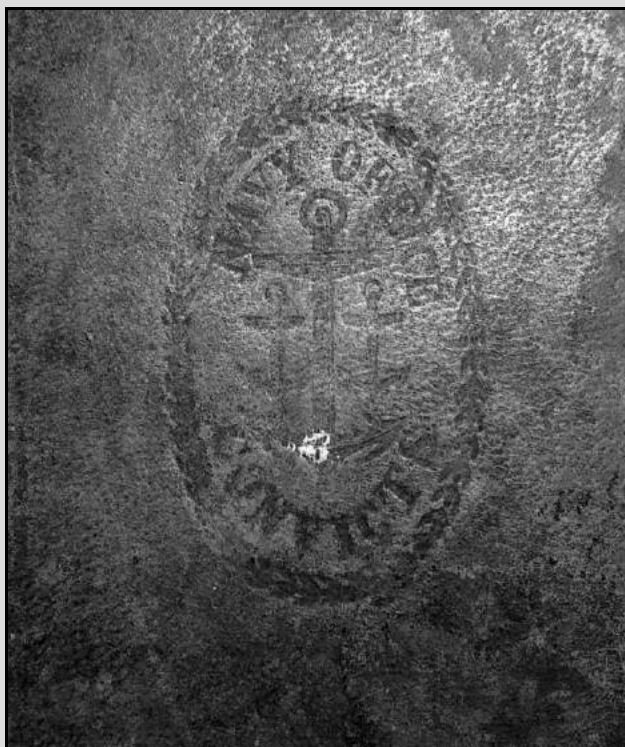


Tasmanian Ancestry



**TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY
SOCIETY INC.**

Volume 39 Number 3—December 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

Sadly, this issue had to be shortened due to the shortage of material received. It is the first time this has happened in all the years I have been editor. Oddly, it made it harder for me to prepare the final copy, due to the lack of choices. With fingers crossed I am optimistic we will have a flood of material arriving over the next months for the March issue.

As from June next year it will be our 40th volume, and it has been suggested we ask each branch to be responsible for an issue, as occurred with our 21st volume when we were still the Genealogical Society of Tasmania Inc. I expect to hear more on this soon.

Nevertheless, this issue contains a variety of interesting information. It was especially gratifying to receive two articles from new contributors—one from far away Edinburgh, Scotland, about a convict from Somerset, England, who lived in Deloraine, Tasmania. The second, from a Tasmanian member written about a convict from Glasgow, Scotland, who arrived in 1804, had a daughter with an aboriginal woman—and the problems faced by her daughter after his death.

Thank you to these ladies, Sue and Lorraine, along with our regular contributors. Where would we be without you? We wish you all a very happy festive season, a good holiday and all the best for 2019.

Rosemary Davidson

Journal address

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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: *Navy Office Convicts Prayer Book*.
See *William Spragg's Prayer Book* by
Dianne Snowden page 165
Photograph: Dianne Snowden

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I was recently contacted by member no. 42, Kevin Whitton, with a request to advertise a change to his postal address in *Tasmanian Ancestry*. After decades at a Melbourne postal address, Kevin can now be contacted at **PO Box 2, Healesville, VIC 3777**.

This contact reminded me that our society was formed in 1980 and that nearly 40 years later, we are still operating. It has long been accepted, that the first 100 numbers relate to the founding members of our society.

As we are fast approaching the issue of membership no. **8,000**, (we have approximately 1,000 current members) I became curious as to how many founding members remained in our society.

It would appear there are 15 members remaining from the original list.

Burnie: Venice Dudman
Hobart: Margaret Broadby
Janice Daley
Peggy McCormick
Leonie Mickleborough
Geoff Reynolds
Carol Rodway
Audrey Weeding
Lewis Woolley
Launceston: Raymond Bassett
Mersey: Helen Anderson
ACT: Barbara Marshall
Victoria: Sue-Ellen McGrath
Kevin Whitton
New Zealand: Jan Dickens.

Many members will be familiar with some of these names. Over the years, they have been heavily involved with the operation of our society and its activities. Several are still supporting a branch or society activity.

Obviously these people have found great value in remaining members of our society.

A natural progression in this message is to refer to the sections in *Tasmanian Ancestry* entitled 'New Members' Interests' and 'New Members'.

To those researchers who have recently joined us, welcome to our society. I trust you will also enjoy a long-lasting membership.

I wish you all a happy festive, holiday and Christmas season, with time to relax, but also with some time for family history research. ◀

Maurice Appleyard

REEVES REUNION

Descendants of
John REEVES
arrived Van Diemen's Land
February 1842

and

Mary Ann McMASTER
arrived Melbourne
January 1850

Lake Barrington
Saturday 30 March 2019
from 10:30 a.m.

Register your interest and be on the mailing list by emailing:
reevestasmania2019@gmail.com

BRANCH REPORTS

Burnie

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

President: Peter Cocker (03) 6435 4103

Secretary: Ann Bailey (03) 6431 5058

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Sometimes our library open days are relatively quiet, sometimes, however, it would be great if we had several more duty librarians on duty

as we are overwhelmed with visitors and queries all day long. We expect this is due to the fact that we are now the repository of *The Advocate* Archive collection. This collection, as we have mentioned before, contains not only the hard bound and filmed editions of *The Advocate*, but also the archived collections of indexed articles and printed photos. The negative collection from *The Advocate* now resides in a special temperature controlled environment at the Burnie Regional Museum. Both these wonderful collections are available to family researchers.

Our August meeting started off with a brief session on how to find WW1 New Zealand Soldiers. This was followed by a segment on ePubs's, what are they and how are they created?

'Missing from the Census', why you cannot find your ancestors in a UK Census was the topic for our September meeting. This presentation was based on information from a National Archives Webinar. Also during September we held a very successful workshop on Family Tree Maker. Our workshop was called

'Back to basics with Family Tree Maker'. Feedback from the workshop was very positive with all participants gaining something.

Derek Smith, one of our Tuesday Library Day volunteers (and barista extraordinaire), enlightened us with a most enjoyable session on the 'Alexander Technique'. Derek has taught the Alexander Technique for 20 years (now retired), and researcher of the Alexander Family, entertained us for our October meeting.

Peter Cocker Branch President

RECENT PUBLICATION BURNIE BRANCH

Index to *The Advocate*,
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and News Items of interest to
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1960

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

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Secretary: Howard Reeves

PO Box 326 Rosny Park Tasmania 7018

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All telephone enquiries to (03) 6244 4527



In August, *Family History Month* was again celebrated with LINC Hobart [Libraries Tasmania] offering a varied programme of

talks over the entire month, including a tour of the Archives Repository at Berriedale. This is an amazing place and holds within its confines, twenty-one kilometres of records. There is a planned move to the old Geilston Bay High School site in the near future, when the buildings are ready for occupation.

Our own offering was a very successful and well attended session on Saturday, 25 August, *Using DNA for Family History*, conducted by Ros Escott.

Our Volunteers' Afternoon Tea was held the next day, and was highlighted by the launch of the *Comprehensive Subject Index* on the Society website; www.tasfhs.org. This is a free on-line resource, available to the general public, and a means of accessing approximately 1.3 million entries to the books indexed from the shelves of our branch library and also some from Huon and Burnie branches.

Recently, we were very pleased to purchase a new projector and screen for use within the branch. This is a long overdue acquisition and has already been put to good use.

This year the Hobart Branch Library will close for a break on Saturday, 15 December, and we wish our Members a very

happy Christmas Season and many successes in the New Year with your family research.

General Meetings

At the July meeting the guest speaker was member Chris Woods speaking about her great-great grandmother Maria in a talk titled *Maria—separating fact and fiction*. Intertwined in the story were the surnames Leo, Vincent, Doyle and Phillips. Maria told her children and grandchildren that she was born in Ireland to an Irish Protestant father and French Catholic mother. Her father was a prosperous man who travelled with work. Maria's mother heard that her own mother was very ill in France so travelled to visit her. Maria's mother did not return from France, in fact did not reach her destination. Maria's mother was found in a closed order convent. Because of his job, Maria's father was unable to look after her so she was sent to live with an aunt/relatives in Tasmania. With no-one at the dock in Hobart to meet her, Maria was befriended by a much older man, Charles Doyle, who took her under his wing and later married her.

The facts Chris uncovered about Maria's life was her illegitimate birth in County Limerick to a Catholic mother and a Protestant father—she was one of four illegitimate children fathered by him with two Catholic women. Charles Doyle and Maria were never married but four children were born during their time together. There are discrepancies on the birth certificates of the children—a female child born in 1855 (no name on birth registration) and the parents were named as Charles Doyle, a mechanic, and Maria formerly Leo. The mother registered the birth and recorded that the family was living at 259 Liverpool Street Hobart. The birth of another female was recorded in 1857 (again, no name on birth registra-

tion) with the parents named as Charles Doyle, an engineer, and Maria formerly Leo and the address given as Molle Street Hobart. A third child, a boy, was born in 1862—parents named as Charles Doyle, a ploughman and mother Maria, formerly Vincent. In this case the father registered the birth and the family was living in Liverpool Street. St Josephs baptism records show there were four children, one suggesting the Maria Leo, the other three Maria Vincent, as the mother.

The story is more convoluted with conflicting records of the arrival in VDL of Charles Doyle; Maria marrying a blacksmith James Phillips in Hobart in 1865, a link to the Legge family at Cullenswood near Fingal and a discrepancy of three years between Maria's death certificate and date of death on her headstone.

The guest speaker at the August meeting was west coast historian Patrick Howard, speaking on the topic of west coast publicans, in line with his latest publication *Pubs and Publicans of Tasmania's Old West*. Born and raised in a Zeehan family and with a long interest in the west coast, Patrick presented a mix of history and anecdotes about publicans from a period when the west coast was a thriving hub of mining, business and services activity.

Hotels were erected in response to the development of mines and the arrival of miners. In 1891 the *Launceston Examiner* reported that three years earlier there were five licensed hotels on the west coast: 'now there are nearly six times that number' and the forecast was that this number would double in the next three years. The *Hobart Mercury* report at the same time was similar and pointed out that just as the number had increased so too had the quality of the structures and services. Just as mining is a fickle business dependent very much on commodity

prices, many hotels did not have a long trading history. The failure of the Van Diemen's Land Bank slowed development of hotels and the financing of existing establishments; and the slowing of the mining boom saw hotels close and the licensing bench becoming more stringent with respect to standards and over supply of hotels in communities. Fires also played a big part in the decline of number of hotels (38 hotel fires—25 of them in the Zeehan Municipality). The high cost of insurance premiums and the declining population as the mining boom declined added to the decline in the number of hotel licences.

The guest speaker at the September meeting was Bellerive social historian John Sargent, speaking on the topic *The O'Mays and their Ferry Service*. John's mother was an O'May, a name strongly associated with River Derwent ferry services. John's great grandfather was James O'May who arrived as an 8 year-old in Hobart Town from Scotland (departed from Liverpool) in January 1856 aboard the *Indian Queen*. James was one of six children—Catherine, Thomas, Mirren, Robert, James and Isabella—accompanying their parents Thomas and Isabella as free settlers. The family settled in Bellerive which in the 1850s became a commercial centre on the eastern shore of the Derwent.

The *Indian Queen* carried 60 other bounty emigrants on a journey that took four months. A total of 882 emigrants arrived in Tasmania from England in 1856. By 1862 the family had established a shop selling general merchandise on what is now Cambridge Road and two more daughters were born. Within ten years of their arrival the O'May brothers had established a steam ferry business on the Derwent. The two eldest brothers—Thomas and Robert—commenced the

service with rowing boats. From 1832 to 1986, 15 of the 28 ferries that had operated on the River Derwent were owned and operated by O'Mays.

The speaker recalled many anecdotes about ferry life, some personal from his younger years and many from the period after the Tasman Bridge disaster on 5 January 1975. After the opening of the floating bridge in 1943, demand for river ferries declined and from 1963 to 1975 there was no ferry service.

John Sargent is the owner/curator of The Ferryman's House and 'The Moorings Museum', a local history and maritime museum on the Esplanade at Bellerive. Family researchers with river and maritime connections and/or Eastern Shore connections may well find information of interest to supplement their research in the 'Whalers Den' seven display rooms of local history.

Speakers for 2019

January 15: Launch of Hobart Branch-produced video presentation, *An introduction to using DNA*. [See advertisement p. 152.]

February 19: David Owen

March 19: Family Bible 'Show and Tell'

Launceston

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Secretary: Marette Lawson

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All telephone enquiries to (03) 6326 1399



During *National Family History Month* in August, committee members held an Open Day of the library where members and non-members were invited to come along and find out more

about the many resources and information available. This involved a specific focus on using DNA for family history research, along with examples of 'presenting your research' on display. We enjoyed meeting our visitors on the day and extend a warm welcome to new members who have recently joined.

Our DNA Discussion Circles continue to occur, with the most recent meeting in September involving sharing successes, along with lots of questions and examples of using the data for those who are newer to this field. It has been great to see regular attendance, and we also welcomed several people to the circle who had attended our Open Day. If any members are interested in joining us for an ongoing DNA Discussion Circle would they please register their interest by coming into the branch library or contacting us by email. With enough interest we may investigate alternative location options to allow increased attendance.

Following a recent change to meetings by the British Interest Group (BIG), these are now held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at our Launceston Branch Library.

A reminder to our Launceston members to ensure your email details are up to date in order to continue to receive the Branch Newsletter (if you have been receiving this by mail). Printed copies are still available for collection from the Library for those without email access.

Library break-up for holidays: 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, 4 December.

Cleaning Day: Monday 14 January.

Library re-opens: Tuesday, 15 January 2018, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Other days (except Saturday and Sunday) by appointment only.

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

Mersey

<http://www.tfhsdev.com>

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Secretary: Sue-Ellen McCreghan

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PO Box 267 Latrobe Tasmania 7307



The Advocate Personal Announcements for 2015 is on library shelf. It will be published as a volume of up to five years at a later date.

The library will close for Christmas break on Friday 7 December 2018, and will reopen on Wednesday 16 January 2019.

The Christmas Luncheon will be held on 9 December. Venue to be advised.

Christmas Raffle will be drawn at the luncheon. Tickets are available at the library. Mersey members are reminded to return their booklets promptly.

Merry Christmas to all members.

Our 2019 activities will commence with a BBQ at the library on Saturday, 2 February 2019. Guest speaker to be advised.

Library hours. Wednesday and Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Gilbert Street, Latrobe, behind Libraries Tasmania.

Appointments may be made outside these hours. Any enquiries please contact the Branch Secretary Sue-Ellen at 6428 6328 or Branch President Ros 6491 1141.

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



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICE

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VALE

JOYCE O'SHEA, Member No. 139



HOBART BRANCH members were saddened to hear of the death on 25 July 2018 of much valued member, Joyce O'Shea, who joined the Genealogical Society of Tasmania in August 1980, just a few months after the society was first formed. Joyce was always an active and keen participant of the branch. She was a regular library assistant for many years, helping new members and visitors to the library, and will be long remembered by Tasmanian researchers for what have become known as the O'Shea Indexes.

Joyce and her husband Frank began their interest in indexing Birth, Death and Marriage Notices (BDMs) in *The Mercury* newspaper following a donation of a large collection of BDM notices 1854–1900 by member, Kevin Whitton

and his father, Albert Whitton which were pasted on index cards and filed.

Following retirement in 1983, Joyce and her husband Frank resolved to record the names and date details for all BDMs in *The Mercury*, for the period 1900–1920, but later they also included from 1921 to the late 1960s. This mammoth task involved spending several days each week over many years at the Derwent Regional Library (now Glenorchy Library), searching the *Gazettes* on microfilms. Joyce and Frank also revisited the earlier period and recorded entries omitted in the Whitton Index.

Both the O'Shea and Whitton card indexes have proved invaluable research tools for family historians and of great financial benefit to the branch. In 1992, the first of fifteen printed volumes of Birth, Death and Marriage Indexes 1854–1930 was published, raising much needed funds to purchase other resources for our members. More recently, the data for these years, consisting of over 118,000 entries, has been published and sold on CD-Rom. The O'Shea Indexes to BDMs 1931–1954 will also soon be published.

In recognition of their major contribution to the society and its members, in 1996 both Joyce and her late husband Frank were awarded richly-deserved TFHS Inc. Meritorious Service Certificates.

In more recent years, Joyce kindly computerised the printed indexes to the *Hobart Town Gazettes* 1835–1899 for the Comprehensive Subject Index (CSI), a large computerised index to publications of both family history and local history interest, now available for searching on the TFHS Inc. website.

As well as her interest in family history, Joyce was also involved in many other activities. Before the war Joyce worked at Cadburys (where she met Frank), and later at Sutex Ltd and Silk and Textiles where she became the first woman to be promoted from the factory floor to a staff position.

