

BORDERLINE NEWS

Newsletter of the Wodonga Family History Society, Inc. Est. 1987

Next meeting dates & Guest Speakers

Feb 21 Finding Convict Women.
Shaye Malsem, Albury Library
Museum

March 21 Time Please Gents:
Stories of Women in Pubs and
where to find their records.

April 18 Soldiers, Sailors &
Convicts. Paul Gooding from
Fellowship First Fleet

Research area:

The WFHS Research Area is
open at Hyphen Wodonga
Library Gallery for members
and visitors on:-

Tuesdays – 1pm to 4pm;
Wednesday and Thursdays –
11am to 3pm

Contacting us:

PO Box 289, Wodonga, Vic 3689

Web site and links:

www.wodongafamilyhistory.org

[www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/WodongaFamilyHistory/)

WodongaFamilyHistory/

Email:

secretary@wodongafamilyhistory.org

Disclaimer: The WFHS Inc. does not accept any responsibility for opinions or accuracy of information contained in this newsletter. Information is reproduced for information and educational purposes only.

Society News

Hello Members



Welcome to the first newsletter for 2023. I trust you had a wonderful Christmas and are looking forward to marvellous things happening this year. I am sorry I was unable to attend our Christmas function as I was in Cuba at the time. A wonderful experience although I travelled the long way via Canada where winter snow covered the ground from Vancouver to Toronto. That was something to remember.

Our committee has arranged a variety of activities for this year and hopefully more of you will attend the monthly meetings at Felltimber, visit us at Hyphen when we are there during the week or on the first Saturday of each month, or take part in a workshop or “day out”. These activities are designed especially so you have an opportunity to learn about the latest trends and resources and share your family history research.

Janette has organised this year’s programme into themes. The focus for the first three months is on finding female ancestors and we know how difficult it is to find anything about them. They are usually referred to as a daughter or wife of a male family member so looking at other research suggestions should be worthwhile.

At the January meeting, members shared stories and memorabilia from their relatives; in February we will look at female convicts and in March at female publicans. The focus will shift to migration in April so, with that in mind, you may be interested in attending a talk at Albury Library Museum on 23 February at 2pm titled ‘*Resources they have for Immigration*’. Details on their website.

The submission we made for a grant to help pay for our new website was not successful but we had sufficient money in savings so you will be pleased to know that, as a result of Janette’s hard work, it is now a reality. In addition, we have purchased a Tyro machine for ‘on the spot’ card payments and a mobile phone for society use. These items are considered necessities – we were missing out on funds at events when people didn’t have cash.. Also of concern is when we do not have members details at hand in an emergency. We really need

Committee Members

President and Projects Officer:

Pat Hopkins Vice President:
 Janette Griggs Secretary & Public
 Officer: Wendy Cooksey - contact
secretary@wodongafamilyhistory.org
 Treasurer: Sue Jarvis
 Program Co-ord: Janette Griggs
 Librarian: Christine Young
 Fundraising: Pamela Nulty
 Publicity Officer : Ann Kerin
 Research Officer & GSV rep: Alice
 Lindsay
 Minutes Secretary & VAFHO rep:
 Carolyn Renfrey
 New members: Alice Lindsay &
 Carolyn Renfrey
 Editor: Maureen Cuskelly
editor@wodongafamilyhistory.org

Membership Benefits:

- ✦ Access to all the resources in the Society's library.
- ✦ Quarterly newsletter
- ✦ Access to other family history news through shared newsletters from other family history groups
- ✦ Monthly meetings with family history tips, news and guest speakers
- ✦ Contact with other family historians, researchers and members who share your interest in family history

Subscriptions:

New members -Joining fee
 \$10.00 plus \$25 membership fee
 Annual Membership- \$25.00 Part-
 year Membership -(join between
 1st April - 30th June) \$10.00 plus
 joining fee. [Research request](#) -
 \$40.00 or \$5.00 for simple check
 of the WFHS records.
 Full transcripts of Unrelated
 Certificates \$6.00 each

to know who to contact locally if something happens unexpectedly, so, please make sure your details are up to date. You can check if your details are up-to-date with Wendy.

