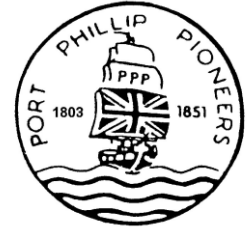


Port Phillip Pioneers Group Inc.

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

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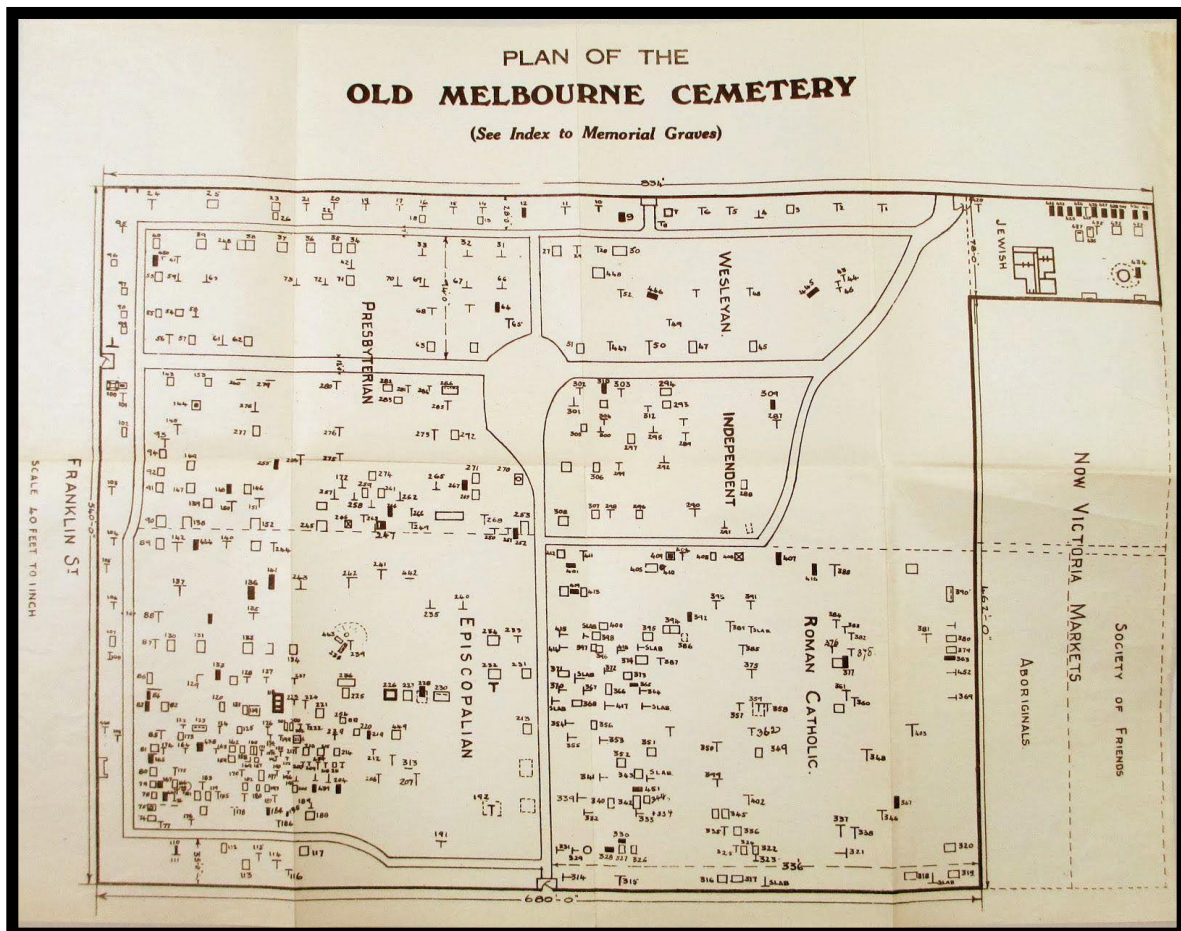
We look forward to your past



Newsletter No: 204

Vol. 41 No. 3

June – July 2018



The Old Melbourne Cemetery Update

Plans to redevelop the Queen Victoria Market have been placed in doubt following Heritage Victoria's decision not to grant a permit allowing works which included the dismantling, restoration and reconstruction of Sheds A to D at the Market. They determined that the proposed works would be unacceptably detrimental to the cultural heritage of the site. Melbourne City Council had wanted to temporarily remove the sheds, construct a three level basement underneath, and then replace the sheds.

