



# Reflections

Newsletter of the  
Phillip Island and District  
Genealogical Society Inc.

Inc. No A0023887G

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**Number 99**

**November 2016**

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

**Saturday 26 November 2016** from 12 noon. **Christmas lunch at the San Remo Hotel.**

RSVP by A.S.A.P. to [piadgs@gmail.com](mailto:piadgs@gmail.com) (Christmas Lunch)  
or to Genevieve 0418 545 569

**Thursday 26 January 2017** 12 noon. **Australia Day BBQ**

**Saturday 4 February 2017** **Family Tree Maker User Group** 1.30pm – 4pm

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**CHRISTMAS CLOSURE: The rooms will be closed from Sunday 18 December and  
reopen on Tuesday 10 January 2017.**

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## YOUR COMMITTEE FOR 2016 / 2017

President: Susan Lilley

Vice President: Jan Andrews

Secretary: Malcolm Swaine

Treasurer: Bernie Billman

General Committee: Jean Dunstan    Bob Hayes    Genevieve Hayes

Duncan McPherson

Linda Patterson

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Only a genealogist regards a step backwards as progress!

Research: What I'm doing, when I don't know what I'm doing.

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## 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.

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## Another Episode . . . and more to come.



William Humphries (AKA Perrin) and Hannah Perrin (AKA Jones)  
My 2GG Father & 2GG Mother

When I wrote "I Hated My Name" for Reflections 84, 2013, I thought that was that. Well it turned out to be just Episode I, with several more to follow!

**Episode II.** The six of us sat round the dinner table that Monday night after enjoying the long weekend, March 2015, at the Port Fairy Folk Festival. The hosts were my friend of nearly 30 years, Wendy, and the lovely man, Rod Carter, whom she married a few years ago. His old friend Barry Dunstan and wife Pam were there too. A relaxing meal to end three days of great music, with friends old and new. Those Dunstan's lived near us in West Gippsland too and were definitely people we wanted to keep in touch with.

Table conversation turned to our everyday lives. My husband did not really get genealogy at that time, so when asked what we did in Cowes, could not resist the chance to have a little fun. He rolled his eyes and revealed that I spent a lot of time (in his opinion too much) in the genealogy rooms. That backfired! Pam embarked on her story about the brick wall she had struck in research into German ancestors. That backfired too! My man was a Berliner and of course, genuinely interested. Serve him right!

Then the question about my discoveries.

"My maiden name was wrong" said I.

"What was it?" said Pam.

"It was 'Humphries', but I should have been 'Perrin'," was my reply.

Pam's husband, Barry, almost dropped his knife and fork. "My family has Humphries and Perrin too!" The ancestors whose name was in question are our great great grandparents. Barry and I are third cousins!

We talked about places in the Victorian Goldfields, Ross Creek near Ballarat in particular. There were pairs of brothers that married pairs of sisters, and as if this were not confusing enough, the habit of naming daughters "Varina". We talked about which branches we were on and promised to share more information in the future.

The surprises did not stop that day.

Barry's mother was from Ross Creek and her maiden name was "Billman". A not too common name really. I know a Bernie Billman in PIADGS and he is a member of our Probus as well.

Some weeks later at a Probus get together. "Bernie, where do your Billman's come from?" "Ross Creek". So there is the reason for Episode Three.

Susan Lilley.  
1 November 2016

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### FAMILY TREE MAKERS USERS GROUP - 1 October 2016




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Irish blessing. May the ten toes of your feet always steer you clear of misfortune

Source: Blarney August 1999

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## How To Make Your Family History Fun For Kids

Little ones are fascinated by their roots. Here's how to bring their stories to life.

It's no secret that children are fascinated by their roots. With the perennial "Where did I come from?" a fixture in the must-asks of just about every little person, it's something that your tots are sure to care about.

And it's also true that sharing stories of your family's past gives them a sense of belonging. "Children love hearing the personal stories and adventures of their relatives," says genealogist Emma Jolly, author of Family History for Kids. "When they're doing a project at school or watching a film set in a particular period of time, [they] love to think about what their own ancestors were doing and how they lived." Of course, we're all tragically desperate to know if we've got an African king threaded into our DNA or if we may be a distant relative of the Jolie-Pitt clan, but what great-granddad did in the war can still be fascinating – even if it is minus the A-list connection.

