



Reflections

Newsletter of the
Phillip Island and District
Genealogical Society Inc.

Inc. No A00238876

Number 88

February 2014

PRESIDENT : DAVID RATHGEN 0411 118 706

SECRETARY : GENEVIEVE HAYES 5956 6340

Postal Address: PO Box 821, Cowes, Victoria. 3922

E-mail: piadgs@gmail.com

Opening hours: Tuesday 10 am – 1 pm
Thursday 10 am – 4 pm
Friday 1 pm – 4 pm
Saturday 10 am – 1 pm

Forums are held during the months of March, June,
and September at the Family History Rooms,
56 Chapel St., Cowes

Reflections Editor: Jan Andrews

5678 2124

E-mail: janani@waterfront.net.au

Our group has been given a new name – a parcel arrived last December addressed to 'Phillip Island and District Gynealogical Society'. It seems to have done the rounds of the medical profession on the Island before Australia Post phoned Julie to see if it was ours!!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

All meeting are held at our rooms, 56 Chapel St., Cowes

Saturday 8 February at 2pm

International Ancestors Group. For those whose ancestors came from areas outside the British Isles. Session to be led by David Rathgen
\$2 members \$5 non-members; RSVP to "InternationalL" <piadgs@gmail.com> by Thursday 6th February; or telephone David 0411 118 706.

Saturday 15 February
at 12.45 pm for 1 pm

Family Tree Maker Users Group. Session to be led by Suzanne Hayes and Doug Elms. \$2 members, \$5 non-members. RSVP to "FTM" <piadgs@gmail.com> by Wednesday 12 February.
(you are most welcome to bring along your lunch if you would like to attend the rooms a little earlier before the start of the User Group)

Saturday 22 February at 2 pm.

Scottish Discussion Group. Session to be led by Genevieve Hayes. \$2 members, \$5 non-members. RSVP "Scottish" <piadgs@gmail.com> by Wednesday 19 February.

Do have a look at our new web page : www.piadgs.org.au.

Forum. Our first Forum for 2014 should be held in March. At this stage your Committee is still finalizing arrangements. We will let you know as soon as we can. Forums are opportunities for the whole membership to meet together for a specific purpose and for the greater benefit of the whole. The Committee is working very hard on the 2014 Business Plan. It is hoped we will have something ready for you to discuss in the near future.

WORDS OF WARNING

I am currently helping my friend Barbara get her Gedcom file up on her new Family Tree Maker and set up her sub to Ancestry. Just to show her how it worked I put in 'Kapahnke'. Up came Horst's Electoral roll details and also his father's death in 1970.

It is so wrong! His name "Carl" appears as "Earl" and place of death was Heathcote instead of Heathmont.

There was the option to comment, so I logged on to Ancestry and sent the corrections. I am interested to see whether I get an email acknowledging the errors! Horst definitely gave the correct name and it was at his own Heathmont home his father died!

So this should be a wake up call for all genealogists! Have any of you had any similar experiences?

Sue Lilley

While sites such as Ancestry can be a great help in tracing ancestors and finding living relatives (see Helen Swaines' article in 'Reflections no.87), don't believe every thing you read on these sites!

I was asked by a friend to check immigration records for her ancestors. There is a transcription of immigration records on Ancestry – and there they were : names, ages, date of arrival and the ship. As I was in the family history rooms, I decided to double-check the information using the immigration microfiche – same family, same date of arrival, but the ages were different and they were on a DIFFERENT SHIP!!! Which would you believe – a transcription (Ancestry) or a listing from the P.R.O.V. which gives fiche and page references to scanned images of the original documents?

Many years ago a local researcher put my family on 'family search' (the Mormon site). Unfortunately his information was wrong, his is the only contact name given, and he passed away many years ago.

A researcher on 'Ancestry' added my Scottish family to her English family tree. She changed several names, even the sex of one person. I contacted her, and most of the wrong information has been removed, but not all.

Two convicts named Thomas Squires arrived in Tasmania at approximately the same time, but on different ships. One was my great great grandfather. A descendant of the other Thomas Squires has adopted my ancestor, given him a second marriage to include her family, and put it all on the 'Ancestry' public trees site.

About twenty years ago I was contacted by a distant relative who was starting his family history research. He thought his grandfather had, possibly, one or two brothers. I was able to give him a mass of information about his grandfathers' nine siblings, their ancestors and descendants. He put all this information on a number of web sites. Over the years this information has been copied on to (at the last count) at least thirty family trees on the internet, BUT when people are transcribing information, they can make mistakes and a number of these family trees now have the wrong information. – and this wrong information will probably be accepted as 'fact' by future researchers.

The moral of all this? Do not accept the information on family trees and transcribed documents on the internet as 'gospel'. Use these sources as a 'guide', then do your own research.

