

Onen hag oll

# The Cornish Association of Victoria Inc. Ballarat Branch

A.C.N. A0008 264A

## June 2020 Newsletter

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**Greetings one and all**

Shakespeare’s term “the winter of our discontent ...” seems apt in the current situation. The physical chill of an early winter and the social chill of our COVID19 measures press upon our sense of wellbeing and I guess wisdom demands that we take active measures to combat the gloom which threatens.

I see that the commercial heritage companies are offering to help us amuse ourselves with genealogical research. There have been worse ideas!

Some of us are techno types and can use Zoom or Skype easily but I think we will all have access to a telephone.

I still find the sound of a familiar voice a real “soul tonic”

I have waited for our Premier to speak before I wrote this to see what was in the minds of our leaders.

We will certainly not be able to meet in June and I can’t see any likelihood of an August meeting.

Normally we would have our Annual General Meeting and our Membership Fees in process by now but these things are probably best left in abeyance until we can meet again and deal with them then, unless some necessity arises for earlier action.

So in consultation Ian, Lorice and I have shelved these things for the moment.

We have had communication from The City of Ballarat drawing our attention to the Food program being run out of the City Library.

This is in support of the needy which includes some foreign students. Donations of Non-Perishable foodstuffs can be dropped off in the Library car park.

News has just come through of Beryl Curnow’s heart issues. A reminder of how precious our friends are!

Pray for Beryl as she recovers and for her family in the shock.

Peace  
Keith

**HELP WANTED**

I am researching the EDDY, GRIBBLE and PEARCE families of Ballarat

James EDDY(1838-1890) married Mary Jane Lovell (1843-1938) in 1864 and I have plenty of information on them , except for a named photo of James, who was a Mining manager, letter writer, community member and member of the Ballarat Mining Board till he moved to New South Wales in 1870 to work at Dalmorton and Silvertown. They were my great grandparents.

His sister Susannah (1834-1916) married Edward Vine Gribble (1823-1881) who was very involved in mining and allied activities.

Two members of the GRIBBLE family married into the Pearce families.

Drucilla Gribble (1866-1933) married James Pearce (1862-1945), son of James and Jane Pearce  
Robert Gribble (1872-1931) married Ida Pearce (1878-1955), daughter of Isaiah and Anna Maria Pearce.

Normally meetings are held on the even months at Skipton Street Uniting Church Hall,  
cnr Darling and Skipton Streets, Ballarat.  
Meetings begin at 2.00 pm and are followed by a shared high tea.



I wish to hear from any living descendants of the PEARCE and GRIBBLE families to compare research and share photos if possible.

*Di Christensen  
fauna6@gmail.com*

## **COVID19 ISOLATION**

Following contact with members asking for a short note on what has been occupying them during the COVID 19 isolation, I received the following stories. Thank you to those who contributed.

### **Arthur Coates**

Yesterday I rose late and while preparing breakfast decided I should bake a new tray of yeast buns. After breakfast I kneaded the dough and set it to rise.

I dressed and read the paper.

I ordered a part for a computer I was repairing - the fourth since the lockdown, and passed on a completed computer to its new owner.

During the afternoon we communicated with grandchildren via FaceTime and I baked the buns. I watched a Mothers' Day church service streamed by a friend of mine.

In the evening I watched "By Jeeves", the latest Andrew Lloyd Webber's weekend offering, then a repeat of an "Unforgotten" episode about which I knew the plot but loved the acting.

I was in bed by 11.30 pm and read a couple of chapters from "Lazarus Rising" but John Howard and went to sleep.

Every day is the same but they are all different.

Days are the same because I have no pressure and there is always tomorrow.

Very few people are ordering photos, in fact I will be surprised if our photo business recovers.

The days are different because you never know what will come up and I am always free to follow a request or a whim.

I am a slow reader so large books are a challenge but now I have time. I can tackle 700 pages or more and the next books I want to read are "The Great War" by Les Carlyon followed by "The History of the 20th Century" by Geoffrey Blainey.

