

Tasmanian Ancestry



**TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY
SOCIETY INC.**

Volume 37 Number 4—March 2017

TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

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Tasmanian Ancestry

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

From the editor

Although I have been very busy over the festive season I have enjoyed putting this issue together. This was possible due to all the submissions received prior to the December journal and Leonie's prompt proofing which provided many articles ready to go by the time the current deadline arrived.

Unfortunately this also means the stocks have again diminished and new material will be welcome.

There is a wide range of articles in this, the last issue in Volume 37 including new member Fabienne Durdin's account of her search to find the first wife of the Rev. Fry of St Georges Church, Battery Point. She certainly deserved to break that 'brick wall'.

Lucille Gee and Tony Childs have both submitted articles which will be of great interest to anyone with connections in Longford and Franklin Village, northern Tasmania.

The account of the late Bill Wedd and his mates' trials and tribulations with their first attempts to fly a glider, which began in 1929, will surely entertain you. As he concluded—he was lucky to survive!

If anyone has experience or knowledge of Esperanto in Tasmania, Bill Chapman would like to hear from you (see page 245).

Plus much more ...

Rosemary Davidson

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

Deadline dates are:

1 January, 1 April, 1 July and 1 October

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

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

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Cover: 'Tallentyre', the former 'Sir William Wallace Inn', Longford, Tasmania. See Lucille Gee's article page 227.

The Illustrated Tasmanian Mail,
11 November 1931

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I REMEMBER a story from a few years ago when a mountaineer was asked why he wanted to climb Mount Everest. His reply was, "Because it's there!"

I think Family History is a bit like that. It doesn't seem to have much practical value, but it is an addictive and fascinating hobby. But just what do we mean by the term 'Family History'? I like to distinguish between 'Family History' and 'Genealogy'. In common usage, the two terms seem to be interchangeable, but I like to use them differently. To me, Genealogy is a pretty boring study of family lineage, like we read in the Bible at Matthew 1:2–16.

(If you don't have a bible handy, see <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+1%3A2-16&version=NIV>)

A relative once showed me her family tree which went right back to the sixteen hundreds. Whilst I was impressed by the amount of research she had done, I found this collection of names joined by lines to be quite boring. I regard Family History as much more than that. This whole thing about recording a family's past is much more interesting when it contains facts and stories concerning as many of the individuals as is possible. Even basic information like their occupation and where they lived start to make them real people rather than just names on a piece of paper or on a computer screen. It doesn't matter whether you keep your records on paper or cards, or on a computer, it seems to me to be easy enough to add interesting personal details and stories about individuals. Most computer family history applications

have places where this sort of information can be added. Some family historians like to go even further and produce a book, but even if you don't go that far, it is worth adorning your records with this additional material.

Recently I came across an interesting discussion about these two terms on the Family Search website. In August 2013 Nathan Murphy wrote

25 June 2013 marked an important date in the history of discovering one's ancestors. On that day User: Morphh merged two Wikipedia articles "Genealogy" and "Family History" into a single article titled "Genealogy." The merge was the culmination of a two-year discussion (now closed) among Wikipedians over whether the terms are synonyms or have different meanings. The consensus was that any distinctions in modern English were so subtle and undefined that there should be only one article.

This is just the first paragraph of the article. I think it is worth reading the whole article at <https://familysearch.org/blog/en/difference-genealogy-family-history/>. Personally, I don't agree with Murphy's conclusions. Although my distinguishing between the two terms doesn't seem to be accepted 'officially', it is how I like to use them. I certainly know which of the two approaches to Genealogy/Family History I prefer! ◀

Robert Tanner

BRANCH REPORTS

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If you recall, my last report was written whilst sitting in our caravan in a caravan park at Kalgoorlie. It would be remiss of me if I didn't

mention one of the places we visited after leaving Kalgoorlie that made such an impression on us—the National Anzac Centre at Albany. As many of you know the Anzacs who left for WW1 sailed in a convoy of ships from King George Sound. The National Anzac Centre was built in the confines of the Heritage listed Princess Royal Fortress at a cost of \$10.6 million and was opened on 1 November 2014. The interactive technology together with many historical artefacts creates a most moving experience. For anybody with an interest in historical events, particularly WW1, this is a place you must visit if you are in Western Australia.

Another gem I discovered when using TROVE recently worth mentioning. Don't restrict searches for family members by just searching through Family Notices. The birth of one of my ancestors, in the Pioneer Index, did not have a name listed, just as a female. She died at the age of 5, no death notice, but I found the father had placed an advertisement in the paper, thanking the Insurance Company for their action in the claim regarding the death of his daughter, full name and death

date given. I was able to cross reference this with burial details.

Our October meeting was well attended for Bryan Lucas' informative talk on the Emu Bay Railway, thanks to Doug and Bryan for hosting the meeting. For our November meeting a video about early Tasmanian characters was shown which members enjoyed. A new photo scanning app was also demonstrated that could be of use in scanning old photos directly onto a smart phone.

A reminder to branch members that membership subscriptions are due by the end of March.

Peter Cocker **Branch President**

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This past year ended on a positive note and the committee has set in motion a few ideas for the coming year. It is intended that an Irish

Interest Group be formed, and will be meeting three or four times a year. The DNA Interest Group has been meeting on a monthly basis, and has several enthusiastic members. Fundraising to help fund the ongoing maintenance of the library, and the acquisition of further resources to assist members advance their research, and branch promotion to attract new members is always to the fore.

The highlight of recent times was our *Alexander Laing Trail* excursion to Sorell and surrounding district on 4 December. We were fortunate the weather was absolutely perfect after the first attempt was deferred due to bad weather. The day began at the Old Magistrates House in Sorell, and proceeded on to the Old Forcett Schoolhouse, where we were treated to a lovely morning tea. One of our more senior members of the group had many happy memories of attending the school in her younger days. Next was the 'Rose and Crown Inn' at Forcett, and then lunch at the Forcett Hall, a real gem of a building, where many country dances and celebrations have been held over the last century. 'Greenhills', the home of Bartholomew Reardon, was visited, much to the delight of some of the descendants among us. We were made welcome at 'Forcett House', with its beautiful gardens and courtyards, and enjoyed the sun and the delightful views from the patio. Afternoon tea was held at 'Nonesuch', where we were also very welcome. Peter MacFie conducted the tour, and gave a historical commentary along the way. Greenhills Gathering played at every stop, the reels and jigs composed by former convict, Alexander Laing while he was serving as a constable at Sorell, and later New Norfolk and Port Arthur. Our thanks go to Peter for providing such a wonderful day, to Greenhills Gathering for their entertainment and also Graeme Evans for driving the bus and his behind the scenes organization.

General Meetings

Our monthly meetings are always well attended. A resume of recent meetings:

The guest speaker at the October meeting was Dan Griffen and his topic was 'Searching for Ancestors in the USA', an account of his experiences researching his own family history in his home state of

North Carolina in the United States. Dan spoke of the hurdles encountered along the way and referred to them as mere *roadblocks*. When Dan began his search in the 1980s, few resources were readily or easily available and researching from a distance only added to the difficulty. Not to be deterred, and aided by the US Census data and records of Testaments which outlined the names of family members within the documents, Dan discovered more generations of his family tree, but encountered *roadblocks* along the way when he attempted to go back a further generation. Unable to find a connection between the possible parties of a marriage, he investigated records identified as Bounds and Metes, (similar to our Land & Survey Department records) a resource which enabled him to plot the proximity of Griffen family land holdings with that of a possible marriage partner.

Dan has more recently been investigating DNA matching, and with much perseverance contacted Griffen family members currently living in the same district. Of the nine people contacted, eight were willing to provide DNA samples, but this theory was complicated when none of these samples showed a match with Dan's DNA sample. Dan's *roadblock* has now become a *brickwall*, but the Griffen family tree is still under investigation.

The guest speaker at the November meeting, the final for the year, was Peter Binny speaking on the topic 'Historical Surveying and land grants'. A registered surveyor for 41 years, Peter provided an insight into early instruments and methods of surveying and the developments in equipment and accuracy with modern techniques and instruments. He discussed the use of surveyors' chains and the problems associated with their use in hilly areas. In relatively flat areas chains provided accuracy to approximately 0.5 a

link (100 links = 1 chain = 22 yards) while today's instruments provide accuracy to within 1 millimetre. Of particular interest were the stories about re-surveying of colonial land grants which often identified areas where inaccuracies of original measurements gave rise to occupation of land by adverse possession.

Speakers for 2017

The following speakers have been arranged for forthcoming General Meetings in 2017 which will commence at 7:30 p.m. at the old Sunday School in St Johns Park Precinct, New Town.

March 21: Brian Rieusset—'Treasure Trove in 28 Boxes'

April 19 AGM: Lois Green 'Oak Lodge—the history of the house and the garden'

May 16 and June 20: tba

Louise Rainbow **Branch President**

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On Thursday, 9 March, Ros Escott will be with us to discuss 'Using DNA for Family History'. The meeting is fully booked, and I'm

sure those who were fortunate enough to get an early booking, will profit greatly from Ros' knowledge.

As usual, the library will be closed on Easter Tuesday, 18 March 2017.

The Branch AGM will be held at the Harry Abbott Scout Hall, 7:00 p.m. on Thursday 27 April. Our guest speaker

will be Roger McNeice, OAM, and we all look forward to his comments on 'Money in Colonial Times'.

The Society AGM is scheduled for Saturday, 17 June and will be hosted by Burnie Branch. See the centre pages of this edition for details.

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

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Happy New Year for 2017. Wow this is the first time I have written it. We hope it will be a good year for our branch and society. In

December we held our Christmas Dinner at the Lucas Hotel Latrobe which was enjoyed by 23 members and partners. We drew our Christmas Raffle. The 1st prize was a beautiful Led light lamp beautifully made by one of our members which was won by Alan Buck; 2nd prize was a decorated cake by another of our members and was won by Denise Young; and 3rd prize was 2 bottles of wine. Congratulations to the winners and thank you to those who supported the raffle.

By the time we receive this report our Annual General Meeting will be near. We will have positions vacant. Our treasurer and secretary have held their positions for 7 years. Please give this some thought as we won't be able to function without these positions. It would be great to have a full committee. Come into the library and see what we do to keep the library

running. We have a lot of fun. Our library is open on Tuesdays and Fridays 11:00 a.m. till 3:00 p.m. Check our website for more details on publications or any other information.

Huon

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MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Your membership to the society expires on 31 March, if you have not renewed, now is the time to do so. You would have received a reminder on the last journal as a green label.

This will be the only reminder you get as a label on your journal. Details of how to renew are listed on the back of the last journal label. If your label on your last journal was on white paper with no renewal details it means you are financial to 31 March 2018.

If you renew by bank transfer, **please use your CRN (customer reference number) located on the front of the label as the reference or description of the payment.** It is **NOT** the Societies Account number. This CRN indicates to me who you are, your membership type and the branch you are from. I am still getting bank transfers without any identification at all, only a description such as 'DEPOSIT CBA TFHS M'ship'.

If you have paid by bank transfer and have not received an email or letter with your receipt, please contact me and advise the date you made the transfer.

If you have received your receipt and membership cards by post it means we do not have an email address for you. If you have an email address please advise either the **secretary@tasfhs.org** or **treasurer@tasfhs.org**

NOTICE OF MEETING

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

37th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of the

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.

**is to be held at 2:00 p.m.
on Saturday 17 June 2017**

**at the Penguin Surf Club,
Preservation Bay**

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

AGENDA

1. Welcome by the President
2. Apologies
3. Presentation of the 'Lilian Watson Family History Award'
4. Presentation of TFHS Inc. Awards
5. Confirmation of Minutes of the 2016 AGM as circulated at the meeting
6. Business Arising from the Minutes
7. President's Annual Report
8. Treasurer's Annual Report as circulated at the meeting
9. Business arising from Treasurer's Report
10. Election of Office Bearers
11. General Business
12. Closure

Colleen Read, Society Secretary

CONVICTS EDWARD PICKLES AND SARAH BENNETT AND THEIR STRANGE EVENTFUL HISTORIES

Don Bradmore (Member No. 6756) and

Judith Carter (Member No. 7707)

WHEN an elderly man, a labourer in the Jerusalem district of Tasmania, died in June 1873, *The Mercury* announced his passing in this way:

A Waterloo veteran, Edward PICKLES, who for the last 40 years has lived in the district of Jerusalem, ended his ‘strange eventful history’ on the 8th inst, in the above named township. The deceased, who was born in 1783, was at several engagements in the Peninsula and received a wound at Waterloo. For some breach of discipline he was deprived of his medal, and sent across the sea. He arrived in Tasmania about 1822–23 and a few years after located himself in the Jerusalem district, where he remained till the time of his death. He was known as an honest man.¹

The colourful phrase, ‘strange eventful history’, borrowed from Shakespeare’s *As You Like it* (Act II, Scene VII), seems most apt here. The life of Edward Pickles—especially in its first half—had indeed been a strange and eventful one. The words, ‘sent across the sea’ are, of course, a euphemism for the fact that he had arrived in Van Diemen’s Land as a convict. Interestingly, however, there is no mention in the announcement of his widow, Sarah (née BENNETT), his wife of thirty-five years, who had also been transported to Van Diemen’s Land as a convict, and whose life—again, espec-

ially in her earlier years—had been most eventful, too. In fact, it might well have been her marriage in 1838 to this ‘honest man’ that rescued her from further degradation and misery.²

But, it is unlikely Edward Pickles was ninety when he died. The ‘Description List’ among his convict papers shows he was thirty-six when he arrived at Hobart Town in December 1828 and indicates he was born around 1793, which puts his age much closer to eighty at the time of his death. The same document shows his native place as ‘Norland near Halifax’, in the West Riding of Yorkshire.³

Since the 15th century, Halifax had been a centre of woollen manufacture in England. By the 19th century, its cotton, woollen and carpet industries accounted for most of its wealth and employed the bulk of its population.⁴ Edward’s father, Elias Pickles, was a draper in Halifax and obviously had an involvement with the weaving mills, of which there was a large number in and near the town. Nothing is known about Edward’s mother, Mary (née GLEDHILL).

Edward himself seems to have had some connection with the mills later in life but,

¹ *Mercury* (Hobart), 14 June 1873, p. 4

² TAHO CON40/1/1, Sarah Bennett (194B) per *America* (1831), image 161

³ TAHO CON18-1-22,248,234,F,60, via LINC

⁴ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Halifax,_West_Yorkshire

as a young man, he had joined the army and had served with the 33rd Regiment of Foot. It was a line infantry regiment that had a long association with the West Riding of Yorkshire. In 1782, the title of the regiment had been changed to the '33rd (or First Yorkshire West Riding) Regiment of Foot'. The main depot of the regiment was at Halifax. The regiment had always recruited in the West Riding of Yorkshire and had the goodwill of the people there.⁵

Since its formation in the early 1700s, the 33rd Foot had seen action in many parts of the world including Portugal, Spain, Germany, France, Holland, Canada, the West Indies and South Africa. In 1796, it had been sent to India where it remained

for sixteen years fighting in the 4th Mysore War (1799) and on Mauritius.

In 1812, the regiment was recalled to England and, in June 1815, fought at the famous Battle of Waterloo, near Brussels, Belgium, the last conflict of the Napoleonic Wars.

Victory there by a coalition of troops from the United Kingdom, Prussia, the Netherlands, Hanover, Brunswick and Nassau, under the joint command of the Duke of Wellington and Prussia's

General von BLUCHER spelt the end of Napoleon BONAPARTE's ambitions to rule Europe. Afterwards, he was exiled to the distant island of St Helena where he died in May 1821. The 33rd Regiment (pictured here in uniforms worn at Waterloo in 1815) occupied France for a few months before returning to England.⁶



Exactly when Edward enlisted is not known but he stated upon arrival at Hobart Town he stated he had spent seven years in the regiment. Assuming he left the army soon after Waterloo, it is possible he had joined around 1809. At that time he would have been about sixteen. The nature of the wound he received during the battle is unknown but his name (shown

incorrectly as 'Private Edwd. PICKLE') is listed in the 'Waterloo Medal Roll, 1815'.⁷

On 2 December 1822, Edward married Grace CHILD. Because the wedding took place at Halifax, it is assumed she was a local woman but nothing more is known

⁵ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Duke_of_Wellington's_Regiment

⁶ <http://www.nam.ac.uk/research/famous-units/33rd-duke-wellington-regiment-foot>

⁷ 'U.K. Waterloo Medal Roll, 1815' via 'Ancestry.com', accessed 21 November 2016

of her. No record of children of the marriage has, to date been found.⁸

In early July 1828, Edward and a man by the name of William UTLEY were committed to stand trial for the theft of a quantity of worsted goods, the property of Messrs KERSHAWs of Halifax.⁹ At his trial on 17 July, Edward was found guilty as charged and sentenced to transportation for a period of seven years. As was customary, he was stripped of his Waterloo Medal.¹⁰

On 4 August 1828, he was received at the hulk *Retribution* moored at Woolwich to await shipment to Van Diemen's Land.¹¹ Fortunately, for life on the hulks was abominably hard, he did not have long to wait. On 19 August, in company with 175 other convicted men, he departed England on *Roslyn Castle*. On 16 December, 174 convicts were disembarked at Hobart Town. Two had died on the way.¹²

Somewhat surprisingly—in view of his Halifax association and his theft of a piece of worsted cloth—Edward gave his trade or calling upon arrival at Hobart Town as ‘soldier, quarryman and well-sinker’. In all respects, however, he seems to have been a model prisoner. His

conduct record reveals he only re-offended once when, in 1838, ten years after arriving in the colony, he was fined five shillings for the relatively minor crime of being drunk. In December 1832, he was granted a ticket of leave and in July 1835 was declared ‘free by servitude’.¹³

On 2 January 1838, Edward applied for permission to marry convict Sarah BENNETT.¹⁴ Approval was quickly granted and the marriage took place at St Davids, Hobart Town, on 12 March that year.¹⁵

Sarah had arrived in the colony on *America* (2) in May 1831 after being found guilty of ‘stealing from the person’ and sentenced to transportation for life. Her conduct record reveals this was not her first offence, that she had previously served time for vagrancy, was known to be a prostitute and she had been ‘on the town’ for at least two years. A Londoner, she stated upon arrival that she was twenty years old and single. She was a house servant. She was unable to read and write. Sarah was described as being five feet two and a half inches tall, with a pale complexion, a large round head, dark brown hair, dark hazel eyes, a short broad nose, and short round chin which was somewhat ‘fleshy underneath’.¹⁶

Sarah's conduct record shows that she was charged with re-offending sixteen times between 9 May 1831—the date of her arrival at Hobart Town—and 8 February 1837. Most of these offences were relatively minor: leaving the premises of the families to whom she had

⁸ Pickles /Child: Conduct record via LINC, CON31/1/34, p.174; see also ‘England Marriages, 1538–1973,’ database, *FamilySearch* <https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NJ24-KLF>: 10 December 2014), Edward Pickles and Grace Child, 02 Dec 1822; citing Halifax, York, England, reference 245; FHL microfilm 990,600)

⁹ *Mercury*, Leeds, UK, 12 July 1828

¹⁰ TAHO CON31/1/34, p. 174

¹¹ ‘England & Wales, Crime, Prisons & Punishment, 1770–1935 Transcription’ via ‘Ancestry.com’, accessed 20 November 2016

¹² <http://members.iinet.net.au/~perthdps/convicts/shipsTAS.html>

¹³ *The Hobart Town Courier*, 28 December 1832, p. 2; 3 July 1835, p. 4

¹⁴ TAHO CON52/1/1, p. 151

¹⁵ Pickles/Bennett: RGD36/1/3, 1838/4068

¹⁶ TAHO CON40/1/1, Sarah Bennett (194B) per *America* (1831), image 161

been assigned without permission, staying out all night, behaving in a disorderly manner in the street, disobedience of orders, neglect of duties, insolence, and insubordination.¹⁷

On a number of occasions Sarah was merely reprimanded or admonished. At other times she was dealt with more harshly. Usually, her masters and mistresses, obviously not amused by her behaviour, would immediately return her to the Female House of Corrections where, at various times, she was kept in solitary confinement, locked in a working cell, allowed only bread and water for ten days and made to labour at the wash-tubs for a month. On two separate occasions, magistrates gave orders that she was never to be assigned at Hobart Town again and that her future assignments should be to families living 'in the interior'. These orders, however, do not seem to have been carried out.

