

BENDIGO GENEALOGIST

Bendigo Family History Group Inc.

www.bendigofamilyhistory.org.au

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40th Anniversary of BFHG in Bendigo Library 21st May 2022. President Gail White & Rita Hull

Office Bearers 2022

<u>AREA ADMINISTRATOR PAM KEOWN</u>	<u>SECRETARY KATH MARTIN</u>
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<u>PROGRAM & PUBLICITY ANNETTE DELANEY</u>	<u>COMPUTER SERVICES EILEEN GORMAN</u>
	<u>WEBSITE MANAGER ANNETTE DELANEY</u>

New email address – bendigogen@familyhistoryconnections.org.au

Area Administrators Report –

We have enjoyed an uninterrupted 3 months in the library with an increase in the number of visitors for assistance with their family history. Email research continues as normal

At the May General Meeting we celebrated 40 years since the group's establishment. We were joined by Gail White, President of Family History Connections and two other members of their committee. Unfortunately, two of the founding members, Shirley Stone and Olive Pell, were not able to join us.

Rita Hull, who joined the group in 1984, along with Gail were invited to cut the cake.

Shirley Stone and Rita Hull have both been made Life Members of AIGS/FHC for their ongoing interest and efforts in recording local records along with writing a history of the Bendigo group. Shirley recorded the early period and Rita has now expanded on it to cover the story to present day.

Annette's DNA group commenced with 11 present for the first session, so we hope it continues at that pace each month and that family mysteries are solved.

All keep warm during these Winter months to come.

Pam Keown

EDITOR– Contributions to the Newsletter should be sent to the Editor at bendigogen@gmail.com or by post to Bendigo Family History, PO Box 145, Bendigo VIC 3552 The BFHG reserves the right to edit, abridge or reject contributions. Disclaimer – all articles are accepted in good faith. The BendigoFamily History Group Inc. and members do not accept any responsibility for correctness of any articles submitted [therein](#).

A RAILWAY MAN IN THE FAMILY

by Rita Hull

One of the biggest employers of men at the turn of the twentieth century was the railways. Before motor transport developed there were railway branch lines spread across Victoria like a spider's web, many focusing in on Bendigo station and the goods yard after the line to Bendigo was officially opened in October 1862.

After watching one generation die of Miner's Phthisis many Bendigo families looked for alternative employment for their sons and the Railways seemed to be the answer. Many little boys dreamed of being train drivers or firemen but there was plenty of scope for shunters, linesmen, cleaners, book-keepers, guardsmen, clerks, signalmen and porters.



Many years ago the Bendigo Library bought a set of microfiche recording the personal details of railway employees listed before 1900. This shows the birth date, date of appointment, grade, branch and location. Many of these men gave their birth date as being in the 1850's or earlier, which is good news for family historians.

Recently there has appeared on the Bendigo Library shelves a series of books compiled from lists of Railway employees that were published in the Government Gazettes 1880 till 1929. For example in one year, 1902, there are ten thousand, eight hundred names. The years are spasmodic, but it is a simple task to follow a name from one list to another and get a comprehensive overview of an ancestor's career.

There were some horrific accidents reported in the Bendigo Advertiser and widows were often given a job of minding the gates at crossings. Margaret Kennedy, the first woman on the Bendigo goldfield, ended up as a gate keeper at Stawell.

John Stanley was a plate layer (on the tracks) at Gornong and when he dropped dead in 1877 his widow was given the job of gate keeper at Bagshot, then Epsom. In 1894, in a state of confusion, she was struck by a train while struggling to open the gates and was dreadfully mangled. It may be hard to imagine now but nearly every road crossing was controlled by gates, Epsom being gate number 41.



It must also be remembered that a driver of a steam train could not see anything on the track in front of him because of the big boiler; he was totally reliant on the signals.

Contrary to some thought the men who actually built the Bendigo railway line were not employed by the Railways Department. This work was all done by private contractors who had their own gangs of navvies. Maintenance and upgrading though was departmental responsibility and many of the contractors' men later joined the Railways.

William Henry Barnard *by Pam Keown*

William Henry Barnard was the companion of William Goodman (Allerton) when they stole the three silver spoons from the home of John Augustus Thrupp of Spanish Place, Manchester Square, London. They were tried at the Old Bailey on 17 May 1832.

For that crime he was sentenced to 7 years transportation, but there was second charge against him that day for stealing a wristlet watch. He was given a second 7 year sentence. On the 2 June 1832 he was moved from Newgate Prison, to the hulk "Cumberland" at Chatham, Kent. He arrived in Sydney on the "Mary" on Jan 6, 1833.

