

REUNION

OF

DESCENDANTS & RELATIVES

OF

JOHN

QUIGLEY

&

BRIDGET ANNE

QUIGLEY

(nee Maher)

HELD AT

YINNAR

ON

Sunday 27th March 1933

Welcome to the re-union of descendants and relatives of John and Bridget Quigley. We hope that you will have an enjoyable time renewing old acquaintances, and getting to know the newer younger members of the family.

This re-union and booklet have been inspired by the belief that we all should know our family history, at least from the time our forbears first settled in Australia.

In the case of John and Bridget Quigley much of this early history is conjecture substantiated by family tradition, official documentation and letters of enquiry.

It would be much appreciated if corrections, additional information and old family photographs could be supplied by relatives today in order to bring together finally the last pieces of this giant family jig-saw.

P R O G R A M

9.a.m. Onwards - Welcome and Registration.

10.30 a.m. Morning tea - hot water available.

12 noon. Family Mass - Celebrant Father Coffey.

1.p.m. Luncheon - Electric barbeques available.

2.p.m. Onwards - Family Get-together
Childrens Entertainment.

RESEARCH ————— **DES BENNETT.**

TYPING ————— **ANNETTE DORE.**

GRAPHICS

COLLATION

PHOTOCOPING

BRIAN QUIGLEY.

JOHN BARTLEY.

JOHN QUIGLEY



BRIDGET ANNE QUIGLEY (nee Maher)



The Quigley Herald

ARMS BLAZON OF ARMS

ARMS: Gules an orle argent over all a bend erminois.

CREST: An estoile argent.

MOTTO: Celerites "Swiftly".

QUIGLEY O'Coighligh, descriptive of one with unruly thick hair. This sept of the Ui Fiacrach is now dispersed widely through Ireland. The name is most common in Donegal and Derry. Kegley, Twigley and Cogley are other variations. The sept became dispersed by the end of the 16th Century. Most families settled in the Derry, Donegal and Slego areas, but the name is well represented in the Meath, Louth and Galway Counties.

Two very notable Quigleys were Father James Quigley of Armagh who "after many exciting adventures in France at the time of the French Revolution was hanged in England on unquestionably tainted evidence in 1798" and Doctor James Edward Quigley, Bishop of Buffalo, whose success in the settlement of strikes in the U.S.A. made him a prominent figure in America until the time of his death in 1915.

John Quigley came from County Meath Ireland. Despite extensive enquiries, under what circumstances and just when he arrived in Australia still remains a mystery.

In the aftermath of the great Irish potato famine of the late 1840's, many thousands of Irishmen and women came to Australia. Many of them were named Quigley and quite a few John Quigley. Whilst we have so far been able to identify a large number of Johns, Patricks and Marys, Patrick and Mary being his brother and sister, we have not conclusively been able to say before the mid 1860's that is our John, that is our Patrick. Family tradition has it that the Quigleys arrived here in Victoria in the 1850's and that they went goldmining around the Ballarat area.

The earliest official reference we can at this stage find to John is that he was a god-parent to one child born at Maude - 24th September, 1865. From official documents we know that John Quigley was born around 1842. He was the son of James Quigley circa 1795 to 1860 and Mary nee Lynch circa 1806 to 1876. As far as can be determined his wife to be Bridget Anne Maher together with her mother Ann and brother John arrived in Australia on H.M.S. Negotiator, June 3rd, 1853. Bridget Anne's father died shortly before the family immigrated. Bridget Anne's mother Ann was born at "Nenagh", Tipperary, Ireland in 1813. In 1838 she married John Maher. At the time of her death 21st February 1875 she had issue Patrick deceased, John 33 yrs old, William dec. and Bridget Anne, by this time Mrs. John Quigley. Ann Maher is buried in the Catholic Section of the East Geelong Cemetery.

According to his grandson Bill Jenson, when John Quigley disembarked at Melbourne "he had in his pocket one half crown and as they set off along the road to Coburg and Preston they came across a chain gang of convicts breaking stones for road construction."

Up until 1868 little is known of the ensuing years, other than that John and his brother Patrick went goldmining in the Steiglitz, Lethbridge, Batesford, Ballarat and Darriwell areas.

On 20-4-1868 John and Bridget Anne were married at St. Alipius Church Ballarat by Father Thomas Scanlon. Witness to the ceremony was his brother Patrick, one of the very few references we have so far been able to find as to his existence. At this stage of our enquiry we do not know what happened to Patrick thereafter. We do not know where he went, if he married, when he died or where he is buried.

