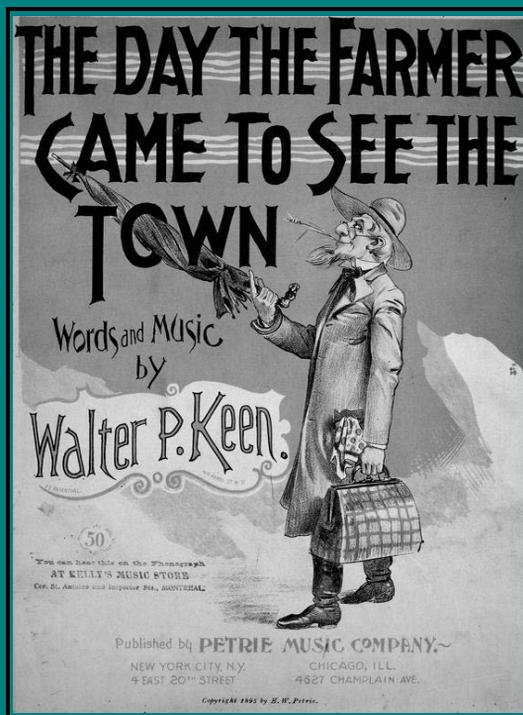


Tasmanian Ancestry



**TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY
SOCIETY INC.**

Volume 35 Number 1—June 2014

TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

PO Box 326 Rosny Park Tasmania 7018

Society Secretary: secretary@tasfhs.org

Journal Editor: editors@tasfhs.org

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

Patron: Dr Alison Alexander

Fellows: Dr Neil Chick and Mr David Harris

Executive:

President	Maurice Appleyard	(03) 6248 4229
Vice President	Robert Tanner	(03) 6231 0794
Vice President	Pam Bartlett	(03) 6428 7003
Society Secretary	Colleen Read	(03) 6244 4527
Society Treasurer	Peter Cocker	(03) 6435 4103

Committee:

Helen Anderson	Betty Bissett	Vanessa Blair
Judith Cocker	Geoffrey Dean	Lucille Gee
John Gillham	Libby Gillham	Julie Kapeller
	Dale Smith	

By-laws Coordinator	Robert Tanner	(03) 6231 0794
Webmaster	Robert Tanner	(03) 6231 0794
Journal Editor	Rosemary Davidson	(03) 6424 1343
LWFHA Coordinator	Leonie Mickleborough	(03) 6223 7948
Members' Interests Compiler	John Gillham	(03) 6239 6529
Membership Registrar	Muriel Bissett	(03) 6344 4034
Publications Convenor	Bev Richardson	(03) 6225 3292
Public Officer	Colleen Read	(03) 6244 4527
Society Sales Officer	Maurice Appleyard	(03) 6245 9351

Branches of the Society

Burnie: PO Box 748 Burnie Tasmania 7320

petjud@bigpond.com

Mersey: PO Box 267 Latrobe Tasmania 7307

secretary@tfhsdev.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

mandbbissett@gmail.com

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

From the editor

I am continually surprised by the variety of information to be found on the web. Dianne Snowden's article, *Voices from the Orphan Schools : Musical Voices*, on the exploits of the Keen boys and others after leaving the Queens Orphan Schools is an excellent example.

We have many members who continue to submit their work for publication but unfortunately the problems caused by space restrictions make it impossible to include them all immediately. Thank you to all contributors and don't despair—I am gradually catching up.

After agreeing to take on the position of journal editor again in 2009—for a year—I am amazed how quickly the time has flown and to find this is the first of Volume 35 and my sixth year! I would like to thank my wonderful assistants, Cynthia and Leonie, for their continued support as well as those who regularly contribute their articles.

Bouquets must also go to Graeme who manages to have the journals printed and delivered to the TFHS Inc. Hobart Branch Library in due time, where that happy band, the 'Monday Group', always get them organized for the postman to drop into your letter box.

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: *The Day the Farmer Came to see the Town*, Words and Music by Walter P Keen, see *Voices from the Orphan Schools* by Dianne Snowden, page 9.

<https://jscholarship.library.jhu.edu/bitstream/handle/1774.2/17060>

Levy Sheet Music Collection, Box 140, Item 094

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

AS usual, this article is prepared in April for inclusion in the June journal. All branches will hold their AGMs during April and we may see new or different office bearers representing your interests.

New details for Branch Committee Members for the 2014–2015 year are contained in this issue.

The Society's 34th AGM will be held on Saturday 21 June at Ross; see the agenda notice on the next page of this issue.

Each alternative AGM is 'hosted' as a one day event by the Executive Officers, at a central location, whilst a more substantive arrangement is conducted over a weekend for the intervening years. Hosting of the larger event is provided by the branches on a rotational basis. Next year the AGM will be hosted by Hobart Branch in the southern area.

Tasmanian Ancestry continues to be posted out in the clear envelopes and when appropriate the mailing label is also the subscription renewal form.

The last journal contained another subscription form for those of us who were still in the process of renewing our membership and that version did contain a number of improvements suggested by members. A place to endorse a donation amount and a layout for those who wished to pay by debit/credit card was added.

As requested by a number of members, our Treasurer intends to amend next year's form to provide details for those who may wish to pay by direct deposit.

Of course, none of these payment methods are compulsory. We are still happy to receive payment by cash or

cheque and always happy to see members at our various branch libraries.

Thank you to those members who have taken the trouble to let us know about the extra address sheets we have included with their journal. We appreciate the trouble they have taken to assist us in rectifying one of the 'teething' problems of the new system.

Maurice Appleyard

Index to **The Kelso Chronicle**

Index to BDM notices and personal items of interest to Family Historians which appeared in
The Kelso Chronicle, Scotland
From 1855–1865.

Now available—
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NOTICE OF MEETING

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

34th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of the

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.

is to be held at 2:15 p.m. on

Saturday 21 June 2014

at the

Town Hall, Church Street, 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 2013 'Lilian Watson Family History Award'
4. Presentation of TFHS Inc. Awards
5. Confirmation of Minutes of the 2013 AGM
6. Business Arising
7. Reports
8. Election of Office Bearers and Endorsement of Branch Delegates
9. General Business
 - i 2015 Annual General Meeting
Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.

Colleen Read
Society Secretary

BRANCH REPORTS

Burnie

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

President Peter Cocker (03) 6435 4103

Secretary Ann Bailey (03) 6431 5058

PO Box 748 Burnie Tasmania 7320

email: petjud@bigpond.com



It is with much pleasure we note several of our members have decided to embrace modern technology and have purchased themselves a

computer and are now set up online and ‘googling’ like pros. Due to these computer ‘newbies’ we have started running Saturday morning computer workshops. So far, at the time of writing, one workshop has been held and was received very well. Topics covered included functions and use of a mouse and keyboard, saving and finding files, directory structure and basic computer terminology. The library is being patronised very well by members, in particular use of *Ancestry* is very popular. On several occasions the volunteers have had to open the library an hour or so longer on some days to enable everyone to get some time on *Ancestry*.

Our volunteers have been busy indexing newspapers and other material which is being entered into our databases and available for viewing at the Branch Library. It is anticipated our Winter Dinner will go ahead this year so please keep in contact so you do not miss out.

A reminder too that branch functions are posted on our Face book page <https://www.facebook.com/BurnieBranchTasFHSInc> as well as on our mailing list that

anyone is welcome to subscribe to. If you wish to subscribe to our branch mailing list the details of how to subscribe are found here: http://lists.rootsweb.ancestry.com/index/other/Genealogical_Societies/AUS-TFHS-BB.html

Thanks to those members who bought items from our trade table—this year we have seen lettuce, rhubarb, lemons, cucumbers and zucchinis, to name a few. I would also like to thank members who have donated trade table items to be raffled later in the year.

Peter Cocker Branch President

Hobart

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

President: Beverley Richardson

email: president@hobart.tasfhs.org

Secretary: Howard Reeves

PO Box 326 Rosny Park Tasmania 7018

email: secretary@hobart.tasfhs.org

All telephone enquiries to (03) 6244 4527



The Hobart Branch of the Society holds ten general meetings in the months from February to November. The meetings are held at ‘The Sunday

School’ in the St John’s Park Precinct in New Town on the third Tuesday of these months commencing at 7:30 p.m. Each meeting includes a very short business session and is followed by a guest speaker, questions from the floor and supper. All members and visitors are most welcome to attend. Members are encouraged to bring a guest in 2014 to double the attendance at these well-presented and interesting talks.

The Hobart Branch started its 2014 calendar year of general meetings in February with a presentation by Ms Lynn Davies, Special and Rare Collections Librarian at the Hobart Campus of the University of Tasmania. Lynn provided a detailed account of the contents of the Collection and the access and free services provided to the general public. The Collection is located on the 5th floor of the Morris Miller Library and consists of four sections:

- 1 Rare Book Collection. Contains 8000 books, manuscripts and journals in a restricted access area.
- 2 Royal Society of Tasmania Collection. A closed section of the Library containing 2000 rare and early books and 5000 collectable books on open shelves. Also rare maps, early Tasmanian deposit materials, letters, note books, diaries, and photographs.
- 3 University Records. Staff and student photographs 1960–1980s. Architectural drawings, photographs (including glass negatives), magazines, oral histories, calendars, newsletters and ephemeral material of a non-business nature.
- 4 Private Deposit Collection. Materials from private individuals, families, charity organisations and local business records relating to intellectual, cultural and commercial life in early Tasmania. Includes papers etc of Andrew Inglis Clark; the Quakers; Archer, Boyes, Leake, Midwood, and many more families; Baptist Union collection.

A catalogue of materials held in the Collection may be found on-line at www.utas.edu.au/library/research/special-and-rare-collection where there are spreadsheets organised by subject and surname.

Some materials have been digitized and are freely available. On request, other material (letters etc) will be digitised and made available to the individual requesting the material and added to the on-line catalogue.

Twenty Branch members accepted Lynn's invitation to participate in a guided tour of the Collection in March. A follow-up session exploring the database and digitized resources is being planned later in the year. All attendees were impressed with the friendliness of the librarians, the free services available and the extent and variety of the Collection. Society members are encouraged to use the services.

The March meeting guest speaker was branch member Ms Colette McAlpine, who provided a guided tour of the Female Convicts Research Centre's website. Colette is intimately involved with the Centre at many levels, including database manager, volunteer co-coordinator and the Vice President of the FCRC. This showed in her demonstration and presentation of how to navigate the website and what it has to offer family researchers. The home page website www.femaleconvicts.org.au displays four main portals:

- Convict ships from which visitors are able to access surgeons' reports

- Convict Women's Press which includes details about the Centre's publications

- Research seminars—details about forthcoming and past seminars and workshops

- Search for Convicts in our Female Convicts in VDL Database

In her presentation Colette pointed out some of the challenges associated more with female convict records than male, such as the use of aliases and assuming the identities of fellow convicts, particularly those known to have died. The

Centre's records are organised using the surnames in the original Conduct Records.

The Research Centre is a not-for-profit organisation run entirely by volunteers. The Centre is always interested in recruiting new volunteers to assist with the transcription of records and documents. The Centre provides training to undertake such volunteer work.

To gain free access to the databases or indeed volunteer, users need to register (at no cost). Application forms to join are available on the website and the process takes a couple of days for verification and acknowledgement to occur.

Speakers for 2014

To date the following speakers have been arranged for the 2014 General Meetings:

- 15 April: Brendan Lennard 'History begins at home'
- 20 May Den Robin 'John Watson—Ship Builder of Hobart and Post Arthur'
- 17 June To be advised
- 15 July Nick Brodie 'Except the Lord build the house': Building St Mary's Cathedral, Hobart

April, of course, is the month branches hold their annual general meetings and elect officers and committees for the 'new' Society year. On behalf of the Hobart Branch committee and members, our sincere thanks are extended to Robert Tanner who is retiring as Hobart Branch President. Robert has made an enormous contribution to the functioning of the branch and its on-going development, particularly in its use and maintenance of computers and on-line presence. Fortunately for the branch, Robert is willing to continue on the Committee. Thank-you Robert.

In addition, Vanessa Blair is stepping down from the roles of Branch Treasurer

and committee member. All branches have a limited revenue base on which to operate and Vanessa has been meticulous in 'managing the books' for the branch. She has always provided up-to-date information about the branch finances and has assisted the Committee to make sound financial judgements. Thank-you Vanessa.

Howard Reeves Branch Secretary

Launceston

<http://www.launceston.tasfhs.org>
President Russell Watson (03) 6334 4412
Secretary Muriel Bissett
Phone (03) 6344 4034
PO Box 1290 Launceston Tasmania 7250
secretary: mandbbissett@gmail.com



Branch Annual General Meeting:

held on Tuesday 15 April. There was a good response for nominated positions and Russell

thanked retiring members, Anita Swan and Irene Taylor for their participation on the committee during 2013 and their considerable work and expertise in rearranging the layout, equipment and holdings in the Stables library, with considerable assistance our members. The invaluable work of the research volunteers led by Helen Stuart, and those working on data for publications, has again proved to be a valuable source of income for the branch.

Workshops: the next branch workshop will be held on Wednesday 18 June, 2 p.m. at the Adult Education Rooms 51 York Street with the subject of 'Church Records and Transcripts'.

The 17 September workshop will be held at the same venue: subject, 'Military'.

Publications: A new project is under way: computerising *The Examiner* BDM Indexes, under the title: *A new combined alphabetical edition of Index to The Examiner Births, Deaths, Marriages*, commencing with Volumes 1 and 2, covering the years 1900–1920. Production of the original volumes commenced in 1986, as a Bi-Centennial project and has continued, albeit with a break for some years.

Library: Tuesday, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.—phone (03) 6344 4034.

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

Check the website for more detail of meetings/workshops and for a list of publications now available from Launceston Branch.

Mersey

www.tfhsdev.com

President Ros Coss

Secretary Sue-Ellen McCreghan

(03) 6428 6328

Library (03) 6426 2257

PO Box 267 Latrobe Tasmania 7307

email: secretary@stfhsdev.com



We now have started our family history year and are eager to start with a new Committee. Some will probably stay the same just changing their

hats around. It is getting quite difficult to get volunteers these days. A lot are out doing the grey nomad trek, busy with grandchildren or just doing their own thing. Our libraries are a hub of activity but we still need volunteers for all sorts of tasks. If you have spare time please give the branch a thought. We would encourage you to visit there just might be a place for you.

We had our annual BBQ in February and it was a great evening. Our Mayor Mike Gaffney was our guest. The publications committees are busy as usual. Hopefully we will have another cemetery transcribing day soon. There are always updates. We were amongst a group that went on a great excursion by the Port Sorell Historical Group, which had us traveling the old road to Port Sorell via a private property. We heard about Henry Hellyer and his trek through the area. There is so much history in just about 10kms. The views were magnificent. We ended up with lunch at Hawley House.

U3A has just started in Port Sorell and we will be starting a series of sessions with a group who are interested in tracing their Family Tree.

Keep watching our website for any upcoming activities or call into the Library. Hope to see you soon.

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

VOICES FROM THE ORPHAN SCHOOLS

MUSICAL VOICES

Dianne Snowden (Member No.910)

MUSIC was an integral part of life in the Orphan Schools. Following a proposal for a band in May 1864, a number of musical instruments were donated. At the same time, the government provided fifes and drums and training 'so that [the children] may be useful for playing in the various Volunteer bands'.¹ One of the instructors for the fife and drum band was Thomas CAMPION, former corporal of the band of the 50th Regiment.²

The Orphan Schools band made regular public appearances, including at the Queen's Birthday celebrations in May, the distribution of prizes and Fox's Feast outings. In August 1870, when 340 of the children from the Queen's Asylum for Destitute Children (as the Orphan Schools were then known) attended the Hobart Poultry Show, the Orphan School Band played a number of musical items.³ On these outings, the children marched from New Town into town, with the band at the head of the procession.⁴ On one occasion, the Richmond Coach ran over and killed a young boy from Warwick Street, who was watching the procession.⁵

The Orphan Schools produced some notable musicians, including Edward WAL-LACE, who was blind, and the multi-

talented brothers Walter Percival Keen and Lancelot KEEN.

Walter Percival Keen and Lancelot Keen were the sons of surgeon William Newman Shadwell Keen and Jessie (née McLEOD), who were married in Melbourne in 1853.⁶ With their two brothers, the boys were admitted to the Orphan Schools in March 1864. Lancelot Shadwell Keen was ten; William McLeod Keen, nine; Donald Charles Keen, six; and Walter Percival Keen, three. Their mother gave birth to another son, on 3 October 1863 at 49 Harrington Street, before returning to London.⁷ Named Lyons Sydenham Keen, the son died, unmarried, in London in 1913.⁸ Their mother died in 1904, aged 81, leaving her estate to her youngest son.⁹ William Newman Shadwell Keen had been declared bankrupt in 1858 and moved to New Zealand in 1863, where he had a younger brother, John, also a surgeon.¹⁰ William left Hobart on the *Derwent Hunter* as surgeon with the Tasmanian

¹ *The Mercury* Hobart 17 May 1864 p.2

² *The Mercury* Hobart 25 May 1871 p.2; *Launceston Examiner* 19 February 1876 p.4 (Death Notice Thomas Campion)

³ *The Mercury* 11 August 1870 p.4

⁴ *The Mercury* 18 August 1873 p.2

⁵ *The Mercury* 18 August 1873 p.2

⁶ *Argus* (Melbourne) 9 December 1853 p.4

⁷ *The Mercury* 23 October 1863 p.2

⁸ TAHO, RGD33/1/8 1863/6451; England & Wales, FreeBMD Death Index, 1837–1915 (Hampstead Volume 1a p.617); UK Census, RG14 Piece 920.