William H Barnard was born abt 1805 and on his Convict Indent record was married with a daughter, could read and write and said he was a "Clerk in King's Household". He was 5 ft 3 inches tall, sallow and freckled with brown hair and light hazel eyes. He had a slight scar on the inside of his right wrist.

William was sent to Port Macquarie and on 18 Feb 1839 was given a ticket of leave, but he then absconded from Port Macquarie. Having heard of the exploits of the Jew-Boy bushranger group, led by Edward Davis, he set off to join them "after apparently helping himself to a supply of arms and food from Cohen's store. At Wilson's he was provided with a horse and saddle, besides other impediments he would need on his overland journey southward to Pilcher's Mountains. This was readily provided on his presentation of a letter ostensibly signed by Dr James McIntyre, the Scot surgeon who had married Louisa, daughter of the Rev John Cross, Chaplain of the settlement. Barnard was said to be clever with his pen!"

Barnard had decided, in his own mind, that it would not be long before his talents would win him leadership of the gang, but Davis who was only 24 and looked younger was experienced and soon learned of the "duplicity and the machinations of his latest recruit." They were being chased by a posse of armed police, and escaped by riding back over their tracks when Barnard called a halt and demanded they should return and fight the police. Davis immediately responded "I'm the leader of this gang and until I am deposed, I will decide what is best to be done, I have heard whispers of your desire to usurp my place.....let you and me decide who will be supreme! Two pistols, one loaded the other not" ...Barnard decided this was "cold-blooded murder", he was pale, hands shaking and he nearly fell from the saddle. "I refuse to be murdered". "Then take yourself from here" ordered the Jew Boy. "The road to Sydney lies along yonder ridge, and you can cross the river by Solomon Wiseman's Ferry. If we find you north of the Hawksbury again, we will give you up to the law or kill you".

He arrived in Sydney and took up lodgings with Mrs Parish in Gloucester Street and set about establishing himself in the good graces of the citizens of Sydney. After 2 months his resources were expended, so he then used his "skills" to forge orders" by which he secured substantial sums from Mr Wedderburn, the wine merchant of King St, from Mr Horden the draper and from Mr Gaynor, mine host of the Globe Tavern in Castlereagh Street.

It was not hard for Barnard to win acceptance in society. He was young, had polished manners and it seems "boldly handsome". Among the families that received him was that of William Roberts, and this gentleman's young and romantic wife, Suzanna, who fell under the spell of the stranger's charming personality.

In 1840, leaving Suzanna's young baby, stealing William's baptism record, the marriage certificate and a gold watch the pair boarded the "Sophia Jane", bound for Maitland. Barnard posed as Roberts telling people he was a wealthy migrant seeking land....but he was north of the Hawksbury!

One day he rode to Dunmore, the residence of Mr Andrew Lang on the Paterson River, with his hat well over his eyes for fear of being seen by any of the Jew Boy gang. Jack Everett and Edward Davis observed him, thought they knew him but could not name him at the time. Later in the day they saw him again and once more were trying to work who he was. They decided to follow him and eventually Davis realised it was Barnard. With the information gained from others in Maitland they found where he lived, and under two menacing pistols, he was taken by Everett and Davis. They gagged him and took him to the police station where they tied him to a log. When emerging the next morning, to gurgling noises, the policeman found Barnard with a note attached to a tree "this man is Barnard, runaway convict from Port Macquarie, bushranger and forger. He is wanted in Sydney"

("The Elopement of a Bushranger" by Stan Cross, Smith's Weekly, Sydney, Saturday 6 Feb 1926).

He and Suzanna were tried on 5 May 1840 in Sydney. Barnard was sentenced to 7 years on Norfolk Island and Suzanna 7 years to Tasmania...but on Friday 9th August 1844 a scathing article in the Sydney Morning Herald tells us that William is back in town!...

"A Norfolk Island Mitigation Man –Yesterday William Henry Barnard, who arrived sometime from Norfolk Island as being a prisoner whose conduct entitled him to mitigation, and also represented in such glowing colours of honesty and uprightness as led to his being employed, after his return, at Government House as a private clerk, was fully committed to take his trial by the Hyde Park Barrack Bench, for attempting to obtain about 10 pounds worth of goods under false pretences, from Mr Coleman, draper, George St, on Saturday Last." He spent time in Darlinghurst Prison.

On 8 Feb 1847 he is issued a second Ticket of Leave....the first having been revoked.

In June 1849 (Sydney Morning Herald Sat 16 June 1849) he is once again in court on a charge of forgery, again he is committed to 7 years "hard labour on the roads and other public works of the colony". He spends the time on Cockatoo Island. In 1852 he obtains a third Ticket of Leave, stipulating he remain at Moreton Bay (Brisbane).