Sarah's most serious offence occurred in 1836. On 9 May of that year she became embroiled in a heated argument with a Mrs CUTTS, the woman to whom she was assigned at the time. Very soon, the argument turned into a bitter physical fight, during which Sarah knocked Mrs Cutts down. Charged with assault, Sarah was gaoled for three months. A report of the incident in the *Colonial Times* described her as 'a fine strapping spinster', adding the incident was 'a real up and down' in which both parties exhibited 'divers marks and scratches' but Mrs Cutts 'got the worst of the affray'.¹⁸ Sarah was again returned to the Female House of Correction, the magistrate ordering her to be kept with Class 3 prisoners there—the worst of the worst, many of them

violent and some unfit for assignment or release into the community.

Sarah's last recorded offence occurred in February 1837. Assigned to a Mr. BROWN, she was charged with being insolent and having neglected her duties. Once more she was returned to Female House of Correction, the magistrate ruling that it should be at least two months before she became eligible for assignment again.

It is interesting to speculate upon why Sarah never offended again after February 1837. Two reasons suggest themselves. The first is she may have met Edward Pickles about that time and their prospective marriage might have been enough to keep her out of trouble. As noted above, they married on 12 March 1838. The second reason is that on 18 June 1839 Sarah was granted a ticket-of-leave.¹⁹ This was followed by a conditional pardon on 3 March 1842.²⁰ Undoubtedly, her disposition would have improved by again being a free woman.

After their marriage in 1838, Edward and Sarah seem to have lived quietly on a leased farm at Brandy Bottom near Jerusalem for the next thirty-five years, their convict pasts almost forgotten. No birth or baptism registration of children born to them has been found. However, when Edward died in June 1873 the informant to his death certificate was 'William Pickles, son'. The records are unclear about the exact year of William's birth but the entry in TPI Digger indicates he was born in 1836.²¹

¹⁷ CON40/1/1, image 161

¹⁸ *Colonial Times*, 17 May 1836, p. 8

¹⁹ *Hobart Town Gazette (HTG)* 21 June 1839

²⁰ CP granted 28 February 1842; recommended 3 March 1842; finally approved 31 August 1843. See *HTG*, 4 March 1842; 8 September 1843.

²¹ Edward Pickles, death, 497/1873/35, Richmond. (See also *The Mercury Hobart*,

But who was Sarah William's mother? As there appears to have been no other woman in Edward's life in the colony, it seems likely that she was. Moreover, the pattern of offences on Sarah's conduct record suggests that this could have been the case. There were four offences in 1832, four in 1833, three in 1834, three in 1836, and one in early 1837—but there were *none* in 1835! Was that because Sarah had met Edward, was possibly pregnant to him, and consequently less inclined to want to absent herself from the houses in which she was employed, stay out all night or act in a disorderly manner in the street? It is a reasonable explanation.²²

However, when Sarah passed away at the age of sixty on 5 December 1873, just six months after her husband, no children are mentioned on the death certificate and William Pickles was not the informant.²³

As it happened, Sarah's life ended sadly. On 5 September 1873, she had been admitted to the Hospital for the Insane, New Norfolk. She was obviously suffering from an advanced form of dementia. In a letter dated 1 September 1873, Dr Robert BLYTHE, the medical practitioner who recommended her admission to the hospital, informed the authorities there he had personally examined Sarah and was of the opinion that she:

... is a lunatic and a proper person to be taken charge of and detained under care and treatment ... on the following grounds: That she is thoroughly incoherent in her answers, does not know her age, where

she came from, or anything regarding her recent life. She says that her husband (who died recently - about two months ago) has been dead for eleven years and, in fact, is insane in every subject save for an occasional more sensible remark in a long course of rambling talk.²⁴

Continuing, Dr Blythe said Sarah had been in her present condition for 'about a month or six weeks' and that the supposed cause was 'the death of her husband'. The doctor was of the opinion that Sarah was 'not suicidal' and 'not dangerous to others'. He concluded his assessment by saying Sarah had no known relatives in the colony.

The informants to Sarah's death certificate were the New Norfolk Hospital authorities. So, where was William Pickles when Sarah died? Was she William's mother? Is it not reasonable to think that William would have been known to her doctor and the hospital authorities? The answers to these questions might never be known.

It is fair to say Sarah (Bennett) Pickles' life was far from being a happy one. She was obviously a troubled young woman when she arrived in Van Diemen's Land as a twenty-year old convict in 1831, and her difficulties continued for the best part of a decade afterwards. But it is comforting to think that she might have found at least some years of peace in her marriage to an 'honest man' who was obviously held in high regard by all who knew him. ◀

14 June 1873, p. 2; *The Tasmanian, Launceston*, 21 June 1873, p. 13)

²² William Pickles died on 17 December 1878. His death certificate (1586/1879/35, Hobart) shows him to be 42 years old.

²³ Sarah Pickles, death, 390/1873/35, New Norfolk

²⁴ TAHO Archives: <http://search.archives.tas.gov.au/default.aspx?detail=1&type=I&id=HSD285/1/2321> and admission documents: <http://stors.tas.gov.au/HSD285-1-2321>

VOICES FROM THE ORPHAN SCHOOLS

THE SHERSTON CHILDREN

Dianne Snowden (Member No. 910)

MARY ANN BROOKS, aged 25, arrived free on the *William Jardine* on 26 August 1849, with 31 male emigrants, 55 female emigrants and 55 children.¹ She married convict Richard SHERSTON, who arrived on the *Emily* (1) in 1842.² The couple were granted permission to marry in September 1850 and married the following month in St Georges Church.³

Mary Ann and Richard had several children but not all survived. Richard Sherston was born in 1851;⁴ followed by a daughter in 1853;⁵ a son baptised in 1855;⁶ Mary Ann Sherston in March 1855;⁷ a son in 1858;⁸ and a son in 1860.⁹

Mary Ann Sherston, an English-born gardener's wife, aged 36, died of inflammation of the lungs on 18 July 1860. Her husband, Richard, of Huon Road, provided the information for her

death.¹⁰ Mary Ann had given birth to a son on 17 July; he died of 'debility' the day after her death.¹¹

On 29 November 1860, Richard Sherston, of Proctor's Road, applied for admission to the Orphan Schools of three of his children: Mary Ann, aged 8; Thomas, aged 6; and Benjamin, aged 3. The two oldest children had been baptised in Trinity Church of England but Benjamin was not baptised. The application noted:

[Richard Sherston] has one other child a Boy 10 years old. The father's a widower – he is at present working ... as a gardener at [3 shillings?] per week but only for a time it is not a permanent job. He is known ... as an industrious man.¹²

A letter of support from G Banks SMITH recommending admission of all four Sherston children was attached to the application:

Sherston is sometimes in destitute circumstances and when employed away from his house, his children are unprotected.¹³

Initially, only the admission of Thomas was approved.¹⁴ In March 1861, another application was made for Thomas, who had been in hospital from November

¹ TAHO, MB2/39/1/11 p.264.

² TAHO, CON33/1/31 No. 7486 Richard Sherston *Emily* (1) 1842.

³ TAHO, CON52/1/3 p. 414; TAHO, RGD37/1/9 District of Hobart 1850/309 Mary Ann Brooks and Richard Sherston.

⁴ TAHO, RGD33/1/4 District of Hobart 1851/102 Richard Sherston.

⁵ TAHO, RGD33/1/4 District of Hobart 1853/2111 female Sherston.

⁶ TAHO, RGD32/1/3 Parish of Holy Trinity (Hobart) 1855/4646 Thomas Sherston.

⁷ TAHO, RGD33/1/5 District of Hobart 1855/1986 Mary Ann Sherston.

⁸ TAHO, RGD33/1/7 District of Hobart 1858/1197 male Sherston (Benjamin)

⁹ TAHO, RGD33/1/8 District of Hobart 1860/3531 male Sherston.

¹⁰ TAHO, RGD35/1/6 District of Hobart 1860/2210 Mary Ann Sherston

¹¹ TAHO, RGD33/1/8 District of Hobart 1860/3531 male Sherston; RGD35/1/6

District of Hobart 1860/2211 male Sherston

¹² TAHO, SWD26/1/2 p. 527 (29 November 1860)

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Ibid.

1860, following an accident whilst climbing a fence. The other two boys were with their father and Mary Ann was 'in a place of service for her food'.¹⁵

By April 1862, both Benjamin and 'Tommy' were in the Orphan School. Application was made for the admission of Mary Ann by Mary Ann HENWOOD of Brown's River, who described herself as Mary Ann's nearest relative—step-mother to Mary Ann's mother.¹⁶

Attached to Mary Ann's application was the following summary made by Francis NEALE, Sub Inspector of Police:

This child is one of 3 for whom application for admission to QO school was made by the father Richard Sherston on the 30th November [1861] – application was refused. Subsequently 2 other of his children Thos, & Benjamin were admitted. After being in the school for some time, they were taken out by me under order from the Hon: the Colonial Secretary and handed over to their father who was at the time gardener to the Hon: Colonial Treasurer—He had only charge of them for a short time when in consequence of misconduct he was dismissed from the service of Mr Innes—The 2 boys were readmitted—warrant issued for the father and he was gazetted in Crime Report 29 November 1861.¹⁷

Richard Sherston, free by servitude, was charged with deserting his children at Hobart Town on 26 November 1861. The following description was provided:

43 years old, 5 feet 8 inches high, sallow complexion, dark hair and whiskers, dressed in new pea jacket, light cord trousers, and black billy-cock hat, a gardener.¹⁸

The older two children were apprenticed from the Orphan School but their younger brother, Benjamin, died there. After eight years in the institution, Benjamin died on 3 December 1869, in tragic circumstances, from a rupture of the stomach.¹⁹

The *Launceston Examiner* provided a succinct account of the accident:

On 7th Dec. [1870] an inquest was held on the body of an Orphan School boy, named Benjamin Sherston, who died suddenly on Friday.—From the evidence of Dr. Brooke, who made a post mortem examination, it appeared death resulted from rupture of the stomach. The boy, while pressing hay, had tried to turn a somersault, and in doing so, fell upon his left arm, which was most likely the cause of the injury.²⁰

Benjamin had been admitted to the Asylum Hospital complaining of feeling ill but with no obvious serious symptoms. Days later, he died unexpectedly. A post-mortem was performed and the inquest took place in the Board Room of the Asylum.

Several witnesses gave evidence to the inquest. Ann BOURNE, matron of the Boys' Division, Queen's Asylum, stated that Benjamin was brought to her by one of the boys who had been with him. When he complained of sickness, she told him 'to go and play about the yard a bit, sometimes that took it away'. Next morning, he said he was a little better but when he did not eat breakfast, she gave him a dose of medicine and called Dr COVERDALE, Principal of the Asylum, who sent him to the hospital. Matron Bourne said that Benjamin had not complained of 'ill

¹⁵ TAHO, SWD26/1/4 p. 106 (February 1861)

¹⁶ TAHO, SWD26/1/5 p. 331 (May 1862)

¹⁷ TAHO, SWD26/1/5 p. 331 (May 1862)

¹⁸ AUS103C, Tasmanian Reports of Crime 1861–1865, Vol. 1 No. 42, 29 November

1861 Richard Sherston; Vol. 1 No. 43, 6 December 1861 Richard Sherston

¹⁹ TAHO, RGD35/1/7 District of Hobart 1869/9049 Benjamin Sherston

²⁰ *Launceston Examiner* 1 January 1870 p. 3

usage or hurt from any one' and had not mentioned a fall or accident, 'not a word'. She said that the boys were frequently sick, especially in hot weather and that a dose of medicine usually worked.²¹

Isabella BELL, hospital nurse, testified that Benjamin said the horse he had been riding had bumped him and hurt him. She added that he had become insensible on Friday and died at 7:40 on Friday evening.²² Ann HORAN, Matron of the Infant School, and in charge of the hospital, said Benjamin said the horse had bucked him. John HARDING, farm overseer, gave evidence that Benjamin had been working on the farm for seven or eight months. He added he had heard that the boys had been in habit of practising gymnastics:

On Tuesday week when they were carting hay, deceased and other boys were put up to tread the hay, and they amused themselves by jumping from the beams of the barn on to the hay, a distance of six feet, but witness did not see deceased hurt himself, or hear that he had done so. On the Saturday witness put deceased and two other boys on horses to turn into the bush ... no accident happened ... On Sunday morning he was one who milked the cows.²³

George ALLEN, 'an inmate of the establishment', gave evidence that he was with Benjamin in the Dutch barn when they were getting the hay in, and they were turning somersaults off the beams on to the hay, having climbed the beams using a ladder. Benjamin claimed that he had hurt his arm after he turned a somersault. George slept in the same dormitory with Benjamin but did not hear him complain.²⁴

Two other boys, George TRENCHER and David WILLIAMS, also gave evidence. David stated that Benjamin had hurt himself diving from the beams: 'I bet him a shilling that he would not dive flat as I did, and he did not do it right, but hurt his arm'.²⁵

The Coroner, in summing up, remarked the death was not the result of Benjamin riding a horse but that 'it must have been done at the haystack, and it was a strange thing, as Dr BROOKE had said that the boy lived so long afterwards as the injury to the stomach must inevitably prove fatal, and no medical skill in the world could have saved him. It was certainly a extraordinary accident'.²⁶

Aged 11½ when he died, Benjamin was buried in Johns Burial Ground at New Town in an unmarked grave.

Benjamin's older brother, Thomas, married Eliza SWEET when he was 25 and she was 17. They were married on 25 June 1882 by Congregational Minister, J H 'Shipphird' in his residence. Witnesses were Edward Sweet and Mary Ann Sherston. Thomas died from pneumonia on 15 December 1884 at home in North Bridgewater.²⁷

Mary died on 29 October 1906, at the residence of Mr H L WESTBROOK, Towers, New Town. She was described as 'a faithful servant of the late W. H. WHITBOURN and family for 40 years'.²⁸ Remarkably, she had been apprenticed to William 'Whitebourn' from the Orphan School in 1867!

²¹ *The Mercury* (Hobart) 7 December 1869 p. 3

²² *The Mercury* (Hobart) 7 December 1869 p. 3

²³ *The Mercury* (Hobart) 7 December 1869 p. 3

²⁴ *The Mercury* (Hobart) 7 December 1869 p. 3

²⁵ *The Mercury* (Hobart) 7 December 1869 p. 3

²⁶ *The Mercury* (Hobart) 7 December 1869 p. 3

²⁷ TAHO, RGD37/1/41 District of Brighton 1882/23 Eliza Sweet and Thomas Sherston; TAHO, RGD35/1/10 District of Hobart 1884/2047 Thomas Sherston; *The Mercury* (Hobart) 17 December 1884 p. 1

²⁸ *The Mercury* (Hobart) 2 November 1906 p. 1

Richard Sherston, born in Bath, may have died in Victoria in 1874, aged 54.²⁹ ◀

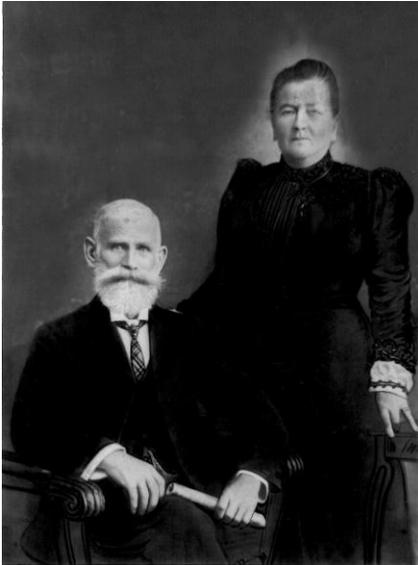
Additional information from Dianne Allen, who has claimed all three Sherston children on the Friends of the Orphan Schools website:

<http://www.orphanschool.org.au/>



CORRECTION:

The photograph included with the article *Mary Ann Butler* in *Tasmanian Ancestry* Vol. 37 No. 3 was incorrect. Apologies to Dianne—see correction below.



Thank-you for including the Mary Ann Butler article in what was a bumper edition of the journal! The photo, however, is William BUTLER (my great-great-grandfather) and his wife Margaret. William was Mary Ann's older brother. In the photo of Mary Ann, she is standing next to her husband, George WARD, who is seated.

²⁹ Victorian Death Index 1874/2273 Richard Sherston.

UNDERTAKERS OF HOBART: Vol. IV



Index to H C Millington Pty Ltd Funeral Records

- Part 1 Apr 1925 – May 1937
\$22.00 + \$6.30 p&p
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- Part 3 Mar 1944 – Mar 1950
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- Part 4 Mar 1950 – Nov 1955
\$25.00 + \$6.30 p&p
- Part 5 Nov 1955 – Nov 1960
\$25.00 + \$6.30 p&p
- Part 6 Nov 1960 – May 1964
\$25.00 + \$6.30 p&p
- Part 7 May 1964 – Apr 1967
\$25.00 + \$6.30 p&p
- Part 8 Apr 1967 – Jun 1970**
\$25.00 + \$6.30 p&p

These records usually give name of spouse and/or parents, death place, abode, cause of death, cemetery where buried or if cremated. Often newspaper Death and/or Funeral Notices are attached which detail other family members. Copies are available for a small fee on request.