Pam has two fund raising activities in the pipeline - a plant sale at Warren's and a BBQ at Bunnings. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

You may be aware that Heather Lauritzen passed away just before Christmas aged 92. A wonderful and generous lady who served our society as president for nine years and involved herself in everything - from collecting items for street stalls, acting as Treasurer and writing submissions for grants. Several members attended her memorial service which was a wonderful testament to her life. Members who knew Heather may like to read a tribute to Heather (at the end of the newsletter.) written by Wendy.

Finally, a piece of advice I came across recently. Make sure you record the source of all items you copy or download from the internet. There is every possibility that, when you want to review this information later, the website may have 'vanished'. So, save the item to your computer and make sure it is backed up.

All the best for successful research. We would love to hear your stories and, remember, we are here to help if you have any problems.

Best wishes,
 Pat

Bulletin Board

The WFHS library at the Hyphen is now open to members and the general public on the FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH.

Our society has a new number for all enquiries: 0493612797

We are excited to update members about the new website, due to be fully active next month. The old one will be deactivated for a short time beforehand and visitors to the site will be a redirected to the new site for a few months afterwards. You can check out the site at:
wodongafamilyhistory.org.au

A big shout out to Janette for her skills and persistence in seeing this through and ensuring that members can be kept up-to-date in the future.

Upcoming conference: RootsTech 2023 2-4th March. See their website: <https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/>



Members Melbourne Excursion

ITINERARY

Monday 27th March 2023

- ◆ V line Train Travel 6.45am Albury
- Arrive Melbourne 10.27am
- ◆ Preferred Accommodation Atlantis Hotel
300 Spencer St, Melbourne VIC
- ◆ ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY VICTORIA –
GUIDED WALK IN FLAGSTAFF GARDENS

Tuesday 28th March 2023

- ◆ SLV – GUIDED TOUR OF THE NEWSPAPERS
AND FAMILY HISTORY ROOMS.
- ◆ OLD TREASURY BUILDING – Guided Tour and
Exhibition

Wednesday 29th March 2023

- ◆ PROV - GUIDED TOUR OF REPOSITORY AND
READING ROOM
- ◆ GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA
- ◆ V line Train Travel - Melbourne 6.02 pm
- ◆ Arrive Albury 9.45 pm

What to bring

Clothing suitable for Melbourne Weather and a hat.
Comfortable shoes for walking, good level of fitness

Also

If members wish to participate on the excursion but
have accommodation in Melbourne or wish to
meet the group in Melbourne this is fine.

COSTS

Travel – V-Line Train

Members book and pay for own train tickets - V
Line Return Train Fare – Conc. Albury to
Melbourne \$41.20
Travel throughout Melbourne – at own cost.

Meals

All meals including breakfast at own cost.

Accommodation

Accommodation enquiries have been made
close to Southern Cross Station –
Atlantis Hotel 300 Spencer St, Melbourne 3000.
500 metres from Southern Cross.

Approximate costs at time of publish:

A Twin Share Room with 2 single beds approx.
\$310 for the two nights
A Double Room with 1 large double bed approx.
\$231 for the two nights
All rooms include ensuite bathrooms.
Accommodation will need to be booked by the
individual. We can help organize putting people
in touch with each other who may be happy to
Twin Share.

Entry Costs – some venues have an entry cost –
total \$20 – paid in advance TBA

Full Flyer available at Hyphen.
Expression of Interest now open
Full booking must be made by 21st February
2023.

Contact : 60563320 0400618562
secretary@wodongafamilyhistory.org



Howard Jones and Sharon
Filby-Darling

PROGRAM NEWS

From Janette Griggs, Program Co-ordinator

Our **Christmas party** was well attended. We were entertained with a guessing game and enjoyed a two course dinner. The evening gave members an opportunity for relaxed conversation and friendship and a chance to get to know some of our new members. We had fun playing *Guess whose Baby Photo is this?* See photos.

