ounding modern day Kerang in 1858, a notable Irishman Woodford Patchell had a vision for a sustainable and prosperous township. He promptly built a store, residence and a hotel on the same site and bearing the same name as the modern Kerang Hotel. A bridge was built across the Loddon River in 1863. Patchell was a little devious in achieving his success hiring a man and dray to drive repeatedly over the track to his business to achieve a "well-worn" effect. This lead travellers to believe this was the route they

In the 1860's there was an increasing realisation that only irrigation could sustain the wanted desired in Australia's population and Woodford Patchell's greatest achievement was his work with irrigation. Claimed to be the first practical irrigator in Victoria, Patchell grew experimental crops along the Loddon River. The story of Patchell's success as an irrigator spread and one of the Chaffeys visited and invited Woodford Patchell and Thomas Littleton to Mildura.

The great flood of 1870 had a positive effect on development at



moved from the site of old Kerang 5km upstream of the Loddon River. The recorded total rainfall for the year was 27 inches (compared with average of 14). In 1874 original land leases were thrown open for selection and with a building boom seemingly on the way, Patchell started a brick kiln on the north side of the cemetery Within a short time there was another kiln nearby and from these two enterprises came all the bricks for the town until the railway reached

Patchell's Kerang. Buildings were

Kerang in 1884. The year is now 1912 and buildings are being erected as fast as labour

can be procured. During the last two years, good useful roads have been

laid through all the main streets and where it was almost impossible three years ago to cross the road in wet weather, today there is no such inconvenience. Two streets monopolise most of the business and these are lined with smart stores, well stocked with requirements and on market days it is a scene of great activity. Saturday is late night shopping The town is quite lively, the streets well lighted with electric light, and the town wears a bright and gay



banks, electric light and power

house, mechanics institute, flour mill, cooperative butter factory, two

Public buildings are well abreast of the times and comprise a post, telegraph and money order office and savings bank in one building, state school, public hall, shire hall and offices, fire brigade station, orderly room, five churches, branches of five



newspaper offices, an iron and brass foundry, carriage factories, agencies for ten insurance companies, a new courthouse. along with six well-appointed hotels. There are very fine saleyards Original Lester-Smith where sales are held two days a week and on other special

occasions as required. The Kerang horse market bears a well known reputation throughout Australia. In fact in any part of the colony I have been, I have not seen more substantial buildings than at Kerang – an important village with a

prosperous district around it (Source: Extract from Letter to the Editor to

The Times 6/9/1912 signed "Progress") Located midway between Melbourne and Mildura and 25kms south of the Murray River today Kerang is a thriving town of just under 4,000 people. The mainstay of the local economy continues to be a prosperous agricultural district supporting a strong and growing business sector. Irrigation remains an integral component of many local farming enterprises and indeed it is

80. Kerang Olympic Swimming Pool



6. Court House

irrigation on which Kerang's stability is built. Having died in 1893 Woodford Patchell would not have seen his vision fully fulfilled. Patchell's forethought and ingenuity however laid the groundwork for Kerang to continue as a sustainable and prosperous township for the past 145 years.

This self-guided walk/drive brochure has been designed to provide residents and visitors with a glimpse into Kerang's historic past and an alternative activity to enjoy. If you have time to spare, why not put on your walking shoes and enjoy the walk in its entirety or in stages. If your time is somewhat limited, hop in the car and take a drive. The choice is

yours but whichever way you choose please return some day soon to enjoy more of what is on offer in this unique part of Victoria.

For added interest, a self-guided Walk Among the Tombstones at Kerang Cemetery is also included.

Dresent Kerang Cemetery (85) began 1862 but there were 72 burials prior to 1878 when the Register commenced. First burial was a shepherd from Lake Meran Run.

The Neutral North and Neutral South signs within the cemetery gates were the divisions of Protestant and Roman Catholic burials prior to the present method of division by religious denomination. No other cemetery has been found to use this method of division in early

The main causes of death prior to 1940 were convulsions, diphtheria, snake bite, typhoid, croup and drowning. Average age of death was 25 years due to the nigh rate of infant mortality.

Memorial Gates opened 1967 and dedicated to the memory of the pioneers. Gates made by local firm, Dunstan Farmers Engineering, and form an impressive entrance to the cemetery.

Enjoy your walk...

I. Woodford Patchell (1831-1893)

Born in Ireland and educated to a Batchelor of Arts at Trinity College, Dublin. Arrived at old Kerang 1857 to commence business but after a land price disagreement, purchased land 5 kms downstream from the owner of Gannawarra Station. Founder of modern Kerang in 1858 (refer walk 77) and believed to be the first practical irrigator in Victoria.

2. Thomas Littleton (1831-1886)

Born in Liverpool, England. Arrived in Adelaide 1853. Worked at old Kerang as a bookkeeper. Established his own store in Scoresby Street 1876 (refer walk 9). Headstone is evidence of high rate of child mortality.

