

Free Copy

# Geelong Pocket



June 2013						
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# Time in Geelong

Before Geelong's first public clock was erected in 1857, the *Geelong Advertiser* had the following advice for citizens wishing to know the time (with apologies to readers, original spelling has been used) —



*"The most correct way in which the hour of the day is to be ascertained in Geelong, is to take the average of the time kept by the banks, that kept at the police office, the custom house, and the post office, divide the aggregate number by four, and you compute the real time of day within five or ten minutes. As for depending upon one clock in particular, it is found to be useless, as people sometimes transact business at the courthouse at the usual hour of ten, proceed to the banks, where they find themselves too early, and vice versa. A good town clock, and a few lamps at the watchhouse, the banks, and other public establishments, are indispensable for the welfare of the place."*

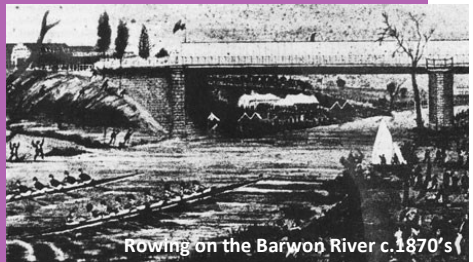


*Geelong Advertiser and Intelligencer February 28, 1852 p.2*

## Ferries on the Barwon River

On a number of occasions attempts were made to establish both steamship and paddle boat services at Geelong on the Barwon River. Up until the late 1890's a number of industries, including paper-making, tanning, and weaving were dotted up and down the river, making use of the river water to produce steam, used in powering the machinery of the day. Entrepreneurs investigated the possibility of ferrying goods to and from these factories, from the Barwon Bridge (Moorabool Street), up-river as far as Queens Park, and down-river as far as the breakwater. Others trialled pleasure cruises, hoping to delight visitors to Geelong with scenic views up and down the river.

In 1877 the first paddle steamer was introduced on the Barwon—a boat of 22 feet in length and capable of carrying twelve passengers at five miles per hour. Two years later the river saw a screw steamer—34 feet long with a carrying capacity of 30. Sadly, none of these ventures succeeded for more than a few months. Today only rowing crews can be seen stroking along the Barwon, sharing the most pleasant of early morning vistas with walkers and joggers on each bank.



Rowing on the Barwon River c.1870's

# Top 10 Deadliest Insects

Which animal are you scared of most—sharks, snakes, crocodiles, or perhaps lions? While these all have a well-deserved reputation for killing humans, nothing comes close to the death rate caused by insects! Let us count down the 10 most deadly insects on the planet:

## 10. The Kissing Bug (Hemiptera)

The carrier for Chagas Disease. After some initial swelling at the site of the bite, Chagas Disease lingers in the body for many years, eventually leading to heart disease and intestine problems. If untreated, the disease often kills.



## 9. The Asian Hornet

The Asian Hornet can grow to 75mm in length and stings repeatedly up to 40 times a minute. Its sting is noteworthy: it is the most painful of any insect, dissolves human tissue, and has at least 8 toxic substances in it.



## 8. African Ants (Siafu)

With colonies up to 20 million strong, these ants consume anything and anyone in their path, including the very young and old who cannot get out of their way, who die from asphyxiation.



## 7. Wasps

Many humans are allergic to wasps and can die after experiencing anaphylactic shock from a wasp sting.



## 6. Locusts

Although they do not directly kill humans, locust swarms of biblical proportions can decimate every organic plant over a vast region, leading to human starvation.



## 5. Fire Ants

A sting from a fire ant is very painful, leading to a swollen pustule. When stung many times by a swarm of fire ants death can ensue—up to 150 humans die each day!



## 4. Tse Tse Fly

The carrier for the deadly sleeping sickness (trypanosomiasis). Up to 300,000 die from this disease each year.



## 3. Bees

Allergic reactions to bee stings kill thousands every year. African Bees and Killer Bees are very aggressive, and can attack with only slight provocation.



## 2. Fleas

For hundreds of years fleas have carried the dreaded plague. Although strains of the plague in modern times have been less deadly, severe killer outbreaks can recur with little warning.



## 1. Mosquitoes

Although known as an annoying pest here in Australia, the mosquito carries the deadliest diseases in other parts of the world, including malaria which infects tens of millions of people each year, killing many of them. The most deadly insect by far!



# George Armytage

George Armytage was one of Geelong's most successful early farmers and pastoralists, in addition to leaving behind some of the most admired buildings constructed in early Victoria.

George was born in Derbyshire, England in 1795. Being the eldest son he took the same name as his father, who originally came from Brussels in Belgium. George Jr. was brought up in Belgium and Yorkshire, and trained as an engineer in London. He emigrated to Sydney in 1815, and then moved to Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania) the following year. Van Diemen's Land was filled with convicts and ex-convicts in those days, and George got off to a bad start, being robbed of his few goods on arrival. But he quickly turned his fortunes around, soon owning a substantial property of over 200 hectares at Bagdad, 37km north of Hobart Town. In 1818 aged 23, he married a former convict's daughter, Elizabeth Peters.

George Armytage was a proud, intelligent young man. Helped by some capital that his marriage brought him, he improved his land and also gained a further 400 hectares. Using his technical experience, he worked as a wheelwright and built one of the colony's first water-mills, where he could receive wheat in sheaf and return it as flour the same day. He held government posts as division constable and district pound-keeper, then transformed himself into the landlord of the local Saracen's Head Hotel. By 1845 his wealthy family had grown by seven sons, and at least three daughters.

Nine years earlier, in May 1836 George had taken sheep to Port Phillip, and had left his eldest son, Thomas, and a Tasmanian neighbour, Charles Franks, to establish a run for them on the Werribee River. After aboriginals killed Franks and one of his shepherds in July, the sheep were moved to Geelong. The following autumn, after Joseph Gellibrand and George Hesse disappeared, Thomas joined the search party tracking them along the Barwon River. Ten kilometres south-west of Winchelsea he discovered great pastures at Ingleby. On behalf of his father, Thomas established a property there. Sadly he died from exposure in 1842 and the



**George Armytage**  
*University of Melbourne Archives*



**The Hermitage, built by George Armytage in Packington Street, Newtown, was sold for £6,000 in 1906 to the Church of England to be used as a Girls Grammar School. Today, the name has been simplified to the Geelong Grammar School, and the building is registered with the National Trust.**

squatting property was taken over by another of his brothers.

By 1845-46, George Armytage had expanded his mainland interests to the extreme north-west of the Portland Bay pastoral district. To manage his prosperous business interests on the mainland he finally brought his family over to Ingleby in 1847. Four years later, in 1851, he moved to Geelong, buying The Hermitage property from Geelong's former police magistrate, Nicholas Fenwick. Here his widowed father joined him from Brussels in 1852.



**Wooloomanata, is a magnificent homestead built by George Armytage for his sixth son, Frederick. Located in Bacchus Marsh Road, Corio, it served as a temporary air field for spitfires during World War II as well as an army training base. The home is currently owned by the Pettit family.**



**Elcho Homestead was funded by George Armytage and built in 1867 for his daughter Elizabeth, and her husband, John Galletly, who was a bank manager in Geelong. The property is situated on 4,000 acres on Bacchus Marsh Road in Lara.**

While still pursuing his pastoral activities, George now took an interest in architecture and construction, desiring to establish well-founded properties for himself and all his children. Along with the initial bluestone mansion at Ingleby, and the new family home at The Hermitage in Geelong, various similar homesteads were constructed—Elcho Homestead and Pirra Homestead at Lara, Wooloomanata at Corio, Wormbete and Turkeith, near Winchelsea, Mount Sturgeon Homestead near the Grampians, and Fulham and Congbool on the Glenelg River in western Victoria.

