



Port Phillip Pioneers Group Inc.

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

A.C.N.: A0022862G

We look forward to your past



Newsletter No: 203

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April – May 2018



[Lennox Bridge, on the site of the present Princes Bridge, Melbourne] [art original]
Boyd, James Graham, fl. 1845-1854, artist. #1
SLV picture Collection

Salt & Pepper and Princes Bridge.

When we think of tolls we normally think of modern day living, however Melbourne's predecessor to Princes Bridge was just that. When the first European settlers settled the Central Melbourne area in 1835 there was no permanent crossing point of the Yarra River. The government in Sydney was unreliable in providing funds for the construction of a bridge, thus most of Melbourne's early infrastructure was provided by private enterprise.

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PORT PHILLIP PIONEERS GROUP

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VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.portphillippioneersgroup.org.au

Group Report.

Hello members and friends.

Marilla and I have recently attended the VAFHO (Victorian Association of Family History Organisations Inc.) Family History Expo at Sale. What a delight driving through beautiful Gippsland and then helping people find connections to their families. To add to my delight, I happened to win two raffle prizes. One was a membership to the GSV, which I had been meaning to rejoin for some time. I stopped when I was Group rep. The other was a Victorian directory package from Gould Books worth \$500, so it helps to spend ten dollars on raffle tickets to help the cause. Thank you to those groups that supplied prizes for the day.

At the last Expo in Deniliquin I met Brad whose ancestors John and Ann Chalmers arrived on the *Travencore* in 1849. His cousin Neil is a member who told him to come and meet us. Brad has written an amazing book on his family history which includes a poem, written by Archibald Hugh Chalmers. They call it *The Saga*, as it goes on forever. I have been trying to fit some of it in the newsletter for three editions now but have not had room. Next edition I will, so look out for it.

Our next meeting includes our AGM and our speaker Caroline who is talking about Black Rock House.

We hope to see you there and why not bring a friend.

Barb Hawkins, Editor and Vice President.

λ Welcome to the following Members λ

No	Member	Desc. From	Details	Date	Ship or other means
1466	Evelyn Joy GRANT	a) George Thomas ALSTON	Arr. PPD	4 th May 1847	<i>Thomas Arbuthnot</i>
1467	Alexander Colin GRANT	a) John and b) Margaret O'BRIEN nee BURKE	Arr. PPD	17 th February 1842	<i>Thetis</i>
1468	Robyn Wendy WATTERS	a) John and b) Mary McGRATH nee DONAHUE	Arr. PPD	12 th December 1840	<i>Neptune</i>
1469	Christine Joy DUFFEY	a) William GANGELL	Arr. Sorrento	1803	<i>Calcutta</i>
1470	Adele Marie DUFFEY	a) William GANGELL	Arr. Sorrento	1803	<i>Calcutta</i>
1471	Pamela Margaret HILL	a) Thomas Webb GOODWIN	Arr. PPD	1840	<i>Goshawk</i>
1472	Alan William BELL	a) William and b) Agnes BELL nee MUNCASTER c) William BELL	Arr. PPD	27 th October 1839 As above	<i>David Clark</i> As above

2018

Meeting Dates

May 12
July 14
September 8
November 10

Newsletter Deadlines

June 12 June - July
August 6 August - September
October 8 October - November

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

Address at General Meeting on 10 February 2018
Susan Grant - "Government Residence Melbourne 1837" -
The Story of the Painting.

The painting "Government Residence, Melbourne, 1837" depicts the occasion in March 1837 when the Governor of New South Wales, Richard Bourke, visited Port Phillip for the first time and directed the surveyor Robert Hoddle to continue Robert Russell's work and instructed that 'the town be laid out'.

Susan Grant, Treasurer of the Port Phillip Pioneers Group has been inspired by the book 'First Years of Port Phillip 1834 - 1842' by Robert Douglas Boys who was given permission to publish the diary kept by Sir Richard Bourke during his visit to Port Phillip in 1837. Thus a sketch of the government residence made by Phillip Parker King during Bourke's visit, and the oil painting executed by Joseph Anderson Panton CMG in 1880 are of great interest to her.

