

Onen hag oll

# The Cornish Association of Victoria Inc. Ballarat Branch

A.C.N. A0008 264A

## April 2023 Newsletter

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**Saturday 1st April 2023 at 2.00 pm**

Our speaker will be Maureen Waddington and she will share information about the History of St John's Hospital.

**Saturday 3rd June 2023 at 2.00 pm**

This is the Annual General Meeting - the speaker will be Brian Rollason, President of the Cornish Association of Victoria.

The Annual Election of Office Bearers and Committee will take place during the meeting.  
Office Bearer Positions:

Chairperson Vice-Chairperson  
Administrative Secretary Treasurer

Please ensure that Lorice has your nomination if you wish to be an office bearer or a member of the committee by 19th May 2023.

**February Meeting**

Members were keen to share "Snippets" of family history uncovered in their family research.

**Keith Lanyon** shared stories of his family and their farm.

**Robyn Coates** showed an autograph book belonging to a great aunt and given to the aunt on her 21st birthday in 1901. Each person who wrote in the book had drawn a picture to accompany their verse.

**Arthur Coates** told some of the story of his aunt, Maud Coates, who had trained as Primary School

Teacher and was appointed to "The Little School on the Hill" at Glenlogie in 1927.

Quoting from her writings:

*The highlight of the school year had been the school picnic on neighbouring property "Birds' Gap", which had a large dam, with a boathouse and boat, and Father Christmas rowed across the dam with his sack of presents. There was great excitement when Santa landed and distributed his gifts. Alas! That was the first and last of those picnics during my time there. I received a box of handkerchiefs, and snap-shots were taken of the group of pupils and adults gathered there.*

*A year or two after that, one Friday afternoon, I heard footsteps outside the school, and on going to the door, I saw two gentlemen approaching. I was so surprised that I did not at first recognize one of my brothers, Will and his friend Dr. Pound (Science), both at that time members of staff at the Ballarat School of Mines.*

*They were spending a few days on a camping holiday, and on their way home to Ballarat, found that they were a few miles from Glenlogie, so sought me out, and asked me if they could camp in the schoolroom that night.*

*Dr. Pound introduced himself to the children as the Governor of Victoria, told them to stand up and salute him, had a short talk to them, and then granted a half-holiday. The children looked nonplussed, but as there was only about an hour until dismissal, I sent them home. Later I took my two visitors down to my boarding house, and my landlady kindly invited them to have a meal with us.*

*After that, Dr. Pound, being a good pianist, entertained us, and after going through his repertoire, the two gentlemen left to camp in the school. On what they slept I never heard, and how they managed without lamp or candles I do not know. On going up to the school next morning to sweep and dust, they had departed, but in*

Normally meetings are held on the even months at Skipton Street Uniting Church Hall,  
cnr Darling and Skipton Streets, Ballarat.

Meetings begin at 2.00 pm and are followed by a shared high tea.



*the table drawer was a note addressed to me, and enclosed was a ten shilling note. The good doctor was so sad on hearing that the children were not having a Christmas treat, that he asked me to persuade the parents to provide some money for one and, with his contribution of ten shillings, we were unable to have a picnic at the dam, but a small gathering of pupils, and some of their younger brothers and sisters, and a few of the mothers, met at the school.*

*When I left to teach in Melbourne in late September, 1933, I thought that, as Christmas was approaching, I would purchase Christmas gifts for my old pupils on the hill. I bought articles which I thought they would like, suitable for their age, wrapped each separately in Christmas paper, with appropriate cards attached. I placed them all in a box, and sent it by rail to the Amphitheatre Station, to be collected by my successor when she was next in the township. I hope the children had as much pleasure opening them as their old teacher had from choosing and wrapping them. At least they had three Christmas treats in the years 1927 to 1933.*

**Wendy Benoit** shared a cutting, **WHAT MINERS SUFFER** (from *The Bendigo Independent* 12 August 1908: page 2) concerning the death of John Barnett. John was one of the sons born to Charles Barnett and his wife Ellen Moxley, who married in 1854.

Charles Barnett was a miner and had been born in Gwennap

#### WHAT MINERS SUFFER. THE BARNETT FAMILY.

The death of Mr. John Barnett, of Sebastopol, on Sunday, from miner's complaint, recalls (says a Ballarat correspondent) the fact that his family have suffered severely in the search for gold.

