



# Reflections

Newsletter of the  
Phillip Island and District  
Genealogical Society Inc.

Inc. No A0023887G

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

**Saturday 1 September BRICK WALL DISCUSSION** 1.30pm – 4pm

### **Saturday 15 September Annual General Meeting**

**12.30 pm BARBEQUE LUNCH.** Salads, bread, tea & coffee provided. BYO meat and alcohol/soft drink.

#### **2 pm ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

It's that time of year again, when we ask all members to have a say in deciding who will run the family history group for the next year. If you want to influence the direction that our group takes into the future, come along and vote for the people who you think will do the best job – or stand for election yourself. Several of the current committee members have indicated that they will not be standing for re-election, so new faces are needed.

As with all our functions where catering is involved, we need some idea of the number of people attending the BBQ lunch prior to the AGM.

Please RSVP to <[piadgs@gmail.com](mailto:piadgs@gmail.com)> subject: 'BBQ', by Thursday 13 September to assist with catering.

#### **Saturday 6 October FAMILY TREE MAKER USER GROUP**

This will be a Q & A session.

#### **Saturday 20 October EUROPEAN RESEARCH - some new resources**

David Rathgen will highlight new avenues for research from Address Books, Church Records and European newspapers

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## Epitaphs

### **Owen Moore:**

*Owen Moore is gone away,  
Owin' more than he could pay.*

### **Infant, 8 months old:**

*Since I have been so quickly done for,  
I wonder what I was begun for.*

<http://shadowsofetime.co.nz>

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## LAUNCH OF THE SEARCHABLE DATABASE TO THE SHIRE OF PHILLIP ISLAND AND WOOLAMAI RATE BOOKS 1872 - 1900

What a great day! Monday 13 August saw the launch of our searchable database to the 1872-1900 Shire of Phillip Island and Woolamai rate books. Over 30 people attended, including representatives of other groups in the area covered by the rate books - the ridings of Phillip Island, Corinella and Woolamai.

The launch was the culmination of several years work which started with the digitization of the rate books from 1872 to 1928. Simon Eddy created a database program specifically for the rate books and this was followed by over 350 hours of data entry by Suzanne Hayes and hours of proof reading by members of our society.

Councillor Pamela Rothfield, Mayor of the Bass Coast Shire, pressed the "Search" button on the program front page to perform the first official search.

Old maps of the various areas were displayed around the room, and proved a great aid to finding the lots listed in the rate books. The data base has been described as 'very user friendly' by all those who have used it.



While the database covers the years 1872 to 1900, PDF versions of the years 1901 to 1928 are available for searching on our computers. Printed copies of the 1872 - 1908 rate books are also available in our rooms.



Simon Eddy (developer of the data base), Bob Hayes (President, PIADGS), Cr. Pamela Rothfield, Suzanne Hayes and Duncan McPherson (MC at the launch)

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More photos from the launch



## MORE FREE INTERNET SITES

Scottish indexes	<a href="http://www.scottishindexes.co.uk">http://www.scottishindexes.co.uk</a>
Ministers of the Free Church of Scotland 1843-1900	<a href="http://www.ecclegen.com">www.ecclegen.com</a>
Ireland - Historic graves	<a href="http://historicgraves.com/">http://historicgraves.com/</a>
Essex parish register collection	<a href="http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk/EssexAncestors.aspx">http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk/EssexAncestors.aspx</a>
Radix - Genealogy research in Hungary	<a href="http://www.bogardi.com/gen/">http://www.bogardi.com/gen/</a>

## 150 YEARS

A large portion of Phillip Island, in Western Port Bay, will also be thrown open, perhaps as much of it as 7000 acres, in allotments, as surveyed, from 12 to 160 acres. Intending selectors will be glad to know that the survey fees will be reduced, but to what extent we cannot say at present, as the amount has not yet been determined on.

