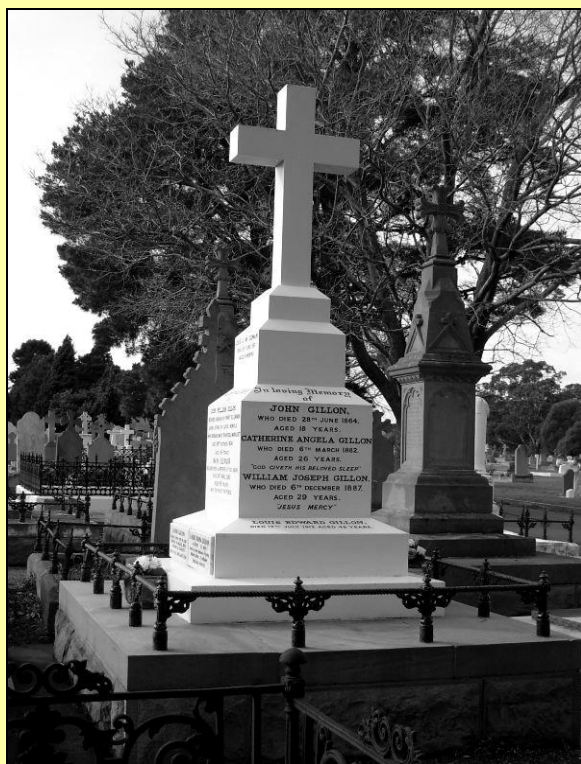


# Tasmanian Ancestry



**TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY  
SOCIETY INC.**

Volume 38 Number 3—December 2017

# TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

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# Tasmanian Ancestry

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## Contents

From the editor .....	126
President's Report .....	127
<i>Vale Thelma Louie Grunnell (née Ball)</i> .....	128
Branch Reports .....	129
<i>I am Nevin: The Pedigree of Eliza Hurst</i> , Karen Mather .....	134
<i>The Elizabeth I (2), 1818: Protracted arrivals in VDL</i> , Anne McMahon .....	139
<i>Laying the Foundations, Launceston Infant School, 1836</i> , Betty Jones .....	143
<i>Voices from the Orphan Schools: Robert Wiggins</i> , Dianne Snowden .....	149
<i>William Henry Whelan</i> , Barry Smith OAM .....	153
School Days, School Days ... land of youth and dream (advert) .....	155
New Members' Interests .....	156
New Members .....	157
<i>Roman Catholic Burial Ground West Hobart (1825–1870s)</i> , Leonie Mickleborough .....	159
<i>St Marys Roman Catholic Cemetery Hobart</i> , Leonie Mickleborough .....	162
Tasmanian Roman Catholic Church Records, TFHS Inc. Mersey Branch (advert) .....	166
<i>The Margaret Bradburn Story, Transportation from Ireland to VDL</i> , Ann Williams-Fitzgerald .....	167
<i>Forever a Mystery Man</i> , Ron A Chapman .....	170
<i>The 'Other' William Summers, The Story of William Summers (Somers)</i> <i>Free Settler, Arab 1842</i> , Don Bradmore .....	171
<i>Recent Linking Within the TAHO Names Index</i> , Maree Ring .....	174
<i>TAHO Recently Digitised Content, July to September 2017</i> .....	178
<i>What is that Publication About?</i> , Maurice Appleyard .....	183
Library Acquisitions .....	186
Society Sales .....	188

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

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## From the editor

Another year is nearly over, with the past few months rushing by with no time to chase myself, let alone catch up!

I was fortunate to have been in Hobart for the unveiling of the *Footsteps Towards Freedom* sculptures of Rowan Gillespie at MACq 01 on 14 October. The Irish President, Michael Higgins, gave a passionate speech following one by our Tasmanian Governor, Kate Warner. It was good to see so many familiar faces.

Most of my time in Hobart was spent helping to finalise preparations for a new TFHS Inc. publication which will be on sale by December. See page 155.

On my return home I have spent days on the computer to get this journal ready for the printer.

The issue has a variety of articles including; submissions from new members—welcome to Karen Mather and Anne Williams-Fitzgerald, and a heartfelt account, written by the husband of a member, of the fate of his great uncle, William Henry Whelan, during WWI.

I expect many readers will spend time over the holiday season going through the newly digitised records from TAHO and some no doubt will appreciate the article from Maree Ring.

Have a great festive season with a big thank you to all our regulars—we look forward to your continued support in 2018.

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:** The tombstone of John Gillon, originally in St Marys Roman Catholic Cemetery, Hobart, prior to being removed to Cornelian Bay in 1882.  
Photograph: © Leonie Mickleborough

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I like analogies. If you have a real bricks and mortar brick wall that is preventing the progress of a new road or a new house it needs to be removed. There are a number of ways you can do this such as bringing in a bulldozer to knock it down in one big hit, or you can carefully remove one brick at a time until it is all gone. The bulldozer method leaves a big mess which then has to be cleaned up, whereas the one at a time method is much neater even though it takes longer. I'm sure I don't need to go on and explain the relevance of this analogy to family historians! It is not often that we have a 'eureka' moment in which our family history 'brick wall' is suddenly breached, but fortunately it can happen! It is much more likely to be achieved by persistently removing one 'brick' at a time and eventually getting there. I personally have a brick wall that I have not yet managed to remove. I can trace one branch of my family back to a village in England in the early seventeen hundreds and I have found the same family name in the same village in the mid sixteen hundreds. So it is highly likely that the two are connected. But, although this is highly likely, I cannot assume it to be so without more evidence from original sources. And so I am slowly removing one 'brick' at a time in the hope that the 'wall' will eventually be removed! It is most important that we are thorough in our research and do not make assumptions which may later be shown to be wrong.

