



**National Trust of Australia (Victoria)**  
**Bendigo and Region Branch**

***April 2019 Newsletter***

*From our February Newsletter- Our heading includes some bridges from our region- How many do you recognise?*

*Here are the answers- Stone bridge near Spring Gully Reservoir, Railway Bridge Taradale, Railway bridge Marong, Railway Bridge Malmsbury.*

***BENDIGO & REGION BRANCH MEETING***

*This time we present a public event to*

*Celebrate The Australian Heritage Festival*

***ALL WELCOME***

**“An Oracle on Bendigo’s History”**

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 7.30pm**

**Federation Room**

**The Shamrock Hotel 9-23 Williamson St, Bendigo**

An evening of history and hilarity held at the magnificent Shamrock Hotel in the historic heart of Bendigo. Our 'Oracle' consists of a panel of five local historians who will each give a brief talk on their favourite historic topic, followed by questions from the audience. It will be a very interactive night and one that will raise the importance of preserving history and heritage in our city.

The event will be held in the Federation Room at that well loved extravaganza of late Victorian architecture, the Shamrock Hotel. Constructed in 1897, it is the third Shamrock Hotel on the site,

and it forms part of a magnificent streetscape which grew from the wealth that flowed into the city from gold, including the Law Courts and former Post Office set against the backdrop of Rosalind Park in the heart of Bendigo. The hotel was most luxurious when built, including hot water and electricity to every room and was advertised as "the grandest in the Southern Hemisphere". The bar will be open during the event, making it a social occasion. Meals will be available at The Shamrock before the event.

### **The Panel**

**James Lerk**, historian, author and founding member of the Bendigo Trust

**Darren Wright**, historian, collector and Manager Bendigo Joss House Temple

**Rita Hull**, historian and author. Bendigo Family History Group

**Jim Evans**, historian, entertainer and President Bendigo Historical Society

**Leigh McKinnon**, historian and author. Researcher Golden Dragon Museum

Bookings are essential. You can book online [https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/ahf\\_event/an-oracle-on-bendigos-history/](https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/ahf_event/an-oracle-on-bendigos-history/) or give Peter Cox a call on 0447 473 674 if you would like to book a seat.

### ***Some words from the Branch President***

Welcome to the month of the Australian Heritage Festival. There are hundreds of events throughout Victoria which can be found at <https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/ahf/vic/>

In particular I encourage you to consider attending "An Oracle on Bendigo's History" where five outstanding local historians will provide us all with a night of knowledge and entertainment. Bookings are essential. You can book online [https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/ahf\\_event/an-oracle-on-bendigos-history/](https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/ahf_event/an-oracle-on-bendigos-history/) or give me a call on 0447 473 674 if you would like to book a seat.

I hope you enjoy the Festival.

The Branch is following up on a wide range of issues including unprotected heritage sites, maintenance of protected sites and heritage studies that need to be undertaken urgently and not sometime in the future. More volunteers are always needed to follow up on issues and assist the Branch to undertake activities which raises awareness about our history and heritage sites.

Peter Cox

Branch President

0447 473 674

### **Branch Meetings -Dates for 2019- All Welcome**

Our Branch Meetings are held in the Baxter Room at the Shamrock Hotel at 7.30 pm

Save these dates. We will have an interesting speaker for you at each meeting. Don't forget to check out our Facebook page for updates.

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May (The Oracle), Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June, Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August, and Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October, with the AGM on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm.

Branch meetings are open to the public with the venue being ideal for a meal or a drink before the meeting. Please support them as The Shamrock provides its venue free of charge to the National Trust for its meetings.

### **More Committee Members wanted from 'out of town' or more Branches needed in Region**

The committee is very much aware that the Branch does not fully represent the region as all committee members are from Bendigo. Are there members who would like to see more action on heritage issues in other localities? Do you have ideas, would you like to join the existing committee or form a new Branch in your town?

Your feedback will be appreciated!

Members are encouraged to submit short articles and photographs to raise awareness on heritage issues in the Bendigo region.

### ***Big Hill and Mandurang Landscape Assessment***

#### **Project Update**

Amendment C217 to the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme proposed to implement recommendations-

- Make changes to the Municipal Strategic Statement
- Apply the Significant Landscape Overlay to areas in Big Hill & Mandurang Valley

A Planning Panel was appointed and conducted its hearings in 2016. The Panel raised a number of concerns in relation to the Landscape Assessment around the structure of the report and around the extent of the proposed overlays. As a result the report was changed and it improved the readability of the report.

The panel placed weight on view lines to the area but did not consider view lines from the trains which was raised at the Panel Hearing.

It was also considered that the Panel did not take account of other aspects that contribute to landscape significance such as significant vegetation, cultural heritage and geology.

It became increasingly clear that the complexity of the project and diversity of opinions and views means that the amendment as adopted would not be supported.

