

~Furphy Murmurs~



Shepparton
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*Newsletter No 53
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SHEPPARTON FAMILY HISTORY GROUP inc

Shepparton Family History Group Inc report

Following a well earned Christmas break our volunteer workers have been kept busy with cataloguing, indexing and email enquiries together with visitors to our rooms conducting their own research. Visitors from as far away as West Australia and Queensland have been well rewarded for their visit to Shepparton.

Our new laser colour printer scanner which was purchased after receiving a Volunteers Grant from the Australian Governments "Department of Social Securities" has been a great asset. The printer was purchased from and installed by Solar City Office Equipment Shepparton. Their expertise in the installation and education on its use was very much appreciated.

The Shepparton Family History Group Inc members have been frustrated for years by the poor reliability of the microfilm reader / printer at the G.V. Regional Library. Our President Bruce Manson has been instrumental in seeking funds for the purchase of a new reader and if successful a state of the art reader will be purchased and installed at the library. This will allow the local newspapers to be searched and printed with less frustration than has been the case for many years.

Our "Early Settlers of Shepparton and District, Book Three" continues to sell steadily since it's launch . 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. Our book sales have received a boost recently with extra sales being made by the "Lost Shepparton Shop" and the "Greater Shepparton Visitor Centre".

We will be participating in the Deniliquin Genealogy Society's Family History Expo, being held on Friday 13th and Saturday 14th of October with a "Family Tree Maker" workshop on Sunday 15th. This is always a very well run event with stallholders from New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria.

In January we were saddened by the death of Robert (Bob) Galt, for many years one of our regular and active members. Bob's friendly smile and dry humour is remembered by all those who worked with him over the years.

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Coming Events

Deniliquin Family History Expo

Deniliquin Genealogical Society Inc are once again hosting one of their very well organized Family History Expo.

Guest speakers include:

[Ancestry - Speaker Jason Reeve](#)

[Victorian GUM - Sunday presenter Doug Elms](#)

[Finders Cafe - Speaker Andrew Gildea](#)

[Mostly Unsung - Military - Speaker Neil Smith](#)

[Scottish Ancestry Group - Speaker Joy Roy](#)

[State Library Victoria - Speaker Ann Burrows](#)

[Teapot Genies - Speaker Kaye Vernon](#)

Many exhibitors from South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland will be present.

13th to 15th of October 2017 are the dates to set aside to make sure that you can attend this worthwhile event. See Deniliquin Genealogical Society web page for further details:

(<http://members.bordernet.com.au/denifhg>)

Colac and District Family History Group Inc

**Family History EXPO
October 20th - 22nd 2017**

Past Events

A successful "Open Day" was held in March, attracting many family history researchers who participated in a free day of research and introduction to our extensive records library.

Several new members joined up, we wish them success in the never ending search for family information.

The *Shepparton News* had given us half page coverage before the event, together with publicity on local radio stations this greatly contributed to the extra interest and overall success of the day.



Open Day March 2017

Recent Library Additions

Speedways Spectacular Seventies:

(Ray Read donation)

Girgarre: Jenny Wadelton and Athol McDonald

Lost Shepparton calendars 2016, 2017 (donation)

St Colmans, Shepparton High School, Shepparton

Girls High School magazines, (Joan Esam donation)

Lost Shepparton Newsletter

Living stories of Dungala Kaiela (donation)

One Man's Dream to Make a Difference:

Kelvin Sidebottom

Jenkin's Journey and Whitings Writings:

Rita Jenkins and Bernadette West (donations)

Mooroopna High School Scrap Book 1973-76:

(donation Ron Rose)

Shepparton. It's People and Places: Geoff Allemand

One Brief Shining Moment:

Dudley Family History: (donation by Elizabeth Dudley on behalf of late husband Glenn.)

Research requests

Recent name requests to our researchers:

Rodda

Purcell

Englefield

Thorne

Freeman

Neville

Field (Richard)

Marungi Hotel

New Members

The Shepparton Family History Group welcomes our new members, Barbara Lorains and Myra Thorne.

