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

Thank you to all who have contributed to this journal and others who have submitted articles which will appear in future issues. It is reassuring to have surplus material already at hand but please continue sending them in.

This issue includes another wonderful piece from Betty Jones. There are many who look forward to reading her articles as I receive so many comments. I find it interesting to reflect on the difference between the lives of the children Betty writes of and those who have consumed Joyce Purtscher’s time over the past two decades and more. Her article on page 21 tells of two benefactors who endeavoured to give the children at the Queens Orphan Schools at New Town at least one happy day in the year.

Welcome back to Vee Maddock and her Genes on Screen! A fascinating article on the wonderful software she has recently made good use of. I must admit to having a wonderful time with the ‘Snip’ tool she mentioned in one of her Computer Group Newsletters!

And there is more ... enjoy reading and don’t hesitate to send in your comments and items of interest.

I look forward to seeing all those who can make it to the AGM at Ross!

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:
Illustration supplied by Betty Jones for her article, The Days of the Old School Yard, see page 15.
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

BY the time these notes are published, each Branch will have had their own AGM and we will be approximately two weeks away from the Society’s Annual General Meeting. Hopefully, many of you will attend the AGM to meet members from all five branches and to enjoy the programmed events.

Members’ attendance is essential for conducting the formal business of the day; including amendments to our Rules and the election of our Society’s office bearers.

Your support will also be appreciated by your fellow members who have been nominated for Meritorious Service Awards.

I appreciate that many members are not able to attend due to their individual circumstances but at least members of Burnie, Devonport, Hobart, Huon and Launceston may be represented by the two elected delegates from each branch.

Spare a thought for the second largest group of members (after Hobart branch) who do not have any direct representation at the AGM; the Mainland members. Logistically, it is not practical for most of them to attend an AGM in Tasmania.

Perhaps this is something that the new Executive could address.

Our organisation runs completely on volunteer labour; we have no paid employees.

Most of our office bearers have been serving for a number of years, many holding more than one position. Some of them are performing roles at Branch and Society level at the same time.

Certainly, they all would appreciate further help in maintaining the Society and improving the services that we enjoy. Please give the matter some consideration if you are able to help.

Maurice Appleyard

Congratulations Irene

Early this year the name of Irene Schaffer appeared among the 2010 Australia Day Awards when she received the Medal (OAM) of the Order of Australia in the General Division for service to the community of Tasmania as a volunteer genealogist and family historian.

Irene has been a member of the Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. since 1983 and has occupied a number of positions over the years. She has worked as a researcher for the society and generously gives her time as a volunteer in the State Library Family History Program.

In 1990 she formed the Norfolk Island and Van Diemen’s Land Interest Group and many of us have fond memories of the many tours she conducted around the state. Irene was also responsible for encouraging many of us to put pen to paper and to publish the results of our research.

Thank you Irene and congratulations on your well-deserved award.
NOTICE OF MEETING
Notice is hereby given in accordance with Rule 14, that the

9th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of the
Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.
is to be held on
Saturday 19 June 2010
at the
Town Hall, Church Street, Ross
commencing at 2:00 pm

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 2009 ‘Lilian Watson Family History Award’
4 Presentation of TFHS Inc. Awards
5 Confirm Minutes of the 2009 AGM
6 Business Arising
7 Reports
8 Election of Office Bearers and Endorsement of Branch Delegates
9 General Business:
   1 Approval of proposed amendments to the Rules—as per Tasmanian Ancestry, Volume 30 Number 4—March 2010, page 208.

Maurice Appleyard
President
BRANCH REPORTS

**Burnie**


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Our Library reopened on 12 January after a well earned Christmas break for our volunteers. Patronage by members to our Library was a little slow for the first few days, but soon returned to our usual busy Tuesdays and Saturdays. Our first day meeting for the year was well attended on Monday, 1 March. The topic was ‘Sweet Fanny Adams’, the meaning and origin of this old saying. An overview of the newly released TAMIOT CD-Rom was also presented to the members. As usual at the conclusion of the meeting most stayed on for a sandwich luncheon.

The topic for the first night meeting for this year (February) was ‘Tracing Scottish Ancestors at Kew’. This was a podcast that was first listened to at a day meeting last year but repeated this year for those that missed out. Our second night meeting was a well attended talk on the artist Haughton Forrest. Doug Forrest, a direct descendant, gave this talk complete with a collection of power point images of the artist’s work.

It was with much pleasure we recently took possession of a number of books kindly donated by member Helen Dunford. Helen is moving to Hobart and will not have room for all her library. We wish Helen all the best and thank her for the donated books. As we get these books catalogued they will be published in *Tasmanian Ancestry*.

**Devonport**

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In January we held our first gathering of the year. A barbeque was held with more than thirty in attendance. Our guest speaker was Mike McLaren who owns an Antique Shop in Latrobe. He showed us some of the more interesting objects in his personal collection. It was a warm evening in the park under the trees—just a beautiful setting to start the New Year.

We were finally connected to broadband and also *Ancestry.com*. We also held an orientation day to get to know *Ancestry.com* but after an hour our server went down which lasted for several days. This will be of great benefit to us in our quest to find our Family Tree.

We have held several sessions of *Legacy*, a programme that helps to collate our Family Tree. We hold regular ‘LUG’ (Legacy Users Group) sessions in which we learn about the programme and pick up tips and tricks we learn along the way.

We are always looking for the right way we want to display or collate our family tree and another way is scrapbooking. We held a scrapbooking session which was well attended. This opened up a new
avenue of making a storybook with photos of our ancestors and we learned how to preserve our photos with acid free papers and adhesives for future generations to see.

Coming up of course is the AGM for all our branches and we hope to will fill all positions that will take us into the next twelve months. We have a beginners course that will be held in April. There are a couple of publications nearly completed and of course we are always indexing. We will also have our next newsletter out but please keep in touch with the Library and our website to keep informed of our meeting days and sessions we have coming up. Please come and visit the library—you don’t know what you will discover.

Hobart

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Thanks to the Friends of the Orphan Schools and St Johns Park Precinct we now have a new meeting place. It is ‘The Sunday School’, or Parish Hall, in the St Johns Park Precinct, New Town. Not only is this a pleasant meeting place, but it is also a highly significant heritage building.

Your editor is heavily involved with this group, and so she was able to slip into the last edition of this journal a note about it after my report had been submitted! I recommend having a look at their web site, www.orphanschool.org.au to read more about the precinct, and to see some pictures of the site.

By the time this report is published we will have launched our latest CD in the series, Cemeteries of Southern Tasmania. This CD is of Bruny Island, and is to be launched at the Bruny Island History Room, Alonnah, by the Mayor of Kingborough, Dr Graham Bury, on 12 April.

We have now spent virtually all of the bequest donated by Brian McNeice in memory of Denise. This has meant a large number of CDs, microfiche and books have been added to our collection. A launch of this collection is planned for the near future.

Our next general meeting is our AGM and our secretary, Leo Prior, has indicated that he is not nominating for the position. Leo has been a very hard working and reliable secretary for quite a few years, and the branch would like to thank him most heartily for a great contribution to our branch.

General Meetings
Members are reminded that all general meetings are held at ‘The Sunday School’, St Johns Park, New Town, on the third Tuesday of the month at 8pm. A very interesting programme of speakers has been organised by Brian Hortle, and we thank him for his work in this area. Visitors are always welcome at these meetings.

At our February meeting branch member Alan Shaw gave a very interesting talk on the history of tartans, whilst at the March meeting Dr John Tooth spoke about his great-great-grandfather who was a surgeon in the days before anaesthetics!

Planned addresses at our next three general meetings are:
• 20 April – Peter Roach: ‘Roach family history’.
• 18 May – Stephanie Fehre: ‘The Fehre family in Tasmania’.

**Family History Computer Users Group**

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

**WISE Interest Group**

The Wales, Ireland, Scotland and England group is currently in recession. Watch this space!

**Family History Writers Group**

The group met recently and decided to meet on the last Thursday of each month. Members working on individual projects will share them with the group in an informal workshop. All welcome. For more details contact Dianne Snowden on dsnowden@tassie.net.au or 6260 2515.

Details of these meetings and other activities may be found on our website at [http://www.hobart.tasfhs.org](http://www.hobart.tasfhs.org)

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More on the Pateena Road/Longford excursion—after a byo lunch and refreshments supplied by the Norfolk Plains Heritage Centre volunteers, member Marion Sargent took over as guide. Marion had researched the area extensively and took us walking—first of all in the grounds of the historic Anglican Christ Church and its cemetery with quite a few ‘First Fleeter’ plaques. Next we took to the streets and were amazed at the detail that Marion had unearthed on the many historic buildings, including Lavender Cottage, where some of her forebears had lived.

We were grateful to the owners of Longford House for allowing us free access to the grounds, and again Marion kept us entertained with the history of the house and its many occupants, including another of her forebears. Thank you Marion for all your hard work which contributed greatly to such a successful day.

After a second term of four years, Anita Swan has retired as Branch President. During her term, Anita’s contribution to the Society has been enormous, with three of the past four years serving also as Society President, and at the same time leading us through the traumatic and tedious task of the move from 2 Taylor Street; finding new premises; settling in and eventually achieving a smooth-working library.

**Wednesday 16 June**: 2:00 pm: BIG meeting at Adult Education rooms: FamilySearch—online assistance.

**Wednesday 21 July**: 2:00 pm: Branch meeting at Adult Education rooms—ScotlandsPeople

**Wednesday 18 August**: 2:00 pm: BIG meeting at Adult Education rooms: National Archives, UK

Watch the website for details of the branch activities for September, October and November.

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**Huon**

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TASMANIAN ANCESTRY June 2010
NOW AVAILABLE ON CD-Rom

TAMIOT
(Tombstones and Memorial Inscriptions of Tasmania)

Originally published on microfiche this invaluable index to transcriptions of headstones and memorials transcribed in Tasmania before 1999 is now available on CD-Rom.

Included in this new release are headstones from the Wynyard area that were omitted in the original publication. The major public cemeteries in Launceston (Carr Villa) and Hobart (Cornelian Bay and Kingston) are not included; these are available online.

Contact your local TFHS Inc. branch library or:
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TFHS Inc.
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Launceston Tasmania 7250

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WALTER TENNYSON BATES
Mike Stead

WALTER TENNYSON BATES (WTB), my wife’s great grand uncle, was born in Hull, East Yorkshire, in 1854. He was the youngest son in a family of nine children, and as part of our research into the family, we set out to find out as much as we could from the 19th century censuses. In the 1881 census he was living with his wife Elizabeth, who he married in 1879, at his father-in-law’s address in Lancashire, when he was described as a ‘musician’. In fact, he was a 27-year-old cornet player in the orchestra of the Southport Winter Garden. There was no mention of him in the 1891 census.

There the matter rested for some time. However, while on a visit to another relative, serendipity took a hand. We casually mentioned the problem of the elusive WTB, and to our surprise, our relative mentioned that he thought he had a photograph that might be helpful. A box in the loft was retrieved and there was a photograph that turned out to be the key to unlocking many aspects of WTB’s life. The 100-year-old photograph showed a house in Hobart, Tasmania, with a caption that read ‘Craigside, Hobart, Tasmania, the residence of Mr. W. Tennyson Bates, with Master Walter in the foreground’.
Matters now took a curious turn, when once again serendipity took a hand. During a visit to the Leicester & Rutland FHS Research Library on an unrelated topic, I noticed by chance that copies of the *Tasmanian Pioneer Index* had been recently acquired. This covered families who had reached the island during the latter part of the 19th century and a careful search was made. This revealed the birth registration details of five children born to Walter Tennyson and Elizabeth Jane, but no mention of the Walter in the foreground of the *Craigside* photograph above. So where and how did he fit in to the scheme of things? At this point, the help of the Genealogical Society of Tasmania Inc. (GST) and the Archives Office of Tasmania was sought. They responded quickly and confirmed that Walter Tennyson Bates was well known during his time in Tasmania. They also pointed us in the direction of the *Victorian Pioneers Index* which showed that WTB and Elizabeth Jane had two other children, both of whom were born in Melbourne, Victoria. These were Gertrude Jane Tennyson (born c.1884) and Walter Lawrence (born April 1885). This showed that WTB and Elizabeth must have left Lancashire about 1882/3 and sailed to Melbourne. Since we were planning to visit Australia anyway in the near future, it made sense to extend our visit to include Tasmania. Hopefully, this would give us the opportunity to find out more about the life of WTB and his family, as well as exploring this unique island. Tasmania has exerted a strong attraction on many people since it was first settled. It made a strong impression on no less a person than the great Charles Darwin, who, on visiting Hobart aboard the *Beagle* in 1836, said ‘If I was obliged to emigrate, I certainly should prefer this place’.

Our contact in Hobart was Joyce Purtscher of the Genealogical Society of Tasmania (GST), who could not have been more helpful. Joyce took us to the premises of the GST in the old Post Office in Bellerive. Some time was spent in looking through trade directories of the period but we couldn’t find any mention of the elusive WTB. However, after we left for our tour of the island, Joyce did some sterling work and came up with some real nuggets. There were two obituaries of WTB in the Hobart newspapers of the time, a copy of his will and some information about the rest of the family after the death of WTB in 1905. We also found his grave in Cornelian Bay Cemetery on the other side of Hobart, on a very wet and windy morning where we felt the full force of the ‘Roaring Forties’. This information enabled us to fit several pieces of the jigsaw into place. It was certainly a strange feeling to find all this some 12,000 miles from Hull!

The inscription on the gravestone showed that WTB himself, his wife Elizabeth and infant son Charles Edgar were buried there. This confirmed some of what had been discovered in Leicester. The
obituaries from the two Hobart papers *Mercury* and *Tasmanian Mail* of late 1905 and early 1906 were of particular interest.

The last record we had of WTB in the UK was in the 1881 census, but the Hobart *Mail* in 1905 indicated that he ‘was a native of Hull and came to Australia some 23 years ago’. This meant that he must have left England some time in 1882, probably from Liverpool, which was handily situated close to Southport. We don’t have any departure or arrival details but it would be good to unearth these.

The obituary goes on to say:

He then spent about three years in Melbourne, and was leading cornet player in the Royal and Princess theatres. This explains how Gertrude and Walter came to be born in Melbourne.

We can also see from this that WTB arrived in Tasmania sometime in 1885.

A further extract from the obituary reads:

He came to Tasmania to lead the Rechabite Band, and was afterwards conductor of the Garrison Band for many years. He also conducted the Hobart City, Richmond, Bellerive, Kempton, Bismark, Sorell and Filibuster bands at different times, and formed several of them. For a long time he was Grand Trumpeter of the Masonic Lodge.

Not only was Walter a highly accomplished instrumentalist and conductor, but he was also a much sought after teacher and competition judge, both in Tasmania, and on mainland Australia in both Sydney and Melbourne. He had developed a national reputation and was closely involved in, and a leading light of, the musical and social life of the island. He must have been much in demand, but not everything in the ‘Land of the Lotus Eaters’ was lovely. The Garrison Band had, for some time, difficulties with its running costs and upkeep. Matters came to a head in February 1895, and a report in the Hobart *Mercury* of 25 February revealed the true state of affairs:

**THE GARRISON BAND** – Mr. W. Tennyson Bates has resigned the Garrison Bandmastership after filling the position for eight and a half years, having been compelled to do so on account of rigid retrenchment. Some years ago, the position was worth £150 a year, and then it was cut down to £120, now it is proposed to reduce it to £80. This latter amount is utterly inconsistent with the services of so skilled a musician as Mr. Bates, whose record in connection with musical associations is probably unequalled by any other musician in the colonies. The good services he has rendered the music loving portion of the community in Hobart will give rise to regret at his retirement.

Naturally, WTB needed to earn a living to support his wife and six children. It seems that not only was he a successful musician, but also found time to set up a successful produce business supplying...
the citizens of Hobart with fruit and vegetables. That he was successful cannot be doubted judging by the size, quality and location of Craigside, the house that brought us to Tasmania in the first place. The house still stands today. Life must have been reasonably comfortable for them all, with an adequate income and undoubted status in the eyes of the island community.

Sadly, it must have been about this time (1903/4) that Walter developed the condition from which he eventually died in 1905 (ulcerative colitis). This is a difficult condition to manage even today, and Walter sought medical advice in Melbourne. The doctors there must have recommended that he sought further advice in England and he returned there with Elizabeth, but apparently to no avail. We don’t have any details of where he stayed in England, or whether he made a last visit to Hull, but we do know that he returned to Tasmania via the US, stopping off to see the Niagara Falls in New York State. This evidence comes from a postcard he sent back to their daughter Gertrude dated 2 October 1903. His will was dated 28 March 1903. He knew, of course, that he was ill, and it must have been a prudent precaution that the will was prepared before he left for England, in case he died whilst he was away. He did get back to Hobart, but died there on 18 December 1905 at the comparatively young age of 52. He certainly had a full life and made the most of his talents. The funeral notices appeared in the Hobart Mercury on 20 December 1905.

The undertaker describes him as a produce merchant. He was buried in a private grave and there were four coaches at the funeral. The touching obituary from the Hobart Mercury of 19 December summed up his life:

Walter Tennyson Bates answered the “Last Call” on the evening of 18th inst., after a somewhat long illness, having expired at his late residence on Lansdowne Crescent. He had been ailing for some months, and recently took a visit to England & Melbourne in search of a cure, but without avail. The deceased, who was in the 52nd year of his age, came from the old country about 20 years ago, and settled in Hobart. Prior to leaving England he was the conductor of the Winter Gardens Band in Southport - one of the best combinations of instrumentalists in England. In Tasmania he had at various times been leader of both the Garrison and City Bands. He was for a long period acknowledged as one of the premier cornet soloists of Australasia. He had of late years conducted a flourishing produce business and had almost given up the idea of taking up the baton again, but when the City Band solicited him he...
went heart and soul into the work and made that band what it is today. Mr Bates was highly respected by all who knew him as a straightforward businessman. Much sympathy is felt for his wife and family. His funeral will be attended by the bandsmen of the city, and appropriate music will be played en route and at the grave.

The Tasmanian Mail also ran an obituary on 6 January 1906. The final sentence refers to the connection between Alfred, Lord Tennyson and the Bates family.

At the time of his death the deceased was conductor of the City Band, but had been absent on leave for some time, Mr. Clay (his first pupil in Australia) acting in his stead. The late Mr. Bates acted as a judge at the competitions in Sydney, Melbourne, Launceston and Queens-town. The deceased was a connection of the late Poet Laureate, his mother being a member of the Tennyson family, Lincolnshire.

The next stage of our searches was also triggered by Joyce Purtscher, who, during our tour of the island, had found an entry in the death notifications in the Hobart Mercury of 22 April 1920 that read:

BATES.—On September 9th 1916, at Oakland, California, United States of America, Elizabeth Jane, relict of the late Walter Tennyson Bates (late Bandmaster, Hobart).

What could such an entry possibly mean? We knew from the inscription on the grave at Cornelian Bay Cemetery that Elizabeth was buried there. The entry in a Hobart undertaker’s book for 19 September 1920, reads:

Elizabeth Jane Bates (aged 63) died at Oakland, California, W.S. America

Date of Death: 9th September 1916
Buried at Cornelian Bay on 22rd April 1920 after cremation
Sent by Parcel Post
Reopen W. Tennyson Bates
Cause of Death: Chronic Myocarditis.

Evidently, Elizabeth Jane died in Oakland, California, thousands of miles from Hobart on the other side of the Pacific Ocean. The question was, how and why did this happen? No answer to this conundrum could be found in Hobart and so we returned to the UK. A week or two later, we posted a note on a US Internet genealogical bulletin board, enquiring if there was anybody out there with an interest in the Bates family in general and Walter Tennyson Bates in particular. Several weeks went by without response. It was thought this was the end of the matter. An email came in after about three months enquiring if we were related to Walter Tennyson Bates:

Hello! My name is Laurie Hoffman and I believe that this is the Walter Bates that was my great-great grandfather. Do you have any more information? I know that
he was married to Elizabeth Jane Jones on April 22 1879 in England. His youngest daughter was my great-grandmother, Rita Bates. I don’t know if you’re looking for more information but I have some if you’re interested. Please let me know what you have.

We certainly were interested! At this stage we didn’t know where Laurie was based, but it was soon established that she lived in California. Over the next eighteen months or so there was a regular exchange of family information, during which it was established that Laurie (née ERICKSON) was my wife’s third cousin, once removed.

Whatever the reason, it would appear that Elizabeth had decided that her family’s future lay in California. Their journey and new life must have been funded by the sale of Craigsie and the produce business. So it was that the Bates family left Hobart after twenty years to start new lives in California. This must have been a brave decision.

The family left Gertrude behind, never to see her again. The emigrant party consisted of Elizabeth Jane Bates (née Jones), 53, son Walter Lawrence (22), a budding horticulturist, together with daughters Gladys Elizabeth (17), Phyllis Irene (15), Doris (12) and Rita (10). They made their way from Hobart to Sydney, boarded the SS Manuka of the Australian-Canada Steamship Company and departed the ‘Fatal Shore’ on 7 July 1907. They would have called en-route at Brisbane, Suva and Honolulu before arriving in Vancouver on 7 August, a month after leaving Sydney. Finally, they all arrived safely in Berkeley and Oakland, California, where they settled. Walter started his studies with Luther Burbank, the renowned horticulturist, Gladys got a job and the other girls finished their education. (Gladys died in 1960 at the age of 70 in Oakland.)

The contact with Laurie rapidly developed to the point where we received an invitation to visit our long-lost relatives in San Diego, an invitation we accepted with alacrity! This enabled us to find out from Laurie what had happened to the Bates family since 1910. It appeared that Rita, the youngest daughter married (as her second husband of four), one Eric Harcourt DRAPER, a travel agent in San Francisco. Eric decided to set up his own agency in San Diego. He prospered and our relatives have lived there ever since. We were pleased after our own visit that we were able to return the hospitality we had received in California when two of the family visited us in Quorn.

This has been a fascinating journey, from East Yorkshire in the 1800s via Tasmania in the 19th century, to California in the 21st century, and one that gave us great personal satisfaction.

Our thanks to Mike Stead of England for this article. All images collection of the author.
THE DAYS OF THE OLD SCHOOL YARD
Betty Jones (Member No.6032)

MOST modern Tasmanian primary schools provide a wide and bedazzling range of playground equipment for their pupils, not just for the children’s enjoyment and recreation, but also to help develop their imagination, co-ordination, physical strength, flexibility and social skills. Today, a walk through any local school ground is likely to result in the sight of colourful, high-quality, professionally-constructed adventure playground pieces, carefully set out in an aesthetic, fluid manner, and layered underneath with a soft, safety-approved thickness of mulch. In addition, it is usual to see well-manicured, grassed sports ovals, sealed ball courts and cricket pitches and specially shaded play areas with the purpose of protecting children from harmful rays in the environment.

The majority of readers will have had first-hand experience of school yards of the twentieth century, and have a broad range of anecdotes to relate about their personal memories and involvement. Who remembers games in the shelter shed? Who remembers the monkey bars? Who remembers playing on or under the trees? What about British Bulldog, Red Rover and skirmishes on the football field or cricket pitch? This article, however, focuses on the school grounds of Tasmania more than one hundred years ago, those of the nineteenth and very early twentieth centuries.

The 1883 Journal of the House of Assembly contains the results of a Public Enquiry into Education in Tasmania and, among other things, provides useful information about the physical nature of many public school playgrounds at that time.¹ The following details, summarised from that report, give us some idea of the size and state of a number of school grounds at the time:

**Abbotsham** - 5 acres, encumbered with heavy logs; **Bathurst Street** - ample and well-fenced, divided into two portions—front and back, each measuring 90 feet by

¹ Royal Commission on Public Education in Tasmania and Neighbouring Colonies – Report 1883, Government Printer, Hobart
80 feet; **Battery Point** - 35 feet by 30 feet; **Beaconsfield** - no playground; **Black Brush** - ¼ of an acre; **Black River** - a healthy plain of grass surrounded the school; **Bracknell** - measuring about 120 rooods, small, very rough and rocky; **Brown’s River** - 142 feet by 34 feet; **Campbell Town** - 4 acres, ample; **Constitution Hill** - 1 acre, dry and suitable; **Cressy** - ½ an acre for boys, ½ an acre for girls; **Don** - ½ an acre; **Dulcot** - 1 acre; **Emu Bay** - ½ an acre, rough and stony; **Epping** - 1 acre, fenced; **Flowerdale** - ½ an acre, sufficient; **Forcett** - nearly 2 acres, situated on the side of a sloping bank with sandy soil; **Forth** - not suitable, all bush except for the school and a small area around it; **Franklin** - ½ an acre; **Frederick Street** - ½ an acre, suitable; **Glengarry** - 1 acre, greater part in timber, unfenced; **Gordon** - ½ an acre; **Gould’s Country** - none; **Green Ponds** - ½ an acre; **Hagley** - 1 acre, in grass; **Hastings** - ½ an acre, rough; **Honeywood** - no proper playground; **Irish Town** - 1 acre; **Jerusalem** - ¾ of an acre of grassed paddock; **Kellevie** - ample; **Lefroy** - 1 acre fenced and divided, 3 acres unfenced; **Long Bay** - 6 acres; **Longford** - ½ an acre, a small area for boys and girls; **Lower Jerusalem** - 3 acres of English grass; **Macquarie Plains** - ¼ of an acre, small; **Macquarie Street** - two separate areas for boys and girls, each 47 yards by 16 yards; **Margate** - ½ an acre; **Mole Creek** - any quantity of bush; **Molesworth** - ¾ acres; **Muddy Plains** - ample, dry, airy; **Murray Street** - 60 yards by 40 yards, covered with loose gravel and stone; **New Town** - two separate spacious playgrounds provided; **North Molton** - no playground, children played in an adjoining paddock; **Nugent** - 1 acre, not cleared or fenced; **Oyster Cove** - ½ an acre of unfenced bushland; **Penguin** - ¼ of an acre; **Pontville** - very small; **Port Cygnet** - under 1 acre, unsuitied for the purpose - a narrow strip of ground; **Red Hills** - ½ an acre of grass; **Richmond** - nearly 1 acre; **Ringarooma** - 1 acre; **Rokey** - ¾ of an acre; **Rose Vale** - 1 acre of church property beside unlimited Government land; **Sandy Bay** - moderately large, should be divided; **Sassafras** - very small; **Scottsdale** - 2 acres used as a burial ground; **Somerset** - ½ an acre; **Sorell** - ½ an acre divided by a paling fence, insufficient space for boys; **South Arm** - 1 acre, very dry and suitable; **South Forest** - ¼ of an acre in grass lawn; **Spring Bay** - ¾ of an acre, half of which could be improved by draining and fencing; **Springfield** - ½ an acre, unfenced; **Stanley** - no proper playground provided, children played in the street; **St Leonards** - ¾ of an acre; **Swansea** - 1 rood, 35 poles, 2/3 for boys, 1/3 for girls; **Torquay** - ½ an acre, uncleared; **Trinity Hill** - 1 rood 300 perches; **Turner’s Marsh** - too small; **Ulverstone** - 4 acres; **Upper Piper’s River** - 1 acre; not fenced and full of stumps; **Waratah** - 3 roods 20 perches, unfenced; **Wattle Grove** - ½ an acre; **Wattle Hill** - ½ acre, nearly square; **White Hills** - ¾ of an acre; **Winkleigh** - ½ an acre, roughly cleared with gravelly soil; **Wynyard** - playground for girls only.

It is of interest that, in those times, there was no regulated duty of care for adults to supervise children in the school yard. Evidence exists in the various early records that many teachers obviously left the playground unattended when they went to their own residences to have their mid-day meal. In July 1892, for example, the Inspector noted that the children at Dulcot State School were left without any supervision whatever during the recess from 12:00 to 1:30, owing to the teacher,
Mr William HARTNETT, boarding at a distance from the school. It appears to be an exception to normal procedure when Miss Florence KEARNEY at Enfield Public School was instructed in December 1880 to never leave the school children without competent supervision during any recess lest they run the risk of accident by falling into the nearby river.

Unlike modern playgrounds, those of the nineteenth century were not fitted with outdoor equipment, and there is no evidence that schools provided balls, hoops, ropes, bats and the like for children’s games, as then, Physical Education was not part of the curriculum. Indeed, it was a rare entry in the 1893 Inspectors’ reports when it stated Mr James Milner BLADON, Head Teacher at Bangor State School, had provided means of amusement in the playground. More commonly, pupils devised their own forms of entertainment, with chasing, skipping, hopscotch, handclapping, and singing, rhyming and string games being popular. Marbles and knucklebones would have featured also, while, for most country children, play involving rocks, tree stumps, sticks, branches and tree fall must have encouraged considerable creativity, and fostered their interest in natural science (no doubt including snakes!). Pupils attending schools in Hobart, such as Macquarie Street, Bathurst Street, Battery Point, Murray Street and Trinity Hill, generally played within much more confined areas than those of their out of town counterparts. It is noted that scholars at Scottsdale (also known then as Ellesmere Public School) played in the town’s burial ground! A report on the Elizabeth Street Public School in Launceston in 1868 stated there was no playground, nor other suitable provision for health and recreation. The enrolment at that time was around two hundred children. Similar situations still existed in some of the schools mentioned in the 1883 Report.

Two relevant newspaper items on games are cited. One describes how schoolboys at the Don School busied themselves in the late 1860s, and the other documents games used to involve children at the Latrobe Public School picnic in 1878. Each account provides us with a snapshot of what constituted entertainment in those different North West school settings during that particular period of Tasmanian history.

The boys played cricket in summer, double duck and prisoner’s base, and in the time of the Franco-Prussian War, the sides were dubbed French and Prussian. Football was then an unknown game, and regarding cricket, home-made bats and

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\(^2\) AOT: ED13/1/64  
\(^3\) AOT: ED13/1/26  
\(^4\) AOT: ED31/1/1  
\(^5\) Journal of the House of Assembly, 1869
balls were all that were available, the latter being made of string rolled up into a ball and coated with pitch. Later India-rubber balls were sold in the stores. The bats were of primitive construction.  

By way of explanation: **Prisoner’s Base** was a vigorous chasing game based on two opposing teams attempting to capture each other’s players by tagging them and taking them to their base. The game ended when all of one side had been captured by the other.

**Double Duck** was a stone-throwing contest which involved placing in position a base rock to form the main body, with a smaller pointed rock on top to represent the duck’s head. Each player took turns to throw a stone to see who could knock off the designated head.

That the author of that newspaper article wrote only from the boys’ perspective was indicative of the playground culture of that era. As demonstrated in the earlier 1883 list of playground spaces, boys and girls were usually segregated. Frequent was the comment in the Inspectors’ Reports of the late 1890s that a paling barrier needed to be placed between the play areas of the boys and girls in the school.  

It is interesting, also, that boys were sometimes afforded more ground space than girls (See Cressy and Swansea, for example). On the other hand, only girls were provided with a playground at Wynyard at that time. It is not stated, but likely, that the boys at that school played in the street or on a nearby vacant allotment (total school enrolment was then less than 60).

In January 1878:

Teachers, Mr and Mrs HAINSWORTH, entertained the scholars of Latrobe Public School at a picnic in the Showgrounds. It was reported that Mr Hainsworth entered as fully as any of the pupils into the boyish games which included racing, turzy, jolly miller, swings and kiss in the ring. After the sports finished at dusk, a number of adult friends enjoyed the hospitality of the Hainsworths at their house, where dancing was kept up till the small hours.  

By way of explanation: **Jolly Miller** was a game played by a large odd number of children, each boy being partnered by a girl. A single player acted the part of the Jolly Miller. All walked arm-in-arm round the Miller singing:

> There was a jolly miller who lived by himself;  
> As the wheel went round he would make his wealth;  
> One hand in the hopper, and the other on the bag;  
> As the wheel went round he would make his grab.

At the word ‘grab’, the participants had to change partners, giving the Miller the chance to secure a partner also. The one left became the Miller and the ritual was repeated.

**Kiss in the Ring** was a favourite old-English game. A large circle of boys and girls was formed, each holding hands. A girl walked round the circle, gently touching a boy of her choice on the shoulder. She then ran round the ring until he caught and kissed her, whereupon there were cheers. She returned to the circle and the boy then rejoined by kissing a girl of his choice. It was her turn next to repeat the ritual.

**Turzy** was a ring chasing game played with not less than six players. Children stood in pairs, one behind the other, in a circle, with all the players facing the

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6 The Advocate, 20 December 1924
7 See AOT: ED 31 Series
8 The Devon Herald, 29 January 1878
centre, and the pairs an equal distance apart. One pair was appointed chaser and fugitive. The player being chased ran where he/she liked across the circle, outside the circle, or dodging around pairs. Safety was found when the fugitive stood in front of one of the pairs, whereon the child at the back of that pair became the new person to be chased. The game was non-stop, with never more than two players running at a time. If the fugitive was caught by the chaser, the roles were reversed.9

Further newspaper snippets confirm, and add information about the nature of outdoor school entertainment during that era:

- In December 1880, the annual end of year tea party at the Brookhead Public school started at 3 o’clock with an excellent supply of the choicest things imaginable. This was followed by dancing on the green, turzy, rings and racing. All dispersed homeward at 11 o’clock.10

- At Exton State School in December 1890, upwards of 60 children were regaled at the annual school feast, the good things being supplied by the liberality of the friends of the school. After feasting, due attention was given to amusements with much fun caused by spoon and marble races, a lucky beg cricket and various other games.11

- A break-up picnic was held in December 1892 at the Pine Road State School. Some of the young men in the district had thoughtfully erected substantial swings on the school grounds and those added greatly to the children’s amusement. Games were indulged in up to dark.12

- The annual sports at North Motton State School in December 1901 included a variety of events: running races, high jump, long jump, throwing the cricket ball, three-legged races, skipping, nail driving, sack race, blindfold, Donkey over 100 yards, needle-threading, race with wheelbarrow, bun and treacle, hunt the threepence and bowling at a wicket.13

- The annual picnic for 1903 at Rocky Cape State School was held on a Saturday in December in Mr DALLAS’ paddock. Nearly all the residents attended and took their children. While the children played games organized by the teacher, the grown-ups found their own amusement in activities such as cricket, baseball, “Disappointment” and “Running for a Wife”.14

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10 *The Examiner*, 20 December 1880
11 *The Examiner*, 22 December 1890
12 *The Wellington Times*, 24 December 1892
13 *The Advocate*, 31 December 1901
14 *The Advocate*, 8 December 1903
The break-up picnic for Upper Castra State School in 1905, which included scholars, parents and friends, was held in Mr BECKETT’s paddock. The children were kept entertained with such amusements as races, jumping, lolly scrambles and ring games.15

Organised, inter-school competitive team games such as cricket, soccer, football, hockey and netball did not become fashionable in Government schools until further into the 1900s, the teaching of such games becoming part of the Course of Instruction from 1910. Group photographs of school sports teams generally date from after State high schools started to emerge in 1913.

The song made famous by Cat STEVENS in the late 1970s, *Remember the Days of the Old Schoolyard*, still used at many school graduation and reunion ceremonies throughout the world, will be known to many readers. Its lyrics, which include ‘we used to laugh a lot’, ring true with modern day students as much as they did with pupils of days gone by. Past and present games of the school yard, often the same, but slightly adapted and known by different names, all have something in common: fun!

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15 *The Advocate*, 27 December 1905
THE FIRST TRUE FRIENDS OF
THE QUEEN’S ORPHANAGE
Joyce Purtscher (Member No.2738)

THE BEQUESTS OF JOHN FOX
AND GEORGE DEXTER

No, these men were not connected to wealthy colonial settlers, nor had they been orphans at the Queen’s Orphanage at New Town. But they did know about poverty, struggle and being regarded as the lower class of society. Both were ex-convicts who were successful in business and decided to leave most of their money to the welfare of the children at the New Town Asylum.

JOHN FOX arrived per the *Prince of Orange* in 1822 as a 19-year-old waterman from Manchester. It was stated on his convict record that he had been an orphan. He was regarded as a bad character in gaol and continued to offend upon arrival. He worked in the road gang at Bagdad and was punished at the treadmill for ten days. He received a total of 165 lashes before being granted his Conditional Pardon in 1838.1

John earned his money by fishing and ferrying on the Derwent River, between New Norfolk and Hobart. He lived on his boat for forty years, mainly at Old Beach, but he frequented the *Stowell Arms*, a small hotel in Elizabeth Street, near the *Black Prince*. It was at this hotel that he made friends with the licensee, George Chase and his de facto wife, Elizabeth Marshall. They looked after him until his death on 9 February 1859. His tombstone in St Davids Burial Ground indicates that he was buried in the same plot with other friends—some of the Brown family and a John Hall.

JOHN FOX, formerly of the Old Beach,
Died 9 February, 1859,
Aged 60 years.
Also
GEORGE WILLIAM BROWN,
Died 28 July, 1862,
Aged 1 year 2 months and 17 days.
Also
EMILY SOPHIA BROWN,
Died 18 July, 1863,
Aged 2 days
Also
ALBERT JAMES BROWN,
Died 7 June, 1867,
Aged 2 years 1 month
Also
JOHN HALL,
Who departed this life April 24, 1864
Aged 55,
Leaving a widow and nine children to lament his loss.

In his will, Fox left £100 to Elizabeth Marshall, £20 to be paid to his debtors. He also stated,

I wish and bequeath that the Children who shall be in the Orphan School at present at the time of my demise may be present at my funeral and follow my remains to the grave and to affect this I hope the Executors of my will (Thomas Fogarty and James Barter Wiggins), will make application and use all in their power for accomplishing my request.2

After his death, correspondence went back and forth amongst the executors, James Wiggins, hotelier and Thomas

1 AOT CON31/1/1
2 AOT AD960/1/4/355/774
Fogarty storeman, Algernon Burdett Jones, the superintendent of the Queen’s Orphanage and W. Nairn, the Comptroller General. It would appear Fox’s money would have gone straight into the Government’s coffers had it not been for the insistence of the executors and Mr Jones. Two of these letters are worth quoting.

Queen’s Orphan Schools
27 April 1859

The Hon. W. Nairn
Comptroller General

Sir, Some months ago an old man named John Fox who had been many years in the country and who had been engaged in trafficking on the river with a boat with which he traded between New Norfolk and Hobart Town, sent for me and told me that he had amassed a certain amount of property, that he knew he was dying and having no heirs wished to leave the bulk of it, after his debts were paid, to the children at the Orphan Schools. He stated further that he was induced to do this as he had known me for a long time and my sons once saved his boat and cargo for him. After ascertaining as well as I could that he had no relations, I did my best, together with James Wiggins and Thomas Fogarty who he had appointed his Executors, and also with Archdeacon Davies whom we persuaded him to see to keep him confirmed in his good intentions and on the opening his will after his death and the paying all demands on his estate. It has been found that there is a balance of £480 which by the desire of the Testator to be held by the authorities administering the Government of this Colony for the time being for the benefit of the Institution. The money is now lying at the Commercial Bank.

I have the honor to be etc.
A. B. Jones
Hobart Town

15 October 1859
Colonial Treasurer

Sir,

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a letter from yourself informing us “that the Government is prepared to receive from us in our capacity as Executors under the will of the late John Fox of Hobart Town the sum of £480 bequeathed by the said John Fox to the Queen’s Orphan Schools, and that upon our forwarding you a cheque to the Assistant Colonial Secretary for that amount you will transmit to us the Colonial Treasurer’s receipt”.

In reply to your communication we have only to state that we are most desirous of relieving ourselves of our responsibility as soon as we possibly can, at the same time we desire before handing over this money to the Colonial Treasurer to ascertain whether the Government is prepared to carry out the purposes for which it was bequeathed. We make this enquiry from no spirit of doubt but simply from a feeling that the Executive may not be aware of the intention well known however to ourselves of the deceased John Fox in bequeathing the legacy.

It was not his desire that this comparatively small sum should go to the Public Treasurer as a mere pecuniary and in support of the Queen’s Orphan School. He wished to stimulate the industry of the children and to afford them at least once in the year a day of healthful and innocent recreation by instituting a system of money prizes for good conduct from half of the interest of the sum by devoting the other half to the payment of the expenses of some annual festival. This we are ready to vouch for from the conversations we have had with the deceased on the subject.

May we then as Executors of the late John Fox ask before handing over the
money whether the Government will not in the distribution of his bequest comply with his wishes? We are convinced that it will, and have only put the question to them in order to satisfy ourselves that we have discharged our duty both to our poor friend and to the Institution in whose inmates he had so sincere an interest and the promotion of whose comfort, prosperity and happiness were amongst the latest objects of his life.

We have the honor to be etc.

Thomas Fogarty
James Wiggins

About £20 per year was spent on transport to a picnic and food (ginger beer, milk, tea, buns, cakes, meat pies, tarts and fruit), to be known as Fox’s Feast. It was such a wonderful respite in the dull routine of life at the orphanage. I wonder if the officers of the institution told them of John Fox’s past. The feasts were held at various places in the summer and mostly reported in The Mercury.

G EORGE DEXTER, the second benefactor, from Northampton, was also a convict who arrived per the Dromedary in 1820 under a life sentence. Compared with John Fox, he had few convictions in the colony. His only punishment was 50 lashes for stealing wheat from J. Gordon in 1820. By 1858, he occupied and owned buildings at 63–67 Collins Street, Hobart, used as a house, warehouse, shop and office. He died on 15 July 1873. His headstone at Cornelian Bay has the following inscription:

All that is mortal lies here interred of GEORGE DEXTER

Of Hobart Town, who departed this life
July 15, 1873
Aged 82 years.
Under a rough external was a feeling heart as exemplified
In his judicious and munificent bequests to the
Indigent orphans and poor of this City
(in whose memory he long will live).
Reader follow his example.
He that giveth to the poor lead to the Lord.
For the poor shall never cease out of the land.
---[illegible]
Our honour ... provoke the silent dust
Our flattery soothe the dull cold ear of death.
Also
HANNAH, wife of the above
Died January 26 1878
Aged 86 years.

Also buried in the same grave was a Robert McLeod who died 28 November 1906.

In his will, Dexter bequeathed money to relatives, friends and £534 to the Trustees of the Queen’s Orphan School for the educational benefit and advancement of the children of the Church of England who shall from time to time be inmates of that Institution.

In March 1879 the orphanage closed due to the fall in numbers of children being admitted and the introduction of the Boarded Out System. The children who were in the Queen’s Orphanage at the time of closure were transferred to St. Joseph’s Orphanage for Catholic girls, the Industrial Schools for Girls in Hobart and Launceston and the Industrial School for Boys (more often known as the Boys’ Home or Kennerley Boys’ Home).

As Dexter stated that his bequest only go to children of the Church of England faith,
there continued to be legal arguments about both bequests. In 1889 the Parliament enacted that the Fox bequest be distributed giving £8 to each child at the Girls’ Industrial Schools, Hobart and Launceston, the Boys’ Industrial School, St Joseph’s Orphanage and under the Boarded Out System.

Dexter’s bequest was divided between the Girls’ and Boys’ Industrial Schools.

The administration of the bequests transferred to the Department of Charitable Trusts and later to the Department of Community Welfare. It wasn’t until 1987 that the trusts were wound up and the Fox and Dexter Trusts Bill, Act No. 16, 1987 passed the parliament. Money from the bequests, totalling less than $4000 was divided amongst Kennerley Children’s Home, the Maylands Young Women’s Hostel (formerly the Girls’ Industrial School), the St Joseph’s Child and Family Support Centre, the Launceston Girls’ Home and children in the southern region who were under the guardianship of the Director for Community Welfare.7

As was the custom at the Fox’s Feasts, we should all give three cheers for John Fox and George Dexter, the first Friends of the Orphanage!

This extract originally published under the same title in booklet form by the Friends of the Queens Orphan School and St Johns Park Precinct Descendants’ Group, to commemorate their first ‘Fox’s Feast’ Picnic Day, 15 February 2009.

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7 House of Assembly Papers 1987

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**Prospecting the Pieman**

George Campbell Meredith’s logbook November 1876 to March 1877

Alice Meredith Hodgson

For 17 weeks over the summer of 1876–77 George Campbell Meredith and his brother Owen prospected and trekked in the harsh country along the Pieman River on Tasmania’s west coast. They made history when they pegged the first tin claim on Mount Heemskirk, a day’s tramp from the river. They walked out to Emu Bay on the northwest coast, their boots falling from their feet, to tell their story.

The Meredith brothers were the sons of Louisa Ann Meredith, a well-known colonial writer and artist. Their childhood in Van Diemen’s Land gave them the skills and personal courage to tackle the west coast.

**Prospecting the Pieman** is 109 pages, richly illustrated with photographs and maps, and indexed. Priced at $19.90 from all good Tasmanian bookshops or order from the author at no additional cost. PO Box 447 Sandy Bay, TAS, 7006

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**CLAN EGAN RALLY 2010**

*Announcing the Clan Egan Rally*

We invite all descendants and relatives of MacEgan, Egan, Eagan, Keegan and MacEgan families to join us for the 15th Biennial Egan Clan Rally to be held 30 June – 4 July 2010 Hobart, Tasmania


To be placed on the newsletter mailing list contact Kerry Edwards [kerry@dedwards.id.au](mailto:kerry@dedwards.id.au) David Edwards [david@dedwards.id.au](mailto:david@dedwards.id.au) or Sue Egan [spe@optusnet.com.au](mailto:spe@optusnet.com.au)
IN December 2005 I sought information on Agnes (or Nanny) THOMPSON/THOMSON convict per Lord Sidmouth who arrived in Hobart Town on 10 February 1823. Convicted of assault as Agnes HUNTER at Jedburg Court of Justiciary Scotland on 22 April 1822, the 20 year-old was sentenced to seven years’ transportation. Her husband Robert Hunter remained at Kelso, Roxburghshire and there were two children ‘there’ and ‘one with him’. Although not my forebear, my interest in Agnes was because, in 1827, in an application to Lieutenant-Governor George ARTHUR, my ancestor John TATTERSALL of Accrington Lancashire (convict per Maria 1820) claimed he and Agnes Thompson had formed a ‘Mutual affection’ and were ‘desirous to be joined in the Holy State of Matrimony’. According to John Tattersall, he had earlier rented a house for Agnes, but after he left town (presumably to work in the country as a constable in the Field Police) she was charged with being ‘on her own hands’ and was ‘most unfortunately’ ordered to the Female House of Correction at South Hobart where she and three children were in the ‘most pitiable situation’. When Agnes arrived at the Factory she was possessed of ‘some little property’, but during her imprisonment it had been ‘squandered in various ways’. What later became of the three children is unknown, and a search of the indexes to the Queen’s Orphan Schools has, so far, not linked any children to Agnes Hunter or Thompson.

In response to Tattersall’s application, Principal Superintendent of Convicts John LAKELAND was critical of Agnes, who he thought was a ‘scheming woman’. Across the corner of his report, dated 21 December 1827 Lakeland wrote: ‘Agnes Hunter being unable to prove that her former husband is dead. JC 28 Feby’. The following August Agnes Thompson was employed at the Male Orphan School, and two months later Chief Constable CAPON found her guilty of being drunk at the Scotch Thistle public house (on the south-east corner of Barrack and Liverpool Streets). As punishment she was confined to a cell on bread and water for seven days. On 16 May 1829 Agnes was again admonished, this time for obstructing Constable YOUNG in the execution of his duty, and on 30 May, on the expiry of her sentence, her certificate of freedom was issued.

1 TAHO CON 40/1 online image 162 of 374; see also ‘Is Agnes your ancestor?’ Tasmanian Ancestry 26.3 (December 2005), pp.170–71.
2 National Archives of Scotland AD14/22/96 ‘precognition against Agnes Hunter for the crime of Assault’ 1822; TAHO CSO 1/247/5960 Evidence of Police Magistrate Adolarius William Henry Humphrey 28 November 1827; in her VDL convict record Agnes is documented as Thompson.
3 TAHO CSO 1/379/8600 Humphrey’s evidence; CSO 379/8611/1 Tattersall to Arthur, November 1827.
4 CSO 1/247/5960, 21 December 1827.
5 Scotch Thistle licensed 1823–41, see David J Bryce, Pubs in Hobart from 1807,
No marriage took place between John Tattersall and Agnes, and despite earlier stating he had a wife and children in Lancashire, in 1833 at Green Ponds (now Kempton), John married Sarah WATERS convict per Harmon." Further details about Agnes remained a mystery, but now several years after submitting Agnes Thomson for inclusion in the Female Factory Research Group database Laura McDUFF made contact. Sometime after 1829 Agnes married James LOVE. Details of James’ arrival in Van Diemen’s Land have not been traced, although family legend has it that he was a Scottish whaler and arrived about 1822. James and Agnes Love had three sons, all born in Hobart Town, the first was Thomas about 1830. According to St Davids Church baptism register, Richard James was born in September 1832 and John Darke on 20 March 1833, although with only five months between these dates, there seems to be an error. Both Richard and John were baptised on 26 May 1833 by the Reverend William Bedford. The church baptism notes that at the time James was a “boatman.” No birth or baptism details have been located for Thomas.

Although no marriage record has been located for James and Agnes, it is implied on the Marriage Register in 1854 for their son, 24 year-old Thomas Love in which his mother is noted as ‘Agnes Thomson maiden name.’ Similarly, his mother is recorded as ‘Agnes Love MN Thompson’ on the entry in the Death Register for their son Richard, who died 7 September 1893. His age is given as 63 years and the cause of his death, ‘Malignant tumour of Liver (&) Exhaustion’. The informant was Richard’s brother John. Agnes only lived another two years after John’s birth in 1833. During the evening of Thursday 31 April 1835 she was ‘thrown out of a boat … at Old Beach, and unhappily drowned’. An inquest was held at the Star and Garter public house at Compton Ferry (Brighton) in early May before Frederick ROPER Esquire, but unfortunately no record of the inquest appears to have survived. Agnes (noted as 42 years-old, but who, according to her convict record, would have been about 33) whose abode was Old Beach where James was a farmer, was buried on 3 May 1835 in Hobart Town, having not seen her three children in Scotland since she left in 1822.

Left with three young boys aged between two and five years-old, within seventeen months, on 31 October 1836 at St Davids Church Hobart Town, James Love married Isabella (Bell) DUFF (née PRYDE) who had arrived aboard the Mellish on 22 September 1830.

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9 Cathedral Church of St James Melbourne, marriage register 1854/1075 Thomas Love to Mary Ann Quested 25 April 1854.
10 County of Bourke Victoria 1893/162.
11 Hobart Town Courier 6 May 1835, p.2 the inquest was on Monday 4 May, according to Colonial Times Vol 20, no.992, 5 May 1835, p. 143 it was on Saturday 2 May. RGD 34 Hobart burials 3907/1835 St David’s Church, Rev William Bedford.
12 RGD 36 Hobart Town marriages 3197/1836; NS 282/10/1–4 St Davids Church marriages 1836 no.114, signed
had been sentenced to seven years’ transportation on 15 July 1829 at Edinburgh for ‘Vending Base Coin’. This was not her first conviction. She had previously been imprisoned for ‘2 months – 3 months each time’ for ‘Uttering base Coin’ four or five times. Similar to Agnes, Isabella had left her husband and three children in Scotland when she was transported. It can be assumed that James and the three boys remained in the area around Brighton, as it was at Tea Tree Brush in the January 1843 that James Love was a householder, the gender and ages of other household members matching those of Isabella and the three boys. James died at Richmond on 4 November 1849 from disease of the liver at the age of 56 years, at which time he was listed as a ‘farmer’. The informant was his son Thomas, who signed with a ‘X’, and was living at ‘Brandy Bottom’ Jerusalem (now Colebrook). Richard moved to Victoria about 1853, worked as an Ostler at the West Meadows Hotel, and at the age of twenty-four married 14 year-old Sophia COWELL who was born at Castle Camps Cambridgeshire, daughter of Mary Cowell and Amos LUCAS. Sophia also used the surname of ‘Rook’, being that of her step-father Francis. After their marriage Sophia and Richard lived around Romsey/Lancefield and had seventeen children, fourteen of whom had descendants, many still living in the region. Sophia died at the age of 54, and Richard on 7 September 1893.

It seems that following James’ death, Isabella moved to Brandy Bottom. It is also likely that Isabella married Daniel WEIR on 25 May 1853 in St Andrews Church of Scotland in Hobart Town. In the Church register Daniel is listed as a labourer, and both Daniel and Isabella signed with a cross. Daniel, a convict from London on the Prince Regent had arrived on 10 January 1830. Daniel and Isabella moved to Melbourne, where Isabella later died. Thomas also moved to Melbourne and on 25 April 1854 married Mary Ann QUESTED and died at Northcote, a Melbourne suburb, in 1918 at the age of 88 years. John died at Warrambool, a Victorian coastal town in 1899.

Through searching and much help from family descendants, especially Laura McDuff, the puzzle of Agnes Thomson has been solved. She had not ‘disappeared’ after all, but was simply ‘hiding’ in various records under different surnames.

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14 TAHO CON 40/1/3 image 65 on which the alternate names are shown.
15 CEN 1/1/46 Brighton 1843, p.97.
16 RGD 35 Richmond deaths 68/1849.
17 RGD Deaths in District of Romsey County of Bourke 1893/162.
18 CEN 1/1/115 Richmond 1851, p.125.
19 RGD 35 Hobart Town marriages 621/1853; CON 31/1/46 online image 335.
20 RGD Deaths Northcote Victoria 14212/1918.
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Bruny Island
Cemeteries of Southern Tasmania Vol.X

Adventure Bay
St Peters – Barnes Bay
Alonnah
Lunawanna
Shelter Cove
Miscellaneous Memorials

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with the valued assistance of Kathy Duncombe, a member of both TFHS Inc.
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Each Bruny Island cemetery has a brief history/description, plan,
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cemetery. Where available each individual has a photograph of the grave
and/or headstone, a transcription of any wording, and a plot number.
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cases, a transcription is given even though it may no longer be clear on the
tombstone. All identifiable interments to the end of 2005 have been
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Queries should be limited to 100 words and forwarded to editors@tasfhs.org or The Editor, Tasmanian Ancestry, PO Box 191 Launceston TAS 7250.

BENNIER/BENIER/BANNIER and BANNEAR

John Joseph Charles BENNIER and his wife Dorothea Hanna Maria née SPECHT, with their five children, emigrated via New Zealand to South Australia in 1845. I would be very pleased to make contact with any descendants of these families for inclusion in a to-be-published family history to be completed prior to the proposed reunion in 2011.

Marilyn Oakley (Member No.6260) at marc.bennier@yahoo.com.au or 31 Balfour Street, Nailsworth, S AUS 5083.

BROOKS, CORRIGAN and SALMON

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

GRUNDY

My wife Florence GRUNDY was the child of Jessie FLOOD and Reginald Grundy who moved to Victoria and we have lost contact. I am trying to fill some gaps—I have family names and who they married and would like to make contact.


Ivan Blitz (Member No.6716), 37 Maria Crescent, Pakenham VIC 3810, email ivanblitz@tadaust.org.au or ☎ (03) 5941 3489.

KEIRCE/KERIN/HIGGINS

Seeking information including arrival in Australia of John KEIRCE born 1842 Corofin, County Clare, Ireland, son of John Keirce and Brigid HIGGINS; married 1872 in Melbourne Catherine KERIN born circa 1848 Ballyvaughan, County Clare, Ireland, daughter of Peter Kerin and Molly QUINN. Children, Peter, Mary, Margaret, Catherine, John, Anne, James and Patrick Joseph. Family buried Clifton Hill, Victoria, where John was caretaker of Darling Gardens until 1915.
RUSSELL, MARTIN, JEFFS, MARSHALL and HARDING

My great grandmother Eliza RUSSELL was born 23 October 1853 to Samuel Russell and Mary Anne MARTIN. Mary Anne Martin was born 21 October 1821, Tasmania, to William Martin and Sarah JEFFS (widow). John Jeffs marriage certificate says he married a Sarah MARSHALL in 1819, he died 8 March 1820 and Sarah married William Martin 15 May 1820.

Was Sarah married to a Marshall first? My information, according to her granddaughter, the informant on Sarah’s death certificate, says Sarah was the daughter of Samuel HARDING of Manchester, Lancashire, England where Sarah was also born in 1789.

Sarah lived about twenty years in Tasmania and fifty-seven in Victoria, before she died 17 January 1881, aged 92. She would have been thirty years old when she married John Jeffs so had plenty of time to have been married before. Her marriages to Jeffs and Martin where performed by Rev. John YOUL at St Johns, Launceston.

WALKER FAMILY at EXTON

Is anyone researching the WALKER family at Exton about 1860? My great great grandmother Elizabeth JOHNSTON married Alexander HUTTON at Westbury Wesleyan Church in 1862 and one of the witnesses was Elizabeth Walker. I am trying to establish how Elizabeth Johnston arrived in the colony and wondered if there is any connection with the Walker family.

ROBERT and LOUISA YOUNG née ALLEN at ‘Entally’

I would like to find out what I can about Robert and Louisa YOUNG who were Coachman/Gardener and Housekeeper at ‘Entally’. They arrived in 1856/7 on the ship Great Tasmania. They had five children born at ‘Entally’, 1857, 1859, 1860, 1861 and 1863. They moved to Hobart where three more children were born in 1864, 1868 and 1870. Sometime later Robert moved to Sydney. I would like to find anyone connected to this family or any person with connections to ‘Entally’ in those early years.

