



Wattle Bark



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ROAD TO THE STATION, MARYBOROUGH, VIC.

Quarterly Newsletter of the
Maryborough Family History Group Inc.

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Maryborough Family History Group Inc.

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Meeting Schedule for 2023-2024

Committee Meetings

Regular Committee Meetings are not held and a meeting will be convened when business arises that is required to be actioned prior to the monthly meeting. Time and place will be advised as necessary.

General Meetings

General Meetings are *usually* held at 1.30pm on the 4th Wednesday of each month in the Research Rooms at The Community Hub 48 Burns Street. Visitors are most welcome.

No meetings are held in December

Membership Fees:

Full Single Membership	\$25.00
Full Joint Membership	\$40.00
Newsletter only membership	\$8.00

- A Joining fee of \$5 applies to all new membership applications (including lapsed memberships)
- Membership Fee's cover the period from 1st of March to 28th or 29th of February.
- Any subscriptions received from *new members* between 1 December and 28/29 February will include the membership for the following year.

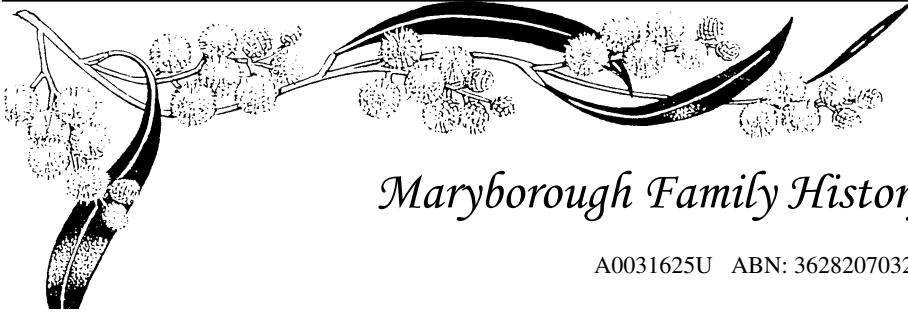
Benefits:

- The annual subscription includes our quarterly newsletter "Wattle Bark" posted to your home address.
 - Full members have access to our extensive research facilities in the Community Hub 48 Burns Street for *personal* research.
-

Front Cover

State Library of Victoria— Road to Station -Rose Series

This road was closed when the Technical School expanded with new buildings.



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Contents

General Information	
Office Bearers - - - - -	2
Meeting Schedule's - - - - -	2
Membership Information- - - - -	2
Cover Photograph Credits- - - - -	2
Research Fees/Meeting Time - - - - -	3
Redfern Family- - - - -	4
Redfern Family —Continued- - - - -	5
History of Burnt Creek School and Bromley Sate School - - - - -	6
History of Burnt Creek School and Bromley State School—Continued - - - - -	7
Locality names around Maryborough- - - - -	8
Locality names around Maryborough- continued- - - - -	9
Community Bank Grant- - - - -	10
Publication Dates & Deadlines - - - - -	11
The Final Word - - - - -	12

Research Fees:

Postal Research:

- Deposit: \$20, non-refundable
- Hourly research fee: \$10 for each hour or part thereof
- Photocopying and Computer print-out: 50 cents per sheet side
- Additional costs: as advised.

Upon receipt of the deposit we will complete the research as requested. The applicant will then be advised of the costs applicable. The results would be posted upon receipt of the balance. *[The rationale behind the non-refundable*

deposit being that it takes just the same amount of time (or even longer) to come up with a nil result.]

Enhanced Research: For a fee of \$15 per grave we will provide a full monumental transcription as well as a photograph of the grave.

Visiting Research: The fee is \$10 per hour or part thereof; the minimum fee is \$10. and is for the purposes of *personal research only*.

Visitors *must* be accompanied by a financial member who will *only* provide assistance to access the records but will *not undertake any research per se*.