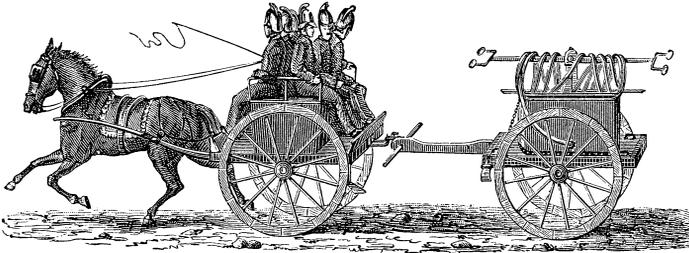
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UP IN FLAMES FIRES IN SCHOOLS

Betty Jones (Member No.6032)



7 FEBRUARY 2017 marked the fiftieth anniversary of the day Hobart was said to have burned. The 1967 Tasmanian bushfires, often referred to as ‘Black Tuesday’, are still considered the worst such event in the state’s history. Those of us old and able enough are likely to recall what we were doing and where we were on that day. Sadly, the lives of 62 people were lost, with a further 900 injured and more than 7000 left homeless in southern districts.¹ Memories are rekindled every long, hot summer of the potential for a repeat episode. Public awareness campaigns on how to prepare for bushfire emergencies are common now, along with successful annual programs conducted in primary schools by qualified fire-fighters, who aim to educate children on how to plan for, and react to, fire emergencies in the home and surrounds.

Most out-of-control fires, not just bushfires, cause devastation. This article looks at the impact of fires in Tasmanian Government schools in the nineteenth and

early twentieth centuries. Fortunately, no loss of life was recorded as a result of those incidents, most blazes occurring out of traditional school hours. The speed of destruction of infrastructure, valuable school records, property and personal possessions, however, is a recurring theme in resulting reports, along with tales of selfless bravery on the part of many local residents in their efforts to save property.

School fireplaces and chimneys

As background, it is useful to reflect on how important fireplaces and chimneys were to most inhabitants during the era under review. The fireplace offered a practical means of cooking and heating, and a well-swept chimney had the added benefit of providing important ventilation to a room. According to early Board of Education/Education Department records, not all school rooms had the basic luxury of a fireplace and chimney; some had no form of heating or, at best, had to rely on what was usually described as an inefficient wood-fired stove.

The surviving Inspectors’ Reports on schools from the late nineteenth century

¹ www.tasmanianbushfires.com.au

forward usually included a note on each school's heating and ventilation, resulting in a large variety of descriptions of the provision of fireplaces and chimneys. Most chimneys were constructed of brick, but it was not uncommon for them to be noted as having dangerous cracks or displaying signs of instability. Country schools sometimes had iron chimneys and fireplaces, and the Inspectors usually suggested that they be replaced with brick as soon as possible.

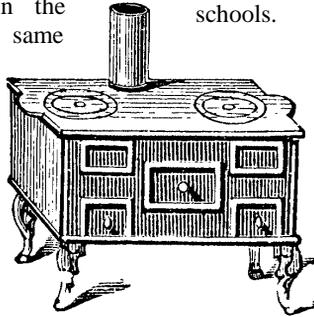
In February 1859, Mr Edwin PEARS (1835–1919), as Organizing Master for the District, made a report on the school at Long Bay (Middleton). He noted that the schoolroom itself was an excellent one and was centrally situated. The teachers' rooms, however, he thought were defective, all four being too small. The skillion had no chimney and the only two fireplaces were 14 inches deep. That depth for a wood fire was not only very inconvenient for cooking, but it was really dangerous. A log rolling over would expose the building to the chance of fire. The fireplaces in the schoolroom were of the same depth. It was recommended that the land belonging to the school premises should be cleared otherwise it was not improbable that the building would be destroyed by fires common to that locality.²

It is interesting to note that during the earliest years, teachers were not supplied with fuel for heating. At St George's School at Battery Point in Hobart in May 1853, Inspector Thomas ARNOLD (1823–1900) observed that the

Master, Mr James FREEMAN (c. 1800–1870), was obliged to find his own firing for the schoolroom.³ Some teachers asked their pupils to bring the logs. It was revealed in 1899 that the teacher-in-charge at Cormiston State School, Miss Ethel H LESLIE (1880–1927), had been required to pay for firewood as none had been supplied.⁴

Smoky chimneys were the blight of many schoolrooms. At Exton in 1891, while Mr Edward Pearson BLYTH (1840–1939) was teacher-in-charge, new school facilities were erected. The schoolroom was considered satisfactory, as was the attached residence, except that its chimney smoked. This remained a problem for some years, the smoke in 1894 being described as intolerable in spite of all the means used to cure it. The walls and hangings in the residence were blackened as a result.⁵

Given the problems associated with fireplaces and chimneys, it is not surprising to learn that they were a common source of destruction in schools.



- At Irish Town, Circular Head, in December 1900, the school and residence burnt down. A newspaper report at the time indicated that the teacher, Mr Leslie Ralph DODGE (1876–1961), had been working late at the school on the night of the fire. He had left the premises all safe at about 9.40pm with just a handful of dead embers in

² Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office (TAHO): ED13/1/2

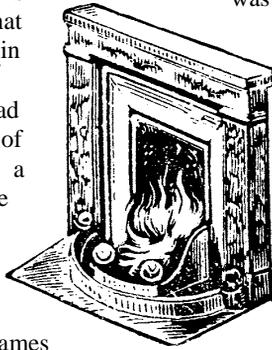
³ TAHO: CB3 3/1

⁴ TAHO: ED31/1/5

⁵ TAHO: ED31/1/2

the fireplace. The fireplace had been a very deceptive one with a double chimney and holes in it through the back from the school to the residence. The night in question was very windy and it was supposed that fire dust was blown from the schoolroom through the hole, scattering and fanning the dying embers. No foul play was suspected.⁶

- In August 1920, the Branhholm School was totally destroyed by fire at an early hour one morning. Many willing hands were soon on the scene after the fire was first discovered and the piano and some desks were saved. It seems that the problem commenced in a rafter near the fireplace.⁷
- Another Circular Head school, Alcomie, had all of its contents, including a piano owned by the Parents' Association, completely destroyed by fire on the night of 27 June 1938. Local resident, Mr James



ROLLINGS, first noticed the flames at 7:30 p.m. but, by the time help arrived, flames had engulfed the building. It was concluded that the fire had started when the teacher, as was her usual routine, had set kindling in the fireplace ready for the next day, before she left in the afternoon. It would appear that the fire had not totally died down.⁸

Sparks from nearby chimneys were also a source of problems in town areas. On a day of strong winds in November 1911, a fire broke out at the Girls' Industrial

School in Davey Street in Hobart. By the time a fire crew arrived the roof of the main building and that on a wing on the eastern side of it were well alight. It was supposed to have started from a spark blown from a chimney in Macquarie Street. Roof damage and the destruction of some mattresses was the main result.⁹

Glowing embers in tins in porches

There were daily routines associated with the maintenance of classroom fireplaces, and many tasks were carried out by the teachers. As a rule, the fire was to be lighted on cold mornings an hour before the children assembled so that the room was comfortably warmed by the

time work was started. An hour before the school was dismissed for the day the fires could be reduced and allowed to die. Prior to the teacher's departure for the day, it was common practice for the fireplace to be emptied and its contents placed in a bin outside the classroom.

- At Yarlington, near Colebrook, on the night of 14 May 1931, the school porch caught fire as the result of some still alight coals from the fireplace being left in a tin there. A neighbour, Mrs WHELAN, noticed the fire, broke in through a window, and poured water on the flames. A hole was burnt in the floor, but not much other damage was done.¹⁰
- There was a fire at Glen Fern State School in the Derwent Valley in 1935, but thanks to the quick action of two neighbours, Messrs C and E

⁶ *The Advocate*, 7 December 1900

⁷ *Daily Telegraph*, 21 August 1920

⁸ *Circular Head Chronicle*, 28 June 1938

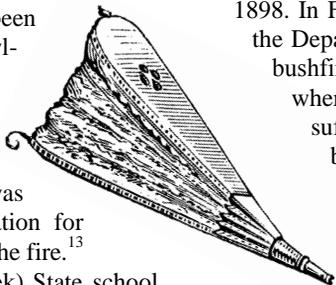
⁹ *The Mercury*, 20 November 1911

¹⁰ TAHO: ED230/2/1/1

HANSCH, only minor damage was done. The fire was thought to have started in the porch where ashes were stored in a tin. The school had been painted recently, preventing the fire from getting a good hold of the wood.¹¹

Bushfires

- A bushfire at Carlton in late February 1856 spread very quickly on the day of its implosion, and caused considerable damage in the district. Fortunately, teacher-in-charge, Mr Thomas Edward WILSON (c. 1794–1858), had a good supply of water at the schoolhouse and was able, with the help of local people, to save the main building. An out-building, which had been converted into a fowl-house, was entirely consumed, along with sixty head of poultry.¹² During 1856, Mr Wilson was paid £2 in compensation for loss sustained during the fire.¹³
- Bismarck (Sorell Creek) State school was not so fortunate when bushfire completely destroyed the whole building and its residence on New Year's Day, 1900. The teacher-in-charge, Mr Arthur William Latimer SOUTHERN (1865–1921), his wife Mary Elizabeth (née SHEPPARD), and their five children, Muriel, Ben, Harold, Arthur and Gordon, were all at home on the day. A newspaper report stated that '... the lint of fire reached the shingle roof of the schoolhouse, and in a few minutes the whole block was ablaze ...' In the



same article, Mr Southern was quoted as having written to a relation thus: '... We have lost nearly everything, only some bedding saved ... We are fortunate in getting away with our lives ... The children behaved like little heroes; not a bit of panic, did just as they were told ...'¹⁴

- Miss Jane Margaret LUTTRELL (1844–1907) was remembered by local residents near Sheffield as having driven her horse and buggy daily from Luttrell's Bridge area over rough roads and through thick forest while she was in charge of the school at Paradise from 1889 to 1897.¹⁵ Miss Luttrell was made full-time at Claude Road State School from January 1898. In February 1898, she wrote to the Department concerning a recent bushfire: "I drove to Paradise where the school premises have suffered severely, though the building is saved, no doubt on account of the iron roofing. Both out offices are burned and much fencing, seven panels completely and two partly at one end. The log fences which were on two sides are quite destroyed ... the fierce heat ... caused the well covering to ignite and all the woodwork is quite destroyed."¹⁶ Another bushfire in 1913 destroyed the replacement building.¹⁷

Electrical and gas faults

- In April 1928 at 10:00 a.m., a fire broke out at Devonport High School

¹¹ *The Mercury*, 15 June 1935

¹² *Colonial Times*, 5 March 1856

¹³ *Journal of the House of Assembly*, 1857

¹⁴ *The Tasmanian Mail*, 6 January 1900

¹⁵ Argent, B (Ed), *The Sheffield School, 1884–1984*, p. 73

¹⁶ TAHO: ED13/1/66

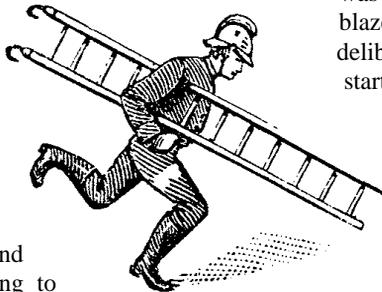
¹⁷ *The Examiner*, 20 May 1913

following an explosion in the gas plant. Outbuildings and a large portion of the common room, including a storeroom and shower room were destroyed. Damage was estimated at £1000.¹⁸

- Forest Area School, constructed in 1939, had its main buildings destroyed by fire in July 1951. Four classrooms, a library, a head teacher's office, a teachers' room and a recently built canteen were all part of the loss, valued at a replacement cost of £60,000. An electrical fault was believed to be the cause.¹⁹
- Approximately £100 worth of damage was caused after an electric radiator was left burning in a classroom at New Town High School in March 1953. Wood on a desk caught fire and the walls, floor and other contents in the room were damaged slightly.²⁰

Some causes were unknown

- In December 1902, soon after Guildford Junction State School near Waratah closed for the year and the teacher, Mrs Hannah May WELLS (1867–1940), had left on holiday, the building was destroyed by fire. The alarm was given just after midnight before the flames had enveloped the building, and a few sewing machines and other articles belonging to Mrs Wells were removed. The origin of the outbreak was reported as a mystery.²¹



- Strickland State School, described as a weatherboard building of three large rooms in the Upper Derwent Valley, was destroyed by fire in June 1929. Several forms and two windows and sashes were all that was saved. The fire occurred on a Sunday, and its cause was unknown.²²
- The school and residence at Ticehurst, which had been unoccupied for the previous six months, were destroyed by fire in May 1950. No cause was found when an inquiry was held.²³

Deliberate acts

- The residents of Queenstown were horrified when they learned that the school at South Queenstown had been broken into, ransacked and set alight during the Christmas/January break of 1916. The fire had been kindled in a cupboard containing library books. The degree of wanton destruction suggested that youngsters had been responsible for the evil act.²⁴
- In March 1926, the school at Dulverton on the North West Coast, was destroyed by fire, the blaze believed to be deliberate. The problem started in the school porch one evening, the teacher reporting that all had been in order when she had left at the end of the day. Everything, including the piano, was reduced to ashes.²⁵

¹⁸ TAHO: ED11/734/8.28
¹⁹ *The Mercury*, 21 July 1951
²⁰ *The Examiner*, 16 March 1953
²¹ *The Advocate*, 19 December 1903

²² *Mercury*, 18 June 1929
²³ *The Mercury*, 11 August 1950
²⁴ *Zeehan and Dundas Herald*, 14 January 1916
²⁵ *The Advocate*, 15 March 1926

- A fire at Lilydale State School, thought to be arson, completely destroyed the old wooden building in 1927. Every desk and form, together with most of the school's records, was lost. The teachers' residence, situated about 30 feet away, was saved. Approximately 100 pupils were enrolled at that time.²⁶
- A blaze completely destroyed Tullah State School and all its records in August 1929. It seems that the problem commenced in the porch and was the third mysteriously-lit fire in the same street within a short period of time. The shelter shed provided by the Parents' Association was the only building saved.²⁷

Isolation and no fire-fighting equipment increased the risks

Statistically, there were more such disasters in country areas.

- At Glenora, the school and teachers' residence were destroyed in May 1928, damage estimated at £2000. Owing to a lack of fire-fighting equipment, the efforts to extinguish the blaze were in vain. The new Head teacher had not taken up his appointment at the time, so there was no furniture in the residence. The contents of the school included a valuable piano purchased by the Parents' Association.²⁸
- Fire destroyed the school at Swan Bay in May 1936. The teacher left the building at 4:30 p.m. the previous day, but on arrival at 8:00 o'clock the following morning found the school burnt to the ground. The building was an old one, consisting of one room,

and it was considered that the damage, including furniture and contents, amounted to less than £100. The roof and outside walls were of corrugated iron, and the inside was lined with pine. Eleven children were enrolled at the time.²⁹

Recovery and prevention

According to records, most school buildings were replaced within a short period of time after a fire, the costs borne by the state government for rebuilding being considerable. Local halls often were used in the interim to ensure continuity of classes for pupils.

Awareness campaigns about fire prevention became more prevalent during the 1940s, including the need to use fire-proof building materials where possible. A push for the provision of chemical fire extinguishers in schools gained momentum in the early 1950s, and regular organised fire drills involving the local fire brigades gradually were implemented. The installation of fire hoses, fire alarms and automatic sprinkler systems has also been successful. Fires still occur in schools throughout the state, but thankfully at a reduced level compared to the period under review in this article. ◀

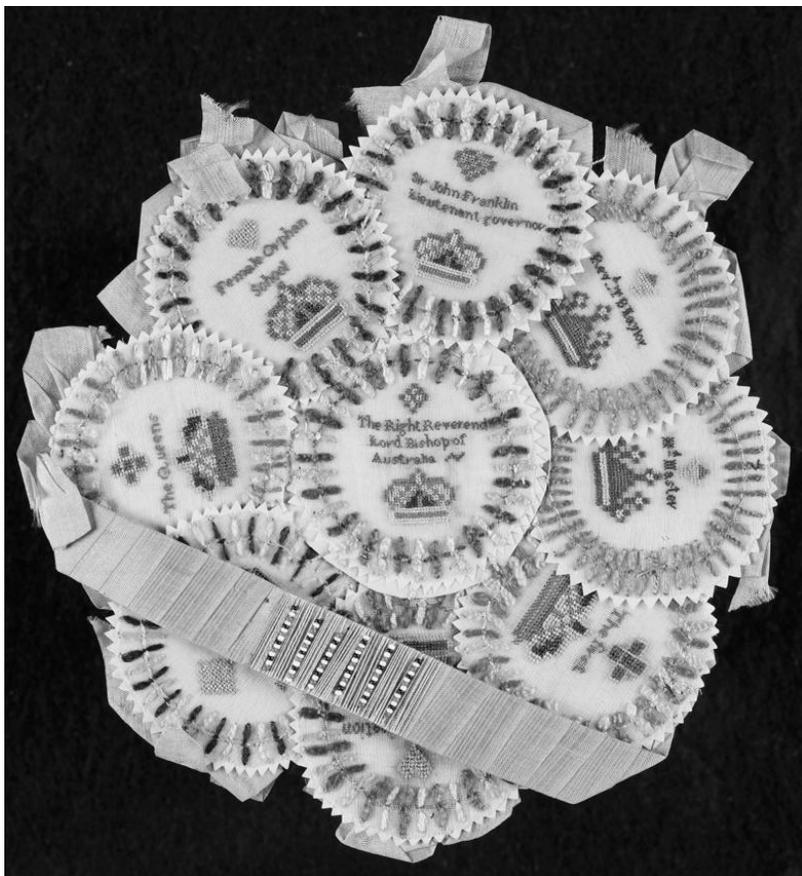
²⁶ *Daily Telegraph*, 3 October 1927

²⁷ *The Mercury*, 17 August 1929

²⁸ *The Examiner*, 15 May 1928

²⁹ *The Mercury*, 6 May 1936.