At the time of writing this I have been reminded by the supermarkets that Christmas is rapidly approaching! I don't think it is yet very close, but by the time you read this it will be close to the end of

the year 2017. I do hope you have had a successful year including the demolition of at least one 'brick wall' and that your research is progressing well. Remember, the size of your family history is not as important as is its accuracy. It doesn't matter whether you have 50 names or 100,000—it is still worth doing. It is not some sort of competition to see who has collected the most names!

In conclusion, I wish you all the best for a happy festive season, and I hope you continue to have great success with your research in 2018. ◀

**Robert Tanner** President

## APOLOGY

*Tasmanian Ancestry*  
Vol. 38 No. 2 September 2017  
pp. 97–101

*Seeking Descendants of Australians  
who Served in Serbia and the  
Salonika Front 1914–1919*  
by Bojan Pajic

and the listing of

*Australians Decorated by Serbia  
in WWI*

The contact address for Bojan Pajic  
dropped off the bottom of the page and  
should have read

**[bjpiris@gmail.com](mailto:bjpiris@gmail.com)**

# VALE

## THELMA LOUIE GRUNNELL (née BALL)

12 December 1930–2 August 2017

**W**E were saddened to hear of the passing of our former member Thelma Grunnell after a short illness. Born at Bridge Cottage, Lifton, Devon, England, Thelma migrated to Tasmania in July 1952, with her husband John, shortly after they were married, along with her parents. Thelma's grandparents had previously lived in Launceston where her mother was born, but her mother returned to Devon, England with the family.

In 1948 Thelma started her nursing training at Plymouth, and then went on to work at the Royal Infirmary where she met her husband John. Shortly after she arrived in Tasmania, Thelma worked at the Launceston General Hospital and became Charge Sister before leaving in December 1953. She then started work at St Lukes Hospital in 1967 and worked there for the next 26 years, mainly in the operating theatre, her first love. The last five years of her career were spent at both St Lukes and St Vincents Hospital.

One of her interests when the children were young was membership of the Girl Guides Association in which she became a Brownie Leader and finally President of the local Guides Association. During these years she received the State Commissioners Certificate and a combined service badge for 20 years.

Thelma (Member No. 610) joined the society with her husband John in 1983 and was a member of the Launceston Branch for 25 years. She was elected to the position of Society Secretary in 1988

servicing in this position until 1991, and was also a committee member of the Australasian Congress on Genealogy and Heraldry held in Launceston in May 1991. From 1989–1992 Thelma served as Launceston Branch President, then becoming Branch Secretary in 1993 holding this position for five years.

At the Society AGM in June 1997, Thelma was nominated for a Certificate of Meritorious Service Award for service to the Society and Launceston Branch. During her time as a member Thelma was a tireless worker for the branch, volunteering for many of its activities including library duty, transcribing headstones for TAMIOT, speaking to community groups, organising a bus trip, and working as Research Officer from 2000–2002. She also contributed at least 30 articles to *Tasmanian Ancestry* from 1987–2008.

Thelma and John were original members of the British Interest Group (BIG), regularly joining in their activities and contributing in many ways.

Many members will remember Thelma's beautiful cross-stitch cards, which she regularly supplied the branch with as a fundraiser for the library. She also donated a number of resources to the Launceston Branch Library, particularly on Devon.

Thelma made a considerable contribution to the society and Launceston Branch, and will be long remembered by society members. ◀

# BRANCH REPORTS

## Burnie

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

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The branch library continues to be supported by our regular researchers and volunteers. In the absence of our president and librarian some inter-

esting monthly meetings have been held.

Herbert Illickman, one of our members, presented a most interesting talk on how Austrian people had to prove their identity and ancestry to the invading Germans. Herbert had original family tree information that members of his family were required to show the authorities to prove their ancestry. Geoff Dean presented an up to date session on what our regional library (LINC) have available for family researchers. Marilyn Quick presented an interesting talk on post-war European immigration to Australia. The research Marilyn did for this was initiated when she was shown a faded letter which was about to be thrown out, and written in a foreign language.

Please accept all the best wishes for the holiday season, and we trust that all will return after Christmas ready for another year of fruitful research. The branch library will close after 9 December and reopen on 16 January.

## Huon

No report received

## Hobart

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Once again the branch conducted workshops during *Family History Month* in August, and by all accounts were well

received. Topics included discovering Ancestry.com, Family Search, and Trove, along with an Introduction to DNA research. Our thanks go to Jude Mudaliar, Rebecca Read, Eddy Steenbergen and Ros Escott who gave of their time and expertise to present these topics.

Our Volunteers' Afternoon Tea was held on Sunday 27 August, and was well attended and by observation an enjoyable occasion. We have many volunteers who give generously of their time and their support is very much appreciated. Without their assistance our library just would not be able to operate in such a functional manner. Jock Campbell, Deputy Mayor represented the Clarence City Council, and was a special guest. The council for many years has been a wonderful supporter of our branch.