This year we have **themed the year** which will be reflected in the program and newsletter. We are hopeful the ideas may inspire members to write up some short stories that fit with the themes we have selected.

Jan/ Feb/March theme is 'Wonderful Women'

April/May/June theme is 'Migration'

July/Aug/Sept is 'The way we were - Past Days'.

Upcoming events include a **Big Day Out** in April 'Corowa Calling' at the Federation Museum. This includes the *Tom Roberts Trail* and *Shearing the Rams*. For full details check our new website and watch out for emailed updates from Wendy, our Secretary.

Keep an ear out for the announcement of the launch of our **new website**. In future this will provide members with up-to-date information about:-

- ♦ Program and society news
- ♦ Upcoming excursions
- ♦ Monthly meeting dates and guest speakers
- ♦ Calendar of events
- ♦ Newsletters (past)

FUNDRAISING NEWS

From Pamela Nulty, Fundraising Co-ordinator

Congratulations to winner of our RAFFLE: JACQUES GARNIER. Jacques won the Ancestry DNA testing kit.

The plant Sale in November raised \$1056 thanks to everyone who helped, particularly Warren who grew and supplied the plants. For future fundraising events we now have a Society EFTPOS Machine which will help our fundraising activities. People can elect to pay with card if they wish.

FOR MEMBER'S ATTENTION

All members are reminded to update their emergency contact information as soon as possible. Please contact the Secretary by email or ph: 0493612797.



Grandma's House - Part 2

By Barry Pinkerton

Introduction: In the previous newsletter Barry introduced us to his great Grandpa Mills who was a hard worker and left his four daughters each a corner block of land in Avenel to rear their families. The story continues of Barry's grandparents Maria and Robert Pinkerton.

Maria was a quiet person which is quite amazing considering all of us kids. She kept herself busy looking after the animals as well as the family. She had a couple of house cows for milk and butter; the excess milk was used to feed a pig. At times lambs, from her father were kept in the paddock until needed for meat. Maria also kept fowls, Rhode Is. Reds, Bantams and others in a big open chook run. She loved all animals and had a number of pets that included birds kept in an aviary (rosellas, parrots, etc.) and a cocky on a stand as well as a tame magpie. Maria would talk to the birds and some learned to talk back. She always had a cat and dog around the house and her last dog, a Kelpie, was named 'Tip'.

Bread from Maria's kitchen was always popular. In the early days before she had a separate kitchen Maria cooked in camp ovens over the open fire in what became the front room. She kept a large vegetable garden, while other things were purchased from tradespeople who called at the house eg. The butcher, grocer and baker. An Indian hawker was a regular. In his horse-drawn cart was clothing, Manchester, kitchenware and anything else a family might need. At times the hawker would rest with his horse in the paddock overnight. In those days people helped each other out, if a sheep or pig was



Maria Pinkerton photo
Family collection Barry
Pinkerton

slaughtered the meat would be shared around, as were vegetables, butter, eggs, fowls etc. Preparing pigs took a bit of skill and Grandpa Robert was known for doing the job well.

A couple of times Robert took Maria and Betty to Sydney for holidays. They stayed at the 'People's Palace'. While Robert and Betty took in the sights by ferry Maria spent her time reading and relaxing at 'the Palace'.

Robert must have known a bit about the Harbour, as people would gather around as he explained the navigation lights and symbols to Betty.

After Robert died (9 Aug. 1937) his half sister in Scotland, Jeanie Stephen made contact with Maria and they corresponded for years. Each year Jeanie would send Maria a piece of Scottish heather, picked from a hillside near her home. In Maria's later years these letters gave her a lot of pleasure.