On 10-2-1869 their first child Mary was born at Ballarat. Their first son James followed on 21-6-1870. Then daughter Ellen was born on the 10-2-1872. Annie was born 26-6-1873, John 3-10-1874 and Joseph 3-8-1876.

However in the meantime John and Patrick's sister together with her husband John Cahill had arrived in the colony. We know definitely that they arrived here in 1868. Their son Patrick was born in Victoria 10-2-1869 at Lethbridge and their daughter Ellen was born at Darriwell 21-6-1871. Mary and John Cahill were married 8-5-1867 in County Meath, Ireland.

A fourth brother of the family unknown by name, migrated to America, according to family tradition.

And so we come to the year 1877, a crucial one for John Quigley and his wife Bridget Anne. In this year the Quigleys, the Cahills and members of the Keogh family packed their wagons and headed cross country for the Gippsland area. That it was a hazardous journey in those times is beyond doubt. Patrick Keogh who was married to Ellen O'Meara died on the way and is buried somewhere in the bush around Bunyip. Just what the family relationship between the Quigleys and the Keoghs was exactly, is at this stage unclear but certainly the children of John and Bridget Anne referred to senior male members of the Keogh family as uncle. It is considered that Ellen O'Meara may have been a sister or sister-in-law of Bridget Anne's mother Ann. It has to be remembered that in those days of poor literacy where other were required to fill in forms, the name O'Mara, when it came to Australia, quite often had the letter O dropped, and was spelt Mara, Meara, Merre, Maher, Meagher and other variations.

Together the families travelled to the Morwell district with their bullock dray and herd of cows which were milked en-route. "When they reached the Haunted Hills, Mrs. Quigley put the children to bed in the dray and sat on guard, candle in hand all night". On arrival John, family and relatives built the first district hostelry, a bush hut on the banks of the Morwell River at a spot to become known as Morwell Bridge

However recognizing that the railway line was soon to come through John soon decided that the place for a hostelry was not the banks of a river, but the nearest high ground to the proposed route. His grandson Bill Jenson tells the story thus: "The Quigleys and the Kellehers were deadly rivals for the race to build the first hotel in Morwell. As fast as one family would put in stakes and start to build the others would knock them down. Finally there was a stand-up brawl which ended when Aunt Keogh seized a pick handle and promptly felled three of the Kelleher men". An early account of Morwell states that on the corner block upon which now stands the Club hotel, there used to be a slab building owned by John Quigley. It was used as a hotel, store and butchers shop. However, all's well that ends well. In 1880 John sold his hotel to Edmund Kelleher and with his family moved to Yinnar. He selected land on the banks of Billys Creek and Middle Creek and much of this land remains in the Quigley family name to this day.

After a few years farming, when the Mirboo North railway line was built in 1885 John became the first trader in Yinnar. He built and opened up a butcher shop and general store and wine hostelry on land directly opposite the old Mechanic's Institute Hall. The water wells installed by John Quigley still exist there. At this stage of the settlement of Yinnar, aborigines were still quite common. For the most part they camped in the Jeeralang Foothills east of Middle Creek and caused little trouble.

In those early days John and his family were the main providers of provisions for the area and regularly journeyed into the Jumbuk hills with necessary meat, butter and groceries for the ever expanding district. It is recorded that when Herbert Payne selected land at Budgeree in 1879 he had as guide Mr. J. Quigley, hotel proprietor.

As mentioned previously the railway line linking the township of Yinnar, Boolarra and Mirboo North came into existence in 1885. Prior to this event however the Yinnar school and the Mechanic's Institute Hall had been built. When the Mechanic's Institute building was started only 20 pounds was in hand. A bank overdraft with the Hall trustees being Messrs. George Firmin, S.A. Coleman and John Quigley was arranged. John Quigley was a Justice of the Peace and did all his own bush lawyer work. He used to tell the story about the cross-eyed Judge "What's your name?" said the Judge to the first of three witnesses. "Murphy" said the second witness. "I wasn't speaking to you" said the judge. "I didn't open me mouth" said the third.

Meanwhile after the family's arrival at Morwell more children were born. Sarah the first white child to be born in Morwell arrived 17-5-1878, Patrick was born 29-8-1880, Thomas 31-5-1882, Bridget Delia 29-3-1884 and finally Andrew 3-4-1886.

I did mention earlier that Bridget Anne arrived out here with her mother Ann and brother John. John went seeking gold in the Western Australian desert around 1895. There he disappeared from the face of the earth and was never found. Bridget Anne refused to believe that he had perished and would not sign papers releasing his assets during her lifetime.

John Quigley died on 26th May, 1908. His wife Bridge Anine died 27-6-1930. Both are buried in the Hazelwood Cemetery.

