

Tasmanian Ancestry



**TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY
SOCIETY INC.**

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TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

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Deadline dates for contributions by 1 January, 1 April, 1 July and 1 October

From the editor

Another year is almost over. I say it every year but they do flash by faster and faster. Before I have time to recover from this issue I will be worrying if there will be enough material for the next one. We never have too many so please finish off those stories you have started and send them in. Thank you to all who have contributed already.

The beautiful residence of *Sunnyside* in New Town has recently been for sale which reminded me of the article I found in *The Courier* of 5 October 1854. (See page 177.) Built about 1845, the house was the residence of Thomas Daniel CHAPMAN, merchant and politician, and his wife Katherine née SWAN. The article reads like a list of 'Who's Who' and conjures up wonderful images in my mind.

Many members of the Chapman and Swan families were interred in St Johns Burial Ground and I am continually fascinated by the connections and relationships to be 'uncovered' beneath the stones. A wonderful source of material for articles.

This time last year the cover of the journal was a photograph of Amelia WAYN. On a recent trip to NSW Joyce Purtscher discovered a collection of Wayn family photographs held by the Society of Genealogists in Sydney.

Enjoy reading, and our best wishes for a healthy and happy holiday and new year.

Rosemary Davidson

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Articles are welcomed in any format—handwritten, word processed, on disk or by email. Please ensure images are of good quality.

Deadline dates are:

1 January, 1 April, 1 July and 1 October

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

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.

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Cover:

Illustration supplied by Betty Jones for her article, *Moving On, Early Tasmanian Government Teacher Transfers*, see page 142.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As you may be aware, most of our Society's Executive officers carry out a number of different roles. In my case, I represent the society on a Joint Tasmanian Consultative Forum to the Tasmanian Archives and Heritage Office and the National Archives of Australia.

At a recent forum meeting, TAHO advised that a number of 'new' items have recently been made available online and are available to view through *Tasmanian Archives Online*, TALIS+ and online indexes.

Of particular interest to family history researchers are:

- **Tasmanian Police Gazettes** (formerly Reports of Crime) 1861–1933
- **Tasmanian colonial census records** 1840s–1850s
- **Tasmanian War Memorials Database** by Fred Thornett, 1996
- **Nurses Register, Launceston General Hospital**, 1891–1912, AB612
- **Additional convict conduct registers** of male convicts arriving on non-convict ships or locally convicted, CON37 (vols 5–7)
- **Wills:** Over 100,000 linked to online nominal index, *Index to Wills & Letters of Administration* 1824–1989 (AD960 and AD961)
- **Convict Records:** Continuation of the digitisation of these records listed on the UNESCO Memory of the World International Register has occurred. Since the last update a further eleven volumes of Convict Appropriation Lists (CON27) have been added.

The series CON37 has commenced with volumes 1 and 2 now available.

Additionally, I am advised that the *North West Advocate* (and its predecessor *Wellington Times*) and *Launceston Examiner* master microfilms have been outsourced to National Library of Australia (NLA) for digitisation as part of the Australian Newspaper Digitisation Program, and will therefore be available as part of the Australian Newspapers component of TROVE, the NLA's new discovery service, later this year.

As you read this, each branch of the Society will be 'winding down' for our traditional closure over the Christmas/New Year holiday period. The average closure period will be from mid-December to mid-January but exact dates should be given in the Branch Reports' overleaf.

I therefore take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a great New Year. ◀

Maurice Appleyard

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.

2010 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 2010

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

BRANCH REPORTS

Burnie

<http://www.clients.tas.webnet.com.au/geneal/brnbranch.htm>

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We have now well and truly settled into our new premises at the Portside building at Spring Street in Burnie. For members who would like to come

and visit there is ample paid parking available on the southern side of the building. The cost of parking is 90 cents per hour and operates during the day on week days and up till 1:00 pm on Saturdays. After 1:00 pm on Saturdays and evenings there is no fee. There is also free four hour parking down the southern end of Wilson Street, which is only a few minutes' walk to our Library.

We have had some interesting guest speakers at Branch meetings recently including Allan Jamieson who spoke on his book which he hopes to get published soon. This book is about the history and decisions behind the establishment of the paper mill at Burnie. Also Marilyn Quirk who gave a very interesting talk on her book about immigrants into Tasmania. At our September Day meeting member Bryan Lucas presented a very interesting talk on the records now held by the Pioneer Village Museum on the Emu Bay Railway. These include items such as early apprenticeship records, employee lists etc. The EBR, established in the late 1890s, has had a long and close association with the growth and

development of Burnie and the West Coast of Tasmania.

The Pioneer Village Museum, which is well known for its Streetscape scene depicting early Burnie, also houses a very important collection of other historical documents. Included are the Winter Photography Collection, Emu Bay Railway Collection, Burnie Paper Mill collection, VDL Records to name a few.

The Branch committee extends all the best for the coming festive season and trust the new year brings joy and the tools to break down brick walls for all.

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We had some members who had not renewed their memberships even after we had sent out reminders. Just recently we sent another reminder. From the latest

mail out we have received seven renewals. We also had a few who retired due to illness.

Our Library has had a facelift. The building is owned by the council and they recently replaced the existing roof and gave the building a fresh coat of paint. Looks amazing. We also received a grant to purchase a dehumidifier. This is working well. It has aided our heating and draws round three litres of moisture out of the air every couple of days. We

held a soup and sandwich luncheon in August. Our guest speaker was Barbara Wells from the Kentish Museum. We are holding our major fundraiser a Christmas Hamper which will be drawn at our Christmas Luncheon.

Coming Events

- 25 November**—Legacy Users Group (LUG)
12 December—Christmas Luncheon at Villaret Tea Gardens
27 January—Annual Barbeque at our Library
24 February—to be confirmed, Walking tour of Latrobe
31 March—Trip to Ulverstone Museum
Please keep watch on our website if you have any questions or want to join us for any of our events please phone the secretary. Hope to see you soon.

Hobart

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At our July meeting, branch member Malcolm Ward presented a most interesting talk about some of his ancestors—‘The Blake Family, Brewers of Bothwell and Hobart’. This talk was illustrated by an excellent Power Point presentation which included maps and pictures of early Bothwell.

The August meeting saw Stephanie Fehre speak about the Fehre family in Tasmania. This family owned a large farm in what is now Lower Sandy Bay.

She was supported by her husband and a number of other family members who brought along family heirlooms and other memorabilia making it a very informative and interesting occasion.

At our September meeting, Malcolm Kays spoke about some of his family, particularly Rippon Shield who was the stonemason responsible for building a number of Hobart’s well known sandstone buildings including St Mary’s Cathedral, the Congregational Memorial Church, the original AMP building and the VDL Bank on the opposite corner of Elizabeth and Collins Streets. This talk was also well illustrated and proved to be a particularly interesting talk about someone who deserves more recognition than is generally given.

General Meetings

Members are reminded all general meetings are held at ‘The Sunday School’, St Johns Park, New Town, on the third Tuesday in the month at 7:30 pm. Note the new starting time! Visitors are always welcome at these meetings.

At the time of writing this report, planning for 2011 is well under way. On the 15 February our first meeting for the year will commence at the earlier time of 7:00 pm to allow a guided tour of the St Johns Precinct. An old friend in Nicola Goc returns in March to talk about her current research area of the personal/family photograph, whilst in April, Arthur Orchard will present a talk about his recently published book, *Diary of an Anzac*. This is very appropriate as Anzac Day follows shortly after our meeting.

Family History Computer Users Group

This large and enthusiastic group meets at the branch library on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm under the expert leadership of Vee Maddock.

WISE Interest Group

The Wales, Ireland, Scotland and England group is currently in recess, but is looking at resuming meetings if sufficient interest is shown. Contact the Secretary, or phone (03) 6244 4527 if you are interested.

Family History Writers Group

This group has been meeting at the branch library on the fifth Thursday of each month when it occurs. Members working on individual projects will share them with the group in an informal workshop. All welcome! For more details contact Dianne Snowden on dsn Snowden@tassie.net.au or 6260 2515.

Details of these meetings and other activities may be found on our website at <http://www.hobart.tasfhs.org>

Launceston

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Work is continuing on indexing of *The Tasmanian Mail* (a photographic index)—volume 9 1927–1928 is now in work. *The Kelso Chronicle*—a series of

Scottish newspapers covering the years 1855–1865, has been completed, and indexing work is now continuing on the next volume of *The Weekly Courier*, Volume 7, 1914–1915.

During the past months there has been a good response to the workshops which have mostly provided an electronic-based

learning forum, for researching both local and overseas resources.

Again, our research volunteers have been kept busy by an influx of queries and it is good to see so many downloading the Research Request form from the Launceston Branch website, thus streamlining the researchers' task.

There was a good response to the Seniors' Week special open day—more bookings than could be handled on the day, but people were willing to come to the library on the normal opening days.

Saturday Library Hours—by appointment only—phone (03) 6344 4034.

Tuesday 7 December: 3:00 pm: 45 Tamar St Library closes for Christmas holidays and re-opens on Tuesday 18 January.

Monday 17 January: 9:30am: working bee at the library.

Wednesday 16 February: 2:00 pm: BIG meet at Adult Education Rooms.

Wednesday 16 March: 2:00 pm: National Library of Australia—Newspapers online, at Adult Education Rooms.

Check the website for a list of publications now available from Launceston Branch.

Huon Branch

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No report received



A THIRKELL BY ANOTHER NAME

Part 1: CATHERINE MACK AND FRANCIS SOUTHERNWOOD

Richie Woolley (Member No.144)

As every serious researcher soon learns, family stories relating to our forbears are often distorted or embellished versions of the truth. On one occasion, however, a small piece of traditional information relating to a particular branch of my family tree proved to be highly significant, although it took me some time to realise this. The crucial detail was given to me by my grandmother, Leila May SNOOKS (1904–2000), who was of great assistance to me when I first started my research in 1976. She told me, among many other things, that her grandmother, Mary Ann ADAMS (1857–1926), was the daughter of William Adams (c1822-1900) and Elizabeth THIRKELL. Leila generally proved to be a reliable source, so I was somewhat surprised when I subsequently obtained a birth certificate for Mary Ann that named her mother as Elizabeth SOUTHERNWOOD.¹ The latter surname also appeared on Elizabeth's marriage certificate,² and further research yielded a record of her baptism in Launceston in June 1836 as the daughter of Francis and Catherine 'Sutherland'.³ She had been born less than two weeks earlier, on 9 June 1836, although it was not clear exactly where the event had occurred. Her parents had been married at Longford on 25 November 1833,⁴ and

as Catherine's maiden name was MACK, it seemed that, contrary to my grandmother's belief, Elizabeth had absolutely no connection to the Thirkell family.

I was quickly able to determine that both Francis Southernwood and Catherine Mack were convicts.⁵ Catherine, who was born about 1808, later nominated 'Hedley' as her native place,⁶ but it is not clear whether she was referring to Headley in Surrey, Headley in Hampshire, or Hedley in Northumberland. The latter place may be the most likely option, however, as census records indicate that members of a Mack family were long-term residents of that village.⁷

What is more certain is that Catherine was working as a servant in the *Gloucester Hotel* in London in October 1830 when she was arrested for drunkenness.⁸ After being taken into custody, an inspection of a 'box' that she used to contain some of her clothes revealed the presence of a handkerchief and a collar which had been reported stolen by a former guest at the hotel. This led to a charge of theft and an appearance in court, where Catherine, who had denied taking the items when their disappearance was first noticed,

¹ Longford District, Birth No.1353, 1857

² Tasmanian Marriage No.1244, 1853

³ Tasmanian Baptism No.7150, 1836

⁴ Tasmanian Marriage No.2363, 1833

⁵ TAHO, CON 31/1/38, No.770; CON 40/1/7, No.136

⁶ TAHO, CON 19/1/12, p.57

⁷ www.ancestry.com The family was listed as 'Mock' in 1841, but later returns record their name as 'Mack'.

⁸ www.oldbaileyonline.org

claimed that she had subsequently found the collar on the stairs and the handkerchief in the 'water-closet'. Her story was not believed, and a conviction resulted in her being sentenced to transportation for seven years.

Catherine arrived here on the *America* in May 1831,⁹ at which time she was described as a laundry maid. She was only 1.47 metres tall (4 feet and 10 inches in the measurement of the times), with a pale complexion, dark brown hair, and grey eyes.¹⁰ Her most distinctive feature, however, was probably her mouth, which was said to be very large, with thick lips that were 'habitually open', probably because of the 'prominent' teeth in her upper jaw.

Catherine was initially assigned to Rev. John HUTCHINSON,¹¹ a Wesleyan minister who was based in Hobart,¹² but she had been transferred to the service of a Mr GIBLIN by September when her intemperate habits resulted in the first of a number of court appearances that she made during her time as a convict.¹³ On this occasion Catherine was simply admonished for being drunk and 'absent without leave', but the reprimand seems to have had no effect on her, and just a month later she was sentenced to six days in a cell on bread and water for drunkenness and 'Indecent Conduct'. A similar punishment was meted out to her in November for being drunk, disorderly and insolent, with an exasperated Giblin

telling the authorities that Catherine was 'usually' a good servant, 'but for her failing of getting drunk'.

Reassignment to a different household had little impact on Catherine's behaviour, and in January 1832 she was sentenced to ten days' imprisonment for being drunk and insolent to her mistress. She was again in trouble shortly after her release, with an absence from her service resulting in her being sent to the House of Correction, where she was to be 'placed at the Wash Tub' for a month (perhaps a fitting punishment for a former laundry maid).

Catherine seems to have been assigned to the New Norfolk area after emerging from the House of Correction,¹⁴ but if the authorities hoped that her removal from the temptations of Hobart would have a beneficial effect on her conduct, they were to be disappointed. Another bout of drinking in April earned her three days in solitary confinement on bread and water, and in May she was sent back to the House of Correction for three months after being found guilty of 'Lewd & disorderly Conduct in her Master's house'. She had barely completed this sentence when she was returned to the 'Wash Tub' for another month, this time for being drunk and insolent to her mistress.

Although it is not specifically noted in Catherine's record, it seems likely that at this point it was decided to send her somewhere where her access to alcohol

⁹ TAHO, CON 40/1/7, No.136

¹⁰ TAHO, CON 19/1/12, p.57

¹¹ TAHO, CON 27/1/1

¹² Robson, *A History of Tasmania*, Volume 1, 1983, p.275

¹³ TAHO, CON 40/1/7, No.136. Her new master was probably Robert W Giblin, who was in charge of the Orphan School at New Town.

¹⁴ This conclusion is based on the fact that the sentencing magistrates for her next two offences were Robert Officer and Edward Dumaresq, both of whom were serving in New Norfolk area at the time, although Dumaresq later moved to the north of the colony. [*Colonial Times*, 30 November 1831, 23 October 1832]

could be more easily controlled. The convict muster held in December 1832 records that her eventual destination was the isolated farm of *Rothbury*, owned by James Cubbiston SUTHERLAND and situated on the western bank of the Isis River in a sparsely settled area more than 20 kilometres west of Campbell Town.¹⁵

It was Catherine's placement with Sutherland that brought her into contact with her future husband. Francis Southernwood, who was a native of Walcot, near Bath, in Somerset, had arrived here in October 1826 on the *Chapman*.¹⁶ He was said to be 18 years old at that time,¹⁷ and had been sentenced to transportation for seven years for stealing lead. His voyage to Van Diemen's Land had been an eventful one, with the *Chapman* suffering serious damage during a storm in the Atlantic Ocean. The ship was obliged to call in to Rio de Janeiro for repairs, with two convicts taking the opportunity to escape while the vessel was in port.¹⁸

Francis was assigned to Sutherland shortly after arriving in the colony, with his master noting in his diary on 24 October 1826 that his 'new lad Southernwood' had been brought to *Rothbury*.¹⁹ It took just a week for Sutherland to begin referring to his young servant as 'Frank',²⁰ with the latter required to perform many tasks, including

ploughing, harvesting crops, cutting stone in a quarry, making mortar, splitting plating and drying malt.

While Francis generally managed to stay out of trouble during his time at *Rothbury*, he did receive 25 lashes for 'Being instrumental in causing the death of one of his Master's Pigs' in October 1827.²¹ The events that led to the flogging were recorded in some detail by Sutherland,²² who had sent Francis to a neighbour's farm to retrieve some sows that had been taken there for breeding purposes:

In the morning the white sow brought home yesterday by Frank was found dead with numerous marks of violence & contusions on her body – I questioned Frank as to the cause of her death – he vowed he "knew nothing about it" – Shortly afterwards he was surprised by [one of my other men] Colin into admission that the sow fell out of the cart & was hurt ...

Francis also claimed that he had been injured in the incident, but this drew little sympathy from Sutherland, who on the next day 'despatched' his servant to the local magistrate for punishment. He noted that his complaint against Francis was

not founded on the accident (if it was one) by which I have lost a sow well worth £10—but for his not mentioning it to Colin on his arrival on Monday evening, that we might well have saved her life or killed her in time for pork—and moreover after the sow had died, for the young rascal's shameless mendacity in denying to me that she had any injury.

¹⁵ TAHO, HO 10/48, p.232; LSD 407/1/1; *Hobart Town Gazette*, 8 April 1825, 28 April 1827, 2 June 1827

¹⁶ TAHO, CON 31/1/38, No.770. Francis' brother James, who used the Southerwood spelling, was also transported to Van Diemen's Land. He arrived in 1828 on the *William Miles*.

