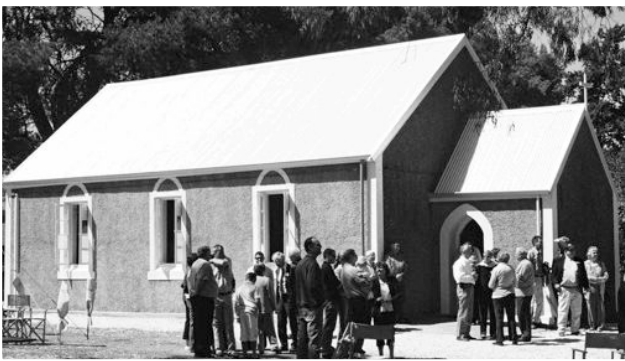




wendish news

WENDISH HERITAGE SOCIETY AUSTRALIA

NUMBER 38 MARCH 2007



Top left:
Byaduk's closing service.
Top right: Di Cummings
and Ed Koch at Family
History Expo, Aug 2006.
Bottom left: Peters Hill
Lutheran Church.
Bottom right: Os and
Elaine Rentsch with
their Byaduk ancestors.

Grovedale/Germantown pioneers commemorated, 10 September 2006

The early pioneer families of *Germantown* (now Grovedale, Victoria) were commemorated with the unveiling of a Memorial Stone at the Germantown Cemetery on 10 Sept. 2006. Local historian June Winter has researched the early German families, many of whom were buried in this cemetery.

The first group who settled included the families Bieske, Baenske, Winter and Kerger. They arrived on the ship *Emmy* in 1849 and were subsidised by Dr Alexander Thomson because they were needed to work as vine-dressers. Each family was offered a block of about one acre near the Waurn Chain of Ponds Creek.

Other early settler families included on the memorial were Andresson, Rossack, Kosseck, Hartwich, Pacholke, Renzow, Heyer, Schultz, Baum, Momm, Jasper, Lorke, Schneider, Hermann and Klemke.

Most were Lutherans who built their church with walls of mud and a roof of thatched grass. This was also their school where the first teacher, Mr Stranger, taught from 1854 to 1858. Pastor Matthias Goethe conducted the first church service on 24 June 1854. By 1859 two congregations, Trinity and St Paul's, emerged, with the early records being stored in the

Trinity manse. When this manse burnt down in 1893, the early records were lost.

In 1875, the disease "phylloxera" destroyed the vines. The vineyards were replaced by orchards and market gardens, which dominated the area for over one hundred years.

We thank June Winter for providing the results of her research of the Germantown Cemetery's history.

JOHN NOACK

CONTENTS

PAST EVENTS	1
CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS	4
OTHER SOCIETIES	6
RESEARCH	6
WHAT'S NEW AT THE LIBRARY	7
GENERAL NEWS	7
DIRECTORY	8



Past events ... continued from page 1

Closure of Zion/Neukirch Lutheran Church, Byaduk, Sunday 17 Sept 2006

The Byaduk area, south of Hamilton in Victoria, was first settled by Johann Rentsch, who purchased land there in August 1860. By 1865, other families, who were mostly Wends from Lusatia in Brandenburg and Saxony, purchased land there as well. They included Johann GUDE, Johann SCHLEMMER, Matthes HANDRECK, Martin KOSCH, Johann HONA, Christian BRAMKE, Johann SALZKE, Martin KOTZUR, Mathes JEITZ, Johann KILO, Martin PUMPA, Martin TOWK, Adolph PERTZEL and Christian NICKEL.

In 1866, these families formed the Neukirch congregation and a wattle and daub church was erected. Pastor C.W. Schurmann conducted services there. A weatherboard church was erected in 1886, but after this was destroyed in a bush fire in 1900, the present brick church was erected in 1902. The congregation flourished in the 1960s and 1970s but by 18 Jan 2006, the few remaining members decided to cease operating. The closure was held on Sunday 17 Sep 2006 but the Cemetery will continue to be used.

Descendants of Johann Rentsch, Ossie and Elaine Rentsch, still occupy the original land selected in 1860.

We thank researcher Betty Huf for this information on the history of Byaduk.

