What’s Happening Next for our Society:

18 August – Glynn Brown will discuss his family reunion.

15 Sep – Bedella and Townsend Trophy readings

20 October – Digital Family History - Hannah Patel will give a presentation on creating a digital story.

We are trying to organize an updated ‘interest index’ for all the Members.
It will be added to the newsletter in the next issue, then stored at the library and updated annually. Further information on page 7.

Disclaimer: The WFHS Inc. does not accept any responsibility for opinions or accuracy of information contained in this newsletter.
WODONGA & YACKANDANDAH ON SALE NOW

Wodonga Cemetery Burial Registers.  {1 June 1861-Dec 1937 and 1938-1971}

Wodonga Cemetery Monumental Inscriptions.  {transcribed up to and including 2007}

$35 each + $5 p&p.
$65 set of 2 + $5 p&p

Yackandandah Cemetery Headstone Transcriptions.  {2008}

$35 + $5 p&p.

Wodonga Family History Soc Inc
The Research Room is situated in the premises of the Upper Murray Regional Library in Hovell Street, Wodonga VIC. The opening hours for research are Tuesday & Wednesday from 10.30am to 3.30pm and Thursday from 1pm to 5.30pm.

Our meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month [except December] at 7.30pm at the Felltimber Community Centre, cnr Felltimber Creek Road and Melrose Drive, Wodonga. Entry is via Ritter Road.

Researchers please note that you cannot gain access to the Research Room until you have signed the attendance book at the Circular Desk – signature & membership number is required. If you are a visitor, your postcode and phone number will be required. **Items cannot be returned through the Library after hour’s chute or to the Regional Library staff.** They must be returned to the Research Rooms during the designated opening hours mentioned above.

**Research enquiries:** If you wish our Research Officer to do research for you, please include a business sized, stamped, self addressed envelope with your enquiry details. The initial research cost is $15.00. Please include all the details you can: names, areas, dates, any births, deaths and marriage details you may have and what you want the Research Officer to find out. There is no point in paying for what you already know.

**Membership Details**

Membership of the Wodonga Family History Society Inc. includes the benefits of receiving a quarterly newsletter and allows access to all the resources of the Society’s library which is growing all the time. Your attendance at our monthly meetings will ensure that you have contact with our researchers who share your interest in family history.

Subscriptions:

- **Joining Fee** $5.00
- **Single Membership** $30.00
- **Joint Membership** $40.00 (2 people at same address)
- **Concession** $18.00 (proof required)

**Membership fees are due and payable in July of each year.**
Overview of previous meetings

21st April – The April Meeting was listed as a night of fun and games. And so it turned out. Our members laughed and laughed.

The dry subject of surnames and occupations was somersaulted into a hilarious competition between four teams who never thought or laughed so much about surnames before.

Members were still laughing and discussing the subject over the cuppas at the end. Surnames will never be the same again!!!

19th May – Bev Spinks who is the secretary of the Descendents of Convicts Group was guest speaker at our May meeting.

Bev generously shared her great depth of knowledge on where to and how to search in both the Australian and United Kingdom records. Her generosity has not stopped there as she has forwarded a number of wonderful online web sites. These will added to the newsletter on later pages.

16th June - The meeting for 16th June was a lively one with Robyn Gross talking about some of the crazy spelling of names which creates so many problems for us as researchers.

She gave us many examples, aided by enthusiastic additions from the floor.

I think that when the total of the number of ways to spell just plain "John" reached about fifteen, the scale of the problem was shown. Not only do we have to cope with medieval lettering but the personal vanities of our ancestors shown in their spelling styles. One member showed an example of a mother who baptised six children and at each baptism her name was spelled differently.

I hope we all learned at least one lesson and it is to search with a completely open mind, be prepared for any possibility, and check, check, check.

UPCOMING EVENTS

21st November - The Goulburn & Murray Assoc of Local and family history Groups (GMAGS) Expo is to be held at Club Mulwala. This will be the 10th expo and will be held at Club Mulwala. The raffle prize, this year, has been increased to $300. It will be drawn at 4pm and if the winner is present on the day the prize will double to $600. There will be more information provided in the next newsletter.

7th March 2010 – 'Wills Family' Researchers Preliminary Notice for the Wills History Convention at the Collingwood Town Hall, 140 Hoddle Street, Abbotsford, Melbourne
Contact: email Pam Sullivan at jlpco5@bigpond.net.au to receive the monthly email newsletters which will keep you informed or write to Pam at 3/496 South Rd, Moorabbin, VIC, 3189

If any other family history club is interested in attending any of our meetings please contact our secretary to arrange the visit.

