

Tasmanian Ancestry



**TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY
SOCIETY INC.**

Volume 40 Number 1—June 2019

TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

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Tasmanian Ancestry

Volume 40 Number 1

June 2019

ISSN 0159 0677

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

From the editor

Welcome to the 40th volume of *Tasmanian Ancestry*. I am honoured to be editor during this, our ruby anniversary, as well as having been editor through our 21st. As we look back—where will we be in another 10 years?

Hobart Branch had the responsibility of supplying the content for this issue and we were pleased to include an article from Janice Daley who had an article published in the very first issue of *Tasmanian Ancestry*! Plus contributions from long-time members, Leonie Mickleborough, Maree Ring, Carol Rodway and Ritchie Woolley also appear.

Leonie and I were very happy to receive articles from new contributors—Lorraine Davidson, Sue Wallbank, Maureen O'Toole and Barry Bradshaw—unfortunately we are unable to include them all in this issue due to space constraints. In total there is probably enough material for two issues! Sincere thanks to all and be assured they will appear in future journals.

In the meantime I hope other branches will be sending their submissions soon. Vol. 39 No. 2 will be Launceston Branch.

I would like to thank Barbara Hancock in NSW for information regarding the 'Help Wanted' photograph in the March issue (p. 211) re the Crooks, Ikin and Mays weddings. Barbara wrote it is definitely 1903 and not 1882 due to style of costumes and the childrens' hats.

Thank you to all the contributors and happy anniversary,

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: TFHS Inc. Hobart Branch Library, formerly the Bellerive Post Office.

© Pencil drawing 2002 by local artist and educator, Alex Wanders, a resident of Clarence.

IN the March 2019 journal, I wrote how the Society Executive had decided to gift an additional 12 months' membership to the new member who received a certain number.

That number has now been achieved and we congratulate Mrs Lynn Hallam of Tranmere who has recently been allocated membership no. **8000**.



This journal will be the first issue of *Tasmanian Ancestry* in the 40th year of our Society's existence.

The 'new year' of our society commenced with the official launch, on the 1 of April, of the 'Tasmanian Journals and Parliamentary Papers' (1856–1901) Access Project.

The launch was held in the President's Suite, Legislative Council, Parliament House, Hobart. It was hosted by the Project Chair and President of the Legislative Council, Hon. Jim Wilkinson, MLC.

These information-rich paper resources, presently held in the Tasmanian Parliamentary Library, will be digitised and made freely available to the Tasmanian community following a successful funding application by the Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. to the Tasmanian Community Fund.

The grant will allow the digitisation to be carried out by a professional organisation who have staff with the ability to 'explode' the bound yearly books of the papers, create digital images, and then restore the books.

Ultimately, the papers will become freely available to the general public via the Parliamentary web site.

Researchers have long been aware of the valuable information in the 'Colonial Papers' through the published Indexes but gaining access to the Parliamentary Library has not been an easy task. Currently security aspects and limited opening times for the parliament building greatly limits public access.

It is envisaged that the project will be completed towards the end of 2019; when a formal launch of the material will follow. ◀

Maurice Appleyard

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.

2019 Lilian Watson Family History Award

for a Book

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

**Entries close
1 December 2019**

Further information and entry forms available from TFHS Inc.

Branch Libraries or

www.tasfhs.org or

The Secretary PO Box 326

ROSNY PARK TAS 7018

email: **secretary@tasfhs.org**

PAST AND PRESENT STATE OFFICE BEARERS

Patron	The Honourable Sir Angus Bethune	1980–1986
	His Excellency Sir James Plimsoll	1986–1987
	His Excellency General Sir Phillip Bennett	1987–1995
	Emeritus Professor Michael Roe	1996–2000
	Dr Alison Alexander	2000–2020

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Mrs Lilian Watson	1980–1982
Mr John Goold	1982–1983
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Mr John Grunnell	1988–1991
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Mr David Harris	1994–1997
Mrs Anne Bartlett	1997–2001
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Mrs Anita Swan	2004–2009
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Mr Geoff Rapley	1982–1987
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Mr Grahame Thom	1991–1994
Mrs Denise McNeice	1994–1996
Mrs Sharalyn Walters	1996–1997
Mr John Grunnell	1997–1998
Miss Betty Bissett	1998–2003
Miss Muriel Bissett	2003–2006
Miss Betty Bissett	2006–2012
Mr Peter Cocker	2012–2017
Mr Ross Warren	2017–2019

State Secretary

Mrs Frances Travers	1980–1982
Mrs Andrea Gerrard	1982–1983
Mr Norman Nicholas	1983–1986
Mr John Grunnell	1986–1988
Mrs Thelma Grunnell	1988–1991
Mrs Colleen Read	1991–1994
Mrs Dawn Collins	1994–1997
Miss Muriel Bissett	1997–2003
Miss Betty Bissett	2003–2006
Miss Muriel Bissett	2006–2012
Mrs Colleen Read	2012–2018
Mr Robert Tanner	2018–2019

Journal Editor

Mrs Pamela Clark	1980
Mr Neil Chick	1981–1982
Mrs Audrey Hudspeth	1982–1991
Mrs Anne Bartlett	1991–1996
Ms Rosemary Davidson	1996–2002
Ms Leonie Mickleborough	2002–2005
Mrs Anita Swan and	
Miss Betty Bissett	2008–2009
Mrs Rosemary Davidson	2009–2019

Names in bold are current members

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Hobart President

Mrs Lilian Watson	1980–1984
Mr Cecil Hardinge	1984–1985
Mrs Andrea Gerrard	1985–1986
Mr Neil Chick	1986–1988
Mr Allen Wilson	1988–1991
Mr Jim Wall	1991–1994
Mr Bryce Ward	1994–1998
Mrs Colleen Read	1998–2002
Mrs Beverley Richardson	2002–2005
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Mrs Louise Rainbow	2016–2019

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Mr Chris Williams	1982–1983
Mrs Francis Travers	1983–1984
Mrs Glenys Cunningham	1984–1986
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Mrs Joan Leggett	1990–1992
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Mrs Cynthia O’Neill	1995–2003
Mr Leo Prior	2003–2010
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Mrs Colleen Read	2014–2015
Mr Howard Reeves	2015–2016
Mrs Colleen Read	2016–2017
Mr Howard Reeves	2017–2019

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Mr Bryce Ward	1993–1994
Mrs Colleen Read	1994–1996
Mrs Jeannine Connors	1996–1998
Mr Mike Howe	1989–1999

Mr Ron Snashall	1999
Mr Tony Potter	2000–2005
Mr Clint Ayers	2005–2007
Mrs Vanessa Blair	2007–2014
Mrs Maureen Gittus	2014–2016
Mr Geoffrey Mason	2016–2019

Hobart Librarian

Mr John Marrison	1980
Mrs Theo Sharples	1981–1986
Mr John Marrison	1986–1988
Mr Morris Lansdell	1988–1998
Mr Maurice Appleyard	1998–2003
Mrs Marjorie Jacklyn	2003–2006
Mrs Judith Mudaliar	2006–2019

Names in bold are current members

LOCATION

HOBART BRANCH has always been located in the Clarence Municipality. The first premises of the branch library were in a small rented building at 3Percy Street, Bellerive; alongside the Cripps Bakery shop. The space is now part of the car park.

Hobart Branch moved into its current premises, the old Bellerive Post Office building (19 Cambridge Road) in March 1981.



Old Bellerive Post Office

As the society enters its 40th year of operation, it is of some interest to consider its foundation.

The September 1979 issue of *The Genealogist* (Official Journal of The Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies) was a 'special Tasmanian issue' compiled and contributed by some of the members of the Tasmanian Group.

It records the secretary of the group was Mrs Frances Travers and articles were written by Lilian D Watson, Pamela Mary Clark (née Learoyd) Cedric Pearce, John Marrison and Neil Chick.

Obviously, the Tasmanian group grew and prospered and eventually, in 1980, The Genealogical Society of Tasmania was founded and became an incorporated body on 23 April 1986.

After celebrating 21 years as the GST it was decided to change our name to the Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. Confusion often occurred with the old name in telephone books and other indexes with the introduction of GST (Goods and Services Tax) and various parties looking for the 'Gynaecological Society' had much to do with the name change. The incorporated name became official on 5 April 2001. ◀

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Member 5462
Rosemary Bruce-Mullins
formerly
PO Box 301 Sorell TAS 7172
now
5 Riviera Drive Old Beach TAS 7017

HUON OFFICE BEARERS

Huon President

Mrs Enid Woolley 1984–1986
Miss **Betty Fletcher** 1996–2019

Huon Secretary

Miss **Betty Fletcher** 1984–1996
Mrs **Elaine Burton** 1996–2002
Mrs **Libby Gillham** 2002–2019

Huon Treasurer

Mrs **Elaine Burton** 1984–1985
Mrs Denise Dowling 1996–1997
Mr Gregory Bond 1998–1999
Mr **John Gillham** 1999–2019

Huon Librarian

Mrs Rosalie Riley 1997–2001
Ms **Coralie Mesecke** 2001–2005
Miss **Amanda Cavenett** 2005–2019

Names in bold are current members

LOCATION

HUON BRANCH library is located at the Soldiers Memorial Hall, Marguerite Street, Ranelagh.

Tasmanian Ancestry Vol. 5, No. 2, the June 1984 issue reported

The Huon Branch has now been established and meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at CWA Rooms, Huonville at 7:30 p.m.

Tasmanian Ancestry Vol. 7, No. 1, the March 1986 issue reported

On 15 February, Huon Branch opened their new library in a room at the rear of Ranelagh Hall. ▶

BRANCH REPORTS

Burnie

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

President: Peter Cocker (03) 6435 4103
Secretary: Ann Bailey (03) 6431 5058
PO Box 748 Burnie Tasmania 7320
email: petjud@bigpond.com

Since the branch report in the last journal there has only been one meeting on which to report. This was our day meeting held on Monday 4 March. Our regular members enjoyed the first meeting of the year with the demonstration of the new Living Labels series of wine labels. There has been a series of wine labels released named '19 Crimes'. If an app is downloaded and installed on your smart phone you can scan the label and bring it to life. A description of the crime and details of the person are then narrated. A bit of fun for all.

The changes to the GRO births and deaths were also shown to the meeting. This update to the UK records now give additional information such as mothers' maiden name on births from 1837 to 1915. A roll call was also held during the meeting and it is surprising how many links there are between members in the families that they are researching.

During the last month or so we have had at least two research enquiries where 'theLIST' has proved invaluable. TheLIST is the Tasmanian Government web site which provides information about properties and titles and general map information about Tasmania. In one case a researcher was trying to find the location of a property where one of her ancestors was born. All she had was a name and a district. By doing a property

search using the name, the property ID number, the property address and other details were highlighted on the map.

In the other case the researcher was trying to locate a house where her ancestors had lived. She had a photo of the house with the family standing in front taken around 1900. The only other piece of information that was known was the district in which they may have lived. By using an overlay of the Land Grant Maps we were able to find details of parcels of land purchased by the family. Switching to Aerial photos view we were able to ascertain that the properties in question were now planted to forest and no houses remain. If you haven't use theLIST yet, have a look it is a great research tool.

Peter Cocker Branch President

Hobart

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Secretary: Howard Reeves
PO Box 326 Rosny Park Tasmania 7018
email: secretary@hobart.tasfhs.org
All telephone enquiries to (03) 6244 4527



The New Year has begun well with quite a busy round of activities. We were very pleased with the attendance at our January meeting of forty-five people who were interested in what is happening on the DNA scene. We were especially pleased to welcome two guests visiting from Nevada who had discovered a previously unknown Tasmanian

ian connection through DNA matching and who took time to attend the meeting.

Some of the Monday Group were keen to re-commence this year and started earlier than usual. The group is continuing with scanning, indexing and proof-reading undertakers' records and early government appointments from the *Hobart Town Gazette*. Part 3 (1971–1984) of the Hooper & Burgess Funeral Records has now been published.

At the time of writing, planning is underway for our participation in a new event—a Collectors Road Show, organised by Clarence Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee—to be held at Rosny Farm on 7 April.

General Meetings

Forty-five members, guests and visitors attended the special January meeting at which Ros Escott introduced the first public screening of a voice-over PowerPoint presentation *An Introduction to Using DNA*. The presentation produced by Ros included many aspects of DNA testing, its use in family research and a commentary on the various testing providers and the features they offer. This is the first such presentation developed by Ros and will be used in the Branch-supported DNA workshops she runs with Andrew Cocker.

The presentation was professional and very well received by the audience consisting of people at quite different stages of their DNA journey and level of knowledge and experience. The evening concluded with a lively Q and A session and further discussion over supper.

For members of the branch and visitors to the Hobart Branch Library, the presentation is available for viewing and hand-outs will be available for downloading.

The speaker at the February meeting was David Owen, the Official Secretary to the

Governor of Tasmania since 2012. His talk was titled *George Eats Old Grey Rats and Paints Houses Yellow: A Life on Three Continents*. The continuing themes through the talk were writing and language, beginning in his school years in South Africa to his present-day role with the Governor and his serious 'away from work' activity of writing fiction. The talk opened up a sequence of events, decisions, and serendipitous occurrences that carried him through three continents and in his words, 'aspects of a life story and a tangle [of] interests and careers'. His father was Welsh and mother Canadian and they moved to South Africa where he was born 1956 in Southern Rhodesia, moving later to Malawi, then Swaziland where his father was a headmaster. Reading was a central part of his early years and this evolved into his writing. His leanings were towards arts subjects at his South African boarding school, in particular Geography (George Eats Old Grey Rats and Paints Houses Yellow). After a failed university attempt he later returned to the University of Natal and completed a BA degree—editing a banned magazine during the period of apartheid—and later moved to Cape Town where he completed a librarianship course. His wife is also a librarian. He continued his writing, including two novellas about racism and returned to London to work for four years for the British Council.

Family reunion with his wife's sister in Australia in 1986 brought the couple to Australia to a Mount Roland farm and then Melbourne (CSIRO). His novellas were finally published in 1988, followed by a novel *Coping with Pleasure* and back to Tasmania where David was the stay-at-home writer raising two sons. *Bitters End* and a nine-volume series

featuring his character Pufferfish, and film rights for *Hurrah* have followed.

David is in his tenth year at Government House—he was previously in the deputy role—and his deep interest in writing has continued and his current project is with Governor Kate Warner—a history of Tasmania’s Government House (the only government house in Australia without a document history).

The speaker at the March meeting was Judy Travers who is the chair of the selection panel which chooses Tasmanian students to visit WW1 memorials as a part of the ‘Frank MacDonald Memorial Prize’. Her talk included details of the selection process and students conducting research of WW1 veterans. Year 9 students from government and independent schools enter by writing an essay on one of three topics; twelve students are selected and interviewed and a group of six is chosen. The talk was based on one of the research projects.

The talk was titled *The Craig Brothers Go To War*. The Craig brothers—Frederick, George and William—were three of sixteen children born to John Craig (1856–1933) and Mary (Maria) Dunckel (b.1864, East Prussia). John had arrived in Tasmania in 1870 on *The Figaro*. He initially settled at Swansea then at Bruny Island where he met with German immigrants who had been on *The Figaro*. He purchased 150 acres of land. Maria and John met and were married in Hobart and lived in a hollow tree at Adventure Bay for a period. The three boys enlisted with the AIF. The German background of their surname was disguised by the Craig name.

Private Frederick Norman Craig was awarded the Military Medal for his actions in France where he died 24 April 1918. His body was not found—a memorial exists at Villers-Brettoneux. His

Bruny Island mate, John Allen, was also awarded the Military Medal. William Lawris Craig (1892–1966) was born at Adventure Bay. He was captured and spent two years in a 35,000 strong POW camp at Wanh in Germany. As with William, George Henry Craig (1890–1976) was born at Gordon, enlisted in West Australia and served at Pozieres. He suffered from shell shock from which he took a long time to recover. William returned to WA after discharge while George returned to Adventure Bay, married and became a farmer. During WWII he joined the Army Reserve.

Future Meetings 2019

May 21: Craig Mackie *R v Sparks & Campbell*.

June 18: Pru Francis *Catholic Archives*.

July 16: Stefan Petrow *The Admirable Life of Alfred Kennerley*.

August 20: Robert Tanner *Visiting Great Grandmother Spaulding*.

Launceston

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

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Secretary: Marette Lawson

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All telephone enquiries to (03) 6326 1399



Our March workshop was held at the Elderly Citizens Club in Invermay—a new venue that was well received by attendees, many of

whom stayed on afterwards to chat and enjoy some refreshments. We welcomed both members and non-members along to see Patricia Lansdell and Leanne Bishop present on different ways of displaying your family history. From Pat’s physical album style through to Leanne’s web-

based blog style, many agreed it was an interesting topic, and one worth repeating in the future featuring other examples. Any requests for workshop topics are welcome; please contact the Launceston Branch Library to pass on your ideas.

Throughout March and April preparations were underway for **Launceston Branch AGM**, held at the Harry Abbott Scout Hall on Tuesday 16 April. Thank you to Andrea Gerrard for being this year's guest, presenting on the 'Headstone Project'—a very interesting topic. Thanks also to our volunteers and committee members for your ongoing support. We look forward to another interesting and rewarding year and welcome any new members who may have recently joined.

Our **July workshop** will be held on 17 Wednesday at 2.00 p.m., focusing on 'Finding & Using Early Tasmanian Church Records'. Please register by coming into the Launceston Branch Library or contacting us by email.

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.

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

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

Mersey

http://www.tfhsdev.com
President: Roslyn Coss (03) 6491 1141
Secretary: Sue-Ellen McCreghan
(03) 6428 6328
email: secretary@tfhsdev.com
PO Box 267 Latrobe Tasmania 7307



Reflecting on the past TFHS year Mersey Branch has continued producing the *Advocate* newspaper index of personal notices. We have now produced the indexes from 1980 to 2018 which are available to search and or purchase from our library.

The indexing of the Forth/Leven Parish registers of baptisms to 1918 as well as some deaths is soon to be completed. Forth/Leven Parish registers of marriages from 1867 to 1966 is complete and available at our library. Mersey branch has available on film the indexed entries.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held at the end of April in conjunction with a soup and sandwich lunch. A number of the Executive Committee have served for the six years allowed, therefore new members will be welcomed. Hopefully new and old members will become involved with the committee.

Our change of day from Tuesday to Wednesday opening has seen a steady increase in visitors and members coming to our library over the last eight weeks after a slow start. This is very heartening as all the library assistants are volunteers and are here for the love of family history. We enjoy helping, guiding and advising researchers.

A project to sort, index and make sense of a collection of family history material of the Wells Family of Latrobe was undertaken. This was very interesting as the

family are Quakers and amongst the material was a number of original UK marriage certificates dating from 1818. The detail on these certificates includes the parents and residence as well as signatures of the members of the church who attended, in some cases over twenty signatures. Amongst the information were 'gems'—original family photographs, history of the homes they occupied and lists of names taken from the Society of Friends in London. This has been many hours of work and the branch has been amply rewarded.

We are looking forward to the DNA talk in May—lunch will be supplied. If you have any enquiries please contact our Secretary Sue Ellen 6428 6328, or the library on Wednesdays and Fridays between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. ◀

BURNIE BRANCH PUBLICATION

**Index to *The Advocate*,
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NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given in accordance
with Rule 14, that the

39th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of the
Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.

