

# Tasmanian Ancestry



**Tasmanian Family History  
Society Inc.**

Volume 27 Number 4—March 2007

---

# Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.

PO Box 191 Launceston Tasmania 7250

State Secretary: [secretary@tasfhs.org](mailto:secretary@tasfhs.org)

Journal Editors: [editor@tasfhs.org](mailto:editor@tasfhs.org)

Home Page: <http://www.tasfhs.org>

**Patron:** Dr Alison Alexander

**Fellows:** Dr Neil Chick, David Harris and Denise McNeice

## Executive:

President	Anita Swan	(03) 6326 5778
Vice President	Maurice Appleyard	(03) 6248 4229
Vice President	Peter Cocker	(03) 6435 4103
State Secretary	Muriel Bissett	(03) 6344 4034
State Treasurer	Betty Bissett	(03) 6344 4034

## Committee:

Judy Cocker	Gaye Spicer	Elaine Garwood
Jim Rouse	Brian Hortle	Leo Prior
John Gillham	Libby Gillham	Helen Stuart
Judith Whish-Wilson		

By-laws Officer	Denise McNeice	(03) 6228 3564
Assistant By-laws Officer	Maurice Appleyard	(03) 6248 4229
Webmaster	Robert Tanner	(03) 6231 0794
Journal Editors	Anita Swan	(03) 6326 5778
	Betty Bissett	(03) 6344 4034
LWFHA Coordinator	Judith De Jong	(03) 6327 3917
Members' Interests Compiler	John Gillham	(03) 6239 6529
Membership Registrar	Muriel Bissett	(03) 6344 4034
Publications Coordinator	Denise McNeice	(03) 6228 3564
Public Officer	Denise McNeice	(03) 6228 3564
State Sales Officer	Betty Bissett	(03) 6344 4034

## Branches of the Society

Burnie:	PO Box 748 Burnie Tasmania 7320 <a href="mailto:petjud@bigpond.com">petjud@bigpond.com</a>
Devonport:	PO Box 587 Devonport Tasmania 7310 <a href="mailto:secretary@tfhsdev.com">secretary@tfhsdev.com</a>
Hobart:	PO Box 326 Rosny Park Tasmania 7018 <a href="mailto:secretary@hobart.tasfhs.org">secretary@hobart.tasfhs.org</a>
Huon:	PO Box 117 Huonville Tasmania 7109 <a href="mailto:vsbtas@ava.com.au">vsbtas@ava.com.au</a>
Launceston:	PO Box 1290 Launceston Tasmania 7250 <a href="mailto:ltntasfh@bigpond.com">ltntasfh@bigpond.com</a>

---

# Tasmanian Ancestry

Volume 27 Number 4

March 2007

ISSN 0159 0677

---

## Contents

Editorial .....	218
President's Message .....	219
Membership reminder .....	220
<i>Voyage of the Caroline</i> , Rosalie Hare .....	221
<i>My Lucky Break</i> , Gloria Pierce .....	226
<i>The Nineteenth Century Tasmanian Government Schoolroom</i> , Betty Jones .....	227
<i>Rhyndaston Publicans &amp; Their Families</i> , Richard Gould .....	232
<i>Grandma's Bracelet</i> , Kerrie Blyth .....	233
<i>Different Ages and Different Dates</i> , Anna Watson .....	235
<i>Who was Uncle Ireland?</i> , Allison Carins .....	239
<i>Launceston &amp; Western Railway Co Ltd</i> .....	240
<i>Six School Snippets</i> , Betty Jones .....	242
<i>John McGinnes (c1815-1901)</i> , Paul Hickford .....	245
Help Wanted .....	251
New Members & New Members' Interests .....	252
Diary Notes .....	253
Quidnunc .....	255
<i>Devonportites In South Africa</i> , <i>Launceston Examiner</i> 1896 .....	256
<i>A Tragedy in Launceston</i> , Hilary Martin .....	258
<i>Mrs Tuthill of Stanley</i> , <i>Launceston Examiner</i> 1896 .....	262
<i>40th AIF</i> , Jim Rouse .....	263
<i>St Andrew's Church, Westbury</i> , <i>Launceston Examiner</i> 1890 .....	264
<i>Ghostly Tales of Norfolk Plains</i> , <i>Norfolk Plains Gazette</i> .....	267
<i>SS Great Britain</i> , Leonie Mickleborough .....	268
New Publications .....	275
<i>Waiting for the Posite</i> , Leonie Mickleborough .....	276
Contents of a Convict Woman's Kit .....	278
Branch News and Acquisitions .....	279
Library Notes, Society Sales .....	288

**Deadline dates for contributions: BY 1 January, 1 April, 1 July and 1 October**

---

## From the Editors

Well, we have once again compiled a journal full of varied and interesting stories, thanks to the articles provided by our readers. We hope that you enjoy the read.

You will be able to read about the appalling school conditions of the 19th century—I am certainly glad I wasn't attending school during that time.

If you are interested in shipping history then you should enjoy the articles, *Voyage of the Caroline* and *SS Great Britain*.

On the local scene the articles on St Andrew's Church Westbury and the reproduction of the story of The Ghost of Gibbet Hill will probably be of interest to you.

You should also check out the Branch News to keep up with what is happening at branch level, especially for the meeting dates and topics which are very interesting.

Please do keep those articles coming in so that *Tasmanian Ancestry* will continue to be of interest to all our readers.

*Anita & Betty*

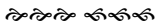
### Journal Editors

Anita Swan and Betty Bissett

### Journal address

PO Box 191, Launceston TAS 7250, or  
email [editor@tasfhs.org](mailto:editor@tasfhs.org)

*any other address may cause a delay in  
reaching us*



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 limit the articles to 2,500 words maximum**, unless it is an **Index** which may be included in several issues.

Please note when sending material for the journal to use the address PO Box 191 or email [editor@tasfhs.org](mailto:editor@tasfhs.org).

**Deadline dates: BY 1 January, 1  
April, 1 July and 1 October**

The opinions expressed in this journal are not necessarily those of the journal committee 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.

© The contents of *Tasmanian Ancestry* are subject to the provisions of the *Copyright Act* and may not be reproduced without written permission of the editor and author.

**Cover photo:** Burnie Branch Library, 58 Bass Highway, Cooee.

## President's Message

This year our AGM will be hosted by the Burnie Branch and held at the TAFE Campus Mooreville Road Burnie on the weekend of June 16 & 17, 2007.

As you will see from the program enclosed a lot effort has been put into organising the weekend. I would hope that members will show the appreciation and encouragement by attending the AGM & Conference. Don't forget that if you register your attendance by 14th May 2007 you will be in the draw for the President's Early Bird Prize. So come on let's get behind the Burnie branch and the Society and make an effort to attend.

In my last message I announced the release of the long awaited *Tasmanian Federation Index* (TFI) and sales of this CD has proved its popularity. However, we have received some concerns from users of the Index regarding the *Age Field*, *Spellings of Towns*, and *Registration Number*. We have contacted Macbeths and the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages. To date we have had a response from the Registrar stating the following –

Age Field – During the initial scoping phases of the project, careful consideration was given to the information that should be included in the TFI. The primary objective of the index is to provide enough information to locate the source record.

Spellings of Towns – Both the volunteers involved in the project and the Registry of Birth, Death and Marriage staff undertook a number of quality assurance checks and corrected entries where appropriate. Whilst it would have been preferable to have consistent spelling of town names throughout the index, it was also important to maintain the data integrity of the original handwritten entries in the Registers.

Registration Number – Due to a database upgrade in 1999 all Birth, Death and Marriage data was transferred to a new database. As a result of the upgrade all records were assigned a new registration number, however the original folio number was retained as part of the record. Therefore, the TFI supersedes the data contained within the Pioneer and microfiche Indexes.

Hopefully this will help to clarify any concerns you may have had.

I am not sure if you are aware of the Competitions that the Society now runs, so I thought I would take this opportunity to recap them for you.

1. The Lilian Watson Family History Award, held annually, this is for a book however produced on paper, dealing with family history and having significant Tasmanian content.
2. Journal Article Competition, held annually is awarded to the best article in *Tasmanian Ancestry*.
3. Family Chart Competition, held bi-annually.
4. Short Story Award, held bi-annually.

All of our five branches have details and entry forms for any of the competitions or you can contact the State Secretary for more information.

In ending my report I hope that I will see many familiar faces and lots of new faces at the AGM at Burnie, so please come along and enjoy the conference.

Anita Swan.  
State President.

## Don't Forget!

**Membership for 2007-08 commences on  
1 April 2007 through to 31 March 2008**

Current membership subscriptions expire  
on 31 March 2007

**Un-financial members are not eligible to vote  
or accept nomination for office at the State or  
Branch Annual General Meetings**

You will have received a Membership Renewal Form (gold) in the  
**December edition** of *Tasmanian Ancestry*.

Additional forms may be downloaded from our Website:  
**www.tasfhs.org**

If you have not paid your Membership Renewal, please complete  
and mail your cheque promptly to:

<p><b>Tasmanian Members:</b> The Treasurer at your <b>local branch</b></p>	<p><b>Interstate and Overseas Members (only):</b> State Treasurer, TFHS Inc. PO Box 191 <b>Launceston TAS 7250</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Important</b></p> <p>Please save us additional postage costs by ensuring that your membership renewal is forwarded to the correct location, as specified above.</p> <p>Merchant Card facilities are now available from TFHS Inc.</p>	



**REMEMBER!!!**

**Late payment may result in a delay in the delivery of  
your June 2007 *Tasmanian Ancestry***

## The Voyage of the Caroline

by Rosalie Hare

As published in Circular Head Local History Journal, Spring Issue: Sept 1987, Vol 3 No 1.

*In two years, 1827 and 1828, the vessel "The Caroline" visited three ports, one in Madagascar, Batavia (now Jakarta) and on the island of Java, and the third, a very different place, the present location of Stanley at the time of the first occupation. Her companion on the voyage, Ida Lee, was a professional geographer, and their observations are an important documentary source independent of the mass of V.D.L. Co based evidence. The whole book is available at Hellyer Regional Library. We produce Rosalie Hare's notes because of their documentary significance.*

1828 Saturday, January 19th—Saw the Pyramid, Van Diemen's Land. Passed Albatross Island and the Hummock Island; brought to at one and a quarter of a mile from Circular Head. Much to my gratification, as I had been ill most of the passage from the Cape.

### Remarks on Van Diemen's Land

What was the disappointment of our passengers on their arrival! Their minds, like the minds of most settlers, had been painting fancy visions, and, instead of comfortable houses as they had been used to see in England, here there were tents, bark huts and huge mountains. Some of them were sent to a still less cultivated settlement, and all were displeased. Thus ended their voyage of hopes. Young men mechanics were stamping with passion, wishing themselves with their mothers, and all wishing themselves at home and the directors of the Company, particularly Mr Inglis, in Heaven.

Sunday, January 20th—Mr Curr, Agent to Van Diemen's Land Company, came on board and invited us to dine at his house. This invitation accepted, although doubtful if my strength would allow. With the assistance of my kind friends I managed it tolerably. This was indeed a new scene! The Head justly called Circular presented a rather desolate sight. Here were plenty of trees, but they were of Stringey-Bark so called from their bark continually falling off and hanging in strings. Leaves only at the top. Mr Curr's house, equal to a genteel English farmhouse, stood on the top of a hill called Ladder Hill on account of a rude narrow path with here and there a few steps dug out of the earth leading to the house.

Near the house is the garden which supplies the settlers with vegetables—a fine piece of ground neatly laid out and very flourishing, supplying vegetables every season. It has been but two years cultivated, and indeed that is but the age of the settlement. Round the house are cornfields and we had the satisfaction of seeing the first harvest gathered in. There are also beautiful plains not far distant called Western, Eastern and Lovely Plains, where most of the sheep are kept in good pasture. The large number of snakes in the grass prevented my going to see them.

This part of the settlement is very woody, and I was much pleased with the beautiful little parrots and cockatoos constantly flying about; the kangaroos skipping on their hind-legs are also very curious. The head of this animal is something like the head of a rabbit. The body very large in proportion, with long tapering tail. The fore-legs not more than one-third the length of the hind-legs. They spring from place to place with great swiftness upon their hind-legs and tail. The natives are very expert at catching them and train their dogs for that purpose, so that they may never be at a

loss for food. They are very fine stewed into what is here called a steamer. I had an opportunity of frequently tasting them. Mrs Curr's son had a small kangaroo, tamed in some measure, about the house.

The sailors had also many on board. The taste of this animal's flesh resembles that of venison, and I should imagine it is a species of southern venison.

The height of Circular Head appears about four hundred feet, I ascended it in company with the Surgeon without much difficulty. We found sheep grazing on its summit and kangaroo leaping about in all directions. Here I picked up the upper jaw of a kangaroo, intending to take it to England, for I suppose I shall find but few who have seen this curious animal, peculiar to Van Diemen's Land, and New Holland. The descent from the Bluff we found very unpleasant and rather dangerous.

Some of the passengers being destined for another settlement, and my dear husband finding it necessary to have the ship entered at the next town [he] was obliged to proceed there ere he could land the stock. Anxious as I was to see a little more of this interesting colony, my own health rendered it desirable (after having received a kind invitation from our friends) that I should remain with Mrs Curr at this uncommonly healthy settlement, while Mr Curr and my husband proceeded to Launceston.

The ship being there delayed three weeks, I had an opportunity of entirely establishing my health and the satisfaction of seeing a few native women who visited the settlement with a few sealers and a Government Surveyor. Surely of all uncivilised creatures these are the worst! They commonly wear no dress of any kind, but Mr Curr will not allow any of them to be brought into the settlement without decent clothing. It is surprising with what agility these women climb trees to catch the opossum and with what swiftness they hunt kangaroo. They also dive for crawfish, plunging without fear from very high rocks. Many of them had large scars upon them where they had pitched upon rocks under water.

### **Life at Highfield**

The woman whom the Surveyor had given the name of Mary to, paid us a visit at *Highfield House*. She had learned a little English and appeared more intelligent than most of her race. She was astonished at all she saw, particularly the chairs, tables and beds, never before having seen any other dwelling-house than a hut of the bark of trees made over a hole dug in the earth with a fire at the entrance. She insisted, much against my inclination and Mrs Curr's also, upon kissing us and the children. The next day three other native women, or young girls about fifteen, paid us a visit. These poor creatures had joined the crew of a sealing boat while they were looking for seals along the coast and were brought by them to Circular Head.

How was my very soul shocked when two of these girls took off their kangaroo-skin coats and showed the inhuman cuts these European monsters had given them when they had not been able to find them food. Mrs Curr's feelings were instantly aroused for the youngest of these poor girls, and she thought it might be possible to teach her to take care of the children. But on consideration it appeared dangerous—as they have been frequently tried as servants, but universally proved traitorous. Their native bread, an edible fungus, is found in the earth. It has the appearance of black stone outside, but inside a cake of rice, boiled hard and dried. This they grind with stones, then mix the powder with water into a paste. They are also very fond of fish and kangaroo.



I had one sweet little boy (belonging to a fisherman, his mother a native) on board the Caroline some days, and a more sensible child (considering he had until within half a year been on a desolate island called Preservation) I never saw in England. He was five years old, very tall and stout, and had black curly hair; his complexion was copper-coloured. He spoke English very well. His dress was generally a shirt, pair of trousers buttoned at the knees and little kangaroo skin coat which we never could prevail on him to take off when he slept, nor would he sleep on a bed, preferring a mat on the bare deck. He had begged to come off with my husband to the ship and cried very much when obliged to leave us. His father, a cross old man, had not much affection for him, but would not part with him or this little stranger would most likely have seen England. We wished very much to have him.

The natives near Circular Head (the Northern coast) are much better looking than those of Hobart Town (Southern coast). The former are stout, well-made, their faces nearly round, with good eyes: noses very flat and mouths of pretty tolerable width (such as I never saw in England). Their hair woolly, their lineaments in general are more pleasant than those of African Negroes. The men wear their beards long and smear them and their hair with red ointment. The latter are exceedingly ugly, with long spears, but remaining at the settlement I had no opportunity of seeing them.

The natives are terrible robbers and do all the mischief they can to the settlers. They had, a short time previous to our arrival, speared three hundred sheep belonging to the company. They do not eat mutton and do it but from mischief. Burning the huts of the shepherds and stealing their dogs are also the works of these incendiaries when they find them on the plains and wastes.

The beach at Circular Head is very fine and sometimes there are good stones picked up, as also on the coasts, of which the Surgeon has very kindly procured me a considerable number. Of the Cape Barren diamonds, and shells, I have procured, as specimens, some very good ones. Many indeed are the curiosities of this country, but a new settlement could afford me no very great opportunities of collecting. The Surgeon has kindly promised to collect what he can and send them to me in England.

I must not forget the pigeons, which are very beautiful, called bronze from their beautiful colours. I hope to be able to show my friends a pair of wings of great beauty. I have also some native bread which I am sure will be a great curiosity. Black swans are also numerous in a river not far off the settlement. They are in size superior to the white. The bill is of a rich scarlet, near the tip is a small yellow spot. The whole plumage being of intense black. The eyes black; the feet dusky and it has all the graceful action of the white kind. The blue crab of ultramarine colour is of exquisite beauty. At first I did not like the idea of the numerous lizards in the rooms, but they are perfectly harmless.

Many cheerful hours have I spent at *Highfield* House with my friend (Mrs Curr): many pleasant rambles have we had together with the interesting little children. Our people appeared, before we left, quite reconciled and cheerful; they had assisted in gathering in the harvest, and a fine harvest supper they had.

The fern which overruns the settlement is obliged to be burnt before the land can be cultivated. It presented a very beautiful appearance when the fire had spread up the Head.

A few minutes' walk from *Highfield* were two beautiful ravines and many lagoons. The green hills with the straggling sheep and the sea at the foot look beautifully picturesque. The new settlers, before we left, had a very good house built for four families. Many of them, with the Surgeon, proceeded to Emu Bay—another of the Company's settlements.

The climate is very healthy; two of our women were reduced to skeletons almost and appear in consumption, but no sooner had they got on shore than they improved very rapidly and were, when I left, in particularly good health. Here by the assistance of my good friends, I perfectly recovered, and my dear and anxious husband on his return from Launceston could scarcely believe me the same pale, thin creature he had left.

The morning before we left the Surveyor wished to bring his native women on board to see the Caroline. They, on being told of it, asked if the vessel was going to Macquarie Harbour or England. The convicts who are too bad for any other place or beyond all hope of amendment are sent for life to Macquarie Harbour. Therefore the natives were a little afraid.

What was the surprise of the Surveyor in the morning to find (after having been with him for some time and treated by him with the greatest kindness) the native ladies had eloped with the sealers' ladies and taken all the dogs, a thing of great importance in an uncultivated country, as the men depended entirely upon their dogs for food for months together.

So we are to judge that these women, for the sake of the dogs, had been with them the whole way along the coast and had been with them long enough to learn enough English to be understood. But this was not all, for they stopp'd at the hut of a shepherd and robbed it of everything moveable. These people generally live among the bushes in considerable numbers and are called bushmen. They thrust their long spears from the roof the huts and generally make too sure an aim—murdering their unfortunate victims. But we are not to suppose the Europeans in their turn take no revenge. We have to lament that our own countrymen consider the massacre of these people an honour. While we remained at Circular Head there were several accounts of considerable numbers of natives having been shot by them (the Company's men), they wishing to extirpate them entirely, if possible.

The Master of the Company's cutter *Fanny*, assisted by four shepherds and his crew, surprised a party and killed twelve. The rest escaped but afterwards followed them. They reached the vessel just in time to save their lives.

The natives are extremely superstitious and dare not travel by night. They are afraid of thunder and terribly alarmed at the sound of guns. They travel all together for many weeks, sleep together promiscuously, except when disturbed by their frequent enmities and assassinations. The women on the birth of an infant leave the party for one day only, then rejoin them and travel without fatigue for many miles. No religion whatever is known, although they have a faint idea of a future existence and believe their people return to the clouds whence they originally fell.

The women are marked by the loss of the first two joints of the little finger of the left hand, as they were supposed to be in the way when they coiled their fishing lines.

One tribe, numerous and muscular, have the singular prerogative of extracting a tooth from the young men of other families—a token of subordination or

government. It is, however, not improbable that these practices may be mere initiations ... the children are seldom disfigured and their sight is very acute. The language is reported to be grateful to the ear, expressive and sonorous, having no analogy with any other known language; but the dialects of the various regions seem entirely different.

Whether these people be remains of aboriginal tribes from the most southern extremities of Asia, or have passed from Madagascar and the eastern shores of Africa, are matters of future discovery and investigation.

I have seen thirteen fires (lighted by natives) on the shores round Circular Head on one night.

From the situation of New Holland on the southern side of the Equator the seasons are like those of the southern part of Africa and America, the summer corresponding with our winter and the spring with autumn.

Little can be said by me on the affairs of the Company. The sheep, whose wool alone renders them objects of care, flourish well. The harvest, of course very small, answered the expectations of those concerned, the wheat being of a very fine quality. It must be remembered that the Settlement, three years ago, was entirely uncultivated and covered with fern.

I could but feel pleasure in seeing the little companions of my voyage so happily employed gleaning this year at the opposite side of the world to that which they had gleaned in last.

I was a little disappointed to find no fruit, as New Holland produces all European fruits. My husband, however, supplied me with apples from Launceston and a few peaches.

Thursday, March 6th—After enjoying all the sweets of friendship and comforts of shore, and mutual promise of correspondence, we sailed for the unhealthy but fine island of Java, East Indies; with our hearts filled with thankfulness for the friends everywhere raised up to us. Had we reached Van Diemen's Land two months before, we should not have found a friend there.

#### **Departure from Van Diemen's Land**

I forgot to notice that one shepherd (drowned), one woman and an infant were buried on one side of the Settlement. The graves had a flat stone over them and pales round. One man was carving tombstones very neatly when I left.

