



Pioneer Echo

We look forward to your past

A PUBLICATION OF THE PORT PHILLIP PIONEERS GROUP INC.

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Native Police, Victoria



The concept of a Native Police force was first proposed by Captain Alexander Maconochie in 1837, as an alternative method to 'protection' and based on ideas of assimilation and compensation for land.

The force was established in the Port Phillip District on three separate occasions – 1837, 1839 and 1842.

The native police were initially stationed at the Police Paddock in Narre Warren, before being moved to the confluence of the Merri Creek and Yarra River in March 1842.

source:

<https://aboriginalhistoryofyarra.com.au/>

Above

Title: *Sketch of Aboriginal troopers, Melbourne police, with English corporal, 1850*

Description: Pencil and watercolour

Creator: William Strutt

Source: eGold.net.au

[Parliamentary Library, Parliament of Victoria]

Right

Title: *Black troopers escorting prisoner from Ballarat to Melbourne, 1851*

Description: pencil and watercolour

Creator: William Strutt

Source: eGold.net.au

[Parliamentary Library, Parliament of Victoria]



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

Our next meeting is our A.G.M. which will be held on Saturday **11 May 2024 at 2 pm**. Our guest speaker is Peter Yule who will talk about lawyers, and specifically barristers, in the colony between 1839 and 1851. He has some fascinating insights into what life was like for this small group of professionals who had come out from England, Scotland and Ireland. What would make a professional leave the Establishment and their apparent comfortable surroundings to travel by ship to a fledgling society? Did the Colony need these lawyers? What roles, apart from the practise of their Profession, did they play in the Colony?

As usual, we will have post-meeting refreshments and there will be an opportunity to look at the library both before and after the meeting but also come and see some of the changes under way for the Group.

For those who cannot attend personally, the Zoom link is up on the website with all the information about how to connect and importantly, what to do if you want to ask a question, make a comment, or who to call if the link fails. As you may be aware, we have arranged to share the Zoom link with the Descendants of Convicts Group which is a cost-saving innovation.

Our last two meetings have seen good attendances which is very pleasing. Doors open at 1.30 pm. We hope to see you there.

Paul Cronin

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS



PPPG No	Member Name	Descended From	Details	Date	Ship or other means
1566	Robert KERR	a) William HAWKINS b) Elizabeth HAWKINS	Arr, P.P.D. “	11 Aug 1848 15 Oct 1848	<i>Cornwall</i> <i>Blonde</i>
1567	William WHEELER	a) Arthur WHEELER	Arr. P.P.D.	31 Mar 1851	<i>Anna</i>
1568	Leighon WHEELER	b) Catherine WHEELER nee HELSHAM	“	“	“
1569	Madeline WHEELER	c) Thomas DEAN d) Zilpah DEAN nee WATSON	Arr. P.P.D. “	3 Nov 1844 “	<i>Wallace</i> “
1570	Alexander WHEELER	e) Guy COLE	Arr. P.P.D.	10 Feb 1849	<i>Halcyon</i>
1571	Raven O'BRIEN	f) Martha COLE nee GEARING g) Robert COLE	“ “	“ “	“ “
1572	Joshua WHEELER	h) Elizabeth COLE nee WEBSTER i) Emma COLE	“ “	“ “	“ “

Emails to the Editor

Many thanks to Val Farley for further information on the article on Mrs William Hogg, the stolen baby, and also Max Lay for enlightening us further on the 'mysterious blue pole'.

Re: Jan/Feb 2024 *Pioneer Echo*.

Hi Dianne,

Captain Brown's station where the baby girl was born and stolen was situated in Heidelberg. It was 313 acres with Yarra frontage and Capt. Brown built a house called *Hartlands* there in 1840. His daughter Coreintia married William Walker there in 1845.

Captain Sylvester Brown (he added the E to his surname later) married Eliza Angell Alexander. Their son Thomas Alexander Browne wrote the bushranging novel *Robbery Under Arms* under his pseudonym Rolf Bolderwood.

[There were several Brown's in PPD but only one Captain. (Source: *Rolf Bolderwood*, by Paul de Serville.)