Maps drawn by both Russell and Hoddle indicate the government residence between modern day Spencer and King Streets, near Bourke Street.

The painting which was commissioned by descendants of P P King shows in the centre the wattle and daub government residence with another building possibly connected to it directly behind. To the side of the house is a tent and an outbuilding.

Beyond the house are tents for the government troops and convicts who accompanied Capt. William Lonsdale on his trip to Port Phillip in September 1836. In the distance is Mt Macedon. Various people of note are in the foreground.

John Batman is standing with William Buckley and William Hobson. They are with a group of aborigines, a few of whom have been presented with brass plates. Batman's 'treaty' with aborigines from the Doutta Galla tribe had instigated white settlement in the District. He is as usual depicted in profile wearing a hat and with a scarf around his neck.

William Buckley an absconded convict from Collins' Settlement at Sorrento in 1803 had lived with the local aborigines for 32 years. He had walked into Batman's camp at Indented Head in July 1835 and after being pardoned was employed as an interpreter with the aborigines. In the painting he is wearing western clothing.

Captain Hobson, born in Ireland, was the commander of *HMS Rattlesnake*. He brought Capt. Lonsdale and family to Port Phillip and also Governor Bourke in 1837. He surveyed Port Phillip Bay, and Hobson Bay bears his name. Having been involved in the Treaty of Waitangi, he became Governor of New Zealand when it became a British Colony separate from New South Wales.

Robert Hoddle, born 1794 in Westminster, became a cadet surveyor in the army. In 1823 he arrived in

Sydney and was appointed assistant surveyor. When he came to Port Phillip with Governor Bourke he was appointed senior surveyor.

Governor Bourke was born in Dublin in 1777. After leaving Oxford University he joined the Grenadier Guards and whilst on active service was wounded in both jaws. As Governor of NSW, he issued an order on 9 September 1836 authorising the Port Phillip settlement, and appointed Captain William Lonsdale as its first police magistrate. Lonsdale who was born in England in 1799 arrived in Australia as a lieutenant with the 4th Regiment guarding convicts on the Bussorah Merchant. He continued in his role as police magistrate until 1840 when he was appointed sub-treasurer of Port Phillip. Whilst stationed at Port Macquarie in 1835 he married Martha Lonsdale nee Smythe. She is seen in the painting feeding some poultry in the front of her home. Captain Hobson named Mt Martha after her.

Governor Bourke appears in the painting with his aide-de-camp Robert Marsh Westmacott, himself a competent artist. The sketch on this day was however done by Phillip Parker King the son of Phillip Gidley King, Governor of NSW in 1799.

Phillip jnr was born on Norfolk Island in 1791. Following a naval career he was influenced by Matthew Flinders to become a hydrographer. He studied under Thomas Hurd and in 1817 was sent to survey the coast of Australia not covered by Flinders. His sketch which did not include Batman, Bourke or Westmacott, and Panton's painting which was commissioned for the 1880 Exhibition in Melbourne, were kept by the King family.

Joseph Panton came to Australia in 1851 from Aberdeenshire to work on his uncle's sheep station at Mangalore. He applied to become a police escort but instead became assistant commissioner for the Bendigo gold fields and later was made Resident Commissioner at Bendigo. He returned to Europe where he attended art classes and after marrying Eleanor Fulton returned to Melbourne in 1862. He held the position of senior magistrate in Melbourne for over 30 years. In 1895 he was created a Companion of the order of St Michael & St George. He was a member of the Victorian Academy of the Arts, a Fellow of the Geographical Society, an explorer, map maker (Panton Hills is named after him) a vigneron and an artist. His portrait by Frederick McCubbin was hung at the Melbourne Club. He helped organise the statue of Matthew Flinders outside St Paul's Cathedral in Melbourne.

The King family struggled to persuade galleries of the painting's historical significance. It was finally purchased at auction in 1969 by the State Library of Victoria with the aid of Dr Joseph Brown.

Brown had come from Poland in 1933 and after serving in WW11 he set up a design business specialising in evening gowns. In 1967 he established himself as an art dealer. He was awarded an OBE in 1973 for his work in promoting Australian art and in 1990 was made an Officer of the Order of Australia. His donation to the National Gallery of Victoria of 450 works of Australian Art worth \$30 million in 2004 is the most generous single gift of art works ever made in Australia.