Joyce joined the Australian Women's Army Corp during the Second World War. After being demobbed she was a very active member of the association of ex-service women (AWAS) which, as well as being social, had a charitable role. One of their proudest achievements was establishing a residence for elderly ex-service women which Joyce managed until it was later donated to the Red Cross.

A proud Glenorchy resident all her life, Joyce was a member and Patron of the Rodmans Bowls Club, the Lapidary Society, Masonic Lodge, and the local Aussie Rules under 19 Football Club to name a few. Gardening was also a great passion. Her latter years were spent at Glenview, an aged care facility directly opposite 299 Main Road, Glenorchy where, as a child, she had grazed the family cow.

The branch is honoured and most grateful to be advised that Joyce has made a generous bequest to the Hobart Branch Library, and this will be appropriately acknowledged in memory of her in due course.

Sincere sympathy is extended to Joyce's son, Wynne, and other family and friends. Thank you too to Wynne for providing the photo and details of Joyce's early life. ◀



In October 2017, the hugely successful *Footsteps towards Freedom* statues were installed on Hobart's waterfront and were unveiled by the Irish President, Michael D Higgins and the Governor of Tasmania.

Renowned Irish sculptor, Rowan Gillespie, has agreed to create three more statues for Hobart.

One statue, of a convict woman, will be located at the Cascades Female Factory and two, of an Orphan School girl and boy, will be located at the Orphan Schools site at New Town.

The new project is called *From the Shadows Inc.*, reflecting the emergence of convict women and Orphan School children from the shadows of the past.

If you would like to be kept informed of the new project, please email Dianne Snowden dsnowden@tassie.net.au

VOICES FROM THE ORPHAN SCHOOLS

THE WOODRUFF CHILDREN

Dianne Snowden (Member No. 910)

ROSETTA WOODRUFF was one of several children born to Jane SYKES and John Woodruff. Jane arrived free on the *Mahomet Shaw* and John was a convict, transported for life for horse stealing. He arrived in Van Diemen's Land on the *Lady Raffles* in 1841.¹ John was considerably older than Jane.²

In September 1863, John applied for the admission to the Queen's Asylum for Destitute Children of three of his seven children, George Henry aged 6, and twins Alfred and Walter aged 3. The family was living at *Rocklands*, Patterson's Plains, near Launceston. John stated:

My strength is worn out and I am unable to support my children or to earn more than five shillings per week. I am sixty four years old, my wife is not more than forty but she is of unsound mind and is not able to look after the children ... Neither I nor my wife have any relatives in the Colony who could assist us.³

The other four children were aged between 12 months and 12 years. Rosetta was 8½.⁴

On 29 October 1864, Rosetta's father successfully applied to have her admitted to the Queen's Asylum. The application stated that Rosetta was born on 9 April 1855. Her parents had no fixed residence and her father was described as 'an aged man out of employment ... scarcely able to maintain himself'. The report added that the mother was not fit to look after the children, 'being of low intellect'. Rosetta was said to be 'perfectly wild in every sense of the word' and it was 'highly necessary' that immediate action be taken to 'fit her for society'.⁵

On 29 February 1868, Rosetta was apprenticed to W J J REYNOLDS, Hobart Town.⁶ Two days later, her employer requested her return to the Queen's:

The girl from the Queen's Asylum I am obliged to return she having no idea whatever of the proper way to nurse, or manage a child in the commonest things. This it might be possible to teach in the course of years perhaps, for she is far from quick, but in the mean time an infant of two months and a child of two years might get materially injured in body and mind. I find her ideas of truth fearfully vague for a girl of her age & her manner so coarse that she is most unfit to

¹ TAHO, SWD26/1/1 (1863) Image 5–11 (Woodruff); TAHO, CON33/1/6 No. 1493 John Woodruffe *Lady Raffles* 1841

² John was 41 when he arrived in 1841 (so, born about 1799); 48 when he married in 1855 and 79 when he died in 1877: TAHO, RGD37/1/14 District of Morven 1855/1034 Jane Sykes and John Woodruff; TAHO, RGD35/1/9 District of Hobart 1877/707 John Woodruffe

³ TAHO, SWD26/1/1 (1863) Image 5–11 (Woodruff)

⁴ TAHO, SWD26/1/1 (1863) Image 6 (Woodruff)

⁵ TAHO, SWD26/1/6 (October 1864) Image 585 (Rosetta Woodruff)

⁶ TAHO, SWD32/1/1 p. 8 Rosetta Woodruff

have the least to do with children from whom anything good is hoped.

I am sorry for I have had a servant of very nice character who had been in the school & I had trusted I should have had better material to work on than that which you have been able to send this time.⁷

On 5 March 1868, Dr COVERDALE, Principal of the Queen's Asylum, explained to the Colonial Secretary the reason he had readmitted Rosetta, who was then nearly 13:

Sir,

I have the honor to forward you the accompanying letter as explaining the reason of the readmission of the girl named in the margin [Rosetta Woodruff], into this Asylum.

On Saturday evening last, 29th ult. the girl was discharged to the service of Mr Reynolds of the Goulbourn [sic] Street School, & was sent back again with the letter aforesaid on the Monday afternoon following.

As the girl was brought to the Institution by a lad, pupil of Mr Reynolds I felt there was no alternative but to receive her notwithstanding the Indenture of the apprenticeship had been properly executed by Mr Reynolds, & I submit this as an instance of the propriety of making a change in the present system of apprentice.⁸

The Colonial Secretary's Office advised Dr Coverdale that the Governor had approved Rosetta's readmission, adding that the government had not lost sight of the need to alter the terms and conditions of the system of apprenticeships.⁹

⁷ TAHO, SWD26/1/10 Images 283–285 Rosetta Woodruff (1868)

⁸ TAHO, SWD26/1/10 Image 284–286 Rosetta Woodruff (1868)

⁹ TAHO, SWD26/1/10 Image 284–286 Rosetta Woodruff (1868)

Rosetta was then apprenticed to W W ELLISTON Esq. at Brighton on 25 March 1868.¹⁰ On 20 January 1871, aged about 15, she absconded from Elliston.¹¹ She was located, arrested and returned to her service.¹²

In January 1873, she again absconded. She was described as about 17, short and stout and she had lost a little finger.¹³ She was arrested and returned to her service.¹⁴

In February 1873, she was tried in Pontville for 'wilfully lighting fire on her master's land':

SETTING FIRE TO BUSH GRASS—

Rosetta Woodruff, an Orphan School apprentice to Mr W. Elliston, was charged by her master with having on Sunday last, wilfully set fire to the bush grass on his farm.

Mr Elliston, sworn, stated—The defendant is 17 years old; her indentures would expire 29th April next; yesterday an acre and a half of my bush grass was burnt; had it not been stopped in time it would have swept the whole farm; the defendant owes me malice, and I am in great fear of her doing me some serious injury; she has absconded four times, three times within the last month; each time she has been brought back by the police against her will.

Mrs Elliston deposed—Yesterday, a very hot day, between 10 and 11 o'clock I missed the defendant and was looking for her; I saw a great smoke in the grass about half a mile from the house; I took a

¹⁰ TAHO, SWD32/1/1 p. 8 Rosetta Woodruff

¹¹ *Tasmania, Reports of Crime*, Vol. X No.602 27 January 1871 p. 14

¹² *Tasmania, Reports of Crime*, Vol. X No. 608 10 March 1871 p. 44

¹³ *Tasmania, Reports of Crime*, Vol. XII No. 704 10 January 1873 p. 7

¹⁴ *Tasmania, Reports of Crime*, Vol. XII No. 705 17 January 1873 p. 13

telescope and saw the defendant close to the fire; no one else was there; it was close to a bush fence; I ran to the hut and sent the men to put it out; I did not see the defendant again until she was brought back by Mr BLACKLAW; about 9 o'clock that morning I saw a box of lucifers hid in a crack of the wall in the washhouse, where they had no right to be; when I saw the fire I went to where I had seen the matches, and they were gone; the defendant had access to the washhouse; no other servant was in the house.

Mr Elliston stated he had other evidence, viz., his son, to whom the prisoner on being brought back, said 'next time she would light the fire in the barn'.

The Bench did not require further evidence, and sentenced her to 3 months' in the House of Correction. This is the girl who performed the feat of riding some eleven miles at full speed on a horse without saddle or bridle, having merely a piece of rope to the horse's head.¹⁵

Rosetta was discharged from prison in May 1873. She was 17.¹⁶

On 14 September 1874, Rosetta, aged 18, was admitted to the 'Asylum for the Insane' at New Norfolk suffering from 'mania'.¹⁷ Her medical certificate on admission stated, 'She is constantly rambling and talking incoherently in a state of great excitement and always laughing and singing'. Her casebook entry also noted that she tore up her clothes, used bad language and stripped

herself naked. A few days after her admission, Rosetta was described as 'a strong healthy looking girl of inferior phrenological development', originally from the Queen's Asylum but recently in private service. She was 'voluble, incoherent and obscene in her conversation'. She had 'prominent, staring bright eyes'. On a more positive note, she was said to work well and willingly, although she was difficult to manage. In mid-October, Rosetta was described as 'a most unmanageable girl'.¹⁸

By July 1875, Rosetta was recorded as very much better, quiet and industrious but 'very fat'. In October 1875, she absconded but was located. In November she was 'behaving exceedingly well'. On 15 December 'This girl is quite well but naturally with a weak & undisciplined mind ... The difficulty is to know what to do with her'. She was discharged on 18 December.

On 28 December 1876, Rosetta gave birth to a daughter, Florence. The birth was registered by the Superintendent of Police, Brighton.¹⁹ It is not known what became of Florence.

In February 1877, at Pontville, Rosetta, then 20, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for being idle and disorderly.²⁰ In August 1877, she was again sent to prison for six months for the same offence.²¹ This pattern of behaviour continued. She was tried again at Pontville on 10 May 1878 for being idle and disorderly and she was sentenced to six

¹⁵ *The Tasmanian* (Launceston) 8 February 1873 p. 4

¹⁶ *Tasmania, Reports of Crime*, Vol. XII No. 721 9 May 1873 p. 80

¹⁷ Mania is a mental illness marked by periods of great excitement or euphoria, delusions, and overactivity

¹⁸ TAHO, AB365/1/1 Folio 120 Rosetta Woodruff (1874)

¹⁹ TAHO, RGD33/1/55 District of Brighton 1877/39 Florence Woodruff

²⁰ *Tasmania, Reports of Crime*, Vol. XVI No. 942 10 August 1877 p. 127

²¹ *Tasmania, Reports of Crime*, Vol. XVII No. 970 22 February 1878 p. 31

months' imprisonment. She was 22, 5'1", black hair, she had lost the little finger of her left hand and had a burn mark inside her right arm.²² She was tried for the same offence in November 1878 and again sentenced to six months' imprisonment. She was discharged to the New Norfolk Asylum in May 1879.²³

On 25 February 1879, when she was 23, Rosetta was readmitted to the New Norfolk Asylum, from the Hobart Town Gaol, this time with 'amentia'.²⁴ Her case notes stated that 'On admission the patient is a bright looking young woman with a baby. The child looks healthy. This is the second child the patient has had since she was discharged'.²⁵ On 27 February her notes recorded, 'she seems very fond of her child, though Mrs Paul, the nurse at the Gaol, said she has tried to destroy it. She feeds it & appears to nurse it carefully'.²⁶ In mid-March it was noted,

Patient does not like the trouble of nursing & appears to be losing her affection for the child. In April, 'patient has been ill-using her child & this morning it was taken from her & she was sent to the cells.

7 April 1879: The patient is now quiet & nurses her child. The day in the cells did her much good.²⁷

Three days later, Rosetta began vomiting and suffered bad diarrhoea. On 16 April 1879, she had a restless night and in the

morning, severe diarrhoea. She collapsed and sank rapidly. She died that morning.²⁸ According to her death certificate, Rosetta, a pauper aged 23, died of 'low fever' on 15 April 1879 in the Asylum at New Norfolk.²⁹

Rosetta was not the only one in the family whose life was troubled and unsettled. In April 1869, application was made for readmission to the Queen's Asylum of Alfred and Walter, and the admission of Charles. The family had returned to Hobart destitute, homeless and in 'a most miserable state'. John was 'past work'. Approval was given for them to shelter in the Cascades Invalid Depot while the application to the Queen's Asylum was decided.³⁰

In May 1869, the twins, Walter and Alfred, aged about 9, were found wandering and homeless in Hobart. Initially they were taken to the Cascades Invalid Depot for shelter but were transferred to the Kennerley Boys' Home.³¹ The arrangement was not satisfactory, at least for Walter: on 19 May 1869, the Master of the home wrote that

whatever his age may be stated to be he is very much younger in his ways & talking than nine years old ... his habits are quite infantile from daily observation I believe he is imbecile in brain which he has derived from one of his parents.³²

Walter, and his brother Alfred, were discharged from the Boys' Home and

²² *Tasmania, Reports of Crime*, Vol. XVII No. 1008 15 November 1878 p. 1008

²³ *Tasmania, Reports of Crime*, Vol. XVIII No. 71024 7 March 1879 p. 40

²⁴ Amentia is a severe congenital mental disability

²⁵ TAHO, AB365/1/3 Folio 13 Rosetta Woodruff (1879)

²⁶ TAHO, AB365/1/3 Folio 13 Rosetta Woodruff (1879)

²⁷ TAHO, AB365/1/3 Folio 13 Rosetta Woodruff (1879)

²⁸ TAHO, AB365/1/3 Folio 13 Rosetta Woodruff (1879)

²⁹ TAHO, RGD35/1/48 District of New Norfolk 1879/414 Rosetta Woodruffe

³⁰ TAHO, SWD26/1/11 (1869) Images 159–166 (Woodruff)

³¹ *Tasmanian Times* (Hobart Town) 3 May 1869 p. 3

³² TAHO, SWD26/1/1 (1863) Image 7 (Woodruff)

admitted to the Queen's Asylum. A note in this file described Jane as being of 'imperfect intellect' and frequently absent from home.³³

Like their sister Rosetta, Walter, Alfred and Charles Woodruff were apprenticed from the Queen's Asylum.³⁴ In 1873, one of the boys was sent to service on trial but was returned 'unfit, from imbecility'.³⁵

In March 1875, Alfred Woodruff, orphan school apprentice, absconded from his master, Mr Richard BURT, Cascade Road, a shoemaker. Alfred was described as:

15 years, short for his age, slight build, light brown hair, dressed in light felt hat, dark pea jacket, dark trousers, red shirt with black spots.³⁶

Alfred was charged with stealing a coat from his master but, in the absence of evidence, was convicted of absconding. His indentures were cancelled and he was returned to the Queen's Asylum.³⁷ In July 1875, at Franklin, he was charged with gross misconduct as an apprentice and sent to prison for seven days. He was 15.³⁸

When he was 16, in March 1879, Alfred was admitted to the Asylum at New

Norfolk, suffering from 'amentia'. He had lucid intervals during which he was emotional and hysterical, laughing and crying without cause. As well, he had intervals in which he was maniacal for several days, uncontrollable and tearing his mattress to pieces. Alfred was described as 'a delicate looking lad'. He had been stabbed in the left thigh with a paling knife before he had been admitted.³⁹ By November, his 'paroxysms of temper' were subsiding, although on one occasion he was put in a cell for an outburst of temper. He was crippled by the leg injury he had received and he expressed a desire to learn a trade. On 20 March 1880, Alfred was discharged, apprenticed to James CONRAD, shoemaker.⁴⁰

In July 1881 and December 1881, Alfred was charged under the *Master and Servants Act*. For the first offence he was imprisoned for one month; for the second, 14 days. He was described as having a lame left leg.⁴¹

In 1879, Walter was imprisoned one month for larceny (stealing a watch).⁴² In 1883, he was imprisoned for 14 days for maliciously damaging a water well.⁴³

George Woodruff transferred to the Cascade Invalid Depot in December 1873.⁴⁴

³³ TAHO, SWD26/1/1 (1863) Images 5–11 (Woodruff); TAHO, SWD26/1/11 (1869) Images 159–166 (Woodruff)

³⁴ TAHO, SWD32/1/1 p. 7 Alfred Woodruff; TAHO, SWD32/1/1 p. 7 Walter Woodruff; TAHO, SWD32/1/1 p. 7 Charles Woodruff

³⁵ TAHO, SWD26/1/13 (1873) Images 88–89 (Woodruff); TAHO, SWD26/1/13 (1873) Images 88–89 (Woodruff).
The name of the boy cannot be read.