Perhaps the Armytage's finest architectural achievement is the Victorian National Trust headquarters, Como, in Williams Road, South Yarra. Boasting one of Melbourne's finest gardens, the mansion contains an impressive collection of antique furniture. Purchased by son Charles in 1864, the property provides a glimpse into the privileged lifestyle made possible by George Armytage, pioneer to one of Australia's wealthiest families. George died in 1862, aged 67.



**The Armytage family were to remain at Como in South Yarra for over 95 years, until they handed it over to the National Trust in 1959 to preserve a beautiful representation of colonial Victoria at its most prosperous.**

# Beware Methamphetamine!



Last year use of the drug crystal methamphetamine increased among young people in Victoria by over 50 per cent. The Victorian Police Assistant Commissioner, Steve Fontana, described its use as “staggering.” At the same time, Geelong police were describing our city as being in the grip of a “methamphetamine epidemic,” driving a crime wave across the city.

But what exactly is crystal methamphetamine? Why is it so popular? What are the hidden dangers? And how can you protect your family from its vice-like grip?

Crystal methamphetamine (also called crystal meth, crystal, and ice), is a powerful stimulant. It works on the brain, releasing large amounts of dopamine into the system. Dopamine is a simple organic hormone that acts as a neurotransmitter, helping nerve cells in the brain communicate with each other. The chemical is responsible for how happy we feel. It increases a feeling of pleasure, awareness, confidence and extra energy. When dopamine is released naturally into a person’s brain, they generally feel content and in a good mood. However, with methamphetamine use, dopamine floods the brain, leaving the drug user feeling euphoric, on top of the world! Anxiety, gloominess, and problems don’t exist while under its influence.

## **What does crystal methamphetamine look like?**

Meth is found in several different forms. It may appear as slightly transparent crystals, brownish granules or beige, white or pink powder. It is sold in paper flaps, plastic baggies, tablets or capsules. The drug can be smoked, snorted, injected or eaten. Users usually begin feeling the effects within 3 to 5 seconds when smoked, and the initial high may last between 8 and 16 hours.

People use crystal meth for many different reasons. Some people use it socially at parties or clubs with friends. Others misguidedly use it as an aid for dieting or to stay alert. Youths commonly say they use meth because it reduces their need for food and sleep, and because it helps them to forget their problems.

## **What are the symptoms of someone using crystal meth?**

They are many—dilated pupils and rapid eye movements; clammy, flushed skin; increase in heart rate and blood pressure; jitteriness, twitching and muscle spasms (especially apparent in the face, jaw and neck); loss of interest in normal activities such as eating, drinking, sex and sleeping (a user on a binge will not eat, and can stay

awake for up to two weeks at a time); compulsive and repetitive behaviour (e.g., picking at one's skin, overzealous grooming behaviour, teeth grinding); inability to focus on one task; rapid speech; behaviour that is agitated, anxious, irritable, hostile, aggressive or even violent; cracked lips; skin rashes or sores from scratching and itching; extreme weight loss.

What are the potential long-term effects of using crystal methamphetamine?

- ◆ Structural damage to the brain and memory loss
- ◆ Blurred vision and dizziness
- ◆ Difficulty completing complex tasks; loss of coordination
- ◆ Mental confusion, hallucinations, delusions and feelings of paranoia
- ◆ Drug-induced psychosis
- ◆ Brain toxicity, heart disease and kidney, liver and lung failure
- ◆ Death
- ◆ To fund the habit, criminal activity is commonly engaged in

**How is crystal methamphetamine addiction treated?** Crystal meth can cause long-term damage to the brain's ability to produce dopamine at normal levels. Thus, users often feel extremely depressed and unable to experience normal feelings of happiness and contentment for perhaps many years after they stop using. For this reason, meth has one of the highest relapse rates for addicts of any drug, and is considered extremely resistant to treatment.

People who are learning how to quit using meth need to understand that they are never going to naturally recreate their first experience with it. There are currently no known pharmacological treatments for methamphetamine abuse.

**So how can you protect your loved ones from this evil vice?** Here are three helpful tips:

1. Keep the lines of communication open. Most teenagers go through a stage where they want to isolate themselves, and respond less to those who show interest in them. However, keep trying to maintain regular, loving communication, while applying consistent house rules. Explain the dangers of drug use in a relaxed atmosphere, where youths feel comfortable asking questions.
2. Know your children's friends. Often younger ones are introduced to drugs through contacts at school and at parties. Do you know who your children spend time with, as well as associate with on Facebook?
3. Arrange family activities. Include wholesome friends, and extended family members. If you are a single mum, be sure to include male relatives who can be a good role model for your sons.

Can society beat this wicked scourge? Only time will tell.



Driving west out of Geelong along the Princes Highway, or Hamilton Highway, you will soon come upon the picturesque dry stone walls, which separate paddocks from each other. Where did this unique farming feature come from?

When early explorer and Colac pastoralist, Hugh Murray travelled through the district in 1837 he came across the Stony Rises, a seemingly impassable barrier some 15km west of modern-day Colac. He eventually navigated around this land feature, to the rich pastures beyond. However, the fertile soil was covered with volcanic rocks. Squatters were soon using these as a building material to define the fence-line with their neighbours, replacing crude burrows which had been simply scraped in the dirt.

Joe Anson and a Mr. York who lived at Stonyford, between Colac and Camperdown were the first to build dry stone walls near the Stony Rises around 1840. They were soon joined by other tradesmen who immigrated out from England. The squatters in the western districts soon became wealthy “on the sheep’s back,” and found dry stone walls an enduring, fire-proof way of fencing their properties. Labour was cheap, and buildings materials cost nothing, being simply picked up out of the paddocks and placed on the wall. Soon the landscape was dotted with them, an outward symbol of wealth and ‘landed gentry.’

Initially the lower, wetter plains supported cattle, with sheep being run on the drier stony rises. A huge rubble wall on the edge of the rises at Camperdown, perhaps five feet wide at the base and five feet high, marks the boundary between the sheep and cattle country during the 1850s. Eventually sheep became more profitable and they were moved down onto the plains.

How were the walls constructed to become so durable? Each dry stone wall is not one, but two. The craftsmen, called “wallers” or “cowans,” would lay two rows of stones about one metre (three feet) apart, filling in the centre with smaller stones and rubble. Courses were added, with the two single walls tapering inwards towards each other. When finished, the top would have a width between 300-450mm (one foot to eighteen inches). Larger stones, called capping or coping stones, were laid across the top of the wall to bind the two sides together and to provide weight to settle the stones under them. Each stone was handled once only. Breaking or chipping stones to make them fit was seriously



### How bad was the Rabbit Plague?

frowned upon, although each stone is given a judicious tap with a small hammer to make it settle. The rate of progress varied between 10m—20m (half-a-chain to a chain) a day, depending on the style of the wall and whether ground trenching was required by the owner.

At Warrion, 15km north of Colac, is a place known as Murdering Flat. Why? According to the *Colac Herald*, in the late 19th century 65,000 rabbits were killed on a rabbit drive in a single day! No stone wall could contain them.

Stones were collected from the paddock to be enclosed, there being no shortage of material on much of the volcanic plains. Large stones were levered out with heavy bars and moved by dray or “sled”, pulled by a horse. Wallers worked variously in teams, pairs or alone, with apprentices serving at least two years collecting stones before they were permitted to construct walls by themselves. “Pluggers” would sometimes follow the wallers and fill small holes in the face of the wall by tapping in chips of stone.

A waller usually had his own style. It was not uncommon for the walls on opposite sides of a road to be quite different in style. Walls also varied in style according to function and the owners’ desires. By the 1860’s the rabbit plague forced farmers to consider ‘rabbit-proofing’ their land. Cowans came up with various styles to combat the rabbits with varying levels of success. Sadly many original walls had to be demolished when rabbits infested the space inside them.

Material played a part in determining style: the dense basalt stone was generally used in low, massive walls and the lighter volcanic “honeycomb” enable higher, narrower walls due to better grip between stones. Many walls have “throughstones” placed part-way up the wall to tie the two sides together.

