

BORDERLINE NEWS



May 2011
newsletter no. 138

What's Happening Next for our Society:

17th May – We will be discussing preservation and would like YOU to bring along any tips you would like to share with our members. Perhaps you have a treasure that created a challenge to preserve, and you could bring it along to show us how you went about ensuring it is kept safe for the future.



21st June – Please bring along your problems and see if your fellow members can give you some pointers.

If your problem seems particularly sticky, give the details to a committee member and we will see if there are any avenues of research we can recommend. Please make the request **SHORT** and to the point—not more than 50 words.

19th July – AGM and the rest of the meeting will be revealed at a later date.

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Newsletter of the Wodonga Family History Society Inc.

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The Research Room is situated in the premises of the Upper Murray Regional Library in Hovell Street, Wodonga VIC. The opening hours for research are Tuesday & Wednesday from 10.30am to 3.30pm and Thursday from 1pm to 5.30pm.

Our meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month [except December] at 7.30pm at the Felltimber Community Centre, cnr Felltimber Creek Road and Melrose Drive, Wodonga. Entry is via Ritter Road.

Researchers please note that you cannot gain access to the Research Room until you have signed the attendance book at the Circular Desk – signature & membership number is required. If you are a visitor, your postcode and phone number will be required.
Items cannot be returned through the Library after hour's chute or to the Regional Library staff. They must be returned to the Research Rooms during the designated opening hours mentioned above.

Research enquiries: *If you wish our Research Officer to do research for you, please include a business sized, stamped, self addressed envelope with your enquiry details. The initial research cost is \$15.00.*

Please include all the details you can: names, areas, dates, any births, deaths and marriage details you may have and what you want the Research Officer to find out. There is no point in paying for what you already know.

Membership Details

Membership of the Wodonga Family History Society Inc. includes the benefits of receiving a quarterly newsletter and allows access to all the resources of the Society's library which is growing all the time. Your attendance at our monthly meetings will ensure that you have contact with our researchers who share your interest in family history.

Subscriptions:	Joining Fee	\$ 5.00
	Single Membership	\$30.00
	Joint Membership	\$40.00 (2 people at same address)
	Concession	\$18.00 (proof required)

Membership fees are due and payable in July of each year.

Committee members

President	Heather Lauritzen	phone: 02 6024 2493
Vice President	Norma Burrows	phone: 02 6024 1591
Treasurer	Doreen Gibbs	phone: 02 6056 0926
Secretary	Wendy Cooksey	phone: 02 6056 3220

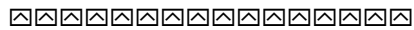
Pat Hopkins Lyn Larkin Jan Larsen Dawn Newman Andy Turner
Christine Young

Overview of previous meetings

15th February - We are happy to report that there was a record attendance of thirty-eight at our meeting, including four visitors. We gave a Power-Point demonstration of the Ten Golden Rules of Genealogy, which was demonstrated by four committee members. They showed the many errors which can appear in family history Certificates and documents, some quite hilarious, including an unfortunate man who appears to have married his mother!

Many of the traps to be avoided were highlighted, such as picking a celebrity or blueblood as an imagined ancestor, and then trying to tie your name to him or her. Heather demonstrated how her father had decided he was a Lancaster with royal lineage and a connection to John o'Gaunt. He had even created a Family Shield. Sadly, once Heather started working on her Family History, this turned to be just another myth, much to the disappointment of the rest of the family.

There was much in-put by the members, who were happy to tell tales of the errors they had made, and the solutions they had found, so a very entertaining night was had.



15th March - We had another successful and fun evening thanks to our lively members who produced an interesting array of memorabilia for our inspection. We had an old walking stick demonstration from Lance, a wedding photo from Geraldine, and an old Welsh prayer book from Howard who was the only one who could read from it – amongst other items. However the entry from the indomitable Connie Tremethick was a tribute to her spirit. She had decided to create a family tree history for her husband Don's 80th birthday, and had prepared and had it printed in secret in Adelaide. Connie remarked that it had been easier because Don was almost stone deaf, but it was no mean achievement, and a magnificent book. We then had a competition to guess the names of members from their childhood photos, which was hilarious, with our members pictured with cherubic smiles and sausage curls.