At this place my husband and myself spent the first anniversary of that happy day which united us in the bonds of love and affection. ●

---

## **News from Public Record Office Victoria**

### **Index to Outward Passenger Lists**

Due to the dedicated work of the indexing volunteers. PROV is pleased to announce that a further instalment of fifteen years will be published on the website [www.prov.vic.gov.au](http://www.prov.vic.gov.au). The index refers to microfilm copies of the original passenger lists that can be viewed in PROV reading rooms.

## My Lucky Break

From Gloria Pierce (Member No 3144)

**A very big thank you** to Anne McMahon on her article on William McMahon. (*Tasmanian Ancestry* Vol 27 No 3)

My grandfather was PATRICK GLENNON, convicted Dublin, transported on the *Hyderabad*, and, I was informed, "assigned" (not quite true) to GEORGE MARSHALL of Pittwater. That's all I knew of his convict records.

As I read Anne's article, I realized that William and Patrick were on the same ship. Thank you Anne for your well researched article.

I did not know about the forced march to the prison, Spike Island Prison itself, and the voyage out. Nor was I able to interpret all the abbreviations on Patrick's conduct records. I had never heard of a Passholder, but there it was P.H. 9 Jan 1852.

William and Patrick had almost identical convict histories, and I now have a very real story to tell, and very detailed information on Patrick's imprisonment in Ireland, his voyage, and his life at the Old Wharf Probation Station, the Colonial Hospital and the Prison Barracks. The details were on his conduct records, but no-one could interpret them.

The moral of this story is: **never give up**. Keep looking. Your research is never finished. ●

---

## In Memoriam: Nick Vine Hall

His many friends, acquaintances, listeners, and readers will be saddened to learn that Nick Vine Hall passed away on October 31. He was an author, genealogist, radio broadcaster, publisher, and maritime historian. He was also host of *Genealogy and Family History*, heard on radio stations throughout Australia for more than 25 years.

Among his many accomplishments, Nick was the author of *Tracing Your Family History in Australia: A Guide to Sources and of Parish Registers in Australia: A List of Originals, Transcripts, Microforms & Indexes of Australian Parish Registers*. Nick earned his full time living as a genealogist since 1979 and was invited to speak at dozens of genealogical conferences in Australia, America, Canada, England, Ireland, New Zealand, China, and Japan.

Here is his obituary:

Nicholas John (Nick). Passed away October 31, 2006 after a long battle with cancer. Late of Elsterwick VIC, formerly of Allambie Heights and Belrose. Much loved father of John and Katy, brother of Celia, partner and best friend of Patricia. Grandad of Jake, Alex, Hannah, Zoe and Daniel. Former husband of Tricia and father-in-law to Alan and Maxine. Aged 62 years

Nick's family and friends are warmly invited to attend his funeral service, to be held in its entirety in St. Thomas' Anglican Church, corner of Church and McLean Streets, North Sydney, on Thursday (November 9, 2006) at 2 pm. ●

### Excerpt from:

[http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans\\_online\\_genealogy/2006/11/in\\_memoriam\\_nic\\_html](http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy/2006/11/in_memoriam_nic_html) - *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter*

# The Nineteenth Century Tasmanian Government Schoolroom

Betty Jones (Member No 6032)

Stark contrast exists between physical conditions and the range and quality of furniture and equipment in Tasmanian classrooms of today and those of the nineteenth century. Interiors, lighting, heating and sanitary arrangements were not given great importance in most public education settings initially, pressure on the Government to just find premises and sufficient teachers to house and tutor the ever-growing number of scholars seeming to occupy most of their attention. This article aims to give some insight into the condition of Tasmanian State schools during the 1800s.

Although the Van Diemen's Land Government did not start to take full responsibility for schools other than those attached to the Convict system until 1839, the number of educational institutions receiving aid grew slowly but steadily from the first in Hobart in 1817. By 1850, seventy-three schools were receiving funding for the 3,000 pupils enrolled throughout the Colony.<sup>1</sup> At the turn of the century, there had been a significant increase to about 350 schools. Although the number of students enrolled at that time had risen to 19,000, the average daily attendance across the State was recorded as being only about seventy per cent of that figure.<sup>2</sup> Many parents still struggled with the tension between keeping their children at home to help with work and sending them to school to learn to read, write and calculate.

Throughout the nineteenth century, premises for school purposes were most frequently rented by the Board of Education/Education Department. Local church buildings and community halls were often utilised, but it was more common for an assortment of other private, make-shift buildings to be adapted for use as the urgency to provide a school in a district developed. This was particularly so in outlying areas.

- The Board of Education sought to occupy the Watch House at Antill Ponds for school purposes from April 1872.<sup>3</sup>
- At the end of 1875, Mr James DURKIN of Forth Public School was offered charge of the school at Emu Bay. He declined the opportunity, stating that the one room was far too small, the ceiling was too low and his health was likely to suffer in such conditions. He also pointed out that the premises had no water supply.<sup>4</sup>
- An application was made by the residents of Myrtle Bank in 1891 for the establishment of a school, offering the Department use of a disused Government wooden hut there. It was about 20 by 10 feet in size, but in a very bad state of repair. The locals were prepared to hold a working bee to put it in order.<sup>5</sup>
- When an application was made for the provision of a school at Riversdale in 1897, Mr Albert LYNE offered use of a building rent-free for three years provisional upon sundry repairs and improvements being made by the Department. Mr QUINN was subsequently contracted to remove a wooden partition, distemper walls, repair brickwork near the door, put in an extra window and reglaze the existing ones, repair the roof and erect a paling outhouse.<sup>6</sup>

Because of the dual use of many of the buildings selected, particularly in small communities, teachers and pupils were frequently required to pack away and then reset the furniture for and after Sunday services, local dances or other activities. This must have been very inconvenient for those concerned. Although some examples from the 1800s exist, preserved correspondence from the early twentieth century provides the best evidence of both the frustration and inevitable friction that must have sometimes surfaced between teachers and the authorities who owned the buildings.



- In December 1877, Inspector James RULE reported that school furniture at Nine Mile Springs (Lefroy) was becoming damaged when the rented premises were being used for 'entertainments' outside of school hours. He suggested that the Board of Education not continue its lease unless it could be guaranteed sole occupancy of the building.<sup>7</sup>
- The schoolroom at Taranna, use of which commenced in 1892, also served for all local amusements, particularly dancing. This resulted in slippery floors for some days after a dance and by 1910 the teacher, Mr Charles GAME, reported to the Department that such dangerous surfaces had led to falls for a number of his pupils.<sup>8</sup>
- Miss Lenna HODGETTS, teacher at Saundridge State School since the late 1890s, retaliated when church authorities complained to the Department in 1909 that the building was not being left appropriately for Sunday services. Miss Hodgetts pointed out that it took both her pupils and herself twenty minutes on Friday afternoons and again on Monday mornings to prepare for, and recover from, use of the room for weekend church purposes. She asserted that her side of the arrangement had been more than fulfilled.<sup>9</sup>
- In November 1902, a parent at Table Cape, Mr Martin ALEXANDER, sent a petition to the Education Department seeking a new school to be built there as the current Lighthouse State School was considered far too small. A report written in 1903 by Wynyard's Health Inspector, Dr James M M MUIR, stated that the school was entirely unsuitable, including being cold in winter and hot and airless in warmer weather. All summer it doubled as a bedroom for the lighthouse keeper's children.<sup>10</sup>

By the late 1870s more consideration started to be given to lighting and ventilation in some larger population centres when purpose-built schools were erected there. Such was the case in the new school building at Glenorchy in 1879. A local newspaper article stated that, although architectural beauty had not been secured, the building was substantial, well-lighted and well-ventilated. The 55 by 21 by 15 feet classroom ran parallel with the main road and had five windows facing east and two facing north. The entrance, enclosed by a porch, was at the southern end.<sup>11</sup> It was not until at least a decade later, however, that the School Inspectors started to make favourable comments in their Annual Reports about school design and improvements.

For many years little regard was given to the suitability of position of schools, again this being particularly noted in country areas:

- A half-time school was opened at Gould's Country in October 1874. For the first three years it was housed in the Union Church, but owing to that building standing in the centre of a burial ground, it was later moved to temporary

accommodation in a small room adjoining the store and post office. There was no fireplace within and no playground area, the latter necessitating the children to play on a public road.<sup>12</sup>

- A plan for a Public school at Kellevie was prepared for the Board of Education in 1878.<sup>13</sup> However, by mid-1883, after an extended absence of the teacher due to illness, local concern was expressed in newspapers about the poor location of the building: "The school is situated in a deep gully, bounded on one side by the Ragged Tier, and by a lofty and dense forest on the other three sides, so that in the winter months the sun scarcely penetrates the gloomy gully..."<sup>14</sup> In August of that year, the school was closed for a week due to the prevalence of whooping cough.

Prior to 1887, no specifications were provided by the Board of Education for the erection of new schoolrooms in outlying areas. Instead, responsibility was passed to local communities for the preparation of building plans before final approval could be sought from the Government. Lengthy time frames for schools to physically materialise were frequent as a result. This also led to a range in both the extent and quality of facilities provided and the prices quoted by contractors, the Government most commonly accepting the lowest tender. As well, up until April 1881, there was a rule that the local community was expected to raise one-third of the total cost of the new school and their subscription was required up-front before any work commenced. It was eventually announced in February 1887 that the Director of Education had initiated the preparation of a type plan for school buildings so that tenders could be called immediately once the erection of a new school had been approved. This was also a move to make Government-built schools throughout the state more uniform,<sup>15</sup> though records show that this was far from a reality for a long time.



A lack of transport resulted in scholars frequently having to traverse miles on rough country roads in all weather. Winter must have been a particularly difficult time. Images of draughty, leaking schoolrooms enveloped by the smell of damp bodies in sodden clothing and littered with the fallout from wet, muddy footwear are not hard to conjure up. The fireplace or stove would have been the only source

of warmth and means of drying off, but not all schools were suitably equipped with efficient heating.

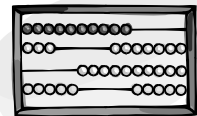
- In 1852, it was reported that Mrs McLEOD, the teacher at Frankland Street Infant School in Launceston, had to find her own firing.<sup>16</sup>
- In April 1882, the Board of Education noted the Spartan conditions having to be endured in the rented accommodation at Upper Huon Public School by the teacher, Miss Evelyn BLACKETT: "... the schoolroom ... is not fit for a female teacher in winter. While parents can keep their children home in cold weather, the teacher has no escape open to her. If no provision can be made for lining the schoolroom and erecting a fireplace and a chimney it will be advisable to secure other premises."<sup>17</sup>
- A newspaper article in 1889 described the rented schoolroom at Uxbridge as having the dimensions of 35 by 18 feet without a ceiling and containing only a small fireplace, 3 feet by 10 inches, the use of which made the room smoky.<sup>18</sup>

- In 1891, Mr Richard HOLMES, teacher at Somerset State School, made application for the erection of a new schoolhouse. Occupied for school purposes since at least 1862, the current building was so old that the walls had sunk on each side, the weatherboards had been roughly done and there was no fireplace. It contained only a small stove for heating.<sup>19</sup>
- Barton State School, established at the end of 1896, was situated at the old mill. In August 1898, when Miss Haidee KEARNEY was teacher there, it was stated that the schoolroom needed washing and doing up generally. The little stove provided burnt coal or charcoal, not wood. It was in a bad position and, with that fuel, smoked profusely but gave out little heat.
- In August 1891 the teacher at Nugent State School, Mrs Sarah FREEMAN, was reported to the Department by a parent, Mr Edwin REARDON, for not having the fire lit before school every day during the six months of winter.<sup>20</sup>

The provision of furniture was very basic throughout the nineteenth century. Long, movable, wooden desks and separate backless forms, each ranging in length from six to nine feet, were the most commonly requisitioned from at least the late 1850s. These must have been exceedingly uncomfortable and unhealthy and not at all conducive to the development of the high standard of precision in handwriting and bookwork required during that era. There was little variation in that style of student furniture throughout the State but trials were carried out in schools in Hobart and Launceston:

- In February 1870, the Battery Point School was supplied with six desks and forms to fit iron stands twelve feet in length.<sup>21</sup>
- In July 1884, the Board of Education announced that it would fit up a classroom in the new school at Charles Street, Launceston with dual desks.<sup>22</sup>

The chalk and talk method of teaching was fostered by the use of the blackboard on a movable easel. Other frequently requisitioned objects were a teachers' desk and stool, a book press and a lesson post. Wall items and additional teaching aids appear to have gained popularity from the 1870s when maps of the world, Asia, Africa, America, Australasia and Europe were ordered, along with abaci and the occasional clock. In 1875, Goulburn Street Public School was supplied with an alphabet on rollers, lessons on colours and the farm, and six pointers.<sup>23</sup> At



that time, schools had to pay one third of the total cost of such items. Storage space would have been extremely limited both for teacher and student possessions.

Government provision for the cleaning of schools varied throughout the State but, even at its most sophisticated level, fell well short of today's standards of hygiene.

- In 1889, Mrs BARBER was paid one shilling to clean the Glen Gala School once a week.<sup>24</sup>
- In 1882, the Board of Education documented the duties of Mrs M FARLANE, cleaner at Murray Street Free School in Hobart, as follows:
  1. To sweep and clean the schoolroom every day;
  2. To clean all windows once every three months;
  3. To wash and scrub out the schoolroom once every six months;
  4. To keep the yard, drains and out offices clean and in proper order;
  5. To keep the gate locked when not required open for school; and



6. Any small matters the teacher may require to be done. Remuneration was to be ten pounds per annum.<sup>25</sup>

Sanitation methods must have been primitive. It was not until the 1870s that the need for new closets became a regular topic in correspondence to and from the Board of Education and one wonders what conditions were really like and what effect these had on health, particularly in the country schools.

- In July 1875, the Board noted that new closets were necessary at Evandale Public School. At that time, the girls were required to go through the fence to a neighbour's yard.<sup>26</sup>
- In 1879, following a visit by Inspector RULE to Emu Bay Public School, a report stated that the out-offices were in need of work: the closet accommodation was defective and there was a want of proper cesspits.<sup>27</sup>

Records on early Tasmanian Government schools allow us to gain an impression of the trying conditions under which some of our ancestors gained their education. They also paint a clear picture of the difficulties faced by the pioneer teachers of our island who, most frequently with no professional training, set up classes in circumstances similar to those described in this article in an attempt to alleviate the growing needs of colonial communities. But that's the basis on another story. ●

### References

1. Report to the Government by Inspector Thomas Arnold, 1850
2. Phillips, D, *Making More Adequate Provision*, Hobart, A B Caudell, 1988
3. AOT ref: ED13/1/12
4. AOT ref: ED13/1/17
5. AOT ref: ED1/1/24 9893
6. AOT ref: ED4/1/4 334
7. AOT ref: ED13/1/20
8. AOT ref: ED9/649/1909
9. AOT ref: ED9/859/1909
10. AOT ref: ED9/231/1905
11. *The Tasmanian Mail*, 29.2.1879
12. *Ibid*, 28.6.1884
13. AOT ref: ED13/1/20
14. *The Tasmanian Mail*, 9.6.1883
15. *Ibid*, 12.2.1887
16. AOT ref: CB3/1/3
17. AOT ref: ED13/1/28
18. *The Tasmanian Mail*, 20.7.1889
19. AOT ref: ED9/586/1905
20. AOT ref: ED2/1/1566
21. AOT ref: ED13/1/9
22. AOT ref: ED13/1/32
23. AOT, ref: ED13/1/16
24. *The Tasmanian Mail*, 10.11.1889
25. AOT ref: ED13/1/29
26. AOT ref: ED13/1/16
27. AOT ref: ED13/1/23

## 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.

# Rhyndaston Publicans & Their Families 1875-1921

Richard Gould (Member No 6059)

Refer to: *Was your Ancestor a Rhyndaston Publican?* Vol 27 No 3 p 171 (Table 1)

Period	Publican	Spouse	Children	Born Location
1875	John <b>Lynch</b>	Unknown	Unknown	
1875	Hugh Francis <b>Hardiman</b>	Mary Ann <b>Frogatt</b>	Ada Edith Madelane Lydia Catherine Elizabeth Robert Edwin Agnes Josephine Gertrude Marion	1869 Sorell 1872 Mathinna 1975 Rhyndaston 1877 Hobart 1878 Hobart 1880 Blue Tier
1876 - 8/83	John William <b>McConnon</b>	Edith Sarah <b>Lewis</b>	John William Mary Melzar Jane Henry William Arthur Harold Ernest	1875 Colebrook 1876 Rhyndaston 1879 Rhyndaston 1890 Rhyndaston 1893 Rhyndaston
8/83 – 8/85	William Edward <b>Treanor</b>	Elizabeth Adelaide <b>Powell</b>	Frank Sutton Mary Arthur Ivy Clare Maud Albert Thomas	1887 Tunbridge 1888 Tunbridge 1891 Tunbridge 1893 Tunbridge 1895 Tunbridge 1898 Tunbridge
8/85 – 5/92	Robert <b>Elliott</b>	Ellen <b>Watson</b>	Beatrice Lyell	1894 Strahan
5/92 – 8/97 1898 – 8/03	Henry Charles <b>Tillak</b> (jnr)	Emmeline Eleanor <b>Williams</b>	Eva Eleanor Ruby Emmeline Leslie Charles Montiberd Fergus Clarence Gladys Selina	1889 Macquarie Pl 1894 Tea Tree 1898 Antill Ponds 1900 Rhyndaston 1903 Rhyndaston 1907 Rhyndaston
8/97– 12/97	Thomas <b>Downs</b>	Jessie <b>Mayne</b>	None	
8/03– 11/04	Henry Albert <b>Chadwick</b>	Beatrice Annie <b>Slade</b>	Cedric Cecil Doris Roy Henry	1898 Rhyndaston 1900 Rhyndaston 1912 Hobart
11/04- 5/09	Thomas Alexander <b>Brown</b>	Elizabeth Rosena <b>Williams</b>	Clarence Robert Melvie May Eileen Elizabeth Lionard Thomas Annie Isobell	1901 Railton 1907 Rhyndaston 1908 Rhyndaston 1911 Tiberias 1912 Tiberias
5/09 – 1921	Frederick George <b>Burridge</b>	Anna Sarah <b>Reynolds</b>	Francis Gordon John Frederick	1906 Hobart 1909 Hobart

## Grandma's Bracelet

Kerrie Blyth (Member No 417)

Being the "bower bird" of my family has many advantages because amongst all the papers, letters, post cards, photos and various unknown objects that no-one else wanted, I have inherited a gold bracelet. I thought it belonged to my maternal grandmother Ada Bessie EWART (nee COOPER), but an interesting tale has come to light that shows where it was made, whom by and who the first owner was. With the help of librarian Peter Richardson, who traced a newspaper article showing how the bracelet came into the Cooper family, and Devonport jeweller Margaret Fay who examined the bracelet and provided a history and valuation showing details such as where it was made, I have merged all the details to leave a story amongst my family research for future generations and owners of the bracelet.

Joseph and Maria Cooper were married in Aston Juxta in Warwickshire in 1855 and the following year, together with their first child William, they emigrated to Victoria where they had four more sons (Joe, Harry, Tom & Edwin) and four daughters (Ada, Emma, Alice and Eva). They relocated to Hobart and owned a number of properties in Giblin St, New Town. The Cooper family were involved in horse racing as were others in my family tree, the COOLEY family of Moonah. My great grandfather Harry Cooper drove an omnibus with six horses, his brother Joe was *Clerk of the Course* at Elwick Racecourse and sister Ada (*pictured at right*) enjoyed riding and owning horses.



The 9 carat yellow and rose gold bracelet was made in Australia by Aronson & Co in the late 19th century and has three doublets and four seed pearls set into the top of it. It is quite intriguing as it has an oval link safety chain with a cast 9 carat pig charm attached to it. The bracelet is sturdy and having the safety chain attached gives me an added feeling of security when I wear it.



The clues I had to work with were the engraved numbers "29.9.99" on the inside and the letters "Maori Chief" engraved on the outside of the bracelet.

The newspaper article from *The Mercury* 30th September 1899 tells us that the bracelet was won in a jumping contest at the Oatlands Show by Joe Cooper. He was riding his sister Ada's horse called "Maori Chief". The

bracelet was valued at that time at 5 pound 5 shillings. Its antique valuation in 2006 was \$1,500.00.

Ada Cooper gave the bracelet to her niece Ada Bessie Cooper (1892-1975). It was then passed to her daughter Margaret Ewart (1924-1987) and it is now in my possession. I treasure it greatly and wear it on special occasions.

*Mercury Newspaper Saturday Morning 30th September 1899*

### **Oddfellows Celebration at Oatlands**

**Procession and Sports:** In spite of dull threatening weather which culminated in rain, Oatlands donned its holiday attire yesterday forenoon in celebrating the ninth annual reunion of the M.U.L.O.O.F. Friendly Society in the district. A two days fair in the township had set things moving, yet the appetites were not wholly appeased in view of the sports in prospective. At about midday a large crowd of onlookers assembled in front of the Town Hall where the procession was announced to start from.

**The Sports:** held on the Midland Jockey Club's racecourse. Large numbers of residents of the district had poured in from various quarters, and when the sports began at half-past 1 there was a large attendance on the ground.

A change was made in the description of sport provided this year, horse-racing in the main, taking the place of foot and bicycle racing. A five shilling totalisator worked by a staff from the city, did fair business during the afternoon. The Hon Secretaries Messrs C.L. ROONEY and J. MCDONALD were active in their respective duties.