⁹ England & Wales, FreeBMD Death Index, 1837–1915 (Hackney volume 1b p.327); England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1904: Jessie Margaret Keen

¹⁰ *The Courier* 26 May 1858 p.3; *The Mercury* 16 October 1861 p.2; *The Mercury* 2 August 1862 p.1; *The Mercury* 7 October 1863 p.2

contingent of military settlers who had volunteered for service in New Zealand.¹¹

William, who was the second son of Rev. C T Keen, of Norwich, died in Auckland in 1866, when he was in his late thirties.¹² Despite leaving her children in Tasmania, their mother did not forget them: in 1891, the *Australian Town and Country Journal* published the following request:

Lancelot S., William M'Leod, Charles D., and Walter P. Keen, sons of the late Dr. W. Shadwell Keen, of Hobart Town, Tasmania, have not been heard of for seven years. Their invalid mother anxiously inquires.¹³

It is not known whether she received any information in response.

Eldest brother Lancelot Shadwell McLeod Keen performed under the stage name 'Lance Lenton'. He died in tragic circumstances in Sydney in 1900: he was found dead in his bedroom, having fractured his skull by falling down the steps at his residence.¹⁴ On his death, a number of tributes were published, including one from *The Bulletin* which noted 'Lance Lenton was a true Bohemian and a good fellow, R.I.P.'¹⁵ He was buried in Waverley Cemetery.

The *Waverley Cemetery Who's Who* noted Lance Lenton was 'a journalist, dramatic author, actor, and variety artist':

He picked up a knowledge of dancing and became an excellent mimic ... Lenton wrote more than one successful pantomime for the Australian stage ... His special talent was for writing smart topical verses for the variety stage, concocting his own songs, and he displayed a facile and inventive wit.¹⁶

One of the many obituaries published for him noted:

'Lance Lenton' was a well-known figure in press work, as well as in theatrical circles. An excellent utility actor, he was well known and popular all over the colonies. Latterly he had devoted himself more to literary work. For some time (a few years ago) he was upon the staff of the 'Evening News'. A number of the sketches and topical songs which have delighted patrons of the Tivoli Theatre were from his pen, and he wrote the 'book' of 'Jack the Giant Killer', the pantomime which Mr. Rickards recently produced at the Theatre Royal ... His brother, Walter P. Keen, the writer of 'Mother Doyle's Diamond Jubilee', is one of the most successful song writers in London at the present time. Lance Lenton's two daughters are on the stage, one being in the ballet at Her Majesty's Theatre and the other (Miss Olive Lenton) having just scored success as a soubrette in New Zealand.¹⁷

The youngest of the Keen boys was Walter P Keen, 'author, vocalist and descriptive singer'.¹⁸ In February 1882, the *Launceston Examiner* referred to 'the

¹¹ *The Mercury* 23 October 1863 p.3

¹² *The Mercury* 20 August 1866 p.1

¹³ *Australian Town and Country Journal* 3 October 1891 p.19; *Evening News* 6 October 1891 p.2

¹⁴ *Australian Town and Country Journal* 1 September 1900 p.57

¹⁵ *The Bulletin* 8 September 1900; cit *Waverley Cemetery Who's Who*: www.waverley.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/18627/Waverley_Cemetery_Whos_Who_Encore.pdf

¹⁶ www.waverley.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/18627/Waverley_Cemetery_Whos_Who_Encore.pdf

¹⁷ *Evening News* (Sydney) 28 August 1900 p.3

¹⁸ *Argus* (Melbourne) 21 November 1904 p.6. For Walter Keen, see also Dianne Snowden, 'Voices from the Orphan Schools: The Apprentices', *Tasmanian Ancestry*, Vol.34 No.4 March 2014 pp.213–215.

veritable Walter Keen, whose comic singing is the greatest attraction'.¹⁹ In April 1882, Walter left Tasmania for Victoria: 'A complimentary concert was given by the Town Hall Committee, on Friday night last, to Mr. Walter Keen, prior to his departure for Victoria'.²⁰ An early report of Walter's performing in Victoria was in March 1885, when he appeared at the 'monthly smoke' of 'The Curlews' at their Fitzroy club room, the *Brunswick Hotel*: 'Mr. Walter Keen rendered "Dear me, is that possible", which was so good that an encore was insisted on and responded to'.²¹

By 1886, he was appearing at various venues in Sydney, including the Protestant Hall and the Alhambra Theatre.²² In December 1887, he performed in Brisbane with Hugo's Buffalo Minstrels: 'Walter Keen has run into immense popularity for his comic songs, into which he plentifully introduces telling local bits'.²³

Early in 1888, he was back in Sydney at the Alhambra Musical Hall.²⁴ Following a performance there in February 1888, the local newspaper reported: 'Mr. Walter P. Keen, who has a special tent for composing comic songs and singing them, was again very prominent ... He was unmistakably encored for a capital

performance in the song "I wonder what it is", and was enthusiastically applauded for everything he did'.²⁵

In 1900, he was performing in London. Walter returned from London to Sydney on 5 May 1904 on the *Orient*.²⁶ In 1904, he was back in Melbourne 'after a lapse of many years'.²⁷ By 1905, Walter—described as 'an eccentric comedian, topical vocalist, and speciality artist'—was performing in Perth with the Harry Rickards Company. He also performed in New Zealand.²⁸

By February 1905, Walter was in Hobart, performing with Bain's Gaiety Entertainers at the Temperance Hall.



Miss Olive Lenton
daughter of Lance Lenton
Photography by unattributed
studio. Tyrrell Collection.

See more at:
<http://www.powerhousemuseum.com/imageservices/2010/10/miss-olive-lenton-star-of-australia/#sthash.dVvir0xu.dxPtBjz7.dpuf>

¹⁹ *Launceston Examiner* 11 February 1882 p.1S (Hamilton-on-Forth Correspondent, now known as Forth)

²⁰ *Launceston Examiner* 6 April 1882 p.3 (Hamilton-on-Forth Correspondent)

²¹ *Fitzroy City Press* 14 March 1885 p.3

²² *Glebe* (Sydney) 3 March 1886 p.8; *Evening News* (Sydney) 16 March 1886 p.3

²³ *Queensland Figaro and Punch* 31 December 1887 p.20S

²⁴ *Sydney Morning Herald* 21 February 1888 p.9; 28 February 1888 p.8; 5 March 1888 p.5; 6 March 1888 p.5; 10 April 1888 p.8

²⁵ *Sydney Morning Herald* 28 February 1888 p.8

²⁶ *PROV, VPRS 7666; Inward Overseas Passenger Lists (British Ports) [Microfiche Copy of VPRS 947]*.

²⁷ *Argus* 21 November 1904 p.6

²⁸ *Referee Sydney* 28 December 1904 p.19

Advertised as ‘Mr. Walter Keen, comedian, poet, humorist, and world-renowned entertainer ... only recently returned to Australia’, Walter received ‘the greater share of applause’.²⁹ It was reported:

The success of last night’s performance at the Temperance Hall was mainly due to the second appearance of Mr. Walter Keen, who is undoubtedly a very clever performer. His monologue entertainment, including a ventriloquial act, assisted with the hands only, brought forth exultant and prolonged applause from the entire audience. Mr. Keen is adept in his line of business ...³⁰

In March 1905, Walter performed at the Town Hall in Hobart:

WALTER KEEN AT THE TOWN HALL

This evening, at the Town-hall, Mr. Walter P. Keen, assisted by Miss Vivie Keeling and Mr. E. Midwood, will give an entertainment termed “A Night of native Talent”. Mr. Keen will sing a number of songs of his own composition, and Miss Keeling will sing “The first rose of Spring” and “When the wattle blossom’s blooming” by Mr. J. P. Knowles. Banjo selections will be contributed by Mr. Midwood. The performance will conclude with a political skit, “The Ability Tax”.³¹

He then returned to Sydney, performing at the Tivoli Theatre and the Alhambra Theatre with the Harry Rickards Company.³²

Described as ‘a comedian and speciality artist’, Walter joined Rickards Variety Company in Perth in August 1905.³³ It was reported:

This evening a character comedian and speciality artist, will lend his assistance to the band of entertainers. Mr. Keen has been preceded by a flattering reputation, and he should prove popular in Perth. A Melbourne critic recently wrote:—“Mr. Walter Keen has solved the problem of treating a ventriloquial turn in an original manner. He dispenses wholly with dolls and effigies, and, with the aid of a face painted on his hand, contrives to give a most amusing contribution to the entertainment. In technical ventriloquism, Mr. Keen is one the best exponents of the art ever seen in Melbourne—not a muscle of his face moves—while his patter and use of dialect are most diverting. His control of his facial muscles was further exemplified at the conclusion of his turn, when, without any wigs or other aids, he presented in turn each member of a family with appropriate remarks”.³⁴

In March 1906, Walter, ‘a topical singer and entertainer’, made his first performance at the Palace Gardens in Perth.³⁵

Walter, described as a ‘theatrical artist’, appeared in the City Police Court in Perth in June 1906, after Thomas A SHAFTE of *The Shaftesbury* hotel ‘unlawfully detained’ his two trunks containing theatrical paraphernalia and clothing, and also several other personal effects valued in all at £30. A detailed account of the Court case appeared under the headings:

²⁹ *The Mercury* 11 February 1905 p.3; 21 February 1905 p.3

³⁰ *The Mercury* 14 February 1905 p.3

³¹ *The Mercury* 29 March 1905 p.5. The lyrics to the songs were by Walter and he wrote the political skit: *The Mercury* 28 March 1905 p.5

³² *Sydney Morning Herald* 15 October 1905 p.2 (‘a successful debut’); 16 October

1905 p.3; 21 October 1905 p.11; 4 November 1905 p.15

³³ *Daily News* (Perth, WA) 16 August 1905 p.1

³⁴ *Daily News* (Perth, WA) 21 August 1905 p.1

³⁵ *Daily News* (Perth, WA) 2 March 1906 p.4; 5 March 1906 p.12

“A STONEY-BROKE TRAVELLER”
WALTER P. KEEN’S GRIEVANCES
AIRED AT THE POLICE COURT.

Walter had hired a room from Shafte at ten shillings per week:

Walter P. Keen, in his evidence, dramatically declared against the inhumanity of a man who would not let a “stoney-broke traveller” have the best fomentations his doctor ordered him, or even let him have anything to eat. With a theatrical gesture, he continued, “I say—

Mr. Abbott [for the defendant]: I object.

Keen: Do you? It’s nothing to do with the case, but it’s advice to his Worship. (Laughter). Your Worship, sir, I warn you that this new country—this Australia, will get a bad name if its visitors are treated as I have been. A man comes here ... falls ill and loses his money ... buffeted about, and stranded, and—and—and—

Mr. Roe [Police Magistrate]: You have lost a lot I know, Keen, but you still have a voice.

Keen: And thank God for it! That is all Australia has left me—that and my reputation. It can’t take away my reputation.

The defendant (who announced to the court that he was doubling the rent) was ordered to return the goods on payment of the outstanding money for meals (£1 2s 6d).

Keen: But I have no money—not a penny.

Mr. Roe: I know you have had hard times. You are on your beam ends. Mr. Shafte, I ask you not to be hard on Keen, and if you do not mind, I wish you would let me pay you the £1 2s 6d.

Keen: God bless—

Mr. Rose: Then you can let him have his things. He can’t earn anything without them.

Keen: Heaven—

Mr. Roe: I will tell the Clerk of Courts to aid him from the poor box.³⁶

In the end, Shafte agreed to return Walter’s property without payment.

This was not the first time Walter had appeared in Court: in April 1906, he had the manager of Harry Rickards Company charged with neglecting to fulfil a contract of service, and not paying £26 5s 8d for two weeks and two days work and £8 for a boat fare into Sydney. The case was dismissed without costs.³⁷

By 1907, Walter was back in Sydney, performing with Harry Clay’s Vaudeville Company.³⁸

His great forte was composing comic songs. One of his well-known pieces was ‘The Gum Tree with Six Branches’, sung to the traditional tune, ‘Australia’s on the Wallaby’.³⁹ It was sung at the Tivoli Hall about 1910:

I roamed the bush one summer’s eve,
while wattle trees were blooming
And aided by the Myall wood, in a land so
sweet perfuming,
At sunset, feeling tired, I slept beneath the
bowers,
And as I dreamt a spirit arose, from out of
the flowers,
The spirit of Australia, was what it said to me
Oh son of mine I’ll show to you your
magick native tree.

CHORUS

One branch is called Victoria and one is
New South Wales,
Then South and West Australia, each
gallantly prevails.

³⁶ *West Australian* 23 June 1906 p.2

³⁷ *Daily News* (Perth) 27 April 1906 p.10

³⁸ *Sydney Morning Herald* 12 October 1907

p.16; *Sunday Times* 27 October 1907 p.2;
Referee (Sydney) 20 November 1907 p.12

³⁹ http://ozfolksongaday.blogspot.com.au/2012_01_01_archive.html

With Queensland and Tasmania, all rich in
mines and ranches,
That's federal Australia, the gumtree with
six branches.

The spirit said: 'In that tree, there's
untold wealth awaiting,
The labour of her children, so why be
hesitating,
The task is not beyond you, each healthy
son and daughter,
But chiefly you must always—supply
that tree with water.
Then she will freely yield the things that
you require,
And to its independence your nation will
aspire.'

The spirit said: Then rest not, till your task
it is completed,
Tis only curs who tell you in childhood
they're defeated,
That tree is only growing but she will
bloom tomorrow,
For you can't raise a nation without a little
sorrow.
Then may each branch united dispel all
jealousy,
Advance as one Australia—upon that
magic tree.

In August 1912, the *Sunday Times* in Perth
WA published the following:

KEEN (Walter P.) left England about
1904. Brother Lyons would like his
address in Sydney.⁴⁰

Again, it is not known whether the
request was successful.

In August 1912, Walter wrote a long
letter to the Editor of Sydney's *Evening
News*, under the heading 'American
Slang. Australian Defence.':

Though I hesitate to declare it in this my
unbelieving country, I am nevertheless,
the only Australian song-writer—that is,
of the vaudeville or popular class of

songs—who has gained a reputation in
England and America—a reputation
supported by the publication of over five
hundred songs, sketches [∆c]

He urged a broader view on the use of
slang, resulting from the 'commingling of
divergent races: 'Prudes, pigs and pedants
object to slang, which is the life-force of
all language'.⁴¹

Walter Keen, comedian, late of the Tatter-
sall's Club, died of *acute gastroenteritis*
and *acute pneumonia* on 7 January 1913
in the Sydney Hospital.⁴² He was buried
in the Independent Cemetery, Rookwood.
According to his death certificate, he mar-
ried Bessie DAVIS in the United States
when he was 34 and he had a daughter
living when he died. No obituary has
been located.

The third extraordinarily musically
talented Orphan School boy was Edward
Wallace, who was blind.⁴³ Edward's
mother arrived in Van Diemen's Land as
convict Elizabeth PEARSON, in 1832.
Her convict conduct record stated that she
was frequently drunk.⁴⁴ Born in 1833,
Edward entered the Orphan School when
he was three.⁴⁵ In 1848, Inspector
BRADBURY, who conducted a report
into the Orphan Schools, mentioned a
boy 'quite blind' who assisted the Infant
School matron: 'he is the best singer in
the school'.⁴⁶ Edward used 'a bible with

⁴¹ *Evening News* 13 August 1912 p.3

⁴² NSW Birth Certificate 1913/000083:
Walter Keen

⁴³ TAHO, SWD28/1/1 p.5. For more
information about Edward Wallace, see
Anna Hodgman, 'A Great Blessing?',
UTAS Honours thesis, 2013. Thank-you
to Anna for this information.

⁴⁴ TAHO, CON40/1/7

⁴⁵ TAHO, SWD28/1/1 p.5

⁴⁶ British Parliamentary Papers, Volume 8,
1848, Charles Bradbury

⁴⁰ *Sunday Times* (Perth, WA) 4 August 1912
p.15

raised letters at the school'.⁴⁷ Described as 'the blind preacher' and 'the blind minstrel', Edward, a popular performer, travelled the colony and interstate, earning a living from his performances. Eventually settling in New South Wales, he married Eliza Jemima SMITH in Geelong when he was about 39 and they had a daughter, Olive, who was 29 when Edward died.⁴⁸ Edward, who was living at 14 Redmond Street, Leichardt, died there of cancer on 8 January 1915 aged 81.⁴⁹ He was buried at the Methodist Cemetery Waverly.

The author would like to hear from those who may have further information about these three talented Orphan School boys (and their descendants) or any other Orphan Schools' children who forged musical careers. ◀

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

⁴⁷ *Cornwall Chronicle*, 25 September 1861, p.3

⁴⁸ NSW Death Certificate 1915/001473
Edward Pearson Wallace

⁴⁹ NSW Death Certificate 1915/001473
Edward Pearson Wallace



**MARITA
BARDENHAGEN
MEMORIAL AWARD
FOR LOCAL HISTORY**

was launched on Friday 28 February 2014 by the Minister for Heritage, the Hon. Brian Wightman. Almost 50 of Marita's friends and colleagues attended the launch in Launceston.