UPCOMING EVENTS

28th May 2011 – we are having a sausage sizzle at Bunnings, Wodonga. We will need helpers between 8.30am and 3pm. Please join in the group. It was great fun last year. If you are unable to help then please take the time to visit the stand and purchase a sausage or two. All money goes towards more resources for you.

Contact any committee member re helping at the stand.



A FINAL REMINDER RE THE WAYNE BEDELLA AWARD

The closing date for entries is the 30th May.

Here is the link to the page on our website so that you can check out the guidelines:

<http://wodongafamilyhistory.org/awards/wayne-bedella-award/>

If you need your entry checked for typos, grammar, setout, etc, etc, before you submit it, please see a member of the committee. We will be only too happy to help. If you want to discuss the subject or get some pointers, again see one of us.

Past entries are in the library and can be borrowed. They will show you what a diverse range of subjects have been written about.

A FINAL REMINDER RE THE TOWNSEND TROPHY

It's that time again to be constructing your Townsend Trophy entry. The rules can be obtained from the Research Room or a committee member. They are also available on our website under Society Awards. Due date is 30th May.

4th June – this will be a visit to Wagga. The Family History Society has kindly agreed to help our members with research. There will also be a visit to the Archive Centre at Charles Sturt Uni. Please contact Norma Burrows, via email, by 15th May, if you are interested in attending: norma.may@bigpond.com



4th July – nomination forms for the next committee are due – flyer attached



30th July – once again the Society is conducting a seminar. These are always informative and well worth attending. Please see the flyer attached to the newsletter for more details.



11th-13th October – Proposed Melbourne trip

We will probably travel on the bus and train and stay at the Victoria Hotel. This is a central location for all to commute to and from whilst in Melbourne.

If you are interested please contact Andy Turner via email on anjeandy@bigpond.net.au



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hello Members, and welcome to Autumn. I recall that last year I wrote my report mentioning the autumn leaves being like the leaves of the pages of the stories you are writing for the Bedella and Townsend competitions, so this year I am writing the same. Your development as a family historian and as a member of your club, are greatly helped by the improvements in your ability to arrange your family history research into a readable form.

This doesn't mean we all should sit down and write a book, although that would be wonderful, but we should all work on the ability to marshal our thoughts and ideas about our ancestors into a form which can be understood and learned by others. If you are having trouble motivating yourself to start, perhaps you can picture an episode in the life of a person about whom you think your family would like to hear. It only has to be something small that you have discovered, or your thoughts and ideas about an ancestor you have been researching. It will surprise you how the words will flow once you start. You have until the end of May to put down a few words.

As usual, we have a full calendar looking at us for the start of our next financial year and hope to commence with a trip in June to Wagga where we will be the guests of the Wagga Family History Society, and also have access to the N.S.W. Archives. This will be via car pooling, and we will be looking for numbers at our next meeting.

Secondly will be our Seminar in July with Shauna Hicks as the main speaker – you all know how valuable she is, and full of ideas, and thirdly we are planning a trip to Melbourne in October, where we will stay overnight and can visit any number of resources – G.S.V., P.R.O., Immigration Museum, State Library – you name it, it's all possible. Speak to any members of your Committee at our next meeting, and discuss where you would like to go and what you want to do. We are all good listeners.

Regards, Heather Lauritzen - President



Pioneer Women of the district

ANN MONGAN

Ann was born to parents George and Flora KINCHINGTON at Kergunyah on 12th December, 1839, the first female white child born in the North east of Victoria.

She was their 6th child and 2nd daughter. Her cousin George STREET had been the first male white child born in the district. They were both born at Kergunyah where their fathers superintended properties for the BARBER and MORRICE families.

Her family later moved to Yackandandah and held lease of 64,000 acres, stretching from Osborne's Flat to Bruarong, and from Yackandandah to Mount Big Ben. They paid a rental of sixpence per acre per year. A lot of this land was later thrown open for selection, and George selected a Pre-emptive right of 320 acres on Kinchington's Creek, which he called "Thalingalanga" and lived there until his death in 1889.

It was common for Ann to help her father on a 6 week trip by bullock dray to Melbourne and return for supplies. She learnt to read, but only learned to sign her name. As a young girl she had a mole on her nose, which a doctor diagnosed as malignant. He cut away the growth and scraped the underlying tissue away until the bone was visible through her nostril. She wore a strip of gauze over it for the rest of her life. A woman of spirit, she was thin, tough and wiry and only about 5 feet tall.