Constructing dry stone walls was hard work and pay rates varied considerably. Some worked only for “baccy and tucker,” (smoking tobacco and food), while by 1880, the general rate was £120 per mile (\$150 per kilometre). By the turn of the 20th century the going rate was 3s 6d per day (35c per day), while today, repairing a stone wall costs about \$25 per metre (\$25,000 per kilometre), with collection of stone not included in the price.

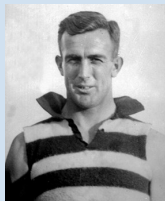
Few stone walls have been built since the 1930’s due to cheaper wire fences becoming readily available. As a result, today there are only a handful of wallers in their sixties and seventies with the skills to construct and repair walls.



Today, dry stone walls are registered with the National Trust, who have sponsored workshops in an effort to not only restore the existing walls, but preserve the craft that produces these picturesque fences throughout western Victoria.

# Geelong Brownlow Medal Winners

Since its inception in 1924, the Brownlow Medal has become the most prestigious award for an individual footballer to aspire to. The medal is awarded to the best and fairest player in the opinion of the umpires each year. Geelong Football Club has had 6 winners in the past 88 years:



## **Edward 'Cargi' Greeves (1924)**

Born on November 1, 1903 at Warragul, Victoria, Carji attended Geelong College from 1916 to 1923 gaining a reputation for being an outstanding sportsman. He left school and immediately joined the Geelong Football Club, where he made his mark in the centre. In 1924, Carji won the first Brownlow Medal ever awarded, and was also runner-up in 1925, 1926 and 1929. Wearing the number 20, he played 137 games for Geelong over a 10 year period. At 175 cm (5'9") he was not noted for speed, but had a remarkable sense of anticipation. Unusually, he did not wear football boots, preferring soft leather shoes with studs nailed in the soles. From the mid 1930's Cargi suffered from pulmonary tuberculosis and emphysema. He died on April 15, 1963. Geelong has named their club best and fairest award after him, the Carji Greeves Medal.



## **Bernard Smith (1951)**

Bernie Smith was born in South Australia on December 19, 1927. At the age of 16 he started playing for West Adelaide in the South Australian National Football League. In 1947, Bernie won West Adelaide's best and fairest award. During the same year while playing for South Australia in the interstate carnival, Geelong took an interest in him, and by the following year he was playing for Geelong. After two years playing in the centre coach Reg Hickey moved him to the back pocket, where he starred. In an era when defenders were instructed to stick closely to their opponent, Bernie had the uncanny knack of leaving his man, to the initial consternation of team-mates, but then ending up with the ball. The year 1951 was his best year, winning the Brownlow Medal, Carji Greeves Medal and Premiership Medal. He was immensely popular around the club because of his smile and laid back attitude. Sadly he died on April 21, 1985 aged only 57.



## **Alistair Lord (1962)**

Alistair Lord was born on April 9, 1940, an identical twin with brother Stewart, who also played for Geelong. Alistair played as a centremen and made his debut in 1959. In 1962 he won the Brownlow Medal as well as the Carji Greeves Medal. When Alistair won the Brownlow, there was much gossip that he had polled extra votes because the

umpires could not tell he and brother Stewart apart! At the age of 26, Alistair retired from football and returned to the family farm at Cobden. Alistair only played for 7 years for Geelong, accumulating 122 games.



### **Paul Couch (1989)**

Paul Couch was born July 19, 1964 at Warrnambool. He first tried out at Fitzroy but was told he was too slow. Geelong recruited him for the 1985 season where he made his debut in Round 5 1985. Although never blessed with speed, he knew how to read the play, make position, and use quick hands, despite 12 knee-injury ridden years. Playing in the centre, between 1989-1995 he was part of the engine-room that placed Geelong in the running for the premiership cup, although none were won. Couch was rewarded for his ability by winning the 1989 Brownlow Medal. He also won the Carji Greeves Medal in 1986, 1989, and 1995. He retired in 1997 after playing 259 games for Geelong.

### **James (Jimmy) Bartel (2007)**

James Bartell was born December 4, 1983 in Geelong, growing up in Herne Hill. After beginning his junior footy at Bell Park, he attended St. Josephs College, where his talents for sport were apparent. Jimmy excelled at both footy and cricket but chose to pursue the winter game, being selected to play for the Geelong Falcons in the 2000 TAC Cup. Drafted by Geelong in 2001 he made his debut in Round 1, 2002. While gaining physical strength and experience he played only 11 games that year, but soon developed into part of Geelong's awesome midfield engine room. In 2007 he won the Brownlow medal with 29 votes, the highest by any Geelong player up to that time. Three premierships later, Jimmy continues to amaze as part of Geelong's greatest team ever.



### **Gary Ablett Jr. (2009)**

Considered one of the greatest players of all time, 'Gazza' was born May 14, 1984 at Modewarre, just south of Geelong. During his early years, he used to accompany his father, Gary Ablett Snr, to the Geelong footy club where his Dad was a champion. Drafted in 2001, the same year as Bartel, he played 12 out of 22 games that year. Since 2007 Gary has won a Brownlow Medal (2009), two premierships with Geelong, two Carji Greeves medals, all-Australian selection every year (5 times so far), and AFLCA Champion Player of the Year three times. While announcing at the end of the 2010 season that he was moving to the Gold Coast Suns, he still remains a favourite with Geelong supporters.



# Rough Justice!

In the early days of Geelong, a criminal charge could lead to a hasty court appearance and very rough justice indeed. While many convicts resented their sentence of transportation to Australia, and were swiftly punished for further crimes, even free settlers could be dealt with harshly at times, in an effort to instil obedience to authorities and deter others from taking up a life of crime.

The editor of the Geelong Advertiser, Mr James Harrison, in his second edition of his local newspaper,\* went along to the court-house to see if the many complaints of rough justice were exaggerations from disgruntled offenders, or in fact true. He writes—

*“Little did we think that the FIRST TEN MINUTES would set the question at rest... Mr Fenwick was on the bench.*

*The overseer of Mr. Austin’s station appeared against one of his men, who had been apprehended on a warrant, charged with having absconded... When the trial came on, the plaintiff stated that the man did not abscond, and that he wished to charge him with ill-using a team of bullocks. When asked why he had charged the man with absconding, he replied “I did not understand it.” The magistrate... ordered the case to proceed.*

*The overseer then charged the prisoner with having abused a team of bullocks, by using the whip unnecessarily when yoking them, and with having poked out a bullock’s eye the week before. The magistrate then asked why the man was not then brought up. The overseer said that he was not on the station at the time, but was told of the circumstance by the groom, who was in attendance...*

*The prisoner’s defence was, that the bullocks were young, and he was the only man on the farm who could manage them; that the lash of his whip accidentally caught the bullock’s eye, but it could see as well as ever; he also complained that he had himself been struck and abused in consequence.*

*The magistrate replied, “I am not surprised at that, after what you have done. I find you guilty, and sentence you to pay a fine of three pounds,<sup>#</sup> or be confined in goal for three months.”*

Mr. Harrison continued in his editorial to list the injustices against the farm

\*Geelong Advertiser. Saturday November 28, 1840 page 2.

<sup>#</sup> In 1840 three pounds was the equivalent of about 15 weeks work for a farm labourer.

hand—the overseer had provided the court with a false affidavit, but was not even reprimanded by the court for this false accusation; the farm hand had been arrested and spent time overnight in jail unjustly; he was put on trial for a different charge without the opportunity to obtain defence council or time to gather witnesses; he himself had been assaulted by the overseer; the overseer’s testimony was believed, even though he had just perjured himself by supplying the court with a false affidavit, and was not an eye witness to the allegations against the farm-hand, having only heard the claims from others.

