

Tasmanian Ancestry



**TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY
SOCIETY INC.**

Volume 41 Number 1—June 2020

TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

PO Box 326 Rosny Park Tasmania 7018

Society Secretary: secretary@tasfhs.org

Journal Editor: editors@tasfhs.org

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

Patron: Dr Alison Alexander

Fellows: Dr Neil Chick and Mr David Harris

Executive:

President	Maurice Appleyard	(03) 6248 4229
Vice President	Judith Cocker	(03) 6435 4103
Society Secretary	Eddy Steenbergen	0418 129 154
Society Treasurer	Ross Warren	0487 330 009

Committee:

Gary Bryant	Peter Cocker	Burnie (tba)
Ros Coss	Robyn Gibson	John Gillham
Libby Gillham	Louise Rainbow	Helen Stuart
	Sue Wallbank	

By-laws Coordinator	Eddy Steenbergen	0418 129 154
Web Manager	Robert Tanner	(03) 6231 0794
Journal Editor	Rosemary Davidson	0408 445 532
LWFHA Coordinator	Leonie Mickleborough	(03) 6223 7948
Members' Interests Compiler	John Gillham	(03) 6239 6823
Membership Registrar	Lyndal Ayers	(03) 6243 9190
Publications Convenor	Beverley Richardson	(03) 6225 3292
Public Officer	Colleen Read	(03) 6244 4527
Society Sales Officer	Maurice Appleyard	(03) 6245 9351

Branches of the Society

Burnie: PO Box 748 Burnie Tasmania 7320

petjud@bigpond.com

Hobart: PO Box 326 Rosny Park Tasmania 7018

secretary@hobart.tasfhs.org

Huon: PO Box 117 Huonville Tasmania 7109

vsbtas@bigpond.com

Launceston: PO Box 1290 Launceston Tasmania 7250

ltntasfh@bigpond.com

Mersey: PO Box 267 Latrobe Tasmania 7307

secretary@tfhsdev.com

Tasmanian Ancestry

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

From the Editor

How our world has changed over the past few months. It makes me consider how COVID-19 might be recorded by future generations of family historians? As we hear daily, ‘we are all in this together’—it is a worldwide event, not confined to a specific country or area. How will we be compared, or evaluated?

I thought this journal would be quick and easy to assemble as we had a good supply of articles—but instead it became difficult. Probably my fault as I ended up with more articles and requests to add extra pieces, which necessitated reorganising and great effort to ‘make things fit’.

My apologies to those who have waited patiently for their articles to appear—there are several in this issue and more will surface in future. This doesn’t mean we have a surplus. I hope many will be making good use of the current ‘social distancing’ by sorting through their files and preparing articles for the future.

Over the past year I have received many good comments about Volume 40. When I consider the number of articles we published by new authors I am hoping we will be able to continue this trend.

Perhaps by the September journal we will be able to report more on our AGM?

Our very best wishes to everyone. Please keep safe and well and enjoy reading *Tasmanian Ancestry*.

Rosemary Davidson

Journal address

PO Box 326, Rosny Park, TAS 7018
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: Norm, Alf, Denis and Bert Lane at The Turning 1905, with thanks to the author.
See *First Car on the Hill*, Elizabeth Barsham, page 25.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

NORMALLY I have difficulty in finding a subject to write about in this column; there is no such problem on this occasion.

We all are very aware of the declared Pandemic and the need for various restraints on public gatherings, etc. and this Society also has a duty of care for our members and the public in general.

Progressively, all branches have closed their libraries, Mersey, Burnie, Launceston, in early March; and then Hobart on Saturday 21 March.

Hobart's larger space and sanitizer facilities enabled them to continue for a longer period. I am led to believe that Huon's premises are not available, even for 'caretaker' work and they have been closed for some time.

The society has also had to make a number of decisions regarding meetings and events that would normally be held during the next few months.

The meeting of the standing committee, Executive Officers and Branch Delegates, scheduled for the end of May has been cancelled.

Of greater importance, our AGM scheduled to be held at Ross on Saturday 20 June has been postponed until a later date; to be advised.

The need to provide a safe meeting environment under the present conditions and a quorum of at least 30 financial members in attendance makes it currently impossible to hold an AGM.

The current TFHS Inc. Executive Officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer), have all indicated they intend to stand for the same positions again and are prepared to continue in a 'Caretaker

Roll' until an AGM can be held. They will be supported by the Branch Delegates who make up the Standing Committee.

Normally, at the AGM, the society announces the winner of the Lilian Watson Family History Award for the best book entered and the winner of the Best Journal article in the 2019 volume of *Tasmanian Ancestry*. Recipients are invited to attend, and framed certificates are presented; photographs are taken, and descriptions of the winning entries given.

Full details are then published in the September journal of *Tasmanian Ancestry*.

In lieu of the June AGM it would appear appropriate to announce them here.

The winners of the Lilian Watson Family History Award for 2019 are:

Chis Maxwell and Alex Pugh for their book *The Master of Hell's Gates—William Kinghorne (1796–1878)*.

The winner of the Best Journal Article for Volume 40 of *Tasmanian Ancestry* is Lorraine Davidson for her article *Great Uncle Edgar Williams' Reticence*.

See Volume 40 Number 1, page 33.

Further details of the winners are published in this journal. ◀

Maurice Appleyard

LILIAN WATSON FAMILY HISTORY AWARD 2019

Alison Alexander, Patron

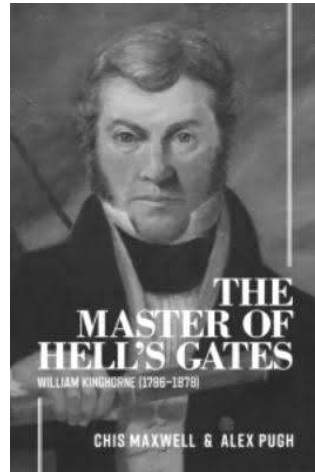
THERE were four entries in the award for 2019. They were all interesting and three were on unusual topics, illustrating largely unknown areas of Tasmanian history.

The more traditional story was Jeff Atkinson's *Mary Proctor: convict, pioneer and settler*. This is excellently written. The background in England is well covered: an 18-year-old girl in trouble, stealing clothes with a friend, Mary Dove. They were both transported. Atkinson is very good on the voyage out and the lives of Mary Proctor and, to a lesser extent, Mary Dove, are covered once they arrived in Australia. 'While not a significant figure, Mary represents the thousands of people, mainly convicts and former convicts, who settled this country', Atkinson writes. Mary could be the ancestor of any of us.

Brian Rieussset is well known for his thoroughly researched histories. In *You can't hang me for it* he tells the life of James Maxwell, a Hobart street urchin who lived a desperate life of poverty and crime, in and out of gaols in Tasmania and Victoria. Maxwell told his own story, and it's fascinating to see how Brian sorts out truth, exaggeration and fantasy.

Gregory Wighton tells the story of *St Andrew's Immigration Society: assisting migration to Van Diemen's Land 1854–1862*. Wighton points out that just as many Tasmanians are descended from assisted emigrants as from convicts, yet not much notice has been taken of the emigrants. He redresses the balance in this book, which tells how the society was set up

and its achievements, bringing out almost 2500 people. There is a helpful list of names though in tiny font—and some of the illustrations are too tiny to read also. But this book sheds light on an area we knew very little about.



The winner was *The Master of Hell's Gates*, by Chis Maxwell and Alex Pugh. This is a biography of William Kinghorne, 1796–1878. Born in Scotland, he had experience in the Royal Navy and emigrated in 1822. He was appointed captain of a ship that sailed from Hobart to Macquarie Harbour through Hell's Gates (hence the title) and was also a member of the first expedition that sailed up the Gordon River. The tributary Kinghorne River is named after him. (It's a minor river. Try finding it on Google—very difficult!) Kinghorne held land on Bruny Island and transported some Aborigines to Flinders Island, which the authors helpfully discuss. After retiring from the colonial marine service, Kinghorne moved to New South Wales, and died near Goulburn aged 82. This story is excellently told and very interesting, presenting a different sort of tale from the usual colonial narrative.

Chis Maxwell and Alex Pugh attended Barker College together between 1965 and 1970 and they have remained firm friends ever since. At Barker they were inspired with a love of history by Stuart Braga. This is the second historical novel they have written together. ◀



Chis Maxwell and Alex Pugh on location

BEST JOURNAL ARTICLE AWARD

Beryl Dix (Member 6149)

MANY excellent articles appeared in the 40th Anniversary Volume of *Tasmanian Ancestry*. After much deliberation, *Great Uncle Edgar Williams' Reticence*, Volume 40 Number 1, June 2019, by Lorraine Davidson was chosen as the successful recipient of the award. The article is well researched, referenced and beautifully written.

We follow the author through her most intriguing journey to unearth the reasons why her great-uncle Edgar was reluctant to talk to her about the family when she was a young girl. His reticence provided the motivation for her to seek to discover more information, and she doggedly pursued her research over many years. And what a fascinating story unfolded.

Lorraine found evidence they were descended from convicts and initially

believed this had been the source of her great-uncle's reticence. However, her father had told her his grandfather, Albert Williams, had been a lighthouse keeper and she decided to follow this line of research, which revealed Albert had served at the lighthouses at Bruny Island, Goose Island and Maatsuyker Island. His time at the latter was marked by several unfortunate accidents and illness, as a result of which he resigned. He returned to Hobart to be with his family, where he started to behave strangely. His wife called for help and he was admitted to the asylum at New Norfolk, where the supposed cause of insanity was 'The climate at Maatsuyker Lighthouse where he was stationed'.

Tragically, Albert Williams died at the asylum only eight days after admittance. The inquest at New Norfolk recorded a verdict of 'Suicide by suffocation'. The Inquisition certificate revealed 'the said Albert Ernest Williams ... did suffocate himself by putting a blanket in his mouth of which suffocation the said Albert Ernest Williams came to his death and not otherwise.' No wonder great-uncle Edgar had been reluctant to talk about the family—the shame of insanity was worsened by suicide.

Not satisfied by the thought that working in isolation on a remote lighthouse could drive a person mad, further research revealed many lighthouses used an open bath of mercury for floating the lenses and the assistant keepers' job was to clean out the impurities. Maatsuyker Island used such an open mercury bath, which Albert was required to clean regularly. One report indicated he had become so ill while on watch that he had to call for help to extinguish the light. It was inevitable he would have been breathing in mercury fumes while carrying out his job.

As well as insanity, loose teeth can be one of the symptoms of mercury poisoning, and there are two instances of this: the loss of three teeth at Maatsuyker Island when Albert was struck by a piece of wood he was cutting, and the other at the General Hospital, prior to his admittance to New Norfolk, when the warder, Mrs Collins, reported that he pulled out three teeth, which would be difficult unless they were already loose.

The author believes the evidence she has gathered that Albert Williams did indeed die from mercury poisoning is convincing. To quote her, it is 'hard to believe that anyone could suffocate themselves with 'a piece of blanket' no matter how 'lunatic and distracted' and that a possible explanation is he was silenced by another patient disturbed by his unpredictable behaviour. These are extraordinary discoveries to have made.

This tragic story ends with the conclusion that the knowledge his father died in an insane asylum was sufficient reason for great-uncle Edgar's reluctance to talk about the family, and he was shielding his family from the stigma attached to his father's death.

The following articles were highly commended:

Archibald George Hughes Black by Helen Anderson

Robert Robertson 1854–1888: Wynyard State School Head Teacher by Derek Smith

Gone are the days: Tatlow's Royal Mail Service, Stanley to Burnie by Betty Jones

All honour to such worthy pioneers: Burnie's Lennard-Mylan Connections by Louise Gibson

Mawbanna's Early Settlers: Pioneer Families by Betty Jones

NOTICE OF MEETING

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

40th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of the
Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.
scheduled to be held at
2.30 p.m. on Saturday
20 June 2020
at the Town Hall, Ross
has been

POSTPONED

by the society's Standing Committee, consisting of president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer, due to the current **COVID-19 virus** and to support measures put in place by the government to protect our local residents.

We are especially concerned as many of the Family History community are in the high risk category.

Information regarding some of the awards due to be announced may be found elsewhere in this journal.

For any further information please contact the TFHS Inc. State Secretary email

secretary@tasfhs.org
as all branch libraries have been temporarily closed

BRANCH REPORTS

Burnie

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

President: Peter Cocker (03) 6435 4103

Secretary: Sue Hutton 0473 771 958

PO Box 748 Burnie Tasmania 7320

email: petjud@bigpond.com



Due to Coronavirus our Branch, as with others, has not a lot to report on. We have only had one day meeting this year and it was a follow

up from our December meeting. Carl Rowbotham, partner of Joanne Ainslie (see *Tasmanian Ancestry Vol. 40 No. 4*) gave a very informative talk titled *Wind, Winches and Wicker Baskets, Life as a Lighthouse Keeper on Tasman Island*. This was followed by our usual luncheon.

Unfortunately, our seminar that was to be presented by 'Unlock the past' was cancelled at the last moment. The guest speakers were on the P&O Genealogy Cruise that was to bring the speakers to Burnie. Three days before the seminar P&O suspended all cruises and recalled the Genealogy cruise ship back to Adelaide. Participants who had paid their registration were offered two options; either request a refund or leave the registration fee and remain in the draw for the door prizes etc.

All those who registered have now either received their refund or have been provided with a link to download the seminar notes, power point presentations and a discount token on any *Unlock the Past* Publication. The winners of the door prize were:

- Murette Lawson: Genealogy ebooks discount voucher
- Peter Cocker: VicGUM membership
- Margaret Miller: VicGUM membership
- Ian Fitzgerald: Family History Down Under extras discount voucher—value \$100

Currently our branch library is closed and all branch functions have been suspended until further notice. As we were due to hold our branch AGM in early April, this also has been deferred. The existing committee will remain in a caretaker capacity until such time as an AGM can be held.

Peter Cocker

Hobart

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

President: Louise Rainbow

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 the time of writing we are already in the middle of winter and wondering where the year has gone, but once again there has been

much activity within the branch.

As this report is being written the world health situation is changing almost by the minute and the impact of Coronavirus is impacting on people's lives, activities and services. The services that branches provide to members and the wider community of family history researchers have already been impacted. All branches of the Society have indicated that their libraries are closing indefinitely, com-

mittee meetings and other gatherings of members are being affected and concerns are being raised in relation AGMs of branches and the society.

We are an organisation of volunteers—and in the main senior citizens. We have different personal health issues so the individual volunteers, need to assess participation on rosters and committee meeting attendance and no-one feel the *need* to fulfil commitments to rosters and other commitments. To an extent this has been determined for us by government decrees and restrictions. Let's not be too hasty in resuming normal service.

As we enter what may be an extended period of social isolation it might be a good time for family historians to tidy up our research files and take stock of where we are—a job that many (if not most of us) have put off for years! For those who are up to date with their filing and research, write an article for *Tasmanian Ancestry*! Stay safe and stay healthy.

General Meetings

Two General Meetings have been held in 2020 and given an extra effort to advertise the meetings and speakers outside the membership of the branch, attendances increased.

The January meeting of the branch was a special event—the launch of the second recorded DNA presentation produced by Ros Escott. This presentation titled *Interpreting your DNA results* is a follow-up to last year's presentation *An Introduction to Using DNA*—the meeting attracted 36 members and visitors.

This presentation provided advice on 'getting started' with the interpretation of DNA test results. The most significant piece of advice made about 'getting started' was to post a comprehensive family tree and/or pedigree chart on the website provided by the testing company. We cannot

express frustration with our 'matches' not providing family tree and ancestral surnames if we fail to do so ourselves.

Having accepted (and acted upon) this first piece of advice the following suggestions were made ...

- Start with the closest/strongest match. This will most likely be the easiest to follow up.
- Look for matches that you recognise as being in your paper-based family tree. Establish contact with these. Who knows what new leads may emerge from these.
- Select an unknown 'close-ish' match and use the 'in common with' or 'not in common with' tools to refine your search.
- Look for matches who have a published family tree.
- Explore all the information each match provides and is provided by the company. [The ThruLines facility in *Ancestry* gives a 'best guess' of relationships. Use the Advanced Search and Matrix features in FTDNA]
- Do a surname or location search [In *Ancestry* DNA both can be done.]
- Use the Notes feature to record private notes about matches, guesses etc. These notes are only seen by you.

For Hobart Branch members and visitors to the Branch Library the two presentations are available for viewing. Any TFHS Inc. current financial member can ask to join the 'TFHS Hobart DNA Interest Group' *Facebook* page and view the presentations on-line.

The meeting concluded with a Q and A session and supper.

The speaker at the February meeting was Hobart Branch's own Joyce Purtscher talking about indexing of the *Children and Families contained in the files of SWDI (Neglected Children's Depart-*

ment) 1888–1936. The actual files have been available in hard-copy manila folders for many years, but only recently digitized and transferred to *Tasmanian Archives* website. Joyce's work has resulted in an index being made available to family history researchers and will ultimately be made available on-line.

The 3000 files are case files of children brought to the attention of the state and include correspondence associated with the provision of care for children in a variety of circumstances including poverty, abuse, family breakdown or bereavement resulting in fostering and/or adoption. Children were first assessed at St Johns Park (formerly the Queens Orphanage and New Town Charitable Institute) before placement elsewhere. The case files of some children extend to 300 pages. Children who were made wards of the state remained under the control of the Neglected Children's Department until they were 21 years of age, so in many cases the files of some children give a 20-year history of the children's lives. Some files give an account of the harrowing experiences of children in this period, including activities leading to court appearances, consequential custodial punishments, physical punishments, solitary confinements and withdrawal of family visit privileges.

The stories in the files portray the racist, sexist and cultural norms accepted in the day—*handicapped by reason of her colour*—along with institutional bullying and treatment of minors. Many children were in and out foster care; or 'adoption'; and in some cases fostered into families where their presence (and payment for care) was a source of income for the foster family. Some were adopted at the age of 14 years in which case they could be sent to work for pay. The files are a

social and cultural history of Tasmanian society's treatment of children under care.

Many institutions were involved in the placement, confinement and care of children, including Ashley Boys' Home and Farm School, Girls Industrial School, Kennerley Boys' Home, Boys' Training School, New Town Charitable Institute, Salvation Army Homes, Blind Deaf and Dumb Institute, Tasmanian Consumptives Sanatorium, New Norfolk Asylum and others. Some were state-run institutions, others benevolent organisations.

The talk was illustrated with examples drawn from the files. The index is available from the Hobart Branch of TFHS. Joyce has generously handed publication rights to our branch.

Future Meetings

Given the circumstances it is inappropriate to advertise the list of speakers for our meeting program (third Tuesday evening of each month). Members will be advised when meetings and library services resume. In the meantime keep referring to the monthly branch newsletter and check the branch website.

Launceston

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

President: Helen Stuart (03) 6331 9175

Secretary: Marette Lawson

PO Box 1290 Launceston Tasmania 7250

library: ltntasfh@bigpond.com

All telephone enquiries to (03) 6326 1399



Our February workshop was very successful and well attended and. Ross Smith provided interesting and useful information on 'Family History Surprises in QVMAG Collections' and also gave us some great

examples of different sources and records we could use for our own research.

During March, we held a sausage sizzle at Bunnings Warehouse to raise funds for our library. Thank you to our volunteers, both during the planning and organising stage and on the day. It was very busy and productive, and without you this would not have been possible.

Planned events including a visit to the Launceston Library, DNA Discussion Group and Branch AGM have all been postponed until further notice. We will notify our members once we resume normal activities.

