

# *~Furphy Murmurs~*



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www.vicnet.net.au/~shepfh

*Newsletter No 59*  
*February 2022*



## **SHEPPARTON FAMILY HISTORY GROUP inc**

### **SFHG report**

Due to restrictions imposed by the Covid 19 rules and regulations our bi-annual newsletter has not been published for 2020 and 2021.

With the resumption of almost normal life again and the possibility of more events of interest being held we now hope to be able to publish regular newsletters which include articles of interest to family history members.

### **Annual Meeting**

The annual meeting of the Shepparton Family History Group Inc was held at our Welsford St rooms on Wednesday 18th September 2021.

Our president, Bruce Manson, retired after 19 years of continuous service as president of our group.

We thank Bruce for his many years of dedication to the Shepparton Family History Group. Bruce took over as president at a very stressful and uncertain time for our club and through many meetings and much discussion, was able to secure us our premises and a more certain future.

All other previous office bearers were returned, see (page 8).

Annual subscriptions were kept at \$25 single and \$45 for a couple (plus \$5 joining fee for a new member).



A steady return to normal is envisaged following nearly two years of interruption and restrictions caused by the Coronavirus pandemic. The club rooms will now be open to the public each Wednesday afternoon and Friday morning for research. Sunday afternoon opening will not commence at this stage.

Several of our members deserve a big thank you for the dedication and hours of service they give to the Shepparton Family History Group. To Kerry, Lorraine and Betty, your work in cataloguing, research and all the other work behind the scenes, is very much appreciated.

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## Past Events

### Bruce Manson Retires as SFHG President

After 19 continuous years as President of the Shepparton Family History Group Inc, Bruce has retired to a quieter life without all the work and problems associated with being a senior office bearer.

An afternoon tea was held at our club rooms last November to present Bruce with a Certificate of Recognition and to thank both he and Beverley for the many years of service to the Shepparton Family History Group.



**Bruce and Beverley Manson**

### Do You Remember ?

#### **The official opening of TWILIGHT DRIVE—IN THEATRE**

**Will be a  
GALA OPENING FOR  
LEGACY**

**Tuesday, April 2, 1957**

**At 8 P.M.**

Official opening by President of the Shire of  
Shepparton (Cr. S. A. Phillips, J.P.)

Admission will be £1 per car and full  
proceeds will be devoted to the worthy  
cause of Legacy.

**Location: Goulburn Valley Highway just  
south of Broken River.**

**BE AMONGST THE FIRST TO  
CHRISTEN THIS MODERN  
SHEPPARTON INNOVATION.**

## Membership and Resources

### New Members

Welcome to new members Edna Croxford,  
Kristy Rudd and Lyn Hiskins.

We wish you many rewarding hours researching and  
finding additions to your family history.

### More Research Records

#### **Victorian Government Gazettes**

A number of Victorian Government Gazettes have  
been given to our group by the Shepparton Heritage  
Centre. These complement the existing gazettes we al-  
ready have in our library. We now have copies from  
1871 thru 1995 with only the years 1930, 1931 and 1932  
missing.

Later years may only have the information pertaining to  
the Goulburn Valley but are still very useful for locating  
a families land acquisition, acceptance of government  
tenders etc.

Government Gazettes are available online but as we  
know the scanned information may be faulty or misread  
and a name search may bring up zero results, whereas  
the physical copy will have the correct information al-  
beit requiring a time consuming search.

#### **Telephone Directories**

We have a range of area code 058 directories in our  
library. The years 1965 through 2021 are nearly com-  
plete with only 1966, 72, 75, 76, 81 & 85 missing. Sev-  
eral early phone books for the Shepparton district are  
also available for research namely 1912, 23, 28 & 48.

We would like to locate, for our records, copies of any  
of the missing years as they can be a great reference for  
a family's time in our district.

#### **Electoral Rolls**

Electoral rolls are another valuable resource for family  
history researchers. We have local rolls for the Murray  
electorate for years 1964, 68, 70, 72, 75 & 82, any cop-  
ies apart from these years would be very welcome.

If you have any of the above wanted books, at home  
or find one at a garage sales, etc, our librarian, Kerry,  
would love to obtain them for our ever expanding li-  
brary.

### State Schools of the District

A comprehensive list of State School records available  
in our library can be found on the Shepparton Family  
History Group website:

[www.vicnet.net.au/~shepfh](http://www.vicnet.net.au/~shepfh)

follow the link "List of Holdings" then "School Histo-  
ries and Records".