REUNION & BOOK LAUNCH

Descendants of Isaac and Matilda Richardson are invited to a family reunion and launch of the book A Family Remembers: the story of Isaac and Matilda Richardson and their descendants to be held 12 June 2010 11:00 am at the Town Hall Campbell Town, Tasmania. Others interested are welcome.

Contact Beverley Richardson richunt@bigpond.com or (03) 6225 3292 for further details
### NEW MEMBERS’ INTERESTS

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<td>Bothwell/Mathinsa TAS AUS</td>
<td>1855+</td>
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<tr>
<td>SANDERS Alexander W (son)</td>
<td>Hobart TAS AUS</td>
<td>1858–1946</td>
<td>6982</td>
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<tr>
<td>SANDERS Alexander William - convict</td>
<td>Hobart TAS AUS</td>
<td>1896–1986</td>
<td>6982</td>
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<td>SANDERS/TEED Jane Charity</td>
<td>Launceston/Queenstown/Hobart TAS AUS</td>
<td>1893–1947</td>
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<td>SANDIFORD</td>
<td>CHS ENG</td>
<td>1856–2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCOTT</td>
<td>Any</td>
<td>Any</td>
<td>7007</td>
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<tr>
<td>SIEYES Mary</td>
<td>IRL &amp; NSW</td>
<td>1862–1945</td>
<td>6994</td>
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<tr>
<td>SMITH Catharine</td>
<td>died Cygnet</td>
<td></td>
<td>7004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPENCER</td>
<td>Longford Cressy Launceston TAS AUS</td>
<td>1800–present</td>
<td>6985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STEVENSON (née SANDLE) Eliza</td>
<td>b.KEN ENG</td>
<td>d.1912</td>
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<tr>
<td>STEVENSON William</td>
<td>b.KEN ENG/lived Hobart TAS AUS</td>
<td>d.1887</td>
<td>6991</td>
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<tr>
<td>STRONG Thomas</td>
<td>Queens Co IRL</td>
<td>d.28 Aug 1922</td>
<td>7004</td>
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<tr>
<td>STURZAKER</td>
<td>All Tasmania TAS AUS</td>
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<tr>
<td>THOMPSON</td>
<td>Inglewood VIC AUS</td>
<td>1850–1900</td>
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## NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
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<td>Any</td>
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<tr>
<td>Van Diemen's Land Company</td>
<td>TAS AUS</td>
<td>1825–1840</td>
<td>7009</td>
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<tr>
<td>VINEY Charles</td>
<td>Evandale TAS AUS</td>
<td>1840–1860</td>
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<tr>
<td>WALFORD John</td>
<td>Any</td>
<td>pre 1841</td>
<td>7001</td>
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<tr>
<td>WALKER John</td>
<td>Glasgow SCT</td>
<td>c.1850</td>
<td>7001</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEBSTER</td>
<td>All Tasmania TAS AUS</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>7011</td>
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<tr>
<td>WITHE Priscilla</td>
<td>Bismark Hobart TAS AUS</td>
<td>1890+</td>
<td>6994</td>
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<tr>
<td>WINTZ Joanne</td>
<td>GERMANY/TAS AUS</td>
<td>1860+</td>
<td>6994</td>
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<td>WOITHE/WHITE August</td>
<td>Fingal/Franklin/New Norfolk TAS AUS</td>
<td>1846–1935</td>
<td>6981</td>
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<tr>
<td>WOODS (née Clark) - m/o Alfred</td>
<td>Hobart TAS AUS</td>
<td>Any</td>
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<tr>
<td>WOODS Alfred</td>
<td>Hobart TAS AUS</td>
<td>b.1895 d.1943</td>
<td>6992</td>
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<tr>
<td>WOODS David (father of Alfred)</td>
<td>Hobart TAS</td>
<td>Any</td>
<td>6992</td>
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<tr>
<td>WW1 Soldiers with convict ancestry</td>
<td>Any</td>
<td>Any</td>
<td>1914+</td>
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## NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>PLACE/AREA</th>
<th>M'SHIP NO.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FERGUSON Mrs Elizabeth</td>
<td>WARRANDYTE</td>
<td>3113</td>
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<tr>
<td>HOARE Mr Christopher James</td>
<td>BURNIE</td>
<td>7320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRIDGE Mr Richard</td>
<td>WYNYARD</td>
<td>7325</td>
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<tr>
<td>ABBOTT Mr Geoff John</td>
<td>ULVERSTONE</td>
<td>7315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VINEY Mrs Elsa Doris</td>
<td>BURNIE</td>
<td>7320</td>
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<tr>
<td>BROWN Mr Graham Henry E</td>
<td>BLACKMANS BAY</td>
<td>7052</td>
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<tr>
<td>HARBECK STEIGER Ms Kim</td>
<td>119 4058 BASEL</td>
<td>SWITZERLAND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRASER Mr Rodney Alleric</td>
<td>NORWOOD</td>
<td>7250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPENCER Dr Jack (John)</td>
<td>CHELTENHAM</td>
<td>3192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COULL Miss Anne Marie</td>
<td>Not for publication</td>
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<tr>
<td>GUARD Mr Geoffrey Ian</td>
<td>PENGUIN</td>
<td>7316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLINT Mr Graeme</td>
<td>ULVERSTONE</td>
<td>7315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILSON Mrs Frances Lynette</td>
<td>EAST DEVONPORT</td>
<td>7310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DALE Mrs Helen</td>
<td>SANDY BAY</td>
<td>7005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOINER Mrs Gwendoline (June)</td>
<td>WEST MOONAH</td>
<td>7007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WOODS Ms Julie Anneka</td>
<td>Not for publication</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>GREENBERG Ms Yvonne Mary</td>
<td>BALGA</td>
<td>6061</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SISKA Mrs Lorraine May</td>
<td>PUNCHBOWL</td>
<td>7249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLEESON Mrs Elizabeth</td>
<td>WEST MELBOURNE</td>
<td>3003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLEESON Mr William</td>
<td>Not for publication</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GERRARD Mrs Andrea</td>
<td>NEW TOWN</td>
<td>7008</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TASMANIAN ANCESTRY June 2010 33
NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members

6999  MRS ANNETTE THERESA MAY PO Box 200 LINDISFARNE TAS 7015
7000  MR MICHAEL CLARENCE SCOTT PO Box 200 LINDISFARNE TAS 7015
7001  MRS ROZANNE PARSONS 3 Wombara Avenue KINGSTON BEACH TAS 7050
7002  MRS ROBYN SCOTT 3 Dossiter Street BELLERIVE TAS 7018
7003  NICOLSON CHERIE Not for publication
7004  MRS PAMELA BARKER 7 Cascade Road john@johnbarker.biz SOUTH HOBART TAS 7004
7005  MRS DYORNE BELL 10 Duff Street clce@our.net.au SHEFFIELD TAS 7306
7006  MRS SALLY NAREE HILLIER PO Box 180 sally.filler@education.tas.gov.au LATROBE TAS 7307
7007  MR COLIN CHARLES OVERTON PO Box 813 DEVONORT TAS 7310
7008  DEBBIE SHAW 125A River Road debbie.shw@gmail.com AMBLESIDE TAS 7310
7009  MRS ANNABEL ANDERSON 41 Roseberry Street annabel69@bigpond.com HAWTHORN EAST VIC 3123
7010  MRS FIONA JEANETTE WILLIAMS Alfred Street PIONEER TAS 7264
7011  MRS JENNIFER BRITTON 38 Henry Melville Cr britton@veloctynet.com.au GILMORE ACT 2905
7012  MRS SYLVIA HART 27 Ogilvie Street MT STUART TAS 7000
7013  MRS HEINZ LESLIE KUHNE C/- Post Office HOBART TAS 7000
7014  MRS LOIS JEAN CONOLAN 1441 Kurmond Road KURMOND NSW 2757
7015  MR MARK ROBERT BROWN PO Box 1820 markbrown69@hotmail.com LAUNCESTON TAS 7250
7016  MRS CHRISTINE CRAMPTON 133 Skelbrook Lane SASSAFRAS TAS 7307
7017  MR KENNETH DAVID GORE 30A Alma St BELLERIVE TAS 7018
7018  PROF PAUL ROBERT MCCORRY PO Box 93 paulmccor@bigpond.net.au SHOREHAM VIC 3916

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

6337  JOHN A WALCH Southlea 342 Proctors Road KINGSTON TAS 7050

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MY GREAT-GREAT-GRANDPARENTS
SAMUEL AND MARY INGHAM

Beryl Dix (Member No.6149)

MY paternal great-great-grandfather, Samuel INGHAM, was born about 1820 in Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire, England, a mill town about 6.5 miles east of Manchester. The International Genealogical Index (IGI) records the christening of a Samuel Ingham on 2 April 1820 at St Michaels Church, Ashton-under-Lyne, mother Mary Ingham, but it is not known if this is the right person. In the 1841 Census I found Edmund Ingham, 60 (labourer), Mary Ingham, 50, Samuel Ingham, 20 (engineer), and John RADCLIFFE, 15 (coal miner), living at Park Lane, Ashton-under-Lyne.\(^1\) The marriage certificate of Samuel to Mary LESTER on 1 January 1843 at Manchester Cathedral gives his occupation as engineer, and his father’s name as George (not Edmund) Ingham, deceased.\(^2\) It is possible that his mother Mary remarried another person with the same surname, but a marriage has not been located and I have been unable to determine if the family in the 1841 Census is the correct one. No record of my paternal great-great-grandmother Mary Lester prior to her marriage to Samuel has been found, when her father’s name on the certificate was given as Samuel Lester, deceased. The witnesses at the marriage were Edward TAYLOR and Charles ANDREW, but they do not appear to have any connection with the family and may have been ‘regulars’ at the Cathedral who acted as witnesses when required.

At the time of their marriage, Samuel and Mary gave their address as Tib Street, Manchester. It is very near the Cathedral so they would not have had far to walk to their wedding (assuming they didn’t go by coach). When I was a girl, Tib Street was a magical place to visit, buzzing with activity. Nearly every shop was a pet shop where almost anything could be bought, from exotic aquarium fish to parrots, ferrets, rabbits and guinea pigs as well as puppies and kittens. We never bought any of these animals; the pets we had at home were given to us by friends whose dogs and cats and rabbits had had litters that were looking for good homes. James Middleton, writing in 1920, describes Tib Street as,

A perfectly adorable street, where natural history was taught by living examples ... birds, dogs, rabbits, poultry displayed in the windows or outside the shops.\(^3\)

Nearby, at Shudehill, was Smithfield market. It was a very colourful place where all kinds of meat, poultry and fish could be bought. There were turkeys, chickens, ducks, geese and other birds (dead, of course) for sale, strung up by their feet outside the shops, their sunken eyes closed, heads lolling, complete with feathers, which the buyers would have to

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\(^1\) UK Public Record Office (PRO): HO107/533 folio 12 p.16 1841 Census
\(^2\) Ashton-under-Lyne
\(^3\) Manchester Cathedral CATH/28/399 1843

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pluck themselves. At Christmas time, poultry not sold by Christmas Eve would be almost given away, but we never bought any of these. Our turkey, a plump hen bird, was ordered from the butcher weeks in advance as my mother always said that if it was left until the last minute everything would have been sold and there would be nothing left for our Christmas dinner.

The area has changed now, of course, the historic buildings knocked down and replaced by luxury apartments and upmarket shops. It was in Manchester, the year after Samuel and Mary were married, that Friedrich Engels wrote his first book *The Condition of the Working Class in England in 1844*, about the horrific conditions endured by the labouring poor in this and other industrial northern cities. In 1816 there were eighty-six mills in the central area of Manchester and by 1851 there were 108.¹

I have no idea what Tib Street was like in 1843 but it was possibly quite a squalid area near the rapidly proliferating cotton mills.

By 1851 Samuel and Mary had a son named Ephraim (my great-grandfather), aged one, and they were living in Ashton-under-Lyne.² In 1861 they also had a daughter, Ellen Hannah, aged 8 and were living at 6 Copperas Houses, Park Meadows, Ashton-under-Lyne.³ Samuel’s occupation was given as ‘engine tenter, coal works’. Although cotton was the major industry at that time, Ashton also had a long history of coal mining. An engine tenter oversaw the operation of the

Shaw and Crompton in the late 1800s, dominated by large, brick-built cotton mills
*The Oldham Evening Chronicle*, 30 October 1883, p.2

⁵ [UK PRO: 1851 Census Ashton-under-Lyne. Microfiche held at the Tasmanian Family History Society Inc., Bellerive, Tasmania, Australia 7018](http://uk.pro.gov.uk/census/1851/ashon-under-lyne)
Ephraim’s occupation, at the age of eleven, was shown as roller turner. To us today, eleven seems a very young age to be working but it was not unknown for children even younger to be working in factories at that time. A ‘roll turner’ carded yarn (cotton) into rolls prior to spinning. He also could have been an iron roller turner, working on a machine that rolled iron to form and shape it.

Iron works existed in that area from the late 1700s and were some of the earliest in the North West.

I was intrigued by the address: Copperas Houses. I had no idea what Copperas meant, and why the address was given in the plural; I thought this may have been a mistake on the part of the enumerator. I checked Wikipedia and found that iron(II) sulphate or ferrous sulphate is the chemical compound with the formula $\text{FeSO}_4$, known since ancient times as copperas. It is most commonly encountered as the blue-green heptahydrate.

I also found a report dated 1904, written about events that took place several decades earlier, which states:

A short distance from the church towards Oldham there are a number of houses, and the only colliery now working in the neighbourhood, known by the name of ‘Copperas House’. On the eastern side of the road and opposite the colliery there used to be some low premises, apparently of long standing, in which Mr E NEWTON carried on the manufacture of copperas, or sulphate of iron, from which presumably the name of the place originated.

According to The National Archives, Copperas House pit was located in Bardsley, Ashton-under-Lyne. I assume that the family was living in one of the houses referred to above at the time of the 1861 Census. The report goes on:

The contrast from the old to the present method of winding coal is somewhat marvellous. Here, as at other collieries in olden times, they used to wind one tub only at a time, which tub was slung from each side at the centre by two short chains attached to the rope beam – whose ends slid on the conductor leading to the bottom. To land the loaded tubs there was a slip from the main conductor, which slid the tub on the bank, where it was unhooked and replaced by an empty one.

For a casual observer to watch the men get into the tub as it hung and swung over the mouth of the deep pit was terrifying. Some men preferred getting into the tub as it rested on the pit bank; but this involved greater care on the part of the engineer in lifting the men some distance up the head gearing out of the bank …, an occupation, one would think, which requires a sober, trustworthy man.

Copperas House was indeed a deep pit, going down to a depth of 2322 ft. Samuel at various times was described as an engineer, so perhaps the responsible job of lifting the men as described was the one he carried out at the colliery. I never knew my great-great-grandfather, nor heard any family tales about him, but
I would like to think he was a sober, trustworthy man.

No more children were born to Samuel and Mary. Their son, Ephraim, married Hannah GAR(T)SIDE in 1868 at St Matthews, Chadderton, Oldham. Unlike his parents, Ephraim and his wife had a large family, ten children in all, including twins, Lucy and Lily, born in 1881. Ellen Hannah, Samuel and Mary’s daughter, married William NIELD, carder in a cotton mill, in 1873 at the same church as her brother was married, St Matthews in Chadderton. They had one son, Albert Edward, born in 1878. Their is a rather tragic story. Albert was not found in the 1881 or any subsequent census, and it is presumed he died as an infant, although no record has been located. Ellen died before 1891 but again, no record of the death has been found. In the 1891 Census, William Nield, carder in a cotton mill, was shown as a widower, living with his mother and several siblings at 65 Stock Lane, Chadderton, Oldham. He died in 1898 aged 48.

Samuel and Mary had a sea change (or mill town change) during the 1860s. The census for 1871 shows Samuel Ingham, 52 (mill engine driver), Mary Ingham, 51, and Ellen Hannah Ingham, 19 (cotton weaver) living at Mount Pleasant, Crompton, Shaw. Their son Ephraim, his wife Hannah and their two children were also living at Mount Pleasant. Mount Pleasant may once have been a pretty rural area, but in the late 1800s it was a far from idyllic place to live. The photograph below shows a grim, murky landscape dominated by factories, the terraced rows of workers’ houses in the background obscured by the smoke belching from the chimney stacks. By 1881 my great-great-grandparents Samuel and Mary had left Mount Pleasant and were living alone at 3 Shaw Road, Oldham. Their son Ephraim, his wife Hannah and their eight children were living next door at 5 Shaw Road. Samuel died on 8 November 1881, at home, of cancer of the pylorus, aged 62. After his death, Mary moved next door to live with her son and daughter-in-law, at which time there would have been three adults and nine children, including a baby, living in the house. These three-storey houses, most likely with a cellar, are quite large by mill town standards and today have been turned into shops. Conditions for Mary, her son and his family would not have been as cramped as those experienced by many cotton workers, who typically lived in four-roomed cottages, often with three generations of the same family living under the one roof.

Mary died two years after her husband on 28 October 1883 at her son’s house. The cause of death was ‘Injury to head from fall down stone steps. Lived seven days’. An inquest was held on the following day, 29 October. I was informed that coroners’ records had been destroyed but fortunately the inquest was reported in The Oldham Evening Chronicle on Tuesday, 30 October 1883:

Yesterday afternoon Mr Molesworth, coroner, held an inquest at the Three Horse Shoe Inn, Huddersfield road on the body of Mary Ingham, a widow aged 63 who died on Sunday from injuries received in a fall about a week previous. It was adduced in evidence that the

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12 UK General Register Office (GRO): Oldham 8d 904
13 UK PRO: RG11/04/111 folio 86 p.3 1871 Census Crompton
14 The Oldham Evening Chronicle, 30 October 1883, p.2
It is rather unusual that Samuel and Mary had only two children, when large families were the norm at that time. Perhaps Mary did not enjoy good health. Their daughter Ellen and her young son died, but the three surviving sons of Ephraim and Hannah ensured that the family name continued for at least another few generations.

deceased, while going through the back door of her son’s house, which is approached by a flight of steps, the top one of which was loose, fell forward into the yard and cut open her forehead. She was attended by Dr. Thomson’s assistant but death resulted on the day named. She had been subject to attacks of maziness and it was possible that she might have been seized with one of these fits when she fell. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the facts.

I have not come across a medical definition for the term ‘maziness’ but I assume that it means dizziness. It may even be a local colloquialism. Dizziness is often the symptom of an underlying disease or disorder, but neither the death certificate nor the report on the inquest indicates whether Mary was suffering from a health problem which might have caused her to become dizzy.

Nos 1–9 Shaw Road, Oldham. No.3 is a DIY (do-it-yourself) shop, and The Handyman’s Shop occupies Nos 5 and 7

Courtesy of Oldham Local Studies & Archives
JOHN ARNOLD MAWER
AN EARLY CONVICT WHO CAME GOOD
Barry W Milner (Member No.6948)

JOHN MAWER, my great-great-grandfather, certainly led an adventurous life. Born in Lincolnshire, England in 1804, to George Mawer and Maria ABRAHAM, nothing more has been found until he was 15 years of age and was caught stealing eight fish with his friend, Septimus HILL. Mawer received a sentence of seven years while Hill, also aged 15, only received three months. It is assumed this was not John Mawer’s first offence.

From 1819 to 1821 John was held on board prison hulks awaiting transportation. One can only imagine what frustration a young man of his age would have gone through. However, his prison hulk report indicated he was a well-behaved boy who worked well with his needle.

Three years after receiving his sentence, John departed from Portsmouth on the Countess of Harcourt, her first voyage as a convict transport, on 19 April 1821. He arrived in Van Diemen’s Land on 27 July 1821 after a voyage of ninety-nine days and landed with 172 other male convicts. It appears John was assigned to Mr WALKINSHAW as a personnel helper as he could read and write.

In January 1822 John was sentenced to fifty lashes for insolence and disobedience to his master. He was then returned to the road gang where, on 21 October, he was again sentenced for stealing. This time it was clothing and he was sentenced to the unpleasant colony at Macquarie Harbour. On 27 October 1823 he was given twenty-five lashes for attempting to catch a pig with intention to consume it. In June 1824 his disobedience and insolent behaviour had not improved. John was given another fifty lashes and in October 1824 another twenty-five for stealing bread. At this time he was chief baker and the sentence seems light.

Less than six months later, on 30 March 1825, John Mawer received his Free Certificate. He must have loved bread. Not twelve months later, in Hobart Town, he received another seven years for stealing. Back at Macquarie Harbour and only twelve days later, John, and six other prisoners, were caught trying to steal a boat with the intention to sail to Sydney. John was given 100 lashes and forced to work on the chain gang as he was believed to have been the leader.

At the end of 1826, in November, John received eighteen lashed for fighting and in January 1827 a further forty-eight lashed for stealing flour—bread again—it appears they had not yet broken his spirit. Macquarie Harbour closed as a penal colony in 1831 and all the remaining convicts were sent to Port Arthur.

John received his Ticket-of-Leave on 9 January 1832.
THE SALE OF QUAMBY ESTATE
Anne McMahon (Member No.6463)

UPON the death of the Irishman, Mr Richard DRY (1771–1843), his Quamby estate of 12,000 acres was passed to his son Richard (1815–1869) who later became, Sir Richard Dry, the first Tasmanian born Premier of Tasmania. On Sir Richard’s sudden death in 1869, without issue, the estate was bequeathed to his widow, Lady Clara, who departed to reside in England during 1875. Twenty nine tenants of Quamby estate, at that time, presented a farewell address to Lady Clara Dry in which they expressed their sincere regret that the estate would go out of the Dry family, a name that must forever remain in the history of Tasmania as one of the most hospitable homes of her most honoured sons.¹

Quamby estate was indentured to, then purchased by, two Irish brothers, John Lecky PHELPS, resident of Counties Limerick and Clare, with his younger brother, Joseph James, from County Limerick. The Phelps were an Irish gentry family who came to Ireland during 1645. They joined the revolution and fought under Oliver CROMWELL who sailed to Ireland in 1649 as Lord Lieutenant after the execution of Charles I. Cromwell’s mission was to put an end to the Confederate war known as the ‘Eleven Years War’ and establish the authority of the English parliament in Ireland. He sailed with thirty-two ships and was followed by an additional forty-two vessels. On arrival in Dublin he assembled 15,000 soldiers for the Irish campaign which commenced at Drogheda. The Phelps forebears were beneficiaries of the Down Survey of 1655–1656, conducted by Dr William PETTY, physician-in-chief to the Cromwellian army. The Survey, known as the Cromwellian Settlement, mapped eleven million acres of confiscated Irish land seized by Cromwell during the wars of the 1650s.² This land was re-allocated to Cromwell’s officers who had invested in, or financed, the war, as well as to soldiers in lieu of pay. The Phelps were rewarded with estates in Down, Kerry and Tipperary. Thomas Phelps, the original settler, married Susan FENNELL, daughter of a fellow Cromwellian soldier, and the family settled in Limerick. Thomas then joined the Religious Society of Friends, the Quakers, founded in England by George Fox, in 1647. The sect was brought to Ireland by two men who also served under Cromwell, namely William EDMUNDS and Thomas HOLMES. Thomas Phelps was one of a number of Cromwell’s troops who converted to Quakerism in Ireland.

John Lecky Phelps, eldest son of the fifth generation, was owner of Waterpark estate, County Clare, which was situated in the townland of Summerhill, parish of Killtenanlea. The property was purchased in 1862. John Lecky Phelps was also the owner of Broadford, in County Clare, which he acquired in 1863. John Lecky’s

¹ Launceston Examiner, 5 August 1875, p.1, col. 1
first wife died childless in 1856, and, on 14 May 1864, he married, secondly, Rosetta Anne VANDELEUR. Rosetta was the eldest daughter of the late Colonel John Vandeleur and granddaughter of the late honourable John ORMSBY and Lady Frances Vandeleur. The latter family of Kilrush House, County Clare, had been among estate owners who had evicted thousands of their tenants during the Great Irish Famine of 1845–1850. John Lecky Phelps and Rosetta raised a family of ten children. During this period Joseph James, his brother, had settled at County Limerick where he owned Willowbank. As wealthy speculators the Phelps brothers then extended their investments to the Australian colonies. They acquired land in Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria.

The 1860 Tasmanian Valuation Roll lists Sir Richard Dry as the owner of 12,269 acres of which theDry family occupied 6058 acres. The remainder was tenanted to thirty farmers. Five of the leaseholders were Patrick HEGARTY, Ellen Hegarty, Walter McGee, William OLDAKER and William ORLEDGE who had occupied Quamby farms from at least the 1850s. These families remained leaseholders as at 1875 when Lady Clara Dry was farewelled. By that time they had been joined by twenty four new tenants on Quamby.

In October 1873 the Phelps brothers signed an indenture with Lady Clara Dry for the purchase of Quamby estate. Exempt were fourteen pieces of land, 537 acres, known as the Church Lands at Hagley, and ninety one acres, one rood and eighteen perches, leased, then sold, for the Launceston and Western Railway.

John Lecky Phelps died in May 1881 when his colonial properties were passed to his brothers Joseph James and Robert. They held Quamby until the death of Joseph James in 1890. His share of the estate at that time was valued at £43,700. It was bequeathed to his brother Robert and a nephew. In 1890 they took the decision to break up the estate into separate lots for sale. The purchasers were mainly the leaseholders. Included among them were William McMAHON and his son, William Patrick McMahon, who purchased lot 16, named Bendview. The family remains the owners of Bendview which now incorporates the McGee farm at Emu Plains Road, Quamby Bend.

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4 Tasmanian Valuation Roll, 1860, Hobart Town Gazette, 4 December 1860

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Deeds for the purchase of lot 16, Quamby estate, are in the possession of Paul McMahon, owner of Bendview.
DEATHS AT THE NEW NORFOLK ASYLUM 1915–1930
Laurie Moody (Member No.5835)

THE mental hospital or asylum at New Norfolk has had a chequered history. Originally authorized by Governor Arthur in 1827 as an invalid barracks, the hospital was later enlarged to house sixty convict invalids and ten lunatics. It is believed to have been opened as a hospital around late 1830 or early 1831.

Extensions were added over the years and in 1855 a Board of Commissioners was given charge of the New Norfolk Hospital as it was then known. As a result of this change from an Imperial to a Colonial establishment the Commissioners found many faults, stating that it was poorly constructed, badly ventilated and unable to cope with the purpose for which it was designed.

In response to these conditions the Commissioners began a cycle of requests to reshape the New Norfolk Hospital. Most changes included a new laundry, a store in the women’s section, a cottage for superior male patients, and additions to the female section, and were completed by 1861.

However, until 1893 further additions and changes were slowly implemented, although the block plan of 1888 shows how little the Hospital had changed from the original Invalid Hospital and Hospital for the Insane. It was not until the twentieth century that significant additions were made, and under the Mental Diseases Act, on 28 October 1915 the name of the New Norfolk Hospital was changed to the New Norfolk Mental Diseases Hospital.

A total of 491 mental patients died at New Norfolk between 1915 and 1930, many of whom would have been suffering from varying stages of dementia.
and other mental illnesses, the treatment for which was very limited.

A search of both Tasmanian Pioneer Index (TPI) and Federation Index (FI) records reveals quite a number of birth records for a majority of the patients, shown as follows: Most of these records I believe are correct, however it is possible there may be errors.

2bPI: indicates two possible birth records see TPI.
2bFI: indicates two possible birth records see FI.
1mPI: indicates a possible marriage record see TPI.
1mFI: indicates a possible marriage record see FI.

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ACCIDENT AT TULLAH
‘WEE GEORGIE WOOD’ AND THOMAS HENRY BYNON
Pamela Campbell (Member No.578)

TULLAH
Fall on Line
Elderly Lady’s Narrow Escape
Serious Accident.

An accident that was attended with very painful results to an elderly and very old resident of Tullah in the person of Mrs. Jessie MAWBEBY happened on Saturday morning, and but for the vigilance and presence of mind displayed by Mr. T. H. BYNON, engine driver, employed at the North Mount Farrell Co’s tramway would have certainly had a tragic ending.

Mrs. Mawbey who was expecting her youngest daughter to arrive home on a visit from Western Australia had intended to go out to Farrell Siding to meet her. Hearing the train whistle and thinking she would not have time to catch it if she went out the front way she decided to take a shorter way through her back gate which abuts onto the tramline. To reach the line she had to descend a flight of steps leading down the side of a cutting about five feet deep. In her hurry she either missed her footing or tripped and fell head long onto the line and striking her head on the outside rail she lay unconscious right across the line in front of the approaching train.

When it is realised that the steps would not be visible to the driver until he was within thirty yards and that he saw the lady fall some idea can be formed of the promptitude with which he acted and the effectiveness of measures then taken by him to bring the train to a standstill. When he applied the brakes and reversed his engine he found the latter was skidding and it was only by opening the sandboxes that he was able to pull the train up within two feet of where the lady was lying. The train was made up of one truck of metal, two empty wood trucks and passenger car, and it was fortunate that the load was a light one; had there been the usual load of ten tons of metal a terrible accident could hardly have been prevented.

Mrs. Mawbey who was quite unconscious was removed to the residence of Mrs. J. TURLEY where she was made as comfortable as possible. When Sister MUNCH arrived she found the lady was suffering from a badly contused forehead, severe scalp wounds and a fractured wrist, and got into communication with Dr. RIEGER who came out by the afternoon train from Zeehan and attended to the injuries and the patient was removed to her own home.

Mrs. Mawbey is about seventy years of age and with her son Lachlan (who is guard of the train and was in charge at the time of the accident) and her daughters Mesdames H. I. JONES and V. CRAWN is highly respected and the deepest sympathy is extended to them in their trouble.

The patient was, at a late hour on Sunday night doing as well as could be expected but her condition is still critical.

THOMAS HENRY BYNON (known as Harry) was born 1 September 1892 at Waratah, the fourth child of Henry Bynon and Geraldine Bower Bynon. Harry, aged 19 married Clarice Lillian SCETRINE, aged 22 of Waratah, daughter of Priscilla JACOBS and James Scetrine at the Waratah Methodist Church on 10 April 1912.

1 Advocate, 1 April 1924
He worked at Mt Bischoff in Waratah but with hundreds of other workers lost his job when Mt Bischoff, rather than continue operating at reduced profit, closed the mine overnight at the outbreak of World War I. He moved in with his mother-in-law who sheltered the young family.

Moving to Tullah from Zeehan in 1920 the family was stricken with diphtheria, a dreaded disease in those days. While ill with the disease herself Clarice cared for her sick children Ella, Jean, Marion and Neil. Ella died on 25 October 1920.

Tullah was the home of the Mount Farrell Mining Company and was about 6 miles east of the Emu Bay Railway line. In 1921 a small railway was built from Tullah to Farrell Siding about sixty-three miles from Burnie on the Emu Bay Railway line to Zeehan. This Tullah train replaced a tramway established in 1902.

Prior to the Murchison Highway, Tullah was cut off from the outside world except for the narrow gauge railway that climbed through the rugged mountains.

The railway was two foot gauge and the main engine on this line was a diminutive steam locomotive known as ‘Wee Georgie Wood’ named after an 1890s comedian, weighing 5.5 tons, pulling one passenger (and parcel) car and one goods wagon. Built by Fowler & Co., Leeds England early in the 20th century. Soon after, ‘Wee Georgie’ was given a partner of similar design ‘Wee Mary’ to help him with his work.

Harry drove the brand new steam locomotive for the first sixteen years of its forty year history. The train would take approximately two hours to cover the seven mile journey from Tullah to Farrell Siding where it met the Emu Bay line to Zeehan.

Whistle at the Bridge by Jean Thorne, Harry’s daughter, describes the arrangement between Harry and the townsfolk by whistle signals, becoming an efficient bush telegraph.

When leaving the customary stop on the town side of the bridge, a single perfunctory whistle for the long haul up into town was read as ‘Coming In, Everything Normal’. If a questioning wail was added to this, stickybeaks gathered at the first stop for they knew he had semaphore ‘Stranger on Board, Business Unknown’. Two urgent blasts repeated halfway up the hill, was advance warning for the school teacher who immediately checked his own and his pupils work or for the mine manager who issued frantic instructions to correct mining infringements since they both knew he was signalling ‘Inspectors on Board, Cover Up’. Three urgent whistles in quick succession, repeated halfway up the hill, rounding Carlson’s corner and passing the butchers stand galvanised the whole town into action. That meant ‘Police Onboard’.

Shortly after leaving their son Neil at boarding school in Devonport in 1926 they received news he was ill. Making the slow journey to Burnie, a car rushed them to Devon Public Hospital. Neil died of peritonitis on 23 September 1926.

During the depression Harry and Clarice continued living at Tullah—every shilling was turned twice before being spent. It was not until the end of the 1930s that Harry reluctantly climbed down from the footplate of ‘Wee Georgie Wood’ for the last time, sold their home, which had been bought for £100 in the centre of Tullah and moved to Mary Street, North Hobart.

Today ‘Wee Georgie Wood’ is housed in its shed on the road through Tullah and is fired up for a run along a short track on weekends from Spring to Autumn.

Further reference: Popular Mechanics May 1959
MANX CONVICTS WHO CAME TO VDL

PATRICIA POWER, Lhoobs Cottage, The Eairy, Foxdale, Isle of Man IM4 3JA via UK is undertaking research for her book on the lives of convicts after being transported from the Isle of Man—see Tasmanian Ancestry Vol. 18 No.1, June 1997 p.22 for further information. She has recently discovered others who were tried outside the Isle of Man, plus WILDE, who was missed off the original list. She would be very pleased to receive any information, however trivial, by post or email felon@manx.net

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WELSH WILLS ONLINE
Roger Lewry FFHS Archives Liaison

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF WALES has good news for family historians, social historians … and the inquisitive! Over 190,000 Welsh wills (some 800,000 pages) have been digitised and are now available on the Library’s website or direct on their online catalogue and are free to view.

Wills which were proved in the Welsh ecclesiastical courts before the introduction of Civil Probate on 11 January 1858 have long been deposited at The National Library of Wales. An online index and an opportunity to view digital images of these wills within the Library building has been available for some time, however, remote users can also view the digital images following the release of a new site.

As well as being a fabulous source of information the National Library’s online wills offer the ability to view all 193,000 wills free of charge, a service few other similar institutions are able to offer. Whilst most institutions charge readers to view their documents, the Library only charges for providing copies of them.

More information can be viewed at http://www.llgc.org.uk/index.php?id=1514&no_cache=1&tx_ttnews%5btt_news%5d=2640&tx_ttnews%5bbackPid%5d=160&cHash=d41a0c9a42
I have a new best friend which keeps track of so much information for me, I don’t know how I survived without it. Microsoft OneNote is a lifesaver for anyone who uses a computer and keeps notes. Set out like your classic tabbed spiral notebook you can set up a number of different notebooks, for example Personal, Family Tree, Recipes.

Within each notebook you can have multiple sections shown across the top as Tabs. In my Recipe Notebook I might have a section for Chicken, a section for Desserts, etcetera. Within sections I can have pages. Pages are shown on smaller tabs with a title showing down the right hand side of the window. Pages are easy to add and can be as large or as small as you want. They are printable and sharable (even to those without OneNote).

It is in these pages that the real versatility of OneNote shines through. Page content can be text, audio or video files, images, drawings, tables, Excel spreadsheets, PowerPoint slides, word documents or pdf files, all of which are searchable. Yes, all of them. So in my recipe notebook I have pages for a chicken and vegetable curry recipe which I have typed in, a zucchini chocolate brownie recipe pasted from the web (which automatically inserts a link back to the web page and includes the photo) and a salmon slice which I scanned in from a magazine (a jpg image). If I search ‘zucchini’ the program produces a list of pages including all these, as it automatically converts text in images into searchable text.

For my genealogy I’ve begun entering all the newspaper articles from the NLA site that apply to various individuals onto pages. One of these pages, a trial transcript, goes for seven A4 pages if printed. They are titled with the date and arranged in date order. On each page I have a screen clipping, or jpg or pdf ‘image’ of the page and then a text conversion—some done by the NLA site, some converted by OneNote (it depends on the size and quality of the original). I can quickly flip through the pages to find the article I want, or search both text (which I can correct) or the text in the image.

I can add word documents (or any other files) to the pages as links, or as copies. Gradually as I work through my files I am developing pages that show at a glance what I have on each family. I can open a page on a relative and see a photo of a gravestone, a link to a document about her family home, a bit of text quoting a descendant, a pedigree chart clipped from Legacy, a table showing her children, another text entry with an arrow pointing to one of the children questioning his paternity (since he was born twelve months after his father was lost at sea), another box listing questions I still need to answer, a link to photos of her and her children and more. On sub pages are newspaper articles concerning her husband’s ship, house sale, and her possible later partners. Everything is interlinked and it doesn’t take forever to enter it in.

Tags are another powerful tool in OneNote. Any text, image, or page can be labelled with a variety of comments, tick boxes, or bullets. These can be automatically gathered into lists, even produced on their own page. I have a tag set up for To Do Archives. As I enter...
research any detail that needs checking, a birth certificate, a shipping reference, etc is marked with this tag. Then when I’m going to the Archives I can quickly produce a list of all the unticked Archives tags, a worklist for my visit. I also use tags to sort recipes, one for lunch dishes, one for favourites, one for recipes I want to try. *OneNote* comes with some excellent tutorials. Although developed for students the uses for this application are never ending. For me it has solved the problem of hundreds of bits of paper, many word documents, some pictures, some emails, some spreadsheets all on a related topic but spread over the study in different folders and formats and without descriptive names. I can’t stop finding new uses. When I renew a software licence, the details, receipt, password etc are all put on a page (I can password protect sections for security). I have scanned in a number of manuals and warranties so a simple search for the word Astone brings up the instructions for replacing the batteries in my mp3 player. When I manage to finally get that stubborn program working I type in the instructions and even link or copy the driver files so I can repeat it next time.

For me however by far the best feature is the ability to import digital text (that written using a stylus or digital pen) and convert that handwriting into searchable text. I no longer have to retype minutes of meetings. I don’t have to ‘retranscribe’ my transcriptions of cemetery records, death notices or anything else found in a library. I recently purchased an Intellipen and love it. This gadget which looks like an ordinary ballpoint comes with a clip like a large USB stick. This clip is the receiver. Clip it to the top of the page, turn it on and anything written on the page with the pen is recorded. Around 500 pages of writing can be recorded before you need to go back to a computer. At your computer plug in the USB and the pages download into a viewer, or into *OneNote*. Your written words can be moved around much like typed text, or converted into typed text. Whilst not perfect at reading handwriting (who is?) it is amazing the range of scrawls and scribbles that this device can translate.

You may already have *OneNote*. *OneNote* is available for individual sale from Microsoft, but also comes included in some Office 2003 and 2007 packages, especially student ones, and will be available in more Office 2010 packages.

*If you haven’t visited the National Library of Australia’s Newspapers online you are in for a treat. Thousands of pages of historic newsprint from all over the country, searchable and ‘browsable’

WHAT IS THAT PUBLICATION ABOUT?

Maurice Appleyard (Member No.4093)

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

THE COLERAINE CHRONICLE: Births, Marriages and Deaths 1844–1869. CD. Published in 2002 by the Coleraine Branch of the North of Ireland Family History Society. Members of the Branch have abstracted BDM information from two Londonderry newspapers. The second newspaper featured on the disc is The Ballymoney Northern Herald: Births, Marriages and Deaths 1860–1863. Civil registration only commenced in 1845 for marriages and 1864 for births and deaths, making this a very valuable, alternative source of information. This CD contains information of over 3,600 births, 8,800 deaths and 5,800 marriages.

THE SUSSEX POOR 1661–1800: Quarter Sessions of: Arundel, Battle, Chichester, Eastbourne, Horsham, Lewes, Midhurst, Petworth & Steyning. This CD was published in 2008 by The Parish Register Transcription Society. This volume of edited abstracts from the Quarter Session records of the ancient county of Sussex, covers all aspects of the operation of the Old Poor Laws and associated legislation during the period 1661–1800. It comprises all the cases coming before the justices at quarter sessions during the period, that concerned private and parish apprentices, bastardy, beggars, lunatics, marriages, the poor, settlements, removals, rogues, vagabonds and any other case that had a bearing on the poor in general; with the exception of debtors and bankrupts. It also includes payments made to wounded or maimed soldiers and sailors in the seventeenth century and payments to the families of serving militia men at the end of the eighteenth century, and licences to erect cottages on manorial waste licensed by the lords of various manors.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE NONCONFORMIST TRANSCRIPTIONS Vol. 1: Baptisms & Births. This CD was published in 2004 by the Gloucestershire Family History Society. The earliest recorded record is dated 1739 and the latest 1903. The term ‘non-conformist’ denotes those religious organisations separate from the conformist English Established Church known as the Church of England. The non-conformist bodies include Methodist, Baptist, Congregationalists, Moravian, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, Unitarian, etc.

GLOUCESTER MISCELLANEOUS This CD published in 2007 by the Gloucestershire Family History Society, is a collection of indexes to various Gloucestershire records: Gloucester Prisoners Index 1815–1879, Gloucestershire Owners of Land 1873, Gloucestershire Poor Law Index 1605–1897, Gloucestershire Electoral Roll Index 1831–1832 and Heraldry for the Tourist in Gloucestershire.

INDEX TO COLONIAL CONVICT MOVEMENTS 1827 TO 1853: This CD was published in 2003 by the Descendants of Convicts Group Inc. The index concerns convict movements in the Colony of New South Wales (encompassing what is now NSW, QLD, TAS and VIC) of nearly 10,000 convicts. These records involve, for the time period, both Transported Convicts (those who were transported from England or English territories or colonies) as well as Colonial Convictions. Colonial convictions were of persons born in the colony and committed an offence, came free and served their sentences and re-offended, and convicts still serving their time who absconded or committed some other offence.

PHILLIMORES PARISH REGISTERS—MARRIAGES: These series of CDs were produced by Archive CD Books—Ireland. All volumes of the Phillimore’s marriages transcripts, making up the county set are contained on the appropriate CD. (Phillimore’s did not have access to the registers in all parishes when making the transcripts). The transcriptions for each parish contain the entire register for each featured parish, from the first available preserved register (usually in the 1500s and as early as 1538) up to either 1812 or in many cases, 1837.

Parts of a parish may be found in more than one volume of the county. Full county sets available are: Dorset (7 volumes), Cheshire (5 volumes), Middlesex (9 volumes), Somerset (15 volumes), Norfolk (12 volumes) and Nottinghamshire (27 volumes).

15 MILES ROUND LONDON IN 1786: John Cary’s 50 page, one inch to the mile pocket atlas of the country 15 miles round London at the time of George III. This 2nd ed. CD was published in 2007 by Motco Enterprises Ltd. Additionally, the CD contains a 4000 name index of places and owners.

CEMETERY TRANSCRIPTIONS Version 3: Index to selected M.I. Transcriptions held at AIGS. CD. Published in 2003 by the A.I.G.S. Features 258, mainly Victorian cemeteries; however it does cover nine SA, six NSW, and two from Tasmania (St Thomas, Tea Tree and St George’s, Old Beach).

THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE POOR 1661–1834: Poor Law Cases from the Quarter Sessions of Cambridgeshire, Cambridge Borough & Ely Liberty. CD, published in 2008 by The Parish Register Transcription Society (UK). The information was transcribed from the original records held in the Cambridgeshire Record Office and Cambridge University Library. This volume includes all Poor Law cases that came before Cambridgeshire, Cambridge Borough and the Liberty of the Bishop Ely’s courts of Quarter Sessions at Ely and Wisbech during specific periods. It includes cases of settlement and removal, apprenticeship, bastardy, beggars, rogues and vagabonds and any case that had a bearing on the poor in general.
For Cambridge borough it highlights the problems of eighteenth century prostitutes in a university town and for Ely Liberty the widespread incidence of bastardy in the north of the shire in the early nineteenth century when Episcopal authorities appear particularly vigilant in prosecuting reputed fathers.

**Transcript of Fr Anstruther’s CATHOLIC MARRIAGES & BAPTISMS INDEX, CD**
Published in 2008 by The Parish Register Transcription Society (UK) it covers over 30,000 marriages, chiefly for London and Essex from the mid 18th century to approximately the early 1870s with some entries up to 1940. It is sorted into chronological order with a separate index for bride and groom surnames. There is a supplementary volume covering the additional, mainly adult baptisms. The Index includes the names of both parties and in most cases the officiating priest, the couples’ residences, their parents’ names and notes from obituaries or probate material. Witnesses are included if there is a clear relationship to bride and groom.

**HUMANE AND HEROIC: The life and love of a 19th century country doctor.** Hardcover book published in 2007 by John S. H. Tooth. A true story about a remarkable doctor, Robert Storrs, who worked in Doncaster, Yorkshire, in the first half of the nineteenth century. The author is one of about 500 great-great-grandchildren and inherited the medical case books of his ancestor. When they were transcribed they showed a very discerning man. Some 130 letters written between Robert and his wife Martha were found, about half of these during the three years before their marriage, and the remainder whenever they were apart. Whereas material in the case books is presented without emotion, the letters reveal a very human caring and loving man who adored his wife and revelled in his enjoyment of their very large family. Together the case books and letters produce an exciting picture of a dedicated doctor whose death from typhus at the early age of 46 must have been devastating for his widow and twelve children. The book describes what it was like to be sick or injured before the days of bacteriology, anaesthetics, asepsis and knowledge of the causes of diseases. Material from the case books is presented with great realism. Storrs’ account of the cholera epidemic of 1832 is horrifying but even in the midst of that epidemic he could write about his children and their activities.

**DESCENDANTS OF PETER CRAIG BROWN, ESPERANCE:** by Dorothy Crocker. A4 book, published c. 2009, is about the descendants of Charles Brown from Scotland; focusing on the family of Peter Craig Brown of Esperance, Tasmania. It contains the family tree with photographs of most of his descendants.

**BAKER FAMILIES FROM ESPERANCE:** collated by Dorothy Baker. This A4 book, published c. 2009 is a family tree of photographs of the Baker families of Esperance, Tasmania. Principally are featured the descendants of Edward Thomas Brown and Sarah Louisa Knight and; the descendants of Thomas Edward Brown and Mary Ann Powers.
LIBRARY NOTES

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Set 1: GRO BDMs Index 1868–1897
Set 2: Griffith’s Valuation for Ireland Series, GRO Consular Records Index
Set 3: Old Parochial Records and 1891 Census Indexes for Scotland
Set 4: National Probate Calendars 1853–1943
Set 5: GRO BDMs Index 1923–1942

Devonport & Launceston Microfiche Roster

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* Sims, Peter C OAM, The Butler Sisters the life and times of Maclaine, Lapham & Radcliff families of Scotland, Ireland, Australia and New Zealand. Volume 11. Lapham
* Smith, Wayne, Ripper Tassie Tales
TFHS Inc. Launceston Branch, The Tasmanian Mail – A Photographic Index Vol. 7 1923–1924

Accessions—Computer Disks
* Carew, Linnie & Clarke, Leanne, Headstone Photos from Latrobe General Cemetery
* TFHS Inc. Tamiot – Tombstone & Memorial Inscriptions of Tasmania
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* Baker, A; Index to ‘The Mercury’ Deaths, 1972. [Q929.3940 BAK]
* Batchelor, L; Prison Industry 1820–60. [Q929.3946 BAT]
* Beattie, A & M (eds); Lochaber & Skye Monumental Inscriptions, pre 1855. [Q929.3209411]
* Bellerby, R; Tracing your Yorkshire Ancestors. [Q929.309428 BEL]
* Benton, T; Irregular Marriages in London before 1754. [Q929.3109421 BEN]
* Bevan, A; Tracing Your Ancestors in the National Archives. [Q929.3 BEV]
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Police Gazette NSW, Compendium 1886–1890
Police Gazette NSW, Compendium 1891–1895
Police Gazette NSW, Compendium 1896–1900
Police Gazette Victoria, 1864
Police Gazette Victoria, 1865
Police Gazette Victoria, 1868
Police Gazette Victoria, 1869
Police Gazette Victoria, 1870
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  The Coleraine Chronicle BDMs 1844–1869 and The Ballymoney Northern Herald,
  BDMs 1860–1863
  The Londonderry Sentinel BDMs 1829–1869
Parish Register T S; The Sussex Poor 1661–1800.
* Sainty, M & Johnson, K; Sydney Morning Herald—Birth, Marriage, Death & Funeral
  Notices 1831–1853
* S&N Genealogy;
  Chichester Calendar of Wills 1482–1800
  Churchyard Inscriptions of London.
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TFHS Inc Launceston Branch;
  The Weekly Courier Volume 6, 1912–1913
  The Tasmanian Mail, A Photographic Index. Volume 7, 1923–1924
  The Kelso Chronicle 1858–1859
Any person who has convict ancestors, or who has an interest in convict life during the early history of European settlement in Australia, is welcome to join the above group.

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

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

http://home.vicnet.net.au/~dcginc/
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Membership of the TFHS Inc. is open to all individuals interested in genealogy and family history, whether or not resident in Tasmania. Assistance is given to help trace overseas ancestry as well as Tasmanian.

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Friday 11:00 a.m. • 3:00 p.m.

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Phone: (03) 6243 1583 (Branch Sec.)
Library 19 Cambridge Road, Bellerive
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Wednesday 9:30 a.m. • 12:30 p.m.
Saturday 1:30 p.m. • 4:30 p.m.

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Library Soldiers Memorial Hall,
Marguerite Street, Ranelagh
Saturday 1:30 p.m. • 4:00 p.m.

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

It was disappointing to miss the Annual General Meeting at Ross, especially after hearing such good reports, but we now have next year, to be hosted by Devonport Branch, to look forward to.

This issue contains reports from the AGM including the Lilian Watson Family History Award and the Short Story Award. We have been able to publish the latter, which was awarded to Allison Carins, in this journal. See From Cellardyke to Tasmania, Rev. Thomas Cunningham et al, on page 105. Congratulations to all award recipients.

I have found it an effort to compile this issue—either I am getting older and feel the cold more or it has been a very chilly winter—it is much nicer to sit by the heater than at the computer! By the time you receive it spring should be close by and you will be able to find a cosy place to read the diverse articles to be found inside. There have been many comments on the previous cover so I am grateful to Betty Jones for another wonderful image for this one.

Please keep sending in your articles, and your comments, to ensure another interesting issue in December.

Rosemary Davidson

Journal address

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

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

Deadline dates are:
1 January, 1 April, 1 July and 1 October

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

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Cover:
Illustration supplied by Betty Jones for her article, Home Sweet Home the Nineteenth Century School Residence, see page 77.
PRESIDENT’S REPORT 2009/2010

As I complete twelve months in office, I can’t help but compare with a newly elected member of parliament in the same position. One takes on the role with great enthusiasm, with good intentions to do so much, but after a year so much appears to still not be done.

I was aware that at Society level, so much work was carried out by a small number of volunteers, many of whom have taken on multiple roles, both at State and Branch level. I guess I have become one of them, and there never seems to be enough days in the week to work in.

Despite these limitations, some progress has been made through the efforts of the Executive Officers and Branch Delegates. As reported elsewhere, free access to Ancestry.com has been established in all branches for a five year period. Thank you, in particular, to Peter Cocker and Leo Prior for their efforts in achieving this outcome.

The TAMJOT Index has been published in CD format and has sold well. Thanks, in particular, to the skills of Peter Cocker, Jim Rouse, Colleen Read, Robert Tanner and Bev Richardson.

Much of the Executive’s year has been taken up with the process of amending the Society’s rules and the subsequent upgrading of the By-laws pertaining to our day to day operation. Whilst the proposed amendment to our Rules are largely of a ‘housekeeping’ nature, the By-laws had been unchanged for a number of years and often did not relate to the current operation of the Society.

I have appreciated the efforts and goodwill of the Branch Delegates in dealing with these matters at Society meetings but particular praise must be given to Robert Tanner, our By-laws Coordinator, who prepared the paperwork and led us so skilfully to achieve the desired outcome.

The day to day operation of the Society continues because of the work carried out by our Secretary and Treasurer and those in the appointed positions of By-laws Coordinator, Webmaster, Journal Editor, LWFHA Coordinator, Members’ Interest Compiler, Membership Registrar, Publications Committee, Public Officer and Society Sales Officer. Their names are known to you all, being endorsed on the inside cover of each Tasmanian Ancestry journal you receive. Their efforts on our behalf are greatly appreciated. The ‘silent’ Journal Distribution Coordinators, Leo Prior in the south and Muriel and Betty Bissett in the north also deserve our praise.

I shall not ‘borrow’ from the annual reports of the Branch Presidents to report on their activities. Their quarterly reports in our journals convey this much better.

One item of particular interest is the establishment of the Denise McNeice Memorial Collection in the Hobart Branch Library through a generous donation by Brian McNeice. It is pleasing to see that a late Fellow of our Society will continue to be remembered for her dedication and hard work.

In closing, I would like to thank all those ‘brave souls’ who have made themselves available to fill the various positions in the Society. I wish you well for the coming year.

Maurice Appleyard
THE Award was established in 1983 and first awarded in 1984. In 1996 it was renamed the Lilian Watson Family History Award to honour the memory and the contributions to genealogy and family history of Mrs Lilian Watson who died in March 1996. She was the Foundation Chairman of the Society in 1980 and the first Fellow of the Society, elected in 1995.

The Award is for a book, however produced or published, printed on paper, dealing with family history and must have a significant Tasmanian content.

There were seven entries for the 2009 Award—listed in alphabetical order by author with the branch where they will be deposited.

That’s the Way it Was: Stories from the Bradmore Family Past, Donald James (Don) Bradmore—Launceston Branch

The Descendants of Charles & Mary Tomlin, Ellendale, Tasmania, Diane Dooley, Great, Great, Granddaughter – a labour of love—Hobart Branch

Cider Gums and Currawongs, Gwen Hardstaff—Devonport Branch?

Prospecting the Pieman: George Campbell Meredith’s logbook November 1876 to March 1877, Alice Meredith Hodgson—Burnie Branch

Naming the Women, Maureen Jones—Hobart Branch

Soldier Sailor Convict Jailor: A Story of the McGuinness, McIvor, Murphy and Hickey families, Barbara Moore—Hobart Branch

From Hell to Paradise: A Family History, Robert Wayne Poole—Hobart Branch.

WINNER OF THE AWARD 2009

D J Bradmore, That’s the way it was: stories from the Bradmore Family Past

This is a valuable addition to Tasmanian history: the story of a family who were typical of people of their day. As the author writes, ‘For the most part, they lived unexceptional lives. Their success and failures, struggles and achievements, joys and sorrows were those of ordinary folk’. It may be fascinating to write or read about someone who became prime minister or a war hero, but the Bradmores are in their own way just as important—ordinary people, typical of the great majority of Australians.

In 1825 George Bradmore was transported to Van Diemen’s Land for burglary. During his period as a convict he committed a number of offences, such as stealing a bag of sugar. He gained his conditional pardon in 1840, having already married Elizabeth Farrell, a free immigrant. They and their four children lived peacefully, first at Evandale and then at Westbury. Donald Bradmore describes what happened to them and their descendants, including interesting in-laws.

These are stories of typical Tasmanians. Some people died young, some lived to a good old age. Some marriages were happy, some failed. Some people lived in the same place all their lives, some moved around, many going to mainland Australia or New Zealand. Some prospered, some did not. Some had eventful lives, for others, facts are scarce. It reminds us that though many convicts and free migrants prospered in Australia,
others did not, and that life in the nineteenth century could be difficult.

Donald Bradmore tells all sorts of stories. I felt particularly sad to read of the illiterate woman who, feeling unwell at midnight, took arsenic in mistake for Epsom salts. Family secrets are unveiled: the bigamous father, a mother confined to the Lunatic Asylum for thirty-two years. Three Bradmores were killed in action in the First World War, and another became a prisoner of war. One Second World War story reminds us that not all soldiers were heroic. The corpse too big for the undertakers adds a touch of macabre interest.

Donald Bradmore tells these stories well, without getting bogged down in detail, and with touches of humour, though his method of dividing the material into chapters means there is some repetition. On the plus side, there are excellent family trees, many photographs and a comprehensive index of names, and the font is large and clear. This book is a worthy winner of the Lilian Watson Family History Award.

Alison Alexander

SHORT STORY AWARD 2009
From Cellardyke to Tasmania: Allison Carins. See her short story on page 105.

Allison was present at the AGM to receive her Award and gave this reply:

I would like to thank the society for making this award, but I am very sorry that there was not more interest this year. In fact there may well have been no entries as I didn’t think I would be able to enter owing to several months of ill health, but was inspired at the last minute. I hope that you will not be so disheartened that the competition will lapse. I would encourage members to enter the competitions or write for *Tasmanian Ancestry*, as there are great benefits and much enjoyment and satisfaction in producing an article and seeing it in print.

I was in my late 50s before I was able to write for publication, and joining the society gave me an opportunity. Since I joined the society I have submitted some twenty articles (the first in 1992) and entered five competitions, winning two of them. The first was the Lilian Watson Award for a Manuscript. I had long wished to put in book form, for my family, my ten years or so of collecting history and stories of my father’s background. This competition was the incentive; a manuscript was a start, and I won this in 1997. This encouraged me to persevere and resulted in a book (*Woven Threads of Ancestry*) three years later.