A reminder to ensure your membership is up to date in order to continue to receive the Journal and Branch Newsletter. If you haven't renewed yet, there is still time to do this online. We also wish our members good health, and hope you are all keeping safe and well. We look forward to welcoming you back to the library again soon.

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

Mersey

www.tfhsdev.com

President: Gary Bryant

Secretary: Sue-Ellen McCreghan

(03) 6428 6328

Library (03) 6426 2257

PO Box 267 Latrobe Tasmania 7307

email: secretary@tfhsdev.com



The Mersey Branch has closed its doors for the foreseeable future due to the Coronavirus and members have been advised.

U3A classes and indexing of the *Advocate* newspaper have been postponed.

The indexing of Watts Funeral Records and up-dating of the WW1 Soldiers from Latrobe and District, and the Bluff cemetery update, will continue from our homes.

Mersey Branch will not be represented on Anzac Day as the local service is cancelled and our display of WW1 soldiers will not be in our front window.

Our AGM is also postponed. But let's not despair—the time has come—that 'one day' has arrived when we can sort out the accumulated information we have gathered re our family history. We can label those family photographs and add them to our folders. We can rewrite those messy family group charts, or better still put them into a family tree programme. We can make copies of our family history for all those children, who at this time in their lives are too busy and or not interested. We can 'have a go' at researching online. We can make a list of brick walls or what we would next like to research.

So, although on a fine day gardening may take precedence, let's enjoy this time of isolation and update our family history. Tidy up our folders and enjoy the time because that 'one day' has arrived.

Until we return please, keep safe, take care and Mersey Branch will be back.

Huon

President: Shirley Fletcher (03) 6264 1546

Secretary: Libby Gillham (03) 6239 6529

PO Box 117 Huonville Tasmania 7109

email: vsbtas@bigpond.com

No report received

MARY ANN ELLINGTON

HER TRAGIC CIRCUMSTANCES GAVE IMPETUS TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF WOMEN'S REFUGES IN TASMANIA

Don Bradmore (Member 6756)

ON Wednesday, 9 August 1876, the lifeless body of three year-old Catherine ELLINGTON was discovered floating in the Tamar River at Launceston. Two days later, the child's eighteen-year-old unmarried mother, Mary Ann Ellington, was arrested on suspicion of murder.¹ At her trial, she was duly convicted and sentenced to death. In passing down its verdict, however, the jury recommended her to mercy on account of her age. The sentence was later commuted to penal servitude for life.²

Ellington's story is a sordid tale about which little can be said of a positive nature. However, the awful circumstances in which this unfortunate young woman found herself at the time of the murder did give fresh impetus to the drive to establish refuges in the community where abandoned and vulnerable women such as she, could live in safety and be given the help and support they needed to reclaim their lives.³

The murder of little Catherine Ellington came to light when two local boatmen, Henry CRAWFORD and Joseph SHAW, happened to spot the child face down-

wards in the rushes in an area known as The Swamp near the junction of the Tamar and North Esk rivers. They alerted the police immediately and the body was quickly recovered.⁴

At an inquest on 11 August, the coroner asserted that there was such 'a complete chain of evidence' that he did not think the jury could take any other view of the case than that it was one of wilful murder. Not surprisingly, the jury returned a verdict of guilty and Ellington was fully committed to trial.⁵

Ellington was placed at the bar in the Supreme Court, Launceston, on 19 October 1876 and pleaded not guilty. She was described in newspapers of the day as 'a tall, smart-looking girl' who, for some years, had lived 'a dissipated and abandoned' life. She was a prostitute. In recent times she had lived at the Old Cross Keys Hotel in York Street, a house of ill-fame kept by a shady character by the name of Benjamin BROWN, where she was known to the other women who lived there as 'Polly BROOM' or 'BROOMEY'.⁶

One of these women, Eliza JACKSON, testified she had seen Ellington treat little Catherine cruelly, often beating her and dragging her across the floor. Another of

¹ *The Cornwall Chronicle (Launceston)*, 14 August 1876 p. 2; Catherine Ellington, RGD 35/3176/1876/, deaths Launceston

² *The Mercury (Hobart)*, 1 January 1877, p. 2

³ See for instance, *Launceston Examiner*, 12 August 1876, p. 2; *Cornwall Advertiser (Launceston)*, 8 September 1876, p. 2

⁴ *Launceston Examiner*, 12 August 1876, p. 2

⁵ *Tasmanian (Launceston)*, 19 August 1876 p. 3

⁶ *The South Australian Advertiser (Adelaide)* 25 August 1876, p. 4

the women, Sarah Jane LYNN, said that Ellington seemed 'not to have a mother's love for the child'. Lynn had once heard Ellington say that she was sorry she had reared the child and that she would like to murder it. Yet another of the women, Emma WILLIAMS, said that, for some time, Ellington had left her daughter with a woman named Ann RUSSELL to whom she paid five shillings a week for her care. However, three weeks earlier, Russell had returned the child to her mother, refusing Ellington's offer of an extra two shillings a week to keep the child.⁷

Hannah HORSLEY, another young woman who had known Ellington for some time, testified she had seen her leave the Old Cross Keys with her daughter at about four o'clock on the afternoon of Monday, 7 August. When Horsley had asked Ellington where she was going, she had replied that she had just woken up 'after a drunken sleep' and was going for a walk down by the wharf. When Ellington returned at about six o'clock, she did not have the child with her and her dress was wet and dirty. In response to questioning, Ellington said she had given the child away to a woman who lived at Deloraine but whose name she did not know. She said she had given this woman a letter assuring her that she would have nothing more to do with the child. She explained her muddy clothes by saying that she had been sitting in a gutter.⁸

Two other witnesses, Nelly ANDERSON and Ellen MARSHAL, both of whom lived in the locality of The Swamp where the little girl's body was found, testified that, on the afternoon of 7 August, they had seen Ellington walking towards the

river carrying Catherine in her arms. They had watched as she had gone over the top of the embankment but had then lost sight of her.⁹

A Dr MASON, who had performed a *post mortem* examination of Catherine's body, told the court that the child was well-nourished. Her face was calm. There were no marks of violence on her or any indication that she had been abducted by another party. In his opinion, Catherine had died from suffocation by drowning and her body had probably been in the water for two or three days.¹⁰

Sergeant PETERS of the town police told the court that, on Wednesday 11 August, he had gone to the Old Cross Keys where he asked Ellington to explain the whereabouts of her daughter. Ellington told him the story she had told others previously: that on Monday, 7 August she had given Catherine to a woman from Deloraine whom she had happened to meet that evening on the corner of York and Charles Streets, Launceston. Ellington said that she had never seen the woman before and did not know her name. Peters then took Ellington to where the child's body was lying. Confronted with the spectacle, Ellington was unable to contain herself and broke into sobs saying: 'That child is mine.' After Peters had formally arrested her, however, all she had said was that she did not do it.¹¹

During the trial, Ellington had seemed deeply affected and often bent down to hide her face from the view of the crowded court.¹² As expected, the jury required only a short retirement before

⁹ *The Mercury*, 14 August 1876, p. 2

¹⁰ *Launceston Examiner*, 12 August 1876, p. 2

¹¹ *Launceston Examiner*, 12 August 1876, p. 2

¹² *The Armidale Express and New England General Advertiser* (NSW), 1 December 1876, p. 7

⁷ *The Mercury*, 14 August 1876, p. 2

⁸ *Launceston Examiner*, 12 August 1876, p. 2

returning a verdict of guilty with a recommendation to mercy. The unfortunate woman was then sentenced to death in the usual manner, the judge telling her that the recommendation of the jury would be passed on to the Executive Council.¹³

On hearing the sentence Ellington burst out crying in despair. Outside the court, she tore off her hat and shawl. Pulling at her hair, she shrieked, 'Oh, what shall I do? What shall I do?' as she was taken through the court grounds to the gaol. Some women in the crowd called out to her, encouraging her to be brave and assuring her she would not be hanged. Others, more hostile, called out, 'Hang her up at once! Give her no mercy!'¹⁴

Notwithstanding the terrible crime she had committed, there seemed to be considerable sympathy for Ellington in the wider community. What moved many readers was a realization—brought home by this tragic case—of the utter helplessness of young women like Ellington who, perhaps because of one mistake, were trapped for the rest of their lives in a tangled web of vice, degradation and misery from which there was no realistic chance of escape. The following letter to the editor of the *Launceston Examiner*, published at the time of the Ellington inquest, represents this attitude:

Dear Sir, We have read with interest your sub-leader, and think with you that a Reformatory for Fallen Women is much needed. And we shall feel much pleasure in giving ten pounds towards the expenses of establishing such a home, and five pounds per annum thereafter. You will please not make our names

public, but you will know where to obtain the money when required. Yours truly,¹⁵

In response, the editor promised—provided further support of this kind was forthcoming—to convene a public meeting of interested parties with a view to establishing an institution of the kind mentioned by the subscriber. In the editor's opinion there was a very urgent need in Launceston for such a place. It was an issue, he wrote, that would commend itself to many, 'regardless of sex, morals or religion'.¹⁶

Nevertheless, although a first meeting of those interested in the subject was convened at Launceston within weeks, progress towards the establishment of a refuge was slow.¹⁷ It was not for another fifteen years that the *Launceston Examiner* was able to announce that a 'Home of Refuge' had been opened recently in Hobart and that a similar one was soon to be established at Launceston. Lamented the paper:

Hitherto, there has been no such institution in Tasmania, though they exist in almost every other part of the British dominions.¹⁸

Here, the *Launceston Examiner* might have had 'Magdalene Asylums', the term which the Catholic Church used in preference to 'Homes for Fallen Women', in mind. Named after Mary Magdalene, the errant woman of the gospels who travelled with Jesus Christ as one of his followers and was a witness to his crucifixion, burial and resurrection, the first of these institutions was established in England in 1785. By the late 1800s there were almost three hundred of them

¹³ *The Armidale Express and New England General Advertiser*, 1 December 1876, p. 7

¹⁴ *The Mercury*, 30 October 1876, p. 1

¹⁵ *Launceston Examiner*, 15 August 1876, p. 2

¹⁶ *ibid.*

¹⁷ *Cornwall Advertiser* (Launceston), 8 September 1876, p. 2

¹⁸ *Launceston Examiner*, 16 May 1881, p. 2

there. The concept soon spread to other parts of the world including Ireland, Canada, the United States and Australia, where most major cities usually had one or more.¹⁹

However, at the time of the Ellington case in 1876 there were still no Magdalene Asylums in Tasmania. The first was not opened in Tasmania until 1893.²⁰

As early as the mid 1850s, *The Tasmanian Colonist* had referred to the lack of a Magdalene Asylum in the state as ‘a scandal’:

Shame! Shame! We repeat it, it is a scandal to Tasmania that no such institution exists ... No-one dares deny the necessity, who visit our police courts, or who cast around a glance of observation as they pass through our streets, of such an institution. We allude to a Magdalene Asylum. Sydney ... possesses two such institutions—and admirably and gloriously have they fulfilled the purpose for which they were designed. Hundreds of erring ones have been received within their walls, and in these blessed establishments many an unhappy being who had deemed herself lost, body and soul, outcast from Heaven and candidate for Hell, ... has learned to lament her error.²¹

Magdalene Asylums were more commonly known as ‘Magdalene Laundries’ because most of them operated commercial laundries in which the inmates were required to work, partly to keep them usefully occupied but also to help with the upkeep of the institutions. Initially, inmates were free to leave if they wished but by the late 1800s, after courts began committing recalcitrant

young women to them, they had become virtual prisons.²² However, little could *The Tasmanian Colonist* have known in the 1850s that, within a hundred years, Magdalene institutions had ceased to exist. Amidst increasing reports of exploitation, non-adherence to labour laws, workplace accidents, sexual abuse, disease, cruelty, suicide and scandal, they were gradually closed throughout the world. By the early 1960s all had gone.²³

From the 1850s, a number of other religious groups and charitable organizations - apart from the Catholic Church—had tried to ease the problem of deserted and vulnerable young women wandering the streets at night but up until the time of the Ellington case their efforts had met with little success. For instance, The Benevolent Society, founded in 1813 and referred to as ‘Australia’s First Charity’, had always had a concern for disadvantaged women but this particular problem was only one of the many it tried to address simultaneously and it had been unable to do much.²⁴ Then, as early as 1858, an ‘unostentatious’ Penitent’s Home was established in Hobart under the management of a small band of Christian ladies and an experienced Matron but, lacking financial support and with little publicity, it was ever only able to cater for a small number of inmates.²⁵ In 1862, the committee of the Launceston Town Missionary Society received a report on the increasing number of women on the streets, and the impediments in the way of their reclamation in the absence of a

¹⁹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mary_Magdalene

²⁰ *The Mercury*, 30 October 1893, p. 3

²¹ *The Tasmanian Colonist* (Hobart), 21 December 1854, p. 2

²² https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Magdalene_asylum

²³ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Magdalene_asylum

²⁴ *Launceston Examiner*, 12 August 1876, p. 2

²⁵ *The Hobart Town Daily Mercury*, 14 January 1858, p. 3; *The Hobart Town Daily Mercury*, 12 February 1859, p. 3

properly organized refuge. After some deliberation on the subject, however, the committee decided that it

did not feel at liberty to increase its present responsibilities by supplying the want complained of.²⁶

But, in 1883, just a few years after the Mary Ann Ellington case—the situation began to change. In that year, having already established itself in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia, the Salvation Army arrived in Tasmania.²⁷ Its arrival, roughly coinciding as it did with the opening of the first ‘Magdalene Asylum’ in the state, gave a much needed boost to those lobbying for organized support for ‘young women of abandoned life who desired to return to the path of virtue’.

Not everyone was happy with the methods the Salvationists commonly used to attract support. Complaints of Hobart residents to the City Council about the ‘discordant noises’ made by the Salvation Army bands at their street meetings and marches were frequent. Petitioners to the Council recommended that the Army be informed that proceedings would be taken against them under the Police Act if they continued the annoyance.²⁸ Nevertheless, few of those residents would have disagreed that the Salvation Army was making an outstanding contribution to Tasmanian society. As the *Launceston Examiner* put it:

With praiseworthy effort the members of this body seek out fallen women and drunken men, and do most unquestionably reclaim them from their evil

courses ... Their endeavour to establish a [women’s refuge] in Launceston, which they are putting forward, will surely meet with hearty support and gain general sympathy.²⁹

In May 1895, the Salvation Army opened its first Launceston ‘rescue home’ for women in ‘Te Aro’ villa in Charles Street. By July 1896, it had had to move to larger premises at ‘Rock Lynn House’ in William Street where, by November of that year, it had received thirty-eight young women and twenty-five children. By 1900, the demand had again outgrown the available accommodation and ‘Rock Lynn House’ was moved once more, this time to Connaught Place, South Launceston, where it operated successfully for many years. From 1897, similar Salvation Army refuges were opened in Hobart.³⁰

In the 1960s, after the closure of the Magdalene Laundries, the Catholic Church established ‘Karadi’ in Launceston. Originally a hostel for the relatives of out of town patients, it was used later to house expectant mothers from King and Flinders Islands. Later again, ‘Karadi’, which was attached to the Queen Victoria Hospital, was used for young single mothers from all parts of Tasmania and adoptions were arranged from there. ‘Karadi’ closed around 1980.³¹

What a difference institutions such as these might have made to poor Mary Ann Ellington’s life had they existed at the time!

As it happened, however, at about the very time the Salvation Army and others were organizing themselves in Tasmania to deal with the problems that Mary Ann

²⁶ *Launceston Examiner*, 1 March 1862, p. 3

²⁷ <https://www.salvationarmy.org.au/en/Who-We-Are/History-and-heritage/1880-1900/>

²⁸ *Tasmanian News* (Hobart), 10 May 1892, p. 2; *The Mercury*, 9 October 1893, p. 2

²⁹ *Launceston Examiner*, 6 December 1883, p. 2

³⁰ *The Mercury*, 17 November 1896, p. 3

³¹ <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/ref/tas/biogs/TE00462b.htm>

Ellington had faced before the murder, she was released from prison. In early 1887, after serving only ten years of her life sentence, she was free—the remainder of her sentence having been remitted. She was still only twenty-eight years old. (See Fig. 1 next page.)³²

Just two years later, on 16 May 1889, Mary Ann married at Hobart. The marriage entry (see Fig.1 and Fig.2) next page) describes her as a ‘spinster’ and the ‘daughter of a farmer’. The man she married was John BEATTIE, whose occupation is shown as ‘miner’.³³

Beattie’s age is shown on the marriage entry as thirty-five but it is possible that he was as much as ten years older than that. In later years, it was reported that he had been born at Ballarat, Victoria, around 1844, that he had arrived in Tasmania in 1874, and that he had spent his first few years in the state as a miner, first at Mt. Bischoff and later in the north-east.

In 1888, he had opened a store at Lebrina, about twenty-five miles north of Launceston and it was there that he and Mary Ann lived after their marriage.³⁴ On 13 May 1892, Mary Ann gave birth to a daughter whom she named Alice Maud May BEATTIE.³⁵ A second daughter, Adelaide BEATTIE, was born on 11 October 1895.³⁶ From the little that is

known of the childhood years of the girls, they were happy and successful.³⁷

On 1 September 1914, Alice, then twenty-two, married a twenty-four-year-old local boy, Henry Gordon FAIR.³⁸ On 19 May 1920, Adelaide, at twenty-five, married Kenneth Phillip FAIR, thirty-six, the elder brother of her sister’s husband.³⁹

In the meantime, John Beattie’s store at Lebrina had prospered. A small indication of the way the family lived in the district can be gleaned from this excerpt from the report in a local paper of Adelaide’s wedding:

Weddings do not happen frequently in Lebrina so it is not perhaps to be wondered at that in view of the circumstances and the great popularity of the parties concerned the people of Lebrina treated themselves to a half-holiday to attend the wedding of Sergeant Kenneth Fair to Miss Adelaide Beattie.⁴⁰

... The Methodist church, prettily decorated by the girl friends of the bride, was full to the doors. Great interest was centred on this fixture as, apart from the popularity of the bride, Mr. John Beattie, her father, is deservedly one of the most respected and esteemed residents.⁴¹

³² ‘Prisoners Discharged from HM Gaols and Houses of Correction, Hobart and Launceston, during Week Ending 9 February 1887, via ‘Ancestry.com’, accessed 1 November 2018

³³ RGD 37/401/1889, Launceston

³⁴ *Examiner*, Launceston, 28 March 1927; *North-Eastern Advertiser* (Scottsdale, Tas.), 29 March 1927, p. 2

³⁵ RGD 33/295/1892, Launceston

³⁶ RGD 33/1467/1895, Lilydale, Tasmania

³⁷ *Daily Telegraph* (Launceston), 24 May 1920

³⁸ RGD 944/1914, Launceston

³⁹ RGD 1617/1920, Lebrina; *Daily Telegraph* (Launceston), 24 May 1920

⁴⁰ Kenneth Fair, a member of the 3rd Australian Tunnelling Company, had only recently returned home from overseas service in WWI. (*Daily Telegraph* (Launceston), 9 August 1918.

⁴¹ *Daily Telegraph*, 24 May 1920

PRISONERS discharged from H. M. GAOLS and HOUSES OF CORRECTION, Hobart and Launceston, during the Week ending 9 February, 1887; Country Districts for the Week ending 5 February, 1887.