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

Vale : Robert (Bob) Galt

GALT Robert Edwin
02.01.1923 – 12.01.2017

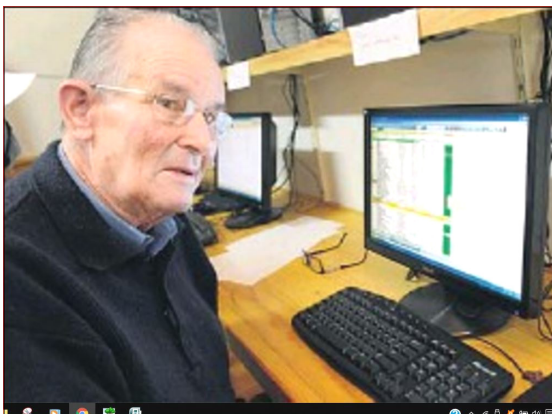
We were saddened by the passing of one of our longer term active members and past treasurer of our group. Our condolences have been passed on to Bob's family.

Bob, as he was known to us all, was dedicated to researching the Galt and Hackney family histories. He was very pleased to have some of his research published in the "Early Families of Shepparton and District, book 3", it was a reward for the many hours he spent pouring through records in our library and on the internet.

Always keen to keep up with technology, Bob quickly grasped the digital age of computers and the internet, skills which helped him compile an impressive family history.

Community involvement was a very large part of Bob's life. The Mooroopna Historical Society, service clubs, St Augustine's church and C.F.A, were just some of the organisations to benefit from Bob's volunteering.

Through early life at Kaarimba then dairy farming and an insurance representative, Bob made many friends as was shown by the very large attendance at his funeral.



Bob Galt
Shepparton Family History Group Member

A funeral service was held at St Augustines church of England, Shepparton, on February 21st 2017, followed by internment at the Wunghnu Cemetery.

Dame Vera Lynn 100

To celebrate the 100th birthday of Dame Vera Lynn, her image was projected on to the white cliffs of Dover on Monday March 20, the day she officially became a centenarian.

The 350ft image of Dame Vera, who is affectionately known as The Forces' Sweetheart, is also in celebration of the release of her new album, Vera Lynn 100.



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.

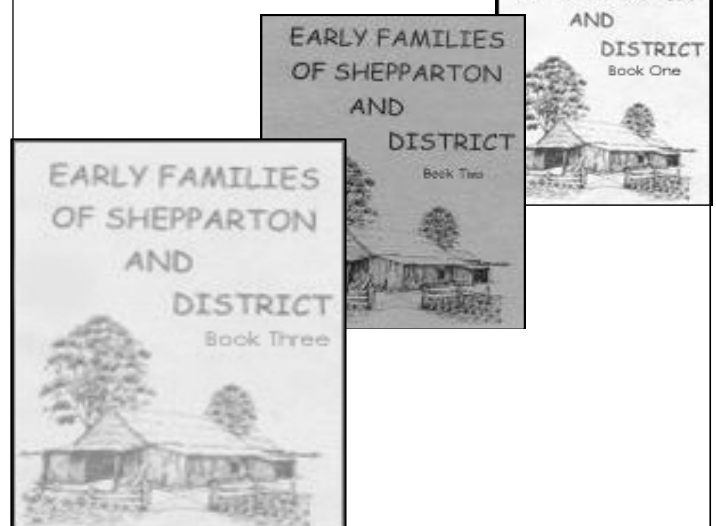
They are very informative and may help you solve some of your brick walls.



Are you a Tombstone Tourist?

In the Victorian era (UK) landscaped cemeteries were designed to be visited not only by the bereaved but also by the general public.

Early Families of Shepparton and District books one, two and three are still available. See page 8 for our contact details.



Genealogical Society of Victoria

Change of address

(an extract from the GSV Web Page)

We are located on Level 6, 85 Queen Street, Melbourne. The building is located between Collins and Little Collins Streets on the west side of Queen Street. There are lots of cafes in the proximity and we have the use of a shared kitchen with the other tenant on the floor, however we will have our own lunch area for socialising. We have retained our existing telephone number so please call us on 9662 4455.