The Marita Bardenhagen Memorial Award for Local History is a biennial award to honour the memory of well-known historian Dr Marita Bardenhagen.

The aim of the Award is to encourage local historians to publish the results of their research.

The Award is for a book with significant Tasmanian local history content.

The Award will be determined by an independent judging panel of three, approved by the Trustees of the Award.

Entries for the inaugural Award will close on 14 June 2014.

For more information about the Award, please contact

Dr Dianne Snowden at
dsnowden@tassie.net.au

THE MAJESTIC THEATRE ORCHESTRA 1916–1930

Elsie Corrick 1894–1974, transcribed by Shirley Foster

IN 1916 The Family opened *The Corrick School of Music* upstairs at Granite Pillars, on the corner of the Quadrant and Brisbane Street opposite PERRIN's drapery business in Launceston. We taught elocution, violin, singing, piano, flute, clarinet and the cornet and got people through the Royal College of Music exams. We could look out and see the Majestic Theatre being built. One day my brother came home and said "Oh Elsie! you'll have to practice your violin. They are going to build a big theatre named the Majestic and it will be 20 feet higher than the Brisbane Hotel. We are to supply the music for the silent movies". So every morning at 9 am the alarm would go and my eldest sister Gertie would have the drawing room bay window full of orchestral music. We would play from 9 am to 11 am when the maid would bring the morning tea. Then we would play until dinner. By the time the theatre was built I could sight read anything on the violin, that was overtures, ballet pieces, operatic selections. At night, when we played at the theatre, I would have as many as 60 pieces on the music stand and never put my hand down from playing the violin. We would have a funeral march at sad moments, wedding march at the right time. This was all for the silent movies. It was always necessary to get the right music to fit the right mood of the pictures. We would have music towards the side which we would pull towards the middle and we would play and watch the pianist to see whether she would take music from the left or right and follow her. Later on when they had big musical pictures we would have 11 extra players. My sister Gertie, ...

known as Miss Corrick, was in charge of *The Majestic Theatre Orchestra* for 15 years until silent movies ended in 1930. ◀

MAJESTIC THEATRE THE NEW PICTURE PALACE.

Since last show time Launceston has become the possessor of a new Picture Palace. Said to be the sixth largest in the Commonwealth, and the most up-to-date. The theatre is beautifully situated in the heart of the city adjoining the Brisbane Hotel in Brisbane-street. All trams stop opposite, and the place is indeed the centre of amusement in the city of Launceston, both geographically and actually. No visit to Launceston ... would be complete without a call at the Majestic, where pictures are shown morning, afternoon, and night. The pictures are the best obtainable, and include the famous Paramount, Mutual, Fox, and Progressive services, which include such artists as Mary Pickford, Marguerite Clark, June Caprice, Mary Miles Minter, Pauline Frederick, William Farnum, Charlie Chaplin, Roscoe Arbuckle, Ben Turpin, and the beautiful Rex Beach Travelogues and American Gazettes. The Corrick Orchestra provides the music at the evening performances, and are an entertainment in themselves. The programmes for the week are well selected, as tonight there will be screened "Charlie at the Show," in which the great comedian is supported by Fatty Arbuckle and Ben Turpin; a Rex Beach Travelogue "Liberty," including Eddie Polo, the strong man, and Wallace Reid in an exciting detective story. On Thursday there will be a complete change of programme, when Mary Miles Minter will appear in "Environment," with fine support, and on Saturday June Caprice appears in "Little Miss Happiness," one of her charming characterisations.

Examiner, 10 October 1917 p.10

BLACK RIVER STATE SCHOOL

1870–1920

Betty Jones (Member No.6032)



THE formation in 1870 of a small country school at Black River, located about nine miles from Stanley in the district of Circular Head, provides a useful case-study on the rise and fall of educational facilities provided for children in relatively isolated areas in the late nineteenth and into the early twentieth centuries.

The search for a teacher

In April 1870 the Board of Education acknowledged an application from Mr George ANDERSON of 'Boyndie', Circular Head for the establishment of a school, and asked if there was a local person available as teacher.¹ The appointment of Mr James Sebastian ROCHE, who had passed a good examination, was recommended by Mr Murray BURGESS, Northern Inspector, in October that year. Born on 25 September 1844, Calcutta, India, Mr Roche arrived in Tasmania in 1868. Previously employed as a clerk, he was living with his family at Detention in May 1870 before being employed by the Board of Education.²

It was represented that the usual application for the school was signed by parents, one half of whom were Protestants, and one half Roman Catholics. Mr. Roche, himself a Roman Catholic, was also strongly recommended by the Rev. Mr DREW, Church of England incumbent of Circular Head. It is interesting to note that during that era some protestant-dominated communities refused to have their children taught by a Roman Catholic Head Teacher. The Board appointed Mr Roche on a salary of £45 per annum on the understanding that his wife, Mrs Isabel Jane Roche (née TOWNSEND), should assist.³

School hours were set at 9:00-12:00 and 2:00-4:00. Mr Roche commenced instruction from the beginning of November 1870. In January 1871 furniture was ordered, including two desks and four forms, 7 feet 6 inches in length, an easel and a blackboard.⁴ Four months later, the temporary school house was considered far too small to give adequate accommodation to the children, and it was proposed to build an entirely new one at

¹ TAHO: ED13/1/9

² TAHO: ED2/1/169; file 255

³ *The Mercury*, 28 October 1870

⁴ TAHO: ED13/1/10)

the joint expense of the Government and inhabitants.⁵

New building costs were shared

At the end of November 1871 the Board of Education accepted the tender of Mr W E SMITH to erect school premises at a cost of £98, dependent upon the local subscription being paid over.⁶ (There was an expectation at that time that the local inhabitants would contribute one third of the total cost of the building.) During January 1872 the local inhabitants contributed a total of over £38 towards the new schoolhouse.⁷ In the middle of that month, an evening's entertainment in aid of the building fund was held at the then nearly finished new school premises, on the east side of the Black River, where at least 150 ladies and gentlemen found accommodation. The building comprised three back rooms and passage, a schoolroom 25 by 15 feet, well and substantially built, the contractor having performed the work in a very satisfactory manner. The site was said to have been well-chosen—a dry, hard, open sandbank, with a creek about 200 yards in the rear.⁸ In 1883 the school was described further as being made of wood on a stone foundation with schoolroom walls 12 feet in height. The walls and ceiling were whitewashed and there was a painted imitation dado. The attached teachers' residence consisted of a sitting room, a bedroom, kitchen and store-room. The playground included a healthy plain of waste land surrounding the school.⁹ By early February 1872 the new school had opened and taken possession of by the master.¹⁰ When the annual examination

took place in December 1873, there were thirty-five children present. The scholars were said to acquit themselves very creditably, and a handsome collection of prizes was distributed in the presence of ladies and gentlemen.¹¹ A similar number presented for the examination twelve months later.¹² By that time, Mr Roche had been replaced by Mrs Catherine TROY who was assisted by her daughter, Miss Margaret Troy. Both were experienced teachers under the Board of Education.

Problems had to be faced

The life of a school mistress in country districts was sometimes difficult. During 1877, Mrs Troy detained a boy by the name of MEDWIN after school, who had defied her instructions. The boy's father disagreed with Mrs Troy's disciplinary action, so she suspended the scholar from attending until the matter was reviewed by the Board of Education. The latter supported the teacher's action and ruled the boy remained suspended until he stated he was prepared to behave himself.¹³ More problems surfaced some months later that year when concern was expressed by local residents over the defacement of a school wall supposedly by an ex-boyfriend of Mrs Troy's daughter. The Board of Education again defended Mrs Troy's position.¹⁴ She was transferred to the charge of Newnham Public School at the end of 1878. The Inspector noted that although showing little skill or power, Mrs Troy's teaching was very conscientiously carried out. She had an old-fashioned style, which was kindly and sufficiently effective for most of the children. Her general management was quiet and motherly and sewing and

⁵ *Launceston Examiner*, 20 May 1871

⁶ TAHO: ED13/1/11

⁷ *Journal of the House of Assembly*, 1873

⁸ *Launceston Examiner*, 13 January 1872

⁹ *Journal of House of Assembly*, 1883

¹⁰ *Launceston Examiner*, 10 February 1872

¹¹ *Launceston Examiner*, 30 December 1873

¹² *Launceston Examiner*, 26 December 1874

¹³ *The Mercury*, 31 July 1877

¹⁴ TAHO: ED13/1/20

knitting were well attended to. She was firm, considerate and very precise.¹⁵

Mrs Troy was replaced by Mr James FRASER and his wife, Mrs Elizabeth Fraser (née JARVIS) from 1879 to early 1884. Mr David Hugh MURRAY was the next Teacher in Charge from April 1884, assisted by his wife, Mrs Annabela [Annabella] Maria (née REID) MURRAY. Unfortunately, Mr Murray died at the school in January 1885. He was replaced briefly by Mr Frederick Arthur RICH until the appointment of Mr Louis PEERS and his wife, Mrs Mary Ayris (née YOUNG) PEERS. Another death at the schoolhouse occurred in May 1889 with the passing of Mrs Peers.

The school was a community focal point

Schools often were the springboard for community social life and entertainment. During January 1881, the school cricket team played matches against their counterparts at Stanley and Forest.¹⁶ The children were given a rare glimpse of entertainment a month later when the Wheeler Family Troupe, which had been passing through the district in a four-horse drag, kindly stopped by the school and provided a few tunes. This was most welcomed, as times were bad then, and almost everyone was said to be down at heart.¹⁷ In December 1887 a school

picnic, the first of its kind in the neighbourhood, was arranged on a sheltered spot at nearby Sawyers Bay. Mr Peers arranged for the 40 to 50 scholars involved to be conveyed by trap, kindly lent for the occasion. Upon arrival, they found the ground pegged out by small flags for races, of which there were many, with prizes distributed as a bonus. Following a variety of other enjoyable games, more than 100 sat down to dinner and tea, the good things provided being most excellent.¹⁸

No mining disappointment or agricultural difficulty interfered with the local community's ability to join in the celebrations in the New Year of 1888. The picnic given by Mr and Mrs Peers was once again considered the best of the season.

Ostensibly organised for the benefit of the school children, the picnic generously embraced the parents, and the uncles, and the cousins, and the aunts, and all connections by marriage established, and likewise parties holding views matrimonial in perspective.¹⁹

Concerts were a perennial favourite and were frequently held to raise funds for end-of-year prizes. A successful one was held in the schoolroom in November 1906, and a lengthy program was gone through with the PEGG family members



¹⁵ TAHO: ED31/1/3

¹⁶ *The Mercury*, 6 January 1881

¹⁷ *Launceston Examiner*, 11 February 1881

¹⁸ *The Mercury*, 12 January 1887

¹⁹ *Launceston Examiner*, 10 January 1888, p.3

being prominent contributors.²⁰ On a Saturday night in November 1909, a concert and coffee supper were held in aid of the prize fund. Despite the fact that the night was rough and boisterous, there was a good attendance, and the function proved a great success. The takings at the door amounted to £2/10/. Mr Mathias MEDWIN occupied the chair, and gave a very happy introductory address.²¹ Residents of Black River and surrounding districts were given another treat in June 1912 in the form of a concert given by the pupils of the school under the able management of their teacher, Miss LAWSON, who was assisted by Miss LAMBERT. The children gave a pleasing rendering of the pieces entrusted to them. Mr M Medwin, as chairman, said he was pleased to see so many present, as the object of the entertainment was a most commendable one, that of raising funds to procure prizes for the school children.²²

Excursions increased as gradual improvements in transport were introduced to country areas. In April 1911 the children, along with those from other local schools, were taken into Stanley for the first turning of the sod to commence the Stanley-Balfour Railway. A big procession was headed by the Stanley Band. They were all treated hospitably to a luncheon following the ceremony and entertainment.²³

School buildings in isolated areas often had dual purposes. Up to 1918, the school was also used for Anglican Church services. However, in August of that year, it was arranged for an old and

unused church building in the district to be moved to land donated by Mr L Medwin on the site adjoining the Black River Post Office. The church had originally been built at Blackwall at a time when it was thought that the centre of Black River would be established there. Allotments were marked out, but the march of time proved that not to be the case.²⁴

As a large number of men were employed on the Myalla railway construction works by August 1919, it was decided to convert the State School into a hospital in order to cope with the 'flu should an epidemic break out on the line. When the position was put before the men, £32 was donated by them.²⁵

Attendance figures were critical

Enrolment and attendance trends affected the on-going provision of individual small schools and thus could cast a shadow over the security of some teachers' employment. As well, the number of children in attendance each day had a bearing on the monthly wages of teachers in many schools. A number of factors could influence the enrolment, with illness being a strong contributor. In September 1879 the Board of Education sanctioned temporary closure of the school in consequence of the prevalence of diphtheria in the area²⁶ and an outbreak of scarlatina led to the closure of the school by the Health Officer in March 1898.²⁷

In August 1883 there was a reported drop in attendance, the average for the first half of the year being only 23.²⁸ Numbers gradually improved again and

²⁰ *North Western Advocate*, 3 November 1906

²¹ *North Western Advocate*, 4 November 1909

²² *North Western Advocate*, 5 June 1912

²³ *North Western Advocate*, 17 April 1911

²⁴ *North Western Advocate*, 6 August 1918

²⁵ *The Advocate*, 29 August 1919

²⁶ TAHO: ED13/1/23

²⁷ *The Mercury*, 2 March 1898

²⁸ *Launceston Examiner*, 28 August 1883

had climbed to 44 by July 1890. Mr and the new Mrs Peers (née Emily A Pegg) were replaced by Mr Harry R OWEN in late 1891. He, in turn, was replaced in relatively quick succession by Mrs Lillias MOLD in late 1892 and then by Mrs Maria (May) ROBINSON a year after that. Enrolment numbers had dropped to 15 by July 1892, and in October 1894 with only nine children enrolled it seemed the school risked closure.²⁹ Mrs Margaret Anne MAGUIRE became the school's next Teacher in Charge from the beginning of 1895, and in so doing developed the record as the school's longest serving teacher. The school was continued as a subsidised one from January 1896.³⁰

More about Mrs Margaret Anne Maguire/Conolan

Born at *Ridgeside*, Evandale in 1855, Mrs Margaret Anne MAGUIRE (1855–1939) was the second daughter of Arthur Thomas and Sophia Sarah Jones (née HUXTABLE) COLLETT and grew up in a committed Wesleyan Church family. Her English-born father was a former Magistrate and Coroner, while her mother was the daughter of a medical doctor. Mr Collett had an 800 acre sheep property at Evandale, but sold it to a relative after he had a falling-out over religious matters with the Bishop of Tasmania (and others). At the age of about one, Margaret made the long sea journey to England with her parents and siblings and lived there until after her

father died following a horse accident in 1861. Two years later, Mrs Collett and her eight children sailed back to Australia where they spent the next few years in Victoria. Eventually they returned to Evandale. Mrs Collett, formerly a teacher at Ellenthorpe School for Girls at Ross prior to her marriage, was forced to return to work when she was declared insolvent in 1869. Mrs Collett finally took over her late husband's remaining land holdings at Oatlands, but died almost penniless there in 1877.

Margaret Anne Collett married evangelist, Charles MAGUIRE at Caulfield, Victoria in 1876 and was living in Launceston by the following year when their first son, Arthur Charles, was born.

Another son (William Alfred) and a daughter (Sophia Margaret) were later born in Tasmania in 1879 and 1882 respectively, with a second daughter (Emily Kate) in Victoria in 1885.

By 1892 Mrs Maguire was widowed. Her sister, Emily, had married Stanley produce merchant, Charles Thomas SMITH in 1878, and since that time had lived at Stanley. Mrs Maguire took up residence in the same town and opened a private school there in 1892. From 1895, she was employed by the Education Department as teacher in charge at Black River. There was a teachers' residence attached to the

school, and it was there Mrs Maguire and her children lived. Sad news was received in March 1895 that Mrs Maguire's eldest son, Arthur, had been lost at sea when the schooner, *Martha*, on which he was a crew member, had foundered near Melbourne. Arthur was



²⁹ TAHO: ED31/1/1

³⁰ TAHO: ED13/1/55

not yet 18.³¹ In September 1895, Mrs Maguire was reported to be seriously ill during an outbreak of whooping cough in the district.³²

Margaret Maguire married George James Reid CONOLAN at Stanley in 1896 and they continued to live at the Black River school house until she retired from the Department in December 1906.

Margaret's teaching records have been preserved at the Tasmanian Archives and Heritage Office. The Inspector's report on Black River in 1895–1896 stated Mrs Conolan showed good interest and judgement in her work, a promising sign. Her management of the school met all requirements.³³ She was granted sick leave in February 1897 (at the time of the impending birth of her son, Bernard Conolan) and Mr Conolan replaced during that time.³⁴ The Inspector's report in March 1899 stated that the management did not show good method, but it was kindly and respected. In April 1901 it was noted Mrs Conolan continued to be amiable and painstaking. The Inspector found her busy drilling a lesson into a backward boy at 12:30 on the day of his visit. In February 1903, Inspector BROCKETT judged Mrs Conolan to be motherly and kind to the children and he believed her influence to be good.³⁵

In March 1897 the school premises were saved from destruction by fire by the exertions of some neighbours. The Education Department recommended their service be recognised by a gratuity.³⁶ The Inspector's report in March 1899 noted the school was fairly clean and tidy but one corner was occupied by household

furniture which however, Mrs Conolan promised at once to remove.³⁷ In May 1900 it was recorded that the closet was almost falling down. The Inspector suggested the school, then with an attendance of 18, promised to increase in a comparatively short time. Many young married people had settled near the school and quite a number of children were almost old enough to attend school. The following year, when attendance was still static, it was observed that apart from the roof which was to be covered with iron and the chimney which would be mended, the premises, though very old, were comfortable and in very fair condition.³⁸

In April 1900 additions were being considered to the school, with Government architect, Mr H CONWAY, visiting the site.³⁹ In March 1901, Mr W S H SMITH was awarded the contract worth £45 to carry out repairs to the school and residence.⁴⁰ Mrs Conolan retired from teaching at the end of 1906 and moved to live at Forest. She died in Smithton in September 1939 and was buried with her husband at Stanley.