Name.	Ship.	Where Tried.	When.	Offence.	Sentence.	Native Place.	Age.	Height.	Hair.	Remarks.
Hobart, Ellington, M. A.		S. C. Launceston	19 Oct. '76	Murder	Life	Tasmania	28	5 6	Dark brown	Free. By remission.

Fig. 1 Prisoners discharged from H. M. Gaols and Houses of Correction

Fig. 2 Marriage of Mary Ann Ellington and John Beattie RGD Marriages Launceston 37/1/48 1889/401

M.-L.

1889 MARRIAGES in the District of Launceston

No.	When married, and where.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Rank.	Signature and Description of Parties.	Name of Clergyman, (officiating Minister, or Deputy Registrar.	When registered.	Signature of Deputy Registrar or Officiating Minister.
413	16 May 1889 Residence of Mr. W. Law Spring Street Launceston	John Beattie Mary Ann Ellington	35 30	china Daughter of Pinner	John Beattie Resident in Mary Ann Ellington and Spring Street Pinner	William Law	16 May 1889	William Law

MARRIED in the Residence of Mr. W. Law Launceston according to the Rites and Ceremonies of Anglianism by License
 This Marriage was solemnized between us } John Beattie } by License } R. Estlin Taylor }
 } Mary Ann Ellington } of us } Jane Weston } William Law }
 Minister.

Understandably, perhaps, there was no mention of the mother of the bride.

Sadly, the husbands of both Beattie girls died early. On 19 July 1923, Alice's husband, Henry, passed away after a short illness.⁴² He was forty. On 21 March 1925, Adelaide's husband, Kenneth, also died. He was just thirty-one years of age.⁴³ Kenneth had served with the AIF in the 3rd Tunnelling Company.

Storekeeper John Beattie, Mary Ann's husband, died at Lebrina at the age of eighty-three in 1933. Acknowledging his passing, the *North-Eastern Advertiser* of 29 March, commented:

A businessman of long-standing at Lebrina ... Mr. Beattie had been a martyr to rheumatism for the past five years. He was very well known and highly esteemed, being always very generous in helping needy cases.⁴⁴

Again, there was no mention of Mary Ann—but perhaps local readers would have had little trouble in putting a name to the most 'needy case' to whom Beattie gave his generous help.

On 29 December 1933, Mary Ann Beattie (née Ellington) died at the home of her daughter Alice at Launceston. She was seventy-five years old.⁴⁵

Some people might have had nothing good to say about Mary Ann in death, still thinking that the callous way in which she had taken the life of her little daughter, Catherine, in 1876 was an act beyond all redemption and forgiveness.

Others might have been more compassionate. Although it is unlikely that any could ever forget the evil she had done, some might have been able to recall how hopeless her position had been at that time and how young, alone and utterly desperate she had been. They might have thought, too, that living her long life with the memory of what she had done all those years ago had been punishment enough—and that, in raising her two Beattie daughters so well, she had gone a little distance at least towards making amends.

What do you think? ◀

The author acknowledges the very considerable contribution of Rosemary Davidson to this research.

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⁴² RGD 311/1923, Launceston; *Daily Telegraph Launceston*, 20 July 1923

⁴³ RGD 214/1925 Launceston; *Daily Telegraph*, 23 March 1925

⁴⁴ *North Eastern Advertiser* (Scottsdale, Tas.), 29 March 1927

⁴⁵ *Examiner*, 30 December 1933.

GOING TO SCHOOL AT ST JOHNS LAUNCESTON THE ELIZABETH STREET SCHOOLROOMS, 1847–1901

Betty Jones (Member 6032)

AN OVERVIEW OF INNER LAUNCESTON'S EARLY SCHOOLS

1820–1848

Launceston Public School, supported by the government, was conducted at various sites with a maximum enrolment of 174 in 1844. The Board of Education was formed in 1839.

The Board of Education members all resigned in 1848 and there was a reversion to the penny-a-day church-dominated schools. In Launceston, by 1848, the main church school in operation (distinct from privately-run schools) was St Pauls in Frankland Street. More such church schools opened in the town during the period that the government system remained in turmoil. In 1857, separate Southern and Northern Boards of Education were given dual control. It was not until 1863 that a single Board of Education was re-formed. By that time, Elizabeth Street Public school (formerly known as St Johns) had become the main government school in Launceston, along with the smaller Margaret Street and Frederick Street schools.

1835–1895

Launceston Infant School in Frederick Street started as a community-owned school before being taken over by the Board of Education in the 1860s.

1844–1858

St Pauls, also known as Frankland Street, was a Church of England school.

1847–1857

St Johns in Elizabeth Street was a Church of England school during that period.

1849–1856

Brisbane Street School was also conducted by the Church of England.

1849–1858

St Josephs in Margaret Street, initially a Roman Catholic school, was taken over by the Board of Education from 1858 and known from then as Margaret Street Public School.

1858–1882

Margaret Street Public School operated for almost 25 years.

1857–1884

Elizabeth Street Public School continued to be conducted at St Johns Church schoolrooms after being taken over fully by the Board of Education from 1857. Its closure coincided with the opening of Charles Street Public school in 1884.

1884–1990

Charles Street Public/State school provided education for thousands of Launceston children over the years.

1889–Present

Invermay Primary School is now the oldest continuously-occupied government school in Launceston.

1892–1896

Launceston Free School was conducted in the old Elizabeth Street School buildings at St Johns. The Education Department continued to use the old buildings in Elizabeth Street into the early 1900s to house the over-flow of children from Charles Street State School.



The school building in 1930
 Courtesy of <http://www.stjohnsac.net.au/>

1895–Present

Glen Dhu State/Primary school was built to relieve the pressure on Charles Street.

1901–1939

Wellington Square State School serviced a large number of pupils. Following its closure, the children attended the Charles Street School and the building was used for woodwork and cookery school purposes.

St Johns School (in Elizabeth Street), 1847–1857

This school site was significant in Launceston's early education history. It commenced in 1847 under the administration of the Church of England and received government aid that year when its enrolment was 46.¹ An advertisement in December 1847 identified the school as St Johns Classical and Commercial and indicated that it took boarders.²

Mr William Fowler WATHEN (1823–1899) was the first master, assisted by his

wife, Jane, who was employed as the teacher of needlework from 1847. They were there until April 1853, at which time the couple took up an appointment at the Church of England school at Carrick until 1855.

Born 1823, Wooton Under Edge, Gloucestershire, England, son of Thomas and Emma Wathen, Mr Wathen arrived in Van Diemens Land about 1846. He had trained at Gloucester Diocesan and Westminster National Training Schools.³ In June 1853, Mr Wathen occupied a rent-free residence on a quarter of an acre attached to St Johns.⁴ He married thrice, first to Jane WADDLE, 1847, Launceston (widowed 1855); next to Eliza WADDLE, 1856, Launceston (widowed 1858) and thirdly to Emma WITHEY, 1861, Launceston (widowed 1879). He fathered at least 19 children. He was associated with the Mechanics Institute in Launceston from 1846 until the time of his death, holding the positions of paid

¹ *Journal of Legislative Council*, 1848

² *Cornwall Chronicle*, 29 December 1847

³ *Cyclopaedia of Tasmania*, 1900, p. 42

⁴ Tasmanian Archives (TA): CB3/3/1

librarian, secretary and member of the Board of Management over that period. Mr Wathen was living in Charles Street Launceston in 1866 when he made unsuccessful application for a further position with the Board of Education.⁵ He then opened a private school in Charles Street in 1867 called Princes Square Classical and Commercial School.⁶ The 1874 Valuation Roll for Launceston indicated that Mr Wathen was the occupier/owner of a house and shop in Charles Street. He died at Launceston on 6 December 1899, aged 77 years, and was buried at Cypress Street Cemetery, Launceston.⁷

Inspector Thomas ARNOLD noted in May 1851, that the school had lately suffered from competition of private schools.⁸ In June 1853, he visited the school again and recorded that there were 50 boys and 19 girls on the register, the average daily attendance being 50. There were four classes of boys and three of girls, the elder boys being employed alternately as monitors. The master collected about 11s 0d a week in fees paid by the scholars. The school had two privies on separate sides of the school. The classroom was 40 by 20 feet and the master paid for the firing for the stove (which smoked). All furniture, consisting of desks along one wall, a master's desk, a table, a book closet and plenty of forms, was church property. Inspector Arnold described the children under the discipline of Mr Wathen as restless and inclined to noise; some were dirty and untidy.⁹

Mr William BURSTON (1809–1881) was the school's next master from 1854 to mid-1858 with support from his wife, Catherine, née MICHELL/MICHAEL (1815–1878) as teacher of needlework. They had previously been teaching at St Pauls Church School in Frankland Street. Both from England, Mrs Burston arrived as a convict in 1841 aboard the *Navarino* 1 and Mr Burston came as a qualified teacher who had trained at Battersea. They married in Launceston in 1845 and had twelve children between 1846 and 1863. In 1853, Inspector Arnold had described the couple as 'nice tidy little people', adding that St Pauls was a 'Good School' under their care. Mr Burston was said to use a whistle but the children were very noisy.¹⁰ In 1856, the inspector recommended that Mr Burston merited advancement to the First Class.¹¹ He became the licensee of the *Fire Brigade Hotel*, Brisbane Street for nearly 20 years from 1860.

Elizabeth Street Public School, 1857–1884 (at St Johns Church schoolrooms)

From early 1857, under the auspices of the newly-formed Northern Board of Education, the school changed its name to Elizabeth Street Public School with Mr Burston still the master. Mrs Matilda DAKIN (1829–1901) replaced Mrs Burston as the teacher of needlework and continued to be employed at the school until the end of 1860. In April 1856, Mrs Dakin had advertised her desire to open a Day School in Upper Balfour Street.¹² She married private schoolmaster Jonathan Dakin in Launceston in 1847 and they had at least nine children between 1848 and 1869.

⁵ TA: ED2/1/67; file 90

⁶ *Launceston Examiner*, 5 January 1867

⁷ Thanks to Louise Gibson for her help with some of this information

⁸ *Journal of Legislative Council*, 1852

⁹ TA: CB3/1

¹⁰ *ibid*

¹¹ *Journal of House of Assembly*, 1857

¹² *Launceston Examiner*, 19 April 1856

In 1858, an average daily attendance of 100 was reported.¹³

Mr Roger LEACH (1817–1905) took over the role of Head Teacher from Mr Burston in July 1858 and remained there till February 1872. Born in Morchard Bishop, Devon, England, Mr Leach married Betsey BASSETT (1816–1906) in 1842 in London. He was later brought to Van Diemens Land from England in 1850, on the recommendation of the Archbishop of Canterbury, to be in charge of the new Normal School in Hobart. The Normal School, intended for training teachers, was a dismal failure and Mr Leach was dismissed without notice in 1852. In 1855, he was granted a pension of £100,¹⁴ and the following year was listed as conductor of Beaulieu House Academy in Hampden Road.¹⁵

In 1864, the Board of Education noted that Elizabeth Street School received an allowance of 2s 6d per week for cleaning.¹⁶ It was stated in 1868 that the two-roomed building was altogether disproportioned to the large numbers in attendance. There was no playground, nor other suitable provision for health and recreation. The erection of a new government building in the town had become a matter of urgent and immediate importance. A site in Charles Street had already been purchased by the government.¹⁷

In June 1868, the Board noted the termination of tenancy existing between itself and the Churchwarden of St Johns with reference to the school and teacher's

residence on 31 December 1868.¹⁸ However, in January 1869, it was resolved that the Board would rent the premises for a further six months for £25.¹⁹

In December 1871, before the court in Launceston, a pupil at the school accused Mr Leach of assaulting him with the cane. The case was dismissed.²⁰

In March 1872, the Board of Education wrote to Mr and Mrs Leach stating their regret at the severance of their services and expressing appreciation of their valuable service as teachers during the previous fourteen years. Mr Leach subsequently opened the Classical and Commercial Academy in Edinburgh House in Launceston in April 1872, the premises being previously known as the *Club Hotel*. An advertisement in the *Launceston Examiner* dated 27 February 1872, described the situation as

... replete with every convenience, excellent school rooms, spacious dormitories, baths, covered playgrounds and more ...

In the same advertisement, he stated that, whilst he was Head Teacher at Elizabeth Street Public School, his pupils had gained 13 out of the 34 Government Exhibitions awarded by the Board of Education during the previous six years 'after a competitive examination open to all public schools in the island'. In March 1905, Mr Leach made an unsuccessful application for gratuity from the Tasmanian Government, providing with it a resume of his career in Australia. He died in Richmond, Victoria later that year.

In January 1870, the Board noted that the Churchwardens had agreed to let the

¹³ *Launceston Examiner*, 14 October 1858

¹⁴ *Journal of House of Assembly*, 1856

¹⁵ *Hobart Town Directory and Almanack*, 1857

¹⁶ *The Mercury*, 26 April 1864

¹⁷ *Journal of House of Assembly*, 1869

¹⁸ TA: ED13/1/7

¹⁹ *The Mercury*, 6 January 1869

²⁰ *Launceston Examiner*, 14 December 1871

school premises for a further twelve months to the end of that year.²¹ In March 1872, approval was given to erect a paling fence divide between the boys' and girls' toilets. At the same time, it was established that an additional 100 square feet in the rear of the teacher's residence was to be added to the original playground. Later that year, physical alterations to the school were approved.

Scottish-born Mr William Hepburn KIDD (1823–1892) replaced Mr Leach from 1872–1884, having previously been in charge of Evandale Public School. He married Janet (Jessie) WOOD (1823–1896) in 1849 at Kirkurd, Peebles, Scotland and was brought to Tasmania with his wife and family by the Board of Education in 1855. He had been educated in the Free Church Training School in Edinburgh and afterwards studied at the University and Free Church College there. For nine years prior to his arrival in Tasmania, Mr Kidd was a teacher in the Free Church School at Greenlaw, Berwickshire.²² He was transferred from Elizabeth Street to the charge of the new school at Charles Street from July 1884–1892. He retired on a government pension, but died less than five months later at Launceston at the age of 68.

In April 1873, it was stated that the Elizabeth Street School was capable of accommodating 240 pupils. Growth continued and by 1876 the school's enrolment consisted of 320 boys and 153 girls.²³ That number of pupils placed extreme strain on the building's available facilities and compromised the comfort and health of all involved. Nevertheless, the teachers endeavored to provide the best education they could for the children.

²¹ TA: ED13/1/9

²² *Launceston Examiner*, 21 December 1891

²³ *Launceston Examiner*, 26 December 1876

At the end of year examination in 1877 it was reported that a number of subjects were covered: English, writing, arithmetic, geography, algebra, geometry, drawing, needlework, etc. *Rule Britannia* and *Home Sweet Home* were sung in full choir in a most pleasing and tasteful manner.²⁴

By June 1879, the wardens at St Johns had advised the Board of Education that unless the latter were prepared to pay £50 per annum in rent, the former would require the building. In response, the Colonial Secretary asked the necessary plans and estimates for a new school building [in Charles Street] be forwarded to him.²⁵ In July 1879, the Board of Education announced it intended to close the school owing to the rent being asked for the premises.²⁶ At the end of the year, however, the Board was advised that negotiations had been successful and the church building had been secured for yet another year.²⁷ That arrangement allowed the government more time to plan and make financial provision for the building of a new school whose ownership of which they were in control.

By 1883, it was noted that a commodious building [in Charles Street] was in the process of being erected.²⁸ The Elizabeth Street Public School closed in 1884 and most of the pupils were transferred to the new school.

Launceston Free School, 1892–1896 (at St Johns Church schoolrooms)

In April 1892, after a recess of about eight years, the schoolrooms at St Johns were rented by the Education Department and set up as a free school. The Murray

²⁴ *Launceston Examiner*, 22 December 1877

²⁵ *Launceston Examiner*, 27 June 1879

²⁶ *Devon Herald*, 23 July 1879

²⁷ *The Tasmanian*, 6 December 1879

²⁸ *Journal of House of Assembly*, 1883

Street Free School in Hobart, designated exclusively for children whose parents or guardians could not afford, or refused, to pay their fees, had been operating since 1872 and provided a good model for the Launceston version. Sixty children formed the original cohort at Elizabeth Street taught by Mr George Harry Augustus DOUBLEDAY (1840–1901), Mrs Harriet Elizabeth Doubleday (1844–1925) and their daughter, Miss Harriet Clara Doubleday (1875–1969).

In July 1892, the Inspector reported that the schoolrooms were very clean. However, too much light was said to be excluded in dull weather by frosting of the windows. In November 1892 there was an enrolment of 140.²⁹

In April 1896, Mr Doubleday stated that four desks and 18 forms belonged to the landlord. The playgrounds were rough and inadequate in size, with shelter sheds so small and open as to be useless. The well-appointed Charles Street School was only a five-minute walk away.³⁰ The Education Department announced the school was to close on 30 June 1896, and the government advised that, in future, no state schools would be continued as free schools.³¹

The school remained open under ordinary state school status, Mr Doubleday

continuing in charge up to March 1901 with assistance from two other female teachers. It catered for an overflow of children from the growing Charles Street School and by June 1898 had an enrolment of 160.

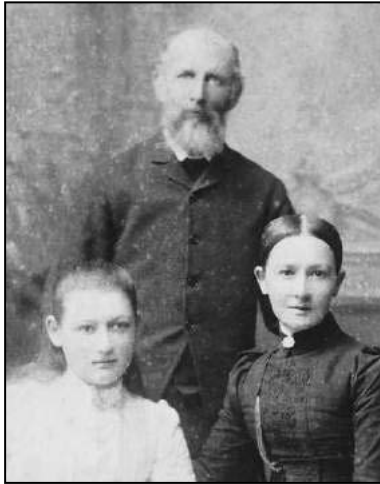
In 1909, the school again was rented by the Education Department to cater for the overflow of younger classes from Charles Street. By that time, the wardens of St Johns were concerned about the school's

sanitary conditions,³² and following a report from the Health Department, arrangements were made for alterations at government expense.³³

Most of the maintenance and renovation costs to the St Johns schoolrooms were borne by the Board of Education/Education Department from government funding up to the early 1900s.

That practice was not the norm for the Department's use of rented premises. How-

ever, through that exception to the rule, hundreds of Launceston children who received their education in those small schoolrooms benefited greatly from the arrangement. The buildings at St Johns were, indeed, highly significant in their contribution to the growth of public education in Launceston. ◀



The Doubleday family
courtesy of **Ancestry.com**
member Tim Rattray

²⁹ TAHO: ED31/1/2

³⁰ TAHO: ED2/1/1407

³¹ TAHO: ED13/1/57

³² *Daily Post*, 28 June 1909

³³ *The Mercury*, 27 July 1909

FIRST CAR ON THE HILL

Elizabeth Barsham (Member 7874)



Welcome home for Christmas 1918—the decorated dining room. Author's collection

IN 1916 Mrs PEARCE, the richest lady in Lindisfarne, bought the first motor-car in the village and added driving to the duties of her long-suffering lady companion. It was obviously a far more convenient mode of transport than saddling up Ranger or Gunner, or taking Mother's pony and trap, and there might have been a touch of rivalry involved, too. At any rate, the LANE family began to consider buying a brand new Ford Tourer. Costing more than £200.00, a motor-car was an expensive investment so it had to be a family decision. They sat on the verandah talking it over, and finally settled the matter in their own inimitable manner—"If someone walks along the track in the next ten minutes, we'll buy one." Somebody did. A car would be bought.

