TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.
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Deadline dates for contributions by 1 January, 1 April, 1 July and 1 October
From the Editor

I wish to thank Cynthia O’Neill for all her support, encouragement and assistance over the years I have been responsible for the production of Tasmanian Ancestry. Not only was Cynthia great at proof reading and editing but in the first years willingly gave the team use of her home when it was time to package the journals for posting, and there was always a fine feast and welcome drink to end the day. Cynthia has sadly had to relinquish her position following an injury. Our love, thoughts and best wishes go to her.

We have recently enjoyed such a long session of good weather it has been an effort to shut myself away with the computer. At last it is ready for final proof reading and I trust you will find something of interest in this issue, the first in the next volume.

As the evenings have closed in on us since daylight saving ended, perhaps we should all take advantage of the time to review our family history files and heaps of papers and hopefully, some of you will write an article or two for a forthcoming issue.

There are some new contributors in this issue who, I hope, will continue to send articles and I look forward to receiving more from our ‘regulars’.

Rosemary Davidson

Journal address

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

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

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

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

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Cover:
Headstone of John Abbott (died 1880) and his wife Mary Abbott (died 1897), with their daughter Mary (died 1918) Ashfield, Ireland.
See article p. 9, The Abbott Family, Brewers, Cordial Manufacturers and Clerics, by Barbara Wilson
Photograph collection of Barbara Wilson
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

I often ponder the future of our organisation. The pessimists predict its demise because so much is available online that we no longer have anything to offer. Although some branches are at least holding their own as far as membership goes, the society as a whole is showing a gradual decrease in membership. So where do we go from here?

One suggestion I have heard is that we reduce to three branches, North, North-west and South. Another is that we do away with branches and have a central library in, say, Launceston or Hobart. But I am sure we can do more to attract members than we currently do. I think we are lacking in general publicity. Many people have expressed surprise on hearing we actually exist. We even found a suburban LINC offering help with family history research, and they did not know that we exist!

Many years ago, back in the Genealogical Society of Tasmania days, we had a regular column in the local newspaper. Is it worth trying to revive this? Your local paper might consider it in these days of family history research being so popular. We all know that we can offer much more than what is online, but how do we let the public know this? Instead of seeing the internet as a rival we must find more ways of using it to our advantage. The society and several branches have websites, but these days the so-called social media are more popular, particularly with younger people. Three branches have Facebook accounts and there are other social media available as well. We can ask our members who have Facebook accounts to share the society sites as widely as possible.

But there are other ways we can use the internet to our advantage. One possibility is sharing resources between the branches electronically. I recall quite a few years ago university lectures being delivered in Hobart with students in the north and northwest watching and listening online. I believe that these days many lectures are recorded so that they can be accessed by students pretty well anywhere! Maybe we can explore similar possibilities for us.

But more importantly we must make sure we are better known throughout the state. This requires some thought and imagination by all of us! Hobart Branch recently held a sausage sizzle at Bunnings which made quite a significant profit. But I believe the publicity value was possibly even more important. I know other branches have similar activities and we should think of the publicity value as well as the profitability when planning such events.

I look forward to meeting many of you at our Conference and AGM at Ross on the 18 June. In the meantime, “May all your brick walls come tumbling down!”

Robert Tanner
BRANCH REPORTS

Burnie
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The first few months of this year have been busy for the branch. Our first meeting was computer related. Some internet sites that had been updated with new search engines were shown to members. As usual the luncheon provided for members was of its customary high standard.

During March we held our first Saturday morning Workshop. The topic was ‘Adding Sources to Family Tree Maker 2014’. We had a very good attendance, and morning tea and lunch was enjoyed by all.

We were fortunate to have recently received a donation from Burnie LINC of some newspaper reels that have been digitised and been included in Trove. We made some inquiries as to what sort of film reader could be acquired and we were lucky enough to have a reader printer and a Hutch reader donated from the Glenorchy LINC—a thank you to Hobart members who helped us with this acquisition. As well as the readers we were also fortunate to receive some chairs and shelving that was also surplus to their requirements.

It is with sadness we have to report the passing of Margaret Marshall (Member No. 2118) and Nola McLane (Member No. 5350). For many years Margaret maintained the Branch Archives of stories and events that occurred at the branch. Nola was a very active member within our branch attending branch functions and for a while was a member of the Branch Committee. Our thoughts are with Nola and Margaret’s families.

Peter Cocker Branch President

Hobart
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The branch has made a successful start to the calendar year with the committee getting back into its routine monthly committee meetings, monthly general meetings with interesting speakers and regular library hours.

In early January the branch conducted a fund-raising sausage sizzle at Bunnings Glenorchy, improving the branch’s financial position amid rising costs for postage, telephone, heating etc.

The branch continues to offer members ‘one on one’ dedicated access to experienced researchers to assist them with breaking down family research ‘brickwalls’. Members are invited to contact the branch to describe the ‘brickwall’ and negotiate a suitable time.

The previous branch report concerning our withdrawal of volunteer research assistants at the Glenorchy Branch of LINC was challenged. It was stated
LINC management decided to remove family history resources from the library shelves. This was interpreted as all resources, which is not the case. Many remain on shelves and the library has advised they have a willing volunteer to help researchers five days a week.

**General Meetings**

At the time of preparing this report there have been two general meetings with invited speakers.

The speaker at the February meeting was Dr Briony Patterson, Associate Genetics Counsellor with the Tasmanian Clinical Genetics Services at the Royal Hobart Hospital. Her topic was ‘Using genealogy to trace genetic conditions’. The talk fitted nicely with the increasing interest in genetics in the branch with the formation of a DNA Interest Group.

Dr Patterson pointed out that where genetic studies show that a condition (for example, breast cancer) to be associated with an identified gene mutation, the patient treatment will include an assessment of the likely incidence of the same gene mutation in close family members. By including close and extended family in further investigation, it can be possible to identify when the gene mutation might have been introduced into the family by a distant ancestor, perhaps two or three generations earlier. Following lines of descent of this ancestor, and finding an incidence of the same condition, it is possible to offer advice to family members about the likely incidence of this gene being carried in related families. Knowing family history of earlier generations is a useful means of monitoring for the condition, and advising related families who might not be aware of this genetic history.

An invitation was extended to members to assist in this research process.

The speaker for March meeting was Rosie Severs, a self-confessed museum buff and guide having occupied various roles in both Godalming, England and Lunenburg, Nova Scotia and more recently conducting guided tours at TMAG and presenting talks on ‘Robert Brown … Nature’s investigator’.

Robert Brown was born in 1773 in Montrose, Scotland, where he attended school and in 1789 commenced studying Medicine at Edinburgh University. However, he was more interested in the field of Botanical Science, and came to the attention of Sir Joseph Banks, who offered him a place on an expedition to New Holland with Matthew Flinders. The aim of this trip was to circumnavigate this land mass in order to prove that it was a continent, and to gather specimens of plants, seeds, animals and birds. Accompanying him on this trip was Ferdinand Bauer, Botanical Artist.

Robert Brown arrived in the River Derwent a week prior to David Collins’ arrival in Hobart Town in 1804. Brown set about travelling on excursions to the Derwent Valley, as far as Ouse. He also climbed Table Mountain in order to discover the source of the Huon River. He discovered the source of another river, named in his honour. His party continued down the mountain, and arrived at the mouth of the river, now known as Kingston.

Brown spent six months in Van Diemen’s Land collecting plant specimens and seed, and returned to Sydney, where he made his departure for England, sailing in the *Investigator*, which was in such bad condition it had been condemned three times.

They travelled via Cape Horn, and arrived back in Liverpool during bad weather. It was then necessary to travel

Brown immersed himself in a lifelong microscopic study of plant cellular structure. He also observed what physicists know as Brownian Motion.

Brown was a Fellow of the Linnean Society and held the position of president for some years, and was vice president when he died in 1858.

Robert Brown was a brilliant and well respected naturalist amongst his peers, and Charles Darwin held him in the highest regard for his large body of work over many years.

Browns River was named in his honour, as have been several plants, named in recognition by fellow botanists of his contribution into the study of plants.

Hobart Branch regular general meetings featuring invited speakers are held at 7:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday evening of the month at ‘The Sunday School’ in the St Johns Park Precinct in New Town.

**Speakers for 2016**

The following speakers have been arranged for forthcoming the General Meetings in 2016:

**April 19:**
AGM + John Wadsley ‘War memorials and memorial avenues of the Great War’

**May 17:**
Alan Townsend ‘What colonial wallpaper tells us about luxury and wealth’

**June 21:**
Prof. Hamish Maxwell-Stewart ‘What’s happening with Founders and Survivors and other projects’

**July 19:**
Rex Kerrison ‘The beginnings, and expansion, of the Kerrison clan in Tasmania, and across Australia’.

**August 16:**
Scott Clemnett ‘Gallipoli from Three Perspectives’

**September 20:**
Sally Wise ‘Colonial and Convict Cooking’

**October 18:**
Dan Griffin ‘Searching for Ancestors in the USA’

**November 15:** TBA

Louise Rainbow President

Launceston

[http://www.launceston.tasfhs.org](http://www.launceston.tasfhs.org)

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On Wednesday 18 March, John and Sue Reimers spoke about their successful research experiences in Northern Ireland, mainly at the PRONI office; in Edinburgh at ‘Scotland’s People’ archives and the Dundee Archives in Angus. They were delighted with the documentation found, and in addition spent time with relatives.

The Branch AGM was held at the Harry Abbott Scout Hall in St Georges Square, commencing at 7 p.m., on Tuesday 19 April. Following the meeting member and historian Gus Green gave an interesting talk on his new book, ‘Duck Reach and the Electric Light’.

The Society AGM will be held on Saturday 18 June, at the Ross Town Hall. If you have not already booked, check the
March edition of *Tasmanian Ancestry* for the detailed programme and booking form.

Members will be pleased to learn that we have now installed in the library, a reverse cycle heat pump which has added greatly to the warmth and comfort of our volunteers and visitors. Our electrical system has been also been thoroughly checked, regulation tagging carried out and a number of new power points added.

**Workshop:** Wednesday, 15 June at 2:00 p.m., at the Stables: ‘Researching on TROVE’ Cost: $5.00.

**Library:** Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. phone (03) 6344 4034.

Other days (except Saturday & Sunday), by appointment only.

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

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**Mersey**

www.tfhsdev.com

President: Ros Coss

Secretary: Sue-Ellen McCreghan

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Library (03) 6426 2257

PO Box 267 Latrobe Tasmania 7307

email: secretary@tfhsdev.com

Indexing of Births, Deaths and Marriages for 2014 is nearing completion.

The Mersey Branch Annual General Meeting and Election of Officers, for 2016–17 was held on the 16 April 2016, commencing at 1:00 p.m., at The Family History Library, Latrobe.

Due to changing circumstances of several workers, the Mersey Branch is seeking new volunteers.

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Opening days and times are: Tuesday and Fridays, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Please check our web site for updates of upcoming events and information on new publications available at our Mersey Branch Library.

**Huon**

President: Shirley Fletcher (03) 6264 1546

Secretary: Libby Gillham (03) 6239 6823

PO Box 117 Huonville Tasmania 7109

email: vsbtas@bigpond.com

No report received

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**A Photographic index to The Tasmanian Mail**

This series covers the photographs which appeared in *The Tasmanian Mail* from 1894–1935

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TFHS Inc. Members less 10% discount
NOTICE OF MEETING
Notice is hereby given in accordance with Rule 14, that the
36th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of the Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.
is to be held at 1:30 p.m.
on Saturday 18 June 2016
at the Ross Town Hall,
Church St, Ross

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

AGENDA
1. Welcome by the President
2. Apologies
3. Presentation of the 'Lilian Watson Family History Award'
4. Presentation of TFHS Inc. Meritorious Service Award
5. Confirmation of Minutes of the 2015 AGM
6. President’s Report
7. Treasurer’s Report
8. Election of Office Bearers and Endorsements of Branch Delegates
9. General Business
10. Next AGM Saturday 17 June 2017

Colleen Read, Society Secretary

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Tasmanian Ancestry

Journal of the Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.

Index to Volumes 31–35
Compiled by Sally Rackham

Published by Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.
June 2016
Price on application

This new index continues the series:

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THE ABBOTT FAMILY
BREWERS, CORDIAL MANUFACTURERS
AND CLERICS
Barbara Wilson

The tranquil surrounds of Carr Villa Cemetery in Launceston are a long way from the townland of Anaghaduffy (Anaghadoo) in County Monaghan, near the border of County Cavan in the Republic of Ireland. Yet it is here that two brothers lie in graves metres apart, one on his own, the other in a large plot with members of his family. William Henry Abbott and Joseph Abbott were the sons of John Abbott, a farmer of Anaghadoo and his wife Mary (née Heney/Heaney). In 1858 John Abbott is recorded in the Griffiths Land Valuation as leasing just over 12 acres including a house, outbuildings and land. The family were Irish Protestants and members of the Church of Ireland. W H Abbott, the eldest son, born on 23 June 1839, Joseph, the youngest born in 1850, together with sister Mary Anne (Annie) 1838, John Thomas Heney 1841 and David Charles 1844, were all baptised at the Church of St John, Kilocrow on the Dartrey Estate (Barony of Dartrey). The church is still in use today. Three of the Abbott boys became ministers in the Church of Ireland, were well educated, two graduating at Trinity College Dublin and had long successful
careers as clergymen. Archdeacon D Charles Abbott was ordained in 1867 and served in many parishes, the longest and last at Tydavnet (Co. Monaghan) from 1886–1917. Rev. J Thomas H Abbott was educated at St Bees, Cumbria and ordained in 1868. He served at Mullaghduin Parish (Co. Fermanagh) for 42 years. Rev. Joseph Abbott, ordained 1880, spent the last years of his ministry at Muckross (Co. Fermanagh) from 1906 to 1921 when he retired to Tasmania. Two raised large families, the third, Joseph, remained single. Their sister Annie married Thomas MORROW but had no children.

William Abbott at the age of 18 years possibly had a wider vision and on 26 May 1857 sailed from the Port of Liverpool on the Dragoon arriving in the Colony of Victoria on 24 August 1857, one of 348 unassisted migrants looking for a new life in the colonies.

Little is known of his first employment in the bustling, gold fever smitten city of Melbourne, and in the aftermath of the Eureka uprising in Ballarat in 1854. His obituary in the Daily Telegraph notes that not long after his arrival he engaged in contract work in connection with the construction of the railway between Geelong and Ballarat.

By 1862 William was resident in Ballarat, possibly working for baker William SEARLE at his bakery in Main Street. On 10 November 1862 he married Mary Elizabeth Searle, born in 1843, Torquay, England, daughter of the above baker, giving his occupation as storeman and both gave their address as Ballarat East.

Between 1863 and 1876, William and Mary became the parents of seven children: Mary Ellen (Minnie), Florence Evelyn, Annie Emily, Ada Jane, William John, Emma Blanche (died), and Henry Charles.

His business dealings were also productive and an advertisement in the Ballarat Star on 2 October 1871 advises customers that Abbott & Gilbert have purchased the Napier Brewery from Mr E SCRASE and hope by strict attention to business and keeping a good article, to merit a continuance of patronage awarded to their predecessor.

However by 1875 business was not so profitable and in May that year an advertisement in the Ballarat papers has the Assigned Estate of Abbott and Gilbert, Brewers, Ballarat, up for tender. The Melbourne Age reported on 11 May 1875 that a meeting of creditors had been held showing liabilities amounting to £4800 with a deficiency of £1300 pound.

The situation must have been grim because sadly the family home and some household furniture in Eureka Street were auctioned on 20 September, noting that Mr Abbott was leaving the neighbourhood. However once in Melbourne he was employed by Boyd & Head at the Shamrock Brewery (later CUB). In 1879 a daughter Ethel Victoria was born in Fitzroy and in the same year the family moved to Launceston where William Abbott was engaged by John FAWNS at the Cornwall Brewery on the Esplanade in Launceston.

When Fawns died in 1880 Abbott was made Managing Director. It is apparent his services were very well received and appreciated; today a treasured family heirloom is an inscribed gold watch, presented by Rev. J Fawns (son of John Fawns) on Christmas Day 1881. Part of the inscription reads: ‘As a small token of his esteem & confidence’.
In May 1881 in Launceston, another son, Thomas David Abbott, was born, completing the family which then comprised six daughters and three sons living.

In 1885 the partnership became ‘Fawns & Abbott’, until 1887 when Abbott purchased the soft drink business of William ROGERS which traded as the Phoenix Aerated Waters and Cordial Factory and was under the name of M E Abbott (Mary Elizabeth), operating at 79 Patterson Street.

In 1891 the Phoenix Brewery was built behind the cordial factory, a new imposing lofty building, six stories in height, built on modern lines without saving of expense (The Australian Brewers’ Journal). The first brew was ready for sale on 1 October 1891.

In later days the tower was topped by a neon sign in the shape of a bottle which became a Launceston landmark.

The Launceston Exhibition in 1892 was a chance to show off their beverages and the Phoenix Brewery did not disappoint with several First Awards—for Ale in bottle and Ale on draught, and a Second Award for a light running beer on draught.

As business proprietors, the Abbotts were ahead of their time. The Phoenix Brewery was the first in Tasmania to adopt the eight hour system of employment and a Saturday half holiday!
No exact date is known for the closure of the brewery, but DEUTSHER puts it at the turn of the century when the production of cordials became the main focus. Extensions to the factory were carried out in 1910 and Abbott’s cordials became a household name in Tasmania. A Hobart branch was opened c.1912 in Brisbane Street and was managed by the youngest son, Thomas David Abbott. The façade of the building still stands today (an apartment block at its rear) and the stylised ‘A’ can still be seen in the brickwork.

William Abbott found time away from brewing ales and cordials to develop an interest in the mining industry including the Brothers’ Home No. 1 Mine at Derby, Ben Lomond Tin Mine, and mines on the Lefroy goldfields.

W H Abbott died on 10 September 1922 and his obituaries in all the daily papers were unstinting in their description of him as a

... well known cordial manufacturer, and a highly-respected resident of Launceston for over 40 years.

His wife Mary Elizabeth (née Searle) died in December 1936. Theirs was a business of equals at a time when women had little say in business affairs but she had significant influence and input into the cordial business in particular.

A recipe for ‘Ka’li’ appearing in Cooley’s Cyclopaedia of Practical Receipts and Collateral Information in the Arts, Manufactures, Professions and Trades Including Medicine, Pharmacy, Hygiene and Domestic Economy (1892) attributes the recipe ‘Owned by M. E. Abbott’.

Her obituary in the Examiner 19 December 1936 includes an interesting aside—that gold nuggets were taken to her father’s bakery to be weighed. One version suggests the Welcome Nugget found in Ballarat in 1858 was taken to the bakery and the young Mary Searle was told ‘if you can lift it you can have it’.

With their large family there were of course the normal highs and lows, deaths and marriages. The eldest daughter Mary Ellen (Minnie) died in Launceston in 1901 aged 37 years and was buried at the...
Charles Street Cemetery—in later years re-interred at Carr Villa—the first burial in the family plot. Of the other daughters Florence married Jacob McQUINN in 1889. In 1891 Annie married Frederick BARKER and Ada Jane married well known chemist Carl EBERHARD. Descendants of this family are represented today in the CRESSWELL and DAVIS families still in northern Tasmania. Charlotte married Flint Smith BROADBENT 1897, and Ethel in her 44th year married John Markham GRIST, Manager of Imperial Chemical Industries (ICI) in Melbourne.

Of William John Abbott little is known as he moved to Sydney and was not involved in the family business.

Henry Charles Abbott (known as Hal) was a major contributor to the ongoing conduct of the family business. In 1906 at the age of 30 he undertook the ‘Grand Tour’ sailing to Europe and visiting his uncles and cousins in Ireland and England. Hal was a brilliant correspondent and amazingly 43 letters written by him on his journey have survived and are worth a separate article or publication in their own right. He also visited the Brewers Exhibition in October 1906 in London with a keen eye to any items relevant to the family business. In a letter home he commented ‘…from what I have seen we are as up to date as the best of them and some of the newest machines are not to be compared with Fergusons.’

Sadly Henry’s later private life was shattered when his wife of 4 years died in 1922 shortly after the birth of their second daughter. In 1964 he was awarded the MBE for Philanthropy—typical gifts included funding the Harry Abbott Scout Centre in St George’s Square and providing most of the finance needed to buy the H C Abbott Guide Hall in Park Street (known as Margaret McIntrye House but sold in 2003, although the guide hall remains at the rear). He was also a Mason for more than 50 years.

Thomas David Abbott married Irene SHORE in 1913. He was instrumental in the smooth operation and success of the Cordial Factory in Brisbane Street, Hobart and his descendants are
resident in many parts of Tasmania today. As a matter of interest the Paterson Street premises were demolished in 1974 to make way for a multi-storey concrete car park, located between the Examiner office and Launceston Fire Brigade—an ignominious end to a city landmark. The business was moved to a new factory at Ravenswood and was later sold to Coca Cola Bottlers Adelaide who used the plant to supply the Tasmanian market. When Coca Cola Amatil bought out Coke Adelaide, the Ravenswood bottling and canning lines were closed and the premises used as a warehouse for Tasmanian distribution.

While W H Abbott was forging his future in Tasmania, the Rev. Joseph Abbott tended his parishioners as curate at Fivemiletown, Malahide and Clones and was then Rector of Killeevan from 1900 to 1906, and of Muckross, County Fermanagh, from 1906 until 1921. He was held in high esteem by his flock. A history of Killeevan Parish notes that the Reverend Joseph was an able organiser with a flair for finance … and proved to be an excellent one for the Parish.

In later years his sister Annie Morrow, widowed in 1901 and left in straightened circumstances, kept house for him until her death at Muckross vicarage in March 1918. His brother Rev. D Charles Abbott died in 1917 and Rev. J Thomas Heney Abbott in 1915.

On his retirement in 1921, Reverend Joseph sailed to Launceston to be reunited with his brother and family who had kept in contact for over 60 years, and strengthened by Hal’s visit in 1906. Hal’s letters mention the Tasmanian family photos that are on display at Killeevan when he is visiting with Uncle Joe and Aunt Annie.

As I sit writing this your photo is opposite me on the wall and there is one of Pa on the mantelpiece in my room. They have a lot of our photos here.

Another link with his brothers was re-established when Rev. Joseph became involved with the small parish at Sidmoutth. It was at ‘Valley House’, Sidmoutth, that his niece Louise Kathleen Abbott (born 1874) (the third daughter of the Rev. David Charles and his first wife Louise) had settled after her marriage to Frederick HODSON. Their daughter Ethel married John SWINSTEAD in December 1926 in the Church of England at ‘Waterton Hall’, West Tamar and lived in Longford at some point.

The Reverend Joseph Abbott died at Beaconsfield Hospital on 6 October 1925. His simple grave at Beacnsfield is marked with a large cross and is in view of the Abbott family monument.

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Australian Brewers Journal, 20 March 1892

Barbara Wilson
Great great granddaughter of W H Abbott, great granddaughter of Florence Evelyn Abbott/McQuinn
REVOLTING TO GIRLS WITH ANY REFINEMENT
FINDING BOARD AND LODGING FOR TEACHERS
Betty Jones (Member No. 6032)

In another article by this writer, information was provided about school residences in the nineteenth century and the conditions experienced by some of the teachers living in them during that era.¹ This contribution looks at those who were not able to access accommodation attached to a school, but had to find their own board and lodging. The aim of the submission is to provide readers with an insight into a range of situations that sometimes resulted from having to stay in private homes, boarding houses and hotels.

Although the Department of Education still does provide and maintain a number of Government-owned rental residences, particularly in more isolated areas, most current Tasmanian teachers are expected (and choose) to find their own private accommodation following a teaching appointment. Well defined roads, modern transport and reasonable salaries enable educators to live outside the community in which they work and commute on a daily basis from home to school, should they need or choose to do so. That was not always the case in times gone by when a distance of even a few kilometres from home to school was frequently considered too taxing to be traversed daily, particularly during winter.

Haidee KEARNEY (1875–1952), born at Richmond, youngest daughter of Henry and Jessie (née BROWN) Kearney, started teaching in 1891. In April 1900, Miss Kearney applied for a transfer from Apsley Meadows, stating that she wanted to be removed before the wet weather really set in. It was already very wet and muddy, making the ground quite unfit to travel by foot, and a bicycle was useless.² Miss Kearney’s request was granted, a

¹ See ‘Home Sweet Home’, Tasmanian Ancestry, Volume 31, No. 2
² Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office (TAHO): ED2/1/1486
move to Latrobe being enacted in July of that year.

In August 1921, Marjorie Amelia Tiffin (1900–1979) from Sidmouth was appointed to the subsidised school at Camden. On a pre-visit to the area, when informed that her accommodation was three miles by road from the school, Miss Tiffin complained that such distance was too far to walk in all weather and she resigned immediately.1

Gladys Auriel Miller (1894–1970), born at Hobart, daughter of Douglas and Lavinia (née Mansenn) Miller, had but a brief time with the Department. In May 1915, two days after her first appointment to Nietta State School, she wrote to the Department:

I wish to send my resignation in to the Education Department. I opened the school here on the 10th but find it is impossible to continue. Nietta is not a fit place for any girl. There is no sanitary accommodation for the school, neither is there a stove nor fireplace. There are only seven children. The nearest board I can get is 2 miles away, and the road is impossible for a bicycle. I was offered board 2 miles away in another direction but I should have to sleep alone in a house detached from the main building. I shall of course forfeit my fares here, and hope to leave tomorrow. I know that a teacher has to be at her post whatever the distance or state of the weather, and I could not do it.4

Financial assistance was provided for some
At the end of 1860, a circular memorandum from the Southern Board of Education indicated that teacher remuneration was to include a lodging allowance of between £20 and £40 per annum (depending on the teacher’s classification and location) when quarters were not provided by the Board,5 though it was clear that such discretion had been made available prior to that. Miss Emma Charlotte Clarke (1830–1917), Female Assistant at Goulburn Street in Hobart, for example, was granted a lodging allowance by the Board in February 1858.6

Despite some subsidies being available, many teachers struggled with the cost of living away from home. Henry Baldwin Joseph Lewis (1853–1929) was born at Launceston, son of Richard Baldwin and Clara (née Smith) Lewis. Upon his appointment as Head Teacher to St Michaels (Rosevears) in 1873, Mr Lewis was informed by his employer that board and lodging could be had for an unmarried man at the Rose Hotel at 12 shillings per week. That amount constituted about two-thirds of his weekly salary.7

Mary Agnes Smallhorn (1878–1964), born at Hobart, daughter of Alfred Thomas and Julia Ann (née Mahoney) Smallhorn, joined the Department in 1895. Miss Smallhorn resigned from Orford in February 1901 owing to the poor living and ungenial circumstances of the place. When she was appointed to Lower Barrington in January 1903, Miss Smallhorn had great difficulty in procuring accommodation. She had been putting in one or two nights at the children’s parents’ places, but could not find anything permanent. Within weeks a move to Mathinna followed, but Miss Smallhorn was transferred again at the

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1 TAHO: ED10/8/0763
2 TAHO: ED9/1067/1914
3 The Mercury, 17 December 1860
4 TAHO: ED13/1/1
5 TAHO: ED238
end of June, this time to Waratah. The cost of lodging there caused her to seek another transfer almost immediately. The Department eventually compromised by providing her provisionally with a supplement to her income.  

By the 1930s, some teachers received as little as £10 per annum living allowance from the Education Department. In 1931, ‘Disappointed Mother’ wrote a letter to a newspaper editor outlining the financial reality endured by her Junior Teacher daughter, who held a position in a country school. The rate of board and lodging charged at the only available house in the district was £1 per week, allegedly leaving the Junior Teacher with only £16 a year from her salary and allowance to clothe herself and indulge in any small amusement and recreation.

A similar theme was reported over ten years later. In 1945, an appeal was made to the people of Burnie to offer board and lodging to teachers in the area. The example was given of the unsustainability for teachers in receipt of £3/10/- to £4 per week having to pay £3/15/- as casuals at guest houses and hotels.

A shortage of boarding places had consequences

In early 1904, Inspector Alfred William GARRETT (1843–1929) noted that the enrolment at Cornwall State School was 45 when he visited. Mr Leslie Owen BIDGOOD (1882–1947) was expected to be only temporary as the school was beyond his classification. However, it was stated that no teacher would be anxious to go to Cornwall as there was no accommodation for board and lodging except in one house and it was not always to be obtained there.

In early 1919, it was reported that the school at Dromedary was closed because the teacher had been unable to find board and lodging in the area.

Kathleen Eileen PALMER, born on 9 August 1918 at Derby, was the daughter of John Frederick and Eileen Ellen (née CARTER) Palmer. Miss Palmer was appointed to Lanaba from Charles Street State School in September 1941 and resigned in October 1942. At the time of the Inspector’s visit in May 1942, Miss Palmer stated that she had not been able to obtain accommodation in the Lanaba area and was consequently living in Wynyard and travelling the five mile distance by bicycle. The Inspector feared that she was likely to have difficulty arriving at school on time in winter and advised her to write to the Department if she could not manage. He hoped that the people of the district would be prepared to board the teacher if they wanted the school to remain open.

Lodgers frequently had to ‘make the most of it’

When boarding with a local family, it was usual for the country teacher to receive breakfast, leave for school between 8 and 9 o’clock in the morning with a packed
lunch, and return home before dark for an evening meal. In some cases, in addition to their daily routines, they helped to wash, dress, feed and civilize one-half of their pupils before school hours began. Sometimes the boarder had to share a room with one of the family members. In 1913, ‘A Teacher’s Brother’ wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper stating that some young provisional teachers in country areas could be subjected to domestic arrangements ‘revolting to girls with any refinement.’ An example was given of a young woman who said that it was quite common while eating her meals to have two dogs having a ‘set to’ over a rabbit carcass under the very table at which she sat. There was nowhere else for her to board.

George Walter DICKENSON, born at Pelham in 1878, son of William Joseph and Alice (née CARROLL) Dickenson, made application for a teaching position with the Education Department in 1901. Following a number of appointments and time at the Training College, Mr Dickenson was placed at Williamsford on the West Coast from 1912 to 1913. In June 1913, Mr Dickenson wrote to the Department describing his boarding situation in the mining town:

There are fourteen boarders and only one fireplace. The sleeping accommodation is in a building apart from the house. I, myself, have a room about 12 feet by 12 feet with four other boarders. The room is only separated from another long one by a thin partition of palings. Consequently everything said in one room can be heard in the other, the language used, as a rule, being anything but edifying. It is a common occurrence to be roused up in the middle of the night by some drunken chap, who, when he gets home, usually goes around trying to get everyone to have a drink with him.

Every story had two sides
Alice Mary ROBINSON, born in 1870 at Westbury, was the daughter of Thomas David Robinson and his first wife Honora (née BUTLER). Miss Robinson joined the Department in 1891, her application stating that she had twelve months’ previous teaching experience at a Convent school in Invercargill, New Zealand. Miss Robinson advised the Department that she had been living at home since then excepting for a period of six months when she had been governess in a private family. Although her teaching was considered satisfactory, Miss Robinson experienced difficulties in her boarding situations. In December 1898, her position at Scamander came to an end when Mr Thomas BERWICK refused to board and lodge her any longer. Miss Robinson’s side of the story was that she had spoken out to Mr Berwick about what she thought were unsatisfactory conditions, and the situation had deteriorated from there. Mr Berwick’s side was that Miss Robinson had been ‘intolerably disagreeable’ in his house. Unfortunately, Miss Robinson’s lodging problems did not end there. At Eskdale, in the short space of two months during 1900, Miss Robinson stayed at five different places in the district, and at each one she had to be told to go as they could not put up with her eccentric ways. It was claimed that Miss Robinson walked about nearly all night disturbing the other householders. Less than three months after Miss Robinson’s transfer to Montagu in April 1901, it was reported that serious quarrels broke out between

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14 The Examiner, 2 June 1927
15 Daily Post, 23 May 1913
16 TAHO: ED2/1/2104; file 2364
17 TAHO: ED9/574/1913
her and the people with whom she was staying. These were almost a daily occurrence and led to her receiving notice to find lodgings elsewhere. This she refused to do, resulting in her removal from the district by the Department and the eventual termination of her services.18

**Random acts of kindness**

Most of the examples in this article have highlighted problems encountered. Notwithstanding those issues, one cannot help but be struck by the sense of goodwill, faith in human kindness and levels of mutual trust evident in some recorded depictions. Numerous instances can be found of teachers being treated most kindly by their hosts.

Claudia Susan BYARD (1880–1947) was born at Caveside, eldest daughter of Clement and Susan Elizabeth (née COOK) Byard. She joined the Department in 1894 and was awarded a prestigious Smith Exhibition to train at the Model School in Hobart in 1901–1902. This was followed by teaching positions at Caveside and Penguin. On Friday 24 February 1905, Miss Byard received a telegram from the Department informing her that she was transferred to Sisters Creek as Teacher-In-Charge and was to open the school there the following Wednesday. She received no advice on the district, nor was the school’s local Board of Advice advised of her appointment so that she might have had assistance from them. Miss Byard was dumped down from the Stanley-based Tatlow’s Royal Mail Coach Service at night at the Sisters Creek School, 10 miles from the nearest boarding house. There was no school residence, and Miss Byard had to find her way as best she could to the nearest light.

It so happened that she struck a hospitable dwelling, and was entertained for several days. Difficulties continued in Miss Byard’s quest to secure permanent boarding facilities, so she resigned after just five months.19

**Alternatives and developments**

Donald Arthur Henry E BROWN (1885–1915), born at Green Ponds, son of teachers, Arthur Henry and Alicia Vonhomreigh (née MARTIN) Brown, started his teaching career at Dover in 1901. In March 1905, following his appointment to Deep Bay, Mr Brown wrote to the Department applying for a tent and fly for accommodation at the school since he was unable to secure board in the area. He explained that he was forced to eat, sleep and keep all food and bedding at the school. This caused problems during a wet day at school when he had to cook his meals and eat them in the presence of the children.20

Accommodation challenges persisted for many years. In early 1944, it was reported that eight female teachers at Queenstown had been unable to secure permanent board and lodging, their current arrangements being available only on a day-to-day basis.21 Twelve months later negotiations took place to have a teachers’ hostel provided in the town22 and that became a reality by 1946. Hostels for female teachers followed in other rural/isolated centres throughout the state, particularly during the mid-1950s. In a number of cases previous teacher residences were converted for the purpose. The concept of providing shared accommodation for multiple single teachers on the one site flourished in

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18 TAHO: ED2/1/file 1435
19 North Western Advocate, 23 August 1905
20 TAHO: ED9/186/1905
21 The Advocate, 7 February 1944
22 The Advocate, 24 March 1945
outlying locations for many years to follow, separate male hostels being included from the early 1960s.

**In conclusion**

The provision of small schools in country and isolated areas was essential for the education of a large number of children in Tasmania in earlier years and provided a means of useful employment for many adults. Conditions for pupils and teachers alike were often less than perfect when measured against current standards. Some of the stories highlighted in this article demonstrate our ancestors’ frequent need for a show of resilience and resourcefulness, those admirable personal qualities still important for survival in modern life.
VOICES FROM THE ORPHAN SCHOOLS:
The NORTH STAR VOLUNTEERS 1845

Dianne Snowden (Member No. 910)

In January 1859, the Hobart Town Daily Mercury reported that

About ten years ago H.M.S. North Star visited this Port, and, whilst here, six boys from the Queen’s Orphan School joined her as volunteers. These lads we have been informed upon reliable authority have all turned out well.1

Sir William Denison was credited with the initiative,

[he] was desirous of converting the Queen’s Orphan School into a Nursery in which to train lads for our Colonial Marine; and, in order to give practical effect to his desire, he caused masts to be erected on the ground attached to the Orphan School, and had them supplied with yards, sails, gear, and such like, so that the lads might be taught their use and be instructed in the art of reefing, furling, &c.2

When Denison left the colony, the venture struggled,

he left no-one behind him possessed of the necessary energy of character to emulate his endeavors or to carry out his intentions; and the consequence has been that this practically beneficial idea has been almost if not entirely lost sight of.3

On 4 February 1845, the following Orphan School boys signed up as ‘Boy 2nd class’ on the North Star: Michael GAGAN, aged 16 (born Kingston, Dublin); Thomas HARDY, 16 years 2 months (born Hobart Town); Robert HARDY, aged 14 years 1 month (born Hobart Town); John McQUADE, aged 14 years 4 months (born Liverpool, Lancashire); John YOUNG, aged 14 years 3 months (born London, Middlesex); James BUDGEILL, aged 15 years 2 months (born Hobart Town); and Frederick SMITH, aged 14 years 6 months (born Hobart Town).4

Michael GAYON or Gagan was the son of convict Emily KINGSTON who arrived on the Mary Anne in March 1841. Emily, a widow aged 30, was tried in Dublin for felony. Her two children, Michael aged 12, and Theresa ‘Gagan’ aged 6, came with her on the Mary Anne.5 Both children were admitted to the Orphan School in April 1841, with other children from the Mary Anne. Michael remained in the Orphan School until 6 November 1844, when he volunteered for the North Star.6

Frederick Smith, the son of Mary and John Smith, was born in Hobart Town.7 When he was 6, in October 1835,

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1 Hobart Town Daily Mercury, 3 January 1859 p. 2
2 ibid.
3 ibid.
4 UK National Archives ADM38/1268 Muster Rolls North Star: Courtesy of Carol Brill.
5 TAHO, CON40/1/6 No.150 Emily Kingston Mary Anne 1841; TAHO, CON19/1/1 No. 150 ‘Emmilly’ Kingston Mary Anne 1841
6 TAHO, SWD28/1/1 Register of Boys p. 13; TAHO, SWD28/1/1/ Register of Girls p. 16 Theresa Gagan. Theresa was apprenticed to Joshua Anson? of Hobart Town on 7 November 1850. Emily died in Hobart in 1847: TAHO, CON40/1/6 No. 150 Emily Kingston Mary Anne 1841.
7 No birth record located. UK National Archives, ADM38/1268 Muster Roll North Star
Frederick was admitted to the Orphan School upon the death of his father, a NSW Veteran. Ten years later, in February 1845, he was discharged from the Orphan School when he joined the North Star. Orphaned brothers Thomas and Robert Hardy, who were born to Ann GOODWIN and ex-convict William Hardy in Hobart Town, were admitted to the Orphan School on 21 January 1837. Thomas was 7 and Robert was 5. Robert was discharged from the Orphan School on 31 January 1845 when he volunteered for the North Star. Thomas had already been discharged; he was apprenticed to Mr A MACKAY on 2 October 1843. It seems this was not a barrier to joining the North Star as an Orphan School volunteer. Thomas Hardy deserted the North Star in Sydney on 13 July 1845. John Young was 9 when he arrived with his mother, Ann, on the Gilbert Henderson in April 1840. Ann, aged 36, was transported for larceny from the person in Lancaster (Liverpool) Quarter Sessions and sentenced to transportation for 15 years. John was admitted to the Male Orphan School on 14 May 1840 and discharged on 31 January 1845 when he volunteered to join the HMS North Star. James Budgell was one of five children who accompanied their mother, Mary, on the Arab (3) which arrived on 25 April 1836. Mary had been tried in the Central Criminal Court with her husband, John, for larceny from the person (stealing a watch). Although her convict conduct record noted of her husband, ‘I expect him here’, no evidence of his arrival has been found. Three months after Mary and her family arrived, the youngest child, Rebecca, aged ten months, died at the Cascades Female Factory; she was buried at St Davids on 29 July 1836. The other four children had been admitted to the Orphan School shortly after arrival in the colony. The oldest, Elizabeth or Eliza, was admitted to the Female Orphan School at the age of 9 on 5 May 1836 and discharged nearly six years later, on 1 January 1842, apprenticed to the Queen’s Orphan School. The third child, Jane, was admitted to the Female Orphan School at 12 years. The third child, Jane, was admitted to the Female Orphan School at

8 TAHO, SWD28/1/1 Register of Boys p. 7
9 TAHO, SWD28/1/1 Register of Boys p. 9; TAHO, RGD32/1/1 Hobart 1832/4234
10 Robert William Hardy (b.17 November 1831; bp. 15 April 1832). Ann Goodwin was born on Norfolk Island to First Fleeters Andrew Goodwin and Lydia Munro. William Hardy arrived on the Dromedary in 1819. Additional information from Carol Brill.
11 UK National Archives, ADMM38/1269 Muster Rolls North Star. Courtesy of Carol Brill.
12 TAHO, CON40/1/10 No. 15 Gilbert Henderson 1840 Ann Young
13 TAHO, SWD28/1/1 p. 12
14 TAHO, CON40/1/2 No.340 Arab (3) 1836 Mary Budgell
15 TAHO, RGD34/1/1 St Davids Hobart Town 1836/4412 Rebecca Budgell
16 TAHO, SWD28/1/1 Register of Girls p. 9. When she was 21, Eliza Budgell married William Anderson, a baker, aged 40: TAHO, RGD37/1/6 Hobart 1847/755 Eliza Budgell and William Anderson. The other children have not been traced.
17 TAHO, SWD28/1/1 Register of Boys p. 8
the age of 8. She was discharged to Mr Brady, New Town Road, on 9 June 1844. The youngest child, Robert, was admitted to the Orphan School at the age of 3 years 6 months. He was discharged nine years later to his mother, then free.

John McQuade was 12 when he arrived on the Phoebe with his mother, Alice McQuade, and brother William, in January 1845. Both boys were admitted to the Male Orphan School in the same month. John was discharged on 31 January 1845 to join the HMS North Star. William was discharged to his mother, ticket-of-leave, on 9 January 1849.

The North Star sailed from Hobart Town to Port Arthur and then to New Zealand. On 23 March 1845, about six weeks after the Orphan School boys signed on, the North Star arrived in New Zealand with the officers and men of the 58th Regiment. In New Zealand, the ship was involved around the Bay of Islands in what was known as the Flagstaff War (also known as Hone Heke’s Rebellion, the Northern War and the First Māori War) between 11 March 1845 and 11 January 1846. Following the end of the Flagstaff War, the North Star returned to England. On 19 December 1846, the ship arrived in Portsmouth sailing via the Cape of Good Hope. In 1860, the ship was broken up at the Chatham Dockyard.

In 1859, the Hobart Town Daily Mercury concluded

The Orphan School boys who volunteered on board the North Star had a practical knowledge of bending and reefing sails, working the yards &c., which not only made them useful but won for them also the good will of the men with whom they had to associate.

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18 TAHO, SWD28/1/1 Register of Girls p. 9
19 TAHO, SWD28/1/1 Register of Boys p. 8
20 TAHO, SWD28/1/1 Register of Boys p. 19
21 UK National Archives, ADM38/1268
   Muster Rolls North Star. Courtesy of Carol Brill.
Their position, too, as orphans, was a strong recommendation in their favor with British seamen; and, we have no doubt but that they entered upon their new career with prospects, which, under ordinary circumstances, they would not have had.\(^{23}\)

The newspaper urged the continuance of the North Star project,

Captain LORING of H.M.S. Iris, now lying in our River, visited the Queen’s Orphan School a few days since, and expressed a wish to have six of the lads as volunteers. Many of the boys are desirous of joining the Iris and have expressed a wish to see the ship. Why should not some of the eldest be taken on board, and then, should they still express a desire to join, permit them to volunteer? The want of co-operation and practical sympathy which has been shewn with the views and intentions of Sir WILLIAM DENISON would, no doubt, be felt by these lads who, comparatively speaking, are altogether ignorant of the duties appertaining to a seaman’s life; but that is no reason why they should be prevented from entering on board the Iris as volunteers should their inclinations prompt them to do so.\(^{24}\)

No information has yet been located about Orphan School volunteers on other ships calling in to Hobart Town.\(^{24}\)

Thank-you to Carol Brill for sharing her research on the North Star and the Hardy boys.

For more orphan stories, visit

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

\(^{23}\) Hobart Town Daily Mercury, 3 January 1859 p. 2  
\(^{24}\) ibid.
MR MERCER from Morningide Campbell Town, wrote in his diary on 18 October 1866:

... rode to Kirklands evening and looked at Dr Pearson’s vault, intend to put someone their tomorrow to fill it up

The next day on 19 October 1866 he wrote:

Bell, Hadley [two of his employees] and self took one horse cart to Kirklands Churchyard - repaired vault Dr Pearson’s there filling up ditto with old mortar and sand repaired fence around ditto

This reference was made nearly thirty years after the burial of Dr PEARSON who died ‘a natural death caused by a fit of epilepsy and a worn out constitution’, on 24 September 1839 aged 49 at his home, Douglas Park Elizabeth River. [Campbell Town Tasmania]

The graves of Temple Pearson and Mrs Pearson’s were recorded, side-by-side, by surveyor, James SCOTT on his plan of the Kirklands Church Yard 1880. It appears Mrs Pearson (née Anne RANKINE) was his first wife who died three years earlier on 6 August 1836 at Douglas Park.

The vault and fences, attended to in 1866 by Mr Mercer, have long since disappear-
upon. The Stock and Household Furniture may be had at a valuation, or not, as the purchaser may incline.5

Apparently there was no sale as three years later in 1843 John Pearson, and his young family were residing at Douglas Park when a fifth child was born. Another three years later on 4 June 1846, the family sailed from George Town, Van Diemen’s Land for Portland Bay, Colony of Port Philip, in the Minerva. John had apparently occupied ‘Refuge’ Pastoral Run, north-west of Casterton in 1844.6

Temple Pearson in Van Diemen’s Land

Dr Temple Pearson was a son of Joseph Pearson and Marion JOHNSTON of Bathgate, West Lothian, Scotland. He became a medical Hospital Assistant 28 January 1813 and by October 1813 was attached to the 59th Regiment of Foot during the war with France until 25 October 1814.7

On 21 May 1815, Temple Pearson married Ann Rankin/E at Douglas, Lanarkshire, Scotland.8

It was 21 July 1821, that Governor MACQUARIE sent a letter to Lieutenant-Governor SORELL in Van Diemen’s Land and suggested:

that it was time that the fertile plains between the Derwent and Port Dalrymple were settled and encouragement should be given to mechanics to take up land. He pointed out sites which he considered suitable for settlement at Campbell Town, Oatlands, Perth and Brighton.9

A year later, in 1822, Dr Temple Pearson the ‘retired hospital assistant from Douglas Lanarkshire’ immigrated to Van Diemen’s Land on the Australian-Leith Company ship Skelton under Captain DIXON with a number of other free settlers who also took up land in the vicinity of the Macquarie and Elizabeth River valleys.

With a letter of recommendation and ‘goods and cash to the value of £1300’ Temple Pearson was entitled to a grant of land located on the northern side of the Elizabeth River near Campbell Town Tasmania. He named it Douglas Park most likely after the town called Douglas in Lanarkshire.

At first temporary accommodation was built with the assistance of convict labour. Later, c.1830, a master stone mason and building contractor, Hugh KEAN arrived in Campbell Town and, built with convict labour, the present grand sandstone home with its interesting frieze carved on the porch above the front door, ‘the rose of England, the thistle of Scotland, and the shamrock of Ireland which supported Dr Pearson’s family coat of arms. It consisted of a shield charged with three heraldic lion faces and a glove surmounted by a dove bearing a leafy twig, and a scroll with the defaced motto, ‘Dum Spiro Spero (While I live, I hope),’ Pearson was to add more acres to his original grant. In 1828, after Campbell Town was subdivided into small blocks,9 Dr Pearson purchased one of them.10

The population increased in the district over the next few years and on 14 February 1823, Mr Temple Pearson, retired

5 Launceston Courier, 9 November 1840 p. 1
6 TAHO Departures. Name - Indexes: 594283
8 Reference [IGI] from researcher Daryl Povey http://www.swvic.org/casterton//pearson_john.htm
9 The Royal Society of Tasmania’s edited copy of The Diaries of John Helder Wedge
10 Campbell Town History p. 69; E V R Radcliffe and G Hawley Stancombe Australian Historic Homesteads p. 302
surgeon, was appointed the district’s first chief constable. He held that position until he resigned and was replaced on 12 November 1825 by William HILL. Temple Pearson was appointed District Assistant Surgeon in 1826. He was the first vice president of Union Agricultural Society of Van Diemen’s Land, formed in Ross by Midland Farmers in 1826 prior to the Midlands Agricultural Association, which was formed in 1838. The early settlers did not always lead a trouble free life on their new land. As early as 1825 a newspaper reported:

We have just received a letter from a Correspondent at Elizabeth River, dated the 25th instant, stating, that on Saturday last a tribe of natives visited the shepherd’s hut of Mr. Temple Pearson, which they robbed of every article they could carry off, and afterwards drove the whole of his flock of sheep into the river, where they commenced spearing and destroying them. A considerable number were wounded, although not mortally, many were killed, and several driven away, which are still missing. It is somewhat curious that of those wounded the greatest proportion is so in the eye! A fine bull came home the same day, with a spear of very considerable length in hide.

Wednesday January 21, 1829 James SILLET and Joseph STEPSALL convicted of stealing one sheep value 10s. the property of Temple Pearson Mr. GELLIBRAND for prisoners.

Why was Temple Pearson not considered a fit person to have assigned servants?

On 19 May 1837, two convicts were refused “it being within the knowledge of some of the members of the Board that Mr Pearson, from his habits was not a fit person to have assigned servants [Asiatic Journal].

Sixteen months later on December 1838, David MELVILLE, was visiting his friend Walter CHIENE at ‘his splendid establishment’ called Gaddesden, [Quorn Hall] across the river from Douglas Park and made reference in his diary to a note from Dr STRANG calling them over to Dr Pearson’s who had been ‘taken very ill.’

… he had been indulging for two or three days and while attending to the bottle had forgotten his food and became exhausted … the consequence was a fit or two in the morning, which frightened him. After we went over he began to cheer up and ordered in brandy and wine and proposed joining us in a tumbler a proposition to which we would by no means accede until we got him persuaded to join us in a plate of soup and a small piece of very fine boiled mutton after which we had a sufficient forenoon’s allowance and having seen the Dr once more in his usual way we set off for Campbell Town.

Less than a year later, on 3 August 1839, and three years after the death of his wife Anne, Dr Temple Pearson aged 43 years (Surgeon) married widow Janet MACARCHIE aged 31 in the Parish Church at Campbell Town.

Dr Pearson’s sudden death occurred on 24 September 1839, from a ‘fit of epilepsy.’ He was buried at Kirklands Presbyterian Church Campbell Town.

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11 Hobart Town Gazette, 15 February 1823
12 Hobart Town Gazette, 15 February 1826
13 Mercury, 16 April 1921 p. 15
14 Hobart Town Gazette and Van Diemen’s Land Advertiser, Friday 29 April 1825
15 Hobart Town Courier, Saturday 7 February 1829
16 TAHO RGD37/1/1 no. 467 Avoca
17 TAHO RGD35/1/18 no. 15 Avoca [Coroner’s Report.]
A MEMORY PRIZED
Andrew Cocker (Member No. 6865)

For nearly ten years I searched for the origins of my great grandmother Emma Agnes JONES and wondered why she had hidden her origins. What secret might she be hiding? Night after night of painstaking research, contenders were traced and eliminated. Just one document provided a clue. I had a baptism record that conflicted with the birth record just four weeks earlier of her illegitimate daughter which named the daughter’s mother as LAWSON and not Jones. A clue it most certainly was but, frustratingly, not enough.

And then, last year, a document which had probably been lurking in the bowels of Tasmanian Archives and Heritage Office (TAHO) for decades emerged after it had been indexed and made searchable. There it was: *Baptisms Solemnised in the Female House of Correction Hobart Town.* On the second line it listed: born 26 April 1849, baptised 17 October 1849, Euphemia Lawson to Sarah Lawson (free). Could this be my great grandmother? Why was she baptised there if her mother was free?

A little frenzied research soon provided some answers. My dearly loved and loving great grandmother Emma had not wanted us all to know that her grandmother, also Euphemia, was an infamous Scots woman, unsafely convicted of murder who had spent most of her life as a convict in Van Diemen’s Land. And there were more dark secrets to be uncovered.

Her death sentence having been commuted to transportation for life, Euphemia Lawson left her husband, Hugh McMil-LAN, but was allowed to bring William, aged five, and Sarah, three, arriving at Hobart Town on the *Borneo* in October 1828. Her official conduct record paints a picture of a sad and violent life with repeated reports of her drunkenness. Nearly twenty years after she arrived in Hobart Town Euphemia received an additional life sentence for ‘feloniously stabbing Mary WORSTER with intent’. She was still a convict when she died a pauper at the New Town Charitable Institution on 9 September 1878, aged in her 70s, and more than 50 years after she was originally convicted.

Euphemia’s son William Lawson was admitted to the Boys Orphan School at St Johns Park, New Town where he spent ten long years before being discharged, apprenticed and then living a life which largely avoided brushes with the law. He returned to die in the New Town Charitable Institution in 1886. His sister Sarah was also incarcerated in the Orphan Schools, serving some 12 years but her life was very different and much shorter.

All was not well within the Orphan Schools in 1841 as rumours began to circulate among both the boys and girls that the headmaster and chaplain of St Johns Church, the Reverend Thomas James EWING, had been guilty of serious misconduct with one of the senior girls. It was widely said he had favoured a

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1 TAHO RGD33 847/1872
2 TAHO RGD32 6342/1872
3 TAHO AF586/1/3 p. 9
4 TAHO CON40/1/5 p. 40
5 Joyce Purtscher, ‘Suffer Little Children’, 2008
small group of girls in his private garden over some months where he had fed his special girl, Ellen WILSON, a sleeping cake and had touched her ‘place’ and lay upon her. These stories eventually reached the ears of the schools’ surgeon, which forced Ewing to ask the colonial secretary for an independent investigation. This simply found Ewing guilty of imprudence but, extraordinarily, not of criminal conduct and it was over two years before he was finally removed as headmaster.

However prior to the formal enquiry the matron, Mrs GAZARD, had approached Ewing about the stories and he attempted to hush the matter by confronting the girl in question, and her friends. They named Sarah Lawson as the one spreading the stories and Ewing attempted to bully her into withdrawing her allegations but, unlike all the others, she steadfastly stuck to the truth. Sarah was rewarded for her courage and integrity by being punished and within a matter of just a few weeks she had been apprenticed and discharged from the Orphan Schools.6

Twenty-one years later, in September 1862, at the age of just 35, Sarah Lawson was dying, slowly and painfully, ever since her clothes caught fire many weeks earlier while cooking soup for her children.7 She knew she was dying, and while her thoughts drifted she wondered who would take care of her children? Not that bastard convict, Jacob STANDRING, who had probably fathered some of her children before he abandoned them all. Sarah didn’t really know who the fathers were; there had been so many men. But then she had had to eat, and of course drink.

Would her children survive, would they have happy lives? She reflected on her own life and couldn’t remember a time before Van Diemen’s Land but then she was only two when they left on the Borneo in 1828, her mother a convicted murderer. She could still clearly remember arriving at the Orphan Schools, the long driveway up to the church and the school buildings on either side.8 And she could vividly remember being cold, hungry and crowded and being slapped for daring to disagree with her superiors. The Irish and English children seemed to tolerate being bullied and trained for subservience but she was feisty—she was Scottish. But in the twelve years she was there she had also made friends and she was safe, except for the lessons she had learned in her last few weeks before Ewing got rid of her. She was angry about the injustice of that; angry enough to still want to drink and forget. Of course, there was the annual Fox’s Feast; a whole day of excursions and food and fun. Yet, on the whole it was better than being someone’s servant.

Sarah remembered how much she craved the drink and, like her mother, how crazy it made her. It wasn’t long since that police magistrate had warned her that she faced an unfortunate end if she didn’t stop drinking.9 Well, her end was nigh.

As she lay dying Sarah wasn’t to know that her three youngest children would soon be admitted to the Orphan Schools where she had grown up, nor did she know that her daughter, Richmoth, would be beaten black and blue by the matron...

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6 Lucy Frost, Abandoned Women, Scottish Convicts - Exiled Beyond the Seas 2012, p. 105
7 Hobart Mercury, Tuesday 16 September 1862 p. 3
8 www.orphanschool.org.au
9 Hobart Mercury, Thursday 20 February 1862 p. 2
before being apprenticed out, but not so her second daughter, Euphemia. She changed her name to Emma and it appears she found work and accommodation with Launceston publicans, Frederick and Amelia Jones of Perth. An illegitimate child in 1870 might have put an end to her hopes of finding happiness and, although she named the father as George Jones, he doesn’t appear to have existed. But Sarah’s chances of happiness were not doomed because four years later, and then known as Emma Agnes Jones, she married Joseph COCKER, my great grandfather. Joseph and Emma were to carve a new life together, adopting Emma’s first child and raising eight of their nine children to marry and have families of their own. And if there was any question about whether Emma Agnes was loved and found happiness then the last word belongs to her husband:

In sad and loving memory of my dear wife, who departed this life on the 7th of September, 1921.

Dear is the memory she left behind of a life that was loving, true, and kind;
A memory prized is more than gold. My wife’s worth can never be told. To have, to love, and then to part is the saddest story of a human heart - her loving husband, Joseph Cocker. and encouraged me to explore the Lawson anomaly in the baptism record of Emma’s daughter, Emma Louisa. It was also Sue who found the baptism record for Euphemia Lawson which, along with the Orphan Schools records, enabled the whole puzzle to be solved.

Euphemia Lawson/Emma Lawson/Emma Agnes Jones also had an uncle, William Lawson, who died in the New Town Charitable Institute in 1878, an aunt, Ann GRIFFITHS, born in VDL in 1837 and four siblings. No trace has been found of Sarah Elizabeth, born 1847. Jacob worked for many years at ‘Kelvedon’, Swansea and died in 1934. Daniel absconded from his forced apprenticeship from the Orphan Schools, fleeing to Melbourne on the Derwent on 20 March 1872, aged just 15. Richmoth married Reginald HOLOWAY (sic) and they lived at Police Point, dying in 1926. The search for them and any descendants continues.

Endnote:
I wish to acknowledge the invaluable assistance in my search for Emma Agnes Jones from my cousin and fellow researcher Sue Collins. It was she who first noticed

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CORRECTION
The March edition of Tasmanian Ancestry, Vol. 36 No. 4 2016, p.193, incorrectly stated ‘Glenorchy LINC has withdrawn family history resources from its collections’.

Anna Zylstra, Information Services Coordinator at Glenorchy LINC Tasmania, has kindly sent the following information.

We have not removed any family history resources from our shelves, and continue to add to this collection as resources are made available. Further to that we have an experienced family history volunteer, Pam Wells, who is available to help clients 5 days a week.

4 Terry Street | Glenorchy | TAS 7010
Ph (03) 6165 5491 www.linc.tas.gov.au
anna.zylstra@education.tas.gov.au

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10 TAHO CSD 7/1/61/1499
## NEW MEMBERS’ INTERESTS

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<th>NAME</th>
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<th>TIME</th>
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## NEW MEMBERS’ INTERESTS

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## NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members

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<td>McMahon Mrs Lynne</td>
<td>1/3 Bridge Street</td>
<td>Swansea</td>
<td>TAS</td>
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MEMBERS' INTERESTS and NEW MEMBERS cont.

If you find a name in which you are interested, please note the membership number and check the New Members' listing for the appropriate name and address. Please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope and don't forget to reply if you receive a SSAE.

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HELP WANTED

ALAN CHARLTON

Does anyone know the contact details of an Alan Charlton who wrote a book on his convict ancestor Margaret McNIVEN who came out in the ship Atwick in 1838. I have tried to contact him by email but it keeps being rejected. With many thanks Ken Bibby. Member No. 7093

DONNELLY, BOYLAN, McEVOY

I have been investigating my great great grandmother Anne Donnelly. I would like to find out what happened to her sister Mary Boylan (Donnelly) and sister-in-law Sarah McEvoy (Donnelly) who also arrived on the same ship, the Waverley in 1847. I am finding it difficult to trace these two forward and wondered if anyone had researched these names.

Helen Howarth Member No. 7699.

HOWE, Henry and Mary

I am seeking further information on my great great grandparents Henry HOWE (1804–1878) transported from Plymouth to Hobart Town on the Layton in 1827, and his wife Mary Howe who accompanied by their daughter Mary Rachel arrived in Hobart as a free settlers on the Warrior in 1830. I understand in the 1830s they lived at 57 Elizabeth Street, Hobart where they also conducted a drapery business. I would also appreciate any knowledge of the descendants of their son Henry born 1832 and his wife Susan HITCHENS married 25 October 1855.

Please contact Lindsay Rigby, email linzi37@bigpond.com or phone (07) 5488 0090.

WALTER SMITH

I am trying to make contact with a Walter Smith who was the author of an article ‘Pierce and Catherine Grace’ in Tasmanian Ancestry Vol. 22 Number 1 2001. I am a descendant of the Grace family from NZ. My email is hallhousehold@actrix.co.nz (I am a member of the NZ Society of genealogists). Wayne Hall, 15 Te Ana place, Lynmore, Rotorua, New Zealand 1030.
BOOK REVIEW
Leonie Mickleborough
(Member No. 20)

RRP $44.99, 240pp, index.

While reading this book I could imagine travelling between the United Kingdom and Australia, journeys on which the book focusses.

Covering the travel of free settlers between 1809 and 1883, details have been drawn from 33 of the 100 travellers’ diaries and shipboard newspapers lodged at the National Library of Australia, some of which have been digitised.

The twelve chapters, which commence prior to sailing and end on arrival in Australia, are mainly the experiences of males recorded as ‘passenger’. There are also details from others, including the diaries of two clergymen, a surgeon, two crew, two wives of medical men, a prospector and a military man. Each chapter commences with a brief transcript of a diary then a clear image of that diary page. The book is attractively illustrated with over 130 images depicting the shipboard experiences of a mix of paying passengers and sponsored immigrants.

Social class determined the enjoyment of passengers, the rich travelling in style while the lower classes were subjected to the ships’ bilges. Yet, all were affected by encounters with other ships, storms, illness, rodents, violence, extremes of temperature, deaths and sea burials.

Monotony was lessened with the sighting of sea-loving animals and birds and also shipboard entertainment, including deck games and dancing in the smoking-room, while many diaries were illustrated with images of activities or caricatures of other passengers. There was always the risk of injury and damage from candlelight and the open fires used for cooking on the timber ships.

