



# Wattle Bark



Quarterly Newsletter of the  
Maryborough Family History Group Inc.

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# Maryborough Family History Group Inc.

A0031625U ABN: 36282070326

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\*\* indicates key holder for "The Hub", Research Room

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## Meeting Schedule for 2021 –2022

### Committee Meetings

Unless otherwise advised, committee meetings will be held in the Research Rooms, at 7:00pm, prior to the General Meetings on the 4th Wednesday of the month.

There will be no committee meeting in the months when the General Meetings are rescheduled.

### General Meetings

General Meetings are *usually* held at 7:30pm on the 4th Wednesday of each month in the Research Rooms at The Community Hub 12 - 22 Nolan Street. Visitors are most welcome.

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## Membership Fee's:

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 1<sup>st</sup> of March to 28<sup>th</sup> or 29<sup>th</sup> of February.
- Any subscriptions received from *new members* between 1 December and 28/29 February will include the membership for the following year.

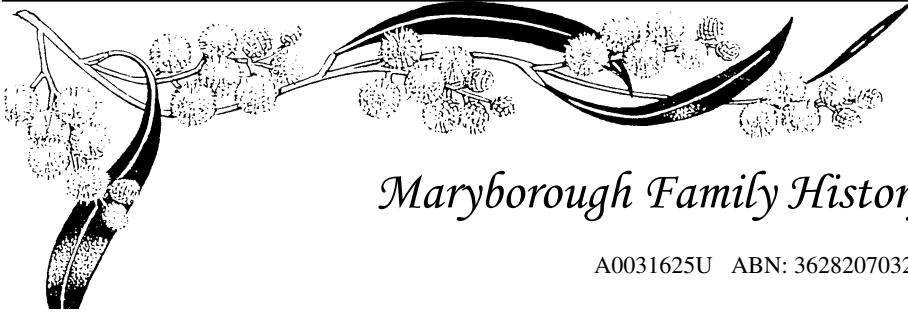
### Benefits:

- 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 12 - 22 Nolan Street for *personal* research.
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## Front Cover

Princes Park Maryborough  
From Kevin Spokes Collection

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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
Gerald Massey Ivor Wilkinson and Family-----	4
Gerald Massey Ivor Wilkinson and Family-----	5
Gerald Massey Ivor Wilkinson and Family-----	6
Gerald Massey Ivor Wilkinson and Family-----	7
History Of Eddington Schools-----	8
Do you have something to contribute -----	9
Not able to put it into writing? -----	9
Publication Dates & Deadlines-----	9
The Final Word-----	10

## Research Fee's:

### 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 TIME TABLE

7.30 pm September 22nd 2021

1.30 pm October 27th 2021 Tracks Café

1.30pm November 24th 2021 Club Rooms

*I think my Ancestors had several “Bad Heir “ days.*

*My Husband calls cemeteries Ancestor Farms.*

*I used to have a lot of spare time....then I discovered Genealogy.*

## Maryborough References from trove digital newspapers on line.

From the Melbourne papers Victoria Maryborough July 7th .

The embankment of the Maryborough reservoir is in a dangerous condition. The borough surveyor has reported that fresh leaks were discovered to-day extending throughout a distance of 115 yards. The bank is slipping away and great anxiety is felt by the residents in the lower part of town.

*The Cornwall Chronicle (Launceston, Tas: 1835 - 1880) Saturday 16 July 1870 page 14*

From Melbourne Papers VICTORIA MARYBOROUGH, September 22.

In the police court to-day Inspected Reidy charged H E. Seedsman and M A. Whittaker that on 6th May they sell to the prejudice of the purchaser raspberry vinegar which was not of the nature, substance, and quality of such article. Defendants admitted the charge. An analysts report showed that the raspberry vinegar purchased contained salicylic acid (in one case 56 grains to the gallon) and cochineal, a fine of 10s with £2 19s. costs was imposed

*The Mercury (Hobart, Tas: 1860 – 1954) Friday 25 September 1903 page 3*

[From Melbourne Papers.] VICTORIA.

Maryborough, August 16.