ORPHAN SCHOOL BASKET SAMPLER 1838



Queen's Orphan School Basket Sampler

Reproduced with permission of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery

THE Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery (TMAG) decorative arts collection includes a sampler made by girls in the Queen's Orphan School. The TMAG description of the sampler states that it is a

flat 'basket' made up of nine equal sized circular panels; one forming the centre or

base and the remaining eight, originally forming the sides, arranged around it and overlapping one another. Each panel is made from a paper disc with pinked edges, the upper surface of which is covered with white linen. Each panel has an embroidered inscription, with a unique variation on the standard motif of a crown, below. Above the inscription

there is a small motif unique to each panel. The edges and the handle of the basket are made from flat pink silk ribbon. The handle is decorated with a panel of wound thread and beads.¹

The sampler is incredibly small measuring 15cm by 15cm and would have needed expert concentration and needle-work skills.

The central panel in the sampler, was dedicated to The Right Reverend Lord Bishop of Australia. Other individual panels were dedicated to The Queens Female Orphan School, Sir John FRANKLIN Lieutenant Governor, Rev T B NAYLOR, H^d Master, The First, Public Examination, May the 31st 1838.

The first public examination marked an important development in the history of the Orphan School. An official notice declared:

GOVERNMENT NOTICE, No. 87,
Colonial Secretary's Office, May 22.

The Lieutenant-Governor directs it to be notified, that an examination of the children in the Queen's Orphan Schools will take place, in His Excellency's presence, at the Institution on Thursday the 31st instant, at 11 o'clock, a.m. when the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Australia has expressed his willingness to attend and superintend the examination.

His Excellency wishes it to be understood that the examination will be open to the public, who are invited to inspect the accommodation provided for the children, and the system pursued generally in the Institution.

By His Excellency's Command.

JOHN MONTAGU²

¹ <http://static.tmag.tas.gov.au/decorativeart/objects/textiles/S1968.131/index.html>. Accessed 30 June 2016.

² *Hobart Town Courier* 25 May 1838 p. 3

On 1 June 1838, the *Hobart Town Courier* reported that the previous day

Sir John and Lady Franklin, the Bishop of Australia, with several of the clergy, and a number of ladies and gentlemen attended a public examination of the boys and girls at the Queen's Orphan School. During the short period that we were enabled to stop, we were much gratified at the health and cleanliness of the children, and the general appearance of comfort and neatness which pervaded the whole of this excellent establishment ...³

Days later, the *Hobart Town Courier*, in a lengthy article on education, commented glowingly

We have a male and female Orphan School containing a multitude of children preparing for the more active duties of human life. This institution forms one of the brightest ornaments in Sir George Arthur's administration. Thousands have been saved from starvation and destruction by admission into this noble institution.⁴

This was presumably the first examination held in the girls' wing of the newly-built school. It is not known who, or how many orphans contributed to the making of this unusual sampler. The design is very simple, consisting of minor variations in each of the nine rosettes. This suggests an overall predetermined scheme within which the students were permitted to contribute minor variations.

At the time of the examination, judging from the admission registers, there would have been, about 170 girls over the age of 5 years learning sewing. One teacher who may have had the responsibility of teaching these skills was Mrs Mary Martha GIRLE. Her daughter, May Ann Girle was a student of around 11 years of

³ *Hobart Town Courier* 1 June 1838 p. 3

⁴ *Hobart Town Courier* 8 June 1838 p. 2

age in May 1838; she was possibly one of the sewers of the sampler. When Mary Martha Girdle and her children Thomas, Samuel and Mary Ann left the orphanage in December 1838, they went to Launceston where Mary Martha and Mary Ann were employed as teachers at the Frederick Street School.

The second examination was held in December 1838,

At 11 o'clock, on Wednesday last, at the Institution at New Town, the half-yearly public examination of the children of the Queens Orphan School, commenced in the presence of His Excellency, the Lieutenant-Governor, and terminated at 3 o'clock. The appearance, order, and general improvement of the children were very gratifying to His Excellency, and the visitors who attended. The alterations since the last returns are as follows:—

Children in the establishment the 31st December, 1837	451
Since admitted,	67
Left, apprenticed,	8
Taken out by parents and friends,	65
Died in hospital	6–79
Decrease	12
Total remaining, 12th Dec. 1838	439

Of this number, 226 are boys, and 213 girls. The boys who are learning trades are not so numerous as we could wish. There are, however, the following: Bakers, 2; carpenters, 6; shoemakers, 28; tailors, 22.⁵

According to TMAG, the basket embroidery was presented to Lady Jane Franklin (1791–1875) by Queen's Orphan School orphans in 1838. It was presented to the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery by Miss Ursula LEFROY in 1968. She had received the sampler from Miss Louisa Lefroy (d. 1953), a niece of

Sophia CRACROFT (1816–92). Sophia Cracroft was the niece of Sir John Franklin (1786–1847) and also Lady Franklin's long-term companion in Van Diemen's Land and elsewhere.⁶



Sophia Cracroft

References

110 Years of Tasmanian Decorative Arts
1803–1930

Thank you to Joyce Purtscher and Dianne Snowden.

⁵ *Hobart Town Courier* 14 December 1838
p. 2

⁶ <http://static.tmag.tas.gov.au/decorativeart/objects/textiles/S1968.131/index.html>. Accessed 30 June 2016.

THE *ALEXANDER II*, 1815–16 CLEARING THE DUBLIN STREETS

Anne McMahon (Member No. 6463)

THE *Alexander II*, a brig of 227 tons built in America during 1811, was a small vessel engaged by the British convict service to transport 84 Irish women prisoners to Sydney during 1815. In size she was only eclipsed by the *Experiment II* in 1809, a brig of 146 tons, the smallest vessel ever engaged to transport convicts for the 13,000 mile journey. The master of the *Alexander II* was William HAMILTON and her surgeon was John W. HALLION undertaking his first voyage in control of prisoners.¹

The brig sailed from Cork Harbour on 4 November 1815, called at Rio de Janeiro and arrived at Port Jackson on 4 April 1816 after a protracted passage of 152 days. There were three fatalities during the journey but as no surgeon's journal is available the details are unknown.

The majority of the women had been prosecuted at Dublin city from where they were shipped to Cove in a sloop hired from the military. These small craft were supplied with straw matting laid in the hold for seating by day and bedding by night. The journey round the east coast of Ireland was intended to take 30 to 40 hours. However when the sea was rough and water poured over the decks the straw was sodden and trampled underfoot by the women prisoners wearing leg irons. In these circumstances the journey could occupy four days or more. On reaching Cork Harbour the women remained on board the sloops to be transhipped to the

prison ships when they anchored at Cove after commencing their voyages from the London dockyards.

The women convicted at the southern counties such as Wexford and Tipperary, or who had marched overland from Limerick, were lodged in the Cork city gaol previous to embarkation. In 1815 it was a derelict building, crowded to excess whose cells were described as loathsome. Provisions were purchased by a woman messenger from the market who defrauded the prisoners after they had already been cheated by the sheriff and the gaoler who purloined half the government allowance leaving them 6d per day. Ten of the women in the gaol were among the group shipped on the *Alexander II*.

The *Guildford* (2), for male prisoners, was also in Cork Harbour. She had been delayed for a considerable period during 1815 and questions were raised at an 1817 Inquiry why she had remained so long. Dr Robert HARDING who was responsible for the despatch of prisoners explained to the Commissioners that the *Guildford* (2) had been detained by the government to receive men convicted under the Insurrection Act.²

This repressive legislation, first introduced in 1796, involved trials by Courts of Special Sessions composed of benches of magistrates conducted without juries. Persons were convicted as idle and disorderly in hundreds for being out after

¹ Charles Bateson, *The Convict Ships 1787–1868*. Sydney, Angus & Robertson, 1974, p. 187, p. 382

² P.P.H.C., *Commissioners to investigate certain alleged Abuses in the Convict Department at Cork. Report*. 1817, Vol. XIII, p. 11, p. 15

curfew and sentenced to transportation for seven years. The Insurrection Act had been renewed for the fourth time in 1814.

The *Guildford* (2) sailed direct to Port Jackson on 15 October 1815 with 221 Irish male prisoners after seven had been relanded as unfit for the journey by the surgeon Alexander TAYLER. One prisoner was lost before the transport arrived at Port Jackson on 8 April 1816 four days after the *Alexander II*. Forty of her male prisoners with 59 women from the *Alexander II* were embarked on the brig HM *Kangaroo* for Van Diemen's Land.

Rev. Robert KNOPWOOD recorded their arrival on 29 April 1816. It was a cold and raw morning with snow on the mountains and falling in the streets of Hobart Town. Settlers lined the wharf to select females for assignment as servants while the men were dispersed or placed in government gangs.³

Forty three of the women who disembarked had been servants or worked in country service in Ireland. Two were market women while those remaining were a midwife, a ribbon weaver and a mantua maker. The majority of their sentences were for 7 years while their offences were predominantly for theft revealing the poverty of their lives on the streets of Dublin. Their offences included stealing cloth, clothing, money and watches. More serious offences of possessing forged bank notes resulted in 14 year sentences although this was a capital crime in England at the time. Life sentences were imposed for street and house robbery and arson.

By 1827 six of the *Alexander II* women had died. The first was Bridget WALSH, the 46 year-old midwife who married

John RIDDEL from the *Guildford* (2) in 1816 and died a year later. Three young women died between 1820 and 1821 while the final early deaths were in 1826–27.

These women were subjected to a variety of punishments during the next ten years. Hobart Town magistrates, such as the long serving Robert Knopwood and Adolarius HUMPHREY, appointed in April 1817, complained of the limited means available for controlling disorderly female convicts. As no house of correction was available to them, reprimands and admonishments were the first punishments administered. Fines of 5s. 0d. were next imposed. When all these failed the exasperated magistrates had the offenders placed in the stocks for upwards of 6 hours or for lesser periods over several days. Repeated offenders were fitted with iron collars for up to a week. These helmets, weighing 5¼ lbs, had spikes projecting from the front and back and were used in Van Diemen's Land until 1826. Unrepentant women were sent to hard labour in gaol or to undergo solitary confinement on bread and water. Crimes such as substantial theft resulted in secondary transportation for three of the *Alexander II* women.⁴

Mary KIRK, a nineteen year old literate prisoner, tried in Dublin for stealing a watch, had come on board the *Alexander II*. Soon after arrival in 1816 she and Andrew BENT, later to be the owner of the *Hobart Town Gazette*, were married. He had been sentenced to death in England for burglary which was commuted to life. After arrival at Port Jackson on board the *Guildford* (1) during 1812 he was sent to Hobart Town on the *Ruby*.

³ Robert Knopwood, *Diary 1803–1838*. Ed. Mary Nicholls. Hobart, *THRA*, 1977, p. 230.

⁴ Phillip Tardif, *Notorious Strumpets and Dangerous Girls: convict women in Van Diemen's Land 1803–1829*. Sydney, Angus & Robertson, 1990, pp. 165–204

Andrew Bent was the first to struggle and to suffer for freedom of the press in Australia. He printed the *Gazette* during Lieut-Governor SORELL's time but on his arrival in 1824 Lieut-Governor ARTHUR made clear his view that newspapers should be government property. Andrew Bent resisted and was placed under official censure for libel. Printing for government was withdrawn—during 1826–27 he was imprisoned and fined £500. Eventually Arthur's aim to control the press by a revocable licence was disallowed by Governor-in-chief Sir Thomas BRISBANE but Bent struggled with specialised printing and publishing to maintain his family. Finally he moved to NSW where he died in poverty during 1851.⁵

In a closed community such as Hobart Town peoples' lives were of absorbing interest. It was therefore unsurprising that in August 1817 a great sensation arose in the settlement involving one of the women from the *Alexander II*. She was Mary IVOR (or EVERS), a servant in the DRUMMOND family who was implicated in a murder. A young lady, 'considered under respectable protection', was secretly delivered of a male child which was interred at night in a box in the burial ground.

A coronial inquest revealed Miss Lilius McKELLAR, sister to Mrs Elizabeth Drummond and living in their household, was the mother. Miss McKellar was found guilty of the murder of her infant. The father was John Drummond, Hobart Naval Officer serving Lieut-Governor Sorell. He and the servant Mary Evor buried the infant and were deemed guilty of aiding and abetting the crime. The three persons were sent to Sydney Criminal Court for trial. In December 1817 news reached Hobart Town that all

had been acquitted for want of sufficient evidence but John Drummond was dismissed by Governor Macquarie.

The three women in the household were the victims of John Drummond's behaviour: namely his wife Elizabeth who had been publicly humiliated, Lilius, his sister-in-law who bore his child and Mary Ivor their powerless servant who, under orders from the master, assisted in the burial.

The scandal evoked much sympathy for Elizabeth Drummond who remained faithful to her husband throughout the ordeal and bore him a second son during 1819.⁶

Lilius McKellar married a respectable English settler, Nathan ELLIOT, on 17 June 1820 with Rev Robert Knopwood officiating. Elliot had come to settle in Van Diemen's Land during October 1819 and had been granted substantial parcels of land well after the drama of 1817 had subsided.

Mary Ivor who had been drawn into concealing the death and burial of the infant, lost her position and died on 18 May 1820 after receiving several drunk and disorderly penalties for misbehaviour on the streets.

John Drummond sailed in the *Admiral Cockburn* in March 1820 with his family to live in England where he administered his Scottish father's estate. By a deed of 1808, registered in 1823, he was described as 'Sir John Francis Drummond'.⁷ ◀

⁶ *Hobart Town Gazette and Southern Reporter*, 30 August 1817, 13 December 1817

⁷ Robert Knopwood *op. cit.*, p. 33; *Journals of the Land Commissioners for Van Diemen's Land 1826–28*. Ed. Anne McKay. Hobart, University of Tasmania, 1962, p. 83; *A.D.B.*, 'John Drummond', Vol. 1, p. 327.

⁵ *A.D.B.*, 'Andrew Bent', Vol. 1. p. 86

NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS

NAME	PLACE/AREA	TIME	M'SHIP NO.
ASHMAN George	Campbell Town TAS AUS		7826
BERRY/BARRY Annie Catherine	Dover TAS AUS	1859-1932	7835
BOWDEN Elsie Geraldine			7830
CHRISTISON Mary	SCOTLAND		7823
COOTES Robert	Suffolk ENG		7823
FAGAN Matthew	IRELAND		7823
GRANT William	Evandale TAS AUS	1850-1891	7828
HARE Alfred Clarence			7830
HAZLEDINE Caroline	EVANDALE TAS AUS	1850-1889	7828
JOWETT John Denman	Devonport TAS AUS		7827
LACEY	Launceston TAS AUS	1800-1900	7825
LODGE Joseph	Tunbridge TAS AUS/Yorkshire ENG	c.1841	7826
McDERMOTT Francis	Oatlands TAS AUS	1800-1900	7825
McGUINNESS Arthur Edw	Carlton/Scottsdale TAS AUS	c.1860	7826
MURPHY Patrick	Evandale TAS AUS		7823
RISELEY William	Oatlands TAS AUS	1800-1900	7825
STEEL Percy	East Coast TAS AUS	c.1865	7826
STEWART Edward	SCOTLAND		7831
WATSON William	Jericho TAS AUS	1800-1900	7825

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Saturday 27 May 2017

10:00 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. at Glenorchy LINC

Conducted by Jill Cassidy President of Oral History Tasmania

Learn how to interview your relatives,
and how to ensure your descendants can hear their voices.

There will be a demonstration of a digital recorder.

Cost (includes lunch): \$50 non-members, \$40 members Oral History Tasmania, \$30 students.

Contact Jill Cassidy on 0418 178 098 or president@oralhistorytas.org.au



Oral History Tasmania

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A warm welcome is extended to the following new members

7823	RHODES Mrs Lynne	16 Presnell Street annetterhodes48@gmail.com	GRANTON	TAS	7030
7824	CARLESS Mrs Anne	729 Nubeena Road robanne729@bigpond.com	KOONYA	TAS	7187
7825	TURNER Mr DeeJ	15 Ronald Street deejman61@hotmail.com	DEVONPORT	TAS	7310
7826	PURNELL Mrs Vicki	9 Ellis Street vickipurnell99@gmail.com	DEVONPORT	TAS	7310
7827	MacDONALD Ms Janis	PO Box 652 mjanis@y7mail.com	DEVONPORT	TAS	7310
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7829	MASON Mrs Ronda	9 Riverview Road ronda.mason@bigpond.com	RIVERSIDE	TAS	7250
7830	HARE Mr Philip	21 Faircroft Avenue pshare@bigpond.net.au	GLEN IRIS	VIC	3146
7831	STEWART Mr Shane	163 Vermont Road shanecestewart@yahoo.com.a	MOWBRAY	TAS	7248
7835	CHALLENGER Mr James	37 Herd Road jameschall@exemail.com.au	BELMONT	VIC	3216

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HISTORIC CHAPEL AND BURIAL GROUND FRANKLIN VILLAGE 1845

Terry Childs OAM (Member No. 1361)



A recent rear view of the Franklin Village Chapel, now St James Church and portion of the burial ground.

LONG MEADOWS was an early colonial settlement on the main road between Hobart Town and Launceston about 8 kilometres south of Launceston. It was a social and service centre for a developing farming area and an important staging post for travellers along the main road. The settlement was later renamed Franklin Village to honour Sir John FRANKLIN who was Lieutenant Governor between 1837 and 1843.

In 1844 the Franklin Village community petitioned the newly-arrived Bishop, Francis NIXON, for permission to hold services at Franklin Village. He agreed if a building in which to hold the services could be provided. Ex-convict Britton JONES, licensee of the 'Sir William

Wallace Inn', granted an acre of land for a school and for the celebration of Divine Worship according to the Rites and Ceremonies to the United Church of England and Ireland and for a place of burial

Members of the community raised the necessary funds, assisted by a grant from the English Society for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge. On 12 October 1844 the Bishop laid the foundation stone for the chapel built in the Primitive Gothic style with convict labour using convict-made bricks. The building was completed and on 15 April 1845, at the entrance, the Bishop was presented with a petition from residents requesting His Lordship to open the building for the conduct of services by licence. The

licence was granted, prayers were said and the Bishop delivered a sermon 'My house shall be called a house of prayer'.

Following the opening service the Bishop, together with the clergy present,

perambulated the burial ground and proceeded to the consecration of the ground.

However, the building which included a schoolroom was not consecrated on that occasion. In 1926 the building was dedicated and renamed St James Church. Services continue to be held weekly and the ground remains open for burials.

A recent addition has been a columbarium generously provided by Finney Funeral Services for the interment of ashes.