My PPP Anne Lavina Cheyne nee Forrest had a brother in the colony Charles Forrest, who was married to Augusta Alexander, Eliza's sister.

An interesting item appears in *Early Toorak and District* by E.M. Robb published 1934. Source SLV.

Llanmiloe, Williams Road.

Some 14 years after Lt. Charles Forrest had established himself at Forrest Hill on the banks of the Yarra, Mrs. Alexander, widow of Thomas Alexander, the Governor of the Arsenal at Mauritius, came to Melbourne, bringing the other members of her family with her to make her home in the vicinity of her married daughter Mrs. Charles Forrest.

The building *Llanmiloe* was not, however accomplished entirely without danger and adventure. Upon several occasions the blacks raided the spot doing considerable damage and causing much alarm. More than once Mrs. Alexander and her daughter had to apply to the men working on the place for protection and it was with great difficulty the blacks were ejected.

With Mrs. Alexander were her daughters Constantia

who married to Capt. George Brunswick Smyth, 80th. Regt., Mrs. J. C. Chalmers and Mrs. Heron Barras. Two other daughters died unmarried. She was also accompanied by her two sons one of whom reached here the day of the first land sale.

Mrs. Alexander arrived in Melbourne in 1854 on the *Kent*.

I included this snippet even though politically incorrect these days.

Val Farley.

PPPG Member # 551

Hi Dianne,

I enjoyed (as always) reading the current issue of *Pioneer Echo* (232). Could I comment on the 'mysterious blue pole' remark on p7? It is not mysterious at all. A full explanation is in Chapter 2 of my *Melbourne Miles* book – 2nd edition obtainable from the RVHS.

In the early 1830s Tasmanians had started 'illegally' settling in Victoria and so Sydney was obliged to send surveyors to the Port Phillip region in 1836. By 1837 it had been decided that, rather than chase the Tasmanians out, it would be better to make them buy the land.

To avoid the cost and time of surveying and marking individual pieces of land it was then decided that it would be better to use the *sectioning* method that had been well used in other colonies and particularly in North America. This method required carefully establishing and locating a base location (in algebraic terms the 'origin') and then imagining the whole colony divided into mile square sections, by a grid of north-south and east-west lines a mile apart. All that was needed is one intersection of the lines to be carefully established using a base location. These sections could be sold without the need for any further surveying. The 'mysterious blue pole' marks this base location (or origin in algebraic terms).

Max Lay, PPG Member # 1317

15 February 2024

Editor's note: Thomas Alexander Browne (1826-1915), pastoralist, police magistrate and gold commissioner, but best known as novelist 'Rolf

Bolderwood', was born on 6 August 1826 in London, the eldest child of Sylvester John Brown, a shipmaster who had served with the East India Co., and his wife Elizabeth Angell, née Alexander. He arrived in Australia at 5 when his father, captaining his own barque *Proteus*, delivered a cargo of convicts at Hobart Town and landed at Sydney in August 1831 with his wife and three children. Thomas died 11 March 1915, aged 88, and is buried at the Brighton Cemetery, Victoria. (source: *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Vol. 3, 1969, pp267—269, online)

PERILS IN THE EARLY DAYS OF THE PORT PHILLIP DISTRICT

ROBBERY

On Saturday night, 13 January 1849, a highway robbery occurred near the *Retreat Inn*, at Brunswick. Mr Morris a publican residing in Kilmore, was driving home ... in a spring cart, in company with a friend, ... when ... they were pounced upon by three men who appeared to be armed; ... one of the party held the horse, ... while the other two robbed their victims of cheques and orders, and about 30s. in silver, with which they decamped

The Argus Fri 19 Jan 1849 p4

On Saturday night last, a robbery was committed on Mr. Nodin's premises, which from the singular circumstances connected with it we can not pass over. A large dog of the Newfoundland and Kangaroo breed, was fastened with a chain to the wall of a cellar beneath the new stores of Messrs. Strachan & Co., ... in Little Collins street. In the morning when some one belonging to the establishment went down to bring the dog out, he found not a trace either of the animal or its chain and collar. There were several men sleeping on the ground floor, but could tell of nothing likely to afford clew to its recovery.