Harrison concludes in his editorial: *“Englishmen and Australians! We will not insult you by attempting to rouse your indignation—your hatred—at this most unparalleled perversion of the most sacred maxims of British justice. Already they must have risen spontaneously in the breast of every right-minded man... What will English emigrants and Colonial labourers think of the free and unblemished colony of Geelong, where the whip may be used for men but not for bullocks? where their masters may send them to prison for absconding, although never an inch off the farm; and then get them sent to goal on any trumped-up tale ten days old.”*



**The police lockup located in South Geelong on the south-west corner of Yarra Street and Balliang Street where, in 1840 the young farm-hand would have been jailed.**

This was just one example of the stiff penalties meted out to early transgressors of the law. Many squatters and freed convicts tasted months or even years of jail time, or more commonly, hard labour on the roads, for trivial offences against the colonial government. For the next five years while Nicholas Fenwick remained magistrate at the courthouse in Geelong, James Harrison continued to rile him in the pages of the *Geelong Advertiser*, for his heavy-handed sense of justice, especially towards the working classes.

Today, many may feel that justice has swung in the opposite direction, with serious criminals going unpunished, or at most, receiving a slap on the wrist. While it may be true that each one of us has an in-built strong sense of justice, human history has never appeared to be able to apply it in a way that balances mercy for repentant offenders, with a measure of closure for the victims of crime.

# The Grey-Headed Flying Fox

Contrary to what the name suggests, the grey-headed flying fox is not a fox, but a native Australian bat.

The species shares the continent with three other members of the genus *Pteropus*: the little red flying fox, the spectacled flying fox and the black flying fox.

The grey-headed flying fox is widespread in the south-eastern forested areas of Australia, mainly east of the Great Dividing Range. Its range extends approximately from Bundaberg in Queensland, to here in Geelong, where they can startle residents who witness a dark shadow flying around at dusk or during the night.

## Physical characteristics

The grey-headed flying fox is the largest bat in Australia. It has a dark grey body with a light grey head and a reddish brown neck collar of fur. It is unique among bats in that fur on the legs extends all the way to the ankle. Adults have an average wingspan of one metre and can weigh up to one kilogram. It is tailless, with claws on its first and second digits.

Since the grey-headed flying fox does not echolocate,\* it relies on sight to find its food, and thus they have large eyes compared with other bats. For a mammal of its size, they have a long lifespan, with individuals known to live for up to 22 years in captivity and up to 15 years in the wild.



## Habitat and travel movements

Grey-headed flying foxes can be found in a variety of habitats, including rainforests, woodlands and swamps. During the day the flying foxes reside in large colonies consisting of hundreds, to tens of thousands of individuals. Colonies are even formed in seemingly random locations, including residential areas.

Movement of grey-headed flying fox colonies are influenced by one main factor—the availability of food. Entire populations can relocate in response to their favourite plants coming into blossom at different times of the year. It is not understood how they know where to go to find large sources of food, nor how they know how to use the wind to take them in the right direction. Using wind-assisted

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\*Many bats use echolocation, a form of biological sonar using sound waves, to detect objects even in complete darkness.

flight, they are able to travel long distances, while conserving energy.

### **Diet and foraging for food**

At dusk, grey-headed flying foxes leave the roost and travel up to 50 kilometres each night to feed on pollen, nectar and fruit. The species can consume fruit, flowers and pollens from around 187 plant species. These include eucalyptus and a wide range of rainforest trees, including the Common Fig. While feeding, flying foxes fulfil a very important ecological role by dispersing the pollen and seeds of a wide range of native Australian plants.

### **Conservation and Threats**

The grey-headed flying fox is now a prominent federal conservation problem in Australia. Early in the last century the species was so abundant, with numbers estimated in the many millions, that it was considered by many farmers to be a serious pest. In recent years numbers have declined. Current estimates for the species are about 300,000.

Grey-headed flying foxes are exposed to a number of threats, including loss of foraging and roosting habitat, competition with the black flying fox and mass die-offs caused by extreme temperatures experienced throughout Australia in recent years. Recent research has shown that since 1994, over 24,500 grey-headed flying foxes have died from extreme heat weather. These die-offs are of increasing concern for the survival of the species, now that the climate is predicted to experience significant increases in the intensity, duration and frequency of temperature extremes.



In addition, when present around human activities, grey-headed flying foxes are sometimes perceived as a nuisance, and become targeted, although evidence suggests they only feed off orchards when native food supplies dwindle.

Negative public perception of the species has recently intensified with the discovery of three zoonotic viruses (transmitted from animals to humans) that are potentially fatal to humans: the Hendra virus, Australian bat lyssavirus and Menangle virus. However, only Australian bat lyssavirus is known from isolated cases to be directly transmissible from bats to humans.

In response to the growing threats, in 1999 the species was classified as “vulnerable to extinction” and has since been protected under Australian federal law.

# Indented Head - Part 7

## Victoria's First Permanent Settlement

*(Continued from the May issue of the Jillong Pocket)*

When Governor Richard Bourke visited Indented Head in 1837, he was entertained at the homestead of Alexander Thomson, on the banks of the Barwon River. Just prior to the Governor's arrival, Caroline Newcomb had joined the Thomson household as a servant. Originally, Newcomb had arrived in Port Phillip Bay as the governess for John Batman's children. However, when Batman's family broke up, she was left without a job. She then travelled to Indented Head to secure work with Alexander Thomson, with whom she had become acquainted during the short time he had served as the colony doctor at Williamstown. She was 24 years old. For the next three years she served as governess for Alexander Thomson's daughter, Jane.

In May 1840 another woman, Anne Drysdale came to stay with the Thomson household. Anne came from an educated, well-to-do family in Scotland. Although Anne was 20 years older than Caroline, the two soon became firm friends, and decided to try their hands at farming together. With help from Thomson they selected 10,000 acres of land a further three kilometres down river from *Kardinia*, the Thomson property, and named their new farm, *Boronggoop*. The two focussed on raising sheep for their wool clip.

Not only were Anne and Caroline a generation apart in age, their personalities were also quite different. Anne was refined, calm, mature, and had an easy-going nature. She purchased a piano for the cottage, constructed a series of gravel paths around the home, just like the country manors back in Scotland, and regularly arranged for social activities with other squatters on Indented Head and in the new town of Geelong. In contrast, Caroline was raised with limited education. She was energetic, hard-working, but with a noted temper. Despite their differences Anne wrote:

*"Miss Newcomb, who is my partner, I hope for life, is the best & most clever person I have ever met with; there seems to be magic in her touch. Every thing she does is done so well & so quickly."*

Men throughout the community were not so impressed with the partnership, with some lamenting in their diaries that, in a community with so few women, what were the local bachelors supposed to do? The two women lived together as partners for the next 13 years. Sadly, in June 1852 Anne suffered a stroke which



**Anne Drysdale and Caroline Newcomb**  
—Geelong farming pioneers.



left her severely restricted in her movements. Caroline nursed her friend for the next 11 months until she died in May 1853.\*

One thing that kept the two as firm friends was their zealous religious convictions. Anne was raised Presbyterian, while Caroline was of Methodist background. Conversation with others regularly settled onto bible discussions, and church meetings were held in their home. After Anne died, Caroline married a Methodist minister, and she and her new husband founded the first Methodist church in the town of Drysdale, named after her loyal friend Anne.

During their 13 year partnership, the two women played a prominent role in early farming activity around Geelong. After establishing their first property at *Boronggoop*, on July 18, 1843 they purchased their second estate at *Coryule*, (near Drysdale today). There, in 1849, they had constructed one of the finest homes to be built on the Bellarine Peninsula, still standing today as a legacy to these two outstanding women.

Not only were Anne and Caroline involved with farming but were also closely involved in organising community improvements. While Geelong established a town council to oversee tax spending on community projects, the Bellarine Peninsula had no such representation. Eventually a group of local farmers around Drysdale and Portarlington met together to try to solve one of the most difficult issues confronting them at the time—a lack of decent roads. We will discuss the role of the Indented Head Road Board in a future issue of *Jillong Pocket*, but suffice to say that the main driving force behind this establishment was Caroline Newcomb. This was particularly noteworthy for the time, when women were not permitted to vote, and having a woman in a position of authority was frowned upon.