3. Murphy Headstone

Celtic harp and shamrocks depict country of family's origins. Also features Ivy-friendship, Olive-peace, Ferns-humility

4. Josephine Cadusch (1892-1913) (refer walk 73)

Thrown from a buggy when a horse bolted. She was to be married a few months later. Headstone features the Anchor of Hope, Calvary Cross and 3step pedestal representing The Trinity of Faith, Hope and Charity.





(1831-1886)

Born Argyll, Scotland. A shepherd on Lake Meran Run.

6. Roman Catholic Priest

5. Duncan Marquis (1800 1867)

Features Celtic Cross. Only Catholic Priest known to be buried in the cemetery. Grave restored by Father Joe Taylor.

7. S. Oliver (1917-1945)

8. O. Margarella (1917-1945)

Italian Prisoners of War

Both killed when a truck overturned returning from work on the Wakool rice fields. Headstones feature a soldier's helmet provided by the War Graves Commission.

9. Thomas Bax (1846-1863)

Second burial registered at cemetery. William Bax (1860-1866) - Fourteenth burial registered at cemetery. Both drowned in Loddon River.

10. Thomas Fenton (1852-1865)

Twelfth burial registered at cemetery. Headstone features a broken column, symbolic of a life cut short. Cause of death "departed this world suddenly from the bite of a snake".

II. George Adams (died 1907)

Born Dartmouth England. Left school when 13. Gold brought George to Bendigo 1854 but with little success in gold digging took up his former trade as a carpenter. Built the first Town Hall, Railway Station, School of Mines. St. Paul's Tower and numerous business houses in Bendigo. Came to Kerang 1873 and set up business in Scoresby Street (refer walk 48). Many of Kerang's early buildings were erected by George Adams. Sarah Adams (died 1919) and children.





IIa Kerr Headstone

Features urn on elaborately fringed lace altar cloth symbolising the Shroud

12. Martin Peacock

Was a judge at small country race meetings around this area. Punched in the face by an irate punter at Gannawarra Race Course and lost an eye.

13. Reuben Hetherington (died 1946) and Helen Hetherington (died 1959)

Lived in Gannawarra Homestead and raised 12 children. The first baby died in Helen's arms as she carried it to the doctor. Reuben's hand was blown off when a shotgun blew open. He was brought to Kerang for treatment by horse and gig.

14. Angus Heffer

Symbols of RAAF and masonic lodge on headstone. His brother was killed in World War II. Angus never married but took care of this brother's family for the rest of his life.

15. Damien Williams

Redgum headstone. Grave constructed by family as a final tribute.

16. Coad family

Features family crest on headstone 17. Roby Manuel (1895-1975)

Dare-devil World War I fighter pilot. Led the Australian Flying Corps victory flight over London in 1919 as 5,000 Australian troops marched below. He flew his plane through Tower Bridge.

18. Karlie McDonald (died 1927)

Teacher. Drowned in Loddon River while assisting a student in difficulty. Town clock erected as a memorial (refer walk 1).

Jnnumbered Grave - Mary Fraser (died 1909)

Chest Tomb - Mary Fraser (died 1909), her daughter, Catherine (died 1941), and son-in-law, Henry (died 1942).

19. Thomas Gardner (died 1918)

"One of the original ANZACS". Featured on ABC presentation "Pozieres".

20. Angus McIntosh (died 1892)

Isabella, Jane and Mary Jane all victims of the 1919 Influenza epidemic.

21. Septimus Chenoweth (1891-1911)

Thrown from a horse at the corner of Boundary and Wellington Streets Inquest found he was "riding a horse down Wellington Street in a dangerous and irresponsible manner". Headstone features clasped hands. One male and one female to signify love, friendship, farewell. Always the right hand. The left hand was the hand of the Devil.





22. Robert Henry Bott (died 1918) and Mary Ann Bott (died 1937)

Travelling through the area in 1879, their small son vanished at Kow Swamp. No trace of him was ever found. Many years later Mary Ann dreamt that he was on-board a ship coming into Melbourne. She actually met the ship but found no-one who was likely to be her son. She placed a light in the window every night for the rest of her life for her lost child.

23. Henry Taverner (died 1889) and Margaret Sarah Taverner (died 1913)

Both came from Ireland in the 1852 Gold Rush. Owned the "Old Loddon Inn" at old Kerang in 1864. Built the Commercial Hotel (refer walk 3) in Kerang 1877. Built "Summerhill" farm just north of Kerang on the Murray Valley Highway 1876. Inscription reflects the rather morbid attitude to death which prevailed at the time.

24. Dr. William Gregory (1843-1888) and T.S. Wilson (died 1894)

Dr. Gregory practiced in Kerang 1882-1888. Born in Madras, India and was highly qualified. Made several voyages as a ship's surgeon between England and Australia. After he died his widow, Martha, bought the Farmers Arms Hotel in Kerang, now Gilbert Hotel, burnt down in 2009 (refer walk 36). She married T.S. Wilson in 1892 and when he died in 1894 he was buried with Dr. Gregory. Martha died in 1895 and is believed to be buried in the same grave but there is no inscription to this effect. The marble angel on top of the red granite column is an example of grave sculpture from the Victorian period, holding a trumpet to signify the Day of Judgement and finger pointing to heaven in the traditional pose.

