

# The Surf Coast Family History Group

Vol. 72 Winter, June 2019 Edition

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

## Inverlochy Log



*From painting by Geoffrey Soames*

In this issue....

- Upcoming Events
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- The Bronte Family
- Graves of the Stinky Rich

Quarterly Journal of The Surf Coast Family History Group

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Historical Society \$20 for the first family member and \$15 for other family members, Family History \$15 per family, direct banking BSB 633 000, Account 1430 28421 Or send a cheque made out to Anglesea & District Historical Society, send to PO Box 98 Anglesea 3230. Subs due 1 September

We have a wide range of indexes both Australian and overseas. We have internet access for researching.

Our equipment includes computers, scanners, printers, microfiche readers and an extensive library.

Need help with your research? Call in and we will help.

### Thursday

**June 13th 10.00am**

Guest Speaker: Alice Wong  
Topic: Speaking on her book  
"As the Earth Turns Silver"

### Thursday

**July 18th 11.00am Mid Winter Feast**

combined with Historical Society  
Speaker: John Stewart  
Topic: Alexander Webb - Pioneer artist

### Thursday

**Aug 8th 10.00am** Event: "Hands-On" session on FamilySearch.

In preparation for our Geelong Family History Centre visits later this month. Dates t.b.a. August is Family History Month

Members and visitors welcome to all activities.

This newsletter is available electronically. If you wish to receive an electronic copy please email us on [surfcoastfh@gmail.com](mailto:surfcoastfh@gmail.com)

*No activities are held on days of code red or extreme fire danger for the Central Region.*

### Library and Research Facilities

Tuesday 10.30am - 1.00pm

Wednesday by appointment

Saturday 10.30am - 1.00pm

**Meetings** held on the 2nd Thursday of the month commencing at 10am at History House unless an excursion has been scheduled

5a McMillan Street Anglesea 3230

Visitors Welcome

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Vice Chairperson

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Committee Member

Committee Member

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The Surf Coast 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

## News and resources

### University of Strathclyde resources

Useful resources, e.g. Referencing Guide at: <https://www.strath.ac.uk/studywithus/centreforlifelonglearning/genealogy/genealogyresources/>

### British Newspaper Archive

30,000,000 pages scanned! Available through FindMyPast.

### UK 1921 census

The census, which was the first to be conducted following the introduction of the Census Act of 1920, will be published online by Findmypast in January 2022.

### Descendants of passengers who arrived on the "David Clark"

Descendants of passengers who arrived on the "David Clark" (the first ship to bring assisted immigrants direct to Port Phillip) in October 1839 are invited to attend a reunion to mark the 180<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This will be held on Sunday 27 October 2019 at Gulf Station, Yarra Glen, Victoria (historic farm, once owned by William Bell, one of the passengers). To receive information as plans are settled, email now to [davidclark1839@gmail.com](mailto:davidclark1839@gmail.com).

### Trove newspapers update (November 2018-March 2019)

See what's new and what's coming at: <https://www.gouldgenealogy.com/2019/03/trove-newspapers-update-november-2018-march-2019/>

### Website reminder

A reminder about the excellent resources available on the Cora Num website which is dedicated to "Helping you trace your family history in Australia and elsewhere". This site has an extensive amount of information from new websites to handouts from Cora's presentations, quick sheets, and much much more. Check it out.

<https://www.coraweb.com.au/>

### 1 million Australian WW1 records to be digitised ... and free

The Australian Government has just announced a scheme to digitise WW1 records of service men and women. The National Archives holds 1,062,000 records and 80% of them have yet to be digitised. The scheme recognises that next year is the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of WW1. The digitised records will be freely available to all Australians.

### Quote for this edition

Genealogy without sources is mythology. [author unknown]

## It's not all online

### Surf Coast Family History

Schools of the Surf Coast Shire

The list covers Anglesea to Wurdī Boluc

If you have family connections along

the coast and surrounding areas, it would

be well worth your while to view the school

indexes on CD at the History House.