I had two entries in *My Most Famous Ancestor* and both are in the booklet published by the society. Next was the competition for a ‘Family Tree’, and this really spurred me into action. Out came a large printed chart, put away for years till I ‘had time to fill it in’. Well this was the time and now there is a very comprehensive chart with a great deal of information about all our families, going back eight or nine generations in some cases. Copies have been made for each of our children.

I have entered both Short Story Competitions and each time I have derived much pleasure from telling the story of a family in such a way that the main facts are there, the events interesting; but it is not just names and dates—the characters are real people, living in a different era, many leaving their homeland to come to Tasmania, often enduring much hardship, yet achieving a great deal. In each case I did more research, discovering new inform-
I found that extremely interesting and at times exciting. Family and friends have enjoyed reading the stories without wading through folders and files.

So I would urge the members of the society to write articles, tell your stories; you will find it stimulating and inspiring, providing discipline needed to achieve these things; and the satisfaction of not only preserving your family and local history, but sharing it with others. The Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. makes this possible; a sincere ‘thank you’ to you all. I also take this opportunity to thank all the hardworking officers and others (most for many years) who give up so much time and effort to make the society function so well. Distance and health problems have prevented me from being an active member. Writing has been my contribution.

Allison Carins (Member No.668)

TFHS Inc. AWARDS 2009
This year there were six Awards:

**Burnie Branch:**
Judith Cocker

**Devonport Branch:**
Helen Anderson—This is Helen’s second award, and is endorsed ‘TFHS Inc. Award for Continuous Meritorious Service’.
Glenice Brauman
Rosie Marshall

**Hobart Branch:**
Brenda Richardson

**Launceston Branch:**
Judith Whish-Wilson

---

**Vale**

The late Henry Bartlett

THE Society extends sincere sympathy to Mrs Anne Bartlett in the passing of her husband, Henry, after an extended period of illness.

Although Henry was not a member, he always provided tremendous support for Anne in her term as Society President from 1997 to 2001 and her fourteen year period as Society Publications Officer, Launceston Branch Publications Officer and Launceston Branch President for three years. Henry acted as photographer on many occasions and was always available to accompany Anne when she was invited to visit Branches for various functions. Henry was responsible for the first Society webpage and its maintenance as well as the final compilation and formatting of the TAMIOT fiche.

Henry’s vocation was with Information Technology, firstly as a teacher as Kings Meadows High School, and subsequently in his retirement years he honed his skills in programming. Launceston Branch is indebted to Henry for his background participation in *The Launceston Examiner* and other Branch publications and in later years, his production of a Search Engine for the CD-Rom, *Index to Passenger Arrivals & Departures from Early Launceston Newspapers 1829–1865*. 
## TFHS Inc. Society Executive — General Account
### Statement of Receipts & Payments
for the Year 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010

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<td><strong>$8,370.64 Total Investment Funds</strong></td>
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## Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.

**Statement of Consolidated Cash Flow for the year ended 31 March 2010**

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<th>Dev</th>
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<td>3,939</td>
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- Term Investments, Float etc.: **$9,941**
- Total Cash Reserves: **$19,617**
- Asset Register – for insurance: **$96,972**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Bur</th>
<th>Dev</th>
<th>Hob</th>
<th>Huon</th>
<th>L’ton</th>
<th>Society</th>
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TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.
STATE EXECUTIVE—GENERAL ACCOUNT

AUDIT REPORT—2010.

The audit has been conducted in accordance with the appropriate standards to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the accounts are free of material misstatement. The procedures included the examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements.

The Tasmanian Family History Society is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial statements.

OPINION

As an audit procedure it was not practicable to extend my examination of income beyond the accounting for amounts received as shown by the books and records of the Society.

Notwithstanding the above I am satisfied that the Society has kept appropriate records and books and that the financial statements show a true and fair view of the Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. affairs at the 31 March 2010.

I have obtained all information requested and am satisfied with explanations provided.

[Signature]

Des Britza PNA
AUDITOR
19 April 2010
By the time you read this our Branch Library should be in new premises. When we went to pay our monthly rent in early June our landlord informed us that he had a new tenant and that he would like us to vacate the premises by the end of July. We already knew that our security of tenure was not guaranteed on a long term basis, but this news was not exactly what we expected.

There had already been some discussion with the Burnie Council about the possibility of us being incorporated within one of their buildings, either jointly with another tenant, or separately. We quickly arranged a meeting with Council staff to discuss possible options.

As a result of this meeting the Council provided space in the Portside building in Spring Street for a twelve month period. We have been advised that at the end of this period, there is a possibility of a more suitable facility becoming available. Due to having to move it was decided that a Dinner meeting would not be held this winter.

Our day meetings and computer nights as well as our nightly monthly meetings are still well attended. Our members, therefore, have the option of attending a meeting that suits them.
there are new avenues of discovery for all that thought avenues of discovery were lost. We also hold regular meetings for Legacy Users Group, LUG. Please keep an eye on our website for new publications, what’s coming up and any news, or phone our Library or Secretary.

Hobart
http://www.hobart.tasfhs.org
President Robert Tanner (03) 6231 0794
Email: president@hobart.tasfhs.org
Secretary Howard Reeves
PO Box 326 Rosny Park Tasmania 7018
email: secretary@hobart.tasfhs.org
All telephone enquiries to (03) 6244 4527

At our April meeting, Peter Roach gave a very interesting talk about ‘Roach Family History’. Quite a few family members accompanied him and brought along some of their treasured family photos, documents, etc. One even brought a wedding dress from a nineteenth century family wedding! This was our AGM and we had over fifty people present, at least forty of them being branch members. Malcolm Ward did not seek re-election to the committee, due to business commitments which frequently take him overseas. Malcolm was a very effective committee member during his short time—we hope he will return when he is able. Leo Prior did not seek re-election as Secretary, and we thank him for many years of time consuming work in that role. Fortunately for us he was re-elected to the committee.

We welcome Howard Reeves as our new secretary. We also welcome Ian Cooper to the committee. Ian has been active in the branch for some time, and is already making his presence felt. And we welcome Charles Hunt back to the committee after a break of a few years.

The May meeting saw Jeorg Andersch speak to the topic, ‘Margot’s Good Sense’. It was great to hear about some family history research in a country outside of Great Britain, namely Germany. Jeorg’s very personal story was very interesting indeed!

At our June meeting, Warren Glover spoke about Wapping, the once notorious waterfront suburb of Hobart, which has now become highly ‘gentrified’ and includes the acclaimed Henry Jones Art Hotel and the University of Tasmania’s School of Art.

General Meetings
Members are reminded that all general meetings are held at the former ‘Sunday School’, St John’s Park, New Town, on the third Tuesday in the month at 8:00 pm. Visitors are always welcome at these meetings.

At the time of writing this report, planned addresses at our next three general meetings are:
- 21 September—Malcolm Kays: ‘Shield Family History’.
- 19 October—Beverley Richardson: ‘The Joys and Tribulations of Writing the Richardson Family History’.

Family History Computer Users Group
This large and enthusiastic group meets at the branch library on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm under the expert leadership of Vee Maddock.
WISE Interest Group
The Wales, Ireland, Scotland and England group is currently in recess, but is looking at resuming meetings if sufficient interest is shown. Contact the Secretary, or phone (03) 6244 4527 if you are interested.

Family History Writers Group
This group has been meeting at the branch library on the fifth Thursday of each month when it occurs. Members working on individual projects will share them with the group in an informal workshop. All welcome! For more details contact Dianne Snowden on dsnowden@tassie.net.au or 6260 2515.
Details of these meetings and other activities may be found on our website at http://www.hobart.tasfhs.org

Launceston Branch
http://www.launceston.tasfhs.org
President Judith Whish-Wilson
(03) 6394 8456
Secretary Muriel Bissett
(03) 6344 4034
PO Box 1290 Launceston Tasmania 7250
secretary: bbissett@bigpond.net.au

A very warm welcome to our new President, Judith Whish-Wilson. The branch recognised Judith’s contribution and dedication to the Society over the past seventeen years, by recommending a TFHS Inc. Award for Meritorious Service, which was presented to her by Patron, Dr Alison Alexander, at the Society’s Annual General Meeting at Ross on 19 June. Congratulations, Judith!

During the past three months there has been a good response to the workshops which have mostly provided an electronic-based learning forum, for researching both Australian and overseas resources.

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

Work is continuing on indexing The Tasmanian Mail (a photographic index—volume 8 1925–1926 is now available) and of The Kelso Chronicle—a series of Scottish newspapers covering the years 1855–1865—1862–1863 is now available.

Saturday Library Hours—by appointment only—phone (03) 6344 4034.
Wednesday 15 September: 2:00 pm: Adult Education rooms: Archives of Tasmania—online assistance.
Wednesday 20 October: 2:00 pm: Adult Education rooms—featuring British Interests and GENUKI
Wednesday 17 November: 2:00 pm: Adult Education rooms—Archives of other states.
Tuesday 7 December: 3:00 pm: 45 Tamar St Library closes for Christmas holidays and re-opens on Tuesday 18 January.
Check the website for a list of publications now available from Launceston Branch.

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

No report received
HOME SWEET HOME
THE NINETEENTH CENTURY SCHOOL RESIDENCE
Betty Jones (Member No.6032)

If you have an ancestor who was a teacher under the Tasmanian Board of Education/Education Department during the nineteenth century in locations other than their home town, there is a strong chance that they occupied a school residence provided by the Government at some stage of their career. This article gives information about some of those residences in the hope that readers will gain more background, in a general sense, on how their teacher ancestors lived.

A number of residences were provided in early times
In the formative years of the Van Diemen’s Land Government showing some responsibility for the provision of public education, residences made available for the teachers were usually rented by the Government, often from the Church, or given rent-free by local inhabitants who wanted a public school established in their locality. In some cases, the teachers found and leased their own homes and schoolrooms. The most comprehensive information available to us today about the early provision of such residences comes from two sources: notes and reports by Inspector Thomas ARNOLD on behalf of the Board of Education from 1850 to 1856, and a report on schools in 1850 by Reverend Arthur DAVENPORT prepared for the Archdeaconry of Hobart Town. A few of the observations from those sources follow:

- The school at Ouse, established about 1843, received aid from public funds from 1847 when its enrolment was 16. The school premises, which included a residence, had been built by local subscription on land had been given by Mr BETHUNE for the purpose. In 1847 the teachers were Mr Thomas STACE and his wife, Charlotte Sidney (née HOLLIS).
- Mr William ARMSTRONG, who was married when he took up his appointment as Head Teacher at Campbell Street Public School in Hobart in 1850, lived in the residence attached to the school, both of which were on private property. The rent was paid partly by the Master and partly by the Church.
- A newly-erected schoolroom at St George’s Church at Battery Point was officially opened in February 1850. Owned by the Church of England and vested in their trustees, it had a good attached residence, which was occupied by the teachers, Mr James FREEMAN and his wife, Elizabeth (née CLEMENT).
- Mr Thomas STANSFIELD and his daughter, Miss Mary Hannah Stansfield, were the teachers in charge of the school at Richmond in 1850. The schoolhouse and residence were built by the Government in 1834 and remained light, airy and in good repair.

Residences were usually small and lacking in conveniences, especially for those with families
- In July 1862, Miss Elizabeth Amelia WATSON, the Teacher of Needlework at Swansea Public School, complained to

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1 See, for example, AOT: CB3 3/1–3
2 AOT: NS373/1/244

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the Board of Education that the Master, Mr William BARLOW, who lived in the school building, had converted the classroom into a sitting room. The Board informed him that the room was intended as a classroom, though he was at liberty to use it for domestic purposes after school hours.

- By the early 1880s, the Board of Education’s standard design for residences attached to country schoolrooms included only two rooms - a bedroom and a living room. Sometimes a skillion-roofed structure (resembling a low lean-to) was added, and adapted as a kitchen. It is of significance, however, that teachers in most schools were not provided with bathroom or laundry facilities, that being an almost inconceivable situation by modern standards.

- The residence at Smithton State School was not adequate for Mr Albert Joseph Carbines WOOD, his wife, Ethel Mary (née BOOTE), and four small children during the family’s stay there from 1892 to 1903. Consisting of only three rooms, the accommodation had been adapted by the family by turning the kitchen into a sleeping room for the eldest child, and the front room similarly for the next eldest.

A snapshot of individual residences in 1883

The 1883 Journal of the House of Assembly contains the results of a Public Enquiry into Education in Tasmania and, among other things, offers useful information about the provision of teachers’ residences at the time. The following has been summarised from that report, which gave details on 83 schools, 53 of which had residences provided:

Schools with residences physically attached

- Abbotsham (2 rooms); Black Brush (“ample”); Black River (4 - sitting room, bedroom, kitchen, storeroom); Bracknell (4 - parlour, bedroom, kitchen, pantry plus skillion); Brown’s River (“not good”); Campbell Town (“a number”); Castra Road (2 plus skillion); Constitution Hill (3); Don (6); Dover (4 plus skillion); Emu Bay (4); Epping (2); Flowerdale (3); Forcett (5); Forth (2 plus skillion); Glengarry (4); Green Ponds (6); Honeywood (5); Irish Town (2); Kellevie (4); Long Bay (4); Lower Jerusalem (6 – 2 sitting rooms, 3 bedrooms, kitchen); Margate (2); Molesworth (3 plus lobby); Muddy Plains (4); Northdown; Oyster Cove (2); Pontville (4 plus skillion); Port Cygnet (4); New Town (7); Rokey (4); Sorell (“sufficient for small family”); South Arm (3); Spring Bay (2 plus skillion); Springfield (4 plus outbuildings); Swansea (4 – “unfit for a family”); Wattle Hill (4)

Schools with detached residences provided:

- Frederick Street (6 rooms – “very good”); Jerusalem (4); Lefroy (3);
Longford (10); Longley (3); Mole Creek (4); Nugent (2); Ringarooma (“meagre”); Sassafras (7); Scottsdale (4); Somerset (6 – in private home of teacher); South Forest (3); Stanley (6); Torquay (4); Ulverstone (4); Wattle Grove (2); Winkleigh (2); Wynyard (4)

**Additions were sometimes made by the teachers themselves in an effort to make their lives more comfortable**

- While Mr Philip BARNES was Head Teacher at Westbury from 1861–1877, he erected a separate kitchen and servant’s room on the school site. In 1878, when Mr Barnes asked if he could remove the building, the Board agreed to buy it from him for £20.6

- The Inspector’s report on Cape Barren Island State School in 1892 indicated that the attached residence originally consisted of four rooms, but the teacher, Mr Edward William STEPHENS, had added another two at the rear. The teacher had also created a small room on the east end of the verandah which was advantageous to the school as well as to him.7

**Accommodation arrangements were make-shift for a number of teachers**

- Mr Francis Beauchamp FAYER-MAN, the teacher at Native Corners from 1848–1852, was unmarried and lived in a rent-free hut in the space that doubled as the schoolroom.8

- In September 1882, the Board of Education called for tenders at Flowerdale Public School to erect a temporary screen in the schoolroom to provide accommodation for the teacher, Miss Sarah Monica WHITE, pending the erection of a residence.9

- A letter was written in June 1886 concerning Mr Enoch RICHARDS’ use of the Deddington schoolroom (doubling as the local Chapel) for sleeping and cooking purposes. He has made it his home while at Deddington, both sleeping and cooking there. All utensils, etc are put out of sight by Sunday, and the mattress covered up and stowed in a corner …10

This was at a time when that teacher taught on a half-time basis at Deddington in tandem with the school at Irish Town in the Evandale district.

**Furniture was not provided for residences**

- In April 1899, Mr Charles Armadale ANDERSON was lodging and boarding in the village of Tunnack whilst teaching at the school there, but was expected to occupy the school residence as soon as he could procure furniture.11

**Considerable sums of money were expended on teacher accommodation in some areas**

- In November 1882, the Board obtained approval to purchase a teachers’ residence at Longford from Messrs Joseph and Robert ARCHER for £550.12

It was described as large and spacious with ten rooms.13 The Head Teacher at that time was Mr George HERITAGE, who later became a School Inspector.

- Tenders were called for the erection of a new schoolhouse and an eight-roomed residence in 1888 at Evandale on

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6 AOT: ED13/1/20
7 AOT: ED31/1/1
8 AOT: NS373/1/244
9 AOT: ED13/1/29
10 AOT: ED13/1/36
11 AOT: ED31/1/6
12 AOT: ED13/1/29
13 *Journal of the House of Assembly*, 1883
It was opened in August 1889 in the presence of 160 children. Mr John Nicholas CLEMONS was Head Teacher from 1872 to 1888, and was followed by Mr Alban ROPER, who resided there until his death in 1911.

- In April 1884, the Board of Education reported that a stone schoolhouse and residence were to be erected by Mr Michael LATTIN at Fingal at a cost of £1120. Stone for the building was quarried within the grounds of the school. Mr Matthew Joseph ABEL and his wife, Catherine (née GIFFIN), were the resident teachers at that time.

There was an expectation that teachers superintended the residences on a full-time basis
- Mr Thomas J A NICHOLSON was informed by the Department in November 1889 when he took up an appointment at Rocky Creek State School: “You will understand that teachers have to live in the residence when attached to the school, and to make arrangements for the oversight of the premises when they are absent.”

- When Mr Robert Anderson DARGAVILLE resigned his position at Northdown Public School to become Postmaster at Torquay in February 1871, his wife, Mrs Annie Maria (née McCALL) Dargaville, was appointed Head Teacher conditional upon her making arrangements to protect the school at Northdown should she not be residing there. In March 1872, a local woman wrote to the Board of Education to report that Mrs Dargaville was leaving the school unattended from Friday afternoons to Monday mornings.

- In May 1888, the Board of Education noted that Mrs Henrietta Maria SPONG, Head Teacher at Rhyndaston State School, had sought permission to live with her husband, Lawrence Babington Spong, on a nearby property rather than on school premises. Members of the local Board of Advice initially reacted negatively to this application, but after a further request from Mrs Spong in June of that year, it was accepted on the conditions that she find a caretaker to look after the school property in her absence.

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14 The Tasmanian Mail, 25 August 1888
15 ibid, 31 August 1889
16 AOT: ED13/1/32
17 The Mercury, 21 March 1936
18 AOT: ED13/1/43
19 AOT: ED13/1/12
20 The Tasmanian Mail, 12 May 1888
absence, and that her punctuality not be affected.\textsuperscript{21}

**Gardens were often developed, and added interest to the teachers’ lives out of school hours**

- In April 1888, Mr William Crowther BLYTH, a keen gardener, applied to the Local Board of Advice at Campbell Town for permission to cultivate two acres of the Campbell Town State School playground for two years.\textsuperscript{22} It is of interest that the teachers’ residence in that town continued to be adapted for the occupants’ comfort as the years passed. By 1904, the Head Teacher, Mr James GATTY, had developed a splendid garden, had a number of cows in milk, a poultry-yard, and a pig in the sty.\textsuperscript{23}

- Mr Louis Arthur PEERS was the Head Teacher at Zeehan and East Zeehan State Schools from 1891 to April 1917, during which time he was renowned for his success as a gardener in the harsh West Coast climate. When, in 1917, Peers requested a transfer owing to his wife’s ill-health, uppermost in his correspondence with the Department, was the timing in relation to his garden. His bulbs, worth £10, needed planting immediately or disposed of for whatever he could get for them. Mr Peers noted that the bulbs had been very useful to him over the years in providing funds for school expenses.\textsuperscript{24}

**Some newsworthy incidents occurred at school residences**

- An article in a newspaper headed, ‘Attempt at Murder at Long Bay’, described how two unidentified people tried to shoot Mr Edward Pearson BLYTH at his school residence on the night of 24 May 1879.\textsuperscript{25} Mr Blyth apparently had responded to a loud and urgent rap on his door at about 8:00 pm, only to be confronted with gunfire. The would-be murderers ran off and continued to be at large, in spite of Mr Blyth’s offer of a £20 reward for their apprehension.

- Mrs Florence Jane Catherine (née ALOMES) HARREX, teacher at Uxbridge State School from 1887 to 1891, sadly lost her 2½ year-old son when he died after being severely scalded at the school residence in June 1888. The child had been in the care of a young nursemaid at the time, and apparently had been playing with a cat too close to the fireplace when a large container of boiling liquid was overturned accidentally.\textsuperscript{26}

- Mrs Harriet (née LANSDELL) LEWIS died on 2 August 1899 at the Richmond School residence, aged 32 years. On the day of her death, Mrs Lewis had that morning, as usual, been attending to her school duties as Teacher of Sewing, and giving assistance to her husband, Mr Henry Baldwin Joseph Lewis. At about 12 o’clock, complaining of being unwell, she was taken to her home, adjacent to the school, but notwithstanding every available attention gradually became worse and passed away about 2:00 pm.\textsuperscript{27} Mrs Lewis’ death was sudden, and an inquest was adjourned to allow an analysis of the content of her stomach, along with some tonic the deceased had been in the habit of taking.\textsuperscript{28} On 17 August 1899 it was concluded that Mrs Lewis died from the effects of strychnine poisoning, but how

\begin{footnotes}
\item[21] ibid, 9 June 1888
\item[22] AOT: LA882
\item[23] *The Mercury*, 3 January 1905
\item[24] AOT: ED11/657/8/1917
\item[25] *Tasmanian Mail*, 7 June 1879
\item[26] ibid., 30 June 1888
\item[27] *The Mercury*, 10 August 1899
\item[28] *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 11 August 1899
\end{footnotes}
or by whom it was administered there was no evidence.  

**There were challenges to be faced**

- In August 1861, Mr Edwin PEARS made assertions to the Board of Education that one of the living rooms of his residence at New Town had been hung with green paper containing arsenic, and that his family was suffering in consequence. He requested that the Board grant a sum not exceeding £3 to repaper the same. The reply was that a large sum had already been granted in aid of the building. Mr Pears was also reminded that the schoolhouse was built under the superintendence of a local committee to whom he was advised to refer his application.  
- In August 1891, a parent at Nugent State School complained to the Department that Mrs Sarah Jane (née ALBERY) FREEMAN allowed her pigs to forage under the school building.  
- At Exton, a new schoolroom and residence had been erected in 1891. The schoolroom was satisfactory, as was the attached residence, except that its chimney smoked. The latter remained a problem for some years, the smoke in 1894, when Mr Edward Pearson BLYTH was Head Teacher, being described as intolerable in spite of all the means used to cure it. The walls and hangings in the residence were blackened as a result.  

**Sometimes compensation was provided when no residence was available**

- When Mr John YOUNG was appointed to Deloraine Public School in October 1863, he was granted an additional £20 per annum as home allowance as there was no residence provided with the school at that time.  
- Miss Mary Ann Bell FULTON, an assistant teacher at the Bathurst Street Public School in Hobart from 1863 to 1879, gave up her quarters situated next to the school in 1877 to provide rational accommodation for the cleaner. The Board of Education gave her compensation of £10 per annum for doing so.

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29 AOT: Inquest Index online  
30 AOT: ED13/1/3  
31 AOT: ED2/1/file 1803  
32 AOT: ED31/1/2  
33 AOT: ED13/1/5  
34 The Mercury, 2 October 1877
A FRESH START IN TASMANIA
Ken McNaughton

It is hard enough to discover the truth about our ancestors but if their names and birth dates on official documents differ it becomes much harder. Case in point—my great, great, great grandfather, Johnston NEED.

His father, Samuel Need (1765–1839) joined the British Army and fought many campaigns in Northern India. He had three children with an Indian woman—Johnston, Walter Wardell, and Caroline Anne. Registration of births in India was not generally compulsory and often it is not possible to obtain birth certificates for children born there. Certificates of baptism, giving the date of birth, and issued by the Asia, Pacific and Africa Collections Office of the British Library are sometimes accepted in lieu of birth certificates. There is one such entry for Johnston, who was baptized 28 January 1812, by Rev. J PARSON, Chaplain, Merut, India recording his birth as 10 August 1811, to Col Need of HM Light Dragoons and a Native Woman.

There is a similar certificate for his brother, Walter Wardell, born on 7 June 1810, also baptized by Parson on 28 January. We have not been able to find a marriage certificate or any more information about the Native Woman. J W Johnstone-Need speculates she might have been from a royal household as the idea of officers having children with native women was generally frowned upon, yet this relationship and the baptisms were in the open. One imagines the baptism certificates are reliable, as a minister of religion should be able to tell in 1812 he is baptizing two infants aged about one and two years old. On the other hand, with a name like Parson, it is also possible these were fake.

Samuel Need’s military record in India covers the period 1802 to 1805. He left for South America in 1806, was wounded in Buenos Aires in 1807, and returned to England the same year. It seems therefore, the sons born in 1810 and 1811 were born in England. In 1811 Samuel was wounded in Badajos, Portugal. In

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2 Johnstone-Need OBE, James Walter, The Need Family in England and Australia, private journal shared by his daughter, Helen Johnstone
1812 he returned to Meerut and recorded the baptisms of the boys, and his daughter, Caroline Anne, was born there in 1812 or 1813. In 1814 he was promoted to Major General. Around this time the mother of his children died in England. While commanding at Cawnpore in 1817, Samuel married Anne Grant, aged 27, and started a new family. He was promoted to Lieutenant General the same year. In 1818, he retired to England with Anne and bought a property named *Fountaindale* at Blidworth, in Nottinghamshire’s famous Sherwood Forest.

W Johnstone-Need, who had access to family letters, tells us that, years later in Australia, Johnston Need described his experiences in London at Mr Jones’ Wellington House Classical and Commercial Academy, where he was dosed with sulphur and treacle, and how Charles Dickens, who attended the same school, wrote about this procedure in *Nicholas Nickleby*.

Johnston Need was born in August 1811 and Dickens was born in February 1812 so Need was only six months older. Dickens attended Wellington House from 1825 until 1827, from age 13 to 15, so the two boys may well have been at the school at the same time. Dickens described the school in an essay *Our School*. He specifically mentions teachers of English, Mathematics, Latin, French, and Dancing and recalls various pupils, including a parlour-boarder who was rumoured to have come from some mysterious part of the earth where his parents rolled in gold; the son of a Viscount who had deserted his lovely mother; a young mulatto who was believed to have a dagger about him somewhere; and certain boys whose relatives were in India—‘holiday stoppers’—who needed cheer in their homeless state.

Johnston went on to receive an education in farming around Norwich, Norfolk, and when he returned to England from Australia in later years he commonly had the address of Woodrow Inn and Woodrow Farm. Isaac Easton, publican and farmer, ran the Woodrow Inn with his wife, Elizabeth Walpole. They had twelve children—seven girls and five boys. On 4 August, 1834, at Bixley, Norfolk, Johnston, 23, supposedly married the second daughter Anne, 26, who was baptized on 28 August 1808. We don’t have a marriage

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3 See photograph: Richards, Will, ‘Blidworth in Old Picture Postcards,’ 1986
4 Dickens, Charles, *Our School* (1851), reprinted in various collected writings of the author
On 14 August 1835, the couple sailed from London on the barque *Orissa* and arrived in Hobart, Tasmania, four months later on 19 December. But something happened to Mr Johnston Need. According to the Marine Board Customs document, the couple travelled as steerage passengers, J Johnson & wife. The Hobart Town Courier listed them as J Johnson and wife, and the Launceston Advertiser called them Mr J & Mrs Johnston. Three months later, on 30 March 1836, a letter was sent from the Colonial Secretary's Office to the Rural Dean saying,

in accordance with your recommendation the Lieutenant Governor has approved of the appointment of Mr and Mrs Johnstone ... as ... Clerk and Schoolmaster and the latter of schoolmistress at Richmond

On 26 January, 1837, their first son, Walter—born on 21 February 1836—was baptized, to John and Anne Johnstone, of Richmond, Schoolmaster and Clerk. The transformation is complete. Johnston Need is no more. We don’t know why he changed his name, but from this time he was known as John Johnstone—a new life, in a new land, with a new name.

John and Anne had seven children before Anne died of an abscess of the liver on 23 October 1849. John left the two youngest children in care of a family retainer—an ex-convict known as ‘Old Jones’—and John returned to England to arrange education for the other five. On 28 May 1850, at Saint Edmund Church in Norwich, he married Elizabeth Easton, the sister of his deceased wife. She was baptized 23 March 1806, two years before her sister Anne, and was therefore five years older than John.

John and Elizabeth eventually settled in the Western District of Victoria with the children, who later moved to properties of their own. John travelled between Australia and England, where he visited the Woodrow Inn and Farm, and also his sister, Caroline Anne. Caroline was a year or two younger than John. On 20 September 1832, she had married Edmund Lewis CREWE of Repton, Derby, and became Lady Crewe. The year after Edmund died, John, aged 65, was staying with his widowed sister at Repton Park.

We don’t know what happened to John’s second wife, Elizabeth, but J W Johnston-Need found a record for John’s third marriage.

John Johnstone and Mary Elizabeth SMITH, 33, of Repton, were married on 26 September 1876, at South Street Baptist Chapel, Greenwich, Kent. She was the daughter of Henry Smith, deceased, a farmer. John stated he was a widower grazier aged 59. If this is correct, he was born in 1817. In fact he was 65. Did he tell Mary he was 59 to sound younger? John and Mary were to have three children. The first, Janet May Johnstone, was born on 31 May 1877, in Tower Hill, Koroiit, Victoria. But here John’s age is listed as 72, which would mean he was born in 1804, instead of 1811. The informant was Walter Johnstone, listed as ‘brother’, but it must have been John’s eldest son, Walter, 46, who may have been more familiar with the registration procedures than his aged father and the young English bride. Did Walter really think his father was born in 1804? John’s birthplace is listed as Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, England, which is about thirteen miles north of Nottingham; nine miles north of Arnold, traditional home of the Need family; and five miles west of Blidworth, where
John’s father Samuel settled at Fountaindale in Sherwood Forest. John and Mary had two more children—Arthur was born two years later and Alfred two years after that.

According to the Colonial Tasmanian Family Links database, John Johnstone was born in India in 1802 and married Anne Easton in England in 1835. Where did that information come from? Was it supplied by John Johnstone when he arrived in Tasmania? He was actually born in England in 1811. Did he say he was born in India to explain the complexion he inherited from his Indian mother? Did he want to appear six years older than his first wife Anne, rather than admit he was really three years younger? Did he deceive his wife and her family about his age? On 19 December 1882, when John died in Tower Hill, his age was listed as 80, which again supports the idea that he was born in 1802 rather than 1811 and his birthplace was India. His son Walter was the informant.

This colourful pioneer kept everyone guessing. He changed his name from Johnston Need to John Johnstone. On official documents his birth date changed from 1811 to 1804 to 1802 to 1817; his birth place from England to India; and his wives from Anne to Elizabeth to Mary.

John’s other sibling, Walter Wardell, was commissioned as a Captain in the British Army in India and was in the service of the Nawab of Oudh as Captain-in-charge of an army of Sikhs. Later he entered into business in India and sheltered in the British Residency in Lucknow with his wife and three children at the outbreak of the Indian Mutiny, which set the Indians on their long path to independence. The revolution began in the military centre of Meerut, where John and Walter were baptized in 1812. On 25 July 1857, Walter was collecting firewood near the Residency House when he was shot in the chest by a sniper and died two days later. Thousands of European men, women and children and hundreds of Indian troops were surrounded by the rebels for five months before the siege was lifted by two separate troop advances.

NOTES
I am grateful to Kevin Carver and Helen Johnstone for their help in elucidating the Johnstone-Need family history. This article has been adapted from the original publication, with permission. It is copyrighted and may not be reproduced in whole or in part in any medium without written permission from the author, Ken McNaughton, 3778 College Avenue, Ellicott City, MD 21043; phone/fax: 410-418-9340; kjmcn@comcast.net (1 December 2007).

5 Inglis, Julia, The Siege of Lucknow: A Diary, J R Osgood, 1893
6 McNaughton, Ken, Only the Names and Dates Have Been Changed, Ancestor, Genealogical Society of Victoria, 28, 8 December 2007
DEATHS AT THE LAUNCESTON
BENEVOLENT ASYLUM 1900–10
Compiled by Laurie Moody (Member No. 5835)

In January 1895 the Launceston Benevolent Society approached the Tasmanian government offering to administer the Launceston Invalid Depot. The government agreed and the society took over the depot and changed its name to the Launceston Benevolent Asylum. It apparently catered for the old, infirm, derelicts and ex-convicts. By searching the Tasmanian Pioneer Index (TPI) I have endeavoured to locate further information on those housed in the asylum, but not all attempts provided birth and marriage details. There were 186 deaths at the asylum between 1900 and 1910, the majority between 1900 and 1902, the following list compiled from the Federation Index. The legend should assist anyone seeking further information, which may be found on the TPI.

LEGEND
2bTPI: indicates two possible birth records see TPI
1mTPI: indicates a possible marriage record see TPI
1chr.TPI: indicates a possible christening record see TPI
Name in Italics indicates see marriage record
* Indicates date is a strong possibility.

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<td>BAW Ah</td>
<td>d.28 Dec 1900</td>
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<tr>
<td>BEASLEY Isaac</td>
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<td>BELTON William</td>
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<td>BLAIR Sarah</td>
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<td>BLOXHAM William</td>
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<td>BOSTON Mary</td>
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<td>BOSTON George</td>
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<tr>
<td>m. Mary HASLEM</td>
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<tr>
<td>(55) Lton 5 Oct 1893</td>
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<td>(30) Lton 12 Nov 1852</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME &amp; marriage</th>
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<tr>
<td>RICHARDSON Oliver</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROBERTS Robert</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROWDEN (BOWDEN) Edward (33) m. Margaret SHANLY (22) Westbury 15 Mar 1852</td>
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<td>RUSSELL James</td>
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<td>RYAN Jeremiah (39) m. Marion DUNN (26) Portland (Tas) 8 Nov 1899</td>
<td>d.21 Nov 1901 b.25 Jul 1860 Fingal</td>
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<td>RYAN Michael</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAXON Ann</td>
<td>d.14 Mar 1904</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCHLESINGER Charles Frederick</td>
<td>d.28 Aug 1902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHANNON Patrick</td>
<td>d.20 Mar 1900</td>
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<tr>
<td>SHORE Thomas (60) m. Elizabeth Main GORE (54) L'ton 30 Jun 1874</td>
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<td>SLATER Frederick Boyd</td>
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<tr>
<td>SLATER Henry (adult) m. Isabella Jane WEBB (adult) L'ton 3 Jun 1881 (Henry shown d.Invalid Depot)</td>
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<td>SOY Ah</td>
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<td>SPLEEN Mary</td>
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<td>STAFFORD Elizabeth</td>
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<td>STUBBS Thomas</td>
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<td>d.27 Nov1903 (7bTPI) (7mTPI)</td>
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<td>THWAITES Robert</td>
<td>d.16 Dec 1902 (10bTPI)</td>
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<td>WOOD William</td>
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<td>WRIGHT John</td>
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WAS GEORGE REALLY BETSY’S FATHER?

Don Bradmore (Member No.6756)

ELIZABETH ‘BETSY’ BREADMORE was born at Launceston on Christmas Day 1835. Her birth seems not to have been registered but a record of her baptism in the Parish of Evandale in 1839—when she was nearly four years of age—names her parents as George and Elizabeth Breadmore. But was George Breadmore really Betsy’s father? There are two problems in thinking that he was.

The first is that George, a convict, was not available—officially, at least—to father a child at that time. His conduct record shows that on 16 October 1834 he had been charged with the theft of ‘17½ pounds of sugar, the property of a person or persons unknown’ and sent to a road gang near Launceston—in irons—for the next twelve months. He was not released until the end of October 1835, two months before Betsy was born.3

The second is that Betsy’s mother, Elizabeth Breadmore (née FARRELL), did not arrive in Van Diemen’s Land until 15 February 1835, three and a half months after George had been sent to the road gang!4 Would it have been possible for Elizabeth to meet George, fall pregnant to him, and have his baby later that year?

Little is known about Elizabeth before her arrival at Hobart Town except that she was 29 and single.5 She was one of 2,700 women who chose to migrate to New South Wales and Tasmania between April 1833 and February 1837 under a scheme initiated by the British government and financed by the sale of crown lands in the colonies.6

This scheme, managed by the London Emigration Committee (LEC), offered ‘young unmarried women or widows’ the opportunity to ‘better their condition’ in the distant colonies where maids and domestic servants were in high demand because of the cost involved in employers bringing them from England. No doubt, too, the British government had the existing gender imbalance in mind, knowing that many of these women would quickly find husbands and that the availability of suitable women in the colonies would lead to the creation of more harmonious societies.7

In the early-mid 1830s, the LEC ran a series of advertisements in London

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1 Betsy’s date of birth is shown on her baptism certificate, Tas. Reg: 597/1839, Evandale.
2 ibid. Betsy’s baptism certificate names her parents as George and Elizabeth Breadmore.
3 See convict George Breadmore’s conduct record: AOT CON31/1/1 Image 327
4 Elizabeth RUSHEN’s book, Single and Free: Female Migration to Australia, 1833–1837, (Sydney: Australian Scholarly Publishing P/L, second edition, 2004), gives a full account of the LEC initiative. Elizabeth Farrell is listed among the women who migrated (p.203)
5 Elizabeth’s age is shown as 29 when she arrived in Hobart as a free settler; see AOT MB2/39/2
6 ibid.
7 Rushen, pp.3–17
newspaper. The advertisements promised ‘good wages for female servants and other employments’, and invited suitable young women to apply by letter if they wished to be considered. Stipulating that applicants must be of ‘good health and character’, and be able to furnish recommendations from their parish ministers and other ‘respectable persons’, the advertisements advised intending applicants that they would ‘not be bound to any person whatsoever in their service and that they would be, ‘to all intents and purposes, Free Women’. 8

Applicants were informed they would each be required to make a minimum contribution of five pounds towards their fare. In return for this, they were guaranteed ‘every management toward their comfort during the voyage’ would be made. They were told that an ‘experienced and responsible Man and his Wife’ had been engaged for each vessel as Superintendents’, and medical assistance would be provided, if required. They were assured they would be well looked after upon arrival in the colonies, and that waiting for them would be ‘a list of the different situations to be obtained and the wages they offered’.9

Accordingly, 217 young women left London bound for Sydney in the first of the LEC-assisted migrations on 13 April 1833. The ship that carried them was the Bussorah Merchant. In the same year, another 234 women followed aboard Layton. Another six ships delivered their cargoes of women to Sydney in the coming years—David Scott (1834, 247 women), Duchess of Northumberland (two voyages: 1835, 236 women and 1836, 232), Canton (1835, 167), James Pattison (1836, 289), and Lady McNaughton (1837, 80).10

Six other six ships—Strathfieldsaye (1834, 257), Sarah (1835, 115), Charles Kerr (1835, 135), Boadicea (1836, 193), Amelia Thompson (1836, 174) and William Metcalfe (1837, 110)—sailed to Tasmania. Two of these—Charles Kerr (1835) and Amelia Thompson (1836)—sailed into Launceston. The other four disembarked their passengers at Hobart.11

Elizabeth Farrell was aboard Sarah. The records show she was one of about twenty-five women who sailed cabin class; the others were accommodated as steerage passengers.12

Not all went according to the LEC’s plans. The way in which the Strathfieldsaye women were treated upon arrival in Hobart in 1834, for instance, was scandalous.13 A report in the Colonial Times put it this way:

Of all the disgusting, abominable sights we ever witnessed, nothing ever signalled the scene which took place on this occasion. It is well known that the Females on the ‘Strathfieldsaye’ are of a far superior order to those [convicts] sent to us by the Home Government ... [but] the most vile and brutal language was addressed to every woman as she passed along ... Some brutes, more brutal than others, even stopped the women by force

8 ibid. Unfortunately, the original application forms of these LEC women cannot be found. It is believed they were destroyed during WWII bombing raids on London (Rushen, personal communication, 2009)
9 ibid
10 Rushen, p.191
11 ibid
12 Rushen, p.203
13 Elizabeth travelled ‘cabin class’ on Sarah; AOT, MB2/39/2. Does this suggest she was somewhat better-off than other passengers? Could she have been a widow?
and addressed them, pointedly, in the most obscene manner.14

Stressing that the greater portion of the most insulting men were convicts, the report detailed the way in which one ‘poor creature’ had had to push her way through long lines of the ‘lowest ruffians’. So overcome was she that she had ‘absolutely fainted’. The report concluded with the hope that such scenes would ‘never again disgrace the colony’.15

There were happenings aboard the ships that would also have been shocking for the LEC. There were some reports of drunkenness, immoral behaviour and poor discipline. There were mutinies on Strathfieldsaye and Amelia Thompson. Aboard the latter, male passengers - there were often a small number of these on board most ships as well—had had to handle the rigging for four days until the captain was able to restore order.16

Several of the ships were caught in very severe weather, the David Scott (1834) losing its bulwark from the poop to the forecastle as it rounded the Cape of Good Hope. A Lady McNaughton seaman was lost when washed overboard. Some women were forced to spend long days confined to their quarters because of heat, storms, and fear of pirate attacks. On most vessels, living conditions were cramped; fights and arguments were commonplace. To get down to the steerage area, women often had to use ladders, and the passageways down between the hatches were usually narrow and steep. The women slid and slipped about; shipboard physicians were kept busy treating accidental burns and cuts.15

Elizabeth Farrell’s voyage on Sarah was relatively uneventful.18 On 15 February 1835, the ship reached Hobart after 122 days at sea and within days Elizabeth had obtained a position as a general servant with a Mrs GILLES at Launceston. Her wage was to be twelve pounds per annum.19

While some of the LEC women were treated appallingly by their new employers, there is nothing to suggest that Elizabeth encountered problems of that kind. However, within two months of reaching Launceston, she was pregnant. In December 1835, now 30, still unmarried, and just ten months in Van Diemen’s Land, she gave birth to her first child, Betsy.20

So, was George Breadmore the father? Although it seems quite impossible at first to imagine that he might have been, there is some chance that he was!

In 1825, George, then 19, had been convicted of burglary at Hungerford, Berkshire, England. Sentenced to transportation for life to Van Diemen’s Land, he arrived in Hobart aboard Chapman (2) in 1826.21 There, he was assigned to a free settler as a farm hand but shortly

14 Colonial Times Hobart, 19 August 1834
15 ibid.
16 Rushen, op.cit., pp.82–116
17 ibid.
18 Colonial Times Hobart, 25 February 1835
19 Rushen (pp.189–94) confirms Elizabeth’s arrival date in VDL. See AOT MB2/39/2 for details of her dispersal on arrival to Mrs Gilles of Launceston. It is believed that Mrs Gilles was the wife of Lewis William Gilles, Secretary and Treasurer of the Ross Market in 1826, Treasurer of the Launceston Infant School established in 1836, manager of the Union Bank and director of Lewis Gilles & Co, a banking and agency house in Launceston in 1840.
20 See reference 1. Betsy was born almost nine months to the day after George Breadmore had received 25 lashes for neglect of duty while on the road gang
21 AOT CON 31/1/1
afterwards was transferred to Maria Island Penal Settlement where he spent almost three years. Returned to the mainland in 1833, he was then assigned to a landowner near Launceston. It was there that he committed his first recorded offence as a convict—the theft of the sugar—for which he was sentenced to twelve months in irons on the Launceston road gang.

In March 1835, while on the road gang, George received 25 lashes for ‘neglect of duty’. But what exactly does ‘neglect of duty’ mean here? Does it mean that he absconded? If so, for how long was he away? His conduct record doesn’t say. Could this have been when he met Elizabeth, just a month in the colony, and fathered her child? If so, he must have been a quick mover, as they say in the movies—and an even faster talker! Two months later, in May 1835, still on the road gang, he was once again charged with ‘neglect of duty’. Did he abscond again? Did he go back to see Elizabeth, hearing that she was pregnant? His conduct record shows that for this second offence he received only a reprimand. Why was he given a lesser penalty this time? Were the authorities uncharacteristically sympathetic to his situation? It is a plausible explanation.

Three years later, after publication of the banns in the Parish of Launceston, George and Elizabeth were married. Neither could read nor write; they signed the marriage certificate with their marks. Between 1839 and 1844, they had four more children—Henry (1839), Sarah (1840) and twins, George and Maria (1844). In the late 1840s, George was able to lease a small farm on the big ‘Adelphi’ Estate at Whitmore, near Westbury. There, Elizabeth died of asthma in 1857. She was 52. She and George had been married for nineteen years. George later remarried. He died at ‘Adelphi’ in 1882.

23 AOT HO 10/49. The NSW and Tasmania Australia Convict Muster (1833) shows George assigned to Mr Samuel BRYAN, a wealthy landowner, near Launceston.
24 See reference 3
25 AOT CON 31/1/1 Image 327
26 ibid.

27 George and Elizabeth, marriage: Tas. Reg: 4231/1838. George had applied for permission to marry on 3 May 1838 and the application was approved on 26 May 1838 (AOT, CON52/1, p.18.) They married on 27 June 1838.
28 The four later children were Henry (1839), Sarah (1840), and twins George and Maria (1842)
30 Elizabeth’s death: Tas. Reg. 713 (206)/1857, Westbury. [Bradmore]
31 In 1859, George married Mary Richards. There were no more children.
32 George’s death: Tas. Reg. 785 1540/1882, Westbury
HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED queries are published free for members of the Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. (provided their membership number is quoted) and at a cost of $10.00 per query to non-members. Special Interest Groups are subject to advertising rates. Members are entitled to three free entries per year. All additional queries will be published at a cost of $10.00. Only one query per member per issue will be published unless space permits otherwise. Queries should be limited to 100 words and forwarded to editors@tasfhs.org or The Editor, Tasmanian Ancestry, PO Box 191 Launceston TAS 7250.

Charles AMOS
Seeking information about Charles Amos born 3 August 1844 at Gala Mill, Cranbrook, Great Swanport, Tasmania. Charles worked in the Bowen District Queensland. He was at Birrallee in 1874, at Strathbogie in 1875–77, Strathalbyn in 1878–79. By 1883 he was working for Mr Armitage at Afton Downs Station, Huhgenden but had left there by 1889. Charles was the sixth child of James and Ellen Amos and his siblings were Adam, John, Henry, William, Hannah, Alexander, Mathilda, David, Joseph, Thomas, Hector and Arthur. I am trying to find out if Charles married and had any family, where he ended up living and where he died and was buried. Janette Amos (Member No.6794) at 27 Canterbury Street, St Arnaud VIC 3478 or email janamos1@bigpond.com

JARVIS and McINTYRE
I am seeking information about the family of John JARVIS and Mary McINTYRE from Strabane, County Tyrone then Hobart, Tasmania and their children Fanny CAMPBELL, William John JARVIS, Elizabeth RAYNER, Margaret BROWN and Martha JOHNS also William Robert Charles JARVIS son of William John, a prominent manufacturer of Hobart. Please contact Pam Campbell: pamcam118@yahoo.com.au (Member No.578)

JEAN HUNTER
Following publication of ‘Agnes Hunter (née Thompson) Located’ written by Leonie Mickleborough in the previous issue of Tasmanian Ancestry, pp.25-27 Volume 31, Number 1 June 2010, Joyce Purtscher has located one of the children.
Joyce found that seven year old Jean Hunter was admitted to the King’s Orphan Schools (later called the Queen’s Orphan Schools) in June 1828. Her parents were noted as ‘Agnes Thompson or Hunter a Convict, by Robt. Hunter’.¹ What became of the other children is unknown.

¹ See TAHO SWD 24, Committees and Boards King’s Orphan Schools, Minutes of Meetings of the Committee of Management 26 April 1828 - 23 October 1833, p.36.
## NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS

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<td>Norfolk Island</td>
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<td>bur 1906</td>
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<td>NIFIED Daniel</td>
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<td>1790+</td>
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<td>Arr. Royal Windsor Port Philip VIC AUS</td>
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<td>NOTTAGE John,Harry,Jas &amp; Ann</td>
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<td>1853</td>
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<td>NUNNS Annie</td>
<td>Rothwell YKS ENG</td>
<td>1860–1940</td>
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<td>PATMAN Ann</td>
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<td>1860–1934</td>
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<td>PERRY Rebecca</td>
<td>b.Hobart (m.Allan Stewart) TAS AUS</td>
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NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS

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<td>ROBERTSON Evelyn</td>
<td>Toronto CANADA</td>
<td>1940+</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROBERTSON James</td>
<td>Toronto CANADA</td>
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<td>ROBINSON Joseph</td>
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<td>bur 1924</td>
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<td>SHERGOLD Sarah Ann</td>
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<td>SMITH Philip Owen</td>
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<td>1870–1920</td>
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<td>30 Sep 1832</td>
<td>7021</td>
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<td>STEWART Alexander Nixon</td>
<td>Castle Place Belfast N IRL</td>
<td>1770s–1823</td>
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<tr>
<td>STEWART Allan</td>
<td>b.Hobart (son Alex &amp; Eliz.) TAS AUS</td>
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<td>7021</td>
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<tr>
<td>STEWART Elizabeth (w.of Alex.)</td>
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<td>30 Sep 1832</td>
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<tr>
<td>STEWART George Nixon</td>
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<td>1818–1887</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1867–1943</td>
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<tr>
<td>STEWART William Whitaker</td>
<td>Canning Street Launceston TAS AUS</td>
<td>1858–1916</td>
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<td>STILL Charles</td>
<td>TAS AUS</td>
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<td>STOPES Elizabeth</td>
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<td>TAYLOR Julia</td>
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<td>WRIGHT Henry</td>
<td>Dundee ANS SCT</td>
<td>1865–1930</td>
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NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members

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<tr>
<th>REF</th>
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<tr>
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<td>PARSON Mrs Kathleen</td>
<td>PO Box 796</td>
<td>Ulverstone</td>
<td>TAS</td>
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<tr>
<td>7020</td>
<td>SYSTERMANS Mrs Helen P</td>
<td>31 Curraghmore Avenue</td>
<td>Burnie</td>
<td>TAS</td>
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<tr>
<td>7021</td>
<td>STEWART Mr Ian James</td>
<td>PO Box 99</td>
<td>Lindfield</td>
<td>NSW</td>
<td>2070</td>
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<tr>
<td>7022</td>
<td>BIRD Mr Philip McLean</td>
<td>99 Elinga Street</td>
<td>Howrah</td>
<td>TAS</td>
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<tr>
<td>7023</td>
<td>REEVES Mrs Judith</td>
<td>1 Talune Street</td>
<td>Lindisfarne</td>
<td>TAS</td>
<td>7015</td>
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<tr>
<td>7024</td>
<td>WATSON Mr Brian David</td>
<td>80 Doyle Avenue</td>
<td>Lennah Valley</td>
<td>TAS</td>
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<tr>
<td>7026</td>
<td>SMITH Mrs Lynette Ann</td>
<td>22 Hambledon Avenue</td>
<td>Park Grove</td>
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<tr>
<td>7027</td>
<td>COLE Ms Marie Louise</td>
<td>2/6 Burrows Crescent</td>
<td>Devonport</td>
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<tr>
<td>7028</td>
<td>McFARLAND Dr Ian</td>
<td>PO Box 576</td>
<td>Wynyard</td>
<td>TAS</td>
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TASMANIAN ANCESTRY September 2010 97
NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7029</td>
<td>KESSING Ms Ann</td>
<td>2 Carroo Court</td>
<td>PENGUIN</td>
<td>7316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:keessing@hotmail.com">keessing@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7030</td>
<td>FORBES Mrs Margaret Louie</td>
<td>83 Hillcrest Road Tolmans Hill</td>
<td>HOBART</td>
<td>7007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:sebrof@intas.net.au">sebrof@intas.net.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>7031</td>
<td>JOHNS Mr Leslie Sydney</td>
<td>11 Bethune Place</td>
<td>NEWMHAM</td>
<td>7248</td>
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<td></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:tassie.johns@bigpond.com">tassie.johns@bigpond.com</a></td>
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<td>McPHERSON Mrs Ann</td>
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<td>TUNKS Ms Yvonne Laurel</td>
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<tr>
<td>7034</td>
<td>CHAPLIN Mr Ronald Joseph</td>
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<td>DONOHUE Mr Leo Patrick</td>
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<td>COCK Mrs Lorraine Ann</td>
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<td>COOEE</td>
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<tr>
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<td>BEGA</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:mjstew@netspeed.com.au">mjstew@netspeed.com.au</a></td>
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<td>7038</td>
<td>WRIGHT Ms Lorraine</td>
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<td>7041</td>
<td>CHURCHILL Ms Susan</td>
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<td>DAVIES Mrs Wendy Elizabeth</td>
<td>PO Box 79</td>
<td>HOWARD SPRINGS</td>
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<td>HOLMES Mr Roy</td>
<td>U19 Kepnock Grove Ret Village UMB3</td>
<td>BUNDABERG</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:jackspencer@aol.com">jackspencer@aol.com</a></td>
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<td>6756</td>
<td>BRADMORE Don</td>
<td><a href="mailto:djb100@mmsnet.com.au">djb100@mmsnet.com.au</a></td>
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THE ADVENT OF PRESERVED POTATO
Anne McMahon (Member No.6463)

Fresh potatoes were an essential part of the provisions supplied to ships under sail during the nineteenth century. They were used by the British navy, on immigrant ships, trading vessels and the convict transports. Preserved potato was patented during 1842. It was a dried product which, after being turned to mash, was dehydrated on heated surfaces. Upon the grant of the Letters Patent it was viewed as the greatest dietary improvement in modern times, particularly as part of the provisions at sea. The potato was shipped in cases of 112 lbs and stowed in the ships’ holds.

Fresh potatoes contain calories, carbohydrates, high quality protein, dietary fibre, sodium and vitamin C. With the addition of milk they form a very nutritious food. They are pleasant to eat, easily digested and very appropriate for patients and convalescents. Potatoes were abundant in season, cheap to purchase and had good lasting qualities when stored properly.

Fresh potatoes had a number of disadvantages. They were bulky and heavy and their quality was variable. If the ships’ holds were damp the potatoes at times rotted. This occurred, for instance, on the Earl Grey (1849–50) female convict transport. The smell was so noxious it made occupancy of the prison deck intolerable and had to be subdued with chloride of zinc poured into the hold.

In the absence of refrigeration potatoes were important in bridging the change from fresh provisions to salt rations. Without this transition passengers, crew and convicts suffered. They were affected with indigestion, gastritis, constipation and sometimes diarrhoea. For those unable to eat the salt meat or salt pork, such as hospital patients, potatoes were used as the substitute food. The normal practice for the Irish convict transports was for the victualling agent to supply ten tons of fresh potatoes in lieu of flour as potatoes and milk were the staple diet of the Irish poor. During the years of the Great Famine (1846–85), when the crops were destroyed by the blight Phytophthora infestans, they were no longer procurable, or a greatly reduced quantity only might be obtainable. The prisoners suffered by being issued salt rations soon after recovering from seasickness.

In 1842, when the Letters Patent were granted to the London company D & H Edwards & Co. for preserved potato, an extensive testing program was initiated by the British Admiralty. The dried product was tried on Navy expeditions to the Niger and to China and found to be unaffected by climate change. It was analysed chemically and found to contain the nutritional qualities of the tuber. On lengthy passages the product kept well and was received enthusiastically by the surgeons although they used it sparingly, mainly for the sick. Unbeknown to the

1 Preserved Potato Letters Patent, AJCP ADM 97 4602, ANL
2 William Jardine (1850), AJCP M reel 385
4 Earl Grey (1849–1850), AJCP 3193, ANL
experts exposure to heat tends to break down the vitamin C in potatoes so both the fresh potatoes and the dried product were of limited use as an anti-scorbutic. Eaten in large quantities though they seemed to have some effect.

Significant advantages of the dried potato included its light weight and lack of bulk as it needed one sixth of the stowage required for fresh potatoes. The newly patented product was also cheap, being sold at a penny per pound. Its preparation required only to be soaked in boiling water until converted to mash. It was then mixed with fat from the legs. The preserved potato could also be added to soups and mixed into pastry. The addition of eggs, sugar and spices enabled a pudding to be made on board ships. With the development of Caroline Chisholm’s work on female immigration she drew up a scale of dietary requirements for migrant ships that incorporated half a pound of preserved potatoes per adult per week with half that quantity for children. When these vessels were in port she recommended one pound of fresh potatoes per adult per week be supplied.5

By 1852, Sir William Burnett, Director General of the Medical Department of the Navy had recommended to the Lords Commissioners that preserved potato be supplied at the rate of a quarter pound per man twice a week as a prophylactic, in addition to the lemon juice.6 By 1854 it had also been prescribed by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commission for use on its chartered migrant vessels. A half pound per week was set as the ration for adults and children age 14 years or more. Between 10 and 14 years a two thirds ration was prescribed and for children between 2 and 10 years half the amount.7

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6 Lemon juice experiments AJCP ADM 97 4609

7 First Report from the Select Committee on Emigrant Ships, P.P. 1854, XIII, (163), q.553
THOMAS CRAWFORD
ARRIVED SOUTHWORTH 1830
Hilton Peck (Member No.876)

TOMAS CRAWFORD was probably born about 1810 as he was aged 19 in 1830. His native place was Curtain Road, London, and according to his death record, he was born in Bishopsgate, London.

