

WANGARATTA THREADS

The Quarterly Newsletter of the

WANGARATTA FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC

A0022724T

ABN No. 72 673 863 599

No. 87 August, 2011



OPEN DAYS:

Tuesday & Thursday each week
10.00am to 3.00pm.

3rd Saturday of each month
11.00am to 3.00pm.

LOCATION:

1st Floor
100-104 Murphy Street
Wangaratta, Vic, Australia.
(above Visitor Information Centre)

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info@wfhs.org.au

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www.wfhs.org.au

Volunteers Needed



If you can use computers and can spare some time to help, please consider becoming a volunteer to help members and visitors to research their family history. You would be shown how to do it using the 'buddy system' with our experienced volunteers for as long as you wish. And it's a great way to further develop your knowledge to conduct your own family history research.

Contact info@wfhs.org.au or ring Peter Sewell on 5721 3661 or Val Brennan on 5727 6229 or Cheryl Price on 5721 5906.

COMING EVENTS:

Saturday 17 September 2011 at 2.00pm

Members meeting to be held at our rooms. Come and enjoy an afternoon discussing family history and seeing our latest equipment purchases with a demonstration of their use. Please bring a plate, family and friends.

Sunday 9 October 2011 at 10.30am

All GMAGs* members (that includes our Society and its members) are invited to attend the Yarrowonga Family History Group Rooms** to hear Shauna Hicks speak on the following topics:

- My ancestor was a miner
- Caring for your family archives
- Newspapers online.

Cost \$10 including lunch.

RSVP by 2nd October to Jan Parker rek-rapj@bigpond.net.au or phone 03 5744 1460, mbl 0427 883 264.

Thursday 20th October 2011 - Community Raffle Tickets return

Members have each been sent a book of 10 tickets (at \$2 per ticket) for the 2011 RCoW Community Raffle. 1st prize a great car; 2nd prize a \$3500 travel voucher; and 3rd prize a family cycling package.

You can purchase the tickets and return the stubs with your money to WFHS by 20 October 2011, and return any unsold tickets by the same date. All proceeds from the sale of our allocated tickets allows us to purchase more resources for your research library. The raffle will be drawn on 11 December 2011 so good luck!

* Goulburn and Murray Association of Local & Family History Groups.

** location—next to the Netball courts, Victoria Park, Dunlop St Yarrowonga, Vic.

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WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

- ☼ Kim Baird
- ☼ Joan McKenzie
- ☼ Rex Duncombe
- ☼ Malcolm 'Keith' Marsden
- ☼ Kerry Marsden
- ☼ Paddy Milne
- ☼ Beverley Greskie
- ☼ Janette Bussell
- ☼ Alison Williams
- ☼ Lesley Desborough.



HAVE A QUERY OR WISH TO MAKE A SUGGESTION?

Contact:

- Peter Sewell, President on 03 5721 3661; or
- Cheryl Price, Secretary on 03 5721 5906.

You can also email us on info@wfhs.org.au.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS & OTHERS:

President: Peter Sewell

Treasurer: Val McPherson

Secretary: Cheryl Price

Other committee members:

- Ray McKenzie
- Val Brennan

Auditor: Norm Kenny of Kerr Andison and Kenny Pty Ltd.

Public Officer: Cheryl Price

Threads Newsletter: Cheryl Price and Anne Davidson.



REUNION:

All descendants of William McDONALD and Mary CASEY are invited to a family reunion to be held on Saturday 7th January, 2012 at the Wangaratta RSL Club commencing at 11.00a.m.

Cost to be advised but will include a light lunch.

For further information please contact

Dianne Micallef at: -

Email: thehouseofnoise@iinet.net.au

Phone: 08 9305 2995

Mobile: 0438 998 665

or

Marie Simpson at: -

Email: mesdts@bigpond.net.au

Phone: 02 4295 4317.

William and Mary were residents of Reed's Creek, North Wangaratta from about 1855.

William passed away on the 3rd June, 1881 and Mary on the 11th March, 1904.

Their children were:

- Hector (married Mary Barry),
- Margaret (married Alexander Blaikie),
- Mary (married Patrick Bradley),
- Elizabeth (married James Belford),
- William (married Mary Telford),
- Agnes (married James Taylor),
- Martha (married Abraham Buckler),
- James (married Annie Watson), and
- Alexander Hugh (married Agnes Allan).

