

REPORT OF

LACK FAMILY REUNION

HELD AT
YACKANDANDAH
ON SUNDAY 3 OCTOBER 1999

We had relatives travel from far and wide to attend our latest family reunion. They came from Cairns in Queensland, Temora, Albury, Bairnsdale, Pakenham, Melbourne, Patchewollock, Nelson Bay, Healseville, Bendigo, Wangaratta, Chiltern and Henty.

Apologies were received from 18 families.

Unfortunately the weather was not as kind to us as we would have liked, but we were thankful to have the use of the Senior Citizens Rooms located in the park in Yackandandah.

A warm welcome was given to the 80 members of family who attended, and after Registration, we were welcomed with a short talk by April Bradbury, from the Musuem where the displays were all set up. There was one on Mining, because William Lack came to Australia from Plymouth, England in 1853 to make his fortune from gold. The other displays were of his family, and also one of his sons John Francis and Catherine, and other pieces of memorabilia. This proved very interesting.

After spending some time at the musuem, the group returned to the Hall for lunch. A photographer had been organised to take some family photos. The groups were in turn lined up, in between showers, to have their photos taken in the picturesque gardens. The photos are excellent.

We then went on a tour to the Cemetary, where a minutes silence was observed for the three members resting there. Wreaths were laid on John and Kate Lack's grave and also of the two daughters, Ruth and Ollie and their husbands.

We then travelled past where John and Kate once lived at Rowdy Flat, then on the next two miles, where the children walked to school at Osbornes Flat. Dorothy, our co-ordinator for the Reunion, a Grand-daughter of John and Kate, gave a brief history of the school.

Apologies must be given here for the long trek in the rain to the school. We probably should have stayed in Yackandandah and looked at the area where they lived and the little church where they worshipped.

We then travelled back to the hall for the Book launching and afternoon tea, where Fiona Taylor and Annette Forrest were in charge of the preparations.

Noel Forrest, our compere for the afternoon, announced that the Book launch would take place. Pam Cummings of Melbourne, who has over the years spent many hours on the research for the book, was called upon. Pam spoke highly of Dorothy and thanked her for the many hours she had put into the book and the planning of the Reunion.

The Book - "The Life and Times of John and Catherine Lack" - is a complete and up to date history of their families. It went on sale along with the beautifully designed tea towels, depicting a sketch of a home that William had built for his family. Thank you Ken for the design and having them made up. Also many thanks to Megan and Fiona who looked after the sales of the items.

The 1999 Reunion was held in Yackandandah because this was where most of their lives were lived.

Thanks to all who gave donations, and to all who helped in the kitchen.

To Annette and Elesha, my daughter and grand-daughter, who worked so hard on computers and scanning photographs, to get the book to completion, and the many hours spent going from place to place to get the best offers.

To Cameron, my driver.

To Noel and Kenn, who cleaned up and kept watch all day.

To Harry Lack and Kenn Taylor for their entertainment.

To the Yackandandah Museum for allowing us to establish our displays in their rooms.

To April and Susan for their help.

To the Senior Citizens of Yackandandah for the use of their premises.

And last but not least, I am very grateful to the family of helpers that I have that are too numerous to mention. God bless you all.

The money that was left over after expenses, was very little, and will go to improving the lettering on the graves.

If anyone would like to obtain a LACK FAMILY PLAQUE, they may order them through me.

As I sign off this report, I wish to retire as Lack Family Reunion Convenor after 32 years.

Please give your support to the new Convenor at the next Reunion in the year 2004.

Thank you all for a wonderful day.

[REDACTED]

October 1999