At our September Committee Meeting the question of what is our most valuable resource was posed? It was generally agreed that the *Computer Subject Index (CSI)* would have to be somewhere at the top. This database is contained on a stand alone computer and over many years indexes from the books on our shelves

have progressively been added to it, and continue to be. This is most helpful, as many of our family history books are not indexed, and it is not immediately obvious just what information they hold. In fact, I have had some minor success myself—by entering my own surname I discovered several references I would not have otherwise found.

### General Meetings

Monthly meetings continue to be held at 7.30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at the Old Sunday School, St Johns Park Precinct, New Town.

The speaker Alison Alexander's talk for the Hobart Branch July meeting was entitled 'Rogue or Hero: Peter Degraives'. Alison said that on his death in 1853, Peter's obituary was not completely factual. She then followed his life from birth in London in 1788, to a move by his father, also Peter, to Edinburgh. He was left fatherless at 6 or 7. This son had a mechanical aptitude, the 'gift of the gab' and could pass himself off as a gentleman. Prior to his marriage in 1807, partnerships in which Peter was involved, failed, and he became bankrupt.

In partnership with Major Hugh McIntosh, he secured the ship *Hope* and after many delays, including arrest for overcrowding his ship and imprisonment for debt, Degraives arrived in Hobart Town in 1824 with his wife Sophie and eight children.

He sought land at the confluence of the Hobart and Guy Fawkes rivulets; and after some manipulation of his grant, he built his sawmill, and progressively, the brewery, lime kiln, brick kiln, flour mill, timber yard and bakery. He added ship building to his repertoire. Alison suggested his success may have been due to scheming, arrogance, and lack of compromise and he made enemies.

The Theatre Royal was the subject of the

next part of her talk. Degraives was on the committee and was also the architect of this building, while his son, Henry, was the builder. It began in 1834 and finally opened in 1837. With some controversy, the theatre was sold, bought, yet still remained in the possession of Peter Degraives.

Sophia died in 1842 age 53; Peter died in 1853 aged 74.

At the end of this talk Alison spoke of her upcoming book, *Utopia in Tasmania*. She suggested that Degraives found his utopia. He succeeded as there was less competition, was bold or even audacious. He side-swiped his competition and was full of self-confidence. She then opened up discussion with the audience, seeking their opinion and thoughts on what could have been considered Utopia for their ancestors or others, and their present experience of Utopia in Tasmania.

The presenter at the August meeting was Malcolm Ward speaking on 'Cambria—The Government House of the East Coast'. Malcolm is the co-author with Maureen Martin-Ferris of a report by the Glamorgan Spring Bay Historical Society of the same name. 'Cambria', overlooking Great Oyster Bay, was built for George Meredith in 1836 by a convict known as 'Old Bull'. He built other houses in the area including 'Spring Vale' and 'Riversdale'.

George Meredith was born in Birmingham, UK, in 1778. In 1805 he retired from the Marines and married Sarah Hicks of Berkshire. He farmed in Wales before moving to London about 1818. He arrived in VDL in 1821 and was granted 2000 acres at Great Oyster Bay. William Talbot had been allocated the same land by Lieutenant-Governor Sorell; Meredith won the dispute and Talbot was compensated with land at Malahide in the Fingal



valley. By 1830 Meredith had accumulated 10,000 acres and established a shore-based whale fishing enterprise on part of which was The Fisheries at Coles Bay.

George Meredith was a political agitator, proud, domineering and quarrelsome. He was a serial litigant and co-owner of *True Colonist*, a colonial newspaper which shamelessly attacked Lieutenant-Governor Arthur, particularly as a result of Arthur removing convicts from Meredith's estate. Arthur saw the colony as a penal settlement and believed free settlers could not expect to have the same rights as English gentlemen. Meredith fought for freedom of the press, an elected legislature, trial by jury and opposed the probation system.

In the early 1850s the aging Meredith sold the property to his son John. George died in 1856. John became bankrupt afterwards and lost most of the estate. He died in 1909 and the residual part of Cambria, including the house was rented by Charles Bayles who purchased the property in 1927 ending the Meredith story at Cambria.

The house remains the largest and least altered house on the east coast; this, together with the fact that it frequently hosted the lieutenant-governor (except Arthur) while George was alive, gave the house the title 'Government House of the East Coast'.

The guest at the September meeting was historian James Parker speaking on the topic 'Persistence in Peace and Time: The land-owning families of Tasmania's Midlands and East Coast'. In a lively and entertaining talk James spoke about 'Nant' in the late 1950s when the property supported five families in a small village, semi-feudal fashion. He mentioned a number of family names that have per-

sisted over time—Legg, Talbot, Parremore, Clark, von Bibra, O'Connor, Meredith, Gatenby, Amos, Lord, Farquhar, Campbell and Bisdee.

James presented an overview of the history of the area from the time of geological change which isolated VDL and its indigenous people from the mainland. He displayed maps—geological climatic, Aboriginal nations, agricultural—pointing out congruences and environmental impacts which shaped settlement. In addition, he presented his views on the reasons for the conflict between the black and white cultures—due significantly to food and its supply. The Black Line—more accurately described as a series of moving lines used to force Aborigines towards the Tasman Peninsula—is estimated to have cost £30,000 and the lives of many convicts being 'overseen' by landowners.

