



KITH 'N' KIN

The Newsletter
of

The West Gippsland Genealogical Society Inc

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BRUCE'S BRIEFING

Welcome to another year with our Society. I hope you all enjoyed your Christmas break. To start the year we now have a third computer operational in our Library; our thanks to those who donated the equipment and also those who installed it ready for use.

Work is well underway towards completing our next editions of Pioneers and Early Settlers of our district. We hope to have these books printed by approximately the middle of the year.

This coming year should place our Society on a very solid financial footing; which will enable us to provide further resources and equipment to meet a growing interest in the records we are now able to source. I feel the time ahead will be both exciting and challenging for me and our Committee members.

If any members have ideas for subjects or guest speakers that they would like for our meetings this year, please contact myself or Joy.

Those members who have recently visited the Library may have noticed that the kitchen area is currently undergoing renovations. I have been in contact with the Shire with regard to this refurbishment and it should cause minimal inconvenience to us.

I hope you all enjoy the friendship of our Society and its resources during the year ahead and wish you good luck with your research.

Bruce Johns

President

AGM

Thursday 26th May 2005

8 pm

Old Shire Council Offices

Queen Street Warragul

**All positions will become
vacant.**

**If you would like to be elected
to the committee**

Please contact

Joy Watts on 5625 2743

BUSINESS ARISING.....

Successful Grant Applications

In the second half of last year the Book Committee spent time discussing the available grants from various government departments.

26 July was the due date for submissions to Baw Baw Shire Council for their Community Assistance Grants, so we completed an application form. We had received a Grant from them for the last book and didn't know if we would get any more money. I also wrote letters to each of the Councillors telling them about our project.

16 August was the closing date for applications for the Local History Grants Program from the State Government, Department for Victorian Communities. A submission form was completed and we received letters of recommendation from Ian Maxfield and the GSV President.

Then it was a case of waiting to see if we were successful.

In early December we received an invitation from Baw Baw Shire Council to the presentation of the Community Assistance Grants on December 7 - they were giving us \$3,200. Heather Bullen, Faye Vandyk and I attended the presentation.



Mayor of Baw Baw Shire, Ruth McDonald, with Book Committee Member Barbara Clayton at the Community Assistance Grants Presentation

We also received an invitation to the function at the Public Record Office on December 10, when the Local History Grants would be announced. Our application had been "shortlisted". What did that

mean? I was told they would not invite us from regional Victoria without sending us home with "something". How much? Time would tell! Bruce



John Thwaites, Minister for Victorian Communities, with Book Committee Member Barbara Clayton and WGGGS Inc. President Bruce Johns

Johns, June Harvey, Faye Vandyk and I attended this function, with people from all over Victoria. We were fortunate to receive \$5,000 from the State Government.

\$8,200 added to our funds for printing the books in one week! It will certainly help and we are most thankful to Baw Baw Shire and the State Government for these Grants, which will assist us in recording the lives of the early settlers of our district.

Barbara Clayton, Book Committee Member

Important Notice to West Gippsland Genealogical Society Inc. Pioneers & Settlers Book submitters.

To ensure the best possible printed quality of your submitted photos for the books we are working on, we would appreciate being able to scan the **ORIGINAL** photos, if they are available.

A committee member will be at the WGGGS library, Old Shire Hall, Warragul on 23rd February 10am-2pm and 24th February from 10am-4pm & 5pm-7.30pm to scan your photos.

Any queries phone (03) 5633 2370.

Faye Vandyk

Book Committee Member

Reunions

100 YEARS CELEBRATION

SISTERS OF OUR LADY OF SION WARRAGUL

A committee has been set up to organise a celebration in October 2005 to mark 100 years since the Sisters of Our Lady of Sion came to Warragul.

To suitably acknowledge the Sisters' contribution to education in South and West Gippsland we are attempting to compile a register of past pupils from both the Convent and St Joseph's Primary School Warragul. We hope the register will include men who were also taught by the Sisters at St Joseph's.

If you are a past pupil of the Sisters could you please forward your details i.e. Name (including maiden name), address and email address to

Susan Collis PO Box 322 WARRAGUL 3820

OR Email to: scollis@ceo.sale.catholic.edu.au

DROUIN SOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL'S 125th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Westernport Road, Drouin South

SATURDAY, 19th MARCH 11.00a.m - 2.00p.m



Official welcome 12.30p.m.

Past & Present Students, Parents and Teachers most welcome.

Sausage Sizzle available.

For further information contact:

Principal - Judy Ingamells Ph. 5627 6286

email – ingamells.judy.l@edumail.vic.gov.au

Bunyip Primary School 125th Anniversary

On Sunday 20th March, 2005 Bunyip Primary School will be celebrating its 125th Anniversary. To mark this occasion a series of activities and displays will take place on this day. The day will commence at 11.00 am; lunch 12.30 pm; official part of the day 2.30 pm and photographs at 3.00 pm. All past and present people associated with the school are invited to attend. Please spread the word. A small history of the school will be available.