The school's final years

Miss Lillian Annie ALEXANDER replaced Mrs Conolan as teacher in 1907. A petition was lodged to remove the school building to a more central site in January that year, and a report by Assistant Inspector CRAWFORD in May indicated the school was situated on the property of Mr Luke MEDWIN with no public road leading to it. The proposal was to remove the building to a site on the eastern side of Black River Bridge. Mr Medwin would give half an acre of land for such purposes, in exchange for the present site.

³¹ *Launceston Examiner*, 15 March 1895

³² *Mercury*, 14 September 1895

³³ TAHO: ED31/1/1

³⁴ TAHO: ED13/1/2

³⁵ TAHO: ED31/1/5

³⁶ TAHO: ED13/1/63

³⁷ TAHO: ED31/1/5

³⁸ TAHO: ED31/1/5

³⁹ *North Western Advocate*, 11 April 1900

⁴⁰ *The Mercury*, 4 March 1901

However, because the old condition of the building it was not likely to be improved with removal. A report by Inspector HERITAGE in June 1909 stated the school was by then about thirty to forty years old and still in fair condition. The residence, on the other hand, was in a poor state. There appeared to be no local further talk of relocating the school.¹

The turn-over of teachers was high in the remaining years with most staying for less than a year. Teachers included

Miss Elizabeth J MATTHEWS (.3.1908–
.2.1909)

Miss Nellie K LIVINGSTONE (.2.1909–
.3.1909)

Mr Alfred A HAUSTEIN (.3.1909–
.12.1910)

Mr Alfred G FINCH (.1.1911–.12.1911)

Miss Annie LAWSON (.1.1912–.9.1912)

Mr Ernest R COLE (.9.1912–.12.1912)

Miss Hilda G I WHITE (.1.1913–.6.1913)

Miss Cara E N CASTLE (.10.1913–
.3.1915)

Miss Marion DALY (.8.1915–.9.1915)

Miss Violet SMEDLEY (–.7.1916)

Miss G DAVIS (.8.1916–1917)

Mr Algernon L MORGAN assisted by his
sister, Miss Alice M Morgan
(.10.1919–.12.1919).

In January 1920, the school was completely destroyed by bushfire² and not replaced. The children of Black River instead were transported to Forest State School. ◀

DESCRIPTIONS OF CONVICTS

Maree Ring
(Member No.552)

‘ON THE TOWN’

FOR several years, I was under the impression I had heard, at one of the several Australasian Congresses I attended, one of the speakers from UK mention in question time, that the term ‘On the Town’ was not necessarily prostitution by convict women, but a de facto relationship.

I wonder if also ‘on the town’ meant she was on parish relief or support—in the ‘poor house’. Or perhaps it was ‘relief’ from the town as some of them were in prison so often that it meant just that.

The new publication, *Convict Lives*, describes the term ‘On the Town’ as ‘This phrase normally meant that the woman had worked as a prostitute.’ Certainly the Archives Office of Tasmania always gave this definition to those who found they had female convict ancestry.

Henry FINLAY, BA, LLB, PhD, then Associate Professor of Law, University of Tasmania, at a presentation to the Australian Institute of Family Studies, 20 September 2001—*Divorce and the Status of Women: Beginnings in Nineteenth Century Australia*, stated (in part) with references:¹

An interesting aspect of the attitude towards marriage and cohabitation among Australian convicts was the widespread belief among middle-class observers that there was a high degree of immorality and prostitution among the women. This belief was current for long and persisted until comparatively recent times. One comment written in 1957 quotes the

¹ TAHO: ED9/20/1907

² *The Mercury*, 28 January 1920

evidence of James Mudie, a magistrate who testified before the Select Committee on Transportation in 1837:

I should say, of almost the whole of the convict women that arrive in New South Wales, that there is hardly an exception amongst them; there are some sent out for bigamy that have been in better society; but others that have attended the theatres, and the lowest girls possible that have been streetwalkers, all sorts; but they all smoke, drink, and in fact to speak in plain language, I consider them all prostitutes.²

These views have more recently been challenged.³ Michael Sturma has shown that the term ‘prostitute’ was often used, in contemporary England, as referring to a woman living in what we today would describe as a ‘de facto relationship’:

The ‘prostitute’ was not necessarily a professional harlot, nor even promiscuous. Patrick Colquhoun’s often quoted estimate that 50,000 prostitutes resided in London alone included ‘the multitude of low females, who cohabit with labourers and others ‘without matrimony’. By mid-century Bracebridge Hemyng, who investigated prostitution as part of Henry Mayhew’s inquiries, estimated that prostitutes in the Metropolis numbered about 80,000. But it is worth noting the definition of prostitution given by Mayhew and Hemyng:

Prostitution ... may be done either from mercenary or voluptuous motives; be the cause however, what it may, the act remains the same ...

Prostitution, then, does not consist solely in promiscuous intercourse, for she who confines her favours to one may still be a prostitute.

In short, the woman labelled a ‘prostitute’ might be guilty of no more than cohabitation.⁴

² Morven S Brown in ‘Changing Functions of the Australian Family’ in A P Elkin, *Marriage and the Family in Australia*, Angus & Robertson, 1957, at [p]88

³ Anne Summers, *Damned Whores and God’s Police*, Penguin Books, 1975; Portia Robinson, *The Women of Botany Bay*, Macquarie Library, 1988

⁴ Michael Sturma, ‘The Eye of the Beholder: The Stereotype of Women Convicts 1788-1852, *Labour History*, 34 May 1978, at [p]6

‘POCKPITTED’

MANY of our convicts were described as pockpitted. I don’t think that it always referred to small pox—many dairy maids may have had cow pox—rather than small pox.

Cowpox is a disease of the skin that is caused by a virus known as the Cowpox virus. The pox is related to the vaccinia virus, and got its name from dairymaids touching the udders of infected cows. The ailment manifests itself in the form of red blisters and is transmitted by touch from infected animals to humans. When it is gone, the person is immune to smallpox.

The cowpox virus was used to perform the first successful vaccination against a disease, smallpox, which is caused by the related Variola virus. Therefore, the word ‘vaccination’—first used by Edward Jenner (an English physician) in 1796—has the Latin root *vacca* meaning cow, or from Latin root *vaccinia* meaning cowpox. ◀

Thomas Cooper Library, University of South Carolina: ‘Edward Jenner and the Discovery of Vaccination’, exhibition, 1996

¹ <http://www.aifs.gov.au/institute/seminars/finlay.html#colonial>

THE *MINERVA II* (1) 1838

A TROUBLESOME VOYAGE

Anne McMahan (Member No.6463)

THE barque *Minerva II* (1), 1838 was one of eight vessels chartered by the Admiralty for the convict service to transport juvenile offenders to Van Diemen's Land. James WILSON RN was appointed by the Lords of the Admiralty as surgeon superintendent and had undertaken two previous voyages on the transports. The first was on the *Lady Ridley*, 1821, where he had been in charge of adult male convicts tried in England, and the second was during 1834 as surgeon of the *Blenheim I* (1) carrying 200 Irish male prisoners from the two hulks that lay at Dun Láoghaire and the Cove of Cork. Ten Irish boys were on board, being the sons of convicts already serving sentences in NSW. On this ship James Wilson had been revealed as a stern, forthright surgeon who would tolerate no nonsense from the convicts; yet he quailed at the thought of having to control more boys.

On his appointment to the *Minerva II* (1) on 24 April 1838 James Wilson wrote from London to Sir William BURNETT, Physician General of the Navy,. He explained that it was only because Sir William had indicated that he had particular qualifications for this special service that he accepted the position in view of the onerous demands of such an undertaking. He wrote:

Judging by what I have seen of the Vicious habits and dispositions of the Boys in each Convict Ship which I have had charge of, and the Vigilance requisite ... for the maintenance of Order and Discipline amongst them—I should have shrunk from undertaking the arduous

duties and heavy responsibilities [but for] the important trust laid upon me.¹

He had no choice but to comply with the order so decided to request an increased gratuity. He told Sir William that the bonus allowed would not be one half of that granted to surgeon superintendents taking adult convicts yet they had lighter duties to perform. He also asserted that the sum allocated would not pay for him to be messed on the voyage or for his lodgings while detained in the colony. These claims of James Wilson are perplexing, as the Master was obliged to mess the surgeon by the rules of the Charter Party and standard rates were paid by the navy for the stay in the colony.

Upon receipt of James Wilson's letter the Navy Office acknowledged that the surgeon's task in transporting boy convicts was a very troublesome one and the remuneration scarcely adequate. They recommended favourable consideration be granted for his request. In reply, the Lords Commissioners asked what difference there was in the gratuity, whether boys or men. The answer was that it was the same; half a guinea per person for convicts landed in health and cleanliness. Surgeon Wilson's application was refused.

On 21 May 1838 nine adult male convicts chosen to act as overseers, together with 151 juvenile offenders, came on board the *Minerva II* (1) from the *Euryalus* hulk at Chatham. The boys were weakly from

¹ AJCP M4598, 24 April 1838, J. Wilson to Sir W. Burnett; AJCP PRO 3205, *Minerva II* (1) 1838

inadequate nutrition and some were stunted in growth, otherwise they seemed in good health. Soldiers of the 51st regiment, which comprised the guard, also embarked together with three army passengers.

During the passage two boys were revealed to be consumptive; one of whom died while passing through the heat of the tropics. In addition one of the overseers, a convict age 66, threw himself overboard. A boat was lowered and the man brought on board seemingly dead, but he was revived. Under the stresses of the voyage surgeon Wilson admitted himself to the Sick List with neuralgia. Two members of the guard had also come on board with the itch (psora) a highly infectious complaint. A private had his legs scalded and was five days off duty. In the latter half of the voyage signs of scurvy appeared in the form of spongy and livid gums. The first case was a sailor who, after his previous time at sea, had only been two weeks in England, where he spent £30 in dissipated living before being hired on the *Minerva II* (1). With the spread of scurvy it was decided to call at Simons Bay to take on live sheep and vegetables.

On the voyage Surgeon Wilson found the boys morally depraved. He reported that the loudest group had led him to the melancholy belief that, with only a few exceptions, they had been born and nursed in crime. He found the youngest were the most hardened in villainy which he believed to be chargeable to the parents who had schooled them in theft. We would cherish a Hope, he remarked, that

Human Nature is not so fallen in early Infancy as to take Delight in the Commission of such crimes as these Children did.²

Hardly a day passed without some type of punishment having to be inflicted. Notwithstanding his strict rein, as well as the numerous punishments he inflicted, Surgeon Wilson claimed that he was held in the utmost respect by every individual on the vessel and was loved by many. As evidence he instanced the time he spent with their schooling which, he said, was a source of great gratification.

The *Minerva II* (1) anchored at Sullivan's Cove on 23 May 1838 following a journey of 123 days. Surgeon Wilson was ordered to accompany 118 of the boys to Port Arthur for placement at Point Puer. The second youth, who was afflicted with consumption, was sent to the colonial hospital while the remaining nineteen were disembarked at Hobart Town.

James Wilson reflected on his experience with the convicted boys on the *Minerva II* (1). He resolved that there was not

any Consideration on Earth which could induce me again to undertake a Similar Charge so harrowing to the best feelings of our Nature.³

This was his final voyage in the convict service. ◀

ABERDEEN.

Illness: Little Doris Keep is ill. She is suffering from a severe chill.

Accident: Everyone is grieved to hear that Master L. Keep is suffering as a result of a piece of timber falling on his head.

The Advocate 27 October 1922 p.4

Miss Doris Keep is home again after being in hospital for a fortnight, having undergone an operation for appendicitis. She is making good progress.

The Advocate 27 September 1928

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

ARE YOU CONNECTED TO OHLSEN OR FARQUAR FAMILIES?

Vernice Dudman (Member No.33)

I would like to find the right homes for two photographs which were found among old family photos, but they don't belong on my family tree.

If anyone has a connection to either of these Police Constables she would be pleased to send them the photographs.

The Tasmania Police Historical Group have identified them as

Constable 634

Albert John FARQUAR who was appointed in 1915 and was granted leave to enlist in the 1st AIF and resumed duties in 1919 and dismissed in January 1920.



Constable 628

Albert Henry OHLSEN who was also appointed in 1915 and served as a Trooper at Cressy. He resigned in 1920.



Please contact Vernice Dudman at 31
Morse Street Burnie TAS 7320. ◀

HELP WANTED

DORAN, John

Wanted—information about the parents of John DORAN, a convict from Manchester England, to Tasmania in 1845. Records show his mother as Anne at Manchester.

John Doran possibly baptised 1831 at St Peters Catholic Church Liverpool England. Possible father James Doran of Manchester. John Doran had three sons and was married to Phoebe (née HODGES) also a convict. The eldest son named John, the second Edwin (my grandfather) and the youngest Alfred who attended Christ College, Cambridge England during 1879–1883 on a Tasmanian scholarship.

Can anybody help please? Responses to Mrs Patricia Meehan (née Doran) at email patmeehan2006@hotmail.com

HELP WANTED

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Special Interest Groups are subject to advertising rates.

Members are entitled to three free entries per year. All additional queries will be published at a cost of \$10.00. Only one query per member per issue will be published unless space permits.

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

FLOOD, John

Wanted family members and descendants of John FLOOD, born in Sydney Cove, NSW, on 24 September 1797 and married Margaret WATSON on 25 November 1818 at St Phillips Church of England, Sydney. They then travelled to VDL to establish the Flood family in Tasmania.

I have a great deal of the family and am looking for more information after 1900 and am willing to share information that I have. My wife is a Flood descendant.

Please contact Ivan Blitz, 320 Normanby Road, Warragul VIC 3280 or email ivanblitz@gmail.com

HONNER family

in Tasmania and Worldwide, all periods.

TIMBS/TIMS family

in Tasmania, since 1821.

WARREN family

in Tasmania, all periods.

Please contact Ken McCallum on email ken.mccallum147@bigpond.com or on (02) 4952 3279 or 219 Grandview Road Rankin Park NSW 2287

LUCAS family

Seeking information on the following members of the LUCAS family. Lieutenant James Hunt Lucas, 1765–1800, at Norfolk Island. His son Pilot James Hunt Lucas, 1791–1853, at Macquarie Harbour and later Tinderbox. Also his son Captain James Lucas, 1823–1866, of the whaler *Emily Downey* who drowned at Chatham Island, New Zealand, leaving a wife Eliza Theresa (née MOONEY), 1840–1876.