#### **Results are as follows:**

**Handicap Amateur Steeplechase:** (*First prize 7 pound, second prize 3 pound. About 2 miles*):

Mr T.A. Burrill's *Platypus* (C Crossin) 1

Mr H Cooper's *Maori Chief* (J Cooper) 2

Other starters; *Zanoni, Glenderry, After Dark, Fearless.*

**Second Jumping Contest** (*First prize, lady's bracelet, value 5 pound 5 shillings*):

Miss Cooper's *Maori Chief* (Mr J Cooper) 1

Miss Riggall's *Taff* 2

Seven hunters competed, *Maori Chief* and *Taff* doing by far the best work. In the final round the Hobart horse made the fewer mistakes. Other sports followed and the proceedings wound up with a concert and ball, held in the township in the evening. ●

---

## **The Original Record.com**

New data has now gone on to the website [www.theoriginalrecord.com](http://www.theoriginalrecord.com)

1509-1589 State papers of Scotland

1620-1634 East India State papers

1689-1712 Treasury Books and papers

1775-1782 Letters to Lord George Sackville, Secretary of State for the colonies.  
during the American War of Independence

## Different Ages and Different Dates

Anna Watson (Member No 4408)

Charles Albert HODGES was my great-grandfather. I have his sterling silver fob watch. I have his small family Bible listing the births of his children and several other pieces of information. But, frustratingly, the very front page of the Bible has been removed. It makes me wonder what had been written on it. The only other piece of information I have about Charles is something that my grandmother told me: that Charles had been born in London and worked with gold. The current generation knows nothing else about Charles' life prior to his arrival in Tasmania. So my search to find out more about him commenced.

I first heard warning bells when I found variations in Charles' stated ages on some of the documents I looked up. When Charles married Sarah HOLDEN in 1862, he said he was 35 years old, which would have him born about 1827. When he died, his youngest daughter, Elsie SELF, with whom he was living at the time, thought he had been born about 1833 in England. Now I had two references that said Charles was from England, so I decided this was a possible true fact. Then, one day, as I was looking at the small Bible, a piece of paper fell out. My grandmother, Charles' daughter-in-law, had written on it: 'In loving memory of Charles Albert Hodges died May 10th 1904 aged 88 years'. Now I had another year for his birth, this time 1816. It is the date that I have decided to be the closest to being the correct date, because my grandmother had been a very particular person about recording births, deaths and marriages accurately.

My early research found a birth for a Charles Hodges in 1821, at Parramatta, New South Wales. He was the son of Rebecca Hodges and it raised thoughts he could be our man. When he was a year old, he was placed in the Parramatta Orphanage because Rebecca was a convict and had been assigned to work at the Government Factory at Parramatta. These dates were close enough to tie in with the age Charles Hodges gave when he married Sarah Holden. But it wasn't until the piece of paper fell from the family Bible recording his death, and the subsequent purchasing of his death certificate which stated that he was born in England, which made me realise that the Charles born in 1821 could not be my great-grandfather.

The search for what was factual, and what was not, continued. I then realised that I needed to look at records held by the Archives Office of Tasmania (AOT) in Hobart. There, a number of curious facts were discovered. Some were new and some corroborated several things I already knew.

I was also able to obtain a copy of Charles Hodges' trial from the Lewes Public Record Office (PRO) in East Sussex.<sup>1</sup> This stated that a recruit named Charles Hodges of the Inniskillen 6th Dragoons was tried at Lewes, Sussex Quarter Assizes, on 28 November 1844.<sup>2</sup> This Charles was also described as 'Charles Hodges late of Preston, Sussex, Labourer'. From these two descriptions in the trial record, it would appear that Charles had only been in the Dragoons for a very short time. Charles was convicted of stealing a watch and a guard chain from a fellow soldier. The trial record also stated that he had a former conviction but no details of this have been found as yet. He received a sentence of ten years and was initially removed to the Millbank Penitentiary for a short time. From there, Charles was

transferred to the *Warrior* hulk and finally the *Thames* hulk at Woolwich on the Thames River.

By this time, Britain had started converting old merchant ships and naval vessels into floating prisons known as hulks. The first hulks were moored on the Thames off Woolwich and on the opposite shore. In the 18th century, there were marshes along the north shore and few people lived there; this was possibly one of the reasons the location was chosen. On the southern shore, the Woolwich Warren was a maze of workshops, warehouses, wood-yards, barracks, foundries and firing ranges. Many prisoners served their entire sentence on the hulks. Others were housed there until a space could be found on a ship to transport them to other places.<sup>3</sup>

Housing convicts on the hulks was expensive, even though the clothing, food and accommodation provided were of the lowest quality. The hulks could house up to as many as 400 convicts. To cover the cost, the convicts were put to work improving the river. Convict labour was also needed for the development of the Royal Arsenal and the nearby docks. The men dug canals and built the walls around the Arsenal. Other convicts were put to work driving in posts to protect the riverbanks from erosion. Evidence of their work can still be seen today.<sup>4</sup>

The convicts worked long hours on the banks of the Thames and at the dockyards at Woolwich, ten hours during summer and seven hours in the winter. The hulk system was eventually discontinued in 1856, with the Woolwich hulks being the last to be closed. Every time a convict was transferred to a new hulk, he was issued with a new number. The information I discovered about the hulks has given me an insight into how Charles would have passed his time on them while he was waiting to be transported.

The Quarterly Muster reports for the years Charles was on the hulks stated his health and character were good.<sup>5</sup> It is interesting to note that the record for the Millbank Prison and the *Warrior* hulk, mention that Charles had three marks on the right and left shin bones. The record also made mention of the fact that he had a former conviction. I wondered if the marks on his shins may have been as a result of wearing leg irons when he was previously convicted.

Charles was described as a tall man, six foot tall. He had light brown hair, blue eyes and a fresh complexion. He was able to read well and write imperfectly, so it would seem that he had been fortunate to have had access to some education in his life.<sup>6</sup>

At the time of his sentencing, Charles stated he was a soldier, painter and a grainer.<sup>7</sup> The word 'grainer' intrigued me as I had never heard it before. Research came up with this definition: a grainer is a person who smooths and polishes jewellery, such as charms, earrings, pins, rings and bracelets using a polishing wheel and dressing compounds.<sup>8</sup> The pieces could be plated with gold or silver or other material. I wondered if this is what was meant when my grandmother said that Charles worked with gold in England.

At the time of his conviction in 1844, Charles was single and his age was recorded as 22.<sup>9</sup> This now meant I had yet another possible date for his year of birth, 1822. He was certainly making it hard to trace him, but I still felt confident that the man who was convicted of larceny at Lewes was my great-grandfather.

In March 1845, Charles was transported to Bermuda by the *China*, to work in the Naval Dockyards.<sup>10</sup> Although convicts had been transported to Bermuda from an

early date and were employed on construction and maintenance in the Royal Navy dockyard, there was local opposition to the convicts being there. When their sentences were completed, the convicts were not released in Bermuda. They were returned to the London hulks for release from there.

In the 1840s, Bermudan opposition was so strong that a change to policy occurred. Any convicts due for conditional pardons were transferred to other British colonies. Charles had been sentenced to transportation for ten years and it would seem he received his pardon within five years of his original sentencing. In 1849, approximately 280 convicts from Bermuda, including Charles, were moved onto the *Neptune*, which sailed south to Brazil and east to the Cape of Good Hope, where it anchored in Simon's Bay in the Cape colony.

On the *Neptune's* arrival, there was strong opposition to the landing of the men and they were not allowed to disembark. Dispatches from Earl GREY in England had arrived at the Cape prior to the *Neptune's* arrival, revoking previous orders which constituted the Cape as a penal colony. The ship was refused provisions and was forced to sail to Mauritius to obtain them, as well as medical supplies, before sailing on to Hobart Town.

The *Hobart Town Gazette* lists the names of the men who arrived in Hobart Town on the *Neptune* and were granted pardons by Her Majesty.<sup>11</sup> Charles Hodges' name was among those listed on the notice from the Comptroller-General's Office, dated 15 April 1850, as one of the men arriving on the *Neptune (2)*<sup>12</sup> Because the men had been granted a pardon, they technically arrived 'free' and not as convicts. However, even though he was technically free, Charles Hodges is listed in the AOT Convicts Index.<sup>13</sup> Two convict records for him survive; both reveal very little information about Charles other than that already known about his crime, and where and when his trial was held.<sup>14</sup>

After his arrival in 1850, Charles Hodges met up with Ann CARROLL née BLAKE. Ann had been convicted in Sydney of highway robbery in 1840 and transported to Hobart. She was pardoned in 1848.<sup>15</sup> In 1860, Ann, described as a housekeeper, died as a result of influenza. At the time of her death, she was using the name of Hodges.<sup>16</sup> No record has been found of a marriage between Charles Hodges and Ann Blake, and so I have presumed it was a common law marriage.

Two years before Ann's death, Charles was living at Pontville: in March 1858, District Valuation Rolls, published in the *Hobart Town Gazette*, list Charles Albert Hodges living in a cottage with land at Pontville. He gave his trade as painter.<sup>17</sup>

In 1862, Charles married Sarah Holden, aged 19, the eldest daughter of Thomas and Sarah HOLDEN. Charles stated he was 35 years old and that he was a painter and a widower. When Charles was convicted at Lewes, his trial record stated he was single. Perhaps Charles described himself as a widower in 1862 because he thought of his relationship with Ann Carroll as being that of a husband and wife. Charles and Sarah were married at St Augustine's Church, Broadmarsh, according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the United Church of England and Scotland.<sup>18</sup> They went on to have ten children between the years 1862 and 1886. Charles and Sarah lived at the town of Pontville in the district of Brighton for the greater part of their lives.

At the time of his death in May 1904, Charles had been living with his youngest daughter, Elsie Self, at Bridgewater. He died at the General Hospital in Hobart from

'Senile Decay and Asthenia'. Elsie, the informant on Charles' death certificate, gave minimal information.<sup>19</sup> This did not include the fact that his wife, Sarah, was living in Western Australia with another daughter, Hilda, or that all his children were still alive. Elsie did state that Charles had been born in 1833 in England and he had been in Australia for 40 years. And so Charles took his secrets to his grave, leaving his descendants to untangle the mysteries and questions which surrounded his life.

1. East Sussex Record Office, Lewes Quarter Sessions, 28 November 1844
2. AJCP Reel 5972, *Warrior* Hulk, 1845
3. <http://www.portcities.org.uk/london/server/show/ConNarrative.56/chapterId/414/Prison-hulks-on-the-River-Thames.html> (24 September 2006)
4. <http://www.portcities.org.uk/london/server/show/ConNarrative.56/chapterId/414/Prison-hulks-on-the-River-Thames.html> (24 September 2006)
5. AJCP Reels 5201 HO 8/83 *Warrior* Hulk; Reel 5202 HO 8/84 *Thames* Hulk Quarterly Musters
6. AJCP Reels 5201 HO 8/83 *Warrior* Hulk Reel 5202 HO 8/84 *Thames* Hulk Quarterly Musters
7. East Sussex Record Office, Lewes Quarter Sessions, 28 November 1844
8. <http://occupationalinfo.org> (24 September 2006)
9. East Sussex Record Office, Lewes Quarter Sessions, 28 November 1844
10. Reel 5202 HO 8/84 *Thames* Hulk Quarterly Musters; HO11/16 (Charles Hodges *Neptune* 1850)
11. Archives Office of Tasmania (AOT), *Hobart Town Gazette* 16 April 1850
12. AOT, *Hobart Town Gazette* 16 April 1850
13. AOT, Tasmanian Convicts Index
14. AOT, CON 14/36; HO11/16 (Charles Hodges *Neptune* 1850)
15. AOT, CON 40/2 p.192; CON 16/1 p.150 (Ann Blake or Anne Carroll *Abercrombie* 1840)
16. AOT, Death Certificate, RGD 35 1860 Brighton No. 399 (Ann Hodges)
17. AOT, *Hobart Town Gazette*, Valuation Rolls, March 1858
18. AOT, Marriage Certificate, RGD 37 1862 Brighton No. 16 (Sarah Holden & Charles Albert Hodges)
19. Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages (RGD), Death Certificate 1904 No. 42 (Charles Hodges)

## Congratulations – Dr Chick

On the 19th December TFHS Inc. Fellow, Neil Chick was awarded the degree of doctor of philosophy for his thesis: "Tasmanian Family and Community Reconstitution, with a Case Study of the Lands and Families of Bothwell, Hamilton and Ouse".

Carey Denholm, Dean of Graduate Studies said of the thesis, in 40 words: "Dr Chick applied historical record linkage techniques to Tasmanian civil, ecclesiastical and land registers to determine social and spatial mobility of landholding and labouring families as well as variations in community interconnection through time in response to economic cycles and social change."

The thesis consisted of 600 pages of genealogies and family histories, including statistical and spatial analysis.

[Congratulations to Dr Neil Chick, B.A.(Hons), Ph.D., Cert.Ed., T.T.C., F.T.F.H.S. Eds.]



## Who Was Uncle Ireland?

Allison Carins (Member No 668)

In our CAREY-ORCHARD family history handed down, there was mention of “Uncle IRELAND” and Adelaide Ireland (“much loved cousin of the Carey family”). My Great-grandfather John CAREY and his brother William, sons of George CAREY migrated from Bristol, England, in 1857 and they came first to “Uncle Ireland”. But who was Uncle Ireland? It was an entirely different name from other family names.

My cousin Elaine SPERRING did some archival research, while I had some family history stories, so between us we were able to piece the story together—a story with a twist.

For John Ireland was really John CAREY, brother of George in Bristol (so uncle indeed to John and William). He was born in Bristol in 1811. A shipping record has the following information: “John Carey (aged 31) arrived (Aust. port of call unknown) on the *Apolline*, 1st October, 1842, accompanied by wife, Mary (21) and son James (2 ½).” It is not known what happened to them in Australia—perhaps the wife and child died—but John returned to England. Then there is a record of his changing his name to IRELAND, arriving at Hobart Town on June 19th, 1847, on the *Flying Fish* from Port Phillip. On 4th Mar 1851, he md Agnes HALLORAN in the Catholic Church, Westbury. He was 40 and she was 17. He was a storekeeper at Westbury.

There seemed to be no secret or dubious reason for the change of name, as the family in Bristol knew where he was, and his nephews were able to make contact with him. He may have even sponsored them, although they settled in Launceston and plied their trade as chair-makers (their father’s trade). John later joined the Police Force.

John and Agnes Ireland had five children as follows:

1. Harriett, born 16th Jan.1852. She died tragically from burns when her clothing caught fire, 12 April 1866, aged 14.
2. Samuel, born 14th May 1853. (His name appears as witness to the marriage of my grandparents, Mary Ann Carey (John’s daughter) and A W ORCHARD 1883.)
3. Adelaide, born 19th March 1855. (Much loved cousin of the Carey family)
4. Elizabeth (13th Jan 1847 – 26th March 1848)
5. Agnes (4th March 1859 – 13th July 1859)

It was a short marriage with so much sadness for after losing two of their children, John Ireland died of influenza in 1860, and Harriett 1866.

There are Irelands in Tasmania. I wonder if any of them have Samuel in their ancestry, or an Auntie Adelaide (I don’t know if she married). They may be interested in this story.

Agnes Ireland, widowed so young, later married Frederick Henry HOPKINS, who migrated from Bournemouth, England, where his family had a flour mill. He settled in Westbury. He had had a flour mill shipped out piecemeal, from England. The land he bought and erected it on was claimed by an estate agent who defrauded him and he lost the mill. After this the family moved to Melbourne. Agnes and Fred had two daughters and three sons. There was a further link with our family when one of the daughters, Emmy, married Frank WYLIE, and their son, Frank, Jnr., married Ruby, daughter of Mary Ann and A W Orchard. ●

## Launceston & Western Railway Co Ltd

Reference - LCS PQ 385.09946 LAU, Launceston & Western Railway 18/8/1988 RLAU  
12969925 (Launceston Local Studies Library)

### Staff – 1870

**Secretary:** Henry Dowling; **Accountant:** R W Lord **Solicitors:** G T Collins  
**Traffic Manager and Locomotive Superintendent:** J F L Jetter  
**Consulting Engineers to the Company:** Messrs Doyne, Major and Willett  
**Bankers;** Union Bank of Australia; Bank of NSW; Consolidated Bank of London

### Directors - 1870

**Chairman:** W S Button. **Board Members:** W Archer, *Brickendon*; W Archer; *Cheshunt*, Hon Joseph Archer, *Pansanger*; William Dodery, George Fisher; W D Grubb; Richard Green; W Gibson, Native Point; A Harrap, James Robertson; John Scott; William Tyson, Alexander Webster C J Weedon.

List of Employees dismissed when the railway suspended operations due to washaways, landslips, and lack of funds, June 29, 1872.

Name	Occupation	Name	Occupation
Airey, Mary Jane	Gatekeeper	Dowling, Leonard	Station Master
Airey, W	Platelay		
Andrews, John	Labourer	Ellis, John	Platelay
Banner, Martin	Platelay	Ferguson, Fredrk	Goods Clerk
Barker, Robert	Platelay	Fisher, John	Engine Cleaner
Batchelor, W E	Loco Foreman		
Berker, Mrs	Gatekeeper	Harey, Mary	Gatekeeper
Brooker, Noah	Foreman Platelay	Harris, C H	Porter
Brimble, Joseph	Platelay	Hartnoll, Alfred G	Station Master
Brimble, M	Gatekeeper	Harvey, A	Platelay
Brown, A	Blacksmith	Hastings, Thomas	Porter
Buckley, W H	Porter	Heenan, James	Platelay
Butterworth, John	Blacksmith	Heenan, Mrs	Gatekeeper
		Hefferman, Patrick	Foreman Platelay
		Howard, R	Porter
Cartledge, James	Porter		
Cartwright, E	Porter		
Claxton, William	Platelay	Ingleson, E	Platelay
Cornell, Robert	Guard	Ingleson, J	Platelay
Crawley, J	Platelay	Israel, J W	Junior Clerk
Crow, J	Platelay		
Crow, S	Gatekeeper	Johnson, C	Porter
Cutbush, C B	Engine Driver	Johnson, E	Gatekeeper
		Johnson, G	Platelay
Darby, Herbert E	Guard	Johnson, George	Porter
Dearden, ?	Carriage Foreman	Johnson, Robert	Audit Clerk
Dell, B	Labourer	Jones, Thomas	Platelay
Dineen, John	Platelay	Jones, Henry	Platelay
Dineen, Mrs	Gatekeeper	Jordan, E	Gatekeeper
Dockery, John	Platelay	Jordan, E, Mrs	Gatekeeper
Dodery, George W	Station Master	Jordan, J	Platelay
Douglas, Thomas	Labourer	Jordan, James	Platelay
Douglas, William	Station Maser		
Dowling, Henry	Secretary	Knight, W	Platelay

Name	Occupation	Name	Occupation
Knight, W	Gatekeeper	Roberts, E	Platelayer
Lester, J	Platelayer	Ruston, Thomas	Joiner
Lord, R W	Traffic Supt	Sadlier, Richard	Platelayer
Lord, W F	Fitter	Saunders, Charles	Engine Driver
Marston, Arthur	Porter	Saunders, Chas P	Engine Driver
May, Thomas	Foreman Platelayer	Shea, William	Foreman Porter
Marvel, E	Platelayer	Shirley, W	Pumper
Miekle, William	Fireman	Sitford, G	Station Master
Moore, M	Gatekeeper	Smith, A	Gatekeeper
Moore, W	Platelayer	Smith, C	Platelayer
McGowan, Mrs A	Gatekeeper	Smith, David	Platelayer
McGowan, J	Platelayer	Smith, E	Gatekeeper
McIntosh, D F	Porter	Smith, G	Foreman Platelayer
Padman, Samuel	Booking Clerk	Smith, Samuel E	Labourer
Parry, David	Station Master	Smith, T	Platelayer
Patten, John	Fireman	Smith, William	Foreman Platelayer
Patton, Patrick	Platelayer	Stevenson, Arch.	Pumper
Pearn, J	Platelayer	Turner, William	Foreman Platelayer
Peat, E	Platelayer	Tynon, John	Platelayer
Pollard, W H	Acting Station Master	Tytler, George	Foreman Platelayer
Powell, William	Platelayer	Watt, George	Porter
Prest, A	Labourer	Weedon, A	Cashier
Quarry, W H	Porter	Woods, R	Foreman Platelayer
Riva, Eugenie	Foreman Porter	Woollands, James	Cleaner
		Woolnough, W	Station Master

# Tasmanian Ancestry

## Journal Article Award

The Award in the form of a framed certificate, for the best article in ***Tasmanian Ancestry*** for 2006-07 (Volume 27 No's 1-4) will be announced at the TFHS Inc. Annual General Meeting and Conference at Burnie on Saturday 16th June.

The next competition opens with No 1 of Volume 28 (2007-08).

## Six School Snippets

Betty Jones (Member No 6032)

For over two and a half years now, I have been involved in extensive research on Tasmanian Government Teachers, Schools and Pupils, 1817-1955 with the goal of (sometime) publishing a number of volumes suitable for the reference of Tasmanian family historians. During the process of sifting through documents available at the Archives Office of Tasmania and various newspapers of the times, some entertaining information sometimes comes to light, as well as that of a more sombre nature. The following unrelated pieces are just a few of the many that have been encountered so far.