These records are available at the Public Record

Office of Victoria but you cannot view indexes

online.

You have to order the copies and there would

be a cost. They are so easy to view at the

History House with some schools that include

class photos.

Have a look and see what you can find.

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## GRAVES OF THE STINKING RICH

Jan Morris

While in London some years ago we visited the Church of St Margaret in the grounds of Westminster Abbey. We were looking for a grave of one of my husband's ancestors. We were surprised to find the church didn't have a grave yard, as I had imagined. Rather, the headstone were in the floor or part of the walls.

Oh, thought I, they must have brought the headstones inside to make more room in the grounds.

I was wrong!  
I soon discovered that the actual caskets were placed in the floor or walls, the headstone placed on top and that then became part of the floor or the wall.



The church was founded in the twelfth century by [Benedictine monks](#). St Margaret's was rebuilt from 1486 to 1523, at the instigation of [King Henry VII](#). Many famous burials and weddings have taken place at this church. On 12 September 1908, [Winston Churchill](#) and [Clementine Hozier](#) were married there.

The grave we were looking for was eventually found in the floor of the church. This I later learned was where the richer people were buried. The richer or more acceptable were nearer the front of the church. Those with less money or less famous were placed further back in the floor or in the walls or even outside. Our headstone was very close to the back.

One can only imagine the odour, from rotting corpses that once seeped out into the atmosphere. Hence we have the saying "The stinking rich." Coffins for the privileged were hollowed out from a block of sedimentary rock. The coffin lids were also hewn from rock and they rested so near the surface that the lids became the church's stone floors. Likewise, churches with poorer parishioners had coffins with wooden lids, which doubled as the church's wooden floors. Many of the walls of these churches were made up of caskets packed closely together, thus the walls had to be thick enough to fit the caskets into them.



Between 1800 and 1850, London's population swelled from 1 million to more than 2.3 million. Illness under these crowded conditions led to epidemics such as typhus and smallpox. The church's floors and walls were rapidly filled with bodies, so even the righteous and the wealthy had to be buried outdoors in the churchyards. Then as churchyards became overcrowded, bodies were buried shoulder to shoulder. Lack of burial space then led to the establishment of seven cemeteries around London. They were planned as beautiful parks and became known as the "Magnificent Seven."

References: London's Magnificent Seven published 2019 on the Internet by Billion Graves

Wikipedia [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St\\_Margaret%27s,\\_Westminster](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St_Margaret%27s,_Westminster)

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### Frances Reid turns 108 with a gift from the tigers

Frances May Cowen born 1911, Gerangamete, Victoria, Australia.

She Married George James Reid 20 Jan 1934 in Geelong, Victoria. She was 7 years old when she started school, to get there she had to cross a river and to get across walk over two poles laid across that reached from one side to the other. Then cross three large paddocks to get to school.

There were no man made roads only bush tracks.

There's been many changes in her life time with her favourite being the motor car.

Frances is a lifelong Richmond fan & there was a nice surprise for her on 108th Birthday when

Chris Naish a former Tigers player dropped by, Father of Patrick who was a 2017 draftee.

Chris presented Frances with her own Footy top and also with one signed by all the Richmond team.

What a wonder gift for a loyal long standing fan. **Congratulations Frances.**





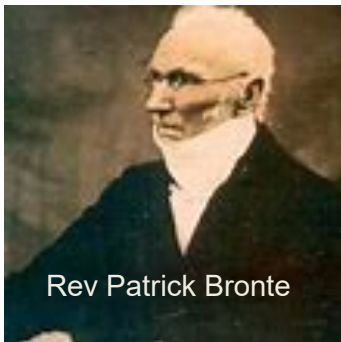
## Touching Famous People in History Through Your Ancestors The Brontë Family

Pat Hughes

The Brontës were a nineteenth-century literary family, born in the village of Thornton and later associated with the village of Haworth in the West Riding of Yorkshire, England.