MEETING SCHEDULE

May 24th 2023 @ 1.30pm

June 28th 2023 @ 1.30pm

July 26th 2023 @ 1.30pm

August 23rd 2023 @ 1.30pm

NEW WEB SITE

Have you visited our new web page yet?

www.maryboroughvicfamilyhistory.org.au

Please visit and let us know what you think

REDFERN FAMILY

When clearing up after our resource room was flooded, a cutting from the Maryborough Advertiser 6th April 2006 was found. The article featured a photo of an old cottage that was captioned “The Redfern Family in front of their Bristol Hill Home in 1870.” The writer asked questions about the family and using the resources available at the Maryborough Family History Group we have been able to answer some of the questions.



The Redfern family are pictured in front of their Bristol Hill home in 1870.

Joseph and Ann Redfern and three children arrived in Victoria in June 1864 on board the Tornado, a journey of 140 days from England.

463	Joseph Redfern	36							
	Ann do.	35							Wife
	Eliza do.				14				Spinst
	W ^m do.				9				Child
	Sarah et do.								"

There may have been other children of Joseph and Ann Redfern who did not travel with the rest of the family, but came on different ship or elected to remain in England.

The family made their way to Maryborough where Joseph and Ann had a further two children

Surname	GivenNames	Event	Father	Mother	Age	Sex	BirthPlace	POD	Year	RegNo
REDFERN	George Frederick	B	Joseph	Ann STEWART			MARY		1865	16694
REDFERN	Eleanor Stewart	B	Joshua	Anne STEWART			MBORO		1868	17587

Redfern Family Continued from previous page

The Maryborough rates show that Joseph Redfern was the owner occupier of a wood house at Bristol Hill from 1871 to 1874 and was listed as a miner. In 1874 his occupation was a wardman. In 1875 Bristol Hill had been renamed to Stanley Place and Joseph was the owner occupier of a wood house in the 1875 and 1876 rates. Joseph did not appear in the Maryborough rates after 1876. Prior to Joseph being rated at his property at Bristol Hill, he most likely camped on his claim, and when enough saved or had good finds when mining to be able to afford his home at Bristol Hill.

The family was in Maryborough for 10 years, Joseph and Ann moved from the area and their children all made their own lives.

Eliza Jane was born about 1850 in Manchester and in 1868 she married Edward Chenoweth who was born in London. They had a son Edward Charles, born at Chinamans Flat but sadly died at the age of two and is buried at the Timor Cemetery. The couple also had two other sons, Henry Walter born about 1871 and Joseph Robert born about 1875, both at Timor and a daughter Charlotte Ann born about 1879 at Williamstown. Eliza Jane died in 1934 aged 64 at Moonee Ponds.

Sarah Ann was born about 1863 in Manchester and married John Wallace in 1883. John was born in Ballarat. They had one son Albert Ernest born about 1885 at Sandhurst and died in 1975. Sarah Ann died at Ballarat in 1932 aged 68.

Eleanor Stewart was born about 1868 at Maryborough and she married Edward Collins in 1889. Edward was born in Gisborne. Unable to locate any children on the Victorian Indexes for this couple. Eleanor Stewart died at Casterton aged 99.

Henry Redfern died at Flemington in 1894 aged 39. There was a Henry Redfern born in Manchester that married Mary Ann Collins in 1884, which seems the most likely fit but not able to prove from the Victorian marriage indexes. This couple had 4 children: George Henry born about 1884, Ethel May born about 1888, Lillian born about 1890 and Edward Charles born about 1892, all in Melbourne area.

George Frederick Redfern could not be found on the Victorian Marriage or Death indexes, so surmise that he moved interstate.

Joseph Redfern died at Flemington in 1895 aged 67 years. His parents were listed on the death registration as William Redfern and Elizabeth.

Ann Redfern died South Melbourne in 1886 aged 59. Her parents were listed on the death registration as William Stewart and Eliza Tyson.

The little girl in the photograph outside the home would most likely be Sarah Ann who would have been about 7 when the was photo was dated.