The cemetery plan above is from Isaac Selby's "*Memorial History of Melbourne*"

continued on page 4

PORT PHILLIP PIONEERS GROUP

Contact Details:

Address: C/- 55 Kerferd Street, Malvern East 3145

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.portphillippioneersgroup.org.au

Group Report.

Hello members and friends.

You will be pleased to know the result of our AGM is that all committee members have been returned and are ready to serve for another year. Our trusty helpers have also put their hands up to support us as well. Their work is invaluable for us to keep the machine wheels rolling along and we thank them, one and all. A big thank you to those who continue to come to the meetings and talks as an audience is appreciated and we love to meet you all.

Have any members written prose about their family history I wonder. One chap has, (not a member but a cousin of one). So read the extract on page six. It might inspire you to do so. Inspiration might also lead to an entry into our Pioneers Profiles Vol 7. We have a few entries but many more are needed. Entries are to be sent to Marilla. See back page for email address or queries.

We hope to see you there and bring a friend if you can.

Barb Hawkins, Editor and Vice President.

λ Welcome to the following Members λ

No	Member	Desc. From	Details	Date	Ship or other means
1473	Peter Anthony CHADWICK	a) George and b) Eliza HISLOP nee LAMBERT	Arr. PPD	21 Jan 1840	<i>John Bull</i>
1474	Patricia Mary WASON	a) Robert Anstruther and b) Agnes Frances BALBIRNIE nee HILL c) Elizabeth BALBIRNIE	Resident PPD Born PPD	1840 2 Dec 1840	
1475	Lindsay F D HOWE	a) William PAGE b) Catherine nee TRAINOR c) Elizabeth PAGE	Arr. PPD Arr. PPD Born PPD	15 March 1841 24 Dec. 1841 7 April 1850	<i>Henry Gilmore</i>
1471	Additional Claim Pamela Margaret Hill	b) Julia Jemima Goodwin nee Martin	Arr. PPD	27 Jan 1848	<i>Alice Maud</i>

2018

Meeting Dates

July 14
September 8
November 10

Newsletter Deadlines

August 6 August - September
October 8 October - November

All correspondence for newsletter items must be sent to Barb Hawkins,
email barbh27@bigpond.com

Carolyn Brown - The Life of Charles Ebdon & Black Rock House

Whilst Charles Hotson Ebdon was living at the eastern end of Collins St in a 2-storied mansion he decided to build a nice big holiday home he would call Ebdon Castle. He had, in 1854, purchased 122 acres on the coast near Melbourne and established his own quarry nearby to obtain the black sandstone he wanted for the construction of his new abode.

Work commenced in 1856 but there were not enough stone masons in Melbourne to erect such a building, as most had gone to the goldfields. Ebdon altered his plans and settled for a small brick and timber dwelling he called Black Rock House. It was 'T-shaped with a cellar, joined by a covered walkway to a castellated stone courtyard and stables'.

Completed in 1858, the house remained in the Ebdon family until 1911. By that date it was in need of repairs and steadily became dilapidated until in 1929 and 1971 it was threatened with demolition. Fortunately the City of Sandringham bought the house in 1974 and since 1979 it has been looked after by the 'Friends of Black Rock House'.

Carolyn Brown, the group's President, showed photos of the conservation and preservation works carried out to restore the house to how it was in the 1860s. The front external timbers of the house had been smeared with animal fat and sand to look like cement rendering. In the black rock 'castle' wall, a section near its large gate needed extensive repair.

Inside the house there were layers of wall paper, so advice was needed to ascertain the original papers. Made in England the new wall paper for the drawing room cost \$40,000. In one room a small section of remaining paper depicted scenes from 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' published in 1852. It has been possible to replicate this paper making Black Rock House the only place in the world where it hangs.

The Friends group continues to raise money for the property's upkeep and a recent \$50,000 capital works grant will be used for work on the stables. In the front and side gardens are two enormous Morton Bay Figs which would have been planted in the 1850s.

