

Tasmanian Ancestry



**TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY
SOCIETY INC.**

Volume 39 Number 2—September 2018

TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

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Tasmanian Ancestry

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

From the Editor

Another interesting AGM was held in Ross on a perfect winter's day. The sun was shining, the venue was warm and there was plenty of food to enjoy. It is always nice to catch up with friends.

Welcome to our new State Executive Committee who were elected unopposed (p. 65). Thanks to Colleen Read for her commitment over the past six years she served as State Secretary.

First speaker, Colin Thomas brought examples of scrimshaw from his personal collection which were all fascinating, especially after he described the conditions under which they were produced. He is a member of the World Scrimshaw Forensic Group and Chair of the Tasmanian Chapter of The Australian Society, formed in 1978.

With articles on school dentists and eight female convict poisoners I decided to start with a light-hearted story submitted by a new contributor, Paul Stott, on p. 76. Thank you Paul.

I think you will find plenty to read and enjoy in this issue and perhaps feel inspired to submit something for the next one. Thank you to all who have contributed.

Next year in June we will producing Volume 40 of *Tasmanian Ancestry* and I have been wondering how we can celebrate it? Our Ruby Anniversary! Any ideas?

Rosemary Davidson

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

Deadline dates are:

1 January, 1 April, 1 July and 1 October

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

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

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Cover: Examples from Colin Thomas' scrimshaw collection displayed at the TFHS Inc. AGM at Ross in June 2018.
Photograph: R Davidson

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2017–18

ACCORDING to the Chinese animal zodiac, or shengxiao, 2017 was the year of the rooster. But for the Tasmanian Family History Society, Inc., it was the year of the DNA! Having your DNA 'done' is easy enough, even if a little expensive, but interpreting and using these results is not quite as straight forward. Many people, both members and general public, sent off their sample for analysis and received back some interesting results, but did not know where to go from there. Fortunately a number of our members do know where to go from there, and have been very helpful in sharing that knowledge. I believe our society has built up expertise and is probably the most knowledgeable group in Tasmania. We should build on this, publicise it, and help more people enter the magic world of family history.

I have read the annual reports from each branch and am delighted to see what an active society we are with all branches functioning well and carrying out many interesting projects.

One of the highlights of the year was the production of Betty Jones' great book, *School Days, School Days*. Apart from the interesting and useful content, all carefully researched and referenced, I am very pleased to see that it was edited and printed here in Tasmania. This was a society project carried out with help from all branches, but the driving force was the society publications committee with the utmost generosity and cooperation of Betty herself. Despite some initial worries about costs, etc., it was also successful financially. You have shown that the society is capable of carrying out a project like this. A very big thank you to all concerned.

Of course this was not the only item produced by the society. Branches have many great projects underway, and to illustrate this, here are just a few. Burnie Branch was given *The Advocate* archives, a collection including microfilms, photos, bound copies of the newspaper, and much more. Indexing this collection is a major project. Hobart Branch has seen a virtual explosion of interest in its DNA group, and is continuing to index undertakers' records. Huon Branch produced a calendar featuring pictures relevant to its district and is already busy organising our 2019 Conference and AGM. Launceston Branch held a very successful DNA workshop, continued indexing the J A Dunn undertakers' records and *The Examiner* newspaper. Mersey Branch purchased the Forth/Leven Parish Registers which they are busy indexing, and have had a strong involvement with U3A. I repeat, these are just examples—there is much more happening in all branches.

As in previous years, TFHS continues to have representation on the Digital Information Group (DIG), the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations (AFFHO) and the Joint Tasmanian Archives Consultative Forum (JTACF). The society is most appreciative of the work done by Maurice Appleyard as our representative in these groups. We continue to be a member of the British based Federation of Family History Societies (FFHS).

There have been a number of new members on the society executive committee and they have already contributed a great deal to our proceedings. New people bring new ideas which are very refreshing and prevent us from

settling into a ‘this is what we’ve always done—why change it’ approach. I am very grateful for the support I have received from the Vice-President Maurice Appleyard, Secretary Colleen Read, Treasurer Ross Warren and other members of the Executive Committee. We have had some great meetings at Ross.

Finally, I would like to wish all branches and individual members a productive and enjoyable time in the next twelve months.

Robert Tanner President ◀



38th AGM CONFERENCE AND MEETING REPORT

21 June 2018 Ross

ALMOST 60 members and guests travelled on a gloriously sunny day to our 2018 State Conference and AGM at Ross.

Colin Thomas (top left) kicked off proceedings with an interesting and entertaining talk about the short but intensive bay whaling industry in the Derwent. He then described how whalers with time on their hands produced wonderful scrimshaw and presented a display of many interesting examples of scrimshaw from his personal collection.

Garry Richardson (bottom left) followed with stories of Chinese migration into north-eastern Tasmania, based on several books he has written on the topic.

After lunch Alison Alexander rounded out proceedings with an outline of the history of Connorville. An excellent program.

Following these interesting talks, the Society’s 38th Annual General Meeting took place.

After welcoming members and visitors, the President, Robert, announced the winner of the Lilian Watson Family History Award. Entitled *Home from War – Stories from the Newstead War Service Homes* and written by Kim Simpson and Julieanne Richards—it tells first hand stories of servicemen who, on returning from WWI, lived in a cluster of War Service Homes in David, Abbott and Malabar streets in Launceston.

The President then announced the winner of the Best Journal Article Award for Volume 38 as Roger Jennens for his article *The Case of the Town Clerk Who Absconded*.

The President, Robert, then read the Annual Report. See page 63.

The Treasurer, Ross Warren, presented the audited financial statement. See pages 67–9.

The election of **Society Office Bearers** resulted in the following members being elected unopposed:

President: Maurice Appleyard
Vice-President: Eddy Steenbergen
Secretary: Robert Tanner
Treasurer: Ross Warren

Appointed Positions: Delegates

Burnie: Judith and Peter Cocker;
Alternate: Sue Sutton

Hobart: Louise Rainbow and Colleen Read;
Alternate: Howard Reeves

Huon: John and Libby Gillham;
Alternate: Betty Fletcher

Launceston: Helen Stuart and Robyn Gibson;
Alternate: Lucille Gee

Mersey: Sue-Ellen McCreghan and Gary Bryant;
Alternate: Roslyn Coss

Minute secretary: Ian Cooper

Next year's Conference and AGM are scheduled for 15 June 2019 in Huonville. See you there.

The President thanked the caterers for the excellent refreshments they provided, thanked all for their attendance and then closed the meeting.

2017 LILIAN WATSON FAMILY HISTORY AWARD ENTRIES

FOR the 2017 Award there were seven wonderful entries. As yet only two entries have been received for the 2018 Award. Please consider entering.

Carey Denholm and Stefan Petrow, *Dr Edward Swarbreck Hall*—donated to Hobart Branch Library

Dr Tom Lewis OAM, *Honour Denied: Teddy Sheean, A Tasmanian Hero*—donated to Hobart Branch Library

Jeanette Angee, *Penneys of Waratah*—donated to Burnie Branch Library

Kim Simpson & Julieanne Richards, *Home from War: Stories from the Newstead War Service Homes, Launceston, Tasmania Australia*—donated to Launceston Branch Library

Malcolm Ward, Maureen Ferris and Tully Brookes, *Houses and Estates of Old Glamorgan*—donated to Hobart Branch Library

Michael William Hawkins, *The Family of William John Hawkins*—donated to Hobart Branch Library

Robert (Bob) Chesterman, *Smithy, Sawmiller, Ship Owner: The Story of Henry Chesterman and the timber company*—donated to Hobart Branch Library. ◀

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.

2018 Lilian Watson Family History Award

for a Book

however produced or published on paper, dealing with family or biographical history and having significant Tasmanian content

Entries close 1 December 2018

Further information and entry forms available from TFHS Inc. Branch Libraries or

www.tasfhs.org or The Secretary PO Box 326 ROSNY PARK TAS 7018

email: **secretary@tasfhs.org**

LILIAN WATSON FAMILY HISTORY AWARD 2017 WINNING ENTRY

Kim Simpson and Julieanne Richards, *Home from War: stories from the Newstead war service homes, Launceston, Tasmania, Australia*, Launceston; Foot and Playsted, 2015.

IT is very difficult being a judge of the Lilian Watson Award. All the entries have their own strong points, and they tend to be different. This was particularly true this year. Jeannette Angee's *The Penneys of Waratah*: I liked the first person format which is lively and readable, though of course it has to be thoroughly based on historical research, as this book is. *William John Hawkins* by Mick Hawkins is a wonderful, warm family history. In his *Teddy Sheean*, Tom Lewis does a good job of justifying the claim that Sheean's achievements be better recognised. *Houses and Estates of Glamorgan* is outstanding at describing these places, with wonderful illustrations.

These are all good books, but the judges decided to award the prize to *Home from War: stories from the Newstead war service homes*, by Kim Simpson and Julieanne Richards. This book captures the stories of war veterans and their families, giving a first-hand account of their lives. The common theme is the housing assistance they received from the commonwealth government after the First World War in the housing estate at Newstead in Launceston, one of the earliest in Australia. It provided veterans with modest cottages with their own gardens, in a community of people with a similar background.



The book is well researched and sympathetic, with much empathy shown towards veterans in their families, and evocative images. Many of these people suffered difficult experiences resulting from war service: poor health, problems with employment, lack of money, horrific memories, difficulty in adapting to home life and, too often, early death. Many families did not live in their sparkling new homes for long as they could not afford to. However, those who succeeded seem to have enjoyed life. Children in particular always had someone to play with, and the Methodist church was a meeting place for many.

While not a standard family history, this book is about families—unusual families caught up in sometimes difficult circumstances. There are chapters explaining the War Service Homes scheme, early families, ‘making ends meet’, ‘health’, ‘support networks’ and ‘women and children’. Then the authors describe the suburb street by street, describing each family.

This is an engrossing book and I have only one suggestion for improvement: bigger font! The small font makes the book less inviting to read. ◀

Alison Alexander

TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

I have audited the accompanying accounts for Tasmanian Family History Society Incorporated for the year ended 31 March 2018 in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards.

Included in income were amounts received from memberships, collections, sales, fund-raising and sundry income. Examination of these income items was limited to a review of cash transactions and amounts received as recorded by the books and receipting records of the Society.

Subject to the effect of the above statement on the accompanying accounts I am of the opinion that:

- a) The Society has kept proper accounting records and other books during the period covered by the accounts.
- b) The accompanying accounts are properly drawn up and in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Act (1964) so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs as at 31 March 2018 and of the results for the period ended on that date according to the information given to me, the books of the Society and the explanations given.
- c) The accounts are properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the Society's financial position according to the information at my disposal and the explanations given to me.
- d) The rules relating to the administration of the Society's funds have been observed.
- e) I have obtained all the information required.

Devonport

20 June 2018


NEIL WILKINSON
Registered Company Auditor

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.

Statement of Consolidated Cash Flow for the year ended 31 March 2018

	Burnie	Hobart	Huon	L'ion	Mersey	Society	Consolidated Totals
Opening Balance	10,550	12,951	1,475	2,806	6,585	14,486	48,853
Add Receipts							
Membership Subscriptions	2,933	14,087	570	4,180	2,395	31,222	39,953
Donations	505	1,329	283	559	476	1,404	3,151
Fund Raising	1,635	487	300	53	1,492	0	3,967
Research	0	260	0	1,492	113	0	1,864
Sales	899	5,414	0	2,469	1,607	4,566	11,240
Interest	9	10	2	3	0	9	33
Library Revenue	883	1,259	21	308	959	0	3,429
Sundries	2,591	462	20	1,271	0	20	3,987
Journal (<i>Tas Ancestry</i>)						1,915	1,915
Total receipts	9,455	23,308	1,195	10,333	7,041	39,135	69,539
Transfers from term loan a/c	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total funds available	20,004	36,258	2,669	13,140	13,626	53,621	118,392
Less Payments							
Membership Subscriptions	1,215	3,965	235	1,635	933	0	0
Insurance	0	0	0	0	0	4,123	4,123
Fund Raising	810	0	0	28	260	0	1,098
Research	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Items for re-sale	622	1,720	0	794	366	0	1,766
Bank Fees	0	36	0	0	0	405	441
Library Payments	5,401	6,878	792	4,703	1,212	0	18,986
Sundries	1,097	7,188	0	202	0	3,790	8,927
Journal (<i>Tas Ancestry</i>)						18,184	18,184
Assets/Capital	658	1,268	0	1,212	173	0	3,311
Administration Payments	156	2,246	127	956	4,831	14,940	15,396
Total Payments	9,959	23,300	1,154	9,529	7,775	41,442	72,233
Transfers to term loan a/c	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Closing Balance	\$10,045	\$12,958	\$1,515	\$3,610	\$5,852	\$12,179	\$46,160
Term Loans/Float etc	\$6,172	\$16,328	\$2,685	\$4,757	\$13,493	\$0	\$43,436
Total Cash Reserves	\$16,218	\$29,286	\$4,201	\$8,368	\$19,345	\$12,179	\$89,595
Value of Assets	\$85,500	\$164,253	\$14,221	\$70,500	\$36,806	\$4,360	\$375,640

TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC

ABN 87 627 274 157

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
For the Year Ended 31st March 2018

	2018	2017
<u>INCOME</u>		
Donations	573	930
Collection Branch Membership	6,260	6,200
Collection Branch Donation	831	345
Collection Branch Sales	1,835	155
Journal - Advertising/Sales	115	76
Journal - Subscriptions	1,800	1,440
Membership Subs - Interstate	16,269	14,539
Membership Subs - Branch	8,693	7,254
State Sales - Books, CD's, Fiche	4,153	1,174
State Sales - TAMIOT Sales	412	200
AGM Registrations	20	630
Interest Received	9	11
	-----	-----
	40,970	32,954
<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>	<u>40,970</u>	<u>32,954</u>
<u>LESS EXPENSES INCURRED</u>		
AGM Expenses	750	890
Audit Fees	165	165
Bank Charges	405	432
Executive Travel	1,050	1,263
Filing Fee	61	59
Computer Equipment	765	--
Insurance	4,123	4,472
Journal Postage/Printing	19,105	19,366
Lilian Watson & other awards	200	--
Postage, PO Box, Phone, Internet	1,364	952
Printing and Stationery	2,341	552
Room Hire/Meetings	413	325
Subscriptions (AFFHO & FFHS)	240	298
Tfer collection Branch Sales/Oth	1,979	165
Tfer collection Branch Membership	7,860	5,523
Tfer collection Branch Donations	1,371	646
	-----	-----
<u>TOTAL EXPENSES INCURRED</u>	<u>42,192</u>	<u>35,108</u>
<u>DEFICIENCY FOR YEAR</u>	<u>1,222</u>	<u>2,154</u>
	=====	=====

BRANCH REPORTS

Burnie

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

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Secretary: Ann Bailey (03) 6431 5058

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I have much pleasure in advising our members that the branch has been successful in obtaining a grant from the Burnie City Council for the upgrade of electrical items and the installation of a heat pump. Our thanks to the Burnie City Council for the help they provide to local not-for-profit organisations in the municipality.

Following the very successful meeting, where one of our members shared his information he gained from his DNA test, many members have now sent off their DNA and are starting to get some very interesting and informative results back.

Our member Bev Vincent gave the meeting a very interesting talk on some of her life experiences. Her talk titled 'From a Farmer's Daughter to an Undertakers Wife'. The following meeting Doug Forrest entertained the meeting with a talk and slide presentation on the paintings of his great grandfather, Houghton Forrest.

Our July meeting was the launch of our new Advocate Index. This publication, not only has BDM's, but also news items, sport articles and details of photographs. The publication only covers three months but has over 5000 entries. This will be a great benefit to researchers that will enable them to put some meat on the bones of their family stories.

We are also pleased to announce *The Advocate* has now given us the remaining bound copies of the *Advocate*. We now have bound copies from the 1890s through to the last bound copy, which was January 2015.

Peter Cocker, President



Two Burnie Branch volunteers, Edie MacArthur and Jan Cook, looking over our new publication.

NEW PUBLICATION BURNIE BRANCH

Index to *The Advocate*,
People, Places, Photos, Events
and News Items of interest to
Family Researchers

From 1 Oct to 31 Dec 1960

Over 5000 entries

Available from the Burnie Branch
PO Box 748 Burnie, TAS 7320
email: petjud@bigpond.com

ph: 0427 354 103

\$25.00 members discount of 10%

Hobart

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

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Perhaps on the face of it, there does not seem to be much action going on within the branch, but there is always some forward planning issues

to deal with, ongoing maintenance of equipment, upgrading of storage space on the computers, and events to be organized, not to mention the administration that goes with it.

Members may have noticed the large volume of recent acquisitions to the Library. Amongst these are donations received from a long time member, Irene Schaffer, who moved to Queensland in March and so generously donated to the branch the copy and printing rights of her published works. This is a wonderful gift, and a good description of her generosity as ‘a gift that keeps on giving.’

In the meantime, the branch has published its latest edition of *Undertakers Indexes: H C Millington Pty Ltd Funeral Records Part 9, June 1970–April 1973*.

Recently, a branch listing was accepted on the ‘Discover Tasmania’ website, under the heading of Heritage and History. We are hoping that the wider community will access information about our services, and make use of what we have to offer while in Hobart on holidays.

April was a busy month with DNA sessions conducted by Ros Escott and Andrew Cocker run over two Saturdays. These introductory sessions attracted 63

participants, and judging by the feedback the information gained was helpful, and assisted some to take the leap into DNA testing, which company to use, and assisted others to understand more fully the results of the tests already received.

Hobart Branch conducted their AGM in April, and welcomed Ros Escott to the committee. Kaye Bailey, who has carried out her duties admirably as Newsletter Editor, has recently relinquished her role. Judy Crossin has very generously taken on this position, and as always, we look forward to reading the monthly news.

Our monthly meetings have continued over the winter period. We have an early starting time of 7:30 p.m. and usually finish about 9:00 p.m. after a cuppa and a chat. The venue is warm and cosy, and the topics interesting and expertly presented by the speakers.

The guest speaker for the April AGM was Hobart historian Andrea Gerrard presenting a talk entitled *Moonbird Diggers* on Tasmanian Aborigines in World War I. In her initial research Andrea identified 74 aboriginal enlistees and three others have been added to the list. This talk focused on nine soldiers from Cape Barren Island. These men had worked in the mutton bird season on Furneaux Islands. At the end of the 1916 season there was little work available and the prospect of 6/- per day overseas with the AIF was attractive. They enlisted between 19 and 27 June at Claremont, some more easily than others. A 1903 Act precluded non-European descent men from enlisting.

The men thought they would be treated better on their return if they enlisted. Demand for soldiers was high and so they attempted to enlist. One of the nine—Willard Brown—was discharged when it was discovered he was only 16 years old; another, George Ernest Brown, died

before heading overseas. The remaining seven were placed in two battalions. George Fisher eventually returned from England and was discharged for bad behaviour; Julian Everett was treated for TB and eventually discharged; Marcus Blake Norman Brown, a Cape Barren Island birder, was taken on strength with the 40th Battalion and died of wounds received at Messines; John Fisher died of wounds received at Passchendaele; and William Maynard, taken on strength for only three weeks, was killed in the period 6–10 April 1917 at Bullecourt and no remains were found. His name appears on the walls at Villers-Bretonneux, France.