He was tried at the Middlesex Court on 14 January 1830, for stealing four pounds of candles and sentenced to transportation for seven years. He had previously been gaol for one month for stealing paper.

Thomas arrived in Hobart Town aboard the Southworth (Captain John Coomb) on 6 June 1830, having left London on 6 June 1830 with 158 other passengers, and with a poor record of behaviour on board.

In 1835 one year was added to his original sentence for insubordination, he should therefore have been free about 1838. On 19 June 1840 at Longford United Church of England he married 16 year-old Mary WEBB, daughter of Thomas and Sarah Webb of Patersons Plains. Mary had at least two sisters, Rebecca and Elizabeth, but unfortunately it is difficult to know how many children she had with Thomas.

Thomas was tried in the Launceston Supreme Court on 9 January 1845 for theft from Patrick BURK and sentenced to death. The sentence was commuted to four years on Norfolk Island. According to family stories Thomas was ‘framed’ in this case. I have a copy of the trial which could support this story.

He returned from Norfolk Island on 12 November 1849. In the intervening period, one John MORRIS was on the scene, and it seems ‘co-habited’ with Mary. It is therefore difficult to say who was the father of many of the children, maybe Francis, born 1857, was the only child of Thomas Crawford.

The other children credited to Crawford probably belong to Morris—see dates of birth—Sarah, September 1845; John 1847, when Crawford was on Norfolk Island and Margaret, born 5 May 1850, who was most likely conceived while Crawford was on Norfolk Island. Annie, born in 1852, registered as both Crawford and Morris, could have belonged to either. Similarly, William and Eliza could have been fathered by either.

It seems Mary Crawford married John Morris, and Thomas married Elizabeth JONES, but was this her real name? On the marriage record she is shown as ‘widow’. Was Jones her maiden name or that of her previous husband?

I had discounted the marriage of Thomas to Elizabeth Jones as I felt it more likely he married Frances HIGHT/HITE at Westbury, where he lived prior to his sentence for stealing. Re-checking Crawford’s convict record I see he was in trouble with the law in 1864 at Franklin. This agrees with the fact that Elizabeth also went to Franklin after their marriage.

Thomas was shown as a sawyer on the marriage certificate and before his trial in 1845 at Launceston for stealing at Exton. Thomas Crawford died at Bangor north of Launceston, on 29 January 1896, aged 86. The informant was his son Peter (probably Thomas Peter) of Lefroy. When did the Crawfords move from Franklin to Bangor?
MARY ANN NIBBS
THE MYSTERY OF HER BIRTH DATE
Don Bradmore (Member No.6756)

MARY ANN NIBBS was the fourth child of ex-convict Charles Nibbs (*Phoenix*, 1824) and Anne Cavanagh, a woman born in the colony. She was born at Hobart Town in 1842. But there is a mystery about the exact date of her birth in that year. Her birth certificate shows she was born on 13 July 1842. However, a list of Church of England Baptisms in the Parish of Trinity, County of Buckingham, Hobart Town recorded the date of baptism as 22 May and her birth date as 18 May 1842.

The columns in this baptismal register read (from left): When Baptised; When Born; Child’s Christian Name; Parents’ Names (Christian/Surname); Abode; Quality or Profession; By Whom the Ceremony was Performed.

Hence, it is clear both records refer to the same person. In both cases, the parents’ names are shown as Charles and Ann(e) Nibb(s), that they lived in Bathurst Street, Hobart, and that Charles was a ‘boatman’ by occupation.

Which record, if either, is correct? Was Mary Ann born on 18 May or 13 July? How can this anomaly be accounted for?

A possible explanation is this ...

1. Anne Cavanagh (c.1820) was the eldest daughter of convicts John Cavanagh (*Minerva*, 1818) and Johanna Lynch (*Janus/Princess Charlotte*, 1820).

2. AOT: RGD Births 953/1842. The surname of Mary Ann’s mother is incorrectly spelt as ‘Cavendar’ on the birth certificate.

3. AOT: N3349/11/1, No.839)

The death certificate of Mary Ann’s father Charles, shows he died on 9 July 1842—just seven weeks after Mary Ann’s birth (if the baptismal record is correct) or five days before her birth (if her birth certificate is correct). As Mary Ann’s birth certificate (13 July) makes no mention of the fact that her mother is a widow—and, in fact, lists her father’s occupation as ‘boatman’, it seems more likely that Charles was still alive when Mary Ann was born.

Hence, it can be reasonably concluded the date of birth shown on Mary Ann’s birth certificate (13 July) is incorrect, and she was born on 18 May as the baptismal record indicates.

Why then, does 13 July 1842 appear as her birth date on the birth certificate? Compulsory registration of births had been introduced in Tasmania in December 1838. Perhaps in the sorrow and confusion of Charles’s death on 9 July, the registration of Mary Ann’s birth (if it had occurred on 18 May) had been overlooked. The date of registration shown on Mary Ann’s birth certificate is 17 August—presumably outside the approved time to register the birth without incurring a fine. So, in order to avoid the fine, might her mother have brought the birth date forward to 13 July?

Is there another explanation?

4. AOT: RGD Deaths 1842/5. Although Charles was transported to VDL as ‘Charles Nibbs’, his surname was often spelt as ‘Knibbs’ in the colony. See, *Hobart Town Courier*, 4 May 1838, p.4.
Birth, Baptism and Death certificates relating to NIBBS/KNIBBS
Registry of Births, &c.

Occupiers of houses in this colony are required to take notice that they are liable to a penalty not exceeding £10, which may be recovered summarily by information, for neglecting to register any birth, or death, which occurs in their house, at the office of the Deputy Registrar of the district in which they reside.

In cases of births, the date is required, name, if baptised, and sex of child, name, rank, or profession, and residence of father, and maiden name and surname of mother; and in cases of deaths, the date and cause of death, name, sex, rank, or profession, and age of deceased.

Parents or guardians have the privilege of registering births which took place at any period in this colony previous to 1838; and births of children born at sea, or in New Holland, may be registered, copies of all register books being about to be sent to the Supreme Court, there to be enrolled as records.

Licenses for marriage, as well as certificates of marriage notices, which avoid the publication of banns, may be procured at the Deputy Registrar’s Offices—certificates also, with seals of office, which render them evidence in any courts of law and equity, may be obtained of any birth or death which has been registered in the colony, or of any marriage which has been solemnized therein since November 1838, on application at the General Register Office, Hobart Town, or at the offices of any of the Deputy Registrars of the country districts.

John Abbott, Registrar, &c., for V.D.L.
June 24, 1842.

Colonial Times, 12 July 1842

BOOK REVIEW

TASMANIA’S CONVICTS
HOW FELONS BUILT A FREE SOCIETY,
by Alison Alexander, published by Allen & Unwin 2010, 318 pages including illustrations, hard cover. RRP $45.00.

Christopher Koch wrote, ‘Tasmania’s convict ancestors, so long figures of shame to their descendants, are examined here in rich and unprecedented detail. In showing us what kinds of people the convicts really were, Alison Alexander dispels many myths. A landmark work.’

This is another wonderful book from Alison in her usual easy to read style to add to her already long list of works. She discusses the reasons for transportation, the birth of the colony, the assignment system, the transportation debate, the convict stigma and much more. It follows the lives of many convicts and their families; their successes and failures, before and after transportation.

Notes, a comprehensive index and bibliography help make this a fascinating and enriching publication to add to your bookshelf and read.
FROM CELLARDYKE TO TASMANIA
REV. THOMAS CUNNINGHAM ET AL
Allison Carins (Member No. 668)

THIS story is as much Pip BUCHANAN’s as mine, in fact far more so as she did the enormous amount of research into the family history, travelled extensively to look up church records, meet descendants of the family and has corresponded with many all over the world, putting together and distributing the very detailed and informative family tree. We are both granddaughters of Rev. Thomas CUNNINGHAM, who came from Cellardyke to Tasmania ... but this story begins much earlier.

Cellardyke! Wherever is that? Along the south-east coast of the Firth of Forth in Fife, Scotland, there are several little fishing villages, almost running into one another—mainly Pittenweem, East and West Anstruther, Cellardyke and Kilrenny. These are now mostly tourist and holiday places, but for hundreds of years, and especially during the Middle Ages, they were important fishing ports. Legendary history goes back to the 6th century to explain the abundance of fish, with a curious story of a Princess, who, after offending her cruel father, was set adrift in a coracle and was followed by shoals of fish from the teeming waters which had taken pity on her’. She made it safely to shore and ’the fish remained in the vicinity where they have flourished ever since’.

War, religious strife, invasion, famine and plague were the grim realities of life in the 16th century, but all took second place on occasions when the herrings appeared in great numbers. Herrings were, and still are, the most important food fish in the world, basic, and nourishing, high in calories. They were caught in large nets, a very dangerous occupation especially in the North Sea, noted for its destructive gales. These burghs or towns were famous for their fishing industry and through it, established trade with countries across the North Sea and south to Europe. Herrings were the chief export; with government regulations as early as the 16th century, but other kinds of fish, staple goods, wool, woven fabrics, hides etc. were shipped from these ports; much-needed and sought after cargo imported from other countries, such as fine cloth, manufactures from Flanders and Lombardy, wines of France, timber from the Baltic, and oriental luxuries and spices.

In early times, these fishing villages were under the control of the nobility and the church who both received revenue in the form of levies or a percentage of the catch. A fisherman’s life was harsh, and their families all contributed to the life of unremitting toil; wives and children involved in making, repairing and drying nets, collecting baits, cleaning and salting the catch, with precious little reward. But it was a way of life binding young and old together. All had a part to play and were cared for. Cottages were of stone and very basic, as was the diet, mainly oatmeal and fish. This was the position into the early 1800s.

There were many hazards and dangers. Smuggling was carried out with harsh penalties if caught; in the time of Nelson, the press gangs would virtually kidnap
young fishermen to serve in the navy, and most would not see their families again. Tragedy was never far away, for over the generations there was much loss of life. Just a few examples of the many, many shipwrecks. In 1793, a boat’s crew perished at the harbour entrance in the presence of wives and children, leaving five widows and seventeen helpless children. In 1800 seven men drowned at the same spot leaving widows and thirty-three children. The most terrible, in 1875, was when the fleet from two ports ran into a fierce storm with a total of twenty-one men lost, leaving seventy-one fatherless children!

The first mention of Cellardyke was in 1579, known first as Silverdyke, then Sillerdyke and later Cellardyke. At the beginning of the 17th century, Kilrenny, with its port of Silverdyke, became a Royal burgh—a trading centre for exports and imports, and fishing industry.

In an early history of Fife published in 1710, we read of

Cellardyke, a royal burgh, commonly called Kilrenny. It holds the laird of Balfour as superior. It consists of one street, and hath ten boats with six men in each, that fish all the year over for white fish; but in the season for fishing herring they set out twenty boats with seven men in each; it hath a little harbour.

Among the list of skippers of Cellardyke herring boats is one James Cunningham.

Our line descends from Thomas Cunningham, (1751–1828) married to Janet WILSON in 1775, and their son Alexander, (1784–1861), whose son Thomas, (1804–84) was father to ‘our (Rev.) Thomas’.

Cellardyke Cunningshames have mostly been fishermen, but one Alexander Cunningham (a cousin of our Thomas), was a boat-builder and oral history credits him with having designed and built the first ‘Fifie’, the distinctive sailing boat favour ed by the east-coast fishermen for much of the later part of the 19th century. He migrated to Victoria, Australia, and was a boat builder and Master Mariner. His grandson, Charles and great grandson, Lindsay, designed catamarans that won the Little America’s Cup 1970, 1972 and 1985.

My great-grandfather, Thomas Cunningham, was born and grew up in Cellardyke. His father was Thomas who had a ‘drave’ (herring boat) named the ‘Jennet’, ‘a staunch and serviceable craft, though scarcely eight-and-twenty feet of keel’. His mother was Agnes SMITH; both their fathers and grandfathers were fishermen; in fact Agnes’ grandfather perished in the wreck in the harbour in 1800. Thomas and Agnes had eight children; all survived to adulthood, an achievement in those times. They were pious folk, Presbyterian, and passed on their values to their family.

From the 7 June 1841 Census record, Thomas and Agnes and five children and lived in the Main Street of Cellardyke (‘our Thomas’ was born a few weeks later). Cellardyke still consisted mainly of one long street, with some homes on the hill above. The population recorded, ‘197 inhabited houses, 690 males, 796 females = 1486’. Family names are repeated often in this close knit community, e.g SMITH, WATSON, DOIG, MELVILLE, BIRRELL MON- CRIEFF, DAVIDSON, PRATT, HORSBURGH, REID, KEAY, MUIR, and NICOL.

Not all were fishermen; there were other trades, especially in Kilrenny nearby; handloom weavers, masons, slaters, fish curer, baker, grocer, shoemakers, schoolmasters, and agricultural workers on farms inland. It was a time of relative prosperity in these villages. Apart from
one general store, other shopkeepers conducted business in a room in the house; some even selling liquor.

The middle of the 19th century brought expansion in the colonies. Gold discoveries in Victoria attracted thousands of fortune seekers. Unlike most, who made and lost fortunes, there were serious-minded young men from Cellardyke, who went for a time and returned with sufficient wealth to each build a new house on the braes above the old town, and fit out a boat in which to resume his natural trade—and marry a wife.

One of those was Alexander (1833–1913), the eldest son of Thomas and Agnes. Many years later, when an old man, he wrote an interesting and beautiful letter to a Melbourne paper, telling of his experiences in the new colony and particularly how impressed he was with the quality of the preaching in the little primitive Bendigo Presbyterian Church—just a framed tent. He married in 1857, and settled down as a fisherman in Cellardyke. His son, Thomas took over a Ship’s Chandler business in nearby Anstruther, carried on by his son Alec.

The same christian names were used in each generation and in other branches of the family too. Every family seemed to have a Thomas, Alexander, Andrew, James or Robert. Some families devised a way of identifying them by using the wife’s maiden name as well (especially helpful for the postman!). For example:

On the other side of the School Road, lived Alexander Cunningham (NICOL), whose father Thomas Cunningham (Smith) – a cousin of Alexander Cunningham (PRATT) – died in 1884. Alexander Cunningham’s (Nicol) son Thomas Cunningham (MONCRIEFF) a ship’s chandler in Anstruther was a future provost of Anstruther Easter.

(Agnes was certainly the most popular girl’s name.)

Briefly, the other children of Thomas and Agnes were:

Agnes (1830–1909) came to Australia between 1851 and 1861 and married James Birrell, also from Cellardyke, a shopkeeper. They lived in Geelong, had no children, but were popular with their nephews and nieces. (James re-married, died 1916.)

Catherine (1835–1912) married David DOIG, a fisherman and they remained in Cellardyke, but it is believed some of her children came to Australia.

William (1837–1922) migrated to South Australia about 1857–59, where he married and raised his family. He had six sons—Thomas, the eldest and three others remained in South Australia. The second son, William, went to Western Australia where there are descendants. Sixth son, Andrew, settled in Canada.

James (1839–1912), a fisherman, married Margaret Doig. Their children were born in Cellardyke. His daughter remained in Cellardyke, but son Thomas migrated to Victoria and married in Ballarat in 1897. Margaret died in 1898, after which James also migrated to Victoria. He died in Geelong.

Thomas (1841–1915) my great-grandfather—see later.

John (1843–?), had two daughters, unmarried (from first marriage), who remained in Cellardyke and lived with their Aunt Christian and her husband. John re-married and had another family.

Christian BLACK (c.1845–?), remained in Cellardyke, married, but had no children; known to her nieces and nephews as ‘Auntie Half-a-crown because she usually gave young visitors the gift of a coin!’
That is the background of my ancestor, Thomas Cunningham, who migrated in the 1860s, first stopping at Ceylon where he worked as shipping clerk, probably for the East India Co. He became very interested in people and missionary work. But the climate did not suit, so after a bout of malaria, he continued on to Australia, about 1867, first to Geelong where his sister Agnes Birrell lived as did other Scottish settlers. From there he moved to Smythesdale, near Ballarat in Victoria, finding employment in grocers’ and drapers’ shops.

The Smythesdale History Room has made CDs of re-enactments of incidents in the early days of the town. Pip Buchanan purchased one which tells of Thomas Cunningham, grocer, taking to court a customer and charging him with assault—the customer had hurled a pound of butter at Thomas after a dispute about the price! It is rather hilarious and somewhat surprising, particularly as the only accounts and most photos depict Thomas as a kindly but very dignified clergyman. He must have had his moments—well in his young days!

At Smythesdale, Thomas met Mary Ann BOYD, whose parents, George Boyd of Fifeshire and Margaret MORRIS of Glenburnie (Fifeshire), had migrated to Geelong in 1852, with Mary Ann (4), and William (2). Another son John was born about six months later. They moved to Smythesdale in 1859, settling in the Argyle Valley. George was a miner.

Mary Ann was employed in the household of the local bank manager, receiving valuable ‘education’ from his wife with the result that Mary Ann became very much a lady and gentlewoman, bringing up her family well. She and Thomas were married in April 1868. Their first three children were born there, Thomasina (died in infancy 1869), Agnes (1870), Margaret (Meg), in 1872. They moved to Linton for a time, where Georgina arrived in 1874. Fifth daughter, May, (my grandmother) was born in Smythesdale in 1876. The year 1877 finds Thomas, a draper, and family in Talbot. Their first son (Thomas) was born there. Sadly he died 1878.

About this time, eventually Thomas took up the call to be a minister and served as a Home Missionary for the Free Church of Scotland at Heywood (SA), where Lydia was born in 1879 and Florence (1882). From 1883–91 he ministered at Millicent, South Australia, where their last two children were born, sons after a succession of daughters, Harold Melville (1883–85) and Norman Gordon (1887). Eldest daughter Agnes in later years told of her little brother’s sad passing. She herself had expected to go to Presbyterian Ladies College in Melbourne on a Minister’s daughter’s scholarship. But Harold, sickly since birth, was fading away and would only have her to care for him. Agnes never did get to boarding school.

Thomas’ parish included outlying preaching places such as Mt Gambier, Pinola and Beachport.

Thomas used to drive a horse and buggy, often taking May to hold an umbrella to shade him from the relentless heat of the sun on the dusty white roads. When he called on parishioners, she would hold the horse and buggy during the visit.

May recalled holidays by the sea at Robe, returning there when eighty years old, to the beach where she collected shells as a child. I still have some of the very rare, tiny pink ‘Phasianella Rosea’ shells picked up with a pin from the froth when
the tide brought them on to the beach only every few years. 

In 1891, Thomas resigned his charge at Millicent to succeed the Rev. T G MATHER at Ellesmere, Scottsdale, Tasmania. The Presbyterian Church had been unable to supply this parish, but there were strong ties with the Free Church. Thomas, who needed to move to a cooler climate, was appointed Home Missionary and later was present at the historic Union between the two churches in 1896.

Thomas was ordained to the ministry in 1901, twenty years after beginning his Home Missionary work. He was 60 years of age. One can scarcely imagine how difficult it must have been to study all those years while carrying out the duties required in the scattered preaching stations, with slow transport, caring for all the people and the needs of his own large family.

In her story, ‘The Vineyard’, granddaughter Agnes Morris, described how the family crossed Bass Strait to Launceston; then continued by the newly opened railway to its terminus at Scottsdale. They settled in the warm, cosy Manse, with its three bedrooms, drawing-room, study and kitchen with bathroom-storage; certainly not large for such a big family, but the family adapted wonderfully to all demands made upon it, and in after years its hospitality was proverbial.

My grandmother May, had a favourite story that illustrates this very well. The wife of a fellow minister and her three or four children needed to stay the night and all slept in the one bed! Next morning, when asked how they slept, the very Scottish lady replied, “Oh, quite well. When I said “turrrrm, we all turrrrred!” (Origin of ‘Ten in the bed when the little one said, roll over?’)

The family settled in well. Lydia and Florence were school girls, May became a pupil teacher—the first step in a teaching career. Agnes was assistant to the postmaster, coping with morse code and telegraphy and many other duties. Margaret (Meg) opened a little school, while Georgina was a busy ‘unpaid Curate’, helping her father in his scattered parish. Norman, of course was a very precious three-year-old, the only surviving son.

Much of the girls’ education would have been at home, or sharing with a neighbour’s family governess or tutor. Such an education would involve much reading—history, the classics, English expression, as evidenced by letters exchanged; they all had a good general knowledge, learned art and music and practical skills. Georgina had a lovely contralto voice; Lydia loved music and was a fine pianist; she was reputed to have ‘green fingers’. Florence also had a good singing voice and had a flair for dressmaking.

My grandmother, May, had art lessons in her teens. Her pencil drawing books and pictures and later, oils are a very high standard. Her handwriting was beautiful right up to the last letter she wrote at 82.

She told me that her father’s stipend was £100 ($200) a year, (if he could collect it all) and how her mother managed on so little. She recalled her mother sitting up late to finish ‘turning’ her best black dress to wear to the Sunday School Anniversary next day. Imagine undoing all those seams and sewing it all by hand, by lamp or candle light! The outside would be faded, but the inside of the material as new. Not everyone could go on outings; the favoured ones, on their return home, were encouraged to share the event by giving a detailed account.
Thomas was considered by all to be a generous man—sometimes too generous, though none of his family ever dreamed of complaining about it—his generosity was one of the beautiful sides of his character, and they were proud of it too. Thomas could never turn away anyone really in need without giving them some cash, and more than once Mary Ann was left to manage with almost nothing—and she always did manage! Agnes Morris once remarked, “Grandpa was not a practical man—his mind was on higher things!”

May said her father could relate to anyone, whatever their station in life. He would be equally at home in a rich man’s home, or a humble shepherd’s hut. He built up a large congregation at Scottsdale. May recalled the many families filling the pews. After the evening service, groups of young people would walk miles to someone’s house for a ‘sing-song’.

From all accounts, the family was very close and very loving. Various members were always ‘going to stay’ with each other; grandchildren to the Manse, maiden aunts to help with a new baby, or nurse someone sick; a child to live with another family to take advantage of a good tutor or governess. They were a living example of the extended family in the fullest sense.

Agnes married Arthur HARDMAN in 1894; they lived on the large Waterhouse Estate, some 25 miles away. Travelling was slow and difficult so in fact they were isolated from the family. Her sister Meg was governess to their two daughters, Agnes (Nessie who later married Carl Morris, well known and much loved Headmaster of several Tasmanian High Schools); and Dorothy, (who married Gordon ROLPH, later Sir Gordon, owner of the Examiner Newspaper.) Agnes and Arthur also had five sons, Guthrie (King Island), Ewan, Stewart, Fergus and Laurie (all lived in Victoria).

Georgina married Heber HEAZLEWOOD, one of eight sons of pioneer shopkeeper and landowner in Scottsdale, T D Heazlewood. Heber’s family was musical (reputed to have its own orchestra!) as was Georgina. Their children were Catha, Georgina a talented singer, and Glen who must have inherited the love of boats, as he was a champion oarsman in the rowing club at Bendigo where they lived.

May was a teacher in several schools including Lisle Road (Nabowla) where she met John Carins, farmer and saw miller. They married in 1907.

She became a skilled and practical housekeeper. Their only child, Maysie, was my mother. May was a born teacher, passing her knowledge and wisdom to many. She organised concerts, making the most of any talents in the district; and later loved entertaining her grandchildren. She had a deep drawer full of items from those concerts, wonderful for dressing up.

Norman was the only one to have a formal education. He attended the Robert Officer College in Hobart, then was in the first class of the new Teacher’s College opened 1906. After one year, the students had two years out teaching, then two more years training. Norman was captain of the football team both years. He was a teacher in a number of country schools, after which he settled at Parkside, St Helens, right on the bay, where he had holiday cottages. Maybe the love of the sea was in his blood too, as fishing was a favourite recreation. He married Dorothy WARDLAW (1916)—daughters, Nancy, Dorothy (Beattie),
Mary (O’BRIEN) and Margaret (Smith). Their son Dr Murray Cunningham was Assistant Commissioner for Forests in Tasmania. Norman died in 1959.

Thomas Cunningham’s health began to fail in 1913 and Mr A G ROY was appointed to assist him, but in 1914 Thomas was compelled to tender his resignation of the charge he had held for 23 years. His parish had included Jetsonville, Kamona, Ringarooma, New River and other places at times. He served a term as Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Tasmania.

Thomas and Mary Ann retired to live at 20 Elphin Road, Launceston. Lydia and Florence were able to attend a Business College and obtained secretarial positions. It was here that Thomas died, possibly of a stroke on 15 May 1915. After his death the family received an overwhelming number of letters, all of which emphasised the outstanding qualities of Thomas’s gentle character.

Mary Ann and her three unmarried daughters moved to 4 Claremont Street. Mary Ann died on 11 December 1917. Her obituary describes her as a true helpmeet of her late husband during the many years of faithful service to the Presbyterian Church. She is remembered lovingly by a very large circle, many of whom will never forget her loving sympathy and help and wise counsel in times of need and her bright unselfish disposition at all times.

About 1918, Meg went to live with her sister Agnes Hardman, while Flo took up a clerical position at Fingal with store-keeper, Harry HOLDER, who she married in 1925. She passed away 1945. (Harry later married Joan BURBURY, son Henry, daughter, Helen.)

Lydia travelled to Geelong, Victoria, was employed as a clerk in Solomon’s Draper’s shop, with her cousin and friend, Alice Boyd, daughter of William, Mary Ann’s brother. The families had always kept in close touch, and this continued into the next generation. Two members of that family, ‘Johnno’ and Hilda reached their 100th birthdays.

The closeness of the Cunningham family continued all their lives, often through letters. Agnes was widowed in 1924. It was at her home that Lydia passed away in 1927 and Meg in 1930. In 1933, Agnes was with Georgina in Bendigo at the time of her passing. Agnes, in old age, moved to Parkside, near her brother Norman and Dorothy.

She died peacefully in 1941 in their presence. May and Flo exchanged loving, often humorous, letters till May mourned the loss of the last of her sisters in 1945. May passed away December 1958.

At Ellesmere Church, Scottsdale, the congregation erected a memorial tablet, inscribed with gilt lettering.

To the glory of God and in loving memory of the Rev. Thomas Cunningham, the devoted minister of this church for 21 (23) years, who died 15th May 1915, aged 73 years. A faithful Pastor and a true friend.

The preacher, Rev. R W Stephens spoke in appreciative terms.

The outstanding features of his life as a man were the talents of sympathy and tactfulness. As a Pastor, he certainly earned the ‘well done’ from many hearts in this district ... As a minister and servant of God, he possessed the qualifications which endear the hearts of the people to their minister, viz. earnestness and sincerity of endeavour.

The Presbyterian Church Assembly in their tribute, referred to him as ‘a man much beloved and greatly trusted.’ So
Thomas, coming from a long line of fishermen, travelled a very different path, but after all, as a true minister, was called to be a ‘fisher of men’.

**Postscript**

Thomas did not return to his native land, but he remained in contact with some of his family. In 1952, when his granddaughter, Maysie Orchard (my mother) and her husband, John, made their first overseas trip to Europe, Maysie sought out her second cousins. At Anstruther, near Cellardyke, she found Alec (who had inherited the Ship’s Chandler business from his father Thomas), and his two sisters, May Cunningham, and Agnes JAGGER, all grandchildren of Alexander who had come to the gold-fields, and returned to be a fisherman. They were indeed very pleased to welcome the relations from the other side of the world; I read once, ‘A distant cousinship is a very strong bond between Scots’, and this was so.

Because England was still experiencing food shortages and rationing, they took in their luggage (by sea of course) food items as gifts. There was another second cousin at Cellardyke they were unable to visit. Katie PRATT was the granddaughter of our Thomas’s sister Catherine Doig. Maysie sent her a message and a tin of fruit.

Maysie and John travelled on the Continent, and, returning to London, received a letter of thanks from Katie, but more importantly, it contained a photo of Maysie, aged two and a half, standing by a mirror, a delightful study of a beautiful child with fair curly hair, a photo which we have and have always admired. However, this photo was quite special, for on the back of it, in Grandpa Cunningham’s writing, is this message, to his youngest sister, Christian Black.

Dear ones all, I am sending this card of May’s daughter to you to keep and show it to the others. Her name is Maysie Anderson Carins. She is our ninth grandchild and has a host of friends to send them (cards) to. Wishing you all a Happy New Year. We are all well at the Manse, with love to you all, your affectionate brother, Thos. Cunningham (10:01:1911).

Katie’s accompanying letter reads,

Dear Mrs Orchard, Thanks very much for the tin of fruit I received. Enclosed card sent by your grandfather to Aunt Christian. I think it is you.

Aunt Christian was Mother’s Aunt, but they were like sisters. I lived with her the last ten years of her life and after her death, had to clear the house – burnt a lot of photos, etc. but kept this one. It’s so unusual and such a ‘Bonnie Lassie’...

yours sincerely, K. D. Pratt.

So this beautiful photo was preserved and forty years later returned to Maysie because of an act of kindness on her part – and it is treasured still. Maysie was able to share all this with her mother May, then 76, and Norman, the only children of Thomas still living.

Maysie and John visited Scotland again in 1964, and writing, told of going to Pittenweem for lunch with the Cunningham cousins, May and Agnes. They took them on a drive to Anstruther, which is the quaint old town where Alec lives. Alec has retired and his Ship’s Chandler’s shop, built in 1724, and owned by a Cunningham ever since, has been taken over by the Trust and will be preserved. (Part of the Maritime museum).

In 1974, Pip Buchanan’s mother Mary and husband Geoff O’Brien, made a sentimental journey to Scotland and met Katie Pratt and Agnes Jagger. (Mary is a daughter of Norman, youngest child of Rev. Thomas.) Mary wrote to Maysie,
Thought you might like to hear how we progressed at Anstruther. We were delighted with the town, (isn’t it quaint and unspoilt?) and had no trouble finding the Fisheries Museum. We spent an hour or so at the museum, which is very well presented, the only disappointment that the name Cunningham is not mentioned. The Ship’s Chandler business is – in the brochure together with more ancient history. There is a fish box in the yard with T. CUNNINGHAM & SONS on it. The museum gives the history of “Fishing in Scotland” and is good. The buildings have been beautifully restored.

We called at 3 Ellice Street, Cellardyke, and found Kate and enjoyed a great chat. She turns 85 this week and sent her love to you. She looks after herself.” We went to Nairn to “Winneknow”, the Presbyterian Home for Aged and found Agnes (Jagger) and isn’t she a darling? Geoff and I loved her; she was so affectionate and welcoming, really family. I thought she was so like our Aunt Agnes (Hardman). She is nearly 82 and is sharp and quick of wit and filled in a gap or two of the family tree I wasn’t sure about.

These four Cunningham cousins were the last link my family had in Scotland and this ceased when they passed on, Alec in 1968. May Cunningham, (1971), Agnes Jagger, (1978), Katie Pratt (their cousin) died 1977.

Until recent years, my knowledge of the Cunninghams was limited to the immediate family, but thanks to Pip Buchanan and Harry WATSON (see below), a wonderful vista has been opened up, revealing nearly 300 years of family history and a way of life in a remote little fishing village. Without them, this story could not have been written.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
Pip Buchanan—extensive research in all branches of the Cunningham family, back to early 1700s; she compiled a very detailed family tree, and recorded some of the history. She contacted and met Harry Watson who was brought up in Cellardyke.

Kilrenny and Cellardyke by Harry Watson, from another branch of the family. Most of the story’s background is gleaned from this book. The Vineyard—Memories of the Manse at Scottsdale, and other family memoirs, by Agnes Morris, daughter of Agnes Hardman (eldest daughter of Thomas Cunningham). Other information from family members, principally my grandmother, May Carins, my mother, Maysie Orchard and Mary O’Brien. Presbyterian Pioneers of Van Diemen’s Land, J Heyer

World Book Encyclopaedia
The Examiner newspaper
(Note: I married into another Carins family, hence my surname.)

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HANDSOME and athletic, with a sunny disposition, Arthur (Artie), or Barney, as his younger brothers knew him, was a favourite with all the family. He had served in the Naval Reserves for some time, and was 18 when WW1 began. When his two brothers, Bert and Lou joined up, he wanted to go with them, but his mother understandably refused to give her consent, until the next year when he turned 19. He actually enlisted 18 March 1915, a few weeks before his birthday.

Arthur’s records show he served in the Middle East, and Gallipoli, though this would have been for a brief time, as his brother Bert records in his diaries, 22 August 1915:

Louis rang up and told me that he had been told that Artie is ‘on our left’ [Middle East or Palestine?] now the 26th battalion. Greatly excited and wrote a letter to him, enclosed cards, envelopes & paper for him.

A later entry shows how the three brothers were united at Lemnos, at the time of the withdrawal from Gallipoli. (He was known as Artie in the diaries.)

All three brothers were in the same unit in the French and Belgium campaigns. Artie was recommended for the non-commissioned soldier’s award, Military Medal, for bravery. The citation read:

During operations on the 7th/8th June, 1917, Bombardier Orchard was in charge of the Specialists with Forward Observation Officer for Group Headquarters, and set a fine example by his pluck and determination.

Note: British offensives in Flanders aimed at diminishing the German control of the Belgian Coast, the base of the submarine campaign against Britain, dependent upon food supplies from overseas.

This action is described in Illustrated World History (p.1030)

Hence the month of June witnessed the most resounding and nearly the most spectacular stroke of the war. On the way towards Ypres lay the Messines ridge; it had been the stage of much fighting which, as at Vimy until the Canadians stormed it, had failed to dislodge the Germans.

The operations known as the Battles of the Messines were a continuation of the British 1917 offensives, but directed rather to the coast than to the outflanking of the Hindenburg Line. They involved the Messines ridge itself, where the attack was opened by the explosion of nineteen enormous mines. (June 7th.)
Subterranean engineering operations had been in progress undetected for some time before. The whole of the surface defences were subjected to a terrific bombardment during the first week of the month and on the 7th the simultaneous explosion of the nineteen mines blew to pieces what was left in one vast eruption. The practical effect was to force on the Germans a retirement which left Ypres a salient no longer.¹

As Barney was a bombardier, in the Artillery, this was the action he was engaged in with a lot of responsibility as recorded in the citation. (Although he did receive the recommendation, the actual medal was presented posthumously to his father in Launceston.) A month later a gas shell landed in the gun pit, killing or injuring most of the gun crew.

One of the survivors later visited the family to tell them that Barney had not received fatal wounds, but had rushed to distribute the store of gas masks to his mates. He failed to get his own mask on and so lost his life. Bert was notified, but arrived too late to say ‘Goodbye’.

Bert recorded in his diary how he arranged the funeral and interment in the little cemetery at Dikkebus (Dickebusch), Belgium, and his attending to the grave; and the sad task of writing to his parents and sending home the few personal effects.

My father, the youngest of the large family, was only 11 but remembered the heartbreak all his long life. In 1952, on his first trip to Europe, my father found the grave in the beautifully kept little cemetery. By amazing coincidence it was the same day and month, 15 July, 35 years later, that was on the headstone. Another thirty years on, in 1982, my husband and I, with my parents, visited this place. In a niche in the gate was a worn, but preserved intact, directory which enabled us to find the exact location. Plot 2. Row D. Grave 17. The headstones were all uniform and clean, with small clumps of flowers at the base. It was moving to read the names and ages (so young) and sadder still, some were simply ‘Unknown Soldier’—such a waste of youth. Arthur was 21.

References:
Albert Arthur Orchard, *Diary of an ANZAC*
Allison Carins, *Woven threads of Ancestry*

¹ Salient—a military term for a projecting angle in a line of fortifications.
BOOK REVIEW

Diary of an ANZAC: the front line diaries and stories of Albert Arthur ‘Bert’ Orchard M.C: Gallipoli & the Western Front 1914 to 1918, compiled by Albert Arthur Orchard; foreword by William Cox. The book sells at $34.95 (inc. postage) and is available from Arthur Orchard, 87 Penenjou Road, Otago, TASMANIA 7017 or, visit the ‘Diary of an ANZAC’ web site at http://i.am/aaorchard Any profits from the sale of the book will go to Legacy. Arthur has donated a copy to the Tasmanian Family History Society Inc., Hobart Branch Library.

In 1975, at Albany, Western Australia, my husband and I stood near the Anzac Monument, on the hill overlooking King George Sound—one of the largest natural harbours in the world. We were on a coach tour and as the bus travelled up the winding road to the summit, an 80 year old man was invited to the microphone. This trip was his family’s birthday gift—so he could return all those years later to see the place where he had been one of the servicemen on board a ship in that First Fleet that set out on 1 November 1914 to serve in WWI. His account of it all made the wonderful scene below (an immense stretch of sparkling water) come alive as we imagined the ships gathered together—forty-three or four in all, including some from New Zealand.

This was also special to me, as my two uncles, Bert and Louis ORCHARD, of Launceston, Tasmania, were on one of those ships, and were together during the whole wartime period, first training in Egypt, then to Gallipoli and finally to the Western Front in France and Belgium.

Bert started keeping diaries, written in indelible pencil, on the 19 August 1914, and ending on 6 December 1918. After the war, Bert expanded some of the entries and wrote a number of articles, including an eye witness account of the landing at Gallipoli (he went ashore the next day) and two scouting expeditions with Major (later Field Marshall) BLARNEY, and these articles were published, the last in 1934. However the diaries were then packed away for some seventy years until his son, Arthur, retired from business, found time to read them. He has spent the last five years painstakingly transcribing them on to computer, resulting in this very interesting and well-presented book.

Bert, the year before, had suffered the tragic loss of his young wife (and baby son) in childbirth. He welcomed the opportunity for a change of direction and the challenge of serving his country. His brother Louis was keen to go, so they enlisted the same day. They proceeded to Brighton in the south for training. Another brother, Arthur, very much
wanted to go too, but his mother wouldn’t give her consent till he was 19. Two sons would be heartbreak enough. Arthur did enlist the next year and joined his brothers at the end of the Gallipoli campaign.

Bert (26) and Louis (21) embarked on the Geelong; the horses, wagons and guns were on the Katuna. The ships sailed from Hobart on 20 October 1914. But Arthur was not left out. He served as a signaller on SS Toga, engaged in patrol work, manned by Naval Reserves. His ship was in Hobart and he sent semaphore messages of fond farewells to his brothers.

The voyage to WA via ‘The Bight’ was rough and miserable, but then there was the excitement of joining that great Armada assembled in the splendid harbour. Bert’s diary records the details of all the ships and the order in which they sailed. His entry on 1 November 1914, includes:

Convoy steamed out of the Port of Albany at 7 am. It was a beautiful & inspiring sight & one I will never forget. There were some of the finest ships in the P&O and Orient lines that had ever visited Australia.

While Bert kept such records and wrote more on his return, Louis never spoke to his family of his experiences at all, so this book is valuable to them (and maybe to other such families) to help understand what it was like for their father and grandfather over that time.

These two were together and served with distinction and courage throughout the whole war period. Bert was promoted to Lieutenant, and was awarded the Military Cross for ‘Conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty’. It was 28 September 1918; some of the fiercest of the fighting was just before the Armistice in November. Incidentally, the diary entry simply states, ‘Some rough night, believe me!’

The three brothers, with a cousin Harold FOOT, were together with the 24th Howitzer Brigade. Sadly, Arthur (Artie to Bert and Lou), did not return home. His is a separate story. He was awarded a Military Medal for bravery in the Battle of the Messines. Bert briefly records Artie’s death and how he arranged the burial and attended to the grave; and his writing to their parents and sending home Artie’s few effects.

Harold Foot returned home to die of wounds. Bert’s son, Arthur, was only 14 when his father died, so he has learned much about him from this project. He has done an outstanding job in transcribing, editing, collecting articles, poems written by Bert, with a large number of photographs—a very interesting and historical work. The foreword is a fine tribute from the Governor of Tasmania, Mr William COX, whose father served with Bert for a time.

Allison Carins (Member No.668)
ONE of the big advantages of pursuing genealogy online is that you don’t have to research alone. Not only do you have access to many previously inaccessible records but also to the expertise of thousands of researchers and experts. This is not to say that the information you are given has to be correct, but mining this collective knowledge is definitely worthwhile. In fact if you are researching in isolation then chances are you’re looking at a wrong person, place or interpreting something incorrectly. I recently came across someone who was researching several convicts, none of them the ones who actually belonged to the family. However he was doing it from outside Tasmania and without access to the local records like the list of people in a hospital which provided the correct ship, proving this convict arrived under an alternative spelling, or the relationship of the informant on a death certificate to prove the ex-convict was in fact a father in law, not an assigned servant, he had little hope of getting them straight.

Of course many of us correspond with a select few fellow researchers found through members’ interests etc. However it’s often people who aren’t even related to your line who can offer the biggest insights and the place to find them is on genealogical mail lists.

The biggest set of mailing lists is hosted by Rootsweb. It is free, takes only a few minutes to send an email to subscribe, a few more to respond to the confirmation and then your email will swell with the queries and responses of people scattered across the globe. Other sites also host mail lists, but remember, if you have to pay to access it then the only people viewing your emails are those who also are paying for the privilege.

Mail lists are deceptively simple for such a valuable resource. They have existed in varying forms since before the ‘internet’ as we know it. The concept is basic. You send an email to an address to subscribe. From then you will receive any emails sent to the specific group address, and so will everyone else on the same list. So you write one email to thegroupaddress@maillistaddress.com and almost instantly it is seen by every member of that list—often numbering in the thousands. Any one of them may then respond, either to you directly, or to the list, where again every member can view it and respond. In my years on mail lists I’ve seen brick walls fall in hours and family extended by generations in days.

Mail lists exist for research by place, area, surname, or subject (Mariners, Huguenots, etc). They vary in popularity and the number of emails sent. Some are linked to societies, some are restricted to members, while most are open to anyone. Most mail lists are run by volunteers who set and maintain the rules. These can vary from list to list. Some lists are pedantic about not allowing any off topic chatter, others are more lax. Some get very upset if you ask a question that has already been answered, others are happy to repeat information for newcomers.

All Rootsweb mail lists are archived, so you can view every post that has been sent since the beginning of time (or the early 90s). Searching the archives can
not only find your family names but often answers to queries before you send them.

Mail Lists have many advantages. The first is local knowledge. In any list about an area a certain number of members will be living in that area and someone may be willing to measure the number of steps from the post office to the park, photograph a gravestone, describe the building that used to be on the corner, or tell you where a street used to be.

Often members of a group will have access to records held in that area and may be willing to do look ups or get copies.

It can also be helpful to have a few dozen people trying to interpret the writing on a will, or searching for a census record. Often it is the people with no connection to your family who will find the missing record. Of course the first thing to do is post a list of your interests to see if you can find anyone connected to the families—mail lists are a great way to find relatives.

Make sure you keep the ‘welcome letter’, it will contain information on the address to use for posting, the rules and how to unsubscribe.

Across all lists informal rules of netiquette apply. Conforming to them will assist in gaining a friendly reception. Don’t SHOUT, that is typing using all uppercase (except to show surnames). Be concise and polite. Do not forward jokes or virus warnings. It is important when you reply to emails to delete all the unnecessary quoted parts, leaving just enough to show which part of the message you are talking about. Also don’t forget the power of a thank you, even if the information doesn’t help, people remember and will be more likely to assist you again in the future. Most of all remember everything you post is visible to anyone and everyone, forever. Do not post personal details, do not use signatures with surnames and addresses (you can always email these directly to anyone who needs to write to you) and don’t announce what dates your house will be vacant while you tour England. Always think before you press send.

Most importantly mail lists work because people are willing to help. ‘Pay it forward’ by trying to reply to queries where you can, looking up indexes you may have, or even volunteering to do look ups where you can locally.

You can use filters or message rules to sort mail list emails into their own folders so they don’t clog up your inbox. If too many emails annoy you, you can choose digest mode, which will either send one email containing the text of many messages at a set time (e.g. once a day) or after so many messages have been received.

Sites of interest

I had a huge list of links but my computer ate it. Note to self—save documents before walking away from the computer!

New South Wales Geographic Names Board—www.gnb.nsw.gov.au

Muster Roll Database (Medieval Soldiers)—www.icmacentre.ac.uk/soldier/database/

If you haven’t already explored TROVE it may be worth a look. A NLA based search engine, it combines many indexes, libraries, and the Australian Newspapers. It may be useful for searches within the range of social sciences, literature, local or family history. trove.nla.gov.au
WHAT IS THAT PUBLICATION ABOUT?
Maurice Appleyard (Member No.4093)

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

GHOST PORTS OF AUSTRALIA
This quarto hardback by Jeff Toghill was published in 1984 by Macmillan Australia.

Many small ports once served isolated settlements as their only link with the outside world. Some of them were major trading ports on international and coastal routes, throbbing with activity and visited by the biggest and fastest ships of their day. Others the hub of local industries which thrived for a while, then died when the coal had all been mined or the timber had all been cut.

Each port has its own history, romantic or sad, with many stories of pioneering spirit and heroism.

Port Arthur in Tasmania existed solely as a convict settlement and is now a charming but eerie ruin. Port Essington in the Northern Territory was envisaged as a great trading port for the Far East but the trade never materialised.

Most of the ports declined gradually with the advent of the railway and improved roads.

Ports featured are:
Apollo Bay, Bellinger River, Bermagui, Bourke, Broulee, Bundaberg, Clarence River, Cleveland, Cooktown, Eden, Echuca, The Gippsland Lakes, Goolwa, Innisfail, Inverloch, Kempsey, Kiama, Mackay, Maryborough, Morpeth, Moruya, Port Albert, Port Arthur, Port Campbell, Port Douglas, Port Elliott, Port Essington, Port Fairy, Port Macquarie, Port Stephens, Port Wakefield, Portarlington, Richmond River, Robe, Rockhampton, Rockingham, Sealers Cove, Tathra, Ulladulla, Victor Harbour, Warrnambool, Woolgoolga, Wollongong.

JOHN WALKER’S VILLAGE:
A history of Walkerville
This hardback book by Marjorie May Scales was published in 1974.

Captain John Walker, R.N., called a public meeting in December 1838 to discuss ways of developing his Section 476 in the Province of South Australia. Amid “some clamour” the streets of a new township were laid out and the meeting closed with “three cheers for Walkerville.”

Walkerville thus became one of South Australia’s earliest towns. John Walker soon ran into financial trouble and departed for Tasmania, but “John Walker’s Village” continued to grow after he had been forgotten.

The original idea was that Walkerville should provide housing land for “the working classes” as well as for more substantial citizens. Building began in the days when the Torrens was still “a pretty stream” and immigrants chose land in leafy Walkerville in preference to the muddy streets of Adelaide. Such well-known colonial figures as Captain Frome, Philip Levi, David Rundall, and James Virgo settled in the area.

The township grew popular with men becoming wealthy from copper, wheat,
and wool. Churches, hotels, and schools opened to meet their needs and in 1855 they began a struggle for local government.

In this book, Marjorie Scales covers the whole picturesque panorama of the Walkerville community.

FIVE MEN VANISHED:
The Bermagui Mystery.
This book by Cyril Pearl was published in 1985 by Hutchinson of Australia.

Boat found wrecked yesterday near Tilba Tilba. Supposed that Mr Lamont Young Govt Geologist was on board with four others. Const Berry found letters and papers belonging to Mr Young in boat. Boat stove in at bows and side. Police and Blacks going again to make further search.

J. Keegan

Inspir Police
Bermagui

In the rough and tumble of the gold rush days, the disappearance of five men might go unremarked. But when their boat is found in mysterious circumstances it becomes clear that they have not all disappeared voluntarily.

No trace of the men was ever found and fate remains a mystery to this day.

The author relates all that is known of the Bermagui, New South Wales, mystery: the last known sightings of the geologist Lamont Young and his party, the evidence revealed by the numerous official and private investigations, and the various theories put forward to explain the men’s disappearance—kidnapping, drowning or murder?

GHOST TOWNS OF AUSTRALIA
This quarto hardback by George Michell Farwell is a reprint of the 1976 revised and enlarged edition.

As in the United States, ghost towns are one of the seldom visited, yet enduring features of our landscape. Scores of them are scattered about the more remote sectors of the continent, and it would take years to visit them all. In many cases they are dead, or derelict; but this is not always so. Some such as Cooktown or Clunes, continue to exist, though in somewhat altered fashion, bearing little resemblance to the exuberant life of an earlier day when they were of such importance to the Australian scene.

Towns featured are: Bloomfield River, Borroloola, Burketown, Clunes, Cooktown, Croydon, Hall’s Creek, Hammond, Hill End, Innamincka, Karamba, Milparinka, Mount Gipps, Palmer River, Pipeclay, Port Arthur, Port Essington, Port Douglas, Silverton, Tallangatta, Thackaringa, Tibooburra, Waukaringa.

CAP’N ’ANCOCK: Ruler of Australia’s Little Cornwall.
This hardback book by Mandie Robinson was published in 1978.

Cap’n ’Ancock “reigned” over Moonta in South Australia for thirty-four years. It was said that his initials (H.R.H.) were appropriate. In 1864 at the age of twenty-eight he became superintendent of the Moonta Mining Company, and in the years to follow he ran what were then the richest mines in Australia—the Moonta and Wallaroo copper mines on Yorke Peninsula in South Australia. Though younger than many of the miners and mine captains, he knew, apparently instinctively, what was best for the mines, the miners, their wives, their children—and himself. The mines became “his” mines, the growing township “his” town, the people became “his” people.

The history of the Moonta mines and the life-story of the man who was Moonta for thirty-four years are irrevocably intertwined. Captain Henry Richard Hancock
was a man to be reckoned with, and no one knew that better than the directors of the Moonta Mining Company who allowed him full rein in more ways than one.

This biography describes the life and times of Captain Hancock, the growth and prosperity of both the mine and the township and the history of the region.

SOME EARLY NORFOLK ISLAND and VAN DIEMEN'S LAND FAMILIES.

An A4, hardback manuscript produced by John Hargrave in 2009.

This work includes the family trees of the Westlakes, Pillingers, Matthews, Burrows and John S Moir.

BERWICKSHIRE MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS (Pre 1855) Volume 1.

This A5 book, compiled by David Cargill is a 2006 reprint with corrections.

It is a record of pre-1855 tombstone inscriptions in the old Burial Grounds in the eight Border Parishes of Berwickshire, namely: Coldstream, Eccles, Hutton, Whitsome & Hilton, Swinton & Simprin, Mordington, Ladykirk and Foulden.

BIG MEN, LONG SHADOWS:
A story of the history and happenings of a sheep station on the River Darling—Windale.

This A4 manuscript is a 2003 second edition of the work of Claudia Richards-Mousley.

This work is about the Victorian property Windale and associated families.

In 1882, Joseph J Phelps owned the property as well as Quamby in Tasmania, Laverton in Victoria, Albermarle and Vaucluse in New South Wales and the Normanton property in Queensland.

THE DEANERY OF THE THREE TOWNS.

This CD was published by the Devon FHS in 2004.

It contains and index of baptisms (1813–1839), marriages (1754–1837) and burials (1813–1837) for the parishes of East Stonehouse, Pennycross, Plymouth Charles, Plymouth St Andrew, St Budeaux and Stoke Damerel.

It has photographs of the churches and extracts from White’s Directory (1850) and Lewis’ Topographical Dictionary of England (1844). Some parishes have a more extensive coverage.

THE DEANERY OF TOTNES.

This CD was published by the Devon FHS in 2009.

It contains an index of baptisms (1813–1842), marriages (1754–1837) and burials (1813–1840) for the parishes of Ashprington, Blackawton, Buchfastleigh, Cornworthy, Dartington, Dartmouth St Clement or Townstall, Dartmouth St Petrox, Dartmouth St Saviour, Dean Prior, Diptford, Dittisham, Halwell, Harberton, Holne, Rattery, South Brent, Stoke Fleming and Totnes.

It has photographs of the churches and extracts from White’s Devonshire Directory 1850.

FAREWELL HEEMSKIRK, GOOD-BYE DUNDAS: A history of the Heemskirk and Dundas Mining Fields.

This softcover book by Patrick Howard was published in 2010.

The Heemskirk mining field was established during the 1880–81 boom amidst great optimism as people believed it would be another Mt Bishoff. But by 1885, after the expenditure of an estimated £100,000 capital, the field had failed. The Comstock field showed the
same potential but it failed also. In 1890 Dundas looked certain to equal or even surpass Zeehan, but it was to die a slow lingering death as its mines never reached the heights of the Zeehan mines. This book traces the history of these fields and the communities whose fate was inextricably bound up with them.

A FAMILY REMEMBERS: The story of Isaac and Matilda Richardson and their descendants.

This ‘A4’ hardcover book by Beverley Richardson was published in 2010.

The story of Isaac and Matilda Richardson and their descendant traces the family’s fortunes after Isaac’s conviction as a Swing RIoter and his transportation to Van Diemen’s Land in 1831. The skills, resilience, hard work and initiative demonstrated by the family are documented, as are their achievements especially in the areas of farming, sport and music. As a social history the book tells of the changing attitudes, lifestyles and opportunities of families since early settlement.

A compact disc containing a Four-Generation Family Tree of some 45 pages is also provided at the back of the book.

CD-ROM PUBLICATION
Bruny Island
Cemeteries of Southern Tasmania Vol.X

Adventure Bay
St Peters – Barnes Bay
Alonnah
Lunawanna
Shelter Cove
Miscellaneous Memorials

Produced by Hobart Branch
with the valued assistance of Kathy Duncombe, a member of both TFHS Inc. and the Bruny Island Historical Society.

Each Bruny Island cemetery has a brief history/description, plan, details of how to get there, and a list of the individuals identified in the cemetery. Where available each individual has a photograph of the grave and/or headstone, a transcription of any wording, and a plot number.

Many inscriptions were recorded up to thirty years ago so that, in some cases, a transcription is given even though it may no longer be clear on the tombstone. All identifiable interments to the end of 2005 have been included.

Also on this CD is information relating to the history of both the island and the churches there.

A Single-Use License costs $30.00 plus p.&p. of $5.70

A Multiple-Use License costs $75.00 plus p.&p. of $5.70

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* Humphrey–Smith, C; *The Phillimore Index of Parish Registers, 3rd Edition*. [Q611.42 HUM]
* Irvine, S & D Obee; *Finding Your Canadian Ancestors*. [929.30971 IRV]
* Jeanes, W H, OBE; *Historic Glenelg—Birthplace of South Australia*. [994.231 JEA]
* Kerr, M T; *Colonial Dynasty—The Chambers Family of South Australia*. [Q959.2 JEA]
* Lord Teignmouth & C. Harper; *The Smugglers*. [Q364.1 TEI]
* Maiden, S J; *Menindee—First town on the River Darling: A brief history*. [994.49 MAI]
* Maxwell, I; *Tracing Your Northern Irish Ancestors*. [929.309415 MAX]
* Nash, R (ed.); *The Hidden Thread—Huguenot Families in Australia*. [929.20994 HUG]
* Nicholls, M; *Hawesbury Pioneer Register, Vol. 1*. [Q994.42 NIC]
* Nicholls, M; *Hawesbury Pioneer Register, Vol. 2*. [Q994.42 NIC]
* O’Donohue, A & B Hanson; *Eaglehawk & District Pioneer Register, Vol. 6 T–Z*. [Q994.54 ODO]
* Orchard, A A; *Diary of an Anzac*. [994.4 PEA]
* Pearl, C; *5 Men Vanished—The Bermagui Mystery*. [994.4 PEA]
* Porter, H; *Bairnsdale—Portrait of an Australian Country Town*. [994.56 POR]
* Priestley, S; *Echuca—A centenary history*. [994.54 PRI]
Richards-Mousley, E. Bigmen, Longshadows. [Q994.49 RIC]
* Richardson, B; A Family Remembers.
* Robinson, M; Cap’n ’Ancock—Ruler of Australia’s Little Cornwall. [622.3430994 ROB]
† Royden, M; Tracing Your Liverpool Ancestors. [929.309427 ROY]
* Scales, M; John Walker’s Village—A history of Walkerville. [994.23 SCA]
† Swinnerton, I; Identifying Your World War I Soldier from Badges & Photographs. [355.1 SWI]
* Toghill, J; Ghost Ports of Australia. [387.10994 TOG]
* Willis, A J; Canterbury Marriage Licences, 1751–1807. [929.310942 WIL]
* Wilson, B V; The Colonial Experience—From First Fleet to Federation. [994 WIL]
Zwan, D; The Dame—The life and times of Dame Jean MacNamara, medical pioneer. [610.92 ZWA]

Computer Disks
* Archive CD Books, UK; Post Office Directory—London 1856
† Devon FHS; The Deanery of the Three Towns
   The Deanery of Totnes
† East Surrey FHS; St Mary at Lambeth Parish Registers
   Burials 1777–1819
   Burials 1819–1838
   Marriages 1770–1796
   Marriages 1820–1831
   St Mary Baptisms 1746–1812, Stockwell Chapel Baptisms 1775–1807
* Kent FHS; Kent Parish Registers, Vol.14
† Pendeo Pty Ltd; Registers of Seamen Discharged NSW
   Volumes 1 & 2 1859–1878
   Volume 3 1878–1887
* TFHS Inc.—Hobart; Cemeteries of Southern Tasmania Vol. X—Bruny Island.