The index and references are extensive, however, I would have preferred the names of each ship to be listed alphabetically under a heading of ‘Ships’ rather than throughout the index. Despite this, Roslyn is to be congratulated on a well-designed and beautifully illustrated book which can be easily picked up and read—a little or a lot at each sitting. I was engrossed in the personal stories and was disappointed the book ended rather abruptly, as I was keen to know what else happened to Mr W Barringer.

This book is recommended for anyone with an interest in travel in the 1800s as it brings this to life and aids in an understanding of the major voyage of many of our ancestors who helped change the ratio of convict and free settlers in Australia.

Source: Review copy courtesy of NLA Publishing Canberra.
THE SETTLEMENT PATTERNS OF IMMIGRANTS FROM GERMANY:
A CASE STUDY OF THE PROCIDA IMMIGRANTS OF 1885
Michael Watt

INTRODUCTION
When the immigrants on the Procida arrived in September 1885, Tasmania had recovered from the depression in the 1860s and 1870s and entered a period of prosperity. The two decades following the advent of responsible self-government in 1856 were characterised by economic depression, an out-migration of population, conservative politicians resisting change, a workforce drawn largely from emancipists requiring supervision by a repressive Masters and Servants Act, and the maintenance of a large number of institutions to house convicts, invalids, paupers, lunatics and orphans. The policy initiated in the 1850s to recruit assisted immigrants, however, led to the passage of the Waste Lands Act of 1858, the first in a series of laws passed to provide selectors with blocks of land under 130 ha able to be secured with deposits. This land was mostly in densely forested and hilly country on the fringes of established agricultural and pastoral properties and beyond on the north-west coast, the interior of the north-east and the Huon Valley. The selectors, drawn mainly from emancipists and assisted immigrants, often found prosperity elusive, since small blocks were sites of hard work and basic living.

The discovery of tin at Waratah in 1871 and in the north-east in 1874 initiated a mining boom, which was extended by the mining of silver-lead at Zeehan from 1882 and copper at Queenstown from 1892. Economic revival arising from the mining boom was strengthened by improvement in the transport network with the opening of railway lines from Launceston to Deloraine in 1871, Hobart to Western Junction in 1876, Deloraine to Devonport in 1885, Launceston to Scottsdale in 1889, Devonport to Ulverstone in 1890 and Ulverstone to Burnie in 1901. Political reform emerged with the formation of a coalition government led by William Giblin (1879–1884), which reformed the Masters and Servants Act, extended the franchise of eligible voters, reorganised the colony’s finances, secured the adoption of an equitable taxation policy and initiated an active program of public works. The reforming government led by Philip Fysh (1887–1892) introduced legislation to regulate health, employment and charitable institutions, legalised trade unions, introduced technical education and provided incentives to establish a university.

The purpose of this article is to investigate the immigrants’ fertility, settlement pattern and mortality following arrival in Tasmania in 1885 by analysing data referring to demographic characteristics and discussing factors that affected their settlement. Evidence obtained from archival records and documentary sources was analysed to determine whether the immigrants’ decisions to settle in particular localities satisfied needs arising from
the scarcity of workers caused by the drift of agricultural labourers to the mining industry. This evidence was evaluated to ascertain whether the improvement in economic conditions that affected Tasmanian society in the late 1870s and 1880s, influenced the immigrants’ decisions to settle permanently in Tasmania.

**Method**

Hargraves (2003) reported having initiated a work in progress, called The Procida Immigrants to Tasmania, to identify where the immigrants were living 30 years later, although a report on the findings was not published. Preliminary findings of this research, indicating that some families who arrived on the Procida, left Tasmania, prompted the present study to identify where the immigrants settled, who they married and how many children they had, and where they died and were interred. In 2011, initial findings referring to where some families and individuals had settled were identified during the course of analysing the recruitment of the immigrants before they emigrated on the Procida in 1885.

Late in 2015, the research was extended by content analyses of archival records, newspaper articles and documents on local history. Searches were undertaken on a range of online resources on the internet, CD-ROMs, microforms and print resources available for genealogical research. Indexes available on CD-ROMs were the principal resources searched to identify records about births, marriages and deaths. Databases on Ancestry.com were searched to identify records on immigration, births, marriages and deaths, and electoral rolls. The searchable database of digitised newspapers, contained on Trove, was searched to identify articles and family notices referring to particular individuals. In addition, genealogies compiled by descendants of the GLAU, HAUSTEIN, JOHNSEN, NEILSEN, OHLSON and RIEPER families proved to be valuable resources in providing details about births, marriages and deaths. A review of research literature involved reading books and articles published in journals and newsletters on the local histories of Bruny Island, Collinsvale, the Huon Valley, the Tasman Peninsula and Pyengana, where Procida immigrants established small farms in clustered settlements.

Results of the content analyses were reported in three steps. First, an analysis of the demographic characteristics of the immigrants is reported in relation to each immigrant’s marital status, births of children, death and interment. Second, a brief description of the initial employment of the immigrants is reported by citing articles reported in the press. Third, more detailed descriptions of the permanent pattern of settlement of the immigrants are reported by referring to particular families and individuals. It was decided to discuss the pattern of settlement, where possible, by describing clustered settlements in which families and individuals chose to live.

**Demographic Characteristics**

The names of 118 assisted immigrants, who arrived on the Procida in 1885, are listed in the appendix. Analysis of their demographic characteristics provides valuable information for determining factors that affected the immigrants’ fertility, settlement pattern, mortality and their interaction with social and economic institutions. Complete records referring to marital status, death and interment were identified for 89 individuals. Incomplete records referring to marital status, death and interment were identified for another 17 individuals, while no records were identified for 12 individuals.
Records referring to marriages and births provide evidence to identify the immigrants’ fertility. Records for marriages and births were identified for the members of 17 families, while isolated records for another family were identified. Four individuals from these families, whose spouses had died within 20 years of arrival, remarried. Records indicate 29 children were born to nine of the 18 families after they arrived in 1885. It is likely there are living descendants of 15 families, but the ALBAT and ULRICH families died out in the second generation, and a lack of records means the status of the BURCZAK family is unclear.

Of 21 individuals, who immigrated as single adults, 12 of 13 individuals for whom records were identified married within 11 years of arrival in 1885. Four individuals married fellow immigrants: Fanny MAYER married Paul SELZER in 1886 and Louise DOHRMEYER married Heinrich FRERK in 1887. Of these 12 individuals, eight married a spouse of German or Scandinavian descent, indicating a marked preference among these immigrants of the first generation for a partner of the same ethnicity. Records indicate that 58 children were born to these 12 individuals. Carl WACHHOLZ, the 13th immigrant, died without leaving descendants, and records provide insufficient information to determine his spouse’s ethnicity. Of the other eight single immigrants, Adolph JAGER was already married prior to departure on the Procida, and he nominated his spouse’s emigration after arriving in Tasmania.

Of 62 individuals, who immigrated as children of the 18 families, 46 individuals married, 11 individuals never married, one died in childhood and the marital status of the other four individuals is unclear because of a lack of records. Two individuals, Rudolph JESTRIMSKI and Matilda NICKLASON, from immigrant families married each other. Twenty-five individuals, about three-quarters of the immigrants, married Anglo-Australians, but 11 individuals, almost one-quarter of the immigrants, married a spouse of German or Scandinavian descent. Of the 46 married individuals, four of whom married twice, 42 had children, three had no children, and the status of the other individual is unclear, because of a lack of records. Records indicate that these 42 individuals had 178 children, and in addition, three females from one family each had an illegitimate child.

Generally, records referring to the dates and ages at death and places of interment provide evidence to identify the immigrants’ longevity and settlement pattern. Records for the specific dates of the deaths or funeral services of 99 individuals are reported in the appendix together with the years for the deaths of another three individuals. Records for the specific ages at the time of death of 94 individuals are reported in the appendix.

Records for 47 of 56 married and single adults indicate that two died between 1885 and 1889, one between 1890 and 1899, four between 1900 and 1909, 14 between 1910 and 1919, eight between 1920 and 1929, ten between 1930 and 1939, between 1940 and 1949, and three between 1950 and 1959. Records for 45 of these individuals show that one was aged between 20 and 29 at death, one was aged between 30 and 39, four were aged between 40 and 49, six were aged between 50 and 59, two were aged between 60 and 69 at death, 14 were aged between 70 and 79 at death, 12 were aged between 80 and 89 at death, and five were aged between 90 and 99 at death. At the time of death, the 45 individuals’ mean age was 71.8 years and the median age was 76.0 years.
Records for 55 of 62 individuals, who immigrated as children of the 18 families, indicate that one died between 1885 and 1889, four between 1900 and 1909, one between 1910 and 1919, five between 1920 and 1929, seven between 1940 and 1949, 12 between 1950 and 1959, 19 between 1960 and 1969 and six died between 1970 and 1979. Records for 52 of these individuals show one was aged between 1 and 9 years old at death, two between 20 and 29, three between 30 and 39, three between 40 and 49, one between 50 and 59, four between 60 and 69, 13 between 70 and 79, 15 between 80 and 89, and ten between 90 and 99 years old at death. At the time of death, the 52 individuals’ mean age was 72.9 years and the median age was 78.5 years.

Records for the interment of 89 individuals are reported in the appendix. Of 72 individuals interred in cemeteries in Tasmania, 33 were interred at Cornelian Bay Cemetery, Hobart; 11 at Pyengana General Cemetery; ten at St Paul’s Anglican Cemetery, Adventure Bay; four at Carr Villa Memorial Park, Launceston; four at Carnarvon Cemetery, Port Arthur; three at Collinsvale Methodist Cemetery; two at Ulverstone General Cemetery; two at St Marks Anglican Cemetery, Port Arthur; three at Collinsvale Methodist Cemetery; two at Ulverstone General Cemetery; two at St Paul’s Anglican Cemetery, Adventure Bay; one at Huonville Congregational Cemetery; one at St Johns Anglican Cemetery, New Town, one at Huonville Congregational Cemetery and one individual was interred at Geeveston Congregational Cemetery. Of 16 individuals interred in cemeteries in Victoria, four were interred at Springvale Botanical Cemetery, two at Boronndara Cemetery, two at Burwood Cemetery, two at Warrungal Cemetery, one at Box Hill Cemetery, one at Drouin Cemetery, one at Eaglehawk Public Cemetery, one at Echuca Cemetery, one at Fawkner Memorial Park and one at Seymour Pioneer Cemetery. One individual was interred at Foxton Cemetery in New Zealand.

Records for the place of death of another 12 individuals are reported in the appendix. Of these individuals, five died in Victoria at Balwyn, Brighton, Fish Creek, Melbourne and Templestowe, three in New South Wales at Hunters Hill, Manly and Merrylands, two in Tasmania at Launceston and Pyengana, one in South Australia at Adelaide, and one died at Johannesburg, South Africa.

**Initial Employment**

On arrival, the immigrants were conveyed to the immigration depot at Brickfields on the present site of the North Hobart oval. An article published in the press described the process used for prospective employers to hire the immigrants.

The Immigration Agent has been in attendance daily at the depot, Argyle-street, since Thursday last, for the purpose of receiving applications from persons desirous of securing the services of the German immigrants who arrived Thursday last. Up to Saturday afternoon about twenty of the new arrivals, principally farm labourers and carpenters, have been engaged. *(Launceston Examiner, 21 September 1885, p. 3)*

In January 1884, an Italian silk merchant and entrepreneur, Angelo Giulio Diego BERNACCHI (1853–1925), and his family arrived in Melbourne with the intention of finding a suitable site for silk and wine production. After inspecting Maria Island, the Bernacchi family moved there in April 1884 and leased the island in November 1884. Bernacchi hired some of the immigrants to form part of the labour force on the island, as outlined below.

A considerable number of German immigrants ex *Procida*, were engaged by Signor Bernacchi to-day for Maria Island, and they left by the ketch *Trucanini* this
evening. (*The Daily Telegraph*, 23 September 1885, p. 3)

Several reports were published in the press on the progress of the immigrants’ employment. On Monday, 12 October 1885, *The Mercury* published a statement indicating that all of the immigrants had found employment.

The last of the German immigrants per the s.s. *Procida* was engaged on Saturday, and the Immigration Depot is once more closed. All the immigrants have obtained good situations, and are scattered all over the colony, a large proportion having gone to Maria Island. Their employers are highly pleased with them, their habits of industry and thrift, and general capability to pick up our manners and customs, rendering them invaluable as servants. (*The Mercury*, 12 October 1885, p. 2)

**Permanent Settlement**

In August 1886, Frederick BUCK circulated a proposal to the members of both houses of the Tasmanian Parliament recommending a process for recruiting emigrants from Germany at no expense to Tasmania. At the request of the Legislative Council, Buck provided a report on the outcome of his work as an immigration agent. The report included the following statement outlining the typical practice, whereby immigrants from Germany settled in Tasmania.

The general character of my immigrants is gregarious. They arrive here, go into country service, and after having saved money enough out of their wages, make room for others, and look about for a piece of Crown land in the neighbourhood of where one or two of the older arrivals have settled, sometimes in most inaccessible parts, and which would be considered as “not good enough” by most settlers, and there lay the foundations of “German towns” all over the island. I give one instance out of many similar ones:- A man and his family of children I brought out in October last put out of his and his wife’s earnings about 40 pounds into the Savings Bank, goes and buys 50 acres of Crown land down Channel, purchases his provisions, and takes down a pair of horses, plough and implements, a cow, sow and boar, a stock of poultry, etc., builds himself a house out of the material on the ground, and settles down with some four or five German and Scandinavian neighbours out of the same ship, also holders of 50 acres each in a place where there were only one or two foreign settlers before. (*The Mercury*, 26 October 1886, p. 3)

Several factors played a significant part in the immigrants’ decisions to settle in particular localities after an initial period of working for employers. The decision-making process was affected by four principal factors: initial engagement by an employer, the immigrant’s demographic background from either an urban or rural community, the availability of land, and the presence of clustered settlements of German and Scandinavian immigrants.

Small freehold settlers, salesmen and craftsmen formed most of the German immigrants who settled in cities, but they mixed with importers, merchants and manufacturers. They were from diverse regional and class backgrounds, and found employment where work was available, but they were well-represented in retailing, service industries and skilled trades such as printing, cabinet making and tailoring, and were active as musicians and artists. Despite their diverse backgrounds, they formed German associations and clubs that enabled them to define an ethnic German culture for themselves and the wider colonial population. The associations and clubs met social needs, such as annual picnics and occasions for public celebration, but
also provided material support by opening up employment opportunities for newcomers and acted as mutual benefit organisations by providing basic forms of self-help. By 1886, German immigrants living in Hobart and its hinterland had formed a German club, which included 13 Procidia immigrants: Johann STOLZENBERG, Lars HANSSON, Claus Rieper, Franz Burczak, Paul Selzer, Carl Wachholz, Adolph JAGER, Louise Dohrmeyer of Hobart, Georg WIESE of New Norfolk, Heinrich SUHR of New Town, Wilhelm KRUSE of Cygnet, and Fanny MAYER and Fritz KOHLHAGEN of Sandy Bay. However, most of the immigrants on the Procidia, who initially settled in Hobart soon left. Only the ANDERSON and Stolzenberg families continued to live in Hobart over subsequent generations.

Johann Anderson, a carpenter, worked in Hobart and the family lived in Sandy Bay. His daughter Anna married Henry STONEHOUSE, an engineer, and the family lived in New Town, but moved to Huonville in the early 1920s. His son Gustav, a painter who lived with his family in South Hobart, later worked as a railway employee. His daughter Elin married Ernest CONRAD, a painter and sign writer, and the family lived in New Norfolk. His daughter Eleda married Charles GLUSCHKE, a commercial traveller, and the family lived in central Hobart.

Johann Stolzenberg, a carpenter, worked in Hobart and the family lived in West Hobart. Following their marriages, Johann’s daughters Dora and Johanna and their spouses worked in the mining industry at Zeehan in the late 1890s. Following the death of her first husband, Johanna, married Shadrack PACE, who operated a coach-building firm, Pace and Vout, in partnership with Charles VOUT. Following Pace’s death in 1921, the firm, consisting of a brick house, a foundry used as a coach and motor body workshop, and a blacksmith’s shop was put up for sale, but the site in Barrack Street was leased to the Tasma Foundry Company until 1928, when it was eventually sold. Johann’s son Karl leased a property in Augusta Road, Lenah Valley, where he ran a dairy farm. By 1920, he was purchasing milk from dairy farms and operating as a milk vendor trading as the Tasmanian Milk Company. By 1930, Karl and Agnes Stolzenberg and their family had moved to Sydney at first living in Five Dock but later settling in Hunters Hill.

By the mid-1880s, much of the best land available under the provisions of the Waste Lands Act had been selected, but abuses by speculators led to amendments. In 1891, the Crown Lands Act introduced regulations which attempted to make residence and improvement conditions for selection, thereby reducing the amount of land alienated. The Crown Lands Act of 1903 attempted to increase land alienation by allowing for the selection of second- and third-class land on easy terms, but all land suitable for grazing was soon alienated. In response to pressure from land reformers, the Closer Settlement Act of 1907 allowed for large estates in the Midlands and the Northern districts to be acquired by the government for subdivision into small farms for selectors.

German and Scandinavian immigrants from rural backgrounds preferred to establish small farms in clustered settlements, sometimes in inaccessible areas where land was available. Usually they pursued intensive mixed farming, but those who settled near cities often became market gardeners. Once established, their next priority was to found a
German-language church and school, which encouraged other Germans and Scandinavians to settle in the immediate vicinity. A network of family ties throughout various clustered settlements and the practice of mutual assistance meant that close links existed between these settlements. By 1885, clustered settlements of Germans and Scandinavians already existed in Tasmania, consisting of immigrants who had arrived in the 1850s, 1860s and 1870s. These communities were located at Collinsvale (known as Bismarck) near Hobart, the Huon Valley, D’Entrecasteaux Channel and Bruny Island, south of Hobart, Falmouth on the East Coast, St Marys (known as Germantown) in the Fingal Valley, Lilydale (known as German Town) and Harford (known as Heidelberg) in northern Tasmania. Immigrants on the Procidia from rural backgrounds settled in existing clustered settlements at Collinsvale, Adventure Bay on Bruny Island, the Huon Valley, and created small clustered settlements at Pyengana and on the Tasman Peninsula.

The history of the settlement of immigrants from Germany and Denmark at Collinsvale has been documented by Alexander (1986) and Appeldorff (2010). About 1870, land became available along Sorell Creek, which rose in the hills behind Glenorchy and joined the Derwent River near New Norfolk. Groups of German and Danish immigrants were among the first settlers. The Dahlke, Darko (Darkow), Fehlberg, Gall, Kunde, Radfer, Ratzmann, Totenhoffer (Todtenhofer) and Wenzel families from Prussia, who arrived on the Victoria in 1870, made up the first group. The Appeldorff, Brandstater (Brandstadter), Carlsten, Christensen, Hansen, Johannsen, Nielsen and Wensing families, mainly from Denmark, who arrived on the Eugenie in 1872, made up the second group. The Stellmaker (Stellmacher) and Petersen families of German and Danish origin who arrived on the Figaro, as well as the Voss family and the Rabe (Raabe) family, descended from a German seaman who deserted ship in Hobart were other prominent German families who settled at Collinsvale. In the late 1880s, the Albat, Suhr and Ulrich families and Carl Zanotti, who arrived on the Procidia, settled in the Collinsvale district. The Albat and Ulrich families farmed in the Collinsvale district well into the early decades of the twentieth century, while the Suhr and Zanotti families farmed there until recently and were involved in various community activities at Collinsvale.

It can be concluded from narratives on the history of the settlement of immigrants from Germany in the Huon Valley, documented by Woolley (2006) and Coad (2009, 2010), that initial engagement by employers was the major factor influencing their decisions to settle there. The Batge (Batje), Bose and Schultze families, who arrived on the Lewe van Nyenstein in May 1855, were hired by settlers at Cygnet and Wattle Grove, and later each family bought land and settled at Wattle Grove. Johannes Kregor (Krieger), a single man who arrived on the America in July 1855 and married Dorothea Schultz in 1860, also settled at Wattle Grove. The Kube family, who arrived on the San Francisco in November 1855, had settled at Wattle Grove by 1858. The Olbrich family, who arrived on the Figaro in October 1870, had settled at Cygnet by 1874. Friedrich Kupsch, a single man, who arrived on the Victoria in August 1870, was hired by Christian Bose,
married Charlotte BENDER in 1879 and later settled at Cygnet. The HELM family, who arrived on the Eugenie in March 1872, was hired by George Green SHERWIN, owner of Forest Home at Judbury, and father of operatic singer, Amy Sherwin. The Helm family settled at Lonnvale. Soon after arrival, the Kruse family, who arrived on the Procida, settled at Cygnet. Wilhelm KRUSE, a master mariner, who had spent 22 years at sea before emigrating from Germany, worked as a ship builder and established a property at Lymington called Krusworth. His son William Kruse, a carpenter, built a number of public buildings and more than 200 houses in towns in the Huon Valley. Carl Wachholz, another immigrant on the Procida, established an orchard at Hospital Bay near Geeveston.

In the narrative on the history of the settlement of South Bruny Island, Pybus (1988) documented the establishment of a clustered settlement of immigrants from Germany at Adventure Bay. In 1876, the ZSCHACHNER family, who arrived on the Figaro, leased Coal Point, the site of a previous survey for coal in 1826 and a mining operation in the early 1830s. Wilhelm Zschachner, a miner, first shipped 18 tonnes of coal to Hobart in 1877, but it was not until Arthur RISBY, a timber and bark merchant, acquired the lease in 1879, funded the mining operation and engaged Zschachner as manager, that production peaked at 815 tonnes in 1884. In 1882, Heinrich DUNKEL, a quarryman, who also arrived on the Figaro, came to work in the coalmine, but instead purchased 40 hectares and established a dairy farm. Immigrants from the Procida settled at Adventure Bay soon after their arrival in Hobart. Herman KADEN, a fitter and turner, was asked on arrival to go to Adventure Bay to work at the coalmine. The Glau family arrived at Adventure Bay in 1888, and Claus Glau operated a ferry across Cooks Rivulet. Lars Hansson arrived soon afterwards, and established a farm. Heinrich DORLOFF, a German sailor who deserted ship in Sydney in 1874, married Olga Kaden in 1892 and in 1896 they established a farm at Adventure Bay. On arrival, Olaf Ohlson worked as a blacksmith in Hobart serving whalers and their ships. Then, he went to Maria Island and worked for Bernacchi. In the early 1890s, the Ohlson family moved to New Norfolk. In the late 1890s, the Ohlson family settled on Bruni Island and Olaf worked in a saw-mill before buying 20 hectares and establishing a blacksmith’s workshop on his property.

The history of the settlement of the Tasman Peninsula after the closure of the Port Arthur penitentiary in 1877 has been documented by MacFie (1986). Families from south-eastern rural districts established small communities on the western and northern coastlines of the Tasman Peninsula that depended on farming, fruit-growing, logging and fishing. Tourism, however, soon developed at Eaglehawk Neck and Port Arthur. Although some former officials of the Convict Department continued to administer the settlement at Carnarvon, new settlers, who purchased buildings at the penal settlement, were mainly newly arrived immigrants. Among these settlers were Johannis Danker and Heinrich Frerk, both of whom were joiners. Soon after arriving on the Procida, they were employed by the government in refitting police offices at Port Arthur. Following the destruction by a bushfire in 1897, Frerk was contracted by the Carnarvon Town Board, established in 1889, to renovate the asylum and Danker refitted the parsonage. Afterwards living at
various times at Hobart or Port Arthur, in 1915, Danker purchased 18 hectares of land at Point Puer and established a farm there. Frerk established a private boarding house, which became known as the Tasman Villa Hotel, when a licence was granted in 1905. After 16 years as licensee, Frerk became a guide at the Port Arthur penal settlement.

In the narrative on the history of the settlement of Pyengana, Webb (1975) concluded that the availability of land in the district led to the creation of a clustered settlement of immigrants from the Procida. On arrival, the Jestrimski family moved to Campania, where Jacob Jestrimski worked as a labourer. Later, the family moved to Maria Island, where Jacob worked for Bernacchi. In 1887, the Jestrimski family moved to Pyengana and established a dairy farm renowned for producing a cheddar cheese sold under the farm’s name, Nalya. The Mansson family went to Maria Island, where Sven Mansson worked for Bernacchi. In 1887, the Mansson family moved to Pyengana and rented a block of 20 hectares with a river frontage. In the 1890s, the Mansson family purchased 120 hectares of land at the head of Power’s Rivulet east of Pyengana, where descendants lived until the property was sold to the Rattray family. The Nicklason family went to Germantown near St Marys and then St Helens. In 1888, the Nicklason family moved to Pyengana and rented a block of land with a river frontage. The Peterson family went to Maria Island and then to Collinsvale. In 1888, they moved to Pyengana and established a dairy farm known as Greendale on a steep block in West Pyengana. In 1917, Carl and Emma Peterson moved to Hobart, but a son, Vincent continued to farm a property named Mountain View in West Pyengana. Franz Kohl went to Plenty in the Derwent Valley, and later to Bruny Island. Soon after marrying Elizabeth BURNS, the daughter of a settler on Bruny Island in 1896, Franz and Elizabeth Kohl moved to Pyengana and ran a dairy farm.

By 1894, the Haustein family had settled on a farm at Abbotsham, a small hamlet south of Ulverstone. Although the family continued to farm at Abbotsham until after World War I, and descendants still live in the district, most family members moved away, principally settling in Hobart. At this time, Julius and Caroline Haustein moved to Hobart, but their daughters Anna, Agnes and Camilla together with their spouses had settled in Hobart following their marriages. Alfred Haustein was a teacher in public schools at Yolla, King Island, Cygnet and Meander before becoming principal at Ralton in 1938. Retiring as principal of Glen Dhu Primary School in 1950, his family remained in Launceston.

Fritz and Victoria Kohlhagen lived in Sandy Bay and later moved to Kingston. Sometime after the late 1890s, the Kohlhagen family emigrated to South Africa and were living in Johannesburg where Fritz died in 1915.

Following their marriage, Neils and Isabel Neilsen lived at Sorell and Eaglehawk Neck. Early in 1906, Neils travelled to New Zealand, leaving his family living with Isabel’s parents at Franklin. Failing to hear from him for over six months, the police initiated a search and Neils was found working as a farm labourer at Spar Bush, near Winton in Southland. Late in 1906, his family joined him, but Isabel died in May 1907. After Isabel’s death, her sister, Lucy, travelled to New Zealand for six months and helped Neils care for his children. His son Hans moved to Foxton in Manawatu-Wanganui and later joined the
army. Neils and most of his family also moved to Foxton and in 1916 Neils joined the army, but in March 1923 while serving, he drowned. His daughter, Isobel married and remained in Southland.

Claus Rieper’s emigration was motivated by the presence of relatives living in Tasmania. His parents, Heinrich and Anna Rieper lived at New Norfolk, his father dying in 1891 and his mother in 1912. In the early 1890s, Claus and his brother Christian moved to Strahan, and his sister Dora moved to Queenstown, where each married. Claus worked as an accountant for Gaffney and Harvey, a firm of merchants at Strahan. In 1906, the Rieper family moved to Rosebery and ran a store until the business became insolvent in 1907. Then the Rieper family moved to Zeehan, but by 1914 the family had returned to Hobart. In the early 1920s, the family was living at Oyster Cove. By 1925 the family had moved to Drouin, where Wilhelm was employed by the Buln Buln Shire Council as a contractor of road works. In the late 1920s, Emily Ruthsatz moved to Melbourne and lived at Camberwell, where she died in 1937. Soon after the family moved to Victoria, Wilhelm’s son Gustav worked as a farm labourer at Corop. Later he went to Undera and then Myuna, where he became a carpenter. When Cornelia Creek, near Echuca, was opened up for settlement, he purchased a block of land and established a poultry farm.

Within a few years of arrival, several families of immigrants on the Procida emigrated from Tasmania and settled in Victoria, possibly attracted by the presence of German immigrants who had settled there. The first German immigrants recruited by William Westgarth in Silesia and Saxony arrived in 1849 and 1850 and settled at Grovedale, near Geelong, Melbourne and the suburbs of Collingwood, Richmond, Hawthorn and Northcote, as well as further afield at Thomastown, Doncaster, Greensborough and Harkaway, near Berwick. As a consequence of the gold rush, there was a considerable increase in the early 1850s in arrivals of German adventurers, who settled in towns on the goldfields. A third group was rural Germans from South Australia, who established farms in eastern Victoria, the Wimmera and the Mallee between the 1850s and 1890s.

The Burczak family migrated to Victoria and settled at Carlton. An inquest conducted at the Melbourne City Morgue into the death of a six-month old infant named Martha Frances May Burczak on 17 July 1904 found that she died from bronco-pneumonia (The Age, 21 July 1904, p. 6). As no further records were identified for this family, it seems likely that the Burczak family left Australia.

The RUTHSATZ family had migrated to Victoria by 1888, when Paulina Ruthsatz died in child-birth at Mangalore. By 1895, the family had settled at Drouin, where Wilhelm was employed by the Buln Buln Shire Council as a contractor of road works. In the late 1920s, Emily Ruthsatz moved to Melbourne and lived at Camberwell, where she died in 1937. Soon after the family moved to Victoria, Wilhelm’s son Gustav worked as a farm labourer at Corop. Later he went to Undera and then Myuna, where he became a carpenter. When Cornelia Creek, near Echuca, was opened up for settlement, he purchased a block of land and established a poultry farm.

The WIESE family migrated to Victoria and settled at Doncaster, a district first settled by German orchardists. In 1893, Georg Wiese, a builder, established an orchard, trading as G Wiese and Sons, run by his three sons. Growing mainly peaches, but also small fruits and vegetables, the Wiese brothers were recognised for the innovative method applied in growing peaches, which involved using irrigation for intensive cultivation. The Wiese brothers were active members of the Doncaster Fruit Growers’ Association.
In 1889, Paul and Fanny SELZER migrated to Victoria and settled in Hawthorn. By 1896, the Selzer family had moved to Toora in South Gippsland encouraged by the Village Settlement Scheme to establish a dairy farm at Upper Toora, while Fanny worked as a nurse in the district. The small farms in the district failed and were consolidated into large dairy farms, so in March 1923 the Selzer family moved back to Melbourne and lived in South Yarra. The ZOLLINGER family migrated to Victoria and settled in Hawthorn, but later moved to Richmond. Jacob Zollinger also owned an orchard at Sassafras in the Dandenongs. After marrying, John and Emilie Thomas moved to Foster in South Gippsland, where they owned a farm. Anna Zollinger married George PENNY, a labourer, and the family lived in Camberwell.

Hans Johnsen had migrated to Melbourne by 1890, when he married Mary Anne WHITESIDE, the widow of James Whiteside, who had died following an altercation at a hotel in Footscray. By 1894, Hans, Mary and her three children had moved to Bendigo. In 1899, Johnsen was employed by the Virginia Gold Mining Company, which operated a reef mine at Eaglehawk, north-west of Bendigo. In June 1905, Johnsen and another miner, John William MAYBERRY, were killed in an explosion caused by testing a hole that failed to fire on a previous shift with a hand drill and a hammer. Although her children from the first marriage stayed in Victoria, Mary and the two children from the second marriage moved to New Zealand, where she married George GRENVILLE, and died at Napier in 1945.

Carl UNGER migrated to Victoria and settled at Fish Creek, a small town in South Gippsland settled in the mid-1880s. He was probably related to Andreas Unger, licensee of the Fish Creek Hotel, who resided there for more than ten years, but died suddenly in November 1914. Carl Unger died at Fish Creek in October 1917.

No records were identified for several individuals who emigrated as single adults on the Procida. Adolf GARSO returned to Germany in April 1889. It is likely that Minna KOERBIN went into service as a housekeeper for the Hon. Thomas REIBY, but no records were identified for her after 1885. No records were identified for Friedrich FISCHER, Hermann LUDEMANN, Niels MAAM and Per OHLSON. These single men, ranging in age from 24 to 33 years old, undoubtedly left Tasmania for mainland Australia, foreign countries or returned to Germany, Denmark or Sweden.

Conclusion
In the early 1850s, the cessation of convict transportation and the departure of many men to the goldfields led the colonial government to introduce assisted immigration as a means of increasing the labour force. In spite of more than 16,600 assisted immigrants arriving in the 1850s, the slow rate of growth in Tasmania’s population was affected initially by a slow natural increase due to a marked gender imbalance and then by the rate of emigration exceeding the rate of immigration. From the 1860s to the 1880s, the growth in Tasmania’s population accelerated due to a more equal gender balance leading to greater natural increase, while the rate of emigration decreased due to improving economic and social conditions.

The buoyancy of the economy in the mid-1880s is reflected in the decisions of most of the immigrants, who arrived on
the Procida to settle in Tasmania and to follow the same occupations. A large proportion of the immigrants were farm labourers from rural backgrounds, who settled in existing settlements or created new clustered ones. A degree of inter-marriage within this group as well as with earlier arrivals in the 1850s, 1860s and 1870s substantiates the presence of networks of family ties throughout the various clustered settlements. These networks allowed the immigrants to transplant conservative attitudes and patriarchal social patterns that fitted in well with contemporary Victorian values. These attitudes were manifest in a German life style characterised by diligence, thrift, stability and reliability, qualities for which they were actively sought as immigrants. Even at Collinsvale, where they formed a substantial proportion of a mixed population, the German and Scandinavian immigrants recognised the need to participate in the wider community. They quickly abandoned the land tenure patterns they had known in Europe as they adapted to new modes of freehold tenure and different climatic conditions. Participation in the wider community also encouraged out-marriage with Anglo-Australians, although it occurred at a slower pace than in the city.

Several families and single adults, who arrived on the Procida soon emigrated to Victoria, most of them settling in localities with high concentrations of German settlers. For instance, the Wiese family settled at Doncaster. They established a presence in the district’s fruit-growing industry which was dominated by German families and married into the ZANDER family, a prominent family in the district’s German community.

References
## APPENDIX: CASE HISTORIES ON ASSISTED IMMIGRANTS

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<td>ALBAT Louise</td>
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<td>ANDERSON Anna Evela</td>
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## APPENDIX: CASE HISTORIES ON ASSISTED IMMIGRANTS

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# APPENDIX: CASE HISTORIES ON ASSISTED IMMIGRANTS

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## ARRIVING IN TASMANIA ON THE **PROCIDA**, 1885

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<td>22/6/1903</td>
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<td>1. 3</td>
<td>2. 2</td>
<td>27/7/1901 (service)</td>
<td>51</td>
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<td>16/11/1889 (service)</td>
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<td>16/6/1914</td>
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<td>22/6/1976</td>
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Appendix

1 An article on the death of Wilhelm Albat was published in *The Examiner* under the title ‘Found dead in garden’ on 13 June 1915, p. 5

2 Charles William Gluschke was the second son of Wilhelm Gluschke, who arrived on the *Victoria* in August 1870. During World War I, the family adopted the surname ‘Gluskie’ under which they were interred

3 An article on the 80th birthday anniversary for Johannis Danker was published in *The Mercury* under the title ‘Point Puer her mit’ on 10 May 1938, p. 19 and on 13 May 1939, p. 8. An obituary for Danker was published in *The Mercury* on 18 September 1939, p. 9.

4 An article on the 80th birthday anniversary for Henry Frerk was published in *The Mercury* under the title ‘Guide’s birthday’ on 14 March 1941, p. 4

5 Jager (1908) reported that Otto Adolf Garso went to Melbourne after a few years, where he did well, and not long after returned to Germany to be with his mother in her declining years (p. 287). In April 1889, Otto Garso returned to Bremen, Germany, on the *Nurnberg*.

6 Augusta Dunkel arrived as a three-year-old child on the *Figaro* in October 1870

7 Agnes Anna Haustein had an illegitimate son born on 13 March 1894

8 Alma May Haustein had an illegitimate daughter born on 8 September 1897

9 Articles concerning a legal case for the failure of George Hastie to pay maintenance to Camilla Haustein for an illegitimate child, born in December 1900, were reported in *The North Western Advocate and Emu Bay Times* on 13 November 1900, p. 2 and 26 March 1904, p. 2

10 Jager (1908) reported that he nominated his wife, Johanne Elizabeth Alwyn Jager, to emigrate to Tasmania and she arrived on the *Liguria* in August 1886. In 1890 they left Tasmania and settled in Melbourne. In March 1891 Johanne returned to Germany on the *Kaiser Wilhelm II* and later they divorced. After working in various occupations in Melbourne, Adolph Jager emigrated to the USA in 1908 and settled in Los Angeles.

11 Articles on Jacob and Amelia Jestrimski’s golden wedding anniversary were published in *The Daily Telegraph* on 4 February 1920, p. 3, and the *North-Eastern Advertiser* on 6 February 1920, p. 3. An article on the death of Jacob Jestrimski as a result of a fall from a horse was published in *The Examiner* on 6 May 1921, p. 6.

12 An article on Rudolph and Matilda Jestrimski was published in the *North-Eastern Advertiser* under the title ‘Golden wedding’ on 22 April 1947, p. 2. Articles on the death of Rudolph Jestrimski as a result of being struck by a falling branch from a tree during a storm were published in *The Examiner* on 16 August 1948, p. 2, and *The Mercury* on 16 August 1948, p. 1. An obituary on Rudolph Jestrimski was published in *The Examiner* on 17 August 1948, p. 2.

13 An article on Alfred Jestrimski was published in *The Advocate* under the title ‘Retired’ on 15 February 1950, p. 11

14 Articles on the death of Hans Peter Johnsen as a result of a mining accident were published in *The Argus* under the titles ‘Shocking mine fatality’ on 9 June 1905, p. 2, and ‘Bendigo mining tragedy’ on 10 June 1905, p. 17, *The Australasian* under the title ‘Shocking mine accident’ on 10 June 1905, p. 38, and *The Age* under the title ‘Misuse of explosives’ on 10 June 1905, p. 12

15 An obituary on Auguste Kaden was published in *The Mercury* under the title, ‘Mrs A. M. Kaden: Adventure Bay pioneer’ on 13 November 1936, p. 7

16 Minna Koerbin was nominated by Otto Gustav Koerbin (1846–1927), who arrived on the *Eugenie* in March 1872. Minna served as matron on the *Procida* and was hired as a housekeeper by the Hon. Thomas Reihe (1821–1912), the member for Westbury in the House of Assembly and the owner of *Entally* and *The Oaks* near Carrick.
17 Articles on Elizabeth and Franz Kohl were published in *The Examiner* under the title, 'To celebrate golden wedding' on 4 July 1946, p. 6 and the *North-Eastern Advertiser* under the title 'Golden wedding: Kohl-Burns' on 12 July 1946, p. 3

18 Victoria Schwan was the daughter of Wilhelm August Schwan, who arrived on the *Figaro* in October 1870

19 An obituary on Wilhelm Kruse was published in the *Huon Times* on 11 January 1918, p. 2

20 An obituary on Anna Kruse was published in the *Huon Times* on 26 October 1923, p. 2

21 An article on William and Ethel Kruse was published in *The Mercury* under the title 'Golden wedding for Huon couple' on 29 November 1949, p. 6

22 Articles on the inquest into the death of William Mansson due to gunshot wounds were published in *The Examiner* under the title 'Justifiable homicide' and *The Daily Telegraph* under the title 'The Garibaldi tragedy' on 1 August 1900, p. 5

23 Obituaries on Fanny Mayer were published in *The Argus* under the title 'Mrs F. A. Selzer' on 12 September 1946, p. 7, and in *The Age* under the title 'Gippsland pioneer' on 12 September 1946, p. 6

24 Obituaries on Ola Nicklason were published under the title, 'Pyengana pioneer' in *The Mercury* on 25 July 1933, p. 5, and the *North-Eastern Advertiser* on 25 July 1933, p. 3

25 Obituaries on Matilda Nicklason were published in *The Examiner* on 13 April 1951, p. 4 and in the *North-Eastern Advertiser* on 13 April 1951, p. 3

26 Olaf Ohlson met Hilda Petersen, a waitress or maid working in a tavern in Hamburg, while waiting to board the *Procida*. Olaf Ohlson sponsored Hilda Petersen, who arrived at Hobart on the *Coptic* on 20 November 1887 and they married a month later on Maria Island.

27 Articles on the 86th and 90th birthday anniversaries for Emma Peterson were published in *The Mercury* on 9 May 1946, p. 15, and 11 May 1950, p. 8

28 An obituary on Gustav Ruthsatz was published in *The Riverine Herald* under the title 'Mr G. Ruthsatz' on 29 September 1949, p. 2

29 An article on the death of Margaret Stolzenberg as a result of suicide was published in *The Mercury* under the title 'Suicide at North Hobart' on 2 September 1896, p. 2

30 Carl Ulrich’s wife, whose maiden name was Brandstater, was related to the Brandstater family who arrived on the *Eugenie* in March 1872 and settled at Collinsvale. Emanuel Brandstater nominated Karl Ulrich, probably a son of Carl Ulrich, who arrived on the *Polosi* in August 1883, and in turn, he sponsored Carl Ulrich and his three daughters.

31 Articles on the death of Heinrich Wiese as a result of suicide were published in *The Age* under the title ‘An orchardist hangs himself’ on 23 June 1903, p. 6, *The Argus* under the title ‘Determined suicide’ on 23 June 1903, p. 9 and the *Evelyn Observer and Bourke East Record* under the title ‘Determined suicide’ on 26 June 1903, p. 2

32 An article on the death of Johannis Wiese as a result of suicide was published in *The Age* under the title ‘Orchardist poisons himself’ on 23 October 1920, p. 17

33 An article on the inquest into the death of Dorothea Zander, due to being struck by a bus in Doncaster on 9 July 1928, was published in *The Argus* on 25 July 1928, p. 10

34 Matilda Henrietta Fehlberg arrived as a six-year-old child on the *Figaro* in October 1870.
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   Maurice Appleyard (Member No. 4093)

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

COAL RIVER VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.—
Journal No. 1, 1999
The first journal published by this Society. An A4 book of 69 pp. containing eight historical articles by various authors:

The Richmond Bridge, 1823–1998; Of Chapels and Bridges, by Laurie Wilson.
Murder on the Bridge: Rough Justice for Flagellator George Grover, by Peter Macfie.
Bridge Street in 1860; Bridge Street in 1890: Bridge Street Then & Now; The Jacobs Family, by Dianne Snowden.
Richmond & District 1938.

DELORAINE’S INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE—A survey
A4 work of 158pp; Jointly funded by the Australian Heritage Commission and the Queen Victoria Museum, was written in 1986 by Jill Cassidy.
The text describes the historical life of many early industries, both rural and domestic, and is supported by images, maps and early advertisements pertaining to businesses operating in the greater Deloraine area.

MEANDER VALLEY MEMORIES—
A History of Meander and Surrounding Areas
The articles are grouped in 14 chapters:
THE PALL-I-TORRE: The Black native people of Meander
BLACK AND WHITE: The struggle for the land
IN QUAMBY’S SHADOW: White settlement
JACKEY’S MARSH
WESTERN CREEK
MONTANA SCHOOLS
PUBLIC FACILITIES
CHURCHES
INDUSTRIES, SHOPS & BUSINESSES
DANCES AND ENTERTAINMENT CLUBS, ORGANISATIONS AND SPORT
TIMES OF TROUBLE: Wars, Fires, Rabbit Plague
NEWSMAKERS AND COLOURFUL CHARACTERS
A final section titled FAMILY TREES contains trees for:
John BERNE and Mary DONOHUE/- Elizabeth HAZLEWOOD
Edmund BOWMAN and Anne WILKINSON
John BOXHALL and Alice Maud NUTTING
Charles Ernest CHILCOTT and Lily FRENCH
George Frederick JOHNSTON and Grace Nettleton SHERRIFF
Joseph LEE and Janet HAMILTON
James TAYLOR and Annie SACH
Andrew Walter PAYNE and Edith Alice STAGG
Humphrey SHERRIFF and Margaret WALSH.

CONNIE’S STORY — Commemorating the life of Mrs Edward (Plorn) Dickens
A 74 page booklet published in 2014 by the author Robin Da Costa-Adams.

For the first time Connie’s Story is now told. It includes never before seen photos of Connie and covers her life from her birth in Tasmania (1859), her marriage to Edward (Plorn) Dickens, in Wilcannia (1880), to her death in Melbourne (1914). Edward Bulwer Lytton Dickens was the youngest son and favourite child of Charles Dickens and his wife Catherine. Born in 1852 he arrived in Australia aged just 16 years and rose to become the manager of the half a million acres Mount Murchison Station. Constance was the daughter of Alfred Desailly owner of the Outer Netallie Station also in the Wilcannia District. They married in 1880.

ALONG THE TERRACE — The owners and Occupiers of Stanley, 1843 – 1922
A4 book of 282 pp. was produced in 2015 by Betty Jones, supported by the Stanley Discovery Museum.

An allotment by allotment history of Stanley’s early buildings, pioneers, settlers and services.

Towards the end of 1842, Stanley attained official town status and the following year a plan of its streets was mapped by John Lee Archer, the District Police Magistrate and former Government Architect and Civil Engineer of some renown.

This book traces the development of each of the original 113 allotments on that map, documenting the evolution of the buildings thereon. It also identifies the subsequent owners and occupiers of each property. Much additional information about the town’s history, supported by photographs dating from the mid-nineteenth century is included, along with biographical and family details of about one thousand of the people mentioned.

Information is arranged by alphabetical street names and is supported by an extensive alphabetical index of surnames at the end.

An Index to CHANGES OF NAME — Under Authority of Act of Parliament or Royal Licence and including Irregular Changes from I George III to 64 Victoria, 1760 to 1901
Hard cover book of 357 pp, is a 1968 reprint by the Genealogical Publishing Co. of Baltimore, USA. The original 1905 book, compiled by W P H Phillimore & Edw. Alex. Fry, was published in London.

An extensive, alphabetical index of surnames that have been changed or altered. Primarily it is based on the Changes of Name by Royal licence and includes names changed under the authority of Private Acts of Parliament, and others usually evidenced by deed polls and simple advertisements (chiefly from the Times).

An excellent informative chapter, The Law and Practice of Change of Name by
W Phillimore is provided at the front of the book.

125 Years BELOW THE GAP, 1874–1999—From Log Cabin to Star Lab

The watershed down the southern slopes of the Great Dividing Range created the valleys, more commonly named the ‘Gaps’, that were to become home to many of the fifteen schools that celebrated with 125 years of Education at Swift’s Creek School.

The school inspectors, the teachers, and the students have left a trail of information at each school, and curiously intermingled as numbers of pupils diminished and one school would then merge with another.

Of the fifteen schools established between 1874 and 1926, only Swift’s Creek Primary still operates. They were:

- Swift’s Creek, 1874
- Tongio, 1879–1956
- Reedy Flat, 1887–1971
- Stirling, 1887–1920
- Ensay, 1889–1994
- Bindi, 1890–1943
- Cassilis (Long Gully), 1890–1903
- Tambo Crossing, 1892–1971
- Nugong, 1897–1910
- Brookville, 1899–1940
- Tongio West, 1903–1948
- Ensay North, 1906–1971
- Doctor’s Flat, 1971–1941
- Charlotte Spur, 1922–1928

The history of the various schools in the pioneer district is provided, supported by articles by former pupils and teachers, and numerous class photographs taken over the early years. A large majority of the images have each pupil or teacher identified.

NEVER A DULL MOMENT

Peter Foley was an Irish immigrant (c.1854) who married Rebecca Miles (daughter of convict parents) at Delegate River in N.S.W.

Peter Foley (Jr) spent some years in Tasmania at the copper mines before returning to the mainland, to marry and continue the family line.

The majority of the work is an autobiography of Tom Foley. It ranges from his early childhood, to adulthood and participation in WWII, civilian occupations and finally his retirement with the associated family history.

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June 1980 to March 2000

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Check the Branch News and the website http://www.launceston.tasfhs.org for locations and times.

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Phone: Branch Secretary  (03) 6428 6328  Library  (03) 6426 2257
Library  117 Gilbert Street Latrobe (behind State Library)
Tuesday  11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
Meetings  Held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at Branch Library in Latrobe at 1:00 p.m. or sometimes for lunch at 12:00. Please check the website at www.tfhsdev.com or contact the Secretary for updates.

MEETINGS
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.

Meeting  Sunday School, St Johns Park, New Town, at 7:30 p.m. on 3rd Tuesday of each month, except January and December.

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
Library  117 Gilbert Street Latrobe (behind State Library)
Tuesday & Friday  11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
Saturday opening has ceased and is now by advance appointment only.
Meetings  Held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at Branch Library in Latrobe at 1:00 p.m. or sometimes for lunch at 12:00. Please check the website at www.tfhsdev.com or contact the Secretary for updates.

LAUNCESTON
Phone: Branch Secretary  (03) 6344 4034
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) 6344 4034
Workshops  Held on Wednesday 18 June and Wednesday 17 September
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  117 Gilbert Street Latrobe (behind State Library)
Tuesday  11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
Meetings  Held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at Branch Library in Latrobe at 1:00 p.m. or sometimes for lunch at 12:00. Please check the website at www.tfhsdev.com or contact the Secretary for updates.
<table>
<thead>
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<td><strong>BURNIE</strong></td>
<td>Branch Librarian (03) 6435 4103</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HUON</strong></td>
<td>Branch Secretary (03) 6239 6823</td>
<td>Soldiers Memorial Hall Marguerite Street Ranelagh</td>
<td>Branch Library, Ranelagh, at 4:00 p.m. on 1st Saturday of each month, except January. email <a href="mailto:vsbtas@bigpond.com">vsbtas@bigpond.com</a></td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>LAUNCESTON</strong></td>
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Supplement to

Tasmanian Ancestry

Journal of the
Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.

Volume 37 No.1—June 2016

Home page:  http://www.tasfhs.org
State email:  secretary@tasfhs.org
Journal email:  editors@tasfhs.org

Postal address:  PO Box 326  Rosny Park  Tasmania  7018

Branch postal addresses for correspondence

Burnie:  PO Box 748 Burnie  Tasmania  7320
Hobart:  PO Box 326 Rosny Park  Tasmania  7018
Huon:  PO Box 117 Huonville  Tasmania  7109
Launceston:  PO Box 1290 Launceston  Tasmania  7250
Mersey:  PO Box 267 Latrobe  Tasmania  7307

Branch Library Addresses

Burnie:  58 Bass Highway Cooee Tasmania  7320
Mersey:  Old Police Residence 113 Gilbert Street Latrobe  Tasmania  7307
Hobart:  19 Cambridge Road Bellerive  Tasmania  7018
Huon:  Soldiers Memorial Hall Marguerite Street Ranelagh  Tasmania  7109
Launceston:  45 Tamar Street Launceston  Tasmania  7250

Deadline dates for contributions:  by 1 January, 1 April, 1 July and 1 October
### Branch Committee Members for 2016–2017

#### Burnie

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Peter Cocker</td>
<td>6435 4103</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Ann Bailey</td>
<td>6431 5058</td>
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<tr>
<td>Branch addresses</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>email: <a href="mailto:petjud@bigpond.com">petjud@bigpond.com</a></td>
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<td>PO Box 748 Burnie Tasmania 7320</td>
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#### Hobart

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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<td>Louise Rainbow</td>
<td>6278 7968</td>
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<td>All telephone enquiries to</td>
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### Committee

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<td>Ann Bailey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minute Secretary</td>
<td>Doug Forrest</td>
<td>6431 1882</td>
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<td>Judy Cocker</td>
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#### Hobart

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<th>Committee</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Louise Rainbow</td>
<td>6278 7968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Robert Tanner</td>
<td>6231 0794</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Colleen Read</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Geoffrey Mason</td>
<td>0409 176 667</td>
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<td>Resource Manager</td>
<td>Maurice Appleyard</td>
<td>6248 4229</td>
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<tr>
<td>Committee</td>
<td>Clint Ayers</td>
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<td>Ian Cooper</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Eddy Steenbergen</td>
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## Branch Committee Members for 2016–2017

### Huon

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<th>Position</th>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Shirley (Betty) Fletcher</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Elaine Burton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Libby Gillham</td>
<td>6239 6523</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Betty Bissett</td>
<td>6344 4034</td>
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<tr>
<td>Librarian</td>
<td>Amanda Cavenett</td>
<td>6264 1948</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Officer</td>
<td>Amanda Cavenett</td>
<td>6264 1948</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Relations</td>
<td>Libby Gillham</td>
<td>6239 6523</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Branch addresses

**email:** vsbtas@bigpond.com

PO Box 117 Huonville TAS 7109

### Launceston

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Helen Stuart</td>
<td>0427 847 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Lucille Gee</td>
<td>6344 7650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Muriel Bissett</td>
<td>6344 4034</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Betty Bissett</td>
<td>6344 4034</td>
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<tr>
<td>Committee Members</td>
<td>Robyn Gibson</td>
<td>6398 2251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John Reimers</td>
<td>6344 1934</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Barrie Robinson</td>
<td>0438 281 349</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dorothy Rodgers</td>
<td>6334 2459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Russell Watson</td>
<td>0417 157 610</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**email:** mandbissett@gmail.com

PO Box 1290 Launceston TAS 7250

http://www.launceston.tasfhs.org
Branch Committee Members for 2016–2017

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

An Index to Launceston Examiner

This series covers the personal announcements from the Launceston Examiner from its inception on 12 March 1842 until 31 December 1899. In 1900 the name was changed to The Examiner.

There are Birth, Death and Marriage notices as well as deaths and marriages gleaned from news items.

In the early years of this first volume Police Reports were detailed and give a graphic picture of the social conditions prevailing, as do the Police Intelligence, Supreme Court and Quarter Sessions reports, which in many cases culminate in the report of an Execution. Selected news items of interest to family historians have also been included.

Volume 1, 1842–1851—$36.00
Volume 2, 1852–1859—$30.00
Volume 3, Electoral Roll—1856—$25.00
Volume 4, 1860–1865—$30.00
Volume 5, 1866–1871—$30.00
Volume 6, 1872–1876—$30.00
Volume 7, 1877–1881—$30.00
Volume 8, 1882–1885—$36.00
Volume 9, 1886–1889—$36.00
Volume 10, 1890–1893—$36.00
Volume 11, 1894–1896—$30.00
Volume 12, 1897–1899—$30.00

Available from
TFHS Inc.
Launceston Branch
PO Box 1290 Launceston TAS 7250
Plus $13.50 pack 1–3
TFHS Inc. Members less 10% discount, plus $13.50 p&p
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: Robert Tanner (03) 6231 0794
Vice President: Maurice Appleyard (03) 6248 4229
Society Secretary: Colleen Read (03) 6244 4527
Society Treasurer: Peter Cocker (03) 6435 4103

Committee:
Muriel Bissett	Gary Bryant Judith Cocker
Geoffrey Dean	Lucille Gee John Gillham
Libby Gillham Sue- Ellen McCregan Louise Rainbow
	Eddy Steenbergen

By-laws Coordinator: Robert Tanner (03) 6231 0794
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

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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
mandbissett@gmail.com
Mersey: PO Box 267 Latrobe Tasmania 7307
secretary@tfhsdev.com
Tasmanian Ancestry

Volume 37 Number 2  September 2016

ISSN 0159 0677

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

I must admit to having a struggle to find enough material to prepare this issue of *Tasmanian Ancestry*. It looks like I need to undertake a good search through some of the older files to see if I have forgotten or misplaced submissions along the way.

Never-the-less I am sure you will find something to attract your interest when you curl up by the heater and be able to forget what a chilly winter we are experiencing this year. And hopefully all those who have suffered with the floods will be on the road to recovery and looking to a brighter future.

Rosemary Davidson

---

WANTED URGENTLY
Our cupboards are bare … we need you

to send in articles, exposes, recollections, stories, items, memories, highlights in history, tales of research successes, reports, accounts or results of your investigations into all those brickwalls.

Thank you.

---

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: Headstone of Timothy Charles Roy, see article page 91, *Voices from the Orphan Schools: Timothy Charles Roy*, by Dianne Snowden, Photograph: courtesy of Irene Roy.
This report marks the end of my first year as president of our society. It has been a most interesting year in which I have probably learned more about the workings of our society than I had realised in the many years I have been a member.

Membership numbers have gone down a bit in some, but not all, branches. In Maurice’s report last year he quoted a figure of 1166 financial members at the time. Currently we have 1000 financial members including 71 new members. This indicates that 237 of last year’s members have not renewed at this stage. We need to do more to encourage renewals—and new memberships, but perhaps we need to try even harder in this area. As I said in the last journal, it appears we are not widely known about amongst the general public, so the more publicity we can create the better it will be for our society. Recently I addressed a session at Mathers House in Hobart. For those of you who are not familiar with Mathers House, it is a meeting place for senior citizens funded and run by the Hobart City Council. It used to be the Sixty and Over Club. Eighteen people who had expressed an interest in my topic—A Beginner’s Guide to Researching Your Family History—turned up to this session. Exactly half of them had never heard of us! At least two of this group have since joined.

I have read the annual reports of all five branches, and what interesting reading that was! Although most branches are struggling to find new volunteers, a great deal of very useful work has been undertaken. This includes workshops, researching for members and the general public, indexing cemeteries, newspapers and the like as well as being active members of various committees. A big thank you to all those willing volunteers.

Again, the Tasmanian Community Fund has been good to us. Burnie Branch received a grant for their View Road cemetery project and Hobart Branch has just been informed that their application for a grant to install a heating system in their library was successful.

The society continues to maintain a presence, and to contribute to, a number of organizations during the year. Maurice Appleyard has continued to represent us most ably on the board of the Australasian Federation of Family History Organizations, the Joint Tasmanian Archive Consultative Forum and the Digital Information Group (Tasmanian organizations involved in the collection of historical data). Thank you Maurice.

We are also a member society of the Federation of Family History Societies in the United Kingdom.

We continue to produce the excellent product, *Tasmanian Ancestry*, thanks to the dedicated work of our editor, Rosemary Davidson. The journal distribution is carried out by Clint and Lyndal Ayers and the members of Hobart’s Monday Group. As an example of the rising costs the society has to deal with, I would point out that it now costs nearly one thousand dollars to post each edition of the journal, making it $4000 for the year!

I would like to thank all the members of the Society Executive Committee who have supported me during this my first year as President. They are Maurice Appleyard (Vice-President), Colleen
Read (Secretary), Peter Cocker (Treasurer) and all the branch delegates who make up the committee. I have been very impressed by the way this committee works. I have not seen unpleasantness of any kind. All matters that have come up for discussion have been debated in an atmosphere of cooperation until a mutually acceptable outcome is achieved.

Robert Tanner

36th AGM CONFERENCE AND MEETING REPORT
18 June 2016 Ross Town Hall

AFTER a sumptuous morning tea, President Robert Tanner welcomed all present and launched the new Tasmanian Ancestry Index Volumes 31–35, compiled by Sally Rackham, (currently overseas), and presented editor Rosemary Davidson with a copy. Louise Rainbow was delighted to receive a copy as the 'Early Bird' Prize. (To purchase, see Society Sales).

The first of our three speakers, Dr Nick Brodie gave great insight into how he wove much of Australia’s history into his recently published family history, Kin: a real people’s look behind the scenes. [Hardie Grant, 2015].

Ros Escott, who leads a DNA Interest Group at Hobart Branch, spoke about DNA, explaining the benefits and differences between autosomal DNA, mitochondrial DNA and Y-DNA testing.

After a hearty lunch (all catering by Val Kummerow of Ross Post Office Catering), Roger McNeice provided an interesting talk on the 1854 Hobart city fire which destroyed much of the central CBD, caused by gunpowder stored in Cat and Fiddle Alley, now Cat and Fiddle Arcade.

At the Annual General Meeting Peter Astley Bogg was presented with a well-deserved TFHS Inc. Meritorious Service Award. He has served as a volunteer library assistant at Hobart Branch over a long period, but perhaps his greatest contribution has been photographing all the headstones and memorials for the branch. This has involved a lot of travelling, much detective work to locate cemetery plans and isolated graves, and many hours spent on the computer. A worthy recipient.
President Robert announced the judges had deemed no Lilian Watson Family History Award should be made this year.

The following members were elected unopposed:

**President:** Robert Tanner  
**Vice-President:** Maurice Appleyard  
**Secretary:** Colleen Read  
**Treasurer:** Peter Cocker

Betty Bissett has been appointed as the new Minute Secretary.

The Branch Delegates, as appointed at the Branch AGMs in April, were named as:

**Burnie Branch:** Judy Cocker and Geoff Dean; Alternate, Sue Sutton  
**Hobart Branch:** Louise Rainbow and Eddy Steenbergen; Alternate Ian Cooper  
**Huon Branch:** John Gillham and Libby Gillham; Alternate, Betty Fletcher  
**Launceston Branch:** Lucille Gee and Muriel Bissett; Alternate, Betty Bissett  
**Mersey Branch:** Sue-Ellen McCreghan and Gary Bryant; Alternate, Ros Coss.

**2015 LWFHA**

Two entries were received in 2015:

Dr A J McCormack’s entry, *The Blessington McCormacks, as told by Tony McCormack* (gifted to Launceston Branch) and Irene Schaffer’s entry *Nature in its Wildest Form: Mt Wellington, James Dickenson, Merchant, Convict, Florist, Hobart Town 1837–1853*, (gifted to Hobart Branch).

Circulation of 2015 LWFHA entries will be as follows:

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>Huon</td>
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<td>19 November 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burnie</td>
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**Tasmanian Ancestry**

**BEST JOURNAL ARTICLE AWARD**

**Volume 37**

While articles are always welcomed from everyone by the editor, contributors are reminded that Volume 37 will be judged for the best article from only those who have not previously received a Best Journal Article Award from our society.

See *Tasmanian Ancestry*, Volume 36 Number 2, 2015 for criteria.

---

**Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.**

**2016**

**Lilian Watson Family History Award**

for a *Book* however produced or published on paper, dealing with family or biographical history and having significant Tasmanian content.

**Entries Close 1 December 2016**

Further information and entry forms available from TFHS Inc. Branch Libraries or [www.tasfhs.org](http://www.tasfhs.org)

Or The Secretary  
PO Box 326 ROSNY PARK  
TAS 7018

email: secretary@tasfhs.org
2015 INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

I have audited the accompanying accounts for Tasmanian Family History Society Incorporated for the year ended 31 March 2015 in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards.

