



Relative Thoughts

Volume 13 No. 4

October 2009

Quarterly Journal of the
Fleurieu Peninsula Family History Group Inc.



Students at Meadows School – 1866 – Mr. John S. Jones (teacher – in top hat)

See Page 11 for our cover story

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By the time you read this report Joan & I will have left for our trip to the UK.

As members of The Manchester & Lancashire Family History Society we are hoping to attend a monthly meeting of the Oldham Branch on Sat. 10th October. If that is possible it will be my pleasure to extend greetings from FPFHG.

The end of our group year is fast approaching & it is time to reflect on what has transpired over the past 11 months. It has been a challenging and productive year and I would like to thank your Committee for their tremendous efforts on your behalf.

We have seen the Resource Room open in recent months on 2 Wednesdays a month & that is set to continue. DI ROBERTS heads a sub committee to refine that process and I am sure you will hear from her elsewhere in this issue of *Relative Thoughts*. We have also seen the introduction of Wireless Broadband to enable members to do research on line. The Committee felt this was timely as so much information is readily available. I say this in the knowledge that all of us hit a brick wall from time to time. Let us all remember we are a self help group and what you find difficult to solve might be worth talking to someone else in the group about. I believe the various Special Interest Groups might be helpful in this regard.

I think we should place on record our thanks to ROS DUNSTALL for her work as secretary over the past 2 years. Which brings me to the subject of the AGM. on 21st November.

This year the offices of Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer will be open to nominations. We currently have in excess of 130 members. There must be amongst our numbers people who are willing and more than capable of undertaking these tasks.

Nomination forms should be in this current issue & will be sent to you in the form of a group email to those who have that facility. I urge you all to give consideration to how you can help in 2010.

My best wishes to you all.

Keith Jones

[Editor's note:- any contact with the group from now until November should be made via any of the Committee Members (except for Keith until the end of October).]

NEW MEMBERS

This issue we would like to extend a warm welcome to the following members:-

CHRIS & BARBARA GRIVELL
MAUREEN PERCIVAL
HEATHER LESKE
KATRINA WHITE

RON DEARING
PAUL & SUE MORGAN
ALBERT ROBERTSON
JIM USHER

Please let me know if I have inadvertently spelled your name incorrectly.

VALE JOAN HILES

As many of you may know, **JOAN HILES**, beloved wife of **JACK** and valued group member, passed away recently after a lengthy illness. Our sympathies go out to Jack & family in this time of grief.

RESIGNATION OF OUR SECRETARY

As most are aware by now, **ROS DUNSTALL** has resigned from the position of Secretary. She would have stood down at the AGM as her position is due for election at that time. Ros will continue as a member of our group, and also as the convenor of the **Aussie Interest Group**. The Committee would like to thank Ros for her sterling efforts over the past two years through what have been some trying times. Without her efforts through that time, we would not be where we are today. Ros will not be standing for re-election at the AGM as she and her partner Darryl will be travelling for most of the coming year.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

The Committee has decided to hold a **Monster Christmas Raffle** as our final fund-raising event for 2009. Books of tickets will be available for collection from Lynn Dillon at this month's meeting. Members not attending will receive their books of tickets in the mail, along with this edition of Relative Thoughts.

Tickets may be sold within the Group and to external purchasers at a cost of **\$1.00** per ticket. Books contain five (5) tickets.

1st Prize – Christmas Hamper valued at approximately \$100

2nd Prize – Family History Album & Research Pack

3rd Prize – Wine & Chocolate Pack.

fleurpenlynn@yahoo.com for details



NOARLUNGA VOLUNTEER RIFLES

If you missed the July meeting, you missed a very interesting talk by a young man dressed in period costume and carrying a real (and in firing condition) Enfield muzzle loading rifle. NICOLAS GRGURIC gave us an excellent insight into the workings of the South Australian Volunteer Rifles and the various locally raised companies.

Between 1856 and 1861, the residents of the local area thought it possible that they would come under attack by either the French or the Russians. The perceived need to protect the colony from invasion brought about the raising of a number of such volunteer forces across the state. Noarlunga was one such location where a volunteer force was raised.

Nic explained to us what was required of someone wanting to join the Noarlunga Volunteer Rifles—and we were quite surprised by some of these requirements, too!

A person wanting to join, was required to pay a £10 deposit for his rifle and accoutrements. He had to pay also for the manufacture of his uniform. The uniform was his to keep, but the rifle and accoutrements had to be returned to the unit upon resignation. It was calculated during the meeting that the cost in today's terms of a man's deposit would be somewhere close to \$13,000. It was easy to see then, that Mr Joe Average would not have been able to afford the deposit fee, so mostly all of those who joined up would have been the sons of the well-to-do farmers and landowners.

Pictured at right: NICK GRGURIC in his Noarlunga Volunteer Rifles Uniform.



I found an interesting article in an 'old' newspaper which I thought you might like. I do hope that the content is not offensive to anyone, and I apologize unreservedly if anyone finds it so.

Sunday Mail 9 October 1977 (told you it was an 'old' paper)

Witchcraft: A European phenomenon of medieval times? No, it flourished in South Australia only last century, and may still persist today. In this article on our German settlers, Adelaide historian **DR. IAN HARMSTORF**, discusses some of the beliefs, both sacred and profane, of the superstitious country folk who came here from Prussia.

Along with their cakes, carts, culture and religion, the Germans brought to South Australia a little-publicized aspect of their European heritage—Witchcraft!

Exactly when witchcraft came to the new colony is impossible to determine, but the knowledge necessary to practice the black art is believed to have been brought here by at least 1842.

As Dr. Harmstorf points out, the early German settlers were rural folk with a literal belief in the power of good and evil. The first group of Lutherans who arrived with **PASTOR KAVEL** in 1838 were of a strong pietistic bent, rejecting the world and worldly ways in favour of the life hereafter. 'They had a strong belief in the supernatural', says Dr. Harmstorf. 'They placed great importance on visions and frequently acted on them.'

He recounts a popular story concerning a vision experienced by a member of Pastor Kavel's congregation.

