



wendish news

WENDISH HERITAGE SOCIETY AUSTRALIA

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The Courthouse Museum Dimboola.

Visit to Dimboola

“... Merv Wundersitz of the Dimboola and District Historical Society gave a talk on German settlement in the district...”

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Calendar of events

The 1854 Ships: MALVINA VIDAL and STEINWARDER 150th Anniversary Celebration Dinner

On Saturday 9th October 2004, members of the Society and descendants of the passengers of these two ships will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the arrival of their ancestors to Australia in 1854.

The dinner will be held at the Doncaster Lutheran Hall, 53 Victoria St., Doncaster, starting with pre-dinner drinks at 6 pm, followed by dinner at 7 pm. BYO wine. The speaker will be Robert Wuchatsch, who will give a talk on the voyage of the MALVINA VIDAL and the problems faced by the passengers. Our files on passengers will be available for inspection. [The MALVINA VIDAL passengers were listed in our Newsletter No. 29, August 2002. The STEINWARDER passengers were listed in our Newsletter No. 31, August 2003.]

We have in our files a report by a passenger called "Goldonkel Koch" on the 1854 trip of the Malvina Vidal. He records the deaths of passengers as well as the lack of food and good drinking water. After arrival at Melbourne on 10 October 1854, the pas-

sengers took the captain and owners to court and won some compensation. In 1854, Melbourne "was still very small, the buildings were mostly of timber, corrugated iron and canvas construction and the streets were not paved".

Further details about the problems on this ship have been obtained from the Hamburg Archives by our speaker, Robert Wuchatsch.

Please RSVP by 15th Sept. 2004. The cost is \$25 per person and a Reply Form was enclosed in our March Newsletter. The booking secretary is Glad Koch Tel (03) 9432 3113

German Heritage Festival and Christkindl Market, 20 Nov. 2004

This event will be held on Saturday 20 November, from 11am – 4pm at Westgarthtown Reserve, Gardenia Rd, Thomastown (Melway Map 8 H5)

Cost: \$2 entry, with gold coin donation to enter Ziebell Farmhouse (displays) and Thomastown Lutheran Church (organ recital). There will be traditional food and drink stalls, and musical entertainment. A special feature will be a Christkindlmarket, a traditional market selling Christmas gifts.



Church at Werben, original residence of some Malvina Vidal passengers



Visit to Bundoora Park's Heritage Village, March 2005.

Our annual March tour in 2005 will cover areas of Germanic and Wendish settlement in northern Melbourne, including Northcote & Westgarthtown.

Saturday 12 March

We invite you to come to this Heritage Village including Cooper's Settlement in historic Bundoora Park. (*Melway Map 19, F4*). This Park with its farm, wildlife and heritage displays caters well for families (including children) who enjoy the outdoors, picnics, Australia's heritage and family history. Attractions in the Heritage Village include displays of spinning and weaving, printing, working as a blacksmith and displays of early Germanic and Wendish settlers' activities, including the Zwar descendant who was called the "King of Preston".

At 12 noon, we will meet at the **Visitor's Centre** to receive group discounted entry of \$4.50 each. If you plan to be late, please phone Gladys, (03) 9432 3113, to have your name added to our group list. Then make your way to the BBQs near the Ibis Room for our BYO barbecue or picnic lunch. Café food is also available. On the way, inspect the Community Garden and cuddly animals.

At 1.30 pm. we will meet in the **Ibis Room** to enjoy tea or coffee (provided) and hear guest speakers Robert Wuchatsch and a Northcote/Preston local historian on the settlement of Germans and Wends in northern Melbourne. These include the farming settlement at Northcote, with its interesting cemetery in Separation Street and its stories of may-pole dancing, the Westgarthtown farming settlement, with its church cemetery and old bluestone homes still in use and Northcote Preston businesses set up by Germans and Wends.

At 3.30 pm, we can have a tractor ride through the wild life park or a walk through the Heritage Settlement Village with hands on pioneering skill demonstrations mentioned above, pony rides, a flying fox, cow milking and general farm experiences. The activities are also available for families all day.

At 6.30 pm, we will meet for a traditional german dinner, music and dancing at the **AUSTRIAN CLUB**, 76-90 Sheehan Road, Heidelberg West. (*Melway Map 19 F9*)

Please book beforehand with Glenys on (03) 9891 6652 or Gladys (03) 9432 3113 and also ring them for any enquiries.