In addition, we are constructing an outdoor teaching area to celebrate our 125th. This area will be paved with engraved pavers. For \$25.00 you can have your name (or your family's name) engraved on one of these pavers. If anyone associated with Bunyip Primary School would like to purchase a commemorative paver please contact the school on (03) 56 295462.



GSV Move Update

The GSV reopened on 8th February 10.00 am at their new premises at Level B1 257 Collins Street, which is between Swanston and Elizabeth Streets on the south side (*Melway* 2F E5). The building has a second entrance from 250 Flinders Lane, use the lifts at the Collins Street end of the arcade. The new premises are accessible by public transport and there are several car parks nearby.

Entry to the building on Sundays is from 250 Flinders Lane. Press the video intercom button and show your membership card. Walk to the Collins Street end of the arcade to the bank of lifts.

Information supplied by:

Lesle Berry

Welcome To

New Members

412 Dawn Gough

413 Ron Coster

Samuel Johnson

This article is the transcript of a talk given by member Geoff Leunig, one of several members who spoke about their convict ancestors at our October meeting.

Two months before the Bankside Riot in Oldham, Lancashire, and as a result of a confrontation on the Saturday evening of the 22nd February 1834, several persons were apprehended and brought before the magistrate at the Oldham Petty Sessions. (Oldham was a mill town just to the west of Manchester and is now part of Greater Manchester).

Four of those people before the court were Samuel Johnson and Stanley, Samuel and Sarah Jackson. They were charged with assaulting Richard Scott while he was returning from his workplace at Mr Richard Thompson's Bankside Mill in Cotton Street, Oldham.

Since the previous Christmas Mr Thompson had been in dispute with his operators, as a result of which they had refused to work, or perhaps they were locked out, but, as in most industrial disputes, the truth will never be known. Thompson had employed new hands from surrounding towns to keep his mill operational, and, as can be expected, the new hands, or as they were derisively known, knobsticks, were continually exposed to insults, and sometimes assault. As a result, many of them slept and ate on the premises. Richard Scott was one of the knobsticks.

In the court it was alleged that Samuel Johnson had thrown a stone and Sarah Jackson had sworn to writhe Scott's heart out if he struck her mother. It seems that the two Jackson brothers had shattered Scott's coat, and that there had been up to 200 people present.

The magistrate, Rev. James Horden, brought down a verdict of guilty and all the accused were instructed to provide a bail of ten pounds and surety of twenty pounds each to keep the peace for three months.

The magistrate also heard other charges from

the same disturbance where other knobsticks were injured and windows broken in the mill.

This is the first official record, other than his baptism, of my great- great grandfather, Samuel Johnson, who was 17 at the time.

This was a time of unrest when mill-workers were starting to stand up for their rights. In fact in Oldham, two weeks before the Bankside Riot, on Good Friday, March 27 1834, there had been a meeting in Oldham to petition the King for the pardoning of the six Dorchester farmers who became known as the Tolpuddle martyrs, convicted and sentenced to transportation for attending a Trade Union meeting.



On Monday 14 April, a Trade Union meeting was being held at the King William IV pub in Oldham. Three police were despatched to break it up

and arrested some of the union men. The news spread quickly to the surrounding towns, and crowds flocked to Oldham to protest at the arrest, which they knew would result in certain transportation.

On the following day, Tuesday 15 April, at 8 o'clock in the morning, a large crowd, including many mill workers, gathered outside the police office. The offenders were brought out at 8.30, to be taken on foot to the courthouse. The crowd gathered around and with each step grew in number and in voice, hissing and yelling threats at the constables.

The route took them down Manchester Street, where the crowd was very dense. The Bankside Mill abutted Manchester Street, and when the constables were at about the gates of the mill some of the women forcibly pushed against them and this was all the crowd needed. They attacked the officers and freed the prisoners.

The crowd then directed their fury towards the Bankside Mill. There were, by this stage, several thousand people involved, with more workers leaving their spinning at the 62 mills which were in Oldham at the time. It is not known at what stage Samuel Johnson joined the riot, but the crowd spied knobsticks at the window of the mill and

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began to throw stones and brickbats at them, breaking windows. There were houses in the mill yard, and they were stormed and the front doors of the mill forcibly dashed open by a boulder.

By 10 o'clock, three of the five houses on the premises were completely wrecked. Sam and Thomas Wallwork entered the cottage occupied by Edward Scott by breaking down the door. The three occupants had retreated to the kitchen, and when Sam found Edward's brother, John, he snatched his cap off, whereupon John grabbed him by the chest and pushed him away. Sam picked up a brickbat and knocked Scott over, and Thomas Wallwork kicked him while he was down. Sam and Tom then began to break the furniture and threw clothes out the door and into the fire. They broke open a chest in the front room and threw some of the contents on the fire as well, while the rest went out the door to be snatched by the crowd. Tom and Sam then grabbed Scott and dragged him out into the street, presumably encouraging the out-of-town knobstick to go back where he came from.