Children also love hearing their parents' own personal stories. From how you met and what made you love each other, to fun details like what daddy's hair used to look like, silly stories and exciting places you travelled to before they came along. Sharing family stories doesn't have to be a big event, you can capture their interest and imagination with tales of your family at meals, in the car, or at bedtime.

And of course, kids love hearing their own 'history' retold – what they did when they were babies, funny things they used to say or occasions when they were brave – as their own sense of self is developing. 'Remember when' is a very powerful phrase to use to bring you and your children close.

Here's a few more ways to make family history come alive for your children.

### **Talk to living relatives**

Encourage children and older relatives to talk to each other. Hearing stories about what life was like in the past helps kids feel more connected to the past, especially if relatives couch their anecdotes to your children's age. For example, what sort of toys they had, how they got to school, what they had to wear and their favourite food. Older children could make podcasts or videos with their grandparents.

### **Show children photographs and family heirlooms**

Photographs of relatives displayed around your home reminds children of their heritage and seeing people they love looking younger and different is intriguing. Children love photos that show how clothing and hairstyles have changed over the years - Grandma's Seventies or Eighties' wedding dress is sure to be a big hit!

### **Take your children back in time**

"Visiting places where ancestors lived, went to school or worked can be fun," suggests Emma Jolly. "Graveyards are also interesting, especially if you find the grave of a relative." Children love interactive, living history exhibits, such as a historically recreated stately home and village that shows how their ancestors might have lived.

### **Keep your history alive with food**

Every family has their own particular recipes handed down through generations, like Granny's delicious schnitzel or Nonna's pasta arrabiata. Make sure your children know these foods are special, a vital part of their ancestry and cook them together.

### **Create a family tree**

Get an A3 piece of paper and draw a big family tree. You can find templates and lots of different style ideas online, from traditional trees to peacocks, and make sure your child's face is prominent at the top or bottom.

Young children can help with sticking on photos and colouring in. You could also make their own personal storybook with photocopies of photos of relatives stuck into pages and a story for each for you to read aloud at bedtime. You can encourage your child to paint Granny when she was young or Daddy when he had more hair.

Children will love comparing physical similarities between themselves and their ancestors. They'll also be fascinated by the idea of time changing people, that the little girl who looks like them is now their grandmother with the achy hips and grey hair, and how they themselves will change and become grown-ups who can do anything.

[http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/how-to-make-your-family-history-fun-for-kids\\_uk\\_575fccf4e4b050f7af8a5f71](http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/how-to-make-your-family-history-fun-for-kids_uk_575fccf4e4b050f7af8a5f71)

*Thank you to Elaine Alexander for forwarding this to me*

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## A Christmas Incident

'Twas the night before Christmas, and all through the charts  
 The lines that were empty would sure break your heart.  
 The pedigree chart was laid out with care,  
 In hopes that St Nicholas would know who or where.  
 As searcher I nestled all snug in my bed  
 While visions of ancestors danced through my head.

Others sound asleep both upstairs and down  
 All in a nightcap and ankle length gown.  
 when out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,  
 I jumped from my bed to see what was the matter.  
 When much to my wonderment there did appear  
 Good old St Nicholas with a grin to each ear.

His bulk was tremendous, his eyes full of glee  
 He laughed as he picked up the sad pedigree.  
 He shouted and roared and ripped it to bits  
 While I swallowed my heart and went into fits.  
 "Dash it all, dash it all," I heard him then say,  
 "This clutter and mess is just in my way."

He said not a word as he started his job  
 He sat down at once and his pencil did jog.  
 A new pedigree he filled out in two winks  
 Giving names, dates, and places and all missing links.  
 Clear back to Adam, and down to the last...  
 For ageless was he, having served in the past.

I thought, "Oh, how wonderful it would all be  
 If he did for others what he did for me!!:  
 As he finished and blotted the ink not quite dry  
 A sadness came over me and then I did cry!  
 He gave me the details and seemed to have such fun  
 But now all my ancestor chasing was done!!!

He bounced out the window and I heard him say,  
 "For others I'll do the same any old day,  
 Just tell them my number and be good and kind,"  
 But then, a sure thought came into my mind...  
 Nobody wants ancestors that fast and so good  
 I'll let everyone else do the job just as they should.