Port Phillip Gazette (Vic. : 1838 - 1845) Sat 23 Feb 1839 Page 2

HIGHWAY ROBBERY.—On Friday night last a highway robbery was committed in one of the streets of Melbourne, which exceeds in audacity any previous outrage of the kind since the settlement of the province. The victim was a Mr. John McIntyre, an overseer in the employ of Niel Black, Esq., who, about 11 o'clock on that night, when on his way to his lodgings at the Caledonian Hotel, was assaulted in Swanston-street, by four or

five men who rushed out upon him, thrust a handkerchief into his mouth, caught him up in their arms, and carried him into the bush about a mile beyond the new gaol, when they laid him down, bandaged his eyes tightly with a pocket handkerchief and tied his wrists and arms with cord. The highwaymen then rifled his person, taking from him several cheques, 15 one-pound notes, a silver watch, maker's name Thompson, a brass chain and two keys, and a quantity of loose papers. Having secured this plunder, they loosed the bandage from Mr. McIntyre's eyes, and the cords upon his arms, and then made off, telling McIntyre that he might go where he pleased. - *Geelong Advertiser*, Wed 22 Jan 1845, p.2



Above: *Bushrangers, Victoria, 1852* by William Strutt, based on a real-life incident, the bailing up of group of people on St Kilda Road

ROBBERY IN A DWELLING.

William Moss, George Maynard and Henry Somerset ... were indicted for stealing 8 half-crowns, 20 shillings, 10 sixpences, 6 fourpenny pieces, 8 threepenny bits and 12 pence, the property of William Pickett of the Salt Water River. The prisoners pleaded not guilty...

William Pickett, the landlord of the Salt Water River Inn sworn — I remember the 13th February. I was at work a little distance from my door, when my Missis called to me, and told me that three men had robbed the house. I mounted my horse and rode after them, and told them to come back. Maynard seized the horse by the bridle, and Somerset knocked me down with a stick. On getting up, Somerset came up to me with a knife open in his hand, and made a blow at me ... but the knife closed ... The jury retired for about half-an-hour, and on their return ... found the whole of the prisoners guilty, and his Honor sentenced Somerset to five years hard labour on the roads of the colony; Maynard to three years hard labour on the roads and Moss was remanded for sentence.— *The Melbourne Daily News*, Thu 22 Feb 1849 Page 2

Daring Attempt at Robbery,**and Capture of the ROBBER.****Courageous conduct of a female**

One of the coolest attempts at robbery that we have heard of for a considerable time, was tried on (fortunately unsuccessfully) on Friday evening last, by an unmitigated scoundrel. The villain, who it would appear had been prowling about the streets looking out for a favourable opportunity of exercising his peculiar bent, the appropriation of property not his own, had seen a chance of walking unperceived into the shop of Mr. David Dunlop, confectioner, Collins-street. Whilst Mrs. Dunlop and a young female who assists in the shop were employed in a back room, the fellow sneaked in and ensconced himself behind the counter, with the intention no doubt, of remaining there until the inmates had gone to bed, when, as a matter of course he would have subjected the place to a thorough overhaul.

Just as the shop was about to be closed for the night, a little after ten o'clock, Mrs. Dunlop having occasion to go behind the counter stumbled over the burglar's legs, who, unfortunately for himself, had not been able to compress himself into a compass small enough to be completely out of the way ... on perceiving her very unceremonious customer, Mrs. Dunlop, with a courage which does honor to her sex, sprang upon the villain and attempted to secure him. Miss Mooney, alarmed by the noise, ran to the door and called out for assistance (Mr Dunlop himself happened to be out at the time.)

A severe struggle ensued between Mrs. Dunlop and the robber, in the course of which she was struck by him several times and thrown down twice, and although the fellow made almost supernatural efforts to get away, she managed to hold him until assistance arrived. In the course of a few minutes Mr. Dunlop and a considerable number of persons were on the spot, and the villain was secured and marched off to the watch-house.

