



Reflections

Newsletter of the
Phillip Island and District
Genealogical Society Inc.

Inc. No A00238876

Number 91

November 2014

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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

web page : www.piadgs.org.au

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COMMITTEE members for 2014 - 2015, as elected at the A.G.M. on 20 September, are:

President
Pat Bowen



Vice President
Susan Lilley



Secretary
Malcolm Swaine



Treasurer
Julie Curran



Committee:

Jan
Andrews



Liz
Bowen



Bob
Hayes



Genevieve
Hayes



Christine
O'Donnell



Helen
Swaine



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

Saturday 8 November
10 am – 1 pm

David Rathgen will be on duty in the rooms and is available for a one-on-one session to help anyone researching ancestors from **Europe**. Please phone David on 0411 118 706 to confirm a time.

Saturday 15 November at 2 pm

Christine O'Donnell will be talking to us about the **P.R.O.V**

Learn how to access Public Record Office Victoria (PROV) to enhance your research. Our new Committee member, Christine O'Donnell has worked for PROV and delivered lectures throughout Victoria on what is available and how to access it.

Saturday 29 November at 12 noon

End of Year Lunch at the San Remo Hotel.

We need to know approximate numbers. To confirm, please phone Helen Swaine – 5952 5740, or email 'End of Year' to piadgs@gmail.com. Also, let us know if you need assistance with transport.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY for 2015

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

Monday 26 January 2015 at 12 noon Australia Day BBQ

Saturday 21 March 2015 Jenny Harkness will speak on FamilySearch.

Jenny Harkness, is a past Director of the Wantirna LDS Family History Centre and was the media spokesperson for the launch of the Family Search website. She will give a Family Search update and attendees will find out about and get tips on using FamilySearch, the world's largest collection of free family trees, genealogy records and resources.

It will be an opportunity to learn more about this wonderful resource as millions of people use these records, resources, and services each year.

FamilySearch is a non profit family history organization dedicated to connecting families across generations. It has 3 billion names from all over the world, with 4,745 FamilySearch Centres worldwide.

More information will be sent out closer to the dates.

AULD LANG SYNE

Why do we attempt to sing this song on New Year's Eve?

Singing *Auld Lang Syne* is a New Year tradition that's nigh on inescapable around the world. While many credit the song, or at least its words, to Scots poet Robert Burns, who penned the version used today in 1778, it actually dates back much further.

The melody of *Auld land Syne* is a traditional Scottish folk song and while Burns' version is well known, lines of the poem are taken from James Watson's 1711 piece Old Long Syne. Burns admitted that the piece was not new and that he had taken the words down from an old man who recounted them to him. Loosely translated, Auld Land Syne means "times gone by"; hence at New Year we're singing about times gone and what's to come in the year ahead.

It seems this was already sung in Scotland prior to Burns' writing his own edition and has slowly spread around the world as people have migrated from Scotland and the wider UK to the United States and former colonies of the British Empire.

Source: Your Family History (UK), February 2013

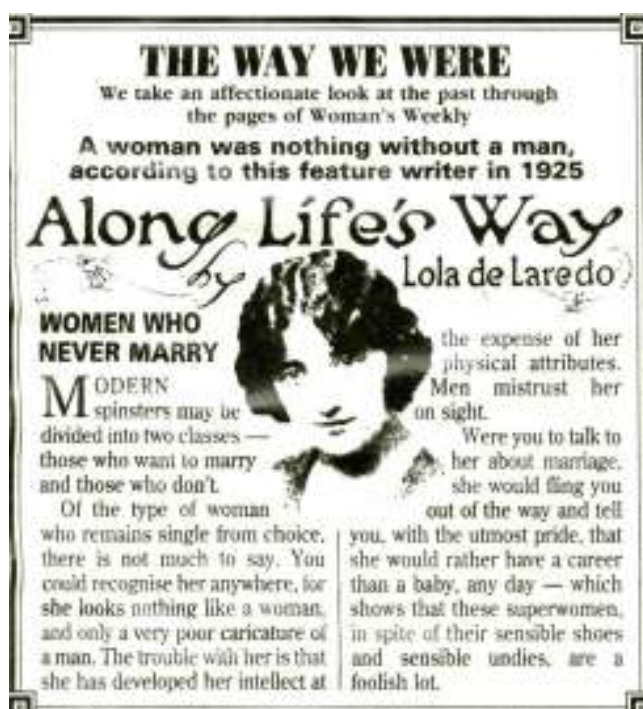
P.R.O.V. NEWS

**Digitised Childrens Ward
Registers 1864-1890s
Now Available!**

Files which offer detailed information on children identified as 'wards of the state' during the years 1860s to the 1890 are now available to view online.

The files can provide terrific information for family researchers such as the child's name, date of birth, native place, religion, cause of commitment, where they were stationed, licensing out details, details of discharge and general reporting information.

To search by name use the function 'search within a series' and use the numbers 4527 after the letters VPRS, and then search by typing in a name.



