

Peach Trees Gazette

Peachester History Committee Inc. Newsletter
Number 195 ~ July / August 2024

NEWS AND COMING EVENTS

SUNDAY 7TH JULY: PHC meeting at Peachester Hall from 11.00am. Please bring lunch to share as usual. Guest speaker: Les Clarke will show the film "Along the Passage: A history of the Clarke family in Caloundra." Les was sick and missed the last meeting, so he has agreed to come to this meeting instead. The film deals with the history of the fishing industry in Caloundra.

SATURDAY 13TH JULY: Bush dance at Peachester Hall from 5.00pm. PHC are helping with the food – proceeds to the Hall.

SUNDAY 28TH JULY: Regular open day at the Heritage Centre, 10.00 to 2.00pm.

SUNDAY 4TH AUGUST: Lunch meeting at the hall – more details later.

TUESDAY 13TH AUGUST: ComLink group visit to the Heritage Centre from 10.30am.

SUNDAY 25TH AUGUST: Regular open day at the Heritage Centre.

Any questions or suggestions:
Helen (54949557), Trudy (0421760810)

CAN YOU RELATE?



THE PLAQUES RESTORED

PHC volunteers have been working at the Cemetery since the weather improved – placing the new plaques in exactly the same position as before, and making sure they are well anchored to the wall. Looking good!





Thanks to the donor who funded the plaques, and to Neville, Mike, Ross, Les and Jeff and anyone else who helped with this job. The families will be able to visit the cemetery now, and see the plaques back in place – a great outcome!

SHORTEST DAY

The Winter Solstice

An Interesting Chat

Australians are just now on their shortest allowance of sunshine. Today is the shortest day of the year. The sun worshippers are in sackcloth and ashes, or, at all events, in long faces, which amounts to the same thing. Astronomically, this is almost the middle of winter, the winter solstice.

These are the very rudiments of his profession, but Mr Hunt, the Federal Meteorologist, courteously explains them.

The actual winter solstice lies somewhere between June 21 and 22, between today and tomorrow, as may be seen from the following table of shortest days:

Date:	Time between sunrise and sunset:
June 19.	9 h 30 min
June 20.	9 h 29 min
June 21.	9 h 29 min
June 22.	9 h 29 min
June 23.	9 h 29 min
June 24.	9 h 30 min

The differences in seconds are negligible for all practical purposes, because, unfortunately, these are only “possibles” as regards sunshine, and the day on which at this time of year the sun should shine upon us right from sunrise to sunset, in Melbourne, would be a halcyon day indeed. Though the winter solstice is now taking place, this is not climatologically the middle of winter. Dr Hann, an eminent authority, in his handbook of Climatology says that in the Southern Hemisphere the winter months are June, July and August. Why the seasons lag behind the sun – they do so by about 30 days – is an interesting reason.

In the summer the earth accumulates heat for the winter, and this accumulated heat lasts over for a while, past the time at which the sun has least power.

Similarly, the winter chills the earth down, and that loss of heat has to be made up by the sun before the full strength of the summer is felt.

The summer solstice is on December 22, when there are 14 hours and 44 minutes between sunrise and sunset, but January is the most torrid of the summer months. The same principle is illustrated each day. The sun is at its height at noon, but the heat of the day is generally greatest between 2 and 3 o'clock, when the accumulated heat of the larger portion of the day is felt. For an opposite reason the coldest part of the night is towards dawn, and not anywhere near midnight.

Why is the summer hotter than the winter? is a very simple question that the unscientific person is not always able to answer off-hand. The chief reason is that the sun's rays strike a particular part of the earth more obliquely at one time of the year, and more vertically at another. Where they are more oblique, winter reigns. Where they are more vertical, it is summer.