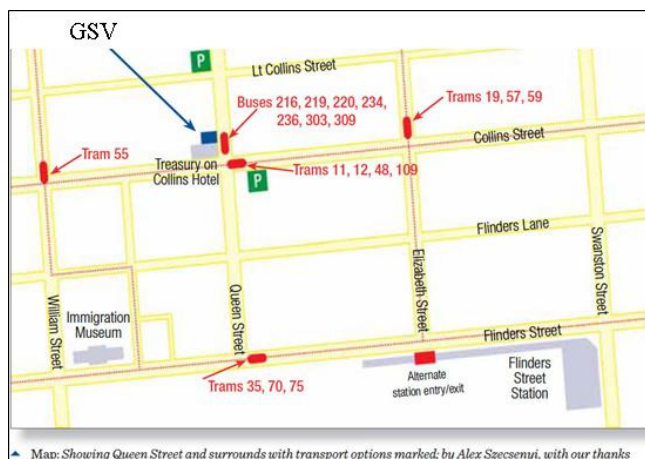
There is lift access up from the building foyer and there are no steps between the foyer and the street. The building is normally closed on the weekends so we will be making arrangement so that members and visitors will have after-hours access on Saturdays.

The facilities and services of the GSV essentially are unchanged. Our staff and volunteers will be available to provide you with unparalleled personal help to research and compile your family history. Our education and training programs will continue to stimulate you with interesting background and practical information, and the GSV's special interest and discussion groups will progress your knowledge of particular topics in a convivial social environment with like-minded people.

Our library collection will now be located in two places. The GSV Research Collection of specialised family history research publications will be housed at Queen Street. The remaining majority of our collection will be integrated with the library at the Royal Historical Society of Victoria in their premises at the corner of William and A'Beckett Streets.

An agreement between our two societies will facilitate access to the combined collection for GSV members. This arrangement is part of our long-term strategy to collaborate with other similar organizations. We strongly encourage you to visit us, progress your family research, attend an education session, participate in one of our several discussion groups, or just socialise with a coffee.

Please make the most of your Society and our new home!



P.R.O.V. New Release of Records

(an extract from P.R.O.V. website)

Hundreds of State Government [archives](#) have been made public as part of Public Record Office Victoria's annual opening of officially closed records. The records are of particular interest to family historians waiting on files that mention members of their family tree.

Under Section 9 of the *Public Records Act 1973* files of a personal or private nature are closed from between 75 to 99 years to prevent the violation of personal privacy.

As of the 1st of January 2017, another year of files will be opened to the public for the first time. Director and Keeper of Public Records, Justine Heazlewood, said this year's openings may provide researchers with missing pieces of their family history puzzle.

"These newly opened records provide a snapshot into our State's history. From the capital cases that made headlines in 1941 to divorces of Ballarat - these annual openings provide a new opportunity to discover our past," said Ms Heazlewood.

Among this year's openings are Criminal Trial Briefs relating to Pentridge prison escapee Kenneth Raymond Jones, the capital case [file](#) of Alfred Bye executed for the murder of Tommy Walker, Divorce Case Files from Melbourne and Ballarat Courts of 1941, Post Mortem Registers from Kew Hospital and Tramway and Victorian Railroads Employee Records. "There are so many incredible stories to be found in Victoria's archives. These records of the past now serve to help researchers, academics, writers and historians discover another dimension to years gone by," said Ms Heazlewood.

Some of the newly opened records are:

- Children's Court Registers
 - Malvern 1912-17
 - Richmond 1916-17
 - Prahran 1915-17
 - Stawell 1915-17
 - Fitzroy 1916-17
 - Berringa (Ballarat area) 1908-17
 - Camperdown 1907-17
 - Williamstown 1916-17
 - Warrnambool 1916-17
 - Ararat 1907-17
 - Sale 1907-17
 - Carlton 1908-17
 - Preston 1913-17
- In Patient Death Registers
 - Royal Children's Hospital 1979-1986
- Employment History Sheets Vic Rail 1920-61
- Divorce Cause Books supreme crt 1939-1941
 - Case Files supreme crt 1940-41
 - Case Files Ballarat crt 1941
- Index to Register of Prisoner's rec'd Pentridge 1939-41
- Post Mortem Registers Kew Mental Hospital 1939-41

See more detailed information at:

<https://www.prov.vic.gov.au/newly-opened-archives>

FORMER SHEPPARTON LAD KILLED

L.A.C. Eric Dow in Aircraft Smash

Whilst Flying Over This District

Shepparton people on previous occasions have had brought home to them the toll of war on our young manhood, but the tragic death of L.A.C. Eric Francis Dow shortly after 10 o'clock on Thursday morning, and the subsequent military funeral to a cemetery where his remains were interred besides those of his father, who died in 1927, will have created lasting impressions on their mind.

