leaves 10 grandchildren, 28 grand children and one great great grandson.

Stories of the Past

Interviewed on the occasion of his 94th birthday, on March 10, 1951, Mr Close had many interesting reminiscences to relate.

In the evening of his life, he said, there was nothing he wanted, save a supply of tobacco, for the pipe had been his main extravagance (?) since he was 18 years of age. "At Christmas," said Mr Close, "I had five 4 oz plugs and four 2 oz cut tobacco." One time at Echuca, his father wanted some tobacco very badly and his wife remonstrated, "It will kill you, Dad, if you don't stop smoking that pipe." Mr George Close had been smoking for 76 years up to that time and continued to enjoy the weed right up to the end.

His first two rooms—still standing—were built when he was married and were of red gum sawn at the river.



L to R: George Henry Close (jnr), George Henry Close (snr), Albert Close, John Thomas Close, Louisa Close

Fences No Bar

Asked to tell of some of his early experience, he said that most of his travelling was done on horseback; and should he come to a fence he would hold the reins over the fence and his horse would jump over it. It was a general practice not to tether a horse, but to leave the reins down, in which case he never had trouble through animals running away. Possible his only accident was being kicked by a horse when seven years old, a constant reminder of the event being a mark on his forehead.

Ploughing and Reaping

The single furrow plough was the first type used by him, while he managed to cut half an acre of crop per day with the sickle. They used the scythe for cutting around the trees and removing marshmallows and surplus grass.

The Back Delivery

Progress was epitomised by the introduction of the back delivery reaper which required a man to drive, another on the rake and four or five to do the binding if a decent crop. This machine cut the hay: and when the driver thought he had sufficient for a sheaf he pressed a lever, which deposited the hay over the back.

A wire binder was made before Mr. Close went to Tallygaroopna, but because it used wire for binding the sheaves, thereby fouling the thresher, it did not find favour with farmers.

Speed

Speaking of travelling, 25 miles a day was good going, as the speed was governed by the pace of the pack horse, while allowance had to be made for the feeding of horses on grass, as well as the cooking of meals.

Made Own Entertainment

Settlers were too busy harvesting in summer to bother about anything else but working, eating and sleeping, for the day's work was from before sunrise till after sunset.

"In the winter," said Mr. Close, "we would make it up to visit neighbours and clear out a room for a dance. There was nothing on which to spend money, and you didn't have to pay much for what you wanted.

Eggs 4d. A Dozen

Some of the prices, he recalled were 4d. A dozen for eggs; 4d per lb for butter.

"If you had three or four cows, a dairy was made in the ground and milk was set in flat round dishes. The cream was skimmed off and some made into butter. Any butte not wanted was sold to Scott." he added.

Perhaps it should be explained to the present generation that the dairy mentioned by Mr. Close was a hole dug in

the ground to a depth of four or five feet, the walls of puddled clay being continued a similar height above ground, with ventilation at each end to cause a draught. These were particularly cool in summer.

Creameries Handle Milk

With the introduction of creameries the one at Tallyga-roopna was the nearest to Mr. Close, who delivered the milk to the factory which separated the cream and returned the skim milk for pig and calf feed. He used to get a test of 30 odd sometimes it went as high as 40.

“Farm separators weren’t so long in coming”, continued Mr. Close, “and I had a pump type of separator.” The second-hand value of separators was very low.

GSV - Advice Regarding Changes to Society

Dear Member

I am writing to inform you of two changes that are currently occurring which will impact on the Society and the conduct of our activities and events in the immediate future.

There are a number of family history societies in existence in Melbourne each of which are experiencing a reduction in their membership due to multiple causes. As a consequence discussions have commenced between the GSV, the Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies and the Cornish Association of Victoria to explore the viability of establishing a new family history entity. The Societies would combine their resources and establish the new entity. These discussions have only recently commenced and it is anticipated that they will continue for some time. Any changes to the structure of each of the Societies will require the approval of their members and I will keep you informed as discussions proceed.

We have very recently been approached by the owner of Emirates House inquiring whether we might like to exit our lease arrangement prior to the scheduled termination date of the end of November 2018. Council has agreed and the current situation is that we will surrender our lease with effect from 31 March 2017. This is quite soon and a considerable effort will now be required to clean-up and ensure that the premises are left in good order.

Surrendering our current lease will potentially save quite a deal of money in the long-term. We have commenced a search for new premises in the Melbourne City Council area close to public transport. We envisage that the premises will be approximately 150 to 200 sqm in size which is a dramatic reduction from our current floor space of 780 sqm. It is our intention to pay as little as possible and enter a short-term lease. We will place a greater emphasis on conducting events and activities in hired spaces throughout Melbourne and the suburbs. It is important that we find a suitable repository for our library collection and we are in discussions with other libraries and societies to find the best arrangement for the GSV and those parties as well as any new family history society that may be created.