The family consisted of Mr Benjamin Lane, his wife Marion, generally known

as Fanny, and their twelve children, but they were not all there at *The Turning* in 1919 when this conversation was taking place. Six [see endnote] of the boys had gone off to the Great War; Fred and Bern would not come home.

Their father, formerly a process photographer and designer at *The Mercury*, was retired and amused himself inventing various contraptions, looking after his chooks and pottering about doing odd jobs. Bess, the oldest, and now a senior school-teacher in her mid-forties, was the main money-earner in the family. Doll earned a little pocket-money selling stories and poems to *The Bulletin*, *Lone Hand* and other publications and kept the house spotlessly clean. Ada had done all the cooking for the family since she was twelve years old, and Ruth, who had not long left school, had a small income as a music teacher. Hal and young John, in his

mid-teens, cared for the livestock, cut wood, and generally did the ‘men’s work’ around the property.

Bert came home from the Great War in 1918, just in time for Christmas. The family decorated the dining room specially, and Father was so impressed he took photographs.



Bert Lane home from the war

Bert had been severely wounded on the Somme and now walked with difficulty. This had been the most important factor in the family’s decision to buy a car.

Once the decision was made, another problem presented itself. The track visible from the verandah was an old woodcarters’ track from the end of Karoola Road over the hill to Flagstaff Gully. It was fairly rough, but good enough for the pedestrians and horses that used it. There was another track through the middle of *The Turning* paddocks, past several old sandstone and gravel quarries, that came out onto Bellerive Road (now Gordons

Hill Road) where it takes a sharp right-hand bend at the top of the hill. Both these routes included a steep uphill climb.

The one the family used most led down to the railway siding at the end of Flagstaff Gully, where Bess caught the train to Bellerive every morning. There was a stretch of deep sand where the trap sometimes bogged, requiring Dawn to be taken out of the shafts and some digging and heaving and shoving to get free, but it had a much gentler slope. They decided to make this their main driveway.

There was a minor obstacle—the Humpy, built as temporary accommodation while *The Turning* was under construction and now used as a workshop, was in the way.



The Humpy

Nothing daunted, the boys rigged up ropes and pulleys attached to convenient trees, lifted the little building up and replaced it on a rough, loose drystone foundation out of the path of progress. They probably intended to get some better foundations under it eventually, but they added a chimney using broken bricks and rubble

so that it was at least usable. About forty years later that chimney, now crumbling and fallen, was removed and the opening closed by a new door. The Humpy is still standing on its temporary foundations.

Bert hired three men from South Arm to help break rocks, and between them and Hal they built a good, solid cobbled roadway. By November 1919 it was complete, with a neat green gate at the bottom and a brand new garage at the top.

Denis, who had married in England, arrived back in Lindisfarne with his new wife and their infant son just before the road was finished.

Norm, who 'caught the first troopship out and the last one home', managed to get back in time to celebrate Christmas 1919. We don't know exactly when they bought the car, but Norm and Bert went half shares in the purchase. Every month, Norm drove across to John's Mart in town for groceries.

Denis and Eva bought a house in Malunna Road and named it *Habeita*, after a boring stretch of sand in Egypt Denis helped defend during the War.

In 1922 Norm married Mrs Pearce's widowed daughter Linda and went to live at her house, *Shameen*, in Lowelly Road.

Bert resumed his public service job in the Audit Department in 1920 and became engaged to Grace DENHOLM. He built a house for them further along the hill towards the quarry, and they married in 1922, a month or so after Norm and Linda. He built a new driveway to connect with the Motor Road, but it was not nearly as elaborate, being little more than a cleared track. They called their new house *The Ridge*.

John married Lorraine GORRINGE and went to work in country branches of the Commonwealth Bank.

Although Doll learned to drive in the Top Paddock, Hal and his sisters generally continued to walk everywhere, with Bert driving them occasionally if required.

* * *

In 1930 Fred MURFETT bought Mr ROSSINGTON's little orchard next door to *The Turning*. He got on well with the Lane family, and they gave him permission to use the Motor Road, as had Mr Rossington. However, Fred was a hard-working, business-like man who planted out a much larger area, and was soon harvesting substantial crops of pears.

The day of horse-drawn vehicles was coming to an end, and suddenly there were heavily-laden motor lorries rumbuling past *The Turning*, damaging the road and disrupting the peace. Father explained to Fred that this would have to stop. Fred approached the Clarence Council, and was provided with a gang of road-workers. They cleared and built up the old wood-carters track to Flagstaff Gully down the boundary between his orchard and *The Turning*, and Fred built a packing shed half-way down the hill. Much to their chagrin, the Council has found itself having to maintain Fred's driveway ever since.

After the Second World War Bert's son Geoff built a new road down to Bellerive Road, which became the common entrance for both *The Turning* and *The Ridge*. Modern motor vehicles had no trouble climbing our hill, and now the floating bridge over the River Derwent had opened it was inconvenient to travel by way of Flagstaff Gully. Still, the Old Motor Road remained in use until the 1950s, when Bert and Denis subdivided the land along Flagstaff Gully Road for building blocks. Somebody put a house where the Green Gate formerly stood.

About 1930 Bert bought a second-hand Chevrolet tourer. The garage was removed from *The Turning* to *The Ridge*, and later extended as a workshop. It was demolished in the early 21st century to make way for a tennis court. The old Ford was left rusting away in the paddock below *The Ridge* where it's remains were still to be seen in the 1950s.

The Motor Road endures. Traces are still visible despite decades of bush-fires and neglect. As the suburbs encroach more and more of it is disappearing under bricks and bitumen, but in its honour one of the new streets now bears the name Newmotor Road.



Newmotor Road on the Hillmorton Road corner

Endnote: Those of you who are paying attention will notice I have accounted for only five boys. Alf, the oldest son, returned to his wife's family in Melbourne, then went to Hong Kong as one of the partners in a civil engineering company.

He never came back to Tasmania. ◀

Images from author's collection.

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DISCOVERING ELIZA

Jennifer Jacobs (Member 1826)

SHE was just a shadow from my past. For years I had searched for Eliza, initially just an unknown wife. Neither my grandmother's birthday book nor the stack of postcards I inherited ever mentioned her. To make her history even more hazy, she had married a Smith.¹

My first clue for unravelling this family appeared in an entry in the birthday book, 'Grandfather Smith died 31 August 1870'. A search of Tasmanian indexes revealed a Thomas SMITH dying in Launceston aged 57 on this day. My next quest was the record of a Thomas (my great grandfather), born to a Thomas. There were several. My mother's cousin Gladly, then revealed to me Thomas the younger had a brother Charles and a sister Sarah who married William HUTCHINSON. Charles had been a bootmaker and Gladly remembered him putting tacks into his mouth and spitting them out one by one as he needed them. She also mentioned his children whose names were also registered in the birthday book. With this improved information, I again searched through the BDM indexes and found my Thomas Smith married Eliza DOWNEY at Hobart in 1845 and had required permission to do so.² They were both convicts.

With the surname Smith, the search for Eliza was tricky. The younger children

were born in Launceston where Thomas was a hawker and neither Thomas nor Eliza rated a mention in newspapers. They lived simple lives, probably not uneventful, but not worthy of reporting. Their children were born several years apart and when Thomas died, the eldest was twenty-four, the youngest only nine.

My first breakthrough came as I investigated the files of the Launceston Benevolent Society, in fact, looking for information on another family. I was surprised to find three entries relating to Eliza, the first just a month after the death of Thomas.

3 Oct 1870, Eliza Smith: widow with one child, a boy about 9 years old. I promised to bring her case before the committee but recommended her to get into the country where she and the boy might be more comfortable by looking after someone's hut.³

21 May 1871, Eliza Smith (No. 1432): Widow 1 boy 8 years residing in Bathurst St. She is sorely afflicted and has been maintained by her son, a shoemaker for some 2 years, but he being out of work here, left for Melbourne and for want of employment is unable to assist her any longer. I believe this to be a case for relief.⁴

These entries fitted well with my knowledge of Eliza. My great grandfather Thomas had become a shoemaker but I had no evidence as to whether he went to Melbourne at this time. I made the mistake of believing that 'sorely afflicted'

¹ Tasmanian Archives (TA), RGD 37/1/4 Marriage District of Hobart Thomas Smith and Eliza Downey 1845/1879

² TA: CON52/1/2 Marriage Permissions Thomas Smith *William Metcalfe* Eliza Downey *East London* p. 130

³ TA: NS 185-1-1 Launceston Benevolent Society (LBS) Admissions Register Image no. 77

⁴ TA: NS 185-1-1 LBS Admissions Register Image no. 143

meant Eliza was unwell and began unsuccessfully searching for her death around this time, yet she had survived.

4 Feb 1873, Eliza Smith (1432): When visiting E.S. I ascertained that she was about to leave Launceston and would not require any further relief, but thankful for the assistance afforded her.⁵

When checking through *Trove*, I discovered an Eliza Smith had recently gained employment with Samuel HENRY at Deloraine. Was this her? Her elder son was now a shoemaker in Chudleigh which was not far away.⁶

The *Cornwall Chronicle* reported at the March enquiry into the destruction by fire of Mr Henry's large steam mill, an Eliza Smith gave evidence she had been digging potatoes with Mr Henry at the time the fire broke out and she had been in his employ as a maid for only a fortnight.⁷

My next breakthrough came when Carr Villa began to digitise their records. I rang their office to enquire about the grave of William Hutchinson who died in 1927, wondering whether Eliza's daughter Sarah Ann, was also interred with her husband as I had been unable to locate her death.⁸ Although only William's name appeared on the headstone, I was informed a Hannah HAVILAND (d.1908) and an Eliza Smith (d.1906) were also interred there.⁹ After more than twenty years of searching, I found her resting place! Eliza outlived her husband by 36 years, and this was one of the earliest

burials in the cemetery. Hannah it seemed was another of Eliza's daughters overlooked in my research and to confuse me, had been named Mary Ann at her birth.¹⁰

Further research revealed Eliza spent the last three years of her life again under the care of the Launceston Benevolent Society in her arrival there coinciding with the move of her son Charles and his wife to Melbourne in 1903. Perhaps she continued to live with her younger son until then.¹¹

A rather bland entry in their books, states, Eliza Smith 'East London' resident of Launceston admitted to Launceston Benevolent Home on 10 March 1903. Discharged 3 Oct. 1906. Died.¹²

I imagined a sad old woman, abandoned by a family perhaps too uncomfortable to visit her in a place shunned by many. At Carr Villa, I photographed her grave, blooming abundantly with grape hyacinths, yet not revealing to the world that here she lay. I was reminded of her challenging life every time I passed similar blooms in my garden. Yet, as so often happens in family history when new records become available, perceptions can be changed completely.

On *Findmypast*, I stumbled across the records of Grangegorman Prison and Eliza featured several times. From her convict records, I knew she was short, had only a father and her face noticeably freckled.¹³ I had not known her participation in crime had started young.

⁵ TA: NS185-1-1 LBS Admissions Register Image no. 138

⁶ TA: RGD37/1/32 Marriage District of Deloraine 1873/67 Thomas Smith and Elizabeth Flower

⁷ *The Cornwall Chronicle* 19 March 1873 p. 3

⁸ I later found Sarah Ann died in Victoria in 1940; *Examiner* 26 October 1940 p. 2

⁹ Carr Villa Graves Section B no. 199

¹⁰ TA: RGD33/1/23 Birth District of Launceston 1850/2776 Mary Ann Smith

¹¹ TA: NS 1172/1/1 Admissions LBS Image 67; Victorian Electoral Roll 1903 Charles and Annie Smith, South Melbourne

¹² TA: NS 1172-1-1 LBS Image 109

¹³ TA: CON 19/1/2 Eliza Downey East London p. 152

Eliza had been a Dublin street child running around with gangs of children stealing what she could. First arrested in 1836 at age 11, she was only 4 feet 3 inches tall and had stolen shoes.¹⁴ She had no education and received a six-month sentence. At 13, with two others, she was sentenced for disturbing the peace.¹⁵ Aged 15, she and another girl were found not guilty of stealing a sheet but two boys with them received a whipping.¹⁶ Grangegorman welcomed Eliza again for six months age 16 when she stole a cloak.¹⁷ Her name was listed on the register of 'Female Prisoners Committed for Drunkenness', the day after release.¹⁸ She had obviously celebrated.

A cloak and sheets again garnered her attention earning her another six months incarceration in 1841 until finally, Dublin had enough.¹⁹ In 1842, Eliza stole a box and the sum of one and threepence from her employer and was sentenced to seven years' transportation. Tried at Tyrone Courthouse on 6 July, she awaited transfer to Kilmainham Prison on 2 May 1843 where she boarded the *East London* for her journey to VDL.²⁰

¹⁴ Irish Prison Registers (IPR) 1790–1924 Findmypast Mountjoy Prison General Register Female 1830–1836. Book No 1/51/3 Item No. 7

¹⁵ IPR 1790–1924 Findmypast Dublin (FMP D) Grangegorman Female Prison (GFP) General Register Book No 1/9/1 Item No. 1

¹⁶ IPR 1790–1924 FMP D, Kilmainham Female Prison General Register Book No. 1/10/4 Item No. 2

¹⁷ IPR 1790–1924 FMP D, GFP General Register Book No. 1/9/4 Item No. 4

¹⁸ IPR 1790–1924 FMP D, GFP General Register Book No. 1/9/41 Item No. 4

¹⁹ IPR 1790–1924 FMP D, GFP General Register Book No. 1/9/6 Item No. 2

²⁰ IPR 1790–1924 FMP D, GFP General Register Book No. 1/9/7 Item No. 3

I was able to follow the almost yearly descriptions of Eliza as she grew from a child to her full height of 4 ft 10½ inches. I noted the darkening of her hair from fair to brown and her indeterminate eyes, sometimes hazel and sometimes blue. She had little education yet managed to gain employment as she 'stole from my mistress'. Her birth addresses of Chancery Lane and Golden Lane sent me to investigate a map. I discovered the two streets intersected, so she probably lived near the corner.

As I visualise Eliza now, I am torn between a ragamuffin child, a survivor of one of the most gruelling convict voyages, a struggling widow and a sad, abandoned old woman. Why wasn't she ever mentioned in grandmother's postcards? They were written around the time Eliza lived in the benevolent home and despite visits to Launceston, no family member ever mentioned visiting her. They mentioned excursions, exhibitions and shows, tooth extractions, church activities, visiting friends, and often grandmother Flower who died around this time, but not a word of grandmother Smith.

Friends were invited to attend Eliza's funeral, from the home of her son in law, William Hutchinson at 9.30 am on the 4 October 1906, the morning following her death.²¹ They would have to have read the paper early to be punctual. My grandmother's family at Chudleigh would not have had time to travel.

Coincidentally, Eliza died 36 years to the day after first applying to the Benevolent Society for assistance. It was fortunate they were there for her. ◀

²¹ *Examiner*, 4 October 1906, p. 1.

NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS

NAME	PLACE/AREA	TIME	M'SHIP NO.
ARCHER Charles	Essex ENGLAND	c.1825	8108
ARGENT James	Brighton TAS AUS	1802-1891	8115
BRACEY William	London ENG/Launceston TAS AUS	1089-1860	8111
BRYANT Allen Roy			8109
BURKINSHAW John	Hobart TAS AUS	1810-1870	8103
BURTON Thomas	Little Bromley ESS ENG/Bullarook Hill VIC AUS	1832-1907	8111
CHISHOLM James Snr	SCT/ENG/NSW AUS	1772-1837	8119
CHISHOLM William Alexander	NSW AUS	1832-1902	8119
CLARK DAVIS Elizabeth Williamson	Tasmania AUS	1830-1907	8106
DELL John	Reading ENG/Sydney NSW/Launceston TAS	1763-1866	8111
DOWIE Henry Butler	London ENG/Auckland NZ/Launceston TAS	1822-1889	8111
FROST George	Campbelltown/Longford TAS AUS	1860-1899	8113
FROST George	Hobart/Campbelltown TAS AUS	1818-1876	8113
FROST William Stanley	Pateena Longford TAS AUS	1892-1953	8113
GARROD Doris			8109
GIBSON			8105
GOODLUCK			8105
GRIFFITHS Elizabeth			8108
HODGETTS			8117
HUGHES Patrick	Meath IRE	c.1700	8102
HUGHES Stephen	IRELAND (Convict)	c.1800	8102
HUTCHINSON John	Scarborough YKS ENG/Hobart TAS AUS	1793-1866	8111
IBOTT	Tasmania AUS		8116
KINGHORNE Alexander	SCT/TAS/NSW AUS	1770-1910	8118
KINGHORNE Alexander Snr	SCT/TAS/NSW AUS	1772-1846	8119
KINGHORNE William	ENG/SCT/TAS/NSW AUS	1770-1910	8118
KINGHORNE William	SCT/TAS/NSW AUS	1796-1878	8119
LAMPH John	Richmond TAS AUS	1798-1838	8115
LANE William	Tasmania AUS	1830-1907	8106
LEMPRIERE Thomas James	ENG/CHI/France/TAS AUS	1796-1852	8119
LEMPRIERE Thomas James	ENG/CHI/France/TAS AUS	1800-1880	8118
MACKAY Isabella	Glasgow SCT/Hobart/Campbelltown TAS AUS	1826-1862	8113
MOHAN Catherine	Meath IRE	c.1700	8102
MORIARTY William	ENG/IRE/TAS AUS	1800-1880	8118
MORIARTY William	IRE/TAS AUS	1792-1850	8119
NUNN Simeon	Glenorchy TAS AUS	1816-1901	8115
PECK Joshua	Hobart TAS AUS	1760-1825	8115
PENNEYSTON	Beaconsfield TAS AUS	1850-1900	8114
PRICE Aaron	Kangaroo Point TAS AUS	1794-1882	8115
RADBURN			8105
RUSSELL			8105
SMITH John	Heddon on the Wall NBL ENG	c.1700	8102
SPURR	SCT		8116
TERRY John	Askrigg YKS ENG	c.1705	8112
THOMSON James	New Norfolk TAS AUS	m.1840	8107
WATSON	Beaconsfield TAS AUS	1850-1900	8114
WATSON			8105
WEAVELL Maria		c.1800	8102
WHITCHURCH Wickham	Evandale TAS AUS	1794-1869	8115
WILLIAMSON William	Aberdeen SCT/Quantong VIC AUS	1819-1902	8111

NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members

8102	ADAM Mrs Beverley	30 Gunbower Road adampad@westnet.com.au	MT PLEASANT	WA	6153
8103	LAWLOR-SMITH Dr Lauren	PO Box 517 glal@adam.com.au	WILLUNGA	SA	5172
8104	JOHNSON Mrs Amanda	51 Carlton Street recollectionstas@gmail.com	NEW TOWN	TAS	7008
8105	GIBSON Mr Christopher	4 Resolution Street gibsonchristopher6@gmail.com	WARRANE	TAS	7018
8106	LANE Mr Raymond	50a Bayfield Street raynkaye@gmail.com	BELLERIVE	TAS	7018
8107	THOMSON Mrs Mandy	PO Box 1038 mandyjthomson@hotmail.com	GLENORCHY	TAS	7010
8108	DINELEY Mr John	192 Channel Hwy catherinemidson57@netspace.net.au	TAROONA	TAS	7053
8109	DINELEY Ms Elizabeth	192 Channel Hwy catherinemidson57@netspace.net.au	TAROONA	TAS	7053
8110	DELL Mr Anthony	39 Dynnyrne Road delltk@bigpond.com	DYNNYRNE	TAS	7005
8111	DELL Mrs Kathleen	39 Dynnyrne Road delltk@bigpond.com	DYNNYRNE	TAS	7005
8112	TERRY Mr Raymond	17 Pillinger Drive 1234uk@gmail.com	FERN TREE	TAS	7054
8113	FROST Mr Michael	2 Audley Street michaelfrost5@bigpond.com	NORTH HOBART	TAS	7000
8114	VAN EYCK Mr Gerry	47 Club Drive gerryve@internode.on.net	SHEARWATER	TAS	7307
8115	HILLE Mr Douglas	3 Tuxen Court djh1@bigpond.net.au	HIGHTON	VIC	3216
8116	BEVERIDGE Mrs Atholine	PO Box 5 iabev17@gmail.com	DEVONPORT	TAS	7310
8117	BEVERIDGE Mr Ian	PO Box5 iabev17@gmail.com	DEVONPORT	TAS	7310
8118	PUGH Mr Alexander	Not for publication			
8119	MAXWELL William Prof Emr	Not for publication			

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HELP WANTED

WHY DID HE DO IT? A puzzling story

Early in 1855 Henrick KLOEPHER left his home town of Beutelsbach, Bavaria in Germany to board the immigrant ship *Wilhelmsburg* for Tasmania. With him was his wife Christiana and children Johana, Wilhelm and August.