These records can be accessed for research in our  
rooms or our research officer can arrange for research to  
be carried out (fees apply).

This list is at present being updated. A link to our re-  
sources list will also be included on the Lost Shepparton  
web page.

## SFHG -- OPENING HOURS -- 2022

Every Wednesday 12.30 – 3.30pm

Every Friday 9am – 12 noon

Sundays Closed

All members and visitors are asked to sign the attendance book and to comply with Covid 19 regulations in force at the time.

Research at our rooms is free\* for members.

Visitor research at our rooms is \$15 per hour\*.

\* (photo-copying fee applies).

## Victorian Association of Family History Organisations

**VAFHO** is an umbrella organization of family history and genealogical societies together with State Government instrumentalities. It is a Not for Profit organisation.

The committee has provision for ten members – four city based groups, which must include the Family History Connections (formerly AIGS), Family Search, the Genealogical Society of Victoria and at least one state government instrumentality, plus six additional groups.

### Aims and Purpose

- To promote and encourage the study of genealogy, heraldry, family history and allied subjects throughout Victoria.
- To promote and encourage easier access to public records and record repositories throughout Victoria.
- To promote and encourage the preservation of records for family history research.
- To represent views of family history organisations to Victorian local and State government.
- To organise and co-ordinate the conduct of regular family history events.
- To keep groups informed with topical information.
- To act on feedback to give collective voice on matters of importance.
- To support National Family History Month.

## SFHG Acquisitions

### Microfiche

Western Aust BDM's : Donation Sally Parker

### Books

Vic Government Gazettes: Shepparton Heritage Centre

*Our Leahy Family History*: Philip N.A . Leahy

*C.W.A. Katandra West Branch 1928—2018*:

*The Apple Doesn't Fall Far from the Tree, Praters in Orvale. 100 years in the making*: B. E. Prater

*Thomas Gawne 1824—1911 and his descendants*:  
Jaqueline Cody and Lorraine Lobel

*Letters to Bruce*: Jennette Thompson

*William Cooper An Aboriginal Life Story*: Bain Attwood

## Public Records Office Victoria Rules for opening records

### Are records open to the public once transferred to PROV?

All records transferred to the custody of PROV are on open access to the public unless they are specifically closed under a section of the Public Records Act 1973.

There must be a justifiable reason to restrict or close access to records.

Acknowledgement that records are to be on open access is provided by the head (or their delegate) of the Victorian government agency responsible for the records.

Access arrangements are negotiated between the agency responsible for the records and PROV. The access status should be assessed and agreed to as soon as possible in the transfer process as it may determine how the records are processed.

### When are records closed to public access?

Closure of records is a formal process that requires Ministerial approval. Records may be closed under the following sections of the Public Records Act 1973:

#### Section 9 Closure

This section allows for the closure of 'personal or private' records to prevent the violation of personal privacy. It covers such material as personnel records, medical records, police and prison records and case records concerning students, welfare recipients, children in government care or compensation claimants.

See [PROS 11/10 FS1 Closure of Public Records Under Sec 9 Fact Sheet](#) for further information.

A Google search for *PROV Accessing Open and Closed Records* will return several links to pages giving detailed descriptions of dealing with public records.

*Extract from PROV website*



**Sorry the Archives are Closed Today**



First pour one quart of boiling water into a basin, add a piece of common washing soda about the size of a marble, place a towel over the head so that it will cover the basin. Inhale for about 10 minutes, then rub the face and neck till dry. Next apply Featherstone's Pneumonia Ointment to the forehead, nose, face and neck. A little should be put inside the nostril. This will also stop the bleeding of the nose. Take a dose of castor oil or a strong aperient if necessary.

If there is any reaching or gastric trouble use Featherstone's Gastric Powders. Stay in bed. Have hot compress towels which have been immersed in water containing washing soda, similar in quantity to above, placed first on the stomach, then upwards to the neck. About three towels will do. The same should be repeated on the back and a good amount of the Pneumonia Ointment rubbed in. Grease proof or oil paper should then be placed on top of the ointment to prevent the clothing from absorbing the ointment. The same applies to the chest as well. Featherstone's Dysentery Drops should be taken if the heart is weak as they stimulate and accelerate the heart. Then Featherstone's Blood Mixture should be taken according to directions to assist the blood circulation and to throw off all poison. Pneumonia is a blood poison.