A REMARKABLE PUNISHMENT OF MURDER

An extract from the History of the Parish of Peak Forest in Derbyshire, England

The Minister at Peak Forest in Derbyshire had the power to grant Marriage Licences to any persons applying, no matter from whence they came, and in virtue of these Licences could marry any persons from anywhere and at any time. These powers he exercised in favour of people coming from all parts to this Ecclesiastical "Gretna Green" of the Peak. From ninety to a hundred of these "Foreign Marriages", as they were locally called, took place every year. It is very likely that many a tangled skein of family history may be unraveled by these registers.

Contained in the history of Peak Forest is "a tale of blood". About the middle of the eighteenth century, two young people on their way to Peak Forest to be married, were way-laid in a wild gorge through which the way led. Some Castleton miners had noticed them as they rested for a short time at Stoney Middleton, and heard them enquire the way to Peak Forest. These men determined to rob them as they passed through this gorge, known as the Winnats or Wind Gates. The following account is held in the British Museum and was given by Mr Thomas Marshall of Edale in Derbyshire, 17th December 1778.

Parish Church, Peak Forest



"Twenty years ago a young gentleman and lady came out of Scotland as is supposed on a matrimonial expedition. As they were travelling through that County, they were robbed and murdered at a place called ye Winnets, near Castleton. Their bones were found about ten years ago by some miners who were sinking an Engine Pit at ye place. One James Ashton of Castleton, who died about a fortnight ago, and who was one of the murderers, was most miserably afflicted and tormented in his conscience. He had been dying it was thought, for ten weeks, but could not die till he had confessed the whole of the affair, but when he had done this he died immediately.

He said Nicholas Cock, Thomas Hall, John Bradshaw, Frank Butler and himself meeting the above gentleman and lady in ye Winnets, pulled them off their horses and dragged them into a barn belonging to one of them, and took from them £200.

Then seizing on ye young gentleman, the young lady entreated them in ye most moving manner not to kill him, as she was the cause of him coming into that country. But not withstanding her entreaties, they cut his throat from ear to ear. They then seized the young lady herself, and though she entreated them on her knees to spare her life, and turn her out naked, yet one of the wretches drove a miner's pick into her head when she dropped dead at his feet. Having thus dispatched them both they left ye bodies in ye barn and went away with their booty. At night they returned to ye barn, in order to take them away; but they were so terrified with a frightful noise, that they durst not move them; and so it was on the second night. But the third night Ashton said it was only the Devil who would not hurt them, so they took ye bodies away and buried them. They then divided the money and Ashton bought horses with his share, which died soon after. Nicholas Cock fell from a precipice near ye place of ye murder and was killed. Thomas Hall hanged himself. John Bradshaw was walking near ye place where ye bodies were buried, when a stone fell from ye hill and killed him on ye spot. Francis Butler went mad and died miserably."

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The names of the murdered people were never known. Had the crime been committed on the return journey, their names would have been found in the Register of Foreign Marriages. Peak Forest would be unknown to their friends, who never hearing of or from them would conclude that they had left the country.

Among the burials in the register for the Parish of Castleton are the following:

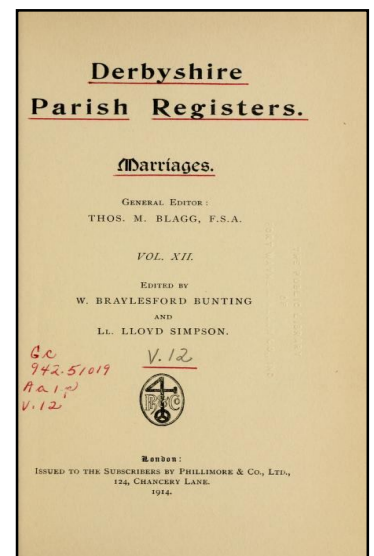
- James Ashton (the man who confessed) 18th October 1778.
- Thomas Hall 9th June 1751.
- Thomas Hall 28th May 1753.
- Rebekah Cock, daughter of Nicholas and Mary Cock, buried 14th October 1759, accidentally drowned in the brook.
- Charles Cock, son of Nicholas and Mary Cock buried 2nd March 1763.
- Nicholas Cock buried 29th December 1766.
- John Bradshaw 30th August 1774.
- The two Halls in the register may neither have been the murderer as in all probability he would have been buried in a suicide's grave at some crossroads.
- Francis Butler is not in the burial register, but as he went mad, he was doubtless removed to a place of safety and not buried at Castleton.

Ed:-

The following weblink takes you to the full 1914 manuscript of the extracts of marriages in Derbyshire from 1621 to 1837.

This excellent document, shown at the right, is also searchable.