(Cont’d)

Our program of activities and events during the first few months of 2017 will be severely disrupted. We have cancelled a number of classes and will postpone others. Our website will provide up-to-date information about all events and I recommend that you consult it frequently. Regular updates on the move will be also posted to our web site and these may be found via the GSV News link which now appears on our home page. The regular updates we receive from the owner of the building regarding the renovations being undertaken to the ground and mezzanine levels will also be posted.

Council is committed to ensuring that the GSV, or any successor entity, is viable and continues to provide the resources suitable for members to pursue their family history research. Our move to smaller, more affordable, premises will place us in a more stable and flexible financial position and assist with this process.

Best regards
David Down
President

Family Tree Magazine (English)

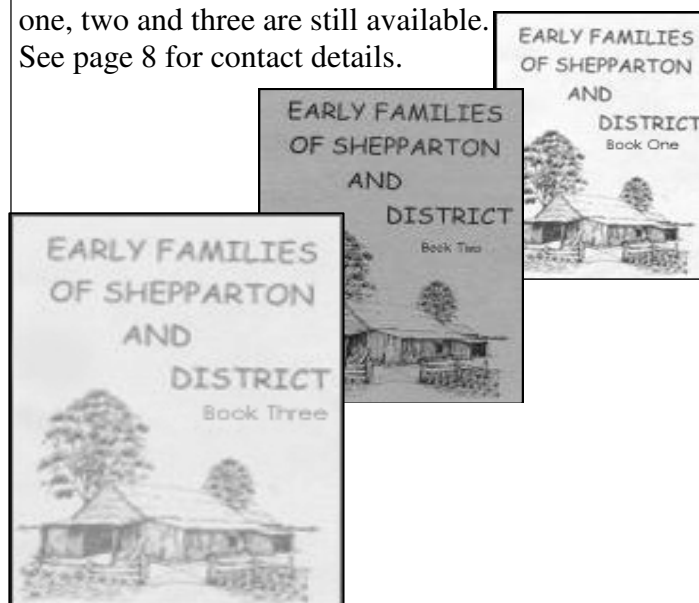
An article in the October 2016 Family Tree magazine has some good advice for anyone searching English BMD’s and census records (especially 1901 and 1911.)

This magazine is available to read in our rooms. Some of the hints may help you climb that brick wall by locating information you have missed in earlier reading of your certificates.

Don’t forget you can search on line:
Victorian BDM’s at www.bdm.vic.gov.au
and UK BMD’s at www.gro.gov.uk.

Early Families of Shepparton and District books

one, two and three are still available.
See page 8 for contact details.



Web Sites of Interest

- <http://www.nls.uk/exhibitions/maps> - an array of digitised directories and free maps for Scotland.
- Genuki: www.genuki.org.uk/
UK and Ireland genealogy. Many links to maps, events, cemetery records, etc.
- www.prov.vic.gov.au
Adoption and Wardship records online.
Try the new web page design (Beta version)
- organizeyourfamilyhistory.com/reading
This website and Blog lists a number of ways to read older hard to read headstone inscriptions.

- www.oldtreasurybuilding.org.au
Free exhibitions including, “Bushrangers”, “Soldier On”, “Built on Gold”, “Archival Treasures” and many more.
- www.emelbourne.net.au/index
Information on early Melbourne suburbs, streets, social and political culture. Links to the “Australian Dictionary of Biography” for a number of individuals.
- www.nationalanzaccentre.com.au
In late 1914 over 41,000 Australian and New Zealanders left Albany, W.A. in the first and second convoys, bound for the first world war.
This site lists all names and tells many stories of the men, their horses and the war.

\$\$\$\$\$ Membership \$\$\$\$\$

Members please note that 2016/17 subs were due from July and payable to:
The Treasurer, P.O.Box 1529 Shepparton Vic 3632.
Current membership is: Single \$25.00. Couple \$45.00. New member joining fee \$5.00
Renewal subscriptions can now be paid by direct deposit to our bank account. Please ensure that you include your surname and the word “subs” in the banking details box to help our treasurer identify the deposit.
National Bank Wyndham St Shepparton, BSB: 083894 Acc No: 03832 8159

Don't Forget

Members only research days.

The first Sunday of each month, 1.00pm to 4.00pm, is set aside for research only by our members.

Shepparton Family History Group inc

Address: 154 Welsford St. Shepparton (Cnr Welsford and High St)
Post: P.O.Box 1529 Shepparton. Vic .3632
Internet: www.vicnet.net.au/~shepfh email: shepfhg@fastmail

General Meetings Third Wednesday **** 2.00 pm ****
Research Times Every Wednesday 12.30 pm to 3.30 pm.
2nd and 4th Sundays 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm.
1st and 3rd Fridays 9.00 am to 12.00 pm **** Note 1 hour earlier starting time.****
First Sunday 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm .(For SFHG members research only)

Shepparton Family History Group

2013-2014 Office Bearers

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bruce Manson (President) • Peter Matthews (Secretary) • Kerry Betts (Treasurer) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garry Wallden (Vice President) • Lorraine Waldron (Research Officer) • Kerry Betts (Librarian) |
|---|--|