**is to be held at 2.30 p.m.
on Saturday 15 June 2019,
at the Huonville Bowling Club
5 Shield Street, Huonville**

Voting is restricted to financial members of
the Society and a current membership card
may be required as proof of membership.

AGENDA

1. Welcome by the President
2. Apologies
3. Presentation of the 2018 Lilian Watson Family History Award'
4. Presentation of TFHS Inc. Awards
5. Announcement of 'Best Journal Article Award'
6. Confirmation of Minutes of the 2018 AGM as circulated at the meeting
7. Business arising from the Minutes
8. President's Annual Report
9. Treasurer's Annual Report as circulated at the meeting
10. Business arising from Treasurer's Report
11. Election of Office Bearers
12. General Business
13. Closure

Robert Tanner, Society Secretary

WHAT IS BEHIND THAT NAME?

Maurice Appleyard (Member 4093)

EVER wondered where the name of that location came from? Why do we use it in the Tasmanian context? What is the history behind it?

GREATER HOBART AREA

Suburban Locations

AUSTINS FERRY—Named after James Austin, who arrived from England in 1897. He started a ferry service across the River Derwent in the 1820s.

BATTERY POINT—Originally named ‘Knopwood’s Point’ after Rev. Bobby Knopwood who had land in the area. Named Mulgrave Battery in 1818 in honour of the Earl of Mulgrave, Master General of the Ordnance and General of Her Majesty’s Forces.

BELLERIVE—Originally known as Kangaroo Point. Named Bellerive (belle: beautiful; rive: shore) by Lieut Edward Lord who came with Lieut Collins in 1804. Maybe named after Bellerive on Lake Geneva, Switzerland, which lies opposite ‘Secheron’ (the name of the house on Battery Point). Both names were used until the 1860s. Proclaimed Bellerive in 1892.

BERRIEDALE—After the *Berriedale Inn*. The first licensee, in 1834, was William Wilson. An advertisement for the sale of Berriedale Park appeared in the *Hobart Town Courier* in 1847.

BRIDGEWATER—Originally known as North and South Bridgewater. The causeway across the river was built in 1836 and the first bridge completed in 1849. The first record of the name appears in 1845.

CHIGWELL—The name given to the housing area built by the Housing Department in 1956. It came from the name of the house which was the home in the 1840s, of William Gore Elliston, auctioneer, editor of the *Hobart Town Courier*, mayor of Hobart and member of the Legislative Council.

CLAREMONT—Henry Bilton lived at Claremont House in the early 1830s. It is believed the house was named after the house in Esher, Surrey, England, where Princess Charlotte, only child of George IV, lived. It is believed the house name was used for the area when the railway station was opened at the beginning of the 19th century.

DERWENT RIVER—Named by Captain John Hayes after the river of the same name in Cumberland (now Cumbria), England, in 1793 during his exploration of the area.

DERWENT PARK—The original Derwent Park House was built by Thomas Edmund Wells about 1820.

DYNNYRNE—The name of the original estate granted to Robert Lathrop Murray in 1830. Murray also built a house of that name in 1838 which stood on the corner of Proctors Road and Waterworks Road.

Murray claimed descent from William Murray, baronet of Dunerne (or Dunearn), Scotland. He owned a distillery in South Hobart, which he named the Dynnyrne Distillery. He later became editor of the *Hobart Town Gazette*.

FERN TREE—Named after the profusion of man ferns in the area. The first licensee of the *Fern Tree Inn* was Alfred Hall in 1861.

FLAGSTAFF GULLY—Originally ‘Flagstaff Valley’; named after the surveyor’s flagstaff which was erected at the top of the hill.

GEILSTON BAY—Originally named ‘Geilstown Farm’ after Lt-Col Andrew Geils, Commandant of the Hobart Town settlement from 1812 to 1813, who built a house there. The estate was advertised for lease in the *Hobart Town Courier* in 1818. It was also known as Lime Kiln Bay from lime kilns which operated in the 1860s.

HOBART—Named in honour of Lord Robert Hobart, fourth Earl of Buckinghamshire, the then Imperial Secretary of War and the Colonies. ‘Town’ was dropped from the name in 1881.

HOWRAH—Five acres at, what is now Howrah Point, were granted to John McKay in 1817 and then passed to James Fielder who named it Howrah. Howrah is a suburb of Calcutta, India, where James’ father William was stationed with the British Army.

KINGSTON—Originally known as ‘Browns River’ until 1850. Browns River was discovered by Robert Brown, the botanist with Collins, who made an expedition south after establishing the settlement at Sullivans Cove. The aboriginal name for the river was ‘Promenalinah’. The first settler was John Lucas, a pioneer settler from Norfolk Island who was granted land at Browns River in 1808 and whose descendants developed the area. The area was given the name of ‘Kings Town’ or Kingston by Lt-Gov. Denison in 1851 and proclaimed a town in 1866.

LAUDERDALE—Originally ‘Ralphs Bay’ and ‘Roches Beach’, it was named after William Ralph, captain of the *Duchess*, one of two ships in William Hayes’ exploration of the Derwent in

1794. The property was named Lauderdale by the Hobart merchant and Quaker Robert Mather, who had the original land grant in 1824, after his home, the village of Lauder near Berwick-on-Tweed in Northumberland, England. Formally assigned to the locality in 1959 by the Nomenclature Board.

LENAH VALLEY—Originally called ‘Kangaroo Valley’—‘Lenah’ is an aboriginal word for kangaroo. The name first appeared in the 1923 edition of *Walch’s Tasmanian Almanac*. It appears the name was changed in 1922 when the tramline was extended. An abbreviation was necessary because ‘Kangaroo’ would not fit on the tram’s destination board.

LINDISFARNE—Probably named by Thomas Gregson after the famous holy isle in Northumberland, England, where he came from. Sometimes wrongly named Lindisferne, it was renamed as Beltana in 1892, which is a South Australian name for running water. Changed back to Lindisfarne in 1903.

LUTANA—An aboriginal word meaning ‘moon’. Originally named Risdon Rise. It is believed the name was the result of a competition run by the EZ Company about 1920 when its housing development was under way.

MIDWAY POINT—Named after the coastal feature. References are made to Middle Point (1824) and Midway Point (1866).

MONTAGU BAY—Once referred to as ‘Warrane’ by the Post Office for a short period. The name comes from Judge Algernon Sidney Montagu, owner of the original house on Rosny Point in 1830.

MONTROSE—Named after Montrose Estate owned by Robert Littlejohn who died in 1818. Montrose is a town in Scotland, south of Aberdeen, where it is assumed Littlejohn was born.

MOONAH—An aboriginal word meaning ‘shrub or small tree’. The area was first known as ‘South Glenorchy’ until 1894 when the name Moonah was given to the railway station and the post office.

MORNINGTON—The name of a property which stood on ground near where the Sun Valley Inn now stands. It was the Housing Department suggested name for the locality.

NEW TOWN—Once a separate municipality, it was absorbed into greater Hobart in the 1930s.

MT NELSON—Named by Lachlan Macquarie in 1811 during a visit to the colony. Aware of the colony’s need for a signal station, Macquarie explored the hill now known as Mt Nelson, and named it after the boat the *Lady Nelson*, which had brought him safely across Bass Strait in heavy seas.

MT STUART—A ship named the *Mt Stuart Elphinstone* was recorded in the Port of Hobart in 1840s, which was probably named after Sir Mountstuart Elphinstone, one-time head of the East India Company. The name Mt Stuart is recorded on government maps from 1895.

OLD BEACH—Originally known as Old Beach, Broadmarsh, where retired army officer John Ogle Gage received a land grant in 1824. A Post Office opened in 1872. Old Beach was the eastern landing point for Austins Ferry.

RISDON—Named by Captain John Hayes (who explored the Derwent in 1794), after one of his officers, William Bellamy Risdon, who was the second officer of the ‘Duke of Clarence’, one of the two ships on Hayes’ expedition.

ROKEBY—Named after ‘Rokeby House’, the original house in the area. Built by George Stokell, and named after his home town, Rokeby, in Yorkshire.

The Yorkshire village had derived its name from the family De Rokebys who went to England from France with William the Conqueror. Rokeby first recorded on a map of 1837.

ROSETTA—The *Hobart Town Courier* of 1842 carried an advertisement for the rental of ‘Rosetta Cottage’. A Mrs Bridget Stevens, who arrived in VDL with her husband Stephen, ran a private school of that name in the 1820s.

ROSNY—It was first called ‘Canadian Point’. Rosny was the name of an ancestor of Walter Bethune, holder of the original grant in 1820, Duc de Maximilian de Bethune, Sully of Rosny, near Mantes in France. The land was bought by Supreme Court judge Algernon Montagu in 1830. It was the site of a copper smelter in the 1850s.

SANDY BAY—The first record of the name appears to be in the diaries of Rev. Robert Knopwood when recording a whaling expedition on the Derwent in 1804.

TAROONA—An aboriginal word for the chiton, shellfish. Name of the property acquired by Clive Lord in 1894.

TRANMERE—The name of the estate belonging to a Church of England minister, Rev. Rochford Barrow Grange, rector of Clarence Plains, who was granted the land in 1840. Grange possibly named the area after a vessel which brought out livestock, labourers and stores for the VDL Company.

WARRANE—An aboriginal word for ‘blue sky’. Used for the Warrane Estate in Bellerive. Montagu Bay was originally known as Warrane but the name was transferred to the current location in 1941 by Captain Ed Blackwood, who later became Surveyor General. ◀

Janice Daley (Member 71)

SHOULD I begin ‘once upon a time’ or ‘recently’, as it was when I became a foundation member of the Genealogical Society of Tasmania in 1980? Now, being 2019, the word ‘recently’ seems to have expanded to mean years or even decades! Not so long ago, ‘recently’ meant it was only days or weeks and forty years seemed to be forever away in the distance somewhere. How time flies.

The GST committee in 1980 decided our new and proposed publication needed to have a name which would be a fitting description for what we hoped would develop into a first-class publication. This has most certainly been achieved, and all those who have been involved up to and including those who are currently associated with the journal and its publication, are to be congratulated.

The suggestion at the beginning was that those on the committee, of which I was one, should set an example and write an article for the first edition. Blackmail—just like my ‘old’ school friend [who has encouraged me to write this] with this one. I must confess I can still remember my disbelief and delight at seeing my small contribution in print in Volume 1, number 1.¹

Way back then, being a newly founded society, funds were scarce, so after the journal pages were typed, photocopied, and laid out on the table, a group of us walked, single file, around the Chick family’s kitchen table collating a single issue at a time. The cover could be any

colour—as long as it was beige. I seem to remember the long arm stapler being awkward to master. When folded, carefully by hand of course, the pages didn’t fit neatly into the envelope or stack ready for addressing. The problem was solved by taking small batches into the garden and weighting them down with red house bricks.

At one time we held a function similar to a kitchen tea, to which attendees brought a book for the library. Saved wine casks were cut to shape to hold booklets and paper on the library shelves (in Percy Street Bellerive). It was great fun and most economical too. Once funds became available, a conventional matching set of book holders were purchased. I attended auctions to purchase some of the first microfiche readers and small card files, thus helping with research and keeping of records.

Library duty started with collecting the key to the building, usually from the home of the chairman, and it was returned after having locked up at the end of the session. The toilet was in the quay building and there were no phones. Visitors were often so engrossed in their work and oblivious to the time, we would set an alarm clock to jolt them back to the fact that it was closing time.

At one time a member of the library committee would open the library for about an hour prior to monthly meetings then held at Percy Street, to enable those who were unable to attend during normal hours to spend a short time there. Fund raising took various forms including selling bags of Cadbury chocolates which could be smelled all afternoon and others

¹ ‘A larger than usual baptismal service’, p. 11

wondered why those on library duty bought most of them. Now we have the new invention of sausage sizzles, which allow the general public to help with fund raising.

During the early days we had a conference at Rosny College, and Neil Chick arrived with a small box of the revolutionary research tool of the day—the IGI, which he had on loan for the day.

Recently on one occasion when I attended the current Hobart branch library, the lovely gentleman on the desk suggested, ever so politely, that perhaps I could check my membership number [I didn't have my card with me] as he thought it should be four digits, not just two!

My original number was 71A. Protocol at the time dictated that my husband's number preceded mine. His was 71. The 'A' of my number was dropped when his membership lapsed, and many years later when he retired from work and re-joined, he was given a new number, more like a postcode.

Time flies, but the help, support, encouragement and friendliness are still very much in evidence in the society.

Back to *Tasmanian Ancestry*, Volume 1, number 1. My godson Matt, mentioned in my article in the above issue, is now an architect, married to a local girl. He runs an architectural business in Victoria. Sam managed to pack a lot of life into his but is now no longer with us. Of the other then 'children' mentioned in my article, one became a teacher, one a pilot, and another has taken over the family farm. Most have children of their own, and only a few remain in the district around Hamilton.

The minister of the church was transferred to Buckland shortly after and has since had a change of vocation and location. ◀

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HENRY BARKER NEWMAN

Sue Wallbank (Member 7682)



HENRY BARKER NEWMAN (1819–1898) may seem an odd choice for a biography. He was not an important man in the wider world but was well-known in his birthplace Westbury, Wiltshire and his later home South Hobart, Tasmania.

His parents Henry (Harry) Barker Newman (1788–1841) and Jane JERRETT (1781–1822) had eight known children, two of whom were baptised Henry or Harry Barker Newman. The first was born in 1812 and lived only a few weeks but the subject of this biography was reportedly born in 1819.¹ He was not

baptised until 17 July 1821 in the parish church at Westbury.²

Wiltshire in 1802 had been one of the main centres where burning of mills and rioting took place in response to mechanisation of the weaving process. The county was the most poverty-stricken in England.³ By 1820 in Westbury there may have been more optimism in the air. It was planned to revive the ancient market for the sale of corn and other commodities ‘likely to be productive of great advantages to [Westbury]’.⁴

¹ *Findmypast*, Burial Record for Harry Barker Newman, ‘Wiltshire Burials Index’, Accessed 27 September 2018; Henry and Sarah Jane Newman, Burial Record, Record of Inscriptions on Tombstones in Queenborough Cemetery, Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office, (TAHO) AB413/1/1,732

² *Ancestry*, Baptism Record for Henry Barker Newman, ‘Wiltshire, England, Church of England Births and Baptisms, 1813–1916’, Accessed 25 September 2018

³ E P Thompson, *The Making of the English Working Class*, Harmondsworth, England, Penguin Books, 1963, p. 573

⁴ ‘Revival of the Ancient Corn Market’, *Salisbury and Winchester Journal*, 4 December 1820, p. 3

Henry's earliest days would have been difficult as his mother died a year after his baptism and his father remarried in 1824.⁵ This second union produced another six children. Henry followed on in the Newman family tradition of occupation in the building trades—at the time of his 1844 marriage in Market Lavington, Wiltshire to Sarah Jane (née PHILPOTT) he was a mason.⁶

By the time of the 1851 England Census the couple had three children and had acquired the licence of the *Angel Inn* in Westbury.⁷ As well, the inn was home to Henry's sister Arabella (a governess), his sister-in-law Ellen (barmaid) and an ostler to care for the customers' horses. The *Angel* became Grade II Listed in 1978 and was described as a complex building of various dates from the 16th century.⁸ Visiting there in 2016 revealed documents relating to the 1851 transfer of the licence and the opportunity to see Henry's signature—the most personal memory of him as no known photograph exists.

⁵ *Findmypast*, Burial Record for Jane Newman, 'Wiltshire Burials Index', Accessed 26 September 2018; *Ancestry*, Marriage Record for Henry Barker Newman, 'London, England, Marriages & Banns, 1754–1921', Accessed 26 September 2018

⁶ 'Marriage Notices', notice for Henry Newman and Sarah Jane Philpott, *Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette*, 8 February 1844, p. 3

⁷ *Findmypast*, Census Record for Henry Newman, '1851 England, Wales & Scotland Census, Church Street, Westbury, Wiltshire', Accessed 26 September 2018

⁸ British Listed Buildings, 'The Angel Inn', <https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/101036284-the-angel-inn-westbury#>, W5C01s4zblU, Accessed 26 September 2018

A second son, Frank Barker Newman, was born in March 1852 and he was to be the last of the English-born children.⁹

The next documentary evidence for Henry and his extended family is in the Australian inward passenger lists.¹⁰ No solid information exists as to the reasons for leaving Wiltshire, home to the Philpotts and Newmans for many generations. The *Angel Inn* appeared to be quite prosperous but extended reading makes it clear that Wiltshire at this time was suffering under the harsh changes brought about by the Poor Law Commission and one-sixth of the population was on poor relief.¹¹ This was presumably reflected in patronage at the inn. An active Wiltshire Emigration Society existed around 1851 and although the Newmans are not listed as beneficiaries they may have been influenced by Society publicity or letters back from friends already in Australia.¹²

Whatever the motivation the family left from London in the *Kent* on 12 May 1855 and arrived in Hobson's Bay, Victoria, on 23 July the same year.¹³

Although the sailing time had been quite brief compared to many voyages of the time no doubt the family was relieved to be ashore. Where they went from the waterfront after disembarking is not

⁹ Birth Certificate of Frank Barker Newman, born 17 March 1852, General Register Office UK, 91/1852

¹⁰ *Ancestry*, Passenger Record for Newman Family, 'Victoria, Australia, Assisted and Unassisted Passenger Lists, 1839–1923', Accessed 24 September 2018

¹¹ Thompson, *The Making of the English Working Class*, p. 247

¹² Colin Younger, 'The Locals Who Emigrated', <http://www.burbage-wiltshire.co.uk/historic/Emigration1.htm#names>, Accessed 15 September 2018

¹³ *Ancestry*, Passenger Record for Newman Family

known but it is possible they headed to the Victorian Goldfields as later vital records have some members of the original party living in Bendigo and Ballarat.