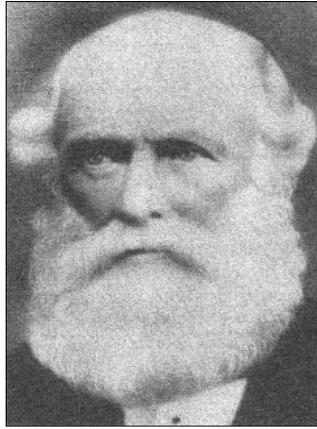
Interred in the burial ground are many pioneers of Franklin Village and the surrounding districts. These pioneers contributed to the foundation and economic, social and cultural development of the Village in early colonial times and beyond.

George ANDERSON arrived in Van Diemen's Land in 1847, worked as a tutor and, for a period, as a teacher of Classics and Mathematics with William Keeler HAWKES at the Classical and Commercial School at Franklin Village. After leaving Franklin Village he worked as a clerk in the Department of the Comptroller-General in Hobart Town, moved to the goldfields in New South Wales and Victoria and in 1853 settled in Circular Head where he farmed and held a number of community leadership positions in-

cluding that of Stipendiary Magistrate.

In 1854 he married Jane SMITH, daughter of John and Frances Smith of 'Marchington'. They had four sons and three daughters. George Anderson died in 1911 aged 89 years. He and his wife Jane are buried in the Franklin Village burial ground.

Theodore Bryant BARTLEY migrated to New South Wales in 1819 and was appointed tutor to the 5-year old son of Governor Lachlan MACQUARIE. During a visit with Macquarie to Hobart Town in 1821 he decided to branch out on his own and was granted prime land at Franklin Village. He named it 'Kerry Lodge'. Bartley became a leader in agriculture, business and community affairs. He died at 'Kerry Lodge' in 1878. His remains with those of his wife Hannah and a number of their 15



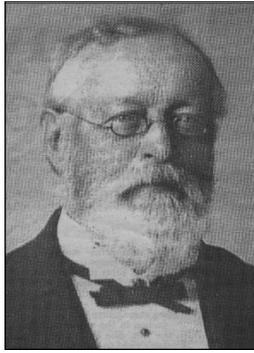
T B Bartley

children were interred in the burial ground at Franklin Village.

George Belben CRESSWELL migrated from India where he had been chief civil engineer on the Himalaya-Darjeeling Railway. He purchased the 'Glenara' property from E B and Mary Genders and in 1920 sold a portion of the property, including substantial buildings, for the establishment of the Northern Tasmanian Home for Boys. He died at 'Glenara' in 1924. His son, Wing Commander Richard (Dick) Cresswell, a distinguished airman during World War II, died in Canberra in 2009 and, in accordance with his wishes, his ashes were interred in his father's grave at Franklin Village.

Joseph Charles GENDERS, originally from Birmingham, UK, moved to Franklin Village from South Australia where he had established a wholesale saddlers' ironmongery business which he left in charge of his eldest son. In 1881 he began a similar firm in Launceston, the well-known W & G Genders Hardware Store. It amalgamated with Gunns Limited in 1981. Joseph who died in 1914 aged 87 years and his wife Albina, whose second name is spelt Louisa on her grave yard memorial, died in 1888. They were buried in the Franklin Village burial ground, together with their son, Albert Eustace Genders, who had died in 1882 aged 14 years.

William Keeler HAWKES, an English schoolmaster, arrived in Van Diemen's Land with his wife Martha (née Green), in 1842 and established The Classical and Commercial School, an elite boys' boarding school, at Franklin Village in what is now Franklin House. After the school closed in c.1866 he represented the Division of Mersey in the Legislative Council (1871–77). He died in 1882 and his grave is in the local burial ground together with those of his wife Martha and three maiden sisters, Marianne, Elizabeth and Charlotte, all of whom had



J G Genders



W K Hawkes



J L Smith

followed William and Martha to Van Diemen's Land in 1844.

Barbara Tweed PAYNE OBE AM was Mayor of Launceston 1980–81. Her ashes and those of her husband Harold Stanley Payne are interred in the burial ground.

John Lowe SMITH arrived in New South Wales from Newcastle-on-Tyne in 1816 and moved to Van Diemen's Land in 1821. He was listed in the ship's records as a linen draper and arrived with a considerable sum of money. Granted 500 acres of land in the Parish of Breadalbane, he named it 'Marchington' to which was later added an extra 300 acres. He and his wife Frances established a large garden and orchard, noted particularly for its fruits and vines. They exhibited jams and conserves at the Great Exhibition in London in 1851. Smith died at 'Marchington' in 1853 and he and his wife Frances, together with their children, were buried in the burial ground at Franklin Village.

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FRANKLIN VILLAGE CHAPEL BURIALS

LATER ST JAMES ANGLICAN CHURCH

Listing taken from Parish Registers and burial ground memorials

ANDERSON George	GATENBY Catherine Stuart	JOHNSTON John
BAKER Alice Louisa	GEE Lillias Ann	JOHNSTON Matilda
BARKER Michelle Jane	GEE Henry	JONES John
BARTLEY Alfred Collett	GEE Martha Ann	KEAM Ivy
BARTLEY Ann	GEE Charlotte	KERAITIS Werner
BARTLEY Aubrey John	GEE Arthur James	LAIRD George
BARTLEY Charles	GEE Thomas	LAIRD Emma Louise
BARTLEY Decimus	GENDERS Joseph Charles	LAIRD Rosa May
BARTLEY Edwin	GENDERS Albina Louisa	LEUPOLT Maria
BARTLEY Emma	GENDERS Albert Eustace	McDONALD Margaret
BARTLEY Frederick & Onesiphorus	GRACE William	MOORE John
BARTLEY George Browne	GRACE Noah	MOORE Joseph Snr
BARTLEY Hannah	GREER William Lyons Shaw	MOORE Ellen Mc Kercher
BARTLEY Theodore Bryant	GREER Annie	MOORE Joseph Jnr
BISHOP Eliza	GREER Amelia Margaret	MOORE Catherine
BROWN Maria	HAWKES Charlotte	MOORE Harriet
BURFORD Joseph	HAWKES William Keeler	MOORE John
BURFORD Mary	HAWKES Martha	MOORE Thomas
CHUGG Pearl Eva	HAWKES Marianne	MOORE Ethel Grace
CLARKE Amelia Thompson	HAWKES Elizabeth	MOORE Mary
COBERN Martha	HEADLAM Irene	PAYNE Barbara Tweed
COWLEY Emily	HEADLAM Keith Tasman	PAYNE Harold Stanley
CRESSWELL George Belben	HILL Ellen	PECK Emily May
CRESSWELL Richard C	HILL George	PRIOR William
CURRAN Ann Eliza	HILL Lucy	PRIOR George
CURRAN Hannah Eliza	HILL William	PRIOR Christina
DALE Sam	HILL Amelia	RICHARDSON Adeline Louise
DEAN Laura	HILL George D	RICHARDSON Charles Sidney
DEAN Nellie May	HUGHES Henry James	SALTER Hazel Marjorie
DICKENS Stanley	HUGHES Mary Ann	SUMMERS Gertrude Margaret
FAIRCLOUGH Agnes M	ILLMAN Rowena Ivy	SUMMERS Elizabeth (Betsy)
FISHER Harriet Ada	JACOBSON Charles Alfred	TEMPLETON Eliza
FISHER Rose	JACOBSON Margaret Muriel	THOMPSON Bruce Sorrell
FISHER Charles	JACOBSON Janet May	WALKEM John Walter
FISHER George	JACOBSON Charles Alfred	WALKEM John Boomer
FISHER Agnes	JACOBSON Frederick John	WALKEM Lancelot George
FRASER Kerian	JACOBSON Mary Ann	WARREN George
GARDNER Henry Richard	JACOBSON George	WATSON Fanny Wentworth
GARDNER Lucy	JOHNSON John	WEBBER William
GARDNER Philip Henry	JOHNSTON James	WEBBER Margaret
GARDNER Lancelot Beaumont	JOHNSTON Clara Emily	WILSON Patricia & Narelle
GARDNER Charles Leupolt	JOHNSTON John	WISE Dora Muriel
	JOHNSTON Isabella Matilda	WISE Florence Matilda
	JOHNSTON Lucy Ellen	WISE Jeffrey Robert

SIR WILLIAM WALLACE INN

Lucille Gee (Member No. 6297)

THE ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ previously named the ‘Punchbowl Inn’ was established c.1830. It was erected on the original land grant of 320 acres to Joseph MOORE during the years 1828–1829. This land was later granted to George COLLINS and W JOHNSON. The ‘Punchbowl Inn’s first licenced publican was Charles LUCAS. Charles was granted a licence in c.1832. He was born on Norfolk Island in 1801, the son of First Fleeter convicts Nathaniel and Olivia Lucas. Following the death of Nathaniel, the family left Norfolk Island and returned to Sydney. In 1818 Charles, with his mother and siblings sailed for Port Dalrymple on the schooner *John Palmer* to settle in Launceston. On 27 January 1820 Charles, aged eighteen, married Eleanor MURPHY at the St Johns Church. They had sixteen children, ten of whom were born in Launceston. In 1832 Charles became publican and resident at the ‘Punchbowl Inn’, Magpie Hill. In October 1832 he was charged with harbouring assigned servants John SILCOCK, Richard HAMMOND and Richard HEMSLEY who had no permit to be absent from their master, Mr Theodore BARTLEY, and allowing them to be drinking in a public place on the Sabbath.

The trial was held at the Police Office, Launceston on the 26 October 1832. The convict records of John Silcock, transported in 1828 on the ship *Woodford*, Richard Hammond, transported in 1818 on the ship *Surrey* and Richard Hemsley show evidence of their crime at the ‘Punchbowl Inn’, and punishment was recorded as 15 lashes, solitary con-

finement with only bread and water and 50 lashes. Charles was found guilty and was fined £10.0.0 and court costs.

In 1834, Charles and his family moved to New South Wales, then to Gippsland, Victoria where he died in 1852.

The transfer of the next publican’s licence was from Charles Lucas to Britton JONES in 1833. Britton Jones altered the name of the ‘Punchbowl Inn’ to the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ and operated the Inn from 1833 until 1842. By this time the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ had become one of the most renowned Inns in Franklin Village. The Inn itself was situated with its frontage to the main road leading into and out of Launceston. It was built in the Georgian style and the internal woodwork was Australian red cedar. This timber, later referred to as Red Gold was harvested and milled from the forests of the Tweed River, New South Wales. The freshly milled timber was loaded onto ships leaving Sydney for Launceston. It had a dual purpose: ballast for the ship and milled timber that could instantly be used for Launceston house building. The cedar used in the ‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ was made into intricate architraves and carpentry. The cedar architraves after demolition of the Inn can still be seen at ‘Clarendon’, Nile, Tasmania.

Britton Jones was born in 1800 in Wiltshire, England. He was convicted of stealing lead and was transported to Van Diemen’s Land in 1820 on the ship *Dromedary*. Britton married Sophia KIRK on the 2 December 1822 at St Johns Launceston by Rev. John YOUL and they had eight children. Britton was

given a Certificate of Freedom in 1825, and began work delivering ale to many Launceston hotels. He applied and received a publican's licence in 1834 at the 'Sir William Wallace Inn'. Whilst Britton was publican he had the foresight to use the building and the grounds of the Inn for trading. The outside area of the Inn became an abattoir, an auctioneer's sale yard, a rental area for housing animals ready for sale and small huts were built for rental to clientele on sale days etc. In 1838 Britton built 'Franklin House' opposite the 'Sir William Wallace Inn', using the same floor plan as the Inn.

The *Cornwall Chronical* of Saturday, 16 May 1835, page 3, carried an article titled Commercial Boarding and Day School which states

Mr T. B. Wilson begs to inform the Public generally, that he has taken the premises lately occupied by Mr. Britton Jones, as an Inn, where he has opened an Academy for young Gentlemen.

In 1849 Britton left Van Diemen's Land and sailed to San Francisco, where he became publican at the 'Unity Hotel', during the gold rush. According to the *Pacific News*, San Francisco, 17 August 1850,

The Unity Hotel on Pacific Street, conducted by Mr. B. W. Jones, was broken into, during the temporary absence of the proprietor, and robbed of about \$3,700 in gold coin, and a number of valuable articles to the amount of about \$300, all the property of Mr. Jones.

Britton returned home in 1852 but sadly died in 1856 from serious burns to the upper part of his body.

The transfer of the next licence was to Joshua LYONS in 1843. Joshua married Priscilla SUTTON on 26 April 1837 and they had six children. He was reported to be living in Franklin Village in 1842. In

1843 Joshua placed a large advertisement in the *Launceston Courier* stating that he had taken over the licence of the 'Sir William Wallace Inn', 'he will serve the best wine and spirits that are available and all are welcome'.

The publican's licence transfer of 1845 for the 'Sir William Wallace Inn' was from Britton Jones to Richard RUFFIN. Richard Winchester Ruffin was convicted of larceny and sentenced to seven years' transportation to Van Diemen's Land in 1819 on the ship *Hibernia*. He received a Conditional Pardon in 1831 and a Free Pardon in 1838. Richard married Mary STEPHENS in 1826 and they had four children. Richard and Mary worked hard and prospered and they eventually purchased a property at Norfolk Plains. In 1847 an advertisement in *The Examiner* stated that Richard Ruffin was selling all furniture and stock at the 'Sir William Wallace Inn'. Richard died in 1863 at Longford, Tasmania.

In 1847 the licence was transferred from Richard Ruffin to James Hewitt. James was born in 1810 and married Mary Ann WOOD. When he became the publican of 'Sir William Wallace Inn' he placed a large advertisement in *The Examiner* stating 'To all my friends, come visit a newly furnished 'Sir William Wallace Inn' with outstanding wine and spirits'.

In the August of 1847 there was a transfer of licence from James Hewitt to Richard CHUGG who held the licence from 1847 until 1851. Richard Chugg was born c. 1798, Devonshire, England and was convicted of aiding and abetting murder for which he received a life sentence. He was transported on the ship *Caledonia I* arriving in Van Diemen's Land in 1820. Richard received a Free Pardon in 1839 and his occupation was a farmer, but it is shown in the 1858 electoral rolls that

Richard became an early property developer around the Franklin Village area, and owned ten houses, an inn, a blacksmith shop, and 300 acres of land. He married in 1824 to Ann SYDES and later in 1845 to Mary HICKS. Richard and Mary had five children. Richard died in 1861 and is buried at St Andrews Anglican Church, Evandale in the place known as Pioneer Park.

The ownership of the 'Sir William Wallace Inn' from 1833 until 1849 has not been established. Some evidence indicates that Charles Lucas and Britton Jones were buying and building properties in the area and some information shows Richard Chugg, when not insolvent, was definitely investing in properties in the area. However, no conclusive evidence has been found.

On the 18 July 1849, *The Examiner* advertised for sale an old established Inn known as 'Sir William Wallace Inn', Franklin Village, together with a blacksmith shop and five acres of land. On the 21 July 1849, according to *The Examiner*, the 'Sir William Wallace Inn' was sold by auction on Friday to Mr John Fawns of Launceston at the price of £650.0.0. John FAWNS owned the 'Sir William Wallace Inn' from 1849–1879. He arrived in Hobart Town in 1825 and worked as a carpenter before moving to Launceston where he established the *Cornwall Brewery*. John married Maria ANDERSON on 13 August 1833 at Scotch Church and they had nine children. He established the Cornwall Brewery, which operated in a small shed at the corner of Esplanade and Tamar Streets Launceston in 1829, and became an astute businessman, and was elected Mayor of Launceston in 1862. John died in 1879 and according to his obituary 'all the achievements he had acquired,

contributed to the advancement of Launceston'.

In 1852 there was a transfer of the publican's licence of the 'Sir William Wallace Inn' from Richard Chugg to William Henry PARKINSON. William was born in 1807, and was caught stealing a goose for which he was transported for life to Van Diemen's Land on the ship *Aurora* in 1835. At that time William was married with one child. He received a Conditional Pardon in 1846 and was the publican of the 'Sir William Wallace Inn' from 1852 until 1854, and later publican for the 'Wool Pack Inn' at Breadalbane. William died in Launceston in 1869 aged 62 years.

In 1854 the licence was transferred from William Henry Parkinson to John COLE. John was born 1817, and married Ann PILBEAM at the Holy Trinity Church on the 11 September 1851. He was recorded as being a Gentleman. John held his publican's licence for the 'Sir William Wallace Inn' from 1854 until 1859, and was publican of the 'All Year Round Hotel' from 1860 until 1871. He was a well-known identity in the Sand Hill area (South Launceston).

In 1859, the 'Sir William Wallace Inn's' licence was transferred to John SMITH, alias William Smith. He was born c. 1827 at Birmingham England, married Eleanor PAGE at the Independent Chapel, Launceston and had five children. According to the 1858 Electoral Roll John Smith was living in a Franklin Village house owned by Richard Chugg. Later John, Eleanor and family went to live in New Zealand.

The publican's licence of 'Sir William Wallace Inn' was transferred to Thomas GEE in 1862. Thomas was born in 1837 in the Morven district—his parents John and Ann Gee had emigrated from

Rathmolyon, County Meath, Ireland and settled at the property of 'Barbrook', White Hills. Thomas' occupation was a butcher. He married Emma HICKS and after Emma's death Thomas married Martha Matilda Chugg, daughter of Richard and Mary Chugg of Franklin Village, and they had ten children. Thomas worked at his father-in-law's butchery and then moved to being a publican at the 'Sir William Wallace Inn' until 1865. Thomas died in 1889 and his wife Martha died in 1891, leaving a large young family to be reared by relatives.

In 1865 the publican's licence was transferred from Thomas Gee to William FAIR. This licence did not last long as William's wife Margaret died at her residence, the 'Sir William Wallace Inn', after a short illness. The 1865 Assessment Rolls show John PEARCE was the publican of the Inn in Franklin Village. John was born c. 1830 and married in 1858 to Elizabeth WHEELER (BROWN). They had three children. Pearce was known to have been the publican of the 'Lymington Inn', Nile and then the 'Ringwood Inn', Cressy. While John was publican at 'Sir William Wallace Inn' he worked there with his brother-in-law Joseph Brown. John Pearce died in 1869 aged 39 years.

Joseph Brown received permission in 1866 to sell liquor in the 'Sir William Wallace Inn' under the licence held by John Pearce. Joseph did not receive a publican's licence for 'Sir William Wallace Inn' until 1867.

In 1868 there was great excitement for the publican and guests of the 'Sir William Wallace Inn' when they were told the coach from Hobart to Launceston was carrying a Royal passenger, Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, son of Queen Victoria, with travelling companions, the

Governor, Thomas GORE-BROWNE, and the Premier, Sir Richard DRY. The carriage was owned by Mr Tom ARCHER of 'Woolmers', Longford. The 'Sir William Wallace Inn' was the last coach stop for the changing of the carriage horses and refreshments for the travellers, before arriving in Launceston.