Jan Andrews

Mr. Edward Pardon, a Bookseller:

*Here lies poor Ned Pardon, from misery freed,
Who long was a bookseller's hack;
He led such a damnable life in this world,
I don't think he'll ever come back.*

Charity Bligh, Devonshire:

*Charity, wife of Gideon Bligh,
Underneath this stone doth lie.
Nought was she e'er known to do
That her husband told her to.*

Christmas lunch at the San Remo Hotel



Saturday November 30th 2013
Good food and great company.
What better way to celebrate the end of the year and the beginning of the festive season.

photos: Lorna Elms

Did you know that Victoria shares a land boundary with Tasmania?

The state border between Victoria and Tasmania lies in the Hogan Group and passes over land on the North East Islet, thus giving a land border between the two states of 85 metres. Before Victoria became a colony, it was agreed that New South Wales would have sovereignty of all the land to Bass Strait, and Tasmania would have Bass Strait except for waters near the coast.

When Bass Strait was surveyed in 1801 by Captain James Black, the surveyed position of Wilson's Promontary was slightly off and the border places too far south. It was later found that the border passed through the islet. North East Islet was renamed Boundary Islet.

source: http://wikipedia.org/wiki/Boudatdy_Islet

From the memoirs of Nancy Horman (my cousin) talking about her Granny who lived on a farm in Winchelsea, Vic
She was born in 1846 and died in 1937.

"My Grandmother was never afraid of constant physical labour. Alas, she always appeared quite austere and an old lady – an illusion to a little girl. She was obviously made of very stern stuff because from the time of Grandfathers death she and her daughter successfully managed and worked the farm property to a high degree of efficiency.

After Grandfathers death when she was only 71 she always wore black. I well remember her sitting by the wood fire stove in the kitchen in a rocking chair with a black shawl draped around her shoulders. Any annoyances she felt during the day would be dealt with by the tap, tap, tapping of her stick.

When Granny went out visiting she always drove her very smart shining varnished buggy, of course dressed in black with a black bonnet on her head and a rug over her knees."

I am now 74 years of age and cannot picture myself in the rocking chair, tapping my stick at things that annoy me.

How about you!

Helen Swaine

AUSTRALIA DAY AT OUR ROOMS



About 30 members and their partners enjoyed an Australia Day BBQ at the rooms on Sunday 26 January.

Bob Hayes, Sue Lilley and Coral Grey all celebrated their birthdays in the previous week, and were presented with a cake.

photos: Helen Swaine



LATEST ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

Stewart, Alan	My ancestor was Scottish
Burness, Lawrence W.	Scottish genealogist's glossary
Trigellis-Smith, Zampatti & Parsons	Shaping history. A bibliography of Australia Army Unit histories
Shull, Wilma Sadler.	Photographing your heritage
Beaumont, J	How to write and publish your family history
Kyle, Noeline	Writing family history made very easy
Prebble. John	The Highland clearances
Mitchison, Rosalind	A History of Scotland (2nd. ed.)
Marshall. Rosalind K.	Childhood in seventeenth century Scotland
Scorrish Ancestry Group (GSV)	Conference notes. Second Australasian Scottish Genealogy Conference. June 2006
Cannon, Michael	Old Melbourne Town before the gold rush
Cannon, Michael	Melbourne after the gold rush
Cannon, Michael	The Roaring days
Reakes, Janet	An A to Z of Scottish genealogy
Coulthard-Clark, C. D.	Encyclopaedia of Australia's battles
Milligan, E.H. & Thomas, M. J.	My ancestors were Quakers.
Lay, Patricia	Deadly details: a guide to some causes of death listed on death certificates
Box, Allan	Footsteps of the diggers. A travel guide to the Australian battlefields of The Somme
Bassett, Jan	The facing island. A personal history
Parsons, Ronald	Trying to find a seafaring ancestor
Trainor, Brian (ed.)	Researching Irish Australians
McGuire, Frank	Mordialloc - the early days
Lloyd, Roy	Garrett's Beer House. Families descended from the Poplar Hotel at Kevington
Shingles, Rhonda	Triumph over the Heartbreak Hills 1880-2009

PHILLIP ISLAND IN THE NEWS

SOLOMON'S SCRAP BOOK

PAGE 11.

Wednesday, November 21; To Phillip Island this day by steam coach and boat, and was mightily perturbed en route by a rumor that the sea be so rough this day that a brave heart be required to face it. Arrived at Stony Point to find that the waves be not so mountainous as reported, and so set sail with every prospect of retaining my breakfast. To Cowes betimes and did set out in all haste to report upon the council meeting, this being the first gathering of the new Phillip Island Council. Falling in with Madame Davie, she did inform me that the councillors be about to adjourn for luncheon and so to the Isle of Wight hostel to dine at the expense of the president, to my good content. Anon to council chamber to find that these councillors talk nearly as much as my own home council, and so did fall to musing upon my lot and to conclude, an I have two councils thrust upon me I be like to be worried to death between them. Cr. Graydon to report that many horses wander upon the public highway and to move that the owners be notified to remove them, and in this Cr. Cleeland did support him. Cr. Dorwood did then put a problem before his colleagues by asking of them who they would notify. Cr. Graydon, however, did rise to the occasion and did put Cr. Sambell in a pretty twitter by saying, an he mistake not, that one of them belonged to the president. At last all business to be finished, and Councillor Sambell, being determined to return that night, did invite Mister Ham and myself to accompany him, which we did to our very good content. And so home, being pleased with the day's business, but to lose much sleep in writing of the doings of Phillip Island's first council.