¹⁷ TAHO, CON 23/1/3, No.770

¹⁸ TAHO, CON 23/1/3, No.770

¹⁹ TAHO, NS 61/1/2, 24 October 1826

²⁰ TAHO, NS 61/1/2, 31 October 1826

²¹ TAHO, CON 31/1/38, No.770

²² TAHO, NS 61/1/2, 29 October–1 November 1827

The incident does not seem to have soured the relationship between the two men, and Francis continued to work for Sutherland. He was transferred to duties in the kitchen later in 1827,²³ whereupon he all but disappears from his master's diary, which overwhelmingly concentrates on outdoor activities. Francis did feature in some other correspondence, however, with Sutherland writing to the Colonial Secretary in January 1832 to request that the latter would be 'so obliging as to favour him with the reasons for denying to his servant, Francis Southernwood, a Ticket of Leave, so long prayed for'.²⁴

Unfortunately for Francis, Sutherland had written to the wrong government official,²⁵ which caused further delay, and the much-desired indulgence was not issued until May,²⁶ just six months before Francis completed his sentence. The latter event was officially acknowledged in October 1832,²⁷ but Francis again attracted the attention of the authorities just nine months later when he was fined £2 and ordered to pay court costs for an unspecified breach of the Harbours Act.²⁸

The most significant thing about this relatively minor penalty was that it was imposed by two magistrates – Richard WILLIS and John LEAKE – who served in the Campbell Town area,²⁹ which indicates that Francis had remained in the district after regaining his freedom. In

fact, he was probably still living and working at *Rothbury*, which was certainly where his wife-to-be was based at this time. Both she and her husband were said to be 'of the Parish of Campbell Town' when they were married in the Anglican Church at Longford in November 1833,³⁰ and just a month later Catherine's master was again recorded as 'Mr. J. C. Sutherland'.³¹

Catherine was still assigned to Sutherland in December 1835,³² but there is little precise information about the Southernwoods' movements over the next few years. Their 'Abode' was listed as Launceston when Elizabeth was baptised there in June 1836,³³ but this is questionable, as Catherine was said to be working for someone named Sutherland in April 1837 when she was ordered to change her residence after being convicted for using abusive language towards Catherine CUTLER.³⁴ The magistrate who delivered this judgement was recorded as 'JC', which is probably a reference to James CREAM, a member of the Campbell Town bench.³⁵ If this identification is correct, then it is further evidence that Catherine was still an assigned servant at *Rothbury* at this time. It is also clear that compliance with the court's instructions must have involved only a minor relocation within the district, as some five months later it was also 'JC' who ordered that Francis and another man should be tried in the Supreme Court in Launceston on a receiving charge.³⁶ The case involved the

²³ TAHO, NS 61/1/2, 19 December 1827

²⁴ TAHO, CSO 1/569/12818, p.253

²⁵ TAHO, CSO 1/569/12818, p.253

²⁶ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 19 May 1832

²⁷ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 19 October 1832

²⁸ TAHO, CON 31/1/38, No.770

²⁹ *Hobart Town Courier*, 29 June 1832, 4 August 1832, 8 March 1833, 22 August 1834

³⁰ Tasmanian Marriage No. 2363, 1833

³¹ TAHO, HO 10/49, p.229

³² TAHO, HO 10/50, p.300

³³ TAHO, NS 748/1/4

³⁴ TAHO, CON 40/1/7, No.136

³⁵ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 10 January 1834

³⁶ TAHO, CON 31/1/38, No.770

theft of some paling, but both men were acquitted when the matter was heard in October.³⁷

Catherine completed her seven-year sentence just a few weeks after this event,³⁸ and both she and Francis were then free to move about the colony as they chose. Their life together was seriously disrupted in September 1839, however, when a Supreme Court conviction for larceny resulted in Francis being sentenced to two years' hard labour in chains.³⁹ He had been committed for trial on this charge in July, with the magistrate making that decision listed as 'FCS'.⁴⁰ This was almost certainly Frederick Coape SMITH, who was based at Longford at this time.⁴¹ Court records indicate that the offence, which involved the theft of 'three boards' with a total value of two shillings and six pence, had occurred at Perth,⁴² which suggests that Francis—and presumably Catherine and Elizabeth, as well—had left the Campbell Town district by this time.

Francis was sent south to begin his punishment. He served some seventeen months in the New Town Bay chain gang before being 'removed' to 'Restdown' on the eastern side of the River Derwent.⁴³

On the completion of his sentence he returned to his wife and child in the north of the colony, and the reunited family

was living at Perth when the census was taken in January 1842.⁴⁴ Exactly how Catherine and Elizabeth had survived during Francis' absence remains unknown.

Two children were born to the Southernwoods at Perth in the next few years: a daughter named Mary Ann in March 1843, and a son called John James in December 1845.⁴⁵ Francis was working as a carpenter during this period, and he later served as the local poundkeeper as well.⁴⁶ In December 1846 he bought a small parcel of land at what is now 48 Main Road, Perth,⁴⁷ and the family seems to have enjoyed a modest degree of comfort and prosperity for the rest of their lives. The fact that Francis was a landowner later earned him the right to vote,⁴⁸ a privilege that was denied to most of the community (including all women).

Francis continued to dabble in the real estate market over the years, adding to his Perth holdings in 1856, 1858 and 1859,⁴⁹ with some of this land sold later for a small profit.⁵⁰

³⁷ *Hobart Town Courier*, 20 October 1837

³⁸ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 29 September 1837

³⁹ TAHO, CON 31/1/38, No.770; *Cornwall Chronicle*, 17 August 1839. A second man, Paul Walker, was also found guilty of the same offence.

⁴⁰ TAHO, CON 31/1/38, No.770

⁴¹ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 16 February 1838, 7 August 1840

⁴² TAHO, LC 362/1/4

⁴³ TAHO, CON 31/1/38, No.770

⁴⁴ TAHO, CEN 1/1/33, pp.145–146

⁴⁵ Longford District, Birth No.644, 1845; TAHO, NS 907/1/24 (Perth Anglican baptisms). Mary Ann's birth was not registered, and John was given a different second name (Henry instead of James) and a different date of birth when he was baptised.

⁴⁶ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 21 February 1854

⁴⁷ Land Titles Office (LTO), General Law Deeds, No.3/4182, No.3/4184

⁴⁸ 1856 Tasmanian Electoral Roll, House of Assembly, Division of Norfolk Plains

⁴⁹ LTO, Deeds No.4/3764, No.4/5776; TAHO, RD 1/42/12

⁵⁰ LTO, Deeds No.5/1346, No.5/1347, No.5/4822, No.5/5074, No.5/5384

Catherine died at Perth on 26 October 1867,⁵¹ and was buried in the local Anglican cemetery. Francis joined her there two years later,⁵² having found time to remarry in the intervening period.⁵³ His second wife, Catherine MURPHY, was only 28 years old when they exchanged vows, and, like so many people of this era who married a significantly younger partner, Francis understated his age by several years at the time of their wedding.

Francis' widow soon remarried,⁵⁴ and played no further role in what seemed to be a relatively straightforward family history.

The first indication that Elizabeth Southernwood's background was in fact more complex than it appeared came when I looked at her father's will,⁵⁵ in which, to my great surprise, Francis referred to Elizabeth as his 'Step Daughter'. After some puzzlement, I eventually remembered my grandmother's original comments, and decided to see if I could find any link between the Southernwoods and the Thirkell family. Fortunately, the latter name is not a common one in Tasmania, and my attention was quickly drawn to Robert Thirkell, a wealthy pastoralist who lived in the northern midlands. His will contained no reference to either Elizabeth or her parents,⁵⁶ but a trip to the Registry of Deeds to investigate his extensive landholdings yielded exactly the kind of

information that I had hoped to find. The key document related to a transfer,⁵⁷ made in 1844 but not registered until just a few months before Robert's death in 1876,⁵⁸ whereby he gave a small parcel of land at what is now 22 King Street in Perth to Elizabeth, who was described, carefully and significantly, as the 'infant Daughter of Catherine Sutherwood, the Wife of Francis Sutherwood' (rather than as the daughter of both Catherine and Francis). Robert received no payment for his land, with the change in ownership made because of the 'regard and affection which the said Robert Thirkell hath and beareth unto the said Elizabeth Sutherwood'.

There seems little doubt that Elizabeth was Robert's daughter. Both Robert and Francis clearly believed this, and they presumably had good reasons for doing so. Elizabeth was conceived around September 1835, during the period when the Southernwoods were at *Rothbury*, and Robert was living at *Newham Park*,⁵⁹ some 12 to 13 kilometres away as the crow flies. Unfortunately, Sutherland's diary, which might have provided some details relating to interactions between Robert and the *Rothbury* household, does not cover the relevant period, so it seems unlikely that the exact circumstances surrounding Elizabeth's birth will ever be known. Such details were forgotten—or perhaps suppressed, given that they involved marital infidelity—by Elizabeth's descendants, although the belief that she was a Thirkell rather than a Southernwood survived long enough to be passed down to my grandmother, who

⁵¹ Longford District, Death No.277, 1867. Catherine's headstone lists her date of death as 27 October.

⁵² Longford District, Death No.283, 1869

⁵³ Tasmanian Marriage No.506, 1868

⁵⁴ Tasmanian Marriage No.664, 1870

⁵⁵ TAHO, AD 960/1/9, No.1371, p 84

⁵⁶ TAHO, AD 960/1/11, No.1963, pp.261–267

⁵⁷ LTO, Deed No.6/1892

⁵⁸ Launceston District, Death No.3200, 1876

⁵⁹ *Hobart Town Courier*, 20 February 1835; LTO, Deed No.1/6237

spent several years living at Perth among her Adams relatives.

It may be that Robert's act of kindness towards his illegitimate daughter was one of the reasons why the memory of her true paternity was preserved. It is also possible that Robert had helped the Southernwoods prior to his gift to Elizabeth, as he first bought land at Perth in 1836,⁶⁰ and the family may have been living on his property when Francis was convicted in 1839. Robert may have also provided some assistance to Catherine and Elizabeth while Francis was serving his sentence but, even if he didn't, the land that he later gave to Elizabeth was certainly of value to her, as it was the site of her home for most of her married life.⁶¹ She died at Perth on 3 May 1890,⁶² and was buried next to Francis and Catherine. Her husband William Adams, who was a former convict,⁶³ continued to occupy their house until his death on 23 January 1900,⁶⁴ with some of the couple's descendants also living on the property in later years.⁶⁵ ◀

[Robert Thirkell's story will be continued in Part 2 of this article. March 2011.]

⁶⁰ LTO, Deed No.2/391

⁶¹ Valuation Rolls, *Hobart Town Gazette*, 18 May 1858, 3 December 1861, 19 March 1867, 30 January 1872, 29 January 1878, 20 January 1885, etc

⁶² *Examiner*, 5 May 1890

⁶³ TAHO, CON 31/1/83, No.19167

⁶⁴ Valuation Rolls, *Hobart Town Gazette*, 12 January 1892, 5 March 1895, 8 February 1898; *Tasmanian Federation Index*, Death No.790, 1900

⁶⁵ LTO, Deed No.16/5407. Mrs. Ruby Zellah Rose Watson, nee Anderson (1898–1978), who is mentioned in the document, was a daughter of Mary Ann Adams.

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MOVING ON

EARLY TASMANIAN GOVERNMENT TEACHER TRANSFERS

Betty Jones (Member No.6032)

IT is not clear exactly when, after the formation of the Board of Education in 1839, that teachers in Van Diemen's Land were given the opportunity to apply for transfers to other schools for their own reasons, but it is apparent that teachers were being moved for the Board's convenience from at least the early 1840s.

By the mid 1850s a two-way process was operational, particularly noticeable among some of the eight imported English-trained teachers who had been contracted in 1855 for five years by the Government in an effort to boost teacher quality in the colony.

For example, Mr William JOHNSTON, who had expressed his disappointment at being placed at Campbell Town in 1855, was finally granted his wish for a more suitable location when he was transferred to Trinity Hill in Hobart in 1859.

Personal needs prompted most requests for transfer

The desire to have one's basic personal needs met in order to feel content is an inherent human trait. In the nineteenth and very early twentieth centuries, Tasmanian teachers frequently displayed their unhappiness at not having their

basic needs fulfilled when they applied for transfers. Common reasons for wanting moves related to: a search for adequate and safe living conditions, access to fresh food and water, access to congenial relationships with others of like mind, intellectual and cultural stimulation, health and availability of medical advice, proximity to public transport, opportunities for personal advancement, and money.

- Mr John William HUTTON asked for a transfer from Hastings in May 1903: He had eight boys and three girls, and was not able to

keep a cow, which was a huge disadvantage to a large family. Also, there was no doctor nearer than Franklin or Hobart.¹

- In 1899 Mr Charles Frederick WOOLNOUGH requested a transfer from Broadmarsh on the grounds that the school residence was utterly inadequate for his family of ten. He described the entire sleeping space available as consisting of two attics, 14 feet by 11 feet, and 14 feet by 13 feet, 7 feet high at



¹ AOT: ED2/1/573; file 736

the apex. A further concern expressed was that the only water available was from the River Jordan, which was often stagnant.²

- Mr David Lamph WHITCHURCH sought a move from Cressy in December 1904, stating that the accommodation provided was too small and unhealthy for his family. There were only four rooms suitable for human dwelling, and there were nine family members. They had had an unbroken run of sickness and death since they had arrived. There was a church and burial yard next to the residence, and their garden had been the receptacle of the closet fill for nearly fifty years.³

The Department showed compassion on some occasions

In January 1894, the Department was informed by local residents of Bream Creek that the husband of Mrs Rose Ann (née McGUIRE) McMANUS had been giving trouble by going to the schoolroom and abusing and striking his wife in front of the children. In February 1894, Mrs McManus was formally advised by the Department that if she did not at once cause her husband to be bound over to keep the peace, her employment would cease. In March 1894, Mrs McManus preferred a charge of assault against her husband, who was fined 10/6 or 14 days' imprisonment. In July of that year she was transferred to Trinity Hill, for which Mrs McManus expressed her thanks. Next she was moved quietly to Charles Street State School in Launceston. In 1902 Mr McManus sought the whereabouts of his wife from the Department, but was

advised that they were unwilling to interfere in domestic matters.⁴

At other times the employer seemed harsh

Miss Hannah May RICHARDS joined the Board of Education in 1883, married William Demarney WELLS in 1894, and continued teaching. In June 1899, then at Wattle Hill State School, Mrs Wells sought a transfer to a similar position in the vicinity of Sorell Railway where her husband was a guard on that line. No transfer was forthcoming. In September 1900 the Inspector recorded that Mrs Wells resided in Sorell, over five miles from the Wattle Hill School, and had to drive out every morning and return to Sorell at the end of the day. In April 1901, Inspector GARRETT noted that Mrs Wells had been absent on sick leave for eight weeks since the previous November. He asserted that none but a person in robust health could journey every day to and from Sorell in all weathers without breaking down. It was acknowledged that it would be a hardship for Mrs Wells to live away from her husband whose duties in the Railway Department required him to be constantly in Sorell, particularly as they then had four young children. At the same time, Inspector Garrett insisted that the school must not suffer. Mrs Wells was warned that failure to make an arrangement that would satisfy the Department with regard to the occupation of the residence would result in the requirement for Mrs Wells to occupy it herself. In May 1901 Mrs Wells indicated that she felt physically unable to endure the constant driving out to the school even for a few weeks longer. The Department accepted her resignation from the end of that month.⁵

² AOT: ED2/1/795; file 967

³ AOT: ED2/1/1205; file 1416

⁴ AOT: ED2/1/1223; file 1434

⁵ AOT: ED2/1/925; file 1106

Some transfers were instigated by local residents

Petitions signed by local residents to have teachers removed were very common in small communities throughout the State. The reasons given by the authors of the documents might best be summed up as often petty and stemming from personal vendettas within the community, or based on gossip and misinformation. At the same time, the complaints underlined the high expectations the public held of teachers and, in turn, the lack of privacy experienced by them. The Education Department's senior officers almost always carried out careful investigations into allegations made against teachers. In most cases the accusations were judged as lacking substance or exaggerated, but the resultant damage caused to the health and career prospects of the teachers concerned often was long-term. Sad instances of serious illness, bouts of excessive alcohol consumption, depression and even suicide are all too frequently contained in the records. The Department usually justified such transfers as being for the sake of the school.

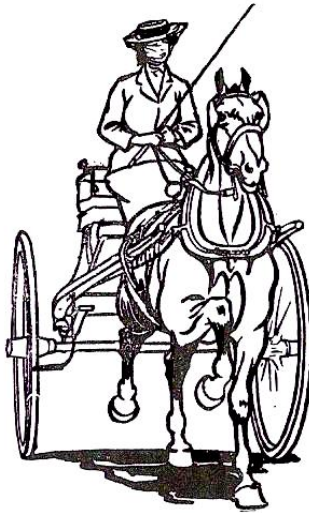
Many communities were very welcoming

While the records show that certain communities consistently found problems with their teachers, other communities had a record of being particularly kind and welcoming to their schools' staffs. A well-attended public farewell was held for Mr Arthur William PYWELL and his

wife, Matilda Alice (nee BARON), when they were transferred from Parattah in 1903 after 14 years' residence there. During the evening, Mr Pywell was presented with an illuminated address and a purse of sovereigns. The Pywells were praised for the way in which they had identified themselves with everything that could advance Parattah in any way.⁶

The Department had its share of problems too

Mr William BUGBY, who originally joined the Department in 1886, and then had on-and-off brief appointments before finally settling into Government teaching in earnest from August 1897, provides a good subject for a case study on some of the difficulties faced by the Department in trying to accommodate individual teachers' wishes. Mr Bugby married Lucy Florence KING in 1896 at Stanley, and she worked conscientiously alongside him, usually in the position of Teacher of Sewing. Mr Bugby was recognised as a committed teacher, but he expressed his dissatisfaction continually to the Department on a number of matters, most of which stemmed from his being placed in locations that he considered unsatisfactory for his needs, and not being paid highly enough for his work. Mr Bugby, at his own request, was transferred from Black Brush to Forcett at the end of 1900. Forcett proved not to his liking, and he



continuously alongside him, usually in the position of Teacher of Sewing. Mr Bugby was recognised as a committed teacher, but he expressed his dissatisfaction continually to the Department on a number of matters, most of which stemmed from his being placed in locations that he considered unsatisfactory for his needs, and not being paid highly enough for his work. Mr Bugby, at his own request, was transferred from Black Brush to Forcett at the end of 1900. Forcett proved not to his liking, and he

⁶ *The Mercury*, 8 September 1903

quickly started agitating to be removed. In July 1903, the Bugbys were offered a transfer to Harford on the North-West Coast. Mr Bugby rejected the move stating that, by then, he had a delicate infant daughter to consider, and Harford was too distant a spot and one too difficult to access. He claimed that he wanted to be placed on a main railway line, or else in some large town in which he could supplement his

totally inadequate salary by giving music lessons, organ performances and intellectual lectures, as well as making [himself] useful in the community ... we should like to go to Castle Forbes Bay.

Mr and Mrs Bugby were next offered a transfer to the school at Upper Huon. However, Mr Bugby indicated then that he would much prefer to go to Smithton where they would be closer to his wife's family members. That arrangement was acceded to by the Department in August 1903 but, after quickly developing ill-feeling with parents at the school there, the Bugbys were transferred south again at the end of 1903, this time to Ridgeway and Summerleas.⁷ Mr and Mrs Bugby then returned to Black Brush, a place from which they had asked to be removed in 1900. Mr Bugby remained there from 1906 to 1922, at which time he retired from teaching. In fairness to Mr Bugby, it must be added that he was, indeed, a learned and accomplished man in his own right. His biographical details show that he was competent in giving public intellectual lectures and had strong musical abilities. He obviously expressed his frustration when he felt opportunities to fulfil his needs were beyond his control.