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

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

a) The Society has kept proper accounting records and other books during the period covered by the accounts.

b) The accompanying accounts are properly drawn up and in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Act (1964) so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs as at 31 March 2015 and of the results for the period ended on that date according to the information given to me, the books of the Society and the explanations given.

c) The accounts are properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the Society's financial position according to the information at my disposal and the explanations given to me.

d) The rules relating to the administration of the Society's funds have been observed.

e) I have obtained all the information required.

Devonport

5 June 2015

NEIL WILKINSON
Registered Company Auditor
## General Account

Statement of Income and Expenditure  
For the Year 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th>2014/15</th>
<th>2013/14</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$11,958.59</td>
<td>Balance as per Cash Book 1 April 2014</td>
<td>$18,952.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$19,888.89</td>
<td>Membership Subscriptions IS/OS</td>
<td>14405.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>$17,000.00</td>
<td>Membership Subscriptions - Branch</td>
<td>8345.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>516.00</td>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>819.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>745.60</td>
<td>Society Sales - TFI CD Rom</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>170.40</td>
<td>- Publications</td>
<td>418.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>210.00</td>
<td>- TAMiK OT CD</td>
<td>290.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.35</td>
<td>P&amp;P Received on sales</td>
<td>16.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>38.64</td>
<td>Bank Interest</td>
<td>735.45</td>
</tr>
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<td>95.00</td>
<td>Insurance Reimbursement from Branches</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>160.00</td>
<td>AGM Registrations</td>
<td>790.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>175.00</td>
<td>Journal Receipts - Advertising and Sales</td>
<td>126.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>159.00</td>
<td>- Subscriptions</td>
<td>1400.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>4176.00</td>
<td>Funds Collected for Branches - Membership</td>
<td>9588.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>204.00</td>
<td>- Donations</td>
<td>620.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>- TFI Royalty</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>519.45</td>
<td>- Sales</td>
<td>2205.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>Funds av TPT transferred</td>
<td>2887.20</td>
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**$6,658.37**  
TOTAL RECEIPTS  
**$34,784.83**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENDITURE</th>
<th>2014/15</th>
<th>2013/14</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>$46,582.92</td>
<td>TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE</td>
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<td>$4560.46</td>
<td>Insurance</td>
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<td>Sales - TFI CD Rom</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
<td>- Publications</td>
<td>285.75</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
<td>- TAMiK OT</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<td>367.00</td>
<td>Bank Charges</td>
<td>412.41</td>
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<td>10424.15</td>
<td>Journal Payments</td>
<td>16793.51</td>
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<td>625.00</td>
<td>AGM Expenses</td>
<td>1156.67</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
<td>Advertising</td>
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<td>185.60</td>
<td>Audit Fees/ Corporate Affairs</td>
<td>190.40</td>
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<td>1361.20</td>
<td>Executive Travel</td>
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<td>200.00</td>
<td>Ullas Watson and other awards</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
<td>Membership Expenses</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
<td>Repairs and Maintenance</td>
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<td>1054.54</td>
<td>Postage, PO Box, Internet</td>
<td>1845.85</td>
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<td>905.54</td>
<td>Printing and Stationery</td>
<td>224.95</td>
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<td>287.40</td>
<td>Room Hire/Mailing Expense</td>
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<td>150.00</td>
<td>Subscriptions AFH HDF and FFHS</td>
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<td>2996.00</td>
<td>Branch Payments - Membership</td>
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<td>134.00</td>
<td>- Donations</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
<td>- Royalty</td>
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<td>466.65</td>
<td>- Sales</td>
<td>1772.20</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
<td>Capital Item</td>
<td>764.46</td>
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**$20,699.84**  
TOTAL PAYMENTS  
**$36,195.79**

$16,952.20 Balance as per Cash Book 31 March 2015  
$17,481.33

$6,395.69 Trading Surplus  
-$1,470.96
Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.

Statement of Consolidated Cash Flow for the year ended 31 March 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Consolidated</th>
<th>Burnie</th>
<th>Hobart</th>
<th>Huon</th>
<th>L'ton</th>
<th>Mersey</th>
<th>Society</th>
<th>Totals</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opening Balance</td>
<td>4,866</td>
<td>4,979</td>
<td>3,014</td>
<td>2,657</td>
<td>3,153</td>
<td>16,822</td>
<td>38,640</td>
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<td>Add Receipts</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Membership Subscriptions</td>
<td>2,495</td>
<td>12,515</td>
<td>640</td>
<td>6,645</td>
<td>2,637</td>
<td>30,837</td>
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<td>1,515</td>
<td>286</td>
<td>329</td>
<td>526</td>
<td>810</td>
<td>3,073</td>
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<td>1,273</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>355</td>
<td>1,073</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5,142</td>
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<td>Research</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>1,071</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,763</td>
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<td>Sales</td>
<td>2,106</td>
<td>5,816</td>
<td>3,017</td>
<td>5,668</td>
<td>725</td>
<td>15,656</td>
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<td>Interest</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>95</td>
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<td>Library Revenue</td>
<td>1,753</td>
<td>1,736</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>509</td>
<td>1,001</td>
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<td>7,392</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>790</td>
<td>10,428</td>
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<td>Journal (Tas Ancestry)</td>
<td>1,027</td>
<td>1,027</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Total receipts</td>
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<td>31,938</td>
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<td>9,315</td>
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<td>Transfers from term loan a/c</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,135</td>
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<td>Total funds available</td>
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<td>12,270</td>
<td>16,051</td>
<td>53,677</td>
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<td>Less Payments</td>
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<td>Membership Subscriptions</td>
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<td>4,669</td>
<td>4,669</td>
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<td>284</td>
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<td>46</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Items for re-sale</td>
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<td>2,601</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>1,700</td>
<td>2,523</td>
<td>566</td>
<td>7,146</td>
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<td>36</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>412</td>
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<td>4,152</td>
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<td>116</td>
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<td>3,325</td>
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<tr>
<td>Journal (Tas Ancestry)</td>
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<td>16,794</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Assets/Capital</td>
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<td>10,135</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,204</td>
<td>941</td>
<td>794</td>
<td>15,488</td>
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<td>Administration Payments</td>
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<td>4,116</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>887</td>
<td>989</td>
<td>10,736</td>
<td>9,947</td>
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<td>Total Payments</td>
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<td>31,884</td>
<td>1,437</td>
<td>11,244</td>
<td>16,255</td>
<td>36,156</td>
<td>81,555</td>
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<td>Transfers to term loan a/c</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Closing Balance</td>
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<td>$7,567</td>
<td>$2,647</td>
<td>$1,026</td>
<td>$7,796</td>
<td>$17,481</td>
<td>$49,916</td>
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<td>Term Loans/Float etc</td>
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<td>$15,038</td>
<td>$2,440</td>
<td>$8,241</td>
<td>$17,179</td>
<td>$8</td>
<td>$55,365</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Cash Reserves</td>
<td>$16,985</td>
<td>$22,006</td>
<td>$5,087</td>
<td>$9,281</td>
<td>$24,957</td>
<td>$17,481</td>
<td>$99,501</td>
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<td>Value of Assets</td>
<td>$87,800</td>
<td>$157,709</td>
<td>$34,213</td>
<td>$57,000</td>
<td>$44,762</td>
<td>$7,967</td>
<td>$399,451</td>
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</table>

* Includes special purpose grant from Burnie City Council

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*Term Loans/Float etc*

*Total Cash Reserves*

*Value of Assets*
BRANCH REPORTS

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

As we came to the end of summer, the end of Daylight Saving and the start of winter, one was mindful of the challenging months ahead. Usually our power bills increase as we turn up the radiators to keep our branch library warm for members. The numbers of visits are not as frequent, as some of our members head off to northern parts to escape the cold.

Our thoughts go out to those who were caught up with the recent floods experienced across the north of the state due to the exceptional rainfall that fell. The roof of our library leaked and we had some flooding but fortunately damage was very minimal, with just a few newspapers soaked. The good news is that our landlord has decided to reroof the library in August. We hope that we do not get any more high rainfall before then.

Our last workshop was once again well attended and the topic was on Microsoft Word. The features of the program were examined in relation to using them to enhance or improve a family tree publication a researcher is writing. Many genealogy software programs have the ability to export various charts and reports, but do not have the necessary features to achieve a good layout for the finished product. During the workshop features such as headers and footers, inserting section and page breaks, creating table of contents and indexes, inserting graphics and photos were covered. Types of fonts and inserting drop caps were also looked at. We now look forward to some well-presented and designed self-published books.

It is pleasing to note that the upgrade to the Burnie LINC has now been completed and the family history section has been returned to the upstairs location. The upstairs mezzanine floor has been extensively modified with meeting rooms and small kitchen available for hire both during the LINC opening hours as well as after hours.

Peter Cocker Branch President

Hobart
http://www.hobart.tasfhs.org
President: Louise Rainbow
email: president@hobart.tasfhs.org
Secretary: Colleen Read
PO Box 326 Rosny Park Tasmania 7018
email: secretary@hobart.tasfhs.org
All telephone enquiries to (03) 6244 4527

The winter months can be cold and dreary, and not conducive to venture far from home. However, there are many reasons for a visit to our Hobart Branch Library. Behind the scenes our committee and many of our members have volunteered their time preparing extra resources and promotional activities. The Saturday Winter Workshops, which have previously been very popular, are well underway, and our
thanks are extended to those who have presented and attended. Participants in a Family History course at the Bridgewater LINC have visited our Branch Library and been treated to a guided tour by our Librarian, Jude Mudaliar.

A new resource to be found on the computers is Cemetery Headstones and Memorial Plaques (CHAMP). Peter Astley-Bogg has photographed existing headstones from cemeteries in southern Tasmania over many years. This has been a huge undertaking, and congratulations go to Peter for his persistence. Eddy Steenbergen has installed this database, along with the database of Funeral Directors records, in an easy searchable form. Both of these databases are well worth investigation, and may turn up some surprises. The Comprehensive Subject Index is constantly being added to—a resource not to be overlooked.

The third Tuesday night of the month, our General Monthly meeting provides us with a variety of speakers on a range of topics, with summaries of the previous months set out below.

**General Meetings**

Regular general meetings continue to be held at the Sunday School in St Johns Park Precinct at New Town. The meetings begin at 7:30 p.m.

The speaker at the April meeting, the Branch AGM, was John Wadsley (President, Friends of the Soldiers’ Memorial Avenue) speaking on the topic ‘War memorials and memorial avenues of the Great War’.

John spoke generally about memorials, obelisks, avenues of trees, stained glass windows etc. as a means of commemorating and memorialising men and women who served in the Great War. Men from the colonies had served and died in earlier conflicts, but the duration of the WW1, and the scale of death and injury in the Great War resulted in interest in commemorative structures as part of the ritual honouring of the warrior, and for civilians to have a tangible and meaningful involvement in acknowledging and grieving death and injury.

The large, significant structures we see were commissioned and funded by governments and town councils, with smaller monuments such as obelisks having community subscription as well. Scrolls are more likely to be produced by workplaces, schools, sporting clubs. In Australia, memorialising shows some distinctive features. Memorials in other countries name the men and women who died. In Australia, the monuments, obelisks and scrolls record the names of those who enlisted, as well as those who died. This might be because there was no conscription of forces in Australia.

Another feature of Australian commemoration is the popularity of avenues of trees and in talking about these the speaker made a feature of Hobart’s Soldiers’ Avenue and the Ballarat Avenue of Honour and the Arch of Victory, as well as significant overseas memorials including those in Germany, Britain, New Zealand and Canada. It is likely avenues of trees became popular in Australia because of the space available to create them.

Southern Midlands Heritage Officer Alan Townsend presented a lively and entertaining talk at the May general meeting on the topic ‘Wallpaper—luxury in the colonial buildings of VDL’. The talk was illustrated with photographs and re-creations of early colonial wallpapers and included details of their on-going discovery and restoration. In the 1830s and 1840s Hobart was vibrant place to live in and many houses such as Henry Hopkins’
Summer Home, which stayed in the one family for six generations from the 1840s, was decorated with cotton and silk wallpapers. Loud colourful wallpapers, some with 3D effects (built up by layers of shading) on flat surfaces were the ‘in-thing’ in many houses. Judging from the registration marks on the wallpapers some had as many as 15 colours.

Alan provided photographs and details on wallpapers found in buildings such as ‘Clareville’ (near Evandale), the Judges Chambers in Oatlands, ‘Tower Hill’ in New Town, ‘Oak Lodge’, ‘Runnymede’ and ‘Oatlands Cottage’ with its 32 layers of wallpapers in some rooms. In some instances wallpapers were brought by colonists when they came to the colony. In other cases wealthy, travelling colonists returned from overseas with wallpapers purchased in Paris, Italy and other parts of Europe.

University of Tasmania Professor Hamish Maxwell-Stewart spoke at the June meeting on the topic ‘What’s happening with Founders and Survivors and other projects’. Prof. Maxwell-Stewart provided an update on a number of current and forthcoming projects in which he is involved and was accompanied by visiting overseas colleagues—Kris Inwood, Barry Godfrey, Davis Cox and Aiofe O’Connor—in Hobart for an international conference.

The talk included details of research techniques and findings of statistical analyses relating to health and recidivism rates of convicts and their offspring using convict records (hulk and conduct records, absconding notices, passenger lists, free settler registers etc.), registers of the Hobart Savings Bank (height data was included) and Tasmanian Police Gazettes amongst other colonial records and reports.

Amongst the findings: female convicts had a greater number of prior offence charges than males; those convicts punished more severely and frequently were more likely to re-offend and appear in the Police Gazettes; there is no evidence that the children of convicts were more likely to offend than others. The death rates on convict transports highlight the exceptional work of on-board surgeons (death rates of convicts on their voyage to Australia much lower than for convicts transported to the US); height of humans is 80% genetic, with the other 20% being an indicator of nutrition, childhood diseases and foetal alcohol syndrome, exposure to sunlight and stress; rurally born children are taller than urban-born children.

Speakers for 2016
The following speakers have been arranged for forthcoming General Meetings in 2016:
July 19: Rex Kerrison ‘The beginnings, and expansion, of the Kerrison clan in Tasmania, and across Australia’
August 16: Scott Clennett ‘Gallipoli from Three Perspectives’
September 20: Sally Wise ‘Colonial and Convict Cooking’
October 18: Dan Griffin ‘Searching for Ancestors in the USA’
November 15: TBA

Louise Rainbow Branch President
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
Launceston
http://www.launceston.tasfhs.org
President: Helen Stuart—(03) 6331 9175
Secretary: Muriel Bissett
New Number—(03) 6343 3107
PO Box 1290 Launceston Tasmania 7250
secretary: mandibissett@gmail.com

The Launceston Branch AGM was held at the Harry Abbott Scout Hall in St Georges Square, commencing at 7 p.m. on Tuesday 19 April. Helen Stuart was re-elected as president and other members of the committee remain unchanged. Following the meeting member and historian Gus Green gave an interesting talk on Julian Burgess’ new book, ‘Duck Reach and Launceston’s Electric Light’.

The June workshop was led by Leanne Bishop, and those present benefitted greatly from Leanne’s help with researching on TROVE. The workshop in September will be held on Wednesday 21 September. If you are interested in attending, check regarding the subject and availability of a vacancy.

Seniors Week Open Day will be held on Thursday 13 October, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Hourly-one-on-one appointments will be available for Getting started with your Family History Research.

Library: Tuesdays, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.—phone (03) 6344 4034.
Other days (except Saturday and Sunday), by appointment only.

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

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

Mersey Branch indexing of The Advocate newspaper for 2015 has begun and with the combined efforts of Anne, Marilyn and Peter this will be accomplished quickly.

The Melrose Project, an upgrading of the Melrose book in conjunction with the Melrose Historical Group, is well in hand with a great deal of extra information and photos about the families and the area.

The indexing by Marilyn and Glenice of the births, deaths and marriages films acquired from the Archives many years ago is nearing completion. A detailed list will be in the next journal.

For the comfort of volunteers, visitors and members alike the Mersey Branch is also updating their heating to a reverse cycle heat pump early July.

The Latrobe Council building where our branch is located suffered minimal damage from the flooding of Latrobe. Water did go under the building and rose to make some areas quite damp. Council has plans to alter the drain running down the side of the building. Many thanks to Ann and Gary for their effort in putting objects ‘up’.

Mersey Branch plan to have a display at LINC State Library in Devonport from 15–31 August for Family History Month. With the theme of ‘brickwalls’ we hope to encourage people to visit our branch as we may be able to help.
In the editorial in the last issue of *Tasmanian Ancestry* Cynthia O’Neill was thanked whole-heartedly for her association with the journal and the Society as, due to ill health, she had decided she was not longer able to assist with proof-reading and editing articles for *Tasmanian Ancestry*. Sadly, Cynthia did not read the editor’s appreciation, as she died on 13 May, after the journal was with the printer.

Cynthia joined the society in November 1990, (Member No. 2685) and in April 1994 was elected to the Hobart Branch Committee, becoming secretary in 1995, a position she held for eight years. During this time she developed the Hobart branch monthly newsletter, organised classes for beginners in family history research, spoke to community groups, assisted with the journal and the Schools’ Project, and, and was a member of the Publicity Committee. Her warm, calm, supportive manner made her an excellent Members’ Liaison Officer, in which role she was responsible for contacting and initiating new members into the society, answering questions, giving advice and information, and organising library tours. These voluntary activities assisted members as well as the general public and raised the society’s profile, which resulted in new members.

Cynthia’s connection to *Tasmanian Ancestry* began in 1996. As well as contributing many articles she was on the editorial committee until 2005 when the journal moved to Launceston Branch. The Hobart committee had met regularly to proof-read and discuss which contributions to include. The journal was processed ready for posting at her home followed by time enjoying tea or coffee and her home cooked delights.

Cynthia O’Neill’s extensive contribution to the TFHS will be greatly missed, and she will be long remembered by the society members with whom she had contact during her 26 years’ membership.
SAMUEL PULLEN WELLS
PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT FOR THE
SON OF AN INFLUENTIAL CONVICT?
Don Bradmore (Member No. 6756)
and Judith Carter (Member No. 7707)

It is not unusual for two people found guilty of the same crime to be given quite different sentences. Often, one of the wrong-doers is judged to have been the ringleader or to have had some kind of power over the other which made him or her more culpable.

But, in the case of two young men who were found guilty of cattle stealing in the Supreme Court at Hobart Town on 29 November 1834, it is difficult to see why one was treated considerably more harshly than the other.

The men convicted were Samuel Pullen WELLS, 23, and George Mealing STEELE, 24. At the time of their conviction, each was working as a paid overseer on neighbouring properties in the Hamilton district of Van Diemen’s Land. Evidence presented to the court seems to suggest that the two had acted together and that one had had no more influence than the other in carrying out their crime.1

However, for his part in the theft, Steele was transported to Norfolk Island, kept there for ten years, and forbidden to return to Van Diemen’s Land ever again, while Wells served only three years at Port Arthur and was then free to resume his former life.

Is it possible that some person outside the court was able to pull strings to ensure a less severe punishment for Wells, the son of a once-wealthy ex-convict who still had friends in high places?

Samuel Pullen Wells was the eldest son of Thomas Wells, a clerk who had been convicted of embezzlement at the Old Bailey, London, on 3 April 1816. Sentenced to transportation to New South Wales for fourteen years, Thomas had arrived in Sydney on Sir William Bensley in March 1817.

By chance, William SORELL who was on his way to Hobart Town to replace Thomas DAVEY as lieutenant-governor, was on the same vessel. By the time the ship reached Sydney, Sorell was so impressed with Wells’ ability that he requested that he be trans-shipped to Hobart Town immediately to become his secretary.2

Not long afterwards, Wells’ wife, Charlotte, who had decided to follow her husband to the Australian colonies, arrived at Hobart Town bringing her children with her. The eldest child,

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2 Ibid. Thomas Wells arrived in Hobart Town with Sorell on Cochin—see Hobart Town Gazette and Southern Reporter, 12 April 1817, p. 2.
Samuel Pullen Wells, was then about seven years old.\(^3\)

Initially, Thomas Wells did well in Van Diemen’s Land, serving as Sorell’s clerk throughout his tenure. Soon after his arrival he had acquired 65 acres of land close to Hobart Town. In 1818, he was granted a conditional pardon. By 1819, he had taken up rural land on the Macquarie Plains, northwest of Hobart Town. At ‘Allenvale’, his main property near Hamilton, he was breeding merino sheep with great success and exporting fine quality wool to England.

That success allowed him to send young Samuel back to Sydney to be educated by the Rev. Samuel MARSDEN, the celebrated Anglican preacher, who was said to be related to the Wells family. It was not until 1823 that Samuel returned to ‘Allenvale’.

Not long afterwards, Thomas Wells’ wool speculation failed and his ‘Allenvale’ property had to be sold. In 1828, he was declared insolvent and sent to a debtors’ prison in Hobart Town where he remained for the next five years.

Even in prison, however, his ability was recognised. There, he set himself up as an accountant, had a number of wealthy and influential clients and made enough money to keep Charlotte and the children in comfort. On his release, he briefly continued his business in Hobart Town until he joined the Cornwall Bank in Launceston as an accountant. He died on 10 June 1833.\(^4\)

Meanwhile, young Samuel Wells had met George Steele, the overseer at ‘Montfort’, the Hamilton property of Mrs Sarah BROMLEY and, by early 1832, was occasionally working with—or perhaps for—him there.

By 1834, however, Wells had secured a position of his own—as overseer at ‘Peckham Vale’, the property of a widow, Mrs Ann TURNLEY, about six miles from ‘Montfort’.\(^5\)

George Steele had arrived alone at Hobart Town as a free settler six years earlier.\(^6\) Then nineteen years old and single, he was the son of a respected ex-Royal Navy officer of Suffolk, England. Although little is known of his upbringing, there are indications he might have been in trouble of some kind before he left England.\(^7\) In his early years in Van Diemen’s Land, he was thought of by some as ‘raw and inexperienced’. Described by one acquaintance as a brash and callow youth who ‘laughed too loudly at his own wit’, he was known as a frequenter of billiard parlours—and, sometimes, of even less salubrious establishments.\(^8\)

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3 Charlotte Wells and her children arrived at Hobart Town on Friendship in January 1818. See http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/Wells-thomas-2779

4 Ibid. The exact relationship of Marsden to Wells is unknown.

5 The Hobart Town Courier (HTC), 28 September 1832, p. 4


7 In supporting Steele’s application for a land grant in 1829, Henry Boden Torlesse, a district magistrate, referred to Steele’s father, also George, as ‘a much respected friend’. Steele Snr had asked Torlesse to keep an eye on his son.

In 1830, while awaiting the result of an application for a land grant, Mrs Bromley had offered him the job of overseer at ‘Montfort’. A woman in her early 30s, she was the wife of Dr Edward Foord BROMLEY who, amid accusations of embezzlement, had been dismissed as Colonial Treasurer in 1824. He had since returned to England.\(^9\)

Within months, there were whispers about certain ‘irregularities’ in the ‘Montfort’ household. The crux of the matter was the ambiguous nature of Steele’s position at the property. Was he ‘overseer’ or was he ‘master’? Soon, rumours of an inappropriate relationship between Steele and Mrs Bromley had begun to circulate, rumours which persisted even after Steele had become Mrs Bromley’s son-in-law by marrying 25-year-old Eliza Henrietta Bromley, Dr Bromley’s daughter by a previous marriage, who was also living on the property.\(^10\)

When, in mid-1832, two convict servants assigned to Mrs Bromley testified they had seen their mistress lying with Steele on a sofa in the parlour of the home while his wife and infant children were in the next room, the authorities were obliged to investigate.

Although a subsequent investigation failed to find evidence of any improper conduct, Mrs Bromley was stripped of her convict servants immediately and barred from having more assigned to her while Steele remained in her home.

Thus, Steele had to leave ‘Montfort’ but, as it happened, he spent much of his time away from the property in gaol. In part, this was because of a debt he had been unable to re-pay but it was also because he was being held on a felony charge of which he was later acquitted.\(^11\)

Released from prison in May 1834, he returned to ‘Montfort’ but was arrested on the cattle stealing charge about six months later.

Although they had been initially accused of stealing cattle, Wells and Steele faced the Supreme Court at Hobart Town on 29 November 1834 charged with the theft of only one animal, a reddish-coloured ox. The formal charge contained four counts: first, stealing an ox, value £5, the property of some person or persons unknown; second, killing an ox, value £5, the property of some person or persons unknown; third, stealing an ox, value £5, the property of Mrs Ann TURNLEY; fourth, killing an ox, value £5, the property of Mrs Ann Turnley.\(^12\)

\(^9\) Dr Bromley was eventually exonerated of all charges of embezzlement but held responsible for the loss of £8,500 of Treasury funds because of carelessness in his administration. In consequence, the government had seized most of his land and other assets as compensation. In early 1829, he returned to England where he hoped to be able to borrow money to repay the losses and support his wife and family. He never returned to VDL. He died in England in 1836.

\(^10\) Steele and Eliza Bromley, marriage 1523/1830/36, Hobart; irregularities at ‘Montfort’—Tasmanian Archives and Heritage Office (TAHO) Colonial Secretary’s Office (CSO) 1/1/298/7252

\(^11\) Nothing is known of the unpaid debt. The felony charge probably relates to events that took place at ‘Montfort’ when, in making the ‘improper conduct’ charge against Steele and Mrs Bromley, one of the assigned convict servants claimed that Steele had attempted to rape her—see TAHO CSO 1/1/298/7252.

\(^12\) Ibid.
The case was heard by Mr Justice Algernon Sidney MONTAGU. Alfred STEPHEN, the attorney-general, led the case for the Crown. Joseph Tice GELLI- BRAND, a former attorney-general of the colony, conducted the case for the defence.13

Prosecution witnesses told the court they had seen Steele and Wells riding out together from ‘Montfort’ to round up some of Mrs Bromley’s cattle which had strayed. Later, they saw the pair bringing in a brindle beast which they then slaughtered. Steele was seen skinning it in the barn. Afterwards, Wells was seen carrying a freshly-skinned bullock’s head. At no time did either man appear to be acting furtively; other people were coming and going around the barn while all of this was happening.14

William ROADKNIGHT, a local constable, testified that, acting on information he had received, he had gone to the barn to inspect a brindle hide hanging there. He said he noticed a brand on the hide but, because it was imperfect, was unable to say whether it was the ‘GT’ brand used by George TURNLEY, the late husband of Mrs Turnley, or the ‘EB’ brand used by Dr Edward Foord Bromley. However, Thomas Martin FENTON, Esq., a well-to-do Hamilton landowner who was called as a witness because of his extensive knowledge of cattle, stated that he did not think the brand could possibly have been the ‘EB’.

Both prisoners vehemently declared their innocence. They said they were certain that the beast they had brought in and slaughtered belonged to Mrs Bromley. Wells added that he was only on a visit to Mrs Bromley at the time and had merely assisted Steele to kill the beast.

After examining the hide in court, two other men of the district, one of whom was a former stock-keeper for Mrs Turnley, testified that the animal in question was not hers.

Submitting that there was now no case for consideration by the jury, Mr Gellibrand asked for the prisoners to be released immediately but was overruled by the judge. After summing up the arguments for both sides, Justice Montagu requested the jury, if they found the prisoners guilty, to inform him of their belief as to the ownership of the beast.

After just thirty minutes of deliberation, the jury returned the same verdict for both prisoners—guilty of the second count of the charge: killing an ox, value £5, the property of some person or persons unknown.

Many people were puzzled by the verdict. The Colonist (Hobart), in its report of the trial on 16 December 1834 (p. 1), had commented: ‘Public opinion … is that the conviction of both men was on very slender and unsatisfactory evidence.’

Two weeks later, when Wells and Steele were brought before the same court again, a sentence of death was recorded for each. The judge made it clear, however, that he believed the sentence on Wells should be carried into effect with less severity than that on Steele whose guilt he considered to be far more aggravated.15

As was the custom for crimes of that nature at the time, the death sentences were commuted to terms of life imprison-

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13 Ibid. See Australian Dictionary of Biography for details of Montagu, Stephen and Gellibrand.
14 For details of the trial of Steele and Wells in this and subsequent paragraphs, see Note 1, above

15 The Colonist, 16 December 1834, p. 1
ment. Shortly after, however, following changes to the scale of penalties relating to cattle theft, the prison term of each was reduced to fourteen years.

Wells was sent to nearby Port Arthur to serve out his time—but, on 26 August 1837, after only three years there, he was granted a free pardon. 16

Steele, on the other hand, was sent to the penal colony on distant Norfolk Island and remained there for almost ten years. In 1843, he was granted a ticket-of-leave and permitted to live in Sydney. He was forbidden to go back to Van Diemen’s Land. He never saw his wife and children again. 17

On 6 November 1837, after Steele had been gone for almost three years, his wife, Eliza, wrote to Sir John Franklin, Lieutenant-Governor of the colony: 18

Sir, I hope you will pardon the liberty I take in addressing your Excellency, submitting to your merciful consideration the following request:

I am the wife of George Steele, who with Samuel Wells, was tried and convicted at the Supreme Court in Hobart Town in 1834, and was sent to Norfolk Island where he has been ever since. I am left with four infant children totally unprovided for, two of them are in the Kings School at New Town, the others with myself, entirely dependant [sic] on my Father’s Widow, Mrs. Bromley, who is in very reduced circumstances herself.

A fever some years ago which deprived me of my hearing renders me unable to enter into any kind of business by which I might be enabled to maintain my family. I therefore humbly implore your Excellency to consider my helpless situation, together with the good conduct of my unfortunate Husband since he has been at Norfolk Island and extend to him the same indulgence as Samuel Wells is in the enjoyment of. They were both sentenced to the same degree of punishment; the only difference was their destination. Should your Excellency be graciously pleased to accord this boon, I am convinced he will do all in his power to provide for his family and to conduct himself with propriety and steadiness.

I trust your Excellency will not think the less of my request because I am unsupported by friends. I have lost my father who was well known to you – Dr Edward Foord Bromley, R.N. – and with him all those who would have come forward for me now, I think. But to your Excellency’s humanity I appeal, praying fervently you will grant me this favour.

I have the Honour to be, Sir, Your most obedient and humble servant

Eliza Foord Henrietta Steele

At the foot of this letter, Franklin scribbled a short note to his Secretary, Captain John MONTAGU: ‘I cannot comply with this petition.’ Accordingly, Montagu informed Eliza of that decision. 19

On 20 November 1837, Eliza replied to Montagu:

Sir, I beg to acknowledge your favour received 15th instant wherein you inform me “that under the circumstances of the case”, his Excellency feels himself unable to comply with my request. What these circumstances are I am yet to learn which militate against him receiving the same

16 Wells’ conduct record: TAHO CON31-1-47, Image 72
17 Steele’s conduct record: TAHO CON31-1-40, Image 98; Steele’s TOL: 43/2253, 14 September 1843
18 Franklin arrived at Hobart Town in January 1837 to replace George Arthur who left for England in December 1836
19 TAHO, CSO correspondence, 1837
indulgence as Mr. Wells. I do not ask for him here, if that is the objection, but let him go to Sydney and have his remission there. It is far from my wish to depreciate anyone but, in justice to my husband, I must say, that from your own long residence in this Colony, you are well aware that Wells’ character was very bad in that respect long before Steele arrived from England.

Had he [Steele] not associated with him [Wells] so much he would never even have been suspected of such a thing. Why, then, should such a difference be made between them? During my interview with Col. Arthur in the June prior to his departure he said if he heard of his good conduct he should leave Norfolk Island. Since then, I have had the most unsolicited testimony of his propriety and of behaviour under the Commandant’s own hand. I beg pardon for trespassing so long on your time, but if you will have the goodness to present these circumstances to the Lieutenant-Governor, he will perhaps grant him some amelioration, and your so doing I shall ever consider as a great obligation.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your humble and obedient servant
Eliza F. H. Steele.

20 A reply to this letter has not been found.

On 7 November 1849, George Steele, still in Sydney, received his Certificate of Freedom. On 31 December that year, he married again, at St Annes Church, Hunters Hill. His new wife was Mary Ann Rebecca HANSLOW (also seen as HOUNSLOW). The marriage produced four more children but it was to be relatively short-lived. Early in 1855, Steele died at Camperdown, New South Wales—ironically, after being gored by a bull! He was 45 years of age.21

Eliza Steele never remarried. In 1874, she passed away at the Hobart home of one of her daughters. She was in her late sixties.22

By 1841, Wells had left Van Diemen’s Land. In 1841, he married at Geelong, Victoria, where he set himself up as an innkeeper at nearby Colac.23 No record of his death has been found but a newspaper advertisement announcing the sale of his business and furniture in March 1844 reveals he had passed away by that time.

But a number of unresolved questions remain …
• Did Steele deserve to be treated more harshly than Wells? Who was the ringleader? Who had led the other astray?

In her letter of 20 November 1837, Eliza Steele begged Captain John Montagu to bear in mind that Wells had been known as a man of ‘very bad’ character even before her husband had arrived in Van Diemen’s Land. She held Wells 21 Certificate of Freedom: 49/431, 7 December 1849; marriage to Mary Ann Rebecca Hanslow (Hanslow): NSW Reg: 1849, St Annes Church, Hunters Hill; death: 26 February, 1855 (NSW Reg: Vol. No: V1855178 43A, 1855)
22 Eliza Steele’s death: RGD: 2379/1874, Hobart
23 Wells married Mary A Crocker at Geelong, Victoria, in 1841: Vic. Reg. VC/1841, Geelong. By 1842, he had been granted a general licence for the ‘Lake Inn’ public house, situated on the Portland Bay Road at Madouranook; see Geelong Advertiser, 25 April 1842, p. 2 and Geelong Advertiser, 24 April 1843, p. 1
24 Evidence of Wells’s death: Geelong Advertiser, 11 March 1844, p. 1

Ibid.
responsible for her husband’s predicament. But was Wells really as bad as Eliza said? His conduct record after conviction makes no mention of prior offences and there is nothing in newspapers of the day to indicate that he had had problems with the law previously.  

- Was Steele treated vindictively by the court because of the events at ‘Montfort Farm’ a couple of years earlier?  

Is it possible that the authorities had wanted to ‘settle the score’ with Steele for the events that had reportedly occurred at ‘Montfort’ in 1832 and for which they might have thought he had escaped punishment?  

It is clear from official correspondence relating to those events that the authorities had a very low opinion of Steele. On 28 April 1832, for instance, Edward DUMARESQ, a police officer at New Norfolk and member of the Committee of Enquiry set up to investigate the complaints of the assigned servants against Mrs Bromley, had written to Captain John Montagu as follows:  

We are of the opinion that as long as Mr. Steele continues upon Mrs Bromley’s farm she ought not to have convict servants assigned to her … Mr. Steele is by no means a proper person to have any control over convict servants.26  

On 31 May 1834, magistrate Henry Boden TORLESSE, another member of the ‘Montfort’ Committee of Enquiry, informing Montagu by letter that Steele had returned to ‘Montfort’ said that his long incarceration in gaol has brought him to a better way of thinking … he has discovered the error of his past life.  

Torlesse assured Montagu that he would be keeping Steele under ‘constant observance’.27  

Did the authorities see the cattle-stealing charge as an opportunity to rid themselves of Steele for good?  

- Was some outside influence brought to bear on the case to secure preferential treatment for Wells?  

Although Wells’ father, Thomas, had passed away more than a year before his son was charged with cattle stealing, he was undoubtedly still remembered fondly by many. Described in an obituary as ‘luxurious and extravagant’, ‘reserved’ and ‘in some measure haughty’, he had been much admired for his ‘industrious’ nature and business acumen. A man who had made himself very wealthy before a spectacular insolvency, he had had friends with considerable power and influence. Is it possible that these friends had brought pressure to bear on the press and judiciary to help his eldest son?28  

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25 As for Note 19, above  
26 Dumaresq to Montagu, 28 April 1832: TAHO CSO 1/1/298/7252  
27 Torlesse to Montagu, 31 May 1834: TAHO CSO 1/1/298/7252  
28 Thomas Wells: death 3235/1833/34, Launceston; obituary, The Colonist, 16 June 1833. There is some evidence that, at the time of the trial, Wells was engaged to be married to Miss Sarah Hawthorn, the sister of Mrs Frances (Hawthorn) ‘Torlesse, the wife of magistrate Henry Boden Torlesse. Henry Boden Torlesse had served in the British Navy with Lieutenant Governor Sir John Franklin. Is it possible that these powerful people were able to exert influence to assist Wells?
EARLY ATTITUDES TO ANIMALS IN SCHOOLS
Betty Jones (Member No. 6032)

As the thought of warmer, sunnier weather teases us, the annual round of rodent stories can be archived for another year and the family felines and canines given pats and congratulations for having played their part in frightening away those pests from around the home. Breath-taking reptile anecdotes will soon become the replacement, their appearance predictable each year during late spring, but occasionally as early as September.

This article attempts to bring together a range of entries made in early school records about the mostly unwelcome visits made to school property by a variety of animals and how the situations were handled by our ancestors. It also includes examples of how attitudes towards dealing with animals evolved over time.

Removing the vermin
Nineteenth century school buildings did not escape the problem of rodent infestations, and the Inspectors’ Reports often contained mention of the issues associated with those furry menaces. In 1887, the local Board of Advice at Oatlands received a request from Mr Arthur W PYWELL (1857–1919), newly-appointed teacher at Mt Seymour Public School, to have the desks replaced as they were ‘full of vermin’ and having a negative effect on school attendance. Miss Muriel V G ROBERTSON (1861–?), schoolmistress at Bracknell in 1895, was advised by Inspector MASTERS that a little mortar and a small board to cover an opening under the back doorstep would remedy the intolerable nuisance of rats getting into the residence.

In the early twentieth century, items in the Education Department’s monthly publication, The Educational Record, drew teacher and pupil attention to the importance of eradicating rats for reasons of health, hygiene and safety. Such was the concern in the broader community during that era that some local councils were desperate for answers. Minutes of the 1907 Launceston City Council meetings, for example, indicated that a problem with rats in that city was serious and all methods of eradication needed consideration, including a dead rat bounty. It was acknowledged that when a similar program had been organised in earlier times, the Council had been known to waste its money because

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1 The Tasmanian Mail, 10 December 1887
2 Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office (TAHO): ED31/1/1
‘country rats’ personated as ‘town rats’. One man brought in sixteen rat corpses in a bag, but it later turned out that they were Longford rats! Nevertheless, the Council decided to resume offering 3-pence-a-piece (3d) for dead rats and to give a man 5 shillings (5/-) a week to act as the rats’ funeral director.³

Mr William DUTHIE (1859–1918) wrote to the Department in 1905 to inform them that a small fire had broken out in the schoolhouse at Levendale early in the morning of the previous day. He explained it was caused by the intrusion of a rat that had knocked over a lighted kerosene lamp. Fortunately, Mr Duthie was able to extinguish the fire before any serious damage was done.⁴ At Sassafras State School in 1908 a request was made to line the walls of the school house with linoleum in an attempt to keep out the rats.⁵

Rodents were not the only contributors to concern about health matters for school pupils in the early years. When Inspector Thomas ARNOLD visited the Church of England school at Campbell Street in Hobart in May 1853, he noted the school-master, Mr Thomas Wilson WOSTENHOLME (c.1796–1860), paid 10 shillings a week in rent to Mr PALMER. There were 75 on the boys’ books, but 17 were known to be absent from illness and only 26 were present on the day of the visit. There was a cow house under the boys’ schoolroom and the stench was described as abominable. Three children at the school had died and one had been removed in consequence of the Epidemic.⁶

Standards eventually were set in town schools
In April 1881, the Board of Education wrote to Mrs Emma BEARD, caretaker/cleaner at the Macquarie Street Public School in Hobart, stating,

It has been decided that neither fowls nor goats be allowed to be kept on … school premises or grounds. I am therefore to request that you will be good enough to remove within one week from this date any such kept by you.

In May 1881, Mrs Beard was granted five pounds (£5) per annum for loss sustained by being compelled to dispose of her animals.⁷ In June 1881, the Board of Education wrote again:

Mrs Beard cannot keep any fowls on Macquarie Street school premises nor fence off any part of the grounds. Unless she complies with terms forthwith she will be required to quit the premises.

Mrs Beard was subsequently removed in September 1881, her services as caretaker being no longer required.⁸

What else lurked in (or below) schools?
Miss Jane M WRIGHT, teacher at Tunnel State School in 1905, described the Church building as inadequate for school purposes. The room was very narrow and low and the flooring boards were so far apart as to allow cats to come and go.⁹

The schoolmistress at Saundridge State School in 1901, Miss L May HODGETTS (1875–1958), made application for the supply of a tank because pigs were reported to be wallowing in the nearby stream from where the school’s drinking water was obtained.¹⁰

³ *The Examiner*, 11 May 1907
⁴ TAHO: ED9/512/1905
⁵ *North West Post*, 8 September 1908
⁶ TAHO: CB3 3/1
⁷ TAHO: ED13/1/26
⁸ TAHO: ED13/1/27
⁹ TAHO: ED9/300/1905
¹⁰ TAHO: ED4/437
Mr Don J GEEVES (1906–1994), teacher at Pyengana State School in 1927, expressed to the inspector his annoyance of pigs and ducks of the neighbouring farmer that invaded the school reserve. A different attitude was shown in 1930 when the Education Department received a complaint that pigs were roaming freely in the grounds of the subsidised school at Weetah. The teacher, Mrs Sylvia TIERNEY (née JORDAN) (1902–1996), denied that the children had any contact with such animals. The yard was by no means small, and the children had plenty of space to play.

Thought to be a harbinger of spring, the re-appearance of swallows each year was often welcomed and reported positively upon in newspapers. Anyone who has found pleasure in closely watching the nesting habits of those brave and persistent birds during the spring/summer season will know the following suggestion was probably unsuccessful in deterring the pair that had already established their perfect spot within the school building. In February 1891, the Inspector noted that swallows had soiled the schoolroom at Bishopsbourne and suggested that wire netting was required at the end ventilators.

Not only teachers complained. In 1873 it was reported to the Board of Education that Mrs Mary A LONG (c.1833–?), formerly Mrs WILSON, kept a terrier dog on the school premises at Forth Public School while she was a teacher there, and it was said to be biting the children. She was asked to provide an explanation. Reduced attendance at Forth in 1873 led to the termination of Mrs Long’s services at that school.

In early 1888 the Department wrote to Mrs Mary F TIGHE (née QUINN) (1861–1939), teacher at North Motton, advising her Mrs F COX had complained that the Tighe’s fowls were in the habit of trespassing on her property, and that Mrs Tighe had refused to abate the nuisance when requested in writing to do so. Mrs Tighe was instructed to provide an immediate explanation.

Obligatory snake stories
Snake tales were often reported with a sense of breath-taking excitement, and hints of heroism surrounded whoever was thought to have saved the day. Indeed, snakes were recognised as posing a danger to humans, the first anecdote in this section, in particular, giving good reason for the reverence with which the creatures deserved to be treated.

Not long before the Christmas of 1923, a young boy, while playing with other children, was bitten by a whip snake in the State School ground at Gardner’s Bay. The companions of Master Norman DILLON, the 10-year-old son of Mr George Dillon, quickly informed their teacher, Miss Eva E REID, of the incident. With great promptitude the young lady applied all the first-aid measures needful in such cases, tying a ligature, scarifying the puncture and applying some antidote which fortunately was at hand. The boy was then taken to Dr George WADE at

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11 TAHO: ED31/1/32
12 The Mercury, 15 July 1930
13 TAHO: ED31/1/1
14 The Mercury, 7 February 1873
15 TAHO: ED13/1/39
Cygnet, who, after examining the dressing and the wound complimented Miss Reid on the thoroughly efficient manner in which she had rendered first-aid, adding that her services had probably saved the boy’s life, for owing to the virulence of the poison of the whip snake action has to be taken almost immediately after the venom is injected in order to successfully combat its effect. After the doctor had given additional treatment the boy returned home and did not show any ill effects from the experience.16

During a dinner hour at Branxholm State School in February 1906, a large black snake was killed on top of a 400-gallon tank which stood near the back door of the teacher’s residence. A little boy was at the tank at the time, and the teacher, Mrs Emily A TRIFFITT (née MUCKRIDGE, later Mrs O’BYRNE) (1875–1951), happened to go into the yard and was horrified to see the snake leaning over the tank just above the child’s head. One of the sixth class boys quickly came and killed the reptile. Later in the day another snake was seen in the same spot.17

In February 1913 a large tiger snake was observed basking in the sun in close proximity to the door of the Mountain River State School building, and for some time it held those inside prisoners. Ultimately, however, a plucky little boy, named James ARMSTRONG, decided to make an onslaught upon the intruder. He armed himself with a stout stick for the purpose, and, after waiting a short time for a favourable opportunity, dealt what proved to be a fatal blow to the reptile.18

One afternoon in January 1923, when forty young children at Glenora State School were busily engaged in their work with their teacher, Miss May L WILKINS (1900–?), no-one noticed a black tiger snake about three feet long enter the porch and make its way into the classroom. A scholar in the senior room eventually spied the reptile in time to notify the head teacher, Mr James H GEAPPEN (1879–1957), who also saw the tail of the snake disappear through the doorway and make its way among the dual desks. The children were marched out with commendable speed, the reptile located, and despatched with a shot-gun by the head teacher.19

Children in the Huon district in 1929 were warned via their local newspaper that they should be on the alert for snakes as they walked to and from school. It was pointed out that snakes had a habit of lying across roads, bush tracks, and especially in table drains, and at the edge of blackberry bushes. A Cygnet school boy was reported to have had a very narrow escape the previous week in the table drain, and just cleared, by inches, a vicious 4-footer, waiting its quarry.20

**Garden pests**

The importance of gardening gained emphasis in schools from the early 1900s.21 Miss Armine E FURLONGE (1872–1944) was challenged in the establishment of garden plots at Ormley State School in 1909 by bandicoots and sparrows, both of which had placed heavy toll on the work of scholars there. Despite the demanding preparatory tasks necessary and the animal problems, beds of

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16 *Huon Times*, 11 December 1923
17 *The Examiner*, 10 February 1906
18 *Huon Times*, 15 February 1913
19 *The Examiner*, 6 January 1923
20 *Huon Times*, 26 February 1929
21 See ‘Not Just a Bed of Roses’, *Tasmanian Ancestry*, Volume 32, No. 2
cereals, peas and vegetables were established.22

Following the appointment of Miss Emma L TILLACK (1868–1920) to Kempton State School in 1916, she set about establishing gardens with her pupils and went to great lengths to plant trees and lay out flower and vegetable beds. However, Miss Tillack became disheartened in January 1917 when she returned from holidays to find the fence had been partly destroyed by flood, and the school gardens totally destroyed by cattle.23

Rabbits were noted as causing problems in school gardens from time to time too, but their effect on school attendance in the nineteenth century caused greater concern. A financial return for their skins was attractive to many people in the country, including young boys, as a source of additional income.

I have been working away all week and I told George that he had to go to school but he goes after rabbits sometimes.

So wrote a Campbell Town State School parent in the late 1890s when formally requested by the Chairman of the local Board of Advice to explain his son’s absence from school during the previous week.24 Early school admission registers occasionally recorded a pupil’s reason for leaving as ‘Gone rabbiting’.

From pests to pets

Over the years, letters from members of the public to the editors of local newspapers reflected a view that cruelty to animals was an issue that needed addressing. Examples were sometimes given of children being involved in unkind acts towards defenceless creatures, and schools were criticised for not taking a more dominant role in educating scholars on the matter.

Animal welfare groups were active in Tasmania during the late nineteenth century, and in 1892 a branch of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) was reconstituted at a meeting in Launceston. It was then and there suggested children in public schools could have their awareness raised of the importance of humanity to animals through the offering of prizes through essay competitions on the subject.25 Such competitions were held throughout the state for many years. In 1934 the Education Department agreed to the trial of an Animal Welfare Day in southern schools, resulting in more than 50 volunteer guest speakers from the SPCA invited to instruct children, along with an essay competition carrying a prize for the winning school.26 Peggy Tew of Albuera Street State School was later judged by the SPCA as the winner and the school became the recipient of a scallop-shaped shell bird-bath on a three-feet high pedestal, appropriately inscribed. For her effort, Peggy was given a year’s subscription to the society’s magazine, ‘Our Animals’.27 Other place-getters in the competition and their schools were Jean WALKER (Elizabeth Street),

---

22 The Mercury, 26 October 1909
23 TAHO: AD54/2/1
24 TAHO: LA8/2/2
25 Daily Telegraph, 20 August 1892
26 The Mercury, 8 May 1934
27 The Mercury, 5 September 1934
Thorold ROGERS (Pelham) and Alan BRAZENDALE (Montacute).¹

A parade of pets was used as a fund-raising feature of a school fair organized by the Parents’ and Friends’ Association at Charles Street State School in 1936. Included in the variety of animals attracted by the event were dogs, cats, pigeons, roosters, and a cockatoo. Mr J COLGRAVE was judge, and the winners were Betty BOYD, with her spaniel dog, and William GOODLUCK, with his Irish setter.² Similar events became a popular part of other school fairs for many years.

The introduction from the 1930s of Area Schools, with more emphasis in the curriculum being placed on agriculture and the raising of farm animals, also helped to modify many children’s attitudes towards all creatures great and small. Area School Shows soon became an annual event, the grand parade of animals being their highlight. In 1939 at Ringarooma, it was reported there were over one hundred entries in the stock section alone, the judge from St Marys, Mr C F SALTER, giving praise to the children for the fine lot of calves they paraded, along with their sheep, ponies and pets.³

In conclusion
The necessity for the eradication of animal pests in and around school buildings and grounds remains prevalent in modern situations, but the approaches used and attitudes held now are likely to be different from those adopted and accepted in earlier times by our ancestors.

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¹ The Mercury, 12 July 1934
² The Mercury, 13 June 1936
³ North-Eastern Advertiser, 5 December 1939.

JEWISH CALENDAR

The Jewish calendar is based on the sun cycle, while days are based on the moon cycle. Thus someone whose death was recorded as 24 June may have actually died the previous evening, after the emergence of three stars.

Dates inscribed on Jewish headstones appear in Hebrew. Each number represents a numerical value that, when added together, reveals a year according to the Hebrew calendar, for example, 5559 or 5773. By adding 1240 to the last three numbers, in these examples being 559 and 773, the result is the equivalent date in the Gregorian calendar. The result in the first instance is 1779 and the second, 2013.

Reference:
Melody Amsel-Arieli, ‘Researching Jewish ancestors’, Family Tree, August 2013, pp. 61–63 www.family-tree.co.uk

For details of some of the burials at the closed Jewish Burial Ground in Harrington Street Hobart which were recorded in the Jewish calendar, see ‘Jewish Burial Ground Harrington Street 1828–72’, Tasmanian Ancestry, Vol. 33 No. 4 (March 2013), pp. 231–34
VOICES FROM THE ORPHAN SCHOOLS:
TIMOTHY CHARLES ROY
Dianne Snowden (Member No. 910)

TIMOTHY CHARLES ROY was admitted to the Orphan School on 19 August 1833 when he was five years old. His parents, Campbell Roy and Ann HONEYMAN, had married in the Parish of Hobart Town on 24 May 1828. Witnesses to the marriage were John JONES and Ann BROWN, both of ‘The Clyde’.

Campbell Roy, Timothy’s father, was tried in the Glasgow Court of Justiciary on 14 April 1824 for housebreaking and was sentenced to transportation for life. He arrived in Van Diemen’s Land on the convict ship *Sir Charles Forbes (1)* in 1825. He had one colonial offence recorded: in October 1829, when he was assigned to Captain WOOD (of ‘Dennistoun’ near Bothwell); he was sentenced to 50 lashes for insolence. He was granted a Conditional Pardon in June 1837 and a Free Pardon in May 1841.

Ann Honeyman, Timothy’s mother, was the daughter of William Honeyman, also a Scottish convict. Tried in Edinburgh for stealing nearly £1500, with another man, Honeyman was sentenced to be hanged in January 1816. His sentence was com-

---

1. TAHO, RGD36/1/1 1828/1119 Ann Honeyman and Campbell Roy
2. TAHO, CON31/1/34 No. 418 *Sir Charles Forbes (1)* Campbell Roy
muted to transportation for life. He arrived in Sydney on the Sir William Bensley in March 1817. The first record of Honeyman in New South Wales was in the 1819 Muster, when he was recorded as being in Government Employ at Windsor. The following year he absconded from the Bricklayers’ Gang.

According to Jill Roy,

Sometime between November 1820 and July 1821 William had made his way to India. How he did this has not yet been discovered, but in January 1822, the ship Amboyna arrived in Sydney carrying two convicts from India. The captain wrote to the Colonial Secretary advising of their arrival, and of the deaths of two others, William Honeyman and William POWELL. The Colonial Secretary requested details and received an extract from the ship’s log which showed that William Honeyman burst a blood vessel when he fell from his hammock in a gale on 7 July in the Bay of Bengal and died on 16 August 1821. He was buried at sea.⁴

William’s daughter, Ann Honeyman, is thought to have arrived in Van Diemen’s Land on the Castle Forbes in 1822, with her mother, Jean, two brothers and sister, part of a group of 33 steerage passengers in the entourage of Alexander REID, a free settler, and his family. The Reids settled at Bothwell. Jean Honeyman and her two sons left for Sydney, to search for William, not knowing of his death. Ann and her sister remained in Van Diemen’s Land.⁵

A number of free settlers arrived on the Castle Forbes in March 1822, including Captain Patrick Wood who settled at Dennistoun and the Reids who settled at Ratho. The group also included tradesmen and servants.⁶

Ann died in childbirth, seven months after her marriage to Campbell Roy. She was buried in the private graveyard at Dennistoun. Her headstone reads:

Here lies Anne wife of Campbell Roy, who died November 2nd 1828, aged 17 years.

Timothy Charles Roy, first son of ‘Kemble’ Roy, a servant to Captain Wood, was baptised in October 1829 at Bothwell. John Dennistoun Wood, the

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⁶ Roy, The story of William Honeyman”

---
first son of Captain Wood, was baptised the same day. The lives of the two boys could not have been more different.

On 19 August 1833, when he was five, Timothy was admitted to the newly-built King’s Orphan School in New Town. He remained there for six years until 13 August 1839, when he was ‘delivered to his father’. Like many of the orphans, little is known of Timothy’s early years.

Timothy married Scottish-born Martha Matilda McMillan in New South Wales in 1851 and had a large family of children. He died in Taree, NSW in 1910:

ROY.—January 17, at his daughter’s residence, Pultney street, Taree, Timothy Charles Roy, beloved father of Charlotte, Clara and Bert Roy, aged 81 years.

Descendant Janice Irving writes that Timothy was buried at the Wesleyan Cemetery on the Dawson River at Taree, NSW: ‘Throughout his life he worked at many occupations, spending many years as a gold miner following the search for gold and in the early years, taking his large family along with him’.

For more orphan stories, visit

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

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8 TAHO, SWD28/1/1 Boys’ Register p. 3
10 Sydney Morning Herald 19 January 1910 p. 8; Sydney Mail, 26 January 1910 p. 57. See also Northern Champion, (Taree) 17 September 1947 p. 3: obituary of son, Robert Paterson Roy.

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Descendants of Convicts’ Group Inc.
1788–1868

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

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

http://home.vicnet.net.au/~dceginc/
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>TIME</th>
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# NEW MEMBERS’ INTERESTS

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<tr>
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# NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members

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<tr>
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<td><a href="mailto:michaelwatt@internode.on.net">michaelwatt@internode.on.net</a></td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>7250</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:graham.pearce@esyturbo.com">graham.pearce@esyturbo.com</a></td>
<td>6019</td>
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<tr>
<td>BURK Mr Darrell</td>
<td>PO Box 41</td>
<td></td>
<td>7320</td>
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<tr>
<td>McKENNA Mr Peter</td>
<td>10 Spotted Gum Drive</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pmmacca54@gmail.com">pmmacca54@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>2320</td>
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<tr>
<td>FIRTH Mrs Susan</td>
<td>PO Box 6011</td>
<td><a href="mailto:suefirth@westnet.com.au">suefirth@westnet.com.au</a></td>
<td>3193</td>
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<tr>
<td>COURTICE Ms Elizabeth</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:eliza11@iinet.net.au">eliza11@iinet.net.au</a></td>
<td>7008</td>
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<tr>
<td>WINSPEAR Mr Richard</td>
<td>9 Lime Avenue</td>
<td><a href="mailto:richardwinspear@bigpond.com">richardwinspear@bigpond.com</a></td>
<td>7250</td>
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<tr>
<td>HUME D R Denis</td>
<td>66 New Eccleston Road</td>
<td><a href="mailto:humedr@bigpond.com">humedr@bigpond.com</a></td>
<td>7250</td>
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<tr>
<td>FITZGERALD Dr Donald</td>
<td>79 MacLachlan Street</td>
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## NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members

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All names remain the property of the Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. and will not be sold on in a database.

If you find a name in which you are interested, please note the membership number and check the New Members’ listing for the appropriate name and address.

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

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**CORRECTION: from Vol. 37 No. 1, June 2016**

7744 PILGRAM Ms Betty should read PILGRIM Ms Betty

email bettypilgrim@hotmail.com
HELP WANTED

ASCOUGH, Eleanor (née HARRISON)
Seeking information re Tasmanian visit 1863–1865 of Mrs Eleanor ASCOUGH (widow) born 1807 and daughter Ellen born 1848 of Bradford, Yorkshire. The only passengers, they arrived at Launceston November 1863, aboard the Yorkshire registered ship Dunorlan, Captain William BARWOOD an Englishman living at Launceston. The ship’s Agent, John CROOKES lived near Launceston. The ladies may have come to visit relatives or engaged as domestic staff, maids or ladies aides under the auspices of Emigration Aid Societies. They returned to Yorkshire departing Hobart January 1865 aboard the ship Windward. Please contact Barry Campbell clancam37@bigpond.com

BURK, David Edward and Matilda
BURK (née BLYTH)
I am looking for photographs of the above couple and their family of Railton, Tasmania. Also any photographs of the family of John Conrad BURK and his wife Sarah (née CHAMBEY) of Longford. Plus photographs of the family of Johann Conrad BURK and wife Ernestine Caroline (née SHAFER) who came from Germany on the Montmerency and worked at Woolmers Estate at Longford where he may have been known as John BUCK.
David Edward Burk and Matilda (née Blyth) were the parents of my father George Arnold BURK.
Any photographs would be great. Please write a number on the back with details on a sheet of paper. Thanks for any help. Please contact Darrell Burk PO Box 41 Upper Burnie TAS 7320

SHORE Marion
Marion SHORE married John Tanner PIERCEY, Church of St Luke Latrobe, 31 August 1891. Marion died New Zealand 5 May 1925 in her 57th year. I am seeking her parents’ names. Please contact Mrs Glenn Burt email glennvburt@bigpond.au

SMITH, William Henry James Peter
and his wife Emily Jane SMITH (née KNIGHT)
The above couple are William Peter SMITH and his wife Emma Malvina SMITH (née JAMES). I am searching for a photograph of their son, William Henry James Peter SMITH and his wife Emily Jane SMITH (née KNIGHT) who lived at the Rubicon via Sassafras. They had nine children before Emily died of the Spanish flu on 9 November 1919 aged 39 years. William Henry James SMITH married Annie Elizabeth HARDY about 1922 and had six more children.
Emily was the daughter of George and Mary KNIGHT of Sassafras.
Thanks for any help. Please contact Darrell Burk PO Box 41 Upper Burnie TAS 7320
PIECING TOGETHER THE LIFE OF
JOHN LACEY, FROM SURREY
Pauline Bygraves (Member No. 5113)

As with many of those convicted and transported to the colonies, the life of John LACEY comes sharply into focus at times and becomes invisible at other times. His earliest brush with the law appears to be in 1831, when he was 15 years old, and is well documented in court records and a newspaper article. The details of his second appearance before the Surrey courts, resulting in his transportation to Van Diemen’s Land, are more difficult to find. Once he arrived in Van Diemen’s Land, his name can be found on several convict lists and his marriage in 1848 is also documented. Not all the births of the children are registered. Although baptism records exist for some of the children, others have not been located. John Lacey lived in northwestern Tasmania for over 50 years, first in the Longford area and later around Deloraine, where he died in 1895 at the age of 78. This is an attempt to piece together his life from available records, both in England and Australia.

John Lacey, of Bermondsey, labourer, faced the Surrey Quarter Sessions held at Saint Mary Newington on 4 January 1831 charged with larceny. Both he and Thomas CLAWSON, also of Bermondsey, were charged on the oath of Elizabeth GORDON with feloniously stealing at Bermondsey a drawer and thirty shillings in monies, being her property. Both were found guilty, with John Lacey sentenced to 14 days’ imprisonment in the Brixton House of Correction, the first seven of which were to be hard labour, and to be publicly whipped for 150 yards. Thomas Clawson was sentenced to transportation for life. They were described as ‘youths of diminutive stature, and each only 15 years of age’.

Details about John’s second brush with the law, when he was charged with larceny from a person, and faced trial at the Midsummer Sessions for Southwark, Surrey in July 1832, came from his own petition for clemency after he was convicted and sentenced to transportation for life. In his petition, John protested that he was innocent of stealing from the person of George WOOD a silk handkerchief valued at three shillings, claiming that another person by the name of MILBURN was the guilty party. John’s sentence of transportation for life was imposed, despite his petition and one from his mother, Jane Lacey.

So began John’s journey to Van Diemen’s Land. Initially he was incarcerated in Newgate Prison, before being transferred to the prison hulk Leviathan at Portsmouth Harbour on 27 July 1832. Fortunately, he did not spend much time on the hulk, departing for Van Diemen’s

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1 Surrey Quarter Session, Session Bundles, 1701–1888, ref QS2/6 1831, 31 EP 1 – Prisoners in custody of the keeper of His Majesty’s Gaol, accessed Surrey History Centre, September 2015
2 Morning Post, London, 7 January 1831
3 Home Office: Criminal Registers, Series I HO 17/27, accessed via findmypast.co.uk
4 ibid.
Land on board the *York (2)* from Plymouth on 1 September 1832 and arriving in Hobart Town on 29 December 1832.