During her address Susan showed wonderful portraits of the many people connected to Pantón's painting, which unfortunately is in storage. A portrait of surveyor Robert Russell by Pantón's daughter Alice hangs in the State Library of Victoria.

Contributed by Jan Hanslow PPPG member no. 1057

Further to Susan Grant's address "Government residence, Melbourne, 1837" these articles were found on the internet: http://www.mahistory.org.au/images/Website/pdf/earlyyears/firstcommittee_lonsdale.pdf

Edmund Finn, in his *Chronicles of Early Melbourne* reports that Hoddle, in his journal on March 1837, remarked "The weather-boarded building under Batman's Hill was erected by Batman, and Capt Lonsdale stayed there until the two road parties' huts were joined together, and formed his dwelling. A tent at the rear of the huts was the dwelling of his cook, a fire in front his cook house"

<http://vhd.heritagecouncil.vic.gov.au/places/66613/download-report>

Statement of Significance Last updated on - July 18, 2008

William Lonsdale's Cottage, a prefabricated timber cottage of 5 rooms, was despatched from the Royal Engineers Office at Sydney on 15 March 1837 and intended as the residence of the Police magistrate, William Lonsdale. Material was washed overboard en route and subsequently replaced at Port Phillip.

The weatherboard cottage was erected by 30 October 1837 on a site in Wellington Parade, Jolimont, and close to where La Trobe's Cottage was later built.

Lonsdale's Cottage was removed from Jolimont to Carrum in c. 1891 and later further dismantled and erected at Notting Hill c.1960. This simple rectangular cottage, symmetrically planned about a recessed porch and constructed of weatherboard and shingle, functioned as the first Government House in Melbourne. It is without doubt the oldest extant structure in Victoria although many of the components of the original cottage now dismantled no longer exist or can be identified.

Lonsdale's Cottage survives as a relic in storage, unable to be faithfully rebuilt. Lonsdale's Cottage is in the custody of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria). Only a small percentage of the original components, listed in a bill of lading of March 1837, survive in storage at St Kilda East. Insufficient documentation presently exists to aid accurate reconstruction.

Contributed by Jan Hanslow PPPG member no. 1057



Government Residence, Melbourne 1837 (picture)
Joseph Anderson Pantón 1813-1913 Artist
SLV Picture collection.



The Fleece

In the report on page two I mention Brad from Deniliquin. He is a Merino Stud farmer and this fleece is from his stock. The portion of fleece from The Acacia and Canary Island Merino Stud pictured below was given to me when we met and also some of the story that goes with it. Sheep of course have a pedigree just as we have and this is of course the necessary documentation in the bloodlines of all prized animals.

The book *From Broxburn to Ballarat and Beyond* was donated to our library by Brad Chalmers. Pages 225-230 & 269 contain the story of the flock's history. The sheep were from VDL and the Chalmers men had connections to the Russell and Moffatt families when they worked for them originally. Having arrived in the colony in 1849 aboard the *Travancore* from Scotland, the family were later arrivals than the sheep.

The family went on to be sheep farmers in their own right managing their highly prized merino stud. And as we have seen, Brad still has descendants from that original Merino stock.



SALT & PEPPER & PRINCES BRIDGE

Continued from page1,

On 22 April 1840 the Melbourne Bridge Company was formed to build a temporary wooden bridge structure across the Yarra for the sum of four hundred pounds. The location of the bridge was much debated with Superintendent Latrobe who favoured Elizabeth Street site whilst the company preferred Swanston Street and ultimately won, when a contract was eventually signed on the 9 June 1845. Like so many things it outlived its usefulness and was to be replaced by a free government bridge. #2

To build bridges one needs roads for approaches and my great, great, great grandfather Daniel Clancy received a mention as follows, in an extract from the E-book, "Overflow of Clancy", in chapter two it tells us; "By 1842 the boom period of employment for migrants was over and many were finding difficulty in obtaining employment. A depot was formed, the first of the Immigrant Homes, and work was found for a hundred or two during several months in making a good carriage road from the falls of the Yarra to Sandridge. One of those employed was Daniel Clancy, who came from Cork on the Mary Nixon just a month after Thomas Clancy. A reduction of wages, from twenty shillings to eighteen shillings per week, led to a strike." #3 Daniel was from Charleville in County Cork, whilst Thomas lived 34 kilometres south east at Castletownroache.