Since this meeting, Andrea has been awarded a Medal in the General Division in the Order of Australia in the June 2018 Queen's Birthday honours list for service to veterans and their families. Congratulations Andrea!

The guest speaker at the May meeting was Hobart historian Tony Marshall speaking on the topic *The short and interesting life of Frances Edward Douglas Browne (convict and journalist)*. Tony explained his interest in the lives of obscure, eccentric early Tasmanians, hence his interest in Browne. To quote Tony:

My study of his life might be of interest to the Family History Society because of (1) his extraordinary career (if he can be said to have had a 'career'); (2) the range of sources used to explore his life; and (3) the gross inaccuracy of some of those sources which should have been authoritative. The thing I know least about, unfortunately, is his family life, which appears to have been rickety (to say the least).

Born in 1795 Browne was a convict—highly intelligent but evidently mentally unstable. He committed an extraordinary crime of fraud by cheque on Ladbroke's in

London and arrived in VDL in 1825. Both before and after he gained his freedom, he worked primarily in Tasmanian journalism in the 1830s. He also had claims to a possibly significant scientific discovery. In the colony he held a variety of positions including being assigned to the Surveyor General, part-timer journalist for Andrew Bent of the *Colonial Times* which became the *Colonial Advocate*—published as a magazine—when Governor Arthur required that all newspapers be registered. He also was an agent in the sale of houses and as an employment officer seeking employment on behalf of others. He dabbled in nauscopy—the art of detecting ships on the horizon at impossible distances—with some success. He had a reputation for seeking funding and benefactors to support his businesses and other activities. In 1844 he sought drugs from a pharmacist in Hobart. He died in the Hobart Hospital in 1844 due to the intake of these drugs.

At the June meeting the guest speaker was Ann Owen, Manager/Registrar of Birth, Deaths and Marriages in the Tasmanian Justice Department. Ann provided an informative and detailed description of the workings and legal requirements of this government office, as well as current and future projects. She also fielded questions from the floor, including questions relating to costs of certificates for family historians!

The office consists of seven employees and the main portal is through the 26 Service Tasmania offices that account for 75 per cent of requests. Most other requests come from overseas. The Office deals with some 60,000 transactions per year. The Registrar is concerned with recording/registering life events—births, deaths, marriages and relationships, change of sex, and verifying records through the issuing of certificates.

Depending on the event, registering events may involve maternity hospitals, surrogacy providers, midwives, parents, doctors, funeral directors, coroners, ministers of religion, marriage celebrants, amongst others. In most cases information is provided by more than one person/agency and the role of BDM is to match/link the related information in one place in the BDM database. Data is provided mainly by way of paper, but electronic transfer is becoming more common and will become the norm.

With technology, controls on who can access certificates and information is more carefully scrutinised and electronic cross-checking of data means that the number of requests for checking and correcting data is increasing—consistency of Ann or Anne on birthday certificates, passports and other legal documents. Current projects include the electronic scanning of paper-based documents—most post 1970 records are fully searchable in electronic form, but pre-1970s are held in various formats. Restrictions apply to the access of birth data (100 years), marriages (75 years) and deaths (25 years).

Current projects include improving on-line services (that is, on-line ordering and registration) and website redevelopment. The future includes on-line lodgement of new events and streamlining access to historical records following digital formatting. Future challenges will include resources and legislation pertaining to same-sex marriages and registration of gender rather than sex.

In conclusion, members were invited to contact Ms Owen with queries and suggestions about BDM services using her email address ann.own@justice.tas.gov.au

Speakers for 2018

July 17: Christine Woods—*The fact and*

fiction of our mysterious Mary

August 21: Pat Howard—*The first publicans of Zeehan—pillars of the community?*

September 18: John Sargent—*The O'Mays and their ferry business*

October 16: Barry Riseley—*The Queen Victoria Home (Lindisfarne) before 1960*

November 20: Graeme Broxam—*The Smarts: Three Generations of Hobart Watermen 1845–1941*

Louise Rainbow, President

Launceston

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

President: Helen Stuart (03) 6331 9175

Secretary: Marette Lawson

PO Box 1290 Launceston Tasmania 7250

library: ltntasfh@bigpond.com

All telephone enquiries to (03) 6326 1399



Our DNA Discussion Circles have been occurring for over 12 months now, with the most recent meeting held in May.

The focus this time was on sharing success stories from using DNA to help with our research, with some very interesting examples shared. Our next meeting is scheduled for September at the branch library. Those who may be interested in attending an ongoing group can register their interest by coming into the library or contacting us by email.

A number of members of the Launceston Branch attended the AGM held at Ross. Thank you to the organisers for such an enjoyable and successful event.

In July, Robyn Gibson will speak about her recent trip to France and Britain at the branch library. *Following Family History in France & Britain: One Person's Perspective* is being held on Wednesday 18 July from 2:00 p.m.

During Family History Month in August we will hold an Open Day of the library promoting what we do, specifically encouraging people to call in and find out more about using DNA for family history research. We will also have examples of 'presenting your research' on display for visitors to get an idea of some of the options available for this.

Following a successful Seniors Week Open Day in 2017, the Launceston Branch will be taking part again this year, with hourly one-on-one appointments available for *Getting Started Researching your Family History*. The Open Day will be held on Thursday 18 October from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

A reminder to our Launceston Branch that the Branch Newsletter will now be distributed electronically, and available to view or download from our website. Please contact us to ensure your email details are up to date (if you have been receiving this by mail). Printed copies are still available for collection from the library for those without email access.

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

Mersey

<http://www.tfhsdev.com>

President: Roslyn Coss—(03) 6491 1141

Secretary: Sue-Ellen McCreghan

(03) 6428 6328

email: secretary@tfhsdev.com

PO Box 267 Latrobe Tasmania 7307



New Hours at Mersey Branch Library—as from 1 June the branch is opening on Wednesday and Friday 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Appointments

can be made outside these hours. Any

enquiries please contact Sue-Ellen at 6428 6328 or Ros 6491 1141.

Branch volunteers were happy to represent the society at a community information session 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, organised by Latrobe Council.

Visitors and organisations from the area showed keen interest in our display.

'Putting meat on the bones of your ancestor' was the focus of our display and featured an English cotton spinner, who came to Tasmania as a convict and after serving his time received a Ticket of Leave. He was a constable with Tasmania Police until his retirement.

There has been interest flowing on from this session. General enquiries and new members have been welcome.

Branch volunteers, Anne, Marilyn and Peter have finished the *Index to The Advocate Personal Announcements* for 2015, 2016 and 2017 index is being checked.

The indexing of the Ulverstone/Forth Parish registers is well under way. These will be available at the Library as well as a copy of the original record. Dates for these entries will be in a following *Tasmanian Ancestry*.

Winter is here, no need to hibernate, come exercise your brain in a warm, comfortable environment in Latrobe, at the Mersey Branch Library, Gilbert Street at the back of LINC Library.

Library phone 6426 2257 Wednesday and Friday 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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

VALE

JOHN JAMES MEEHAN

13 July 1938 - 14 February 2018



WE are saddened to hear of the passing of our member John Meehan in Melbourne. John was winner of the 1997 Lillian Watson Family History Award with his book *From Shere to Eternity. A history of the Moody Family in Van Diemen's Land*.

Just a short time before his death John had updated this family history with some colour photos, improved maps, and an updated index. The updated version is only available as a data file.

John received an Order of Australia Medal in the 2012 Queen's Birthday Awards for his services to the community through a range of roles with Rotary International. He lived with his wife Lorraine, also an OAM recipient at the seaside town of Mt Martha on the Mornington Peninsular. He continued his interest in Rotary, had joined Probus, enjoyed his garden, travel and of course family history research.

His Memorial Service was attended by about 300 people, family, friends, and representatives from the organizations in which he was involved. ◀

BOOK LAUNCH

JOE DARLING CBE, MLC

1870–1946

Forthcoming publication
and book launch



Graeme Ryan's book about Joe Darling CBE, MLC (1870–1946) will be launched in Hobart in October.

Joe Darling was the last surviving member of the Australian Cricket XI which toured England in 1896.

He captained the Australian team while living in Tasmania. He owned Claremont House and was an independent member of the Legislative Council representing Cambridge from 1921–1946.

If you would like to attend the book launch, please contact Dianne Snowden at dsnowden@tassie.net.au

LOCATE YOUR CONVICT ANCESTORS

FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH—OFF THE TRACK

© Paul E Stott (Member No. 5686)

IT is now over twenty years since I was first attracted to the story of a Scotsman named David HOWIE who, as a convicted prisoner, was transported to Tasmania in 1837. This piece of fiction, with a Dickensian flavour, is a digression from a world of non-fiction research in which we family researchers can become obsessed. My intention is for it to be a topic for discussion without too much seriousness.

On a bus trip recently, with some old army mates, we stopped off at the annual St Patrick's Day Fair in Westbury. The sun was high in a clear sky when we arrived, and it was scorching hot so with a Guinness or two under my belt I wandered off amongst the crowd!

The small country town of Westbury, in northern Tasmania, was settled by Irish immigrants and in 1853 some of the locals harboured the Irish political prisoner John MITCHELL as he made his audacious escape from this British penal colony. Today the locals still love to tell tales of their ancestors, with a sense of pride.

To be sure, to be sure then, there is every good reason to celebrate St Patrick's Day here each year with three days of music, dancing and entertainment on the village green. During the carnival the air comes alive with loud Celtic music from singers and their accompanying bands, volume turned to MAX competing with huffing and puffing bagpipers across the green. From sideshow-alley-styled tents, hawkers sold their many varied wares. Sweet

peas (must be planted on St Patrick's Day), spring bulbs, family history information, homemade and used clothing, food, drinks and of course more food and more drinks.

"Beer?"

"Across the road mate. In the RSL," somebody yelled to a panting punter.

Chips, baked potatoes, chips, coke, dim sims, chips, pies and more chips. It seems as though a full stomach was necessary to lull spectators into a dreamlike state from which they could enjoy and savour all things Irish.

I leaned against a tree to watch Maypole dancers wind their orange, white and green ribbons tightly around a pole, about face and unwind them in the opposite direction. My attention was diverted for a moment by an odd spectacle at the far side of the arena in front of a tattered and worn looking tent. Standing upon a box so that he was head and shoulders above the crowd, was a strange looking man gesticulating with a cane.

I wiggled my way through the crowd so that I was a bit closer and I could make out some wording written across the front of the tent: LOCATE YOUR CONVICT ANCESTORS.

From my closer position I could now see that the man standing on what was an old banana box was wearing baggy trousers and tails, a waistcoat and chain and a top hat that was showing signs of being squashed into a box one too many times between shows. Nobody else seemed to be attracted to the strange looking man or

his tent and he didn't seem to be the least bit bothered by a lack of business. Busy purchasers just pushed straight past the tent on their way to buy hot dogs on sticks dripping tomato sauce or chips and gravy—in tubs with loads of salt.

After a short time watching I could make out that there was some sort of routine in the way that the man waved his cane, and, by edging a trifle closer could now see that the changing expressions on his face suggested that he was signalling information to people at different parts of the ground. I then noticed a small and rather unkempt looking lad, who was clutching a woman's handbag, dart into the tent. When he came out the man on the box tapped him on the shoulder with his cane and directed him to go in a particular direction. I'm sure I heard the boy mumble something rude that sounded a bit like Fagin! Fagin, did he say Fagin? One too many Guinness perhaps and I didn't really want to know about it but here I was witnessing a well-organised bunch of bag snatchers and pocket-picking scoundrels.

It's a sixth sense that tells us when somebody is watching us and right now the old man had locked eye contact with me. A crooked finger sticking out from a glove with the ends of the fingers missing beckoned me closer to his tent. When I was just in front of him I got a strong whiff of musty old books.

He lowered his glance to address me directly and said in a crackly nasal voice: "Pick a ball me friend, pick a ball. Ya never know ya luck an' all", tapping the cane on the box in time.

The look on my face must have displayed a lack of knowing because he went on:

"Go right in Sir. Go right in. It won't be costing a penny and young Oliver here will help ya pick a ball."

At that point a young scruffy looking urchin pulled back the flap of the tent and ushered me inside. It was indeed a very hot day and the air inside was stale and it took my eyes some time to adjust to the dim interior. Young Oliver didn't utter a word, but his excited pointing and shoving directed me to a wooden beer barrel sitting in the middle of the tent. Peering over the edge of the barrel I could see that it was half full of marbles! Now glancing at Oliver, I understood what was required of me as he was performing a routine that I assumed was for me to copy. That is—bend over the sides of the barrel, swish an arm about and come up with only one marble—ah ah, random selection!

As I bent over I could just make out that each marble had a number written on its surface, so I swished my arm around and through the marbles and that made the sort of noise one might expect when a large tub of marbles is disturbed. After a short time, I raised my hand clutching a marble. Just any old marble. Well, as it transpired it wasn't just any marble!

The old man outside could obviously tell that a marble had been selected when the crashing sound of tumbling marbles ceased so he pushed back the flap of the tent with his cane and beckoned me outside.

"The number Sir, tell us the number and be hanged if ya won't be at all surprised and all."

The crackle of authority in his voice startled me. Of course, the number on the marble. I had to screw up my eyes to make out the number.

"Be telling me Sir, the number, what have you got?"

"It looks like two two three four." I said in a soft voice that the old man interpreted as guilt.

“Don’t be shy Sir. Let me see here and I’ll tell what it is ya need to know.” He snatched the marble from my fingers and squinted at the numbers in proof thereof.

With that he handed back the marble and hung the crook of his walking stick over his arm and reached inside his waistcoat to retrieve a tattered and dog-eared memo book.

“2234, 2234, 2234,” he murmured. “Now let me see here.” He thumbed through the pages of his book with fingers still sticking out of woollen gloves that had the ends of each finger cut off. “Aha, begorrah me lad, here it is and all, 2234. 2234! Why, bag me dad and all, its young Howie. David Howie. It’s a long time hence his name was come out ya know Sir, but now you’ve got him.”

“What do you mean 2234, David Howie? Does everybody have a number?”

“To be sure, to be sure, my friend. They all of us did what come here way back then. Just like an army number and all, no two was ever the same, not never! This was David Howie’s Police Number.”

“Who was David Howie?”

“I’m tellin ya Sir, it’s your job to look and look and look till ya find all there is to know, and then some more, and here’s a tip then to get you under way. His wife was BOGUE, Mary Bogue to be sure she was an all, but here’s me point. There’s some who would be thinking her name was ...” at that point he bent down to me and whispered:

“They, those of them who haven’t learned, would be thinking her name was MOGG, Black Mogg! Say no more, say no more.” He winked, tapped the side of his nose with the scrawny finger and straightened up.

From the inside pocket he now produced a stubby indelible pencil that he twirled between moistened lips.

“A name now? Be telling me ya name now Sir. I need a name in me book for His Worship and the Lords to see?”

I leaned forward and he bent to hear my name.

Straightening back up he scribbled in the tattered and worn memo book and put it and the pencil back in his pocket in one fluid movement finally assuming his position of authority upon the old banana box.

“Be off with you now Sir. There’s more to be goin’ on with now and you have a name to be lookin’ out for. Give young Oliver here ya marble now Sir, it’s time for me to be shuttin’ up shop.”

A wind sprang up a bit as I moved off down the line of tents and when I looked back over my shoulder, as one does, the tent, the old man and the banana box had all disappeared!

A sharp jabbing on the shoulder aroused me from a sun-induced coma and I sprang, stumbled, into life.

“Ah ah, so this is where you got to mate? We’ve been looking all over for you. C’mon then the bus is about to leave. Good Lord, mate, you’re rotten. You’ve been into that damn Guinness again ‘aven’t you?”

It was a long trip home! ◀

OPEN WIDE

THE TASMANIAN SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE, 1916–1955

Betty Jones (Member No. 6032)



Courtesy of www.theguardian.com

MODERN DENTISTRY is a far cry from the past, with the use of up-to-date techniques and tools by highly skilled practitioners and their assistants helping to make visits to a dental practice or clinic a painless and relatively stress-free experience for most. However, there are likely to be mixed reactions from readers concerning their memories of visiting the dentist in their childhood and youth. Some people will remember going to a private practitioner while others will have had experience with the services provided by government through the school dental scheme. It is on the latter that this article concentrates with an emphasis on its first forty years of existence. That was the era when dental chairs were powered by foot pedals, injection needles were very long, the whining sound and uncomfortable vibrations from old-style mouth drills

resonated, a distinctive antiseptic smell pervaded the room, and extractions were frequent.

Background

As far back as 1904, health problems of school children in Tasmania were highlighted as in need of attention in a report to government on the wider state of public education.¹ Subsequently, a school medical inspection system came into existence in 1907. However, it was not until 1916 that our Tasmanian ancestors who lived in Hobart and Launceston were introduced to the concept of the school dentist. A newspaper report at the time stated that the Education Department was out to see that ‘little Johnny’s rotten tooth

¹ W L Neale, *Report on the System of Primary Education in Tasmania*, Journals, Papers and Proceedings of Parliament, 1904, No. 49

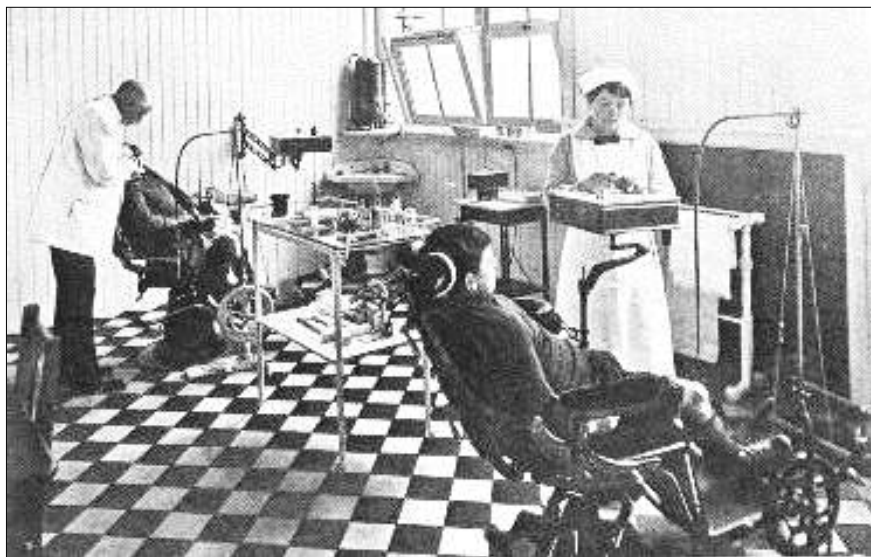
didn't interfere with the working of his brain'. It was alleged that the rising generation suffered a lot with its teeth.²

A Schools Dental Clinic was established temporarily in Hobart's old Battery Point Model School where one of the large teaching rooms was sub-divided into a waiting room and surgery. The Director of Education, Mr William T McCOY, proudly announced that he could safely say the facility was equal to, if not superior, to others of its kind elsewhere in Australia. The four walls and ceiling of the surgery were painted white, giving it a spotlessly clean appearance. Its equipment, described as thoroughly up-to-date, included a dental pump chair of the most improved type, a dental engine used for preparing the cavities for fillings, a complete sterilising apparatus, and a

swing table for such instruments as were required for a particular operation in hand. In addition, there was a hot water system, and that, as well as the dental spittoon at the side of the chair, was connected directly to the sewerage system. A handsome antiseptic case for the numerous dental instruments was also provided.