Someone had a vision that the Devil would descend on the Kaiserstuhl [the largest hill on the edge of the Barossa Valley] at midnight on a certain date. They thought it their duty to catch the Devil and lock him up so he could no longer cause trouble in the world. Led by Kavel, the parishioners went up the Kaiserstuhl with chains. They were going to bind the Devil and put him in goal in Tanunda. 'How long they waited in vain for Mephistopheles is not known but it is assumed he did not appear. Recorded evidence does exist of an even more apocalyptic vision and its deflating aftermath.

A German traveler, **FRIEDRICH GERSTAECKER**, writing in the 1850's, describes the night when Pastor Kavel led his flock to a place outside Tanunda to await the end of the world. Kavel had seen the end of the world and wanted to be received into Heaven surrounded by nature and not among the debauchery and licentiousness which he believed existed

in Tanunda. The nearest this pious party of Lutherans got to the end of the world was a violent downpour, which Gerstaecker says dampened their ardour somewhat for Kavel's visions.

In Germany, the Old Testament of the Bible used to be known as 'The Five Books of Moses'. But there was also another more sinister tract, with a similar name, called the 'Sixth and Seventh Books of Moses' - the witch's Bible—an encyclopedia of spells, charms, curses, herbal cures and witchcraft, which included a conversation with the Devil. Copies of this book were believed to have been brought to SA by Silesian migrants as early as 1842. Although the Lutheran Church directed that copies of the witchcraft manual be surrendered to be burnt, a number remained in circulation, often hidden in a niche of an Adelaide Hills or Barossa Valley farmhouse. Copies were handed from generation to generation and a number are retained by local German families. It was often believed the owner of such a witchcraft book would not be able to die unless the volume was passed to someone else for safe keeping.

Most instances of witchcraft unearthed among the early German community were confined to farms and farm produce—hens not laying, cows running dry and mysterious fires. One of the most spectacular, described by an elderly resident in the German Community, concerns a farmer who had a row with his wife one morning. The angry wife put a hex (spell) on the farmer. This is the elderly resident's account of the incident: "He was ploughing. She went to town with a few vegies, whatever she was selling. He stood at the plough with both hands on the plough handle, and was still there when she came home at night. She must have been able to use some powers. Her husband stood there all day until she came home." Another old resident remembers: "A lot of people used to wear red ribbons around their necks so that they couldn't be bewitched by the next person. Or wear their clothes inside out. Whether this has any effect or not I don't know, but they said it did. Witchcraft also was used to forecast weather—a vitally important service for the farming community in those days.

As is common with witchcraft and the practice of techniques which have since gained less sinister reputations, the beginnings are shrouded in secrecy and ignorance. A particular piece of evidence DR. HARMSTORF finds intriguing is "The Sanctuary at the foot of the Kaiserstuhl. It is a rectangular grove of trees with an arrangement of stones at one end that could be an altar", he says. Visions are immediately conjured of the superstitious German peasant folk holding black masses and witchcraft

ceremonies at night in this secluded spot. However, nothing definite is known as to the real use of The Sanctuary, and it remains one of SA's mysteries.

If speculation on The Sanctuary sometimes exceeds the bounds of probability, that on the activities of the 'exorcist' KRUMMNOW, who came from Hamburg in 1838, does not range far enough. "Krummnnow's favorite spiritual activity was driving evil spirits out of young girls, who clearly fascinated him, and whom it appears from contemporary accounts, were also clearly fascinated by him." says Dr. Harmstorf. "This proved too much for the dwellers of Hahndorf and Lobethal. His popularity waned and as South Australia no longer seemed a paradise for his particular kind of dissent he sought virgin fields in Hamilton, Victoria.

But before he left Krummnnow, a tailor, had set up rival Lutheran parishes in the Adelaide Hills, based on communism. As he was naturalized KRUMMNOW was able to buy land from the Government and this he did for 18 families who arrived with PASTOR FRITZSCHE aboard the *Skjold* in 1841. It was not until some time later that the unfortunate new arrivals found that they were part of SA's first commune at Lobethal, run by KRUMMNOW. It took nine years of legal battles before the last of the land was returned to its rightful owners.

Although the 'Sixth and Seventh Books of Moses' were banned by the Lutheran Church, both here and in Germany, copies were printed in the United States and then exported to the homeland and to German communities around the world. Whether witchcraft has entirely died out is open to speculation. One incident was reported by an elderly resident as recently as two years ago, and another expressed the fear that witchcraft was still being practiced.

I don't know for sure how much truth is in all of this, but I do know that my own great grandmother was supposed to have been in possession of a copy of the so called Witch's Bible, and that she used it as a reference in her work as a herbalist right up until she died in 1964. I have not personally ever seen the book, but my father, uncles and cousins swear that the book she read from—in German—was such a volume. I have vague memories of her reading from an old leather-bound volume when I was just a little girl, and that she spoke a language I did not understand when doing so. And yes, she was of Prussian descent—her grandmother is supposed to have handed the book on to her, when she was just a young girl, and that woman (the grandmother) was from a Silesian farming family who arrived in SA with the first German migrants in 1838.

THE CITY OF ADELAIDE

by JOE EARL

Forgotten on a slipway at Irvine near the Clyde,
Lays a legend of a sailing ship, her timbers grey and dried,
Older than the Cutty Sark she'll soon be lost forever,
Unless there is the funding with pretty strong endeavour.

She's a clipper from the early days of perfect ship design,
That voyaged to Australia and set a record time,
Under first class seamanship, by the Captain's hand,
She carried out the emigrants who stocked that pleasant land.

One quarter million people in those Southern spheres,
Can trace their roots to passages in those early years,
Aboard this marvellous clipper, their forebears travelled out,
Through the Roaring Forties sailing East about.

Built in 'sixty four, by a man named William Pile,
Launching her from Sunderland in the British Isle,
Then twenty three long voyages returning round the Horn,
Driven by the fickle wind and seamen's hearty brawn.

Composite of iron frame with hardy elm and oak,
Cabins for the colonists, special and bespoke,
In the name of preservation and history maritime,
It's worthy of a mention if only here in a rhyme.

Sadly now she's overlooked, an icon of the past,
Crying out for refit and rigging of her masts,
She could be overhauled again to remind us of the time,
When brave descendants ventured out and she was in her prime.