Eventually, their initial cottage at *Boronggoop*, located between the current St Albans homestead and the Barwon River, along with their property extending as far as Point Henry, was confiscated by the government, at a time when squatters were being forced to pay for their land. However, by then *Coryule* was well established. By 1844 their flock of 800 sheep had risen to over 6,000 under the hard work of Caroline, and the steady, mature direction of Anne. No other early settlers around Geelong became as well known as these two pioneer farmers.

While farms started to dot the entire Bellarine Peninsula, the township gazetted by Governor Bourke, and named Geelong, needed to be formally laid out and settled. Next month the story continues...

(story with help from Ian Wynd's book *Balla-wein*)

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*\*Living today in a climate of free sexual expression, many may assume that the two women lived as lesbians, however, they would be wrong. The very strict religious background of both women forbade any form of homosexual activity. The practise was also forbidden by English law. There is no indication in any record that their relationship was viewed as anything more than business partners and a fast friendship.*

# Queen Elizabeth 2

Her Majesty the Queen was born on April 21, 1926 in London, the first child of Prince Albert, The Duke of York, and his wife, Lady Elizabeth.

Third in line to the throne, it seemed unlikely that Princess Elizabeth would become Queen. However, shortly after the death of George V, her uncle Edward VIII dramatically abdicated so he could marry Wallis Simpson, an American divorcee. Princess Elizabeth's father then became King George VI and she became heir to the throne.



Princess Elizabeth and her younger sister Princess Margaret were educated at home. During the Blitz in 1940, they were moved to Windsor Castle and stayed there for most of the Second World War. In 1945, Princess Elizabeth joined the war effort, training as a driver in the Women's Auxiliary Territorial Service.

In November 1947, she married a distant cousin, Philip Mountbatten, who was then titled Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. The wedding, which took place during the austere post-War years, was described by Winston Churchill as a "flash of colour."

The couple have four children. Prince Charles, the Prince of Wales, is the eldest and next in line to throne. Both he and Princess Anne, the Princess Royal were born before their mother became Queen. Prince Andrew, the Duke of York and Prince Edward, the Earl of Wessex are the only two children to be born to a reigning monarch since Queen Victoria.

**In preparation for her marriage to Phillip in 1947, the Princess used ration coupons to buy the material for her dress.**

George VI died on February 6, 1952 while Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip were touring Kenya. She returned home immediately and acceded to the throne. However, it was 16 months later, after months of preparation, that Queen Elizabeth II was crowned at Westminster Abbey on June 2, 1953. For the first time, the ceremony and the huge public celebrations were broadcast by TV across the UK, the Commonwealth and the rest of the world.

On her accession, the Queen immediately began her political duties which included opening Parliament and receiving her prime ministers. Throughout the 1950s, the Queen and Prince Philip extensively toured the UK and the Commonwealth. During the 1960s, the Queen made historic visits to West Berlin at the height of the Cold War, and welcomed Emperor Hirohito of Japan on a state visit to Britain. Against a backdrop of political and social unrest, she

celebrated her Silver Jubilee in 1977. It was a huge success and tens of thousands of street parties were thrown by the public across the country.

Five years later, the UK was at war over the Falkland Islands during which Prince Andrew served with the Royal Navy as a helicopter pilot. The 1980s also saw the birth of her first grandchildren, Peter and Zara Phillips, to her daughter Anne.

Disaster struck in 1992 when a devastating fire broke out in Windsor Castle. The same year the respective marriages of Prince Charles, Prince Andrew and Princess Anne disintegrated. The Queen deemed 1992 her 'annus horribilis'. Further tragedy was to follow in 1997, when Diana, Princess of Wales was killed in a car accident, and 2002 was another year of personal sadness for the Queen, as both her sister Princess Margaret and the Queen Mother died, casting a shadow over the Golden Jubilee celebrations a few months later.

Over the last 60 years, during a period of great change in Britain, the Queen has successfully carried her political duties as head of state, her role as head of the Commonwealth, Supreme Leader of the Church of England, the ceremonial responsibilities of the sovereign, and a large annual programme of visits in the UK as well as many foreign tours, even introducing the 'walkabout' to British royalty—the meeting and greeting of large numbers of the public.

The Queen also introduced numerous reforms to the monarchy. In 1992, she offered to start paying income and capital gains tax. She opened her official residences to the public - including Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle, in order to finance



**With Prince Phillip on her coronation in 1953.**

their maintenance. She supported ending the rule of male primogeniture, which now means the eldest child can succeed to the throne, regardless of gender. She also supported lifting the ban on anyone in the line of succession marrying a Catholic.

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012 was marked by celebrations across the country. While many prefer Australia to be governed by Australians (Republicans), they still admire Australia's and Britain's 87-year-old monarch, for her dignity, honour, and support of customs and cultures throughout the world.



**Queen Elizabeth is well known for her love of corgis.**

# Planets

## Saturn

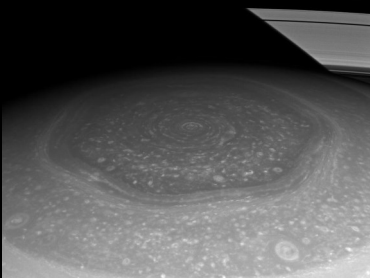
Saturn is the sixth planet from the sun, and the second largest planet in the solar system. It is named after the Roman god of agriculture.



The planet's distance from the sun is about 1.4 billion kilometres, compared to Earth's 150 million kilometres. The planet orbits the sun at a speed of 9.7 kilometres each second, equivalent to nearly 35,000 km/h. Yet it still takes Saturn 29.5 Earth years to complete one orbit of the sun. The planet spins in its axis much more quickly than Earth, completing one rotation every 10.5 hours, causing the equator to bulge and the poles to become flattened. The gravity on the planet is 1.07 the same as earth, so a kilogram of butter on Earth would weigh just over one kilo on Saturn.

Saturn is a gas giant made up mostly of hydrogen and helium. Although it is big enough to hold more than 760 Earths inside, because it is made up mostly of gases it has only 95 times Earth's mass. In fact, Saturn has the lowest density of all the planets, and is the only one less dense than water. In other words, if there were a bathtub big enough to hold it, Saturn would float on top!

The surface of the planet is not solid but made up of gases, mainly hydrogen (96%). The white, brown, and pink bands on the surface are formed by super-fast winds of up to 1,800 kilometres an hour. The winds are formed by the rapid spinning of the planet.



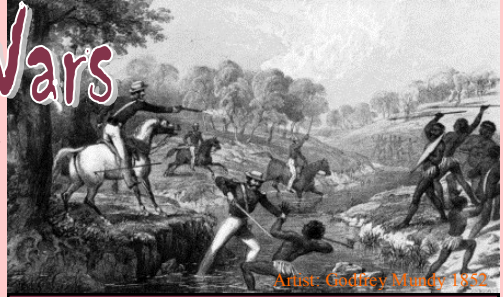
While passing over Saturn's north pole the spacecraft Voyager photographed an hexagonal shape in the clouds. No-one knows what causes this strange phenomenon.

Saturn is the farthest planet that can be seen with the naked eye on Earth, and with even an elementary telescope its most notable features, the rings become visible. Saturn's rings look solid, but they are made of particles, mostly dirty ice, from small grains to big boulders. The largest ring discovered so far spans up to 200 times the diameter of the planet.

Saturn has 62 moons that orbit the planet, but only 13 of them are bigger than 50km in diameter. The largest, named Titan, is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times the size of our own moon.

