

# ~*Furphy Murrurs*~



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*Newsletter No 56  
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## SHEPPARTON FAMILY HISTORY GROUP inc

### Shepparton Family History Group Inc report

#### Proposed changes to Marriage Certificates

Many family historians are very concerned about proposed changes to the information to be provided to the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages. An extract from an article in “Ancestor” the Genealogical Society Victoria’s December 2018 publication follows.

#### *Review of Marriage Act Forms*

*The Attorney – General’s Department is undertaking a review of the approved forms made under the Marriage Act 1961. Essentially, the Department is proposing considerable changes to the ‘Notice of Intended Marriage’. These changes include removing a number of items such as usual occupation, usual place of residence, and the item relating to birth of a party outside Australia. It is also proposed to remove items relating to names of respective parents and country of birth. No clear reason has been given by the Department for these proposed changes. The G.S.V. has made a submission strongly opposing these proposed amendments.*

*Our BDM certificates are envied by genealogists worldwide for the detail they provide, serving as a useful base for family historians and for those trying to establish family links relevant to hereditary medical conditions and illnesses.*

*Why these changes? These certificates are not available to the general public until years after the event – so surely this is not a privacy issue.*

See page 7 for the Attorney General’s Department’s response to a submission regarding the changes to the ‘Notice of Intended Marriage’ form.

#### S.F.H.G. Annual Meeting 2018

The annual meeting of the Shepparton Family History Group Inc was held at our Welsford St rooms on Wednesday 15th August 2018. It was decided that general meetings will now be held 3 monthly, see page 3 for dates.

See page 8 for details of office bearers, subscriptions and methods of payment.

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## Coming Events

### S.F.H.G.inc. Christmas Break Up

Our Christmas break up will be on Wednesday 19th December.

A general meeting will be held at 2.00 pm followed by afternoon tea.

Research will recommence after the New Year on Wednesday 9th January.

### Genealogical Society of Victoria (G.S.V.)

Even though lots of things don't happen in January after our hectic Christmas, life actually keeps on going! Just like the DNA Discussion Circle which will have a meeting in January on Wednesday 9th at 10.30 am – 12 pm, as shown in our latest *Ancestor* journal in 'Around the Circles'

You can find out more about this interesting discussion circle on our website ([www.gsv.org.au/activities/groups/dna-discussion-circle.html](http://www.gsv.org.au/activities/groups/dna-discussion-circle.html))

THE GSV CENTRE WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE CHRISTMAS -NEW YEAR PERIOD ON SATURDAY 22 DECEMBER TO TUESDAY 1 JANUARY INCLUSIVE.

Later in January the Early English (the Discussion Circle, that is) will meet on Wed 23 and London Research on Thurs 24.

The following week on Thursday 31, Stephen Hawke will talk on *New Poor Laws – post 1834*.

Plan your January and see the website to book and find out what other Classes and focussed research assistance is available (Scotland and Ireland).

### VAFHO Expo. Saturday 1st June, 2019

#### Are you coming to the VAFHO Family History Expo in Hamilton?

A chance to meet numerous exhibitors from the local region, Victoria and Interstate.

A chance to hear some great speakers who have presented around Australia and Overseas.

Put the details in your diary.

## National Library of Australia

Our opening hours over the Christmas and New Year period will be in place from Monday 17 December 2018 until Sunday 6 January 2019.

<https://www.nla.gov.au/visit-us/opening-hours>

## Past Events

### Library Display

Earlier this year the S.F.H.G. had their annual display at the Goulburn Valley Regional Library, featuring the many nationalities who have migrated to our district.

Many avenues to researching people from other countries are available at the Shepparton family history rooms. Thanks to Kerry for organising the display.



## New S.F.H.G. Library Additions

- The History of Kialla West Presbyterian Church and Kialla West Uniting Church 1873 to 2018. John Gribben
- Melbourne High School Old Boys' Directory
- KYABRAM, W.H. Bossence.
- Births, Deaths, Marriages & In Memoriams from "The Daily Advertiser" Wagga Wagga, N.S.W. and Sundry Records 1998 to 2017. C.D.
- "Housing Estates" SFHG Folder
- "Schools in the Shepparton Area" SFHG Folder