MARY the first child born to John and Bridget born 1869, married James Julius Jensen 1866-1935 in 1892. She died in 1954 and is buried in Hazelwood Cemetery. They had children - (1) John 1893-1956 who married Margaret "Cis" Walsh. Their children were Noreen and Kevin, both single. (2) James Edward 1895-1972. Single - buried Hazelwood (3) Mary "Molly" 1896-1974 married ERnest Hughie Vary 1915. Their children (a) Andrew 1917-1954 m. Patricia Keogh 1921 - ch. Brian 1943, Judy 1945, Des 1947, Kathleen 1949. (b) Aileen born 1918 - m. Mac Tory - ch. Ken and Geoffrey. (c) Graeme 1919-1981 m. Maureen Ryan - ch. Rosemary, Peter, Sharon and Paul. (d) Lorna 1920 -1978 m. Vern Andrews - ch. Caroline, Patricia, Christopher and Mark. (e) Maxwell m. Winsome Considine - ch. Gail, Gwenda, Hugh, Lorraine, Theresa and Raphael. (f) Loris m. Des Pini ch. Anne, John, Helen and Gary. (g) Delma m. Les Smith ch. Leah, Carli, Shauna, Barton. Delma died in 1978. (4) Eileen 1898 -1976 m. Leo Maher buried Kilcoy Queensland. Their children (a) Dorothy m. Brian Callahan. (b) Richard. (c) Mary m. Tom Dolan. (5) Christina 1900-1949 m. Charles Silcock 1897-1977. Buried Hazelwood. Their children (a) Mary "Molly" b. 1917 m. Gordon Marlin - no children. (b) Brian b. 1922 m. Mavis McLean ch. Gary and Shirley. (c) Pamela b. 1940 (6) William, 1903-1982 m. Mary "Molly" Dooley 1938. Buried Bairnsdale. ch. (a) Damien m. Suzanne Wrigley ch. Clare 1975, Karl Andrew 1976, Andrew 1978. (7) Johanna "Toots" 1906 -1980. bur. Hazelwood m. Fred Pedrana - no children. (8) Veronica "Ron" 1910-1960 bur. Hazelwood m. W. Potter div. m. P. Cowell.



JAMES 2nd child of John and Bridget. Born 1870, Died 1911. James married Annie Dwyer. They owned a hotel in Punt Road, Melbourne. They had no children.



ELLEN third child. Born 1872 at Steiglitz d. 1957 -buried Perth Cemetery. m. 1896 to William Percival Bennett. Their children (a) John William 1901-1977 buried Hazelwood m. Doris Black 1928. ch. Kevin b. 1928 d.1928, Desmond 1930, Barry 1932, Mary 1935, John 1938, Terence 1944 d. 1947. (b) Delia b. 1904 m. 1944 to Frank McDonagh - no children.



ANNIE fourth child. b. 1873, d, 1946. buried Drouin. m. John Considine in 1893. They lived much of their early life in W.A. Their children - (a) James b. 1894 - killed in action - Gallipoli first landing. (b) Mary Ann "Molly" 1895-1973 buried Drouin, m. Christian Meehl 1917 - ch. John, Francis, Molly and Delia. (c) Ellen 1898-1963. Single - buried Drouin. (d) Annie b.1902 m. Henry Clark ch. James. (e) Ena 1908 - 1953 bur.Warragul m. Ubert Selletto 1928 - ch. Catherine, Teresia Ann and John Uber (f) Edna b.1911 m. Bert Cogger 1937. ch. Rhonda, Ellen & Lynette Mary. (g) Delia b.1913 m. George Williams 1936. ch. Maryann 1947, Christine Maree 1952-1954, Graeme Francis 1940, John Patrick 1937, Daniel Joseph. (h) John died early in Life W.A. (i) Ena " " " " " (j) Ierna died aged 7 months at Geelong.



JOHN fifth child. b. 1874. d. 1896 of typhoid fever. buried Coolgardie W.A.
John was engaged to Miss Julia Fitzgerald at the time of his death.



JOSEPH sixth child. b. 1876. d. 1924. buried Hazelwood. m. Ellen "Nell" Ryan 1917. Along with Jim, Jack, Ellen and Annie, Joseph went to the goldfields of Kalgoorlie and Coolgardie in W.A. in his early life. None made their fortune and John paid with his life. Children of Joseph and Ellen - (a) Doreen 1918-1980 (single). (b) Kathleen 1920 m. Harold Buzza ch. Kathryn, Rae, Lorraine. (c) Joseph 1923 m. Joan Robinson ch. Patricia, Joseph, and Christine.