John arrived during the Assignment System when convicts were allocated to work for free settlers in return for food, clothing and lodgings. On 4 January 1833, days after his arrival, John was assigned as a labourer to Mr PENDER, of Green Ponds (now known as Kempton). Lists of convict assignments and transfers, granted by the Board of Assignment, were published regularly in *The Hobart Town Gazette*. In January 1835, John Lacey, *York (2)* was recorded as being transferred to J DANVERS, Oatlands from R Pender, Oatlands. In August 1835, John was transferred to William COLLINS, Launceston. It was while he was assigned to Collins that John’s record of misdemeanours commenced. In December 1836, he was admonished for being out after hours. In March 1837, Lacey was charged with being absent without leave and insolence, resulting in two months’ hard labour, and it was recommended he be returned to the government at Westbury. In May 1837, a person from Morven (now Evandale) was assigned to John SIDRY, Bathurst Street. It seems likely that this person was John, because in January 1838, John Lacey, *York*, was transferred to Benjamin HYRONS, Bathurst Street, from J SIDERY, Hobart. John’s wayward behaviour continued while he was working for Hyrons. In May 1839, he was sentenced to the cells for 14 days on bread and water for being in a public house with a woman and resisting police. In December, he was admonished for being out after hours. In April 1840, he was again charged with being absent without leave and misconduct in taking a woman onto his master’s premises for an improper purpose, punishment for which was seven days’ on the treadmill. In August 1840, John was returned to the government, after Hyrons refused to recognise his services.

From 1840, following the introduction of the Probation System, publication of convict assignments and transfers became increasingly less frequent. John’s record showed he later worked for a Mr A COTTERILL, and in July 1841 he served seven days’ hard labour for misconduct.

John’s misdemeanours did not prevent him being recommended for a ticket of leave which was granted on 13 July 1841. He is shown on the 1842 muster of ticket holders being required to report to the Police Office, at Longford.

In June 1844, John was recommended for a Conditional Pardon on the basis of ‘having held a Ticket of Leave [for] the regulated period and his conduct having been fair’. This was approved in July 1845.

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6 TAHO:CS01/1/632 14300 Appropriation List for *York (2)*, p. 160
7 *The Hobart Town Gazette, (HTG)* 8 January 1835, p. 27
8 ibid, Thursday, 6 August 1835, p. 627
9 TAHO:CON78/1/2—Tasmania, Australia, Convict Court and Selected Records, 1800–1899—accessed via Ancestry.com
10 *HTG*, 5 January 1838, p. 9
11 TAHO:CON31/1/28 Conduct Record, image 84
12 ibid.
13 ibid.
14 TAHO:CON82/1/1—Tasmania, Australia, Convict Court and Selected Record, 1800–1899—accessed via Ancestry.com
16 TAHO:CON31/1/28 Conduct Record, image 84
Nothing more is known about John until 2 February 1848 when he sought permission to marry Margaret LEAVY. John was ‘free’ at the time and did not need permission to marry, but Margaret, who arrived in Van Diemen’s Land aboard the Greenlaw on 2 July 1844, was a passholder still serving her ten-year sentence for robbery and felony.

At the Spring Assizes, Drogheda, County Louth, Ireland, Margaret Leavy was charged with assaulting Catherine CUNNINGHAM, and with stealing from her a shawl, handkerchief, and a bonnet on 13 December 1842. She was found guilty, with the Judge commenting had it been her first offence, he may have been disposed to deal with her leniently but, since this was the third time she had been convicted and he could not see any hope of change, ‘he must however reluctantly sentence her to be transported for ten years’.

John and Margaret married at Christ Church, Longford on 21 February 1848. Mary Ann Lacey was born on 12 June 1848 when John and Margaret were living at Stringy Bark Forest, in the Longford district, where John was working as a splitter. There are two separate entries for Mary Ann’s baptism: Christ Church, Longford on 23 July 1848 and St Josephs, Launceston on 6 December 1849.

A son, John Christopher (known as Christopher), was born at Longford on 25 December 1849 where his father was working as a labourer. No baptism record has been found for him.

Nothing further is known about the family until 1856 when they were living at Birham Wood, near Deloraine, on land leased by Mr J K ARCHER.

A daughter, Jane, was born on 20 June 1857 and baptised on 7 December 1862 in the Catholic Church at Westbury. No birth record has been located.

The 1858 assessment roll for Deloraine lists John living near Deloraine, on land managed by the trustees for Marianne WINTER, daughter of John Archer who died in December 1852 and left 640 acres of land to Marianne. Between 1863 and 1870, assessment rolls show John living at Black Forest, near Deloraine (still on land owned by Marianne Winter).

According to a book published in 1856, leaving the village [of Deloraine] you strike into the Black Forest and wander through the wild for several miles until you reach the Whiteford Hills, and the clearing and extensive farm of Mr Charles Field.

References:

17 TAHO: CON52/1/2 Permission to Marry p. 259
18 The Drogheda Journal, 25 February 1843, pp. 2–3
19 TAHO: RGD37/1/7 Marriages in the District of Longford 1848/2131
20 TAHO: RGD33/1/27 Births in the District of Longford 1848/965
21 TAHO: NS1052/1/19 St Josephs Catholic Church—baptism register includes country districts from Circular Head to George Town 1 January 1845–31 December 1851

22 TAHO: RGD33/1/27 Births in the District of Longford 1850/1112
23 The Examiner, 8 April 1856, p. 2—List of persons entitled to be placed on the Electoral Roll for the return of Members to the House of Assembly for the Electoral District of Deloraine
24 TAHO: NS1052/1/15 Catholic Church, Westbury baptism register 1862
25 TAHO: AD960/13 p. 370: Will No. 476
26 HTG, 22 December, 1863 (p. 2495); 31 January 1865 (p. 294); 22 February 1866 (p. 575); 18 February 1868 (p. 275); 23 March 1869 (p. 457); 1 March 1870 (p. 344)
27 Stoney, Capt. H Butler (1856) A Residence in Tasmania with a Descriptive
Another book, containing nineteenth-century writings of Louisa MEREDITH and Daniel GRIFFIN, refers to 'a track through the then almost impenetrable Black Forest from Elizabeth Town to Deloraine'. The centre of the Black Forest was about four miles from Deloraine.  

John and Margaret’s son Dennis was born 5 May 1858 and baptised on 26 September 1858, his baptism noting both parents’ abode as Beramwood, Deloraine and John’s occupation as labourer.  

Beramwood is probably the phonetic spelling of Birham Wood, as shown on the 1856 Electoral Roll.

Arthur, born on 13 December 1859 was baptised on 4 February 1860, his parents’ address again Beramwood, and John a labourer. No birth record has been located, but Arthur was baptised twice—in the Church of England and the Catholic Church.

Laura, was born 23 May 1864 was baptised in the Catholic Church, Westbury on 15 July 1864. There is no birth record.

Tour through the Island from Macquarie Harbour to Circular Head, Tasmania Facsimile Editions No. 6, reproduced by Melanie Publications from copies belonging to Mr P B Walker, Melanie Publications 1982, First published London: Smith, Elder & Co, 1856

Early Deloraine: The Writings of Louisa Meredith and Daniel Griffin, compiled by K Bonney, printed by Regal Press Launceston, Tasmania, pp. 63 and 73

The most compelling evidence that Annie was the daughter of John and Margaret comes from a newspaper article which identified her as the sister of Laura RYVERS.

Laura Bertha Lacey married Edward Beresford Ryvers at Launceston on 28 May 1889. A fortnight later Laura was charged with passing a forged cheque for £9. Annie Ledger bore witness that Ryvers married her sister the previous month (Annie was one of the witnesses at the marriage), and she had seen him write the cheque and give it to Laura. Ryvers later stated his wife was innocent and did not know the cheque was valueless. She was subsequently cleared of the charge. (Ryvers was sentenced to two years’ imprisonment.)

An event linking Annie and Eliza took place when William Ledger, Richard and Annie’s second son, was baptised on 31 July 1876 at the Catholic Church, Deloraine, Eliza McGlade was the sponsor.

This supposition relies on circumstantial evidence because neither birth nor baptism records have been located for either. Annie Lacey married Richard LEDGER at Deloraine on 25 December 1873. John SHERRIFF and Jane Lacey, who married a year later, were the witnesses.

Eliza Lacey married James McGlade on 26 January 1874 at Deloraine, with Jane Lacey as a witness.
sponsor when Arthur McGlade was baptised at the Deloraine Catholic Church on 22 September 1878. When Ernest McGlade was baptised on 7 August 1881, Honorah Lacey, believed to be the wife of Christopher Lacey, was a sponsor. Ellen McGlade, step-daughter of Eliza, was the sponsor when Arthur Clifford Lacey, son of Christopher and Honorah, was baptised in October 1885.

On 12 September 1887, Margaret Lacey died, and from 1889 to 1892 John rented a cottage in Towerhill Street, Deloraine from A EADE, of Deloraine.

John Lacey died at Deloraine on 1 January 1895. Cause of death was senility. His funeral left from Christopher Lacey’s residence, Beefeater Street, Deloraine on Thursday, 3 January 1895. It is possible John was living with his son in the later years of his life.

While some gaps remain in the life of John Lacey, it is remarkable that so much detail can be gleaned from the various records. It is fortunate John served his sentence under the Assignment System which allowed his movements to be tracked from one end of Van Diemen’s Land to the other. It is disappointing no birth or baptism records have so far been located for Annie and Eliza. From her marriage record and the birth registrations of Mary Ann and Christopher, it is evident Margaret was unable to sign her name and it seems only when she was able to be physically present that events were officially recorded. One of the longest gaps in identifying John’s whereabouts occurred from 1850 to 1856, so it is possible baptism records for Christopher, Annie and Eliza exist somewhere and are waiting to be found.

TAHO: NS1052/1/18 Catholic Church, Deloraine—baptism register, 1 January 1869–31 December 1912, pp. 37, 48, 64
39 The Advocate, 7 June 1980—Kelly
38 ‘Sheriff McGlade’ death notice
40 HTG, 21 February 1871 (p. 245); 5 March 1872 (p. 471); 18 February 1873 (p. 173); 24 February 1874 (p. 354)
41 ibid, 27 February 1877 (p. 284)
42 ibid, 25 February 1879 (p. 358); 2 March 1880 (p. 200); 22 March 1881 (p. 404); 18 April 1882 (p. 840); 20 March 1883 (p. 516); 11 March 1884 (p. 542); 3 March 1885 (p. 368); 9 March 1886 (p. 576); 29 March 1887 (p. 564); 6 March 1888 (p. 492)
43 TAHO: RGD35/1/56 Deaths in the District of Deloraine 1887/634, HTG, 12 March 1889 (p. 545); 25 March 1890 (p. 581); 2 June 1891 (p. 1033); 10 May 1892 (p. 981)
44 TAHO: RGD35/1/64 Deaths in the District of Deloraine 1895/106
45 Daily Telegraph (Launceston), 2 January 1895 (p. 2).
ST GEORGES BURIAL GROUND
BATTERY POINT 1841–72
Leonie Mickleborough (Member No. 20)

ST GEORGES Burial Ground at Sandy Bay was approximately three acres in area in the triangle formed by Sandy Bay Road (formerly Montpelier Retreat) and Byron and Albuera streets. According to a report in 1902, no deed granting the land to the Church trustees of St Georges Church of England at Battery Point was found at the Diocesan registry, or in either the register of the Supreme Court or the Lands Titles Office. It appears from records in the Chief Secretary’s office that on 24 December 1841, Lieutenant-Governor Sir John FRANKLIN approved the Crown purchase the land from Charles McLACHLAN for £150, and it was granted to the Parish of St Georges for use as a burial ground. The burial ground occupied the whole block except for one allotment belonging to Gamaliel BUTLER.¹

One of the notable people buried in this cemetery was William Race ALLISON (1812–65) long serving member of the Tasmanian Parliament and prominent landholder in the colony, but by 1940 his monument, which had been erected by public subscription, was in a ‘disgraceful condition’. Following representations by the Treasurer (Edmund DWYER-GRAY)¹

¹ Mercury, 24 September 1902, p. 6; St Georges C of E was consecrated 26 May 1838; Gamaliel Butler arrived in Van Diemen’s Land in 1824, and founded the Hobart legal firm later known as Butler, McIntyre and Butler.
to the Hobart City Council, the monument was relocated to St Davids Park.\(^2\)

St Georges burial ground continued in use until December 1872 when Cornelian Bay Cemetery opened. There were approximately 1000 burials at St Georges, and unlike other abandoned burial grounds in Hobart, it appears to have been in a ‘relatively good condition’ until the turn of the century. Described as a ‘model of tidiness’, the Battery Point burial ground had been laid out on a ‘definite plan, not higgledy-piggledy, as in the more ancient cemetery’ of St Davids. Despite its ‘relatively good condition’ of 1902, the ‘heavy and unsightly wooden enclosures’ which once protected flower beds were supporting a ‘tangled growth of thorns and brambles’, and there were few ‘dismal ill-constructed vaults’ as found in other closed burial grounds. Even though cows kept the grass ‘nicely cropped’, it was not uncommon for the cows to also ‘hasten the fall of a leaning headstone, or of a decaying fence’. Many of the flowers had long ‘since been choked out of existence by weeds and briars, and the rusty tin remains as their sole memorial’.\(^3\)

Twenty years later the burial ground was in a ‘marked state of decay’. The fencing was in a ‘discreditable condition’ and on the Byron Street side of the burial ground two panels of the fence had disappeared, therefore allowing ingress to undesirable people and stray cattle. By this time the burial ground was an ‘eyesore to a populous locality’.\(^4\)

In September 1925 representations were made to the Minister for Education, Albert OGLIVIE asking that St Georges burial ground be made available as a playground for the children attending the adjoining Albuera Street School—which had been established in 1853.\(^5\) The following year the St Georges Burial Ground Vesting Act turned half the land to the Crown for a new playground for the school, and the other half was vested in the Church. In November 1927 work was undertaken in ‘clearing away the multitude of tombstones’ and stacking them in a ‘neat pile in a lower corner of the ground’. Notice had been given in ‘plenty of time so any who wished might remove the remains of their friends or relatives, together with the headstones from the ground’ but there still remained a ‘certain amount of debris’ and ‘pieces of tombstones’. Regrettably, no record of the gravestones or transcriptions was made before the area was cleared.\(^6\)

In 1940, the Treasurer Edmund Dwyer-Gray, was disturbed to find tombstones from the burial ground had been used as paving stones and also for ‘an easy entrance to the playground’ at Fitzroy Place. ‘He did not know whose fault it was, but it was an act of desecration.’\(^7\) Dwyer-Gray’s claim was supported in February 2006, when an archaeological report indicated how little concern had been paid to the preservation of the fabric of the cemetery during the redevelopment.

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\(^2\) Kathryn Bennett (text), *A guide to Hobart’s historic cemeteries and Burial Ground* (Hobart City Council, 2000), p. 12; *Mercury* 24 April 1940, p. 12, 16 November 1940, p. 5

\(^3\) *Mercury*, 16 September 1902, p. 2

\(^4\) *The Critic*, 22 January 1922, cited in Bennett, p. 11

\(^5\) *Mercury*, 12 September 1925, p. 12


\(^7\) *Mercury*, 24 April 1940, p. 12
Both a retaining wall and the nearby access ramp were found to be composed of ‘headstones and grave borders’. Most disturbing of all were the ‘fragments of skeletal material found throughout the site indicating that they had belonged to graves’, which had obviously been violated when the ground was first levelled around 1928, and when many truckloads of soil were taken away. A human skull was discovered in March 2010 during excavation works at the school. The school principal expressed no surprise at the find, and this was the second time human remains had been discovered on the site. The old burial site is now partially occupied by the Albuera Street Primary School including playgrounds, and partially occupied by mid twentieth century housing, and some old sandstone walling is still visible at the middle playground’s northern edge.

More recently the Hobart City Council has erected a memorial wall on Sandy Bay Road. Made from broken headstones and supported by stainless steel framing, unfortunately few details are able to be read, but the signage does indicate that ‘William SOUCH, a cabman and former convict, died at the hands of his partner, Elizabeth POCOCK’. The Hobart Town Daily on 8 March 1858 notes that: ‘Blood was traced from the residence of the unfortunate man to the spot where he was found in Victoria Street’ … apparently running from his home to the doctor.

Despite no details having been recorded from the headstones in 1927, at least the pieces of headstones which have been preserved are publicly accessible on Sandy Bay Road. There is also seating Headstone of George Hopewell Fountain, died 15 August 1859 aged 48 and Mary Naomi Fountain of Kelly Street, Battery Point, died 23 February 1868 in her 60th year. Photograph Leonie Mickleborough from where it is possible to hear the children happily playing in the school grounds over the remains of early local Battery Point residents.

References:
Archives Office of Tasmania
NG373 Anglican Church Diocese of Tasmania (NG373)
NG1160 Battery Point (NG1160)
NS590/1/1 Burial Register 7 January 1846 (Z2339) no end date shown
NS590/1/33 Burial Register 1 March 1858 – 3 March 1987 (Z2336).

Report by Austral Archaeology Pty Ltd February 2006. pp. 3–16 cited in Mallett, p. 19
This listing taken from 
*Tombstones and Memorial Inscriptions of Tasmania (TAMIOT)*
CD Rom produced by TFHS Inc. 2010 pp.19–22

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HOGO, A R
HOLT, Alfred
HOLT, C
HOPKINS, Norman
HURBURG, Crosby
IRELAND, Norman L
JACK, Claude
JAMES, Eric
JOHNSON, B
JOHNSON, Colin
JOHNSON, B
JOHNSTONE, P H
JOHNSTONE, Wm H
JONES, E T
JONES, T O
JUST, F J
KEEN, Clement/Clement
KEENAN, W J
KIRBY, Alan S
KIRBY, Eric
KIRBY, Kenneth
KIRBY, Thomas
KIRK, Roy
KNIGHT, Ronald
LAMBERT, Willoughby
LANGDALE, George
LANGDALE, Maurice C
LIMBRICK, George
LORD, (none) Nurse
LORD, J E C
LUCAS, J D
LUCAS, Reginald J
MacKEY, James T
MacMICHAEL, Leslie
MANNING, F
MAPLEY, D
MARSHALL, Lloyd
MATTHEWS, Robert
MAXFIELD, Alex
MAXFIELD, Charles
McKENZIE, Donald
MERCHANT, Tim
MILLINGTON, A E
MILLINGTON, Tas
MILLS, J R
MITCHELL, Sydney
MOLLOY, H
MOLLOY, L
MOODY, James
MUIR, F L
MUIR, M
NEWTON, William E
NORTHCOTE, John
PACKER, Geoffrey D
PACKER, Stewart
PAMPLIN, A
PAMPLIN, F
PAMPLIN, Hedley
PARSONS, S G
PEARCE, Clyde
PERKINS, Colin
PHILLIPS, Robert
PLAISTER, Leslie
PLANCHE-PLUMBER, (none)
RAY, Charles
RAY, Fredric
RAY, Leslie
RAY, Stanley
READING, Albert
READING, John
REILLY, Oscar H O
REX, Arthur
RILEY, J
RISBY, Jack
ROBERTSON, Harry
ROBINSON, Albert
ROBINSON, J Moore
ROBINSON, Jack
ROBINSON, Reginald
ROBINSON, Wilfred
SIMPSON, S
SMITH, Charles
SPEED, Edward
SPEED, George
SPRENT, Charles M
SWAN, Vernon
SWIFT, Thomas
TOAN, (none) Nurse
TOLMAN, George
TOLMAN, Mostyn
TORNQUIST, Oscar
TURNER, John
UREN, Harold
UREN, Leonard
VERRAN, Edwin J
WALKER, Tom
WALKER, W P
WATCHORN, Jack
WATCHORN, Vere
WATKINS, L D
WELL, William W
WHITE, Oscar
WHITEHOUSE, W
WILLIAMS, Eric
WILLIAMS, Ernest
WILLING, Don
WILLING, Douglas
WINTERSON, Walter
WISE, H
WORLAGE, Alex
WYLES, James H
YEO, Ernest S

Note: The headstone for the family of FOUNTAIN which appears on page 106 does not appear in this listing. Death notices do appear on Trove. Any explanations welcomed.
LETTERS FROM HAL
Transcribed by Barbara Wilson (Member No. 7762)


No. 16 Hotel Prince de Gaul Paris
1st July 1906

My Dear Mother,

I think I wrote to Pa last in Brussels 4 days ago, so it is your turn to get a letter. We arrived here on Thursday evening last after a very hot day in Brussels and stuffy journey by rail. We had a wander around Paris for an hour or so and tried to take some of it in – the tens of hundreds of motors skidding along the beautiful roadways, the myriads of lights, the bright cafes and restaurants etc. The principal streets run off from the centre of the city like the spokes from the hub of a wheel. This looks very nice on a map but it is different when one wants to get to a place between the “spokes” as so many little streets interlace and sometimes 6 or 7 streets all come to one point. However, we had a big church (Saint Magdalene) to steer by so did not have much difficulty.

The next afternoon we got a bit mixed and finally took a cab to our hotel which was not far off after all. We had to pay the cabman 75 centimes (10 to a penny) and give him a tip. The cabs have little machines called taximeters on them and when one engages a cab the machine is started at 75 centimes and the machines adds 10 cents as the cab proceeds so one can see what there is to pay when he gets out (no he can’t though he has to pay the cabman a gratuity besides). I have never seen such cringing for tips as on the continent here, it becomes quite sickening at times.

The first day here we went on one of Cooks drives around Paris in a 5 horse drag and we saw many wonderful and interesting sights which I will tell you of when I come home. It is an eye opener to see the immense numbers of tourists handled by Cooks, such numbers of drags and motor drags taking around small armies of sightseers.

The second day we ventured out on our own account. We went up to the Eiffel Tower and could see the places we wanted to find and after a good bit of walking carried out our programme. Then we had some three halfpenny rides on buses and trams, so had a good look at the streets.

Today we have been by motor with a Cooks party to see the Royal Palaces etc. at Versailles. It was a beautiful trip quite beyond description in writing, and the traffic was immense. Only a few months ago one rushed to see a motor car as a great curiosity, this afternoon more motors passed by in 5 minutes than I ever expected to see in my lifetime, and when one realises that they are first class ones and must cost at least £500 each he wonders where all the money comes from.

TASMANIAN ANCESTRY September 2016 109
London 3/7/06

We left Paris last Monday morning and had a fine trip across the Channel. We had the best of luck with the weather as the bad weather has always preceded us by a few days. It was very rough in the Channel a day or two ago and the ferry boats had to put back to shelter. We have brought fine weather with us right through.

I got your most welcome letters (2) at the post office and several from others at Days. George wants me to go out with him so in case of missing a mail I will conclude this and send it on and will write again when I come in tonight.

With Best Love to You and All
Yours Affectionately
Hal.

No. 25 Alcombe’s Commercial Hotel
Queen Street
Exeter
18.8.'06

My Dear Mother,

I am now writing from Exeter in the south west of England and am just waiting a train to London where we will be a couple of days and then go on through Scotland to Ireland. We want to be in Dublin on the 28th of this month to see their great horse show. It is supposed to be the best thing of its kind in the world.

Up to the present we like Devonshire best of any part we have been and your native place Torquay is the pick of them all. It is a most beautiful place and much improved in the last few years. They realise the value of tourists and holiday makers as we do in Tasmania and they have laid out beautiful gardens on the cliffs from which one can look for miles along the coast or down at the beaches with the crowds of youngsters on them and the numbers of bathers bobbing about in the sea. They have nice little motor busses but they charge too much to ride in them. This little place we are just leaving is very homely and not very expensive. We have made it our headquarters for 4 days.

When we left London we expected to return in a week but it has run into nearly a fortnight and we must hurry through to Ireland or the people will be getting offended, though they say themselves that there is not much to see there. We went to see what Launceston was like and found it a very sleepy little place and to add to this we got there on a weekly half holiday when most of the few shops were shut. When buying some postcards the man in the shop told us there had been an essay writing competition at the schools, the subject being “Launceston Tasmania” – the prize was a little gold map of Tasmania. I consider this a good way of advertising the colony. By and bye these boys will be men and from the knowledge they read up for an essay like this they may feel inclined to emigrate.

We have been to Plymouth and found it a very pretty place but very exposed and windy. This is where the famous British seaman Sir Francis Drake played bowls while the Spanish Armada was in sight. We saw the spot of this historic game and also the fine statue of Drake and one, commemorating the great victory over the Armada, bearing the words “He Blew with His Winds and the y were Scattered”.

There are several other fine statues here to those who fell recently in South Africa and other soldiers and sailors. The great Eddystone Lighthouse is 11 miles out to sea from Plymouth.

These old English towns are very stagnant and are not at all conspicuous for their life and action. At Exeter here they
After having a look around that town we decided (as the weather was rather threatening) not to go any excursions in the district and instead of going to Glasgow by boat through the lochs we went out by train. The weather improved as we travelled along and we saw some fine highland scenery mountains and lochs. We saw some of the real highland cattle and blackface sheep. They must be very hardy as in this district they get plenty of snow in the winter, the train being sometimes snowed up on this line. We got down to Glasgow in the evening and found it a very busy city, perhaps not so beautiful in its surroundings as Edinburgh but must be 4 times as busy. They have the best tram service here that we have seen so far. We had more ‘Scotch Mist’ here and instead of going on excursion from here we went back by the next evenings’ train to Edinburgh as we had promised to have an evening of music with the family of a young chap that we met. We got our return ticket for 3p and had a most pleasant evening with the people at Edinburgh and were seen off next morning by 3 scotchmen – “with best wishes and many regrets” – it is really surprising how people have taken to us and when leaving one of the boys slipped a parcel into my hand which proved to be a matchbox and book of Edinburgh covered with tartan, he said – “I’m sorry I didn’t think o giin ye a piece o me kilt” – he wanted us to have been photographed in his kilts and I wish we had been now it would have been a novelty.

We got back again to Glasgow about 10 o’clock on Saturday morning and put in time looking around the city until afternoon at 4 o’clock when we had a train journey to Stranraer where we took a boat for Larne and from this place we went by train to Belfast.
Sunday morning we went around Belfast and it has a good tram service and many fine buildings. In the afternoon we went a train excursion to have a look at the cliffs at the head of the bay and they were very grand having a pathway round them and a couple of deep caves. At the head of the cliffs is a powerful lighthouse and signal station.

On Monday we went to a town on the north coast called Portrush (return fare 2/6 160 miles) and from here went by trolley 8 miles to the Giant’s Causeway. This was a most wonderful sight. It was on the return journey that I heard the first original Irishism, the little train ran over the points the wrong way and an Irish shunter came along shifted the points and shouted to the engineer in a very thick brogue “now thin go ahead backwards”. We got back from this trip all right and next morning came on here. We had plenty of rain coming from the station but got a real Irish welcome on arrival. Uncle and Aunt are away and the girls and boys are delighted to have us all to themselves. They are waiting to take us out now on a jaunt in car and have only allowed me 5 minutes to finish this letter so I must close now and promise to write again in a day or so.

With Love and Best Wishes to You and All at home
I am Yours Affectionately
Hal

No. 34  Killeevan Glebe
Clones
28 Sept. 1906

Dear Pa,
I must send you a line to let you know how I am getting on with Uncle Jo. He is very nice but rather quiet, at the same time he has a good laugh at a joke or funny story. I have had the pleasure of making him laugh a few times and last night cousin Nancy (who is governess to the Bishop’s children) came over here and had Uncle in fits telling of her love-making in Paris on her recent trip. I would like to be able to persuade Uncle to take a trip to Tasmania. This climate is too damp for him I think. I told him that if he came out with me you might come home with him, but he said that if he came out he would stay out. Aunt Annie says he is the model of a man and that no one knows the half of his goodness.

This rectory is an immense place, goodness knows how many rooms, and it is very old fashioned, the grounds are very fine indeed and Uncle being a great gardener has a fine show of flowers. I have been basking on a garden seat in the lovely warm sun and wishing you were here to see it all, the fine old house, the beautiful greens of grass and trees, then you would enjoy hearing the crowds of rooks in the trees cawing away and other birds twittering. I have been amused seeing the blackbirds chasing insects across the lawn. Lots of things like this seem in some way familiar to me, it is because of my being told of them by you. I arrived too late to hear the corncrake but I have seen flax in the field standing and in stooks and stacks also. I have smelt it while steeping. What must it be like when being taken out of the steep? When I saw the ditches or trenches first, I wondered what they were, for then I noticed the stones by the sides and at once remembered you telling us they used stones to keep the flax under water.

Aunt Annie is a good hearted old soul. It nearly killed her having her just rights left away from her. She says it almost breaks her heart that she will not be able to leave
anything to her brothers. She of course has the interest on the property while she lives. Poor old dame has looked up presents for Ma, Ethel and yourself, they are only trifles but will be valued greatly by us all, she gave me an old fashioned locket with some hair in it of one of her departed friends, the name in it is engraved J. C. Giles Jan. 12th 1860. I did not like accepting it but thought she might be offended if I did not. With regard to your present to her I have been advised to buy something for her and I think she would get most solid comfort out of a good shawl so will send her one from London.

She went out with me to see the grandparent’s graves. It is a beautiful drive of about 8 Irish miles from here, the approach to the churchyard is through beautiful grounds and beneath lovely trees. The church nearby is a beautiful old building and being off the main road is perfect in its peaceful quiet. The grave is the first on the right on entering the main gateway to the churchyard, a large piece of ground is railed in with iron railings & to one end of it is the tombstone of your father and mother and at the other end is a tombstone to some of the family of Uncle Charlie (the arch-deacon) his first wife 27 years of age [Louisa Wills], a young child [Charles Napier Abbott], and daughter Ethel youngest of first wife and 25 years old at time of her death [Mary Ethel Abbott – died 1902]. She is said to have been a very beautiful girl and the loved of all.

The enclosed sketch of the tombstone of John and Mary Abbott [sketch is with letters] I made in a second or two with only a rough pencil on the back of a letter so you must overlook the roughness of it. It may give you some idea of the form of it. It is made of grey granite on bluestone foundation, the inscriptions are:

John Abbott,
Born 28th December 1804,
Died 11th December 1880

Mary Abbott,
Born 12th August 1811,
Died 7th September 1897

The grave is overgrown with moss, there are no trees growing on it as they could do no good as the grave is surrounded and shaded by the most magnificent beech trees, one could not imagine a more peaceful resting place.

I also saw Thomas Morrow’s tombstone [husband of Annie Abbott].

I did not like to take down the inscription on it until Aunt Annie asked me to do so, here it is:

Erected to the memory of our late brother, Thomas Morrow, Cortubber, who departed this life 26th April 1901, by the brethren of Cootehall Masonic Lodge 795, as a loving tribute to a worthy Mason.

Though the stone is a modest one I remarked that – “it was a very nice one”. Aunt said they could well afford a good one as they got everything. I asked could not the will have been upset and she said – no as all those who could have given evidence had been left money.

I think that I will just end up my letter on this scrap of paper [sketch of grave on the back] and not use any more of Uncle’s. I hope my staying away so long is not being too much of a bother to you and that things are running smoothly in the business and at the Empire [a mine??].

Please give my fondest love to all and accept the same for yourself from

Yours Affectionately

Hal
On reading the Book Review in *Tasmanian Ancestry*, Vol. 37 No. 1 p. 35, *High Seas and High Teas: Voyaging to Australia*, by Roslyn Russell, Maree Ring submitted a link to a newspaper article which referred to ‘Crossing the Line’ during a voyage to Australia in 1829.

**“THE FIRST WHITE WOMAN”**

**70 YEARS IN AUSTRALIA. A PIONEER’S RECOLLECTIONS.**

Although the late Mrs. Stephen George Henty was probably the first white woman to land in Victoria, there were many who were already “roughing” the pioneer’s life in other parts of undeveloped Australia before she arrived. It may be accepted that the last survivor of this undaunted little band is Mrs. J. Bannister, a colonist of 76 years’ standing, who now resides at 41 St. David street, Fitzroy. Mrs. Bannister, (says the “Argus”) tells a story of peculiar interest.

“I was born on August 8, 1822,” said Mrs. Bannister when interviewed. “My father had a tailor’s shop at 365 Oxford street, London, and had sixty men in his employ. He made the naval and military uniforms in 1828, but had rather a roving disposition. This was due to his having been captured in the streets by the press gang in the early twenties. He was a young lawyer, and had reached the wars before his friends could discover his whereabouts. He was among those who demanded the keys at the fall of Murat, and used to tell me how the sailors were fired at as they passed through the streets of Naples. My father was attracted by the accounts of the richness of the Swan River district, circulated by Colonel Let-ure, and forming a partnership with a Dr. Foley the pair bought twenty Merino sheep, two rams, a London wherry boat, a fishing net, three years’ provisions, the frame of a four-roomed house, and embarked on the ship Protector, Captain John Thomas, in 1829. Although only eight years old I remember much of the voyage. Crossing the line I was the first one dipped in Neptune’s tub. The line celebrations were a great occasion in those days. One man, I remember, nailed his cabin door, but they got him out, and gave him the ‘rough razor.’ Another scrambled up the rigging, but they got him down. After a month in Capetown we reached Fremantle on St. Valentine’s Day, 1830. There were 120 people on board, and I am the last survivor. The first few nights on land were awful. We had to make a bit of a hut by stretching canvas over rocks, but after a few days my father got our house ashore. A mis-fortune I had was that a married lady friend on the vessel, who had promised to be a mother to me, eloped with a young man at Capetown.

“I thought it a beautiful country, and do still, though I have roughed it so. My father put our house up in Hay-street, but we were the only occupiers of the street for a long time. My earliest recollection is the way the man brought out as shepherd stole our sheep. He would say he had lost them in the thick woods all round Fre-mantle, or that the blacks had speared them. But my father recognised some one day going on board a man of war in the port, and he kicked the villainous old shepherd out. Numbers of vessels were wrecked on that coast. First, the Marquis of Anglesea, on the rocks; then the Emily Jane, on the beach; then the Thames, James (a brig) and Rockingham, off Woodsman’s Point. I paddled round these
wrecks at low tide. We found the climate hot, but I used to help my father to build boats and to do other work. I can say I had to rough it, and got little schooling.’

Mrs. Bannister has lively recollections of encounters with the blacks. She says:—“The natives swarmed in the woods, and often have I seen men brought into the town with spears through them or their heads knocked in. No one could go 100 yards in safety without firearms. My father bought me a horse pistol, and said, ‘You point that at their faces and they will run.’ I often had occasion to ‘point that pistol.

Mrs. Bannister remembers the demonstration made by the colonists when Governor Sir James Stirling proposed a convict settlement at Cockatoo Point. They threatened to put him aboard a ship, and also to burn his effigy, and the Riot Act was read. Cockatoo Point colonists wanted the convicts for cheap labour. Mrs. Bannister stayed with Governor Gray (then captain), and remembers him returning from an exploration trip he had planned with five sailors, the party taking with them, a whale boat and three months’ provisions. The provisions were lost in a storm, and only Captain Gray and one sailor found their way back to the settlement.

Captain Pace, who traded between Mauritius and Java in the Monkey, and brought delightful bananas and tamarinds to Fremantle, is remembered by Mrs. Bannister. Mrs. Pace and three daughters arrived in Victoria in 1832. One Miss Pace married a Mr. Wm. Sampson, another married Lieutenant Helper, of a colonial schooner, and a third became Mrs. Stephen George Henty.

*Examiner* (Launceston, Tas.) Tuesday, 27 February 1906 page 6.

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**NORTH OF IRELAND FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY**

Founded in 1979, the Society covers the 9 counties of Ulster. Half of its 1,200 or so Members belong to the 12 Branches there and the other half are Associate Members scattered around the world.

There is an excellent Research Centre at Newtownabbey, with a large collection of Irish interest transcriptions, books, journals, directories and maps, with free lookups available for Associate Members.

The journal *North Irish Roots* is published twice a year and there is an E-Newsletter twice a year. The website [www.nifhs.org](http://www.nifhs.org) is being replaced in mid-2015, with an increasing number of records going online.

Associate Members may join or renew online, using PayPal or credit or debit card to pay the annual subscription – £16 for 2015, rising to £18 for 2016.
WAS MARY MERRILL MURDERED?
THE MYSTERY OF AN INEXPlicable
DEATH AT HOBART TOWN

Don Bradmore (Member No. 6756) and
Judith Carter (Member No. 7707)

ON 20 April 1819, 22-year-old Mary MERRILL (or MURRELL), the mother of two small girls, was found dead in a hotel room at Hobart Town.¹

According to a report in the Hobart Town Gazette of 24 April, Mary’s distraught parents ‘entertained much suspicion’ that she had been murdered by a ‘young man’ with whom she had been co-habiting just before her death, and they alerted the authorities accordingly. At a subsequent inquest, however, the coroner was unable to discover the cause of death and brought down a verdict of ‘Visitation by God’, a term commonly used at the time to mean that a death was inexplicable, that God had simply decided that it was time for the person to die.² No one was ever charged with Mary’s death.

Who was Mary Merrill? She was a free woman, born Mary PICKETT in New South Wales in 1797, the second daughter of first fleet convict Samuel Pickett (Charlotte, 1788) and his common law wife, convict Mary THOMPSON (Lady Juliana, 1790).³ In 1813, Mary Pickett married convict John Merrill at St Matthews, Windsor, thirty-five miles north-west of Sydney, a well-settled farming area. She was almost sixteen, he was thirty-seven.⁴

At the Huntingdon Assizes, Norwich, England, in 1807, John Merrill had been found guilty of stealing eleven sheep and sentenced to transportation for life. He arrived at Port Jackson, Sydney, as one of 197 male prisoners aboard Anne (2), on 27 February 1810.⁵ The General Muster of New South Wales in 1814 shows him assigned to a Mr GILBERTSON at Windsor. The muster document notes that his wife, Mary, was with him there.⁶ On 23 December 1813, Mary gave birth to a daughter, Ann.⁷ Two years later, on 25 November 1815, a second daughter, Bridget, was born.⁸ Both girls were known by the surname ‘Murrell’ throughout their lives.

No more is known of the family for the next three or four years—and by that time

² HTG, 24 April 1819, p. 1
³ Birth 19 July 1797 (797/1797V1797797 1A). Mary’s surname is shown as ‘Picket’. Samuel Pickett’s surname is also seen as Picket, Pigot, Pigott and Piggot.
⁴ Merrill/Pickett marriage: 1495/1813 V18131495 3A. Merrill’s name is also seen as Murrell and Morrill.
⁵ Australian Joint Copying Project. Microfilm Roll 87, Class and Piece Number HO11/1, Page Number 425 (212)
⁶ Carol Baxter (ed.) General Muster of NSW, 1814. See http://www.bda-online.org.au
⁷ Ann, birth, 23 December 1813
⁸ Bridget, birth, 25 November 1815 (3826/1815V18153826 1B)
the marriage of John and Mary Merrill/Murrell was in difficulty.

On 28 February 1818, *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* carried this notice:

**A CAUTION TO THE PUBLIC**

WHEREAS my wife, Mary Murrell, has eloped from me without any Cause for so doing, I do hereby caution the Public not to Credit her on my account, as I will not pay any Debts she may contract. John Murrell.9

The man with whom Mary eloped has not been identified. Nor is it known where she went when she left Merrill’s home. However, it seems she had not gone far because within a very short time she was back with her husband.

On 20 June 1818, just four months after the publication of the elopement notice, Mary and John Merrill left Sydney together as passengers aboard the brig *Sophia of Calcutta* bound for Van Diemen’s Land. They were accompanied by their two daughters, Ann, 4, and Bridget, 2, as well as Mary’s 15 year-old sister, Charlotte (also known as Lucy) Pickett. The ship’s muster notes that John Merrill, a ticket-of-leave man, had been given special permission to leave New South Wales.10

It is not clear why Mary and John Merrill had decided to leave New South Wales to go to Van Diemen’s Land. It is tempting to think they were trying to get away from whatever it was that had caused their marriage to falter and to make a fresh start—but that was probably not the case.

A more likely reason is that Mary wanted to be closer to her mother who was already living in Hobart Town.11 Mary’s mother, Mary THOMPSON, was born in Lincolnshire, England, in 1769. In 1788, she was convicted of stealing a silver watch and sentenced to transportation for seven years. In April 1789, she left England aboard the infamous *Lady Juliana*, known in history as ‘the floating brothel’, and arrived at Port Jackson in June 1790. Shortly after, with 150 of the younger and healthier women, she was put aboard *Surprise* and taken off to Norfolk Island.12 There, she met convict Samuel Pickett who had been convicted of the theft of a quantity of woollen cloth and sentenced to transportation for seven years. He, too, had been shipped off to Norfolk Island soon after his arrival at Sydney.13

In 1792, Pickett and Mary Thompson left Norfolk Island together and returned to Sydney.14 By 1794, Pickett had received a land grant in the Hawkesbury district and there Mary gave birth to at least seven children: Anne, 1795; Mary, 1797; Elizabeth, 1799; James, c.1800; Jane c.1801; Charlotte (Lucy), 1804 and Dorothy, 1806.15

9 *Sydney Gazette and NSW Advertiser*, 28 February, p. 4
10 ‘Muster of Master, Crew and Passengers of the Brig *Sophia of Calcutta*, 20 June 1818.’ Colonial Secretary Ships’ Musters, p. 103, No. 24/163.
11 See Note 24, below
12 The authors acknowledge the research of Penny Ferguson whose self-published book, *Pickett Lines: Descendants of Samuel Piggot/Pickett and Mary Thompson*, 2005, provided useful information for this article
13 www.firstfleetfellowship.org.au/convicts/norfolk-island-settlement
14 As for Note 12, above
15 Pickett’s land grant: NSW Land Titles Office: 1796, Book 1A, grant No. 530
See also https://www.geni.com/people/Mary-Pickett/60000000027402768353


By 1812, however, the Pickett-Thompson relationship had run its course and Mary Thompson—as her daughter was to do some years later—eloped with another man. That man was former convict George SALTER.

Salter had arrived at Port Jackson aboard *Neptune* in 1790 after being convicted of involvement in the murder of two customs officers on a Devon beach after they surprised the gang to which Salter belonged in the act of smuggling liquor, tea and other restricted goods into England. The ringleaders of the gang were hanged but Salter was granted a last minute reprieve and sentenced to seven years’ transportation. In New South Wales, he quickly won the trust of Governor Arthur PHILLIP and soon after his arrival was appointed Superintendent of Horned Cattle, a position which he held for the next decade. After receiving his ticket of leave in 1795, he was granted thirty acres on the Parramatta Creek.

By 1800, his farm was in a flourishing state: fully cleared, ten acres sown with wheat and twenty with maize. He owned a horse—there were still only very few horses in the colony and they were very expensive to buy—and a pig.

By 1802, Salter had leased his farm and moved into Sydney. Although he was still officially on the government payroll as Superintendent of Horned Cattle, he set himself up as a dealer in all sorts of commodities, including land, livestock, grain and liquor. He was soon quite wealthy.

In 1810, Salter announced he was planning to leave the colony but seems to have changed his mind because he remained in Sydney for the next two or three years, possibly because he had started a relationship with Mary (Thompson) Pickett who was working as his housekeeper at that time. During this period, he seems to have travelled to Van Diemen’s Land a number of times where he purchased farming land at River Styx, west of Hobart.

In early 1813, Salter, now free, left New South Wales to reside permanently in Van Diemen’s Land. In payment for his land at Parramatta which was purchased by the government, he was to receive thirty head of cattle upon arrival at Hobart Town where he was again given the job of Superintendent of Government Herds.

By 1817, Salter had received an additional grant of land and was prospering again.

In 1818, he built a two-story house at Lot 10, Macquarie Street, a valuable piece of land in one of the main streets of Hobart Town. By that time, Mary (Thompson) Pickett had joined him there, possibly with her youngest child, Dorothy. It is likely that the Merrill family also lived there.

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20 Sydney Gazette and NSW Advertiser, 10 April 1803, p. 1; 25 August 1810, p. 1; 2 February 1811, p. 1
21 As for Note 6, above
22 On list of passengers to embark on *Emu* for the Derwent: CSO: Reel 6004; 4/3492, p. 125. See also LINC.Tasmania: Will No. 61: Salter, George: AD960/1/1.
23 CSO: Reel 6003; 4/3492, pp. 280–2 and Reel 6004; 3494, p. 125
24 Index to land grants in Van Diemen’s Land [1817], CSO Fiche 3262; 4/438, p. 82

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there after their arrival at Hobart Town on 11 July 1818. However, as events were soon to prove, all was still not well with the Merrill marriage. Barely a month after their arrival in Van Diemen’s Land, Mary fled from her husband again. On 17 August 1818, this notice appeared in the Hobart Town Gazette:

THE Inhabitants are hereby cautioned against giving Credit to my Wife, Mary Merrill, as I will not hold myself responsible for any Debts of her contracting upon may Account, after this Day. John Merrill, Hobart Town, 17th August, 1818.

Four months later, Mary was dead. Was she murdered as her parents suspected? (Mary’s father, Samuel Pickett, had passed away in Sydney in 1817.) Thus, the ‘parents’ who alerted the authorities to their suspicion about the ‘young man’ with whom Mary had been co-habiting before her death in the hotel room in 1819 were obviously Mary Thompson and her de facto husband, George Salter.

The report of the inquest that followed Mary’s death has not been located and little else is known about the circumstances surrounding her passing. However, the sequence of events gives rise to speculation—and there are many unanswered questions.

If Mary was murdered, it seems there can only be three possibilities as to the identity of her killer or killers: the ‘young man’ with whom she was said to be co-habiting just before her death; her husband, John Merrill; or some other person or persons unknown who happened to come across her, alone and defenceless, in the hotel room.

If the third of these possibilities is the answer, it appears the killer or killers will never be identified. As far as is known, no ‘stranger’ was ever suspected of killing Mary or questioned about her death afterwards.

But what of the ‘young man’ with whom Mary had been co-habiting just before her death? Was he questioned about her death? Was he, in fact, the same man with whom she had eloped in Sydney a year earlier? Was he angry with her for reuniting with her husband? Had he followed her to Van Diemen’s Land where he tried again to persuade her to leave Merrill? Did he kill her because she refused to do so? If so, he escaped without penalty.

Could Mary have been murdered by her husband, John Merrill? Was he questioned about her death? Was he so aggrieved Mary had left him again in Hobart Town that he murdered her?

That seems highly unlikely. There is nothing in Merrill’s convict record to suggest that he was a violent man, and it would appear Mary Thompson and George Salter had no suspicions about him having any involvement in his wife’s death.

After Mary’s death, Merrill remained in Van Diemen’s Land where he led an

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25 *HTG*, 18 December 1819, p. 1
26 *HTG*, 22 August 1818, p. 2
27 Image 41. The conduct record shows his date of arrival in VDL incorrectly as ‘1805’.
28 Merrill, conduct record: CON31-1-29
orderly and relatively successful life. In 1821, he was granted a conditional pardon. In 1833, he was successful in an application for a small town block in the New Norfolk district and thereafter, as a landowner, he took an active interest in local affairs. He died as an old man of eighty-four at New Norfolk in 1861.

Merrill never remarried and it is likely that his daughters, Ann and Bridget, were cared for by their grandmother, Mary Thompson Pickett, and her partner George Salter after their mother’s death. When Mary Thompson Pickett passed away in 1824, the girls, still only eleven and nine, might have been taken by one or other of Mary Merrill’s sisters. Whatever the case, their father seems to have remained in close contact with them. On 1 September 1830, Ann Murrell married convict John BROWNING (Medway, 1821). The marriage seems to have been an unusual one. The records of Van Diemen’s Land indicate she gave birth to three children by Browning—James (1831), Henry (1833) and Mary Ann (1835)—but then she seems to have left him. In 1838, she gave birth to a fourth child, George, to convict George LABURN (Phoenix, 1824) but when Laburn was sent to prison for a misdemeanour in the colony in 1840 she formed a relationship with William CLARK and had four more children to him: Elizabeth (1843), Sarah (1845), Charles (1848) and William (about 1850). When Ann died, aged 39, at New Norfolk in 1852, Clark, described as a ‘friend’, was the informant to her death certificate. Significantly, Clark, again described as a ‘friend’, was also the informant to the death certificate of John Merrill in 1861. That fact seems to suggest closeness between father and daughter.

Ann’s sister, Bridget, married George RANSLEY at New Norfolk on 1 June 1831. This marriage appears to have been a good one. It produced three children: Elizabeth (1832), Maria (1834)

30 George Laburn birth: 8932/1838/32, New Norfolk. Mother’s surname is shown as ‘Morrall’.
31 Laburn: Conduct record: CON/31/1/27, Image 160. Laburn was sent to Port Arthur for stealing a steer.
33 Clark births: Elizabeth, 178/1843/33, Hamilton; Sarah, 1305/1845/33, Hobart; Charles, 24/1849/33, New Norfolk. Registration of William’s birth has not been located but he is named in John Merrill’s will as one of Ann’s children by Clark.
34 Death, Ann (Murrell) Browning: 132/1852/35, New Norfolk
35 Death, John Merrill: 684/1861/35. His surname is shown as ‘Morrill’.
36 Marriage, Ransley-Murrell: 1713/1831/36, New Norfolk
and John (1838). Bridget died at the age of 78 in 1891. That she married a member of the Ransley family seems to suggest she had spent some time in the household of George Salter, her grandmother’s partner, who had close connections to the Ransley family, one of whom had been involved with the smuggling ring of which Salter had been a member in Devon. Later, in Van Diemen’s Land, Matilda Ransley, a member of the same family, had worked as Salter’s housekeeper for some years before his death in 1832.

In his will, John Merrill left one of the two brick cottages he owned in New Norfolk to Bridget and her children and the other to the four children of his daughter, Ann, by William Clark. Interestingly, the will referred to Ann’s children by Clark as ‘Browning’.

And so it seems likely that the mystery of Mary Murrell’s death—if, indeed, there was any mystery about it—will never be solved satisfactorily. Perhaps the coroner was correct in finding that Mary had simply passed away, at the age of 22, of some natural cause beyond the explanation of medical authorities at the time.

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43 Births: Elizabeth, 4587/1832/32, New Norfolk; Maria, 5851/1834/32, New Norfolk; John, 8954/1838/32, New Norfolk.
44 Death, Bridget (Murrell) Ransley: 579/1891/35 Hobart
45 See Note 17, above
46 Death, George Salter: 2601/1832/34, New Norfolk. See also Salter’s will: No.61, AD960/1, LINC.
47 See note 29, above.
ERGY rarely do I use this page to talk about computer viruses or malware. In the past viruses have come and gone with incredible speed, you get an antivirus software like ESET or AVG, it warns you about certain files and you quarantine them. Or you catch a nasty, it slows your computer, interrupts your computing and you research the fix, apply a patch or sometimes reformat, it’s annoying, but you can get around it. Most of the warnings currently doing the rounds (“Don’t open an attachment named Snow White”) are just fear mongering and so out of date that should the worm still exist, surely the file name has been changed by now. These you trust your antivirus to pick up and do its job. However, a new type of malware emerged recently, and has been growing in different formats which antivirus might not pick up.

Ransomware, also known as crypto locker is a form of malware that allows the attacker to seize control of your computer/data and block your access. This is generally done by locking the data with an encrypted key, not only on the computer, but attached drives, USB devices, and even accessing some cloud storage. A ransom is then demanded in return for the access key. Some versions even up the pressure by threatening to delete a percentage of your files every hour that the ransom is not paid. Most of these attacks are aimed at businesses. You can imagine, most workers will fork out money rather than admit they were responsible for letting an attack into the work servers. Others are threatened with exposure of the sort of files they have on their computer, or their browsing history, etc. Even large institutions, like an American hospital recently, have been coerced into paying a hefty ransom for access to their own files. Sometimes the payment doesn’t result in unlocked data, and the ransom demands continue.

Ransomware infections happen the same way as most viruses, with the user opening a file or downloading and running a file. Like many viruses they are hidden in links and files that look innocuous. The big difference is that as there is such potential for making money from ransomware there are groups whose only aim is to push it onto as many machines as possible.

The usual rules apply, don’t click on links in emails, don’t open attachments, and do run a good antivirus. Be especially wary of emails that look official, PayPal, eBay, banks, law enforcement, etc. If you think the email is real, don’t click the link inside it, but go to the site and log in there, or call the company direct.

Another defence is to stop letting your computer hide file types from you. Go into Folder Options (in file explorer, the exact location varies with Windows versions) and under the view tab uncheck “Hide extensions for known file types”. With this checked you may see a file attachment as ‘picture’ or picture.jpg. When it is unchecked it will reveal that the file is actually picture.jpg.exe, actually an executable program, not an innocent photo. Some new ransomware files are disguised as JavaScript, (.js) not .exe and may not prompt warnings when you run them.
Even when you’ve done everything right, there is still the chance that you will be infected (especially if you have kids who use your computer at any time). If you have a full backup of your files you don’t need to pay the ransom to access them. It won’t be quick or easy, you will need to reformat your computer and reinstall all your programs, but it will be considerably cheaper and far more secure. It is vital that this backup is not connected to the computer when the infection occurs. The easiest way to do this is to have two portable hard drives—one connected today, backed up tonight, then the next morning, disconnect and attach the second drive. Back up to that tonight. Then disconnect and reattach drive 1. You’ll never lose more than one day’s data.

Ensure that your back up is copying your data (your photos and documents), your family tree files, your emails and any other irreplaceable files and you’ll never have to worry about buying them back from criminals. Also remember the 3-2-1 rule for backups. Three backups, in 2 different formats (e.g. portable hard drive and DVD) and one off site. With computers it’s not ‘if something happens’ but ‘when something happens’. Be prepared, and enjoy stress free computing.

**FEMALE CONVICT RESOURCE**


Who would have thought that a slave in British Honduras would end up as a female convict in Van Diemen’s Land? Or that two cousins, the oldest aged 12, would be transported from their native Mauritius all the way to New South Wales? And why was a French-born woman with the extravagant name Emme Felicite Gabrielle Chardonez Malhomme sentenced at London’s Old Bailey to transportation for life?

*Edges of Empire* is a Biographical Dictionary offering accounts of many of these convicts among nearly 200 others who were tried or born outside the British Isles. All were transported to the Australian colonies of New South Wales and Van Diemen’s Land between 1788 and 1853. Their life stories have been tracked from numerous sources around the world, sometimes in detail and sometimes with the merest trace of their existence. The contributors to the Biographical Dictionary are members of the Female Convicts Research Centre, based in Hobart, Tasmania, but with a membership worldwide.
WHAT IS THAT PUBLICATION ABOUT?
Maurice Appleyard (Member No. 4093)

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

Gravestone Inscriptions
A series of sets of microfiche produced by the Ulster Historical Foundation. They feature the text of surviving headstones, found around the time of publication. Each set contains good descriptive text of the various cemeteries and a number of images. Occasionally an image of a prominent person is also shown.

Belfast
Volume 1 (1982)
Shankill Graveyard and tablets in Christ Church an St George’s Church.
Volume 2 (1984)
Friar’s Bush and Milltown Graveyards.
Volume 3 (1986)
Balmoral Cemetery, Friends’ Burial Ground and Malone Presbyterian Church.
Volume 4 (1991)
The New Burying Ground.

County Down
Volume 5 (1971)
Baronies of Upper and Lower Castlereagh: Ballygowan Presbyterian Graveyard; Blaris Graveyard; Comber Graveyard; Comber Gillespie Monument; Kilcarn
Graveyard; Killinchy Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Graveyard; Kilsuggan Graveyard; Kilmood Graveyard; Raffrey Presbyterian Graveyard; Ravarra Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Graveyard; Tullynakill Graveyard (Addendum); Drumba Presbyterian Graveyard (Corrigendum); Hollywood Graveyard (Corrigendum).

Liberty Borne of Fire—Gypsey Smith 1815–1879.
A convict bushranger on the Victorian goldfields.

Laurie Moore (research by Marion McAdie, Laurie Moore and Greg Vivian)
This quarto size paperback, of some 169pp was published in 2015 by The Ararat Genealogical Society Inc.

For those with an interest in the history of both Van Diemen’s Land and Norfolk Island, don’t be misled by the title of this book. In 1828, William Sydenham Smith (alias Gypsey Smith and alias William Turner) from Somerset was sentenced to transportation for life.

In 1829 he was transported to Port Jackson per ‘Layton’. Smith spent 38 years in the British convict system, much of it in N.S.W., but he also spent time in V.D.L. and Norfolk Island as a convict. Although primarily about Gypsey Smith, the book has many references to V.D.L. and the convict system … In 1845 he was transported on the ‘Louisa’ to the River Derwent … His assignment included working at the Barracks, with S. Murphy at the Albion Foundry in Hobart Town, and also for J. Evans, shipbuilding in the Huon. … at the height of the Victorian gold rush, Smith stole a whaleboat from J. Peters, provisioned it, and with a crew of nine, rowed from Falmouth across Bass Strait to Brighton Beach with a plan
of bushranging across the goldfields, but captured, Smith was sent to Norfolk Island.

THE TASMANIAN EXHIBITION, LAUNCESTON 1891–92

This A4 size book, of some 312pp, is the 2016 reprint, soft cover version, of the first edition; compiled by Prue McCausland and Marion Sargent and published in 2013 by Friends of the Library, Launceston.

The Tasmanian Exhibition was staged in Launceston over four months in the summer of 1891–92. It was the biggest event ever held in Launceston. The city’s iconic Albert Hall was built for it. Rows of temporary annexes were constructed behind it in City Park to house 6,826 Tasmanian, interstate and international exhibits. The event’s many attractions drew 262,059 people through the turnstiles when Launceston’s population was 17,208, and it made a profit.

This book, arising from the Launceston Family Album project, is a celebration of the Exhibition and its legacy in two ways. It tells the story of the event in words and images of the time, and it explores the lives and family histories of over a thousand of the people who had season tickets to attend.

The second part of the book [the Family Album] is made possible by an almost chance preservation of a unique set of portraits taken of those who had season tickets.

These head and shoulders portraits of men, women and children are reproduced in the pages of this section. After at least six years of painstaking research, the Friends of the Library group have been able to develop biographies of the featured pass holders. Each image is therefore supported by relevant family history details about the person and their family.

AARON PRICE DIARY & INDEX—Convict History on Norfolk Island, 4/6/1825 to 1/8/1854

The material on this CD was transcribed by Marion McAdie and published in 2016.

The original diary written … by Aaron Price, a convict overseer on Norfolk Island, is held in the State Library of NSW and is available on-line … The typed transcription has been translated page by page from the original document.

Aaron Price, born c.1797 in Oxford, was sentenced to transportation for life and arrived in NSW in 1824 aboard the ‘Guildford’ and the following year was sent to Norfolk Island. In 1834 Price was appointed a constable and police runner, in 1835 an overseer and in 1841 Principal Convict Overseer … He received his ticket-of-leave in 1838, and in 1855 he, his wife Jessie (née Smith) and their family moved to Hobart Town, … The family later settled in the Clarence area where Price died in 1882, aged 91.

The diary details the thirty years during the second penal settlement on Norfolk Island and Price describes the lives of convicts, settlers, the military, commandants and also the mutinies of 1834 and 1846.
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Burgess, J; *Duck Reach and Launceston’s Electric Light—The Story of Australia’s First Publicly Owned Hydro-electric Power Scheme*. [Q 621.31.134 BUR]

Coad, David; *Mary Street, Cygnet—A history of life on the Main Road in a Tasmanian Country Town*. [Q 994.62 COA]

Davis, C R; *In Pioneers’ Footsteps—Exploring Deloraine’s History and Built Heritage*. [994.65 DAV]

*Duckworth, D J; Of Smoke and Chains—The story of Joseph Duckworth, Convict, 1824–1887*

*Hogg, John; The Search for Mary Anne*. [Q 929.2 HOG]

*Irish FHS; Family Histories of the Seven Signatories—1916 Easter Rising*. [Q 929.2 FAM]

McCausland, P & M Sargent (comp); *The Tasmanian Exhibition, 1891–92—with over 1,000 biographies from the Launceston Family Album*. [Q 994.65 MCC]

*Moore, L; Liberty Borne of Fire—Gypsy Smith, 1815–1879*. [364.15092 MOO]

*Rackham, S, (comp.); Tasmanian Ancestry—Index to Vols 31–35*. [R 929.306 TAS]

*Russell, R; High Seas and High Teas*. [Q 910.45 RUS]

*Scottish Association of FHS; The Parishes, Registers & Registrars of Scotland*. [Q 929.31 PAR]

*Souterwood, W T; Lonely Shepherd in Van Diemen’s Isle (A biography of Father Phillip Conolly, Australia’s First Vicar-General)*. [282.946 SOU]

TFHS Inc. Mersey; *Ulverstone Cemeteries Book 3—Memorials and plaques of Ulverstone District Cemeteries*. [Q 929.32099465 INL]

*Watt, Michael; The ‘Procida’ Immigrants of 1885: a case study on their origins and recruitment in Germany, and immigration and settlement in Tasmania*. [Q 325.94 WAT]

**ACCESSIONS—Computer Disks**

*Archive CD Books Ireland; Index to the Irish Marriages 1771–1812*

*McAdie, Marion; Aaron Price—Diary and Index—Convict history on Norfolk Island, 1825–1854*

**ACCESSIONS—Microform**

*Grafton FH Centre; Index of Births, Deaths & Marriages in Sydney Newspapers—Vols 1–6, 1830–1840.*

*Ulster Historical Foundation; Gravestone Inscriptions—Belfast Vols 1–4; County Down Vol. 5*

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TFHS Inc. Mersey Branch; Ulverstone Cemeteries – Memorials and Plaques of Ulverstone District Cemeteries North-West Tasmania Book 3

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<td>117 Gilbert Street Latrobe (behind State Library)</td>
<td>Tuesday 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Meeting held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at Branch Library in Latrobe at 1:00 p.m. or sometimes for lunch at 12:00. Please check the website at <a href="http://www.tfhsdev.com">www.tfhsdev.com</a> or contact the Secretary for updates.</td>
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MEMBERSHIP OF THE TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

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

Dues are payable annually by 1 April. Membership Subscriptions for 2016–17:-

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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ISSN—0159 0677
Printed by Mark Media—Moonah Tasmania
TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.
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**Deadline dates for contributions by 1 January, 1 April, 1 July and 1 October**
From the editor

Thank you to all those who sent in their articles following my plea in the previous issue of *Tasmanian Ancestry*. Some ‘missing’ articles have also been discovered hiding amongst my files. Apologies to those whose submissions do not appear in this issue but be assured it will not be long before they will be used. Despite this, further submissions will be very gratefully received.