Mr Hugh FRASER was employed as the dentist and Miss Dorothy RUMBOLD, an ex-pupil of Hobart State High School, was his assistant. At that time, it was intended that the clinics would operate for six months of the year in Hobart and Launceston before being removed to country centres for the next six months.

There was to be an emphasis on restoration of teeth rather than their removal.³



Mr Fraser and Miss Rumbold at work in the new Schools Dental Clinic in Hobart 1916
Derek Phillips, *Making More Adequate Provision, State Education in Tasmania, 1839-1985*, Education Department of Tasmania, 1985, p. 91

² *The Examiner*, 16 May 1916

³ *The Mercury*, 16 August 1916

The needs and expectations were overwhelming

The intentions of government when the scheme was introduced were admirable. A genuine problem was recognised and steps were taken to address the issues. The financial resources and personnel required to overcome the magnitude of the issues, however, were great. It soon became obvious that the employment of just a few dentists and assistants was insufficient to meet the needs of the whole state, which at that time included 420 government schools.⁴ The dentists' workloads were huge because of the backlog of work that needed to be undertaken. Too frequently the children who presented for treatment had multiple teeth that required attention. When the Schools Dental Clinic in Launceston was opened in 1916 in two commodious rooms acquired by The Education Department on the upper floor of the New Zealand Insurance Company's premises in Cameron Street, Director McCoy commented that 90 per cent of the children inspected by visiting school doctors were recommended for dental examination.⁵ Added to that, the expectations of the public once the scheme was set up further highlighted the inadequacies of the program. Letters to the editor of local newspapers from as early as 1917, indicated a sense of impatience and entitlement from some parents who did not have a proper understanding of the logistics involved.

From Another Parent ... We live in the country, within 20 miles of Launceston, and for two years the teeth of my children have required the attention of a dentist. Never once, to my knowledge, in that time has the so-called school dentist

visited or inspected one school. May I ask what they are doing, for I understand there are two of them? I am taxed to provide a dentist – for what? Surely, we have a right to at least a yearly visit.⁶

A different but not uncommon misunderstanding of the scheme by some parents was quoted by Director McCoy following a letter sent to a teacher:

Don't you send Reginald to that there school dentist any more. He is pulling all the children's teeth out, trying to make a job for himself, so that he will have to put false ones in.

Director McCoy was quick to add that most parents supported the system but all still had the option of sending their children to a private practitioner should they choose to do so.⁷

Service was irregular, particularly in country schools

It took the dentists at the Hobart and Launceston clinics at least 18 months to attend to the needs of children in those immediate centres before the country schools started to receive consideration. The north-east and west coasts were among the first such areas to be visited. Mr Fraser and Miss Rumbold carried out work in the west and Mr A A BROWN, assisted by Miss M E WHITE, concentrated on the north-east.

In an attempt to make best use of the dentist's time, the clinic was stationed at the most central position in the district and children from outlying schools were expected to find their own method of transport to keep appointments. Most often, that meant children walked. At Derby in May 1918, concern was expressed by parents and others that some small children from Moorina were forced

⁴ *The Educational Record*, 15 January 1917

⁵ *The Examiner*, 28 July 1916

⁶ *The Examiner*, 24 November 1917

⁷ *The Examiner*, 28 July 1916

to walk too large a distance to attend.⁸ A similar problem was reported in 1925 when 19 children from the small school at Alberton were required to walk 12 miles to and from the Ringarooma school, often after teeth had been extracted.⁹



Derby State School, 1952¹⁰

The workload continued to be difficult to manage with so many schools still to be included in the program. In 1921, two additional dentists and assistants were appointed to provide full-time travelling services, one for the northern districts and one for southern country areas. The other two dentists then became resident at the clinics in Hobart and Launceston.¹¹

Stays in country districts sometimes were lengthy for the dentists. It was reported in June 1922 that Mr Leonard HICKEY and his assistant, Miss White, had just completed eight months in Burnie, during which time he treated hundreds of children in state schools in that town and neighbouring districts.¹²

⁸ *The North-Eastern Advertiser*, 24 May 1918

⁹ *The North-Eastern Advertiser*, 19 May 1925

¹⁰ Courtesy of TAHO: AB713/1/1066

¹¹ *The Mercury*, 7 April 1921

¹² *The Advocate*, 7 June 1922

In June 1923, when government was experiencing serious economic problems, a decision was taken to close the clinics at Hobart and Launceston and dispense with the staff. The work of the two dentists in the country districts was also

restricted to the three smallest classifications of schools, numbering about 300 across the state at that time. That policy was still in place in 1925¹³ and although its implementation was not popular, the positive discrimination given to children in the smallest schools on that occasion was significant.

With a change of government in 1927, the Hobart and Launceston clinics were re-opened in 1928¹⁴ but continuing economic depression in the state saw closure of the whole scheme from late 1931–33. By mid-1933, school nurses and doctors reported that many children were suffering severely as a consequence. It appeared that their teeth were neglected by their parents, with whom the responsibility for their attention properly belonged, and the public hospitals were not able to cope with those requiring attention. A revised, lower-cost system was re-instated in September 1933 with the appointment of two dentists and attendants. Money was to be saved with the dentists being based in the Hobart and Launceston clinics from May to November when they would attend to the needs of city children. The clinics would then close from November

¹³ *The Mercury*, 12 August 1925

¹⁴ *The Examiner*, 29 July 1927

to May while the country schools were given attention.¹⁵

Not all dentists were feared

Given the nature of the work undertaken by dentists, it is understandable that many of their patients were apprehensive about treatment. Coupled with that, a parent's fear of the dentist could inadvertently be passed onto the child. "Will it hurt?" was usually the first question asked.

In the early days of the dental scheme, aware of the problems to be confronted, the dentists tried to develop a good rapport with school children. Typical of their success story is the following from 1920 when a public presentation was made by Headmaster, Mr A T CONROY, on behalf of the scholars of Latrobe State School, to Mr L Hickey and Miss M E White at the conclusion of their stay. During his four months in the town, Mr Hickey had secured the confidence of the

children, an important factor in his success. When Mr Hickey came forward to accept his gift of a camera, the children gave him a flattering reception followed by three hearty cheers. Miss

White was presented with a box of handkerchiefs and a bottle of scent as a token of the children's esteem and appreciation.¹⁶

Some positive tutoring by teachers also obviously took place prior to the dentist's arrival in some country areas. In 1934 at Mawbanna State School in the Circular Head district, when visited by Mr John WATSON and his assistant, Miss White,

twelve out of the seventeen children enrolled required extractions. Sixty teeth were lost that day, reportedly without a murmur or sound from any of the children; they all wanted to be next on the job; all went away laughing and said it did not hurt. One girl allegedly was asking and answering questions after each tooth. Another had ten extractions. Only three did not turn up for school the next day but several were on a soft food diet.¹⁷

Throughout Miss Florence Annie BRAKEY's time as teacher at Calder State School from 1922–27, it was recorded that there were some difficult big boys in attendance who were not very interested in their education. However, Miss Brakey was said to have trained them in many good habits and, in 1926, the inspector stated that Calder was the only school he knew where the big boys were made to keep their teeth clean.¹⁸



Learning to Brush Teeth, 1920s¹⁹

Staff shortages

During World War II and up to the 1950s, government had difficulty in recruiting dentists to the service. At the end of 1948 it was hoped that at least one of a number of dentists due to arrive in the state in the new year from Britain would be stationed

¹⁵ *The Examiner*, 30 August 1933

¹⁶ *The Advocate*, 25 May 1920

¹⁷ *Circular Head Chronicle*, 25 August 1934

¹⁸ TAHO: ED31/1/29-33

¹⁹ Courtesy of <https://www.reddit.com/r/TheWayWeWere>

on the west coast to treat school-children.²⁰

By May 1951, continuing negotiations were in place to bring dentists from England to help fill vacancies.²¹ A further incentive introduced that year to encourage recruitment was to allow school dentists to offer private practice to the general public out of school hours in areas where no other dental facilities were available. A charge could be made by dentists for that service, but practitioners would be under no obligation to take on that extra work.²²

The Minister for Health (Dr TURNBULL) announced in October 1951 that school dentists were catching up on the backlog of children caused by shortages of school dentists. 5,808 children had received treatment that month. Dentists were operating at King Island, Lilydale, Burnie, Ellendale, Franklin and Wilmot, as well as at the static clinics in Hobart and Launceston. It was hoped that all schools would be visited within the 1952 school year.²³ A shortage of dentists became apparent again by 1954 with the growth in the number of children entering schools ('The Baby Boomers').

Some known staff, 1916–1945

The Public Health Department took over control of school dental services from the Education Department from the beginning of 1939.²⁴ From 1945, newspapers stopped including the names of those in the service, but the following were previously reported.

Dental Inspectors:

Mr Hugh Fraser (1916–23)
Mr A A Brown (1916–19)
Mr Bernard Oscar Balfe (1921–22)
Mr Leonard Hickey (1920–24)
Mr Clive E Glover (1922–24)
Mr E Lance Hudson (1922–26)
Mr A A Green (1928–29)
Mr D Adams (1929)
Mr H B Walker (1930)
Mr B Wall (1930)
Mrs Aileen Lennon (1933–34)
Mr John Watson (1933–37)
Mr J C Rosenbrock (1935–38)
Mr Harold D Harper (1935)
H A Kershaw (1936)
Mr Harold J Walker (1936–37)
Mr F Amos (1937)
Miss Dorothy Noonan (1937–40)
Mr J T Brook, Senior Dental Inspector (1937–38)
Mr M Rosenberg (1939)
Mr Watson (1939)
Mrs A Ellis (1937–41)
Mr W Blackburn (1943–44)
Mrs Blackburn (1943–44)
Dr H Morgan (1944–45)

Assistants:

Miss Dorothy Rumbold (1916–23)
Miss Marjorie E White (1916–41
– with interruptions)
Miss Vera Holtham (1921)
Miss K Cook (1921–28)
Miss Portnell (1935–39)
Miss Hickman (1939)
Nurse Wells (1945)

Mobile dental vans

In 1947, the Minister for Health (Mr WHITE) announced plans for the supply of a mobile dental unit for use on the north-west coast. It was to be a specially

²⁰ *The Advocate*, 8 December 1948

²¹ *The Mercury*, 17 May 1951

²² *The Examiner*, 9 June 1951

²³ *The Advocate*, 3 November 1951

²⁴ *The Mercury*, 8 March 1939

constructed detachable trailer equipped with every modern facility, including a waiting room and running water.²⁵ The unit was in operation by 1949.

By mid-1954 there were seven vans in use and at the end of that year, the Minister for Health (Dr Turnbull) called tenders for five more, saying that the service would be brought up to full strength with their addition.²⁶ A considerable number of static dental clinics in major centres had gradually also been added by that time.

Summing up

Tasmania's school dental scheme was established in the early twentieth century and continues to provide vital services for school children just over one hundred years since its introduction. Economic depression, the advent of war, the post-war baby boom and difficulty in obtaining staff all hindered its development during its first forty years of operation. Although inequities and inequalities in oral health treatment existed across the state, particularly in rural schools, the service has much to be proud of. Generations of Tasmanian children can be thankful that the dental intervention provided stopped rotten and aching teeth from interfering too much with their health and learning. ◀

²⁵ *The Mercury*, 24 June 1947

²⁶ *The Mercury*, 30 December 1954.

HELP WANTED

MICKLEBOROUGH

About 1935 my grandfather, Alfred Mickleborough (1888–1961) fathered a daughter (maybe Hilda?). Details of her mother are unknown to me, but her surname might have been RYDER or THOMPSON. My grandfather's daughter might have been adopted as a baby, but it is known that she was living in Hobart about 1953 and working in the city when, on occasions she used the surname Mickleborough. It is also believed that she placed flowers on her father's grave shortly after his death.

I would dearly love to make contact with or learn any further details regarding this lady or any descendants.

Leonie Mickleborough 6 Wentworth Street South Hobart 7004, phone 62237948, lemick@internode.on.net ◀

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 326 ROSNY PARK
Tasmania 7018

POISONOUS PERSONALITIES

FEMALE CONVICTS TRANSPORTED TO VAN DIEMEN'S LAND FOR MURDER BY POISON

Don Bradmore (Member No. 6576)

OF the 12,500 (approx.) females transported to Van Diemen's Land between 1803 and 1853, eight had been convicted of murder by poison. In each case, the death penalty was commuted to transportation for life.¹

Four of the eight—Sarah BARBER (*Anna Maria*, 1852), Hannah ROBERTS (*Emma Eugenia*, 1844), Ann MERRITT (*Emma Eugenia*, 1851) and Catherine MEANY (*Tasmania*, 1845)—had administered a lethal dose of poison to their husbands. Two—Catherine MICHAEL (*Navarino*, 1841) and Ann McCORMICK (*Angelina*, 1844)—had poisoned one or more of their children. One—Mary MOODY (*Mexborough*, 1841)—had poisoned her uncle. The eighth, a woman referred to in convict records only as SAMBA (*Ocean Queen*, 1844), had been transported for the murder by poison of a man with whom she worked.²

In the 19th century, poisons such as cyanide, strychnine and arsenic were cheap and easy to obtain. They were used in the home for a variety of purposes including the eradication of rats and other vermin. Arsenic, especially, was readily available in many forms. A tasteless, odourless compound, it was commonly used in the manufacture of wallpaper, beer, wine, sweets, wrapping paper,

painted toys, clothing, dyes, sheep dip, flypaper, insecticides, stuffed animals, hat ornaments, candles, cosmetics and even libido pills.³

When given to an intended victim in small quantities over a period of time, arsenic produced a gradual decline in the health of the sufferer but its symptoms, including diarrhea, vomiting and abdominal pain, were easily attributable to food-poisoning or natural illnesses which made foul play difficult to trace.⁴ Nor could a medical examiner necessarily place the murderer at the scene of the crime. The dying typically took many hours.⁵ The popularity of this method of murder led to the *Arsenic Act* of 1851 which enforced tighter restrictions on the sale of the poison and required most arsenic to be coloured indigo to make it harder to disguise.⁶

¹ Database, Female Convicts Research Centre (FCRC), Hobart, accessed 20 November 2017

² Convict records at https://linctas.ent.sirsidynix.net.au/client/en_AU/names

³ James C Wharton (2011). *The Arsenic Century: How Victorian Britain was Poisoned at Home, Work and Play*.

Oxford: Oxford University Press

⁴ British Lives: 'Untold Lives' at <http://blogs.bl.uk/untoldlives/2014/09/arsenic-cyanide-and-strychnine-the-golden-age-of-victorian-poisoners.html>; Michael Meyer, 'An Everyday Poison', in *Distillations* magazine at <https://www.chemheritage.org/distillations/magazine/an-everyday-poison>

⁵ Joan Acocella, 'Murder by Poison: The Rise and Fall of Arsenic', *New Yorker*, October 14 issue, 2013

⁶ British Lives: 'Untold Lives' at <http://blogs.bl.uk/untoldlives/2014/09/ar>

Moreover, poisons such as arsenic, strychnine and cyanide were easy to administer. The task did not require physical strength. Women, who were generally charged with the cooking, cleaning and nursing tasks in the home, could easily slip a dose of poison into the food, drink or medicine of their victims—and they usually had ample opportunity to do so.⁷ As P D JAMES, the well-known writer of crime fiction, points out,

men who wanted to get rid of an unwanted spouse or a persistently importuning lover tended to employ more direct and violent means.⁸

Referring to poisoning as ‘a popular method of murdering since man’s earliest history’, James describes it as

surely the most horrific of all the methods of murder—the more so because it is frequently a domestic crime with the fatal dose administered in a family setting and taken from the hands of a person whom the victim has every reason to trust.⁹

Not surprisingly, poisoning has become known as the female murderer’s ‘method of choice’ and, this notion has become ingrained in popular culture.¹⁰ Although today’s crime statistics reveal that the majority of convicted poisoners are actually men, the myth that poison is a

‘woman’s weapon’ has long inspired novelists, playwrights and movie-makers. In Arthur CONAN DOYLE’s *The Sign of Four*, Agatha CHRISTIE’s *Cards on the Table*, Robert GRAVES’s *I, Claudius* and P D James’s *A Shroud for a Nightingale* and many others, the plot involves a female poisoner. In movies and TV dramas, too, including *Snow White*, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *Flowers in the Attic*, *The Beguiled* and *Game of Thrones*, female poisoners play a prominent part.

It is interesting to note, also—especially in the context of a consideration of the lives of the female poisoners who were transported to Van Diemen’s Land—that many of the ‘celebrated’ real-life female poisoners of the nineteenth century did not stop at one murder. A number of them seem to have been fascinated by the power over life and death that poison gave them. Sarah CHESHAM, Mary BATEMAN, Mary Ann COTTON, Mary Ann BRITLAND, Mary Ann GEERING and Catherine WILSON in England, Martha GRINDER and Martha WISE in the United States and Martha NEEDLE in the colony of Victoria, Australia, were all serial poisoners.¹¹

senic-cyanide-and-strychnine-the-golden-age-of-victorian-poisoners.html
<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/secrets/the-five-top-poisons/202/>

⁷ P D James, ‘How the Ladies Like to Murder’; see Note 1, above

⁸ P D James, ‘How the Ladies Like to Murder’, a review of Katherine Watson’s *Poisoned Lives* in *The Telegraph* (UK), 19 January 2004

⁹ **https://munchies.vice.com/en_us/article/xy747z/a-brief-history-of-women-putting-poison-in-their-lovers-food**;
<https://quotecatalog.com/quote/david-benioff-poisons-a-wo-jpX4Lkp/>

¹¹ Katherine Watson (2004). *Poisoned Lives: English Poisoners and Their Victims*. London: Hambledon; Ben Johnson, ‘Victorian Poisoners’, **<http://www.historicuk.com/HistoryUK/HistoryofEngland/Victorian-Poisoners/>**; Linda Stratmann (2016). *The Secret Poisoner: The Victorian Age of Poisoning*. New Haven, Conn: Yale University Press; Meredith Haggerty, ‘That Girl is Poison: A Brief, Incomplete History of Female Poisoners’ in *The Hairpin*, December 16, 2014; ‘Martha Needle—Melbourne’s 19th Century Serial Poisoner’, State Library of Victoria, at **<https://blogs.slv.vic.gov.au/>**

So, how did the females who were transported to Van Diemen's Land for murdering with poison fare? Did any of them kill, or attempt to kill, again? Were those who had poisoned their husbands able to find new marriage partners in the colony? Did those who had poisoned a child start new families? Did they make a success of their lives in their new land? Do we know what eventually became of them?

As it happens, the behaviour in the colony of all eight of these women was *exceptionally* good. Their conduct records reveal that none killed or attempted to kill again. None, in fact, ever committed another serious crime.