Maps displayed the growth—sizes and spread—of land grants through the early years of colonisation beginning with grants around Hobart Town in 1804; Hobart Town, Launceston and the Channel (1813); expanding in Launceston and Hobart Town (1819); and a ribbon of grants from Launceston to Hobart Town by 1823. Small pockets of grants were appearing on the east coast during these years. Transportation was creating a workforce for the land grantees and this in turn increased the number and size of land grants. By 1823, 444,000 acres had been granted and by 1849 wool 'was king', but with the cessation of transportation and the mainland gold rush the population profile changed from 54 per cent (or 2956 of 5461) convicts in 1821 to 29 per cent (20,069 of 69,187) changing labour availability. While ex-convicts became eligible for small land grants, the 'dynastic' families remained significant and influential land-owners

and remnants of feudalism still exist with worker families living on properties.

### Speakers for 2018

**February 20:** TBA

**March 20:** David Boon: *Connecting family histories.*

**April 17:** AGM. Andrea Gerrard: *Aboriginal Soldiers from Tasmania in WW1.*

**Louise Rainbow**, President

## Launceston

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During *National Family History Month*, Committee Members held an Open Day at the library on Saturday 12 August.

Members and non-members were invited to come along, talk to our volunteers in a friendly and informal atmosphere, and find out more about the many resources available. Following this, our doors were opened again on Saturday 23 September, to coincide with the 'Blooming Tasmania' festival being held at nearby Albert Hall and City Park. Both open days ran smoothly and saw some new faces come through the door. Thank you again to our volunteers who so willingly gave of their time to make this possible.

On Thursday, 21 September, we held our second DNA Discussion Circle, with topic areas ranging from the types of tests available and the process involved, through to examples of how DNA testing has led to successful discoveries. If any members are interested in attending an ongoing DNA Discussion Circle would

they please register their interest by coming into the branch library or contacting us by email. With enough interest we may investigate alternative location options to allow increased attendance.

Registrations have been steadily growing for our *Using Electronic Resources for your Family History* workshop on Thursday, 23 November, and we look forward to hearing more about using the Ryerson Index and LINC website (Including the *Tasmanian Names Index*).

**Library break up** for holidays: 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, 5 December.

**Cleaning Day:** Monday, 15 January.

**Library re-opens:** Tuesday, 16 January 2018, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

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

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

## Mersey

<http://www.tfhsdev.com>

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We are heading to that time of year where things start slowing down. It is amazing how quickly the year has gone. We will be

out and about in front of our local supermarket selling raffle tickets for our Christmas Hamper. First prize is a hamper full of Christmas items and vouchers, second prize is a decorated Christmas cake and third prize bottles of wine. This will be drawn at our Annual Christmas Lunch to be held at the Lucas

Hotel on 10 December. Our library will be closed on 8 December and reopen on 16 January.

We also will be holding our Annual BBQ at the rear of our library on 10 February at 5:30 RSVP by 2 February. Cost is \$10 each or \$5 if you bring a salad or sweet. Please if you are interested in any of the events email [secretary@tfhsdev.com](mailto:secretary@tfhsdev.com) or ring the library.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy and safe Christmas Season and a Bright Happy New Year. ◀

### Seeking FIRTH

I wish to trace any persons with the surname 'FIRTH' in any part of Tasmania.

I was born in CARDIFF, in South Wales UK in 1942. My parents were Albert and Dorothy Firth.

We have relatives in Yorkshire, UK and New Zealand and Australia.

We look forward to meeting with any potential relatives we may have there.

I lived in Sydney in the 1970s but returned to UK where I met my wife. We have travelled to Australia in 2010 and 2012 and brought our daughter and son in 2015. They all enjoyed the trip.

We will be celebrating our Ruby Wedding anniversary in March and this will be a special trip.

We live in CHUDLEIGH, Devon UK and have retired from business in Exeter, Devon.

We intend to visit our namesake places over there and anyone else who replies to this advert.

Alan Firth [ajdf42@gmail.com](mailto:ajdf42@gmail.com)

## TWO NEW RELEASES

### **INDEX TO COURT RECORDS OF TASMANIA Vol. 1 1827-1834**

### **INDEX TO COURT RECORDS OF TASMANIA Vol. 2 1821-1833**

These indexes have been compiled from four of the early *Tasmanian Papers* held at the Mitchell Library, NSW, as described in an article by Malcolm Ward in *Tasmanian Ancestry* Vol. 37, No. 3 December 2016, pp. 136-138.

Volume 1 is an index to  
DLSPENCER 165 1&2  
and DLSPENCER 434

Volume 2 is an index to  
DLSPENCER 96

The accused persons before the courts in Launceston and Hobart are mainly convicts transported directly to VDL, but many came via NSW.

Where possible their ship to the colony and police number have been included.

Many witnesses are also named.

POA

[library@hobart.tasfhs.org](mailto:library@hobart.tasfhs.org)

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AUSTRALIA 7018

# I AM NEVIN

## THE PEDIGREE OF ELIZA HURST

Karen Mather

FAMILY historians know all too well how quickly the branches of a family can grow so far apart that their historical information becomes fragmented and invisible. Tracing the people of previous generations can be made still harder because, until modern times, the identity of many women in western culture was overwritten by that of their husbands as soon as they married; their maiden names were forgotten and their key dates became fuzzy. Furthermore today's easy informality in addressing people by their personal names was unheard of in Victorian times—even spouses referred to one another in public as 'Mr' or 'Mrs', never uttering their first names.