## 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.

## SFHG Opening Hours for 2019

	Wed	Fri	Sun
Jan			
	9		13
	16	18	
	23		27
	30		
Feb		1	3*
	6		10
	13	15	
	20		24
	27		
Mch		1	3*
	6		10
	13	15	
	20 mtg**		24
	27		
Apr	3	5	7*
	10		14
	17		
	24		28
May	1	3	5*
	8		12
	15	17	
	22		26
	29		
Jun			2*
	5	7	9
	12		
	19 mtg**	21	23
	26		
Jul	3	5	7*
	10		14
	17	19	
	24		28
	31		
Aug		2	4*
	7		11
	14	16	
	21		25
	28		
Sep			1*
	4	6	8
	11		
	18 mtg**	20	22
	25		
Oct	2	4	6*
	9		13
	16	18	
	23		27
	30		
Nov		1	3*
	6		10
	13	15	
	20		24
	27		
Dec			1*
	4	6	8
	11		
	18 mtg**		

\* Members Only

\*\*Mtg: meeting

## National Archives of Australia (N.A.A.) Researching your family

The National Archives of Australia is a rich source for family historians.

Many of the records in our collection are about people – individuals who migrated to Australia, served in our defence forces, were Indigenous, were interned or investigated by the government, or who applied for a copyright... the list goes on.

Think about contact between your family and the government.

The key is to identify how family members had contact with the government, and to identify what types of records we might have about them.

### Think about contact between your family and the government

- migrating to Australia
- becoming an Australian citizen
- applying for a relative to visit from overseas
- serving in the army, air force or navy
- enrolling to vote
- registering a patent or trademark
- working for the government.

For more ideas, see the resources listed below.

[A step-by-step guide for researchers](#)

[Beginning your family history research](#)

[Migration and citizenship](#)

[Tracing ancestors in the National Archives](#)

[Family history sources held in Canberra](#)

[Family history sources held in Adelaide](#)

[Making Australia Home](#) – for how to make an immigration inquiry

[Defence service records](#) – for how to get copies

[Records of defence administration, the forces, service personnel and more.](#)

The following advice has been prepared by specialist conservators at the National Archives.

[Preservation overview](#)

[Preserving paper documents and artworks](#)

[Preserving photographs](#)

[Creating a scrapbook](#)

[Creating a time capsule](#)

[Recovering fire-damaged records](#)

[Recovering flood-damaged records](#)

National Archives of Australia web site:

[www.naa.gov.au](http://www.naa.gov.au)



## The Weeping Window

To coincide with the 100th anniversary of the armistice signing in 1918, several Dookie residents arranged for a "Weeping Window" of hand made poppies to be placed at the front of Dookie's St Luke's Anglican Church.

St Luke's is the only Dookie church that acknowledges the Great War with memorials to its local soldiers. Hence it seemed appropriate and very fitting that we created this cascade of poppies to again recognise and remember those local men who gave the ultimate sacrifice of their lives for our freedom, in the form of a visual commemoration of respect after one hundred years since the signing of the Armistice in a railway carriage in Compègne, France.

St Luke's sadly lost 7 soldiers from its congregation. ('Remembering The Dookie Fallen ~100 Years On' (Rankin and Feldtmann) gives a military and family history of the 16 men lost by this community who are listed on the Dookie War Memorial)

This Weeping Window has captured wonderful community involvement from both near and far.



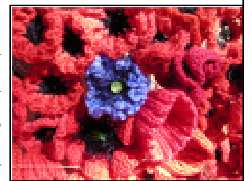
Our poppies have been generously gifted from Wales (from Pauline Lynch, niece of Pte John Henry Taylor), Canberra, Wellington-NSW, Yarram, Yendon (in memory of Leo O'Toole - an enlisted soldier from this town and who was born at Dookie in 1893), Wyuna, Katandra, Shepparton. Cosgrove and of course, Dookie. We are also very grateful to the Shepparton Textile Group, Dookie RSL, Dookie St Andrew's Uniting Church and St Augustine's Anglican Church for their contributions to our project of remembrance. We are a very tiny congregation but our outreach and fellowship from those around us has been great. In this installation, there are approximately 1200 poppies.

There are some significant flowers in this cascade.

The **purple poppies** remember the animal deeds and victims of the war, which were used as messengers, for detection, scouting and rescue, as beasts of burden and on the frontline. Over **16** million animals, including horses, mules, camels, dogs and pigeons served in the First World War. They were used for transport, communication and companionship. It is estimated that approximately 400,000 horses left Australian shores for war and only one was ever returned.

The dog's innate qualities of intelligence and devotion were valued and used by the forces in conflicts throughout the century. Among their many duties, these faithful animals ran messages, laid telegraph wires, detected mines, dug out bomb victims and acted as guard or patrol dogs. Many battled on despite horrific wounds and in terrifying circumstances to the limit of their endurance, showing indomitable courage and supreme loyalty to their handlers.

The **blue cornflower** symbolises French war remembrance which represents the colour of French army uniforms. In France, this is the expression of memory and solidarity towards veterans.