An interesting case was decided in the local Police Court this morning, before Mr. P. P. Dwyer, P.M., and a bench of local justices. Mr. D. Ferguson, senior inspector of excise, proceeded against Betsy Abbot for selling intoxicating liquor without a license. The defendant in February last, as the owner and occupier of the Cambrian Hotel, Mosquito, one of the houses closed under the Local Option Act, received £150 compensation for her license being withdrawn. The prosecutor contended that the Licensing Act stipulates that within 21 days after compensation has been tendered the license ceases to be in force and after the expiration of that time the occupier would be treated as if no license ever existed. Up to the present time the defendant has continued to sell, although repeatedly warned. For the defense Mr. Warton contended that, though the license was withdrawn after 21 days, they were enabled to carry on business for six months without hindrance after compensation was paid. The Bench decided against the defendant, who was fined £25, In default one month's imprisonment. The case, which is the first of the kind heard in the colony, was eagerly watched by a number of publicans.

*The Mercury Hobart (Tas: 1860 - 1954) Saturday 20 August 1892 page 3*

[From Melbourne papers] VICTORIA.

MARYBOROUGH, September 7.

The mayor and borough councilors this evening entertained Mr. J E F Franks, the stationmaster at the Melvor Hotel, on the eve of his departure to take charge of the Ballarat-West station. An address which bore the corporation seal was presented to Mr. Franks by the mayor setting forth the general esteem which is felt for him, and the regret at his departure.

*The Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954) Friday 11 September 1885 – page 3*

From Melbourne Papers VICTORIA

MARYBOROUGH, September 20.

A serious accident occurred here this afternoon to a man named Peter Gill, a gate-keeper on the Avoca railway line, about five miles from Maryborough. Gill, accompanied by his wife, was driving in a buggy along High-street to attend a Salvation Army service. When near the intersection with Tuaggra street the horse became frightened at a young man on a bicycle and bolted over the footpath. In going over the kerbing Gill was thrown out of the buggy. The horse proceeded 20yds. further when the buggy upset in front of the hospital gates, and Mrs. Gill was thrown out. When picked up she was insensible and bleeding profusely from the mouth. At the hospital it was found that she had sustained a fracture of the base of the skull, and very little hopes are entertained of her recovery. Mr. Gill escaped with a few bruises.

No blame is attached to the bicyclist, for when he saw the horse becoming restive he dismounted and rushed to Gills assistance.

## Why Do?

Why do people order double cheeseburgers, large fries, and diet coke?

Why do banks leave vault doors open and then chain the pens to the counters?

Why do we leave cars worth thousands of dollars in our driveways and put our useless junk in the garage?



# GERALD MASSEY IVOR WILKINSON AND FAMILY

Contributed By Helen Ritchie

Gerald Massey Ivor Wilkinson was born at Talbot in 1883. (BDM Vic #20167/1883 to parents Robert Wood Wilkinson and Anderina Wilkinson nee Oxley. He was the youngest in the family of ten children.

Gerald Massey Ivor Wilkinson was the subject of the first public memorial erected in Maryborough. This memorial, a drinking fountain, was erected in front of the Maryborough Town Hall, and was officially unveiled to the public on 22 April 1903.

Gerald or Jinx as he was known was the first known war casualty from Maryborough, at the age of eighteen years. He had been selected as a doctor's orderly, and just been promoted to Corporal when he was killed in action during the Boer War in Elandskloof, South Africa on 3 July 1901.



## THE WILKINSON FAMILY.

Robert Wood Wilkinson ( father of Gerald Massey Ivor) was born C1832 to father Paul Wilkinson and mother Rhoda Wood. He emigrated to Australia from Sheffield, a County of York, England in 1854 after passing his examinations at the Apothecaries Hall in London. He went to the Ovens area to try his luck with gold for a short time, before going to Talbot. He married Anderina Oxley in 1862 (BDM Vic #3535/1862). Her parents were Joshua Oxley and Frances Elinor Wright. From information in "Maryborough A Social History 1854-1904", Betty Osborn and Trenear DuBourg, Robert Wood Wilkinson had been a chemist in Scandinavian Crescent, Talbot (The site of the now former Shire Office– from notes on Avoca Historical Society website) for twenty-six years before they moved to Maryborough and opened a chemist shop in High Street in 1884. I assume that Anderina Oxley may have been from this district, given that Robert Wilkinson had been in Talbot from around 1858.

