



Reflections

Newsletter of the
Phillip Island and District
Genealogical Society Inc.

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

All meetings are held at our rooms, 56 Chapel St., Cowes

Wednesday 24 February at 2 p.m. **Podcast afternoon.** The topic is "Historypin: Your History & Google Maps," by Meg Bates through GSV. It includes Pinterest and provides a fascinating insight into what has been done, and what still can be done, with old photographs in conjunction with current and old maps

Saturday 19 March 2016 2 pm – 4 pm. Presentation by David Rathgen on **Self-Publishing your family history.** David has undertaken a substantial amount of commissioned research for PIADGS over the past year. This will be an opportunity to benefit from his experience, whether just starting off on self-publishing or seeking ideas on refinement.

Saturday 2 April at 1.30. Family Tree Maker User Group

You will soon be able to access **The 1939 Register** on our computers for free.

Findmypast has announced that from the 16th February subscribers will have unlimited access to **The 1939 Register**. As P.I.A.D.G.S. is a subscriber, our members will have free access. You will be able to discover names, addresses and occupations of your family in England and Wales on the eve of the Second World War.

**Samuel Turner, Blacksmith,
Chipping Sodbury, Gloucestershire:**

*His sledge and hammer lie reclined,
His bellows, too, has lost its wind,
His Coal is spent, his Iron gone,
His nails are drove, his work is done,
His body's here, clutched in the dust,
'Tis hoped his soul is with the just.*

Johnnie Scott:

*Beneath this stone lies Johnnie Scott.
Who lived like a fool and died like a sot.
But it is needless to argue
Whether he was so or not;
He as a man was despised ,
And will soon be forgot*

<http://shadowsoftime.co.nz>

IGA COWES

Anyone shopping at the IGA Grocery store in Cowes, please give our **Shopper Number 595** and all credits will go to the Phillip Island and District Genealogical Society Inc. It would be most appreciated by the Committee if you could spare a few points.

AUSTRALIA DAY BBQ

More than 30 members and their partners enjoyed our Australia Day BBQ. Lovely weather and good company. What more could anyone want.



FAMILY TREE MAKER USER GROUP

with
DOUG ELMS

Doug Elms, Member of PIADGS and President of VICGUM, attended our Family Tree Maker User Group on Saturday 6 February to take us through the recent announcement by Ancestry to “retire” Family Tree Maker software. Over thirty members, and visitors from Wonthaggi and Leongatha, attended.



I found these two articles while researching James Charles Hann, an 1868 selector of land on Phillip Island

Salt Lake City in Gippsland?

WHAT GIPPSLAND MISSED.

How many of those who peacefully dwell to-day in the settled districts of West Gippsland are aware of the fact that at one time the illustrious Brigham Young contemplated making his home in that part of Australia, and with that purpose in view wrote to one of the earliest pioneers of that district in order to make some inquiries on the subject? asks "Bendleby," of the "Australasian." This letter bears the date of October, 1873, and is headed Salt Lake City. It was directed to Messrs. James Hann and Co. In this letter, which has fortunately been preserved by Mr. J. C. Hann, Brigham Young stated that, owing to his being crowded out, and hustled through the agencies of railways, and in consequence of his old-established forms of religion being interfered with, he was exceedingly anxious to settle a portion of his still increasing family

on the lands of that country which held out the greatest inducement to so desirable a colonist as himself. At the time of writing he had 187 children living, the greater portion of whom were over the age of sixteen years. His requirements took the form of a modest 320 acres a piece, and "as much more to keep them in novel industries, rearing of lambs, calves, kids, etc." Although this illustrious individual regarded himself as so desirable a colonist for a new country, it is possibly a good thing for Australia that the inducements which Messrs. James Hann and Co. were able to offer did not lead up to the point of business. Even in these days of keen competition for emigrants, it is very doubtful whether any patriarch of this description would be classed otherwise than as undesirable.

Gippsland Mercury (Sale). Tuesday 17 February 1914

Now we know whom to blame!

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GAZETTE.