Betty’s article on school anniversaries is very timely with my old school, Devonport High, having celebrated their centenary over the past weekend. There were many tired but happy former pupils after all the festivities.

I was excited to find my mother’s exam results for 1929–30, plus those of her brother and a sister, amongst the memorabilia on display.

Malcolm Ward’s article on lesser known Tasmanian convict, court and police records to be found in the Mitchell Library Sydney should prove helpful to many.

Richie Woolley submitted Part 5 of his Thirkell family articles. The earlier parts of which, appeared in Volumes 31 and 32 of *Tasmanian Ancestry*. This one relates to the Cummins family.

It is worth looking at the guest book comments online in the article on page 148. Some very moving entries

And there is much more to enjoy in this issue over the holiday season!

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: Wellington Square State School Launceston, Tasmania—opened 1901. See article *Worth Celebrating* by Betty Jones, page 139
Image: *Weekly Courier*
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Are you getting the most you can when doing research in your branch library? For example, you might be researching your SMITH ancestors and there is a book on the shelf titled *The Williams Family in New York* which does not have an index and which mentions the fact that your great great grandmother married a Williams from New York. There are probably many other books like this in your library, and even those with an index present some problem in that you would have to start at one end of the library and read the index of every book in turn! How do you find out that a reference like this exists? One way Hobart branch is overcoming this problem is by using the Comprehensive Subject Index (CSI). This database aims to index all the names and subjects contained in the books in our library. It was originally set up by Vee Maddock about fifteen years ago and has proved to be a great asset to the Hobart branch library. Peter Cocker later made a few changes to the format and it is currently being regularly updated by members of Hobart Branch. Currently CSI contains 1.3 million records, and is steadily growing, the majority of them being names. The branch will ever be grateful to Vee for starting this wonderful project!

On a dedicated computer in the Hobart Branch Library members and visitors can search this index for surnames, given names or subjects and view or print a list of relevant entries, including the book title and page numbers. Vee’s original concept was that it would be used by all branches and any book would only have to be indexed once, no matter how many branches had a copy. Unfortunately there was not much interest at the time and only Hobart is currently using it. But it is never too late! If any other branch is interested in using this wonderful asset, there are people who could help you set it up. If you are interested in setting it up, or would just like to know more about it, please contact me or Peter Cocker. Perhaps your branch has other ways of solving this problem. If so, how about sharing it with all of us? After all, we are all anxious to help our members, and indeed members of the public, as best we can. We are not, or should not be, five independent branches jealous of each other, but rather five groups who are anxious to help each other and share as much knowledge as we can.

Robert Tanner

DIXON FAMILY REUNION
The Descendants of: Frederick Horatio and Jane (née Eckford) Dixon Are holding a family reunion on 25 November 2017 at Maitland NSW To celebrate the 200th Anniversary of Fred arriving in Australia
For further details: go to fhdixonreunion.weebly.com www.facebook.com/groups/FHDIXON
Or contact: Allan Shephard at: alshep724@gmail.com or phone 0419 601 226
This report is being written whilst sitting in my caravan in a caravan park in Kalgoorlie, living the dream.

After the heavy rains we received over the state in June our Branch Library once again suffered from flooding due to the old roof on our building. Our landlord has now had a new roof fitted—so far there have been no leaks.

We continue to get a steady stream of members and occasionally visitors coming into our library to research their respective families.

It is pleasing to note that the small band of volunteers who have been transcribing personal notices etc. from the Advocate continue with their hard work.

Our September meeting covered the latest news on Family Tree Maker and MacKiev software, also a tutorial on creating charts in FTM 2014.

As the end of 2016 approaches I would like to thank all the volunteers who did so much for the Branch during the year. I trust all members have had a fruitful research year and that you enjoy the Christmas and New Year holiday period.

The Burnie Branch Library will close on 11 December and reopen on 17 January 2017.

Peter Cocker Branch President

Hobart

August was National Family History Month and our Winter Workshops, which were a part of our activities, concluded in early September. We were fortunate to present a varied range of topics this year thanks to the generosity of the presenters.

Our Volunteers Afternoon Tea was a very pleasant occasion, attended by many of those volunteers who give generously of their time. Our volunteers number almost seventy, assisting with a range of activities, including those who are at the front-line during opening hours and assist members and visitors to access our resources. The Monday Group, a very sociable hard working group, type, index and proof-read material for publications produced within the Hobart Branch. Many others work behind the scenes and serve the branch most capably and cheerfully. The Mayor of Clarence City Council, Doug Chipman, was our special guest, and our thanks are also extended to the Clarence Council who have supported us over many years.

The new heating system has come to fruition and is now operating. We acknowledge the generosity of the Tasmanian Community Fund, which made this possible. The Tasmanian Community Fund is
an independent fund that supports and strengthens Tasmanian communities by distributing funds to those communities.

Our Facebook page has been quite popular judging by the number of ‘likes’ registered. Facebook can be accessed via our website with no need to register.

**General Meetings**

The guest speaker at the July meeting was Rex Kerrison speaking on the topic *Kerrisons in Tasmania*. In 1985 the family held a celebration of 150 years of Kerrisons in Tasmania. Cornelius Kerrison was four years old when the family arrived in Launceston in November 1835 having sailed from Gravesend on the Charles Kerr.

The Kerrison name has a long association with the English county of Norfolk, with the family ancestors living around Wymondham. The name is thought to have evolved from ‘Currison’, with Cornelius being the great grandson of John Currison who was born about 1705.

Cornelius’ parents were Stephen and Mary Kerrison (Goodings). Stephen is a common given name associated with the Kerrison surname. It is likely that all Kerrisons living in Tasmania are able to trace their origins to Cornelius and Mary.

The guest speaker at the August meeting was Scott Clennett speaking on the topic *Gallipoli from Three Perspectives*. Scott Clennett is the son of James Clennett, born in 1894 at Dover, the son of William Clennett and Elizabeth (née Hoskins). James along with brothers Alf and Guy (killed in action at Poziers in 1916) all served in WW1. Scott provided some historical detail about the lead up to the Gallipoli campaign with first hand insights from his father’s diaries.

James was awarded the Military Medal in 1918 for recovering a wounded man from a dugout, a selfless deed that caused James to be seriously wounded himself.

James recorded his war experiences in several books written in pencil, including his involvement in the Gallipoli campaign. He wrote about action, combat, but also the more domestic matters relating to a lengthy presence in the arena of war. These books have been preserved by his family as valuable mementos of significant events in James’ life.

In 2015 Scott Clennett, as a direct descendant of a Gallipoli veteran, and his wife, were among the several thousand people to be at Gallipoli for the centenary of the landing. The occasion was a very moving tribute and an amazing organizational feat. Scott’s talk was supported by a first class PowerPoint presentation.

The guest speaker at the September meeting was cook, author and ABC personality Sally Wise. Sally spoke on the topic of *Colonial Cooking*—how, why and what was cooked in colonial days. Food was an overwhelming obsession for colonials and its production was a challenge from the viewpoint of growing food in unfamiliar soils and an unfamiliar climate. Food preservation—apples, onions, potatoes, eggs, pickles—was important as colonial food production developed. While fish and native wildlife was in abundance colonials particularly in NSW were reluctant to try the new food, although VDL colonials were more adventurous. Colonials wanted salted beef and pork (although sometimes three years old) with which they were familiar.

There was little fresh fruit and vegetables and rice was often ‘moving’. There was little or no waste, with soups being made from bones, shanks and vegetable scraps.
Sally spoke about the early cookbook known as Edward Abbott’s Book, and how jam recipes have not changed over the years. In fact there is a present-day return to many old recipes for jellies, custards, ice-cream and drinks. Female convicts who were listed as cooks were in great demand in the colonies. Menfolk expected wives to cook English-style foods—three hot meals a day in many cases—even though the ingredients were different and bread was difficult to make. Bakers having ovens were paid to bake the bread made in homes.

Speakers for 2017
The following speakers have been arranged for the forthcoming General Meetings in 2017:

February 21: Roger McNeice OAM ‘The 1967 Bushfires – 50 years ago’
March 21: Brian Rieusset ‘Treasure Trove in 28 Boxes’
18 April AGM: Lois Green ‘Oak Lodge Richmond— the history of the house and garden’

Louise Rainbow Branch President

Launceston
http://www.launceston.tasfhs.org
President: Helen Stuart—(03) 6331 9175
Secretary: Muriel Bissett
(03) 6343 3107
PO Box 1290 Launceston Tasmania 7250
secretary: mandbbissett@gmail.com

The ‘Seniors Week’ open day held on Thursday 13 October, was again well attended and appreciated. Thanks to those volunteers who so willingly gave of their time.

The Branch Christmas Luncheon: a good number attended the Luncheon held on Saturday, 26 November. ‘Thank You’ to Janis and Barrie for your hospitality and to all of those who contributed to this time of fine food and good fellowship.

Publications: The last edition (Volume 6, 1936–1940), of ‘A new combined alphabetical edition of Index to The Examiner, Births, Deaths, Marriages’ was released in November. Thanks to Muriel and Lucille for the re-typing and alphabetical re-sorting of this series, 1900–1940.

Library break-up for holidays: 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, 6 December.

Cleaning day: Monday, 16 January.

Library re-opens: Tuesday, 17 January 2016, 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.—phone (03) 6343 3107.
Other days (except Saturday & Sunday), by appointment only.

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

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

At our last committee meeting we set the dates for our forthcoming events. Our Christmas Lunch for members and friends will be held at the Lucas Hotel, Latrobe, on 4 December at 12 noon. The Lucas Hotel has an old world atmosphere where we feel comfortable (food is good too). Our very popular raffle will be drawn at the luncheon. This year, member Garry
Bryant, has made a beautiful stained glass lamp shade as first prize; member Gloria Bowden donates her homemade decorated Christmas cake (always popular) and a donation of two bottles of wine from Sue-Ellen McGregor. Rounds off the prizes in our major fund raiser. Mersey Branch Committee are appreciative of the extra effort from members.

Members are again suffering from coimetromania—an abnormal attraction to and desire to visit cemeteries. (I would argue it’s quite normal.) Members will be checking details for an update of the Penguin Cemetery.

On October 14, 21 and 28, Mersey Branch will again be part of U3A, holding Friday morning classes for anyone interested in family history research.

Sunday, 16 October has the branch holding a stall at the Centenary Garden Fete at the National Trust’s ‘Home Hill’ in Devonport. We look forward to a day of chatting.

Our regular summer BBQ will be held at the branch Saturday, 4 February. Always a pleasant evening under the trees in the park at the back of the branch library, good company, good food—looking forward to the day. The plan is to have a guest speaker from the Mountain Hut Preservation Society join our evening.

The branch will close over the Christmas break on Friday, 9 December and reopen Tuesday, 17 January.

Huon
President: Shirley Fletcher (03) 6264 1546
Secretary: Libby Gillham (03) 6239 6529
PO Box 117 Huonville Tasmania 7109
email: vsbta@bigpond.com
No report received

Indexes to

**The Examiner**

Births, Deaths & Marriages from
*The Examiner* Newspaper
1900–1965

**New release!**

* New combined alphabetical edition of
Index to *The Examiner*, Births, Deaths, Marriages, 1936–1940 Volume 6 *

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(Volumes 1–6 revised: New combined alphabetical edition of *The Examiner*)

**Index to The Examiner**

Obituaries & Funerals

1941–1950—$25.00
1951–1960—$25.00

Available from
TFHS Inc.
Launceston Branch
PO Box 1290 Launceston TAS 7250
Plus $13.50 pack 1–3
TFHS Inc. Members less 10% discount, plus $13.50 p&p
The Mitchell Library in Sydney (part of the State Library of NSW) has a great number of colonial records relating to Van Diemen’s Land. Some of the best known are in the collection known as the Tasmanian Papers, a diverse collection of records which have been microfilmed and separately partially indexed by the Kiama Family History Society.

There are however many other Van Diemen’s Land records at the Mitchell Library which have not been indexed or microfilmed and in some cases are only briefly described or even mis-described in the library catalogue. This brief article will serve to alert readers to some of these collections and also that indexing and database entry of many of the series mentioned is, or will be shortly underway by the Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. (Hobart Branch) and the Female Convict Research Centre, with the permission and encouragement of the Mitchell Library.

The Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office is also looking at examples of the series, to see how they ‘map’ into records held within TAHO’s collections—that is, to see if the Mitchell records are duplicates (albeit originals) or unique series.

The Mitchell Library’s new manuscript etc. catalogue can be found at: http://archival.sl.nsw.gov.au/home#

Note that in a number of cases the Mitchell Library’s catalogue description of the contents of the series described here is incorrect (for example, wrong date range) or misleading (for example it describes only a fraction of the contents of the series).

DLMSQ 563-565 and DLMSF 33
These are collections of Conditional Pardons. Thirteen from 1855–1855 (DLMSF 33), five from 1840 (DLMSQ 563), about forty-six from 1837–1847 (DLMSQ 564) and about forty-five from the late 1830s to the early 1850s (DLMSQ 565). Within the latter archive box is a list of the names and dates of the pardons for all except the five in DLMSQ 563. I have a copy of this list and would be happy to look up names on enquiry to the e-mail below.

DLSPENCER 96
Catalogue description: Tasmania Supreme Court alphabetical register of people tried, 1821–1823 (inaccurate date range)

This is a bound book, titled ‘Supreme Court No. 1’ and is divided up into sections alphabetically with a summary of appearances before the court with columns for: Number, Name, Sentence (appears to be a convict’s original sentence), Where tried, Date of trial, Offences, Guilty/not guilty, Sentence. Within each letter of the alphabet, the entries are listed by date, starting in 1821.
and extending into the early or late 1830s (depending on the letter).

The book has about 120 full pages of listed names and I estimate about 1,900 entries.

Bound into the front of the book is an insert, labelled: ‘Index to the headings: Examination Sentence, Crown fines, Solitary, Imprisonment and hard labor, Default of bail, Imprisonment under Insolvent Act, Book, [illeg.] January 1855’. There follows an alphabetical index of names and what appears to be a page number. It does not appear to relate to the rest of the book.

The permanent Supreme Court in Tasmania began activities in May 1824, but the court did sit prior to that via judges visiting from Sydney. The nature and content of the entries do not change pre and post 1824 (the early trials are noted as being either in Hobart Town or Launceston), except in some cases the date is given to the day, rather than just the month early on.

**DLSPECNER 138/133-141**

Catalogue description: *Assignment lists of male and female convicts transported to Van Diemens Land on various ships, 1843–1847*


Within each vessel, the lists are divided by county where the conviction took place and the columns are Name, Where convicted, When, Term of years.

**DLSPECNER 164**

Catalogue description: *Sundry papers relating to Tasmania, including letters, various legal documents, information about crimes, and transportation orders, etc., 1823–1854*

This is a collection of partially bound note books (lost spine) and loose sheets of over 250 pages in total, mostly written on both sides. It is a very diverse collection, including: prisoner transfer orders and accompanying letters, affidavits (for instance, relating to the loss of a convict’s Certificate of Freedom), letters to and from authorities regarding police/convict matters, a collection of travel passes held by Ticket-of-Leave holders, lists of witnesses and the fees they are paid, convictions, monthly return of duties performed by constables (for instance, at Ross), inquest statements and the like.

**DLSPECNER 165**

Catalogue description: *George Town (Tas.) Police Court record book, 1820–1825* (This is a completely inaccurate description).

There are five different series in this collection.

1 A book titled *Lists of persons committed for trial and on bail for their appearance before the Supreme Court commencing 3rd December 1827*.

Inside is a chronological list of the committals, from December 1827 to October 1831 and with headings Date, Name, Current sentence or free, Description of charge, Witnesses, Witness residence (town), Date of recognisance, Sum, Committing magistrate.

There are about 130 cases listed, some involving multiple accused

2 A book titled *Committals to the Supreme Court and Quarter Sessions*.
Inside the contents are headed List of Persons committed for trial before the Supreme Court of Criminal Jurisdiction at Launceston with the names of witnesses and the date and amount of their recognisances.

This is the continuation of the above list, covering November 1831 to May 1834. There are about 200 cases listed, again some involving multiple accused.

3 A loosely bound book (untitled and without covers) mainly of petitions from convicts from the early to mid 1840s, with comments and responses from the authorities. Possibly several hundred pages.

4 A book titled Memorandum Book commencing 3rd September 1829 and ending (no date but it ends December 1829).

This is a book of notes from the Police Office at Launceston noting various duties and goings-on of the office. It includes lists of constables and their appointments etc, lists of payments to overseers, receipt of monies, movements of constables, receipt of convict’s records, lists of people employed in the Launceston Police District (e.g. February 1830), lists of run-aways and those entitled to a reward, lists of applicants for Certificates of Freedom and Tickets of Leave. About 40 pages, written on both sides.

5 An untitled book of mixed convict records, including complaints, Ticket-of-Leave travel passes, pardons, and conduct records, ten or more lists of permits issued at Hobart for Richmond 1829–1830. There are also some labour agreements (e.g. for a Chinese worker from 1851). The date range is wide, from the late 1820s to the 1860s.

DLSPENCER 275
Catalogue description: Records of male convicts transported to Van Diemen's Land, 1820–1844, and female convicts, 1844–1852
A collection of conduct records, loosely bound into a book. Earliest ones are 1828, many from the mid 1830s, later ones in mid 1840s. No apparent system to which records are here—some 'runs' of convicts from the same vessel, but many individual records. Approximately 70 records.

DLSPENCER 434
Catalogue description: Chief Police Magistrate, Hobart, records, 9 July 1829–31 March 1830
This is a bound book concerning persons brought before the Chief Police Magistrate of Hobart. Most records note the person, their status (ship and sentence if convict), the charge, plea, a summary of evidence and defence, verdict and the sentence. Most cases are a couple of paragraphs in all, some go over multiple pages.
There are 60 pages, written on both sides and perhaps 200 cases, many involving more than one person.

wardpropertyhistory@bigpond.com
WORTH CELEBRATING
School Anniversaries
Betty Jones (Member No. 6032)

THE public celebration of a school’s significant anniversaries can bring to light useful information about our ancestors. Such occasions provide an opportunity for communities to look back over their past and celebrate the names and details of generations of pupils and teachers who have passed through the doors of their educational institutions. Those nostalgic events are known to be greatly valued by participants, some former pupils travelling great distances to be involved. Previously forgotten photographs stored in private collections sometimes emerge at those special events, along with interesting stories and memorabilia. A number of such reunions have resulted in worthwhile local history publications, many of which are available at public libraries and family history rooms.

This article looks at how some schools celebrated their anniversaries in earlier times, as well as identifying most of the Tasmanian Government schools that have reached at least one hundred years of existence. It also looks at a description of a substantial school building opened in Launceston a century ago, providing an opportunity for readers to consider how the physical layout of local schools has changed over time.

Early school anniversary celebrations
Tasmanian communities have shown pride in the continuity of their schools since early times, as demonstrated in these examples:

• Forth State School celebrated its jubilee in 1917 when a large gathering of past and present pupils and friends gathered for an evening at the Devonport Town Hall. The Head Teacher, Mr Robert Richard Walton SWAINSTON, occupied the chair and paid tribute to the fine foundations of learning laid by the pioneer teachers. He also noted that 60 past pupils had enlisted and were doing their part for King and country.¹

• In March 1929, Gormanston State School celebrated its 32nd anniversary with a special afternoon tea for the children and a cricket match between ex-pupils and Queenstown Technical High. A social and concert in the Mt Lyell Hall on the Saturday evening

¹ The Examiner, 1 September 1917
afforded an opportunity for old scholars and friends to take part in the celebrations.2

- The Albuera Street State School Mothers’ Club celebrated its third birthday in 1934 with an afternoon tea to which members of other similar clubs in the city also were invited. Major achievements of the Club up to that time included the distribution of 800 garments during the year, mothers having washed and mended the clothes and fathers having repaired the boots. They also conducted a daily school canteen where 36 children were served a hot meal comprised of meat, three vegetables and pudding.3

- As part of celebrations to mark the jubilee of the school at Sheffield in 1934, a large framed photograph was unveiled of the first teacher, Mr Thomas ALEXANDER, who took over when the building was first opened in 1884. Among the many present were the Directors of Education from all Australian States, who were unstinted in their praise of what they had seen in the agricultural school plots.4

- To mark the 75th anniversary of the erection of the then first portion of Franklin State School, a ‘Back to Franklin’ Ball was held in October 1935.5

- A ‘Back to Motton’ Day was held in 1935 in the old North Motton State School room, built in the early 1880s. About 600 past residents ranging from grey-headed, grey-bearded octogenarians to light-hearted school children assembled to mark the jubilee.6

- In August 1937, forty past scholars of Devonport High School, some of them members of the Old Devonian’s Association, accepted an invitation to take part in a ‘Back to School’ Week to celebrate the school’s 21st birthday. Tours of the school’s facilities featured.7

- Hobart High School marked the silver jubilee of the formation of the school at a special assembly in November 1938. The Headmaster, Mr H Vernard BIGGINS, made glowing reference to the first Headmaster, Mr Percival H MITCHELL, who was present at the assembly. The school song was sung, followed by a reading of the names of original staff members and pioneer pupils. Other activities included the performance of a humorous skit and the viewing of a film showing highlights of the early years.8

The changing nature of celebratory activities

It is interesting to note how the type of activities at school celebrations has evolved over time, the foregoing examples depicting evidence of what was socially acceptable on such occasions in Tasmania up to the late 1930s. Some things remain the same today, while others have been subject to a shift in attitude.

By way of modern comparison with the past, the following fairly recent celebratory program is provided. In late 2015, the centenary of Cooee Primary School in the Burnie municipality was celebrated with great success through a variety of school and community activities which included: a special school assembly; an invitation to the public to view the school in its current working form with displays of the past a feature; an evening cocktail party for adult past pupils, teachers, parents and friends; opportunities to purchase a celebration mug; an invitation to past pupils to commission a personal

2 The Advocate, 12 March 1929
3 The Mercury, 12 September 1934
4 The Mercury, 21 April 1934
5 Huon and Derwent Times, 19 September 1935
6 The Mercury, 28 October 1935
7 The Advocate, 26 August 1937
8 The Mercury, 25 November 1938
engraved paver to form part of a path in the playground; and the publication of a history booklet.⁹

Perhaps the biggest change lies in public acceptance now of alcohol being available at a school celebration involving adults (Cooee’s cocktail party, for example). Such activities would not have been approved by the Board of Education in early times, a reflection of social attitudes then. In the late nineteenth century many teachers were active in the popular Temperance Movement which discouraged the use of alcohol. Even dancing was not allowed in Education Department schoolrooms in the early 1900s as it was considered inconsistent with the proper character of a State School.

Although times have changed, one thing that seems to have remained consistent in celebrations is the sharing of cake.

- The 25th anniversary of the formation of Lefroy State School was celebrated in 1902 with a variety of special activities which concluded with an afternoon tea for the children. All good things in the shape of sandwiches, cakes and fruit were handed around by the teachers and visitors.¹⁰
- The diamond jubilee of Red Hills State School was commemorated in 1924, the event attracting more than local interest, and attended by a record crowd. Occupying central position on the afternoon tea table was an especially made and iced two-decker jubilee cake.¹¹
- In 1935, the cake to celebrate the 11th birthday of the Hospital Bay State School was decorated in blue and white, the school’s colours, and featured a kewpie dressed in blue surrounded by 11 lighted candles.¹²
- To mark the 21st birthday of the Domestic Arts School in Murray Street, Hobart in 1949, senior students Gloria BANNISTER, Cecily COLLEGE, Valerie SAWARD, Gladys PARSONS, Judy CAWTHORN and Winsome BARDENHAGEN made and decorated a cake model of the proposed new Domestic Science School.¹³
- Members of the Charles Street State School Mothers’ Club celebrated the 12th anniversary of the Club in 1952. Miss A ROW, Infant Mistress, lit the candles on the prettily decorated birthday cake which was cut by the Club’s president, Mrs R LAHEY.¹⁴
- In September 2016, Burnie High School centenary cakes, made and decorated by two school staff members, were featured at the Centenary Gala Cocktail Event held at the Burnie Arts and Function Centre.¹⁵

Their first 100
It is always with particular pride that communities announce the centenary celebrations associated with their local schools, the mere fact that their educational institution is still in existence after one hundred years providing a justifiable sense of common achievement in a district’s history. 2016, the year of publication of this article, has already been a year of such significance for

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⁹ Cooee Primary School Centenary Celebrations, Facebook, 21 August 2015
¹⁰ The Examiner, 2 April 1902
¹¹ The Examiner, 9 September 1924
¹² Huon and Derwent Times, 22 August 1935
¹³ The Mercury, 24 February 1949
¹⁴ The Examiner, 8 March 1952
¹⁵ Burnie High School, Facebook, September 2016
festivities at Lansdowne Crescent Primary in West Hobart, Trevallyn Primary in Launceston, Burnie High and Devonport High. In 2017, Redpa Primary and Winnaleah District High are both due to turn 100.

It is interesting to find that, throughout the 200-odd years of Tasmanian Government school history, starting with the appointment of the first teachers in 1810, a surprising number of schools have reached, and sometimes passed, their century mark of continuous service. The following list shows the individual years of original commencement of many that have done so. Of course, not all are still in operation, and some have undergone name changes, amalgamations and moved to different sites over the years, leaving open a variety of options for celebrations. The list does not include private schools, but in some cases it does take into account the fact that early schools often commenced as church and/or private institutions before being taken over by the Board of Education/Education Department. Please note the listed dates of operation and closure in this article are based on the writer’s most recent research knowledge, but may be subject to revision as new records surface.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Operation Years</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albuera Street (Battery Point)</td>
<td>1859–P</td>
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<tr>
<td>Avoca</td>
<td>1851–P</td>
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<td>Back River (Magra)</td>
<td>1826–1957</td>
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<td>Bagdad</td>
<td>1867–P</td>
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<td>Beaconsfield</td>
<td>1881–P</td>
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<td>Bellerive (Kangaroo Point)</td>
<td>1840–P</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bishopsbourne</td>
<td>1847–1955</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boat Harbour</td>
<td>1888–P</td>
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<td>Bothwell</td>
<td>1833–P</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bracknell</td>
<td>1866–P</td>
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<td>Bransholm</td>
<td>1885–2009</td>
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<td>Bream Creek</td>
<td>1849–1967</td>
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<td>Bridgewater (East Derwent)</td>
<td>1849–2010</td>
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<td>Bridport</td>
<td>1915–P</td>
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<td>Bruny Island (Alonnah)</td>
<td>1913–P</td>
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<td>Burnie</td>
<td>1852–P</td>
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<td>Burnie High</td>
<td>1916–P</td>
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<td>Cambridge</td>
<td>1840–P</td>
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<td>Campania</td>
<td>1866–P</td>
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<td>Campbell Town</td>
<td>1832–P</td>
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<td>Cape Barren Island</td>
<td>1890–P</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles Street</td>
<td>1884–1990</td>
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<td>Chudleigh</td>
<td>1864–1964</td>
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<td>Claremont</td>
<td>1890–2010</td>
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<td>Collinsvale (Sorell Creek)</td>
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<td>Cressy</td>
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<td>Deloraine</td>
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<td>Devonport High</td>
<td>1916–P</td>
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<td>Dover (Port Esperance)</td>
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<td>Dunalley</td>
<td>1885–P</td>
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<td>East Devonport (Torquay)</td>
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<td>East Launceston</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ellendale (Monto’s Marsh)</td>
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<td>Evandale</td>
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<td>Exeter (West Tamar)</td>
<td>1909–P</td>
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<td>Fingal</td>
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<td>Flinders Island (Whitemark)</td>
<td>1911–P</td>
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<td>Forcett</td>
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<td>Forest</td>
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<td>Forth</td>
<td>1867–P</td>
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<td>Franklin</td>
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<td>Geeveston (Honeywood)</td>
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<td>George Town (Port Dalrymple)</td>
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<td>Gladstone</td>
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<td>Glen Dhu</td>
<td>1895–P</td>
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<td>Glenora</td>
<td>1876–P</td>
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<td>Glenorchy (O’Briens Bridge)</td>
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<td>Goulburn Street</td>
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<td>Gretna (Macquarie Plains)</td>
<td>1856–1968</td>
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<td>Hagley</td>
<td>1855–P</td>
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<td>Hamilton</td>
<td>1834–1989</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hobart High (Hobart College)</td>
<td>1913–P</td>
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<tr>
<td>Huonville (Victoria/Ranelagh)</td>
<td>1854–P</td>
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16 Personal research data bases of the author
Invermay 1889–P
Kempton (Green Ponds) 1831–P
King Island 1902–P
Kingston (Brown’s River) 1847–P
Lansdowne Crescent 1916–P
La trobe 1870–P
Launceston High (L’ton College) 1913–P
Levendale 1901–P
Lindisfarne 1905–P
Longford 1829–P
Margate 1869–P
Mathinna 1872–P
Meander (West Meander) 1891–2015
Mole Creek 1878–P
Molesworth 1881–P
Natone (Stowport) 1896–P
New Norfolk 1819–P
New Town 1837–P
Oatlands 1833–P
Orford (Prosper’s Bay) 1882–P
Ouse 1843–P
Penguin 1870–P
Perth 1833–P
Pontville 1847–1951
Queenstown (Mountain Heights) 1896–P
Redp a (East Marrawah) 1917–P
Riana 1896–P
Richmond 1832–P
Ridgley 1905–P
Ringarooma 1881–P
Ridson (Vale) 1864–P
Rosebery 1905–P
Ross 1833–1999
Sandy Bay Infant (Lwr Sandy Bay) 1853–P
Scottsdale 1869–P
Sheffield (Kentishbury) 1867–P
Smithton 1880–P
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Sorell 1821–P
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Tar oona 1915–P
Trel beyn 1916–P
Triabunna (Spring Bay) 1850–P
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Westley Vale 1899–2013
Westbury 1855–P
Wil mot 1904–P
W innaleah 1917–P
Woodbridge (Peppermint Bay) 1871–P
Yolla (Camp Creek) 1904–P
Young Town 1887–P
Zeehan 1891–P

A new school building a century ago
Wellington Square State School (1901–39) in Launceston, situated at the corner of Patterson and Wellington Streets, was a substantial brick and concrete building of Gothic style originally designed to cater for 350 pupils. By March 1903, the enrolment had swelled to 460, including more than 120 children who had come from surrounding private schools. (TAHO: ED31/1/6) School numbers doubled during the war years, and some classes had to be conducted at Reed’s Church during that time. A building was finally extended in 1916 to alleviate conditions for the then 730 pupils. The original single-storey structure, which had contained two classrooms used for infants, was converted into a handsome brick two-storey facility with cement racings, containing eight large classrooms, each having accommodation for about 60 scholars. A feature of the
new classrooms was the excellent manner in which they were lighted and ventilated. The five large windows occupied about a fifth of the length of the wall, and the ventilation was from inlet vents about 6 feet from the floor and outlet vents in the ceiling.

Each storey contained four classrooms and a vestibule 13 feet wide by about 60 feet long in addition to teachers’ offices, cloakrooms, and store rooms. The upper storey was reached by two reinforced concrete stairways 6 feet in width. The vestibules were fitted with large hat and coat racks for the use of children. The ceilings were of the well-known Wunderlich stamped steel.

The classrooms were fitted with double desks of the latest design, supplied by Coogan and Co., and the furniture and wooden fittings were carried out in Tasmanian oak and blackwood. In each teaching area there was a raised dais on which the teacher’s desk was placed, and a large oak cupboard was provided. The blackboards were of hypolata, a serviceable and hygienic material. The colour scheme was carried out in pale green and the walls were the same tint as the blinds.

The new building, containing accommodation for about 60 per cent of the entire enrolment at that time, was designed by the Government architect, Mr R Flack RICARDS, and was constructed by contractors Messrs HINMAN, WRIGHT and MANSER. 17

Most readers would be aware of how modern school architecture differs greatly from the 100-year-old building described above. Concepts of the use of space, light, material, colour, landscape, the importance of physical accessibility for all, and the integration of technology have evolved over time and now are reflected in the design and construction of new school buildings.

Still worth celebrating
Often forgotten as time goes by are the birthdays of schools that did not make an easily identifiable milestone. Communities sometimes need to be reminded of the dates of operation of their now-closed educational institutions which, in their time, were highly important in the development of local districts. Such a subset includes the schools established in 1917: Allen Creek 1917–53; Clover Hills 1917–22; Lapoinya 1917–29; Legana 1917–39; Llandaff 1917–53; Lower Beulah 1917–41; Moorleah 1917–53; Oldina 1917–48; Pashanger 1917–20; Poimena 1917; South Nietta 1917–48; Tayene 1917–50 and Tewkesbury 1917–53.

Tasmanian communities are known to show genuine pride in their local schools and most have fought hard to keep them operating for as long as they remain viable. Since 1810, there have been approximately 1000 different-named schools which have been recognised as part of the Government Board of Education/Education Department’s funding system. Some have been relatively short-lived, while others have flourished and served their pupils over long periods. All are worthy of celebration.

17 Daily Telegraph, 20 July 1916.
THE LORD SIDMOUTH (3) 1822–23
A VEXING VOYAGE
Anne McMahon (Member No. 6463)

The Lord Sidmouth (3), chartered as a convict transport, was a ship of 411 tons burthen built at Shields during 1817. On her 1822–23 voyage she was engaged to convey 97 English and Scottish female prisoners with their 23 children to Van Diemen’s Land and Sydney as well as 21 free women accompanied by 49 children to the same destinations. The latter women had been granted a free passage to join their husbands serving sentences in the colonies as part of the British Government’s family reunion scheme commenced during 1817. It aimed to adjust the sexual imbalance in the penal colonies and initiate the transition to stable communities after thirty years of their occupancy as prisons.¹

The master of the ship was James FERRIER while the surgeon appointed was the Irishman Robert ESPIE, an experienced naval officer, but undertaking his first journey with female convicts. He had travelled previously to Van Diemen’s Land after transporting Irish male prisoners from Cork to Sydney on board the Dorothy in 1820. On sailing to Hobart Town at that time he received a land grant at Constitution Hill.

He was then appointed to succeed Jacob MOUNTGARRETT, surgeon at Port Dalrymple, who was under threat of dismissal by Governor MACQUARIE for corruption. Surgeon Espie held the post for a short time before resuming his naval career.²

During 1822 Robert Espie’s two brothers George and John came to Hobart Town as passengers on board the brig Minerva with merchandise arriving on 8 November. Both received land grants at Cross Marsh and Bagdad. Branches of the Espie family were settling in Van Diemen’s Land and the Lord Sidmouth was Robert Espie’s next engagement to visit as a surgeon for the convict service.³

Women held in British gaols in the early 1820s were hostile and unruly prisoners who had lived destitute lives on the streets with their ragged children. Flogging of females had only been abolished during 1820. In the prisons no work was provided nor was there schooling for the children.

In 1821 Elizabeth FRY, a woman of commanding presence, formed the British Society of Ladies for Promoting the Reformation of Female Prisoners. She made regular visits to Newgate where she read chapters of the Bible and arranged work and school in the prison. She also toured the gaols holding women throughout England and Scotland to found ladies visiting associations.

At the time transportation was an alternative to hanging women convicted for crimes such as passing forged banknotes.

¹ Hobart Town Gazette and Southern Reporter, quoting the Sydney Gazette, 5 April 1817, p. 2
As well it was a means of reducing the overcrowding in gaols, particularly by getting rid of violent inmates. Elizabeth Fry then turned her attention to reforming the departure of the prisoners by having women moved in closed coaches instead of open carts although they remained chained together. Those women from Scottish prisons were sent round the coast by sea in irons on the decks of fishing sloops or whatever craft was available. They arrived at the London dockside seasick and utterly exhausted.  

Regular visits were organised to the female transports by the Quaker ladies while the ships were loading at Deptford. One such pious and dedicated visitor was Mrs Elizabeth Pryor who went on board the Lord Sidmouth on 24 August 1822 while the prisoners were being received in batches. She distributed useful articles of haberdashery and came again on Monday 27 August at 9:30 a.m. and stayed among the women until 2 p.m. giving them additional articles and aprons. By this stage 31 prisoners had come on board from Newgate in addition to 18 from Liverpool, Bristol and York Castle. On 31 August Elizabeth Pryor returned with another Quaker, Mrs Coventry. According to surgeon Espie they distributed additional articles and ‘gave the women a great deal of good advice’.

Some prisoners on board were now sick from the brackish water of the Thames used to fill the water casks as raw sewage was pumped into the river from London city. On the ship it became a scene of bustle as the women stowed their bags and boxes in the hold. One prisoner fell from the deck down the fore hatchway but only received a fright. On 7 September Elizabeth Pryor made her last visit and gave the women bundles of patchwork. She was accompanied by two men from the Missionary Society who distributed Bibles while Mrs Pryor read an address from the scriptures before taking leave of the prisoners in a kindly manner.

Some prisoners however had remained untouched by the Quakers’ spiritual nourishment. On the day of their visit Ann Jackson, Anne Bell and Anne Bolland, for instance were handcuffed for violent and abusive conduct and placed in the coal hole. This last woman was to become one of the chronic offenders throughout the voyage. The sailing orders were received on 11 September 1822 and Rev. Mr Henry Williams of the Wesleyan Missionary Society boarded the ship with his family bound for service in New Zealand.

Surgeon Espie instituted a system of control by ordering that all complaints were to be represented only to him. He directed the women to wear gaol clothing, stipulated the meal times and allocated the washing days.

After proceeding down the Thames the Lord Sidmouth anchored at Gravesend but the women were kept in the prison due to the cold. Sailing through the channel the violent and abusive women were sent to the coal hole while one prisoner had her head shaved for thieving from the clergyman.

Seasickness now afflicted most women and in the relative calm as they were confined to their bunks Surgeon Espie was able to reflect on the advice he had received from other surgeons: that female convicts were ungovernable. He thought their negative reputation was exaggerated as he found them easily managed although requiring constant vigilance. The only complaint he had was about the sailors taking liberties with the women.

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During October the prisoners were at their patchwork making quilts. A school had been commenced under Rev. Williams assisted by two free women. Eighteen month old twins died from the wasting disease Tabes, caused by bad nursing and bad food according to the surgeon. June GORDON was confined in the coal hole for creating a disturbance during prayers. Surgeon Espie described her as an abandoned character; he thought the worst on board.

Quarrels and uproar continued in the prison at night with the most disruptive Elizabeth KINSEY and Mary BROWN handcuffed together and confined in the coal hole. Rachel DAVIS and Elizabeth HARTWELL had their heads shaved for boisterous and outrageous conduct which the surgeon found the only punishment to be effective for them.

At the end of November several prisoners complained that they had not received their full allowance of provisions. On investigation the ship’s steward was found to be the culprit. As they were at Rio de Janeiro the ship was detained by Robert Espie until master Ferrier was persuaded to dismiss the steward who was sent on shore. While at Rio a prisoner died after a protracted illness. She had become hostile to the surgeon and refused all medicines. Her body was taken on shore for burial.

After sailing from Rio de Janeiro the weather turned cold and as many children were almost naked surgeon Espie had hospital linen made into garments to enable them to survive the remainder of the passage. A ten-year-old boy fell overboard but his loss was not discovered for 20 minutes so no trace was seen or heard. South West Cape was sighted by 9 February 1823 as the ship altered course to sail along the south coast of Van Diemen’s Land and entered d’Entrecasteau Channel. On arrival four women were sent to the hospital. Forty-six convicts were disembarked with their children. Lieut. Governor SORELL came on board and expressed himself well pleased with the condition of the prisoners. By 15 February all the free women destined for Van Diemen’s Land had found their husbands. Surgeon Espie sailed on to Sydney with the remaining prisoners and children plus the free women and children. The convicts included some of the more incorrigible that Robert Espie had decided to take on to Sydney, an arrangement adopted previously by Sorell due to the absence of a female factory in Hobart Town or a gaol adequate to control the constant offenders. At the end of the voyage as the boats came alongside to carry the prisoners to Parramatta he wrote:

I cannot but express my great joy at having got rid of so troublesome a charge.\(^{5}\)

The majority, being 33 of the female prisoners landed in Van Diemen’s Land, had received seven year sentences. Ten were transported for 14 years and 9 for life. Thirty-eight of their convictions were for larceny including the more serious offences of larceny from the person and from a dwelling place. Four women were sentenced for receiving stolen goods, two for highway robbery and one for arson. Several women died shortly after arrival in the colony. Mary SCOTT was murdered by her husband, Margaret LOY was drowned and Hannah Bell was sentenced to secondary transportation to Macquarie Harbour for theft.\(^{6}\)


PETERBOROUGH & THE GREAT WAR
Dorothy Harbron
Member of the Peterborough and District Family History Society

ID you have an ancestor who served in the First World War and could have travelled through Peterborough by train in 1916 or 1917? If so he/she may feature in a project taking place at the moment.

Peterborough used to have two railway stations. The present station was known as Peterborough North and there was also a Peterborough East.

An organisation called the Women’s United Total Abstinence Council ran a coffee and tea wagon in Peterborough city centre to try and keep men away from the pubs. During WW1 they transferred to the railway station to provide refreshments for servicemen travelling through. Visitors were invited to sign a guest book and two of these books, from 1916 and 1917, survive from the Peterborough East Station.

An award from the Heritage Lottery Fund has enabled these guest books to be digitised, indexed and a website created.

Although mainly soldiers, some entries were from sailors, and a few women also feature. Some just signed the book, others wrote messages or poems and there are also drawings. The people came from all over the country so this is not just a local project.

The main aim is to find out about the servicemen and record anything that might be known about them so bringing to life the person who wrote in the book. It is interesting generally to browse the entries on the website, reading the messages, seeing the different handwriting and the places from where people came.

There is a Project Officer but most of the transcribing and research has been carried out by volunteers. They hope that anyone who recognises a name will be able to provide more information including photographs. They would be delighted to hear from you if one of your ancestors featured in the book.

The website www.peterboroughww1.co.uk has images of the pages, an index of names and any information they already have about a serviceman. More up to date information is available on social media. It is a fascinating social document and well worth looking through.

Dorothy Harbron
pgandd_harbron@hotmail.com
CONVICT ELIZABETH JENNINGS
WHEN DID SHE ARRIVE IN VAN DIEMEN’S LAND?

Don Bradmore (Member No. 6756)

ON 11 September 1822, Lord Sidmouth sailed from Woolwich with 97 female convicts. It was under the command of Captain James FERRIER whose orders were to disembark fifty of the prisoners at Hobart Town and then sail on to Sydney to deliver the remainder.1 According to off-loading the women destined to serve out their sentences in Van Diemen’s Land on 10 February 1823, Lord Sidmouth went on to Port Jackson. At Sydney, on 27 February, it disembarked the rest. Actually, there were now only 46; one had died along the way.2

A list of the 97 female convicts aboard the vessel when it sailed from England is easy to find and there is no dispute about it.3 However, identifying the fifty women who were disembarked at Hobart on 10 February 1823 is more difficult because there is conflicting evidence.

About one in particular, Elizabeth JENNINGS, there is very considerable confusion.

Twenty-two years old and single, she had been convicted of larceny at the Old Bailey, London, on 28 June 1820.4 A man had accused her of stealing five shillings [about $1] from him. He testified that she had run ‘smack up’ against him on a street at Hoxton in inner London at about midnight on 16 June. Putting her arms around him, she had begun to rummage through the pockets of his breeches. He had then seized her hand and, opening it, found four shillings [80 cents] there. He had called the watchman immediately and given her in charge. Later, at the watch-house, another one shilling [20 cents] had dropped from within her clothing.5

Sentenced to transportation for life, she had spent almost two years in an English gaol before being put aboard Lord Sidmouth in late 1822.6

But was she disembarked at Hobart Town on 10 February 1823 or at Sydney on 27 February?

Those who believe she was disembarked at Hobart Town rely on two main arguments: first, that her name is on a list, held by the Tasmanian Archives and Heritage Office (TAHO), of those who were put ashore there; and second, that this is supported by correspondence in the files of the Colonial Secretary’s Office (CSO) in New South Wales.

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1 Convict Ships to NSW: www.members.iinet.net.au/~perthdps/convicts/shipNSW2.html
2 Ibid. It is believed that Lord Sidmouth was at Hobart Town for eight or nine days before sailing for Sydney.
3 Full list of 97 convicts: http://www.historyaustralia.org.au/twconvic/Lord+Sidmouth+1823
4 Elizabeth Jennings, Old Bailey trial: www.oldbaileyonline.org—reference: t18200628-128
5 Ibid
6 Ibid
Now, taking these arguments in turn:

**The List:** Those who believe Elizabeth Jennings was not disembarked until Lord Sidmouth reached Sydney claim the accuracy of the TAHO list can be disputed. To begin with, it contains 58 names rather than 50, and that in itself casts doubt on its reliability. Moreover, it is not an original, hand-written document compiled in England prior to Lord Sidmouth’s departure or at the time of disembarkation at Hobart Town. Rather, it appears to be a list that has been compiled from other records at some later time.7

**The CSO Correspondence:** On 15 July 1823, more than five months after Lord Sidmouth had unloaded the remainder of its cargo of convicts at Sydney and set sail again for England, Dr Donald MacLeod, the Police Magistrate at Parramatta (Sydney), wrote to Frederick Goulburn, the Colonial Secretary for New South Wales:8

Sir, Miss Bromley, having made application to me for Elizabeth Jennings, a female convict per Ship ‘Lord Sidmouth’, at present at the Factory to proceed with her to Van Diemen’s Land, I have the honour to request you will be pleased to acquiesce with the same. I have the Honor to be, Sir, your most humble servant, Donald MacLeod.9

The Miss Bromley to whom MacLeod was referring was a daughter of Dr Edward Foord Bromley, then a high-ranking and well-respected government official at Hobart. Formerly a Royal Navy surgeon, he had been appointed to the position of ‘Naval Officer, Hobart Town’, in early 1820. As such, he was responsible for the collection of all harbour and shipping fees and also for the duty payable on the importation of restricted goods such as liquor and tobacco. In that important role he was, in effect, the Colonial Treasurer.10 Shortly after he had taken up his appointment, his two adult daughters, Julia, 23, and Eliza, 17, both still single, came out from England to join him. They were excited to be in the colony where their father was much-admired. He was a fun-loving, jovial and popular man. He had been given a fine house to live in and enough convict servants to help him feel comfortable in it. He was well-paid and could afford to be indulgent towards his daughters.11

Now, after little more than a year at Hobart Town, Eliza, the younger daughter, was in Sydney, presumably to visit some of the very good friends her much-travelled father had there.12

A week after receiving MacLeod’s request, Colonial Secretary Goulburn responded by writing to William Soarell who, as lieutenant-governor of Van Diemen’s Land, was ultimately responsible for knowing how many convicts

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8 Correspondence: Colonial Secretary’s Papers, 1788–1825, via ‘Ancestry.com’; Item 4/5508, p. 671 and Item4/1768, p. 168

9 Ibid., Item 4/1768, p. 168


11 Ibid.

12 Although there is some doubt whether it was Julia Bromley or her younger sister, Eliza, who was visiting Sydney at this time, the evidence seems to suggest it was the younger. See *The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 3 July 1823, p. 4.
were in that colony and the whereabouts of all of them at any given time.

Goulburn’s letter, dated 23 July 1823, reads:

Sir, Elizabeth Jennings who came to Sydney some short time since with Miss Bromley, returns by the same present opportunity to Hobart Town in the service of the same Mistress. I have the Honor to be, &c, &c., F. Goulburn. On the surface, nothing could be plainer! Here, Goulburn clearly states that convict Elizabeth Jennings, ‘who came to Sydney some short time since with her mistress’, was now returning with her to Hobart Town.

If what Goulburn told Sorell is accurate, there can be no doubt whatsoever that Elizabeth Jennings had been disembarked at Hobart Town on 10 February. But was it accurate? Had he, in fact, misunderstood MacLeod? MacLeod had not said that Elizabeth Jennings had accompanied Miss Bromley to Sydney, or even that Miss Bromley wanted to take her back to Hobart Town. He had only said Miss Bromley wanted to take her to Hobart Town.

And, besides, why would Elizabeth Jennings have been at the Female Factory at Parramatta if the mistress with whom she had arrived from Hobart Town only a short time earlier was intending to take her back again? Is it not far more likely Miss Bromley would have kept her servant with her during the visit?

Those who believe Elizabeth Jennings was disembarked at Sydney rather than Hobart Town also point to the fact that, while there are newspaper announce-

ments of Miss Bromley’s arrival and departure from New South Wales, only the departure notice mentions that she was accompanied by a servant.

On 23 January 1823, The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser (p. 2) carried this notice:

On Monday arrived from Hobart Town, the brig ‘Deveron’, Captain WILSON. She sailed the 13th instant, and brings a cargo of sundries. Passengers, Miss Bromley, Mr. and Mrs. GILWARY, Mr. LIVINGSTONE, Mr. READ, Mr. WILSON, and Mr. FERGUSON; together with several other persons.

There is no mention that Miss Bromley arrived at Sydney with a servant. While it is very possible the servants aboard Deveron are included among the ‘several other persons’, there is no proof of that. Compare that notice with the one which appeared in the same paper on 3 July 1823 (p. 4) as Miss Bromley prepared to leave Sydney:

Miss E. F. Bromley, leaving the Colony by an early Opportunity, requests Claims to be presented. Also, Elizabeth Jennings, Servant.

Here, there is no doubt. Miss Bromley was leaving Sydney accompanied by a servant, Elizabeth Jennings.

As it happened, the pair arrived back at Hobart Town aboard Lusitania on 27 July 1823. That event is noted in Elizabeth Jennings’s conduct record. There is one more important last piece of evidence to support the view that Elizabeth Jennings was disembarked at Sydney on 27 February 1823 rather than at Hobart Town on 10 February.

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13 Ibid., Item 4/3508, p. 671
14 Elizabeth Jennings’ conduct record:
TAHO CON40/1/5, Image 169
Her conduct record, part of which is shown here, shows the names of two ships, Lord Sidmouth and Lusitania. In the convention of the day, this indicates that she arrived originally in one of the Australian colonies (in this case, New South Wales) on the first-named vessel and was later brought to Van Diemen’s Land on the latter vessel.13

Thus, there can be little doubt about the matter. The TAHO list is incorrect. Colonial Secretary Frederick Goulburn was in error. Elizabeth Jennings did not arrive in Van Diemen’s Land until 27 July 1823.

And finally, a postscript for the curious. Why did Miss Bromley choose Elizabeth Jennings as her servant, and what happened to her after her arrival at Hobart Town?

It is tempting to think that, in making preparations to return to Hobart Town, Miss Bromley had searched long and hard for a suitable servant to accompany her. It is tempting to think—albeit very romantically—that she had gone to the Female Factory at Parramatta and found there a sweet and lovely young girl (an orphan maid, perhaps!) who had been treated shamefully by a cruel employer in England, tried for a crime she had not committed, and wrongfully convicted. It is tempting to think that immediately, a bond had been established between them, they arrived at Hobart Town as close as sisters, and they had remained good friends for ever more.

But, alas, while Elizabeth Jennings was just seven years older than Eliza Bromley, that was not the case.16 Very far from it, in fact!

Once the pair had reached Hobart Town, Miss Bromley appears to have had no further use for her servant.

On 11 August 1823, just two weeks after her arrival in Van Diemen’s Land on Lusitania, Elizabeth Jennings was charged by a Mr Emmett, the master to whom she was then assigned, with being drunk and disorderly. She escaped with a reprimand.17

Two years later, on 14 February 1825, she married a free settler, George Piper, at Hobart Town.18 On 24 July 1829, a son, George Solomon Piper, was born, but is believed to have died in infancy.19

Thereafter, her life appears to have been a sad one and she was frequently before the courts for drunkenness. On 20 February 1847, a newspaper report of one of her many appearances before a magistrate for this offence read:

GEORGE TOWN

POLICE OFFICE

Feb. 11.—Elizabeth Piper,—what, here again Mrs. Piper said his Worship, to this very old and frequent visitor? Why unfortunately so your Worship.

15 Ibid.

16 Elizabeth Jennings was 22 at the time of her Old Bailey trial in June 1820. See Note 4, above.
17 As for Note 14, above
18 Marriage to George Piper: Reg: 790/1825/36
19 Birth of son, George Solomon Piper: Reg: 4079/1831/32, New Norfolk. His death is not recorded.
Guilty or Not Guilty of Constable Hawke’s charge against you of being drunk, enquired the clerk and retail dealer in sky blue? Elizabeth confessed her sin, and produced the 5s required for her free exit.20

On 3 December 1855, her husband, George Piper, passed away at Hobart.21 Six months earlier, he had prepared his Last Will and Testament. It reads (in part):

This is the Last Will and Testament of me, George Piper, of Cimitiere Plains near George Town, farmer. I appoint H […] LAWTON Esquire of George Town and George M. EDDIE of Launceston, Merchant, to be my Executors and my Trustees and I bequeath to them the whole of my estate and assets whatsoever, whether real or personal, in trust, first to pay to my dear wife Elizabeth who is afflicted in her mind the sum of thirty one shillings (about $3.20) weekly for the rest of her natural life and second to hold my Estate as aforesaid for the benefit of one or more of the children of either of my brothers …22

Elizabeth Jennings, ‘afflicted in her mind’, lived on until 1876. She died, at the age of 81, at the New Norfolk Asylum on 12 June 1876.23

The author acknowledges the outstanding contribution of Judith Carter, Launceston, to the research for this article.

20 The Cornwall Chronicle, 20 February 1847, p. 144
21 George Piper, death: Reg: 1966/1855/35, Launceston
22 George Piper’s Will: TAHO AD960/1/4, 1857, Will No. 684, p. 47
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MARY ANN BUTLER was in the Orphan School twice. She was first admitted at the age of two and again at 11½.

Mary Ann arrived in the colony of Van Diemen’s Land on the convict ship *Tasmania* (2) in 1845. With her were her mother—an Irish convict named Margaret Butler—and her brother, William, aged ten. Mary Ann and William were just two of thousands of children who came with their convict mothers to the colony: the *Tasmania* (2) alone brought 37 children.

On arrival in the colony, William was admitted to the Male Orphan School in New Town, near Hobart. He remained there for two years.

For her first five months in the colony, Mary Ann most likely stayed with her mother, probably in the cramped and bleak convict nursery at Dynnyrne House or possibly on the *Anson*, moored in the River Derwent.

When she was two, Mary Ann was considered old enough to be removed from her mother. She was admitted to the Female Orphan School on 14 May 1846 and remained there for five years.

Male Orphan School, on the same site but in a separate building.

Mary Ann’s mother Margaret married fellow convict John SHACKLETON in St Joseph’s Catholic Church, Hobart, in May 1850. Twelve months later, on 10 May 1851, Mary Ann was released to her mother, then a ticket-of-leave holder. Her brother, William, had left the Male Orphan School in January 1847, when he was ‘apprenticed’ (hired) to Rev. Richard WALSH, a Catholic priest, in Port Phillip (now Victoria). Mary Ann was only about four at this time and it is difficult to know how much contact the siblings had.

After little more than five years of marriage, Margaret Butler died in November 1855, when she was beaten to death by John Shackleton. He was charged with her death and sentenced to ‘life in penal servitude’ at Port Arthur.

Mary Ann, ‘a girl of 10 years of age’, appeared at her mother’s inquest on 7 November 1855. She testified:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
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<tr>
<td>TAHO, RGD37/1/9 Hobart 1850/499</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margaret Butler and John ‘Shakleton’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAHO, CON33/1/29 No.7021 John Shackleton Marquis of Hastings (2) 1842</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAHO, SWD28/1/1 p. 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAHO, RGD35/5/Hobart 1855/439</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margaret Butler or ‘Shakleton’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colonial Times 8 November 1855 p. 2; The Hobarton Mercury, 9 November 1855 p. 2; Hobart Courier, 5 December 1855 p. 3; TAHO, CON37/1/1 p. 2799 John Shackleton</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
on good terms on that day; there were other persons in the house, who were drunk, as was deceased; witness saw the deceased on Friday, who told her that Shackleton had beaten her.

On 7 December 1855, shortly after her mother’s death, Mary Ann was again admitted to the Orphan School. Four years later, in January 1859, when she was 17, she was apprenticed to Mrs Mary O’BOYLE of Hobart.

By the time she was 18, Mary Ann was living on the South Coast of NSW, at “Tantanglo” (Tantawangalo near Candelo). How she came to be there remains a mystery.

On 24 December 1865, Mary Ann, described as a farmer’s daughter, married George Ernest WARD, a twenty-three year-old stockman at Candelo, in the District Registrar’s Office, Eden.

According to the marriage certificate, Mary Ann Butler was born in Ireland, the daughter of John Butler, a farmer, and her mother’s name was not known. George was born in England, the son of John Ward, a carpet weaver, and Ann (née BOLLOCK). He had worked on ‘Bemboka Station’ from 1862, as an overseer for the Tooth family of Kameruka.

As a young cabin boy, George was one of the few survivors of the horrific wreck of the SS Admella in 1859 off the coast of South Australia. Mary Ann and George named their second daughter Admella.

Mary Ann and George went on to have twelve children, most of whom were born at Bemboka where George was a dairy farmer. Their youngest daughter, born in 1888, was named Murial Pansy Ernestine Centennial Ward. One of Mary Ann’s sons, William George Ward, was a newsagent; his brother, George, was a hotel manager; and another brother, Ernest George, was a factory manager.

Another son, Harry Erasmus Ward was a school teacher. Daughters Admella, Aveline and Muriel married school teachers. Another daughter, Alice Mary, married a postmaster; her sister, Lily May, married a post and telegraph assistant. Violet married a farmer.

NSW Birth Certificate District of Bemboka 1889/020015 Murial Pansy Ernestine Centennial Ward
NSW Death Certificate District of Bowral 1955/025738 William George Ward;
NSW Death Certificate District of Goulburn 1925/015344 George Ward;
NSW Death Certificate District of Petersham 1928/012188 Ernest George Ward
NSW Death Certificate District of Sydney 1960/018608 “Henry” Erasmus Ward
NSW Death Certificate District of Sydney 1955/000211 Warwick McKenzie Clarke;
NSW Marriage Certificate Bemboka 1899/000823 Aveline Ward and Oswald Johnson Armstrong; NSW Marriage Certificate Bemboka 1906/009548 Muriel Pansy Ernestine Centennial Ward and David James Heery
NSW Marriage Certificate 1893/0022825 Alice Mary Ward and George Day Williams; NSW Marriage Certificate Bemboka 1900/008296 Lily May Ward and Ernest Hill

www.bemboka.net/pioneerswalk.html (17 June 2010)
family was not prominent but managed to lead quiet, respectable lives.

George Ernest Ward, a farmer aged 79, died on 22 December 1919 at Bemboka. He was buried in the Church of England Cemetery at Bemboka. George had lived in South Australia for seven years and 60 years in New South Wales. His death was registered by his son, George Ward, of Young, and witnessed by Harry Ward. His death notice read:

WARD.—December 22, at Bemboka, George Ernest, beloved husband of Mary Anne Ward, aged 79 years. Asleep. Survivor SS Admella, Wrecked Portland Bay 1859.

George’s contribution to the district, as ‘the Grand Old Man of Bemboka’, is acknowledged on the Bemboka pioneer website. He was President of the Jockey Club, Guardian of Minors, Justice of the Peace, Commissioner for Affidavits and the Chairman of the Recruiting Committee and the Voluntary Aid League.

Mary Ann died not long after her husband of nearly 55 years: she died on 2 August 1920 at Bathurst Street, Singleton, NSW, at the home of her son, Ernest. According to her death certificate, she was 76 years old (so, born c.1844). A son and daughter predeceased her. Like many of the Orphan School children who have been traced, her death certificate has a bare minimum of information about her background: her father’s name was John Butler; her mother’s name was not known; she was born in Ireland; and she had lived 17 years in Tasmania and about 58 years in New South Wales.

A brief death notice was published in the

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21 NSW Marriage Certificate Bemboka 1903/008070 Violet Gertrude Ward and Thomas Richard Crocker
22 NSW Death Certificate District of Bega 1919/024565 George Ernest Ward
23 Sydney Morning Herald 27 December 1919 p. 8
24 www.bemboka.net/pioneerswalk.html (17 June 2010)
26 NSW Death Certificate District of Singleton 1920/010752 Mary Ann Ward.
Sydney Morning Herald:
WARD.—August 2, at the residence of Ernest Ward, Singleton (suddenly), Mary Anne, relict of the late George Ward, of Bemboka, aged 75 years.27

Mary Ann was buried in the Church of England cemetery, Rookwood on 4 August 1920, where her sons, Ernest George (d.1928); John (d.1908); and George (d.1925); and daughter Muriel Heery (d.1943) were also buried.28 Her long journey was at an end.

I had been searching for Mary Ann Butler for over 20 years, having lost track of her after she left the Female Orphan School in Hobart in 1859. I found what I thought was a possible marriage but, frustratingly, I was unable to prove it was her. Many years ago, I obtained a copy of her brother’s obituary from the ‘Perkins Papers’, a collection of historical papers relating to southern NSW. This obituary gave many useful family details but was only an abridged version. Sometime later, I had the opportunity to check William Butler’s full obituary in the Manaro Mercury in the National Library in Canberra (before it was online!)—imagine my delight when I read:

The deceased leaves a wife 67 years of age and the following children:—Mr. Thomas Butler, Moss Vale; Mr. William Butler, South Australia; Mr. Paul Butler, Narrandera; Mrs. Alfred Jones, North Sydney; Mrs. E. Hildred, Forest Lodge, Sydney; Mrs. John Snowden, Myalla; Mrs D. Lundie, Major’s Creek, Braidwood; and Miss Mary Butler, Medlow Baths, Katoomba; a sister, Mrs. George Ward, of Bemboka; and 16 grandchildren.29

For me, genealogically-speaking, this was a constructive lesson to leave no stone unturned—and to always check the original source! So many times I bemoaned the fact that I had not been able to find ‘little Mary Ann’ and the key to finding her was there all the time!