Johnson and Wallwork tried to enter the factory yard but were driven back by Mr Burton, the Lodge Keeper, who was brandishing a pistol. Sam picked up stones and hurled them at Burton. None of them hit the mark, but it was enough to drive Mr Burton back into his lodge.

The crowd had filled the mill yard, and now some of the knobsticks started to fire blank cartridges from blunderbusses which had been provided by the mill-owner, Dicky Thompson, for use in such a contingency. However, first one loaded their weapon with powder and ball, and others followed. James Bentley, known as Shatty, was gazing over the wall and was shot in the left breast, the ball entering near the heart. He staggered backwards, looked extremely pallid, and fell upon a shoe scraper at a cottage door where he died in the arms of those around him. Shatty was just 22 and his widow and two young children were part of the crowd.

This incensed the crowd to further ransacking of cottages known to be occupied by knobsticks, their pillaging accompanied by continued firing in the mill yard. Many of the knobsticks were injured, as were mill management. At about 10 o'clock, the Managers sent word to the crowd to cease, as

enough damage had been done to satisfy them, but this entreaty was met with laughter and further stoning of the mill, 150 windows being broken. The factory was entered and the machines and looms broken up and hurled through the windows into the street. Burnable items were gathered together and set alight. Samuel Johnson was alleged to have been involved in this, but no evidence was produced at his trial. The rioters also attacked the house of Dicky Thompson, the owner of the mill, causing complete devastation and finding the cellar indulged in what they found, drinking out of Dicky Thompson's shoes. About midday the invaders, steeped in liquor and satisfied with their excesses, terminated their destruction.

Out of the thousands of rioters, six men were arrested over the next few days, Sam being one of them. They were tried at the Lancaster assizes and four were subsequently sentenced to death. Sam's sentence was later commuted to transportation for the term of his natural life. He spent some time in the notorious prison hulks in the Medway River, just near Rochester, before sailing at His Majesty's pleasure to Sydney aboard the *Lady Nugent* in 1837. He worked for some time on the chain gangs in Sydney, then was assigned to the *MacLeods* in Queanbeyan. The *MacLeods*, along with 33 assigned men, travelled over the trackless ranges and founded Bairnsdale, Sam being one those assigned men. He also worked for some time for Tyers, the commissioner for this area of the colony. Through his employment he would have known everyone in the sparsely populated Gippsland of the 1840s, a true pioneer, albeit a bonded one. He received his conditional pardon in 1854 and married soon after at the Roseneath run, just near Meerlieu, east of Stratford. He and his wife started their family at Lindenow, then moved to Stratford where Sam conducted a carrier's business between Port Albert and Omeo. He died at the age of 54, leaving nine children, and is buried in the Stratford cemetery. Two years ago his descendants marked his grave with a headstone for the first time.

My talk has been taken from the writings of my third cousin once removed, Ross Johnson, of Adelaide, who will publish a book on Sam's life and times at the end of next month. He writes descriptively in a style which engages the reader in a learning experience which is painless. It is a book which will become a reference text for all those who need to learn about the troubles of the Industrial Revolution, and my great-great grandfather, Samuel Johnson, is the centrepiece.

The Hide Story: Born on the High Seas

Member Leonie Freeman's winning entry in the Janet Reakes' Memorial Award Competition for 2004



Leonie Freeman with President Bruce Johns

My Paternal Grandfather was very proud of his ancestry and common to many genealogists' family stories would relate how important his forebears had been, concluding with the statement, "My Family is related to the Duke of Bedford".

I was fascinated by this and as a young mother set out to discover my heritage. Living in the Western District isolated from Melbourne repositories, and prior to the advent of computers, letter writing was the only way to discovery. Thus began, what was to prove a painstakingly slow and ongoing adventure into my Grandfather's and thus my own genealogy.

After reading every Genealogy book available and joining the Genealogical Society of Victoria, I began!

I wrote to elderly relatives and applied for my first marriage certificate - my grandfather's parents' marriage. How impatiently I waited for that first mail to arrive!

William George Henry Hide married Catherine Mary Rowe on 21st of July, 1890, at the Registrar's office, Carlton. His parents' names were William George Davey Hide, a clerk, and Ann Hide nee Boulton. William had been born in Collingwood, Victoria. I sent for his birth certificate to find he had been born on April 7th, 1858 in Derby Street, Collingwood, the son of William George Davey Hide, Agent, 30 years, born Rio De Janeiro, South America and Annie Hide nee Bullen, 20 years, born Cork, Ireland. They had been married in Melbourne and had one other child Martha Mariane Le Lacheur Hide.

My first error - so often discovered on birth, death and marriage certificates - Bullen not Boulton - accents or careless registrars often result in mistakes.

A marriage certificate was applied for and arrived, the

details of which were to create problems for many years to come!