The Minister has refused the amendment giving the reason that the methodology used deviated from previously used and accepted methodology. In this instance an innovative methodology was used based on what is considered best practice and took a more holistic view of what contributes to the landscape character. There is no budget allocation at this stage to progress a further study of the area. (From Council website)

Where to now? The area is one of the most fragile environments around Bendigo. Development in this area will contradict the current Bendigo Planning Scheme in supporting a compact city rather than a sprawling city. Vic Roads also needs to plant thousands of trees to replace the hundreds of mature trees cut down for the new freeway.

What do you think?

Peter Cox

***COMING EVENTS THAT YOU WILL ENJOY***  
**The Australian Heritage Festival Bendigo Program**

**18<sup>th</sup> April to 19<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

**18<sup>th</sup> April – 19<sup>th</sup> May Open Tues & Thur 10am-4pm, Sat 1-4pm.**

**Heritage Stone Cottage**

Join Bendigo Historical Society for a tour of the State Heritage listed Specimen Cottage by stonemason James Brierley. 178-180 Hargreaves St Bendigo. Free entry

**Sun 21<sup>st</sup> April & 19<sup>th</sup> May, 10-11am. Built to Last- Eaglehawk Heritage Society**

Those who found wealth on the Eaglehawk diggings used it to turn a canvas tent town into a thriving Borough. Hear the stories of these pioneers, their lives, homes, deaths and their legacies. Eaglehawk Town Hall High St Eaglehawk. Bookings [bevhanon6@bigpond.com/54469528](mailto:bevhanon6@bigpond.com/54469528). Adults \$5

**Sat 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2pm. Tour of Bendigo Historic Botanical Gardens at White Hills.**

A walking tour of the gardens and its heritage trees, plants and structures. Meet an expert guide and be fascinated by the story of the gardens and their ongoing legacy as they expand for the future. Meet at the Samuel Gadd Centre near the aviary. Adults \$2. Bookings not required.

Further details at

[https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/ahf\\_event/bendigos-historic-botanic-gardens/](https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/ahf_event/bendigos-historic-botanic-gardens/)

**Sun 28<sup>th</sup> April, 11am. Ravenswood Shearing Shed ( Sorry, Fully booked out )**

Join local National Trust members on a guided tour of this granite stone & brick shearing shed built in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and still in use. It has never before been open to the public.

**Mon 29<sup>th</sup> April–Sat 11<sup>th</sup> May. Living in Bendigo, Past and Present** Bendigo library is hosting two weeks of talks, workshops and help sessions to assist you in unearthing elusive clues to life in Bendigo from the mid 1850's to today. Full program available on line. [programs@ncgrl.vic.gov.au](mailto:programs@ncgrl.vic.gov.au)

Free events. Bookings via <https://www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au/heritage>

### **Wed 1st May 10.30am Bendigo Benevolent Asylum 1860-1940**

Bendigo Family History Group presents archival research on the Asylum. Learn about the history & myths and understand the impact on the lives of those treated there. Bendigo Library, 251 Hargreaves St Bendigo. Free.

### **Sun 5<sup>th</sup> May, 10am- 4pm. Open House at Hardhill**

Join the National Trust Local Branch at the opening of Hardhill, an 1874 mudbrick miner's cottage, formerly Hardhill Farm of over 120 acres and firstly subdivided in the 1950's. Experience the ambience of old world living and learn about who lived there. 57 Green St California Gully. Adults \$8, Conc \$5, Family \$13. Children and Nat Trust members free. **Bookings not required.**

Further information at

[https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/ahf\\_event/open-house-at-hardhill/](https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/ahf_event/open-house-at-hardhill/)

### **Sat 11<sup>th</sup> May, 10am-3pm. Octagonal Reading Room**

Join Bendigo TAFE in this unassuming red brick building from the outside. It's a different story once you step inside. Enjoy a self-guided tour of the upper gallery of the former Sandhurst Mechanics Institute Library. Rarely open to the public, this is a special opportunity for a closer look at the grand domed skylight and impressive interior. Restaurant 18eightyseven, 136 McCrae St Bendigo. Free event

### **Sat 11<sup>th</sup> May, 9.30am-4.30pm. Bendigo Heritage Unwrapped**

Spend a day on a heritage adventure in Bendigo! "Heritage Unwrapped" is your opportunity to discover many of the heritage experiences that Bendigo has to offer for a gold coin donation at each site. Hop on and off one of Bendigo's themed trams throughout the day and learn more about Bendigo's history. Bendigo Heritage Attractions operates Central Deborah Goldmine, Bendigo Tramways & Bendigo Joss House Temple. Bookings: [bendigotourism.com](http://bendigotourism.com); By donation.

