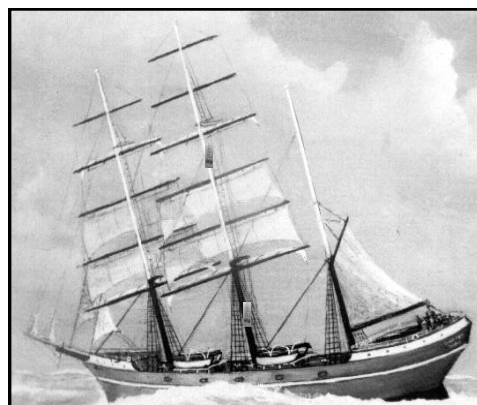


Inverlochy Log

The Newsletter of the Anglesea Family History Group

(A sub group of the Anglesea and District
Historical Society Inc.)

Winter Edition No. 19 (2003)



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Meetings

2nd Thursday of the month
commencing at 10am at the
Historical Society Museum
McMillan Street Anglesea 3230
Visitors most welcome

Library And Research Facilities
Monday 10am-2pm
Friday 10am-12noon

The Anglesea Family History
Group does not hold itself
responsible for the accuracy of
the statements or opinions
expressed by authors of articles
published in this magazine

Forthcoming Meetings.

September 11th
Sandra Marshall & Judith Grant
Topic Family Tree Maker

October 9th Margaret Owens
Topic Cornish Records

November 13th Dennis Leavesly
Topic Pathology

December 11th
Topic Christmas Party



Annual General Meeting
Our 4th Annual General Meeting
will also be held on the 9th October.

**If you would like to join the
Committee for the coming year
or nominate a person you can
obtain nomination forms from the
Historical Museum or from the
Secretary Helen Mann.**

**Forms must be lodged with the
Secretary by Thursday 25th
September 2003.**

The Byron Family Story



Our thanks go to Norma Morrison pictured left for providing this story about her family.

John Byron and Mary Lees married in in Oldham, Lancaster, in September 1831.

John was born in Ashton Under Lyne, Lancs, in 1808, the son of William Byron and Martha Whitehead (nee Ogden) a widow with one son.

John and Mary had their first four children in England, and then migrated to Australia, arriving in Melbourne in 1841 on board the “Georgiana”.

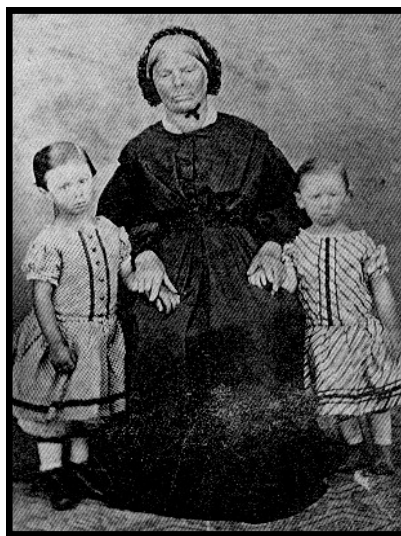
John farmed at Rosebrook, Port Fairy, owning 50 acres of land. To supplement his income he worked as a Carrier, carting wool from Rosebrook to Geelong and then back loading ten sacks of flour and supplies of goods to Rosebrook.

In 1844 Mary gave birth to their fifth child a son and 14 months later husband John was killed in a dray accident. John was the first .05 alcohol reading in the family. He was drinking on his way home from Geelong in company with several other people when he fell from the dray and the wheel ran over his neck. He was taken to a nearby property called Eilyer (owned by the Austin family) at Lake Bolac. They buried him there the following day in an unmarked grave, which now cannot be found.

Mary was left a widow with five children to support—there were no pensions in those days. The elder children commenced work to help Mary. Mary married a John Palmer and had two more children, a daughter and a son. John Palmer died (no trace can be found of his death) and Mary married James Groves in 1853.

The family moved to Ararat where several of the children ran their own gold mine called Byron’s Reward which earned the family a decent living. James died in 1860 and Mary passed away in 1881.

Five of the children married and produced very large families and when a book was written about this family some 12 years ago there were well over 3000 descendants.



Mary Lees with two Grandchildren.

New Acquisitions

We are pleased to announce a very generous donation to our group of records received from Faye Guthrie the past President of the Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies at Blackburn.