* Denotes complimentary or donated item.
† Purchased through the Denise McNeice Memorial Fund.
Any person who has convict ancestors, or who has an interest in convict life during the early history of European settlement in Australia, is welcome to join the above group.

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

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

http://home.vicnet.net.au/~dcginc/
## BRANCH LIBRARY ADDRESSES, TIMES AND MEETING DETAILS

### BURNIE

Phone: (03) 6435 4103 (Branch Librarian)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Library</th>
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|               | 2 Spring Street Burnie   | Tuesday 11:00 am–3:00 pm  
|               |                          | Saturday 1:00 pm–4:00 pm |

The library is open at 7:00 pm prior to meetings.

**Meeting** Branch Library, 2 Spring Street Burnie 7:30 pm on 3rd Tuesday of each month, except January and December.

**Day Meeting** 1st Monday of the month at 10:30 am except January and February.

### DEVONPORT

Phone: (03) 6427 8997 (Branch Secretary)

<table>
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<th>Library</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Time</th>
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</table>
|               | ‘Old police residence’ 117 Gilbert Street Latrobe (behind State Library) | Tuesday & Friday 11:00 am–3:00 pm  
|               |                          | Saturday opening has ceased and is now by advance appointment only, |

**Meeting** Our meetings are held on the last Thursday of the month at or Branch Library in Latrobe at 11.00. Please check the website at [www.tfhsdev.com](http://www.tfhsdev.com) for updates and any changes or contact our Secretary.

### HOBART

Phone: (03) 6244 4527 Enquiries

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Library</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Time</th>
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</table>
|               | 19 Cambridge Road Bellerive | Tuesday 12:30 pm–3:30 pm  
|               |                          | Wednesday 9:30 am–12:30 pm  
|               |                          | Saturday 1:30 pm–4:30 pm |

**Meeting** Sunday School, St Johns Park, New Town, at 8:00 pm on 3rd Tuesday of each month, except January and December.

### HUON

Phone: (03) 6239 6529 (Branch Secretary)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Library</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Time</th>
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</table>
|               | Soldiers Memorial Hall Marguerite Street Ranelagh | Saturday 1:30 pm–4:00 pm  
|               |                          | Other times: Library visits by appointment with Secretary, 48 hours notice required |

**Meeting** Branch Library, Ranelagh, at 4:00 pm on 1st Saturday of each month, except January. Please check Branch Report for any changes.

### LAUNCESTON

Phone: (03) 6344 4034 (Branch Secretary)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Library</th>
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</table>
|               | 45–55 Tamar Street Launceston (next door to Albert Hall) | Tuesday 10:00 am–3:00 pm  
|               |                          | 1st & 3rd Saturday 1:30 pm–3:30 pm |

**Meeting** Generally held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, except January and December. Check the Branch News and the website [http://www.lauunceston.tasfhs.org](http://www.lauunceston.tasfhs.org) for locations and times.
MEMBERSHIP OF THE TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

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

**Dues are payable annually by 1 April.** Membership Subscriptions for 2010–11:
- Individual member: $40.00
- Joint members (2 people at one address): $50.00
- Australian Concession: $28.00
- Australian Joint Concession: $38.00

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

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

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

**Application for Membership:**
Application forms may be downloaded from [www.tasfhs.org](http://www.tasfhs.org) or obtained from the TFHS Inc. Society Secretary, or any branch and be returned with appropriate dues to a branch treasurer. **Interstate and overseas** applications should be mailed to the TFHS Inc. Society Treasurer, PO Box 191, Launceston Tasmania 7250. Dues are also accepted at libraries and at branch meetings.

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

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

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

**Advertising:**
Advertising for *Tasmanian Ancestry* is accepted with pre-payment of $27.50 per quarter page in one issue or $82.50 for four issues. Further information can be obtained by writing to the journal editor at PO Box 191, Launceston Tasmania 7250.

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PO Box 191 Launceston Tasmania 7250

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

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Society Treasurer Betty Bissett (03) 6344 4034

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bbissett@bigpond.net.au
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Deadline dates for contributions by 1 January, 1 April, 1 July and 1 October
Another year is almost over. I say it every year but they do flash by faster and faster. Before I have time to recover from this issue I will be worrying if there will be enough material for the next one. We never have too many so please finish off those stories you have started and send them in. Thank you to all who have contributed already.

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

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

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

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

Rosemary Davidson

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

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

Deadline dates are:
1 January, 1 April, 1 July and 1 October

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

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

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Cover: Illustration supplied by Betty Jones for her article, Moving On, Early Tasmanian Government Teacher Transfers, see page 142.
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

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

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

Of particular interest to family history researchers are:

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

The series CON37 has commenced with volumes 1 and 2 now available. Additionally, I am advised that the North West Advocate (and its predecessor Wellington Times) and Launceston Examiner master microfilms have been outsourced to National Library of Australia (NLA) for digitisation as part of the Australian Newspaper Digitisation Program, and will therefore be available as part of the Australian Newspapers component of TROVE, the NLA’s new discovery service, later this year.

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

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

Maurice Appleyard

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.

2010 Lilian Watson Family History Award

For a book however produced or published on paper, dealing with family history and having significant Tasmanian content.

Entries close: 1 December 2010

Further information and entry forms available from

TFHS Inc. Branch Libraries or
PO Box 191 Launceston TAS 7250

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BRANCH REPORTS

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

We have now well and truly settled into our new premises at the Portside building at Spring Street in Burnie. For members who would like to come and visit there is ample paid parking available on the southern side of the building. The cost of parking is 90 cents per hour and operates during the day on week days and up till 1:00 pm on Saturdays. After 1:00 pm on Saturdays and evenings there is no fee. There is also free four hour parking down the southern end of Wilson Street, which is only a few minutes’ walk to our Library.

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

The Pioneer Village Museum, which is well known for its Streetscape scene depicting early Burnie, also houses a very important collection of other historical documents. Included are the Winter Photography Collection, Emu Bay Railway Collection, Burnie Paper Mill collection, VDL Records to name a few. The Branch committee extends all the best for the coming festive season and trust the new year brings joy and the tools to break down brick walls for all.

Devonport
http://www.tfhsdev.com
President Pam Bartlett
Secretary Sue-Ellen McGreghan
(04) 6428 6328
PO Box 267 Latrobe Tasmania 7307
e-mail: secretary@tfhsdev.com

We had some members who had not renewed their memberships even after we had sent out reminders. Just recently we sent another reminder. From the latest mail out we have received seven renewals. We also had a few who retired due to illness.

Our Library has had a facelift. The building is owned by the council and they recently replaced the existing roof and gave the building a fresh coat of paint. Looks amazing. We also received a grant to purchase a dehumidifier. This is working well. It has aided our heating and draws round three litres of moisture out of the air every couple of days. We
held a soup and sandwich luncheon in August. Our guest speaker was Barbara Wells from the Kentish Museum. We are holding our major fundraiser a Christmas Hamper which will be drawn at our Christmas Luncheon.

**Coming Events**

- **25 November**—Legacy Users Group (LUG)
- **12 December**—Christmas Luncheon at Villaret Tea Gardens
- **27 January**—Annual Barbeque at our Library
- **24 February**—to be confirmed, Walking tour of Latrobe
- **31 March**—Trip to Ulverstone Museum

Please keep watch on our website if you have any questions or want to join us for any of our events please phone the secretary. Hope to see you soon.

**Hobart**

http://www.hobart.tasfhs.org

President Robert Tanner (03) 6231 0794
e-mail: president@hobart.tasfhs.org

Secretary Howard Reeves
PO Box 326 Rosny Park Tasmania 7018
e-mail: secretary@hobart.tasfhs.org

All telephone enquiries to (03) 6244 4527

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

The August meeting saw Stephanie Fehre speak about the Fehre family in Tasmania. This family owned a large farm in what is now Lower Sandy Bay. She was supported by her husband and a number of other family members who brought along family heirlooms and other memorabilia making it a very informative and interesting occasion.

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

**General Meetings**

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

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

**Family History Computer Users Group**

This large and enthusiastic group meets at the branch library on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm under the expert leadership of Vee Maddock.
WISE Interest Group
The Wales, Ireland, Scotland and England group is currently in recess, but is looking at resuming meetings if sufficient interest is shown. Contact the Secretary, or phone (03) 6244 4527 if you are interested.

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

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

Launceston
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President Judith Whish-Wilson
(03) 6394 8456
Secretary Muriel Bissett
Phone (03) 6344 4034
PO Box 1290 Launceston Tasmania 7250
secretary: bbissett@bigpond.net.au

Work is continuing on indexing of The Tasmanian Mail (a photographic index)—volume 9 1927–1928 is now in work. The Kelso Chronicle—a series of Scottish newspapers covering the years 1855–1865, has been completed, and indexing work is now continuing on the next volume of The Weekly Courier, Volume 7, 1914–1915.

During the past months there has been a good response to the workshops which have mostly provided an electronic-based learning forum, for researching both local and overseas resources.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Huon Branch
President Shirley Fletcher (03) 6264 1546
Secretary Libby Gillham (03) 6239 6529
PO Box 117 Huonville Tasmania 7109
e-mail: vsbtaas@bigpond.com

No report received
A THIRKELL BY ANOTHER NAME
Part 1: CATHERINE MACK AND FRANCIS SOUTHERNWOOD
Richie Woolley (Member No.144)

As every serious researcher soon learns, family stories relating to our forbears are often distorted or embellished versions of the truth. On one occasion, however, a small piece of traditional information relating to a particular branch of my family tree proved to be highly significant, although it took me some time to realise this. The crucial detail was given to me by my grandmother, Leila May SNOOKS (1904–2000), who was of great assistance to me when I first started my research in 1976. She told me, among many other things, that her grandmother, Mary Ann ADAMS (1857–1926), was the daughter of William Adams (c1822–1900) and Elizabeth THIRKELL. Leila generally proved to be a reliable source, so I was somewhat surprised when I subsequently obtained a birth certificate for Mary Ann that named her mother as Elizabeth SOUTHERNWOOD. The latter surname also appeared on Elizabeth’s marriage certificate, and further research yielded a record of her baptism in Launceston in June 1836 as the daughter of Francis and Catherine ‘Sutherwood’. She had been born less than two weeks earlier, on 9 June 1836, although it was not clear exactly where the event had occurred. Her parents had been married at Longford on 25 November 1833, and as Catherine’s maiden name was MACK, it seemed that, contrary to my grandmother’s belief, Elizabeth had absolutely no connection to the Thirkell family.

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

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

---

1 Longford District, Birth No.1353, 1857
2 Tasmanian Marriage No.1244, 1853
3 Tasmanian Baptism No.7150, 1836
4 Tasmanian Marriage No.2363, 1833
5 TAHO, CON 31/1/38, No.770; CON 40/1/7, No.136
6 TAHO, CON 19/1/12, p.57
7 www.ancestry.com The family was listed as ‘Mock’ in 1841, but later returns record their name as ‘Mack’.
8 www.oldbaileyonline.org
claimed that she had subsequently found the collar on the stairs and the handkerchief in the ‘water-closet’. Her story was not believed, and a conviction resulted in her being sentenced to transportation for seven years.

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

Catherine was initially assigned to Rev. John HUTCHINSON, a Wesleyan minister who was based in Hobart, but she had been transferred to the service of a Mr GIBLIN by September when her intemperate habits resulted in the first of a number of court appearances that she made during her time as a convict. On this occasion Catherine was simply admonished for being drunk and ‘absent without leave’, but the reprimand seems to have had no effect on her, and just a month later she was sentenced to six days in a cell on bread and water for drunkenness and ‘Indecent Conduct’. A similar punishment was meted out to her in November for being drunk, disorderly and insolent, with an exasperated Giblin telling the authorities that Catherine was ‘usually’ a good servant, ‘but for her failing of getting drunk’. Reassignment to a different household had little impact on Catherine’s behaviour, and in January 1832 she was sentenced to ten days’ imprisonment for being drunk and insolent to her mistress. She was again in trouble shortly after her release, with an absence from her service resulting in her being sent to the House of Correction, where she was to be ‘placed at the Wash Tub’ for a month (perhaps a fitting punishment for a former laundry maid).

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

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

---

9 TAHO, CON 40/1/7, No.136
10 TAHO, CON 40/1/7, No.136. Her new master was probably Robert W Giblin, who was in charge of the Orphan School at New Town.
11 TAHO, CON 19/1/12, p.57
12 Robson, A History of Tasmania, Volume 1, 1983, p.275
13 TAHO, CON 40/1/7, No.136. Her new master was probably Robert W Giblin, who was in charge of the Orphan School at New Town.

14 This conclusion is based on the fact that the sentencing magistrates for her next two offences were Robert Officer and Edward Dumaresq, both of whom were serving in New Norfolk area at the time, although Dumaresq later moved to the north of the colony. [Colonial Times, 30 November 1831, 23 October 1832]
could be more easily controlled. The convict muster held in December 1832 records that her eventual destination was the isolated farm of Rothbury, owned by James Cubbiston SUTHERLAND and situated on the western bank of the Isis River in a sparsely settled area more than 20 kilometres west of Campbell Town. It was Catherine’s placement with Sutherland that brought her into contact with her future husband. Francis Southernwood, who was a native of Walcot, near Bath, in Somerset, had arrived here in October 1826 on the Chapman. He was said to be 18 years old at that time, and had been sentenced to transportation for seven years for stealing lead. His voyage to Van Diemen’s Land had been an eventful one, with the Chapman suffering serious damage during a storm in the Atlantic Ocean. The ship was obliged to call in to Rio de Janeiro for repairs, with two convicts taking the opportunity to escape while the vessel was in port.

Francis was assigned to Sutherland shortly after arriving in the colony, with his master noting in his diary on 24 October 1826 that his ‘new lad Southernwood’ had been brought to Rothbury. It took just a week for Sutherland to begin referring to his young servant as ‘Frank’, with the latter required to perform many tasks, including ploughing, harvesting crops, cutting stone in a quarry, making mortar, splitting paling and drying malt.

While Francis generally managed to stay out of trouble during his time at Rothbury, he did receive 25 lashes for ‘Being instrumental in causing the death of one of his Master’s Pigs’ in October 1827. The events that led to the flogging were recorded in some detail by Sutherland, who had sent Francis to a neighbour’s farm to retrieve some sows that had been taken there for breeding purposes:

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

Francis also claimed that he had been injured in the incident, but this drew little sympathy from Sutherland, who on the next day ‘despatched’ his servant to the local magistrate for punishment. He noted that his complaint against Francis was not founded on the accident (if it was one) by which I have lost a sow well worth £10—but for his not mentioning it to Colin on his arrival on Monday evening, that we might well have saved her life or killed her in time for pork—and moreover after the sow had died, for the young rascal’s shameless mendacity in denying to me that she had any injury.

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15 TAHO, HO 10/48, p.232; LSD 407/1/1; Hobart Town Gazette, 8 April 1825, 28 April 1827, 2 June 1827
16 TAHO, CON 31/1/38, No.770. Francis’ brother James, who used the Southerwood spelling, was also transported to Van Diemen’s Land. He arrived in 1828 on the William Miles.
17 TAHO, CON 23/1/3, No.770
18 TAHO, CON 23/1/3, No.770
19 TAHO, NS 61/1/2, 24 October 1826
20 TAHO, NS 61/1/2, 31 October 1826
21 TAHO, CON 31/1/38, No.770
22 TAHO, NS 61/1/2, 29 October–1 November 1827
The incident does not seem to have soured the relationship between the two men, and Francis continued to work for Sutherland. He was transferred to duties in the kitchen later in 1827, whereupon he all but disappears from his master’s diary, which overwhelmingly concentrates on outdoor activities. Francis did feature in some other correspondence, however, with Sutherland writing to the Colonial Secretary in January 1832 to request that the latter would be ‘so obliging as to favour him with the reasons for denying to his servant, Francis Southernwood, a Ticket of Leave, so long prayed for’.

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

The most significant thing about this relatively minor penalty was that it was imposed by two magistrates – Richard WILLIS and John LEAKE – who served in the Campbell Town area, which indicates that Francis had remained in the district after regaining his freedom. In fact, he was probably still living and working at Rothbury, which was certainly where his wife-to-be was based at this time. Both she and her husband were said to be ‘of the Parish of Campbell Town’ when they were married in the Anglican Church at Longford in November 1833, and just a month later Catherine’s master was again recorded as ‘Mr. J. C. Sutherland’.

Catherine was still assigned to Sutherland in December 1835, but there is little precise information about the Southernwoods’ movements over the next few years. Their ‘Abode’ was listed as Launceston when Elizabeth was baptised there in June 1836, but this is questionable, as Catherine was said to working for someone named Sutherland in April 1837 when she was ordered to change her residence after being convicted for using abusive language towards Catherine CUTLER. The magistrate who delivered this judgement was recorded as ‘JC’, which is probably a reference to James CREAR, a member of the Campbell Town bench. If this identification is correct, then it is further evidence that Catherine was still an assigned servant at Rothbury at this time.

It is also clear that compliance with the court’s instructions must have involved only a minor relocation within the district, as some five months later it was also ‘JC’ who ordered that Francis and another man should be tried in the Supreme Court in Launceston on a receiving charge. The case involved the

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23 TAHO, NS 61/1/2, 19 December 1827
24 TAHO, CSO 1/569/12818, p.233
25 TAHO, CSO 1/569/12818, p.253
26 Hobart Town Gazette, 19 May 1832
27 Hobart Town Gazette, 19 October 1832
28 TAHO, CON 31/1/38, No.770
29 Hobart Town Courier, 29 June 1832, 4 August 1832, 8 March 1833, 22 August 1834
30 Tasmanian Marriage No. 2363, 1833
31 TAHO, HO 10/49, p.229
32 TAHO, HO 10/50, p.300
33 TAHO, NS 748/1/4
34 Hobart Town Gazette, 10 January 1834
35 Hobart Town Gazette, 10 January 1834
36 TAHO, CON 31/1/38, No.770
theft of some paling, but both men were acquitted when the matter was heard in October.37

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

Francis was sent south to begin his punishment. He served some seventeen months in the New Town Bay chain gang before being ‘removed’ to ‘Restdown’ on the eastern side of the River Derwent.43 On the completion of his sentence he returned to his wife and child in the north of the colony, and the reunited family was living at Perth when the census was taken in January 1842.44 Exactly how Catherine and Elizabeth had survived during Francis’ absence remains unknown.

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

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

37 Hobart Town Courier, 20 October 1837
38 Hobart Town Gazette, 29 September 1837
39 TAHO, CON 31/1/38, No.770; Cornwall Chronicle, 17 August 1839. A second man, Paul Walker, was also found guilty of the same offence.
40 TAHO, CON 31/1/38, No.770
41 Hobart Town Gazette, 16 February 1838, 7 August 1840
42 TAHO, LC 362/1/4
43 TAHO, CON 31/1/38, No.770
44 TAHO, CEN 1/1/33, pp.145–146
45 Longford District, Birth No.644, 1843; TAHO, NS 907/1/24 (Perth Anglican baptisms). Mary Ann’s birth was not registered, and John was given a different second name (Henry instead of James) and a different date of birth when he was baptised.
46 Hobart Town Gazette, 21 February 1854
47 Land Titles Office (LTO), General Law Deeds, No.3/4182, No.3/4184
48 1856 Tasmanian Electoral Roll, House of Assembly, Division of Norfolk Plains
49 LTO, Deeds No.4/3764, No.4/5776; TAHO, RD 1/42/12
50 LTO, Deeds No.5/1346, No.5/1347, No.5/4822, No.5/5074, No.5/5384
Catherine died at Perth on 26 October 1867,\textsuperscript{51} and was buried in the local Anglican cemetery. Francis joined her there two years later,\textsuperscript{52} having found time to remarry in the intervening period.\textsuperscript{53} His second wife, Catherine MURPHY, was only 28 years old when they exchanged vows, and, like so many people of this era who married a significantly younger partner, Francis understated his age by several years at the time of their wedding.

Francis’ widow soon remarried,\textsuperscript{54} and played no further role in what seemed to be a relatively straightforward family history.

The first indication that Elizabeth Southernwood’s background was in fact more complex than it appeared came when I looked at her father’s will,\textsuperscript{55} in which, to my great surprise, Francis referred to Elizabeth as his ‘Step Daughter’. After some puzzlement, I eventually remembered my grandmother’s original comments, and decided to see if I could find any link between the Southernwoods and the Thirkell family. Fortunately, the latter name is not a common one in Tasmania, and my attention was quickly drawn to Robert Thirkell, a wealthy pastoralist who lived in the northern midlands. His will contained no reference to either Elizabeth or her parents,\textsuperscript{56} but a trip to the Registry of Deeds to investigate his extensive landholdings yielded exactly the kind of information that I had hoped to find. The key document related to a transfer,\textsuperscript{57} made in 1844 but not registered until just a few months before Robert’s death in 1876,\textsuperscript{58} whereby he gave a small parcel of land at what is now 22 King Street in Perth to Elizabeth, who was described, carefully and significantly, as the ‘infant Daughter of Catherine Sutherwood, the Wife of Francis Sutherwood’ (rather than as the daughter of both Catherine and Francis). Robert received no payment for his land, with the change in ownership made because of the ‘regard and affection which the said Robert Thirkell hath and beareth unto the said Elizabeth Sutherwood’.

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

\textsuperscript{51} Longford District, Death No.277, 1867. Catherine’s headstone lists her date of death as 27 October.
\textsuperscript{52} Longford District, Death No.283, 1869
\textsuperscript{53} Tasmanian Marriage No.506, 1868
\textsuperscript{54} Tasmanian Marriage No.664, 1870
\textsuperscript{55} TAHO, AD 960/1/9, No.1371, p 84
\textsuperscript{56} TAHO, AD 960/1/11, No.1963, pp.261–267
\textsuperscript{57} LTO, Deed No.6/1892
\textsuperscript{58} Launceston District, Death No.3200, 1876
\textsuperscript{59} Hobart Town Courier, 20 February 1835; LTO, Deed No.1/6237
spent several years living at Perth among her Adams relatives.

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

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

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60 LTO, Deed No.2/391
61 Valuation Rolls, Hobart Town Gazette, 18 May 1858, 3 December 1861, 19 March 1867, 30 January 1872, 29 January 1878, 20 January 1885, etc
62 Examiner, 5 May 1890
63 TAHO, CON 31/1/83, No.19167
64 Valuation Rolls, Hobart Town Gazette, 12 January 1892, 5 March 1895, 8 February 1898; Tasmanian Federation Index, Death No.790, 1900
65 LTO, Deed No.16/5407. Mrs. Ruby Zellah Rose Watson, nee Anderson (1898–1978), who is mentioned in the document, was a daughter of Mary Ann Adams.
MOVING ON
EARLY TASMANIAN GOVERNMENT
TEACHER TRANSFERS
Betty Jones (Member No.6032)

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

By the mid 1850s a two-way process was operational, particularly noticeable among some of the eight imported English-trained teachers who had been contracted in 1855 for five years by the Government in an effort to boost teacher quality in the colony. For example, Mr William JOHNSTON, who had expressed his disappointment at being placed at Campbell Town in 1855, was finally granted his wish for a more suitable location when he was transferred to Trinity Hill in Hobart in 1859.

Personal needs prompted most requests for transfer

The desire to have one’s basic personal needs met in order to feel content is an inherent human trait. In the nineteenth and very early twentieth centuries, Tasmanian teachers frequently displayed their unhappiness at not having their basic needs fulfilled when they applied for transfers. Common reasons for wanting moves related to: a search for adequate and safe living conditions, access to fresh food and water, access to congenial relationships with others of like mind, intellectual and cultural stimulation, health and availability of medical advice, proximity to public transport, opportunities for personal advancement, and money.

- Mr John William HUTTON asked for a transfer from Hastings in May 1903: He had eight boys and three girls, and was not able to keep a cow, which was a huge disadvantage to a large family. Also, there was no doctor nearer than Franklin or Hobart.¹
- In 1899 Mr Charles Frederick WOOLNOUGH requested a transfer from Broadmarsh on the grounds that the school residence was utterly inadequate for his family of ten. He described the entire sleeping space available as consisting of two attics, 14 feet by 11 feet, and 14 feet by 13 feet, 7 feet high at

¹ AOT: ED2/1/573; file 736
the apex. A further concern expressed was that the only water available was from the River Jordan, which was often stagnant.  

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

The Department showed compassion on some occasions

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

At other times the employer seemed harsh

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

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

Many communities were very welcoming

While the records show that certain communities consistently found problems with their teachers, other communities had a record of being particularly kind and welcoming to their schools’ staffs. A well-attended public farewell was held for Mr Arthur William PYWELL and his wife, Matilda Alice (nee BARON), when they were transferred from Parattah in 1903 after 14 years’ residence there. During the evening, Mr Pywell was presented with an illuminated address and a purse of sovereigns. The Pywells were praised for the way in which they had identified themselves with everything that could advance Parattah in any way.6

The Department had its share of problems too

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

6 The Mercury, 8 September 1903
quickly started agitating to be removed. In July 1903, the Bugbys were offered a transfer to Harford on the North-West Coast. Mr Bugby rejected the move stating that, by then, he had a delicate infant daughter to consider, and Harford was too distant a spot and one too difficult to access. He claimed that he wanted to be placed on a main railway line, or else in some large town in which he could supplement his totally inadequate salary by giving music lessons, organ performances and intellectual lectures, as well as making [himself] useful in the community ... we should like to go to Castle Forbes Bay.

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

Women in particular, were affected by isolation

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

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

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

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

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7 AOT: ED2/1/921; file 1103
8 AOT: ED2/1/1359; file 1577
9 AOT: ED2/1/1179; file 1389
10 AOT: ED2/1/1190; file 1400
Transfers could be costly
It is not uncommon to find in the records statements made by teachers to the effect that they could not afford to ask for a transfer. The Department’s general stance was that if a transfer was made for the benefit of the Department (that is, it was instigated by them), there was a chance that costs could be reimbursed by the Government. However, when a teacher sought a move for personal reasons, it was rare that any financial compensation was forthcoming. Details of Mr Arthur Thomas CONROY’s physical transfer from Somerset to Queenstown in early 1904 are well-documented, and provide a good illustration of the complications and costs involved in such removals for teachers and their families: On 12 January 1904, a horse and trap was hired from Bay View Livery and Bait Stables, Burnie to remove the family to Burnie Railway Station at a cost of 7/6. W H BRANDER, Parcels and Luggage Delivery, Burnie charged 11/6 to remove furniture and goods from Somerset to Burnie on the same day. That furniture was sent by rail to Queenstown for £4/6/11. C H FYNES, General Carrier, Queenstown charged 7/6 to collect goods from the railway station there two days later and transport them to the school. Emu Bay Railway Co Ltd was paid £5/2/8 for 3½ single First Class tickets from Burnie to Zeehan on 13 January 1904. On the same day, Tasmanian Government Railway fares for a further 3½ tickets from Zeehan to Strahan Wharf cost the Conroys 15/2. To travel from the Wharf to Queenstown Railway Station added a further £17/2 to the expense account (The ticket holders included Mr & Mrs Conroy, their child E W CONROY, and A MUIR, a 9-year-old nephew adopted three years earlier, and who had resided with them since). The total cost of the removal was £12/18/5. Fortunately for Mr Conroy, the Education Department reimbursed the full amount.11

Some teachers were able to decline transfer, seemingly without reproach
Miss Flora WESLEY was living at Hamilton in 1894 when she first applied, unsuccessfully, to join the Department. Her persistence to become a teacher paid off when eventually she was given an appointment to Barton State School in late 1896. Miss Wesley’s transfer to Lady Bay in early 1898 resulted in her remaining there for a number of years. After three years, however, Miss Wesley applied for a move, stating that she would appreciate a change and that, as the enrolment numbers were down, her prospects for improving her salary seemed limited at that location. In 1903 the Department advised her that she would be transferred to Ouse State School. Miss Wesley politely informed her employer that she would prefer not to accept that position, based on her previous knowledge of the school from her time living at neighbouring Hamilton. Miss Wesley explained that she feared such appointment would end in her abject failure, and described how she vividly remembered the way in which some of the residents of Ouse had treated the female teacher who had been in charge previously: “They picked away at her until there was nothing left but bare bones.” The Department accepted Miss Wesley’s concerns and later she was transferred to Hythe State School, a position that suited her.12

Who was subjected to the largest number of transfers?
Miss Elizabeth May COATES joined the Department as a Pupil Teacher at Trinity

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11 AOT: ED2/1/772; file 944
12 AOT: ED2/1/1466; file 1690
Hill State School in 1887 and remained there until early 1892. That appointment turned out to be the second longest continuous period Miss Coates was to serve in any one school throughout her 36 year career, surpassed only by eight and a half years at Invermay State School. She withstood 29 transfers between March 1892 and 1923, with Miss Coates being used extensively by the Department to act as locum tenens in schools across the State requiring short-term replacements.\textsuperscript{13} Her skills in being able to carry out the tasks required, coupled with her ability to be so flexible in her lifestyle, were obviously of great value to the system. The fact that she lived to the age of 86 is evidence, perhaps, that Miss Coates must have been able to take it all in her stride.

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

\textsuperscript{13} AOT: ED2/1/2330; file 2594
\textsuperscript{14} AOT: ED2/1/2500; file 2936

NEW RELEASE
UNDEARTKERS OF HOBART
Vol V
Index to Hooper & Burgess Funeral Records
Part 1
September 1935 – December 1954

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

Further indexes will be published at a later date.

POA
Available from Resource Manager
TFHS Inc. Hobart Branch
PO Box 326
Rosny Park TASMANIA 7018
email library@hobart.tasfhs.org
THEY DIED ON THE DOMAIN
Laurie Moody (Member No.5835)

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

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<td>BODLE; Matilda</td>
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<td>CAULFIELD; John James</td>
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<td>DAVIS; Laura</td>
<td>d. 15 Sep 1925 chr. 5 May 1947</td>
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<td>EDGECOCK; Don</td>
<td>d. 26 Apr 1922</td>
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<td>PHILLIPS; Louis</td>
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<td>PURKISS; James</td>
<td>b. 24 Jul 1871 Deloraine</td>
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<tr>
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<td>m. Leila Beatrice WILLIAMS</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROBERTSON; Alexander</td>
<td>d. 5 Jan 1923 (10bTPI)</td>
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<tr>
<td>TAYLOR; Louisa</td>
<td>d. 13 Jul 1904</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEKS; Peter</td>
<td>d. 26 Feb 1904 m. Jane HYTT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEST; Frederick</td>
<td>d. 1 Aug 1908 (2bTPI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILLIAMS; Leonard</td>
<td>b. 18 Nov 1925 b. 23 Mar 1882</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles</td>
<td>Hobart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WOODS; David</td>
<td>d. 3 Jul 1903 (2bTPI)</td>
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Legend
2bTPI: indicates two possible birth records see TPI.
2bFI: indicates two possible birth records see FI.
1mTPI: indicates a possible marriage record see TPI.
1mFI: indicates a possible marriage record see FI.

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

ABBOTT, Francis
THE LATE FRANCIS ABBOTT.

Yesterday afternoon there passed away from among us Francis Abbott, superintendent of the Tasmanian Botanical Gardens. Mr. Abbott had been in his usual good health, an during the morning yesterday was about visiting the gardens. Shortly before midday he complained of not feeling very well. Dr. Benjafiel, the family physician, was called in to see him. The deceased lay down, and during the afternoon, while conversing with his wife, quietly passed away. Mr. Abbott had been connected for over 50 years with the Botanical Gardens, and obtained his professional education under Mr. Newman, who was superintendent of the Gardens (then known as the Royal Society’s Gardens) from 1846 to 1859. On the death of Mr. Newman in 1859 the Council unanimously appointed Mr. Abbott to the vacant position which he filled with credit and ability up until the time of his death. The deceased was also superintendent of the Public Reserves, and to him may be given the credit of the extensive planting of the many ornamental trees and shrubs in the Queen’s Domain that now form such splendid beauty spots there. In all matters connected with horticulture, no warmer supporter could be found than
Mr. Abbott. As a member of the Royal Society, he took a keen interest in its proceedings, contributing several papers. The deceased leaves a widow, but no family. Two nieces, who have lived with him for many years, were with him at the time of his death. The funeral will leave the residence of the deceased in the Botanical Gardens at 9.30 on Tuesday morning for the Cornelian Bay Cemetery.¹

**BODLE, Matilda**

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

**DAVIS, Laura**

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

**DAWES, Thomas**

**THE RAILWAY FATALITY.**

The Coroner (Mr. W. G. Wise) held an inquest at the General Hospital on Saturday concerning the death on the railway line, opposite the naval pier, Domain, on Friday night, of Thomas Dawes, aged 29, a bluejacket on H.M.S. Pioneer, particulars which appeared in Saturday’s issue. The evidence showed the deceased, who had been ashore, took a couple of parcels down to the naval pier, and left them there, having just missed his boat. He then went towards the Domain, and at that moment the train which left Glenorchy at 10.15 p.m. came along at 18 to 20 miles an hour. He was seen near the line by the engine driver, John Mitchell, about 20 yards distant. The whistle was blown and the deceased, after momentarily hesitating, attempted to cross the line. The brakes were immediately applied, but before the train could be stopped, Dawes had been knocked down, and was under the cowcatcher. He was killed instantly. The body was conveyed to the morgue. Dr. Roberts stated that deceased’s neck was broken, there was a large wound on the right temple, and a compressed fracture of the right arm, the flesh of which was torn and lacerated. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death. On Saturday afternoon the deceased was buried in the Sandy Bay Cemetery, and was accorded a naval funeral. He was most popular with his shipmates, and out of comradeship they made a coffin aboard the ship, getting the trimmings ashore. The funeral was attended by the ship’s company and the usual salute was fired over the grave.⁴

A slightly different account appeared in the Sydney paper.

**A BLUEJACKET KILLED.**

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

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¹ *The Mercury*, 23 November 1903  
² *The Mercury*, 2 May 1904  
³ *The Mercury*, 16 September 1925  
⁴ *The Mercury*, 4 February 1907  
⁵ *Sydney Morning Herald*, 4 February 1907

TASMANIAN ANCESTRY December 2010 149
PHILLIPS, Louis
An elderly man named Phillips committed suicide in the Domain on Wednesday by shooting himself. 6
At inquest on the body of Louis Phillips, 63, a verdict of suicide was returned. 7

ROBERTSON, Alexander
THE DOMAIN TRAGEDY.
An inquest on the body of Alexander Robertson, an elderly man, whose body was found with the head almost blown off by a charge from a gun on the Domain on Friday evening, was opened on Saturday morning before the Coroner (Mr. E. W. Turner).
Mathew Frederick Pearce, horse trainer, said he knew the deceased, who was a baker, and in comfortable circumstances. At about 3.30 p.m. on the day the deceased met his death witness saw him talking to another man on the corner of Collins and Elizabeth streets, and he seemed to be all right. Robertson was a moderate drinker. Deceased had a gun at Westerway, and often spoke about bringing it to Hobart. He brought it down on Friday, and left it at the railway station. If any loaded cartridges were found on the deceased, he must have bought them after the witness saw him. Robertson had been working in the country for some time.
The inquest was adjourned at this stage until 9.30 a.m. on Thursday. 8

TAYLOR, Louisa
TAYLOR.—On July 13, 1904, at her late residence, Domain Shipyard, Louisa, the beloved wife of Robert Taylor, in the 56th year of her age. Funeral will leave the above address on Saturday Afternoon at half-past 2 for Cornelian Bay Cemetery, when friends are respectfully invited to attend. 9

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

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

A search for information on Caulfield, Edgecock, Purkiss, Weeks and Williams proved unsuccessful. 12

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6 The Mercury, 27 February 1902
7 The Mercury, 28 February 1902
8 The Mercury, 6 January 1923
9 The Mercury, 15 July 1904
10 The Mercury, 3 August 1908
11 The Mercury, 4 July 1902
12 The Mercury, 15 July 1904
SKENE AND WILSON
FAMILY SURNAMES
GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN
Colleen Read (Member No.

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

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

James Skene enlisted as a Private in the 63rd Regiment of Foot in late 1809, at the age of 16. He was promoted to Corporal, then Sergeant, while serving in the West Indies (1815–1819). The regiment returned to England briefly before marching to Liverpool and embarking for Ireland (1820–1826) where James was promoted to Quarter Master Sergeant. Eighteen months service followed in Portugal, then Chatham in Kent (1828–October 1829), and briefly, in New South Wales before arriving in Van Diemen’s Land in March 1830. In the following September, after several violent incidents between settlers and Aborigines, most of the regiment was sent into the interior to assist in the ‘black line’—an attempt by the government to round up the Aborigines. In the winter of 1832, orders were received warning the 63rd Regiment to prepare for a move to India but this did not eventuate until the end of 1833. Meanwhile, QMS James Skene applied for, and was granted, his discharge without pension.

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

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

TASMANIAN ANCESTRY December 2010
Storekeeper, Nicholls Rivulet October 1845–1846
Storekeeper, Dover Probation Station 12 December 1846–1847
Superintendent, Coal Mines Probation Station August 1847–October 1848
Town Surveyor, Launceston, Superintendent Main Roads 10 October 1848–13 March 1853
Road Surveyor, Evandale 14 March 1853–31 May 1855

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

On 24 October 1834 James Skene paid £130 for property, part of an original land grant to Lieutenant Governor William Sorell, in Wellington Crescent (now Waterloo Crescent) in Battery Point, from Attorney General Alfred STEPHENS.

An early map, circa 1834, shows only one house in Wellington Crescent; it appears to be on the block owned by James Skene. The same large house is depicted
on a map circa 1841 by James SPRENT, Surveyor General. The first Assessment and Valuation Roll for Hobart, was published in the Hobart Town Gazette in 1847 but house numbers were not allocated to properties until the 1850s; the Skene house was allocated number nine. This number was retained until the renumbering of streets took place in the 1870s when it became no. 12 Wellington Crescent. Probate on James Skene’s will was not granted until 1910, thirty-five years after his death. He bequeathed his estate, including their Battery Point home to his wife, Mary, and thereafter to his two spinster daughters, Mary and Jessie Skene. By 1910, the original home had disappeared and their land had been divided into two blocks (necessitating a further renumbering), his wife, Mary, has died and the two daughters were living in a cottage at no. 16 Wellington Crescent which still stands today on part of the original Skene property.

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

Jean, eldest daughter of James and Mary Skene

Another Read family memento, a child’s needlework sampler, sadly in poor condition, is embroidered ‘Jane Skene, Hobart Town, February 20th’; and, although no year is given, it is thought to have been worked by eldest child, Jean Skene, who was born circa 1825, probably in Ireland. Jean Skene married Samuel Bennett at Ross, Tasmania in 1847, but died in early 1851, only one month after the birth of their only child, Mary Ann Elizabeth Bennett. Mary never married and died in England at Newton Abbot, Devon in 1896.

Henry, eldest son of James and Mary Skene

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

James jnr, second son of James and Mary Skene

James jnr, was baptized at Chatham, Kent in February 1829. In 1860, naming himself as James Cootes Skene, Banker, of Sandhurst, he married Caroline Bennett, the younger sister of his brother-in-law, Samuel Bennett; his use of the same middle name (as assumed by his father but with different spelling) has not been noted on any other documents. Both their parents signed as witnesses. Less than a year later, Caroline died during a premature confinement. James buried his young wife in the Bendigo Cemetery, erecting a large cross over her grave. He never married again. Already a Captain in the Bendigo Rifles, in 1863...
he raised a Company of Victorian Volunteer Militia to sail to New Zealand to fight in the Maori Wars. Prior to his departure he was presented with a ‘handsome colonial gold ring accompanied by an address’ by his local corps as a mark of respect; the ring’s whereabouts is now unknown. Captain James Skene arrived in New Zealand in early October 1863 per Golden Age with ten other officers and a total of 940 men; he saw much active service in the colony, initially at Drury, south of Auckland. Australian volunteers were guaranteed land after the conflict and James eventually settled in Grahamstown, near Thames on the Coromandel Peninsula south-east of Auckland, where he became involved with various enterprises in the district and he also served as a Justice of the Peace. His military interest continued; he raised the first volunteer corps for Thames. The Thames gold-fields were established in July 1867 and the nearby towns of Grahamstown and Shortland sprang up to accommodate the rush of miners from all corners of the world. Today they help make up the present town of Thames. James started a gold-mining agency company and, later, was in the auctioneering business. He died at Thames in November 1881. His New Zealand Death Certificate incorrectly records two ‘facts’: that he was born in Tasmania (not England) and that he never married (he married in Victoria in 1860). Following a full military funeral, Captain James Skene was buried alongside his brother, Henry, in the Shortland Cemetery. There are no headstones.

George, third son of James and Mary Skene

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

Elizabeth, second daughter of James and Mary Skene

Elizabeth Skene married John WILSON in Evandale, Tasmania in 1855 where her father had recently been the government Road Surveyor. Lured by the promise of warmer climatic conditions, John Wilson, suffering from consumption (tuberculosis), emigrated from England to Victoria per Dalhousie in 1852, in hopes of better health in the warmer climate. Whilst on board ship he kept a diary; unfortunately the first volume of ninety-six pages is missing. In the second part he recorded the daily bearings of the Dalhousie from the day after weighing anchor in Plymouth Sound, until the ship passed through Port Philip Heads three
months later. The second part of his diary commences on 24 July 1852.

Three days later he steps ashore and writes:

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

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

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

Many of his shipmates cannot find employment and are forced to try their luck (mostly unsuccessfully) at the goldfields or to join the mounted police. He is greatly disturbed by the plight of the Aborigines, forced from their land and introduced to the evils of liquor. The colony’s ‘Natural History’ with its strange flora and fauna holds a special interest and many entries are devoted to descriptions of shooting expeditions and of friends bringing birds and small animals for him to preserve with his taxidermy skills, many of which he ships home to family and friends. He is disappointed when he makes enquiries about purchasing a copy of Gould’s *Australian Birds*:

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

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

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

He also sent money home for his sweetheart, ‘Dear Fanny’, his sister Elizabeth (Libbie), and his brother Charlie to join him in Melbourne. The journal ends in late June 1853; John’s distress and disappointment when his beloved Fanny chooses not to accept his offer is therefore not recorded and can only be imagined. His sister Libbie, suffering from the same fatal lung disease, arrived per *Marlborough* in 1854 with their young brother, thirteen year old Charles Johnson Wilson. Sadly, she died at John’s South Yarra residence the following year. Elizabeth Wilson is remembered on her grandparents’ headstone in St Cuthberts Church Cemetery at Darlington in County Durham, England: ‘Elizabeth … who died at Melbourne, Australia, June 25th 1855, aged 20 yrs’.
John, Libbie and Charlie were three of the thirteen children of William Wilson, a druggist and chemist, and his wife Elizabeth (née TWEDDLE), who married at Darlington in 1828. After the untimely deaths of his sister and brother, young Charlie evidently returned to England; by 1871 he was married and he and his wife and two children were living in Darlington with his now-widowed mother and his younger siblings. Parents, William and Elizabeth Wilson, and two of their other children, are buried in the Darlington West Cemetery. William’s headstone reveals his religious zeal: it was erected by the teachers and scholars of the Congregational Sabbath School … in grateful appreciation of the above 40 years faithful labours in the school and in the cause of Christ.

Two other mementos in the Read family are handwritten letters about forthcoming weddings. The first, addressed to ‘Mr & Mrs Skene’ and signed by ‘Annie Ellen BUTLER’, pleads that your dear and much loved daughter Eliza – oh, please do allow her to come and act as my bridesmaid … Mr and Miss Wilson … what pleasure they will have in welcoming her – Mr Wilson will be most happy to meet her at the wharf.

Anne Ellen Butler married John Burrow TURNER in Melbourne in 1855. The second letter, written later that year in Launceston by Annie’s new husband, is addressed to ‘Miss Skene’ and is dated only five days before Elizabeth’s own marriage to John Wilson. He teases her a gentleman with whom I believe you are in some way acquainted, coming in the other evening from Melbourne … I believe upon business of a most interesting nature. I have heard it whispered that a marriage is about to take place between a certain Victorian gentleman and a fair Tasmanian lass.

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

Mary and Jessie, youngest daughters of James and Mary Skene
Mary and Jessie remained single all their lives. They took great interest in the family of Elizabeth’s son, their only nephew, John (Jock) Skene Wilson, who married Susan Chamberlain McARTHUR in 1885 and fathered two sons and six daughters. The youngest Wilson daughter, Sheila, lived only six months and died in September 1905. Tragedy struck again the next year when one of the two Wilson sons, Alan, accidentally drowned in the River Derwent as a teenager while retrieving fishing nets at Howrah. The only other son, John Scott Wilson, named after his maternal grandfather, Captain John Scott McArth, married Minna (sometimes Minnie) PAUL in 1917; a baby boy, Harry John (Mick) Scott Wilson married Nina TIMBS but he fathered no more
children. He died at St Johns Hospital, Hobart, in August 1984 and was buried at St Matthews Church cemetery, Rokeby, aged 84 years.

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

References available from colread@internode.on.net

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

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

Thank you to Allison Carins.

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

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

Queries should be limited to 100 words and forwarded to editors@tasfhs.org or
The Editor, Tasmanian Ancestry, PO Box 191 Launceston TAS 7250

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
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## NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS

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

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

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members

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<td>SOUTH HOBART</td>
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<td>VIC</td>
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NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members

7071  NEWMAN Mr Victor Richard  Not for publication
7072  FURMSTON Mrs Carol 3Chessington Court SANDY BAY TAS 7005
7073  STEPHENS Mrs Roberta Margaret 210 Dalmacia Place GLENORCHY TAS 7010
7074  MANTACH Mr Brian Kenneth 67 High Street EAST LAUNCESTON TAS 7250
7075  GRANT Mr Trevor John 319 Deviot Road DEVIOIT TAS 7275

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HENRY WOODS
OLD MAN OF THE MOUNTAIN—MT WELLINGTON

Irene Schaffer (Member No.2008)

Henry Woods was born in Cheltenham, England, about 1801. On the 15 October 1821 he was convicted in Gloucester for shoplifting and transported to NSW on the Shipley in 1821.

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

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

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

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

Life in Perth did not turn out as Henry and Elizabeth would have wished. Henry was tried for burglary for stealing a silver thimble on 2 April 1845 and transported to Van Diemen’s Land per Champion. With him came his wife Elizabeth and his two youngest daughters, Jane and Mary, leaving Sarah and Henry in Perth.

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

In 1852 Henry was residing at Cascades with Horace Cooley. Cooley had been charged in Canada in 1834 as a political prisoner. He arrived on the Buffalo from Quebec in 1840 and by 1849 received his...
Conditional Pardon.\(^3\) On the 1848 Census for Hobart, Horace Cooley was living on land at Macquarie Street with three others.\(^4\)

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

Jane was transported as Jean McCurrie for 7 years, on the Sea Queen in 1846\(^5\) for stealing more than seven shawls over a period of time. She was 25 years old and gave her trade as a dealer. Her description was given as having a dark complexion with black eyes. She was pock-pitted with a large burn scar.

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

On arriving in Hobart ‘Jean’ was sent on board the Anson\(^6\) for 6 months probation and on finishing her time she was sent to work for a Mr BINKS. She was later sent to the Female House of Correction (Female Factory) at the Cascades for misconduct, and sentenced to three months hard labour. This was the first of two similar sentences.

On 10 November 1848 ‘Jean’ gave birth to a son, George, who died two years later at the Female Factory in July 1850. Jean received her T/L in January 1850 but continued to come before the court for absconding and being drunk and was not granted her Free Certificate until 1853.\(^7\)

In 1859 Henry wrote to Mr CALDER of the Lands Department applying for Crown Land on which to build visitors’ accommodation at the Springs. He stated he had been living at Vauxhall Gully. He advised he intended to build a house for visitors to rest in. The letter went on to say his wife was a steady worker, they had established a garden, and were tenants to Mr Cooley and Mr McROBIE,\(^8\) for the previous ten years. He was the first person to open the line of road for Mr Cooley from the foothills of the mountain for the purpose of getting timber.\(^9\)

\(^3\) _The Exiles Return_, edited by Cassandra Pybus; Watson, Reg, Canada’s rebels in VDL. Aus. Heritage, Spring 2008 p.50.

\(^4\) TAHO CEN1/1/87 p.5

\(^5\) TAHO CON15/1/3

\(^6\) Women listed as being on the Anson http://www.tasfamily.net.au/~schaffer

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

\(^8\) William McRobie owned over 2,600 acres near the Hobart Rivulet, giving it the name McRobie’s Gully, which it retains today

\(^9\) _The Critic_, Friday, 3 August 1923 (The Commentator) original document LSD1/32/496 missing in Archives
On the 21 August 1859, Mr J E Calder, the Surveyor-General, received the following communication from Woods.

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

Permission was given, and from reports in the newspapers of the day the Woods family at the Springs became a household name to Hobart walkers and visitors alike, who wandered over the mountain in summer and winter. The hut had vertical plank walls and a shingle hip roof. Georgian style small cottage with a stone chimney at the N (north) end was built on the slopes - probably the upper slopes of the Springs - and looked out over Hobart Town. There is a barn/stables (a large building log cabin style structure with a gable roof of planks) and with a window and door at the N side, below and S (south) of the house. There is a small shed - and immediately down slope of the barn (with vertical plank (rough) walls and a shingle gable roof, also facing north.

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

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

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

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

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

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10 The Critic, 3 August 1923

12 Lloyd, Bernard. The Water Getters p.6
13 They only got as far as the Cascades before being forced to go on foot
14 Webster, Hilary. The Tasmanian Traveller
Lady Jane FRANKLIN, wife of the Lieutenant-Governor, visited the mountain many times, and in 1843 initiated the building of a hut on the Pinnacle and the Springs to encourage more women to climb the Mountain.

The ex-convict James DICKINSON organized excursions to the Springs and Wellington Falls from the early 1840s. This brought about the Government financing a track to the Falls. In 1849 an Ice House was built of compact snow for ice, and transported to Hobart by pack horse ‘to be used by the confectioners in Hobart in the preparation of ice creams’. Henry Woods and his son also delivered ice from the Springs to Hobart. The Ice Houses were substantial (9m x 5.5m) excavated areas 2.5m deep which were built up an additional metre with stonewalling, then roofed over with timber and sod covering. In all, four ice houses were constructed. The probable route for the ice into Hobart was via Fingerpost Track and then via Hobart Rivulet to Degraves sawmill.

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

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

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

15 Schaffer, Irene. Unpublished manuscript *Nature in its Wildest Form: Schaffer Excursion Sandy Bay to Geeveston* 1994
16 This was the second icehouse built on the mountain
17 Wellington Park Management Trust Report p.16
rug or two, and a cloak. A small table stood in one corner of the hut, and two stools and a bucket of water for our use. There was plenty of wood for the fire, but the man did not seem to think wet wood would not burn.

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Captain of our party wrote our names in the book and when the old man heard that one of us was from NSW he began to ask some questions about a family he had been coachman to some 37 years ago (1828) asking how master Robert and master George were regardless of the lapse of time which had made the young men he had left grey headed fathers.

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

After reaching the summit of a rise on the ‘mountain road’ the visitor comes upon a hut surrounded by a small garden in which nature and art are to be seen contending for mastery, the former, however, in triumphant judging by the dwarfed gooseberry bushes and cabbages. ‘Woods the old man of the mountain.’

He and his better half, provide cooking utensils etc. for a consideration.

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

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

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

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18 Mercury, 25 January 1865 p.2 c.7

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

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

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

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

At the Springs he (the traveller) will find the shelter of a cottage roof, and an obliging residence hermit of the place who will boil the kettle or perform other kindly ministrations required. The said hermit will also exhibit to the stranger a book inspired to indite of the occasion. To judge from many of the mementoes herein penned, the invigorating breeze alone can scarcely be held accountable for the elation of mind and exceeding freshness exhibited.

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

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

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

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

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

Henry Woods jun. arrived in Tasmania from Western Australia in 1878 and went to live at the Springs. In Perth he had married Eliza HINES in 1865 but she did not accompany her husband to Tasmania. Eliza arrived in 1881, only to find her husband was living with another woman, Sarah Ellen THOMPSON who had given him one daughter, Jane in 1879, and was pregnant with a second, Elizabeth; this was the cause of later problems.²²

²² De Quincy, Elizabeth. _The History of Mt Wellington_ (1987 p.68); Wellington Park Management Trust Report p.36
Great hardship was to become a way of life for the Woods couple and there were to be many more pleas in the *Mercury* for help to the public for the Woods, over the next few years.

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

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

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

The *Tasmanian Tribute* 1877.

The Old Man of the Mountain

All who have visited Mt Wellington have made the acquaintance of “Old Woods”, the man of the mountain. His name is associated doubtless in the minds of many now absent from the Colony, with very jolly excursions and his attention and hospitality in his oasis on the mountain, and well known to tourists from Australia and New Zealand. Many will therefore regret to hear that the old man is at present in very distressed circumstances.

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

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

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

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23 Later known as The Waterworks
24 *Mercury*, 9 October 1876 p.2 c.3
25 Benevolent Society was started in 1860, relying on public subscriptions. Schaffer, I. & Purtscher, Joyce. *The Sick and the Poor in Tasmania* 1870.
26 *Mercury*, 25 July 1879 p.2 c.5
ed he could work again. Henry was now 78 years old. A donation of one pound was sent to the paper.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

28 *Mercury*, 19 February 1881 p.2 c.5
of the state of the old people will no doubt pain sensitive people, and many to proffer assistance. It has been urged over and over again upon the old couple to come into the city, and take up their quarters in the Invalid Depot, but they seem to have a great aversion to that course being taken, preferring to almost starve with cold rather than do so. Very few, if any, are aware of that Woods and his wife are so badly off for clothing and food, and the Benevolent Society may do something towards providing immediate wants, though the residence of Woods and his wife may place them outside the sphere of the society’s labours. But if immediate want are supplied, we feel assured it is only necessary that the state of the old couple should be known to secure them aid from the charitable. We shall be glad to hear the active benevolence is being manifested in their behalf. 

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

Jane Woods was in a pitiful condition in the hut at the Springs on a cold August morning in 1882. The Mercury reports the story of the police having to get through nine inches of snow outside the hut, to bring her body down to Hobart. It also reports on the dreadful condition old Henry. He was in a wretched plight, having lost the use of his limbs and one of his legs was fractured. His mind was wandering and he was quite helpless and childish. He died at the General Hospital in Hobart, a month after his wife, on 6 September 1882. Henry was buried by friends.

An acknowledgement appeared in the Mercury on 13 September 1882 from Henry and Eliza Woods, thanking friends of his late father for their kindness. So ended a time on the mountain that would never come again, other than those who lived at the Springs Hotel, no other persons were allowed to live on that part of the mountain. The Woods couple and their life there was very special. Their story may have had a sad ending but even that could not completely overshadow a very wonderful story of two people’s love for their home, as humble as it was, and a mountain they would not leave, even in the twilight of their lives.

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

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

29 Mercury, 18 July 1882 p.2 c.4
30 Mercury, 19 July 1882 p.2 c.6. Henry only spent a night in goal as someone paid his fine the next day. No mention of who paid it.
31 Mercury, 12 August 1882 p.2 c.6
32 Purtscher, Joyce. Deaths at General Hospital Hobart January 1864 - June 1884. Tasmanian Pioneer Index gives his age as 84.
DIGGING IN THE RUBBLE OF A FALLEN BRICK WALL

Vee Maddock (Member No.3972)

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

Many theories as to her identity abounded through the family researchers, some associating her with the convict Catherine McKenna,⁵ who although looking promising, was ‘delivered of an illegitimate male child 24/5/56’, just four months before Catherine Ward had her second female child. Others pinned their hopes on vague links to births in New South Wales, as when Catherine died her husband stated she had been born in Sydney. However as she was ‘of age’ when she married in 1854, and 36 years old when she died in 1875 (making her birth around 1839 and meaning she was possibly only 15 years old at the marriage) it left a large number of years and possible surnames to consider.

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

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

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

¹ Tasmanian Ancestry Vol. 25 no.4 March 2005, pp.193–94, ‘Catherine of the Many Names’ by Vee Maddock
² AOT, RGD 37 1854/481 Hobart
³ AOT, NS590/1/7 309/1854
⁴ David’s death
⁵ AOT, CON41/32 McKenna, Catherine
⁶ AOT, CON40/6 p.245 Kemney, Margaret
⁷ AOT, AB 317/1 p.132
‘other’ daughter Mary Lemon. There followed a quick check of the Queen’s Orphanage books to discover:

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

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

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

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

A ticket of leave was given for the district of Maitland in December 1832, but it was cancelled for ‘entering a dwelling house with intent to steal’ in December 1834.

In 1836 Margaret applied (twice) to marry John BERWICK a convict from the Champion in Maitland. Banns were published only twice and the marriage didn’t happen.

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

Their son John Leithead was born c.1837 and their daughter Elizabeth in 1839. In same year Thomas drowned.

