Tasmanian Ancestry



Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.

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Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.

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Deadline dates for contributions: by 1 January, 1 April, 1 July and 1 Octo	ber

From the Editors

We have managed to put together a great range of articles for you this quarter from School on Cape Barren Island to the magic of Maatsuyker Island and the difficulties trying to watch TV

There is information on the Tasmanian Records held at the Mitchell Library. Ivan Badcock, John Bird and Irene Schaffer have written articles pertaining to Tasmania. We have also included articles relating to Ireland, Scotland and England.

Betty & I hope that you enjoy reading them as much as we did as we collated them.

Thanks to those people who have sent in articles. It was much appreciated. Please keep sending them.

Don't forget to read the Branch News and Branch Acquisitions to keep up with what's happening at all the branches. You may wish to contact any of the branches to attend meetings etc.

We also welcome any feedback on the presentation of the journal.

Anita & Betty.

Articles are welcomed in any format—handwritten, typed or word processed, on disk, on CD Rom, or by email. Disks and photographs will be returned on request. We do ask that you try to limit these to **2500 words maximum**, unless it is an *Index* which may be included in several issues.

Please note when sending material for the journal to use our address — P O Box 191 or email **editor@tasfhs.org**— any other address may cause a delay in reaching us.

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Anita Swan Betty Bissett

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PO Box 191 Launceston Tasmania 7250 or email editor@tasfhs.org

Deadline dates are by: 1 January, 1 April, 1 July and 1 October

The opinions expressed in this journal are not necessarily those of the journal editors nor of the Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. Responsibility rests with the author of a submitted article—we do not intentionally print inaccurate information. The Society cannot vouch for the accuracy of offers for services or goods that appear in the journal, or be responsible for the outcome of any contract entered into with an advertiser. The editor reserves the right to edit, abridge or reject material.

If you wish to contact the author of an article in *Tasmanian Ancestry* please write care of the editor, enclosing a stamped envelope and your letter will be forwarded.

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Launceston Branch Library,
2 Taylor Street, Invermay

President's Message

After a lot of work from TFHS Inc. volunteers, the Registrar General's Department and MacBeths, we are able to announce that the long awaited Tasmanian Federation Index has been launched and available for sale from the State Sales Officer and the branches of TFHS Inc. We have already had a great response from researchers who have been waiting a long time for this release. Tasmania still has a long way to go to catch up with the mainland states, but we are getting there!

I would like to also announce that membership to TFHS Inc. can now be paid by credit card. Provision has been made on the membership form to enable payment this way should you so desire. Memberships should be forwarded to the State Treasurer who will process and forward your registration details to the branches.

The Hobart and Burnie branches now have the Ancestry.com web facility up and running, with both the branches reporting good interest in the program.

Branches have now made arrangements to sell each others publications. It is hoped that it will not only boost sales for the branches, but also make it easier for anyone out of the areas to acquire them.

AGM 2006/7 will be hosted by Burnie Branch. Watch the March issue of *Tasmanian Ancestry* and make your booking early to secure a reservation.

Finally I would like to remind you that the TFHS Inc. Family Tree Competition is running at each branch, so don't forget to get your entry in early.

Anita Swan.

Membership Subscriptions



- to complete your renewal form (enclosed with this journal) and send it to the relevant address as soon as convenient before the due date—31st March 2007.
- that subscriptions are payable by 1 April each year and are current until 31st March the following year.
- Credit Card facilities are now available—mail your Membership Application direct to the State Treasurer.
- Renew on time and avoid delays!

All in the Family Cape Barren Island's Second Schoolmaster

Betty Jones (Member No 6032)

The article entitled "The Furneaux Group" copied from the *Launceston Examiner*, 30 July 1890 and printed in the March 2006 volume of *Tasmanian Ancestry* was the springboard for this contribution. In that newspaper report mention was made of the (then) new appointment of Mr E STEPHENS as the first Schoolmaster of the Cape Barren Island State School.

Whilst engaged in my own research project on Tasmanian Government Teachers, Schools and Pupils, 1817-1955, my attention was caught recently by a letter from the Education Department to Charles STEPHENS dated 14 October 1897 concerning his appointment to Cape Barren Island. Among other things it stated, "You will be permitted to undertake Church duties under the direction of the Bishop of Tasmania similar to those which are now entrusted to your father, and for which a special allowance was received by him." And thus follows a selective account of the second generation of the Stephens family as teachers at Cape Barren Island.

Charles Edmund STEPHENS was born on 28 February 1874 at Marrabel, South Australia, the son of Cornish-born Edward William & Mrs M J STEPHENS.² He arrived in Tasmania with his parents in 1882 and by the mid 1880s was living at Waratah where his father was employed as a miner.³ Mr and Mrs Stephens took up their first teaching position with the Education Department on 1 June 1887 when they were appointed to Bangor State School.⁴ In July 1890 when Charles was sixteen, the family moved to Cape Barren Island with their furniture and stores aboard the SS "Warrentinna" so that his parents could take up their role as the first teachers of the recently-erected Government school there. The Stephenses moved into the new teachers' residence situated on the north-west coast of the Island and were allowed to fence and cultivate such portion of the school reserve of five acres as was not required for school purposes.⁵

At the age of 22, Charles made application to join the Education Department as a teacher, his previous occupation being stated as "home employment". He had also been engaged latterly in private tutoring for about twelve months on the Island. He passed the teachers' qualifying examination successfully in Launceston in December 1896 and was appointed as a Fourth Class, Division C Assistant at Goulburn Street State School in Hobart for 1897. It was there that he met fellow staff member, Margaret Emily HAMILTON, and they were married on 13 August 1897 in Hobart. Of a similar age to Charles, Margaret was described by the Department as a teacher of superior qualifications, having headed the list at her final pupil teacher examination in 1894. She had since been a student at the Model School at Battery Point State School, assumed charge at Antill Ponds State School for a year and subsequently been appointed to an important position at Goulburn Street State School.

Anticipating the retirement of his parents from Cape Barren Island at the end of 1897, Charles and Margaret applied for, and were appointed as their successors. They were granted ten pounds by the Department towards their travel costs and the pair sailed from Hobart to Cape Barren Island on the SS "Warrentinna" on 14

December 1897. All appeared to proceed relatively normally until Margaret became ill and had to be hospitalised off the Island in mid-1903. 9

On 22 October 1903 Charles wrote to the Department asking that he be paid the joint salary for the two teachers at the school as Margaret was not yet well enough to work. He reasoned that, since it was difficult to find replacement teachers and suitable accommodation for them on Cape Barren Island, he would secure his 23 year-old sister, Maud L STEPHENS, for the position of sewing teacher and personally pay her wage from the joint salary he was seeking to receive. ¹⁰ It seems that this arrangement was agreed to by the Department, presumably on the grounds that it was an exceptional case.

It was within the first three weeks of Mr William NEALE's new appointment as Director of Education that the situation was set to change. Mr Neale, in correspondence to the Minister of Education dated 18 January 1905, noted that certain information about Mr Stephens' position on the Island seemed unusual. Mr Stephens was receiving an annual salary of 120 pounds from the Education Department and a further 65 pounds from the Church. It was reported that he closed the school every fourth week in the name of "Church Week" and during that time undertook church work under the direction of the Bishop. The Education Department had the understanding that Mr Stephens was to supply a teacher of sewing in the school and pay for her services out of his own wage. There was criticism that he had not been doing so on a continuous basis. In addition, it had been revealed that Mr Stephens was leaving the school to convey the Bishop or Dean in his yacht to various points of the Furneaux Group. For some time it had become an established practice that the school closed for approximately two months in the year while mutton birding season lasted. From that information, Mr Neale calculated that the Department was paying Mr Stephens twice the Regulation salary for about twenty-five to twenty-six weeks' work each year. 11

Charles was subsequently advised that those arrangements would be able to continue till March 1905. After that, his annual salary was to be reduced to 65 pounds (consistent with his classification) plus continued rent-free occupation of the teachers' house and land. A sewing teacher (either his wife or sister) would be appointed and paid 30 pounds per annum by the Department. Charles was entitled to eight weeks' vacation, but seven of those had to be taken during mutton birding season and one at Christmas. He was encouraged to become qualified and the Department indicated that, if he did so, it would be willing to increase his salary. Charles was also instructed that he would no longer be permitted to take yachting trips in school hours. 12

It is noted that Charles and his sister Maud resigned from their teaching positions on Cape Barren Island on 30 November 1905. 14

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- 1. AOT ref: ED9/209/1905
- 2. AOT ref: ED2/17/1580
- 3. AOT ref: ED2/896 1077
- 4. AOT ref: AUD17/1/22
- 5. Launceston Examiner, 30 Jul 1890, p3 c1
- AOT ref: ED2/17/1580

- 7. Tasmanian Pioneer Index. 1803-1899
- 8. AOT ref: ED2/17/1580
- 9. & 10. Ibid.
- 11 AOT ref: ED9/209/1905
- 12. Ibid.
- 13 The Educational Record, 15 Oct 1905

Francis French and John Badcock Families 175 Years in Australia

Ivan Badcock

As the Francis FRENCH family and John BADCOCK came ashore at Hobart Town, Van Diemen's Land on the 23 August 1831, they probably felt their former home at Pelynt, Cornwall was a world away, for life at the settlement was very different. Fluttering from the masts of the whaling boats at anchor, were the flags of a number of nations that had made Hobart Town the base for their lucrative whaling operations, while towering over the fledgling settlement was the 4,166 feet snow covered monolith of Mt. Wellington.

The reality that they had reached the penal colony of Van Diemen's Land would have soon confronted them as they encountered gangs of men, dressed in their yellow or grey garb stencilled with the distinctive broad arrow insignia, working at building roads or erecting buildings, or at the treadmills grinding wheat into flour. Other convicts may have been seen still held in the stocks recovering, their bare backs raw and bleeding from their allocated lashes for some misdemeanour, while centrally situated was the prison with its gallows standing prominently on its high walls. This dreaded contraption was in constant use, and if not holding the dangling body of a recent execution, stood waiting for its next condemned felon. At the time hangings were much publicised public events.

Van Diemen's Land, now known as Tasmania, had been established as a penal colony in 1803, and was to receive over 67,000 convicts between then and when transportation ceased in 1855.

Amongst these convicts was Edward French, an older brother of Francis, who had been transported from Cornwall in 1813 for sheep stealing. After three years in Sydney he had been moved to Port Dalrymple at the head of the Tamar River in the north of Van Diemen's Land, and by 1817 had reached Launceston where he would remain for the rest of his life.

After having spent 133 days cramped aboard the 290 ton barque *Mary Ann*, the 37 passengers would have been eager to get ashore and regain their land legs, enjoy a long awaited bath and a meal of fresh food. The proper laundering of their clothes would have been another priority.

Francis and Mary French, seven of their children, and a niece and nephew, Grace and Richard French together with John BADCOCK were emigrating from Pelynt, Cornwall. John Badcock had been born there in 1807, the third child of a family of five children born to John and Elizabeth (nee Mitchell) Badcock. Francis and Mary (nee Oliver) French had arrived at Pelynt in 1810 immediately after their marriage. Both Francis and John had been involved in agriculture.

Francis, on arrival, would have soon made enquiries as to whether his brother Edward was in town, for Edward was expecting them. Edward although living in Launceston, 123 miles to the north, regularly visited Hobart in his capacity as a cartage contractor. Two of Edward's children, Grace and Richard, had accompanied Francis and Mary, and as they waited to meet a father they did not remember, were probably filled with a mixture of excitement and anxiety.

Edward had almost certainly written to the family encouraging them to come, telling of the excellent opportunities that the Colony possessed and which were far greater than Francis could expect in Cornwall. By this time Edward had gained his freedom, had remarried, and received land grants of 420 acres on which he was running cattle and horses. Besides the farm operation and cartage contracting business, he was also leasing out bullocks and carts to surveyors employed by the Government.

Hobart Town was not to be their final destination, but rather they planned to continue on to Launceston. This was also a penal settlement which had been established in 1806.

A journey overland to Launceston at the time was not only hazardous due to poor roads, but also dangerous with regular attacks occurring on travellers by marauding Aborigines and bushrangers. By 1831 construction of the road north was underway with some 1,000 convicts employed in its building and maintenance.

Newspaper reports of the time tell that the bush along the route was infested with over 100 bushrangers, mostly escaped convicts, whose only means of survival was by robbing and plundering from settlers and travellers. These were often brutal and desperate men with the confrontations often ending in not only robbery, but on occasions injury and sometimes murder. Frequently the bushrangers, to allow themselves time to escape, left their victims tied to trees, sometimes with fatal consequences.

It is therefore likely that Francis and John, as other travellers of the time, carried arms for protection and made the journey with some fear and trepidation.

The French and Badcock emigrants soon reached Launceston with John Badcock and Ann French, the eldest daughter of Francis and Mary, marrying there at St Johns Church of England in October of that year.

Launceston in 1831 had a population of about 2,500 people, around half of whom were convicts. It was even less developed than Hobart, although some sort of order was beginning to grow out of the chaos that had previously reigned. At the time there was no street lighting and no made roads in the town and with much of the then settlement built on marsh ground, the roads were often boggy with deep holes. Bullock teams often foundered in these holes, also there were frequent drownings of residents who fell into them or the unbridged streams running through the settlement. The newspaper in 1831 reported that cattle could be found grazing in the cemetery and pigs roaming the town. A particular hazard was stampeding cattle as they were being rushed through the streets on the way to the abattoir, driven at speed by men on horseback and cracking whips.

One eye witness of the time described the people of Launceston as being "wicked beyond description" and possibly because of this, Francis felt that action was needed to improve the situation. Consequently history records that Francis, as a Wesleyan Methodist preacher, soon after arrival started conducting open air services at the foot of Windmill Hill, Launceston. At that time there was no Methodist Church or organisation in the town. For seating he used wooden blocks.

Both the Francis French family and John and Ann Badcock soon found land at Longford, 14 miles south of Launceston, where they both resumed farming. Francis remained on his 50 acre property until his death in 1850. He together with other

family members are buried in the family plot at the Longford Christ Church, Anglican cemetery.

John Badcock on the other hand moved frequently and at times operated holdings of more than a thousand acres. During the 1840s and until 1850, he went flour milling, building and operating a water powered mill at Longford. Later he was a noted breeder of draught horses some of which realised as much as 200 guineas.

John died at Westbury in 1890 and is buried with his second wife Esther and a granddaughter at the nearby Hagley Methodist cemetery. Seven of his children are also buried at the same cemetery and a good number of later descendants.

Now 175 years from arrival in Australia, the French and Badcock families have greatly multiplied and spread throughout Australia and to a number of overseas countries, although the majority of descendants remain in Tasmania. These descendants are now estimated at 40,000 people, this helped by large families in the early generations after arrival.

Francis and Mary had a family of 11 children, three born in Van Diemen's Land, 112 grandchildren and over 600 great grandchildren.

John and Ann also had 11 children before her death in 1850 at the age of 37 years. Five years later John married again, to Esther Elmer, he was aged 48 and Esther half his age at 24 years. Twelve children were born to John and Esther. From John's total of 23 children, came 140 grandchildren, the first born in 1852 and the last in 1917.

Many descendants still remain in agriculture and now farm large areas of land across northern Tasmania. The Badcock family have been and still are much involved with the production of stud stock, horses, cattle, sheep and pigs, and export their progeny widely.

Two Badcock descendants have become Rhodes scholars, while others have become noted inventors with their inventions being adopted world wide. A number have excelled in sport, including Jack Badcock who played test cricket in Don Bradman's side. He is also noted in the Guinness Book of Records as the youngest person to play first class cricket, when in 1929, at the age of 15 years, he represented Tasmania in a first class match against Victoria. Also many in both families have continued their strong church involvements.

Some Cornish characteristics continue to be exhibited with the terms of "up along" and "down along" still being used. Some descendants are still identified as having Cornish roots by accent. The retention of these features has been helped by having other Cornish families as neighbours and include, JAGO also from Pelynt, PEARN, HINGSTON, MITCHELL, BLACKWELL, CHILCOTT and CHUGG.

Two reunions have been held since arrival. The first in 1982 to celebrate 150 years in Australia was attended by 2,500 people coming from every Australian state and several overseas countries. The second was held in 1990 to launch the French and Badcock family history book *Go....Be Fruitful and Multiply*, which 2,000 people attended. This book of over 600 pages concentrates on the early generations of each family and includes a near completed family tree to 1989.

Vale Theo Sharples (Member No 56)

(25 October 1928 – 11 July 2006)

Members will be saddened to learn that one of our 'founding members' has recently passed away.

Tasmanian Ancestry Volume 1, Number 1, (June 1980) shows us that Mr and Mrs William Sharples were among the 101 foundation members of the Genealogical Society of Tasmania (the previous name of our society).

At that time, William was a member of the Cemeteries Committee.

By March 1981, Mrs Theo Sharples, ALAA was heavily involved in the Society assisting the first 'Librarian', John Marrison manage the fledgling collection of books and data so essential to family history research. In June 1981, Theo became our first qualified librarian in charge of the Library assets located at the Hobart Branch. She laid the foundation of the cataloguing and accession regimes that are still used today.

By June 1982, *Tasmanian* Ancestry reports that our Society consisted of four Branches: Burnie, Devonport, Hobart and Launceston. We now had a Libraries Board, with Theo as Chief Librarian. Theo was a contributor to *Tasmanian Ancestry* with her regular segment 'Library Notes'.

Theo continued in this role until late in 1986 when illness forced her to take a well earned break.

Later on, when in better health, Theo continued her involvement with Hobart Branch as one of the very helpful Library Assistants who guided others in using the facilities of the Library. She continued in the role of voluntary library assistant for a number of years.

Theo was a great support for the editors of *Tasmanian Ancestry* as a reliable, ever willing book reviewer. She reviewed a large number of books during the period 1992 to 1999 and we have all enjoyed her incisive articles when printed in the journal.

In 1997, the Society recognized her service by presenting her with the Certificate of Meritorious Service:

Theo Sharples, Hobart Branch, for her work in establishing the Society's Library, later the Hobart Branch Library and for long service as Hobart Branch Librarian and then as a Library Assistant and participant in Branch projects and activities.

Theo will be remembered for her lively personality and friendship by those who knew her and her efforts will continue to be appreciated by others who conduct their research in the Hobart Branch library.

Revival of the Van Diemen's Land and Norfolk Island Group

Irene Schaffer (Member No 591)

Although I said I would close the group in 1999 I still have contact with the descendants of the Norfolk Islanders who came from NI between 1807-1813.

Now that the anniversary of the 200 years of their arrival is almost here I find myself again getting involved.

The wonderful part is that I have the *Lady Nelson* (she was the reason I closed the group) at my disposal and have decided to have excursions on her to at the times the ships arrived in the River Derwent between November 2007 to October 2008, as I did in 2003 and 2004 for the arrivals of Lt Bowen and Lt Col Collins.

A great deal of interest has already been shown by those who are descendants of the Norfolk Islanders. I am receiving enquiries for booking on her by whole families already.

These excursions will take the form of 2 or 3 hours' sails on the River Derwent as near as I can get to each of their arrivals, with stories of some of the men, women and children who were to make their new life in and around Hobart Town.

I have through the media of my email requested that stories of these people be sent to me (in the same profile format as the "Exiles Three Times Over" book) that I will combine and place in a book for the sailings in 2007-08.

For those who would be interested in either coming on the Lady Nelson or who would be willing to write a profile of their ancestor, please contact me at 2/5a Marys Hope Road Rosetta 7010, or email me **schafferi@optusnet.com.au**

The crew will dress up and the passengers can too. Let's remember those who came before us by celebrating on these days.

Invitation

Norfolk Island Descendants and Friends will celebrate 200 years in Van Diemen's Land of those who arrived from Norfolk Island between 1807 and 1813 to Hobart Town and Port Dalrymple.

Celebrations at the City Hall

Saturday 29 March 2008: 10.30am – 4.30pm

Stalls

Books Historical Groups **Lady Nelson** souvenirs Family History

Raffles Entertainment

For further information contact Irene Schaffer: ☎ 03 6272 2124

Chargeable Crimes of 1817

Leonie Mickleborough (Member No. 20)

The following is the nature of the crimes with which those committed for trial in 1817 were charged in England. Details transcribed from Kenneth K Macnab, 'Aspects of the History of Crime in England and Wales between 1805–1860', unpublished PhD thesis, University of Sussex, 1965, Chapter 2, Table 1, p. 55¹

ARSON, and other wilful burning of property

BIGAMY BURGLARY

CATTLE stealing

CATTLE maliciously killing and maiming

CHILD stealing

COIN counterfeiting the current

COIN putting off, and uttering counterfeit

EMBEZZLEMENT (by servants)

FORGERY and uttering

FORGED bank notes, having in possession etc.

FRAUDULENT offenses

FRAMEBREAKING and destroying machinery

GAME laws: offenses against

HORSE stealing

HOUSEBREAKING in the day time, and larceny

LARCENY simple

LARCENY in dwelling houses to the value of 40s

LARCENY in shops, etc privately, to the value of 5s

LARCENY on navigable rivers, etc to the value of 40s

LARCENY from bleaching grounds etc LARCENY of Naval Stores, to the value of 20s

LARCENY from the person

LETTERS containing banknotes, etc. secreting and stealing

LETTERS sending threatening

MAIL robbery

MANSLAUGHTER

MURDER

MURDER sheeting, stabbing and administering poison, with intent to MURDER concealing the birth of their infants

OATH unlawful, taking and administering

PERJURY PIRACY

PRISONERS of war, aiding the escape of

RAPF etc.