Source: English Women's Weekly, 4 August 1992

The barbeque prior to the A.G.M. was a great success.



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.*

<http://shadowsoftime.co.nz>

An Irish recruit being rebuked by the serjeant for striking one of his comrades. "I thought there was no harm in it", quoth Pat, "as I had nothing in my hand but my fist".

<http://www.iancantwell.com/humour.php>

EARLY MOTOR CYCLE RACING ON THE ISLAND

During Easter week 1928 the Motor Cycle Club of Victoria held a 200 mile Tourist Trophy Race, along with other motoring events. Their course was over that recently used by the Victorian Light Car Club, with the addition of about four miles, taking in the sand on the road to Rhyll. This event was won by Alex Finlay, on his B.S.A., and his time was 4 hours, 13 minutes, 30 2/5 seconds.

After having won the 200-mile motor cycle race earlier in the year, Mr. Alex Finlay, a well-known rider of motor bikes and a business man in the city, desired to try out his 3½ h.p. twin port B.S.A motor cycle, and with the assistance of several Councillors and local enthusiasts made an attempt on the world's records.

At 7 p.m. on November 15, 1928, Mr Finlay started off and kept going till 11 p.m., when he stopped for fifteen minutes' spell and some hot coffee and chops roasted over a brazier, prepared by his mother and sister. He again made another stop about 4 a.m. of the 16th for another fifteen minutes. At 8 am he stopped sufficiently long enough to swallow a dainty breakfast.

Riding all day was a bit monotonous. About 3 o'clock he was nearing the previous record times, and after 5 p.m. the local residents made their way out to the track. At 7 o'clock excitement ran riot, and so pleased was Mr. Finlay with himself that he did an extra three laps.

In the twenty-four hours he had covered 1056 miles, and thereby broke the following records:-

World's record for twelve hours, all powered cycles

World's record for machines under 500 c.c

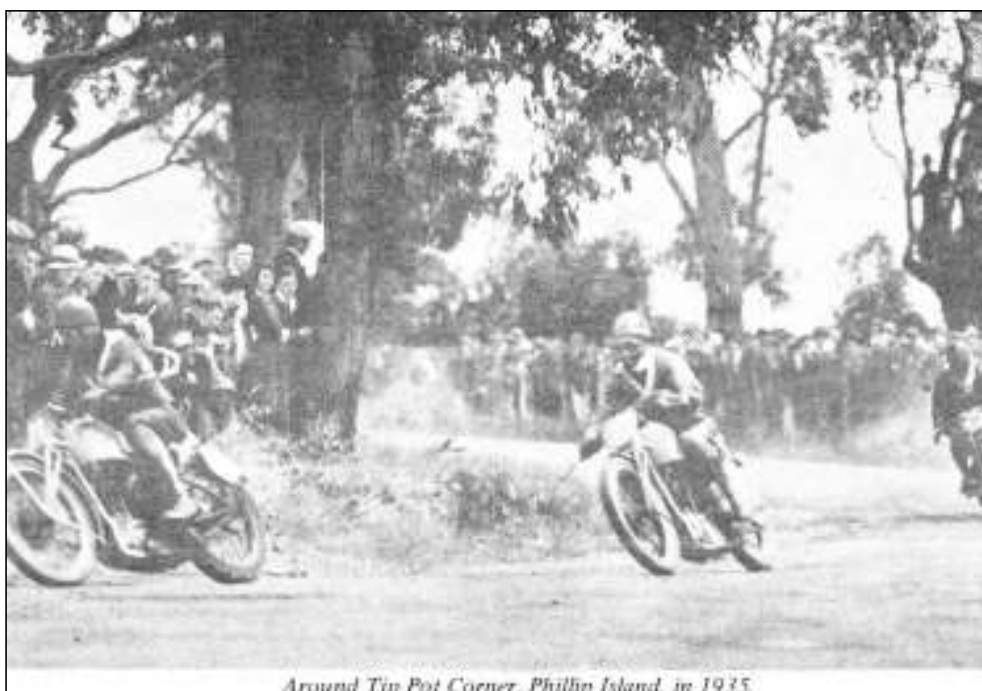
World's records for twenty-four hours, machines 500 c.c

Every Australian record for 300 to 1000 miles on any race circuit.

This feat was considered all the more sporting because there was no trophy or prize, and all done at his own expense.

The people living alongside the track showed great fortitude and entered into the spirit of the contest, and many would get up through the night to see him whiz past.

Source: W. J. Middleton, Phillip Island and Westernport Bay. The playground of Australia (c.1930)



Around Tip Pot Corner, Phillip Island, in 1935.

Source: The Sentinel Times, 6 June 1974

PHILLIP ISLAND IN THE NEWS

PHILLIP ISLAND

ARMISTICE SUNDAY AT COWES.