City of Adelaide website :- www.cityofadelaide.org.au

RESOURCES & JOURNALS THIS QUARTER

JOURNALS

The Endeavour – Botany Bay FHS.
Eagle Eye – Cowra FHG.
Caloundra Clipper
Kensington & Norwood (two editions)
Smoke Signal – Beaudesert HS.
South East Family History Group
South Australian Genealogist – SAGHS
Descent – Society of Australian Genies
The Compass – Adelaide & Northern
Yorke Peninsula GHF.
Ances-Tree – Burwood & District FHG
Lachlan Valley Gold – Forbes FHG
Newcastle Family History Society

BOOKS & DONATIONS

Ngarrindjeri Soldiers – D. Kartinyeri
Grave Secrets (Cemeteries) - F. Jones

Note – all books and journals received are stored in our resource room for your convenience and usage.

WHAT'S ON THE COVER

Meadows School

I thought that seeing we will be taking a small part in the 150th anniversary celebrations at Meadows, that the history of the town deserved some small mention.

The school was originally opened as Kondoparinga Primary School in Mill Street, Meadows in 1856. Back then it was a private school. In about 1863 JOHN S. JONES began teaching at the school and was appointed to the school as the first Government approved and appointed teacher there. A year later, a new school was built in Main Street next to where the Meadows Bakery now stands.

As the town grew, so did the need for larger educational accommodation. A tin shed affair was erected as a temporary classroom beside the imposing stone building in 1893, and it serviced the education of Meadows District children well into the 1930's.

By 1905 it was obvious that the population and hence the needs of the children had outgrown the school as it then existed. The Education Department purchased a larger block of land on the north side of Main Street and built a new stone school which was opened in 1910 and remains the central part of the school in Meadows today.

The old school building was knocked down and the temporary classroom moved to Prospect Hill Museum in the 1930's. The school house became the Meadows Bakery. The current school saw additions made to it in August 1936, in 1983 and again in 2000 and continues to grow.

REMINDERS

AGM ELECTIONS

The elections for the positions of **SECRETARY** and **VICE PRESIDENT** will be held at this years' AGM in accordance with the Constitution. Persons wishing to nominate, or persons wishing to nominate someone else, should note that these positions attract a **2 year** incumbency.

There will also be an extraordinary vote for the election of a **TREASURER** who will serve only a **single year**, due to the illness of the duly elected Treasurer, and the standing in of a temporary caretaker to the position.

Nomination forms and Proxy Voting forms are included with this edition of *Relative Thoughts*. They will also be sent to members via email in the coming week.

Nominations close at 5:00pm on **7th November 2009** whereupon all nominations should be in the hands of the **VICE PRESIDENT**—you may scan your completed form and email it in, post it in, or hand deliver them.

The election will be held at the Annual General Meeting of the Group on **21st November 2009** at the Trinity Methodist Church Hall, William Street Christies Beach, commencing as usual with lunch from 12:00pm (until 1:15pm). Members are requested to bring a sweet or savoury plate.

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From the *Advertiser* Dec 18 1897

AN EXTRAORDINARY WILL CASE

Adelaide, Dec 14 1897

In the Supreme Court this morning an extraordinary will case was brought before the Chief Justice. The will was that of **FANNY CURL** of Normanville, who died on May 29 this year. It was executed in favour of the defendant, **RICHARD CHARLES TRELOAR**, on May 4, and probate in the common form was granted on July 1. The plaintiff, **EMMA SMITH**, brought an action to upset the will in favour of an earlier one in her favour, alleging that the testatrix was insane at the time she made the later will, which was obtained by undue influence. The evidence showed that the testatrix, who was 75 years of age, made the earlier will in favour of her daughter, the plaintiff, but the pair separated on account of a quarrel. The testatrix was a member of the Salvation Army. The defendant, who was between 21 and 35 years of age, became converted, and the old lady evidently conceived a violent passion for him, and they sought on several occasions to get married, but the clergymen and registrars invariably refused on account of the disparity of ages. The testatrix then said that **TRELOAR** was her husband, at least in the sight of God, and they cohabited. Judgement was given at £15 and costs, the deceased's money having been nearly all spent to pay her debts.

The following were printed in the *South Australian News* (No 5) of October 15th 1841 in London -

“The following extracts of a letter from

MR. GILES to the South Australia Company have been kindly communicated—

30th April—A COPPER MINE has been discovered on Naparinga, adjacent No-orklunga Township, and within a few yards of navigable waters. ...

18th May—We have opened the copper mine at No-orklunga, and obtained about half a ton of ore, this shall be assayed by two gentlemen, good chemists, and the results shall be made known...

From the *Southern Australian* of April 6th -

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN TOBACCO—Mr Giles, superintendent of Lyndoch Valley, and other special surveys, has found a small bed of Tobacco, evidently indigenous, on the banks of the North Para River. He has preserved a few packets of seed, and has promised to send us specimens of the plant for inspection.

From the *Adelaide Chronicle*, April 30 -

INSPECTOR PENNY, of the Mounted Police, has found more bodies of the persons wrecked in the *Maria*, and killed by the **MILMENRURA** tribe*, and £11/4/- in money.

[*26 survivors of the *Maria* were killed at the Mouth of the Murray in 1840. The Milmendura people were a lankinyeri or sub-group of the Ngarrindjeri people, and were known to the British settlers as the ‘Salt Creek Tribe’ or ‘Big Murray Tribe’. Dr. (not Inspector) Penny found a woman with long brown hair and three other people wedged tightly in a wombat burrow. See the feature story on page 21.]

UPCOMING SPEAKERS & EVENTS

I know that I usually have this item earlier in the Journal, but Sharon has been so busy organising speakers and events that it warranted a larger space.

October 18 – (TOMORROW) stall at the Meadows Country Fair – contact **DI ROBERTS** if you are interested in helping out here.

November 21 – **AGM** – Speaker will be **DON HOPGOOD** – Did that train get stuck again! AGM Luncheon from 12:00 to 1:15pm.

2010 Calendar of Events

January 16 – Members' Show & Tell – bring along an heirloom or family treasure and tell us about it.

February 20th – **KEITH LOKAN** – Maralinga

March 20th – **ROS DUNSTALL, MARY ANN & DAVID MINOR** – Our trip to China

April 17th – **MARK LANG** – Genealogy software packages

May 15th – speaker to be advised

June 19th – **KRISTEN WEIDENBACH** – Bringing a Biography to life.