Little has been explored about his early life here. He changed, or authorities changed, his name to Henry CLIFFORD. Another four children were added to the family. Some married and he became a grandad. He also bought land in the Kellevie Bream Creek area.

So why circa 1887 did he decide to go back to Germany? Did he discuss it with his wife as she remained here?

There are no older relatives to help me. I was brought up in the years where children were seen and not heard. When visitors came, a biscuit (if you were lucky) was pushed in your hand and out the back door you went. Even asking a simple question, and an innocent one, "Who was that Mum?" earned you a very black look.

So how did Henry return to Germany? He was around 70 years of age. Was he spritely and able to cope by himself or did someone go with him? Did he board a ship that took him directly to Germany or was his journey in stages? It is known that his wife sent money to Germany. She died in 1903 so what did Henry do for money? He lived another 15 years. Did he receive a pension from Germany, or even Tasmania? Is there anyone who would be able to help me? Just to know how people were able, in general, to get to Germany from Tasmania in 1889.

Carol Rodway (Member 3)

WARREN or WARRIN

I wish to contact any descendants of convict 3324 James WARREN, *Lord Goderich*, 1841, aka James Halse WARREN or WARRIN, baptised 2 November 1818, Stoke Damerel, Devon Married Emma Eliza JOHNSON 19 December 1846, St Georges Bethesda Church, Hobart. First son born 6 September 1847 in Hobart. Name not recorded.

Is this son Thomas WARREN, my great grand-father? Married Euphemia DENHOLM in Hobart 24 March 1873, aged 25 years. Please email Ross Warren rosswarren1501@gmail.com

LETTER TO THE EDITOR ...

I have read with great interest Helen Anderson's article in the latest issue of *Tasmanian Ancestry*, Volume 40 No. 4.

Ailsa Black, daughter of AGH BLACK, married my uncle, Charles Arthur TOMKINSON, at Launceston on 30 March 1939. They both died at Hobart—Ailsa on 5 October 1988 (79 years) and Charles on 31 December 2001 (93 years). There were no children to the marriage.

Charles joined Tasmania Police in 1930 and retired in 1965 with the rank Detective Inspector. Charles' father, Charles Edward Tomkinson also served with Tasmania Police, retiring at Burnie in 1941 after 39 years service and with the rank of Superintendent. There were six children in the Tomkinson family, including my mother, Marie.

Charles and Ailsa lived at Mount Stuart from 1948 and Ailsa's widowed mother, May lived with them for the last 10 years of her life.

Kerry Bowerman (Member 5663)

THE 1842 POTTERY RIOTS

David Lloyd

THIS article is based on my MSc dissertation which I completed in 2017. It was a genealogical investigation into 54 men involved in riots in the Potteries area of Staffordshire in August 1842. The men were tried at a Special Assize in October 1842, convicted, and subsequently received transportation sentences of varying terms to Van Diemens Land (VDL) now Tasmania. The research aimed to trace these men before conviction, to life after they had served their sentence, and eventually death. The research highlighted some of the genealogical records available online pertaining to convicts transported to VDL and the rich detail that can be extracted from convict records (especially conduct records,¹ indents,² and description lists).³

The sources consulted to carry out the research included; the 1841 England and Wales Census, England and Wales criminal registers, prison hulk registers, Tasmanian convict records (which included conduct records, description lists, indents, marriage permission records), Australian civil registration records, and newspapers.

Introduction

On 15 and 16 August 1842, riots broke out in the Potteries district in North Staffordshire. In the first two weeks of October the same year, a Special Commission of Assize was held at Stafford at which a total of 276 people who had participated in the riots were tried. The accused were dealt with in three separate courts with each one overseen by a distinguished judge—one of these being Sir Nicholas TINDAL, the Lord Chief Justice and esteemed lawyer who successfully defended Queen Caroline in her trial in 1820. Of the 276 people tried at the Special Commission, 116 men and women were imprisoned and 54 men were sentenced to be transported to VDL and received varying terms ranging from seven years to life. The sentence of transportation came to be used after the Transportation Act of 1718 and was a secondary punishment for people convicted of crimes that were originally a capital offence. The offences the men committed included: burglary, malicious stabbing with intent to do bodily harm, larceny, and feloniously demolishing a house.

The majority of these 54 men (43 of them) originated from industrial towns in North Staffordshire, with the rest from neighbouring counties of Cheshire and Derbyshire, and five from more distant counties.

Fifty-one of the 54 men sentenced to transportation were first held on the prison hulk *York* at the end of October 1842, which was moored in Gosport in Hampshire. These men, according to records, sailed on the *John Renwick* convict transportation ship which had 160 men on board. They embarked on 8 Nov-

¹ Created to record the convicts' behaviour whilst they were in the colony, but also included information relating to the convicts' history before arrival.

² Compiled on board before the convicts disembarked and contained pre-arrival information including information on family members and native place. Some parts were copied into the conduct records

³ Compiled on board the convict ship before the convicts disembarked and recorded their physical appearance

ember 1842 and sailed on 7 December 1842 from Spithead in Hampshire, calling at the Cape of Good Hope and arriving at Hobart Town, VDL on 10 April 1843. Of the three remaining convicts of the 54, one sailed later on the convict ship *Cressy*, embarking on 22 April 1843 and arriving in VDL on 20 August 1843. Another arrived even later, embarking on the ship *Lord Auckland* on 27 June 1844 and arriving on 15 November 1844. One convict didn't make the trip to VDL having died on the prison hulk *York* after first serving a six-month prison sentence.

Summary of research

In summary, 17 men (32 per cent) of the 53 men researched who were transported to VDL were traceable in life events after being granted their freedom, such as: travelling to mainland Australia; deaths; marriage; and later prison sentences. Three men were known to have died before they were granted their freedom, as shown in their conduct records. This means that 33 men (62 per cent) in the group couldn't be found in any genealogical records after they were granted their freedom. This result roughly concurred with previous research done by others regarding the difficulties in tracing convicts after they had been granted freedom, which suggested that when convicts were released they rarely appeared in records—unless they committed a later offence. Also, many convicts changed their names after they were granted freedom. Of the 17 men who were traceable after being granted freedom, just nine were found in likely death records.

Other information from research included:

- The average age of the men was just over 25 years old.
- Most of the men were in the 20–24 age group and accounted for 44 per cent of the total group.
- Most of the men originated from Staffordshire, accounting for 80 per cent of the group.
- Most of the group were either colliers—accounting for 33 per cent of the group—or potters, who made up 28 per cent of the group.
- The marital status of the men in the group showed that 50 per cent were single and 50 per cent were married.
- Thirty-nine per cent of the group could read and write, with 19 per cent of the men being illiterate.
- Thirty-one per cent of the group had previously been imprisoned, convicted, or both.
- Out of the total group, 48 per cent were convicted of 'feloniously demolishing a house'.
- A 10-year sentence was the most common sentence, given to 18 (33 per cent) of the men.
- A life sentence was given to 11 (20 per cent) of the men.
- The most common offence committed, and sentence received was 21 years for 'feloniously demolishing a house'—given to 13 (24 per cent) of the men.
- Forty-seven of the men (89 per cent) committed one or more offences in the colony whilst still under sentence.
- Sentences served ranged from approximately seven years to approximately 15 years.

The following two men were selected from the whole group as examples because one returned to England, and the other one remained in VDL and started a new life.

There was only one convict who was shown to have returned to England with certainty, as this information was recorded in his conduct record. He left VDL 11 years after receiving a free pardon and was found in the 1871 England & Wales

census living with his sister, in the same area he resided in before he was convicted and transported. He was found to have died five years after this, a bachelor, and his name was Richard WRIGHT.

Richard Wright (c.1825–1876)

The information found for him in the 1841 Census for England & Wales before he was convicted and transported is shown on the following page.⁴

The indent for Richard recorded him as a collier with a derived birth year of c.1825 and with four brothers—George, Joseph, John and James and three sisters—Rachael, Sarah and Hannah. The 1871 Census (next page), appeared to be the correct one for Richard as it matched all the names recorded on the indent, his occupation, county of birth, and derived birth year of about 1825.

Further research for baptism records for Richard and his siblings show George and Rachael were likely to be the parents, and accidentally recorded as a brother and sister on the indent.

Criminal register record information

On 1 October 1842 Richard was convicted of ‘Feloniously demolishing a house’ and given a sentence of 21 years. He was recorded as being 17 years of age.

Conduct record information included:

- marital status – single
- native place – Norton (Staffordshire)
- trade – collier
- height – 5 ft. 5 in.
- hair colour – red
- eye colour – light grey
- literacy – could only read
- religion – protestant

- remarks – freckled, stout made, blind in right eye
- free pardon granted – 4 April 1854.

According to his conduct record, Richard was discharged from prisoner barracks in Hobart, VDL, and returned to England on 7 February 1865 on the ship *Derwent Water*. A suitable 1871 census record was subsequently found for him as follows.

The above census record was a good match for Richard, corroborating with information on his conduct record that he was blind, and with information on his indent record which stated he had a sister called Hannah. His derived birth year of c.1825 on this census record also matched with his birth year on the conduct record. A marriage record for his sister Hannah was found and confirmed she was previously Hannah Wright and had married John Stoddard in 1847, corroborating that this was the correct record.

Death

No suitable records were found for Richard in the 1881 census or any subsequent later censuses, so it was possible that he had died between the 1871 census and the 1881 census. Only one likely death record was found which was registered in the 4th quarter 1876 in Stoke upon Trent, and this was the area where he was living in 1871. The record stated he was aged 51, giving a derived birth year of c.1825 which was an exact match to his derived birth year on census records and criminal records.

There was only one convict out of all who were researched whose whole life-course after conviction was traceable, i.e. marriage, having children, and death. His name was Henry HOWARD.

Henry Howard (c. 1823–1891)

No suitable 1841 census records could be located for Henry in the research time available.

⁴ 1841 CEN England & Wales, HO 107/991/4 Staffordshire, Stoke Upon Trent, Lane End, District 8

Borough Stoke upon Trent				Township Longton
Place	Name	Age	Sex	Profession
Cycles Lane	Richard Wright	16	Male	Collier
	George Wright			
	Rachel Wright			
	Hannah Wright			
	Joseph Wright			Potter apprentice
	John Wright			
	James Wright			
	Sarah Wright			
1841 CEN England & Wales, HO 107/991/4 Staffordshire, Stoke Upon Trent, Lane End, District 8				

Civil Parish - Stoke upon Trent				Municipal Borough of Longton		
Road	Name	Relationship	Condition	Age	Sex	Where born
35 Endesor Rd	Richard Wright	Brother	Unmarried	46	Male	Norton, Staffs
	Hannah Stoddard	Head	Widowed	43	Female	Norton, Staffs
1871 CEN England & Wales, HO						

Criminal register record information

On 1 October 1842 Henry was convicted of 'Feloniously demolishing a house' and given a transportation sentence of 21 years. He was recorded as being 19 years of age.

Conduct record information included:

- marital status – single
- native place – Sedgeley [sic]
- trade – groom
- height – 5 ft. 3 in.
- hair colour – dark brown
- eye colour – blue
- literacy – could read and write
- religion – protestant
- remarks – two scars on left cheek, large scar on left shoulder, small mole on left eye
- conditional pardon approved – 16 May 1854.

Marriage permission record

Henry asked for permission to marry Hannah BRAIN and this was recommended on 13 July 1853. The record noted he arrived in the colony on the ship *John Renwick*, corroborating that this was the correct record as that was the ship on which he had arrived.

Marriage record

The marriage record showed he married Hannah Brain on 6 September 1853 at St Georges Church in Hobart, aged 30 years, which corroborated with the derived birth year of c.1823 from his criminal register.

Children of Henry

Henry and his wife Hannah had the following children who were found in Australian civil registration records:

- Henry Joseph b. 27 June 1855
- William John b. 23 June 1857
- George Edward b. 4 September 1859
- Alfred Charles b. 25 November 1861

Caroline Eliza b. 2 January 1864
Rose Mary b. 25 December 1865
Ada Selina b. 20 August 1867
Annie Elizabeth b. 29 October 1869
Arthur Samuel b. 25 January 1872
Laurine Estelle b. 7 December 1874
Alette Letitia b. 14 October 1876.

All were born at Warwick Street, Hobart, and all records recorded Henry Howard as the father and Hannah Brain as the mother, thus corroborating they were indeed the children of Henry and Hannah.

Death

There was a likely death record found for Henry showing he died on 12 March 1891 in Victoria Street, Hobart (a short walk from Warwick Street) giving details that he was 74 years of age and was born in England.¹ It also showed he was a chapel keeper and that his cause of death was inflammation of the lungs and pleurisy. The derived birth year was only a few years out, but he was registered with an extra forename—John. However, I was inclined to believe this was the correct record due to the following information:

- The discovery of a death announcement in a newspaper for his wife Hannah, stated she died on 15 March 1903 at her son-in-law's residence, Warwick Street, the relict of the late Henry John Howard.² The children of Henry and Hannah were all born at Warwick Street.
- Henry died in Victoria Street which was only a short walk from Warwick Street.
- The death record stated he was born in England, which is where he was born.

(Henry's indent records him as having a brother called John, which could be why he used the name).

Conclusion

Conduct records, indents, and description lists are fascinating and very informative records to use. The information recorded in conduct records and description lists is rich genealogical information and includes details such as: date and place of conviction; offences previously committed; offences committed in the colony; distinguishing marks (tattoos, scars, etc.); height; eye colour; hair colour; religion; literacy; marital status; if the convict has any children; trade; and native place. Also, information is recorded pertaining to their freedom being granted. Information recorded in indent records can include the names of parents and siblings or the names of wives and children, and where these individuals reside. All these records are very useful in building up a detailed picture of any ancestor who may have (unfortunately) been a convict and can provide an exciting glimpse into their character. ◀

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Your membership information will be remembered for the duration of this session. To protect your privacy please make sure you click the 'Log out' link when you have finished.

¹ *The Mercury*, 14 March 1891, p. 4

² *The Mercury*, 16 March 1903, p. 1.

A CONVICT UNCOVERED

Les Shearer (Member 7237)

WHEN I sent the final manuscript of my book *Cries from the Past* to the printer, I was certain there were still many untold stories about the family of my wife's great grandmother Kate EVANS (née FINNERTY).

At that stage, however, I didn't know just how much of the story was still to be revealed. My research already extended over two years post publication, and with new evidence emerging from existing and newly digitised Tasmanian Archives (TA) discovered by myself and other family researchers, it soon became clear an update was inevitable. New information was forthcoming from Stanley court records and additional information from Robyn HAWKING, a Victorian researcher and another descendant of Bridget Finnerty/-COFFEY (née GILLIGHAN).

The original book was inspired by the stories of two people to whom it was dedicated—my mother-in-law Ruth MURFET, and her brother, Margaret's uncle and a life mentor of mine, Ken Evans. Ruth was the person who first raised my interest in the key subject of the book, her feisty but shy grandmother 'Kate' Evans, born Katherine Finnerty, to a couple of battle hardened early Circular Head Irish-born residents Bridget and Michael.

It was only ever written as a post retirement project to update the Finnerty/Evans family history and resolve some of the unanswered questions posed by the late Ken Evans, Margaret's uncle, in one of three books we printed for him at our

publishing business, The Circular Head Chronicle, *Blood and Water*.¹

It was never my intention to publish, only produce it for my children, until it became almost an obsession with discoveries I felt would be worth a wider audience. Ken's *Blood and Water* was written in 1998 from a typical perspective of many people of that era—Ken was in his 70s—in denying their convict heritage. The family had no 'criminals' in their past, every ancestor who ventured from the United Kingdom to Van Diemens Land was an 'immigrant' not a law breaker. It was important for future generations that this be put right, especially now most people regard their convict heritage as a rite of passage for a 'real Australian'.

But even I was caught out, with more recent research revealing the answer to a mystery that had evaded me for years ... the origins of Kate's father Michael Finnerty. At the time of writing *Cries from the Past*, I could find only two likely sources for Michael's arrival that fitted his age and destination—and came to the conclusion he was actually William Finnerty who arrived as a free man on the *Invincible* into Melbourne in 1855 but bound for Tasmania.

I had unsuccessfully scoured convict records at the archives to see if I could locate a Finnerty. But, as when seeking information about his future partner Bridget, I should have looked wider ... on her arrival (and this I picked up completely by chance) she was listed on the passenger list of the *Boomerang* in

¹ K J Evans, *Blood and Water*, 1998, ISBN 0 646 36759 5

1855 as KILLIGAN, not GILLINGHAN.² It was common mistake by the poorly educated shipping clerk or perhaps misinterpretation of the illiterate Bridget's broad Irish accent. A mystery, too, was the identity of the James GILLIGAN who sponsored Bridget's passage to Van Diemens Land³ and who a few months later witnessed the 1855 marriage of Bridget and her husband Christopher Coffey.⁴ Robyn Hawking's research discovered James was almost certainly Bridget's father, and an ex-convict. He was convicted in Roscommon Assizes,⁵ Ireland, in February 1844 for a violent assault and sentenced to seven years' transportation—leaving behind his wife Rose NALLY and a family including daughter Bridget and other children. He arrived in VDL on the *Cadet* in August the same year and served four and a half years before earning his ticket of leave. By 1854 he was a labourer and then a farmer at Westbury, making applications for a servant and then a family member (Bridget) under the Immigration Bounty Scheme.

It wasn't until last year that I solved the Michael Finnerty mystery through the recent publication in the online archives of the Stanley Court records for the period 1861–1905.⁶ It revealed our Michael made the first of his total of 33 appearances as an offender before the Stanley justices on 16 September 1872, charged with having assaulted and 'beaten without provocation' his partner Bridget Coffey. Bridget withdrew her complaint when it

arrived in court, but the case notation provided the answer to Michael's origins. As was the practice at that time, convicts never escaped the stain of their past. It was revealed he arrived in Hobart in 1850 as a 'passenger' in the holds of the convict ship *Hyderabad 3*. Why had I missed this? So I went back to the *Hyderabad 3* manifest and located convict 23502 Michael FERNAGHTY, tried and convicted on 11 January 1847 at Mayo, Ireland, and sentenced to 10 years' transportation for stealing three sheep. He was described as a 22-year-old illiterate Roman Catholic labourer with a fair complexion, brown hair and oval face. He arrived in Hobart in December 1850 and was initially assigned to a farm at Spring Bay, then Picton and finally Cressy before receiving his ticket of leave in September 1852. His ticket of leave was revoked three months later after an assault charge that resulted in a sentence of 12 months' hard labour in chains. It wasn't reinstated for almost another two years only to be revoked again in late 1853 for 'leaving service' presumably, walking away from his job without permission. His ticket of leave was finally restored in May 1855 although his offending continued in 1856 with two further offences, at Longford and Westbury for drunkenness, a pattern that would continue throughout his life.