The Age. Thursday 15 October 1868

I hear there is to be quite a rush to Phillip Island at the end of the month under the 42nd clause. This snug property has long remained under Mr M'Haffie's jurisdiction, and was admirably adapted for a squatting station. This gentleman-squatter for many years succeeded in getting the land withdrawn from sale, and his name, along with many others I could mention, has been regularly ticked off at the eve of elections as a safe vote for the M'Culloch party. Now a small inroad is to be made on the holding to the extent of some 7000 acres, which will provide for forty-three farms of 160 acres each. I learn between 30 and 40 selectors are preparing to engage a steamer to go down to be ready to peg out on the morning of the 2nd proximo. I have not heard what arrangements are made by the department to reserve a village site, but I should imagine that will be attended to. Forty-three families engaged in farming-pursuits would form the framework of a township where the blacksmith, carpenter, schoolmaster, and others would find a good opening. As the land is to be open everywhere on the same day, I do not see that there will be any great rush except to very favored localities. We cannot all go land selecting, or there will be nobody left in the workshops; but, from the excited talk I meet with in the city, I do expect a great exodus amongst those who, like the Athenians, are vastly pleased with anything new.

Geelong Advertiser. Friday 16 October 1868

Phillip Island is mentioned as among the many spots likely to be rushed by the selectors under the 42nd clause. The island is decided by the lands department to be within thirty miles of some alleged gold workings behind Mount Martha, and all the surveyed land, amounting to 7000 acres, will therefore be open for selection. A steamer is talked about to convey intending selectors to the scene of action, in order that they may peg out their allotments on the 1st prox.

Gippsland Times. Tuesday 20 October 1868

TO SELECTORS on PHILLIP ISLAND - Mr ROBERT FLETCHER, agent, formerly game keeper on Phillip Island for two years for the Acclimatisation Society will FURNISH all LOCAL INFORMATION on Wednesday the 28th, Thursday the 29th, and Friday the 30th inst. From ten to four o'clock, on application at Mr Lockhart Morton's office 57 Temple-court, Collins-street west.

The Age. Wednesday 28 October 1868

I chase dead people - like chasing parked cars, it sounds easy since they haven't moved in centuries - but the trick is finding which lot they are parked in.

We shall gather at the river (or the genealogy library if it rains).

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~sooty/>



## Family History month at the National Library in August

The National Library has weekly blogs on resources that are not found on Google, Ancestry etc.

<https://www.nla.gov.au/blogs/behind-the-scenes/2018/08/01/family-history-month-week-1>

## Facebook for Genealogy

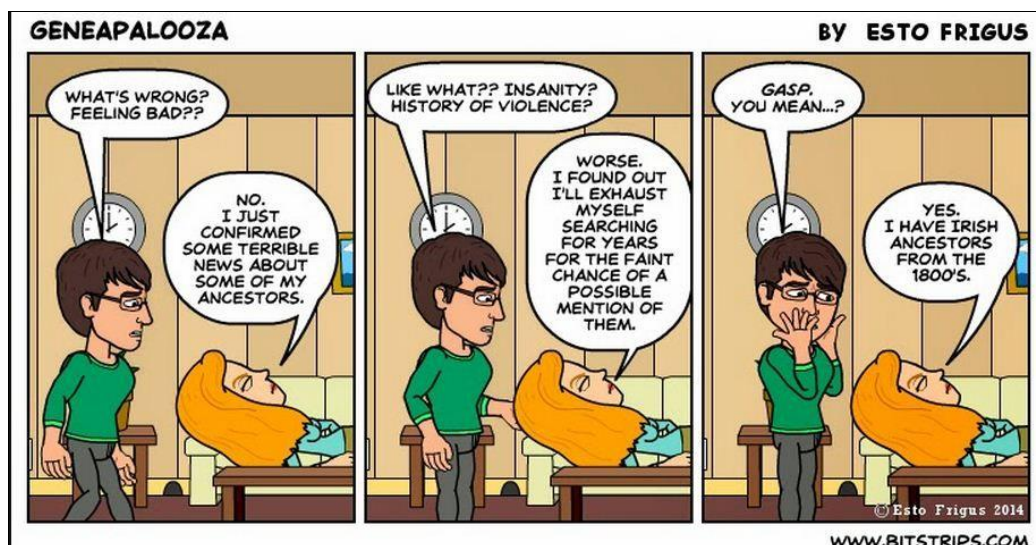
Not a fan of social media? You are missing many wonderful free resources for your family history research. You can create a Facebook profile using a pen name, no identity photo and use settings that protect your privacy. You do not need to accept any friend requests or post comments unless you wish to.

Examples of useful pages are Ancestry, Ancestry DNA for Dummies, Family Tree Maker Users, Australian Genealogy, Pioneers Victoria, Australia Pioneer Families, Old Australian photos, Strictly Scottish Genealogy, Ireland Family History, Gippsland Genealogy, The Resourceful Genealogist, Old Dandenong, Geelong Historical Society, Tasmanians finding their past.