Please contact Paul J O'Brien, email pjmtobrien@gmail.com or phone (03) 6227 8948 ◀

NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS

NAME	PLACE/AREA	TIME	M'SHIP NO.
ASHWOOD Aaron	SAL ENG	1842+	7528
BAISTER	DUR ENG	prior 1750	7535
BAKER Bridget	Kempton TAS AUS	1850+	7521
BAKER Hannah	Kempton TAS AUS	1850+	7521
BANKS Samuel	MDX ENG	Any	7526
BANKS Samuel	Kingston TAS AUS	Any	7526
BARROLL	HEF ENG	prior 1620	7535
BELLETTTE Jacob	Any	Any	7536
BEZZANT George	Sorell TAS AUS	1842-1918	7549
BIGWOOD James	Stonor TAS AUS	Any	7529
BILTONs George, Rupert, Henry	ENG/TAS/Ballarat VIC AUS	Any	7540
BRADBURY	HRT ENG	prior 1480	7535
BRODRIBB William	Aldenam Farm Campania TAS AUS	Any	7529
CAVE Charles	Kempton TAS	1850+	7521
CHERRY Anne	Sydney & Hobart AUS	1842-1890	7524
COLLINS Arthur	Parramatta NSW/Richmond TAS AUS	1898-1968	7548
CONNOLLY Edward	ENG	1842	7519
COUNSEL Richard	Any	Any	7527
DINNEN Catherine	Cavan? IRL	1844-1871	7519
DINNEN James	IRL	1808	7519
DONOHUE Keith	Franklin TAS AUS	1800	7547
EVANS Rebecca	Clarence TAS AUS	1849-1885	7518
EWINGTON	Sassafras TAS AUS	1800	7547
FORD William	Hobart TAS AUS	1835-1892	7518
FULTON William Alexander Bell	SCT	1847	7548
FULTON William Bell	Hobart TAS AUS	1894	7548
FULTON, William Bell	SCT	c.1815	7548
GARLICH John	Any	Any	7536
GARLICH Mary Pru	Any	Any	7536
HAGAN William	Cambridge TAS AUS	1855-1893	7549
HARRIS Francis	DEAL KENT UK	1800-1870	7534
HARRIS Francis	TAS AUS	1800-1870	7534
HARRIS Robert James	TAS AUS	1840-1920	7534
HEARD Arthur Williams	Aston WAR ENG	1877-1904	7532
HELLESEY Michael	Dysart TAS AUS	1850+	7521
HULBERT J E (Jack)	Hobart/Moonah/Risdon TAS AUS	1909-1949	7543
JOHNS Maria	Hobart TAS AUS	1830-1890	7518
JOHNSTON Isabella	Glamis SCT	1857-1938	7519
JONES Anne	Hobart TAS AUS	1842-1890	7524
JONES Edwin Thomas	Hobart TAS AUS	1850+	7524
JONES Emily Elizabeth	Hobart TAS AUS/Epsom ENG	1855-1928	7524
JONES Gilbert William	Hobart TAS AUS	1851+	7524
JONES Maria	Hobart TAS AUS	1830-1890	7518
JONES William	Ebbw Vale MON WLS	1877-1878	7536
JONES William Henry	Hobart TAS AUS	1840-1890	7524
KEEP William	Sheffield/Longford TAS AUS	1800	7547

NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS

NAME	PLACE/AREA	TIME	M'SHIP NO.
KENDALL Agnes	Sheffield TAS AUS	1800	7547
KNIGHT Harriet	Sassafras TAS AUS	1862-1882	7533
KRIEGER Freidrich W	? Prussia	? 1829	7537
LARSON Mary Anne	Any	Any	7536
LAWRENCE	Kingston & W Hobart TAS/Ballarart VIC AUS	Any	7540
LAZENBY	Kingston & W Hobart TAS/Ballarart VIC AUS	Any	7540
LORD Ada Louisa	Sheffield TAS AUS	c1902	7548
MARTIN William	Ross TAS (name on Ross War Mem)	1913+	7543
MASON, Robert	SCOTLAND North	1820+	7526
McKAY James	Circular Head TAS AUS	1949+	7522
NEWITT Ephraim	Sorell TAS AUS	1817-1906	7549
NORRISH	DEV ENG	prior 1812	7535
OGILVIE George	SCT	1820-1842	7530
OGILVIE George	TAS AUS	1842-1894	7530
PEARCE Edward	Franklin TAS AUS	1800	7547
PRINGLE	NBL ENG	prior 1720	7535
RIPPER Stephen	Any	Any	7527
ROBERTSON Alexander	Shoreditch LON ENG	1828-1851	7518
ROBINSON Alexander	Shoreditch LON ENG	1828-1851	7518
ROUSELL William	New Norfolk TAS AUS	1803-1891	7549
SCHULTZ Dorothea	? Prussia/Germany	1838	7537
SMITH Elton Robert	Deloraine TAS AUS	1899	7548
SMITH William	Beaconsfield TAS AUS	1800	7547
STARK	DUR ENG	prior 1780	7535
STREET Clara	Circular Head TAS AUS	1949+	7522
THORNTON Alfred Thomas	Latrobe TAS AUS	1866-1928	7533
TRAINOR Thomas	Any	Any	7527
WALCH Michael	Any	Any	7527
WILLIAMSON William (Douglas)	Kingston & W Hobart TAS/Ballarart VIC AUS	Any	7540
WYLEY David	FIF SCT	pre 18532	7516
WYLIE David	Bothwell TAS AUS	c.1853	7516
WYLIE Janet	FIF SCT	pre 1853	7516
WYLLIE Janet	Bothwell TAS AUS	c.1853	7516

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

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NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members

7516	DANIEL Mrs Irene	1/21 Paramount Place irene_may@bigpond.com	OXENFORD	QLD	4210
7517	STAFFORD Mrs Kerry	Not for publication			
7518	CRASE MRS Vicki	13 Wyndella Street vicki.crase@gmail.com	WEST LAUNCESTON	TAS	7250
7519	RUSSON Mrs Francis	27 Rattle Street	NEW TOWN	TAS	7008
7520	WADE Ms Rosemary	60 Duke Street rosemarywade@gmail.com	SANDY BAY	TAS	7005
7521	JOHNSTONE Mrs Mavis	1341 Sheffield Road rolandview@bigpond.com	BARRINGTON	TAS	7306
7522	WILDE Mrs Kaye	PO Box 307 kayeandblue@gmail.com	PORT SORELL	TAS	7307
7523	BRYAN Mrs Beryl	2/62 Curraghmore Avenue	PARK GROVE	TAS	7320
7524	WILLIAMS Mr Peter	5 Kingsfold Close peter@williams.eu.com	BILLINGHURST	W SUSSEX	RH14 9HG
7525	TURNBULL Mr George	948 Acton Road ianturnbull@inet.net.au	ACTON PARK	TAS	7170
7526	HURD Mrs Mary	2/18 Norma Street	HOWRAH	TAS	7018
7527	TRAINOR Ms Geraldine	30 Hinsby Road gerra.trainor@gmail.com	TAROONA	TAS	7053
7528	ASHWOOD Mr George	18 Ilfracombe Cr escent georgeashwood@hotmail.com	SANDY BAY	TAS	7005
7529	ASHWOOD Mrs Jill	18 Ilfracombe Crescent jillashwood@hotmail.com	SANDY BAY	TAS	7005
7530	KENNIE Mrs Patricia	54 South Street pjpa@bigpond.com.au	BELLERIVE	TAS	7018
7531	BURGESS Mr Graham	1-2 Selbourne Place	LINDISFARNE	TAS	7015
7532	KATARZYNSKI Mrs Sarah	24 Pyenna Avenue	KINGS MEADOWS	TAS	7249
7533	REDPATH Mrs Cosette	55 Bel-Air Crescent coscau@bigpond.com.au	EAST DEVONPORT	TAS	7310
7534	HARRIS Mr Anthony	11 St Louis Drive harryt2707@gmail.com	PORT SORELL	TAS	7307
7535	HOLLIER Mr Michael	'Milton' 29 McKellar Street gmoutside60@hotmail.com	SOUTH HOBART	TAS	7004
7536	CLEAVER Mrs Grace	13 Norma Street gracecleaver@gmail.com	HOWRAH	TAS	7018
7537	HOLLIDAY Mrs Maureen	3 Bettong Place maureenholliday94@hotmail.com	HOWRAH	TAS	7018
7538	BROUGHTON Mr Kevin	Not for publication			
7539	BROUGHTON Mrs Angela	29 Attunga Drive	SORELL	TAS	7172
7540	WILLIAMSON Ms Carol	PO Box 289 yez0429@yahoo.com.au	SOUTH HOBART	TAS	7004
7541	ALLEN Mr David	24 High Street	BELLERIVE	TAS	7018
7542	ANDREWS Mrs Diana	Not for publication			
7543	GILL Mr Terry	127 Summerleas Road	FERN TREE	TAS	7054
7544	WATSON Mrs Cathryn	80 Doyle Avenue bdwatson60@australis.net	LENAH VALLEY	TAS	7008

NEW MEMBERS

NAME	PLACE/AREA		TIME	M'SHIP NO.
7545 WOOLLEY Mrs Merle	124 North Huon Road woolleymerle@yahoo.com.au	RANELAGH	TAS	7106
7546 WOOLLEY Mr Robert	124 North Huon Road woolleymerle@yahoo.com.au	RANELAGH	TAS	7106
7547 PEARCE Mrs Vicki	1/41 Shearwater Boulevard v.donohoe@bigpond.com	SHEARWATER	TAS	7307
7548 HILL Mrs Vicki	1 Darwin Street maxron5@bigpond.com	INVERMAY	TAS	7248
7549 DIXON Mr Allan	6 Moorooduc Road L_adixon@bigpond.net.au	FRANKSTON SOUTH	VIC	3199

Descendants of Convicts' Group Inc. 1788-1868

Any person who has convict ancestors, or who has an interest in convict life during the early history of European settlement in Australia, is welcome to join the above group.

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

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

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

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ROSNY PARK TAS 7018

email: secretary@tasfhs.org

JUNIOR TECHNICAL SCHOOL BATHURST STREET HOBART

Leonie Mickleborough (Member No.20)

THE first Tasmanian Government Technical School opened in Bathurst Street Hobart in 1888 and offered evening classes in technical art and applied mechanics. Two months later a school was established in Launceston. Small classes were also held in regional centres, and Schools of Mines were established in Zeehan, Queenstown and Beaconsfield. The Technical Schools largely worked independently until 1916 when a Commission of Inquiry recommended the integration of technical education into the state education system.¹ Following a 1918 inspection of technical schools, Mr F ELLIS, Organising Inspector of Technical Education recommended the immediate establishment of junior technical schools. The new system was officially announced in the *Educational Record* in December 1918. In 1919 two Junior Technical Schools opened, one in Hobart and the other in Launceston. They were for boys who were deemed vocationally oriented or 'destined' for a trade, and operated in parallel with state high schools.²

As well as establishing the Junior Technical School in Hobart, Robert HUDSPETH was required to organise the Launceston, Queenstown and Zeehan schools. The Hobart school, in partnership with the Hobart Technical College

and on the same site in Bathurst Street, extended through to Liverpool Street and started with an enrolment of fifty boys and five teachers. Mr Hudspeth was Headmaster, Mr A W MICHAEL taught Trades; Mr L DECHANEUX (who was also Principal of the Technical College) Art, and both Mr W G SPEERS and Mr H M MADDOCK, English, Mathematics and Science.³ Miss CHEESEMAN was the clerk in the office (telephone Central 633), which opened Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:30p.m., 2:00p.m. - 5:00p.m., 7:00p.m. - 9:00p.m. and Saturday 9:30a.m. - 12 noon.⁴ The school year was divided into four terms and offered a two-year course of study. In 1920 additional staff members were appointed. E WILLISON taught Science and Mathematics; Miss D G HILL and Miss T HALLAM Art; S CUNNINGHAM Trade, while W G Speers added Physical Culture to his teaching load. In 1925 the course of study expanded to a three-year Intermediate Certificate,⁵ and in 1947 the school leaving age was raised to sixteen, and the four-year Schools Board Certificate course was offered.⁶

¹ Jill Waters, 'Technical Education', in A. Alexander (ed.), *Companion to Tasmanian History* (Hobart, 2005), pp.358–59.

² <http://www.schools.education.tas.gov.au/newtownhigh/about/history> (accessed 26 March 2012)

³ <http://www.schools.education.tas.gov.au/newtownhigh/about/history>

⁴ *The Hobart Technical College Bathurst St., Hobart Junior Technical School Prospectus 1920*, p.2.

⁵ *The Education Record*, December 1918, p. 158; Waters, 'Technical Education', pp. 358–59, *Prospectus*, p.2.

⁶ *New Town High School — Redevelopment of Outdated General Learning Areas, Canteen, Specialist Learning Areas and*

The Hobart Junior Technical School was established with a view to providing pre-vocational training for boys who were destined to enter a technical trade or profession. It was anticipated that boys who completed this fundamental training would be well prepared to 'specialise as engineers, assayers, electricians, woodworkers, metalworkers, draughtsmen, builders, architects, &c'. They would then be required to attend the Hobart Technical College for training in their own 'particular branch of work'.⁷

The 1920 *Prospectus* provided information on the aims of the new school, the course of study and the general rules for students, and it also included a reminder for the boys' parents. At the end of primary school their sons stood at the 'threshold' of their 'life-career'. Two 'widely diverging' paths were before them. They could either take the 'easy path, that of employment as messenger boy, driver &c', which would lead to 'blind-alley occupations', following which, the boys, 'grown to manhood', would have drifted into the 'ranks of unskilled labour', which frequently led to 'discontented and unhappy' men. The second path available to the boys was that of education which led to a 'career in a skilled trade or profession, and no obstacle' would 'bar the progress of the ambitious, capable boy'.⁸

Enrolments at the Junior Technical School peaked at 296 in 1929, but steadily decreased until the end of 1933 with only 137 boys. This decline was due to the world-wide depression and the introduction of fees in 1931. In 1934, following the change to a Labor govern-

ment fees were abolished, and a marked increase in enrolments followed. In 1941, the 343 enrolled boys were asked about the future of their school. Generally, they felt it was not up to the standard of other Hobart schools. Their main complaints were that the asphalt playground was little more than the size of a tennis court, they needed shelter for wet days, and the library was too small. The number of daytime classes for the Technical College had increased, making fewer available rooms for the Junior School, and the boys wanted a school of their own. The Bathurst Street site had many shortcomings, a situation of which the members of the Parents and Friends' Association and the College Council were well aware.⁹

In 1943 a ministerial party headed by the Minister for Education Hon Robert COS-GROVE, inspected the school. The unanimous decision was that separate accommodation for the junior school was 'an urgent necessity'. The Minister for Health, Dr GAHA, urged the need to remove the school from the city, and he offered to name suitable sites. As a result, the government bought fourteen acres, known as 'Mawbey's Estate', at New Town.¹⁰

Enrolments continued to increase, in 1944 reaching 507 boys, and the following year enrolments were restricted to 438 because of over-crowding. Plans for the new school were soon prepared, and foundations at the new site began in 1946. This same year the school leaving age was raised to sixteen, which meant the accommodation problems in Bathurst Street became more acute, a situation

Gymnasium (Parliament of Tasmania, 2005), p.1.

⁷ *Prospectus 1920*, p.3.

⁸ *Prospectus 1920*, pp.3-4.

⁹ <http://www.schools.education.tas.gov.au/newtownhigh/about/history>, pp.2-3.

¹⁰ <http://www.schools.education.tas.gov.au/newtownhigh/about/history>, p.3.

which was reiterated by Robert Hudspeth on the eve of his retirement in December 1946. At the time the school employed more than twenty staff. The foundation stone for the new school was laid in mid-1948, having been delayed by a shortage of labour and materials in the post-war period. In 1951 the move finally began and the following year the move to the school's present site at New Town was completed. The school name was changed to Hobart Technical High School and matriculation classes commenced.¹¹

With the formation of separate matriculation colleges, matriculation classes at Hobart Technical High School ceased at the end of 1961. This was also the last year selective entry, the 'ability test', was used for enrolment into Tasmanian Government high schools. The school became a regional comprehensive high school and in 1962 adopted its current name, New Town High School. Numbers steadily increased, reaching 1200 students in 1970. New Town has remained a single-sex school for boys, and in 2005 with a student population of 825 was the second-largest Government secondary school in the state.¹²

Past pupils fondly recall Robert Hudspeth, who was headmaster for twenty-seven years, and under whom, the foundations of the school tradition began. They also recall the asphalt covered playground which extended through to Liverpool Street. This 'back door' was a popular school entrance for many boys, especially in the 1920s by those pupils who travelled by train on the Sorell to

Bellerive service (which ran between 1892 and 1926) and then across the River Derwent by ferry.

Thomas Sydney HOPWOOD, who commenced at the school in 1919, later obtained an apprenticeship in the trade of watchmaking with the jewellery firm *Flints* in Hobart. After several years, seeking greater security, he left this employment and entered the Post Master General's Department as a technician. During his working life Tom retained his skills in watchmaking, and was responsible for the maintenance and winding of both the GPO clock and that at Mt St Canice.

As a past pupil from the mid-1950s, Ken ROACH of South Arm, recalled how, as a New Norfolk resident and apprentice at the Hobart Technical College, he needed to catch the 7:00am train from New Norfolk—which took the day workers to the Boyer Paper Mill—and then travelled on to the Hobart railway station. There was always a 'mad rush' from the Hobart station to the Technical School and College via the Liverpool Street entrance to make it to class by the stipulated 9:00am. However, the trip was sometimes delayed due to the need for the train's firebox to build up steam, which invariably meant the students were late for class. ◀

I thank John Evans, Peter Smith, Ken Roach and Laurie Moody for their memories of the Hobart Junior Technical School. John also recalled details of his late father-in-law Tom Hopwood (died 1974), and I am especially grateful to John and his wife Kay for the 1919 school photo and *The Hobart Technical College Bathurst St., Hobart Junior Technical School Prospectus 1920*. Without the help of these people, this article would not have been possible.

¹¹ <http://www.schools.education.tas.gov.au/newtownhigh/about/history>; *New Town High School – Redevelopment*, pp.1–2.

¹² *New Town High School – Redevelopment*, p.1.



JUNIOR TECHNICAL SCHOOL HOBART 1919

Photo: Collection of Kay Evans (daughter of the late Tom Hopwood), and reproduced with her kind permission.

Names are as documented on the back of the photograph by Tom Hopwood, while those in square brackets are as listed in the Examination Results 1919.

Back: [C D H] Hamilton; Pos Pollard; Reg Baily [Bailey]; H Littlechild; Jack Bond; Arthur Gumly [Gumley]; Fred Poulson; (unknown); Possom Calvert; Jack Holt.

Fourth row: Snowy Bowden; Allan Mc Cambridge; Jim Cox; Max Simpson; Trevor Trowbridge; Lizze [N H] Sweet; Greg Hooper; Gordon Willing.

Third row: Darby Bonnitcher [Bonnitcha]; Keith Sargeant; (unknown); Les Marchant; Neil Westbrook; Vern Warner; Flossie Bryant [S G Briant]; Jack Hughes; Barney Batchelor; Col Harrison; Tom Hopwood; Eric Rule.

Second row: Harold Swallowell; Frank Stone; (unknown); (unknown); Max Coleman; Trev Warner; Miss Cheeseman; Digby Speers; Mr Hudspeth; Bill Michael; Miss Hallam; Merv Maddocks; (unknown).