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

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

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8 AOT, RGD 37 1847/2146 Hobart & RGD 35 3503/1881 Hobart
9 Purtscher, J. Children in Queens Orphanage Hobart Town 1828—1863
10 NSW Convict Kit Convict Indent
11 Margaret Kenny, Asia Fiche 674 p.49 & Index to Convict Assignments, Grafton FHS
12 Archives Authority of NSW Applications to Marry. Principal Superintendent of Convicts: Register of Convicts
13 NSW Registry of Births Deaths & Marriages, 1838 Ref: V1838568 123 Parish: Whittingham, Presbyt.
14 Archives Authority of NSW Colonial Secretary’s Correspondence Margaret Collins and Thomas Collins 47/1237/4/2756
15 NSW Registry of Births Deaths & Marriages, 1839, V18398082 121C, Whittingham, Presbyterian.
16 Archives of NSW Colonial Secretary’s Correspondence Margaret Collins and Thomas Collins 47/1237/4/2756
17 NSW Gov. Gazette 10 Dec 1839
18 Archives Authority of NSW Applications to Marry. Principal Superintendent of Convicts: Register of Convicts
19 NSW Registry of Births Deaths & Marriages, 1839 V1841603 123 Whittingham, Presbyterian
20 NSW Registry of Births Deaths & Marriages V18411873 26A Althorpe, Church of England

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

By October 1844 Margaret was preparing to marry again, once more applying for permission to marry another ticket of leave holder, Thomas COLLINS. With Collins she had at least one child, possibly Mary C Collins who was baptised in Sydney’s St James Roman Catholic Church in 1846. In late 1845 Margaret travelled to Sydney with five children to petition for the release of her husband who, despite being acquitted of robbing and beating a man still had his ticket of leave revoked and was sent to a stockade. The governor, while at first sympathetic, soon changed his tune noting:

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

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

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

Was this judgement made on anything other than the fact she had children to several men? She was in fact married to each of them. The elder four children were however removed from the mother and placed in the Orphan Schools. Margaret retrieved John Leithead a few years later, and the correspondence indicated Collins had died. The governor and school master were most reluctant to return the boy to her care, feeling he would be ready to take on an apprenticeship in a couple of years. It seems he did return to her and they returned to the Hunter Valley region where she had him baptised in the Catholic Church in 1847 at the age of 11, although ages given by the orphan school would make him only 9, maybe 10. Both John and Elizabeth Leithead later raised families in the area.
All of this however is quite irrelevant since Margaret Kenny who arrived on the Asia (7) from Ireland was sentenced in the Sydney Quarter Sessions to 7 years transportation to Van Diemen’s Land on 17 November 1841 for larceny and arrived in Hobart on 12 December 1841. On her arrival on the Marion Watson she stated she was a 31 year old illiterate Catholic (she was 24 just eleven years before), and she was a native of Kings County, Ireland where she had a brother Peter Kenny and a sister Kathleen and she was 4 feet 11 inches tall.

Three months after arrival she was sentenced to six days solitary for being drunk and representing herself to be free. The day after her sentence she admitted her daughter Catherine to the Queen’s orphanage. Just two months later she gave birth to a daughter Margaret at the Cascades Female Factory. There followed more incidences of drunkenness with varying sentences. In 1844 she admitted not quite 2 year-old Margaret to the Queen’s orphanage. A year later she picked up Catherine and ten months later was sentenced to two months hard labour for ‘living in a state of adultery.’

Eight weeks later she married William Lemon, a ‘free man’ who arrived as a convict on the Phoenix in 1822. There are some very interesting newspaper reports about William Lemon and Margaret Kenny/Lemon, usually involving drink; however few of them can be confirmed as being these two individuals.

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

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

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

Mary Lemon died aged 34 of stomach cancer in 1881.

As for daughter Margaret Kenny, there are two women of that name of similar ages who appear in the records. One born in Hobart in 1842, the other a Bounty scheme immigrant who arrived on the Maitland in 1854 from Kings County, Ireland aged 18 (so born around 1838). The immigrant Margaret is sent to Oatlands to Mr REDFORD where she remained for half a year, then vanished from the records.

A Margaret née Kenny was the wife of Patrick LAWLEY, a farmer in the Sorell district who had a male child in July 1856 (which would make Hobart Margaret only 14 years old and immigrant Margaret aged 20 years.)
A Margaret Kenny aged 20 married in St Georges Church in November 1860 (Hobart Margaret would have been 18½, immigrant Margaret, 24 years) to soldier John DORE. Seven or eight children later she succumbed to tuberculosis, as had many of her children. When she died in February 1881 her husband stated she was 38 and born in Ireland. When each of the children died the father was meticulous about giving their exact age, even in months and days. Immigrant Margaret would have been 43 in 1881, Margaret Kenny’s daughter would have turned 39 in the May of 1881. She spent the first six years of her life in an orphanage, it’s possible she didn’t know her mother’s background and may have either assumed or been told she was born before Margaret arrived in Tasmania.

As for Margaret Lemon, after being transported, possibly twice, and losing two, if not three daughters before they were 40, she died of old age on 1 November 1890. The undertaker had her aged 92, however if her age when transported was correct she would have been around 80.

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

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

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**Descendants of Convicts’ Group Inc.**

1788–1868

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

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

The Secretary
Descendants of Convicts’ Group
PO Box 115 Flinders Lane VIC  8009

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

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

We dare not draw any comparisons of the youthful beauty that grouped before us, so perfect and elegant did all appear; and yet we cannot proceed without naming one who certainly bore the palm as the Queen of Beauty,—and in naming Miss Perry, who not only from the extreme elegance of her costume, being that of the time of Louis XIV., but from her extreme beauty and the grace and elegance of her deportment in sustaining so admirably her character, won all hearts to vote her the Crown of Roses.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Misses and Master Carandini were tastily dressed in French costume.

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

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

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

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

Courier, Hobart Town, 5 October 1854, p.3
On Saturday, 17 June 1899, *The Mercury* reported the following occurrence.

**THE BARQUE DOON**

The experience which befell Pilot Mullay on the arrival of the barque Doon at Low Head from London via Hobart last week, was a bit out of the ordinary, and is stated to be a "record" so far as the Low Head pilot service is concerned. The pilot in question boarded the Doon at Low Head at 3 p.m. on the 8th inst., but it was 5.30 pm. on the 13th inst. before the vessel was taken in tow up the Tamar. Owing to unfavourable circumstances, Pilot Mullay, on boarding the Doon, had to keep her out to sea, and at midnight on the 9th a heavy gale from the N.W. set in, with violent rain squalls, and vivid lightning in all quarters. The sea, too, rose mountains high, but the vessel under lower topsails behaved splendidly. At daylight on the 10th Hummock Island was sighted, and as the gale was increasing, and the weather indications foretelling worse to come it was decided to make for the Bay of Fires on the East Coast. The vessel passed Eddystone at 4 pm. and dodged about all night, the next day standing nearly as far south as Falmouth. At 7 a.m. on the 12th a favourable change set in, and a course was again shaped for Low Head, which was reached the next day, and the Wybia tug took the vessel in tow at 5.30 pm. Anchor was dropped in Lagoon Bay for the night, Launceston being reached at 4 pm. on the 14th. Pilot Mullay felt none the worse for his five days’ cruise, though he was doubtless pleased when he again reached the Tamar. Within the history of the Low Head pilot service it is averred that no pilot had previously been taken away from the station under such circumstances.1

Peter John Alexander MULLAY, baptised 6 October 1839, was the only son of Robert Mullay, Merchant, Lerwick, Shetland and his wife Margaret TULLOCH. He went to sea at the age of 16 years in the *Star of Tasmania*. This ship was a wooden sailing ship (clipper) built in Aberdeen in 1856 at the Alexander Hall Shipyard for Captain Samuel Tulloch, a native of Lerwick but then, a merchant, living in Launceston.

Mullay was third mate for three years. He then traded in the brig *Mercury* via the coastal ports for eighteen months. In 1864 he joined the Launceston Marine Board at Low Head spending forty-three years in their employ. In 1890, Assistant Pilot Mullay was promoted to pilot in...
charge at Low Head at a salary of £200. His duty at Low Head was to meet incoming ships that called for a pilot, and take them up to Launceston.

During his appointment at Low Head Mullay saw the total loss of three vessels on the dreaded Hebe Reef, a shoal of rocks on the right hand entrance to the River Tamar. The reef is situated about two miles northwest from Low Head Lighthouse. At half tide it is covered, and in fine weather the sea runs over it without breaking. The rock was named after a small vessel called the Hebe bound from England, wrecked there in 1808. The barque \textit{Asterope}, from London, was the first he witnessed to go ashore at this spot. On Friday, 8 June 1883, while steering a SE course, the captain was watching to get the leading light tower in proper line for entry into the Heads, unaware he was a little too eastward. The course brought the vessel over the Hebe Reef.

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

Three years later on 24 April 1886, the TSN\textsuperscript{2} Company’s steamer \textit{Esk}, from Hobart to Sydney, via Formby, struck on the Hebe Reef. The vessel, which had put into Lagoon Bay at daylight on Saturday, awaiting the Mersey tide had left at noon, and had struck the eastern end of the Hebe Reef, and was making water. By Sunday the \textit{Esk} was abandoned.

A few years later the reef was to destroy Peter Mullay’s career as Chief Pilot Officer at Low Head. The \textit{Eden Holme} an iron barque of 287 tons, traded regularly between London, Hobart and Launceston. Prior to Christmas 1906 she reached Hobart and landed a considerable quantity of cargo. On 5 January 1907 the vessel sailed for Launceston reaching the Tamar Heads by 10 p.m. on 6 January. It lay to under two lower topsails and lower staysails till 5:30 am on Monday.

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

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

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

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

\textsuperscript{2} Tasmanian Steam Navigation Company
Dulling and told him how sorry he was for losing his ship. He added slowly he supposed it would be the end of his own career. The immediate cause of the accident Mullay said was the wind falling. Had it held he honestly believed the Eden Holme would have cleared the reef. Other expert opinion supported Mullay. Captain BRADLEY, Harbour Master of Launceston, defended Mullay’s actions.

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

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

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

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

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

3 The Mercury, 24 January 1907, p.6
4 The Mercury, 19 January and 1 May 1914

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MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Remember to complete your renewal form enclosed with this journal and send to the relevant address as soon as convenient before the due date (31 March 2011). Renew on time and avoid delays!

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TASMANIAN ANCESTRY December 2010 183
BOOKS are wonderful. Personally, nothing fills me with more joy than wandering a bookshop armed with a gift voucher, or ordering a book online and opening the package. I love the look of bookshelves filled with texts and picking up a tome and leafing through it. However there are limits to the love. Limits as to how many books one can actually keep. Limits to how many will fit on one’s shelves. Limits to how long one can hold the new large trade paperbacks before a wrist gives out and one must resort to reading at a table. Enter the book of the future, the eBook.

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

Dedicated eReaders range in size, make and price. In general they are slightly larger than an average paperback page (with a screen about 15cm diagonally). Some like the Kindle are the thickness of a pencil, others are thicker and heavier. Most weigh around the same as an average paperback, definitely less than a trade paperback or a hard cover. Some have touch screens, some have LCD with a back light like a computer (often the cheaper readers), but the readers getting the best reviews tend to be the ones using eInk technology which presents a page that looks like a page of a book. They can be read in bright sunlight or under a lamp and in fact need a light to read in the dark, like a normal book. Without the back light you tend not to experience the eye strain that you do on a computer screen. Most have a button on the side which you press to turn the page. Font size on the display can be adjusted for easy readability. Some have the ability to search for specific text and enter comments, annotations, bookmarks or notes; others simply display the pages and nothing more. Some are connected to your computer to upload eBooks to them, others have WiFi to enable you to wirelessly upload (when in a public place with WiFi available, or using a wireless router at home). Others have an internet connection (be cautious, a lot of these currently only work in the USA) so you can be sitting on a beach, decide you want the next book in the series, connect to the ebook shop, purchase it and start reading within minutes without ever leaving your beach towel.

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

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

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

Some eBooks are covered by DRM - digital Rights management, which limits who can view the contents of a file. This means either entering a password or more commonly, registering your device with the seller so the file recognises you have a right to view it. However, many books are outside of copyright restrictions and so freely available. Many publishers are now selling eBooks alongside paperbacks, and there are online publishers who specialise in eBooks. Many sites are dedicated to free eBooks. You can convert your own documents to ebook formats and upload them to your device.

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


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

Can’t find your ancestor in a census? The chances they were missed off are slim but the chance the folio piece is missing are much higher. My ancestors were baptised in parishes that never made it to the IGI, married in churches whose records have disappeared and were buried in places that aren’t on the NBI. It follows they are going to live in places that went missing from a census. If searches just aren’t working, check out this list of known issues. http://www.findmypast.co.uk/helpadvice/knowledge-base/census/index.jsp#issues
WHAT IS THAT PUBLICATION ABOUT?
Maurice Appleyard (Member No.4093)

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

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

This hardback volume by Clifford Craig was published in 1987 as a limited edition of 1000 copies; this is no. 380. Clifford Craig started a collection of books, maps, prints, etc. of Tasmanian interest in 1938. He sold the collection of some 2300 items in 1975. The auction was held in Launceston by Christie’s and lasted for three and a half days.

His notes describe various parts of the collection, based on letters and invoices received from antiquarian booksellers, the general content of the material and a number of references to other aspects of Tasmaniana. There are notes on eighty-two separate subjects. e.g.

- 2 The First Account in English of Tasman’s First Voyage.
- 4 Flinders’ Place Names for the River Tamar.
- 7 The Foundation of the Norfolk Plains Settlement.
- 26 The Beaconsfield Bank Robbers.
- 27 Trollope in Tasmania.
- 40 Christ College, Bishopsbourne.
- 52 Latrobe and Early Railways.
- 53 Theatres in Launceston.
- 62 The Reiby Church at Hadspen.
- 76 V.D.L. and the Tolpuddle Martyrs.
- 78 The Stained-glass Window of Buckland Church.

HANGED: Executions in Australia

This paperback book by Jim Main was published in 2007. This covers dozens of the most sensational and controversial of Australia’s executions, all by hanging. Most cases in this book involve executions over the nineteenth century and the first half of the following century. The death penalty has since been removed from all state legislation, capital punishment having been abolished in Tasmania in 1968.

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

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

This paperback book by Trevor Byard was published in 1990. The first editions of this book, about members of the Byard family, were
published under the title *Kettlebroth for Tea* (also on shelf) in 1983. This newer and enlarged version of the Byard family, early pioneers in the Deloraine district, doesn’t completely replace the ‘Kettlebroth’ book. A number of photographs shown in the earlier work have not been repeated in the newer edition. Similarly, there are photographs in the second version not presented in the first version.

**FIRST WORLD WAR ARMY SERVICE RECORDS: A guide for family historians**
This large paperback book by William Spencer was published in 2008 by The National Archives, UK and is the Fourth Edition of this work.

**MIGRATION RECORDS: A guide for family historians**
This large paperback book by Roger Kershaw was published in 2009 by The National Archives, UK.

**LOOKING FORWARD, LOOKING BACK: Customs and traditions of the Australian Army**
This hardcover book by Christopher Jobson was published in 2009.

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

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

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

1. Rank in the Australian Army
2. Dress Accoutrements …
3. Ceremonial Traditions …
4. Other Traditions …
5. Barracks and Lines …
6. Corps and Regimental Badges …
7. Badges of Former Corps’ and Regiments …
8. Unit Emblems …
9. Military Skills and Other Badges …
10. The Army’s Precedence of Corps’ and Regiments
11. Army Dress Lanyards

**TRACING YOUR ... ANCESTORS: A guide for Family Historians**
A number of newly published paperback books in this series have recently been purchased. Whilst their titles are self-explanatory it should be noted they all pertain to research in the UK or Ireland.
Recent purchases are:

- **AIR FORCE** by Phil Tomaselli.
- **ARMY** by Simon Fowler.
- **EAST ANGLIAN** by Gill Blanchard.
- **PAUPER** by Robert Burlison.
- **POLICE** by Stephen Wade.
- **RAILWAY** by Di Drummond.
- **SHIPBUILDING** by Anthony Burton.
- **ROYAL MARINE** by Richard Brooks & Matthew Little.

**ANGUS: Monumental Inscriptions, pre 1855**
These A5 paperbacks were published by The Scottish Genealogy Society: Vol. 1, 1993; Vol. 2 & 3, 1996.

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

**BERWICKSHIRE: Monumental Inscriptions, pre 1855; Vol. 2**
This A5 paperback was published in 2000 by The Scottish Genealogy Society.
It covers the nine Eastern Parishes of Berwickshire.
INVERNESS: Monumental Inscriptions, pre 1855
These A5 paperbacks were published in 1996 (East) and 1994 (West) by The Scottish Genealogy Society. District East contains a summary of, and index to, pre-1855 gravestone inscriptions found in burial grounds in eight parishes of the former county of Invernesshire comprising the eastern part of the District of Inverness, but excluding Inverness Chapel Yard. District West covers five parishes in the western part of the district.

UPPER DEESIDE: Monumental Inscriptions, pre 1855
This A5 paperback was published in 1998 by The Scottish Genealogy Society. It contains a summary of, and index to, pre-1855 gravestone inscriptions found in burial grounds in the parishes of Crathie and Braemar, Blenmuick, Tullich and Glengairn, Logie-Coldstone, Tarlanc, Coull, Aboyne and Glentanat, Birse, Lumphanan and Kincardine O’Neil; all located in Aberdeenshire.

UPPER DONSIDE: Monumental Inscriptions, pre 1855
This A5 paperback was published in 2000 by The Scottish Genealogy Society. It contains a summary of, and index to, pre-1855 gravestone inscriptions found in burial grounds in the parishes of Strathgordon, Glenbuchat, Towie, Kildrummy, Auchindoir & Kearn, Tullynnesle & Forbes, Alford, Leochel–Cushnie, Tough and Keig; all located in Aberdeenshire.

EAST PERTHSHIRE: Monumental Inscriptions, pre 1855; Vol. 1
This A5 paperback was published in 1997 by The Scottish Genealogy Society. It covers Strathmore and the Carse of Gowrie areas.

SOUTH PERTHSHIRE: Monumental Inscriptions, pre 1855; Vol. 1
This A5 paperback was published in 2000 by The Scottish Genealogy Society. It covers the Lower Strathearn area.

WINDSOR GAOL RECORDS:
Windsor Gaol Weekly Returns 1831, 1838; and Windsor Gaol Entrance Book 26 March 1864–1899
CD published in 2010 by Pendeo Pty Ltd. Weekly Returns is an index to State Records NSW [SRO NSW 4/7187] sorted by Date and also by Surname. It lists full Name; Ship; Service; Alias; Charge; Report Date; Item No. for each person. Entrance Books is an index to State Records NSW [SRO NSW 5/1511–2] sorted by Year and also by Surname. It lists Year; full Name; Offence; Alias; Item No. for each person [where known or applicable].

BATHURST GAOL RECORDS 1831–1835 & 1841–45: Bathurst Gaol Entrance Book 1831–1835; and Day Book HMG Bathurst 1841–1845
CD published in 2010 by Pendeo Pty Ltd. Entrance Book is an index to State Records NSW [5/1093, Reel 2320] sorted by Date and also by Surname. It lists Year; full Name, Ship, From Where Received; By Whom Brought In; Offence; Where to; Alias, Item no. Day Book is an index to State Records NSW [4/8490a] sorted by Date and also by Surname. It lists Date; full Name; Ship; Year of Arrival; Service; Offence; Alias; Item No. for each person (where known or applicable). ** The item no. endorsed on the above two CDs, enables one to direct research to the original record where there is often extra information.
**LIBRARY NOTES**

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Set 1 1891 Census Indexes for Scotland.
Set 2 GRO Consular Records Index
Set 3 Griffith’s Valuation for Ireland Series
Set 4 National Probate Calendars 1853–1943 and AGCI
Set 5 Old Parochial Records, Scotland and Lilian Watson Family History Award entries, 2009

**Devonport & Launceston Microfiche Roster**

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Set 1 GRO BDMs Index 1943–1946
Set 2 GRO BDMs Index 1947–1950

**Society Sales**

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. Publications

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

Mail orders (including postage) should be forwarded to:
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**Books**
- Van Diemens Land Heritage Index, Vol. 3 (p&p $5.50) ...........................................$11.00
- Van Diemens Land Heritage Index, Vol. 4 (p&p $5.50) ...........................................$11.00
- Van Diemens Land Heritage Index, Vol. 5 (p&p $5.50) ** ...........................................$25.00
- Tasmanian Ancestry Index 1—20 (p&p $5.50) ** .....................................................$22.50
- Tasmanian Ancestry Index Volumes 21—25 (p&p $4.50) ** .........................................$15.00

**CD-Rom**
- Tasmanian Federation Index (p&p $2.50) .................................................................$231.00
- TAMIOT (p&p $5.00) ......................................................................................................$50.00

**Microfiche**
- TAMIOT (p&p $2.00) ......................................................................................................$50.00

**members discount applies**
LIBRARY ACCESSIONS

DEVONPORT BRANCH

Accessions–Books
TFHS Inc. Devonport, The Methodist Cemetery Kindred, Tasmania – A Transcription of the Headstones with additional biographical information
*Richardson, M A, The Local Historian’s Table Book of Remarkable Occurrences Connected with the Counties of Northumberland and Durham
Huguenot Society of Australia Inc, The Hidden Thread - Huguenot Families in Australia
TFHS Inc. Launceston, The Tasmanian Mail A Photographic Index Vol 8 1925–1926
Bissett, Muriel & Betty, Index to The Kelso Chronicle 1862–1863

Accessions–Computer Disks
*Smith, Dale, An Index to the Advocate Personal Announcements – 2006
*Smith, Dale, Devonport District Cemetery Index
New Zealand Society of Genealogists Inc, Passenger Lists – Victoria, Australia Outwards to New Zealand 1852–1923
* Indicates Donated Item

HOBART BRANCH

Accessions–Books
*Adams, K M; Australia—Colonies to Commonwealth 1850–1900. [994 ADA]
*Angus, Alma, Valmae Davenport, Susan Gray & Barry Stone; Middlesex to Mitchell: Dean Family reminiscences and recollections, 1842–2000
*Beatie, Alastair G & Margaret H (Eds); Inverness District–East, Monumental Inscriptions pre 1855
*Beatie, Alastair G & Margaret H (Eds); Inverness District–West, Monumental Inscriptions pre 1855
*Beatie, Alastair G & Margaret H (Eds); Upper Deeside Monumental Inscriptions, pre 1855
†Blanchard, G, Tracing Your East Anglia Ancestors. [929.309426 BLA]
*Bolt, F; Richmond–A photographic Essay. [994.62 BOL]
*Braydon, Simon & Robert Songhurst (Eds); The Diary of Joseph Sams: An emigrant in the 'Northumberland', 1874
†Brooks, R & M Little; Tracing Your Royal Marine Ancestors. [359.9 BRO]
†Burlison, R, Tracing Your Pauper Ancestors. [929.30941 BUR]
†Burton, A; Tracing Your Shipbuilding Ancestors. [929.30941 BUR]
*Byard, T; The Pains & Pleasures of our Pioneers. [Q 929.2 BYA]
*Cargill, David (Comp.); Berwickshire Monumental Inscriptions, pre 1855–Vol. 2; The Eastern Parishes
*Cocker, Kathleen; Early Houses of the North West Coast of Tasmania
*Commonwealth Electoral Office; 1979 Electoral Rolls For Tasmania. [Q 929.37 COM]
*Craig, C; Notes on Tasmaniana. [994.6 CRA]
†Dimmick, L W; On The Main Road: The history of the Glenorchy Uniting Church. [Q287.099461 DIM]
†Drummond, D K; Tracing Your Railway Ancestors. [929.30941 DRU]
*Finkel, G; South Australia 1836–1900. [994.2 FIN]
†Fowler, S; Tracing Your Army Ancestors. [355.0941 FOW]
*Goodrick, J; The West Hobart Story. [994.61 GOO]
†Jobson, C; Looking Forward. Looking Back. [355.10994 JOB]
*Jones, Alan Gabriel, MBE; A Family History—Vol. 1, Incorporating: The Foulkes and Park Families, and The Thomas Park Memoirs
*Jones, Nancy Evelyn & Alan Gabriel, MBE; A Family History—Vol. 2, Incorporating: Our Jones Family in England; Our Jones Family in Australia; Scraps of Family History; and Alan Jones—A personal history
*Judd, H W; Pictorial Guide To The West Coast Of Tasmania. [994.66 JUD]
†Kershaw, R; Migration Records—A Guide for Family Historians. [325 KER]
*Main, J; Hanged: Executions in Australia. [364.660994 MAI]
*McDermott, P; For Distinguished Conduct In The Field—The Register of the Distinguished Conduct Medal, 1920–1992
*Mitchell, Alison (Ed.); Angus Monumental Inscriptions pre 1855—Vol. 1
*Mitchell, Alison (Ed.); Angus Monumental Inscriptions pre 1855—Vol. 2
*Mitchell, Alison (Ed.); Angus Monumental Inscriptions pre 1855—Vol. 3
*Mitchell, Alison (Ed.); East Perthshire Monumental Inscriptions pre 1855—Vol. 1
*Mitchell, Alison (Ed.); South Perthshire Monumental Inscriptions pre 1855—Vol. 1
*Mulholland, Dorothy; Far Away Days: A history of the Murrumbateman, Jeir and Nanima districts
*National Trust of Australia (Tasmania); The Three Cities—Hobart–Glenorchy–Launceston. [720.9946]
*Nunn, Harry; Bushrangers: A pictorial history.
*Robertson, J; Not For Self But Empire. [920 ROB]
*Sinclair, Cecil; Jock Tamson’s Bairns: A history of the General Registry of Scotland
†Spencer, W; First World War Army Service Records. [355 SPE]
†Shaw, M. Noeline; The History of The Chamberlain Family of Taranaki. [Q 929.2CHA]
TFHS Inc. Devonport; The Methodist Cemetery Kindred, Tasmania
TFHS Inc. Launceston; Index to The Kelso Chronicle 1862–1863
TFHS Inc. Launceston; The Tasmanian Mail Vol. 8 1925–1926
Tasmap; Tasmanian Towns Street Atlas, Edition 8. [Maps 912.946 TAS]
†Tomasseli; P; Tracing Your Air Force Ancestors. [358.4 FOW]
*Vine Hall, N J; English Parish Register Transcripts, Edition 4. [929.310942 VIN]
†Wade, S; Tracing Your Police Ancestors. [929.3094 WAD]
†Waller, Ian H; My Ancestor was an Agricultural Labourer
*Weidenhofer, M; Maria Island—A Tasmanian Eden. [994.64 WEI]
*Whyte’s, Robert; 1847 Famine Ship Diary: The journey of an Irish Coffin Ship
*Williams, Karen; Oaks Estate: No man’s land
Accessions—Computer Disks
*The Archive Britain Campaign; Chamberlain’s Portsmouth Directory 1887–1888
*Archive CD Books, UK; Kelly’s Directory—Northumberland 1828–29
*Archive CD Books, UK; Piggot & Co.—Northumberland 1894
*Archive CD Books, UK; Whellan’s Directory—Northumberland 1855
*Ancestry.com; American Genealogical—Biographical Index
*Ancestry.com; Ancestry Reference Library, 2000
*Ancestry.com; 1920 U.S. Federal Index—Census
*Ancestry.com; Military Records: Ohio Enlistments, 1908–1928
†Bradford F.H.S; Bradford Parish Church Burial Registers 1681–1837
*Family Tree Maker’s; Census Records: United Kingdom, 1851
*Family Tree Maker’s; Family Archives: Immigration Records, Scottish; and Imigrants to North America 1600s–1800s
*Family Tree Maker’s; Family History: Notable British Families 1600s–1900s
*Family Tree Maker’s; Genealogical Records: Directory of Deceased American Physicians, 1804–1929
*Family Tree Maker’s; Immigrants to the New World, 1600s–1800s
*Family Tree Maker’s; National Genealogical Society Quarterly, Vols 1–85, 1600s–1900s
*Family Tree Maker’s; Passenger and Immigration Lists Index, 1500s–1900s (2000 Update)
*Family Search; 1881 Canadian Census
*Family Search; 1880 United States Census and National Index
*Moody, L; Campbell St Gaol–Gate Book Records
†Pendeo Pty Ltd; Bathurst Gaol Records, 1831–1835 & 1841–1845
*Pendeo Pty Ltd; Darlinghurst Gaol Entrance Books, 1850–1854
†Pendeo Pty Ltd; Windsor Gaol Records
* Denotes complimentary or donated item.

LAUNCESTON BRANCH

Accessions—Books
Edwards, Neville P, The Transvaal in War and Peace
A Rex Kerrison & Anthea Bilson Cornelius & Catherine Kerrison, Two Lives 1830s–1903s
Cora Nun, How did they get here? Arrivals after 1924
D J Bradmore, That’s the way it was
TFHS Inc. Launceston Branch, The Tasmanian Mail, A Photographic Index. Volume 8 1925–1926
TFHS Inc. Launceston Branch, The Kelso Chronicle 1862–1863
TFHS Inc. Devonport Branch, The Methodist Cemetery Kindred, Tasmania

Accessions—Computer Disks
National Burial Index for England & Wales 3rd Edition
Cemeteries of Southern Tasmania Vol. X Bruny Island
South Australian Death Registrations 1842 to 1915
Unassisted Arrivals to Sydney 1842–1857
The Scots Peerage Vol. 1–3, Vol. 4–6, Vol. 7–9
# Branch Library Addresses, Times and Meeting Details

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<tr>
<td><strong>Burnie</strong></td>
<td>(03) 6435 4103</td>
<td>2 Spring Street Burnie</td>
<td>Tuesday 11:00 am–3:00 pm, Saturday 1:00 pm–4:00 pm</td>
<td>Branch Library, 2 Spring Street Burnie 7:30 pm on 3rd Tuesday of each month, except January and December.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Devonport</strong></td>
<td>(03) 6427 8997</td>
<td>‘Old police residence’ 117 Gilbert Street Latrobe (behind State Library)</td>
<td>Tuesday &amp; Friday 11:00 am–3:00 pm</td>
<td>Our meetings are held on the last Thursday of the month at or Branch Library in Latrobe at 11.00. Please check the website at <a href="http://www.tfhsdev.com">www.tfhsdev.com</a> for updates and any changes or contact our Secretary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hobart</strong></td>
<td>(03) 6244 4527</td>
<td>19 Cambridge Road Bellerive</td>
<td>Tuesday 12:30 pm–3:30 pm, Wednesday 9:30 am–12:30 pm, Saturday 1:30 pm–4:30 pm</td>
<td>Sunday School, St Johns Park, New Town, at 7:300 pm on 3rd Tuesday of each month, except January and December.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Huon</strong></td>
<td>(03) 6239 6529</td>
<td>Soldiers Memorial Hall Marguerite Street Ranelagh</td>
<td>Saturday 1:30 pm–4:00 pm</td>
<td>Branch Library, Ranelagh, at 4:00 pm on 1st Saturday of each month, except January. Please check Branch Report for any changes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Launceston</strong></td>
<td>(03) 6344 4034</td>
<td>45–55 Tamar Street Launceston (next door to Albert Hall)</td>
<td>Tuesday 10:00 am–3:00 pm, Saturday by appointment only (03) 6344 4034</td>
<td>Generally held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, except January and December. Check the Branch News and the website <a href="http://www.launceston.tasfhs.org">http://www.launceston.tasfhs.org</a> for locations and times.</td>
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MEMBERSHIP OF THE TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

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

**Dues are payable annually by 1 April.** Membership Subscriptions for 2010–11:-

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

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

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

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

**Application for Membership:**
Application forms may be downloaded from [www.tasfhs.org](http://www.tasfhs.org) or obtained from the TFHS Inc. Society Secretary, or any branch and be returned with appropriate dues to a branch treasurer. **Interstate and overseas** applications should be mailed to the TFHS Inc. Society Treasurer, PO Box 191, Launceston Tasmania 7250. Dues are also accepted at libraries and at branch meetings.

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

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

**Advertising:**
Advertising for *Tasmanian Ancestry* is accepted with pre-payment of $27.50 per quarter page in one issue or $82.50 for four issues. Further information can be obtained by writing to the journal editor at PO Box 191, Launceston Tasmania 7250.

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PO Box 191 Launceston Tasmania 7250

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       secretary@hobart.tasfhs.org
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           bbissett@bigpond.net.au
Tasmanian Ancestry

Volume 31 Number 4
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Deadline dates for contributions by 1 January, 1 April, 1 July and 1 October
From the editor

It is now near the end of January and apart from a few small alterations to make to this issue, it will be off to the printer this afternoon. I am still on holiday but there have been so many distractions—visitors, Christmas, birthdays and other commitments which have added to the confusion. Often people leave it until the deadline to send in articles and reports but I would be very happy to receive them earlier. This will provide more time to sort through the submissions and discover what is needed, or missing, to produce an interesting issue.

Having spoken to several new members Leonie Mickleborough has written a piece on ‘Beginning Family History Research’ (page 243). It has been quite a while since Tasmanian Ancestry included such articles and we are considering further pieces to assist new members. If you have an idea for a topic please let us know as soon as possible. Leonie has also suggested members should make more use of the ‘Help Wanted’ column.

Thank you to the regular contributors—please keep up the good work. I hope a flood of new material will arrive soon, as the cupboard is almost bare. If you haven’t submitted anything before, please consider what you can write that will be of help or interest to others. Perhaps you can start with a short item of one or two pages.

Rosemary Davidson

Journal address

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

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

Deadline dates are:
1 January, 1 April, 1 July and 1 October

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

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

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Cover:
Illustration supplied by Betty Jones for her article, A Modest but Steady Income, see page 209.
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

By the time you read this issue we will be well into a new calendar year and back into the search for information about our ancestors.

A change to note for 2011 is the ‘disappearance’ of the Devonport Branch from the pages of Tasmanian Ancestry. The members of that branch have decided to adopt the name Mersey Branch for the future. With their Branch Library located in the town of Latrobe, the new name probably more aptly reflects the area serviced by this Branch.

We now have two branches named after the major river in the area, rather than the largest city.

After a year of enjoying programmes such as ‘Who Do You Think You Are’ we have a new television programme to look forward to later in 2011. A new 8 x 30 minute factual series, ‘Who’s Been Sleeping In My House?’ is being produced for ABC TV.

Each week this program will visit an Australian house and its owners in a quest to uncover the stories and history of their home.

The series will be presented by Melbourne-based archaeologist and cultural heritage expert Adam Ford, who takes viewers on an investigative journey. He will zigzag his way through archives, family albums, interviews, data bases, and home movies. Meeting social historians and relatives of past owners along the way, he pieces together a past that isn’t recorded in the history books.

ABC TV’s Head of Factual, Jennifer Collins said,

Each week we visit a house that you might drive past every day and never give a second look. And yet within its rooms are the hidden stories of our past: the lives of the people who lived, loved, bore children, died or just moved on. This is our history, told by the people who have slept in our homes. It is an exciting original format for ABC TV audiences and promises to reveal both personal histories and stories of Australian significance.

The series will be supported by a website which gives viewers the tips and tricks to trace the history of their own homes.

It is believed that two Tasmanian homes will be featured in the first series.

Maurice Appleyard

Free Offer to Members

Are you preparing to publish, or have published, a family history or local history book?

TFHS Inc. now offers one free quarter page advertisement in Tasmanian Ancestry to members.

Contact the secretary
TFHS Inc.
PO Box 191
Launceston TAS 7250
secretary@tasfhs.org
or the editor at
editors@tasfhs.org
I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone back after the Christmas and New Year break and trust 2011 will be a most fruitful year of research for you all.

Our November night meeting, the last night meeting for the year, was run as a cocktail party. In previous years we have finished up with a dinner meeting, but this year it was decided to hold a cocktail party instead. Nearly thirty members attended and had a most enjoyable evening. Besides the nibbles and refreshments, the raffle and lucky spots helped to entertain all.

The last day meeting for the year was held on Monday, 6 December and all the members who volunteered as librarians and those who helped with indexing and other projects were invited to this meeting, followed by lunch. The new version of Family Tree Maker was shown to members and several took the opportunity of purchasing a copy. For those of you who are interested we now have Family Tree Maker 2011 available as either an upgrade, deluxe or platinum edition. It is now also available for Mac computers.

Our computer nights are still well attended and the first one for 2011 will be on the last Thursday of March. Remember reminders for this and other meetings will be sent out via our branch mailing list. If you are not already subscribed it is recommended that you do. Go to http://lists.rootsweb.ancestry.com/index/other/Genealogical_Societies/AUS-TFHS-BB.html for instructions on how to subscribe.

Hobart
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President Robert Tanner (03) 6231 0794
e-mail: president@hobart.tasfhs.org
Secretary Howard Reeves
PO Box 326 Rosny Park Tasmania 7018
e-mail: secretary@hobart.tasfhs.org
All telephone enquiries to (03) 6244 4527

2010 was a great year for the branch. Membership levels were fairly well maintained, and although visitor levels were down a little, the library was constantly in use during our opening times. Considerable indexing has been carried out, and several publications have been produced.

At our October meeting, Beverley Richardson spoke on the topic, The Joys and Tribulations of Writing the Richardson Family History. This was most interesting, and I’m sure many of us learnt a lot. Those of us who haven’t yet written up our family history gained quite an insight into this endeavour. A good follow up would be for all would be writers to attend our Writers Group!

As our November meeting was the last one for the year, we all ‘brought a plate’ to have a little extra on the supper table,
and as usual it was a fine feast enjoyed by all. Before that we had a panel of speakers each giving a short account of something they had experienced in their family history research. These proved to be very interesting, and quite different from each other.

**General Meetings**

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

An old friend, Nicola Goc, returns in March to talk about her current research area of the personal/family photograph, whilst in April, Arthur Orchard will present a talk about his recently published book, *Diary of an Anzac*. This is very appropriate as Anzac Day follows shortly after our meeting. In May, Dianne Snowden will talk about free children who were transported with their convict parents.

Ten years of free access to Ancestry.com should make membership and use of our library very attractive. This results from a five year contract with the society as a whole, plus five years for the branch resulting from our supplying a further set of data.

**Family History Computer Users Group**

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

**WISE Interest Group**

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

---

**Family History Writers Group**

This group has been meeting at the branch library on the fifth Thursday of each month when it occurs. Members working on individual projects will share them with the group in an informal workshop. All welcome! For more details contact Dianne Snowden on dsnowden@tassie.net.au or (03) 6260 2515.

Details of these meetings and other activities may be found on our website at [http://www.hobart.tasfhs.org](http://www.hobart.tasfhs.org)

---

**Huon**

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

The branch recently purchased a ‘Scanlab V Pro’ microfiche and microfilm reader which when combined with a computer has enabled members to read and print film and fiche records. For many years we have been unable to print from film and for several years from fiche. A successful special afternoon tea was held to help fund the new equipment. Considering the purchase cost and the quality of the output the purchase has been considered a good alternative for our small library and should ensure another year of service to our members and visitors to the library.
Work is continuing on indexing of *The Tasmanian Mail* (a photographic index)—Volume 9 1927–1928 is now in work, and indexing work is continuing on the next volume of *The Weekly*.

Christmas Luncheon and 30th Birthday celebrations were held at Judith’s home, Redwood, on Saturday, 4 December. Judith’s Australian, huge native garden is a delight and the bird life kept us entertained as we enjoyed the lovely meal. Many thanks, Judith!

At the time of writing we eagerly anticipate a visit to the Mersey Branch Library at Latrobe on 27 January, followed by a barbecue in Kings Park, with Mersey Branch members.

Our research volunteers continue to be kept busy and good use is being made of the Research Request form from the Launceston Branch website, thus streamlining the researchers’ tasks.

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

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

**Wednesday 20 April**: 2:00 pm: British Interest Group (BIG) meet at Adult Education Rooms.

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**Tuesday 26 April**: 7:00 pm: Branch Annual General Meeting, at Harry Abbott Scout Hall, 1 St George’s Square, East Launceston.

**Wednesday 18 May**: 2:00 pm: British Interest Group (BIG) meet at Adult Education Rooms.

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

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**Mersey**

http://www.tfhsdev.com

President Pam Bartlett

Secretary Sue-Ellen McCreghan

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As we welcome in the new year of 2011 we have to catch up with what happened in the last month of the previous year.

In November we held our Legacy Users Group (LUG). This is proving very popular—all are welcome even if you are a beginner. Help is available.

We held our Christmas Luncheon at Villaret Gardens. Twenty-three members met and we all enjoyed a scrumptious meal. Our major raffle for the year was also drawn, four prizes in all. Congratulations to the winners.

On our last Library day we had a Happy Hour that was enjoyed by many. What a way to wrap up a very busy year.

As it is Devonport’s turn for the AGM we have completed the main planning for this. We have put together an interesting program. Why not plan to come for the
weekend there is plenty to see and do. Our library will be open so if you have not visited us before why not plan to see us in June.

At the last State Executive Meeting our delegates put forward a name change for the branch. This was passed and our new name is Mersey Branch. We are very excited to have the name changed. It will take a while for this process to be filtered through all the appropriate channels but hope to have it up and running soon.

We have not completed our calendar as yet so please keep a check on our website and newsletters or phone the library or secretary for up important dates.

Up-coming dates to date:
31 March—trip to Ulverstone Museum
28 April—Branch AGM

A Photographic index to
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The Tasmanian Mail
from 1894–1935

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UNDERTAKERS
OF
HOBART
Vol V
Index to
Hooper & Burgess
Funeral Records

Part 1
September 1935 – December 1954
Part 2
September 1855 – April 1971

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

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THE PRINCE OF WALES’ VISIT 1920

Elsie Corrick 1894–1974
Shirley Foster

SHIRLEY FOSTER has been writing articles for *Tasmanian Ancestry* since 1999. Many relate to her famous forbears the CORRICKS, ‘a celebrated family of musicians’ who performed nightly and eventually settled in Launceston after touring successfully.

In July 1920, Prince Edward of Wales arrived in Tasmania and after visiting Hobart, caught an overnight train to Launceston where he stayed on the night of 21 July. Originally the Prince was to ‘stay at Mount Pleasant, the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Reed’ but this was changed to the Brisbane Hotel. Thanks to Shirley, we learn Elsie Corrick wrote:

> We have had thirteen in this house, counting the maid, for the Prince of Wales’ visit. It is ever so lively with the two young families together all excited to see the Prince. What do you think of Rhoda and me even going to the races. He walked right next to me and I touched him. We roared laughing after and I felt an awful ass but Rhoda was right next to me and did the same so we felt quite proud then. The Albert Hall was glorious. It represented the Gorge with its water rushing down, hundreds of tree ferns and the floor glorious flowers. The stage was a pond with rainbow fountain and the hall had white pillars with electric shades in the top. I do think the Prince is charming.

With the present excitement over the engagement and forthcoming marriage of the current Prince of Wales it seemed appropriate to check the newspapers for descriptions of the 1920 visit. It appears not much has changed—the people were as enthusiastic then as they are now. *The Mercury* reported *The Tasmanian Mail* of 28 July 1920 would contain ten pages of illustrations!

> The Prince is staying at the Brisbane Hotel, where he has a cosy suite of rooms. All day long the hotel was besieged with people watching for the Prince, and every time he appeared he got a tumultuous welcome. The State Government entertained the Prince at luncheon, but it was a purely informal affair, and there were no speeches. At night he dined privately in his apartments.

> ... More than an hour before the Prince was due to leave for the popular reception in the Albert-hall the people began to assemble in Brisbane-street, which was soon a mass of humanity swaying backwards and forwards, singing and cheering. Two or three women fainted and a number of children who were unable to stand the jostling in the crowd had to seek shelter in the porch of the hotel. Endless cheering greeted the Prince when he made his appearance, and the crowd surged around the Royal car, which the Prince and his staff had some difficulty in reaching.

> [What will the newspapers be reporting about the Royal Family in another 100 plus years? —Ed.]

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1 *The Mercury*, 20 May 1920
2 138 St John Street Launceston, Tasmania
3 Rhoda MANSER had a sweet shop called ‘The Golden’ in Launceston in partnership with Ethel. She later married Bill KNUCKY a bank manager.

4 Extracts from *The Mercury*, 22 July 1920
HAVING determined that Robert THIRKELL was Elizabeth SOUTHERNWOOD’S father (see Part 1), I decided to investigate the background of my new-found ancestor. I soon discovered he was baptised in the parish of Aycliffe in Durham, England, in 1792, the son of George ‘Thirkeld’, a labourer, by his second wife, Elizabeth LITTLEFAIR. The family lived at Brafferton, a hamlet within the parish, which was located between the village of Aycliffe and the town of Darlington. George’s surname was recorded in a number of different ways in the Aycliffe register, with Thirkeld, Thirkel, Thirkle and Thirkild among the variations used. This variability evidently persisted for many years, with the 1851 English census recording Robert’s brothers, who were then living at various places in Durham and Yorkshire, as George Thirkell, James Thirkle and Ralph Thirkill.

While the event does not seem to have been recorded, several sources indicate that Robert arrived here in 1820. He gave this date in a letter he wrote to the Royal Society of Tasmania in 1873, and it was repeated in his obituary, which also stated he had come to the colony ‘with the late T. C. Simpson’. The latter individual was Thomas Cookson SIMPSON (c1792–1832), another native of Durham, and someone who, as will be detailed, was definitely associated with Robert at the relevant time.

Newspaper records indicate that a Mr. and Mrs. Simpson arrived in Van Diemen’s Land in November 1820. They had sailed to the colony on the Caroline, with Rev. Robert KNOPWOOD noting in his diary that although the pair had been married on board the ship, he had repeated the ceremony for them just a few days after they disembarked in Hobart. He also noted Simpson’s wife was a Mrs. TAYLOR, and official marriage records confirm that Thomas Cookson Simpson (c1792–1832) and a widow named Catherine Taylor (c1797–1829) were the couple married by Knopwood.

Although Robert’s name was not included in the list of the Caroline’s passengers, an article written some eighty years later about one of his sons asserts that the founder of the Thirkell family had indeed arrived in Tasmania in

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1 Aycliffe Parish Register, Durham County Record Office.
3 Mercury, 21 August 1873
4 Mercury, 20 November 1876
5 International Genealogical Index (extracted record); Launceston Advertiser, 1 November 1832
6 Hobart Town Gazette, 2 December 1820
7 Nichols, Mary (ed), The Diary of Reverend Robert Knopwood, 1803–1838, (Hobart, 1977), p.344
8 Tasmanian Marriage No.423, 1820. Catherine’s first husband was James Taylor, a lieutenant in the 73rd Regiment who died in 1818 while serving in Sri Lanka. [TAHO, CSO 1/1/1897/4491, p.157]
9 Hobart Town Gazette, 2 December 1820
November 1820. The same account states Robert had been ‘under engagement’ to Simpson at that time, and a document compiled in 1823 confirms that Robert had by then been working for Simpson for ‘nearly four years’ and had ‘sole management’ of his ‘agricultural concerns’. Simpson knew he would be given land on his arrival here—he brought with him a grant order endorsed by Lord Bathurst, British Secretary of State for the Colonies—so it is entirely plausible he would have been accompanied to Van Diemen’s Land by the man who was going to manage his farming activities for him. In fact, official records generated in 1829 do state Robert had travelled to the colony on the Caroline, so it seems reasonable to conclude he was indeed on board that vessel when it sailed into the Derwent in November 1820.

Simpson’s anticipated land grant eventually materialised as two adjoining lots, totalling 2400 acres, on the south-western side of the Macquarie River, some 12 kilometres south-east of Cressy, and about 25 kilometres north-west of Campbell Town. The new owner bestowed the name Newham Park on his estate, but it appears to have occupied very little of his time. He was certainly a Launceston resident in early 1822, and his ties to that town were further strengthened later that year when he was commissioned as a Justice of the Peace, which obliged him to serve as a local magistrate. British census records indicate that his daughter Caroline was born in Launceston, evidently in June 1824, and Simpson’s subsequent colonial correspondence suggests he was based in the same place throughout the period from 1825 to 1828.

With Simpson living in Launceston, it would appear that the day-to-day management of Newham Park was left very much in Robert’s hands. His employer regularly supplied the colonial government with both wheat and beef, and Robert was presumably responsible for the production of these commodities.

Robert’s personal prospects were significantly enhanced in 1823 when he was granted 100 acres on the northern bank of the Macquarie River. His land was located about three kilometres to the south-east of the Newham Park homestead, and a similar distance west of the Lincoln Township Reserve, with the latter fact probably influencing Robert to name his property Lincoln Grange. He soon decided, however, that the size of his farm was ‘insufficient to Maintain his Stock of Sheep and Cattle’, and just a few months after his grant was made official he wrote to Lieutenant-Governor William...

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10 *Cyclopedia of Tasmania*, Volume II, p.176
12 TAHO, CSO 1/1/187/4491, p.154
13 TAHO, SC 41/1/1, p.23; CON 31/1/42, No.435
14 TAHO, LSD 354/1/5, p.16, 105
15 *Hobart Town Courier*, 26 April 1828, etc
16 *Hobart Town Gazette*, 12 January 1822, 19 January 1822, 13 April 1822
17 *Hobart Town Gazette*, 17 August 1822

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18 www.ancestry.com Caroline Simpson and her husband George John Chapman left VDL shortly after their marriage in 1845 and were living at Biggleswade in Bedfordshire in 1851.
19 Tasmanian Baptism No.4476, 1832
20 TAHO, CSO 1/1/187/4491, p.157–177
21 *Hobart Town Gazette*, 23 March 1822, 4 May 1822, 29 March 1823, 3 June 1825, 17 December 1825, 4 March 1826
22 TAHO, LSD 354/1/7, p.246
23 Somerset County Plan No.59
24 Somerset County Map No.1
25 TAHO, LSD 1/1/1, p.445, 449

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Sorell seeking additional land.\(^{26}\) His petition was supported by Simpson, who assured Sorell that Robert was ‘a Man of Sober and industrious habits’ who possessed ‘considerable knowledge & skills in Agriculture’ and a capital reserve, including cash, of at least £300.\(^{27}\)

The Lieutenant-Governor must have been impressed by what he read, as he recommended that Robert should receive an additional 200 acres.\(^{28}\) It took some time, however, for the extra land to be made available, and it was not until 1825, by which time Sorell had been succeeded by George Arthur,\(^ {29}\) that a reduced allotment of 150 acres was finally located to Robert.\(^{30}\)

While this delay may have been frustrating, Robert soon had other problems. A local newspaper reported in early 1827 that a man named Andrew WINCHESTER, one of Simpson’s assigned convicts,\(^ {31}\) had been sentenced to death for stealing in the dwelling house of Mr. Simpson … at his farm on the Macquarie River, on the 31st of October last, 2 pairs of trowsers of the value of fifty shillings, and four handkerchiefs of the value of twenty-two shillings, the property of one Robert Thirkell, who was overseer to Mr. Simpson.\(^{32}\)

The theft of his belongings was not Robert’s only concern. His 150-acre lot was inconveniently situated some distance away from Lincoln Grange,\(^ {33}\) and in April 1828 he wrote to Lieutenant-Governor Arthur seeking to have the location moved so it would adjoin his main farm, which had grown to 140 acres with the purchase of a small adjacent property.\(^ {34}\)

Robert carefully documented the improvements he had made to Lincoln Grange in an attempt to persuade the authorities his request deserved consideration, noting he had built a house, which he valued at £80, a barn (worth £75) and other ‘smaller buildings’ (£43).\(^ {35}\) Some 35 acres was either ‘cleared or under tillage’ and he owned two horses, 48 cattle and 500 sheep, all of which were enclosed within some 5.4 kilometres of fencing.

Unfortunately, all the land surrounding Lincoln Grange had been allocated, so Robert’s request could not be agreed to. The Surveyor-General, George Franksland, suggested instead that the 150-acre allotment, which was also enclosed by occupied land, could be replaced by a new one elsewhere of ‘four or five hundred’ acres.\(^ {36}\) However, the Lieutenant-Governor, who commented he was ‘much struck’ by what Robert had achieved, proposed a different solution, recommending that, if Robert was prepared to ‘dispose’ of all his ‘present Land’, he should be given a new 640-acre grant.

This alternative was eventually offered to Robert, but the fact that any new grant of such size would, of necessity, have to be taken outside the area of existing settle-
ment appears to have influenced his reaction, as after ‘much consideration’, he decided that ‘without a most material alteration’ in his ‘immediate prospects’, he ‘could not undertake to reside in a detached situation’.37

Despite Robert’s evident concerns about his ‘prospects’, it is hard to imagine that he was actually short of money. He had been fined the significant sum of £50 in October 1827 for selling spirits without a licence,38 but his work for Simpson and the output from his own farm should have guaranteed him a reasonable income at a time when he had no family to support. It seems more likely that he declined the Lieutenant-Governor’s offer because, having spent considerable time and effort establishing Lincoln Grange, he did not wish to abandon it and start again from scratch unless presented with an alternative that was just too good to refuse. He had certainly been prepared to sell his farm at one stage, but had failed to attract a buyer because he had ‘asked such a price as very few would be inclined to give’.39

Another potential reason for Robert’s reluctance to move to a ‘detached situation’ may have been a fear that this might increase his vulnerability to attack by Aborigines. There had been a number of violent clashes in the Campbell Town area in the 1820s,40 with two farm workers killed in separate incidents in late March and early April of 1828.41 This prompted a number of landholders living in the district to ask the local police magistrate to take measures to ‘suppress’ the ‘Natives’,42 but Robert was not among those who signed the petition calling for such action. If a much later letter sent to the Royal Society of Tasmania is to be believed, this may have been because he did not feel personally threatened by the local Aborigines, who he described as a peaceable and inoffensive race of people, and in no case had he to resort to force to prevent mischief. On the first occasion the natives visited his place on the Macquarie River, about 20 men and the same number of women and children came, after which various numbers came at intervals. When he was engaged building a house the men came and curiously inspected the work, and would use gimlets and other tools. At other times … he met them in the bush, and in no case had he any cause for fear … [He] never considered it necessary to carry firearms to protect himself against them.43

Robert also noted that the visiting Aborigines were ‘much pleased to get potatoes’ from settlers, and suggested that ‘any injury sustained by the white people was entirely occasioned by their ill-usage of the [Aboriginal] females’.44 Although the abuse of native women may have been a contributing factor to animosity between blacks and whites, Robert either failed to grasp—or did not wish to acknowledge—that the actions of settlers like himself, who had turned hunting grounds into farms, may have been a much more serious cause of Aboriginal resentment.

While Robert claimed to have had few problems with his indigenous neighbours, he continued to be troubled by some of

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37 TAHO, LSD 1/1/11, p.449
38 Hobart Town Courier, 3 November 1827
39 TAHO, LSD 1/1/11, p.448
41 Hobart Town Courier, 12 April 1828
42 TAHO, CSO 1/1/170/4072, pp.52–54
43 Mercury, 21 August 1873
44 Mercury, 21 August 1873
his fellow Europeans. In January 1829 a former convict named Thomas ROGERS was convicted of stealing ‘several articles’ from the house of one Francis ROSE, including five shirts and a pair of boots belonging to Robert. Like Winchester before him, Rogers was sentenced to death, with the execution carried out in February.

Robert was still working for T C Simpson when this theft occurred, but the end of their relationship was initiated in December 1828 when three local magistrates, one of whom was James Cubbiston SUTHERLAND (see Part 1), committed Robert to stand trial at the Supreme Court in Launceston, charged with stealing a cowhide. The case, in which William DIPROSE was also a defendant, was heard in January, some three weeks after the Rogers trial, with Sutherland among those called to give evidence. He noted in his diary that the proceedings were spread over two days and that he had told the court that, prior to this incident, ‘he had never known anything to lead [him] to believe that the prisoners were not honest men & industrious Servants’.

Unfortunately for Robert, Sutherland’s testimony did not sway the jury, and both he and Diprose were convicted. To make matters worse, the particular hide they had stolen had been taken from a cow belonging to Jocelyn THOMAS, a senior colonial official, so a harsh sentence was almost inevitable. After some deliberation, the judge decided that both men should be transported for seven years, which meant that they were to be placed in the same convict system that operated for offenders brought to the colony from overseas. Diprose, however, won a last-minute reprieve, perhaps because of ill health, with a notation on the trial record indicating that he was ‘sent to Hospital but afterwards pardoned’.

Robert was not as lucky. His punishment proceeded as directed by the court, and he was placed in a chain gang to begin his sentence. He had arranged the lease of Lincoln Grange just prior to his trial, but his 150-acre allotment later attracted the opportunistic attention of one of his neighbours, George ALSTON, who wrote to the surveyor, John Helder WEDGE, in May 1831, seeking to learn whether the Location to Robert Thurtill, now in the Chain Gang, of 150 acres situated behind Stodart’s Grant has been cancelled, and if so, that it may be included in the measurement of the Land I purchased from Government, it being in the midst of my property.

Wedge passed the request on to his superiors, with the Colonial Secretary subsequently advising him that Lieutenant-Governor Arthur had decided that although Robert had been convicted of Felony … the Land was not necessarily forfeited for this offence, and that probably there would be some difficulty in resuming it, if it has been actually located.

The latter condition had indeed been fulfilled, and Robert retained ownership.