Henry as a 'builder lately carrying on business in the Cascade Road' next appears in the Hobart public record in a newspaper of the day—unfortunately because of bankruptcy.¹⁴ He must have been able to discharge his debts quickly as he went back to inn-keeping and was licensee of the *Cascade Inn* in South Hobart in November 1857.¹⁵

A man of many parts, Henry's building and hostelry activities were merely the

Cascades Female Factory.¹⁶ He owned various parcels of land and small cottages in South Hobart which may have been acquired as a result of unpaid loans—from reading newspapers of the time it would seem that publicans often gave short-term money loans to customers: if the loans were not repaid goods or property were forfeited to meet the debt. He had also been left land in South Hobart by Susan HARDMAN (née Philpott), an aunt of his wife who died only a few months before her niece. Interestingly, mention had been made in the will that income from other property passed to



T G Dutton, *The Kent, 1000 tons, being towed past Gravesend, 1853*

Source: National Maritime Museum, Greenwich,

<http://collections.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/140575.html>, Accessed 25 September, 2018

backdrop to a range of other public and private enterprises including acting as a jury member for an inquest into the accidental death of a female inmate of the

Sarah Jane 'was not to be used to pay any debts of her husband Henry Barker Newman'.¹⁷

¹⁴ 'Insolvent Court', *Colonial Times*, 29 January 1857, p. 3

¹⁵ 'Transfer of Licenses', *Hobart Town Mercury*, 4 November 1857, p. 3

¹⁶ 'Inquest at the House of Correction for Females', *The Mercury*, 23 July 1860, p. 3

¹⁷ TAHO: AD960/1/4, 698, Will of Susan Hardman, died 1 September 1857

In 1862 he was producing stone from his quarry at the Cascades which was to be used in the construction of St Marys Cathedral and in 1868 he was buying bones for his Hobart Town Bone Mills.¹⁸ In the 1870s he started growing hops on flat ground surrounding the Hobart Rivulet and conveniently opposite the *Cascade Inn*—this was the only Hobart hopfield and eventually covered eight acres.¹⁹

It would seem that nothing deterred Henry: by December of that year he was organising and promoting an event grandly advertised as ‘The first great cross country steeplechase ever run in Tasmania’. This was a five mile run starting and finishing at the *Cascade Inn* and offered substantial cash prizes, possibly to be later returned over the bar at the Cascade.²⁰ His wife, Sarah Jane, died in November 1877 and it may have been this which prompted relinquishing the licence. In 1878 it was transferred to William WHITTINGTON.²¹

Henry was a man of considerable property. The 1879 Valuation Rolls for Hobart list at least 8 separate cottages, sheds and land, as well as a hop kiln, outbuildings and hop ground and a separate 50 acres of pasture land.²² One Saturday afternoon in

April 1882 the hop processing buildings and dried crop were destroyed by fire. The consequent financial loss was probably the reason he was not able to re-establish this endeavour.²³

When Henry first arrived at the Cascades it was still beyond the Hobart boundary and had only recently been plagued by the bushranger ‘Rocky’ WHELAN.²⁴ The change of name from Van Diemen’s Land to Tasmania on 1 January 1856 heralded a move away from the convict stain of the past and I feel South Hobart and people like Henry Barker Newman reflected this air of optimism.

He had not been neglecting his personal life whilst engaged in all the other activities. A further two daughters were born to him and a Martha TRIFFITT although he did not marry Martha until November 1895.²⁵ Death from pneumonia and debility followed just three years later and Henry was reunited with his first wife Sarah Jane at Queenborough Cemetery, Sandy Bay.²⁶ ◀

¹⁸ ‘Tenders’, *Mercury*, 22 March 1862, p. 1; ‘Bone! Bone! Bone!’ *Mercury*, 26 April 1868, p. 1.

¹⁹ ‘Hop Culture’, *Mercury*, 27 March 1873, p. 2

²⁰ ‘Advertising’, *Mercury*, 31 December 1873, p. 2

²¹ TAHO: RGD 35/1/9, 840 Death Certificate of Sarah Jane Newman, died 6 November 1877; ‘Annual Licensing Meeting’, *The Mercury*, 3 December 1878, p. 3

²² [Hobart Valuation Rolls], *Hobart Town Gazette*, Vol. LXIV, No. 5261, 1 January 1879, pp. 1282, 1285

²³ ‘Destruction of Newman’s Hop Kiln by Fire’, *Mercury*, 10 April 1882, p. 2

²⁴ Alison Alexander, *Beneath the Mountain: a History of South Hobart*, Hobart, South Hobart Progress Association, 2015, p. 61

²⁵ TAHO: RGD37/1/54, 215A Marriage Certificate of Martha Triffitt and Henry Newman, married 10 September 1895

²⁶ TAHO: RGD35/1/68, 700 Death Certificate of Henry Newman, died 15 December 1898; TAHO: Record of Inscriptions on Tombstones in Queenborough Cemetery.

JAMES aka SAMUEL SYKES

Lynne Hoggett (Member 1691)

DURING 1830 William SYKES married Mary SHELTON, a single mother of 3 year-old John. William had recently returned from the British Armed Services where he was an accomplished trumpeter and drummer, being voluntarily discharged due to a liver complaint. The couple lived in Brampton, Huntingdonshire.¹ Their children, all born in the next 12 years were: James, Thomas, George, Elizabeth, William and Mary.² William was unable to work, and his wife Mary was blind. In 1847 the couple, and their children, were inmates of the newly opened, Huntingdon Poor Law Union Workhouse.³

William and Mary not only suffered their own private disabilities, but they also had to deal with their children. Even before becoming teenagers, their three sons were already known to the law-keepers of Huntingdon.⁴ Not long after reaching

double figures James had already been convicted of stealing from a garden for which he received a four-day term of imprisonment and was ordered to be whipped, and for having stolen brass, he earned a month's imprisonment and then stealing pearl counters from a counting house earned him transportation for seven years to Van Diemen's Land (VDL).⁵

James' trial was held on the 10 July 1847.⁶ James and his younger brother Thomas (9) were held at Millbank Prison.⁷ From Millbank Prison, still in his teens, James was transferred to Parkhurst Prison to spend time awaiting transportation.

Boys between 12–18 years were transported to VDL, Victoria, New Zealand and Western Australia. Generally seen as juvenile delinquents, they were transported and expected to learn a trade and become a productive member of society.⁸

James, who was transported as Samuel Sykes, arrived in VDL on the *Blenheim* on the 24 July 1850 after leaving Parkhurst Prison and the Isle of Wight on the 1 April 1850, already three years and one week away from his family.⁹ The *Blenheim* on her third voyage, had 294

¹ *Ancestry*, Census Record of James Sykes, 1841 England and Wales census record: Class HO107; Piece 455; Book: 2, Civil Parish; St Benedict; County: Huntingdonshire; Enumeration District: 12; Folio: 12; p. 18; Folio: 15; GSU roll: 288840

² England Births and Christenings 1538–1975: Huntingdon; Huntingdonshire, England; Collection: St Marys and St Benedicts; Date range: 1830–1875; Film Number: 1040648

³ ^Huntingdon Union Workhouse, Admission of William Sykes: 6/11/1840 1820/71; p. 60; 28/11/1840; 1820/71; p. 63; 14/4/1847; 1820/74; p. 49; 19/4/1847; 1820/74; p. 50

⁴ England & Wales Criminal Registers 1791–1892: Class HO27; Piece 78; p. 345. Class HO27; Piece 81; p. 411.

⁵ Tasmanian Archives and Heritage Office [TAHO] CON 33/1/95 Samuel Sykes Convict Register

⁶ England and Wales Criminal Registers 1791–1892; James Sykes

⁷ Samuel Sykes Conduct Record, CON 14/1/33

⁸ Parkhurst Boys – State Library of Western Australia; Private Archives N-S

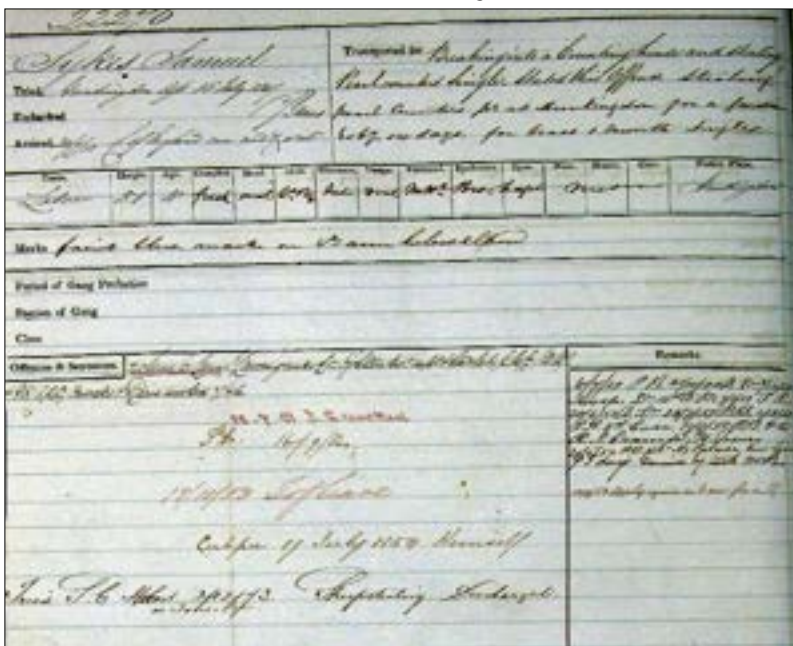
⁹ England & Wales Criminal Registers; 1791–1892. Class: HO27; Piece; 78; p. 345

convicts on board, with 84–86 of them being boys from Parkhurst Prison.¹⁰

Samuel was described as being 5'1" with hazel eyes, light brown hair and now 18 years of age. He had an oval visage, fresh complexion and a medium sized nose, mouth and chin, without whiskers. He had faint blue marks on his right arm below the elbow.¹¹ To begin with, Samuel spent his time at the Hobart Prisoners' Barracks and on the 21 October that year he was in the Launceston Depot.¹²

Upon arrival, most Parkhurst Boys were

to receive a Ticket of Leave and were assigned to work. Samuel, as he was still called, received his Ticket of Leave on the 7 January 1851.¹³ However, it was quickly revoked when, six months later, on 20 June, he was convicted of larceny in Launceston and returned to Hobart—approved for the 'Cascades'.¹⁴ He and another young man from *Blenheim*, had been caught and convicted of stealing from a shop in George Street, Launceston which earned Samuel 18 months' imprisonment with hard labour and both having their Tickets of Leave revoked.¹⁵



Samuel Sykes Conduct Record

¹⁰ Perth DPS: Convicts to Australia, Convict Ships; *Blenheim* 3
¹¹ TAHO: Samuel Sykes Conduct Record, Australian Convict Transportation Registers—Other Fleets & Ships, 1791–1868; 1791–1850 HO 11/16
¹² Samuel Sykes, Conduct Record, CON 14/1/33

¹³ Samuel Sykes, Conduct Record, CON 33/1/95
¹⁴ TAHO, HO 11/16 1849–1850. CON 33/1/95 Samuel Sykes – Conduct Record, Australian Convict Transportation Registers – Other Fleets & Ships 1791–1868
¹⁵ 'Transportation' *Launceston Examiner*; Saturday, 21 June 1851, p. 6, col. 1

In September 1852 he had been assigned to Richard James CRUMP, a butcher of New Town.¹⁶

On the 12 April 1853 he was advised he could apply for his Ticket of Leave again in six months' time.¹⁷ From the Barracks, he was quickly assigned to Mr Henry PALMER of New Town.¹⁸ He then 'gained 95 days by task work' and was again granted his Ticket of Leave on the 22 October 1853.¹⁹

A Certificate of Freedom was granted, under his own care, on the 2 August 1854.²⁰ Samuel Sykes then vanished.

Our man wasn't found again until February 1860 when, as James Sykes, he married 16-year-old Surrey immigrant, Jane ROFFEY in Hobart.²¹ On his marriage certificate his occupation was given as 'Butcher'.

Jane and James became the parents of twelve children, born at almost two-year

intervals.²² Through difficult times, to supplement their income, James and his family went hop-picking in Bushy Park at the hop-grounds of Ebenezer SHOOBRIDGE. At these times, he and the family lived in small huts in the tiny hillside village of Uxbridge, travelling many miles to the hop-grounds each day. Even with a fresh start in a strange world, James still suffered a not so easy life, often tragically, but he did leave behind generations of Sykes, beginning with twelve children and 40 grandchildren.

Life appears to have been relatively smooth until November 1873, when James was accused of stealing from the Corporation Slaughterhouse in Hobart.²³

Marriage of James Sykes and
Jane Roffey, Hobart, 27 February 1860

Number	When solemnized, and where	Name and Surname	Age	Rank	Signature and Capacity of Officiary	Name of Clergyman, Minister, or Registrar	When solemnized	Signature of Deputy Registrar
8/13	February 27, 1860 St. John's Church Hobart, Tas.	James Sykes Jane Roffey	about 25 16	Butcher	James Sykes Jane Roffey	J. H. [unclear]	Feb 27	Frederick [unclear]

Witnessed in the Church of St. John, Hobart, Tas., according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Church of England - Attested by [unclear] of [unclear] in the Presence of [unclear] of [unclear]

¹⁶ Samuel Sykes, Conduct Record, Convicts –*Blenheim* 3, CON 33/1/95: Tickets of Leave Revoked, *Launceston Examiner*, 26 July 1851

¹⁷ Samuel Sykes, Conduct Record

¹⁸ Samuel Sykes, Conduct Record

¹⁹ Samuel Sykes, Conduct Record, CON 14/1/33: Ticket of Leave Granted, *Tasmanian Colonist*, 20/10/1853

²⁰ Certificates of Freedom, *Cornwall Chronicle*; 2 August 1854

²¹ TAHO: RGD 37/1/524; 37/1/19/127, marriage of James Sykes and Jane Roffey, Hobart, 27 February 1860

²² TAHO: Births in the District of Hobart: Sykes, RGD33/1/8/3936; 33/1/8/; 33/1/8/6562; 33/1/9/7955; 33/1/9/9284; 33/1/10/385; 33/1/10/2123; 33/1/10/3456; 33/1/11/1329; 3/1/11/2931; 33/1/12/852; 33/1/12/2850

²³ 'The Cattle Stealing Case', *Mercury*, Hobart, Wednesday 19 November 1873 p. 2



Hobart Corporation Abattoirs Cattle Jetty 1872

James had been employed to drive sheep from New Town to the abattoirs where, according to newspaper records, one lamb had managed to escape from its pen to join up with James and his flock to the Huon district, unbeknown to James.²⁴ The case was eventually dismissed.

James was stated to be 75 years old when he died and it can be surmised he looked this age primarily because of his droving, his high work ethic and his outdoor life.²⁵ In fact, he was only 66 years of age when he literally dropped dead while picking hops in one of SHOOBRIDGE's hop fields in Bushy Park.²⁶ A well-respected man, he had died from an embolism

and the jurors at his inquest found that although he had suffered many years from chronic asthma, he had died of heart disease.²⁷

Following his death on the 4 March 1897, James' funeral service was held on the 6 March, at St Stephens Church in New Norfolk after which he

was interred in the Red Hills Cemetery at Bushy Park.²⁸ There is no headstone to mark where he rests but he does have a view of the old hop-grounds he had worked in, a lifetime from Brampton, Huntingdonshire. ◀



Inquest—James Sykes 5 March 1895, Bushy Park

²⁴ 'Uxbridge', *Mercury*, Hobart 13 March 1897
²⁵ TAHO: RGD 35/1/66/476 Deaths in the District of New Norfolk; 4/3/1897 at Bushy Park. Death of James Sykes, 1897.
²⁶ 'A Sudden Death' *Launceston Examiner*, 6 March 1897 Hobart. p. 10, col. 2

²⁷ TAHO James Sykes, Inquest, Bushy Park, SC195/1/72 Inquest Number 10761, 5/3/1897; *Tasmanian Police Gazette*, POL709/1/26, p. 42 (1897)
²⁸ Interment records, New Norfolk District Council; Bushy Park Public Cemetery 1895–1994; S-W: *Tasmanian Police Gazette*; 12/3/897; p. 42.

EUPHEMIA LAWSON

THREE GENERATIONS OF CONVICTS AND ORPHANS

Andrew Cocker (Member 6865)

MOST, if not all, family trees have brick walls that stubbornly remain intact, despite our best efforts. My most frustrating brick wall was that of Emma Agnes JONES, my great grandmother who married Joseph COCKER in Longford in 1876. Early in the search two baptism records had been found to refer to Emma Agnes Jones as Emma LAWSON and so the net had been widened to search all Emmas whether they be Jones or Lawson. I had been searching for a birth record or any evidence of her parents for many years when, in 2015, a register of *Baptisms Solemnised in the Female House of Correction, Hobart Town, Van Diemen's Land* was digitised. It revealed a curious entry on 17 October 1849. On the second line for Euphemia Lawson under 'ship' it said 'free'.

Curious indeed, because the column named 'ship' was used to list the name of the ship in which the child's convict mother arrived. A baptism within the Female Factory usually occurred due to a convict arriving pregnant or becoming pregnant, while assigned. The mother was allowed to feed and care for her baby for six months before being punished and then re-assigned. The babies were also punished, by being taken from their mothers, compulsorily weaned and sent to the nursery where they had a significant risk of dying. The register did not even make provision for the recording of the father's name and in the 18 pages from April 1843

to July 1854 there is just this one entry where the mother is noted as being free.

This was the record that enabled me to reconstruct Emma Agnes' life and two convoluted generations of convicts, Female Factory and Orphan School inmates. I quickly established that the mother Sarah Lawson did not appear to be a convict, but at that time, incarcerated in the Female Factory, was a Euphemia LAWSON who had arrived with a daughter Sarah. Using the Orphan School web site database and the Female Convicts Research Centre Inc. database I was able to tease out the terrible story of why my great grandmother had changed her name.

The story of Euphemia Lawson senior is told in chapter 3 of *Convict Lives at the Cascades Female Factory* Volume 2 and I won't repeat it other than to summarise that in Scotland in 1828 she was subject to a mandatory death sentence, commuted to banishment for life. When Euphemia arrived on the *Borneo* in 1828 she was accompanied by her two children, William aged about four and Sarah aged about two. Euphemia married ex-convict Edward GRIFFITH who arrived on the *London* in 1832 and had a third child, Ann, in 1837.

Her first assignment was to Government House, but in June of the year of her arrival she was returned to the Female Factory cells on 'seven days bread and water' for being intoxicated. Thus began a cycle of drunkenness, petty offences and rebel-

lion, appearing before a magistrate fifteen times in the following ten years.

There was a brief respite after she married Edward Griffith, who was convicted of stealing by picking pockets, and was initially assigned to James TRIFFITT at New Norfolk. Euphemia married Griffith at St Matthews Anglican Church, New Norfolk on 23 November 1840 and was able to retrieve her daughter Ann from the Orphan School. She was unable to stop drinking and, despite warnings, her ticket of leave was cancelled. In January 1844 she was returned to hard labour in the Female Factory for drunk and disorderly conduct and Ann, aged 7, was placed in the Queen's Orphan Schools on 6 March 1844.

By November 1845, Euphemia had been in the convict system for nearly 15 years when she lost control in another drunken outburst. She was found guilty of intent to commit grievous bodily harm and recommended to mercy. The death sentence was commuted to detention in the Female House of Correction for five years.

By 1871 she had been sentenced and returned as punishment to the Female Factory at least eight times for a total duration slightly in excess of ten years; much of which was hard labour.

William spent an uneventful ten years in the Boys Orphan School until 10 August 1839 when, aged 15, he was apprenticed to the Solicitor General, Herbert JONES. Jones was dismissed from office and as he prepared to leave the colony in 1841 William was apprenticed to a single man, Thomas Wroot MIDWOOD who migrated to Hobart Town in 1822 on the *Maclesfield* with family and worked as a middle ranking public servant.

William absconded just two weeks after he was apprenticed to Midwood but was soon caught and sentenced to two weeks'

hard labour in the House of Correction. He appears to have lived an uneventful life and I can find no record of a marriage or offspring. He died a pauper in the New Town Charitable Institution in 1886 and was buried at Cornelian Bay.

Sarah did not fare as well. Like her mother Euphemia, Sarah was strong willed, and was the only child to speak out and tell the truth when the Orphan School's headmaster and chaplain of St Johns Church, the Reverend Thomas James EWING, was investigated for sexual misconduct with one of the senior girls.