<http://www.archive.org/stream/derbyshireparish12phil#page/4/mode/2up>



LIBRARY NEWS:

Thanks to the hard work undertaken by Jean Rankins and Anne Davidson, the reorganisation of our hardcopy library is finished and the In-Magic library catalogue is up-to-date.

The layout of the library is now clearly signposted making it easy for those who like to browse and those who prefer to use the catalogue to find books and newsletters of interest.

Work is now being undertaken to update the surname index which is used to match surnames to publications.

Some of our new CDs and books:

- Headstones of Tasmania CD 20 'Ross & Tunbridge'.
- Colac Cemetery CD.
- Recollections IV. Published by the Myrtleford & District Historical Society. 2011.
- The Cobar Leader: News & Comments 1897-1901. Compiled by Marianne Faull. 2011.
- Tales from the Western Road Cemetery. Compiled by the Friends of Mays Hill Cemetery. 2011.

CHINESE FAMILY HISTORY

A lot of interest in our Chinese display was shown during Family History Week early in August 2011 - so a brief history of the Chinese pioneers of the district, and some suggested resources for those who may wish to find out more, follows.

As with many of the pioneers of the district, the lure of gold and the living that could be made from the land were great attractions to many people from other countries. Originally, the Chinese sailed to Australia and landed in Melbourne, South Australia and Sydney and travelled overland to the gold diggings of Victoria including the diggings in the valleys of the major rivers of the North East – the Ovens, King, Mitta Mitta and Buckland and their tributaries. Some found wealth through the discovery of gold and returned to their native country, but many remained and established themselves on the land and in other avenues of business. For those Chinese who stayed in the district, they formed part of the tapestry of our pioneers and their way of life, and many of their descendants remain in the area. The following resources can help in the research of Chinese family history:

At Wangaratta Family History Society

- Birth Death and Marriage records of Victoria, Qld, Tasmania, Sth Australia etc.
- Bagnell, Kate. Digging Deep: Sources for Chinese-Australian History in NSW.
- Groom, Jocelyn. Chinese Pioneers of the King Valley. Wangaratta. The Centre for Continuing Education. 2001.
- Jones, Doris Yau-Chong. Reading Chinese Gravestones. Nov 2001.
- Kaufman, Robert J. The Chinese on the Upper Ovens Goldfield 1855-1920. Bright. LRGM. 1997.
- McGregor, Paul, ed. Histories of the Chinese in Australasia and the South Pacific: Proceedings of an International Public Conference held at the Museum of Chinese Australian History Melbourne 8-10 October 1993. Museum of Chinese Australian History. Melbourne. 1995.
- McWaters, Vivienne. Beechworth's Little Canton: the History of the Spring Creek Chinese Camp and its Residents. Beechworth. 2002.
- Stapleton, Ian. Of Pioneers & Perseverance (Chapter 2). Riverwood NSW. Large Book Printer. 2010.
- Swift, Andrew. The Chinese Settlement East Branch, Ovens River, Harrietville, North East Victoria. Bright. 2001.

Online resources

The National Archives: The National Archives holds records about many individuals who arrived from overseas during the 20th century and some who arrived during the 19th century <http://www.naa.gov.au/collection/explore/migration/index.aspx>

Victoria

- Museum of Chinese Australian History located in 22 Cohen Place, Melbourne Victoria, 3000, Australia. Phone: 03 9662 2888 Fax: 03 9663 2693 <http://www.chinesemuseum.com.au/>
- Chinese Australian Family Historians of Victoria Inc. 澳洲省裔家协会 <http://www.chaf.lib.latrobe.edu.au/cafhov/index.htm>
- Golden Dragon Museum (Bendigo) - <http://www.goldendragonmuseum.org>

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- Gum San Chinese Cultural Centre (Ararat) - <http://www.gumsan.com.au>
- Beechworth Chinese Cultural Centre (Beechworth) - <http://www.beechworthchinese.com.au>
- Chinese Heritage Interest Network - <http://chinese-heritage.tripod.com>

New South Wales

- BDM of NSW <http://www.bdm.nsw.gov.au/familyHistory/searchHistoricalRecords.htm>
- NSW State Records. Chinese migration and settlement in NSW <http://www.records.nsw.gov.au/state-archives/guides-and-finding-aids/archives-in-brief/archives-in-brief-33#gold-field-mining-records>
- Chinese Australian Historical Society, Inc. (Sydney) - <http://www.caahs.org.au>
- Chinese Heritage Association of Australia Inc (Sydney) - <http://www.chineseheritage.org.au>