I have enjoyed learning and teaching the use of "Zoom", I have mastered writing webpages in "WordPress" and have been making small films to send to grandchildren.

I wonder what will pop up tomorrow.

### **Lenice Stuchbery**

As for what I am doing during the "shut down" – nothing exciting.

We have a new great grand-daughter Willa who is now almost two months old. Due to the COVID restrictions we are yet to have a cuddle but see her through the window when we drop off goodies to big sister Adeline (now 3½ years) and her mum and dad, Megan and John.

John has been busy working in the garden and he is pleased that his chooks are laying.

Reading and television programmes, medical appointments, regular phone calls to our son and his family in Hoppers Crossing, and to my cousin in Glen Iris to talk about the Demons, all help fill in our time.

Emails and phone calls to church friends who we usually see weekly have been our way of keeping in contact.

As I said, nothing exciting.

### **Wendy Benoit - Life at Mt Rowan**

Certainly not what I am used to - being home alone! No coffee catch-ups, meetings, visiting family and friends.

Until the last few days, I have spent hours in the garden and have had many comments from anyone I see as to how it is looking. I am sleeping well after all the hard work. The poor weeds all cringed when they saw me coming!

I have tidied lots of garden beds and trimmed the Diosmas, Banksia Roses, Apple tree and Tree Ferns with the help of a gardener whom I get when I have heavier jobs to do.

I have planted a lots of new ground covers and also added lots more spring bulbs in all areas of the garden ready for a good spring show.

A few cold wet days saw me inside and out came the knitting needles although the heart has not really been in it. Have also been baking. Not too good for the waistline.

Many nights have seen me researching people for the database started by Joy.

As well I have worked on my family tree members and continued with work for Mount Pleasant History Group.

Life certainly has changed in keeping in touch with friends and relations via the phone, messenger or zoom. Much different to face to face contact.

Sadly I have had to cancel my planned visit to Cornwall with my daughter this year.

Like most people I speak with, I am rather fed up with being alone but hopefully it will not last much longer and we will be able to meet once again.

### **Di Christensen**

During these past weeks I have done some positive things:

\* Written a book on my parents- this is for my children and our grandchild and Robert, my husband, has done the same.

They may be expanded someday to include further ancestors.

\*Been in contact with three second cousins and two second cousins once removed in the search for a photo of our ancestor James Hicks Eddy\*\* (see below) who came to Ballarat in 1853.

He was involved in Mining and was once chairman of the Mining Board.

He also moved to Dalmorton in northern NSW and Silverton near Broken Hill where he died in 1890.

It has been a very interesting time, connecting with these cousins and so many photos, mostly unidentified, have come forth.

Much time has been spent comparing photos with photos and hoping that we will find one of a wedding which took place in April 1890 which James attended in Ballarat, only weeks before he died.

I had been in contact with most of these cousins previously but this time we are all sharing information.

We have scoured TROVE and been in touch with State Libraries in NSW and Victoria.

(\*Several years ago, I provided Joy and Wendy with a photo but we are not entirely sure it is our man. I do not know why but most of my fellow family researchers are all male - all of the above five are male.)

\* the internet has helped my sanity

\* I have tried to keep in contact with friends and relatives during this time by phone or email.

\*Sadly, attended two streamed funerals, one in Berwick and one in Canberra - at least we were there in spirit.

\* Had many desserts of beautiful quinces from our daughter's tree in Bunkers Hill.

\* I have also watched films and documentaries on TV and my tablet- my favourite evening program is "As Time Goes By"

### **Lorice Jenkin**

Since, social isolation and the gym being closed, one of the highlights of my day is going for a walk.

One of the walks is to retrace the route I used to walk to primary school.

As I walk, I think about who lived in various houses and wonder where they might be now.

Some of the things I have noticed is a street of new houses, an application for a permit to demolish part of a butcher's shop in order to build a new dwelling, the dairy is now a hairdressing salon and people picking up their cupcakes from the building which used to house a tailor.