On the 4 December 1869 the renewal of the publican's licence was granted to Thomas Gee. This licence maintained Thomas' name, although Richard Gee and John SULLIVAN were also named as being the publican's during that time. On the 3 May 1870 the licence was transferred to William Cain CREW. William was a convict, born in 1820 on the Isle of Man. He was convicted of pick-pocketing and sentenced to ten years, arriving in Van Diemen's Land in 1844. William was given a Conditional Pardon in 1851. He married Elizabeth HENLEY in 1850 at the York Street Baptist Church and had five children.

In 1872 William DARCY was granted a publican's licence for the 'Sir William Wallace Inn'. William Darcy or D'ARCY was born in 1818. He ran the 'Railway Tavern' in York Street from 1868 until 1870. He married Johanna DWYER and they had three children. William was publican for the 'Sir William Wallace Inn' from 1872 until his death in 1878 aged 60 years. He died at his residence the 'Sir William Wallace Inn'. William's wife Johanna applied to transfer the publican's licence to her name and she was accepted until early 1879.

In 1878 the *Examiner* received articles from Franklin Village residents complaining about the standards of the 'Sir William Wallace Inn'. William Hawkes of the Classical School for boys, Franklin Village, stated the Inn was in a deplorable condition and was a very old building.

‘Sir William Wallace Inn’ was sold on the 1 March 1880 by W T BELL, auctioneer for the Estate of John Fawns. The purchaser was Melmoth and Mary Jane FLETCHER. Melmoth was born in 1833 at Lake River, Cressy. He married Mary Jane GATENBY of ‘Barton’ in 1855 and they had fourteen children. The Inn became a family home and they named the house ‘Tallentyre’, after the family property on the Lake River,

of Carr Villa. ‘Tallentyre’ was then leased by the Mary Jane Fletcher Estate until 1930, when the property of an established home and 425 acres was advertised for sale.

Percival Beaumont GRUBB then purchased the property, and his son Frederick Herbert Beaumont Grubb and his bride Anna Madeline (née MAC-KINNON) moved into the house of ‘Tallentyre’ after their wedding at St



‘Tallentyre’

Photographs of Tasmanian Buildings and Individuals – Sir Ralph Whishaw 1966 N165 Tasmanian Archives

Cressy. Melmoth became the Inspector of Stock for Northern Tasmania, and was chairman of the Hobart Spring Show. He stocked the property of ‘Tallentyre’ with sheep and a few cattle. Melmoth Fletcher died on the 17 August 1909 aged 77 years and is buried at Carr Villa. Mary Jane continued to live in the house until her death. She died on 20 March 1912 at her residence and the funeral left from her home ‘Tallentyre’ for the burial ground

Johns Church, on the 18 January 1940. They had five children, and stocked the property with sheep and a few cattle. In the *Mercury* on 12 September 1946 a social article was written concerning Mr and Mrs Frederick Grubb at their charming home of ‘Tallentyre’ served more than one hundred, town and country guests to a sherry party. It stated that spring invaded the house as Mrs Grubb robbed her garden of blossom, poly-

anthus, hyacinths bulbs and other spring flowers.

During World War II a bomb shelter was erected at the rear of the house for the use of the Grubb family and surrounding neighbours. Frederick was duly elected as Councillor of the St Leonards Council in 1952. In 1962 the Grubb family moved to the property 'Strathroy' and Frederick died in 1965.

'Tallentyre' was demolished in 1968 and a family member Irene Chugg requested to keep the sunroom that was attached to the northern end of the building. 'Tallentyre' was sold with the house and two acres of land to Freighter Trailers Ltd to establish a factory and to manufacture transport equipment. The remainder of the 423 acres became part of the Estate of the Grubb family. The house was used initially as a residence for the company manager but demolished to build a factory for Freighter Trailers Ltd. This business was later sold to FRENCHS Pineworld Pty Ltd, then Gunns Pty Ltd, and finally Sea Road Transport. ◀

References:

Hobart Town Gazette, Assessment Rolls,
TROVE, Newspapers; *The Examiner*,
Launceston Advertiser, *The Cornwall Chronicle*

LINC Tasmania - Convict records

Sincere thanks to John Dent, Beau Grubb and Marie Gatenby for help with the research.

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THE ELUSIVE MRS FRY

Fabienne Durdin (Member No. 7708)

IN December 1852, the Rector of St Georges Church of England, Hobart Town, married Catherine BELCHER (née DUNN), a young widow,¹ the eldest daughter of well-known businessman John Dunn, founder of the Commercial Bank.² Her young husband, a military doctor, T L Belcher, had died while sojourning in Britain.

The Rev. Henry Phibbs FRY was also famous—or notorious, depending on one’s point of view. Over the years since he first arrived in Van Diemen’s Land, he had written a large number of pamphlets and letters to the newspapers on the theology and traditions of the Church of England, transportation, and other topics. Controversy followed in the wake of his writings, and newspaper editors revelled in publishing his—and his antagonists’—pieces.

For the past couple of years, in preparation for writing a biography of Henry Phibbs Fry, I have been researching his life and that of his contemporaries. As if I were researching my own family history, I have sifted through a mountain of history books, archival materials, newspaper articles, and online sources for whatever I could learn about him, his family, his friends, and their lives in nineteenth-century Ireland, England, and Tasmania.

However, just as genealogists and other historians do, I soon came up against one of those proverbial and seemingly impenetrable, ‘brick walls’. Several sources, such as passenger lists in the newspaper shipping columns,³ a letter written by Rev. Fry to the Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts (that sent him to Hobart as a missionary),⁴ and a newspaper account of a farewell presentation to him as he prepared to set off to England on sabbatical leave,⁵ presented an apparently unsolvable mystery. There had been another Mrs Fry before 1852!

Who was this brave woman who set off as a missionary’s wife on the long sea voyage to the other side of the globe? She was only ever referred to as ‘Mrs. Fry’ or ‘his wife’—no first name given.

According to the *Australian Dictionary of Biography* (ADB) entry for ‘Fry, Henry Phibbs’, this young woman had serious

¹ Register of marriages, St Georges Anglican Church, Battery Point, Hobart.

² Wessing, P H, ‘Dunn, John (1790–1861)’, *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, (ADB) National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/dunn-john-2009/text2459>, accessed 25 August 2014

³ ‘Shipping news’, *The Courier* (Hobart, 1840–1859), Wednesday 5 February 1851, p. 2 <http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/page/637307>, accessed 22 November 2014

⁴ ‘Extract from a letter of the Rev. Henry Fry, one of the Society’s Australian missionaries’, *Ecclesiastical Gazette*, Vol. I, July 1838 - June 1839. No. 12, June 11, 1839, p. 228. <https://ia800204.us.archive.org/8/items/ecclesiasticalg00unkngoog/ecclesiasticalg00unkngoog.pdf>, accessed 25 June 2015.

⁵ ‘Addresses and Testimonials to the Rev. H. P. Fry, of St. George’s Church, Hobart Town’, *The Courier* (Hobart, Tasmania, 1840–1859) Saturday, 10 February 1849, p. 4 <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news.article2966782>, accessed 12 December 2014

health problems.⁶ In November 1838 the Frys returned to England for Henry to study for a DD (Doctorate of Divinity). When Henry headed back to Van Diemen's Land, his wife did not travel with him. Presumably she was too ill to travel, for she died not long after his departure. No details of where that information came from were given, which made the elusive Mrs Fry appear even more mysterious.

My search for Henry Fry's first wife continued in earnest. It took many months, and involved much lateral thinking. I was already thankful for all the digitised records available online which made it possible to dig through genealogical records. The free websites such as FamilySearch.org and FreeBMD.org.uk had already helped me track down several relationships (although I did find, on comparing their records with primary sources, that not all their dates were correct), and thanks to the TFHS library subscriptions I was able to verify some of what I had found on Ancestry and FindMyPast. Now I set out to do an extensive search using as many sources available to me without actually travelling overseas.

There were already many facts about Rev. Fry's life in my files. Several sources—the *ADB*, the admissions and alumni records of Trinity College, Dublin, and of Gray's Inn, London among them—informed me Henry Phibbs Fry was born in 1807,⁷ that he had studied for a BA at Trinity College, Dublin, from

1823⁸ to 1828,⁹ and had been admitted as a student to Gray's Inn in May, 1835.¹⁰ He had moved to London before 1835 (I have yet to find out when), for it seems he was Secretary of the Westminster Reform Club in January 1835.¹¹

Henry travelled to Van Diemen's Land in early 1851,¹² so I decided to restrict my search to the period between 1834 and 1839, and to concentrate on marriage records from Middlesex County, since Gray's Inn was in that area. My thinking was it was most likely Henry had met his wife-to-be in the part of London where he was living, and very probably at church.

⁶ Roe, Michael, 'Fry, Henry Phibbs (1807–1874)', *ADB*, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/fry-henry-phibbs-2072>, accessed in July 2014

⁷ Cable, Kenneth. *Cable Clerical Index*. <http://anglicanhistory.org/aus/cci/index.pdf>, accessed 29 March 2015

⁸ Trinity College, Dublin, *Index to Admission records, 1814–1829*, p. 55. http://digitalcollections.tcd.ie/home/#folder_id=40&pidtopage=MUN-V-24-2_000&entry_point=55, accessed 14 July 2015.

⁹ Burtchaeli, George daines, and Sadleir, Thomas Ulick, *Alumni Dublinensis: a register of the students, graduates, professors and provosts of Trinity College, Dublin in the University of Dublin (1593–1860)*. Dublin: Alex Thomas and Company, 1935, p. 311. http://digitalcollections.tcd.ie/content/42/jpeg/LCN10378529_0333_LO.jpg accessed 23 July 2015.

¹⁰ Foster, Joseph, *Register of Admissions to Gray's Inn, 1521–1889, together with the Register of Marriages in Gray's Inn Chapel, 1695–1754*. London: The Hansard Publishing Union, 1889, p. 452. <https://archive.org/details/cu31924029785452.pdf>, accessed 19 March 2015.

¹¹ Fagan, Louis. *The Reform Club 1836–1886: Its Founders and Architect*. London: Bernard Quaritch, 1887, pages 10–11, 30. <https://archive.org/details/18361886reformcl00fagauoft.pdf>, accessed 19 March 2015.

¹² 'Henry Phibbs FRY (1807–1874)', St Sepulchre's Cemetery, Oxford, website, http://www.stsepulchres.org.uk/burials/fry_henry.html, accessed 1 July 2014

Who would have guessed there were so many men named Henry Fry married in England between 1834 and 1839?! I needed to narrow the search more. How? According to the information from the *ADB*, Mrs Fry died very soon after her husband had left England. So I began also to look through records of deaths and burials in 1850 and 1851 to see whether the name of one of the brides I had found in the marriage records also turned up in the death records. The age of the deceased had to be reasonably young, of course (neither two years old nor sixty). Besides using the online sites mentioned above, I also joined the UK Society of Genealogists so that I might be able to look through their records as well.

When I finally found Mrs Fry, I had reason to be thankful for parents who give their children unusual names! With the combination of marriage records and death registrations, my results were narrowed down to one person—it had to be her! I ‘took the plunge’ and ordered a copy of her death certificate from the General Registry Office in England. It took a couple of weeks for it to arrive, but when I opened the envelope and unfolded the certificate I saw I had found the first Mrs Henry Phibbs Fry at last!

Pheana/Pheanah/Pheannah/Pheanah Fry, ‘Wife of Henry Phipps Fry, clergyman’ (notice the spelling variation in his middle name), had died in Camden New Town on 1 January 1851, aged 36 years.¹³

At the time of her death, Henry was on board ship in the southern Indian Ocean. How long was it before the sad news reached him? But that is another story. ◀

¹³ General Register Office. Death Certificate, Pheanah Fry DYE 092077, *England and Wales. Civil Registration Certificates*. London, UK: GRO, 2016

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HOLDING IT TOGETHER

Jennifer Jacobs (Member No. 1826)

JUMPING from the shower, you dry off and within a minute or two, clothes arranged, you are ready to start the day. For our ancestors, the act of dressing was far more involved.

Back in Roman times, clothes were rather loose. A dress might have an opening at the neck to allow room for it to go over the head. A simple brooch or simple pin held it all together and preserved modesty for the ancient wearer. Men going off to war might also wear a buckle to hold helmets and armour in place. In fact, the name comes from the Latin *buccula* which means 'little cheek,' and was the area the buckle was protecting.

A baldric or sheath made from leather could be buckled across the chest to hold the sword in a convenient position. Buckles could be made in varying sizes and from many materials and were so successful they are still in use today.

Around the 12th century, lacing began to be used to join garment openings. Worn at the front, back or side, laces could be in ladder, spiral or crossed formation. Cord was passed through hand-sewn eyelets, sometimes reinforced with a metal ring. Women have always wanted to change their shapes and one of the early ways to do this was by wearing corsets. These were laced so tightly that women had difficulty breathing.

Originally used in the Indus Valley in ancient times, buttons were more for

decoration. In Europe in the thirteenth century, they became popular as fasteners. Made from metal covered with cloth, they had a shank to stitch them to the clothing. The addition of two or four holes came much later, as did the idea of the buttonhole. Initially, they were buttoned into a series of loops along the edge of the garment. It was possible to display wealth by the number of buttons and buttonholes you could afford. In the 16th century, men usually dressed themselves and their buttons faced right. Women had their buttons in the opposite direction as it was more convenient for the maid who helped to dress them.



Sometimes whole sleeves were buttoned on so that they could be swapped from one garment to another, or removed altogether for washing if the whole garment did not require laundering. In 1783, the MONTGOLFIER brothers launched the world's first hot air balloon. Made from fabric and paper lined with alum for fireproofing, its sections were held together with 1800 buttons!

Next to come along, was the hook and eye. Often used to spread the load and prevent an explosion of flesh, it was used particularly on doublets and breeches and later on corsets and waistbands. Originally made from coiled wire, the modern version was not patented till 1900, when the DeLong hump was added to the hook to prevent it slipping open.

A debt of £15 convinced Walter HUNT to invent the modern safety pin in 1849. When fiddling with a piece of wire he discovered that it would spring. He added the coil to the base and a safety cap to the top. He sold his invention for £400, easily paying his debt but losing a fortune in future earnings. Unfortunately he was more interested in paying his debt than protecting his invention by copyright. He had previously invented the lockstitch sewing machine, the snow plough and a forerunner to the Winchester rifle.

It took nearly another forty years for the press stud to come along. Patented in 1885, three designers came up with similar ideas at the same time. Studs could be invisibly attached to clothing, but became a hit on western shirts when attached as a decoration. No pair of jeans would look genuine nowadays without all the rivets and studs. A quicker way to close the fly, would have been the zipper, but that had not yet been perfected.

Inventors including Enoch HOWELL began working on the concept in 1851, calling it the *automatic continuous clothing closure*. Whitcomb L JUDSON, patented the slide fastener in 1893 displaying it the World's Columbian exposition in Chicago. It was his innovation to join the teeth to strips of fabric which were then sewn onto the garment. Earlier ideas had been to attach the teeth directly to the garment. Gideon SUNDBACK joined the company in 1906 and continued to work on the process. He patented the plako zipper in 1913. This replaced the earlier system of hook and eye technology to the modern system of interlocking oval scoops which could be closed with a slider. This was less likely to pop open and could be closed with a slider. B F GOODRICH used the zipper in his boots and named it for the zip noise it made when being

closed. Its only other use was in tobacco pouches until it gained popularity in flying suits and money belts during World War 1. The introduction of colours and the movement to use nylon as well as metal has given the zipper universal appeal. Another modern product put to use in a war zone, but which failed the test, was Velcro.

Velcro was invented in 1951 when Swiss engineer, George de MESTREL noticed that burrs stuck to his dog and his clothing while he was out hunting. He developed the idea of using a piece of cloth containing tiny nylon loops. The tops were of the loops cut off to create tiny hooks which attached to a fuzzy surface. His idea, patented in 1955, was first used in space suits and ski and scuba gear, where it provided wind and water resistance. Velcro, which gets its name from the words velvet and crochet, was used to hold the heart together in the world's first open heart surgery operation. In space, it stopped items from floating away, used on shoes it enabled even small children to manage alone. Unfortunately, when used in the Afghanistan war, the tape filled with dust and the product was too noisy, so it was back to that old standby, the button.

Queen Victoria loved her elastic sided boots, but her elastic consisted of rows of tiny coils of wire covered in thread. It wasn't until 1820 that Thomas HANCOCK invented the masticator which chewed up the scraps of rubber left over from the closures he used on the gloves, shoes, stockings and suspenders. He joined with Charles MACINTOSH who dissolved the offcuts in coal tar naphtha and sandwiched them between pieces of woollen fabric to produce waterproof fabric for raincoats. These were not entirely successful as they melted in hot weather and became stiff in

the winter. However, when Charles GOODYEAR discovered the process of vulcanisation in 1839 these problems were overcome. Vulcanised rubber quickly gained many uses. In Tasmania, in 1870, the elastic sided boots were popular even amongst convicts. It is hard to believe that it was not until the nineteenth thirties however, that Elastic began to be used in underwear. In fact, in the 1800s, knickers or bloomers were initially two separate legs and that is why we call them a pair. Elastic brought the sides together!

On a trip to the haberdashery department one will find many variations of these fasteners. Different sizes, shapes, colours and materials have made closures both a practical and a fashion item, making dressing much faster than in Roman times. ◀

Bibliography

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Indexes to **Launceston Examiner**

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

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

In the early years of this first Volume Police Reports were detailed and give a graphic picture of the social conditions prevailing, as do the Police Intelligence, Supreme Court and Quarter Sessions reports, which in many cases culminate in the report of an Execution.

Selected news items of interest to family historians have also been included.

Volume 1, 1842–1851—\$36.00

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Volume 3, Electoral Roll—1856—\$25.00

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EARLY DAYS OF GLIDING IN TASMANIA

(AS RECALLED IN OCTOBER 1989)

William G Wedd (1909–1995)

THERE could be some argument regarding the first flight by a glider in Tasmania but if the efforts and involvement of various people were studied and the technicalities put aside it would be fair to suggest that I, Bill WEDD and Clyde HALLORAN and the Chas CLIFF and Basil JONES Glider efforts resulted in a dead heat.

Clyde Halloran was a moulder apprentice in the foundry at Russell Allport & Co. while Bill Wedd was the patternmaker at the same firm. About 1929 Clyde put the idea in Bill's mind of building a glider. They would have been about 17 or 18 years old at the time. Clyde didn't know much about gliders while Bill's knowledge was nil but somehow the idea ranked in their minds and wouldn't go away. They didn't know of any plans or glider experienced people, although unknown to them, Basil Jones, a son of Sir Henry Jones of IXL fame and a joiner Chas Cliff had the same idea and had procured a plan of a Primary Glider which they ultimately completed and flew about the same time as the Wedd and Halloran glider took to the air for the first and last time. It's a pity neither knew of the other's activities for if the efforts of the four had combined it might have been a different story.