All is quiet for a while, but in Dalby on 7th January 1865 he is charged with feloniously forgery and uttering a certain bank cheque, purporting to be drawn by E Wallace on the Bank of Queensland. In July he was sentenced to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for a month. (Brisbane Courier, Friday 2 July 1865).

On the 23 October 1870 he appears at the Toowoomba District Court charged with forging in the name of Mr William Murphy to a cheque for 7 pounds 10 shillings on the Australian Joint Stock Bank. William Murphy was the Governor of the Toowoomba Goal and had employed William H Barnard at times to "do copying in writing, he had the opportunity to becoming well acquainted with my signature.....I have not had an account at the Joint Stock Bank for several months past". (Toowoomba Chronicle and Queensland Advertiser Saturday 29 October 1870"). On the 21 November 1870, he pleaded guilty and was sentenced to "18 months hard labour in Brisbane Gaol – by hard labour be meant such labour as a person of his age and state of health could be reasonably be expected to perform". (Toowoomba Chronicle and Queensland Advertiser, Saturday 26 November 1870.) William Barnard is now aged 66 and his wife gave evidence that he "had been drinking heavily and when under the influence of drink acted so recklessly as to lead to the supposition that for the time being, he was insane or nearly so"....

It did not stop there!!! Monday September 21, 1874 he appeared at Warwick Police Court again charged with Forgery. (Warwick Argus and Tenterfield Chronicle, 24 September 1874). He is now 70

(cont) years old, and after appearing at the Old Bailey in 1832, has been committing larceny, forgery, and being a "con Man" for another 42 years.

It is possible he married Ann Smith in Queensland in 1857, but have not obtained the original record.

Pam Keown author.

Research report May 2022 Bendigo Family History Group....What do we do ?

PHYLLIS DOREEN JOHNSON trained as a nurse in Bendigo c 1940. Can we find her nursing training records?

John BLOCKLEY married Stockport UK 1845 SARAH ANN MELLOR. He came to Sandhurst c1858 and she followed him with 5 children in 1863. They were Harriet b1845 d 1914 m 1887 Henry Eathorne, Helen b 1848 d 1926 m 1872 George Frederick Gardner, Mary b 1851 d 1914 m 1894 John Robshaw, William 1854 d 1922 m 1884 Catherine McGlenchy, Samuel b 1857 d 1944 m 1880 Catherine Gordon. John Brockley was a printer and had a shop in Mitchell Street. John and Sarah had one more child, Alfred born in Sandhurst 1868.d 1939.

Francis FILBIN and Mary BURKE married Ireland. Where in Bendigo c 1855 onwards. Francis died 1880, Mary died 1897. Some associated names are PRIDEAUX, SUTHERLAND , JORDAN, HOPLEY

Can we find a headstone for LINDSAY MAXWELL HOLLIS in the Bendigo cemetery. Died 17 Oct 2009

JAMES FLETCHER and ELIZA MIDDLETON married Vic 1853 . Two girls died here. An unknown one and Eliza 1856/1860 and then a son James was born C1863...no evidence found but believed to have lived in Dead Dog Gully Diamond Hill. Family went to New Zealand c 1863. The father of James Fletcher was also named James. He is said to be an Exciseman and lived in Cheapside St Pauls London c 1820

JACK GALLAGHER who called himself JACK CALLAGHAN but at birth 1894 Maldon he was JOHN LAWRENCE GALLAGHER. His sisters lived in Bendigo and it was discovered that one of them had a connection by marriage to our Administrator Pam. He died Bendigo 1960.

WILLIAM HENRY CULLEN was born at Demondrille NSW 31 May 1877. Parents are THOMAS CULLEN and MARY PEEK. He died Bendigo 27 June 1950 at Bendigo Benevolent Asylum ,

He served in 1st AIF. He left home as a young man and had no further contact with family. He did not marry. We did find on Trove in The Murrumburrah Signal on 11 Nov 1943 he is mentioned when his sister Elizabeth Mainwaring died. This paper was called "The Signal" because Demondrille/Murrumburrah in Central NSW was a large rail locomotive facility for supply of coal and water for steam engines. This rail complex had large signal gantries.

ELIZABETH ANN MALCOLM died 1950 aged 89 at The Benevolent Asylum. Connections sought ?

Eliathamby Balasubramaniam born Malacca c1933 educated NSW worked in PNG died in Bendigo 2003 probably a Tamil with Sri Lankan ancestry. Interesting to study the migration of people across the nations to our north.

Isaac Tindale/Tyndall died in Bendigo Benevolent Asylum 1908 Who is he ?