SIR,—Yours of the 31st ult. to hand. You wish to know who introduced the greatest curse to West Gippsland, viz, the blackberry. I must plead guilty of having done so. Now my reason for doing so was this. My father-in-law, the late Mr Steinway, had a fine orchard and garden at Schnapper Point, with only a post and rail fence. To make it more secure, he had a blackberry hedge to cover the fence. It was then a splendid fence. My first fence at Brandy Creek, 1869 was about 15 or 16 chains of basket fence. To improve it, I got a case of small plants from "The Point." For the first few years, everybody admired the fence, and of course wished to have a few plants.

Each took what they required.

But after that, I found to my cost what a mistake I had made, and I fancy others also found they had made a mistake, as the sequel has shown.

I was the first to introduce the water cress, which is found in all your creeks and swamps, taken from Brandy Creek. I have planted hundreds of plants in creeks and swamps where I thought it would thrive, as I found it the best fodder for prevention and cure for pleuro in cattle and fluke in sheep. Where watercress is in plenty, and cattle and sheep can get it, you will find no pleuro and fluke. Trusting the above may be of interest Yours truly,—

J. C. HANN.

West Gippsland Gazette (Warragul). Tuesday 11 January 1910

Note: Brandy Creek is the present day Warragul

source: <http://trove.nla.gov.au>

NEW IN OUR LIBRARY

- | | |
|---|--|
| Moyle, Barbara R | Pioneers on the Powlett and at Wonthaggi 1878-1910. Early history of settlement of the Bass Coast district |
| White, Joseph | A town called Outrim |
| Bennett, Arthur L. | Glittering years. Kalgoorlie and Boulder 1907-1928 |
| Corinella sesqui-centenary celebrations | |
| Glen Alvie remembers | |

Family stories lost in time

IN RECENT years tracing the family tree has become extremely popular.

Yet research has found an astonishing number of people know nothing of even their parents' most cherished stories and keepsakes.

In fact, only one in four Victorians are well versed on the unique stories associated with their own families, according to newly commissioned research by Victoria's public trustee, State Trustees.

The statewide survey of more than 1000 people revealed that while many had access to a detailed family tree, very few were able to recall unique stories connected with their families and in most cases, could not recall basic facts about their own parents and grandparents.

A staggering 70 per cent of those surveyed reported almost no knowledge of their parents' most cherished stories and keepsakes, while only 10 per cent were aware of their grandparents' historical anecdotes and the things they held most dear in life.

While those canvassed claimed to know basic facts about their grandparents, the study revealed that more than half (56 per cent) were unable to identify key aspects of their grandparents' lives, including their occupations, religious background, maiden names, when they arrived in Australia and, most surprisingly, whether they had fought in a war.

State Trustees chief executive Craig Dent said the new research identified a need for people to spend more time with loved ones and rekindle the art of storytelling before family history is lost.

"We believe that rediscovering cherished things and sharing the stories behind them is a process that will allow



TELL ME A STORY – Harry learns about a precious family watch from his grandmother, Giovanna, of Mount Waverley.

families to reconnect with their heritage and help them foster a deeper sense of understanding as to who they really are and the values they stand for," he said.

"Memories create legacy and history. We want to encourage Victorians to take the time to sit down together and pass on their stories and cherished things – in person – to their loved ones.

"Ensuring the continuation of history is absolutely vital and we encourage people to go through their old boxes, dust off old trunks and head into sheds or attics to find things that mean something or say something about who they really are."

The wide-ranging research also uncovered little awareness of the existence of family heirlooms and the stories behind them.

Only a quarter of respondents said they

had a cherished item in their family and knew the story behind it.

Mr Dent said it was critical families spent time together to tell their stories, as the research results demonstrated a correlation between time spent together and knowledge of our parents' and grandparents' stories.

"We are embarking on a long-term campaign to encourage Victorians to learn the stories of their loved ones, so that history doesn't stop for families when they lose a loved one; rather, their love can live on through their stories and cherished things."

