

Tasmanian Ancestry



**TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY
SOCIETY INC.**

Volume 32 Number 3—December 2011

TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

PO Box 191 Launceston Tasmania 7250

Society Secretary: secretary@tasfhs.org

Journal Editor: editors@tasfhs.org

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

Patron: Dr Alison Alexander

Fellows: Dr Neil Chick and Mr David Harris

Executive:

President	Maurice Appleyard	(03) 6248 4229
Vice President	Robert Tanner	(03) 6231 0794
Vice President	Pam Bartlett	
Society Secretary	Muriel Bissett	(03) 6344 4034
Society Treasurer	Betty Bissett	(03) 6344 4034

Committee:

Helen Anderson	Peter Cocker	Libby Gillham
Vanessa Blair	Lucille Gee	Sue-Ellen McCreghan
Judith Cocker	John Gillham	Colleen Read

By-laws Coordinator	Robert Tanner	(03) 6231 0794
Webmaster	Robert Tanner	(03) 6231 0794
Journal Editor	Rosemary Davidson	(03) 6278 2464
LWFHA Coordinator	Lucille Gee	(03) 6344 7650
Members' Interests Compiler	John Gillham	(03) 6239 6529
Membership Registrar	Muriel Bissett	(03) 6344 4034
Publications Convenor	Bev Richardson	(03) 6225 3292
Public Officer	Colleen Read	(03) 6244 4527
Society Sales Officer	Betty Bissett	(03) 6344 4034

Branches of the Society

Burnie:	PO Box 748 Burnie Tasmania 7320 petjud@bigpond.com
Mersey:	PO Box 267 Latrobe Tasmania 7307 secretary@tfhsdev.com
Hobart:	PO Box 326 Rosny Park Tasmania 7018 secretary@hobart.tasfhs.org
Huon:	PO Box 117 Huonville Tasmania 7109 vsbtas@bigpond.com
Launceston:	PO Box 1290 Launceston Tasmania 7250 bbissett@bigpond.net.au

Tasmanian Ancestry

Volume 32 Number 3

December 2011

ISSN 0159 0677

Contents

From the editor	130
President's Message	131
Branch Reports	132
<i>Spare the Rod</i> , Betty Jones	135
<i>Voices from the Orphan Schools : Mary Cullen and the Neva</i> , Dianne Snowden ...	140
<i>Baptised Before Birth?</i> , Leonie Mickleborough	143
<i>Josephine Figg's Birthday Book</i> , Janine Hunt	144
<i>Boy Convicts to Van Diemen's Land : An Overview</i> , Anne McMahon	148
<i>'Old Bobby Nutman' : Notoriously Cruel Superintendent of Convict Road Parties, 1820s–1840s</i> , Don Bradmore	153
<i>Unable to find a Birth Notice?</i> , Janine Hunt	158
Help Wanted	158
New Members' Interests	160
New Members	162
Scottish, Irish and other experts from Unlock the Past & Genealogy Cruise to visit Tasmania	163
<i>Search for Treasure</i> , June Stones	164
<i>'Burlingham' Macquarie Street, Hobart</i>	165
<i>St Patrick's River Families</i> , Shirley Foster	166
<i>Deaths at the Launceston Home for Invalids 1913–1930</i> , Laurie Moody	167
<i>Samuel Davis Did Live!</i> , Natalie Irvine	171
News from the Federation Ezine	174
<i>Letters from a Free Settler</i> , John Miller	175
<i>George Steele, 'A Man of Bad Character?'</i> , Don Bradmore	178
<i>The Hunt for John Perkins</i> , Tony and Coralie Strawn	182
<i>What is that Publication About?</i> , Maurice Appleyard	186
Library Notes, Society Sales	188
Library Acquisitions	189

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

From the editor

It was intriguing to read in Betty Jones' article on corporal punishment in Tasmanian schools that new discipline regulations introduced in 1942 precluded girls from being disciplined by use of the cane or strap. I can certainly count myself among those sent to the headmaster to receive multiple whacks on my palms, with a ruler, on several occasions during the 1950s—for talking in class!

I trust this issue will arrive a little earlier than usual so those interested will be able to take advantage of the seminar to be held in Burnie on 2 December 2011 and supported by TFHS Inc. Burnie Branch. See page 163 for further information.

The third index to *Tasmanian Ancestry* was released in October which could be a handy present in a Christmas stocking. It is available from all branch libraries.

It seems my continual plea is for more material for the journal. Please consider submitting an article at any time as it is often difficult to remember the deadline dates—especially for the next issue as it follows so soon after Christmas. My thanks to all the regulars and special thanks to those who have contributed for the first time!

Enjoy the festive season.

Rosemary Davidson



Journal address

PO Box 191 Launceston TAS 7250
email editors@tasfhs.org

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.

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

Cover:

Illustration supplied by Betty Jones for her article, 'Spare the Rod', see page 135.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In the previous journal, I reported that only one nomination for the positions of Vice-President had been received.

I advised that Robert Tanner (President of Hobart Branch) was elected to fill one of the positions but no nominations were received 'from the floor' for the other position.

I can now report that, under Section 8 (b) of our Society's Rules, the Executive has appointed Pam Bartlett (President of Mersey Branch), to fill the vacant position. At the August Executive Meeting, Pam resigned from her role of delegate for the Mersey Branch and accepted the Vice-President position with effect from the close of that meeting.

The Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. has recently published another issue of the index to its journal, *Tasmanian Ancestry*.

The *Index to Volumes 26–30* was launched at the Hobart Branch October meeting. I had the pleasure of presenting a copy of the publication to Sally Rackham, in appreciation of the many, many hours spent compiling the index. This was the second index Sally had prepared on our behalf.

The three members of the Society's Publication Committee, (Bev Richardson, Rosemary Davidson and Beryl Dix) who carried out the enormous task of editing/proof-reading the index, were also recognized in a similar manner.

This index is the third one we have produced. *Volumes 1–20* was published in 2003 and *Volumes 21–25* in 2007. The earlier issues are still available to purchase at the original publication prices.

The indexes to *Tasmanian Ancestry* have proven to be a very valuable tool in our Branch Libraries. They aid researchers to trace back to past articles that feature or perhaps mention family names of interest. They can assist in making contact with other researchers who have the same interests.

Each of our branch libraries has a full set of the *Tasmanian Ancestry* journals, as would the major State Library of Tasmania collections, so the articles can be readily accessed.

Some members who have collected a broad range of our journals would also have easy access to the articles of interest. Other researchers may still use the indexes by recording the reference numbers given, and then 'looking up' the articles in a library collection set of journals. Most of the back copies of *Tasmanian Ancestry* can still be purchased.

The issue of our December journal heralds the end of the year and the period when branches close for the holiday break is fast approaching.

I would therefore like to wish you all a very, Merry Christmas and that your 'brick walls' are overcome in the New Year. ◀

Maurice Appleyard

BRANCH REPORTS

Burnie

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

President Peter Cocker (03) 6435 4103

Secretary Ann Bailey (03) 6431 5058

PO Box 748 Burnie Tasmania 7320

email: petjud@bigpond.com



Our Branch Library has been quiet over winter with some of our regular members away on trips overseas. It is hoped that they will find some

of their long lost connections and so break down the brick walls that many of us are faced with.

The Pioneer Village Museum held a successful exhibition for Family History Week. The display was called *Branching Out: Burnie's Family Tree*. It contained many images and memorabilia held by the museum plus some research material supplied by our branch. We also ran two sessions for people interested in starting their Family Tree. These sessions were successful and led to a couple of new members. Credit must go to the new Curator at the museum for her hard work in putting together the display.

A new version of Family Tree Maker will be released in Australia about mid November and has the ability to Sync your Family Tree Maker file on your computer with your uploaded file on Ancestry. It is possible to add information from any internet enabled computer and it will automatically sync with your file on your home computer. By the time you get this edition of *Tasmanian Ancestry* we should have stocks on hand for sale.

Christmas is fast approaching and all at Burnie wish all members of TFHS Inc. a Merry Christmas and a prosperous and exciting New Year.

Hobart

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

President Robert Tanner (03) 6231 0794

email: president@hobart.tasfhs.org

Secretary Howard Reeves

PO Box 326 Rosny Park Tasmania 7018

email: secretary@hobart.tasfhs.org

All telephone enquiries to (03) 6244 4527



Hobart Branch Library closes on Saturday, 10 December at 4:30 pm to reopen Tuesday, 17 January 2012.

Our volunteers continue to give great service to the branch. There were 176 'signings-in' in June, 171 in July and 178 in August. Without such help the branch could not function as well as it does. We thank them for their wonderful effort.

The guest speaker at the July meeting was TFHS Inc. member, historian and musicologist Peter MacFie. The topic of his talk was 'Alexander Laing and his Music'. Peter's interest in Laing arose from his interest in Tasmanian folk songs and the apparent small numbers of Tasmanian compositions. Laing, born in Scotland 1792, arrived in VDL as a convict in 1815 and spent time as a Gaoler at Richmond Gaol. Laing, who died in 1868, was a fiddle player and composed music for the instrument. The talk was accompanied by a PowerPoint presentation and concluded with a locally produced interpretation of Laing's

compositions. Seventeen members and visitors attended the meeting.

The guest speaker at the August meeting was Dr Hamish Maxwell-Stewart from the University of Tasmania. The title of the talk was 'Founders and Survivors - Sickness and Death in Convict Australia'. Dr Maxwell-Stewart spoke about the Founders and Survivors Project and the linking of records, in particular linking trial records to second generation Australians via the AIF records. Points of interest included: life expectancy doubled from 40 to 80 years between 1860 and 1960; female convict ships were much less hygienic than male ships, hence high number of cases of dysentery and digestive illness caused deaths.

Ultimately, the Founders and Survivors Project is seeking to provide some answers to questions including:

- What can we learn about health transition from transportation?
- What can we learn about efficacy of various penal policies?
- What can we learn about long term effects of various life course events on health including intergenerational effects?

In addition the Project should be of assistance to family historians and give impetus to historical tourism. Thirty members and visitors attended the meeting.

General Meetings

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

Our secretary, Howard Reeves, has taken on the demanding but interesting task of finding speakers for our general

meetings. He has arranged the following for early 2012.

Tuesday 21 February: Tom Dunbabin—'The Dunbabins on Maria Island.'

Tuesday 20 March: Paul Kregor—'Macquarie Land Grants: Families of the Pittwater, Coal Valley and Clarence Plains.'

Tuesday 17 April: Craig Deayton—'The 47th Battalion.'

Negotiations are well under way for the rest of 2012.

Family History Computer Users Group

This large and enthusiastic group meets at the branch library on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm 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 telephone (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>

Huon

President Shirley Fletcher (03) 6264 1546
Secretary Libby Gillham (03) 6239 6529
PO Box 117 Huonville Tasmania 7109
email: vsbtas@bigpond.com

No report received

Launceston

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

President Judith Whish-Wilson

(03) 6394 8456

Secretary Muriel Bissett

Phone (03) 6344 4034

PO Box 1290 Launceston Tasmania 7250

secretary: bbissett@bigpond.net.au



There was a good attendance at the September meeting when South African and Indian records proved interesting to many.

Again the Open Day

for Seniors was taken up enthusiastically by around twelve who booked in advance and others were encouraged to visit the library on our usual opening day—Tuesday.

Our Christmas function took the form of a visit to the Don River Railway train restoration site at Inveresk, with a picnic lunch, followed by a guided tour with Ross Smith, at the local history museum.

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

Tuesday 13 December: 3.00pm: Library Break-up for Christmas holiday.

Monday 23 January: 10am: working bee to prepare the library for the new year.

Tuesday 24 January: 10am: Library re-opens.

Wednesday 15 February: 2pm: BIG meeting at Adult Education Computer Room or Room 3.

Wednesday 21 March: 2pm: Branch meeting: Canadian records, Computer Room, Adult Education Centre, York Street.

Check the website for more detail of meetings/workshops and for a list of publications now available from Launceston Branch.

Mersey

<http://www.tfhsdev.com>

President Pam Bartlett

Secretary Sue-Ellen McCreghan

(03) 6428 6328

PO Box 267 Latrobe Tasmania 7307

email: secretary@tfhsdev.com



At our monthly meetings held on the last Wednesday in the month, we have had a couple of our Legacy User's Group (LUG) sessions. Dale

shows us a different ways

to collate our family history. We discuss 'tips and tricks' to help and ask questions so we may learn to perhaps one day produce a CD or even a book as a gift for our family to keep as a record.

We also had a soup and sandwich luncheon and afterwards listened to Jim speak on his recent trip to Europe, retracing the footsteps of Tasmania's 40th Battalion in Belgium and France.

We have produced our quarterly newsletter and also sent out the tickets for our Annual Christmas Raffle drawn at our Christmas Luncheon. The tickets can be purchased at our Library. We will have at least six prizes this year. The raffle generates income to purchase new publications and equipment for our Library.

This year the luncheon is being held at the Blue Wren near Ulverstone on Sunday, 11 December. If you haven't had your name added to the list please contact our Secretary.

The Library closes on Friday, 16 December and reopens on 10 January 2012.

Wishing you a Happy Christmas and a bright and prosperous New Year. Check our website or visit the Library for more details on what's happening at the Library. ◀

SPARE THE ROD

Betty Jones (Member No.6032)



‘**A**S the teacher stands in his school, cane in hand, surrounded by more or less attentive children, he presents as a fair type of old schoolmaster.’ So wrote Inspector Albert Lovell BROCKETT (1860–1931) in May 1900, when he worded his report on a Tasmanian Education Department employee who constantly displayed the cane to his class as a symbol of his authority.¹

Controlling a classroom of children has never been an easy matter, teachers today undergoing extensive training in how to develop positive discipline strategies that aim to encourage co-operative behaviour and a focus on learning. Although teachers have always been expected to maintain fair order, such professional development was not available to them until relatively recent times. In the early days, control relied largely on the personality of individual educators and whatever other means they could muster.

Mid-nineteenth century Tasmanian school records contain details on some teachers’ abilities to maintain acceptable standards of behaviour. In 1853, Inspector Thomas ARNOLD (1823–1900) described the discipline of Mr Duncan STALKER (1803–1877) at the Bothwell Public School as bad. It seemed that he had little or no control over the children. Mr William BURSTON (c1809–81) and his wife, Catherine (née MITCHELL) (c1815–78), operated the Frankland Street Public School in Launceston at the same time. Inspector Arnold recorded that it was a good school and described the master and mistress as nice tidy little people. Mr Burston was said to use a whistle for control, but the children were assessed as very noisy.²

Corporal punishment, mostly administered through use of the cane or a leather strap, was a well-established method of disciplining school children in many parts of the world by the time the

¹ TAHO: ED31/1/5

² TAHO: CB3/3/1

first Government schools were established in Van Diemen's Land. Even in those times, however, it became a contentious matter when such punishment was thought to be given brutally or excessively by a schoolmaster. In 1839, when the initial Board of Education was established, regulations stated that detentions were preferred as a method of maintaining discipline. In September 1860, Head Teacher Mr Thomas WRIGHT (1824–96) was fined 20s 0d by the Board for using 'the pointer' on Frederick NICHOLS, a pupil at Orielson Public School.³

The issue of corporal punishment was discussed at a meeting of the Board of Management of the Queen's Orphan School in Hobart in May 1861. Some members present expressed their concern at the children being caned for trifling matters such as chattering and minor misconduct. Instances were given of girls being struck, including one of a lass being caned for leaving the dinner table for natural causes. Extracts were read from Regulations of the National Schools in England in reference to corporal punishment. Abolishment of the cane was advocated, except in extreme cases of wilful disobedience or vicious conduct.⁴

Nevertheless, canes and straps continued to be wielded in Government (and private) schools for more than another century. Many stories have become legendary about methods used by scholars to attempt to lessen the effect of the caning they expected to be given. The case of a student at Evandale Public School in the 1870s wearing three complete layers of clothing to school the day after he had truanted was remem-

bered for at least fifty years by fellow students.⁵ Despite regulations stating that the cane or strap should be administered only to the hand, there were tales that children were also whacked across the shoulders, the arms, the back and the legs. That practice, apparently, was particularly prevalent when victims refused to hold out their hands. Smearing the hands with resin was supposed to help deaden the pain of 'the cuts', and became a common precaution used by many boys.

In 1867, a parent complained to the Board of Education about the severity of punishment given to his son by the Head Teacher at Green Point Public School, Mr Richard J McVILLY (1810–84). It was alleged that the boy had been hit with a closed fist. Extensive investigation into the matter on behalf of the Board followed. Mr McVilly was finally exonerated on the basis of the evidence of a large number of parents, who unanimously gave testimony to the general quietness of demeanour of the teacher. The boy in question was described as being known to be idle and sometimes troublesome and disrespectful. However, Mr McVilly was cautioned by the Board not to strike pupils with his hand.⁶

Tasmania's Minister of Education in 1887, Mr BRADDON, created considerable public reaction across the State when he announced a change in school regulations regarding the use of corporal punishment. Boys were to be punished by those means only as a last resort, and even then with less severity applied, while girls were not to be exposed to any form of physical punishment at all.⁷ Letters to the Editors of all the local newspapers, as well as the theme of some

³ TAHO: ED13/1/3

⁴ *The Mercury*, 1 May 1861

⁵ *The Examiner*, 27 July 1929

⁶ *The Mercury*, 7 August 1867

⁷ *The Mercury*, 28 June 1887



editorials, indicated that many members of the public thought the move unfortunate, and dire predictions were made about the expected deterioration in school discipline and tone that would be sure to result. There was a general sympathy expressed for teachers, particularly with regard to how they should deal with difficult girls in the schools if they could not be caned. The old dictum, 'Spare the rod and spoil the child', was quoted often. The regulations were changed again in 1894, and it became permissible, in extreme circumstances, for girls to be given corporal punishment.⁸

It was noted in 1892 that the Head Teacher at Waratah State School, Mr Albert Edward HADFIELD (1862–1937), was trying the experiment of managing his scholars without the use of the cane. By October of that year it was claimed by a local newspaper correspondent to be a pronounced success, the best of order being maintained. The moral tone of the school was said to be much above ordinary, and great interest was shown by the scholars in their work.⁹ It seems that the experiment was not continued after

Mr Hadfield's transfer from the school, however, the School Record Book for Waratah from 1898–1916 contains detail of the corporal punishment administered to scholars, particularly from 1900 to 1903. In keeping with the regulations, individual pupils' names were listed, along with the nature of their offences and the number of strokes of the cane given by the Head Teacher, which ranged from one to six at a time.¹⁰

An analysis of the Waratah records provides interesting information:

- Numbers caned: 1900: 12 boys and 1 girl; 1901: 18 boys; 1902: 22 boys; 1903: 9 boys and 1 girl.

General nature of offences recorded:

- Misconduct
 - in class (talking, inattention, leaving seat without permission, throwing items, being untruthful, drawing indecent pictures, not completing homework, swearing, misbehaving during the teacher's absence from the room);
 - in the playground (quarrelling, spitting, hitting, throwing stones, kicking, encouraging fights);

⁸ *The Mercury*, 9 June 1894

⁹ *Launceston Examiner*, 15 October 1892

¹⁰ AOT: ED113/2/1

- on the way home from school (bullying others);

- Disobedience and insolence to teachers;
- Smoking in the playground;
- Defacing property;
- Truancy—this was a popular offence, some boys being named repeatedly for so doing. Four strokes of the cane were administered to one scholar for his 26th instant of truanting! On another occasion, a boy was given six strokes of the cane one day for truancy, and another six the following day for repeating the same misdemeanour.
- Comments were sometimes made alongside individual entries such as: ‘This boy is getting a perfect nuisance in and out of school.’ and ‘This boy is getting very troublesome with his tongue.’

Waratah State School was established in 1878 to cater for a growing mining community. From 1900 to 1903, the school’s enrolment ranged from just under 200 to about 250 pupils, and there were various head teachers, assistants and monitors employed during that time. The number of children caned over those years represents less than 10% of the school’s population, thus indicating that over 90% of the scholars were kept in order by other means. Those were the days when respect for one’s elders was expected to be shown, and high importance was placed on manners, politeness and obedience. The establishment of classroom rules and routines provided sufficient disciplinary training for most children. Teacher expectations included punctuality, personal cleanliness, speaking only when spoken to, sitting up straight for long periods (on

seats without backs), placing hands on heads as a group upon demand, locking fingers on desks, and extensive lengths of prolonged silence. There were set procedures for the distribution and collection of exercise books, and slates had to be raised and put down quietly. Children were expected to read and spell aloud and chant their multiplication tables in perfect unison, as well as respond with raised hands to the question-answer technique used to elicit and reinforce knowledge. Permission was required to leave a seat. Classes lined up in an orderly fashion outside before the children marched into school. Monitors and senior pupils also assisted teachers in the supervision of control, though they were supposed to have no role in the administration of punishment.