In the 1950's Maria's boys Bob and Ted replaced Maria's stone floor with a timber one. This made the house much more comfortable and healthier to live in. They also removed the box thorn hedge that surrounded the property. They did this one section at a time.

The story goes that Maria was a bit crook and wasn't really up to milking the house cow so her son-in-law, Bob Tingay, said he would do it. He tried but could not get any milk just a lot of mooing and kicking. Maria said 'I'd better go and milk' but Bob would not let her. He then put on one of Maria's neck-to-knee aprons and one of her old hats. Without saying a word he sat down and milked the cow.

Bob Tingay and Maria had a good relationship, he'd keep an eye out and help whenever he could. At times Bob would give Maria a few possums. He had a license to hunt possums for their skins and would go into the hills after the big 'Mountain' possums (blue with black tails). Now you cannot skin a possum while it is warm as the skin tears so Bob would bring the catch back to Avenel. After skinning, most of the meat would be dumped, but Maria cooked up a few carcass for the chooks. She used 4 gallon kerosene tins over an open fire in the backyard to cook the meat, Tamba, the dog, became quite good at stealing lumps of meat as they bubbled to the top, then dropping it on the ground until it cooled, and then having a good feed.

Maria didn't have much in the way of modern equipment but for a radio. It was outdated and cumbersome but worked. Power was a mix of large dry cell batteries along with a car wet cell that required regular trips to the garage for charging.

The family pram could only be described as a rolling picket fence, its solid base was surrounded with wooden slats. At the end you pushed, the slats were higher and the fabric hood provided scant cover. Comfort was limited to a cushion inside and big springs outside. However this hardly compensated for the narrow tyre-less steel rimmed wheels, and the town's gravel roads. When the 'picket pram' was new it was delivered by rail, all wrapped up and with the wheels separate.

Uncle Mack went down to pick it up, being no engineer, he put the large wheels on the front and the small on the back. This meant the pram was only level when it went down a steep hill. The older sisters used the 'picket pram' but the younger members of

the family were treated to an ultra modern wicker pram with tyres.

Being superseded did not put the 'picket pram' out of use, for it's solid construction made it ideal for collecting wood. Wood was the only form of fuel used in the two-roomed, stoned-floored family home. Firewood was collected from anywhere, however Clark's hill proved the most popular until Mr. Clark objected and stopped the 'picket pram' and its young pushers. However, the Ned Kelly spirit was not dead. When the look-out positioned near Hughes Creek called 'all clear' the 'picket pram' vitally flew down the hill through the fence and over the creek. Thus the home fires still burned and our 'picket pram' still rolled.

When Maria developed dropsy it caused problems with her legs. Moving around became more difficult and finally Bill Kelly bought her a wheelchair. Even though the family was happy, Dr. Rutter did not approve; he wanted her to keep walking. Betty did a great job looking after Maria during those years when she could not look after herself.

Maria, our Grandma, died on 5th January 1961 aged 72 years. Two days later all the family gathered at Avenel for her funeral; it seemed to be the end of an era. Grandma's house (see photo below) still stands in Old Avenel and one of her Grandsons has ownership and tenancy.



IN THE NAME OF GUERIN

Part 2 By Vince Aitkin

Introduction: *This continues the story of my great great grandparents Denis Geurin who married Margaret Canavan in Australia following their separate immigration journeys from Ireland. Following a career as a hotelier Denis left the industry to pursue alternative work. The following is the final part of their story when they moved from Sydney to Queensland.*

Soon after the Guerin family relocated to Brisbane, where in 1859 Denis Guerin filled the position as an 'Officer of Locker' with the Customs Department. According to the Coraweb.com.au website - the Dictionary of Old Occupations describes a "locker" as being employed in Customs bonded warehouses as a trusted person to keep charge of the elaborate locks (known as the Kings or Queens) locks.