RAPE assault, with intent to commit RIOT and feloniously demolishing buildings

ROBBERY on the person, on the highway and other places

SACRILEGE

SHEEP stealing, and killing with intent to steal

SODOMY

SODOMY assault with intent to commit, and other unnatural offenses

STOLEN goods, receiving

TREASON, high

TRANSPORTS being at large etc FELONYA ND MISDEMEANOR (not otherwise described)

 Appendix No. 1, 'Report of the Select Committee on the Criminal Laws' (1819), Parliamentary Papers (Reports) 1819, 585, Vol VXXX, p. 232, cited Macnab, p. 55.

> Check your local branch for selected publications on sale from other branches.

William McMahon of Cappabane An Irish Famine Exile

Anne McMahon (Member No 6463)

William McMAHON, his brother Denis and sister Catherine were taken into custody on suspicion by constables during a midnight patrol on 4 February 1849 at Sheeaun townland near Scariff in east County Clare, with a freshly killed hindquarter of mutton in their possession. They had given the remaining three quarters to widow HARTE who lived nearby. The sheep was the property of Darby Rodgers, a farmer with extensive landholdings at adjoining townlands of Aughrim and Tobernagoth. His servant, yeoman Patrick DWYER, reported a sheep missing to his master the following day.¹

The three McMahons had a wild reputation and were hungry people. All three had previous convictions for stealing potatoes and sheep. Denis had had a one month sentence for leaving the Scariff Union workhouse in search of food. The McMahons were marched to Ennis county jail which, although built for 115 prisoners, then held 749 of which 400 were awaiting trial at the Clare Spring Assizes to begin on 27 February 1849.

Disturbances during this Famine year in Clare were indicated by the array of crimes and minor offences to be tried at these Assizes. Nineteen prisoners were charged with murder, 7 with robbery of arms, 5 with shooting with intent to kill, 26 with assaulting habitation, and 8 with highway robbery. Minor offences were killing and stealing cattle, sheep, horses, pigs and goats. Seventy-four prisoners were charged with larceny.²

The circuit judge who presided at the criminal court was Baron John Richards, Chief Commissioner under the Irish Encumbered Estates Act, 1849-1856. He was lessor of a considerable estate in the Clare parishes of Inagh and Kilnamona from which he drew an income of £3000 annually. Less than a month before the Spring Assizes his agent was reported to be busy, on a daily basis, levelling the cabins of his evicted tenants.³

Baron RICHARDS had previously laid down a principle accepted by most judges of the time, namely that the sentences varied in severity according to the characters received of the prisoners and the number of times they had been imprisoned.⁴ The result was that those convicted were doubly punished.

The McMahon family lived at Cappabane Park townland, Moynoe parish, where they worked a clachan, a communal farm, with the Collins and Guerin families. James McMahon had earlier moved from Dromindoora townland in Feakle parish, a farming district near Logh Graney. James and his wife Margaret (neé Blake) bore 6 sons, James, Denis, Michael, Patrick, John, William and daughter Catherine.

The McMahon brothers were convicted at the Clare Spring Assizes on 29 February 1849 and sentenced to 10 years transportation. Witness for their prosecution was Patrick Dwyer who, in March 1849, petitioned the viceroy, the Earl of Clarendon, for payment for prosecuting them. The three McMahons were among 70 prisoners found guilty of sheep stealing.⁵ One hundred and twenty of those tried were sentenced to deportation. The *Freeman's Journal* in 1849 reported a 'transportation mania' due to Famine induced anxiety of local gentry serving as jurors. Agrarian outrages and the growth of subversive organisations were widespread. Vice-regal

alarm in Ireland caused by ongoing demands for repeal led to *Habeas Corpus* being suspended on 25 July 1848 by a bill rushed through the British parliament. Its suspension was an act of a desperate government in a free society.

At the Clare Spring Assizes of 1849 witnesses included the victims and the aggrieved and informers, approvers and crown witnesses retained by the police. Their testimony, which may have been fact or fiction, was used by the jury, composed of Protestant gentry, focussed on prosecution. Sentences delivered for the predominantly Catholic labourers ranged through 7, 10, 15 years to life. In practice, any sentence of transportation was exile as few ever had the means to return to Ireland.

After their prosecution William and Denis were removed to Spike Island. The common mode of moving male prisoners from one district to another was by forced march under police escort dressed in prison garb, manacled and shackled for the 88km walk to Cork harbour. Here the Spike Island military barracks had been fitted up for 600 convicts in 1847. Although ill-fed and unfit for hard labour the majority worked in quarrying, cutting and hauling stone, to build the fortifications. Inside the barracks feeble prisoners made boots, clothing and mats. By 1850 the island prison was crowded with 2500 men under punishment and awaiting shipment to British colonies.⁷

During 1849 the living conditions of the Irish poor were deplorable. In the west people had suffered 4 years of extreme food shortages with the loss of the potato during the Famine while wheat, oats and barley were exported. Evictions were widespread, particularly in Clare, where the Poor Law inspectors estimated that 300 were evicted daily in 1849. Workers were dying on the roads. Already 10,000 were reported dead at Skibbereen Poor Law union in County Cork.

In August 1849 Queen Victoria began her first visit to Ireland. The royal yacht landed at Cobh, re-named Queenstown in her honour. As the royal pageant processed along the streets of Cork royalists waved to Her Majesty while the refrain was heard among the poor:

Arise ye dead of Skibbereen And come to Cork to see the Queen.⁸

On 6 September 1850 William and Denis were among 287 prisoners from Spike Island put aboard the 815-ton ship *Hyderabad* undertaking its third voyage as a convict transport. It carried 31 crew and 30 military pensioners serving as guard. They were accompanied by 30 wives, 29 children and 3 passengers. Among the prisoners were 7 of the Waterford rebels, the repealers, who had attacked the police barracks at Cappoquin on 6 September 1849.

The surgeon superintendent appointed to the *Hyderabad* (3) was Thomas H. KEOWN R.N., experienced in the management of convict transports. He was responsible for negotiating the supply of rations and clothing at the port of departure. By request, Keown had obtained 5 tons of potatoes in lieu of flour as this staple food of the Irish labourers was not generally available during Famine years.

Thomas Keown ran an orderly ship and maintained cleanliness with liberal use of chloride of zinc. Decks were holystoned with dry sand and swinging stores hung in the prison during rough weather when the berths were damp. Cleanliness was enforced, both in the persons of the convicts and their mess places, although as

Keown commented, it was regrettable that soap was not allowed and only one flannel shirt was issued to each convict. There were 2 deaths and 3 births on board during the direct passage of 91 days.

After passing the line, when discipline was established, surgeon Keown encouraged the men to dance on deck in the afternoons and, while in the tropics, to bathe on deck. Eventually the men suffered from the cold as the *Hyderabad* (3) sailed deep into the southern ocean, passing through mountainous seas and freezing temperatures below the 45 parallel and driven by a westerly gale along the south coast of Van Diemen's Land to Storm Bay. Here the surgeon offered the men some comfort with the issue of their ration of wine with lemon juice and sugar which, he said, they relished.

At the time of their arrival in Van Diemen's Land its convict population was 26,469; an island prison. The *Hyderabad* (3) was piloted to its moorings in the Derwent at Hobart Town on 13 December 1850. Medical officers came on board to remove the sick and obtain the report from the ship's surgeon. Government clerks then arrived. They required each convict to strip to the waist to identify distinguishing marks. Each man's height was measured and a full description written. William's convict number was 23652. This procedure was an administrative one but the manner of its application was a humiliation ritual which obliged the convict to declare that he had forfeited the right to live in society.

The American political prisoner William GATES recalled, as his conviction was recorded on arrival at Hobart Town in 1840, that 'such a minute description is obtained, that it is utterly hopeless for a prisoner to think of escaping from the infernal clutches of those petty tyrants ...¹¹

On 24 December 1850 the convicts were mustered in the Old Wharf prison barracks and each man was issued with clothing, bedding and eating utensils. William Paul Dowling, the Dublin portrait painter transported for life for his part in the aborted Chartist/Confederate coup in London during August 1848, described the convict uniform on his arrival at the prison at Hobart Town as 'a more disgusting dress than any we had yet worn' All convicts were required to touch their caps to superior officers, clergy and magistrates. William Dowling declined and felt apprehensive lest he be punished with a fortnight's solitary confinement on bread and water as prescribed by the prison rules. Daily rations issued to the prisoners were meat, flour, vegetables, salt and soap. Sugar, tea, coffee, butter, tobacco and alcohol were prohibited.

During the 1840s and early 1850s the Van Diemen's Land Probation System of convict management aimed to both reform and rehabilitate the prisoners. It was a four stage system whereby convicts were to progress from outcast to freedom first while serving in government gangs and thereafter at probation stations throughout the island. All but the best behaved convicts then became pass-holders. Within this second stage the men had to supply their own clothing, were required to attend divine service every Sunday in their own denomination and to report to monthly muster. Employers supplied lodgings, bedding and daily rations. Stage three was that of a ticket of leave granted at the Lieutenant Governor's pleasure. It was deemed proof of good conduct but was valid only in the colony. The ticket permitted the holder to work for an employer or to hold a minor government post and to own property. Stage four was that of a conditional pardon, also granted by grace and

favour. It was conditional in that the holder was not permitted to travel to any British dominion during the period of his sentence.

William and Denis arrived in Van Diemen's Land towards the end of the Probation system. Convicts were still processed in stages, the first being gang labour. William and Denis were allocated to the 3rd class which was for those undergoing punishment for their sentences.

On Christmas Eve 1850 William and Denis were placed in a government gang at the Old Wharf Probation station which occupied a reclaimed dockside site in a crowded part of Hobart Town where the gangs were completing the New Wharf and Franklin Wharf. The convicts quarried stone and hauled the laden wagons to the waterfront. Other prisoners broke stones for road making. Shift workers operated pumps at the docks both day and night.¹⁴

The Old Wharf station was intended to be a showpiece for task work by which a daily workload was set which an industrious convict could complete in less time. Days saved were deducted from a prisoner's sentence. However if an offence was committed the savings were lost and the original term of sentence re-instated. The Old Wharf station was closed down during 1852. William was then transferred to the Colonial Hospital to undertake ward duties.

On 14 March 1852 William was shipped to the remote probation station at Impression Bay, on Tasman's Peninsula. It was an invalid station which, by 1848, held 450 inmates. There men were in a most wretched physical condition, blind, maimed, infirm and debilitated from age, accident and disease. ¹⁵ Able-bodied prisoners attended the bed-ridden patients.

In July 1852 William was returned to Hobart where he served time at the prison barracks. This housed the chain gangs which were also engaged in building the wharves and docks. Misdemeanours were punished by hard labour on its tread wheel which was used to grind wheat for government use. This prison was the principal House of Correction in the colony and was designed to accommodate 1500 men after the closure of the Old Wharf station.

William became a probation pass-holder on 13 July 1852, when it was assumed that discipline and punishment in the government gangs had brought his mind under correct influences and that a positive change had occurred in his conduct and disposition. In short, the experience was supposed to have made him fit to re-enter society to a limited extent. However there were further privations to be experienced.

On 13 July 1852 William obtained work at Broadmarsh at the property of Anthony Fenn Kemp, who had been one of the earliest arrivals on the island. In fact Kemp had been sent from New South Wales to settle the north of Van Diemen's Land in 1804. By 1820 Kemp had a monopoly of rum supplies in the colony and by 1830 owned a 2000 acre estate and was a pioneer of the wool industry.

William worked at Kemp's estate, Mt Vernon, until 1 October 1852 when he set off to find work again. He travelled to the north of the island and was hired as a farm labourer by Thomas Duggan who owned 2 farms totalling 107 acres at Emu Plains near Westbury.

On 13 March 1854 William was brought to the visiting magistrate's bench by his employer, Thomas Duggan, charged with falsely representing himself to be free. He was found guilty having torn the constable's clothes and resisted him. The sentence

was 3 months hard labour. ¹⁶ This would have been served on a road gang as convicts were building bridges and roads to connect settlements along the north west coast, as well as time on the tread wheel at Launceston prison barracks.

William was granted a ticket of leave on 1 January 1855. He was then permitted to work for wages provided he could find employment in private service. This meant again walking in search of work, and once hired he was required to register in that district.

William's conditional pardon was granted on 10 November 1855 and the long wait was over. As a free man William settled at High Plains, Reedy Marsh near Deloraine. He and Mary Ann Keane, whose family had migrated from Tulla in east County Clare, married at Westbury in 1862. They farmed 51 acres and reared a family of 4 sons, James, Michael, William and John and daughter Margaret. They worked hard and there were few comforts, but they worked for themselves. During 1890 William and his son, William Patrick, commenced the purchase of Bendview, the farm at Westbury which remains in the family. Mary Ann died in 1896 and William lived until 1905 in the care of his daughter Margaret. He is buried at Deloraine.

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T.A.M.I.O.T and eHeritage

http://eheritage.statelibrary.tas.gov.au/ click on "Monuments and Historic Sites"

... To access transcriptions of the headstones surviving in some 800 cemeteries around Tasmania; held by the five Branches around the State: Burnie, Devonport, Hobart, Huon and Launceston.

Cemeteries are arranged by municipality and alphabetically. T.A.M.I.O.T. fiche are available for purchase from **TFHS Inc. PO Box 191, Launceston TAS 7250**, and images are available for purchase from the branches.

Berkswell, Warwickshire and Eardley-Wilmot

Leonie Mickleborough (Member No 20)

Was your ancestor baptised, married or buried at The Church of St John Baptist, Berkswell Warwickshire England? If so, you have a link to a church where prayer was offered at the time of the Norman invasion; where the bells were rung for the birth of Queen Elizabeth I; and where the village folk gathered to celebrate the defeat of Napoleon.¹

The Christian faith arrived at Berkswell when the village was a 'cluster of huts gathered round a well' in the Forest of Arden—'which in the centuries before the Norman Conquest, covered a large area of Warwickshire'. The well, with its old wooden fence is still intact outside the churchyard gate, and it is here that the 'monks, who brought the faith from Lichfield, would have baptised their first converts'.²

Earlier this year I visited England and Europe, a holiday which included time at Berkswell, not far from Coventry. The Church of St John Baptist and Berkswell Hall were on my itinerary. Sir John Eardley Eardley-Wilmot (1783–1847) who was Lieutenant-Governor of Van Diemen's Land between 1843 and 1846, the topic of my university research thesis, lived the greatest part of his life at Berkswell Hall, a manor which adjoins the church property.³ Berkswell Hall, a substantial house of brick was built about 1670 by Samuel Marrow on land granted in 1120 by Henry I to Henry de Newburgh, Earl of Warwick to provide game for hunting.⁴ The Hall was rebuilt about 1817 by Eardley-Wilmot, who was a barrister. After his marriage to Elizabeth Emma Parry in 1808⁵ he moved to reside at his seat, Berkswell Hall.⁶ He was magistrate for Warwickshire and a country gentleman until his election to the House of Commons in 1832, and his subsequent appointment to Van Diemen's Land.

It was a Sunday morning that my driver (my younger daughter) and I arrived at the Church in our hire car. Our timing was opportune as the congregation was departing after morning service, so I briefly introduced myself to a lady who was leaving. This lady in turn introduced me to another member of the congregation who took us to the Church Warden who, upon learning of my interest in the Wilmot families was very keen that we be given a guided tour—an offer we gladly accepted.

It was almost unbelievable that we were in such an old Church. What we saw on our 'personal tour' combined with the detailed and passionate explanations from the volunteer reinforced just how young a nation Australia really is and what a wealth of history there is in England. The Church of St John Baptist, Berkswell is 12th century Norman-built, from midlands sandstone, on the site of an earlier Saxon church. The two-storey gabled and timbered porch, which is accessed from an external staircase, was built in the 16th century. The room above the porch has been in use since at least 1611, was the first school room in the village and is now used as the vestry. The nave was constructed about 1150; the two western arches on the north side and the chancel arch are Norman, while other arches are Early English. Box pews installed about 1740 are still in use. The south aisle dates from about 1350 while the north aisle was possibly built in the late 12th century, and

appears to have been a small chapel. In the 17th or 18th century the walls were raised and small cast windows were added, giving added interior light.⁷

Five windows in the chancel are exceptional examples of Norman lancet windows, near which are several marble monuments to the Wilmot family, including Eardley-Wilmot, his father and grand-father. The crypt, described as 'one of the most remarkable in any Midlands parish church'⁸ is divided into two sections, the eastern part built about 1150 and the octagonal or western end later in the same century, is entered from a pew in the north aisle. In the 18th and 19th centuries the crypt was used as the family burying vault for the Lords of the Manor, and as I discovered this was the burial place for some of Eardley-Wilmot's ancestors. To enable the coffins to be passed through, a window into the south aisle was enlarged. Two 13th century stone coffin lids were used as a lintel.⁹ As with the marble memorials in the body of the church, those in the crypt are mainly connected to the Marow or Wilmot families, from some of which I was able to record family details otherwise unavailable.

One such memorial details how on 12 March 1818 Eardley-Wilmot's first wife Elizabeth gave birth to twins, a son and a daughter. She died ten days later, leaving eight children; while other memorials had extensive details of school education, employment and judicial and military service. I was quickly able to recognise most of the names on memorials except for one inside the church. This was Catherine, widow of 'John Wightwick Knightly Esq off Offchurch_bury, and Berkswell Hall, who died at the latter place' on 25 December 1812 aged 93. Not to be deterred, I now have the Knightly connection to the manor.

Between 1674 and 1707 the five heiresses of Sir Samuel Marrow/Marow (and their husbands) lived at the Hall; between 1707 and 1750 it was Elizabeth Marrow; 1750–64 John Knightley (who was a nephew of Elizabeth), 1764–1812 Catherine Knightley (widow of John); 1812–15 John Wilmot (Eardley-Wilmot's father), and between about 1815 and his departure for Van Diemen's Land in 1843 Sir John Eardley Eardley-Wilmot was Lord of the Manor, his father having died in 1815.

Sir John Eardley Eardley-Wilmot died in Hobart Town in 1847 and was buried in St David's Burial Ground. Two years later his family erected a marble memorial tablet for him in Berkswell Church. This provides valuable information for Wilmot family researchers. As well as his date of birth and death, it also lists details of Eardley-Wilmot's father and grand-father, the names of both his wives (and their father's names) and his marriage dates, the names of his eight children from his first marriage and the five from his second marriage (to Eliza Chester in 1819).

My visit to Berkswell Church, as well as being enjoyable and informative, provided

me with family details which were proving difficult to discover. Before leaving the Church our very helpful and enthusiastic Church guide suggested that we look closely at some of the details of wood carving. Hidden away, including on the font and pulpit can be found carvings about 5 centimetres long of mice, nine in total. The mouse on the pulpit has the company of a lizard. These are the mark



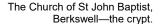
of the 21st century wood carver Robert Thompson. The Church of St John Baptist, Berkswell

After leaving the Church we walked across expansive fields to view the outside of Berkswell Hall. The Hall has been turned into flats but it is still a very impressive building. When comparing what was once a family home with some of the very small old English houses, it makes one realise just how impressive it was during the many years it was occupied by his ancestors and then by the future Lieutenant-Governor of Van Diemen's Land.

My visit to the Church of St John Baptist, Berkswell with its detailed memorial tablets realised a valuable source of information for Wilmot family researchers. Perhaps there are other churches in England which boast such a wealth of family resources just waiting to be discovered—by their descendants and researchers in this far-off side of the world. I hear my next overseas trip calling!!



Sketch of a mouse at The Church of St John Baptist, Berkswell.





Footnotes:

- 1. The Church of St John Baptist Berkswell, Christine Philp (photographs), Angela Haynes and Ursula Holmes (line drawings), Rotary Printers (n.d.), (unpaginated) p. 1.
- 2. The Church of St John Baptist Berkswell, p. 1.
- This is now in flats and still has about 40 acres of land, mostly cleared and a large manmade lake.
- http://www.cv81pl.freeserve.co.uk/berkswell.htm 20 April 2006.
- Elizabeth died on 22 March 1818, ten days after giving birth to twins, a son and daughter, their seventh and eighth children, and on 30 August the following year he married Eliza Chester, see *Burkes' Peerage and Baronetage. Volume 1* (Switzerland, 1999), pp. 933–36.
- See G Tyack, Warwickshire Country Houses (Sussex, 1994), pp. 187, 227 for the history of Berkswell Hall.
- 7. The Church of St John Baptist Berkswell, pp. 2-5.
- http://www.cv81pl.freeserve.co.uk/berkswell.htm 20 April 2006.
- 9. The Church of St John Baptist Berkswell, p. 7.
- 10. http://www.cv81pl.freeserve.co.uk/berkswell.htm 20 April 2006

A Background to why some of the Tasmanian Convict Records are held by The Mitchell Library, Sydney

(Maree Ring Member No 552)

In 1965 the State Library of Tasmania published *Guide to the Public Records of Tasmania Section Three Convict Department Record Group* by P(eter) R. Eldershaw.

The Introduction briefly and accurately explains some of the complexities of the Convict Department and the reason behind some of the records.

Incidentally there is nowhere that is there such detailed descriptions of the records CON 1 to CON 105.

The appendixes of Peter Eldershaw's Convict Guide are still quite relevant to researchers today: and includes Appendices 6 and 7 which describes records from the Mitchell and Dixson Libraries, Sydney including assignment and appropriation lists and indents that are not to be found in the Archives Office of Tasmania within the convict records.

The records noted in the above appendixes and held by the Mitchell and Dixon Libraries, Sydney, have been microfilmed and can be accessed as MM 33 and MM 71 respectively. They are available in Tasmania, listed against the appropriate ship in the convict database.