At any rate the hit and miss approach of Clyde and Bill started on its merry way, discussions took place on the size and type of construction and it was verbally agreed the glider would have to have a 48ft wind span with a fuselage 30ft. long. It was to be constructed of specially

selected straight grained Oregon pine and so the effort commenced. A vacant Billiard Salon at Main Road Moonah was made available to us free of charge by some friends of my mother. So, for nine months all free time and weekends were put into the construction. The size of the buildings would only allow one wing at a time to be constructed so the framework of the two wings was the first task. We put two main struts, one about 3 inches by 1½ inches and the other about 2 x 1½. Clyde pointed out there had to be a camber on the wings so we used a flat piece on the underside of the wing and to put a camber on the top we put saw cuts halfway through the top part of the ribs so the 1¼ x ½ inch top piece would bend as it was screwed down on the two struts. We screwed the ends where the top piece met the bottom piece of the ribs and to make doubly certain wound linen tape around the ends where they met and soaked it with glue. We completed the two half wing frames and then started on the body. This was framed with four struts running from the front, where they were joined together, to the tail section. It was all screwed and glued with provision made for the tail section and aerolons to be attached. I had to take Clyde's word that such things were necessary and designed bits and pieces as I went along. I think the tail with its cambered ribs like the wings was about 10ft long by about 4ft wide, plus the tail flaps that were about 18 inches or so hinged on the tail plane. Clyde made up some aluminium eye bolts to take up any slack on the wires to operate the flaps and aerolons

from patterns I had made plus a few other patterns for bits and pieces needed and I drilled and screwed the items at Tapping & Whites workshop in Church Street.

When all the frame work was completed the next task was to get it all in the back yard at the rear of the building and fit it all together. We had to pull part of the fence down as the frame was too big for one back yard. We joined the glider together. It was 48ft wide x about 40ft long overall. It looked a real monstrosity but of course to us, it was a work of art.

The next step was to make provision for covering the wings so we purchased a quantity of linen to cover the wings and body. We were told the linen would have to be painted with what was called 'dope' which would tighten it and stretch it taut. We ordered a few gallons of this dope from Melbourne as well as some silver paint to paint over the structure and while it looked a bit rough, at least to us, it looked OK. Of course we had to do each wing and other sections separately and planned to go together when it was ready to test out. So far we had spent nine months on the works and all our spare money but were still full of optimism we would fly around gracefully, once we got it in the air.

When the paint arrived I read the instructions and then misplaced them. So when we were ready to paint I remembered the instructions said not to have any draughts in the place when painting, but I forgot it also said to have plenty of ventilation. We closed all the windows and doors and started painting. The fumes from the dope were pretty strong. We started at 7:00 p.m. There was Clyde, Jim HOOD and myself. About 9:00 p.m. we seemed to be in high spirits and Clyde started to feel sick and dizzy so we sent him home. The last I remembered was that about 10:00

p.m. two or three cobblers called in to see us and afterwards said they thought we were drunk as we were staggering about waving our brushes in the air.

The next I remembered was waking up at home with no idea of how I got there. I got out of bed to find my A Model Ford in its usual place under the walnut tree and then realised with a shock the happenings of the night before. I must have left with Jim Hood. I rushed down to find the place locked up and no one there. The dope tin was empty so we must have run out of dope and then gone home. Jim Hood lived in Sandy Bay about four miles away. I rang to find he was home and in the dog house for Jim, a teetotaler, was found by his mother crawling up the stairs after I had driven him home and she thought he was drunk. I must have driven him home right through the city without remembering anything about it and then home over a narrow bridge into our garden where I always left the car. Such is luck.

When we painted the fabric silver we made sure there was plenty of ventilation.

With the glider finished the next thing was to give it a try out so we loaded the pieces of glider on the flat tray of a small one ton Chevrolet truck owned by a friend Eric BAKER who was a son of Mr Baker at Bakers Corner Moonah, now Dickensons, who was Eric's brother-in-law. We travelled to Brighton where the Brighton Army Camp later operated. We arrived early and put the glider together. The glider was fitted with two six inch diameter aluminium wheels. We were of the opinion all we had to do was get it up in the air and it would sail away all over the area. Such was our optimism by the time we had put the glider together it was about midday so not knowing what would happen if I went up in the air, I decided to at least have a good feed before the final

tryout. So we went off to The Brighton Hotel and had a good feed. There were all the helpers as well as Joe COWBURN who was the resident *Mercury* journalist who also described the next try out at Sorell some months later.

We returned to the paddock to see what would happen. Our lack of knowledge and optimism can be judged by the fact that the rope length was only about 100 ft. We hooked the rope onto the front of the glider and wound the other end around the rear bumper bar of my A Model single seater Ford. The idea was when the glider was air borne the rope would be let go from the bumper bar and fate and a bit of luck would do the rest. I didn't have the inner tube around the cockpit as I did later. I climbed into the cockpit, tried out the rudder and Aeron pedals and then waved the car to get on its way. The car took off and all went well as it started to speed up the paddock and the glider started to lift off the ground. Later, the onlookers said it had lifted a few feet above the ground but the car had started to run out of paddock.

I was busy with my own problems so didn't know exactly what was happening until all at once the glider suddenly dropped to the ground and smashed the undercarriage in the process. So that was the first tryout. They all said it went up in the air but didn't really fly. I suppose technically it could be said to be the first glider to fly in Tasmania even if only for a minute or so. We packed the machine back on the lorry and headed for home. A not very successful end to nine months of effort, but still optimistic we decided to improve the undercarriage and next time take it off a hill or mount.

After the tryout at Brighton which damaged the undercarriage, if it could be called that, we brought the glider back to

Moonah. At this stage the old Billiard room wasn't available but Leon BENJFIELD of a well known family allowed us to store the glider in his apple shed in Gormanston Road. At this stage Clyde decided he wouldn't spend any more money on the unit but would help in any work. It took us about two months to alter the undercarriage and make some improvements, if they could be called that, before the glider was ready for another try out.

The Brighton tryout proved the necessity of taking off from a hill or rise instead of a flat area. Also the jump down from a few feet in the air proved the higher the glider went up the heavier the damage when it came down, so it was for this reason I decided to meet that situation if possible. The only solution was to fasten a heavy lorry inner tube round the cockpit which, when blown up would take some of the shock that a crash landing would create. When all was ready we loaded the glider pieces on Eric Baker's lorry and off we went to Sorell where we had found a suitable site for takeoff. This time we booked in to an hotel at Sorell to stay the night for I realised this was my last chance to get the contraption up in the air. At the back of the Sorell township there was a hill rising up a few hundred feet with a steep slope running down the eastern side towards the river and the road going towards Copping. It had a good slightly sloping top to enable the car to gather speed in the run towards the crest of the steep hill. It was an ideal place to try out. Not ever having been up in the air with little knowledge of what might eventuate I decided to try the glider out first in an open paddock on the other side of the township on the Cambridge side.

We were up at daylight, took the glider to the paddock and put it together. We hitched the rope to the glider and took a

couple of turns around the bumper bar with one of the chaps holding the rope while ensconced in the dicky seat of my A Model Ford. We had a couple of try outs when the undercarriage collapsed. We discarded the wheels and wired on a piece of timber to act as a skid. This seemed to work ok so we pulled the glider apart, loaded it onto the lorry and started off to the brow of the hill for the real try out.

The slope to the river seemed a lot steeper and a long way away but stubbornness prevailed and I wanted some value for my money. It was a matter of flying or else. The else was a problem and I liked that inner tube all the more as I got ready for the tryout. We still had only about 100ft of rope from the glider to the car and not a long run to the brow of the hill.

I forgot who the driver was in the first couple of runs but I think he was a bit too safety conscious for the speed wasn't sufficient to lift the glider. Amongst the spectators was John Hood, the manager of Russell Allports Engineers where I worked. I don't know whether he thought it was a good time to get rid of me or to test out once and for all whether the contraption would fly so he got in the car. The glider was pulled back as far as it would go to give him a decent runway to get up speed. I got into the cockpit, and waved. I was ready and John Hood gave the car the works and headed hell for leather towards the brow of the hill. Later, the spectators said they didn't know whether to watch the car or the glider for it looked as if both were in for trouble. At any rate the glider took off. Its nose went towards heaven, she was heading straight but when I put the joy stick down it started to nose dive until I got the stick back. But I was too late as the glider crashed with a thud down the steep slope, but it certainly flew while the

inner tube did its duty very well. When I hit, the inner tube crashed through the front of the machine. The spectators said she certainly flew but the forty eight foot wing span flapped like an old duck. STEPHENSON from BEATTIEs took the photographs while Joe Cowburn did the write up. I crawled out of the wreckage with a few bruises. We gathered up the wreckage and put it on the lorry to take it to the scrap heap.

Ten months' work or so gave me a minute or so flying in the air if it can be called that. I had no regrets but at least had achieved what I had set out to do in spite of a lack of knowledge, know how or experience. At least one thing I learned was that there was more in gliding than meets the eye and in later years after hundreds of short glider flights I realised how lucky I was to survive my first flying experience. ◀

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TAHO RECENTLY DIGITISED CONTENT UPDATE (JULY-DECEMBER 2016)

Photographs—general

Links provided to Archives Search for contextual information. Enter the series number into *Enterprise* to browse items with thumbnails.

AA678 – Photographs of signs to be considered under the *Defacement of Property Act 1898*, 1969.

NS4935 – Online index to *Mercury* negatives. This is an online index for the older negatives in numbered boxes—mostly glass plates. Date range is 1921–1948. This complements the existing online index on NS4946 (1949–1989).

NS5175 – Album of House Photographs with Plans and Sketches, by Bernard Walker, who was a respected and prolific architect during the years of 1910–1955.

AB121 – Photographs of operations and development of properties under Closer Settlement, 1939–1960.

NS3997 – Photographs of Hobart, collection of Edward Haldane Cotsworth, professional photographer, 1880–1890.

AC395 – “Honour album” - Dux of classes at former Macquarie Street State School (now South Hobart Primary School), 1931–1955.

NS2218 – Photographs and Postcards, Kerrison family, 1914–1929, and largely of the Waratah area (selection previously digitised but now whole series completed).

POL708 – Volume 4 of the series of photographs of convicted criminals, 1913–1914.

NS5581 – First World War Honour Board, commemorating members of the

Tasmanian Amateur Athletics Association who served.

General

NS36 – Hutchins School Admission Register, first admission register for the school, 1846-1892

NS5464 – Commonplace Book compiled by Scott Family, from 1831, (family of Thomas Scott Surveyor).

Album contents include original drawings and watercolours by James Scott, Oyster Bay word list and passages transcribed from books, and family memorabilia from as late as the First World War.

World War I and Soldier Settlement Photographs

NS 4785 – Album of Dudley Ransom—extensive World War One photography.

AE236 – University of Tasmania. Photographs of soldiers for University Honour Roll c. 1919.

Letters

NS5539 – Further correspondence from soldier, Cyril Allen (complements his previously digitised letters – NS933/1/1)

Soldier settlement—supplementary records that continue on from those digitised and ingested in the previous quarter

AB38 – Register of applicants for leases, 1919–1930.

AB37 – Register of approved applications to lease, 1918–1928.

AB39 – Register of short term and temporary leases, 1923–1955.

AB125 – Volume of county charts showing sub-divided land, 1917.

Government Despatches from the Governor's Office

GO1 – Inward despatches from UK to the colony—may be searched by existing online record created by Miss Wayn of the Colonial Secretary's Department AE713.

The AE807 Wayn Index cards despatch references 'ID' refer to this series.

GO33 – Outward despatches from VDL to the UK—may be searched by existing online record created by Miss Wayn of the Colonial Secretary's department AE714.

The AE807 Wayn Index cards despatch references 'OD' refer to this series.

Many of these despatches have also been referenced in the *Tasmanian Names Index* and other publications for the pages relating to applications for convict wives and families to come to the colony.

GO2 – Despatches from the Governor's Office from the UK. A large number of these relate to requests for land grants.

Significant published acquisitions

TAHO is providing online access to significant published acquisitions where the provenance and evidential material lies in the front notes and signatures in the item.

These items are catalogued in the Archival Management System to keep them in context with their creator and other manuscript records, but are discoverable via *Enterprise* as 'digitised Tasmanian items'.

NS5396 – Books from the Library of Jane Franklin, is an example of this process.

Individual volumes, e.g. 'The voyage of the *Fox* to the Arctic seas', can be found here <http://search.archives.tas.gov.au/default.aspx?detail=1&type=I&id=NS5396/1/1>

Diaries

NS5489 – Log book and journal of a voyage on the barque *Derwent* to Tasmania, Aug 1835–Apr 1836 kept by William Russ Pugh, medical practitioner, Launceston.

Pugh arrived in December 1835 so the diary thereafter records his life in the colony (this was an acquired digital item).

Convict, Police and Justice records

POL708 – Photographs of convicted criminals. During this quarter, Reprographics completed the third volume in the series

Name data enhanced by the Tasmanian Information Research Service (1911–1913). This record contains photographs of convicted criminals, organised by their date of discharge.

CON169 – Hobart Prisoners' Barracks. Records of prisoners' hours worked, 1855–1859

GD36 – Admissions and discharges from the Hobart Gaol, 1872–1933

LC346/2/1 – Early Lower Court record for Launceston Petty Sessions, 1833.

AE677 – Warrants for removal of prisoners to Port Arthur, 1838–1857.

CON2, LC347 and POL750 – Assorted records/fragments added as additional consignments to these series

Departures of people from the colony

CUS33 – Custom's Department Record of ships' clearances from the colony, 1828–1833

Arrivals to the colony

GO3 – Government despatches from the UK relating to advances paid for emigrants, 1831–834 (names in the *Tasmanian Names Index*)

Maps and Charts

AF819 – Printed and annotated Town Charts, 1900–1990

AF820 – Printed and annotated Land District Charts (County Charts), 1900–1990.

General

NS36 – Hutchins School Admission Register, first admission register for the school, 1846–1892

NS5464 – Commonplace Book compiled by Scott Family, from 1831, (family of Thomas Scott Surveyor).

Album contents include original drawings and watercolours by James Scott, Oyster Bay word list and passages transcribed from books, and family memorabilia from as late as the First World War.

Health

AB365 – Patient case books, Royal Derwent Hospital—first two volumes 1872–1876 (females) and 1874–1878 (males)

Additions to HSD285 – Consignment 4—Royal Derwent Hospital patient admission records, 1880s, found and returned to TAHO's custody

Film

TAHO has recently made digitised copyright-free/government copyright archival films **part of its standard TAHO archival cataloguing workflow.**

The Tasmanian Film Corporation series AB869 is the first film series to receive this treatment.

Films from this series therefore appear on a regular basis embedded in *Archives Search* and *Enterprise*, via the LINC Tasmanian YouTube Historical films channel, increasing discoverability. ◀

TASMANIAN PIONEERS OF ESPERANTO

Bill Chapman

THE international auxiliary language Esperanto was first published in 1887 by an idealistic Polish Jew, Dr ZAMENHOF (1859–1917) and its first adepts lived in the then Russian Empire, but it began to gain adherents in Great Britain and its colonies from about 1900 onwards. 2017 will see the 130th anniversary of the language and a century since the death of its founder.

LA EVANGELIO LAŬ SANKTA JOHANO

1 EN la komenco estis la Vorto, kaj la Vorto estis kun Dio, kaj la Vorto estis Dio. **2** Tiu estis en la komenco kun Dio. **3** Ĉio estiĝis per li; kaj aparte de li estiĝis nenio, kio estiĝis. **4** En li estis la vivo, kaj la vivo estis la lumo de la homoj. **5** Kaj la lumo brilas en la mallumo, kaj la mallumo ĝin ne venkis. **6** De Dio estis sendita viro, kies nomo estis Johano. **7** Tiu venis kiel atestanto, por atesti pri la lumo, por ke ĉiuj per li kredu. **8** Li ne estis la lumo, sed li venis, por atesti pri la lumo. **9** Tio estis la vera lumo, kiu lumas al ĉiu homo, venanta en la mondon.

St Johns Gospel in Esperanto
published in 1912

The names and addresses of eleven early speakers of Esperanto in Tasmania (or twelve if the misses WILSON really are two people), with their registration numbers are found scattered throughout the *Adresaro de Esperantistoj* (directory of Esperantists) between January 1906 and January 1907 (Series XXVII) and January 1908 to January 1909 (Series

XXIX). All of the following are listed in Tasmania or in its Esperanto form Tasmania. Each individual is ascribed a unique number, which I do not reproduce here. Indeed, early users of the language frequently signed articles and even postcards with that number alone, knowing that anyone wanting to contact them could easily find their address in the published *Adresaro*.

These listings contain occasional spelling errors because each individual filled in a pre-printed form in their own handwriting. I reproduce the addresses as they appear. Here are the names of those Tasmanian pioneers of over a century ago:

T BENNETTO, 11, Gladstone Street,
HODART [sic], Tasmania, Aŭstralio

S-ino (=Mrs) M M STEELE, Lower Sandy Bay,
Hobart, Tasmania, Aŭstralio

Max NICHOLLE, Huon River, Garden Island
Creek, Tasmania, Aŭstralio

(Series XXVII, 1906-01-01 to 1907-01-01)

A J WINTERSON, Railway Department,
Hobart, Tasmania

F-ino (=Miss) Olive HARRIS, State School,
Dunalley, Tasmania

F-ino (=Miss) D C et D E WILSON, King
Extended Hill, Zeehan, Tasmania

STEELE, Tsu Schima, Lower Sandy Bay,
Hobart, Tasmania

(Series XXVIII, 1906-01-01 to 1907-01-01)

F-ino (=Miss) C TRAVERS, Heathfield, Davey
Street, Hobart, Tasmania

F-ino (=Miss) M E GOLDSMITH, 475, St John
Street, Launceston, Tasmania

S-ino (=Mrs) A C KENNEDY, MA, 119, Collins
Street, Hobart, Tasmania

F-ino (=Miss) Ruth GARRETT, 'Romuera'
Lower Sandy Bay, Hobart, Tasmania.

(Series XXIX, 1908-01-01 to 1909-01-01)

Unusually, females outnumber males in this list—surprising in the society of that time.

After about 1908, there was no longer any need to 'sign up' to Esperanto, and text books about Esperanto in a variety of languages, including English, were becoming more common. An increasingly large number of magazines catered for users of the language seeking contacts in other countries.