So many changes which I wouldn't necessarily have noticed if I was driving the car.

I enjoy my daily walk

### **Ian Jennings**

We have an interest in Country Music and Marilyn does line dancing.

Most years at this time, we would be away at Barham for a weekend for a festival, but with everything locked down we will be home.

Most of the Country Music Artists are doing shows on Facebook for one to two hours. in the evenings and afternoons and we have also been watching the free Andrew Lloyd Webber Shows from the UK.

I still do my 40 min walk each morning and my doctor appointments are done by phone – I have been out for Flu vax and blood tests.

Of course, the lawns need attention and those falling leaves need to be cleaned up but staying inside by the heater in this cold weather is far more attractive.

### **Robyn Coates**

Like so many people who enjoy being out and about visiting family and friends, browsing and shopping, I have found isolation quite hard.

Multiple laminectomy surgery in my lower back in late March has limited my mobility but thankfully has removed all the pain I was experiencing.

Now I want to get going but COVID19 is limiting my activities. I know I am being impatient.

I have watched more TV and DVDs this year than I would have watched throughout all 2019 but have really enjoyed watching free Andrew Lloyd Webber Shows and shows from the National Theatre in London and many documentaries on SBS.

Apart from surgical/medical appointments, a couple of supermarket visits and a wonderful escape to the

hairdresser, I haven't been in the car. Petrol is so cheap but our tank is almost full.  
I am most grateful to our neighbour who has been our shopper each week.

Technology has been wonderful during this time, allowing emails and phone calls to a world-wide collection of family and friends.

Internet research for me is always interesting and has enabled me to continue working on family history as well as researching articles for newsletters.

Our family members have Apple devices and this has allowed us to FaceTime our three young grandchildren most days. We have made small videos of our activities, including dressing up as a super hero, much to their delight. I have sorted through all my craft supplies to enable them to produce wonderful creations which are often sent to Grandma and Grandpa.

We have had meetings from the comfort of home using Zoom and have watched church services and other programs using YouTube.

Watching a Funeral service that was streamed from Hobart seemed most impersonal.

I have missed watching the Demons play at the MCG and am looking forward to seeing Lake Wendouree and all that Ballarat offers us - hopefully in the not too distant future.

### **Chrissy Stancliffe**

You wanted to know what I have been doing since the COVID19 shut down.

Well, I've had microdiscectomy surgery (6th April) and countless appointments either by phone or in person with my son Aidan at the Royal Melbourne metabolic clinic and with our own doctor.

I have visited the chemist numerous times, shopped for our elderly neighbours and ourselves, WALKED AND WALKED SOME MORE.

Cared for our two sons who both have health issues.

Tried to get my family trees sorted out - Ancestry is doing my head in at the moment.

And to top it all off have had to get used to my husband being at home...he has gone from full time to casual bus driving as there are so many cut backs - no kids at school - so no camps, swimming, sport trips in the foreseeable future so the drivers have had to take packages.

What haven't I done? - vacuuming, gardening, sweeping, lifting anything heavy (apart from myself) and bending.

I am alive, I have very little pain.

I can purchase toilet rolls AND Panadol now, however tuna, pasta and cat food is still a bit hard to find.

I have a roof over my head and most of all I have wonderful family and friends. I am lucky.

### **Val D'Angri**

During the isolation, I have enjoyed the change of pace. One of the benefits has been that most of our family and friends have also been at home so there have been no difficulties in contacting them on the phone.

Our daughter Gail, who lives in Seymour, arranged grocery home delivery through Woolworths which was a wonderful help, though we did find some of the substitutions not to our liking.

I have been able to tidy up some of the garden apart from keeping the autumn leaves at bay from the large oak tree in our neighbour's yard. We needed a visit from the plumber to clear our spouting of the leaves.

We have had phone consultations with our doctor and one visit to the doctor's surgery where we had a wait of over two hours.