In the palmy days of Sebastopol the Barnett family were among the most stalwart workers in the district, and held the honour of being the best shaft sinkers and most expert contractors on the field.

There were six sons in the family.

Mr. John Barnett, whose death has just occurred at Sebastopol, contracted miner's complaint in South Africa.

He returned to Ballarat to die after an absence of ten years.

Four of the brothers, including John, lost their lives through mining.

James Barnett was blown up by a premature explosion in South Africa. He was a man of great physique, and weighed 19st 11lb-

There are two surviving brothers, twins, one of whom has lost a leg.

This is George Barnett. He met with the accident

which deprived him of his leg at the Ristori mine, West Allendale, 23 years ago, while working a shift for a comrade.

The other twin brother is Dennis Barnett, who lives in Albert street, Sebastopol.

The mother of this family is still living.

She is a native of Ireland, and arrived in Ballarat in 1853.

**Jenny Burrell** shared information about the Lukeis family she had come across whilst researching. Eli Lukeis was the eldest son of Samuel Lukeis and Mary Freeman Caddy (daughter of Michael Caddy/ Mary Freeman)

Eli Cuttance 1855 - 1947

Joseph 1857 - 1861

John 1858 - 1945

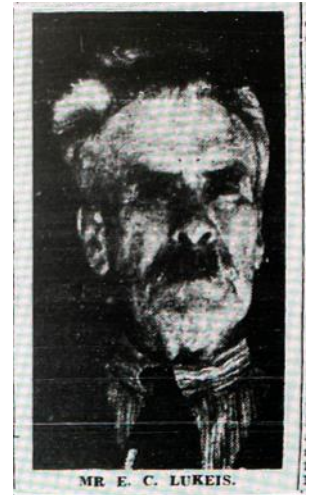
Joseph 1861 - 1936

Sidney 1863 -

Ellen Caddy 1865 - 1876

Samuel 1877 - 1950

The Courier, Ballarat,  
Monday 5th March 1945,  
Page 2



#### STILL GOING STRONG AT 90 YEARS

##### Mr E. C. Lukeis

Missing the historic Eureka affair by a few weeks Mr Eli C Lukeis, of 709 Skipton Street, who celebrated his 90th birthday yesterday, can always look on it as a milestone – the first in his long life – for he was born at Canadian shortly after the disturbance in 1855.

Mr Lukeis was born in a tent in the midst of the activity of a mining field, where his Cornish parents settled shortly after their arrival in Australia.

His father who lived to the age of 82, at that time was interested in mining, but shortly after moved to Smythesdale, where Mr Lukeis spent his childhood.

In 1868 the family moved back to Ballarat, and as a young man Mr Lukeis held various positions before he joined the Victorian Railways, in which he served for 35 years at the Ballarat goods shed.

Among his memories of early Ballarat is the rapid growth of the city during the interval he spent in the country.

In Mr Lukeis' early youth, the building now known as Mark's corner, was the booking office of Cobb and Co., and his first job was at Mrs Rogers' drapery establishment on the south-west corner of Sturt and Errard Streets.

This was known as Brunswick House, and the

original building still stands.

Mr Lukeis' wife, who died four years ago, came from Penzance, Cornwall, at an early age, and was a sister of the Rev. S Hoban, who spent some years in Ballarat.

They had only one child, a daughter, now Mrs W Pengelly, who lives in Melbourne.

Her daughter, Miss Irene Pengelly, lives with her grandfather in his home built on a block he has lived on for 50 years.

Mr Lukeis, who is a brother of Mr S Lukeis, the well-known poultry fancier, has 10 grandchildren and eight great grandchildren. Four of the former are represented in the three defence services.

Still fairly active despite some rheumatism in his legs, this grand old man is an early riser and is quite independent of assistance in getting about the house and garden.

He reads a good deal and is alert and clear-headed, taking a great interest in world affairs and those of his family.

Latterly he has become slightly deaf, but retains all his other faculties to a marked degree.

In appearance, too, he looks much less than his age and surprisingly, his hair is still a thick and un-receding thatch of iron grey.

Mr Lukeis has been the recipient of many telegrams, letters and gifts during the past few days, and yesterday his birthday was celebrated with a tea party at which relatives and old friends were present.