JOHN NOACK.

Annual Dinner: The Deutscher Family, 7 October 2006

The Society's Annual Dinner was held in the Community Centre at Calvary Lutheran Church, Greensborough. The Dinner celebrated the 20th Anniversary of our Society.

Guest speakers, Chris Deutscher of *Deutscher-Menzies Fine Art Auctioneers and Valuers*, and Daryl Deutscher of *Deutscher's Turkey Farm* at Dadswells Bridge, Victoria spoke of the Deutscher family's arrival on the *Alfred* in 1848 and settlement in Australia. They referred the audience to the Deutscher family history book which contains much valuable information. They even had a few spare copies for distribution.

The speakers did not anticipate that there would be a power blackout for most of the evening! Their presentations, with the aid of torches and from memory, were much appreciated.

Kevin Zwar, our President gave a special tribute to Pastor Siegfried Albert, Lutheran Pastor at Groeditz, who, in his spare time translated many articles from

Wendish into German, including the 1848 petition from Wendish farmers to the King of Saxony requesting better treatment of the Wends. His translations have made an excellent contribution to our knowledge of Wendish issues.

JOHN NOACK.

Peters Hill Church 150th Anniversary, 15 October 2006

Peters Hill consisted mostly of Wendish settlers from Lower Lusatia when the St Peters congregation was formed in 1856. The first service was held in the home of Johann Noack, which was built of stone with a thatched roof. Pastor H.A. E. Meyer, the pastor at Bethany, conducted occasional services at Peters Hill.

On 15 October, 2006, this early period of history was recalled when Pastor James Winderlich, a descendant of Johann Noack, came to the church on a german wagon drawn by two draught horses. The church, which had been carefully renovated by the Friends of Peters Hill Church, was full and the congregation was amused when Pastor James climbed up into the pulpit high above the altar and then asked the congregation whether they could see him. He spoke of the faith displayed by the biblical Hebrews as they migrated from Sumer to Palestine, then down to Egypt and eventually through the wilderness to their Promised Land of Canaan, the land flowing with milk and honey. He compared this to the faith displayed by the germanic and wendish immigrants who sailed for about three months from Hamburg to Australia, their Promised Land and soon built their school and church upon arriving at Peters Hill.

A community lunch under the gum trees was followed by a visit to the site of the first church service in Johann Noack's home in 1856 and a visit to the Pioneer Cemetery, which now has a detailed map on the site showing the names of those buried and the locations of their graves.

The Friends of Peters Hill have worked very hard to preserve the church and cemeteries and their Newsletter always lists pioneering families, including the Wends from Lusatia, who settled in this district in the mid-1800s. Some early Wendish families here included Bartusch, Borrack, Domaschenz, Dreckow, Duldig, Fladrich, Gormann, Gassan, Groch, Hondow, Huppertz, Jarick, Kschenka, Krueger, Lehmann, Marschall (Marscha), Miatke, Noack, Petatz, Proposch, Pumpa, Schuppan, Schwartz, Starick, Teschner, Zoellner and Zerner. Few of these families remain there now, although the Huppertz and Zerner



families still call it home or still have farms there. James Huppatz also cares for the original Huppatz home, which is incorporated into his present house.

Considering the crowd attending, it is clear that many descendants enjoy returning to Peters Hill, which their ancestors may well have viewed as their very own Garden of Eden.

The September 2006 edition of the *Newsletter of the Friends of Peters Hill Church Inc* includes a brief biography of Pastor Heinrich Eduard MEYER (1813-1862), some notes on the family of Christian and Maria FLADRICH by Brian Hennig and a letter by Matthes SCHWARTZ, sent to Germany in 1864 and submitted by David Simmons. Matthes comments that “the people here are 20 times better off than in Germany” but in regard to mail, he wrote “I wanted to send you money but I heard that the letters do not get there”.

The contact for Membership and Newsletters is Friends of Peters Hill Church Inc, c/- Mr Norm Schmidtke, 11 Charles Street Saddleworth SA 5413. Tel. (08) 8847 4183.