Some school communities expressed their appreciation publicly when certain teachers did not find it necessary to use corporal punishment. In December 1912, upon the transfer of Mr Percival Harris MITCHELL (1875–1963) from Beaconsfield State School to become the Headmaster of the newly established Hobart High School, the parents at Beaconsfield stated that the very popular Mr Mitchell had been one of those who believed that corporal punishment was not required in schools.¹¹ When Miss Janet Lilian WEEDING (1888–1959) was transferred from Liena State School in April 1915, the parents praised her for not having introduced the cane during her two years there.¹²

The law was not always on the side of those who inflicted corporal punishment. The Head Teacher at Nicholl’s Rivulet State School was fined at the Cygnet Police Court in 1916 for caning two

¹¹ *The Examiner*, 9 December 1912

¹² *The Examiner*, 8 April 1915

sisters who had been kept home from school on a regular basis. The teacher claimed that he was entitled, under the regulations, to cane the children for persistent and wilful disobedience. The Police Magistrate asserted, however, that the regulation related to disobedience in school, and in this case the girls had been punished for something for which their parents were guilty.¹³ In 1926, the Head Teacher at Natone State School had a conviction recorded against him by the Police Magistrate at Burnie for having inflicted severe corporal punishment on an eleven-year-old girl. No penalty was given as the School Inspector was supportive in stating it was clear that there was some cause for special punishment. Court costs, however, were imposed on the teacher.¹⁴

By 1934, the Education Department's regulation regarding corporal punishment stated that such discipline was to be administered only by the Head Teacher and other teachers specially authorised by the Head. That authority had to be in writing, with a copy of it filed in the portfolio of official documents. Corporal punishment was to be used as a last resort and given only in cases of immorality, gross impertinence, or wilful and persistent disobedience. Such punishment was prohibited for girls 12 years of age and over. The Head Teacher was required to keep a Punishment Book, in which he/she had to record the full particulars of every case of corporal punishment. Boxing of pupils' ears, tapping of children on the head, and other irregular forms of corporal punishment were strictly forbidden.¹⁵

Further tightening of the discipline regulation was applied by the end of

1942. A clear statement was made concerning the restricted number of teachers in any school who were allowed to administer corporal punishment and only caning on the hand or use of a strap was permitted. Girls were not to be disciplined that way, except in extreme cases of open defiance of authority. No corporal punishment was to be administered in the presence of a class.¹⁶

A number of readers of this article will know from personal experience that, despite the corporal punishment regulation being in place, the rules were not always followed. Many are sure to remember being a victim of, or a witness to others being 'tapped' on the head by a teacher, or rapped across the knuckles or legs with instruments such as rulers, blackboard rulers and hands. Anecdotes recorded in books published on the history of individual schools often tell of children being caned or slapped for misspelling words in weekly tests, for not being able to recall their multiplication tables, and for other instances of making mistakes. It was ironic that children went to school to be taught, but could end up being punished for not knowing. After being struck, it is unlikely that the victims knew any more than before.

As the decades passed, the use of corporal punishment in schools continued, though by the early 1990s its frequency seemed to have lessened. It was not until 1999 that such form of discipline was officially banned in Tasmania. Now it seems incredible to think that it took nearly two hundred years in the development of our state's education system for that decision to be reached. ◀

¹³ *The Mercury*, 16 September 1916

¹⁴ *The Mercury*, 23 July 1926

¹⁵ *The Mercury*, 8 August 1934

¹⁶ *The Mercury*, 23 December 1942

VOICES FROM THE ORPHAN SCHOOLS

MARY CULLEN AND THE *NEVA*

Dianne Snowden (Member No.910)

A tragic convict voyage with children on board was that of the female ship *Neva* in 1835.¹ In January 1835, the ship left Cork for Sydney, with 150 female prisoners and thirty-three of their children, as well as nine free women, twenty-two children and a crew of twenty-six. The ship was wrecked off King Island on 13 May 1835. Only twenty-two survived, clinging to the fragments of the ship.² Seven of these—six women and a boy—were so exhausted that they died shortly after. In all, of the 241 on board, only fifteen were saved—nine crew and six prisoners. None of the fifty-five children survived.

The convict survivors were Ann CULLEN; Rose Ann DUNN; Margaret DRURY; Ellen GALVIN; Rose Ann HYLAND and Mary SLATTERY.³

George Augustus ROBINSON, in his journal, recorded:

It is a remarkable fact that the only six women saved from the wreck were those who had been most conspicuous in depravity.

His evidence for this statement is not clear (although it may have had something to do with the copious amounts of rum consumed by the survivors on shore!) but his clear message was that they had been saved in order to have more time for repentance.⁴

Governor ARTHUR sent to Ireland for information about the women, on the assumption that they would remain in Van Diemen's Land and not be sent to New South Wales.⁵

None of the surviving women appear to have had children with them on board the *Neva*, although Ellen Galvin from Limerick lost her mother and sister in the shipwreck. She also had another sister in the convict depot at Cork.⁶

The women all appear to have been assigned in the north of the State, mostly

¹ G A Mawer, *Most perfectly safe: the convict shipwreck disasters of 1833–42*, St Leonards NSW, 1997; TAHO, Correspondence File: 'Neva'

² Those that survived included Captain Peck; First Mate Bennett; and eight crew: Robert Bullard, Edward Calthorpe, Thomas Hines, William Kidney, John Robinson, Thomas Sharpe and John Wilson: *Cornwall Chronicle* 27 June 1835, 4 July 1835, 11 July 1835; *Launceston Advertiser* 2 July 1835, 9 July 1835. See also N J B Plomley, *Weep in Silence. A History of the Flinders Island Aboriginal Settlement* (Hobart, 1987) p.621 n.4

³ TAHO, CON40/1/1 No.270 p.145 Image 369 (Ann Cullen); CON40/1/3 No.187 p.92 Image 100 (Rose Ann Dunn); CON40/1/3 No.188 p.92 Image 100

(Margaret Drury); CON40/1/3 No.159 p.78 Image 290 (Ellen Galvin); CON40/1/5 No.248 p.124 Image (Rose Ann Hyland); CON40/1/9 No.283 p.138 Image 142 (Mary Slattery)

⁴ N J B Plomley, *Weep in Silence. A History of the Flinders Island Aboriginal Settlement* (Hobart: Blubber Head Press, 1987) p.297

⁵ TAHO, CON13/1/8 pp.337ff; Images 59–63

⁶ TAHO, CON16/1/1 No.159 p.10 Image 14–15 (Ellen Galvin)

in the Launceston and Longford areas. Troubled and troublesome, most had convictions for offences such as drunkenness and disorderly conduct.

Colonial marriages for five of the women have been located. The only woman for whom no marriage has been found was Mary Slattery from Tralee in County Kerry. She was tried in Galway for larceny and was transported seven years. Mary stated that she was convicted

at the instance and upon the petition of my father, my conduct had been very bad, and I was ruining my father by continually stealing from him ... he was obliged to adopt that way of removing me.⁷

Mary was buried at Longford on 20 April 1838.⁸

Rose Ann Dunn, a farm servant from Cavan, was tried for vagrancy in King's County when she was 21 and sentenced to transportation for seven years. Rose Ann married not long after arriving in the colony: on 26 October 1835, she married William Mears in Longford, with the consent of the Government.⁹ From that time, she was charged frequently with drunkenness and disorderly conduct. Her husband apparently encouraged her in prostitution and in 1837 she was described as 'a most abandoned character' but nevertheless appears to have been employed at the convict nursery. She obtained her Free Certificate in 1840.¹⁰

⁷ TAHO, CON16/1/1 No.138 p.12 Image 16–17 (Mary Slattery)

⁸ TAHO, RGD34/1/1 Longford 5675/1838 (Mary Slattery)

⁹ TAHO, CON52/1/1 p.115 (permission to marry); RGD36/1/2 Launceston 1835 (Rose Ann Dunn & William Mears)

¹⁰ TAHO, CON40/1/3 No.187 p.92 Image 100 (Rose Ann Dunn)

Rose Ann Hyland and Thomas DORKINS were married in the school house at Campbell Town on 24 October 1836.¹¹

Ellen Galvin, a house servant aged 19, was transported for seven years for vagrancy. She had two applications for permission to marry: in January 1838, to Patrick DEVLIN, free, and in September 1838, to William LAWRENCE, *Juliana*.¹² Ellen, of the Parish of Longford, and William, of the Parish of Cressy, married on 29 October 1838 in the Longford Church.¹³

One of the women, Margaret Drury, who was transported seven years for stealing from her aunt, married Peter ROBINSON or ROBERTSON, a crew member of the *Neva*.¹⁴ They were married in the parish of St John, Launceston, on 12 January 1836. Not long after her marriage, Margaret was found guilty of harbouring Margaret JONES, an assigned servant. In 1839, she received a sentence of six months in the Launceston Female Factory for being found on the islands in Bass Strait without permission. She received her Free Certificate in 1840.¹⁵

Ann Cullen was the last of the *Neva* women to marry. Ann Cullen, a farm servant aged 23, was tried in Kildare and

¹¹ TAHO, RGD36/1/3 Campbell Town 1836/3584

¹² TAHO, CON52/1/1 p.35; CON 52/1/p.108

¹³ TAHO, RGD36/1/3 Longford 4374/1838 (Ellen Galvin & William Lawrence)

¹⁴ TAHO, RGD36/1/3 Launceston No.3362 (Margaret Drury & Peter Robertson). The TAHO *Permission to Marry Index* has Robinson: CON52/1/1 p.166. He may have been *Neva* crew member John Robinson.

¹⁵ TAHO, CON40/1/3 No.188 p.92 Image 100 (Margaret Drury)

transported for life for cow stealing.¹⁶ Ann applied for permission to marry three times: in October 1840 and December 1841, to William JONES *Norfolk*; and in February 1844 to William HOWARD *Lord Lyndoch*.¹⁷ On 13 March 1844, in St John's Church, Launceston, Ann, described as a 'prisoner', married William Howard, 'ticket of leave'; she was 33 and he was 40.¹⁸

The women have proved difficult to trace after marriage. Margaret Drury's son, Henry William Robinson, was born at George Town in 1844 and there are many descendants from his marriage to Hannah PATTERSON in Victoria in 1870.¹⁹

Ann Cullen's daughter, Mary, was admitted to the Female Orphan School on 22 January 1840 when she was 3. Five years later, on 9 February 1845, Mary was discharged and sent by coach to her mother in Launceston.²⁰ Ann had been married almost a year; she received a Conditional Pardon in 1847. Both Mary and Ann then disappear from the records.

Mary's voice from the Orphan School is only faint but it is nevertheless an important part of the history of the wreck of the *Neva*. ◀

¹⁶ TAHO, CON40/1/1 No.270 p.145 Image 369 (Ann Cullen)

¹⁷ TAHO, CON52/1/2 p.85; CON52/1/2 p.86; CON52/1/2 p.365

¹⁸ TAHO, RGD 37/1/4 Launceston 767/1844 (Ann Cullen and William Howard)

¹⁹ Thank-you to Colette McAlpine for this information. More information can be found at <http://trees.ancestry.com.au/tree/19080248/person/753261775>.

²⁰ TAHO, SWD7/1/1 [no page]; SWD28/1/1 p.13

Index to

Walch's Tasmanian Almanac

Now available—

Coroners 1863–1979/80 and
Registrars of Births, Deaths & Marriages
1863–1979/80, \$15.00

NEW! Country Women's Association
(CWA) of Tasmania 1937-1980, \$15.00

Ecclesiastical 1863–1979/80, \$30.00

Justices of the Peace 1863–1920, \$20.00

Justices of the Peace 1921–1975/6, \$20.00

Magistracy and Police Department,
1863–1979/80, \$20.00

NEW! Medical 1863–1979/80, \$25.00

Obituaries 1870–1979/80, \$18.00

Postmasters & Postmistresses
1863–1910, \$25.00

Postmasters & Postmistresses
1911–960, \$15.00

NEW! Road Trusts, 1863–1907 &
Surveyors 1863–979/80, \$20.00

Available from
TFHS Inc.

Launceston Branch
PO Box 1290
Launceston
TAS 7250

Plus \$10.50 pack 1-4
TFHS Inc. Members less 10% discount,
plus \$10.50 p&p

BAPTISED BEFORE BIRTH?

Leonie Mickleborough (Member No.20)

AN article in the October 2011 United Kingdom publication *Family Tree* (www.family-tree.co.uk),¹ might provide the answer to a question which is likely to have puzzled some of our members.

In his article 'Dear Tom', on pages 82–83, Tom WOOD recalls his past interest in seeking an answer why, according to church registers, some babies were baptised in local churches, apparently 'before they were born'. Tom acknowledges that in some cases there 'may have been a clerical error', but Ralph ATHERTON from Marple near Stockport, found a 'more likely explanation'. Not an 'uncommon happening', the reason appears to have been 'largely to do with money'.

In 1837 when civil registration was introduced in England and Wales, a fee was charged for births not registered in the first six weeks. After six weeks a 'sizeable fee', thought to be 7s 6d, was charged, but after six months the birth could not be registered at all.

Until 1875 the local registrar was responsible to locate births in his registration district, rather than the parents contacting the registrar to record the birth. Thus, as Tom explains, there would have been births not registered in the forty-two day, six week period. If six weeks had passed it was 'easy' for the parents to deduct the appropriate number of days from the actual date of birth to avoid paying the fee.

Registrars were paid for each birth they registered, and in order to receive payment, may have turned a 'blind eye' even if they knew the recorded date was incorrect. Ralph Atherton explained that many children were baptised within days of their birth, and if the registration of their birth was delayed, records would show that they were baptised before their date of birth. ◀

NEW PUBLICATION



THE SEA SHALL NOT HAVE THEM by Irene Schaffer

Narrative of Stephen and Margaret WHITE — shipwrecked off Tristan da Cunha on the *Blenden Hall* in 1821 and their arrival in Tasmania in 1832.

They settled at Kelleve where some of their descendants still live today.

Names such as TATNELL, WILLIAMS, JACOBSON, CLIFFORD and RICHARDSON.

The story also deals with the little known island Tristan da Cunha in the South Atlantic Ocean.

Uninhabited until 1816 when Britain took possession, the island is known for its postage stamps, cray factory and the small population who live their lives in peace and tranquility.

Soft Cover A4 115 pages in colour & black white

Price \$40.00 + \$4.50 postage

Available from Irene Schaffer

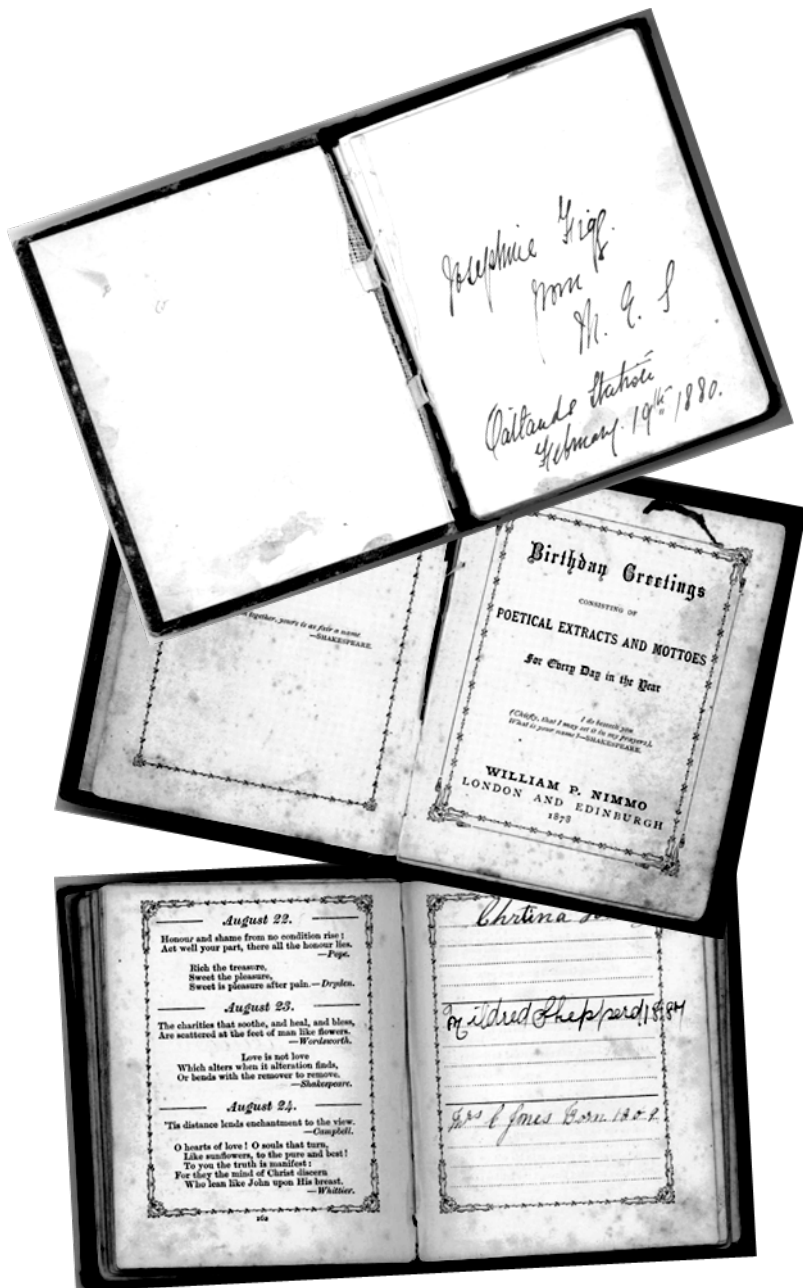
2/5a Marys Hope Road Rosetta TAS 7010

email - irene.schaffer@bigpond.com

phone (03) 6272 2124

<http://www.tasfamily.net.au/~schafferi>

¹ This publication is available at the Hobart Branch Library



Copies of pages from Josephine Figg's Birthday Book

JOSEPHINE FIGG'S BIRTHDAY BOOK

Janine Hunt (Member No.743)

WHILE clearing out my father-in-law's house following his death, we came across a beautiful, small, blue and gold trimmed birthday greeting book published in 1878 which belonged to my husband's great grandmother Josephine Elizabeth RENNIE (née FIGG). Inside the book is written:

Josephine Figg
from M. E. S
Oatlands Station
February 19th 1880

This was a great find for me, because it answered some of the questions which arose when I was researching the Rennie, JONES and Figg side of the family. Of particular interest was the date of birth of my husband's convict ancestor Elizabeth Jones who arrived in Van Diemen's Land as Elizabeth FLANNAGAN (née HOWARD), convict per *Mary* in 1831 with two children. Elizabeth was born in England and we needed confirmation of the family line. Also recorded in the book are family and friends' birthdays which may be of interest to others. The details are listed as follows, with spelling and crossing out as written. Names which are difficult to decipher are followed by the possible spelling and a question mark in square brackets.