On Saturday, the man was brought before Major St. John [and gave his name as Thomas Morris] who was of opinion that he was a rogue and vagabond, and thought a sojourn for three months in her Majesty's gaol, and kept to hard labour would do him a world of good. - Port Phillip Gazette and Settler's Journal (Vic. : 1845 - 1850) Mon 28 Feb 1848 Page 2

KERR'S
Melbourne Almanac
 and
Port Phillip Directory
 For
1841
 Compiled by William Kerr

THE LEGAL PROFESSION.

Barristers at Law - James Croke, Esq, Crown Prosecutor and Legal Adviser of His Honor the Superintendent; Edward Jones Brewster, Esq, A.B., Chairman of the Quarter Sessions and Commissioner of the Court of Requests; Redmond Barry, Esq, A.B.

Attornies, Solicitors and Proctors - William Meek, Horatio Nelson Carrington, John William Thurlow, Edward Sewell, Charles Legh, and David Ogilvy, (w.s.) Esqrs., Messrs. Deane and O'Cock, and Messrs. Montgomery and M'Crae.

Notaries Public - Andrew Murison M'Crae, (w.s.) and David Ogilvy, (w.s.) Esqrs.

POLICE OFFICE FEES—PETTY SESSIONS

	<i>s. d.</i>
A bond to keep the peace, in general costs	12 6
“ Appear “	11 6
Warrant of distress or recognizance	5 6
Return of assigned female to first class	5 0
A summons or warrant, in a civil case	2 6
A warrant to distrain under penal acts	2 0
Subpoena with four names	1 6
Each party to serve	0 4
Drawing information and affidavit in cases in the Jurisdiction of the magistrates, not exceeding one folio of seventy-two words	1 0
Ditto, each additional folio	8 0
Swearing an affidavit, except for naval or military pension, or an order of a justice	1 0
Drawing any police document, not enumerated, per folio	0 4
Inspecting weights and measures, each	0 3
Licence for cart	5 0
License for slaughtering cattle	2 6
License for hawker	20 0
License for one dog	1 0
Licence for two dogs	4 0
License for three dogs	7 6
License for each above three	5 0



**Legislative Council
Parliament of Victoria
LOCAL HISTORY FUNDING**

22 February 2024 Adjournment David Davis (LIB)

David DAVIS (Southern Metropolitan) (18:41): (742) My matter is for the attention of the Minister for Government Services, but it is also of deep interest to the Minister for Creative Industries. It is an arts-related issue and a history-related issue. The Royal Historical Society of Victoria has administered for many, many decades going back – actually, the Kennett government period was the commencement of this – Public Record Office Victoria's local history grants program and the Victorian Community History Awards. At the state budget this year they sliced the funding for those awards to zero – to nothing. They have been there for decades and decades, providing awards for people who write local history and also awards for those small local history societies that do so much to build community, build social capital and build an understanding of the history of our local areas.

David DAVIS: All volunteers, as Mr Welch says. These are local history societies. They deserve support, and the longstanding funding that has been there was stripped away.

The Royal Historical Society of Victoria, local history societies and I went to work, and I pay tribute to the Broede Carmody article in the Age and to Richard Broome, the president of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria, for the campaign that we collectively waged to have this year's funding restored. So the government stepped back. They said, 'What a terrible mistake we've made. We'll put the funding back for this year.' Well, the Royal Historical Society of Victoria, the public record office and others have conveyed directly that the funding will not be there into the future, so these two key local history programs are to be funded at zero in the forthcoming years. It should be in the funding base for the department, and I do not mind whether it is funded through government services – the government seems to want to shift it over to government services – or more logically, I might add, through creative industries. But it is up to them where they fund it. I do not care – that is a second-order issue. The more important thing is that the funding is restored.

The Royal Historical Society of Victoria should again administer these programs and provide the awards night and the recognition for those who have done great local history work through their local societies or through writing local history. I mean, this is all about the history of our state. It is the history of our local communities. Whatever suburb you are in, whatever town you are in in Victoria, there is an important local history that is part of your suburb and indeed, I might say, part of you. So I am asking that the Minister for Government Services or his colleague restore the funding in full.

David DAVIS: Her – sorry. This has been moving around, and the history people have been set on a circle-go-round. But I hope that they will restore the funding for both programs in full.