Within the Orphan Schools it was widely said that Ewing favoured a small group of girls in his private garden over some months where he had fed his special girl, Ellen WILSON, a sleeping cake and had touched her 'place' and lay upon her. These stories eventually reached the ears of the schools' surgeon, which forced Ewing to ask the Colonial Secretary for an independent investigation. This simply found him guilty of imprudence but, not of criminal conduct, and it was over two years before Ewing was finally removed as headmaster.

However, prior to the formal enquiry the matron, Mrs GAZARD, had approached Ewing about the stories and he attempted to hush the matter by turning on and confronting the girl in question, and her friends. They named Sarah Lawson as the one spreading the stories and Ewing attempted to bully her into withdrawing her allegations but, un-like all the others, she steadfastly stuck to the truth. Sarah was rewarded for her courage and integrity by being punished and within a matter of just a few weeks she had been apprenticed and discharged from the Orphan School.

We can only speculate on the impact of being transported and then a harsh up-

bringing in the cold and austere Orphan School and the final indignity of her treatment at the hands of Ewing, but, sadly, Sarah trod a path not dissimilar from her mother's. Just four years after she was apprenticed she was before the court with two other girls for disturbing the peace in the 'classical neighbourhood of Bathurst Street'.

In 1847 she gave birth to a daughter Sarah Elizabeth of whom no subsequent trace can be found, and she almost certainly died. The informant was an inmate of Park Street, telling us that the birth took place in the Brickfields lying-in hospital. And then, on 16 April 1849 Sarah gave birth to a child fathered by convict George JONES. At the time of conception Jones' wife, convict Susan Jasper FEATHERSTONE, was pregnant with their fourth child, Susan Matilda. I think it is an unavoidable conclusion that their liaison was a brief commercial one and that it is unlikely Jones ever knew he had fathered a child to Sarah.

She formed a relationship with convict Jacob STANDRING and had three children; Jacob, Daniel and Richmoth, of whom he was probably the father. However, Standring abandoned them and went to Sydney around the time of Richmoth's birth in November 1859.

In evidence before the court on 12 August 1861 the constable stated 'the woman was a terror to the neighbourhood'. He further claimed

she had three or four children and she was in the habit of leaving them all day while she went out drinking.

Then, in February 1862, Sub-Inspector HADLEY stated in evidence before the Police Magistrate that

language made use of by the defendant was of the most disgusting description. The fact was that when the woman

became drunk she was perfectly mad. Just four months later Sarah was cooking soup for her children in a house in Melville Street over an open fire when her clothes caught alight and she was severely burned. She died a lingering and painful death over many weeks in hospital, leaving behind four orphaned children.

In September of that year Thomas WOOD applied for the three younger children to be admitted to the Queen's Orphan School stating

The supposed father of these children has been away from the colony about two years and a half. The mother was for some years a prostitute so that it is impossible to identify the father of the children.

As usual the request was referred to the Police for enquiry and advice. The sub-Inspector reported

I have known these children's mother as a prostitute in Hobart Town for seven and twenty years. [Footnote: that is not possible.]

He went on

They have no legal Guardian who can be compelled to support them and I have been informed by some of the jurors who sat with the body of their mother that the man, Thomas Wood, who now has them in his keeping and who lives by himself in a house that was a brothel and that he paid the little allowed for their support by the Benevolent Society to his own account and not the children.

Later comments report that Thomas Wood could be found living behind the Golden Gate Inn (which was on the corner of Harrington and Collins Streets) and that the

woman who took charge of the children when their mother got burnt in her house is now suffering sentence in the House of Correction for Females at the Cascade.

The three children were admitted a few days later, on 22 September 1862.

Jacob may have fared well in the Orphan School. He was awarded a prize in 1866 and in 1867, aged three months short of 14 years, he was apprenticed to farmer George CHAFFEY of Green Hills, Little Swanport. He had been there for nearly three years when he absconded. The *Police Gazette* described him as:

15 and a half years old, 5 feet high, sallow complexion, cross-eyed, low forehead; wore dark jumper, moleskin trousers, and blue cap; idiotic appearance.

Jacob found work for many years with the Quaker Cotton family at Kelvedon, Swansea. The *Launceston Examiner* reported on 7 September 1897 that

Jacob Lawson, of Spring Bay, Tasmania, a labourer, aged 44 years had been awarded a certificate of merit for rescuing from drowning Samuel Thomas DRAKE, of Seaforth, Lisdillon.

I can find no record of marriage or offspring for Jacob and he died in Hobart, aged 81, in 1934.

Jacob's brother Daniel spent just over eight years in the Boys Orphan School until 1870 when he was apprenticed to Mrs BROMLEY of Macquarie House, the first three storey brick house in Hobart and then operating as a hotel. Fourteen months later he absconded and escaped to Melbourne on board the *Derwent* from Launceston. The *Police Gazette* described him as:

16 years of age, 5 feet, two inches high, light brown hair, stout build, ruddy complexion, and wearing a dark brown coat vest and trousers, black cloth cap, new boots.

I can only hope he survived in Melbourne because I have yet to find any trace of him.

Richmoth was awarded an Infant prize in 1864 and spent 11 years in the Orphan School until apprenticed at the age 13 years and 10 months. She married Thomas HOLLOWAY in 1864 and they lived most of their life at Police Point. They had just one son, Reginald, who died at age 4. Richmoth was buried with Reggie in 1923 when she died, aged 66.

In 1874 the Superintendent and Headmaster of the Boys Orphan School wrote a long and rambling defence when he was dismissed because he applied 24 strokes of the cane to 11-year-old Alexander CARRICK's bare buttocks and then had the poor boy placed in a cold bath, after which salt was rubbed into his wounds. The boy's crime was to climb over the orphan school boundary wall to retrieve a ball. In his defence Graham stated that a previous matron had been more violent than him towards the children and that Richmoth Lawson had been apprenticed out black and blue from a beating from the matron.

But what of Euphemia Lawson, who had spent much of her life protecting her three younger siblings? Aged 13 years and 4 months she was too old for the Orphan School and she suddenly found herself alone and responsible for her own welfare. I believe she found work at the *Horse and Jockey* inn, later known as *Cooleys Hotel* in Moonah, just a short walk from the Orphan Schools. At some stage she became friends with Frances Jones who married Charles Morris COOLEY, son of Thomas Todd Cooley the proprietor. She moved to live with and work for Frances' parents in Perth.

Frederick and Amelia Jones and their large family lived in what many of us know today as the Robur Tea House café, currently an antique shop, next to the

Police Station in Main Road, Perth. Fred was a free settler; his convict brother Britton Webb Jones was better known as the original owner of National Trust owned *Franklin House*.

Known as Emma Lawson, Euphemia gave birth in 1872 to a child, Emma Louisa Jones, fathered by George Jones of Breadalbane, son of convicts Thomas JONES and Sarah VENABLES. George Jones' wife gave birth to their first child very close to the time George and Emma conceived Emma Louisa. In 1876, now known as Emma Agnes Jones, Euphemia married Joseph Cocker. They adopted and re-baptised Emma Louisa as their own and went on to have eight children, all of whom they successfully raised to adulthood.

Lest there be any confusion; there were three significant Jones men in Euphemia Lawson's life. George Jones fathered her and she bore an illegitimate child to another George Jones. Both were acts of adultery. Frederick Jones and his family adopted her and I believe that is the reason she took the Jones name. The three Jones men were not related.

Now, to go back to the original convict Euphemia Lawson who arrived with her two children William and Sarah on the *Borneo* in 1828. In 1837 Euphemia gave birth to a third child, Ann, probably to ex-convict Edward Griffith whom she later married. During a relatively calm few years in her troubled life Euphemia and Edward raised Ann at New Norfolk. But in 1844 when Euphemia was sentenced to two months' hard labour and had her ticket of leave revoked, Ann was placed in the Orphan School. However, Euphemia was permitted to retrieve her daughter a little over a year later.

But just 18 months later Ann was returned to the Orphan School after her

mother had been sentenced to five years' imprisonment for attempted murder while in a drunken outburst. This time she was admitted as Ann GRIFFITHS.

Ann was apprenticed in May 1851 at age 14 years to Archie McDOWELL of Bothwell and just three years later in 1854, aged 17, she had the first of three children to Huon saywer, John WIGNALL. Ann's life was also marred by abuse of alcohol and she was periodically in trouble for drunk and disorderly offences. She died in Deloraine in 1884. Only her first child, Jessie Maud Wignall, survived and married a John GRAHAM. They raised their nine children until John, a builder in Latrobe, died of TB when the youngest was just over one year old.

Jessie moved from Latrobe to Melbourne where her family progressed. I recently made contact with a fourth cousin descendant of Jessie Maude which has helped to confirm my research.

We know conditions in the Orphan Schools were grim and the 1848 BRADBURY report was very critical, noting that children were shorter and more listless than their equivalents outside the institution. Dr Edward Swarbreck HALL was an outspoken and constant critic of conditions and his campaigns led to improvements, particularly in regard to nutrition. But I recently read an article claiming sexual abuse was also rampant and apart from the Ewing incident I have found no evidence of that.

The conditions in our Orphan Schools must be evaluated in the context of conditions elsewhere and we do know that children were bullied and beaten at all levels of society. A wonderful avenue for future research would be a com-

parison of conditions experienced in similar institutions in Parramatta, England, Scotland and Ireland and indeed in free society. Whatever the outcome of such research, I am confident in asserting that without the care provided by the Orphan Schools to my ancestors it is very unlikely that I would exist to stand before you today.

Before finishing with the Orphan Schools I'd like to reflect on Sarah Elizabeth BRIGGS. I told her story ten years ago at the first joint FCRC and Orphan School seminar held here in the Old Sunday School. Sarah and her mother Alice set out for Van Diemen's Land in September 1838 to join her convict father Isaac Briggs. They were shipwrecked at Cape Town and rescued after three months and taken to Sydney aboard the *James Moran*. After five months in Sydney they left for Hobart on the *Medway* which suffered extraordinary storms and took five weeks. The stress was too much for Sarah's mother and she died at sea off the Bay of Fires.

Sarah Briggs was in the Girls Orphan School at the same time as Sarah Lawson. Some twenty-five years later, their children married, to become my great grandparents. ◀

From a Paper presented at the Female Convicts Research Centre Seminar at the Orphan School on 28 October 2018, *Euphemia Lawson: Three Generations of convicts and orphans*.

[If you would like reference details please contact Andrew.—Ed.]

See also: *Tasmanian Ancestry*, Volume 35 No. 3 December 2014, pp. 134–38 for the story of Sarah Briggs—*Isaac, Alice and Sarah Briggs*, also by Andrew Cocker.

HELP WANTED

OATES

I have a 'Don't Know' file that I would appreciate any person's help to at least reductet. Willing to exchange info on this family. Please contact Carol Rodway (Member 3) on (03) 6248 6639. I am computer illiterate.

HOW DO YOU SOLVE A PROBLEM LIKE MARIA?

Maria LORD was born c.1822–1825, depending on record looked at. In 1842 she married William Walden JOHNS, a former convict and butcher. They had three children—William 1846, Hannah (later Elizabeth) and Mary Ann Owen JOHNS. William and Mary Ann died in 1853. We don't know what happened to William Jnr. In 1854, Maria married James SMITH, convict off *Forfarshire* (also a butcher).

Their son, Richard Robert b.1861 is my great-grandfather. There were at least two other children—William and Sarah. James died in 1869.

Have searched for Maria's origins for 30+ years. With DNA testing it appears there is familial connection to James, David and John LORD, of early Tasmania but not to Lieutenant Edward LORD. James is from the Rochdale, Todmorden and surrounds in Yorkshire/Lancashire district in England. The LORD family were for a time found in Clarence Plains, Tasmania as well as Hobart CBD. Maria died in 1890. Conflicting records on where she was born—Native to Colony or England? Does anyone have her in their tree?

Please email Lynne Hoggett mrshoggy2@bigpond.net.au (Member 1691) ◀

NAME	PLACE/AREA	TIME	
ASKEY Elizabeth (Johnson)	Hobart TAS AUS	1858–1921	8008
ASKEY Henry	Hobart TAS AUS	1861–1916	8008
ASKEY James	Birmingham ENG	1814–1891	8008
ASKEY Linda Sylvia (Donnelly)	Hobart TAS AUS	1894–1922	8008
BLAKE Sarah	SFK NFK ENGLAND		8001
BLAKE William	SFK NFK ENGLAND	1810	8001
BLIGH	NW Coast TAS AUS		8003
BLIZZARD George	SFK NFK ENGLAND	1811–1890	8001
BLIZZARD Phebe	SFK NFK ENGLAND	1814	8001
BLIZZARD Susannah	SFK NFK ENGLAND		8001
BREADMORE Frank	Tasmania AUS	1886–1990	8007
CASE Michael	Bishopstone WIL ENG		6926
CHATWIN	Australia		8012
CURBISHLEY Thomas/Tom	CHS ENG/King Island TAS AUS	1886–1939	8018
DEMPSEY Ellen	Carlow CAR IRE		6926
DENHOLM Alexander		c.1820>	8011
DONNELLY Unas	Hobart TAS AUS	1918–1990	8008
DUTTON	Tullah/Beaconsfield TAS AUS/UK		8003
EICKHOFF Emma Anna	GERMANY	c.1890	8016
EXTON Margaret	Glasgow SCOTLAND	1700–1850	8019
FALLON/FALLIN Mary	IRL/NW Coast TAS AUS	c.1894	8018
FRASER Andrew	Australia	1830–1835	8012
GAYLOR Charles		d.1855	8011
GRANT Arthur Robert Vivian	Tasmania AUS	1883–1971	8007
GRANT Lucy Eveline	Tasmania AUS	1863–1906	8007
GRAVES Alice Sophia			8011
HALLAM John Alfred		1898–193?	8006
HALLAM John Leonard		1898–1933	8006
HAMILTON Susan	Enniskillen FER IRE	c.1855	8016
LETTE	West Tamar TAS AUS		8003
LYNOCH/LYNAGH Anthony	IRL/ NW Coast TAS AUS	1822–1901	8018
MANNERS John	Northumberland ENG	c.1790	8016
MEDWIN Luke	Australia		8012
MILLER Henry	Hobart TAS AUS	1826–1866	8011
MORGAN Richard			8011
MULGANNON Thomas	IRELAND	1800–1900	8000
MULGANNON Thomas	AUSTRALIA	1927–1940	8000
NOAD John	London MDX ENG	c.1760	8016
PECKS	NORFOLK ISLAND		8003
PERRIN George	SA AUS/UK	1700–1800	8004
POWELL Thomas	Cambridgeshire ENG		6926
RICHARDS George Filder aka Vielder	Suffolk END	1855–1899	8015
SHEPHERD William Henry	SA AUS/UK	c.1800	8004
SMITH Frances Ann	St Leonards/Patterson Plains TAS AUS	1836–1900	8018
SMITH John	Spitalfields LND ENG/NW Coast TAS	1790–1900	8018
TIMS/TIMMS Catherine/Charlotte	LEX IRL/NW Coast TAS AUS	1820–1913	8018
TRAVIS Thomas	Norfolk ENG		6926
WALKER George	SA AUS/UK	1700–1800	8004
WEBER August	GERMANY	c.1880	8016
WEBER August	GERMANY	c.1880	8015
WILLETT Joseph			8002
WRIGHT Thomas John	South Australia AUS	c.1800	8004

NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members

5672	MA Mrs Margaret	188 Goulburn Street mma05327@bigpond.net.au	WEST HOBART	TAS	7000
6926	LOCKETT Mrs Anne	PO Box 284 annelockett4@bigpond.com	PORT SORELL	TAS	7307
The above members have re-joined after a break and were allocated their original numbers					
8000	HALLAM Mrs Lynn	900 Oceana Drive lhallam900@gmail.com	TRANMERE	TAS	7018
8001	BLIZZARD Mr Barry	55 Myrtle Road	HAWTHORNDENE	SA	5051
8002	BLIZZARD Mrs Anne	55 Myrtle Road	HAWTHORNDENE	SA	5051
8003	WEBER Ms Kimberly	Address not for publication kimberlymbp@hotmail.com			
8004	WEBER Ms Jan	Not for publication			
8005	LYALL Ms Alex	PO Box 159 researchasp7270@gmail.com	BEACONSFIELD	TAS	7270
8006	HALLAM Mr Bruce	36 Brougham Street brucehallam@southernphone.com.au	LAUNCESTON	TAS	7250
8007	BRODIE-GRANT Ms Robyn	GPO Box 1833 robynbrodie-grant@incanberra.com.au	CANBERRA	ACT	2601
8008	WATSON Mrs Elizabeth	10 Mitchell Avenue lizandbillw@bigpond.com	ROSETTA	TAS	7010
8009	TURNER Mrs Heather	Not for publication			
8010	GREVATT Ms Jill	Not for publication			
8011	MILLER Mrs Therese	C/- 21 Elm Street tess@cantala.com.au	UNLEY PARK	SA	5061
8012	COOPER Ms Melanie	82B Don Road	DEVONPORT	TAS	7310
8013	SKELLY Mrs Diane	104 Main Road dbskelly@bigpond.com	MOONAH	TAS	7009
8014	SHELVERTON Mrs Lorraine	U4/35 Hamilton Street lorraineshelverton@gmail.com	WEST HOBART	TAS	7000
8015	RICHARDS Ms Sandra	Not for publication			
8016	MORRITT Mrs Beverley	PO Box 94 b_morritt@yahoo.com.au	KETTERING	TAS	7155
8017	GRAINGER Miss Emily	2 Turnbull Crescent davey@hotmail.com	ROSETTA	TAS	7010
8018	TONELLI Mrs Mary	Address not for publication mtone678@gmail.com			
8019	BENNETT Ms Fran	1/5 Harmony Close	SHEARWATER	TAS	7307
8020	SMITH Mr Brian	56 Nicholls Street taswigan@gamil.com	DEVONPORT	TAS	7310
8021	WELLS Mr Garth	60 Hawley Esplanade gandhwells@live.com.au	HAWLEY BEACH	TAS	7307
8022	LINDSAY Mrs Norma	U1/35 Walpole Crescent	LATROBE	TAS	7307

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Please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope and don't forget to reply if you receive a SSAE.

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RETICENCE

Lorraine Davidson (Member 7122)

WHEN I was much younger and first starting on my family history journey, my dad Douglas WILLIAMS, took me to meet my great uncle Edgar Williams. He was my dad's father's brother. Uncle Edgar was in hospital for some minor treatment and we found him sitting up in bed almost as if he was holding court and loving the experience. He was a slight man with bright eyes and a confident voice.

After pleasantries I asked if he could tell me about the Williams family. His sunny disposition changed and he demanded: "What do you want to know for?" Before I could reply, he added: "There's no money in it, you know!" Surprised at his response and disappointed that my hopes of family reminiscences had been dashed, I babbled I just wanted to know about my Williams grandparents because they died long before I was born. "There's nothing to know and you are better off not knowing!" His reply came as he dismissed me from his notice and he chatted briefly with my father before announcing he was tired and we felt obliged to leave. This unexpected reaction to my early research attempts had a marked effect on me, so much so that I clearly remembered great uncle Edgar's responses and I wondered what could have made him so reticent to talk about his family.

Disappointed but not deterred, I continued over time collecting snippets of information. Eventually I found evidence that we were descended from convicts, and thinking back to great uncle Edgar's reaction, decided that this had been the source of his reticence.