At 17 she married Daniel MONGAN, a tailor, on 11th November 1856. They had a family of 17 children, 5 of whom died under 2 years of age. They selected 320 acres at Osbornes Flat where they lived.

Daniel worked as a tailor, and later a butcher, in Yackandandah, between 1871 and 1891, as well as working the farm, with the help of his sons.

The family were:

1. Patrick, who married twice, Bridget MARTIN and Annie McGEE.
2. Eva a Catholic Nun Sister Josephine.
3. Ann married Mr. SOMMER from Bethanga. She was killed in a house fire in Wodonga, and is buried in the family grave at Yackandandah.
4. Rose married Matthew MEEHAN. 5. Catherine married Patrick FRENCH.
6. Alice married Robert ROCHE. 7. Daniel married Mary MEEHAN.
8. John married Margaret CAIN. 9. Ellen married Tim SHANAHAN.
10. Francis married Agnes MEEHAN. 11. Emma died January 1858 aged 6 months.
12. Catherine died September 1870 aged 3 months.
13. Mary died November 1879 aged 2 months.
14. Elizabeth died September 1881 aged 2 months.
15. Edward died August 1884 aged 2 years.
16. George Anthony, died November 1875 aged 20 years, from heart disease.
17. Charles, died August 1903, aged 31 years.

Daniel was a member of the first Shire Council of the Yackandandah Shire. He broke both his legs in a fall while mining when he was 80 and walked with two crutches until he died at 84. Ann lived to be 94 years old, she was still milking several cows twice a day when in her eighties. Ann and Daniel and 8 of their children are buried in the family grave in the Catholic Section of the Yackandandah Cemetery.

This article was submitted by Doreen Gibbs

ELIZABETH BROUGHTON MITCHELL

Elizabeth BROUGHTON was born in 1796, the only daughter of Gabriel Louis Marie HUON de KERRILLEAU at Parramatta, N.S.W. She married Captain William MITCHELL of the Kent Militia in 1812, and they lived at "Brisbane Meadows", near Goulburn where they raised a family of ten children. William died in 1837.

Elizabeth's brother, Mr. Paul HUON of "De Kerrilleau" Wodonga obtained the lease, on her behalf, of the Mungabareena Run from Charles Hotson EBDEN, who had moved across the river to Bonegilla in 1836. The lease was gazetted to Elizabeth MITCHELL in 1837 but she and her family did not take up residence until 1842.

She also held Yackandandah and part of Mill Station as the first sheep station in North East Victoria; it was managed by her son Thomas.

Her children were:

Thomas, who married Charlotte STUCKEY in 1850, was the owner of "Tangambalanga". He died in 1887.

Edward lived to be over 80 years of age.

James was born in 1829; married Mary A RYAN in 1866. He owned "Table Top" Station.

John Francis Huon; lived at "Ravenswood" Victoria.

Isabella married John DIGHT of "Bungowannah".

Emma married Francis Rawdon HUME.

Louisa married Elliot HERIOT, "Carabobola".

Agnes married Ancrum HERIOT, "Rockwood".

Eliza married David Bowen JONES, Bonegilla Street, Albury.

Mary married James STEELE.

Elizabeth Mitchell has been called the "Mother of Albury". Her son James donated a bell at St. Matthews Church, in Albury, in memory of his mother, in June 1907.

This article was submitted by Doreen Gibbs



AGNES HENSHAW – long time resident of Wodonga

In November 1996 the "Border Morning Mail" (BMM) published an article celebrating the 104th birthday of Mrs. Agnes HENSHAW. Mrs. Henshaw was born at Ettamogah in 1892 – her maiden name was DAVEY.

After her marriage she lived in a few places including Rutherglen, where she and her husband owned a haberdashery store. This was during the depression years so it was not an easy life.

The family moved to Wodonga, when Mr. Henshaw returned from the 2nd World War, where they ran a tailoring business in High Street, (situated where Jensen's butcher shop is today). Mr. Henshaw was also a salesman for Rawleigh's products. For a time they lived in rooms behind the shop in High Street but eventually moved to a home in Woodland Street, where they lived for 45 years. This family was amongst the early business people of our district.

Mr. & Mrs. Henshaw had two children - son Bill and daughter Connie. In 1996 there were 10 grandchildren, 33 great-grandchildren and 6 great-great-grandchildren. Agnes' husband and daughter pre-deceased her.