⁷ AOT: ED2/1/921; file 1103

Women in particular, were affected by isolation

- Miss Katherine POULTON was transferred from Wynyard to Jackey's Marsh in 1901 and found the move most distasteful. In June of that year Miss Poulton reported that the climate was too severe for her frail mother, and that she had had to send her away. All alone then, Miss Poulton felt isolated and anxious:

I feel so wretched I do not know what to do for the best. I am obliged to eat kangaroo for I cannot obtain butter or fresh meat. This is one of the hardest trials of my life.⁸

- In 1900, Mr Miles M MOORHOUSE, Head Teacher at Bangor, wrote to the Department concerning the health of his wife, Henrietta Ethel (née RICHARDSON), who was the school's Teacher of Sewing. He explained that Mrs Moorhouse had no friends within a reasonable distance that she could go to at any time and have a pleasant chat, and she hardly went out from one month's end to another. Mrs Moorhouse had told her husband that she would not live at Bangor another year, for any money, as she was afraid she would go mad.⁹

- In 1900, Mrs Emma (née CHEESMAN) HUMPHRIES, a recent widow, sought a transfer out of Hastings. She explained that for three days every week there was no fresh meat or vegetables for her anaemic daughters. As well, their house was isolated and not safe for females without male protection. Mrs Humphries described how it was not an uncommon occurrence for her to spend a night in unspeakable terror of midnight intrusions. She claimed that her nervous system was quite shattered.¹⁰

⁸ AOT: ED2/1/1359; file 1577

⁹ AOT: ED2/1/1179; file 1389

¹⁰ AOT: ED2/1/1190; file 1400

Transfers could be costly

It is not uncommon to find in the records statements made by teachers to the effect that they could not afford to ask for a transfer. The Department's general stance was that if a transfer was made for the benefit of the Department (that is, it was instigated by them), there was a chance that costs could be reimbursed by the Government. However, when a teacher sought a move for personal reasons, it was rare that any financial compensation was forthcoming. Details of Mr Arthur Thomas CONROY's physical transfer from Somerset to Queenstown in early 1904 are well-documented, and provide a good illustration of the complications and costs involved in such removals for teachers and their families: On 12 January 1904, a horse and trap was hired from Bay View Livery and Bait Stables, Burnie to remove the family to Burnie Railway Station at a cost of 7/6. W H BRANDER, Parcels and Luggage Delivery, Burnie charged 11/6 to remove furniture and goods from Somerset to Burnie on the same day. That furniture was sent by rail to Queenstown for £4/6/11. C H FYNES, General Carrier, Queenstown charged 7/6 to collect goods from the railway station there two days later and transport them to the school. Emu Bay Railway Co Ltd was paid £5/2/8 for 3½ single First Class tickets from Burnie to Zeehan on 13 January 1904. On the same day, Tasmanian Government Railway fares for a further 3½ tickets from Zeehan to Strahan Wharf cost the Conroys 15/2. To travel from the Wharf to Queenstown Railway Station added a further £1/7/2 to the expense account (The ticket holders included Mr & Mrs Conroy, their child E W CONROY, and A MUIR, a 9-year-old nephew adopted three years earlier, and who had resided with them since). The

total cost of the removal was £12/18/5. Fortunately for Mr Conroy, the Education Department reimbursed the full amount.¹¹

Some teachers were able to decline transfer, seemingly without reproach

Miss Flora WESLEY was living at Hamilton in 1894 when she first applied, unsuccessfully, to join the Department. Her persistence to become a teacher paid off when eventually she was given an appointment to Barton State School in late 1896. Miss Wesley's transfer to Lady Bay in early 1898 resulted in her remaining there for a number of years. After three years, however, Miss Wesley applied for a move, stating that she would appreciate a change and that, as the enrolment numbers were down, her prospects for improving her salary seemed limited at that location. In 1903 the Department advised her that she would be transferred to Ouse State School. Miss Wesley politely informed her employer that she would prefer not to accept that position, based on her previous knowledge of the school from her time living at neighbouring Hamilton. Miss Wesley explained that she feared such appointment would end in her abject failure, and described how she vividly remembered the way in which some of the residents of Ouse had treated the female teacher who had been in charge previously: "They picked away at her until there was nothing left but bare bones." The Department accepted Miss Wesley's concerns and later she was transferred to Hythe State School, a position that suited her.¹²

Who was subjected to the largest number of transfers?

Miss Elizabeth May COATES joined the Department as a Pupil Teacher at Trinity

¹¹ AOT: ED2/1/772; file 944

¹² AOT: ED2/1/1466; file 1690

Hill State School in 1887 and remained there until early 1892. That appointment turned out to be the second longest continuous period Miss Coates was to serve in any one school throughout her 36 year career, surpassed only by eight and a half years at Invermay State School. She withstood 29 transfers between March 1892 and 1923, with Miss Coates being used extensively by the Department to act as *locum tenens* in schools across the State requiring short-term replacements.¹³ Her skills in being able to carry out the tasks required, coupled with her ability to be so flexible in her lifestyle, were obviously of great value to the system. The fact that she lived to the age of 86 is evidence, perhaps, that Miss Coates must have been able to take it all in her stride.

And who escaped transfer for the longest period?

Many employees of the Education Department taught in one school only, most often because their careers were (relatively) short. The record for a nineteenth century teacher allowed to remain in one school for her entire career was held by Miss Catherine (Kate) Xavier MORONEY. Miss Moroney was born at New Norfolk in 1872, educated at the local State School, and employed there from 1889 to 1926, her period of Government service amounting to 37 years without one transfer.¹⁴ ◀



¹³ AOT: ED2/1/2330; file 2594

¹⁴ AOT: ED2/1/2500; file 2936

NEW RELEASE
**UNDERTAKERS
 OF
 HOBART**

Vol V

**Index to
 Hooper & Burgess
 Funeral Records**

Part 1

September 1935 – December 1954



Harold J Hooper, previously the Manager of H C Millington & Co. Funeral Undertakers, founded the company Hooper & Burgess Funeral Directors at 195 Elizabeth Street, Hobart, in 1935 with Syd Burgess from Geeveston. The company is now owned by Turnbull Family Funerals in North Hobart. Information includes (where available) places of birth, death and burial, and names of parents or spouses. Further indexes will be published at a later date.

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THEY DIED ON THE DOMAIN

Laurie Moody (Member No.5835)

THE following fourteen people are shown as dying on the Hobart Domain between 1901 and 1925. A search of both the *Tasmanian Pioneer Index* records and *Federation Index* records produced a number of birth and marriage dates. John Purkiss is shown as being 26 years old when he married 30 year-old Leila Beatrice Williams. Peter Weeks is shown as being 38 years old when he married 21 year-old Jane Hytt.

Legend

2bTPI: indicates two possible birth records see TPI.

2bFI: indicates two possible birth records see FI.

1mTPI: indicates a possible marriage record see TPI.

1mFI: indicates a possible marriage record see FI.

Further information has been found using <http://newspapers.nla.gov.au>

ABBOTT, Francis

THE LATE FRANCIS ABBOTT.

Yesterday afternoon there passed away from among us Francis Abbott, superintendent of the Tasmanian Botanical Gardens. Mr. Abbott had been in his usual good health, and during the morning yesterday was about visiting the gardens. Shortly before midday he complained of not feeling very well. Dr. Benjafield, the family physician, was called in to see him. The deceased lay down, and during the afternoon, while conversing with his wife, quietly passed away. Mr. Abbott had been connected for over 50 years with the Botanical Gardens, and obtained his professional education under Mr. Newman, who was superintendent of the Gardens (then known as the Royal Society's Gardens) from 1846 to 1859. On the death of Mr. Newman in 1859 the Council unanimously appointed Mr. Abbott to the vacant position which he filled with credit and ability up until the time of his death. The deceased was also superintendent of the Public Reserves, and to him may be given the credit of the extensive planting of the many ornamental trees and shrubs in the Queen's Domain that now form such splendid beauty spots there. In all matters connected with horticulture, no warmer supporter could be found than

Name	Death date etc
ABBOTT; Francis	d. 22 Nov 1903 (2nTPI)
BODLE; Matilda	d. 30 Apr 1904
CAULFIELD; John James	d. 27 Feb 1901
DAVIS; Laura	d. 15 Sep 1925 chr. 5 May 1847 Hobart Town (5mTPI)
DAWES; Thomas	d. 1 Feb 1907 m. Elizabeth MYERS 2 Jun 1866 Hobart
EDGECOCK; Don	d. 26 Apr 1922
PHILLIPS; Louis	d. 26 Feb 1902
PURKISS; James Stamers Powell	d. 24 Jul 1921 b. 16 Jul 1871 Deloraine m. Leila Beatrice WILLIAMS 4 Jun 1898 New Norfolk
ROBERTSON; Alexander	d. 5 Jan 1923 (10bTPI)
TAYLOR; Louisa	d. 13 Jul 1904
WEEKS; Peter	d. 26 Feb 1904 m. Jane HYTT 24 Apr 1873 Hobart
WEST; Frederick	d. 1 Aug 1908 (2bTPI)
WILLIAMS; Leonard Charles	d. 18 Nov 1925 b. 23 Mar 1882 Hobart
WOODS; David	d. 3 Jul 1903 (2bTPI)

Mr. Abbott. As a member of the Royal Society, he took a keen interest in its proceedings, contributing several papers. The deceased leaves a widow, but no family. Two nieces, who have lived with him for many years, were with him at the time of his death. The funeral will leave the residence of the deceased in the Botanical Gardens at 9.30 on Tuesday morning for the Cornelian Bay Cemetery.¹

BODLE, Matilda

BODLE.—On April 30, 1904, at her late residence, Government House Avenue, Matilda Bodle, beloved wife of Arthur Ernest Bodle, aged 31 years. Funeral will leave the above address This Day at 3.30 p.m., for Cornelian Bay Cemetery, where friends are respectfully invited to attend.²

DAVIS, Laura

Laura Davis, widow of the late Owen Davis, died 15 September 1925 at the residence of her son-in-law, A. Allan, Domain-road, after a lingering illness. She was 76 years of age.³

DAWES, Thomas

THE RAILWAY FATALITY.

The Coroner (Mr. W. G. Wise) held an inquest at the General Hospital on Saturday concerning the death on the railway line, opposite the naval pier, Domain, on Friday night, of Thomas Dawes, aged 29, a bluejacket on H.M.S. Pioneer, particulars which appeared in Saturday's issue. The evidence showed the deceased, who had been ashore, took a couple of parcels down to the naval pier, and left them there, having just missed his boat. He then went towards the Domain, and at that moment the train which left Glenorchy at 10.15 p.m. came

along at 18 to 20 miles an hour. He was seen near the line by the engine driver, John Mitchell, about 20 yards distant. The whistle was blown and the deceased, after momentarily hesitating, attempted to cross the line. The brakes were immediately applied, but before the train could be stopped, Dawes had been knocked down, and was under the cowcatcher. He was killed instantly. The body was conveyed to the morgue. Dr. Roberts stated that deceased's neck was broken, there was a large wound on the right temple, and a compressed fracture of the right arm, the flesh of which was torn and lacerated. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death. On Saturday afternoon the deceased was buried in the Sandy Bay Cemetery, and was accorded a naval funeral. He was most popular with his shipmates, and out of comradeship they made a coffin aboard the ship, getting the trimmings ashore. The funeral was attended by the ship's company and the usual salute was fired over the grave.⁴

A slightly different account appeared in the Sydney paper.

A BLUEJACKET KILLED.

An inquest was held at the General Hospital on Saturday touching the death of Thomas Dawes, a bluejacket of H.M.S. Pioneer, aged 29, who was run over by a train on the Domain the previous night. Deceased was hurrying to get aboard a boat when he suddenly turned to pick up a parcel he had dropped, and then attempted to pass in front of the engine of an incoming train. He was struck by the cowcatcher and killed instantly. A verdict in accordance with the facts was returned, no blame being attached to anyone.⁵

¹ *The Mercury*, 23 November 1903

² *The Mercury*, 2 May 1904

³ *The Mercury*, 16 September 1925

⁴ *The Mercury*, 4 February 1907

⁵ *Sydney Morning Herald*, 4 February 1907

PHILLIPS, Louis

An elderly man named Phillips committed suicide in the Domain on Wednesday by shooting himself.⁶

At inquest on the body of Louis Phillips, 63, a verdict of suicide was returned.⁷

ROBERTSON, Alexander

THE DOMAIN TRAGEDY.

An inquest on the body of Alexander Robertson, an elderly man, whose body was found with the head almost blown off by a charge from a gun on the Domain on Friday evening, was opened on Saturday morning before the Coroner (Mr. E. W. Turner).

Mathew Frederick Pearce, horse trainer, said he knew the deceased, who was a baker, and in comfortable circumstances. At about 3.30 p.m. on the day the deceased met his death witness saw him talking to another man on the corner of Collins and Elizabeth streets, and he seemed to be all right. Robertson was a moderate drinker. Deceased had a gun at Westerway, and often spoke about bringing it to Hobart. He brought it down on Friday, and left it at the railway station. If any loaded cartridges were found on the deceased, he must have bought them after the witness saw him. Robertson had been working in the country for some time.

The inquest was adjourned at this stage until 9.30 a.m. on Thursday.⁸

TAYLOR, Louisa

TAYLOR.—On July 13, 1904, at her late residence, Domain Shipyard, Louisa, the beloved wife of Robert Taylor, in the 56th year of her age. Funeral will leave the above address on Saturday Afternoon at half-past 2 for Cornelian

Bay Cemetery, when friends are respectfully invited to attend.⁹

WEST, Frederick

SUICIDE IN THE DOMAIN. A MAN SHOOTS HIMSELF.

Between 3 and 4 o'clock on Saturday afternoon the Police Department received a report that a man had shot himself in the Domain. Chief Detective-Inspector Weston, Detectives Gunner and Oakes, proceeded to the place indicated, and found a man in a sitting position on a seat in the avenue, near the railway station. His head was inclined to the left shoulder, and there was a bullet wound in his right temple. A six-chambered revolver, five loaded, was near his right hand. The man's name was ascertained to be Frederick West, aged 36. When found he was still alive, but died before he could be got to the hospital. The deceased came from Victoria about eighteen months ago and until a few days ago, had been employed as a piano-repairer by Messrs. Walch and Sons. It is understood that he was unmarried. An inquest is to be held today.¹⁰

WOODS, David

WOODS.—On July 3, 1903, at University Cottage, Queen's Domain, Hobart. After a long and painful illness, David, the beloved husband of Harriett Woods. R.I.P. Friends are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, which will move from St. Joseph's Church, for Cornelian Bay Cemetery, at 2.30 on Monday Afternoon.¹¹

A search for information on Caulfield, Edgecock, Purkiss, Weeks and Williams proved unsuccessful. ◀

⁶ *The Mercury*, 27 February 1902

⁷ *The Mercury*, 28 February 1902

⁸ *The Mercury*, 6 January 1923

⁹ *The Mercury*, 15 July 1904

¹⁰ *The Mercury*, 3 August 1908

¹¹ *The Mercury*, 4 July 1902

SKENE AND WILSON

FAMILY SURNAMENAMES

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Colleen Read (Member No.

R ESEARCH into the ancestors of Peter Skene READ revealed that his great-great-grandmother was Elizabeth SKENE, born in Hobart in early 1831, daughter of James and Mary Skene. James Skene arrived in Van Diemen's Land in 1830 as Quarter Master Sergeant (QMS) with the 63rd Regiment, accompanied by his wife, Mary, a son and two daughters. Four more children were born in Tasmania, the last of whom died in 1919, nearly ninety years later. However, none of the three sons produced male heirs, consequently there are now no descendants with this distinctive Scottish surname. Today, in Australia, James Skene's surname lives on only as a middle name in the last three generations of the Read family.

James was born in 1792 in Montrose, Angus, Scotland where the Baptism Register reads 'George Skene and Janet HOGGAN, his spouse, had a lawful son born 25 Oct. 1792, baptised James'. In later years, for reasons unknown, James added COUTTS (sometimes Cootes) as a middle name, as did his second son, James jnr, on his Marriage Certificate. A brother, John Skene, was born in Montrose two years later in November 1794. Their mother, Janet, appears to have died soon after; no other children's baptisms are recorded here. Their father, George Skene, married Ann LYALL in September 1803, only three months before his death, aged 38 years.

James Skene enlisted as a Private in the 63rd Regiment of Foot in late 1809, at the

age of 16. He was promoted to Corporal, then Sergeant, while serving in the West Indies (1815–1819). The regiment returned to England briefly before marching to Liverpool and embarking for Ireland (1820–1826) where James was promoted to Quarter Master Sergeant. Eighteen months service followed in Portugal, then Chatham in Kent (1828–October 1829), and briefly, in New South Wales before arriving in Van Diemen's Land in March 1830. In the following September, after several violent incidents between settlers and Aborigines, most of the regiment was sent into the interior to assist in the 'black line'—an attempt by the government to round up the Aborigines. In the winter of 1832, orders were received warning the 63rd Regiment to prepare for a move to India but this did not eventuate until the end of 1833. Meanwhile, QMS James Skene applied for, and was granted, his discharge without pension.

Over the next twenty-two years James Skene held many government positions in the colony:

- Superintendent of Carters Establishment, Hobart 10 April 1833–30 July 1837
- Superintendent of Oatlands Road Station 1 August 1837–30 July 1838
- Town Surveyor, Hobart Town 1 August 1838–31 August 1841
- Superintendent, Browns River Probation Station 1 September 1841–September 1844
- Storekeeper, Impression Bay September 1844–July 1845

Storekeeper, Nicholls Rivulet October 1845–1846

Storekeeper, Dover Probation Station 12 December 1846–1847

Superintendent, Coal Mines Probation Station August 1847–October 1848

Town Surveyor, Launceston, Superintendent Main Roads 10 October 1848–13 March 1853

Road Surveyor, Evandale 14 March 1853–31 May 1855

Wishing to return to Hobart, on 31 May 1838 James Skene applied for the position of Superintendent at the Female Factory adding that his wife ‘... is perfectly capable to fill the position of Matron’. There is no evidence that this application was successful. However, the family returned south in August of the same year when James Skene was appointed Town Surveyor in Hobart, the first of many transfers. Retiring from government employment in 1855, James applied for, and was granted, a government pension £66.6.10 per annum.

It is probable that James met and married Mary McDONNELL (sometimes McDonald) whilst his regiment was stationed in Ireland. A transcription of the family vault at Queenborough reads:

*In Loving Memory of
Mary McDONNELL
relict of James Couitts Skene,
died December 21st 1889 in her 87th
year.
born at Clare Morris, Ireland September
8th 1803,
Blessed are the pure in heart.*

A chance encounter with a visitor at the Archives Office of Tasmania, resulted in the return to the Read family of a now-treasured copy of the *New Testament*, signed by ‘J Skene, Browns River Probation Station’. The visitor added a further inscription:

This New Testament survived the fire at HM Prison Risdon on 11th April 1967 (estimated damage \$800,000). The New Testament was given to Les BATCH-ELOR, Prison Chaplain (1961–1991) by Chief Officer Ron BARWICK (Security) on the 1st October 1971. As a result, Les Batchelor (Industrial Chaplain), accidentally meeting Colleen Read at State Archives, Hobart, on the 7th July 1994, and learning that her husband, Peter Skene Read, is a descendant of James Skene, Les Batchelor decided to give this New Testament to the Read family. 11th July 1994

The original brown leather cover bears the small British & Foreign Bible Society insignia plus a typical convict broad-arrow burnt into the hide. A second, larger copy of the New Testament, also bearing the broad-arrow and inscribed inside ‘Browns River Probation Station, J Skene’ is held by the Narryna Heritage Museum in Battery Point, Hobart. Records show this was donated to the museum in 1958 by a J PERKINS; there does not appear to be any family connection with this person.