Sunday 13 March

We will visit heritage sites in northern Melbourne. At 9.30 am we will meet at Ziebell's Cottage in Gardenia Street, Westgarthtown/Lalor (*Melway Map 8 H5*) for refreshment and inspection of the heritage displays. Between 10 and 11am, we will be able to visit the cemetery and have a car tour of some of the homesteads of the early 19th century settlers, including the Graf, Maltzahn, Siebel, and Wuchatsch families. Robert Wuchatsch still lives on the family's original farm.

At 11.15am, a Lutheran Worship Service will be held in the historic church, a very solid bluestone building which is one of the oldest continuously used Lutheran Church in Australia. After this service, we will meet at 12.30 pm for our Community Lunch at Ziebell's Cottage. Please bring some finger food to share.

Our afternoon program from 1.30 - 4pm includes the inspection of some former germanic and wendish heritage sites, factories, businesses and farms in the Preston and Northcote area and a visit to the recently renovated Northcote cemetery, (*Melway Map 30 G8*) which features the ancestors of families such as Gursansky and Tillack.

We look forward to seeing you and your families at this fun weekend.

Pleasant Sunday Afternoon, Sunday 3 April, 2005.

Our next Pleasant Sunday Afternoon will be held on 3 April.

We will meet from 12 noon at the Ivanhoe Lutheran Church, 27 Livingstone Street, Ivanhoe for a Community Lunch with tea and coffee provided. Please bring along a plate of finger food.

At 1.30 pm we will hold a very brief Annual General Meeting, at which printed reports will be available for inspection and election of office-bearers conducted. We will report that we now have a computer which has many useful birth, marriage and death records, lists of names, photographs of headstones and other useful genealogical information.

After this meeting at about 2pm, we will listen to some traditional germanic and wendish folk-songs and then hear our South Australian guest speaker Geoff Saegenschnitter talk about his visit this year to the Wends in Texas. He will illustrate this with some extracts from his video recordings. The Texas Wends are a very active group and we look forwards to hearing all about them and their activities.

Geoff also informs us that he is the Chairman on the Nain Lutheran congregation, which worships in a building almost as old as the Thomastown church.



Past events

March Tour to Dimboola, Antwerp and Rainbow / Pella

An enjoyable tour of the Germanic and Wendish settlement sites at Dimboola and Rainbow was held on the Labour Day weekend in March 2004.

The tour included the Court House Museum and Archives at Dimboola, the Ebenezer Aboriginal Mission Station [1859] at Antwerp, Rainbow's St Stephens Lutheran Church, Yurunga homestead, and the Pella church, school and manse. Stasinowsky's limestone kiln and the mysterious two-roomed building to the north (referred to in previous Newsletters as the "Pella Puzzle") were also visited.

On Saturday, Merv Wundersitz of the Dimboola and District Historical Society gave a talk on German settlement in the district. Early German settlers had moved from S.A. to the Western District in the 1850s. Some were involved in carting stores to the pastoral stations and to the Ebenezer Mission at Antwerp and in doing so became aware of the quality of the Wimmera soils. They took up land, cleared it, and set about building their homes and churches. Early churches were built at Kornheim [1874], east of Dimboola, and at Wail, Katyl and Arkona.

Dale Conway, President of the Dimboola & District Historical Society, gave a talk on the Ebenezer Aboriginal Mission Station, which was established in 1859 by missionaries of the Moravian Brethren, a protestant community. The mission was established to "civilise and Christianise" the Aborigines. The first two missionaries were Hagenauer and Spieseke, who taught the Aborigines in English but also learnt the Aboriginal language.

The Aborigines on the station helped build the stone and wood mission buildings, did farmwork, and grew an extensive vegetable garden. The mission was closed in 1904, after operating successfully for 49 years. The last missionary, Bogisch, died in 1903. The buildings which remain are the oldest surviving mission buildings in Victoria.

Our visit to Rainbow included a delicious evening meal on Saturday, followed by a talk on the early farming days and local businesses by Wal Scown and an inspection of some slides depicting the erection of the church.

On Sunday, we attended the church service at St Stephens and then visited Yurunga homestead, which has been restored and equipped with old furniture and household items.

Our trip to Pella included a much appreciated lunch, an inspection of the church (dedicated in 1911) and the pipe organ, a discussion about early settlement and a visit to the school building, now housing historical displays.