### Snippet 1: No Fowls or Goats at Macquarie Street

On 27 September 1878, Mrs Emma BEARD was appointed caretaker of the Macquarie Street Public School, her duties being specified thus:

1. Sweep out schoolroom and porch and dust school furniture daily in time for assembly of the school;
2. Clean all the school windows at least twice a year;
3. Sweep all the walls as high as can be reached at least once a quarter and scrub and wash the floors of the schoolroom at least once a year;
4. See that the yards and out houses be kept clean and in order.<sup>1</sup>

On 11 April 1881, the Board of Education wrote to Mrs Beard, stating, "It has been decided that neither fowls nor goats be allowed to be kept on ... school premises or grounds. I am therefore to request that you will be good enough to remove within one week from this date any such kept by you." One month later Mrs Beard was granted five pounds per annum for loss sustained by being compelled to dispose of her animals.<sup>2</sup>

On 24 June 1881, the Board of Education wrote again: "Mrs Beard cannot keep any fowls on Macquarie Street school premises nor fence off any part of the grounds. Unless she complies with terms forthwith she will be required to quit the premises." Mrs Beard was subsequently removed on 23 September 1881, her services as caretaker being no longer required.<sup>3</sup>

### Snippet 2: Church Rivalry

During 1876, the Board of Education wanted to promote Mr George HERITAGE, a practicing member of the Roman Catholic Church, from Head Teacher at Don to the school at Longford. The Churchwarden at St Luke's, Longford, from where that school operated, stated that he would not allow the occupation of the schoolroom belonging to the Church to Mr Heritage or any other teacher professing the Roman Catholic faith. To this, the Board responded that should that attitude prevail, it would make every effort to obtain some other suitable schoolroom until the proposed permanent Public School premises were erected. Mr Heritage declined the appointment.<sup>4</sup>

On 17 December 1887, *The Tasmanian Mail* reported that Catholic Bishop MURPHY had requested that parents at Port Cygnet not send their children to the State school, warning that he would not confirm those who attended a Government school where there was a Catholic school in existence.<sup>5</sup>

**Snippet 3: A Cow at Formby**

Mr William Rosendale PIERCE was appointed as the first Head Teacher at the newly-erected Formby Public School when it opened on 1 August 1886. The school was sited on an almost five acre allotment bounded by Steele, Fenton and Stewart Streets and a Catholic Reserve (Devonport). On 31 August 1886, Mr Pierce wrote to the Department concerning a rumour he had heard that part of the school reserve was to be given up for the establishment of a Police Station and a Town Hall. He was not in favour of the idea stating, "If we schoolmasters have not a paddock to run a cow and to use for other things our expenses are greatly increased in living..." That rumour being quashed, Mr Pierce wrote again on 16 September 1886 seeking permission to clear and plough a portion of the school playground "ready to lay down" for a year, in order that he may have a paddock for a cow. After initially rejecting the request on the basis that the Minister was not disposed to allow any portion of the school to be cultivated except that which was reserved in connection with the residence, the Department finally agreed on the condition that it would be for twelve months only.<sup>6</sup>

**Snippet 4: The Saga of Six Desks**

In November 1869, it was noted by the Board of Education that school furniture originally issued to the Public school at Northam (closed 1863) was now needed at Forth Public School. The furniture, six desks each six feet in length, had been loaned to Mr Edward Caleb SOUPER for use in his private school on the condition that it would be returned in good order when needed. The desks had since somehow or other got into the hands of the McCLUSKEYs at Forth who were running a private school there. The Chairman of the Local Education Committee, Reverend J NOONE, was requested to use his influence to arrange for their recovery. That proved unsuccessful, as did a further request from the Northern Inspector, Mr Murray BURGESS.<sup>7</sup>

On 18 July 1870, the Board of Education wrote to Mr McCluskey, stating that unless he delivered up possession of the said furniture by the end of August, the Board would be compelled to place the matter in the hands of the Law Officers of the Crown.<sup>8</sup> No further correspondence on the matter is noted in the Secretary's Letterbook, so it might be assumed that the desks were returned. Mrs Mariann T J McCluskey made application to the Board of Education for a teaching position on 13 June 1871<sup>9</sup> and was appointed to Don as a Female Assistant in April 1873.<sup>10</sup>

**Snippet 5: Red Faces at Kimberley**

An application for the establishment of a school at Kimberley was made on 19 September 1896 and a site was donated to the Education Department in 1897. A schoolroom was erected during that year and made ready for occupation in 1898.<sup>11</sup>

On 30 June 1906, the Department discovered that the school building had been erected not on the site which it had acquired, but on another block. The owner of the land was asking what was to be done about it. Upon investigation, it was reported that in 1897 a working bee had been held by local residents to clear the land themselves. The Education Department had not supplied a plan to the Engineer in Chief's Office at the time and consequently, when surveying had been carried out, an assumption was made that the cleared land belonged to the Department. After some considerable embarrassment all round, on 22 October

1906 the Department transferred the block of land in its name in exchange for the block on which the school was erected and paid the costs of that transfer.<sup>12</sup>

**Snippet 6: A Sad Situation**

Miss Lenna Mary HODGETTS, the daughter of Henry and Isabella (nee KEATING) Hodgetts lived with her parents on their property, "Canara", at Cressy and had run her own private school at Saundridge for several years prior to it gaining assistance from the Government in 1900.<sup>13</sup> On 19 November 1903, Miss Hodgetts sought leave for three days, her explanation to the Department for closing the school following:

Between 2 and 3 o'clock [yesterday] morning our house was in flames and in about half an hour the whole dwelling was burnt to the ground and everything in it with the exception of a few pieces of furniture. The fire originated in the kitchen but how we don't know unless a spark from the kitchen range got into a small wood box placed beside the wall which had in it some waste paper and small pieces of wood. My mother heard the flames and called us from our rooms. The flames were coming up the passage when my brother came into it from his room. It is dreadful for my parents in fact for all—such a loss—nothing was insured. ... I am staying with friends who reside close to the school and will do so that I may attend to my work. I feel so thankful that every person escaped.<sup>14</sup>

**References**

- |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1. AOT ref: ED13/1/21                          | 8. Ibid.                   |
| 2. AOT ref: ED 13/1/26                         | 9. AOT ref: ED2/1/205      |
| 3. AOT ref: ED13/1/27                          | 10. AOT ref: ED13/1/13     |
| 4. AOT ref: ED13/1/17                          | 11. AOT ref: ED9/445/1906  |
| 5. <i>The Tasmanian Mail</i> , 17.12.1887, p21 | 12. Ibid.                  |
| 6. AOT ref: ED9/2383/1908                      | 13. AOT ref: ED2/1884 2118 |
| 7. AOT ref: ED13/1/9                           | 14. AOT ref: ED4/437       |

**Tasmanian Federation Index**

Registry of Births Deaths and Marriages Tasmania

**Births 1900-1919; Deaths and Marriages 1900-1930**

**On CD-Rom: \$231.00 plus p&p \$2.50**

**All mail orders should be forwarded to the  
Sales Officer TFHS Inc.**

PO Box 191 Launceston TAS 7250

Can be purchased by MasterCard  or Visa  (Mail Orders only) \$ .....

Expiry Date ... / ....

Name on Card (please print)..... 3 digit CVV .....

Signature .....Authorisation (Office only).....

## John McGinnes (c1815-1901) The convict who became a policeman

Paul Hickford © (New Zealand Society of Genealogist Inc No #13587)

*Until about 20 years ago it was unfashionable, even shameful, for Australians (and New Zealanders) to admit to convict ancestry. The children and grandchildren of convicts disguised their origins by saying that grandfather came to Australia as 'a ship's carpenter', was 'press ganged off the wharf' or simply 'came from Ireland'. These excuses were all used in my own family to describe the arrival of our ancestors in Australia. Lorely A Morling, "Habitual criminals, or innocents abroad", Family Tree Magazine (England), September 2005.*

In my teenage years similar tales were spun to me about my maternal great grandfather John McGINNES who lived in Tasmania, Australia from 1834 until his death in 1901 and I was even given to believe he was a solicitor of high standing in his local community. Now I have a much clearer impression of the character and the life lead by my maternal ancestor.

John was a Scotsman by birth but it is believed his ancestral trail could show the McGINNES family had its roots in Ireland. During his life spanning 86 years John proved a colourful character who traversed the spectrum of law and order. While short in stature, only 5 foot 1½ inches, he was a nuggety character who clearly resented authority.

At the age of 15 years John was labelled a recidivist. He had been sentenced to imprisonment in Edinburgh's tollbooth (prison) on at least 3 occasions following convictions relating to the theft of various items including a water pot and marbles. When found guilty on 27 December 1833 for stealing 2lbs of cheese, John was convicted and sentenced by the Edinburgh Court of Justiciary *"to be punished with the pains of law, to deter others from committing the like crimes in all time coming."*<sup>1</sup> Taking into account his previous convictions the Court sentenced John to 14 years transportation.

John was initially incarcerated in Edinburgh before being transferred on 23 March 1834 to the convict hulk *"Retribution"* located at Sheerness, Kent, England where with numerous other convicts he awaited transportation to Van Diemen's Land, Australia aboard the sailing ship *"John Barry"*. Their ship sailed from England on 4 April and reached its Australian destination 130 days later on 11 August 1834.

For convicts arriving in Van Diemen's Land, Lieutenant Governor George Arthur had established seven levels of punishment, which in increasing order of severity were:

1. Holding a ticket of leave.
2. Assignment to a settler.
3. Labour on public works.
4. Labour on the roads, near civilization, in the settled districts.
5. Work in a chain gang.
6. Banishment to an isolated penal settlement.
7. Penal settlement labour in chains.

*A prisoner sank by bad conduct, and went up the rungs by good – after a time.*<sup>2</sup> John who had been given a fourteen year sentence, was initially assigned to a settler but poor behaviour saw him climb the ladder of punishment.<sup>3</sup> In early 1835

and within a space of two months John was found absent from his master's premises on no less than 3 occasions. His initial offence of absconding resulted in his being meted out 12 lashes on the breach although this proved an insufficient deterrent and following his next two absences John was sentenced to 9 months hard labour.

The pattern of John absconding and receiving lashings or being subjected to either hard labour in chains or further imprisonment was to continue for at least the next 9 years. It appears his settler masters could exercise little control over him so John soon became a member of one of the many road gangs building the highway to connect Hobart with Launceston.

Eventually, after having committed 24 punishable offences between 1835 and 1843, John must have seen wisdom in curbing his impulsive bad behaviour because on 4 July 1844 he was granted a ticket of leave and a little over a year later on 7 October 1845 he received a conditional pardon. He was to wait another 3 years before receiving his full freedom under an unconditional 'ticket of leave'.<sup>4</sup> John had served 10 years of his original sentence. It is worth noting that it was possible for a 'fourteen year' man with a proven record of good behaviour to apply for his ticket after six years.

What followed less than 2 years later would surprise current generations. Much earlier Lieutenant Governor Arthur had devised a scheme *putting upward-moving convicts in the police as a step towards freedom*.<sup>5</sup> So it was on Christmas Eve 1845 John was appointed a Petty (Police) Constable. Seven years later he was made a District Constable at Bothwell, Tasmania and was earning a salary of £60 pa. It appears he was good at his job because on 1 September 1857 he was appointed District Constable in Charge of Hamilton Police Station and was rewarded with a salary of £150 pa, a substantial sum of money in those times. For the final 15 years of his working life John held the position of Bailiff at the Court of Requests, Hobart.

While serving as a Petty Constable John met and married Mary Ann LEWIS in Bothwell on 25 March 1850. She was 18 years old and his age was given as 32 but it should have been 34. Mary Ann died of pneumonia on 23 October 1855 leaving behind her three young children: Elizabeth—aged 4, Ellen—3 and William—9 months.

A little over 6 years later John married Mary Ann WELSH (aged 19 years) at the home of Mr Wm HARVEY of Green Ponds, Brighton, Tasmania on 15 July 1856. Mary gave birth to eleven children and with the exception of the last two all were born at Franklin. My grandmother, Isabella Kate (known as Kate) was the youngest child and she was to marry John Alfred BARKER (c1875-1953) in Hobart, Tasmania on 14 November 1901. Following the birth of their first daughter—Alice Doris, Kate relocated to New Zealand with her husband. Initially the family lived in Christchurch where my mother Myrtle Lilian BARKER (1905-1971) was born. A few years later the Barkers finally settled in Palmerston North.

Kate's eldest sibling, Mary Ann, who married Vernon Evan WICKINS and lived in Tasmania was a frequent correspondent, often exchanging postcards with her sister in New Zealand.

Shortly after the start of World War I two of Mary Ann's sons—Rupert George and Vernon John (Vern) WICKINS, joined the Australian Infantry Force and like their mother forwarded postcards to their Aunt Kate while they were based in Cairo



during the early phase of the war. Both were later killed in action, Vern in 1915 at ANZAC Cove, Turkey and Rupert 2 years later at Somme, France.<sup>6</sup>

Unbeknown to Vern he had been fighting in the trenches at ANZAC Cove alongside his half cousin, Private Leonard Lewis JOHNSTON (No 1504) who wrote the following letter to his parents which was published in *The Weekly Courier*, Hobart on 23 December 1915:

'A few lines once again to let you know I am keeping all right. You will see I am staying at the YMCA, which is a home for all soldiers. We come here anytime we wish to, and get a bed, or a feed, or both. A bed costs us 9d, but plenty of the poor Tommies never have the price of a bed. Still, they are just as welcome as the men with a fortune. My furlough is up tomorrow, and then I will go to Weymouth (England), which is our base, and from where I hope to be able to give you an address to write to. I suppose I will go back to the front from there, but I don't mind that a bit as I have been there before, and am not a bit afraid to go back. In fact, when you see how the people of England treat us it makes you proud to fight for them. When they see an Australian coming, he is just the very best. Nobody can do enough for us. At the present day the Australian troops have a name second to none in the world, and I am proud to be one of them.

The night before I was wounded I lost my hat. Early in the morning I picked up a cap from a chap who was lying dead. Next morning I looked inside the cap, and the name there was Vern WICKINS. You would know if he is one of the WICKINS from Hobart.'

Leonard who was born at Portland on 25 March 1888 was the third son of Elizabeth<sup>7</sup> and John JOHNSTON. He was reported wounded and missing on 11 April 1917 and was later captured and interned at prisoner of war camps at Limburg and Parchim, Germany. Leonard was eventually released and returned to Australia on 1 April 1919 where he would have learned the cap he borrowed in 1915 had belonged to his half cousin Vern.

Another of Kate's sisters, Agnes Jessie also came to live in New Zealand. She married Tom MANNING and lived in Dannevirke until her death in 1952. The Mannings had three children: Dorothy (Dot) who married Leslie Hastings INGRAM, Mavis Jean who remained a spinster and Clyde who emigrated from New Zealand to Australia.

In his later years John McGINNES suffered from cancer and diabetes of which he died at the age of 86 on 25th April 1901. His body was interred in the Church of England section of Cornelian Bay Cemetery, North Hobart, Tasmania. The following obituary appeared in the *Mercury* newspaper, Hobart, Tasmania:

John McGinnes an old and respected resident of Tasmania, died at his residence, King Street, North Hobart on Thursday afternoon at the advanced age of 86. He was a native of Edinburgh and came to Tasmania at an early age, joining the Police Force in 1845. He was Chief District Constable at Bothwell and afterwards Franklin for many years, subsequently holding the position of Bailiff at the Court of Requests, Hobart, for 15 years.

In the early days he several times joined in the pursuit of bushrangers, who then infested the place and could tell many an interesting story of daring deeds and narrow escapes.

The deceased retired from the Police on a pension and afterwards received the appointment of Bailiff. He was succeeded by Mr Henry SHIRLEY, and had his pension increased. He was a colonist of 67 years standing.”

Mary Ann, John's second wife, died less than a month later on 3 May 1901 and is buried in the same cemetery as her husband.

The family names mentioned above (and now many others, too numerous to mention) proudly live on throughout Australia and New Zealand and especially the McGINNES' who are to be found in eastern states of Australia. These are descendants of Henry (1861-1921), John and Mary Ann's last son who married Emily Mabel (May) FUGE, on 6 July 1901 in St George's Church, Hobart. However, it is possible there are also undiscovered children of William McGINNES (1855-1916), the only son from John's marriage to Mary Ann LEWIS, who wedded Mary Hada McGINNISS in Tasmania on 11 November 1885 and later lived in Taree, NSW. ●

E-mail: [Paul.Helen.Tiff.Hickford@xtra.co.nz](mailto:Paul.Helen.Tiff.Hickford@xtra.co.nz)

Telephone: (64-9)-833-9026

### Footnotes

1. 1833 High Court (Edinburgh) Indictment against Jo. McGinnes, Alex. Harvey, and Gordon Chisholm. (Theft, hab. rep. and prev. con.)
2. Hughes, Robert, *The Fatal Shore*, A History of the Transportation of Convicts to Australia, 1787-1868, Great Britain, Collins Harvill, 1987 – page 385.
3. Convict records of John McGinnes No. 1020 (CON 31/16, CON23/2 and CON18/11) from Archives Office of Tasmania.
4. A licence to be at large before expiry of a sentence. John Mc Ginnes received a conditional pardon, which gave him citizenship of Australia but no right of return to England.
5. Hughes, Robert, *The Fatal Shore*, A History of the Transportation of Convicts to Australia, 1787-1868, Great Britain, Collins Harvill, 1987 – page 392.
6. Commonwealth War Graves Commission website.
7. Elizabeth was a daughter from John McGinnes' first marriage to Mary Ann LEWIS.

### Bibliography:

#### Books

Hughes, Robert, *The Fatal Shore*, A History of the Transportation of Convicts to Australia, 1787-1868, Great Britain, Collins Harvill, 1987.

Bean, C E W, *Official History of Australia in the War of 1914-18, Vol. IV, The A.I.F. in France*, Sydney, Australia, Angus and Robertson Limited, 1938.

#### Primary sources

Clyde McGinnes (Victoria), Alan Wickins (Tasmania) and Barker (New Zealand) family records  
Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Dannevirke Gallery of History, NZ

National Archives of Scotland, Edinburgh, Scotland

Tasmanian Archives, Hobart, Australia

Mercury Newspaper, Hobart, Tasmania

## ***New!!***

### **Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.**

#### **Short Story Competition**

1. Subject of the story to be about an area, an event or a family;
2. Length to be between 1,500 and 5,000 words;
3. Illustrations, references, bibliography, etc. advantageous
4. Entries to be submitted in a printed form and should not exceed ten (10) A4 pages;
5. It is the intention to publish the entries if there is sufficient interest;
6. If you wish your story to be published by the Society please submit an electronic version on CD, disk or by email;
7. The electronic version should be preferably as a MS Word document or rich text format;
8. This competition to be run in alternate years with the first winner to be announced at the TFHS Inc. AGM: 21st June 2008.

**Entries close: 31 December 2007**

Further Information and entry form is available with this edition of *Tasmanian Ancestry* or from

TFHS Inc. Branch Libraries or  
**PO Box 191, Launceston TAS 7250**  
**Email:** [secretary@tasfhs.org](mailto:secretary@tasfhs.org)

---

## ***Ancestry.com***



The world's largest online collection of family history information has arrived in Australia. You'll find Australian historical records, a worldwide collection of family trees and a community of fellow researchers in one convenient place.

Available at our Burnie or Hobart Branches  
*See contact detail inside back cover*

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.

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

In the early years of the first volume Police Reports were detailed and give a graphic picture of the social conditions prevailing, as do the Police Intelligence, Supreme Court and Quarter Sessions reports, which in many cases culminate in the report of an Execution

Volume 1, 1842-1851—\$36.00	Volume 6, 1872-1876—\$30.00
Volume 2, 1852-1859—\$30.00	Volume 7, 1877-1881—\$30.00
Volume 3, Electoral Roll 1856 \$25.00	Volume 8, 1882-1885—\$36.00
Volume 4, 1860-1865—\$30.00	Volume 9, 1886-1889—\$36.00
Volume 5, 1866-1871—\$30.00	Volume 10, 1890-1893—\$36.00

**Just Released — Volume 11, 1894-1896—\$30.00**

© Muriel & Betty Bissett

Available from

**TFHS Inc. Launceston Branch**  
 PO Box 1290, Launceston, TAS 7250

Plus \$9.00 p&p (TFHS Inc. Members less 10% plus \$9.00 p&p)

## Privacy Statement

Unless specifically denied by members when joining the Society, or upon renewing their membership, contact details and member's interests may be published in *Tasmanian Ancestry* and other publications of the Society.

A copy of the 'Privacy Policy' of the Society is available on request at Branch Libraries or from State or Branch Secretaries.

**The 'Privacy Policy' sets out the obligations of the Society in compliance with the Privacy Act of 1988 and the amendments of that Act**

## Help Wanted

### 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?) 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: ☎ 0417 348 155 or email: [dayjet@netspace.net.au](mailto:dayjet@netspace.net.au)

### Phillips

Seeking descendants of Walter Newton PHILLIPS b 1841 md 1862. Margaret Grace BROWN 1841-1999, lived New Norfolk.

a) Rosina Grace b. 1871 md (1) Archibald Alfred BARNES 1872-1906 Zeehan — Milton Alfred Barnes b 1901. md (2) James COPPING 1914.

b) Constance Sabina b 1881 md 1911 to Victor Frederick BURNS.

Contact Erica Riis ☎ 07 5492 6773 (Member No 6363)

### 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 Sep 1896 Westbury, Tas. (Eileen md 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, Westubry Tasmania. John (Jack) also worked for the Mt Lyell mine.

Contact Eileen: ☎ 0417 348 155 or email: [dayjet@netspace.net.au](mailto:dayjet@netspace.net.au)

**Help Wanted** queries are published **free for members** of the TFHS Inc. (provided membership number is quoted) and at a **cost of \$11.00 (inc. GST)** per query to non-members.

**Special Interest Groups:** advertising rates apply.

Members are entitled to three free queries per year, and should be limited to 100 words. All additional queries will be published at a cost of \$11.00.