One of our ancestors is Thomas Williams, a *Calcutta* convict of Welsh origin who arrived in Van Diemen's Land with Lieutenant-Governor David COLLINS in 1804.¹ In addition, we are descended from First Fleeter convict, Bartholomew REARDON and Second Fleeter Hannah RONEY. Celebration of such heritage is a very recent thing and many families had covered up the convict stain in their family tree.² In fact further research revealed we had quite a number of convicts scattered through our family tree, quite possibly more than Edgar realised. Fascinated, I continued my research.

One of the oral family stories that dad had remembered was that his grandfather, Albert Williams had been a lighthouse keeper on Bruny Island and that as a boy, dad's father, Harold Williams had carved his initials in the newly set floor of the lighthouse. The discovery that the Log Books from lighthouses were housed at

¹ Tipping, Marjorie, *Convicts Unbound: the story of the Calcutta convicts and their settlement in Australia*. Viking O'Neil, 1988

² <https://staffblogs.le.ac.uk/carchipelago/2016/convict-ancestors>

Attitudes to Convict Ancestry: Documentary Review posted by Kate Roscoe in Carceral Archipelago on 2 December, 2016.

'From the start of transportation to the late twentieth century, convicts and their descendants tried to hide their unlawful past: changing their names, destroying records and keeping it secret from friends and family'.

the National Archives Office some years ago in Hobart, had me making an appointment to find out for myself if there was any truth to the story.

The relevant Bruny Island Log Book made for fascinating reading and deciphering the hand-written notes of each day's weather, along with the daily activities associated with the lighthouse, gave me a brief glimpse into the rhythm of life experienced by the keepers and their families. I photocopied pages where my grandfather was mentioned. The following are relevant extracts concerning my ancestor from the Log Book covering activities at the Bruny Island Lighthouse from 1897–1900 written by Head Keeper Captain William John HAWKINS:

Log for the Month of October 1897

Tuesday 5th S. Launch Egeua arrived at noon with Mr. MEECh and Albert Williams

Wednesday 6th Carting furniture from Taylors Bay

Thursday 7th Carting furniture from Taylors Bay

Log for the Month of December 1897

Monday 6th Painting Assistant Williams Quarters

Tuesday 7th Painting Assistant Williams Quarters

Log for the Month of January 1898

Sunday 2nd Brisk gale. Squally. Lighthouse duties. Assistant Williams's youngest child died aged 6 months at 4am

Monday 3rd Fine, cloudy. Carting firewood. Assistant Williams absent arranging for burial of his child

Tuesday 4th Fine, sultry. Buried Assistant Williams child at 6pm.

Log for the Month of August 1899

Monday 28th Fine, cloudy. Gardening. Assistant A Williams off duty.

Tuesday 29th Fine, clear and cloudy. Gardening. A Williams off duty.

Wednesday 30th Cloudy with rain. Morticing posts for fence.

Thursday 31st Fine, clear. Variously employed. Assistant Williams off day duty with bad hand.

Log for the Month of September 1899

Friday 1st Fine, cloudy. Morticing posts for fence. Assistant Williams resumed duty.

Log for the Month of November 1899

AM. Rain. PM. Squally. Lighthouse duties. S.S. Lotta called in for Mrs. Williams

Log for the month of January 1900

Wednesday 24th Fine, cloudy. Carting furniture to Taylors Bay

Thursday 25th Fine, clear. Carting furniture to Taylors Bay

Friday 26th AM Fine. PM cloudy. Repairing dray. Mowing hay.

Saturday 27th Fine clear. Cleaned interior of tower.

Sunday 28th Fine sultry. Lighthouse duties only.

Monday 29th Strong gale, squally. Carting furniture to Taylors Bay

Tuesday 30th Strong gale cloudy. Keepers waiting arrival of SS Wauetuma.

Wednesday 31st Strong gale cloudy. SS Wauetuma arrived with Station Inspector and Mr Meech All satisfactory. Assist. Williams left the Station.

After his stint on Bruny Island Albert was sent to Maatsuyker Island Lighthouse.³

One of the most unfortunate persons to be met on or off any station would have to be Assistant A Williams. After an un-

³ Stanley, Katherine M, Guiding Lights: Tasmania's lighthouses and lighthouse-men. St Davids Park Publishing, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia 1991, p. 124.

eventful term at Goose Island he was transferred to Cape Bruny where his infant child died soon after his arrival. He was later sent to Maatsuyker where one blow after another fell. Within six months of his arrival he was off duty suffering from 'a boil on the side and an internal complaint'. A few weeks later he became so ill while on watch that he had to call for help in extinguishing the light in the morning. After a few days off with severe inflammation and swelling he returned to duty only to have his foot crushed by being run over by a cartwheel. Just two days later he caught his arm in the lantern mechanism and remained trapped until another keeper went to see why the light was still burning in daylight and released him. Within a week he had suffered a cut lip and the loss of three teeth when he was struck by a piece of wood he was cutting. Not surprisingly, his patience gave out and he tendered his resignation as he said, 'to better himself'. One can only hope with all one's heart that Fortune dealt more kindly with him in some other sphere.

In fact things did not improve for Albert Williams. He returned to Hobart to be with his wife and family. Albert started behaving strangely and his wife called for help from a local police officer who appears to have taken Albert to the General Hospital, to the Hobart Police Office and then to New Norfolk.⁴⁴ His sad story is revealed through the following records which I have transcribed.

I have copied the forms and the cursive script denotes the hand written entries.

⁴⁴ HSD285/2 642, Series: Patient Records – Admission papers 7 September 1901, Images 1–7

STATEMENT

Name of Patient and Christian Name, at length *Albert Ernest Williams*

Sex and age *Thirty four years*

Married, Single or Widowed *Married*

Condition in life, and previous occupation
Laborer, in the Lighthouse under Marine Board

The Religious persuasion (as far as known).
Church of England

Previous place of abode
Grosvenor Street, Sandy Bay

Whether first attack *Yes*

Age on first attack *34 years*

When and where previously under treatment

Duration of existing attack
About 3 months

Supposed cause
The climate at Maatsuyker Lighthouse where he was stationed

Whether subject to Epilepsy
Not as far as known

Whether suicidal *No*

Whether dangerous to others *No*

Name and Christian name and place of abode of the nearest known Relative of the patient, and degree of Relationship (if known)
Edward Williams. Shipwright residing in Napoleon Street, Battery Point. His father.

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the above particulars are correctly stated.

(Signed) *E. R. Plane*
Sergeant No. 50

Occupation *Sergeant in Tasmanian Police Force*

Place of Abode *Sandy Bay*

FORM 1

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, being a Medical Practitioner, hereby certify that I on the 7th day of September 1901 personally examined Albert Ernest Williams of Hobart Police Office and that the said Albert Ernest Williams is a person of Unsound Mind and a proper person to be taken charge of and detained under care and treatment; and that I have formed this opinion upon the following grounds; viz.—

1. Facts indicating Insanity observed by myself:

His manner and demeanour are those of an insane person.

His mode of speech

He accuses people of extracting his teeth & has exaggerated ideas about large sums of monies being left him.

2. Other facts indicating Insanity communicated to me by others:-

His wife – Mrs Williams informs me that he takes ‘fits’ and knocks his head against the floor. That she is not able to control him.

Mrs. Collins – warder at the General Hospital – informs me that Williams pulled out three teeth on Thursday night and also that he cut his face and nose by knocking himself against the wall of the cell.

Dated this 7th day of September 1901

Gregory Sprott Signature

Hobart Place of abode

FORM 2

JUSTICES’ ORDER FOR THE RECEPTION OF AN INSANE PERSON

We, Bernard Shaw and Henry Thomas Gould Esquires the undersigned, having called to our assistance Gregory Sprott of Hobart a Medical Practitioner and having personally examined Albert Ernest Williams and being satisfied that the said Albert Ernest Williams is a Person of Unsound Mind and a proper person to be taken charge of and detained under care and treatment, hereby direct you to receive the said Albert Ernest Williams as a patient into New Norfolk Hospital for the Insane

Subjoined is a Statement respecting the said Albert Ernest Williams

Dated this Seventh day of September 1901

Bernard Shaw

Police Magistrate

Henry T Gould Justices of the Peace
To

Superintendent of the
Hospital for the Insane.
New Norfolk

HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE, NEW NORFOLK.

(Date) 7th September 1901

Report on the Condition of Patients on Admission.

Name of Patient *Albert Ernest Williams*

Date and Hour when admitted ... *7.9.01—at 3p.m.*

No. of Ward *Back Division*

Cuts or Wounds—where ... *an abrasion on nose & left ear*

Bruises—where ...
Other Injuries—where ...
Eruptions or Marks—where ... *vaccine*
marks on left arm
Body Condition ... *Good*
Bought by Constable T Meals from Hobart

Finally, I had found clear reasons for great uncle Edgar's reticence! His father, my great grandfather Albert had been judged as insane and committed to an asylum. The details of his behaviour gleaned from the official records make for sad reading. Unfortunately, the tragedy didn't stop there. I found his burial place at Cornelian Bay Cemetery and the headstone recorded that he died on the 15 September 1901, only eight days after he was admitted! Actually, I suspect the date on his grave stone was the date of his burial as subsequent documents will show.

The following was published in the *Police Gazette, Tasmania*. September 20, 1901, page 168:

INQUESTS ON BODIES

New Norfolk District – An Inquest was held at New Norfolk on the 10th instant, before J. A. Moore, Esq. Coroner, on the body of Albert Ernest Williams, aged 34 years, a patient in the Hospital for Insane. Verdict:—"Suicide by suffocation."

Suffocation! How had he suffocated? Hoping for detail I conducted an online search through the patient files of the Hospital for the Insane, New Norfolk which produced an Inquisition certificate.⁵

[* Lady the Queen deleted and replaced by *Lord the King*]

⁵ Record ID NAME_INDEXES: 1354613,
Resource: POL 709/1/29 p168 (1901),
SC 195/1/74 Inquest 11364

TASMANIA (TO WIT.)

An Inquisition indented taken for our Sovereign * *Lord the King* at the said Hospital for the Insane New Norfolk in the County of Buckingham within the Island of Tasmania this tenth day of September in the first year of the reign of our Sovereign * *Lord Edward* by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland * King Defender of the Faith before me *John Anthony Moore* Esquire one of the Coroners of our said *Lord the King* for the said Island and its Dependencies on the view of the body of *Albert Ernest Williams* lying dead. Upon the Oaths of *Henry Smith – George Hope – George Barker – Alexander Foyle – William Tew – Copeland Bradshaw – William Plunkett* good and lawful men of the said Island and duly chosen and who being then and there duly sworn and charged to enquire for our said * *Lord the King* when where and how and after what manner the said *Albert Ernest Williams* came to his death do upon their Oath say THAT the said *Albert Ernest Williams* being at this time, a patient in the Hospital for the Insane, at New Norfolk and not being of sound mind, memory and understanding; but lunatic and distracted on the ninth day of September in the year aforesaid did suffocate himself by putting a piece of blanket in his mouth of which suffocation the said *Albert Ernest Williams* came to his death and not otherwise.

IN WITNESS whereof as well as the said Coroner as the Jurors aforesaid have to this Inquisition set their Hands and Seals

the day and year and place above mentioned.

J A Moore *Coroner*

H Smith *Foreman* C Bradshaw

George Hope

W. Tew

Geo. F. Barker William Plunkett

Alex Foyle

Here, at last, was the tragic story of my great grandfather's demise. No wonder great uncle Edgar had been reticent to talk about his father with the shame of insanity worsened by suicide and the resultant poverty experienced by this family who no longer had a bread winner. My grandfather Harold would have been a young boy, the eldest of five surviving children, the youngest Alice, only three months old.

Still, the idea that a person could be driven mad by the isolation of working on a remote lighthouse did not ring true. After all, it is not as if Alfred was alone. There were other assistants and a head Lighthouse Keeper, also living at Maatsuyker, and he had had two successful stints at other light houses as reported in *Guiding Lights*, mentioned earlier, without reports of difficulties. Questions kept haunting me, including how a person could suffocate themselves with a piece of blanket. Surely the most basic instinct is to fight to breathe.

I continued my research by trawling online sites for information about lighthouse living conditions. This led me to information that I wished I could have shared with great uncle Edgar and my grandfather. Luckily I could share it with my father who had not known any of his grandfather's story.

One article posted on the *Old Salt Blog* in March 2014 by Rick Spilman caught

my eye with the following heading:⁶ *Mad as a Lighthouse Keeper – Not the Solitude, but the Mercury*. It seems that many lighthouses used an open tank of mercury to float the heavy Fresnel lenses which had to be maintained at a specific speed of rotation. It was the assistant keeper's job to clean out the dust and impurities that built up in the liquid mercury by straining it through a cheese cloth. It is highly likely that this would have been done with bare hands and without a mask or similar, as people at this time did not understand that Mercury is a deadly poison. Chronic mercury poisoning causes confusion, depression and hallucinations. It has also been reported that it loosens teeth. Apparently there are many documented reports of keepers behaving erratically or losing sanity. There are numerous articles online which point out that there were many lighthouse keepers who displayed the symptoms of mercury poisoning which at the time was decided to be the result and consequence of isolation.

Two examples follow:

In the 1890s, some keepers began floating their lenses in liquid mercury. The lens base spun more easily in the mercury, which helped the light rotate faster with less frequent winding. The resultant quicker flash was safer for sea farers, but not for the keepers, who breathed and touched the mercury on their daily cleaning rounds. Modern scholars have wondered if mercury, not the isolation, was behind reports of lighthouse keepers behaving erratically or losing sanity, since chronic mercury poisoning causes confusion, depression and hallucinations. The major problem with the system was the toxic nature of mercury. Periodically,

⁶ www.oldsaltblog.com/2014/03/mad-as-a-lighthouse-keeper-not-the-solitude-but-the-mercury/

lighthouse keepers were required to drain, clean and replace the mercury ... cheese-cloth was often employed to filter out impurities ... Mercury poisoning can cause severe mental problems and the offending vapours (aside from outright contact with the skin) can be absorbed in the lungs.⁷

Luckily, on a recent trip to Bruny Island, I met Craig PARSEY who conducts tours of the Bruny Island Lighthouse. His parents had been lighthouse keepers and he had lived at Cape Bruny, Eddy-stone Point, Low Head and Maatsuyker Island. He was able to confirm that an open mercury bath had been used on Maatsuyker Island, although drained a long time ago, the empty bath was still in place. I recalled how in the book *Guiding Lights*, mentioned earlier it was reported on one occasion that Albert become so ill while on watch that he had to call for help to extinguish the light. Also that he was caught all night in the lantern mechanism and had to be released the next day. He would have been breathing in the mercury fumes for a protracted time. Coupled with his regular duties of cleaning the mercury bath it is reasonable to suggest that his behaviour was not due to isolation but the result of mercury poisoning!

Further evidence of Albert suffering from mercury poisoning are the recorded instances of him losing teeth. The first instance is noted in *Guiding Lights* while he was still on Maatsuyker and the second time as noted by the Mrs Collins, warder at the General Hospital. Mrs Collins claims Albert pulled out three of his teeth. Surely this would be very difficult to do unless the teeth were

already loose—loose teeth can be one of the symptoms of mercury poisoning.

Further to the Inquisition into Albert's death, I find it hard to believe that anyone could suffocate themselves with 'a piece of blanket' no matter how 'lunatic and distracted'. Albert was admitted to the 'Back Division' which was an open ward rather than individual cells.⁸ His medical records state that he was not suicidal or dangerous to others so he would have been deemed of low risk and consequently housed in a general ward as there was no need to isolate him. A possible explanation of Albert's death could be that he was silenced by another patient who was disturbed by Edgar's ramblings and fits as reported in his admission papers. Those in charge may have viewed this as a 'blessed release' as Albert was a relatively young man whom they believed had no hope of recovery.

I am not sure how much of this uncle Edgar knew as he would have been a young boy when his father died. Suffice to say that knowledge of your father dying in an insane asylum was sufficient reason to explain his reticence. He may not have been particularly worried about my feelings but rather wanting to shield his family from the stigma attached to his father's death. A tragic tale, the brunt of which was born by my widowed great grandmother Mary and her five children. ◀

⁷ www.westportmaritimemuseum.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/Foghorn-Qtr-1-2014.pdf

⁸ www.newnorfolk.org Pidcock, Susan, *The New Norfolk Hospital for the Insane* 'In the Back Division the sleeping accommodation consists of dormitories and single rooms. The dormitories are of moderate size, containing an average of nine patients in each.'

VOICES FROM THE ORPHAN SCHOOLS FROM THE ' ASYLUM TO THE NEW NORFOLK ASYLUM

Dianne Snowden (Member No. 910)

FRANCIS EAGLE was one of a handful of children from the Queen's Asylum for Destitute Children at New Town admitted to the Asylum for the Insane at New Norfolk.¹ Francis was 4 when, in February 1869, he was admitted to the Queen's Asylum from the Cascades Female Factory, having been sent there from the General Hospital in 1868.² Francis was the son of former convicts Margaret McGOVERIN and William Eagle.³ Margaret had several children to William Eagle, who later deserted his family. She died in 1866.⁴

In July 1874, Francis, aged 9, was admitted to the New Norfolk Asylum on a Justices' Order with a medical certificate from Dr BUTLER, who diagnosed Francis with 'idiocy'.⁵ He added that Francis had been sent from the Orphan School for observation: he was noisy, destructive and had unclean habits.⁶ Days

after his admission to New Norfolk, Francis was described as 'a little Orphan School boy but scarcely an idiot though imbecilic in his manner'. He had settled in to the boys' cottage 'happily enough'.⁷ Later, it was recorded in the case book that Francis had 'a good deal of intelligence' and was 'mischievous enough'. He was also 'intelligent but very often rowdy' and 'a mischievous imp'.⁸ In July 1878, it was noted that he was 'certainly not an idiot but sharp and mischievous'.⁹ There was little change in Francis' condition apart from an occasional cold and stomach complaint.¹⁰ As he got older, he became more feeble and finally died of *chronic myocarditis and cardiac failure* in the Asylum on 9 May 1936. He was 71.¹¹ The Assistant Medical Officer who was at Francis' death noted that he suffered from 'congenital mental deficiency', reflecting a change in terminology. The 'little Orphan School boy' had spent 62 years in the New Norfolk Asylum; his entire life was spent in an institution.