July 17th – speaker to be advised

July 31 – August 8 – National Family History Week

August 21st – speaker to be advised

September 18th – speaker to be advised

October 16th – speaker to be advised

November 13th – **AGM** – speaker to be advised

We have had a wide variety of subjects from our speakers in 2009, and look forward to another list of interesting folk to listen to next year – the list already looks promising in its content.

If you have a suggestion for a suitable speaker for the coming year, please contact **SHARON GREEN** with details to shaz01@sa.chariot.net.au, for although she is diligent in her search for interesting people, it isn't always easy to find the right person.

SO YOU WANT TO HOLD A FAMILY REUNION...

How often have many of us thought that it would be a nice idea to hold a family reunion? I know I have on a number of occasions, and recently attended a couple which were run very differently to others I had been to in the past. I have also assisted a couple of our members with their family reunions in recent times too, and thought it might be a good topic for the journal, to give others who may be considering holding a reunion, some ideas that they may not have yet thought .

Before You Start

A reunion of any sort—family or otherwise— requires good planning well in advance of the date that the event is to be held. It should be said that holding a family reunion is not a job for the faint hearted, or one that should be taken on alone. I did quite a bit of research on the subject and talked to a number of people who have been part of the organisation of similar events before I sat down to write this article. The following tips are an amalgamation of both my research and what others had to say on the subject.

Some of the reasons for holding a reunion are -

- Celebration of a particular family anniversary, such as arrival in SA.
- Launching of a family history book that you have published.
- General get-together of long lost relatives you haven't seen in years.
- Any combination of the above reasons, or for no particular reason at all.

Let's look at a fictitious family who have decided to hold a reunion to celebrate both the arrival of the first member of their family into Australia, in conjunction with the launch of a book on the life and descendants of that same ancestor.

The Four W's - Why, When, Where, Who

It is a good idea to have at least a perception of **WHY** you want to hold the event before you start., because this will eventually become your end goal.

Next you should have some reasonable idea of **WHEN** you want to hold the event. If you need to coincide with a particular date, then consideration should be given to a number of factors, such as how much notice you will need to give attendees, will your book be published by then, does this date clash with any other event that people might want to attend—holding a family reunion on Grand Final Day or on Bathurst weekend is not a good idea.

The **WHERE** part of your planning is quite an important one to be considered. Try to find a location that has some significance to the family in whose honour the reunion is being held. For instance, if the home they first lived in were still in the family, then perhaps the ancestral home may be a nice venue. There are any number of local town halls, footy clubs or other sporting and social clubs that have excellent facilities for holding such events. A location which is central for attendees is also a good idea. The venue needs to be large enough to comfortably hold all of your guests, and must have adequate facilities such as kitchens, toilets etc. You should also consider the activities that you may plan for the event when considering the location—you wouldn't hold a reunion on a ship if you were going

to have a cricket match as an activity.

The fourth **W** is not so hard to work out. **WHO** do you want to attend—and who don't you want to invite? Strictly speaking, a family reunion should be open to any member of that particular family, whether they are flavour of the month or not. It is entirely up to the individual person whether or not they attend. In deciding who will be the attendees, invitations should be sent out well in advance to give people time to plan their attendance—particularly if those people are coming from interstate or overseas.

So, we now know **WHY** we are having the reunion, **WHEN** it will be held and **WHERE**, and **WHO** will be our target attendees—but what do we do next?

Planning the Reunion

The next step is probably the biggest apart from actually holding the event. Don't be a hero and try to do it on your own. A well organised family reunion must be a collaborative effort—there is far too much to be done for one person to do it alone.

Get hold of some of your relatives—preferably representatives of the various family branches. Tell them what you have in mind and enlist their help in planning the event. Form a Committee and hold regular planning meetings. Topics for discussion at these meetings might typically include -

- Committee positions
- Communications
- Budgets—income & expenditure
- Banking / Financials
- Announcements / Newsletters
- Activities /Entertainment
- Book Launch details if you are doing this
- Food & Catering
- Accommodation of guests
- Web Page
- Contacting Relatives
- Making of Bookings for venues
- Setting up the Venue
- Cleanup after the event
- Volunteers
- Registrations of interest
- Speakers - who will open the event etc.

- Signage / Advertising / Name Tags
- Jobs on the day
- Dissemination of information
- Displays on the day
- Anything else of relevance

The above list is in no particular order of how things should be done, they are simply suggestions of the sorts of things that your Committee might discuss—and will need to consider if you want to have a successful family reunion.

Keeping Track of Things

Keeping a good handle on where your Committee is at in the planning of the reunion is an absolute must. The method you chose to do this is entirely up to the individual. Hard copy notes, electronic files, spreadsheets or specifically designed software packages, such as Family Reunion Organizer, can all be utilised for this purpose, either separately or collectively. A well documented reunion is a well planned reunion.

Delegate, Delegate, Delegate

You don't want to be the only person at the reunion who is NOT having a good time do you? Well, the simplest answer here is for you to give people something to do on the day (and before—especially during the planning stages.) It simply isn't possible for one person to do the entire job themselves, nor is it practical. Let others have some input into the event. It might have been your baby to start with but this one will quickly outgrow you; so save your sanity and let others help out. There are any number of mundane tasks that can be delegated to other people to do—mailing invitations for instance, preparing name tags for another. Even if you are a control freak and think you can do this alone, I will guarantee that by the end of it you will wish you had given someone else some of the donkey work to do at least!

The easiest way to manage this is to have a roster of who is doing what and a timed schedule of events throughout the day.

Book Launching

If you plan to launch your published book at the event, the need to coordinate the details of that with your publisher or printer is of the utmost importance. No good having a book launch if the thing isn't printed yet!

How you go about publishing your family history is , again, entirely up to you. Whether it be a hard backed and jacketed expensively produced affair, a simple photocopied and stapled volume, or an electronic version on CD or DVD is immaterial. What is important is that you have enough copies to cover at least one for each family unit that is attending. You can always have some in reserve, or if necessary take orders from those who want extras.