Here are brief summaries of their lives in the colony:

Sarah Barber (née SIMPSON) was about twenty-two years of age when she murdered Joseph Barber, her husband of three years, with arsenic at Nottingham, England, in 1851. She arrived at Hobart in January 1852. According to her convict documents, she was unusually tall at 6'1½" (about 187 cms). Her gaol report states she was 'bad'.¹² Nevertheless, she quickly found a new husband—John HUNTER—a boot maker who had arrived in Van Diemen's Land as a free settler. They were married eight months after Sarah's arrival.¹³ Between 1853 and 1858, she gave birth to three sons—John, Samuel and Alfred Hunter.¹⁴ There are only two minor offences on her conduct record in the colony. In 1852 she was fined five shillings for disturbing the peace; and in 1853 she was reprimanded

for travelling about Hobart without a pass. In 1856 she received her ticket of leave and in 1858 she was granted a conditional pardon.¹⁵ In 1861 she died giving birth to a stillborn fourth son.¹⁶

Hannah Roberts (née JONES), from Flintshire, Wales, was just seventeen and pregnant to John PRATT, the son of her mistress, when she was forced into a marriage with 73-year-old Robert Roberts, whom she poisoned with arsenic two months later. Her gaol report states that she was an honest and industrious, if somewhat 'giddy', girl from a poor but respectable family. Leaving her month old son behind, she arrived in VDL in April 1844.¹⁷ Like Sarah Barber, she quickly found a new husband—former convict John CADBY (*Lady Raffles*, 1841) and they married in 1846.¹⁸ A son, Hamen (or Hayman) was born that year and another son, Thomas, followed in 1847. A daughter, Matilda, was born in 1855.¹⁹ There are indications, however, that the marriage might not have been a happy one. In 1850, at the age of four, the eldest son Hamen was admitted to the Queen's Orphan School and remained there until he was released as an apprentice to William CARTER of Swansea in 1861.²⁰ Why was Hamen not released to one or other of his parents?

**such-was-life/martha-needle-mel
bournes-19th-century-serial-poisoner/**

¹² CON41-1-32, Image 19

¹³ RGD37/1/11/776 (1852), Hobart

¹⁴ Queen's Orphan School, Hobart, records at <http://www.orphanschool.org.au/searchorphans.php>

¹⁵ CON41-1-32, Image 19; ToL: *HTG*, 19 August 1856; CP: *HTG*, 6 July 1858

¹⁶ Inquest (1860): SC195/1/44, No. 4805

¹⁷ CON41-1-1, Image 127

¹⁸ RGD37/1/5/147/1846, Sorell

¹⁹ Births: Hayman 33/947/1846 and Thomas 33/997/1847, both registered at Richmond with surname Cadley; Matilda, 33/978/1856, Longford, with surname Cadly

²⁰ Queen's Orphan School, Hobart, records at <http://www.orphanschool.org.au/searchorphans.php>

Had both of them passed away? No record of the death of either of them has been found. John Cadby's documents show he was granted a Conditional Pardon in 1856 but nothing is known of his life after that.²¹ Meanwhile, Hannah's life seems to have been slowly disintegrating. In 1853, 1854, 1855, 1857 and 1858, she was either fined or gaoled with hard labour, sometimes more than once, for drunkenness and associated minor offences.²² Nothing more is known of her after her last recorded offence in September 1858.

Ann Merritt (née ROWE) arrived in VDL in March 1851 after having been found guilty of the murder by arsenic poisoning of James Merritt, the man she had married in her native Suffolk, England, eleven years earlier. She was 32 years-old and had left the five children of her marriage behind.²³ At her trial in 1850, where she was described as young, slight and good-looking, evidence was given that she had put arsenic into her husband's gruel. She told the court she had purchased the poison for herself because she was unhappy with her husband's drinking. In handing down a guilty verdict, the jury added a strong recommendation for mercy on account of her previous good character.²⁴ Eighteen months after her arrival in VDL, she married John SHIPLEY, free, a watchmaker, but she died just a year later.²⁵ The cause of her death was given as

consumption. She had committed no new offences in the colony.

Catherine Meany (née PURCELL) was twenty-three when she murdered Thomas MEANY (aka MEANEY), her husband of only three weeks, in her native Kilkenny, Ireland, in 1844. She arrived in VDL in December 1845. There are two minor offences on her convict record. In 1846, she was gaoled for a month for insolence towards her mistress; in 1847 she was gaoled again, this time for four months, for misconduct.²⁶ In 1850, she married former convict George NELMES (aka NELMS), a farm labourer.²⁷ Between 1850 and 1856, four sons were born to the couple.²⁸ In 1854, Catherine received her ticket of leave; in 1859, she was granted a conditional pardon.²⁹ Around 1873, Catherine and George left Tasmania and settled near Ballarat in Victoria, where they lived for the remainder of their lives.³⁰ George passed away in 1901, and Catherine, aged ninety, in 1911.³¹

Catherine Michael (aka MICHAL, MICHEL, MITCHELL) was 24 and single when found guilty of murdering her illegitimate son, George MICHAEL, nine months old, by deliberately administering an overdose of laudanum, an opiate, to him.³² At her trial at the Old Bailey, London, in April 1840, the jury delivered a strong recommendation for

²¹ CON33-1-6, Image 70

²² CON41-1-1, Image 127

²³ CON41-1-29, Image 103

²⁴ Old Bailey online at <https://www.oldbaileyonline.org/>; trial reference no: t18500304-599

²⁵ Marriage: RGD37/1/1 546/1852, Hobart; Death: RGD35/321/1853, Hobart

²⁶ CON41-1-8, Image 99

²⁷ RGD37/869/1850, Richmond.

²⁸ Nelms family history at http://peter_nelms.tripod.com/historyV.html

²⁹ CON41-1-8, Image 99

³⁰ Catherine's death certificate (as 'NELMS'): Vic Reg 167/1911

³¹ Vic Reg 8081/1901; Death notice: Age (Melbourne), 21 September 1901, p. 5; Vic Reg 167/1911

³² CON40-1-8, Image 31

mercy on account of her having been seduced and abandoned by the father of the child.³³ She arrived in VDL in January 1841 and committed no new offences of any kind. In 1845, she was given permission to marry William BURSTON, free, a Launceston publican, with whom she had nine children.³⁴ By 1860, William had been granted the licence of the prominent Fire Brigade Hotel in Brisbane Street, Launceston, where the couple lived until Catherine's death, at 62, in 1878.³⁵

Ann McCormick (aka MacCORMICK, McCORMACK, CORMICK) was 26 and a single mother of three illegitimate children when found guilty of murdering her six-month old baby with arsenic at Liverpool, England, in 1843. Although the court heard horrific details of the crime, the jury recommended mercy on account of her circumstances and she arrived in VDL in January 1844.³⁶ In 1849, she married former convict, William BATTEN (*Maria Somes*, 1849), a quarryman.³⁷ There is no record of children. It is believed that Ann died in 1854.³⁸ She was 35 years old. She had committed no new offences in the colony.³⁹

Mary Moody (aka Mary Ann MOODY), single, 19, was convicted of murdering her uncle, Alexander BOYLE, with whom she resided in Co. Donegal,

Ireland, in 1841. Although the details of her crime are unclear, there is a suggestion in trial records that she wanted the savings she knew her uncle kept at the bank. In handing down its guilty verdict, the jury strongly recommended mercy on account of her age, gender and previous unblemished character.⁴⁰ She arrived in VDL in December 1841. Her gaol report described her as 'exceedingly quiet and well-behaved'.⁴¹ Not surprisingly, she committed no new offences in the colony. In 1843, she married Charles ROBERTS, free, a district constable at Clarence Plains.⁴² Their first child, Henry Roberts, born in 1846, seems to have survived but daughters born in 1852 and 1855, both named Mary Anne Roberts, and another son, Charles Roberts, born in 1854, all appear to have died in infancy.⁴³ After that, nothing more is known with certainty about her.

Samba, the eighth and final woman in this group, is listed only by her surname by marriage in the convict records.⁴⁴ The woman, whose first name is thought to have been Osensa, and her husband, whose surname was SAMBA, arrived together at Hobart Town on *Ocean Queen* in April 1844.⁴⁵ Osensa was 25 years old.

³³ <https://www.oldbaileyonline.org>: reference t18400406-1285.

³⁴ Permission to marry: CON52/1/2, p. 282. A record of their marriage has not been found.

³⁵ RGD35/1/47, No. 165, 1878, Launceston

³⁶ CON41-1-13, Image 21

³⁷ RGD37/1/9, No. 729

³⁸ Death notice: *Courier* (Hobart), 23 January 1854, p. 2

³⁹ CON41-1-13, Image 21

⁴⁰ Transportation Records: Mary Moody, CRF1841 M12, Film 45 via Female Convict Research Centre, Hobart, database, November 2017

⁴¹ CON41-1-8, Image 46

⁴² RGD37-1-3, 722/1843, Clarence Plains.

⁴³ Birth, son Henry: 33/952/1846, Richmond. The father's name is given as 'John Roberts' on the birth entry; birth, daughter, first Mary Ann (1852, unregistered?), death 35/1018/1854, Hobart; birth, daughter, second Mary Ann (1855, unregistered?), death.

⁴⁴ CON40-1-10, Image 105

⁴⁵ Bates, C and M Carter, 'Enslaved Lives, Enslaving Labels: A New Approach to the

At her trial at Port of Spain, Mauritius, in December 1843, it was claimed that—with three male accomplices, one of whom was her husband—she had murdered another member of the crew of a ship on which all were working by adding a poison to his pudding. All four were found guilty and sentenced to transportation for life. It is not clear whether husband and wife were permitted to remain together in the colony but that seems unlikely. Records show that, in January 1850, Osensa was sentenced to four days in a cell for being out after hours. In late 1851, she gave birth to an illegitimate child at the Launceston Female Factory. In 1854, she was granted a ticket of leave and in 1857 her conditional pardon was approved.⁴⁶ After that, she disappeared into the pages of history. Was she ever re-united with her husband? Did she re-marry? Did she leave the colony? At this time there are no answers.

So, does it come as a surprise to discover that the behavior of all eight women who were transported to Van Diemen's Land after being found guilty of murder by poison was as close to exemplary as could be imagined? No, probably not!

These were women whose ages and circumstances allowed judges and juries at their trials to look upon them with mercy. Some of them had been forced into inappropriate marriages or had been abused shamefully by their husbands; others had been desperate, struggling to

survive with illegitimate children after being seduced and abandoned. In contrast, many of the older, more hardened female poisoners who came before the courts at that time were sent directly to the gallows.

Moreover, some criminologists claim that those who murder often feel compelled to do so by the particular circumstances in which they are trapped at the time and that when those circumstances are alleviated they are unlikely to kill again.⁴⁷ Could that explain the behavior of these eight women?

Following outcries of complaint and concern from the medical profession, the press and the public throughout the 19th century and on into the 20th, poisons of all kinds—and especially arsenic, the one most commonly used to murder—gradually became harder and harder to obtain. The *Arsenic Act* of 1851 required sellers to record the purchaser's name and address in their 'poisons book' and the buyer was obliged to sign a register. That, and the fact that modern forensic techniques make it possible to identify virtually all toxic agents no matter how little remain in a corpse, means that murder by poison is now extremely rare.⁴⁸ ◀

Colonial Indian Labor Diaspora' in Banerjee, S, A McGuinness and S McKay. (2012), *New Routes for Diaspora Studies* (21 Century Studies, Vol. 5).
Bloomington: Indiana University Press.
Samba is referred to as Osensa in the Bates and Carter article.

⁴⁶ CON40-1-10, Image 105

⁴⁷ <https://www.quora.com/What-percentage-of-released-murderers-go-on-to-kill-again>; Brodsky, S and O'Neal Smitherman, H (eds.) (2014). *Handbook of Scales for Research in Crime and Delinquency*. New York: Springer.

⁴⁸ S Hempel, 'Arsenic — The Near-Perfect Murder Weapon' in *Huffpost*, 'The Blog', 12 June 2013 at https://www.huffingtonpost.com/sandra-hempel/arsenic-the-nearperfect-m_b_4398140.html

NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS

NAME	PLACE/AREA	TIME	M'SHIP NO.
ALLEN Winnifred	Clare IRL/Glebe Sydney NSW AUS	1828>	7950
BASS	Hamburg GERMANY	1800-2000	7954
BLYTHE Phillis	Hobart TAS AUS	1804-1869	7959
CHECCUCCI Joseph Henry	Florence ITALY	1750-1900	7951
CURTIS John	Tamar River/East Arm TAS AUS	1820-1950	7951
DALEY Patrious	Patersonia TAS AUS		7955
EDWARDS William	Derbyshire ENG	1815-1840	7950
EGAN Patrick	Clare IRL/Glebe Sydney NSW AUS	1828>	7950
GAYLOR Charles	Hobart TAS AUS	1802-1855	7959
GERSON Rose			7968
HALL/THOMAS/FULLER Esther	Launceston/George Town TAS AUS	1819-1877	7967
HANSON Emily	Warwick, Rochdale ENG/Sydney NSW	1854>	7950
HARPER James	Launceston/George Town TAS AUS	1835-1888	7967
HIND Thomas	Derbyshire ENG	1815-1840	7950
HOCHFELD	Hamburg GERMANY	1800-2000	7954
IBBOTT John	London ENG/Brighton, Colebrook TAS		7952
INSELMANN	Hamburg GERMANY	1800-2000	7954
JORDAN William Lachlan	Launceston TAS AUS		7952
KEOGH Jeremiah			7955
LONG James	Launceston TAS AUS	1835-1880	7959
LUNEBURG	Hamburg GERMANY	1800-2000	7954
LUNSON Jonathon			7955
MATHEWS George Thomas	Launceston/George Town TAS AUS	1850-1890	7967
McMAHON Mary	Launceston/George Town TAS AUS	1839-1895	7967
McMULLEN James	Franklin TAS AUS	c.1850 ?	7959
MUNRO Janet	Perth SCT/Scottsdale TAS AUS	1806-1900	7950
RICHARDSON Isaac	Campbelltown TAS AUS		7952
ROBERTS Jacob	Manningsford Bruce WIL ENG	1813-1882	7964
ROWE Family	Tamar River/East Arm TAS AUS	1820-1950	7951
SAGGERS	Evandale TAS AUS		7952
SAUNDERS Mary Ann	Pewsey WIL ENG	1815-1895	7964
SMITH Daniel	Yolla TAS AUS		7952
STEWART Robert	Parkham TAS AUS/Scotland		7952
STUART John Lingwood	Launceston/George Town TAS AUS	1824-1905	7967
THOMAS John Gardiner	Launceston/George Town TAS AUS	1830-1846	7967
WIGGERS	Hamburg GERMANY/Maryland USA	1800-2000	7954

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A warm welcome is extended to the following new members

7946	JAMES Ms Barbara	23 Victoria Street barbara.jones4@bigpond.com	RICHMOND	TAS	7025
7947	PARISH Mr Allan	Not for publication			
7948	DUHIG Mrs Genevieve	Not for publication			
7949	SPIEGEL Mrs Elizabeth	GPO Box 729 ejs@spiegelweb.com.au	HOBART	TAS	7001
7950	MULLER Ms Vivienne	387a Nelson Road mulrum@gmail.com	MT NELSON	TAS	7007
7951	CURTIS Ms Tina	4 Rowan Ct	TAROONA	TAS	7053
7952	EDWARDS Mr James	5 Malunna Crescent	PARKLANDS	TAS	7320
7953	WOODWARD Mrs Andrea	Not for publication			
7954	MORROW Mr Paul	3 Gorge Road	TREVALLYN	TAS	7250
7955	HAMILTON Mr Cameron	11 Crisp Street	COOEE	TAS	7320
7956	FRANKLIN Ms Deborah	Not for publication			
7957	YOUNG Mr Clinton	Not for publication			
7958	COTTERELL Mr Peter	22 Walker Street	WYNYARD	TAS	7325
7959	LONG Mr Geoff	17 Kirval Court geoffglong@gmail.com	WEST HOBART	TAS	7000
7960	GRUBB Mr Paul	2/24 Clarence Street grubbfamily@bigpond.com	BELLERIVE	TAS	7018
7961	RODDAM Mr Neil	Not for publication			
7962	LEE Mr Warwick	PO Box 12 weymouth@yahoo.com	WOODBIDGE	TAS	7162
7963	LEE Mrs Sue	PO Box 12 weymouth@yahoo.com	WOODBIDGE	TAS	7162
7964	BALL Mrs June	75 Umfrevilles Road	KAOOTA	TAS	7150
7965	PEPPER Mrs Janelle	8 Raleigh Court janelle.pepper@internode.on.net	HOWRAH	TAS	7018
7966	RICHARDS Julieanne	10 Weetman Street gillings.richards@bigpond.com	LEGANA	TAS	7277
7967	THOMAS Dr Diana	170 Elizabeth Drive dthom.5@bigpond.net.au	VINCENTIA	NSW	2540
7968	HOLWILL Mrs Jurine-Rose	Not for publication			
7969	CURTIS Mrs Fran	4/96 Davey Street curtisrf2004@yahoo.com.au	HOBART	TAS	7000

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Service No.	Surname	Forenames	Date of death	Regiment	Rank	Cemetery
355863	CURNOW	J A	14DEC1919	Labour Corps	Company Quartermaster Serjeant	Cardiff (Cathays)
16317	DAVIES	Thomas	23JUL1916	Welsh Regiment	Corporal	Bedwelty (St Sannah)
42398	EVANS	H	23JUN1917	Royal Garrison Artillery	Gunner	Carmarthen St David
P/222298	FORD	Walter	20OCT1941	Royal Navy	Petty Officer	Bramley
RMA/14710	FRANCIS	Bernard	14MAY1921	Royal Marine Artillery	Gunner	Lewes (St John the Baptist-Sub-Castro)
235225	GIBBONS	Charles Henry	25JAN1919	Herefordshire Reg.	Private	Upton Bishop (St John the Baptist)
16487	GOBLE	Alfred	31MAY1917	Welsh Regiment	Serjeant	Carmarthen (St David)
1488	HARDS	J F S	12APR1915	London Reg. (Cyclists)	Lance Corporal	Lewes
240425	RUSSELL	Matthew	01APR1920	South Lancashire Regiment	Private	St Helens
	WAKEFORD	Charles	09OCT1917	Royal Naval Reserve	Assistant Paymaster	Great Crosby (St Luke)

COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES COMMISSION May 2018 Appeal for relatives in search to locate next of kin—see next page

COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES COMMISSION APPEAL

THIS is an appeal to locate the next of kin for soldiers who fell in war.

Could you be connected to any of these individuals? If you are related and can provide us with documentation, please contact our UKNA Technical Team

<https://www.cwgc.org/learn/news-and-events/news/2018/05/29/13/25/appeal-for-relatives---may-2018>

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) honours the 1.7 million men and women of the Commonwealth forces who died in the First and Second World Wars, and ensures they will never be forgotten.

Our work commemorates the war dead, from building and maintaining our cemeteries and memorials at 23,000 locations in more than 150 countries and territories to preservation of our extensive records and archives. Our values and aims, laid out in 1917, are as relevant now as they were 100 years ago.

The Commission's principles are:

- Each of the dead should be commemorated by name on the headstone or memorial
- Headstones and memorials should be permanent
- Headstones should be uniform
- There should be no distinction made on account of military rank, race or creed.