Robert Wood Wilkinson and Anderina Oxley had ten children.

1. Anderina Jane Wilkinson born 1864, at Amherst (BDM Vic #57/1864). She died at Malvern in 1956, aged 92 years. (BDM Vic# 13031/1956).

WILKINSON– On October 26, in Melbourne, Anderina Jane, loved daughter of the late Mr and Mrs R. W. Wilkinson, of Talbot and Maryborough. A sister of Maud (Mrs McDonald , Albury) - At Rest

Trove: The Argus, 31 October 1956

2. Frances Eleanor Wilkinson born 1865, at Talbot (BDM Vic #12616/1865). In 1890 she occupied the position of head assistant at the Maldon State School. She married Charles Matthews in 1893, (BDM Vic#195/1893) and their children were born in the Wirrimbirchip area, usually known as Birchip from 1890.

- \* Frances May Matthews born in 1894 at West Birchip (BDM Vic #7992/1894), and died the same year at West Birchip ( Vic #4339/1894) at the age of 3 months. (Maybe Wirrimbirchip)
- \* Annie Jean Matthews born 1898 at Wirrimbirchip (BDM #15227/1898.), and died in 1903 at Wirrimbirchip (BDM Vic #15614/1903) at the age of 5 years.
- \* Charles Ivor Matthews born in 1901 at Wirrimbirchip( BDM Vic #30964/1901), and died in 1980 at Forest Hill (BDM Vic #3464/1980) at the age of 78 years

Robert Wood (Junior) and Annie Jean Wilkinson had four daughters.

- \* Mary Constance Wilkinson born at St Kilda in 1908 (BDM Vic # 30445/1908)
- \* Elizabeth Wood Wilkinson born at St Kilda in 1910 (BDM Vic #96560/1910)
- \* Paula Jean Wilkinson born at St Kilda in 1915 (BDM Vic #7643/1915)
- \*Francis Adele Wilkinson born at Armadale in 1916 (BDM Vic #17028/1916)

He died while on holiday in Sydney in May 1939.

8. Henry Oliver Wilkinson born 1877, at Talbot (BDM Vic #12616/1877. Henry married Emmeline Laurina Christensen in 1903. (BDM Vic #5732/1903). Henry and Emmeline Laurina Wilkinson had a son, Lauritz Wood born at Warrnambool in 1904 (BDM Vic #29473/1904 and a daughter, Dothea born at Warrnambool in 1907 (BDM Vic #6908/1907).

Henry Oliver Wilkinson died in November 1914 at Fitzroy South, at the age of 39 years. (BDM Vic #13886/1914). He had been living in Barkers Road, Hawthorn.

DEATH  
WILKINSON—On the 31st of October,  
Henry O. Wilkinson, formally of  
Warrnambool, beloved husband of  
Lauri Wilkinson, son of the late  
R.W. Wilkinson, of Maryborough.

Trove: Warrnambool Standard, Nov 3, 1914

WILKINSON.— The Friends of the late Mr.  
HENRY O. WILKINSON are respectfully in-  
formed that his remains will be interred in the  
Brighton Cemetery.  
The funeral is appointed to leave his late residence  
“Spring Fold”190 Barker’s Road, Hawthorn.  
THIS MORNING (Monday 2nd Inst.), at 11.30am.  
T. RENTLE, undertaker, Park street, South  
Melbourne. Tel. 1179.

Trove: The Argus, Nov 2, 1914

9. Mary Oxley Wilkinson born 1879 at Amherst (BDM Vic #6512/1879). She married Alfred Napoleon Gilbert in 1907 (BDM Vic #94/1907). They had four children all born in the Sydney area;-

- \*Alice M Gilbert born in 1908 at Mosman (BDM NSW#5758/1908)
- \*Charles N Gilbert born in 1910 at Mosman (BDM NSW#28992/1910)
- \*Cicely J Gilbert born in 1913 at Chatswood (BDMNSW#3192/1913)
- \*Ivor N Gilbert born in 1915 at Chatswood (BDMNSW#46652/1915)

Mary died in Hornsby NSW in 1951. (BDMNSW #16689/1951), aged 72 years.

10. Gerald Massey Ivor Wilkinson born at Talbot in 1883. (BDM Vic #20167/1883), and died in Elandskloof, South Africa on 3rd July 1901, in action in the Boer War.