As for Charles Hotson Ebdon himself; he was born in 1811 in Cape Town, South Africa to John Bardwell Ebdon, merchant, banker and politician, and Antoinetta Adriana Kirchmann. Charles was educated in England, and Carlsruhe in Germany. In 1832, aged 21, he established himself as a merchant in Sydney.

He dressed as a dandy in Sydney but he was seen in March 1837 near Goulburn wearing a fur skin jacket and cap and sporting a long beard. He was walking in front of 9,000 sheep, 30 horses and 9 drays. Ebdon's stock were the first to cross the Murray River and he established Mungabareena Run on the north side of the Murray and Bonegilla Run on the south.

When Ebdon established Carlsruhe near the Campaspe River west of Mt Macedon he became the first pastoralist to settle on the north of the Dividing Range.

Ebdon was in Melbourne for the first land sales. He purchased for £136, three half acre lots on the north side of Collins St between Queen St and William St and in 1839 sold them for £10,244. At the Melbourne Club, where he was a foundation member, he stated "I fear I am becoming disgustingly rich".

He had sold Mungabareena and Carlsruhe but between 1854 and 1861, with the backing of the Ebdon family wealth, he had control of over 500,000 acres in the Kerang region.

In 1843, Ebdon entered politics. He was elected three times to the Legislative Council but resigned each time. In March 1848 he declared that "he could no longer lend himself to the perpetration of what was only a farce". In June 1850 he was returned and served as a member until separation from NSW. He was appointed auditor general of the new independent government of Victoria; a difficult job due to enormous changes brought on by the discovery of gold. He was well respected but did not work well with Lieutenant-Governor La Trobe and resigned in 1852 declaring he was "tired of having responsibility without power". Despite his oddities Ebdon was extremely popular and was recognised as an excellent financier.

He was associated with many commercial ventures; promotor of the Port Phillip Bank, Chairman of Directors of Melbourne, Mount Alexander & Murray River Railway Co, Chairman of Directors of the St Kilda and Brighton Railway Co, promotor of Victoria Fire and Marine Insurance Co and local Director of Bank of NSW.

In 1857 he was elected in the district of Brighton and was Treasurer under the second Haines government.

After his marriage to Tamar Harding in 1850 (Registry of BDMs) they had 2 daughters and a son: Marian born 1850, Antoinette Martha born 1851 and Charles John born 1853. The children were educated in London and for some years lived there with their mother whilst Ebdon lived in Melbourne.

Continued on page 6

OLD MELBOURNE CEMETERY UPDATE

Shed D at the Queen Victoria Market is located over portion of the Old Melbourne Cemetery, namely the Jewish, Quaker and Aboriginal Sections. Bodies were exhumed from the Quaker and Aboriginal Sections in 1877 and reinterred in the Melbourne General Cemetery in Carlton and from the Jewish Section in 1920 and reinterred in the Fawkner Cemetery.

When the Market took over sections of the cemetery in 1877 it had the backing of an Act of Parliament which had been debated as the 'Melbourne Market Site Bill.' Francis Longmore, MLA, speaking in the Legislative Assembly on 2 August 1877 stated that the planned acquisitions "embraced the blocks originally set apart for the burial of the aborigines, members of the Society of Friends, and Jews. He believed that in the aborigines' section only three burials ever took place; there was no grave in the Quaker ' section; and in the section allotted to the Jews, there was only one grave - that of a Quaker buried there by mistake." In fact there were many more burials in these sections and he had almost certainly misread an 1873 plan of these sections which shows the grave of Isaac Stevens correctly buried in the Quaker Section.