### **Influenza Again**

State school teachers in Victoria have been warned to see that no "flu" contacts come to school, and each morning a "contact muster" is held, and the kiddies from infected homes are sent back to them. The comb-out has come to be speedy, and assertions of the children made at a "hands up contact" rally in each classroom are accepted.

The teacher in one classroom suspicious of a bright lad, who had said his mother "had it pretty bad," made an independent enquiry by letter. The father, a returned Digger, replied as follows:- "If more ladies were suffering from his mother's complaint there would be a better chance for a White Australia. Mother's influenza is a girl."

### **MOOROOPNA HOSPITAL**

#### **{ To the Editor }**

Sir, - I desire through the column of your paper to appeal to the residents of the district in which your journal circulates, for the purpose of asking them to hand their annual subscription either to the local committee or send direct to the hospital. The usual functions organised about this time each year in the various centres to raise funds have been abandoned on account of the influenza visitation. This will mean a loss of many hundreds of pounds just when the epidemic for the year is estimated to reach £6520: of this amount £5820 has already been paid out. Our financial year ends on 30th June next, and we desire that all subscriptions should be handed in before that date. Help now and help at once by forwarding your annual contribution. Thanking you for your assistance.—Yours, etc..

W. F. Maher. Secretary.



## **COMBATING INFLUENZA**

### **New Organisation Formed**

#### **ADVICE TO SUFFERERS**

#### **DUTY OF HOUSEHOLDERS**

With the advent of the second wave of the influenza epidemic, the Victorian Government has renewed the efforts which proved so successful in mitigating the effects of the first visitation. Guided by experience gained early in the year, the authorities have provided a special organization to take charge of the various activities connected with checking the outbreak. At the head is Mr. John McWhae, M.L.C., who in the absence of Mr. Bower through ill health, is acting as Minister for Public Health. He has called to his assistance a number of experts who have each been given a certain section of the organization to control. By this scheme the Government hopes to secure a general staff which will effectively cope with all the difficulties that arise during the present or future outbreaks.

The personnel of the Emergency Organization is as follows:- Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Robertson; Hon. Advisers, General Williams and Mr. E. G. Dyason; Secretary, Mr. D. Barry; Medical Controller, Dr. W. S. Newton; Controller of Equipment and Supplies, Mr. J. Love; Controller of Publicity, Mr. A. S. Whyte; Controller of Transport, Dr. R. E. Weigall; Controller of Nursing, Miss L. Jones; Supervisor of Voluntary and Municipal Aid, Cr. M. Balfe; Controller of Finance, Cr. E. Ward.

This organisation has already taken steps to increase the facilities for dealing with the present outbreak, and plans are now being laid to cope with any future visitation of greater magnitude.

Already a small pamphlet has been issued by the Health Department dealing with signs of the disease, how the patient should be treated, and precautions to be taken to avoid infection. The following extracts may prove interesting.

#### **Signs of Disease**

The disease must be deemed as probably present in every case of fever with headache and pains in the back and limbs. There is usually more or less prostration, frequently with signs of catarrh, and sometimes vomiting, diarrhoea, bleeding at the nose, &c, indicate serious complications.

In every case the patient should be placed in bed and a medical practitioner summoned as speedily as possible.

#### **Isolation**

By far the most important measure is the isolation of the sick. If the patient is not removed, he or she should be kept in bed in a well-lighted, well-ventilated room. No visitors should be permitted.

Only one person in charge of the patient at any time should enter the room, and such person should take all possible precautions. The usual rules should be observed to prevent the disease being carried to others by drinking vessels, spoons, towels, &c, after use in the sick room. Cases with complications should be kept separate from simple cases.

#### **Prevention.**

Crowds of all kinds should be avoided in streets, trams, trains, and indoor gatherings. The disease is largely spread by patients with mild attacks, convalescents, and "carriers" coughing without restraint, so that fine particles are shot into the air. All coughing should be smothered by handkerchief or rag, which should afterwards be boiled or burnt.

Gargles, sprays and inhalations are decidedly useful. A good simple gargle is made with a flat teaspoon of boracic acid, one of common salt and one of bicarbonate of soda, dissolved in a quart of warm water. It should be used before leaving home and on returning. It may be served as a douche for the nostrils. Inoculation with the special vaccine, according to experience in South Africa, probably lessens the liability of the attack, and in more decided degree protects from complications.