JOHN NOACK

Thomastown/Westgarthtown 150th Anniversary, 12 Nov 2006

The Thomastown Lutheran Congregation celebrated the 150th anniversary of the dedication of its church building, which took place on 17 November 1856. The only older Lutheran Church building is at Lobethal in South Australia.

A Celebration Dinner was held on Friday 10 November at Calvary, Greensborough. Herbert Mees, Pastor Stephen Pietsch and Robert Wuchatsch talked on the history of the church and the relationship of Thomastown with the Trinity Lutheran Church East Melbourne and the Greensborough congregation respectively.

Most of the pioneering families arrived in 1849 on the ships *Godeffroy*, *Wappaus*, *Dockenhuden* and *Emmy* and in 1850 on the *Pribislaw* and *Alfred*. William Westgarth assisted the pioneers during settlement and the 16 original land purchasers included Franke, Graff, Groening, Gruenberg, Heyne, Kawerau, Knobloch, Maltzahn, Siebel, Timm, Waehner, Wanke, Winter, Wuchatsch, Ziebell and Zimmer.

Services were conducted in English after about 1930. In 1935, the choice was made to remain affiliated with Trinity in East Melbourne after this church joined the German Protestant Church Federation and was required to depart from the United Evangelical Lutheran Church of Australia (the UELCA).

The post-war intake of refugees from Germany

led to a re-introduction of services in German. In 1985, Thomastown affiliated with the Calvary congregation at Greensborough.

Pastors Brett Kennett and Joachim von Mitzlaff were liturgists and Pastor Greg Pietsch's sermon raised issues relating to the congregation's heritage in relation to their daily living and their faith.

A tasty afternoon tea at Ziebell's Farmhouse concluded an enriching weekend.

ROBERT WUCHATSCH.

Family History Expo at Mulwala, 18 November 2006

Bob and Betty Proposch of Yarrawonga, assisted by Clay Kruger, represented our Society at the annual Family History Expo held at Mulwala. Clay found it very rewarding to handle enquires from people interested in their germanic and wendish ancestry. Our Society's stall was next to the Wodonga Historical Society, which was also able to assist people researching the wendish and germanic families in the Walla Walla and Jindera areas of NSW. The two displays had a wealth of knowledge to offer, making this event very successful.

Freshwater Creek/Waldkirch: 140th anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone, 19 November 2006

As early as 1849, Dr Alexander Thomson, one of the founders of Geelong, was instrumental in bringing a number of German families to the Geelong area. They first established vineyards and market gardens at Germantown, now Grovedale, and gradually other settlements followed. By 1859, a community at Freshwater Creek, south-west of Geelong was well established. Some early German pioneers of Freshwater Creek include Johann Seiffert, Johann Schmidt, Johann Einsporn, Johann Leibhardt and Karl Rau.

St. David's Lutheran Church and Cemetery (originally "Waldkirch") was the community centre and final resting-place of most of the pioneer families of Freshwater Creek. In November 2006, a service was held to celebrate the 140th anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone of the present bluestone building, on 15 April 1866.

St. David's Lutheran Church and Cemetery are listed on the Heritage Register and on the National Trust, for their links to the earliest German settlers in the Geelong region. We thank Gladys Knight for giving us this information on the history of Freshwater Creek.

GLENYS WOLLERMANN



Calendar of upcoming events

Pleasant Sunday Afternoon: Sunday 1 April 2007

Members and friends are invited to our Pleasant Sunday Afternoon community lunch at Ivanhoe Lutheran Church at 12.30 pm. Please bring finger food for lunch. A brief AGM will follow at 1.30pm.

Our guest speaker, Colin Huf, will give a talk on German farmers who emigrated from Nekielka (formerly Nekla Hauland) in Poland to Australia in the mid-1800s. Land records give details of over forty family names, including Benz, Hausler, Herrmann, Huf, Jeske, Krieg, Leske, Lindner, Menzel, Mibus, Muhlneckel, Neumann, Nuske, Pfeiffer, Richter, Seifert, Semmler and Zadow.

We look forward to seeing you at this event.