SARAH seventh child. First white child to be born in Morwell 1878. d. 1938. Buried Hazelwood m. Walter Bolger 1900. Their children (a) John William 1901-1974 buried Bendigo m. Dorothy Potts 1927. - ch. Shirley Catherine 1928 & Jennifer 1937. (b) Walter Norman 1903-1978 buried New Cheltenham m. Mary Stella Jones 1930 ch. Claude Andrew 1931-1975. Gwenda Mary 1937. (c) Martin Thomas b.1904 m. Myrtle Dempsey 1938- ch. David 1942, Neilma 1945. (d) Teresa "Tess" b.1907 m. Ken Phiddian 1942 - ch. Margaret 1943, Janet Mary 1945.



PATRICK eighth child. b. 1880 d. 1943. Buried Hazelwood. Patrick died in a tragic saw-mill accident. m. Elizabeth Jeffries 1911. Their children (a) Jack m. Veronica Lawless 1940 ch. Sheila 1941. (b) Elvie Bridget b. 1912 m. Ron Leviston 1934 ch. Colin 1934, Glenys Maureen 1938, Lorraine Joan 1944, Barry John 1953.



THOMAS Ninth child. b. 1882 - d. 1967. Buried Hazelwood. m. Sarah Duggan 1921. In this year of 1983 Sarah "Sadie" is the only surviving member of this generation and is the Queen of our celebrations. Their children (a) Keith 1924 m. Joan Kennedy 1948. ch. Brian 1949, Margaret Mary 1950, Terence George 1952, Patricia 1953, Laurence 1957, Dennis 1959, Christopher 1965. (b) Eileen 1923 m. Maxwell Madden 1950 ch. Anne Maree 1951, Peter John 1953, David Thomas 1954, Paul Bernard 1958, Therese 1962. (c) Raymond b 1928 m. Valerie Hughes 1953 - ch. Michael John 1954, Andrew Mark 1955, Cathryn Ann 1957, John Brendan 1958, Shane Patrick 1960, Peter Antony 1953. (d) Andrew b. 1926 - single.



BRIDGET-DELIA tenth child. b. 1884 d. 1947. buried Hazelwood. m. Andrew Walsh 1904. Their children (a) Ellen "Nell" 1905 m. Rob Watson - ch. twin girls, Jill and June b. 1935. (b) James 1907-1918. (c) Edna 1909 m. Norm McGregor - no children. (d) Ronald 1912-1978. m. Gwenneth Fox 1946 - ch. Laurel 1947, Christopher 1949. (e) John 1913 - 1981 - single. (f) Eileen 1917-1978 m. Will Johnson 1942 ch. Anthony 1946, Kaye 1948. (g) Patricia Joyce 1924 m. Keith Barlow 1947 ch. John Andrew 1948, Dianne Mary 1950, Pauline Margaret 1955, Mark Patrick 1959 (h) Norma b. 1928 - single. William b. 1930 .1978 m. Rose Rowan 1952. ch. Lorraine 1952, Garry 1954, Gayle 1957, Peter 1958, Jodie 1970. (j) Bridget Delia "Biddy" died in infancy.



ANDREW eleventh child. Killed in a bomb attack - Belgium 30-4-1917. Buried in France. Mr. Paddy Lawless formerly of Driffield was injured near Andrew.



As mentioned earlier, Bridget Anne Maher arrived in Australia with her mother Ann and her brother John, we believe in 1853. Initially they stayed with relatives at Geelong and it is interesting to speculate, and to try to establish just who those relatives were. We are indebted to Mrs. Beth Blackall of 2 Trevellyn Court, Blackburn South for her research into linking up the relationship between our Bridget Anne Quigley nee Maher and her family. Her opening paragraph illustrates the difficulty "Our forbear Bridget who arrived in 1842 has been recorded as Meara (shipping list) Maher (daughters marriage certificate) O'Mara (death certificate), as well as Maera, Maram, Mara and Merre". "My mother's people have lived on a farm at Batesford (which fits in with family tradition on Bridget Anne's side) since around 1850. The story has been handed down that our ancestors Bridget Mara, Meara, Maher was one of four sisters who came out from Ireland. Bridget married George Butler, and the other sisters were supposed to have become Mrs. Young, Mrs. Shiels, and Mrs. Quigley. Mrs. Quigley lived in Gippsland and the name Yinnar rings a bell for my mother."