From Bev Spinks
Did you know that many people who died subject to an inquest have never been shown on the Victorian Death Index?

The death could not be registered until after the inquest was held and in many cases the unfinished certificate was found in amongst the inquest papers at a much later date.
Maybe in these cases, checking the newspapers, local family history groups, or the cemetery trust in the area they may have been buried might help.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Greetings everyone from Townsville where it is 28 deg. Yes, I have taken myself and my injured shoulder away to warmer weather and will return in the Spring. In the meantime I'm sure you will all keep on with the wonderful work you do as volunteers for our Club.

I know Lyn has found herself short of volunteers in the Library because of absentees like me, and that a couple more of you are undertaking training to fill the gaps. Your help is always appreciated and anyone who would like to give a little of their time at the Library would be very welcome.

In the meantime I will be missing some of the Club activities, most of all our Celtic Seminar and A.G.M. on the 25th July. This should be a great day, with three interesting speakers and lots of visitors. There is of course no Tuesday meeting in July so I hope you will all find the time to attend the Seminar.

The August meeting will have the announcement of the winners of the Bedella and Townsend Trophies, an exciting night. There are quite a number of entries in both categories so the judges will have a difficult task. Whatever the result the reward comes from having written an entry in either or both, in telling a story about your family, and in the skills you acquire in the writing. Please try to make sure you attend the Library after the August meeting and take out some of these stories to read. You will be fascinated with the depth of talent in your Club, and by the quality of the writing. You might even decide to try your hand next year.

In September your Committee intend holding a Planning Meeting to discuss the coming twelve months, and how to best provide our Members with the kind of Club they want. We are receptive to any ideas, suggestions, alterations, additions or whatever that would improve our Club. Please feel free to bombard us with your ideas or suggestions; I'm sure you've got some.

In the meantime, keep volunteering.
Heather Lauritzen - President.

A Book Review by Andrew Turner

Mudgegonga’s Hall of Fame

By Bernie and Mary (Pini) GIBNEY

This fascinating story of Mudgegonga chose me as its reviewer two weeks before a devastating fire swept through the community on Saturday the 7th of February 2009. Our Librarian, Lyn Larkin, is keen for book reviews of our unique library collection. So when she spread a bundle of them on the table this little gem was reaching for me. In the 1970s I had worked on archaeological sites there and came to know the valley and some of its people, hence the book leapt into my hand.
People have lived in Mudgegonga for at least 9,000 years. European settlers appeared in the 1840s and the Gibney’s enticing story tells of the aboriginals, settlers, selectors, gold miners and squatters giving names, dates and family stories in abundance. (The Larkin name pops up through the book.) This book is packed with photos, plans and maps from settlement until it was published for the Bi-Centennial in 1988. As well as the Mudgegonga Hall, the school, hotel, wineries, post office and churches are included. The Hall is the third such building on the site and began as a Public Hall and Free Library in 1888. It collapsed during a thunderstorm in 1895 and was rebuilt the same year. The present Hall was built in 1957. Bushfires are mentioned in 1882, 1892, 1919 and 1968. For those researching the North East it is a must read. It is far more than a history of a hall. It powerfully places halls of small communities at the centre of everything about the community while reflecting our wider history. Group photographs of various sports teams and town activities attest to this, as does the coming of electric lights to the Hall and its use by the Army during WW2. As I drove through the blackened valley I sighed with relief to see the Hall. Not only was it standing but it was a busy coordination centre with vehicles coming and going. Nearby, flowers were resting at the gate of one of the 29 houses lost. Across from it a stockpile of hay was arriving. The Hall has survived – so will the community. Read this book and you will understand why.

A Book Review by Wendy Cooksey

TARNAGULLA-a history, by the Tarnagulla Hall Committee. Library reference 3551/001

This A4 book is only 28 pages long, but is absolutely jam packed with information and nearly 300 surnames. Tarnagulla was a fruitful gold mining area and many rich finds are detailed. An early history of Tarnagulla was written in 1931 with much of it being recorded in this book.

A thriving town, it boasted no less than seven churches, which are listed, along with their histories. Street lighting came to Tarnagulla in the late 1860s, but the price decided Council to reduce the original order from 20 to 15. Often the lamps were only lit during the winter months, and from 1881 to 1885 the lamps were not lit at all due to lack of Borough finances. In summer time the heads would be removed to prevent boys from breaking the glass with shanghais. One time the police raided the State School and confiscated 76 shanghais.