We are indebted to Peter Eldershaw, deputy to, then in 1959 successor of R.C. Sharman, first archivist of The Archives Office of Tasmaniaⁱ for his untiring persistence in trying for the return to Tasmania of the estrays of the Convict Department still to be found in the Mitchell and Dixson libraries. His efforts of nearly a decade culminated in the return of only a total of nine original estrays. These important records, approximately 3000 in number, are still only available in Tasmania in a microfilm format.ⁱⁱ

Why were convict records destroyed?

"...the Government of Tasmania had on many occasions, of which we are aware, sold or ordered for destruction documents now regarded as being valuable, the Crown had no redress when these or other documents were offered for sale. I understand the difficulty is to establish ownership." So quoted Peter Biskup in his paper at the 7th Biennial Conference of The Australian Society of Archivists, Inc., Hobart, 2-6 June 1989.ⁱⁱⁱ

Biskup further suggests that "Disregard for official records has been a part of Tasmania's way of life for most of the island's history. Much material had simply vanished, destroyed by fire, vermin, mould or human hand. In this, Tasmania was not greatly different from the mainland where official documents had frequently suffered similar fates.^{IV}

Various Governments ordered periodic clean-ups of accumulated material. In 1888, imperial records from the Ordinance Stores and the New Wharf filled fifty sacks, which were then sunk in the Derwent River, mid-harbour. This clean up of records included the Library of Port Arthur with its 4,000 New Testaments and 700 Bibles.

In 1889 it was the turn of the Colonial Stores and then in 1918, the Franklin Square vaults, when "nothing has been destroyed without reference to the Chief Clerk"

In 1889 Whetton wrote to Premier Fvsh:

Anything that I may write must fail to convey to your mind a true picture of the immense volume and bewildering confusion of the correspondence and documents to be dealt with.... So far, most of the letters have had relation to the old convict days, amongst which, one comes across scores of familiar names, and it may strike you as most undesirable that all this correspondence should have been lying here for anyone to read....There are numbers of pardons written on parchments, which I should like you to see and decide what is to be done with them.^{vi}

Why were these documents accumulated?

With the job completed, in June 1890, Fysh arranged for the sinking of the unwanted material in the Derwent, but not before he had sent a brief note to the Hobart historian and book collector, the solicitor, J. Backhouse Walker, mentioning the condemned documents "It struck me that you might like to look through them before they are destroyed," he told Backhouse, "and if you thought them of any value you would perhaps advise as to their future custody and disposal." ... Official files are silent as to the fate of the "unwanted" material. Some ... ended up "in the possession of certain persons in Hobart" ... including possibly Walker himself"; J.E. Calder; solicitor Cecil Allport, photographer, J.W. Beattie and others.

How did these documents get to Sydney?

After his death in 1899, Walker's superb library, which contained convict and documents of official provenance, was sold to Angus and Robertson in Sydney. One of their most famous customers, until his death in 1907 was David Scott Mitchell. After Mitchell's death, his mantle fell on William (later Sir) Dixson, another wealthy Sydneyite, whose library today supplements and rounds off the holdings of the Mitchell Library. Dixson left his collection by bequest and today is known by that name. X

In Tasmania, prior to 1949, very little systematic work had been done on the preservation of official records in Tasmania and the vaults of the Chief Secretary's Department, came by, default, a kind of ungazetted State Archives, Robert C. Sharman began work as Archives Officer in November of 1949. In 1951 when he took up full time duties, he arranged for Peter Eldershaw to be appointed as a temporary staff member.^{xi} It has been the work these men who have provided a sound foundation for the Archives Office of Tasmania, which includes the preservation, and in some cases, the return of the records of the Convict Department.

I also extend my thanks to Brian Diamond, a former employee of Archives Office of Tasmania for bringing notice of Peter Biskup's paper to my attention.

The Kiama Family History Centre has indexed many of these records.

As mentioned previously the Archives Office of Tasmania holds some of the records held by the Mitchell Library pertaining to Tasmania on microfilm. The prefix and numbering system between the records indexed by Kiama and AOT differ.

Launceston Library has recently purchased some of those records indexed by Kiama. These are listed as CY files at the end of the following publication "Convict

Records Guide", which can be downloaded from http://www.statelibrary.tas.gov.au/where/find/all/launceston/publications

Other records lost by the same fate?

On Thursday, 4 May 2006 The State Archivist Ian Pearce from the Archives Office of Tasmania announced in a media release that an old court record of proceedings in the Launceston Police Magistrate's Court in the 1830s was returned to the Archives Office of Tasmania from the Victorian Public Records Office, where it had been held for many decades.

He further stated that although it's not clear when the record made its way to Victoria, it was acquired by the Victorian Public Records Office from a Melbourne dealer in the mid-1930s along with some old Victorian records, and remained there for the next 70 years.

Could this, along with some of the following be another record from Walker's superb library?

Trans Tasman Relations: **Tasmanians in New Zealand** by Bruce Ralston was a paper given at the 6th Australasian Congress on Genealogy and Heraldry, Launceston May, 1991 and printed in the Supplement, p. 123. This includes a seven folder collection entitled "Records of Transportation" (Ms Papers 1615, Manuscripts & Archives Section), held by the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, N. Z. Ralston suggests that the provenance of the items is not clear but some were no doubt collected by the Library's founder, Alexander Horsburgh Turnbull.

Appendix (names, excepting for Folder 4 or where otherwise noted, are in the Congress Papers):

Folder 1: 'Returns to accompany the Caption of the Convict on his removal to a Government Prison' with details of crime and Sentence

Folder 2: Record of conduct, sentence in Van Diemens Land (dob between 1780 and 1832 – ship of arrival (date of arrival 1819 – 1852)

Folder 3: Pardons and remissions

Folder 4: 'In 8653/51 Schedule of Pardons (133) Enclosure in Lt Governor Sir W. Dennison's Despatch NO 73 16 May 1851 Van Diemens Land Convict Department' In 11886/52 Van Diemens Land Convict Department 6th August 1852. Schedule of 230 Convicts Transported from the United Kingdom Recommended for Conditional Pardons. Enclosure in Lieut Govr Sir W. Dennison's Despatch No.__ 19 August 1852'

Folder 5: 'List of 100 Convicts Embarked on Board the *Lady East* for New S Wales 21st Octr 1824' [includes no 69-100 only]

List of forty five Female Convicts conveyed on the *Friends* to New South Wales, 8 Feby 1811'

List of Prisoners forwarded from Newcastle to Sydney in the Months of October 1820 and September 1821.... Newcastle 22nd July 1824'

'Warrior Hulk at Woolwich

List of Eighty Male Convicts embarked on board the Ship *Duchess of Northumberland* for Transportation to Van Diemens Land 17 September 1842'

Folder 6: List of Irish convicts transported to Van Diemens Land on the *Emily,* 13 July 1844. Includes Military Convicts. Ino list provided here!^{xii}

List of Irish convicts transported to New South Wales on the *British Sovereign*, 14 Dec 1840.

Folder 7^{xiii} (documentation? for Henry Ballington, sentence for stealing New Norfolk

William Cooper, Certificate of Freedom

Henry Donnelly, Pass 1844

Andrew Gatenby, Grant of 1500 acres 1823

William Grant, Pass 1840

Hugh Jones, sentence for stealing New Norfolk

Thomas Kennedy, Pass 1844

William Maloney, Pass 1844

John Petchey, invoice and receipt 1820

John Roberts, Pass 1845

Joseph Toogood, Pass 1841

Joseph Waldron, 2 letters to his wife 1823/1824 [Waldron also mentioned in folder 3]

'List of Prisoners from Employment on the Roads, Hyde Park, 14 January 1836'xiv

References

- Peter Biskup, "J. Moore-Robinson, A Trader in Records" to be found in Papers and Proceedings of the 7th Biennial Conference of The Australian Society of Archivists, Inc., Hobart, 2-6 June 1989, p. 52.
- ii. ibid, p. 54.
- iii. ibid., pp 47, 55, reference number 6, Guy to Leeper, 29 June, 1929, Archives Office of Tasmania, CSD 22/305/45/4/25. The letter was in fact an application for the ratification of the famous Port Phillip Aboriginal "treaty"
- iv. ibid, p. 50.
- v. ibid, pp 48, 57, Burnaby to Chief Clerk, 30 April, 1918, CSD ibid/241/178/2/18.
- vi. ibid., pp 50, 57, Whetton to Fysh. 20 July , 1889, ibid.
- vii. ibid., pp 50, 51, 57, Fysh to Walker 18 June, 1890, ibid.
- viii. ibid., pp 51, 57, Dobson to Chief Secretary, 13 December, 1900, CSD 22/35/99/00.
- ix. ibid., pp 51, 56; Described as "one of the finest libraries of works relating to Tasmania" (Royal Society of Tasmania, *Papers and Proceedings*, 1898-99 LIX), it was lost to Tasmania by a 'strange mischance' (ie. sale to Angus and Robertson) in or about 1901 (A.E. Browning, "History of the State Library of Tasmania". *Australian Library Journal*, 8 (2) April, 1959, p. 86) A shelf-list of the library can be found in the Walker family papers held by the University of Tasmania 9W.9/3/(2)).
- x. ibid., p. 51.
- xi. Sharman, R.C., 'Tasmanian Archives and the Eldershaw Tradition, Tasmanian Research Association, P. & P., Vol. 22, no. 2, June, 1975, pp. 85, 88.
- xii. Does this list exist in New Zealand?
- xiii. Some more details for some in the Congress Papers.
- xiv. This probably refers to NSW convicts rather than those in Tasmania.

National Archives of Australia

(Hobart Repository)

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An Index to

Launceston Examiner

This series covers
the personal announcements from the
Launceston Examiner
from its inception on 12 March 1842
until 31 December 1899
In 1900 the name was changed to
The Examiner

There are Birth, Death and Marriage notices as well as deaths and marriages gleaned from news items.

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Selected news items of interest to family historians have also been included.

The Old Maids Of North Shields

From the *Midland Ancestor* – March 2006

The following is a copy of a newspaper cutting from a North Shields newspaper. Unfortunately the name of the newspaper is not known. The copy shown is from 1824 and is a reprint from the original entry around fifty years earlier.

It is not known how successful the Old Maids were in achieving their stated aim!

The **Old Maids** of North Shield, Tynemouth, and their Vicinities, do hereby give this **Public Notice**, that a **Meeting** will be held on the:

Sands of Cullersoats, on Easter Monday,

The 19th Inst.
Precisely at Two O'Clock in the
Afternoon,

To take into Consideration the Propriety of petitioning Parliament, to lay an Annual Tax on all BACHELORS, who shall exceed the Age of THIRTY; the said Tax to be laid on according to their Circumstances in Life, but in no Case to be less than the Sum necessary for the Maintenance of a Wife and Family. The Money to be collected, and deposited in the Hands of a Treasurer, for the Benefit of all MAIDS at and above the Age of TWENTY EIGHT, belonging to and residing in the above named Places

It is hoped that all **Maiden Ladies** will see the Propriety of this laudable Design, and that the Meeting will be numerously attended, and meet with their warmest Encouragement.

North Shield. April 5 1824

Rate of Woman's "Industrial Emancipation"

Launceston Examiner, 26 August 1895, p7 c6

A recent United States census bulletin deals with the increase of the number of women engaged in professional occupations since 1870, and the results brought out are very striking. While the increase in the number of men engaged in gainful occupations generally has increased only 76 per cent between 1870 and 1890, the increase for women during the period is 113 per cent. In professional occupations women increased over 237 per cent, against 126 per cent for men, while in trade and transportation the increase for women is 1051 per cent, against 155 per cent for men. The New York *Literary Digest* reproduces the list which shows the contrast between the two periods in the spheres of professional occupations and certain departments of trade and transportation:-

Actors 3,949 692 Architects 22 1 Artists and teachers of art 10,810 412 Authors, literary & scientific persons 2,725 159 Chemists, assayers & metallurgists 46 — Clergymen 1,235 57 Dentists 337 24 Designers, draftsmen & inventors 306 13 Engineers & surveyors 127 — Journalists 888 35 Lawyers 208 5 Musicians & teachers of music 34,519 5,753 Government officials, Federal, State & local 4,875 414 Physicians & surgeons 4,555 527
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Physicians & surgeons 4 555 527
1,000 021
Teachers 245,965 84,047
Theatre managers, showmen, etc 634 100
Veterinary surgeons 2 —
Bookkeepers & Accountants 27,777 7 8,016
Clerks & copyists 64,048
Stenographers & typewriters 21,185 7
Saleswomen 58,449 2,775

Premature Burials

Launceston Examiner, 26 August 1895, p3 c6

During the cholera season of 1866 there were said to be many premature interments. So we read in a doctor's "Strange Experiences.". One of the peculiarities of this disease is to bring on some of the symptoms of death—the coldness, the prostration, and the dull, livid countenance—long before life takes its departure. It is an acknowledged fact that patients pronounced dead of cholera have been seen to repeatedly move one or more of their limbs, as if trying to regain a mortal status, but in which they have not always been encouraged.

A French physician, who was sent to Warsaw by his Government to study the cholera, was engaged on a subject in the deadhouse of the Bagatelle hospital, when his attention was attracted to a body, that of a woman, who had been pronounced dead two days before. Her eyes still bright, her joints supple, but the whole surface of the body extremely cold. He saw her left foot move several times in the course of an hour. Afterwards the right foot moved, but very feebly. The physician sent for Dr BUNCE, and directed his attention to the phenomenon. But it was nothing new, said Dr Bunce. He had often noticed such cases. Nevertheless, the woman was left in the dissecting room and later taken to the cemetery. Several other medical men stated they had made similar observations, from which the French doctor very justly draws the conclusion that many cholera patients have been buried alive.

Another Frenchman, Dr VEYRAT, was called to attend a cholera patient, Theresa X., who had lost every member of her family to the disease. He found her in asphyxia, and opened a vein. Not a drop of blood flowed. He applied leeches. They bit and immediately relaxed their hold. He covered the body with stimulant applications, and then went to take a little rest, asking to be called if the patient manifested signs of life. That night and next day passed without any change. While making preparations for the burial they noticed a little blood oozing out of the leech bites. Informed of the circumstances, Dr Veyrat entered the chamber just as the nurse was about to wrap the corpse in a burial sheet. Suddenly a rattling noise was heard in Theresa's chest. She opened her eyes, and in a hollow voice said to the nurse: "What are you doing here? I am not dead. Get away with you!" She recovered, and felt no inconvenience except a deafness, which continued some two months.

An Austrian authority estimates the number of persons buried alive at 38,000 per year.

The public is too much inclined to reject science and embrace misinformation. It has been asserted over and over again that an infallible method of ascertaining whether a person were dead or not was to inflict a burn on the sole of the foot. If a blister full of water resulted, the subject was not dead; if the contrary result supervened there was no further hope. Such a discovery was worthy of the age of Simon MAGNUS, but it was unhesitatingly accepted as an item of the popular creed, and remains in full practice in many of the rural districts. The highest authority indicates putrefaction and cadaverous rigidity as infallible signs of death. In respect to putrefaction a professional man is not likely to make a mistake, but nothing is more possible for non-professional man to confound gangrene with true post mortem putrefaction.

Was your Ancestor a Rhyndaston Publican?

Richard Gould (Member No 6059)

Tucked away in the upper part of the Cole river valley, Rhyndaston is off the beaten track. Motorists who take the dusty C313 road between Colebrook and Stonor and pass through Rhyndaston, would find it hard to believe that at the time of Federation, the settlement comprised some 180 people. It had two shops, a post office, school, railway station, dance hall and an hotel then. The inhabitants must have been law abiding because the police station which opened in 1860, was closed 22 years later Nowadays, Rhyndaston's main claim to fame is that Tasmania's longest railway tunnel is located there.

Construction of the narrow gauge railway line between Hobart and Launceston was started by the Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company in 1873. The line went through hilly terrain in the southern midlands, necessitating significant engineering works which included boring the kilometre long Rhyndaston tunnel through solid rock² Tunnelling commenced in 1874 and took 2 years to complete. The work to establish the permanent way and excavate the tunnel was both arduous and labour intensive since only basic tools and equipment were available.³

The big influx of several hundred navvies working on the railway, boosted the local economy by increasing the demand for supplies, shelter and a place for recreation. Regarding the latter, the nearest public houses in 1874 were the Forest Hotel, Tunnack and the Lion Inn, Jerusalem Inn and Railway Inn, Colebrook. Thus there was an obvious need for one in Rhyndaston, or Flat Top as it was also known. This need was satisfied in January 1875 when public house licences were issued to John LYNCH for the Royal Oak and Hugh HARDIMAN for the Camp Hotel, Flat-Top Hill. The Royal Oak only traded for a year and its location is unknown. A John Lynch of Tunnack was granted land there in 1860, so he may have been the publican or a relation. A list of Rhyndaston publicans and their families from 1875 to 1921, is given in Table 1.

Before coming to Rhyndaston, Hugh Hardiman had been a miner at Mathinna. A native of Yorkshire, he only stayed in the Camp Hotel for a year, after which the licence was transferred to John McCONNON from Colebrook. Following his departure from Rhyndaston, Mr Hardiman ran the Black Prince Hotel in Elizabeth Street, Hobart for 2 years, then the Blue Tier Hotel at Blue Tier, near Lottah. From there he took on the Union Hotel, St. Helens, where he made a big impression on the locals, as exemplified by the following quote⁷:

'The lower hotel passed through quite a series of ownerships, the most conspicuous being Hugh Francis Hardiman. He could both fight and run 50 yards. He once ran a pub at Flat Top on the construction of the Main Line Railway; later he opened up at the Blue Tier'. After selling the Union, he bought W Hodgman's butchering business. He was also a notable cricketer and keen horse racing enthusiast.'

John McConnon owned several blocks of land in the vicinity of the Rhyndaston railway station. A Lands Department map of 1883 shows a public house west of the Colebrook - Stonor road, about 90 meters south of the intersection with Wooldridge road (originally Owen street), on land owned by J. W. McConnon. This was the site of the Camp Hotel. The Hobart Town Gazette for January 1880 shows a name change from the Camp to the Tunnack Hotel. The Forest Hotel at Tunnack was still

going strong then so this seems to be a misprint for the Tunnel Hotel. The latter name, first recorded the following year, was retained until the pub's closure in 1921. At some stage, Mr McConnon built new premises for the hotel adjacent to the railway station. The change in location may have coincided with the name change, but this is uncertain. He also had the farming property "Leven Banks" at Levendale and became Rhyndaston's fourth postmaster after leaving the hotel. Some of his descendants still reside in the district as farmers.

John McConnon was followed by William TREANOR, Robert ELLIOTT and Charles TILLACK junior. Prior to becoming an hotelier, Mr Tillack had a farm at Macquarie Plains with his father and grew hops. In 1897 he was absent from the hotel for 5 months, during which time Thomas DOWNS held the licence. He seems to have been a neighbour of Charles Tillack senior, as they both farmed at Campania, and may have looked after the hotel as a favour to his son. While Thomas and his wife Jessie had no children together, Jessie had 11 children from her previous marriage to John MAYNE. Mr Treanor left Rhyndaston for Tunbridge where he resumed his trade as a boot maker and Mr Elliott became a miner on the west coast.

The assessment roll for 1901 records the Cascade brewery as owning the hotel but it is unclear when they bought the property. Two years later, Henry CHADWICK took it on but only stayed for 15 months while still farming his property "Clover Bank". He later moved to Mount Baines, Colebrook. The next licensee was Thomas BROWN who had farmed at New Bed, Railton, prior to his arrival in Rhyndaston. After leaving the pub, he bought "Melton Vale" at Lake Tiberias and several of his grand children still live in the area. ¹⁰. The last publican was Victorian born Frederick BURRIDGE who stayed until the pub's closure in 1921. Five years earlier, part of the hotel had become a shop, run by his wife Anna. ¹¹ In 1922, the family moved to Glenorchy where the electoral roll for that year describes Mr Burridge as an investor.

The Burridges moved on because the Richmond licensing bench refused to renew the public house licence for the Tunnel Hotel in 1922. The refusal was based on the grounds of safety, as the premises were deemed to be too close to the railway tracks. Apparently in 1921, one of the pub's customers had imbibed too freely and died after being hit by a train. After the hotel closed, the building continued use as a store until about 1939, when it became a private residence. Sadly, it succumbed to fire in 1960 and no trace of it remains today.

Endnotes

- J.S. Weeding. A history of the Lower Midlands of Tasmania, Regal Publications, 1994 p.104
- H.J.W. Stokes. A century of Tasmanian railways 1871-1971, The Transport Commission, Hobart, 1971 p.7
- 3. Brian Chamberlain. Too many loose rails, Brian Chamberlain, Launceston, n.d. p.7
- Hobart Town Gazette, January 1875
- 5. Weeding, p.87
- 6. AOT Tasmanian Pioneers Index
- Anon. Centenary of Portland 1834-1934, Portland Municipal Council, Tasmania, 1934
 pp. 12. 21. 30-34
- 8. Tasmanian Government Gazettes, 1883-1922
- 9. Monmouth Post Office Directory 1890/91. Jurors lists
- Information about Thomas Brown's family was kindly provided by his grand daughter, Mrs Daphne Burrill, Stonor
- 11. Wises Post Office Directory 1916. Rhyndaston residents

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See contact detail inside back cover

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Only one query per member per issue will be published unless space permits otherwise. Queries should be forwarded to The Editor, *Tasmanian Ancestry*, PO Box 191 Launceston TAS 7250 or email editor@tasfhs.org

Allen/Babington/Robinson

I am seeking the descendants of Dr James ALLEN (Surgeon of Wybalena) who settled on Clark Island and died in 1866; George Augustus ROBINSON, also, John Alcock BABINGTON, (Harbour Master) died in Hobart 1883.