**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](mailto:editor@tasfhs.org)

## New Members

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members

6469	LEE Grant Allen	64 Saunders Street	WYNYARD	TAS	7325
6516	BUSHBY Mrs Roslyn May	20 Robin Street	NEWSTEAD	TAS	7250
6517	LUMSDEN Mrs Heather	Not for publication			
6518	REES Mr John David	PO Box 40 randjv@bigpond.com	TURNERS BEACH	TAS	7315
6519	McLAREN Mr Horace Ambrose	79 Turners Road horacem@coolcats.net.au	GRANTON	Tas	7030
6520	BANNISTER Ms Amanda Lesley	79 Turners Road horacem@coolcats.net.au	GRANTON	TAS	7030
6521	ADAMS Mrs Helene	20 Axion Way jhadams@netspace.net.au	ACTON PARK	TAS	7170
6522	ADAMS Mr Don	20 Axion Way	ACTON PARK	TAS	7170
6523	TREPP Ms Rosemary Erica (Rosy)	7 Pitcher St	ARARAT	VIC	3377
6526	KROEMER Miss Colleen Marie	— not for publication			

## New Members' Interests

Name	Place/Area	Time	M'ship No.
BAILEY Robert	ENG	1815-1840	6519
COLEMAN Arthur Henry	New Norfolk TAS AUS	1869-1939?	6523
DEANE Jean	Launceston & Hobart TAS AUS	All	6521
FISHER Cordelia	MDX ENG	1831-1856	6518
GRIFFITHS Benjamin	Pembroke WLS	1808-1841	6518
HIGGINS aka HERROLD Mary	London ENG - New Norfolk TAS AUS	1747-1834?	6523
KINGSHOTT Hannah	ENG? - New Norfolk TAS AUS	c1825-?	6523
McCARTHY Elizabeth M C	WAT IRL	1828-1851	6518
McLAREN Dougal	Scotland	1820-1830	6519
McPARTLAN Francis	IRL - TAS AUS	c1800+	6521
MILTON George	Port Sorell TAS AUS	1879	6469
REES David	Swansea WLS	1822-1843	6518
SMITH Caroline (nee POTTER)	New Norfolk TAS	1854-?	6523
STUBBINGS William C	ENG	1823-1853	6518
TAPP Henry	DEV ENG	1835-1856	6518
TRIFFITT James	Beverley YKS ENG - New Norfolk	1769-1853?	6523
TRIFFITT, Esau	New Norfolk TAS AUS	c1841-?	6523

All names remain the property of the Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. and will not be sold on in a database

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.

## Diary Notes

### 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. There 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](mailto:flatrockpastoral@iinet.net.au).

### March, Monday 12th 2007

A book launching will be held at the Colebrook Memorial Hall, 2pm

- Was Great Grand Father a navy on the Rhyndaston railway tunnel?
- Did Merle Oberon ever live at Rhyndaston?
- What did King O'Malley ask Margaret Delaney?
- Did Uncle Robert run the Tunnel Hotel?

If Find out when 'From Flat Top to Rhyndaston : a History of the Rhyndaston – Tiberias area and its Pioneers' is launched by Colin Howlett, former Mayor of the Southern Midlands Council. The pioneer families include: Bailey, Coombes, Daniels, Dwyer, Easton, Marney, Mackey, Osbourne, McConnon Wooldridge, Zantuck and eighteen others. For more information contact Helen Osbourne ☎ (03) 6428 6804.

### 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, Butcher, 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. ☎ (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.

**April, Sunday 1st April 2007 – Heritage Listed site****OPEN DAY AT VARIETY BAY PILOT STATION— NORTH BRUNY ISLAND**

An Open Day will be held at Variety Bay on site, 10.00 am - 3.00 pm [Entrance - via Great Bay - *gateway will be well signposted*]

There will be an interpretative display and guided tours of both the Pilot Station and Church (*stabilised by the Bruny Island Historical Society in 2003 under the Cultural Heritage Projects Program*) A great chance to see part of the island not normally open to the public.

**Bring a Picnic lunch, or just drop in (No admission charge)**

**Bruny Island—Sunday Ferry Timetable**

<u>Depart Kettering</u>	<u>Depart Bruny Island</u>
7:45	8:25
9:30	10:00
11:05	11:35
12:05 pm	12:35 pm
1:45	2:15
2:45	3:15
3:45	4:30
5:00	5:30
6:30	7:00

*Hope to see  
you there!*

**Further information**

Bev Davis - Co-ordinator Bruny Island Historical Society, Ph. 62606366  
or Kathy Duncombe Ph: 62606287 Email [kdunc@netspace.net.au](mailto:kdunc@netspace.net.au)

**Want to interview your relatives, but don't know how to go about it?**

Want to leave your descendants with CDs of the voices of their ancestors?

Enrol in the

**ORAL HISTORY WORKSHOP**

Includes practice with the new rentable Fostex digital recorder

**SATURDAY 28 APRIL 2007**

*10.00 am – 4.45 pm in Launceston*

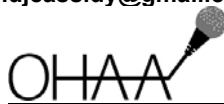
conducted by Jill Cassidy

President of the Oral History Association of Australia (Tas) Inc.

Cost \$45 (\$20 students) includes lunch

Contact Jill Cassidy on 6394 7677 or 0418 178 098

[mandjcassidy@gmail.com](mailto:mandjcassidy@gmail.com)



ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (TAS) INC



## Quidnunc

Excerpts from journals held at the Launceston Branch Library

### **The Banyan Tree** — October 2006

*Manorial Documents and their Use to Family Historians,*

Copyhold documentation from a manor is a largely untapped but valuable source of information to family historians. This article may help you understand what they are and where to find them.

### **Dispatch** — April 2006

*The 52nd Lowland Volunteers and its Successors 1967-1999*

The lineage presented are a compilation of information collected from a variety of sources.

### **The Devon Family Historian** — August 2006

*New Database on the North Devon Exodus.* A database has been opened under the auspice of the Bideford & District Community Archive where family historians can register their nineteenth century north Devon ancestral connections with Canada and the United State.

### **Family History News And Digest** — September 2006

*British Adoptions*

It is estimated that one in ten British people is affected in some way by the complex problem of adoption. The article looks at some of the procedures that adopted people can use in their search for their natural parents.

*A Romany in the Family*

Before you assume you haven't any Romany ancestors, think on this, the probability is that any family in Britain with roots going back 300 years will have some gypsy forebears.

### **Irish Roots** — Number 3 2006

*Irish Genealogy Archives in Spain.* by S. Fannin.

Spain abounds with documentation. Even the passengers' cabin numbers during the early voyages to the Americas were archived. Every province and city has its archive.

*An Irish Estate in Jamaica.* by A.M. Breen

One of the consequences of the defeat of the Confederate Irish, was that over 50,000 Irish men, women, and children were transported to Barbados and Virginia.

### **The Midland Ancestor** — December 2006

*The National Monuments Record and Genealogy.* These are the holdings of the NMR, the public archive of English heritage, and they can provide a wealth of information if you are interested in the local history of the places where your ancestors used to live.

## Devonportites in South Africa

*Launceston Examiner*, 30 January 1896, p7 c4

Among those last year attracted to the gold-fields of South Africa by the stories of dazzling wealth there to be amassed were four residents of Devonport, Messrs E SPARKES, G WASHINGTON, A PRIEST and G HINGLE. The party joined the s. *Damascus* at Melbourne at the end of October, and reached Cape Town on December 2. In a letter from one of the party dated December 22, from Pretoria, Transvaal, received by a local resident (states the Devonport paper) on Saturday evening, the writer says:

"We had very good weather on the voyage to the Cape, and the trip was as pleasant as could be expected. We arrived at Cape Town on December 2, and the first news we heard before going ashore was that there were some 35,000 men out of work. Well, that was rather a damper for us to start with, but we soon found that it was not true, at least not in the building line, as some of the passengers who were tradesmen could have entered into engagements before stepping on land. Business at the Cape was very lively, and among the buildings which are being erected is a post office. It is about twice the size of the Melbourne Post Office, and is being built of stone. However the wages for workmen are comparatively small, as living costs from 25s to 35s per week. We heard all sorts of accounts about Johannesburg, some persons informing us that it is the right place for artisans and work is plentiful, while others gave pitiable yarns. However, we determined that as we had come so far we would push on to the Transvaal, and on the following day took tickets in a train for Johannesburg.

We laid in a stock of provisions, and as ten of us clubbed together, by showing our ship's tickets we obtained a reduction of £1, so the fare third-class cost each of us £3 9s. I might state that we travelled third-class, but it is a significant fact that very few white people venture the return journey on a third-class ticket. The train started at night, and the scene at the railway station was simply wonderful. The platforms were crowded with well-dressed people, and with the electric light etc, it brought to me a striking contrast to the Devonport station. The Cape Town people were reaping a nice harvest. Well, being night, we saw nothing of the scenery near Cape Town, but when morning broke we were passing through a dreary country, nothing but rocks and desert. Throughout the day there was nothing to break the monotony of the ride, which in a third-class carriage is anything but comfortable.

On the second day we crossed the Orange river and got into the Free State. There was a great change in the country, and being the wet season, everything was looking at its best. We passed through immense tracks of rich grass and the large mobs of horses and cattle were in splendid condition. Along the route small farms dotted the country side. The scarcity of timber was specially noticeable. There were miles and miles of wire fencing, and the posts were perhaps the most crooked pieces of timber you ever saw. The stopping places were arranged very well, and the train remained long enough at each station to get what you required; but everything is very dear, and it is far best to carry your own provisions.

On the third morning we reached the great city of Johannesburg, and you can imagine how pleased we were to reach the end of our journey. Whilst I was getting

my box on to the platform I was accosted by a stranger and offered work at very good wages, which I accepted. We found lodgings, three beds in one room, for which we paid 10s per week for each bed. Living for a single man is pretty cheap, considering the wages, as a fair meal can be obtained at any of the cafes for 1s, and board and lodging is 30s per week, but there is an extra charge of 2s 6d for washing. A man with a family cannot save much, even if he earns the ruling wages of 20s per day for carpenters, 22s 6d for plasterers, and 22s 6d for bricklayers. The rent of anything like a decent cottage is from £6 to £8 per month, and schooling costs 25s per month for each child, while all washing has to be sent out on to the sanitary ground; in fact, with the exception of clothes everything is very dear.

Johannesburg is a wonderful place, and the amount of work going on is astonishing, but I do not know for how long it will last, nor would I advise anyone about coming here. It is all right just now, but thousands are flocking here every week, and it is puzzling to me where they all get to. After working a day I accepted another engagement at Pretoria, where I find the heat rather trying, but the dust is not so bad as at Johannesburg. The general impression seems to be that things will last as at present for a couple of years. A syndicate of Australians has been formed at Johannesburg in the building line, and they cut prices pretty fine, but I am afraid they will spoil themselves. Whilst walking up on of the principal streets in Johannesburg, previous to going to Pretoria, I was surprised to meet Messrs E ROE and MORTON, late of Latrobe. The former looks ten years younger, and both are satisfied with the place.

The class of buildings which are being erected are mostly brick and cement, nearly all pine ceilings, and one coat of plaster or clay on the walls. The Kaffirs do the labouring, and outside the building trade no one should come, as there are too many unskilled labourers here now, and they have a pretty hard time.

I made enquiries about miners, and was told that a miner was of no use unless he could talk Kaffir, as the natives cannot speak English. I think the people here have a "down" on Australians for their cutting down principles".

The writer makes no allusion to the subsequent trouble between the Boers and the Uitlanders, and on the despatch of the letter it is evident that Pretoria and Johannesburg were quiet. ●

---

## On The Move

The National Archives and the Office for National Statistics have announced that they are to move their Family Records Centre to **Kew** from their current location at Myddelton Street, Islington by the end of 2008. Full details available online <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/news/stories/116.htm>

**The Beverley Archives Service** is moving to the new Treasure House building. No original documents will be available after 28 July 2006, until further notice. further information can be found by visiting [www.eastriding.gov.uk](http://www.eastriding.gov.uk)

## A Tragedy in Launceston

Hilary Martin (Member No 3734)

None of my ancestors lived in Australia, let alone Tasmania. However, I was delighted to find that there is one part of my son in law's family whose lives were touched by Tasmania. So this is the story pieced together from St John's Anglican Church records, shipping records and the local papers.

It seems that Henry James WINSTONE, a sailor, arrived in Australia from overseas but where from is not known. His birth was about 1815, and he likely sailed here as crew on an Australian bound ship. The earliest that is recorded about him is that he sailed as a Captain/Mate of 2 small coastal trading ships out of Sydney, on the *Resolution*, to Newcastle and the McLeay River, at Kempsey, and on the *Paterson* travelling the Paterson River, north of Newcastle, during 1840.

Henry, a bachelor, married Caroline JARMAN, a spinster, from Hampshire in England, on 18 October 1840 at St James Parish Church, in central Sydney. Caroline was born in about 1814, the daughter of Andrew Jarman, fell monger, and Mary HOLLAND.

Henry (1) had been part of the crew of the *Will Watch* travelling between Launceston and Port Phillip (Melbourne) during 1841.

In February 1842, Henry (1) was Mate of the *Will Watch*, a brigantine, 63 nm built in Sydney 1840, by James HARDING, sailing between Launceston and Portland Bay. Owners were Wm H NICHOLSON & Jn ROACH, reg. Sydney August 1843, John GRIFFITHS, reg. Launceston: Dec 1843 Robt TAYLOR: 1844 Geo. C. FORBES, reg. Sydney: May 1845, Thos Hy HINDS: May 1846 etc etc. Cargo included passengers and general items.

Caroline sailed from Port Phillip to Launceston on the *Sir John Franklin* in early April 1842. The same Agent operated this ship as for the *Will Watch*.

By February 1842, Henry (1) was appointed Mate travelling between Launceston and further afield—South Australia, Albany (West Australia), Sydney, New Zealand, and Tahiti.

In December 1843 Henry (1) was appointed Captain or Master of the *Will Watch*, sailing between Launceston, Portland (Western Victoria) and Adelaide, the Sandwich Islands and Tahiti and Sydney until mid 1845. Cargo included passengers, sundries, ballast and even once '2 guards, 2 convicts'.

Henry and Caroline had settled in Launceston where three children were born— the first Tasmanian WINSTONES. Agnes was born on 10 July 1842, with Henry noted as 'a sailor'. Next, Frederick Edward was born 19 March 1844, he died from 'convulsions in teething' on 3 February 1845, with his father now 'a master mariner'. Lastly there was Henry James (2) who was born on 21 November 1845.

The *Launceston Examiner* of 15 January 1845 reported proceedings instituted by them:

James GODFREY on 11 ind for forging on 27 Dec a receipt for 16s 10d, with intent to defraud H T Winstone: a second count charged the offence of uttering with intent to defraud Caroline Winstone. Acqtd and rmd."

In Autumn 1845 Henry (1) became Captain of the *Joseph Cripps* (21 April 1845) and until January 1846, sailed between Launceston, Hobart, Melbourne, and ports such as Nelson, Auckland, Port Nicholson (all New Zealand), Sydney and back to Launceston.

As well as passengers there was cargo which included oats, flour, cheese, soap, empty bags, slops, packages shears, packages of fruit and hardware, bags of beans, palings.

Captain Winstone was mentioned in several advertisements, for example in the *Port Philip Herald* on 7/5/1845. "For Launceston direct. The fast sailing *Joseph Cripps* will sail for the above port on Sat next. For freight or passage, apply to Captain Winstone on board, or to Edward SAYCE, Bourke Street."

Also, in the *New Zealand Spectator. Joseph Cripps*. Arr. 27/7/1845. Winstone. Cargo - Chathama? and oil. Dep 11/8/ 1845. Winstone, for Sydney.

For a short period Henry (1) was Captain of the *Souvenir* a schooner 64, 64.7x15.2x8.8; Launceston, built in 1845, by George GIBBONS: He appears to have sailed the ship back to Launceston from Sydney. "-L 15/4/1846 Sydney (-Winstone)".

His last Captaincy was of the *John*, it commenced around Easter 1846 until his death. The *John* was a schooner—length Over All 59 ft (18m) launched in 1845. Owned by George ANDERSON (shipwright) and James DAVIES (blacksmith). The *John* sailed between Launceston, Circular Head in the north west of Tasmania, Hobart and Sydney carrying passengers and cargo. An example of an item in the Sydney Shipping News - Arr. Sydney *John* 4/8/1846 from Circular Head 27/7/1846. Also, *John* a schooner 49 tons, Captain Winstone - 40 tons potatoes, G SMALL. And this was an Advert in the *Sydney Morning Herald* : 8/8/1846 - "For Circular Head. The Schooner *John*, 60 tons, will sail for the above port on Tues. next. For freight or passage apply on board, or to George SMALL, George St, Sydney."

Records show that Captain ORGAN was Captain of the *John* after his sudden death. Arr. 21/9/1846 - *John*, schooner, 49 tons, Capt. Organ, from Circular Head, 5/9/ and 15/9/1846.

So what had happened?? The Newspapers tell the story.

Henry James Winstone died on 13 August 1846, aged 31, cause showed on his death certificate was 'a visitation of God'.

*Launceston Examiner* 16th September 1846

Death. WINSTONE, John. Captain of the Schooner *John* was found dead in a ploughed field near Red Hills, East Tamer Saturday afternoon. There are extraordinary circumstances connected with the distressing affair, which cannot fully be cleared up, until witnesses have been obtained from George Town. A man named Patrick McINTYRE walking along the road saw the body lying about 17 yards from the fence in a ploughed field. There was no mark of violence on the body, but the deceased is supposed to have had money and a watch on his person which are missing....

Births, Marriage's & Deaths Early Hobart Town Newspapers 1841-6.

Friday 18/9/1846. Death: Winston, Henry James, recently commander of

schooner *John*, made the heads, Thursday, on his way overland from George Town to Launceston, Friday. Wife and 2 children. Found lying on his face in a ploughed field adjacent to the new racecourse, George Town Road, Saturday. Inquest tomorrow (Tuesday). *Launceston Advertiser* Sept 14th 1846.

Tuesday 22/9/1846. Death: Winstone, Henry James, schooner *John*, bound for Circular Heads to Sydney on his way overland from George Town to Launceston. Found dead about 17 yards from the side of the road, Saturday afternoon between 3-4 o'clock. Inquest at Mr JONES' East Bank Tamar Inn, Tuesday. Adjourned to this day. *Launceston Advertiser* Sept 17th 1846.

Report from the *Launceston Advertiser* 14th September 1846 on the death of:

*Henry James Winstone: On Saturday afternoon, information reached town that a man was discovered lying upon his face, in a ploughed field adjacent to the new race course on George Town Road, quite dead. Mr MIDGELY, the chief constable, accompanied by two others, repaired to the place where the man was found as described. The body was conveyed to the East Tamar Inn, but could not be recognised by those who inspected it. Enquiries being instituted on yesterday, it was ascertained the name of the deceased was Henry James Winston, recently commander of the schooner John belonging to this post. It appears the deceased had made the heads on Thursday, when the vessel becoming wind-bound, he was anxious to proceed onwards to Launceston to see his wife and family, repaired to Mr BUTLER's at George Town where he hired a horse and rode as far as COWILL's (late COULSON's). Having expressed a desire to leave the horse at the last mentioned place, the animal appearing fatigued, as also to suit his convenience of returning to George Town on the following day, he started from Cowill's with the intention of walking to Launceston. It becoming rather late and the night being dark, a probationer in the service of Mr Cowill, accompanied the deceased about six miles on the road and having parted with a clear understanding of an impossibility to mistake the road to Launceston, the deceased gave the servant four shillings for his trouble. Such is the statement of the probationer. The body, when discovered on the Saturday, was not more than one hundred yards from the road, with the back uppermost and the face partly buried in the mud and water, a position of the lips suspended in a deep furrow filled with water. The deceased has an excellent character for sobriety and industry. He has left a wife and 2 children. Circumstances induced the retention of the servant who accompanied the deceased from Mr Cowills—he is at present in custody. If the necessary evidence can be procured, an inquest will be held on the body tomorrow, Tuesday.*

Report from the *Launceston Advocate* September 19th 1846.

Friday 18th September 1846. Winstone, Captain—22 September 1846. The late Capt. Winstone. We mentioned in our last, the finding of the body of this poor man. Our account, however, was wrong in several minor particulars. It appears that the *John* was bound from Circular Heads to Sydney and was obliged to put into George Town from bad weather. On Thursday last, the captain started off to come to town for which purpose he hired a horse from Mr

Butler, of George Town, and proceeded on his journey. He arrived at Mr Cowill's late in the afternoon. He had some refreshments and asked the road to Launceston, at the same time leaving his horse; he said he would rather walk than ride. He started off, and in about an hour and a half he returned, saying he could not find his way. He then offered a probationer who was present, a pound to guide him a part of the way. The probationer consented and they left in company, taking with them some gin in a bottle. This was about nine o'clock. The next morning the probationer told his master, (Mr Charles BACON) that he had left the deceased sitting under a cherry tree on the roadside, that he would not let him (the probationer) proceed any further but ordered him to return several times and that the deceased only gave him four shillings for carrying him over a creek. The deceased had drank very freely of the gin and become intoxicated.

Nothing more transpired until the finding of the body on Saturday afternoon, between three and four o'clock, by a man named Patrick McIntyre, about seventeen yards from the side of the road and twenty from where the probationer had left him. An inquest was held on the body on Tuesday at Mr Jones' East Bank Tamar Inn before Captain GARDINER and a coroner's jury. The only evidence adduced was as the finding of the body and to the time he was last at Mr Cowills'. The Inquest was adjourned to this day at twelve o'clock in order to ascertain from the mate and other persons whether the deceased had any money or property about him. The probationer who accompanied him has been detained in custody in case any robbery has been committed. There were no marks of violence about the body. Since the adjournment it has been ascertained that he had no property about him.

Life must have been very difficult for Caroline, widowed with 2 small children. No information can be found about how she managed to survive. However, in the 1851 Census, Caroline was the Informant—no other names were mentioned but 10 people occupied the brick house in Cimitiere Street, central Launceston. The break up of the household seems like this—Caroline and her 2 small children, a married man with 3 children (all Church of England), 2 single females (Dissenters) and one a teenager, and a ticket of leave woman (Roman Catholic).

In Launceston Town records of the 1858 Valuation Rolls for Northern Tasmania Caroline Winstone was listed as a house owner in Cimitiere Street, value 25 pounds with rates of 1 pound 10 shillings.