What was even better than finding this information was my realisation that somehow, against all the odds, William and Mary Ann, separated as young children, had managed to find each other. William may have travelled with Rev. WALSH from Port Phillip to Queanbeyan, in southern NSW. By 1858, when he married, William was living on the Monaro.30 How Mary Ann got to the south coast remains a mystery. She was still a very young child when her brother left the colony and only 11 when her mother died. William and Mary Ann’s story is a remarkable one of courage, resilience and survival, and the strength of family ties under difficult and complex circumstances.

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

For more about the Tasmania (2) 1845, see Joan Kavanagh and Dianne Snowden, Van Diemen’s Women: A History of Transportation to Tasmania (The History Press Ireland, 2015)

27 Sydney Morning Herald 6 August 1920 p. 8
29 Manaro Mercury, 16 July 1909 p. 2
30 NSW Marriage Certificate District of Cooma 1858/1639 Margaret McIntyre and William Butler.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>PLACE/AREA</th>
<th>TIME</th>
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<td>ALOMES</td>
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<td>ANDERSON James Smith</td>
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<td>Tasmania AUS</td>
<td>1800–2000</td>
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<td>BELL</td>
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<td>BENNETT Charles</td>
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<td>c.1888</td>
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<td>BUCK Jonathan</td>
<td>Norfolk ENG</td>
<td>1797–1869</td>
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<td>BULLER Albert</td>
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<td>VIC AUS</td>
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<td>Ouse, Strickland and New Norfolk TAS AUS</td>
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<td>1820–1866</td>
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<td>JONES Eliza/Elizabeth</td>
<td>Kildare IRL</td>
<td>1824–1893</td>
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<td>LEWIS James Thomas</td>
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<td>LEWIS John</td>
<td>Latrobe TAS AUS</td>
<td>1828–1899</td>
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<td>Local History</td>
<td>Hamilton, Ouse, Victoria Valley/Osterly TAS AUS</td>
<td>1820 onwards</td>
<td>7805</td>
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<td>McKAY William</td>
<td>Ayrshire/Aberdeens SCT</td>
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<td>1811–1848</td>
<td>7820</td>
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## NEW MEMBERS’ INTERESTS

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If you find a name in which you are interested, please note the membership number and check the New Members’ listing for the appropriate name and address. Please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope and don’t forget to reply if you receive a SSAE.

## NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members.

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<td>7804</td>
<td>DALEY Mr Ben</td>
<td>529 Back river Road MAGRA MAGRA TAS AUS</td>
<td><a href="mailto:benjamin.daley@bigpond.com">benjamin.daley@bigpond.com</a></td>
<td>MAGRA TAS</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7805</td>
<td>DALEY Mr Kelvin</td>
<td>85 Leonard Avenue WEST MOONAH TAS</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kelvin.daley2@bigpond.com">kelvin.daley2@bigpond.com</a></td>
<td>WEST MOONAH</td>
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<tr>
<td>7806</td>
<td>HOURIGAN Mr John</td>
<td>47 West End OHOPE NZ</td>
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<td>OHOPE NZ</td>
<td>3121</td>
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<tr>
<td>7807</td>
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<td>Kingston TAS</td>
<td>7050</td>
<td><a href="mailto:adelie@bigpond.net.au">adelie@bigpond.net.au</a></td>
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<td>FLEET Ms Wendy</td>
<td>1 Como Crescent NEWSTEAD TAS</td>
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<td>DUSTING Mr Robert</td>
<td>PO Box 5333 LAUNCESTON TAS</td>
<td><a href="mailto:robertkw@gmail.com">robertkw@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>LAUNCESTON TAS</td>
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<td>7813</td>
<td>DAVIS Ms Joan</td>
<td>PO Box 119 MOONAH TAS</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jhgerbille@hotmail.com">jhgerbille@hotmail.com</a></td>
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<td>7814</td>
<td>ANDERSON Mr Malcolm</td>
<td>PO Box 660 MANLY NSW</td>
<td><a href="mailto:anderson.family.tree@gmail.com">anderson.family.tree@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>MANLY NSW</td>
<td>1655</td>
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<td>7815</td>
<td>BAYNE Mrs Janine</td>
<td>2/8 Antra Close GEILSTON BAY TAS</td>
<td><a href="mailto:janinebayne@bigpond.com">janinebayne@bigpond.com</a></td>
<td>GEILSTON BAY</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:janinebayne@bigpond.com">janinebayne@bigpond.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>7816</td>
<td>BULLER Ms Carole</td>
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<td>GEILSTON BAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>7817</td>
<td>EASTLEY Ms Robyn</td>
<td>101 Lord Street SANDY BAY TAS</td>
<td><a href="mailto:eeas2862@bigpond.net.au">eeas2862@bigpond.net.au</a></td>
<td>SANDY BAY</td>
<td>7005</td>
<td><a href="mailto:eeas2862@bigpond.net.au">eeas2862@bigpond.net.au</a></td>
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## NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members.

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<td>MOCKINYA</td>
<td>VIC</td>
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<td>LINDISFARNE</td>
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<tr>
<td>7822</td>
<td>RAMM Ms Debra</td>
<td>PO Box 39</td>
<td>BATTERY POINT</td>
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**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

HELP WANTED

JONES, John of Ouse
I am seeking information on John JONES of Ouse, Tasmania. He was the father of Elizabeth JONES who married William HAGAN in 1875. Each newspaper snippet I have found identifies ‘John Jones, Ouse’ or ‘John Jones of Ouse’ and he is described thus on some of the Hagan children’s birth notices.

A John Jones leased 6 acres from Henric Nicholas of Cawood between 1877 and 1879, and he may be my John Jones! A couple of Ancestry posts suggest John Jones, his wife and children immigrated to Tasmania in 1855 and may have been assisted by a Mr WILLIAMS of Rotherwood, Hamilton.

Please contact Allan Dixon, email l_adixon@bigpond.net.au

CORRECTIONS
See Vol 37 No. 2, September 2016

BURK
p. 98 ... Sarah (née CHAMBEY) should be CHAMLEY
Johann Conrad BURK and wife Ernstine Caroline (née SHAFER) who came from Germany on the Montmorency

SMITH
p. 98 ... photograph of their son, William Henry James Peter SMITH and his wife Emily Jane SMITH (née KNIGHT) should be William Henry James SMITH

Darrell would like to thank Jenny and Heather for contacting him after the last Tasmanian Ancestry and apologises for not being able to reply to Heather.
Darrell Burk PO Box 41 Upper Burnie TAS 7320

On the left is William Peter Smith (died 18 November 1919) but who is the man on the right? Darrell Burk would appreciate anyone being able to supply his full name.

Darrell Burk PO Box 41 Upper Burnie TAS 7320

With all the dahlias in the photograph it was probably taken around March—Ed.
See also Darrell’s entry Latrobe Flower Shows on page 184.
A THIRKELL BY ANOTHER NAME
Part 5: The Cummins Family
Richie Woolley (Member No. 144)

READERS with good memories may recall a series of articles I wrote in 2010–11 about the THIRKELL family. They might also remember that, on the basis of circumstantial evidence which I won’t review here, I concluded that my ancestor Robert Thirkell, of ‘Darlington Park’ and ‘Woodstock’, who died in 1876 at the stated age of 86, was the Robert Thirkeld who was baptised at Aycliffe, near Darlington in Durham, in 1792.

We all know the value of persistence when it comes to research, and I have recently been able to confirm that my previous identification is almost certainly correct. The key discovery—and here I say three cheers for digitised newspapers—was a short obituary relating to a Mrs David THOMAS, who was described as ‘the niece of Robert Thirkell senior of Woodstock’ when she died in August 1900!

Mrs Thomas proved to be one Mary Ann CUMMINS, who was said to be 28 when she married David Thomas at Perth on 24 March 1851. A notice published at the time of her wedding listed her pre-marital residence as ‘Darlington Park’, which confirms that, as stated in the newspaper, she was in some way connected to Robert Thirkell.

Also of interest was the fact that one George ‘Cumins’ was a witness to Mary Ann’s marriage. Since it seemed likely that George was related to the bride, I decided to investigate him further. I soon found a George Cumins, aged 28, had married an Emily Jane DAVIS at Perth on 28 August 1858. Of even more interest was the fact that the venue for his wedding was the ‘House of J F Shultz’, who was none other than Robert Thirkell’s father-in-law, John Frederick SHULTZ (originally Schutte).

I also discovered many more connections between George Cumins and the Thirkell family. George gave his address as ‘Lincoln Grange’, one of Robert Thirkell’s properties, when he registered the birth of his first child in 1859. The same place was listed as the family residence in 1862, but by 1867 the Cumins family had moved to ‘Pockthorpe’, another Thirkell property, where George was working as an overseer. A child born in 1871 was registered by Robert’s son, James.

2. Examiner, 4 November 1876; Launceston Death No. 3200, 1876
3. Durham Record Office, Aycliffe Baptisms, EP/AY 1/2
4. Examiner, 20 August 1900
5. Tasmanian Marriage No. 639, 1851
6. Examiner, 29 March 1851
7. Tasmanian Marriage No. 789, 1858
8. Tasmanian Marriages, No. 3366, 1836; No. 461, 1839; TAHO, CON 52/1, p. 187; International Genealogical Index (extract from actual record)
9. TAHO, LSD 1/1/11, p.445, p. 449
10. Longford District Birth No. 1520, 1859
11. Tasmanian Baptism No. 5755, 1862
12. Longford District Birth No. 856, 1867
13. Valuation Rolls, Hobart Town Gazette, 19 March 1867, 28 January 1868
Thirkell, and the name Rochester, which was the married name of one of the Aycliffe Thirkelds, was bestowed on a Cumins son born in 1884.

My working hypothesis at this point was that George and Mary Ann were siblings. Their surname was recorded variously as Cumins, Cummins, Cummings and Cumming, but neither individual appeared to have been born here. I eventually determined that Mary Ann had arrived in Launceston on the Henry in November 1843. She was described then as an unmarried domestic servant, and her age was stated to be 19.

It seems Mary Ann’s presumed brother George had been in the colony for some eighteen months by the time she arrived. He had evidently sailed into the Tamar on the Corsair in May 1842, at which time he was said to be a 15-year-old farm servant. This indicates that George was born somewhat earlier than suggested by the record of his marriage, but the probable explanation for this discrepancy is he had shaved a few years off his age when he married his much younger wife in 1858. Indeed, George was said to be 76 when he died at Cluan, near Westbury, on 26 May 1902, an age that is consistent with the earlier date of birth.

Also travelling on the Corsair was a John Cummins, aged 21 who, like George, was listed as a farm servant. Although I could not trace John beyond his arrival here, I immediately suspected he was the elder brother of George and Mary Ann.

Mary Ann was reported to have been in her 79th year when she died, which, in combination with the other two references to her age, suggests she was born in the period from 1822 to 1824. John Cummins was a couple of years older and George some three or four years younger. Clearly, if Mary Ann was Robert Thirkell’s niece, then her mother must have been Robert’s sister and was probably born a Thirkell/Thirkeld (although she could have had a different surname if she and Robert were half-siblings).

At this point I was ready to check English records to see whether or not I could establish that there was indeed a relationship between the three Cumins/Cummins individuals and the Aycliffe Thirkell/Thirkeld family. The wonderful durhamrecordsonline.com website provides access to a near-complete set of church records for the county, and I soon found index entries for a John, Mary Ann and George Cummins, who were all baptised in the Auckland District of Durham, in 1820, 1822 and 1826 respectively. Even more excitingly, the same district was the location for an 1819 marriage between a

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14 Longford District, Birth No. 963, 1871
15 Jane Thirkeld (1794–1869) married John Rochester at Aycliffe on 15 February 1814 [DRO, EP/AY 1/6]. George’s use of the Rochester name might indicate that Jane cared for him after his mother’s death, an event mentioned elsewhere in this article.
16 Westbury District Birth No. 3416, 1884
17 Tasmanian Marriage No. 789, 1858; Campbell Town District Birth No. 654, 1861
18 Longford District Births, No. 1520, 1859; No. 925, 1870
19 Longford District Birth No. 856, 1867
20 Longford District Birth No. 995, 1876
21 TAHO, CB7/9/1/1, p.115; CSO95/1/1, p. 187; Examiner, 4 November 1843
22 TAHO, CB7/9/1/1, p. 59
23 Tasmanian Marriage No. 789, 1858
24 Examiner, 27 May 1902
25 TAHO, CB7/9/1/1, p. 59
26 Examiner, 20 August 1900
27 www.durhamrecordsonline.com, Auckland District, Record Numbers 580358.0, 624249.0, 624457.0
John ‘Cummin’ and a Mary Thirkeld. I already knew that the Robert Thirkeld who had been christened at Aycliffe had a sister named Mary, baptised in the same parish in July 1788, so it was with some anticipation that I ordered full details for the relevant entries.

To my delight, they confirmed that John, Mary Ann and George Cummins were indeed siblings: all children of John Cummins, a carpenter and joiner, and his wife Mary. The three children had been baptised at Merrington, a parish which shares a boundary with Aycliffe. Their parents had been married at Auckland St Andrew, which adjoins both Aycliffe and Merrington, so all the events relating to the Cummins family had occurred within a proverbial stone’s-throw of the Aycliffe Thirkelds.

John and Mary Cummins were living at Windlestone, a hamlet within the parish of Auckland St Andrew, when Mary Ann and George were baptised. A Mary ‘Cummin’ was also described as a resident of Windlestone when she was buried at Auckland St Andrew in February 1832. This woman was almost certainly the mother of the Cummins children. Her age was recorded as 43, which is exactly how old Robert Thirkeld’s sister Mary would have been at that time. All the evidence points to the same conclusion: if Mary Ann Cummins was Robert Thirkell’s niece, then he was the child baptised at Aycliffe in 1792.

Mary’s husband was probably the John Cummins who was buried at Auckland St Andrew in November 1838. If this identification is correct, then his death orphaned the three Cummins children. This may explain, at least in part, why they subsequently left England for Van Diemen’s Land, where their uncle Robert was a prosperous farmer.

As I mentioned in my previous articles, there was another member of the Aycliffe Thirkeld family who migrated to Tasmania: Robert’s brother, Ralph Thirkell (baptised 1797), who died on the ‘Hollywood’ property near Cressy in November 1880. I previously posed the question how it was that Ralph, an agricultural labourer of limited means with neither wife nor children, came to have a death notice published in a local newspaper? Well, the answer now seems clear, because ‘Hollywood’ was being rented at the relevant time by none other than George Cummins!

John’s residence was said to be ‘Rushy Ford’, another Hamlet near Windlestone, and the place that was also listed as the family home when John Cummins junior was baptised in 1820. Durham Record Office, Aycliffe Baptisms, EP/AY 1/2

Valuation Roll, Hobart Town Gazette, 21 January 1879; Examiner, 16 November 1880, 25 March 1881, 17 August 1881

www.durhamrecordsonline.com
Auckland District, Record No. 692537.2.
John’s residence was said to be ‘Rushy Ford’, another Hamlet near Windlestone, and the place that was also listed as the family home when John Cummins junior was baptised in 1820.

www.durhamrecordsonline.com
Auckland District, Record No. 1013625.2

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28 www.durhamrecordsonline.com
Auckland District, Record No. 328731.1
29 Durham Record Office, Aycliffe Baptisms, EP/AY 1/2
30 C.P. Humphrey-Smith; The Phillimore Atlas and Index of Parish Registers, 1995
31 Ibid.
32 www.durhamrecordsonline.com
Auckland District, Record No. 1013625.2

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After completing this research I discovered George Cumins’ grave in the Anglican Cemetery at Westbury, marked by a headstone, it states he was born in October 1827 at Bishop Auckland in Durham.

While this confirmed his county of origin, it did cast some doubt on my identification of George as the child baptised at Merrington in 1826. To determine whether or not I had made a mistake, I checked the Durham database for a baptism that might match the details given on the headstone. To my relief, I was unable to find such an entry, and I am confident the information on the headstone is simply a somewhat garbled version of the truth.

George Cummins of Windlestone was baptised on 19 November 1826, which would fit with an October date of birth in 1826, rather than the stated 1827. As baptismal records of this period almost always record the place where a family was living at that time, rather than the actual birthplace of the child concerned, it is possible George was indeed born at Bishop Auckland rather than at Windlestone, which is some five kilometres to its east. Another possibility is that, having lost his parents while he was still quite young, George didn’t know exactly where he was born. Alternatively, Bishop Auckland is the nearest large town to the tiny hamlet of Windlestone, and it is possible George told his Tasmanian family, who would have known little or nothing about Durham, that he had been born near Bishop Auckland, rather than at Windlestone. Whatever the case, much stronger evidence than that provided by the headstone would be needed to sever the link between George Cummins and the Thirkells of Aycliffe and Tasmania.
A MOST UNUSUAL CHAP
R A Chapman

Introduction
This account arose following the discovery of a photograph of ‘Loughcrew’ in Co. Meath where I had been a guest in late 1945 while on leave from the Royal Navy. Another guest was the Australian Robert MATTHEWS who was a bit of a mystery man. Sir Nicholas NUGENT of Ballinlough Castle informed me Matthews had married the heiress of ‘Loughcrew’ in 1946 but was reluctant to provide further information. Searches of online newspapers on Trove provided many details, some photographs and reported the disappearance of Robert’s plane while flying from Northolt to Dublin in 1953.

While visiting an old friend, Allan HUNTER, I mentioned Robert’s last flight and he suggested I should contact Ernie CROMIE of Northern Ireland who annually visits the site where Allan’s brother had crashed in his bomber during WWII. This contact proved to be a most important one, because Ernie sent my enquiry to Peter AMOS in England who was very knowledgeable about the type of aircraft flown by Robert. Through him, I obtained a 12-page report on the enquiry into the plane’s disappearance and had useful contacts with Ronan GREGORY who had obtained the report and had been interested in a theory the plane had been deliberately disposed of and did not crash in the Irish Sea.

Records of Robert’s service in the RAAF and the Australian Army were obtained from the National Archives of Australia and a copy of his will came from the National Archives of Ireland. Several Australian genealogists responded to my requests for information about Robert and I am especially grateful to Marg MANSFIELD and Trish SYMONDS for the large number of newspaper references they provided.

Others who provided very helpful assistance include Seamus SMITH of Ballinacree, Andrew DAWRANT of The Royal Aero Club in London and SHELLEY of Air Accidents Investigation Branch (UK) but probably the most interesting contact arose almost by accident. I sent an enquiry to the Oldcastle Police who referred it to the District Superintendent in Kells. In reply to my enquiry I was sent contact details for Richard KILROY of The Moat, Oldcastle. As a boy, Richard saw Robert regularly. His comments have been invaluable and I am most grateful for his interest and information. Comments and discussion following a talk at the Ballinacree Historical Society have also been invaluable.

I am very appreciative of the interest, suggestions and encouragement I have received from my family.
ROBERT RICHARD MATTHEWS was born at Hillside Crescent, Launceston, Tasmania on either 21 October 1918 or 1920. When he enlisted in the RAAF he did not produce a birth certificate but made a statutory declaration that he was born in 1918. Later, when he joined the Australian Army he gave 1920 as his birth year which is more likely because he is listed as being 33 when he died in 1953. His parents were Robert Richard Alexander Matthews and Jessie Elizabeth Matthews (née FAULKNER). Their marriage in 1910 was registered at Coonamble in northern NSW. They appear to have had seven children. At some stage, Robert (senior) may have been manager of a cattle station somewhere in Australia but in 1926 he was an insurance agent and appeared before the Launceston Court charged with theft, in that he collected a premium from a client but did not hand it in to the insurance company office. During the hearing, a witness implied Robert was rather too fond of the races and drink. Because his duties were poorly defined, it was ruled there was no charge to answer and he was discharged.

In October 1934, a Robert Richard Matthews was fined for driving a car without a licence. This may have been his father, but in a later court appearance his father denied saying he would accept no responsibility for his son when that person was sent to prison for getting into trouble. When interviewed prior to joining the RAAF, Robert admitted a traffic offence but stated it was for riding a bicycle on a footpath in 1938. It is possible the denial by his father may not have related to a traffic infringement or to Robert. Robert’s parents had a very troubled marriage. At some time his mother and eldest daughter lived in two rooms in a boarding house and the remaining children were boarded out. At that time, Robert’s father was a travelling salesman, rarely came home and failed to provide adequate financial support for his children and his wife who earned money sewing. It was also alleged the husband was associating with other women and in 1936 Jessie applied to the court at Hobart for a divorce. An account of the proceedings shows the marriage had been severely troubled for years. Both parties made conflicting statements, but in the end the case was decided in Jessie’s favour. All this may have affected Robert and account for his unusual behaviour as an adult. Although no details of his being boarded out are known, it could have been an unsettling experience and perhaps he survived by looking after his own interests and only doing what he wanted.

Between 1936 and 1940, Robert was a barman, a drinks waiter at several hotels, a waiter and butler in a private home and an assistant cook. A newspaper said he was a cattleman so it is possible he also worked on a cattle station. At the start of World War II in 1939, all Australian unmarried men aged 21 were required to do three months’ military training serving only in Australia and its territories. Conscription was introduced in mid 1942.
when all men 18–35, and single men 35–45, were required to join the Citizens Military Force (CMF).

When Robert enlisted in the RAAF on 30 September 1940, he gave 50 Colville Street, Battery Point Hobart as his father’s address, with his own address as c/- Post Office Richmond Queensland about 500km west of Townsville where he was living in No. 3 Mobile Unit. Here also, he was interviewed before being accepted by the RAAF. Passed medically fit for service, he was 5ft 8in tall with fair complexion, fair hair, blue eyes and no obvious distinguishing marks. Educationally he qualified and had a merit certificate. He signed the Oath of Allegiance and a form detailing conditions relating to serving in the RAAF. The Recruitment Officer’s report stated he was a sober, honest and responsible man and not known to be a member of the Communist party. His trade test as a mess steward stated he had good knowledge of table waiting and as a drinks steward a fair knowledge of valet duties. He was neat, clean, spoke well, was intelligent and alert. The report concluded he was a very good type and suitable to be a mess steward but noted he had not served an apprenticeship.

His service number was 23632, his rank was Aircraftsman Class I (the lowest rank in the RAAF) and his next of kin, his mother. He was posted to Sandgate Station near Brisbane where he became a mess steward. Sandgate was part of the Air Training Plan. It does not appear to have been a flying school. Successful candidates usually went to another station for flying training and then to Canada for advanced training.

Despite favourable reports prior to entering the RAAF, Robert’s service was notable for its problems. From 11–29 October 1940 and again from 10 July to 1 August 1941 he was in hospital or on sick leave. Records do not show causes of illness but it may have been an ear problem. At the end of 1940, he was rated as an inferior mess steward with bad conduct. Disciplinary offences began on 12 February 1941 when he left his duty post and was given 7 days’ detention and four days later when he failed to attend the 06:00 parade, a further 7 days’ detention. On 10 March 1941, he went on leave to consult an ear specialist and did not return to Sandgate. A warrant for his arrest was issued and sent to all Police Commissioners in the main Australian cities. He was arrested on 22 May 1941 at Ilfracombe near Longreach in central Queensland, about 650km from the eastern coast.

An RAAF Medical Officer found Robert to be in a fit state of health to stand trial. He faced a court martial on 13 June 1941 and charged with desertion. The President was a Squadron Leader who was assisted by five RAAF officers. The prosecution called eight witnesses who were cross-examined at length by the prosecutor and defence. Much time was taken up in establishing Robert had not been seen at Sandgate since he went on leave. A thorough search of the station found no trace of him and noted he had taken all his possessions with him. He may also have had some civilian clothes. Robert had been seen on a Brisbane street and said he was going to Tasmania and might return. He also admitted that he had not seen an ear specialist.

A Corporal of the Service Police who escorted the prisoner from Ilfracombe to Brisbane, had been told by Robert that instead of going to Tasmania, he went to Townsville, then Mount Isa and finally to Marchmont Station near Longreach. He had been employed for 10 days at £3 per week burr cutting with a sickle and crutching sheep. He worked 12 hours a
day wearing either shorts or a bathing costume. He claimed he was earning money so he could return to Sandgate, and left because he was fed up and unwell and hoped for a different job in the RAAF.

In Robert’s evidence, he said he had £29 when he left camp and also visited Maryborough, Bunderberg, Cairns, Hughenden and Longreach, wore his uniform at all times, had not changed his name and told people he was on holiday.

Robert was cross-examined at length by the prosecutor but his defending officer did not examine him and made no reference to Robert’s difficult childhood. In his final address, the prosecutor claimed the evidence showed Robert intended to desert because he had taken all his belongings, that instead of going south he went north and he made no effort to hand himself in to the police. His defending officer emphasized Robert had made no attempt to use a disguise and that he intended to return to camp.

The Judge Advocate noted Robert had been away a very long way from camp for 73 days. This did not in itself prove him guilty of desertion. The court had to decide if he intended to desert and whether they believed Robert’s evidence. The court found him guilty and sentenced him to 90 days detention to be followed by discharge from the Australian armed forces. On 20 June, he broke away from his escort on the way to the latrines and attempted to escape but was unsuccessful.

Following a 14-day remission, he was discharged from the RAAF on 29 August 1941 and went to live at a house called Binda Gundra in Murray Street Goulburn, NSW. He received no pay for the period he was AWOL and in detention.

The following year, as a result of conscription, Robert was required to enlist in the military services and appeared before an Army Enlistment Officer on 12 June 1942 at Prospect, South Australia. He gave his place of birth as Hobart and not Launceston, his date of birth 11 October 1920 and not 1918. When nominating his father as next of kin, he recorded his father’s name as Richard Alexander Matthews, omitting Robert. It seems likely he was deliberately trying to avoid anything to do with his earlier service in the RAAF as he did not include this on his Army enrolment form. Robert claimed he held a certificate that entitled him to entry to a secondary school but no higher qualification. He gave his address as 46 Prospect Road, Adelaide and occupation motor driver but did not specify whether a truck or a car driver. Following a medical examination, because of an old mastoid operation he was graded as Class II, a rating was below Class I. An appendix scar and a stab wound were also noted.

Sometime between September 1941 and June 1942, Robert may have been employed as a station hand at Cockburn, a railway settlement on the border of South Australia and NSW involved with bringing mineral ore from Broken Hill, 281 miles NE of Adelaide. A friend who was a fellow station hand, had nervous breakdown, and appeared in the Supreme Court for stabbing Matthews. The judge noted the injury was serious and might have caused death. Perhaps Matthews left the railway after this and became a motor driver in Adelaide before joining the Army.

Robert was not called up for full-time military service until 10 July and was posted to the 25th Labour Company on 21 July—possibly as a driver. His service number was S4879 and his rank Private. On the following day, he was admitted to a military hospital with otis media problem (middle ear infection) and did not return to his unit until 15 August. On 21 August, he was granted sick leave and on 9 September declared medically unfit and
discharged. Other than being in hospital or on sick leave, his Army service totalled just a few days.

An Australian newspaper claimed he served in the Royal Australian Navy. Detailed records held by the Australian Veterans Affairs Department do not list him for the RAN. Another paper stated he was in the Merchant Navy, had been torpedoed twice and ended up recuperating at Dublin. A photograph shows him wearing a flat cap with a badge similar to one worn by some merchant seamen. Another photograph is much clearer and it is almost certain he was wearing a Merchant Service officer’s cap.

A Port Company vessel, Port Auckland, left Brisbane on its return voyage to Britain in early 1943 and it is possible Robert joined her at Brisbane. On 8 March 1943, she was at Halifax Nova Scotia then took the northern route towards Greenland. A U-boat sank her south of Cape Farewell on 17 March. The survivors were rescued by HMS Godetia and landed at Gourock at the entrance to the Clyde. No crew list has been sighted to confirm Robert was aboard this ship. If he was, it is possible he may have had a short shore leave and then joined another Port line ship, the Port Victor, departing for Buenos Aires. On 17 April, the ship was at Montevideo and on 1 May it was sunk by a U-boat near the Azores. A Robert Matthews is on the crew list as an apprentice, i.e. an Ordinary Seaman not yet qualified to be an Able Seaman. Because no date of birth is beside his name, there is no definite proof that this was the Australian man. The sloop HMS Wren rescued survivors and landed them at Liverpool, which had been the ship’s original destination. The ship’s captain wrote a letter of commendation for this Robert Matthews and as a result, he was awarded the British Empire Medal for bravery at sea.

A former merchant navy navigator, who had sailed the Scotland to Buenos Aires route, calculated the Port Victor, built in 1942, would have been capable of at least 12 knots. She would have had sufficient time to reach Buenos Aires then return to the Azores area where she was torpedoed on 1 May 1943. She was not in a convoy because ships with a good turn of speed were allowed to sail independently. Because there is no definite proof the Australian Robert Matthews was aboard these two ships, the above account must remain not proved but it is most unlikely he would have been an officer in such a short time in the merchant service and entitled to wear an officer’s cap.

Another Australian paper said he had been a cattle man, a ship’s steward and a film extra. Although the sinkings may account for 1943, there still remains the question about his life in 1944 before he went to ‘Loughcrew’, a very large estate in Co. Meath in southern Ireland. However, the Sydney Truth of 17 November 1946 claimed Robert had been a cattleman and had played the part of a bomber crew in the film ‘The Way to the Stars’ and was an extra in ‘Waltz Time’. He said he met Adela NAPER in London and frequently went to the theatre and social gatherings with her to meet members of the aristocracy. The Daily Mirror, 18 November 1946, states he came to ‘Loughcrew’ under a Services Guest Scheme two years after the death of James Naper in 1942. So, he must have arrived in 1944.

‘Loughcrew’ came into the possession of the Naper family in 1653 as a result of ‘service to the Crown’ and later to Oliver Cromwell. It grew in size to 180,000 acres and included farms, villages and towns like Oldcastle and Kells. In the late 1800s and early 1900s, large estates were broken up and some of the Naper estate
was sold off. The 67-room large house was built in 1823, survived a fire in 1888 and was restored. A later owner, James Lennox Naper married Adela TREFUSIS in 1902, served in the Royal Horse Guards in World War I and was awarded the Military Cross. He died without issue. In July 1946, Mrs Naper appointed Robert as steward of the estate but the farm workers refused to work for him right in the middle of haymaking and for three weeks they were all on strike. About the same time, Fort Lurgan estate was bought for £3,000 in the name of Mr Matthews. This was before he married Mrs Naper at Marylebone Registry Office in mid November 1946. Adela Naper was the wealthy heiress of Loughcrew. She was 67 and he was only 25. Lady Leicester, who was Adela’s sister, had spoken to her just a few days before the wedding and it was not mentioned. She thought there was nothing in the rumour. Following the wedding, he changed his name to Rodney Richard Matthews-Naper by deed-poll. Rodney (Robert) quickly adapted to the role of ‘lord of the manor’ and appears to have spent estate funds freely. He and Adela were active members of the Ballymacad Hunt. They took part in a hunt shortly after their marriage and Rodney was in full club uniform including a yellow waistcoat and cravat. They then retired to ‘Loughcrew House’ and declined to see any reporters.

The Mail (Adelaide) of 11 April 1953 stated local gentry had boycotted the marriage, cold-shouldered him when he attended the local hunt and named him ‘the flying fool’. They did not appreciate his Australian accent and considered him to be an uncouth nobody.

Adela, granddaughter of the Duke of Buccleugh, died on 11 October 1952 and Rodney inherited the ‘Loughcrew House’ contents totalling about 800 objects with an estimated value of £70,000. He may have sold the more expensive items privately in London and the remainder at an auction at ‘Loughcrew’ that lasted three days. Because there were no children by his marriage, the house itself and the estate, which was now only 2,000 acres, went to a Naper relative and lived in his smaller nearby estate Fort Lurgan at Virginia in Co Cavan.

He learned to fly in Eire in 1948 and was granted an Irish Pilot’s A licence on 22 October 1948, which was exchanged for a Private Pilot’s Licence on 14 December 1951. Rodney, or more probably his wife, had purchased a two-seater plane in June 1948 but in July he crashed it when trying to land on a farm field near Oldcastle. The plane’s tailpiece had caught in a ditch and broke. Amazingly Rodney was thrown clear without any injuries. In January 1949, he again crashed this plane when he attempted to take off at ‘Loughcrew’. Frost on the wings appears to have been the problem. One wing was torn off and the other damaged but he escaped with only a minor facial injury.

An Oldcastle man remembers often meeting Rodney when he landed his plane on the family’s farmland and Rodney took members of the family for a flight. Rodney also frequently visited the family and took the then boy fishing on Lough Sheelin where he had a powerboat. He also took the boy to Dublin and to his new home Fort Lurgan. Perhaps this paternal interest in the boy and his family was in response to his own unfortunate childhood. The man said Rodney never mentioned his wartime service or experiences.

Contrary to newspaper comments, Rodney was accepted into ‘local’ society, the locals thinking him a great novelty. However, higher society thought him to be a disaster. It is said the gentry later regret-
ted their harsh comments about Rodney and intended to erect a memorial in the parish church at Oldcastle with the inscription ‘To a gallant Australian – much misjudged.’ No memorial was erected.

Rodney became closely involved in the local Agricultural Show Committee and the Ballymacad Foxhounds but some members found his impetuosity and quick temper offensive. ‘During his year as president of the Agricultural Show Committee he threw himself heart and soul into making the annual show a conspicuous success. He spared neither time nor money in the interests of the show.’ He was responsible for an unusual publicity stunt by flying his plane over several local towns and dropping leaflets advertising the 1950 Oldcastle Carnival which raised funds for the Agricultural Show. Following a complaint, he ended up in the Kells District Court along with his wife and William Edward KILROY for dropping leaflets without gaining prior approval. The Judge applied the Probations Act in each case and because they were unlikely to offend, simply gave them warning.

Between 1948 and 1953, Rodney took part in several Irish Aero Club flying competitions and appears to have gained the nickname of ‘The Flying Fool’ possibly because of his risky style of flying. *Flight* magazine records his occupation as farmer and mentions he used his plane for both business and recreation. In June 1951, he went to the Festival of Britain aero races at Hatfield aerodrome in Hertfordshire north of London, but extreme weather prevented any flying. As an enthusiastic flyer, he organised a private air rally in 1952 at Dunmore East. Although having a meticulous eye for detail, he was noted for his particular type of reckless courage.

On 22 February 1950 Adela purchased a Miles Messenger, but on 3 May it suffered damage at Dublin viz leading edge, propeller and undercarriage torn off. Rodney suffered two broken ribs and it cost him £300 to repair the plane now registered in Rodney’s name as G-AKBL. When the aircraft was given this UK registration he obtained limited validation of his licence and in January 1953 he became a full member of The Royal Aero Club in London.

In 1953, he planned to fly his Miles Messenger Mark 2a single-engine plane, cream with crimson markings, from Dublin to Australia. In an article about his proposed trip, he mentioned it would cost him about £750 and his reason for the trip was to promote private flying. He went to London in March to finalize details. On his approach to Northolt, the
traffic controller gave him permission to land to pickup two passengers and he was number 2 to land. During his approach, Rodney cut in ahead of the other plane allocated number 1.

He departed from Northolt at 6:40 p.m. on 1 April. His last radio contact was at 10 p.m. and it appears he crashed in the Irish Sea. Aerial and land searches found no trace of his body and in July the High Court in Dublin declared him officially dead. Some doubt remains about his crash. One theory is that he landed the plane in a lake at ‘Loughcrew’ then disappeared with the money he had raised from selling the art work in London and auctioning the contents of the big house.

The inquest into the crash was unable to reach a definite conclusion about the cause of the crash. However it noted Rodney’s licence was not valid for the night flight to Dublin and he did not hold an Instrument Rating or a Night Rating. In addition, he did not hold a Flight Radiotelephony Operator’s Licence and he was not qualified or suitably experienced to undertake the flight. It is strange he was given permission to take off at Northolt. The Air Accidents Investigation Authority UK does not know why the report in 1953 was marked confidential and did not become available to the public until 2011. It is also strange that Rodney said he was to pick up two passengers at Northolt but while the plane was being refuelled, only one man appeared and was offered a seat to Dublin. This man, Walter BRADLEY of the British European Airways, is thought to have had a mother and sister living in Dublin and was seen to board the aircraft. Official records are vague about passengers. Some state one passenger and others suggest none. Why was he expecting any passengers? Perhaps the man who boarded the plane became the pilot and disposed of the aircraft somewhere while Rodney slipped away unnoticed during the refuelling.

Rodney’s will was dated 28 January 1953 and the executors were Trevor George McVEAGH, solicitor of Dublin and Colonel Michael H CRICHTON of London. McVeagh was left £200, a black Labrador dog and a 12-bore double-barrel shot gun. Crichton was left all the stocks, shares and securities being Adela’s Wife’s Fund under the marriage settlement for her first marriage in 1902. Crichton and Lloyds Bank were trustees for this fund. Col Crichton stated Rodney had £12,926 in the bank, £29,494 in securities, furniture £4,907, paintings £6,011, personal accident insurance £1,000 and £2,500 insurance on his plane. The personal insurance had been taken out on 27 March 1953 only a few days before his final flight. Another newspaper stated Rodney left assets of £61,856 and liabilities £26,872.

He left his house, ‘Fort Lurgan’ at Virginia, Co. Cavan, and its grounds of 84 acres, to 17-year-old Miss Annabel WILSON from Lenaderg, Banbridge, Co. Down, Northern Ireland, daughter of a friend. A newspaper reported that she said, “We weren’t engaged, but I liked him very much. I will sell the property.” A diamond buckle brooch that had belonged to Adela, and before her to the Duchess of Buccleugh, was to be given to HRH Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone of Kensington Palace, London. The sum of £250 was left to Miss Marcella QUINN of Rathmeath, Delvin in Co. Westmeath providing she was still in his employment at the time of his death. She was probably his housekeeper. The balance of the estate was left to his mother Mrs Elizabeth Matthews of Poets Road, Hobart. She later
remarried and became Mrs R F MULLINS of Knocklofty Terrace, Hobart.

The Wife’s Fund for Adela was derived from her marriage settlement which was an arrangement whereby land or other assets were set up at the time of her first marriage by the parents of the bride and groom. The trustees were the legal owners and the married couple the beneficial owners of the assets. Crichton became a trustee in 1953, probably replacing an earlier trustee. His mother, Katherine Helen Elizabeth Crichton (née TREF-USIS) was Adela’s sister. Another sister, Marion Coke Trefusis, became Duchess of Leicester. They were children of Col Hon Walter Rodolph Trefusis and Lady Mary Charlotte Montegu Douglas SCOTT, daughter of 5th Duke of Buccleugh.

Michael Henry Crichton had been a Lieutenant in the Royal Horse Guards as a Reserve Officer but undertook active service during WWII. In 1943 he was second in command of the ‘A’ group based in Cairo and in March 1943 he was appointed Major, then temporary Lieut Colonel, in charge of a new ‘A’ group HQ in Algiers. The objective of this group was to feed misinformation through spies to German commanders and also to organise deceptive groups of dummy tanks, artillery and trucks in strategic locations in the Middle East. For his services, he was awarded an OBE in 1944. On 1 February 1958 he relinquished his command having reached retirement age and was granted the rank of Hon. Colonel. In civilian life pre-war, he had been a stock broker and after the war an investment trust adviser and was appointed as High Sheriff of County Fermangh in Northern Ireland.

Without doubt, Robert (aka Rodney) had an unusual career that included an unexpected ‘rags to riches’ sequence of events. In between was his brief service in the RAAF and an even briefer time in the Australian Army. Whether he served in the Merchant Navy in 1943, was torpedoed twice in the Atlantic and recommended for a Bravery at Sea medal remains unproven.

Marrying into a very rich Irish family gave him the opportunity to indulge in flying as an absorbing pastime. Flight magazine noted that he used his plane for business as well as for recreation but did not state what type of business. Was he involved in some sort of illegal activity such as drugs, avoiding customs or espionage? It is known he flew to London frequently but not why.

There is great uncertainty about what happened on 1 April 1953. Why did he expect to pick up two passengers at Northolt and why did only one turn up and was seen to get into Rodney’s plane? Did the plane crash in the Irish Sea or was it disposed of elsewhere? Did Rodney disappear with the considerable proceeds from the sale of the contents of ‘Loughcrew House’? He had changed his name once before and may well have adopted another name, disappeared into a large city, or perhaps left for Europe or South America. He could have lived out the rest of his life in comparatively comfortable affluence. He may have remarried and produced a family or returned to Australia under a new name and settled down to enjoy his proceeds from ‘Loughcrew’.

Finally, was he just a con man and a rogue, or was his adult behaviour determined mainly as a result of his unfortunate childhood? It is highly unlikely the full story of his adult life in Ireland or elsewhere will ever be known unless there is yet another unexpected contact.

All images supplied by the author.

R A Chapman, Christchurch, New Zealand.
GENERAL REMARKS

On 7 September the Phoebe hired Convict Ship sailed from Deptford for Kingstown Island where on the 24th of that month one hundred & twenty eight Female convicts and Twenty eight Children all apparently in good health were received on board; next day on putting to sea one case was placed on the sick list with soreness in the chest attended by cough & [prevalent] expectoration tinged with blood; the patient continued unwell with only occasional relief until Discharged to Hospital on our arrival at Hobart Town.

During the first six weeks of the passage seasickness was the prevailing complaint, accompanied as usual in females with Syncope & Hysteria in various degrees & shapes, many cases being very troublesome tho’ not placed on the Sick List.

On approaching the Tropics a few Cases of Dysentery made their appearance, but they were generally tractable & readily gave way to medicine.

One case however terminated unfavourably; it occurred in a young woman, pregnant, but not known to be so, until the disease having resisted the usual remedies for a time, I was called suddenly on the night of the 11th October & found the patient on the chair in great pain as if in Labour. At first she was averse to give information on the subject suspected, but a recurrence of pain induced her to submit to examination & a dead Foetus of about four or five months was found partially delivered. The delivery was immediately completed: no haemorrhage took place, but the tenseness continued unabated in defiance of every means used to check it. Vomiting became [superadded to the purging] & the patient two days afterwards, died exhausted.

Prickly Heat was very prevalent amongst both women & children while in the Tropics & most of the younger children were at the same time afflicted with a peculiar vesicular eruption attended by slight fever: the vesicles were large, containing a thin yellow serum & after increasing in size for several days, these burst or were broken, leaving a dark scab, & occasionally a sore rather tedious in healing. As a result of these eruptions & the previous sea Sickness, vaccination was deferred until a later date: it was then tried at different periods on about twenty cases but none of them exhibited any other effect than a slight reddening of the skin.

One case of Labour described in the Journal occasioned some anxiety: it was an ‘Arm presentation’ & the child already apparently dead from compression, caused by the fruitless efforts of Nature for its expulsion, had to be perforated in order to save the mother. The other case of Labour did well & a few days afterwards the mother & child were landed in good health.

The case of Nostalgia contains no point of interest fit for detailing: the patient was chiefly remarkable for great irritability of
temper & very filthy habits; at times she refused all proper food & medicine, but at length by a continuation of firmness & temporizing she began to take her food more regularly & with the assistance of Quinine (given in Port Wine) she recovered strength so as to be discharged to duty before leaving the Ship.

With these & a few other exceptions the Prisoners were generally very healthy. Every day weather admitting they were allowed on deck from an early hour until near sunset & the afternoon whenever practicable was occupied in various recreations affording amusement and exercises. The weather throughout was for the most part favourable & only two severe gales of wind were experienced towards the conclusion of the passage.

A F Macleroy

The Surgeon, Alexander Macleroy compiled a list of cases he had to deal with during the journey, and listed eight as noteworthy and of some consequence.

ANN KERR Aged 56. Phthisis 25 September 1844. Depression, sore in the chest, troublesome cough, blisters. Spent entire voyage in doctor’s care. Hospitalised upon arrival at Hobart Town


On arrival in Hobart Town the women spent the rest of their probation time on the prison hulk Arson anchored in the River Derwent, after which, they were available for hiring.

Surgeon Superintendent

TASMANIAN ANCESTRY December 2016

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## SICK LIST OF PHOEBE
### BETWEEN 7 SEPTEMBER 1844 AND 9 JANUARY 1845
(Mr AF Macleroy, Surgeon—Adm. 101/59/5)
All were convicts unless otherwise noted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>ON SICK LIST</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>DISEASE OR WOUND</th>
<th>OFF SICK LIST</th>
<th>HOW DISPOSED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charles ROBERTS, Seaman</td>
<td>16 Sep</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Wound</td>
<td>23 Sep</td>
<td>To duty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel McNAMARA, Boatswain</td>
<td>21 Sep</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>Wound</td>
<td>30 Sep</td>
<td>To duty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ann KERR</td>
<td>25 Sep</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>Phthisis</td>
<td>3 Jan '45</td>
<td>Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Ann MAJOR</td>
<td>26 Sep</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Gonorrhoea</td>
<td>21 Oct</td>
<td>To duty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julia BOLAND</td>
<td>26 Sep</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Mamy. Abcess</td>
<td>11 Oct</td>
<td>To duty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John ALLAN, Seaman</td>
<td>28 Sep</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Hernia Humoralis</td>
<td>11 Oct</td>
<td>To duty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth KELLY</td>
<td>30 Sep</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>Mental Aberration</td>
<td>21 Oct</td>
<td>To duty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ellen REILLY</td>
<td>7 Oct</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>Febricula</td>
<td>23 Oct</td>
<td>To duty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honora REGAN (Margaret McCARTHY)</td>
<td>9 Oct</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Dysentery</td>
<td>13 Oct</td>
<td>Dead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth LEE</td>
<td>9 Oct</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>Syncope</td>
<td>25 Oct</td>
<td>To duty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judith BYRNE</td>
<td>9 Oct</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Dysentery</td>
<td>25 Oct</td>
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FURTHER to the article in the September journal on St Georges Burial Ground by Leonie Mickleborough, I have taken photographs of the Memorial erected by the Hobart City Council and with the help of ‘Tasmanian Pioneer Index’ and the available burial records, have been able to add information on some of the people and remaining stones.

The first burial recorded in the registers of St Georges is for the widow, Ruth HARRIS in January, 1846.¹ There are no more entries until a new register began 1 March 1858 and continued until 21 October 1872.² The new Cornelian Bay Cemetery had opened in October with the first burial there on the 5th of that month.

Many people of historic or notable interest were buried in St Georges burial ground as recorded in a newspaper article of 1927.³ Sadly by this time headstones of these people were no longer extant.

William BUCKLEY was buried in the early 1850s. This man ventured from Collins’ Settlement at Port Phillip in 1804 and lived with the Aborigines for some 25 years practically forgetting his native tongue and almost becoming one of them.

A story of self-sacrifice was conveyed by the inscription on the headstone of James LUCAS, a well-known pilot of former days. He died in August, 1853, in consequence of injuries received while rendering assistance to the Dutch ship Emilie, which had run ashore. He had only recently retired with a pension after 35 years of faithful service to the port of Hobart Town, and a stone had been erected by the merchants and marine community of the city to his intrepidity and selfless devotion. Lucas had also served as a midshipman with Sir John FRANKLIN when both were lads.

A few public men are interred in the cemetery, and include Alexander Gordon WATSON, former inspector of distilleries in Van Diemen’s Land, William SECCOMBE, senior Colonial surgeon, and William PROCTER, who for 40 years served in the Customs, both in England and in Hobart. Other stones bore the names of Robert Burnett BURGESS, sergeant in the Royal Artillery, Arthur CORBETT, a lieutenant in the Royal Navy, and A W HORSHAM, quarter-master-sergeant in the 63rd Regiment.

And not least is Anthony Fenn KEMP. Born in London, in 1773, in 1793 he was attached to the New South Wales Corps as ensign, becoming lieutenant 1797, and captain 1801. In 1795 he was stationed at Norfolk Island. After returning to Sydney in 1797, in June, 1804, he was appointed a magistrate for Van Diemen’s Land. In November that year with his brother-in-law, Alexander RILEY, they were associated in the establishment of the settlement at Port Dalrymple, in the north of the colony, where Kemp became Acting Lieutenant-Governor from 28 August, 1806, to 3 April 1807, after which he returned to Sydney, where on 26 January, 1808, he arrested Governor BLIGH at the

¹ NS 590/1/1
² NS 590/1/33
Sydney Government House. From May to December, 1808, he was Judge Advocate at Sydney. Later that month the NSW corps was disbanded. In 1810 he left Sydney for England, and in 1814 returned to Hobart Town, where he became ‘locatee’ of lots in Davey, Hunter, Macquarie, Brisbane, Campbell, Collins, Bathurst, and Harrington Streets, and settled down as a merchant in 1829. In later years he built the house known as ‘Mount Vernon’, in the Green Ponds district, on 800 acres of land granted to him before 1824. This was long occupied by his son, George Anthony, born at York Town, on the Tamar, in September, 1807. Captain Kemp carried on his business until after 1830, and in 1837 was living in Macquarie Street. He spent the last years of his life in Byron Street.

The remains of headstones of at least two families, with two or more children dying at a young age, are memorialised by the council. Although not stated on the headstone, three children of Charles Henry MILLER and Mary Ann CHAPLIN would have most likely been buried together. Eleanor Annie aged 14 months died in May 1861 from measles; her older brother Charles Orlando, aged 4½ years, died two months later. His date of death given when his death was registered was 29 July, but the remaining headstone slab states 30 July. Clearly the stone shows the name of Harriet Sarah Miller and her age of 8 years (at right). She died 7 August and was buried a week after her brother. Both died from diphtheria.

Thomas Francis BARNARD died in 1853; the headstone clearly shows he was the fifth son of James Barnard. Lower on the stone his sister Eleanor Frances Amy is shown ‘sister of the above’ died 21 April 1859. Other records show she was aged 2 years and eleven months. Both died from croup. They were the children of James Barnard (government printer) and Charlotte FOX.

Some three decades after the closure of the burial ground, on a ramble through the burial ground, one grave was described as looking like a baby’s cot, with the letters P. R. H. painted on the headpiece. Was it a boy or a girl? What romance what mystery, may be what tragedy, lies concealed behind those three letters?

The initials suggest the rambler found the grave of Percy Reid HUNTER, who can lay claim to the second last entry in the burial register of 1872, buried there after Cornelian Bay opened. He was the second youngest of eight children of George Henry Hunter and his wife Margaret CULLIGHAN and died aged 6 weeks. There does not seem to be any evidence of the remains of this tombstone in the Memorial created by the Hobart City Council.

# HEADSTONES at ST GEORGES BURIAL GROUND

## MEMORIAL WALL

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<tr>
<th>Surname</th>
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<td>22.5.1856</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>784</td>
<td>**</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>WILKINSON</td>
<td>Robert</td>
<td>12.2.1856</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>619</td>
<td>**</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>WILLIAMS</td>
<td>Joseph Albert</td>
<td>5.8.1862</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3447</td>
<td>8/08/1862</td>
<td>329</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* If not available or legible from stone, age taken from RGD death index
** no burial register extant for that time at St Georges
Where possible, all confirmed with St Georges burial records

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TASMANIAN ANCESTRY December 2016
LATROBE FLOWER SHOWS

Darrell Burk (Member No. 7776)

A splendid collection of gladioli was seen in the window of Messrs. W. L. Wells and Sons, Ltd., on Saturday. They were grown by Mr. Smith, of Rubicon, a gentleman who is a successful competitor at our flower shows.1

The annual spring show of the Latrobe Horticultural Society was held yesterday, when there was a very fine display of spring bulbs, and some very beautiful blooms were exhibited. The show was opened by the chairman of the show committee, Mr. J. Chamberlain who referred to the fact that the net profits would be donated to the Consumptive Sanatorium, and he hoped that the result would be that a substantial sum would be realised by the effort. Afternoon tea was available to visitors. Mesdames Wright and Coventry being in charge. There was also a produce stall under the management of Mr. Chamberlain. Both did good business. The general management was, as usual, well carried out by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. K. Clarke. In regards to display of flowers Mr. F. Cook practically swept the boards with his exhibits in the cut-flowers section, and Mrs. J. P. Kenworthy in the pot plants.

[The following are the awards for William Peter SMITH, known as ‘Water-Lily Smith’]
Cut flowers etc. Collection Daffodils, 20 distinct varieties, 1 bloom of each – W. Smith 2nd prize.
Champion Bloom – Long Trumpet – Incomparables – W. Smith (Barnadine)2

See also ‘Help Wanted’ this issue page 162.

VEITCH — POLLARD

Ailsa Neilson (Member No. 7483)

The marriage of my grandparents Mr Ernest VEITCH and Miss Marion Louisa POLLARD, took place on 12 December 1900 at the Burnie Methodist Church. A reception was held in connection with the ceremony in the afternoon, and a very successful social followed at night. The wedding party posed for a photograph (see next page).

Back Row L to R: Unknown man and lady, then three unknowns, possibly bridesmaids and groomsman; Leslie Pollard groomsman brother of bride, Marion Veitch (née Pollard) bride, and the groom Ernest Andrew Veitch.

Sitting L to R: Mrs Emily Veitch, mother of the groom; Joseph Crawshaw Pollard and Mary Ann Pollard (née Moss) parents of the bride.

Sitting in front: Miss Madge Bell and Master Regie Bell.

According to the North Western Advocate of 13 December 1900 the bridesmaids were Misses K Veitch, Miss E Bell and Miss B Bell. The best man was was Mr F Abell and groomsman Masters L Pollard and A Bell.

I do not know but the two Bell bridesmaids may be Eveline and Beatrice Bell, nieces of the bride and best man Arthur Bell may be a nephew (family of Frances Elizabeth Bell (née Pollard), sister of the bride

The second picture shows Joseph Crawshaw Pollard, his wife Mary Ann (née MOSS) with another unknown at left.

According to the North Western Advocate, 13 December 1900, the parents of the bride gifted them a home and the brother of the bride an allotment of land.

I would be grateful if anybody could identify the buildings and reliably match up the names of the wedding party with those I am unable to identify.

Ernest and Marion, with their first born son, Oswald Ernest Veitch left Burnie in 1902 and emigrated to South Canterbury, New Zealand.

Please contact Ailsa Neilson at geoffail@ihug.co.nz

1	North Western Advocate and Emu Bay Times, Tuesday, 13 February 1917, p. 2
2	North Western Advocate and Emu Bay Times, Tuesday, 19 September 1917, p. 3
Veitch and Pollard wedding group

Mr and Mrs Pollard
New Indexes MERSEY BRANCH
MICROFILM HOLDINGS

The project to index the microfilm reels has taken many years of dedication from members Marilyn Oakley and Glenice Brauman.

The index can be searched when the year and reel number are found.

**TASMANIA**
LAUNCESTON ADVERTISER
9 February 1829–26 December 1833
2 January 1834–28 December 1837
4 January 1838–17 March 1842

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<td>Latrobe Marriages</td>
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<td>Scottsdale Marriages</td>
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<td>1886–1912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ulverstone/Forth Marriage Affidavits</td>
<td>1872–1879</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TASMANIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH RECORDS
have also been indexed
and will be in a future issue of Tasmanian Ancestry
WHAT IS THAT PUBLICATION ABOUT?
Maurice Appleyard (Member No. 4093)

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

OF SMOKE AND CHAINS
The story of Joseph Duckworth—Convict, 1824–1887

This massive A4 hard cover book of around 700pp, was published in 2015 by Debra Jane Duckworth.

Born into hardship during the Industrial Revolution, Joseph Duckworth was just a young factory lad from Lancashire, when charged with larceny, for the second time. On the 1st of December, 1842, he was tried, convicted and subsequently sentenced to fifteen years transportation to Van Diemen’s Land.

The book has been written in three parts:
The first part features the life and times of Joseph, his parents and siblings, and the Duckworth ancestors. Background chapters on the origin of the Duckworth name, the history of Lancashire and 19th century England are also provided.
The second part features Joseph’s time in VDL, his marriage to Ann Keegan and details of the children born to this union. There are also background chapters on the convict system in VDL and the early history of the colony.
The third part features the family migration to, and growth in Victoria; (including Ann, after the death of Joseph).

Every aspect of the book is heavily supported by excellent photographs and images to illustrate the subject matter. A functional alphabetic index is included.

Other researchers, not specifically interested in the Duckworth family, should find the general areas relating to Lancashire, the convict system, colonial life in rural Tasmania and early Collingwood, Victoria of great interest and should also find aspects that apply to their own family research.

A BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY OF JERSEY

This hardcover book of some 715pp, by G R Balleine, the Hon. Librarian of the Société Jersiase, was published in 1948 by Staples Press, UK.

This book contains biographies of about three hundred men and women from the island of Jersey. They fall into two groups. Some left home and gained distinction in the outside world … an archbishop like Walden … a beauty like Lillie Langtry …
The other group remained at home as leaders of their own people, and their lives combine like a jigsaw puzzle to form a graphic picture of a small self-governing community, cut off by sea and language from much intercourse with England …

The biographies are arranged in alphabetical order by surname and the book is enhanced by several indexes.
A chronological index indicates that biographies from c.550 to 1945 are included. A classified index is also provided and a search for an explorer, merchant, actress, etc, can easily be made.

Additionally, there are four Appendices:
- Non-Jerseymen who left their mark on Jersey history;
- Persons who have been incorrectly claimed as Jerseymen;
- Some Jersey words and titles;
- A brief bibliography of Jersey History.

THE SCOT IN ULSTER—Sketch of the history of the Scottish population of Ulster

This small hardcover book of some 115pp. by John Harrison was published in 1888 by William Blackwood and Sons of Edinburgh.

The author covers the history from the first settlement of 1610 to the ‘present day’ in seven sketches (chapters) titled:
- The Scot gains a footing in County Down
- The Scot settles North Down and County Antrim
- The great plantation in Ulster
- The Scot brings with him his Scottish church
- The Scots and the Irish rebellion of 1641
- Ulster from the restoration to the Union
- The Scottish blood in the Ulster men of to-day.

THE BAYLY FAMILY OF RUNNYMEDE DURING WORLD WAR I, 1914–1918—As revealed through the letters of Harriet, James and Henry Bayly.

This A4 book of 74pp. was published in June 2014 by Hildi L Reinhart. Runnymede, 61 Bay Road, Newtown, Tasmania; passed into the hands of Capt–ain Charles Bayley, a master mariner, in 1864. In 1875, his brother James inherited the property.
James Bayley had only one daughter, Harriet Louisa, who inherited the property in 1894. It was at Runnymede that Harriet and her husband, Henry Vincent Bayly (same surname, different spelling, and no relation) raised their family of seven children. The letters and diaries of three of those children provide an insight into the life of the family during the period of the war.

NARRATIVE OF A VOYAGE ROUND THE WORLD—an account of the wreck of the ship Governor Ready, in Torres Straits, a description of the British Settlements on the Coasts of New Holland, more particularly Raffles Bay, Melville Island, Swan River, and King George Sound; also the manners and customs of the Aboriginal Tribes; with an appendix, containing remarks on transportation, the treatment of convicts during the voyage, and advice to persons intending to emigrate to the Australian Colonies.

This hardcover book of 350pp. is a facsimile of the original 1835 publication by Thomas Braidwood Wilson, MD, Surgeon RN; a member of the Royal Geographical Society.

The Governor Ready, transporting 200 prisoners, arrived at Sydney on 17 January 1829. After a few weeks in New South Wales, the ship delivered several passengers to Hobart Town before proceeding to Batavia; hopefully to obtain a commercial cargo for the return voyage to England.

Unfortunately, the Governor Ready was wrecked in the Torres Straits. The remainder of Wilson's 'Narrative' details the journey of the crew in small open boats and their eventual return to Sydney. Thomas Wilson also describes a visit to Launceston on the return voyage to England.

ERROL: Its Legends, Lands and People.
This hardcover book of 228pp., by Lawrence Melville, was published in 1935.

This is a local history at its most informative. Errol is both a parish and a village in Perthshire, situated east of the town of Perth and southwest of the town of Dundee. As such, it is more or less in the middle of Scotland, and many events marched over it. The Hays of Errol and all of their cadet lines were the principal family, but the Constable and Playfair families, the Russells, the Bells, the Taits, Charteris, and Tweedsdale families all were present in the parish or involved in its history. The author gives an entire chapter to the Hays, and then proceeds to the history of the village, to Port Allen and the economic, social, and cultural history of the parish.

There is a chapter with fifteen individual biographies of other family names; and another on the churches and their ministers.

The last chapter, ‘Some other Lands and their Owners’ will also be of great interest. These are lands located at Megginch, Inchmartine, Murie, Inchmichael, Gourdiehill, Seaside, Clashennie, Glendoick and Seggieden.

The book has a small alphabetical subject index and an extensive bibliographical index.

Appendices include trees of the Hays of Errol, the Hays of Leys and the Hays of Melginch, Pitfour Seggieden; and a fourth of the Hays of Kinnoull.
LIBRARY ACCESSIONS

Hobart Branch

ACCESSIONS—Books
*Ballene, G R; A Biographical Dictionary of Jersey. [942.34 BAL]
*Brian Gauci Aus. Souvenirs; Historic Hahndorf. [994.23 HIS]
*Campbell, A; The Family & Descendants of Donald Downie & his wife, Christina MacColl. [Q929.2 CAM]
*Dooley, L; Building on Firm Foundations—The Cooper family in Tasmania. [Q 929.2 COO]
Dunn, C; Norfolk Island 1788–1814—Resources for Researching your Family History. [929.39482 DUN]
*Evandale History Soc. Inc.; St Andrews Presbyterian Church, Evandale, Cemetery index.
*Harrison, J; The Scott in Ulster. [929.309416 HAR]
*Hastings, D H S; The History of Port Macquarie. [994.42 UPT]
*Jenkin, T; The Cloncurry Shire Centenary Historical Sketch Book. [994.36 JEN]
*Melville, Lawrence; Errol: Its Legends, Lands and People.
*Riley, C; Christopher Hall—A colonial career in Ross. [Q 929.2 HAL]
*Stanfield, P; St Luke’s Anglican Cemetery, Longley, Tasmania. [Q 929.31099461 STA]
*Wilson, T B; Narrative of a Voyage Round the World. [910.9 WIL]

ACCESSIONS—Computer Disks
*Kent FHS; Kent Parish Registers, Vol. 20.
* Denotes complimentary or donated item.