Elizabeth McLOUGHLIN, the daughter of convict Rosanna McLACHLAN, spent

¹ From 1861, the Queen's Orphan Schools were known as the Queen's Asylum for Destitute Children

² TAHO, SWD26/1/11 Francis Eagle [Image 30]

³ TAHO, CON41/1/18 No. 884 Margaret McGoverin *Tory* (3) 1848; TAHO, CON31/1/1 p.191 William Eagle *Lady Franklin* 1844

⁴ TAHO, SWD26/1/1 p. 9 Francis Eagle [Image 32-34]; SWD26/1/11 [Image 28]

⁵ TAHO, HSD247/1/1 Admission Register 1874 No. 828; TAHO, HSD284/1/1208 Patient Files Francis Eagle

⁶ TAHO, AB365/1/3 Patient Case Book Folio 32 Francis Eagle

⁷ *ibid.*

⁸ *ibid.*

⁹ TAHO, AB365/1/3 Patient Case Book Folio 246 Francis Eagle

¹⁰ TAHO, AB365/1/6 Patient Case Book Folio 41 Francis Eagle

¹¹ TAHO, HSD284/1/1/208 Francis Eagle; TC James, medical practitioner, file note 1936 'Mental Hospital New Norfolk Morgue Card (both courtesy of Joyce Purtscher)

ten years in the New Norfolk Asylum.¹² Elizabeth was admitted to the Queen's Orphan School in 1850, aged 5½.¹³ Nearly 13 years later, in June 1863, Elizabeth was admitted to the New Norfolk Asylum, having been examined by Dr SMART who certified she was 'a person of unsound mind'. He added that she was an 'imbecile to a degree little short of idiocy'. Elizabeth, he stated, had been reported 'insane' by the Matron of the Queen's Orphan School 'and others under whose charge she had been for some years past'. A statement attached to her admission documents noted that Elizabeth had had the condition 'ever since admission into [the Queen's] Asylum'.¹⁴

On admission to the New Norfolk Asylum, Elizabeth's diagnosis was *amentia*, 'supposed congenital'. She was in good physical health but had strabismus (turned eyes).¹⁵ Days after she was admitted, Elizabeth was described as

a very imbecilic looking girl of imperfect phrenological development ... answers most questions rationally enough and knows what she is about, works about the wards, dirty in her habits, passes her urine in her bed, but appears coherent when spoken to about it. Bodily health good.¹⁶

Like many patients in the Asylum, Elizabeth's condition remained the same

month after month. In March 1866, she was reported as 'delicate'. By February 1867, Elizabeth was diagnosed with pulmonary disease and her behaviour deteriorated: she was 'silly', 'disobedient & refractory'.¹⁷ After nearly thirteen years in the Queen's Asylum and almost ten years in the New Norfolk Asylum, Elizabeth, a pauper aged 28, died of *congestion of the lungs* on 18 February 1873.¹⁸

Like Elizabeth McLoughlin, Henry FARDELL had outgrown the Queen's Asylum and, most likely, was not a suitable candidate for apprenticeship. He had been there since 1863, when he was 11. Henry was the illegitimate son of John SMITH alias Francis Fardell and Grace RICE formerly THOMPSON, also known as Ann Rice. The death of Henry's father, John, in 1863 triggered the application for admission to the Queen's Asylum.¹⁹ Interestingly, John's will left one third of his estate to his housekeeper, one third to his son Henry, and one third to his daughter Frances.²⁰ (Ironically, despite the bequest, Henry died a pauper). At the time of the application for admission to the Orphan School, Henry's mother was believed to be 'leading a very irregular life' and had four or five young children: 'She refuses to take her child [Henry].'²¹

In April 1870, after seven years in the Queen's Asylum, Henry was transferred to the Brickfields Invalid Depot and from there was admitted to the New Norfolk

¹² TAHO, CON40/1/6 p. 292 Rosanna McLachlan *Gilbert Henderson* 1850 No. 204

¹³ TAHO, SWD6/1/1 p. 3 Register of Children Admitted and Discharged from the Infant School; SWD28/1/1 Register of Girls p. 37 Elizabeth McLoughlin

¹⁴ TAHO, HSD285/1/1824 Admission Papers Elizabeth McLoughlin

¹⁵ TAHO, HSD247/1/1 Admission Register 1863 No. 381 Elizabeth McLoughlin

¹⁶ TAHO, HSD52/1/2 Folio 16 Elizabeth McLoughlin

¹⁷ TAHO, HSD52/1/2 Folio 173 Elizabeth McLoughlin

¹⁸ TAHO, RGD35/1/42 District of New Norfolk 1873/338 Elizabeth McLachlan.

¹⁹ TAHO, RGD35/1/6 District of Hobart 1863/3853 Francis Fardell

²⁰ TAHO, SWD26/1/6 Application for Admission Henry and Frances Fardell [Image 311–312]

²¹ TAHO, SWD26/1/6 Henry and Frances Fardell [Image 297]

Asylum on 27 May 1873 as an 'Orphan School Boy' aged 21. His condition was described as 'congenital imbecilitas'.²² He was examined by Dr BRIGHT who found him to be 'a person of unsound mind'.²³ The Medical Certificate supplied as part of the admission process had three options to describe the condition of the person being admitted: a lunatic; an idiot; or a person of unsound mind. Henry was recorded as 'an idiot'. The certificate also noted that he 'runs and shouts about the hospital grounds with flowers and feathers in his cap. He fills his pockets with pieces of stone, coal or rag or anything that he can pick up'.²⁴ He was said to be 'very dirty in his habits'. He was also 'very destructive, tearing up his clothes and bedding' and was 'mischievous and spiteful ... one day he tried to throw a pewter utensil at the head of the messenger of the Hospital'.²⁵ The Chief Constable at New Town provided a statement which confirmed that Henry had been an inmate of the Invalid Depot after leaving the Orphan School. He was violent at times and his condition was lifelong. His nearest relative was his younger sister, Frances, who was at the Queen's Asylum.²⁶

Not long after his admission to the New Norfolk Asylum, Henry was described as an idiotic looking lad of inferior phrenological development said to have been of weak mind since his infancy. Was

brought up in the Queen's Orphan Asylum, is mischievous, restless at times and of a sulky disposition. Will occasionally answer questions in a tolerably coherent manner, at other times will not answer.²⁷

Henry was placed with the boys on his admission but he destroyed their toys and was violent and spiteful towards them. He was removed to 'the back yard'. Although he slept and ate well, he required watching and was believed to be guilty of 'unnatural practices'. He was detected with a man 'under suspicious circumstances'.²⁸ Throughout his first year, he was refractory, destructive, used obscene language and had filthy habits.²⁹ In November it was noted he had occasional epileptic fits.³⁰ By mid-1876, he was throwing up blood and coughing, and was very thin. He had tuberculosis.³¹ Henry, aged 24, died of *disease of the lungs* at the New Norfolk Asylum on 24 September 1876.³² He was buried two days later in the Pauper Section of Cornelian Bay Cemetery in Hobart.³³

George NIGHT was another young boy who spent nearly a decade in the Orphan School before being admitted to the New Norfolk Asylum. Little is known about George's background: his records have a bare minimum of information. He was admitted to the Orphan School in 1856 when he was 9 and was discharged in

²² TAHO, SWD26/1/6 Henry Fardell [Image 296]; TAHO, HSD247/1/1 Admission Register No. 779 Henry Fardell
²³ TAHO, HSD285/1/806 Admission Papers Henry Fardell [Image 2]
²⁴ TAHO, HSD285/1/806 Admission Papers Henry Fardell [Image 5]
²⁵ TAHO, HSD285/1/806 Admission Papers Henry Fardell [Image 6]
²⁶ TAHO, HSD285/1/806 Admission Papers Henry Fardell [Image 3]

²⁷ TAHO, HSD51/1/7 Patient Case Book Folio 315 Henry Fardell
²⁸ Ibid.
²⁹ Ibid.
³⁰ Ibid.
³¹ TAHO, AB365/1/2 Patient Case Book Folio 113 Henry Fardell
³² TAHO, RGD35/1/45 District of New Norfolk 1876/467 Henry Fardell.
³³ TAHO, Cornelian Bay Register of Burials AF35/1/1 (BU1261) p.41; AF70/1/3 (BU1261) Pauper Section A No. 168 Henry Fardell

February 1865 when he was apprenticed.³⁴

On 22 October 1868, George Night was admitted to the New Norfolk Asylum following a medical examination which concluded he was of unsound mind.³⁵ At the time he was an Orphan School apprentice, aged 19, living in Hobart Town. According to the admission document, George was at times very violent. His intellect was said to be 'very impaired' and he constantly mumbled to himself and had lost his memory. He was occasionally very violent, endangering the lives of those around him if thwarted: 'He has been watched carefully for more than four months & no change has taken place'. The wardsmen stated that George was 'violent & unmanageable' and Dr COVERDALE from the Orphan School, who had known George for years, considered George to be 'totally incapable of taking care of himself refusing to work, lazing about destitute of food or clothing'.³⁶ On admission to the New Norfolk Asylum, his condition was recorded as *amentia*, cause unknown. It was also noted he had weak eyes and was deaf.³⁷ When he was admitted, George was described as 'a stout built young man of dogged and imbecilic appearance'.³⁸ He was well-behaved occasionally lapsing into violence, threatening the attendant and kicking the doctor. By October 1869, his behaviour was much improved, he

was working well and appeared 'quite convalescent'. He was rational but weak-minded, and able to care for himself, and so was discharged later that year.³⁹

George was readmitted as George KNIGHT, aged 30, in July 1877 from Launceston Gaol. His case book noted that he had previously been a patient from October 1868 to October 1869. The Governor of Launceston Gaol reported that George was violent at times, did not sleep at night and was always talking and fighting at an imaginary person. He was put to work in the wood yard.⁴⁰ By July 1881, he had paralysis, which was getting worse. His condition deteriorated and he became increasingly feeble.⁴¹ Aged 44, he died of 'chronic disease of the brain' in the New Norfolk Asylum in October 1891.⁴²

John TURNBULL, an orphan school boy, was admitted to the Queen's Orphan School in January 1858 when he was 10. He was described in the Admission Register as an orphan and 'idiotic'.⁴³ He was also recorded as 'deaf, dumb, deformed'.⁴⁴

John, aged 16, was admitted to the New Norfolk Asylum from the Queen's Orphan School on in February 1863 with

³⁴ TAHO, SWD28/1/1 Register of Boys p. 36; SWD32/1/1 N p. 1 Register of Children Apprenticed from the Asylum

³⁵ TAHO, HSD285/1/2132 George Night [Images 1–6]

³⁶ TAHO, HSD285/1/2132 George Night [image 6]

³⁷ TAHO, HSD247/1/1 Admission Register No. 591 George Night

³⁸ TAHO, HSD51/1/7 Patient Case Book Folio 69 George Night

³⁹ TAHO, HSD51/1/7 Patient Case Book Folio 69 George Night

⁴⁰ TAHO, HSD247/1/1 No. 977 George Knight; TAHO, AB365/1/2 Patient Case book Folio 185 George Knight

⁴¹ TAHO, AB365/1/2 Patient Case Book Folio 185 George Knight; AB365/1/6 Patient Case book Folio 148 George Knight; AB365/1/ Patient Case Book Folio 122 George Knight

⁴² TAHO, RGD35/1/60 District of New Norfolk 1891/572 George Knight

⁴³ TAHO, SWD28/1/1 Register of Boys p. 37

⁴⁴ Friends of the Orphan Schools database: TAHO, CSD1/122/4439, CSD1/97/2747

‘dementia’, supposed to be congenital.⁴⁵ John was described as ‘an idiotic looking boy, florid complexion with an immense smile on his countenance’. His face was fat but not his body. He had ‘barely sufficient reason for the most ordinary purposes’.⁴⁶ John’s condition changed little: he was ‘a quiet well behaved boy’ and by February 1870 was becoming too big to be with the other boys. In 1871, his file noted that he was ‘grown into a man but always an idiot’.⁴⁷ He started to cough blood but otherwise his condition continued unchanged, although he was becoming spiteful to the other boys.⁴⁸ A pauper aged 42, John died of *phthisis* in the New Norfolk Asylum on 11 July 1889.⁴⁹

In December 1863, Catherine WARRENER, ‘a widow in very poor circumstances’ and ‘a very respectful and well conducted person’; successfully applied for the admission of three of her children to the Queen’s Asylum. Her daughter, Ellen, was 9 and remained in the institution until she was apprenticed in December 1867. Her indentures were cancelled and she was sent to the New Norfolk Asylum suffering *epilepsy*.⁵⁰

On 3 July 1872, when she was 17, Ellen was admitted to the New Norfolk Asylum diagnosed with *amentia*.⁵¹ Ellen, a pauper aged 30, died from *epilepsy* on 8 July 1885 at New Norfolk Asylum.⁵² An inquest, held into her death, noted that Ellen for many years before her death ‘did labor and languish under a grievous disease of body, to wit, Epilepsy’ but that she died as the result of a visitation of God in a natural way.⁵³

Maria HOUGH, aged 15, was admitted from the Queen’s Asylum on the same day as Ellen Warrener, also suffering from *amentia*.⁵⁴ Maria was born in 1858 at Blackmarsh to former convicts John Hough and Bridget ‘GARRETTY’.⁵⁵ In 1864, John Hough from Kempton successfully applied for the admission of his two children, Maria aged 6½, and William, nearly 9, to the Queen’s Asylum. Bridget had left Green Ponds (Kempton) with a man and was ‘supposed to be in Hobart Town’.⁵⁶ John was 62 and physically incapable of caring for his four children.⁵⁷

On 28 April 1870, Maria was apprenticed to Henry J WOOD at Melton Mowbray but absconded on 15 May 1870. She was described as 13 years old and wearing Queen’s Asylum clothing. She headed

⁴⁵ TAHO, HSD247/1/1 Admission Register (1863) No. 371 John Turnbull
⁴⁶ TAHO, HSD51/6 Patient Case Book Folio 131 John Turnbull
⁴⁷ TAHO, HSD51/6 Patient Case Book Folio 131 John Turnbull.
⁴⁸ TAHO, HSD51/6 Patient Case Book Folio 131 John Turnbull; TAHO, AB365/1/2 Folio 139 John Turnbull; TAHO, AB365/1/4 Folio 177 John Turnbull
⁴⁹ TAHO, RGD35/1/58 District of New Norfolk 1889/1034 John Turnbull
⁵⁰ TAHO, SWD26/1/6 p. 924 Warrener [Images 680–681]; TAHO, SWD32/1/1 W p. 7 Register of Children Apprenticed from the Asylum

⁵¹ TAHO, HSD247/1/1 Admission Register (1872) No.747 Ellen Warrener
⁵² TAHO, RGD35/1/54 District of New Norfolk 1885/929 Ellen Warrener
⁵³ TAHO, POL709/1/20 p. 111 (1885); SC195/164 Inquest 8976
⁵⁴ TAHO, HSD247/1/1 Admission Register (1872) No. 748 Maria Hough
⁵⁵ TAHO, RGD33/1/36 District of Bothwell 1858/8 Maria Hough; TAHO CON31/1/10 No. .944 John Hough *Lady Harewood* 1829; TAHO, CON41/1/12 No. 428 Bridget Geraghty *Arabian* 1847
⁵⁶ TAHO, SWD26/1/7 [Image 393–396]
⁵⁷ TAHO, SWD26/1/7 [Image 395]

towards Hobart but was found and returned to the Queen's Asylum on 27 May 1870.⁵⁸ On 2 June 1870, Maria was again apprenticed, this time to Mrs LANGDON at Hamilton.⁵⁹ Her apprenticeship was due to expire on 2 April 1875.⁶⁰

There are gaps in Maria Hough's story, which require further investigation. In October 1871, Dr Coverdale, Master of the Queen's Asylum, reported that Maria had stated to the Guardians that

her misconduct arose from her master having on several occasions taken improper liberties with her, & as her readmission into the Institution, under the circumstances, is altogether objectionable, I beg, at the instance of the Guardians, to report the case for further enquiry.⁶¹

Maria was tried for an unspecified offence and the magistrates cancelled her indentures, leaving no option but to bring her back to the Queen's Asylum.⁶²

What happened during Maria's second apprenticeship is not clear. However, in July 1872, nine months after being readmitted to the Queen's Asylum, Maria was admitted to the New Norfolk Asylum being 'of unsound mind'.⁶³ She was 15 years old. At the time of her medical examination by Dr BENSON, she was an

inmate of the Cascades Depot. The doctor observed that Maria was 'of a sullen & dogged disposition, will answer no questions put to her but on the contrary holds down her head & laughs at me & from my general observation she cannot be of sound mind'.⁶⁴ Cecilia PAUL, nurse and midwife, added:

Her manner is very violent. Attempting to throw young children in the fire or water. Talking to imaginary people. Using the most vile and filthy language. Filthy in her habits. Destroying bedding and wearing apparel. When spoken to, sometimes retorts in very bad language, at other times sullen. She never holds any rational converse, nor does she look anyone in the face when speaking.⁶⁵

Maria, aged 15 years and 2 months, was admitted by Justices' Order on 3 July 1872, suffering *amentia*.⁶⁶

Days after being admitted, it was noted:

A doubtful case. A girl of inferior phrenological development, stubborn disposition, strong and healthy in appearance, no incoherence, answers rationally, but at times is ill-behaved, resisting discipline. She is wilfully noisy at nights but getting a current of the magnetic battery yesterday, she promised to behave better and did so.

Later it was recorded that she was 'a case more fit for prison discipline than for this Institution'.

Can behave very well, and does so for days together, and then becomes vicious, has a wholesome fear of the battery.

Although she was refractory and vicious, she was not 'mad'.⁶⁷ In January 1873, she

⁵⁸ *Tasmania, Reports of Crime*, Vol. IX No. 566 20 May 1870 p. 84; Vol. IX No. 567 27 May 1870 p. 88

⁵⁹ TAHO, SWD32/1/1 H p. 3 Register of Children Apprenticed from the Asylum Maria Hough

⁶⁰ TAHO, SWD32/1/1 H p. 3 Register of Children Apprenticed from the Asylum Maria Hough

⁶¹ TAHO, SWD26/1/12 1871 Maria Hough [Image 262]

⁶² TAHO, SWD26/1/12 1871 Maria Hough [Images 263–264]

⁶³ TAHO, HSD285/1/1320 Maria Hough [Images 1–6]

⁶⁴ TAHO, HSD285/1/1320 Maria Hough [Image 5]

⁶⁵ TAHO, HSD285/1/1320 [Image 6]

⁶⁶ TAHO, HSD247/1/1 1872 No. 74 Maria Hough

was described by the doctor as ‘the most obstinate and vicious girl I have ever had to manage’.⁶⁸ Despite this assessment, Maria’s behaviour continued to improve: she was ‘behaving very well and makes herself useful and keeps herself neat and tidy’, although she had occasional lapses of temper.⁶⁹ In 1877, she was working at the Ladies Cottage as a servant, where she was said to be ‘very useful’.⁷⁰ In February 1880, it was recorded in the patient case book that

this girl has been apparently quite well for some time, has been very helpful as a servant at the Ladies Cottage and as a place has been obtained for her, I recommend her discharge on trial of seven days.⁷¹

She was discharged ‘recovered’ on 23 February 1880.⁷²

In Latrobe, on 19 April 1883, Maria Hough was charged with being idle and disorderly and was sentenced to three months’ imprisonment. She was 25, just over 5’ tall with dark brown hair. The bridge of her nose was prominent.⁷³ In May 1884, in Hobart, Maria Hough was tried for damaging property and was sentenced to three months’ imprisonment. At the same time, she was charged with

misconduct and received a 24-hour sentence. She was 26, 5’4” with black hair.⁷⁴ On 15 August 1885, in Hobart, Maria was sentenced to six months’ imprisonment for larceny. She was described as 28 and was 5’3” tall with black hair.⁷⁵

Maria married in Hobart on New Year’s Day 1890.⁷⁶ A servant, she died of *pleurisy* in the New Town Charitable Institution on 5 May 1908 and was buried as a pauper at Cornelian Bay Cemetery, aged 49.⁷⁷

In colonial Tasmania, those with intellectual disabilities and mental illness were referred to by a number of terms including ‘idiots’ and ‘imbeciles’. Those responsible for their care had only a minimal understanding of their needs and conditions: ‘Being considered hopeless, helpless and in need of protection, they were fated by definition to spend their entire lives within the asylum’.⁷⁸ ◀

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

⁶⁷ TAHO, AB365/1/1 Vol. 22 Patient Case

Book Folio 24 Maria Hough

⁶⁸ TAHO, AB365/1/1 Vol. 22 Patient Case

Book Folio 24 Maria Hough

⁶⁹ TAHO, AB365/1/1 Vol. 22 Patient Case

Book Folio 164 Maria Hough

⁷⁰ TAHO, AB365/1/1 Vol. 22 Patient Case

Book Folio 164 Maria Hough

⁷¹ TAHO, AB365/1/3 Vol. 23 Patient Case

Book Folio 141 Maria Hough

⁷² TAHO, HSD247/1/1 1872 No. 74 Maria

Hough

⁷³ *Tasmania, Reports of Crime* Vol. XXII

No. 1253 27 July 1883 p. 120 *List of prisoners discharged; Devon Herald* (Latrobe) 21 April 1883 p. 2

⁷⁴ *Tasmanian Police Gazette* Vol. XXIII
No. 1310 29 August 1884 p. 140 *List of prisoners discharged*

⁷⁵ *Tasmanian Police Gazette* Vol. XXV
No. 1385 5 February 1886 p. 24 *List of prisoners discharged*

⁷⁶ TAHO, RGD37/1/49 District of Hobart
1890/91 Maria Hough and Alfred
Seymour

⁷⁷ TAHO, CSD22/1/81; Cornelian Bay
Cemetery, Record No. 1B 16044 Pauper
Section B Maria Seymour

⁷⁸ Cocks, Fox, Brogan, Lee, *Under Blue Skies*, 1996, p. 48.