Top: Evening meal at Rainbow Above: Stasinowsky lime kiln



School Museum Pella

We visited the Stasinowsky lime kiln which produced lime by burning stone between piles of wood. We also inspected the nearby two roomed mysterious building which, we were told, included on the north side a horse stable for horses being trained by members of the Lush family, and a room on the south used

to live in. The chute in the wall is therefore a feeding chute for horses, not a food chute for prisoners or a book chute for a Pella library!!

Our Society is very grateful to all those who helped to make this interesting Wimmera-Mallee Tour so successful and enjoyable.

2004 Annual General Meeting

Our Society met at our Ivanhoe Research Centre on Sunday 4th April for our AGM.

Our afternoon started with a community lunch. Clay Kruger set up an interesting display of colour prints of digital photos which he took of the recent Dimboola / Rainbow tour.

The reports by office bearers were followed by the election of a new committee. We welcome our new Vice President, Joel Blackburn. Our former Vice President, Robert Wuchatsch, will continue to be involved as a researcher and committee member. We thank Robert and other committee members for their continuing support of our Society. A full list of committee members appears in our Directory.

The Treasurer, Clay Kruger, presented a financial statement for the period 1st March 2003 to 31st Dec. 2003. The balance as at 31st Dec. 2003 was \$3,449 of which \$2,000 has been set aside for a new series of posters displaying Wendish identity, history and

customs. The Treasurer reported that all financial files are being entered onto a computer database.

Membership fees and donations enable us to maintain and expand our resources, to produce and mail out Newsletters, and to carry out research. We sincerely thank members who support the expanding work of the Society. There has been a very positive response to recent reminder notices sent to non-financial members.

Our guest speaker, Betty Huf, gave an excellent presentation on the German and Wendish settlers of Victoria's Western District. The presentation included family photographs of these pioneers and of early buildings. Betty told the story of the establishment of the communities and churches of Hochkirch, Gnadenthal and Tabor. She also presented us with a copy of her latest book, *Courage, patience and persistence: 150 years of German settlement in Western Victoria*.

We look forward to meeting you at our future events, and encourage you to invite family and friends.

GLENYS WOLLERMANN, MINUTE SECRETARY



Research

Moravian Brethren in Australia

The Moravian Brethren have been mentioned in this Newsletter as the missionaries who founded and managed the Ebenezer Mission at Antwerp in Victoria and whose church building was sometimes used by early Katyl settlers for baptisms. Their settlement at Bethany in South Australia was also mentioned in Newsletter No. 32.

Not to be confused with the Mennonites, an Anabaptist group which traces itself back to Menno Simmons (1492-1559) in Holland, the Moravian Brethren trace themselves back to John Hus (1370-1415) in Bohemia, now Czechoslovakia. Like Martin Luther a century later, Hus as a Catholic priest at the University in Prague attacked some Roman Catholic practices like indulgences and simony and he used the vernacular language. He was excommunicated in 1412 and, after attending the Council of Constance to defend himself, he was burned at the stake on 6 July 1415 and his ashes thrown into the River Rhine.

After the death of Hus in 1415, followers who gathered around Jan Zizka (1360-1424) continued to reject Catholic doctrines such as transubstantiation and the adoration of saints. They adopted the 1420 Articles of Prague, preached from the Bible, consumed both the bread and wine at Communion and liked singing hymns. Some followed Brother Gregor and they developed their Six Commandments based on the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew. In 1457, they organised themselves as the Unity of Brethren (Brudergemeinschaft) and they became known as the Bohemian Brethren.

By 1517, they had 400 churches and 200,000 members. As Protestants, they were suppressed by the Council of Trent during the Counter Reformation from 1545-1563 and during the Thirty Years War (1618-1648) between Catholics and Protestants, they suffered severely, with many fleeing to Poland, Saxony, Hungary, Silesia and elsewhere.

However, this group of Bohemian Brethren experienced a revival when Nikolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf (1700-1760) bought Berthelsdorf near Zittau in east Saxony in 1722 and set up a colony for them called Herrnhut. Statutes governing the Herrnhut fellowship were set up in 1724 and a Communion Service on 13 August 1727 marked the revival of the renamed Moravian Brethren. By 1734, they had sent missionaries to America. The Moravian settlements established strict rules of conduct, were pietistic and enjoyed singing hymns. John Wesley was very impressed by the Moravian Brethren and

appears to have been influenced by them in his Methodist Church.

The group contained both Lutheran and Reformed elements so they tended towards union with other Protestant churches. In Australia, many Moravian Brethren joined the Lutheran Church in 1921.