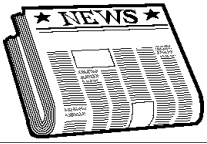


It is also of interest that the **two poppies from Wales** displayed here, each has an attached leaf and it was explained that these leaves needed to be placed so they are set at an eleven o'clock position.



A **red poppy with a white centre** depicts remembrance for nurses and medics who gave their service to the war. It has also come to light that the remembrance flower of Germany is **the forget-me-not** and that of Belgium is the **white daisy**.

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Thanks to Dianne Feldtmann for photos and information for this article.



*Shepparton Advertiser*  
Oct 23 1935

### **An Old Shepparton Landmark**

The information comes from Cr. W.S. James "Official History of Shepparton," which has been presented by that public spirited citizen to the Borough of Shepparton. The chapter on "Town beginnings and progress" says that "the original title of the building shows that the locality was known as McGuire's Punt or Shepparton, both names appearing on the plan, and the street was known as Wyndham Street. The land was surveyed by J.G. Wilmot in 1855, Welsford and Fryers Streets being shown in the survey plan. On March 13 1856 the first land sale was held at Benalla, and No 2 allotment, with frontages of 132 feet to Wyndham Street, and 165 feet to Fryers Street was purchased by John Somer for £4.

The land at present occupied by Martin Bros. and the Shepparton "Advertiser" are parts of the allotment. Somer sold 20 years after to Swallow and Lightfoot for £100 pound, and the land was again sold in 1888 for £1750 to Turnley and Inglis, all these transactions being recorded on the title.

It is stated that the land today (1935) would realise £26,400 for the whole allotment, and it is considered to be the most valuable block of land in Shepparton.

The block was afterwards subdivided, the corner section being successively owned by A.L. Boucicault and R. Longstaff. Messrs Martin Bros. purchased the premises from Mr Longstaff in 1912.

#### **HISTORIC SITE**

The site is an historic one, because the buildings that occupy it would be among the first substantial buildings of Shepparton. Situated as they are on the only crossing from the southern side of the river, they have seen the progress of traffic as no other portion of the town has seen it.

Only a few decades ago, the bullock teams would have trundled past the buildings to be followed later by the "horseless carriage" that caused the citizens to stand fearfully at the roadside before they ventured on to the safe section as the snorting, puffing, noisome monster. And then the rapid transformation to the purring, smooth running, streamlined monsters of today.

A photograph in the possession of Mr. W. MacDermott, who at one time was manager for Swallow and Sons, shows the original two storied building, now separately owned by Messrs Martin Bros and McPherson, Callander and Co, with a brick

enclosure wall extending along the remainder of the Wyndham Street frontage.

The building has since been extended at the rear, and the walls plastered externally. The land formerly enclosed is now occupied by shops.

Alterations and additions at present being carried out will provide modern shop premises and workroom for Messrs Martin Bros. along the Fryers Street frontage, and the whole of the existing building will be remodelled for letting purposes. The new street verandah, the fascia of which will be of electrically welded steel construction, will extend the full length of shops to both frontages.

The architect is Mr. Frank Vibert, M.C.E., A.M.I.E., Mr. R.A. Dickinson being the builder.

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*Shepparton Advertiser* December 2 1935

### **LOOKING BACK ON SHEPPARTON**

Specially written for the "Advertiser." by Mr. W. MacDermott.

"Looking back," I can see a magnificent panorama which takes me from the time when Shepparton was simply scrub—as it was when I arrived here in August, 1876—through that period of steady progress when, to deliver our flour in Melbourne, we had to ship it in barges to Echuca—to the present, with its innumerable amenities which make life in the country no hardship, and with its speedy transport and many other factors, which, while adding to the competition that the country business man must meet, are also of advantage to him.

When I came to Shepparton as manager to Swallow and Sons, there were no railways. One travelled by coach from Euroa to Mooroopna, the coach being driven by the late Mr. Organ. From Mooroopna, one crossed Tannens' Bridge, then situated down near Guthrie's lane, three miles out of the town. The rest of the journey was completed on foot.

The principal hotel at the time was McKinny's. There was only one bank—the Commercial. The late Mr. Rowe had charge of the Post Office, and we went down at night to receive the mail, which came across from Mooroopna between 8 and 9 o'clock.

Our first policeman was the late George McCracken, subsequently licensee of the Farmers' Arms Hotel. His chief occupation was inspecting the brands of the cattle which crossed the river. In those early days our rendezvous was the recreation ground and parts of Knight Street. Kangaroos were then very plentiful, and the land was thickly covered with box timber.