Launceston Branch

ACCESSIONS—Books
*Badcock, Josephine – Calligraphy by Richardson, Jan; From Northdown The Settlement Grew
*Badcock, Josephine – Calligraphy by Richardson, Jan; Sketches around Old Moriarty
*Biggs, John; Tasmania – Over Five Generations – Return to Van Diemen’s Land?
*Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery; The Way We Lived – Celebrating 150 Years of The Examiner

ACCESSIONS—Computer Disks
*TFHS Inc; Members’ Interests 1998–2016
Watson, Reg A; Tasmanian War Fatalities
* Denotes complimentary or donated item
MERSEY BRANCH

Accessions—Books
Cubit, Simon & Haygarth, Nic; Mountain Men Stories from the Tasmanian High Country
Nash, Michael; Convict Places A Guide to Tasmanian Sites

Accessions—Computer Disks
Reid, Ralph; Pioneers and Early Settlers of Australia - A Bibliography of Published Sources

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

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Phone: Enquiries (03) 6244 4527
Library 19 Cambridge Road Bellerive
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Wednesday 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Saturday 1:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m.
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.–3:30 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.
e-mail vsbtas@bigpond.com

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Phone: Branch Secretary (03) 6343 3107
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) 6344 4034
Workshops Held on Wednesday 18 June and Wednesday 17 September
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 117 Gilbert Street Latrobe (behind State Library)
Tuesday & Friday 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
Saturday opening has ceased and is now by advance appointment only.
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Deadline dates for contributions by 1 January, 1 April, 1 July and 1 October
From the editor

Although I have been very busy over the festive season I have enjoyed putting this issue together. This was possible due to all the submissions received prior to the December journal and Leonie’s prompt proofing which provided many articles ready to go by the time the current deadline arrived.

Unfortunately this also means the stocks have again diminished and new material will be welcome.

There is a wide range of articles in this, the last issue in Volume 37 including new member Fabienne Durdin’s account of her search to find the first wife of the Rev. Fry of St Georges Church, Battery Point. She certainly deserved to break that ‘brick wall’.

Lucille Gee and Tony Childs have both submitted articles which will be of great interest to anyone with connections in Longford and Franklin Village, northern Tasmania.

The account of the late Bill Wedd and his mates’ trials and tribulations with their first attempts to fly a glider, which began in 1929, will surely entertain you. As he concluded—he was lucky to survive!

If anyone has experience or knowledge of Esperanto in Tasmania, Bill Chapman would like to hear from you (see page 245).

Plus much more …

Rosemary Davidson

Journal address

PO Box 326 Rosny Park TAS 7018
email editors@tasflhs.org

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

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

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

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The Illustrated Tasmanian Mail, 11 November 1931
REMEMBER a story from a few years ago when a mountaineer was asked why he wanted to climb Mount Everest. His reply was, “Because it’s there!”

I think Family History is a bit like that. It doesn’t seem to have much practical value, but it is an addictive and fascinating hobby. But just what do we mean by the term ‘Family History’? I like to distinguish between ‘Family History’ and ‘Genealogy’. In common usage, the two terms seem to be interchangeable, but I like to use them differently. To me, Genealogy is a pretty boring study of family lineage, like we read in the Bible at Matthew 1:2–16.

(If you don’t have a bible handy, see https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+1%3A2-16&version=NIV)

A relative once showed me her family tree which went right back to the sixteen hundreds. Whilst I was impressed by the amount of research she had done, I found this collection of names joined by lines to be quite boring. I regard Family History as much more than that. This whole thing about recording a family’s past is much more interesting when it contains facts and stories concerning as many of the individuals as is possible. Even basic information like their occupation and where they lived start to make them real people rather than just names on a piece of paper or on a computer screen. It doesn’t matter whether you keep your records on paper or on a computer, it seems to me to be easy enough to add interesting personal details and stories about individuals. Most computer family history applications have places where this sort of information can be added. Some family historians like to go even further and produce a book, but even if you don’t go that far, it is worth adorning your records with this additional material.

Recently I came across an interesting discussion about these two terms on the Family Search website. In August 2013 Nathan Murphy wrote

25 June 2013 marked an important date in the history of discovering one’s ancestors. On that day User: Morphh merged two Wikipedia articles “Genealogy” and “Family History” into a single article titled “Genealogy.” The merge was the culmination of a two-year discussion (now closed) among Wikipedians over whether the terms are synonyms or have different meanings. The consensus was that any distinctions in modern English were so subtle and undefined that there should be only one article.

This is just the first paragraph of the article. I think it is worth reading the whole article at https://familysearch.org/blog/en/difference-genealogy-family-history/. Personally, I don’t agree with Murphy’s conclusions. Although my distinguishing between the two terms doesn’t seem to be accepted ‘officially’, it is how I like to use them. I certainly know which of the two approaches to Genealogy/Family History I prefer! ▲

Robert Tanner
If you recall, my last report was written whilst sitting in our caravan in a caravan park at Kalgoorlie. It would be remiss of me if I didn’t mention one of the places we visited after leaving Kalgoorlie that made such an impression on us—the National Anzac Centre at Albany. As many of you know the Anzacs who left for WW1 sailed in a convoy of ships from King George Sound. The National Anzac Centre was built in the confines of the Heritage listed Princess Royal Fortress at a cost of $10.6 million and was opened on 1 November 2014. The interactive technology together with many historical artefacts creates a most moving experience. For anybody with an interest in historical events, particularly WW1, this is a place you must visit if you are in Western Australia.

Another gem I discovered when using TROVE recently worth mentioning. Don’t restrict searches for family members by just searching through Family Notices. The birth of one of my ancestors, in the Pioneer Index, did not have a name listed, just as a female. She died at the age of 5, no death notice, but I found the father had placed an advertisement in the paper, thanking the Insurance Company for their action in the claim regarding the death of his daughter, full name and death date given. I was able to cross reference this with burial details.

Our October meeting was well attended for Bryan Lucas’ informative talk on the Emu Bay Railway, thanks to Doug and Bryan for hosting the meeting. For our November meeting a video about early Tasmanian characters was shown which members enjoyed. A new photo scanning app was also demonstrated that could be of use in scanning old photos directly onto a smart phone.

A reminder to branch members that membership subscriptions are due by the end of March.

Peter Cocker Branch President
The highlight of recent times was our Alexander Laing Trail excursion to Sorell and surrounding district on 4 December. We were fortunate the weather was absolutely perfect after the first attempt was deferred due to bad weather. The day began at the Old Magistrates House in Sorell, and proceeded on to the Old Forcett Schoolhouse, where we were treated to a lovely morning tea. One of our more senior members of the group had many happy memories of attending the school in her younger days. Next was the ‘Rose and Crown Inn’ at Forcett, and then lunch at the Forcett Hall, a real gem of a building, where many country dances and celebrations have been held over the last century. ‘Greenhills’, the home of Bartholomew Reardon, was visited, much to the delight of some of the descendants among us. We were made welcome at ‘Forcett House’, with its beautiful gardens and courtyards, and enjoyed the sun and the delightful views from the patio. Afternoon tea was held at ‘Nonesuch’, where we were also very welcome. Peter MacFie conducted the tour, and gave a historical commentary along the way. Greenhills Gathering played at every stop, the reels and jigs composed by former convict, Alexander Laing while he was serving as a constable at Sorell, and later New Norfolk and Port Arthur. Our thanks go to Peter for providing such a wonderful day, to Greenhills Gathering for their entertainment and also Graeme Evans for driving the bus and his behind the scenes organization.

**General Meetings**

Our monthly meetings are always well attended. A resume of recent meetings:

The guest speaker at the October meeting was Dan Griffen and his topic was ‘Searching for Ancestors in the USA’, an account of his experiences researching his own family history in his home state of North Carolina in the United States. Dan spoke of the hurdles encountered along the way and referred to them as mere roadblocks. When Dan began his search in the 1980s, few resources were readily or easily available and researching from a distance only added to the difficulty. Not to be deterred, and aided by the US Census data and records of Testaments which outlined the names of family members within the documents, Dan discovered more generations of his family tree, but encountered roadblocks along the way when he attempted to go back a further generation. Unable to find a connection between the possible parties of a marriage, he investigated records identified as Bounds and Metes, (similar to our Land & Survey Department records) a resource which enabled him to plot the proximity of Griffen family land holdings with that of a possible marriage partner. Dan has more recently been investigating DNA matching, and with much perseverance contacted Griffen family members currently living in the same district. Of the nine people contacted, eight were willing to provide DNA samples, but this theory was complicated when none of these samples showed a match with Dan’s DNA sample. Dan’s roadblock has now become a brickwall, but the Griffen family tree is still under investigation.

The guest speaker at the November meeting, the final for the year, was Peter Binny speaking on the topic ‘Historical Surveying and land grants’. A registered surveyor for 41 years, Peter provided an insight into early instruments and methods of surveying and the developments in equipment and accuracy with modern techniques and instruments. He discussed the use of surveyors’ chains and the problems associated with their use in hilly areas. In relatively flat areas chains provided accuracy to approximately 0.5 a
link (100 links = 1 chain = 22 yards) while today’s instruments provide accuracy to within 1 millimetre. Of particular interest were the stories about re-surveying of colonial land grants which often identified areas where inaccuracies of original measurements gave rise to occupation of land by adverse possession.

Speakers for 2017
The following speakers have been arranged for forthcoming General Meetings in 2017 which will commence at 7:30 p.m. at the old Sunday School in St Johns Park Precinct, New Town.

March 21: Brian Rieusset—‘Treasure Trove in 28 Boxes’

April 19 AGM: Lois Green ‘Oak Lodge—the history of the house and the garden’

May 16 and June 20: tba

Louise Rainbow Branch President

Launceston
http://www.launceston.tasfhs.org
President: Helen Stuart—(03) 6331 9175
Secretary: Muriel Bissett
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secretary: mandbbissett@gmail.com

On Thursday, 9 March, Ros Escott will be with us to discuss ‘Using DNA for Family History’. The meeting is fully booked, and I’m sure those who were fortunate enough to get an early booking, will profit greatly from Ros’ knowledge.

As usual, the library will be closed on Easter Tuesday, 18 March 2017.

The Branch AGM will be held at the Harry Abbott Scout Hall, 7:00 p.m. on Thursday 27 April. Our guest speaker will be Roger McNeice, OAM, and we all look forward to his comments on ‘Money in Colonial Times’.

The Society AGM is scheduled for Saturday, 17 June and will be hosted by Burnie Branch. See the centre pages of this edition for details.

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

Mersey
http://www.tfhsdev.com
President: Roslyn Coss—(03) 6491 1141
Secretary: Sue-Ellen McGregor
(03) 6428 6328
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Happy New Year for 2017. Wow this is the first time I have written it. We hope it will be a good year for our branch and society. In December we held our Christmas Dinner at the Lucas Hotel Latrobe which was enjoyed by 23 members and partners. We drew our Christmas Raffle. The 1st prize was a beautiful Led light lamp beautifully made by one of our members which was won by Alan Buck; 2nd prize was a decorated cake by another of our members and was won by Denise Young; and 3rd prize was 2 bottles of wine. Congratulations to the winners and thank you to those who supported the raffle.

By the time we receive this report our Annual General Meeting will be near. We will have positions vacant. Our treasurer and secretary have held their positions for 7 years. Please give this some thought as we won’t be able to function without these positions. It would be great to have a full committee. Come into the library and see what we do to keep the library
running. We have a lot of fun. Our library is open on Tuesdays and Fridays 11:00 a.m. till 3:00 p.m. Check our website for more details on publications or any other information.

Huon
President: Shirley Fletcher (03) 6264 1546
Secretary: Libby Gillham (03) 6239 6529
PO Box 117 Huonville Tasmania 7109
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MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS
Your membership to the society expires on 31 March, if you have not renewed, now is the time to do so. You would have received a reminder on the last journal as a green label. This will be the only reminder you get as a label on your journal. Details of how to renew are listed on the back of the last journal label. If your label on your last journal was on white paper with no renewal details it means you are financial to 31 March 2018.

If you renew by bank transfer, please use your CRN (customer reference number) located on the front of the label as the reference or description of the payment. It is NOT the Societies Account number. This CRN indicates to me who you are, your membership type and the branch you are from. I am still getting bank transfers without any identification at all, only a description such as ‘DEPOSIT CBA TFHS M’ship’. If you have paid by bank transfer and have not received an email or letter with your receipt, please contact me and advise the date you made the transfer.

If you have received your receipt and membership cards by post it means we do not have an email address for you. If you have an email address please advise either the secretary@tasfhs.org or treasurer@tasfhs.org

NOTICE OF MEETING
Notice is hereby given in accordance with Rule 14, that the
37th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of the
Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.
is to be held at 2:00 p.m.
on Saturday 17 June 2017
at the Penguin Surf Club,
Preservation Bay

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

AGENDA
1. Welcome by the President
2. Apologies
3. Presentation of the ’Lilian Watson Family History Award’
4. Presentation of TFHS Inc. Awards
5. Confirmation of Minutes of the 2016 AGM as circulated at the meeting
6. Business Arising from the Minutes
7. President’s Annual Report
8. Treasurer’s Annual Report as circulated at the meeting
9. Business arising from Treasurer’s Report
10. Election of Office Bearers
11. General Business
12. Closure
Colleen Read, Society Secretary
CONVICTS EDWARD PICKLES AND SARAH BENNETT AND THEIR STRANGE EVENTFUL HISTORIES
Don Bradmore (Member No. 6756) and Judith Carter (Member No. 7707)

When an elderly man, a labourer in the Jerusalem district of Tasmania, died in June 1873, The Mercury announced his passing in this way:

A Waterloo veteran, Edward PICKLES, who for the last 40 years has lived in the district of Jerusalem, ended his ‘strange eventful history’ on the 8th inst, in the above named township. The deceased, who was born in 1783, was at several engagements in the Peninsula and received a wound at Waterloo. For some breach of discipline he was deprived of his medal, and sent across the sea. He arrived in Tasmania about 1822–23 and a few years after located himself in the Jerusalem district, where he remained till the time of his death. He was known as an honest man.

The colourful phrase, ‘strange eventful history’, borrowed from Shakespeare’s As You Like it (Act II, Scene VII), seems most apt here. The life of Edward Pickles—especially in its first half—had indeed been a strange and eventful one. The words, ‘sent across the sea’ are, of course, a euphemism for the fact that he had arrived in Van Diemen’s Land as a convict. Interestingly, however, there is no mention in the announcement of his widow, Sarah (née BENNETT), his wife of thirty-five years, who had also been transported to Van Diemen’s Land as a convict, and whose life—again, especially in her earlier years—had been most eventful, too. In fact, it might well have been her marriage in 1838 to this ‘honest man’ that rescued her from further degradation and misery.

But, it is unlikely Edward Pickles was ninety when he died. The ‘Description List’ among his convict papers shows he was thirty-six when he arrived at Hobart Town in December 1828 and indicates he was born around 1793, which puts his age much closer to eighty at the time of his death. The same document shows his native place as ‘Norland near Halifax’, in the West Riding of Yorkshire.

Since the 15th century, Halifax had been a centre of woollen manufacture in England. By the 19th century, its cotton, woollen and carpet industries accounted for most of its wealth and employed the bulk of its population. Edward’s father, Elias Pickles, was a draper in Halifax and obviously had an involvement with the weaving mills, of which there was a large number in and near the town. Nothing is known about Edward’s mother, Mary (née GLEDHILL).

Edward himself seems to have had some connection with the mills later in life but,
as a young man, he had joined the army and had served with the 33rd Regiment of Foot. It was a line infantry regiment that had a long association with the West Riding of Yorkshire. In 1782, the title of the regiment had been changed to the ‘33rd (or First Yorkshire West Riding) Regiment of Foot’. The main depot of the regiment was at Halifax. The regiment had always recruited in the West Riding of Yorkshire and had the goodwill of the people there. Since its formation in the early 1700s, the 33rd Foot had seen action in many parts of the world including Portugal, Spain, Germany, France, Holland, Canada, the West Indies and South Africa. In 1796, it had been sent to India where it remained for sixteen years fighting in the 4th Mysore War (1799) and on Mauritius. In 1812, the regiment was recalled to England and, in June 1815, fought at the famous Battle of Waterloo, near Brussels, Belgium, the last conflict of the Napoleonic Wars. Victory there by a coalition of troops from the United Kingdom, Prussia, the Netherlands, Hanover, Brunswick and Nassau, under the joint command of the Duke of Wellington and Prussia’s General von BLUCHER spelt the end of Napoleon BONAPARTE’s ambitions to rule Europe. Afterwards, he was exiled to the distant island of St Helena where he died in May 1821. The 33rd Regiment (pictured here in uniforms worn at Waterloo in 1815) occupied France for a few months before returning to England.

Exactly when Edward enlisted is not known but he stated upon arrival at Hobart Town he stated he had spent seven years in the regiment. Assuming he left the army soon after Waterloo, it is possible he had joined around 1809. At that time he would have been about sixteen. The nature of the wound he received during the battle is unknown but his name (shown incorrectly as ‘Private Edwd. PICKLE’) is listed in the ‘Waterloo Medal Roll, 1815’. On 2 December 1822, Edward married Grace CHILD. Because the wedding took place at Halifax, it is assumed she was a local woman but nothing more is known.

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6 [http://www.nam.ac.uk/research/famous-units/33rd-duke-wellington-regiment-foot](http://www.nam.ac.uk/research/famous-units/33rd-duke-wellington-regiment-foot)

of her. No record of children of the marriage has, to date been found.8

In early July 1828, Edward and a man by the name of William UTLEY were committed to stand trial for the theft of a quantity of worsted goods, the property of Messrs KERSHAWs of Halifax.9 At his trial on 17 July, Edward was found guilty as charged and sentenced to transportation for a period of seven years. As was customary, he was stripped of his Waterloo Medal.10

On 4 August 1828, he was received at the hulk Retribution moored at Woolwich to await shipment to Van Diemen’s Land.11 Fortunately, for life on the hulks was abominably hard, he did not have long to wait. On 19 August, in company with 175 other convicted men, he departed England on Roslyn Castle. On 16 December, 174 convicts were disembarked at Hobart Town. Two had died on the way.12 Somewhat surprisingly—in view of his Halifax association and his theft of a piece of worsted cloth—Edward gave his trade or calling upon arrival at Hobart Town as ‘soldier, quarryman and well-sinker’. In all respects, however, he seems to have been a model prisoner. His conduct record reveals he only re-offended once when, in 1838, ten years after arriving in the colony, he was fined five shillings for the relatively minor crime of being drunk. In December 1832, he was granted a ticket of leave and in July 1835 was declared ‘free by servitude’.13

On 2 January 1838, Edward applied for permission to marry convict Sarah BENNETT.14 Approval was quickly granted and the marriage took place at St Davids, Hobart Town, on 12 March that year.15 Sarah had arrived in the colony on America (2) in May 1831 after being found guilty of ‘stealing from the person’ and sentenced to transportation for life. Her conduct record reveals this was not her first offence, that she had previously served time for vagrancy, was known to be a prostitute and she had been ‘on the town’ for at least two years. A Londoner, she stated upon arrival that she was twenty years old and single. She was a house servant. She was unable to read and write. Sarah was described as being five feet two and a half inches tall, with a pale complexion, a large round head, dark brown hair, dark hazel eyes, a short broad nose, and short round chin which was somewhat ‘fleshy underneath’.16

Sarah’s conduct record shows that she was charged with re-offending sixteen times between 9 May 1831—the date of her arrival at Hobart Town—and 8 February 1837. Most of these offences were relatively minor: leaving the premises of the families to whom she had

9 Mercury, Leeds, UK, 12 July 1828
10 TAHO CON31/1/34, p. 174
12 http://members.iinet.net.au/~perthdps/convicts/shipsTAS.html
13 The Hobart Town Courier, 28 December 1832, p. 2; 3 July 1835, p. 4
14 TAHO CON52/1/1, p. 151
15 Pickles/Bennett: RGD36/1/3, 1838/4068
16 TAHO CON40/1/1, Sarah Bennett (194B) per America (1831), image 161
been assigned without permission, staying out all night, behaving in a disorderly manner in the street, disobedience of orders, neglect of duties, insolence, and insubordination. On a number of occasions Sarah was merely reprimanded or admonished. At other times she was dealt with more harshly. Usually, her masters and mistresses, obviously not amused by her behaviour, would immediately return her to the Female House of Corrections where, at various times, she was kept in solitary confinement, locked in a working cell, allowed only bread and water for ten days and made to labour at the wash-tubs for a month. On two separate occasions, magistrates gave orders that she was never to be assigned at Hobart Town again and that her future assignments should be to families living ‘in the interior’. These orders, however, do not seem to have been carried out.

Sarah’s most serious offence occurred in 1836. On 9 May of that year she became embroiled in a heated argument with a Mrs CUTTS, the woman to whom she was assigned at the time. Very soon, the argument turned into a bitter physical fight, during which Sarah knocked Mrs Cutts down. Charged with assault, Sarah was gaol for three months. A report of the incident in the Colonial Times described her as ‘a fine strapping spinster’, adding the incident was ‘a real up and down’ in which both parties exhibited ‘divers marks and scratches’ but Mrs Cutts ‘got the worst of the affray’. Sarah was again returned to the Female House of Correction, the magistrate ordering her to be kept with Class 3 prisoners there—the worst of the worst, many of them violent and some unfit for assignment or release into the community.

Sarah’s last recorded offence occurred in February 1837. Assigned to a Mr. BROWN, she was charged with being insolent and having neglected her duties. Once more she was returned to Female House of Correction, the magistrate ruling that it should be at least two months before she became eligible for assignment again.

It is interesting to speculate upon why Sarah never offended again after February 1837. Two reasons suggest themselves. The first is she may have met Edward Pickles about that time and their prospective marriage might have been enough to keep her out of trouble. As noted above, they married on 12 March 1838. The second reason is that on 18 June 1839 Sarah was granted a ticket-of-leave. This was followed by a conditional pardon on 3 March 1842. Undoubtedly, her disposition would have improved by again being a free woman.

After their marriage in 1838, Edward and Sarah seem to have lived quietly on a leased farm at Brandy Bottom near Jerusalem for the next thirty-five years, their convict pasts almost forgotten. No birth or baptism registration of children born to them has been found. However, when Edward died in June 1873 the informant to his death certificate was ‘William Pickles, son’. The records are unclear about the exact year of William’s birth but the entry in TPI Digger indicates he was born in 1836.

17 CON40/1/1, image 161
18 Colonial Times, 17 May 1836, p. 8
19 Hobart Town Gazette (HTG) 21 June 1839
20 CP granted 28 February 1842; recommended 3 March 1842; finally approved 31 August 1843. See HTG, 4 March 1842; 8 September 1843.
21 Edward Pickles, death, 497/1873/35, Richmond. (See also The Mercury Hobart,
But who was Sarah William’s mother? As there appears to have been no other woman in Edward’s life in the colony, it seems likely that she was. Moreover, the pattern of offences on Sarah’s conduct record suggests that this could have been the case. There were four offences in 1832, four in 1833, three in 1834, three in 1836, and one in early 1837—but there were none in 1835! Was that because Sarah had met Edward, was possibly pregnant to him, and consequently less inclined to want to absent herself from the houses in which she was employed, stay out all night or act in a disorderly manner in the street? It is a reasonable explanation.

However, when Sarah passed away at the age of sixty on 5 December 1873, just six months after her husband, no children are mentioned on the death certificate and William Pickles was not the informant.

As it happened, Sarah’s life ended sadly. On 5 September 1873, she had been admitted to the Hospital for the Insane, New Norfolk. She was obviously suffering from an advanced form of dementia. In a letter dated 1 September 1873, Dr Robert BLYTHE, the medical practitioner who recommended her admission to the hospital, informed the authorities there he had personally examined Sarah and was of the opinion that she:

... is a lunatic and a proper person to be taken charge of and detained under care and treatment ... on the following grounds: That she is thoroughly incoherent in her answers, does not know her age, where

she came from, or anything regarding her recent life. She says that her husband (who died recently - about two months ago) has been dead for eleven years and, in fact, is insane in every subject save for an occasional more sensible remark in a long course of rambling talk.

Continuing, Dr Blythe said Sarah had been in her present condition for ‘about a month or six weeks’ and that the supposed cause was ‘the death of her husband’. The doctor was of the opinion that Sarah was ‘not suicidal’ and ‘not dangerous to others’. He concluded his assessment by saying Sarah had no known relatives in the colony.

The informants to Sarah’s death certificate were the New Norfolk Hospital authorities. So, where was William Pickles when Sarah died? Was she William’s mother? Is it not reasonable to think that William would have been known to her doctor and the hospital authorities? The answers to these questions might never be known.

It is fair to say Sarah (Bennett) Pickles’ life was far from being a happy one. She was obviously a troubled young woman when she arrived in Van Diemen’s Land as a twenty-year old convict in 1831, and her difficulties continued for the best part of a decade afterwards. But it is comforting to think that she might have found at least some years of peace in her marriage to an ‘honest man’ who was obviously held in high regard by all who knew him.

14 June 1873, p. 2; The Tasmanian, Launceston, 21 June 1873, p. 13)  
22 William Pickles died on 17 December 1878. His death certificate (1586/1879/35, Hobart) shows him to be 42 years old.  
23 Sarah Pickles, death, 390/1873/35, New Norfolk

MARY ANN BROOKS, aged 25, arrived free on the *William Jardine* on 26 August 1849, with 31 male emigrants, 55 female emigrants and 55 children. She married convict Richard SHERSTON, who arrived on the *Emily* (1) in 1842. The couple were granted permission to marry in September 1850 and married the following month in St Georges Church.

Mary Ann and Richard had several children but not all survived. Richard Sherston was born in 1851, followed by a daughter in 1853, a son baptised in 1855, Mary Ann Sherston in March 1855, a son in 1858, and a son in 1860.

Mary Ann Sherston, an English-born gardener’s wife, aged 36, died of inflammation of the lungs on 18 July 1860. Her husband, Richard, of Huon Road, provided the information for her death.

On 29 November 1860, Richard Sherston, of Proctor’s Road, applied for admission to the Orphan Schools of three of his children: Mary Ann, aged 8; Thomas, aged 6; and Benjamin, aged 3. The two oldest children had been baptised in Trinity Church of England but Benjamin was not baptised. The application noted:

[Richard Sherston] has one other child a Boy 10 years old. The father’s a widower – he is at present working … as a gardener at [3 shillings?] per week but only for a time it is not a permanent job. He is known … as an industrious man.

A letter of support from G Banks SMITH recommending admission of all four Sherston children was attached to the application:

Sherston is sometimes in destitute circumstances and when employed away from his house, his children are unprotected.

Initially, only the admission of Thomas was approved. In March 1861, another application was made for Thomas, who had been in hospital from November...
1860, following an accident whilst climbing a fence. The other two boys were with their father and Mary Ann was ‘in a place of service for her food’. By April 1862, both Benjamin and ‘Tommy’ were in the Orphan School. Application was made for the admission of Mary Ann by Mary Ann HENWOOD of Brown’s River, who described herself as Mary Ann’s nearest relative—step-mother to Mary Ann’s mother.

Attached to Mary Ann’s application was the following summary made by Francis NEALE, Sub Inspector of Police:

This child is one of 3 for whom application for admission to OR school was made by the father Richard Sherston on the 30th November [1861] – application was refused. Subsequently 2 other of his children Thos, & Benjamin were admitted. After being in the school for some time, they were taken out by me under order from the Hon: the Colonial Secretary and handed over to their father who was at the time gardener to the Hon: Colonial Treasurer—He had only charge of them for a short time when in consequence of misconduct he was dismissed from the service of Mr Innes—The 2 boys were readmitted—warrant issued for the father and he was gazetted in Crime Report 29 November 1861.

Richard Sherston, free by servitude, was charged with deserting his children at Hobart Town on 26 November 1861. The following description was provided:

43 years old, 5 feet 8 inches high, sallow complexion, dark hair and whiskers, dressed in new pea jacket, light cord trousers, and black billy-cock hat, a gardener.

The older two children were apprenticed from the Orphan School but their younger brother, Benjamin, died there. After eight years in the institution, Benjamin died on 3 December 1869, in tragic circumstances, from a rupture of the stomach.

The Launceston Examiner provided a succinct account of the accident:

On 7th Dec. [1870] an inquest was held on the body of an Orphan School boy, named Benjamin Sherston, who died suddenly on Friday.—From the evidence of Dr. Brooke, who made a post mortem examination, it appeared death resulted from rupture of the stomach. The boy, while pressing hay, had tried to turn a somersault, and in doing so, fell upon his left arm, which was most likely the cause of the injury.

Benjamin had been admitted to the Asylum Hospital complaining of feeling ill but with no obvious serious symptoms. Days later, he died unexpectedly. A post-mortem was performed and the inquest took place in the Board Room of the Asylum.

Several witnesses gave evidence to the inquest. Ann BOURNE, matron of the Boys’ Division, Queen’s Asylum, stated that Benjamin was brought to her by one of the boys who had been with him. When he complained of sickness, she told him ‘to go and play about the yard a bit, sometimes that took it away’. Next morning, he said he was a little better but when he did not eat breakfast, she gave him a dose of medicine and called Dr COVERDALE, Principal of the Asylum, who sent him to the hospital. Matron Bourne said that Benjamin had not complained of ‘ill

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15 TAHO, SWD26/1/5 p. 331 (May 1862)
16 TAHO, SWD26/1/5 p. 331 (May 1862)
17 AUS103C, Tasmanian Reports of Crime 1861–1865, Vol. 1 No .42, 29 November
18 1861 Richard Sherston; Vol. 1 No. 43, 6 December 1861 Richard Sherston
19 TAHO, RGD35/1/7 District of Hobart
20 1869/9049 Benjamin Sherston
21 Launceston Examiner 1 January 1870 p. 3
usage or hurt from any one’ and had not mentioned a fall or accident, ‘not a word’. She said that the boys were frequently sick, especially in hot weather and that a dose of medicine usually worked.\(^{21}\) Isabella BELL, hospital nurse, testified that Benjamin said the horse he had been riding had bumped him and hurt him. She added that he had become insensible on Friday and died at 7:40 on Friday evening.\(^{22}\) Ann HORAN, Matron of the Infant School, and in charge of the hospital, said Benjamin said the horse had bucked him. John HARDING, farm overseer, gave evidence that Benjamin had been working on the farm for seven or eight months. He added he had heard that the boys had been in habit of practising gymnastics:

On Tuesday week when they were carting hay, deceased and other boys were put up to tread the hay, and they amused themselves by jumping from the beams of the barn on to the hay, a distance of six feet, but witness did not see deceased hurt himself, or hear that he had done so. On the Saturday witness put deceased and two other boys on horses to turn into the bush … no accident happened … On Sunday morning he was one who milked the cows.\(^{23}\)

George ALLEN, ‘an inmate of the establishment’, gave evidence that he was with Benjamin in the Dutch barn when they were getting the hay in, and they were turning somersaults off the beams on to the hay, having climbed the beams using a ladder. Benjamin claimed that he had hurt his arm after he turned a somersault. George slept in the same dormitory with Benjamin but did not hear him complain.\(^{24}\)

Two other boys, George TRENCHER and David WILLIAMS, also gave evidence. David stated that Benjamin had hurt himself diving from the beams: ‘I bet him a shilling that he would not dive flat as I did, and he did not do it right, but hurt his arm’.\(^{25}\)

The Coroner, in summing up, remarked the death was not the result of Benjamin riding a horse but that ‘it must have been done at the haystack, and it was a strange thing, as Dr BROOKE had said that the boy lived so long afterwards as the injury to the stomach must inevitably prove fatal, and no medical skill in the world could have saved him. It was certainly a extraordinary accident’.\(^{26}\)

Aged 11½ when he died, Benjamin was buried in Johns Burial Ground at New Town in an unmarked grave.

Benjamin’s older brother, Thomas, married Eliza SWEET when he was 25 and she was 17. They were married on 25 June 1882 by Congregational Minister, J H ‘Shipphird’ in his residence. Witnesses were Edward Sweet and Mary Ann Sherston. Thomas died from pneumonia on 15 December 1884 at home in North Bridgewater.\(^{27}\)

Mary died on 29 October 1906, at the residence of Mr H L WESTBROOK, Towers, New Town. She was described as ‘a faithful servant of the late W. H. WHITBOURN and family for 40 years’.\(^{28}\) Remarkably, she had been apprenticed to William ‘Whitebourn’ from the Orphan School in 1867!

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\(^{21}\) The Mercury (Hobart) 7 December 1869 p. 3
\(^{22}\) The Mercury (Hobart) 7 December 1869 p. 3
\(^{23}\) The Mercury (Hobart) 7 December 1869 p. 3
\(^{24}\) The Mercury (Hobart) 7 December 1869 p. 3
\(^{25}\) The Mercury (Hobart) 7 December 1869 p. 3
\(^{26}\) The Mercury (Hobart) 7 December 1869 p. 3
\(^{27}\) TAHO, RGD37/1/41 District of Brighton 1882/23 Eliza Sweet and Thomas Sherston; TAHO, RGD35/1/10 District of Hobart 1884/2047 Thomas Sherston; The Mercury (Hobart) 17 December 1884 p. 1
\(^{28}\) The Mercury (Hobart) 2 November 1906 p. 1
Richard Sherston, born in Bath, may have died in Victoria in 1874, aged 54.29

Additional information from Dianne Allen, who has claimed all three Sherston children on the Friends of the Orphan Schools website:

CORRECTION:
The photograph included with the article Mary Ann Butler in Tasmanian Ancestry Vol. 37 No. 3 was incorrect. Apologies to Dianne—see correction below.

Thank-you for including the Mary Ann Butler article in what was a bumper edition of the journal! The photo, however, is William BUTLER (my great-great-grandfather) and his wife Margaret. William was Mary Ann’s older brother. In the photo of Mary Ann, she is standing next to her husband, George WARD, who is seated.

29 Victorian Death Index 1874/2273 Richard Sherston.

UNDERTAKERS OF HOBART:
Vol. IV

Index to
H C Millington Pty Ltd
Funeral Records

Part 1 Apr 1925 – May 1937
$22.00 + $6.30 p&p
Part 2 May 1937 – Mar 1944
$22.00 + $6.30 p&p
Part 3 Mar 1944 – Mar 1950
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Part 4 Mar 1950 – Nov 1955
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Part 6 Nov 1960 – May 1964
$25.00 + $6.30 p&p
Part 7 May 1964 – Apr 1967
$25.00 + $6.30 p&p
$25.00 + $6.30 p&p

These records usually give name of spouse and/or parents, death place, abode, cause of death, cemetery where buried or if cremated. Often newspaper Death and/or Funeral Notices are attached which detail other family members. Copies are available for a small fee on request.

All members are entitled to 10% discount on books.

Write to Resource Manager
TFHS Inc. Hobart Branch
PO Box 326 ROSNY PARK
TASMANIA 7018
email library@hobart.tasfhs.org
FEBRUARY 2017 marked the fiftieth anniversary of the day Hobart was said to have burned. The 1967 Tasmanian bushfires, often referred to as ‘Black Tuesday’, are still considered the worst such event in the state’s history. Those of us old and able enough are likely to recall what we were doing and where we were on that day. Sadly, the lives of 62 people were lost, with a further 900 injured and more than 7000 left homeless in southern districts. Memories are rekindled every long, hot summer of the potential for a repeat episode. Public awareness campaigns on how to prepare for bushfire emergencies are common now, along with successful annual programs conducted in primary schools by qualified fire-fighters, who aim to educate children on how to plan for, and react to, fire emergencies in the home and surrounds.

Most out-of-control fires, not just bushfires, cause devastation. This article looks at the impact of fires in Tasmanian Government schools in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Fortunately, no loss of life was recorded as a result of those incidents, most blazes occurring out of traditional school hours. The speed of destruction of infrastructure, valuable school records, property and personal possessions, however, is a recurring theme in resulting reports, along with tales of selfless bravery on the part of many local residents in their efforts to save property.

School fireplaces and chimneys
As background, it is useful to reflect on how important fireplaces and chimneys were to most inhabitants during the era under review. The fireplace offered a practical means of cooking and heating, and a well-swept chimney had the added benefit of providing important ventilation to a room. According to early Board of Education/Education Department records, not all school rooms had the basic luxury of a fireplace and chimney; some had no form of heating or, at best, had to rely on what was usually described as an inefficient wood-fired stove.

The surviving Inspectors’ Reports on schools from the late nineteenth century...
forward usually included a note on each school’s heating and ventilation, resulting in a large variety of descriptions of the provision of fireplaces and chimneys. Most chimneys were constructed of brick, but it was not uncommon for them to be noted as having dangerous cracks or displaying signs of instability. Country schools sometimes had iron chimneys and fireplaces, and the Inspectors usually suggested that they be replaced with brick as soon as possible.

In February 1859, Mr Edwin Pears (1835–1919), as Organizing Master for the District, made a report on the school at Long Bay (Middleton). He noted that the schoolroom itself was an excellent one and was centrally situated. The teachers’ rooms, however, he thought were defective, all four being too small. The skillion had no chimney and the only two fireplaces were 14 inches deep. That depth for a wood fire was not only very inconvenient for cooking, but it was really dangerous. A log rolling over would expose the building to the chance of fire. The fireplaces in the schoolroom were of the same depth. It was recommended that the land belonging to the school premises should be cleared otherwise it was not improbable that the building would be destroyed by fires common to that locality.2

It is interesting to note that during the earliest years, teachers were not supplied with fuel for heating. At St George’s School at Battery Point in Hobart in May 1853, Inspector Thomas Arnold (1823–1900) observed that the Master, Mr James Freeman (c. 1800–1870), was obliged to find his own firing for the schoolroom.3 Some teachers asked their pupils to bring the logs. It was revealed in 1899 that the teacher-in-charge at Cormiston State School, Miss Ethel H Leslie (1880–1927), had been required to pay for firewood as none had been supplied.4

Smoky chimneys were the blight of many schoolrooms. At Exton in 1891, while Mr Edward Pearson Blyth (1840–1939) was teacher-in-charge, new school facilities were erected. The schoolroom was considered satisfactory, as was the attached residence, except that its chimney smoked. This remained a problem for some years, the smoke in 1894 being described as intolerable in spite of all the means used to cure it. The walls and hangings in the residence were blackened as a result.5

Given the problems associated with fireplaces and chimneys, it is not surprising to learn that they were a common source of destruction in schools.

- At Irish Town, Circular Head, in December 1900, the school and residence burnt down. A newspaper report at the time indicated that the teacher, Mr Leslie Ralph Dodge (1876–1961), had been working late at the school on the night of the fire. He had left the premises all safe at about 9.40pm with just a handful of dead embers in

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2 Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office (TAHO): ED13/1/2
3 TAHO: CB3 3/1
4 TAHO: ED31/1/5
5 TAHO: ED31/1/2
the fireplace. The fireplace had been a very deceptive one with a double chimney and holes in it through the back from the school to the residence. The night in question was very windy and it was supposed that fire dust was blown from the schoolroom through the hole, scattering and fanning the dying embers. No foul play was suspected.6

- In August 1920, the Branxholm School was totally destroyed by fire at an early hour one morning. Many willing hands were soon on the scene after the fire was first discovered and the piano and some desks were saved. It seems that the problem commenced in a rafter near the fireplace.7

- Another Circular Head school, Alcomie, had all of its contents, including a piano owned by the Parents’ Association, completely destroyed by fire on the night of 27 June 1938. Local resident, Mr James ROLLINGS, first noticed the flames at 7:30 p.m. but, by the time help arrived, flames had engulfed the building. It was concluded that the fire had started when the teacher, as was her usual routine, had set kindling in the fireplace ready for the next day, before she left in the afternoon. It would appear that the fire had not totally died down.8

Sparks from nearby chimneys were also a source of problems in town areas. On a day of strong winds in November 1911, a fire broke out at the Girls’ Industrial School in Davey Street in Hobart. By the time a fire crew arrived the roof of the main building and that on a wing on the eastern side of it were well alight. It was supposed to have started from a spark blown from a chimney in Macquarie Street. Roof damage and the destruction of some mattresses was the main result.9

Glowing embers in tins in porches
There were daily routines associated with the maintenance of classroom fireplaces, and many tasks were carried out by the teachers. As a rule, the fire was to be lighted on cold mornings an hour before the children assembled so that the room was comfortably warmed by the time work was started. An hour before the school was dismissed for the day the fires could be reduced and allowed to die. Prior to the teacher’s departure for the day, it was common practice for the fireplace to be emptied and its contents placed in a bin outside the classroom.

- At Yarlington, near Colebrook, on the night of 14 May 1931, the school porch caught fire as the result of some still alight coals from the fireplace being left in a tin there. A neighbour, Mrs WHELAN, noticed the fire, broke in through a window, and poured water on the flames. A hole was burnt in the floor, but not much other damage was done.10

- There was a fire at Glen Fern State School in the Derwent Valley in 1935, but thanks to the quick action of two neighbours, Messrs C and E

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6 The Advocate, 7 December 1900
7 Daily Telegraph, 21 August 1920
8 Circular Head Chronicle, 28 June 1938
9 The Mercury, 20 November 1911
10 TAHO: ED230/2/1/1
HANSCH, only minor damage was done. The fire was thought to have started in the porch where ashes were stored in a tin. The school had been painted recently, preventing the fire from getting a good hold of the wood.11

**Bushfires**

- A bushfire at Carlton in late February 1856 spread very quickly on the day of its implosion, and caused considerable damage in the district. Fortunately, teacher-in-charge, Mr Thomas Edward WILSON (c. 1794–1858), had a good supply of water at the schoolhouse and was able, with the help of local people, to save the main building. An outbuilding, which had been converted into a fowl-house, was entirely consumed, along with sixty head of poultry.12 During 1856, Mr Wilson was paid £2 in compensation for loss sustained during the fire.13

- Bismarck (Sorell Creek) State school was not so fortunate when bushfire completely destroyed the whole building and its residence on New Year’s Day, 1900. The teacher-in-charge, Mr Arthur William Latimer SOUTHERN (1865–1921), his wife Mary Elizabeth (née SHEPPARD), and their five children, Muriel, Ben, Harold, Arthur and Gordon, were all at home on the day. A newspaper report stated that ‘… the lint of fire reached the shingle roof of the schoolhouse, and in a few minutes the whole block was ablaze …’ In the same article, Mr Southern was quoted as having written to a relation thus: ‘… We have lost nearly everything, only some bedding saved … We are fortunate in getting away with our lives … The children behaved like little heroes; not a bit of panic, did just as they were told …’14

- Miss Jane Margaret LUTTRELL (1844–1907) was remembered by local residents near Sheffield as having driven her horse and buggy daily from Luttrel’s Bridge area over rough roads and through thick forest while she was in charge of the school at Paradise from 1889 to 1897.15 Miss Luttrell was made full-time at Claude Road State School from January 1898. In February 1898, she wrote to the Department concerning a recent bushfire: “I drove to Paradise where the school premises have suffered severely, though the building is saved, no doubt on account of the iron roofing. Both out offices are burned and much fencing, seven panels completely and two partly at one end. The log fences which were on two sides are quite destroyed … the fierce heat … caused the well covering to ignite and all the woodwork is quite destroyed.”16 Another bushfire in 1913 destroyed the replacement building.17

**Electrical and gas faults**

- In April 1928 at 10:00 a.m., a fire broke out at Devonport High School

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11 The Mercury, 15 June 1935
12 Colonial Times, 5 March 1856
13 Journal of the House of Assembly, 1857
14 The Tasmanian Mail, 6 January 1900
15 Argent, B (Ed), The Sheffield School, 1884–1984, p. 73
16 TAHO: ED13/1/66
17 The Examiner, 20 May 1913
following an explosion in the gas plant. Outbuildings and a large portion of the common room, including a storeroom and shower room were destroyed. Damage was estimated at £1000.

- Forest Area School, constructed in 1939, had its main buildings destroyed by fire in July 1951. Four classrooms, a library, a head teacher’s office, a teachers’ room and a recently built canteen were all part of the loss, valued at a replacement cost of £60,000. An electrical fault was believed to be the cause.

- Approximately £100 worth of damage was caused after an electric radiator was left burning in a classroom at New Town High School in March 1953. Wood on a desk caught fire and the walls, floor and other contents in the room were damaged slightly.

- Some causes were unknown

- In December 1902, soon after Guildford Junction State School near Waratah closed for the year and the teacher, Mrs Hannah May WELLS (1867–1940), had left on holiday, the building was destroyed by fire. The alarm was given just after midnight before the flames had enveloped the building, and a few sewing machines and other articles belonging to Mrs Wells were removed. The origin of the outbreak was reported as a mystery.

- Strickland State School, described as a weatherboard building of three large rooms in the Upper Derwent Valley, was destroyed by fire in June 1929. Several forms and two windows and sashes were all that was saved. The fire occurred on a Sunday, and its cause was unknown.

- The school and residence at Ticehurst, which had been unoccupied for the previous six months, were destroyed by fire in May 1950. No cause was found when an inquiry was held.

**Deliberate acts**

- The residents of Queenstown were horrified when they learned that the school at South Queenstown had been broken into, ransacked and set alight during the Christmas/January break of 1916. The fire had been kindled in a cupboard containing library books. The degree of wanton destruction suggested that youngsters had been responsible for the evil act.

- In March 1926, the school at Dulverton on the North West Coast, was destroyed by fire, the blaze believed to be deliberate. The problem started in the school porch one evening, the teacher reporting that all had been in order when she had left at the end of the day. Everything, including the piano, was reduced to ashes.

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18 TAHO: ED11/734/8.28
19 The Mercury, 21 July 1951
20 The Examiner, 16 March 1953
21 The Advocate, 19 December 1903
22 Mercury, 18 June 1929
23 The Mercury, 11 August 1950
24 Zeehan and Dundas Herald, 14 January 1916
25 The Advocate, 15 March 1926
A fire at Lilydale State School, thought to be arson, completely destroyed the old wooden building in 1927. Every desk and form, together with most of the school’s records, was lost. The teachers’ residence, situated about 30 feet away, was saved. Approximately 100 pupils were enrolled at that time.26

A blaze completely destroyed Tullah State School and all its records in August 1929. It seems that the problem commenced in the porch and was the third mysteriously-lit fire in the same street within a short period of time. The shelter shed provided by the Parents’ Association was the only building saved.27

Isolation and no fire-fighting equipment increased the risks
Statistically, there were more such disasters in country areas.

At Glenora, the school and teachers’ residence were destroyed in May 1928, damage estimated at £2000. Owing to a lack of fire-fighting equipment, the efforts to extinguish the blaze were in vain. The new Head teacher had not taken up his appointment at the time, so there was no furniture in the residence. The contents of the school included a valuable piano purchased by the Parents’ Association.28

Fire destroyed the school at Swan Bay in May 1936. The teacher left the building at 4:30 p.m. the previous day, but on arrival at 8:00 o’clock the following morning found the school burnt to the ground. The building was an old one, consisting of one room, and it was considered that the damage, including furniture and contents, amounted to less than £100. The roof and outside walls were of corrugated iron, and the inside was lined with pine. Eleven children were enrolled at the time.29

Recovery and prevention
According to records, most school buildings were replaced within a short period of time after a fire, the costs borne by the state government for rebuilding being considerable. Local halls often were used in the interim to ensure continuity of classes for pupils.

Awareness campaigns about fire prevention became more prevalent during the 1940s, including the need to use fireproof building materials where possible. A push for the provision of chemical fire extinguishers in schools gained momentum in the early 1950s, and regular organised fire drills involving the local fire brigades gradually were implemented. The installation of fire hoses, fire alarms and automatic sprinkler systems has also been successful. Fires still occur in schools throughout the state, but thankfully at a reduced level compared to the period under review in this article.  

26 Daily Telegraph, 3 October 1927
27 The Mercury, 17 August 1929
28 The Examiner, 15 May 1928
29 The Mercury, 6 May 1936.
THE Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery (TMAG) decorative arts collection includes a sampler made by girls in the Queen’s Orphan School. The TMAG description of the sampler states that it is a flat ‘basket’ made up of nine equal sized circular panels; one forming the centre or base and the remaining eight, originally forming the sides, arranged around it and overlapping one another. Each panel is made from a paper disc with pinked edges, the upper surface of which is covered with white linen. Each panel has an embroidered inscription, with a unique variation on the standard motif of a crown, below. Above the inscription
there is a small motif unique to each panel. The edges and the handle of the basket are made from flat pink silk ribbon. The handle is decorated with a panel of wound thread and beads. The sampler is incredibly small measuring 15cm by 15cm and would have needed expert concentration and needlework skills.

The central panel in the sampler, was dedicated to The Right Reverend Lord Bishop of Australia. Other individual panels were dedicated to The Queen’s Female Orphan School, Sir John FRANKLIN Lieutenant Governor, Rev T B NAYLOR, His Master, The First, Public Examination, May the 31st 1838.

The first public examination marked an important development in the history of the Orphan School. An official notice declared:

GOVERNMENT NOTICE, No. 87, Colonial Secretary’s Office, May 22.

The Lieutenant-Governor directs it to be notified, that an examination of the children in the Queen’s Orphan Schools will take place, in His Excellency’s presence, at the Institution on Thursday the 31st instant, at 11 o’clock, a.m. when the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Australia has expressed his willingness to attend and superintend the examination.

His Excellency wishes it to be understood that the examination will be open to the public, who are invited to inspect the accommodation provided for the children, and the system pursued generally in the Institution.

By His Excellency’s Command.

JOHN MONTAGU

On 1 June 1838, the Hobart Town Courier reported that the previous day

Sir John and Lady Franklin, the Bishop of Australia, with several of the clergy, and a number of ladies and gentlemen attended a public examination of the boys and girls at the Queen’s Orphan School. During the short period that we were enabled to stop, we were much gratified at the health and cleanliness of the children, and the general appearance of comfort and neatness which pervaded the whole of this excellent establishment …

Days later, the Hobart Town Courier, in a lengthy article on education, commented glowingly

We have a male and female Orphan School containing a multitude of children preparing for the more active duties of human life. This institution forms one of the brightest ornaments in Sir George Arthur’s administration. Thousands have been saved from starvation and destruction by admission into this noble institution.

This was presumably the first examination held in the girls’ wing of the newly-built school. It is not known who, or how many orphans contributed to the making of this unusual sampler. The design is very simple, consisting of minor variations in each of the nine rosettes. This suggests an overall predetermined scheme within which the students were permitted to contribute minor variations.

At the time of the examination, judging from the admission registers, there would have been, about 170 girls over the age of 5 years learning sewing. One teacher who may have had the responsibility of teaching these skills was Mrs Mary Martha GIRLE. Her daughter, May Ann Girle was a student of around 11 years of age.

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2  Hobart Town Courier 25 May 1838 p. 3
3  Hobart Town Courier 1 June 1838 p. 3
4  Hobart Town Courier 8 June 1838 p. 2
age in May 1838; she was possibly one of
the sewers of the sampler. When Mary
Martha Girle and her children Thomas,
Samuel and Mary Ann left the orphanage
in December 1838, they went to
Launceston where Mary Martha and
Mary Ann were employed as teachers at
the Frederick Street School.

The second examination was held in
December 1838,

At 11 o’clock, on Wednesday last, at the
Institution at New Town, the half-yearly
public examination of the children of the
Queens Orphan School, commenced in
the presence of His Excellency, the
Lieutenant-Governor, and terminated at 3
o’clock. The appearance, order, and
general improvement of the children were
very gratifying to His Excellency, and
the
visitors who attended. The alterations
since the last returns are as follows:—

Children in the establishment the 31st
December, 1837 451
Since admitted, 67
Left, apprenticed, 8
Taken out by parents and friends, 65
Died in hospital 6–79
Decrease 12
Total remaining, 12th Dec. 1838 439

Of this number, 226 are boys, and 213
girls. The boys who are learning trades
are not so numerous as we could wish.
There are, however, the following:
Bakers, 2; carpenters, 6; shoemakers, 28;
tailors, 22.5

According to TMAG, the basket
embroidery was presented to Lady Jane
Franklin (1791–1875) by Queen’s
Orphan School orphans in 1838. It was
presented to the Tasmanian Museum and
Art Gallery by Miss Ursula LEFROY in
1968. She had received the sampler from
Miss Louisa Lefroy (d. 1953), a
niece of
Sophia CRACROFT (1816–92). Sophia
Cracroft was the niece of Sir John
Franklin (1786–1847) and also Lady
Franklin’s long-term companion in Van
Diemen’s Land and elsewhere.6

Thank you to Joyce Purtscher and Dianne
Snowden.

References
110 Years of Tasmanian Decorative Arts
1803–1930

decorativeart/objects/textiles/S1968.131/

5 Hobart Town Courier 14 December 1838
p. 2

6 http://static.tmag.tas.gov.au/
decorativeart/objects/textiles/S1968.131/
THE ALEXANDER II, 1815–16
CLEARING THE DUBLIN STREETS
Anne McMahon (Member No. 6463)

THE Alexander II, a brig of 227 tons built in America during 1811, was a small vessel engaged by the British convict service to transport 84 Irish women prisoners to Sydney during 1815. In size she was only eclipsed by the Experiment II in 1809, a brig of 146 tons, the smallest vessel ever engaged to transport convicts for the 13,000 mile journey. The master of the Alexander II was William HAMILTON and her surgeon was John W. HALLION undertaking his first voyage in control of prisoners.¹

The brig sailed from Cork Harbour on 4 November 1815, called at Rio de Janeiro and arrived at Port Jackson on 4 April 1816 after a protracted passage of 152 days. There were three fatalities during the journey but as no surgeon’s journal is available the details are unknown.

The majority of the women had been prosecuted at Dublin city from where they were shipped to Cove in a sloop hired from the military. These small craft were supplied with straw matting laid in the hold for seating by day and bedding by night. The journey round the east coast of Ireland was intended to take 30 to 40 hours. However when the sea was rough and water poured over the decks the straw was sodden and trampled underfoot by the women prisoners wearing leg irons. In these circumstances the journey could occupy four days or more. On reaching Cork Harbour the women remained on board the sloops to be transhipped to the prison ships when they anchored at Cove after commencing their voyages from the London dockyards.

The women convicted at the southern counties such as Wexford and Tipperary, or who had marched overland from Limerick, were lodged in the Cork city gaol previous to embarkation. In 1815 it was a derelict building, crowded to excess whose cells were described as loathsome.

Provisions were purchased by a woman messenger from the market who defrauded the prisoners after they had already been cheated by the sheriff and the gaoler who purloined half the government allowance leaving them 6d per day. Ten of the women in the gaol were among the group shipped on the Alexander II.

The Guildford (2), for male prisoners, was also in Cork Harbour. She had been delayed for a considerable period during 1815 and questions were raised at an 1817 Inquiry why she had remained so long. Dr Robert HARDING who was responsible for the despatch of prisoners explained to the Commissioners that the Guildford (2) had been detained by the government to receive men convicted under the Insurrection Act.²

This repressive legislation, first introduced in 1796, involved trials by Courts of Special Sessions composed of benches of magistrates conducted without juries. Persons were convicted as idle and disorderly in hundreds for being out after

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² P.P.H.C., Commissioners to investigate certain alleged Abuses in the Convict Department at Cork. Report. 1817, Vol. XIII, p. 11, p. 15
curfew and sentenced to transportation for seven years. The Insurrection Act had been renewed for the fourth time in 1814. The *Guildford* (2) sailed direct to Port Jackson on 15 October 1815 with 221 Irish male prisoners after seven had been relanded as unfit for the journey by the surgeon Alexander TAYLER. One prisoner was lost before the transport arrived at Port Jackson on 8 April 1816 four days after the *Alexander II*. Forty of her male prisoners with 59 women from the *Alexander II* were embarked on the brig *HM Kangaroo* for Van Diemen’s Land.

Rev. Robert KNOPWOOD recorded their arrival on 29 April 1816. It was a cold and raw morning with snow on the mountains and falling in the streets of Hobart Town. Settlers lined the wharf to select females for assignment as servants while the men were dispersed or placed in government gangs.

Forty three of the women who disembarked had been servants or worked in country service in Ireland. Two were market women while those remaining were a midwife, a ribbon weaver and a mantua maker. The majority of their sentences were for 7 years while their offences were predominantly for theft revealing the poverty of their lives on the streets of Dublin. Their offences included stealing cloth, clothing, money and watches. More serious offences of possessing forged bank notes resulted in 14 year sentences although this was a capital crime in England at the time. Life sentences were imposed for street and house robbery and arson.

By 1827 six of the *Alexander II* women had died. The first was Bridget WALSH, the 46 year-old midwife who married John RIDDEL from the *Guildford* (2) in 1816 and died a year later. Three young women died between 1820 and 1821 while the final early deaths were in 1826–27.

These women were subjected to a variety of punishments during the next ten years. Hobart Town magistrates, such as the long serving Robert Knopwood and Adolarius HUMPHREY, appointed in April 1817, complained of the limited means available for controlling disorderly female convicts. As no house of correction was available to them, reprimands and admonishments were the first punishments administered. Fines of 5s. 0d. were next imposed. When all these failed the exasperated magistrates had the offenders placed in the stocks for upwards of 6 hours or for lesser periods over several days. Repeated offenders were fitted with iron collars for up to a week. These helmets, weighing 5¼ lbs, had spikes projecting from the front and back and were used in Van Diemen’s Land until 1826. Unrepentant women were sent to hard labour in gaol or to undergo solitary confinement on bread and water. Crimes such as substantial theft resulted in secondary transportation for three of the *Alexander II* women.

Mary KIRK, a nineteen year old literate prisoner, tried in Dublin for stealing a watch, had come on board the *Alexander II*. Soon after arrival in 1816 she and Andrew BENT, later to be the owner of the *Hobart Town Gazette*, were married. He had been sentenced to death in England for burglary which was commuted to life. After arrival at Port Jackson on board the *Guildford* (1) during 1812 he was sent to Hobart Town on the *Ruby*.

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Andrew Bent was the first to struggle and to suffer for freedom of the press in Australia. He printed the Gazette during Lieut-Governor Sorell’s time but on his arrival in 1824 Lieut-Governor Arthur made clear his view that newspapers should be government property. Andrew Bent resisted and was placed under official censure for libel. Printing for government was withdrawn—during 1826–27 he was imprisoned and fined £500. Eventually Arthur’s aim to control the press by a revocable licence was disallowed by Governor-in-chief Sir Thomas Brisbane but Bent struggled with specialised printing and publishing to maintain his family. Finally he moved to NSW where he died in poverty during 1851.5

In a closed community such as Hobart Town peoples’ lives were of absorbing interest. It was therefore unsurprising that in August 1817 a great sensation arose in the settlement involving one of the women from the Alexander II. She was Mary IVOR (or EVERS), a servant in the DRUMMOND family who was implicated in a murder. A young lady, ‘considered under respectable protection’, was secretly delivered of a male child which was interred at night in a box in the burial ground.

A coronial inquest revealed Miss Lilias McKellar, sister to Mrs Elizabeth Drummond and living in their household, was the mother. Miss McKellar was found guilty of the murder of her infant. The father was John Drummond, Hobart Naval Officer serving Lieut-Governor Sorell. He and the servant Mary Evor buried the infant and were deemed guilty of aiding and abetting the crime. The three persons were sent to Sydney Criminal Court for trial. In December 1817 news reached Hobart Town that all had been acquitted for want of sufficient evidence but John Drummond was dismissed by Governor Macquarie.

The three women in the household were the victims of John Drummond’s behaviour: namely his wife Elizabeth who had been publicly humiliated, Lilias, his sister-in-law who bore his child and Mary Ivor their powerless servant who, under orders from the master, assisted in the burial.

The scandal evoked much sympathy for Elizabeth Drummond who remained faithful to her husband throughout the ordeal and bore him a second son during 1819.6

Lilias McKellar married a respectable English settler, Nathan ELLIOT, on 17 June 1820 with Rev Robert Knopwood officiating. Elliot had come to settle in Van Diemen’s Land during October 1819 and had been granted substantial parcels of land well after the drama of 1817 had subsided.

Mary Ivor who had been drawn into concealing the death and burial of the infant, lost her position and died on 18 May 1820 after receiving several drunk and disorderly penalties for misbehaviour on the streets.

John Drummond sailed in the Admiral Cockburn in March 1820 with his family to live in England where he administered his Scottish father’s estate. By a deed of 1808, registered in 1823, he was described as ‘Sir John Francis Drummond’.7

6 Hobart Town Gazette and Southern Reporter, 30 August 1817, 13 December 1817
### NEW MEMBERS’ INTERESTS

<table>
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<td>1859–1932</td>
<td>7835</td>
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<td>BOWDEN Elsie Geraldine</td>
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<td>Launceston TAS AUS</td>
<td>1800–1900</td>
<td>7825</td>
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<td>lodge Joseph</td>
<td>Tunbridge TAS AUS/Yorkshire ENG</td>
<td>c.1841</td>
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<td>Watson William</td>
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All names remain the property of the Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. and will not be sold on in a database.

If you find a name in which you are interested, please note the membership number and check the New Members’ listing for the appropriate name and address.

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

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### ORAL HISTORY WORKSHOP

**Saturday 27 May 2017**

10:00 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. at Glenorchy LINC

Conducted by Jill Cassidy President of Oral History Tasmania

Learn how to interview your relatives, and how to ensure your descendants can hear their voices.

There will be a demonstration of a digital recorder.

Cost (includes lunch): $50 non-members, $40 members Oral History Tasmania, $30 students.

Contact Jill Cassidy on 0418 178 098 or president@oralhistorytas.org.au

![Oral History Tasmania](OralHistory Tasmania.png)
## NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members

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<tr>
<th>No.</th>
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<th>Address</th>
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<td>Rhodes Mrs Lynne</td>
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Queries should be limited to 100 words and forwarded to

`editors@tasfhs.org`

or

The Editor

*Tasmanian Ancestry*, PO Box 326 ROSNY PARK Tasmania 7018
LONG MEADOWS was an early colonial settlement on the main road between Hobart Town and Launceston about 8 kilometres south of Launceston. It was a social and service centre for a developing farming area and an important staging post for travellers along the main road. The settlement was later renamed Franklin Village to honour Sir John FRANKLIN who was Lieutenant Governor between 1837 and 1843.

In 1844 the Franklin Village community petitioned the newly-arrived Bishop, Francis NIXON, for permission to hold services at Franklin Village. He agreed if a building in which to hold the services could be provided. Ex-convict Britton JONES, licensee of the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’, granted an acre of land for a school and for the celebration of Divine Worship according to the Rites and Ceremonies to the United Church of England and Ireland and for a place of burial.