Contact: Anne McAuley, email: dannymcauley@bigpond.com or PO Box 305, Ulverstone TAS 7315.

Baretto Junior & Maria 2

I am looking for prints or a sketch of the *Baretto Junior*, built in 1818 in Calcutta, a three mast barque of 522 tones, owners name, J and F SOMES, registered in London, sailed with 190 female convicts in 1850 from Downs, English Channel, arriving in Hobart on July 1850, the master was J HUGGINS.

Also, prints or a sketch of the *Maria 2*, build in Yarmouth in 1836, a three mast barque of 460 tons, owners, Cox and Co, registered London, sailed from Dublin in April 1840 with 168 female convicts, arriving in Hobart in July 1849, master was F W PLANK. I will of course, pay any expenses for any information forth coming.

Contact: Vic Fahey, PO Box 82, Bicheno TAS 7215. (Member No 6304)

Barrett/ Barratt

"I am a direct descendent, researching the family of convicts Joseph BARRETT (Barratt) and Mary DODD and discovered two typewritten pages at the Launceston Branch relating to them. Joseph was a landholder in Launceston, Mary returned to England, was again convicted and transported to VDL, their son, Abraham, was elected Mayor in 1863. I would be interested in contacting the author of this document or anyone who has knowledge of same. Pauline Connell, les.con@bigpond.net.au. (Member No 6495)

Bird

I am seeking a photograph of Albert Edward BIRD, who was the champion long distance runner of England, and was brought to compete in Australia in 1869. Albert spent much of his time in Tasmania. Some of his feats included racing and beating the mail coach between Perth and Campbelltown in early 1874. On 26 Aug 1974 he also ran from Snakes Banks to the Wellington Inn in Launceston in under 2½ hours, which was considered an outstanding feat. In 17 Apr 1876 Albert ran from Campbell Town to Launceston in under 5 hours.

Contact: John Bird, 52 Sheahans Rd, Bulleen VIC 3105, ☎ 03 9850 7450 or email **johnbird@iprimus.com.au** (Member No 5995)

Burgoyne

Would appreciate contact from the families of Thomas BURGOYNE (a shoemaker of Table Cape) and his wife Catherine, nee POWER; of Alfred Phillip GOWER and wife Laura Blanche nee WEEKS, of Wivenhoe; of Bertram Keith WOODWARD (son of George and Maria, nee Weeks) and his spouse Myra Lillian.

Contact: Valerie Elizabeth Wilson, 125, 31 Kruger Pde, Redbank Qld 4301. (Member No 6442)

Harrison

Seeking descendants of Harold St Clair Harrison, youngest son of Robert and Mary nee FISHER, born Launceston 27 August 1878, believed married in Sydney 1910 to Amelia Elizabeth CORNEY, and returned to Tasmania to live. Brothers Gus, Clarence, sisters Molly Alice, Flora, Gorgia and Gertrude.

Would appreciate any information, contact Carmel Hinch (nee Harrison) 13 Cameron St, Airport West VIC 3042. 30 9324 4372 email ninch@optusnet.com.au (Member No 2032)

Phillips

Seeking KING descendants of Edward Lenere (Leneve) PHILLIPS d. 1906. Gordon m. Sarah WILSON 1859.

(1) Walter Edward 1859-1923 m J BEHRENS 1880 – Gordon; Isobel COMBE, Sarah NORTON; Emma LISSON; Mary Ann PEARCE; Walter; Edward 1893-1984, Campbell Town m. Sarah, May, Max, Joy, Fay Betty; Francis Lawrence, Carmen Gertrude, Agnes Janetta. (3) Evelyn 1865 m. Thomas OLDHAM – Gordon Clyde 1900. (4) William John 1867 m. Alice DAVIS – Eric William 1905, Evandale. (5) Edward b. 1869 m. 1900, Rhoda H TILY – Trevor d. 1952. (6) Francis (Frank) Eustace 1871 m. Ada BERGMAN – Lucy Gertrude 1902. (8) Gertrude Sarah 1876 m. (Daniel) Charles SUTTON, Sorell – George Edward Lenieve 1898 m. Mary E S HOLLOWAY. (9) Mark Crompton 1877 m. 1909 Ada BILLINGHURST.

Contact: Erica Riis (Member No 6363)

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ALEXANDER Archibald Castlemaine VIC AUS 1750-1860	
ALLFORD John Newland Coleford GLO ENG 1817	6482
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Namo	Place/Area	Time	M'shin No

Name	Place/Area	Time	M'ship No
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EASTLEY	DEV ENG	All	6505
EDWARDS Harry	22 110	c1882-1934	6492
FISHER James Clark	Barking ESS ENG	c1800	6466
FLINT	ENG	All	6505
FLINT Francis A	Birmingham ENG	c1880	6511
FLINT Francis A	Adelaide SA AUS	c1877	6511
FOWLER William	London MDX ENG	1845-	6491
FRASER Thomas	Longford Deloraine TAS AUS	1800+	6464
FRITH Albert	TAS AUS	All	6515
FULLWOOD J	ENG	1840+	6496
GARCIA Alex	Salamanca SPAIN	c1835	6496
GARCIA Jane	Longford TAS AUS	1850+	6496
GARDINER	Devonport TAS AUS	All	6470
GATEHOUSE family	TAS & ENG	1600+	6513
GLEESON Patrick	Bendigo & VIC AUS	1870-1922	6491
GOOD David	ENG	1840-1880	6499
GRANT Bertram	Hobart TAS AUS	All	6481
GREEN	Norfold TAS AUS	1800+	6493
GREGORY Edward	Cornisbrough YKS Eng	1870-1940	6485
GRIGGS Joseph	g	c1829	6492
GRINDLE Edward	Cornisbrough YKS Eng	1870-1940	6485
HALL Alma	Launceston TAS AUS	pre1900	6464
HAMPTON Jonas	Deloraine TAS AUS	c1800	6484
HAMPTON Sarah Ann	Deloraine TAS AUS	1862-1933	6484
HANDLEY	Fingal TAS AUS	1850-1900	6490
HARRISON Edith May	· ·	c1909-1961	6492
HERON	ENG	pre 1850	6470
HOPE David	TAS AUS	1850s+	6514
HOPE David	near Glasgow SCT	Pre 1850s	6514
HUTTON Alexander, father	NSW AUS	1836-1865	6499
HUTTON Mary, child	NSW AUS	1865	6499
INGLESON Anne	Westbury TAS AUS	1851-1892	6488
INGLESON Catherine	TAS AUS	1851-?	6488
ISBELL Ann	Deloraine TAS AUS	c1800	6484
JOHN Elizabeth, mother?	NSW AUS	1836	6499
JONES Benjamin Gaffee	Westbury TAS AUS	1848-1876	6488
JONES Sarah	Hobart TAS AUS	1843-1883	6468
KAINE	AYR SCT	All	6500
KEANE Mary	Tulla E Clare IRE	1790-1899	6463
KENNEDY	Waterford IRE	All	6505
KENNEDY	Kilkenny IRE	1750-1850	6497
KING	LIN ENG	All	6474
KLINE Chris & Mime	Campania TAS AUS	All	6509
KREGOR family	TAS	1850+	6513
KYTE Thomas Henry	Oxford GLS ENG	1860-1930	6499
LAWS Benjamin	Westbury TAS AUS	1799-1890	6488
LEANEY	Ditchlins SSX ENG	1810-1850	6497

Tasmanian Ancestry	179	December 2006
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Name LEAR/ LEAH Sarah Lizzie	Place/Area Shelley YKS Eng	Time 1880-1980	M'ship No. 6486
LEE	ENG - Hobart TAS	All	6495
LEEDHAM	TAS AUS	All	6462
LIDDELL James	Clackmanan SCT	Pre 1808	6504
LOCKETT	TAS, Workington LAN ENG	All	6462
LOWRIE William	Stanley TAS AUS	1860-	6507
LYNCH Rose Helena	Hobart TAS Sydney NSW AUS	1860-1925	6475
LYNCH Terrence	Hobart TAS Sydney NSW AUS	c1860	6475
MALTHOUSE	St Albans HERT ENG	pre 1840	6512
MARKS Phillip	London ENG - Hobart TAS	1780-1864	6468
MARTIN	London ENG - Launceston TAS AUS	1800-1865	6495
MARTIN Archibald	Edinburgh SCT	1860+	6501
MARTIN Archibald	Edinburgh SCT	1829+	6501
MARTIN Henry	Edinburgh SCT	1858+	6501
MARTIN Hugh	Launceston TAS AUS	1874	6502
MARTIN James	Edinburgh SCT	1863+	6501
MARTIN Jane	Edinburgh SCT	1885+	6501
MARTIN John Giles	Launceston TAS AUS	1870	6502
MARTIN Robert	Launceston TAS AUS	1867	6502
MARTIN Sarah	Launceston TAS AUS	1872	6502
McCARTHY James Patrick	Port Melbourne VIC AUS	1870	6498
McFIE James, Capt	1 of twelbourne vio Aoo	pre 1912	6510
McINDOE	NZ & SCT	All	6491
McMAHON Catherine	Sheeaun E Clare IRE	1790-1906	6463
McMAHON Denis	Sheeaun E Clare, IRE	1790-1906	6463
McMAHON James	Selbourne TAS AUS	1860-1920	6463
McMAHON Michael	Selbourne TAS AUS	1862-1925	6463
McMAHON William	Sheeaun, E Clare, IRE	1790-1905	6463
	Dublin IRE	1821	6482
McMAHON, John MIDDAP	NTT ENG	All	6505
MILTON Geroge	Port Sorell TAS AUS	1879	6469
MUELLER Magdaline	Mannheim-Wurternburg GER	1835	6482
O'NEILL James	Manchester LAN ENG	pre1830	6482
PAGE	Huon TAS & UK Franklin TAS AUS	1850s	6470
PAGE Samuel		1850-1880	6490
PAGE Samuel	Huon TAS AUS	1838-1870	6476
PHILLIPS	ENG Newfoundland & TAS AUS	1742+	6493
PHILLIPS	TAS AUS, SCT	All	6462
PHILPOTT John	Gosport ENG	All	6500
PLUMMER Catherine	St Ewe CON ENG	pre1822	6482
PLUMMER William	Probus CON ENG	pre1765	6482
PORTE	Hobart TAS AUS	1850-1900	6490
POTTER Anne	ENG	1840-1880	6499
PROSSER Thomas	Hobart TAS AUS	1838-1886	6468
RENDELL Samuel	DEV ENG	1832-1881	6507
REYNOLDS Maud	Ballarat VIC AUS	All	6515
RHEUBEN Abraham	London ENG - Hobart TAS AUS	1810-1865	6468
RICHARDSON	TAS AUS	All	6462

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Name ROSEVEAR Mary	Place/Area TAS AUS	Time	M'ship No. 6515	
RYAN Nicholas	Launceston TAS AUS	1852-1917	6507	
SMITH Dennis	Deloraine TAS AUS	1857-1937	6484	
SMITH Don & Jane	Nicholls Rivulet TAS AUS	All	6509	
SMITH Herbert Henry C	Deloraine TAS AUS	1886-1957	6484	
SMITH Mary Jane	Hobart TAS AUS	1850+	6468	
SMITH Robert	Haddington SCT	pre 1860	6503	
SOLOMON Mark	London ENG - Hobart TAS AUS	1800-1837	6468	
SULLIVAN Mary	Hobart TAS Sydney NSW AUS	c1860	6475	
SUTER Alfred	London ENG	pre 1880	6503	
VINCENT Arthur Royden	Burnie TAS AUS	1898-1934	6471	
VINCENT Henry	Emu Bay TAS AUS	1850	6471	
VINCENT Joyce Mary	Burnie TAS AUS	1927 onwards	6471	
WALKER Alfred	Shelley YKS ENG	1880-1952	6486	
WALKER Henry (Convict)		All	6514	
WALTON, Robert Thomas	NFK ENG	1847-1848	6498	
WILLIS	Wedderburn VIC AUS	1870-1970	6497	
WILLIS	Dunbarton SOM ENG	1750-1850	6497	
YOUNG	ENG TAS AUS	1800+	6493	

If you find a name in which you are interested, please note the membership number and check the New Members' listing for the appropriate name and address. Please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope and don't forget to reply if you received a SSAE.

Note: If you have ticked the block on the Membership Application/ Renewal Form indicating that you wish your contact details to remain private, your Members Interests will not be published.

Descendants of Convicts' Group Inc.1788-1868

Any person who has convict ancestors, or who has an interest in convict life during the early history of European settlement in Australia, is welcome to join the above group.

Those interested may find out more about the group and receive an application form by writing to:

The Secretary

Descendants of Convicts Group

PO Box 12224, A'Beckett Street, VIC 8006

Australia

http://home.vicnet.net.au/~dcginc/

Diary Notes

December, Wednesday 6th 2006

Port Arthur Talks: At the Junior Medical Officer's conference room 5.30pm. What scientists really get up to: Four years of seabird research on Wedge Island, presented by Caitlin Vertigan. For more information and RSVP **☎** (03) 6251 2324 or 6251 2300

January, Wednesday 24th 2007

Port Arthur Talks: At the Junior Medical Officer's conference room 5.30pm. *The History and Archaeology of Tasmanian Shore-Based Whaling*, presented by Mike Nash. For more information and RSVP **☎** (03) 6251 2324 or 6251 2300

March 10th & 11th, 2007

The Natone Area School will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary, and are publishing a book of approx 500 pages titled *Our Schools and Pioneer Families—A History of Stowport, Natone, Camena and Upper Natone.*

This book includes interviews, photos, student enrolment names, simple family tree details and much more on the people in these districts since settlement here from approx the late 1800's to date. The book will be priced at \$55 per copy, and will be available at our school reunion in March. The will be limited copies available for sale that have not been pre-ordered, so please contact me to avoid disappointment.

If you would like to pre-order a copy of this professionally published book, please contact Mrs Karen Bramich, 260 Lottah Road, Natone, 7321. (03) 6436 2126 or email: flatrockpastoral@iinet.net.au

March, Saturday 24th 2007

Viney Family Get Together: Hagley Uniting Church Hall, 10.30 to 3.30pm.

Family includes Clifford, Treloggen, Fisher, Littlejohn, Peck, Gee, Boutcher, Clark, Stevens and others.

Last chance to hand in information for more family updates. Please forward on or before 24th March 2007. (03) 6392 2209 (Margaret) (03) 6393 1456 (Edna) or (03) 6425 2581 (Noel)

April, Sunday 1st 2007

Chugg Family Reunion: at the Memorial Hall, Evandale, Tasmania Family includes Dale, Coplestone, Gee, Jordan, Stevens, Saunders, Stebbings, Towns and Frankcombe.

Contact. 2 (03) 6334 4557 (Max) (03) or 6326 9338 (Robin)

November, 3rd and 4th, 2007

9th Biennial Tasmanian Local History Conference at Richmond, hosted by The Coal River Valley Historical Society Inc. For more information contact the Secretary, PO Box 115, Richmond TAS 7025

Quidnunc

Excerpts from journals held at the Launceston Branch Library

Lakes Connection. Lake Entrance Family History Resource Centre Inc.

If your research is taking you to the Devon area? Then you may find this article helpful, *Guide to sources at the Devon Record Office-Parish Records*.

The Banyan Tree

There is a very interesting report from the HULL group titled:

Write it Down for Posterity speaker demonstrated an unusual method of her writing technique.

Cornwall FHS Journal June 2006

Two articles in this journal worth reading:

- 1. Pachuca-Cornish Miners in Mexico. In 1842, a 'company of adventurous gentlemen' from England acquired the concession for an abandoned mine for the period of 31 years. In the cemetery of the area are many headstones of Cornish families; some of these have been transcribed and listed in this article along with a name and address of contact.
- 2. National Memorial Card Index-Cornwall Section. The Index was begun in 1990 and contains over 6000 cards covering the period 1846-1994. The article gives a list and contact name for further information.

The New Zealand Genealogist July/ August 2006

- 1. Hidden treasures of census records. This is the sixth in a series from Lyn McOnie in Salt Lake City who explains how to use the census records to trace your family tree.
- 2. The article from Archives New Zealand *Child Welfare in the 19th and early 20th centuries*. explains the records available on child welfare.

Irish Roots Number 2 2006

- 1. www.1718migration.org.uk A new website has been created by the Ulster-Scots Agency which tells the story of the first organised migration of Ulster people to the New England colonies.
- 2. If you have no idea what the *O'Kief Coshe Mang 1868-2004* is about, it is a 16 volume collection of transcribed, indexed and published genealogical source material—read the article to find out more.

The Australian Family Tree Connections August 2006

There is a great article by Graham Jaunay *European Civil Registration Records* It gives a list of Country, Date of the start of Registration and Where to find the records.

The Ryde Recorder July 2006

A Childs Life Aboard the Hulks. Outlines a routine day in the life of an 8 year old aboard the hulks.

The Bird Family: Tracing My Ancestors' Footsteps

John Bird (Member No 5995)

The Bird family has been traced as far back as William Bird, who was born about 1720 in Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, England. He married Lucy (surname unknown) in 1749. They are my 5 x great grandparents. They had six children, one of whom, Joseph, is my 4 x great grandfather and who was born on 1 May 1757. He married Ann MARR on 12 March 1778 and their only child, Thomas my 3 x great grandfather was born on 3 March 1779. An optician spectacle maker, he married Mary WILLIAMSON in Sheffield Yorkshire in 1803. They had 2 sons—William and George. Thomas died in Wolverhampton about 1842.

William my great-great grandfather was born in Bolton, Yorkshire on 5 January 1808 and died at his home in Sycamore Street, Sheffield on 18 April 1870. He married Sarah MOSLEY on 28 January 1828 at Bolton. Sarah was born in Sheffield on 7 June 1810 and died c.1890. William, an etcher and engraver, and Sarah had one son, Albert Edward, my great grandfather.

Albert was born in Sheffield, Yorkshire, England on 15 August 1846. Albert was one of England's outstanding professional long distance runners. He was engaged on a 100 day contract by the theatrical manager George COPPIN to come and compete in Australia, arriving in Melbourne on the Lincolnshire in 1869. After a short, but distinguished running career in Victoria he travelled to Newcastle, New South Wales in mid 1870 where he met Alice WALMSLEY. Shortly afterwards, on 5 December 1870, they were married at the Newcastle Registrar's Office. Albert and Alice then decided to move to Tasmania. On the way their first child, Sarah was born in Castlemaine. Victoria on 3 June 1872.

Albert, Alice and Sarah travelled from Melbourne in August 1873 initially living in Hobart. The family moved to Launceston in February 1874 settling down at Westcombe Street. Albert and Alice had a further 5 children, all born in Launceston—Florence on 28 August 1874, William, my grandfather, on 14 October 1876, an un-named boy on 8 November 1878 (he died 4 days later), Lillian on 9 October 1880 and Alexander on 16 April 1883. Five months after the birth of Alexander, on 10 September 1883 at the young age of 28 years, Alice contracted tuberculosis and died at her home in Westcombe Street. Alexander died shortly afterwards on 4 December 1883.

Albert, a runner of exceptional ability was a bit of a character and had a chequered life. On 11 October 1873 he easily beat the Tasmanian champion Tinker in a four mile footrace billed as "England vs Tasmania". Starting from scratch, he won the first Tasmanian cross-country steeplechase on 1 January 1874. A few months later Albert raced, and beat, the mail coach between Perth and Campbelltown. On 26 August 1874 he also ran from Snakes Banks to the Wellington Inn in Launceston in under two and a half hours, which was considered an outstanding feat. However at times his races were open to questions of legality. In October 1874 Albert was gaoled for six months for conspiring to defraud by fixing a foot race.

On 17 April 1876 Albert ran from Campbelltown to Launceston in under five hours. He was also an actor, appearing regularly as "Cousin Joe" in the play "Rough Diamond" at the Theatre Royal in Cameron Street (even on nights after his runs).

In March 1884, shortly after his wife's death, Albert was again in trouble with the law for failing to pay carer's maintenance for his children and was gaoled for six months. Three of the children subsequently went into care. Sarah and Florence were placed in the Launceston Girls Industrial School that was located at 273 Wellington Street, where they remained until they turned 16 years of age. William went to live with Thomas and Rosa Ann HUGHES who "adopted" him in 1890 when he was 13 years old. They resided at 75 Cimitiere Street.

Albert moved to Sydney in 1885 where he continued running. The last we know of him is that he was found destitute in Melbourne in 1908.

It is only recently I have found out anything about Lillian Bird. She married Jack SPROULE, a shipwright on 1 July 1916 in Sydney, New South Wales. Lillian died in Parramatta, New South Wales on 14 October 1953, five years after her husband. Jack and Lillian did not have any children. It would appear Lillian travelled to Sydney with her father in 1885 and I have learnt that she went to school at a convent in Newcastle in the 1890s.

Sarah Bird married Charles TURNER at Tamar Street, Launceston on 14 October 1891. Sarah and Charles had 6 children—Carl Henry, Ella, Roy, Eileen, Vera and Myra. Charles was a dairyman and the family lived at Kings Meadows. He died at home on 20 April 1909. On 27 November 1911 Sarah married —twin daughters Nellie and Lucy, and a son Albert. Sarah died in Launceston on 13 February 1964 aged 92. John died in Launceston on 9 March 1952 at his home at 150 Hobart Road.