Cont'd

I believe that the origin of the town was the fact that near its site (the boat sheds) there was a crossing for cattle. Later a punt service was provided.

The purpose in the building of the Court House Hotel was to make it available for the cattlemen, drovers and bushmen, and it was patronised by many of the best farmers. It affords a striking contrast to the fine Shepparton hotels of today.

There was also a smaller hotel, which was known as “Granny” Wilson’s, and stood opposite the brewery. Neither of these hotels had any facilities for the provision of meals, and it was not an uncommon thing for travellers to be compelled to go to Mooroopna for meals.

Shepparton at that time did not have even a blacksmith, and much of the business of the district went across the river to Mooroopna.

I believe that the first store was established in 1874. Then the late Mr. Ralph Longstaff arrived, and started business in a little building adjoining the police station.

The work of clearing was hard—very hard, and very rough. But they were great men in those days—and they were good workers.

Our nearest railway was 10 miles away, and all the district wheat went to Euroa. The cost of cartage was ten pence a bushel. Farmers on the other side of the river also had to cart their wheat to Euroa, and crossed on a barge near where Murchison now stands.

Shepparton’s first church was the Free United Methodist Church, in Welsford Street. Soon after its establishment, members of the Roman Catholic faith arranged their services at a place called Day’s store, on the ground where the Paramount picture theatre now stands.

For many years the only timber used in buildings in the town was red gum from the sawmill of Mr. Tanner, who lived in a small house on- the site of Dr. Grutzner’s present home. His mill was on the Broken River. Mr. Tanner built a bridge for himself over the broken River, almost in line with the present freezing works. There was another sawmill near the present Knight Street. Its owner was the late Mr. Quiggan.

Part of our present Shire of Shepparton was controlled from Benalla, and part from Echuca, The Government surveyor was a Mr. Leahy, and he lived in a house on the site of that now occupied by Mr. Mulcahy. Later, Mr. Leahy became, with the late Mr. James Campbell, the representatives of Shepparton on the Echuca Shire Council. When we severed from Echuca, the Shepparton Shire included Numur-

kah, and the meetings of the council were held there.

When I first came to Shepparton there was a coach service from Benalla and Euroa to Shepparton, It was controlled by the famous Cobb and Company, and was afterwards extended to Numurkah.

We are now well favoured, but in those days the coach brought but one mail a week, and you may feel assured that the weekly newspaper was something to look forward to. Soon afterwards, however, the service was increased to three mails a week.

I can well remember the first railway, and the building of it. At first the Commissioners ran only trucks and the opening of the line caused a commotion which can be better imagined than described. As might have been expected, Shepparton was a very busy place when the line was being built.

As I have already said, it is pleasant to look back. It brings to view a panorama of progress. But I feel that it is just as pleasant to look to the future. I recall the time when one could give land away in Shepparton, and I also recall the time when one could not buy it. What better demonstration could we have of the wonderful progress that our town—and our rich and fertile district—has made.

The war has set us back, but in that condition we are not alone. We of Shepparton, as a community, have a future, and it must be realised.

The man on the land is not always going to have a bad time. He must recover, on his recovery depends our future. We have, perhaps, I sometimes feel, been “boomed” too much, but we have learned many lessons in the past few years.

I feel that ahead of Shepparton lies a future which, developed in the counterpart of the enterprise of those who converted the wilderness of the virgin bush to the orderliness of modern civilisation, will afford the young men of the present generation the opportunity some forty or fifty years hence to look back and recall advancement comparable with that which I have suggested in this short article.

### Medical Terminology for Learners

Artery	.....The study of painting
Bacterium	.....Back door to the cafeteria
Barium	.....Undertakers job after the doctor fails
Bowel	.....A, E, I, O or U
Cat Scan	.....Searching for kitty
Cauterise	.....Make eye contact with her
Dilate	.....To live longer
Gout	.....Polite word for “Get Out”
Labour Pain	...Getting hurt at work
Morbid	.....A higher offer
Nitrate	.....Better pay than day rate



## British Empire Memorial Plaque



The **Memorial Plaque** was issued after the [First World War](#) to the next-of-kin of all British and [Empire](#) service personnel who were killed, or died, as a result of the war.

The plaques (which could be described as large [plaquettes](#)) about 4.75 inches (120 mm) in diameter, were cast in [bronze](#), and came to be known as the "Dead Man's Penny", because of the similarity in appearance to the much smaller [penny coin](#) which itself had a diameter of only 1.215 inches (30.9 mm). 1,355,000 plaques were issued, which used a total of 450 tons of bronze, and continued to be issued into the 1930s to commemorate people who died as a consequence of the war.