The following Death Notice in 1870, for their child Elizabeth gives an indication of where Robert Wood and Anderina Wilkinson may have lived, and probably conducted their business in Talbot.

Trove: The Age, April 28, 1870

WILKINSON , On the 26th April, at Scandinavian  
Crescent, Talbot. Elizabeth Maud, infant daughter  
of Robert Wood and Anderina Wilkinson.

## **References:**

Births, Deaths and Marriages Victoria

Birth, Deaths and Marriages New South Wales

Maryborough A Social History 1864-1904, Betty Osborn and Trenear DuBourg, 1985

Against The Odds Maryborough 1905-1961, Betty Osborn, 1995

Trove– Various Digitised Newspapers, National Library of Australia

Further Research re The Wilkinson Chemist Businesses in a later Newsletter.

\*Frances Maud Matthews born 1905 at Warrimbirchip (BDM Vic #14614/1905), and married Harold Frederick Coupe in 1944 (BDM Vic #2927/1944)

Frances Eleanor Matthews (nee Wilkinson) died 1945 at the age of 80 years.

3. Paul Wilkinson born 1867, at Amherst (BDM Vic #5835/1867). He married Louisa (Lou or Fan) Barker (BDM Vic #5642/1895).

WILKINSON –BARKER.-On the 3rd Inst.,  
At Christ Church, South Yarra  
By the Rev. Horace F. Tucker, Paul  
Eldest son of the late R. W. Wilkinson  
Maryborough, to Louisa (Fan)), youngest  
Daughter of the late W. Barker , Echuca.

Trove: The Prahran Telegraph, Nov 2, 1895

\* They had one child, Andarina who was born in Maryborough in 1896 (BDM Vic #21578/1896

WILKINSON.—On the 10th July, at Maryborough  
Victoria. The wife of P. Wilkinson of a daughter.

Trove; The Argus, 12th Aug 1896



Rena Wilkinson at right front of photo  
at Fairleigh College C.1905  
Against The Odds Maryborough 1905  
-1961, Betty Osborn

I have been unable to find any more children borne to Paul and Louisa Wilkinson in Victoria. I understand that Paul Wilkinson may have operated the pharmacy in Maryborough after his father's death in 1890.

Paul Wilkinson died in Sydney on 10th March , 1905.

WILKINSON— on the 10th March, at Sydney, Paul Wilkinson,  
Chemist, Maryborough, beloved Husband of F. Wilkinson.

Trove; The Argus, March 11, 1905

4. Elizabeth Maud Wilkinson born 1869, at Amherst (BDM Vic #91/1869), and died at the age of 1 year in 1870 (BDM Vic #3194/1870)

5. Robert Oliver Wilkinson born 1871, at Amherst (BDM Vic #92/1871), and died at the age of 1 year in 1872.  
The Death Certificates of Elizabeth and Robert both state that they were born at Talbot, it seems that the names of the two areas were often interchanged.

6. Mathilda Maud Wilkinson born 1873, at Amherst (BDM Vic #13838/1873). She married Archibald McDonald in 1896, (BDM Vic #123/1896). Their first child Frances Muriel was born at Warrimbirchip in 1899, (BDM Vic #30905/1899).Frances was bridesmaid at her cousin Andarina's marriage in 1921, and at the time she was living in Warrnambool. I was unable to find any other children, but, found an Archibald McDonald who died in Warrimbirchip in 1905 at the age of 47 years. (BDM Vic #7416/1905) Maud died in Parkville in 1961 at the age of 87 years. In her sister Anderina Jane's Death Notice in 1956, it states that she was living in Albury, at the time.

7. Robert Wood Wilkinson born 1875, at Amherst (BDM Vic #6514/1875). Robert married Annie Jean Simpson in 1906.

WILKINSON-SIMPSON.— On the 21st of November, at St. John's  
Church, Newbridge, by the Rev. George Hollow,  
Robert Wood , son of the late Robert Wood Wilkinson, Maryborough,  
To Annie Jean, daughter of John Shields Simpson, Newbridge.