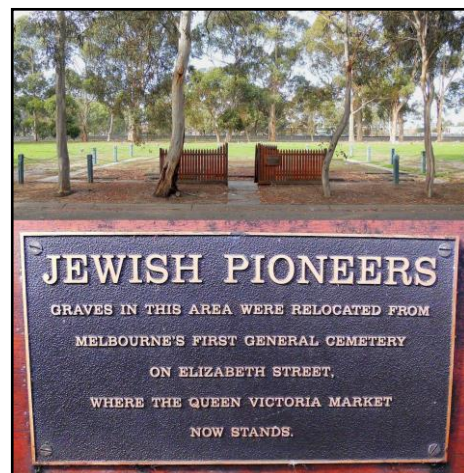
Then on 14 August 1877 in the Legislative Council, the Hon. Robert Stirling Hore Anderson, MLC stated "I made every inquiry at the time, and, according to my recollection, the result was that I ascertained that only three persons were buried there, namely, one member of the Society of Friends, who was interred in that particular place by mistake, and two aborigines." Later in the debate Frederick Thomas Sargood, MLC moved for "the insertion of words providing that the new boundary line of the Old Cemetery should be fenced in by a solid wall of brick or stone not less than 8 feet high." Further on in the debate the Hon. James Graham, MLC "considered that a strict inquiry ought to be made as to how many graves would have to be removed to make way for the new market." Mr. Anderson stated "that the late Government made every necessary inquiry on the subject." Mr. Sargood said "he had laid on the table a plan showing that the portion of the Old Cemetery which would be excised under the Bill contained the bodies of only one white man and two or three aborigines."

JEWISH SECTION

On 18 December 1844, a Crown grant was issued to Michael Cashmore, Solomon Benjamin, and Asher Hymen Hart, in trust for the interment of the dead, according to the custom of the Jews, though burials in all sections of the cemetery commenced before these Crown grants were made. Most burials in this section were thought to have been made close to the inside of the wall along Peel Street. The bodies of two young children, Lewis Hyam Hart (buried 15 July 1852) and Mary Hart (buried 12 January 1854) the son and

daughter of Isaac and Rachel Hart were privately exhumed and reburied in the Melbourne General Cemetery, Carlton in March 1887.

The remaining burials were exhumed in September - October 1920 and reburied in a special Jewish Pioneers Section in the Fawkner Cemetery.



QUAKER SECTION

On the 30th November 1847, a Crown grant was issued to Robert Dunsford, Dr. Godfrey Howitt, Edward Sayce, and John Bakewell, in trust, for the interment of the dead, according to the use of the Society of Friends (Quakers). There was not a large number of Quakers in early Melbourne but exact numbers are hard to calculate as they were listed amongst "Other Protestant Denominations" in census returns. Also, the Victorian Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages does not hold any early parish records for Quakers. The name of only one person who was buried in this section is known, that of Isaac Stevens.

On Monday, 26 November 1877 the remains of Isaac Stevens (who died aged 19 years) were removed from the Quaker Section and reinterred in the Melbourne General Cemetery by Thomas Jennings, Undertaker. Their new location was Quaker Section A, Grave No. 265. No gravestone has survived for this grave, but when the Genealogical Society of Victoria and Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies prepared transcriptions of the gravestones in 1989 a broken gravestone with the top missing was in situ with the following inscription remaining " ... son of Joseph S. Stevens of Liverpool, England, who died 11th of the second month 1853, age 19 years." English Quaker records show Isaac's date of birth as 25 December 1833 at Toxteth Park, near Liverpool, Lancashire, England the son of Joseph Stevens, flour dealer, and his wife Agnes. Isaac appears with his family at Park Street, Toxteth Park, near Liverpool in the 1841 and 1851 censuses. He is thought to have arrived in Melbourne alone in December 1852 per "Constance" as an unassisted passenger.

ABORIGINAL SECTION

There does not appear to have been any Crown grant issued for the Aboriginal Section which was located immediately north of the Roman Catholic Section. It may have had its origins in the practice of burying non-Christians and executed criminals immediately outside of consecrated ground.

On 20 January 1842 two aboriginals, Tunnerminnerwait ("Bob") and Maulboyheenner ("Jack"), were executed in Melbourne followed by three bushrangers (Charles Ellis, Daniel "Yankee Jack" Jepps and Martin Fogarty) on 28 June 1842. Garryowen says they were all buried close to the north-eastern corner of the cemetery, outside the fence. (another aboriginal, known as Figara Alkepurata ("Roger the Russian") was executed on 5 September 1842.) Later executions were carried out at Melbourne Gaol and their bodies buried there.

On 26 November 1877 two boxes of bones from the Old Melbourne Cemetery were reinterred in public graves in the Melbourne General Cemetery, 'Other Denominations' Section E, Grave Nos. 286 and 287 by Thomas Jennings. These were followed on 29 November 1877 by two more boxes and on 1 December 1877 by a further box of bones, all also interred in Section E, Grave No. 287 by Thomas Jennings.