Brisbane was a small town 800 miles to the north of Sydney and in 1863 it seceded from NSW and became the capital city of the colony of Queensland. Denis was in receipt of a modest salary, but this was insufficient to support such a large family. Debts had been incurred. To exacerbate the family's financial situation, the eldest boy (Michael aged 17 years in 1861) was a helpless cripple and the third child (Frances aged 15 years) was deaf and dumb. In 1861, Denis and his wife Margaret and nine children were living in rented accommodation in Fortitude Valley. She was expecting their tenth child when quite suddenly on Sunday February 3rd in 1861 her husband Denis dies at the family home.

The information listed on his Queensland death certificate, provided by his wife Margaret, confirms his name as Denis Guerin and that he died in Fortitude Valley of Bilious fever from which he suffered for 10 days. Denis was buried the very next day in the Roman Catholic Cemetery, a stone's throw from the family home.

Bilious fever was a medical diagnosis of fever associated with excessive bile or bilirubin in the blood stream and tissues, causing jaundice (a yellow color in the skin or sclera of the eye). The most common cause was malaria, viral hepatitis and bacterial infections of the blood stream (sepsis) may have resulted in few deaths being reported as bilious fever.

The term is obsolete and no longer used but was used by medical practitioners in the 18th and 19th centuries for any fever that exhibited the symptom of nausea or vomiting in addition to an increase in internal body temperature and strong diarrhoea. These were thought to arise from disorders of bile, the two types of which were two of the four humors of traditional Galenic medicine. It was often cited as a cause notated on death certificates. Modern diagnoses for the same symptoms would include a wide range of conditions and infections.

Denis's wife and large family were thrown into a perilous predicament following his death. Margaret was the mother of nine children, five girls aged between 13 and 18 years and four boys whose ages ranged between ten and seventeen years. She was expecting another child. Denis, the family's primary income generator had just died, and Margaret would have had her hands full providing food and shelter for the family. There were no Government pension schemes or any financial relief in those times. Mary Elizabeth Guerin, my great grandmother, was aged just eight years old when her father died.

So how fortuitous it was that immediately following Denis's death a committee of influential Gentlemen formed in Brisbane and undertook the collection and the appropriation of public subscriptions and donations of money for the relief Margaret and her children. Several newspaper items appeared in the Brisbane newspaper and monies were quickly donated by citizens and businesses in Brisbane, Ipswich, Sydney, Rockhampton and probably elsewhere. In all there were some 292 subscriptions totaling £275. By April of that year the fund was finalised and disbursed as follows:

*Purchase of land and a house in Fortitude Valley £125.
Funeral expenses £ 8
Debts settled £ 37
Disbursed to Mrs Guerin £ 105
Total received and disbursed: £ 275*

At the time the local newspapers printed the names of donors. It is interesting to note that no subscriptions were recorded for the family names of Canavan, Guerin or Aitkin. The property purchased at Fortitude Valley (formerly the Guerin family residence) was registered to the name of

Margaret Guerin. She and the family resided there for many years.

Hard times seem to have been the lot for Margaret Guerin. Whilst she may have enjoyed a short period of financial stability following the proceeds of the public subscription following Denis's early death, living unsupported in Brisbane would have been no easy matter for a mother and ten young children including a babe in arms during the 1860's.

A second marriage

So it was that on the 2nd May, 1863 Margaret married John Roy in Brisbane who would have brought either some or all of his young family to the marriage. John had been widowed the previous year. He was born in about 1804 at St. John's Lanarkshire Scotland. In 1820, he enlisted in the 91st Regiment of Infantry. In 1835, he married Elizabeth McLaghlán in Scotland. They had 6 children, 4 in Scotland and 2 in Brisbane. In 1844, he was discharged from the Infantry. In 1850, he purchased land in Brisbane where in 1862 his wife Elizabeth died leaving him to tend for their six children. In 1864, a year after marrying Margaret Guerin, he became insolvent. In 1868 he died.

An earlier loss

In 1866, two years before the death of her stepfather John Roy, Ellen Guerin, the first and eldest daughter of Denis and Margaret's brood died in Brisbane aged 23 years. Her death notice in the Brisbane Courier 26th June 1866 notates her death being at her mother's home in Amelia Street Fortitude Valley.