He was living at Deloraine in June 1865 under the alias of Michael BURKE when he was fined 10 shillings, according to Launceston's *Cornwall Chronicle*, for disturbing the peace by fighting. He had moved to Torquay (now Devonport) under the same alias Michael Burke by October 1866 when he was convicted of larceny and found himself back in gaol, serving three months in the Launceston

² TA: Shipping and immigration records.
Note: Various spellings of Bridget's surname—Gilligan, Gillighan, Gillinghan.

³ Film: SLTX/AO/MB/266 series CB7/30

⁴ TA: Westbury marriage records #1252

⁵ National Archives of Ireland – Ireland to Australia database

⁶ TA: LC96/1/1 – Stanley Court 1861–1905

House of Correction.⁷ This was all new information of which I had no knowledge, but his location at Devonport may explain how he and Bridget, then married to ex-convict Christopher Coffey and presumably living at nearby Port Sorell may have met up and moved to Circular Head. It was a vital missing link.

Cries from the Past takes the reader through an emotional, terribly sad journey as we trace Kate's parents, the aforementioned Bridget Gillingham and her first husband (who Kate never met as far as we know), convict Christopher Coffey. We follow Bridget's association with the man we now know as an ex-convict, Michael Finnerty and their tribe of children, raised dirt-poor on a sub-standard 40-acre block on South Road, Forest, owned by Van Diemens Land Company. The 'farm' was described by the company's rent collector in the VDL Company records I scoured in the Hobart archives as being so poor that Finnerty should never have been charged rent.⁸

Bridget was left to raise their six children (as well as at least two from her first marriage to Coffey) after they were evicted from their acreage and Michael had died. Between 1872 and Michael's death from 'senility' (presumably a form of dementia) as a pauper in the Launceston Invalid Depot in 1891, the Stanley court records tell a sorry tale of a violent relationship which undoubtedly impacted on Kate and her siblings.

Michael's 33 appearances for drunkenness, assault, as well as not sending his children to school, saw him accumulate substantial fines which often resulted in gaol sentences for non-payment. There is

no record of them legally committing to each other—in 1874 and again in 1883 court records state he was 'cohabiting' with Bridget Coffey who was living under the alias of Finnerty. When he was charged with assaulting Bridget again (on his 21st court appearance) in May 1886 they were still unmarried. For that offence he was sentenced to three months imprisonment in Stanley gaol with hard labour. He appealed the sentence on the basis it would prove onerous for him and the family—clearly no AVOs then—and the court subsequently granted bail for two weeks and later reduced the penalty to a £2 fine (two pound fine), which he paid.

Bridget was no angel either—charged in 1872 for threatening to 'knock out the brains' of a neighbour, assaulting two others in 1874, cruelly beating a neighbour's pig and bashing her husband on several occasions.⁹

It was as early as July 1882 when we first hear mention of 13-year-old Kate Finnerty, my wife Margaret's great grandmother, when she and her eight-year-old sister (also Bridget) appeared before the Stanley Court. They were charged with stealing potatoes worth 4s 0d (four shillings) from another neighbour and Bridget's father, James Gillingham (who must have followed the family from Westbury)—no doubt stolen to supplement the struggling family's food supply. They were found guilty and given a good behaviour bond with a surety—probably put up by her parents—of £10 (ten pounds). The alternative was 7 days in gaol, a heavy penalty for children so young. A few months later Michael came before the courts again charged with stealing a heifer worth £2 (two pounds) and was committed for trial at Launceston Supreme Court. My searches

⁷ *Tasmanian Police Gazette*, November 1866

⁸ TA: VDL Co. rent rolls 1870–1919 (VDL74)

⁹ TA: LC96/1/1, Stanley Court 1861–1905

through *Trove* failed to find a result of that case, although he was back in court at Stanley just two weeks later and fined 20s 0d (20 shillings) for using obscene language.

After they were evicted from the VDL farm, around 1887, Michael's life continued on a downward spiral with numerous court appearances mainly for drunkenness, disturbing the peace, being homeless, idle and disorderly. The charge of 'wandering abroad and sleeping in a building' on 16 September 1887, just after he was evicted from the South Road farm, saw him housed overnight in the Stanley lockup—no doubt a welcome relief to have a roof over his head, even with a heavy lock on the door. The following month he was again found guilty of being drunk and incapable, but with no means of paying the 10s 0d (10 shillings) fine he was given three days' gaol ... only to find himself back before the justices for the same offence the day he was released.

Two months later he was again in court charged with having stolen four fowls worth 8s 0d (8 shillings), from a neighbour—no doubt to feed his destitute family. This was the straw that broke the camel's back—the court heaped more misery on the family, with the then 63-year-old Michael sentenced to three months' hard labour at the Launceston House of Corrections. Released from gaol in February 1888 he was charged again with wandering abroad and with no fixed place in Stanley three months later, this time returned to Launceston with hard labour for six months. The courts lacked the sympathy of today's legal system and he continued to pay the price of his 1847 crime for the rest of his life through an unfair system. With nowhere to go, he landed in the Invalid Depot (the 19th century equivalent of the old people's home for paupers) upon discharge from

prison. He earned another 7 day prison sentence for breaching Invalid Depot regulations but within 18 months was dead.¹⁰ He died penniless on 12 September 1891, and has no known grave. Bridget's father James had died several years earlier, also penniless, passing away with senility in December 1886 at the New Town Pauper Establishment in Hobart.

After Michael's death, Bridget moved to the timber milling village of Black River or Blackwall as it appears on early VDL Co. maps, where in 1890 she had shown great courage, according to the *Launceston Examiner*, in a failed attempt to rescue a young baby after her mother had fallen into the Black River while trying to cross it on a log.

It was also at Black River where we hear again of Kate. She was employed as a 17-year-old to help look after the children of a local man who'd recently lost his wife to tuberculosis. She was described as the 'Girle Finnerty, a girl with a bad character' by a resident in a letter to her daughter, which I found in an historical blog 'Heaven and Hell together', a useful reference on Circular Head history.

We next learn of Kate when she married George Alfred Evans, of the pioneering Montagu family descended from a former Welsh guardsman, Battle of Trafalgar Marine and a convicted thief, William Evans, and Eliza BRISCOE. Eliza was the daughter of Benjamin Briscoe, a London umbrella maker who after his conviction and exile for seven years landed in Hobart as one of Van Diemens Land's earliest residents in 1804.¹¹ Briscoe, and his future wife Sarah

¹⁰ *Launceston Examiner*, 27 January 1890

¹¹ Middlesex Court Sessions (London GD) 28 April 1802

GOODWIN, daughter of First Fleeter Andrew Goodwin, are the founding members of perhaps Tasmania's biggest family tree!

Kate and George married in 1888, some 14 years after George's grandfather Evans of Trafalgar died on the East Coast, throughout his life and even in his final obituary trying to cover up his convict origins.¹²

Eventually the family of George and Kate produced 11 children, including Margaret's grandfather Albert William Edward (or 'Harry' as he was better known) and in the early 1900s they moved to Mengha, which from press reports of the day was a rather lively neighbourhood. We read of gangs, fights and even a murder, many involving the Evans boys and girls either as participants or witnesses. But it was before the WWI broke out that Kate and George's marriage collapsed, with George heading off to Balfour to work with relatives in the mining and hotel businesses.

Surprisingly, to a retired journalist, all their dirty laundry was aired in the local press, something that would be carefully ignored by today's newspapers unless you're a celebrity.¹³ It

didn't matter that Kate, trying to bring up 11 children, was as poor as the proverbial church mouse—her circumstances were laid out in full in the *Chronicle* as she attempted to sue George for some financial support. Or at least some flour! She could pay the rent of 1s 6d (one shilling and sixpence) a week only because of the generosity of her son Alfred and his brothers who had labouring jobs on local farms. But that was soon to end as on the

other side of the world a war was beginning which would have a significant impact on the Evans family.

Less than a year after WWI broke out, Alf and his brothers Ephraim and 'Harry' signed up for what they thought would be the adventure of a lifetime for the young lads who'd probably never left Circular Head.

Around the same time George completely disappeared—family believing a story that Kate had killed her husband and buried his burnt remains in the bush behind Mengha.

Back to the Evans boys—on 17 April 1915—barely a week

before the ANZAC's ill fated landing at Gallipoli—Alf left Australia with the 12th Battalion along with 2000 soldiers as part of the 5th reinforcements. By 16 June, his convoy had survived the long and dangerous journey avoiding marauding German battleships and with thousands of Australia's finest young men was surging



Private Alfred George Evans son of George and Kate Evans (Finnerty) who survived Gallipoli but died in the Battle of the Somme 1916

¹² *Hobart Mercury*, 8 April 1874

¹³ *Circular Head Chronicle*, 10 January 1912

up the cliffs of Gallipoli. Combining information from Alf's military records and L M Newton's *History of the Twelfth*, I was able to establish his movements as he fought for Holly Ridge and many other skirmishes until he was part of the assault on Lone Pine. It was during the Battle of Lone Pine, on 9 August 1915 and after nearly two months on the peninsular, that Alf's luck ran out. His medical record showed he received a head wound from a bomb—probably a grenade—but he was luckier than many of the 168 comrades of the 12th who were killed or wounded over the first three days of Lone Pine.

He was evacuated with the help of stretcher bearers down the steep cliffs to the No. 1 Australian Casualty Clearing Station on the beach where in the chaos he was identified as seriously injured and taken off by barge to Mudros on the Greek island of Lemnos 80 km away. Two weeks later, his head wound patched up, Alf was back at Holly Ridge fighting around the Tasmania Post until he was struck down by a bigger threat than even the Turk's bullets—enteric fever, or severe gastro, on 25 September. This time he was taken to the better equipped military hospital on Malta where he remained until November before being evacuated to England, just three weeks before our forces finally abandoned Gallipoli.

It was several months before he was considered well enough to return to training in preparation for reassignment to the battlefields of France, finally crossing the English Channel on 25 July 1916 with another batch of Australian reinforcements. He rejoined the 12th Battalion on 9 August—but within 10 days he was dead, his body ground into the mud of Mouquet Farm, near Pozieres, the victim of a German shell that blew him to pieces, according to witnesses interviewed after the war by an Army Board of Enquiry. His body

was never recovered, and is one of thousands commemorated at Villers Bretonneaux.¹⁴

At home, Kate was left in the dark for months receiving only brief communication from the Army, afterwards faced with her own paper warfare with them in an effort to receive compensation for her son's loss. Fortunately her other son Harry had only reached the Gallipoli beachfront several months after Alf and never actually landed after succumbing to suspected typhoid and then a succession of illnesses that hospitalised him for months. He underwent further training in Egypt before becoming ill again and was eventually repatriated to Australia, freed from military service just days after his older brother Alf had perished in the fields of a French village.

It was as a result of Alf's military records on file in Canberra that his father George's whereabouts were eventually uncovered. Kate's husband wasn't dead. He hadn't been murdered and buried in the bush. He was eventually found in a bigamous relationship with a completely new family in Launceston. But until *Cries from the Past* was published, his descendants knew nothing apart from the family fable.

Researching for the book, I had located several electoral roll entries in 1914 and 1919 indicating George was living and working at Yolla. I'd seen a letter he had sent to the Army after the War seeking information about Alf's will, and another refusing to give permission for his youngest son Andrew to enter the army. So I was convinced he was still alive for many years after deserting Kate.

¹⁴ Australian War Memorial, Mapping our Anzacs NAA B2455, Evans A G (SERN2022)

Trawling through *Ancestry.com* I came across a brief reference to the marriage of an unmarried bachelor George Alfred GREEN to spinster Ruby Gladys MACE in Launceston in September 1921. It noted the bridegroom's mother was Mary Ann Green (born WILLIAMS) and his father Albert Green. My mind went into overdrive ... it was too much of a coincidence ... had I found the 'real', long lost George Evans, whose mother was Mary Ann Williams and his father Richard John Albert Evans, but always known as Albert. Also coincidentally, George's brother-in-law was George Green so had he used this as an alias to escape the law so he could remarry? A trip to the Launceston Library where St Johns Church marriage records are held on micro-film produced a certificate that confirmed the *Ancestry* entry, but not much else. It was not until I took another look at George's letters to the Army written in his own handwriting several years earlier and compared it to his signature on the marriage certificate that the truth was confirmed. I'm not a handwriting expert, but the cursive R and the distinctive swirl of the G as well as other similarities in the letter convinced me I had my man. Who would have thought that technological advances of the 21st century, including the free availability on the internet of documents written nearly 100 years earlier, would have caught out a bigamist, or rather two as it turned out, as his new wife Ruby Mace also had not divorced her first husband and the father of several of their children.

Now what could I do with the information? The internet search continued for several months before I turned up another possible link, a quite recent entry in the *Tasmanian Government Gazette* re settlement of the estate of a George Alfred Charles Evans who had passed away in

2011. Wary of creating a major storm, and also the possibility of being completely wrong, I made a hesitant phone call to one of the executors, George junior's daughter, and our George senior's grand daughter, it turned out. She had no idea that down in Circular Head and around Tasmania she had hundreds of new relatives! But what she did have was a contact number for George and Ruby's still living daughter in South Australia, who'd been placed with her brother and sister in a home in the 1930s when her mother was committed to the New Norfolk mental asylum. She was able to confirm my story and admitted to knowledge of their bigamy. And Annette, my contact, had had the foresight shortly before her father died to sit down with him to learn about his origins—all neatly written down and providing a trove of information that she allowed me to include in the final chapter of the book.

It was apparent George had confessed his real name at some stage early in the relationship and before his death in 1944, and his neatly kept grave at Beaconsfield confirmed this along with the names of his second wife and children. But no mention of Kate or the ten children he'd left behind in Circular Head.

Kate died four years later in Smithton, remembered by my late mother-in-law as a feisty but shy woman who often refused to answer the door to visitors. No doubt she had been scarred by the tragic loss of her four sons (Alf in the war, Ephraim in a logging accident, Andrew committed suicide and Harry, Margaret's grandfather, killed in a railway accident while serving in Victoria during WWII) as well as three of her daughters who predeceased her. No wonder she wouldn't answer a knock on the door—so many knocks in years gone by had brought only bad news! ◀

SARAH HILL PER *HARMONY* 1829

'ANY MORE DIRTY LINEN?'

Leonie Mickleborough (Member 20)

SUFFERING from a 'Partial Prolapsus Uteri', being 'much debilitated' and daily complaining of pain in her back and 'loins', 48-year-old Sarah HILL was unable to eat or sleep on 27 October 1828 aboard the convict transport *Harmony* en route to Hobart Town from The Downs, an anchorage off south-east England between Deal in Kent and the Godwin Sands. As she was incapable of standing, on 27 October 1828 the ship's surgeon Dr William CLIFFORD treated Sarah by applying a 'flannel Roller' to her abdomen three times a day while she was in a horizontal position and giving her '*Dicutio Cinchona*', also known as Jesuit's bark or Peruvian bark. According to the *Oxford Dictionary*, the bark is stripped from the tree, dried and powdered, and contains a variety of alkaloids with febrifuge (fever reducing) properties, including the antimalarial compound quinine and the antiarrhythmic quinine. *Cinchona* was the aspirin of the time.¹ Sarah was also given half a pint of 'Port Wine Soups with Preserved Meat'. The next day she had slightly improved, and the bark and wine treatment was continued. The following day she was 'doing well' despite a slight pain in her loins. Sarah's strength increased, and by 31 October the 'thin and delicate' patient was able to walk about the ship's hospital. The bark, the wine soup diet and the

pressure bandage treatment continued until 6 November when she was 'quite recovered'. Sarah was again on the sick list on 27 December with 'catarrhus' and discharged cured on 1 January 1829.²

The 1818 built 373 ton *Harmony*, on its second and last voyage as a convict transport, arrived at the River Derwent on 14 January 1829, a journey of 123 days.³ During the voyage one baby was born, and two infants died. Bennett IRELAND was the captain in charge of the 100 female convicts, 23 prisoners' children, 22 passengers, eight free women travelling to join their husbands, and 33 children. Everyone except one female who was sick in the hospital, arrived in 'excellent health, and a superior condition of good order'. Including the ship's crew, in total 70 males and 144 females were on board when the vessel arrived— at that time, the greatest number to the tonnage of a ship from England to the Australian colonies.⁴

According to George ARTHUR, the Lieutenant-Governor of Van Diemens Land, the convicts landed in a 'clean and healthy condition', the ship's surgeon and master appearing to have paid every attention to their 'respective duties'.⁵ According to the editor

¹ TNA, UK ADM101/32/4 Folios 7, 16, *Harmony*; *Oxford Dictionary*, <https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/cinchona> (Accessed 23 November 2018).

² ADM101/32/4 Folios 7, 16.

³ Charles Bateson, *The Convict Ships 1787–1868* Sydney, 1983 p. 1472

⁴ *Hobart Town Courier (HTC)* 17 January 1829, p. 2; *Colonial Times (CT)* 16 January 1829, 23 January 1829 p. 2.

⁵ *Historical Records of Australia (HRA)* Series III, vol viii Lieutenant-Governor George Arthur to Under-secretary Twiss 15 February 1829 p. 245

of the *Hobart Town Courier* on 24 January 1829, Lieutenant-Governor George Arthur had read a letter addressed to Dr Clifford from the female prisoners on the *Harmony* thanking Dr Clifford for the 'kind situation and humanity they had experienced from him during the voyage'. According to Arthur it was incumbent upon the surgeons of prison ships that they discharge their duties as the 'first grand step to the future reformation and good conduct of the prisoners after their arrival in the colony', and that in view of the letter, Dr Clifford had exceeded his duties.⁶

Sarah Hill (née ELLIOTT), born 1780–83 in Iver, Buckingham, was a widow, and had, before conviction, worked for two years with Mr Carr KEATS, and also as a cook for 3½ years for Lady DELANNOY of Somers Town. Sarah's brother John Elliott worked at a Chandler's Shop in Princes Street Lambeth.⁷ Unfortunately, no records have been located to confirm the names of Sarah and John's parents nor of Sarah's deceased husband or of any children from the marriage.