William Hide, 28, bachelor, **Born on the High Seas**, Sergeant in the Mounted Police. Residence Wood End, 5 Mile Creek. His parents were William Hide, Sea Captain, and Mary Ann Hide nee Le Lacheur. His wife's name was Ann Maria Bullen, 18, born Buttevant, County Cork, Ireland, daughter of William Bullen, Gentleman, and Martha Bullen nee Bullen, (later I was to discover they were first cousins). William G. D. Hide and Annie Bullen had been married at St. Mark's Church of England, Collingwood in 1855.

Where does one go from here? "Born on the High Seas" probably near Rio? With GSV guidance, I tried Lloyd's Shipping Records at the State Library and located Captain William on the ship "Wave". Correspondence with London and Canadian Maritime organisations was unsuccessful. Captain William had been at sea too early for records of training. I still had no way of knowing from whence he came.

Disappointed, I turned my attention to other family lines and developed research skills along the way. I filled in all lines, including my husband's, back to England, Scotland and Ireland. I found one convict lad convicted at Salisbury, at the age of 13, for stealing a piece of cheese, who arrived in Sydney in 1832. The majority of our forebears had departed Great Britain's shores in search of the illusion of wealth, via gold, arriving circa 1853. Only two lines had come prior to the 1850s.

It was to be years before I was to return to the Hide investigation and then it was from an amazing coincidence. How often do we find fate seems to take a part in our research discoveries!

I had failed to obtain other family Birth, Death and Marriage certificates which would have thrown light on William G. D. Hide's nationality. Finally, having discovered the family graves in Melbourne General Cemetery via the Bullen line, I wrote for W.G.D's death certificate and found he had spent 3 years in Tasmania prior to coming to Victoria.

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Sibling certificates revealed further data on the family and on the birth certificate of the first daughter, Martha Marianne Le Lacheur, William states he was born

“at sea on Board the Barque Wave on her passage from Guernsey to Van Diemens Land.”

If only I had purchased all certificates at the beginning!

I wrote to the State Archivist at the Tasmanian Archives; to my surprise he wrote back stating that a Guernsey Researcher had written inquiring about my forebears and the barque “Wave” which Captain Hide had sailed to Hobart.

He put me in touch with this gentleman and from then on the discoveries were amazing.

Grandfather’s ancestors were an important Guernsey family, but the only thing my Grandfather and the current Duke of Bedford seemed to have in common was their large roman noses!

The closest we get to a Bedford is the Reverend Dr. William Bedford of Hobart, Tasmania, who christened George Davey Hide in the Parish of Hobart Town on 13 February 1829. (This date is incorrect as the Hides had left Hobart on their return journey to Guernsey at the end of January). William had been christened as George Davey in Hobart but was rechristened on his return to Guernsey as William George Davey.

I hired an English Researcher to check the London Public Record Office for Registers of Seamen and Certificates of Masters and Mates. This investigation discovered two sailor brothers of W. G. D. Hide - Wallace Parsons Hide and Walter Truss Hide and also revealed Captain William sailed the “Lord of the Isles” on regular voyages between London and Jersey, during 1831 and 1832.

Shipping records show the “Wave” arriving in Hobart on November 1st 1828, from London and Guernsey, via Rio de Janeiro and the Cape of Good Hope. The cargo reads like a haberdashery or hardware store, along with 50 sheep for Captain Hide.

The “Wave” then headed for Sydney arriving in Port Jackson on 2nd December 1828. Included on his arrival certificate the Captain remarked:-

“The Manlius Prison Ship from London 20 July had arrived at Hobart town.”

The Barque sailed from Sydney with a detachment of the 63rd brigade for embarkation at Hobart, January 11th 1829. She then departed for Guernsey via Timor, Valparaiso, Rio and Barbados on 30th January 1829 with the remaining cargo and carrying the Surgeon Superintendent of the “Manlius.”

Prior to leaving England, Captain Hide had applied for land from the English Government.

“To Robert Hay Esq.

Sir,

Being about to proceed to New South Wales with the intention of eventually establishing myself as an Agriculturalist and Breeder of Sheep. I have to request you will be pleased to submit to the Right Honourable the Secretary of the Colonies my respectful request that the usual allotment of Land may be granted to me on the regulated conditions.

I beg leave to refer to the firm of Buckles, Bagster and Buchanan for information relative to my possessing the required amount of Property.

I am Sir

Your very obedient Subject

William Hide”

The Captain’s Land Grant was for 2,560 acres, however the application was cancelled the day before he returned to Europe. William had brought out sheep to begin his flock and it appears he kept some business interests in Tasmania. Certainly he had dealings with Charles McLachlan the Tasmanian banker, however he did not return to Tasmania. Perhaps the call of his beautiful home “La Porte” in Kings Mills, Guernsey, kept him from returning, as he retired from the sea to become a politician.