So, it seems likely that in order to provide for herself and her 2 children Caroline took in boarders.

Nothing further is known about the family in Tasmania—but Henry James (2) moved at the age of 17, in 1862, to live in Victoria. In 1874, Caroline also went to live in Melbourne, Victoria, where she died 9 August 1882. Caroline was accompanied by Agnes, unmarried, who died in Ararat Lunatic Asylum in 1896—parents unknown. Henry James 2 went on to found my son in law's line in Victoria.

How different things might have been... ●

## Mrs Tuthill of Stanley

(Forest News, *Launceston Examiner*, 20 Oct 1896, p3 c6)

Death has carried off Mrs Mary Ann TUTHILL, one of the most respected and noblest of women. Deceased, up to the time of her death, was recognised as the oldest living Tasmanian native, having been born in Hobart on November 16, 1807. Thus had she lived until the 16th of next month, she would have attained the age of 89 years. Her parents having been drowned in crossing the Derwent between Hobart and Kangaroo Point when she was but 10 years of age, she was taken care of and brought up by her uncle, the late Captain BRUNSTONE, who in those days, keep a store in Collins street, Hobart.

Having married Mr J PANOTT in 1824, she still lived in Hobart up to the time of the death of her husband, which took place on his way from England, whence he had gone to get possession of large properties which he inherited. A few years later deceased again married Mr B COCKERELL, and afterwards lived at Jerusalem, Richmond, and Sorell, where Mr Cockerell died, leaving 11 children to be brought up, including the Cockerell Bros., of Victoria, NSW and New Zealand, the well-known agricultural implement makers and inventors.

In 1841 two of the sons started in blacksmithing business at Circular Head, and in 1843 the deceased lady disposed of her business in Sorell Town and followed her sons, and she resided with them until she married Mr Thomas CARROLL in 1846, when she removed to the Forest, where she lived up to the time of her death. By this marriage there were three children, all of whom survive her, namely, Mr Thomas Carroll, of Mount Bischoff; Mrs J BELLINGER of Forest and Mrs M TIERNEY, the youngest. The latter, with unselfish and self-sacrificing zeal, has cared and attended her mother for the last 10 years. Mr Thomas Carroll having died in 1862, she again married Mr TUTHILL.

Deceased used to relate many incidents of the early days of this colony, and being intelligent and having a wonderful memory, her conversation was both entertaining and instructive. She held a certificate for proficiency in midwifery dated as far back as 1824. She was one of twelve specially selected and trained by the Government for the profession, which duties she performed until recently. Her knowledge of medicine was extensive, and whenever her aid or advice was required she ungrudgingly gave it. Not until December last did she ever receive advice from a medical man, and then not until Dr A JACKSON was brought unknowingly to her. The deceased's grandmother lived to the grand old age of 107 years and is buried in St David's Cemetery, Hobart. She was only confined to her bed for a week before her death, and was conscious to the last, having received all the rites of the Roman Catholic Church.

The Rev. Father CUNNINGHAM read the burial service, the pall-bearers being Messrs P and M BREHENY, H G SPICER and Geo. TUTHILL. TATLOW Bros as undertakers carried out their part in a complete manner. Deceased always had a kind word for everyone, whether absent or present. ●



## 40th Battalion AIF

Jim Rouse (Member 5496)

"Tassie's Own" battalion was raised in 1916. The battalion was unique within the AIF in that it was raised solely within a single state. The battalion embarked for the Western Front in July 1916 and by December was serving in the trenches in France. The men spent 1917 bogged in bloody trench warfare in Flanders and spent much of 1918 fighting in the Somme valley. After the war ended in November 1918, the men of the 40th Battalion returned to Australia for demobilisation and discharge between February and September 1919.

Approximately 3000 men served in the battalion, almost 70% of them were wounded, and around 17% were killed in action or died of wounds.

I'm currently putting together a project to build a website and database commemorating the battalion and the soldiers who served within it.

Over the next 18 months or so I hope to have some of my students (TAFE) involved in this project at the end of which it is hoped we'll have a website whereby members of the public can search the database for their relatives and they will also be able to add to the database with information and or photographs.

I'm hoping to hear from Society members (and others) who may have had relatives who served with the battalion who may wish to contribute or become involved. Members might also like to know that next year should see the publication of a book on the battalion by Longford man Mr K Dick. ●

email: [jim@40th-bn.org](mailto:jim@40th-bn.org), or phone: (03) 6491 1607

---

## Mr C J Mackenzie

The following profile appeared in the *Launceston Examiner*, 6 June, 1896, Supplement, titled "Prominent Tasmanian Residents":

"Mr. Chas. Jno. MACKENZIE was born in South India in 1837, his father being Chas. Ross Mackenzie, of Rose Haugh, Ross-shire, Scotland, a major in the H.E.I. Company's service. The family landed in Hobart in 1842, proceeding to the north in 1843, residing in the Longford and Evandale districts till 1854. Next they went to Table Cape, and selected land under the pre-emptive right system; on one of these selections Mr C J Mackenzie and his family are still residing. His father died in 1857.

The subject of this sketch married in 1865 the eldest daughter of Mr George SKEKLETON, JP. In 1858 he was elected a trustee for the road district of Table Cape, and appointed a Justice of Peace in 1864, and Coroner in 1893. He has been a member of the Table Cape Marine Board for many years, and also of the Board of Advice, Emu Bay. Mr Mackenzie was elected a member for Wellington in 1886, being re-elected in 1891, and again in 1893." ●

## St Andrew's Church, Westbury

*Launceston Examiner*, 25th October, 1890. p7 c1-2

Tomorrow his Lordship the Bishop of Tasmania will dedicate the new chancel of the above church, and as the second restoration of this, one of the oldest churches in the North, has lately been accomplished a few particulars of its past history may be interesting to your numerous readers. The church was built in 1842 in a few months, the plan being decidedly that of the architect of the period—"square tower for entrance, nave, and chancel, the last as small as you can; use stone where possible, if not, brick will serve; as plain as possible, and no ornaments."

The original parish of Westbury consisted of Deloraine, Hagley, and Westbury. The other two have since been formed into separate parishes. Hagley was specially endowed by the late Sir R DRY. The Westbury Church adjoins the Post and Telegraph offices, fronts on the Lonsdale Promenade and stands out prominently when viewed from the main road to Deloraine. The Church is capable of holding 400 persons, and consists of a square tower 60ft high, nave, and handsome new chancel, built of brick, with freestone dressing from the Ross Quarry. The chancel is 22ft long, 18ft in height, and 18ft broad. The floor is raised two steps above the nave, the sanctuary one step above the chancel floor, and the altar stands on a platform 5inches in height. The roof is supported by four Oregon pine principals, jointed with kauri, coloured and varnished. The interior of the chancel is plastered and coloured. The east window consists of three lights, and is in style Gothic. It is filled with stained glass, which was obtained from the establishment of Brooks, Robinson and Co, Melbourne.

The stone cutting was sub-let to Messrs. COMPTON and CHAPMAN and have been executed in a creditable and accurate manner. The entrance to the chancel is supported by two columns, and a cathedral arch. The exterior of the chancel is relieved with freestone dressings. The roof is covered with galvanised iron and surmounted by a gable cross. The chancel presents a cheerful aspect, and adds much to the general appearance of the church. Prior to 1842 the old Police-office, on the site of which the present Post and Telegraph offices stand, was the shelter for the congregation, and Mr COLE, the police clerk, read service, the building being similarly used by the first incumbent, the Rev John BISHTON, MA, who commenced his ministrations in 1840, and lived at *Egmont*, in the residence which Mr George GREENHILL now occupies.

The present church was consecrated on March 6, 1851, by Bishop NIXON, and on the same day the burial ground was also consecrated. The Rev J Bishton was held in universal esteem, and was considered an excellent preacher. He was succeeded in 1854 by the Rev Montague WILLIAMS, during whose incumbency as in the previous one, much was done in the interests of the church. The tower was built 1859, Mr RUSSELL of Launceston, being contractor, Mr H D CLAYTON architect, and cost about £800. The freestone required was obtained from the late Dr MADDOX's quarry at the West Tamar. Unfortunately a gale in Aug 1877, blew four of the turrets through the roof, breaking the font which, with the holy vessels, was given by Archdeacon MARRIOTT. The remaining three turrets were taken down, the roof repaired, and new seats procured. A beautiful organ by WALKER of

London, costing in England £190, new pulpit, and prayer desk were provided which made the church brighter than ever. The architect for this work was the late Mr MILLS, of Launceston, and the contractor, the late Mr Robert ROE, of Hagley. The cost of this first restoration was about £800, but willing hands and energy on the part of the pastor and congregation reduced the amount, and the implements were soon paid for.

Much of the work of collecting for the erection of the tower fell on Captain MARTIN, now of Launceston. Mr Samuel Martin of Exton, was a great benefactor in this work, and Messrs SMITH and HALLIDAY collected a considerable part of the money required for the restoration in 1877. The Rev M Williams was one of the colonial chaplains, and endeared himself in the parish by his many acts of kindness and other good works. The Rev H J EDWARDS, now of Longford, succeeded in 1878, and continued until 1881, suffering much from ill-health during his residence.

In March 1881, the present pastor, Rev F B SHARLAND, BA, was inducted to the parish, and is highly esteemed, both by the community and by his own congregation. Since 1881 much has been done in Church work. The principal event in the present incumbency has been the erection of the new chancel and the general restoration of the old parish church. The cemetery has not been forgotten, nor the church grounds, which have been planted with ornamental shrubs. In the cemetery of later years much improvement is noticeable. The gum trees have been gradually thinned, the walks gravelled and the fences and gravestones renovated. In 1865 a Sunday-school in connection with the Church was established, Mr Myles MAHONEY being superintendent for some years, more recently Mr Stearne PHILLIPS taking over the charge in which he continues with a goodly number of pupils. Mr Mahoney also held Sunday-school in connection with the Church at the old theatre on the Westbury road, burnt down during the seventies. In 1883 Mr and Mrs F BELSTEAD presented a new font to the church on their departure from the parish. Services have been held at the out-districts of Fern Bank and Black Sugar Loaf, Messrs E FOWELL and S PHILLIPS, who were licensed as lay readers by Bishop SANDFORD, giving valuable assistance in this work. A body of district visitors has been working under the incumbent for over eight years. Captain Martin and Mr J P JONES held the position of churchwardens for a considerable number of years in the earlier days of the Church, and somewhat later Mr F BELSTEAD now of Hobart, held the position for many years. Messrs Smith and Halliday more recently, this year's wardens being Messrs R C FIELD, J C EDGAR and G JOY. The Martin family, of Exton, have always been good supporters of the Church, and ever willing to assist in any good works. The family of the late hon. Thos. FIELD, of Westfield, have also lent very valuable aid in any church work. It was a source of regret to the congregation when, in March, 1889, Mr John MARTIN and family left the Exton estate. The parsonage is a considerable distance from the church, the walk through the cemetery being very pleasant. It is a two-storeyed brick building and was rebuilt in 1867, the foundations of the original building having given way. Mr H CONWAY was the architect, and Mr J W LLOYD the contractor: It was also found necessary a few years ago to brace the walls of the present building with iron rods. The grounds attached are ample for the incumbent's use. There is a good garden and orchard, and several paddocks.

The view from the lawn is worthy of special mention, and takes in the Western Tiers, with Quamby Bluff and, Dry's Bluff. The site was chosen by the late Bishop Nixon, who was an artist, and considered the view very beautiful. Owing to the foundations of the chancel giving way it was decided in 1888 to erect a new chancel, a Building Committee, consisting of Rev F B Sharland (Chairman), Messrs S PHILLIPS, M Mahoney, H DREW, J C Edgar, T BARRETT, L F JONES, E WARREN, R C Field, G Joy (Secretary), and Dr H A ROOME, were elected by the congregation. The building fund commenced with a nest egg of £100, being the surplus of a bazaar in 1882. In connection with this effort Major PRIESTLEY was a very energetic worker. It is only fair to remark that the ladies of St Andrew's Working Society have, by sale of their work and general assistance in other ways, contributed materially to the success of the work of restoration. These ladies meet at the parsonage in the course of the winter months, and by their untiring efforts have themselves raised over £100 for the building fund. Cake fairs and general produce shows have been held at different times with good results, and a bazaar in Nov, 1888, helped the funds to the extent of £156. Amongst the various contributions the Rev Geo. WRIGHT CC, who gave £55, Messrs John Martin and Henry Martin £20 each, stand pre-eminent; other members of the Church, in and out of the parish, have also given considerable sums of money to the building fund, and the various members of the congregation have worked energetically for the same object by patronizing entertainments, contributing to shows, bazaars etc. Various ladies and gentlemen interested in the Church sent their donations from afar.

In October 1889, the Building Committee accepted the tender of Messrs CONNACHER Bros, of Perth, for £590; Mr Geo. FAGG of Hobart, being architect. At one period of the work it was thought that owing to insufficient funds, it would be advisable to reduce the size of the chancel, but at this juncture the Rev George Wright nobly came forward with a donation of £45, in order to enable the committee to keep faith with subscribers, and to carry out the original plans. The Rev G Wright also very kindly undertook to have the whole of the interior of the Church coloured, but as the walls are not yet dry enough, this work has necessarily been postponed till the summer. It is worthy of notice that the late Mr Loftus F JONES, who, in the earlier days of restoration work, was the most energetic member of the Building Committee, was one of the first persons baptized in St Andrew's Church, in 1842. Shortly before his death, in 1888, he collected from his friends a considerable sum of money for the Chancel Building Fund. The contractor's tender was for £590, but additional work had to be done entailing; a further expenditure of £58. The damp, flagging of the church aisles has been removed, and a wooden floor has been substituted. The exterior of the church has been coloured a French-grey, and the tower roof has been re-covered with galvanized iron. The porch has been cemented inside and out with red tiles, and lined with a kauri ceiling, nicely coloured and varnished. In the church the organ which was taken down during the construction of the chancel, has been renovated by Mr A MUNNEW, of Launceston, and re-built to face the pulpit. The choir seats have been placed in the nave between the organ and pulpit; the expenditure incurred in this second restoration has amounted to £770. At the present the deficiency is but small, being about £16, which it is hoped will be subscribed on dedication day. ●

## Ghostly Tales of Norfolk Plains

*Norfolk Plains Gazette: Winter 93 by Harry Bean*

### The Ghost of Gibbet Hill

A landmark well-known to many Tasmanians is the Gibbet Hill where, on the night of 2 April 1837, a Joseph WILSON was barbarously murdered while travelling to the capital on the Launceston to Hobart Town mail cart. (The cart could accommodate one passenger alongside the driver.)

As it approached Perth, the murderer emerged from the dense bush on the outskirts of the township where the road branches off to Longford. Holding up the mail cart he fired a gun at Wilson, but the shot did not kill him outright. As he fell to the ground, mortally wounded and pleading for mercy, the villain struck him with the butt end of the gun and left him for dead.

Shortly afterwards, an escaped convict named MACKAY was apprehended by Constable HORTLE of Longford and charged with Wilson's murder. In April 1837, Mackay, was convicted and sentenced to be hanged, his body to be gibbeted near the scene of the crime as a deterrent to others.

After being hanged at Hobart Town, Mackay's body, enclosed in the usual iron casing, arrived at Perth the following afternoon, where it was secured to the gibbet in the presence of LYONS, the sheriff's bailiff, the Commandant, a constable and a number of spectators. There it was left to sway in the wind, the rattling of the chains creating an eerie sound throughout the night.

Mackay's mummy-like body, ornamented with chains and blackened by the sun, became so offensive having been exposed on the gibbet for several months that the inhabitants of Perth petitioned Governor FRANKLIN to have it removed, stating that it was a danger to health and a disgusting sight. The petition was granted and a hole was dug beneath the gibbet into which the remains were lowered—Mackay's final resting place.

For many years afterwards, travellers often related ghostly tales of the body on the gibbet, the rattling of the chains and the screams that pierced the night.... of horses taking fright and bolting with their riders when passing that spot after dark, and how as their eyes pierced the gloom they fancied that they could still see that corpse on the gibbet swaying about in the wind.

Was it Mackay's ghost that had come back to haunt the place, or that of Wilson who was murdered? Maybe it was some other evil spirit which roved abroad during the night. Who Knows?

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. ●

## ***SS Great Britain*** **'forefather of all modern ships'<sup>1</sup> Australia Bound** Leonie Mickleborough (Member No 20)

At last we arrived!! It was 3.40 pm on 17 March 2006 that my daughter, Angela, and I arrived at the gate. In our hire car, continually checking the borrowed road atlas, we had negotiated the A4, A4174 and the A4018 and finally arrived at the Maritime Heritage Centre, Great Western Dock at Bristol England.

Oh No!! According to the sign at the entrance no-one would be admitted after 3.30 pm. We had just travelled from Bath to see behind the fence and gate. This was one of the places I had travelled 23 hours on a plane and halfway around the world to visit.

Near the entrance was a tea-room where cleaning up after the day had commenced. My Australian accent and an appeal that I had travelled from Australia to take photos of the ship in which two of my ancestors had travelled to Melbourne bore results. The tea-room attendant speedily led me behind the main entrance building by the edge of the Avon River to the staff door, in past the cashier with a quick "this lady has travelled from Australia to see the ship", then she turned to me and said: "Go on, take you time and take what photos you want—start in the Museum." Whacky doo!!

I was inside the gate, and still had my £8.95 entry money in my pocket. What a sight—the *SS Great Britain* was about twice the size I expected. Beautifully restored, the Isambard Kingdom Brunel-built ship has been in dry dock at the Great Western Dockyard since 1970, the dock in which it was built and from where it was launched in 1843. The world's first iron-hulled, screw propeller-driven, steam-powered passenger liner had transported two of my maternal great-great grandfathers to Melbourne, John Danks in 1869 and William Merriman in 1870.

According to the *United Services Gazette* in 1843, 'The *Great Britain* is the largest vessel that has been constructed since the days of Noah'.<sup>2</sup> The overall length (excluding the 42 feet long bowsprit) was 322 feet, and the overall breadth 50 feet 6 inches. The propeller was 15 feet 6 inches in diameter and weighed 4 tons. When built, the *SS Great Britain*, a steamer with auxiliary sail to save coal in favourable winds, had a capacity of 252 passengers with berths, 26 single cabins, 113 two-birth cabins, employed 120 crew and could carry 1200 tons of cargo.<sup>3</sup>

The ship with six masts was unique, as was the rigging made of iron wire rather than traditional hemp. The main mast (cut off at deck level during the 1970 salvage operation) lies on the harbour. It is 95 feet long, weighs over 17 tons and consists of four trees banded together. An iron main yard, fitted to the main mast in 1857, is 104 feet long and weighs four tons. This also lies on the harbour now. The main yard supported the 'main course', the ship's largest sail.<sup>4</sup> Other sails carried the fore and aft sails and moved when the rigging was adjusted. Under this system, as few as 30 men could work the sails.

The bow is in the shape of a clipper for fast sailing, while the stern, the style of a sailing ship, is decorated with the gilded arms of the city of Bristol. The figurehead is the Royal Arms of Great Britain supported by the traditional lion and unicorn. The

motifs either side of the figurehead are symbolic of art and industry: a coil of rope, two cogheads, a dove, a set-square and artist's palette, a wheat sheaf and the winged staff of Mercury, the Messenger.<sup>5</sup>

The launch of the *Great Britain* — or rather the first flooding of the dry dock — was on 19 July 1843 in the presence of Prince Albert. Thousands of Bristol residents watched from the surrounding hills, the shops were closed and 'business entirely suspended'.<sup>6</sup> However it was not plain sailing, there were problems. The locks of the Cumberland Basin had not been widened as the Bristol Dock Company had agreed. The ship 'stuck fast', was in danger, and so had to be 'hailed back'. Brunel eventually lost patience and released the ship from the Floating Harbour by partially dismantling the locks at night'. On 12 December 1844 the ship passed through the locks of the Cumberland Basin.<sup>7</sup>

After the installation of engines the ship was ready for sea trials. She was formally registered on 14 January 1845, and her official number, 25967, was carved on beams overhead in the fore-castle.<sup>8</sup>

In June 1845 the *SS Great Britain* set off on her maiden voyage to Plymouth and Dublin. This voyage included further sea trials. The following month she left for New York with 50 passengers and 600 tons of cargo and crossed the Atlantic in 14 days 21 hours at an average speed of 9.4 knots. The trip was repeated in September and again the following May and July. In September 1846, when carrying 180 passengers, despite a 'joyous and happy' atmosphere on board, the night was dark and wet and she ran aground at Dundrum Bay in the Irish Sea. It was not until October the following year that she was able to be pulled clear by a tug.<sup>9</sup>

In December 1850 the Great Western Steamship Company sold the *SS Great Britain* for £18,000 (less than one-fifth the original cost of £117,295. 6s 7d), to Gibbs, Bright and Company of Liver-pool. The new owners decided to employ her on the service to Australia where discoveries of gold had trans-formed the country from a 'land of exile to one of opportunity' and from where, in 1853 she carried the first twenty-three bales of wool exported from Australia. The *Great Britain* was converted from a steamship including sails to a more economical sailing ship with steaming capacity, the number of masts was reduced to four, the sailing area was increased an oscillating engine and twin funnels installed. A new upper deck and twin boilers increased the passenger numbers to 730.<sup>10</sup>

Feeding nearly 1000 people on a two-month non-stop voyage was complicated. For days before sailing the ship was loaded with stores including livestock, sheep, lambs, pigs, bullocks, a cow to provide milk for the saloon passengers, fowls, ducks, geese, turkeys and rabbits and the necessary fodder and an abundance of alcohol.