■ State Trustees provides a broad range of legal and financial services to provide security and peace of mind in difficult times. Call 9667-6444 or 1300-138-672, www.statetrustees.com.au

Source: The Senior. December 2015

Thank you to Elaine Alexander for sending this article to me

BIG CRABS INVADE PHILLIP ISLAND Cowes, Tuesday

People living along the western and south-western shores of Ventnor, Phillip Island, report an epidemic of Japanese spider crabs. Thousands of these sea creatures are dead along the beaches for miles.

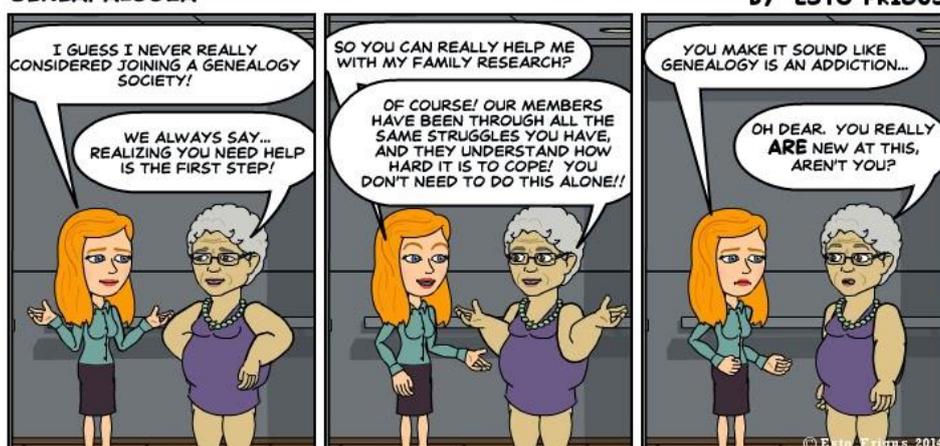
Some are 6 to 8 inches across, the legs of the bigger ones being 18 inches long.

Thousands of live crabs can be seen in the calm waters, clinging to the rocky bottom.

The crabs frequent the feeding grounds of whiting and snapper, destroying the grass on the sea bed, with the result that the fish move to new grounds.

The Argus. Wednesday 11 February 1952

GENEAPALOOZA



WWW.BITSTRIPS.COM

KEEPING UP TO DATE

Those pesky 'Updates' from Ancestry

Every other week or month or so 'Ancestry' and 'Find My Past' tell us they have added some new documents or data to their website. It's worth checking them every now and then.

A 'rule of thumb' is to look again for those missing ancestors once or twice a year or even more frequently. Especially for those of us looking for our European or non-British ancestors, check out the Other Sites that both Ancestry and Find My Past have available.

Recently my cousin in Germany found all the missing relatives I have been banging on about these past thirty years or more. He not only found the lot of them he added two new great-aunts, and found their marriages and their offspring.

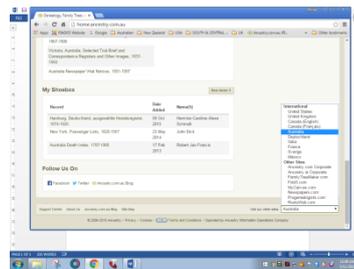
He also told me his wife's Polish ancestry has been brought up to date from the same 'updates.'

Warning: don't try this from home – unless you have subscribed to the complete Worldwide subscription plans, which our Society has done for you. Come in to our Rooms, check into the normal Ancestry site; but then go to the bottom right hand corner where it says 'Visit our other sites'. There you will find a list of other locations in the local language (not yet in English), but by now you have probably worked out the other language translations of 'birth', 'marriage' or 'burial'.

Here is our usual opening screen:



Here is where to find the 'Other Sites'



A second opportunity is to find Ancestors through the European Project – Newspapers. This website is similar to 'Trove' in Australia or 'Papers Past' in New Zealand. Of course they are available in the original language, but the item you find can be 'cut and pasted' into Google Translator and you can get the sense.