# The Frontier Wars

From May 1788, only four months after the first fleet arrive at Sydney Harbour, until as late as 1939, European settlers continued to clash with various aboriginal groups across Australia, in what have been called the *Frontier Wars*. At least 20,000 aborigines died as a direct result of attack from white settlers and government troops. Violent deaths of Europeans and their associates, on the other hand, have been estimated at about 2,000.



Artist: Godfrey Mundy 1852

**Mounted police fire on armed aborigines during the Slaughterhouse Creek Massacre of 1838**

The armed skirmishes and conflicts were not all perpetrated by Europeans against blacks as the number of deaths may suggest, but, rather, a result of both sides aggressively pursuing their own interests, without consideration or understanding of the other side. For example, white settlers believed that aborigines did not own the land because it was not fenced, cultivated, and no documentation of ownership existed. The various tribes appeared to wander aimlessly in search of easy food. They also concluded that the small-statured, black-skinned people were “sub-human,” or as one Tasmanian settler wrote: *“Of that unhappy race it may truly be remarked that their moral and intellectual energies were of the most inferior order.”* Reports of abuse, and receiving less pay for work performed by blacks were common.

On the other hand, Australia’s oldest residents were happy to accept any handouts and gifts given to them, but then would think little of stealing whatever they could get away with—food, tools, weapons, and livestock. They continually coveted the ‘white mans’ goods while resenting his encroachment upon the land. In most tribes the hard labour was performed by women, leaving hunting to the men. However, it was easier for them to steal a few sheep, or dig up a vegetable crop planted by squatters than chase down a kangaroo; and then return to lazing about camp. Therefore, it was only a matter of time before hostilities erupted between the two groups.

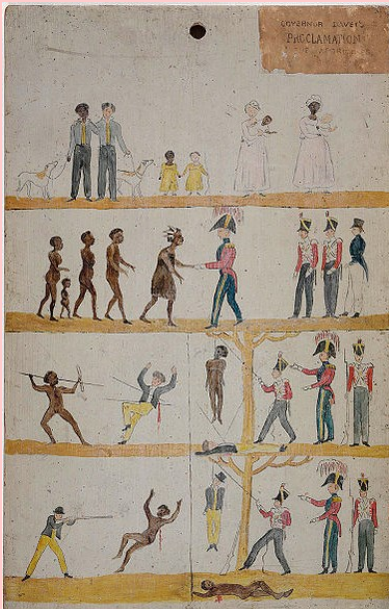
When British ships arrived in January 1788, the policy of Governor Arthur Phillip was one of fairness and tolerance toward the local black tribes. However, his patient disposition was not shared by all the convicts and free settlers who came with him. Initial suspicion on the part of the blacks was quelled with gifts and an earnest effort to communicate their intentions. However, the local indigenous people became angry when the British began to restrict their movements while clearing land and catching fish, and in May 1788 five convicts were killed while an indigenous man was wounded in a spiteful clash. The British grew increasingly concerned when groups of up to three hundred indigenous people were sighted at the outskirts of the settlement in June. Despite this, Phillip continuously attempted to avoid conflict, and forbade reprisals, even after being speared in 1790. He did, however, authorise two

punitive expeditions in December 1790 after his huntsman was killed by an indigenous warrior named Pemulwuy, but neither was successful.

During the 1790s and early 19th century the British established small settlements all along the Eastern Australian coastline. These settlements initially occupied small amounts of land, and there was little conflict between the settlers and local aborigines. However, fighting soon broke out when the settlements expanded, disrupting traditional indigenous food-gathering activities, and subsequently followed the pattern of European settlement in Australia for the next 150 years.

When Van Diemen's Land was settled at Hobart Town in 1804 Lieutenant-Governor David Collins, who had much experience with aboriginal hostility back in Sydney, maintained a policy of trying to avoid contact with the local Tasmanian aborigines. This policy was impossible to police, and soon atrocities were being committed on both sides. When Thomas Davey was appointed Governor of Van Diemen's Land in 1813, he endeavoured to bring justice to the colony, punishing whites and blacks equally for violent crimes. However, his actions failed to quell the attacks, which escalated into the 'Black Wars' of the 1820's. Vigilante groups of white settlers organised raiding parties that attacked aboriginal camps at night time, a tactic that caused much confusion among the blacks, limiting their ability to flee unscathed. The blacks responded with their own raids, expertly sneaking up on unsuspecting shepherds, farmers or lone travellers. These regular attacks brought much fear to all the inhabitants of the island. As a result, in 1830 the decision was made by British authorities to rid the entire island of aborigines, and by 1833 only 17 natives remained on the island, the rest either killed or transported to Flinders Island.\*

Meanwhile, on the mainland skirmishes continued. On occasions large groups of



aboriginals attacked Europeans in open terrain and a conventional battle ensued, during which they would attempt to use superior numbers to their advantage. Usually, such open warfare proved more costly for the blacks than the Europeans. Central to the success of the Europeans was the use of firearms, however the advantages this afforded have often been over-

*\*See the article on George Robinson in the April 2012 issue of the Jillong Pocket to learn how this was achieved.*

This poster was designed by Surveyor-General George Frankland. The top images represent whites and blacks living harmoniously together, and the British authorities welcoming visits from aboriginal families.

The lower images were designed to reassure both blacks and white settlers that the government would punish both groups equally, should acts of violence be carried out. Thomas Davey, Governor of Van Diemen's Land, and his men reproduced the image and nailed it to trees.

stated. Prior to the 19th century, firearms were often cumbersome muzzle-loading, smooth-bore, single shot weapons with flint-lock mechanisms. Such weapons produced a low rate of fire, whilst suffering from a high rate of failure. In addition, they were only accurate within 50 metres. These deficiencies may have at times given the Aborigines some advantages, allowing them to move in close and engage with spears or war clubs.

However by 1850 significant advances in firearm technology gave the Europeans a distinct advantage, with the six-shot Colt revolver, the Snider single shot breech-loading rifle and later the Martini-Henry rifle as well as rapid-fire rifles such as the Winchester, becoming readily available. These weapons, when used on open ground and combined with the superior mobility provided by horses gave the black tribes little hope of victory. Despite the imbalance, attacks from both sides continued, not as a single conventional war, but rather a series of violent engagements and massacres that spread right across the continent.

The Caledon Bay crisis (near Arnhem Land in the Northern Territory) of 1932-4 saw one of the last incidents of violent interaction when the spearing of Japanese poachers who had been molesting tribal women was followed by the killing of a policeman. As the crisis unfolded, national opinion swung behind the aboriginal people involved, and the first appeal on behalf of an indigenous Australian to the High Court of Australia was launched. Elsewhere around this time, activists like Sir Douglas Nicholls were commencing their campaigns for aboriginal rights within the established Australian political system, and the age of frontier conflict came to a close.

Hostilities between whites and blacks were not always the norm. Positive accounts between the two groups are also recorded in the journals of early European explorers, who often relied on aboriginal guides and assistance: Charles Sturt employed aboriginal envoys to explore the Murray-Darling; the lone survivor of the Burke and Wills expedition, John King, was nursed by local aborigines; and the famous aboriginal explorer Jackey Jackey loyally accompanied Kennedy to Cape York.

While greater efforts are now being made to reject prejudice and treat all inhabitants across Australia with equal rights, we must not forget the sad early chapters in our history when men of different colour and culture refused to understand and accept each other with consideration and tolerance.

### **The Decimation of the Aboriginal Tribes**

Far more devastating than violent battles on the aboriginal population was the effects of disease. There are indications that small-pox epidemics reduced the size of some aboriginal tribes in what is now Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland by up to 50% or more, even before squatters and their livestock moved inland from Sydney. Then other diseases unknown to the indigenous population, such as the common cold, flu, measles, venereal diseases and tuberculosis played their role in reducing numbers and tribal cohesion even further.

The dramatic fall in aboriginal numbers was followed by loss of hunting grounds, starvation and general despair, loss of pride, and alcoholism—a sad record of prejudice and human mistreatment.