The Australian service started with voyage 9 from Liverpool in August 1852 with 630 passengers (who paid an average £36 per head) and 'a heavy mail'. Gibbs, Bright and Company forecast the ship would reach Melbourne in 56 days but she ran into headwinds in the South Atlantic and had to return 1100 miles to St Helena to take on more coal at an 'exorbitant cost'.<sup>11</sup> Passengers protested about conditions aboard and letters were sent from St Helena to the English press, some casting doubt on the seamanship of the captain. This first Australian journey took

83 days. On her return to Liverpool on 4 January 1853 the *SS Great Britain* carried 161 passengers and 100,000 ounces of gold.<sup>12</sup>

The owners of the *SS Great Britain* also accepted contracts for transport services. Between March 1855 and May 1856 she transported 40,000 British, French, Turkish, Swiss and Italian troops to the Crimean War. At the end of the War the ship was refitted which included a single funnel which replaced the twin funnels and she was fitted with three square-rigged masts.<sup>12</sup> Late in 1857 she was used to transport troops during the Italian mutiny. In 1861 the *SS Great Britain* carried the first cricket team 'the Eleven of All England' to tour Australia in which most of the players were from Surrey. The last England to Australia voyage was number 44, which began on 26 August 1875, and from which she arrived back in Liverpool in January 1876.<sup>14</sup>

Her passenger usefulness over, the *SS Great Britain* was laid up at Birkenhead, and at an auction in 1881 she failed to reach the reserve price. The following year she was acquired by a related company Antony Gibbs, Son and Company for conversion as a sailing ship to carry coal from Cardiff round the Horn to San Francisco returning with wheat.<sup>15</sup>

Voyages 45 and 46 in 1882 and 1884 were round trips from Liverpool to San Francisco. During voyage 47 bound from Penarth to San Francisco with coal the ship ran into a gale off the Horn, was partially dismasted and sustained considerable damage. She ran for Port Stanley in the Falkland Islands where she arrived on 25 May 1886. Due to the cost of repairs from the sustained damage she was offered for sale, condemned and sold for a hulk.<sup>16</sup>

Her sailing days were over, but not her career. Nearly a century after Brunel had conceived her, the *SS Great Britain* was uneconomical to operate even as a store ship. She was bought by the Falkland Islands Company for £2000 and for another 47 years (until 1933) she was used by the Company for storing wood and coal, after which time, she was abandoned. The Company offered to present the ship to the British Government. An appeal to return her to Britain aroused little interest, and the Royal Navy even rejected an offer to use her as a target ship. It had been hoped to open the appeal on 25 May 1936, the 50th anniversary of the end of her last voyage, but a preliminary survey indicated that the cost of preservation alone would probably exceed £10,000 and the project was abandoned. She was condemned to be towed to sea and sunk, instead, in April 1937 she was towed out of the harbour and beached in Sparrow Cove. Holes were knocked in her stern to ensure she would never float again and she became the haunt of sea birds and was left to decay.<sup>17</sup>

As the years passed the ship was not completely forgotten. In the 1950s the Director of the San Francisco Maritime Museum was interested in salvage and restoration, and in 1952 English naval architect, Dr Ewan Corlett, began researching her history.<sup>18</sup> Six years later, in 1958, Karl Kortum, Director of San Francisco Maritime Museum wrote to the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich urging the return of the *SS Great Britain* to England. In 1965 Korstrum visited the Falklands with a wealthy potential backer, William Swigert, to examine the possibility of taking the ship to San Francisco. According to G D L Ainslie,



Chairman of the The Falkland Islands Company Limited in London, 'time and weather' had converted what was 'a proud ship into a waterlogged hulk'.<sup>19</sup>

On 8 November 1967 Corlett wrote to *The Times* urging that the 'forefather of all modern ships' should be recovered or, at least, 'fully documented',<sup>20</sup> and the next year two meetings were held in England to decide whether an attempt at salvage was practicable. In the summer of 1968 the 'ss Great Britain Project' was formed with Richard Gould-Adams as chairman. During autumn Corlett visited the Falklands and conducted the first survey of the *Great Britain* since her beaching thirty-one years earlier.<sup>21</sup>

Following detailed assessments funds started to trickle in, and by July 1969 the main financial problem was solved. Bahamas-based British philanthropist Jack Hayward promised up to £150,000 towards the cost of returning her to Bristol.<sup>22</sup>

Totally new was the concept of using a submersible pontoon, a technique only developed in Hamburg by Ulrich Harms two years before. The fifteen-man German crew of the tug *Varius II* were joined by a British party and a BBC film crew recorded the recovery.<sup>23</sup>

The 2667 ton submersible pontoon, *Mulus III* was lashed end-on to the port side of the ship and 'sheerlegs' were erected on the pontoon deck from where work began on removing the masts. Three divers patched holes below the waterline and a 13-inch long crack on the starboard side was repaired with steel plates and old mattresses.<sup>24</sup>

The *Great Britain* was refloated successfully, but due to bad weather and a miscalculation about her draught it was several days before she was safely on the submerged pontoon.

Thirty-three years after she had been beached in Sparrow Cove 'for ever' the pontoon was being pumped out and the ship was being lifted clear of the water. By the following day the feat was achieved. On 24 April 1970 the SS *Great Britain* left the Falklands on her return to Bristol for restoration.<sup>25</sup> On 23 June 1970 she reached the Avonmouth Docks in England and was towed up the River Avon to Bristol 'afloat on her own bottom' where 100,000 people lined the banks to see her arrive. Prince Albert, the Prince Consort, had launched SS *Great Britain* and Prince Philip was on board for the re-docking. After 127 years the ship had returned to the Great Western Dockyard at Bristol.<sup>26</sup>

It was voyage 47 which had commenced on 6 February 1886 and resumed in April 1970 that arrived back at Bristol on 19 July 1970.<sup>27</sup> After a very long and expensive restoration program which continues, this was the SS *Great Britain* that I had the pleasure of boarding and inspecting.

\*\*\*\*\*

Among the passengers of voyage 33 which left Liverpool on 3 February 1869 and arrived in Melbourne after 59 days was 74 year-old John Danks whose wife Hannah (née Hickman) had died in June 1868.<sup>28</sup> John travelled with his unmarried 45 year-old daughter Ann. John Danks, a retired a gunlock maker and wrought iron and gas tube manufacturer from Wednesbury had three sons and a daughter in Melbourne when he arrived, and another daughter, Sarah, arrived soon after. Elizabeth ('Lizzie'), and her husband William Merriman (son of the previously mentioned

William Merriman), and their 2 year-old daughter Sarah had arrived in Sydney on 27 March 1857 aboard the *Mary Ann*.<sup>29</sup> Lizzie and William subsequently had another nine children, all with the second given name of 'Danks'.<sup>30</sup>

Lizzie's brother and sisters John, Samuel, Thomas and Sarah and their families also migrated to Melbourne. Samuel travelled on voyage 32 on the *Great Britain*, and Sarah on voyage 39.<sup>31</sup> John and Thomas and their families travelled on the *Shaftesbury* and arrived in November 1857.<sup>32</sup>

The migration of five of the Danks' children left only Benjamin and Jane in England. The Danks family, with a background in steel, iron and brass industries founded John Danks & Son Limited, hardware and plumbing suppliers.<sup>33</sup>

After only five years in Australia John Danks senior died at Emerald Hill, aged 81, and was buried at Melbourne General Cemetery. His daughter Ann was buried in the same grave, as were Arron Turner and Jane Blaylock.<sup>34</sup>

William Merriman aged 71, and his son Herbert and Herbert's wife Mary Ann (née Fisher) both of whom were 20 years-old travelled on voyage 35 of the *SS Great Britain* which left Liverpool on 19 March 1868 and arrived in Melbourne 57 days later.<sup>35</sup>



*SS Great Britain*, 1845, from a painting by Keith A Griffin<sup>36</sup>

The knowledge gained from my visit to the Maritime Heritage Centre, Great Western Dock Bristol, and being able to wander both throughout the *SS Great Britain* and the museum, provided an insight into what the travelling conditions were like 137 years ago for my two of my great-great grandfathers. ●



Promenade Deck with cabins along each side. The saloon (first class) passengers strolled here when rough weather precluded the upper deck.

The Ladies Boudoir, and the Captain's cabin lie off the promenade deck.

### References

1. *The Times* (London), 11 November 1967, p. 9 quote by naval architect, Dr Ewan Corlett.
2. Nicholas Fogg, *SS Great Britain, Great Western Dockyard Bristol* (London, 1999), The *SS Great Britain* Project, Bristol BS1 6TY, p. 1.
3. Fogg, *SS Great Britain*, pp. 1–2. Tonnage 3443 burthen; 1016 net registered (on which port dues paid); accommodation after saloon 61 feet; after dining saloon 98.5 feet; forward dining saloon 61 feet; coal bunkers alongside engines and boilers with capacity of 1000–1200 tons; cost (1843) facilities at dock £53,081.12s 9d; widening lock gates £1330.4s. 9d. *The Lady Nelson*, a familiar sight to Hobartians, weighs 60 tons, is 60 feet long and the mast is 60 feet tall (information from Irene Schaffer).
4. In 1857 the mainmast was extended to 104 ft and supported the 'main course', the ship's largest sail. There is no record of a larger sail being made, Fogg, *SS Great Britain*, p. 2
5. <sup>1</sup>Fogg, *SS Great Britain*, p. 2.
6. Fogg, *SS Great Britain*, p. 8.
7. Fogg, *SS Great Britain*, pp. 9–14.
8. Fogg, *SS Great Britain*, p. 4.
9. Fogg, *SS Great Britain*, pp. 12–17.
10. Fogg, *SS Great Britain*, p. 18.
11. Adrian Ball (and the *SS Great Britain* Project, 1988), *Is yours an SS Great Britain family?* (Hampshire, 1988), p. 9.
12. Ball, *Is yours an SS Great Britain family?* p. 9.
13. Fogg, *SS Great Britain*, p. 24
14. Ball, *Is yours an SS Great Britain family?* p. 21; English cricket team see Fogg, *SS Great Britain*, p. 25
15. Fogg, *SS Great Britain*, p. 30
16. Ball, *Is yours an SS Great Britain family?* p. 21
17. Fogg *SS Great Britain* pp. 29–30; *SS Great Britain Trading Limited, SS Great Britain* (The Greywell Press Hampshire, 1984), p. 26
18. *SS Great Britain Trading Limited, SS Great Britain* (Hampshire, 1984), p. 26.

19. *The Times*, 17 November 1967, p. 9. Ainslie's letter dated 14 November 1967.
20. *The Times*, 11 November 1967, p. 9.
21. SS Great Britain Trading Limited, *SS Great Britain* (Hampshire, 1984), pp. 26–28.
22. SS Great Britain Trading Limited, *SS Great Britain* (Hampshire, 1984), pp. 26–28.
23. SS Great Britain Trading Limited, *SS Great Britain* (Hampshire, 1984), pp. 26–28.
24. SS Great Britain Trading Limited, *SS Great Britain* (Hampshire, 1984), pp. 26–28.
25. SS Great Britain Trading Limited, *SS Great Britain* (Hampshire, 1984), pp. 29–30.
26. SS Great Britain Trading Limited, *SS Great Britain* (Hampshire, 1984), pp. 29–30.
27. Ball, *Is yours an SS Great Britain family?* p. 21.
28. PRO Victoria 22 July 1980 ref PB/JMC G80/621 unassisted immigrants *Great Britain* Liverpool 2 February 1869 to Melbourne 9 April 1869.
29. Lizzie Merriman's diary, a copy of which is in the author's possession. Sarah died from measles, NSW RGD 1857/10424, Sydney Deaths Merriman 19 April 1857.
30. Herbert (1859), William (1862), John (1863), Elizabeth (1869), Samuel (1870), Anna (1873) Fanny (1875) Jane (1878) and Clara (1880).
31. Ball, *Is yours an SS Great Britain family?* Samuel (38) labourer on voyage 38 left 17 December 1871. Sarah Danks on voyage 39 left 27 July 1872, p. 38.
32. John and Thomas sailed from Liverpool 1 August 1857 intermediate passengers at £100 each, see John Danks' diary, transcribed by Harold E Danks, Sussex 1984 (deceased) copy in possession of author. Diary incorrectly records Samuel travelling on the *Shaftesbury*.
33. Company now owns Homestead and Homesaver retail groups (Home Timber & Hardware), Thrifty Link Hardware Stores, Plants Plus brand and Plants Plus garden centre group, [www.danks.com.au/public/company/timeline](http://www.danks.com.au/public/company/timeline) (14 August 2006).
34. At 35 St Vincent Place North, Emerald Hill. Senile decay ... gestion of brain. Buried 10 June 1874 Melbourne General Cemetery, see Death Certificate Victoria, Emerald Hill No. 3956/1874. Will dated 24 October 1867, Codicil 11 June 1868. Relationship to latter two unknown. His son John Danks' (1828–1902) wife was Anne (née Turner), so possibly Arron was related.
35. Ball, *Is yours an SS Great Britain family?* pp. 21, 67.
36. Postcard purchased in 1983 from *SS Great Britain* shop at Bristol by a Danks descendant (now-deceased). After seeking permission to reproduce the image, the PR and Marketing Manager of the *SS Great Britain* trust replied 'not only does the *ss Great Britain* Trust not own the copyright on this image, in fact we have no idea where the original painting might be!', pers. comm. 12 July 2006.

---

## Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.

### 2007 Lilian Watson Family History Award

for a **book** however produced or published on paper, dealing with family history and having **significant Tasmanian content**

**Entries close: 1 December 2007**

Further Information and entry forms available from  
**TFHS Inc. Branch Libraries** or  
PO Box 191, Launceston TAS 7250

## New Publications

***The Pioneering Emigrants***, David Morris (author and copyright 2006)

69 pages, 9 illustrations/maps, A5 format, 1 index. A\$22.00 mailed, from David Morris, Swaledale Books, 1 Prior Avenue, Richmond, N Yorks, DL10 4AY

*"Family tree research frequently reveals relatives who emigrated during the 19th century to America, Canada to Australia, South Africa or perhaps some other countries."*

The chapters relate to Scotland : the exodus and the Clearance Scheme; the appeal of the new America; the colonisation of South Africa; Australia and New Zealand; the latter years (those who remained and contributed to the build-up of Australia as we know it).

*Appendix 1.*

"The Dales migrants who went to America—(around 80 surnames), lists of the mining families who emigrated to the Mississippi area of America between the years 1824 and 1850 and were the subject of a special study. There are also lists of settlers who left the port of Liverpool in 1820 to go to South Africa. These will be of particular interest to North of England researchers, but information is also given of some South African settlers from the Midlands and South who were given special mention in subsequent records".

A comment follows, "A full list of the large number of 1820 settlers is available in the Public Archives in Cape Town and in 'The story of the British Settlers in South Africa' by H E Hockly (Juta SA-1949) obtainable through the British Library."

*Appendix 2:*

"The 1820 African emigrants who sailed from Liverpool"—65 emigrants named.

*Appendix 3:*

"Some settlers who sailed from other ports of Britain and received special mention in subsequent records"—(31 surnames)

Index:

Covers one and a half pages; appears to cover places and subjects, rather than surnames.

### **Federation of Family History Societies (Publications) Limited:**

Two new volumes will be delivered early in the New Year to each of our Branch Libraries.

***The Anglo-Boer War 1899-1902—Military History Sources for Family Historians***, by Phil Tomaselli. A5 size, 48 pages

The sections are as follows: "Overview"; "Did my ancestor fight in the Boer War?"; "Medals"; "Service Records"; "Other Sources". Appendix 1—Books; Appendix 2—Visiting the National Archives.

There are photographs depicting Driver William Robertson of the Imperial Volunteers, five images of officers and troopers of the Angus Volunteers who served in South Africa; reverse and obverse images of Queen's and Kings South African Medals awarded for service during the war and an image of Lord Roberts (1832-1914) Commander in chief of British forces in South Africa during 1900. In

addition there is a contemporary map of South Africa showing the main transport routes, and line sketches of typical war scenarios.

***Finding out about your Family History***—Kathy Chater and Simon Fowler  
A5 size, 32 pages

Chapters cover an Introduction, First Steps, Internet—useful general websites; Record Repositories—useful websites; The Family Record Centre (FRC)—examples of certificates, useful websites BDMs and useful websites for Census searches. Other Sources—covers Church records, Wills, Service records, websites relating to each of the foregoing—Problem-solving, Storing your data, and finally a section listing useful books.

Kathy Chater is a well-known family history writer and Simon Fowler is editor of *Ancestors* magazine. ●

(Notes by Muriel Bissett)

---

## ***Waiting for the postie***

Leonie Mickleborough (Member No 20)

Among my belated Christmas mail today (28 December) was an intriguing hand-written letter post-marked 20 December 2006 from Kurwongbah, Queensland—a town unfamiliar to me. The opening sentence anticipated that I was 'still with us, & well', but the following one was more surprising. 'Second I apologise for not having answered your letter twenty six years ago, I had mislaid it ...'



Eric, who is 86 years-old, provided a surprising amount of detail considering he took 'pot luck' I had not moved house for many years. His information, is very welcome, and fills in some gaps on one of my branches, and there is more information, but he wisely suggested that in view of the time lapse he would wait to hear from me before sending it.

Apparently the letter I posted about 1980 has, along with Eric and his family 'shifted house several times', and eight days ago while looking in a shoe box for a pair of slippers he found my letter and another from a 'rellie also looking for information'. Perhaps Queensland had a cold Christmas week, and slippers were the order of the day!! Along with the information, Eric included three recent family photos and returned my stamped self-addressed envelope (which has long lost its self-sealing capacity) and its 22 cent stamp.

If there is any message from this anecdote, it is to write all those letters (emails these days) in case you too have to wait 26 years for a reply. Then watch for the postie — but don't hold your breath waiting!! ●

## Norfolk Island Bicentenary Sailings

on board the *Lady Nelson*: November 2007- October 2008

To celebrate the arrivals of the Norfolk Islanders 1807-08. Leaving from Elizabeth St Pier, Hobart (10am-12 noon and 1pm-3pm)

Wednesday 28 November 2007 (*Lady Nelson*)

Thursday 17 January 2008 (*Porpoise*)

Saturday 1 March 2008 (*Lady Nelson*)

Thursday 5 June 2008 (*Estramina*)

Sunday 5 October 2008 (*City of Edinburgh*)

Bookings can be made for all sailings at the Lady Nelson Office Dockhead Building Franklin Wharf, Hobart 10am – 3pm weekdays. ☎ 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 [schaffer@optusnet.com.au](mailto:schaffer@optusnet.com.au).

---

## 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/>

## Contents of a Convict Woman's Kit

**Each woman transported is provided by the British Society of Ladies, with the following:**

- One Bible
- One Hessian apron
- One black stuff apron
- One black cotton cap
- One large Hessian bag (to keep her clothes in)
- One small Hessian bag, containing:
  - One piece of tape
  - One oz. of pins
  - One hundred needles
  - Four balls of white sewing cotton
  - One ball of black sewing cotton
  - One ball of blue sewing cotton
  - One ball of red sewing cotton
- Two balls of black worsted, half oz each
- Twenty four hanks of coloured thread
- One cloth, with 8 darning needles
- One small bodkin fastened on it
  - Two stay laces
  - One thimble
  - One pair of scissors
- One pair of spectacles, when required
- Two lbs. of patchwork pieces
  - One comb
  - One small comb
- Knife and fork to each mess
- Ball of string

From the *Hawksbury Crier*, June 2006



## Burnie Branch

<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](mailto:petjud@bigpond.com)



The Burnie Branch library continues to be well supported by members and it is anticipated that there will be some updated facilities available during the year.

The end of the year dinner was a success thanks to Gaye and Judy for their hard work and organisation. Thanks also to all those that helped with the cooking. The Family Tree Chart competition was judged at the dinner and the two winners were Doug Forrest and Ann Bailey.

The members who attended the last day meeting for the year were entertained by Vi Woodhouse. Vi recited some very humorous poetry and her character impersonations added to the performance. The Christmas hamper raffle was drawn



Burnie Branch – reading / meeting room

at the day meeting and was won by Joan Bridge. At the conclusion of the day meeting a 'thank you' luncheon was held for all the duty librarians and volunteers who have helped during the year, without our volunteers the branch could not function.

I trust that every one has had a good break over the Christmas holidays and that you have success with your research this year.

### Valé

It is with deep regret that we advise the passing of member No 5095, Raymond Henry (Ray) Dart. Ray joined the Society as a Burnie member on the 16 March 1999. During his time as a member he has been our resident coach driver on numerous trips that our branch has done. Since his retirement Ray became more involved with the branch and has been a committee member for the last two years and more recently branch treasurer.

Not only was Ray an active member of the Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. but he also was involved in many other organizations such as the Burnie Historical Society, Ulysses Club, and the Burnie and District Boat Owners Association.

## Acquisitions

### Books

- \* Dowling, Olive, *A Church and its People*
- \* H Wise & Co, *Wise's Tasmania Post Office Directory 1948*
- \* Mac's Directory Publishing Company Pty Ltd,  
*Melbourne and Suburbs Trade & Business Directory Incorporating  
Tasmania & Victorian Country*
- Pigot & Co.,  
*Commercial Directory Kent, Surrey, Sussex*  
*Commercial Directory Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Gloucestershire,  
Hampshire, Oxfordshire*  
*Commercial Directory Essex, Herts, Middlesex*  
*Commercial Directory London and it's Suburbs*  
*Commercial Directory Cornwall, Dorsetshire, Devonshire, Somersetshire,  
Wiltshire*  
*Commercial Directory Cumberland, Lancashire, Westland*  
*Commercial Directory Bedfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Cambridgeshire,  
Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire*

### CDRom

- GSV, *Index to Convicts who arrived in NSW, 1788-1842 and an index to the  
ships that transported them*
- Haines Robin, Jeffery Judith, Slattery Greg, *Bound for South Australia Births  
and deaths on government-assisted immigrant ships 1848-1885*
- \* Macbeth Genealogical Services, *Tasmanian Federation Index Births 1900-  
1919; Deaths and Marriages 1900-1930*
- New Zealand Soc of Genealogists Inc, *New Zealand Marriages 1836-1956*
- TFHS Devonport Branch, *St George's Anglican Cemetery, New Ground  
Moriarty*
- TFHS Hobart Branch,  
*Cemeteries of Southern Tasmania Vol V111 Sorell District CD1*  
*Cemeteries of Southern Tasmania Vol V111 Sorell District CD2*  
*Cemeteries of Southern Tasmania Vol V111 Sorell District CD3*

### \*Indicates donated items

The Burnie Branch Library is situated at 58 Bass Highway, Cooe. If you follow the main highway out of Burnie towards Wynyard, the library is towards the end of the Cooe shopping centre on the right hand side of the highway (Opposite the Toyota Dealer). During the week there is 1 hour parking on the main road, you will need to park in one of the side streets. Library hours: see inside back cover.