Sources: *The Encyclopedia of the Lutheran Church, Augsburg, 1965.*
Encyclopaedia Britannica, Chicago, 2002

JOHN NOACK

Useful Websites

www.familysearch.org

is the Family History Library Catalogue run by and updated daily by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, the single largest holders of records in the world. The Mormons have 147 Family History Centres in Australia, most of which are open to the public. The Family History Library Catalogue is available on CD and microfiche versions at your local Family History Centre, but the above website will be the most up-to-date version.

(*Ancestry: Journal of the Burwood & District Family History Group, Nov. 2003, p.4*)

<http://portphillipherald.archivepublisher.com>

gives access to 60 years (1840-1901) of the *Melbourne Herald Sun*, known originally as the *Port Phillip Herald*. Newspapers from subsequent years are gradually being added to the database.

(*from History News: Royal Historical Society of Victoria, Oct. 2003, p.4*)

GLENYS WOLLERMANN

The Charles Rasp Story

A lot of research has been undertaken over the past 20 years or so by Maja Sainisch-Plimer into the mystery of Charles Rasp.

This is likely to be published sometime next year so I have decided to defer writing further on this story until the new book has been published. This decision is being taken to ensure that the information presented in our Newsletter is the most reliable possible.

EDWIN KOCH



Books, articles, library

Recent Library Acquisitions

Our Society has a library of over 700 books relating to Wendish and Germanic history and genealogy and the following have been added:

- (a) *Friedrichswalde (Tarnma)*, compiled by Betty Marshall and Betty Dreckow, Eudunda, 1987.
- (b) *West Gippsland pioneers and settlers pre 1900*, compiled by the West Gippsland Genealogical Society Inc, 2001.
- (c) *Descendants of Johanna Rosina Heidrich* (born 1796 in Pilgrimsdorf, Prussia; married 1819 Johann Ebnfried Fiebig; died 1887 in Gnadenthal, Vic.)
- (d) *Hentschel family: the story of Theodore Paul and Ida Emily Hentschel (nee Puschel) and their descendants*, compiled by Val Stevens. Theodore Hentschel arrived in Melbourne from Hamburg in 1848 aboard the Wappaus.
- (e) *Fichtner family: Prussia to South Australia 1855 to 2002*, published by Lorraine Willoughby, P.O. Box 387, Willaston, S.A. 5118. This book traces the six Fichtner children and their widowed mother who came to S.A. between 1855 and 1861. The daughters married into the Tscharke, Schiller and Gershwitz families. The next generation married into the Obst, Atze, Auricht, Pfeiffer, Staehr, Doecke, Boehm and Schultz families.
- (f) *Conversations with Dad Part 1: a Barossa Boy*, Conrad Wilfred (Wilf) Mader by Merryl Robson (nee Mader). The author gives transcripts of conversations she had with her father about growing up in the Barossa and his Wendish heritage. The Mader/Schilling family tree and the Lowke/John family tree are included.
- (g) *Johann Kilian, Pastor: a Wendish Lutheran in Germany and Texas* by George Nielsen. This is a biography of the leader of the Texas Wends.
- (h) *Courage, patience and persistence: 150 years of German settlement in Western Victoria* by Elizabeth (Betty) Huf; published 2003 by the Sesquicentenary Committee, St Michaels Lutheran Church, Tarrington. Betty Huf is a historian specialising in the German and Wendish settlers of Victoria's Western District. This book tells the story of the communities of Hochkirch, Gnadenthal, Tabor, Byaduk and Warrayure. A special feature is the biographical index of German-born people who lived in the Western District. This will be of particular interest to the descendants of these families as well as to descendants of families who moved to the Wimmera and southern N.S.W. in the 1860s and 1870s.

The Coming of the Wends

This book is a reprint and an update with added photographs of the article first published in the Lutheran Year Book in 1976 by the late Pastor Rupert Burger. His meticulous research gives a clear description of who were the Wends, where they came from and how they lived.

Copies are available from Lyall Kupke, 6 Emes Crt., Athelstone SA 5076 for \$12 plus \$3 postage. Please make cheques/money orders payable to Wend Sorb Society of S.A. Inc. I also have some copies available for \$15.

Maybe it is news to you that you may have some wendish ancestors so this new edition may give you the information you are looking for. His research, as well as the work of George Nielsen, led some who learned of their wendish heritage to form the present Wendish Heritage Societies both in SA and in Victoria and to preserve their heritage before it is lost forever. It has also led to some researchers making contact with Wends still living in Germany, USA and other places. You will find his book in its new updated format of great interest.