With such factors being intensified by the passage of 200 years, ELIZA NEVIN's story is growing faint, and it is now timely to reassemble the evidence for her pedigree. Her vital records are freely available in the public records offices of Tasmania and of Northern Ireland, and much else is held in private collections owned by her descendants, many of whom live outside Australia.

### Parents and siblings

The village of Grey Abbey (now 'Greyabbey') is in County Down, Northern Ireland. From 1780 to 1824, the Clerk of the Parish of the Protestant Church of Ireland was William Nevin (1748–1824). His son, also William, was married to Rebecca (1778–1869), whose maiden name is unknown.<sup>1</sup> However, she appears in the public record in her own right: *Griffith's Valuation* shows that in 1863 a Rebecca Nevin was renting a house in Grey Abbey from Hugh MONTGOMERY, with an annual rateable value of 15 shillings.<sup>2</sup>

The Church of Ireland congregation worshipped in St Saviour's church in Greyabbey, where the registry book records many of the



Headstone of Eliza Hurst  
(née Nevin)

- <sup>1</sup> Public Records Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI), *Church of Ireland Greyabbey, parish registers, County Down, Diocese of Down, 1807–1843, baptisms, marriages, burials*, Microfiche MIC1/48/1
- <sup>2</sup> PRONI, *Griffith's Valuation, 1848–1864, Valuation of Tenements, Parish of Grey Abbey*, Reference 40/7, 1863, p. 180. (In PRONI the reference is VAL/2B)

important religious milestones of the Nevin family.<sup>3</sup>

*Baptism:* William and Rebecca Nevin are shown as the parents of three children who had their baptisms written in the church register: their son John, 30 October 1808; and their daughters Esther, 23 December 1810 and Elizabeth, 18 July 1813. Their other children's baptisms are not recorded.

*Confirmation:* between 1823 and 1836, six Nevin females received Confirmation: three on 30 July 1823: Jane aged 17, Margaret aged 19 and Mary aged 20; two on 14 August 1827: Eliza aged 14 and Esther aged 16, and on 20 October 1836, Elizabeth aged 22 [actually she was 23 years 3 months]. The ages of the young women are not mathematically correct, but that problem was common throughout Britain and its colonies in the nineteenth century.

*Burial:* five Nevin burials are also written in St Saviour's register: William [senior], noted as Clerk of the Parish, aged 76, was buried in 1824; an infant, John aged 12 months, in 1826 (no parents mentioned), Esther aged 84, in 1828 (presumably the wife of William senior), Rebecca aged 91, in 1869; and Mary aged 70 in 1873. The last two are corroborated by entries in the Ireland Civil Registration Death Index 1864–1958.)

The church records were transcribed from the St Saviour's registry book by the North of Ireland Family History Society, who then lodged a copy with the Public Records of Northern Ireland (PRONI) in Belfast, in 2002. They are freely available for the public to view and to print, but are neither individually indexed nor online.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> PRONI, *Church of Ireland Greyabbey, parish registers, County Down, Diocese of Down, 1807–1843, baptisms, marriages, burials*, Microfiche MIC1/48/1

<sup>4</sup> PRONI, *Church of Ireland Greyabbey, parish registers, County Down, Diocese of*

## Marriage and children

When Eliza was 24 she married James HURST (c.1810–1850). Despite the strong tie between her family, the Nevins, and St Saviour's Church of Ireland, Eliza's marriage took place in the local Presbyterian church, where David JEFFREY was the minister from 1831 to 1872.<sup>5</sup>

It was not mandatory for churches to register marriages until 1845, some years after Eliza's marriage. Luckily for historians, Eliza obtained a letter from the Presbyterian minister David Jeffrey in 1854, in which he certified he had married Eliza to James Hurst on 17 July 1837, and 'I further certify that I have known Mrs E Hurst since her husband died, and their two children, John and Mary Jane Hurst, and have pleasure in stating that their mother is in every aspect a worthy woman ...'. On the reverse of the letter Jeffrey asks to be remembered to John Nevin and family.<sup>6</sup> This letter was brought by Eliza to Tasmania when she arrived in February 1855.

Given Eliza's apparent switch of religious denominations by 1837, it seems reasonable to assume that her fiancé was a Presbyterian and persuaded her to marry him in a service conducted by the Presbyterian minister David Jeffrey, after which the couple continued to worship as Presbyterians. Had the Presbyterian church building and its registry records survived, something of James Hurst's story might be known, and the records of

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*Down, 1807–1843, baptisms, marriages, burials*, Microfiche MIC1/48/1

<sup>5</sup> Wickens, E, 2012, "The 'Auld Light' meeting house in Grey Abbey", *North Irish Roots*, vol. 23 no. 12, pp. 17–18

<sup>6</sup> Pitman, E J, 1981, A memoir held in a private collection of the Hurst/Pitman family.

the baptisms of his and Eliza's five children might have been available to genealogists today. As it is, only the official register of church pew rentals mentions him, indicating that in June 1849 James Hurst rented pew number 41.<sup>7</sup>

Grey Abbey was afflicted by the recurring epidemics of disease that swept through the famine-weakened Irish population in the 1840s and 1850s.<sup>8</sup> Three of Eliza's children fell victim within a few days of one another, as did her husband, James. With such a tragedy to bear, Eliza must have returned to the shelter of her Nevin family, because her husband and her children were buried, not by the Presbyterian minister, but by the Church of Ireland minister at St Saviour's.<sup>9</sup> The register of St Saviour's notes four Hurst burials in quick succession: on 25 December 1850, James Hurst and his child Eliza Hurst (aged 4); on 29 December 1850, David Hurst (aged 16 months) and on 7 January 1851 William Hurst (aged 6).

