

WANGARATTA THREADS
The Quarterly Newsletter of the
WANGARATTA FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC

A002724T

ABN No. 72 673 863 599

No. 99 August, 2014



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).

POSTAL ADDRESS:

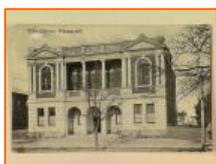
P.O. Box 683
Wangaratta, Vic, 3676
Australia.

email:

info@wfhs.org.au

Web Address:

www.wfhs.org.au



COMING EVENTS:

At our Society:

Saturday 20 September 2014 at 2.00pm Members Meeting

To be held in our library so come along and catch up with all the news at WFHS.



Some fun homework for you to do and bring along to the meeting (or email it to info@wfhs.org.au). See page 9. Gold stars and prizes to be won.

Please bring a plate for afternoon tea.

August 2014—National Family History Month

Our society will be conducting Genealogy Online Workshops at the High Country Library, Docker St, Wangaratta. Bookings essential—phone 03 5721 2366.

Also, free in-house research and support at our Research Library 100-104 Murphy St, Wangaratta.



Find us on
Facebook

Thank you to Paddy Milne for creating a Facebook page for our Society.

Check it out: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Wangaratta-Family-History-Society-Inc/678865085537215>

2014 WANGARATTA COMMUNITY RAFFLE:

We will soon be mailing out community raffle tickets for purchase. This year the prizes are:

- 1st—Mazda 3 Neo valued at \$26,163 'On the road'.
- 2nd—Travel package valued at \$4,000.
- 3rd—Bicycle package valued at \$2,000.
- 4th—Whitegoods package valued at \$1,500.
- 5th—Grocery voucher valued at \$1,000.
- 6th—Fuel Voucher valued at \$500.

All proceeds from the sale of each ticket will be donated back to our Society.

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS & OTHERS:

President: Ray McKenzie 03 5721 7553
 Vice President: Val Brennan 03 5727 6229
 Treasurer: Dianne Cavedon 03 5722 2607
 Secretary: position vacant
 Other committee members:

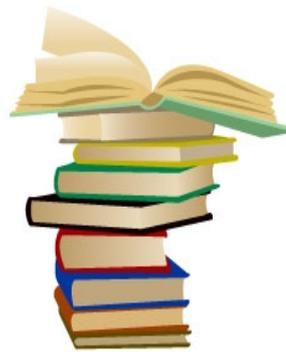
- Val McPherson
- Elaine Jones
- Paddy Milne
- Cheryl Price.

Auditor: Norm Kenny of Kerr Andison and Kenny Pty Ltd.
 Threads Newsletter: Cheryl Price.



100th EDITION OF 'THREADS' TO BE A BUMPER EDITON—3 MONTHS TO GO:

In three months time the 100th edition of this newsletter will be published as a 'bumper' edition and will include lots of articles and items of interest as well as a celebration of 30 years of our Society.



If you have an article you would like to have published in *Threads*, please contact the editor, Cheryl Price, at info@wfhs.org.au or phone 03 5721 5906.



FOR SALE \$ - WANGARATTA CEMETERY CD:

Our Society is reducing stocks and selling Wangaratta Cemetery CDs which contain burial and headstone transcriptions at a reduced price of \$50 ea (including packaging and postage). Original price was \$77.

Download the order form from our website <http://www.wfhs.org.au/> or contact info@wfhs.org.au.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

- * Gaye Dwyer
- * Beryl Strang
- * Mary Kelly
- * Margaret O'Brien.

HAVE A QUERY OR WISH TO MAKE A SUGGESTION?

Contact:

- * Ray McKenzie, President, on 03 5721 7553; or
- * Val Brennan, Vice President, on 03 5727 6229.

MEMBERSHIP:

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

PROJECTS UPDATE:

We have a number of projects in various stages of work or update including two new projects:

- Wangaratta Rate Books in conjunction with the Rural City of Wangaratta Archives Unit – digitising and indexing have commenced.
- Beechworth Cemetery Archives digitisation and indexing in conjunction with the Beechworth Cemetery Trust – in preparation, to commence in the next month or two.

We are looking to expand and train our volunteer base to support these two large projects, if you are interested please contact us through info@wfhs.org.au.

Other works in progress:

Wangaratta Cemetery Major Upgrade & Digitisation (Cem2). Data checking almost complete, database preparation imminent, imaging of memorials commenced for progressive inclusion.

Eldorado Cemetery Update of data and memorials being finalised.

Tarrawingee Cemetery imaging and data complete, now in database development.

Whitefield (Hyem), Springhurst, Rutherglen & Chiltern Cemeteries in various stages of development.