Certain it is that Ellen Quigley daughter of John and Bridget Anne, did in fact journey to Western Australia with a cousin of hers a Bridget Shiels, in order to work for Lord and Lady Forrest in the 1890's. Then also Ellen O'Meara married Patrick Keogh at Batesford 27-11-1852. Bridget Anne Quigleys (Maher) children always referred to the children of this union Joseph, Patrick and John as uncle. But, but, but, we are now dealing with two Bridgets supposedly of the same generation and another family relationship the Keoghs via Ellen O'Meara. What was the relationship of Ellen O'Meara to our Bridget Anne to warrant the use of the term uncle for her children? Certainly there was a generation between them. Was the term uncle used in deference to the age difference. Perhaps they were in reality cousins. And how does all this tie in with the Shiels, the Youngs and the Butlers.

The following facts are certain:

Patrick Keogh m. Ellen O'Meara - Batesford at St. Mary's Geelong 27/11/1852. Witness George Butler and Bridget nee Mara. Their children were (1) Joseph b. 1853 - godparents John Mara (brother to Bridget). (2) John b. 1856 godparents Edward Minnage and Bridget nee Mara. Note Edward Minnage was Bridget's second husband. (3) Patrick b. 1858 - godparents John Maher and our Bridget Anne Maher - brother and sister.

Family tradition has it that our Bridget Anne was an only daughter. Maybe her mother Ann, who initially came out to relatives in Geelong but who then went to live with Bridget Anne and her husband John Quigley when they were married, was the one referred to as Mrs. Quigley in a latter day version of the four sisters from Geelong. Can you help?

John and Patrick Quigley's sister Mary arrived in Australia together with her husband John Cahill in 1868. They had children Patrick born 1869 and Ellen 1871. Subsequently they had another four sons all of whom served in the first world war. Michael who was killed in action, Peter who became a P.O.W. but who returned to settle in W.A. William who lost an eye in the war, and John. William married Martha Counihan and they remained closely associated with the second generation Quigley family around Yinnar right up into the 1930's.

Ellen b. 1871 d. 1929 buried Hazelwood married Dave Johnstone and they had children Christopher d. 1970 m. Rose Jones, Robert d. 1972 m. Elenor Fechner, Mary d. 1969 m. Bert Dunlop, Viola m. Joe Dunlop, and David James who married Hazel Bollom. All this generation are now deceased. Anyone interested in furthering this line of research into our family history should contact Vera Thomas Meenyan, daughter of Mary and Bert Dunlop or Hyril Johnstone, Unit 2-24 Separation St. Fairfield. Hyril is the daughter of David James Johnstone.

A John Quigley arrived on the Julia 1852 - a child aged between 1 & 14.
" " " " " " Blue Jacket 1861 aged 11 with Margaret 19.
" " " " " " Empress of the Sea 1864 age 19 from Liverpool.
" " " " " " Maitland 1850 with James, William, Ann & Eliza.
" " " " " " Chowringhee 1852 with parents Patrick 36,
Bridget 34 and Mary 13.
" " " " " " Chance 1852 and Margaret and Edward Quigley.
" " " " " " William Ayre 1857.

A Patrick Quigley arrived Star of Brunswick 1862.
" " " " " Bluejacket 1864, aged 23.
" " " " " Annie Wilson 1864 aged 26.
" " " " " Nugget 1856 with a Bridget Quigley.
" " " " " Chowringhee 1852 Parent of John 10 & Mary 13.
" " " " " Balnagrath 1855.
" " " " " Died Mr. Moriac 1901 Farmer with large family.
" " " " " Barkstead 1906 Baker.
" " " " " Portland 1880 Laborer.

A John Quigley is listed as living at Commissioners Hill, Ararat in the electoral roll for 1859 - Latrobe Library.

A John Quigley is mentioned in the 1856 Electoral Roll Legislative division of Dundas.

A Quigley is mentioned in the Whitfield collections "escape of the most desperate character Port Arthur, Tasmania 18th September 1858????

When did our John Quigley arrive in Australia?

On what ship did he come?

What profession did he follow in those early years?

Did Patrick Quigley marry, if so, to whom and how many children?

Where is he buried and where did he die?

Does anyone have a photo of Patrick?

When did Mary Cahill die and where is she buried?

What is the relationship of the Quigleys to the Keoghs, Shiels, Butlers and Youngs?

Does anyone have a photo of Mary Cahill?

Of course there are many many more questions that will occur to interested readers. Hopefully as a result of this family re-union here today, and of information provided in this souvenir booklet, interest will be stimulated to the point where other members of this family tree will seek out and furnish information on the missing links to date.

Should you feel that you have any information please contact either Keith Quigley, Yinnar or Des Bennett P.O. Box 466, Morwell 3840.

Thank you for your attendance we hope you all feel it has been worthwhile!