An interesting article in a Guernsey paper tells of a dispute the Captain had with his Rector on the amount of tithe to be paid for his property’s “*exquisite productions*”. An arbitrator in the usual manner in which problems were solved in the Channel Islands was called in and he stated:-

“ I decline becoming umpire between you. How do you think it possible that I should bring either of you to his right senses respecting this difference, when I find that the most obdurate of you sinners has gone round the world but not yet learned common sense, and that the haughtiest makes yearly the round of the sacred book, and is yet to discover either humility or forbearance?”

This newspaper also mentions the Captain's expert plans for a new harbour at St Peter Port, Guernsey. The old harbour was inadequate for the amount of shipping in the 1840s and after several schemes the new harbour was begun in 1853.

His wife Mariane Le Lacheur died 25th June 1841 and Captain Hide died August 25th 1841. The last four children, possibly because of the dispute, were not christened and the guardians immediately ensured all were accepted into the Church on September 1st 1841.

Captain William's sister Amelia Hide, married to Henry Priaulx, also came out to Tasmania and had eight children before passing away in Hobart. Her husband Henry held land at Ravenswood, Launceston. He was to become the Assistant Commissariat General in Hobart.

William George Davey Hide came back to Tasmania after he was released by his guardians on reaching maturity. No record has been found of his activities, however by 1853 he was in Victoria, possibly due to the gold rush. Records show he worked as a Mounted Policeman, was the Woodend Station Master when the first train went through to Castlemaine, was a clerk and a commission agent.

Letters to the Chief Commissioner's Office of Police filled in details of William's height and features. Further investigations indicated he was based at Richmond Barracks and then at Five Mile Creek, Woodend.

A letter written by the Lieutenant of Police to the Inspector of Police Richmond Barracks on March 11th 1854 states -:

"Sir,

I have the honor to recommend the Trooper named in the margin (William Hide) for the appointment of Quarter Master Sergeant at Richmond Barracks. I regret to say that Trooper Anderson whom I recommended to you yesterday has since misconducted himself.

I have the honor to be Sir,

your most obedient servant

Henry Moor Lieut. of Police."

This recommendation was endorsed by the Inspector -

"Trooper Hide I consider is well deserving of this promotion and as he understands accounts and is

to be depended upon I think he would make a good Quartermaster Sergeant."

Signed by the Inspector.

William's 'period of service' in the Police Force was from 1/9/1853 to 15/11/1855. He returned to Melbourne and went back to Woodend as Station Master in 1861. A book on the history of Woodend states,

"The most notable event of 1861 was the opening of the railway line from Melbourne to Woodend, the first official train arriving at the Woodend station on 29th June of that year."

An original photograph of the train and the welcoming committee was included. My ancestor can be easily identified as he wears the typical railway cap whilst most of the other gentlemen were wearing the formal top hat. Also included in the book is,

"Again in 1862 another important event took place as on 1st November the parents of 15 babies attended with the infants, a christening service at St Mary's".

The minister was unable to assist. It seems likely that William's daughter Annie Ellen, who was born at Woodend on 15th October 1862, was christened during that service. It is interesting to note that the attending Accoucheur at Annie's birth was William De La Porte, Surgeon. At a time when most births were carried out by mid-wives, the services of a surgeon would have been considered fortunate.

William George Davey Hide died of disease of the lungs on 21st October 1865, aged 38 years, and is buried in an unmarked grave which included members of the immediate family and relations.

The Hide family were just one of the many thousands of Channel Islanders who with high expectations had left their homeland during the 1800s. Bravely, they emigrated to Canada, the United States and the far southern lands of Australia and New Zealand in the hope of a better life.

"Born on the High Seas" was solved! But like all research the investigations continue; you never know what else might be revealed.

2005 JANET REAKES MEMORIAL AWARD

Topic: "A Convict in the Family"

Closing Date: 30th June 2005

Must be a fully referenced article
of maximum length 2000 words.

Entry form and conditions available on-line at
www.aftc.com.au/JanetReakes/JRMAterms.html

Victorian Archives Centre Archival Support Program

Preservation and Conservation cont.

As a follow on to the article submitted in the Kith'n'Kin newsletter October 2004 I will now pass on information to readers, from NAA's Archives Advice notes and information obtained from the Victorian Archives Centre Archival Support Program workshop, on how to care for your family archives and protect and handle photographs.

Caring for your family archives

In recent times, interest in genealogy and family history research has grown rapidly. We now also have an increased understanding of the need to preserve records of the past. Many families have collected archival material relating to their own history. These collections may include books, such as Bibles; loose documents, such as birth, death or marriage certificates; school reports; photographs; and ephemeral material such as postcards, tickets and medals.

Taking proper care of these precious collections will enable future generations to use and enjoy the records of their heritage. Preserving them can be achieved in a variety of ways. These range from detailed treatments performed by a professional conservator to more basic preventative measures which anyone can employ to help extend the life of their collection.

Critical factors to consider in ensuring the preservation of archival records are packaging, storage, handling and use.