Queensland

- CHINA Inc (Cairns)- <http://chinainc.yolasite.com>
- Chinese-Australian Historical Association, Inc. (Brisbane) - email Ray Poon rnp@smartchat.net.au

Northern Territory

- Chung Wah Society, Darwin - <http://www.chungwahnt.asn.au>

Western Australia

- Chung Wah Association, Perth - <http://www.chungwah.org.au>

Overseas

- The Chinese Historical Society of America - <http://www.chsa.org>
- Chinese Canadian Historical Society BC - <http://www.cchsbc.ca>



VICTORIAN BIRTH, DEATH & MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES:

You can arrange to get birth, death and marriage certificates from the Department of Justice office here in Wangaratta.

They are located at 90 Ovens, near the corner with Templeton St.

You can pay by cash, cheque or card, and the certificate will be mailed to you within 10 days.

MEMBERSHIPS:

Initial 1st year Admin Fee	\$10
Single Full Membership	\$25
Joint Full Membership	\$35
Single Pensioner	\$20
Joint Pensioner	\$30
Newsletter only	\$12

CHANGE OF PLACE NAMES:

During World War I, many German-sounding place names in Australia were changed because of anti-German sentiment. The new names were often anglicised, given Aboriginal names, names of famous people, or battlefields. This was done through an Act of Parliament, as well as by petition. The presence of German derived place names was seen as an affront to the war efforts, and to the sensibilities of many in the Australian population at the time. In South Australia, the [Nomenclature Act of 1935](#) restored the former German names to a number of towns, the names of which had been changed in 1917.

Former name	New name
Victoria:	
Germantown	Grovedale
Hochkirch	Tarrington
Mount Bismarck	Mount Kitchener
NSW:	
Germantown	Holbrook
German's Hill	Lidster
German Creek	Empire Vale
Queensland:	
Bergen	Murra Murra
Bergenside	Neuve
Bismarck	Maclagan
Engelsburg	Kalbar
Gehrkevale	Mount Mort
Gramzow	Carbrook
Hapsburg	Kowbi
Hessenburg	Ingoldsby
Kirchheim	Haigslea
Murden	Frenchton
Roessler	Applethorpe
Stegeht	Woongoolba
Teutelburg	Willa
Fahley	Kilbirni
WA:	
Mueller Park	Kitchener Park
Tasmania:	
Bismarck	Collins Vale

Former name	New name
SA:	
Bartsch's Creek	Yedlakoo Creek (changed to Bartsch Creek in 1986)
Basedow, Hundred of	French, Hundred of
Berlin Rock	Panpandie Rock
Bethanien	Bethany
Bismarck	Weeroopa
Blumberg	Birdwood
Blumenthal	Lakkari
Buchfelde	Loos
Cape Bauer	Cape Wondoma (changed back in 1948)
Carlsruhe	Kunden
Ehrenbreitstein	Mount Yerila
Ferdinand Creek	Ernabella Creek
Friedensthal	Black Hill
Friedrichstadt	Tangari
Friedrichswalde	Tarnma
Gebhardt's Hills	Polygon Ridge (changed to Gebhardt Hills in 1986)
German Creek	Benara Creek (changed back in 1986)
German Pass	Tappa Pass
Germantown Hill	Vimy Ridge
Gottlieb's Well	Parnggi Well
Grunberg	Karalta (changed to Gruenberg in 1975)
Grunthal	Verdun
Hahndorf	Ambleside (changed back in 1935)
Hasse's Mound	Larelar Mound
Heidelberg	Kobandilla
Hergott Springs	Marree

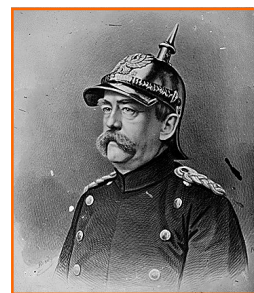
Former name	New name
SA continued: Hildesheim	Punthari
Hoffnungsthal	Karrawirra (changed back in 1975)
Homburg, Hundred of	Haig, Hundred of
Jaenschtown	Kerkanya
Kaiserstuhl	Mount Kitchener
Klaebes	Kilto
Klemzig	Gaza (changed back in 1935)
Krause Rock	Marti Rock
Krichauff	Beatty (changed to Mount Mary in 1940)
Krichauff, Hundred of	Beatty, Hundred of
Kronsdorf	Kabminye
Langdorf	Kaldukee
Langmeil	Bilyara (changed back in 1975)
Lobethal	Tweedvale (changed back in 1935)
Meyer, Mount	Mount Kauto
Mount Ferdinand	Mount Warrabillinna
Muller's Hill	Yandina Hill
Neudorf	Mamburdi (changed back in 1986)
Neukirch	Dimchurch (changed back in 1975)
New Hamburg	Willyaroo
New Mecklenburg	Gomersal
Oliventhal	Olivedale
Paech, Hundred of	Cannawigra, Hundred of
Petersburg	Peterborough
Pflaum, Hundred of	Geegeela, Hundred of
Rhine (North), Hundred of	Jellicoe, Hundred of
Rhine (South), Hundred of	Jutland, Hundred of