January 1	Lydia Hoad 1864	January 14	James E Grant 1856
	Clarence Renny	January 22	Joseph F Jones Born 49
January 2	Maggie Ellis	January 27	William D Gregg
	R. J. Hurd [Hurn?] 1882		Alfred Bigwood
January 3	J J Bigwood	January 28	Alice F Jones
	Ada. C Jones	February 2	Clarence Joseph Rennie 1894
	William Thomas		Louis W Grant 1860
		February 3	Charles E F Jones Died
			Edward Cowper Tennent
		February 5	Ethel. M Hurd [Hurn?] 1883
			Fredrick G. Grant 1863
			Sarah A Fish
		February 9	Nicholas Bartle 1866
		February 11	James Hyland
		February 16	James Thomas
			Margaret Higgins
			Esther Gerrand
			Julia Bigwood
		February 17	Leslie Rinnie 1894
			Margaret Bigwood
		February 19	Margaret Johnston
			Mary Q Madden
			Ada E Grant 1874
		February 20	Leslie Osborne
		February 21	Fredric Tabart
		February 22	Annie Kline
		February 23	Eva M L Tabart
		February 29	William Henery Jones
		March 5	Alice Grant 1882
		March 6	Andrew Shepperd
		March 8	Christina H Gregg
		March 16	George Gregg
		March 17	Jean Douglass Figg
			Mrs William Bailey
			John Hyland
		March 18	Edith H T Tabart
		March 19	Adeline L Grant
		March 20	Sarah A Thomas
		March 23	Leslie Ernest Tabart
		March 24	Hamlet A White
		March 31	Ellen Salmon
		April 1	Jessie Miria Jones
		April 2	Kate Hay
		April 8	Harriet E Thomas

April 8	Christina H Gregg	July 14	Isabell Maud Thomas
April 9	Thomas Wilson Born 1859	July 20	Charlotte F. Figg
April 11	H Ward 1862		Born 1840
April 17	George F H Jones		Died 1879, aged 38yrs
	Ivy Turner	July 21	George Charles Cook
April 18	Thomas E F Jones	July 22	James F Jones
April 19	John Osborne	July 24	John Rennie born 1862
April 22	William D Gregg	July 27	Aunt Louisa Jones
April 25	Lizzie Thomas		Emily Emma Thomas
April 26	Agness Gibson	August 2	Mary Ann Fleming
April 27	Charlotte W Osborne	August 4	Amy Margaret Tennent
April 29	James Bigwood	August 7	Ethel May Jones Born 72
April 30	James Watson	August 8	Rose Sutton
May 1	William Henry J Rennie Year	August 11	Emily Louey Cook
	1887	August 13	James Farrell
	Charles Shepperd		George Louisa Jones
May 2	William Henry John Rennie		L Shepperd
	1887	August 18	Linda M Osborne
May 5	Lilidia Mary Sutton	August 19	Harriett Belle born year 62
May 7	Percy D Tabart 1866		Esther E Jones year 53
May 8	Sarah Rennie	August 20	E Salmon
	Laura Tabart 1865	August 22	Chrtina Hourego
May 12	Amy Mary [May?] Thomas		[Christina Housego]
May 19	James E Grant	August 23	Mildred Shepperd 1887
May 24	Alick Grant 1877	August 24	Mrs E Jones Born 1809
May 30	Henry Robert Figg	August 27	Herbert Giles
	Samuel Wood		Ethel Mg Jones
June 3	Janet K Henderson 3		James Gregg
	Born 1868	August 28	Albert Edward Tabart
	John Gregg	August 31	Daisy Osborne
	Sam Gregg	September 1	Mary Kline
June 9	John Hourego [Housego]	September 8	Florence Mabel Figg
June 10	Arthur Figg	September 9	Elizabeth Tabart
June 11	Joseph Frederick Jones	September 13	Eliza Bigwood
	Born 83	September 14	Walter Osborne
June 14	Isabell Sarah Fish	September 15	Elsie Osborne
June 16	John Gregg	September 17	Adelaide B Figg
June 17	Sarah H Bigwood	September 18	Tomey Hurn 1856
June 20	Samuel Birch 1868	September 20	Jane Spencer
June 21	Anne Williams		Ernest Jones
	Adelaide Blanche Rennie 1892	September 21	Jane Spencer
	Lavinia Lydia Figg		Thomas Wilson Born 1859
June 27	Emily Emma Thomas		John A Gregg
	Mary Alice Thomas	September 22	Minnie Sutton
June 30	Charles Bigwood	September 27	John Osborne
July 4	Amy Jones 1862	September 28	Frances Gertrude Figg
	Francis G Tabart	September 29	Isabella Bigwood
July 5	Mary Ann Tabart	October 1	John A L Tabart
July 7	James Fyfe Victoria	October 2	Edward J Fish

October 2 Evallyne Osborne
 October 5 Louisa Henrietta Fish
 October 8 Chap. C Giles
 October 9 Ada Grace Bigwood
 October 10 James Bigwood
 Ann Jane Jones
 Harold F Sargison
 October 14 Amy Bailey
 October 15 Ina Florence Rennie 1889
 October 17 Mary E Grant 1859
 October 18 Christian Kline
 October 24 Silby. M Harvey Born 60 [68?]
 October 30 Elma Ward. 67
 Louisa Susan Ellen
 October 31 Charles Rennie 1889
 November 1 Eldred Arthur Rennie 1895
 November 3 Charles J Ellen
 November 8 Henry J Grant 1857
 Harry Shepperd 1888
 November 12 Herbert Arther Jones
 November 13 Josephine E Figg.
 Amy M Tennant
 Elizabeth J Fish
 November 15 Elizabeth Tabart
 R Shepperd
 November 20 Louisa Gadd Born 1862
 Agnes Henderson
 Ernest J Harvey year 72
 November 24 James F Jones
 November 30 John L B Tabart
 Culy Gregg
 December 3 Maria Grant
 December 6 Hennryette J Grant 1879
 December 7 Albert E F Jones
 December 11 Henrietta Roberta Figg
 December 15 Mary Campbell
 December 16 Frances E Jones
 December 17 Aldinga Albert Figg
 Bill Undy 1880
 December 24 Walter Fish Senr
 Alfred Fish
 Robert Tennett
 December 26 James Keefe
 December 29 Henry Turman [Furman?]
 born in year 1868

BACK PAGES OF THE BIRTHDAY BOOK

NAMES	PAGE
January 3	
Ada C Jones	
Mildred Lydia Shepperd	162
Hary Edmund Shepperd	214
L. Shepperd	156
R. Shepperd	218
Andrew Ronald Shepperd	48
Charles Ernest Shepperd	86
Ina Florence Rennie	198
Adelaide Blanche Rennie	120
Mrs J Rennie	216
Eldred Arthur Rennie	208
William Henry John Rennie	86
Clarence Joseph Rennie	24
John Theodore Rennie	142



Josephine E Rennie (née Figg) 1865–1937
 Photograph: Author's collection

BOY CONVICTS TO VAN DIEMEN'S LAND : AN OVERVIEW

Anne McMahon (Member No.6463)

CONVICTED boys had been transported to Van Diemen's Land from the early years of the settlement. They were juvenile offenders from the English city slums who had been orphaned or abandoned by their parents. Some had lived in gangs where they thieved and pilfered for a livelihood before being apprehended and sentenced by magistrates. On the cities streets they were the 'artful dodgers' of Charles DICKENS having been trained in crime from an early age until adulthood.¹

Prior to 1823 such juveniles, when sentenced to transportation, were embarked from the prisons or from one or more of the numerous English civil hulks which held adult male prisoners. These hulks were dotted about the southern English dockyards. They were positioned at Deptford, Woolwich, Portsmouth and Plymouth. In 1823 the *Bellerophon* hulk was converted to accommodate convict boys. However the rotting vessel was broken up during 1825 and the inmates transferred to the *Euryalus* which lay at Chatham.²

The *Euryalus* was a 36-gun frigate which had accompanied Nelson at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805, this being the scene of his death. In 1825 it was converted for service as a hulk for boys to segregate juvenile prisoners from their adult counterparts in the other hulks. It quickly filled beyond its capacity with 383 boys crowded in the decks. Although there

were chaplains connected with the hulks, in the belief of the power of religion to effect reform, it failed in this respect. On their release the boys reverted to their old habits and haunts.³

In setting up the *Euryalus* there was an initial aim of reform but it deteriorated into an ill-managed, overcrowded floating prison. The work of the juveniles consisted in the making of clothing for the English penal establishment. Exercise was for one-hour per day walking the decks in silence. Bullying was rife and the younger and undersized boys lived in fear. Punishment was applied by the lash, the cane, by food deprivation or solitary confinement depending on the seriousness of the misdemeanour. Schooling was by rote learning using religious texts. On giving evidence before the 1832 Parliamentary Select Committee on Secondary Punishment an ex-convict, Thomas DEXTER, claimed the prisoners left the *Euryalus* 'much worse than they went into it'.⁴ In reality, at the end of their sentences most of these boys had nowhere to go but back to life on the streets. From 1825, for the following nineteen years, the *Euryalus* was the main source of boy convicts transported to Van Diemen's Land. The hulk was closed down in 1844.

Boys from the *Euryalus* arrived on the *Asia I* (4) in 1828 which carried 157 male convicts.⁵ The forty boys were described

¹ C Dickens, *Oliver Twist*. Ch. 8

² W B Johnson, *The English Prison Hulks*. Rev. ed. London, Phillimore, 1970, p.148.

³ Ibid, p.149

⁴ Ibid, p.123

⁵ *HRA* III, vol. VIII, p.369-370

by Lieutenant-Governor Arthur on arrival as 'generally so mischievous ... that they are the dread of every family.'⁶ In the same year a larger proportion of boys than usual was transported by the *William Miles* (1828). These boys had already served three years in the hulks. Boys also arrived on the *Roslyn Castle* (1) at the end of 1828, 100 having been selected from the *Euryalus* and *Dolphin* hulks.

During 1832 a group of fifty-seven boy convicts was sent from the *Euryalus* for shipment on the *Georgiana II*. Most were between 10 and 12 years of age. Arthur reported that it was difficult to assign them, as the settlers declined to take boys unless they were with effective farming men. He judged their shipboard education to have been deficient as, on debarkation, only three could repeat the Lords Prayer.⁷ The following year a further fifty boy prisoners arrived on the *Isabella I* (5) (1833).⁸ As this vessel was preparing to leave the Thames a malignant cholera epidemic was raging. Ten of the lads died from the disease before the *Isabella I* (5) made sail from Chatham. They were replaced by seven boys sent from the *Retribution* hulk at Sheerness which usually housed adult male prisoners. By now, Arthur was becoming more and more frustrated with the troublesome urchins whom he described as a corrupt 'fraternity of little depraved Felons'.⁹ It had become impossible to assign them so that a separate facility was required.

There had been convict boys at Port Arthur since the foundation of this penal settlement. For instance, in November 1830 some twenty-two boy prisoners had

been sent there to work as sawyers.¹⁰ During December 1833, Point Puer on Tasman's Peninsula, was approved as the site for housing boy convicts. The first sixty-eight boys were sent down on the colonial brig *Tamar* in January 1834. While on route the boys broke into a six-dozen case of wine consigned to the Commandant, Charles O'Hara BOOTH. They shared it with twenty-one adult male convicts on board. All arrived in a general state of intoxication. The men who were drunk received the lash and the boys were severely reprimanded.¹¹ Thereafter Point Puer was to become the main station for juvenile prisoners until it was closed during 1849.

Convict boys continued to be despatched on board the adult male convict transports from England. The *Moffatt* (1) (1834) carried thirty-nine boys from the *Euryalus* to the colony among 361 adult males. Twenty boys were embarked from the *Euryalus* aboard the *Layton II* (1) (1835). As shown by the sick list these boys were between 13 and 17 years of age. The *Aurora I* (2) (1835) arrived with thirty boy prisoners. They embarked wearing knee breeches which caused surgeon Andrew HENDERSON to complain as he had previously recommended cloth trousers.¹² These voyages were followed by the *Elphinstone* (1) (1836) with thirty boys from the *Euryalus*. Surgeon Colin BROWNING also complained about the clothing. He found it

⁶ *HRA* III, vol. VIII, p.824

⁷ *HRA*, vol. VIII, p.387

⁸ AJCP PRO 3198, *Isabella* (1833)

⁹ TAHO GO 33/16, 8 February 1834, pp.277-80

¹⁰ I Brand, *Penal Peninsula: Port Arthur and its Outstations, 1827-1898*. Hobart, Jason, 1978, p.6.

¹¹ C O'H Booth, *Journal: Commandant of the Port Arthur Penal Settlement*. D Heard (ed). Hobart, Tasmanian Historical Research Association, 1981, p.32.

¹² AJCP PRO 3205, *Moffatt* (1) (1834); *Layton II* (1) (1835), 3200; *Aurora I* (2) (1835) 3189

necessary to repair garments with calico supplied by the Master and needles and thread which he had brought. Many of the boys on the voyage were very troublesome initially but improved by the time of arrival. Their schooling was based on the scripture texts from the Bible such as the Gospels and Divine Revelation.¹³

Transports for juvenile prisoners

The arrangements for the transportation of boy prisoners were altered during 1837. For five years between 1837 and 1842 eight ships were chartered by the English penal administration for the specific purpose of sending shiploads of these boys from the *Euryalus* to Van Diemen's Land. More than 1379 boys were transported under this plan. On each voyage up to ten adult male convicts were embarked to act as overseers. The military guard was also on board. The first such ship, with 140 boys, was the *Frances Charlotte* (1837). Surgeon Alexander NISBET reported the behaviour of the juveniles was 'exceedingly irregular and indecorous with frequent instances of petty theft' at first. By the close of the voyage theft was rare however and immoral conduct and language had been suppressed. The boys attended school for daily courses on scriptural reading, they played on deck and assisted at the watches when some of the crew mutinied.¹⁴

On board the *Royal Sovereign* the following year, 1837–38, with 140 boys as his 'young gang of rogues' surgeon Andrew Henderson reported a number of wounds. One such which required hospitalisation was a blow to the head with a tin pot inflicted by another convict lad.¹⁵

The *Minerva II* (1) (1838) carried the third shipload of boys from the *Euryalus* numbering 150. Surgeon James WILSON was dismayed about 'the moral depravity' of these older boys. He reflected that he had come to the melancholy conclusion that, with only a few exceptions, 'they have been Born and Nursed in Crime'. He also found the youngsters to be hardened in villainy and speculated that their parents had already schooled them to theft. One boy had not been on board three hours when he began thieving. Hardly a day passed when the surgeon was obliged to inflict some form of punishment on them. James Wilson found the experience so harrowing he vowed never again to undertake a similar voyage.¹⁶

The majority of the 160 boys who came on the *Pyramus* (1839) were so prostrated with seasickness that they were frequently kept under hatches.¹⁷ The following year Surgeon Peter FISHER aboard the *Runnymede I* (1839–40) recorded that some of the 190 boys were kept below for punishment.¹⁸ When the weather was rough, falls down the hatchways were common, resulting in sprains and bruises. One boy had his knee caught by the pig sty giving way and squeezing him against the booms. On the *Hindostan* (1840–41) the 200 boys were required by surgeon Andrew Henderson to bathe in cold sea water each morning. They scrubbed themselves with Sir Henry DIGBY's clay (said to have been quite equal to soap). One clean shirt a week was issued but two during the tropical heat. The boys' weight increased by an average of 15½ lbs during this passage.¹⁹ The 176 juveniles who were selected from the

¹³ AJCP PRO 3194, *Elphinstone* (1) (1836)

¹⁴ AJCP ADM 97 4598, *Frances Charlotte* (1837)

¹⁵ AJCP PRO3209, *Royal Sovereign* (1837–38)

¹⁶ AJCP PRO 3205, *Minerva II* (1)

¹⁷ AJCP PRO 3208, *Pyramus* (1839)

¹⁸ AJCP PRO 3209, *Runnymede I* (1839–40)

¹⁹ AJCP PRO 3197, *Hindostan* (1840–41)

Euryalus for the *Lord Goderich* (1841) included boys who were weak and pale from confinement. Ten of the prisoners were 18 years of age, therefore eligible for being hired or serving in government gangs in the colony. Some had previously been in prisons such as Newgate. Several were afflicted with scrofula and one boy concealed his cough for fear of being detained on the hulk.²⁰

The last transport chartered specifically for the juveniles was the *Elphinstone* (4) (1842) which carried 223 boys with seven adult male convict overseers. Surgeon William H B JONES warned his charges that he would be most rigid in his punishments for misbehaviour which would entail solitary confinement and the use of the lash. He found the cunning, artful secrets of the boys astonishing. He was well aware of their subculture of stealing, gambling and bullying the weaker boys. It was a maxim within the group never to reveal their persecutors. Surgeon Jones made a habit of being present at dinner each day to supervise the issue of the provisions as well as to enforce silence during the meal. Cleanliness was rigorously maintained, including the ironing of clothes, to destroy lice. Exercise was also enforced. One death occurred during the passage and one boy was placed in irons for attempting to sexually molest another boy in the prison at night.²¹ The voyage was not without difficulties with the crew as, upon arrival, twelve seamen were charged with refusing duty.²²

In 1842 the *John Renwick* (2) (1842–43) sailed with seventy-nine convict boys among 161 male prisoners. Three men had been selected as overseers but the

boys gave so much trouble in their prison that surgeon Thomas E RING found it necessary to move eight additional men into the boys' prison to keep them in order. The surgeon found that these boys were either orphans or the offspring of idle, dissolute and ignorant parents. He saw them as victims of neglect and bad examples. Surgeon Ring attempted to improve their morals by discipline and schooling in the hope that his exertions during the voyage were not entirely thrown away.²³

By 1844 the *Euryalus* had been closed down and the despatch of the boy convicts returned to the earlier arrangement of placing small numbers of boys among the adult male convicts. In that year the forty-four boys who were transported to Van Diemen's Land came from Millbank prison. They were among 324 adult male convicts who sailed on the *Barrosa* (1844).²⁴

The 'Parkhurst Boys'

Parkhurst penitentiary for juvenile male prisoners was the second largest source of convict boys sent to the colony. The establishment of this institution was an experiment in penal reform. It was opened on the Isle of Wight during 1833 as a government prison under the jurisdiction of the Home Office. The aim was to implement reformatory discipline and teach the boys trades such as tailoring, bootmaking, carpentry, bricklaying and agriculture.

On 16 October 1843 the ship *Mandarin* berthed at Hobart Town carrying fifty-one 'Government boys', the first shipment of Parkhurst juveniles to the colony. The passage terminated with the hearing

²⁰ AJCP PRO 3201, *Lord Goderich* (1841)

²¹ AJCP PRO 3194, *Elphinstone* (4) (1842)

²² *Colonial Times*, 9 August 1842

²³ AJCP PRO 3199, *John Renwick* (2) (1842–43)

²⁴ AJCP PRO3189, *Barrosa* (1844)

of grievances before magistrate John PRICE. First the surgeon charged Captain SMITH for assault. The captain, in turn, charged crew members with misconduct and refusing to work. These men claimed that the provisions were bad and the 'Skipper' had abused them. On the voyage one of the officer's cabins was occupied with a passenger which earned the *sobriquet* the *Pig and Whistle*. It seemed that good order and decorous conduct had not prevailed. At the end of the hearing the charges were dismissed with the captain fined £5 and costs.²⁵

The *Hobart Town Courier* of 24 October 1842, in reporting the arrival of the *Mandarin*, described the selective policy adopted at Parkhurst:

Incorrigible offenders are not suffered to remain in the institution but are shipped off to Point Puer, or sent to the juvenile hulk.²⁶

The newspaper referred to the outcry from residents of Auckland when ninety-two 'Parkhurst boys' were sent there during 1842 on board the immigrant ship *St George*. Serious evils were said to have resulted in the community.

However these youths from Parkhurst, who arrived in Van Diemen's Land during 1843, were received with some sympathy. As with the boys sent to New Zealand the previous year they had been classified as free emigrants, apprentices and holders of tickets of leave. Initially they were placed in the Hobart Town emigration depot under the guardianship of Dr Adam TURNBULL.

The 1843 voyage of the *Mandarin* also carried, as passengers thirty-one 'Parkhurst boys', the second contingent en

route to New Zealand. The former juveniles had been found not to have been reformed by Parkhurst. This second shipment firmed the resolve of the New Zealanders never to accept a further allocation of such youths.²⁷ 'Parkhurst boys' continued to be sent to Van Diemen's Land until the end of transportation during 1853. However the plan was not without problems which were revealed later.

The following ships bringing 'Parkhurst boys' to Van Diemen's Land have been traced:

Vessels ²⁸	Juveniles
<i>Mandarin</i> (1843)	51
<i>Strathedin</i> (1845-1846)	74
<i>Adelaide</i> (1849)	30
<i>Blenheim II</i> (2) (1850)	85 ²⁹
<i>Maria Somes</i> (2) (1850)	30
<i>Nile II</i> (1850)	30
<i>Rodney</i> (1) (1850)	40
<i>Lady Kennaway</i> (3) 1850-51)	47
<i>Equestrian</i> (3) (1852-53)	30
Total	417

The estimated total of boy convicts, including the 'Parkhurst boys' sent to Van Diemen's Land, exceeded 2200. ◀

²⁵ *Hobart Town Courier and Van Diemen's Land Gazette*, 24 October 1843; *Colonial Times*, 24 October 1843

²⁶ *Hobart Town Courier*, 24 October 1843

²⁷ P Buddee, *The Fate of the Artful Dodger: Parkhurst boys transported to Australia and New Zealand 1842-1852*. Perth, St George Books, 1984, pp.88-94.

²⁸ AJCP PROS, *Mandarin* 3201; *Stratheden* 3210; *Adelaide* 3187; *Blenheim II* (2) 3190; *Maria Somes* M711; *Nile II* M711; *Rodney* (1) 3208; *Lady Kennaway* M711; *Equestrian* 3195

²⁹ This figure is taken from P Buddee, *The Fate of the Artful Dodger*, *ibid.* p.165, p.184, but the *Blenheim II* (2) surgeon does not mention the number. Buddee also adds 158 boys but is unable to name the transports. These have not been included.