Masks covering the mouth and nose, properly made and properly applied, give considerable degree of protection. They should be frequently renewed, and sterilised by boiling. Those of the simplest, effective make are best. They should be used by all those brought into contact with patients. There is no need for any panic. Fear is cowardly and very injurious. Cheerfulness increases resistance and prevents complications.

#### **Duty of Citizens**

With a view to successfully combating all visitation the government has, on the advice of the medical officer, issued a series of regulations.

These provide that the occupier of every home wherein any person suffering from influenza, shall report the occurrence in writing to the Town Clerk or Shire Clerk in the Municipal District in which the house is and give the name, age and sex of the patient. The medical officer has also to make a similar report.

### Isolation of Patient

Every patient is to be isolated at his or her residence, or if such residence is unsuitable in the opinion of the Officer of Health, at any special place provided for the purpose and every patient treated elsewhere than a public hospital shall be kept in isolation until the Officer of Health gives consent to his release. It is provided that every contact shall submit to such treatment of preventative measures (which may include isolation) as the Officer of Health specifies and for such period as he directs. No person other than the nurse or necessary attendant shall visit any patient in any private house except under the conditions specified under the conditions specified by the Officer of Health.

### Penalty for Neglect

It is provided that any person who fails to comply with the regulations or is guilty of any neglect or disobedience of them is liable to a penalty not exceeding £20 and to a penalty not exceeding £5 nor less than £1 for each day during which the offence is continued, beside any cost or expense which may be incurred in remedying his default.

Footnote:

The “influenza” referred to in the newspaper articles is now referred to as the “Spanish Flu” or the “1918 influenza pandemic”. World wide death estimates varied from seventeen to one hundred million people with possibly 500 million being infected.

### Medical Terms Mayhem

Artery .....The study of painting  
Cat Scan .....Searching for kitty  
Colic .....A sheep dog  
Dilate .....To live longer  
Nitrate .....Dearer than day rate  
Prostate .....Flat on your back  
Recovery Room .....Place to do upholstery  
Varicose .....Nearby  
Vein .....Conceited

### Victorian BDM Historical Records

Did you know that when searching online at “Victorian BDM” you can access:-

- Births: 1853 to 100 yrs before today’s date
- Marriages: 1853 to 60 years before today’s date
- Deaths: 1853 to 30 years before today’s date
- Early Church Records: Baptisms, Marriages & Burials: 1836 to 1853

### STOP PRESS

The Victorian Government has increased the fee for a legal certificate in the BDM fees regulations.

The fee for a legal certificate has increased from \$34.30 to \$51.40.

This fee is for a legal birth, death or marriage certificate.

Uncertified certificates are still \$20.

### Marungi War Memorial Centenary

November 20 2021 marked 100 years since the opening of a War Memorial in the small village of Marungi, 20 km North of Shepparton.



Marungi Memorial Opening 1921

During the First World War a number of men from the Marungi district enlisted and then served their country in some of the deadliest battles fought by Australian soldiers.

Ten local young men paid the supreme sacrifice in the ensuing years. This was a huge proportion of the district’s population and the community banded together to ensure that an appropriate memorial would be constructed. For a village consisting basically of a school, a church and several dwellings, this was a huge achievement.

The names listed on the memorial are:

**Alexander C.H., Dale F., Dixon V.S., Fowles E.H., Fowles G.A., Grant D.A., Green H., Groves L., McCrabb L.J., Sullivan C.F..**

Today a Lone Pine Tree is growing beside the monument in recognition of the many lives lost.

## Shepparton's Heritage Cottage

### OUR PAST COMES TO LIFE

Shepparton's Heritage Cottage was officially opened last week\* as part of the Australia Day celebrations.

The cottage, designed by members of the Shepparton Historical Society and Family History Group, was opened on Thursday by former Shepparton mayor Mr. Bruce McNeill.

The cottage on the corner of High and Welsford Sts, offers valuable information about the district's history and will provide research and meeting facilities for history groups.

The site on which the heritage centre has been built holds a lot of local history.

Just west of the cottage is where the town of Shepparton began 145 years ago.

The town's first Post Office was built on the same corner in 1854 and it was at times occupied by Patrick MacGuire who established the punt.

The cottage design, construction and decoration has been based upon a photograph of the old Post Office taken in 1968.

People are invited to visit the cottage on Sundays between 1 pm and 4 pm.