Nine years later in 1876, another of Margaret's daughters, Isabelle Gordon Guerin, dies aged just fifteen years. In 1883 Margaret Guerin/Roy dies and is buried at the Milton cemetery in Brisbane.

So that left my Great Grandmother Mary Guerin in charge of her siblings. Just 4 years later at the age of 24, she married the 27-year-old Storekeeper John Cruikshank Aitkin (my great grandfather) on 26.9.1877 at the Amelia Street Catholic Church in

Brisbane. John was of course the sweetheart boy next door to the Guerin's hotel and living in the residence attached to his father's grocery store in Old South Head Road Sydney back in the early 1850's.



Portrait of Mary Guerin ,
family collection Vince Aitkin

This church where they married was in the same Brisbane Street where her mother had lived in the residence purchased as the result of sympathetic public subscriptions

in 1861. John and his family had moved from Sydney to Brisbane in the early 1870's where he worked in the liquor industry and grocery trade.

Mary and John were both single. John was a Presbyterian, Mary a Catholic. They went on to own and manage a grocery store in Brisbane's west end, but insolvency due to an economic depression and other events saw them move north to Maryborough (Queensland) soon after. But their life and family is another story altogether.

Denis and Mary's descendants

Some survivors of Denis and Mary's family went on to marry and populate the rapidly expanding City of Brisbane and greater Queensland. Many of them reside throughout Australia to-day. Their lives are a far-flung cry from the early 1840's when their Irish immigrant parents fled the misery of their homelands in pursuit of better places to live and opportunities to exploit.

Footnote: Due to newsletter space constraints, the usual references are not included here but are available from the author upon request. This work is condensed from a more extensive text that explores not only the subjects in question, but that of Mary Elizabeth Guerin who was the author's great grandmother (Vince Aitkin, West Wodonga, Sept. 2022).

Wonderful Women. Hannah Ryles— *From Convict to Midwife.*

By Wendy Cooksey

One of the 'wonderful women' in my family is Hannah Ryles. Her father was an engraver in the Staffordshire Potteries. She was a potter; she also worked as a housemaid, and was educated. Hannah was my 2nd cousin 4x removed, not an ancestor I would normally research, but once I heard of her I just had to look further into her fascinating life.

At 17, Hannah was convicted for being part of a gang who robbed the Staffordshire Potteries, as well as wearing her mistress's dress for a night on the town. For her transgressions, Hannah was sentenced to death. She had previously been convicted of theft in another county, so these were not isolated incidents.

Her sentence was commuted to transportation and a few weeks later on 12th July 1827, she was put on board the 'Sovereign' with 80 other women and 12 children. At 5' 2 ½" tall, with brown hair and grey eyes, she was full of fire, much to the ire of those who were charged with her care. The ship's surgeon wrote in his report of her:

"Came on board ship with an exceedingly bad character and has maintained her title to it. She is turbulent, quarrelsome and uses the most blasphemous language"

Hannah was mentioned in Phillip Tardif's book, *"Notorious Strumpets and Dangerous Girls"*, convict women in Van Diemen's Land 1803-1829.

Whilst in Tasmania, Hannah was punished many times for insolence and disobedience and at one time had her long hair cut in a futile attempt to tame her. She married another convict, Jeremiah Callahan. They had several children but only one, Mary Ann, appears to have survived to adulthood.