Florence Bird married Oscar Clarence COX, an accounts clerk, on 6 January 1895 also at the York Street Baptist Church, Launceston. They had 4 children—Oscar, Almar, Ida and Harold. Prior to her marriage, Florence had a son Hedley West Bird born on 29 August 1893 at Irvine Street, Launceston. In 1900 the family emigrated to Wellington, New Zealand. However shortly after the birth of Harold, Florence died on 9 May 1901 at her home in Arlington Street. Oscar died, aged 89, in Christchurch, New Zealand on 20 August 1962.

William, a builder, married Elsie CRAW on 11 November 1902 at the Margaret Street Methodist Church in Launceston. Elsie was born in Launceston on 1 October 1879, the daughter of William Craw and Mary Ann GUNN. William and Elsie lived most of their time in Launceston at 16 Mulgrave Street.

William died on 9 August 1951 at Bundoora, a Melbourne suburb and Elsie died on 21 September 1967 at Elsternwick Hospital in Melbourne. It is only since my father's death that I have ascertained William died in a hospital about 5 kilometres from the Bird family home in Northcote.

I knew very little about my grandfather William, who for yet unknown reasons returned to Tasmania in the 1920's. He was a regular visitor to his sister Sarah's home in Launceston up until the mid 1940's. He also visited his sister Lillian in Sydney on a number of occasions between 1930 and late 1940's. Recently I have received 2 photographs of William c.1945 from Kenneth SPROULE, a grandson of Sarah Bird. They are the only photographs I have of my grandfather except for his photograph as a 15 year old in the Launceston Family Album.

William and Elsie had 4 children. The first three—Alan on 28 September 1906, Gwenneth on 23 September 1909 and Elsie on 29 July 1910 were born in Launceston. About 1915 the family moved to Victoria taking up residence at Arthurton Road, Northcote, a northern suburb of Melbourne. Stanley, my father, was born on 22 January 1919. In 1922 the family moved a short distance to 61 Elm Street, Northcote. Gwenneth, who did not marry, lived all her life at the family home until her death on 1 July 2001. She, and my father, were frequent visitors to Launceston. Elsie married Eric WARD in Melbourne on 14 October 1933 after which they moved to Launceston living their married life at the Ward family home at 34 Malabar Street, East Launceston. They did not have any children.

Alan was the Federal Member of Parliament for Batman for 15 years until his death on 26 July 1962. He married Phyllis GARDINER on 14 November 1936. They also did not have any children.

Stanley my father, a printer, married Betty WATT on 27 September 1946 at Northcote Methodist Church. He died suddenly at Heidelberg on 14 March 1996 and Betty died, aged 77, after a long illness on 2 July 1998. They had 2 sons, lan born on 19 February 1952 and myself on 13 December 1948. Ian married Elizabeth TUDOR on 12 April 1980 and they have two daughters, Jessica born on 5 August 1988 and Melissa on 28 November 1992. I married Suzanne McDONALD on 22 April 1972 and we have 2 children Kara born on 3 December 1986 and Lachlan on 31 July 1988.

Earlier this year I spent four days in Launceston tracing my family history. I visited a number of places associated with my Bird, Craw and Gunn ancestors. A highlight of my trip was meeting my 2nd cousins Suzanne HANSEN and her brother John PHILLIPS for the first time after corresponding with them since the commencement of 2006. Sarah and John are grandchildren of Sarah Bird. I spent the first day with them and their families including their mother Lucy, my cousin once removed, the daughter of Sarah Bird and John Lindrea.

My visit to Launceston tracing my ancestors allowed me to meet some family members I was unaware of several months ago and obtain a greater insight into where and how my ancestors lived.

Tasmanian Federation Index

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PO Box 191 Launceston TAS 7250

The Magic of Maatsuyker Australia's Most Southerly Light

Erika Johnson (Member No 5468)

At school, remembering historical dates was always a problem but the mnemonic "In 1642, Tasman sailed the ocean blue" is stamped on my memory. Sailing through the 'Roaring Forties', Tasman would have been lucky if the sea had been blue. In fact, an article in *The Launceston Examiner* on 3 June 1891 claims it was "a foggy morning on the 28th November 1642" when Tasman sailed along the south coast of Tasmania, naming Maatsuyker Island. The island is pounded by the swells of the Southern Ocean and gales or strong winds are experienced on about 274 days of each year. Rain is recorded, on average, on seven days out of every 10 and in 1907 one keeper recorded in his log "Five days continuously without rain this month".

The inclement weather, we knew, was the norm in this region but it was with some excitement and eager anticipation that we flew south by helicopter to commence a three month posting as Voluntary Caretakers and Weather Observers. From the air we had a bird's-eye-view of the triangular shaped island, roughly three kilometres long and one-and-a-half kilometres wide. The highest point, at 260 metres, was hidden in dense vegetation and on the south western tip was a small settlement—a stark white lighthouse, three houses and outbuildings, all perched above steep cliffs.



Shipping sailed round the southern coast of Tasmania from the earliest days of white settlement and requests for a light in the vicinity came from many ships' masters. Captain West of the SS Port Adelaide in October 1885 said "...I strongly recommend a revolving light on the S.W. Cape sufficiently powerful to cover the Mewstone. The fast-increasing sea trade to Hobart makes the necessity of this light greater than ever." He spoke from experience. He had narrowly escaped being wrecked some years earlier.

Construction of the lighthouse commenced in January 1890 and continued over the next 18 months. The complete settlement—a jetty, haulage-way, road, keepers' houses and the light tower—was built at a total cost £15469. The tower was constructed of rendered red Oyster Cove brick

with floors of slate, quarried at Mintaro in South Australia. Chance Brothers of Birmingham were contracted to provide the prisms, made up of 540 separate pieces of hand-ground glass. They also provided the lens clock mechanism, driven by weights which had to be wound up every 45 minutes, as well as the upper works of the light which, in 1890, cost a total of £3672. By 1986 it was valued at \$1 million and today is irreplaceable⁴ and the original brass lens clockwork mechanism is now

unique.⁵ The Tasmanian Mail reported that the total weight of the lantern room and machinery was 26 tons.⁶ The Master Warden of the Hobart Marine Board, Captain T.M. Fisher performed the opening ceremony on 1 June 1891 with the tower decked out with flags for the occasion.

Access to the island was always difficult and a constant battle with the elements. Supplies were brought by steamer & trans-shipped to the shore in a small boat. From the jetty it was a steep ascent up the haulage to the roadway, 400 metres above. Two horses, Violet and Farmer, operated the Whim⁷, hauling up one trolley load, while the other trolley descended back down hill. Despite the steep and precarious route there were not too many accidents. However, while the lighthouse was under construction the Whim broke, causing the wheel to rotate at great speed. Mr Duff, the builder, managed to jump clear as the trolley sped back down hill but the beam struck Violet, killing her. One section of the haulage later became known as Cascade Disaster Rise—recalling the loss of a load of Hobart's famous beer. The Whim was motorized in 1945 and the horses pensioned off. Now the Whim lies silent and the seals have made a comeback, laying in their hundreds where men once toiled.

Maatsuyker Island is a haven for wildlife. There are no introduced species such as rabbits, cats or rats and no snakes. The Australian Fur Seal is making a come-back on the island after near extinction and below our windows, on Needle Rocks, their barking sometimes made us think that there was someone shouting. On the other side of the island, at Haulage Cove, we were able to watch the seals at close quarters, disporting themselves in the water, lying somnolently on the rocks or on the remains of the haulage platform. Occasionally one would bark, or give a wheezy cough and there was frequent snarling at other seals. The only other mammal on the island, the tiny Antechinus or marsupial mouse, is shy and retiring and is rarely seen. The males have a short life. Following mating they usually drop dead from exhaustion!

An estimated 800,000 Short-tailed Shearwaters migrate from the Bering Sea each year to breed in burrows on the island. The beating of their wings and their cries, like inane laughter, fill the air at dawn and dusk. Their single chick grows fat over the summer months but is eventually abandoned when the adults commence their return north during April. Unable to feed themselves, the chicks go on a starvation diet. However, they soon get their adult plumage but their attempts at learning to walk and then to fly make them vulnerable to a large number of birds of prey. Those that survive follow their parents north about 6 weeks later.

Domestic animals such as sheep and cattle were once kept on the island for food. Even wallabies had been introduced in the hope that they would proliferate and provide a change of diet. However, they mysteriously disappeared, whether through natural means or into a keeper's pot, it is not known! Vegetables, on the other hand, have survived the harsh climate. Maatsuyker's garden still produces the original variety of potato, though it is often a battle with the elements to produce other varieties of vegetables.

The remote nature of Maatsuyker Island is accentuated by sometimes difficult communications. In the early days ships often failed to see the island's signals so in 1907 pigeon post was introduced. Messages took three hours to reach Hobart and

in order to be sure of getting the message through, three birds were sent off at once. This sometimes resulted in some very large orders! The birds were

pensioned off in 1937 when pedal wireless was introduce and in 1974 a radio-telephone was installed. The telephone system was upgraded in 1988 but the tyranny of distance and the intervening mountains still make communications less than perfect and we found ourselves wishing for pigeon post again!

Attempts at receiving television were not a success. Despite several repeater aerials, one family was desperate to watch their favourite programme. They commented



"...If we wanted to watch TV we would load all the children, plus the TV set into the back of the ute; drive up to the north end of the island and clip the antenna wires directly onto the repeater, positioning the TV on the tail gate. The family would sit on the open ground. Reception here was good but visual clarity was impaired due to lack of curtains."

Weather observations have been made from Maatsuyker Island since 1891. In those days the Head Keeper was paid 5½ pence while his Assistants only got 1½ pence a day for their reports. The island was at the forefront of Tasmania's weather systems and we continued the practice of sending weather reports six times a day, every three hours from 6am till 9pm, to the Weather Bureau in Hobart

In the 1980s lighthouses around Australia were progressively being de-manded. A new automatic, solar powered 'tupperware' light was installed higher up the island in 1996⁹ and the last light keeper, Chris Richter, officially extinguished the historic Maatsuyker Island Light on 22 August 1996. 10

The island is now part of the South West National Park and volunteers, under the auspices of the Parks & Wildlife Service maintain the light station. However, the light keepers who spent their lives in this remote outpost are not forgotten. Plaques recording many of their names are nailed to a Eucalypt known as The Keepers' Tree.

During our last few evenings on the island we were treated to the rare experience of having weather suitable for us to sit outside and watch the sun sink below the horizon. The absence of wind accentuated the continuous roar of the surf. Every now and again there was a loud thump as the waves hit the rocks over 200 feet below us. The cheeky Currawongs chortled at us from their vantage point on the eaves while Green Rosellas shrieked as they swooped below us. Smaller birds twittered in the thick scrub beside the track. The Shearwater rookery was strangely silent. The adult birds had left, leaving their chicks behind to fend for themselves.

The mountains of the South West were sharply etched against a hazy sky of gold and blue. Darkness descended, and a myriad of twinkling stars pierced the velvet sky. We felt quite remote from the 'real' world, at one with nature and free from the hustle and bustle of 'civilisation'. Maatsuyker's magic had woven its web...

 Alan & Erika Johnson worked as Voluntary Caretakers & Weather Observers on Maatsuyker Island. Positions are advertised in the local newspaper about October each year. From the hundreds of applicants, those successful have to go through a rigorous training programme before going to the island. Contact the Parks & Wildlife Office in Huonville for more information.

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- 3. Guiding Lights, Tasmania's Lighthouses & Lighthouse men, Kathleen M. Stanley, 1991
- 4. Most Southerly Light, Tasmanian Conservation Trust, 1986
- Maatsuyker Island Lightstation Conservation Management Plan, Clive Lucas Stapleton & Partners Pty Ltd, Sydney, August 1994
- 6. Tasmanian Mail, 6 June 1891.
- 7. Whim: A large capstan or vertical drum turned by horse-power for raising coal, water etc from a mine. (Macquarie Dictionary)
- 8. Viewing 11 Decades through a Fresnel Lens, Willemina Watts, 2000
- Lighthouses of Australia: The Offshore Lights, John Ibbotson, Australia Lighthouse Traders, 2006
- 10. Albert Thompson, pers com.

The *Clytie* 1878-1902

Marion Sargent (Member No 1927)

On an outing with his paternal aunts, Amy and Myra SARGENT, my father Eric aged seven or eight was struck with awe at the beauty of a model wooden boat displayed for sale in Miss CARSON's newsagency and bookstore in Goldie Street Wynyard. He could not divert his eyes from the black flat-bottomed boat with its two calico sails and green wooden rudder. It was a large model measuring 33 inches in length and 11 inches across the beam.

Imagine young Eric's delight when on Christmas Day this very same boat was under the Christmas tree! Aunt Amy told him that it was named the *Clytie*. It would be his to love and enjoy on the beach at East Wynyard for many years to come.

The model was second-hand, being owned previously by the BARNARD family from Doctors Rocks. It was built in 1925, which date is still visible on the deck. Some time later a friend and neighbour, Keve MIDDAP, refurbished it. He painted the boat from the waterline down in red, put in a steel rudder, altered the sails, and added a keel.

Our brother Bill as a young boy saw this model boat amongst many other riches in the large cupboard in the back porch of Grandma's house. As children we were too overawed to touch or even to ask about any of those treasures.

Then on Christmas Day 2004 Eric told us three daughters, visiting him in Devonport, that he had something to show us. He brought out an old and dilapidated model yacht, which he had received as a Christmas gift about seventy years previously.

We all thought that it was amazing. It captured our collective imagination to the point that we encouraged Eric to restore and enter this prize in the next Wooden

Boat Festival. Being a librarian and family historian, I was asked to research the original *Clytie* from which the model was named. Our father surmised that it was a ketch that once had plied the waters of the Tamar River; the Sargent family had lived at Rosevears and Launceston before moving to Wynyard in 1910.

In Greek mythology, Clytie was a water nymph enduring unrequited love for the sun god Helios. She sat forlornly for nine days, her tears and the dew her only sustenance, watching the sun as it moved across the sky from dawn to dusk. When she eventually took root, her face became a sunflower.

Following extensive research in the Launceston Library, I found that the *Clytie* did indeed have a fascinating history. John MAYNARD constructed the 15 ton gross carvel-built wooden ketch on Cape Barren Island in 1878. This was the beginning of many years of faithful service from the well-made vessel. She was 46.3 feet long, 13.1 feet breadthways and 5.3 feet deep, with one deck, two masts, a round stern but no figurehead. The *Clytie* was registered at Launceston on 9 April 1879.¹

Henry Thomas ROBINSON, a farmer on Green Island near Flinders Island, was the owner of the *Clytie*. Henry was the youngest son of George Augustus Robinson, the conciliator of Aborigines and later commandant of the settlement at Wybalenna on Flinders Island. Henry was born in 1824 and had lived in the Islands since he was a young boy. Just a few weeks before the *Clytie* was registered, Henry married Elizabeth Matilda PERRIN on 25 February 1879. Both were 54 years of age, and both previously single.

A remarkable series of articles in *The Launceston Examiner* by a man known only as H.S. provides some interesting detail about the *Clytie* and life in the Furneaux Group over the summer of 1882-83. H.S. set out from Launceston on the river steamer *Empress of India* on 4 November 1882. In George Town he transferred to the cutter *Bella Beeton*, under Captain George EVERETT, with a young boy as crewman plus three other passengers, bound for Flinders Island. S. describes the islands, the people he meets and the activities of singing, dancing, fiddle-playing, hunting, shooting, fishing and shell-collecting over the next four months of his idyllic holiday. He was to remain for several weeks on Green Island with Mr and Mrs Robinson.

Before leaving the Straits, Henry Robinson proposed a trip in his new ketch the *Clytie*. Consequently a party set out for Tin Kettle and Woody Islands, which Robinson leased. They collected several bales of wool and sailed from island to island under the capable hands of Charles HARLEY junior who piloted the *Clytie* with ease among the sand banks. The *Clytie* was a grand sea boat and "walked" through the water in splendid style.⁵

Finally it was time for H.S. to leave Green Island. The *Clytie* was moored near the homestead; the cargo of wool, tallow and sundries was battened down; and lastly the passengers boarded from a dinghy. There was great mirth when H.S. and his "love interest" Lillie lost their balance and landed flat on the bottom of the dinghy while attempting to board the *Clytie*. After collecting the mail from Goose Island, a pleasant passage was made to "the usual dismal aspect of George Town", then on to Launceston where, on 16 February 1883, they landed at the old wharf opposite the 'Salmon and Ball'. During this visit the *Clytie* was remeasured on 2 March, increasing her gross tonnage to 19.

Over 22 years the *Clytie* took cargo and passengers to and from the islands of the Furneaux Group. She carried seasonal produce of mutton-birds, wool, and possibly seal oil, returning from Launceston with general freight. Henry Robinson was the master until he died on 26 September 1884 aged 60. In 1886 J L VIRIEUX brought a cargo of mutton-birds in the *Clytie* from Flinders Island. James Everett took the helm from about 1891 to 1895 and H COLLINS was master from 1896 to 1901.

After Henry's death, his wife Elizabeth became the owner of the *Clytie* and remained so until the vessel was sold on 11 February 1901 to William Lemuel SIDEBOTTOM (bark merchant) and William Henry FURNESS (merchant). These Launceston gentlemen were the registered owners of the vessel in 1902 when disaster struck.

On 9 April the *Clytie* left Launceston on what was to be her last voyage. ¹¹ With general cargo she sailed for Surprise Bay and Currie Harbour on King Island. She cleared Tamar Heads at 9.30pm on 17 April. The master for the journey was Benjamin READING. He had received his certificate of competency the day before leaving the Tamar River. Captain BRADLEY had examined the *Clytie* before she left, declaring that she was in good order with two anchors and good chains. ¹²

Reading and the deck hand, 27-year-old Beryl Austin BEGENT¹³, dropped anchor in Surprise Bay on 22 April, unloading part of the cargo the next day and replacing its weight with six or seven tons of sand for ballast. They were heading for Currie on 5 May when a north-easterly wind forced the *Clytie* to return to Surprise Bay. The anchor was dropped at 7.00am on 6 May, but the fresh wind continued to blow.

The wind changed to the west and blew a gale until 10 May. The ketch rolled in the surf but the crew could not land her on the beach. On 7 May the port cable parted and during the night the boat's painter rope was carried away. The following day the starboard cable broke, and finally the cable on the kedge anchor parted causing the vessel to be swept ashore where she became stranded in the sand.

The crew landed safely, but must have been weary, since the men had tried desperately to save the vessel from destruction. All the gear and the remaining cargo were salvaged. The *Clytie* was embedded in about three feet of sand. Water ran in and out of the vessel with the rise and fall of the tide.

On 16 June, six weeks later, an inquiry was held in Launceston before the Police Magistrate Ernest WHITFELD, the Nautical Assessor Captain William R BARWOOD, and Collector of Customs W J BAIN. Master Reading recounted the events leading to the grounding of the *Clytie*, stating that he was not aware that the vessel was insured.

The Court of Enquiry exonerated the master of the *Clytie* from all blame in connection with the wreck of the vessel. The decision was given by the Court that he had acted to the best of his judgement in running back to Surprise Bay. He also had endeavoured as effectively as possible to save his ship and cargo when he found himself in difficulties. Since the court considered that the loss of the vessel was not caused by any wrongful act or default of the master, his certificate was returned to him.¹⁴

The captain of the steamer *Yambacoona*, recently returned from King Island, reported on 9 July that the *Clytie* was breaking up and that there was no chance of saving her. ¹⁵ F G CUTTS by then had purchased the wreck at public auction. ¹⁶

Although this was a sad end for the ketch *Clytie*, the model boat that brought so much joy to a young boy 33 years later had kept her memory alive. Let us hope that the model is restored and once again brings fond memories and enjoyment to its owner and to many others at the Wooden Boat Festival of 2007.

Footnotes

- National Archives of Australia, Register of British Shipping, Port of Launceston 1870-1982, Vol. 5, No 2 of 1879; John Maynard, mariner and sealer of Little Dog Island, born 24 March 1833, died 7 January 1912.
- 2. The Launceston Examiner, 23 May 1883, p.3; 4 June 1883, p.3.
- 3. AOT, Registrar General's Department, 37/38, 1879, no 110, Marriage, Launceston; The Launceston Examiner, 26 May 1883, p.3, H.S. states that Mrs Robinson was the widow of Captain Davis who had been the superintendent of the lighthouse at Goose Island, but the marriage certificate does not support this view; The Launceston Examiner 22 April 1909, p.1; TAMIOT, 2nd edn. Elizabeth Robinson (née Perrin) was born 5 December 1824 and died on Green Island on 11 April 1909, for 50 years a resident of Bass Strait.
- The Launceston Examiner, 'Visit to the islands in Bass Straits, with an account of what I saw and heard there. [By H.S.]', 30 March 1883, p.3 to 4 June 1883, p.3.
- 5. The Launceston Examiner, 28 May 1883, p.3.
- 6. The Launceston Examiner, 17 February 1883, p.2 & 4 June 1883, p.3.
- AOT, RGD, 35/53, 1884, no 333, Death, Launceston; The Launceston Examiner, 27 September 1884, p.1.
- 8. The Launceston Examiner, 21 June 1886, p.2.
- Walch's Tasmanian Almanacs.
- 10. NAA, Register of British Shipping.
- 11. *The Examiner*, 5 April 1902, p.2.
- Graeme Broxam & Michael Nash, Tasmanian Shipwrecks Vol. 2, 1900-1999, Navarine Publishing, Hobart, 2000, p.6 & p.9; The Examiner, 17 June 1902, p.6; The Mercury, 17 June 1902, p.4; The surname of the master could be Benjamin Reading, Ruddings or Raddings.
- 13. Beryl Begent, mariner, born 30 May 1874, died 1 August 1941. Married (1) Ada Mabel Baldwin 24 December 1898, died 4 January 1900, married (2) May Buckley 1902, died 2 May 1963.
- 14. The Examiner, 19 June 1902, p.1 & 5; The Mercury, 19 June 1902, p.2.
- The Mercury, 10 July 1902, p.4 & p.6.
- 16. The Examiner, 10 July 1902, p.4.