\* Extract from the *Shepparton News* January 30 1995



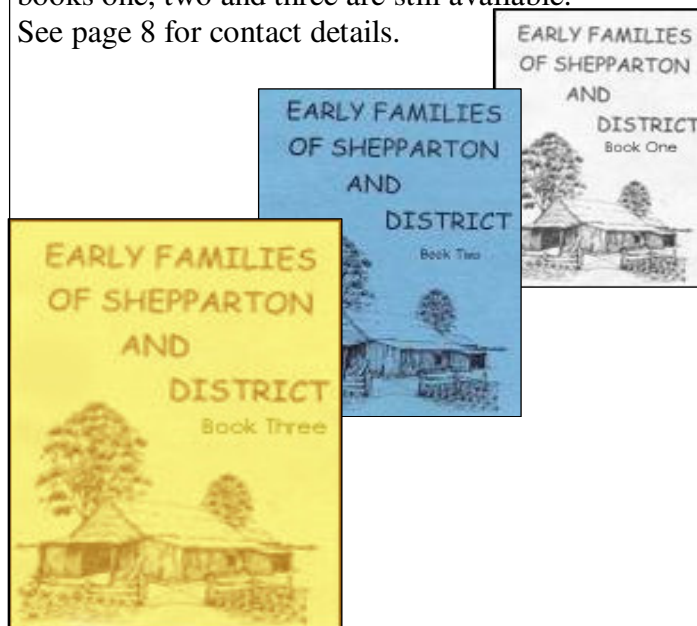
*Shepparton News* Aug 30 1907

### A HOUSE MOVING UP THE STREET

Great interest was taken on Tuesday and Wednesday in the removal of a cottage in Wyndham street, belonging to Messrs Rowe and Co. The place is 30ft x 30ft, and the work of removing it to a site on the eastern side of the railway line was let to Mr A. B. Mason. A gang of men under the guidance of Messrs W. Pryde and W. Wilson, raised the four roomed tenement off the ground and placed it on wheels. Mr. Mason's traction engine backed in about 4 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon and hitching on, hauled the house over the Wyndham street gutter and gradually dragged it up Wyndham and High streets to its destination. A few hundred people looked on and offered gratuitous advice during the progress of the work. The building occupied almost the full width of the streets during its passage and was followed by an interested crowd, attracted by the novel spectacle. The building itself is an ancient landmark, as it was erected by the late Mr A. F. Rowe in the seventies, and was occupied by the first auctioneer in Shepparton, Mr W. H. Oram. Later it was used as banking premises by the National Bank.

Owing to the progress of the town the owners found it necessary to remove the place to make room for a more up to date building on the site.

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



## Web Sites of Interest

### **Tech Boomers**    [www.Techboomers.com](http://www.Techboomers.com)

This is a free educational website that teaches older adults with limited computer skills how to use the most popular and trusted websites on the internet.

Amongst the myriad of helpful web sites is one dedicated to Family History Research.

Google search for:

tech boomers best family history research

### **Cyndi's List**    [www.cyndislist.com](http://www.cyndislist.com)

Even after 25 years, Cyndi's List is still an important list of world wide websites extremely helpful to the novice and experienced family history researcher.

Australian sites can be found by scrolling through the list of countries in the Categories tab.

### **14 Genealogy Tips**

*Lisalisson.com/best-genealogy-tips*

14 Basic hints for researching your family history are provided without having to go as far as committing to a paid subscription.

### **State Library of Victoria**

*<https://guides.slvvic.gov.au/victorianancestors/bdm>*

Indexes to births, deaths and marriages

Certificates are kept by the Registries of Births, Deaths and Marriages in each Australian state and territory.

The *Family History Reading Room* provides access to all published Australian civil registration indexes.

This page gives a detailed list of state and territory indexes plus links to further information on obtaining certificates.

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

Members please note that 2021-22 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: 15 646 4856



## **Don't Forget**

The members only research days are still in recess until further notice.

For members with some spare time there is a working bee at the clubrooms on the third Monday of each month from 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm.

## **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/~shepjh](http://www.vicnet.net.au/~shepjh)    email: [shepfhg@fastmail.fm](mailto:shepfhg@fastmail.fm)

General Meetings:    Third Wednesday in March, June, September (annual) & December    \*\* 2.00 pm \*\*

Research Times:    Every Wednesday    12.30 pm to 3.30 pm.

Every Friday                    9.00 am to 12.00 pm

### **Shepparton Family History Group**

- (President) Temporarily unfilled
- Peter Matthews                    (Secretary)
- Kerry Betts                        (Treasurer)

### **2017-2018 Office Bearers**

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