A combined service by the Anglican and Presbyterian Churches was held on Sunday, 9th inst, at the Soldiers' Monument to commemorate the signing of the Armistice. The Phillip Island Band, under Bandmaster Bowers, played several selections and led the singing of the hymns, while a united choir rendered "Land of Hope and Glory," accompanied on the organ by Cr. W. Dawson Davie. Prayers and Reading of the Scriptures were given by the vicar (Rev. Sterling Home), and the address and appeal for distressed soldiers was delivered by Rev. Jas. Raff. Mr. C. Williams, president of the local R.S.L., presided, and a printed service of prayer and hymns was engaged in by the large number from all parts of the island who attended. Mr. Jack McLean sounded the Last Post, and at the word of the chairman two minutes' silence was observed.

The collection for distressed soldiers amounted to £8/2/, and poppies to the value of £7/10/ was sold by the secretary of the Cowes branch R.S.A. (Mr. Ron. Scott) and Digger Imlison. These amounts, with £1/1/ contributed by members of the branch, made a total of £16/13/, which has been forwarded to the Distressed Soldiers' Fund. The gathering was a memorable one and the bright sunshine added greatly to its success. Wreaths of poppies and other flowers were placed at the base of the monument.

Frankston and Somerville Standard
Saturday 15 November 1930

PUBLIC TELEPHONE TO VENTNOR (PHILLIP ISLAND).

The Deputy Postmaster-General, Melbourne, has advised the Right Hon. S. M. Bruce that as the facility is considered to be necessary in the public interest, approval has been given for the construction of a public telephone line to Ventnor. The telephone office at Ventnor will be established at the premises of Mr. V. H. Justice.

Frankston and Somerville Standard
Friday 23 November, 1928

PHILLIP ISLAND

The Phillip Island band in conjunction with the Boy Scouts held a pleasant Sunday afternoon in the Cowes hall on the 18th inst. Owing to the inclement weather the attendance was not too good, but the selections by the band were appreciated to the full, one item being encored and which the band had to repeat, "Miranda," by T. E. Bulch. The only solo was rendered by Mrs. Temple, accompanied by Miss Raff, and was excellently rendered, being encored. The speaker on this occasion was Mr. Thomas, who supported and spoke on behalf of the reconstruction League of Australia. The afternoon closed as usual with the singing of the National Anthem.

The seaplane carrier, "Albatross," is at present anchored in the bay and when lit up at night presents a fine sight.

Through the efforts of the band committee in canvassing the island, they have been receiving donations and monthly subscriptions which have enabled them to procure the services of a first-class band-master.

Frankston and Somerville Standard
Saturday 24 October, 1931

Islanders will be gratified to know that the municipal funds have never been in better shape. The secretary reporting to the council at its meeting on the 15th inst. that a credit of £685 stood at the National Bank. A search of the past 10 years' accounts failed to show any previous credit favoring Phillip Island. Over £3000 has been spent in road-making and improvements and every penny has been earned by Islanders. This is in severe contrast to the £16,000 spent some three years ago, earned and taken off the Island almost in its entirety. Ratepayers will approve of the definite policy of the council to keep Island money on the Island.

Frankston and Somerville Standard
Saturday 21 June 1930

MORE FREE INTERNET SITES

Letters from Victorian pioneers

<http://www.archive.org/stream/lettersfromvicto00publiala#page/n5/mode/2up>

Glenelg & Wannon settlers & settlement Portland Bay District <http://www.swvic.org/>

Free Irish Genealogy eBooks <http://freeirishgenebooks.blogspot.com.au/>

Dorset online parish clerks <http://www.opcdorset.org/links.htm>

Check the 'Links' as well

South Derbyshire Genealogy Pages

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~brett/sdindex.htm>

If your ancestors were publicans in the UK, this site is worth checking. Covers all counties

<http://pubshistory.com/index.shtml>

London Street Directory in 1938 - street name changes

<http://pubhistory.co.uk/streets/London1938/index.shtml>

Somerset

<http://www.paulhyb.homecall.co.uk/index2.htm>

Historical Records of the county & city of Cork

<http://www.corkrecords.com/index.htm>

Ancestors from the Penwith region of Cornwall? <http://west-penwith.org.uk/index.htm>

Early Tasmanian Birth, Baptism, Death and Marriage registrations 1803–1933 are now mostly online

<http://www.linc.tas.gov.au/tasmaniasheritage/search/guides/bdm-registration>

Digitized records

Registers of baptisms in Tasmania 1803–1933 (RGD32)

Registers of births in Hobart, Launceston and country districts 1838-1899 (RGD33)

Register of burials in Tasmania 1803-1933 (RGD34)

Registers of Hobart deaths and Launceston and country district deaths 1838-1899 (RGD 35)

Tasmanian marriages 1803-1838 (RGD36), 1838-1899 (RGD37)

Pan-European heraldry & genealogy reference books

<http://freepages.history.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~tqpeiffer/>



Best wishes for a very merry
Christmas
and a safe and happy 2015

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.