### **Sun 19<sup>th</sup> May, 10am-4pm. Protecting Heritage While making A Home**

Open house and garden in the Ironbark/Long Gully Heritage area which illustrates authentic locations of surviving material culture of transnational homes of the Cornish and German emigrant miners. Located at 9 Black St Long Gully. Talk on Miner's cottages at 2pm. Entry \$5 for adults.

**Find more festival events online at [australianheritagefestival.org.au](http://australianheritagefestival.org.au)**

## ***The Festival's Program Around the Region***

**Fri 19<sup>th</sup> April to Sun 19<sup>th</sup> May 11am-3pm. After the Ball is over-Debs & Belles of Echuca & District**

Echuca Historical Society Museum. This is an Exhibition that will explore the Debutante and Belle of the Ball of the Echuca district from 1800 to 2000 with gowns, photographs and articles. 1 Dickson St **Echuca**. Adults \$5, Child \$2

**23<sup>rd</sup> April- 18<sup>th</sup> May. Mateship with Birds** Maryborough Midlands Historical Society

The memory of distinguished author and naturalist, Alexander Hugh, will be revived through this display at Central Highlands Library Cnr Alma & Nolan Sts **Maryborough**.

**Sun 19<sup>th</sup> May 1.30- 4pm. The Calamitous New Year's Day Floods of 1889**

Harcourt Valley Heritage & Tourist Centre Inc

Combining newly discovered photographs and contemporary accounts of more recent floods, this event will explore the extent and damage of the region's single most devastating flood event. Harcourt Heritage Centre 7 High St **Harcourt**. Adults \$5

**Weekends 20<sup>th</sup> April-19<sup>th</sup> May 1-4pm People and Places Display**

Chewton Domain Society. Drop in and have a cup of tea with local history experts and chat about the Historic Chewton area. Discovery of Gold at Golden Point and the Monster Meeting of 1851. Chewton Town Hall 145 Main Rd **Chewton**. Free event

**Between Friday 10 May and Friday 17 May 8 pm A Bundle Of Sticks**

A Bundle of Sticks, a musical gold rush story from Bushwackers Band founder Jan 'Yarn' Wositzky, tells of the hitherto unknown 1851 Monster Meeting of Diggers on the Forest Creek diggings. There, 15,000 diggers began the movement to Eureka and kick-started democracy. Come prepared for raucous, political fun.

Chewton Town Hall  
Main Rd, **Chewton**, Vic 3451

Adults \$25, Conc \$20, child \$15, NT members \$20

Bookings <https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=460721>

**Sat 27<sup>th</sup> April 10am-11am Eureka Walk.**

Guided walk around the Eureka Reef and see some of the earliest quartz mining relics in Victoria. Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park, **Chewton**.

Bookings: [eurekareef.eventbrite.com.au](http://eurekareef.eventbrite.com.au) Free event.



## **Sat 27<sup>th</sup> April 2-3.30pm Monster Meeting Walk**

Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park, **Chewton** Bookings:  
monstermeeting.eventbrite.com.au Free event

**Tues 23 & 30 April, 7 & 14 May 9am-3pm. Sat 4 & Sun 5 May 10am-3pm**

## **Business, Bunfights & Brawls.**

This exhibition will highlight the atmosphere of the Mount Alexander Goldfields when local government commenced in 1855. Former Court House, 7 Goldsmith Cres **Castlemaine**.

## **Sat 27<sup>th</sup> April-18<sup>th</sup> May, 12-4.30pm. Victorian Colonial Express**

A ride on Victoria's oldest railway carriages

**Castlemaine** Railway Station. Bookings; [vgr.com.au/victorian\\_colonial\\_express\\_php](http://vgr.com.au/victorian_colonial_express_php)

Adults \$50, Conc \$45, child \$20, family \$110

## **Wed – Sat 17<sup>th</sup> April-19<sup>th</sup> May 12-5pm, Sun & public holidays 10am-5pm.**

Visit Buda Historic Home and Garden

42 Hunter St **Castlemaine**.

## **Sun 5 May 2-30pm. Hidden Stories of your House**

Every house has its own unique and sometimes mysterious stories to tell. Learn from a panel of research experts to uncover the hidden stories of your house. Maldon Community Centre, 6 Francis St **Maldon**. Adults \$5, Children free.

## ***National Trust Heritage Festival 2019 at the Bendigo Library***

A number of interesting talks and workshops will be held at the Bendigo Library by various groups during the Heritage Festival. We have included the programme here. No doubt you will find something of interest.