GLADYS KOCH, PRESIDENT.

A German Church in the Garden of God

The above History of East Melbourne's Trinity Lutheran Church, 1853-2003 is the definitive history of Trinity with nearly twenty contributors and 700 pages of text and photographs relating to both the Mother Church at East Melbourne and the daughter churches including Westgarthtown, Doncaster, Harkaway and Scoresby which were formed around Melbourne. Professor Blainey notes in his Foreword that this book traces the life of this congregation against the general historical background which over 150 years has been both "turbulent and tranquil".

Our Society congratulates Herbert Mees, the General Editor, for his tireless work over the years in bringing this book to fruition. He has informed us that its launch is planned for Friday, 10 September 2004, at 6.30 p.m. in the Swanston Street Foyer of the State Library of Victoria.

Herbert Mees 6 Treetop Drive, Kilsyth, Vic 3137 Vic.

Tel: (03) 9728 4801

Order Forms for this book, including both prepublication (\$55 or \$65 posted) and post-publication (\$65 or \$75 posted) costs, are available from: German Lutheran Trinity Church, 22 Parliament Place, East Melbourne Vic. 3002



Reunions, celebrations and family histories

Altus Family History

The Altus family is updating its family tree. All members of the family are asked to send details of births, marriages and deaths or any corrections to the family history book, *Freedom Found*, to historian Mrs Helen Colliver, PO Box 124, Arthurton, S.A. 5572

Georg/George Reunion And Book Launch, 15-16 October 2006

The first Georg to arrive in Australia was Pastor Diedrich W. Georg who was born at Ruttel, Oldenburg on 4 Feb 1844 and who landed in South Australia in 1876 at the age of 32.

He was the Lutheran pastor at Emmaus, near Eudunda, and his parish included Peters Hill, Tarnma and Australia Plains. He married Maria Dorothea Rodehorst on 7 Nov 1877.

The 130th anniversary of his arrival on the ship TERPSICHORE will be celebrated at Eudunda on the weekend of 15-16 October, 2006. Pastor Georg's father Friedrich and his brother Gerhard arrived in the following year, 1877.

The Georg/George Family Book will be launched and other surnames included are Thorpe, Grant, Winstanley, Gurr, Vetter, Rieger, Gardner, Noack, Ampt, Doecke and Duldig.

Contact Georg Reunion Committee,
PO Box 297, Heidelberg, Vic 3084; Tel: (03) 9458 2848.

Kuhne Family History

Jenny Gellatly is researching the family of Johann George Kuhne and his wife Caroline Friedericke (nee Braune), who came to Australia in 1854.

Further details were included in Item 14 of our March 2004 Newsletter. Contact: Jenny Gellatly, 189 Mont Albert Rd, Canterbury, Vic 3126 Tel (03) 9830 4959
Email: jengell@hn.ozemail.com.au

Modra Reunion

The descendants of Matthes and Christiana (nee Kukawa) Modra will meet for a Reunion and Book Launch on 9 October 2004 at the Tanunda Show Hall. It has been reported that this family was very

cooperative in collecting and submitting their family information.

Further details are available from the Modra Research Coordinator, PO Box 387, Willaston SA 5118. Tel (08) 8562 8465.

Noacks from Schoenhoehe Reunion, 14-15 October, 2005.

Elisabeth Noack, who in 1853 married Johann Gottfried Purmann and Gottlieb Noack, who in 1853 married Anna Noack, arrived in Adelaide on the SAN FRANCISCO in 1850. Details of the first several generations were presented in the Society's Newsletter No 32 March 2004, Item 17. This included the recently discovered Hennig and Schwartz descendants.

The Noack Family History Book *Noacks from Schoenhoehe* is being compiled and the Book and Reunion Committee is busy contacting all known descendants for their personal details, photos and profiles. The Reunion and Book Launch is planned for 14-15 October 2005 in the Sports Pavilion at Riverton. A tour to Peters Hill will be included.

Information can be sent to the Noacks from Schoenhoehe Research Coordinator, PO Box 387, Willaston, SA, 5118. Tel: (08) 8562 8465;

Email: bitmor@ozemail.com.au

Proposch Reunion, October 2004

The descendants of George and Anna Proposch will celebrate the 150th anniversary of their arrival on the MALVINAVIDAL in October 2004.

Descendants are asked to contact Mrs Eileen Gorman, 41 Kirkwood Rd, Eaglehawk, Vic. 3556.