Regards,
David Davis MP

Office of the Hon David Davis MP

PPPG PUZZLE #4

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

ANSWERS TO PUZZLE #4

WILLIAMCROSSYUILLE
WILLIAMMACKENZIE
DRPATRICKCUSSEN
PETERMITCHELSON
LAKEWENDOUREE
GEORGEYUILLE
SPECIMENHILL
ROBINSON
TORYBOY
WINDSOR
PARROT
THREE
ORG

**Female Convicts Research
Centre Inc.**

2024 Seminar/Webinar—**Freedom:**
Time served -5 May, 2024

Program focus: Pathways to
freedom for convict women in Van
Diemen's Land , exploring the lives
they led once they were
emancipated.

Registrations close:

24 April, 2024 (seminar) cost: \$60
28 April, 2024 (webinar) cost \$40

See website for more details -
<https://femaleconvicts.org.au>

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Port Phillip Pioneers Group Inc. Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday 11th May, 2024 at which time all Committee positions will be declared vacant. (see back page for time and address)

All financial members are eligible to be nominated for any of the following committee positions:

President
Vice-President
Honorary Secretary
Honorary Treasurer
Ordinary Committee Members

Nomination forms may be obtained from the Secretary or see below.

Completed nomination forms are to be delivered by 4th May, 2024 to

The Honorary Secretary
Port Phillip Pioneers Group Inc.
c/o 21 Apex Ave
Hampton East VIC 3188

All Members are urged to give serious consideration to nomination for a Committee position.

PORT PHILLIP PIONEERS GROUP INC.

NOMINATION FORM

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARER/COMMITTEE PERSON FOR YEAR 2024

We and
(Proposer's Signature) (Seconder's Signature)

Hereby nominate For the office of

I accept/decline this nomination

.....
(Candidate's Signature)

POSITIONS VACANT: President - Vice-President - Honorary Secretary
Honorary Treasurer - Ordinary Committee Members

PORT PHILLIP PIONEERS GROUP INC.

PROXY FORM

I..... Member No.....

am an apology for the Annual General Meeting/General Meeting* on

and appoint as my proxy the PPPG Secretary/[name of member]*

To vote on any matter arising as my proxy sees fit unless I have directed their vote as follows:

Resolution
concerning.....support/oppose*

.....
[signed] [dated]

*cross out which does not apply



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Next Meeting:	Saturday: 11 May 2024
Speaker:	Speaker: Peter Yule Topic: <i>The Bar of Port Phillip. 1839—1851</i> Before the discovery of gold, only 14 barristers were admitted to practice in Victoria. Two of them, Redmond Barry and William Stawell, left indelible marks on the history of the state, some such as Robert Pohlman and Eyre Williams were leading citizens in Melbourne for many years; of the others, one was killed by pirates in Borneo and some disappeared from history. All were from England, Ireland or Scotland and they brought with them the traditions, ethics and etiquette of the profession in the United Kingdom that are still at the heart of legal practice in Victoria.
Hall Entry:	\$2.00
Doors Open:	1.30 pm. Sign in. Time to browse notice board, borrow library books, and chat.
Meeting Starts:	2.00 pm.
Guest Speaker:	2.30 pm.
Afternoon Tea:	3.30 pm. Refreshments.
Venue:	Wesley Hall, St. Andrew's Uniting Church, cnr Burke and Malvern Roads, Gardiner. Public Transport: Right on the route of the No 72 tram and only a short walk from the Gardiner Railway Station. Melways Reference: Map 59 H7. Or Online via Zoom digital platform
Upcoming Meetings:	13 July 2024 - Elaine Race - Crossing the Seas to the PPD - shipwrecks, lighthouses and heroes 14 September 2024 - Graeme McIntosh—Names in the PPD

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PORT PHILLIP PIONEERS GROUP INC.

A Member Society of the G.S.V. Inc.

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE : At least one month prior to the next meeting

All articles and information contained in this Newsletter are accepted in good faith and the Port Phillip Pioneers Group Inc. takes no responsibility for the content and accuracy contained therein.