Visit to Leongatha: 2–3 June 2007

The South Gippsland Genealogical Society will hold its June Family History Seminar from 9.30am to 3.30pm on Saturday 2 June 2006 at the Leongatha Uniting Church. The seminars will present aspects of family research in different areas in the world, including Cornwall, New Zealand and Ireland. The Germanic/Wendish seminar will be held at 1.30 pm. John Noack will present information about the geography, history, language and traditional culture of the Wends in Lusatia. Robert Wuchatsch will speak on the settlement of the Wends in Australia, including Thomastown.

Our Society will extend our visit to Sunday 3 June, when members of the local society, including Joan Lehmann, will show us heritage sites in the Leongatha district. Accommodation is available at the Opal Motel, 155 South Gippsland Hwy, Leongatha. Tel. (03) 5662 2321. We encourage you to join us for this interesting weekend.

Annual Dinner – The 1857 Ships: Saturday 6 October 2007

Our Society's Annual Dinner, 6.00pm for 7.00pm, Saturday 6 October 2007, at the Ringwood Lutheran Hall, will give descendants of the passengers of the 1857 ships an opportunity to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the arrival in Melbourne of about ten ships, carrying passengers from Hamburg.

The lists of passengers from Hamburg were transcribed from hand-written originals during the 1980s and 1990s by volunteers under the supervision of the Public Record Office. Many of the germanic

and wendish surnames were transcribed incorrectly so we would like to hear from you if you can pass on the correct spelling, or provide additional information about the ships and their passengers, which we can add to our shipping and surname files.

The following list of passengers is available from two sources: the CD ROM "*Immigration and Shipping Lists: Unassisted Shipping Index 1851-1923*" and the index "*Unassisted Immigration to Victoria: Index of inward Passenger Lists for British, Foreign and New Zealand Ports, 1852-1923*" on the website: http://proarchives.imagineering.com.au/index_search_results.asp.

The suggested alternative, given below after the forward slash, has been taken from the CD "*Emigrants from Hamburg to Australia 1850-1879*" compiled by Eric and Rosemary Kopittke, available for use in our Library. These are based on departure lists with better spelling of surnames and include the 1857 ships *Carl*, *Dorothea*, *Gottingen*, *Sverge* and *Hermann*. The information in brackets is the suggestion of John Noack who, in the 1980s, identified and inspected the passenger lists of over 100 ships carrying Germans and Wends, which sailed from Hamburg to Melbourne in the 1850s.

In the following lists are large family groups, but the SURNAME in capitals is listed only once, and only includes the eldest male or female. If any of these pioneers are your ancestors, we look forward to hearing from you.

The ship *La Rochelle* arrived in Melbourne from Hamburg on 27 Jan 1857 under Capt. John Meyer. Passengers included Friedrich ALBRECHT; Justin BEGGATS; Carl BERGER; Andreas BERKEMEYER; Conrad BODE; Caroline BORCHARD; Erns CHEMNITZ, Conrad FLEISCHHAUER; Andeas FREI; Peter HINK; Elise KELLER; Heinrich KRECKLER; Wilelm LORKE; Stephan MACHOWSKY; Carl MEYER; Christian NEUMANN; George NEUMAYER; George NIX; Carsten OTTEN; Hinrich PETERS; Lorenz RAMBACK; Peter REINCKE; Johann SCHLEGEL; Louis SCHMIDT; Heinrich SCHULTZ; Joh SCHWIEGER; Theodore SERRUIER; Justin von BEGGATS; Gottlob WINCKLER and August ZERBE.

The ship *Neumuhlen* arrived on 24 Feb 1857 under Capt John H. Albert Hener. Passengers included L. BERENSTROM; Anna BLANCH; C. BREMER; T. EHLERS; A. HAGGMAN; H. HANSEN; S. HIEDER; Friedr HUDE; J. LUDEMAN; J. PEIN; J. PINHAMMER; P. RICHTER; H. SCHLICKLING; H. SCHMUCKER; J. SEIVER; J. WOLF and E. WOLLFF.

The ship *Cesar Godeffroy* (Godeffroy?) arrived on



31 March 1857 under Capt. J.F. Stortenbecker. Passengers included H. BAHR; G. DITMAR; H. FISCHER; B. KRIGER; C. MEYER; J. RITCHNER (KIRCHENER?); W. RUCHNER; F. SCHCLEISENER and V. WOLFF.