An article in *The Mercury* in 1986 claims the three-storey Georgian house on the Channel Highway above the Browns River Probation Station site, south of the Shot Tower,

is thought to have been completed in 1842 when records show it was occupied by the superintendent ... James Skene.

On 24 October 1834 James Skene paid £130 for property, part of an original land grant to Lieutenant Governor William Sorell, in Wellington Crescent (now Waterloo Crescent) in Battery Point, from Attorney General Alfred STEPHENS. An early map, circa 1834, shows only one house in Wellington Crescent; it appears to be on the block owned by James Skene. The same large house is depicted

on a map circa 1841 by James SPRENT, Surveyor General. The first *Assessment and Valuation Roll for Hobart*, was published in the *Hobart Town Gazette* in 1847 but house numbers were not allocated to properties until the 1850s; the Skene house was allocated number nine. This number was retained until the renumbering of streets took place in the 1870s when it became no. 12 Wellington Crescent. Probate on James Skene's will was not granted until 1910, thirty-five years after his death. He bequeathed his estate, including their Battery Point home to his wife, Mary, and thereafter to his two spinster daughters, Mary and Jessie Skene. By 1910, the original home had disappeared and their land had been divided into two blocks (necessitating a further renumbering), his wife, Mary, has died and the two daughters were living in a cottage at no. 16 Wellington Crescent which still stands today on part of the original Skene property.

James Skene died at his home on 2 May 1875 and was buried in the family vault at Queenborough. The transcription reads, in part, 'Sacred to the memory of James Coutts Skene, native of Montrose, Scotland, died 28 May 1875, aged 83 years'. Two of his daughters, Elizabeth and Mary, and grand-daughter, Mary BENNETT (who died in England), were also remembered on this tomb.

Jean, eldest daughter of James and Mary Skene

Another Read family memento, a child's needlework sampler, sadly in poor condition, is embroidered 'Jane Skene, Hobart Town, February 20th'; and, although no year is given, it is thought to have been worked by eldest child, Jean Skene, who was born circa 1825, probably in Ireland. Jean Skene married Samuel Bennett at Ross, Tasmania in 1847, but died in early 1851, only one

month after the birth of their only child, Mary Ann Elizabeth Bennett. Mary never married and died in England at Newton Abbot, Devon in 1896.

Henry, eldest son of James and Mary Skene

On his New Zealand Death Certificate in 1878, it is recorded that Henry Skene was born circa 1828 while the 63rd Regiment was in Portugal. No marriage for Henry has been found. Employed in the Civil Service at Sandhurst (now known as Bendigo) during the early Victorian Gold Rush era, he was a member of the local Amateur Dramatic Society and the Volunteer Rifle Corps. After his death in 1878, aged only 50 years, an obituary published in the local newspaper stated Henry arrived in New Zealand in 1866, where he joined his younger brothers, James jnr and George Skene. Henry continued the Skene family military interest by enlisting in the local volunteer militia. At the time of his death his occupation was noted as 'surveyor'. He was buried in the Shortland Cemetery in Thames, New Zealand, with full military honours.

James jnr, second son of James and Mary Skene

James jnr, was baptized at Chatham, Kent in February 1829. In 1860, naming himself as James Cootes Skene, Banker, of Sandhurst, he married Caroline Bennett, the younger sister of his brother-in-law, Samuel Bennett; his use of the same middle name (as assumed by his father but with different spelling) has not been noted on any other documents. Both their parents signed as witnesses. Less than a year later, Caroline died during a premature confinement. James buried his young wife in the Bendigo Cemetery, erecting a large cross over her grave. He never married again. Already a Captain in the Bendigo Rifles, in 1863

he raised a Company of Victorian Volunteer Militia to sail to New Zealand to fight in the Maori Wars. Prior to his departure he was presented with a 'handsome colonial gold ring accompanied by an address' by his local corps as a mark of respect; the ring's whereabouts is now unknown. Captain James Skene arrived in New Zealand in early October 1863 per *Golden Age* with ten other officers and a total of 940 men; he saw much active service in the colony, initially at Drury, south of Auckland. Australian volunteers were guaranteed land after the conflict and James eventually settled in Grahamstown, near Thames on the Coromandel Peninsula south-east of Auckland, where he became involved with various enterprises in the district and he also served as a Justice of the Peace. His military interest continued; he raised the first volunteer corps for Thames. The Thames gold-fields were established in July 1867 and the nearby towns of Grahamstown and Shortland sprang up to accommodate the rush of miners from all corners of the world. Today they help make up the present town of Thames. James started a gold-mining agency company and, later, was in the auctioneering business. He died at Thames in November 1881. His New Zealand Death Certificate incorrectly records two 'facts': that he was born in Tasmania (not England) and that he never married (he married in Victoria in 1860). Following a full military funeral, Captain James Skene was buried alongside his brother, Henry, in the Shortland Cemetery. There are no headstones.

George, third son of James and Mary Skene

Very little is known about George Skene. He was the first of the brothers to land in New Zealand. He is listed in the first

detachment of volunteer military settlers from Victoria who arrived in Auckland on the *Star of India* in September 1863, having enrolled at Ballarat the month before. Following the conflict with the Maoris, perhaps he headed south (to the gold fields?) and lost contact with the family? In 1869 a *Missing Friends* notice was placed in a South Island newspaper advising 'Mr George Skene, late of Tasmania and Sandhurst – an urgent letter from Home lies for you at this office'. He obviously returned north to be nearer his brothers: twice George Skene is noted as a storekeeper in reports in Thames newspapers when giving evidence in court cases, first in 1888, and again in 1897 while living at Whangamata, on the south-east coast of the Coromandel Peninsula. In June 1899 he was granted an Old Age Pension of £18. A year later, George Skene, storekeeper, died at an Old Men's Home in Thames; there is no record of any marriage or children on his death registration. He was buried in the Tararu Cemetery, a few kilometres north of Thames.

Elizabeth, second daughter of James and Mary Skene

Elizabeth Skene married John WILSON in Evandale, Tasmania in 1855 where her father had recently been the government Road Surveyor. Lured by the promise of warmer climatic conditions, John Wilson, suffering from consumption (tuberculosis), emigrated from England to Victoria per *Dalhousie* in 1852, in hopes of better health in the warmer climate. Whilst on board ship he kept a diary; unfortunately the first volume of ninety-six pages is missing. In the second part he recorded the daily bearings of the *Dalhousie* from the day after weighing anchor in Plymouth Sound, until the ship passed through Port Philip Heads three

months later. The second part of his diary commences on 24 July 1852.

Three days later he steps ashore and writes:

Melbourne. Here I am at last, all safe & sound with an empty pocket & as good spirits as ever I had in my life. This has been a day of excitement. Gold! Gold! Gold! in large letters stares me in the face wherever I turn. ... it is a new country; everything appears strange – but I have met with good hospitable English faces & English hearts even in this strange land, where the acquisition of gold is the prominent mania.

Thereafter, initially every day then, as months pass, less frequently for the next year he records his impressions as he seeks and finds employment and accommodation in an already crowded town, a problem increasingly exacerbated by the arrival of ever-more shiploads of immigrants. Melbourne's muddy streets and lawlessness become a constant theme, as do his weekly visits to chapel, his constant ill health only alleviated by the attentiveness of his good friends, and his increasing disappointment as ship after ship arrives without mail from his loved ones. Six months after his arrival he writes

a letter from home this morning, & from it I am delighted to hear that all are well. Their letters are very short, especially as two months has passed since the posting of the last.

Many of his shipmates cannot find employment and are forced to try their luck (mostly unsuccessfully) at the goldfields or to join the mounted police. He is greatly disturbed by the plight of the Aborigines, forced from their land and introduced to the evils of liquor. The colony's 'Natural History' with its strange flora and fauna holds a special interest and many entries are devoted to

descriptions of shooting expeditions and of friends bringing birds and small animals for him to preserve with his taxidermy skills, many of which he ships home to family and friends. He is disappointed when he makes enquiries about purchasing a copy of Gould's *Australian Birds*:

there are 7 vols for 115 guineas. This enormous price put all thoughts of a purchase out of my head.

John Wilson brought with him letters of introduction and was soon employed as a clerk and cashier by F J SARGOOD, a prominent Melbourne merchant later to be involved in Victorian politics. By 1 May 1853, John Wilson was on a salary of £300, and he purchased a block of land. He writes:

It is just a year since I left England! How rapidly it has flown & of what benefit it has been to me! Before that I was a poor clerk at £60 per annum & now I am almost worth £500 per annum.

He also sent money home for his sweetheart, 'dear Fanny', his sister Elizabeth (Libbie), and his brother Charlie to join him in Melbourne. The journal ends in late June 1853; John's distress and disappointment when his beloved Fanny chooses not to accept his offer is therefore not recorded and can only be imagined. His sister Libbie, suffering from the same fatal lung disease, arrived per *Marlborough* in 1854 with their young brother, thirteen year old Charles Johnson Wilson. Sadly, she died at John's South Yarra residence the following year. Elizabeth Wilson is remembered on her grandparents' headstone in St Cuthberts Church Cemetery at Darlington in County Durham, England: 'Elizabeth ... who died at Melbourne, Australia, June 25th 1855, aged 20 yrs'.

John, Libbie and Charlie were three of the thirteen children of William Wilson, a druggist and chemist, and his wife Elizabeth (née TWEDDLE), who married at Darlington in 1828. After the untimely deaths of his sister and brother, young Charlie evidently returned to England; by 1871 he was married and he and his wife and two children were living in Darlington with his now-widowed mother and his younger siblings. Parents, William and Elizabeth Wilson, and two of their other children, are buried in the Darlington West Cemetery. William's headstone reveals his religious zeal: it was

erected by the teachers and scholars of the Congregational Sabbath School ... in grateful appreciation of the above 40 years faithful labours in the school and in the cause of Christ.

Two other mementos in the Read family are handwritten letters about forthcoming weddings. The first, addressed to 'Mr & Mrs Skene' and signed by 'Annie Ellen BUTLER', pleads that

your dear and much loved daughter Eliza – oh, please do allow her to come and act as my bridesmaid ... Mr and Miss Wilson ... what pleasure they will have in welcoming her – Mr Wilson will be most happy to meet her at the wharf.

Anne Ellen Butler married John Burrow TURNER in Melbourne in 1855. The second letter, written later that year in Launceston by Annie's new husband, is addressed to 'Miss Skene' and is dated only five days before Elizabeth's own marriage to John Wilson. He teases her

a gentleman with whom I believe you are in some way acquainted, coming in the other evening from Melbourne ... I believe upon business of a most interesting nature. I have heard it whispered that a marriage is about to take

place between a certain Victorian gentleman and a fair Tasmanian lass.

However, John and Elizabeth Wilson's happiness, enriched with the birth of a son, John Skene Wilson, the following year, was to be short lived; the new father succumbed to his disease when the baby was only seven months old. His funeral left from their residence in Caroline Street, Punt Road, South Yarra for the St Kilda Cemetery. His grieving widow, Elizabeth, returned with her small son to the bosom of the Skene family in Tasmania. She never remarried and died in 1919 at her son's home in Bellerive after a long widowhood of fifty-three years. Another descendant of the Wilson family has inherited her bible signed 'Elizabeth Skene' on the flyleaf. The only other Skene family memorabilia in the Read family is a pair of sterling silver teaspoons engraved 'JS', part of a set distributed amongst the family after Elizabeth's death.

Mary and Jessie, youngest daughters of James and Mary Skene

Mary and Jessie remained single all their lives. They took great interest in the family of Elizabeth's son, their only nephew, John (Jock) Skene Wilson, who married Susan Chamberlain McARTHUR in 1885 and fathered two sons and six daughters. The youngest Wilson daughter, Sheilah, lived only six months and died in September 1905. Tragedy struck again the next year when one of the two Wilson sons, Alan, accidentally drowned in the River Derwent as a teenager while retrieving fishing nets at Howrah. The only other son, John Scott Wilson, named after his maternal grandfather, Captain John Scott McArthur, married Minna (sometimes Minnie) PAUL in 1917; a baby boy, Harry John (Mick) Scott Wilson married Nina TIMBS but he fathered no more

children. He died at St Johns Hospital, Hobart, in August 1984 and was buried at St Matthews Church cemetery, Rokeby, aged 84 years.

Miss Mary Skene died in 1910. Her sister, Miss Jessie Skene, died three years later, leaving her estate of £2,086 in trust to her five great-nieces and one great-nephew, the surviving children of Jock and Susan Wilson; the last great-niece, Jean Nancy HALPHERSOHN (née Wilson) was still receiving a small, regular dividend until her death in 1998, some 85 years later. The other four great-nieces all married into other Tasmanian pioneering families such as CALVERT, HEADLAM, and Read. The eldest, Mrs Doris Headlam (née Wilson), gave her maiden name as a middle name to all seven of her children, male and female. However, while today there are many, many descendants of James Skene and John Wilson in Tasmania and elsewhere, not one descendant bears their surnames. ◀

References available from
colread@internode.on.net

Acknowledgement

Thanks to Thelma McKay for the information about the property in Waterloo Crescent.

CORRECTION:

Volume 30 Number 2, Book Review on page 116, refers to a Major BLARNEY which should be BLAMEY an important soldier serving in both World Wars. It was because a documentary is being made on Blamey's life that Arthur's fathers diaries came to be researched and he was encouraged to publish them.

Thank you to Allison Carins.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED queries are published free for members of the Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. (provided their membership number is quoted) and at a cost of \$10.00 per query to non-members. Special Interest Groups are subject to advertising rates.

Members are entitled to three free entries per year. All additional queries will be published at a cost of \$10.00. Only one query per member per issue will be published unless space permits otherwise.

Queries should be limited to 100 words and forwarded to

editors@tasfhs.org or
The Editor, *Tasmanian Ancestry*, PO
Box 191 Launceston TAS 7250

BAKER

Interstate family of the late Richard (Dick) BAKER are seeking information on Oliver BAKER (born around 1847) who married Sarah SPARKES in 1870. They and their family descendants lived in New Town/Lenah Valley. Please contact Roslyn Herring 64 Wattleburn Road Lower Mitchum SA 5062 or call Ros on 0438 020944—happy to reimburse any costs. (New Member)

BROOKS/STOKELL/McCONNON

I am writing a book about the pioneer families who settled in the Colebrook area. I particularly would like information about the families listed above, from the 1830s to 1967 when the bushfires did great deal of damage to the town. Please contact Helen Osbourne email lisgould@hotmail.com or phone (03) 6428 6804 (Member No.6060)

HELP WANTED

LACEY

Seeking information on the descendants of John LACEY and Margaret LEAVY, who were married at Longford, Tasmania on 21 July 1848. Birth or baptism records located for the following children: Mary Ann (married Thomas COATES), John Christopher, Jane (married John SHERIFF), and Arthur. Other children may include Annie (married Richard LEDGER) and Eliza (married James McGLADE). Any information welcome. Pauline Bygraves, 19 Ferguson Place, Flynn ACT 2615 or **bygrap@y7mail.com** (Member No.5113)

LUCKMAN/MARSHALL/RICHARDS

Attempting to make contact with Janice RICHARDS, daughter of Alfred Edward Richards and Norma Eileen (MARSHALL) Richards. Also any descendants of Maxwell Charles LUCKMAN and Beryl Letitia (Marshall) Luckman. If anyone knows of any of these people I would appreciate them contacting me. Helen White **hjwhite@bigpond.com**

LYONS

Seeking information of Reginald Harold LYONS born 1898 Launceston—died 1982 Launceston. His wife, Leith Harriet Jean Lyons (née HENDERSON) born 1897 Launceston—died 1954 Launceston. Their son, Laurie Vivian Lyons born 1919 Launceston—died 1989 Launceston. All buried at Carr Villa. Please contact Nancy Higgins, 74 Main Street, Gordon VIC 3345 or **ancymh8@bigpond** (Member No.3916)

MALONE

Any descendants in Tasmania of Thomas MALONE, soldier in the British Army in India 1830s - 1840s. Wife Isabella (Elizabeth?) believed Spanish. Son, two daughters, possibly Jane and Elizabeth. One daughter married, settled in Hobart latter 19th century. Son John, born Bangalore c.1836, came to Victoria 1856 (goldrush), farmed in Victorian Mallee. John's descendants desire contact his sister's descendants. Any information welcome. Write to Mrs Elsa Hepburn, 2/1 Evan Street, Box Hill North VIC 3129

TOMLINSON/MAHONEY

Seeking information George TOMLINSON born early 1800s Yorkshire (believed son of Thomas Tomlinson and Dinah COLVERSON), married Eliza HEBDEN Scarborough, Yorkshire 1821. Children: George, William, Mary, Ernest. Eliza. George senior, a Mariner, believed died 1835 and Eliza and three children migrated to Tasmania late 1830s. I have conflicting information on George senior's date of birth and cannot trace George junior or Ernest in Tasmania. On Eliza (Hebden) Tomlinson's death certificate, 1889, Ernest listed as still living but George junior deceased. Also Tomlinson family connected with MAHONEY but how? Any help greatly appreciated. Joan Crowle, 11 Davern Street Pascoe Vale South VIC 3044. (Member No.6269) ◀

NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS

NAME	PLACE/AREA	TIME	M'SHIP NO.
ACOCKS	ENG/NSW/VIC AUS	1830–2000	7067
ALOMES Louisa	Snug TAS AUS	1900–1985	7060
ATKINSON	TAS AUS	Any	7072
AYRES Leticia	IRL	c1889	7049
BELL	WIL ENG	c1800	7056
BELL	SFK ENG	1800–1900	7051
BENNETT	DEV ENG/London ENG	1750–1800	7051
BLAKNEY John	Hobart TAS AUS	1848–1912	7061
BLAKNEY William	Hobart TAS AUS	c1850	7061
BRITCLIFFE Mary or any family	LAN ENG/Rochdale ENG	1826–1850	7056
BROCK Ernest	Mackay QLD AUS	1920–1971	7063
BUETELL Eva Dorothea	Mackay QLD AUS	1890–1984	7063
CARELESS William	Esperance TAS AUS	1822–1892	7061
CAREY	TAS AUS	Any	7072
CASEY Catherine	Esperance TAS AUS	c1880	7061
CHISHOLM	Invercannich Strathglass SCT	Any	7050
CHOPPING	ESS ENG/NSW AUS	Any	7070
CHRISTIAN	LIN ENG/TAS AUS/NZ	Any	7070
CLARK Hugh	RFW SCT	1860–1910	7052
CLARK John	IRL/RFW SCT	1824+	7052
CRAMP	Bedworth ENG	Any	7050
CRAWFORD Jane	TAS AUS	1840s	7054
CRICHTON	VIC/TAS AUS	1900-2000	7067
DEAN William (convict)	TAS AUS	1840s	7054
DEMO	Haly [sic]	Any	7072
DUFFY Bridget	IRL/Richmond TAS AUS	1840	7057
EWELL Clifford	ENG	Any	7055
FAULKNER William	Richmond TAS AUS	mid 1800	7057
FAWCETT William	Van Diemen's Land	1835 (or 1826)	7055
FICKLING James	NFK ENG	1760–1850	7053
FICKLING William	NFK ENG	1800–1900	7053
FOSTER John	Port Sorell TAS AUS	1830+	7047
FRANKLIN	Aylesbury ENG	Any	7050
FRENCH	Sheffield ENG	Any	7050
FURMSTON	SAL ENG/VIC AUS	Any	7072
GALLAGHER Trevor	Woodbridge TAS AUS	1907–1978	7060
GARDENDER	London ENG/SFK ENG	1800–1900	7051
GARLAND	Dublin IRL	Any	7050
HORMAN Isabella	TAS AUS	1830s	7054
HORMAN James	TAS AUS	1830s	7054
HOWARD	Hockham NFK ENG	Any	7050
HOWES	NFK ENG	1800–1900	7053
JOHNSON	London ENG/NFK ENG	1760–1900	7051
KERR	SCT/IRL	1700–1900s	7073
LAMBERT	TAS AUS	1890–1923	7048
LAMBERT	NZ	1860–1900	7048
LANDAU Johann	Schleswig-Holstein GER	1850–1880	7052
LAWRENCE William Irving	Richmond	1847	7055
LEATHEAM	London ENG/NSW AUS	Any	7070

NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS

NAME	PLACE/AREA	TIME	M'SHIP NO.
LEWIS	WIL ENG	c1800	7056
LORD	Pembroke WLS/TAS AUS	Any	7070
MACMILLAN	SA VIC AUS	1900–2000	7067
MACQUEEN George	Snug TAS AUS	1900–1970	7060
MANSEN Anna Louisa	Stockholm (?) SWEDEN	1870–1900	7052
MARRS Daniel	Belfast N IRL	1820–1894	7066
McOARBY	IRL	c1800	7056
MICHELL	CON ENG/NSW/SA AUS	Any	7070
MOHR	TAS AUS	Any	7072
MORRISBY O J	Clarence Plains/Sandford TAS AUS	1808–1950	7068
OLDHAM	LAN/CHS	1500–1900	7051
PARKES Amos	Halesawen WAR ENG	c1688	7066
PEDDER Charles Joseph		b1850	7055
PEDDER Mabel Alice	TAS AUS	b1888	7055
PERRY William	NZ/Hobart TAS AUS	late 1801	7057
PIPER Robert	Port Sorell TAS AUS	1830+	7047
PREDDIS Nancy	TAS AUS	1918–2004	7060
REIMERS Johann	Schleswig-Holstein GER	1850–1880	7052
ROBERSON David	Forfar ANS SCT	1800–1900	7053
RUMLEY George Thomas	Dartford KEN ENG	1810–1901	7065
RUMLEY James	KEN ENG	1779–1850	7065
RUMLEY William	ENG	1753+	7065
SCHAEDEL Henry	Hagley TAS	1855–1920	7068
SCOTT	SCT	c1800	7058
SCOTT Harry John	ENG	1886–1970	7064
SHIELD Rippon	Hobart TAS AUS	c1790+	7045
SHIELD Rippon	Ancestors, family & descendants ENG/AUS	1790+	7045
SHIELD Rippon	S Shields Durham ENG	c1790+	7045
SMITH Alice	TAS AUS	1800?	7055
STEDMAN	NSW AUS	Any	7070
STILL Family	Launceston TAS AUS	1780–1920	7062
STONE	NFK ENG	1800–1900	7053
STREET Edwin William	Hobart TAS AUS	c1850	7061
TALBOT	IRL	c1800	7056
TOWNSEND	TAS AUS	1840–1900	7048
TUCKER Eliza	Hobart TAS AUS	c1850	7061
VIRGIN	DEV ENG	1800–1900	7051
WELLER Gotfried	Port Sorell TAS AUS	1830+	7047
WHITHAM Laurence	Manchester ENG/INDIA/TAS AUS	c1790–1950	7045

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 receive a SSAE.

NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members

7044	EDWARDS Mrs Tammara Maree	Not for publication			
7045	KAYS Mr Malcolm Stanley	28 Clutha Place mkays@netspace.net.au	SOUTH HOBART	TAS	7004
7046	KAYS Mrs Marilyn June	28 Clutha Place mkays@netspace.net.au	SOUTH HOBART	TAS	7004
7047	GOLDMAN Mrs Stella	18 Haven Drive sg21@bigpond.com	SHEARWATER	TAS	7307
7048	TOWNSEND Ms Adrienne Lynn	38 Arthur Street lynnntownsend@live.com.au	WEST HOBART	TAS	7000
7049	VANDERSLUYS Mr Gregory	78 Main Street	DERBY	TAS	7264
7050	FRANKLIN Mr Robert Charles	79 Mission Hill Road franklin44@bigpond.com	PENGUIN	TAS	7316
7051	OLDHAM Mrs Patricia	11 Seaside Crescent trisholdham@bigpond.com	PENGUIN	TAS	7316
7052	REIMERS Mr John Frederick	15 Grandview Place johnsue_reimers@bigpond.com	NORWOOD	TAS	7250
7053	REIMERS Mrs Susan Winifred	15 Grandview Place johnsue_reimers@bigpond.com	NORWOOD	TAS	7250
7054	DEAN Mrs Catherine	99 Nelson Road warwickdean1@bigpond.com	MOUNT NELSON	TAS	7007
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HENRY WOODS

OLD MAN OF THE MOUNTAIN—MT WELLINGTON

Irene Schaffer (Member No.2008)

HENRY WOODS was born in Cheltenham, England, about 1801. On the 15 October 1821 he was convicted in Gloucester for shop lifting and transported to NSW on the *Shipley* in 1821.

While employed by George COX Esq. on the clearing party at Mulgoa in 1824, Henry absconded from his gang at the Ten Mile Station on the Parramatta road near Sydney. He absconded again in 1826.

By 1828 Henry had obtained his Certificate of Freedom. This was torn up in 1829 and he was permitted to leave Sydney on the barque *Leda* sailing to Western Australia.

On arriving in Fremantle he was described as a shoemaker aged 29. He later became an indentured servant to James HENTY.

Henry married Elizabeth ROBINSON in Perth, Western Australia, on 9 October 1830. There were four children to the union; Sarah Emma born 1832, Henry Watkins born 1834, Jane Elizabeth born 1838 and Mary Norrit born 1841.

Life in Perth did not turn out as Henry and Elizabeth would have wished. Henry was tried for burglary for stealing a silver

thimble on 2 April 1845 and transported to Van Diemen's Land per *Champion*.¹ With him came his wife Elizabeth and his two youngest daughters, Jane and Mary, leaving Sarah and Henry in Perth.



Henry Woods
(Private collection) AOTPH30-1-967

Henry served his period of sentence at Port Arthur. He was then assigned to the north of the island. In trouble resisting his master's authority he was removed, after a period of hard labour, to Hobart Town. He received his Ticket of Leave in 1850, and appeared to have stayed out of trouble, receiving his Conditional Pardon in May 1853, and his Certificate of Freedom in May 1855, for the second time.²

In 1852 Henry was residing at Cascades with Horace COOLEY. Cooley had been charged in Canada in 1834 as a political prisoner. He arrived on the *Buffalo* from Quebec in 1840 and by 1849 received his

¹ *Perth Gazette and Western Australian Journal*, Quarter Sessions, Perth 2 April 1845 (full trial supplied by Ann Merrick)

² Research by Anne Merrick, descendant of Henry Woods

Conditional Pardon.³ On the 1848 Census for Hobart, Horace Cooley was living on land at Macquarie Street with three others.⁴

By the time Henry was back in Hobart from Port Arthur Elizabeth had disappeared. It is thought she went to Sydney about 1849 and remarried. On obtaining his Certificate of Freedom, Henry married Jane McCURRIE in Hobart on 21 November 1853.

Jane was transported as Jean McCurrie for 7 years, on the *Sea Queen* in 1846⁵ for stealing more than seven shawls over a period of time. She was 25 years old and gave her trade as a dealer. Her description was given as having a dark complexion with black eyes. She was pock pitted with a large burn scar.

Jane was an Irish woman and came from Antrim. Her mother's name was Martha, she had two brothers Henry and John who had also been transported, and two sisters Mary and Maggie.

On arriving in Hobart 'Jean' was sent on board the *Anson*⁶ for 6 months probation and on finishing her time she was sent to work for a Mr BINKS. She was later sent

to the Female House of Correction (Female Factory) at the Cascades for misconduct, and sentenced to three months hard labour. This was the first of two similar sentences.

On 10 November 1848 'Jean' gave birth to a son, George, who died two years later at the Female Factory in July 1850.



Jane Woods
(Private collection) AOT PH30-1-4006

Jean received her T/L in January 1850 but continued to come before the court for absconding and being drunk and was not granted her Free Certificate until 1853.⁷

In 1859 Henry wrote to Mr CALDER of the Lands Department applying for Crown Land on which to build visitors' accommodation at the Springs. He stated he had been living at Vauxhall Gully. He advised he intended to build a house for visitors to rest in. The letter went on to say

his wife was a steady worker, they had established a garden, and were a tenants to Mr Cooley and Mr McROBIE,⁸ for the previous ten years. He was the first person to open the line of road for Mr Cooley from the foothills of the mountain for the purpose of getting timber.⁹

³ *The Exiles Return*, edited by Cassandra Pybus; Watson. Reg. Canada's rebels in VDL, *Aus. Heritage*, Spring 2008 p.50.

⁴ TAHO CEN1/1/87 p.5

⁵ TAHO CON15/1/3

⁶ Women listed as being on the *Anson*
<http://www.tasfamily.net.au/~schafferi>

⁷ TAHO CON41/1/10 (Z2592); CON15/1/3 (Z2514); CON19/1/5 (Z2542)

⁸ William McRobie owned over 2,600 acres near the Hobart Rivulet, giving it the name McRobie's Gully, which it retains today

⁹ *The Critic*, Friday, 3 August 1923 (The Commentator) original document LSD1/32/496 missing in Archives

On the 21 August 1859, Mr J E Calder, the Surveyor-General, received the following communication from Woods.

I respectfully beg leave to solicit permission to occupy a portion of Crown land situate at the Springs. It is my intention [to build] a good substantial house for the accommodation of respectable inhabitants visiting Mount Wellington, and in case they maybe benighted to give them shelter for the night. My wife, who is a steady hard working industrious woman, will use her best endeavors to make the ladies as comfortable as she possibly can, should the Government at anytime require the land allotted to me, the same shall immediately given up on receiving due notice from you. In addition to building the house I will cultivate the few acres of ground which will make the land valuable. I have been there ten years as tenant to Mr. Cooley and Mr. McRobie, and I was the first person who opened the line of road for Mr. Cooley. Trusting that the subjoined testimonials of character will operate as a stimulus to my humble request, I most respectfully subscribe myself your most obliging servant.

- - Henry Woods.¹⁰

Permission was given, and from reports in the newspapers of the day the Woods family at the Springs became a household name to Hobart walkers and visitors alike, who wandered over the mountain in summer and winter. The hut had vertical plank walls and a shingle hip roof.

Georgian style small cottage with a stone chimney at the N (north) end was built on the slopes - probably the upper slopes of the Springs - and looked out over Hobart Town. There is a barn/stables (a large building log cabin style structure with a gable roof of planks) and with a window and door at the N side, below and S (south) of the house. There is a small

shed - and immediately down slope of the barn (with vertical plank (rough) walls and a shingle gable roof, also facing north.¹¹

Henry appears to have developed a love for the mountain and decided to establish himself away from the temptations of the towns, which had been the cause of his past problems.

Many wrote about the mountain, while others could not resist the temptation to climb its rugged slopes to the top. Even women fell under its spell. Salome PITT (whose parents came with Lt-Col. COLLINS in 1804) scaled it with an aboriginal girl as early as 1810.

The gang of unknown convicts together with someone with some surveying skills (probably their superintendent, a Royal Engineer) packed tools and victuals and were sent to the Springs as early as 1825. They began digging a diversion channel a little less than two foot wide one foot deep and, creating a gentle even fall towards the Hobart Rivulet.¹²

An interesting description of a day on the mountain in 1834 by Baron von HUGEL, tells of himself, Captain NEVILLE and two soldiers starting early one morning from Hobart on horseback to travel to the top of Mt Wellington.¹³ His story was translated from his native German tongue and makes interesting reading¹⁴ He was spellbound by what he saw and parts of his journal reads like poetry. He wrote:

Here in this virgin forest, where no one has walked, creation shows the secrets of nature. Here are quite and solitude that cannot be described.

¹¹ McConnell and Script (2005) Inventory. A Wellington Park Management Trust Report.

¹² Lloyd, Bernard. *The Water Getters* p.6

¹³ They only got as far as the Cascades before being forced to go on foot

¹⁴ Webster, Hilary. *The Tasmanian Traveller*

¹⁰ *The Critic*, 3 August 1923



Henry and Jane Woods outside their hut at the Springs circa 1859

AUTAS001124850462 Possibly the first hut Henry Woods built. Later the stone fireplace was removed and the northern end of the hut made into a smaller hut for visitors who wished to stay the night

Lady Jane FRANKLIN, wife of the Lieutenant-Governor, visited the mountain many times, and in 1843 initiated the building of a hut on the Pinnacle and the Springs to encourage more women to climb the Mountain.

The ex-convict James DICKINSON organized excursions to the Springs and Wellington Falls from the early 1840s. This brought about the Government financing a track to the Falls.¹⁵

In 1849 an Ice House was built of compact snow for ice, and transported to Hobart by pack horse 'to be used by the confectioners in Hobart in the preparation of ice creams'. Henry Woods and his son also delivered ice from the Springs to Hobart.¹⁶ The Ice Houses were substan-

tial (9m x 5.5m) excavated areas 2.5m deep which were built up an additional metre with stonewalling, then roofed over with timber and sod covering. In all, four ice houses were constructed. The probable route for the ice into Hobart was via Fingerpost Track and then via Hobart Rivulet to Degraeves sawmill.¹⁷

Henry and Jane Woods carried out all manner of help to tired visitors from 1859 till their deaths in 1882 from their little wooden hut at the Springs.

A description of a trip to the Wellington Falls by Robert MATHER and nine others in the spring of 1866 describes leaving in the evening for the Springs.

... took up our abode at the hut. Set apart by a man who lives at the Springs, for visitors. The only bedding we had was a little carpet, and a few pillows besides a

¹⁵ Schaffer, Irene. Unpublished manuscript *Nature in its Wildest Form: Schaffer Excursion Sandy Bay to Geeveston* 1994

¹⁶ This was the second icehouse built on the mountain

¹⁷ Wellington Park Management Trust Report p.16

rug or two, and a cloak. A small table stood in one corner of the hut, and two stools and a bucket of water for our use. There was plenty of wood for the fire, but the man did not seem to think wet wood would not burn.

As early as 1865 Henry's name appeared in a Hobart paper, when he was involved in a near serious accident in the town.

FALL FROM A HORSE.—About noon yesterday, as Woods, the well-known keeper of the half-way house on Mount Wellington, was riding through Liverpool-street, he was thrown with some violence from his horse. He was removed to the hospital, where he was found to have received no injuries, except some of a very superficial character.¹⁸

About this time a lady from NSW arrived in Hobart for a holiday and walked with a party to the top of Mount Wellington. In her journal she wrote the following.

The Captain of the party pressed forward to the hut at a place called the Springs to have breakfast prepared for us. The water flows down the mountain to the city. It is conveyed by a channel in the earth about thrice feet wide.

The old man and woman who reside at the hut supply visitors with implements and cook what provider they may take with them, for which 1/- per head is generally presented to them. We arrived there at ½ past 8 and were glad to sit down to an excellent breakfast of cold lamb and coffee.

We also enjoyed a draught of the cold crystal water from the murmuring spring.

The Captain of our party wrote our names in the book and when the old man heard that one of us was from NSW he began to ask some questions about a family he had been coachman to some 37 years ago (1828) asking how master Robert and

master George were regardless of the lapse of time which had made the young men he had left grey headed fathers.¹⁹

On a page from the visitors' book at the Springs dated 1869 was written

After reaching the summit of a rise on the 'mountain road' the visitor comes upon a hut surrounded by a small garden in which nature and art are to be seen contending for mastery, the former, however, in triumphant judging by the dwarfed gooseberry bushes and cabbages. 'Woods the old man of the mountain.' He and his better half, provide cooking utensils etc. for a consideration.²⁰

In the years before 1870, while his wife Jane attended to the visitors needs, Henry was employed by the Water Works looking after the streams on the mountain and being paid 26 pounds a year. These wages and income at the Springs would have allowed the couple to live, not in any great comfort but keeping them in food and clothing and allow them to remain at the Springs. Henry travelled to Hobart on his horse for supplies a couple of times a week in all weather.

During this time the family was well known to the residents of Hobart and Henry was becoming quite the celebrity. Many stories were written about him in the *Mercury* and other papers, their photos were taken on the mountain and in studios and they must have felt very important to have their tea room so well known.

The committee of the Water Board decided in 1870 that Henry's services

¹⁸ *Mercury*, 25 January 1865 p.2 c.7

¹⁹ *A Lady's Trip to Tasmania* – unknown author. 1865–66. Library of NSW Manuscripts, Oral history etc. State Library of NSW.

²⁰ *Guide to excursionists*, Melbourne. H Thomas 1869 p.39; Wellington Park Management Trust Report p.35.

should be dispensed with. A few Aldermen argued Henry should not be dealt with so harshly and to retain him in his job at 10 pounds a year. The vote was lost and Henry became unemployed.

By this time Henry was almost 70 years old. He had been living on the mountain for twenty years, and had no wish to leave and live in Hobart.

Walch's Tasmanian Guide Book in 1871 had the following to say about the Woods and their life at the Springs.

At the Springs he (the traveller) will find the shelter of a cottage roof, and an obliging residence hermit of the place who will boil the kettle or perform other kindly ministrations required. The said hermit will also exhibit to the stranger a book inspired to indite of the occasion.

To judge from many of the mementoes herein penned, the invigorating breeze alone can scarcely be held accountable for the elation of mind and exceeding freshness exhibited.

The Hermit referred to in the quotation was a Mr. Woods who lived at that time in a hut near where Mountain Lodge (formerly known as the Springs Hotel, now stands). This man made a living by selling ice made from compacted snow which was packed in sheds built for that purpose some distance above the Springs. The snow was insulated by being covered with foliage and the resultant ice was brought down to town twice a week on a packhorse.