Go to <http://www.europeana-newspapers.eu/>

They say:

"We're doing this via two prominent cultural heritage websites: Europeana and The European Library. Our project is: Funded under the European Commission's CIP 2007 – 2013 programme; A three-year project, running until January 2015; Aggregating 18 million historic newspaper pages for Europeana and The European Library; Converting 10 million newspaper pages to full text. This will help users quickly search for specific articles, people and locations mentioned within the newspaper; Creating a special content viewer to improve online newspaper browsing. Try the prototype; Building tools that will allow professionals to better assess the quality of newspaper digitisation in relation to level of detail, speed and costs.

- See more at: <http://www.europeana-newspapers.eu/#sthash.xu3Lpv60.dpuf>

Happy hunting – David Rathgen

Genealogy begins as an interest,
Becomes a hobby;
Continues as an avocation,
Takes over as an obsession,
And in its last stages,
Is an incurable disease.

--Author Unknown

Dear Abby: I have always wanted to have my family history traced, but I can't afford to spend a lot of money to do it. Any suggestions?
~ Sam in California ~

Dear Sam: Yes. Run for public office

<http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~tracers/thefunny.htm>

MORE FREE INTERNET SITES

South Australia - Immigration Passengers in history <http://passengersinhistory.sa.gov.au/>

Lost Cousins <http://www.lostcousins.com/>

To quote from the web site:

'LostCousins is the ONLY family history website able to match you with others researching the same ancestors. Simply enter the relatives on your family tree who were recorded in selected US, Canadian, British, or Irish Censuses - then click the **Search** button. 100% accurate automated matching means that nobody else needs to see your information - yet when you do find a 'lost cousin', you can be certain you're related!'

Registration is free, but a subscription is required to contact other subscribers. For more information, see the December 2015 issue of 'The Genealogist'.

Channel Islands – Jersey <http://catalogue.jerseyheritage.org/>

Includes parish registers, funeral director's records, church records, German occupation records

The Lost London Street Index. An index to London street name changes and those that are no longer in existence or shown on maps.

<http://web.archive.org/web/20041129033726/http://members.aol.com/WHall95037/london.html>

Bendigo. Historic rate search <http://glcrates.ncgrl.vic.gov.au/>

Bendigo. Petitions 1870-1899. Petitions from Nineteenth Century Correspondence to the City of Sandhurst (Bendigo)

http://www.brac.vic.gov.au/Digital_Records/Petitions_1870-1899

Historic Victorian births, deaths and marriages index can now be searched for free at:

<https://online.justice.vic.gov.au/bdm/indexsearch.doj>

From Denmark to Australia <http://www.danesinaustralia.com>

Ireland townland database <http://thecore.com/seanruad/>

Irish ancestors (The Irish Times) <http://www.irishtimes.com/ancestor/index.htm>

Irish place names. Villages, towns & townlands in Ireland

<http://www.irish-place-names.com/>

e-books Project Gutenberg <http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/>

Internet archive library of millions of free books, software, music and more

<https://archive.org/>

PHILLIP ISLAND IN THE NEWS – 100 years ago

CONTINGENT FROM PHILLIP ISLAND.

A contingent of 32 recruits from the shire of Phillip Island and Woolamai, with Recruiting Sergeant Roper and Mr. Bonwick (secretary) in charge, arrived by train on Saturday, and marched to the Town Hall depot. They were a fine lot of men, and just the sort the nation is in need of at the present time. They carried their banner—"Phillip Island and Woolamai Shire Recruiting Banner"—and made a good impression as they marched along the streets. Mr. Bonwick is bringing another contingent in a week or ten days from the same shire.

The Age. Monday 28 February 1916

source: <http://trove.nla.gov.au/>

By Crs McFee and Dixon: That Rabbit Inspector on Phillip Island be instructed to remove dead rabbits. Cr McFee said there were about 50 dead rabbits on one of the roads.

Cr McFee drew attention to necessity of removal of lavatory near Cowes Jetty;

Powlett Express. Friday 24 March 1916

A party of sportsmen from Cowes visited French Island for the opening of the duck shooting season on Tuesday morning, but found that parties from the mainland had been shooting in all the favored spots on Monday afternoon and evening. Only moderate bags awaited those shooters who observed the law. Owing to continued dry weather not many ducks have come to Phillip Island this year.

Border Morning Mail (Albury). Monday 21 February 1916