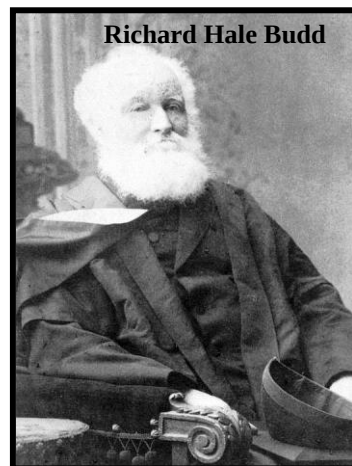
CARETAKER'S LODGE

The construction of a caretaker's lodge had its origins in a meeting of members of the Church of England interested in the Old Cemetery held on 3 August 1855 in the Bishop's Registry, Little Collins Street West, Melbourne. The Dean of Melbourne, Hussey Burgh Macartney presided, and the following resolutions were adopted: 1. "That this meeting considers it advisable that the ground allotted for a cemetery for the members of the Church of England, and which is now known as the Old Cemetery, be enclosed by a permanent and substantial fence, and that a residence be erected for a person to take charge of the ground; and that the Bishop of Melbourne, as trustee thereof, be requested to nominate a committee of five persons to carry out the above object, and to appoint a person to act as warden. the following gentlemen were then appointed as the committee: Messrs. Belcher, Budd, Henning, Martin, and the Rev. Mr. Budd." 2. "That the committee are requested to make some immediate temporary arrangements for the protection of the Church of England portion of the burial ground." 3. "That this meeting desire to record their opinion that the co-operation of other denominations should be sought by the committee, with a view, if possible, of getting the whole of the burial-ground enclosed in a substantial manner, and placed under one management."

This was followed in September 1856 by the Public Works Office in Melbourne advertising for tenders for the construction of a Cottage in the Old Cemetery, Melbourne. The next month Thomas Grimwood was named as the successful tenderer at a price of £495. Henry R. Johnstone was probably the first caretaker to occupy the cottage. Other than having the use of the cottage, he initially received no pay for his work which consisted of little more than keeping pigs and cattle out of the cemetery and not allowing any further burials unless the required certificate was produced. He was never instructed to keep any records.

On 1 March 1861 Richard Hale Budd prepared a report for the Chief Secretary in which he gave the names of the committee members as Rev. Moses Rintel and Messrs. F. Cooper and Budd, however the cemetery was not under the management of a Board, but under the management of the Board of Land and Works. At that time the committee were much dissatisfied with Johnstone's work and wanted the Government to dismiss him and provide a salary for a replacement, but they refused. In the following years there seems to have been a succession of policemen residing in the lodge, including Senior-Constable David Marks and Constable Thomas Summerhayes.

Maurice Blaney Murphy and his family occupied the lodge from 1872 to c1896 followed by Henry Richardson (c1897 to c1911) and finally John Leffers (c1912 to c1919).



CEMETERY RECORDS

Other than making a general invitation to the public to provide information and opinions, the Queen Victoria Market Renewal Management have not been prepared to consult with descendants of early settlers who were buried in the Old Melbourne Cemetery or of any representative organisation such as the Port Phillip Pioneers Group Inc. They have apparently sought to rely on the story that the cemetery records were all destroyed in a fire in 1864 and therefore no-one can be sure they have an ancestor buried there. This apparently did not prevent them from reaching an agreement in November 1996 with the Wurundjeri Council to operate a market stall, though this entitlement was not taken up.

No evidence of a fire having destroyed the cemetery records can be located, but it is accepted that some of the early records have been lost. Exactly what records are missing is uncertain, but they appear to be the cemetery plans showing the exact location of individual graves. Garryowen states that by Order-in-Council (18th April, 1864), Richard Hale Budd of the Model School, Spring Street, Melbourne; Alexander Brock of Preston; John Cosgrave of the Town Hall, Melbourne; Dr. John Phillips of Rathdowne Street, Carlton Gardens; Robert Smith of 23 Flinders Lane West, Melbourne; and Rabbi Moses Rintel of 17 Rathdowne Street, Carlton Gardens were appointed Trustees. This Order seems to have been made ignoring the previous Trustees altogether, and under the assumption that the provisions of the Cemeteries Statute 1864 were applicable. The minutes of the first meetings of these Trustees show that they were uncertain of their legal standing and that they

never obtained possession of any earlier records.