Our dog, 'Dolly' needed a visit to the vet and the staff met us in the car park and collected her. Unfortunately for 'Dolly' when it is cold, windy or miserably wet she misses out on her daily walks but I try to take her for a walk most days.

When we have been to the pharmacy, doctor or vet we have rewarded ourselves with an outing to the shores of Lake Wendouree where we have enjoyed seeing the autumn colourings on the trees, watching the many birds and seen so many people running or walking around the Lake.

*André Rieu* and *Celtic Thunder* have given me enjoyment in the afternoons, often resulting in a nap in the chair.

For our grandson James's 18th birthday, in Seymour, we assembled a flashback photo collage which he adored and greatly appreciated.

One day we made pasties which we enjoyed. However next time we won't be using packet pastry mix as it was definitely not up to standard.

### **Bev and Jim Hocking**

We have been working every day since Mid March restoring the investment cottage we have in Ballarat. We have been painting inside and outside, repairing windows and doors, replacing clothes line and

weather boards for six plus hours every day. Our outings have been to the supermarket, Bunnings and the Post Office.

Unfortunately, Jim contracted Shingles which has slowed us down a bit and has been quite painful.

We are looking forward to being able to meet with our friends and family again soon.

### **Bev and David Pratt**

from Bev:

David was asked by a friend how we were managing, and his reply "Well we've been married for nearly 54 years so we are used to one another"!!

I have not been bored. After washing, cooking, reading, and all those womanly tasks, I have begun a complicated cross stitch.

(I have also discovered my eyes are not what they were when I first did this same needlework 50 years ago!!)

from David:

Whilst life is at a slower pace I have been occupied with official duties via Zoom (tech support from Bev) - Uniting Housing Board, Church Council executive and Rotary Club.

Lydiard Street Central Congregation is also live streaming at 10 am on Sundays.

Church administration continues with normal banking and account payments.

Other activities such as Sovereign Hill Gold Museum and Freemasonry are currently in hibernation.

Between all of this I am trying to assist around the house – although I am slowly coming to the conclusion the kitchen needs enlarging –come on Dan Andrews lift the lid on the pressure cooker!

### **Jenny Burrell**

John and I have been enjoying the beautiful autumn colours in our street and on our walks over to the gardens.

Getting a takeaway coffee from Piper's, sitting on a bench and gazing out at the lake is about as good as it gets.

We have cosied up to an open fire when the weather turned cold, bingeing on all six episodes of *Les Miserables* on iView.

During lockdown we have varied our usual meals, trying some new recipes, such as a giant veg rosti and walnut and chives pesto.

There have also been treats such as profiteroles from King's bakery and chicken pies from the City Oval Hotel. We are telling ourselves that this will help the economy recover.

Knowing that family members are safe and well and still in work is reassuring.

We have been facetimes and zoomed.

Our lives are rather different but we really are not enduring much hardship, relatively speaking.

In May the new website for the Ballarat & District Genealogical Society will go live.

I have been writing content and preparing images for the rebuild.

I feel that I have achieved something worthwhile during this period of enforced peace and quiet.

Our backyard - where we feed the parrots every day.



### **John Mildren**

At the outset, the prospect of the first fortnight of imposed solitude seemed very challenging but, in reality, it wasn't really too bad.

I have been living alone since 2003 so that part was easy.

My journey each day to my favourite coffee spot however, was another thing altogether.

I'm not addicted to caffeine but I am to engaging conversation. So that was what I have found most difficult.

My level of achievement with modern technology would embarrass more sensitive folk.

My level of expertise is just, and only marginally, ahead of smoke signals.

Anyway I have little difficulty in using the telephone and have been keeping up with friends and family around the country and even in the UK.

I have been reading a number of books such as Tristram Hunt's *Building Jerusalem*, *The Rise and Fall of the Victorian City*, David Starkey's *Magna Carta*, copies of the BBC History Magazine and a number of books on Cornish matters.

I have almost worn out my YouTube on the smart telly.