The ship *Carl* arrived on 30 June 1857 under Capt S. Petersen. Passengers included E. BOBARTH; H. BOITTEHER/BOETTCHER; Wilh. BRESNER/BREMER; Nicol. BRODERUN/BRODERSEN; Friedr. EISNER; Paul FAULSEN/PAULSEN; J. GROTH; J. HAILZENCTEIN/HINTZENSTERN; J. KNUTH; Rudolph KOLBLE/KOLBE; H. LINDER; H. MAILENS/MARTENS; T. MAR; A. MEIL; C. MEYERHOFF; John MULLER/MOELLER; Eugen v. MYLIUS; H. PECH/PECK; F. PETERSEN; C. PILSCHNER/PITSCHNER; P. REIMANN; Moritz RICHTER; H. SCHELLER; T/J. SCHILLING; J. SCHMALEN; C. SHELEIO/STRELEIN; A. SHIHR/STUHR; N/W. TESENFELD/FESENFELD; Joh. ULRICH/ULLRICH and W. VRESINIR/WIESNER.

The Ship *Dorothea* arrived on 2 Sep 1857 under Capt M. Gantshon(?) Passengers included Christoph BEHR; Carl BELON; Henrich BOE/BOL; Joachim BRUNSTEIN; H. DORMART; Wilh. FRIEDRICH; Cael FROLING/FROELING; Elsie FUHRMANN; Aug. GEISLER/GEISTER; H. GREIDE/GREITE; Heinr. HARDAR; Heinrich HEUER; Dorothea HEYDE; Joachim KNAAK/KNAACK; Ernst LAGING/CAGING; Henriette LANGE; Adolph LUDEMAN/LUEDEMANN; Carl LUHDER/LUEHDER; Christ. MEYER; Joh PETERS; Joh. PETRI; Andreas PFORTNER; J. PLETZ; Aug. PREST; Christoph REINHARDT; Heinrich SCHOBER; J. SCHONWARDS/SCHOENWANDT; H. SCHRUEIZER/SCHWEITZER; Adolph SCHUCKMAN; Heinrich STAUB; Wilhelm STOEHER/STECHER; Gottlieb STOOKLE/STOECKLE; Mathias SUXDORF/ LUXDORFF; Fritz TIESLER/FIESLER; Adolph von SCHUCKMAN/SCHERKMANN; Otto Wagner; George WEISHEIT; Georg WEISS; H. WESTPHAL; Heinrich WILDEN/WILKEN and C. ZEFEL/ ZELFELL.

The ship *Gottingen* arrived on 10 Oct 1857 under Capt. H. Gerling. Passengers included Friedr. ANDERSEN; David BIENSDORFF/BIERSDORF; Wilh. BRANDT; Fr. BRUNKE; C. BUCKHARDT/BURCKHART; Friedr. BUSEN/BUESEN; Carl EXNER; Joh. FRESE; Christ. FRICKE. Melchior GASNER; Joh. GERLACH; Wilh. GOBEL; G. GUTTSCHKE; C. HECKER; Rasmus. HENRINGSSEN/HENNINGSEN; Joh. INGWERSEN; Andr. KETTERER; Joh. KLOSE; Hans. KRAMER; August. KRIEGEL; Joh. LAMPE; Anton LINS; Aug. LOCHTIG/SOECHTEG; Eleonora LOECHIL/LOECKEL; Joh. LOHSE; Gust. MAEGNER/WAEGNER; Andr. MEIBERG/MEIBURG; August MOSIG; Niels PETERSEN; Christiana PFUND; Carl

SCHAFFER; Jos. SCHESSINGER/SCHER-ZINGER; Ferd. SCHMIDT; Wilh. SCHOLZ; Joh. UHDE/WILDE; Hans VASS/VOSS and Joh. WARTMANN/WORTMANN.

The ship *Manila* arrived on 2 Nov 1857 under Capt. J.L. Behrens. Passengers included G. BEER; H. BOBSIEN; H. EGGERS; Emile GRINON; T. HAGEN; Mrs KOSTER; J. KRURE; N. LUDERS; M. MANPEL; P. MAUCKE; H. MUNTER; Mrs PAULMANN; P. PLAU; W. PLUMEL and H. TODS.