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Mary Bowater A Most Remarkable Woman

Irene Schaffer (Member No 591)

Mary BOWATER was tried at Shrewsbury in the Salop Assigns on 20 March 1802 and sentenced to seven years transportation to New South Wales. Mary's age was not given but she appears to have been about thirty-three years old and she could read and write.

Mary arrived in Sydney on the *Experiment* on 24 June 1804 having departed from Cowes on the 2 January. The *Experiment* carried 136 female convicts and 2 male convicts. Six women died on the voyage. Mary later sailed to VDL on board the *Buffalo*, arriving at Port Dalrymple on 4 April 1805.

The *Buffalo* left Sydney on 24 March with passengers, stores and animals. Lt. Col. Paterson's wife was one of the passengers. It is most likely that the wives and children of the military and officials were also on board, plus 50 convicts and 5 settlers from Norfolk Island.

One of the convicts on board the *Buffalo* was Thomas SMITH who had been tried in Essex and arrived in NSW on the *Perseus* in 1802. Its possible that Thomas and Mary may have been together in Sydney and that Mary was allowed to accompany him to Port Dalrymple in 1805. Both Mary and Thomas were on the 1811 convict muster at Port Dalrymple.

Mary and Thomas were married in Launceston on 4 March 1811. She was 42 and he was 35 years old. They were amongst the first marriages to be performed in the north of the island. It was not until 1811 that Rev Knopwood was able to make the journey from Hobart to Launceston, where he performed both marriage and baptism services, in many cases marrying the parents and baptizing their children at the same time.

Elizabeth Riches and Edward Rubley

An event that took place in 1812 was to have an effect on the latter part of Mary Smith's life. A number of men and women convicts were sent from Sydney on the *Lady Nelson* in July 1812, 31 men and 13 women. Most of these convicts were lifers and were reported as being of bad character. They were being sent to Van Diemen's Land (which was at that time regarded as a penal settlement) to rid Sydney of their presence.

There was no report of any children on the *Lady Nelson*, but in writing this story it has been discovered that there was a female child under one year old on board. This child was the daughter of Elizabeth RICHES, a convict who had arrived on the *Alexander* in 1806, and Edward RUBLEY, a private in the 73rd Regiment who was stationed in Sydney at the time. The child's name was Isabella Leonora Rubley and she was born on 21 October 1811 and baptized on the 17 November at St Phillip's Church in Sydney.

The Lady Nelson was only a small ship of 60 tons with a crew of twelve, and to carry such a large amount of people from Sydney to Port Dalrymple was truly amazing. There were 44 convicts, 2 passengers and a guard of soldiers from the 73rd Regiment and the crew that came on the ship, making over 60 persons in all.

Where would they have been placed on board? They would not have had the men and women down below together, as this would have caused trouble and they would have had to be secured at all times. I believe that the men may have been shackled to the rail around the deck and the women kept down below. However they were kept, it was to be a difficult voyage, as the *Lady Nelson* did not make it out of the heads before having to abort because of bad weather. The *Lady Nelson* resumed her journey, arriving at Port Dalrymple in August 1812.

1813. Private Rubley (who had been on the *Lady Nelson* in 1812 as one of the guards) left with his regiment on the Windham in December 1814 for Ceylon. Did



Elizabeth remain with Edward or did she go with someone else before she gained her pardon in 1813? She is recorded as having two children on the 1819 musters. One would have been Isabella, but who was the other? A daughter Mary had been born in 1813, but she had died in 1818.

Lady Nelson (60 ton Brig) River Thames 1800

The child Isabella was not recorded in

VDL until 1818 when she is reported as being assaulted by Thomas GREENSMITH. The newspaper claimed she was only six years old. Greenfield was ordered to keep the peace for twelve months and fined £40 with two further fines of £20 each.

The 1819 land muster for Port Dalrymple show Elizabeth Robley (sic) with 43 cattle, 359 sheep and 2 children, and Isabella Norah Robley (sic) as having 20 cattle, and 80 sheep.

Young men were often recorded as having land or stock, while still in their teens, but for a girl of not more than eight years old, it was unusual.

The mystery is how Elizabeth and her daughter Isabella, came by all that stock was partly cleared up when a libel case before the Supreme Court revealed some interesting information.

In 1837 during a libel case that involved Mary Smith, George JUBB, one of the witnesses in the case, referred to the child Isabella (who was then Mrs ROSE) as going to the Smith's soon after her arrival at Port Dalrymple. Mary Smith, the witness said, spoke of Bella as if she was her own child, and that she (now Mrs Rose) at one time had stock and land on the Smith property. Mary Smith, Jubb continued, had often spoken of leaving Mrs Rose her property when she died. The libel case is too long and involved to write about in this story, except to say that it appeared that Mrs Smith in her old age signed her farms over to Mrs Rose in 1832 as a Deed Gift. Later Isabella's husband Alexander Rose, attempted to take possession of some of the land before Mrs Smith's death, and this being the reason for the libel case coming before the Supreme Court in 1837.

The following appeared in the Cornwell Chronicle in March 1837.

Whereas, an advertisement has appeared in the Cornwell Chronicle, of the 25th February inst., by which a farm, consisting of 420 acres of land, situated at Humphrey's Water Holes, is offered to be sold by private contract, and for the particulars thereof, application is directed to be made to Mrs Mary Smith, Norfolk Plains East.

Notice is hereby given, that the same farm is the property of the undersigned, Alexander Rose and Isabella his wife, and that the conveyance thereof from the said Mary Smith to them, hath been duly registered in the office of the Registrar of the Supreme Court of Van Diemen's Land since the grant of it from the Crown.

And notice is thereby further given that no person whatsoever has been authorized to offer the said farm for sale, nor can any person or persons other than myself and wife, transfer or convey any legal estate, right title or interest, in the said farm and lands, to any person or persons whomsoever.

The notice of Caution to the Public placed in the same paper on the same day and in the same column by Mary Smith. This notice later led to the libel case in 1837.

Caution to the public

Where as or about the 16th day of November last past, I Mary Smith, of Norfolk Plains, Widow, was applied to by Mr A Rose, of Corra Lynn, for my signature to certain papers, purposing to have been brought from the office of Messrs. Wickham and Horne, and by their direction to obtain my signature, for the purpose as stated, of enabling me to obtain my Grants, than under application for by Mr Wickham. And whereas, on applying at the office of Messrs. Wickham and Horne, they have declared themselves totally ignorant of any such transaction, and that the said papers were signed without their knowledge or authority. And that a Mr Samuel Waterhouse Preston Farrar, of Launceston, whom Mr Rose represented to me to be their clerk, and who was present, is not, nor never was present in the office of those gentleman; and that upon search being made by my desire, by Messrs. Wickham and Horne, it appears that a Deed of gift of my five farms to Alexander Rose, and Isabella Rose his wife, and dated 30th day of July 1833, the memorial whereof bears date of the 16th day of November 1833, and the deponent to which said memorial is Samuel Whitehouse Preston Farrar, of Launceston, gentleman, and sworn before public W.G. Sams, Esq. Now, therefore, I Mary Smith, do hereby publicly declare, that such documents, if executed by me, were obtained by fraud, and I therefore caution the public from putting any faith in the afore Deeds. I Mary Smith, never having executed any such Deeds of Gift, knowing the purpose thereof, nor ever having any intentions of giving away my property to the said Alexander Rose and his wife.

March 11th 1837 Mary Smith

A Conveyance in the Deed's Office for 1836 records the following:

Free gift from the said Mary Smith to Alexander Rose & Isabella Rose his wife. NW to grant to William Pigeon, N by Cowards, and S by Hassan & Jordan. SW by S Esk River. Original Grant of John Harrison or Harris by the Late Gov. Macquarie the conveyance being stolen from the said Mary Smith 4 day of March 1827.

It appears by the said Indenture of Feoffment and the receipt endorsed thereon that the consideration is the love and affection which she the said Mary Smith had for the said Isabella Rose and also for the consideration of one shilling from the said Mary Smith for the said Alexander Rose.

Mary Smith of Norfolk Plains in the Cornwell Division on the Island of VDL, Sempstress of the part and Alexander Rose of Corra Linn (sic) in the Cornwell Division, gentleman and Isabella his wife of the other part. Names and addition of all the parties.

This was one of the five conveyances indexed under Mary Smith's name. It was for 50 acres and the remaining three for 30 acres, and another for 400 acres. The first four were at Norfolk Plains and the last one was at Humphrey's Water Hole at Campbell Town.

Alexander Rose sued Mary Smith for libel but lost the case. How the case for the land ended up is hard to discover. The land at Norfolk Plains and at Anthill Ponds, Campbell Town, does not appear in later memorials under Mary Smith.

As to whether the Gift of Deeds were tampered with, will probably never be discovered, but the case must have separated Mary from her beloved Bella, for ever.

Was it possible that Isabella Robley was sent to the Smith's farm on her arrival at Port Dalrymple in 1812? Elizabeth and her child could have been assigned to the Smiths while her mother remained a prisoner of the crown. It has been recorded that at some stage Isabella was an orphan. She may have remained in contact with Mary until she married Alexander Rose. There was contact between William FIELD, David and Alexander Rose and Mary Smith dealing with land and racing horses during this time.

Thomas Smith also had land and stock in 1819. Since he arrived in 1805 he had obtained land and a great deal of stock. He was not granted land until 1823. Land and stock transactions were not always recorded in those early years.

Thomas Smith had 280 acres of land, 45 acres in wheat, 5 acres in barley, 230 acres in pasture, 3 horses, 140 cattle, 1,500 sheep and 200 bushels of grain in hand. He and his wife were the only persons on the land. There is no record that Mary Smith was credited with land or stock at that time, but it seemed that she had been the force behind Thomas, and it was she who had built up the properties along the Esk River during those early days.

Elizabeth Robley was living with William Field by 1815, their first son William was born in 1816, followed by Thomas William in 1817, Richard in 1820 and Charles in 1826. William Field was also recorded as having land in the 1819 land muster, and a large amount of grain and stock was recorded. He had a wife and 2 children.

Could this be a clue as who was responsible for giving Elizabeth Robley and her daughter the stock that was recorded in 1819. Was Elizabeth's cattle and sheep from William Field and Isabella's from Thomas and Mary Smith's herd?

In 1820 there was survey carried out by John Thomas BIGGE who had been appointed Commissioner of Enquiry, concerning the education of all children in Van Diemen's Land. William Field was recorded as having two male children aged 5 and 6 years old, living with him in Launceston. There was also one female aged 11 years. This would seem to place Isabella living with her mother and stepfather in Launceston in 1820.

When William Field died in 1837, his will mentioned Isabella and her two children with great affection and he was desirous of making suitable and proper provision for them after his death.

Isabella Leonora Rubley

Isabella Robley (sic) married Alexander Rose in Launceston on 27 April 1831. Alexander arrived in 1824 aboard the *Portland*. Isabella and Alexander had two sons David and William who were born at Corra Lynn. Isabella died on 5th October 1840. Alexander sailed to Scotland with his sons on the *Mona* in February 1841. Back in Scotland, Alexander married Madeline McTAVISH on 17 November 1842 at Kirkhill Inverness. The family then returned to Tasmania where Madeline and Alexander had six children, all born at Corra Lynn. Alexander was the nephew of Lt. David Rose of the 73rd Regiment, who had arrived with his regiment in 1810. Alexander Rose owned a large amount of land, hotels and race horses. He went on to become a member of the Tasmanian Parliament. He died in 1870 leaving his estate to his wife Madeline and his son Alexander.

Sacred to the memory of Mr William Field

who departed this life Dec. 12th 1837 Aged 63 years

Isabella Nora Rose

Born Sydney - Oct. 21st 1811. Died Oct. 5th 1840

Elizabeth Field

Who departed this life Oct. 22nd 1847. Aged 63 years

Charles Field

Who departed this life Sept. 17th 1857. Aged 31 years

Sacred to the memory of Mary Robley

Who departed this life June 24th 1818. Aged 4 years and 8 months (Headstone (later destroyed)

Thomas and Mary Smith (Bowater)

Thomas Smith was granted 50 acres of land at Norfolk Plains on 30 June 1823 by Sir Thomas Brisbane, Governor of NSW.

Unfortunately he did not live to see it prosper as he was drowned while crossing a river near his home in 1823. He was 47 years old. This is possibly the land later carried on by Mary Smith (see map)

The following was reported in the Hobart Town Gazette on 25 January 1823.

'A fatal accident occurred to Mr. Thomas Smith a settler at Norfolk Plains on the 30 January 1823 while fording a river at that place on horseback. In crossing the stream Mr. S happened to lift up his legs to keep them out of the water by which means he pricked the animal with his spurs, which caused him to plunge, the girth broke, the saddle overturning with the rider Mr S From the report force of the current was found and the horse saved'.

Thomas Smith's probate was granted on 13 December 1823 leaving all his goods and chattels to his wife Mary.

Mary Smith now a widow took over the complete running of the land. She appears to have 600 acres and numbers of sheep that were branded under her name as

Thomas Cooke D

early as 1823 (brand 200TS and 170TS) She was also free by servitude by that date.

naresa

Saltmarsh

Mary Smith's land.

Lieutenant-Governor Arthur appointed three commissioners. George FRANKLAND, Peter MURDOCK and Roderic O'CONNOR, to travel the island and report back regarding the types of land etc. in 1826-28. The following was recorded in Journals of the Land Commissioners.

Mary Smith (formerly Mary Bowater) Mrs Thomas Smith (1767-1849). Arrived c1805 Bowthorpe Norfolk Plains. St Paul's River.

Proceeded to Mrs Smith's hut up the St.

Paul's River about 10 miles from Mr Knopwoods. After crossing the creek that flows from the Blackman's Corner the land becomes of an inferior quality... Value from river to the Tiers at 4/- an acre. Mrs Smith had this farm from Mr Towers the distiller from Launceston. She had a large stock of sheep and cattle. They thrive well here in the summer, but the land is too cold and wet in the wintertime. South Esk River Nile

Bowthorpe Homestead, Patenna Road, Longford

In 1828 Mary was recorded as having three licenses for pole carts.

In the early 1830s a blind man by the name of James HOLMAN, who was

travelling around the world, arrived in Tasmania and conducted a tour from Hobart to Launceston. He records meeting Mary Smith on his journey to Launceston.

As they passed through the Norfolk Plains district, they met the celebrated Moll Smith on horseback, who stopped to talk to Mr DUTTON.

'The names assigned to places of the island are no particularly remarkable for elegance....a little further on, some rich meadow land, known by the name "Moll Smith's Bottom" having belonged to a women who had been a convict, and had come from Sydney, with Col. Paterson in 1804.'

In 1829 Mary purchased 200 acres of land. She later sold this and took out a mortgage in 1830 to secure payment to the sum of £597/9/6, paying £25 interest per annum. This mortgage was to buy 1,000 acres from the well-known William Field, gentleman, from Norfolk Plains.

The property bordered on land belonging to well known settlers along the South Esk River. Their names were: John COWARD, William KELLY, John RICHARDS, W. LELLIS, John HARRIS, James TOWERS, STEPHENS and JORDAN.

There were other purchases up to 1836, for 30 and 50 acres of land at Norfolk Plains, and a further 400 acres at Campbell Town. Horse racing at that time was very popular in Norfolk Plains, and the name Mary Smith was well known for her fine horses. One of her best known horses was *Little John*. He was sired by the Henty's *Little John*, and was foaled in 1839. His dame was the imported mare called *Creeping Jane*. He won a succession of races in VDL including the Launceston St. Leger in 1843 and the Town Plate at New Town in 1844.

According to Holman,

'early colonial horse racing, like its English model, was such a cubby, male affair that there was no room for women only as accompaniments. The presence of the fair sex was regularly commented on in the press as an item of decoration, imparting respectability to the scene. But Mary Smith has age on her side, and a colourful past showed she was little worried by convention. She stands out in racing history as the only woman in her time to race horses in her own name. It was for Mrs Smith that Little John won the 1844 Hobart Plate. She had others as well "

Isabella Mead had the following to say about Mary Bowater/Smith.

'As Mary Bowater she was transported in 1804 for stealing a greatcoat and went to Norfolk Island. She and her husband were evidently traveling tinkers and the greatcoat was found "between her pots". She came to Van Diemen's Land on the Buffalo in 1805 just months after Paterson. She married Thomas Smith in 1811, Thomas was transported for stealing a ewe lamb. Unfortunately he was drowned crossing the South Esk on horseback in 1822.'

'It was Mary Smith who first offered a cottage for church services in the district, and a cottage for a school. She races alongside William Field, Richard Dry, Alexander Rose, James Brumby and other such famous race horses as Little John, Sparkle, Buzzard and Widow's Pet. She had her own training track and from her lookout on the central hilltop had an uninterrupted view of it. When she died the auctioneers said her horses needed no comment, as they were the best in the colony. Unfortunately she left no family, but her property is the most attractive on the road—in every season the elm drive is beautiful. The present homestead was built shortly after Mrs Smith's death in 1849.'

[There is no record of Mary Bowater being on Norfolk Island]. writer.

Mary Bagley (Bowater/Smith)

The probate for the will of Mary Smith, dated 1849, named her executors as Thomas RITCHIE and David GIBSON. She had died on 22 April 1849 aged 80 years. The informant at her death was a Daniel Bowater, farmer at Long Plains.

A sum of two hundred pounds was to be divided amongst members of her family in England. They were:

Susannah Gould, wife of William Gould near Rowley, Staffordshire, Nailer.

George Bagly, of Dudley in Worcestershire. Fruitman

Thomas Bagley, near Rowley, Ragan, Staffordshir. Nailer.

Jeremiah Bagley, near Rowley, Ragan, Staffordshire. Nailer.

Sarah Parish, near Halesowen, Shropshire, wife of Joseph Parish. Farmer.

Another sum of two hundred pounds was to be divided between the following, as Tennants in Common.

To Roger Bagley of Hales Parish Shropshire, Nailer. Blackheath near Rowley my eldest son, and Samuel Bagley, son of George Bagley of West Bramish near Staffordshire, Licensed Victualler.

A search on the IGI revealed that there was a Mary Bagley born 24 November 1765 at St. Thomas Dudley, Worcester England, to Samuel and Rebecca Bagley. A, Mary Bagley married George Bowater on 13 June 1791 at St. Thomas Bagley Worcester England. From this information it certainly seems to be the Mary Bowater who arrived at Port Dalrymple in 1805.

There were 5 convicts with the name Bowater who arrived in Tasmania between 1819 and 1838—Daniel 1819; Isaac 1827; John 1832; Daniel 1837 and Benjamin 1838. On viewing all these men's names on the BDM register, I found that they all settled at Norfolk Plains except Benjamin who went to Richmond.

From their convict conduct records they had all come from neighboring districts near where Mary Bowater lived in England, Staffordshire, Warwick and Birmingham. Could this mean that they knew each other or even be related to Mary or her first husband, and committed a crime to be sent out to here to be assisted by Mary after their release, as others as before, were known to have done.

The 1819 Daniel Bowater who bought land off Mary in 1837 seems to certainly been related, he was the informant at her death in 1849 at Longford.

Late Notices — Help Wanted

O'Reilly

I am trying to trace information on Mary Teresa's (1895-1923) siblings, John Stanislaus Denis (Jack) born 28 Jul 1892 and Eileen May baptised 18 Sep1896 Westbury, Tas. (Eileen md William CROWE of Hobart). Their parents were Patrick O'REILLY 1866-1912 (he died in the 1912 Mt Lyell Mining Disaster) and Bridget Ann McCOY (1873-1912) who married in 1891 at Holy Trinity Church, Westubry Tasmania. John (Jack) also worked for the Mt Lyell mine. Also:

McCoy

Jeremiah McCoy (1839-1877, died Westbury area) md Mary BREEN in Launceston. Issue: Mary Theresa (1872-1875), Bridget Ann (1873-1912) and Margaret (1876?0. Margaret md George BRAY (1867-?) in 1894. Mary McCoy (Breen) remarried Charles CONNORS (c.1844-?, a Westbury farmer) in 1878 after Jeremiah died.

Contact Eileen 0417348 155 or email: daviet@netspace.net.au

Genes On Screen

Vee Maddock

A great map of England in 1840s or 1850s showing counties, parliamentary divisions and dioceses as well as seats of nobility and major roads, rivers and railways can be found at: archivemaps.com/mapco/lewis/lewis.htm

The Australian Dictionary of Biography is available online. Over 10,000 biographies of significant Australians can be searched by person, occupation or author. www.adb.online.anu.edu.au /adbonline.htm

Those who have purchased the new Tasmanian Federation Index may benefit by downloading and installing the newest version of Digger™, available on the Macbeth Genealogical Services site www.macbeth.com.au/. Go to Digger™, then download.

The Female Factory Research Group's website is constantly growing and worth a look by anyone researching a female convict. Apart from information on individual women a number of articles give a detailed picture of the life and times in Tasmania in the era. www.femalefactory.com.au/FFRG/

A handy reference site including a thesaurus, a dictionary and translation of text to or from other languages and more is <u>Thesaurus.com</u>. Also included are comparisons of similar words (e.g. partly or partially), word origins and a style guide (U.S. based)

If you are having trouble reading a web site try holding the CTRL key and turning the scroll wheel on the mouse.