Woods also had a novel device for helping to rescue lost mountaineers. It consisted of a horn contraption fitted to an old blunderbuss, which when fired must have sounded like the last trump. At any rate it could be heard for miles and was very effective in advertising the old man's latitude and longitude.²¹

²¹ Aves, Kelsey. *Mount Wellington. Tasmanian Tramp* No.12, 1955 pp.29–43.

Henry Woods was collecting Blue Gum seed at the Springs in 1873. At this time Blue Gum seed was collected for export worldwide. The timber was in high demand for building because of its size and strength, and the oil from the leaves was important.²²

Henry must have been one of the very first conservationists to take it on himself to care for the mountain—he looked after the water flow, cleared the tracks and gathered seeds. He deserved more than just to be known as the old man of the mountain. (There are cairns for those who died while walking in their pleasure times, why not one to Henry and Jane Woods who looked after so many people who visited the Springs and spent thirty years caring for our mountain.)

Their high profile did not last and life on Mount Wellington became one of near misery. They were short of money, food and clothing. By 1876 it was observed by some folks in Hobart all was not well with the keepers of the Springs. In those early days, Hobart newspapers were telling the public about the Woods' plight, and offering to receive subscription lists for food and clothing for the ageing couple.

Henry Woods jun. arrived in Tasmania from Western Australia in 1878 and went to live at the Springs. In Perth he had married Eliza HINES in 1865 but she did not accompany her husband to Tasmania. Eliza arrived in 1881, only to find her husband was living with another woman, Sarah Ellen THOMPSON who had given him one daughter, Jane in 1879, and was pregnant with a second, Elizabeth; this was the cause of later problems.

²² De Quincy, Elizabeth. *The History of Mt Wellington* (1987 p.68); Wellington Park Management Trust Report p.36

Great hardship was to become a way of life for the Woods couple and there were to be many more pleas in the *Mercury* for help to the public for the Woods, over the next few years.

Until 1831 there was no road to the Mountain and travelling was carried out mainly by following the woodcutters' tracts. Huon Road did not exist, ending at what is now the road leading to the Waterworks on the Huon Road, turning off to the left and following the Sandy Bay Rivulet up to Halls Saddle²³ and Fern Tree, then on to the southern slopes of Summerleas before going on to the Huon. It was not until 1869 the second route was established to the Huon via the foothills of Mount Wellington. In 1888 construction of Pillinger Drive from Fern Tree began using prison labour—it was later finished by free labour.

Henry's journeys to Hobart on his white horse before this time would have been down the track from the Springs to Huon Road and then on to Hobart.

THE MAN OF THE MOUNTAIN.— ... Old age and want the ill matched pair are creeping on. He has not the strength as of yore, nor the means, in fact, the Springs and the shelter there provided for visitors must be given up, unless the sympathies of the public find a substantial expression.²⁴

The Tasmanian Tribute 1877.

The Old Man of the Mountain

All who have visited Mt Wellington have made the acquaintance of "Old Woods", the man of the mountain. His name is associated doubtless in the minds of many now absent from the Colony, with very jolly excursions and his attention and hospitality in his oasis on the mountain, and well known to tourists

from Australia and New Zealand. Many will therefore regret to hear that the old man is at present in very distressed circumstances.

It appears that sometime ago he undertook upon his own reasonability to construct roads for the connivances of visitors from the Finger Post to the Springs and the track from hence to the top of the mountain hoping that the public would repay him for his labour and expenses – however he was doomed to disappointment and the result is that his credit has been stopped, and the old man reduced to a state boarding on starvation. Old age has crept up on him and he has no longer the strength to labour for himself - In seeking help for him. It would be a pity for Woods to leave the mountain as he will be compelled to do if he does not receive help. This paper is hoping to receive donations which will be sent to him.'

The Benevolent Society,²⁵ recommended Henry be given assistance in July 1879 as he was past work, and unable to support himself. They also observed he was in a pitiable state. Henry had walked to Hobart as his well known white horse had died that morning and he was left with no food in the house for himself or his wife. The Society supplied him with 3 loaves of bread, a little tea, and sugar. The article in the newspaper, referred to son Henry jun., aged 40 who was living with his parents, and who was engaged as a mountain guide.²⁶

This relief was to continue on a weekly basis (having to be collected from Hobart and carried back to the Springs), and the committee thought as summer approach-

²³ Later known as The Waterworks

²⁴ *Mercury*, 9 October 1876 p.2 c.3

²⁵ Benevolent Society was started in 1860, relying on public subscriptions. Schaffer, I, & Purtscher, Joyce. *The Sick and the Poor in Tasmania 1870.*

²⁶ *Mercury*, 25 July 1879 p.2 c.5

ed he could work again. Henry was now 78 years old. A donation of one pound was sent to the paper.

An English artist, Marianne North, described a visit to Mt Wellington in 1881.

Another day I scrambled up the staircase of fallen trees and tree fern trunks by the bed of a half dry stream for 1500' [feet] till we reached the first ridge of the mountain where an old convict and his wife lived summer and winter by boiling tea-kettles for visitors.²⁷



Henry Woods at the Springs in winter 1880

A previous article written in February 1881 was one of the last references to the Woods' suffering when the *Mercury* wrote the following:

A SAD CASE.—At 9 o'clock yesterday morning the "Old Man of the Mountain" and his wife were found by the police in Anglesey-street, lying on the ground, and apparently suffering from illness. They were taken to the General Hospital, where they still remained last night, Mrs. Woods condition being very serious.

²⁷ Sheridan, Gwenda, 2004 paper, unpublished. The only reference I have found that mentions Henry Woods was a convict.

Woods and his wife, it is well known, are both very old and feeble. They had come into town after their Benevolence allowance and were overcome by the heat and distance they had to travel. They are for the present well cared for, and it will be for the authorities to consider whether the old couple cannot be persuaded to enter one of the Government havens of rest which are open to them.²⁸

When the couple recovered they returned to their home at the Springs.

We can only imagine what their life was like by what has been written in these articles as nothing has survived down through the family, without these stories in the papers their suffering would never have been known.

THE OLD MAN OF THE MOUNTAIN.—A visitor to the mountain a day or two ago calls attention to the miserable plight in which Woods, the old man who has lived so many years at the Springs is. He is now over 80 years of age and has become completely unable to move about, let alone look after himself. The hut he lives in is in a state of decay, and during the rainy and snowy weather of late, his dwelling-place is deluged, there being about 3in. of water under his bed. For many days the poor old man, who has become somewhat deranged in his mind, did nothing but saw up a little wood to keep the fire alight, but lately he has been unable to move from his bed. The bed-clothes, which he has covered himself with, are described as being some pieces of old carpet. The cap on his knee is said to be broken, and Woods suffers acutely there from. His wife is getting very old also, and able to do very little either for herself or her husband, but the son takes up provisions twice a week, and otherwise attends to the old people as well as his means allow. The description

²⁸ *Mercury*, 19 February 1881 p.2 c.5

of the state of the old people will no doubt pain sensitive people, and many to proffer assistance. It has been urged over and over again upon the old couple to come into the city, and take up their quarters in the Invalid Depot, but they seem to have a great aversion to that course being taken, preferring to almost starve with cold rather than do so. Very few, if any, are aware of that Woods and his wife are so badly off for clothing and food, and the Benevolent Society may do something towards providing immediate wants, though the residence of Woods and his wife may place them outside the sphere of the society's labours. But if immediate want are supplied, we feel assured it is only necessary that the state of the old couple should be known to secure them aid from the charitable. We shall be glad to hear the active benevolence is being manifested in their behalf.²⁹

During this time their son Henry who was trying to look after the old couple appeared in court for the failure to pay the maintenance owing for his two children. This resulted in him being sentenced to two months goal, leaving no one to take food up to the hut.³⁰

Jane Woods was in a pitiful condition in the hut at the Springs on a cold August morning in 1882. The *Mercury* reports the story of the police having to get through nine inches of snow outside the hut, to bring her body down to Hobart.³¹ It also reports on the dreadful condition old Henry. He was in a wretched plight, having lost the use of his limbs and one of his legs was fractured. His mind was

wandering and he was quite helpless and childish. He died at the General Hospital in Hobart, a month after his wife, on 6 September 1882. Henry was buried by friends.³²

An acknowledgement appeared in the *Mercury* on 13 September 1882 from Henry and Eliza Woods, thanking friends of his late father for their kindness.

So ended a time on the mountain that would never come again, other than those who lived at the Springs Hotel, no other persons were allowed to live on that part of the mountain. The Woods couple and their life there was very special. Their story may have had a sad ending but even that could not completely overshadow a very wonderful story of two people's love for their home, as humble as it was, and a mountain they would not leave, even in the twilight of their lives.

In 1886 it was recommended the unsightly houses be removed and the establishment of a proper house of accommodation, more befitting the requirements of visitors than the present wretched tenement.³³

It was about 1888 that the first of the huts were built for the use of week-end recreation on the mountain. This trend lasted for more than three decades. Many were burnt by the bush fires that regularly swept the mountain. Timber was plentiful and the huts were rebuilt. Later, stone was used for erecting the huts. Many are still used by walkers today. ◀

²⁹ *Mercury*, 18 July 1882 p.2 c.4

³⁰ *Mercury*, 19 July 1882 p.2 c.6. Henry only spent a night in goal as someone paid his fine the next day. No mention of who paid it.

³¹ *Mercury*, 12 August 1882 p.2 c.6

³² Purtscher, Joyce. *Deaths at General Hospital Hobart January 1864 - June 1884. Tasmanian Pioneer Index* gives his age as 84.

³³ Perrin, G S. 23/11/1866 Report on the State Reserve at Mt Wellington; Wellington Park Management Trust Report p.37.

DIGGING IN THE RUBBLE OF A FALLEN BRICK WALL

Vee Maddock (Member No.3972)

IN 2005 I wrote the story of my most enduring brick wall,¹ one which I had encountered on the very first day of researching my family tree in the mid 1980s. Referred to as 'Catherine of the many names' by many of her frustrated descendants, my great grandmother married David George WARD as Catherine McKENNA² (or Mcanar as Catherine signs it,³ then proceeded to have eight children to him, cycling through the maiden names of McKenna, CASEY, McKAN, McCANNER, McKINNON and LEMON. William Lemon, who was stated to be D G Ward's father-in-law when he died in 1871,⁴ had married Margaret KENNY but there it seemed all facts ceased, leaving us to wonder who Catherine was and what her name may really have been. If William Lemon had been her father, why did he not give her name as Lemon when registering the births of grandchildren? If Margaret Kenny was her mother why was Kenny never given as a maiden name?

Many theories as to her identity abounded through the family researchers, some associating her with the convict Catherine McKenna,⁵ who although looking promising, was 'delivered of an illegitimate male child 24/5/56', just four months before Catherine Ward had her second

female child. Others pinned their hopes on vague links to births in New South Wales, as when Catherine died her husband stated she had been born in Sydney. However as she was 'of age' when she married in 1854, and 36 years old when she died in 1875 (making her birth around 1839 and meaning she was possibly only 15 years old at the marriage) it left a large number of years and possible surnames to consider.

Embarrassingly, when the wall tumbled after twenty-two years, it was with information that had been available for most of that period. In fact I even had most of it on file. I just needed to look at it differently. The opportunity arose with the visit of a cousin, another researcher from interstate, which prompted me to revisit William Lemon's convict record, which in turn had me downloading the clearer online copy of Margaret Kenny's conduct record too.

Margaret KEMNEY⁶ was transported to Tasmania on the *Marion Watson* in December 1841. It was only when looking at the record this time that I suddenly realised that she had been transported from Sydney and before that, she had been transported to Sydney from Ireland per the *Asia* in January 1830.

During the visit the proof of a connection between Margaret Lemon (née Kenny) and Catherine also jumped out at me—they were buried in the same Queenborough⁷ plot, along with Margaret's

¹ *Tasmanian Ancestry* Vol. 25 no.4 March 2005, pp.193–94, 'Catherine of the Many Names' by Vee Maddock

² AOT, RGD 37 1854/481 Hobart

³ AOT, NS590/1/7 3091/1854

⁴ David's death

⁵ AOT, CON41/32 McKenna, Catherine

⁶ AOT, CON40/6 p.245 Kemney, Margaret

⁷ AOT, AB 317/1 p.132

‘other’ daughter Mary Lemon.⁸ There followed a quick check of the Queen’s Orphanage books to discover:

Kenny, Catherine, 4y, mother; Kenny, Margaret, admitted 22 March 1842. Discharged to mother 6 January 1845, Ship: *Marian Watson*.⁹

Catherine finally had a name and a mother and I foolishly thought I’d actually found an answer.

Exhaustive searching of NSW records has yet to turn up a birth or baptism of Catherine Kenny (or Kemney or Kenney) who it seems was probably born around 1838/39 in NSW.

Margaret Kenny arrived in Sydney on the *Asia (7)* on 13 January 1830 as a 24 year-old Protestant from Tipperary. She was a laundress with no previous convictions, sentenced to 7 years for stealing cloth. She had hazel eyes and a ruddy complexion with dark brown hair and a scar under her right eye. She was 5 feet 6½ inches tall and was quickly assigned to Lt Brown of Bathurst.¹⁰

A ticket of leave was given for the district of Maitland in December 1832, but it was cancelled for ‘entering a dwelling house with intent to steal’ in December 1834.¹¹

In 1836 Margaret applied (twice) to marry John BERWICK a convict from the *Champion* in Maitland. Banns were

published only twice and the marriage didn’t happen.¹²

In September 1838 Margaret Kenny married Thomas LEITHEAD of Merton, NSW.¹³

Their son John Leithead was born c.1837¹⁴ and their daughter Elizabeth in 1839.¹⁵ In same year Thomas drowned.¹⁶

In December 1839, Margaret Kenny, *Asia (7)* obtained her Certificate of Freedom.¹⁷

Again Margaret applied for permission to marry, this time to Thomas BRIGGS of the *Florentia* who was also free by servitude.¹⁸ They married in Patricks Plains on 9 February 1841, before the same clergyman she had faced with Leithead.¹⁹ With Briggs, Margaret had Sarah in September 1841²⁰ who was baptised in the Church of England in Althorpe and Alice in late 1843 who was baptised in the West Maitland Roman

⁸ AOT, RGD 37 1847/2146 Hobart & RGD 35 3503/1881 Hobart

⁹ Purtscher, J. *Children in Queens Orphanage Hobart Town 1828–1863*

¹⁰ NSW Convict Kit Convict Indent Margaret Kenny, *Asia* Fiche 674 p.49 & Index to Convict Assignments, Grafton FHS

¹¹ NSW Convict Ticket of Leave 33/792 from SAG & NSW *Gov. Gazette* 16 September 1833

¹² Archives Authority of NSW Applications to Marry. Principal Superintendent of Convicts: Register of Convicts

¹³ NSW Registry of Births Deaths & Marriages, 1838 Ref: V1838568 123 Parish: Whittingham, Presbyt.

¹⁴ Archives Authority of NSW Colonial Secretary’s Correspondence Margaret Collins and Thomas Collins 47/1237/4/2756

¹⁵ NSW Registry of Births Deaths & Marriages, 1839, V18398082 121C, Whittingham, Presbyterian.

¹⁶ Archives of NSW Colonial Secretary’s Correspondence Margaret Collins and Thomas Collins 47/1237/4/2756

¹⁷ NSW *Gov. Gazette* 10 Dec 1839

¹⁸ Archives Authority of NSW Applications to Marry. Principal Superintendent of Convicts: Register of Convicts

¹⁹ NSW Registry of Births Deaths & Marriages, 1839 V1841603 123 Whittingham, Presbyterian

²⁰ NSW Registry of Births Deaths & Marriages V18411873 26A Althorpe, Church of England

Catholic church in 1844.²¹ On the same day in 1844 a 3 year-old Henry Briggs was also baptised, but there are no other references to a boy the same age as Sarah so this is probably an error in the records.²² In July 1844 Thomas Briggs died.²³

By October 1844 Margaret was preparing to marry again, once more applying for permission to marry another ticket of leave holder, Thomas COLLINS.²⁴

With Collins she had at least one child, possibly Mary C Collins who was baptised in Sydney's St James Roman Catholic Church in 1846. In late 1845 Margaret travelled to Sydney with five children to petition for the release of her husband who, despite being acquitted of robbing and beating a man still had his ticket of leave revoked and was sent to a stockade. The governor, while at first sympathetic, soon changed his tune noting:

Since my minute on 45/6857 was written facts have come to my knowledge leading me to believe that Margaret Collins is a person in no way deserving consideration. The Chief Justices report of her husband's trial and acquittal lead me to conclude that the conduct of the wife was as bad (or worse than) that of her husband, and that they both [demand?] punishment. [Of] the ~~four~~ five children [?] [one?] only is by her present husband,

and her only [?] is to get rid of the charge of her children.²⁵

This was in fact the second time Collins had been charged with a crime and acquitted, each time losing his ticket of leave and freedom. It seems no one was overly impressed by Margaret's character. In the Police report of the bashing it is stated that:

It appears, that the prisoner was recently married, to a woman of abandoned character; and on the day in question, he was travelling with her in a dray²⁶

Was this judgement made on anything other than the fact she had children to several men? She was in fact married to each of them. The elder four children were however removed from the mother and placed in the Orphan Schools. Margaret retrieved John Leithead a few years later, and the correspondence indicated Collins had died. The governor and school master were most reluctant to return the boy to her care, feeling he would be ready to take on an apprenticeship in a couple of years.²⁷ It seems he did return to her and they returned to the Hunter Valley region where she had him baptised in the Catholic Church in 1847 at the age of 11,²⁸ although ages given by the orphan school would make him only 9, maybe 10. Both John and Elizabeth Leithead later raised families in the area.

²¹ NSW Registry of Births Deaths & Marriages V18443035 121B West Maitland, Roman Catholic

²² NSW Registry of Births Deaths & Marriages V18413034 121B; West Maitland, Roman Catholic

²³ Archives Authority of NSW Colonial Secretary's Correspondence Margaret Collins and Thomas Collins 47/1237/4/2756

²⁴ Archives Authority of NSW, Registers of convicts' applications to marry, 1825-51

²⁵ Archives Authority of NSW Colonial Secretary's Correspondence 45/8307

²⁶ Archives Authority of NSW Colonial Secretary's Correspondence Margaret Collins and Thomas Collins 47/1237/4/2756

²⁷ Archives Authority of NSW Colonial Secretary's Correspondence Margaret Collins and Thomas Collins 47/1237/4/2756

²⁸ St Patricks, County of Cumberland Parish records. Baptism 7 May 1847

All of this however is quite irrelevant since Margaret Kenny who arrived on the *Asia* (7) from Ireland was sentenced in the Sydney Quarter Sessions to 7 years transportation to Van Diemen's Land on 17 November 1841 for larceny and arrived in Hobart on 12 December 1841.²⁹ On her arrival on the *Marion Watson* she stated she was a 31 year old illiterate Catholic (she was 24 just eleven years before), and she was a native of Kings County, Ireland where she had a brother Peter Kenny and a sister Kathleen and she was 4 feet 11 inches tall.³⁰

Three months after arrival she was sentenced to six days solitary for being drunk and representing herself to be free. The day after her sentence she admitted her daughter Catherine to the Queen's orphanage. Just two months later she gave birth to a daughter Margaret at the Cascades Female Factory.³¹ There followed more incidences of drunkenness with varying sentences. In 1844 she admitted not quite 2 year-old Margaret to the Queens Orphanage.³² A year later she picked up Catherine and ten months later was sentenced to two months hard labour for 'living in a state of adultery.'³³ ³⁴ Eight weeks later she married William Lemon, a 'free man' who arrived as a convict on the *Phoenix* in 1822.³⁵ There are some very interesting newspaper reports about William Lemon and

Margaret Kenny/Lemon, usually involving drink; however few of them can be confirmed as being these two individuals.