### Migration to Van Diemen's Land

The next time Eliza appears in the public record is in 1854, when her brother, John Nevin (1808–1887), completed an Australian application for her to be allowed to migrate to Hobart Town, Van Diemen's Land, where he and his wife and four children had settled in 1852.

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<sup>7</sup> PRONI, *c.1850 Greyabbey Presbyterian Church, County Down, seat sittings let*, Microfiche MIC1P/323D/1.

<sup>8</sup> O'Murchadha, C 2011, *The great famine: Ireland's agony*, Continuum, London, pp. 89–111

<sup>9</sup> Public Records Office of Northern Ireland PRONI, *Church of Ireland Greyabbey, parish registers, County Down, Diocese of Down, 1807–1843, baptisms, marriages, burials*, Microfiche MIC1/48/1

The Tasmanian Archives and Heritage Office (TAHO) at the Tasmanian State Library in Hobart, provides online images of John Nevin's application form, and the two official lists of incoming passengers that tie Eliza's arrival to John Nevin's application form. The key data from these documents are as follows:

A. Register for Applications for Immigrants from Europe 1858–1866:<sup>10</sup>

*Number of Application:* 450; *Name and Address of Applicant:* John Nevin, schoolmaster, Kangaroo Valley; *Whether Application is for Relative or Servant:* R; *Family Tickets - Number of Ticket:* 610 [of Book] no. 9.

B. Descriptive Lists of Immigrants, with details of name, marital state, age, children, religion, literacy, native place, trade and applicant (sponsor) 1854–1855:<sup>11</sup>

*Family Ticket Number:* 610; *Names of Immigrants:* Hurst, Eliza, John, Mary Jane; *Ages:* 40, 16, 14; *Trade:* Eliza, needlewoman; John, designer, Mary Jane, house servant; *Name of the Person by whom Introduced:* John Nevin.

C. Alphabetical Descriptive List of Immigrants Arriving under the Indenture System—details of name, ship, marital state, age, religion,

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<sup>10</sup> Tasmanian Archives and Heritage Office (TAHO) TA212 Immigration Board, CB7/30/1/1, *Register for applications for immigrants from Europe 1858–1866*, image 27, url=<http://stors.tas.gov.au/CB7-30-1-1>, retrieved 16 March 2017.

<sup>11</sup> TAHO, TA212 Immigration Board CB7/12/1/3-6, *Descriptive lists of immigrants, with details of name, marital state, age, children, religion, literacy, native place, trade and applicant (sponsor) 1854–1855*, Book 9, pp. 21–22. url=<http://stors.tas.gov.au/CB7-12-1-4>, retrieved 16 March 2017.

native place, trade & bounty paid, January 1854 to December 1856:<sup>12</sup>

*No. of Book: 9; Names of Immigrants: Hurst, Eliza, John, Mary Jane; Ages: 40, 16, 14; Name of the Person by whom Introduced: John Nevin; Ship and Date of Arrival: Flora McDonald, Launceston, February 3, 1855.*

### Tasmanian records

The public record is silent about Eliza for many years after her arrival in Van Diemen's Land, until such time as Mrs Eliza Hurst and Miss Mary Hurst are listed as residing in Forster Street New Town, in *Wise's Tasmanian Post Office Directory: Alphabetical Listings*, in 1890 and then every year until 1902.<sup>13</sup>

*The Tasmanian Government Gazette: Valuations Section* also indicates that Mary Jane took over ownership of the house at 17 Forster Street after her mother died late in 1910. Interestingly, the 1910 issue of the *Gazette* lists the house with the name 'Grey Abbey Cottage' at a value of £470 (pounds).<sup>14</sup>

Neither the widowed Eliza nor her daughter married in Tasmania. In order to be able to buy the house in New Town, they must have been industrious and successful, presumably as seamstresses.

On her immigration records,<sup>15</sup> Eliza is described as a needlewoman. Some years later the *Mercury* newspaper of 2 June 1868 published an advertisement in which Mary Jane Hurst of New Town sought an apprentice dressmaker.<sup>16</sup> By 1874 she was managing the dressmaking department of the Emporium store in Liverpool Street, Hobart and, in the *Mercury* of 28 December, sought an apprentice for the business.<sup>17</sup>

Eliza's son, John Hurst (1838–c.1872), married Louisa Maria TATLOW (1841–1922) with whom he had one son, William Nevin Tatlow Hurst (1868–1946) and one daughter Edith Rhoda Hurst (1871–1926). W N T Hurst became Tasmanian Secretary for Lands (1925–1938);<sup>18</sup> Edith did not marry, but lived a scholarly life, obtaining three university degrees and working as a secondary school teacher. Fortunately for the

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<sup>12</sup> TAHO, TA211 Immigration Agents Department, CB7/17/1/1 *Alphabetical descriptive list of immigrants arriving under the indenture system – details of name, ship, marital state, age, religion, native place, trade & bounty paid*, January 1854 to December 1856, p. 24, Book no. 9, url=<http://stors.tas.gov.au/CB7-17-1-1>, retrieved 16 March 2017.