‘OLD BOBBY NUTMAN’ NOTORIOUSLY CRUEL SUPERINTENDENT OF CONVICT ROAD PARTIES, 1820s–1840s

Don Bradmore (Member No.6756)

DESCRIBING his experiences as a convict in Van Diemen’s Land, Samuel SNOW, an American citizen who had been transported for his role in a rebellion against the colonial government of Upper Canada in 1837, wrote: ¹

At Green Ponds, we were placed under the Superintendence of a man by the name of Robert NUTMAN, a Scotsman. He was familiarly known by that of ‘Old Bobby Nutman’, and his cruelty to the prisoners placed under him was known throughout the land. We had heard of him whipping men nearly to death, and the old prisoners feared him as they would a tiger. ²

The ‘Old Bobby Nutman’ to whom Snow was referring here was Robert Melross NOTTMAN (also seen as NOTMAN, NOTEMAN and KNOTMAN) who had

arrived in the colony as a free settler aboard *Skelton* on 24 December 1822. ³

Forty years of age and unmarried when he arrived. It is thought he was born at Newlands, Peeblesshire, Scotland, about 1782, the eldest of seven children of Robert and Marion (née THORBURN) Notman. ⁴

Nothing is known of his reasons for choosing to settle in Van Diemen’s Land. It is possible that he had already had training and experience as a road-maker and bridge-builder and that he wanted to further his career in that field. But, it is equally possible that he was attracted by the opportunity of taking up a substantial land grant. There is a reference in the New South Wales Colonial Secretary’s papers of (8 January) 1824 to a ‘Robert Notman’ (sic) on a list of persons in Van Diemen’s Land recommended for a grant ‘because he had not had one before’. ⁵

¹ See Cassandra Pybus, <http://iccs.arts.utas.edu.au/narratives/pybusintro.html> for information about the rebellion against the colonial government in Upper Canada in 1837 and the transportation of seventy-nine convicts to VDL

² Snow, *The Exile Returns: Narrative of Samuel Snow Who Was Banished to Van Diemen’s Land for Participating in the Patriot War in Upper Canada in 1838*, Cassandra Pybus (ed.), University of Sydney. See <http://iccs.arts.utas.edu.au/narratives/pybusintro.html>

³ See passenger list in *Hobart Town Gazette*, 28 December 1822, p.1.

Nottman’s surname is spelt as ‘Knotman’.

⁴ See ‘Robert Notman’ at <http://queenslandfamilytrees.co/getperson.php?personID=I13372&tree=55>

⁵ See Colonial Secretary Index, 1788–1825, http://colsec.records.nsw.gov.au/indexes/colsecx/n/F41c_n-16.htm See also *Hobart Town Courier*, 6 February 1835. Reference is made to ‘105 acres, Clarence parish, originally granted to Robert Notman (sic)’. The former Clarence parish, close to Hobart, takes in Bellerive, Warrane and other eastern shore suburbs of Hobart today

Although his application for the land grant was successful, he does not appear to have farmed the property himself. By May 1826, he had been appointed a superintendent of convict road parties.⁶

It is likely that he was appointed to the position by Roderic O'CONNOR whom Lieutenant-Governor George ARTHUR had made a Land Commissioner in early 1826 and who was later to become Inspector of Roads and Bridges.⁷

From a wealthy Irish land-owning family, O'Connor had arrived in Van Diemen's Land in May 1824 and had soon obtained a large land grant on the Lake River near Cressy. Extremely able, he had already had considerable experience on his father's land and as a practical engineer and wasted no time in improving his own property with the addition of bridges, weirs and impressive farm buildings.⁸

Arthur, who had also arrived in the colony in May 1824, must have been very pleased to have the services of men like O'Connor and Nottman. He saw the construction of roads and bridges as vital, not only for the continuing expansion of the colony's economy but also as a key element in his carefully graded system of rewards and punishments for the

management and control of the large convict population.⁹

At the top of his multi-tiered system were the most orderly and dependable convicts; they were to be retained by the government's own department of public works or assigned as labourers and servants to landowners. On the level below were those who were less dependable or who had re-offended again in the colony; they were to be sent to road parties to labour under strict supervision, and in chains, if necessary. At the bottom were the very worst of the convicts – the most violent, desperate and dangerous – and they were to be removed to the penal settlements of Maria Island and Sarah Island (and, later, Port Arthur).¹⁰

Arthur had made it clear from the time of his arrival that convicts who were orderly and well-behaved could expect to serve out their time in relative comfort but that those who misbehaved or re-offended would be punished harshly. With sustained good conduct, convicts could move upwards through the tiers to better their living and working conditions. On the other hand, bad conduct would result in their relegation to a level below. The system was intended to provide a strong incentive to the prisoners to strive to better their circumstances and avoid further punishment.

Thus, the road parties and chain gangs were important. Usually comprising eighty to 150 convicts, they needed a firm hand to control them, and it wasn't long before Nottman was making a name for himself not only as a competent engineer

⁶ Personal communication with Thelma McKay, September 2011

⁷ See P R Eldershaw's brief biography of Roderic O'Connor in *Australian Dictionary of Biography Online*. Leslie Greener, in his article 'The Bridge at Ross', *Papers and Proceedings*, Tasmanian Historical Research Association, Vol.14, No.3, pp.97–115, refers to Nottman as 'one of O'Connor's men' (p.100).

⁸ *Ibid*

⁹ See P R Eldershaw's brief biography of Sir George Arthur in *Australian Dictionary of Biography Online*.

¹⁰ See W D Forsyth, *Governor Arthur's Convict System*. (Sydney: 1970) Sydney University Press.

but also as a very capable manager of men, albeit a strict, even harsh, disciplinarian.¹¹

On 16 August 1828, the *Hobart Town Courier* paid tribute to the work he was doing in the Oatlands area:

The formation of the roads in this neighbourhood proceeds rapidly ... A party of roadmen is stationed on the Blackman River, half a mile below LACKAY's mill, and their proceedings towards Auburn, under the direction of Mr Nottman, will now be most rapid ... Mr Nottman has already proved himself a skilful engineer in road making, an excellent superintendent of labouring prisoners, and is a most faithful servant of the public (p.2).

Commendations of Nottman's work appeared in the press frequently. The *Hobart Town Courier* of 28 August 1830 described the way he and members of his gang had saved a woman and her children from being burnt to death when they happened to come across 'a horde of blacks' attacking her isolated house (p.2). And, on 6 January 1835, the *Colonial Times* was pleased to report that

Nottman's road party are bringing the water into Launceston ... The people of Launceston are lucky fellows ... Now that they are to have a good supply of water, the people of Hobart Town may well envy them (p.6).

However, far more frequent were the references in contemporary books and newspapers to Nottman's callousness and cruelty and to the harshness of the treatment he meted out to the men in his charge.

¹¹ The figure of eighty convicts in Nottman's party is mentioned in the *Hobart Town Courier* of 16 August 1828 (p.2) and again on 3 July 1830 (p.3). On 29 July 1834 (p.7) the same paper gave a figure of 150.

On 16 March 1839, the *Cornwall Chronicle* reminded readers of the death of a prisoner named PIKE who had died 'in consequence of the brutal treatment he had received from a ticket-of-leave overseer in Nottman's party' in July 1834. While Pike was being lashed for some offence he had committed, he cursed the overseer and was immediately charged with insolence. After he had been cut down from the whipping post, the overseer rushed at him, knocked him to the ground and kicked him repeatedly. Later that same day, he had died. The *Chronicle* pointed out that, while Nottman had not actually caused the convict's death, he was culpable 'in permitting [the overseer] to exercise the brutal treatment he did over the prisoners generally' (p.2).

In *The History of Tasmania* (1852), John WEST writes of Nottman in these unflattering terms:

[He was] a person of unflinching temper – rigorous and fearless ... He found pleasure in hastening the operations entrusted to his oversight, and neglect of work was an offence that was never pardoned. It did not infrequently happen, that a tailor, or other sedentary craftsman, was sentenced to the roads – but, in breaking stones there is an art, and while the dexterous could make every blow effective, the utmost toil of the novice left a deficiency in the task. To admit defeat would have disturbed the calculations of labour, and the defaulter was delivered at once to the flogger; often, too, the implements, injured by use, rendered the fracture of stones more difficult ... [And] the issue of rations weekly tempted the improvident to consume their food, so that the last days of the week were spent in exhaustion and hunger. The slightest symptoms of insubordination were promptly visited ... and [one one

occasion] 3,300 lashes were administered in one morning.¹²

Not surprisingly, Nottman's name quickly became synonymous with punishment. In fact, his reputation was frequently used in a grim but wryly humorous way. For instance, when reporting the case of a man brought before the courts for stealing cabbages, the *Colonial Times* of 16 April 1833 noted that the offender had been sentenced 'to undergo the pleasure of Mr Nottman's company for six months' (p.2). In similar vein, the paper reported on 22 April 1834 that a man convicted of vagrancy had been sentenced to a six months term with Mr Nottman's road party 'as an antidote for his drunkenness and laziness' (p.7).

It is also clear from contemporary reports that being sentenced to Nottman's road party was seen as a harsher penalty than being sent to any other road party. Thus, the *Colonial Times* of 15 April 1834 noted that a convict who had absconded from a road party working at Grass Tree Hill had, when recaptured, been sentenced 'to a further twelve months at Nottman's party' (p.7).

More recently, in his authoritative *Highway in Van Diemen's Land* (1972), C Hawley STANCOMBE referred to Nottman as

that savage disciplinarian, commenting that his name was hated from one end of the island to the other because of his iron discipline and utter indifference to the suffering of tormented slaves¹³

For this savagery and indifference, Stancombe blames an incident that occurred in Hobart in May 1826. As Nottman was walking on the New Town road at dusk, he was attacked by a man who tried to rob him. Stunned by a violent blow to the head, he fell to the ground. He recovered to find his attacker rifling his pockets and, getting to his feet, he took hold of the man by a silk handkerchief that he had around his neck. In the long struggle which ensued, the knot tightened and eventually the attacker went limp and remained motionless. Finding the man dead when they arrived, the police identified him as John CAVANAGH, a notorious character, who had arrived in the colony as a convict aboard *Minerva* in June 1818. At an inquest, Nottman was acquitted of any wrongdoing, the jury finding that Cavanagh's death had been a case of 'justifiable homicide'.¹⁴

Although Stancombe claims that his 'subsequent treatment of incorrigible prisoners was influenced by this' happening, it seems likely that Nottman would defend himself against charges of cruelty by claiming that he was merely following orders. In February 1833, Lieutenant-Governor Arthur had instructed his secretary, John BURNETT, to write to those responsible for the management and control of convicts in the colony to remind them that it was the wish of His Majesty's government, as well as the law of the land, that punishment should be 'certain and severe'. He stressed

the necessity of invariably exacting the due portion of daily labour from each

¹² See John West, *The History of Tasmania*, Vol. 2. Section VII. (Launceston: 1851). Henry Dowling

¹³ C Hawley Stancombe, *Highway in Van Diemen's Land*, (Launceston: 1974) Self published by the author, p.133

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, p.75. See also *Hobart Town Gazette*, 13 May 1826, p.2.

convict, and of not permitting any remission or indulgence¹⁵

On numerous occasions Arthur himself had addressed groups of newly-arrived convicts and pointed out their situation to them. He reminded them that the reward for good conduct was remission of sentence and tolerable treatment; the penalty for bad conduct was the severity of the road gangs and the horrors of the penal settlements.¹⁶

Nevertheless, whatever the motivation for the harshness of his treatment of convicts, Nottman eventually seems to have tired of the task. In the early 1840s, after a decade and a half as a tough and uncompromising superintendent of road parties, he resigned his post, sailed away from Van Diemen's Land, and never returned.

The decision to give up the life he was living was undoubtedly influenced by his decision to marry. On 9 May 1837, then in his mid-fifties, he married Harriet SHOOBRIDGE née SHAW. His wife was a 34-year old widow.¹⁷

Although he remained in his job for the next two or three years, he was clearly

making plans to leave. By the late 1830s, he had disposed of his land and livestock. In November 1839 he announced by way of a notice in the *Colonial Times* that he was preparing 'to quit the colony' and called for the immediate payment of all monies owing to him.¹⁸

When, and how, the Nottmans eventually left Van Diemen's Land is unclear. No record of departure has been found for either of them. However, a notice in the *Sydney Morning Herald* of 25 April 1846 listed a Mr and Mrs Nottman as passengers aboard the barque *Midlothian* which had sailed for London the previous day. It is thought likely that this was Robert and Harriett. It is possible that they had spent some time in Sydney before returning to England.

To date, all efforts to discover what became of them after leaving Sydney have been unsuccessful.¹⁹ ◀

¹⁵ Burnett's letter was, of course, issued on Arthur's instructions. For a copy of it, see <http://freeread.com.au/ebooks/e00115.html>

¹⁶ Forsyth, *op.cit.*, p.49.

¹⁷ Nottman's marriage: RGD36 3717/1837, Hobart. In 1832, Harriett SHAW had arrived at Hobart aboard *Princess Royal*, one of the 200 women on the first ship carrying a full load of free women to arrive in the colony. On 27 February 1833, she had married William Shoobridge, recognised as the first to grow hops in Van Diemen's Land (see *Australian Dictionary of Biography.*) Shoobridge died in 1836. See also Thelma McKay. *The Penny Royal Girls.* (Hobart: 2007) Self published.

¹⁸ See notices re sale of his property in *Hobart Town Courier*, 22 June 1838 (p.1) and 22 November 1839 (p.1) and his intention to quit the colony in *Colonial Times*, 17 November 1840 (p.2).

¹⁹ The 1851 Scotland Census shows a Robert and Harriot (sic) Nottman living at West Edge Farm, Parish of Liberton, County Midlothian, Scotland. Robert is a 59 year-old farmer; Harriot, his wife, is 47. It is tempting to think that this might be the former road gang superintendent, but it is probably not. Shown living with this couple is a 30 year-old son, John Nottman. It is believed that Robert Melross Nottman and wife Harriett were both childless.

UNABLE TO FIND A BIRTH NOTICE?

Janine Hunt (Member No.743)

ARE you unable to find the birth notice of an ancestor? Don't lose hope—continue reading the newspapers from the time of the presumed birth—and you might be lucky!¹

In my case I found the birth notice for one of my husband's great-great grandfathers seventy-three years after his birth!

Henry Robert FIGG was the son of Margaret SMITH and William Figg (convict per *Commodore Hayes* 1823) who married on 23 October 1826 in Hobart Town. It was always believed that Henry, who was baptised on 6 June 1835 at Clarence,² was born on 30 May 1835, but it was only recently I located his birth notice in the *Mercury* for 30 May 1908. According to the 1908 entry, Henry was born in Liverpool Street 'at the rear of the Red Lion', and was 'now of Parattah, Tasmania'.³

Henry married twice. His first marriage was in 1858 to Charlotte Fletcher JONES, who died in 1879 at the age of 38 years.⁴ Two years later he married 18 year-old Lydia HOAD.⁵

One can only wonder what prompted the action of inserting a birth notice so long after Henry's birth—maybe it was a family joke, but whatever the reason, this example is a reminder to keep searching, even if the search seems hopeless. ◀

¹ See also the National Library website: <http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/home>

² RGD23 Hobart 913/1826; RGD32 Clarence 6698/1835

³ *Mercury* 30 May 1908, p.1

⁴ RGD37 Hobart 238/1858; RGD35 Oatlands 472/1879

⁵ RGD37 Oatlands 597/1881

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

COOMBS, Uriah

Parents Robert COOMBS and Anna Coombs née GREEN, born Port Milbourne, Somerset, England, 2 April 1832. Siblings William Green Coombs, George Coombs, Susanna Coombs, Elizabeth Coombs and Mary Coombs. Can anyone help with relatives, or people doing research? Uriah had daughter same names as mother, Clara Louisa Coombs. Mother born Goodwood South Australia 1912. W (Bill) Harniman RSD Goodger Road Gawler River SA 5118. Please phone (08) 8524 2083 or email connellvale@bigpond.com

FARNELL

Seeking photographs of John William FARNELL and his wife Alice Jane, née PHILLIPS. James Whitton of Kettering (1854–1932) married Alice's widowed mother, Frances Harriet Phillips in 1880. Photographs of James and Frances are also sought for inclusion in an illustrated

HELP WANTED

Whitton family history to be published in 2012. Contact Kevin Whitton at PO Box 4160 Melbourne University VIC 3010 or email kevin.whitton@bigpond.com

GROVES, William Douglas Rohan

Information sought on William Douglas Rohan GROVES who had a shop with petrol pumps in Port Sorell from the 1940s to the 1960s. Any photographs of William, his shop and street scenes of Port Sorell at that time and any anecdotal stories of William would be very much appreciated. Dawn Springett.

dgsring@tudogs.net.au

HARRIS, Charles and William

I am seeking any help with determining the origins/arrival of Charles and possibly William HARRIS.

The first references I have are when Charles Harris was farming the Freestone land grant leased from William HEPBURN at Swanport in 1852. He was then aged about 28. William Harris, also from Swanport, witnessed his 1853 marriage to Isabella MURRAY, daughter of Scottish immigrants David and Marion Murray who originally settled at Macquarie River in 1825. Charles and Isabella formed a close friendship with the Reverend Thomas DOVE and had two children at Swanport before moving to Westbury. Here Charles operated and then purchased Thomas White & Son's general store and the Westfield steam flour mill and old brewery complexes. For further information visit <http://www.harris.ocker.id.au> or email Andrew Cocker at andrew@ocker.id.au

PULLEN, Hannah Jane Edith &family

Hannah Jane Edith PULLEN was born circa 1864, and raised a family of six—

two girls and four boys. Florence Ella May, born 1 January and baptised 11 January 1884; William (Billy) John Davidson, born 22 March 1885; Henry James Davidson, born 2 October 1887 and baptised 30 April 1888; Acy Irene, born 5 March 1893; Thomas (Tom) Alfred Edward, born 8 March 1898 and baptised 11 April 1900 and Harold Herbert, born 7 August 1899. All the births and baptisms occurred and were registered (surname Pullen), in the Sorell district, but without any father's name on either birth or baptisms entries! William (Billy) Pullen was a well known and respected footballer in the Sorell area who died tragically in 1909, only six months after getting married and two months before the birth of his only son, from diphtheria and typhoid fever, contracted whilst working at Runnymede. The *Mercury* newspaper covered the story extensively, mentioning his mother and wife, but again without any reference to Billy's father. Who was the father (or fathers?) of Hannah's children? And who were Hannah's parents? Any information appreciated. Contact Ian Byers (Member No.5900) email ianbyers@iprimus.com.au or phone (03) 6225 4698 AH.

WHITTON

Seeking photographs of James WHITTON of Sandy Bay and Bellerive (1889–1961), and his wife Ada Margaret, née Kiernan (1892–1969). James was a partner in Whitton Brothers wood yard, 61 King St, Sandy Bay. Family married FLAKE-MORE, NUNN, SILVER, McDONALD, GOOLD, and BARWICK. An illustrated family history will be published in 2012. Contact Kevin Whitton at PO Box 4160 Melbourne University VIC 3010 or email kevin.whitton@bigpond.com ◀

NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS

NAME	PLACE/AREA	TIME	M'SHIP NO.
ATKINSON	Hobart TAS/Preston ENG	c1800	7189
BEVERIDGE	Hagley TAS AUS	Any	7206
BEVERIDGE	Hagley TAS AUS	Any	7207
BIGHAM	Dromore Co Down IRL	1800-1873	7208
BOURKE	Meander and Liffey TAS AUS	c1900	7183
BRITTON	Kimberley TAS AUS	c1880	7183
BROOKE/BROOKS Thomas	Birmingham ENG/TAS AUS	1810-1894	7196
BRUNDLE	TAS AUS	1840+	7190
BRYDON	Any	Any	7207
CALDER George Traill	SCT m 4 Feb 1870	c1830	7205
CALDER Herbert James	Dunolly VIC AUS	1870+	7205
CONDELL Henry	SPAIN/Eдинburgh SCT/TAS AUS	1797-1871	7196
DALEY Stephen	IRL	1808-55	7198
DAVIDSON Helen	Kilsyth STI SCT	1923-1994 (died)	7200
DONNELLY	LKS SCT	c1700-1800	7181
ELDER	Peebles SCT	c1700-1800	7181
FINDLAY George	STI LKS SCT	1808-1881	7201
FINDLAY John	STI LKS SCT	1792-1855	7201
FOWLER	Launceston TAS AUS	c1880	7183
GAVELLE Eliza	Dover KEN ENG	1892	7201
GIBLETT Chorstop Terara	TAS/MIC AUS/ENG	c17thC-18thC	7184
HAYES	TAS AUS	1850+	7190
HOGAN	TAS AUS	1840+	7190
HOOPER Bramwell - brother	Any	c1870-1953	7197
HOOPER Harold	Any	b1870-d1953	7197
HOOPER Tot - sister	Any	c1870-1953	7197
HUTCHISON Janett	SCT? m 4 Feb 1870	c1830?	7205
JOHNSON	Deloraine TAS AUS	c1900	7183
KEARNAN	TAS AUS/IRL	c1800	7189
KEATING John	Launceston TAS AUS	1870+	7182
KEATING Keven	Devonport TAS AUS	1920+	7182
KELLY	Liffey TAS AUS	c1900	7183
KENNEDY Maryann	TAS AUS	1835-1914	7195
LOMAS Gilbert James	Hobart TAS AUS	1940-1948	7194
LOPEZ	TAS AU	1860+	7190
LORD Mable	Hobart TAS AUS	b1877? d1974	7197
MARSDEN Jane	Nottingham ENG/TAS AUS	c1800-1839	7196
MARSDEN John	Nottingham ENG/TAS AUS	c1767-1827	7196
MARSHALL Thomas	Launceston Devonport TAS AUS	1850+	7182
McGUIRE George	Margate/Kingston TAS AUS	1825	7186
McLEAN David & family	Launceston Perth Longford TAS AUS	1855-1890	7187
McLEAN David & family	Isle of Bute SCT	pre-1855	7187
MORRIS Helen	STI LKS SCT	1812-1865	7201
MORSE Charles	SOM ENG	1815-1902	7195
NEASEY	IRL	1819-1878	7195
NORMAN Elizabeth (Con)	HRT ENG	1822-1905	7195
Presbyterian Burial Ground	Hagley TAS AUS	Any	7206

NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS

NAME	PLACE/AREA	TIME	M'SHIP NO.
SCALLY HILL (Harry)	Glasgow St Rollox SCT	1920-1998	7200
SCALLY Margaret	Glasgow St Rollox SCT	1800s-1900+	7200
SCALLY Patrick	Glasgow St Rollox SCT	1800+-1919 (died)	7200
SCOTT James	FIF SCT	1800-1869	7208
SHARMAN	Deloraine TAS AUS	c1880	7183
SKIRVING	Cressy TAS AUS	Any	7207
STONEHOUSE Robert	YKS ENG/TAS & VIC AUS	c1794-1855	7196
SUHR Joach M	Hobart TAS AUS/Germany	1780-1980	7184
TREWEEK	TAS AUS/CON ENG	c1800	7189
TRUTZL Klaus	TAS/NSW AUS/Germany	1780-1980	7184
TURNER	Hobart TAS/NSW AUS/ENG	c1800	7189
WALKER William (Con)	Bristol ENG/Green Ponds TAS AUS	1812-1859	7195
WHITING Samuel	TAS/IRL	1800-1900	7198
WILSON	Ringarooma TAS AUS	1900	7182
WILSON Andrew Greig	Fife SCT	1807-1891	7195

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

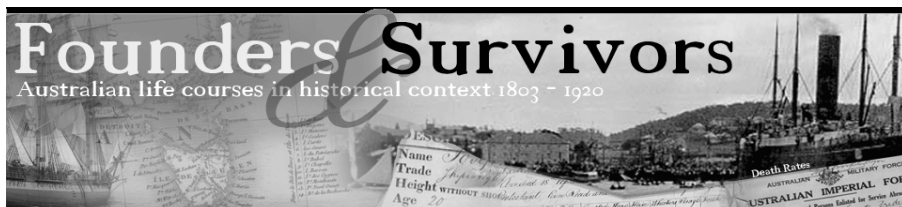
If you find a name in which you are interested, please note the membership number and check the New Members' listing for the appropriate name and address. Please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope and don't forget to reply if you receive a SSAE.