Someone will be needed to do the actual launching of the book. Ideally, this could

be the oldest living member of the family, or perhaps the “celebrity” who hangs from your tree, or even just the Committee Chairman—but someone should do it. A short speech on the subject of the Family, the book and the reunion is always a good thing to have. It is also a worthwhile idea for the Committee to make a presentation of a copy of the book to the person who does the launch and also to a few pre-selected individuals. At one function I attended a while back, books were given to the newest member of the family (ie. the most recently born), and to the most recently married couple. Both copies were inscribed inside with the date of the Reunion and signed by the Chairman of the Committee.

On the Day

It is essential that those who are involved in the setting up and organisation of the event turn up early to get things mobile. Someone needs to be responsible for the greeting of family members as they arrive and for the handing out of name tags. Perhaps someone may be needed to oversee the parking of cars. Everything that is going to be needed during the formal portion of the event needs to be at the location where it will be required well before the advertised start time.

Don't call for volunteers on the day—bets are that most will just drift off as it suits them and forget that they volunteered to help out. Make sure your volunteer crew is organised well before the event starts—preferably several days before.

If you are self-catering the event, then someone needs to be in charge of seeing that the food is ready at the appointed time. This is where your schedule will come into its own in helping to bring off the perfect function.

Activities

Family Reunions are all about families and what makes up a family? A few grandparents, some parents, a couple of aunts and uncles and a bunch of kids. Not all of them are going to be interested in hearing someone talk about why Joe Bloggs came to Australia, married Mary Jones and had sixteen kids who all grew up and had huge families themselves. Children especially are not as interested as we older folk are. Therefore, it is necessary to have some activities planned to cater to their needs too. In my family it would be the obligatory game of cricket—girls against guys (we won more times than they did because there were more of us to catch them out in the field!) Whether you chose to have a barbeque or a fully catered sit down feast is up to you, but whatever you do, don't forget about the kids.

Some family members may like to bring along memorabilia displays, have slide shows of old family photographs playing, or to have displays of family tree diagrams. All of this is important, but time to chat with family and friends is also important, so your schedule should not be so crammed as to eliminate time to catch up on gossip or to collect more data for your ever growing family tree.

These are by no means the limits of what can or can't be done when planning and running a family reunion, but I hope that some of the ideas herein will help those who are thinking of treading down this path.

WHAT'S IN A NAME

You will probably remember a while back when GRAHAM JAUNAY spoke at one of our meetings and told us about the naming conventions used by the Cornish people. Well, here's a list of Scottish naming traditions for you.

Daughters

1st born – mother's mother or father's mother

2nd born – father's mother or mother's mother

3rd born – mother

4th born – mother's eldest sister or mother's maternal grandmother

5th born – father's eldest sister or father's maternal grandmother

Sons

1st born – father's father or mother's father

2nd born – mother's father or father's father

3rd born – father

4th born – father's eldest brother or father's paternal grandfather

5th born – mother's eldest brother or mother's paternal grandfather

The Use of Surnames as Middle Names

There seem to have been a lot of Scots bairns christened with Surname sounding middle names – here's a few reasons why this happened -

- Children were given the Surname of the Parish minister who christened them.
- It was customary to give the child the Surname of the person after whom they were named.
- It was common to see the maiden name of the mother appearing in all daughters' names.

Source :- Carol Sklinar of the Morayshire Index site

www.wakefieldfhs.org.uk/morayweb/

An example of how a Scots family may name its children is shown below –

Father's Lineage

Mother's Lineage

Robert Bruce MacAulay (j)
Selina Jane Wells (i)

James Stuart Campbell (h)
Elizabeth Babington (g)

William Robert MacAulay (a)
Sarah Jane McKenzie (e)

Thomas James Campbell (c)
Susannah Jean Ross (b)

William Henry MacAulay (d)
(3rd son)

Mary Elizabeth Babington Campbell (d), (f)
(1st daughter)

- 1st Son – William Robert MacAulay (a)
- 1st Daughter – Susannah Ross MacAulay (b)
- 2nd Son – Thomas James Campbell MacAulay (c)
- 3rd Son – William Campbell MacAulay (d)
- 2nd Daughter – Sarah Jane MacAulay (e)
- 3rd Daughter – Mary Campbell MacAulay (f)
- 4th Daughter – Elizabeth Babington MacAulay (g)
- 4th Son – James Stuart Campbell MacAulay (h)
- 5th Daughter – Selina Jane MacAulay (i)
- 5th Son – Robert Bruce MacAulay (j)

Note—the names used here are purely randomly chosen Scots names used to illustrate the naming of children. [By matching the letters in (parenthesis) at the end of each child's name, you can easily see who they were named after.]

THE COORONG MASSACRE

[*Editor's Note: People of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent are warned that this article contains the names of persons who have died.*]

Around the 26th June 1840, the brigantine *Maria* left Adelaide bound for Hobart Town, expecting to be only a week or two at sea before reaching their destination. On board were 15 passengers including a number of children and infants, and 9 crewmen. A few days into their voyage, the *Maria* foundered on the Margaret Brook Reef near Kingston, some miles south east of the mouth of the Murray on the Coorong.

Scant details exist of the actual foundering that was the beginning of the end for these people, since no-one survived to give a first hand account of the happenings. But from what has been recorded it appears that the Captain and crew saw all the passengers safely to land with the assistance of members of the Ngarrindjeri nation whose tribal lands encompassed the whole of the area. It appears too, that the natives agreed to assist them to find their way back to Adelaide.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM ETHRICK SMITH, commander of the *Maria* took up the offer of assistance, as it was common knowledge among the seafaring folk of the Port that these people had helped the unfortunate victims of the wreck of the *Fanny* a couple of years earlier.

The Ngarrindjeri people tell of how the Tagani people first met the white men when they came ashore in a boat, and how they offered to assist them to the nearest white settlement at Encounter Bay. The Tagani, like the Milmendura, were smaller lakinyeris or family groups of the broader Ngarrindjeri nation. Each lakinyeri had its own area or territory in which they lived, hunted and fished. Members of one lakinyeri did not cross the boundaries of another. And so, it was that the Tagani started out with the white people until they reached their tribal boundary. The survivors were then handed over to the Milmendura people who would see them on their way towards Encounter Bay. But somewhere along the way, lines became blurred. The white people demanded to be taken through to Adelaide, the native people would only go to Encounter Bay, since their boundary ended there and another lakinyeri were traditional owners of the land beyond.