For a touch of education this very readable paper describes the various plagues in Elizabethan England with a focus on the effects upon one town, Loughborough, Leicestershire. www.loughborough.co.uk/plague/

Shortcuts save time by reducing the movement away from the keyboard. Find shortcuts for MS Word, Internet Explorer, MS Excel and file management at www.microsoft.com/athome/moredone/compshortcuts.mspx

Don't forget to check for your English and Welsh Ancestors in the ever growing A2A (Access to Archives) database. This site contains records from around 400 repositories, all fully searchable. You can find an incredible range of records from solicitors archives to museum catalogues, to property documents and Diocese records at www.a2a.org.uk

CCleaner is a handy, free program which will clean unwanted programs and unneeded registry entries from your computer. www.ccleaner.com. If your computer is running slowly this little program may help.

Archaic medical terms can be difficult to understand. This site is an excellent resource, www.paul smith.doctors.org. uk/ArchaicMedicalTerms.htm

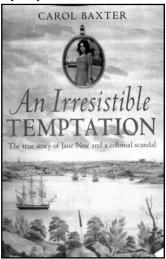
Occupations can be found at www.rmhh.co.uk/occup/index.html or on one of the many sites linked from this page.

An interesting site of family trees of some 'prominent' British Isles and Irish families worth a look is www.rmhh.co.uk/occup/ index.html. Those who can link into royalty should see www.tudorplace.com.ar/. http://www.spatial-literacy.org/UCLnames/

Media Release

An Irresistible Temptation - Carol Baxter

Published by Allen & Unwin 3 November 2006 RRP: \$32.95 TPB. An Irresistible Temptation is the true story of Jane NEW and a colonial scandal that rocked 1829 Sydney to its core.



Based on meticulous and detailed research and compellingly written by genealogist Carol Baxter, *An Irresistible Temptation* was discovered on the Allen & Unwin slush pile of unsolicited manuscripts and was picked up due to its compelling style and fascinating story.

In 1829 at the Supreme Court in Sydney, convict woman Jane New was convicted of shoplifting and sentenced to death. Beautiful, sensual and alluring, she caught the interest of Supreme Court registrar John STEPHENS Jnr, a liberal who plagued the autocratic Governor DARLING.

Although Jane was reprieved on a technicality, Governor Darling refused to set her free, locking her in the Parramatta Female Factory. Like bees to a honey pot, the gentlemen of Sydney swarmed to her defence. William Charles WENTWORTH appealed unsuccessfully to the Supreme Court for

her release, but in a surprising twist, his legal strategies developed their own momentum, becoming 'sensational, extraordinary and potentially momentous' and changing the lives of New, Wentworth, Darling and Stephens forever.

The legal and political ramifications of this scandal have an important place in the annals of Australian colonial history and make for a page-turning and accessible read. *An Irresistible Temptation* will appeal to fans of *The Floating Brothel* and all Australian history buffs.

About The Author: Carol Baxter is a Fellow of the Society of Australian Genealogists and one of the country's leading genealogical researchers. She has published widely in the area of Australian colonial history and lives in Sydney.

Connections with the Past

Paul Scott (Member No 5686)

Diaries are useful tools for those tracing family roots. The first reference is a rare publication and the second one can now be accessed on Gutenberg's Website.

Number 1

A Roving Commission, Commander Crawford Pasco, George Robertson & Company, Melb., Syd., Adelaide, Brisbane & London 1897.

During 1842 Commander Crawford Pasco R.N. was on temporary transfer from HMS *Beagle* to the Van Diemens Land Government's cutter *Vansittart* while surveying Bass Strait. During his time spent sailing around Flinders Island Pasco made contact with many local inhabitants and, fortunately, he recorded his observations.

(a) **Anderson Islands** (Woody Islands), Franklin Sound, Flinders Island, Tasmania.

Pasco made close contact with the Anderson family who lived on Woody Island and noted the following: Anderson, the senior male, was elderly and had "silver locks". As a youngster he had served aboard the *Russell* under Nelson during the Battle of Trafalgar. Amongst Anderson's family of young children was a female, Mary, who was about to be married to a European in the church at Georgetown on the Tamar River. According to Pasco Mary was bright and intelligent and her mother was "an aboriginal Australian". In recognition of his experience with this family, Pasco there and then renamed Woody Islands, Anderson Isles. (Ref: pp 146-148)

(b) **Smiths** take note here. For a short time Pasco was on temporary transfer from the *Vansittart* onto a buoy-boat *Helen* on the Tamar River. The skipper of this vessel was James Cook Smith, a grandson of the famous Captain Cook! Pasco reported that he met up with Smith forty years later on when Smith was in a "paralytic state" and about to die. (Ref: p.155)

Number 2

Project Gutenberg's *Discoveries in Australia, Volume 2*, by John Lort Stokes, April 25, 2004 [EBook #12146], Produced by Sue Asscher.

Lort Stokes was the Commander of HMS *Beagle* at the time Pasco was on board *Vansittart*.

(a) **Vansittart Island** (Gun Carriage Island), FRANKLIN SOUND, Flinders Island, Tasmania.

Those who claim to be a descendant of Sir John Franklin, late Lt-Governor of Van Diemens Land, have most likely made the connection with FRANKLIN SOUND and their ancestor. However, those who have been searching for a connection with **Vansittart Island** and an ancestor will need to search further afield. Lort Stokes was so grateful for Sir John's assistance in loaning the *Vansittart* for the surveying project that he named FRANKLIN SOUND after the Lt-Governor but, the Island at the eastern entrance was named after the vessel *Vansittart*, not some person of that name.

(Ref: Chapter 2.13-Banks Strait.)

Norfolk Island Bicentenary Sailings on board the *Lady Nelson*

To celebrate the arrivals of the Norfolk Islanders 1807-08 Leaving from Elizabeth St Pier, Hobart

November 2007- October 2008

Wednesday 28 November 2007) 10am - 2 noon (Lady Nelson) 1pm – 3pm 10am - 2 noon Thursday 17 January 2008 (Porpoise) 1pm - 3pm Saturday 1 March 2008 10am - 2 noon (Lady Nelson) 1pm - 3pm Thursday 5 June 2008 10am - 2 noon (Estramina) 1pm - 3pm Sunday 5 October 2008 10am - 2 noon (City of Edinburgh) 1pm - 3pm

Bookings can be made for all sailing at the Layd Nelson Office Dockhead Building Franklin Wharf, Hobart 10am – 3pm weekdays. Telephone: 03 6234 3348

Irene Schaffer, Lady Nelson's Historian, will be on board and give talks about the passengers who arrived on the different ships. For more information phone Irene Schaffer 03 6272 2124 or email schafferi@optusnet.com.au.

Ghostly Tales of Norfolk Plains

Norfolk Plains Gazette: Winter 93, by Harry Bean

The Disappearing Sovereign: The old *Racecourse Hotel* at Longford, built in 1840, was once a resting place for many a weary traveller or wagoner. It was also the scene in the early days of a very ghastly murder.

One Saturday evening, two men who had been in the harvest fields called in to quench their thirst. One of them put a gold sovereign down on the counter and called for drinks. As quick as a flash, the barmaid picked up the sovereign and put it into her mouth and swallowed it.

The two men forced her jaws apart, but when they found that the sovereign was irretrievable they hit her over the head with a bottle and killed her. They took her body to the nearby cemetery where they cut her open to retrieve the cursed gold.

The two villains later were captured and, after being convicted and sentenced to death at Launceston, they were hanged on Gibbet Hill near Perth. Locals say that the hotel later was haunted by the many weird noises and moans that were often heard from within after nightfall.

Whether you believe in ghosts or regard them as a myth, nevertheless there is something in the many uncanny and gruesome tales, veiled in mystery, that have been told about them during the ages.

Tasmaniana Library, State Library of Tasmania New Acquisitions

This is a select list of books on history, biography and genealogy which have been added to the Tasmaniana Library between July and September 2006

They are mostly, but not all, new publications; the Tasmaniana Library often acquires older works which relate to Tasmania and which it does not already hold.

The list has been kept as brief as possible; normally only author, title and the Tasmaniana Library's reference number are given. If you would like further information about any of the books listed, please contact the Tasmaniana Library at 91 Murray Street, Hobart 7000 or by telephone on (03) 6233 7474, by fax on (03) 6231 0927, and by e-mail at Heritage.Collections@education.tas.gov.au.

Further information is also available on TALIS, the State Library's on-line information system. TALIS is available in **city and branch libraries throughout Tasmania and through the World Wide Web; its URL is http://www.talis.tas.gov.au:8000/**.

Please note that, while all of these books are available for reference in the Tasmaniana Library, *they are not available for loan* (although reference and/or lending copies of some of them may be available at city and branch libraries).

Ames, Russ, The Tasmania Police Pipe Band: a history. (TLQ 784.83 AME)

Ames, Russ, To well and truly serve: the recollections of Russell Stanford Ames and his career in the Tasmania Police 1964-1992 and of subsequent events. (TLQ 363.2 AME)

Ashby, Ted, Blackie: a story of the old-time bushmen. [The story of Andrew Black] (TL 920 BLA)

Atkinson, Joe, They call him "Uncle Joe". [The story of Joe Atkinson] (TL 287.93 ATK)

Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies Inc, Early Australian electoral rolls, Volume 1: New South Wales – 1903, Tasmania -1903, Western Australia – 1901. (TLCDROMS 324.64 AUS v.1)

Badcock, Stewart B, Follow the furrows, 1835 to 2005. [History of ploughing competitions] (TLQ 631.509946 BAD)

Bevan, Kathy, *In celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Lenah Valley Garden Club.* (TLQ 635.0994661 INC)

Broadbent, Margaret, A colonial tapestry: the strands woven into the pioneer Ferguson family of North West Tasmania. (TLQ 929.2 FER)

Bromby, Robin, *Ghost railways of Australia*. (TLQ 385.20994 BRO)

Brooke, Alan and David Brandon, Bound for Botany Bay: British convict voyages to Australia. (TL 994.02 BRO)

Carolan, Jane Mayo, No run-of-the mill: a biography of Henry Beaufort Somerset. (TLQ 338.092 SOM)

Chugg, Bill, Old places of interest at Campbell Town (Tas.): recollections and images 1950-2004. (TLP 994.623 CHU)

Clayton, Mike, Barnbougle Dunes: the beginnings. (TLQ 796.352 CLA)

De La Roche, John, Longford Tasmania: heritage and gardens entwined. (TLP 919.4621)

Dimmick, Leonard W, London to Lismore: the Roskell family in Australia. (TLQ 929.2 ROS)

Dunmore, John, *Pacific journeys: essays in honour of John Dunmore*. [Includes "A French Garden in Tasmania: the legacy of Félix Delahaye(1767-1829)" by Edward Duyker] (TL 995 PAC)

Dunphey, Kirsty, *Advance to go – collect \$1 million*. [Autobiography] (TL 332.6324092)

Duyker, Edward, François Peron: an impetuous life: naturalist and voyager. (TL 919.4042 PER)

Effecting a cure: aspects of health and medicine in Launceston. Edited by Paul AC Richards, Barbara Valentine & Tom Dunning. (TLQ 362.10994611 EFF)

Examiner (Launceston, Tas), *Defining moments: 20 events that shaped our city over 200 years.* [Examiner extra supplement] (TLPE 994.611 DEF)

Examiner (Launceston, Tas), 200 great Tasmanians: the people who have shaped our state over the past 200 years. [Examiner extra supplement] (TLPE 994.6 EXA)

Flood, Josephine, *The original Australians: story of the Aboriginal people.* (TL 994.0049915 FLO)

Freeman Thorne Consultant Team, The City Hall axis, Hobart: urban design concepts and parameters. (TLQ 711.50994661 FRE)

Fysh, John Hudson, Lines of descent from the pioneering Fysh, Reed, Dove, Canning families of English settlement in 19th century Australia to John Hudson Fysh in the 21st. (TLQ 929.2 FYS)

Gardam, Faye, Annie Cocker: colonial artist and historian, 1857-1939. (TLQ 759.9946 COC)

Gowlland, Ralph and Kathleen Gowlland, *Trampled wilderness: history of south west Tasmania: Volume 2.* [Reprint of part of the work first published in 1976] (TL 994.65 GOW)

Grey-Smith, Donald, Boat people of the Empire: Australian history from a family perspective. (TLQ 929.2 GRE)

Hales, Ruby Clarence and Kelvin Hales, *Magnet around 1930*. (TLDVD 622.099466 MAG)

Haygarth, Nic, From the sublime to the skyline: the development of Tasmanian blackand-white wilderness photography. (TLQ 778.936 HAY)

Health and Medicine Museums Australia. Tasmania Chapter, Saints or sinners: autumn programme: papers and proceedings. (TLPQ 610.6909946 HEA)

Hope, Alexander Beaumont, *Driven by electricity: the last sparks*. [Autobiography] (TL 920 HOP)

Howgego, Raymond John, Encyclopedia of exploration 1850 to 1940: the oceans, islands and polar regions. (TLR 910.903 HOW)

Hordern House, The Parsons Collection: rare Pacific voyage books from the collection of David Parsons, Part II, La Pérouse to Wilkes. (TLQ 016.91904 HOR)

Jager, Handy, *The needy and the greedy*. [Also available electronically at http://www.stors.tas.gov.au/au-7-0074-00022] (TLPQ 639.2099465 JAG)

Jorgenson, Jorgen, Brudstykker af en selvbiografi: en eventyrers og straffefanges erindringer fra København, London, Island og Tasmanien, med refleksioner over ret,

straf, fængsler, deportation og kolonisering [Danish translation of A shred of autobiography, containing various anecdotes, personal and historical, connected with these colonies. Udivet i. Hobart 1835-1838]. (TL 920 JOR)

Lake, Marilyn, "George Peck, purveyor of the fine arts" in *The East Yorkshire historian, Vol 7, 2006, pp 33-64.* (TLQ 700.994 PEC)

MacFarlane, Fiona, Quirky names in Tasmanian history. (TL 929.4 MACF)

McConnell, A, and L Scripps, Focus on the fringe – layered use & meanings in a natural context: Wellington Park historic heritage inventory & audit project. (Two volumes) (TLQ 333.7830994661 MCC)

Mckenzie, Linda, [Gravesites of Tasmania] Cornelian Bay Cemetery, Roman Catholic. (TLCDROMS 929.5 MCK)

Mainwaring, Bob, The Gold Coast settlers: the story of post-World War II soldier settlement on Flinders Island. (TL 994.691 MAI)

Manley, Ken R, From Woolloomooloo to eternity: a history of Australian Baptists. Volume 1: Growing and Australian church (1831-1914); Volume 2: A national church in a global community (1914-2005). (TL 286.194 MAN)

Meek, Iris, *Patersonia and some of the people who have lived, loved and worked there.* (TL 994.68 MEE)

Mining the imagination: Queenstown: spirit of the place. (TLCDROMS 919.4642 MIN)

Morison, Ian, The Vandiemonians: from penal settlements to marvellous Melbourne. (TL 994.602 MOR)

Morris, Gill, The journals of Charlotte Cleveland: Saturday 14th August 1852... 'Launceston was in sight'. (TL 994.61 CLE)

Morris, Rod, 100 years of Magpie magic: the official history of the Forth Football Club, including the team-of-the-century. (TLPQ 796.336 MOR)

Mundy, Godfrey Charles, Our antipodes: abbreviated and with an introduction by DWA Baker. (TL 919.4 MUN)

Nimmo, Helen, Drawn to Tasmania: along the heritage trail. (TL 919.46 NIM)

Orford Primary School, Orford: then and now: a photographic history. [Compiled by Grade 5/6, Orford Primary School] (TLQ 994.674 ORF)

Pocock, Celmara, Bibliography of Tasmanian travel. (TLQ 016.9946 POC)

Powell, Lindsay C, Spreading the power: memoirs of Lindsay C. Powell: a pioneer in the electrical industry, with 75 years of service to charities, Launceston, Tasmania. (TL 920 POW)

Proverbs, Bruce, A proud heritage: a history of the Royal Commonwealth Society (Northern Tasmanian Branch Inc) 1956-2006. (TLP 325.341 PRO)

Reeve, Keith, About my ancestors: the Reeve, Norris, Coleman, McIntosh, Ford and Griggs families of England, Scotland and Franklin, Tasmania. (TLQ 920 REE)

Reynolds, Amanda Jane, *Keeping culture: Aboriginal Tasmania*. (TLQ 305.899150946 KEE)

Richards, Paul AC, Launceston heritage 1806-2006. (TL 994.611 RIC)

St Helens Family History Group, St Thomas C of E baptisms, Avoca, Tasmania: index September 1841-August 1867. (TLPQ 929.3 STT)

St Leon, Mark, Circus in Australia: index of show movements, 1833-1969. (TLQ 791.30994 STL)

Simco, Howard, Penguin harbour, 1862-1936: the rise and demise of the port at Penguin, North West Tasmania. (TLQ 387.10994635 SIM)

Spurr, Laraine, 100 years of education: a history of Ridgley schools. (TLQ 372.9946 RID)

Steel, Sally, Cockerill and Vincent ancestors in Van Diemen's Land. (TLPQ 929.2 STE)

Steel, Sally, James and Honour Baldwin of Bothwell. (TLPQ 929.2 BAL)

Sumner, Annette, From Woburn Sands to Sandy Bay: the first stage of the journey, 1930-1960. (TL 920 SUM)

Sutherland, Thomas Jefferson, A letter to Her Majesty, the British Queen with letters to Lord Durham, Lord Glenelg and Sir George Arthur. [Includes a list of "Captive patriots now imprisoned at Van Diemans Land"] (TL 971.308 SUT)

Syme, Marten A, Shipping arrivals and departures, Victorian ports, Volume 3: 1856-1860. (TL 387.209945 SYM v.3)

TAIT, John, Tasplaces: over 16 000 Tasmanian place names and where to find them: your alphabetical guide to almost every Tasmanian place: most with bits and pieces of discovered historical and relevant background notes. (TLR 919.46 TAI)

Tardif, Phillip, Notorious strumpets & dangerous girls: convict women in Van Diemen's Land, 1803-1829. [CDROM version of previously published work] (TLCDROMS 364.374 TAR)

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc, *Members interests:* 1998-2006. (TLCDROMS 929.1 MEM)

Tasmanian Family History Society, Hobart Branch, Cemeteries of Southern Tasmania Vol VIII: Sorell district: CD1: Carlton, Copping, Dunalley, Forcett & Marion Bay. (TLCDROMS 929.5 CEM)

Tasmanian Family History Society, Hobart Branch, Cemeteries of Southern Tasmania Vol VIII: Sorell district: CD2: Henry Street Cemetery, Scots Uniting Church and Cemetery, St Thomas Church and Cemetery. (TLCDROMS 929.5 CEM)

Tasmanian Family History Society, Hobart Branch, Cemeteries of Southern Tasmania Vol VIII: Sorell district: CD3: St Georges Anglican Church and Cemetery, Gordon Street, Sorell. (TLCDROMS 929.5 CEM)

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. Launceston Branch, *Index to Launceston Examiner Vol 10: 1890-1893.* (TLQ 929.3 IND v.10)

Timms, Peter, Australia's quarter acre: the story of the ordinary suburban garden. (TL 912.60994 TIM)

Treasures of the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery. (TLQ 708.99465 QUE)

van Toorn, Penny, Writing never arrives naked: early Aboriginal cultures of writing in Australia. (TL 820.989915A VAN)

Webster, Eileen (Fesey), Crossroads. [Autobiography] (TL 920 WEB)

What if?: Australian history as it might have been. Edited by Stuart MacIntyre and Sean Scalmer. (TL 994 WHA)

Women Tasmania, Tasmanian honour roll of women. (TLR 305.409946 TAS)

York, Michael, All hands on deck: the restoration of the James Craig. (TL 387.224 YOR) ●

Burnie

http://www.clients.tas.webnet.com.au/ geneal/burnbranch.htm President Peter Cocker (03) 6435 4103 Secretary Ann Bailey (03) 6431 5058 PO Box 748 Burnie Tasmania 7320 email: petjud@bigpond.com



Our Library continues to be supported by our members, even though some days are very quiet. Ancestry.com and the increased range of publications that we have in our sales area help to maintain our member visits. Currently our internet connection is only available as a dial up connection. This can be frustrating waiting for what seems for ever for images to download. One option that we are looking at is a high speed wireless connection with eBurnie. This is a new service now

available to the North West Coast people to access the internet by wireless technology.

Tracy Hohnke (From the SBS series 'The Colony') gave our August meeting a most entertaining talk on her own and her family's experiences that they had during the filming of the show. It certainly gave us an appreciation of what our early ancestors had to endure.

The September day meeting enjoyed a most interesting talk by Jan Blizzard on her time that she had with the radio station 7BU. Some of you may remember her as 'Auntie Jan from The Sunpolishers Club. The September day meeting was followed by our night meeting with a very informative talk by Patti Boxhall from the Burnie Pioneer Museum. She spoke of the collections that they hold, in particular the photographic collection. A most significant an important part of this collection is the Winter Collection. Patti also gave our Library a listing of all the Oral Histories that they hold. Visitors to the Museum can request to listen to any of these recorded histories.

The October night meeting will be a presentation on the History of the Wynyard Fire Brigade by the authors of a recently published book on this topic. A reminder to all that our final meeting for the year will be a dinner meeting at our Branch Library on Tuesday 21st November, and bookings are essential. The President, Committee and all the volunteers of the Burnie Branch would like to extend to all members of the Society, and their families a most enjoyable festive season and a happy new year.