³⁶ *Tasmania, Reports of Crime*, Vol. XIV No. 817 19 March 1875 p. 43

³⁷ *Mercury* (Hobart) 25 March 1875 p. 2; *Tasmanian Tribune* 17 April 1875 p. 3; TAHO, SWD20/1/15 Image 119 (Woodruff)

³⁸ *Tasmania, Reports of Crime*, Vol. XIV No. 836 30 July 1875 p. 43

³⁹ *Mercury* (Hobart) 31 August 1878 p. 2

⁴⁰ TAHO, AB365/1/4 Folio 56, Folio 109 Alfred Woodruff

⁴¹ *Tasmania, Reports of Crime*, Vol. XX No. 1151 12 August 1881 p. 128; Vol. XX No. 1170 23 December 1881 p. 203.

⁴² *Tasmania, Reports of Crime*, Vol. XVIII No. 1033 9 May 1879 p. 74; Vol. XVIII No. 1035 23 May 1879 p. 83; Vol. XVIII No. 1039 20 June 1879 p. 99

⁴³ *Tasmania, Reports of Crime*, Vol. XXIII No. 1277 11 January 1884 p. 8; *Mercury* (Hobart) 25 December 1883 p. 2

⁴⁴ TAHO, SWD26/1/6 (October 1863) Image 588 (Woodruff)

In 1879, he charged Patrick BARRY and Patrick DONNOLLY with assault: described in the newspaper report as 'half-witted', George had been attending night school at Long Bay when he was pelted with stones. The case was dismissed.⁴⁵

It seems that the lives of the three Woodruff brothers came full circle: they were admitted to the New Town Charitable Institution, in the building of the former Queen's Asylum for Destitute Children.⁴⁶ George, a labourer aged 45, died of 'tubercular disease of the hip' in 1897 and was buried at Cornelian Bay.⁴⁷ Charles may have died in 1920 and Alfred in 1939.⁴⁸ Walter was still alive in 1932 but was 'an old man, infirm and partially blind'.⁴⁹ He died in 1938 and was buried at Cornelian Bay.⁵⁰ ◀

For more stories of the Orphan School children, see

**Friends of the Orphan Schools,
St John's Park Precinct:
www.orphanschool.org.au**

⁴⁵ *Mercury* (Hobart) 23 May 1879 p. 3

⁴⁶ TAHO, POL709/1/1 (George Woodruff); HSD274/1/1, POL709/1/1 (Charles Woodruffe); HSD274/1/1, HSD274/1/2 (Walter Frederick Woodruffe);

⁴⁷ HSD274/1/2 (Alfred Woodruff)
TAHO, RGD35/1/15 District of Hobart 1897/1310 George Woodruffe; SRCT (Cornelian Bay) Record No. 1B 11061 Section V (Church of England) No. 198 (1897)

⁴⁸ *Mercury* (Hobart) 15 September 1920 p. 1; SRCT (Cornelian Bay) Record No. 1B 22142 Section A (Wesley) No. 224 (1920); SRCT (Cornelian Bay) Record No. 1B 36223 Section FF (Church of England) No. 67 (1939)

⁴⁹ *Mercury* (Hobart) 14 October 1932 p. 7

⁵⁰ SRCT (Cornelian Bay) Record No. 1B 34625 Section [?] (Wesley) No. 40 (1938).

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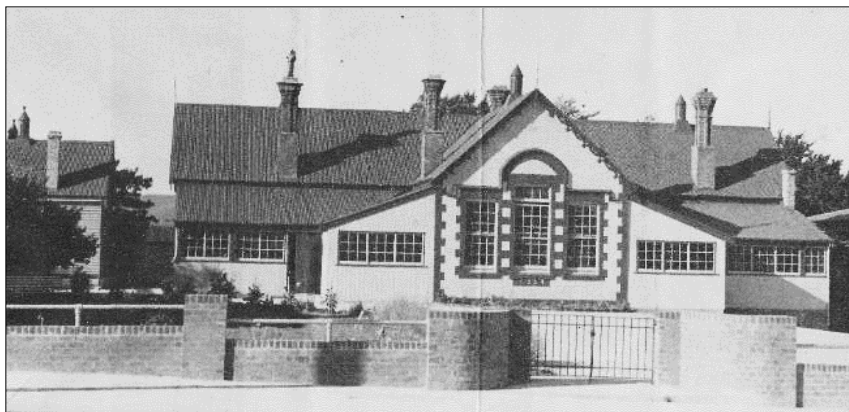
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AREA SCHOOLS IN TASMANIA

THE SHEFFIELD EXPERIMENT, 1936

Betty Jones (Member No. 6032)



Sheffield Area School, 1937

Thomas A Beswick Collection, courtesy of Linden Beswick

THERE have been times when Tasmania has been an innovator and a national leader in educational matters, one such important occasion being the introduction and development of area schools from the mid-1930s.

In 1935, when there were severe government budget constraints in Tasmania, Mr George Vickery BROOKS (1877–1956), Director of Education, returned from a visit to England where he had been looking at new ideas for improving educational outcomes. The two initially separate concepts of area and district schools impressed him, not only for their potential to combine a number of very small schools at central sites and thus save money, but also for their much-needed focus on improving learning opportunities for children in country areas.

Area and district schools contextualised

Twenty-plus years into an era when Tasmanian children had to pass an ability test to gain access to high schools in a handful of bigger city/town centres, the idea of rural area schools with post-primary classes presented a certain attractiveness for many. There was to be no academic barrier to entry, the standard being pitched between primary and high school for children aged 12 to 14 years. There was also the promise that the curriculum would be rich in citizenship as well as being more practical and tailored to suit local interests and children's future employment prospects. In farming areas, for example, agricultural subjects were to be the focus while in mining places, the development of practical skills needed for that work environment would feature.

In January 1935, there were over 330 one-teacher government schools through-

out the state.¹ The running costs from the Education Department's budget were high and the need for a better value-for-money approach was pressing. Since 1924, there had been an attempt by government to close some small schools and convey the children to larger ones nearby but resistance from local communities had been high and progress was slow. In 1936, the idea of introducing a district school model to help overcome the problems seemed worth trying. Its aim was to provide designated central schools and close surrounding little ones, but the emphasis was to be on offering subject specialisation and facilities not available in smaller situations. The challenge was to convince parents that their children, from the earliest age, would receive improved educational opportunities at the bigger, better equipped institutions.

Government approval was given in late 1935 to trial the two ideas championed by Mr Brooks. Sheffield in the rural north-west was chosen for the area school approach and Hagley in the north for the district school model. It was stressed that both schemes were experimental at that stage.² Hagley District School was officially opened in late March 1936, quickly followed by a similar ceremony at Sheffield Area School a few days later.³

Australia's first area school: a Tasmanian initiative

Preparations for the commencement of Sheffield Area School were in place by the beginning of the 1936 school year following the removal of the school building at West Kentish to Sheffield for use by the area school section. The vacant Presbyterian Church in High Street was rented to accommodate an overspill of



1945: Sheffield Area School pupils with their bicycles supplied by the Education Department

From the Thomas A Beswick Collection, courtesy of TAHO: NS4511-1-62

¹ *The Educational Record*, 15 January 1935

² *The Advocate*, 17 December 1935

³ *The Examiner*, 3 April 1936

junior pupils prior to more permanent buildings being added to the school.⁴

Pupils aged from 12 to 14 years from the small schools at Gowrie, Claude Road, Paradise, Stoodley, Beulah, Lower Beulah, Nook, Lower Barrington and Barrington were all to be part of the intake over time, though none of those schools was closed immediately. The boys were to be taught to lend a hand to almost anything on the farm and the girls were to be instructed in Domestic Arts.

The initial method of transportation for the students who lived within 12 miles of Sheffield Area School was novel, based on a model Mr Brooks had seen in England, and involved the supply of bicycles by the Education Department. If children provided their own bicycles, their parents could be paid an annual maintenance allowance.⁵ The Department also provided waterproof capes for the bike riders' protection in wet weather.

Sheffield's staff members, 1936

At the time of the official opening, the teaching staff consisted of Mr Jack BLAKE (Head Teacher), Miss Annie F DWYER, Miss Vera COURTNEY, Miss Phyllis BEARD, Mr Thomas BESWICK, Mrs Hilda NEEDHAM, Miss Winifred MCKENZIE and Mr Carl PAICE.

The Head Teacher, Trade teacher and Domestic Arts teacher were pivotal to the success of the new scheme, the first for his leadership and the other two for their implementation of the school's point of difference at that time.

William John Cyril (Jack) Blake (1903–1966), was appointed to lead the development of the new school concept from its inception in 1936 and remained in that position until the end of 1944

⁴ *The Examiner*, 29 November 1935

⁵ *The Examiner*, 17 December 1935

when he was transferred to Charles Street State School in Launceston. A valedictory to Mr Blake in 1962 stated that 'Everything Jack touched, grew.' No better example of that tag was evident than during his stewardship of Sheffield Area School. New buildings were opened in August 1937,⁶ and further extensions were ready for occupation in June 1938. The roll had by then increased from 160 in 1936 to 276.⁷ A new wing was opened in November 1941 in anticipation of a swelled enrolment of 100 children expected in the next year from closed schools at Gowrie, Claude Road, Paradise, Stoodley, Beulah and Lower Beulah.⁸

Mr Blake⁹ was born at Ulverstone, son of railway worker Charles Blake and his wife Caroline Anna, (née WARREN). He was a pupil at West Kentish



State School before entering Launceston High, where he was a senior prefect as well as becoming a probationary student with the Education Department from 1921–23. Following Junior Teacher placements at Wilmot and Alberton, Mr Blake entered Teachers' College from mid-1924 to 1925. He then took up progressive appointments at Dromedary, Ulverstone, Devonport, Campbell Street, Dover and Cressy before arriving at Sheffield. In 1932 at Sheffield, Mr Blake married local teacher, Gladys Mildred

⁶ *The Advocate*, 20 August 1937

⁷ *The Advocate*, 9 June 1938

⁸ *The Mercury*, 28 November 1941

⁹ TAHO: LPIC147–6–246

MADDOX and they had two children, Robin and Ian.

Trade teacher, **Thomas Athol (Tom) Beswick** (1911–1991)¹⁰, born at Sprent,



was youngest son of farmer George Henry Beswick and his wife Mary, (née REYNOLDS). He was educated at Sprent State School before attending Devonport High.

Mr Beswick started his career as a Junior Teacher at West Devonport Practising School before entering Teachers' College from mid-1931 to 1932. He then had two years as assistant at the Boys' Welfare School in Hobart followed by just over twelve months in charge of Rocky Cape State School. His appointment to Sheffield followed in 1936 and Mr Beswick spent the remainder of his career up to the 1970s at that school. He married Rose Bessie CHOVEAUX (1910–1984) at East Devonport in 1933 and they had two sons, Linden and Colin.

On opening day on 2 April 1936, just five weeks after Trade classes commenced, Mr Beswick and his pupils had already displayed great industry in the woodwork, saddlery and tinsmith room. The boys, dressed in overalls with their sleeves rolled up, were busily tinkering behind their work benches. One lad was planeing a piece of wood, another boring holes to complete a three-legged milking stool. Yet another was soldering a leak in a useful billy can, heating his tools at a little spirit stove designed for the purpose.¹¹ In the years that followed, Mr

Beswick's courses for boys also included building, concrete work, blacksmithing and poker work. Agricultural subjects focused on local farming interests in animals, cropping, floriculture and landscape gardening.

Domestic Arts teacher, Mrs **Hilda Blanche Needham** (née **GARTH**) (1891–1984),¹²



was born at Hobart, daughter of Walter James Garth and his wife Annie (née GARNER). In 1906, she was employed as a Paid Monitor at Lower Sandy Bay School before

undertaking the Training College course from 1909 to 1916. Her teaching appointments included the schools at Macquarie Street, Stanley and Goulburn Street up to 1922, at which time she resigned to marry William Southwood Needham at Hobart. They had a son, Peter. After being widowed in 1926, Mrs Needham returned to teaching at Elizabeth Street Practising School in 1927. In 1929 she became an assistant at the Domestic Arts Centre in Hobart and it was from there that Mrs Needham was chosen for the Sheffield Area School experiment in 1936. During 1937 she returned to the south of the state and continued teaching up to 1955.

See pages 147–8 for a summary of area schools and some other schools involved at the time.

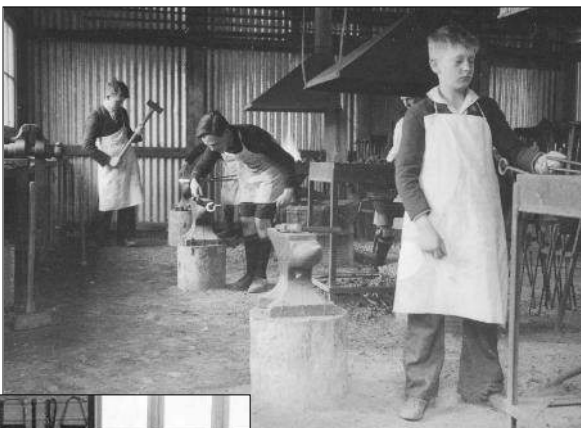
¹⁰ TAHO: LPIC147–6–246

¹¹ *The Advocate*, 7 April 1936

¹² TAHO: LPIC147–6–246

Recognition of a good concept

Despite the usual early resistance to new ideas, Sheffield Area School was very quickly recognised as a success. Parents became great supporters of the school once they could see how local community needs were being met, how interested their children were in their work, and



Saddlery and Blacksmithing Classes, Sheffield Area School

From the Thomas A Beswick Collection, courtesy of TAHO: N54511-1-36 and 37

tionalists outside the state.¹⁴

More area schools were introduced, most at the request of local communities, and by 1958 there were 42 in operation, including Hagley District School which had changed its name to ‘Hagley

Farm School’.¹⁵ As an aside, in the long-term, subject specialisations in the original district school model ended up being so similar to those offered in area schools that the district concept was subsumed by the former. The desired closure of many small schools followed naturally with community support.

The end of an era

The last area school was built at Natone in 1957 when changes in the wider public’s attitudes towards education had already started to define the need to make education opportunities more widely

how well the specialist staff and facilities impacted on learning.

Early congratulations seemed to come from all quarters, and not just from within Tasmania. In 1942, the Department produced a booklet, illustrated with photographs, entitled *The Tasmanian Area School*, which outlined the aims and history of the innovation.¹³ In 1943, a party led by the Professor of Education at Melbourne University, spent several weeks in Tasmania making colour motion pictures of the area schools and their activities so that the practicalities of the scheme could be viewed by other educa

¹³ *The Advocate*, 27 February 1942

¹⁴ *The Examiner*, 10 December 1943

¹⁵ *The Educational Record*, 15 January 1958

available to all. In 1946, the school leaving age was raised from 14 to 16 and the growing post-war economy provided different employment challenges. It became more apparent that non-academic rural schools prepared their pupils well for farm life, but often posed restrictions on those who aspired to other careers.

In 1963, another category, district schools, emerged and initially included George Town, Scottsdale, St Marys, King Island and Cressy. A further review in 1972 resulted in the end of area schools and their conversion from 1973 to district, district high or primary schools.