Exactly what happened to cause the Milmendura people to turn on the white people is not, and will never be known for sure. But what is known, is that something must have gone terribly wrong for this event to have occurred. The most likely reason behind the massacre would be that the white men perhaps made improper advances towards the young women accompanying the party.

The elders tell the story of the white sailors looking at the young women and of them making improper advances towards them. They tell that these men were given the traditional warning not to do such things, and that they tried to encourage the white people to sleep in a separate camp to their own. But these warnings appear to have fallen on deaf ears.

According to Ngarrindjeri law, if a man makes inappropriate advances to an

unmarried woman, there are dire consequences—death is pretty dire! White man's law was, in those days, not much different - if a man had inappropriate dealings with a woman, married or not, he could be hanged for it.

News of the shipwreck of the *Maria* didn't reach Adelaide until the end of July, at which time the Government ordered a party of several white men, among them being a **MR. PULLEN** and some other men, including **DR. PENNY**; and three Aboriginal men. When the party arrived in the area of the shipwreck, they met some very frightened native women who were wearing items of European clothing. These women are believed to have guided the party to where the massacre had taken place.

It was in this area that Mr Pullen and his party found some of the dismembered bodies of the people from the wreck of the *Maria*. Some bodies were wedged beneath specific rocks, Dr. Penny found some wedged into wombat holes, and all in an horrific state of dismemberment. Pullen and his party spent two days combing the sand hills for bodies or perhaps he thought he might find some survivors, but given the degree of violence that had been perpetrated against these people, it was highly unlikely that this would be the case. After the two days had elapsed, Pullen and party returned to Adelaide to make his report to **GOVERNOR GEORGE GAWLER**.

The Governor ordered the men back to the massacre site with the intention of bringing those responsible to justice. **MAJOR O'HALLORAN**, **CAPTAIN NIXON**, a **MR. HART**, Mr. Pullen, and two or three Encounter Bay natives were joined by a dozen or so mounted police men on the express orders of the Governor to "Proceed from whence you have recently come. When, to your own conviction, you shall have identified any number not exceeding three of the actual murderers, you will distinctly point out such men and require the deliberate opinions of Mr. Cullen, Captain Nixon and the Encounter Bay blacks concerning their guilt." In addition to this he ordered that "The object of your expedition is to apprehend, and bring to summary justice, the ringleaders in the murder, or any of the murderers (in all not to exceed three), of eight or more persons, some of whose bodies have been found about fourteen days since, about 19 miles to the south-eastward of the sea mouth of the Goolwa or Murray."

Again, according to Ngarrindjeri tradition, the troopers and the other men did exactly as they were ordered—they rounded up the people of the tribes thereabouts, whether they were Milmendura people or not. They selected two men—**MONGARAWATA** and **PILGARIE**, built a gallows in the vicinity of what we know today as Dodd's Landing, and hanged them, leaving the bodies where they hung. **TOM TREVORROW**, who is the present day Custodian of the Coorong, and a Ngarrindjeri elder of some note, recalls in his teenage years, being shown the actual gallows that was roughly constructed to facilitate these hangings.

In the extensive writings of **ALEXANDER TOLMER**, of gold-escort fame, who was himself a member of this party, there are several references to the Coorong Massacre which record that the party were able to communicate with the people

through interpreters, and were given the names of two murderers – one connected with the murder of a European in the district some two years since, and one who was connected with the massacre. Tolmer records that a crude trial was held, with evidence being taken from members of the Ngarrindjeri nation, again through interpreters, and because these ‘upstanding citizens of the Crown’ thought that the two accused men looked like murderers, sentenced them to hang. TOLMER described the two men as being “powerfully built, and stood nearly six feet high, with countenances the most ferocious and demon-like I ever beheld.” Clearly Tolmer was of the demonological school of thought that criminals looked ugly and were evil in appearance.

The following day the two men, Mongarawata and Pilgarie, were paraded before the rest of the natives present at the site of the massacre, and made to watch whilst their gallows was constructed, after which they were hanged, and Major O’Halloran delivered a lengthy speech about “the white’s punishment for murder”.

The official reports of the hanging made by O’Halloran to Governor Gawler simply say that the two men died almost instantly and that they both showed great “nerve and courage to the last.” But Tolmer, who seems to have been gifted with a talent for descriptive writing, gives a more gruesome account of the hanging, in which he relates that Major O’Halloran was paralysed with horror when he realised that the hanging had not at first been successful. It appears that these upstanding Englishmen were not used to hanging people of such height or build, and an awful error in judgment was made which caused the men to suffer horrendously at the failed attempt at hanging them. Tolmer tells of a man named **BARBER**, who was a crewman among Mr. Pullen’s men, who stepped forward and after saluting the Major, offered to hang the men for him, to which O’Halloran replied “Do, Barber,

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anything; but make it quick!"

He further tells that some sand was dug out from under the feet of the condemned men, and lines from Pullen's whaleboat were thrown over the cross beam of the makeshift gallows and fastened in an a manner which pulled them backwards and upwards from the ground. The man Barber then apparently told Major O'Halloran to drop his handkerchief and they (the boat crew) would let go. With this done, Mongarawata and Pilgarie were sent to meet their ancestors.

With the hanging over with, and an apparent state of peace restored to that area of the Coorong, O'Halloran, Tolmer and company returned to Adelaide, but were in no way prepared for the public uproar that would meet them.

The Colonial Department put out a statement to the press that they deemed the hanging of Mongarawata and Pilgarie was "an act of murder" and that all those who had taken part in it were guilty of this crime. The *South Australian Register* of the day made it quite clear to its readers that though the actions of O'Halloran and Co. were morally justifiable, it doubted very strongly the legality of what had taken place.

In defence of their actions, Governor Gawler began stating to any who would listen that the justification for the murder of the two men, was formed on the basis that the men were "beyond the reach of the ordinary British Law," and cited several jurisdictional problems which had been raised by **JUDGE COOPER**; and added that since they and any other witnesses to the crime on the Coorong were non-Christian and therefore could not swear an oath upon the Bible, it was impossible to convict them of the murders in a British court. He also stated on several occasions that he believed the Coorong district was notorious for its crimes, and that these murders were particularly brutal and unprovoked.