Burnie Branch Acquisitions

Books

Bissett, Muriel & Betty, Index to Launceston Examiner Volume 10 1890-1893

- * Burnie Football Club, 100 Years of Aust Rules Football in Burnie 1885-1985
- * Hans, Julen, A Brief Guide to the Discovery of Tasmania
- Hardy, Pauline, The Coleman Story
 Litton, Pauline M., Basic Facts about Family History Research in Yorkshire
- * Millar, Alex, The Millar Story

Morgan, Marjorie, Crown Lands Pre-Emptive Right Applications: Victoria 1850-1854 Penguin Primary School, Penguin Primary School Centenary Ralston, Anntoinette M., John Ralston of Hampden 1850-1908 His life, ancestry and legacies
 Raymond, Stuart A, Family History on the Web An Internet Directory for England and Wales
 Silverstone, Alby & Phillips, Ruth, Ewingtons Here & There
 Tomaselli, Phil, Military History Sources for Family Historians The Crimean War 1854-1856
 The Zulu War 1879

- * Universal Directories, Tasmanian Trade & Business Directory 1957
- * Weeding, J S, The History of St Luke's Church Bothwell
- * Indicates donated items

Devonport

http://www.tfhsdev.com
President John Dare (03) 6424 7889
Secretary Elaine Garwood (03) 6424 4005
PO Box 587 Devonport Tasmania 7310
email: secretary@tfhsdev.net



This year the Branch Committee sought to organize activities during winter, rather than hold the regular monthly meetings. Visits to places of interest have been well attended and the committee are keen to receive feedback on the events calendar, as this will help planning for next year.

Members, partners and friends enjoyed a wonderful mid-winter Christmas Dinner at "Colonial Westella Bed & Breakfast" in

Ulverstone. Anyone seeking good "old-fashioned" dinner and entertainment need look no further, according to those who attended.

A counter meal followed by a visit to the Devonport RSL Club Museum took place in August and in September, well known Devonport identity Peter Lyons was guest speaker.

The Devonport Branch Library will close this year for the scheduled Christmas Break on **Friday 15th of December at 3.00pm**, opening again at 11.00am on **Friday 5th January 2007**. This is a very short break for the library volunteers but we wanted to re-open the library as soon as possible and have our resources available to holiday makers.

Planned Meeting and Activities:

Christmas Dinner: Friday 8th Dec at "The Winning Edge", Don Rd Devonport.

Library closes: Friday 15th December at 3.00 pm Library opens 2007:on Friday 5th January at 11.00 am

Thursday 25th Jan: Evening BBQ at Branch Library in Latrobe

Please contact Secretary Elaine Garwood for any further details on these events or check our website

Devonport Branch Acquisitions

Books

- * Binks, C. J, The Story of Devonport Bissett, Muriel & Betty, Index to Launceston Examiner Volume 10 1890-1893
- * Darbyshire, J. & Sayers C. E, Old Gold Towns of Victoria
- * Goold, John (Comp), The Life of William Lachlan Jordon Master Tailor Latrobe Band Committee, Latrobe Federal Band On Tour 79
- * O'May, Harry, Wooden Hookers of Hobart Town and Whalers out of Van Diemen's Land
- * Sims OAM, Peter C., The Butler Sisters The Life & Times of Maclaine, Lapham & Radcliff Families of Scotland, Ireland, Australia & New Zealand – Vol. 1. Maclaine

CDRom

ABM Publishing.

1841 Census Somerset, East/West Kingsbury

1871 Census Devon, Barnstaple

1901 Census Kent, Sevenoaks

Phillimore Parish Records

Shropshire Vol. 1 Marriages

Hampshire Vol. 9 Marriages

Cornwall Vol. IX Marriages

Macbeth Genealogical Services, Tasmanian Federation Index

Births 1900–1919; Deaths & Marriages 1900–1930

TFHS Inc. Hobart, Cemeteries of Southern Tasmania Vol. VIII Sorell District

CD 1 Carlton, Copping, Dunalley, Forcett & Marion Bay

CD 2 Henry Street Cemetery, Scots Uniting Church & Cemetery,

St. Thomas Church & Cemetery

CD 3 St. Georges Anglican Church & Cemetery, Gordon Street, Sorell

* Indicates donated items

Hobart

http://www.hobart.tasfhs.org

President Brian Hortle (03) 6225 2124 email: president@hobart.tasfhs.org Secretary Leo Prior (03) 6228 5057 or 0419 527 542

PO Box 326 Rosny Park Tasmania 7018

email: secretary@hobart.tasfhs.org



During the winter months the president, secretary and treasurer have been travelling overseas – thankfully not all at the same time. It is on such occasions that we can appreciate the very supportive group of volunteers who keep the Branch functioning and are willing to cover duties while the incumbents are away.

Over the past two years Robert Tanner has been very active in providing speakers for our monthly meetings. If another member would like to take over these tasks from Robert, or offer him

assistance in finding speakers for 2007, I am sure Robert would welcome hearing from them. If members have ideas as to likely persons who could speak at our meetings please contact Robert or the president.

The set of three CD's of headstones in the cemeteries of the Sorell area have been selling well and it is satisfying to those who spent so much time and effort in their compilation to note their popularity.

Work is still proceeding on the similar set of CD's for the Oatlands area. It is hoped that these will be on sale in the coming year.

Cynthia O'Neill, one of our many loyal workers regularly composes and sends to members, mainly by email, a Newsletter of Branch activities. This service is much appreciated by members.

Over the past few months there has been a program of maintenance and development to preserve our collection —the fitting of UV control sunblinds, providing improved book display units and the carpeting of the area under our new ergonomic computer chairs. Maurice Appleyard and Leo Prior can be thanked for their work in such installations.

General Meetings

Meetings are held at the Rosny Library, Bligh Street on the third Tuesday in the month except December and January at 8 pm.

Family History Computer Users Group

Branch library - 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm.

WISE Interest Group

Branch library – 1st Sunday of February, May, August and November at 2 pm.

Family History Writers Group

Branch library - third Thursday of each month between 12.30 and 2.30 pm.

Research Workshop

Organised workshops have been disbanded. Members with research problems can seek help of library assistants during the opening hours of the library. If this is not convenient they may call Cynthia O'Neill, the Members Liaison Officer, for assistance. Her contact number is (03) 6243 6200 or by email at news@hobart.tasfhs.org

Details of these meetings and other activities may be found on our website.

Hobart Branch Acquisitions

Books

Bissett, Muriel & Betty, Index to Launceston Examiner Vol. 10 1890–1893 Genealogical Publishing Co. Inc., General Alphabetical Index to The Townlands and Towns, Parishes and Baronies of Ireland:

Based on the Census of Ireland for the year 1851

Hall, Barbara, Death or Liberty:

The convicts of the Britannia, Ireland to Botany Bay, 1797

Cunneen, Christopher with Jill Roe, Beverley Kingston and Stephen Barton,

Australian Dictionary of Biography Supplement 1580–1980

* Rhodes, Lynne Christison, Van Diemens Land: The Journey Home
An historical colonial parrative

Scrips, Lindy, A Tranquil Haven: A history of Cornelian Bay

Syme, Marten A., Shipping Arrivals and Departures,

Victorian Ports; Vol. 3 1856–1860

TFHS Inc. Burnie Branch, Index to 'The Advocate'

1912-1915 Birth, Death & Marriages

THRA Inc., Tasmanian Historical Research Association Inc.

Index to the Papers & Proceedings, Vols 41–50, 1994–2003

CDRom

ABM Publishing & S&N

1871 Census Devon, Barnstable part 1

Phillimore Parish Records

Hampshire Parish Records, Vol. 9 (Marriages)

Pastkeys, N.S.W. Immigration Index Series

Pastkeys Miscellaneous Indexes

Unclaimed letters (noting Ship or Regiment) Index 1836–1852

Unemployed Registers 1860–1884 Index

Wages paid to Orphans 1849–1851 Index

Microform

Birmingham & Midland S. of G. & H.,

Sedgley Parish Registers—Marriages 1781–1831

Sedgley, Staffs All Saints,

Part 1 Baptisms, Marriages & Burials 1558-1684

Surrendered Non-conformists, Register of Sedgley inc. Coseley Staffs

Kent F.H.S, Mary Vigan Transcriptions (Revised Vol. 2) Kent B.D.Ms Queensland Dept of Justice,

Queensland Births 1905-1909

Queensland Deaths 1915-1919

Queensland Marriages 1915-1919

Queensland FHS, Emigrants from Hamburgh to Australia 1870 to 1879

* Indicates donated items

Huon

President Betty Fletcher (03) 6264 1546 Secretary Libby Gillham (03) 6239 6529

PO Box 117 Huonville Tasmania 7109 email: vsbtas@ava.com.au

In September the branch held a successful fund raising lunch. Guest speakers were Irene Schaffer and Joyce Purtscher of the Hobart Branch and Dorothy Baker a local



historian. Success was assured by the attendance of a group of Hobart Branch members. The event was an opportunity for those in attendance to see the upgrading of our library facilities made possible by a Huon Community grant and the work of members and the Lions Club of Huon.

It was also opportune to launch the Branch's Family Chart Competition for members as part of the State Competition, and

also a local competition for non-members.

Launceston

http://users.bigpond.com/ltntasfh
President Helen Stuart (03) 6331 9175
Secretary Muriel Bissett Phone/Fax (03) 6344 4034
PO Box 1290 Launceston Tasmania 7250
secretary: bbissett@bigpond.net.au
library: ltntasfh@bigpond.com



In August, Keith Adkins gave an interesting talk on 'Books and Libraries in Early Colonial Tasmania', bringing along some original books from the early Evandale Library.

At the September meeting, members and visitors from New Zealand enjoyed an informative talk given by Peter Richardson, Senior Librarian, Launceston Library, on the Launceston Family Album Project and the background history of the Albert Hall, particularly relating to the Tasmanian Exhibition held in the early

1890s.

On Wednesday 5 October our Branch participated in Seniors Week by opening the Library for two hours. We had a good response from visitors and it was pleasing to welcome some new members.

Meetings and activities:

Saturday, 25 November: Christmas Luncheon and tour of Entally House and grounds, 12 noon for 12.30pm.

Tuesday, 12 December: 3pm: Library closes for Christmas Break

Monday, 22 January: Working Bee at the Library, 9am onwards. Help from members would be appreciated.

Tuesday, 23 January: Library re-opens at 10am Tuesday, 27 February: Meeting, 7pm: to be advised

Launceston Branch Acquisitions

Books

Bissett, Muriel & Betty, Index to Launceston Examiner Vol. 10 1890–1893

* Brennan Sharon, Crossing the Seas to build a Future

Twelve Generations of the Seabrook Family

* Brown, Martyn, Australia Bound!

The Story of West Country Connections 1688-1888

- Dunkling, Leslie Gosling, Willaim, Everyman's Dictionary of First Names
 East Yorkshire FHS, East Yorkshire FHS Members Handbook Part A & Part B
- * Goold, J, The Life of Willian Lachlan Jordan Master Taylor
- * Grey-Smith, Donald, Boat People of the Empire
- * Hutchinson R C, St. George's Church Old Beach Road
- * Institute of Irish Studies, The Queen's University of Belfast,

Ordnance Survey Memoirs of Ireland Parishes of

Co. Londonderry VI 1831, 1833, 1835-6

Co. Londonderry XII 1829-30, 1832, 1834-6

Co. Antrim XIV 1832, 1839-40

Knolle, Wendy K(Compiler), Index to news items, obituaries & photographs of World War 11 Tasmanian Servicemen & Women

Litton, Pauline M., Basic Facts about Family History Research in Yorkshire

Mitchell A, Duffy S, Nystrom C W, Monumental Inscriptions

Pre 1855 East Lothian Westernmost Parishes

Plowman Peter, Australian Migrant Ships 1946-1977

Raymond, Stuart A, Family History on the Web

An Internet Directory for England and Wales

* Richards Paul A C, Launceston Heritage 1806-2006 Nyllavert The House that Barnes Built

Tomaselli, Phil, Military History Sources for Family Historians

The Zulu War 1879

The Crimean War 1854-56

Torrance, Richard, Monumental Inscriptions

Pre 1855 Edinburgh, North, New North & South Leith

CDRom

ABM Publishing

1871 Census Devon, Barnstaple

1841 Census Somerset, East/West Kingsbury

1901 Census Kent, Sevenoaks

Phillimore Parish Records

Hampshire Vol 9

Shropshire Vol 1

Cornwall Vol 9

Archive CD Books

1791 Universal British Directory

1869-1870 Post Office Directory of Glassgow

1861 Census Derbyshire

Cornwall Family History Society, Directory of Members Interest 2006

Macbeth Genealogical Services, Tasmanian Federation Index Births 1900-1919. Deaths & Marriages 1900-1930

TFHS Inc. Hobart, Cemeteries of Southern Tasmania Vol. VIII Sorell District CD 1 Carlton, Copping, Dunalley, Forcett & Marion Bay

CD 2 Henry Street Cemetery, Scots Uniting Church & Cemetery,

St. Thomas Church & Cemetery

CD 3 St. Georges Anglican Church & Cemetery, Gordon Street, Sorell

Microform

WF Pascoe Pty Ltd,

The Sydney Monitor May 19 1826- Dec 29 1841

The Currency Lad Aug 23 1832-May 18 1833

The Colonist 1835-1840

The Sydney Chronicle August 2 1839- Sept30 1848

The Maitland Mercury Jan 7 1843- Oct 9 1879

The Guardian Mar 1844- Oct 5 1844

Guide to the State Archives of NSW Handbook Alphabetical

* Indicates donated items

Library Notes

State Microfiche Roster					
	20/11/06	19/02/07	21/05/07	20/08/07	17/11/07
	16/02/07	18/05/07	17/08/07	16/11/07	15/02/08
Burnie	Set 5	Set 4	Set 3	Set 2	Set 1
Devonport	Set 1	Set 5	Set 4	Set 3	Set 2
Hobart	Set 2	Set 1	Set 5	Set 4	Set 3
Huon	Set 3	Set 2	Set 1	Set 5	Set 4
Launceston	Set 4	Set 3	Set 2	Set 1	Set 5
Set 1 Set 2	GRO BDMs Index 1868–1897 Griffith's Valuation for Ireland Series GRO Consular Records Index Old Parochial Records and 1891 Census Indexes for Scotland				
Set 3	GRO BDN	/Is Index 1898–	1922 and AGCI		
Set 4	National Probate Calendars 1853–1943 and				
0-45	Lilian Watson Family History Award 2003 and entries				
Set 5 GRO B7DMs Index 1923–1942 Exchange journals Members' Interests and One Name Studies Index Lilian Watson Family History Award 2004 and entries					
Devonport & Launceston Microfiche Roster					
	20/11/06	19/02/07	21/05/07	20/08/07	17/11/07
	16/02/07	18/05/07	17/08/07	16/11/077	15/02/08
Devonport	Set 1	Set 2	Set 1	Set 2	Set 1
Launceston	Set 2	Set 1	Set 2	Set 1	Set 2
Set 1 Set 2	GRO BDMs Index 1943-1946 GRO BDMs Index 1947-1950				

Society Sales

The Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. publications — (all prices inc. GST)

Mail orders (including postage) should be forwarded to the:

State Sales Officer, TFHS Inc., PO Box 191 Launceston TAS 7250

Microfiche	
TAMIOT (p&p \$2.50)	\$55.00
Books	
My Most Interesting Ancestor (p&p \$4.90)	\$9.00
Van Diemen's Land Heritage lindex, Vol. 3 (p&p \$4.90)	\$11.00
Van Diemen's Land Heritage Index, Vol. 4 (p&p \$4.90)	\$11.00
Van Diemen's Land Heritage Index, Vol. 5 (p&p \$4.90)	\$25.00
Members (p&p \$4.20)	\$22.50
Tasmanian Ancestry Index Volumes 1—20 (p&p \$4.20)	\$22.50
Members (p&p \$4.20)	\$20.00
CD-Rom:	
Tasmanian Federation Index (p&p \$2.50)	\$231.00

Branch Library Addresses, Times and Meeting Details

Burnie Phone: (03) 6435 4103 (Branch Librarian)

Library 58 Bass Highway, Cooee

Tuesday 11.00 a.m.—3.00 p.m. Saturday 1.00 p.m.—4.00 p.m.

The library is open at 7.00 p.m. prior to meetings.

Meeting Branch Library, 58 Bass Highway, Cooee 7.30 p.m. on

3rd Tuesday of each month, except January and December.

Day Meeting 1st Monday of the month at 10.30 a.m. except January and February.

Devonport Phone: (03) 6424 4005 (Branch Secretary)

Library Old police residence, 113 Gilbert St, Latrobe (behind State Library)

Tuesday 11.00 a.m.–3.00 p.m. Friday 11.00 a.m.–3.00 p.m.

Second Saturday of each month 11.00 a.m.-3.00 p.m.

Meeting Room 2, Devonport Library, Fenton Way, Devonport at

7.30 p.m. on last Thursday of each month, except December. Enter from

Town Hall car park.

Hobart Phone: (03) 6228 5057 (Branch Secretary)

Library 19 Cambridge Road, Bellerive

Tuesday 12.30 p.m.-3.30 p.m Wednesday 9.30 a.m.-12.30 p.m. Saturday 1.30 p.m.- 4.30 p.m.

Meeting Rosny Library, Bligh Street, Rosny Park, at 8.00 p.m. on

3rd Tuesday of each month, except January and December.

Huon Phone: (03) 6239 6529 (Branch Secretary)

Library Soldiers Memorial Hall, Marguerite Street, Ranelagh

Saturday 1.30 p.m.–4.00 p.m.

Other times: library visits by appointment with Secretary,

48 hours notice required

Meeting Branch Library, Ranelagh, at 4.00 p.m. on 1st Saturday of each month,

except January.

Please check Branch Report for any changes.

Launceston Phone: (03) 6344 4034 (Branch Secretary)

Library 2 Taylor Street, Invermay, Launceston

Tuesday 10.00 a.m.–3.00 p.m. Saturday 1.30 p.m.–3.30 p.m.

Meeting Branch Library 2 Taylor Street, Invermay, at 7:00 p.m.

4th Tuesday of each month, except December.

Membership of the Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.

Membership of the TFHS Inc. is open to all individuals interested in genealogy and family history, whether or not resident in Tasmania. Assistance is given to help trace overseas ancestry as well as Tasmanian.

Dues are payable annually by 1 April. Membership Subscriptions for 2006-07

(including GST):- Individual member \$39.00

Joint members (2 people at one address) \$49.00 Australian Concession \$27.00 Australian Joint Concession \$37.00

Overseas: Individual member: A\$39.00: Joint members: A\$49.00 (including airmail postage).

Organisations: Journal subscription \$39.00—apply to the State Treasurer.

Membership Entitlements:

All members receive copies of the society's journal *Tasmanian Ancestry*, published quarterly in June, September, December and March. Members are entitled to free access to the society's libraries. Access to libraries of some other societies has been arranged on a reciprocal basis.

Application for Membership:

Application forms may be downloaded from **www.tasfhs.org** or obtained from the TFHS Inc. State Secretary, or any branch and be returned with appropriate dues to a branch treasurer. **Interstate and overseas** applications should be mailed to the TFHS Inc. Treasurer, PO Box 191, Launceston Tasmania 7250. Dues are also accepted at libraries and at branch meetings.

Donations:

Donations to the Library Fund (\$2.00 and over) are *tax deductible*. Gifts of family records, maps, photographs, etc. are most welcome.

Research Queries:

Research is handled on a voluntary basis in each branch for members and non-members. Rates for research are available from each branch and a stamped, self addressed, business size envelope should accompany all queries. Members should quote their membership number. Research request forms may be downloaded from www.tasfhs.org.

Reciprocal Rights:

TFHS Inc. policy is that our branches offer reciprocal rights to any interstate visitor who is a member of another Society and produce their membership card.

Advertising:

Advertising for *Tasmanian Ancestry* is accepted with pre-payment of \$27.50 per quarter page in one issue or \$82.50 for four issues including 10% GST. Further information can be obtained by writing to the journal editors at PO Box 191, Launceston Tasmania 7250.

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Note: 'Request for help'

The following advertisement (submitted by Eillen Daykin) in Volume 27 Number 3—December 2006 has be endorsed with the wrong email address. The correct address is dayjet@netspace.net.au. It would appear that the Editors have 'lost' the bottoms of the y and j in the underscored line produced (automatically) by the software program used.

O'REILLY — I am trying to trace information on Mary Teresa's (1895-1923) siblings, John Stanislaus Denis (Jack) born 28-7-1892 and Eileen May baptised 18-9-1896 Westbury, Tasmania. (Eileen married William C (could be Crowe?) of Hobart). Their parents were Patrick O'Reilly 1866-1912 (he died in the 1912 Mt Lyell Mining Disaster) and Bridget Ann McCoy (1873–1912) who married in 1891 at Holy Trinity Church, Westbury, Tasmania. John (Jack) also worked for the Mt Lyell mine.

Also, JEREMIAH MCCOY (1839-1877, died Westbury area) married Mary Breen in 1876 Launceston. Issue: Mary Theresa (1872-1875), Bridget Ann (1873-1912) and Margaret (1876-?). Margaret married George Bray (1867-?) in 1894. Mary McCoy (Breen) remarried Charles Connors (C1844-?, a Westbury farmer) in 1878 after Jeremiah died.

Eileen 0417 348 155 dayjet@netspace.net.au