A very interesting read; full of facts, stories and names.

A Book Review by Laurie Heffernan

ALBURY HERITAGE by Howard C. Jones. [reference number: 2640/005].

Reading this book felt as if I was travelling through familiar areas of my own life, relating to so many touch stones. The very first chapter, “A Walk Down Dean Street” awakened memories. I took a literary trip from the Union Bridge to the railway bridge, the monument and the Wodonga Water Tower. I paused by the
Albury Court House where my birth and marriage were registered and on to Meramie in Kiewa Street where I was born; this is now a motel. I passed by Boortkoi in Wyse St where my brothers were born.

I wandered past Mates where many items for my glory box were purchased. I mused on stories such as one of Cliff Chamberlain’s earliest job as a rat catcher, and how he was paid per head for them. Sometimes he recycled his catch until the boss caught on, after which the rats’ bodies were consigned to the furnace.

Commercial premises changed hands, Hoyts theatre, where many courting couples spent their evenings was demolished, to be replaced by Spotlight, and later the Chemist Warehouse. All of these I patronised.

Space does not permit me to do justice to Mr Jones’ writings, or to cover the myriad incidents and historic facts he details. I enjoyed reading this book and would recommend all local residents, new and old to read it.

If members would like an overview of what is available in the Research Room, please contact the secretary for further details.

Park Name: **William Moulder Park**

Location: Between Gardner Street and McFarland Road

Background: Mr Moulder set up a Saddler business in 1871 and owned property in Anne Street, Mint Street and, according to parish plans, had a large area of land named ‘Wodonga Creek’. He was a council member when Wodonga was still under Yackandandah, however he resigned a short time after when he objected to the Wodonga Railway Station not being moved to behind where the Railway Hotel stands, which was originally called Bambricks Hotel. The name change of the hotel came in anticipation of the moving of the railway line. He built the first Wodonga bath’s being off a jetty and an enclosed area of the lagoon, once called Huan’s lake.

Park Name: **Willow Park**

Location: Western side of House Creek from Pearce Street running north

Background: Willow Park - it was the name of the property established by Mr Fred & Mrs Julianna HECKENDORF in 1869 due to Mr Heckendorf planting many willow trees around their property.

The property changed ownership many times until some of it was subdivided for housing and the rest was transferred to council for public parklands.

Park Name: **Dr John Schlink Park**

Location: Corner of Schlink Street and Dunstan Street

Background: Dr SCHLINK enlisted in the army during WWII and he was sent to the Middle East. After the war the Army agreed to pay for the remainder of his education and with great determination he graduated. He then went to work in outback Australia and overseas before he decided to return to Wodonga because he was raised here and his father ran the grocery store. He worked at the migrant camp in Bonegilla before he set up a practice with Dr James TAVERNEY. Dr Schlink has been a practitioner in Wodonga for over 30 years.
If you would like to submit articles about the people in our region, the people behind the names of our streets and parks and buildings and bridges or anything else you can think of, then send the information to the Family History postal or email address.

The articles should be no more than 300 words – less if you wish, [attached as a word document if sent via email, please] - telling members why something has a particular name. Who was it named after? What is that person's history?

It doesn’t have to be a family member and the article can be about anyone in the surrounding area.

Christine Young, editor.

If any other family history club is interested in attending any of our meetings please contact our secretary to arrange the visit.

You’d be surprised how small the world really is!

Please forward your details and interests to Jenni Mulholland via email or post. (Please keep the number of surname interests to a maximum of 5)
jems@inlandconcretecutting.com.au
Mrs. J Mulholland
PO Box 5317, Wodonga Plaza, Wodonga, 3690

Not sure what to do with your old computer when you upgrade?

James Brooks will happily accept them. He refurbishes them and then gives them to charities.
If you want to utilise this service, ring him on 02 6024 3539 to arrange to deliver your old computer.

This article comes from the Manchester Times (Manchester, England), Saturday, November 21, 1885; Issue 1480

False Statements and Bigamy

At Liverpool Assizes on Wednesday, before Mr Justice Wills, Wm. NOBLE, 35, cotton spinner, was indicted for having made false statements for entry in the marriage register books of the parish church of Castle Hall, in the borough of Ashton-under-Lyne, on the 18th May, 1868; also for going through the form of marriage with one Elizabeth ROWBOTTOM, in the township of Tonge, on the 29th June last, his former wife being then alive.