Privacy Statement

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

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

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



CAN YOU HELP?

Founders & Survivors is a partnership between historians, genealogists, demographers and population health researchers. It seeks to record and study the founding population of 73,000 men women and children who were transported to Tasmania. Many survived their convict experience and went on to help build a new society.

www.foundersandsurvivors.org

We are looking for volunteer transcribers to help with this significant project. Training is provided.

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact:

- Dianne Snowden (Project Manager) dsnowden@tassie.net.au [0409 140 657]
- Colette McAlpine (Co-ordinator, Volunteer) colette.mcalpine@gmail.com

NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members

7181	HODGKINSON Mrs Janene	18 Ocean Drive janeneho@hotmail.com	ULVERSTONE	TAS	7315
7182	ENRIGHT Mr Robin Patrick	82 Gunn Street rocarlten@yahoo.com.au	DEVONPORT	TAS	7310
7183	BRADY Mr Bernard Francis	121 Zigzag Road	COLERAINE	VIC	3315
7184	MARTIN Mr Alexander	73 Clarence Street theoutsider@gmail.com	BELLERIVE	TAS	7018
7185	WOOD Mr Robin Lawrence	PO Box 274	RIVERSIDE	TAS	7250
7186	McGUIRE Mr Brian Arthur	88 Elinga Street	HOWTH	TAS	7018
7187	LANG Mr Douglas Jan	PO Box 112 flyfisher1950@yahoo.com.au	LONGFORD	TAS	7301
7188	BAIN Mr Kenneth Ross	1A Whitefoord Parade knbn838@gmail.com	DODGES FERRY	TAS	7173
7189	TURNER Mr Ian J	20 Rocklyn Avenue	MOONAH	TAS	7009
7190	LOPEZ Miss Elizabeth Ann	68 Linden Road ealopez12@gmail.com	PRIMROSE SANDS	TAS	7173
7191	BLAIKIE Mrs Lyn	196 Carella Street lblaikie@iprimus.com.au	TRANMERE	TAS	7018
7192	WHELAN Mr Paul Michael	12 Chardonnay Drive enajoy@yahoo.com	SKYE	VIC	3977
7193	WHELAN Mrs Maree	12 Chardonnay Drive enajoy@yahoo.com	SKYE	VIC	3977
7194	VINCENT Ms Debbie Irene	32 Bowman Drive debbie.vincent@dhhs.tas.gov.au	PENGUIN	TAS	7316
7195	NEASEY Ms Michelle	32 Manuka Drive mneasey@internode.on.net	BURNIE	TAS	7320
7196	VAN BERGEN Mrs Jackie (Jacqueline)	24 Burgoyne Street jackievb@optusnet.com.au	GORDON	NSW	2092
7197	LUCK Ms Georgia Alice	22 Abbott Street gluck@burnie.net	UPPER BURNIE	TAS	7320
7198	KEEGAN Mrs Fran	6 Delta Avenue secnarf46@yahoo.com.au	YOUNGTOWN	TAS	7249
7199	MATHISON Ms Robyn Eve	336 Murray Street	NORTH HOBART	TAS	7000
7200	FAIR Mrs Catherine	2/59 Binalong Road kathkafair@yahoo.com.au	MORNINGTON	TAS	7018
7201	MULDER Elaine Margaret	31A Merton Street bees31@bigpond.com	GLENORCHY	TAS	7010
7202	CURRAN Miss Jodie Lee	Not for publication			
7203	BALL Ms Jillian Irena	PO BOX 168	PARKVILLE	VIC	3052
7204	WOLFE Mr Desmond Campbell	PO BOX 168	PARKVILLE	VIC	3052
7205	MANCE Ms Patricia (Kay)	33 Broadview Crescent kmance@netspace.net.au	TREVALLYN	TAS	7250
7206	MARSTON Mrs Jessica	58 Dexter Street matthew.marston4@bigpond.co	WESTBURY	TAS	7303
7207	KERRISON Mrs Joyce	58 Dexter Street matthew.marston4@bigpond.com	WESTBURY	TAS	7303
7208	BIGHAM Mrs Barbara Jean	1 Lucy Place	PROSPECT	TAS	7250
7209	JONES Ms Alicia	90 Willow Street craigshaw.14@hotmail.com	INALA	QLD	4077

SCOTTISH, IRISH AND OTHER EXPERTS FROM UNLOCK THE PAST HISTORY & GENEALOGY CRUISE TO VISIT TASMANIA

UNLOCK THE PAST is running its 2nd history and genealogy conference cruise in November-December this year. They will bring together some of the best Scottish, Irish and other experts. Some of the presenters will be speaking at 9 of the 10 places the cruise ship is visiting from Auckland to Sydney, including Burnie.

BURNIE SEMINAR

Friday 2 December 2011

time, venue and cost to be advised

Burnie has agreed to support a seminar in Burnie on Scottish/UK research. Burnie Branch Library will be opened for cruise members who may be interested in Tasmania. The Branch is now located at 2 Spring Street in the Portside building within walking distance of the Cruise ship berth.

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM



Chris Paton

Chris Paton - **Irish resources online**

Rosemary Kopitke - **Findmypast**

Chris Paton - **Discover Scottish church records**

Consideration will be given to a separate seminar in/near Devonport if there is sufficient interest

Please contact

**Burnie Branch on 6435 4103
for current details or**

**[www.unlockthepast.com.au/
Scottish-Irish-seminars](http://www.unlockthepast.com.au/Scottish-Irish-seminars)**

ADVANCE NOTICE

from Alan Phillips of
Unlock the Past

3rd history and genealogy cruise early 2013

We will choose one of two options. This cruise will be in Hobart two days and, if we choose the February cruise, will also be in Burnie.

The cruise itself will be a wonderful experience with up to 100 topics covered by leading presenters in main presentations, workshops, special interest groups and more. However with more than usual time in port in Hobart and possibly Burnie, we will consider seminars on shore – for those who can't join us for the cruise.

We expect a large cruise group - maybe 200–300, a number of whom will have Tasmanian research interests.

More details at

www.unlockthepast.com.au/Cruise3-2013

SEARCH FOR TREASURE

June Stones (Member No.888)

THE fanciful dream of discovering a cache of buried treasure has captured the minds of many across the generations. This was certainly so in 1909 when a small party of Sprent residents set out early in July that year for Three Hummock Island in search of a large quantity of sovereigns believed to have been seen there in a cave in the previous months.

A decision to investigate the cave in which the money was supposedly located followed a report by a young boy named ROWLAND who claimed to have made the discovery while visiting the island with a Mr F G JAMES, of Ulverstone, who owned large tracts of land on King and Three Hummock islands.

According to the *Examiner* newspaper the youth briefly entered the cave alone as Mr James was reluctant to do so as the floor was covered with mullock and debris and was thought to be home to a hyena.

On emerging, the youth made no reference to finding treasure, either then or at any time, until he paid a visit to his family at Sprent. Soon after, his father, accompanied by Messrs C McPHERSON and W GOOLD left Ulverstone in a chartered yacht bound for the island. They returned empty-handed a few days later.

Although the trip was a disappointing one for the Sprent adventurers, it did provide one amusing anecdote. When hearing of the expedition a Tamar River fisherman and his mate, who were docked in Burnie at the time, decided to embark post haste for the same destination.

They arrived ahead of the Sprent trio and made a thorough search of the cave where the sovereigns were supposed to be concealed. After completing their search they began the return journey to where their boat was anchored, meeting the men from Sprent along the way. After exchanging greetings the Sprent party made enquiries about caves saying they were very interested in the subject. The Tamar fishermen said they shared a similar interest but as far as exploration went there were no caves on the island to compare with Mole Creek or Gunns Plains.

Undeterred by this disclosure the Sprent explorers proceeded on their way. However, when they entered the cave it immediately became apparent they had arrived too late for marks and tracks clearly showed a recent search. It dawned on them the Tamar fishermen had been on a similar mission.

According to the newspaper the myth surrounding the supposed existence of a considerable sum of money hidden somewhere on Three Hummock Island, had its beginnings many years previously when a 'wrecker' made his home there. As a result of his occupation he became possessed of a considerable fortune which he had reputedly 'planted' there. ◀

Examiner, 3 July 1909 p.5, 7 July 1909 p.6
and 16 July 1909 p.6

BURLINGHAM

MACQUARIE STREET, HOBART

'Burlingham' is reprinted from *A South Hobart Newsletter*, South Hobart Progress Association Inc. No. 285 July 2011, with the kind permission of the editor.



Recently, preparatory excavation work for the controversial Southern Outlet slip lane into Macquarie Street revealed colonial brickwork. To its credit, the Hobart City Council called in an archaeologist to investigate. The conclusion was that the find was a mix of convict and early twentieth century brick course work, probably an outbuilding, such as stables, to *Burlingham*—home of several notable Tasmanians—which was demolished to make way for the Southern Outlet link to Macquarie Street. The Tasmanian Heritage Council has approved construction of a new wall on the site without further archaeological investigation. *Burlingham*, at 328 Macquarie Street, was built on the original grant (1883) for this land to Thomas MASON in 1833. He was a controversial police magistrate in Van Diemen's Land, as well as being Muster Master of the Convicts, and was, thus, called Mister Muster Master Mason. Persuaded to come to Van Diemen's Land by his brother-in-law George FRANKLAND the notable surveyor, Mason obtained an additional plot of land on the upper side of his grant (where the oak tree stands today).

That extra bit was obtained from Charles SWANSTON, a notable player in Hobart's early days and later in the

settlement of Melbourne. There was a mortgage by Mason in 1834 with a house in the land description, so the original building was there in his time. In the 1840s, the property came into the hands of James Ludovic BURNETT. His father was Van Diemen's Land's first Colonial Secretary, and James became Chief Clerk of the Survey Department. As well, he was an artist and follower of John Skinner PROUT, which probably explains why Prout came to be living there, and did his 1844 sketch there titled 'Our Tasmanian Home'.

The house was enlarged in Burnett's time and it was he, it is believed, who planted the oak trees, the existing oak being the last survivor of three that fronted the property. Of interest, in the light of the brickworks that have been uncovered, is that, when Burnett died in January, 1858, the subsequent auction of the house described it as 'a well-built stone dwelling of 12 rooms, wine cellar, coach house, stable and other outbuildings'.

The house had been named *Burlingham* (also *Birlingham*) but it has not yet been determined who named it thus. *Birlingham* is a village in Worcestershire, England, on the Avon River, but, again, no name has been established as to who might have come from there. There were subsequent owners, notably Robert Patten ADAMS, judge, member of State Parliament in the House of Assembly, later Solicitor-General, then puisne judge. He died there in 1911, and a son from his second marriage would have inherited the property, but died in France in 1917 in the First World War. The Perpetual Trustees were his executors and, in 1932.

They sold the property to Archibald PARK (Robert VALENTINE can claim a record in mayoral service but Sir Archie Park did pretty well, too—an alderman before and after World War Two, when he became Deputy Lord Mayor. He also had two terms as Lord Mayor. There is a wealth of history contained (or buried) in

this one area! The Association has suggested to the HCC that there should be something like a clear panel in the footpath to show the ‘foundations’ as an indication of part of old Hobart. At the very least, an interpretation panel should be erected to note the site and its history. ◀



THE ST PATRICK'S RIVER FAMILIES

Shirley Foster

THERE is a farm at Targa on the St Patrick's River called *River Made*. It first belonged to Wm WHITE then, in 1889, it was bought by Mr PRESTADGE, a bridge builder, who had come from Lottah Junction where he and his wife had a boarding house. Then Mr PARTRIDGE's daughter Alice, who married Vern TOLE, carried on the *River Made* boarding house tradition for many years. It was a favourite retreat for Launceston's solicitors and business people who liked to fish for brown trout in the crystal clear stream.

No water was laid onto the house so each bedroom was furnished with a washstand, pitcher and china basin for the visitor's daily ablutions. The toilet was 'out the back'. Water for the kitchen was from tanks. Two buckets, which stood under an open dresser in the kitchen, were used for this purpose. PEDDLE chairs stood around the big table in the kitchen. A colonial oven was used for cooking. The old farm, which was the Targa Post Office for fifty years, was a popular meeting place for the district. The local school was at Myrtle Bank where Mrs SKEMP, the mother of the author Jack

Skemp, was the much loved school mistress.

After WW1 *Myrtle Park* became the community centre for the district. At first the ground was leased from the Agricultural Bank by Mr Guy HEADLAM, a returned service man and farmer. He had a private cricket club. Then a few years later a group of volunteers started the St Patrick's River Cricket Club. When the land became a public recreation ground, Connie Tole, (Mrs DEWIS), was responsible for getting a tennis club organised. Every weekend the 'Rec', as it was known, was alive with friendly families from this closely-knit community. Fortunately the permanent background of magnificent myrtles trees beyond the crystal clear river were included in park property, thus ensuring that the BROADHURST, GOFTON, Tole, IMLACK, Skemp families and others, some of whom had been in the district from 1840 when it was a primeval forests, could enjoy this little piece of heaven. ◀

DEATHS AT THE LAUNCESTON HOME FOR INVALIDS 1913—1930

Compiled by Laurie Moody (Member No.5835)

THIS article is a follow-up to the previous article on the Launceston Benevolent Society, *Tasmanian Ancestry* Vol.31 No.2. From 1895 the Launceston Benevolent Society managed the Invalid Depot, until it finally closed in 1912. A Home for Invalids was built in South Launceston in 1913, which ran until 1954, when it was replaced by Cosgrove Park Home for the Aged.

LEGEND

2bTPI: indicates two possible birth records see *Tasmanian Pioneer Index*.

1mTPI: indicates a possible marriage record see *Tasmanian Pioneer Index*.

1chr.TPI: indicates a possible christening record see *Tasmanian Pioneer Index*.

Name in Italics: indicates see marriage possibility.

* Indicates date is a strong possibility.

1913

BACK Robert	d. 22 December (1mTPI)
BASSETT Charles	d. 7 August (2mTPI)
BROOKS David Augustus	d. 7 September chr. 5/9/1837 New Norfolk
BURNS Peter	d. 21 February
DELL David	d. 24 November b. 11/8/1843 Launceston*
HALL Robert	d. 3 December (3bTPI) (2mTPI)
<i>JOLLY Leslie George Campbell</i>	d. 22 December
LAST Catherine	d. 14 June b. 25/4/1879 Deloraine*
<i>McLACHLAN Robert</i>	d. 5 November
MORTON Robert	d. 22 June (2bTPI) (1mTPI)

PLUMMER Thomas	d. 1 October (3bTPI) (2mTPI)
STONE Elizabeth	d. 16 September (2bTPI) (10mTPI)
WARRINGTON Mary	d. 11 August (2mTPI)

MARRIAGE POSSIBILITIES

JOLLY Leslie George Campbell (aged 23) married Lillian May RITCHIE (aged 20) at Launceston 21/8/1885

McLACHLAN Robert married Catherine DONALD 26/4/1875 at Launceston (both shown as adults)

1914

DALGLEISH Mary	d. 3 November (1bTPI) (1mTPI)
<i>HOLLY Hannah</i>	d. 19 July
<i>ILES Christopher</i>	d. 29 November
JONES Robert	d. 11 February (10b+TPI) (10m+TPI)
LAKE Susan	d. 4 December
PRIESTLY Rebecca	d. 4 September
ROCKETT Jessie	d. 1 June
ROLLS Thomas	d. 14 August
<i>WAGNER William</i>	d. 7 August (3bTPI)
WILSON Henrietta	d. 8 September (3bTPI) (2mTPI)

MARRIAGE POSSIBILITIES

HOLLY Stephen (aged 47) married *Hannah BAKER* (aged 36) at Hobart 27/7/1869

ILES Christopher (aged 38) married Bridget HARDIMAN (aged 23) at Sorell 10/6/1867

WAGNER William (aged 36) married Susan BECKETT (aged 15) at Fingal 27/12/1869

1915

<i>ARTIS Margaret</i>	d. 29 June
<i>FLETCHER Helen</i>	d. 20 January (1bTPI)
FRANCIS Mary Ann	d. 25 October (1bTPI) (3mTPI)
JONES Sarah Ada	d. 20 February (8bTPI) (10m+TPI)

MARSHALL Thomas d. 13 April
(9bTPI) (10mTPI)
O'FLAHERTY Michael d. 26 August
SARTAIN Thomas d. 18 August
SPOTSWOOD James Stafford d. 15 May

MARRIAGE POSSIBILITIES

ARTIS Joshua (aged 36) married Margaret SMITH
(aged 21) at Launceston 3/6/1869
FLETCHER James (aged 49) married Helen QUAILE
(aged 37) at Launceston 6/10/1883
SPOTSWOOD James Stafford married Isabel
GOODWIN at Launceston 11/9/1888 (as adults)

1916

BARRETT Samuel Knox d. 2 June
b. 11/11/1849
Launceston*
BROWN Christina d. 1 June
RENSHAW Henry George d. 26 February
BUCKLEY John d. 8 March
CARPENTER Henry d. 22 August
(2bTPI)
COKEN Frederick d. 17 September
HEATH Charlotte d. 13 May
RENSHAW Henry George d. 26 February
SUMPTER Mary d. 15 June
WANN James d. 23 August

MARRIAGE POSSIBILITIES

BARRETT Samuel Knox married Theodosia BIDDLE
at Launceston 31/5/1882
BUCKLEY John (aged 25) married Honora SULLIVAN
(aged 29) at Launceston 12/10/1882
CARPENTER Henry (aged 32) married Ann FUREY
(aged 24) at Hobart Town 18/11/1844
HEATH Thomas (aged 21) married Charlotte GREEN
(aged 23) at Longford 8/9/1859
SUMPTER Thomas (aged 43) married Mary PURCELL
(aged 43) at Hobart 13/8/1859

1917

ATTWELL Anne d. 18 March
BARFOOT Elizabeth d. 19 April
BRIDGFORD Thomas Ogden d. 6 March
CHAMP Mary Anne Jane d. 21 December
CRAIN John d. 23 March
HEANEY Edward d. 13 October
JAMES Mary Ann d. 13 April
(4bTPI) (10mTPI)
MARTIN Henry d. 9 February
(10b+TPI) (7mTPI)
MUNTING Frederick d. 3 June