And so for several months the question of the legality of O'Halloran's actions, and therefore those of Governor Gawler, raged around the colony. Many added their penneth worth to the argument. Governor Gawler asserted that he had used the principals of Martial Law when making his decision and subsequent issue of the order to hang the men; **GEORGE STEVENSON**, the former private secretary to **JOHN HINDMARSH**, and author of the Colony's original proclamation, put his oar in the water too. The **MILMENDURA** are British subjects—No they are not—O'Halloran was right in his action—No he was not... In the end a decision on the subject was requested from the Law Officers of the Crown in England. Their findings, on March 27th 1841 was that Mongarawata and Pilgarie should have been tried in a properly convened court; that the hanging was illegal; that Major O'Halloran and anyone with him on the day were guilty of murder as principal offenders; and that Governor Gawler was guilty as an accessory! But they also added that the British men who were legitimately guilty of these crimes could be indemnified by Act of Parliament or by Pardon under the Great Sea. **LORD STANLEY**, the Secretary of State communicated to Gawler that none of this would be necessary.

Information about this disturbing and yet interesting chapter in our State's history can be found in the State Library and also at State Records.

DEAR ANCESTOR

Dear Ancestor
Your tombstone stands among the rest,
neglected and alone.
The name and date are chiselled out
on polished, marbled stone.
It reaches out to all who care,
it is too late to mourn.
You do not know that I exist,
you died ere I was born.
Yet each of us are part of you,
in flesh, in blood, in bone.
Our blood contracts and beats a pulse,
not entirely all our own.



Dear Ancestor,
The place you filled so many years ago
spreads out among the ones you left
who would have loved you so.
I wonder if you lived and loved,
I wonder if you knew
that someday I would find this spot
and come to visit you.

Found by Adelaide family history researcher, **MIKE SANGSTER**, written on a large and very old tombstone to the memory of one of his forebears in an old cemetery west of Edinburgh, Scotland. This beautifully written poem is printed here with Mike's permission.



RABAUL WAR MEMORIAL

The following are men who have been positively identified as being from the Fleurieu who gave their lives in Rabaul during WWII, and who have no known grave site.

FORMBY, GEORGE LANCELOT, LAC, 9031,RAAF, 24/2/1942, age 23, son of HENRY HARPER and KATE ELEANOR FORMBY of Strathalbyn

RICHARDSON, RAYMOND JOHN, Sgt, 401017, RAAF, died 24/2/1942, age 20, son of WILLIAM GEORGE and NELLIE MAY RICHARDSON of Pt Elliott.

There are many other Australians listed here. The information comes from Memorial 29 , Rabaul, transcribed in London by the Imperial War Graves Commission, 1959. The website containing this information can be found at -

<http://www.jje.info/lostlives/index.html>

There is a huge amount of information about Australia & Australians who were involved in the New Guinea Campaigns of WWII—a very useful site indeed if you are searching for information on relatives who served there. The site includes links to resource repositories across the world that hold information in archives pertaining to Rabaul and other areas of New Guinea and the islands to the north of Australia during the war. In addition to all of this, there are some transcripts of actual letters written by personnel who were at the Rabaul prison camp and who tell the story of the hundreds of Australians who died aboard the vessel Montevideo Maru June of 1942, when it was torpedoed by the Americans. I found this website most interesting and enlightening, for whilst I knew that Australians served in PNG during the war, I had no idea how many civilians were there too, and how many of them were taken prisoner by the Japanese and executed or killed while trying to escape from the POW camps at Kavieng and other places. Nor did I realise that our own allies were responsible for the deaths of a large number of our men and women—both military and civilian during those bloody years of 1941-45.



Records Hut & Memorials at Bitka Park, Rabaul

QUIZ NIGHT

Yet another successful night of madness & mayhem was enjoyed by a small but enthusiastic group of members and friends at our annual Quiz Night, which was held on Saturday 22nd August at the Trinity Uniting Church Hall.

MARK LANG again acted as Quiz Master for the evening, with **BARRY MASLIN** and myself as adjudicators. This year we did things a little differently than in previous years, and I think that everyone who attended, had an enjoyable evening. The only down side was that I didn't count on losing my co-adjudicator as early as I did, and that left only me to do the final count. To those who stuck around to find out who the eventual winners were, I thank you.

Taking out top honours this year was the table that named themselves "**The Famous Five**", with "National Wonders" - Colin Talbot & team, running a close second and "NVR" - Ros , Heather, Mary Ann, Nola & team, in third place. The winning team included member **HELEN SMITH**, and her friends **SUZANNE THOMAS, SUSAN MILLER, VERITY ABBOTT & JUDY ADDISSON**. Well Done Everyone!!

Apart from the obligatory answering of questions, there were raffles, door prizes, a lucky seat prize and a game where you had to guess how many jelly beans Ros had put into a jar. The questions were considered by most to have covered a wide range of subjects and relevance to age groups was also taken into consideration when I prepared them. I have to say that I thoroughly enjoyed my part in the preparations for this year's event, and look forward to doing it all again next year. That is, of course, if the Committee allow it. 😊

VOLUNTEER RESEARCH

Research can be undertaken for anyone seeking information on ancestors in our local area. Research Request Query Forms are downloadable from our website at www.rootsweb.com/~safpfg/volresearch.html. Please forward the forms to Volunteer Research, PO Box 1078 Christies Beach North, SA 5165 or email **LYNN DILLON** at fleurpenlynn@yahoo.com.au and phone 8386 1524 for assistance.

SEASON OF JOY & HARMONY

*The Committee would like to wish
all members and their families a
very Merry Christmas & a Safe,
Happy & Prosperous New Year!!*



MYSTERY AT THE MEAT-WORKS

The Noarlunga Meat Works was started in the late 1930's by one **REGINALD ISADORE CYRIL HINTON**, and operated under various names until the 1990's, when it closed down. The buildings still exist today, and many local people can recall their time there. (*I will be doing a feature story on the Meatworks in January issue*)

But in October 1970, the Meat Works became the centre of National if not International attention, when two women apparently disappeared from the car park of the complex.