Sitting: Jerry Chamberlain; Spike Lansdell, Lyn Byrne; Frank Elliston [Ellston]; Syd Verrier; Chicken Ohlson [Ohlsen]; Sam Coleman [Colman]; Tom Crawford; Bonny [Bonnie] Whylie.



JUNIOR TECHNICAL SCHOOL STAFF AND STUDENTS 1926

PARTRIDGE ISLAND

'THE CROWN HAS NO CLAIM ...'

Erika Shankley (Member No.5468)

Part 3

A Grant is Finally Issued 1895–1937

Partridge island had been in the hands of the CLEBURNE family since 1849. Although the family no longer lived there, leaseholders farmed the island, including WALKER & Co., Lewis BELTZ and the ROBERTS family.¹

A report in *The Mercury* in 1885 mentioned the death of an unnamed infant on the island. However, the family apparently had some association with Southport, so the child was buried on Pelican Island.²

Then in September the following year David Thomas Roberts and his 11-year old son, Edwin, set off from Partridge Island in a whale-boat, heading for Eggs and Bacon Bay, where Mr Roberts had recently taken up a selection of land. Unfortunately, the boat capsized in a squall near Huon Point. Captain PHILLIPS of the S.S. *Minx* saw the accident and went to give assistance but unfortunately, Mr Roberts had been thrown overboard and drowned.³ The family, however, continued to live on the island.

Arthur TURNER was leasing the island when, in 1895, William CROSBY, acting on behalf of Richard Cleburne's estate, once more applied for the Grant of Partridge Island to be recognised.

William Crosby, a merchant and politician born near Sunderland in England, was the eldest son of shipowner, Captain William Crosby. The family settled in Tasmania in 1853, and in December of that year William Crosby, senior, founded William Crosby & Co, importers, exporters and shipping agents, in Salamanca Place. In 1857, William Crosby junior became a partner in the business, opening a branch in Melbourne. He returned to Hobart in 1877, taking over after his father's retirement. The company's office and stores in Hobart were then relocated to Cleburne House in Murray Street.

On 25 July 1895 the Crown Lands Office advertised a number of islands for rental by public auction. One of these was Partridge Island, about 250 acres, with a reserved rental of £20.⁴ This came to the notice of William Crosby. Solicitors, ROBERTS & ALLPORT, immediately wrote to the Commissioner of Crown Lands querying the legality of advertising for rent, that which 'is not crown land at all.'⁵ A second letter the next day says

We feel sure that a fuller enquiry ... would have satisfied you that the Hon. William Crosby is the legal owner of Partridge Island [as Trustee of the Cleburne estate] in the fullest sense of those words.⁶

This sparked a series of memos between the Crown Lands Office and the Crown

¹ Richard Pybus, *South Bruny Island Tasmania*

² *The Mercury*, 22 August 1885

³ *The Examiner*, 8 September 1886

⁴ Crown Lands Office, 25 July 1895; *Government Gazette*, 30 July 1895

⁵ TAHO, *Roberts Allport*, Stone Buildings, 29 July 1895

⁶ *Ibid*

Law Office. Partridge Island had, according to officers of both departments, always been considered Crown Land. However, it had to be admitted that representatives of the Cleburne family had lived there for many years. Official records also seem to indicate that the island was private property. In 1864, Richard Cleburne was entered on the Valuation Roll as the owner of Partridge Island and in the Assessment Book of 1889 the Trustees of Cleburne's estate appeared as the owners of the island who had, for a number of years, been paying Real Estate duty and other taxes. It seemed to be a case of the right hand not knowing what the left hand was doing!

As an initial step towards the Crown obtaining possession, Arthur Turner, the current occupant of the island, was requested to take out a licence to occupy, at a cost of £1. However, Mr Turner said he already had a seven-year lease with the Trustees of the Cleburne estate.⁷

After much research and deliberation, a report by the Law Department dated 9 October clearly stated that

After going through the case ... I came to the conclusion ... the Crown has no claim, either legal or moral, to the Island ...⁸

The writer points out that the Crown had stood by and allowed money to be spent on the Island without asserting any claim and it also appeared that for the last fifteen years the Crown had levied and received taxes in respect of the island. In fact, in 1895, Partridge Island had been listed in the property valuations with an annual rateable value of £50.

Finally, as a result of a hearing, a Grant for Partridge Island was finally issued on

13 August 1896.⁹ After 71 years, the matter of ownership of the island had finally been settled!

A survey diagram and report dated 30 November 1895 shows there was at that time

an excellent old house of 8 rooms back of stone, front of brick – the mortar and bricks are as good as the day they were put together, say 40 years ago.

However, the report goes on 'The roof and guttering are very bad.' Described also are the 'splendid English Oaks' and 'a good many stone walls.' The northern part of the island is labelled 'Good soil and Open' while the remaining area is said to be 'poor soil, open forest and open heath, barren ...' A jetty and boat house were located in a sheltered bay on the north-eastern side not far from the house.¹⁰

In November, solicitors, Roberts & Allport advertised Partridge Island on behalf of the Cleburne estate 'To Let', this time 'by Tender for three years. ... 'the highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.'¹¹ The lease was taken up for grazing in 1896 by Arthur DAVIS, from Daniels Bay on Bruny Island,¹²

In 1903 Louis RAPP, a settler of German origin, took over the lease.¹³ One report suggests they built another house on the island and a good jetty. Ten years later, in 1913, they left Partridge to settle on Hope Island in Port Esperance where the

⁷ TAHO 3624b/258

⁸ Ibid

⁹ LSD Bk 103/page 113, AOT

¹⁰ TAHO, Diagram from Actual Survey, 30 November 1895

¹¹ *The Mercury*, 19 November 1895

¹² Richard Pybus, *South Bruny Island Tasmania*

¹³ Ibid

family provided supplies to passing ships.¹⁴

Arthur BLYTH was the next lessee,¹⁵ followed on 18 November 1917, by A E LOWE of Lunawanna. A couple of weeks later a paragraph appeared in the newspaper reporting the establishment of a kelp industry at Partridge Island with a capital of £10,000. Whether this was instigated by Lowe is not known as no more was heard of the venture.¹⁶

In the 1920s Charles STANLEY leased the island. Together with his wife, Ella, they

worked wonders on this little island. At present they are sending about 60lbs butter and estimates six tons Swedes and six acres of green stuffs – having a pretty good season.¹⁷

Clyde CLAYTON had pleasant memories of living on the island with his Auntie Ella and her family, saying that the pears were the best he had tasted.¹⁸

Unfortunately tragedy struck the family in 1928 when their eldest son, Vivian Charles, aged only 23, accidentally shot himself while hunting rabbits on the island and died before help could arrive.¹⁹

A dearth of information about Partridge Island after 1929 would suggest it was unoccupied until, after being in the family for nearly ninety years, the island was advertised for sale in 1935.

END OF AN ERA 1935-present

At last, Richard Cleburne's surviving grandchildren Laura Jane and Frances Catherine, felt the time had come for them to relinquish the island on which they were born and where they spent their early childhood years.

An advertisement in *The Mercury* on Saturday 9 February 1935 heralded the sale, describing Partridge Island as 'That desirable grazing property ... 248 acres, all well watered.' The sale was to be conducted by Roberts and Company Ltd at their Mart, Murray Street on Monday 25 February.

However it was not until 11 June 1937 the island finally changed hands, with retired Public Servant, William KEOGH paying £200.²⁰ A resident of Woodbridge, 'Gruffy',²¹ as he was sometimes known, bought the old school house and transported it to the island on board the fishing boat *Austral*. The house was re-erected about 300 metres from the site of the original house, closer to the jetty. Apart from running cattle he attempted to grow Cape Gooseberries commercially, but this venture was not a success.²²

During a prolonged period of ill health he was joined on the island by his daughter, Ethel and grand-daughter Hazel before returning to Woodbridge where he died at his daughter's home in 1941.²³

Meanwhile, in 1938 the PIKE family was living on Partridge Island. Mrs Pike wrote to the Education Department requesting a Subsidised School on the island and that she be appointed teacher. Her husband was ill, she said, and was unable to work for at least six months.

¹⁴ Bruny Island History Room
¹⁵ LSD 171/1; Application 1313R/11; Application 2478R/11

¹⁶ LSD 181/1 page 127 - Application 3221R/11 and *North West Advocate & Emu Bay Times*, 4 December 1917

¹⁷ Janet Fenton, *Win & Clyde*, side by side in Tasmania's far south west, 2010; *People of Esperance: newspaper reports & photographs* / collected by Dorothy Baker

¹⁸ Ibid

¹⁹ *The Mercury*, 31 October 1928

²⁰ LSD 20/548

²¹ Irene Sward pers. com

²² Hazel Jackson pers.com

²³ Ibid

Unfortunately, her request was refused as the only pupils would be her own children and regulations stated that two families were required before a subsidy could be given.²⁴ The name of Thelma Doris Pike still appeared on the *Electoral Roll* in 1939 as being resident on Partridge Island, though her husband does not.²⁵

The clouds of war were gathering. In 1941 there was a proposal by a local defence committee to protect D'Entrecasteaux Channel by laying mines across from Partridge Island at the southern end and from Simpsons Point, securing North West Bay at the northern end of the Channel.²⁶

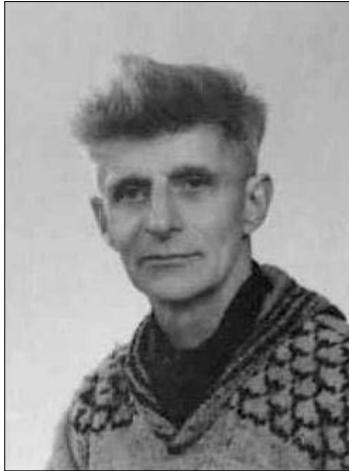
However, World War II seemed to barely have touched the island which, at that time, was used for grazing. Herbert Leslie CLARK appeared in the Dover Police Court in 1941 charged with failing to provide sufficient food and water for a herd of about fifty cattle. Between 2 February and 8 March they had been found to be in poor condition and several had died, reported Inspector T H NOLAN. Clark pleaded guilty and he was fined £10 with 16/- costs and witness expenses of 10/-.²⁷

Three years later Clark became the new owner. On 15 September 1944 he

purchased Partridge Island from the estate of William Keogh for £250.²⁸

Clarke, in turn, leased the island to Timothy Vincent MURPHY on 1 June 1948. Murphy, the eldest son of Denis and Margaret Murphy of Alonnah, had grazing leases at Sheepwash Bay and both Partridge and Woody (Satellite) Islands. Murphy was also the proprietor of the 'D'Entrecasteaux Hotel', which opened at Alonnah in 1939 as well as a bakery and butcher's shop.

George Dibbern



George Dibbern

Self-described free-thinker and citizen of the world, German adventurer George DIBBERN produced his own passport. However, this did not prevent him being interned in New Zealand, twice, during both World Wars!

In the intervening years he roamed the world in his yacht *Te Rapunga* in 1934 and won the Trans Tasman Race Auckland to Melbourne over the only other competitor, John WRAYs *Ngataki*.

The following year *Te Rapunga* won the Melbourne to Hobart Race. George became well known for his all-girl crews and, while still corresponding with his wife in Germany he formed a new relationship with one of his crew, Eileen MORRIS.

In the early 1950s George Dibbern returned to Tasmania and one of his many jobs was helping fellow countryman, Ernie BRUSCH with renovations at the

²⁴ TAHO ED10/1/2239

²⁵ *Electoral Roll* 1939

²⁶ NAA MP1185/8

²⁷ *The Mercury*, 29 April, 1941

²⁸ LSD 22/3182

‘Mintoburn Hotel’ at Kettering. Later he shared first prize in Tattersall’s lottery.

After years of sailing the world, he thought he was ready to settle down. Woody (Satellite) Island, in D’Entrecasteaux Channel, was for sale and sounded just the place! He proposed to share his island with youngsters searching for their way in life. However, this ideal wasn’t a success and George, and his partner Eileen with their young daughter, Michela Lalani, only spent three years on the island.

During this time he heard that Partridge Island was also for sale. The price had doubled to £500 since its last sale in 1944, but they sailed down, and on seeing the beautiful tree-clad island George said, “This is for me!”²⁹ and on 2 March 1951 signed the contract. However, he almost immediately mortgaged the island to the Bank of New South Wales.³⁰ There was no mention of any buildings on the island nor did he ever live there.

George Dibbern returned to New Zealand and, after his death in 1962, *Te Rapunga*, the yacht in which he’d sailed the world for over thirty years, was put up for auction in Auckland. Partridge Island, left in trust for his daughter—then only a teenager—was left to slumber on.

There was occasional interest in the island. Alex RYAN, from Liffy, wrote to the Surveyor General’s office enquiring about leasing the Partridge Island in 1959. In 1968 Bruny Island resident, J M DILLON, expressed interest in buying the island. He also applied to the government for land on the Bruny shore as access to get cattle over to the island,

but his plans appear to have fallen through.

Richard Ham – Dasilu P/L

Melbourne doctor, Richard HAM, hoped to establish an outward bound type sailing school, much in line with George Dibbern’s thinking, when he purchased Partridge Island from the Dibbern estate on 8 January 1974 for \$50,000.³¹

There was a flurry of activity—and by later that year a substantial new jetty and lifting derrick had been built. Soon there was quite a settlement, with several log cabins and a boatshed nearby.

Unfortunately, it seemed history was to repeat itself when, on Friday 16 May, 1975, an Inspector from the Department of Lands arrived on Partridge Island and presented Dr Ham with a letter from the Acting Director of Lands, Mr BRIDGES. The Government, the letter said, intended to resume the island.³²

Giving credence to the Government’s position the Director of Parks & Wildlife, Peter MURRELL, wrote that

It is a beautiful island ideally located in a scenic environment of a pre-eminent magnificence. ... at the centre of an area which embraces secluded safe cruising waters ...³³

and that the Government had, for some time, been researching and formalising a proposal to establish a State Reserve on the Labillardiere Peninsula, including Partridge Island.

²⁹ Erika Grundman, *Dark Sun*, David Ling Publishing Ltd, 2004

³⁰ LSD 31/80

³¹ *The Mercury*, 12 September, 1975

³² Partridge Island [letters from Lands Dept. to Dasilu Pty Ltd and Peter Murrell (Director National Parks and Wildlife Service) to Partridge Island Arbitration Committee re acquisition of Partridge Island by State Government] TL.PQ 333.780994651 TAS

³³ Ibid



Dr R Ham's initials

On 2 May 1975, the Parks & Wildlife office had heard Dr Ham was negotiating with a bulldozer contractor to clear about 25 acres of land on the island. It was this single fact that brought forward the Government's proposal to resume the island and precipitated the controversy that ensued.³⁴

In a memo written after his visit, the Inspector said that Dr Ham had indicated that under no circumstances would he sell the island but as an afterthought, put a price of \$4,000 an acre or \$1 million on the whole island. He also said that he had no intention of ceasing work on his project. The memo continued 'Work carried out to date includes a first-class

jetty,' together with 'a large boatshed'³⁵ and construction had commenced on accommodation.

Nevertheless, on 20 May 1975, the Governor, Sir Stanley BURBURY, signed an order to resume Partridge Island which became part of the South Bruny National Park.³⁶

Dr Ham was, justifiably, aggrieved. In December 1975 a headline in *The Mercury* said 'Ham plans to sue Minister'.³⁷ Melbourne valuer, Mr KITTY accused the Tasmanian Government of using taxpayers money with 'extravagance and bacchanalian abandon' and

³⁴ Ibid

³⁵ TAHO AB567/3/2

³⁶ *Tasmanian Government Gazette*,
Wednesday 22 October, 1975, page 4818

³⁷ *The Mercury*, 3 December 1975

Opposition Leader, Max BINGHAM, said that the Government was 'brutal and inhuman' in its takeover tactics. And of the Tasmanian Government and the then Minister for Parks & Wildlife, Neil BATT, Dr Ham said

There's got to be some measure of trust ... and frankly, I don't trust them as far as I can kick them.³⁸

The Government valuation of Partridge Island at that time was \$129,000³⁹ with a rateable value after improvements of \$145,800,⁴⁰ but Dr Ham indicated he expected compensation of at least \$500,000,⁴¹ taking into account the building works already completed and costs of arbitration.

In State Parliament it was announced that a telegram had been received from the Federal Minister for the Environment, Mr BERINSON, indicating that Federal funds would be provided to assist with the purchase under the States Grants (Nature Conservation Act 1974), part of the National Estate Programme.⁴²

There was talk of a High Court appeal, but legal advice to Dr Ham suggested this was a no-win situation. As a compromise, a proposal that he lease 30 acres near the jetty was finally agreed.