By 1844 Governor Sir George Gipps appointed David Lennox to the Port Phillip District with the portfolio of superintendent of bridges. For nine years he had charge of all roads, bridges, wharves and ferries and acted as advisory engineer to various government departments. In this time, he built some fifty-three bridges, the most notable being Princes bridge. The foundation stone for this new bridge was laid in 1846 and the bridge was opened in 1851, with a single stone arch of one hundred and fifty feet span. It was the largest bridge built, by Lennox. As it was built by government funds it was opened on 15 November without tolls. #4

With the above experience behind him, Daniel was employed, on the building of Princes Bridge, to replace the toll bridge.

Clancy and sixty other gentlemen both mechanics and labourers, signed a petition -No.48/1777

18th.August 1848

To His Honour
C. J. La Trobe Esq.,
Superintendent of Port Phillip

The humble Petition of the Mechanics and Labourers, employed on the works of Princes Bridge, Melbourne, Shewth

"That your Petitioners are Employed in there several vocations as Mechanics and Labourers under the Government.

"That their daily hours of work are during the greater portion of the year from six o'clock in the morning until six in the evening, on every working day.

That your Petitioners have not the advantage of any national holiday whatever as is the case in Sydney and the Sister Colonies.

That while your Petitioners are resigned to adhere to their work, alike under the oppressive heat of the summer months in this their adopted land as during the milder temperature of the winter season the majority of the working classes in England enjoy a privilege for the last eighteen months conceded to them of terminating their weeks labour at four o'clock on Saturdays in summer and two o'clock in winter.

That while your petitioners, only about fifty in number, are thus resigned to toil throughout the weeks, the most eminent builders of London several of whom have upwards of eight hundred men dependent upon them for their daly (sic) bread, have without hesitation cheerfully allowed the hours of labour on Saturdays to be curtailed by two hours in summer and four hours in winter.

That your Petitioners have heard the results of the early cessation from Labour on Saturdays, have proved it to be a great blessing to the working classes.

That your Petitioners are respectfully soliciting the same privilege as now enjoyed and as they learn, rapidly extending throughout Great Britain may be granted to them, are only applying in a more limited degree for a favour which has long been given to others, following less laboruous pursuits.

That your Petitioners are convinced no loss would ultimately accrue to the Government from the granting of this privilege but on the contrary, that from the inestimable value two hours liberty on Saturdays would prove to every Mechanic and Labourer enjoying it their duties through the week would be performed the more cheerfully and satisfactorily.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that instructions may be given to the Superintendent of Bridges for all labour on Government works in the City of Melbourne to cease in future at four o'clock on Saturdays, and fully persuaded that if your Honor be pleased thus

favourably to this, our Petition, listen to this our Petition, they will be enabled to effect a great improvement in the condition of their families, they pledge themselves to renewed exertions."

LIST OF PETITIONERS

Charles Boon	Thomas Phillips
John Croat	Timothy Kelly
Robert Barrow	John Newman
David Hughes	Mathew Chappel
Richard Cordey	Malachai Murray
Charles Williams	Patrick King
John McKay	Pat Courtenay
Geo. Milne	William Shauhan
Samuel Pollett	John Collins
Edward Spencer	Roderick McCloud
Denis Coghlan	Joseph Smith
John Quin	James Tailor
Robert Atkinson	Edward Quin
James Jackson	Henry Block
Joseph Heald	William Martin
Edward Morgan	John Denning
Timothy Horgan	John Shearer
John Horgan	Edmond Kelly
John Donald	Michael Quinn
Joseph James	Thomas Brown
James Linacre	Daniel Clancy
Evan Hughes	John Courtenay
Robert Donnelly	Joseph Friar
Thomas Lowey	Thomas McCulloch
Patrick Staly	Stephen Jones
Patr? McGregor	Joseph Smith
William Kennon	Michael Martin
William Trotman	John Murray
William Houlett	John Cuhain
James Holoham	John Brooksbank
Patrick Murphy	