There were numerous newspaper reports of unburied and illegally buried bodies being found in the Old Melbourne Cemetery. Many were of infant children. Also, Garryowen said he knew of three instances where bodies had been removed from the cemetery and used for medical purposes.

AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE

With \$15 million already spent on planning the redevelopment, Victorian Planning Minister Richard Wynne and Premier Daniel Andrews have offered to help Melbourne City Council find an alternative way of redeveloping and strengthening the heritage sheds. However Acting Lord Mayor Arron Wood has said that without the underground storage area and car park they cannot proceed and now plan to lodge an appeal in the Supreme Court. The matter was further complicated by the by-election for a new Lord Mayor on May 12 with Arron Wood ruling himself out as a candidate. The result of this election saw Sally Capp elected and the outcome is in the hands of the Melbourne City Council.



Black Rock House & Charles Ebden from page 3

From 1861 to 1866 he lived in London but his health deteriorated and he returned to Melbourne where he seemed to improve. Unfortunately in October 1867 he became unwell and died at the Melbourne Club of peritonitis. He was 57. His estate left to his family was worth £100,000.

Tamar and the children remained living in London. In what was called the 'incident' Tamar was attracted to Ebden's former business partner Theophilus Joseph Keene but her daughter Antoinette asked her not to marry him until she had turned 21. On turning 21 a couple of years later, Antoinette herself married Keene, who was 35 years her senior.

Several streets are named after Charles Ebden including Ebden Avenue where Black Rock House stands. The suburb Elsternwick is named after another of his properties, Elster, (German for magpie) and Black Rock is named after his house, which is open on the first Sunday of the month or mid-week for groups.

Contributed by Jan Hanslow, PPPG member no 1057



Black Rock House c.1920 source: Wikimedia

Further to Carolyn Brown's address "[The Life of Charles Ebden and Black Rock House](#)" this newspaper article was found on Trove:

The Melbourne Weekly Courier, Saturday, 20 January 1844.

BIRTH EXTRAORDINARY

On Thursday, the 11th instant at the residence of Charles Hotson Ebden Esq, Member of the Legislative Council for the District of Port Phillip, Mrs Harding, Spinster, of a daughter.

(The little stranger we are told, is disgustingly like its papa – Ed M.W.C)

www.bdm.vic.gov.au

Birth 1844, Harding, Catherine

Mother: Tamar (Harding)

Father: Ebden, Charles Hotson

Place of birth: Melbourne

Contributed by Jan Hanslow, PPPG member no 1057



The Chalmers Family Saga

The prose was written by Archibald Hugh Chalmers of Rangemore in 1925. The family experiences were passed down to him in his youth by his parents Archibald and Beatrice Chalmers

It goes for many a page and this very short extract follows in the next column.

In the last newsletter edition, I mentioned that John and Ann Chalmers came to Australia in 1849 on the Travancore sadly, I have made a mistake. John and Ann are the parents of the children that made this particular journey. Archibald and Henry Black Chambers are the Travancore travellers, along with other family members. Their parents came later.

From Broxburn to Ballarat and Beyond, written by Bradley A. Chalmers is available for borrowing from our library. Is worth a read. Ed.

The Saga

A sprightly youth of scarce a score of years
Yet manhood fire within his bosom glows
The whole wide world at large he little fears
No matter where the stream of fortune flows.

Now news of sunny lands beyond the seas
Doth fire their young ambitions strong
Yet wait they on the summer's gentle breeze
To fill their sails and carry them along.

At last they board the good ship Travancore

Equipped and manned by British seaman good
And face the vast and mighty ocean's roar
And storms that rage, with gales forever rude.

Now all is well the good ship speeds amain
The winds of Heaven alone her motive give
And sweet there floats the happy sailors' strain
With words and tune that will forever live.

But when of Afric's coast the Storm King comes
The Captain's ears alert the message take
'Tis like ten thousand distant booming guns
The very heavens themselves appear to shake.

Oh! Billy Brown on what pastures were you bred
Did England fair your sturdy limbers make
Now show your mettle as immortal William said
And save the ship and all there is at stake.

The angry billows rise with lengthening rolls
And flood the decks of sturdy Travancore
Then Bill advised the folks to clear their souls
For morning light would cheer them even more.