NEVILL(E) Frank d. 25 June
(1b? TPI)
SUTTON William Valentine d. 4 August
chr. 14/2/1837
Hobart Town
d. 22 December
(10b+TPI) (6mTPI)
WRIGHT Henry

MARRIAGE POSSIBILITY

SUTTON William Valentine (aged 31) married Mary A
C MATHEWS (aged 33) at Pt. Sorell 1/6/1868

1918

ALSTON William Henry d. 7 March
BOYD Robert d. 26 January
(3bTPI) (5mTPI)
BROCKETT William d. 6 November
CHARNLEY Edward d. 21 December
DAVIS George d. 25 July
(10b+TPI) (10m+TPI)
DRAPER Albert d. 6 December
(2bTPI)
HEATH James Henry d. 13 July (2bTPI)
JAMES Garnet d. 26 February
SPINK Mary d. 26 November
(3mTPI)
TUCK Sarah d. 26 January
(1bTPI) (1mTPI)

MARRIAGE POSSIBILITY

HEATH James Henry (aged 28) married Amy
LAWSON (aged 20) at Longford 11/8/1881

1919

BYRON Joseph (John) d. 1 October
b. 7/12/1862 Pt. Sorell*
DOAK John d. 13 January
(2bTPI)
JOHNSTONE James d. 10 December
(8bTPI) (5mTPI)
LOVETT William d. 24 January
(5bTPI) (7mTPI)
LYALL George d. 23 February
(1bTPI) (1mTPI)
McINTOSH William d. 31 August
(3bTPI) (4mTPI)
O'MALEY John d. 14 July
SMITH Michael Ambrose d. 10 November
(2bTPI) (1mTPI)
VAUX William d. 4 August
(1bTPI)
WILSON James d. 26 August
(10b+TPI) (10m+TPI)

MARRIAGE POSSIBILITY

VAUX *William* (aged 23) married Sarah Jane ATTO
(aged 25) at Launceston 21/6/1874

1920

CHEESEMAN *William* d. 27 April
COOPER *Elizabeth* d. 26 August
(3mTPI)
COOTE *Alfred* d. 7 July
(2bTPI) (1mTPI)
DODERING *George Webb* d. 3 July
HARDING Nathaniel d. 20 August
b. 6/12/1858
Westbury*
TRIGGS *Jane* d. 16 June

MARRIAGE POSSIBILITY

HARDING Nathaniel (aged 37) married Catherine
BURKE (aged 24) at Launceston 29/1/1855

1921

ANDERSON *John* d. 2 September
(10b+TPI) (10m+TPI)
BOAG William d. 30 June
b. 4/9/1871 Westbury*
FITZGERALD *James* d. 23 February
(2bTPI) (5mTPI)
FRAKE *Elizabeth Shergold* d. 9 September
MEARS *Georgina* d. 17 August
SNOOKS William d. 16 September
(1bTPI)
WILKINSON *Thomas* d. 18 January
(8bTPI) (9mTPI)

MARRIAGE POSSIBILITIES

BOAG William (aged 33) married Ellen GRICE (aged
22) at Campbell Town 24/8/1865
SNOOKS William (aged 26) married Easter HOGGETTS
(aged 24) at Pt. Sorell 27/12/1867

1922

BESTON *Helena* d. 16 June
BROWN *Jane* d. 4 November
(10b+TPI) (10m+TPI)
BUTLAND *John* d. 29 May
(1mTPI)
DEENE *Kutta* d. 16 June
EVANS *Esther* d. 22 August
(3bTPI) (4mTPI)
FOLEY *Patrick Frederick* d. 17 March
(2bTPI) (2mTPI)
HENDERSON *Catherine* d. 14 April
(3bTPI) (4mTPI)

MILLS *James* d. 21 May
(3bTPI) (4mTPI)
SINGLETON *Mary* d. 1 December
(1mTPI)

1923

ALEXANDER *Mary* d. 8 November
(8mTPI)
DAYMON *Charlotte* d. 20 April
FERGUSON *William* d. 15 April
(7bTPI) (2mTPI)
FITZPATRICK *Matthew* d. 12 April
(3bTPI) (1mTPI)
GIBBON *Geoffrey* d. 15 November
McKAY *James* d. 31 October
(5bTPI) (3mTPI)
SPENCER *William* d. 14 October
(10b+TPI) (7mTPI)

1924

ARCHER *John* d. 7 January (10bTPI)
(9mTPI)
HAROLD *George* d. 9 April
HARRIS *Robert* d. 7 June
(7bTPI) (8mTPI)
MURPHEY *John* d. 16 October
WRIGHT *George* d. 12 August
(10b+TPI) (10m+TPI)

1925

ANDREW *John* d. 26 January
(2bTPI)
BRANDS *Isabella* d. 18 March
CAUSLEY *Mary Keziah* d. 2 October
GREEN *George* d. 26 February
(10b+TPI) (10m+TPI)
HAVILAND *Charles* d. 9 October
HOWARD *Adeline Florence* d. 3 October
chr. 13/12/1858
Launceston
JONES *Mary* d. 14 January
(10b+TPI) (10m+TPI)

1926

CARROLL *Albert Louis* d. 29 July
COLLINGS *Mary* d. 17 February
(1bTPI)
HAWKSLEY *Henry James* d. 30 January
(1mTPI)
HEALEY *Mary Ann* d. 4 June
(2bTPI)
MORRIS *James* d. 12 January
(10b+TPI) (5mTPI)

OWEN Frederick d. 3 March
(1chr. TPI)
 SCALES Arthur William d. 15 October
 STEARNES Mary Ann d. 21 July
 TAYLOR Martha d. 6 July
 (3bTPI) (4mTPI)

MARRIAGE POSSIBILITY

STEARNS Arthur Frederick (aged 26) married Mary Ann NOLAN (aged 22) at Launceston 6/6/1895

1927

BRANAGAN William d. 21 June
 BREMNER Ellen d. 25 March
 DAWSON Catherine d. 29 April (4bTPI)
 (2mTPI)
 DUNKLEY Frederick d. 5 June
 GUNERVIUS Neilsen d. 8 March
 HARRINGTON James d. 26 July
 (3bTPI) (1mTPI)
 SIMS Elizabeth d. 27 May
 (1bTPI) (3mTPI)
 WRIGHT John d. 6 January
 (10b+TPI) (10m+TPI)

MARRIAGE POSSIBILITY

BREMNER James (aged 37) married Ellen JOHNSON (aged 37) at Launceston 8/12/1888

1928

BANKS Hannah d. 14 August
 b. 1/9/1855 Morven*
 (2mTPI)
 LOVDEN Lewis d. 28 June
 MILLS Thomas d. 7 May
 (8bTPI) (3mTPI)
 PRICE George d. 15 September
 (6bTPI) (5mTPI)
 ROBINSON George d. 9 July
 (8bTPI) (10m+TPI)
 TORLEY Joseph d. 28 September
 (1bTPI)
 TRACEY Mary Ann d. 7 March
 b. 17/2/1852
 Launceston*
 WAUGH Sarah Ann d. 12 July

MARRIAGE POSSIBILITY

TORLEY Joseph married Emma SALTmarsh at Launceston 19/1/1869 (both shown as adults)
 WAUGH John (aged 21) married Sarah Ann ROTHWELL (aged 21) at Launceston 18/10/1871

1929

BULLER Sarah d. 29 August
 CAMPBELL Frederick d. 10 May
 CARTWRIGHT Felix d. 18 June
 CAVILLE Sarah d. 22 August
 b. 23/8/1879 Brighton*
 CLAYTON John d. 29 January
 (2bTPI) (4mTPI)
 McCANN Bernard d. 11 December
 (2bTPI)
 McGAUGHEY Jane d. 7 September
 b. 7/9/1893
 Launceston*
 MARTIN Mary Ann d. 9 October
 b. 23/11/1848
 New Norfolk*
 MOHR Elizabeth d. 10 October
 STAFFORD Sarah Ann d. 2 August
 THORNES Benjamin d. 28 November

MARRIAGE POSSIBILITY

BULLER James Alfred (aged 27) married Sarah HOPKINS (aged 25) at Oatlands 27/11/1879
 CARTWRIGHT Felix (aged 26) married Sophia Augusta MILLER (aged 19) at Launceston 19/8/1872
 MARTIN Mary Ann (aged 19) married John ANDERSON (aged 22) at Campbell Town 11/3/1872
 STAFFORD William (aged 23) married Sarah Ann DOUCE (aged 20) at Green Ponds (Kempton) 10/4/1879

1930

ATWATER Elizabeth Emily d. 26 May
 BRIGGS Mary Ann d. 10 September
 b. 4/11/1855
 Launceston*
 DAVENPORT Sarah Ann d. 14 March
 (1bTPI)
 GOYNE William Richard d. 17 December
 JOHNSON Mary Ann d. 28 February
 (8bTPI) (10m+TPI)
 McCULLOCH Emily d. 27 March
 SCOTT Alice d. 4 September
 (10b+TPI) (6mTPI)
 VENN James d. 17 January
 (2bTPI) (4mTPI)

MARRIAGE POSSIBILITY

GOYNE William Richard (aged 26) married Frances Margaret JOHNSTON (aged 19) at Ringarooma 21/1/1889

SAMUEL DAVIS DID LIVE!

Natalie Irvine

ON a recent visit to the Launceston Library as part of my research into my DAVIS ancestors, I noticed that my grandfather's reference showed him as 'presumed killed in WW1'.

This information is far from the truth, in fact he lived until 1951 which just goes to prove that assumptions can be made, when facts are not known.

Here is the actual story of Samuel Davis's life as I know it.

My grandfather was born at Glenore, Tasmania, on the 'Adelphi' estate on 27 December 1874. His parents were Samuel snr, born Whitehills 1846, and Elizabeth MONAGHAN, who were married at Westwood. They farmed extensively in the Westwood, Westbury, Carrick and Whitehills areas.

Grandfather's four siblings from that first marriage were:

- Maude Mary Davis, born Westwood in 1872, married James SCOLYER, born Longford
- Hubert Francis Davis, born Adelphi in 1879, married Nellie BARRY, born Whitemore
- Gertrude Davis, born Adelphi in 1882, married Ernest WALLER, born Launceston
- and Beatrice Davis, born Adelphi in 1887, married Edwin VINEY, born Morven.

I know nothing of grandfather's early life in Tasmania and can only assume he worked on farms in the area. His father returned to Glenore in 1904, after some years away, and Samuel left for New

Zealand in 1905. Was there no work on the farm, and what was the attraction of going to New Zealand at 31 years of age?

His brother Hubert Francis (Frank), had already left the district with a wife and two children, and had settled in Strahan. He had earlier fought in the Boer War, and went on to fight again in WW1, where he lost his left arm, and returned with the Military Medal. His wife had died in 1914, so he left his four children with his sister while he was away. He returned with a young bride and went on to have three more children.

When Samuel arrived in New Zealand he met my grandmother Edith. They may have met in Dunedin where she lived, as Samuel's aunt had settled there some time earlier.

By 1909 they were living in the Wairarapa province in the North Island. My father, the fourth Samuel (known always as Jim), was born in 1909, followed by Herbert Frank and Arthur. By 1916, Edith had left grandfather, and gone to Auckland with the two little boys and another partner. She promised my father she would return later to collect him when she had enough money for the train ticket. He was not to see his mother again until he was in his twenties, when he knocked on her door while selling insurance. He had some contact with her and his brothers, but by 1942 Arthur had died of post operative complications. I only met her twice.



Herbert Frank Davis
Photograph: Author's collection

Herbert, called Frank, married, had one son and went off to fight in WWII. His marriage failed on his return, and his son Frank Jnr was adopted by his stepfather. I always knew of his existence but not what happened to him, until I received a surprise call from him four years ago. What jubilation when we met soon after in New Zealand. When he walked in, he was a reincarnation of my father.

In 1916, when grandfather was 42 years old, he decided to enlist, and was duly accepted. He fought for nearly two years, but was invalided out with ill health. Did he meet up with his brother Hubert Francis while at the War, as we always had the photo of him at our place after Samuel died?

My father, aged 7, was given into the care of guardians, while Samuel was away. They were paid 3s 0d a week for his upkeep out of his Army pay. These kind loving people became his de-facto family, and he never lost contact with them, and stayed with them often over the ensuing years. I always thought that they were his family.

I know little of Samuel's life on his return from the War. He mostly worked as a labourer or shepherd in the Wairarapa district, but was involved in the government planting of trees in the Depression when work was scarce. He was a very keen greyhound breeder and trainer and won several trophies with his champion dog.

He died most tragically at 77, when his gas fire came on again in the night, and asphyxiated him.

My father Jim trained as a herd tester at Massey College and travelled the various provinces of the North Island. He met my mother on one of these farms. They married and had three children. He developed Multiple Sclerosis in his thirties, which put paid to him enlisting in 1939, and worked as a taxi telephonist until his retirement. He died in 1978, followed a few months later by his remaining brother Frank.

My brother and I grew up thinking we were the only ones of the Davis family left, and it was not until I received my grandfather's war records, I discovered he was born at Glenore. Since then I have been in contact with some of his cousins and have gleaned quite a lot of information.

I only have the one photo of Samuel taken when he was 70, plus the photograph of his brother Hubert. What I would dearly love, is to find any photos or information about him as a young man. That is why I am asking, is there anyone out there who would be able to help me in my quest? This would probably be in the hands of descendents of Maude, Hubert Frank Davis, Gertrude Waller or Beatrice Viney. I live in hope.



Samuel Davis and his dog
Photograph: Author's collection

Natalie Irvine née Davis
45 Surrey Road
Dandenong North 3175 Victoria AUS
phone: (03) 9790 0149
email: pufnbill@optusnet.com.au

NEWS FROM THE FEDERATION EZINE

September 2011

FFHS Chairman made a bard for *Services to family history in Cornwall*



The 2011 Gorsedd was held in Helston on the 3 September. Fifteen new Bards were initiated. One of these was the Chairman of The Federation of Family History Societies, David HOLMAN.

David was made a Bard for 'Services to family history in Cornwall'. Each Bard is asked to choose a Bardic Name in Cornish and this usually reflects the new Bard's interests, careers, places of origin or family names.

David chose his military career as the basis for his Bardic Name and chose RIFELWAS which is the Cornish for Rifleman as he is still serving as an Officer in the Reserve Forces. David served in the Royal Green Jackets and the regiment has merged to form a new Regiment, The Rifles. The generic name for all of those serving in the regiment is 'Rifleman' and David has chosen this as his Bardic name to reflect his service and those who have served or are still serving in the new county regiment.

David is only the 1,300th bard to be initiated since 1928 and is one of 485 living Bards. After the ceremony, David said, 'This is the greatest honour that Cornwall can bestow and it is a very proud moment for me. I am not proficient in Kernewek, the Cornish language, but am studying hard to be able to converse with other Bards, many of whom are fluent in this ancient Celtic language'. ◀

If you would like to subscribe to the Federation of Family History Society's *Ezine* please go to <http://www.ffhs.org.uk/ezine/subscribe.php> and visit the website at www.ffhs.org.uk

An Index to **DEATHS AND BURIALS IN THE PARISH OF ST JOHN'S NEW TOWN**

Compiled by
Rosemary Davidson
for the

Friends of the Orphan Schools
and St John's Park Precinct
New Town Hobart TASMANIA

Contact the Secretary
Friends of the Orphan Schools
PO Box 461 North Hobart TAS 7002
email: sales@orphanschool.org.au

www.orphanschool.org.au

LETTERS FROM A FREE SETTLER

John Miller (Member No.2839)

I recently gained possession of copies of two letters written by my great-great grandfather, Nathaniel OLDING, while living at Prosser's Plains (now Buckland) and sent to his brother Henry in England.

James, his younger brother, arrived in Van Diemen's Land on the *Hugh Crawford* in 1826. James wrote to Nathaniel singing the praises of Van Diemen's Land and Nathaniel was persuaded to follow him, leaving his three elder siblings, all male, including Henry, in England. After selling his property at Wincanton, a town in the shire of Somerset, England, Nathaniel purchased a ticket for his family for £600 (\$1,200) and £120 (\$240) for tickets for his two servants to Van Diemen's Land on the *Barque Children*. Three other children were born in the colony. After he operated several businesses in Hobart Town, Nathaniel took up a land grant at Prosser's Plains. It was from this property he named 'Wincanton' he wrote a letter to his brother Henry in 1844.

LIFE AS A FREE SETTLER 1844

The letter gives an insight to the lives of free settlers in a fledgling colony although its primary purpose was to

advise Henry what he would encounter should he wish to emigrate. The letter was divided into a number of points and a précis of them is follows.

Firstly, he recommended Henry should not emigrate because of his age (52) which would make it difficult for him to



live comfortably. If he did not like the Colony and had to return, the voyage would put him to much extra expense. Nathaniel writes 'If you can live where you are, I say stay'. If Henry was unable to live where he was situated then Nathaniel advised that if he came and was willing to work he need not starve. He also told his brother that he did not have room for anyone who was not industrious although he could use up to ten

more who were.

Secondly, he reminded Henry that Van Diemen's Land was a penal settlement, the repository of the 'sweepings' or the worst of the villains of Great Britain. He describes his anxious watch over his children and possessions in an environment which none in England could envisage. He says that his brother James enticed him out and if he had been told the truth he would never have sold up in Wincanton and left for Van Diemen's Land. 'To tell you truly, I am disgusted with the Colony', and that if he could afford to leave without affecting the

'prospects' of his children he would leave immediately.

Thirdly, he wrote that the prospects of the Colony were bleak to an extent that it was difficult to explain the system of 'Usury' which had ruined the future of the industrious colonist. The depression of agricultural produce and the collapse of trade had put the majority of settlers in an invidious position.

Fourthly, as an employer of convict servants he was dismayed at the 'abominable' conduct of the majority. He blames the local government for the system which he says will end badly.

Fifthly, farmers and settlers in the interior were in danger from plunder and petty thieving by the convicts. This was commonly called 'Weeding'. There was also a danger to lives and property from attacks from bushrangers or runaways, a situation which only developed after Nathaniel had been in the colony for a few years. He goes on to describe how each night he and his sons prepared a stand of arms against the expectation of a visit from some of these marauders. He then describes a happening a short time before at his neighbours 16 miles away, 'a short distance here.' The neighbours were attacked by eleven bushrangers and because they were prepared none of the inmates were hurt and three of the intruders were shot. Nathaniel saw the bushrangers carried on litters, past his house to the Probation Station.

Sixthly, the agricultural interest had regressed due to the depressed viability of farming. The price of sheep had fallen from £2 0s 0d (\$4) to 12s 6d (\$1.25) per head. Cattle at 10s 0d (\$1), a good hack horse for £5 0s 0d (\$10) which twelve months before would bring £50 0s 0d (\$100). All farm produce had dropped and wheat is brought 3s 6d (35c .) per

bushel. The depression has taken place over a period of eighteen months, cows he paid £16 0s 0d (\$32) per head for he was unable to get more than £16-£20 (\$32-\$40) with their calves and in full milk. This reduces employment of labourers in improvements to property. Workers starve as they have no relief money, no poor houses to go to and their only resource is to plunder.

Seventhly, concerning your prospects as an Engineer. If you think you will come and I strongly recommend you seriously consider it as you have no idea of the difficulties of making a voyage to the Antipodes. According to Nathaniel, he found it difficult even when his family members were Cabin Passengers on the *Eliza*. Remember it was expensive at £1,000 (\$2,000) which did not cover expenses from Wincanton in Somersetshire to 'Wincanton' in Prosser's Plains, Van Diemen's Land.

From here the letter is damaged and incomplete although it seems that part of it describes a falling out with his brother James to the point where Nathaniel's family do not speak to James.

CONDITIONS HAD CHANGED LETTER WRITTEN 1851

A second letter written seven years later shows conditions had changed due to the discovery of Gold. He says 'the well educated and the lowest characters are all at the diggings.' The quantity and quality of the Gold found in the colonies he states, is 'truly astounding' ... 'I have found Gold on my estate in so small a quantity that I have deferred working, or rather digging for, until harvest is over.'

He stated that two of his sons (John and Willoughby) went to the diggings in Victoria with 'scores of their young acquaintances'. His eldest son (Nathaniel

Henry, a solicitor) was living in Melbourne with his wife and child. One son, John, had sent him a Gold specimen and writes that he (John) has sold a nugget for £100. The news of Gold is truly astounding. No one can appreciate the effect on these colonies.

Convicts, working on his farm and bushrangers were still a problem as stated in the former letter. He says 'Were it not for the curse ... of Transportation of Convicts to this beautiful land and for this beautiful climate for Englishmen I would wish you all to come out – but we must wait a little longer with patience and confidence'. He goes on 'All that is wanting here is to look after your property and not waste, no one can fail of living – aye and well, – I work as do all mine – but it is far from being labourers – we have plenty of time for recreation – in our way here.'