**Val D'Angri** told us of *The Prophecies of Mother Shipton* who was born in 1488.

She was an unknown to those present at the meeting and we had a chuckle at some of the prophecies.

There are many references on TROVE to Mother Shipton.

One from the Barrier Miner is included on the next page

### **Mother Shipton is England's most famous Prophetess.**

*She foretold the fates of several rulers within and just after her lifetime, as well as the invention of iron ships, the Great Fire of London in 1666, and the defeat of the Spanish Armada.*

*As well as making traditional remedies, Mother Shipton had another gift. She could predict the future. It started off with small premonitions but as she practised, she became more confident and her powers grew.*

*Soon she was known as Knaresborough's Prophetess, a witch. She made her living telling the future and warning*

*those who asked of what was to come. After a long life, she died in 1561, aged 73.*

*Mother Shipton was born Ursula Sontheil in 1488, during the reign of Henry VII, father of Henry VIII. Although little is known about her parents, legend has it that she was born during a violent thunderstorm in a cave on the banks of the River Nidd in Knaresborough.*

*Her mother, Agatha, was just fifteen years old when she gave birth, and despite being dragged before the local magistrate, she would not reveal who the father was.*

*With no family and no friends to support her, Agatha raised Ursula in the cave on her own for two years before the Abbott of Beverley took pity on them and a local family took Ursula in. Agatha was taken to a nunnery far away, where she died some years later. She never saw her daughter again.*

*Ursula grew up around Knaresborough. She was a strange child, both in looks and in nature. Her nose was large and crooked, her back bent and her legs twisted. Just like a witch. She was taunted and teased by the local people and so in time she learnt she was best off on her own. She spent most of her days around the cave where she was born. There she studied the forest, the flowers and herbs and made remedies and potions with them.*

*When she was twenty-four she met a young man by the name of Tobias Shipton. He was a carpenter from the city of York. Tobias died a few years later, before they had any children, but Ursula kept his name, Shipton. The Mother part followed later, when she was an old woman.*

<https://www.mothershipton.co.uk/the-story/>

It is said that there was a big black tree, under which Mother Shipton's house stood and that she put a curse on it, to stop the villagers chopping it down and removing her from the house.

The man appointed to do the work died.

A second man, sent to do the work, also died.

It would seem that any woman who was offered 1000 pounds for her husband to remove the tree would have adamantly refused, such was Mother Shipton's reputation.



Statue in Knaresbough - Wikipedia

**Barrier Miner (Broken Hill, NSW : 1888 - 1954), Tuesday 24 June 1941, page 2**

*Mother Shipton's Prophecies of Centuries Ago Come True*

*The prophecies of Mother Shipton made in England nearly four centuries ago, are of particular interest because of their reference to recent world happenings. Mother Shipton, who was born in the reign of Henry VIII and died in 1559, during the reign of Queen Elizabeth, was looked upon as a witch in her day.*

*Her verses, which were published after her death, contained what must be regarded today as remarkable prophecies. Her knowledge was ascribed to an alliance with the devil.*

*From whatever source that fore-sight came, it can only be regarded as marvellous. Many people have heard of Mother Shipton, but as few have read her verse in detail, it will possibly be of interest.*