Former name	New name
Rine Hill	Mons
Rhine Park	Kongolia
Rhine River North	The Somme (changed to Somme Creek in 1971)
Rhine River South	The Marne (changed to Marne River in 1971)
Rhine Villa	Cambria
Rosenthal	Rosedale
Scherk, Hundred of	Sturdee, Hundred of
Schoenthal	Boongala (changed back in 1986)
Schomburgk, Hundred of	Maude, Hundred of
Schreiberhau	Warre (changed to Schreiberau in 1975)
Seppelts	Dorrien
Siegersdorf	Bultawilta (changed back in 1975)
Steinfeld	Stonefield (changed back in 1986)
Summerfeldt	Summerfield
Vogelsang's Corner	Teerkoore (changed to Vogelsang Corner in 1986)
Von Doussa, Hundred of	Allenby, Hundred of
Wusser's Nob	Karun Nob (changed to Wusser Nob in 1983)

Sources: Adelaide Cooperative History website <http://www.ach.familyhistorysa.info>, Australian Bureau of Statistics 1301.0-Year Book Australia 1926.



Lord Kitchener



Otto Von Bismarck

HANDY RESEARCH SITES:

UK:

The UK National Archives now allows their Microfilm records to be downloaded <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documentsonline/digital-microfilm.asp>. The Digital Microfilm allows you to search and download some of The National Archives' most popular records, which were previously available on microfilm. The National Archives has a large collection of micro-filmed records, and they hope that making these available online will increase their accessibility. This will ultimately allow the microfilm readers used at The National Archives, Kew to be retired. Many of the records are indexes and they hope that these will be helpful in locating other relevant records.

Family History Society of Cheshire <http://www.fhsc.org.uk/>.

If you happen to check out the parish records <http://www.csc.liv.ac.uk/~cprdb/> on the Family History Society of Cheshire site, you may be confused by the format of the dates. For example, 7020506 is actually 6th May 1702. You have to add a 1 to the start of the number: 17020506 and then read it as year, month, day: 1702 [year] 05 [month] 06 [day].

International:

The Family Search Community Trees site has uploaded an additional 90,000 names: <http://histfam.familysearch.org/>

The Commonwealth War graves Commission <http://www.cwgc.org/default.asp>. The "Debt of Honour Register" is the Commission's database listing the 1.7 million men and women of the Commonwealth forces who died during the two world wars and the 23,000 cemeteries, memorials and other locations worldwide where they are commemorated. The register can also be searched for details of the 67,000 Commonwealth civilians who died as a result of enemy action in the Second World War.

NZ

History on line. NZ genealogy links <http://www.nzhistory.net.nz/handsonhistory/genealogy-links>

Hungary and Slovakia: This site takes you to the Budapest Civil Registration marriage records as well as links to Slovakia's Church books. <http://thehungaryexchange.blogspot.com/2011/08/index-to-budapest-civil-registration.html>

Victoria:

The Greater Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust - Deceased Search <http://www.gmct.com.au/deceased-search.aspx> includes the following cemeteries: Altona Memorial Park; Anderson's Creek Cemetery; Emerald Cemetery; Healesville Cemetery; Keilor Cemetery; Lilydale Memorial Park; Northcote Cemetery; Preston Cemetery; Templestowe Cemetery; and Yarra Glen Cemetery.

West Australia:

Avon Valley. This website <http://avonvalleycollection.bravehost.com/> has convict deaths in The Avon Valley and an additional 2,353 new records of Deaths in the Avon plus the Accidental Deaths of children.

NSW:

The NSW government State records site has now created an index to photographs of people who were gaoled <http://www.records.nsw.gov.au/state-archives/indexes-online/gaol-records/index-to-the-gaol-photographs>. This index is not included in the keyname search on their website.

WANGARATTA THREADS

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WANGARATTA THREADS

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Australia

What is happening at WFHS

Check it out..... www.wfhs.org.au