<sup>13</sup> *Wise's Tasmanian Post Office Directory: alphabetical section*, 1890, p. 222 (see annually until 1902)

<sup>14</sup> *Tasmanian Government Gazette*, valuation rolls section, 1910, Vol. 115, p. 2337

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<sup>15</sup> TAHO, TA212 Immigration Board CB7/12/1/3-6, *Descriptive lists of immigrants, with details of name, marital state, age, children, religion, literacy, native place, trade and applicant (sponsor) 1854–1855*, Book 9, p. 21–22. url=<http://stors.tas.gov.au/CB7-12-1-4>, retrieved 16 March 2017; TAHO, TA211 Immigration Agents Department, CB7/17/1/1 *Alphabetical descriptive list of immigrants arriving under the indenture system – details of name, ship, marital state, age, religion, native place, trade & bounty paid*, January 1854 to December 1856, p. 24, Book no. 9, url=<http://stors.tas.gov.au/CB7-17-1-1>, retrieved 16 March 2017.

<sup>16</sup> *Mercury* (Hobart) 1860–1954), 2 June 1868, p. 1

<sup>17</sup> *Mercury*, 28 December 1874, p. 1

<sup>18</sup> Anon. (2017) William Nevin Tatlow Hurst, *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*, url=[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William\\_Nevin\\_Tatlow\\_Hurst](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Nevin_Tatlow_Hurst), retrieved 22 September 2017

family's genetic line, her brother provided Eliza with five great-grandchildren. It is through them and their many descendants worldwide that Eliza's non-public information has been preserved.

In addition to private letters and artefacts such as Eliza's bible containing key family dates, there is evidence in the public record that familial contact continued between Eliza's family and that of John Nevin, who lived not far from New Town, in the suburb of Lenah Valley (formerly Kangaroo Valley). The *Tasmanian Names Index*,<sup>19</sup> records that Eliza's nephew, Thomas James Nevin (1842–1923), acted as the informant at the registration of her grandson WNT Hurst's birth in 1868, and that when Eliza's niece Mary Anne Nevin (1844–1878) was married in 1877, one of her official witnesses was Eliza's daughter, Mary Jane Hurst.<sup>20</sup>

In her 1981 memoir, E J Pitman, frequently mentioned the sibling relationship between Eliza and John Nevin, for example: 'In 1854 My Great Grandmother Hurst decided to emigrate to Australia to join her brother John Nevin, who was now settled in Hobart.' And she recounted how her father, William Nevin Tatlow Hurst, often told stories of his uncle, John Nevin.<sup>21</sup>

When Eliza's long life came to an end, her family raised a fine headstone upon

her grave in Cornelian Bay Cemetery, and it still serves to memorialise her, her children and her grandchildren. The simple notice in the *Mercury* on 20 September 1902 reads as follows:

HURST. On September 19, 1902, at her residence, Forster street, New Town, Eliza Hurst, in the 89th year of her age. Funeral leaves at 3 p.m. this day for Cornelian Bay Cemetery. No flowers.<sup>22</sup>

### Acknowledgement

The descendants of Eliza Hurst (née Nevin) have generously shared their private documents and family stories with the writer, bringing to life the dry facts from documents held in the public record offices of Tasmania and Northern Ireland. ◀

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<sup>19</sup> TAHO, *Tasmanian Names Index*, 'Births (1803–1933)', Image 349, [url=https://stors.tas.gov.au/007368108\\_00023j2k](https://stors.tas.gov.au/007368108_00023j2k), retrieved 22 September 2017

<sup>20</sup> TAHO, *Tasmanian Names Index*, 'Marriages', Image 180, [url=https://stors.tas.gov.au/RGD37-1-36p180j2k](https://stors.tas.gov.au/RGD37-1-36p180j2k), retrieved 22 September 2017

<sup>21</sup> Pitman, E J, 1981, A memoir held in a private collection of the Hurst/Pitman family

<sup>22</sup> *Mercury*, 20 September 1902, p. 1.



# THE *ELIZABETH I* (2), 1818: PROTRACTED ARRIVALS IN VDL

Anne McMahon (Member No. 6463)

THE *Elizabeth I*, a ship of 481 tons, was chartered by the Royal Navy during 1818 as a transport to convey 101 Irish women prisoners from Cove to Sydney. She was the only female prison ship to sail from Ireland during the years 1817–1818 due to a dearth of women in the gaols. Some of these prisoners were to live out their lives in Van Diemen's Land.

The *Elizabeth I* became a regular visitor to Port Jackson between 1816 and 1820 under the command of William OSTLER. For the 1818 passage her surgeon superintendent was William HAMILTON who had joined the navy in 1797 but this was his first voyage in the convict service. He had come across from Deptford to Cork harbour on the *Tyne* where she was due to embark 180 male convicts destined for Sydney.