*Here are the verses:*

*A house of glass shall come to pass In merry England-  
but, alas,*

*War will follow with the work In the land of the Turk.*

*And State and State in fierce strife*

*Struggle for each other's life.*

*Carriages without horses-shall go*

*And accidents will fill the world with woe.*

*In London Primrose Hill shall be,*

*And the centre of a bishop's see.*

*Around the world thought shall fly In the twinkling of an  
eye.*

*Through the hills men shall ride,*

*And neither horse nor ass bestride.*

*Under water men shall walk,*

*Shall ride, shall sleep, shall talk.*

*Iron In the water shall float As easily as a wooden boat.*

*Gold shall be found and shown In a land that's now  
unknown.*

*Fire and water shall wonder do,*

*And England shall admit a Jew,*

*Three times three shall lovely France Be led to dance a  
bloody dance,*

*Before her people shall be free*

*Three tyrant rulers she shall see,*

*Each springing from a different dynasty.*

*And when the Inst great fight Ja won*

*England and France shall be as one.*

*And now a word In uncouth rhyme*

*Of what, shall be in later time.*

*In these wonderful far-off days*

*Women shall get a strange new craze*

*To dress like men, and breeches wear,*

*And cut their beautiful locks of hair,*

*And ride astride with brazen brow*

*As witches do on broomsticks now.*

*Then love shall die, and marriage cease.*

*And babes and sucklings so decrease  
That wives shall fondle cats and dogs  
And men live much the same as hogs.  
In eighteen hundred and ninety-six  
Then shall mighty wars be planned,  
And fire and sword sweep over the land,  
And those who live the century through  
In fear and trembling this will do,  
Fly to the mountains and to the glens,  
To bogs and forests, and wild dens.  
For tempests will range and oceans will roar, -  
And Gabriel shall stand on the seashore;  
And as he toots his wonderful horn  
Old worlds shall die, and new be born.  
In the air men shall be seen  
In white, in black, in green,  
Now strange, but yet they-shall be true.  
The world upside down shall be,  
And gold shall be found at the roots of a tree.  
Through hills men shall ride,  
And horse nor ass be at his side.*

*It will be seen that the following events were foretold:-  
The building of the Crystal Palace, the Turkish war, the  
advent of the motor car, the aeroplane, wireless,  
submarines, finding gold in Australia, Franco-Prussian  
war, British and French alliance, women's customs and  
fashions today, decline of birth-rate, evacuation of cities  
to country, and a topsy-turvy world such as we see  
today.*

*From, whatever source the prophecies came, they can  
only be described as remarkable.*



*An engraving of Ursula Southheil (Mother Shipton) from the title page of 1686 book *The Strange and Wonderful World of Mother Shipton**

## ST PIRAN'S DAY - Sunday 5th March

It was wonderful that Ballarat Members were joined by friends, from Melbourne, Geelong and even a couple from New Zealand, to celebrate St Piran's Day in 2023.

The Chairperson of the Ballarat Branch of the Cornish Association, Rev. Keith Lanyon, led a 'Church Service to Commemorate the Cornish in Ballarat', at Skipton Street Uniting Church, with members Les George, Wendy Benoit, Lorice Jenkin and Robyn Coates taking part in the service. Those present enjoyed singing some of the old familiar Methodist Hymns and also the Cornish themed music played by the musicians from Skipton Street UC.



Following the Church Service, members began an interesting and informative tour put together by Bev and Jim Hocking, tour guides extraordinaire, ably assisted by Simon Dennis, from Buninyong, who lived and breathed Buninyong History.

On the way to Buninyong, some stopped briefly to view Pulpit Rock, near where many Cornish lived and worshipped before shifting north to Pleasant Mount (Mt Pleasant).



Buninyong was first settled by pastoralists in 1837 when Thomas and Somerville Learmonth arrived from Tasmania via Geelong with about 2 000 sheep. The young men were descendants of an Edinburgh farming family though their father Thomas had settled in Tasmania at Hobart and was a merchant in 1835.

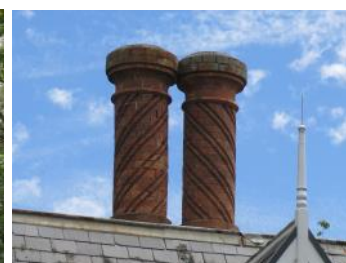
By 1839, the brothers had extended their holdings to Burrumbeet and Maiden Hills where they built their home, *Ercildoun*.

Buninyong originates from an Aboriginal word also recorded as 'Buninyouang', said to mean 'man lying on his back with his knees raised', which is in reference to the shape of Mount Buninyong. European settlers named it Boninyong and Bunninyong.

**The Crown Hotel** was our lunch venue. Established in 1842, the Crown Hotel Buninyong was the first inland hotel in Victoria to be issued with a license and is the longest running continually licensed hotel in regional Victoria.



After eating far too much, we drove in convoy and looked at various landmark buildings with Simon giving us the history at each stop.



**Clifton Villa**, built for chemist Edward Newmann, in 1867, had decorative barge boards, intricate lace work and twisted brick work on its chimneys.

Newman's design was based on the home of his wife, Clifton Manor, in Bristol. A Mr House from Durham Lead built the house according to the specifications of Mrs Newman.