On 29 May 1828 at the Old Bailey, London's Central Criminal Court in Bow Street, Sarah was charged with 'simple larceny', and found guilty of having stolen two gowns to the value of 12/-, four caps 2/-, three pairs of stockings 1/6 and three napkins valued at 1/-, all goods belonging to William ANDERSON, a

seaman who lived in Bedford-court, Catherine Street and his wife Mary Ann.⁸

In giving evidence, Mary Ann Anderson explained how it was 'out of charity' that she had taken Sarah in, but on 3 October when Mary was ill with a bad arm, she asked Sarah to swap a silk handkerchief for a cotton one, which Sarah did. After William went to bed at 9:30 p.m., Mary asked Sarah why she was stopping up so late, but according to Mary, Sarah made an excuse saying she would wash some towels to have them ready the following morning and asked Mary if she had any more dirty linen. Mary heard no more of Sarah until about 11:00 p.m. when she left the house with a bundle and didn't return. Mary missed the property and the next time she saw Sarah was at the Old Bailey in Bow-street. Found guilty, Sarah was sentenced to 7 years' transportation.⁹ Her gaol report before transportation described her as 'Orderly'.¹⁰

After arrival at the River Derwent the convicts remained on board the *Harmony* for eight days while officials waited for the new Female House of Correction (Female Factory) at Cascades to be finished. According to the *Hobart Town Courier*, the old Female Factory at the corner of Macquarie and Murray streets was deserted by 24 January 1829, the prisoners having been moved to Cascades where the discipline was 'very severe', but being so far from the central settlement area, the location was inconvenient for families who

⁶ *HTC* 24 January 1829 p. 2

⁷ Tasmanian Archives (TA), CON40/1/5 image 68 *Harmony* Sarah Hill Conduct record; Phillip Tardif, *Notorious Strumpets and Dangerous Girls, Convict Women in Van Diemen's Land 1803–1829*, North Ryde, 1990, pp. 1538–39

⁸ <http://www.oldbaileyonline.org/browse.jsp?id=t18280529-234> (Accessed 20 November 2018).

⁹ <http://www.oldbaileyonline.org/browse.jsp?id=t18280529-234> (Accessed 20 November 2018)

¹⁰ CON40/1/5 image 68

had to apply to or prefer complaints before the Magistrate.¹¹

On 22 February 1829 at 4:00 a.m. to avoid prying eyes, and accompanied by an armed guard, the convicts left the *Harmony* on their walk to Cascades. Sarah was a laundry maid, unable to read and write and who, at 4 feet 11¾ inches (152 cm) tall was 2 inches (5 cm) shorter than the average height of convict women transported to Van Diemens Land. She had sunken cheeks from a loss of teeth, while every fifth convict on the *Harmony* was marred by at least one missing front tooth. Sarah's hair was light brown and she had dark brown eyes and a pale complexion.¹² Aged 48, Sarah did not fit the average age of female convicts on arrival in Australia which was 27. Only 13 per cent were younger than 18 or older than 40.¹³

Sarah, who was a Protestant, did not initially spend much time in the Female Factory, and according to the *Hobart Town Courier*, it was the same situation for fifty of the *Harmony* convicts.¹⁴ Sarah had, by 24 January, been assigned to domestic service. Her first assignment was to Deputy Assistant Commissary General John WOOLRABE who had arrived on 22 January 1827 to take up residence and employment, and from where, on 3 November 1829 she was charged with having absconded and having remained out overnight. She was apprehended by Constable HICKMAN and as a result, was sentenced to Cascades in a cell on bread and

water for six days and then returned to service.¹⁵

On 2 August 1831, found guilty of absconding from her then master Mr HOPKINS, who may have been H Hopkins, Ironmonger and Dealer, Elizabeth Street, and remaining absent for three days until she surrendered, Sarah was again sentenced to six days in a cell on bread and water in the Crime Class at Cascades Female Factory.¹⁶ Following this, she was again assigned to John Woolrabe who was most likely at Macquarie Harbour where he was Deputy Assistant Commissary General. In mid-August 1831, again absconding from her place of residence, she was apprehended.¹⁷

The following year the Female Factory held 249 women and 97 children. Being found guilty of two offences and discharged once, Sarah had fewer than the average number of guilty offences of female convicts, which was six.¹⁸

In 1832 Sarah was assigned to Mr WEATHERALL, the following year she was back with John Woolrabe, and she was in Launceston in August 1834.¹⁹ Both the *Launceston Advertiser* and the *Morning Star and Commercial Advertiser* listed Sarah as having been granted her ticket-of-

¹¹ HTC 24 January 1829 p. 2

¹² CON40/1/5 image 68; TAHO CON19/1/13 image 29 *Harmony* Sarah Hill Description; Tardif, *Notorious Strumpets and Dangerous Girls*, p. 9

¹³ Tardif, *Notorious Strumpets and Dangerous Girls*, p. 9

¹⁴ HTC 24 January 1829 p. 2

¹⁵ CON40/1/5 image 68

¹⁶ National Library of Australia nla.gov.au.obj-76120595 *The Tasmanian Almanack for the year of our Lord 1829, being the first after leap year*, Hobart, Andrew Bent, Government Printer, p. 163 (Accessed 22 November 2018.)

¹⁷ CON40/1/5 image 68; *Van Diemen's Land: comprehending a variety of statistical and other information, likely to be interesting to the emigrant, as well as to the general reader*, Hobart 1833, p. 213, *The Tasmanian* (Hobart Town) 13 August 1831, p. 8; HTC 13 August 1831, p. 3

¹⁸ CON40/1/5 image 68; Tardif *Notorious Strumpets and Dangerous Girls*, p. 9

¹⁹ CON40/1/5 image 68

leave in October 1834 and at the age of 61, in May 1835, the *Hobart Town Courier*, listed her as having been granted her certificate of freedom. A felony against Sarah was discharged in August 1841, and her movements for the next five years are unknown.²⁰

Sarah does not appear to have either married or to have left the colony. Suffering from age, infirmity and chronic rheumatism, she spent 167 days in the Colonial Hospital in 1846, and 76 in the New Norfolk Invalid Depot. Being free by servitude she was treated as a pauper while in hospital, and the Colonial Treasury was charged 1/- per day for her stay.²¹ Unfortunately no records have been located to indicate any treatment or any details regarding her either when a patient in the Hospital or during her stay in the Invalid Depot at New Norfolk.

At the age of 67 and incapable of supporting herself, Sarah Hill died of paralysis in the Colonial Hospital on 15 October 1850 and was buried on 17 October 1850 in the Holy Trinity Anglican Burial Ground, now the site of Campbell Street Primary School, at which time she was recorded as being a house servant.²²

If, as it seems, Sarah had no family in Van Diemens Land, and due to the time taken

for letters and replies to travel to and from England, any family contact would have been infrequent. No record has been located to indicate whether or not she and her brother John maintained contact and if she had any children left behind in Buckinghamshire. In such a situation she was not alone, as many convicts who were transported across the world found themselves in this position of isolation. ◀

AMOS FAMILY BICENTENARY

Adam and John Amos and their families arrived in Hobart Town in March 1821 on board the *Emerald*. They were advised to look for land on the unsettled East Coast of Van Diemens Land. They took up land grants near the Swan River at Cranbrook, their descendants still being there today.

The *Amos Family Bicentenary* will be held at the family estates at Cranbrook, Tasmania on 20/21 March 2021.

This will be open to family members, relatives and any interested parties.

Feedback on our website most welcome and you may wish to contact us so we can send email updates direct to your email address. Relevant contacts on web site.

amos200.com



²⁰ TA: CON40/1/5 image 68; Female Convict Research Centre <https://www.femaleconvicts.org.au> (Accessed 22 November 2018); *Launceston Advertiser* (Launceston) 6 November 1834 p. 4, *Morning Star and Commercial Advertiser* (Hobart Town) 5 May 1835 p. 2; *HTC* 1 May 1835 p. 2

²¹ *British Parliamentary Papers Crime and Punishment; Transportation Volume 9* Shannon 1969, Enc 2 in No. 13, p. 235

²² TA: RGD35/1/3 no. 367 Deaths in the District of Hobart Town at the Colonial Hospital; NS349/29 H127H, p. 150 Holy Trinity Burial Ground.

BLUE GLASS WATER SET CIRCA 1825

Lewis Brickhill



HONORA BURKE was born in County Cork Ireland 1830. Timothy DONOVAN was born in Tipperary 1833. Honora and Timothy were married in Ireland on the 8 January 1855. Amongst the wedding gifts was this 'Blue Glass Water Set' given to Honora by her mother. Whilst no record exists it is believed that the water set was received by Honora Burke's mother at her wedding circa 1825. In the mid-1850s, soon after Honora and Timothy's wedding, they migrated to Australia, and after a short stay in Ballarat the family moved to Tasmania settling in a small farming district out the back of Deloraine. In April 1887 at an auction, Timothy Donovan purchased the 'Quamby Estate', Lot 25 comprising 128 acres for £2,213. The property was located near Westbury

in northern Tasmania and eventually named 'Carbury Early Risers'. Timothy and Honora Donovan had eight children including Catherine Donovan, born 27 September 1863.

Catherine Donovan married Michael MALONEY on the 5 October 1891 and the 'Blue Glass Water Set' was given as a wedding gift from Honora to Catherine.

Our Westbury correspondent writes: — On October 5 'Carbury Early Risers', the jovial home of Timothy Donovan, was the scene of a marriage festivity, which was performed by the Ven. Archdeacon Hogan, assisted by the Rev. Father O'Flynn, in the presence of over 60 guests. Miss Catherine Donovan, the bride, was arrayed in fawn-coloured silk, most novel in design, the orthodox orange blossoms being noticeable as a

wreath, and in the decorations on other parts of the wedding costume. The bridesmaid (the bride's sister) was dressed in petunia-coloured cashmere, adorned with the sweet briars. Both dresses were much admired, and were from the accomplished hand of Miss J. Brittle of this town. Mr Jas. Maloney acted as best man for the bridegroom, his brother, Mr Michael Maloney, of Quamby. The wedding breakfast was sumptuously laid out, the cake richly decorated, and the breakfast welcomingly received. In the evening and until daylight appeared 'tripping the light fantastic' was the order of things¹

Michael and Catherine Maloney had five children including Honora Maloney who was born on 28 December 1894.

Prior to her death Catherine Maloney (née Donovan) gave the 'Blue Glass Water Set' to Kathleen BRICKHILL (née DEVITT) to hold in trust for Geraldine, her first great granddaughter.

MALONEY.—On July 28, 1946, at the residence of her granddaughter, Mrs. L. Brickhill, 58 Gunn St., Devonport, Catherine Mary, widow of Michael Joseph Maloney, late of Westbury, Launceston; aged 83 years. Requiescat in pace. Private interment, Carr Villa Cemetery This Day.²



58 Gunn Street, Devonport

¹ *The Tasmanian*, 17 October 1891, p. 24

² *The Mercury*, Hobart, 30 July 1946



The four generations

L - R: Kathleen Brickhill (née Devitt),
Geraldine Brickhill (on knee),
Honora Devitt (née Maloney),
Catherine Maloney (née Donovan)

Honora Maloney in her turn married
Alphonsus Devitt 22 November 1917.

DEVITT—MALONEY.

A wedding was celebrated at Holy Trinity Church, Westbury by the Rev. Father Kelsh, on the 22nd inst., the contracting parties being Miss Nora Maloney, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Maloney, Westbury, and Mr. Alphonsus Devitt, third son of Mr. and Mrs. W Devitt, Launceston. The bride, who was given away by her father, was attired in a frock of ivory crepe de chine over china silk, short skirt with deep square tabs of crepe de chine, edged with handsome point-de-venise lace; bodice entirely composed of point-de-venise lace, with ninon veiling, square tabbed bodice matching skirt back and front, square neck of point-de-venise lace, transparent, finished with trail of orange blossom, long sash girdle at waist, tied and hanging at side with ninon roses. She wore the usual wreath of orange blossom, and hand-worked veil, arranged capette fashion, and carried a shower bouquet of choice white blooms. The "Bridal" and "Wedding" marches were played by Miss Rita Mackey (organist). The bridegroom's gift to the bride was a cameo, and the bride's gift to the bride groom a solid leather dressing case, fittings of

ebony and silver. The bridesmaids were Miss Kathleen Maloney (sister of bride), who wore a frock of shell pink Georgette over soft satin, with gold stitching and lace straw hat to match; and Miss Mary Devitt (sister of bridegroom), who wore a dainty pleated coat frock of light turquoise castoll silk, with gold stitching, and lace straw hat to match. They carried small posies of small pink roses and blue delphiniums. The bridegroom's gifts to the bridesmaids were cameo and sardonyx rings. Lily (the youngest sister of the bride) carried a white satin cushion. Mrs. Devitt (mother of the bridegroom) wore a gown of blue charmeuse, with black ninon over dress, and hat to match. The bride's mother (Mrs. Maloney) wore a black cordon coat frock, pleated, with lace vest and handsome colored Oriental trimming on large collar and belt, and black taffeta hat. The best man was Mr. W. F. Devitt (Hobart) and Mr. J. Maloney was groomsmen. A reception was held at the bride's parents', Blackwood Vale, where over 50 guests sat down to luncheon. The bride travelled in a tailored costume of mole covert coating, with hat of mastic and saxe. Mr. and Mrs. Devitt left by motor en route for the North-West Coast, for their honeymoon.³

Alphonsus and Honora Devitt had three daughters including Kathleen Devitt born on 8 December 1918.

³ *Examiner, Launceston*, 30 November 1917

Kathleen married Lewis BRICKHILL on 8 September 1942.

NUPTIAL MASS AT LONGFORD

The air force, the navy, and the army were represented at the wedding of Kathleen Mary Devitt, daughter of Mrs. N. Devitt, of York-street, Launceston, and Sergeant-Pilot Lewis Norman Brickhill, son of Mrs. Brickhill, of Surrey Hills, Victoria, and the late Mr. L. N. Brickhill, which took place yesterday morning at 9 o'clock with Nuptial Mass at St. Augustine's Church, Longford.

The ceremony was performed and the Mass celebrated by Father P. Murphy, assisted by Father G. Cullen.

The bride, who was given away by her uncle, Mr. J. Connolly, wore a lovely gown of ivory slipper satin cut on simple lines. The high-necked bodice and three-quarter length full sleeves were ornamented with Richlieu embroidery in a petal design, and the skirt fell in graceful folds to form a slight train. Her cut edge tulle veil was

worn over her face as she entered the church. The veil was held in position with a topknot of camellias, and she carried a sheaf of the same flowers.

Misses Aileen and Marie Devitt attended their sister as bridesmaids. Their long frocks of heavy romaine were made on similar lines, and showed skirts with back fullness, high neck lines, and short sleeves. Miss Aileen Devitt's gown of wheat gold had gold sequins trimming on the bodice pocket, and silver sequins in a sun ray design ornamented the neckline of Miss Marie Devitt's Monterey blue



L - R: Kathleen, Marie and Aileen Devitt February 1945



L to R: Jessie Cunningham (née Brickhill) with Helen (2 months) in arms
 Joan Brumby (née Brickhill), Kathleen Devitt (née Maloney), Mary Brickhill (mother of the
 groom) Francis Devitt, Elisabeth (Lil) Connolly (née Maloney), Sadie Hannah (née
 Connolly)
 Back: Fr. Murphy. Middle front: (saluting) Louise Hannah, Catherine Maloney (née
 Donovan), Marie Devitt, Honora Devitt (née Maloney), (mother of the bride) Kathleen
 Brickhill (née Devitt), Lewis Brickhill (?), 8 September 1942

frock. They carried bouquets of pink and blue hyacinths, and their shoulder-length blue tulle veils were held with top knots of pink and blue hyacinths.

Lieutenant N. Rees R.A.N., was best man, and Captain J. D. Brickhill was groomsman.

As the bride entered the church the “Wedding March” was played by Mrs. C. James, and during the ceremony “Ave Marie” was sung by Mrs. James.

The bride’s mother received guests at Taylor’s Hotel, Longford. A feature of the table was the handsome mist blue two-tier wedding cake. Mrs. Devitt wore a smart black jacket suit with minute tucking trimming the bodice. Her black rough straw hat was banded with china blue velvet, and at one shoulder she wore a spray of grape hyacinths.

Mrs. Brickhill (the bridegroom’s mother) chose a navy tailored costume and a navy hat. Her shoulder spray was of red carnations.

For travelling the bride wore a becoming suit of wedgwood blue tweed, with a white blouse and little wedgwood blue felt hat.

The honeymoon will be spent in Tasmania and Victoria, and Sergeant Pilot and Mrs. Lewis Brickhill will live in South Australia.⁴

After the war ended in 1945 Kathleen and Lewis Brickhill lived in Devonport. They resided at 58 Gunn Street.

Over the ensuing years they had eight children including Geraldine born 2

⁴ *Examiner*, 9 September 1942, p. 6

February 1944 and Susanne, 24 September 1945. In 1946 the family moved to New Town a suburb of Hobart.

Geraldine Brickhill married Keith HOWARD on 19 April 1969—they had one son, Matthew. Prior to Geraldine's passing she made it known that, since she did not have a daughter of her own, the 'Blue Glass Water Set' should, in accordance with past practice, be passed on to Rebecca BURKE the eldest daughter of Susanne Burke (née Brickhill).



Four Brickhill sisters
L to R: Geraldine, Brigid, Francesca and Susanne. December 1978.

HOWARD, Geraldine Mary
(née Brickhill).

Late of Tewantin, Qld, passed away peacefully at the Sunshine Coast University Hospital on June 27, 2018 aged 74 years. Loved wife of Keith Howard and son of Matthew. Eldest daughter of Lewis and Kathleen Brickhill (both dec.)

Much loved sister of Susanne Burke nee Brickhill (Hobart), Lewis Brickhill (Adelaide), Timothy Brickhill (Hobart), Paul Brickhill (Melbourne), Francesca Mays nee Brickhill (Doonan), John Brickhill (dec.) and Brigid Knight nee Brickhill (Hobart).

She will be greatly missed



Sarah, Rebecca and Georgina Burke
June 1991.

Rebecca Burke married Simon Mathews JEFFERSON on 3 March 2007. They had three children including Philippa Doris Jefferson born 15 June 2012 (see below). In December 2018 the 'Blue Glass Water Set' was given to Rebecca Jefferson (née Burke) to hold in trust for Philippa as the youngest female descendant of the original owner, Honora Burke.



Honora Burke	b.1830
Catherine Donovan	b.1863
Honora Maloney	b.1894
Kathleen Devitt	b.1918
Susanne Brickhill	b.1945
Rebecca Burke	b.1975
Philippa Jefferson	b.2012

The above information is compiled from research carried out combined with facts personally known to me or was dictated to me by my mother Kathleen Devitt (née Brickhill) on 27 February 1993. ◀

INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC 1919

Marion Sargent (Member 1927)

WHEN the ‘Spanish Flu’ swept the world in 1918–19, Tasmanians felt Bass Strait offered some protection.

As a precaution Launceston and Hobart became the only two ports where passengers could land, followed by a seven-day quarantine period. Cargo ships waited near Middle Island for a week before sailing up the Tamar.

In Launceston a vaccination depot opened at the Albert Hall and the Majestic Theatre fumigated patrons during performances. The trams ran with windows and doors wide open. The Verulam Isolation Hospital in Quarantine Road was ready to accept 100 patients, although it had only one pipe delivering water. The Wellington Square State School, converted into an emergency back-up hospital with bathrooms added, doubled the capacity. Miss Alice C IRVINE was on standby to supervise the cooking.

The first Tasmanian victim, Mr WEBB of Argyle Street, Hobart died at the Claremont Isolation Hospital on 14 August 1919.

The government swung into action declaring that from Saturday 16 August 1919 all libraries, schools, churches, theatres, public billiard rooms and halls would be closed until further notice. Football matches, race meetings and outdoor amusements were prohibited. Three patrons only could be inside a hotel for five minutes at a time. Gauze masks were to be worn when using public transport.

The Launceston Mayor, George SHIELDS, received this proclamation at 9pm on Saturday night and immediately

carried out the instructions with the aid of police. They cleared picture theatres, a meeting at the Mechanics’ Institute protesting an increase in parliamentarian’s salaries, and the National Theatre, where Martin DOBRILLA had to curtail his Tasmanian record for club-swinging.