25. David Hawthorne (1833 - 1897)

Born in England, he arrived at Port Fairy in 1852 and from there went to the Goldfields where he had both thumbs crushed in a mining accident. Came to Kerang 1878 and established Hawthorne's Department Store (refer walk 2).

William David

(1868-1871) Ethel (died 1887, aged 8 months)

Edith (1881-1888) Stanley (died 1892, aged 12 months)

26. Stillborn babies

In 1937 legislation directed that stillborn babies be buried in a mass grave, largely unmarked. This law repealed 1953.

27. Chinese Graves of Ah Chung (1841-1914) and Tie Leung (1858-1924)

Most probably market gardeners.

28. John Pettigrove (died 1886)

15

Church of

England

28

26

27

Died of blood poisoning. Buried in Kerang but also has a headstone in Cohuna Cemetery.

29. William Mowat (1882-1892) and Olive Mowat (1884-1888)

Old wooden marker badly worn by time and weather. Similar to those used in the old Kerang cemetery of which none have survived.

Presbyterian¹

Church of

England

32 34

ENTRANCE

31

30. Mary Dash (1868-1877) and Katie Dash (1876-1878)

Roots of the peppercorn tree have grown around the headstone which is in very good condition due no doubt to protection provided from the tree.

31. Susanna Peacock (died 1888)

Had 16 children including one set of twins (14 and 15). After giving birth to these twins, she sent word to her husband who was at work and then arose to finish the washing

32. Mary Ann Henderson (1849-1883)

Died following the birth of twins leaving behind a family of nine children.

33. Esther Pippin (1832-1881), Ellen Pippin (1866-1881) and Mary Ready (1856-1881)

All drowned in the Barr Creek.

34. Alexander Duncan Fraser (died 1917) and Mary Fraser (died 1920)

Mary was housekeeper at Tragowel Station when Burke and Wills stayed overnight on their ill-fated expedition in 1860. John Wills gave Mary a copy of "Longfellows Poems" as a memento.

35. Charlotta Jane

Born in tent on Bendigo Goldfields where the guns in front of Eaglehawk town Hall stand now. Also 3 children - Accident, Convulsions, Diptheria.

36. Murdoch Whyte

RAAF, World War II. Caught in massive thunderstorm over Darwin and could not land. Bomber he was flying had fuel for 8 1/2 hours. Kept it in the air for 11 1/2 hours finally landing safely at Darwin RAAF Base.

37. Frank Marshman Long (Marsh)

Champion Sportmen and bomber pilot over mediterranean in World War II.



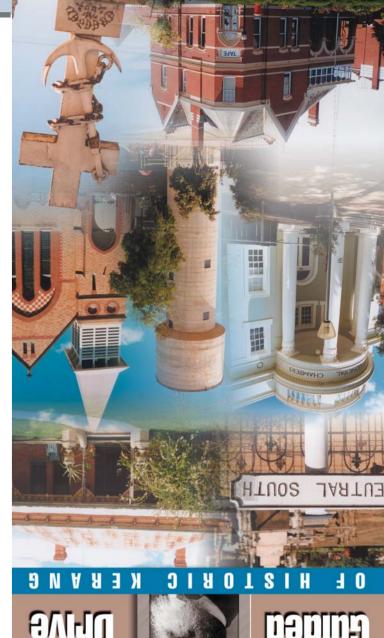
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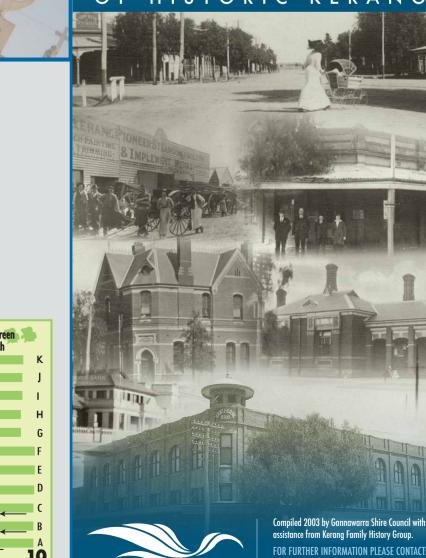


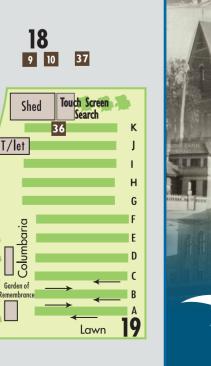


DRIVE

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OF HISTORIC KERANG





FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT: GANNAWARRA Phone: 03 5456 2047 Shire Council

A STEP BACK IN TIME