The life of your records

Although the lifespan of your records is largely dependent on the conditions they are placed under, it is important to understand that no matter what type of records you have, paper or non-paper based, all materials will degrade over time. Certain materials are susceptible to deterioration in particular ways because of their chemical properties, and the rate of deterioration also differs.

Photographs

In the 150 years since photography was invented a wide variety of base materials and emulsions have been used in photographic processes.

Historical photographs may be daguerreotypes, using copper sheets and mercury vapours; or

albumen prints, made on very thin papers with an emulsion derived from egg whites. Early photographs were also made with supports of glass and metal and collodion emulsions. In the late 1880s glass negatives were replaced by a clear plastic film made from cellulose nitrate. This was superseded in the 1930s by 'safety film' on cellulose diacetate base and again, in the 1950s, by cellulose triacetate. Triacetate is still used as a film base today, in conjunction with polyester film which was introduced in 1960.

Types of photographs

A photographic image is formed by the action of light falling onto a base material which has been coated with a light-sensitive emulsion. This latent image may then be 'developed' and 'fixed' by further chemical processing. The emulsion coating in most modern photographs is usually gelatine, which incorporates either silver halide salts to form black and white images, or dyes or pigments to form colour images. The base can be made from any material that can be coated with an emulsion, but the most common bases are paper and film.

- **Paper based prints** – either colour or black and white with a variety of emulsion types depending on the age of the material. These can be simple 'snapshots' to mounted presentation photographs to very large aerial survey shots.
- **Negatives** – reversed polarity images from which positive prints are produced which can be colour or black and white, and in a range of sizes. Early negatives were on glass but for most of the twentieth century flexible film bases have been used. Film-based negatives can be in either sheet or roll form.
- **Transparencies or slides** – positive images on a transparent film base, therefore requiring viewing with a back light source or projection system. The most common are 35 mm slides but other sizes are also used.

Deterioration of photographs

All materials degrade over time. We cannot control this inevitable deterioration, but we can control how fast it happens.

It is useful to know that certain materials are susceptible to deterioration in particular ways, just because of their properties, and that other materials deteriorate as a result of particular environmental conditions.

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A photographic image is produced because of the reactive nature of the chemicals present in the emulsion and the processing. This reactivity makes the photographic image very susceptible to deterioration from poor quality raw materials, packaging, processing, poor storage environment or pollution.

For example:

- Glass transparencies or negatives are fragile because of the nature and age of the glass.
- Albums and mounted material are susceptible to the same intrinsic deterioration problems of other paper-based records - brittleness, discolouration and loss of adhesion in the mounts.
- High humidity may promote mould growth, particularly in gelatine emulsions which provide an excellent nutrient for mould; while low humidity can cause the emulsion to crack and the support to become brittle.
- Some photographs are very light sensitive and can fade or darken with excessive light exposure.
- Film or prints that have been poorly processed may develop instability of the base material and staining or bleaching of the image.
- Film-based negatives can be badly damaged by exposure to dust, dirt and fingerprints, which spoil the image quality and may also act as a moisture absorbent and promote mould growth.

Production standards

Different photographic materials have different levels of stability and therefore different life expectancies. When photographic methods are used as a recording system, it is important that the quality of the format is appropriate for the purposes for which the photos will ultimately be required. For example:

- Polaroid prints are ideal for quick, short-term retention images but should never be used as a permanent record.
- 35 mm positive and negative 'domestic' films may be suitable as auxiliary material

but are not generally classed as preservation quality. Larger format, or 'professional' quality films should be used for important images.

- Film should be used well within the use-by date, otherwise image quality and colour rendition can be seriously affected.

For permanent value records, film should always be processed to Australian or international standards. Professional film laboratories should be used, rather than rapid process minilabs which do not provide archival processing.

Packaging

The method of packaging photographs will depend on the particular material and the use for which it is required. Photos may be kept in reference albums, enclosures, boxes and folders. Very fragile items such as glass plates, daguerreotypes or large presentation prints may require customised packaging.

- Archival quality packaging which passes the Photographic Activity Test should be used for long-term storage. If plastics are used they should be polyester or polypropylene - PVC should not be used at all. Archival quality paper or board should be used for envelopes, files and boxes.
- Prints and negatives should be individually packed in bags or envelopes or placed in individual pockets in an album page. Loose material should be packed in small groups in archival files or folders and then boxed. If paper-based albums are used the support and boards should be of archival quality, with all pages interleaved and the images held by photo corners.
- **'Magnetic' or self-adhesive albums should never be used.**

Storage

Once the records are appropriately packed, they need to be stored in the right location. The chosen area should be clean, dust free, fairly dark and maintained at a stable temperature and humidity level, i.e. not too dry or damp, not too hot or cold. Where possible the area chosen should also be fairly well ventilated to inhibit mould growth. Areas inside the house, such as under the bed or at the bottom of a chest of drawers can be suitable, however, avoid areas which are close to water pipes, heaters and food. Storing records near external walls should also be avoided as these are high fluctuation areas for temperature and humidity. In areas which might be flood prone, try to place things above known flood levels.