Our humble pair unto their bunks retire
With little Jessie snuggling sweet asleep
They fear no storm nor yet their Maker's ire
If his good will consigns them to the deep.

Ah! what a world had saved of bitterness and woe
Oh! what a world had missed of happiness and joy
Our human lives seemed intermingled so
In Gods great plan and all its wise alloy
(If British oak had not with stood the strain).

'Tis Sabbath morn! I've heard the tale so oft
The bright sun glistening on the vessel's deck
And walls of water standing high aloft
She's yet a ship, though something of a wreck.

And where is Brown the hero of the night!
He views the broken spars and tackling rent
His face still set but yet his heart is light
He joins the chorus now that's Heavenward sent.

Becalmed for days in India's torrid seas
The vessel sits with snowy pinions spread
Then buffeted by bleak Antarctic breeze
At last the land of promise looms ahead.

The sixteen thousand miles are nearly done
The four months seems but a little span
For not without the pleasure and the fun
The good ship Travancore – her voyage run.

A Gladstone sight! Australia's sunny shore
Well clad with gum and wattle trees so fine
No word of gold has yet begun to roar
For truth my friend 'tis yet but forty-nine.

Now did not will or some such worthy write
The simple truthful words immortalise
"He never loved who loved not at first sight"
Our folk their homage pay to Southern skies

No lingering wish for dear old Scotia's shore
The bonnie braes and woods may wave in vain
Australia's noble plains are at their door
Made fertile by a gentle steady rain.

Just one more feat of daring and of skill
While yet these stories around my heartstrings hug
I here record that faithful Mariner Bill
Sailed in without the aid of pilot or of tug.

In Phillip's Port the guide now comes to stay
And takes command of sturdy Tranencore
He drops the anchor in Corio's Bay
And William Brown I cannot follow more.

.....

What breath is this that rises with the morn
When grey dawn greets the kookaburra's song
Is it a blast from dark Sahara borne
That sobs and sighs and drives the dust along.

The sunrise red, now shows the "sullen sluggish lamp"
The eddying willy willy gain with every hour
There seems like something burning at the camp
And dark the smoke-cloud begins to lower.

At ten o'clock he flees from Charlie's shop
His steps are homeward bound you may depend
He keeps the pace without a breath or stop
I see his image now that fancies send.

Now Baldy-boy screw up that piercing eye
No gentle snowflake hits thy rosy cheek
You didn't know that stones could ever fly
You always thought they only paved the street.

The distant Pyrenees and Grampians are ablaze
The north wind shrieks as if 'twere in a fit
The darkening clouds of smoke obscure old Sol's hot rays
And blackness settles like the very pit.

The men of grit who crossed the oceans wide
Come out and take their Baptism of Fire
As did their grandsons at a later tide
When Gallipoli's heights they loosened their ire.

The little village and their homes they save
Though Barabool Hills are swept by fiery foe
In peace the battle won, the leisure gave
To view the lovely trees still burning so.

Victoria with her boundaries now defined
Soon auctions up some freehold lands
And ere the sun that day has quite declined
One acre to the Chalmers stands.

One tiny acre on this wobbling globe!
Just one little spot to call his own
Yet king he stands without a regal robe
And happier far than some that's graced a throne.

PORT PHILLIP PIONEERS GROUP INC – MEETINGS

Venue:	Wesley Hall. St. Andrew's Uniting Church, cnr Burke and Malvern Rds, 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.
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:	4.00 pm. Refreshments provided.
Next Meeting:	Saturday: 14 July 2018
Speaker:	Speaker: Bob Kerr Topic: The Mysterious Henry Elgar & his Crown Survey.

Upcoming Meetings:

Saturday, 8 September 2018

Speaker: Prof. Peter Sherlock. Vice Chancellor, University of Divinity.

Topic: The Rev. Adam Compton Thomson – Minister of St James Church during 1840s.

Saturday, 8 November 2018

Speaker: Joy Braybrook

Topic: John and Eliza Batman

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PPPG ENewsletter

If there are any members who would prefer to receive their PPPG Newsletter via email rather than by post, please contact Susan Grant at grantsv@bigpond.net.au.

Unless we hear from you, we will continue to send your newsletter via Australia Post.

**“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.”**