Facebook has a search facility where you can search for a place name eg Dandenong or Ballarat, family surname, or a particular Historical or Genealogical Society for an area where family lived eg. Ballarat and District Historical Society Inc. You may find photos of houses, workplaces or relatives in old school or community photos!

An extensive list of genealogical and historical pages on Facebook can be found at

<https://moonswings.files.wordpress.com/2018/06/genealogy-on-facebook-list-summer-2018.pdf>



## ARE YOU ADDICTED TO GENEALOGY?

### Sure Signs of Addiction

You might be addicted to genealogy if:

- You can't drive past a graveyard without wondering if you have any ancestors buried there.
- You introduce your granddaughter as your descendant.
- You can recite your lineage back 19 generations, but can't remember your nephews name.
- You have more photographs of dead people than living ones
- You watch the movie/TV credits roll by to see if any of the surnames are ones you are researching.

## PHILLIP ISLAND IN THE NEWS

### PHILLIP ISLAND

Phillip Island, which was discovered 140 years ago, will celebrate its first decade as a municipality on Friday, when the president (Councillor W. Dawson Davie), Mrs. Dawson Davie, with the councillors and their wives, will entertain the ratepayers at a social evening in the shire hall at Cowes.

Invitations have been sent to all past councillors and also the Parliamentary representatives for Flinders and Mornington. It is expected that more than 350 will attend.

The shire secretary (Mr. E. R. Marchant) will be in charge of the arrangements. Phillip Island was formerly a riding of the Shire of Phillip Island and Woolamai.

The Argus. Wednesday 14 September 1938

### PHILLIP ISLAND TRANSPORT.

#### Complaints of Channel Siltation.

The Minister for Public Works (Mr. Goudie) was asked by a deputation of members of the Phillip Island and Woolamai Shire Council and of the residents on the island yesterday to make arrangements to dredge the channel between Stony Point and the island. The deputation was introduced by the Minister for Lands (Mr. Downward).

It was stated that the steamer Genista, which plied between the mainland and the island, frequently had to "force a passage" through the silt in the bed of the channel.

The owner of the vessel, Mr. A. K. T. Sambell, said that under existing conditions it was impossible to maintain a regular service to San Remo. The continual "scrapping" to which the bottom of the ship was subjected involved heavy expenditure in repairs. He contemplated the purchase of a larger vessel, but could not hope to run it unless the channel were dredged.

Councillor T. McPhee said that residents on the island had been trying for 37 years to have the channel deepened.

Mr. Goudie said that he did not know if it would be possible to dredge the channel effectively, or if a dredge could be made available for the work. He promised to ask the chief engineer of the department to report on the subject.

The Argus. Thursday 27 August 1925

### "SOME ROAD."

(TO THE EDITOR POWLETT EXPRESS)

Sir,—In a few sentences I would like to voice my impressions of district roads obtained on a run from Wonthaggi to San Remo. They were good until we got to Dudley; was told the mess up there was Country Roads Board doings. Barring crossings and culverts, road fair to old Powlett Post Office. The cockey living there is evidently an easy going cuss to allow them to root up the place; one has a vision of clouds of dust in a few weeks' time about there. 'Ti-tree on the road points to car troubles. Then a little further on we hum, "Who lives here?" Cr. Hollins. My! don't I wish he lived all the way to San Remo. We pass Dalyston, "Who lives here?" Cr. Daly. Don't believe it; road too bad! The driver is a good one; we dodge and span ruts innumerable, until we get to Kileunda R. S. There was one place that tickled my fancy, where the road branches to Woolamai. Did the driver swear? Don't know, it sounded awful. The water lies there, it does not know what else to do. Twelve months ago I saw them metalling the road at Bourne Creek; at current bank rate of interest, the council would have been some pounds in credit had they kept the money in the bank. The money has been put on the road to nobody's advantage, as the road is not blinded, few dare to use it. I was looking at the Kileunda Hall, I heard some one say Council Chambers, when Biff! I thought the car had collapsed, but no, it was only a crossing a foot wide and a foot deep. I did not remember much more till we reached Anderson. Then I heard a voice from somewhere saying, "It is alright now, you can lounge back; the engineer lives where we are going, and you'll see he is worth two or three councils." And it was so

—Yours, etc.,

UP AND DOWN.

Wonthaggi, Sept. 4, 1916.

The Powlett Express. 8 September 1916

### 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.