SEE THAT MY GRAVE IS KEPT GREEN!

Betty Pilgrim (Member 7744)

THERE was an outpouring of grief at gentle, innocent, Maria WALLEN's untimely demise. She succumbed, in April 1884, to the scourge of typhoid fever at the early age of 17 years.¹ Maria's symptoms had developed gradually: high fevers, headaches, muscle aches, sweating, dry cough, abdominal pain and diarrhoea. A few days before her death, the fever had abated, and it was thought that Maria had turned the corner for recovery.² But death was nigh! She lay motionless and exhausted with her eyes half-closed. The soft-eyed, golden-haired Maria who was an angel on earth was now an angel in heaven.³

It is not known, for certain, how Maria contracted this deadly infection. It was supposed that when her good friend, Kate O'REILLY, was afflicted, Maria was by her side until her death—just a few weeks before her own.⁴ Both lived in York Street and were esteemed members of the Launceston Dramatic Club. Typhoid fever was prevalent in Launceston, with thirteen cases being admitted to the hos-

pital during March 1884.⁵ The *Daily Telegraph* reported:⁶

It is sad to remember that two young girls who gave such sterling proof of exceptional musical and dramatic ability, and of such unblemished character throughout their brief lives ... should thus be cut off before either reached her prime.⁷

The *Launceston Examiner* featured a memoriam for both.

Maria was one of the original members of the Pollard Lilliputian Opera Company which was formed in Launceston in 1881. Both she and her brother, Fred, toured Tasmania and overseas with the Company.⁸ Another sister, Tilly, was a member but remained in Tasmania.⁹ All the Wallen children were talented musically and dramatically. Their parents went without for their children to be trained by a Professor of Music. They took in boarders to help cope with costs.

Maria was best known through her portrayal of 'Germaine' in the theatrical edition of *Les Cloches de Corneville*. At the Hobart Theatre Royal she took the part at a few hours' notice and won the

¹ Death Registration for Maria Wallen, died 18 April 1884, Launceston. Libraries Tasmania: RGD35/1/53 no. 167.

² 'Another Untimely Death', *Daily Telegraph*, 19 April 1884, p. 2

³ 'In Memoriam (By Sympathy)', *Daily Telegraph*, 21 April 1884, p. 2

⁴ Death Registration for Catherine Theresa O'Reilly, died 23 March 1884, aged 20, Launceston. Libraries Tasmania: RGD35/1/53 no 135.

⁵ 'Medical Report', *The Tasmanian*, 5 April 1884, p. 20

⁶ 'In Memoriam (By Sympathy)', Monday 21 April 1884, p. 2

⁷ 'In Memory of Kate O'Reilly and Maria Wallen', Tuesday, 22 April 1884, p. 3

⁸ Frederick John Wallen, born 21 December 1869, Launceston (RGD33/1/48 no. 2538); died 18 March 1937, Scottsdale, Tasmania (*Examiner*, 20 March 1937)

⁹ Frances Matilda Wallen, born 22 May 1868, Launceston (RGD33/1/46 no. 230); died 29 March 1947, North Carlton, Victoria (Victoria Births, Deaths, Marriages 1947/3437)

‘very hearty and well-deserved applause of the audience’.¹⁰ In the same production, Maria was praised for her excellent dancing in the ballet;¹¹ she was described as a ‘strikingly pretty girl ... as light as a feather, seeming hardly to touch the ground’.¹² Maria played the main parts in HMS *Pinafore*.¹³ She was repeatedly called before the curtain and received flattering notices from the press.¹⁴

The funeral for the lamented, talented Maria, left her parents’ residence followed by a very large assemblage of friends, sympathisers, members of the Launceston Dramatic Club and the Volunteer Rifle Dramatic Club. The Rev. Canon BROWN-RIGG read the burial service in a very feeling manner.¹⁵ There was not a dry eye to be seen. Each one regretted that neither her bright, intelligent face nor her sweet voice would ever be enjoyed again. The pall-bearers, members of the Dramatic Club, carried the coffin to its last resting place. Flowers were deftly turned into wreaths by kind and affectionate hands. Regrettably, Fred was not able to be with his family in their time of enormous sorrow as he was appearing with the Pollard Company overseas.

The members of the Launceston Dramatic club tendered a benefit to Maria’s parents.¹⁶ As a tribute to her late sister, Tilly took the leading part and it was noted that she ‘had evidently studied her part

with considerable care, which evinced itself in her acting’.¹⁷ Mr Wallen wrote to the *Daily Telegraph* expressing his disappointment at the £20 being passed to him in view of £52 taken.¹⁸ There had been liberal assistance given by the numerous sympathisers and Mr Wallen felt they had been cheated. The club was known to be in debt and Mr Wallen believed much of the public sympathy was diverted into their own funds on clearing their debts. A member of the club suggested the £20 be returned and instead a monument be erected over Maria’s grave. A headstone was never erected.¹⁹

A parody published in a Launceston newspaper soon after the respected performer was buried called for her grave to be kept green.²⁰ This was the last song Maria sang in public.²¹ At least 70 years later, Maria’s wish was granted as the old Launceston cemetery known as the Launceston burial ground, in Cypress Street, was licensed to Broadland House School for conversion and use as a park for the school children.²² It is currently the school sport’s ground and garden attendants at the school do their best to keep it green. ◀

¹⁰ Hobart *Mercury*, 1 December 1881, p. 2

¹¹ New Zealand *Observer*, Volume 2, Issue 48, 13 August 1881

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ *New Zealand Herald*, Volume XVIII, Issue 6168, 24 August 1881

¹⁴ New Zealand *Observer*, Volume II, Issue 44, 16 July 1881

¹⁵ ‘Funeral of Miss Maria Wallen’, *Daily Telegraph*, 21 April 1884, p. 2

¹⁶ *The Tasmanian*, Saturday, 26 July 1884, p. 15

¹⁷ *Daily Telegraph*, Tuesday 19 August 1884, p. 2 and *Launceston Examiner*, Tuesday, 19 August 1884, p. 3

¹⁸ ‘Letter to the Editor’, *Daily Telegraph*, Wednesday 10 September 1884, p. 3

¹⁹ Section D, plot 30, Cypress Cemetery – email Cassidy to Pilgrim, 17 August 2018

²⁰ ‘In Memoriam – Maria Wallen – To the Editor’, *Daily Telegraph*, Tuesday, 29 April 1884, p. 3

²¹ ‘See that my grave is kept green’ from the *Octoroon*

²² ‘Cemeteries & Churches & Things: Anglican cemetery, Cypress St, Launceston. <http://monissa.com/ccphotos/anglican-cemetery-cypress-st-launceston/> Viewed on 16 August 2018

WHY TASMANIAN RECORDS ENDED UP IN THE MITCHELL LIBRARY

Maree Ring (Member 552)

I recently heard that this year the State Library of New South Wales will be undertaking a program of digitisation of many Tasmanian records. Following is a link to a list of the documents which are scheduled to be included in this digitisation program.

<http://archival.sl.nsw.gov.au/Details/archive/110328397>

The records which will be covered are what are called the 'Tasmanian Papers' and comprise papers which are held by the Mitchell Library and in the 'Dickenson Collection'.

During the 1960s? (I'm unsure of date, but Peter ELDERSHAW died 1967) these records were available on micro-film, but the quality of some are much inferior to the filming currently available now. As these documents have not been digitised before, it will be great to have (hopefully online) for accessible on our computers, instead of having to go to the Mitchell Library in Sydney, or for Tasmanians to the Libraries Tasmania in Hobart or Launceston to view the films.

Why did these Tasmanian records end up in Mitchell Library?

The following comes from a paper presented by Peter BISKUP at the 7th Biennial Conference of The Australian Society of Archivists, Inc., Hobart, 2-6 June 1989.

He stated:

... the Government of Tasmania had on many occasions, of which we are aware, sold or ordered for destruction documents now regarded as being valuable, the

Crown had no redress when these or other documents were offered for sale ... the difficulty is to establish ownership.

Biskup further suggested

Disregard for official records has been a part of Tasmania's way of life for most of the island's history. Much material had simply vanished, destroyed by fire, vermin, mould or human hand. In this, Tasmania was not greatly different from the mainland where official documents had frequently suffered similar fates.

In much the same way, everyone accrues possessions then needs to periodically clear the clutter, and possibly because of a lack of storage space, periodic clean-ups of accumulated material were ordered by various governments. In 1888, imperial records from the Ordinance Stores and the New Wharf filled fifty sacks which were then sunk mid-harbour in the River Derwent. This clean up of records included the Library of Port Arthur with its 4,000 *New Testaments* and 700 *Bibles*. (Fortunately an example of each of these can be found in the museum of St Davids Cathedral and possibly in private hands). In 1889 it was the turn of the Colonial Stores and then in 1918, the Franklin Square vaults, when 'nothing has been destroyed without reference to the Chief Clerk'.

In 1889 WHETTON, Chief Clerk, wrote to Premier FYSH:

Anything that I may write must fail to convey to your mind a true picture of the immense volume and bewildering confusion of the correspondence and documents to be dealt with ... So far, most of

the letters have had relation to the old convict days, amongst which, one comes across scores of familiar names, and it may strike you as most undesirable that all this correspondence should have been lying here for anyone to read ... There are numbers of pardons written on parchments, which I should like you to see and decide what is to be done with them.

With the job completed, in June 1890, Fysh arranged for the sinking of the unwanted material in the Derwent, but not before he had sent a brief note to the Hobart historian and book collector, the solicitor, J Backhouse WALKER, mentioning the condemned documents. He told Walker,

It struck me that you might like to look through them before they are destroyed, and if you thought them of any value you would perhaps advise as to their future custody and disposal.

Official files are silent as to the fate of the 'unwanted' material and BISKUP mentions that some ... ended up 'in the possession of certain persons in Hobart' possibly including Walker himself; J E CALDER; solicitor Cecil ALLPORT, photographer, J W BEATTIE and others.

After his death in 1899, Walker's superb library, which contained convict and documents of official provenance, was sold to Angus and Robertson in Sydney. One of their most famous customers, until his death in 1907, was David Scott MITCHELL. After Mitchell's death, his mantle fell on William DIXSON (who was later knighted), another wealthy Sydneyite, whose library supplemented and rounded off the holdings of the Mitchell Library. Dixson left his collection by bequest and today it is known by that name.

In Tasmania, prior to 1949, very little systematic work had been done on the preservation of official records and by

default the vaults of the Chief Secretary's Department, became a kind of ungazetted State Archives. Robert C SHARMAN began work as Archives Officer in November of 1949. In 1951 when he took up full time duties, he arranged for Peter Eldershaw to be appointed as a temporary staff member. It has been the work these two men which provided a sound foundation for the Archives Office of Tasmania, which includes the preservation, and in some cases, the return of the records, albeit in microfilm of the Convict Department.

These are the records mentioned in <http://archival.sl.nsw.gov.au/Details/archive/110328397>

Official records relating to the government and administration of Tasmania. The records relate to both free citizens and convicts and include material as diverse as jury lists, correspondence, supreme court records, police records, convict indents, convict returns and convict assignment lists, musters, land grants, financial records, Commissariat records, executive council minutes, stock and produce returns, magisterial records, marriage records, plans etc. Also included are records relating to NSW and Norfolk Island.

- SERIES 01 (TAS PAPERS 1–3)
Tasmania. Richmond and Brighton Police records, 1832–1837, with Solicitor General copies of letters sent, 1830–1832
- SERIES 02 (TAS PAPERS 4–15)
Tasmania. Convict Department: indents, assignment lists, appropriation lists and distribution papers of male and female convict ships, 1823–1841
- SERIES 03 (TAS PAPERS 16–20)
Tasmania. Public Works, Convict and Police Departments, Commissariat and Lieutenant Governor's Court records, 1816–1876

SERIES 04 (TAS PAPERS 21–30)
Tasmania. Convict Department: indents, assignment lists, appropriation lists and distribution papers of male and female convict ships, 1825–1841

SERIES 05 (TAS PAPERS 31–39)
Tasmania. Convicts colonially convicted from New South Wales and other British colonies, 1842–1849, with Police Magistrate's papers, convict returns and other papers, 1817–1891

SERIES 06 (TAS PAPERS 40–52)
Tasmania. Comptroller General correspondence, 1849–1856, Morven and Hobart Police Office papers, 1822–1867, and miscellaneous papers, 1814–1890

SERIES 07 (TAS PAPERS 53–55)
Tasmania. Convicts from the UK and colonies, 1845–1853, with orders relating to the administration of prisoners and other papers, 1823–1870

SERIES 08 (TAS PAPERS 56–65)
Tasmania. Comptroller General letters received, 1843–1858, and other papers, 1841–1870

SERIES 09 (TAS PAPERS 66–94)
Tasmania. Convict Department letters received, 1845–1849, with other papers chiefly relating to Norfolk Island, 1845–1846

SERIES 10 (TAS PAPERS 95–108)
Tasmania. Convict Department: letters received, 1849–1855, with regulations, orders and reports relating to administration of convicts, 1848–ca. 1857

SERIES 11 (TAS PAPERS 109–119)
Tasmania. Convict Department: letters received 1851–1866, probation books 1850–1853, and other papers, 1842–1859

SERIES 12 (TAS PAPERS 120–127)
Tasmania. Comptroller General letters received, 1852–1879; miscellaneous correspondence 1855–1870, and other papers 1856–1861

SERIES 13 (TAS PAPERS 128–141)
Warrants, returns and other convict

records relating to Port Arthur, Point Puer, Cascades, Slopem Island and other stations, 1833–1866; and other papers, 1825–1893

SERIES 14 (TAS PAPERS 142–150)
Tasmanian convict records ca. 1813–1876, with correspondence and other papers of Lieutenant Governor's Court, Colonial Secretary, Chief Police Magistrate and other offices, ca. 1819–1872

SERIES 15 (TAS PAPERS 151–160)
Tasmania. Governor's Office: despatches received, 1830–1865; with probation station plans and other records, ca. 1811–1890

SERIES 16 (TAS PAPERS 161–174)
Great Britain. Colonial Office despatches to the Governor, Van Diemens Land, 1825–1865

SERIES 17 (TAS PAPERS 175–183)
Tasmania. Jury lists, 1835–1858, Lieutenant Governor's Court and Supreme Court records, 1815–1840, and Sheriff's letterbook, 1841–1853

SERIES 18 (TAS PAPERS 184–197)
Tasmania. Pontville Gaol records, ca. 1843–1898, Hobart and Launceston criminal record book, 1836–1841, probation record book, 1843, and miscellaneous papers relating to convicts and land grants, ca. 1835–1890

SERIES 19 (TAS PAPERS 198–225)
Tasmania. Convict Department records, 1814–1874, court records 1836–1852, and New South Wales convict returns, 1848

SERIES 20 (TAS PAPERS 226–233)
Tasmania. Financial and miscellaneous records, 1828–1875, with Police Department records, 1834

SERIES 21 (TAS PAPERS 234–245)
Tasmania. Police Department records, 1820–1865, Commissariat regulations and forms, 1844, and records of Committee of Officers for Reviewing Convict Expenditure, 1844–1852

SERIES 22 (TAS PAPERS 246–252)
Tasmanian Government administration letters and other documents, ca. 1820–1854, Executive Council minutes, 1847–1851, and Government farm stock and produce returns, 1864

SERIES 23 (TAS PAPERS 253–258)
Tasmania. Campbell Town Police records, 1831–1838, and Convict Department prisoner lists, 1832–1854

SERIES 24 (TAS PAPERS 259–264)
Tasmania. Circular Head, George Town and Hamilton police records, 1834–1851

SERIES 25 (TAS PAPERS 265–272)
Tasmania. Hobart Magistrates Court and Police Court records, 1819–1847

SERIES 26 (TAS PAPERS 273–281)
Tasmania. Launceston Magistrates Court and Police Court records, 1832–1838; with records of Superintendent of Convicts and Deputy Assistant Commissary, Launceston, 1831–1863

SERIES 27 (TAS PAPERS 282–292)
Tasmania. Macquarie Harbour convict settlement records, 1825–1829 and 1852, and Launceston, New Norfolk and Oatlands police and court records, ca. 1832–1870

SERIES 28 (TAS PAPERS 293–321)
Tasmania. Port Arthur convict establishment: records, 1821–1877

SERIES 29 (TAS PAPERS 322–342)
Tasmanian convict, police and court records for various districts, 1828–1852, with Van Diemens Land Company livestock returns from Woolnorth Estate, 1832–1852

SERIES 30 (TAS PAPERS D 1–D 13)
Tasmania. Convict Department: assignment lists, 1821–1854, with Port Arthur convict returns, 1872, and police returns, 1850–1851

SERIES 31 (TAS PAPERS D 14–D 26)
Port Arthur Police Court and prison records, 1839–1875, Launceston

Commissariat ration register, 1840–1843, and Crown Solicitor's records, undated

Material relating to the Tasman Peninsula including Port Arthur partially indexed by Port Arthur Historic Site Management Authority (PAHSMA) from copies of microfilms.

GENERAL NOTE

A Guide to this collection is available in the Mitchell Library Reading Room.