Email: egorman@origin.net.au

Pumpa Reunion

A celebration of the 150th anniversary of Pumpa families in Australia will be held at the Show Hall, Tanunda, S.A., on 25th and 26th March 2006.

Researcher: Quentin Nuske, P.O. Box 228, Tanunda, S.A. 5352 Tel (08) 8563 0674.

Secretary: Catherine Pumpa, P.O. Box 416, Edwardstown, S.A. 5039 Tel (08) 8371 0254



General News



Janice Blackburn in Spreewald costume.

A Famous Blackburn

Our new Vice-President, Joel Blackburn, is the great-great-great grandson of James Blackburn, the former convict and engineer who designed Yan Yean, Melbourne's first public reservoir.

To celebrate 150 years since the beginning of Yan Yean Reservoir, Tony Dingle and Helen Doyle have written *Yan Yean: a history of Melbourne's early water supply*.

Joel Blackburn and his wife Janice, a Domaschensch descendant who recently visited her relatives in Werben, Lusatia, Germany, were among 200 guests at the launch, held on 10th December, 2003.

(Ref: The Source, a magazine by Melbourne Water, Issue 29, Feb. 2004)

The Society's Computer

We are very grateful to Ron Fiegert for the donation to our Society of a computer and printer. This now makes it possible for us to computerise the Society's records and library and to make research material more accessible.

Many records, lists of names and photographs of headstones have already been entered into the computer and are available for use at our research sessions on the first Sunday of each month from 1pm-5.30pm from February to November.

Allan Wittwer 1942-2004

We were shocked to hear of the unexpected death of Allan Wittwer on 4th March 2004. Allan was a founding member of Friends of Lutheran Archives Inc. and for many years was editor of FoLA News. He was very much involved in St Pauls Lutheran congregation of Hahndorf and in local community activities.

Seelander Reunion

The descendants of Gottfried and Anna Rosine (nee Koenig) Seelander will meet at Angaston on 9 October 2004 for their Reunion and Book launch. *Further information from Seelander Research Coordinator, PO Box 387, Willaston SA 5118 Tel (08) 8562 8465.*

Zwar Celebrations

Kevin P. Zwar is encouraging the descendants of Peter Zwar and other Zwar relatives and friends to celebrate various 150th anniversaries this year:

- Peter and Magdalena Zwar were married in Saxony

on 25th June 1854.

- This family left home for Hamburg [via Leipzig] on 4th July 1854
- Their ship the Steinwarder sailed from Hamburg on 11th July 1854
- They arrived at the North Arm quarantine station in Port Adelaide on November 5th 1854

More Zwar details can be found on the website www.zwar-zwahr.com

Have fun celebrating! They obviously had a strong sense of history to choose 4th July and 5th November!

GREETINGS FROM KEVIN P. ZWAR.



Other societies

Interesting articles from Exchange Journals

Our Society receives journals from over 50 other societies. Most of the journals are obtained on an exchange basis. The following are summaries of items of interest from other societies' journals.