The ship *Hermann* arrived on 20 Dec. 1857 under Capt. J.P. Kreutzfeldt. Passengers included Jens ARFSTER/ARFSTEN; Aug. BREDEMAYER; J. BREHN-BREHM; J. CURNUNCKE/CARMINCKE; Max. DUILISBERY/DUESTERBERG; Traugott ELURLE/EBERLE; H. FRAHN/FRAHM; Wilh. FRICKE; W. GENTZEN/JENTZEN; K. LEDERMANN; Wm. LEULIKI/LEVECKE (LEUBKE?); Wilh. LODRE/LOCHE; H. LOTH; C. METELMANN; C. MEYER; P. SCHADENDORF; L. SCHRADER; and J. WILELMY/WILKENING.

The ship *Sverge* arrived in Melbourne on 24 Dec. 1857 under Capt. C.F. Wyberg. Passengers included Gottlob BENSCH; Conrad. BETZ; Johan BODROW/ROCHOW; Adolph EHRlich; Joh. FRICHT/NICHT; Carl FRIECHERS/RIECHERS; Carl FUHRMANN; Dorothea GROSSE; Carl HANKE; Carl HEIDENREICH; Carl HELMS; Christian HIRSCH; Clemens LINDEMANN; J. MULLER; Joh. Carl SCHULTZ; Carl SEIBEL; Heinrich SOEHTING/SOECHTING; Carl TUNG/JUNG; Clemens von LINDEMANN; Franz WEHSACH; Joh WEISSE; Samuel WENDEL; Gotthelf WIERING/MIERING and Marie WOLF.

JOHN NOACK

Valuable websites

Germany

Visit an aerial 'map' of all German towns and villages: www.saxonyroots.com/maps/

Click on the German State or province you want to visit and zoom in until you find your ancestor's village – and see the nearby villages too! The former German areas are in the process of being added but are not yet available.

Victoria

There is a wealth of material for Victorians on the following Australian website:

www.ballaratgenealogy.org.au/bgmain.htm

KEVIN ZWAR



Research

George Nielsen's Notes

While researching for his book on the Wends during the 1970s, George Nielsen compiled a page of notes on each of the several hundred Wendish families who migrated to Australia from Lusatia in the mid-1800s. He included their full names, biographical details, ship, arrival date, naturalisation date, the children and their spouses.

George Nielsen recently sent these notes to us, so the originals are now in our Library. We thank George Nielsen for depositing them here in Australia for our use.

Copies of them are also available at the Lutheran Archives in Adelaide.

Research query relating to the ship *Macassar*, 1858

Geoff McCorrison is seeking other descendants of passengers of the ship *Macassar*, which sailed from

Hamburg to Melbourne in 1858-59. Geoff's great-grandparents, Johann and Elisabeth Waese, were on the ship. Geoff would be delighted to hear from other descendants of passengers.

Contact: Geoff McCorrison, 7P/228 The Avenue, Parkville, VIC 3052. Tel (03)9381 0618.

Research query relating to the ship *Susanne Godeffroy*, 1865

Noel and Del Bergman are writing a book based on the voyage of the *Susanne Godeffroy* from Hamburg to Moreton Bay in 1865. They would like to make contact with any descendants of the passengers.

Contact: Noel and Del Bergman, PO Box 26, Alderley, Queensland 4051.

Email: nbergman@gil.com.au

The surnames of the passengers are listed in the Nov. 2006 issue of *Queensland Family Historian: journal of the Qld. Family History Society Inc.*

Other societies

The following are items of interest, located by Ed and Glad Koch from other societies' journals and summarised by Glenys Wollermann:

German internees at Berrima Gaol

The *International Settlers Group Newsletter* of Oct. 2006 lists the names of Germans interned at Berrima Gaol in N.S.W. during the First World War. The names are listed alphabetically, and are taken from the book *Prisoners in Arcady* by John Simons.