Resources used: Victorian Birth, Death and Marriage indexes, Victorian Shipping Indexes, Maryborough Rates Microfilm, Timor Cemetery burial listing.

History of Burnt Creek School and Bromley State School No 55

On May 11th 1857, the first school at Burnt Creek opened. This was a slab building of 16 ½ feet by 30 feet constructed at a cost £ 100. This school was declared a Common school in May 1864, when the school was extended to 36 feet in length, walls lined to 4ft and calico ceilings. The enrolment was 115 pupils- 55 boys and 60 girls. Overcrowding was a problem with the Burnt Creek school, holding over 100 students in a room designed for 60 pupils. A land grant for a school reserve was approved in 1859, but it was not until 1866 that Dunolly architect Wm Footer was engaged to draw a design for the new school. Lack of financial assistance from the School Board spurred the School Committee to great fundraising efforts and by March 1867 £125 had been raised. Final plans were approved in June 1867 and tenders called. Despite many delays, including the promised grant of £52 from the Board, the contract was signed by Peter Dunne on October 14th 1867. The room was 36ft by 18ft with local stone walls 18inches thick, brick steps and a hearth. The Foundation stone for the new building was laid in November 1867, with the school committee having to pay contractors from their own pockets and was finally completed at a cost of £153. This was built parallel with the old wooden structure. The new school was officially opened on 28th May 1868 with folks dancing til dawn.

Mr Thomas Vaughan who had built up the school, and was very well liked, retired in 1871 and his replacement was Mr D O'Doherty. His irish brogue was "upsetting" and his teaching methods of hair and ear pulling was not embraced and attendance began falling off. In 1872 the abolishment of Common Schools and making education compulsory increased the enrolments.

The old wooden school was being used as an infant's room and was in a bad state of disrepair with the calico ceiling in rags and in 1877 renovations to the old wooden school began with new rafters and ceiling fitted and walls painted and a smoky stove installed. The new school was described as a "cartshed" as it had never been painted. The repairs to both buildings were done at a cost of £39

By 1883 Burnt Creek was in decline and the teacher from Dunolly tried to have Bromley school closed and the headmaster Mr Thomas Flynn (father of John Flynn of Moliagul) wrote to the School Board of the shocking conditions at No 55 but was told his complaints were trivial as the new school was big enough to hold all pupils and nothing would be done with the old school.

In 1885 the name of the town of Burnt Creek was changed to Bromley as there was another town of the same name, and the School name was also changed at this time. Mr Flynn was active during this time as Headmaster with many improvements including a temporary shelter, the smoky stove fixed, repairs and a water tank application. By 1888 the old wooden structure was so badly in disrepair it was condemned. Moves were made to have the school closed after 30 Dunolly children were sent back to school there resulting in classes and teacher salary reductions. On 19th November 1897 a great storm all but destroyed the school- a large tree had blown onto the roof causing damage to the roof and the chimney and windows and doors blown in and fencing damaged. A wall of the old school also blew down and the winter of 1898 finished off the old slab school and in 1899 the remains were finally demolished, its timbers worthless.

Richard Clanchy transferred to Bromley in 1908, he had been head master at Middle Bridge for 13 years prior to his appointment, and was known for being able to control some of the wild boys and with orchards close to the School found it difficult when his charges gave special attention to the orchards. The orchardists still complained but as the fruit was pilfered after school hours there was nothing he could do.

History of Burnt Creek School and Bromley State School No 55– continued from previous page

1916 saw extensive remodelling of the school; the large arch windows at either end were replaced with modern ones and the smaller rear windows were blocked off and the entrance porch enlarged. Modern two seater desks replaced the long backless 50year old ones and a new tank erected. During the renovations the school was conducted in the Church of England Parish Hall at Dunolly. Of the 57 pupils, 45 attended Dunolly but 12 thought the journey to Dunolly from Bromley and Wild Dog areas, a distance of 3 miles, was too far.