(by Dora Mills - Ash Tree Echo Jan 1983)

<http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~bridgett/chumor.htm>



## GENEAPALOOZA



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## PHILLIP ISLAND IN THE NEWS

### “The Isle of Peace”

#### The History of a Holiday Cruise to Cowes

On Sunday, December 26th, “The Standard” representative had the extreme pleasure of visiting Phillip Island under extremely enjoyable circumstances. The event acting as the magnet, drawing to it people from the coastal parts of the great mainland, was the unveiling of a monument to the memory of those who had lost their lives on the sacrificial altars of the battleground in France, Gallipoli and Palestine.

#### The Party Leaves Frankston

The members of the Frankston Brass Band, who were to supplement the “Besses o’ the Barn” at Hastings, were the Bandmaster, Mr. Harry Blaskett, who, due to a sprained ankle, veritably “hopped across,” as the saying goes, and Messrs. J. Fielder, H. Prosser, B. Kilburn, L. Ings, I. Prosser, A. Latham, R. Prosser, and H. Bawden. These players were driven to by Mr. Hector Gamble to Hastings, where they were treated to a sumptuous repast at Mrs. Cairns’. Here they were joined by the Hastings players, namely Messrs E. Haelrick, W. Jones, J. Ward, F. Davies, D. Reid, I. Haelrick, H. Haddock, W. Allen, F. Wairsh, A. O’Brien and Secretary Ben Davies. Messrs. B. Ward, of the Richmond City Band, and Vic Gallagher, a fine cornet player from the Geelong City Band, considerably strengthened the musical strength of the party.

#### Leave Hastings

Embarking on Mr. Fred Osterlind’s fine 17 h.p. motor boat, the party soon wended its way out of the channel, although there was deep water, as fine expanse as one could desire - but at night, when returning, it was another story.

Mr Jack Ward acted as guide to the visitors, and pointed out the bits of coastal scenery, explained everything about everything of interest, and showed that he knows every inch and every “pint” of Westport most intimately. A well-liked man is Jack Ward – the sort of man that makes these trips enjoyable.

#### En Route to Cowes

As we skirted French Island, we passed several craft fishing, hauling in good whiting. At night, when we returned, these parts were emptied of its waters, owing to the rise and fall of ten feet in the tide, and looked like green and verdant pastures. It is one of the curiosities of Nature. At Broome (W.A.) the tide, however, falls 15 feet – the jetty is more than a mile long. Tortoise Head and Sandstone Island were passed. The island is now pastured by sheep, but the Defence Department propose to make a magazine of it. There is one lonely home on the island – though it is close to Hastings. Tortoise Head is a peculiarly shaped rock, but it and the Nobbies possesses a wonderful light, costing about £1300 apiece, which requires no petrol, no fuel, no attendant, but is operated solely by the sun. Whilst the sun shines all is serene, immediately the sun sets or goes behind a darkened cloud, it flashes its warning to navigators every seven seconds.

#### Passing Stony Point

Very shortly we were cutting through the water past Stony Point and the Naval Base. At the Point were three of the crayfishing fleet which pot the cray in Tasmanian waters in Bass Strait and return to Stony Point to export them to Melbourne. One of the vessels there belonged to the late Captain Burgess, who was eventually shot by a Tasmanian policeman some time ago. Captain Burgess was a frequent visitor to Stony Point, where he was beloved and respected by all. His vessels are kept as tidy as a palace. The Naval Base, we noticed, is quite a community in itself, and the three-storied seamen’s quarters are very imposing from the sea. Surely Westport is destined to develop into a great commercial port, for the essentials are all there – facilities and sympathy alone being wanting. There were several parties fishing at Sandy Point, which has deep water close to shore, but on the fall of the tide has a curious sand bar, due to the under current being so excessive.