Trove; The Leader, Jan 13, 1906

# HISTORY OF EDDINGTON SCHOOLS

The first school at Eddington was No 212 opened on Feb. 6th. 1862 being established by the National board and later that year coming under the control of the Common Schools Board.

During the first year the enrolment was 24 with the average attendance being 22. The first H.T. was George E. Hall and this first school closed on May 31st. 1865.

In this original wooden structure. H.T. was Frank Dales opened S.S. 793 Eddington on Jan. 12th, 1867 where he remained in charge until April, 1875.

In the opening year of 1867 the enrolment was 57 with an average of 42 attending.

A new brick building was completed in 1872 at a cost of £358-19-0 with accommodation for 120 children. This building had an upstairs gallery and was often referred to as 'the goal' on account of its peculiar construction. The original wooden structure was removed in 1878 after 6 years of habitual use by swagmen.

During the 1880's attendance reached the 100 mark and in 1890 a four roomed residence was constructed with two portable detached rooms added almost immediately for extra accommodation.

On 21st August 1890, the school was totally destroyed by fire after a Wesleyan coffee social, as a rope attached to a lamp had ignited and was not completely extinguished at the conclusion of the evening.

While the new brick building was under construction school was conducted at the rear of Nuttall's Hotel.

The new building 40'x20' was opened in 1892 with accommodation for 75 pupils at a cost of £500.00. The school and residence were repaired in 1903 and are both in use today.

In the grounds there remains a unique relic of the past—part of a tree (set in concrete stand) from which the aboriginals had cut a bark canoe.

Inside the school a fine marble tablet remains affixed to the wall.

This was erected in 1920 by parents and scholars in memory, Joseph Cornwell H.T. from 1914-18. Mr Cornwell raised \$1350 for the State School Patriotic Fund and \$2000 in War Savings Certificates.

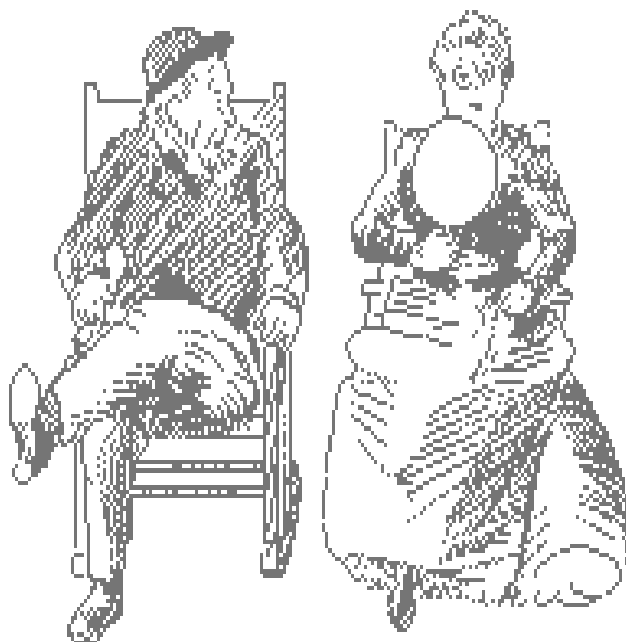
Author: Mark J Power H.M.1970





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## MEMBER PROFILES



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### Advertising Space Is Available

Do you have a product or service you wish to promote?

Advertising space is now available in the Wattle Bark.

Please contact a committee member for details.

**I haven't received any more submissions!**

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## WHERE IS YOURS?

Now available!

The complete collection of Wattle Bark newsletters from April 1999 through to Summer 2008 presented in easily readable PDF format, which can be read using Adobe Acrobat®.

Get your copy now -  
Only \$10

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## *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. Articles can be left for collection in the box at our research room, or you can pass them to me (Cheryl Lovel) or to any Committee Member.

### Not able to put it into writing?

Please contact the Editor for assistance or guidance. Phone: 0409561885.

### Publication Dates & Deadlines

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

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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.

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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.

## FINAL WORD

### In Life's Garden

Count your garden by the flowers never by the leaves that fall  
Count your days by the golden hours, don't remember the clouds  
at all.

Count your night by stars not by shadows.

Count your life with smiles not tears,

And with joy through all your life.

Count your age by friends not years.



### *Wattle Bark*

Newsletter of the Maryborough Family History Group Inc.

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From:  
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PO Box 59.  
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