During the war years the pupils concentrated on war efforts and this affected the educational standards to some degree, but a reasonable standard was maintained. There were two successful concerts and a School brass band was formed, where they participated in a street march from Hughe's Post Office to the school on Armistice Day of World War 1. The appointment of Daniel Malone in 1919 saw a new era at the school and he soon won the respect of pupils and parents. Strap swinging and book throwing were not included in his methods of punishments. He played football with Dunolly. It was at this time that the BetBet and District School Sports Association was formed. Any school winning the shield three times retained it. Bromley achieved this in 1924, the year Mr Malone left. He was held in high regard and achieved more success than any other head teacher and at a farewell evening at the school, which was packed to capacity, tears were shed by many pupils. Mr Henry Barrey succeeded Mr Malone but was unable to cope with the disobedience of the older 7th and 8th grade boys, as it was his first assignment, and quit.

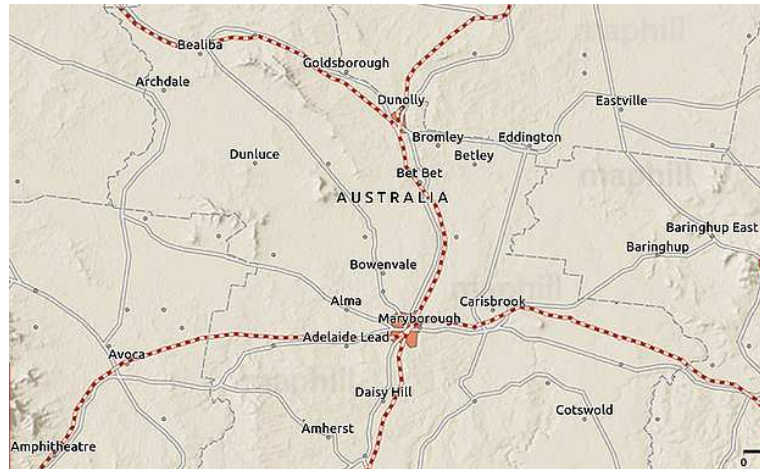
1925 to 1927 saw five appointments but all were young and inexperienced. The teachers were not fully to blame as the higher grade pupils, some who were as big as the teachers, were an unruly lot. Mr Thomas, an older more experienced teacher soon restored order. In 1932 religious education commenced. A steady enrolment of 30 students and a number of Head Teachers, some were women, took the school through the war and in 1948 after the resignation of the current headmaster James Kelly, the School Inspectors recommended the closure of Bromley Stare School, stating the children would not be greatly inconvenienced by attending other schools. The Department advised that as there were 19 pupils enrolled it was inadvisable to close the school and appointed a new Head teacher. Improvements were made to the school and play area, old trees removed, bike shed erected and repairs in the class room. New cyclone gates approved but these were taken delivery of by Dunolly School and when returned were finally installed December 1950.

A quick succession of teachers over the next four years saw a decline in the standards of teaching with many complaints from irate parents on the suitability of some appointments. 1955 saw the appointment of R L Carless which completely reversed the situation. Ron Carless was appointed to Castlemaine 1958 and his successor Mr David Chamberlain maintained the high standards set. During the period 1955 to 1961 much was done to improve facilities; modern furniture installed, including large and small tables, infant lockers and tables and chairs, extra desks, a radiogram, portable blackboard and other equipment. Much of this was due to the hard working Ladies Committee. The historic land mark of a stand of pine trees were removed and a modern toilet block erected in 1963 and the connection of power. Play equipment, library shelving and garden seats were also provided. Mr Max White was appointed in 1966 and the school was painted and a telephone installed as well as street lighting and concrete paths with credit to the School Committee and Mothers club committee.

To be continued next Newsletter

LOCALITY NAMES AROUND MARYBOROUGH

Maryborough is situated in the Central Goldfields Shire in Central Victoria. The shire formed a small part of the territory of the Djadjawurrung people. There have been many name changes of localities since non indigenous people arrived in the 1830's and 1840's.