There are still a number of government district schools in existence that provide both primary and high school classes on the same campus. These include:

Bothwell, Campania, Campbell Town, Cressy, Dover, Whitemark, Glenora, Currie, Lilydale, Queenstown (Mountain Heights), Oatlands, Penguin, George Town (Port Dalrymple), Rosebery, Sheffield, Sorell, St Helens, St Marys, Nubeena (Tasman), Triabunna, Winnaleah, Woodbridge and Yolla. ◀



1950: Cookery Class, Sheffield Area School

From the Thomas A Beswick Collection, courtesy of TAHO: N54511-1-47

AREA	SCHOOL YEARS	SOME OTHER SCHOOLS INVOLVED AT THE TIME
Alonnah	1949–57	Became South Bruny Island Adventure Bay, Lunawanna
Beaconsfield	1954–72	Richmond Hill, Cormiston
Boat Harbour	1954–72	Detention, Lanaba, Calder, Flowerdale, part of Sisters Creek
Bothwell	1955–72	
Bracknell	1950–72	Blackwood Creek, Liffey, Bishopsbourne, Exton, Fernbank, Westbury, Whitmore
Brighton	1952–72	Elderslie, Pontville, Mangalore, Dromedary, Bagdad, Tea Tree, Dysart
Campania	1949–72	Ticehurst, Richmond, Rhyndaston, Colebrook
Campbell Town	1949–72	Barton, Cleveland, Conara, Epping, Ross, Epping
Cressy	1949–62	Became Cressy District
Cygnat	1937–72	Nicholls Rivulet, Gardners Bay, Garden Island Creek
Deloraine	1949–62	Became Deloraine High
Dover	1954–72	Hythe, Lady Bay, Raminea
Edith Creek	1954–72	Allen Creek, Irishtown, Lileah, Nabageena, Rogerton, Trowutta
Exeter	1955–72	Formerly West Tamar Flowery Gully, Winkleigh, Glengarry, East Glengarry, Frankford, Bridgenorth, Legana, St Michaels, Sidmouth, Deviot, Swan Point,
Flinders Island		See Whitemark Area
Forest	1939–72	Mengha, Alcomie, Mawbanna, part of Stanley
Geeveston	1938–72	Cairns Bay, Hospital Bay, Castle Forbes Bay, Glendevie
George Town	1954–62	Became George Town District Hillwood, Pipers River, Lefroy
Glenora	1939–72	National Park, Fitzgerald, Tyenna, Uxbridge, Gretna, Ellendale, Westerway
Hagley District	1936–72	Became known as Hagley Farm School Westwood, Selbourne, Rosevale, Quamby Bend, Hadspen, Illawarra, Carrick
Huonville	1940–72	Upper Mountain River, Ranelagh, Lucaston, Braeside, Glen Huon, Crabtree
King Island	1942–62	Became King Island District Loorana, Pegasus, Sea Elephant, Egg Lagoon, Pearshape
Lilydale	1939–72	North Lilydale, Tunnel, Lebrina, Lalla, Karoola, Bangor, Underwood, Golconda

AREA SCHOOL	YEARS	SOME OTHER SCHOOLS INVOLVED AT THE TIME
Mole Creek	1938–72	South Mole Creek, Dairy Plains, Chudleigh, Caveside, Red Hills
Natone	1957–72	Natone, Upper Natone, Stowport
New Norfolk	1954–55	Became New Norfolk High in 1956 Brookside, Moogara, Mt Lloyd, Magra, Lachlan, Plenty, Black Hills, Hayes
Oatlands	1939–72	Whitefoord, Mt Pleasant, Parattah, York Plains, Baden, Mt Seymour, Jericho, Tunnack, Tunbridge
Ouse	1955–72	Strickland, Osterley
Riana	1948–72	South Riana, West Pine, Cuprona, Sulphur Creek
Ridgley	1955–72	Hampshire, West Ridgley, Highclere, Mooreville Road
Ringarooma	1937–72	Pinega, Talawa, Trenah, Legerwood, Legunia, Alberton, Moorina
Sheffield	1936–72	Gowrie, Claude Road, Paradise, Stoodley, Beulah, Beulah, Lower Nook, Lower Barrington, Barrington
Snug	1947–72	Kaoota, Sandfly, Leslie Road, Summerleas, Howden, Nierena, Margate, Oyster Cove
Sorell	1949–72	Nugent, Bream Creek, Forcett, Kellevie
South Bruny Island	1958–72	Formerly Alonnah Area
Sprent	1950–72	South Nietta, Upper Castra, Abbotsham, Kindred, North Motton, Gawler
St Helens	1952–72	Welborough, Pyengana
St Marys	1949–62	Became St Marys District Cornwall, Mangana, Fingal, Avoca, Bicheno
Tasman	1953–72	Koonya, Nubeena, Taranna
Wesley Vale	1937–72	East Sassafras, New Ground, Harford, Northdown
West Tamar	1940–54	Became Exeter Area Flowery Gully, Winkleigh, Glengarry, East Glengarry, Legana, St Michaels, Sidmouth, Deviot, Swan Point
Bridgenorth,		
Whitemark	1949–72	Also known as Flinders Island Area
Wilmot	1941–72	Lower Wilmot, Narrawa
Winnaleah	1954–72	Gladstone, Derby, Branxholm, Pioneer
Woodbridge	1951–72	Flowerpot, Middleton, Kettering
Yolla	1942–72	Henrietta, Oldina, Oonah, Seabrook, Elliott, Takone, Upper Calder

EDWIN HOOPER, DELORAINE SUE TYLER

I broke through one of my long-time brick walls during a balmy evening in New York city, taking it easy after a busy day's sightseeing. Having a mid-19th century family half of whom seemed to disappear without trace was very frustrating, but an online search unearthed a document clearly identifying one of the disappeared. The person in question was Edwin (commonly Edward) HOOPER who was sentenced to 1 month's hard labour and 7 years transportation to Van Diemen's Land (VDL), on 10 August 1843.

He had been baptised on 9 July 1826 to John Hooper, labourer and his wife Hannah at Sutton Mallet in Somerset, England, the eldest of 11 children. Siblings Henry, James, Deliah, Vincent, George, Judith, Julia, Charles, Samuel and Jemima were baptised at nearby Woolavington between 1828 and 1849. Jemima was baptised in October 1849 and sadly their mother died shortly after, in November 1849.

The tithe records of 1843 showed John Hooper occupying a house and garden—size 14 perches—and also the use of additional 'garden' plots of 22 perches and 28 perches respectively.

In 1841 Edwin was living in Shapwick, Somerset with his sister Deliah and aunt and uncle Jemima and Joseph WIT-COMB. Shapwick is given as his last place of residence in the Somerset gaol records. His place of birth is given as Venus Sutton (an earlier name for Sutton Mallet). The English gaol records also record his behaviour as descending from 'good character and disposition and of sober habits of life' to 'tolerable' then

further to 'stubborn and refractory'. Probably not really surprising given the circumstances.

Edwin's crime was stealing a 'smock frock' and embezzling 13 shillings 8 pence (or 6 pence according to some records). He sailed on the *Sir Robert Peel* embarking 5 September 1844 and arriving in VDL 26 December 1844. In the various prison/convict records he is approximately 5' 2" tall with dark brown hair and a fresh complexion without whiskers. He appears to have moved from prisoner barracks at Hobart Town to a gang at Port Esperance and from there to various employments in Longford. Over the course of this time there are records of him 'using violent language' and being drunk and even threatening to stab a constable. Surprisingly the violent language earned him 14 days in solitary whereas the threatening the constable only earned him 10 days in solitary. The employments in Longford started in November 1847 and appear to run through to April 1850. He was freed by servitude on 11 March 1852.

Then there seemed to be a puzzling trip to Melbourne as a steerage passenger on the *City of Melbourne* 23 May 1852. My guess is that he was heading for Victoria's gold rush.

He returned to Longford and married Eliza MORGAN on 17 December 1853. His age was given as 25 but he would have been nearer 27. My suspicion is that this was to reduce the apparent age gap with his bride who was purportedly 18 (although the only Eliza Morgan I can see baptized in Longford would only have been 13). His occupation at this time was

described as farmer. In 1856 he was listed as eligible to vote. Edwin and Eliza have at least 10 children in the Deloraine district:

- Arthur Henry 1860
- Hannah Ann 1863
- John Thomas 1867
- Daniel George 1870
- Alfred James 1872
- Edward William 1876
- Martha Eliza 1878
- Amelia Louisa 1881
- Georgiana Eva 1884
- Lucy Lovina 1886

There may also be Mary Jane in 1856 and William in 1857.

Since the name of the convict ship is stated in many records and the original offence in many others it is possible to tie a lot of these records together (the marriage is circumstantial evidence at the moment). I believe the *Sir Robert Peel* only made the journey once. The break-

through moment was finding the family members listed in CON14-1-28_00172_L Indents of male convicts 1824–1853 London 10 July 1844, *Sir Robert Peel* 26 December 1844, Archives Office of Tasmania. [Now known as Tasmanian Archives and Heritage Office, TAHO]. These details are largely mirrored in PCOM2 021 00084 Millbank register of prisoners 1843–4, *Findmypast*.

The place names Woolavington, Old Lavington and Old Love Eaton are close enough but the siblings are what clinched it. Devon is a neighbouring county to Somerset in England and a minor discrepancy.

Edwin died on 28 March 1900.

There was another Edwin Hooper [DIX] transported to VDL. He was born 1828 transported on the *Oriental Queen* and married Anastasia WISE at Launceston Tasmania 1854. He can be discounted by references to the ship he travelled on.

Document reference	Remarks
CON14-1-28_00172_L Indents of male convicts 1824–1853 London 10 July 1844, <i>Sir Robert Peel</i> 26 December 1844. Archive Office of Tasmania	F John, M Hannah, B Edwin Hy Jas Vincent Chas, S Judith, Julia, Deliah Old Love Eaton [<i>my note: George omitted</i>]
PCOM2 021 00084 Millbank register of prisoners 1843–4 <i>findmypast</i>	Father John Hooper a labr Old Lavington? Near Bridgewater, Devon mother Hannah with him. 4 bro: Henry, James, Vincent and George, 3 sisters Deliah, Judith & Julia. Aunt Jemima Whitcombe, Shapwick near Bridgewater. [<i>my note: Charles omitted</i>]



NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS

NAME	PLACE/AREA	TIME	M'SHIP NO.
ARMITAGE Joseph	Kent ENG	c.1820	7984
ATKINSON George		c.1800s	7982
BATCHLER John	East Garston BRK ENG	c.1800	7984
BENNETT Martha	Portsmouth HAM ENG	c.1830	7976
BERRY Jessie	Gordon TAS AUS	c.1860	7979
BOWDEN Walter Raymond	Bristol SOM ENG	1872–1949	7972
CHAMP David	Micheldever HAM ENG	c.1808	7984
CLARKE	NSW AUS	c.1800	7976
CORNEY English	Brighton SSX ENG	c.1800	7984
DAVIS Emma Jane	TAS AUS	1855–1929	7972
DILLON Michael John	New Norfolk TAS AUS	1863–1945	7971
DONALDSON Flora Margaret	TAS AUS	1888–1969	7973
DREW John	Hobart TAS AUS	1823–1897	7971
DUMBLETON Maj A V	Hawley TAS AUS	c.1800s	7977
DUMBLETON Henry Arthur	'Taroona' Hawley TAS AUS	1857–1932	7977
EDWARDS Richard James	Shropshire ENG/WALES	c.1817	7974
ELLIOTT		c.1823	7985
FARTHING Robert	Beverley YKS ENG	c.1820	7979
FIGG Henry Robert	TAS/SA AUS	1835–1912	7978
FIGG William	ENG/VDL/MC/SA/NSW AUS	1799–1867	7978
FOOT Robert	Middlesex ENG	c.1820	7979
FOSTER Emma	TAS AUS	1871–1926	7973
GABY Thomas	Berbice WIL ENG	1810–1903	7989
GEORGE John and Eliza	Thebarton SA AUS	1850–1900s	7979
GREENFIELD William Henry	Sussex ENG	c.1825	7976
HANGAN John and Jane	Hobart TAS AUS	1774–1850	7971
HARVEY William	Westbury BKM ENG	c.1800	7984
HENDERSON-SMITH	NSW AUS	c.1800	7976
HENRY Charles A	Moona South Sea Islands	c.1869	7976
HILL George	Picton HRT ENG	1790–1870	7982
HILL William		c.1800s	7982
JEFFREY James and Hannah	Illogen CON ENG	c.1820	7979
JONES William George	North West Bay TAS AUS	c.1860	7979
LOVIBOND George	Somerset ENG	c.1800>	7977
MARSHALL Jane Anne	TAS AUS	1878–1968	7972
MORLEY	Buckland/Triabunna TAS AUS	c.1800s	7975
MUNDAY Emma Beatrice	TAS AUS	1904–1969	7972
MUNDAY John Phillip	TAS AUS	1866–1914	7973
PEGLER Charles	New Norfolk TAS AUS	1809–1876	7971
REID George	Marylebone WIL ENG	c.1800	7984
RIGNEY	Bona Vista TAS AUS	c.1870	7970
ROCKLIFF			7985
SMEDLEY Emily Jane	TAS AUS	1879–1958	7973
SMITH Walter	TAS AUS	c.1865–1937	7978
St James Church Northdown	Northdown TAS AUS	1800–1900	7977
STEVENS John Albert	Hobart TAS AUS	1840–1915	7971

NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS

NAME	PLACE/AREA	TIME	M'SHIP NO.
STREETS Patrick Francis	TAS AUS	1868-1938	7972
STREETS William Joseph	TAS AUS	1896-1972	7972
TAUGHENY Mary	Bothwell TAS AUS	1831-1915	7971
TAYLOR	Campbell Town TAS AUS	c.1823	7970
TAYLOR Ellen	TAS AUS	1860-1949	7973
TERRY	Cape Portland TAS AUS	c.1850 >	7975
WARDLAW	Chain of Lagoons TAS AUS	c.1870	7970
WILLIAMS Henry	TAS AUS	1870-1945	7973

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LAUNCH

DNA VIDEO PRESENTATION

The Hobart Branch of the
Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.
has produced an hour-long video lecture ...

An introduction to using DNA

The video will be launched at a public screening
followed by a Q & A session and supper

7:30 p.m. on Tuesday 15 January 2019
Sunday School
St Johns Park Precinct
NEW TOWN

Members and visitors welcome

For more details email
secretary@hobart.tasfhs.org

NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members

7970	TAYLOR Mrs Vera	Not for publication			
7971	GRAVES Mrs Anna	PO Box 2059 apgraves71@gmail.com	PROSPECT	SA	5082
7972	ROGERS Ms Kaylene	2 Wiseman Street	SHOREWELL PARK	TAS	7320
7973	PENNINGTON Ms Natasha	2 Wiseman Street	SHOREWELL PARK	TAS	7320
7974	HODGMAN Mr Wilfred	71 Leura Street hodghome@bigpond.com	ROSNY	TAS	7018
7975	MORLEY Mr John	40 Ravenswood Road jmorley@bigpond.net.au	LAUNCESTON	TAS	7250
7976	CHAMBERS Mrs Lyn	58 Mersey Main Road lynda0055@gmail.com	SPREYTON	TAS	7310
7977	LOVIBOND Ms Penelope	24 River Road peripateticpenny@gmail.com	PORT SORELL	TAS	7307
7978	FIGG Mr Steven	170 Nelson Road scmgfigg@bigpond.net.au	MT NELSON	TAS	7007
7979	JONES Mrs Aileen	12 Gilmour Crescent aileenrev@bigpond.com	SOMERSET	TAS	7322
7980	HONAN Mr Geoffrey	31 Edward Street geoRoadi31@gmail.com	BOYNE ISLAND	QLD	4680
7981	LITTLE Ms Wendy	PO Box 86 wdhdb1@bigpond.com	NEWSTEAD	TAS	7250
7982	DUFFY Mrs Dianne	67 Tasman Highway duffy17@bigpond.com	WAVENUERLEY	TAS	7250
7983	WILKINSON Mr James	17 Mawhera Avenue jim.wilkinson@parliament.tas.gov.au	SANDY BAY	TAS	7005
7984	BURT Mrs Andrea	1/62 Forster Street aburt@tpg.com.au	NEW TOWN	TAS	7008
7985	MEEKS Mrs Ruth	2/6 Nelumie Street breakofday@westnet.com.au	LINDISFARNE	TAS	7015
7986	BACIC Ms Marijana	90 Pottery Road marijana.bacic@parliament.tas.gov.au	LENAH VALLEY	TAS	7008
7987	PHILLIPS Mr Lee	90 Pottery Road marijana.bacic@parliament.tas.gov.au	LENAH VALLEY	TAS	7008
7988	ROGERS Ms Kelly	Not for publication r.gaby@utas.edu.au			
7990	VAN DER HEK Mr Alexander	536 Churchill Avenue r.gaby@utas.edu.au	SANDY BAY	TAS	7005

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THE GERMAN-AUSTRALIAN GENEALOGY AND HISTORY ALLIANCE'S CONFERENCE

Michael Watt (Member No.7770)

IN *Tasmanian Ancestry* (vol. 38, no. 4, March 2018), I presented a short article on the German-Australian Genealogy and History Alliance (GAGHA). In August 2018, GAGHA held its first conference at the University of Adelaide to discuss German-Australian history, heritage and culture under the theme: Australisches Deutschum – Reconnections, Recollections, Resilience.

The conference program was an ambitious undertaking. Planning for the conference involved inviting researchers and curators from Germany and Australia to sign speaker agreements, develop and submit conference papers, and provide speakers' presentations at specific dates. Commitment to this schedule, allowed GAGHA's executive officer, Benjamin Hollister, to coordinate booking of the venue, engage technicians to record the presentations, and allow one presenter to deliver three presentations remotely.

Following the conference, two presenters from Germany, Dirk Weissleder, national chairman of Deutsche Arbeitsgemeinschaft genealogischer Verbände, and Andrea Bentschneider, a professional genealogist based in Hamburg, proposed offering a series of workshops in Brisbane, Parramatta, Canberra, Melbourne, Hobart and Perth. Unfortunately, several presenters, including the German presenters, were unable to attend the conference leading to several replacement presentations and cancellation of the post-conference tour. In spite of these challenges, the conference ran smoothly delivering presentations on a variety of topics to an audience of approximately 70 participants.