Within a few days there were about 60 cases of pneumonic influenza in Hobart, Port Cygnet and Campbell Town, and the sale of camphor and eucalyptus was brisk. Launceston experienced a sudden increase in people with the ordinary flu and many workers stayed at home. It still came as a shock when the first Launceston victim of the pneumonic influenza, Dr Richard C Irvine, died on 26 August at his residence in Cameron Street.

The virus spread quickly. Verulam proved to be too far from the city and Wellington Square became the main hospital. Dr CAMM and two nurses had a heavy workload until more nurses from Melbourne relieved the dire situation. Many doctors became ill, and volunteers treated afflicted people in their own homes. In some cases, whole households succumbed to the flu.

The Albert Hall became a relief depot, with Mrs ROBSON in charge of the kitchen and Nurse SEARLE supervising nurses and aids. Boy scouts ran messages and helped wherever they could.

The Mayor declared Launceston a ‘clean city’ on 6 October and lifted all restrictions after the epidemic claimed 27 Launceston lives and 140 Tasmanians. ◀

Information from local Tasmanian newspapers of the time.

PNEUMONIC INFLUENZA.

PRECAUTIONS FOR PREVENTION OF INFECTION.

This Disease is highly infectious and it is necessary that great precautions should be taken by those in attendance on the sick.

The infection is spread by patients coughing or sneezing on to others. In order to prevent this the following measures should be carried out:—

1. A close-fitting mask of 8 layers of gauze should be worn, and a sun-bonnet to protect the hair of the attendant.

A pillow-slip with holes cut for the eyes would make an efficient mask in an emergency.

The mask and bonnet should not be worn continuously for more than 2—4 hours, and should be immediately boiled when taken off.

2. Goggles should be worn to protect the eyes. The goggles should be washed with disinfectant solution daily.
3. Overalls should be worn. A nightgown would be suitable provided that it fastened tightly at the neck. A clean overall should be used every day.
4. Sand shoes to be worn in patient's room and removed when leaving the room.
5. Patient's face should be covered with handkerchief or towel, while the nurse is in attendance.
6. Old rags should be used by the patient, if possible, instead of handkerchief, and immediately burnt. All soiled linen from patient should be immediately boiled.
7. All discharges from the patient should be mixed with strong disinfectant, or boiled before being disposed of.
8. Attendants should remember that infection may be carried from their hands to their own mouth, and they should therefore be very careful to thoroughly wash and disinfect their hands after being in the sick room.
9. The windows of the sick rooms should be always open to ensure abundant fresh air.
10. Floor of room to be wiped over daily with a cloth moistened with disinfectant solution.
11. Disinfectant solution suitable: Cyllin, Lysol, Phenyle—one table-spoonful to a quart of hot water.

ARTHUR H. CLARKE,

Acting Chief Health Officer.

Submitted by Joyce Purtscher from her grandmother's memorabilia. Perhaps a hand distributed flyer of the times as I have been unable to find a replica item on Trove [Ed.]

VOLUNTEERS LAUNCH DEVON CHURCH GRAVEYARD DATABASE

Leonie Mickleborough (Member 20)

A lottery-funded project to record thousands of memorial inscriptions from headstones in a churchyard in Devon has come to fruition.

A dedicated group of volunteers has spent two years deciphering inscriptions on ancient and weathered headstones at St Marys Churchyard in Brixham, recording details and plotting locations for a new searchable online database.

Project volunteer Nina Hannaford explained:

The initial remit for the Brixham St Marys in Devon churchyard project was to focus on Victorian memorials. As the churchyard covers nearly three acres over various plots and contains headstones from early 1700 to the present day, it quickly became obvious each plot contained burials and dates ranging over 300 years, and rarely in neat rows.

A decision was made to complete the huge task of recording all the memorial inscriptions in the churchyard.

Some of the church's burial records were destroyed in the 'Exeter Blitz' during WW2 and the churchwardens are often asked the whereabouts of family plots, but the locations were unknown. Thanks to the project, burial plots have now been identified. Nina said:

Each burial plot was given a number whether there was a memorial stone there or not. This has given each burial plot a unique reference.

Recorded on a database, every name is now searchable, giving the unique plot reference to be able to find the headstone.

Reading and recording of the memorial inscriptions (MIs) often proved challenging, thanks to overgrowth, lichen and even broken headstones.

Ivy and brambles were cut back, mobile phones took photos to see stones hidden in hedges and at precarious angles, archaeology trowels eased turf away from kerbs, said Nina.

Scattered broken fragments have been collected and like a jigsaw, placed together to read.

The volunteers discovered ways to clean and read the headstones, using rain water and then a tin foil baking tray to reflect light upon the stonemasons' script. Once recorded, MI details were checked with burial registers online and with the General Register Office indexes where burials could not be found. More than 13,000 names are now searchable on the free database, www.brixhamstmaryschurchgraveyard.org.uk

Information can include surname, first name, middle name, date of death, age, relationship to others on the stone along with any other details. Differing spellings have been recorded in the notes.

Anyone wanting to pay respects at their family's grave will now be able to find them. Family historians can find their ancestors ... Every effort has been made to make sure the details are as accurate as possible, but any errors may be ours or due to the original stonemason!

Reproduced from *Family Tree* (www.family-tree.com.uk) April 2020, p. 6. with kind permission of the editor.

WHAT IS THAT PUBLICATION ABOUT?

Maurice Appleyard (Member 4093)

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

RAILWAY HOTELS OF AUSTRALIA, Vol. 4—South Australia, Northern Territory, Tasmania and Western Australia.

A4 landscape, hard cover book, of 312pp, by Scott Whitaker was published in 2019.

Whilst the title is largely self-descriptive, members may have trouble remembering how many hotels were involved with the railway services; particularly in Tasmania.

Tasmanian hotels featured were located at Bridgewater, Colebrook, Conara, Deloraine, Gormanston, Hobart (3), Latrobe, Launceston, Launceston/Invermay, Lilydale, Longford, Parattah, Perth, Queens-town, Queenstown South, Railton, Regatta Point, Westbury, York Plains, Zeehan (2).

The early history of these hotels, the families who operated them, and the operation of the associated rail services, as recorded, will be found of great interest by many family history researchers.

Similar information about the services in the other states mentioned is provided.

BETWEEN CREEKS—Millers Creek west to Black Creek.

A5 paperback, of 144pp, by Merrilee Powell was published in 1979.

It contains early historical information about the Liverpool Plains area of NSW.

Chapters are dedicated to settlements at: Millers (Onus) Creek; Millers Creek to MacDonalds Creek; MacDonalds Creek to Pump Station (Taylors) Creek; The Warrah Subdivision of 1923; Yarramandbah Creek; Yarramanbah Creek west to Phillips Creek; Phillips Creek; Cattle Creek; Black Creek; and Windy Station.

BREEZA: HISTORY OF THE DISTRICT AND CENTENARY OF EDUCATION 1973.

A5 paperback (*Historical Notes* Vol. II, No. 4) is a 1973 Journal of the Quirindi and District Historical Society.

Quirindi is a small town on the North West Slopes region of NSW; in Liverpool Plains Shire. Breeza is a small town in NSW; about 45ks south east of Gunnedah.

HISTORY OF BLACKVILLE, YARRAMAN, COOMOO COOMOO AREAS.

A5 paperback (*Historical Notes* Vol. II, No. 2) is a 1971 Journal of the Quirindi and District Historical Society.

Quirindi is a small town on the North West Slopes region of NSW; in Liverpool Plains Shire.

**THE HOLDERNES-RODDAM AND
RODDAM FAMILY HISTORIES;**

Parts One, Two & Three.

Very large A4 book combines all three (volumes) originally printed separately.

Part One covers the early history of the family, with the 927 AD gift of land to Paul of Roddam from King Athelstan for his assistance in winning a major battle with the Vikings; deals with the period from the 1200s to the 1970s; Documents relating to the sale of Roddam Estate, etc; Photographs and drawings of Roddam Estate buildings.

Part Two is devoted to the Allhusen family, with information about others connected by marriage. These include Gosling, Schroeder, Shield, Vandeleur, Pakenham, Cuffe, Maunsell, Crayford, Twigg, Wray, Plantagenet, Oliver, Warburton and Bell.

Part Three deals with Massey (Clarina), Perceval, Knox, Goldie, Gino, Watkins, Berry, Burrows, Stamford, Readman, and Clark. Also includes family pedigree pages.

**HUGUENOT SOCIETY QUARTO
SERIES—Volumes VII, XIV, XIX and
XLI: Registers of the French Churches
in Dublin and Portarlinton, Ireland.
Dublin and Portarlinton Veterans**

CD by The Huguenot Society of Great Britain and Ireland published in 2004.

Vol. VII features Registers of the French Conformed Churches, Dublin. [Ranging across 1668–1830].

Vol. XIV features Registers of the French Nonconformist Churches, Dublin. [Ranging across 1701–1831].

Vol. XIX features Registers of the French Church, Portarlinton, Ireland. [Ranging across 1694–1816].

Vol. XLI features Dublin and Portarlinton Veterans, King William III's Huguenot Army.

All the registers have been recorded in French, so a knowledge of the language would be helpful when using the CD; although the essential details are quite obvious.

**HUGUENOT SOCIETY QUARTO
SERIES—Volumes IX, XIII, XVI and
XXIII: Registers of the French Church
of Threadneedle Street, London**

CD by The Huguenot Society of Great Britain and Ireland published in 2004.

Vol. IX features Part I of the Registers;

Vol. XII features Part II of the Registers;

Vol. XVI features Part III of the Registers.

Vol. XXIII features Part IV of the Registers.

Baptism records range from 1600 to 1840.

Marriage records range from 1600 to 1753.

All the registers have been recorded in French. A knowledge of the language would be helpful although the essential details are quite obvious.

**HUGUENOT FAMILIES—Numbers
One to Twenty**

This CD by The Huguenot Society of Great Britain and Ireland published in 2004.

It contains copies of the society's journal 'Huguenot Families'; from issue No. 1 September 1999 to No. 20 March, 2009.

RECENTLY DIGITISED RECORDS FROM LIBRARIES TASMANIA

January to March 2020

Publication

Work contributed for the book *Truganini* by Cassandra Pybus which has now been published. We provided seven images for this publication including *Patterdale Vandiemans Land, near the dwelling of J Glover, 1840*. Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.

Convict

[CON113/1/1-14](#) Certificates of Freedom.

[CON62/5/1](#) Conditional pardon for Elizabeth Parker (arrived 1841 per *Garland Grove*).

[CON135/1/1](#) Forms used in the Administration of Penal Establishments on Tasman's Peninsula.

[CON130/1/2](#) Convict Hospital weekly book - No.34. Convict Credit and Gratuity Books - Tasman's Peninsula.

Volumes

Logs and other journals of ships on whaling and trading voyages,

to or from Hobart, collected by Sir William Crowther.

[CRO82/1/20](#)

[CRO82/1/21](#)

[CRO82/1/22](#)

[CRO82/1/23](#)

[CRO82/1/69](#)

[CRO82/1/70](#)

[CRO82/1/71](#)

Kennerley Boys Home

[NS6495/1/1](#) Record of education.

[NS6492/1/3](#) Minutes of meetings.

Photographs/Art works

NS3292 Photograph album of motoring holiday snapshots from around Tasmania between 1927 and 1931.

NS1553/1/501-1009 A A Rollings - glass plate negatives, continuation of this project.

LPIC71/1/1 panorama of Launceston, Tasmania by Stephen Spurling II.

NS1442/1/13 Ross-Horton College. c1863. View of the building before it was remodelled with a new facade and wing.

Films uploaded to YouTube channel

The Spectacular West Coast of Tasmania c.1930 (NS6350/1/1)

<https://youtu.be/IMvDIxOG26E>

HCC Olympic Pool, Tasmania 1962 (NS6350/1/49)

<https://youtu.be/7B8mbL4SFN4>

Re-opening of the Lady Franklin Museum 1949 (NS6350/1/22)

https://youtu.be/qD_m4aU1sJA

West Coast Railways c.1950 (NS6350/1/5)

<https://youtu.be/1LAWT2UPMz4>

People entering and leaving Burnie Post Office (NS1656/1/1)

<https://youtu.be/9pYoLuVabr8>

Hobart's Changing Skyline (NS6350/1/7)

https://youtu.be/ihJ_0_ypvvA

Opening of Murchison Highway, Tasmania (NS6350/1/28)

<https://youtu.be/L082y0YyHBg> ◀

LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS

Hobart Branch

ACCESSIONS—Books

- *Harris, Steve; *The Lost Boy of Mr Dickens—How the British Empire turned artful dodgers into child killers.* [364.42099464 HAR]
- * Holderness-Roddam, Bob; *The Holderness–Roddam and Roddam Family Histories—Parts One, Two & Three.* [Q929.2 ROD]
- *Martyn, Susanne (Finnigan); *A Country Cop—The Police Career of Superintendent Patrick Finnigan.* [Q363.2092 MAR]
- *O’Hart, John; *Irish Pedigrees, Vol. 1—The Origin and Stem of the Irish Nation.* [929.1 OHA]
- * O’Hart, John; *Irish Pedigrees, Vol. 2—The Origin and Stem of the Irish Nation.* [929.1 OHA]
- *Powell, Merrilee; *Between Creeks—Millers Creek to Black Creek.* [994.44 POW]
- *Quirindi and District Historical Society; *Historical Notes, Vol. 11, No. 2—Breeza; History of the District and Centenary of Education 1973.* [994.44 DUR]
- *Quirindi and District Historical Society; *Historical Notes, Vol. 11, No. 4—History of Blackville, Yarraman, Coomoo Coomoo Areas.* [994.44 CAR]
- *Reynolds, Henry; *A History of Tasmania.* [994.6 REY]
- TFHS Inc. Hobart; *Undertakers of Hobart Vol. II—Index to Alex Clark & Son Funeral Records – Part 2, Nov 1907–Dec 1920.* [Q929.31099461 UND]
- *Walker, Steven; *Enterprise, Risk and Ruin: The Stage-coach and the development of Van Diemen’s Land and Tasmania.* [388.341 WAL]
- Whitaker, Scott; *Railway Hotels of Australia, Vol. 4—South Australia, Northern Territory, Tasmania and Western Australia.* [647.0594 WHI]

ACCESSIONS—Computer Disks

- * Huguenot Society of Australia; *Huguenot Surnames Index—A Master Index to the Quarto Series of the Huguenot Society of Great Britain & Ireland.*

*Denotes complimentary or donated item.

Launceston Branch

ACCESSIONS—Books

- *Goldsmid, Frederick R; *Tasmania’s West Coast – Then and Now*
- *Langford, John Alfred, LL.D, FRHS, Mackintosh, C. S and Tildesley, J C; *Staffordshire and Warwickshire –Past and Present Vol.1 Div.1*
- *Langford, John Alfred, LL.D, FRHS, Mackintosh, C S and Tildesley, J C; *Staffordshire and Warwickshire – Past and Present Vol.1 Div.11*
- *Langford, John Alfred, LL.D, FRHS, Mackintosh, C S and Tildesley, J C; *Staffordshire and Warwickshire – Past and Present – Vol.11 Div.111*

- *Langford, John Alfred, LL.D, FRHS, Mackintosh, C S and Tildesley, J C; *Staffordshire and Warwickshire –Past and Present Vol.11 Div.IV*
- *Reid, Owen; *The South East*
- *Viney Family Members (Comps); *One for all All for One – The Viney Family History from Somerton U.K. to Australia 1698 to 2000*

*Denotes donated item

Mersey Branch

ACCESSIONS—Books

- *Dalkin, R Nixon; *Colonial Era Cemetery of Norfolk Island*
- *Devon Historical Society; *Devonport 1890*
- *Highfield Historic Site Board of Management; *Highfield & Van Diemen’s Land Company*
- *Keddie, Andrew; *Catherine’s Diary - The World of a Teenage Victorian*
- *Nickols, Elizabeth [Comp]; *Landers Family History - Co Clare, Ireland, New Zealand & Australia - Volume 1*
- *Pridmore, Walter B; *Ross ... On the Argyle Plains*
- *Wools-Cobb, Keith; *A Continuing History of the Wesley Vale Church 1988–2008*
- *Wools-Cobb, Keith; *The Next Ten Years 2008–2018 A Continuing History of the Wesley Vale Church*

*Indicates donated item

Descendants of Convicts’ Group Inc.

1788–1868

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

The Secretary
Descendants of Convicts’ Group
PO Box 229 COLDSTREAM Victoria 3770
<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~dchginc/>

SOCIETY SALES

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

Mail orders (including postage) should be forwarded to:
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Books

<i>Van Diemens Land Heritage Index, Vol. 3</i> (p&p \$6.85)	\$10.00
<i>Van Diemens Land Heritage Index, Vol. 4</i> (p&p \$9.20)	\$10.00
<i>Van Diemens Land Heritage Index, Vol. 5</i> (p&p \$9.20)	\$10.00
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(p&p \$15.70 for 3 books or more)

CD-Rom

<i>Tasmanian Ancestry Vols 1–20, [Jun 1980–Mar 2000]</i> (p&p \$9.20)**	\$50.00
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BRANCH LIBRARY ADDRESSES, TIMES AND MEETING DETAILS

PLEASE NOTE: ALL BRANCHES ARE CURRENTLY CLOSED

Check web pages for further—news <http://www.tasfhs.org>

BURNIE Phone: Branch Librarian (03) 6435 4103
Library 58 Bass Highway Cooee
Tuesday 11.00 a.m.–3.00 p.m.
Saturday 1.00 p.m.–4.00 p.m.
Meeting Branch Library, 58 Bass Highway Cooee 10.30 a.m. on 1st Monday of each month, except January and December.
Night Dinner Meetings are held in winter and end of year, check with Branch Librarian for details.

HOBART Phone: Enquiries (03) 6244 4527
Library 19 Cambridge Road Bellerive
Tuesday 12.30 p.m.–3.30 p.m.
Wednesday 9.30 a.m.–12.30 p.m.
Saturday 1.30 p.m.–4.30 p.m.
Meeting Sunday School, St Johns Park, New Town, at 7.30 p.m. on 3rd Tuesday of each month, except January and December.

HUON Phone: Branch Secretary (03) 6239 6823
Library Soldiers Memorial Hall Marguerite Street Ranelagh
Saturday 1.30 p.m.–4.00 p.m.
Other times: Library visits by appointment with secretary,
48 hours notice required
Meeting Branch Library, Ranelagh, at 4.00 p.m. on 1st Saturday of each month, except January.
email vsbtas@bigpond.com

LAUNCESTON Phone: Branch Secretary (03) 6326 1399
Library 45–55 Tamar Street Launceston (next door to Albert Hall)
Tuesday 10.00 a.m.–3.00 p.m.
Monday to Friday by appointment only (03) 6236 1399
Check the Branch News and the website
<http://www.launceston.tasfhs.org> for locations and times.

MERSEY Phone: Branch Secretary (03) 6428 6328 Library (03) 6426 2257
Library 113 Gilbert Street Latrobe (behind State Library)
Wednesday & Friday 10.00 a.m.–3.00 p.m.
Saturday opening has ceased and is now by advance appointment only.
Meetings Please check the website at www.tfhsdev.com or contact the
secretary@tfhsdev.com for updates.

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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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Individual member	\$45.00
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Australian Concession	\$35.00
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Organisations: Journal subscription \$45.00—apply to the Society Treasurer.

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

Application for Membership:

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

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