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45 TAHO, CON 31/1/34, No.270; SC 41/1/1, p.23; Hobart Town Courier, 10 January 1829
46 Launceston Advertiser, 23 February 1829; Tasmanian Burial No.2061, 1829
47 TAHO, CON 31/1/42, No.435
48 TAHO, CON 31/1/42, No.435
49 TAHO, NS 61/1/2, 23 January 1829
50 Hobart Town Gazette, 11 February 1826; Colonial Times, 15 May 1829
51 TAHO, SC 41/1/1, p.98
52 TAHO, SC 41/1/1, p.98
53 LTO, Deed No.1/23 (Folio 183)
54 TAHO, LSD 1/1/11, p.451
55 TAHO, LSD 1/1/11, p.453
of the land. His next piece of good fortune came in August 1832, when he was issued with a ticket of leave.\textsuperscript{56} This enabled him to live independently—provided he presented himself periodically at the local police office—as well as to work for his own benefit, and buy and sell land.\textsuperscript{57} A complaint was made against him in February 1833 for striking one John STONE, but this was withdrawn and, with no other offences recorded against him, Robert was granted a conditional pardon in August 1833.\textsuperscript{58}

There had been one particularly significant development while Robert was under sentence. His former employer, T C Simpson, had died in October 1832,\textsuperscript{59} and the latter’s executors had decided Newham Park would be offered for lease by public auction. The ‘beautiful Estate’, which had grown to 5,600 acres by this time, was said to be ‘entirely fenced and subdivided’, with a ‘two-story House and every other requisite building for a first rate establishment’. Other records indicate the main residence consisted of nine rooms,\textsuperscript{60} and it went under the auctioneer’s hammer in February 1833,\textsuperscript{61} with some 6000 sheep, 24 horses and 50 bullocks, various ‘Carts, Ploughs, Harrows, and other agricultural implements’, and the farm’s crops being offered for sale at the same time.

A subsequent newspaper article stated the stock had ‘fetched extremely good prices’,\textsuperscript{62} with horses selling for ‘between £26 and £28’, bullocks selling for ‘twelve guineas a pair’, other cattle for £2 8s a head, and sheep averaging 9s 3d each. Although the report did not mention who had been the successful bidder for the lease, it seems almost certain that it was Robert, as he gave his address as Newham Park in January 1834 when he offered a £30 reward for information leading to the conviction of those responsible for the theft of two of his bullocks.\textsuperscript{63}

The ‘beautiful Estate’ of Newham Park remained Robert’s residence over the next few years as he rebuilt his life. In February 1835 he advertised for ‘a man and his wife; the man as ploughman, he must be accustomed to drive horses; and his wife to make herself useful in the house’.\textsuperscript{64} With some irony, Robert also indicated that he would prefer to hire a man who had come ‘free to the Colony’, suggesting that he had not developed any particular sympathy for his fellow convicts during his time within the system. It is interesting to note, however, that he later employed large numbers of such men,\textsuperscript{65} with three assigned to work for him at about the same time he was advertising for the married couple.\textsuperscript{66}

Robert also disposed of his unsatisfactory 150-acre location at this time. George Alston had remained keen to have it, and Robert finally sold it to him for £75.\textsuperscript{67}

\begin{footnotes}
\item[56] Hobart Town Gazette, 24 August 1832
\item[57] W D Forsyth, ‘Governor Arthur’s Convict System, Van Diemen’s Land, 1824–1836’, p.76–83
\item[58] TAHO, CON 23/13, No.435
\item[59] Launceston Advertiser, 1 November 1832.
\item[60] Simpson had remarried after Catherine’s death in 1829. His second wife, Margaret Abbott, outlived him, and later married George Lord Taylor, who was Catherine’s son by her first husband.
\item[61] TAHO, CSO 1/1/187/4491, p.167
\item[62] Launceston Advertiser, 28 February 1833
\item[63] Hobart Town Courier, 17 January 1834
\item[64] Hobart Town Courier, 20 February 1835
\item[65] TAHO, CEN 1/177, pp.103–104; CEN 1/1/48, pp.105–108
\item[66] Hobart Town Gazette, 19 February 1835
\item[67] LTO, Deed No.1/4803. This document makes it clear the land in question was the same lot which had been mentioned by
\end{footnotes}
This sale was the first of many transactions Robert was involved in during the next few years. He bought land in a number of locations, including Perth, but his most significant purchase consisted of two adjoining 500-acre lots on the south-western bank of the Macquarie River, directly opposite Lincoln Grange. This land had been located to George Lord Taylor and his brother James Owen Taylor, who were T C Simpson’s stepsons. Robert had leased their land as early as March 1835, with George Taylor subsequently using his property as security when he borrowed £550 from Robert in April 1836. Both lots were finally sold to Robert, who paid £1000 to complete the transfer, in March 1837, with Taylor’s mortgage discharged as part of the deal.

The two allotments acquired by Robert appear to have been among the many early grants and locations that were potentially invalid due to some technical flaws in their original documentation, and in September 1838 he applied to the Caveat Board, which had been created in 1832 to resolve such problems, to have his ownership of the land confirmed by the issue of a new grant. The relevant document was ready by April 1839, with the new title proclaimed and registered by the following August.

In what was evidently a reference to his background in Durham, Robert gave the name Darlington Park to his 1000-acre property. He had, however, acquired something even more significant than land during this period: a wife. His bride, who was some 27 to 28 years younger than her husband, was Elizabeth Jane SCHUTTE (1820–78), with the couple’s wedding taking place in Launceston on 17 January 1836.

The lack of fluency in Robert’s signature in the original record of this event and also some later land transfers suggests that his handwriting skills were underdeveloped, possibly due to a lack of formal education. This is perhaps not surprising, given that he was a labourer’s son, and the deficiency probably explains the otherwise puzzling fact that correspondence nominally produced by him over many years is written in a number of different styles and concluded with as many different signatures (some examples can be seen next page). These letters were clearly penned and signed for him by other people, a fact which almost certainly contributed to the inconsistency in the spelling of his surname. This variability was officially noted when he

Alston in 1831, and confirms that, despite the different spelling of their surnames, the Robert Thirkell who occupied Newham Park in 1835 was the same man who had earlier served in a chain gang.

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77 TAHO, RD 1/7/47
78 TAHO, CEN 1/1/48, pp.107–108
79 Aycliffe Parish Register, Durham County Record Office; International Genealogical Index (extracted record)
80 Tasmanian Marriage No.3366, 1836
81 TAHO, NS 748/1/4
82 LTO, General Law Deeds, No.3/9328, No.5/1173, No.5/6690
83 TAHO, LSD 1/1/11, pp.442–443, 449; LSD 1/1/27, pp.244–248; CSO 24/1/4596/8165, p.165
84 TAHO, LSD 1/1/11, p 443, 449; LSD 1/1/27, pp.247–248
sold his 150-acre lot, with the transfer document recording that the original location to Robert had been made, ‘by mistake’, under the surname ‘Thirthill’, rather than ‘Thirkell’. The men who administered the justice system also seem to have had trouble with Robert’s surname, which was recorded as ‘Thirkell’ in court documents, ‘Threkeld’ in the conduct register, and ‘Thirkill’ when the issue of his ticket of leave was announced. 

Robert’s signature from 1836 (top) and some of the others that appear in his correspondence in the period from 1828 to 1856 (Tasmanian Archives and Heritage Office)

[Robert and Elizabeth Thirkell’s story will be continued in Part 3 of this article]

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Further to Betty Jones’ article ‘Moving On: Early Tasmanian Government Teacher Transfers’, my grandfather Ernest HAWKE was a teacher at both Rosevalle and Selbourne (northwest of Launceston) as ‘half time schools’ from March 1901.

He first wrote to the department seeking transfer in September 1903. It took another letter in January 1905 and in March a telegram to the department, followed by an explanatory letter the next month, before the department considered his request.

His reason for the move was that having a horse and trap, the upkeep of horse with a wife and child was a big tax on his salary, but without it he was dependent on the neighbours—and when they did do a favour and shopped for his family, my grandfather was expected to pay carriage, and he considered that cost nearly as much as the article itself.

He finally received his move to Jericho in July 1905 but within a year resigned and then moved to New Zealand.

Maree Ring

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

New address
Members 6719 and 6720
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1 Broteeca Close
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Previously
PO Box 151
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85 LTO, Deed No.1/4803
86 TAHO, SC 41/1/1, p.98
87 TAHO, CON 31/1/42, No.435
88 Hobart Town Gazette, 24 August 1832
EARLY nineteenth century teachers in Tasmanian government schools came from diverse backgrounds, their earlier forms of employment often being quite disparate. The usual butcher, baker and candle-stick maker previous tradespeople were well represented in the original lists of teachers, along with those who had been domestic helpers, rural workers, church people and clerks. A few individuals, however, stood out as having been known for their skills and talents in other occupations and, initially, one might wonder why such people would have taken the decision to change their direction to teaching.

A study of their biographical details often reveals that a recurring theme for the change was the need of a steady income in times of difficulty. Teachers were paid only very modest wages, but the source of money from the government was, at least, regular and reliable. This article highlights two teachers with out-of-the ordinary occupations prior to, and after leaving teaching. They were both talented musically.

Mrs Marian Maria CHESTER

Marian Maria CRAWFORD married William Chester on 16 March 1830 in London, England. It seems that Mrs Chester was a vocalist with theatre experience in England before she came to Australia in about 1835. The newspapers of 1835–36 gave details of concerts in which she was featured both in Hobart and Sydney. In July 1835, she was described as ‘from the theatres of Drury Lane and Covent Gardens in London’. Her singing career confirmed, Mrs Chester, accompanied by her husband, left Australia for a performance tour of India, starting in Calcutta in October 1836.

The life style, with its ups and downs of success, was sustained for a number of years in that country, until the family was involved in a terrible hotel fire in 1842. Apparently, during the confusion of the night concerned, Mrs Chester wrongly believed that her son had perished, not realising that a servant had been the infant’s saviour. Mrs Chester became traumatised at the thought of fire for some time as a result, not being able even, to tolerate the flicker of a burning candle. It took many months for her to regain her sense of reason, such that her singing career ended for a number of years.

1 Colonial Times, 28 July 1835
2 The Maitland Mercury, 24 November 1859
By May 1842, Mr and Mrs Chester had returned to Van Diemen’s Land, and opted for a life away from the public eye by taking up teaching. The job provided the pair with a modest but steady income. Mr Chester was also Postmaster at Carlton from 1842 to 1844. Life started to regain some rhythm for them, and the couple had a further two children there—Hermon Granado Chester in 1843 (died the same year), followed by Ernest Stevens Chester in 1844.

Eventually, Mrs Chester regained her interest in giving public performances. It was reported in April 1848 that singing had been revived in Bothwell since Mrs Chester had become the much loved schoolmistress there. Many private parties were held for the purpose of hearing her sing. Church music in the town also benefited from Mrs Chester’s attention, with the choir of the Presbyterian congregation being organised, taught and conducted by her.

Unusually, Mrs Chester was granted leave of absence by the Board of Education for a week in May 1848 to visit Hobart to give a public concert. By that time it was noted the family had financial difficulties, described in the Board’s records as ‘harassed and humbled by pecuniary misfortunes’.

A substantial advertisement in the Colonial Times on 23 May 1848, highlighted Mrs Chester’s third concert to be held at the Hall of the Mechanics’ Institute, Hobart, and outlined the program in which she was to present six songs. She was assisted by other musicians: Miss DULY, Herr IMBERG, Mr YOUNG, Mr H HOWSON, and several Amateurs. By June 1848 the couple had resigned from teaching and left the Colony. In October 1848, Mrs Chester was reported as giving concerts in Melbourne, and in 1849–50 she was doing the same in New South Wales.

In 1859, following the death of her husband at Newcastle, New South Wales, Mrs Chester suffered an attack of paralysis, which entirely incapacitated her from further professional engagement. A benefit musical evening was held for her in the hope of raising sufficient money to allow her to return to friends in England. Mrs Chester set sail for London in December 1859.

Julius Samuel IMBERG

Mr Imberg secured employment with the Board of Education for a period of about

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3 The Courier, 8 April 1848
4 Archives Office of Tasmania: CB3/2
5 Sydney Morning Herald, 11 October 1848
6 See The Maitland Mercury, 29 June 1850, for example
7 The Maitland Mercury, 24 November 1859
8 Sydney Morning Herald, 13 December 1859
twelve months in the early 1850s. He was Head Teacher at Avoca Public School from August 1851 to April 1852, immediately followed by a similar role at Ross up to August 1852. His wife, Janet Smith (née GRAHAM) Imberg, held the position of Female Assistant and worked alongside him in both schools.

J S Imberg was recognized as a pianist of some acclaim, first noted in the newspapers of Van Diemen’s Land as giving concerts in Hobart in 1846, when he was described as ‘recently from Sydney’, and referred to as ‘Monsieur’. In January 1848, ‘Herr’ Imberg placed advertisements stating he was a Professor of Music who was planning to stay in Hobart for some time, and offering tuition in pianoforte and singing. He had been a pupil of Thalberg and Moscheles, and a member of the Conservatoire Royale at Paris.9

In January 1848, Herr Imberg gave a concert at the Town Hall, at which Lady DENISON and party were present. He married Janet (also known as Jennett) Smith Graham on 2 September 1848 at Hobart, and the couple had a daughter, Emma Jennett Imberg, born 29 June 1850, Hobart (who married William Henry LOCK in 1869 at Collingwood, Victoria). Herr Imberg was declared insolvent in 1849.10

In 1850 he was living at Elizabeth Street Hobart and had in his employ, from 1 May that year, an Irish convict, Mary Ann MURPHY, who was contracted for a period of twelve months at £7 per annum. (Over the years Herr Imberg employed three other Irish female convicts who had all, like Mary Ann, arrived on the Australasia.)11

The year for publishing his compositions was 1851. In February, it was announced a musical production, known as the ‘Tasmanian Quadrilles’, composed by Herr Imberg, and dedicated to Lady Denison, had been published locally as a lithograph ‘in style superior’.12 (It was republished in 1855). In July 1851 he released a new Polka, ‘Welcome to the Spring’, and dedicated it to the ladies of Tasmania.13 The publications, however, did not make him his fortune.

Herr Imberg’s fairly brief interlude as a teacher with the Board of Education started when, in July 1851, he responded to an advertisement which sought a capable Master and Mistress for a school at Avoca connected with the Church of England, but receiving government aid. In addition to the provision of a house, a combined salary of £100 was guaranteed.14 Given the Imberg’s financial situation, the deal must have been appealing in that it would provide them with a modest but steady income. Based on evidence of their previous and later lifestyle, however, it was unlikely such a situation would suit their tastes or needs long term. Accommodation provided for teachers in those times tended to be very basic and lacking in space and comfort. Indeed, there would have been little room for them to house their Irish servant.

A number of changes of address in and around Launceston followed over the next few years. By September 1852, after he left the employ of the Board, Herr Imberg was living at Cameron Street in

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9 The Courier, 8 January 1848, for example
10 The Courier, 1 September 1849
11 Cowley, T M, A Drift of Derwent Ducks, Research Tasmania, 2005, p.117
12 The Courier, 1 February 1851
13 Colonial Times, 29 July 1851
14 The Examiner, 12 July 1851
Launceston, again advertising his services as a teacher of pianoforte and singing. In December 1852, Mr and Mrs Imberg were noted as living at Bona Vista House in Lytton Street, Launceston. Added to Herr Imberg’s list of qualifications then was that he was also an Honorary Member of the Philharmonic Society of Berlin. At the beginning of 1854 he indicated to the public his intention to take music classes at Evandale. In October 1854, Herr Imberg advertised the sale of his rosewood grand pianoforte, as well as announcing to the public he was embarking on a new venture, a circulating musical library. He stated that the business was to commence in Brisbane Street, Launceston in January 1855, and invited subscribers to join.

It can be assumed all did not go to plan. A hint was given in April 1855 when Mrs Imberg, who had been conducting a private school for young ladies since 1853, publicly announced that her school was continuing, and rumours to the contrary were not correct. In June 1856 it was reported the Imberg family, by then residents of Upper Elizabeth Street in Launceston, were leaving the Colony. A very detailed inventory of household and personal items, listed room by room, was advertised to be auctioned prior to their removal. The three members of the family then set sail for Melbourne to make yet another fresh start.

Herr Imberg lost not a moment in advertising himself again as a teacher of pianoforte and singing, this time from his residence at 130 Victoria Parade, Melbourne. By June 1857 he was operating Imberg’s Musical Library in Collins Street. During that year he became a naturalised Australian. In January 1858, Mrs Imberg’s freehold cottage and land in Richmond, Victoria was placed on the market. A few months later, Herr Imberg was before the Insolvent Court in Melbourne, where he was described as of that city, professor of music, and music seller.

By August 1858, Herr and Mrs Imberg were advertising themselves jointly as teachers in a school for young ladies at 196 Victoria Parade, Melbourne, with room for a few boarders. In November 1860 Herr Imberg had relocated not too far away to 7 Gore Street where he was happy to receive pupils or attend at private residences. Julius Samuel Imberg died in Melbourne in February 1863, survived by his wife and daughter.

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15 The Examiner, 19 March 1853
16 The Mercury, 28 October 1854
17 The Examiner, April 1855
18 The Examiner, 19 June 1856
19 The Argus, 14 January 1858
20 The Argus, 19 April 1858
21 The Argus, 3 September 1858
22 The Argus, 16 February 1863
DISCOVERING MY IRISH ANCESTORS
Part One
Pat Coy (Member No. 413)

FAMILY legend, although vague and sketchy, gave me the starting point. We always knew that the FINNs were Irish. There was no doubting that. I remember, as a child, being aware of the friendly family feuds at family gatherings between the Irish and the Scottish sides of my family. My mother’s side were all Scottish and my father’s side Irish. This overflowed to my aunts and uncles and cousins also as three Finn siblings married three ELPHINSTONES; two of them siblings and one a first cousin. So the Scottish versus the Irish heritage became a long-standing source of friendly rivalry often acted out in the telling of stories or the singing of Irish and Scottish songs around the piano at Auntie Vera’s. The Irish side usually won out on this score as they had the better singing voices. The Scottish, however, reciprocated by claiming that they were related to royalty! But getting back to family legend let me relate what my father, Thomas Finn, and two of his sisters, Vera and Doris Elphinstone, the three youngest of the Finn family, could recall about their Finn ancestors.

Their grandfather Finn [Christian name unknown] came out from Ireland and worked as a convict warder at Port Arthur. He was later given a grant of land in the Huon and was drowned in the Huon River [date unknown]. He had a wife [name unknown] and they had some children including their father, also named Thomas, and Uncle Luke and Uncle Frank and a sister [name unknown]. After the drowning his widow remarried and went to New Zealand taking Frank with her. Thomas and Luke stayed in Tasmania. They did not know what happened to the sister. Auntie Vera said that she thought that one sister was a Mrs. KING. The name HOBBS came into it somewhere, also. Frank Finn is supposed to have brought a race horse back from New Zealand to race in the Melbourne Cup [date unknown]. This was not a lot of information to go on but there were a few clues and I intended to make the most of them. My inexperience as a researcher in the early stages was also a handicap and I often got onto the wrong track and wasted a lot of time and money going up blind alleys. The order in which I relate the information I found is not necessarily the order in which I found it. However I recorded every scrap of information as I found it in the hope that eventually everything would fit together. Some of the family legend is vague and some of it is yet to be proven.

There were about eight male Finn free arrivals to Tasmania between 1833 and 1867, and numerous Finn convicts. So where do I start? Start with yourself, is the rule of thumb, and work backwards through the birth, marriage and death records. I tried to do this but soon became bogged down when some of these records could not be found.

The first useful pieces of information I found were the birth and baptism records of three Finn children in the Franklin Parish of the Catholic Church. Francis Finn was baptised on 19 June 1862, his parents being Luke Finn and Catherine Finn (née MALONEY), of Glaziers Bay. Ellen Finn was baptised on 29 July 1860 and Luke Finn was born on 29 May 1852.
1858. There was no birth record for a Thomas or any other children to these same parents. However this information gave me the father’s and mother’s names. Luke was listed as a Pensioner at the birth of his son Luke and as a Farmer at the births of Ellen and Francis. Next I looked up the Land Grant Records and found on 25 January 1859 Luke Finn had been granted 10 acres in the Parish of Bedford, County of Buckingham, near Agnes Rivulet. Why had he been granted land? Could it have been anything to do with his being a pensioner? Why was he entitled to a pension in the first place? I had to wait for quite a while to find out.

Having established the fact it was Luke Finn I was looking for I decided to go to the Shipping Records. I found a Luke Finn and Mrs Finn among the five adult passengers and three male children under 14 arriving steerage on the ship Emma Prescott from Melbourne to Hobart on the 16 February 1855. The ship had a crew of ten and brought general cargo. The ship’s master was James STANTON. So the Finns arrived from Melbourne in 1855, not Ireland. I searched Victorian Shipping Arrivals pre March 1855 to no avail. Perhaps they came steerage all the way and were not listed by name?

My next break-through came when, while browsing through the indexes of the Colonial Secretary’s Department. I came across a reference to L Finn’s Pension being stopped while he was a patient in the hospital. A memo dated 24 September 1855 from the Colonial Secretary’s Office to the Internal Revenue Department and the Staff Officer of Pensions and the Auditor states:

Luke Finn, a pensioner in the receipt of 9 pence a day, having been admitted into hospital, the Staff Officer of Pensions has been requested to pay into the Internal Revenue Office the amount of pension accruing to him whilst a burden upon the Colony.

This memo was quickly followed by a petition to Major R RUSSELL, dated 28 September 1855, from Catherine Finn which reads as follows:

The Humble petition of Mrs. Catherine Finn Herewith

That your petitioner Mrs. Catherine Finn is the wife of Luke Finn, pensioner from the East India Company, and that she is reduced to the lowest state by having no means of supporting herself and three children, her husband a patient in the Colonial Hospital, for which reason his pension will be stopped [which is 9 pence per day]. I hope Dear Sir you will use your influence in my favour with His Excellency The Governor, as at present she is much in need of that support and therefore Humbly prays to your Honour for that recommendation.

Your ever grateful
Catherine Finn

The petition was endorsed and a footnote added stating:

She had pressed her case with much urgency and he believed it to be one of great distress. Under these circumstances he recommends the petition for the

1 RGD Birth Records for Franklin; Finn, Francis - 1862 No. 1287 125, Finn, Ellen - 1860 No.147 1839, Finn, Luke - 1858 No.509 33–36
2 Land Grants 1858 Valuation Rolls for Southern Tasmania, compiled by Dr Trudy Cowley, Ref. Fr-752
3 Shipping Records - Emma Prescott from Melbourne 26 February 1855 Ref. MB 2/39/18 P
4 Colonial Secretary’s Dept CSD 1/11/183
5 Petition by Catherine Finn to Major R Russell dated 28 September 1855
favourable consideration of His Excellency The Governor.

On 1 October 1855 a memo was sent to the Staff Officer of Pensioners and the Auditor stating that:

The Governor having acceded to the prayer of a petition of Catherine Finn that no stoppage of her husband’s pension may take place whilst in hospital, the Memo No. 183 of the 24th Ultimo is hereby cancelled.

Hospital records of the time do not disclose why Luke Finn was in hospital, nor for how long. But Catherine won her petition to keep his pension from being used to pay for his hospitalisation and was thus able to support her family.

Having found no further births in the Tasmanian records, apart from the three children born at Glaziers Bay in the Huon and armed with the additional knowledge they had three children before September 1855, I decided it might be worthwhile taking a look at the Victorian records prior to February 1855, when they arrived in Tasmania. My search was rewarded when I found the death record of James Finn, died 27 January 1855 at Pentridge, Melbourne, aged 1 year, the son of Luke Finn, Warder at Stockdale, and Catherine Finn, formerly Maloney. The record also stated James was born at Pentridge, but no actual birth record was found. No other births were found in Victoria. So the Finns had been at Pentridge for at least a year. I wonder if their decision to return to Tasmania was a result of the baby’s death or had they planned to come anyway. They sailed from Melbourne on 13 February, about two weeks after the baby, James, died.

It is not certain when the Finns went to the Huon, but it was sometime between Luke’s hospitalisation in October 1855 and the birth of their son, Luke, in May 1858. It is very likely their son, Thomas, was born before they went to the Huon because his baptism records were not with the Franklin Catholic records, and his birth record could not be found, yet it is believed he was born in Tasmania.

In July 1862 tragedy struck the Finn family again when Luke was accidentally drowned in the Huon River between Shipwrights Point and Glaziers Bay with three others in a boating accident. The accident was reported in the Mercury on 30 July 1862. Apparently two of the bodies, those of John DUNCAN and Luke Finn, were not recovered as there were inquests into the deaths of only two of the victims, James CAIRNS and James MCCORMACK. Luke Finn’s death was never registered nor was there an inquest. At this sad time Catherine was left with a two week old baby and five or six other children to support as best she could. It is little wonder that twelve months later we find her back in Hobart applying for admission for three of her children into the Queen’s Orphan School. The application form names Thomas Finn, aged 7, Luke Finn, aged 6 and Ellen Finn, aged 3, and gives the following information:

- Religion – Catholic
- Name of father – Luke Finn
- Residence – was drowned nearly 12 months ago at the Huon
- Ship to the Colony & date of arrival – Blenheim 1837

...
Whether Free or Bond – Free.  Pensioner in charge of Prisoners
Maiden name of mother – Catherine Maloney
Residence – Goulburn St. Hobart, next to St. Patrick’s
Religion – Catholic
Ship to Colony – Blenheim with husband
Whether Free or Bond – Free
How employed – Washing
Report to the Inspector of Police for enquiry and consideration of the Court.
The mother of these children is a steady, respectable woman. Nearly 12 months since her husband was accidentally drowned leaving his widow with 7 children the youngest of whom was then only 2 weeks old. The three eldest are in service. Application is made for the admission of 3 into the Queen’s Orphan Asylum. The father was a pensioner and formerly had an allotment of ground which, I am informed, has long since been sold by the deceased. The family have only been 3 weeks from Glaziers Bay, their late residence, having been subsisting upon what little effects were left by the father. No Benevolent Aid has been given them and the mother finds it now impossible to provide for the whole of her children. [sic]

9 July 1863

The three children were duly admitted to the Queen’s Orphan School and Catherine kept the 11 month old baby, Francis, and no doubt, continued to support herself and him by taking in washing.

I now had a new piece of information. The family had arrived in the colony on the Blenheim in 1837. Too long ago, surely! I checked the records of the Blenheim 1 which departed Woolwich, 15 March 1837 and arrived on 10 July 1837, but found no clues. At about this stage I decided to recheck the birth records again, this time pre 1855, for it seemed possible the Finns may have come to Van Diemen’s Land before they arrived on the Emma Prescott in 1855. Sure enough, in the Index to Births in the District of Hobart 1851, almost obliterated by a crease in the paper, was the birth of a female child to Luke Fenn and Catherine Fenn, formerly Mulloney.9 The child was born at sea on the 24 September 1851 on the convict ship the Blenheim 2 where the father was listed as a Pensioner. The Blenheim 2 sailed from Cork, Ireland, on 29 July 1851, arriving in Hobart on 31 October, 94 days later with 308 male prisoners. Included in the crew were a number of Pensioners who acted as convict warders. So Luke Finn brought his wife and family half way across the world to Tasmania on a convict ship, working his passage as a convict warden. He later went to Melbourne and worked as a warden at Pentridge before returning to Hobart after the death of James.

Another line of investigation I had to pursue was the fact that Luke Finn had been with the East India Company. This fact no doubt accounted for his receiving a pension. I read extensively the East India Company records available on micro film but found no references that were helpful. So I decided to have a researcher in England look up some records at the India Office Library. The search was very fruitful as she found the following amongst information on men who left the Company’s service with a pension and returned to the United Kingdom.10

Luke FYNN Private Bombay Army
15 yrs. 9 mths.  Service
Age : 34 yrs.  Height: 5 ft. 7 ins.  Complexion: swarthy

9 RGD Births Tasmania 24 September 1851.  Female child to Luke Fenn & Catherine Fenn formerly Mulloney
10 East India Co. Records L/Mil/10/301
Visage: Long Eyes: Hazel Hair : dark brown
Trade: Labourer Character: Good
Native of Co. Roscommon Enlisted: Athlone
Arrived home on Samuel Buddington 21 September 1842
1 pound 3 shillings marching money
Reason for discharge : Chronic Rheumatism

This told me what I really wanted to know; his age and where he came from. I remembered some information I had found on the IGI some time previously which reads as follows:

FIN, Lucam
Catherinam Mullony Married 12 November 1842
Roscommon, Killtomb & Camma

I subsequently found the baptism of Thomas Finn in the St Joseph’s Baptism Records, Hobart. He was born on 10 January 1856, after the family returned from Melbourne, and before they went to the Huon. There were at least three other children of Luke and Catherine born in Ireland. Margaret, aged four and a half in July 1851, being confined to bed suffering from measles, after the Blenheim 2 sailed from Cork.

In the IGI for Roscommon, Ireland, were the following:

FIN, James - Christened 22 December 1843
FINN, Mariam - Christened 6 November
1844
Parents - Luke Finn & Catherine Maloney

There is no record of either of the latter two children having accompanied the Finns when they sailed on the Blenheim 2 in 1851, nor of their existence in Tasmania. The fact they named another son James in 1854 seems to indicate that the first James may have died, possibly in Ireland. Mariam, who may have been known as Mary, could have accompanied her parents when they sailed from Ireland, but no record has been found. Another likely child of Luke and Catherine was John Finn. On 9 May 1865 there was the death of a John Finn, aged 18, in the General Hospital, Hobart. In Deaths at the General Hospital Jan. 1864 – June 1884, compiled by Joyce Purscher, I found the following entry:


Apart from the discrepancy in the date of arrival on the records John could well have been another child of Luke and Catherine. It appears that Luke and Catherine had at least nine or ten children before he was drowned in the Huon River when Francis, the youngest, was two weeks old. Luke was born in Ireland c.1808 and died in July 1862 at the age of 54, in Tasmania, leaving a widow and young family. There are no words of comfort on his tomb

No man wrote his epitaph in stone
His earthly deeds and trials are long forgotten
His resting place his watery catacomb.

11 IGI Roscommon Ireland Marriages 1842 M 701851 0318
12 AJCP Surgeon’s Journal for Blenheim 2 arrived Hobart 1851
13 IGI Roscommon Ireland Christenings 1843 & 1844, Fin James C701850 1796, Finn Mariam C701851 2188
14 RGD Death Records 35/8 No.4998

TASMANIAN ANCESTRY March 2011 217
SMALLPOX VACCINATION ON THE CONVICT TRANSPORTS

Anne McMahon (Member No.6463)

SMALLPOX (variola) was a greatly feared viral infection during the nineteenth century. As an epidemic it seemed to be dreaded more than cholera although there were several strains of the disease and not all were malignant. Considerable numbers of convicts arrived in the colony with pox-pitted faces. Two common preventive measures were used on the convict transports. The first was vaccination which inserted lymph from cowpox pustules into the arm of the child or adult. Re-vaccination was necessary after ten years. The second procedure was variolation or arm-to-arm inoculation using matter from the pocks of the smallpox patient. If it worked it produced a mild bout of smallpox. The variola could then be inserted in the arm of another subject.

Although inoculation gave lasting immunity from smallpox it was a risky practice. Firstly the person to be inoculated had to be free from eczema or other skin problems as well as having an uncompromised immune system. Secondly the patient was highly infectious during the course of the disease (about three weeks). For this period, there was a twenty-five percent chance of infecting others either through inhalation or touch. Isolation was therefore necessary but it was not really feasible on board the sailing ships.

As early as 1806 the Swiss vaccinator Dr Jean de CARRO warned that ‘inoculation should be shunned like goods from a plague-ridden country’, but Britain was slow to act. The procedure was not banned until the Vaccination Act of 1840 by which time five children were dying each day from smallpox in London.

In Ireland during the 1830s inoculators, known as quacks, travelled about the country inoculating people with smallpox when cowpox was not readily available. The quacks were said to have done a great deal of mischief spreading infection and causing blindness. Vaccination was not legislated in Ireland until 1841 when its use was permissive rather than mandatory. Here it was one of the duties of the medical officers at the workhouses. The Boards of Guardians, however, saw vaccination as an additional expense on already over-stretched budgets. The result from both countries was that hundreds of children travelled on the convict voyages without having been vaccinated while many were subject to the risky practice of inoculation.

The vaccine lymph for use on the convict voyages was issued by the British Admiralty at Deptford from where the transports departed. It was stored in dried form on glass slides sealed with paraffin.
wax or on ivory or bone points placed in corked bottles. The ‘shelf’ life of the lymph was approximately six weeks as refrigeration was not available. To administer the fluid it was moistened by vapour then inserted in the punctured arm of the healthy subject. When the pustules rose it could be taken by lancet to the arm of another subject. Jabez HOGG in his *Domestic Medical Guide* (1856) reported that the incision to receive the lymph ‘has been successfully performed with a pen knife, a razor or a needle’.5

Although vaccination was tried by the surgeons on the majority of the transports to Van Diemen’s Land between 1840 and 1853, in most cases it failed. On some voyages, e.g. the *Emily* (1844) the lymph was damaged by spillage in the medicine chest. On others such as the *Gilbert Henderson* (1839–1840) the surgeon, Sir John HAMMETT, reported:

On opening the parcel containing the vaccine virus I found the glasses between which it was placed not properly closed or sealed.

On other voyages it had lost its efficacy by exposure to heat in the tropics. On most passages though it was rendered useless by long keeping.

One successful vaccination was of eighteen children on board the *Tasmania* (1845) who were vaccinated in Ireland four days previous to embarkation. The lymph was taken by the surgeon on bone points during the voyage and handed in to the colonial Hospital. In a second case a three year old boy, Patrick FARRELL, had been sent from Rathkeale Workhouse at County Limerick to join his mother at Grangegorman Prison in Dublin prior to their embarkation on the *Lord Auckland* (1848–1849).6 A few days after sailing Patrick was found to be suffering from smallpox. He was isolated and survived the disease. Several children who were sleeping in adjacent berths were vaccinated with the cowpox lymph from Deptford during the incubation of Patrick’s disease. Later sixteen children received the variola from his pustules during the voyage. This was the risky procedure of variolation and their isolation was necessary. In any case fresh lymph was passed to the medical officer at Hobart Town on arrival. Farrell’s smallpox was the only recorded case on the Irish convict transports between 1840 and the end of transportation in 1853.

Due to the large number of shipping arrivals at Hobart Town it became a distribution centre for the vaccine lymph. The *Launceston Examiner*, 10 May 1848, reported that the Sydney Health Officer had obtained lymph from Van Diemen’s Land. Only one of the four bone points which he received was effective, but from the pustules raised on the subjects he was able to distribute 250 charges to applicants. He forwarded lymph to New Zealand, Tahiti, the Society and Friendly Islands and Adelaide.

Within Van Diemen’s Land the method adopted for distribution of the lymph was for the Medical Department to advertise its availability as shown in the following notice.

**MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.**

1st December, 1850.

NOTICE. – Medical Practitioners and families residing in any part of Van Diemen’s Land will be supplied, per post,

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6 AJCP PRO 3196 Gilbert Henderson 1839–1840
7 AJCP PRO 3211 Tasmania 1845
8 AJCP PRO Lord Auckland 1848–1849
with fresh Vaccine Lymph on application by letter addressed “On Public Service only” to the Principal Medical Officer, Hobart Town. The words “for Vaccine Lymph,” and the name of the writer, to be inscribed on the corner of the address.


The greatest risk to Van Diemen’s Land from smallpox before 1850 was the arrival of the migrant ship Bussorah Merchant on 12 December 1837. This vessel had sailed from Cork with 235 emigrants. Smallpox broke out during the voyage and fifty-eight of the accompanying children died together with four adults. On arrival the ship was quarantined at North West Bay and the disease did not spread.

Due to the uncontrolled distribution and use of the lymph it was not surprising that the medical practitioner Dr E S HALL warned in 1858:

Should [smallpox] get a footing amongst us we may expect it to be extensively fatal, for vaccination has been grievously neglected.

In fact an outbreak of smallpox did occur in Tasmania eventually. This was at Launceston in 1887. The Launceston Examiner had warned in May 1887 that less than one third of the children born in Tasmania had been vaccinated. Their concern was well founded as an outbreak of smallpox commenced on 24 September which resulted in eleven deaths.

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9 Hobart Town Gazette, 7 January 1851
10 CSO 5/90/2004, p.86, AOT
12 Launceston Examiner, 4 May 1887
13 Launceston Examiner, 24–26 September 1887
## NEW MEMBERS’ INTERESTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>PLACE/AREA</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>M’SHP NO.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BAKER Oliver</td>
<td>b Hobart ?, where? to whom?</td>
<td>1847+</td>
<td>7080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BARNETT Meso (?)</td>
<td>Bridport TAS AUS</td>
<td>1912–1971</td>
<td>7079</td>
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<tr>
<td>COHEN Isaac</td>
<td>b London ? ENGL/AUS</td>
<td>1826+</td>
<td>7084</td>
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<tr>
<td>COHEN Julia</td>
<td>b Ballarat VIC AUS then TAS AUS</td>
<td>1854–1933</td>
<td>7084</td>
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<tr>
<td>DOOLEY John Patrick</td>
<td>Forth TAS AUS</td>
<td>1862–1925</td>
<td>7077</td>
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<td>DOOLEY Michael</td>
<td>Forth TAS AUS</td>
<td>1862–1887</td>
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<td>DOOLEY William Ernest</td>
<td>Forth TAS AUS</td>
<td>1881–1960/1</td>
<td>7077</td>
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<td>GUILLAM Thomas</td>
<td>Launceston TAS AUS</td>
<td>1835</td>
<td>7076</td>
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<tr>
<td>HOWLETT Emma</td>
<td>b Launceston TAS AUS</td>
<td>1834+</td>
<td>7084</td>
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## NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members

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<td>ST LEONARDS</td>
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<td>LOWER MITCHAM</td>
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<td>HERRING Mrs Roslyn Mary</td>
<td>64 Wattlebury Road</td>
<td>gé<a href="mailto:na@charlot.net.au">na@charlot.net.au</a></td>
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HELP WANTED

FEARNLEY Mollie (Marian Jane) née MURPHY
Seeking memories, anecdotes or gossip about Mollie Fearnley née Murphy, of Hobart. Widowed in 1912, Mollie lived with her daughter Kathleen WILLIAMS, and grandson Max at 20 Bayley Street, Glebe, Hobart, from about 1924 to 1935. Previously she lived in North Hobart at Yardley Street, Upper Arthur Street, Argyle Street and Mary Street, probably supporting herself by child minding.


Mollie’s son, Frank Rowntree Fearnley, with his wife Helen, also lived in New Town. Mollie’s husband was John Thomas Fearnley, whose family were well known Hobart butchers.

Any information whatsoever, will be appreciated. Robert Emirali (Member No.3113), phone (03) 6247 1055 or email emcol2@iprimus.com.au

McDONALD
I have been frustratingly trying to trace my great great grandfather’s Tasmanian links but unsuccessfully to date.

My grandfather was Donald McDonald (1899–1964) born in Sydney.

My great grandfather, Donald McDonald (1876–1951) was born in Brisbane. According to my great grandfather’s birth certificate, his father, my great, great grandfather, was born in Tasmania circa 1848, and lists his occupation as a brickmaker. He married a Jane GARWELL in Sydney in 1867 and moved to Brisbane, where a number of children were born, then moved to Sydney where his remaining children were born.

Clearly the name Donald runs strong in the family, so I’m anticipating his father is also ‘Donald’, but I have not been able to discover anything about my great great grandfather, Donald McDonald’s birth, parents or family in Tasmania.

Any assistance or information anyone can provide would be greatly appreciated paul_barrett@hotmail.com

WHITTON FAMILY
An illustrated history of the WHITTON family, who were early settlers in the Channel district of Tasmania, has reached an advanced stage, with the aim of publication early in 2012.

Assistance from interested members of the extended family is now sought in locating additional photographs of any of the children of James WHEATON (Whitton) and Bridget LEWIS of Oyster Cove, from whom I descend through their son Arthur. These children (and their spouses) were Maria (married Robert POLLEY); James (married Frances Harriet PHILLIPS – widow); Francis Thomas (married Hannah Maria KNIGHT); William Henry (married Esther May LANGFORD); Arthur (married Emily Louise McGAU- GHAN); and Kate (married Henry Grantley GYNGELL).

I am especially eager to locate an image of James and/or his wife, Frances Phillips, as none have been located. Frances had a daughter, Alice, who married John William FARNELL. Both are buried at Kettering, and I am hopeful that a photo of either, even as part of a group, may have survived through the Farnell family.
HELP WANTED (cont.)

I have already contacted several members of the extended family and gratefully acknowledge their assistance. Related family surnames mentioned in the text are representative of many of the early Channel and Huon families.

Please contact me if you consider that you may have a photograph of interest, even if this is a group photograph: e.g. a wedding or other family gathering. All contacts will be acknowledged, and any image used will be specifically attributed.

Kevin C Whitton, PO Box 4160
Melbourne University VIC 3010
kevin.whitton@bigpond.com

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The Mercury

A NARROW ESCAPE.—Mr. Joshua Moore, well-known in the city in connection with the Derwent Livery Stables, and as a breeder of fancy fowls, met with an accident last evening, which might have resulted fatally but for prompt assistance given. Mr. Moore it appears was on the point of shipping a number of his birds to Sydney by the s.s. Flora, which left at a late hour last night, and whist in the act of stepping from the wharf to the steamer’s deck to give a few last parting instructions as to the welfare of his pets, he missed his footing and fell into the water between the vessel’s side and the pier. Hearing the splash, Mr. John Mason, the chief officer of the Flora rushed to the spot and without ado jumped down after Moore. He was quickly followed by a coloured man named Edward James, who got down by the battens on the piles in readiness to give assistance. The two succeeded in getting hold of Joshua, who, partially stunned and unable to swim, had drifted under the pier, and with the help of willing hands all three were soon on terra firma. P. C. Maddock, who witnessed the mishap, took Mr. Moore to the General Hospital where he was admitted, and by latest reports was satisfactorily recovering. It will be within the recollection of many that Mr. John Mason’s coolness and promptness at the wreck of the Tasman were favourably spoken of, and he has on two other occasions been instrumental in the saving of life. Had the weather been rough both rescuers and rescued would have been in jeopardy of losing their lives by being crushed against the piles. As the matter stands, it is another argument in favour of lighting the harbour by electric light.
BOOK REVIEW


This book, first published in 2009 and already into a second and expanded edition is a thoroughly readable and helpful volume for anyone thinking of writing their family history. It is an excellent book if you are just starting the process of researching your family, or if you have already amassed a vast quantity of factual information that you want to turn into an interesting and vibrant account.

Carol’s advice comes in short but pertinent chapters covering topics such as surnames, changing calendars, perspective and the narrative writing style to name but a few. She gives personal accounts of her work to illustrate her points, including the particular strategy she uses for writing up her results. While acknowledging that people have different styles, there is no getting away from her main message which is that a family history must be interesting to be successful. Hooking your readers into ‘your’ story by making it almost seem like a novel is one way to do this.

Carol has had extensive experience in the field of genealogy, having edited seven volumes of early NSW records, written two of her own family histories and more recently published two successful ‘popular histories’ of events that took place in the 1820s in Sydney. Illustrated with some delightful cartoons, the book is a practical and entertaining guide.

*Sally Rackham*

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**Burnie Branch**  
PO Box 748 Burnie 7320  
Ph 0427 354 103
THE GREENNOW SISTERS
Don Bradmore (Member No.6756)

Sarah and Ann Greennow were born in London. They came to Van Diemen’s Land, separately, as young adults.

They were actually half-sisters. Their father was John Greennow (born about 1760) who had married three times. Sarah (1797–1843) was a child of his second marriage, Ann (1809–1887) of his third. ¹

How Sarah arrived in VDL is a mystery. She was not a convict, and there is no record of her arrival as a free settler.

She first appears in the pages of history in December 1820 when Dr Edward Foord Bromley (1777–1836), a Royal Navy surgeon who had arrived at Hobart Town earlier that year to take up the post of Naval Officer, wrote to his friend John Piper (1773–1851) in Sydney to tell him that he had married. His bride, he announced, was Sarah Greennow, whom he described as his ‘housekeeper’. ²

(From this, it is thought possible Bromley had brought Sarah with him from England and her arrival was never officially noted.)

They were married by Special Licence at St Davids Church on 23 November 1820 in a ceremony conducted by the Rev. Robert Knopwood. Bromley was 43 and Sarah 23.³ The witnesses were the respected magistrate A W H Humphreys, who had arrived in the colony with Lt David Collins in 1803, and Walter Crammond, a wealthy businessman.⁴

Four months after the wedding, Sarah gave birth to a daughter, Sarah Jane Bromley. Three more children were to follow: Edward Samuel Foord Bromley (1823), Sidney Smith Josias Bromley (1825) and Charles Bullen Sussex Bromley (1828).⁵

For three years after their marriage, life was good for Bromley and Sarah. In Hobart, he had been granted a residence and a large allotment of land. As Naval Officer, he was responsible for the collection of duties on certain imports to the colony and was entitled to retain five percent of all monies collected. He had also been appointed treasurer of the

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¹ Sarah’s mother was Susannah Simpson, who John Greennow married at St Katherine Coleman, London, England, on 29 June 1794; Ann’s mother was Susanna Berrott, whom he married at St Giles Cripplegate on 15 November 1802.

² See Australian Dictionary of Biography, Vol.1, pp.155–156. Piper was Bromley’s counterpart in Sydney.

³ Bromley had been married previously and had at least two daughters by his first wife in England. Because his daughters joined him in VDL in 1822, it is believed his first wife may have died before his departure from England. His eldest daughter by his first wife was Elizabeth Ford Henrietta Bromley, who was baptised in VDL in 1828, at the age of 23. The certificate shows her mother’s name simply as ‘Susanna’.

⁴ Bromley had known Humphreys since 1803. Both were on HMS Calcutta; which had brought convicts, under Collins, first to Sullivan’s Bay at Port Phillip and, later, when that settlement was abandoned, to the Derwent.

⁵ Two of the children died in childhood, Sarah Jane in 1826 and Charles Bullen Sussex in 1842.
Police Fund at a salary of £60 per annum. In effect, this meant he was the Colonial Treasurer. Soon, he was also Foundation President of both the Agricultural Society and the Bank of Van Diemen’s Land, and a magistrate. His name appeared frequently in newspapers of the day. A popular figure, he had invested in property and was on the way to becoming a wealthy man.

But suddenly things went terribly wrong! In May 1824, Colonel George ARTHUR was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Van Diemen’s Land and had soon begun to look closely at the way financial arrangements were being handled. In September of that year, he discovered a huge discrepancy in the treasury accounts. He suspended Bromley from office immediately, charging him with the embezzlement of over £5,000—a huge sum in those days.

A subsequent Commission of Enquiry established the deficiency was, in fact, greater than £8,000! In the Supreme Court trial of the case brought against Bromley in April 1825, this was reduced to £7,096. Evidence presented at the trial seemed to clear Bromley himself of the theft. The court found that, in all probability, it was Bartholomew BROUGHTON, his convict clerk, who actually misappropriated the money. But, by his own admission, Bromley had been guilty of gross laxity, negligence and inefficiency in safeguarding the treasury coffers.

In the months which followed, all of Bromley’s assets were seized, and much of his property sold off to recoup the treasury losses. But even then his liability exceeded £4,000. For the next three years, he begged to be allowed to return to England to clear his name and to find money to support his wife and children, but every request was refused. Finally, in 1829, he was given permission to leave, subject to his entering into a bond requiring him to continue to repay what he owed.

His penniless wife, Sarah, was allowed to stay on at ‘Montford’, near Hamilton, one of his former properties. There, she struggled to provide for the children, at one stage even applying to have them taken into the Orphan School at Hobart. Articles and notices published in newspapers at the time paint a dismal picture of a much-harassed young woman trying desperately to make ends meet.

Back in England, Bromley appears to have had little success in generating interest in his plight. In an effort to earn money, he went back to sea, serving first as surgeon aboard Donegal, a guard ship at Sheerness, and later making voyages to New South Wales as surgeon-superintendent on the convict ships Surrey in 1833 and Numa in 1834. A condition of this employment was that the Admiralty be authorised to deduct £100 a year from his salary to offset his debt.

In late 1834, after disembarking the Numa convicts in Sydney, Bromley made

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6 In newspaper notices, Bromley signed himself ‘Colonial Treasurer’. See, for instance, Hobart Town Gazette and VDL Advertiser, 23 April 1824, p.1.
7 See Australian Dictionary of Biography, Vol.1, pp.155–156
8 Ibid.
9 Ibid.
10 See, for instance, Colonial Times, 22 July 1834, p.7 and 12 August 1834, p.6
11 See State Library of Tasmania. Material related to Bromley is included in papers of P R Eldershaw who prepared Bromley’s entry for Australian Dictionary of Biography.
one last brief visit to Van Diemen’s Land to see Sarah. By mid-1835, however, he was back in England. There he died, a sick and broken man, at the Marine Infirmary, Woolwich, in 1836. He still owed over £3,000.15

Ironically, a number of the Van Diemen’s Land properties that had been seized earlier but had not yet been liquidated were re-valued after his death. If sold now, it was calculated the revenue would well exceed the outstanding debt. Consequently, Lieutenant-Governor Arthur and treasury officials ‘felt justified in directing that Dr Bromley ... be relieved from any further demand.’13

Two years before Bromley’s death in England, Sarah’s half-sister, Ann, arrived in Van Diemen’s Land as a free settler. Although there is no direct evidence for the idea, it is tempting to think she came out to help Sarah at this difficult time. Twelve years younger than Sarah, she had married in London in 1832. In January 1834, she arrived at Hobart aboard the Atwick with her husband, George William BARBER.14

In July 1834, Barber was granted the licence of the Mitre Hotel in Bathurst Street but seems to have remained there for only a short period. It is possible he was not in good health. He died at New Norfolk, at the age of 41, in July 1838. The record of his burial shows his occupation as ‘schoolmaster’.15

After his death, Ann moved to Hamilton. Whether or not she went there to be closer to Sarah is not known but seems likely. What is less likely is that she could have given Sarah much support. Before her husband’s death, she had given birth to two sons: William Robert Barber in 1837 and George James Barber in 1838.16

In May 1839, Ann, widowed less than a year, married Henry BROWN, who had recently been granted the license of the New Inn at Hamilton. There, for the next fifteen years, they were popular hosts. Their establishment quickly became a meeting place for the town and their hospitality won them lavish praise from the many prominent figures who attended functions there.17

The marriage also seems to have been a happy one. Between 1842 and 1848, Ann gave birth to five more children: Susannah Brown (1842–1929), Henry Edward Browne (1843–1920), Elizabeth Brown (1844–1929), James Charles Brown (1846–1887) and Robert Brown (1848–1934).18

However, in 1854, Henry Brown sold the New Inn. It is likely he, too, was ill. He died in December 1855 and was buried at Hamilton. In his will he made provision...
for all the children, including the two sons of Ann’s first marriage. By this time, Ann’s half-sister, Sarah Bromley, had been dead for some years. She had died, at 46, in 1843, her death hastened no doubt by the anguish of separation from her husband and her struggle to maintain their home and provide for the children in his absence.

In 1856, Ann, still with young children to support, married for the third time. She was 47. Her new husband was James JACKSON (1806–1892), a prominent Hamilton storekeeper, whom she had known for some years. He had been a frequent guest at New Inn functions.

Sadly, this new marriage seems to have been an unfortunate one. There is some evidence that Ann and James Jackson lived apart for many of their remaining years. When Ann died, as Annie Jackson in 1887, she was not buried in the Jackson family vault at Hamilton but beside her second husband, Henry Brown.

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19 Henry Brown’s will, 1856: TAHO AD960/1/3, p.906, Will No.645
20 Sarah Bromley’s death: 17 July 1843, Tas. Reg: 49/1843/35
21 James Jackson is frequently listed amongst guests at New Inn functions. See, for instance, Courier, Hobart, 20 March 1845.
LEARNING TO SWIM AT DYNNYRNE
1926–47
Leonie Mickleborough (Member No.20)

In the 1880s the wood and coal merchant John Gibbs TOLMAN erected a house near the junction of Waterworks Road and Proctors Road in the Hobart suburb of Dynnyrne, and in 1897 he built the ‘Jubilee Reservoir’ on the hill above the house. Tolman used the water from the cement-rendered brick reservoir, which measured 39 feet by 27 feet, to irrigate his fruit trees, and family and friends frequently swam in the reservoir.① Octavius LORD purchased the property from Tolman, converted it into a dairy farm, and about 1917 sold it to Charles Henry (Bob) RICHARDSON. In 1926 Richardson’s wife Zoe, established the Top of the World Ladies’ Amateur Swimming Club (TOW) for ladies and girls and used the ‘Jubilee Reservoir’ for the club pool.②

Just two years later the club was granted affiliation with Tasmanian Amateur Swimming Association (TASA) and the Royal Lifesaving Society (RLSS).③ Over the years a roster system was established and the parents of the child members helped with teaching at the club pool and with dry land demonstrations of strokes and diving. All those who swam at the pool helped with chores, including gardening and pool maintenance. In mid 1931 Mrs Richardson’s father, Edward A STACEY built a log cabin, the floor of which was rammed with thousands of small stones. Furnished with tables and chairs made from packing cases, the cabin was used for meetings, concerts and gymnastics. The same year timber and fittings were purchased for a springboard.④

The TOW club held its first race day on 18 February 1928 at the Dynnyrne pool, where Trixie Richardson; Vera STEVENS; Sheila McSHERY; Olga LEWIS; Lorna WILLIAMS; Nancy REARDON and Mavis BLAKE competed in the first race, 104 yards freestyle handicap. The first four swimmers in the 52 yards handicap under 14 years were Gwen JOHNSON, Fuzzy WELSH, Madge SARGISON and Joan Williams, while Janet WEIDENHOFER and Eileen RAY were the only entrants in the under 12 years 52 yards handicap. The order of finishing in the 52 yards backstroke championship was Trixie Richardson, Vera Stephens, Sheila McSherry, Lorna Williams and Joyce ELLIS; while the first three to finish the endurance race were Lorna Williams, Margaret DUNN and Gwen Johnson.

The second race day was held the following week, when Mavis Blake and Janet Weidenhofer tied for first place in the open dive, followed by Trixie Richardson, Debbie BURNETT and Eileen Ray, while the 104 yards breastroke was won by Lorna Williams from Nancy Reardon and Debbie Burnett. These events were followed by a

① *Mercury*, 27 March 1868
③ *TOW LASC Annual Report and Balance Sheet, Season 1927–28*
④ *Tasmanian Mail*, 9 December 1931
visiting boys’ 52 yards handicap which was won by Tom GILLIS of Sydney, Dick SMITH, Hutchins School was second, and Ted Richardson of TOW was third. The other event was a lifesaving rescue won by Lorna Williams, and ‘patient’ Debbie Burnett. An exhibition of high and fancy diving was then given by Rex and Norman THOMPSON and Ray SHAW. Those present were also entertained by T W SIMPSON who gave some ‘really clever stunts’ in the water, the ‘submarine’ and ‘torpedo’ being ‘warmly applauded’. On the 10 March 1928 race day lifesaving rescues, handicap diving and duck diving added to the variety of events, and on 31 March the 3rd Hobart Cubs and Scouts (Hutchins School) were invited to compete in the visiting boys’ race and medley.

On 24 November 1928 a successful Bush Fair was held to open the new season. The public were directed to reach the fair by taking the ‘Proctors Road tram to the terminus, then follow the blue and white streamers to the Top of the World Swimming Pool, one of the Special Beauty Spots of Hobart.’ The Mayor J WIGNALL opened the season and was welcomed by Mr Stacey who urged for the extension of the Proctors Road tram, pointing out that there were some 100 club members who alone deserved consideration. Cakes; sweets; novelties; afternoon tea; produce; cordials and chocolate bagatelle were sold, and raised about £40 0s 0d for club funds, while visitors were treated to an exhibition of swimming, diving and lifesaving.

The pool surround was planned by the

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5 Mercury, 6 March 1928

6 Monotone Sporting Record 24 November 1928; Mercury, 17, 24 November 1928
Patron, Edward A Stacey, and by December 1928 the additions were a summer house, diving boards and a water chute. By December 1930 additions included a gold fish pond, a bird bath and a fountain. The pool had been tiled in white and blue, with the name of the club in blue lettering just above the water, while the addition of an extra feed pipe enabled the pool to be filled much faster than previously. The press reported how the pool was a girls' swimming club, and as the holidays were in full swing, it was a ‘great boon to the whole district’. From early morning until late afternoon there were ‘tiny tots receiving not only instruction in swimming, but equally useful tuition in life-saving’.

Prior to leaving for the 1928 Olympic Games in Amsterdam, Holland, the Naldera, the ship on which the Australian swimming team (except for the Victorians) were travelling, called into Hobart, and club members fortunate to be able to meet the swimmers. The Richardsons extended a hearty welcome to team members, and made the visit for the ladies particularly enjoyable by ‘motoring’ them to some of the ‘pretty surrounding districts’. The Olympians also spent a pleasant morning at the pool, where Edna DAVEY delighted those present with a few sprints. In January 1929 Hobart swimmers were also fortunate in having Gustav FROELICH, the German ex-world champion backstroke swimmer, demonstrate at several carnivals. During his stay in Hobart he used the TOW pool as headquarters for his teaching.