This is by no means a complete list, but will give some idea if you are looking for a specific locality in the area. The list of locations is taken from en.wikipedia.org. Most areas are locations only, noting that the Shire had a population of over 13,000 in 2021, with most people living in the towns of Carisbrook (1,115 people – 2016 census), Dunolly (893 – 2016 census), Maryborough (8,160 people – 2021 census) and Talbot (442 -2016 Census).

ADELAIDE LEAD. Situated about 6km south west of Maryborough, on the Timor Creek. Apparently named by some miners from Adelaide who discovered the gold lead in 1855. Both quartz and alluvial mining were the initial attractions. The small town soon had a post office, a hotel and several stores. A Mr Plumridge established a pottery with his wares being of a high quality at a reasonable price, and waterproof. A school was opened in the early 1860's, and was closed in 1954, with the building then being used as a local hall. The area today is mainly agricultural land.



[Mine Workers at Adelaide Lead. C1890's -State Library Collection](#)

ALMA. Also situated on the Timor Creek about 6km north west of Maryborough. The name Alma arose from the Crimean War battle at Alma River in 1854. Gold was discovered at Alma later that year. It was known for a short time as Joyce's Diggings being close to the large property 'Norwood' which had been settled in 1852 by the Joyce Brothers at the time in partnership, and later owned by Alfred Joyce. After surface gold began to decline, mechanical mining began in 1857 with about 7 companies operating, but only the Enterprise continued to operate for another 30 years. A Church of England school was opened in 1856, and a government school replaced it in 1862; in 1884 the school average attendance was 84 pupils.

LOCALITY NAMES AROUND MARYBOROUGH– continued from previous page

In the 1860's Alma had several stores and hotels, but by 1884, Alma only had a store, a hotel and an Episcopal Church. By early 1900, mining was still continued along with agricultural farms and some vines. Today, small farms still continue with many people seeking a small holding just out of Maryborough.

AMHERST. Only 5km to the north of Talbot on the Daisy Hill Creek, sometimes known earlier as Daisy Hill. Gold was discovered in the area from 1852 onwards, and the town was surveyed with town lots being sold in 1855, with Amherst borough being proclaimed in 1858. It soon boasted an Anglican school (1856), a Presbyterian school (1860), and as well as churches of these denominations also a Wesleyan Church (1857). In 1855 it was reported to have “a most disorderly population” of over 8000 with “many from the lowest classes of the Irish”. The Chinese gold diggers also fought amongst themselves. Within one week, there were several serious reports of assaults and a murder. In 1859, gold was discovered at Talbot, and gradually Talbot became the main town. However, in the 1860's Amherst had a 58-bed hospital, a court of petty sessions, three hotels and a flourishing mining industry. By 1903, there seems to be only the one school - State School (#1459). Amherst had a population of 200 and diggings continued in areas close by known as Blacksmiths Gully, Daisy Hill, Mia Mia Flat and Adelaide Lead. The hospital functioned as a TB sanatorium until the late 1930's. The population of Amherst remained steady until WW11, then began to decline and the school closed in 1946. The Amherst area and remaining buildings were destroyed by fire in 1985, however some of the street layout can still be seen.

ARCHDALE. Situated on the Avoca River, and approximately 21km west of Dunolly. The Archdale Bridge over the Avoca River is listed on the Victorian Heritage database. Its significance is the humped timber deck, built in 1863 and designed to permit a steady flow of water during floods. It is a 13-span bridge, and very few examples remain today. Mentioned in 1848 as part of “Green Hills” run (of 57,280 acres) as a bearing from Archdale's Hut – grazing land. Ref Trove: The Argus 12th December 1848. Mr McDougall of Archdale is noted in a newspaper article as being one of the “gentleman well known in the annals of the colony” Ref Trove: Maryborough and Dunolly Advertiser 26 November 1858. Also noted children born to this family at Archdale. Referred to as Archdale Station, Mr McDougall the overseer. Archdale, it seems was a large farming holding. In 1855 the station “Archdale” consisting of 40,000 acres was for sale. It was bought by H N Simson of Charlotte Plains (Carisbrook). In 1859 Simson had it for sale, along with Sandy Creek and Dunolly Stations, with sheep. (Although advertised, it wasn't sold in 1855). Today a farming district with 21 residents.