Arriving over the district in a plane he, according to the evidence at the inquest on Friday afternoon, circled twice over the home of Mr. And Mrs. Frank Roe, after which the onlookers thought he was continuing his flight, when suddenly he was seen to crash, being killed instantly.

News of the fatality quickly spread, and when it became confirmed that the airman was none other than Eric Dow, younger son of the late Mr. Henry Dow and Mrs. Isabella Dow, who now resides at Kew, but formerly lived in Rea Street, Shepparton, the deepest sympathy went out to the sorrowing mother and brother, Ian, who is also in the R.A.A.F., and arrived in Shepparton on Friday night, too late for the funeral obsequies.

Borne by R.A.A.F. men to the tender which was drawn by an aircraft truck, the casket containing his remains was draped with the Union Jack on which were belt and side arms, while around the coffin was a mass of floral tributes, including wreaths from the following:

The Commonwealth Bank of Australia staff, mates of his R.A.A.F. squadron; R.A.A.F. Recruit Depot, Shepparton Baptist Church, Baptist Mission Band, Kew Baptist Church, Kew Baptist Football and Cricket Clubs, Shepparton C.W.A.

In charge of Flight-Lieutenant Dudley and Warrant Officer Wright a most impressive dead march from the Church into the main street of the town was headed by Pipers Cpl McDonald and AC1* Addison playing the lament, "The Flowers of the Forest". The muffled drums and column of airmen performing the difficult slow march in perfect unison, followed by a high ranking officer (representing the lad's C.O.) and about 20 cars of sympathisers, is a sight that will live long in one's memory.

L/AC. Eric Francis Dow was born at Bundoora Red Cross Farm in 1923 and commenced studies at Shepparton High School at the beginning of 1935 and ceased attendance on July 23, 1940, to join the staff of the Commonwealth Bank. At the time of leaving he was a school prefect, captain of the football team and had passed his intermediate in nine subjects and leaving in six subjects, and was studying for honours.

In a tribute the headmaster of Shepparton High School (Mr. J. J. O'Connor) said:- "To the junior pupils he was an inspiration. Gifted with a brilliant intellect and pleasant disposition, he was also outstanding as an athlete and on the football field one saw him at his best. By his ability to do things combined with a becoming reserve he won the respect and esteem of teachers and schoolmates alike."

His first week with the bank was spent at Shepparton branch, after which he was transferred to Melbourne office where, at the age of 18, he had ten boys under him in the exchange department. He was later transferred to the auditing department. His progress was so marked that the chief auditor once said that he couldn't have chosen any boy in the bank more suited to the work.



Besides being conscientious he was of outstanding ability.

While residing at Kew, Eric took part in a few football matches with St Kilda seconds and by permission of that club he also played for Kew Baptists in the East Suburban Churches Association, where he was awarded Hartley's cup for the best and fairest player during the 1941 season. He also played for Shepparton Imperials.



CALL TO SERVICE

He enlisted in the R.A.A.F. in December 1941 but was not called up till June of the following year. He saw training in South Australia, Victoria and New South Wales, having qualified for his "wings" which he would have received in five weeks time.

PILOT NOT STUNTING

An inquest was held on Friday afternoon by the deputy coroner (Mr. G.V. Furphy) when pilot officer R. D. Hutley, of an N.S.W. R.A.A.F. station stated that he gave Dow the authorisation to proceed on a navigation flight on the day of the accident. Dow had 60 hours solo flying experience and the plane had been tested prior to leaving the aerodrome and was serviceable.

Robert John Brown, water bailiff said that he had watched the plane and in his opinion the pilot was not stunting.

Francis R. Roe, farmer, stated that he was working in a paddock 100 yards from his house when the plane circled twice over a farm house within 5 minutes.

A verdict of accidental death was recorded by Mr. Furphy, who was assisted by Sgt. C. G. Ivey.

* AC1- air craftsman first class.

(excerpt from *The Shepparton News* April 5 1943)

DOW ERIC FRANCIS : Service Number - 418740 : Date of birth - 16 Jul 1923 : Place of birth - ARMADALE VIC : Place of enlistment - MELBOURNE : Next of Kin - DOW ISABELLA (excerptFrom N.A.A.)