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY:

Countryside: The Classic Companion to Rural Britain, 1982, Geoffrey Grigson, Publisher Ebury Press London.

Fromelles The Final Chapters, 2013, by Tim Lycett and Sanda Playle, Publisher Penguin Group Australia.

Home Before Dark, 1988, by Irene Turvey, Publisher Irene Turvey.

Illustrated Guide To Country Towns and Villages of Britain, 1985, Geoffrey Berry and others, Publisher Drive Publications Ltd.

Lieut. C. T. Mummery M.C. and BAR, 2014, by Beverley Smith.

The Farmers' Store That Grew and Grew: A Pictorial History of Wangaratta's Co-Store, 1988, by Graham Jones.

Wangaratta Rate Books:



Karen Chetcutti of the Rural City of Wangaratta and Val Brennan, Wangaratta Family History Society Vice-President, with 130 years worth of rate books.

Our Society received a Grant of \$10,678 to digitise and index the Wangaratta Rates Books including -Borough of Wangaratta 1863–1939; Shire of Wangaratta 1917–1994; Shire of North Ovens 1867–1916 & Shire of Oxley 1937 – 1939; and create and publish a searchable database.

Beechworth Cemetery Records:



Beechworth Cemetery Trust Secretary Terry Walsh and Val Brennan with Beechworth's 1860s Burial Record.

Our Society will shortly commence this joint project with the Beechworth Cemetery Trust to digitise and index the archival registers, photograph the headstones / memorials and update the database.

A NAME CHANGED BY DEED POLL – A DIFFICULT ‘BRICKWALL’ FOR RESEARCHERS:

An interesting small comment was found in the digital copies of Handley Funeral Director records held by our Society.

A gentleman, buried in Wangaratta Cemetery in 1960, was buried under the name he chose by deed poll in 1953.

The information about his change of name, including his birth name and deed poll registration number, was provided by an officer of the Salvation Army to the Funeral Director. Why the Salvation Army officer felt compelled to provide that information is an unknown story in itself, but why the gentleman concerned needed to not only change his surname but to also change his first and second names when he was 67 years old is a mystery.



Deed poll was used in Victoria until October 1986 to change a person's name by making a deed stating the intention to be known by another name. A solicitor drew up the deed and then lodged it with the Registrar-General's Office which was part of the Land Titles Office. After October 1986, deed poll was replaced by the name change registration process, which is used today. Deed poll records from 1904 to 1986 are held at the Public Records Office of Victoria but are closed to the public.

To try and solve this mystery, some research was undertaken and it was found that he was born in Adelaide, South Australia, where he married in the early 1900s using his birth name.

Trying to locate his movements as well as his wife's since their marriage using all name combinations and manner of resources has so far been unsuccessful.

The first bit of helpful information was the Wangaratta Cemetery records which show he was a labourer and resided at Painters Island (a caravan park) in Wangaratta.

His headstone doesn't shed a light but the fact that it's there means that someone paid for it so council records were checked and it was found that his firm of solicitors paid for the burial (paid an extra £3 for a Sunday burial) in a private grave and the monumental mason, McLaughlin Monumentals, charged £90 for the headstone and grave furnishing.

Apparently he was a man of some means so a check of wills and probate at the Public Records Office of Victoria revealed that he made his will while in hospital a week before he died. He named the Salvation Army officer his Executor and left everything to the Wangaratta District Hospital. Probate wasn't finalised until 1966, six years after his death, and it appears the delay may have been due only to the slow action of his Executor. The small value of trinkets and his watch, as well as \$395 in his bank account (\$4,740 in today's money), amounted to \$405.

The gentleman concerned was **Thomas John MCCORMICK** and he died on Friday 11 November 1960 in Wangaratta. Because of privacy legislation concerning his change of name by Dead Poll, his full birth name and that of his wife will not be published here, but his birth surname was **MCDERMOTT** and he was born in Adelaide in the 1880s where he married his 16 year old bride in the early 1900s. No record of children has been found. This gentleman remains a mystery to this day, and he and his wife are probably missing components of many a family tree.