Since our establishment by Royal Charter we have constructed 2,500 war cemeteries and plots, erected headstones over graves and where the remains are missing, inscribed the names of the dead on permanent memorials. More than a million burials are now commemorated at military and civil sites in more than 150 countries and territories. ◀

JILLETT – BRADSHAW FAMILY REUNION

TASMANIA 2018

**THURSDAY 4 OCTOBER to
SUNDAY 7 OCTOBER 2018**

**Thursday 4 October 2018
HOBART**

10:00 a.m. Hobart—Meet and Greet
at the historic **Hobart Town Hall**
Explore Hobart waterfront
Wapping area and Hunter Street
(family links)
Derwent River on the *Lady Nelson*

**Friday 5 October
RICHMOND,
OATLANDS and YORK PLAINS
Family Dinner at Midlands Hotel,
Oatlands (Family History File sharing)**

**Saturday 6 October
OATLANDS, ROSS
BOTHWELL, KEMPTON
NEW NORFOLK
Family Dinner at Bush Inn New Norfolk**

**Sunday 7 October
DERWENT VALLEY
NEW NORFOLK
BACK RIVER and MALBINA
Malbina Cemetery, New Norfolk North
Circle Cemetery, Back River Cemetery**

For information and to request a
registration package contact

Kris Herron
jillett1800@gmail.com
or Ann Williams-Fitzgerald
annwf@optusnet.com.au

EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED!

Robin Flannery (Member No. 5263)

HAMILTON HAND-ME-DOWNS in the June 2018 edition of *Tasmanian Ancestry* drew a totally unforeseen response from a most unexpected source.

That article showed the nine-generation lineal descent from convict William JACKSON (my great, great, great grandfather) to Riley and Lucas ROELOFS, sons of Michael Roelofs and my granddaughter Kylie (née BROAD).

Kylie proudly showed a copy to Michael's mother Louise—herself well versed in her family history—who spotted the name Mary Hallier RAYNER; the daughter of George Rayner and Mary PYERS and the second wife of James Jackson, the Hamilton storekeeper son of convict William.

Louise kindly provided a copy of her ancestral link to the Rayner clan, extending back to convicts William Rayner and Elizabeth GOLDSMITH who were the earliest of my ancestors transported to Sydney Cove in Port Jackson. Elizabeth Goldsmith¹ arrived aboard *Lady Juliana* in early June 1790 while, later that month, the Second Fleet vessel *Scarborough* brought William Rayner.²

On 1 August 1790, Elizabeth and William were two of approximately 150 women and 30 men dispatched aboard *Surprise* to Norfolk Island. There they had two sons—William Jnr (Louise's great, great, great, great grandfather, born 1792) and George (my great, great, great

grandfather, born 1794)—before Elizabeth left William for Robert JONES from a neighbouring property.

A Quaker, William Rayner Snr made his way to Van Diemen's Land in 1814. He died at his Barrack Street home in Hobart Town in 1850, aged 83, and was buried at the Friends' Burial Ground in Mellifont Street.

When they met and married, neither Michael nor Kylie or their families had any inkling they shared forebears: convict ancestors—pioneering families—dating back to the earliest days of European settlement at Sydney Cove, Norfolk Island and Van Diemen's Land (now Tasmania).

Ancestral bloodlines are:

William RAYNER & Elizabeth GOLDSMITH	
William Jnr RAYNER	George RAYNER
Eliza RAYNER	Mary Hallier RAYNER
Walter De Molesworth JEFFERY	James Arthur JACKSON
Molesworth JEFFERY	Arthur Gordon JACKSON
Leslie JEFFERY	Rita May JACKSON
Spencely Alexander Molesworth JEFFERY	Robin Francis FLANNERY
Helen Louise JEFFERY	Jeannette Marie FLANNERY
Michael Peter ROELOFS	Kylie Marie BROAD

Another example of the wonderful connections to be found in Tasmania.

[R Davidson—Ed.]

¹ Flynn, Michael. *The Second Fleet. Britain's Grim Convict Armada of 1790*. Library of Australian History, Sydney, 1993.

² *ibid.*

VOICES FROM THE ORPHAN SCHOOLS

BRIDGET KINSHELA *BLACKFRIAR* 1851

Dianne Snowden (Member No. 910)

IRISH convict Eliza KINSHELA arrived in Van Diemen's Land on the *Blackfriar* in May 1851.

Eliza, a widow, had been tried for burglary in Wexford, her native place, in March 1850.¹

Eliza already had a sister, Margaret RYAN, in the colony; she arrived on the *Arabian* in 1847.² Another sister, transported as Johanna MURPHY, arrived with Eliza on the *Blackfriar*.³ Johanna's daughter, Eliza BAYNE, aged 14, was also on board.⁴

Eliza brought two children with her on the *Blackfriar*, Bidly aged 13, and James, 8. Both were admitted to the Queen's Orphan Schools on 3 June 1851 with several other children from the *Blackfriar*, including their cousin Eliza Bayne.⁵

James died of consumption on 23 September 1851 at the Male Orphan School.⁶

Bridget remained in the Orphan School until 6 April 1852 when she was apprenticed to Thomas DUGGAN of the *Cocked Hat* near Carrick.⁷

In September 1852, Bridget's mother, Eliza Kinshella, a widowed servant aged 37, married James FERBY, a labourer, also aged 37, in St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Hobart. Witnesses were William CRAWLEY and Margaret Crawley (Eliza's sister, Margaret Ryan).⁸

Eliza possibly died as 'Elizabeth FEIBY' at New Norfolk in 1880, aged 59.⁹

Almost ten years after leaving the Orphan School, on 21 June 1861, Bridget, a house servant aged 21, married William SAWYER, a labourer aged 36, in the Jericho Church of England. Her mother, 'Elizabeth FORBY', was one of the witnesses.¹⁰

By the time she married, Bridget had three children. Mary Ann was born about 1856 and Richard about 1859. Rebecca was born days before her mother married.¹¹ Another child was born on 25

¹ TAHO, CON41/1/39 No. 441 Eliza Kinshella *Blackfriar* 1851. The surname is variously spelt.

² TAHO, CON41/1/12 No. 413 Margaret Ryan *Arabian* 1847

³ TAHO, CON41/1/39 No. 1253 Johanna Murphy *Blackfriar* 1851

⁴ TAHO, CON41/1/30 No. 1253 Johanna Murphy *Blackfriar* 1851

⁵ TAHO, SWD28/1/1 p. 29 Boys Admission Register James Kinshella; p. 39 Girls Admission Register 'Betsy' Kinshella.

⁶ TAHO, RGD35/1/3 District of Hobart 1851/948 James 'Kinshella'; TAHO, CON41/1/39 Eliza Kinshella *Blackfriar* 1850 No. 441

⁷ TAHO, SWD28/1/1 p. 39 Girls Admission Register 'Betsy' Kinshella

⁸ TAHO, RGD37/1/11 District of Hobart 1852/705 Eliza Kinsella and James Ferby

⁹ TAHO, RGD35/1/49 District of New Norfolk 1880/490 Elizabeth Feiby

¹⁰ TAHO, RGD37/1/20 District of Oatlands 1861/283 Bridget 'Kinshella' and William Sawyer

¹¹ TAHO, RGD33/1/39 District of Oatlands 1861/1747 Rebecca Sawyer. Mother's name, 'Kinsley'.

October 1862 and registered by the District Constable at the River Ouse.¹²

In January 1863, Bridget Sawyer applied for admission of three children into the Queen's Asylum for Destitute Children: Mary Jane, aged 7; Richard, nearly 4; and Rebecca nearly 3. Rebecca had another two children: John, aged 5; and Joseph, aged 9 weeks.¹³ Their father, William Sawyer, had deserted his family and was believed to have gone to New Zealand. According to the records of the Queen's Asylum, William Sawyer arrived in Van Diemen's Land on the *Chapman* (1) in 1824.¹⁴ According to his convict records, he was 24 when he arrived, sentenced to transportation for seven years.¹⁵ The Orphan School admission records in 1863 noted that he had been employed as a shepherd by Edward NICHOLAS at Pine Tier, Marlborough (near Bothwell).¹⁶

Bridget, who was out of work and living at Bothwell, had no means of maintaining her five children.¹⁷

While the application was being processed, Bridget also deserted her children and left the district. Mary Ann, Richard and Rebecca were left on Mr QUODLING's premises while he was absent. He placed them with a lodging house keeper until they could be transported to the

Queen's Asylum.¹⁸ The three children were admitted on 7 February 1863.

The first of the three Sawyer children to leave the Queen's Asylum was Mary Ann, who was apprenticed to James FORBEY at New Norfolk on 4 April 1867. Her apprenticeship expired on 4 April 1873 when she was 18.¹⁹ James was most likely her grandmother's colonial husband, her step-grandfather.

Richard Sawyer was apprenticed to Miss STOKELL at Black Charlie's Opening on 10 March 1872. On 11 July 1874, he absconded from Mrs Stokell, at *Thornton* near Richmond. He was described as 15, dark hair, florid complexion, full face, short and stout.²⁰ He was arrested in September 1875 by the Oatlands Police.²¹ On 16 November 1875, he was re-apprenticed to Algernon PAGE at Anstey Barton. His apprenticeship expired on 7 July 1877.²² He absconded again in 1877.²³

Rebecca Sawyer was apprenticed to W A JOHNSTONE at Deloraine on 5 June 1874. She remained there until her apprenticeship expired on 31 May 1878.²⁴ Rebecca may have married William Smith O'BRIAN in Avoca in 1879.²⁵

¹² TAHO, RGD33/1/40 District of Hamilton 1862/726 Sawyers. Given name not recorded. Mother's name, 'Kinshler'.

¹³ TAHO, SWD26/1/6 Sawyer [Images 22–33]. The Queen's Orphan Schools were known as the Queen's Asylum for Destitute Children from 1861.

¹⁴ TAHO, SWD26/1/6 Sawyer [Image 22]

¹⁵ TAHO, CON33/1/38 No. 624 p. 209 William Sawyer *Chapman* (1) 1824; CON23/1/3 No. 624 William Sawyer *Chapman* (1) 1824

¹⁶ TAHO, SWD26/1/6 Sawyer [Image 22]

¹⁷ TAHO, SWD26/1/6 Sawyer [Image 23]

¹⁸ TAHO, SWD26/1/6 Sawyer [Image 25–26]

¹⁹ TAHO, SWD32/1/1 p. 7 Mary Jane Sawyer

²⁰ *Tasmanian Reports of Crime* Vol. XII No. 783 24 July 1874 p. 121

²¹ *Tasmanian Reports of Crime* Vol. XIV No. 843 17 September 1875 p. 150

²² TAHO, SWD32/1/1 p. 6 Richard Sawyer

²³ *Tasmanian Reports of Crime* Vol. XVI No. 927 2 April 1877 p. 67

²⁴ TAHO, SWD32/1/1 p. 8 Rebecca Sawyer

²⁵ TAHO, RGD37/1/38 District of Fingal 1879/223 Rebecca Rachel Sawyer and William Smith O'Brian

On 31 March 1869, in the Launceston Quarter Sessions, a woman named Bridget Kinshella, 'free', was sentenced to two months' imprisonment for 'deserting her child', Charles Kinsella, on 1 January.²⁶ Was this Bridget Kinshella who arrived as a child on the *Blackfriar*?

Bridget had been living with Joseph EVANS, a labourer, for about 18 months. She allegedly had a child by her husband when she moved in with Joseph. On the night she deserted her child, Bridget and Joseph argued and in court Joseph testified:

I left the Scottish Chief with defendant and the children between 7 and 8 o'clock in the evening. Defendant was to take a house for me in Launceston ... when we left the Scottish Chief we had some high words, from jealousy; we parted, she taking charge of the boy; I was willing and able to provide for the children; I went home to Patterson's Plains; I saw defendant again next morning; she brought only the baby; she said a shipmate had taken charge of the boy, on condition that he was not interfered with again; she had adopted other children, but they had always been taken. I thought from that the child was being well taken care of ... we separated, I giving her half my money; she said she could do better than with me, and she was going with another man; I was apprehended for deserting the child; he is not mine; I only knew it by the name of 'Charley'. I knew her only by the name of Kinshella.²⁷

The *Launceston Examiner* reported her trial at length. Witness, John JORDAN, was the keeper of the *Scottish Chief* pub-

lic house. When he met the couple, he believed Bridget and Joseph to be married with one child. They later had another child. The couple were in the *Scottish Chief* on the day the child was abandoned.²⁸

The child was found by Sergeant Jonathan PETERS of the Launceston Police at 9 pm, sitting on the steps of the police station, crying. An advertisement was placed in the papers and the child was recognised by the *Scottish Chief* publican. Bridget was apprehended a month later. In her defence, Bridget stated on the night of 1 January, she was met by a woman, an old shipmate, who offered to take the little boy and keep him: 'she gave him over to this woman, and knew nothing more of the matter'.²⁹ The jury quickly found her guilty and sent her to prison.

Research undertaken by the Female Convicts Research Centre suggests that Bridget Kinshella, who arrived on the *Blackfriar*, was tried as Bridget CLARKE in 1870s and 1880s, for larceny and for being idle and disorderly in the Longford and Westbury districts.³⁰ More research needs to be undertaken to prove this, as it does to establish that the woman who deserted her child in 1869 was Bridget Kinshella, who arrived as a child on the *Blackfriar*. ◀

For more stories about the children admitted to the Orphan Schools, see Friends of the Orphan Schools, St Johns Park Precinct: www.orphanschool.org.au

²⁶ TAHO, CON42/1/1 p. 111; *Launceston Examiner* 1 April 1869 p. 3 'Kinseella'; *Cornwall Chronicle* 3 April 1869 p. 5

²⁷ *Launceston Examiner* 1 April 1869 p. 3 (evidence of Joseph Evans). Joseph Evans was found not guilty.

²⁸ *Launceston Examiner* 1 April 1869 p. 3 (evidence of John Jordan).

²⁹ *Launceston Examiner* 1 April 1869 p. 3

³⁰ <https://www.femaleconvicts.org.au> FRCR Female Convicts in Van Diemen's Land Database, Eliza Kinshella, Convict ID 2819. Accessed 28 June 2018.

NEVER GIVE UP

Ron Chapman

LAST year, *Tasmanian Ancestry* published my article about the most unusual chap, Robert Richard MATTHEWS aka Rodney Matthews-Naper.¹ At that time, I thought all available sources had been investigated. However, that was not the case. Relationships Australia, Tasmania, sent me a 68-page file dealing with Robert's foster care. Much of this file deals with authorities trying to contact Robert's father in order to have him pay maintenance to foster homes. The father was full of promises to try to do better, but never did.

The returns of the Hobart Supreme Court for 15 May 1931 show that Robert was charged with larceny when aged 10 and discharged with a warning. He appears to have kept bad company and in October took a gun to a local domain to fire at trees with another boy. They then robbed a shop of cigarettes. His mother found him uncontrollable and applied to have him admitted to Kennerley Boys' Home where he was admitted on 19 October 1931.

During his time in the Boys' Home, Robert had a mastoid operation and his father wanted him to live with a married sister which would no doubt have saved

the father paying maintenance. This move was not possible because the sister had two children of her own and was almost penniless. When he was almost 13, Robert and another boy absconded from the Boys' Home but were picked up by

the police three days later and returned to Kennerley. He remained at the Boys' Home until 13 September 1933 when he was discharged and went to live with another carer but by July 1935 he had gone to live in Hobart.

The son of Annabel COBURN, (née WILSON), who was taught to fly by Robert, informs me that he has inherited all his mother's papers. They may shed further light on Robert's

character but are not available to me at this time.

I do not expect you to publish this, but thought it might be of interest to you and a good example of never giving up researching family history. ◀

For an account of Matthews' life see Ron Chapman, 'Forever a Mystery Man', *Tasmanian Ancestry* Vol. 37 No. 3 December 2016



Robert Richard Matthews

¹ Ron Chapman, 'A Most Unusual Chap', *Tasmanian Ancestry*, Vol. 38 No. 3 December 2017, p. 170

SOMEWHERE TO LIVE

A SUBURB IS BORN

Jennifer Jacobs (Member No. 1826)



In the backyard at Hillcrest
Author's collection

SMOOTH bright orange stones, many big enough to fill my hand, spread down the hill forming the road at the lower end of Mark Street, Burnie. This was designated a private road and developers were required to take no responsibility.¹ When it rained, water collected in deep puddles at the base of the high mud footpaths. I remember my grandfather visiting and slashing back the long grass with a scythe so our new house could be built. Since June 1951, we had lived in a three-roomed grey masonry shack where four of us slept in one room. A second room was the living quarters and the third, a laundry complete with

claw foot bath, which sat behind what was both front and back door. Here my mother boiled clothes in the copper and accessed water from two cement tubs. There was no kitchen sink. Dampness had long ago warped the plywood room linings and the lino floors were cold. Our new house, which would adjoin the 'shack' would seem amazing luxury, when it was finished.

Just three houses up the road, things were different. Small but colourful little boxy houses only a couple of years old and relatively identical with one another were fronted by smooth cement footpaths and a sealed road. I was mystified at the different conditions.

¹ *Advocate* (Burnie) 20 June 1950, p. 6

My parents had optimistically bought our house as my father liked the shed, a roomy affair, which was to become a productive workshop. Indeed, it was here that I learned to make fishing sinkers from lead, cut and plane wood, nail bits and pieces together and especially to put tools back in the right spot. The back yard provided plenty of space for a vegetable garden and the ramshackle chicken coop was constantly patched and remodelled for over sixty-five years.

Those who had bought into the area must have been optimists. Access to Hillcrest and Montello was a nightmare. Originally a farming area, development had been rapid and infrastructure had not kept up with housing development. In 1925, after years of discussion, it was confirmed that a pulp mill would be built at Burnie and 600 new dwellings were needed to double the accommodation in the town.² J F BRADY, an estate agent arrived from Melbourne to manage the purchase of land and no doubt make a tidy profit. Speculation was that he would purchase Mr A E TERRY's farm of 100 acres but this was not included in sales at this time. At Montello, Mr A DIPROSE's farm of 33 acres which included the old race-course was on offer, and at Hillcrest, 81 acres of the farm of J W COOPER who resided in the house now named 'Glen Osborne'.³ Frenzied land sales took place in 1926 with sales in Menai, Montello, and Hillcrest Estates.⁴ Access to the hill suburbs was via the steep and dangerously underdeveloped Sutton Street from New Country Road (now Mount Street) but following a new proposal in 1928, the driveway of Cooper's farm was incorporated into a new road which led up the

hill along Whalebone Creek and adjoined what is now Mark Street, but was originally, so it seems, to have been known as Aileen Crescent, this name being reassigned to the new road.⁵ At this junction, the Boulevard was created at the instigation of the developer Mr Brady.⁶ Despite glowing comments upon its construction, his vision did not live up to its name for another fifty years. A narrow strip of bitumen made its way between high banks overgrown with weeds on one side and the untidy bracken and willow filled creek bed on the other. In the 1950s, when I first knew it, muddy puddles formed pits along its broken edges and patrons of the corner shop had littered the ferns with refuse. It was not until 1936 that the council considered employing an engineer to standardise road construction.⁷

In May 1939, 11 year-old Dorothy SIMPSON wrote to the *Advocate* describing the lovely view from the back of her home in Aileen Crescent: beautiful colours in the sky and clouds, the sun shining on the ocean, cattle grazing in the fields, the train disappearing on its way to Launceston and the *Nairana* steaming out from the wharf in a cloud of smoke. Had she looked out front, she would have seen rivers of mud.⁸ The family avoided the chaos by moving to southern Tasmania for the next twelve years.⁹

In 1949, 2000 yards of fill gouged from excavations at View Road was used to prop up the road known as Cooper's corner in Aileen Crescent, known as but there was no money for drainage or

² *Advocate* 4 March 1925, p. 4

³ *Advocate* 20 May 1925, p. 4

⁴ *Advocate* 5 June 1926, p. 4

⁵ *Advocate* 19 June 1928 p. 7

⁶ *Advocate* 2 October 1928, p. 4

⁷ *Advocate* 19 May 1936, p. 8

⁸ *Advocate* 22 May 1939, p. 11

⁹ *Advocate* 1 May 1952, p. 11

footpaths.¹⁰ Power outages were caused when a truck was unable to negotiate the corner and hit a pole.¹¹ The Boulevard was being improved by the dumping of spoil from homes being constructed by A V JENNINGS in Upper Burnie, but as more houses were underway, the additional trucks carrying materials were chewing up the road even more.¹² The Sunday School bus skidded sideways across the road where it intersected Joyce Street and blocked traffic for an hour. Half an hour later, a truck suffered the same misfortune at the same spot.¹³

Five year-old Sigurd KNULST from Holland proved the continuing softness of the road surface at the corner of Mark Street and Aileen Crescent, when he fell under the bus which passed over his leg from thigh to ankle, causing heavy bruising but no broken bones. He was taken home by a Mr JAGO.¹⁴ Overcrowded and dangerous buses were the norm. Bus pushers were employed to pack more people in. Montello women were thrown around the bus, some being injured when the bus suddenly sank to its axles, teetering over Whalebone Creek at the same corner.¹⁵

By August 1950, the formation of footpaths and roads was finally underway.¹⁶ Only the government housing which we knew as bank homes, qualified for this luxury. In April 1951, my parents purchased their house at the lower end of Mark Street. In May, after three days of rain, three cars became bogged there so deeply it was not possible to tow them

out till conditions improved.¹⁷ My father told me he always drove down the street, not up, and put his brakes on at the corner. He could skid the rest of the way.