The following account offers a snapshot based on sessions I attended. The keynote address was delivered by the Lord Mayor of Adelaide, the Right Honourable Martin Haese. Participants were positive about my presentation on three settlements of Germans in Tasmania. Eric Kopittke, president of the Baptist Historical Society of Queensland, gave a presentation on Queensland's German Baptists on behalf of Baptist Heritage Centre archivist, David Parker. Benjamin Hollister outlined the purpose, methodologies and subject matter of GAGHA's projects. Rachel Kuchel, Lutheran Archives director, Eric Kopittke, and Aileen Preiss of the South Australian Genealogy and Heraldry Society (SAGHS) gave short presentations on the Lutheran Archives, GAGHA and SAGHS. Historian, Michael Wohltmann gave an impassioned account on research that led to the publication of his book, *A Future Unlived: a history of the internment of German enemy aliens on Torrens Island in South Australia during 1914–1924*. University of Adelaide academic, Peter Mickan, presented an account of efforts being undertaken by the Barossa German Language Association to revive the German language. Amateur musician, Mark Schuster spoke about his activities recording and playing the folk music of German-Australians living in the rural districts of south-east Queensland. Lutheran Archives archivist, Adam Kauschke presented an account of the experiences of Lutheran immigrants who arrived in Australia after World War II. Mark Schuster presented a biography on nineteenth century, German naturalist and musician, Herman Lau. ◀

ESQUIRE, GENTLEMAN and YEOMAN WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Mary Wright

WHEN looking at historic documents including birth, marriage and death certificates and Wills and Census returns, it is not unusual to find 'rank or profession' of a man (possibly one of your ancestors) given as Esquire, (Esq.), Gentleman (Gent.) or Yeoman.

Esquire

Those of a certain age will remember a time when letters sent to solicitors, banks etc. to a man would be addressed to, for example, E A Jones Esq. with the salutation being Dear Mr Jones. In some documents, notably the index of past students of Oxford University *Alumni Oxonienses*, the abbreviation Arm is short for armiger the Latin version of Esquire and therefore does not necessarily indicate that the person had a Coat of Arms. The usage of the term Esquire has changed over time.

Originally a Squire (*escutifer*) was the shield bearer of a knight and carried not only his shield but also pieces of his armour and would have been from a family within the Gentry. Later these tasks were passed to the Pages. By the 16th century the term referred to an officer of the Crown, who because of his position (e.g. Royal Navy Commanders, Army Officers, Justices of the Peace) carried some authority but did not always rank above a Gentleman. Usage of the term Esquire changed again and during the 17th and 18th centuries was used to denote a man who had a coat of arms (not all people who had arms did so officially and some were using the arms of a distant relative) and were therefore superior to

the Gentlemen. During the 19th century it was common practise to use this style when addressing letters to Gentlemen and later in letters to any man.

Gentleman

While today the term Gentleman is used mostly on toilet signs or at the start of a speech 'Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen' (Lords being people who have that particular title either by inheritance or having been knighted by the Queen, Lady being the polite title of women of the same rank as, or the wife of a Lord but also being a polite term for any woman) and is considered the polite term for referring to any man. A gentleman is generally considered to be a man who is polite and courteous, however, in the past it had a more specific meaning.

Collectively the Gentlemen form the Gentry. Originally the term Gentil meant someone who was noble but as early as the 15th century a Gentleman was someone who was superior to a Yeoman but inferior to a Baron or Knight. During the 16th and 17th centuries the Heralds tried to restrict the term to those with a legal entitlement to a coat of arms but they were unable to enforce this. In popular usage a Gentleman was one who did not work with his hands, so a wealthy farmer who did not physically work the land, a professional man, e.g. doctor or lawyer, a man who had saved enough to retire and live on his investments, would all be considered to be Gentlemen. There has never been a clear definition whether or not a Gentleman was Noble. This was debated into the 19th century, by which time

people addressing a gathering of people were commonly addressing their audience as 'Ladies and Gentlemen'.

Yeoman

Possibly the word Yeoman today brings images of the Yeoman of the Guard (the Queen's Body Guard, now largely ceremonial) and the Yeoman Wardens at the Tower of London (commonly referred to as Beefeaters). In the 13th–15th centuries a Yeoman was a servant or retainer of a Knight, Yeomen of the King's Chamber being officials who worked for the Chamberlain. During the Tudor period the word came to mean a prosperous farmer who worked his own land (either rented or owned as freeholder), as he actually worked on his land and ranked below the Gentry. While there was no legal definition of the term Yeoman it came to be used to denote a farmer who was wealthier than the average husbandman. Since the early 20th century both terms, yeoman and husbandman have been replaced by farmer.

The Yeomen are not to be confused with the yeomanry who were local volunteer soldiers in Victorian times who rode their own horses.

Although usage of all these terms has changed over time and in the main has no precise definition, hopefully the above gives some idea of the status of the people to whom the rank has been assigned. ◀

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To contact her please email mary@unicornfamilyhistoryresearch.co.uk and for further details see www.unicornfamilyhistoryresearch.co.uk

HELP WANTED

WALKER/LAWLESS

Two families are claiming an Anne Walker (daughter of Pte James WALKER and Esther WALKER (née TUCKER)) as their own (LAWLESS and HARWOOD). Initially I thought this Anne Walker was my ancestor, but records don't support this. My Anne Walker lived with Joseph Lawless and had three children with him. She died in childbirth in 1859.

The other Anne WALKER married Jacob BEAMER. There is a baptismal record for the third child citing the parents as Jacob and Anne BEAMER (née WALKER). Anne Beamer subsequently lived with George Harwood and had a further nine children.

Please contact Lindy Mollineux at 43 Belar Street, Howrah TAS 7018 or email limollineux1@hotmail.com

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Tasmania 7018

RAAF PILOT OFFICER 'MONTY' STUART A WAR HERO FROM STANLEY

Don Bradmore (Member No. 6576)

JUST a few months before the end of World War II, Henry Montgomery Stanbrook ('Monty') STUART, a young man from Stanley, Tasmania, was tragically killed when the Lancaster bomber in which he was flying as navigator was hit by shells from an enemy fighter and crashed in flames in western Germany. When the circumstances of his death were made public some months later, he was hailed as a hero.

This is his story ...

In early February 1945, Monty's parents received word that their 27 year-old son was missing in action.¹ Three months later, the *Circular Head Chronicle* (Stanley) reported that Mr and Mrs Stuart had now been informed officially by the Air Board in Melbourne that their son and two other members of crew had been killed when their plane was shot down during a raid on the Dortmund-Ems Canal, near Munster, Germany, in the early hours of 8 February. This sad news had been confirmed by the International Red Cross Society.²

The report of Monty's death shocked the small Circular Head community where he had spent his boyhood and where his parents had been prominent in local affairs for more than thirty years.



Monty's mother and father had moved to Tasmania shortly after their marriage in Victoria in 1913. Initially, Monty's father (also named Henry Montgomery Stuart) was employed as produce manager for the firm of C T Smith, a Stanley-based business which handled a wide range of general goods and also acted as customs, shipping and insurance

agents for other organizations.³ From the beginning, he had been heavily involved in community affairs and with local sporting organizations. Popular and outgoing, he was a talented musician and singer and was often called upon to entertain and/or to act as master of ceremonies at local concerts and similar public events.⁴

Monty's mother, Cherry (née STANBROOK) Stuart, was no less popular and outgoing than her husband. Reports of

¹ *Advocate* (Burnie), 14 February 1945, p. 2

² *Circular Head Chronicle*, 9 May 1945, p. 2; *Advocate*, 9 May 1945, p. 2

³ Occupation: Electoral Rolls via *Ancestry*; C T Smith: *Advocate*, 29 November 1923, p. 6

⁴ *Circular Head Chronicle*, 17 May 1922, p. 3

the carnage on the battlefields of Europe had impelled her to involve herself in the work of the Red Cross and when a 'First Aid Club' was established at Stanley in 1915, she was soon a leading figure in it. For some years, she was also president of the Circular Head Girls' Friendly Society and the Stanley Girls' Club whose members organised concerts and dances to farewell (and to welcome back) local boys who had enlisted, and to raise funds for food and clothing parcels for those serving abroad. In 1939, she had convened a meeting to form the Stanley branch of the Country Women's Association and later served as president of the Circular Head group of CWA branches. She was also vice-president of the Stanley State School Parents and Friends Association for many years.⁵

The Stuarts had three children. Monty, the eldest, was born at Ulverstone on 12 February 1917. A daughter, Flora Stuart, was born in 1923 but passed away at the age of five in 1928. A second son, Hector Royden Stanbrook Stuart, was born in 1929.⁶

Young Monty was a popular and talented boy. First at the local state school and later at high school, his name was regularly in the papers as the recipient of one or other small prize or sporting honour. For example, in 1931 he won the Boys' Mile Race at the Stanley State School Annual Picnic; in 1932, he captained Stanley in a boys' football match against neighbouring Forest and kicked six goals; in 1933, he won the

Boys' Under 15 Handicap at the Wynyard Aquatic Carnival.⁷

However, in view of the tragedy that was to befall Monty later, two other newspaper mentions of him in his school days seem especially poignant. The first describes a ceremony held at the Stanley State School to mark 'Empire Day' in May 1932. It reads in part: ...

the Empire pledge was repeated and the school flag dipped while the school honour roll was unveiled, the scholars saluting the names of the fallen which were read by Monty Stuart, the senior prefect.⁸

The second newspaper article describes a football match played between Smithton and Stanley in 1932. Although Monty was still only a schoolboy, he had been selected in the Stanley senior team. An account of the match finishes with a list of the best players for both teams, followed by this comment:

Monty Stuart for a schoolboy showed that he is built of 'the right stuff'.⁹

(It is ironic that the phrase 'the right stuff' was used here. This phrase was to be immortalized with the publication of Thomas Wolfe's novel of that name in 1979 and its 1983 film adaptation. The book and film were about the heroics of a small band of US test pilots involved in early astronomical research. Those selected for the nationally important but highly

⁵ *Circular Head Chronicle*, 29 September 1915, p. 2; 9 May 1945, p. 2; *Advocate*, 15 April 1940, p. 6; 27 July 1940, p. 6; 24 December 1942, p. 4

⁶ *Advocate*, Burnie, 22 June 1928, p. 2; *Ancestry.com.au*—accessed March 2018

⁷ *Advocate*, 3 February 1931, p. 4; *Circular Head Chronicle*, 13 May 1932, p. 6; 6 July 1932, p. 4; 19 October 1932, p. 1; 15 February 1933, p. 2; 10 August 1934, p. 4

⁸ *Advocate*, 13 May 1932, p. 6; *Circular Head Chronicle*, 18 May 1932, p. 4

⁹ *Circular Head Chronicle*, 10 August 1932, p. 4

dangerous space programs had to be of ‘the right stuff’.)¹⁰

But, with his school days behind him, Monty had decided that it was time for him to see a little more of the world and so he moved to Melbourne. There, he attended a technical college and by the late 1930s had qualified as an assistant operator at Hoyt’s theatre, Elsternwick. At the outbreak of World War in September 1939, he was working as a projectionist at the stately Regent Theatre in Collins Street in the heart of Melbourne’s CBD.¹¹ Tasmanian newspapers noted his occasional return to Stanley to visit his parents.¹²

About this time, too, it seems that Monty met the girl he planned to marry. While no formal announcement of an engagement has been found, there is a reference to an unnamed ‘fiancée’ in notifications issued by the Air Board with first reports that Monty was missing.¹³ It is likely, however, that any marriage plans the young couple might have been making were put on hold when, on 1 September 1939, Hitler’s Germany invaded Poland. Two days later, England declared war on

Germany and, as a consequence, Australia was also at war.¹⁴

As the war began to take an even more serious turn in the next twelve months, Monty, like thousands of other young Australian men, enlisted in the armed forces. His service record shows that, on 21 August 1940, he presented to the Australian Army recruitment centre at Ripponlea in Melbourne and, with the rank of ‘sapper’ (the equivalent of ‘private’) and the service number V90704, was posted to 64 Anti-Aircraft Searchlight Company, then undergoing training at Maribyrnong, Victoria.¹⁵

However, a little over twelve months later Monty was discharged from the Army when he applied successfully for enlistment in the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF). On 8 November 1941, he attended No. 1 Recruiting Centre, Melbourne, where, with the rank of ‘Aircraftman’ (again equivalent to the Army rank of ‘private’) and the service number 410113, he began his air crew training.¹⁶

On 5 August 1942, Stanley’s *Circular Head Chronicle* reported that Monty, recently promoted to the rank of Leading Aircraftman, had been home on leave during the previous weekend. It is believed that was last time his parents saw him before the awful tragedy of his death. Throughout the following year, promoted to the rank of Flight Sergeant, he was busily engaged in various aspects

¹⁰ <https://www.theguardian.com/film/2014/jul/02/the-right-stuff-reel-history>, accessed March 2018

¹¹ *Circular Head Chronicle*, 8 January 1936, p. 2

¹² *Circular Head Chronicle*, 21 December 1938, p. 2; 4 January 1939, p. 2; 1 July 1942, p. 2; 5 August 1942, p. 2; *Advocate*, 4 September 1942, p. 6

¹³ Lettergram headed ‘4267/AE82, TO RAAF HQ, FROM AIR MIN KWAY, PCX728, February 9, AUSCAS’; copy in possession of author. The reference is actually to the mother of his fiancée: Mrs C R FOSTER of Gardenvale. Monty had requested that she should be notified, along with his father as next of kin, in case of a casualty.

¹⁴ Australian War Memorial at www.awm.gov.au

¹⁵ Australian Army service record, H M Stuart – V90704, at National Archives of Australia (NAA): <http://www.naa.gov.au/collection/explore/defence/service-records/>

¹⁶ NAA: RAAF service record, H M Stuart – 410113, <http://www.naa.gov.au/collection/explore/defence/service-records/>

of flight training in Australia, Canada, England and the United States.¹⁷

In June 1944, Monty was posted to No.

467 Squadron RAAF, a bomber squadron based at Waddington, about four miles (six kilometres) south of the city of Lincoln in the United Kingdom. The senior Lancaster squadron in Britain, No. 467 was notionally an Australian squadron under the command of the Britain's Royal Air Force (RAF) but it consisted of a mixture of personnel from various Commonwealth nations. Equipped with Avro Lancaster heavy bombers (as pictured), the squadron formed part of 5 Group, RAF Bomber Command, and participated in all of the major campaigns of the offensive against Germany, including the raids on the Ruhr, Berlin and Hamburg. The squadron also attacked targets in France, Italy, Norway and Czechoslovakia. In addition to the strategic bombing offensive, the Squadron was also employed in support of ground operations prior to, and during, the D-Day landings in mid-1944.¹⁸

At Waddington, Monty was soon promoted to the rank of Pilot Officer

and posted to the crew of a brilliant young pilot, Wing-Commander John ('Keith') DOUGLAS, DFC, AFC (pictured left).¹⁹



Originally, from Tamworth, New South Wales, Keith Douglas enlisted in the RAAF in February 1941 at the age of 19. Showing a great aptitude for flying in his training in Australia and Canada, he was seconded to the RAF for service in Europe. First posted to 103 Squadron, he flew twenty-five bomber sorties over Europe where his exploits earned him the Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC). In early

1944 he was posted to 460 Squadron where he was awarded the Air Force Cross for his great daring and skill in six operations over Europe. Recognized as one of the RAAF's most outstanding leaders, he was promoted to Wing Commander and given charge of 467 Squadron in October 1944. At 22 years of age, he was the youngest RAAF



Avro Lancaster bomber

¹⁷ *Circular Head Chronicle*, 5 August 1942, p. 2; 23 June 1942, p. 2

¹⁸ <https://www.awm.gov.au/collect/1059451>; **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.**

¹⁹ *Mercury*, Hobart, 25 July 1944, p. 3

commander of a bomber squadron.²⁰

At that time, a key focus of the efforts of RAF Bomber Command was the destruction of Germany's transportation system and the consequent crippling of its war production. In August 1944, RAF and RAAF squadrons had attacked a heavily defended bridge carrying the Dortmund–Ems Canal over the River Ems in Germany's east. Along this canal (and the Mittelland Canal of Central Germany to which it was linked) flowed coal to the great steel mills of the Ruhr Valley where much of the country's heavy industry was based.

Aerial reconnaissance after the August raid showed the waterway had been breached but the damage was soon repaired by the Germans. In September 1944, Bomber Command returned to the canal and breached it again. However, given its importance to the Germans, thousands of forced labourers were put to work to repair it and, again, it was soon

operational. In early October, the RAF bombed the canal again with Lancasters from 463 and 467 Squadrons forming part of the attacking force. Once more, the canal was breached and, yet again, repaired.²¹ In early February 1945, Bomber Command returned to the canal determined to inflict irreparable damage this time.