## Devonport Branch

<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.com](mailto:secretary@tfhsdev.com)



Our social activities in November and December included a traditional “end of year” meeting with Christmas supper and activities, followed by a dinner for members and partners at the Winning Edge Restaurant in Devonport. The winner of the Christmas Hamper raffle was Devonport branch member Diana Grant. Our thanks to all ticket sellers and buyers for supporting this major fundraising activity.

Our annual New Year BBQ was held at the Library in January and in February we welcomed Irene Schaeffer to the Branch to give a talk on one of her special subjects, Norfolk Island Settlers.

The Branch Library at Latrobe is situated beside a lovely park in the centre of the town just behind the State Library and Museum in Gilbert St. Free parking is available close by so visitors can enjoy a full day at the library with little expense. For anyone visiting from out of the area, there a number of restaurants and antique stores just waiting to be explored after your research is finished.

### Planned Meeting and Activities:

On Saturday 24th March there will be a visit to the Sheffield Museum and on Thursday 29th March, the monthly meeting will be held at the State Library in Devonport at 7.30 pm. Activities and meetings are advertised on our website.

With the Branch AGM rapidly approaching, we would like to encourage members to come forward and offer their names up for the election of office bearers. Nominations need to be forwarded to the Secretary by 16th April. The meeting will be held on Thursday 26th April. Please consider how your skills could be put to use for our Branch or alternatively, offer to try something new as support is always on hand.

Please contact Secretary Elaine Garwood for any further details on events or check our website at [www.tfhsdev.com](http://www.tfhsdev.com)

## Acquisitions

### Books

- \* Baxter, Carol, *An Irresistible Temptation*
- Chater, Kathy & Fowler, Simon, *Finding out about your Family History*
- \* Hemsley, Jennifer, *Around the Country Circuits*  
*Reminiscences of the Baptist Church family throughout “Tassie’s Top Half”*
- \* Keesing, A., *Trevorick House Penguin Tasmania 1886–2006*
- \* McWhirter, F., *Wesley Vale Church Centenary 1888–1988*
- Litton, Pauline M., *Basic Facts about*  
*Family History Research in Yorkshire [2<sup>nd</sup> Edit.]*

- 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 [4th. Edit.]*
- Tomaselli, Phil, *Military History Sources for Family Historians*  
*The Anglo-Boer War 1899-1902*  
*The Crimean War 1854-56*  
*The Zulu War 1879*

### CDRom

- ABM Publishing,  
1851 Census Hertfordshire, Hitchin  
1861 Census Biggleswade, Bedfordshire
- Phillimore Parish Records  
Norfolk Vol. 9 (Marriages)  
Wiltshire Vol. 9 (Marriages)

\* Indicates donated items

---

## Hobart Branch

<http://www.hobart.tasfhs.org>

President Brian Hortle (03) 6225 2124 email: [president@hobart.tasfhs.org](mailto: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](mailto:secretary@hobart.tasfhs.org)



The year 2006 ended with the usual pre-Christmas functions. Ruth Binny spoke to our November meeting about the fascinating history of the Royal Agricultural Society in Hobart. After the meeting we had a final 'cake and coffee' gathering to say farewell for 2006.

Our hard-working Secretary, Leo Prior, hosted the usual Christmas BBQ at his home for the members of the Branch Committee and their spouses. It was an opportunity to say thank you for the dedicated service these people give to the Branch.

The production of the next CD set of the Cemeteries of Southern Tasmania series is well underway. The Sorell set has sold very well and we are hopeful the same will be true for the Oatlands area series of CD's. The Branch is grateful to Robert Tanner for his computing expertise and the great amount of time and energy he puts into the CD production.

We are still waiting to hear from the Clarence Council about our ongoing rental for the old Post Office building at Bellerive. A joint occupier of the site has requested a reduction in their rental – the outcome of any decision on this will determine our rental. In the meantime we are saving our money and hoping for a satisfactory outcome for our Branch!

## General Meetings

Members are reminded that the general meetings in 2007 will be held, as usual, at the Rosny Library building in Bligh Street on the third Tuesday in the month at 8pm. Visitors are welcome at all these meetings.

The first meeting was on February 20. The dates following are – March 20, April 17 and May 15. The speakers are still to be announced so check the website and the notice in the library. The last meeting is on November 19.

### 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](mailto:news@hobart.tasfhs.org).

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

## Acquisitions

### Books

- \* Australian Electoral Commission, *Electoral Roll—Division of Denison 1992*
- \* Baker, Alan, *Index to The Mercury Deaths 1968*
- \* Boyce, Marie,
  - English Burials at Warrnambool Cemetery 1855–1980*
  - Irish Burials at Warrnambool Cemetery 1855–1980*
  - Scottish Burials at Warrnambool Cemetery 1855–1980*
  - Selection of Land in the Woodford Forest 1871*
  - Some Residents of Woodford and Yangery Pre 1860*
- \* Chater, Kathy & Simon Fowler, *Finding out about your Family History*
- \* Flesch, Juliet, *Minding the Shop: People and Events that shaped the Department of Property & Buildings 1853-2003 at the University of Melbourne*
- Grenham, John, *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors: The Complete Guide*
- Gympie F.H.S., *Gympie Pioneer Register—Pre 1900*
- \* Hayes, Julie & Amanda Cavenett, *Longmire 1692–2006*
- Litton, Pauline M., *Basic Facts about*
  - Family History Research in Yorkshire [2<sup>nd</sup> Edit.]*
- Mainwaring, R.G. (Bob), *The Gold Coast Settlers—The Story of Post World War II Soldier Settlement on Flinders Island*
- \* Parsons, Frances, *The Making of One Tasmanian: An account of my ancestral origins; 3<sup>rd</sup> edition 2006*
- Raymond, Stuart A., *Family History on the Web:*

- A Directory for England and Wales 2006/7 Edition*
- \* Robertson, Cheryl, *I can tell you a funny story about that*
  - Tait, John, *TASPLACES-over 16,000 Tasmanian place names and where to find them*
  - \* Terry, Douglas, *History of the Pateena Terrys*
  - \* Terry, D A, *Us and Our Ancestors- A compilation of the Ancestors and Families of Violet M. Reeves and Douglas A. Terry*
  - Tomaselli, Phil, *Military History Sources for Family Historians*
    - The Anglo-Boer War 1899-1902*
    - The Crimean War 1854-56*
    - The Zulu War 1879*
    - The Anglo-Boer War 1899-1902*
  - \* Ulster Genealogical and Historical Guild,  
*Directory of Irish Family History Research*
  - \* Ward, Malcolm, *Built By Seabrook: Hobart Buildings constructed by the Seabrook Family from the 1830s*
  - \* Wright, Pip & Joy,  
*Bygone Cotton*  
*Grave Reports: Some dead funny items gathered from Local Suffolk Newspapers 1720-1900*  
*Newspapers in Suffolk-Part 1 from 1720-1800*  
*Newspapers in Suffolk-Part 2 from 1801-1825*

**CDRom**

- \* ABM Publishing & S&N
  - 1851 Census Suffolk, Saxmundham, Aldeburgh Area*
  - 1851 Census Hertfordshire, Hitchin*
  - 1901 Census Kent, Sevenoaks*
  - Phillimore Parish Records*
  - Cornwall Vol. 9 (Marriages)*
  - Gloucestershire Vol. 9 (Marriages)*
  - Norfolk, Vol. 9 (Marriages)*
- Hampshire G.S.,  
*Baptism Index 1813-1841:Hampshire-excluding Isle of Wight (CofE only)*
- Kent F.H.S.,
  - Kent Parish Registers Vol. 6*
  - Kent Parish Registers Vol. 7*
- Suffolk F.H.S., *Suffolk Burial Index (1538-1900)*
- Wright, Dr David, *The West Kent Probate Index: Wills and Administrations for all courts and peculiars in the Diocese of Rochester 1750-1858*

\* Indicates donated items

## Huon Branch

President Betty Fletcher (03) 6264 1546

Secretary Libby Gillham (03) 6239 6529

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



A Christmas lunch in lieu of the December general meeting was held in early December.

Huon LINC proposed that an introductory half day course be given into family history research, particularly related to computer and internet usage. This is joint presentation between LINC volunteers and the Huon Branch. It is hoped that this course will lead to greater local interest in family history research, the use of our library and membership of TFHS. Huon LINC has expressed an interest in displaying competition entries in the Branch's Family Chart Competition.

Regular library opening commenced in February following the Christmas - New Year break.

### Acquisitions

#### Books

- \* Atlas of the World
- \* Brennan, Sharon, *Crossing the Seas to Build a Future: Twelve Generations of the Seabrook Family*
- \* Cadman, Keith A, *Who's Who in Australia 1998*
- \* Clark-Hansen, N, *The Huon Show 1947-1996*
- \* Corangamite Regional Library, *Microfiche, CD-ROM & Online Resources for Genealogical and Local History Research*
- \* Duncombe, Kathy, *Bruny Island's Story Tasmanian Mail 1916* by W J R
- \* Gee, Helen & Fenton, Janet Fenton (eds), *The South West Book : A Tasmanian Wilderness*  
Glover, Margaret & MacLochlainn (eds), *Letters of an Irish Patriot: William Paul Dowling in Tasmania*
- \* Graeme-Evans, Alex & Wilson Peter, *Built to Last: The story of the Shipwrights of Port Cygnet, Tasmania, and their boats 1863-1997*
- Johnson, Keith A. & Sainty, Malcolm R, *Genealogical Research Directory 2006*
- \* Litton, Pauline M, *Basic Facts about Family History Research in Yorkshire, second edition*
- \* McKay, Thelma, *Juveniles Requiring Education in Van Diemen's Land c1821-1822*
- Pols, Robert, *Dating Twentieth Century Photographs*
- Raymond, Stuart A, *Tracing your Twentieth Century Family History*  
*Genealogical Jargon*  
*Births, Marriages and Deaths on the Web: Part 1 Southern England, The Marches and Wales*  
*Births, Marriages and Deaths on the Web: Part 2 The Midlands, Northern England and East Anglia*

*Scottish Family History on the Web: A Directory*

- \* Schaffer, Irene, *A Story of John and Elizabeth Faulkner and their Life at Faulkner's Rivulet*  
TFHS Inc. Burnie Branch, *Index to The Advocate: Births Deaths & Marriages 1912-1915*
- \* Those Were the Days : School Days Dover Tasmania 1919-1954
- \* Tomaselli, Phil, *Military History Sources for Family Historians: The Crimean War 1854-56*
- \* *Military History Sources for Family Historians: The Anglo-Boer War 1899-1902*
- \* *Military History Sources for Family Historians: The Zulu War 1879*
- \* Ward, Malcolm, *Builder & Buildings: Seabrook Family Reunion Excursion, Hobart, Huonville and Franklin, 8 January 2006*

**CD-Roms**

- \* SCHAFFER, Irene, *Van Diemen's Land Records: Exiled Three Times Over; Land Musters, Stock Returns & Lists*  
TFHS Inc. Devonport Branch, *St George's Anglican Cemetery, New Ground, Moriarty, North-West Tasmania: Memorial Inscriptions, Transcriptions and Photographs*  
TFHS Inc.: *TFHS Members Interests 1998-2006*

\*Indicates donated items

---

## Launceston Branch

<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](mailto:bbissett@bigpond.net.au)

library: [ltntasfh@bigpond.com](mailto:ltntasfh@bigpond.com)



In October eight members from our Branch travelled to Burnie where they enjoyed generous hospitality and researching in the library, with some members having considerable success on Ancestry.com. Many thanks to Burnie Branch members!

Barrie Robinson our eHeritage Co-ordinator and his team of helpers are continuing their good work with an estimated 60% of the tombstones in our Branch area now photographed.

On Saturday 25 November a Christmas Luncheon was held in the very pleasant surroundings of "The Menzies", Clarendon, Nile, with 26 members enjoying the festivities.

Members willing to assist with the research queries are urgently required, please contact Helen.

**Meetings and Activities at 2 Taylor Street:** The committee has planned an interesting programme over the next few months, and would be delighted if you would attend and be prepared to contribute:



**Tuesday, 3 April, 3.30 pm:** Participating in the National Trust Tasmanian Heritage Festival – “Military Research and Resources”—Displays and Sausage Sizzle, \$2.00 per person. Can you help with items to display? (Library open as usual from 10am to 3pm)

**Wednesday 18 April, 2pm:** British Interest Group meet at the new venue, Adult Education rooms, York St—“Finding living relatives”. We anticipate an informal interactive session.

**Tuesday, 24 April, 7 pm:** Annual General Meeting—Speaker: Our committee member, Russell Watson, President of Legacy Tasmania—continuing with a military related theme, “The work of Legacy in Tasmania today”.

**Tuesday, 22 May, 7 pm:** “Researching Overseas”—First hand experiences

## Acquisitions

### Books

- \* Archive Office of Tasmania, *Church Registers held in the Archive Office*
- Beswick, John, *Brother's Home The Story of DERBY Tasmania*
- Chater, Kathy & Fowler, Simon, *Finding out about your Family History*
- \* Childs, Terry, *An early Tasmania Town Franklin Village*
- \* Duckers, Peter, *British Campaign Medals 1815-1914*
- Hemsley Jennifer, *Around the Country Circuits*
- Reminiscences of the Baptist Church family throughout "Tassie's Top Half"*
- Institute of Irish Studies, The Queen's University of Belfast,
- Ordnance Survey Memoirs of Ireland*
- Parishes of Co. Tyrone 1 1821, 1823, 1831-36*
- Parishes of Co. Down II 1832-4, 1837*
- Penguin History Group, *South Riana Cemetery*
- \* Sims, Peter C. OAM, *The Butler sisters Maclaine, Lapham & Radcliff families*
- Tait John, *TASPLACES-over 16,000 Tasmanian place names and where to find them*
- Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre, *Lungtalanana Clarke Island*
- Tomaselli, Phil, *The Anglo-Boer War 1899-1902*

### CDRom

ABM Publishing

*1851 Census Suffolk, Saxmundham, Aldeburgh Area*

*1851 Census Hertfordshire, Hitchin*

*Phillimore Parish Records*

*Gloucestershire Vol 9 (Marriages)*

*Norfolk Vol 9 (Marriages)*

Archive CD Books

*Index to the Irish marriages 1771-1812*

Sainty Malcolm, & Johnson Keith,

*Sydney Morning Herald Birth, Marriage Death & Funeral Notices 1831-1853*

*Weekly Times, Convicts & Passengers List*

\*Indicates donated items

## Library Notes

### State Microfiche Roster

	19/02/07	21/05/07	20/08/07	17/11/07	18/2/08
	18/05/07	17/08/07	16/11/07	15/02/08	16/05/08
<b>Burnie</b>	Set 4	Set 3	Set 2	Set 1	Set 5
<b>Devonport</b>	Set 5	Set 4	Set 3	Set 2	Set 1
<b>Hobart</b>	Set 1	Set 5	Set 4	Set 3	Set 2
<b>Huon</b>	Set 2	Set 1	Set 5	Set 4	Set 3
<b>Launceston</b>	Set 3	Set 2	Set 1	Set 5	Set 4
<b>Set 1</b>	GRO BDMs Index 1868–1897				
<b>Set 2</b>	Griffith's Valuation for Ireland Series. GRO Consular Records Index Old Parochial Records and 1891 Census Indexes for Scotland				
<b>Set 3</b>	GRO BDMs Index 1898–1922 and AGCI				
<b>Set 4</b>	National Probate Calendars 1853–1943				
<b>Set 5</b>	GRO BDMs Index 1923–1942 Exchange Journals Members' Interests and One Name Studies Index Lilian Watson Family History Award 2005 and entries				

### Devonport & Launceston Microfiche Roster

	19/02/07	21/05/07	20/08/07	17/11/07	18/2/08
	18/05/07	17/08/07	16/11/07	15/02/08	16/05/08
<b>Devonport</b>	Set 1	Set 1	Set 2	Set 1	Set 2
<b>Launceston</b>	Set 2	Set 2	Set 1	Set 2	Set 1
<b>Set 1</b>	GRO BDMs Index 1943-1946				
<b>Set 2</b>	GRO BDMs Index 1947-1950				

## Society Sales

The Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. publications  
(all prices inc. GST)  
*Merchant Card facilities now available (mail order only)*

**Mail orders (including postage) should be forwarded to the:**  
State Sales Officer, TFHS Inc., PO Box 191 Launceston TAS 7250

<b>Microfiche</b>	TAMIOT (p&p \$2.50)	\$55.00
<b>Books</b>	<i>My Most Interesting Ancestor</i> (p&p \$4.90)	\$9.00
	<i>Van Diemen's Land Heritage Index</i> , Vol. 3 (p&p \$4.90)	\$11.00
	<i>Van Diemen's Land Heritage Index</i> , Vol. 4 (p&p \$4.90)	\$11.00
	<i>Van Diemen's Land Heritage Index</i> , Vol. 5 (p&p \$4.90)	\$25.00
	Members (p&p \$4.20)	\$22.50
	<i>Tasmanian Ancestry Index Volumes 1—20</i> (p&p \$4.90)	\$22.50
	Members (p&p \$4.90)	\$20.00
<b>CD-Rom:</b>	<i>Tasmanian Federation Index</i> (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, 117 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 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 2007–08 (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](http://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](http://www.tasfhs.org).

## Reciprocal Rights:

TFHS Inc. policy is that our branches offer reciprocal rights to any interstate or overseas visitor who is a member of another Family History 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.

ISSN—0159 0677

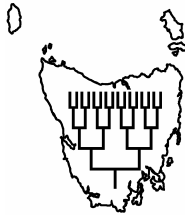
Printed by *The Design & Print Centre*—Launceston Tasmania

# 6th Annual General Meeting and Conference

---

## *Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.*

ABN 87 627 274 157



To be held at

**TAFE Campus  
Mooreville Road, Burnie**

**Saturday, 16th and Sunday 17th June 2007**

*Map of location of venue will be sent out with your receipt.*

**Book stalls and new publications from Branches  
will be on offer Saturday**

# Programme

## Saturday 16th June

- From 9.45 am**      **Registration and Morning Tea**
- 10.20 am**            • Welcome by Burnie Branch President  
• Early Bird prize
- 10.30 am**            **Genealogy Software for Family Historians**  
Presented by John Donaldson from VicGUM
- 11.30 am**            **Antique Roadshow**  
Presented by Craig Broadfield, Antique dealer and expert. You are welcome to bring along family jewellery or other small antique items for an appraisal.
- 12.40 – 1.10 pm**    **Lunch**
- 1.15 pm**             **Tracy Hohnke**  
Talk by Tracy who was one of the Settlers on the SBS show 'The Colony'
- 2.15 pm**             **Annual General Meeting**, including presentation of:  
• Lilian Watson Family History Award  
• Family Chart Competition  
• TFHS Inc. Awards  
• Journal Article Competition
- 3.10 pm**             **Afternoon Tea**
- 3.10 – 3.30 pm**      A meeting of the new State Executive
- 3.30 – 4.30 pm**      **Family Tree Maker Workshop**  
Presented by John Donaldson—your chance to ask John about using FTM.
- 6.30pm**             **Dinner at Mystery Location**  
*(Cost: \$30.00 for three course meal)*

# Sunday 17th June

- 9.30 am**                    **Pioneer Museum**  
Inspection of Museum and Presentation of the Emu Bay Cemetery (View Road). Unveiling of Restored Headstones.  
Morning tea included (*gold coin donation*)
- 12.30pm**                    **Lunch**  
Hellyers Road Distillery (Old Surrey Road, near the Lactos Cheese Tasting Centre) Australia's largest single malt whisky distillery.  
Members to pay their own meals from the a la carte menu, but please indicate if you intend coming so that we can book.



---

## Registration

**Closing date for registration and payment is by 1 June 2007**

The AGM Committee  
TFHS Inc. Burnie Branch  
PO Box 748, **Burnie** Tas 7320

Name/s .....

Address.....

.....

<u>I/we will be attending</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>\$ Total</u>
<b>Saturday</b> (Lunch, morning/ afternoon teas)	\$15.00	.....	.....
Dinner	\$30.00	.....	.....
<b>Sunday</b> (Pioneer Museum ) Gold coin on the day		.....	
<b>Sunday</b> Lunch ( <i>Pay on the day</i> )		.....	

Please find enclosed cheque for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## **Accommodation**

If you require accommodation in Burnie on either the Friday or Saturday nights, below are listed some options.

### **TAFE Student Residence**

Motel style accommodation, four single bedrooms per unit. Cost \$43.00 per head per night or \$48.00 per head including continental breakfast. To book with the TAFE residence please phone after 3.00pm week days. (03) 6434 5839.

### **Bayside Burnie**

139 Wilson St  
(03) 6431 4455

### **Beachfront Voyager Motor Inn**

9 North Terrace  
(03) 6431 4866

### **Weller's Inn**

36 Queen St  
(03) 6431 1088

### **King of Burnie**

20 Edwardes St  
(03) 6431 3222

### **Early Bird Prize**

Register before the **Monday 14th May** and you could be in the draw for the President's Early Bird Prize