He invites his niece, Mary Ann to visit. 'The best way for Mary Ann – (should she wish it) would be to come out under the care of a Lady who is respectable in Van Diemen's Land.' The lady would have left the Colony for a visit and would be available to accompany her when she returned. He says that he has known several ladies who have visited England and had since returned.

These two letters show the improvement in the Colony and an insight into the life of a free settler. There are comments on the imposition of the Convict System and slow reforms which ultimately resulted in the cessation of transportation in 1853. ◀

Index to

The Examiner

Index to Births, Deaths & Marriages
from *The Examiner Newspaper*
from 1900–1965

Now available—

Volume 1, 1900–1910	\$27.00
Volume 2, 1911–1920	\$33.00
Volume 3, 1921–1925	\$24.00
Volume 4, 1926–1930	\$27.00
Volume 5, 1931–1935	\$27.00
Volume 6, 1936–1940	\$35.00
Vol 7, 1941–1950-Births	\$30.00
Vol 8, 1941–1950-Deaths	\$30.00
Vol 9, 1941–1950-Marriages	\$30.00
Vol 10, 1951–1955-Births	\$28.00
Vol 11, 1956–1960-Births	\$30.00
Vol 12, 1951–1955-Deaths	\$30.00
Vol 13, 1956–1960-Deaths	\$30.00
Vol 14, 1951–1960-Marriages	\$30.00
Vol 15, 1961–1965-Deaths	\$30.00

Index to *The Examiner* Obituaries & Funerals:

1941–1950	\$25.00
1951–1960	\$25.00

Available from
TFHS Inc.
Launceston Branch
PO Box 1290
Launceston
TAS 7250

Plus \$10.50 pack 1–4

TFHS Inc. Members less 10% discount,
plus \$10.50 p&p

GEORGE STEELE

'A MAN OF BAD CHARACTER'

Don Bradmore (Member No.6756)

ALTHOUGH George STEELE was only in Van Diemen's Land for six years, quite a lot is known about him.¹ However, some intriguing questions are still unanswered. In many ways, he remains a man of mystery.

Firstly—with some certainty—here is what is known about him.

He was born in Suffolk, England in 1810, the son of William Steele and Caroline née COOPER.² In early June 1828, at 18 years of age, he arrived alone at Hobart Town aboard the vessel *Wanstead*, which sailed from London on 14 December 1827 carrying twenty-three passengers as well as a cargo of 'assorted goods'.³

Another of the *Wanstead* passengers was an ex-Royal Navy lieutenant by the name of Henry Boden TORLESSE, who was coming out to Van Diemen's Land with the intention of settling permanently.⁴ In England, he had been a friend of Steele's father and had undertaken to keep a close eye on the lad.⁵

By early 1830, Torlesse had married and taken up a land grant on the Clyde River at Hamilton.⁶ Not long afterwards, he introduced Steele to Mrs Sarah BROMLEY, the owner of an adjoining estate. Within a short time, Steele had moved onto her property, 'Montfort Farm', as overseer.⁷ Sarah Bromley was undoubtedly glad to have him there. At that time, she was in desperate need of support. In 1829, her husband, Dr Edward Foord Bromley, had returned to England in disgrace after having been dismissed as Colonial Treasurer following the discovery that a large sum of money had gone missing from the Public Chest. The authorities had seized most of his assets in order to offset the losses, and his departure left Sarah and their three young children, as well as his adult daughters from a previous marriage, Julia and Eliza Henrietta Bromley, in very difficult circumstances.⁸

¹ Geo. Steele arrived at Hobart Town on 3 June 1828 and remained in VDL until transported to Norfolk Island for cattle-stealing in early 1835. He did not return to Van Diemen's Land.

² See Steele's 'Certificate of Freedom', granted in NSW in December 1849. See also IGI Family Search, CD #144, PIN #3236096

³ Steele's arrival in VDL per *Wanstead: The Australian* (Sydney), Wednesday 4 June 1828, p.3

⁴ *Ibid.*, Torlesse is also listed as a passenger on *Wanstead*

⁵ Torlesse provided a reference for Steele when Steele made an application for a land

grant in 1829. The reference noted Steele's father as 'a much respected friend'.

⁶ Torlesse married Frances Hawthorne on 28 June 1829 – RGD36 1362/1829 New Norfolk. See also *Hamilton: The Way to the West* (Public History Partners, 1991), pp.23, 27 and 59

⁷ The exact date at which Steele moved on to the Bromley property is unknown, but in *The Hermit in Van Diemen's Land* (University of Queensland Press edition, 1964, pp) Henry Savery mentions Steele being there in 1829. The newspapers of 1829–34 provide many instances of Steele acting as 'overseer' on the property

⁸ Edward Foord Bromley and Sarah Greenow: marriage, 23 November 1820

There can be little doubt that Steele was also pleased to be there. Sarah Bromley was an attractive and intelligent woman of 32.⁹ Julia, whose health was poor, was 33. Eliza Henrietta, vibrant, out-going and charming, was 24.¹⁰ Still only 20 years old himself, it is likely Steele relished his role as their sole male provider and protector.

However, his relationship to the women was soon quite different. Within a year of moving in, he and Eliza Henrietta had married and, thus, he became Sarah's son-in-law. Now part of the family, he began to play an even greater role in the management of the property.¹¹

On 29 November 1834, all this changed dramatically. Steele was charged in the Supreme Court at Hobart Town with 'cattle-stealing' and found guilty. A formal sentence of death was recorded against him on 6 December. This was later commuted to transportation to life, and in early 1835, he was put aboard *Lady Kennaway* and taken off to distant Norfolk Island.¹²

For the next several years, his steadfastly loyal wife pleaded with the authorities to show him some leniency. Her case was that he had always been a good man but one who had been easily led astray by bad company. The records seem to show her pleas fell on deaf ears.¹³

Nevertheless, only eight years after he was transported to Norfolk Island, Steele was back in Sydney.¹⁴ On 19 September 1843 he was granted a Ticket-of-Leave. On 7 November 1849, still in Sydney, he received his Certificate of Freedom.¹⁵

He never returned to Van Diemen's Land. On 31 December 1849, at Morpeth, near Maitland, New South Wales, he married again, probably bigamously. His new wife was Mary Ann Rebecca HANSLOW (also seen as Hounslow).¹⁶ It was to be a short-lived marriage. Early in 1855, Steele died at Camperdown, a suburb of Sydney. He was 45 years of age.¹⁷

(RGD36 419/1820, Hobart). The marriage produced four children but the eldest, Sarah Jane Bromley, died aged 5, in 1826 (RGD34 1237/1826).

⁹ See P R Eldershaw's brief biography of E F Bromley: <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/bromley-edward-foord-1829>

¹⁰ Julia and Eliza Henrietta Bromley arrived in VDL per *Minstrel* 11 Jan. 1822. See *The Sydney Gazette & NSW Advertiser*, 11 January 1822, p.3. Julia Bromley never married. In 1841 she was admitted to the New Norfolk Asylum where she died, 'a destitute epileptic', in 1852.

¹¹ Steele's marriage to Eliza (as Elizabeth Henrietta) Henrietta Ford Bromley: RGD36 1523/1830, New Norfolk. See also Note 7, above.

¹² See *Colonist* Hobart, 16 December 1834, p.1; see also *Hobart Town Courier*,

19 December, 1834, p.2. Steele's police number was 1936. See Steele's 'Conduct Record': TAHO CON31-1-40, Image 98.

¹³ Two letters written by Eliza Henrietta pleading for leniency have been preserved and are available at TAHO. The first written on 6 November 1837 is addressed to Sir John Franklin, who succeeded Geo Arthur as Lieutenant-Governor; the second, of 27 November 1837, is addressed to Captain John Montague (sic), Secretary to both Arthur and Franklin.

¹⁴ Steele's sentence was reduced when, in 1838, the Government policy of a life sentence for cattle-stealing was reduced to fifteen years. See Lynda Reid, 'A Tale of Two Georges', *The Genealogist*, March 2000.

¹⁵ Steele's TOL: 43/2253, 14 September 1843; Certificate of Freedom: 49/431, 7 December 1849

¹⁶ Steele's marriage to Mary Ann Rebecca Hanslow: NSW Reg: 1849, Morpeth

¹⁷ Steele's death: 26 February 1855 (NSW Reg: Vol. No: V1855178 43A, 1855)

And now for those unanswered questions: *First, was Steele really a 'man of bad character'?*

That description of him was given by Margriet ROE, co-editor of a 1964 edition of Henry SAVERY's classic, *The Hermit in Van Diemen's Land*, a series of sketches describing the manners, foibles and morals of the residents of Hobart and surrounding districts during the 1820s. The book was originally published in serial form in the *Colonial Times*, Hobart, in 1829—an event which cost its publisher an £80 fine for libel.¹⁸

In the book, Savery describes Steele, whom he had met on his travels, as:

... a young, chubby-looking man ... under the middle stature, quite raw and inexperienced in the ways of life ... If he were to laugh less loudly at his own wit, and to remember how beautifully modesty of speech and manner becomes a youth of his age, he might pass muster for a Gentleman.¹⁹

That is certainly far from flattering – and later Savery mentions that he had first met Steele in a billiards-parlour, that he had also been with him 'at one or two other places, best known to ourselves', and that his speech was frequently coarse in front of women. But does any of that mean that he was utterly 'bad'? Savery seems to see him more as a uncouth, boastful and immature boy rather than an evil man.²⁰

But what of his conviction for cattle-stealing? Doesn't that illustrate that he was 'a man of bad character'?

The fact of the matter is that, although he was convicted of stealing 'cattle', he was actually charged with having stolen only *one* ox, and it was for the theft of this single animal that he was transported.

At his trial, he claimed that he had taken the ox from a neighbour's farm because he was certain that it rightfully belonged to Sarah Bromley. Unfortunately, the jury did not believe him and he was found guilty as charged. Interestingly, a newspaper of the day reported that the evidence against him was 'very slender and unsatisfactory'.²¹

Second, was there something improper in the relationship of Steele and Sarah Bromley?

In his short entry on Dr Bromley, in *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, the eminent historian P R ELDERSHAW mentions that 'in 1831, all of Sarah's assigned servants were removed because of irregularities in her household', but he provides no detail.²² What were these 'irregularities'? It seems clear that they had something to do with Steele who had moved onto the property in 1829 – but what? Was there some kind of 'dalliance' between Steele and Sarah? That seems unlikely because within twelve months Steele had married Eliza Henrietta and become Sarah's son-in-law. Nevertheless, it does seem that *something* was going on! Henry Savery mentions

¹⁸ For reference to the libel, see cover notes in Henry Savery, *The Hermit in Van Diemen's Land* (1829), edited by C Hadgraft and M Roe. (This edition published by University of Queensland Press, 1964.) See Margreit Roe's description of Steele as 'a man of bad character', p.210

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, p.146

²⁰ *Ibid*

²¹ *Colonist* (Hobart), 16 December 1834, p.1, as reported in 'R v Steel, Decisions of the Nineteenth Century Tasmanian Superior Courts', <http://www.law.mq.edu.au/sectas/html/1834Cases.RvSteel,1834.htm>

²² See *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Vol.1., A–H, pp.155–6

that he was aware of the unusual relationships within the household when he spent an evening at the Bromley residence in November 1829:

Upon his entering the room in a rude and boisterous manner, he [Steele] bade me be seated, without saying one word by way of introducing me to the ladies [Sarah and Eliza], and his mode of treating them afterwards equally perplexed me, particularly the darker of the two [Sarah] ... it being too free for a brother, too indifferent for a lover, and he was too young to allow me to think of him as a husband, - too old for a son - altogether puzzling me exceedingly!²³

‘Too free for a brother’, ‘too indifferent for a lover’, ‘too young for a husband’, ‘too old for a son’? Savery is intrigued!

Whatever the irregularities were, however, they appear not to have affected the marriage of Steele and Eliza Henrietta adversely. By the time Steele was taken away less than five years later, it had produced four children.²⁴

Third, was the man who married Mary Ann Rebecca Hanslow in Sydney in 1849 the same George Steele who was transported to Norfolk Island for cattle-stealing at Hamilton, Tasmania, in 1835?

Although dates and places seem to fit, there is some doubt the man who married Mary Ann Hanslow was ex-convict George Steele. The biggest problem is that records give the bridegroom’s name as ‘George *Mealing* Steele’. Where did the name ‘Mealing’ come from? No evidence has been found of George Steele using that name in Van Diemen’s Land.

²³ Savery, *op.cit.*, p.150

²⁴ Births: Frederick Edward Steele – Tas. Reg: 3681/1830; Lawrence George Steele – 236/1846; Isabella Marie Louise Steele – 7341/1836; and Rose Ann de Montfort Steele – 7340/1835

Nor can the ‘Mealing’ be explained as a mistake on the marriage entry. Records in NSW show Mary Ann Rebecca Steele gave birth to four children, one of which was given its father’s name—‘George Mealing Steele’.²⁵ It is also noted neither the Ticket-of-Leave issued to Steele in 1843 nor the Certificate of Freedom issued in 1849 refer to him as ‘George Mealing Steele’. Both are in the name of ‘George Steele’.

On the other hand, a death certificate issued in Sydney in February 1855 bears the name ‘George Steele’ (no ‘Mealing’), and it is quite clear this is the death certificate of the husband of Mary Ann Rebecca Steele née Hanslow—less than two years later she re-married in Sydney.²⁶

So, could George Steele have simply given himself the middle name ‘Mealing’ when marrying Mary Ann Rebecca? He seems to have been fond of giving himself airs and graces of that kind. For instance, his Certificate of Freedom, issued just prior to the marriage, shows his trade or calling as ‘Surgeon’—and that is far from the truth!²⁷

A final note: It is ironic that Steele, whose life was so terribly affected by his theft of an ox, should have died as he did. He was gored to death by a bull!²⁸ ◀

²⁵ George Mealing Steele was the third of four children of George Steele and Mary Ann Rebecca Hanslow. He was born in 1852 but did not survive infancy.

²⁶ On 26 November 1856 Mary Ann Rebecca Steele married Edward Carter in Sydney (NSW Reg: 725/1856) and had another six children

²⁷ See Note 15 above. It is interesting to note that Eliza Henrietta’s father had been a Royal Navy surgeon before his appointment as Colonial Treasurer in VDL in 1820

²⁸ As noted by Reid, see Note 14 above

THE HUNT FOR JOHN PERKINS

Tony and Coralie Strawn (Member Nos.7084 and 7085)

For longer than we can remember we have hunted for Coralie's great-grandfather John. We knew her grandfather was Charles PERKINS and his father was John—but could we find him? No way. We continually came across the wrong Charles.

While reading a reference book about the Royal Hobart Hospital, Coralie found the death of John Perkins, a tanner by trade, who died in 1875. John, aged 56, died of acute bronchitis and asthma. The record showed John and a Marie WICKS were tried at the Central Criminal Courts in January 1841 for 'coining', a 'Royal' offence. They were both sentenced to fifteen years transportation and arrived in Hobart Town 1 September 1841 on the *Layton* (4).

At John's trial he was reported to be in a 'rooming-house' with his wife Mrs Perkins (no first name given) and paying 7d per day to live there. Perhaps they were married. We appear to lose sight of her after his trial.

John was described as 5 feet 2 inches tall, brown hair, brown eyes, no whiskers, large head, oval face, fresh complexion, medium mouth and nose with several tattoos.

There was a good reason for us to pick-up on this John. The dates fitted, and there are several references to tanners and leather workers in the family. Charles is described as a tannery workman on his marriage certificate he at New Town.¹

¹ Charles and Sarah married at the *Christian Temple*, 13 July 1895, by Rev. John Anderson.

We know the family of Charles' wife, Sarah Fanny RATCLIFFE, was of the Jewish faith.

We have been unable to locate marriage details for John Perkins and Emma HOWLETT or permission to marry, but have found records of their nine children.

We have Muster Rolls for 1846 and 1849 and John was working for a Mr MORTON or Dr McMARTEZ? at New Norfolk.

Back to Emma Howlett, possible wife of John. Emma's parents James Howlett and Mary INGLESBY were also convicts tried at the Old Bailey and transported. James arrived on the *Phoenix* 20 May 1822 and Mary on *Mary* in 1831.

Coralie can also trace her convict to James RATCLIFFE, transported in 1836 on the *Elphinstone*. James was found guilty at Manchester with three females of stealing twenty sovereigns, the property of one Charles LOWNDES. They were sentenced to fourteen years transportation. James was convicted twice before, once for theft and once for drunkenness. James was granted permission to marry Elizabeth HANSLOW, a free woman, in 1843, and was granted a conditional pardon on 3 July 1844, and approved in July 1845.

James and Elizabeth had fifteen children. Their son William Metcalf married Julia COHEN on 22 April 1872, and had ten children, one of whom was Sarah Fanny who married Charles Perkins on 13 July 1895.

Charles and Sarah had eleven children, one of whom was Donald Arthur born 13

September 1907—Coralie's father, but this is another story.

COHEN family

Isaac COHEN was born 26 April 1826, baptised 18 July 1826 at St Mary's Marylebone London. In 1852 Isaac married Eliza VINCENT (born VDL) at Christ Church Moorabool Street Geelong. Their daughter Julia (Coralie's great grandmother) was born 13 September 1854 at Ballarat. Julia married William Metcraft Ratcliffe in 1872 at St Mark's Church, Bellerive. He died on 19 April 1933 and was buried at Cornelian Bay.

Other Cohens we found among records: in *The Sick & Poor In Tasmania 1870*.² Frances Ellen (born 9 March 1862) and Henry John Cohen (born 10 April 1865) were first granted aid in February 1870. Death of father and desertion by mother noted. Twins Julia and William were admitted to the Queens Orphanage 15 January 1870. Henry Cohen age 67 with bronchitis, was granted weekly aid of 5s on 1 August 1870. Is he the grandfather of these children?

We are seeking anyone else claiming these people, and also wish to know what happened to the mother. ◀

The Cornwall Chronicle

A Mrs. Hill, of Canning-street, was delivered of a still-born child, on Thursday last, which had eleven teeth cut at the time – six in the under, and five in the upper jaw.

**Launceston, Tasmania
Saturday 21 April 1855**

² Compiled by I Schaffer and Joyce Purtscher, 1994. Self published.

Tasmanian Family History
Society Inc.

2011 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 2011

Further information and entry
forms available from

TFHS Inc Branch Libraries
or the
Award Coordinator
PO Box 191
Launceston
TAS 7250

or email
secretary@tasfhs.org

Presentation of the award will be
announced at the AGM
in June 2012.

DESCENDANTS OF THE TITANIC SURVIVORS

*The following is sent on behalf of
Titanic Heritage Trust*

As the 100th Anniversary of *Titanic* approaches, Titanic Heritage Trust are pleased to announce the creation of a database of descendants of survivors and of all those who were lost on 15 April 1912.

If anyone has a connection or knows someone who has a connection with the *Titanic* please contact the Titanic Heritage Trust.

Also, as part of the 100th Anniversary events are being planned; we are hoping to get together in one place as many as possible of the descendants of survivors and any descendants of those who were lost when *Titanic* sank.

If you have any information which would help us please contact:

Howard Nelson
Titanic Heritage Trust,
The Techno Centre, Puma Way,
Coventry CV1 2TT UK.

Telephone: 024 76236556 or email
enquiries@titanicheritagetrust.org.uk

Thank you for your help.

Roger Lewry
FFHS Archives Liaison
archives.liaison@ffhs.org.uk

A Photographic index to **The Tasmanian Mail**

This series covers the photographs which appeared in *The Tasmanian Mail* from 1894–1935

Now available—

Volume 1, 1894–1904—\$27.00
Volume 2, 1905–1908—\$27.00
Volume 3, 1909–1912—\$27.00
Volume 4, 1913–1916—\$27.00
Volume 5, 1917–1920—\$27.00
Volume 6, 1921–1922—\$27.00
Volume 7, 1923–1924—\$27.00
Volume 8, 1925–1926—\$27.00
Volume 9, 1927–1928—\$27.00
**NEW!! Volume 10,
1929–1930—\$27.00**

Also available—

The Kelso Chronicle

Index to BDM notices and personal items of interest to Family Historians which appeared in *The Kelso Chronicle*, Scotland from 1855–1865.

1855–1857—\$22.00
1858–1859—\$22.00
1860–1861—\$22.00
1862–1863—\$22.00
1864–1865—\$22.00
Series now complete.

Both series available from
TFHS Inc. Launceston Branch
PO Box 1290
Launceston
TAS 7250

Plus \$10.50 pack 1–4
TFHS Inc. Members less 10% discount,
plus \$10.50 p&p

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.