On the night of 7 February 1945, Wing-Commander Keith Douglas led thirteen Lancaster bombers of 467 Squadron on that mission. Flying with Douglas (pilot) in his Lancaster (Serial Number NG455) on this night was a crew of seven: Pilot Officer Monty Stuart (navigator), Pilot Officer Jack NANSCAWEN (bomb-aimer), Pilot Officer Jack STRICKLAND (wireless operator), Flight Sergeant Boyd BEAN (mid-upper gunner), Flight Sergeant Merv THOMPSON (rear-gunner)—all from the RAAF—as well as Sergeant Ben PARKER (engineer) from the RAF and Flying Officer BAINES



²⁰ <https://clandouglasaustralia.wordpress.com/2017/05/27/rememberin-g-wing-commander-john-keith-douglas-royal-australian-air-force/>

²¹ <https://anzacportal.dva.gov.au/multimedia/publications/australians-world-war-ii-bomber-command/chapter-9-invasion-victory-april>, accessed 241217

(second navigator) from the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF).²²

Sadly, Douglas and the crew of NG455 did not return from that mission. Shortly after releasing its bombs and turning for home, the plane came under fire from an enemy fighter. Five of the eight men aboard—Strickland, Bean, Thompson, Parker and Baines - managed to bail out and parachute safely to the ground. Of these, four were rounded up quickly by the Germans and spent the duration of the conflict as prisoners of war (POWs). One—Strickland—managed to evade capture and, by mid-April, had succeeded in making his way back to England.

Tragically, Douglas, Stuart and Nanscowen died instantly when the plane crashed in flames minutes later.²³

After his repatriation to England at war's end, Flight Sergeant Bean, one of those who had managed to escape from the stricken plane before it crashed, described the final, chaotic moments of the flight in this way:

About ten minutes out from the target on our return journey we were flying straight and level when all at once the aircraft shook and the port wing burst into flames. Neither myself or the rear gunner saw anything but must presume that it was an upward flying fighter which came out of the cloud below. The pilot

immediately gave the order to jump and not to wait. As far as I know, none of the crew acknowledged. I think the bomb-aimer [Nanscowen] must have been hit as he looked dazed ... and made no attempt to get out. I was the first out the rear door. I never saw anyone else leave the aircraft but the wireless operator, Jack Strickland, was right behind me. Height must have been about 10,000 ft at the time. Aircraft was still under control when I left it although the port wing was well ablaze from the main petrol tank ... The navigator [Stuart] was right behind us with his chute on and so we presume he stayed to help the bomb-aimer out and waited too long.²⁴

Although the bravery of each and every member of the crew is beyond question, Bean's statement highlights the extraordinary valour of both Douglas and Stuart in the circumstances. Had it not been for Douglas's self-sacrifice in keeping the plane level enough for five of the crew members to get out, they too would have perished.²⁵ And had not Stuart stayed to help his dazed, and probably badly wounded, mate Nanscowen, he surely would have been able to save himself.

Bean made it clear, of course, that it was a presumption on his part that Monty, in trying to save his friend, had waited too long. However, the *Circular Head Chronicle* had no doubt that Monty's act of was one of sheer heroism. In an article published on 26 September 1945 under the heading 'How P/O Monty Stuart Lost

²² See <http://www.naa.gov.au/collection/search/index.aspx>: 403564 Wing Commander John Keith Douglas, DFC, AFC; 410113 Henry Montgomery Stanbrock (Monty) Stuart; 419332 Pilot Officer John Barrie (Jack) Nanscowen; 419321 Pilot Officer J A (Jack) Strickland; 429444 Flight Sergeant Boyd Owen Bean; 426783 Flight Sergeant M C (Merv) Thompson; 2211668 Sergeant Ben Parker (RAF); J.35083 Flying Officer Baines (RCAF)

²³ NAA: <http://www.naa.gov.au/collection/search/index.aspx>

²⁴ NAA: A705, 166/5/937—BEAN, Boyd Owen (Warrant Officer): Service No: 429444, Repatriation: Aircraft Lancaster NG455; Dortmund, Germany—& February 1945, p. 4 of 49

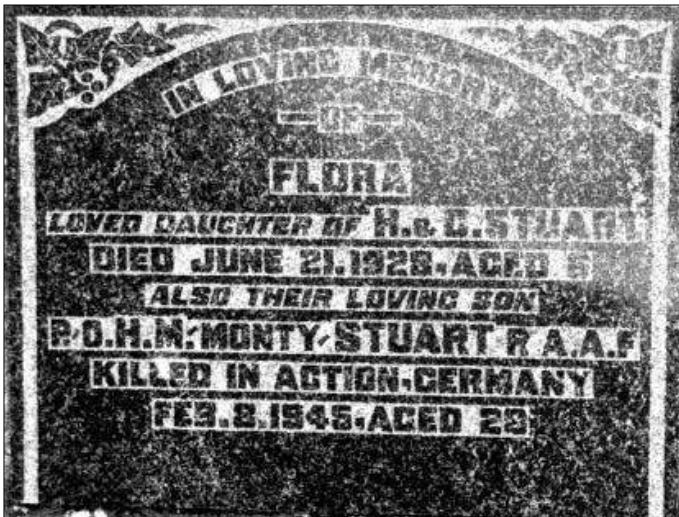
²⁵ http://www.douglashistory.co.uk/history/john_keith_douglas.html#.Wj8P3zRxW71

His Life', the *Chronicle* affirmed that Monty's parents had 'been advised by the Air Board that their son had lost his life in an attempt to save a comrade'.²⁶

The full story of P/O Stuart's act of self-sacrifice has been brought to Stanley by Flying Officer Hugh ARMSTRONG of Essendon, who, with Mrs. Armstrong, is at present the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Stuart. F/O Armstrong and P/O Stuart were of the same squadron. It will be recalled that P/O Stuart was reported 'missing, believed killed' following a

his wounded comrade were lost with the plane, which burst into flames.²⁷

Soon after the crash, the bodies of Douglas, Stuart and Nanscowen were recovered by the Germans and buried. After the war, the remains were exhumed by the RAAF for official forensic identification before being re-interred. They now lie in the Reichswald Forest War Cemetery, near the town of Kleve in north-western Germany, a site created after World War II by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.²⁸



bombing attack on the Dortmund-Ems canal last February. From members of the bomber crew, who have now been repatriated, it has been learnt that when orders were given to "abandon aircraft" P/O Stuart, who was ready to jump, went to the assistance of a wounded member of the crew. The other airmen made successful parachute descents, but P/O Stuart and

At the Stanley Cemetery, Monty's memory is preserved on the headstone of his sister, Flora, (pictured below).²⁹ His name is located at panel 111 in the Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra. ◀

²⁶ A copy of this advice from the Air Board to Monty's parents has not been located

²⁷ *Circular Head Chronicle* (Stanley), 26 September 1945, p. 2

²⁸ Reichswald War Cemetery: <https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/2136759/reichswald-forest-war-cemetery>

²⁹ Headstone photograph courtesy of Lorraine Larment, Ozburials, at <http://www.ozburials.com/>

THE LAND MARIA CAMPBELL WANTED

Lorraine Redway (Member No. 7395)



The Cambridge property today as seen from the causeway leading to Midway Point
Photographs: Lorraine Redway

IT would be interesting to go back in time and meet Maria CAMPBELL. There are some indications she was a bit of a character, and as the daughter of a Scottish father and aboriginal mother in the early nineteenth century, she would have experienced first-hand the meeting of the two very different cultures. As it is, what we do know about her is that she wanted a sizable chunk of the property her father left when he died.

Her father, Archibald or James CAMPBELL was a convict from Glasgow in Scotland. He arrived in Van Diemen's Land in 1804 as part of the group led by Lieutenant Governor David COLLINS. Evidently comfortable on the water, he lived for a while amongst the sealing community in Bass Strait and is also remembered as a ferryman on the River Derwent.¹

The name of Maria's mother isn't recorded but there are a few references to

Campbell's aboriginal partner, any or all of which could have been Maria's mother. In 1814, Lieutenant-Governor DAVEY wanted to meet more of the aborigines after some visited Hobart Town and Mr A Campbell led an expedition to find them. The local newspaper reported that he was

accompanied by a native woman of one of the neighbouring Islands, and has lived with Campbell for some years; this woman has been of considerable service to the party, by representing the humane treatment she received from the white People.²

Several years later in 1820, when Henry RICE kept a diary on an expedition up the east coast, he recorded that

we came to the Main Ocean to a place call'd the Stoney Boat Harbour, where we buried Campbell's black woman.³

The first reference to Maria herself appears to be in 1818 when the Rev.

¹ N J B Plomley, & A H Henley, (1990). *The Sealers of Bass Strait and the Cape Barren Island Community*, Hobart: Blubber Head Press, p. 40

² *Van Diemen's Land Gazette and General Advertiser*, 30 July 1814, p. 2

³ *Historical Records of Australia*, series 111, vol. iv, p. 647

Knopwood baptised Marie Campbell, an eight-year-old native girl.⁴ She would have been about ten when the aboriginal woman, most likely her mother, was buried at Stoney Boat Harbour. We know that Maria didn't learn to write because she was later to sign her name by making her mark with an 'x', but conceivably she could have been taught to read.⁵

In 1823, when Maria was about thirteen, her father married Jean or Jane JARVIS or McWILLIAMS.⁶ Her new stepmother had at least seven children prior to being convicted in Glasgow and transported to Van Diemen's Land,⁷ and a few years after she found herself with a new stepmother, Maria would have met Margaret McWilliams, one of her stepsisters who was transported for forgery.⁸ Another two stepsisters were later transported for forgery,⁹ and in time, both of Maria's stepbrothers also turned up in Hobart Town.¹⁰

In 1828, Archibald Campbell's career took a different turn when he was granted a publican's licence for the 'Highlander' in Macquarie Street in Hobart Town.¹¹ Maria was now about eighteen and quite likely, she would have lived and worked at the Highlander when it started trading.

Then, nine months after he had been given a licence for the 'Highlander', Maria's father died.¹²

During the next few years we get an inkling of what Maria's stepmother was like. Jane Campbell destroyed the will in which her husband had left some of his property to Maria and her stepsister Margaret,¹³ and Jane assumed control of her husband's business interests. Notwithstanding that she signed her name by making an 'x' on the marriage certificate, Jane Campbell advertised the lease of a ferry service,¹⁴ bought a small property near the 'Highlander',¹⁵ and for a while held the publican's licence at the 'Highlander'.¹⁶

There are several letters written to the authorities in Jane Campbell's name. One was addressed to the Lieutenant-Governor after the Surveyor General denied that she had any claim on a house and garden which she believed had been allocated to her husband in Bellerive. The matter was settled by allocating her another allotment nearby.¹⁷ She was less successful in her efforts to stop a neighbour blocking a laneway next to the Highlander public house and taking soil from her property. An emotional and probably ill-advised letter to the Surveyor General has this statement from Jane Campbell;

I cannot patiently endure any further encroachments, Indeed I cannot account for what reasons Mr Roberts Now attempts it, except it is, the circumstance of my being A lone woman without A male

⁴ TAHO, RGD32/1/1, Hobart Town 1818/598

⁵ TAHO, SC289-1-1, Application of Maria Campbell

⁶ TAHO, RGD36/1/1, Hobart Town 1824/647

⁷ TAHO, CON22/1/1, p. 551; TAHO, SC285-1-13, Report no. 140, R Lewis p. 14

⁸ TAHO, CON40-1-9, Surnames beginning with W, no.74

⁹ TAHO, CON40-1-9, Surnames beginning with W, nos. 128-129 (Mary & Dorothy McWilliams)

¹⁰ TAHO, SC285-1-13, Report no. 140, R Lewis, p. 14; TAHO, SC285-1-48, Report no. 461, Statement of John Williams

¹¹ *Tasmanian*, 3 October 1828, p. 3

¹² *Colonial Times*, 26 June 1829, p. 4

¹³ *Colonial Times*, 24 June 1834, p. 6

¹⁴ *Hobart Town Courier*, 11 June 1831, p. 1

¹⁵ *Launceston Advertiser*, 10 August 1843, p. 4

¹⁶ *Colonial Times*, 1 October 1830, p. 4; *Independent*, 24 September 1831, p. 1

¹⁷ TAHO, CSO1-1-457, no. 10183

protector, and his desires to avail himself of the opportunity of annoying me.¹⁸

Maria's stepsister Margaret McWilliams married George SCRINGER,¹⁹ a whaler, who a little later, was living near the Highlander.²⁰ The Scrimgers seem to have accepted Jane Campbell's appropriation of her husband's estate because George Scrimger was the first licensee of the 'Highlander' after Archibald Campbell died, and after Jane Campbell held the licence for a few years, he again took it on.²¹

It is less easy to trace what Maria was doing after her father died. We catch a glimpse of her in 1831 when the Black War was in its final stages. An uncertain future would have been facing any of her birth mother's relatives who were still alive and so Maria would have had few reasons to try to join them.

In 1831, she was couch surfing between the 'Red Cow Inn' and the home of Mrs FREE, both in Clarence Plains and about a mile apart. Maria was a witness in a case brought against the licensee of the 'Red Cow Inn' and was described in the newspaper as 'a very intelligent female of 20 years of age'. The newspaper went on to add that;

The Court expressed a strong interest for this young woman, who appeared to be cast on the world without protection of any kind. It was said that her father had died, leaving her some property which had been withheld from her, and it appeared to the Court and professional

gentlemen present, that her's was a case calling upon the Local Government to instruct its legal officers to step forward and afford their protection to her rights and claims.²²

Just what the crown legal offices or Maria did immediately following these observations didn't come to light in a cursory search of the archives, but a couple of years after the court case and not long after her stepmother died,²³ Maria applied for the deeds to a farm that her father had bought in Cambridge opposite Midway Point. About thirty acres in size, it was the base for a ferry service to Sorell, in fact this was the same ferry service her stepmother had previously advertised for lease.²⁴ Maria may have also, at this time, applied for the title to the 100 acres (or rather 153 acres after it was surveyed again) that her father had been granted on the Droughty Point peninsula in Clarence Plains. It was later advertised as part of the standard process to give anyone who opposed the grant the opportunity to state their case.²⁵

The following year in 1834, five years after his death, the Supreme Court finally considered who should inherit Archibald Campbell's estate. At the request of the Attorney General, the Court accepted a copy of his will which had been kept in a solicitor's office, and granted probate. The beneficiaries of this will were his wife, Margaret Scrimger (née McWilliams) and Maria herself. As Jane Campbell had died intestate, her share

¹⁸ TAHO, LSD1-1-67, pp. 406-419

¹⁹ TAHO, RGD36/1/1, Hobart Town 1829/1294; Scrimger is also spelt as Cringer, Scringer & Scringour

²⁰ *Critic*, 16 February 1917, p. 4

²¹ *Hobart Town Courier*, 3 October 1829, p. 4; *Hobart Town Courier*, 8 February 1833, p. 2

²² *Colonial Times*, 1 June 1831, p. 3

²³ TAHO, RGD34/1/1, Hobart Town 1833/3159, Hobart

²⁴ TAHO, SC289-1-1, Application of Maria Campbell; TAHO, AF396/1/234

²⁵ *The True Colonist, Van Diemen's Land Political Despatch, and Agricultural and Commercial Advertiser*, 30 January 1835, p. 3



View of the Droughty Point peninsula from the Hobart wharves

would now go to her eldest son, John McWilliams. The will had a proviso that if either of the daughters strayed from the path of virtue, their share would be forfeited and divided amongst the other women.¹

The family was to claim that Archibald Campbell held an interest in at least five properties. There was the land in Bellevue that Jane Campbell wrote to the Lieutenant-Governor about. There were two allotments in Hobart; the 'Highlander' being located on one of them² and the two farms to the east of Hobart that Maria had applied for.

It isn't surprising that dividing up the estate led to a number of disputes. By now, trust between the parties was probably in short supply, but two years after the grant of probate, a written agreement was endorsed by all the beneficiaries of the will. It set out that the estate would be transferred to two trustees. Maria would be allocated the thirty acres at Cambridge (opposite Midway Point) and receive the associated rents and profits. The remain-

der of Archibald Campbell's property, (and if Maria died childless, also the property at Cambridge) would go to the Scrimgers who would settle with John McWilliams.

The role of the trustees seems to have been limited. They didn't subsequently apply for titles to the properties, and presumably they seem to have little to do with the management of the properties because it was agreed that the parties would take possession of the properties in accordance with the agreement.³

But in any case, Maria would now have had a separate income and some land, if not a dwelling, that she could call her own.

Maria's next move though showed that she did not understand, or did not want to understand, the significance and/or the content of the agreement. When the 153 acres on the Droughty Point peninsula was advertised for auction on a second occasion,⁴ there was a public warning in the newspaper from Maria.