A Hobart Esperanto Group was set up in 1911) and a national Esperantop Association for Australia in the same year.

Clearly those interested in the language came together from time to time to practise the new language. According to *The British Esperantist* magazine for 1913 an Esperanto Society in Hobart was functioning in that year. Its secretary is named as K SIMMONS.

Are there early minute books of the Hobart Esperanto Groups' activities in existence? Did any of these enthusiasts pass on letters or postcards in the language to later generations? ◀

patbillchapman@gmail.com

ESPERANTO GROUP.

A meeting of Hobart Esperantists was held on Tuesday evening, October 31, to discuss the formation of an Esperanto Group. Mr. S. Clemes occupied the chair. Owing to the wet weather, the attendance was not so large as had been expected, but, nevertheless, it was decided to form the group. Mr. A. Budge was elected secretary and treasurer. After the conclusion of business several ladies sang songs in Esperanto, which gained applause from all present. After supper and a short chat, the meeting dispersed. All persons interested in the movement are asked by advertisement to communicate with the secretary, 11 Church-street, Hobart.

The Mercury, 2 November 1911

WHAT IS THAT PUBLICATION ABOUT?

Maurice Appleyard (Member No. 4093)

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

WAYS OF WORKING

This Quarto size book of 167pp. was first published in 1986 by Jim Marwood.

Here is a unique study of Australian industry in photographs and words which breaks some of the barriers between work and private life that were set up by the industrial revolution ...

Jim Marwood combines the work of six photographers with his text created from interviews with over a hundred people in the industries, and with other photographers to show the history and background of the industries.

An Art in Working Life Project involved placing the six photographers in residencies of up to four weeks so that they could document working life. The sites chosen were the EZ Mine at Rosebery, the Hydro Electric Commission Township of Tarraleah, the Department of Main Roads in Hobart, the Australian National Railways Workshops at Launceston, the James Nelson Textile Mill at Launceston and the Waverley Woollen Mills in Launceston.

The text and photographs not only provide historical information about the selected industries but also contain

valuable details about some of the workers that will be highly prized by some family history researchers.

An alphabetical index in the back clearly lists the family members mentioned.

THE BELLS OF OLD BAILEY: From the cobbled streets of Victorian London to the dusty streets of Hobart Town

This quarto, soft cover book of 168pp., by Lynne Christison Rhodes, was published in 2009.

This work is broadly about the author's ancestors, particularly those with the Scottish surname MONTEITH. It starts with the marriage in 1812, of her great-great grandfather in London. It then progresses through the generations to the mid-1900s where the family is well established in Hobart Town.

Along the way, the family's participation in the life and times of the various locations are vividly described. Although the narrative often 'strays' to describe historic events and places along the way, it always returns to continue the various connected family histories.

The text is supported by excellent illustrations of the historic times and early family photographs. The book is very interesting from a history point of view, even for those who do not have a specific interest in the family history recorded.

An alphabetical index of individual names would draw further interest from many family history researchers. Hobart branch's CSI (comprehensive subject index) project will enhance this potential within their branch library.

A TWIST OF FATE: In the Shadows of the Highlands

Quarto, soft cover book of 157pp, by Lynne Christison Rhodes, was published in 2016.

This work is about the author's MONTEITH ancestors and the origin of the name in Scotland.

It also refers to James Monteith and his involvement in the development of the cotton yarn industry and ownership of the Blantyre Cotton Mill.

As the family history unfolds, the narrative often 'strays' to describe historic events and the life of prominent people (many who might be related) in Scotland, England and France. The text always returns to the theme of the Monteith family and both streams are supported by excellent illustrations of the historic times and early family photographs.

An alphabetical index of individual names would draw further interest from many family history researchers. Some other family names that stand out are RHODES, HUDSON, and HAMILTON.

THE PEOPLE OF CRUDEN 1696

A5 booklet, of 52pp. was first published in 2003 by the Aberdeen & North-East Scotland FHS.

The information it contains was transcribed from the *List of Pollable Persons within The Shire of Aberdeen, Volume 2* (Presbytery of Ellon).

The list of the Poll and Payable Persons in the various parts of the Parish are faithfully reproduced (including the archaic spelling of names, occupations, and locations).

The booklet also contains a hand drawn map of the old parish, including

boundaries, major roads and villages in the centre.

An alphabetical index of individual names is provided, together with a small list of the number of people following the occupations listed.

A small place name index is also provided.

HOME FROM THE WAR: Launceston's War Service Homes

This small booklet was produced by the National Trust, Tasmania in 2015 as part of the Tasmanian Heritage Festival.

On Wednesday 10 March 1920, 'The Examiner' again reported that ... There is a block in Newstead which is to hold 36 homes and ... no less than 25 are now in course of construction. ...

The booklet contains images of the 36 houses, located in Abbott, David and Malabar Streets.

Each display briefly outlines the stories of the first occupants of these houses, who are listed as the owners and/or occupants in the 1923 Tasmanian Government Gazette's Launceston Assessment Roll. Information available varies greatly.

Where available, a small picture of the serviceman is shown. Basic information, such as birth, death, marriage is given, if known, along with enlistment and service details.

THE TASMANIAN CLUB 1961–2011

Quarto size, hard-cover book of 434pp. by Peter Bennison was published in 2011.

2011 marks the sesquicentenary of the Tasmanian Club, Hobart. From its inception in 1861 the Club has been a prominent part of social life in Hobart and Tasmania. It has also long been

recognised as one of the leading Clubs for gentlemen in Australasia. The club is a lineal descendent of English Clubs of the 17th century and the first gentlemen's club in Australia, the Union Club of Van Diemen's Land' which existed between 1834 and 1843.

The foundation and early days of the Tasmanian Club, when it was situated at Webb's Hotel (Hadley's Hotel) are recorded here, as is the move to the present Club building in 1873 ...

The strength of the Club is its membership. Many gentlemen have made major contributions to the ongoing developments of this Club and have been leaders in Tasmanian life generally. This is a story about them and their Club and their place in the social history of this island.

The history of the Club and its members, the development of the Georgian style building, is well written and the text is supported by many historic images of members, activities and associated buildings.

The book has an excellent, alphabetical index at the rear; and an appendix that lists all members (in election year order) from 1861 to 2011. Readers will recognise the names of Governors, Members of Parliament, Lawyers, Mayors, Aldermen, and prominent business men; and perhaps members of their own family.

Other appendices list the officer bearers (Presidents, Vice Presidents, Secretaries, Trustees, life members) who occupied those positions over the years. ◀



NORTH OF IRELAND FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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

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

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

Associate Members may join or renew online, using PayPal or credit or debit card to pay the annual subscription – £16 for 2015, rising to £18 for 2016.

LIBRARY AQUISITIONS

Hobart Branch

ACCESSIONS—Books

Alexander, A. (Ed); *Repression, Reform & Resilience—A history of the Cascades Female Factory*. [365.43 ALE]

*Alliston, E; *Escape to an Island*. [914.46 ALL]

*Bennison, Peter; *The Tasmanian Club 1861-2011*. [367.09446]

*Duncan, W.R. & H.A. Skene; *The People of Cruden, 1696*. [929.3400412 DUN]

*Giordano, M; *A Man and a Mountain—The story of Gustav Weindorfer*. [904.63 GIO]

*Howatson, D; *The Story of Sandy Bay—Street by Street* [Q994.61 HOW]

*King, J; *Gallipoli—Our Last Man Standing*. [940.40092 KIN]

*Marwood, J; *Ways of Working*. [365.51 MAR]

*Mountain Huts Preservation Society; *The History of THE STEPPES HISTORIC SITE, Central Highlands and the Restoration*. [720.2809946 HIS]

*National Trust, Tasmania; *Home from the War—Launceston's War Service Homes*. [355.12099465 NAT]

*Rhodes, Lynne Christison; *The Bells of Old Bailey—from the cobbled streets of Victorian London to the dusty streets of Hobart Town*. [Q929.2 MON]

*Rhodes, Lynne Christison; *A Twist of Fate—In the Shadows of the Highlands*. [Q929.2 MON]

*TFHS Inc. Launceston; *A new combined alphabetical Index to 'The Examiner' BDMS Vol. 6, 1936–1940*. [Q929.38 IND]

*U.B.D.; *Melbourne & Surrounds 1998 Street Directory*. [929.9451 UBD]

Von Stieglitz, K.R; *A History of Evandale (Revised Edition)*. [Q994.3 VON]

*Ward, M; *The Royal Marine and the Convict—Samuel Thorne, James Ward and their heritage at Pitt Water and the Lower Ferry*. [Q929.35 THO]

*Denotes complimentary or donated item.

Launceston Branch

ACCESSIONS—Books

*Bradmore, Don and Carter, Judith; *The Remarkable Edward Myers – Convict, Artist, Musician, Linguist, Soldier-of-Fortune, Doctor of Medicine and Newspaper Publisher*

*Brock, Cynthia; *We are because ...*

*Clark, Jennifer (née Ginn); *James Ginn – Robbery to Respectability – Transported to Tasmania 1835 “for the term of his natural life”*

*Fearley, Patricia J; *Comfortable and Happy – Alexander Thomas Bisset Blair – Pioneer Shipwright of Launceston*

- *Hodges, Ruth and Heazlewood-Peck, Miriam, with Heazlewood, Ivan, AM; *Tree of Hazel Wood – A Family Chronicle – Vere Heazlewood – Revised Edition*
TFHS Inc. Launceston Branch; *A new combined alphabetical edition of Index to The Examiner Births Deaths Marriages 1936–1940 Volume 6*
- *Ward, Malcolm; *A Reid and Shakespeare Family History*

*Denotes donated item

Mersey Branch

ACCESSIONS—Books

- *Heraldry & Genealogical Society of Canberra Inc; *Family History for Beginners and Beyond [14th Edit.]*
- *Jetson, Tim; *In Trust for the Nation - The First Forty Years of the National Trust in Tasmania 1960–2000*
- TFHS Inc. Mersey Branch; *The Advocate Personal Announcements - January 2015 – December 2015*
- TFHS Inc. Mersey Branch; *Melrose State School 1914–1956 A Student Review A Pictorial Record*

*Denotes donated item

Descendants of Convicts' Group Inc.

1788–1868

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

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

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

SOCIETY SALES

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

Mail orders (including postage) should be forwarded to:
Society Sales Officer, TFHS Inc.,
PO Box 326 Rosny Park Tasmania 7018

Books

<i>Van Diemens Land Heritage Index</i> , Vol. 3 (p&p \$6.30)	\$10.00
<i>Van Diemens Land Heritage Index</i> , Vol. 4 (p&p \$8.50)	\$10.00
<i>Van Diemens Land Heritage Index</i> , Vol. 5 (p&p \$8.50)	\$10.00
<i>Tasmanian Ancestry Index Volumes 1–20</i> (p&p \$8.50)**	\$15.00
<i>Tasmanian Ancestry Index Volumes 21–25</i> (p&p \$6.30)**	\$15.00
<i>Tasmanian Ancestry Index Volumes 26–30</i> (p&p \$6.30)**	\$25.00
<i>Tasmanian Ancestry Index Volumes 31–35</i> (p&p \$6.30)**	\$25.00

(p&p \$13.50 for 3 books or more)

CD-Rom

<i>Tasmanian Ancestry Vols 1–20</i> , [Jun 1980–Mar 2000] (p&p \$8.35)**	\$50.00
<i>TAMIOT</i> (p&p \$8.35) **	\$50.00

** members discount of 10% applies

Australia's largest online
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*comScore, 2011

BRANCH LIBRARY ADDRESSES, TIMES AND MEETING DETAILS

BURNIE Phone: Branch Librarian (03) 6435 4103
Library 58 Bass Highway Cooee
Tuesday 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
Saturday 1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.
Meeting Branch Library, 58 Bass Highway Cooee 10:30 a.m. on 1st Monday of each month, except January and December.
Night Dinner Meetings are held in winter and end of year, check with Branch Librarian for details

HOBART Phone: Enquiries (03) 6244 4527
Library 19 Cambridge Road Bellerive
Tuesday 12:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m.
Wednesday 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Saturday 1:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m.
Meeting Sunday School, St Johns Park, New Town, at 7:30 p.m. on 3rd Tuesday of each month, except January and December.

HUON Phone: Branch Secretary (03) 6239 6823
Library Soldiers Memorial Hall Marguerite Street Ranelagh
Saturday 1:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m.
Other times: Library visits by appointment with Secretary,
48 hours notice required
Meeting Branch Library, Ranelagh, at 4:00 p.m. on 1st Saturday of each month, except January.
email vsbtas@bigpond.com

LAUNCESTON Phone: Branch Secretary (03) 6343 3107
Library 45–55 Tamar Street Launceston (next door to Albert Hall)
Tuesday 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
Monday to Friday by appointment only (03) 6344 4034
Workshops Held on Wednesday 18 June and Wednesday 17 September
Check the Branch News and the website
<http://www.launceston.tasfhs.org> for locations and times.

MERSEY Phone: Branch Secretary (03) 6428 6328 Library (03) 6426 2257
Library 117 Gilbert Street Latrobe (behind State Library)
Tuesday & Friday 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
Saturday opening has ceased and is now by advance appointment only.
Meetings Held on the 3rd Monday of the month at Branch Library in Latrobe at 1:30 p.m. Please check the website at www.tfhsdev.com or contact the Secretary for updates.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

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

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

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

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

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

Membership Entitlements:

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

Application for Membership:

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

Donations:

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

Research Queries:

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

Reciprocal Rights:

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

Advertising:

Advertising for *Tasmanian Ancestry* is accepted with pre-payment of \$30.00 per quarter page in one issue or \$90.00 for four issues. Further information can be obtained by writing to the journal editor at PO Box 326 Rosny Park Tasmania 7018.

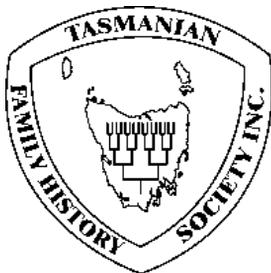
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37th Conference & Annual General Meeting

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.

ABN 87 627 274 157



to be held at

**PENGUIN SURF CLUB
PRESERVATION BAY**



Saturday, 17 June 2017

37th Annual General Meeting

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.

Saturday 17 June 2017

- 9:45 a.m. **Registration**
Morning Tea
- 10:30 a.m. **Welcome by Burnie Branch President**
Presentation of ‘Early Bird’ Prize
- 10:45–11:30 a.m. **Dennis Turner**
Early Mining on the West Coast of Tasmania
- 11:30–12:15 a.m. **Doug Elms**
Genealogy Software - How can it assist You
- 12:15–1:15 p.m. **Lunch**
- 1:15–2:00 p.m. **Craig Broadfield**
For Love or Money, Family Antique appraisals. (Bring along your family jewellery or small antique items for an appraisal)
- 2:00 p.m. **Annual General Meeting**, incorporating presentation of:
- Lillian Watson Family History Award, and
 - Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. Awards
- 6:30 for 7:00 p.m. **Dinner at the Surf Club**

Sunday 18 June 2017

- 10:00a.m.–3:00p.m. **Workshop by Doug Elms (Lunch Included)**
Getting the best out of Family Tree Maker
Venue: Burnie Branch Library, 58 Bass Highway, Cooee

Book Stalls with new publications from branches will be on offer during the day.

Registration Form

Closing date for registration and payment is Monday, **5 June 2017**

The Branch Secretary
Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. Burnie Branch
PO Box 748
BURNIE Tasmania 7320

Phone: 03 6435 4103
email: **petjud@bigpond.com**

Name/s

Address

I/we will be attending on Saturday, 17 June 2016 \$20.00ea
(Morning Tea and Lunch)

I/we will be attending the Dinner \$30.00ea

I/we will be attending the Sunday Workshop \$20.00ea

Please indicate special dietary needs

A cheque/money order is enclosed for \$ or debit my

Master Card VISA *(Please tick*

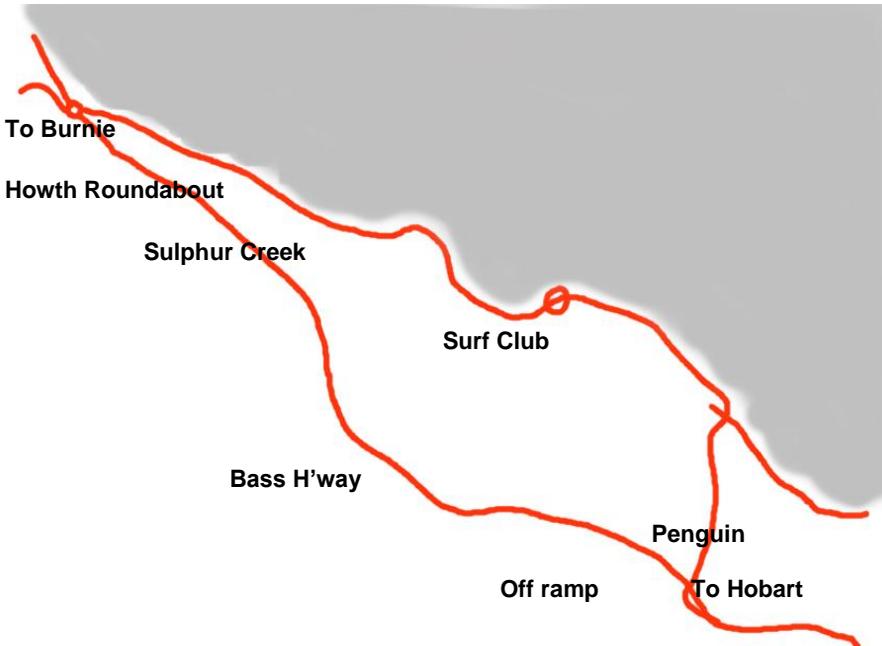
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Name on Card (please print):

Signature: Expiry Date:

*Register before **Monday 15 May 2016** to be in the draw
for the **President's 'Early Bird' Prize.***

Location of Penguin Surf Club



About the Program and Speakers

Dennis Turner has a long association with mining on the west coast and has explored several of the old abandon mines. Has held leases on mining areas. Currently works as an OHS consultant and also a partner in a riding school.

Doug Elms trained as a mechanical engineer and was elected President of VicGum in 2011. In conjunction with John Donaldson he presents many Family Tree Maker (FTM) workshops, also facilitates one of the FTM user groups for VicGum members and has made several training videos for FTM.

Craig Broadfield has been associated with antiques and collectables all his working life. Currently owner of Leven Antiques in Ulverstone and attends Antique Fairs all over Australia. Bring your family jewellery, hand me downs and other interesting items for Craig to do an appraisal and history of the item.