This exercise has shown that in the past, if someone chose to change their name and, through either circumstances or choice, remained 'under the radar' in so far as record keeping goes, then it can be very difficult to scale a family research 'brickwall' let alone find out the wall is there.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 4th day of November 1960
THOMAS MCCORMICK

101 YEAR OLD MISS ELIZABETH EUSTACE OF WANGARATTA MEETS THE QUEEN:



*Her Majesty meets lady of 101 years, from Wangaratta, at Benalla station, 5 March 1954.
Source PROV VPRS 12905/P1, unit 5, L5-34.*

"...HEARTS ALONG EVERY INCH OF THE WAY!." *The Argus* (Melbourne, Vic) 6 Mar 1954:

A delighted crowd of 10,000 outside Benalla railway station roared their approval yesterday when the Queen paused to greet 101-year-old **Miss Elizabeth Eustace**. "What a wonderful woman," the Queen said as she shook hands with Miss Eustace. "How pleased I am to meet you," she added. Miss Eustace, who will be 102 in November, struggled to rise from her special chair near the Royal dais to curtsy. She described her first meeting with Royalty as "wonderful, just wonderful." Dressed in a blue and white spotted dress with a spray of red flowers, Miss Eustace sat in a chair dwarfed by a red, white, and blue ribbon tied in a huge bow."

'In her first years of childhood, in the 1850's, Miss Eustace travelled to the border in a horse and buggy. It took two weeks for her family to make the two-horse team-drawn covered wagon ride from Port Melbourne to Albury. Her father was **Alfred Eustace** and he painted signs for many early stores and was later a farmer for many years at Wooragee, lived to 88 and her mother to 78. She was born in Albury in 1852. She had 5 siblings. She is sometimes described as the first white woman born in Albury. She recalled crossing the Murray River in a bullock wagon carried on a punt, and of Albury as a shanty town, and of aborigines clad in possum skins or less walking the streets. She lived in Albury, Chiltern, Gapstead and Wangaratta.

Miss Eustace died August 1959, a few weeks before her 107th birthday and was known as Australia's oldest resident. Her nearest relatives—nephews **John and Frank Boadle** of Melbourne, second nephews and nieces from Gippsland, Coburg, Brunswick and Moonee Ponds attended her funeral. Beechworth Shire Council was represented by the President **Cr J V Diffey**, **Crs R Caldwell** and **L Gilchrist** and Secretary **Mr G Gray**. Chiltern Shire President **Cr Peake** also attended. The service was conducted by **Rev T W Reeves** of Beechworth Baptist Church and Miss Eustace was buried in the Chiltern Cemetery.' *Source: The Border Mail Aug 19 1959.*

JIM MILNE'S HISTORY OF THE OVENS AND KING FOOTBALL LEAGUE – WRITTEN IN 1962:

The following is an extract from the book titled *All Links in the Chain: The Centenary History of the Ovens and King Football League*, by Neil Barter, 2003.

“One of the famous footballers of long ago was **Jim Milne** of Eldorado, who compiled a history of the Ovens and King League in 1962. It's worth reproducing here some of his wonderful memories and insights into an era when the Ovens and King began.

‘Within the period of my own memory, back in 1903 some of the youths of Eldorado would ride over to Irish Town to see the football. Irish Town, a part of Tarrawingee, had for its centre a red brick hotel that was owned by **Mr and Mrs Fred Reid** and their son and daughter. The hotel and football ground were at the corner of Eldorado and Beechworth roads, opposite to where the Devery's lived. Five teams made up the association and it is interesting to note that two of the teams, namely Wangaratta and Milawa, still play on the site of their original grounds.

The Milawa ground was fenced and had brick dressing rooms. The other grounds in the association were handy paddocks and the players changed at the hotel or hall or wherever they best could at the grounds.

Football jackets were sleeveless and often worn over a singlet or flannel. They were made of canvas and were laced up at the front. Shorts were worn very long and usually about three inches below the knee. Stockings (socks) were long and made of wool knitted in the club's colours. Boots were anything you thought suited your style of play – Sunday boots, working boots, tennis boots or sandshoes.

The teams travelled mainly by horse-drawn vehicles and a number of clubs used a five-horse drag. Eldorado hired Crawford and Co's of Wangaratta. The drag and horses at the time were in the charge of **Charlie Teakle**, one of their best drivers. He owned and drove the last horse-drawn cab in Wangaratta.

The drag, licensed to carry 22 passengers, often had 28 to 30 men onboard. On a day trip to Beechworth, the horses were stopped at a number of hills and the players asked to get out and walk up the hill to give the horses a rest.

In 1906 I went to Myrtleford in a drag, leaving Eldorado at 10am. The drag pulled up at Keady's Hotel at Everton at midday, where the horses were fed and watered. After an hour's rest, the horse were reyoked and set off for Myrtleford arriving at Gerrity's Hotel, now Mt Buffalo View Hotel, where the horses were stabled. The players changed at the hotel and walked to the football oval. After the match you had a cold shower, if you were game enough, then had tea. Then, after a couple of hours in the town, we climbed into the drag and set off on the thirty-odd mile trip back to Eldorado, arriving home in the early hours of Sunday morning.