Care should also be taken to prevent insects or vermin

(Continued from page 10)

attacking records. Don't use insecticides in direct contact with records and be careful with use of sprays. The best way to deal with pests is to try and keep them out of the area through good housekeeping and using baits and mini strips so that the whole area is protected. It is important to make an effort to inspect the storage area regularly so that any problems can be dealt with quickly. Try to look inside boxes or containers at least every 6 to 12 months.

Handling and use

Try to avoid excessive handling of historical material. One way to minimise direct handling of items is by storing them in plastic bags or view books. These products allow you to view each item without touching the surface of the items, and are especially useful for photographs and paper based items. Make sure your hands are really clean, dry and free from moisturiser before you examine records, especially photographs. It is best to use white cotton gloves which can be purchased from suppliers or some supermarkets. If records are fragile, extra care should be taken. Handle things slowly and gently, make sure they are well supported on a table or stiff cardboard. If you are working with the records make sure the work space is clean and not too cluttered. Don't place food or drinks nearby and use pencil rather than pens or ink markers to take notes. Correct handling of photographs will aid in preserving them for as long as they are required:

- **Handle with care.**
- Lint-free cotton gloves should be used at all times when handling photographic material.
- Labels and identification stamps should never be applied directly to photographic material. Identification should be on the packaging. Pencil or an appropriate pigment pen can be used on the border of slides. Never write on the back of photographic prints as this will damage the image.
- Never use metal pins, staples, paper clips, rubber bands or adhesive tape with photographic materials.

Common problems and questions

Sticky tape

Never use sticky tape to repair paper or photographs. The adhesive on sticky tape will cause tacky yellow stains to appear on your object. These stains and the remainder of the tape are difficult to remove. If the problem is extensive seek the advice of a conservator.

What paper should I buy?

Don't always assume that the words 'acid-free' and 'archival' mean that a product is safe. Sometimes these words are used creatively. Look for materials which are also described as 'wood free', 'lignin free', 'alkaline buffered', or 'permanent'. If you are buying materials to use with photographs, ask if they have passed the 'Photographic Activity Test' (PAT test). Suppliers should be able to provide you with this information.

What photo albums should I use?

One of the major problems with photo albums is the type of plastic used to cover the photographs. Don't use PVC plastic sleeves, folders or albums, as they give off damaging vapours. These types of plastics are often identifiable by a smell very similar to that of the interior of a new car. Photo albums with sticky pages are also unsuitable as the removal of photographs from the pages becomes increasingly difficult as the adhesive ages. Look for products made from polypropylene, polyethylene and polyester/mylar, or products described as 'copy safe' or 'photo safe'. Also suitable are plain paper albums utilising photo corners, or albums with plastic pockets.

Lamination for display and protective coating

The lamination technique usually results in a plastic product being adhered onto the surface of an object i.e., heat lamination on posters. This technique should be avoided at all costs. Once the lamination is applied it can not be easily removed and will result in the slow deterioration of your item. If you wish to display an item consult a quality framer or conservator, who can advise you on the best and safest display techniques for your item.

A Date for your Diary

The State Library of Victoria, in conjunction with the Public Record Office of Victoria and the National Archives of Australia has agreed to run a "Family History Feast on the Road" seminar on Saturday 14 May 2005, from 10 am to 4 pm., in the Meeting room of the Old Shire Offices. It will consist of presentations by the three agencies - State Library of Victoria, National Archives of Australia and Public Record Office Victoria.

\$10 per head. Bookings essential as numbers are limited.

Please return booking form on Page 12

Specialist Suppliers

<p>Albox Australia Pty Ltd 56 North Terrace Kent Town SA 5067 Phone: (08) 8362 4811 Fax: (08) 8362 4066 Email: albox@albox.com.au Website: www.albox.com.au</p>	<p>South and Justice Pty Ltd 20 Walker Place Wetherill Park NSW 2164 Phone: (02) 9604 1299 Fax: (02) 9604 1355</p>
<p>Conservation Resources Pty Ltd PO Box 6019 South Yarra VIC 3141 Phone: 1300 132 570 Fax: 1300 132 571 Email: sales@conservationresources.com.au Website: www.conservationresources.com.au</p>	<p>Zetta Florence Pty Ltd 197 Brunswick St Fitzroy VIC 3065 Phone: 1300 555 124 Fax: 1300 555 024 Email: info@zettaflorence.com Website: www.zettaflorence.com</p>

Conservation Organisations

<p>Australian Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Materials (AICCM) The Secretary GPO Box 1638 Canberra ACT 2601 Website: aiccm.org.au/aiccm/home/ <i>A good source of advice and information - they also have branches in each state</i></p>	<p>Artlab Australia 70 Kintore Avenue Adelaide SA 5000 Phone: (08) 8207 7520 Fax: (08) 8207 7529 Website: www.artlab.sa.gov.au</p>
<p>Art and Archival 28 John Bull Street Queanbeyan N.S.W 2620 Phone: (02) 6297 7670 Email: archival@interact.net.au</p>	<p>International Conservation Services 53 Victoria Road Chatswood NSW 2067 Phone: (02) 9417 3311 Fax: (02) 9417 3102 Email: Support@icssydney.com Website: www.icssydney.com</p>

This listing of conservation suppliers and professionals does not represent an endorsement by the National Archives of Australia. The National Archives of Australia accepts no responsibility for the quality of any treatment.