In February 1846 Margaret gave birth to Mary Lemon³⁶ and in 1848 she claimed her daughter Margaret from the orphanage.³⁷

Catherine married rather urgently at around 15 years of age to the 19 year-old David George Ward in 1854. We may never know why she choose to use the name McKenna. Perhaps it was her father's? Catherine died at 36 years of age in 1875 after eight children.³⁸

William Lemon, 'an old and respected colonist of 50 years standing', died in September 1871 aged 72 years.³⁹

Mary Lemon died aged 34 of stomach cancer in 1881.⁴⁰

As for daughter Margaret Kenny, there are two women of that name of similar ages who appear in the records. One born in Hobart in 1842, the other a Bounty scheme immigrant who arrived on the *Maitland* in 1854 from Kings County, Ireland aged 18⁴¹ (so born around 1838). The immigrant Margaret is sent to Oatlands to Mr REDFORD where she remained for half a year, then vanished from the records.⁴²

A Margaret née Kenny was the wife of Patrick LAWLEY, a farmer in the Sorell district who had a male child in July 1856 (which would make Hobart Margaret only 14 years old and immigrant Margaret aged 20 years.)

²⁹ AOT Conduct Record Kemney Margaret CON40/6 p245

³⁰ AOT Convict Indent Kemney, Margaret CON 16/1 p188

³¹ RGD 33 1842/834 Hobart

³² AOT SWD28 Queens Orphanage

³³ Purtscher, J Children in *Queens Orphanage Hobart Town 1828-1863*

³⁴ AOT Conduct Record Kemney Margaret CON40/6 p.245

³⁵ AOT CON31/27 William Leman per *Phoenix* (1)

³⁶ RGD Births Tasmania Hobart 2146/1847

³⁷ AOT SWD28 Queens Orphanage

³⁸ AOT RGD 35/8 1875/2502 Hobart

³⁹ *The Mercury* 18 September 1871

⁴⁰ *The Mercury* 26 December 1881

⁴¹ AOT CB 7/12/1 p233

⁴² AOT CB 7/16/1 p.97

A Margaret Kenny aged 20 married in St Georges Church in November 1860 (Hobart Margaret would have been 18½, immigrant Margaret, 24 years) to soldier John DORE. Seven or eight children later she succumbed to tuberculosis, as had many of her children. When she died in February 1881 her husband stated she was 38 and born in Ireland. When each of the children died the father was meticulous about giving their exact age, even in months and days. Immigrant Margaret would have been 43 in 1881, Margaret Kenny's daughter would have turned 39 in the May of 1881. She spent the first six years of her life in an orphanage, it's possible she didn't know her mother's background and may have either assumed or been told she was born before Margaret arrived in Tasmania.

As for Margaret Lemon, after being transported, possibly twice, and losing two, if not three daughters before they

were 40, she died of old age on 1 November 1890. The undertaker had her aged 92, however if her age when transported was correct she would have been around 80.

My brick wall rubble is deep and filled with more questions than answers. Why were two women both claiming to be the same convict? Why the difference in height? Did Margaret Lemon never realise they were attributing her with the wrong identity? If she was from the *Asia*, why was the NSW woman so insistent on claiming it as her ship? Where was Catherine born and who was her father? Which convicts obtained and lost the various certificates and tickets of freedom attributed to a Margaret Kenny?

I'm sure if I could see the bricks in this rubble, not only would they each have a convict thumbprint, but an engraved question mark as well. ◀

Descendants of Convicts' Group Inc.

1788–1868

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

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Descendants of Convicts' Group
PO Box 115 Flinders Lane VIC 8009

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

JUVENILE GRAND FANCY DRESS BALL, AT T. D. CHAPMAN'S, ESQ., M.L.C.

THE beautiful residence of the worthy Member for Hobart Town was last night thrown open for one of the most splendid and elegant entertainments ever witnessed in this Colony. It quite fails us to enter into a description of the very beautiful and imposing scene which burst on our view on entering the suite of apartments so tastefully decorated for this festive occasion; the deep verandahs, being enclosed and elegantly furnished, afforded ample room to the gay and brilliant throng. The several apartments around, opening on it with beautiful effect, permitted the graceful groups to sweep in gay converse through the entire range, in the centre of which, and facing the Ball Room, was stationed the Band of the 99th Regiment. Two supper rooms, where all the luxuries of life were bountifully supplied, were thrown open at different hours of the evening—first for the juvenile, and after their retiring, for the elder portion of the gay company.

To enter into a description of the groups which graced these apartments is quite beyond our power—the scene was one of extreme elegance, and most imposing. About one hundred and fifty children, from four to fourteen, dressed with all the taste and elegance that fancy could dictate, formed the first portion of the evening's entertainment, and occupied the Ball Room till midnight, when the other groups, no less beautiful and imposing of the gay and fair, wiled the hour away till morning dawned.

We dare not draw any comparisons of the youthful beauty that grouped before us, so perfect and elegant did all appear; and yet we cannot proceed without naming one who certainly bore the palm as the Queen of Beauty,—and in naming Miss Perry, who not only from the extreme elegance of her costume, being that of the time of Louis

XIV., but from her extreme beauty and the grace and elegance of her deportment in sustaining so admirably her character, won all hearts to vote her the Crown of Roses.

'Tis to be regretted that, according to the custom of fancy dress balls, each guest was not provided with a card of name and style of dress on entering; casual observers as we were, we fear we cannot enumerate one-half of the happy youth which excited our admiration; a few, however, as most remarkable, whose names we caught, we insert. And first

The Children of the Host—Master J.

Chapman as a Circassian, Master K. C. as a Page, and Miss A. C. as a Lady of the time of Francis I,—excited our admiration by the extreme neatness and elegance of their dress.

Master Cecil Perry, as “Robin Hood,” and Miss Perry (alluded to above) were préeminent

Master and Miss Nairn, as Pages of the time of Francis I., were also elegantly dressed

The three Misses and the two Masters Elliston, dressed in the style of the Court of William and Mary, were most remarkable for the correctness and elegance of their costume

Master Lavington Roope, as Harlequin, excited universal applause, in sustaining the character to admiration

Miss and Master Moses were magnificently dressed as of-the Court of Louis XIV.

The Misses and Master Carandini were tastily dressed in French costume

Master Hull, Page to Queen Elizabeth; Miss Hull as a Flower Girl

The Misses Emmett, as Swiss Peasants; Master Emmett, as Page of Henry VIII.

Master Charles Boys, a Courtier of
 Charles XIV.
 Miss Annie Lord, as "Fille di
 Regimento."
 ,, Frances Lord, as a Flower Girl
 ,, Jessie Ewing, as "Jenny Lind."
 ,, Emily Ewing, as Swiss Girl
 ,, M. Roberts,
 ,, M. Crowther, Spanish Girl
 Master Crowther, Spanish Noble
 The Misses Nixon, as Flower Girls
 Master James Campbell, as an Archer
 ,, Edward Swan, Chinese
 ,, James Stoney, Maltese (his native
 costume)
 ,, Henry Stoney, Greek ,, ,,
 ,, G. Bunster, Polish Gentleman
 Miss Eliza Vicary, Swiss Girl
 Master William Bedford, Sailor
 ,, E Bedford, Albanian Peasant
 Miss Emily Bedford, Swiss Girl
 Master F. Rogers, Midshipman
 ,, Allport, as "Aladdin, with his Wonder-
 ful Lamp;" Master E. Allport, as
 "Otho, King of Greece."
 Miss Best, as a Fairy, was very remark-
 able
 ,, Georgina Best, as a Flower Girl
 Master Best, Midshipman
 ,, Charles Chalmers, "William Tell."
 ,, Edmond Chalmers, Albanese Peasant
 Master Charles Fraser, Naval Cadet
 The three Masters Dobson, as French
 Peasants
 Master Russel, Young Corsair
 Master and Miss M'Lachlan, in their native
 costume of Highland Chief and Lady
 Miss Ellen Seccombe, Swiss Girl
 ,, Bright, Turkish Lady
 ,, Constance Bright, as Anne Page
 ,, Mary Bright, as Shepherdess
 Master Charles Debott, Courtier of
 Edward V.
 The Misses Lempriere, French Peasants
 of Languedoc

Miss Lilly Richardson, Opera Dancer
 ,, Janette M'Dowell, Swiss Peasant
 Master M'Dowell, Page of Queen Anne
 ,, Orr, as Midshipman
 ,, Martin Chapman, as a Highlander
 ,, Charles Chapman, as a Page to George I.
 ,, Henry Walker, as an Indian Prince
 ,, James Lord, as a Highlander
 Miss Helena Kilburn, as a Flower Girl
 ,, Adela Kilburn, as a Peasant Girl
 ,, Nichol, as a Scotch Peasant Girl
 Master Nichol, as a Scotch Shepherd
 Miss Meaburn, as an Eastern Princess
 ,, Ada Meaburn, as a Swiss Girl
 ,, Alice Meaburn, as a Fortune Teller
 ,, Haig, as a Swiss Girl
 ,, Robertson, as a Shepherdess
 Master Robertson, as a Midshipman
 Miss Kate Butler, as a Scotch Girl
 Master Algernon Jones, Madras Cavalry
 Officer
 Miss Mary Wilmot, Flower Girl
 ,, Champ, French Lady
 ,, Mary Champ, French Lady
 ,, Maning, Swiss Girl
 ,, Mary Maning, Swiss Girl
 Master J. Milligan, Highlander
 ,, J. Fletcher, as a Spaniard
 ,, Fletcher, as a Midshipman,
 &c. &c. &c.

None of the above but deserved a more
 minute and exact description, but time
 would fail us. All were, however, dress-
 ed with extreme neatness, elegance, and
 in good keeping, and the general
 deportment of the youthful community
 rivalled in grace and manners the elder
 and no less elegant groups which graced
 the Festive Halls. The courteous and
 unceasing exertions of the worthy Host
 and his Lady conspired to spread happi-
 ness around, and to make the entertain-
 ment the most recherche, joyous, and
 magnificent that has ever graced
 Tasmania. ◀

Courier, Hobart Town, 5 October 1854, p.3

PETER JOHN ALEXANDER MULLAY

A PILOT AT LOW HEAD

Pamela Campbell (Member No.578)

ON Saturday, 17 June 1899, *The Mercury* reported the following occurrence.

THE BARQUE DOON

The experience which befell Pilot Mullay on the arrival of the barque Doon at Low Head from London via Hobart last week, was a bit out of the ordinary, and is stated to be a "record" so far as the Low Head pilot service is concerned. The pilot in question boarded the Doon at Low Head at 3 p.m. on the 8th inst., but it was 5.30 pm. on the 13th inst. before the vessel was taken in tow up the Tamar. Owing to unfavourable circumstances, Pilot Mullay, on boarding the Doon, had to keep her out to sea, and at midnight on the 9th a heavy gale from the N.W. set in, with violent rain squalls, and vivid lightning in all quarters. The sea, too, rose mountains high, but the vessel under lower topsails behaved splendidly. At daylight on the 10th Hummock Island was sighted, and as the gale was increasing, and the weather indications foretelling worse to come it was decided to make for the Bay of Fires on the East Coast. The vessel passed Eddystone at 4 pm. and dodged about all night, the next day standing nearly as far south as Falmouth. At 7 a.m. on the 12th a favourable change set in, and a course was again shaped for Low Head, which

was reached the next day, and the Wybia tug took the vessel in tow at 5.30 pm. Anchor was dropped in Lagoon Bay for the night, Launceston being reached at 4 pm. on the 14th. Pilot Mullay felt none the worse for his five days' cruise, though he was doubtless pleased when he again reached the Tamar. Within the history of the Low Head pilot service it is averred that no pilot had previously been taken away from the station under such circumstances.¹



Peter John Alexander MULLAY, baptised 6 October 1839, was the only son of Robert Mullay, Merchant, Lerwick, Shetland and his wife Margaret TULLOCH. He went to sea at the age of 16 years in the *Star of Tasmania*. This ship

was a wooden sailing ship (clipper) built in Aberdeen in 1856 at the Alexander Hall Shipyard for Captain Samuel Tulloch, a native of Lerwick but then, a merchant, living in Launceston.

Mullay was third mate for three years. He then traded in the brig *Mercury* via the coastal ports for eighteen months.

In 1864 he joined the Launceston Marine Board at Low Head spending forty-three years in their employ. In 1890, Assistant Pilot Mullay was promoted to pilot in

¹ *The Mercury*, Saturday 17 June 1899, p.2

charge at Low Head at a salary of £200. His duty at Low Head was to meet incoming ships that called for a pilot, and take them up to Launceston.

During his appointment at Low Head Mullay saw the total loss of three vessels on the dreaded Hebe Reef, a shoal of rocks on the right hand entrance to the River Tamar. The reef is situated about two miles northwest from Low Head Lighthouse. At half tide it is covered, and in fine weather the sea runs over it without breaking. The rock was named after a small vessel called the Hebe bound from England, wrecked there in 1808.

The barque *Asterope*, from London, was the first he witnessed to go ashore at this spot. On Friday, 8 June 1883, while steering a SE course, the captain was watching to get the leading light tower in proper line for entry into the Heads, unaware he was a little too far eastward. The course brought the vessel over the Hebe Reef.

Watching from the pilot station Captain CROUCHER thought her course was bringing her dangerously close to the reef. The pilot was on his way out in the boarding boat when the *Asterope* struck. Every effort was made to save the vessel but she was stuck fast and with bad weather on Saturday and Sunday she began leaking and speedily went to pieces. The beaches for miles around were strewn with wreckage.

Three years later on 24 April 1886, the TSN² Company's steamer *Esk*, from Hobart to Sydney, via Formby, struck on the Hebe Reef. The vessel, which had put into Lagoon Bay at daylight on Saturday, awaiting the Mersey tide had left at noon, and had struck the eastern

end of the Hebe Reef, and was making water. By Sunday the *Esk* was abandoned.

A few years later the reef was to destroy Peter Mullay's career as Chief Pilot Officer at Low Head.

The *Eden Holme* an iron barque of 287 tons, traded regularly between London, Hobart and Launceston. Prior to Christmas 1906 she reached Hobart and landed a considerable quantity of cargo. On 5 January 1907 the vessel sailed for Launceston reaching the Tamar Heads by 10 p.m. on 6 January. It lay to under two lower topsails and lower staysails till 5:30 am on Monday.

Captain DULLING signalled for a pilot at 7 am and half an hour later Pilot Mullay came on board. A fresh southerly was blowing and the tide had been running out for a couple of hours, consequently being rather strong. The fore and aft canvas was set, and the vessel hovered off shore, but as the tug was not in sight the pilot decided to stand out for the open roadstead again. It was while this was going on that the wind suddenly dropped, and the strong current carried the ship well to the westward.

The *Eden Holme* was dangerously placed, as the Hebe Reef was close to starboard. The reef was well covered with water, and it was thought that the vessel would be able to clear the danger. Had there been some breeze the ship could have been kept on the move. Had the tide been in flood she could have passed into the river.

The pilot took every measure he could, but she struck so lightly, in fact it was hardly felt. Only the helmsman and the pilot knew she had struck the rock.

Peter Mullay was distraught. Before he left to go ashore he went to Captain

² Tasmanian Steam Navigation Company

Dulling and told him how sorry he was for losing his ship. He added slowly he supposed it would be the end of his own career. The immediate cause of the accident Mullay said was the wind falling. Had it held he honestly believed the *Eden Holme* would have cleared the reef. Other expert opinion supported Mullay. Captain BRADLEY, Harbour Master of Launceston, defended Mullay's actions.

The Court's decision was

that Pilot Mullay, had a long and honourable service without any mishap, but we must remember that this occurrence took place in a calm, smooth sea, by which a valuable ship, carrying cargo and some passengers, as well as the crew, was lost, and we cannot allow it to be supposed that a man in such a position as the pilot may have a casualty like this without anything happening to him.

We do not attribute any blame to the captain of the ship, whose certificate is to be returned to him.³

Pilot Mullay retired from the Launceston Marine Board, moved to Hobart, living at *Auburn*, Carr Street, North Hobart.

In 1914 Peter Mullay and his wife Emily celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. Peter and Emily, the daughter of Robert PRICE, saddler, of West Tarring and Launceston had married on 14 January 1864. Emily's brother Robert Henry Price, was, for a short time, a Mayor of Launceston. On 30 April 1914, Peter Mullay died leaving a wife, two daughters and a son.⁴ ◀

Sources:

Weekly Courier, 12 January 1907
Branagan, J G, *George Town, History of the Town and District*
www.bayanne.infro/Shetland

³ *The Mercury*, 24 January 1907, p.6

⁴ *The Mercury*, 19 January and 1 May 1914

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REUNION

Descendents of Thomas Davis and Harriet Tyler

As a member of the extended Davis Family I am considering holding a Family Reunion.

Thomas Davis (alias Thomas Davy, Thomas Hoadbury etc) arrived in New South Wales onboard the *Coromandel* as a convict.

He settled in the Blacktown area of New South Wales and married a Harriet Tyler.

Thomas died 1850. Thomas and Harriet had a son Thomas born 1814 in Blacktown.

Thomas Davis (b1814) married Elizabeth Leadbeater who had a large family.

The reunion will be held on the weekend of 1 October 2011 on the Sunshine Coast,

Queensland. There is plenty of accommodation and tourist activities so more than the weekend can be spent here. There will be a small cost to cover expenses.

Please contact Keith & Ros Lumb

phone: (07) 5499 7840

mobile: Ros: 0408 694001

Keith: 0408 694744

davis_reunion@bigpond.com

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT 1901

GUESTS BIDDEN TO THE CEREMONIES

THE 9 MAY 1901 saw the opening in Melbourne of the first Commonwealth Parliament by the Duke of Cornwall and York, who later became George V. The names of the Government invited guests from Tasmania appeared in *The Mercury* on the 9 May 1901.