Available from Resource Manager

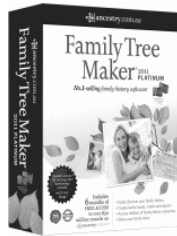
\$25.00 each + \$4.50 p&p

TFHS Inc. Hobart Branch
PO Box 326

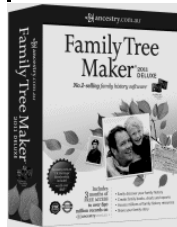
Rosny Park TASMANIA 7018
email library@hobart.tasfhs.org

Family Tree Maker 2011

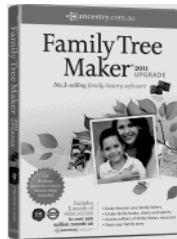
For Windows XP(SP2/3), Vista
& Windows 7 only



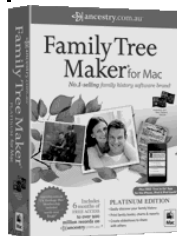
Platinum Edition is the full *Family Tree Maker 2011* Platinum Australian/New Zealand Edition in a retail box, Australian and UK data disks, getting started guide, tutorial DVD, Companion Guide book (PDF file) and a six-month *Ancestry Australia* subscription—\$99.95



Deluxe Edition is the full *Family Tree Maker 2011* Deluxe Australian/New Zealand Edition in a retail box, getting started guide, tutorial DVD, Companion Guide book (PDF file) and a three-month *Ancestry Australia* subscription—\$60.00



Upgrade Edition is an upgrade to *Family Tree Maker 2011* Deluxe Australian/New Zealand Edition for owners of a previous version of *Family Tree Maker*. To be eligible for this upgrade proof of purchase is required. Includes a one-month *Ancestry Australia* subscription—\$40.00



For Intel-based Mac's running OSX 10.5 or later. **Platinum Edition** is the full *Family Tree Maker for Mac* Platinum Australian/New Zealand Edition in a retail box, Companion Guide book (PDF file) and a six-month *Ancestry Australia* subscription—\$99.95

Burnie Branch

PO Box 748 Burnie 7320
Ph 0427 354 103

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. **Perhaps the publication may also be held in your local library?**

100 YEARS—A *Sunday Tasmanian* Supplement

Published during the period 27 June–29 August 1999; this was a series of ten special features dedicated to Tasmania's role in the first century of the Commonwealth of Australia.

PIONEER FAMILIES—200 Years of European Settlement

This ninety-six page, special feature was published on 17 November 2003.

It features articles on the families of John and Adam AMOS; the ARCHERS; John BADCOCK, Peter and Elizabeth BREWER; Thomas BURBURY; Daniel BURKE; the CLARKES of Quorn Hall; David COCKER; George COULSON; The CRAWES; Alexander FARQUAR; Jonathan GRIFFITHS; Charles GRINING; Ronald Campbell GUNN; Heinrich HAAS; John Joseph HEALEY; Private James HORTLE; James HOW; Britton JONES and Sophia KIRK; the McSHANES; George and Mary Ann MEREDITH; MILLERS of the East Tamar; James MUSKETT; the O'HALLORANS; Thomas and Isabella O'MAY; John Davis PEARNS; William Henry

ROSEVEAR; Gerald Gabriel ROSS-ITER; James SCOTT and Michael WALSH; BARDENHAGENS and SULZBERGERS; George TAYLOR; John TEVELEIN; Bartholomew Boyle THOMAS; Henry Lewis von STIEGLITZ; and William Levitt WELLS.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE FHS—Cemetery Pack 2005–2010

This three CD, pack contains the Nottinghamshire FH Society's database of transcribed memorial inscriptions of the gravestones in Nottingham:

Church (Rock) Cemetery: Over 28,000 records are searchable.

General Cemetery: Over 20,000 records are searchable.

Basford Cemetery: The disk contains the transcriptions and photographs of all accessible/readable inscriptions.

THE WOMEN OF THE EAST LONDON

This A4 manuscript, compiled by Colleen Arulappu, tells the story of the voyage of the convict ship, *East London*, from Ireland to Van Diemen's Land in 1843. In particular, it is the story of those who died during the journey.

'There were 133 women convicts and 49 children sent on the voyage ... Nineteen of the women died on the voyage, a very large number compared to other convict ships where fatalities were light in almost every case.'

POWYS FHS STRAYS INDEX—Vol. 1: MARRIAGES

This A5 booklet was published in 1984. Included in the list are 'strays', who were married in another parish within the

county of Powys, or in another county. There are also a few non-Powys 'strays' from adjoining counties, particularly some which may be connected to Powys families. The list is arranged in alphabetical order, based on the grooms name only, and ranges across the years 1607 to 1906.

CONVICTS OF LINCOLNSHIRE

This A4 list was originally published by the Lincolnshire County Council Recreation Services. The list is in chronological order and names those convicts transported from the County of Lincolnshire to Australia between 1789 and 1840. Details of age, date of sentence, ship, destination, etc are given.

TOWARDS BRIGHTER HORIZONS: Freeman Family History, 1813–2000

This A4 book was first printed in June 2004. It starts with details of Edward

FREEMAN, a coal miner from Worcester, England, who was convicted and transported to VDL. On completion of his term in the penal system, he settled in Colebrook and from there his descendents have spread near and far. They have connected with other pioneer families of the Lower Midlands and particularly the East Coast of Tasmania. Other family names of interest are BUXTON, CASTLE, GRAY, QUIN, RADFORD, etc.

RAVENSDALE REMEMBERED: 1925 TO 1955

This A4 book was produced, post 1999, following a reunion of past students and teachers to celebrate 60 years since this school opened. It is full of history of the school, the children who attended, the East Coast of Tasmania families the pupils came from, and the general life and history of the community around Ravensdale.

Australia's No. 1 website for family history resources*

AUSTRALIAN COLLECTIONS

- NEW: New South Wales Gaol Description and Entrance Books 1818-1930
- NEW: New South Wales Registers of Coroners' Inquests 1796-1942
- Australia Birth, Marriage & Death Index
- Australian Convict Collection
- Queensland Passenger Lists 1848-1912
- Victorian Passenger Lists 1839-1923
- Australian Electoral Rolls 1903-1954
- NSW Free Settlers 1826-1922
- Census of NSW (1828)

UK COLLECTIONS

- NEW: 1911 England and Wales Census Summary Books
- NEW: London Baptisms, Marriages and Burials 1538-1812
- NEW: Fife, Scotland, Voters Lists 1832-1894
- UK Prison Hulk Registers 1802-1849
- All UK Census up to 1901
- London Parish Records (from 1538)
- Birth, Marriage and Death Indexes
- Incoming Passenger Lists 1870-1960
- England Alien Arrivals 1810-11 & 1826-1869

PLUS MANY MORE COLLECTIONS...

Join today and get your **FIRST 14 DAYS FREE!***

 **ancestry.com.au**
Discover your story®

*comScore 2010

*Terms and conditions apply, see www.ancestry.com.au for further details

LIBRARY NOTES

Society Microfiche Roster

	22/11/11	20/02/12	21/05/12	20/08/12	19/11/12
	17/02/12	18/05/12	17/08/12	16/11/12	22/02/13
Burnie	Set 4	Set 5	Set 3	Set 2	Set 1
Devonport	Set 5	Set 1	Set 4	Set 3	Set 2
Hobart	Set 1	Set 2	Set 5	Set 4	Set 3
Huon	Set 2	Set 3	Set 1	Set 5	Set 4
Launceston	Set 3	Set 4	Set 2	Set 1	Set 5

Set 1 1891 Census Indexes for Scotland

Set 2 GRO Consular Records Index

Set 3 Griffith's Valuation for Ireland Series

Set 4 National Probate Calendars 1853–1943 and AGCI

Set 5 Old Parochial Records, Scotland and

Lilian Watson Family History Award 2010 entries

Devonport & Launceston Microfiche Roster

	22/11/11	20/02/12	21/05/12	20/08/12	19/11/12
	17/02/12	18/05/12	17/08/12	16/11/12	22/02/13
Devonport	Set 1	Set 2	Set 1	Set 1	Set 2
Launceston	Set 2	Set 1	Set 2	Set 2	Set 1

Set 1 GRO BDMs Index 1943–1946

Set 2 GRO BDMs Index 1947–1950

Society Sales

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. Publications

Payment by Visa or MasterCard—now available (mail order only)

Mail orders (including postage) should be forwarded to:

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

Books	<i>Van Diemens Land Heritage Index</i> , Vol. 3 (p&p \$5.50)	\$11.00
	<i>Van Diemens Land Heritage Index</i> , Vol. 4 (p&p \$5.50)	\$11.00
	<i>Van Diemens Land Heritage Index</i> , Vol. 5 (p&p \$5.50) **	\$25.00
	<i>Tasmanian Ancestry Index Volumes 1–20</i> (p&p \$5.50) **	\$22.50
	<i>Tasmanian Ancestry Index Volumes 21–25</i> (p&p \$4.50) **	\$15.00
	CD-Rom <i>Tasmanian Federation Index</i> (p&p \$2.50)	\$231.00
	CD-Rom <i>TAMIOT</i> (p&p \$5.00)	\$50.00
	Microfiche <i>TAMIOT</i> (p&p \$2.00)	\$50.00

** members discount applies

LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS

Hobart Branch

Accessions—Books

- *Luttrell of Dunster & Van Diemen's Land [Q 929.2 LUT]
- *Anderson, C L; *Convicts of Lincolnshire* [Q 365.6092 CON]
- ♠ Anderton, B B; *Memories of Rostrevor* [Q 994.64 AND]
- *Arulappu, C; *The Women of 'East London'* [Q 365.9046 ARU]
- *Baker, D (comp.); *All or Nothing—Port Esperance Regatta, 150 Years*
[Q 797.1099462 BAK]
- *Batty, M; *The Kirby Riots* [942.6725 BAT]
- *Bicheno Community Development Assoc; *History of Bicheno* [994.64 HIS]
- *Cartland, G & J; *The Irish Cartlands & Cartland Genealogy* [Q 929.2 CAR]
- *Carver, D. (comp.); *Powys FHS Strays Index—Marriages* [929.3109429 STR]
- *Charlwood, D; *The Long Farewell* [Q 325.94 CHA]
- *City of Sydney; *Old Sydney Burial Ground—City of Sydney, 1792–1819*
[Q 929.32099441 OLD]
- *Close, M; *Historic Stanley* [994.65 CLO]
- *Cockerill, J; *A Brief History of Cygnet* [Q 994.62 COC]
- *Critchett, J (ed); *Richard Bennet's Early History of Port Fairy* [994.57 CRI]
- *Davis, R; *Orangeism in Tasmania* [267.1809946 DAV]
- *Dennison, C; *Cheers! A revealing look at Hobart's Historic Pubs* [Q 994.61 DEN]
- *Dibben, A A; *Title Deeds, 13th–19th Centuries* [346.04 DIB]
- *Dobson, D; *Ships from Scotland to Australasia 1820–1860* [357.50994 DOB]
- *Education Dept and Parks & Wildlife; *Port Arthur Historic Site—Relining History.*
[Q 994.64 REL]
- *'Examiner' Supplement; *Faces of 1891* [Q 994.65 FAC]
- *'Examiner' Supplement; *Pioneer Families—200 Years of European Settlement.*
[Q 994.6 PIO]
- *'Examiner' Supplement; *The Settlers—The British in the Derwent, 1803–1804.*
[Q 994.602 SET]
- *Finkel, G; *Victoria, 1834–1900* [994.61 TEN]
- ♠ Freeman, G & G; *Towards Brighter Horizons* [Q 929.2 FRE]
- *Geeveston Archives & History Society; *Geeveston History Walk, no 2* [994.62 GEE]
- *Gillham, J; *T.F.H.S. Inc.—Members' Interests, 1998–2011* [Q 929 TAS]
- *Godfrey, E; *A Life Album—Victor Claud Whyman* [929.2 WHY]
- *Godfrey, E; *Seed Before The Wind* [823.3 GOD]
- *Gregory's; *Gregory's Sydney Street Directory; 7th Ed.* [912.9441 GRE]
- *Harper, J; *The Davis Family of Bruny Island, Tasmania* [Q 929.2 DAV]
- *Harper, J & D Knight; *Gray of Hobart Town & Port Esperance, Tasmania*
[Q 929.2 GRA]
- *Hamlyn Publishing; *The Hamlyn Historical Atlas* [Q 911 HAY]
- ♠ Hastie, J G & G Freeman; *Ravensdale Remembered* [Q 994.64 HAS]

- *Jones, P, et al; *Jones, Benjamin & Mary—A Brief History* [Q 929.2 JON]
- *Le Fevre, M; *Historic Sites in the City of Gosnells: Kenwick Pioneer Cemetery* [929.32099412 LEF]
- *Loney, J; *King Island Tourist & Historical Guide* [994.67 LON]
- *McCormick, P; *The Royal Charter* [Q 387.5 ROY]
- *‘Mercury’ Supplement; *Hobart Mercury—140 Years, 1854–1994* [Q 994.6 HOB]
- *Mercury Newspaper Supplement; *Hobart’s Bicentenary, 1804–2004* [Q 994.61 HOB]
- *Mercury Newspaper Supplement; *Our Top 100 Tasmanian Heritage Icons* [Q 919.46 OUR]
- *Mercury Newspaper Supplement; *Share the Journey—150 Years The Mercury* [Q 079.946 SHA]
- *Milne, J W; *Gladesville’s Sesquicentenary Souvenir Booklet* [994.41 HIS]
- *Mitchell, J S & F; *Clackmannanshire Monumental Inscriptions.* [929.3209413 FLE]
- *Morris, M; *Placing Women* [Q 305.4072096 MOR]
- *Morrison, M; *Aaron Price The Unsung* [Q 929.2 PRI]
- *Nobbs, R; *St. Barnabas & The Melanesian Mission, Norfolk Is.* [Q 289.9482 NOR]
- *Peake, A G (ed.); *National Register of Ship Arrivals, 1999 edition* [387.50994 PEA]
- *Sadgrove, M; *Durham Cathedral—The Shrine of St. Cuthbert* [Q 942.865]
- ♠ Shaw, E C; *My Memories laced with East Coast Tales of Van Diemen’s Land* [Q 994.64 SHA]
- ♠ Shoalhaven F.H.S; *Shoalhaven Pioneers & Settlers, to 1920* [Q 994.41 SHO]
- *Struthers, D; *William Inman* [Q 929.2 INM]
- *‘Sunday Tasmanian’ Supplement; *100 Years* [Q 994.6 ONE]
- *Southern Cross Publications; *Fernbank, Then & Now* [994.56 FER]
- *Surveyor-General; *Lands of Tasmania 1962* [Q 929.3409946 LAN]
- *Tanner, R (comp); *Souvenir Programme of Back to Sorell Celebrations* [Q 994.62 BAC]
- *TFHS Inc; *T.F.H.S Inc. Members’ Interests 1998–2010* [Q 929 GEN]
- *TFHS Hobart; *Notes on the Penitentiary Chapel, Hobart* [Q 283.9461 NOT]
- *TFHS Hobart; *Old English Pubs* [Q 994.6 TAS]
- *TFHS Hobart; *Tasmania 200* [Q 994.6 TAS]
- TFHS Inc.—Lst; *The Tasmanian Mail—A photographic index, Vol. 9 1927–1928* [Q 929038 TAS]
- *Thain, B; *Were You Really Born On King Island* [994.692 THA]
- *Tas. Media Centre; *Photoprints—Early Launceston and Tamar* [Q 994.64 PHO]
- *Tas. Media Centre; *Photoprints—Early North-East Tasmania* [Q 994.64 PHO]
- *Tenniswood, D W & K Short; *Did You Know?—Transcripts from the popular radio series* [994.61 TEN]
- *Terry, M; *Father Gibson* [282.946092 TER]
- *Ulster G & H Guild; *Familia—Ulster Genealogical Review, No. 19, 2003* [929.107 FAM]
- *Ulster G & H Guild; *Familia—Ulster Genealogical Review, No.22, 2006* [929.107 FAM]
- *Ulster G & H Guild; *Familia—Ulster Genealogical Review, No.23, 2007* [929.107 FAM]

*Ulster H F; *50 Years of the Ulster Historical Foundation, 1956–2007*
[929.309415 50Y]

*Wee Georgie Wood Steam Railway Inc; *Celebrating the Centenary of the North Mt. Farrell Tramway* [994.66 CEL]

Accessions—Computer Disks

Nottinghamshire FHS; *Nottingham Cemetery Pack 2005–10*

*St Virgil's College; *St. Virgil's College—Celebrating 100 Years*

*Denotes complimentary or donated item

♠ Purchased through the Denise McNeice Memorial Fund

Launceston Branch

Accessions—Books

**Alan Godfrey Maps; *Old Ordnance Survey Maps Notting Hill 1893; North Dartmoor & Mid Deven 1887; The Vale of Taunton & The Quantock Hills 1897; North Kent Coast 1878; Plymouth to Polperro 1894; The Medway Towns 1893; Portsmouth & Spithead 1893; Castle Cary & Ansford 1902; East Acton & Wormwood Scrubs 1894; Ealing Common & West Acton 1894; Upper Holloway 1894; Finsbury Park & Stroud Green 1894; Gospel Oak 1894; Camberwell & Stockwell 1871; Nottingham (South) 1899; Dartsford & Gravesend 1893; Maidstone & District 1893; Chorlton cum Hardy & Stretford 1905; Pimlico, Sloane Square & Nine Elms 1894; Blackburn (North) 1929; Blackburn (South) 1929; Chelsea 1894; Nottingham (North) incl Mapperly & Carrington 1913; Sheffield & District 1907; Dudley, Bridgenorth & district 1898; East Somerset & West Wilts 1897; Birmingham & District 1910; Derwent & Erewash 1895; Kensington 1894; Lewisham 1914; Paddington 1914; Edinburgh (Carlton Hill) 1852-1877; Edinburgh Castle 1877 & Edinburgh (South Bridge) 1852*

*Edwards Hazel; *Writing a non boring Family History*

TFHS Inc. Launceston Branch; *Country Women's Association (CWA) of Tasmania 1937-1980*

TFHS Inc. Launceston Branch; *Road Trusts 1863-1907 & Surveyors 1863-1979/80*

TFHS Inc. Launceston Branch; *Medical 1863-1979/80*

TFHS Inc. Mersey Branch; *An Index to The Advocate Personal Announcements 1985*

TFHS Inc. Mersey Branch; *An Index to The Advocate Personal Announcements 1988*

TFHS Inc. Mersey Branch; *An Index to The Advocate Personal Announcements 2000*

TFHS Inc. Mersey Branch; *An Index to The Advocate Personal Announcements 2001*

TFHS Inc. Mersey Branch; *An Index to The Advocate Personal Announcements 2002*

TFHS Inc. Mersey Branch; *An Index to The Advocate Personal Announcements 2003*

*Denotes donated item

**Donated by BIG

Mersey Branch

Accessions—Books

Adams, Larry, *Charles Pickerd - Coal Miner & Publican*

Anderson, Helen, *Basic Family History Using Tasmanian Records*

Brown, Pat & Williamson, Helen [Comp], *A Circular Head Oral History Project - Womens' Stories - Different Times - Different Lives - Different Experiences*

*Smith, Dale, *A Transcription of the Latrobe Cemetery, Tasmania*

*Smith, Dale, *An Index of Transcriptions of Headstones in the Cemeteries of the Deloraine District, Tasmania*

*Smith, Dale, *A Transcription of the Lawn Cemetery & Columbarium, Deloraine, Tasmania*

TFHS Inc. Launceston Branch, *The Tasmanian Mail, A Photographic Index Vol. 9 1927–1928*

*TFHS Inc. Mersey Branch [Comp], *An Index of Burials in the Roman Catholic Cemetery, Glen Dhu, Launceston, Tasmania*

Accessions—Computer Disks

**Images of the Deloraine General & Lawn Cemeteries Tasmania*

**Images of the Lawn Cemetery & Columbarium, Deloraine, Tasmania*

**St Virgil's College – Celebrating 100 Years*

**Transcriptions, Images and Index of the Latrobe Cemetery Tasmania*

Accessions—Microfiche

*Verran, Margaret, *Irish and Cornish Immigration Moreton Bay 1848–1859*

*Denotes donated item

Descendants of Convicts' Group Inc. 1788–1868

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

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

The Secretary
Descendants of Convicts' Group
PO Box 115 Flinders Lane Victoria 8009

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

BRANCH LIBRARY ADDRESSES, TIMES AND MEETING DETAILS

BURNIE Phone: Branch Librarian (03) 6435 4103
Library 2 Spring Street Burnie
Tuesday 11:00 am–3:00 pm
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.

MERSEY Phone: Branch Secretary (03) 6428 6328 Library (03) 6426 2257
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 Wednesday of the month at or Branch Library in Latrobe at 1:00 pm. Please check the website at www.tfhsdev.com for updates and any changes or contact our Secretary.

HOBART Phone: Enquiries (03) 6244 4527
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 7:30 pm on 3rd Tuesday of each month, except January and December.

HUON Phone: Branch Secretary (03) 6239 6529
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: Branch Secretary (03) 6344 4034
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 2011–12:-

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.

ISSN—0159 0677

Printed by *Mark Media*—Moonah Tasmania