Mr LERESCHE appeared to prosecute, and the prisoner was undefended. The prisoner lived with his first wife, whose maiden name was Margaret GRUNDY, from 1868 until August of last year, and she had nine children.

When he deserted her she became, with her children, chargeable to the parish, and
ultimately the parish officials learnt that the prisoner was at Tonge, near Middleton, and that he had married again. When charged with bigamy, the prisoner denied that he was lawfully married to his first wife, and upon inquiry it was ascertained that the prisoner had married his wife under an assumed name, also giving a wrong name to his wife.

He caused the clergyman to enter in the parish register the names of MORTON and SIMISTER instead of NOBLE and GRUNDY. When the prisoner got hold of the marriage lines he altered the names. The certificates of both marriages were produced, and witnesses were called who were present at the marriages. The prisoner was found guilty on both indictments and was sentenced to five years penal servitude.

I realise that we live busy lives and cannot always be available to help at a fundraising event.

We have the Celtic seminar coming up and the Street Stall in November. Please try to find some time to help out at the Seminar or begin potting up some plants, saving pre-loved books or think about what you can bake for the Stall.

You have a great time helping and meeting fellow members with the same interests as you.

Thanks to Jill DeAmyand for the following article

Twenty years ago I started looking for my husband’s great grandfather. Not one person in the family could tell me anything about him; it was like looking for someone that did not exist, as he had changed his name that many times.

Cousin Yvonne had an old family Bible with names scattered here and there. One of the names was PERCY; the person we had been looking for. He was a Poet (he has a book in the Victoria State library); he had also written poetry for Banjo Paterson. That was all we could find out over the years.

Cousin Yvonne rang one day talking of the Huguenots, I had never heard of them so I looked up on the computer to find out what they were about. Surprise surprise, my husband’s family name appeared, his name was Professor Claudius AMYAND. Claudius had performed the first hernia appendices operation; it was on 11 year boy in France. Claudius had also been chief surgeon to King George the 2nd.

Looking for ideas for your research:

HAVE YOU TRIED

Finding information using:
The IGI (International Genealogical Index)

Leads through the Latter Day Saints
The births, deaths, marriages for the states - we have Digger at our Library and the BDMs for NSW.

The internet sites that are free.
Telephone books
Electoral office - where it is located, what information you can get there.
The Rate books – leads to an understanding of the history of the place you are researching, eg Yackandandah and Wodonga. The books show the division of the early town into Estates.

Cemetery records on the internet. There are hardcopy of local cemeteries in the Library. There are headstone inscriptions for various cemeteries on CD and hard copy.

Cemetery Trusts.

These are just a few research options.

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**Records for sale**

*Available in paper format [please add $2.50 p&p]*

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**Records for sale**

*Available as microfiche [please add $5.00 each part p&p]*

Yackandandah Rates:

August 2009 Page 10 of 12
[63 fiche] $40.00

Part 2: 1949 – 1971
[54 fiche] $40.00
Look up service available for $6.00 plus SAE

Please be aware that subs were due at the end of July.

A special request to ease the load on our Treasurer:
Please avoid paying your annual dues on the day of the seminar as Doreen will be flat out with her duties on that day. If at all possible, please either drop your fees in at the library or mail them to the club’s post office box-- 289.

If you don’t receive your newsletter by email, we will put them in the library during the first week of each month for collection by those who are able to do so [as we have been doing to date].

The unclaimed newsletters will be taken to the next meeting for collection by members who attend on that night.

The rest will be posted the next day. This means, if you are unable to collect your newsletter from the library, or do not have it delivered via email, you will not receive it until after the meeting.

However, should you wish to receive your newsletter prior to the meeting, please give a member of the committee 4 x 50c stamps to cover postage for the newsletters for the year. Some members already provide the postage and they receive their newsletters as soon as they are printed.

Every little bit helps to keep costs down, and our subscriptions to the Society as low as possible.

You can now advertise in the newsletter at a cost of $10 per month with a discount of $5 per for four consecutive issues. The editor will decide where the advertisement is to be placed based on the space available. The proposition is that the advertisement would be around 2.5 square inches with a higher price for a larger advertisement.

Please let the secretary know if you wish to place an advertisement or you have queries regarding this matter.

Wodonga Family History Society Inc., PO Box 289, Wodonga, VIC, 3689