I was at the time, completely unaware that I was living in such a newly created world. One hundred and twelve houses had been built at Terrylands, several of sixty-five planned at Cooper's estate had been erected and 40 of 50 planned for Acton were underway.¹⁸ A British engineering firm, LUNNICKS moved its offices and workforce from Southampton, to Victoria, and established a branch in Tasmania. On 19 December 1951, thirty days after leaving England, the company moved seventy-one emigrants into sixteen houses in Terrylands and Cooper's Estate.¹⁹

Our road was metalled (not sealed), in 1952, but residents were warned to access Hillcrest and Montello via View Road some distance away, as Aileen Crescent was under water with running streams.²⁰ Residents in Sutton and Cherry Streets set up mail boxes on an empty lot as there was as yet no mail delivery, though it had been approved.²¹ How the postman might have accessed homes in Sutton Street is questionable as when the street was graded, houses on the high side of the road were left six feet above road level and a ladder was needed to reach their front gates as shown by a photograph in the *Advocate*.²²

Dorothy Simpson and her family returned to their former home in Hillcrest in 1952. What changes they must have noticed, in particular, the early buildings of Montello

¹⁰ *Advocate* 18 May 1949, p. 10

¹¹ *Examiner* (Launceston) 8 April 1950, p. 7

¹² *Advocate* 17 February 1950, p. 10

¹³ *Advocate* 12 April 1950, p. 4

¹⁴ *Advocate* 24 May 1952, p. 2

¹⁵ *Advocate* 7 November 1953, p. 12

¹⁶ *Advocate* 17 August 1950, p. 10

¹⁷ *Advocate* 26 May 1951, p. 12

¹⁸ *Advocate* 5 July 1951, p. 8.

¹⁹ *Advocate* 19 December 1951, p. 1

²⁰ *Advocate* 18 April 1952, p. 5

²¹ *Advocate* 24 April 1952, p. 1

²² *Advocate* 25 April 1952, p. 2

State School where Dorothy's sister, Heather, was to become my kinder teacher. There had been a squabble between the Agricultural Bank and the Education Department over the siting of the school and it had taken two years to make a decision.²³ The bank had set aside land at the Montello recreation ground in Terrylands Street, while the Education Department chose land in Bird Street.²⁴ Construction began in May 1951 with three classrooms planned to house 150 students!²⁵ This must have pleased the headmaster of Burnie State School Mr L STUBBS who had suggested two years earlier that his school was so overcrowded by hill dwellers, that he thought they should have their own school of temporary huts.²⁶ So desperate was the problem that the school opened in November 1952 with an enrolment of ninety students and many on the waiting list for the following year.²⁷ The only sealed area was outside the kindergarten, the rest completely undeveloped. Gumboots were compulsory wear in winter and we all carried our slippers in our school bag. Lunch break was extended to give all students time to walk home for a cooked meal, though some stopped at STOTT's shop halfway along Joyce Street for a pie and sauce.

Our street became a playground. 'Piggy in

the middle' and 'keepings off' entertained girls and boys alike. Modified rules catered for younger children in the group and we all played together. When stilts became fashionable, we rested our backs on the Simpson's hedge to climb aboard. We shared parties and bonfires with the MITCHELLS, enjoyed a Beatles party at BYRNE's house, and ventured to BARWICK's at the bottom of the street. I listened to records at RUFFELS. MEDFORDS invited us in to see their caged birds and we played in the warplane in their back yard. Syd was a ham radio operator and had bought it to use the wiring. My younger sister played at YAXLEY's. The SMITHS, DIXONS, ADAMs and EAVES moved in as others moved out. CONNOLLYs and BROWNS were early arrivals in the street. At 19 Mark Street, opposite our house, lived Colin COOPER on whose father's estate this whole development had begun.



Dad's workshop in 2013
Author's collection

²³ *Advocate* 9 March 1949, p. 7
²⁴ *Advocate* 13 September 1951, p. 12
²⁵ *Advocate* 3 May 1951, p. 6
²⁶ *Advocate* 17 March 1950, p. 21
²⁷ *Advocate* 5 November 1952, p. 10

Colin's grandson, Steven, joined in our games on summer evenings.

In the mornings during holidays and at weekends, my father and I would set out on a walk. Before our street was lengthened, and Acton was developed, we could climb through a barbed wire fence at Sutton Street and we were in the country. Paddocks full of sheep surrounded us and I felt that we were at the end of the town. Little did I imagine that the green paddocks would disappear so quickly. During one of those walks, we watched smoke rising from a ship at sea and my father surmised that it looked as if it were on fire. The newspaper the next morning carried photos and stories of the sinking of the first *Blythe Star*.²⁸

Every night, we placed our battered billy at the back door and early in the morning the milkman would take it out to the milk churn in his van and measure out the required number of scoops of milk. Later the town experimented with plastic milk sachets for which a special pouring jug was supplied. Bread was delivered to the front door. Why it had this higher social status, I do not know. The grocer was a back door person. Every Wednesday he came with his order book and carefully wrote as my mother dictated her order. Then she would ask about the 'weekly specials'. At five o'clock that afternoon there would be a rap and the door would fly open as the delivery man plonked a cardboard box full of items on the kitchen bench. There was also a 'shop on wheels', an old bus converted into a grocery shop. It always stopped outside the Simpson residence, where you could catch a glimpse of old Mrs Simpson's knee length knickers as she heaved herself up the step. The mobile butcher shop was

patronised by Mitchells, our neighbours, but my mother thought the meat was far too expensive. Occasionally a fruit merchant would come to the door offering tastes of his wares and she would buy apples. The Rawleighs and Watkins men would also open their suitcases to display their beautifully arranged essences, spices and jelly crystals. Upon leaving home, all the girls in my family were given a parting gift of a tin of Rawleigh's Medicated Ointment. We still use it, though I have learned from experience that it melts everywhere if left in the glove box.

Finally Mark Street was sealed. Cement footpaths were extended most of the way down the street, and formed a magnificent billycart track. Dad once again put his tools to good use and produced a wonderful machine. We had hours of fun.

Our world had become civilised and younger brothers and sisters had no vision of what it had been like in the fifties. Hillcrest, Montello and surrounding areas began to mature. Houses became worn and cracks appeared in footpaths. Residents moved out and others moved in. Some houses were upgraded while others sank into disrepair. Rooms continued to be added to the primary school.

Finally, the paper mill which had initiated this development closed in 2010 after operating for seventy-two years.²⁹ The Burnie hospital which advocated in 1936 to care for the inevitable injured 'pulp workers,' has been replaced by a new one and the city continues to flourish as new suburbs and industries spread out over farm lands which disappear into the past.³⁰ ◀

²⁸ *The Canberra Times* (ACT) 17 February 1959, p. 1

²⁹ *Advocate* 13 April 2010, p. 1

³⁰ *Advocate* 11 June 1936, p. 2.

WILLIAM McPHERSON 1843–1933

Audrey ‘Jill’ Warren

‘All the world is full of suffering. It is also full of overcoming’. Helen Keller

POVERTY-STRICKEN, abandoned and orphaned, not an ideal start in childhood for any young person, but such was the hand dealt to William McPHERSON (1843–1933) in his formative years.¹

His parents, William snr (1809 –?) and Ann (née ROBERTSON 1811–1848), emigrated from Scotland to New Zealand in 1841.² Like many of their fellow early colonists, William snr and Ann found conditions primitive and tough in their new home.³ They lived in Wellington and Nelson during their 18 months in New Zealand, welcoming a son, Angus, during this time.⁴ These two areas of New Zealand were earmarked as agricultural settlements and many of the early settlers were not skilled in this area.⁵ This fact may have influenced William snr and

Ann to move in early 1843 bound for another new start and, hopefully, better job prospects and living conditions in Hobart Town Van Diemen’s Land.⁶ By the 1840s Hobart Town was a well established town and growing rapidly, with ships arriving almost daily.⁷ Although no formal record of his birth has been found William jnr would have been born sometime after the arrival of his parents in 1843.⁸

William snr had found work as a carpenter and he and Ann were living at 73 Melville Street when Ann gave birth to unnamed twin boys on the 14 August 1845. No baptismal evidence of their names has been located.⁹

In 1848 life took a tragic turn for the McPherson family. Ann, at only 37 years of age, died during her next pregnancy, leaving William to care for his young

¹ Death Certificate William McPherson, died 10 June 1933, Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages, New Zealand, (BDM NZ) 7924/1933

² Geni, ‘New Zealand Settler Ships’, <https://www.geni.com/projects/New-Zealand-Settler-Ships-Catherine-Stewart-Forbes-1841/13336> (accessed 25 September 2017)

³ Te Ara, ‘The Story of Wellington Region, the struggle to Survive, 1840–1865, p. 7’, <https://teara.govt.nz/en/wellington-region> Accessed 20 September 2017.

⁴ ‘Obituary William McPherson’, *Auckland Star*, 24 June 1933, p. 6, <http://www.paperspast.natlib.govt.nz> (accessed 17 September 2017)

⁵ Wikipedia, Pakeha Settlers, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pakeha_settlers (accessed 21 September 2017)

⁶ Ancestry, Passenger List for Mr and Mrs McPherson, ‘Tasmania, Australia, Immigrant Lists, 1841–1884’, Register of Immigrants of the Working Classes Arriving Without Government Assistance. Accessed 13 September 2017; Passenger List for Mr and Mrs McPherson 16 January 1843, ‘Tasmania, Passenger and Crew Lists, 1841–1887’, Port Officers’ Reports of Ships Arrivals in Hobart 1834–1837, Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office (TAHO) CSO92-1-10, 1841–1887.

⁷ Wikipedia, ‘History of Hobart, Mid 19th Century’, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Hobart#Mid-19th_century, Accessed 15 September 2017.

⁸ ‘Obituary William McPherson’, *Auckland Star*, p. 6

⁹ McPherson Twins, unnamed males, born 14 August 1845, Births in the District of Hobart, RGD 33/1/2/no. 1179 and 1180.

family. The McPhersons had not been able to make much headway financially so, sadly, Ann was buried in an unmarked grave in the St Andrews Presbyterian Church Burial Ground.¹⁰ With four young children in his care, William would have likely looked to quickly remarry, but there is no evidence of this.

Sadly the fate of the McPherson children was revealed two years later on 29 November 1850 when three young McPherson boys are admitted to the Queens Orphan School, St Johns Avenue, New Town. Not only had they lost their mother at a young age, but their father had deserted them and they were under the care of the state with Angus aged about 8, William about 6, and John just turned 5.¹¹ The mystery of the unnamed twins became clear. With only three children named it is likely that one of the twins had died during the previous five years, with John being the surviving one.¹² Conditions in the Queens Orphanage in the 1850s would have been grim: the buildings were sparsely furnished and cold; food was often in short supply; those responsible for the children's care treated them harshly and they were often

beaten or sexually abused. In their mid teens the orphans in the school were usually apprenticed out to households, farms, and other workplaces.¹³

The next chapter of William's life began in 1859, aged about 16, when he was discharged from the Orphan School to work for Adolphus Frederick ROOKE.¹⁴ A respected colonist, Adolphus had a large agricultural holding near Deloraine called 'The Retreat' and he was known to employ many people on his rural property. Adolphus was also a brewer, heavily involved in politics, a Magistrate and was regarded as 'a hospitable and liberal-minded gentleman'.¹⁵

William's older brother Angus was discharged in 1858, and apprenticed to prominent Surgeon Dr Edward Samuel Pickard BEDFORD in Hobart.¹⁶ Younger brother John had multiple disabilities: paralysis, epilepsy, and is described mentally as an idiot.¹⁷ By 1861, he was

¹⁰ TAHO: RGD35/1/2, 1179/1180 Ann McPherson, died 24 October 1848; Burial Record Ann McPherson 27 October 1848, Register of Burials in St Andrews Church Burial Ground, Hobart, 1848/457

¹¹ TAHO: SWD7/1/1, 1850-51, p. 1. Admission Record for Angus, William & John McPherson, admitted on 29 November 1850, 'Daily Journal of Admission and Discharges to Queens Orphan School, 1841-1851'

¹² TAHO: SWD7/1/1, 185051, p. 1. Admission Record for Angus, William & John McPherson, admitted on 29 November 1850 'Daily Journal of Admission and Discharges to Queens Orphan School, 1841-1851'.

¹³ Rebecca Kippen, 'A most shocking tissue of barbarous cruelty: scandal and death in the Queens Orphan Schools' http://foundersandsurvivors.org/sites/default/files/FAS_Newsletter05_Aug2010_BIG.pfd (accessed 21 September 2017)

¹⁴ TAHO, SWD28-1-1, Register of Boys, p. 31. Discharge Record William McPherson, admitted 29 November 1850, 'Register of Children Admitted and Discharged from Male and Female Orphan School, 1828-1863'.

¹⁵ Obituary of Adolphus Frederick Rooke, 1814-1881 'Obituaries Australia' <http://oa.anu.edu.au/obituary/rooke-adolphus-frederick-17029> (accessed 16 September 2017)

¹⁶ Discharge Record Angus McPherson, 'Register of Children Admitted and Discharged from Male and Female Orphan School, 1828-1863', TAHO, SWD28-1-1, Register of Boys, p. 31

¹⁷ TAHO: HSD247/1/1, 045, 1868. Patient Record John McPherson, 'Admission

transferred to the Brickfields Invalid Depot, North Hobart and then in 1868 was moved to the New Norfolk Asylum where he died six months later.¹⁸

In 1868 William married Ellen Jemima CANNELL in Hobart.¹⁹ Ellen was the daughter of convicts, Charles Cannell and Ellen GORMAN from New Norfolk.²⁰ At the time of their marriage, William was working as a Steward on board the *SS City of Hobart* travelling between Hobart and Sydney.²¹ His responsibilities would have included domestic work, mostly provisioning and catering for the officers, crew and passengers.²²

Sometime after their marriage William and Ellen moved to the south island of New Zealand. The Gold Rush in the

south island had begun in earnest in the early 1860s and towns such as Dunedin were enjoying a boom in population and jobs.²³ William and Ellen lived in several places, from 1868 to the late 1890s in Dunedin and Oamaru where William worked as a waiter, very much in keeping with his role as a Ship Steward.²⁴ Around 1896 William and Ellen moved to Kaiapoi, north of Christchurch where William ran a grocery business.²⁵

During their first 20 years in New Zealand William and Ellen McPherson had nine children, six daughters and three sons.²⁶ Tragically they lost two of their daughters at a young age, particularly sad was the death of Annie Agnes on

Register, 1830–1900’, Brickfields Depot, TAHO: HSD247/1/1, 045, 1868

¹⁸ Patient Record of John McPherson, Admission Register, 1830–1900; TAHO: HSD51-1-7, p. 49 Patient Record John McPherson, Case Books (Male), New Norfolk Asylum 1849–1874
TAHO: SWD28-1-1, Register of Boys, p. 31. Admission Record of John McPherson, Register of Children Admitted and Discharged from Male and Female Orphan School, 1828–1863.

¹⁹ TAHO: RGD 321/1868 William McPherson and Ellen Jemima Cannell, married 24 February 1868

²⁰ TAHO: RGD 33/1/27 no. 349 Jemima Ellen Cannell, born 29 November 1850; Marriages, *Mercury* 26 February 1868, p. 1

²¹ *Ancestry*, Crew List William McPherson, ‘New South Wales, Australia, Unassisted Immigrant Passenger Lists, 1826–1922’ (accessed 23 September 2017). Tasmanian Steam Navigation Co., ‘City of Hobart’, http://www.flotilla-australia.com/tass.htm#city_of_Hobart-tsnc (accessed 25 September 2017).

²² Glossary, ‘Merchant Seafaring Occupations’, <http://www.mun.ca/mha/mlc/toolkit/glossary/mso.php> (accessed 24 September 2017)

²³ Wikipedia, ‘History of Dunedin’, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Dunedin (accessed 20 September 2017)

²⁴ Birth Certificate of Ellen Martha Ann McPherson, born 11 May 1871, BDM NZ 35675/1871; William Charles born 5 January 1882, BDM NZ 4704/1882. Birth Certificate Ada Cannell McPherson, born 6 October 1875, BDM NZ, 4756/1875.

Emily Blanche born 18 January 1873, BDM NZ 30903/1873.

²⁵ *Ancestry*, Electoral Roll Record of William McPherson, 1896, ‘New Zealand, Electoral Rolls, 1853–1981 (accessed 10 September 2017)

²⁶ Ellen Martha Ann born 11 May 1871; William Charles born 5 January 1882; Ada Cannell born 6 October 1875; Emily Blanche born 18 January 1873; Annie Agnes born 10 August 1892, BDM NZ 7145/1892; Angus Charles born 18 June 1884, BDM NZ 13324/1884; Arthur James born 11 October 1886, BDM NZ, 8093/1886; Amy Mary born 13 March 1874 BDM NZ 39554/1874; Jessie Sarah, born 2 January 1878, BDM NZ 13826/1878

Christmas Day 1898, aged only 6½ years.²⁷

In 1917 William became a widower when his wife of 49 years, Ellen, died of tuberculosis and exhaustion.²⁸ Bereaved at the loss, William left Kaiapoi in the early 1920s and moved to the north island, where several of his children had relocated with their families. He lived with his spinster daughter Ellen Martha Ann in Palmerston North and Rangataua.²⁹

William found employment with the sawmilling firm Bennett & Punch in Rangataua, working as an accountant and labourer for them. He died on 10 June 1933, aged 90 years of a heart condition, and was buried at the Ohakune Cemetery.³⁰

Despite such a dismal and harsh start to his life William (1843–1933) had a long, full and productive life, leaving many descendants to carry on the McPherson genes. ◀

²⁷ Annie Agnes died October 1898, 'New Zealand, Death Index, 1848–1964', 1898, Folio no. 2307 (accessed 19 September 2017)

Death record Amy Mary McPherson, died January 1875, 'New Zealand, Death Index, 1848–1964', 1875, Folio no. 268 (accessed 14 September 2017)

²⁸ Death certificate Ellen Jemima McPherson, died 30 May 1917, BDM NZ 002729/1917

²⁹ 'Obituary for William McPherson', *Auckland Star*, p. 6

Electoral Roll William McPherson, 1928, 'New Zealand, Electoral Rolls, 1853–1981', p. 100, Accessed 20 September 2017

³⁰ Cemetery Record William McPherson, 'New Zealand, Cemetery Records, 1800–2007', Ohakune Cemetery, no. 444 (11), (accessed 21 September 2017); Death Certificate William McPherson, died 10 June 1933.