The sisters, Charlotte, Emily, and Anne, are well known as poets and novelists.

Anne Brontë, the sixth and final child of Patrick and Maria Brontë, was just three months old when her family moved to Haworth, the village that would become forever associated with the Brontë sisters, but the story of why they moved is a fascinating and surprising one in its own right.



Rev Patrick Brontë



Patrick was a clergyman in the Church of England from County Down in what is now Northern Ireland. He had enjoyed a number of assistant curateships before becoming vicar of Thornton, he was delighted at first to find that the post gave him a parsonage to live in free of charge. The Brontë family was growing, however, Patrick soon wrote to his Bishop to say it was inadequate for him.

In mid-1819 the Vicar of Bradford offered Patrick the opportunity to become Curate of Haworth after the death of its long time incumbent James Charnock. Haworth was a strange parish in many ways, as it was a sub-parish of Bradford meaning that the Vicar of Bradford, Henry Heap, received a percentage of the money it raised. Heap also thought that meant he had the right to select Haworth's curate, but an ancient tradition stated that the parish elders were allowed to select their own priest.

This caused a standoff reported in The Leeds Intelligencer newspaper in June 1819: 'We hear that the Rev. P. Brontë, curate of Thornton, has been nominated by the vicar of Bradford, to the valuable perpetual curacy of Haworth, vacated by the death of the Rev. James Charnock; but that the inhabitants of the chapelry intend to resist the presentation, and have entered a caveat accordingly.'

Rev Samuel Redhead

Made aware of the strength of the villager's complaint, Patrick informed Heap that he no longer wished to be considered for the post. The Vicar of Bradford then installed Reverend Samuel Redhead in the position; he had stood in for Reverend Charnock throughout his illness, so was surely a safe choice – in this belief, Reverend Heap was badly mistaken.

The Haworth elders were even more incensed that they had been snubbed twice and reacted furiously to Redhead's appointment.

There are two accounts of what happened next. Elizabeth Gaskell, in [her brilliant biography of Charlotte Brontë](#), describes the Haworth villagers stamping on the church floor with their clogs until Redhead could not be heard at his first service. They later send a drunken chimney sweep on the back of a donkey to confront him, and then chase him out of the church with such threats of violence that he has to flee on horseback.

This sounds a wild account, but the actuality may have been even worse as there is one other account, and it comes from the Bishop of Ripon, a man who later became Archbishop of Canterbury.

Bishop Charles Longley stayed at Haworth in March 1853.

Patrick Brontë's account of how he came to be curate of Haworth amazed him so much that he immediately wrote to his wife, and this letter is now part of the archives at Lambeth Palace. What he describes is nothing less than an attempt to murder their priest Samuel Redhead.



Barnwell Brontë  
Self Portrait 1840

There is an ancient feud between Bradford and Haworth... the people of Haworth can by the trust deed of the living, prevent the person appointed by the vicar [of Bradford] from entering the Parsonage or receiving any of the emoluments, if he does not please them... in the case of Mr. Redhead, the inhabitants exercised their right of resistance and opposition and to such a point did they carry it, that they actually brought a Donkey into the church while Mr. Redhead was officiating and held up its head to stare him in the face – they then laid a plan to crush him to death in the vestry, by pushing a table against him as he was taking off his surplice and hanging it up, foiled in this for some reason or other they then turned out into the Churchyard where Mr. Redhead was going to perform a funeral and were determined to throw him into the grave and bury him alive.

Following this there was no way that Redhead could officiate there again, so at last a compromise was reached. Henry Heap met the villagers who agreed to accept his original choice, Patrick Brontë, as long as they could officially nominate him rather than the vicar – keeping their old rights alive.

This is how Anne Brontë came to travel, cradled in her mother's arms, across the moors on April 20<sup>th</sup> 1820. It was an auspicious move, for although Haworth brought terrible tragedies to the Brontë family, with Maria Brontë dying just a year after her husband had taken up his new position; it also provided the stimulus and inspiration for a series of books that changed the literary world.