- (a) "German Immigrant Ships to Eastern Australia - Resources and Problems. Part 1: BEULAH 1849" by Jenny Paterson is the first of a series in *Ances-tree: journal of the Burwood & District Family History Group*, March 2003, pp. 17-23. Listed are the various records available for this ship, which arrived in NSW with 47 families from Germany. The BEULAH was the first ship to bring German vine-dressers to NSW following the offer of a government bounty for men who had skills not obtainable from Britain. The men had to be married and not more than 50 years old. Included are the individual stories of passengers Joseph Stein, Adam Bienstadt, Peter Frauenfelder, Heinrich Rau and Sebastian Schubach.
- (b) In the July 2003 edition of *Ances-tree*, pp 9 - 18, Jenny Paterson deals with the PARLAND 1849, the second ship to bring government-assisted German vine-dressers to NSW. The PARLAND arrived in Sydney in July 1849 with 161 assisted German immigrants (56 families). Paterson summarises the two passenger lists available, and gives the "individual stories" of Georg Joseph Bambach, the Hartge and Klee families, Joseph Arnold and his wife Anna Maria Baumann, and Johann Georg Koch and his wife Elisabeth. It is clear from these stories that these families were desperate for a chance to settle where they could better their economic circumstances and give their children a good start in life.
- (c) In the Nov. 2003 edition of *Ances-tree*, pp 9 - 17, Jenny Paterson focuses on the HARMONY, 1849 and the BALMORAL, 1850, which were the third and fourth ships bringing government-assisted German immigrants to NSW. The HARMONY arrived in Sydney in Sept. 1849 with 30 assisted German immigrants (9 families). The BALMORAL arrived in Sydney in Feb. 1850 with 23 assisted German immigrants (8 families). Paterson states that a large proportion of the men had other occupations at home, but they had to claim they were vine-dressers (or coopers, if they had wood-work skills) to get an assisted passage. Most of them were recruited from wine producing areas.
- (d) In the March 2004 edition of *Ances-tree*, pp. 5 - 14, Jenny Paterson focuses on the SAN FRANCISCO, 1852 which arrived in Sydney from Hamburg with 120 assisted German immigrants (41 families). The overwhelming majority were Catholic vine-dressers from the Duchy of Nassau. They were destined for the Hunter River district. Included are the "individual stories" of passengers Caspar Zell and Anna Maria Kirchberg; Johann Rau, Christian Watzelhan and Friedrich Hartge. In future articles, Jenny Paterson plans to deal with the remaining six ships that transported assisted German immigrants to NSW in the period 1849 to 1856.
Enquiries: Burwood & District Family History Group, c/- Burwood Library, 4 Marmaduke St, Burwood, NSW 2134.
- (e) "An ethical approach to compiling your family history" is published in *The Ancestral Searcher, Journal of The Heraldry and Genealogy Society of Canberra Inc.*, vol. 25 no. 4.
(GPO Box 585, Canberra, ACT 2601)
- (f) Hermann BREDET (c.1836 - 1888) An article on this German immigrant, who has a street in Bairnsdale named after him, is published in *The Black Sheep: Journal of the East Gippsland Family History Group Inc.*, No. 61 (2003). Hermann Bredt was Shire Secretary from 1876 until his death 12 years later, at the age of 52 years. He married Mathilde Emilie Bertha Kalkstein. They had eight children, three of whom died in infancy. Bredt's two daughters both married into what would become "public" lives. Bertha married acclaimed poet Henry Lawson and Hilda married Jack Lang, one of the most controversial Premiers of NSW. Frederick DREVERMANN (born c.1831, in Revelsburg, Prussia) was an early pioneer in the Bairnsdale district. His story is also published in the above journal article. Drevermann became the first postmaster for the area. He became wealthy by building roads to the Omeo and Nicholson gold diggings and by selling supplies to the diggers. Drevermann married Bertha Julianne Caroline Berndt in 1858. After nine children,



Bertha died at the age of 38 years. Drevermann married a second time and five more children were born. He was a long serving councillor with the Shire of Bairnsdale. His contribution is recognised in the naming of Drevermann St., and by a marble fountain in Main St., Bairnsdale. He died in 1900, aged 69 years.

Enquiries: East Gippsland Family History Group Inc, P.O. Box 1104, Bairnsdale, Vic. 3875.

- (g) "MALVINA VIDAL 1856 voyage from Germany to Australia". This is a translation of the log written by George Klem in the fly leaves of the family Bible and is in the *International Settlers Group Newsletter*, July 2003. (G.S.V. Inc, Level 6, 179 Queen St, Melbourne, Vic 3000)
- (h) Peters Hill, S.A.: The Sept 2003 issue of the *Friends of Peters Hill Church Inc* Newsletter features Mary Denholm's (nee Duldig) memories of the church in the years 1932-48; a history of the cemetery and a report by Terry Hondow on the recent survey of the original cemetery site, and of the "Huppertz Family Cemetery". The March 2004 issue gives the Behn family history and Lois Zerner's (nee Kruger) memories of Peters Hill in the years 1925-47. (*Friends of Peters Hill Church Inc, c/- N. Schmidtke, 11 Charles St, Saddleworth, S.A. 5413*)
- (i) The life story of William Albert Wuchatsch (1868-1948), by Robert Wuchatsch, is featured in the *Friends of Westgarthtown News*, Sept 2003. This Newsletter also features an article by Pastor Ernst Seyler on his 10 years at Trinity Lutheran Church at Parliament Place, including Bayswater and Thomastown, from 1964-74. John Borrack gives a brief biography of Decima Prott (nee Ziebell), a descendant of the Westgarthtown pioneering family. (*Friends of Westgarthtown Inc., P.O. Box 95, Thomastown, Vic 3074*)
- (j) FoLA News, the Newsletter of Friends of the Lutheran Archives Inc July 2003, has articles on Dr J.G. Scheibel; Hans Heysen; the Mickan family, and pioneer German botanists Von Mueller, Behr, Hildebrandt, Blandowski and Tepper.