TROVE

The website for TROVE has been updated to include several new features.

What can you find in Trove? Here's a quick overview: (<http://help.nla.gov.au/trove/using-trove/getting-to-know-us>)

- These resources are grouped into ten content zones. You can use advanced search or [facets](#) to limit your searches to particular content types. [books](#) and other print materials, like [book chapters](#), reports and [conference proceedings](#)
 - lots of [journal articles](#) – including some major collections from commercial discovery services like Gale and Informit
 - [theses](#) and [data sets](#) to give you an insight into Australia's research effort
 - 1. a growing collection of [objects](#) – from a [stuffed dog called Peter](#) to [Lachlan Macquarie's armchair](#)
 - plenty of pictures – including [artworks](#) and [photographs](#)
 - music, both [printed](#) and [recorded](#), and [videos](#)
 - [interviews](#) and [other sound recordings](#) – including many [ABC Radio programs](#)
 - [maps](#) and [archives](#)
 - the full text of [articles](#) from many [Australian newspapers](#) – mostly 1803 to 1954, but some, like the [Canberra Times](#) go further
 - the full text of the [Australian Women's Weekly](#) from 1933 to 1982
 - archived copies of [selected Australian websites](#) from 1996 to the present
 - information about [people and organisations](#)
 - [lists of resources](#) created by other Trove users
- Remember that in most cases what you'll find in Trove is information about resources, or metadata, rather than copies of the items themselves. Depending on the type of item and where the metadata has come from, there'll be various ways for you to [get a copy](#).

TROVE

Many local newspapers have been digitized in part or completely and are accessible on the Trove Website.

The newspapers and years available are listed below.

Dookie and Katamatite Recorder 1902-20
Numurkah Leader 1895-1948
Kyabram Free Press, Rodney & Deakin Shire Advertiser 1914-18
Kyabram Guardian 1914-18
Kyabram Union 1886-1894
Kyabram Union, Rodney Shire Advertiser 1894
Numurkah Standard, Wunghnu, Cobram, Yarraweah and Strathmerton Advertiser 1914-1918
Shepparton Advertiser 1914-1953
Shepparton News 1914-1918
Tungamah and Lake Rowan Express and St James Gazette 1914-18
Weekly Times Melbourne 1869-1954
Euroa Advertiser 1884-1920
Euroa Gazette 1915-1918
Euroa Advertiser, Violet Town, Longwood, Aveland, Strathbogrie, Balmattam, Miepoll Gazette 1884

To search for all the digitized newspapers:

Go to Trove Home Page: www.trove.nla.gov.au

Click: "Digitised Newspapers and More" (image)

Click: "View a List of all Newspapers and Gazettes" (this may take some time to load completely)

To refine the very extensive list:

Click on the required state, then on an individual newspaper title. A "coverage graph" allows for further searching of a year, month, day then finally individual page images.

Help Requested by Maryborough F.H.I.

We are tracing descendants of passengers of the ships SARACA, CITY OF AGRA, and LAMMERSHAGEN, 1887 voyages to the Port of Maryborough, Qld, for our immigration *Shipping Reunion*.

Information to:

Maryborough Family Heritage Institute Inc

P.O. Box 913, Maryborough, QLD, 4650

Email: heritageresearch@bigpond.com

Website: www.treeroots.com.au

WE NEED YOU !

Active 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 over-worked 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.

Mooroopna Hospital Basic Origins



Mooroopna's first hospital consisted of a two-bed hut built on the riverbank in 1876.

Four patients were treated at the hospital during its first year, but as the hospital occupancy increased a larger facility was needed.

In 1877, construction started on the new hospital which was incorporated as a government hospital later that year.

Mooroopna's first resident doctor, Arthur Dowson, arrived in 1877 and in 1878, Mr Black was appointed as the first house steward, with his wife as the first full-time matron.

By 1880, the railway came to Mooroopna, enticing more people and trade to the area which in turn put pressure on the hospital accommodation.

"Dr James Florence was the man who really put this place (Mooroopna Hospital) on the map as he established an x-ray plant and introduced anaesthesia to the hospital at an early stage," Historical Society of Mooroopna president Dr John Mackellar said.