This was Mr Redhead's last appearance at Haworth for many years.

Long afterwards he went to preach, and in his sermon to a large and attentive congregation, he good-humouredly reminded them of the circumstances. They gave him a hearty welcome, for they owed him no grudge.

Samuel Redhead went on to be the curate in Calverley-com-Farsley in the same parish of Pudsey.

The places of worship are the parish church Saint Wilfred, the new district church of Saint John and chapels for Wesleyan and Primitive Methodists. The new church was erected by means of grants from the church building societies amounting to nearly 2,000 pounds obtained through the exertions of the late Rev, Redhead, by whom the first stone was laid on the 8<sup>th</sup> July, 1842 and was consecrated by the Bishop of Ripon, in October, 1843.

**Yorkshire. PUDSEY, &c. Slater's**

The principal trade of this little colony is fine needle work. The township of PUDSEY, including Fulneck, Tyersall, and part of the village of Stanningley, contained in 1841, 10,002 inhabitants, and in 1851, 11,503.

CALVERLEY-CUM-FARSLEY is a township in the same parish as Pudsey, 2½ miles n. from that chapelry. The inhabitants derive their chief support from the woollen trade. The places of worship are the parish church of Saint Wilfrid, the new district church of Saint John and chapels for Wesleyan and Primitive Methodists. The new church was erected by means of grants from the church building societies, amounting to nearly £2,000, obtained through the exertions of the late Rev. Samuel Redhead, by whom the first stone was laid on the 8th July, 1842, and it was consecrated by the bishop of Ripon, in October, 1843. There are schools upon the British and National plans and two town's schools. The township contained, in 1851, 4,892 inhabitants.

STANNINGLEY, a manufacturing village, in the townships of Bramley, Pudsey and Farsley, in the parishes of Calverley and Leeds, is 3½ miles N.E. from Bradford, upon the turnpike road between that town and Leeds, and about a mile from the centre of the chapelry of Pudsey. In this village are two very extensive iron foundries, and manufactories for steam engines and railway wheels. A new district church has lately been built here, and dedicated to Saint Thomas, and there are chapels for Baptists, and Methodists of the Primitive and Wesleyan congregations. Population returned with the townships.

TONG is a chapelry, in the parish of Birstall—the village is about 2 miles s. from Pudsey, and 7 s.w. from Leeds. A small neat church (or chapel) is in the village—the living is in the gift of Colonel John Plumbe Tempest, Esquire, of Tong Hall, who is lord of the manor. The population of the chapelry is about 2,800.

Samuel Redhead Born 24 Dec 1778 in Clitheroe, Lancashire. He was my 4th Great Uncle and I am very proud of his achievements, the fact that he never gave up his faith and his humanity. He achieved some amazing things in his life time including touching space & time with the Bronte Family. There are interesting articles on the internet that covers the Bronte family & also Samuel Redhead, see addresses below.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brontë\\_family](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brontë_family)

<https://www.annebronte.org/2017/11/26/how-the-bronte-family-came-to-haworth/>

The Surf Coast Family History Group started as a group in 1999, by being welcomed into the Anglesea & District Historical Society as a sub group. This was the beginning of a exciting journey by the new group, within a few months they had 18 members. It did not take long for that number to grow and to become a group that offered support, friendship, and a welcome to all. Over the years members have found and had many wins & surprises when finding their ancestors. It is the most exciting journey you can ever do. It's discovering what's inside us. It is a journey we do that connects the past, the now, and the future generations.



The Surf Coast Family History Group enjoyed a pleasant morning when they celebrated their achievement of reaching 20 years as a group. It was a very special morning for old & new members alike. The pictures show Jan Morris, Chairperson of the family history group with Pat Hughes one of the original members who blew out the candles on the 20th year celebration birthday cake.