For List of prisoners, Convict Department, Campbelltown, Tasmania, 1832–1837, see: Tas. Papers 256 (CY 1160, frames 1–251)

For List of prisoners, Convict Department, Campbelltown, Tasmania, 1841, see: Tas. Papers 256 (CY 1160, frames 252–341)

For List of prisoners, Convict Department, Campbelltown, Tasmania, 1843–1854, see: Tas. Papers 256 (CY 1160, frames 342–607)

For Police Office letter book, Richmond, Tasmania, 1828–1841, see: Tas. Papers 322 (CY 11, frames 1–126), Tas. Papers 323 (CY 11, frames 127–369) Tas. Papers 324 (CY 11, frames 370–539)

For Court record, 1833, Richmond, Tasmania, see: Tas. Papers 325 (CY 11, frames 540–697 and CY 151, frames 1–74)

For Court register, Richmond, Tasmania, 1838–1839, see: Tas. Papers 326 (CY 151, frames 75–362)

For Quarter Sessions, Richmond, Tasmania, 1842–1851, see: Tas. Papers 327 (CY 151, frames 363–447)

For Return of Prisoners, Richmond, Tasmania, 1834, see: Tas. Papers 328 (CY 151, frames 448–623)

For Return of Prisoners, Richmond, Tasmania, 1840–1850, see: Tas. Papers 329 (CY 151, frames 624–832)

For Police Office Gaol journal, Richmond, Tasmania, 1837–1851, see: Tas. Papers 330 (CY 155, frames 1–256)

For plans of Tasmanian convict probation stations, see: Tas. Papers 156 (CY 1900, frames 4–10) and Tas. Papers 193 (CY 4113, frames 34–50).

For Nominal list of convicts on board the *Norfolk* on voyage from Sheerness to Van Diemen's Land, 1835; Norfolk Island convict returns, 1846–1853; Tasmania convict returns, 1845–1870, see: Tas. Papers 197 (CY 1952, frames 1–185)

For New Norfolk Lower Courts record, 8 June 1835–27 Dec. 1836, see: Tas. Papers 237 (CY 4987, frames 1–285)

For Tasmania Police Court Record minutes, 12 March 1839–18 April 1840, see: Tas. Papers 238 (CY 4968, frames 1–212)

See separate record for detailed contents list of the volumes which were bequeathed by D S Mitchell: Tas. Papers Nos 16, 21–30, 129–141, 161–174, 198, 209–211, 221, 229, 233, 247–251, 294–302, 305–308, 310–314, 316, 318–321, 332, D 2–D 13, D 23. ◀

See also *Some Lesser Known Tasmanian Convict, Court and Police Records at the Mitchell Library*, Sydney by Malcolm Ward, *Tasmanian Ancestry*, Volume 37 Number 3, December 2016 [Ed.]

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A THIRKELL BY ANOTHER NAME

Part 6: DNA

Richie Woolley (Member 144)

AS it's been more than two years since I wrote the fifth instalment of this story, a brief review of the fundamental details would seem to be in order.¹

Before I started my genealogical research, my grandmother told me her great-grandmother was Elizabeth THIRKELL. However, I subsequently found that every official record, including her baptism in 1836,² listed Elizabeth's maiden name as SOUTHERNWOOD (or a variation of that name).

The first suggestion that Elizabeth's background was not as straightforward as it seemed was included in the will of her nominal father, Francis Southernwood, who described Elizabeth as his step-daughter.³

A second key document recorded the 1844 transfer of a small block of land in the township of Perth by Robert Thirkell, owner of the *Darlington Park* estate, to Elizabeth, whom he carefully described as the 'infant Daughter of Catherine SUTHERWOOD, the Wife of Francis Sutherwood'.⁴ Robert did not seek any payment for the land, with the transaction being made in consideration of the 'regard and affection which the said

Robert Thirkell hath and beareth unto the said Elizabeth Sutherwood'.

Taking all the evidence into account, I concluded that it was highly probable that Robert Thirkell was Elizabeth's actual father, despite the fact that she was born more than two-and-a-half years after the marriage of her nominal parents, Francis Southernwood and Catherine MACK.⁵

I have always been troubled, however, by the 'probable' in that statement. Robert didn't categorically state that Elizabeth was his daughter. Even if he had made such a claim, could he have known for sure that he was her father? It's not hard to imagine a scenario whereby even Catherine may not have been certain of Elizabeth's paternity. While there might have been many reasons why Robert didn't give the land at Perth to Elizabeth until she was eight years old, one possibility might be that he was waiting to see who she looked like before he made the transfer!

I have long been aware of a possible way to clarify matters. Robert married Elizabeth Jane SCHUTTE some three-and-a-half months after Elizabeth Southernwood was conceived,⁶ and subsequently had several legitimate children.⁷ If Robert was indeed my ancestor, then I should, in theory, share DNA with the descendants of those children.

¹ The five previous articles were published in *Tasmanian Ancestry*, Vol. 31, No. 3, December 2010; Vol. 31, No. 4, March 2011; Vol. 32, No. 1, June 2011; Vol 32, No. 2, September 2011; Vol. 37, No. 3, December 2016

² Tasmanian Baptism No. 7150, 1836

³ Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office, AD 960/1/9, Will No. 1371, p. 84

⁴ Land Titles Office, Deed No. 6/1892

⁵ Tasmanian Marriage No. 2363, 1833

⁶ Tasmanian Marriage No. 3366, 1836

⁷ Launceston District Births, No. 7844, 1837; No. 287, 1839; No. 2911, 1846; Campbell Town District, Birth No. 139, 1854; Longford District Births, No. 100, 1856; No. 1387, 1859

Could DNA testing, then, finally resolve the question of Elizabeth's paternity? Perhaps, but there were potential problems. Assuming that Robert is indeed my direct ancestor, then he is but one of my 64 great-great-great-great-grandparents, so I will have inherited very little of his DNA. Naturally, the same would apply to his other living descendants, so the chances are relatively low that any two of us would share an identical sequence of DNA.

Another obvious issue is that if none of Robert's other descendants have been tested, there would be no chance of finding a match! Beyond this, a genetic match by itself is of very limited use unless both parties know their family tree, for otherwise it is impossible to identify the source of the common DNA.

On a more positive note, I knew of one way to improve the chances of finding a relevant match: have my father take the test instead of me. Because he is a generation closer to Robert Thirkell, he should have approximately twice as much of Robert's DNA as I do, with the likelihood of discovering a genetic match increased accordingly.

I also knew that even if such a test failed to discover any direct links between my father and the descendants of Robert's legitimate children, it might bring contact with other descendants of Elizabeth Southernwood who had indeed been found to have such a connection. Elizabeth and her husband William ADAMS had a large family,⁸ and they have many hundreds, perhaps even thousands, of living descendants, so there is a wide field of possible candidates.

So, what has testing revealed? Well, the results have surpassed my expectations!

My father (a great-grandson of Mary Ann Adams, 1857–1926) and a great-grandson of William Henry Adams (1860–1937) have been shown to share DNA with two descendants of Robert's legitimate daughter Jane Elizabeth Thirkell (1846–1939): one descended from her daughter Marion Constance WILSON (1875–1932), and the other from her son Gordon Erskine Wilson (1884–1969). Uploading dad's DNA to GEDmatch also yielded a match with a granddaughter of Jane's daughter Ethel Marion Wilson (1879–1963).

Other links have also been found. A second descendant of Mary Ann Adams, a great-granddaughter of Rebecca Jane Adams (1863–1944), and a great-grandson of Mabel Ruth Adams (1873–1951) all have DNA in common with a great-great-granddaughter of Elizabeth Sarah Thirkell (1856–1896), one of Robert's other legitimate children.

To my delight, the web of genetic connections spreads even further. The aforementioned descendant of Rebecca Jane Adams also shares DNA with two descendants of Mary CUMMINS (née Thirkell), (c.1788–1832): one traces his lineage from her son John (c.1820–1904), and the other from her daughter Mary Ann (c.1822–1900). As noted in my last article, Mary Ann Cummins was described as Robert Thirkell's niece when she died.⁹

The descendant of Rebecca Jane Adams has also been matched with a great-great-great-great-granddaughter of an Elizabeth Thirkell who married a Thomas DINS-DALE.¹⁰ Census records indicate that this

⁸ Longford District Births, No. 1353, 1857; No. 1375, 1860; No. 864, 1863; No. 934, 1873; etc.

⁹ *Examiner*, 20 August 1900

¹⁰ www.ancestry.com; England, Select Marriages, 1538–1973

woman was born around 1790, with one return stating her birthplace was Aycliffe, and a second listing it as Brafferton, a hamlet within the parish of Aycliffe.¹¹ She is, then, almost certainly the Elizabeth ‘Thirkel’ who was baptised at Aycliffe in 1790 and, therefore, the sister of the man I had already identified as the Tasmanian Robert Thirkell.¹²

This connection is strengthened by the fact that a second descendant of Elizabeth Dinsdale, (née Thirkell), has been shown to share DNA with my father and a second descendant of William Henry Adams.

The sheer number of these genetic links removes any doubt that Robert Thirkell was indeed Elizabeth Southernwood’s father. As someone who has spent so much time investigating the Thirkell family, I find this outcome deeply satisfying. Moreover, the discovery of the Dinsdale connection provides further evidence that Robert Thirkell of *Darlington Park* was indeed the Robert ‘THIRKILLD’ baptised at Aycliffe, near Darlington, in 1792.¹³

Finally, I should add that my DNA has also been analysed, and I matched one of the descendants of Jane Elizabeth Thirkell. The lady in question lives in New Zealand and, as expected, the amount of DNA we share is very low. Whereas my father and I have 81 segments and some 3429 units of DNA in common, my trans-Tasman cousin and I share just 12 units on one segment. It may not be much but, at an emotional level, it is highly significant to me. ◀

¹¹ www.ancestry.com; 1851 and 1861 census returns

¹² Durham Records Office, Aycliffe Register, EP/AY3

¹³ Durham Records Office, Aycliffe Register, EP/AY3.

BOOK REVIEW

M Helen and William G (Bill) Henderson, *A Greater Prize Than Gold: Augustus Oldfield, 19th century botanical collector and ethnographer in Australia.*

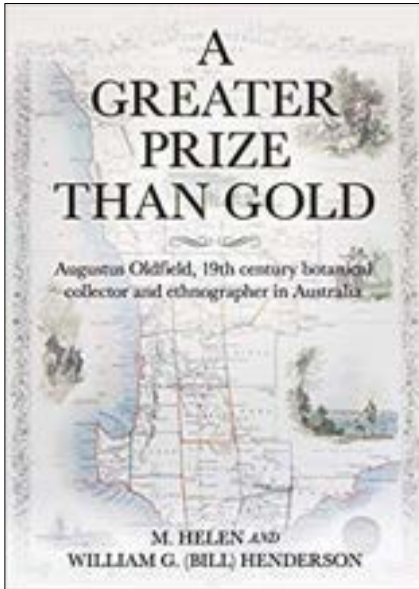
The Book Reality Experience Western Australia, 2018, bibliography, index, alphabetical glossary, conversions, currency. 4 parts, 20 chapters, xxx+520pp. soft cover. ISBN:978-0-6482222-3-1

The life and extensive travelling of dedicated botanical collector Augustus Frederick Oldfield (1821–87) through southern Australia between 1845 and 1862 and his contribution to science, especially in the fields of botany and anthropology, are detailed in this book.

Born in London, the son of Mary and Frederick, Augustus, who emigrated to Van Diemen’s Land about 1845 had an ‘emotional connection’ with the landscape. Two of his brothers also arrived in the colony.

A history of botanical collecting in Van Diemen’s Land from 1792 at Recherche Bay until 1849, the establishment of scientific societies and the collecting, drying, packaging, mounting and classifying of specimens is covered. In 1848 Oldfield went to Sydney from where he walked to Melbourne. In 1850 he travelled to London with plants to be identified by Sir William Hooker at Kew Gardens.

Between 1853 and 1854 Oldfield collected specimens from Lake St Clair and Quamby Bluff. In 1855–56 he based himself at Browns River and travelled further south to the area dominated by White Peppermint and Stringy Bark. The discovery to him of a new plant was ‘a greater prize than that of gold’ (p. 156). He provided specimens for the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, London, and for Sir Ferdinand von Mueller in Melbourne.



The Tasmanian chapters of the book describe his explorations between 1845 and 1856. He donated fragments of quartz from Mt La Perouse, twelve dried plants and rock fragments from Pt Hibbs and Recherche Bay to the Royal Society of Tasmania. In 1858 Hooker named the species *Lepidosperma oldfieldii* to honour Oldfield, and von Mueller did likewise with *Leionema oldfieldii*.

Oldfield also went to Western Australia where he recorded observations on the Aborigines, especially those who had little European contact. He became familiar with watering places, bushfires, intense heat, different tribes and dialects, and some travelled with him in 1858–59, as far as Geraldton and Murchison River.

In 1860, back in Victoria, as their botanist, Oldfield accompanied Burke and Wills on their Victorian exploring expedition, and the following year he left Melbourne with plants for Hooker, and to arrange publications on the philosophy of

natural history. In September 1862, four cases of his botanical specimens left Hobart for London. His specimens, listed in Appendix 1, are in at least 32 herbaria across 13 countries, including the Tasmanian Herbarium at the University of Tasmania and the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery.

There is no evidence that Oldfield entered into a negotiated agreement as to what he would receive in return for specimens other than identification for some of the plants—his desire seems to have been to serve science. By the age of 48 he had a loss of sight, and by 1869 was blind. He died in 1887 in London.

The authors have investigated their topic through writings, letters and field notes, but mainly from publications, specimen labels and internal memoranda from repositories which hold Oldfield’s specimens. As such, this extensively researched work is recommended for anyone interested in the life and travels of early botanists. ◀

Leonie Mickleborough

The authors have donated a copy to Hobart Branch Library.

CORRECTION AND ADDITION

Tasmanian Ancestry Vol. 39 No. 4
March 2019, pp. 222–34

The German and Scandinavian Presence in Tasmania: by Michael Watt

Table 2: List of German Immigrants who settled in the Fingal Valley. p. 230.

Name: Langer, Herman, Family: single, Arrived: 1883, Employer: none, Settlement: 1886, Occupation: Farmer.

Name: Schmidt, Andreas, Family: wife and 5 children, Arrival: 1855, Employer: Steel, Michael, Settlement: 1855, Occupation: Farmer. ◀

WHAT IS THAT PUBLICATION ABOUT?

Maurice Appleyard (Member 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?**

PITT WATER CHRONICLES, VOL. 2 May 2017

This A4 periodical, of 91pp. was published by the Historical Society of the Municipality of Sorell.

The 'Pitt Water Chronicles' is a collection of articles recording family histories, memories and the community interests of local people.

Authors of the articles are: Tim Bowden, Lorraine Cotter, Letty Doddridge, Graeme Evans, John Houghton, Hilary Jones, Petta Kelly, Rosemary Kelly, Kath Lonergan, July Pearson, Margaret Prestedge, Melinda Reed, Beverley Richardson, Robert Tanner, Elaine Targett, George Whitehouse, Lionel Williams, and Judy Young. It contains an excellent alphabetical index of names and places.

Contents:

Maps of Sorell Municipality

Timeline.

The Tasman Voyage 1642.

John Prestidge 1764–1833.

The First & Last – Thomas Wiggins 1803–1884.

Transcribing Alexander Laing.

WIELAND and the Bellette, Woods and Bridges families.

Dr Robert Blyth and other relations.

Sorell to Bellerive Railway.

A talent sacrificed: Hilda Bridges 1881–1971.

Dr Walden: Sorell's Modern Motoring Medico.

The Rollings Photos.

Dunalley Hass 1898–20158.

Bream Creek War Memorial.

Edith Holmes at Bally Park.

Gwen Newitt OAM 1913–1971.

Busy Line—recollections of Letty Doddridge.

VDC Bridge Guard at Dunalley 1941.

Eileen Brooker.

Neil Davis—you can't take Sorell out of the boy.

'67 Bushfires Remembered.

Dell Isles: Childcare Pioneer.

Moya Sharpe's Pioneer School at Sorell.

Maker's Mark – 40 years of Panogana.

About the Authors.

THE KIRKYARD OF KIRKTON-OF-SKENE

This small A5 booklet was published by the Aberdeen & North-East Scotland FHS and compiled by Sheila M Spiers. It is a 2005 reprint of the 2001 publication and contains 508 headstone transcripts.

In addition to the headstone transcripts, the booklet contains an alphabetic index of surnames with numerical locations to the cemetery plan in the centre.

THE KIRKYARD OF

S

This small A5 booklet was published by the Aberdeen & North-East Scotland FHS and compiled by Sheila M Spiers. It is a 2006 reprint of the 1988 publication and contains 615 headstone transcripts.

In addition to the headstone transcripts, the booklet contains an alphabetic index of surnames with numerical locations to the cemetery plan in the centre. ◀

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- * Anderson, M; *Anderson Families*. [Q929.2 AND]
- * Day, A & P McWilliams, *Ordnance Survey Memoirs Of Ireland*. [941.6 DAY]
- Gibson, E; *Walks Around Historic Bellerive*. [994.4 GIB]
- Historic Society of Municipality of Sorell; *Pitt Water Chronicles, Vol. 2 May 2017*. [P994.4 PIT]
- *Mercury Newspaper Supplement. *Tasmanian Heroes—The Legacy of a War To End All Wars*. [Q940.4 TAS]
- Newitt, L *Convicts and Carriageways*. [Q388.70946 NEW]
- *Pridmore; Walter B. *Dunalley Hotel, 1866 ... and the township of 1857*. [994.671 PRI]
- Rodgers; Martin; *Cricket In The Genes—George Bailey*. [796.358092 BAI]
- Rootes; Margaret. *150 Faces of St Mary's College—Stories of 150 notable members of our St Mary's College community from 1868–2018, in celebration of our 150th anniversary*. [373.99461 SMC]
- *Schaffer, Irene; *Henry Woods—The Old Man Of The Mountain, 2nd Edition*.
- *Slee, June; *Crime, Punishment And Redemption—A Convict's Story*. [Quarto 365.6092]
- *Spiers. Sheila M; *The Kirkyard of Kirkton of Skene*.
- *Spiers. Sheila M; *The Kirkyard of St Clement's Aberdeen*. [A5 929.3209412]
- *TFHS Inc. Hobart; *Undertakers of Hobart Vol. V—Index to Hooper & Burgess Funeral Records; part 3, May 1971–Sep 1984*. [Q 929.31099461 UND]

ACCESSIONS Computer Disks

- Gould Genealogy & History; *Tasmanian Government Gazettes 1827–1945*.
- *Lancashire Parish Register Society; Wigan (All Saints) 1755–1800 [Vol. NC 09] and 1801–1812 [Vol. NC 10]
- *Lancashire Parish Register Society; Manchester St George 1798–1853 [Vol. NC 11]

Launceston Branch

ACCESSIONS Books

- Green, Christopher (Gus) OAM (Pub); *William Cawston Convict Boy to Colonial Photographer*
- TFHS Inc. Hobart Branch; *Undertakers of Hobart Vol. V – Index to Hooper & Burgess Funeral Records Part 3 June 1970–April 1973*
- *Walker, Peter, MHA (Comp); *Discovery of Tasmania 1642–Tasmania Day 24 November*

ACCESSIONS DVD

- William Cawston Convict Boy to Colonial Photographer* (Published by Christopher (Gus) Green OAM)

*Denotes complimentary or donated items.

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Night Dinner Meetings are held in winter and end of year, check with Branch Librarian for details.

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Library 19 Cambridge Road Bellerive
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Check the Branch News and the website
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Library 113 Gilbert Street Latrobe (behind State Library)
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Supplement to

Tasmanian Ancestry

Journal of the
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Volume 40 No.1—June 2019

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