¹ TAHO, AD960/1/1, File no. 94, pp. 150, 154; *Colonial Times*, 24 June 1834, p. 6; TAHO, SC285-1-48, Report no. 461, Statement of John Williams

² TAHO, SC284-1-3, no 225

³ TAHO, SC285-1-6, Report 47 M Lackey pp. 5-6

⁴ *Hobart Town Courier*, 17 November 1837, p. 3; *Hobart Town Courier*, 24 November 1837, p. 3

CAUTION

TO ALL Persons not to purchase a piece of land situated at Clarence Plains as described for sale in the Courier of the 24th inst., to be sold by W. T. Macmichael on the 2nd Dec. next, as I, Maria Campbell being the legatee to the late Archibald Campbell - the present vendor having no legal claim.

MARIA CAMPBELL⁵

These words of Maria's seem to be the last ones that have been captured within the surviving records. Maria did not publicly challenge the advertised sale of the Macquarie Street property⁶ nor did she dispute the claim for the title of the Droughty Point land by the new owner when it was sold the following year, even though the hearing of any disputes was part of the process for granting titles.⁷ Perhaps her supporters didn't think that a challenge could succeed or perhaps the long and painful illness that preceded her death was already taking hold.

Maria died in 1838, nine years after the death of her father. In that period, she almost certainly managed to get some income from his estate, but she was never granted the deeds to any of her father's land, nor if the final newspaper notice is anything to go by, was she satisfied with the amount of property that she had.

There was evidently still some connection with her stepmother's family because one of the younger stepsisters was present when she died. Someone took the trouble to place a notice about her death in two of the local papers, and one ended by saying that 'Her loss was deeply regretted and

sincerely felt by all who knew her.'⁸

It was never going to be easy for a dark-skinned woman with limited education to live in a community where racism and male chauvinism were commonplace, and where it was often assumed that the victim would do his or her own prosecution and detective work. That Maria was able to elicit support and have her case presented in court and in the newspaper surely says something about her, and it has left us with a partial record of her short life. ◀

Bojan Pajic emailed on behalf of the Project Team. See *Tasmanian Ancestry*, Vol. 38 No. 2, 2017, p. 97.

'We would like to thank all state genealogical societies, State Branches of the RSL, local history societies, the Military Historical Society of Australia, the Australian War Memorial, the Sea power Centre, the Naval Historical Society, school and university archives for their assistance with our project. The assistance from all societies has enabled us to contact some 120 descendants and relatives to date of Australians who served in Serbia or alongside Serbs in World War I to exchange information and organise commemorative events.

The results of the research are now published in the book *Our Forgotten Volunteers: Australians and New Zealanders with Serbs in World War One* and commemorative and presentation events are being organised around Australia to bring the research results to the notice of those interested'. ◀

⁵ *The Austral-Asiatic Review, Tasmanian and Australian Advertiser*, 28 November 1837, p. 3

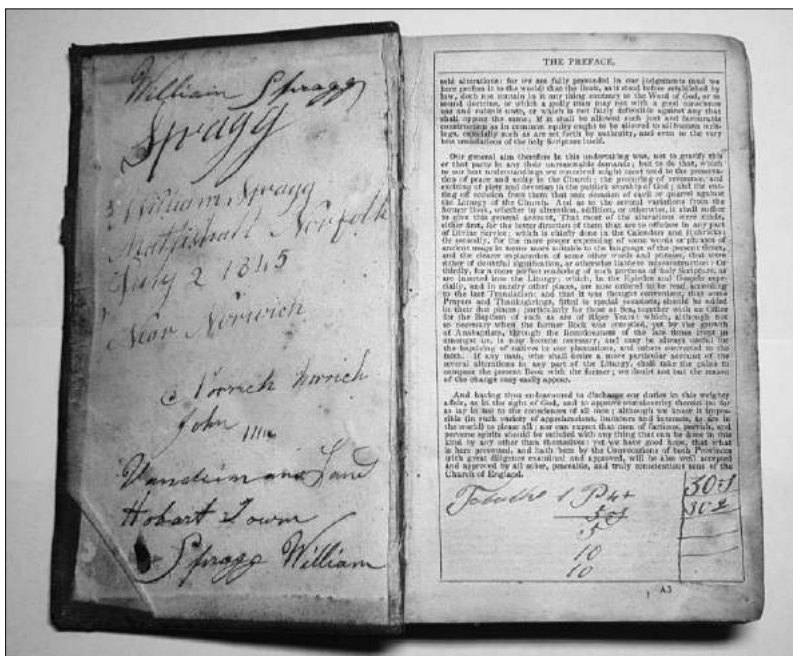
⁶ *Colonial Times*, 2 January 1838, p. 2

⁷ TAHO, SC309/1/1, entry for application of M Lackey received 10 April 1838

⁸ *The Austral-Asiatic Review, Tasmanian and Australian Advertiser*, 11 September 1838, p. 7; *The True Colonist: Van Diemen's Land Political Despatch, and Agricultural And Commercial Advertiser*, 14 September 1838 p. 7; TAHO, SC285-1-13, Report no. 140, R Lewis, p. 10 (Dorothy McWilliams married Robert Blinkworth and then Charles MacDonald).

WILLIAM SPRAGG'S PRAYER BOOK

Dianne Snowden (Member No. 910)



SEVERAL years ago, I was given a small brown leather prayer book, provenance unknown. The front cover is embedded with the words, Navy Office Convicts, with anchors inside an oval shape surrounded by leaves.

Anchors were commonly used as a symbol of hope. Some pages at the front of the prayer book have been removed and it starts part way through the Preface.

Inside the front cover there is an inscription:

William Spragg
Mattishall, Norfolk,
July 2 1845
near Norwich
Van Diemen's Land

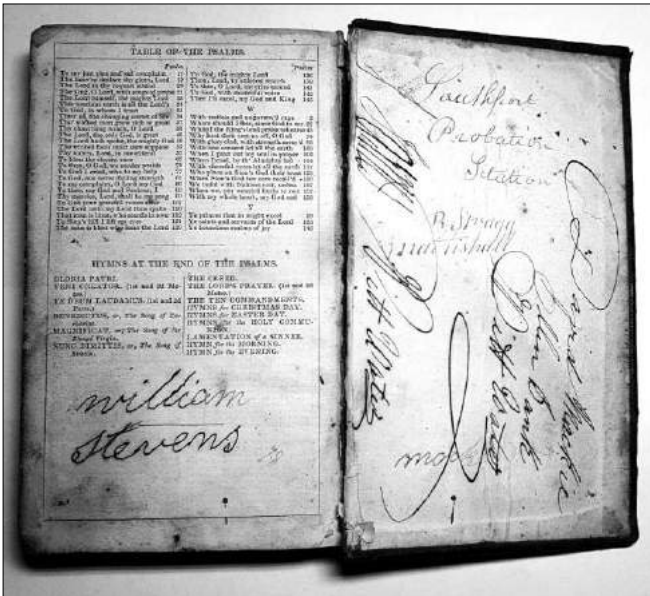
Hobart Town
Spragg William

William Spragg's prayer book includes a smattering of writing in different hands. The inside back cover has:

David Mackie
Ellen Bank
Pitt Water

It also includes Southport Probation Station and B. Spragg, Mattishall. The last page has the signature of William STEVENS.

Who was William Spragg of Mattishall? The 1841 England Census reveals that William Spragg, aged 35, was living in Mattishall, Norfolk, England, with his wife, Mary Ann, aged 30, and son James,



Inside back cover—Photographs Dianne Snowden

aged 15. William was an agricultural labourer and his son was an apprentice smith. All were born in Norfolk.¹

William Spragg and Mary Ann MALL-ETT married in the Parish Church, Mattishall, on 21 June 1825. William signed [x].² One of the witnesses to the marriage, James GUNTON, is believed to be the man sentenced to transportation in 1831 for machine breaking, arriving on the *Proteus*.³

¹ 1841 England Census Class: HO107; Piece: 780; Book: 9; Civil Parish: Mattishall; County: Norfolk; Enumeration District: 9; Folio: 22; p. 20; Line: 11; GSU roll: 438864.
² Norfolk Record Office; Norwich, Norfolk, England; Reference: BT ANF 1825_m-r
³ <http://www.mattishall-village.co.uk/Gunton%20Family%20Mattishall.htm> (accessed 9 October 2018).

James ‘Spraggs’, son of William and Mariann (Mallett), was baptised 11 June 1826, in Mattishall.⁴

In 1845, Mattishall was described as a large and well-built village, and parish, 5 miles from Dereham, and 11 miles west of Norwich, comprising 1,155 inhabitants and 2,238 acres of land, of which about 900 were enclosed in 1801.⁵

There are some references to individuals named Spragg in Mattishall in the

British archival newspapers. In 1832, for example, Spragg of Mattishall, ‘a notorious character’, was committed to Norwich Castle for trial at the next Quarter Sessions on suspicion of stealing a donkey.⁶ There were several individuals from Mattishall named Spragg before the courts and this may not have been William Spragg.

On 2 July 1845, William Spragg, a 41-year-old farm labourer, was tried in Norwich City Quarter Sessions, Norfolk. The *Norfolk News* reported his trial:

⁴ Ancestry.com.*England, Select Births and Christenings, 1538–1975*[database online]. (accessed 9 October 2018).

⁵ <https://www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng/NFK/Mattishall> William White, *History, Gazetteer, and Directory of Norfolk 1845* (accessed 19 October 2018).

⁶ *Bury and Norwich Post* 9 May 1832 p. 3

William Spragg, aged 41, was indicted for having on the 8th May, at Mattishall, stolen five bushels of undressed wheat, the property of Sarah Bloomfield, of Mattishall, widow. The prisoner stood further charged with having on the same day, at Mattishall, stolen one elm plank, the property of Edward Stearman, of Mattishall, carpenter. The prisoner pleaded guilty to the first charge and not guilty to the second. No evidence, however, was adduced in the second case.

The CHAIRMAN, in addressing the prisoner, said that he had been previously tried for every offence for which a man could be arraigned, that he had used extreme violence in resisting his capture, and that it would be an injustice to the neighbourhood to permit the residence of such a man longer amongst them. The sentence of the Court therefore was, that he be transported for seven years.⁷

William Spragg wrote his trial date, 2 July 1845, on the inside cover of his convict prayer book.

William sailed from England on 10 December 1845 on the *Joseph Somes* (1) and arrived in Van Diemen's Land on 20 May 1846. On arrival, William admitted to stealing wheat valued at £1. He also stated that he had been twice acquitted of poaching.⁸

According to his convict records, William was a farm labourer, aged 40 and was Roman Catholic, could both read and write and was married with one child.⁹ His wife was 'M.A.' [Mary Ann] and he

had two sisters, Lydia and Betsey, at his Native Place.¹⁰

William was described as having a fresh complexion, long head, brown hair, whiskers and eyebrows, hazel eyes, a broad visage, a high broad forehead, a medium mouth and nose and a broad double chin. He was stout made, with a scar on his left jaw, and another on his left arm below the elbow. His hair was thin on top of his head.¹¹

In Van Diemen's Land, William was initially stationed at Southport Probation Station, the southernmost probation station located close to the shores of the Recherche Bay whaling station.¹² By May 1847, he was a Probation Pass Holder. In 1847, he was working for D McKIE at Pitt Water and later for Adam NEWITT, also at Pitt Water. David McKie, Ellen Banks, Pitt Water, was written on the inside back cover of the prayer book. The 1842 Census Records show David McKie at Ellen Banks, Pitt Water.¹³

There was no evidence in Van Diemen's Land that William was the notorious and violent character described in the Norfolk newspapers. He had only one colonial offence: on 25 May 1848, assigned to HILDYARD at Sorell, he was charged with misconduct 'in being in a public house for the purpose of tipping; also

⁷ *Norfolk News* 5 July 1845 p. 3. See also *Norfolk Chronicle* 5 July 1845 p. 2

⁸ TAHO, CON33/1/77 William Spragg *Joseph Somes* (1) 1846 No. 10082

⁹ TAHO, CON33/1/77 William Spragg *Joseph Somes* (1) 1846 No. 10082; TAHO, CON14/1/35 pp.142–143 William Spragg *Joseph Somes* (1) 1846 No. 10082

¹⁰ TAHO, CON14/1/35 pp. 142–143 William Spragg *Joseph Somes* (1) 1846 No. 10082

¹¹ TAHO, CON 18/1/45 Description List William Spragg [Image 170]

¹² <http://www.users.on.net/~ahvem/page3/page2/page4/page69/page69.html> Anthony J Harrison, 2008 (accessed 9 October 2018)

¹³ TAHO, CEN1/1/4 p. 59 (1842) District of Richmond David McKie

representing himself to be free'. He was admonished for the offences.¹⁴

On 6 November 1847, William was granted a ticket-of-leave and on 23 July 1852, having served his sentence, he received his Free Certificate.¹⁵ He then disappears from the records.

It is not known what happened to William's wife, Mary Ann, or his son James, although there is evidence of a young man named James Spragg, aged 21, of Mattishall, found guilty of larceny in 1847 and imprisoned in Norwich Castle for twelve months with hard labour.¹⁶ He died in Norwich Castle, aged 22, and was buried there on 15 June 1847.¹⁷ Mary Ann Spragg was still living in Mattishall in 1851, as a housekeeper to George HIGH. She has not been traced under the name of Spragg beyond 1851.¹⁸

William Spragg's convict prayer book allows a glimpse into his life. There is, however, much more to be uncovered about his life and death, and the family he left behind in Mattishall, Norfolk.¹⁹ ◀

¹⁴ TAHO, CON33/1/77 William Spragg
Joseph Somes (1) 1846 No. 10082.

¹⁵ TAHO, CON33/1/77 William Spragg
Joseph Somes (1) 1846 No. 10082;
Cornwall Chronicle (Launceston)
10 November 1849 p. 1004 (*Hobart Town Gazette*); *Launceston Examiner* 31 July 1852 p. 8.

¹⁶ *Norfolk News* 9 January 1847 p. 3;
National Archives of the UK (TNA),
Criminal Registers, Series HO 27 Piece 82
p. 303

¹⁷ Norfolk Record Office; Norwich, Norfolk,
England; Reference: BT ANF 1847_j-r.

¹⁸ 1841 England Census 1851 Class HO107
Piece 1824 Folio 200 p. 11; GSU roll:
207478

¹⁹ <http://www.mattishall-village.co.uk/Spragg%20Family%20Mattishall.htm>
(accessed 9 October 2018).

Descendants of Convicts' Group Inc.

1788–1868

Any person who has convict ancestors, or who has an interest in convict life during the early history of European settlement in Australia, is welcome to join the above group. Those interested may find out more about the group and receive an application form by writing to:

The Secretary
Descendants of
Convicts' Group
PO Box 229
COLDSTREAM
Victoria 3770

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

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 O'CONNORS OF CONNORVILLE

This book of 320pp., by Alison Alexander, was published in 2017.

Roderic O'Connor was a man to be reckoned with. He arrived in Van Diemen's Land from Ireland in 1824, armed with little more than a steely determination to succeed. With his young sons, he set about amassing property and founding a family dynasty that continues today, with the sixth generation still farming at Connorville. The O'Connors were pioneers of the fine wool industry which made Tasmania famous. O'Connor wool bales, with their distinctive ROC branding, have broken world record prices for superfine wool.

But this is not just a story of working the land. Impressed with Roderic O'Connor's ability to get things done—and his incorruptibility, a rare thing in the early days of the colony—Governor Arthur appointed him as a Land Commissioner, and later as Inspector of Roads and Bridges. In these roles he left his mark on the young colony. Anyone with an interest in early Tasmanian history will find much to discover in the story of this man's life.

ENGLISH GENEALOGY

This hard cover book of 480pp., by Sir Anthony Wagner, is the 1983 Third Edition of this classical work.

There have long been books on specific families and books of general guidance on ancestry tracing, but this is the first book to survey English genealogy as a whole. ...

About two thirds of the book deals with the social and historical background and the subject matter of English genealogy. The remaining third is concerned with the study, literature and techniques of the subject and the nature of the recorded evidence on which they rest. ...

A partial listing of the contents of the book is an ideal description of the range of the broad, historical detail contained in this publication:

THE ROOTS

1. The Anglo-Saxons and the Vikings.
2. The Celtic West: (i) Ireland; (ii) Scotland; (iii) Wales.
3. France: (i) Tracy; (ii) Louvain–Percy–Mountbatten; (iii) Courtenay (iv) Beaumont; (v) FitzRandolph.

ENGLISH AND NORMAN

1. Nobility, Knighthood and Feudalism.
2. The English; (i) Arden; (ii) Berkeley; (iii) Ingoldsby; (iv) Stanley and Others.
3. The Normans: (i) Giffard; (ii) Tony and Gresley; (iii) Clifford and Poyntz (iv) Shirley.
4. Long Tenures.
5. The Normans beyond England: (i) Wales; (ii) Ireland; Windsor, Carew, Fitzgerald and Fitzmaurice; (iii) Scotland; Stewart.