However, this was not an ideal situation and Dr Ham said his plans for a sailing academy cum bushwalking and nature study centre were dashed because of the 'bloody ludicrous' conditions which the government now wanted to write into the lease.⁴³ There were also arguments with the Bruny Island Council regarding the

apportioning of rates. In 1974, Richard Ham said, rates were \$28 for the whole island, while in 1977 he had been presented with a bill for \$360 for his 30 acre portion for which the Council provided no services at all.⁴⁴

Meanwhile, the picnics on Partridge Island which had been popular during the 1850s and 1860s were re-introduced. In 1976, in a joint exercise between the Hobart Walking Club and the Cruising Yacht Club of Tasmania, Club boats transported HWC members to Partridge Island for a weekend of camping, walking and swimming. Some years later the HWC chartered the *Cartela* for day trips. After the ferry tied up at the jetty, members and their friends spent about two hours exploring the island. The most exciting trip, said writer Sheila Reynolds, was in 1982 when, enveloped in sea fog, the *Cartela* almost ran aground on the Middleton Shoal!⁴⁵

The island's Queenscliffe cota boat, *Palana*, lay behind the jetty and a pleasant few hours could be whiled away having a cup of tea with Tony TRUMBLE who had taken up residence as caretaker. A track round the island enabled visitors to visit the ruins of previous settlement and interesting nooks and crannies with evocative names such as Dead Horse Gulch and Mantlepiece Bay.

Finally on 17 January 1978, Richard Ham wrote to the Tasmanian Government that he was prepared to relinquish his island lease for the sum of \$30,000.

In a quirk of fate, John BENNETT—the lawyer who had originally advised

³⁸ *The Mercury*, 3 December 1975

³⁹ *The Mercury*, 12 September 1975

⁴⁰ *The Mercury*, 3 September 1975

⁴¹ *The Mercury*, 12 September 1975; *The Mercury*, 3 December 1975

⁴² *The Mercury*, 16 October 1975

⁴³ *The Mercury*, 3 December 1975

⁴⁴ Letter to Bruny Island Council, 8 November 1977

⁴⁵ Sheila Reynolds, 'Partridge Picnics', *Tasmanian Tramp* No. 30, 1995

Richard Ham during his stoush with the Government—had become Attorney-General and Minister for Lands and, in a short phone call in 1987, agreed that the Government would buy out the remaining lease.⁴⁶

FULL CIRCLE

Today, Partridge Island is administered by the Parks and Wildlife Service as part of the South Bruny National Park.

Once abandoned, it wasn't long before the log cabins and the magnificent stone fireplace were a target for vandals. 'We'd heard some took boatloads of material off the island ... the whole place is being totally abused.' said a report in the *Mercury*, 'doors; insulation and roofing has gone; verandah posts have been chainsawed off ...' Ranger, Pat BORTIGNON said he would 'come back a week later and something else would have been knocked off.'⁴⁷

However, vandalism was nothing new. On 30 May 1975, a letter to the Premier from J M DILLON alluded to the belief that the original house on the island had also, long ago, been wrecked by vandals and subsequently burnt down.

What was left of the log cabins were finally removed, to be reused as storage sheds at Port Arthur, and a concrete slab and jetty are now all that remain of the Ham's dreams. However, with no maintenance, it won't be long before the jetty too, is relegated to the realms of history. A sign advises the public that they now use the jetty at their own risk!

In 1998 a group of Dover-based Coastcare volunteers visited Partridge Island to remove an accumulation of rubbish from around the jetty.⁴⁸ Then

again, in 2001, members of the aboriginal community and other volunteers carried out rehabilitation work and again removed rubbish - approximately 4 – 5 tonnes of it!⁴⁹ The Bruny Island Boat Club's newly-formed Coastcare group also hoped to become involved with work at Partridge Island.⁵⁰

Today, Partridge Island seems all but forgotten. The remains of European settlement are still visible. The 'splendid English Oaks ... , [a] good many stone walls ...'⁵¹ and a few bricks, together with the remnants of an apple orchard, the rampant growth of invasive species such as English ivy, blackberry, periwinkle and fuchsia, can still be seen. And, as the Parks & Wildlife Service Management Plan says—'The remains of the European settlement overlay a long heritage of aboriginal use'.⁵²

Certainly, the island's familiar shape on the horizon hides many secrets and its story is ongoing. What will be the next chapter, I wonder? ◀

⁴⁶ *The Mercury*, 6 October 1987

⁴⁷ *Ibid*

⁴⁸ *Huon Valley News*, 5 March 1998

⁴⁹ *Hand On No. 9*, the newsletter for Bushcare, Coastcare, Landcare and Natural Heritage Trust Programs, 1 March 2001

⁵⁰ *News*, Tasmanian Landcare Association, May 2007 and *Tasmanian Landcare Association News*, 2007

⁵¹ TAHO, Diagram from Actual Survey, 30 November 1895

⁵² South Bruny National Park Management Plan, 2002

THE PUBS OF NINETEENTH CENTURY HOBART TOWN

Lou Daniels (Member No.3646)

IN October 1818 the first Hobart Licensing Bench met and the list of those granted licences was published in the *Hobart Town Gazette*. There were just twelve public houses in Hobart, and three in the country. Some had obviously been operating for some time, but the only way to identify them is by searching the newspapers for advertisements or other references.

Each year, initially in October, the Bench met to licence all public houses. The number of houses slowly grew over the next few years. Then meetings began to be held between the annual meetings. When publicans wished to transfer their licence a notice was published in the *Gazette* by the Clerk of the Peace, notifying that, for example:

A Special Meeting of the Justices of the Peace would be held for the purpose of considering the propriety of certifying in favour of the transfer of the license granted to John Pearce to keep the 'Joiners' Arms' Public House at Hobart-town, to William Raynor of Hobart-town, aforesaid, as the appointee of the said John Pearce.¹

These became more common as the number of houses increased by 1828. At the tenth annual meeting that year, there were forty-three houses in Hobart and twenty-seven in the country, a massive increase in ten years. In 1828 a new Licensing Act was promulgated. This made September the month for the annual meeting. Transfer notices appeared in nearly every issue of the *Gazette*

thereafter. By 1833 the notices were abbreviated to say simply:

The public house known by the name of the 'Derwent Brewery', Collins street, is about to be transferred to Mr William Adam Brodribb, senior.²

In 1833 the Act was amended and annual meetings shifted to December. There were now two sources for lists of licensees. The *Gazette* published lists as the publicans paid their fee, while the newspapers reported the results of the meeting the next day. From that year on, regular quarterly meetings were held to bring order to the process of transferring licences. These were held every November, February, May and August, on the first Monday. The press also reported these, usually the next day.

Between meetings of the Licensing Court, licensees could also gain permission to sell from the normal Court Sessions, and often did.

It is important to realise that most of the licensed houses in this period were very small. Many were just normal houses, and reverted to being just that when the license lapsed. There were many more of them than there are today, for a much smaller population, and this often raises eyebrows. But the culture then was much more akin to the British pub tradition of 'the local'. Hobart was a crowded place in the 19th century, with many densely populated districts that are almost unpopulated today. The Wapping area at the mouth of the Rivulet, behind the Old Wharf, was one such area that has

¹ *Hobart Town Gazette* 23 June 1827, p.1

² *Hobart Town Courier* 10 May 1833, p.2

recently been subject to a great deal of research. But the block between the State Library and St Mary's Cathedral was also densely crowded, as was the block around Watchorn Street. The same was true of the West Hobart area centered on Barrack and Goulburn Streets. These were the areas crowded with pubs, and increasingly the target of the Temperance Movement as the century progressed. The law was gradually changed to put the pressure on, and the little old houses disappeared.

For the working class population of Hobart Town, squashed into tiny tenements that packed the alleyways behind the shop fronts and the pubs themselves, the local pub was the communal space where they could relax. It was where meetings were held, including sports, unions, lodges, and election rallies. Even inquests were held in the local. Water was often unsafe to drink, so the jug of ale was an essential part of the evening meal.

Not that the law made it easy for pubs to be places of relaxation. Card playing and music was banned by the Licensing Act, as was dancing. Any hint of gambling or immorality scandalised the more moralistic justices, and many licensees lost their living by being fined for such minor infringements. The small pubs in the poor areas were often in trouble. Fortunately there were some wiser heads among the justices who recognised the needs of the workers, the sailors and the soldiers stationed in Hobart Town, and argued their case. One gets the impression that the Police protected some quite unsavoury places. Prostitution was associated with some pubs, like the 'White Conduit' or the 'White Swan'.

Of course there were the better hostelries. The 'Ship Hotel' for many years was the pacemaker, and set very high standards.

Others were just quiet suburban houses that, to the frustration of researchers, provide very little script to the newspapers.

An analysis of the property valuations of houses licensed in the City of Hobart Town in 1860 offers a means of rating them. Way in front was the 'Ship Inn and Tap' in Collins Street valued at £275. Next was the 'Derwent Hotel' in Murray Street at £230, then three houses valued at £200—the 'Custom House Tavern', Murray Street, the 'British Hotel' in Liverpool Street, and the 'Jolly Hatter's Inn', Melville Street.

At the other extreme, worth only £30, was the 'Park Hotel' in Ware Street, North Hobart. Four houses were worth £40—the 'Buckingham Inn', Macquarie Street, the 'Star of Tasmania Inn', Napoleon Street, the 'Prince Napoleon Hotel', Arthur Circus, and the 'Oxford Arms', Colville Street. The fact that most of these were not in the city centre would have reduced their value.

Forty-two houses were valued from £80 to £100, mostly the average city pubs.

Many of the publicans were emancipists, former convicts. Some became very significant players in Hobart Town life. Some even ended up in Parliament, while others ended up in gaol. They are a fascinating cross-section of the people who created Tasmania. The significant number of women who held licenses breaks the very masculine facade of so much official history. Running a pub was one of few ways that a woman could become financially independent and run her own business. From 1818 there were always women licensees, many of them widows of publicans, but some held houses in their own right.

Over the years there were significant cultural shifts well illustrated by the

Licensing Court. The Gold Rush in Victoria had an impact when a sizeable number of the publicans of Hobart left their wives in charge of the bar and headed across Bass Strait. Some never returned.

In the 1870s the divisions in the justices between the Temperance advocates, led by Phillip SMITH, and the pragmatists led by David LEWIS, make fascinating reading.

Outside of town were the coaching inns along the main roads. The scope of this project includes those in Glenorchy like the 'Travellers' Rest' and the 'Berriedale Inn'. Some like 'Roseneath' and the 'Black Snake' were sited where ferries crossed the Derwent. They depended on the passing trade.

The pubs of Hobart Town form one essential strand of the social history of the city, just as much as the churches, or the Masonic Lodges or other well documented facets of community life. ◀

KINDRED CONNECTIONS

A Book in 3 Parts
Covering the lives of Charlotte
Simpson/Hall and
William **Dodge**; the Dodges of
Dodges Ferry and the
McGuinness/McGinniss of Carlton,
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ancestor for both families.

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BRIDGEWATER JERRY

Maree Ring (Member No.552)

WITH the coming of autumn/winter and fogs along the Derwent River, from Bridgewater to Hobart and further down the estuary, the question of where the name 'Bridgewater Jerry' as the fog is colloquially known, seems to arise every year. Historians have given several explanations, some quite complex.

However, I feel the explanation is simple. The term, or 'flash language', used by convicts for a fog, is 'jerry' and this has been used since the earliest convict times, firstly by the convicts, then the settlers.

The Bridgewater Road Gang existed before 1830, which became a Probation Station in use to 1847 and again in 1849. The Dromedary Probation Station existed 1847–1849. These stations housed many convicts during the building of the Bridgewater causeway and bridge and the hundreds of convicts who passed through these establishments would have been familiar with convict or 'flash' slang.

More often than not the fogs pass over or through Glenorchy. There was a road gang there before 1830 and then a probation station until 1849.

Thousands of convicts passed through the Hobart gaol and hiring depots and the fog is not unfamiliar to Hobart. ◀

Sources:

The memoirs of James Hardy Vaux: including his vocabulary of the Flash language, edited and with an introduction and notes by Noel McLachlan, Author Vaux, James Hardy, b.1782; Publisher, London : Heinemann, 1964, and found in Hobart i-zone stack and Launceston Library Local Studies collection.

Dates concerning road gangs and probation stations are from Ian Brand's *The Convict Probation System: Van Diemen's Land, 1839–1854*, published by Blubberhead Press 1990.

WW1 SOLDIERS: DIGGERS IN THE FAMILY HISTORY A BEGINNER'S TOOLKIT

Compiled by Geoff Dean (Member No.6020)

Version 6, 12 December 2013

THIS 'toolkit' is designed to assist people researching soldiers from WW1 coming from a particular area in Tasmania e.g. a town such as Ridgley. It was developed for use in two workshops held at Burnie LINC and arranged by Janine Thom.

Now is a good time to begin researching soldiers because:

- the photographic inserts from the *Weekly Courier* are online, including photographs of several thousand individual soldiers;
- search engines are available which allow searching for soldiers by place i.e. address at enlistment; or of next-of-kin;
- the major newspapers from Tasmania covering the period are now online.

HOW DO I START?

A good place to start is the Discovering ANZACS website, which is live as of November 2013 but is still under development. In future this should allow searching by place and the option of including the next-of-kin's address. Future output should include a useful short biography. The reader can obtain updated information at <http://discoveringanzacs.naa.gov.au> Meanwhile the site refers users to the existing Mapping Our ANZACS website <http://mappingouranzacs.naa.gov.au/>

Another method of obtaining a starting list is to search in *Trove Digitised Newspapers* (see List of Resources) for an article about an Honor Roll (note the

WW1 spelling) for the location of interest. Below are cited several articles about Ridgley and the Mooreville State School which are relevant in our case.

Other methods are to inspect the original Honor Roll if you can find it, perhaps in your local hall; or to contact the local branch of the RSL etc. The Tasmanian War Memorials database (online) is very useful (see List of Resources).

Reports of sittings of 'exemption' courts can be important. One of the names on the Mooreville State School roll as having enlisted had no service record that I could find. It turned out that he was actually in training camp when the court ruled that he was exempt from service because he was an only son (and therefore had to provide for his mother).

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I HAVE A LIST OF NAMES?

The next task is to find the individuals one-by-one in the Australian War Memorial (AWM) and National Archives of Australia (NAA) databases. Often several approaches will be needed.

Do a 'Name Search' in the NAA database (see List of Resources). Select World War I, enter the surname and press [Search]. You will probably need to use the 'Refine this search result' option by entering a Christian name, if you have one; or **ridg*** for Ridgley (in our case); or **tas** (for Tasmania, a search trick). Note the service number and barcode number.

You can follow the prompts to view the service record online, if there is one.

A new search engine <http://dhistory.org/archives/naa/> will allow direct access to the service record where you have the barcode e.g. William Redman is at <http://dhistory.org/archives/naa/items/8027476/> [Hint: you can put a link in your own documents.] By default the pages for that record will be displayed in a 'wall', which gives a useful overview. If the user clicks on the 'Print' button the pages will be presented sequentially. (See Appendix 3.)

Next, do a search in the AWM People / Research a Person search box. Enter the 'Surname', select First World War and search. Try searching with and without the 'Service Number'. If the soldier of interest died then there will probably be an entry in the Roll of Honour. If so, then select a likely candidate and examine the information. In particular, look for the Roll of Honour circular which will contain information about his schooling, relatives who were soldiers, parents' names etc. Information about the names of siblings is particularly helpful.

Examine the Embarkation Roll which will usually have 'serial number', 'date of enlistment', 'occupation' and name of 'next-of-kin'. The Nominal Roll may also help establish your candidate's identity.

Look also for a record in the Awards and Honours section although these were not common enough to be helpful for most soldiers.

If the soldier died then follow the links to the Commonwealth War Grave Commission (CWGC) database.

In this fashion, go back and forth as necessary between the AWM and NAA sites to establish the list of valid candidates. Sometimes it is helpful to do some family

tree research in *Ancestry.com* to sort out who was who. The Electoral Rolls can be helpful in establishing where a candidate was before or after the war. There are often letters included with the service record which have names and addresses of next-of-kin.

Keep a careful note of 'Service Number' and whether it was useful, or different, in each of the NAA and AWM databases. The spelling of surname may also vary from database to database.

WHAT ABOUT PHOTOS?

Although the *Weekly Courier* online may contain a photograph of interest, you are unlikely to find it without an index, in this case check indexes compiled by Wendy Knolle. This will provide the issue date and page number of the photograph/s for the person of interest. There are other indices which cover personal notices, obits, news items and photographs for the other newspapers (e.g. *Tasmanian Mail*) and the sections of the *Weekly Courier* not yet online.

The Gravesecrets website

<http://www.tas.gravesecrets.net> contains short biographies and often photos for a growing list of Tasmanian soldiers. These are well presented and site visitors are invited to submit information for soldiers of interest to them for inclusion on the website.

Further relevant resources are listed below.

LIST OF RESOURCES

NAA—National Archives of Australia
—Service records for soldiers

<http://www.naa.gov.au/collection/explore/defence/service-records/index.aspx>

An experimental viewer in the NAA Record Search database. <http://dhistory.org/archives/naa/> (See also Appendix 3)

AWM—Australian War Memorial

- Roll of Honour

- Roll of Honour circular (details supplied by family)
- Commemorative area details
- Embarkation Roll
- Nominal Roll
- Honours and Awards
- Red Cross wounded/missing enquiries

<http://www.awm.gov.au/research/people/>
CWGC—Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Find cemeteries/memorials/grave location
<http://www.cwgc.org/>

TAHO—Tasmanian Archives and Heritage Office

Photographs published in the *Weekly Courier* inserts.

<http://catalogue.statelibrary.tas.gov.au/item/?id=1010593>

Indices to *Weekly Courier* WW1 photos (in hardcopy, by Wendy Knolle)

<http://catalogue.statelibrary.tas.gov.au/item/?id=165935>

LINC Tasmania Online—Military records [A collection of links.]