In the BMM article Mrs. Henshaw spoke of remembering many changes in the area during her lifetime including when she would catch the train to Albury to do shopping and then walk home because there was only one service per day. She also remembered when Dean Square (now QEII Square) was a meeting place where people gathered to sit and chat.

On Christmas eve 1995 Mrs. Henshaw broke her hip and doctors told her it was unlikely she would walk again but she was determined that she would. Some months later she was able to walk to the celebrations of her 104th birthday in the Blue Room at Vermont Court Hostel in Wodonga. At this time in her life she was still attending the 50s plus group at the Baptist Church in Wodonga.

Mrs. Henshaw passed away in 1999 aged 106 years 8 months. She had led a long and happy, sometimes hard, life but until her death she was very alert and aware of all that was going on around her. Members of her family still live in the area.

Information for this article is taken from Border Morning Mail, November 1996 and Mrs. Joan Cummins, Wodonga.

This article was submitted by Norma Burrows

PROJECTS AND PIONEERS

This article is submitted by Pat Hopkins

Whilst carrying out one of the family history projects that some of our members are involved in, a diary was found. Here is the story.

One of the items we found was a typed diary originally written by Richard SWIFT, an immigrant from Skowhegan (Maine).

The story of these immigrants is recorded on a CD in our Research Room at the Library "American Fever – Australian Gold" reviewed by Doreen Gibbs in our May 2009 Newsletter .

Richard was 23 when he left Skowhegan aboard the "Rockland" and his diary is in two parts.

The first details his departure from Maine and has a list of the passengers from his home area.

The second part records his time around the Albury area and at various diggings from 4th March to 31st December 1854.

An extract that may be of interest:

March 4, 1854 (Saturday) It rained very hard the last part of the night and until about 7 o'clock in the morning. As soon as it stopped raining Longley and I took our swags and started for Spring Creek. We

hurried along as fast as we could but the sun came out very warm and made it quite uncomfortable. It gave us a good sweat before we reached Spring Creek especially climbing a large hill called Old Hannah.

Joshua Bigelow concluded to go down to Albury with his horse team (three horses and an American wagon) and bring back a load of vegetables..... The distance seemed long. Was called 28 miles the way we went but think it is more than that. We reached the Murray river about an hour after dark. We turned the horses out and built up a fire, got some supper (made some tea and fried a little ham, ate some crackers which we had with us) and then spreading the tent over the wagon, took our blankets and laid under the wagon.

Sunday March 5, 1854. The town of Albury was on the opposite side of the river from us. So about 8 am we harnessed up and forded the river, it is about 200ft wide at the fording place in the dry season when the water is low, it cannot be forded at any other time. The water was (as near as I could judge) 3½ft deep, with a strong current. A few rods above the fording place is a punt (what we call a ferry boat). We went up to the village and put the horses up at the Royal Hotel kept by James Leighton.... We had some grapes and watermelons to eat for the first time in the country.

Wednesday, 8 I staid alone last night. I worked about the tent all day fixing things up making for myself a stretcher. In the evening a gentlemen and two Chinamen with a flock of sheep came along put the sheep in Leighton's paddock and the Chinamen staid in the tent with me. Very warm all day.

Thursday, 9 This morning I expected to go and cut some timber for Mr Fallon but he had got no team to haul it in so I did not go but made a table (or something we called a table) Etc. Longley got back about sunset from Spring Creek. He told me that Mr Teague of Skowhegan, Me was dead. He died at the Buckland March 3rd. Thus death cuts down the young and the aged Saint and sinner. I believed Mr Teague was a Christian and he has gone to reap his reward.

Monday, 27 Crawford and I went to the Race Course in the forenoon and set the posts. At the race course we saw a colored snake five feet long. In the afternoon made two small gates. Great preparations are being made for the Races that commence tomorrow. Every publican in town has a right to sell liquors at the races and they are putting up their tents, etc, etc.

Tuesday, 28about noon a great number of people had collected. Seemed very much like a muster or cattle show at home. About half past 12 the Race horses arrived on the ground and the racing commenced. The first race for the maidens purse of £75 was won by the Mountain Maid.