## ***Living in Bendigo, Past and Present***

Involving Bendigo Library, Bendigo Family History Group, Bendigo Regional Archives Centre, Bendigo Regional Genealogical Society, Minerva Heritage, City of Greater Bendigo Heritage Dept, Bendigo Historical Society

### **Monday 29 April 2019:**

10.00am – 11.00am **Bendigo Regional Genealogical Society (BRGS) – Looking for a Bendigo connection**  
Talk Introduction to finding Bendigo ancestors (Intro to family history)

11.00am – 3.00pm **BRGS** Research help (Every Monday, except Public Holidays)  
2.00- 3.00pm **BRGS - They must have swum!**  
Talk Using shipping records and other sources to find your ancestors' arrival.

## Tuesday 30 April 2019

5.30pm – 6.45pm **Minerva Heritage Consultants - Looking for my house Part 1**  
**Bendigo's significant house styles**  
Talk What are the features that can help date a house?  
Elaine Doling has many years of experience as a Heritage Consultant and will illustrate the features particularly relevant to dating houses in Central Victoria.

## Wednesday 1 May 2019

10.00am – 4.00pm **Bendigo Family History Group (BFHG) Research Help** (Every Wednesday)  
With experts and local resources at their fingertips, members of the BFHG are ready and willing to assist with family and local history research.

10.30am – 11.30am **Rita Hull Bendigo Family History Group – A Helping hand in Troubled times**  
Index Launch / Talk The Bendigo Benevolent Asylum began as a home for worn out miners and then a place for destitute older people. The BFHG have been researching and indexing early records of patients and practices and are launching their latest database.

## Thursday 2 May 2019

2.00pm – 3.30pm CoGB Heritage **Looking for my house Part 2: Identifying the site**  
**Using titles and Parish Plans**  
Talk/workshop Dannielle Orr will lead you through locating historical titles and finding and deciphering Parish Plans.

5.30 pm – 6.30pm Discovering History  
Dr Brian Rhule **Construction and Near Destruction: the story of the Beehive Chimney and it's Bendigo-Maldon Connections 1861 - 1951.**

## Saturday 4 May 2019

10.30am – 11.30am Bendigo Library **Looking for a footprint using TROVE**  
Workshop with Bendigo Library research staff exploring the local information that can be found in the National database.

10.00am – 3.00pm BFHG Research help

## Monday 6 May 2019

10.00am – 11.00am **Bendigo Regional Genealogical Society (BRGS) – Looking for a Bendigo connection** Talk Introduction to finding Bendigo ancestors (Intro to family history)

11.00am – 3.00pm BRGS Research help (Every Monday, except Public Holidays)

## Tuesday 7 May 2019 Bendigo Historical Society

10.30 – 11.30 **These are a few of our favourite things** Talk combined with Exhibition  
BHS volunteers have each researched a favourite piece from the Collection. Hear some of the stories unearthed through the cataloguing and preservation of treasures donated to the Bendigo Historical Society.

## Wednesday 8 May 2019

10.00am – 4.00pm Bendigo Family History Group (BFHG) Research Help (Every Wednesday)



**Thursday 9 May 2019**

2.30 – 4.00pm

Bendigo Library

**Looking for my house Part 3**

Following the people who lived in your house through Rate books, Electoral rolls, Directories and other sources.

**Saturday 11 May 2019**

10.00am – 3.00pm

BFHG Research help

## **OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST**

Our friends at Bendigo Historical Society have a brand new website!

Have a look at <https://www.bendigohistory.com>



## **PLEASE LET US KNOW YOUR CONCERNS!**

Don't forget The National Trust has an interest in industrial and mining heritage, trees, landscapes and gardens as well as buildings! And we don't just concentrate on the Bendigo town area-we include the following areas- Castlemaine Kyneton Maldon Heathcote Maryborough Goornong and Rochester, and we would love to hear from you!

## **PLEASE CONTRIBUTE TO THE BRANCH'S NEWSLETTER!**

We welcome your ideas, contributions and images to the Newsletter. Please let us know of your concerns on heritage issues. We would really welcome "Letters to the Editor". And keep up with the current advocacy issues at the Trust Advocate Blog at <http://www.trustadvocate.org.au/>

## **EBAY SHOP STILL NEEDED**

The Branch has copies of 'Bendigo at Work,' 'R A Love Goldfields Architect' and 'Post War Portrait' for sale and would like to sell them on line. Is there a member who has an eBay shop that the books could be sold through? Contact Peter 0447473674

Our publications, *Bendigo at Work: an industrial history*, *Post War Portrait: photographs by Allan Doney* and *R A Love: Goldfields Architect* are available at the Tourist Information Centre, Old Post Office, Pall Mall.

**National Trust of Australia (VIC) Bendigo & Region Branch**

**PO Box 123, California Gully, VIC 3556**

**Phone President, Peter Cox 0447 473 674 Email [natrustbendigo@gmail.com](mailto:natrustbendigo@gmail.com)**

**We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Victoria and recognise the continuing connection to lands, waters and communities. We pay respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures; and to Elders past, present and future.**

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