Frankston and Somerville Standard.
Friday 23 November 1928

THE POST OFFICE.

From Monday the innovation of having the post office open continuously from 9 a.m. till 6 p.m. will be initiated, and Miss Hunter again takes up her position as assistant. One by one new subscribers are being added to the local telephone exchange and gradually the advantage of this service is being realised. Men are now engaged in removing the pipe poles and substituting extra wires, and new wires being strung, connecting Messrs. W. J. Kennon, Captain Dixon and Mr. E. Cleeland with the exchange.

STREET LAMPS.

The resolution passed at the last Council meeting held at Cowes in March has at last been carried into effect and the new street lamp mid-way between the post office and the Corner Store was lit last week. Gradually Cowes is emerging from darkness to light.

Frankston and Somerville Standard.
Wednesday 13 December 1929

PHILLIP ISLAND

COWES COMEDY CLUB.

The above club, which numbers 32 performing amateurs, has now firmly established itself in public favor. This was shown again last Tuesday, when the club repeated to a full house the three-act comedy, "The Family Upstairs." This piece is cleverly written and abounds in clean fun and witty repartee throughout. The characters were well cast, and the whole produced under the direction of Cr. W. Dawson Davie, ably supported by Miss Mollie Thompson as hon. secretary. Between the acts a part film of scenery on Phillip Island, Wollamai and the Nobbies, also the late pageant and queen crowning and sports, which has been produced at the instance of the Phillip Island Sports Association, was screened by Mr. Walter Parker, electric operator, and greatly enjoyed. The Symphony Serenaders' orchestra helped very much to the success of the evening. The members of the Cowes Comedy Club deserve well of the public as they have put in a great deal of solid work and have helped local charities and other good causes. It is expected that over £20 will be the takings for "The Family Upstairs."

Frankston and Somerville Standard.
Saturday 17 January 1931

MORE FREE INTERNET SITES

Isle of Coll Genealogy . <http://www.collgenealogy.com/>

For a mass of information on the West Highlands and Islands, click on links

Forebears . <http://forebears.co.uk/resources>

A reference aid that helps researchers find historical and genealogical records naming their ancestors. Browse historical and genealogical databases, websites, publications and finding aids by country

Supreme Court of Victoria - Probate registers

<http://scvprobate.com.au/probate/Search/ApplicationIndex.aspx>

Cheltenham Cemetery. <http://www.focrc.org/graves/>

Friends of the Cheltenham Cemetery Inc. have produced their own on-line burial register of the Cheltenham Pioneer Cemetery and Cheltenham Memorial Park. Non-financial members can do a basic look up on the site, while members can download photos and view genealogical information including links to persons buried in separate graves.

Residents of Upper Beaconsfield <http://www.upperbeac.rocke.id.au/>

Ireland. General Records Office database <http://www.irishgenealogy.ie>

Survey into life & labour in London 1886-1903 <http://booth.lse.ac.uk/>

Middlesex - Parish marriage records (indexed by male surname) 1563-1895
<http://www.angelfire.com/fl/Sumter/Middlesex.html>

Non-conformist BMDs from non-parish sources <http://www.BMDregisters.co.uk>

Coal mining history UK <http://www.cmhrc.co.uk/site/home/index.html>

Herefordshire though time <http://www.smr.herefordshire.gov.uk>

New South Wales - Land records
<http://www.records.nsw.gov.au/state-archives/indexes-online>

Queensland - Land records
<http://www.archives.qld.gov.au/Researchers/indexes/Lands/Pages/default.aspx>

Western Australia - Post office directories 1893-1949
http://www.slwa.wa.gov.au/find/wa_resources/post_office_directories

Netherlands <http://www.wiewaswie.nl/mijn-home/dashboard>

WieWasWei has replaced GenLias as the major on line research website in the Netherlands. Major archives are continually adding digitised records. The site is currently free to use. Original scanned documents can be obtained for free once you register



Luckily this rather shy visitor to the rooms changed his / her mind and came no further than the back gate

IGA COWES

Anyone shopping at the IGA Grocery store in Cowes, please give our **Shopper Number 595** and all credits will go to the Phillip Island and District Genealogical Society Inc. It would be most appreciated by the Committee if you could spare a few points.