Their request was "Acceded to 26th. August 1848. To be set at liberty on Saturdays". #5

After many delays it was officially opened on 15th November 1850 and known as the Lennox Bridge. #6

However, within a year, gold was discovered in country Victoria and Melbourne saw a massive increase in population. In addition to the increase in traffic crossing the bridge, there was also a need to handle increased shipping traffic on the Yarra River and the river was widened to cope with this. Construction of the new bridge began in 1886 and was completed in 1888. As with many historic Melbourne buildings and bridges, the bridge is built on solid bluestone bulwarks and plenty of cast iron.

The present bridge was named after Edward, Prince of Wales and was built between 1886 and 1888 by David Munro. It was designed by John Grainger (1855-1917), the father of the Australian composer Percy Grainger and was opened on 4th. October 1888. #7

This is Melbourne's grandest and oldest bridge. A bridge has crossed the river at this point since 1845. The present structure is dominated by squat half columns resting on giant piers. These contrast beautifully with the delicate iron girder arches. The decorated spandrels feature the Coats of Arms of Municipal Councils who contributed towards the cost of construction, the mouldings and balustrade along the top of the Bridge and the lamp standards crowning the giant half columns are notable features. #8

Here is a piece of nostalgia tied with the bridge, or at least its Melbourne Coat of Arms on the side of the "new" third bridge. Daniel Clancy's great grandson, Jim Doyle (my maternal grandfather) and his wife, Catherine Nee Markham, presented to her brother, Vincent Markham, and Leila nee Long for their 25th. wedding anniversary on 22nd. August 1942, a pair of



silver salt and pepper cruets, with the Coat of Arms of Melbourne on them of them in the original format. The whale and the bull were in reversed positions later. The fleece, the bull, and the ship represented wool, tallow, and oil, the chief exports of 1843 and their means of transport from Port Phillip.

As my grandparents were the gift givers, so they thought possibly in war time, their gift should be, practical and patriotic, yet silver at the same time. The late recipients' daughter (my first cousin once removed) gave them back to me, prior to her going into an aged care facility some years ago, knowing how much I would appreciate their heritage if only they all knew about Daniel and his labours and endeavours.

Contributed by Michael Grogan PPPG member no1332

Sources:

- #1 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Princes_Bridge_\(Melbourne\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Princes_Bridge_(Melbourne))
- #2 www.onlymelbourne.com.au/melbourne.details.php?id=60
- #3 17 Finn P 114; Weidenhofer P. 50; P.P.H. 17-6 1842; Payment Voucher (Latrobe Library); Shipping Lists.).
- #4 Australian Dictionary of Biography – David Lennox (1788-1873).
- #5 PROV - Unit: 109 - Year: 1848 - File: 1777 Clancy, Daniel, petitions for reduced working hours on Princes Bridge
- #6 City of Melbourne Streets and Roads.
- #7 [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Princes_Bridge_\(Melbourne\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Princes_Bridge_(Melbourne))
- #8 "Princes Bridge (listing RNE5202)". Australia Heritage

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Port Phillip Pioneers Group Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday 12th May 2018 at which time all Committee positions will be declared vacant.

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.

Completed nomination forms are to be delivered by the 1st May 2018 to

The Honorary Secretary
Port Phillip Pioneers Group
Address: 55 Kerferd St
Malvern East VIC 3145

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

PORT PHILLIP PIONEERS GROUP NOMINATION FORM

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARER/COMMITTEE PERSON FOR YEAR 2018

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 – 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: 12 May 2018
Speaker:	AGM & Speaker: Carolyn Brown. (President, Friends of Black Rock House) Topic: The Life of Charles Ebdon & Black Rock House

Upcoming Meetings:

Saturday, 14 July 2018

Speaker: Bob Kerr

Topic: The Mysterious Henry Elgar & his Crown Survey.

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.

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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.”**