To carry the explanation a little further, when the sun's rays are oblique they pass through a great depth of air. When they are nearly vertical they pass through a smaller depth. There are other reasons for the difference, but that is one important

reason that is readily intelligible. Take a map of the Southern Hemisphere and observe how Australia looks when the map is tilted to form a sharp angle with the direction of the glance. That is how this country appears, if looked at by some salamander in the sun just now. — Melbourne "Herald"

Examiner (Launceston, Tas) Monday 21 June 1909, p. 7
From Trove www.trove.nla.gov.au

AIRMEN IDENTIFIED AFTER 80 YEARS

A story of interest to this area appeared in the media recently. Remains identified from the wreck of a missing WW2 bomber included Warrant Officer Russell Henry Grigg of Wamuran (father of the late John Grigg, well known to many of our members).

The crew were farewelled during a combined funeral and memorial service at RAAF Base Amberley on April 26.



Warrant Officer Grigg, and (below) his family at the service.



MISSING RAAF WWII BOMBER AND CREW DISCOVERED IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

10 APRIL 2024

Issued by Defence Media media@defence.gov.au

Air Force has positively identified a Number 100 Squadron (100SQN) World War II Beaufort aircraft (A9-186) first reported missing in 1943, along with its four crew members. The aircraft was discovered recently after a challenging mission in the waters south of Gasmata, Papua New Guinea.

Chief of Air Force, Air Marshal Robert Chipman, confirmed the identification of the crash site, which was discovered in 2020. The discovery was made by an Ocean Ecology Pty Ltd dive team

working for Dr Andrew Forrest as part of an ongoing search for his uncle, Flying Officer David Forrest, who was lost during a mission to Gasmata while piloting a similar RAAF 100SQN Beaufort.

In February 2022, Dr Forrest's team returned to the crash site to identify the aircraft. Two members of the RAAF Directorate of Historical Unrecovered War Casualties (HUWC) accompanied the mission to provide historical aviation expertise and support. The A9-186 wreck site is located in 43 metres of water, which meant positively identifying the remains of the aircraft after 79 years took considerable time and effort.

Air Marshal Chipman said the mission involved the use of specialist divers who worked on an aircraft extensively damaged by fire and covered in layers of sediment and marine growth.

"The aircraft identity plate and cockpit lever were recovered from the site and will be returned to Australia under a permit granted by the PNG National Museum and Art Gallery (NMAG)," Air Marshal Chipman said.

"Small amounts of bone material recovered during the identification mission were analysed by anthropologists and DNA specialists. The RAAF's HUWC team collated the evidence and a Defence Identification Board identified the remains as those of Warrant Officer Clement Batstone Wiggins and Warrant Officer Russell Henry Grigg.

"Unfortunately, it's with a heavy heart we can confirm that no remains of the other two crew members, Flight Sergeant Albert Beckett and Flight Sergeant Gordon Lewis Hamilton, were recovered.

"We will continue to strive to find, recover and identify our missing service personnel as part of our commitment to honouring their service and sacrifice for our nation," Air Marshal Chipman said.

The crew of 100SQN Beaufort A9-186 was:

Warrant Officer Clement Batstone Wiggins. Born in Gatton, Queensland, he worked as a school teacher before enlisting in Brisbane in March 1941. Warrant Officer Wiggins was 28 years old when killed in action.

Warrant Officer Russell Henry Grigg. Born in Brisbane, Queensland, he worked as a fruit grower before enlisting in Brisbane in March 1941. Warrant Officer Grigg was 34 years old when killed in action.

Flight Sergeant Albert Beckett. Born in Launceston, Tasmania, he worked as an apprentice carpenter before enlisting in Tasmania in November 1941. Flight Sergeant Beckett was 22 years old when killed in action.

Flight Sergeant Gordon Lewis Hamilton. Born in Brisbane, Queensland, he worked as a baker's assistant before enlisting in Brisbane in July 1941. Flight Sergeant Hamilton was 26 years old when killed in action.

"No further recovery is planned for this challenging crash site," Air Marshal Chipman said.