Members of the community raised the necessary funds, assisted by a grant from the English Society for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge. On 12 October 1844 the Bishop laid the foundation stone for the chapel built in the Primitive Gothic style with convict labour using convict-made bricks. The building was completed and on 15 April 1845, at the entrance, the Bishop was presented with a petition from residents requesting His Lordship to open the building for the conduct of services by licence. The
licence was granted, prayers were said and the Bishop delivered a sermon ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer’.

Following the opening service the Bishop, together with the clergy present, perambulated the burial ground and proceeded to the consecration of the ground. However, the building which included a schoolroom was not consecrated on that occasion. In 1926 the building was dedicated and renamed St James Church. Services continue to be held weekly and the ground remains open for burials.

A recent addition has been a columbarium generously provided by Finney Funeral Services for the interment of ashes. Interred in the burial ground are many pioneers of Franklin Village and the surrounding districts. These pioneers contributed to the foundation and economic, social and cultural development of the Village in early colonial times and beyond.

George ANDERSON arrived in Van Diemen’s Land in 1847, worked as a tutor and, for a period, as a teacher of Classics and Mathematics with William Keeler HAWKES at the Classical and Commercial School at Franklin Village. After leaving Franklin Village he worked as a clerk in the Department of the Controller-General in Hobart Town, moved to the goldfields in New South Wales and Victoria and in 1853 settled in Circular Head where he farmed and held a number of community leadership positions including that of Stipendiary Magistrate.

In 1854 he married Jane SMITH, daughter of John and Frances Smith of ‘Marchington’. They had four sons and three daughters. George Anderson died in 1911 aged 89 years. He and his wife Jane are buried in the Franklin Village burial ground.

Theodore Bryant BARTLEY migrated to New South Wales in 1819 and was appointed tutor to the 5-year old son of Governor Lachlan MACQUARIE. During a visit with Macquarie to Hobart Town in 1821 he decided to branch out on his own and was granted prime land at Franklin Village. He named it ‘Kerry Lodge’. Bartley became a leader in agriculture, business and community affairs. He died at ‘Kerry Lodge’ in 1878. His remains with those of his wife Hannah and a number of their 15 children were interred in the burial ground at Franklin Village.

George Belben CRESSWELL migrated from India where he had been chief civil engineer on the Himalaya-Darjeeling Railway. He purchased the ‘Glenara’ property from E B and Mary Genders and in 1920 sold a portion of the property, including substantial buildings, for the establishment of the Northern Tasmanian Home for Boys. He died at ‘Glenara’ in 1924. His son, Wing Commander Richard (Dick) Cresswell, a distinguished airman during World War II, died in Canberra in 2009 and, in accordance with his wishes, his ashes were interred in his father’s grave at Franklin Village.
Joseph Charles GENDERS, originally from Birmingham, UK, moved to Franklin Village from South Australia where he had established a wholesale saddlers’ ironmongery business which he left in charge of his eldest son. In 1881 he began a similar firm in Launceston, the well-known W & G Genders Hardware Store. It amalgamated with Gunns Limited in 1981. Joseph who died in 1914 aged 87 years and his wife Albina, whose second name is spelt Louisa on her grave yard memorial, died in 1888. They were buried in the Franklin Village burial ground, together with their son, Albert Eustace Genders, who had died in 1882 aged 14 years.

William Keeler HAWKES, an English schoolmaster, arrived in Van Diemen’s Land with his wife Martha (née Green), in 1842 and established The Classical and Commercial School, an elite boys’ boarding school, at Franklin Village in what is now Franklin House. After the school closed in c.1866 he represented the Division of Mersey in the Legislative Council (1871–77). He died in 1882 and his grave is in the local burial ground together with those of his wife Martha and three maiden sisters, Marianne, Elizabeth and Charlotte, all of whom had followed William and Martha to Van Diemen’s Land in 1844.

Barbara Tweed PAYNE OBE AM was Mayor of Launceston 1980–81. Her ashes and those of her husband Harold Stanley Payne are interred in the burial ground.

John Lowe SMITH arrived in New South Wales from Newcastle-on-Tyne in 1816 and moved to Van Diemen’s Land in 1821. He was listed in the ship’s records as a linen draper and arrived with a considerable sum of money. Granted 500 acres of land in the Parish of Breadalbane he named it ‘Marchington’ to which was later added an extra 300 acres. He and his wife Frances established a large garden and orchard, noted particularly for its fruits and vines. They exhibited jams and conserves at the Great Exhibition in London in 1851. Smith died at ‘Marchington’ in 1853 and he and his wife Frances, together with their children, were buried in the burial ground at Franklin Village.

References
<table>
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SIR WILLIAM WALLACE INN
Lucille Gee (Member No. 6297)

The ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ previously named the ‘Punchbowl Inn’ was established c.1830. It was erected on the original land grant of 320 acres to Joseph Moore during the years 1828–1829. This land was later granted to George Collins and W. Johnson. The ‘Punchbowl Inn’ first licensed publican was Charles Lucas. Charles was granted a licence in c.1832. He was born on Norfolk Island in 1801, the son of First Felcter convicts Nathaniel and Olivia Lucas. Following the death of Nathaniel, the family left Norfolk Island and returned to Sydney. In 1818 Charles, with his mother and siblings sailed for Port Dalrymple on the schooner John Palmer to settle in Launceston. On 27 January 1820 Charles, aged eighteen, married Eleanor Murphy at the St John’s Church. They had sixteen children, ten of whom were born in Launceston. In 1832 Charles became publican and resident at the ‘Punchbowl Inn’, Magpie Hill. In October 1832 he was charged with harbouring assigned servants John Silcock, Richard Hammond and Richard Hemsley who had no permit to be absent from their master, Mr Theodore Bartley, and allowing them to be drinking in a public place on the Sabbath.

The trial was held at the Police Office, Launceston on the 26 October 1832. The convict records of John Silcock, transported in 1828 on the ship Woodford, Richard Hammond, transported in 1818 on the ship Surrey and Richard Hemsley show evidence of their crime at the ‘Punchbowl Inn’, and punishment was recorded as 15 lashes, solitary confinement with only bread and water and 50 lashes. Charles was found guilty and was fined £10.0.0 and court costs.

In 1834, Charles and his family moved to New South Wales, then to Gippsland, Victoria where he died in 1852.

The transfer of the next publican’s licence was from Charles Lucas to Britton Jones in 1833. Britton Jones altered the name of the ‘Punchbowl Inn’ to the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ and operated the Inn from 1833 until 1842. By this time the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ had become one of the most renowned Inns in Franklin Village. The Inn itself was situated with its frontage to the main road leading into and out of Launceston. It was built in the Georgian style and the internal woodwork was Australian red cedar. This timber, later referred to as Red Gold was harvested and milled from the forests of the Tweed River, New South Wales. The freshly milled timber was loaded onto ships leaving Sydney for Launceston. It had a dual purpose: ballast for the ship and milled timber that could instantly be used for Launceston house building. The cedar used in the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ was made into intricate architraves and carpentry. The cedar architraves after demolition of the Inn can still be seen at ‘Clarendon’, Nile, Tasmania.

Britton Jones was born in 1800 in Wiltshire, England. He was convicted of stealing lead and was transported to Van Diemen’s Land in 1820 on the ship Dromedary. Britton married Sophia Kirk on the 2 December 1822 at St Johns Launceston by Rev. John Youl and they had eight children. Britton was
given a Certificate of Freedom in 1825, and began work delivering ale to many Launceston hotels. He applied and received a publican’s licence in 1834 at the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’. Whilst Britton was publican he had the foresight to use the building and the grounds of the Inn for trading. The outside area of the Inn became an abattoir, an auctioneer’s sale yard, a rental area for housing animals ready for sale and small huts were built for rental to clientele on sale days etc. In 1838 Britton built ‘Franklin House’ opposite the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’, using the same floor plan as the Inn.

The Cornwall Chronical of Saturday, 16 May 1835, page 3, carried an article titled Commercial Boarding and Day School which states

Mr T. B. Wilson begs to inform the Public generally, that he has taken the premises lately occupied by Mr. Britton Jones, as an Inn, where he has opened an Academy for young Gentlemen.

In 1849 Britton left Van Diemen’s Land and sailed to San Francisco, where he became publican at the ‘Unity Hotel’, during the gold rush. According to the Pacific News, San Francisco, 17 August 1850,

The Unity Hotel on Pacific Street, conducted by Mr. B. W. Jones, was broken into, during the temporary absence of the proprietor, and robbed of about $3,700 in gold coin, and a number of valuable articles to the amount of about $300, all the property of Mr. Jones.

Britton returned home in 1852 but sadly died in 1856 from serious burns to the upper part of his body.

The transfer of the next licence was to Joshua LYONS in 1843. Joshua married Priscilla SUTTON on 26 April 1837 and they had six children. He was reported to be living in Franklin Village in 1842. In 1843 Joshua placed a large advertisement in the Launceston Courier stating that he had taken over the licence of the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’, ‘he will serve the best wine and spirits that are available and all are welcome’.

The publican’s licence transfer of 1845 for the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ was from Britton Jones to Richard RUFFIN. Richard Winchester Ruffin was convicted of larceny and sentenced to seven years’ transportation to Van Diemen’s Land in 1819 on the ship Hibernia. He received a Conditional Pardon in 1831 and a Free Pardon in 1838. Richard married Mary STEPHENS in 1826 and they had four children. Richard and Mary worked hard and prospered and they eventually purchased a property at Norfolk Plains. In 1847 an advertisement in The Examiner stated that Richard Ruffin was selling all furniture and stock at the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’. Richard died in 1863 at Longford, Tasmania.

In 1847 the licence was transferred from Richard Ruffin to James Hewitt. James was born in 1810 and married Mary Ann WOOD. When he became the publican of ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ he placed a large advertisement in The Examiner stating ‘To all my friends, come visit a newly furnished ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ with outstanding wine and spirits’.

In the August of 1847 there was a transfer of licence from James Hewitt to Richard CHUGG who held the licence from 1847 until 1851. Richard Chugg was born c. 1798, Devonshire, England and was convicted of aiding and abetting murder for which he received a life sentence. He was transported on the ship Caledonia 1 arriving in Van Diemen’s Land in 1820. Richard received a Free Pardon in 1839 and his occupation was a farmer, but it is shown in the 1858 electoral rolls that...
Richard became an early property developer around the Franklin Village area, and owned ten houses, an inn, a blacksmith shop, and 300 acres of land. He married in 1824 to Ann SYDES and later in 1845 to Mary HICKS. Richard and Mary had five children. Richard died in 1861 and is buried at St Andrews Anglican Church, Evandale in the place known as Pioneer Park.

The ownership of the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ from 1833 until 1849 has not been established. Some evidence indicates that Charles Lucas and Britton Jones were buying and building properties in the area and some information shows Richard Chugg, when not insolvent, was definitely investing in properties in the area. However, no conclusive evidence has been found.

On the 18 July 1849, The Examiner advertised for sale an old established Inn known as ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’, Franklin Village, together with a blacksmith shop and five acres of land. On the 21 July 1849, according to The Examiner, the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ was sold by auction on Friday to Mr John Fawns of Launceston at the price of £650.0.0. John FAWNS owned the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ from 1849 – 1879. He arrived in Hobart Town in 1825 and worked as a carpenter before moving to Launceston where he established the Cornwall Brewery. John married Maria ANDERSON on 13 August 1833 at Scotch Church and they had nine children. He established the Cornwall Brewery, which operated in a small shed at the corner of Esplanade and Tamar Streets Launceston in 1829, and became an astute businessman, and was elected Mayor of Launceston in 1862. John died in 1879 and according to his obituary ‘all the achievements he had acquired, contributed to the advancement of Launceston’.

In 1852 there was a transfer of the publican’s licence of the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ from Richard Chugg to William Henry PARKINSON. William was born in 1807, and was caught stealing a goose for which he was transported for life to Van Diemen’s Land on the ship Aurora in 1835. At that time William was married with one child. He received a Conditional Pardon in 1846 and was the publican of the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ from 1852 until 1854, and later publican for the ‘Wool Pack Inn’ at Breadalbane. William died in Launceston in 1869 aged 62 years.

In 1854 the licence was transferred from William Henry Parkinson to John COLE. John was born 1817, and married Ann PILBEAM at the Holy Trinity Church on the 11 September 1851. He was recorded as being a Gentleman. John held his publican’s licence for the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ from 1854 until 1859, and was publican of the ‘All Year Round Hotel’ from 1860 until 1871. He was a well-known identity in the Sand Hill area (South Launceston).

In 1859, the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’s licence was transferred to John SMITH, alias William Smith. He was born c. 1827 at Birmingham England, married Eleanor PAGE at the Independent Chapel, Launceston and had five children. According to the 1858 Electoral Roll John Smith was living in a Franklin Village house owned by Richard Chugg. Later John, Eleanor and family went to live in New Zealand.

The publican’s licence of ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ was transferred to Thomas GEE in 1862. Thomas was born in 1837 in the Morven district—his parents John and Ann Gee had emigrated from...
Rathmolyon, County Meath, Ireland and settled at the property of ‘Barbrook’, White Hills. Thomas’ occupation was a butcher. He married Emma HICKS and after Emma’s death Thomas married Martha Matilda Chugg, daughter of Richard and Mary Chugg of Franklin Village, and they had ten children. Thomas worked at his father-in-law’s butchery and then moved to being a publican at the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ until 1865. Thomas died in 1889 and his wife Martha died in 1891, leaving a large young family to be reared by relatives.

In 1865 the publican’s licence was transferred from Thomas Gee to William FAIR. This licence did not last long as William’s wife Margaret died at her residence, the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’, after a short illness. The 1865 Assessment Rolls show John PEARCE was the publican of the Inn in Franklin Village. John was born c. 1830 and married in 1858 to Elizabeth WHEE (BROWN). They had three children. Pearce was known to have been the publican of the ‘Lymington Inn’, Nile and then the ‘Ringwood Inn’, Cressy. While John was publican at ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ he worked there with his brother-in-law Joseph Brown. John Pearce died in 1869 aged 39 years.

Joseph Brown received permission in 1866 to sell liquor in the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ under the licence held by John Pearce. Joseph did not receive a publican’s licence for ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ until 1867.

In 1868 there was great excitement for the publican and guests of the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ when they were told the coach from Hobart to Launceston was carrying a Royal passenger, Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, son of Queen Victoria, with travelling companions, the Governor, Thomas GORE-BROWNE, and the Premier, Sir Richard DRY. The carriage was owned by Mr Tom ARCHER of ‘Woolmers’, Longford. The ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ was the last coach stop for the changing of the carriage horses and refreshments for the travellers, before arriving in Launceston.

On the 4 December 1869 the renewal of the publican’s licence was granted to Thomas Gee. This licence maintained Thomas’ name, although Richard Gee and John SULLIVAN were also named as being the publican’s during that time.

On the 3 May 1870 the licence was transferred to William Cain CREW. William was a convict, born in 1820 on the Isle of Man. He was convicted of pick-pocketing and sentenced to ten years, arriving in Van Diemen’s Land in 1844. William was given a Conditional Pardon in 1851. He married Elizabeth HENLEY in 1850 at the York Street Baptist Church and had five children.

In 1872 William DARCY was granted a publican’s licence for the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’. William Darcy or D’ARCY was born in 1818. He ran the ‘Railway Tavern’ in York Street from 1868 until 1870. He married Johanna DWYER and they had three children. William was publican for the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ from 1872 until his death in 1878 aged 60 years. He died at his residence the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’. William’s wife Johanna applied to transfer the publican’s licence to her name and she was accepted until early 1879.

In 1878 the Examiner received articles from Franklin Village residents complaining about the standards of the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’. William Hawkes of the Classical School for boys, Franklin Village, stated the Inn was in a deplorable condition and was a very old building.
‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ was sold on the 1 March 1880 by W T BELL, auctioneer for the Estate of John Fawns. The purchaser was Melmoth and Mary Jane FLETCHER. Melmoth was born in 1833 at Lake River, Cressy. He married Mary Jane GATENBY of ‘Barton’ in 1855 and they had fourteen children. The Inn became a family home and they named the house ‘Tallentyre’, after the family property on the Lake River, of Carr Villa. ‘Tallentyre’ was then leased by the Mary Jane Fletcher Estate until 1930, when the property of an established home and 425 acres was advertised for sale.

Percival Beaumont GRUBB then purchased the property, and his son Frederick Herbert Beaumont Grubb and his bride Anna Madeline (née MAC-KINNON) moved into the house of ‘Tallentyre’ after their wedding at St Johns Church, on the 18 January 1940. They had five children, and stocked the property with sheep and a few cattle. In the Mercury on 12 September 1946 a social article was written concerning Mr and Mrs Frederick Grubb at their charming home of ‘Tallentyre’ served more than one hundred, town and country guests to a sherry party. It stated that spring invaded the house as Mrs Grubb robbed her garden of blossom, poly-

Photographs of Tasmanian Buildings and Individuals – Sir Ralph Whishaw 1966 N165 Tasmanian Archives

Cressy. Melmoth became the Inspector of Stock for Northern Tasmania, and was chairman of the Hobart Spring Show. He stocked the property of ‘Tallentyre’ with sheep and a few cattle. Melmoth Fletcher died on the 17 August 1909 aged 77 years and is buried at Carr Villa. Mary Jane continued to live in the house until her death. She died on 20 March 1912 at her residence and the funeral left from her home ‘Tallentyre’ for the burial ground of Carr Villa.
anthus, hyacinths bulbs and other spring flowers.

During World War II a bomb shelter was erected at the rear of the house for the use of the Grubb family and surrounding neighbours. Frederick was duly elected as Councillor of the St Leonards Council in 1952. In 1962 the Grubb family moved to the property ‘Strathroy’ and Frederick died in 1965.

‘Tallentyre’ was demolished in 1968 and a family member Irene Chugg requested to keep the sunroom that was attached to the northern end of the building. ‘Tallentyre’ was sold with the house and two acres of land to Freighter Trailers Ltd to establish a factory and to manufacture transport equipment. The remainder of the 423 acres became part of the Estate of the Grubb family. The house was used initially as a residence for the company manager but demolished to build a factory for Freighter Trailers Ltd. This business was later sold to FRENCHS Pineworld Pty Ltd, then Gunns Pty Ltd, and finally Sea Road Transport.

References:
Hobart Town Gazette, Assessment Rolls, TROVE, Newspapers; The Examiner, Launceston Advertiser, The Cornwall Chronicle
LINC Tasmania - Convict records

Sincere thanks to John Dent, Beau Grubb and Marie Gatenby for help with the research.
In December 1852, the Rector of St Georges Church of England, Hobart Town, married Catherine BELCHER (née DUNN), a young widow, the eldest daughter of well-known businessman John Dunn, founder of the Commercial Bank. Her young husband, a military doctor, T L Belcher, had died while sojourning in Britain.

The Rev. Henry Phibbs FRY was also famous—or notorious, depending on one’s point of view. Over the years since he first arrived in Van Diemen’s Land, he had written a large number of pamphlets and letters to the newspapers on the theology and traditions of the Church of England, transportation, and other topics. Controversy followed in the wake of his writings, and newspaper editors revelled in publishing his—and his antagonists’—pieces.

For the past couple of years, in preparation for writing a biography of Henry Phibbs Fry, I have been researching his life and that of his contemporaries. As if I were researching my own family history, I have sifted through a mountain of his—tory books, archival materials, newspaper articles, and online sources for whatever I could learn about him, his family, his friends, and their lives in nineteenth-century Ireland, England, and Tasmania.

However, just as genealogists and other historians do, I soon came up against one of those proverbial and seemingly impenetrable, ‘brick walls’. Several sources, such as passenger lists in the newspaper shipping columns, a letter written by Rev. Fry to the Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts (that sent him to Hobart as a missionary), and a newspaper account of a farewell presentation to him as he prepared to set off to England on sabbatical leave, presented an apparently unsolvable mystery. There had been another Mrs Fry before 1852!

Who was this brave woman who set off as a missionary’s wife on the long sea voyage to the other side of the globe? She was only ever referred to as ‘Mrs Fry’ or ‘his wife’—no first name given.

According to the Australian Dictionary of Biography (ADB) entry for ‘Fry, Henry Phibbs’, this young woman had serious

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1 Register of marriages, St George Anglican Church, Battery Point, Hobart.
health problems. In November 1838 the Frys returned to England for Henry to study for a DD (Doctorate of Divinity). When Henry headed back to Van Diemen’s Land, his wife did not travel with him. Presumably she was too ill to travel, for she died not long after his departure. No details of where that information came from were given, which made the elusive Mrs Fry appear even more mysterious.

My search for Henry Fry’s first wife continued in earnest. It took many months, and involved much lateral thinking. I was already thankful for all the digitised records available online which made it possible to dig through genealogical records. The free websites such as FamilySearch.org and FreeBMD.org.uk had already helped me track down several relationships (although I did find, on comparing their records with primary sources, that not all their dates were correct), and thanks to the TFHS library subscriptions I was able to verify some of what I had found on Ancestry and FindMyPast. Now I set out to do an extensive search using as many sources available to me without actually traveling overseas.

There were already many facts about Rev. Fry’s life in my files. Several sources—the ADB, the admissions and alumni records of Trinity College, Dublin, and of Gray’s Inn, London among them—inform me Henry Phibbs Fry was born in 1807, that he had studied for a BA at Trinity College, Dublin, from 1823 to 1828, and had been admitted as a student to Gray’s Inn in May, 1835. He had moved to London before 1835 (I have yet to find out when), for it seems he was Secretary of the Westminster Reform Club in January 1835.

Henry travelled to Van Diemen’s Land in early 1851, so I decided to restrict my search to the period between 1834 and 1839, and to concentrate on marriage records from Middlesex County, since Gray’s Inn was in that area. My thinking was it was most likely Henry had met his wife-to-be in the part of London where he was living, and very probably at church.

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Who would have guessed there were so many men named Henry Fry married in England between 1834 and 1839?! I needed to narrow the search more. How?

According to the information from the ADB, Mrs Fry died very soon after her husband had left England. So I began also to look through records of deaths and burials in 1850 and 1851 to see whether the name of one of the brides I had found in the marriage records also turned up in the death records. The age of the deceased had to be reasonably young, of course (neither two years old nor sixty). Besides using the online sites mentioned above, I also joined the UK Society of Genealogists so that I might be able to look through their records as well.

When I finally found Mrs Fry, I had reason to be thankful for parents who give their children unusual names! With the combination of marriage records and death registrations, my results were narrowed down to one person—it had to be her! I ‘took the plunge’ and ordered a copy of her death certificate from the General Registry Office in England. It took a couple of weeks for it to arrive, but when I opened the envelope and unfolded the certificate I saw I had found the first Mrs Henry Phibbs Fry at last!

Pheana/Pheannah/Pheannah Fry, ‘Wife of Henry Phipps Fry, clergyman’ (notice the spelling variation in his middle name), had died in Camden New Town on 1 January 1851, aged 36 years.13 At the time of her death, Henry was on board ship in the southern Indian Ocean. How long was it before the sad news reached him? But that is another story.

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HOLDING IT TOGETHER
Jennifer Jacobs (Member No. 1826)

JUMPING from the shower, you dry off and within a minute or two, clothes arranged, you are ready to start the day. For our ancestors, the act of dressing was far more involved.

Back in Roman times, clothes were rather loose. A dress might have an opening at the neck to allow room for it to go over the head. A simple brooch or simple pin held it all together and preserved modesty for the ancient wearer. Men going off to war might also wear a buckle to hold helmets and armour in place. In fact, the name comes from the Latin buccula which means ‘little cheek,’ and was the area the buckle was protecting.

A baldric or sheath made from leather could be buckled across the chest to hold the sword in a convenient position. Buckles could be made in varying sizes and from many materials and were so successful they are still in use today.

Around the 12th century, lacing began to be used to join garment openings. Worn at the front, back or side, laces could be in ladder, spiral or crossed formation. Cord was passed through hand-sewn eyelets, sometimes reinforced with a metal ring. Women have always wanted to change their shapes and one of the early ways to do this was by wearing corsets. These were laced so tightly that women had difficulty breathing.

Originally used in the Indus Valley in ancient times, buttons were more for decoration. In Europe in the thirteenth century, they became popular as fasteners. Made from metal covered with cloth, they had a shank to stitch them to the clothing. The addition of two or four holes came much later, as did the idea of the buttonhole. Initially, they were buttoned into a series of loops along the edge of the garment. It was possible to display wealth by the number of buttons and buttonholes you could afford. In the 16th century, men usually dressed themselves and their buttons faced right. Women had their buttons in the opposite direction as it was more convenient for the maid who helped to dress them.

Sometimes whole sleeves were buttoned on so that they could be swapped from one garment to another, or removed altogether for washing if the whole garment did not require laundering. In 1783, the MONTGOLFIER brothers launched the world’s first hot air balloon. Made from fabric and paper lined with alum for fireproofing, its sections were held together with 1800 buttons!

Next to come along, was the hook and eye. Often used to spread the load and prevent an explosion of flesh, it was used particularly on doublets and breeches and later on corsets and waistbands. Originally made from coiled wire, the modern version was not patented till 1900, when the Delong hump was added to the hook to prevent it slipping open.
A debt of £15 convinced Walter HUNT to invent the modern safety pin in 1849. When fiddling with a piece of wire he discovered that it would spring. He added the coil to the base and a safety cap to the top. He sold his invention for £400, easily paying his debt but losing a fortune in future earnings. Unfortunately he was more interested in paying his debt than protecting his invention by copyright. He had previously invented the lockstitch sewing machine, the snow plough and a forerunner to the Winchester rifle.

It took nearly another forty years for the press stud to come along. Patented in 1885, three designers came up with similar ideas at the same time. Studs could be invisibly attached to clothing, but became a hit on western shirts when attached as a decoration. No pair of jeans would look genuine nowadays without all the rivets and studs. A quicker way to close the fly, would have been the zipper, but that had not yet been perfected.

Inventors including Enoch HOWELL began working on the concept in 1851, calling it the automatic continuous clothing closure. Whitcomb L JUDSON, patented the slide fastener in 1893 displaying it the World’s Columbian exposition in Chicago. It was his innovation to join the teeth to strips of fabric which were then sewn onto the garment. Earlier ideas had been to attach the teeth directly to the garment. Gideon SUNDBACK joined the company in 1906 and continued to work on the process. He patented the plako zipper in 1913. This replaced the earlier system of hook and eye technology to the modern system of interlocking oval scoops which could be closed with a slider. This was less likely to pop open and could be closed with a slider. B F GOODRICH used the zipper in his boots and named it for the zip noise it made when being closed. Its only other used was in tobacco pouches until it gained popularity in flying suits and money belts during World War I. The introduction of colours and the movement to use nylon as well as metal has given the zipper universal appeal. Another modern product put to use in a war zone, but which failed the test, was Velcro.

Velcro was invented in 1951 when Swiss engineer, George de MESTREL noticed that burrs stuck to his dog and his clothing while he was out hunting. He developed the idea of using a piece of cloth containing tiny nylon loops. The tops were of the loops cut off to create tiny hooks which attached to a fuzzy surface. His idea, patented in 1955, was first used in space suits and ski and scuba gear, where it provided wind and water resistance. Velcro, which gets its name from the words velvet and crochet, was used to hold the heart together in the world’s first open heart surgery operation. In space, it stopped items from floating away, used on shoes it enabled even small children to manage alone. Unfortunately, when used in the Afghanistan war, the tape filled with dust and the product was too noisy, so it was back to that old standby, the button.

Queen Victoria loved her elastic sided boots, but her elastic consisted of rows of tiny coils of wire covered in thread. It wasn’t until 1820 that Thomas HANCOCK invented the masticator which chewed up the scraps of rubber left over from the closures he used on the gloves, shoes, stockings and suspenders. He joined with Charles MACINTOSH who dissolved the offcuts in coal tar naptha and sandwiched them between pieces of woollen fabric to produce waterproof fabric for raincoats. These were not entirely successful as they melted in hot weather and became stiff in
the winter. However, when Charles GOODYEAR discovered the process of vulcanisation in 1839 these problems were overcome. Vulcanised rubber quickly gained many uses. In Tasmania, in 1870, the elastic sided boots were popular even amongst convicts. It is hard to believe that it was not until the nineteen thirties however, that Elastic began to be used in underwear. On a trip to the haberdashery department one will find many variations of these fasteners. Different sizes, shapes, colours and materials have made closures both a practical and a fashion item, making dressing much faster than in Roman times.

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THERE could be some argument regarding the first flight by a glider in Tasmania but if the efforts and involvement of various people were studied and the technicalities put aside it would be fair to suggest that I, Bill WEDD and Clyde HALLORAN and the Chas CLIFF and Basil JONES Glider efforts resulted in a dead heat.

Clyde Halloran was a moulder apprentice in the foundry at Russell Allport & Co. while Bill Wedd was the patternmaker at the same firm. About 1929 Clyde put the idea in Bill’s mind of building a glider. They would have been about 17 or 18 years old at the time. Clyde didn’t know much about gliders while Bill’s knowledge was nil but somehow the idea rankled in their minds and wouldn’t go away. They didn’t know of any plans or glider experienced people, although unknown to them, Basil Jones, a son of Sir Henry Jones of IXL fame and a joiner Chas Cliff had the same idea and had procured a plan of a Primary Glider which they ultimately completed and flew about the same time as the Wedd and Halloran glider took to the air for the first and last time. It’s a pity neither knew of the other’s activities for if the efforts of the four had combined it might have been a different story.

At any rate the hit and miss approach of Clyde and Bill started on its merry way, discussions took place on the size and type of construction and it was verbally agreed the glider would have to have a 48ft wind span with a fuselage 30ft. long. It was to be constructed of specially selected straight grained Oregon pine and so the effort commenced. A vacant Billiard Salon at Main Road Moonah was made available to us free of charge by some friends of my mother. So, for nine months all free time and weekends were put into the construction. The size of the buildings would only allow one wing at a time to be constructed so the framework of the two wings was the first task. We put two main struts, one about 3 inches by 1½ inches and the other about 2 x 1½. Clyde pointed out there had to be a camber on the wings so we used a flat piece on the underside of the wing and to put a camber on the top we put saw cuts halfway through the top part of the ribs so the 1¼ x ½ inch top piece would bend as it was screwed down on the two struts. We screwed the ends where the top piece met the bottom piece of the ribs and to make doubly certain wound linen tape around the ends where they met and soaked it with glue. We completed the two half wing frames and then started on the body. This was framed with four struts running from the front, where they were joined together, to the tail section. It was all screwed and glued with provision made for the tail section and aerolons to be attached. I had to take Clyde’s word that such things were necessary and designed bits and pieces as I went along. I think the tail with its cambered ribs like the wings was about 10ft long by about 4ft wide, plus the tail flaps that were about 18 inches or so hinged on the tail plane. Clyde made up some aluminium eye bolts to take up any slack on the wires to operate the flaps and aerolons.
from patterns I had made plus a few other patterns for bits and pieces needed and I drilled and screwed the items at Tapping & Whites workshop in Church Street.

When all the frame work was completed the next task was to get it all in the back yard at the rear of the building and fit it all together. We had to pull part of the fence down as the frame was too big for one back yard. We joined the glider together. It was 48ft wide x about 40ft long overall. It looked a real monstrosity but of course to us, it was a work of art.

The next step was to make provision for covering the wings so we purchased a quantity of linen to cover the wings and body. We were told the linen would have to be painted with what was called ‘dope’ which would tighten it and stretch it taut. We ordered a few gallons of this dope from Melbourne as well as some silver paint to paint over the structure and while it looked a bit rough, at least to us, it looked OK. Of course we had to do each wing and other sections separately and planned to go together when it was ready to test out. So far we had spent nine months on the works and all our spare money but were still full of optimism we would fly around gracefully, once we got it in the air.

When the paint arrived I read the instructions and then misplaced them. So when we were ready to paint I remembered the instructions said not to have any draughts in the place when painting, but I forgot it also said to have plenty of ventilation. We closed all the windows and doors and started painting. The fumes from the dope were pretty strong. We started at 7:00 p.m. There was Clyde, Jim HOOD and myself. About 9:00 p.m. we seemed to be in high spirits and Clyde started to feel sick and dizzy so we sent him home. The last I remembered was that about 10:00 p.m. two or three cobs called in to see us and afterwards said they thought we were drunk as we were staggering about waving our brushes in the air.

The next I remembered was waking up at home with no idea of how I got there. I got out of bed to find my A Model Ford in its usual place under the walnut tree and then realised with a shock the happenings of the night before. I must have left with Jim Hood. I rushed down to find the place locked up and no one there. The dope tin was empty so we must have run out of dope and then gone home. Jim Hood lived in Sandy Bay about four miles away. I rang to find he was home and in the dog house for Jim, a teetotaller, was found by his mother crawling up the stairs after I had driven him home and she thought he was drunk. I must have driven him home right through the city without remembering anything about it and then home over a narrow bridge into our garden where I always left the car. Such is luck.

When we painted the fabric silver we made sure there was plenty of ventilation.

With the glider finished the next thing was to give it a try out so we loaded the pieces of glider on the flat tray of a small one ton Chevrolet truck owned by a friend Eric BAKER who was a son of Mr Baker at Bakers Corner Moonah, now Dickensons, who was Eric’s brother-in-law. We travelled to Brighton where the Brighton Army Camp later operated. We arrived early and put the glider together. The glider was fitted with two six inch diameter aluminium wheels. We were of the opinion all we had to do was get it up in the air and it would sail away all over the area. Such was our optimism by the time we had put the glider together it was about midday so not knowing what would happen if I went up in the air, I decided to at least have a good feed before the final
tryout. So we went off to The Brighton Hotel and had a good feed. There were all the helpers as well as Joe COWBURN who was the resident Mercury journalist who also described the next try out at Sorell some months later.

We returned to the paddock to see what would happen. Our lack of knowledge and optimism can be judged by the fact that the rope length was only about 100 ft. We hooked the rope onto the front of the glider and wound the other end around the rear bumper bar of my A Model single seater Ford. The idea was when the glider was air borne the rope would be let go from the bumper bar and fate and a bit of luck would do the rest. I didn’t have the inner tube around the cockpit as I did later. I climbed into the cockpit, tried out the rudder and Aeron pedals and then waved the car to get on its way. The car took of and all went well as it started to speed up the paddock and the glider started to lift off the ground. Later, the onlookers said it had lifted a few feet above the ground but the car had started to run out of paddock.

I was busy with my own problems so didn’t know exactly what was happening until all at once the glider suddenly dropped to the ground and smashed the undercarriage in the process. So that was the first tryout. They all said it went up in the air but didn’t really fly. I suppose technically it could be said to be the first glider to fly in Tasmania even if only for a minute or so. We packed the machine back on the lorry and headed for Moonah. At this stage the old Billiard room wasn’t available but Leon BENJAFIELD of a well known family allowed us to store the glider in his apple shed in Gormanston Road. At this stage Clyde decided he wouldn’t spend any more money on the unit but would help in any work. It took us about two months to alter the undercarriage and make some improvements, if they could be called that, before the glider was ready for another try out.

The Brighton tryout proved the necessity of taking off from a hill or rise instead of a flat area. Also the jump down from a few feet in the air proved the higher the glider went up the heavier the damage when it came down, so it was for this reason I decided to meet that situation if possible. The only solution was to fasten a heavy lorry inner tube round the cockpit which, when blown up would take some of the shock that a crash landing would create. When all was ready we loaded the glider pieces on Eric Baker’s lorry and off we went to Sorell where we had found a suitable site for takeoff. This time we booked in to an hotel at Sorell to stay the night for I realised this was my last chance to get the contraption up in the air. At the back of the Sorell township there was a hill rising up a few hundred feet with a steep slope running down the eastern side towards the river and the road going towards Copping. It had a good slightly sloping top to enable the car to gather speed in the run towards the crest of the steep hill. It was an ideal place to try out. Not ever having been up in the air with little knowledge of what might eventuate I decided to try the glider out first in an open paddock on the other side of the township on the Cambridge side.

We were up at daylight, took the glider to the paddock and put it together. We hitched the rope to the glider and took a
couple of turns around the bumper bar with one of the chaps holding the rope while ensconced in the dicky seat of my A Model Ford. We had a couple of try outs when the undercarriage collapsed. We discarded the wheels and wired on a piece of timber to act as a skid. This seemed to work ok so we pulled the glider apart, loaded it onto the lorry and started off to the brow of the hill for the real try out.

The slope to the river seemed a lot steeper and a long way away but stubbornness prevailed and I wanted some value for my money. It was a matter of flying or else. The else was a problem and I liked that inner tube all the more as I got ready for the tryout. We still had only about 100ft of rope from the glider to the car and not a long run to the brow of the hill.

I forgot who the driver was in the first couple of runs but I think he was a bit too safety conscious for the speed wasn’t sufficient to lift the glider. Amongst the spectators was John Hood, the manager of Russell Allports Engineers where I worked. I don’t know whether he thought it was a good time to get rid of me or to test out once and for all whether the contraption would fly so he got in the car. The glider was pulled back as far as it would go to give him a decent runway to get up speed. I got into the cockpit, and waved. I was ready and John Hood gave the car the works and headed hell for leather towards the brow of the hill.

Later, the spectators said they didn’t know whether to watch the car or the glider for it looked as if both were in for trouble. At any rate the glider took off. Its nose went towards heaven, she was heading straight but when I put the joy stick down it started to nose dive until I got the stick back. But I was too late as the glider crashed with a thud down the steep slope, but it certainly flew while the inner tube did its duty very well. When I hit, the inner tube crashed through the front of the machine. The spectators said she certainly flew but the forty eight foot wing span flapped like an old duck. STEPHENSON from BEATTIEs took the photographs while Joe Cowburn did the write up. I crawled out of the wreckage with a few bruises. We gathered up the wreckage and put it on the lorry to take it to the scrap heap.

Ten months’ work or so gave me a minute or so flying in the air if it can be called that. I had no regrets but at least had achieved what I had set out to do in spite of a lack of knowledge, know how or experience. At least one thing I learned was that there was more in gliding than meets the eye and in later years after hundreds of short glider flights I realised how lucky I was to survive my first flying experience.
TAHO RECENTLY DIGITISED CONTENT UPDATE (JULY-DECEMBER 2016)

Photographs—general
Links provided to Archives Search for contextual information. Enter the series number into Enterprise to browse items with thumbnails.
AA678 – Photographs of signs to be considered under the Defacement of Property Act 1898, 1969.
NS4935 – Online index to Mercury negatives. This is an online index for the older negatives in numbered boxes—mostly glass plates. Date range is 1921–1948. This complements the existing online index on NS4946 (1949–1989).
NS5175 – Album of House Photographs with Plans and Sketches, by Bernard Walker, who was a respected and prolific architect during the years of 1910–1955.
NS3997 – Photographs of Hobart, collection of Edward Haldane Cotsworth, professional photographer, 1880–1890.
AC395 – “Honour album” - Dux of classes at former Macquarie Street State School (now South Hobart Primary School), 1931–1955.
NS2218 – Photographs and Postcards, Kerrison family, 1914–1929, and largely of the Waratah area (selection previously digitised but now whole series completed).
NS5581 – First World War Honour Board, commemorating members of the Tasmanian Amateur Athletics Association who served.

General
NS36 – Hutchins School Admission Register, first admission register for the school, 1846–1892
NS5464 – Commonplace Book compiled by Scott Family, from 1831, (family of Thomas Scott Surveyor).
Album contents include original drawings and watercolours by James Scott, Oyster Bay word list and passages transcribed from books, and family memorabilia from as late as the First World War.

World War I and Soldier Settlement Photographs
NS 4785 – Album of Dudley Ransom—extensive World War One photography.
AE236 – University of Tasmania. Photographs of soldiers for University Honour Roll c. 1919.

Letters
NS5539 – Further correspondence from soldier, Cyril Allen (complements his previously digitised letters – NS933/1/1)

Soldier settlement—supplementary records that continue on from those digitised and ingested in the previous quarter
AB38 – Register of applicants for leases, 1919–1930.
AB37 – Register of approved applications to lease, 1918–1928.
AB125 – Volume of county charts showing sub-divided land, 1917.
Government Despatches from the Governor’s Office

GO1 – Inward despatches from UK to the colony—may be searched by existing online record created by Miss Wayn of the Colonial Secretary’s Department AE713.

The AE807 Wayn Index cards despatch references ‘ID’ refer to this series.

GO33 – Outward despatches from VDL to the UK—may be searched by existing online record created by Miss Wayn of the Colonial Secretary’s department AE714.

The AE807 Wayn Index cards despatch references ‘OD’ refer to this series.

Many of these despatches have also been referenced in the Tasmanian Names Index and other publications for the pages relating to applications for convict wives and families to come to the colony.

GO2 – Despatches from the Governor’s Office from the UK. A large number of these relate to requests for land grants.

Significant published acquisitions

TAHO is providing online access to significant published acquisitions where the provenance and evidential material lies in the front notes and signatures in the item.

These items are catalogued in the Archival Management System to keep them in context with their creator and other manuscript records, but are discoverable via Enterprise as ‘digitised Tasmanian items’.

NS5396 – Books from the Library of Jane Franklin, is an example of this process.

Individual volumes, e.g. ‘The voyage of the Fox to the Arctic seas’, can be found here http://search.archives.tas.gov.au/default.aspx?detail=1&type=1&id=NS5396/1/1

Diaries


Pugh arrived in December 1835 so the diary thereafter records his life in the colony (this was an acquired digital item).

Convict, Police and Justice records

POL708 – Photographs of convicted criminals. During this quarter, Reprographics completed the third volume in the series

Name data enhanced by the Tasmanian Information Research Service (1911–1913). This record contains photographs of convicted criminals, organised by their date of discharge.

CON169 – Hobart Prisoners’ Barracks. Records of prisoners’ hours worked, 1855–1859

GD36 – Admissions and discharges from the Hobart Gaol, 1872–1933

LC346/2/1 – Early Lower Court record for Launceston Petty Sessions, 1833.


CON2, LC347 and POL750 – Assorted records/fragments added as additional consignments to these series

Departures of people from the colony

CUS33 – Custom’s Department Record of ships’ clearances from the colony, 1828–1833

Arrivals to the colony

GO3 – Government despatches from the UK relating to advances paid for emigrants, 1831–1834 (names in the Tasmanian Names Index)

Maps and Charts

AF819 – Printed and annotated Town Charts, 1900–1990
AF820 – Printed and annotated Land District Charts (County Charts), 1900–1990.

**General**

NS36 – Hutchins School Admission Register, first admission register for the school, 1846–1892

NS5464 – Commonplace Book compiled by Scott Family, from 1831, (family of Thomas Scott Surveyor).

Album contents include original drawings and watercolours by James Scott, Oyster Bay word list and passages transcribed from books, and family memorabilia from as late as the First World War.

**Health**

AB365 – Patient case books, Royal Derwent Hospital—first two volumes 1872–1876 (females) and 1874–1878 (males)

Additions to HSD285 – Consignment 4—Royal Derwent Hospital patient admission records, 1880s, found and returned to TAHO’s custody

**Film**

TAHO has recently made digitised copyright-free/government copyright archival films part of its standard TAHO archival cataloguing workflow.

The Tasmanian Film Corporation series AB869 is the first film series to receive this treatment.

Films from this series therefore appear on a regular basis embedded in **Archives Search** and **Enterprise**, via the LINC Tasmanian YouTube Historical films channel, increasing discoverability.

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**TASMANIAN PIONEERS OF ESPERANTO**

Bill Chapman

THE international auxiliary language Esperanto was first published in 1887 by an idealistic Polish Jew, Dr Zamenhof (1859–1917) and its first adepts lived in the then Russian Empire, but it began to gain adherents in Great Britain and its colonies from about 1900 onwards. 2017 will see the 130th anniversary of the language and a century since the death of its founder.

LA EVANGELIO LAŬ

SANKTA JOHANO

1

EN la komenco estis la Vorto, kaj la Vorto estis kun Dio, kaj la Vorto estis Dio. 2 Tiu estis en la komenko kun Dio. 3 Cio estiĝis per li; kaj aparte de li estiĝis nenia, kio estiĝis. 4 En li estis la vivo, kaj la vivo estis la lumo de la homoj. 5 Kaj la lumo brilas en la mallumo, kaj la mallumo ĝin ne venkis. 6 De Dio estis sendita viro, kies nomo estis Johano. 7 Tiu venis kiel atestanto, por atesti pri la lumo, por ke ĉiu per li kredu. 8 Ĝi ne estis la lumo, sed li venis, por atesti pri la lumo. 9 Tio estis la vera lumo, kiu lumas al ĉiu homo, venanta en la mondo.

St Johns Gospel in Esperanto published in 1912

The names and addresses of eleven early speakers of Esperanto in Tasmania (or twelve if the misses Wilson really are two people), with their registration numbers are found scattered throughout the **Adresaro de Esperantistoj** (directory of Esperantists) between January 1906 and January 1907 (Series XXVII) and January 1908 to January 1909 (Series
XXIX). All of the following are listed in Tasmania or in its Esperanto form Tasmanio. Each individual is ascribed a unique number, which I do not reproduce here. Indeed, early users of the language frequently signed articles and even postcards with that number alone, knowing that anyone wanting to contact them could easily find their address in the published Adresaro.

These listings contain occasional spelling errors because each individual filled in a pre-printed form in their own handwriting. I reproduce the addresses as they appear. Here are the names of those Tasmanian pioneers of over a century ago:

T BENNETTO, 11, Gladstone Street, HOBART [sic], Tasmania, Aŭstralio
S-ino (=Mrs) M M STEELE, Lower Sandy Bay, Hobart, Tasmania, Aŭstralio
Max NICHOLLE, Huon River, Garden Island Creek, Tasmania, Aŭstralio
(STEEL, Tsu Schima, Lower Sandy Bay, Hobart, Tasmanio)
(Series XXVII, 1906-01-01 to 1907-01-01)
A J WINTERSON, Railway Department, Hobart, Tasmania
F-ino (=Miss) Olive HARRIS, State School, Dunalley, Tasmanio
F-ino (=Miss) D C et D E WILSON, King Extended Hill, Zeehan, Tasmanio
STEEL, Tsu Schima, Lower Sandy Bay, Hobart, Tasmanio
(Series XXVIII, 1906-01-01 to 1907-01-01)
F-ino (=Miss) C TRAVERS, Heathfield, Davey Street, Hobart, Tasmania
F-ino (=Miss) M E GOLDSMITH, 475, St John Street, Launceston, Tasmanio
S-ino (=Mrs) A C KENNEDY, MA, 119, Collins Street, Hobart, Tasmanio
F-ino (=Miss) Ruth GARRETT, ‘Romuera’ Lower Sandy Bay, Hobart, Tasmanio.
(Series XXIX, 1908-01-01 to 1909-01-01)

Unusually, females outnumber males in this list—surprising in the society of that time.

After about 1908, there was no longer any need to ‘sign up’ to Esperanto, and text books about Esperanto in a variety of languages, including English, were becoming more common. An increasingly large number of magazines catered for users of the language seeking contacts in other countries.

A Hobart Esperanto Group was set up in 1911) and a national Esperantyop Association for Australia in the same year. Clearly those interested in the language came together from time to time to practise the new language. According to The British Esperantist magazine for 1913 an Esperanto Society in Hobart was functioning in that year. Its secretary is named as K SIMMONS.

Are there early minute books of the Hobart Esperanto Groups’ activities in existence? Did any of these enthusiasts pass on letters or postcards in the language to later generations?

patbillchapman@gmail.com

ESPERANTO GROUP.

A meeting of Hobart Esperantists was held on Tuesday evening, October 31, to discuss the formation of an Esperanto Group. Mr. S. Clemes occupied the chair. Owing to the wet weather, the attendance was not so large as had been expected, but, nevertheless, it was decided to form the group. Mr. A. Budge was elected secretary and treasurer. After the conclusion of business several ladies sang songs in Esperanto, which gained applause from all present. After supper and a short chat, the meeting dispersed.

All persons interested in the movement are asked by advertisement to communicate with the secretary, 11 Church-street, Hobart.

The Mercury, 2 November 1911
WHAT IS THAT PUBLICATION ABOUT?
Maurice Appleyard (Member No. 4093)

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

WAYS OF WORKING
This Quarto size book of 167pp. was first published in 1986 by Jim Marwood.

Here is a unique study of Australian industry in photographs and words which breaks some of the barriers between work and private life that were set up by the industrial revolution …

Jim Marwood combines the work of six photographers with his text created from interviews with over a hundred people in the industries, and with other photographers to show the history and background of the industries.

An Art in Working Life Project involved placing the six photographers in residencies of up to four weeks so that they could document working life. The sites chosen were the EZ Mine at Rosebery, the Hydro Electric Commission Township of Tarraleah, the Department of Main Roads in Hobart, the Australian National Railways Workshops at Launceston, the James Nelson Textile Mill at Launceston and the Waverley Woollen Mills in Launceston.

The text and photographs not only provide historical information about the selected industries but also contain valuable details about some of the workers that will be highly prized by some family history researchers.

An alphabetical index in the back clearly lists the family members mentioned.

THE BELLS OF OLD BAILEY: From the cobbled streets of Victorian London to the dusty streets of Hobart Town

This quarto, soft cover book of 168pp., by Lynne Christison Rhodes, was published in 2009.

This work is broadly about the author’s ancestors, particularly those with the Scottish surname MONTEITH. It starts with the marriage in 1812, of her great-great grandfather in London. It then progresses through the generations to the mid-1900s where the family is well established in Hobart Town.

Along the way, the family’s participation in the life and times of the various locations are vividly described. Although the narrative often ‘strays’ to describe historic events and places along the way, it always returns to continue the various connected family histories.

The text is supported by excellent illustrations of the historic times and early family photographs. The book is very interesting from a history point of view, even for those who do not have a specific interest in the family history recorded.

An alphabetical index of individual names would draw further interest from many family history researchers. Hobart branch’s CSI (comprehensive subject index) project will enhance this potential within their branch library.
A TWIST OF FATE: In the Shadows of the Highlands
This work is about the author’s MONTEITH ancestors and the origin of the name in Scotland.
It also refers to James Monteith and his involvement in the development of the cotton yarn industry and ownership of the Blantyre Cotton Mill.
As the family history unfolds, the narrative often ‘strays’ to describe historic events and the life of prominent people (many who might be related) in Scotland, England and France. The text always returns to the theme of the Monteith family and both streams are supported by excellent illustrations of the historic times and early family photographs.
An alphabetical index of individual names would draw further interest from many family history researchers. Some other family names that stand out are RHODES, HUDSON, and HAMILTON.

THE PEOPLE OF CRUDEN 1696
A5 booklet, of 52pp, was first published in 2003 by the Aberdeen & North-East Scotland FHS.
The information it contains was transcribed from the List of Pollable Persons within The Shire of Aberdeen, Volume 2 (Presbytery of Ellon).
The list of the Poll and Payable Persons in the various parts of the Parish are faithfully reproduced (including the archaic spelling of names, occupations, and locations).
The booklet also contains a hand drawn map of the old parish, including boundaries, major roads and villages in the centre.
An alphabetical index of individual names is provided, together with a small list of the number of people following the occupations listed.
A small place name index is also provided.

HOME FROM THE WAR:
Launceston’s War Service Homes
This small booklet was produced by the National Trust, Tasmania in 2015 as part of the Tasmanian Heritage Festival.
On Wednesday 10 March 1920, ‘The Examiner’ again reported that … There is a block in Newstead which is to hold 36 homes and … no less than 25 are now in course of construction. …
The booklet contains images of the 36 houses, located in Abbott, David and Malabar Streets.
Each display briefly outlines the stories of the first occupants of these houses, who are listed as the owners and/or occupants in the 1923 Tasmanian Government Gazette’s Launceston Assess-ment Roll. Information available varies greatly.
Where available, a small picture of the serviceman is shown. Basic information, such as birth, death, marriage is given, if known, along with enlistment and service details.

THE TASMANIAN CLUB 1961–2011
Quarto size, hard-cover book of 434pp, by Peter Bennison was published in 2011.
2011 marks the sesquicentenary of the Tasmanian Club, Hobart. From its inception in 1861 the Club has been a prominent part of social life in Hobart and Tasmania. It has also long been
recognised as one of the leading Clubs for gentlemen in Australasia. The club is a lineal descendent of English Clubs of the 17th century and the first gentlemen’s club in Australia, the Union Club of Van Diemen’s Land’ which existed between 1834 and 1843.

The foundation and early days of the Tasmanian Club, when it was situated at Webb’s Hotel (Hadley’s Hotel) are recorded here, as is the move to the present Club building in 1873 …

The strength of the Club is its membership. Many gentlemen have made major contributions to the ongoing developments of this Club and have been leaders in Tasmanian life generally. This is a story about them and their Club and their place in the social history of this island.

The history of the Club and its members, the development of the Georgian style building, is well written and the text is supported by many historic images of members, activities and associated buildings.

The book has an excellent, alphabetical index at the rear; and an appendix that lists all members (in election year order) from 1861 to 2011. Readers will recognise the names of Governors, Members of Parliament, Lawyers, Mayors, Aldermen, and prominent business men; and perhaps members of their own family.

Other appendices list the officer bearers (Presidents, Vice Presidents, Secretaries, Trustees, life members) who occupied those positions over the years.

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**North of Ireland Family History Society**

Founded in 1979, the Society covers the 9 counties of Ulster. Half of its 1,200 or so Members belong to the 12 Branches there and the other half are Associate Members scattered around the world.

There is an excellent Research Centre at Newtownabbey, with a large collection of Irish interest transcriptions, books, journals, directories and maps, with free look ups available for Associate Members.

The journal *North Irish Roots* is published twice a year and there is an E-Newsletter twice a year. The website [www.nifhs.org](http://www.nifhs.org) is being replaced in mid-2015, with an increasing number of records going online.

Associate Members may join or renew online, using PayPal or credit or debit card to pay the annual subscription – £16 for 2015, rising to £18 for 2016.
LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS

Hobart Branch

ACCESSIONS—Books
Alexander, A. (Ed); Repression, Reform & Resilience—A history of the Cascades Female Factory. [365.43 ALE]
*Alliston, E; Escape to an Island. [914.46 ALL]
*Bennison, Peter; The Tasmanian Club 1861-2011. [367.09446]
*Duncan, W.R. & H.A. Skene; The People of Cruden, 1696. [929.3400412 DUN]
*Giordano, M; A Man and a Mountain—The story of Gustav Weindorfer. [904.63 GIO]
*Howatson, D; The Story of Sandy Bay—Street by Street [Q994.61 HOW]
*King, J; Gallipoli—Our Last Man Standing. [940.40092 KIN]
*Marwood, J; Ways of Working. [365.51 MAR]
*Mountain Huts Preservation Society; The History of THE STEPPES HISTORIC SITE, Central Highlands and the Restoration. [720.2809946 HIS]
*National Trust, Tasmania; Home from the War—Launceston’s War Service Homes. [355.12099465 NAT]
*Rhodes, Lynne Christison; The Bells of Old Bailey—from the cobbled streets of Victorian London to the dusty streets of Hobart Town. [Q929.2 MON]
*Rhodes, Lynne Christison; A Twist of Fate—In the Shadows of the Highlands. [Q929.2 MON]
*TFHS Inc. Launceston; A new combined alphabetical Index to ‘The Examiner’ BDMs Vol. 6, 1936–1940. [Q929.38 IND]
Von Stieglitz, K.R; A History of Evandale (Revised Edition). [Q994.3 VON]
*Ward, M; The Royal Marine and the Convict—Samuel Thorne, James Ward and their heritage at Pitt Water and the Lower Ferry. [Q929.35 THO]

*Denotes complimentary or donated item.

Launceston Branch

ACCESSIONS—Books
*Bradmore, Don and Carter, Judith; The Remarkable Edward Myers – Convict, Artist, Musician, Linguist, Soldier-of-Fortune, Doctor of Medicine and Newspaper Publisher
*Brock, Cynthia; We are because ...
*Clark, Jennifer (née Ginn); James Ginn – Robbery to Respectability – Transported to Tasmania 1835 “for the term of his natural life”
*Fearnley, Patricia J; Comfortable and Happy – Alexander Thomas Bisset Blair – Pioneer Shipwright of Launceston
*Hodges, Ruth and Heazlewood-Peck, Miriam, with Heazlewood, Ivan, AM; *Tree of Hazel Wood – A Family Chronicle – Vere Heazlewood – Revised Edition
TFHS Inc. Launceston Branch; *A new combined alphabetical edition of Index to The Examiner Births Deaths Marriages 1936–1940 Volume 6
*Ward, Malcolm; *A Reid and Shakespeare Family History

*Denotes donated item

**Mersey Branch**

**ACCESSIONS—Books**
*Heraldry & Genealogical Society of Canberra Inc; *Family History for Beginners and Beyond [14th Edit.]
*Jetson, Tim; *In Trust for the Nation - The First Forty Years of the National Trust in Tasmania 1960–2000
TFHS Inc. Mersey Branch; *The Advocate Personal Announcements - January 2015 – December 2015
TFHS Inc. Mersey Branch; *Melrose State School 1914–1956 A Student Review
A Pictorial Record

*Denotes donated item

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**Descendants of Convicts’ Group Inc.**

1788–1868

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

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

http://home.vicnet.net.au/~dcginc/
SOCIETY SALES

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

Mail orders (including postage) should be forwarded to:
Society Sales Officer, TFHS Inc.,
PO Box 326 Rosny Park Tasmania 7018

Books
Van Diemens Land Heritage Index, Vol. 3 (p&p $6.30) .............................................. $10.00
Van Diemens Land Heritage Index, Vol. 4 (p&p $8.50) .............................................. $10.00
Van Diemens Land Heritage Index, Vol. 5 (p&p $8.50) .............................................. $10.00
Tasmanian Ancestry Index Volumes 1–20 (p&p $8.50)** .............................................. $15.00
Tasmanian Ancestry Index Volumes 21–25 (p&p $6.30)** .............................................. $15.00
Tasmanian Ancestry Index Volumes 26–30 (p&p $6.30)** .............................................. $25.00
Tasmanian Ancestry Index Volumes 31–35 (p&p $6.30)** .............................................. $25.00
(p&p $13.50 for 3 books or more)

CD-Rom
TAMIOT (p&p $8.35)** ................................................................. $50.00

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*comScore, 2011
BRANCH LIBRARY ADDRESSES, TIMES AND MEETING DETAILS

BURNIE
Phone: Branch Librarian (03) 6435 4103
Library 58 Bass Highway Cooee
Tuesday 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
Saturday 1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.
Meeting Branch Library, 58 Bass Highway Cooee 10:30 a.m. on 1st Monday of each month, except January and December.
Night Dinner Meetings are held in winter and end of year, check with Branch Librarian for details

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

HUON
Phone: Branch Secretary (03) 6239 6823
Library Soldiers Memorial Hall Marguerite Street Ranelagh
Saturday 1:30 p.m.–3:30 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) 6343 3107
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) 6344 4034
Workshops Held on Wednesday 18 June and Wednesday 17 September
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 117 Gilbert Street Latrobe (behind State Library)
Tuesday & Friday 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
Saturday opening has ceased and is now by advance appointment only.
Meetings Held on the 3rd Monday of the month at Branch Library in Latrobe at 1:30 p.m. Please check the website at www.tfhsdev.com or contact the Secretary for updates.
MEMBERSHIP OF THE TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

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

**Dues are payable annually by 1 April.** Membership Subscriptions for 2016–17:-

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**ISSN—0159 0677**
Printed by *Mark Media*—Moonah Tasmania
37th Conference & Annual General Meeting

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.

ABN 87 627 274 157

to be held at

PENGUIN SURF CLUB
PRESERVATION BAY

Saturday, 17 June 2017
37th Annual General Meeting
Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.
Saturday 17 June 2017

9:45 a.m.  Registration
Morning Tea

10:30 a.m.  Welcome by Burnie Branch President
Presentation of ‘Early Bird’ Prize

10:45–11:30 a.m.  Dennis Turner
Early Mining on the West Coast of Tasmania

11:30–12:15 a.m.  Doug Elms
Genealogy Software - How can it assist You

12:15–1:15 p.m.  Lunch

1:15–2:00 p.m.  Craig Broadfield
For Love or Money, Family Antique appraisals. (Bring along your family jewellery or small antique items for an appraisal)

2:00 p.m.  Annual General Meeting, incorporating presentation of:
•  Lilian Watson Family History Award, and
•  Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. Awards

6:30 for 7:00 p.m.  Dinner at the Surf Club

Sunday 18 June 2017

10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.  Workshop by Doug Elms (Lunch Included)
Getting the best out of Family Tree Maker
Venue: Burnie Branch Library, 58 Bass Highway, Cooee

Book Stalls with new publications from branches will be on offer during the day.
Registration Form

Closing date for registration and payment is Monday, 5 June 2017

The Branch Secretary
Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. Burnie Branch
PO Box 748
BURNIE Tasmania 7320
Phone: 03 6435 4103
email: petjud@bigpond.com

Name/s ...........................................................................................................

................................................................. ........................................

Address ...........................................................................................................

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I/we will be attending on Saturday, 17 June 2016 ……… $20.00ea
(Morning Tea and Lunch)
I/we will be attending the Dinner …................................. $30.00ea
I/we will be attending the Sunday Workshop ……………………. $20.00ea

Please indicate special dietary needs ….................................

...........................................................................................................

A cheque/money order is enclosed for $ ......................... or debit my ..... 

Master Card □ VISA □ (Please tick)

[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

Name on Card (please print): ........................................................................

Signature: ................................................................. Expiry Date: ......................

Register before Monday 15 May 2016 to be in the draw
for the President's Early Bird Prize.
About the Program and Speakers

**Dennis Turner** has a long association with mining on the west coast and has explored several of the old abandon mines. Has held leases on mining areas. Currently works as an OHS consultant and also a partner in a riding school.

**Doug Elms** trained as a mechanical engineer and was elected President of Vicgum in 2011. In conjunction with John Donaldson he presents many Family Tree Maker (FTM) workshops, also facilitates one of the FTM user groups for VicGum members and has made several training videos for FTM.

**Craig Broadfield** has been associated with antiques and collectables all his working life. Currently owner of Leven Antiques in Ulverstone and attends Antique Fairs all over Australia. Bring your family jewellery, hand me downs and other interesting items for Craig to do an appraisal and history of the item.