These records include the whole of the ICI on Microfiche, numerous land records, Old Cheltenham Cemetery, Convicts Index, Argus Shipping Movements, Ships Deserters, Old Melbourne Cemetery, Candidates for the Victorian Police Force, PRO summary guide, Tickets of Leave, Tasmanians in the Victorian Police Gazette, Eaglehawk Monumental Inscriptions, Landholders in the Parish of Scoresby, German Immigrants to Port Phillip, Unclaimed letters at the Melbourne GPO, New Zealanders who served in other Forces during WW1, Foreign Ships Passengers and Criminal Sessions.

These valuable records have now boosted our Library holdings considerably. We have sent our grateful thanks to Faye for thinking of our Family History Group.



New Members

We wish to welcome the following new members to our Family History Group.

Heather Hudler of Airey's Inlet

Rose Johnson of Ocean Grove

Alexander McPherson of Fairhaven

John Porter of Anglesea

Colin and Nielma Wood of Fairhaven



Trip To Lorne

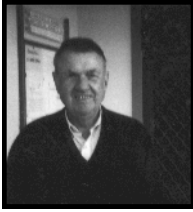
During July a visit was made to the Community House at Lorne where a presentation was made by our members on how to investigate your family history. There were twelve people who attended the session and the day was a great success. Norma Morrison was kind enough to provide a light lunch which was appreciated by the group. Visits to other centres are anticipated in the New Year.



Chairpersons Message

As we are nearing the end of our financial year Norma would like to thank all members who have assisted in the running of our Family History group during the past year.

Emigration of the Bannister Family.



Our thanks go to Neil McDonald pictured left for this story on the Bannister Family.

Henry Bannister Snr. was born in London in 1803.

His father Charles George Bannister of Bristol was married to Sarah Kirby of Bath. Henry married Mary Ann Walker in 1826 at St Georges, Hanover Sq. London. Mary Ann was the daughter of Edward Walker of Worcestershire and Sarah Andrews of Hampshire, and she was born at Middle Temple Lane, London in 1802. They had three children Mary Ann Harriet 1827, George Charles 1830 and Henry 1839 all born in London. Henry Snr. died in 1843 and was buried at St Giles In The Field, London. His occupation was given as Carver and Gilder.

George Charles Bannister married Rebecca Beavis in 1853 at St. Pancras Church, London and the next day made application for passage to Australia. They sailed in August from Southhampton for Geelong on the "S.S. Credenda". George kept a diary of the voyage and excerpts were published in the "Age Saturday Extra" in January 1988 as part of the "Tall Ships" celebrations. The passengers disembarked at Geelong in November and George noted "the very nicely laid out place" and commented "everything is dreadfully dear".

Their first child Rosina was born in Gheringhap Street Geelong in 1855, but by 1857 they were living in Ballarat where Rosina was tragically drowned in a waterhole at "the diggings". They had five other children, one of whom, Alfred Edmund Bannister, was the father of Owen Victor Bannister, who was a well known identity at Lorne, where he retired in 1958 after establishing successful orchards at Red Cliffs as a Soldier Settler. Owen died in 1992 at the age of 94 leaving many descendants, some who live at Lorne and Ocean Grove. The best known is Jenny Bannister, a well known fashion designer.

Mary Ann Harriet Bannister married Edmund Juggins Hall in 1853 at St. Pancras Church London. Their first child Charlotte Elizabeth was born in 1854. Mary Ann Bannister aged 52 the widow of Henry Snr. accompanied by her son Henry and daughter Charlotte departed Plymouth on the "Medway" bound for Port Phillip where they arrived in 1855.

Edmund and Mary Hall had three more children in Geelong where Henry established a successful Printing business. Henry after arriving in Geelong obtained employment in an Auctioneer's office, but the lure of gold led him to Ballarat. Although unsuccessful at the diggings he was appointed Secretary of the gold mining company Inkerman and Durham. Prosperity in Ballarat was declining and he travelled to Sydney, in search of employment, but soon returned to Geelong resuming as an Auctioneer.

In 1860 Henry married Clara Rosalie Provost at St. Paul's Church Geelong. Their first child Clara Bartlett Bannister was born in 1861 and the next year they moved to Melbourne. Henry was offered a job as an Accountant with Patrick McDonald's wine merchant business and once more he returned to Geelong. He became a well known identity in West Geelong where he was prominent in community affairs.

In 1884 he purchased four acres of land in Gladstone Estate, a new subdivision on the west side of Swampy Creek, and erected what was probably the first dwelling in that area. The location of his original land holding and house is now marked by Bannister Avenue, Anglesea.