(cont)

Where is Marlene Borchers? She used to sing in Bendigo German Choir

Ruins of an old building in Rowe's Lane Maiden Gully...What is it ? (Its not Stonehenge !!)

Robert McClure and Anna Zesch....He is a GGG Uncle of a man in USA who is visiting here September. McClure Street Iron Bark is named after him. He lived in 45 Bannerman St...can we find history of this house.

What a lovely miscellany of queries

Thanks to Bendigo Regional Archives Centre for their help.

David Cotton Research Officer

Bendigo Family History DNA Special Interest Group

A Group has been set up on Facebook for those interested in DNA in Family Tree research.

Led by Annette Delaney the group will meet in person on the third Tuesday of month at the Goldfields Library Bendigo, in meeting room on ground floor.

If you are interested in joining please contact Annette bendigogen@familyhistoryconnections.org.au

This is an introduction to DNA and the methods used to determine relationships in families.

You will need to have access to a family tree on a laptop or tablet device to fully participate in the discussions. Free access to wi-fi in the Library is available at these sessions.

Meeting dates – subject to change. June 21st, July 19th, August 16th.

Time – 1pm to 3pm.

Legacy Family Tree Webinars.

Have you seen this series of talks from Legacy? They have a comprehensive list of talks and lessons available for the world audience. There is a list for 'downunder' as well with some very interesting topics and speakers.

Topic for 8th June was Government and Police Gazettes in Australia led by Helen Smith, from Queensland she is well known for writing books on Genealogical History and searching families.

Who Do You Think you are

SBS has announced the program for next group of Australian participants.

Commencing on June 21st they include

- Simon Baker, Sandra Sully and Dr Chris Brown join Justin Hodges, Liz Ellis, Myf Warhurst, Matt Moran and Paula Duncan in this new season.

New Additions to the Library

Aus 579 Book... "Champion of the Seas" Author – Rod Fraser. Lists Ships Passengers, crew, diaries, log books. Donor Avril Mitchell

Eng 487 Book... "Was your Grandfather a Railway Man" Author - Tom Richards. Records – Companies, Staff, Unions, Service Contractors. Donor Avril Mitchell.

Eng 488 Book... "Records of the Militia – Volunteer Forces" Author William Spencer. 1757-1945 Organisation – Units -Service Records. Donor Avril Mitchell.

Ben 109.1 Book... "40th Anniversary of Bendigo Family History Group" 1982 – 2022. Author Rita Hull.

Meetings of Bendigo Family History Group

June 18th. "What Now Cousin Jack" The story behind the Cornish Miners Sculpture near the Library. In Lyttleton Tce.

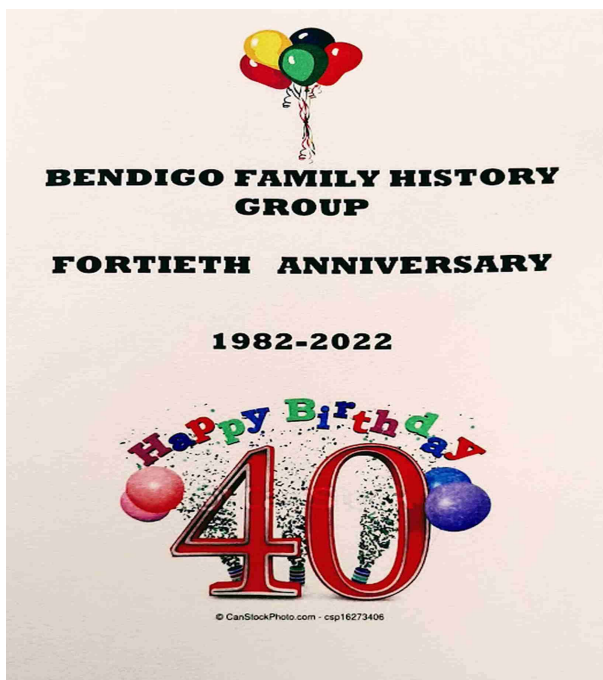
Speaker Ruth Lyon.

July 16th. Chinese in Bendigo. Speaker to be announced.

August 20th to be finalised.

Meetings are held in Bendigo Regional Library Hargreaves St entrance, in Meeting room 1

and commence at 2pm. All are welcome to attend a gold coin donation is appreciated. Refreshments available.



40th Anniversary Book launched at meeting on 21st May 2022, Author Rita Hull

Contains Introduction and History from 1992

Outlines – Meetings, production of local indexes, Expo's and open days.

Our Database held on computers in our Library with over one million entries.

Web site and local indexes to search.

Community Promotions, and participation in BRAC and Library activities and local indexing of Rates and Petitions.

Available for purchase in Library on duty days Wednesday and Saturday \$10