<http://www.linc.tas.gov.au/?a=260930>

WW1 soldiers biographies (including photos)

<http://ww1tas.gravesecrets.net/>

Trove—Digitised newspapers

Find contemporary name lists and casualty lists

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper?q>

Examples:

Ridgley Ceremony Honor Roll Unveiled—*Advocate*, Saturday 24 May 1924, p.3

Burnie Exemption Court—*Examiner*, Thursday 19 October 1916, p.5

[Exemption Court] Sitings at Burnie—*Examiner*, Friday 20 October 1916, p.3

Mooreville State School Honor Roll Unveiled—*Advocate*, Wednesday 19 October 1921, p.2

WW1 Military Research expert Q&A session

(*Inside History* magazine blogspot)

<http://insidehistorymagazine.blogspot.com.au/2012/10/expert-q-how-to-research-anzac-war.html>

The Tasmanian War Memorials Database, compiled by Fred Thornett, Book 1996, online as images at
<http://stors.tas.gov.au/435309>

Index to the above for World War 1 (North West Tasmania)—[Page, Page/s] Abbottsham, 710; Boat Harbour, 1486; Burnie, 678–707; Calder, 1488; Central Coast, 764–65; Circular Head, 794–800; Elliott, 1489; Forth, 711–714; Gunns Plains, 715; Kindred, 717; King Island, 1192–1193, 1198; Moorleah, 1491; Mt Hicks, 1509; Natone, 689; Nietta, 718; Oldina, 1510; Penguin, 720–728; Rocky Cape, 792; Sisters Creek, 1493; Somerset, 1494–95; South Riana, 731; Sprent/Castra, 732–33; Stanley, 732–33; 810–12; Stowport, 708; Table Cape, 1478–1486, 1501–10; Ulverstone, 736–763; Waratah, 1496–1497; Wynyard, 1500, 1513–1515; Yolla, 1515–1519.

Tasmania's War Record, 1914–1918, edited by L Broinowski (book, 1921). Also in facsimile on CD-ROM c.2005. Contains a list of names of service men and women; and useful articles on Tasmania's contribution.

Appendix 1: Select Additional Links

(Mainly from ADOPT-A-DIGGER; downloaded 17 August 2013. More recent links and text editing by Geoff Dean. Links checked)

<http://www.adoptadigger.org/how-to-research-a-digger/research-websites>

The Department of Veterans Affairs have an excellent Guide for Researching WW1 Servicemen and Women; albeit with a data date of 2009. This is a PDF

document which can be saved to your computer or printed out. It gives a *step-by-step guide* for researching your digger with links to the relevant web information.

Australian Archives

Department of Veterans Affairs:

www.anzacsite.gov.au

State Library of Victoria. [A very good resource]

<http://guides.slv.vic.gov.au/content.php?pid=41302&sid=303956>

War history

History of WW1

www.firstworldwar.com

Australian Flying Corps

www.australianflyingcorps.org

History [unofficial] of ANZAS

www.diggerhistory.info

History of Australia in the War of 1914–1918

<http://www.awm.gov.au/histories/>

Army War Diaries

http://www.awm.gov.au/collection/war_diaries/first_world_war/

Anzacs in Weymouth & Portland UK

<http://weymouthanzacs.moonfruit.com/>

The Australian Army History

<http://www.army.gov.au/Our-history>

Diggers' Research

AIF Units and formations

<http://www.aif.adfa.edu.au:8888/index.html>

Mapping our Anzacs

www.mappingouranzacs.naa.gov.au

Research family war diaries –

<http://www.curryw1.com/useful-info.asp>

Nurses & Australian Women in other roles

www.anzacday.org.au/history/ww1/overview/nurses

http://www.awm.gov.au/research/infosheets/ww1_nurses/

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/news/635.htm

<https://sites.google.com/site/archoevidence/home/ww1australianwomen>

<https://sites.google.com/site/archoevidence/home/ww1-australian-women-deaths>

<https://sites.google.com/site/archoevidence/home/ww1womendoctors>

Cemeteries

World War One Cemeteries

www.ww1cemeteries.com

Australian Cemeteries Online –

www.interment.net/aus/index.htm

42nd Battalion War graves

www.oocities.org/thefallenofthe42nd/war-graves/aust-belgium.htm

Australian War Graves Photographic Archive

<http://www.australianwargraves.org/>

Sutton Veny, England, WW1 graves

www.suttonveny.co.uk/war-cemetery.html

Photographs

Australian War Memorial

<http://www.awm.gov.au/search/collections/>

National Archives of Australia

<http://photos.naa.gov.au>

TROVE

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/picture?q=>

Spirits of Gallipoli

<http://www.spirits-of-gallipoli.com/>

Regimental Histories

The Australian Light Horse

<http://alh-research.tripod.com/alh-units.htm>

ALH Desert Column Forum

<http://desert-column.phpbb3now.com/index.php>

15th Battalion
www.aif.adfa.edu.au/showUnit?unitCode=INF15REIN18

AWM Australian Military Units WW1
www.awm.gov.au/units/ww1.asp

Pioneer Battalions Archive
<http://anzaconline.net.au/category/pioneer-battalions/>

AIF Search by Regiment
<http://www.aif.adfa.edu.au/showGroup?gid=INF>

Battles & Battlefields

ANZAC Battlefields
<http://www.anzacbattlefields.com/index.htm> [November 2013]

Egypt
www.firstworldwar.com/battles/pf.htm
[Commercial]

Gallipoli
www.anzacsite.gov.au/

Lost Leaders of Anzac
www.anzacs.org

The Spirits of Gallipoli
www.spirits-of-gallipoli.com/

Western Front
<http://www.ww1westernfront.gov.au>

France
<http://www.anzacsinfrance.com/>
The British Army in the Great War
<http://www.1914-1918.net/maps.htm>
Defence Honours and Awards—
www.defence.gov.au/medals

Appendix 2: Extra Books

Somme Mud by E P F Lynch; Ed. Will Davies (2010)

In the Footsteps of Private Lynch, by Will Davies (book 2008; also ebook)

The Great War by Les Carlyon (2010)
[He also wrote *Gallipoli*]

From ANZAC to Amiens by C E Bean (1983 reprint) One volume summary account of Australia's part in the 1914–

1918 War. An official history. [Online at AWM]

http://www.awm.gov.au/histories/first_world_war/ [Note the underscores.]
The First World War by John Keegan (book 2000; also in epub)

The Face of Battle, by John Keegan (book, 1976) [A renowned historian.]
<http://www.gould.com.au/Military-History-s/1224.htm>
[Commercial]

Appendix 3: NAA Experimental Viewer

[Highly recommended for Broadband connections.]

NAA Service records: e.g. William Redman, barcode 8027476

Link to file: format = 'Page by page' (traditional)

<http://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/scripts/Imagine.asp?B=8027476>

Link to file: format = 'Wall of pages' [Good for rapid location of particular types of pages e.g. handwritten.]
<http://dhistory.org/archives/naa/items/8027476/>

Link to file: format = 'Stream of pages' [Good for rapid scrolling and printing.]
<http://dhistory.org/archives/naa/items/8027476/print/?pages=1-38>

Link to file: 'Particular page', e.g. 19
<http://dhistory.org/archives/naa/items/8027476/19/>

To switch formats while browsing Click 'Wall', 'Print' buttons or Back Arrow as necessary

Printing: In 'Print' format use <Ctrl> & <P> and select pages to print. ◀

GENES ON SCREEN

Vee Maddock (Member No.1875)

IMAGES probably cause more technical problems between researchers than any other part of genealogy. Are they big enough? Are they too big? Will they print? Can you see them? What format should I use?

The first thing to understand is that the size of the image you see on your monitor is not indicative of the actual size of the image, or of the size someone else will see on their screen.

Right click on your desktop and select background or screen resolution or personalize, or go to control panel and display settings depending on your Windows version. For Macintosh, go to monitors/resolution. You will see a resolution given, for example 800x600 or 1920x1200. This is the number of pixels displayed across and down your screen.

Now go to a picture file, click once then hold the mouse over it to see the size. A photo coming straight off my camera is 4320 x 3240. So if I view the image at full size on my 1920 x 1200 monitor I'll only see half of it on screen at a time. On the other hand if I receive a photo that is 800x600 and try to use it as a wallpaper it is either going to have a huge border around it or look very fuzzy as the computer tries to make up for the missing 1100 pixels. Many computers default to show the entire image in a fit to the window or screen size. So it is possible to open a photo that is 4000 pixels wide, and one that is 1200 wide and have them look identical on screen. It is when printing or emailing images that size really starts to matter.

If you want to print the image you need to allow about 300 pixels per inch (2.5cm) of print. So if you want a 4"x6" of print.

So if you want a 4"x6" (10 x 15cm) print your image must be a minimum of 4x300 and 6x300, therefore 1200x1800 pixels. Any less and you'll probably have a fuzzy pixelated print.

Images that will be shown on screen for example on a website rarely need to be more than 800 pixels on the longest side.

When sending images you need to take into consideration the recipient's purpose—are they going to view them on screen only (about 800 pixels across means it will be a third to a half a screen width these days), use it as a screensaver or wallpaper (generally needs to be around 2000 pixels wide to fit the average screen), print to frame (1200 pixels wide is a relatively tiny print size, around 3000 pixels will give you an A4 image). Some consideration should also be given to the internet connection of both the sender and recipient. Without broadband or on a small download plan the images may be better sent on a CD. Before emailing a lot of high resolution images check they are wanted, there's nothing worse than paying excess data rates for photos you didn't need.

The number of pixels also affects how far you can zoom into the image. An image of a grandma's portrait may be viewed on screen easily at 600pixels wide, but if you want to look in more detail at the brooch she was wearing you'll need more pixels. Ideally you probably want the area of the brooch to contain about 300 pixels for really clear viewing, meaning the image itself might be 4x that as a minimum. The more pixels the deeper you can go. This also applies in group shots where you want to pick a person out and have them individually framed.

One other way to ‘reduce’ image size is to crop the main subject before sending. Often a photo of an album page will contain a fair amount of desk, the binding, someone’s hand, etc. By cropping (usually just a matter of dragging a cursor around the subject in one of the many editing programs and then cutting or cropping away the excess) you can have a smaller file without losing the quality in the important part of the image. Resizing images is not difficult. First, do NOT let your computer resize them for you. Many email programs will now pop up and alert you to the fact you are sending a large image, and offer to reduce it for you. Your computer has no idea the intended use of that image, and you’ll have no idea what size it will choose to send out. I’ve had important images arrive here so reduced it was hard to tell what the subject was.

There are many photo editing programs available, quite a few have light versions bundled with camera software. All of these can resize an image. Please note that MS Word, MS Publisher etc., are not image editing programs and cropping an image inside a word document makes little to no impact on the file size (in fact putting an image in a Microsoft Word document will make it bloat to take up more disk space).

My preference is Irfanview, a free program easily downloaded and installed from irfanview.com. In whatever program you choose there will be an option called resolution or size, resample, resize or similar. In Irfanview it is resize which is found in the edit menu. Most will have a button which will ensure the image is kept in proportion, so you only need change one dimension to the required pixels.

Always SAVE AS—never change the size of your original image. I generally

keep the original name and put an *s* after it for small, or an *a* for adjusted.

Irfanview and many other programs have a batch resize option which allows you to load a number of images, or an entire folder and set a longest side or a percentage as a new size.

In general trying to upsize an image won’t work. If it doesn’t have enough pixels, trying to add more will only be a matter of guesswork by the computer and while you will end up with a bigger file, it won’t be a better picture.

Scanning slides presents a slightly different issue. In order to get 300 pixels per inch of image you need to scan at a high dpi. Remember the original is only about an inch in size therefore in order to print out a 4”x6” print from a slide you must scan it in at 1200dpi. To get a 10” print you need to scan at 2700dpi.

As for formats, the general rule is if you have the disk space (most do these days) then save scans as TIF, and save photos as RAW data if available or jpeg if not. When reducing or editing a photo to send then JPG format is perfectly acceptable for most uses. The key thing is not to save the .jpg file too often. Jpegs are a compressed format which makes them smaller to store. If you zoom into the pixels on a TIF and a JPG you will see that the TIF is sharper and has more colours. Every time you save a jpg it compresses the image a bit more. So if you open a photo, adjust the size, save, adjust the lighting, save, sharpen it a bit, save, change the size again, save ... etc. the quality will start to diminish. The best policy is to do all your editing, saving as you go along, but as a Save As, so creating a different file each step, e.g. image33a, image33b, image33c. Then when you have made all the edits save as ‘final’ and keep that image which has only been compressed once. ◀

WHAT IS THAT PUBLICATION ABOUT?

Maurice Appleyard (Member No.4093)

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

THE REGISTERS OF ST. MARY, DALTON 1692–1812

This hardback work of 393pp was transcribed by members of The Lancashire Parish Register Society and was published in 2013 by the Society (as volume 177).

It is now around fifty years since the Society first published their two previous volumes of parish register from Dalton-in-Furness. Volume 100 covered the period 1565–1620 and volume 104 the period 1621–1691.

Since 1983, the earliest original Dalton parish registers have been deposited in the Cumbria Record Office at Barrow-in-Furness.

NORFOLK GENEALOGY:

Published by the Norfolk & Norwich Genealogical Society.

VOL. 12—Attleborough Parish Registers 1552–1840

This book of 295 pp was published in 1980.

Various registers of marriages, baptisms and burials have been transcribed by E W Sanderson. The material is supported by a surname index, location index, and an occupation index.

Attleborough is an ancient market town near the source of a small rivulet, some 15 miles south west of Norwich, 14 miles from Thetford and 6 miles from Wymondham.

VOL. 14—Index to Norwich Marriages 1813–1837

This 289pp book was published in 1982.

Compiled by John F Fone, the index is arranged in alphabetical surname order of the male. The material is supported by an index to females, a location index and index to service personnel.

VOL. 15—Norfolk Hearth Tax Assessments Michaelmas 1664

This book of 169pp was published in 1983.

The information was transcribed by M S Frankel and P J Seaman from the original records. The Hearth Tax was granted to the Crown (Charles II) as a perpetual revenue in 1662. The Tax was abolished in 1669 (William & Mary).

The tax of a shilling per hearth was payable twice a year, at Michaelmas (29 September) and Lady Day (25 March).

Names of payees are grouped together by town and then by the Hundred but not in alphabetical order. The material is supported by a location index, and an alphabetical surname index.

THE KIRKYARD OF MARNOCH (Part 1 & Part 2)

These two small booklets were published by the Aberdeen and North-East Scotland FHS and compiled by Sheila M Spiers.

Each one is a 2010 reprint—the first containing 456 transcripts and the second a further 300 inscriptions.

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

BOAT PEOPLE OF THE EMPIRE (Revised Edition)

This book of approximately 370pp was published in 2011 is a revision of Donald Grey-Smith's 2006 first edition.

The Boat People whose stories are told in this book are members of the author's family who migrated from the British Isles to Australia during the colonial period. Each chapter features an ancestral couple and their children. Major family names include:

Thomas WILKINSON (1760–1846)
Henry WILKINSON (1807–1850)
Stephen GRAY (1806–1858)
George BRYANT (1789–1853)
Angus McLEAN 1812–1883)
Charles SMITH (1815–1891)
Thomas WALLWORTH (1780–1847)
Walter M WALLWORTH (1817–1894)
Michael CRONIGAN (1817–1877)
John V PRINCE (1821–1891)
John SMITH (1836–1866)
Thomas H WALLWORTH (1852–1907)
Edward B BAKER (1849–1880)
Thomas GREY (1850–?)
Edward B BAKER (1875–1962)
(John) Hugh SMITH (1865–1936)
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THE CELEBRATION OF 200 YEARS OF WILLIS IN AUSTRALIA

Parramatta 2014

The descendants of Joseph and Rosetta Willis are invited to attend a gathering to celebrate their arrival in Australia.

Joseph Willis arrived 26 July 1814 on the convict ship *Surrey* and married **Rosetta Murphy** 11 July 1820. They had one surviving child, a son **John Willis**. John had two families. One with Anne Walpole and, after her death, with Margaret Lehane.

It will be held in Parramatta, NSW
On Saturday, 5 July 2014
If you would be interested to receive further information contact us on:
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Home page: <http://www.tasfhs.org>

State email: secretary@tasfhs.org

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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
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Branch addresses

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petjud@bigpond.com

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Helen Hislop 6433 1747

Edie McArthur 6433 1491

Jan Cook 6435 2261

State Delegates

Geoff Dean 6433 0076

Judy Cocker 6435 4103

Hobart

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Secretary Howard Reeves

secretary@hobart.tasfhs.org

Branch addresses

secretary@hobart.tasfhs.org

PO Box Rosny Park Tasmania 7018

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

All telephone enquiries to (03) 6244 4527



President

Beverley Richardson 6225 3293
president@hobart.tasfhs.org

Vice President

Colleen Read 6244 4527
colread@internode.on.net

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Howard Reeves 6243 1583
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Fax (03) 6239 6824
Branch addresses
vsbtas@ava.com.au
PO Box 117 Huonville Tasmania 7109
Library email
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Launceston

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Branch address
mandbissett@gmail.com
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(03) 6428 6328

Branch addresses

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PO Box 267 Latrobe Tasmania 7307

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president@tfhsdev.com

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pmmarlow@bigpond.com

Secretary

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poultrysquad@bigpond.com

Treasurer

Helen Anderson 6427 8997

tarletonst@gmail.com

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