At the beginning of the 1930s children were taught to swim with the aid of a canvas harness which went around their chest and attached by rope to a pole. Volunteers walked the side of the pool holding the children in the water while they mastered the strokes and, as they gained confidence and skills, the rope was gradually lengthened until they were swimming unaided. This method continued until the late 1950s or early 1960s. The club placed emphasis on lifesaving, and because the major lifesaving stroke was breaststroke, this was usually the first stroke taught.

Men from the Royal Australian Naval Squadron helped entertain the large crowd at the club championships in 1936 where an exhibition of under-water stunts was given by Petty Officer KELLY and Mr G TYSON of Launceston. Kelly also gave an exhibition of diving and carried a 56lb weight while walking up and down the bottom of the pool. The championship events held were mixed D Grade handicap, 52yds novice boys under 12, 75yds junior medley, diving and naval egg and spoon race.

At the 1937 AGM the question of including boys in the club was discussed at some length, but no decision was reached, and it was left to the incoming committee. By 1938 it was decided that a separate club was required to cater for male members, and a meeting was held in the log cabin on 22 December to form the Dynnyrne Boys’ Swimming Club. Zoe Richardson was

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7 Mercury, 8 January 1931
8 TOW LASC Annual Report and Balance Sheet, Season 1927–28; Edna Davey, a NSW resident was 3rd in her heat of the 400m free and 4th in her heat of the 100m free at Olympic Games. According to a bronze plaque at Sydney Olympic Pool Homebush ‘Path of Champions’, Edna was born 1909 in London. Member ‘The Spit Ladies’ Club’. She set a world record 1000m freestyle 15.46.6 in Sydney on 18 March 1929. Her son is Grahame Hamilton a 1956 Olympian and relay world record holder.

9 Illustrated Tasmanian Mail, 9 December 1931
elected president, Mr BLACKWOOD vice-president, R COOPER secretary and D McDOUGAL treasurer. J Ray and H F REYNOLDS also attended the meeting. It was decided the new club would have approximately thirty members younger than 14 years old, when boys could join a senior club. A membership fee of 7s 6d was set, 5s 0d for the girls’ club for general upkeep and 2s 6d held for capitation fees or other costs the boys’ club might incur. There would be three houses, Ray, Blackwood, and McDougall, and Thursday nights and Sunday mornings until 11am would be the boys’ training times, and it was decided that Zoe Richardson approach Harold (Nunky) AYERS to be the club’s coach.

On the 17th Anniversary of the club on 13 December 1943, both TOW and Dynnyrne Boys’ Club held races in grades and handicap events, diving and lifesaving rescues, and during the 1943–44 season the boys’ club registered seventy-one financial members: Geoff and Ray BACON; Max BARNES; Alan BLINDELL; Bill and John BLOOMFIELD; Howard BROWN; John Burdett; David CALVERT; John CLARK; Brian CHOVEAUX; Bruce COLE; Ian and Max DARCEY; Peter DARCEY; Adrian and Brian DOYLE; Darrel EVANS; David and Vance FISHER; Don and Gordon GAFFNEY; Graeme GRIGGS, Barry GILL; John HELMS; Norman HOPWOOD; David and John HARVEY; Rowan and Nigel JOHNSTONE; Ian JOYCE; John and William KING; Barry KNIGHT; Darcey LATHAM; William LAW; Alan LORD; Don LOWE; John LIPSCOMBE; David MARTIN; David and Peter MURPHY; James MORAN; Doug and Len McCULLOCH; Dougal, Ian and Malcolm McDougal; Peter MCKINLEY; Ramsay PALFREYMAN; Don REID; David and Glyn Salter; David SKINNER; Robert Skinner; Alan SLEVIN; John Slevin; Douglas and Robert Smith; John STOPES; Richard SPERRING; Neil TATE; John, Geoff and Ray TAYLOR; Ian and Peter TRETHEWY; [?] Taylor; David WILLING; John WILLIS and Don YOUNG. On 15 January 1944 members in each of the house teams Stacey, Coulter and Sweeting competed against each other in lifesaving rescues, diving, water tricks and medley races (at which time a medley consisted of only three strokes, backstroke, breaststroke and freestyle).

The Dynnyrne Boys Club used the TOW Proctors Road pool, and conducted their race days in conjunction with the ladies’ club until 1947 when the two clubs amalgamated, thus becoming the Top of the World Amateur Swimming and Lifesaving Club.

The club continued at the Dynnyrne pool for sixty-four years, except for a major setback in February 1967, when the property was severely damaged in the disastrous state wide bushfires. All that was left standing was the pool, still with some water, partly burnt timber, sheets of iron, rubbish and the concrete block walls of the toilet block amidst tangled pipes, metal and debris. The fund-raising committee of Mesdames MILLS (chairman); McCULLOUGH; HAWKES; HOLDSWORTH; McCAMBRIDGE; RYAN; WEBB; MANN and Bonnie TILLEY (secretary), planned and organised two car art unions with six weekly prizes, wine tasting; cooking demonstrations; morning teas; Melbourne Cup luncheon; houjie evening; cake stalls and film evenings. The Clarence Swimming Club and the Carlton Surf Lifesaving Club also assisted with funds which included the ‘Battle of the Sounds’ at the City Hall starring Ronnie BURNS, BP Australia, the Sandy Bay and Clarence...
football clubs and the Hobart City Council also raised funds. After twenty months and the tireless assistance of many other members, especially Eric CARTER and Jim McCulloch (ably assisted by Rex PELHAM, Ross Smith and president Doug HURBURGH) who planned and organised the rebuilding of the pool, it was extended to 20 metres in length, and was ready for use.

By 1992 the club had operated at its Dynnyrne headquarters for sixty-four years, during which time thousands of youngsters had been taught to swim, and although the club had 360 registered members, the cost of operating the pool was increasing each year, and reluctantly the pool was sold. The club continues, however, with fewer members, and uses other Hobart pools for teaching and training.

Unless otherwise stated, information is from Annual Reports, newspapers and personal communication with past club members. I am particularly grateful to Lin Weidenhofer for information and access to her scrap books. I also thank former club secretary, Bett Minchin, for access to notes and minutes of meetings, records which have since been deposited in TAHO.

Descendants of Convicts’ Group Inc.

1788–1868

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

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

http://home.vicnet.net.au/~dcg

inc/
ARCHIE STOCKER

DCM WINNER OR NOT?

Peter Woolley

DID 102 SERGEANT ARCHIE STOCKER of the 1st Tasmanian Imperial Bushmen Contingent win the Distinguished Conduct Medal in the War in South Africa 1899–1902 or not?

EARLY DAYS

Birth: No record of the birth of 102 Trooper Archie STOCKER in the Tasmanian Birth records could be found. While two or three births were found that could meet the criteria, there were insufficient details to accurately state which one was this particular Archie Stocker. No search has been conducted in any other state or outside Australia.

Place of Enlistment: He enlisted in the 1st Tasmanian Imperial Bushmen from Huonville, Tasmania, between the periods 15 March – 26 April 1900, while the men were encamped at New Town.1

Departure: The 1st Tasmanian Imperial Bushmen departed Hobart on board the ss Manhattan on the 26 April 1900 and arrived in Port Elizabeth on the 19 June 1900.2

He was promoted to Corporal but no dates are known. His promotion was not listed in P L Murray, Official Records of the Australian Military Contingents to the War in South Africa, but is listed in R Lewis, On the Veldt:

Corporal Archie Stocker was slightly wounded (grazed wrist) on the 26 June 1900, the first of the contingent to be wounded in action.3 He was promoted to the rank of Sergeant on the 1 October 1900, and to the rank of Lieutenant on the 10 April 1901.4

THE INCIDENT

He was involved in an incident on or about the 15 March to 24/25 April 1901, described by sources as follows:

on the 15 March5 we left Pietersburg, and trekked towards the Olifants River. Colonel KITCHENER - brother of the Commander in Chief - was directing the movements of three or four columns to the southward, which we were operating to drive the Boers in our direction. It was our duty to watch the various drifts, and prevent the enemy’s passage. It was at one of these drifts that Sergeant Stocker of Ours - who was afterwards promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in the place of one of our deceased officers - was in charge of a small squad of the Tasmanians: Kenny WARD, O’MAY, SKINNER, KING, HAMILTON, HAYES, GEEVES, LITCHFIELD, ADAMS. Lieutenant REID, of South Australia, had charge of the other side of the drift. The day was closing in when about thirty five

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1 J Bufton, Tasmanians in the Transvaal War, Hobart, 1905, p.278
2 P L Murray, Official Records of the Australian Military Contingents to the War in South Africa, Department of Defence, Melbourne 1911, and J Bufton, Tasmanians in the Transvaal Wr.
3 R C Lewis, On the Veldt, Hobart, 1902
4 Murray, Official Records of the Australian Military Contingents to the War in South Africa and Lewis, On the Veldt
5 Lewis, On the Veldt, pp.148–149. Perhaps this should read the 15 April?
Boers under Commandant SCHROEDER, together with their transport, came into the valley and camped there for the night, first placing a Maxim gun on the crest of the hill on their right flank. Our guide, Brink, who had been in the Boer Lines, but had for some time been on the side of the British, now crawled close to Schroeder’s laager - so close that he overheard all the Boers’ conversation. On his return he reported this to Stocker, who at once grasped the situation. Under cover of the darkness he proceeded to take up the main position overlooking the laager, and seized the enemy’s Maxim gun. As dawn broke, Stocker and the Tasmanians with him poured a regular fusillade of rifle shots over and about the laager, in such a way as to give the Boers the idea that they were surrounded by a strong attacking force. The white flag was speedily hoisted. Stocker went down into the laager and collected all the enemy’s weapons.

In his despatches General Kitchener reported: ‘On the night of 24 April a very gallant act was performed by Lieutenant Reid, Imperial Bushmen Corps, who had been detached from General PLUMER’s post near Commissie Drift. This officer when in charge of a patrol of 20 Australians located a Boer laager some 15 miles south-east of the drift, which he surrounded and boldly attacked at dawn. The enemy at once surrendered, Commandant Schroeder and 41 prisoners, with a Maxim gun being taken.

John Stirling reports the incident as Tasmanians; the 4th Regiment Imperial Bushmen.

In Lord Kitchener’s despatch of 8 May 1901 he says: ‘On the night of the 24th April a very gallant act was performed by Lt Reid, Imperial Bushmen Corps, who had been despatched from General Plumer’s post at Commissie drift, on the Olifants River, Transvaal. This officer, when in charge of a patrol of 20 Australians, located a Boer laager some 15 miles S. E. of the drift, which he surrounded, and boldly attacked at dawn. The enemy at once surrendered, Commandant Schroeder and 41 other prisoners, with a maxim being taken’.

Austin reports the incident under the heading of Commissie Drift:

One of a series of drifts along the Olifants River in north east Transvaal. A Boer commando led by Commandant Schroeder had been sighted in the area, and on 24 April 1901, a 20 man party of South Australian and Tasmanian Bushmen led

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6 Lewis, On the Veldt, pp.148–149
7 Murray, Official Records of the Australian Military Contingents to the War in South Africa p.557
8 R L Wallace, The Australians at the Boer War, published jointly by the Australian War Memorial and AGPS, Canberra 1976, p.319
by Lieutenant Herbert Reid spotted the fires of a Boer laager. Placing his men into position, Reid waited until daylight before he attacked. Although outnumbered by the Boers, Reid outfoxed the enemy, and within a few minutes of the attack, Schroeder surrendered his party of 35 Zarp\textsuperscript{10}, plus seven women and children who had, in traditional Boer custom, been accompanying the commando. In addition, 12 wagons, much ammunition and 100 animals were also taken. By shouting orders to his imaginary men, Reid was able to convince the Boers that they were guarded by a much stronger force, as they were marched back to Commissie Drift.\textsuperscript{11}

Craig Wilcox reports the incident as:

To the north Plumer’s veteran’s were out patrolling too. On the night of 24 April near Commissie Drift, Lieutenant Herbert Reid and twenty men of the 4th Imperial Bushmen rode silently to a Boer laager, surrounded it, and rushed in at dawn. They bagged wagons, horses, cattle, a machine gun, and twice their own number of men including a commandant, Schroeder.\textsuperscript{12}

THE AWARDS
Arms and Armour Press Publication
South African War Honours and Awards, 1899–1902, 1902.

**Mentioned in Despatches:** Under Lord Kitchener’s despatch, 8 May 1901,\textsuperscript{13} which includes General Plumer’s special despatch on Lieutenant Reid’s capture of Commandant Schroeder and his laager, and 40 men, near Commissie Drift, 25 April.

Imperial Bushmen 4th - Lieut H. A. Reid for the exceedingly smart manner in which he effected the capture of a force double his numbers, together with a Maxim gun.

Tasmanian Imperial Bushmen - Sgt Stocker succeeded in getting right behind laager during night, thereby enabling Lieut Reid to surround it, and rush it from all sides.

South Australian Imperial Bushmen - Sgt WARD.

**DSOs awarded:** Imperial Bushmen - Lieut H.A Reid.\textsuperscript{14}

**DCMs awarded:** Stocker is not listed.

*The London Gazette* lists the following recipients from the above incident:

4th Imperial Bushmen. Lieutenant H. A. Reid. For the exceedingly smart manner in which he effected the capture of a force double his numbers, together with a Maxim gun. General Plumer’s despatch on capture of Commandant Schroeder and his laager near Commissie Drift, 25\textsuperscript{th} Apr 1901. Awarded D.S.O. By War Office telegram of 29\textsuperscript{th} April, 1901.

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\textsuperscript{10} This is the only mention that the Boers were members of the Zarp (The South African Republic Police). There is no evidence to say whether or not they were members of this para-military force. As they mainly worked around Johannesburg it is unlikely (but not impossible) they were in an area between Pietersburg and the Olifants River.

\textsuperscript{11} Ronald J Austin, *The Australian illustrated encyclopedia of the Zulu and Boer Wars*, McCrae, Victoria : Slouch Hat Publications, 1999


\textsuperscript{13} This is a continuation of his despatch of the 8 March 1901

\textsuperscript{14} *The London Gazette* No.27331 dated 9 July 1901 Lord Kitchener’s Despatch from Pretoria, dated 8 May 1901, pp.62, 65 and 93
Tasmanian Imperial Bushmen, 102
Sergeant Stocker; succeeded in getting right behind the laager during the night, thereby enabling Lieutenant Reid to surround it, and rush it from all sides. General Plumer’s despatch on capture of Commandant Schroeder and his laager near Commissie Drift, 25th Apr 1901.

South Australian Bushmen, Sergeant WARD; succeeded in getting right behind the laager during the night, thereby enabling Lieutenant Reid to surround it, and rush it from all sides. General Plumer’s despatch on capture of Commandant Schroeder and his laager near Commissie Drift, 25th Apr 1901.

Lewis in On the Veldt, shows in his list of his men that Stocker A was:
slightly wounded, promoted Sergeant, 1st Oct 1900, Lieutenant 10 Apr 1901, awarded D. C. M.16

Murray makes reference to any awards as:
Lt H. A. Reid – Despatches London Gazette, 16 Apr 190117. D. S. O18
No reference to Sgt Ward19
Trooper Stocker, Archie, Sergeant. Special Mention in General Plumer’s despatches, 8.5.01. D. C. M. Vide “Promotions”. Under promotions he states – Sergeant Stocker, promoted Lieutenant, 10th April 1901.20

John Stirling, makes reference to any awards as:
South Australians; Lord Kitchener’s despatch of 8th May, 1901. From General Plumer’s Special Despatch on Lt Reid’s capture of Commandant Schroeder and his laager and 40 men, near Commissie Drift, April 25. South Australian Imperial Bushmen: Sgt Ward.21

Tasmanians. The 4th Regiment Imperial Bushmen. 8th May 1901. Extract from General Plumer’s Special Despatch on Lt Reid’s capture of Commandant Schroeder and his laager and 40 men, near Commissie Drift, April 25. “Tasmanian Imperial Bushmen: Sgt Stocker (promoted Lieutenant) succeeded in getting right behind the laager during night, thereby enabling Lt Reid to surround it and rush it from all sides at once.”22

Wallace in The Australians at the Boer War, 1976, makes reference to awards as:
Lieutenant Reid was awarded the D. S. O.23 And Sergeant Stocker, a Tasmanian Bushman, received the D. C. M.,24 and was promoted to Lieutenant.

Leonard L Barton, in his book, For Distinguished Conduct and Meritorious Service (1984), states:
John Stirling in “the Colonials in South Africa 1899-1902” states that Stocker received the D. C. M. but this does not

15 Lord Kitchener’s Despatch from Pretoria, dated 8 May 1901, a continuation of his Despatch dated 8 March 1901, p.4553, p.4567
16 Lewis, On the Veldt, Appendix, p.158. No source listed to confirm this.
17 The London Gazette No.27305 dated 16 Apr 1901 does not mention Lt H A Reid at all. He, Stocker and Ward are all mentioned in the London Gazette of 9 Jul 1901, p.358
18 No source listed to confirm this
19 It is difficult to identify Sgt Ward. There were 3 Wards from South Australia only one of which was in the 4th Imperial Bushmen and he was 116 Lance Corporal (according to Murray) B T Ward. He appears to be the most likely person.
20 No source listed to confirm this, p.560
22 The Colonials in South Africa 1899–1902, Stirling, p.489
23 No source listed to confirm this
24 No source listed to confirm this
seem to be correct. A search of the records held at the Australian War Memorial did not reveal any award of the D. C. M. to the following men, so listed in Murray, Stocker, Archie, 102, Trooper, 2nd Tas Imperial Contingent.

Austin in *The Australian Illustrated Encyclopedia of the Zulu and Boer Wars*, 1999, states that:

as a result of this action, Reid was awarded the DSO and was Mentioned in Despatches, while Sergeant Archie Stocker, received a DCM, and was subsequently promoted to Lieutenant.


H. A. Reid was awarded the D. S. O. A. Stocker was awarded the D. C. M.

**SUMMARY**

From the above we learn that:

- From the incident, there were three men who were subject to receipt of higher recognition for their work, Lt H A Reid, Sgt A Stocker and Sgt Ward.
- They were all mentioned in Lord Kitchener’s despatch, 8 May 1901, which includes General Plumer’s special despatch on Lieutenant Reid’s capture of Commandant Schroeder and his laager, and forty men, near Commissie Drift on 25 April.
- This despatch was promulgated in the *London Gazette* No. 27331 dated 9 July 1901, and all three were listed.
- *This Gazette* also recorded the award of the DSO, to Lt H A Reid.
- There appears to be no official report of any award of the DCM to Stocker. It appears the record of Captain R C Lewis, when it was first mentioned (and no authority given) has been used by most subsequent authors to list the award to Stocker.

**MY ACTIONS**

In sheer frustration, and on the advice of a friend (a DCM winner in Vietnam), I wrote to the DCM League in London seeking information on A Stocker’s DCM. The Secretary of the League reported there was no record of a 102 Trooper (or Sergeant) Archie Stocker having received the DCM for the War in South Africa 1899–1902.

I have conducted a search of the *London Gazettes* (not all but most of the applicable ones) and found no record of Archie Stocker being awarded the DCM. The search continues.

**CONCLUSIONS**

R C Lewis, in his opinion, obviously thought the incident warranted at least the award of a DCM, and perhaps even recommended such award, however it appears that it did not occur. The ‘higher ups’ presumably thought the award of the DSO, to the officer, was sufficient award for the incident. All subsequent despatches talk of the officer’s ‘exceedingly smart manner’ in which he performed his duty.

It appears that, like so many other myths associated with the Boer War, the information having been recorded by the members Officer Commanding at the time (1902) in the first instance, and with no official source given, other writers have taken this to be the truth and have not researched the particulars to confirm the statement.

In his work, Leonard Barton, who was researching the issue of the medal and not
the incident that preceded the issue, first pointed out the mistake in 1984, but still it persisted.

Following all this I have reached the following conclusion:

- Archie Stocker was Mentioned in Despatches as a Sergeant and did not receive the DCM, nor was he promoted to Lieutenant as a result of his work on the night/morning in question, but to fill a vacant position in the Contingent caused by the deaths of Lieutenants SALE and WALTER on the 8 April 1901 (Sgt Reynolds was promoted at the same time for the same reason).

LATER DAYS
Archie Stocker appears to have vanished. He did not return to Tasmania with the Contingent, or more correctly, he was not recorded by J Bufton, Tasmanians in the Transvaal War, or the Mercury newspaper as returning with the Contingent. J Bufton has no information from Stocker in his record and has no photo of him in the photos of the Contingent.

REQUEST
If anyone can dispute any of the above conclusions with official documents, I would gladly admit I am wrong. As a Tasmanian I would be only too delighted to have another award listed to the most decorated unit in the Boer War, the 1st Tasmanian Imperial Bushmen.

The Bruny Island Historical Society are holding an Open Day first Sunday in April 2011 under the National Trust Calendar on Sunday 3 April 2011

Heritage Listed Site
Bruny Island Variety Bay Pilot Station (c1830) and Church (c1846)

Open Day at Variety Bay Pilot Station North Bruny Island
on site 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Entry - via Great Bay gateway will be well sign-posted

There will be an interpretative display and guided tours of both the Pilot Station and Church (stabilised by the Bruny Island Historical Society in 2003 under the Cultural Heritage Projects Program.
A great chance to see part of the island not normally open to the public. Bring a Picnic lunch, or just drop in
No admission charge.
Hope to see you there!

BRUNY ISLAND
Sunday Ferry Timetable

Depart Depart
KETTERING BRUNY ISLAND
7:45 8:25
9:30 10:00
11:05 11:35
12:05 pm 12:35 pm
1:45 2:15
2:45 3:15
3:45 4:30
5:00 5:30
6:30 7:00

Further information: Bev Davis - Co-ordinator
Bruny Island Historical Society Ph: 62606366
or Kathy Duncombe Ph: 62606287
email kdunc@netspace.net.au
Background information on significance of site go to:
Laura Davis (née TATNELL), FELMINGHAM, CANSLAWR

Helen Webster (Member No.2951)

Laura Davis or sometimes DAVIES, mentioned in Tasmanian Ancestry, Volume 31, No.3, p.148, was my great grandmother. Laura’s third husband was Benjamin Owen Davis born in 1849 to Owen Davis and Mary Ann Davis née MORRIS.

Owen Davis was Captain of the Sussex, a whaling ship owned by Charles and Phillis SEAL, well known shipping owners in Hobart in the early 1800s. Captain Davis (Davies) worked on various vessels belonging to the Seals throughout his whaling career.

Sometime after the death of his wife Mary Ann in 1857, Owen Davis, leaving his family in Hobart, moved to New Zealand where he became the first Harbour Master in Whangaroa. He remarried there in 1864 to Hariata HONGI, daughter of Hare Hongi a Maori Chieftain.

Laura Lillian TATNELL was the third child and second daughter born to Charles Thomas Tatnell and Ann WHITE in 1848 at Pittwater, Van Diemen’s Land. These families were both well known in Sorell, Bream Creek, and Tasman Peninsula areas.

Laura firstly married Edward FELMINGHAM at St Marks Church, Bellerive in 1867. Edward was the son of William Felmingham and Mary McCALL. Laura and Edward had two sons: Edwin Felmingham born 1869 and William Felmingham born 1870, sadly both boys died young.

After Edward’s death in 1871, Laura married Louis CANSLAWR in August of 1872 at Rev. Simmons, 287 Liverpool Street, Hobart. Louis was purportedly a French sailor, but nothing is known of Louis’ origins at this time. Laura and Louis had one daughter, Minnie Lillian Canslawr who was born in 1873. Louis disappears from the story at some point before Laura’s remarriage to Benjamin Owen Davis.

Laura stated she was a widow when she married my Benjamin Owen Davis in 1875 at the Campbell Street Congregationalist Church.

Laura and Benjamin’s family increased with seven children. Benjamin died in 1911 at their home at 28 Frederick Street, Hobart. Laura, at the time of her death, lived with Minnie Canslawr/Haynes/Allen.

The informant was Arthur ALLEN, the second husband of Minnie Canslawr. Minnie and her aunt Florence Tatnell both married HAYNES brothers as their first husbands! Albert James Haynes and Henry Edward Haynes were the sons of William Haynes and Jane THOMPSON.

Unfortunately both brothers drowned.

Haynes.—Accidentally drowned. Henry Edward, aged 32, also Albert James, aged 29, who lost their lives in the ketch “Annie Ward,” which sank in the River Derwent on November 15, 1899; third and fourth sons of William Haynes, of Sandford. Henry Edward leaving a wife and four children; Albert James leaving a wife and two children, to mourn their loss. Deeply regretted. 1

Family names associated with Laura and Benjamin and their children are: PRICE, LINTON, RUSSELL, GILES and DEAN.

1 The Mercury, 16 November 1899, p.1
MATTHEW FORSTER’S FAMILY
Rosemary Davidson (Member No. 870)

The monument to Matthew FORSTER stands tall and solitary in the former burial ground of St John’s Church in New Town, Tasmania. Much has been written of his achievements as a soldier and public servant but I wanted to know about his family. Several hours researching on the web brought some results.

Matthew was born on 27 October 1796 at Berwick-upon-Tweed, Northumberland, England, to John Randall and Margaret Forster. He had an elder sister Sarah, born 11 October 1795 and younger siblings William Frederick, born 1 December 1798; Amelia Margaret, born 5 July 1800 and Thomas Bowes, born 14 February 1803, all at Berwick-upon-Tweed, while his youngest brother, John, was born at the Citadel, Plymouth, Devon, on 5 February 1814. Their father, John Randall Forster, was a Lieutenant-Colonel in the British Army, having served in the 22nd Foot and 24th Foot.

After studying at the Royal Military College, Matthew served in the 46th Regiment and then the 85th in the Peninsula campaigns and later in Ireland. He sold his commission in 1830. I have not been able to find where or when, he married Saint Helena Jeanette/Janette WORSLEY, a niece of Lt-Governor Colonel George ARTHUR. A daughter, Mary Caroline, was born in Limerick, Ireland and soon after on 12 April 1831 this family, accompanied by a servant, set sail on board the Mary Ann from Plymouth. A little over four months later the Forsters arrived in Hobart Town. His career in Van Diemen’s Land began soon after, firstly as Chief Police Magistrate. By 1834 Matthew Forster and family were living in Wivenhoe, a Georgian style house he had built on part of the former Knopwood farm, Cottage Green. A son, John Arthur Fox Forster, was born in...

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2. Mercury, 18 July 1887
4. Australian Dictionary of Biography
5. UK Census records 1851, 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891 and 1901
6. Colonial Times, 24 August 1831
7. Rowntree, Amy; Battery Point To-day and Yesterday, Education Department Tasmania 1951, p.95

See also Holiday A and Eastman W; Mansions, Cottages and All Saints, 1994, Printing Authority of Tasmania. Suggests Wivenhoe was built by Edward Montague [sic] (also a nephew of Lt-Gov. George Arthur) in 1834, and later owned by John FOSTER who passed it to his younger brother Henry.
Hobart on 16 December 1837 and in 1841 a Mrs Foster of Hampden Road advertised for ‘a Woman Servant (free) to take charge of a Child three years old’. Matthew filled the office of Colonial Secretary during the absence of John Montagu from 1839–41 and was then appointed to the position of director of the probation system. Also in 1841, some time before April, his youngest brother, John, arrived in Hobart. Sir John Eardley EARDLEY-WILMOTT replaced Arthur in 1843. Due to failing health Forster applied for leave in 1845 but died suddenly on the 11 January 1846 before a reply was received.

DIED—On Sunday morning, at 8 o’clock, of gout in the stomach, producing sympathetic inflammation of the brain, Matthew Forster, Esq., Comptroller-General of Convicts. ... He was characteristically kind-hearted, frank, candid, and sincere, he never broke a promise, forgot a friend, nor persecuted an enemy. He has left a widow and two children to deplore his irreparable loss.

In his will Matthew Forster wrote,

I desire that my funeral may be perfectly plain and private and that not more than Fifty Pounds be expended thereon.

He left his watch and dressing case to his son John Arthur Fox and the rents and proceeds of his ‘house and premises in Hampden Row and all other Real Estate to his wife Saint Helena Jeanette’. Forster also ensured his ‘Dear Children’, Mary and John, would receive ‘support, maintenance and education’. In the event of their not reaching maturity any residue was to go to his ‘Brother William Frederick Forster’ in London.

Mr Stracey advertised an auction to be held on the 29–31 January 1846 of the Valuable property of the late Captain Forster, on the premises, in Hampden Road and Harrington-street ... Superb Furniture, Grand Piano, Plate and Effects. Mrs Forster and her two children, accompanied by a servant, departed on the Derwent on 29 January 1846 and arrived in London 11 June 1846. John Arthur Fox Forster attended Charterhouse School in London from 1848–53. He is listed in the 1851 Census for Charterhouse, Finsbury as a 13 year-old Scholar on Foundation, birthplace Hobart Van Diemen’s Land.

John A F Forster married Kate Marion LAIDLAW in London in 1861. In 1871 he is in Putney, age 33, a senior clerk in military office. His wife Kate age 27, who was born in Scotland and a niece, Bertha WATSON, age 7, born in London, are living at 37 Charlwood Road. Ten years later he is Hotel Proprietor of the George Inn, Bray, Berkshire, with a wife Jane Elizabeth, age 25, born Chiswick, Middlesex. In 1891 Arthur Forster [sic] is again a clerk in the Army Clothing Department with two daughters;

8 TAHO RGD Births 8466/1838 and Hobart Town Courier, 22 December 1837
9 Courier, 23 April 1841
10 Australian Dictionary of Biography - Online Edition
11 Colonial Times, 6 April 1841
12 Colonial Times, 13 January 1846, p.3
13 TAHO AD960/1/2 No.293. An inventory was filed 17 March 1848.
14 Courier, 28 January 1846. This section of Harrington Street is now part of Sandy Bay Road but until the 1950s was known as the Deviation.
15 Courier, 31 January 1846 and Caledonian Mercury, Edinburgh, Scotland, 15 June 1864
17 Ancestry.com UK Census records 1851
18 Bray was formerly part of Windsor Park
Mary aged 9 and Janet age 8, at 62 Hanover in the parish of St George’s. By the age of 63 he was a retired civil servant living at 23 Langton Street, Chelsea with his wife and daughters, Janet now 18 and Dorothy age 9. John A F Forster died in 1912 age 74 in the district of Holborn.

Mary Caroline Forster first appears in Rockstone Terrace, Southampton in the 1851 census. She is 20 years of age and living with an aunt, Elizabeth DIXON, a widow of 60. In 1861 she is with another aunt, Ann Arthur, born Plymouth, age 78, at 2 Hewers Row at Plymouth. Also nieces, Elizabeth Worsley, age 50, born Woolwich in Kent and Mary BARKER age 13, born Cheltenham, Gloucester, were also living there—with all three are listed as ‘Fundholders’. The 1871 and 1881 census list her as a lodger with Elizabeth Worsley. Both listed as ‘Annuitants’ in 1871 and ‘Gentlewomen’ in 1881, living at 6 Bystock Terrace, Exeter, Devon. In 1891 they have moved to London and living at 97 Abingdon Road, South Kensington. Elizabeth is now 80 and Mary 60. Mary is still in Kensington at 23 Campden Grove in 1901 but may have died in 1908.

Saint Helena Jeanette Forster is listed in census records for 1851 and 1861 at Rose Cottage in Dawlish, Devon, England 1871 and 1881 with the remark ‘Imbecile’. She died aged 78 at Newton Abbott, Devon, in 1884.

BEGINNING FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH
Leonie Mickleborough
(Member No.20)

So you are new to family history research? Where do you start? This short article aims to provide some clues for the beginner, but basically, there is only one answer: start with yourself and work backwards. Start early with a basic family tree, even in its early stages this will often stimulate people’s memories and clarify responses, and remember, the systematic recording of information and a reference to its source is vitally important.

Before you venture into Tasmanian Archives and Heritage Office (TAHO) or even your local TFHS Inc. library, do some basic background research. Collect anything available in your immediate family: birth, death and marriage certificates, old letters, newspaper cuttings, wills and photographs. This might save a lot of time and unnecessary searching. Ask family members for their reminiscences (and write them down) and ask if they can identify unknown people in photographs. Dates may be blurred, but remember to record all details and references, many of which can be checked against official records later and also used to prompt other family members.

Once this source is exhausted, work backwards starting with a full copy of your own birth certificate. The next step is a copy of your parents’ marriage certificate, which should provide their full names and ages, the full names of

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19 Ancestry.com UK Census records 1871, 1881, 1891 and 1901
20 Ancestry.com UK Census records 1851, 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891 and 1901
21 Ancestry.com UK Census Records, 1851,1861, 1871 and 1881
22 FreeBMD online
your grand-parents, including maiden names, and the date and place of marriage. Death certificates should also be obtained for deceased ancestors. This is the basic course of research. By progressing backwards, the next move being the birth, marriage and death certificates of all four grand-parents, and comparing information contained on them all. The least reliable personal information is likely to be that included on death certificates, because this has been provided by a third person. The person providing the information is most likely upset by the death, and may also be unaware of the correct family details.

A visit to you local TFHS branch library could be your next move, remembering that access to records is free to members. Apart from local, interstate and overseas CDs and microfiche and access to Ancestry.com the libraries hold copies of overseas member societies’ journals, lists of members’ research interests, dictionaries of biographies, local histories, burial registers, transcriptions of headstones, and a full set of Tasmanian Ancestry. A list of available sources at branch libraries is, however, beyond the scope of a short article such as this. Each issue of Tasmanian Ancestry lists each branch’s latest ‘Library Accessions’, a quick glance at these lists indicates many valuable resources. Each journal also has a ‘Help Wanted’ section—use this service. Attendance at branch meetings offers opportunities to discuss research needs, and library volunteers each have their own ‘specialties’.

So—how to record this vast amount of information? A computer-based family tree program is an advantage, even from an early stage, and there are many available, several of which are free. Personally, I use Legacy, a free program available from http://www.legacyfamilytree.com/downloadlegacy.asp which I find very user friendly. There is also a paid version with extra features. Standard family tree sheets are available at branch libraries for those without computer access. Whichever method is chosen, keep note of ALL references—such information will be invaluable later, especially when conflicting information occurs, which will, inevitably, happen. Once you establish you have an ancestor who was born overseas, always consider that he or she might have been a convict—despite what you might have been told by elderly family members. If your convict was sentenced at the Old Bailey, a good website is http://www.oldbaileyonline.org/ while Van Diemen’s Land convict records are available from the TAHO website http://www.archives.tas.gov.au/database but records of free arrivals are less detailed. Many wills are now also available on this site, and for newspapers see the National Library website at http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/home

Once you reach this stage in your research, it is probably time to return to your local branch library and search through overseas census returns to locate addresses, household members and neighbours. By the time you reach this stage, you will have progressed from having an interest in family history, to find it has become an obsession, and you will be writing articles for Tasmanian Ancestry outlining your problems and successes in research.
GENES ON SCREEN
Vee Maddock (Member No. 3972)

Is your password secure? Most passwords people use are easily cracked. Do mix letters and numbers, lower and upper case. Don’t use dates or names or words that have particular personal significance. For example use a friend’s street name, or a cousin’s house number not your own. Use passwords with at least six characters, eight is better. Never use the same password as for your email account especially on a site which requires your email as well. Change passwords regularly. This can be achieved by simply adding a number to the end and counting down. Choose a phrase or favourite book title and abbreviate it using initial letters or removing all the vowels.

Sites of Interest
Information on the various musters and censuses in Australia
http://members.iinet.net.au/~perthdps/census.html

Medieval Fines
http://www.medievalgenealogy.org.uk/fines/index.shtml

Medieval soldiers
http://www.icmacentre.ac.uk/soldier/database/search.php

Nicely laid out quick reference guides for MS Office components
http://www.customguide.com/computer-training/quick-references

Surname groups across the UK in 1881 or 1998
http://www.nationaltrustnames.org.uk/

Lists of Australian award recipient

Irene Schaffer’s website, Tasmanian & Norfolk Islanders
http://www.tasfamily.net.au/~schaffer/

Various Old Publications of Interest
Note the different formats they can be read in, or sent to an e-reader.

Description of silver fields at Zeehan and Dundas, published 1891
http://openlibrary.org/books/OL23516802M/The_Wild_West_of_Tasmania Being a Description of the Silver Fields of Zeehan and Dundas

Diary of a working clergyman, published 1859
http://openlibrary.org/books/OL13500078M/Diary_of_a_working_clergyman_in_Australia_and_Tasmania

Official handbook of Tasmania published 1892
http://www.archive.org/details/officalhandbook00justgoog

List of prize winners in the Tasmanian International Exhibition, Launceston, 1891–92
http://openlibrary.org/books/OL7246504M/Official_record_of_the_Tasmanian_International_Exhibition_held_at_Launceston_1891-92

James Bonwick’s The Bushrangers, published 1856
http://openlibrary.org/books/OL20443691M/The_Bushrangers_Illustrating_the_Early_Days_of_Van_Diemen’s_Land

Cassell’s Old and New Edinburgh
http://www.oldandnewedinburgh.co.uk/
WHAT IS THAT PUBLICATION ABOUT?
Maurice Appleyard (Member No. 4093)

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

Voyage to Jamaica from Tasmania 1845: Mary Yeoland’s Diary
This 27 page, A4 book, published in 1993, was edited by Irene Schaffer.
It contains the transcribed text of a diary written by Mary Blomfield Yeoland, who left Launceston in September 1845 with here parents aboard the Tenassirim bound for Mauritius. The family continued aboard the Sea Gull to Cape of Good Hope, the Manchester to Demerara, Maid of Erin to Barbados and the Dart to Jamaica.
They left behind, Mary’s two brothers, George and William, who later married and settled in VDL.

The Marshall Boys—Brothers in Arms
This A4 book was first published in 1999 by the author, Sally Watchorn.
The story of four brothers, from the Sorell area who joined the 3rd Light Horse and fought in WW1.
This work contains a wealth of information about the boys and their part in actions of the Light Horse. It is liberally illustrated with photographs of the men and the theatre of war in which they were involved.

Pioneer Women Pioneer Land: Yesterday’s tall poppies
‘Among the many women whose tenacity and courage helped to open up this country there were more than a handful who stood tall beside their sisters …’
Esther Johnston (1771–1846); from First Fleet convict to Lieutenant Governor’s Lady.
Elizabeth Macarthur (1767–1850); co-founder of the Australian Wool Industry.
Emmeline Leslie (1828–1902); the Duchess of Canning Downs.
Mary McConnel (1824–1910); founder of the Brisbane Children’s Hospital.
Georgiana McAuley (1804–1890); a Duke’s daughter and award-winning artist in The Antipodes.
Louisa Meredith (1812–1895); pioneer writer, botanist, artist and conservationist.
Georgiana Molloy (1805–1842); the tragic ‘Madonna of the Bush’ and pioneer botanist of Western Australia.
Mary Penfold (1820–1896); pioneer of the South Australian wine industry.
Caroline Louise Atkinson (1834–1872); a colonial Charlotte Bronte and talented artist.
Mary Ann Friend (b. date unknown–d.1838); the sad saga of the Swan River Settlement.

Harriet Neville-Rolfe (1850–1928); a professional artist at Alpha.

**BOWSDEN JERICHO**
A 6-page, A4 manuscript produced in 1993 provides a short history of the Tasmanian property and its owner, Dr John Hudspeth.

**DOG OWNERS 1830:** Being a list of persons who have given descriptions of their dogs at the Police Office, Hobart Town.

**THE BAROSSA 1841–1842 or The Tailor’s Tale:** An account of the voyage of the Barossa 1841–1842 including a list of the 350 Convicts and the story of Henry Sandland, tailor and convict.

**NEWS FROM THE MANNING:** Rediscovered newspaper articles from Manning River Times 1869–1893 and Manning River News 1874–1887.
This 153 page, A4 book compiled by Rod and Wendy Gow was published in 2010.

The articles of these NSW newspapers are transcribed in chronological order but are supported by an extensive alphabetical index at the end of the book.

**MACFARLANE’S GENEALOGICAL COLLECTIONS**
This CD published in 2007, by Archive CD Books Australia, is a collection of genealogies of ancient Scottish families compiled originally in the mid 18th century by Walter Macfarlane ‘one of the most laborious and accurate antiquaries of his age.’ It was re-published in two volumes as Genealogical Collections Concerning Families in Scotland for ‘private circulation’ to members of the Scottish History Society in 1900 ‘with the special object of illustrating the History and Antiquities of Scotland’.

**BERRIMA GAOL RECORDS 1840–47**
This 60 page, A4 book compiled by Kay Vernon and Billie Jacobsen was published in 2010.

It contains information derived from two indexes relating to this NSW Gaol; the Berrima Gaol Entrance Book 1840–1842 and the Berrima Gaol Description Book 1842–1847.

Details include: ship to the colony, native place, aliases, and offences; where such information is known.

**GOULBURN GAOL ENTRANCE BOOK 1847–1867**
This 67 page, A4 book compiled by Kay Vernon and Billie Jacobsen was published in 2010.

An alphabetical index of inmates received at this NSW gaol—includes: ship to the colony, native place, aliases and offences; where such information is known.

**SHAMROCK IN THE CLOVER**
This paperback by Maureen Bennett was published in 1987. It contains a history of the Catholic parish of Deloraine (Tasmania); the Clergy and the members of the Congregation.

Some family history details have been provided by members of the following families: Burke, Cassidy, Charlesworth, Doyle, Enright, Gannon, Gleeson, Gowan, Griffin, Hay, Heffernan, Jago, Keane, Lewis, McCormack, McMahon, Powell, and Sullivan.

TASMANIAN ANCESTRY March 2011

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LIBRARY NOTES

Society Microfiche Roster

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- Set 1: 1891 Census Indexes for Scotland
- Set 2: GRO Consular Records Index
- Set 3: Griffith’s Valuation for Ireland Series
- Set 4: National Probate Calendars 1853–1943 and AGCI
- Set 5: Old Parochial Records, Scotland and Lilian Watson Family History Award 2010 entries

Devonport & Launceston Microfiche Roster

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- Set 1: GRO BDMs Index 1943–1946
- Set 2: GRO BDMs Index 1947–1950

Society Sales

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. Publications

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

Mail orders (including postage) should be forwarded to:
Society Sales Officer, TFHS Inc., PO Box 191 Launceston TAS 7250

Books
- Van Diemens Land Heritage Index, Vol. 3 (p&p $5.50) ............................................... $11.00
- Van Diemens Land Heritage Index, Vol. 4 (p&p $5.50) ............................................... $11.00
- Van Diemens Land Heritage Index, Vol. 5 (p&p $5.50) ** ........................................ $25.00
- Tasmanian Ancestry Index Volumes 1–20 (p&p $5.50) .............................................. $22.50
- Tasmanian Ancestry Index Volumes 21–25 (p&p $4.50) ** ....................................... $15.00

CD-Rom
- Tasmanian Federation Index (p&p $2.50) ................................................................. $231.00
- TAMIO T (p&p $5.00) ........................................................................................................ $50.00

Microfiche
- TAMIO T (p&p $2.00) ........................................................................................................ $50.00

** members discount applies
**LIBRARY ACCESSIONS**

**Hobart Branch**

**Accessions—Books**

*Alexander, A; *A Heritage of Welfare & Caring.*
*Appeldorff, G; *Memories of Collinsvale (Revised).*
*Baker, Alan (Comp); *Index to The Mercury Deaths–1973.*
*Barnard, E; *Exiled—The Port Arthur Convict Photographs.*
*Beatty, Bill; *Tasmania: Isle of Splendour.*
*Bennett, M; *Shamrock in the Clover.*
*Brand, I; *Macquarie Harbour Penal Settlements, 1822–33 & 1846–47.*
*Broadbent, J; *Elizabeth Farm, Parramatta.*
*Buchanan, A; *Children in the Colony 1826–7.*
*Buckby, P; *Around Circular Head.*
*Burbury, Stephanie; *‘Bowsden’ Jericho.*
*Cargill, D; *Berwickshire Monumental Inscriptions Vol. 3—The Western Parishes.*
*Clark, A; *A Collection of Shoolhaven History.*
*Clarke, C M H; *A History of Australia, Vol. II—NSW & VDL.*
*Connolly, S J (Comp); *The Public Record: Sources for Local Studies in the Public Record Office of Ireland.*
*Cooper, I G; *Tasmania’s Trolley Buses.*
*Coulman–Smith; *Town with a History—Beaconsfield, Tasmania.*
*Cox, E (Comp.); *Memorial Inscriptions in Caputh Graveyard.*
*Cox, G W; *Ships in Tasmanian Waters.*
*Cox, R; *Baptised in Blood—The shocking secret history of Sorell.*
*Cumpston, J S; *The Furneaux Group, Bass Strait, First Visitors 1797–1810.*
*Davidson, Rosemary (Comp); *‘The Barossa’ 1841–1842 or The Tailor’s Tale.*
*Davidson, Rosemary; *Dog Owners 1830.*
*Davies, B; *Guide to Bruny Island History (2nd Ed.).*
*Day, D; *Smugglers & Sailors.*
*Devon Historical Society; *Devonport 1890.*
*De Vries, Susanna; *Strength of Spirit: Pioneering Women of Achievement from First Fleet to Federation.*
*De Vries–Evans, Susanna; *Pioneer Women, Pioneer Land: Yesterday’s Tall Poppies.*
*Dunbabin, T; *Making their own Way—The Dubabins on Maria Island, 1869–1876.*
*Dunn, J; *The Parramatta Cemeteries—St. John’s.*
*Emberg, B & J; *Living Stones, Vol. I.*
*Emberg, B & J; *Living Stones, Vol. III.*
*Evans, N; *Roads to Water.*
*Feldman, J; *Gadsden—The First Hundred Years.*
*Graeme-Evans, A. & M. Ross; *A Short Guide (History) to Port Arthur 1830–77.*
*Gowlland, R.W; *Some Van Diemen’s Land Affairs.*
*Henderson, B (Ed.); *Monuments & Memorials.*
*Hertsfordshire Federation of Women’s Institutes; The Hertfordshire Village Book.
*Highland Family History Society; Monumental Inscriptions—Croy Churchyard.
*Highland Family History Society; Monumental Inscriptions—Old Churchyard, Petty.
*Highland Family History Society; Monumental Inscriptions—Old High Church, Inverness.
*Hurley, Frank; Tasmania: A Camera Study.
*Jones, Paul, Maria & Barbara Johnston, Gwen Hardstaff; Jones, Benjamin & Mary (1772–1837) (1763–1838).
*Joy, W; The Exiles.
*Loney, J; Wrecks on King Island.
*Nixon, M & R Lefroy; Road to The Murchison.
*Nobbs, R; All Saints Church, Northern Island.
*Norris, K; Australia’s Heritage Sketchbook.
*Phillips, D; Making More Adequate Provision.
*Pike, D; Paradise of Dissent—South Australia 1829–1857.
*Pink, Kerry; And Wealth for Toil: A history of North West and Western Tasmania 1825–1900.
*Perry, Dulcie M; The Place of Waters: A history of the first fifty years of Glenelg.
*Port Macquarie & Districts FHS; Port Macquarie–Hastings Pioneer Register, 1821–1900.
*Pownall, E; Mary of Maranoa.
*Reed, J; Nugget’s Place.
*Reid, R & K Johnson; The Irish Australians.
*Robertson, S (Comp.); Memorial Inscriptions in Logier Church Yard.
*Robson, L; The Convict Settlers of Tasmania.
*Satchell, Tony; Linked By Chains and Lineage: Dunhill—Dove. A history of two Convict Families.
*Schaffer, Irene; Derwent River Excursion: On board the ‘Lady Nelson’—Vol. 1, Sandy Bay–Battery Point–Kangaroo Point.
*Schaffer, I; Discovery of the Missing Deeds, Tasmania 1827–1828.
*Schaffer, Irene; Excursion—North Bruny Island.
*Schaffer, Irene; Bothwell Excursion—20th October 1991.
*Schaffer, Irene; Mary Jane Cooke, Irish Immigrant, ‘Windsor Castle’ 1876 to Moreton Bay.
*Schaffer, I; A Story of John & Elizabeth Faulkner.
*Schaffer, Irene (Ed.); Voyage to Jamaica from Tasmania—Mary Yeoland’s Diary.
*Shaw, A G L (Ed.); Gipps—La Trobe Correspondence 1839–1846.
*Sheedy, K; The Tellicherry Five.
*Snowden, D; Caring for the Community, Hobart District Nursing Service Inc., 1896–1996.
*Spiers, S; The Kirkyard of Aboyne.
*Spiers, S; The Kirkyard of Crathe.
*Spiers, S; *The Kirkyards of Glenmuck, Glentanar, etc.
*Stancombe, E H; *Highway in Van Diemen’s Land.
*Stewart, J; *The Royal Highland Regiment (The Black Watch).
*Sullivan, C M (Comp.); *Bowling Centennial.
*Taroona Historical Group; *Taroona 1808–1986: Farm Lands to a Garden Suburb.
TFHS Inc. Devonport; *An Index to The Advocate Personal Announcements 1984.
TFHS Inc. Devonport; *An Index to The Advocate Personal Announcements 1984.
TFHS Inc. Devonport; *A Transcription of the Deloraine Public Cemetery.
TFHS Inc. Devonport; *A Transcription of the Deloraine Lawn Cemetery.
*Tiberius’; *More Than a Century.
*Tutt, S; *Sunshine Coast Heritage.
*van Sommers, T; *Sydney Sketchbook.
*von Stieglitz, K; *Entally.
*Vernon, K & B Jacobson; *Berrima Gaol Records 1840–1847.
*Vernon, K & B Jacobson; *Goulburn Gaol Entrance Book 1847–1867.
*Waight, Sally; *Glenorchy Heritage Study—Stage Two.
*Watchorn, Sally; *The Marshall Boys, Brothers in Arms.

**Accessions—Computer Disks**

*Archive CD Books UK; *The Census of England and Wales—Sussex 1861.
*Archive CD Books UK; *London Royal Blue Book 1860.
*Archive CD Books UK; *Macfarlane’s Genealogical Collections.
*Archive CD Books UK; *Wise’s NSW Post Office Directory 1900.

*Denotes complimentary or donated item.
†Purchased through the Denise McNeice Memorial Fund.

**Launceston Branch**

**Accessions—Books**

*Baxter, Carol; *Writing Interesting Family Histories.
*Barnard, Edwin; *Exiled.
*Swan, Anita; *Mount Direction A Mountain with a Message.
TFHS Inc. Hobart Branch; *Undertakers of Hobart Vol. 5 Part 1.
TFHS Inc. Hobart Branch; *Undertakers of Hobart Vol. 5 Part 2.
TFHS Inc. Launceston Branch; *The Kelso Chronicle 1864–1865.

**Accessions—Computer Discs**

*Police Gazette Index Tasmanian Compendium 1861–1933.
*Tasmanian Commonwealth Electoral Roll 1934.
Mersey Branch

Accessions–Books
TFHS Inc. Devonport, An Index to The Advocate Personal Announcements 1984.
TFHS Inc. Launceston, Index to The Kelso Chronicle 1864 – 1865.

Accessions–Computer Disks
*National Trust of Australia (Tasmania), Latrobe Photographic Database.
*National Trust of Australia (Tasmania), Latrobe Photographic Database Supplementary CD.

*Indicates donated item
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<th>BRANCH LIBRARY ADDRESSES, TIMES AND MEETING DETAILS</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BURNIE</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Library Phone: Branch Librarian (03) 6435 4103</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Spring Street Burnie</td>
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<td>Tuesday 11:00 am–3:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 1:00 pm–4:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>The library is open at 7:00 pm prior to meetings.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meeting Branch Library, 2 Spring Street Burnie 7:30 pm on 3rd Tuesday of each month, except January and December.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day Meeting 1st Monday of the month at 10:30 am except January and February.</td>
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<td><strong>MERSEY</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Library Phone: Branch Secretary (03) 6428 6328 Library (03) 6426 2257</td>
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<tr>
<td>‘Old police residence’ 117 Gilbert Street Latrobe (behind State Library)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday &amp; Friday 11:00 am–3:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday opening has ceased and is now by advance appointment only.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meeting Our meetings are held on the last Thursday of the month at or Branch Library in Latrobe at 10:30. Please check the website at <a href="http://www.tfhsdev.com">www.tfhsdev.com</a> for updates and any changes or contact our Secretary.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>HOBART</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Library Phone: Enquiries (03) 6244 4527</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 Cambridge Road Bellerive</td>
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<td>Tuesday 12:30 pm–3:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 9:30 am–12:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 1:30 pm–4:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meeting Sunday School, St Johns Park, New Town, at 7:30 pm on 3rd Tuesday of each month, except January and December.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HUON</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Library Phone: Branch Secretary (03) 6239 6529</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soldiers Memorial Hall Marguerite Street Ranelagh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 1:30 pm–4:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other times: Library visits by appointment with Secretary, 48 hours notice required</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meeting Branch Library, Ranelagh, at 4:00 pm on 1st Saturday of each month, except January. Please check Branch Report for any changes.</td>
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<td><strong>LAUNCESTON</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Library Phone: Branch Secretary (03) 6344 4034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45–55 Tamar Street Launceston (next door to Albert Hall)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 10:00 am–3:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday by appointment only (03) 6344 4034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting Generally held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, except January and December. Check the Branch News and the website <a href="http://www.launceston.tasfhs.org">http://www.launceston.tasfhs.org</a> for locations and times.</td>
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MEMBERSHIP OF THE TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

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

**Dues are payable annually by 1 April.** Membership Subscriptions for 2010–11:-
- Individual member: $40.00
- Joint members (2 people at one address): $50.00
- Australian Concession: $28.00
- Australian Joint Concession: $38.00

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

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

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

**Application for Membership:**
Application forms may be downloaded from [www.tasfhs.org](http://www.tasfhs.org) or obtained from the TFHS Inc. Society Secretary, or any branch and be returned with appropriate dues to a branch treasurer. **Interstate and overseas** applications should be mailed to the TFHS Inc. Society Treasurer, PO Box 191, Launceston Tasmania 7250. Dues are also accepted at libraries and at branch meetings.

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

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

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

**Advertising:**
Advertising for *Tasmanian Ancestry* is accepted with pre-payment of $27.50 per quarter page in one issue or $82.50 for four issues. Further information can be obtained by writing to the journal editor at PO Box 191, Launceston Tasmania 7250.

**ISSN—0159 0677**
Printed by *Print Centre*—Moonah Tasmania
31st Annual General Meeting

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.
ABN 87 627 274 157

to be held at

Axeman’s Hall of Fame & Timberworks
1 Bell’s Parade, Latrobe

Hosted by Mersey Branch, TFHS Inc.

Saturday, 18 June 2011
31st Annual General Meeting
Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.

10:00 am  Registration and morning tea

10:25 am  Welcome by the President of Mersey Branch
          Presentation of 'Early Bird' Prize and
          Journal Article Competition

10:30 am  **Peter Sims: One Family's Story**

11:20 am  Tea/coffee break

11:30 am  **Father Terry Southerwood—The Catholic Church—History and available records**

12:20     Lunch

1:15 pm   **Wayne Smith—Ripper Tassie Place Names**

2:30 pm   Annual General Meeting
          incorporating the presentation of the
          Lilian Watson Family History Award

3:00 pm   Afternoon Tea

Book Stalls and new publications from Branches will be on offer during the day
Registration Form

Closing date for registration and payment is **1 June 2011**

The Branch Treasurer  
Mersey Branch TFHS Inc.  
PO Box 267  
LATROBE Tas 7307  

Phone: 03 6428 6328  
email: secretary@tfhsdev.com

Name/s............................................................................................................
Address..............................................................................................................
...........................................................................................................................

I/we will be attending on Saturday, 18 June 2011

**Attendance cost, $25.00 per person.**  
**Includes tea/coffee available throughout the day**  
**Cheque/money order $.................is enclosed**

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**Early Bird Prize**  
Register before **Tuesday 17 May 2011** and you could be in the draw for the President’s Early Bird Prize.

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Please indicate by ticking options you will be attending:

- Friday Library
- Saturday Dinner at Lucas’ Hotel
- Sunday Sherwood Hall
- Sunday Library

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TASMANIAN ANCESTRY March 2011
Options for AGM Weekend

Friday 17 June 2011
Mersey Branch library: open on Fridays, 11am until 3pm

For visitors coming to Latrobe for the weekend we can arrange later closing if we know in advance.

Saturday 18 June 2011
6.30pm    Meet at Lucas’ Hotel, Gilbert Street, Latrobe for Dinner.

7:00pm    Dinner
Lucas’s Hotel has a great menu, plus a ‘specials’ board.

As the hotel needs to know numbers in advance, please add a note to your registration form. Pay at the dinner.

Sunday 19 June 2011
10:30am   Assemble at Sherwood Hall to meet local historian Mick Halley who has been involved with the project from the outset.

This is an opportunity to hear the history of Thomas Johnson and Dolly Dalrymple

Alternatively:
10:30am   Our library will be open

Information about accommodation options and attractions in Latrobe will be made available to Branches in time for March meetings

Illustrations: Photos @The Axmans