AGNEW Sir J W
 AIKENHEAD Mr & Mrs W
 ANDERSON Rev
 ARCHER Mr & Mrs F
 ARCHER Mr & Mrs J C
 ATKINS Mr & Mrs C J
 ATKINSON Mr & Mrs T R
 BACK Mr & Mrs F
 BARCLAY Mr & Mrs C J
 BARNARD Mr J
 BEST Mr & Mrs J
 BENJAMIN Mr & Mrs S
 BENNISON Mr & Mrs T
 BIRD Mr & Mrs B S
 BIRD Miss
 BIRD Mr & Mrs S
 BLAIKIE Pastor J
 BLYTH Mr & Mrs T B
 BOAG Mr & Mrs J
 BOURNE Mr & Mrs H F
 BROWN Mr & Mrs N
 BRADDON Sir Edward & Lady
 BRADDON Miss
 BRIGHT DR
 BROWN Mr & Mrs H T
 BROWN Mr W J
 BROWNELL Mr & Mrs
 BURBURY Mr & Mrs W
 BUCKLAND Mr W H
 BURGESS Mr & Mrs W H
 BURKE Mr & Mrs D
 BUTLER Mr & Mrs G H
 BUTLER Mr C W

CHEPMALL Mr C
 CLARKE Mr J M
 CLARKE Rev G
 CLARK Justice & Mrs
 COLLINS Mr & Mrs G
 COUNSEL Mr & Mrs
 CROSBY Mr & Mrs W
 CROWTHER Dr & Mrs
 CROUCH Lieut-Colonel
 DAVIES Mr & Mrs J G
 DAVIES Mr & Mrs C E
 DOBSON Mr H
 DODDS His Excellency Sir J S
 & Lady Dodds
 DODDS Mr W
 DODDS Mr F
 DOUGLAS Mr & Mrs A
 DODERY Mr & Mrs W
 DOBBIE Mr & Mrs E D
 DUMARESQ Mr & Mrs H R
 EDGELL Mr H
 EVANS Mr & Mrs J W
 FAIRTHORNE Mr & Mrs
 FOWLER Mr A R
 FYSH Sir P & Lady
 GATEHOUSE Miss
 GAFFNEY Mr & Mrs J j
 GLEADOW Mr G D
 GELLIBRAND Mr W A R
 GIBSON Mr J
 GOULD Mr & Mrs
 GRANT Mr & Mrs C H
 GRUBB Mr & Mrs F W
 GRUBB Mr & Mrs W C
 GUESDON Mr & Mrs W A

GUNN Mr R
 GUESDON Mr & Mrs W A
 GUNN Mr R
 GUNNING Mr
 HALL Mr & Mrs C H
 HAMILTON Mr J
 HAMILTON Mrs
 HARRAP Mr G
 HARRAP Miss
 HART Mr & Mrs W
 HARTNOLL Mr & Mrs W
 HENRY Mr J
 HENRY Major & Mrs
 HOBKIRK Mr
 HODGMAN Mr & Mrs T G
 HOGG Mr E H
 HOGGINS Mr & Mrs C D
 HOPE Mr & Mrs J
 HUME Mr & Mrs A
 ISRAEL Mr & Mrs J W
 JOHNSTON Mr R M
 KERR Mr & Mrs G
 KEATING Mr & Mrs
 LAW Rev W
 LANCASTER Rev C
 LEATHAM Mr & Mrs G
 LEGGE Colonel & Mrs W V
 LEGGE Miss
 LEWIS the Hon N E & Mrs
 Lewis
 LYNE Mr & Mrs C
 MACFARLANE Mr & Mrs J
 MACFARLANE Dr & Mrs
 MACKENZIE Mr C J
 MADDOK [sic] Dr

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GENES ON SCREEN

Vee Maddock (Member No.3972)

BOOKS are wonderful. Personally, nothing fills me with more joy than wandering a bookshop armed with a gift voucher, or ordering a book online and opening the package. I love the look of bookshelves filled with texts and picking up a tome and leafing through it. However there are limits to the love. Limits as to how many books one can actually keep. Limits to how many will fit on one's shelves. Limits to how long one can hold the new large trade paperbacks before a wrist gives out and one must resort to reading at a table. Enter the book of the future, the eBook.

EBooks are basically electronic files of text and images which operate in an eReader. EBooks exist in several different formats. They can be read with software on your computer, laptop, Smartphone or iPad, or they can be read on a dedicated device, intended just for reading eBooks.

Dedicated eReaders range in size, make and price. In general they are slightly larger than an average paperback page (with a screen about 15cm diagonally). Some like the Kindle are the thickness of a pencil, others are thicker and heavier. Most weigh around the same as an average paperback, definitely less than a trade paperback or a hard cover. Some have touch screens, some have LCD with a back light like a computer (often the cheaper readers), but the readers getting the best reviews tend to be the ones using eInk technology which presents a page that looks like a page of a book. They can be read in bright sunlight or under a lamp and in fact need a light to read in the dark, like a normal book. Without the back light you tend not to experience the eye strain that

you do on a computer screen. Most have a button on the side which you press to turn the page. Font size on the display can be adjusted for easy readability. Some have the ability to search for specific text and enter comments, annotations, bookmarks or notes; others simply display the pages and nothing more. Some are connected to your computer to upload eBooks to them, others have WiFi to enable you to wirelessly upload (when in a public place with WiFi available, or using a wireless router at home). Others have an internet connection (be cautious, a lot of these currently only work in the USA) so you can be sitting on a beach, decide you want the next book in the series, connect to the ebook shop, purchase it and start reading within minutes without ever leaving your beach towel.

More and more magazines and newspapers are becoming available in eformat. Currently there are no Australian newspapers available but with eReaders becoming more popular by the day it's only a matter of time. I know Americans who read their local newspaper on the train to work each morning. It downloads onto their Kindle overnight; they simply open the device and start reading.

The interesting thing is that eReaders have just recently really become affordable. Less than 12 months ago a good eReader would have cost around \$400–\$600. Now Big W and Officeworks stock them for around a quarter of that (quality varies) and one of the 'best' eReaders available can be purchased for under \$150 (plus postage and depending on the exchange rate).

Many eReaders are associated with particular publishers or book sellers. The

Kindle is Amazon's eReader; the Nook eReader is manufactured for Barnes & Noble etcetera. Many have limits on the file formats they will display. The latest Kindle will do the kindle .mobi format, and .pdf but not .epub formats. Many of the others will view .epub, but won't show .mobi. Fortunately there is a growing variety of software available to convert from one format to another so you can read what you want on your own reader.

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Fortunately for us, the eBook is also the book of the past. Many old publications are being scanned or typed in and are available for little or no cost. Books that may not have been physically available in our location, or which were so rare their value exceeded the content, can now be downloaded. One of several sites collecting old titles is Project Gutenberg www.gutenberg.org Over 33,000 titles are currently available, with about fifty new eBooks added every week. You don't have to have an eReader to enjoy these files, you can view eBooks on any computer. Searching the categories brings a wealth of choices. Under Australia's history are sub categories of the Great War, and the gold rush, as well as classic titles like *Seven Little Australians* and Mary Grant Bruce's Billabong books.

Other title examples include the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, *A Short History of Australia* and *Quintus Servinton* (of which only three physical copies exist).

I still love a good book. But if I want to discuss a title in a book club, I can find a specific passage very quickly. I actually find the Kindle easier to read in sunlight than a real book. EBook titles are considerably cheaper to buy, and you can get them the minute the book is released, no waiting for stock to arrive or the postman. I can carry thousands of books in my handbag. Imagine going on holiday and taking all the books you could need for your research and entertainment in a device that takes up the same amount of space as a shorthand notebook.

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I can't believe I haven't mentioned the Book Depository before. For those who haven't yet discovered this treasure trove, it is a UK bookseller who ships worldwide free of charge. When you consider that the books are often cheaper than can be purchased locally, you have a site very hard to leave. They sell ebook titles too. www.bookdepository.co.uk/

Can't find your ancestor in a census? The chances they were missed off are slim but the chance the folio piece is missing are much higher. My ancestors were baptised in parishes that never made it to the IGI, married in churches whose records have disappeared and were buried in places that aren't on the NBI. It follows they are going to live in places that went missing from a census. If searches just aren't working, check out this list of known issues. <http://www.findmypast.co.uk/helpadvice/knowledge-base/census/index.jsp#issues> ◀

WHAT IS THAT PUBLICATION ABOUT?

Maurice Appleyard (Member No.4093)

NUMEROUS publications are named in the Acquisition Lists of the various branches of our society but on some occasions the title does not give a clear indication of the subject matter. The following details of a few in the Hobart Branch Library may help to describe some of the more obscure titles and deserve a look.

NOTES ON TASMANIANA: A companion volume to The Engravers of Van Diemen's Land, Old Tasmanian Prints and More Old Tasmanian Prints

This hardback volume by Clifford Craig was published in 1987 as a limited edition of 1000 copies; this is no. 380.

Clifford Craig started a collection of books, maps, prints, etc. of Tasmanian interest in 1938. He sold the collection of some 2300 items in 1975. The auction was held in Launceston by Christie's and lasted for three and a half days.

His notes describe various parts of the collection, based on letters and invoices received from antiquarian booksellers, the general content of the material and a number of references to other aspects of Tasmaniana.

There are notes on eighty-two separate subjects. e.g.

- 2 The First Account in English of Tasman's First Voyage.
- 4 Flinders' Place Names for the River Tamar.
- 7 The Foundation of the Norfolk Plains Settlement.
- 26 The Beaconsfield Bank Robbers.
- 27 Trollope in Tasmania.
- 40 Christ College, Bishopsbourne.

- 52 Latrobe and Early Railways.
- 53 Theatres in Launceston.
- 62 The Reiby Church at Hadspen.
- 76 V.D.L. and the Tolpuddle Martyrs.
- 78 The Stained-glass Window of Buckland Church.

HANGED: Executions in Australia

This paperback book by Jim Main was published in 2007.

This covers dozens of the most sensational and controversial of Australia's executions, all by hanging.

Most cases in this book involve executions over the nineteenth century and the first half of the following century. The death penalty has since been removed from all state legislation, capital punishment having been abolished in Tasmania in 1968.

Tasmanian executions featured in the book are those of Ilijah AINSWORTH; Joseph BELBIN; George CARPENTER; George FARQUHARSON and others; William GRIFFITHS; Thomas JOHNSON; Martin LYDON; Alexander PEARCE; Frederick THOMPSON; and Samuel WILLIAMS, (nine men were hanged together, including: James ROWLES, James SWINSCOW, William WICKENS, John CRUETT, John DAVIS, Thomas SAVELL and Robert CABLE).

THE PAINS & PLEASURES OF OUR PIONEERS: One Tasmanian Family 1856-1934

This paperback book by Trevor Byard was published in 1990.

The first editions of this book, about members of the Byard family, were

published under the title *Kettlebroth for Tea* (also on shelf) in 1983. This newer and enlarged version of the Byard family, early pioneers in the Deloraine district, doesn't completely replace the 'Kettlebroth' book. A number of photographs shown in the earlier work have not been repeated in the newer edition. Similarly, there are photographs in the second version not presented in the first version.

FIRST WORLD WAR ARMY SERVICE RECORDS: A guide for family historians

This large paperback book by William Spencer was published in 2008 by The National Archives, UK and is the Fourth Edition of this work.

MIGRATION RECORDS: A guide for family historians

This large paperback book by Roger Kershaw was published in 2009 by The National Archives, UK.

LOOKING FORWARD, LOOKING BACK: Customs and traditions of the Australian Army

This hardcover book by Christopher Jobson was published in 2009.

Given the Australian Army's origins as a Colonial force of the British Empire, it is hardly surprising many of its customs have been inherited from its British Army parent.

Whilst the history and development of the Australian customs will be found to be of great interest, this work can be a very useful aid in identifying our army ancestors.

The titles of the chapters provide a broad description of the types of information provided:

- 1 Rank in the Australian Army
- 2 Dress Accoutrements ...
- 3 Ceremonial Traditions ...
- 4 Other Traditions ...

- 5 Barracks and Lines ...
- 6 Corps and Regimental Badges ...
- 7 Badges of Former Corps' and Regiments ...
- 8 Unit Emblems ...
- 9 Military Skills and Other Badges ...
- 10 The Army's Precedence of Corps' and Regiments
- 11 Army Dress Lanyards

TRACING YOUR ... ANCESTORS: A guide for Family Historians

A number of newly published paperback books in this series have recently been purchased. Whilst their titles are self-explanatory it should be noted they all pertain to research in the UK or Ireland.

Recent purchases are:

AIR FORCE by Phil Tomaselli.

ARMY by Simon Fowler.

EAST ANGLIAN by Gill Blanchard.

PAUPER by Robert Burlison.

POLICE by Stephen Wade.

RAILWAY by Di Drummond.

SHIPBUILDING by Anthony Burton.

ROYAL MARINE by Richard Brooks & Matthew Little.

ANGUS: Monumental Inscriptions, pre 1855

These A5 paperbacks were published by The Scottish Genealogy Society in: Vol. 1, 1993; Vol. 2 & 3, 1996.

Volume 1 covers the burial grounds of the Strathmore area; **Volume 2**, covering the Seacoast, is an index to the gravestones in and about the towns of Arbroath and Montrose; **Volume 3**, is an index to the gravestones in the area landward of Dundee.

BERWICKSHIRE: Monumental Inscriptions, pre 1855; Vol. 2

This A5 paperback was published in 2000 by The Scottish Genealogy Society.

It covers the nine Eastern Parishes of Berwickshire.

INVERNESS: Monumental Inscriptions, pre 1855

These A5 paperbacks were published in 1996 (East) and 1994 (West) by The Scottish Genealogy Society.

District East contains a summary of, and index to, pre. 1855 gravestone inscriptions found in burial grounds in eight parishes of the former county of Invernessshire comprising the eastern part of the District of Inverness, but excluding Inverness Chapel Yard. **District West** covers five parishes in the western part of the district.

UPPER DEESIDE: Monumental Inscriptions, pre 1855

This A5 paperback was published in 1998 by The Scottish Genealogy Society.

It contains a summary of, and index to, pre-1855 gravestone inscriptions found in burial grounds in the parishes of Crathie and Braemar, Blenmuick, Tullich and Glengairn, Logie-Coldstone, Tarlanc, Coull, Aboyne and Glentanat, Birse, Lumphanan and Kincardine O'Neil; all located in Aberdeenshire.

UPPER DONSIDE: Monumental Inscriptions, pre 1855

This A5 paperback was published in 2000 by The Scottish Genealogy Society.

It contains a summary of, and index to, pre-1855 gravestone inscriptions found in burial grounds in the parishes of Strathgordon, Glenbuchat, Towie, Kildrummy, Auchindoir & Kear, Tullynessle & Forbes, Alford, Leochel-Cushnie, Tough and Keig; all located in Aberdeenshire.

EAST PERTHSHIRE: Monumental Inscriptions, pre 1855; Vol. 1

This A5 paperback was published in 1997 by The Scottish Genealogy Society.

It covers Strathmore and the Carse of Gowrie areas.

SOUTH PERTHSHIRE: Monumental Inscriptions, pre 1855; Vol. 1

This A5 paperback was published in 2000 by The Scottish Genealogy Society. It covers the Lower Strathearn area.

WINDSOR GAOL RECORDS: Windsor Gaol Weekly Returns 1831, 1838; and Windsor Gaol Entrance Book 26 March 1864–1899

CD published in 2010 by Pendeo Pty Ltd.

Weekly Returns is an index to State Records NSW [SRO NSW 4/7187] sorted by Date and also by Surname.

It lists full Name; Ship; Service; Alias; Charge; Report Date; Item No. for each person. **Entrance Books** is an index to State Records NSW [SRO NSW 5/1511–2] sorted by Year and also by Surname. It lists Year; full Name; Offence; Alias; Item No. for each person [where know or applicable]. **

BATHURST GAOL RECORDS 1831–1835 & 1841–45: Bathurst Gaol Entrance Book 1831–1835; and Day Book HMG Bathurst 1841–1845

CD published in 2010 by Pendeo Pty Ltd.

Entrance Book is an index to State Records NSW [5/1093, Reel 2320] sorted by Date and also by Surname.

It lists Year; full Name, Ship, From Where Received; By Whom Brought In; Offence; Where to; Alias, Item no. **Day Book** is an index to State Records NSW [4/8490a] sorted by Date and also by Surname. It lists Date; full Name; Ship; Year of Arrival; Service; Offence; Alias; Item No. for each person (where known or applicable). **

** The item no. endorsed on the above two CDs, enables one to direct research to the original record where there is often extra information. ◀

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- *Main, J; *Hanged: Executions in Australia*. [364.660994 MAI]
- *McDermott, P; *For Distinguished Conduct In The Field—The Register of the Distinguished Conduct Medal, 1920–1992*
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Saturday 1:00 pm–4:00 pm
The library is open at 7:00 pm prior to meetings.
Meeting Branch Library, 2 Spring Street Burnie 7:30 pm on 3rd Tuesday of each month, except January and December.
Day Meeting 1st Monday of the month at 10:30 am except January and February.

DEVONPORT Phone: (03) 6427 8997 (Branch Secretary)
Library ‘Old police residence’ 117 Gilbert Street Latrobe (behind State Library)
Tuesday & Friday 11:00 am–3:00 pm
Saturday opening has ceased and is now by advance appointment only.
Meeting Our meetings are held on the last Thursday of the month at or Branch Library in Latrobe at 11.00. Please check the website at www.tfhsdev.com for updates and any changes or contact our Secretary.

HOBART Phone: (03) 6244 4527 Enquiries
Library 19 Cambridge Road Bellerive
Tuesday 12:30 pm–3:30 pm
Wednesday 9:30 am–12:30 pm
Saturday 1:30 pm–4:30 pm
Meeting Sunday School, St Johns Park, New Town, at 7:3000 pm 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 pm–4:00 pm
Other times: Library visits by appointment with Secretary, 48 hours notice required
Meeting Branch Library, Ranelagh, at 4:00 pm on 1st Saturday of each month, except January.
Please check Branch Report for any changes.

LAUNCESTON Phone: (03) 6344 4034 (Branch Secretary)
Library 45–55 Tamar Street Launceston (next door to Albert Hall)
Tuesday 10:00 am–3:00 pm
Saturday by appointment only (03) 6344 4034
Meeting Generally held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, except January and December. Check the Branch News and the website <http://www.launceston.tasfhs.org> for locations and times.

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 2010–11:-

Individual member	\$40.00
Joint members (2 people at one address)	\$50.00
Australian Concession	\$28.00
Australian Joint Concession	\$38.00

Overseas: Individual member: A\$40.00: Joint members: A\$50.00 (inc. airmail postage).

Organisations: Journal subscription \$40.00—apply to the Society Treasurer.

Membership Entitlements:

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

Application for Membership:

Application forms may be downloaded from www.tasfhs.org or obtained from the TFHS Inc. Society 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. Society Treasurer, PO Box 191, Launceston Tasmania 7250. Dues are also accepted at libraries and at branch meetings.

Donations:

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

Research Queries:

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

Reciprocal Rights:

TFHS Inc. policy is that our branches offer reciprocal rights to any interstate 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. Further information can be obtained by writing to the journal editor at PO Box 191, Launceston Tasmania 7250.

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