ARCHDALE JUNCTION. Situated a mere 7km south of Archdale. Currently a population of 6 residents.

*Central Goldfields Shire website

*Central Goldfields Wikipedia

*Victorian Places (website: www.victorianplaces.com.au)

*Barbara Willis – ‘Footprints A History of the Shire of Tullaroop’, 1988

*Betty Osborn & Trenear DuBourg - ‘Maryborough A Social History 1854 – 1904’

*Australian Bureau of Statistics

*State Library of Victoria

Helen Ritchie 2023

COMMUNITY BANK– AVOCA, MARYBOROUGH AND ST ARNAUD

In November 2022 the Maryborough Family History Group was a successful recipient of a grant provided by Bendigo Bank to local Community Groups. We applied for funds for a A3 scanner and 8tb NAS storage system, which will allow us to scan photos, newspaper sized documents and books etc and store the digital files for easy access and archive the original items in a safe location. When our room was flooded we were extremely lucky that we did not loose any of these items so the awarding of the grant was very timely.

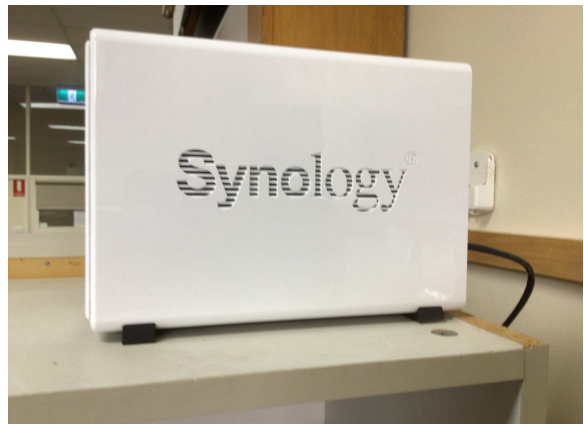
The Scanner and NAS have been purchased and installed ready for use. We now have to learn how to use, so lessons for all.

We thank the Bendigo Bank for their support of our group in providing these funds and for their ongoing support of local community groups.

Photos:

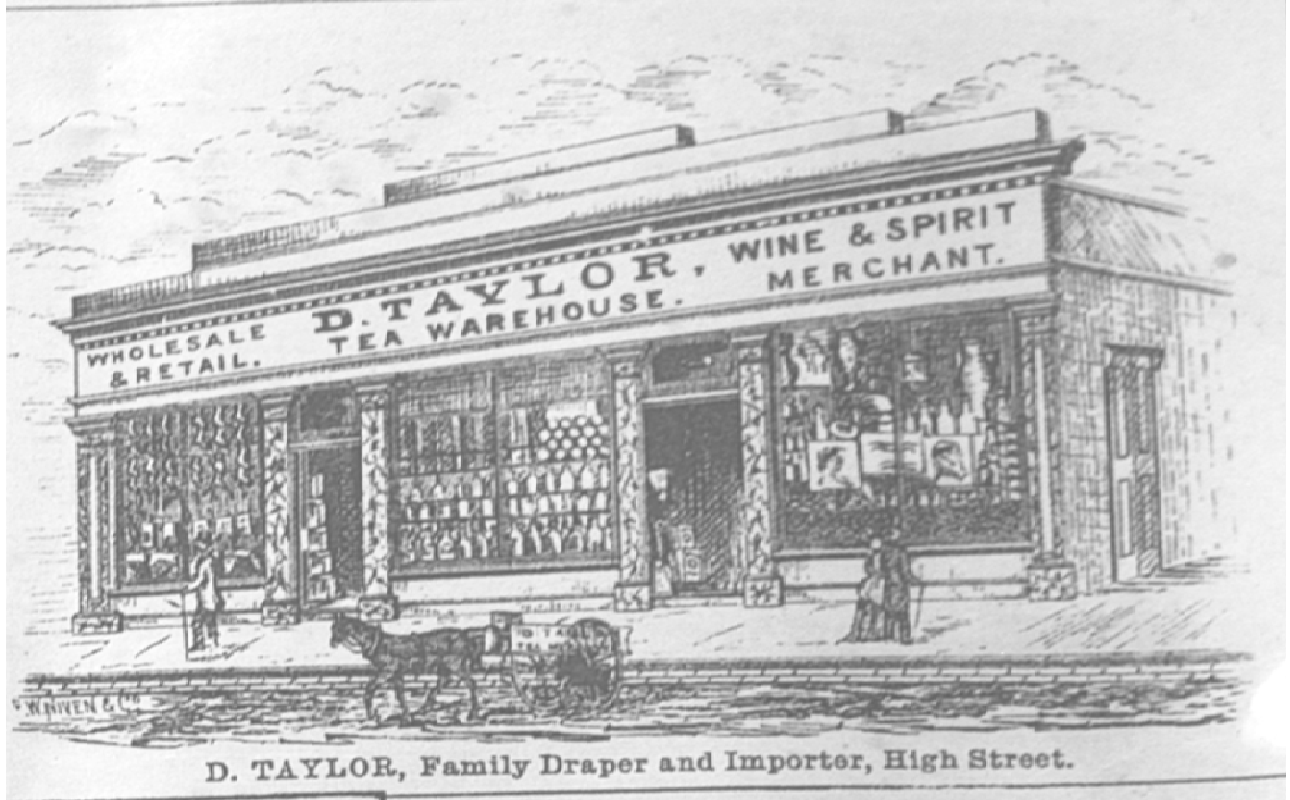
Right- Wendy checking the instructions

The scanner and the NAS storage system



Community Bank
Avoca, Maryborough and St Arnaud

B Bendigo Bank



D. TAYLOR, Family Draper and Importer, High Street.

Image from Maryborough Lithograph F V Nevin

THIS NEWSLETTER PRINTED BY MARTHA HAYLETT MP AND FUNDED BY THE PARLIAMENTARY BUDGET

Wattle Bark

Do you have something to contribute?

Do you have a yen to write? Or maybe you have some family stories that you would like to share with others? Maybe you are having a problem with your research? If the answer is Yes! then you may wish to submit an article to be published in a future edition of the newsletter.

Not able to put it into writing? Please contact the Editor for assistance or guidance. Phone: 0409561885.

Edition	Closing dates for contributions	Planned publishing dates
Autumn	21st February	12th March
Winter	21st May	12th June
Spring	21st August	12th September
Summer	21st November	12th December

Maryborough Family History Group Inc. acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, the DjaDja Wurrung people. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present, and emerging leaders.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information in this newsletter.
 In the event that errors occur the Editor and Committee apologise for any inconvenience caused.
 © Unless otherwise stated, all articles in this newsletter are copyright.

Disclaimer: Contributions to this newsletter are accepted in good faith and the Editor and Committee do not accept responsibility for the accuracy of information in submitted articles, nor opinions expressed.

Last word

Some family trees have beautiful leaves, and some just have a bunch of nuts.
Remember, it is the nuts that make the tree worth shaking. – Unknown

The thing that interests me most about family history is the gap between the things
we think we know about our families and the realities. – Jeremy Hardy

If you are lucky enough to be a genealogist, you are lucky enough. – Ruth Padilla

Genealogy: Where you confuse the dead and irritate the living. – Unknown



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Newsletter of the Maryborough Family History Group Inc.

From:
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