In 1881, it was purchased by grocer George Whykes who added a ballroom (since demolished) to cater for the many social events held here. The last event was a function for returning servicemen after World War One.

In 1968, Ian Smith, an architect, bought it and commenced extensive restoration.

The huge iron gates are from Queens Grammar

school (now ACU Aquinas campus), in Mair Street, Ballarat.

### Buninyong Town Hall and Court House

Municipal government came to Buninyong in 1858, and in the early years Council met in various hotels. In 1886, this building was built to house the Buninyong Borough Council, the Town Hall and the Court House, replacing an earlier building adjacent to the Gardens. The Court closed in 1980, and the Town Hall moved to the control of the City of Ballarat in 1994.



We drove past **Camellia Cottage** which was built for one of Buninyong's early medical practitioners around 1862.



In 1865, Dr C. Gavin Casey was the doctor at Buninyong and lived in this home. He was the grandfather of Lord Casey, Governor General of Australia. Later David Davies MLA (1877-1894) lived here, followed by the Town Clerk James Jordan in the early years of the twentieth century. From the 1920s, the head master at the Buninyong State School, Mr William Nagle, lived here.



**Havilah Cottage** was built by Cornishman, Thomas Trehwella, in 1861. He was a gardener. The house features an unusual battlement parapet and a

curved post supporting verandah. The name Havilah comes from the Old Testament book of Genesis, meaning the place where there was gold and gold was good.



### Dr Longden's House

Dr Frank R Longden was appointed as a newly graduated doctor to Buninyong in 1888, and served the people of Buninyong and district until his death in 1938.

This house was built in 1892 as a wedding present from the bride's father to his daughter, Josephine Robertson, on the occasion of her marriage to Dr Longden.

The surgery was in the front room, and a dispensary was located in the garden.



### Post Office

The Post Office was built in 1874 and replaced many unofficial post offices. It operated as a Post Office until the year 2000.



## Hiscock Memorial

Driving to the Buninyong Cemetery, we passed the Hiscock Memorial.

Erected by the Borough and Shire of Buninyong, to indicate the spot where Gold was first discovered in Victoria, by Mr T Hiscocks, August 3rd 1851.

David Kerr MP Mayor

Jas A Jordan Town Clerk

F E Sides JP President

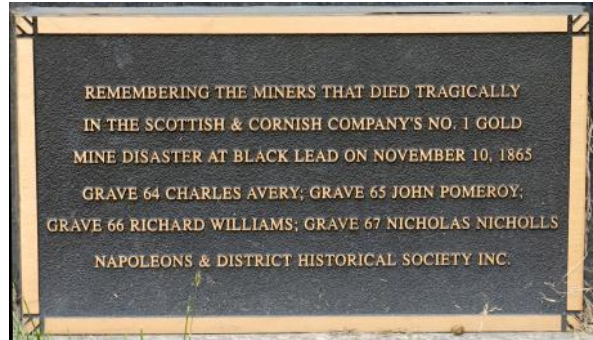
G A Hale Secretary

June 21st 1897 - Queen's Diamond Jubilee Year.



Also

John Thomas died 8th May 1880. Aged 56 years



## Buninyong Cemetery

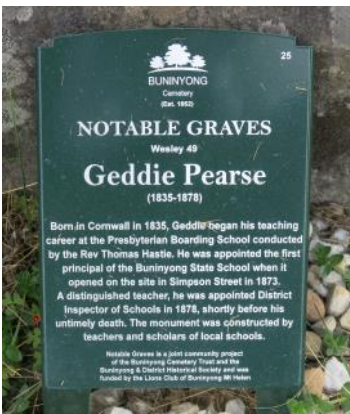
An Old Burial Ground is located in Buninyong (just west of the old Post Office) where the first burial took place in 1837 but the site was abandoned in the 1850s.

The current cemetery is the second registered cemetery in Victoria with the first recorded burial of Elizabeth Gullan taking place in 1852.

Jessie McIntosh was a four year old girl who wandered away from her home in Buninyong, in 1867 - her body was found in King's Gully, East of Durham Lead, about four miles from her home several days later.