My daughter Denny who lives in Geelong suggested I should join the family on something called Zoom and guided me with much forbearance through the intricacies of joining the programme or whatever it is. I have to admit it has its merits.

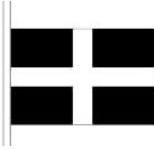
I have been walking more than usual and feel very



well.

I have been helped with shopping by my daughter Elizabeth and son-in-law Bruce. They and others have also brought me meals and cakes and biscuits.

When I think about it, I haven't done too badly.



## MY GREAT, GREAT GRANDMOTHER

As we reflect on our own lives, I have also been thinking about the life changes endured by our ancestors.

What fortitude and forbearance would have been required during times of hardship in their lives?

This is the story of my maternal Great, Great Grandmother. Mary Sandow Wasley (1838-1915) married William Edward Quick (~1835-1863) at the church of St Ives, St Ives Cornwall, on the 4 May 1856.

On 23 August 1857 the newly-married couple arrived on the Dragoon at Hobson's Bay, Victoria.

William had first emigrated to the Victorian goldfields in 1853 at the age of 17 with his parents Nathaniel Williams Quick and Susannah (ms Sandow) and six siblings.

The story is that William had success as a miner and went back for a Cornish bride. He married his first cousin.

Their mothers were SANDOW sisters from St Ives so William and Mary would have known each other from childhood.

Two sons were born in 1858 and 1860 but at just 26 years of age Mary was suddenly widowed.

In July 1863 a tragic mining accident claimed the life of William aged 28.

While at the bottom of a shaft at the British GMC claim at Happy Valley, William was struck on the head by a lump of quartz falling from the base of a bucket from a great height.

An inquest deposition stated that William 'bled fearfully from the head'.

Other gruesome details of brain injury and a fractured skull were horrific.



Mary saw all this as William was carried to his home where he was soon pronounced dead.

He was buried at Linton but transferred two days later to the Ballarat Old Cemetery, where he rests with his parents.

Mary lived at Spring Hill with her in-laws before remarrying in 1865. Her new husband was George Roberts (1838-1917), a groom on the Quick farm. Three of their eleven children died in infancy and eight grew to adulthood.

Apparently their dressmaker used to come on Sunday mornings to help get the children ready for services at the Methodist Church.

When Mary was in her fifties she received an inheritance from her father's estate in Cornwall. This no doubt added to the family's prosperity. When he died, Mary's father, George Wasley (1803-1892), was the innkeeper of the Sloop Inn, a 13th Century inn on the waterfront at St Ives.

Legacies were provided for his two children in Cornwall and he also left a proportion of his estate to his son William Sandow Wasley (~1839-1904). This was Mary's brother who also came to the Victorian goldfields.

In 1865 at Happy Valley he married Elizabeth Madden.

This couple also had eleven children born at Ballarat, Creswick, Linton and Barrys Reef with the last one born at Brunswick.

So while there are very many descendants with the Wasley surname, there are also many descendants of Mary with surnames of Quick, Roberts, Wilson, Hutchins and Fricker.

Jenny Burrell



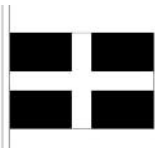
Sloop Inn, St Ives



George William  
ROBERTS and Mary Sandow WASLEY  
family photo c1902



Roberts General Store and PO, Springmount  
Photograph provided by Meg Bate



### AN INTERESTING WEBSITE

Over the years we have all found and used some remarkably interesting websites and we need to share these with others.

Recently I referred back to one I had found many years ago, maybe at CAV in Melbourne.

STONE AND QUARRY MEN OF THE WEST  
COUNTRY- Joan Tabor of California

<http://freepages.rootsweb.com/~stonemen/genealogy/>

I am unsure as to whether Joan is still editing this website but it is still online.  
It is a Genealogical Index of Stone Workers and Related Occupations.

The Index is excellent - it was compiled from old directories, census entries, books, polls and help from interested people and includes over 17 000 entries.