Booking form for "Family History Feast on the Road" Seminar

Name Phone No.....

Address

\$10 enclosed Cheque Postal order

Please return to West Gippsland Genealogical Society Inc.

PO Box 225

Warragul 3820

Recent Library Acquisitions



Cat No	Title	Author	Medium
2.215	Yarragon Primary School - 125 Years. 1879 - 2004. Pub. 2004	School Committee	Book
15.0A	Geraldton, W.A. Family History Society Email:geraldton@mp.wa.gov.au		Newsletter
3.410	"Friend and Foe" Caroline Chisholm and the Women of Kyneton 1840 – 2004. Pub. 2004	Stevens-Chambers, Brenda	Book
10.180	Emigrants and Expats: A Guide to Sources on UK Emigration and residents overseas. Pub. 2002	Kershaw, Roger	Book
2.216	Roy Everard Ross, Engineer Investor Quarryman Philanthropist: 6/7/1899 to 1/11/1970. Founder of the R.E. Ross Charitable Trust. Biography including history of his time lived in Warragul.	Sandilands, Jane	Book
10.182	Census 1861 - Sussex 1861 - The Census of England and Wales Pub. 2004	Archive CD Books	C D
10.181	Census 1861 - Cheshire, Parts RG9/2556 - 2649 - The Census of England Pub. 2004	Archive CD Books	C D
10.128a	1891 British Census Index. Channel Islands & Isle of Man. Standard ed. Pub. 2004	Ancestry.com	C D
2.88	Warragul Gazette - Community Classifieds - Books 1 to 10 - 1992 to 9/12/2003	Carland, N., Purvis, L. & Mills, M.	Book
17. 29	Dumfries and Galloway Family History Society Newsletters from July 1995 to Nov.1998	Not Applicable	Newsletter
17. 43	Terang - Twigs and Branches Mar. 04, Sep. 04	Not Applicable	Newsletter
4. 84	Choices and Challenges. A Concise History of the Petschack Family to 1877; Pub. Sept. 2004	Petschack Ron	
1.174	My Ancestor was a Bastard: a Family Historian's Guide to Sources for illegitimacy in England and Wales. Pub. 2004	Paley, Ruth	Book

Library News

Welcome back to the Library to all our members for 2005. Thank you to those who helped with the working bee during the holiday break and a special thank you to several Library Assistants who have decided to have a break in 2005; they have all worked hard for our Society for several years and we will miss them. Five new helpers are joining us. Welcome to Flo White, Leonie Freeman, Jan Turner, who is continuing after helping out last year, Ken Rowlinson and Bruce Johns.

Christine Mason

Librarian

Visit the Society's
Web site

www.vicnet.net.au/~wggs

WGGS Library Opening Hours

Wednesday to Friday 10 - 2pm

Second Saturday of month 10 - 3pm

Last Sunday of month 1 - 4pm

Meeting nights fourth

Thursday of month 6 - 7:30pm

Visitors welcome.

PROGRAM for 2005

February	24	Researching US Records & Military Records	Joy Barrett
March	24	Hidden Treasures in Our Library	Christine Mason, Marj Cowie etc.
April	28	Passengers and their 19th century voyages	Jenny Carter
May	14	"Family History Feast on the Road" Workshop	SLV, NAA and PRO Victoria
May	26	Irish Research	Jenny Harkness AGM
June	23	TBA	
July	28	TBA	
August	25	TBA	
September	22	TBA	
October	27	TBA	

Most meetings are held at 8 pm in the Council Chamber, First Floor, Old Shire Council Offices,
South-east corner of Queen & Smith Streets, Warragul, Victoria

Return address: PO Box 225

WARRAGUL VIC 3820

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Genealogical Society Inc.

**THE WEST GIPPSLAND
GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY INC**

Inc No. A0023591F

An inaugural member society of the
Genealogical Society of Victoria Inc

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KITH 'N' KIN

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*The Society accepts, in good faith,
information for inclusion in the newsletter.
However, it does not hold itself responsible
for the accuracy of information, opinions
expressed, or any outcome of the use of
such information.*

LIBRARY INFORMATION

Location

First Floor,
Old Shire Council Offices,
SE corner Queen & Smith Streets,
Warragul.

Opening Hours

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Visitors welcome

Librarian: Mrs Christine Mason
Telephone: 03 5623 1348

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