Geddie Pearse (1835-1878) born in Cornwall - first head teacher of Buninyong State School in 1873. Monument erected by teachers and students from local schools



Walter Thomas - late of Wendron Cornwall England, who having met with an accident on the Scotsmans Lead on the 12th of August 1858 died on the 17th. Aged 30 years. [Parents George and Jane (Moyle)]



At the Scottish and Cornish Mine in November 1865, a young lad, Charles Avery, who was tending the furnace, which drew air down into the shafts, allowed the fire to get out of control causing a large fire. He and three other miners were killed.



With grateful thanks to Bev and Jim for organising the tour and much of the information mentioned concerning the various places.

## **JOHN FORD - LETTER WRITER AND "LEGAL ADVISER"**

Recently we have all been alarmed that TROVE needs financial help to remain on line in its present form and that we hope that the May budget will assist in this.

I decided to look at all of my lists on TROVE. I have over one hundred lists and check that I may need to update them.

I relooked at my list for John Ford, the second husband of my great, great grandmother, Florence Eddyc(Hicks).

She had two children, Susannah and James, with her first husband John Eddy, in St Just in Penwith, in Cornwall. Sadly he died in 1838.

In March, 1840 Florence married John Squire Ford, with whom she had two children Ellen and Charles. The family emigrated to Australia on the *Bermondsey* arriving in December, 1853. I am unsure as to when they moved to Wills Street, Ballarat East. (Wills street in Ballarat East; Mair street in Ballarat). I believe John was a miner in the years after they arrived.

I found that John Ford was an inveterate letter writer to the Ballarat Star newspaper and also to the Ballarat East council. He also believed he was an expert in legal matters.

### **In the Ballarat Star Thursday 4th June 1868**

"A man named James Ford (I believe this was John) had a narrow escape from being committed to gaol for contempt of court on Wednesday. Ford was a witness in a case in the Wardens\* Court, and incurred the displeasure of Mr Warden Sherard by persisting in talking about matters outside the case. In the next complaint, Ford had been served instead of his son Charles, and again Ford senior persisted in talking to the court and displaying his legal knowledge.

After being cautioned he still continued to express his dissent on the Wardens ruling, and the warden told a constable to detain him until the court rose. When all the business was transacted, Ford was called before the magistrate and dismissed with a caution."

I have not yet found the case this matter refers to but his step son James Eddy had many mining interests in Ballarat and beyond.

\*Wardens Court- a special court established to deal with disputes relating to mining and mining tenements. It was presided over by a mining warden.

### **Monday 5th December 1870, Ballarat Star**

The Mayor's Salary-from John Ford, Wills street  
"Sir, In my opinion a most grievous and morally unjust burden has been imposed on the unfortunate ratepayers of Ballarat East by the council's vote to the mayor of two hundred and fifty pounds per annum, when a very large number of industrious persons were unable to obtain employment and had to wonder about in pursuit of work, but finding none and returning at night the images of grief and despair and not a few having lost all their worldly possessions in the late disastrous floods. It appears to me that our present councillors are not suitable to represent the general body of ratepayers in these times of misery and distress. -----"

I believe his step son James Eddy was still a Ballarat East councillor at this time.

### **Saturday 10 May 1890 -Ballarat Chronicles and Pictures by W.B.Withers, author of "the History of Ballarat"**

"On 3rd January, 1889, died in Wills street, John Ford, aged 82 years. He had lived there for 30 years, and during that time had spent many hours in and about the law courts of Ballarat, as a kind of irregular adviser of litigants. He had no professional status, but had obtained some clerical acquaintance with legal matters, and was called amongst the frequenters of the courts "the attorney general". This was by way of quasi-derisive estimation of his legal pretensions. Once or twice, that great stickler for the proprieties, Judge Rogers, sharply rebuked Ford for meddling in court with parties or witnesses, but I never heard of the "attorney-general" having done anything worse than the works of nine-tenths of the professional practitioners. He was charitable, sober, quiet and took much interest in local public questions."

I feel that John Ford was quite a character and I would love to have met him.

With the help of TROVE I know him much better than before when he was just a name and a person married to my great, great grandmother Florence. Florence died on 17 June 1888 and is buried in the Old Cemetery

Their gravestone reads

"Ford - Sacred to the memory of John Ford died 3rd Jny 1889 aged 82 years. His beloved wife Florence died 17th June 1888, 87 years. They were happy and peaceful in their lives & and in death they were not divided."

Di Christensen