I needed to refer to it as a second cousin queried as to whether an ancestor of ours was a stone mason or was in the navy.

I have a copy of the indenture papers of William Henry Lovell, who was indentured in 1831 to Jacob Olver and Thomas Olver, partners in the parish of Budock, Cornwall.

In searching through the index I found George Lovell, mason, of the same Falmouth address in the 1841 census.

George was also found to be in the Navy in 1843.

This trade ran in the family.

The son of Maria Noye (Lovell) Charles Lovell Noye was listed as a mason in this index and also in the 1881 and 1891 census, but as a Mortar Mason in the 1901 census.

His sons were also apprentices in the same trade.

William Henry LOVELL was in Ballarat in the mid 1850s – I am yet to find how and when he arrived on our shores.

His wife and family arrived in 1860 on the “Swiftsure”.

He was a busy builder in Ballarat.

He was one of those tendering for work for the Dana Street church; he had a hand in building the Eglinton Hotel for Martin Gleeson in Main Road in 1864 and was involved in many other ventures, including mining with his son in law, James Eddy.

William Henry and his wife later moved to Sydney near their son John Charles Lovell.

I found his death on the AGCI (the Australian Genealogical Computer Index).

The Stone and Quarry Men of the West Website-  
<http://freepages.rootsweb.com/~stonemen/genealogy/>

However I just googled the main words,

Di Christensen

# CORNISH snippets

## Cornwall and COVID 19

Cornwall has a population of around 570 000 residents and has been very badly affected by COVID19.

Currently 564 cases have been recorded.

Recent numbers released by Office for National Statistics data, show that there have been 174 confirmed COVID 19 related deaths in Cornwall. Of those, 104 were recorded in hospitals, 54 were recorded in care homes with 16 deaths recorded at people's own homes.

Treliske the main hospital in Cornwall has 15 critical care beds (ICU).

(Victoria has a population of 6.6 million people and has had 1573 cases with 18 deaths - Ballarat with a population of 102 000 has had 11 cases)

## Dame Barbara Hepworth's St Ives studio protected as Grade II by Government

A former cinema and dance hall in St Ives which later became an important studio of internationally renowned artist Dame Barbara Hepworth (1903-1975) has been listed at Grade II by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport on the advice of Historic England.

The building, originally a late 18th century stone cottage was used as a navigation school in the early 19th century, before being converted into a cinema in 1910-11 and later a dance hall – known as the Palais de Danse - in 1925.

From 1939 the building was used for auctions and concerts, and it was briefly a ballet school in the Second World War.

The Palais continued to be used for dances until 1961.

Hepworth had moved from London to Carbis Bay with her husband Ben Nicholson in 1939.

With her growing reputation after the war and demand for more work, she bought Trewyn studio, in the centre of St Ives, at an auction at the Palais de Danse in 1949.

Hepworth bought the Palais de Danse in 1961 to use as a studio and workshop.

Comprising the outhouses and gardens of neighbouring Trewyn House, Trewyn studio (now the Barbara Hepworth



Museum) was both a studio and home until Hepworth died on 20th May 1975.

After Hepworth's death, the Palais de Danse remained in the family, kept essentially as the artist left it.

The building was bequeathed to Tate in 2015. Tate St Ives are currently managing the conservation of the building and its contents, with a view to safeguarding Hepworth's legacy and its future.



## 2020 Gorsedh Kernow Cancels Festival

With the current situation and the possibility of social distancing in place for the rest of 2020, Gorsedh Kernow has decided to postpone the Esedhvos Festival and the Bardic Ceremony in Bude/Stratton until September 2021.

This decision has not been taken lightly, but was made in consultation with the Gorsedh Kernow Council and the Mayor of Bude, Bob Willingham, who is also Chair of the Local Organising Committee.

He has confirmed that Bude/Stratton will be very happy to host the Festival in 2021.



Articles and Cornish Snippets may be sourced from the Cornwall Council, BBC Cornwall, Pirate FM News, Falmouth Packet, Cornwall Live.