#### Entering Cowes

As we entered Cowes, with the rocks of Symonds Bay and Flinders towering in the distance to the right, people, mostly visitors, gathered on the pier whilst the band played Lithgow’s fine march “Wairoa.” Alongside the pier lay anchored the fine Cowes motor yacht, “The Premier,” which cost more than £1000, whilst in the bay were two yachts from St. Kilda, cruising about. As one enters, Cowes is indeed a lovely place. One old chap told the writer that he had been there 60 years – “Hain’t tired of it yet,” he said with a smile. It is built on the uprising foreshore and must indeed be one of the healthiest and most restful spots on God’s earth. It has a beautiful beach, shaded with ti tree, rocks abound in places, and the hills and dales of the island are studded with fine gum and pine trees.

#### Some Fine Scenery

But Phillip Island abounds in scenery. Miss Burke showed “The Standard” representative some wonderful photos of the island scenery. There are, for the visitors, motor trips to Forrests’ Caves, Smith’s Beach, Barry’s Beach, Kitty Miller’s Beach, Cape Wollomai, the Nobbies, Seals’ Rocks, Shelly Beach and the Pyramids, and to Newhaven and Rhyll, with motor boat cruises to San Remo, French Island, etc. All these places have exquisite scenery – the rugged coastline of Cape Wollomai, the quietness of Rhyll, the rocks at the Nobbies, the great seals at the Rocks, and the pelicans, black swans, and cormorants, the weird-looking Pyramid Rocks, and the curiously-formed Forrest Caves – all are worth the seeing.

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### Unveiling the Monument

The obelisk, made from granite, which, like the memories it perpetually endures, by A. G. Ballantyne, of Melbourne, is erected in an enclosure, overlooking the sea, in front of the Isle of Wight Hotel. There was an attendance of about 650 people, but the drizzling rain spoiled the ceremony in a sense. Cr. A. G. Mcllwraith, of the Shire of Phillip Island and Wollomai, presided, and addresses were given by the Revs. F. S. Robinson and D. A. Leisk and Chaplain-Colonel Harold Perkins, who spoke of the soldiers as his "cobbers." All paid eloquent tributes to those who lost their lives. Cr. Mcllwraith pointed out that out of the population of 450, 39 had gone to the front and 13 had lost their lives. The names of these were:- R. Justice, A. H. Leeson, A. C. McFee, W. C. Richardson, J. Smith, H. Wall, S. Bell, F. Dominik, A. Fahmen, J. L. George, H. H. Heard, W. Jenner and C. J. Graham. Before the ceremony the band played Reund's "Fallen Heroes" to the memory of the brave, and after Brigadier-General Brand, the State Commandant, had unveiled the obelisk, which was draped with the Union Jack and the Australian Ensign, the people sang "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" and "Lead Kindly Light," and Mr. Barry Kilburn sounded the Last Post. The local soldiers were headed by Captain Dixon and the secretary, Mr. W. H. Gothorp, whilst Cr. Dixon recited a set of verses specially composed by Dr. Stockton Jones, of Phillip Island. Mr. W. H. Robb acted as secretary to the Memorial Committee.

### Home

After playing "Myrine" under the pines, the Hastings and Frankston visitors boarded the Osterlind and played "Blaze Away" as they sailed out. Stony Point was cheered with a tune as they passed, and Hastings was reached in good time, everybody being thoroughly elated with the cruise to Cowes.

The Frankston and Somerville Standard. Friday 7 January 1921  
<http://trove.nla.gov.au/>

## MORE FREE INTERNET SITES

Koori records. Finding Your Mob

<http://prov.vic.gov.au/publications/finding-your-mob>

New Zealand, Probate records 1848-1991.

<https://familysearch.org/search/collection/list>

Coalmining History Resource Centre (Great Britain).

<http://archive.is/ukEA>

Netherlands - Zuid-Holland Province. Church records 1076-1927

<https://familysearch.org/search/collection/list>

Canadian cemeteries. Canadian gravemarker gallery

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~cangmg/>

First AIF order of battle 1914-1918

<http://web.archive.org/web/20040228133203/www.unsw.adfa.edu.au/~rmallett/index.html>

Ireland. Indexes to the Civil Records of Irish births, deaths and marriages date from 1864 with non-Roman Catholic marriages recorded from 1845. Church records for counties Carlow, Cork, Dublin and Kerry are also available on this website

[IrishGenealogy.ie](http://IrishGenealogy.ie)



Best wishes for a very  
 merry Christmas  
 and a safe and happy  
 (and genealogically successful)  
 2017