- (k) Rev. Henry Proeve is featured in the April 2004 FoLA News. He was recently awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia "for service to the Lutheran Church of Australia, and to the community of the Barossa Valley as an historian." He has written many congregational histories, the most recent being that of Ebenezer in the Barossa Valley. In the same Newsletter, two new books are highly recommended: *German Anzacs and the First World War* by John E. Williams and *It wasn't really necessary* (on internment, particularly during World War II) by Peter Weiss.

Correspondence for FoLA Inc. may be sent to the Lutheran Archives, 27 Fourth St, Bowden, S.A. 5007

- (l) "Lutheran Archives - Sources for Researchers" is published in *The South Australian Genealogist*, Aug. 2003, p.8. The Lutheran Archives holds an extensive collection of parish registers, family registers, pastors' personal records, congregation lists, church newspapers, Lutheran Year books and 19th century maps. Records from the Moravian Brethren and from the Wends are also held, since both were later absorbed by Lutheran congregations. The Lutheran Archives can provide addresses of archives and societies in Germany. Volunteers are also able to translate material from the old German script at a reasonable cost.

Write to: Lyall Kupke, Archivist, Lutheran Archives, 27 Fourth St, Bowden, S.A. 5007.

Phone/fax (08) 8340 4009

Email: lutharch@picknowl.com.au

GLENYS WOLLERMANN, LIBRARIAN



Directory

Aims

The Wendish Heritage Society Australia Inc researches and promotes the Wendish/Sorbian and Germanic heritage and family history in Australia.

Postal Address: PO Box 297, Heidelberg, Vic, 3084.

Meeting Room and Research Centre:

Ivanhoe Lutheran Church Meeting Room, 27 Livingstone Street, Ivanhoe, Victoria. (*Melways 31 E7*)

Hours:

Open on the first Sunday of each month from February to November, 1.00pm-5.30pm for research, working bees and for socialising.

Emblem

An Australian gum leaf and a Lusatian linden leaf, which represent the connection between the Wendish descendants in Australia and the Sorbs in Lusatia.

Membership & Newsletter Subscription

\$18 for one calendar year due at the start of each year. The form is included in our March Newsletter. Additional donations can also be made for the expanding work of the Society and we thank most sincerely those of you who have made such generous donations.

Publicity

We welcome any publicity which you can give about our Society and its planned events.

Newsletter Design

Robyn Zwar

Website: <http://www.robynzwardesign.com>

Office bearers

President

Gladys Koch, 2 Anderson Parade, Bundoora, Vic. 3083. Tel. 03-9432 3113.

Email: <edkoch@dodo.com.au>

Vice-President

Joel Blackburn, 2 Astley St, Lower Templestowe, Vic 3107. Tel 03- 9850 5766.

Email: <joelblackburn@ozemail.com.au>

Computer manager

Secretary and Newsletter Editor

John Noack, Residence: 2 Devon St, Eaglemont, Vic. Postal Address: PO Box 297, Heidelberg, Vic. 3084.

Tel: 03-9458 2848.

Email: <johnnoack@yahoo.com.au>

Treasurer

Clay Kruger, 16 Gracedale Ave, East Ringwood, Vic. 3135. Tel: 03-9779 3599

Email: <claykruc@optusnet.com.au>

(N.B. not "claykrug")

Committee Members

Richard Albert, PO Tallarook Vic. 3659. Tel: 03-5792 3080

Janice Blackburn, at the same address as our Vice President, above.

Sue Burton, 34 Elmhurst Rd, Blackburn, Vic. 3130. Tel: 03-9878 2417. Email: allburt@goconnect.net

Photos.

Ed Koch, at the same address as our President above. Reviews.

Ann Sandman, 7 Bardia St, Ringwood, Vic. 3134. Tel: 03-9870 5150 Photos.

Glenys Wollermann, 22 Bellara St, Doncaster, Vic. 3108. Tel: 03-9891 6652.

Email: g.wollermann@fhc.vic.edu.au

Librarian, Minute Secretary, Journal Items for Newsletter.

Robert Wuchatsch, 74 Robert Street, Lalor, Vic. 3075. Tel: 03-9465 2308.

Email: rob.wuchatsch@austrade.gov.au

Researcher.

Wendish Heritage Society Australia Inc

PO Box 297 Heidelberg Vic 3084. ABN 78 951 996 351

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