German internees at Holsworthy

The Nov. 2006 issue of *Links "n" chains: journal of the Liverpool Genealogy Society Inc.* has an article about Germans interned in the prisoner-of-war camp at Holsworthy, N.S.W. during the First World War.

Conrad Heinz (1846-1896), Mayor of Bendigo

The Nov. 2006 edition of the *German Heritage Society*

Inc. Newsletter gives a biography of a notable German, Conrad Heinz, who served as a Bendigo councillor in 1891-96, and Mayor in 1894-95. He was a very enterprising and successful businessman and the only person of German origin to be elected to the position of Mayor.

Ernst Bernhardt Heyne (1825-1881) by Robert Wuchatsch

The *Friends of Westgarthtown News* of Nov. 2006 features an article on a notable Westgarthtown pioneer, Ernst Bernhardt Heyne. Heyne, a trained botanist, was a landholder and a teacher at Westgarthtown for a short time. He then found employment at Melbourne's Botanical Gardens from 1856-1869, first as a plantsman and then as secretary to Ferdinand Mueller. In 1869, Heyne moved to Adelaide. He was a prolific and highly successful author on horticultural topics.

Help! Computer literate volunteer needed...

The Wendish Heritage Society has a great Website, but we urgently need a computer literate person to help maintain the site and add in the latest articles and news. The site is built with its own Content Management System (CMS) and a step-by-step instruction manual is available. If you are skilled in using "Word" or similar software, you will be able to understand how the CMS operates.

Please contact any member of the Committee if you could help in this important role.



What's new at the Library?

Recent Library Acquisitions

Emigrants from Hamburg to Australasia 1850-1879 [CD] published by the Queensland Family History Society, 2006

This CD is a searchable index to and a listing of passengers on the available passenger lists for ships from Hamburg to Australia and NZ between 1850 and 1879, compiled by Rosemary and Eric Kopittke. It records the name, former place of residence, age, occupation, ship, destination and departure year for more than 40,000 emigrants. This CD is a wonderful resource for Australians and New Zealanders with German ancestry. The original Hamburg departure lists, written in old German script, have been painstakingly transcribed and translated. Information on the ships, reports from contemporary newspapers, and a list of over 150 occupations in both German and English are also provided.

Wodonga (Belvior) Cemetery Records 1861-1939 [booklet]

Yackandandah Rate Books Part 1 (1884-1948) and Part 2 (1949-1971) [microfiche]

Finding your German ancestors (2nd ed.) by Dr Hans W. Rerup. This easy-to-read book lists the most important resources available and the steps required for successful research.

Pastor Siegfried Albert: a special tribute by Kevin Zwar. (Presented at the 2006 Annual Dinner)

Obituary of Graham Wiebusch (1941-2006), donated by Clarrie Handreck

The following items were donated by Ed Koch: "Small clues reveal explorer's huge endeavour" from *The Age*, Friday 24 November 2006.

"Ludwig Leichhardt: great northern explorer" from *R.M. Williams' Outback*, Feb-Mar. 2006. Two postcards showing German internees held at Berrima Gaol in the First World War.

Obituaries of Frank Burdon; Shirley Frost; Ian Reichelt; Albert Burger; Clarence Herrmann; John Juers.

The following items were donated by Betty Huf: *The closure of Zion Lutheran Church, Byaduk* by Betty Huf.

Brief history of Zion Lutheran Church, Byaduk by Betty Huf.

Constitution of Evangelical Lutheran Church, Byaduk [1964].

The following were donated by June Winter: *Germantown [Grovedale] Cemetery History* [booklet] by June Winter.

Biographical articles: *Johann Friedrich Gross; August Hartwich and Anna (nee Hundrack); Heinrich Wilhelm Winter*.

We thank Clarrie Handreck, Betty Huf, Ed Koch and June Winter for their donations to our Library.

GLENYS WOLLERMANN

General News

Zielona Gora museum

The Zielona Gora museum in Poland (formerly Gruenberg in Silesia) is holding an exhibition in May 2007. The museum is interested in making contact with descendants of families who migrated to Australia in the 19th century and would appreciate receiving copies (no originals please) of any historical photos, diaries or other items which show a connection with northern Silesia.