JILLETT – BRADSHAW FAMILY REUNION TASMANIA 2018

**THURSDAY 4 OCTOBER to
SUNDAY 7 OCTOBER 2018**

Thursday 4 October 2018

HOBART

10:00 a.m. Hobart—Meet and Greet
at the historic **Hobart Town Hall**
Explore Hobart waterfront

Wapping area and Hunter Street
(family links)

Derwent River on the *Lady Nelson*

Friday 5 October

RICHMOND,

OATLANDS and YORK PLAINS

**Family Dinner at Midlands Hotel,
Oatlands** (Family History File sharing)

Saturday 6 October

**OATLANDS, ROSS
BOTHWELL, KEMPTON
NEW NORFOLK**

Family Dinner at Bush Inn New Norfolk

Sunday 7 October

**DERWENT VALLEY
NEW NORFOLK**

BACK RIVER and MALBINA

**Malbina Cemetery, New Norfolk North
Circle Cemetery, Back River Cemetery**

For information and to request a
registration package contact

Kris Herron

jillett1800@gmail.com

or Ann Williams-Fitzgerald

annwf@optusnet.com.au

ROBERT JILLETT, A SURVIVOR AND ELIZABETH BRADSHAW, AN INCREDIBLE WOMAN

Ann Williams-Fitzgerald (Member No. 7789)

ON 4 October this year the descendants of Robert JILLETT and Elizabeth BRADSHAW are holding a reunion to mark 210 years since they arrived in Hobart Town on the *Lady Nelson* from Norfolk Island. The highlight of the reunion will be a cruise on the replica of the *Lady Nelson* on the first day.

Robert Jillett was twice sentenced to death and survived both times. Sentenced to transportation for the first time in 1795 and the second time in 1797 he escaped death and was transported to Norfolk Island in 1803. He was evacuated from Norfolk Island to Van Diemen's Land in 1808. Robert went on to live a successful life in New Norfolk with his wife Elizabeth Bradshaw. Many of his descendants settled in areas around Tasmania such as New Norfolk, Back River, Molesworth, Oatlands, Ross, Bothwell, Beaconsfield and many more.

THE CRIMES

Much of his early life is unknown at this stage. He was born in 1760 at Kingston-Upon-Thames to Robert GILLETT and Margaret ELSTON.

Robert Gillett, alias Thomas Elston, was 36 when tried on 17 March 1795 at Lent Assizes, Surrey, for stealing, and sentenced to 7 years' transportation.¹

¹ Criminal Registers of Prisoners in Middlesex and the City. HO/CR September 1796–September 1797 (www.londonlives.org, version 1.1, 17



Sent to the prison hulk *Fortunée* at Langston Harbour, his occupation was listed as shoemaker. He was 5 feet 6 inches tall with dark complexion, brown hair and grey eyes.

On 13 April 1795 Robert Gillett (Thomas Elston) escaped from the prison hulk. On 26 December 1796 he was again arrested for stealing at East Smithfield and held at Newgate Goal on suspicion of returning from transportation before his time.

He was tried again on 11 January 1797 at

June 2012) January 7 1797– LL ref: NAHOCR70002050/ NAHOCR70002051 accessed on 26 April 2016.

Criminal records HO 26; Piece: 6; p. 27—Ancestry.com *England & Wales, Criminal Registers, 1791–1892* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2009. This collection was indexed by Ancestry World Archives Project contributors.

Original data: Home Office: Criminal Registers, Middlesex and Home Office: Criminal Registers, England and Wales; Records created or inherited by the Home Office, Ministry of Home Security, and related bodies, Series HO 26 and HO 27; The National Archives of the UK (TNA), Kew, Surrey, England.

<http://search.ancestry.com.au/cgi-bin/sse.dll?db=criminalregisters&h=895356&ti=5544&indiv=try&gss=pt&nreg=1>

the Old Bailey and sentenced to death.²
On 24 February 1797 he received a Royal Pardon from the death sentence and was resented to transportation for life to NSW.³

TRANSCRIPT OF ROYAL PARDON
[AJCP HO PRO 420], death sentence
respited to transportation for life.

George R (signature)

William Smith & oths
pardon.

Whereas William Smith Robert Gillett alias Thomas Elston Nathan Jacklin Thomas Smith, Tate Corbett and Thomas Bales were at a Session held at the Old Bailey in January last tried and Convicted of divers felonies and had severally sentences of Death passed upon

them for the same We in Consideration of some favorable Circumstances humbly represented unto us in their Behalf are graciously pleased to Extend our Grace and Mercy unto them and to Grant them our pardon for the Crimes of which they severally stand Convicted on Condition of their being respectively Transported to the Eastern Coast of New South Wales or some and or other of the Islands for and during the terms of their respective natural lives. Our will and pleasure there fore is that you give the necessary directions accordingly and that they be inserted(?) for their Crimes on the said Condition in our first and next General pardon that shall come out for the poor convicts in Newgate and for doing this shall be your warrant given at our Court of St James's the twenty fourth day of February 1797 in the thirty seventh year of our Reign

To our Trusty and well beloved Sir John William Rose Bart Recorder of our City of London the Sheriff of our P. City and County of Middlesex & all others whom it may Concern

By His Majesty's Command
George R
(Signature)⁴

Robert was held at Newgate Gaol until 28 September 1797, then transferred to the prison hulk *Prudentia* at Woolwich, Lower Thames to await his transportation.

Note in the Newgate Records:

Is an old offender escaped lately out of

² *The Times*, 12 January 1797 and AJCP Pro Reel 2731

³ Criminal Registers of Prisoners in Middlesex and the City. HO/CR September 1796 – September 1797– (www.londonlives.org, version 1.1, 17 June 2012) January 7 1797–LL ref: NAHOCR70002050/ NAHOCR70002051 accessed on 26 April 2016. Criminal records HO 26; Piece: 6; Page: 27 – *Ancestry.com* > *Ancestry.com England & Wales, Criminal Registers, 1791–1892* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc., 2009. This collection was indexed by Ancestry World Archives Project contributors. Original data: Home Office: Criminal Registers, Middlesex and Home Office: Criminal Registers, England and Wales; Records created or inherited by the Home Office, Ministry of Home Security, and related bodies, Series HO 26 and HO 27; The National Archives of the UK (TNA), Kew, Surrey, England.
<http://search.ancestry.com.au/cgi-bin/sse.dll?db=criminalregisters&h=895356&ti=5544&indiv=try&gss=pt&nreg=1>

⁴ Image: TNA-CCC-HO13-011-00125 Royal Pardon, England & Wales, Crime, Prisons & Punishment, 1770–1935. Old Bailey 24 February 1797 Sentence Death. Series HO13, Source: Correspondence and warrants. Piece number: 11 p. 119. Record set England & Wales, Crime, Prisons & Punishment, 1770–1935 *Find My Past* accessed May 2016.

Ilchester Goal where he has committed for a burglary - he broke open the house of Mr Trecockis at Addington in Surry.⁵

Newgate Records - Transferred to Sheriff 28 Sept 1797.

On 20 October 1798 Robert was moved from the *Prudentia*, to the *Hillsborough* at Lower Thames with seventy-one others to await transportation departure.

THE VOYAGE

The *Hillsborough* departed from Portsmouth on 23 December 1798 with 300 convicts, 6 convict wives (free settlers with children) and crew.

The *Hillsborough* became known as ‘The Fever’ ship and ‘The Death’ ship after this voyage.

Also on board this voyage was another convict, Thomas BRADSHAW, transferred from the Prison Hulk *Stanislaws*. Thomas’ wife Elizabeth was granted permission to travel with him on the *Hillsborough*. She had with her their young two-year-old daughter. Elizabeth was one of six wives who travelled as free settlers on the *Hillsborough*. During the voyage Thomas became ill with fever and Elizabeth nursed him. Frank Clune in his book *Bound for Botany Bay* mentions Elizabeth Bradshaw.⁶

On Saturday 9 April 1803, Robert Gillett (Jillett) was convicted of stealing half a side of pork from the Commandant stores [in Sydney]. He was found guilty and sentenced to death.

As he prepared to face the hangman’s noose on Wednesday 13 April 1803 a rider came at the last moment with a

pardon.⁷ He was re-sentenced to spend his time on Norfolk Island. This was his second pardon from death. He certainly was a survivor.

Saturday 16 April Robert was put on board the *Buffalo* to await his voyage to Norfolk Island.⁸

On Saturday the 16th Instant and two following days a number of prisoners convicted of misdemeanours, were shipped on board the *Buffalo* for Norfolk Island. Robert Jillett was also put on board, with Hailey, implicated in the same offence, and several of the Store Attendants, whose conduct had been such as to render them suspected. Several persons were permitted to go at their own request, some to accompany their husbands, and others from a desire of a change of air.⁹

Elizabeth Bradshaw had owned land in Sydney, as written in the book *Rascals, Ruffians & Rebels of Early Australia*, by Frank Clune.¹⁰

In April 1803 Elizabeth started selling her properties so she could follow Robert to Norfolk Island.

Elizabeth Bradshaw

As a free settler, Elizabeth Bradshaw would have been granted a convict to help her establish a home. Robert Jillett

⁵ AJCP (PRO HO 26/5) Reel 2731

⁶ Frank Clune, *Bound for Botany Bay: A Narrative of a Voyage in 1798 Aboard the Death Ship, Hillsborough* (1965) Angus and Robertson

⁷ Trove. *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* (NSW: 1803–1842), Sunday 10 April 1803, p. 1. National Library of Australia. Article image from the National Library of Australia’s Newspaper Digitisation Program.

⁸ *Sydney Gazette*, 17 April 1803

⁹ *Sydney Gazette*, 2 April 1803

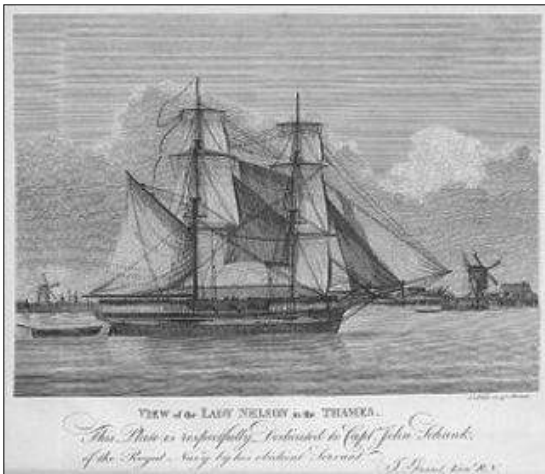
¹⁰ Frank Clune, *Rascals, Ruffians & Rebels of early Australia*, [Angus & Robertson] ISBN 0207 15666.2. Chapter 13 Sir Henry Browne Hayes (Irish convict) with reference to Elizabeth Bradshaw & Robert GILLETT (sic) & sale of property—see p. 151.

was assigned to her—they might have established a friendship on the voyage out when she was nursing her sick husband. Elizabeth and Robert soon became a couple as she bore him two sons in Port Jackson, William Bradshaw in September 1800 and James Bradshaw in 1802. It was normal within the colonies, if children were born to unmarried mothers, they took the mother's surname only.

Robert Jillett and Elizabeth Bradshaw had two more children while living on Norfolk Island. Children baptised on Norfolk Island included William, James and Susannah on 27 March 1806 by Rev. Henry Fulton.

NORFOLK ISLAND

The HMS *Buffalo* sailed from Port Jackson NSW on 21 April 1803 for Norfolk Island, arriving on 9 May 1803.



Lady Nelson: Print from an engraving by Samuel John Neele appearing in James Grant's *The Narrative of a voyage of discovery performed in His Majesty's vessel the Lady Nelson, of 60 tons burthen, with sliding keels, in the years 1800, 1801, and 1802, to New South Wales*, published July 1803, by T Egerton, Whitehall, London.

The Passenger list for this voyage includes Robert Jillett, Elizabeth Bradshaw and children James, Mary and William Bradshaw on board. The list shows Elizabeth as free—wife of convict. Elizabeth and Robert were not married at this stage.

See List of Passengers heading to Norfolk Island that day.¹¹

Also in 1803, orders were given for the first group of Norfolk Islanders to be removed from Norfolk Island. All moveable property belonging to these people, including their livestock, was to be taken at the cost of the government, to any place they chose.

Robert and Elizabeth reluctantly accepted being evacuated from Norfolk Island on 14 February 1808 on the *Lady Nelson*. They arrived at Van Diemen's Land on 1 March 1808.

For every acre of cultivation they had left behind at Norfolk Island, four acres of land were to be granted them by Governor Collins, and two acres for any unimproved land they may possess.

VAN DIEMEN'S LAND

Robert, Elizabeth and the children arrived in Van Diemen's Land the same year (1808) that Elizabeth Town (New Norfolk) was established on the River Derwent.

By late 1808 they had built on land on the corner of Collins and Campbell Streets, Hobart. It was described in correspondence as her land. The UTAS Medical Building (The Menzies Institute for Medical Research)

¹¹ <http://www.australianhistoryresearch.info/hms-buffalo-to-norfolk-island-1803/>

now stands on this site.

The house was in Wapping at that stage. Wapping was bounded by Campbell, Park, Liverpool and Macquarie Streets.

In 1811, the government surveyor was given the task of drawing up streets for Hobart Town, and it was found that the Bradshaw land was to be bisected by Collins and Campbell streets and one of the angles of the Jillett house projected onto Collins Street. There was quite a lot of communication regarding this land and house, and eventually in 1827 the government decided to give 500 acres at Green Ponds (now Kempton) in compensation for the house and land. It is mentioned in the book *Down Wapping*.¹²

Robert Jillett was resettled on land at New Town in the county of Argyle. This was later called Friendly Farms. Elizabeth brought her stock with her from Norfolk Island and probably Robert would have had this to start with for his farm. He was later supplying stock to the Government Stores from Friendly Farms.

On 8 April 1812, Robert Jillett and Elizabeth Bradshaw were married by the Rev. Robert Knopwood at St Davids Cathedral. From their marriage certificate, it appears both could read and write, although often Robert was known as Gillett, or Jillet. Robert listed himself as a widower.

FREEDOM

Robert received his Certificate of Freedom on 31 January 1814.¹³

¹² Wapping History Group, *Down Wapping: Hobart's Vanished Wapping & Old Wharf Districts* (Hobart 1994), p. 33

¹³ Certificate of Freedom Image: 41493_329116-00296 State Archives NSW Source Information Ancestry.com. *New South Wales, Australia, Certificates of Freedom, 1810-1814, 1827-1867*

NEW NORFOLK

Eventually Robert and Elizabeth resettled in the New Norfolk area and the **Bradshaw/Jillett/Shone** names are still well known in the area.

Robert died 2 November 1832 at Back River, New Norfolk, aged 72 years. He was buried on 9 November at the Old Cemetery New Norfolk.¹⁴

Robert Jillett is my third great-grandfather.



St Davids Park Memorial to Norfolk Island convicts and settlers

Ann Williams-Fitzgerald

[database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2009. Original data: New South Wales Government. *Butts of Certificates of Freedom*. NRS 1165, 1166, 1167, 12208, 12210, reels 601, 602, 604, 982-1027. State Records Authority of New South Wales, Kingswood, New South Wales.

¹⁴ Burial certificate: TAHO, RGD34/1/1 Hobart 1832/2869 Robert Gillett.

ROBERT GILLETT (JILLETT) TIMELINE

- 1760 Birth at Kingston upon Thames.
- 1795 March 17: Tried Lent Assizes for stealing, sentenced 7 years transportation.
- 1795 April 12: escaped from prison hulk *La Fortunée* at Langston Harbour.
- 1796 December 26: Arrested for stealing at East Smithfield. Held at Newgate Gaol.
- 1797 January 11: Tried at Old Bailey for returning from transportation before his time, sentenced to Death.
- 1797 February 24: Received a Royal Pardon, death commuted to Transportation for Life to NSW.
- 1797 Held in Newgate Gaol from February until September.
- 1797 September 28: transferred to Prison Hulk *Prudentia* to await transportation.
- 1798 October 20: Moved from *Prudentia* hulk to the *Hillsborough* at Lower Thames.
- 1798 December 23: *Hillsborough* departed from Portsmouth for journey to NSW.
- 1799 July 26: Arrived Port Jackson Botany Bay NSW.
- 1800 September 2: Birth of son William Bradshaw to Elizabeth Bradshaw.
- 1802 October 10: Birth of son James Bradshaw to Elizabeth Bradshaw.
- 1803 April 9: Tried and convicted of stealing from Commandant Stores. Found guilty and sentenced to Death.
- 1803 April 13: Standing at gallows with hangman when pardon arrived. Sentence commuted to transportation to Norfolk Island.
- 1803 April 16: Placed on *Buffalo* to await transportation.
- 1803 April 21: *Buffalo* set sail from Port Jackson bound for Norfolk Island.
- 1803 May 9: Arrived on Norfolk Island.
- 1805 August 1: Birth of daughter Susannah Bradshaw Jillett.
- 1806 Birth of daughter Rebecca Bradshaw Jillett.
- 1808 February 14: Evacuated from Norfolk Island with Elizabeth and 5 children on the *Lady Nelson*.
- 1808 March 1: Arrived Hobart Town, Van Diemen's Land.
- 1808 Birth of daughter Eliza Jillett
- 1810 Move into house in Wapping.
- 1811 Birth son Frederick Jillett.
- 1811 House in Wapping (Liverpool St) dispute over land (*Down Wapping* story).
- 1812 Land Grant 140 acre along Derwent River (near Zinc Works).
- 1812 April 8: Married Elizabeth Bradshaw at St David's Cathedral
- 1812 September 25: Birth son Robert Jillett Jnr.
- 1814 January 31: Received Absolute Pardon, Certificate of Freedom.
- 1815 August 25: Birth daughter Charlotte Daisy Jillett.
- 1816 Birth daughter Elizabeth Jillett.
- 1817 September 23: Birth son Thomas Jillett.
- 1819 Purchased 120 acres at Elizabeth Town (New Norfolk).
- 1819 October 28: Birth son John Jillett.
- 1832 October 2: Made Last Will & Testament.
- 1832 October 23: an amendment to Will.
- 1832 November 3: Died at Back River New Norfolk.
- 1832 November 9: Buried in Old Cemetery, New Norfolk. ◀

THE WYATT FAMILY IN DEVON AND TASMANIA, AUSTRALIA FROM 1737

Doug Wyatt (Member No. 7424)

MY four times grandfather was William WYATT (1st) born in 1737 (mother and father unknown).