Dr. Florence (back row centre) with staff at the Mooroopna Hospital in the 1920's

By 1901, the total number of patients treated at the hospital was 631, which grew to an average bed occupancy of 140 a year in 1945.

"Typhoid fever was the number one illness followed by other infections like diphtheria, pneumonia, and other things like ulcers, injury and trauma," Dr Mackellar said.

Obstetrics cases were not admitted to the hospital until 1937 except for emergency cases.

Most women were confined to having their babies at home or in one of the local private hospitals.

Mooroopna Hospital was renowned for its nurse training facilities and a training school was conducted at the hospital from its early years.

In 1896, J Edwards, J Webster and R Oxley were the first nursing graduates to finish their training at Mooroopna Hospital.

The hospital played an important role during World War II because a large army contingent was stationed at the Shepparton Showgrounds and there was a large airforce base at Tocumwall.

There were also patients from the internment camps and prisoners of war to be considered.

"My father (Dr Duncan Mackellar) was a doctor during



Caring Service:
The Children's Ward at the Mooroopna Hospital in 1940.

the war and would go out to attend people at Durringhile Prison," Dr Mackellar said.

During WWII, the hospital was noted for its frequent use of the Julian Smith Pump which transferred blood directly from the donor into the patient.

Dr. Duncan Mackellar and Dr J A Kennedy were both renowned for their use of this method at Mooroopna Hospital until the late 1960's.

Army and airforce servicemen would donate blood for transfusions.

After the war, Mavis Newton and Nancie Gaylard of the Shepparton Red Cross set up a local blood transfusion service that required local donors to be on call should a transfusion be necessary.

This community system was considered to be a remarkable phenomenon.

By the 1960's it was decided Mooroopna Hospital (then called Mooroopna and District Base Hospital) would be relocated to Shepparton.

Shepparton's Goulburn Valley Base Hospital was built, the acute services were transferred there in 1979 and Mooroopna Hospital remained as an extended care nursing home until 1999.

Today Mooroopna Hospital houses the Mooroopna Historical Society where medical displays tell the story of how it had once been a centre for medical excellence in northern Victoria.

St Dunstan's Church of England, Stepney, U.K.

St Dunstan's stands on a site that has been used for Christian worship for over a thousand years.

The church was surrounded by a churchyard of nearly seven acres. After 1660 the churchyard was enlarged to cope with the massive number of deaths during the Great Plague of London. In one eighteen-month period 6,583 died, with 154 being buried in one day in September 1665.

The church has a long, traditional link with the sea and many sailors were buried here. It was once known as the 'Church of the High Seas'.

Every child that was born on board a British ship at sea was registered in the Parish of Stepney, and all baptisms performed at sea were entered in the registers of that parish, which date back to 1568.

Web Sites of Interest

Top websites for beginners

- Ancestry www.ancestry.com.au
- Find My Past www.findmypast.com.au
- The Genealogist www.thegenealogist.co.uk
- Cyndi's List www.cyndislist.com/australia
- Family Search <https://familysearch.org/>
- Free BMD (U.K.) www.freebmd.org.uk
- Free Cen (census U.K.) www.freecen.org.uk
- Free Reg (parish registers U.K.) www.freereg.org.uk
- Public Records Office Vic www.prov.vic.gov.au
- Trove trove.nla.gov.au
- Local Family History Groups www.vicnet.net.au/~gmags
- Google: genealogy humour images

Smile Awhile

Where there's a will there's a genealogist.
I only research genealogy on days ending in Y.
A great party is when everyone joins in the gene pool.

If at first you don't succeed, search and search again. That's why it is called research.

I can't find my ancestors, they must be in the witness protection program.

A genealogists filing system usually incorporates the floor.

Murphy's law of genealogy: "Your ancestors maiden name will be recorded on the page that is missing.

A cemetery is a marble garden, not to be taken for granite.

\$\$\$\$\$ 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)

NB: We have an extreme heat policy where our research rooms will not be open if the temperature is forecast to be 38 deg C or above.

Shepparton Family History Group

2016-2017 Office Bearers

- Bruce Manson (President)
- Peter Matthews (Secretary)
- Kerry Betts (Treasurer)

- Garry Wallden (Vice President)
- Lorraine Waldron (Research Officer)
- Kerry Betts (Librarian)