THE SOCIAL FRAMEWORK

1. Barons and Peers
2. Knights, Esquires and Gentlemen
3. Bond and Free
4. Franklins and Yeomen
5. The Husbandman
6. The Cotter or Country Labourer
7. Town and Country Trades
8. The Merchants
9. The Craftsmen and Tradesmen
10. Journeymen and Labourers
11. The Professions
12. The Clergy
13. The Lawyers
14. Persons in Offices and Places
15. Liberal Arts and Sciences
16. Recusants and Dissenters

THE RISE AND FALL OF FAMILIES

1. Social Movement and Texture
2. Three Examples: (i) Benthall or Bentall; (ii) Catesby; (iii) Fitch
3. Female Descents
4. The Blood Royal
5. Underlying Patterns

STRANGERS

1. Stranger Knights and Ladies
2. Scots, Irish and Welsh
3. Flemings, Dutch and Germans
4. The Huguenots
5. The Jews
6. The Gypsies
7. The Backwash of Empire

SETTLERS

1. Ireland
2. The Great Migration
3. Virginia
4. The Bermudas and West Indies
5. New England
6. Maryland
7. The Northern Settlements
8. The Later Colonies of the Old Empire

9. The Great Migration of the Nineteenth Century
ETC, ETC.

THE STORY OF PRESTONPANS from contemporary records, 1790s– 1950s

This paperback work of 96pp. was published in 1995 by the East Lothian District Library.

It is constructed in four separate parts that pertain to the Parish of Prestonpans.

Part One *The Statistical Account of Scotland 1791–1799; Edited by Sir John Sinclair.*

Part Two *New Statistical Account, 1839.*

Part Three *Reminiscences and Notices of Ten Parishes of the County of Haddington.*

Part Four *The Third Statistical Account of Scotland 1953.*

The text provides valuable details of the life and times of the Parish; description of the inhabitants, their occupations, and lifestyles.

A geographical background is given and the development of various industries and history of the area described in detail.

Some family names are given and ‘Eminent Men’ are recorded in some detail.

There are some photographic images contained in the book; featuring villages, industries and people at their occupation. Only one image names the people featured in the picture.

SHORT HISTORY OF SAINT MICHAEL'S MOUNT CORNWALL

This hard cover book of 90pp. by Canon J R Fletcher; MRCS, LSA was edited and completed by D Stephan; OSB and published in 1951.

The Mount is a large granite rock, about a mile in circumference forming an islet in Mount's Bay, three miles east of Penzance. [UK] The rock is surmounted by a church and fortress. ...

Besides being a religious house, the Mount was regarded as a place of military importance and its holders were expected to defend it against the King's enemies. It had a garrison as early as the time of Richard I. and in the early part of the fifteenth century is styled as 'fortalium'. In 1400 the Abbey of Syon was charged with the maintenance of soldiers and munitions.

The historic text is supported by a number of photographic images of the Mount and its buildings.

ON THE RIDGE—The Shire of Mirboo, 1894–1994

This hard cover book of 430pp. by John Murphy was published in 1994.

The Shire of Mirboo is located in the centre of South Gippsland and straddles the Grand Ridge Road. Although relatively small compared to the neighbouring shires of Woorayl, Narracan and Morwell, it nevertheless encompasses a wide and diverse range of activities.

While the traditional farm enterprises such as dairying, grazing, and potato growing have been the main economic factors in its development, timber production, coal mining and extraction of bauxite have all contributed their share.

'On The Ridge' draws together all these diverse activities with their associated assortment of individual characters into a well-balanced and structured saga of a century of settlement. ...

The text is supported by a number of early photographic images and some, like the Tarwin Valley Football Club 1914, name the individuals featured.

The book has an excellent alphabetical index that contains names of the early pioneer folk of the district.

THE MANSFIELD VALLEY 150 YEARS OF HISTORY

This A5 book of 64pp. is a 1995 2nd Edition; the original being published in 1993.

Mansfield is located 200 kilometres north-east of Melbourne, in a wide valley surrounded by mountain ranges. To the west lie the Strathbogies and The Paps; north-west, Mt Samaria; north, the Tolmie Plateau; east the Great Divide with Mt Buller, Mt Stirling, Timbertop (or Warrambat as it was called); and to the south, the low hills of the Blue Range ...

The first European settlers came during the squatting boom of the late 1830's.

In this abbreviated history of some of the more interesting events and of the profiles of some notable personalities, the author (sic) capably reminds us of how in the short period of 150 years or so, we have progressed so far.

CONISHTOWN CENTENARY 1873–1973

This quarto size booklet of 15pp. was published in 1973 by the Cornishtown Centenary Committee.

Cornishtown is a small Victorian unbounded locality within the local government area of Indigo, it is located approximately 236kms from the capital Melbourne.

From late 1859 onwards, Cornishtown developed as a mining settlement along the Indigo Lead as it led south-west before joining Durham Lead. It was located on the Chiltern-Rutherglen goldfield and was only a short distance from Christmastown and Durham.

THE STRZELECKIS—A new future for the Heartbreak Hills

This quarto size booklet of 70pp. was published by the Forests Commission Victoria. The text was taken from the W S Noble, 1986 publication of the same name.

The Strzelecki Ranges, which for a century have been the site of some of the grimmest struggles Australian pioneers ever faced in their attempts to settle the country; and they have been the scene also of some of the most tragic stories of failure, as men and women broke themselves in their battle with a hostile environment.

Forty years ago it looked as if this was doomed to become a derelict region – a sort of ‘heartbreak range’, where every square kilometre had its story of ruined hopes and shattered dreams. It was a place where for years men and women had been abandoning their homes and farms, leaving behind them almost everything they had worked for. ...

Today the Strzeleckis are the scene of one of the most exciting reclamation schemes of its kind in the world. Across the hills, once covered with bracken and noxious weeds, new forest are growing.

The history of the area is described in this booklet and the text is supported by a number of interesting images. Photos taken of the early settlers, their occupations and dwellings are of particular interest.

KENT FHS— CD ROM 38

This CD recently published by the Kent Society contains Kent Parish Registers Transcripts and Monumental Inscriptions.

Featured Parishes are:

Ashford;
Boughton under Blean, Vol. 2; Canterbury Garrison;
Canterbury Northgate;

Charlton by Dover;
Dover French Church;
Dover General Baptist Church;
Dover St James and Holy Trinity;
Folkestone Methodist;
Hawkinge;
Leybourne;
Luddesdown;
Maidstone and Tovil;
Mersham;
Milton next Gravesend;
St Dunstons Canterbury;
St Margaret at Cliffe (Baptisms);
St Margaret at Cliffe (MI's);
St Nicholas Leeds;
Stockbury;
Upper Hardres;
Wakner Royal Marines Barracks;
Walmer St Saviours;
Wesbere;
Wingham.



FREE ONLINE GENEALOGY UNIVERSITY COURSE

Garry Ling (Member No. 3280)

I found this course by accident last year. I would have liked it to be available when first starting my family tree, although it has helped me develop better ways to research and record information gathered.

This is a very informative class whether you are just starting out or have been doing your tree for quite some time.

All you need to do is to register a free account, log in and enrol in the course, and you will read when the next one is

available and will be sent a reminder when it is due to start.

The course is over 6 weeks, 4 hours per week and you can do it at your own pace.

All participants are encouraged to introduce themselves and leave comments during each task.

I found some very useful information reading through and replying to these comments. One in particular is the snipping tool on Windows pc's which allows you to capture a screen shot, or snip, of any object on your screen, and then annotate, save, or share the image.

The course has been developed by the University of Strathclyde in Scotland.

With permission the following is from their website [Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.](#)

Why join the course?

This free online course will help develop an understanding of basic genealogy techniques and how to communicate your family history. We do not concentrate on a specific county's records so it should be useful to anyone around the world.

We will consider how effectively find and analyse sources. We'll help you add historical context to your family history and discuss how to record and communicate research findings in a clear fashion. The course is primarily designed for people at beginner to intermediate level.

What topics will you cover?

A consideration of the differences between primary, derived primary and secondary sources.

An understanding of the importance of knowing who made a document and why, and how they were created. *A key challenge of genealogy—finding the right person among a possible number of

candidates, with ever-changing spellings of surnames—will be considered.

Primary source databases including searching techniques to deal with name change or spelling differences; these include use of wildcards.

An introduction to main source types including civil, church, census and military records to give a sense of the typical type of data these records contain and how to use them.

Review the content of major international and selected local and specialised databases and consider ways to evaluate databases.

An exploration of secondary and primary sources which provide historic and social context, considering their quality and how to find them.

The importance of providing evidence of the sources used in family history research and exploration of the various systems used of referencing in use.

A consideration of tools used to store, track and analyse genealogical data; various types of family trees and reports including paper based resources, software programs and online tools.

What are the best ways to begin writing a family history?

Who is the course for?

No special knowledge or previous experience of studying is required.

This course will be suitable if you:

- have no experience with genealogy or family history research
- have some experience with genealogical research but want to develop your skills and knowledge further
- are a more experienced genealogical researcher but want to learn new searching, analytical or communication techniques. ◀

LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS

Hobart Branch

ACCESSIONS—Books

- Alexander, A; *The O'Connors Of 'Connorville'*. [Q929.2 OCO]
- *Burns, Dick; *Pathfinders in Tasmanian Botany—an honour roll of people connected through naming Tasmanian plants*. [581.9946 BUR]
- *Cash, M; *Martin Cash—The Bushranger of Van Diemen's Land In 1843–4*. [364.946 CAS]
- *Cornishtown Centenary Committee; *Cornishtown Centenary, 1873–1973*.
- *East Lothian District Library; *The Story of Prestonpans from contemporary records, 1790's—1950's*.
- *Fletcher, Canon J. R.; *Short History of Saint Michael's Mount*.
- *Forests Commission Victoria; *The Strzeleckis—A New Future For The Heartbreak Hills*.
- *Gibson, W M; *Fishing in Old East Lothian—Cockenzie, Port Seton, Fisherrow and Prestpans*.
- Holmes, M; *Tasmania's Vanishing Towns—Not What They Used To Be*. [994.6 HOL]
- *Jackson–Mooney, Marilyn & Ian Mooney (Comps); *A Brief Dictionary of Tasmanian Artists (from Discovery to 1940's)*.
- *Kennedy, Patricia; *Legacy of Andrew Goodwin & Lydia Munro*. [Q929.2 GOO]
- *Linn, R; *Power, Progress & Profit—A History of the Australian Accounting Profession*. [659.0994 LIN]
- *Lockwood, Allan; *Nine Around The Table—100 Years In The Shire of Arapiles*.
- *Mansfield Historical Society; *The Mansfield Valley—150 Years Of History*.
- *Murphy, John; *On The Ridge—The Shire of Mirboo, 1894–1994*.
- *Nickols, E; *Fair Dinkum Dutch Courage*. [305.839310946]
- *Pearce, Graham Henry; *Convict to Merchant of Salamanca—Henry Pearce 1810–1901, His Life, Times and Family*. [Q929.2 PEA]
- Reid, R; *Fairwell My Children—Irish Assisted Emigration to Australia, 1848–1870*.
- *Wagner, A; *English Genealogy*.

ACCESSIONS—Computer Disks

- *Kent FHS; *CD ROM 38—Parish Registers Vol. 22/Memorial Inscriptions Vol. 2*.

*Denotes complimentary or donated item

Launceston Branch

ACCESSIONS—Books

- *Duckworth, Debra Jane; *Of Smoke and chains – The Story of Joseph Duckworth – Convict 1824–1887*
- *McCormack, Tony; *Reaching Out From Trafalgar – The Stories of Farmers and Their Farms Around Evandale – Volume 1*
- *Power, Kevin; *John Campbell Pottery – Recollections & Collections*
- *Stone, Gerald; *Beautiful Bodies – The Doomed Voyage of the convict ship Amphitrite and her cargo of infamous damned whores*
- *Ward, Malcolm; *The Royal Marine and the Convict – Samuel Thorne, James Ward and their Heritage at Pitt Water and the Lower Ferry*
- *White, Charles; *History of Australian Bushranging – Volume 1*

Mersey Branch

ACCESSIONS—Books

- Baade, Elizabeth & Naden, Janine; *Down Memory Lane - The History of Fulton Street, Ulverstone*
- *Brand, Ian; *Sarah Island*
- *Dunstan Reunion Committee; *Dunstan John and Ann 1847–1978*
- *Giordana, Margaret; *A Man and a Mountain - The Story of Gustav Weindorfer*
- Gill, Jenny; *Engraved in Memory*
- *Hartnett, Ray W; *Our Treasured Memories Unfold*
- *Nickols, Elizabeth [Comp]; *Fair Dinkum Dutch Courage*
- Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery; *Around Every Corner - The Photographs of D G Wherrett - Launceston, Tasmania in the 1940s*
- Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery; *Around Another Corner - The Photographs of D G Wherritt - Launceston, Tasmania in the 1940s*
- 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 1 Oct 1960 to 31 Dec 1960*
- TFHS Inc. Hobart Branch; *Undertakers of Hobart Vol IV Index to H C Millington Pty Ltd Funeral Records Part 9 June 1970 - April 1973*
- *TFHS Inc. Mersey Branch; *The Advocate Personal Announcements - January 2017 – December 2017*
- *TFHS Inc. Mersey Branch; *An Index to The Advocate Personal Announcements 2015*

ACCESSIONS—CDs

- Wyatt, Douglas; *The Wyatt Family in Devonshire and Van Diemen's Land from 1737*

*Denotes donated item

SOCIETY SALES

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. Publications
Payment by Visa or Master Card now available (mail order only)

Mail orders (including postage) should be forwarded to:
Society Sales Officer, TFHS Inc.,

PO Box 326 Rosny Park Tasmania 7018

Books

<i>Van Diemens Land Heritage Index, Vol. 3</i> (p&p \$6.35)	\$10.00
<i>Van Diemens Land Heritage Index, Vol. 4</i> (p&p \$8.55)	\$10.00
<i>Van Diemens Land Heritage Index, Vol. 5</i> (p&p \$8.55)	\$10.00
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<i>Tasmanian Ancestry Index Volumes 26–30</i> (p&p \$6.35)**	\$25.00
<i>Tasmanian Ancestry Index Volumes 31–35</i> (p&p \$6.35)**	\$25.00

(p&p \$14.55 for 3 books or more)

CD-Rom

<i>Tasmanian Ancestry Vols 1–20, [Jun 1980–Mar 2000]</i> (p&p \$8.55)**	\$50.00
<i>TAMIOT</i> (p&p \$8.55) **	\$50.00

** members discount of 10% applies



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*cornScore, 2011

BRANCH LIBRARY ADDRESSES, TIMES AND MEETING DETAILS

BURNIE Phone: Branch Librarian (03) 6435 4103
Library 58 Bass Highway Cooee
Tuesday 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
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

HOBART Phone: Enquiries (03) 6244 4527
Library 19 Cambridge Road Bellerive
Tuesday 12:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m.
Wednesday 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Saturday 1:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m.
Meeting Sunday School, St Johns Park, New Town, at 7:30 p.m. on 3rd Tuesday of each month, except January and December.

HUON Phone: Branch Secretary (03) 6239 6823
Library Soldiers Memorial Hall Marguerite Street Ranelagh
Saturday 1:30 p.m.–4:00 p.m.
Other times: Library visits by appointment with secretary,
48 hours notice required
Meeting Branch Library, Ranelagh, at 4:00 p.m. on 1st Saturday of each month, except January.
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.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

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

Dues are payable annually by 1 April. Membership Subscriptions for 2018–19:-

Individual member	\$45.00
Joint members (2 people at one address)	\$55.00
Australian Concession	\$35.00
Australian Joint Concession	\$45.00

Overseas: Individual member: A\$50.00: Joint members: A\$55.00 (inc. airmail postage)

Organisations: Journal subscription \$45.00—apply to the Society Treasurer.

Membership Entitlements:

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

Application for Membership:

Application forms may be downloaded from www.tasfhs.org or obtained from the TFHS Inc. Society Secretary or any branch and be returned with appropriate dues to a Branch Treasurer. **Interstate and overseas** applications should be mailed to the TFHS Inc. Society Treasurer, PO Box 326 Rosny Park Tasmania 7018. Dues are also accepted at libraries and at branch meetings.

Donations:

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

Research Queries:

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

Reciprocal Rights:

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

Advertising:

Advertising for *Tasmanian Ancestry* is accepted with pre-payment of \$30.00 per quarter page in one issue or \$90.00 for four issues. Further information can be obtained by writing to the journal editor at PO Box 326 Rosny Park Tasmania 7018.

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