On the 27 April 1777, he married Elizabeth TUCKER at Ottery St Mary, Devonshire. Elizabeth was the daughter of John Tucker and Susanna (née VICRAY).

They had the following children:

- Mary, bpd 21 March 1778 (bur. 11 January 1781)
- John, bpd 23 March 1780, married 18 September 1808 at Ottery St Mary to Elizabeth BALL
- Mary, bpd 20 September 1783



St Martins, Exeter c.1890
<http://www.exetermemories.co.uk>



St Marys Church, Ottery St Mary, Devon
From *Gent. Mag.* April 1819. Pl.1 p. 297. W. Alexander.del.

- **William (2nd)**, bpd 23 September 1787, married 15 October 1809 at St Martins, Exeter to Agnes HARE
 - Christopher, bpd 27 December 1790
- William died on 10 May 1814 age 77 and was buried at Ottery St Mary.

William (2nd) (my gr, gr, gr grandfather) married Agnes HARE, daughter of Moses and Elizabeth, and had the following children:

- William, bpd 17 February 1812 at St Pancras, Exeter (died infancy)
- **William (3rd)**, born 30 July 1813 at St Mary, Ottery St Mary at which time his father, William (2nd) was a carpenter and living in Sandhill Street, Ottery St Mary¹
- John, 27 December 1814

¹ https://freereg.org.uk/search_records/5817ff28e8b8b2597?search_id=5af10314f493fd61e7166a68&ucf=false

William Wyatt (3rd), my great, great grandfather lived at Ottery St Mary, Devon, and married Elizabeth MORTIMORE on 25 May 1834 at St Thomas the Apostles, Exeter, Devon.

On the 27 December, 1834 William Wyatt (1st) was

Committed by George SMITH, clerk charged with stealing at Ottery St. Mary, a quantity of hay and a bag of potatoes, the property of Luther Graves ELLIOTT.



The Devon Sessions House, Exeter
<https://projects.exeter.ac.uk/exeter.cathedral/cocks-text/public-buildings.html>

On 6 January 1835 (1st), at the Devon Sessions House, Exeter, William was found guilty of larceny and sentenced to be transported to Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania) for 7 years.

On 20 January he was transferred from the Exeter Gaol to the hulk HMS *Ganymede* until the 17 August 1835.

His convict record indicates he was married to Elizabeth and he had one child.²

William Wyatt (3rd) was transported to Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania) on the barque *Layton*, departing Sheerness, England on 29 August, 1835 with 270 male convicts. The ship's master was Giles WADE, the surgeon was Geo.

BIRNIE. The journey was covered in 103 days, arriving in Hobart Town on 10 December 1835, landing 267 convicts.

As a convict, William Wyatt (No. 2011) ploughman, general farmer and shepherd, was assigned to Mr William SALT-MARSH of Norfolk Plains (Longford) Tasmania for 7 years.

He was granted his 'Ticket of Leave' in March, 1840 and a 'Free Certificate' in January, 1842.³

Some six months after gaining his freedom, William Wyatt (3rd), overseer, married Margaret Jane INALL, spinster age 15, at Paterson Plains (Longford) on 16 July 1845.

William Wyatt (3rd)
Authors image



³ *Hobart Town Courier and Van Diemen's Land Gazette*, 20 March 1840, and *Courier*, Hobart, 21 January 1842

² TAHO: CON31-1-47, 238, 132, F.60

Margaret Jane Inall was born at Launceston on 28 July, 1830, daughter of Thomas and Eliza Inall (née YATES) and died at Launceston, 26 April, 1916 and was buried at Sheffield, Tasmania.



Margaret Jane Wyatt (née Inall)
Authors image

William and Margaret lived at Launceston, Westbury, Oaks, Dunorlan and Sheffield and had the following children:

- **Ernest**, b. Launceston, 11 April 1846 m. Henrietta Gertrude TESTON at Deloraine Catholic Church, 14 November 1877. Died Deloraine, 16 March 1907 and was buried at the Deloraine Cemetery.
- Eliza Jane, b. Launceston, 22 October 1847 m. Alexander OLIVER
- William Newton, b. Launceston, 29 March, 1849 m. Sarah Oliver
- Emily Ann, b. Westbury, 14 April 1851, m. Joseph BRAMICH
- Henry James (Jimmy), b. Westbury, 19 February 1853 m. Amelia ROOKLEY
- Matilda, Amy (Tilly), b. Westbury, 5 May, 1855 m. William ROCKLIFF
- Albert Edward, b. Westbury, 7 April, 1857 m. Adeline Eliza SPICER d. 27 August 1923
- Clara Isabella, b. Westbury, 17 February 1859, d. 31 March 1860
- Martha Clara, b. 29 December 1860 m. Robert ROBERTSON, 9 March 1880
- Terence Arthur (Kirk), b. 5 December 1861 m. Clara Jane COLEMAN
- Ada Isabelle, b. Deloraine, 5 December 1863 m. William JACOBS, 27 July 1889
- Cecila Eva, b. Deloraine, 24 November 1864 m. Robert Burton ROUSE
- Alfred Newton, b. Deloraine, 7 November 1867 d. 19 September 1875
- Lilly Mildred, b. Deloraine, 23 September 1874 m. Edward Hutcheson LAMB, 30 April 1897

William Wyatt (3rd) died at Sheffield on 28 September 1897, in his 85th year, and was buried at Sheffield, Tasmania.⁴

My great grandfather was the eldest son Ernest Wyatt. ◀

NOTE: Nothing has been found with reference to William Wyatt's first wife Elizabeth Mortimore nor the child as noted in William's convict record.

⁴ *Launceston Examiner*, 30 September 1897.

HMS GANYMEDE AND THE PRISON HULKS

Doug Wyatt (Member No. 7424)

THE HMS *Ganymede* was a British prison hulk moored at Woolwich, England. HMS *Ganymede* was the former French 450 ton frigate *Hébé* (20 guns, pierced for 34), which, under command of Lieutenant BRETONNEUIRE, was captured by the British frigate *Loire* on 6 February 1809 while en route from Bodeaux to San Domingo, carrying 600 barrels of flour. Renamed *Ganymede*, she served with the Royal Navy before being decommissioned. She was converted to a prison hulk in 1819 and broken up in 1838.

Known as prison ships or 'prison hulks', these decommissioned vessels were used by Britain during the 18th and 19th centuries to house prisoners of war and those awaiting transportation to penal colonies. Rife with death, disease and despair, prison ships reflect a less-than-proud corner of Britain's impressive maritime history. Moreover, some converted hulks were among the Royal Navy's most celebrated vessels. The use of the hulks was seen as a temporary measure, and so was first authorized by Parliament for only two years. But despite the concerns of some members who deplored its inhumanity, the 1776 Act lasted for 80 years. It was regularly renewed and extended in scope for the more severe and effectual punishment of atrocious and daring offenders.

Conditions on board the floating gaols were appalling. The standards of hygiene were so poor that disease spread quickly. The sick were given little medical attention and were not separated from the healthy.

Dysentery, caused by drinking brackish water, was also widespread. At first, patients, whatever their state of health, lay on the bare floor. Later they were given straw mattresses and their irons were removed.

The authorities were always keen to keep down the cost of the prisons. They wanted to avoid giving prisoners a better life than the poor had outside the hulks.

The quality of the prisoners' food was therefore kept as low as possible. The monotonous daily meals consisted chiefly of:

- ox-cheek, either boiled or made into soup
- peas
- bread or biscuit.

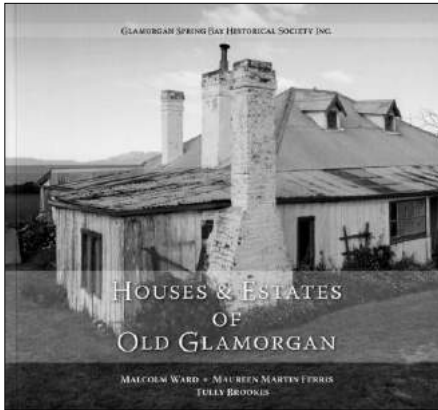
The biscuits were often mouldy and green on both sides! On two days a week the meat was replaced by oatmeal and cheese. Each prisoner had two pints of beer four days a week, and badly filtered water, drawn from the river, on the others.¹ ◀



Photograph of the Woolwich convict hulks at the end of their life

¹ <http://www.royal-arsenal-history.com/prison-hulks.html>

BOOK REVIEW



Malcolm Ward, Maureen Martin Ferris and Tully Brookes. (2017). *Houses and Estates of Old Glamorgan*. Swansea, TAS: Glamorgan Spring Bay Historical Society. Gate fold soft edition, 193 pages, \$50.00.

In 2010 the late Elizabeth Hodson, a Glamorgan Spring Bay Historical Society (GSBHS) member proposed that a book be produced to record the history of the former Glamorgan Municipality's colonial buildings.

The specialist knowledge by the authors of this book about the pioneer settlers, their properties and the architectural structures of their houses has brought together a broad range of information about colonial buildings in an accurate and informative way. Furthermore, a team of GSBHS members assisted by photographing buildings and scanning historic photographs, while a heritage architect, acting as a private advisor, provided technical descriptions of the buildings and a glossary of technical terms.

This book, in 21 parts is in a sequence determined by geographical location, which is keyed to a map opposite the Contents page, starting in the north and finishing in the south of the former Glamorgan Municipality. Each part focuses on a particular building or a collection of buildings on the same property or at the same site. Each part is structured into two sections: a narrative describing the pioneer settler and the history of the buildings on the property; and technical descriptions of each building. These parts are preceded by a brief introduction, and a section describing building styles of Old Glamorgan and followed by a glossary of technical terms, a visual glossary, references and an index.

The outstanding qualities of the historical narrative about the pioneer settlers, their properties and the architectural structures of their buildings mean the book will endure as an authoritative reference. Furthermore, the authors have raised the quality of the book beyond the standard of many other books published in this genre by including a statement on building styles, extensive referencing, thorough technical and visual glossaries, and a detailed index.

The Introduction contains information that forms the basis for developing a rationale and research questions for the book. Yet, it possibly would have been improved had it included the nature of the relationship between the pioneer settlers, their properties and the society in which they lived. ◀

Michael Watt

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?**

THE JACOBITE PEERAGE

This large, hardcover book of 84pp was published in 1974 by Charles Skilton Ltd and is a facsimile of the original 1904 edition.

The Jacobite Peerage, Baronetage, Knightage & Grants of Honour—compiled and annotated by Melville Henry Massue, Marquis de Ruvigny & Raineval [1868–1921].

Extracted, by permission, from the Stuart Papers. Now in possession of His Majesty The King at Windsor Castle, and supplemented by biographical and genealogical notes by the Marquis.

Part I of the book covers the Peerage and Baronetage.

Part II contains sections dealing with: Knights; Knights of the Garter; Knights of the Thistle; Declarations of Noblesse, Etc; Secretaries of State; Household Appointments; Ecclesiastical Appointments, Etc; Pardons, Etc; Military and Naval Commissions; Various Appointments.

It also contains an Alphabetical List of Surnames of Peers and Baronets; and an Alphabetical Index to all of Part II.

Information provided is rich in family history and lineage details.

LOST IRELAND 1860–1960

This large, hardcover book of some 395pp was written by William Derham and published in 2016.

Lost Ireland: 1860–1960: presents a panoramic sweep of Ireland's forgotten built heritage. From war and insurrection, to prosperity and development, the changes wrought by history have meant that a whole swathe of our built past no longer survives, save through the magic of the camera lens.

Drawing on a variety of photographic archives, this book offers, in broad strokes, a wide sample of what was lost to these changes: the humble mud huts of the transient labourer, and the 'thatched mansions' of the prosperous farmer; the edifices of industrial innovation and technology; the grand homes of the well-to-do, including the infamous 'big house'.

Lost Ireland reveals a layer of Irish history which is both fascinating and nostalgic, not just in its 'bricks and mortar' but also in the events and the people who inhabited those settings.

Areas covered are:

LEINSTER;

Carlow, Dublin, Kildare, Kilkenny, Laois, Longford, Louth, Meath, Offaly, Westmeath, Wexford, Wicklow,

MUNSTER;

Clare, Cork, Kerry, Limerick, Tipperary, Waterford,

CONNAGUHT;
Galway, Leitrim, Mayo, Roscommon,
Sligo,

ULSTER;
Antrim, Armagh, Cavan, Derry/London-
derry, Donegal, Down, Fermanagh,
Monaghan, Tyrone.

AROUND ANOTHER CORNER
Volume two, from the camera of
D G Wherrett.

This paperback, landscape book, was first published in 2017 by the Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery. It contains some 72 full page images of streets and buildings of Launceston, Tasmania in the 1940s. It contains an indexed street map at the back of the book.

BOLTERS FOR THE BUSH
(Bushranging in old Van Diemen's
Land)

This paperback book of some 13pp is a 2nd Edition (2010) of R F (Bob) Minchin's 1996 publication.

Major chapters cover the subjects of:

- The Britton Gang;
- The Bushranger Priest;
- Jeffs and Conway;
- Billy Rowe;
- Jacky Jacky;
- John Quigley, The Mad Bushranger;
- Dido The Bushranger;
- Rocky Whelan.

The text is supported by an alphabetical index of names at the rear and some 20 pages of images in the centre.

There are photographic images of early land owners, officials, etc as well as prominent buildings mentioned in the text.

It also contains enhance 'identity kit' photographs based on the descriptions in the respective convict records of eight of the main bushrangers.

SHADOW OVER TASMANIA
For the First Time—The truth about the
State's Convict History.

This small paperback book is the June 1958, 12th Edition of the classic Coultman Smith publication.

The first edition was released in December 1941; the repeated forward by Premier Robert Cosgrove.

The State's best seller. When first published in 1941, it caused a furore in historical and literary circles, for it was the first purely factual account of Tasmania's convict period, and also the first to break away from the horror story tradition and present a balanced, dispassionate, but highly-readable survey. ...

Presented in a crisp, bright style and illustrated with rare photographs of convict establishments as they were during occupation, the book contains enough material for a dozen historical novels, with thrilling stories of escapes and bushrangers, intriguing and quaint personalities, spiced with clear and enlivened descriptions of places and people and methods of administration. ◀

CONGRATULATIONS!

The Australian Historical Association (AHA) announced the winners of the 2018 W K Hancock Prize and the Kay Daniels Award, 10 July 2018.

The Kay Daniels Award that recognises 'outstanding original research that focuses on Australian convict history and heritage', was awarded to **Joan Kavanagh** and **Dianne Snowden** for *Van Diemen's Women: A History of Transportation to Tasmania*, The History Press Ltd.

For more information about the prize, visit the AHA website.

LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS

Hobart Branch

ACCESSIONS: Books

- *Baker, A; *Female convicts transported England to V.D.L. on the 'William Bryan' 1833.* [Q365.9946 BAK]
- *Beechey, D L; *Lost in the Bush.—The newspaper reports of Annie Beechey lost in the bush, 10–18 July, 1908.* [Q920.BEE]
- *Broughton, L; *Memoires of Leslie Robert Broughton.* [Q929.2 BRO]
- *Derham, W; *Lost Ireland 1860–1960.* [Q720.9145 DER]
- *Gardam, J; *Brown's River—A history of Kingston and Blackman's Bay.* [994.62 GAR]
- *Hurburgh, M; *The Royal Botanical Gardens 18108–1986.* [580.744946 HUR]
- *Knight, R; *Tracing a Life Through Time.—From Saltmarsh to Knight.* [Q929.2 KNI]
- *Martin, C (ed); *Fifty Years Secondary Education.—Huonville High School 1940–1990.* [Q373.946 HUO]
- *Minchin, R F; *Bolters for the Bush.* [364.9946 MIN]
- *Osborne, M; *City of Hobart Lord Mayor's Report 196-62.* [352.0946 HOB]
- *Pybus, C; *Gross Moral Turpitude.—The Orr Case reconsidered.* [378.12109946]
- *Rayner, T (consultant); *The Hobart Rivulet Historical Study.* [Q994.61 RAY]
- *Rieusset, B; *Hobart Town 1831.* [Q939.35099461 RIE]
- *Skilton, C; *The Jacobite Peerage.* [Q720.9145 DER]
- *Smith, B; *Convict Connections. The Harrison Family of North-West Tasmania.* [Q929.2 HAR]
- *Smith, Coultman; *Shadow Over Tasmania.* [3694340 SMI]
- TFHS Inc. Burnie; *Index to 'The Advocate'—People, Places, Photos, Events, & New Items of interest to Family Researchers—1 Oct. 1960 to 31 Dec. 1960.*
- TFHS Inc. Hobart; *Undertakers of Hobart, Vol. IV, Index to H. C. Millington Pty Ltd Funeral Records, Part 9, June 1970—April 1973.* [Q929.32099461 UND]
- Vernon, D; *A Country Show.—Celebrating a Centenary at Bream Creek.* [630.74099464]
- Wherrett, D G; *Around Another Corner—Vol. 2.* [994.65 WHE]

Launceston Branch

ACCESSIONS—Books

- *Casey, Bob; *The Truth about the Tunbridge Wells Inn*
 - *Dunphy, Michael; *I have loved O Lord the beauty of thy house—Sesquicentenary of Church of the Apostles 1866–2018*
 - *Goold, John (Ed.); *The Weeding Family of Oatlands Van Diemen's Land/Tasmania – Letters Home 1832–1873*
 - Smith, Brian F; *Convict Connections – The Harrison Family of North-West Tasmania*
 - TFHS Inc. Burnie Branch; *Index to The Advocate – People, Places, Photos, Events and News Items of interest to Family Researchers 1st October 1960 to 31 December 1960*
 - TFHS Inc. Hobart Branch; *Undertakers of Hobart Vol. IV – Index to HC Millington Pty Ltd Funeral Records Part 9, June 1970–April 1973*
 - *Walsh, Brian; *William and Elizabeth Paterson – the Edge of Empire*
- * Denotes complimentary or donated item**

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Saturday 1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.
Meeting Branch Library, 58 Bass Highway Cooee 10:30 a.m. on 1st Monday of each month, except January and December.
Night Dinner Meetings are held in winter and end of year, check with Branch Librarian for details

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HUON Phone: Branch Secretary (03) 6239 6823
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Saturday 1:30 p.m.–4:00 p.m.
Other times: Library visits by appointment with secretary,
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email vsbtas@bigpond.com

LAUNCESTON Phone: Branch Secretary (03) 6326 1399
Library 45–55 Tamar Street Launceston (next door to Albert Hall)
Tuesday 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
Monday to Friday by appointment only (03) 6236 1399
Check the Branch News and the website
<http://www.launceston.tasfhs.org> for locations and times.

MERSEY Phone: Branch Secretary (03) 6428 6328 Library (03) 6426 2257
Library 113 Gilbert Street Latrobe (behind State Library)
Wednesday & Friday 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
Saturday opening has ceased and is now by advance appointment only.
Meetings Held on the 3rd Monday of the month at Branch Library in Latrobe at 1:30 p.m. Please check the website at www.tfhsdev.com or contact the secretary@tfhsdev.com for updates.

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