# Yarra Bend Asylum

“Going round the bend” took on a literal meaning for the mentally ill 165 years ago with the establishment of the Yarra Bend Asylum as the first permanent institution in Victoria that was

The Yarra Bend Asylum can be seen on the left bank of the Yarra River in this photograph, with the cemetery in the foreground. Kew Asylum can be seen in the background on the horizon.

devoted to the treatment of the mentally ill. It opened in 1848 as an extension of the asylum at Turban Creek in NSW. It was not officially called Yarra Bend Asylum until July 1851, when the Port Phillip District separated from the colony of New South Wales. Prior to the establishment of Yarra Bend, lunatic patients (see box: Mental Retardation Defined) had to be kept in jails throughout the district, a terrible existence, being cared for by convicted criminals and jail wardens.

From its establishment until 1905 the institution at Yarra Bend was known as an asylum, emphasizing its function as a place of detention rather than a facility where people could be cured. However, the term asylum came to have a negative stigma that offended not only patients but embarrassed family members as well. Thus, from 1905 the term hospital was used to replace the word asylum, even though the function of the facility remained unchanged.

## Mental Retardation Defined

A **Lunatic** was someone considered mentally insane. The term derives from the word *lunar*, referring to the Moon. From the middle ages the different phases of the moon were thought to influence a person's state of mind. In general, **Mental retardation** has historically been defined as a person having an Intelligence Quotient (IQ) score under 70. An average score (68% of the population are in this bracket) for the test is between 85-114. Depending on the patient's score, they were classified as follows:

70-51 A **Moron**. From the Greek word *moros*, meaning foolish.

50-26 An **Imbecile**. From the Latin word *imbecillus*, meaning weak-minded.

25-0 An **Idiot**. From the Greek word *idiotes*, meaning a private person.

This system of defining retardation is now redundant and no longer used in the mental health profession.



The Government of Victoria originally intended for Yarra Bend to be closed once Ararat (1865), Beechworth (1867), and Kew (1871) asylums were established. However, the gold rush caused a population explosion in the colony, increasing the burden on the new asylums. This was compounded by the practise of housing inebriates (alcoholics), idiots and imbeciles in with the lunatics at asylums up until the 1880's. One of the main causes for mental illness at that time was the sexually transmitted disease syphilis, which wreaked havoc on the growing Victorian population.

Situated near the junction of Merri Creek and the Yarra River, overcrowding and primitive living conditions remained a problem. The overcrowding was relieved to some extent when new asylums were opened at Sunbury (1879), and later, Mont Park in 1912 (now the La Trobe University site). Despite falling into disrepair, the Yarra Bend Asylum continued to operate until new admission's eventually ceased in 1924 and the institution was finally closed in 1925. All the remaining patients were transferred to the Mont Park Asylum.

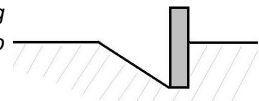
In 1926 many of the wooden buildings were demolished, leaving only the Ha Ha wall\*, gateway and infirmary building. The infirmary building became part of the Fairhaven Venereal Diseases Clinic. After Fairhaven's closure the gates, wall and infirmary were incorporated into Fairlea Women's Prison which was built on the site. When the prison was severely damaged by fire in 1982, the asylum structures were demolished. The only remaining structure visible is one of the 1860 gate pillars which was relocated to the opposite side of Yarra Bend road.

Inmates who died at Yarra Bend Asylum were usually interred in unmarked, common graves within the asylum grounds. Families who wished their relative to be buried in a single grave were required to pay an extra fee. It has been suggested that as many as 1,200 former inmates were interred, in up to 400 graves. The golfers who now play the course laid out on the original cemetery site would little suspect the suffering and sadness experienced by those whose bodies lay under their feet.



**A pillar from the gates of Yarra Bend Asylum. It is the last remaining structure of the asylum and is situated on the west side of Yarra Bend Road, just north of the Eastern Freeway cutting.**

*\*A **ha-ha** is a feature used in landscape garden design to keep grazing livestock out of a garden while providing an uninterrupted view from within. The feature consists of a turfed ditch, one side of which is sloping and the other vertical and faced with stone or brick. The name "ha-ha" was given to the feature because, when walking towards it from the garden, it would only become apparent to the observer when in close proximity to it.*





# Mickey Rooney

Mickey Rooney was born Joseph Yule Jr. on September 23, 1920 in Brooklyn, New York. His father, Joseph Yule Sr. was Scottish, while his mother, Nell, was from Kansas City, Missouri. Both his parents were in vaudeville, so it was no surprise to see Joe Jr. performing at the age of 17 months as part of his parents' routine, wearing a specially tailored tuxedo.

His father, however, was a womanizer and heavy drinker, who abandoned his family when Joe Jr. was only three. In 1925, Nell Yule moved with her son to Hollywood, California, where she managed a tourist home. There she saw a newspaper ad for a dark-haired child to play the role of "Mickey McGuire" in a series of short films. Lacking money to dye her son's hair, Mrs. Yule took her son to the audition after applying burnt cork to his scalp. Joe got the role and became "Mickey" for 78 of the comedies, running from 1927-1936.

In addition to working as Mickey McGuire, Joe Jr. was getting bit parts in films, working with other established film stars such as Joel McCrea, Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. and Jean Harlow. To supplement his acting income he sold newspapers on a street corner, saving up to enroll in Hollywood Professional School, where he attended with others including Judy Garland and Lana Turner. He later attended Hollywood High School, where he finally graduated in 1938.

Meanwhile, in 1933, the owners of the *Toonerville Trolley* cartoon strip, from which the name Mickey McGuire was taken, sued the film producers for breach of copyright. Trying to avoid having to pay penalties, Joe Yule legally changed his name to Mickey McGuire (if it was his legal name, the film producers did not owe the comic strip writers royalties), while his mother also changed her surname to McGuire. Despite this, the film producers lost the lawsuit, compelling the twelve-year-old actor to refrain from calling himself by the name Mickey McGuire on and off screen.

Nell McGuire (Yule) then suggested the stage name of Mickey Looney for her comedian son, which he altered slightly to Rooney, a less frivolous version. While Rooney acted in other films during his adolescence, including several more of the McGuire films, it was in 1937 that MGM cast Rooney as Andy Hardy, the teenage son of a judge in *A Family Affair*. The role changed his life, and made him a household name throughout the English-speaking world. Between 1937 and 1946 there were 13 more *Andy Hardy* films.

It was earlier in 1937 that Mickey made his first film alongside Judy Garland in *Thoroughbreds Don't Cry*. Garland and Rooney became close friends and a

successful song and dance team. Besides three of the Andy Hardy films, where she portrayed Betsy Booth, a younger girl with a crush on Andy, they appeared together in a string of successful musicals, including the Oscar-nominated *Babes in Arms* (1939).

Rooney's breakthrough role as a dramatic actor came in 1938, playing opposite Spencer Tracey in *Boys Town* which opened shortly before his 18th birthday. Rooney was awarded a special Juvenile Academy Award in 1939 and was named the biggest box-office draw in 1939, 1940 and 1941. Unquestionably a well-known entertainer by the early 1940s, his picture appeared on the cover of the March 18, 1940 issue of Time Magazine, one of the few show business personalities so honoured in that era.

In 1944, Rooney entered military service. He served for more than twenty-one months, until shortly after the end of World War II. During and after the war he helped entertain the troops in America and Europe, and spent time as a radio personality on the American Forces Network. In appreciation for his efforts he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for entertaining troops in combat zones.

After his return to civilian life, his career slumped. Being only 157cm (5'2") tall and stereotyped in the role of Andy Hardy, good acting parts became hard to find. Despite many appearances in other movies, and even his own television show, nothing came close to the fame he enjoyed before the war. Even his own acting school, the Mickey Rooney School of Entertainment failed. Finally, in 1962 he filed for bankruptcy.