"A memorial service for the families of all four crew is being planned for 26 April 2024 at RAAF Base Amberley, Queensland. Thank you to all those involved in this significant mission; it is especially heart-warming for the families of the four aviators

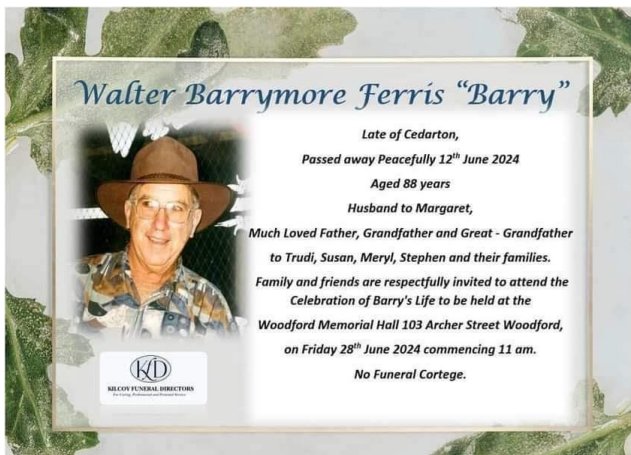
involved to finally know what happened and learn of their final resting place."

The RAAF acknowledges and thanks Dr Forrest and his team for the efforts and resources that have led to four families provided with closure of their wartime loss. Dr Forrest said despite so many years having passed, it remained incredibly important for the families to know what happened to their loved ones.

"We must never forget the sacrifices these young men and women made. They had their entire lives ahead of them yet were prepared to risk it all to defend our country and our way of life," Dr Forrest said.

SAD NEWS

PHC member Barry Ferris passed away on 12th June, and his funeral will be held on Friday 28th June, 11.00am, at the Woodford Memorial Hall. Barry and Margaret have been members of our group for many years, and our sincere condolences go to Margaret and the Ferris family.



ADVICE FOR FAMILY HISTORIANS

From: Australian Ancestors – Family History Research Group Facebook page.

There is a lot of good advice here!

12 Genealogy Research Rules

The word "rules" might be a little strict...let's just call them guidelines. :)

FamilyHistoryDaily.com

1. Always Cite Your Sources. Always.
2. Never, Ever Assume Another Researcher's Information is 100% Correct
3. Remember That Every Name Has Variations, Check Them All
4. Never Copy Another Person's Public Tree, Use it Only as a Helpful Aid
5. Share Freely With Others and They Will Share With You
6. Don't Trust Your Assumptions, Only Sources
7. Check and Double Check Your Facts Before Recording or Sharing
8. Take a Second Look at Records, Your Answer May Be Right in Front of You
9. Don't Limit Yourself to Only One or Two Research Sites, Look for Options
10. Go Offline or Order Hard Copies to Expand Your Research
11. Back Up Your Files Monthly, Keep at Least Two Copies of Your Research
12. Never Give Up *you may not find what you're looking for but the journey is always worth the effort*

Find More at Family History Daily

COMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

STONEHOUSE SESQUICENTENARY

150

STONEHOUSE HISTORY FESTIVAL
JULY 27TH & 28TH 2024
OUT THERE CYCLING BUSES LEAVE FROM MOORE 8.30AM-3.30PM

Peachester BUSH DANCE

13 JULY 2024, DOORS OPEN 5:30PM

KICK UP YOUR HEELS AND TOES TO THE MUSIC OF
"THE LANDSCAPE BAND"
at the
PEACHESTER HALL
TICKETS: \$12 ADULTS/ \$5 CHILDREN
PRE-PURCHASE ONLINE: Go to [EVENTBRITE.COM.AU](https://eventbrite.com.au) and search for:
PEACHESTER BUSH DANCE 2024
THE PEACHESTER HALL COMMITTEE WILL BE RUNNING A SAUSAGE
SIZZLE AND SWEETS, AS WELL AS THE BAR!
PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE HALL!



OUT AND ABOUT

Birthday celebrations for Les and Jan; and a good place to gather on a cold morning!