Contact: Anitta Maksymowicz, Tel. (48) 608 245 616
Email: museum@man.zgora.pl

Adelaide Trams built in Bautzen

Adelaide still runs a tram from the city centre to Glenelg. Bill Gillard, a retired Uniting Church minister, visited Lusatia in 2005. His background is

French Huguenot and his main interest in Lusatia was visiting the Moravian Brethren settlement at Herrnhut. He also visited Bautzen and inspected its tram factory which displayed some of the trams it was building for Adelaide's Glenelg tram-line. They were painted green and the factory is located in the north-west section of Bautzen.

It's good to see that Adelaide still needs the Wends!

Cottbus designated an Important Cultural City
Thea von Wichmann, a visitor from Hamburg, has informed us that for the next three years, Cottbus in Lower Lusatia, will carry the honour of being designated an Important Cultural City in Europe.

JOHN NOACK



Applying for a passport

We are indebted to Ursula B. Adamson in Michigan for the following information on the waiting period for someone intending to emigrate from a German territory to the US once they had applied for a passport in the 1800's.

The general rule was that anyone wanting to emigrate had to apply for a passport at the local level. The prospective emigrant had to swear an oath, stating that he had fulfilled his military obligations, that he did not owe any money to anyone, that he did not leave behind dependents, who upon his leaving would have to be supported by the village, etc.

In the 1830's and 1840's his intention to leave would then be published in the local newspaper. In later years, when the number of emigrants for a given place reached into the hundreds, publication in the local newspaper consisted of lists of prospective emigrants.

Typically, a newspaper announcement would read something like this:

Mr. Heinrich Schuhmann of Anywhere, Germany is intending to emigrate to America. Anyone having a claim against the emigrant should contact this office no later than 3 months from the date of this publication otherwise the emigrant will be granted permission to leave.

At the end of the 3 month waiting period, the prospective emigrant would be issued a passport, giving the full name and age of the emigrant, his wife and children. Once the emigrant was issued his 'walking papers' he was officially released from the feudalism and was considered no longer a citizen or subject of the ruling king or potentate.

This also had serious consequences, namely that once the emigrant had obtained his release, he was then a 'person without a country'. This was one of the reasons why so many emigrated secretly. They wanted to be sure that if they didn't like it in America, they had a home to which they could return.

KEVIN ZWAR

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.

Email: claykruc@optusnet.com.au (NB. not "claykrug")

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 socialising.

Our Society Logo: The logo, an Australian gum leaf and a Lusatian linden leaf, represent the connection between the Wendish descendants in Australia and the Sorbs in Lusatia.

Membership & Newsletter Subscription: \$20 for one calendar year due at the start of each year. The form is included in our August Newsletter for the following year. Additional donations can 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 Design
www.robynzwardesign.com

Office Bearers:

President: Kevin Zwar, 58 Blackburn Rd, Mooroolbark, Vic 3138. Tel 03 9727 1390. Email: kevin_zwar@optusnet.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, 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 (NB. not "claykrug")

Committee Members:

Janice Blackburn, same address as our Vice President, above.
Library Cataloguer

Ed Koch, 2 Anderson Parade, Bundoora, Vic 3083. Tel 03-9432 3113. Email: edkoch@dodo.com.au *Journal perusal and reviews*

Gladys Koch, same address as Ed Koch, *Journal perusal & reviews*

Glenys Wollermann, 22 Bellara St, Doncaster, Vic. 3108. Tel: 03-9891 6652. Email: g.wollermann@fhc.vic.edu.au

Librarian, Minute Secretary, Journal reviews for Newsletter.

Robert Wuchatsch, Stony Rises Homestead, 2020 Princes Hwy, Pirron Yallock, Vic 3249. Tel 03-5235 4220.

Email: robert.wuchatsch@bigpond.com *Researcher.*

Wendish Heritage Society Australia Inc

PO Box 297 Heidelberg Vic 3084 email: claykruc@optusnet.com.au Web: www.wendishheritage.org.au

ABN 78 951 996 351

The Wendish Heritage Society Australia Inc. does not accept responsibility for the opinions expressed or the accuracy of the statements made by authors of articles published in this newsletter.