Undeterred, Rooney kept acting, appearing in many bit parts for film and on television. Finally, in 1990 aged 70, he rose to stardom again in the immensely popular TV series, *The Adventures of the Black Stallion*. Now aged 92, he continues to work until the present day, his career now spanning 10 decades, dating back to the era of silent films. With over 200 films to his credit, he was awarded an Honorary Oscar for Lifetime Achievement.

Rooney has been married eight times. In the 1950s and 1960s, he was often the subject of comedians' jokes for his alleged inability to stay married. In 1966 stunning actress and fifth wife Barbara Ann Thomason, was murdered while in bed alongside her lover, Serbian actor Milos Milos, shot dead with Rooney's own gun. Mickey was filming in the Philippines at the time. The official verdict was murder/suicide. Since 1978 Mickey has been married to Jan Chamberlin. He has a total of nine children, and nineteen grandchildren along with several great-grandchildren.



# Cherry Meringue Dessert

In recent months we have featured nutritious soups, and tasty main meals. How about finishing off your meal with a mouth-watering, but easy-to-prepare dessert:

## INGREDIENTS:

- ◆ 1/2 cup caster sugar
- ◆ 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- ◆ 1 cinnamon stick
- ◆ 300g cherries, pitted, halved
- ◆ 300ml double cream
- ◆ 4 meringue nests, roughly crushed
- ◆ small fresh mint leaves, to serve

## METHOD:

Combine sugar and 1/2 cup warm water in a saucepan over low heat. Cook, stirring, until sugar is dissolved. Increase heat to medium. Simmer, without stirring, for 5 minutes, or until mixture thickens. Add vanilla, cinnamon and cherries. Increase heat to medium-high. Simmer for 1 minute. Remove from heat. Discard cinnamon. Allow to cool completely.

Combine cream and meringue in a bowl. Spoon half the cream mixture into four glasses. Top with half the cherry mixture. Garnish with mint leaves. Repeat with remaining cream mixture and cherry mixture. Serve.



## Word Search–Victorian Towns

R E E L A D S N R I A B D C A E O H G R  
 C B A I M S A D L E O B A N C E B E O E  
 E Y N L L D R Y T E N M N A A S E R I D  
 B E G E A A A L L R P A G S L L A H T L  
 E E L O C E I I B E E C H W O R T H A C  
 A B E E C H F O R E S T A N O A T R R D  
 U D S E C N U D A E R F G T B C A L O C  
 F S E O O O O C E O Y O O S M O E L O P  
 O C A Y I W C A A O M S M R I G S L I N  
 R B N C N R H S R L K G I L D I S E O R  
 T M R H C A S T L E M A I N E D R D D E  
 A E A I B B N E E I E P B B L N U T D T  
 R P M S G N I R P S N R U B P E H B L L  
 A A O I E H C T P A R A N R S B T F A I  
 L S O L L S T O E M K C I W S E R C A H  
 L E T Y L D R N A S C S N I R N A T R C  
 A M E L B O U R N E I K Y A E A T E A A  
 B T A N D S B R O A D F O R D L I O R B  
 B F O A C O V A A Y A E N O T L I M A H  
 M R T N C E A G Y L L E G E S A M M T A

**AIREYS INLET**

**ANGLESEA**

**APOLLO BAY**

**ARARAT**

**ARTHURS SEAT**

**AVOCA**

**BAIRNSDALE**

**BALLARAT**

**BARWON HEADS**

**BEAUFORT**

**BEECH FOREST**

**BEECHWORTH**

**BENALLA**

**BENDIGO**

**BRIGHT**

**BROADFORD**

**BUNINYONG**

**CAMPERDOWN**

**CASTLEMAINE**

**CHILTERN**

**COBRAM**

**COLAC**

**CRESWICK**

**DAYLESFORD**

**DIMBOOLA**

**ECHUCA**

**ELMORE**

**FALLS CREEK**

**GEELONG**

**HALLS GAP**

**HAMILTON**

**HEPBURN SPRINGS**

**MELBOURNE**

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## **Western Quoll/Chuditch**

The Western Quoll used to be found in over approximately 70% of mainland Australia, occurring in every state and territory. It is now only found in southern Western Australia.

The Western Quoll, roughly the size of a small domestic cat, is WA's largest native carnivore, a predator at the top of the native animal food chain. They are reddish-brown to grey in appearance, with distinctive white spots and a long tail with a black brush on the last half. On average females weigh 900g, while males weigh up to 1300g. They eat a variety of insects, reptiles, freshwater crustaceans, mammals, birds and fruits. They kill larger prey with a bite to the back of the head. They mainly hunt for food on the ground but will occasionally climb small trees to catch prey or escape from predators.

Interestingly Western Quolls obtain most of their water from their food. Western Quolls are typically active at night but can be active during the day, particularly during the breeding season. They use hollow logs or earth burrows as dens.

Western Quolls are solitary animals with a large home range of over seven kilometers. The range of a male quoll will often overlap with those of several female quolls. Interestingly they use shared toilets sites in open spaces such as rock ledges, as well as for marking their territory and other social functions. The Western Quoll can save energy by lowering their body temperature several degrees while sleeping in the daytime.

Numbers are affected by many factors including habitat alteration, bushfires, and disease. Clearing of land and removal of den logs has reduced the area that is suitable for Western Quolls to live in. Other factors contributing to the decline of the Western Quoll are: predation by, and competition for food with, foxes and feral cats; being hit by motor vehicles; illegal shooting, poisoning and trapping; accidental drowning in water tanks; and entanglement in barbed wire fencing.

To ensure the future survival of this species, there are plans to establish a breeding program and re-introduce the Western Quoll to areas previously inhabited, including the Flinders Ranges in South Australia.

## Geelong– 150 years ago this month

“The ploughing match at Bellerine yesterday was one of the most satisfactory and numerously attended agricultural reunions this district has witnessed for a length of time...

The weather was showery during the afternoon, but the rain that fell was not heavy enough to make the exposure to it of those present uncomfortable. The ground selected for the match was a large paddock, the property of Mr. McAndrew, within about a mile of the prettily-situated township of Drysdale, and was a piece of slightly undulating ground, rather wet in some places...

There were something like 180 persons present, chiefly the surrounding farmers... The entries were numerous, there being no less than twenty-seven horse and thirteen bullock teams, and the cattle and gear were generally very good, although some of the former were not exactly in prime condition. The work performed by the competitors was pronounced by the judges to be well done throughout, while they particularly noticed that done by the wheel ploughs as the best they had ever seen...

The champion cup was gained by Mr. T. Clinnock, of the Barrabool Hills, after the judges had had their skill tested to its utmost to come to a decision... After the match, between fifty and sixty gentlemen sat down to an excellent dinner.”

*(The Argus June 12, 1863 p.6)*



Ploughing in Victoria c.1920

About this brochure:

This brochure has been produced as a community service by participants in the Work For The Dole scheme at Workskil- Corio branch office. This is part of a Job Services Australia initiative.

All comments and views expressed in this publication are the opinions of the participants in the scheme and not necessarily the views of Workskil or Job Services Australia.

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The Jillong Pocket is available online.  
Go to [www.workskil.com.au](http://www.workskil.com.au) and select  
the “Community Programs” tab.



Then c. 1963



Courtesy: Geelong Heritage Centre

### Cunningham Pier & Geelong's Waterfront

Cargo ships at berth and storage sheds full of trade items (usually wool) brought in by train made Cunningham Pier a busy place only 60 years ago. Today, a function centre, coffee shops and car parking cover the pier. Tourists walk along the disused railway tracks to enjoy the vista of Corio Bay from the end. On land, the wool stores form part of the Deakin University Waterfront Campus, while the Geelong A Power Generating Station has been demolished to make way for the expansion of the Westfield Shopping Centre. Waterfront apartments— all with magnificent views have started to take over the skyline from the original government buildings.

& Now