HAZEL POPE and her friend **JOYCE EASTWOOD** had both arrived in Australia from the UK in 1968 with their respective families—Hazel with her husband **ANDREW** and their five children; Joyce with her husband **JAMES** and their six children. Both families arrived in Perth and spent some time in the old migration hostels in Fremantle before moving to Koolyanobbing, a mining town to the north-east of Perth. In 1970 both families made the move to Christies Beach in SA.

Hazel and Joyce worked together at Furness Furniture in Edwardstown, and after a brief time there, came to work at Noarlunga Meatworks. Two of Joyce Eastwood's sons also worked there with them there.

On the 8th October 1970, Hazel Pope picked up her friend Joyce Eastwood—and her two sons, and headed for the Noarlunga Meatworks with the apparent intention of going to work. She dropped the boys off at the front gate and went with Joyce to park the car. This was the last time that Joyce's sons saw their mother.

Somewhere between 7:00 and 8:00am, a taxi pulled into the car park and the women unloaded two suitcases from the boot of Hazel's mini and immediately got into the taxi and drove off. The Security Guard on the gate was the last person known to have seen either woman alive in South Australia.

A Police investigation into the disappearance of the two ladies was launched as soon as it was established that they were missing. In the course of their investigation, police learned that Hazel Pope had withdrawn a large sum of money from a joint bank account and that both women had resigned their jobs a week prior to their disappearance.

The only lead that police have ever had came a few weeks later when **JAMES EASTWOOD** received a bill for some goods bought in his wife's name in Perth. To this day, neither woman has been found or heard from in any way.

What would cause two apparently sane women to up-stakes and walk out of their children's lives, never to be seen again. Now nearly 40 years later, their families' questions remain unanswered, and the case is still unsolved.

RESOURCE ROOM UPDATE

As you may be aware, the Committee has decided to continue with the sub-committee entrusted with the over-seeing of the Resource Room. It has become obvious that there is a strong need for a “Management Team” to deal with the issues and suggestions arising from the facility.

In the near future, a HELP SYSTEM will be installed on the computers in the Resource Room. Anyone using the computers is encouraged to look at the Help File for assistance in operating the various items available. The Help System does not only deal with things on the computers, but also with other equipment available to you. If you can use a Windows type Help System, then you will be able to operate this Help System.

It should be noted that the Help System is not designed to replace the very able assistance to be had from volunteers – but rather to enhance it.

We have made some changes in the Resource Room too, with a view to making it easier to access information by members. There are two new cupboards installed in the room, into which **Joan Jones** and the other volunteers have categorised the books etc. available. There are two index folders in the Resource Room as well, which contain the index to these cupboards.

Until further notice, the Resource Room will continue to be open as follows:-

1st Wednesday of the month – 6:30pm – 8:30pm

3rd Wednesday of the month – 12:30pm – 3:30pm

3rd Saturday of the month – 12:30pm – 4:00pm (meeting days)

Note: these days will not apply in December and January. The Resource Room will be closed until we re-open again in January 2010.

Joan, Di, Bob, Heather, David, Jeanette and Lynn would like to thank all for their assistance and patience throughout this year and look forward to working with you again next year.

Di Roberts
Chair – RRSC



CAN YOU HELP?

Shipping into South Australia

DI CUMMINGS is looking for help with extra information on passengers arriving in SA between 1836 and 1838—if you had family who arrived then, please email Di direct with information— dicummings2003@email.com.

Book Urgently Needed

I am hunting for a copy of IAN NICHOLSON'S *Log of Logs, Volume I*. If you have a copy and would be prepared to lend it to me for a couple of months, please email me at jks58@adam.com.au with the details. Or if you want to sell it, then I would like to buy it from you. The book is no longer in publication, and since the author has passed away, there is no hope of a reprint ever happening.... Julie.

USEFUL WEBSITES

The websites listed are exactly as you need to enter them into your browser. If they have a www in front, then it is needed; if they don't then it is not needed.

For those with German or Prussian Ancestry—this site is awesome!
<http://www.kartenmeister.com/preview/databaseUwe.asp>

The National Library of Australia has some awesome online data available -
<http://www.nla.gov.au>

The History Trust of South Australia gave me a few trips down memory lane recently—check out their “Tell Us Your Holden Story” page—and watch some of the videos too. Their home page is at <http://www.history.sa.gov.au/> and their Holden Stories are at <http://yourholdenstory.ning.com/>

FAMILY & OTHER REUNIONS

The HUTCHESON family reunion will be held at Mt Gambier on 14th & 15th Nov. Descendants of JOHN, REUBEN & THOMAS HUTCHESON who arrived in 1855 and settled at Millicent, Mt Gambier and western VIC. Contacts for further information on this reunion are Laurie THOMPSON—Phone 08 8725 7981 and by email to E. HOLMAN at eeholman@ozemail.com.au or to C. HAMMAT at cfhammat@internode.on.net.au.



When & Where

MEETINGS

Monthly Meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday of each month from January – October at 1:30pm, Trinity Uniting Church Hall, William Street, Christies Beach. Resource Room open from 12:00 each meeting Day.

Annual General Meeting is held on the 3rd Saturday in November commencing at 1:30pm. Committee elections are held at this time.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Aussie Interest Group – meets at 1:30pm 2nd Saturday monthly – Ros Dunstall convenor 8386 2664.

English Interest Group – meets at 2:00pm on 4th Thursday monthly – Keith Jones convenor 7288 1092.

Scottish Interest Group – meets 4th Tuesday monthly – Ann Dow 8326 4516.

Computer Group – for information - Ann Van Der Linden 83821479.

Irish Interest – contact Lynn Dillon by email at fleurpenlyn@yahoo.com.au

Brick Walls – contact Tim Wing 8382 3406

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Family Membership – \$25.00

Single Membership – \$20.00

Joining Fee – \$5.00

Joining fee applies to all new and lapsed memberships.

Fees should be paid to the Treasurer prior to the AGM each year.

PUBLISHING

This journal is issued quarterly to members. Items for inclusion should be submitted to the Editor by the end of March, June, September and December .

FPFHG shall not be held responsible for statements made or opinions expressed by the authors of submitted materials, nor shall FPFHG vouch for the accuracy of any genealogical data, offers, services or goods that appear herein.

The Editor reserves the right to edit any articles proffered for publication.

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POSTAL DETAILS

POSTAL DETAILS