A few years later, **Jack O'Neil** of Stanley transported the Eldorado team with his drag. A custom most of the football teams had was to stop at every hotel on the trip, where the players had a one shilling in, the winner paying for the round of drinks for sixpence with the other half of the money going into his own pocket. Perhaps the stops were to rest the horses.

Wangaratta and Beechworth used special trains for their matches as did Whorouly and Myrtleford when convenient. **Harold Hill**, an auctioneer in Wangaratta, told me about a match in Wangaratta where a special train had to be hired from Whorouly because the Ovens River was in flood.

Some players travelled long distances to play with their clubs. **Jack Slater** of Cheshunt, who played with Milawa and later with Moyhu, used to ride his bicycle from Cheshunt to Milawa each Saturday then travelled with Milawa to the match. If that particular match was at Beechworth or Myrtleford it meant a round trip of 120 miles by the time he was back home.

Cont →

JIM MILNE'S HISTORY OF THE OVENS AND KING FOOTBALL LEAGUE – WRITTEN IN 1962

cont:

Henry Johnson and **Harold Wellington** rode their bikes from Markwood to Myrtleford, played a good game, then rode their bikes back again.

In 1926 the independent tribunal was formed, consisting of three men, **Robert Marks**, **C C Johnson** and **W Smith**.

Field umpires

In the *Chronicle* dated 17/8/1904 there was to be a challenge match to be umpired by a Melbourne umpire. A little later on Mr **Tom Simmonds** told me that Moyhu won three premierships under Melbourne umpires. Another popular umpire was **Mus Maroney** of Carraragumungee. Other umpires at the time were **Joe Boulds**, **Beatty**, **Bob Marks**, **Alex Murdoch**, **Crawford McAliece**, **Percy Mason** and **Bill Walker**. **J M Woods** told me a story about **Joe Mason**, who was to umpire a match between Whorouly and Moyhu but both teams objected to him as the umpire. **Mason** sat on the ball in the middle of the ground until they paid him his umpire's fee of ten shillings.

Mr Milne's history goes to record interviews he had with some of the players of early days

The following anecdote refers to a game played after Tarrawingee had earned a reputation for being too rough.

George Connor of Byawatha, who had two brothers playing in the Tarrawingee teams, said a Tarrawingee player **A A Farthing** thought that the remarks made by **Mr Charles Hutton** were too pointed, and he said "Mr Hutton, would you mind addressing the other team now, please."

Artie Rundle was another player Milne interviewed. In 1893, **Rundle** was captain of the under 18 Wangaratta Rainbows team, so called because of the variety of sweaters and colours. He played with Wangaratta in their first year in the Ovens and King. **Mr Rundle** closed his chemist shop so that he could play in the special challenge match against Tarrawingee referred to directly above.

Les Brown of Milawa told me the dates of the first meeting from an entry in his diary of 6 June 1903. **Les Brown** played for the Rainbows under 18 team in a junior association consisting of Albury, Rutherglen, Barnawartha, Corowa, and Beechworth United. He was captain of the first Milawa team when it entered the Ovens and King in 1903.

Bill Hickey of Wangaratta played with South Melbourne in the VFL in the middle of his career with Wangaratta Ovens and King side. He told me of the special challenge match against Eldorado.

Mr Tom Simmonds of Moyhu was captain of the Moyhu team which won three premierships in a row from 1909 to 1911. He retired after 1911 but he told me that Melbourne umpires umpired those three grand finals.

Harold Walker, who later became a Davis Cup selector, was an Eldorado boy who played for Tarrawingee in 1903 and was in the team for the challenge match against the Rainbows.

Jack Keogh, who was one of the early presidents in the Ovens and King, played for Tarrawingee in the 1890's and was later an auditor on the Ovens and King for 25 years, retiring from that position in 1952.

Duke Gardner of Milawa played his first football in 1900. He never played in a premiership team, although he played for 26 years, of which 25 were with Milawa and one with Eldorado. In that Eldorado team he missed out on his footballing ambition as Wangaratta defeated Eldorado by two points in the grand final. **Duke Gardner** was a past master of the place kick as was his step-brother, **Colin Gardner**, who later played with St Kilda in the VFL.