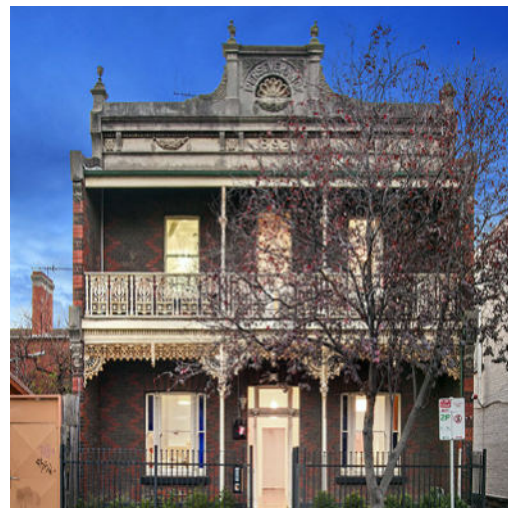
The family moved to Richmond in Victoria where they purchased homes in Hoddle Street and surrounds. Jeremiah was listed as a 'gentleman' while Hannah was a 'midwife'. Jeremiah died on

8th June 1889 and a note in the margin of the probate of his estate says:

"Furniture belongs wholly with widow. For over 20 years decd. previous to death was dependant on his wife for his livelihood"

After Jeremiah's death, Hannah built an eight-room home at 1 Egan Street, which was named 'Perseverance'. She lived there until her death on 7th March 1899. This house is listed by the National Trust and is described in part as:

"Perseverance at 1 Egan Street, Richmond, is of local architectural significance. It is a notable example of a large bio chromatic, two-story double-fronted symmetrical freestanding Italianate style terrace house, distinguished by its prominent unpainted parapet and extensive cast iron decoration".



This home is still there and the name 'Perseverance' and the date, 1892, are clearly visible. When she died, Hannah owned 13 homes, all in close proximity:

1, 3, 5, 26, 28, and 30 Egan Street

6 and 10 New Street

1, 2, and 4 Stoke Place

111 and 113 Hoddle Street.

As the title says Hannah Ryles was a wonderful woman who achieved so much - from convict to midwife.

Book Review

Family History Handbook 2023
bought to you by Family Tree.
Warners Group Publications: UK

This small paperback (99 pages) provides a detailed introduction to the Society of Genealogists in London with reference to their 11 million records. These include compiled family histories and biographies, local history, occupations, church and parish records and school records. These are freely available to their members, see www.sog.org.uk

In addition, the handbook provides a directory of Australian and international societies. The overseas list is more detailed than the information on Australian society's but provides a starting point for Australian, American and Canadian research. There are considerable more websites listings for the UK, for example web addresses for House History in the UK.

Furthermore, the handbook has a list of sites for help with DNA, adoption, searching graves and the military; glossaries of terms, including occupations, family history bloggers, suggested books and educational courses.

This directory seems to cover every topic although, as stated earlier, it is more comprehensive for researching UK family history. It is recommended to give the new or experienced researcher details of where to look for what and where to go for help. It is a small almanac but packs a punch for its size.

Maureen Cuskelly

VALE: Heather Lauritzen
18 Sept. 1930 – 18 Dec 2022

Heather was a hard working long-time valued member of our society. I first came across her many years ago when a call went out for someone to do the newsletter. Three of us offered, Heather, Dawn Williams and myself. We were asked if we could work together and we readily agreed. However, a short time later Heather became quite ill and had to undergo surgery and follow up treatment, so Dawn and I worked together.

When Heather recovered, she got straight back into family history and the society. She was always ready to lend a hand to whatever was needed. She filled the positions of President and Treasurer at different times, and was an enthusiastic member of the transcription group. Heather also wrote a series of family history articles for a local free newspaper, the Twin Cities Post.

Heather entered our writing competitions, and her stories are in our library. Her writing style was very interesting and readable, showing her sense of humour as well as her thorough research skills. She unearthed some unique characters in her ancestry.

Rest in Peace, Heather.

Wendy Cooksey



Wodonga Family History Society
Contacting us:

PO Box 289, Wodonga, Vic 3689

Email: secretary@wodongafamilyhistory.org

editor@wodongafamilyhistory.org

Mobile: 0493 612 797

Web site and links: www.wodongafamilyhistory.org

www.facebook.com/WodongaFamilyHistory/

ISSN 1327-316