Wednesday, 29.....(Rainy day) We went to see the horses run a little while in the afternoon rather bad for as it was slippery but fair for one as the other. This is the place for drinking liquor. It is the fashion for everyone to drink. The people here think it very remarkable and strange that we do not drink. A number urged us to drink but we said no. Thousands of quarts of liquors drank, and thousands of £s lost and won. One man lost £600 yesterday but he had plenty more today he won.

A new website went online on 5 April 2011. It is like ebay, but deals in genealogy related items and services.

ancestralbids.com



RECORDS FOR SALE

COMPUTER DISCS

Yackandandah Shire Rates 1875-1878 and 1884-1891	\$20
Wodonga Shire Rates 1900-1948 (1938-1941 not available)	\$35
Wodonga Burial Records 1861-1937 and 1938-2004	\$35
Wodonga Monumental Inscriptions up to 2007	\$35

The 2 set Wodonga Cemetery Records available for \$65.

Yabba Cemetery Headstone Inscriptions and Photographs	\$20
Yackandandah Cemetery Headstone Transcriptions	\$35

All CDs postage and handling an extra \$5.

HARD COPY CEMETERY HEADSTONE

RECORDS

Barnawartha 1861-2003	\$12
Bethanga	\$9
Bungowannah 1876 -2002	\$6
Burrumbuttock: Public 1893-1999 and Trinity Bethal Lutheran Church 1885-1999	\$6
Gerogery : Public 1859-2002 and St Peters Lutheran Church 1869-2002	\$5
Glen Wills Register 1894-1920 and Granite Flat Headstones 1863-1993	\$5
Goombargana	\$6
Jindera Cemeteries: Public Register 1875-1977; Headstones 1876-2001; Bethelhem Lutheran 1875-2001; Lutheran 1863-2001	\$6
Kiewa	\$12
Moorwatha	\$5
Sandy Creek: Register and Headstones	\$9
Talgarno	\$6

Package and postage \$2.50 each

MICROFICHE RECORDS

Yackandandah Shire Rates Part 1: 1884-1888 and 1920-1948 (63 fiche)	\$30
Part 2: 1949-1971 (54 fiche)	\$30

Postage \$5 per part

Note: New Prices



This piece of history is submitted by Norma Burrows

Ever wondered why a park in Wodonga has the name that it has? Here are some of the answers.

Park Name: Sister Kit HUGHES Park
Location: Cnr Melrose Drive and Pearce Street

Background: Sr Hughes was the midwife and owner of the private hospital which stood on the corner of High & Stanley Street. She ran a private hospital and delivered many Wodonga babies in the 1920's & the 1930's. In conjunction with a local doctor she established a Golf Course on the Wodonga flats.

Park Name: Pat PARKER Athletics Park
Location: Pearce Street

Background: Mrs Parker worked for many years for "young husbands" Wodonga branch. Due to her two sons being involved in Little Athletics and Wodonga Athletics, Mrs Parker became a great worker and was involved with the Athletics Club. It was because of her great involvement and dedication, when the athletic park was opened at a cost of \$200,000 that it was named the Pat Parker Athletics Park.

Park Name: Alma ROGERS Park
Location: Lomond Court

Background: Ms Rogers was the first CSA recipient in 1978 and she worked extremely hard for the Senior Citizens and other community affairs. Along side Mr Max Gray, she helped turn the first sod for Vermont Court Hostel, worked hard for this Hostel and was the foundation Secretary for the Wodonga Senior Citizens. Ms Rogers also worked for the Red Cross, Children's Hospital (Life Governor) Blind Auxiliary. Ms Rogers died in Melbourne in 1981 aged 84 years.

Park Name: Julia RONAN Park
Location: Felltimber Creek Road

Background: nee ARUNDEL – late of Gundowring, Mrs Ronan was left a widow with three small children in 1906. She decided that the farm would not support her family so she came to Wodonga. She bought an old machinery shed in Dalgety's saleyard site [where Elgins now stands]. Mrs Ronan opened an eating house which was a success after very hard work. From there she opened "Wodonga Coffee Palace" next to Turtons forge and coach factory in High Street in 1921, she prospered.

There is a look up service available for your research for \$6.00 plus self addressed envelope

Members are advised that there is a research service available. Fees will be raised from \$15 to \$20 from 1st July 2011.

The committee would like to wish all mothers a great day on 8th May.



Wodonga Family History Society Inc., PO Box 289, Wodonga, VIC, 3689