Cont →

JIM MILNE'S HISTORY OF THE OVENS AND KING FOOTBALL LEAGUE – WRITTEN IN 1962

cont:

Among the many personalities who stood out in the Ovens and King is **Mr Charles Butler**, who became the first life member of the Ovens and King. **Charles Butler**, a school teacher at Eldorado in 1925, joined the Eldorado club as secretary and became a delegate for his club for two years. Being promoted to Myrtleford State School in 1929, he was made president of that club which, at his suggestion, successfully sought admission to the Ovens and King. At the annual meeting that year, **Charles Butler** was appointed secretary and in six years, mainly as a result of his efforts, the Ovens and King Association blossomed forth into the Ovens and King League, the governing body of football in the north-east. He later held the important position of a member of the Appeals Board which dealt with cases of appeals from tribunals of all leagues as far south as Donnybrook.

The second person to become a life member of the league was **Mr Ray Barker**, a delegate for Wangaratta, who was president of the league from 1941 to 1953. He became a member of the North-East Council of the VCFL and later became District Commissioner. He became president of the Umpires' Board and held that position for over 27 years.'

So concludes snippets from **Jim Milne's** history. The league is so fortunate to have had someone, many years ago, to have written down this history of the Ovens and King.



UPDATE ON MURRAY BROTHERS MEMORIAL:

In the last edition of *Threads*, an article was published titled **MURRAY BROTHERS MEMORIAL AT TARRAWINGEE CEMETERY—PART OF A FAMILY'S COMMEMORATION TO THEIR LOSS IN WWI**. Since then, the letters written by **George Alexander Hugh MURRAY** to his family have been digitised by the Australian War Memorial and made available on the ANZAC Connection website shown here <https://www.awm.gov.au/people/profiles/>. The collection also includes letters from his brother **William James Gunn Murray** but his name is not identified in the listing however his letters can be found under his brother's name.

The website contains pictures, correspondence and papers of many WWI & WWII people which you may find of interest, eg:

- **Henry Harboard (Harry) Morant**
"The Breaker"
- **General John Monash**
- **Nancy Grace Augusta Wake**
"The White Mouse".



INTERNET RESEARCH SITES:

NSW Government State Records website 'Photo Investigator' has many historical photos of interest <http://investigator.records.nsw.gov.au/asp/photosearch/>

National Film & Sound Archives of Australia has some interesting films on youtube including a film titled 'Arriving in Australia' which includes immigrants arriving in Bonegilla Victoria (some people you might recognise). Also films titled 'Australian Red Cross Centenary 2014' and 'The Great War: War Experience' and many others. <https://www.youtube.com/user/FILMAUSTRALIA>

Coraweb, an excellent Genealogy index website with links to take you to all manner of genealogy websites <http://www.coraweb.com.au/>

Cyndi's List, another excellent Genealogy index website <http://www.cyndislist.com/australia>

FUN HOMEWORK FOR MEMBERS MEETING 20th SEPTEMBER 2014:

Coming to the meeting? If you are, complete your homework, bring it along and you'll be rewarded with gold stars and be in with a chance to win a super prize.



Even if you can't make it to the meeting, complete your homework and mail it or email to info@wfhs.org.au. You also will be rewarded.

Your name:

Your favourite teacher's name

HOMEWORK QUESTION 1: 'William' was the most popular name for boys born in 2013. How many males in your family tree have the same name?

HOMEWORK QUESTION 2: What is the longest surname in your family tree?

HOMEWORK QUESTION 3:

On June 1st, five couples who live in Wangaratta will celebrate their wedding anniversaries.

Their surnames are Johnstone, Parker, Watson, Graves, and Shearer.

The husbands' given names are Russell, Douglas, Charles, Peter, and Everett. The wives' given names are Elaine, Joyce, Marcia, Elizabeth, and Mildred.

Keep in mind that no two couples have been married the same number of years.

From the clues given, try to determine the husband and wife that make up each couple and the number of years they have been married.

Joyce has not been married as long as Charles or the Parkers, but longer than Douglas or the Johnstones.

Elizabeth has been married twice as long as the Watsons, but only half as long as Russell.

The Shearers have been married ten years longer than Peter and ten years less than Marcia.

Douglas and Mildred have been married for 25 years less than the Graves who, having been married for 30 years, are the couple who have been married the longest.

Neither Elaine nor the Johnstones have been married the shortest amount of time.

Everett has been married for 25 years.

Using only the information provided above, you need to determine which husband belongs to which wife, their surname and the number of years that each couple has been married. There is only one solution and the excuse pictured at the right won't work.

YOUR ANSWERS



WANGARATTA THREADS

Contribution Deadlines & Publication dates:

<u>Copy deadline</u>	<u>Edition No.:</u>	<u>for publication</u>
19 November 2014	100	24 November 2104
19 February 2015	101	24 February 2015

Disclaimer: All information contained in this edition is published in good faith with every effort made to validate fact, circumstance and source. *Ed.*

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Australia

What is happening at WFHS

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