Carter Preston's winning design includes an image of [Britannia](#) holding a trident and standing with a lion. In her outstretched left hand Britannia holds an olive wreath above the rectangular tablet bearing the deceased's name cast in raised letters. Below the name tablet, to the right of the lion, is an oak spray with acorns. The name does not include the rank since there was to be no distinction between sacrifices made by different individuals.

Two dolphins swim around Britannia, symbolizing Britain's sea power, and at the bottom a second lion is tearing apart the German eagle. The reverse is blank, making it a plaquette rather than a table medal. Around the picture the legend reads (in capitals) "He died for freedom and honour", or for the six hundred plaques issued to commemorate women, "She died for freedom and honour".

They were initially made at the Memorial Plaque Factory, 54/56 Church Road, [Acton](#), W3, London from 1919.

The plaques were issued in a pack with a commemorative scroll from [King George V](#); though sometimes the letter and scroll were sent first.

An extract from *Wikipedia*

*Shepparton Advertiser* June 15 1922

### Personal

Mr. Walter Foster of Merrigum, is bound for America, being on board the Ventura, which sailed from Sydney yesterday. He is accompanied by his wife. The object of his trip is to make exhaustive inquiries in regard to the canning of fruit. Mr. Foster is a member of the well known firm of Joseph Foster and Sons, who have large orchards at Shepparton, Ardmona and Merrigum. Mr. Foster represented the growers on the Federal Fruit Pool, which terminated its existence on Saturday last.

Mr W. H. Walker, who was appointed to the Shepparton State School some time ago as first male assistant teacher, has now arrived from Bendigo, and taken up his duties. He is a leading tennis player.

Mr. U. W. B. Robinson died at Kyneton on Monday, aged about 82 years. He was a native of Boston, Lincolnshire (England), and was one of the early residents of Shepparton, having come here in the service of the late Mr. John Furphy. Mr. Robinson left Shepparton a little over a year ago, and an account of his life's experiences, written by himself, was published in serial form in these columns. His second wife died several months ago, and he leaves a family of 11 sons and one daughter.

### Attorney General's Dep't Response to Submission

*The Attorney-General's Department is undertaking a review of the official marriage forms under the Marriage Act 1961 and Marriage Regulations 2017. As part of this review, the department invited feedback on possible changes to the Notice of Intended Marriage (NOIM) form. The period for providing comments closed on 28 October 2018.*

*Thank you for your feedback.*

*The department is considering feedback received, and undertaking further consultation with stakeholders including the Australian Bureau of Statistics, National Archives of Australia, state and territory agencies including registries of births, deaths and marriages, celebrants associations and other interested groups.*

*An appropriate transitional period will be provided for any changes made to the official marriage forms following the completion of the review in early 2019.*

*The department will continue to update the website at [www.ag.gov.au/marriageforms](http://www.ag.gov.au/marriageforms) on the progress of the review.*

*Regards: Marriage Law and Celebrants Section  
Australian Government Attorney-General's Department.*

## Web Sites of Interest

### AUSTRALIAN CEMETERIES

<http://www.australiancemeteries.com/>

This website contains the largest collection of Australian cemeteries together on a single site. Firstly divided into state, then alphabetically each cemetery advises if it has Online data, a Look-up, transcripts, and has headstone photos.

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### RYERSON INDEX – <http://www.ryersonindex.org>

The Ryerson Index is a website which has indexed over 2,800,000 death, funeral, probate and obituary notices from Australian newspapers. The Ryerson Index now has almost 5.5 million entries online.

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### THE SHIPS LIST – <http://www.theshipslist.com>

The Ships List website will help you find your ancestors on ships' passenger lists. They also have immigration reports, newspaper records, shipwreck

information, ship pictures, ship descriptions, shipping-line fleet lists and more.

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### LOST COUSINS [info@lostcousins.com](mailto:info@lostcousins.com)

“Lost Cousins” finds living relatives, people who share your ancestors, and can help you discover more about your family tree.

The best genealogy newsletter - and it's FREE!

Find living relatives and discover more

Your information stays hidden

Enter the relatives on your family tree who were recorded in selected US, Canadian, British, or Irish Censuses - then click the **Search** button.

## \$\$\$\$\$ Membership \$\$\$\$\$

Members please note that 2018/19 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, 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm, 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](http://www.vicnet.net.au/~shepfh) email: [shepfhg@fastmail.fm](mailto:shepfhg@fastmail.fm)

General Meetings \*\* 2.00 pm, third Wednesday in March, June, August and December.\*\*

Research Times Wednesdays 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

First Sunday 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm (For SFHG members research only)

### Shepparton Family History Group

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

### 2017-2018 Office Bearers

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