Edward TREVOR, a long serving government official who was seeking the position of medical superintendent of convicts came on board the *Elizabeth I* on 10 July 1818 to instruct William Hamilton to hold the ship in readiness to receive 70 women with twenty children who had come down from Dublin in the one-masted sloop *Precious*.<sup>1</sup>

This journey round the Irish coast for such prisoners who had been convicted in Dublin city and northern counties was a very uncomfortable experience of 30 to 40 hours in calm weather. However, if the sea was rough and the winds boisterous, it could take five days or more. The

women and children were shut in the hold seated on straw matting by day which was their bedding by night. Water pouring over the deck crushed the straw which soon became soiled and sodden. The *Precious* anchored at Cove on 6 July but lay in Cork harbour for four days before the women and children were taken on board the *Elizabeth I*.

On embarkation the prisoners washed and dressed in government clothes. Those garments which were clean were retained but those likely to house contagion were destroyed. A problem arose with respect to the clothing which was to be brought on the *Tyne* but had been omitted at Deptford. Trevor criticised the 'unpardonable neglect of the navy' but issued garments from the store of Lieutenant SAINT-HILL, agent of transports.<sup>2</sup>

Hats or bonnets were necessary protection against the sun in the tropics but showing his disdain for women prisoners Trevor sent on board linen petticoats, towels and round black woollen men's hats. Surgeon Hamilton commented that the petticoats would be useful but the women would be unable to wear the heavy men's hats.

While preparing to sail, a further matter came to Trevor's notice. The *Elizabeth I* had been provisioned for 200 persons rather than the correct number of 120. He blamed Lieutenant Sainthill but had the excess people removed and kept in the

<sup>1</sup> AJCP PRO 3194, *Elizabeth I* (2), 1818

<sup>2</sup> NAI, CSO/RP/1818/153, Trevor to Gregory 27 June 1818

hospital ship *Trent* to keep them under his control.<sup>3</sup>

On 11 July 28 additional women came down the River Lee from Cork gaol cheering repeatedly as their boat came alongside. After washing and dressing in clean clothes the prisoners were organised into messes of six, issued a tin kettle, wooden bowl and platter plus 3 lbs sugar, ½ lb tea and 1 lb soap. Each person received a half pint tin pot and wooden spoon.

Surgeon Hamilton, surveying the 98 women on board observed that many seemed old and infirm. They appeared to have lived intemperate lives and suffered much from long confinement. Some demanded comfort food but the surgeon warned that if they made themselves sick they would not be sent out of the country.

In furthering his ambition Trevor claimed to his superior that he reversed a decision by the surgeon to re-land three convicts based on ill health by showing they were perfectly fit. The facts were that Trevor had kept the women back under suspicion of contagious disease. When he sent them on board on 13 July Surgeon Hamilton found that one woman was debilitated, another had a secondary symptom of syphilis and the third judged to be feigning illness.<sup>4</sup>

While the *Elizabeth I* remained at Cove bickering arose between the Dublin and Cork women who were traditional rivals but there was no resort to violence. On 19 July the prisoners were exhorted to an observance of religious duties as many had declined to attend prayers but he judged they were not yet estranged from their former vicious habits.

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<sup>3</sup> NAI, CSO/RP/1818/128, Trevor to Gregory, 13 July 1818

<sup>4</sup> NAI, CSO/RP/1818, Trevor to Gregory 13 July 1818

On 23 July the Master William Ostler informed Trevor he had received no orders with respect to the twenty children on board while their mothers were anxious to take them. Trevor inspected the children and ordered three eleven year-old boys be sent on shore 'as they might by industry be able to earn a subsistence'. This was likely to mean that the boys would attempt to survive on the streets of Cork by petty theft unless they could find work. The remaining seventeen (six boys and eleven girls) were allowed to stay on board as Mr Ostler accepted Trevor's action as sufficient authority. Surgeon Hamilton remarked

indeed humanity would allow of no other decision, most of them having been brought from Dublin and the greater part ... being infants in arms or within 7 years of age without a friend or relative near.<sup>5</sup>

At that time Cork harbour was the site for the strategic defence of Ireland. The British naval presence was directed by the Irish Rear-Admiral Sir Josias ROWLEY as commander-in-chief. Shortly before the *Elizabeth I* sailed Sir Josias visited the ship accompanied by Lieutenant LEWIS, agent for transports. They approved her cleanliness and the appearance of the prisoners.

With a light breeze at 6 o'clock on 26 July the *Elizabeth I*, ready to sail, boarded two passengers, William FALLON and Michael REDDINGTON, the latter with an order from the Secretary of State for a passage to New South Wales. The breeze died away delaying the ship which again anchored in the harbour. At 6 p.m. as the wind sprung up she was got out to sea.

Trouble was brewing between the surgeon and the 1<sup>st</sup> mate who was unwilling to comply with Hamilton's orders. In the

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<sup>5</sup> AJCP PRO 3194, *Elizabeth I*, 1818

master's absence this man did the opposite to what was asked. As the ship rolled and pitched in the open sea most of the prisoners were seasick prostrated in their berths. As cleaning of the prison deck was limited crew were brought down to sprinkle the deck with hot vinegar.

No clothing was supplied for the children so 7½ pairs of sheets were sewn by the women into garments while calico petticoats were made into shifts for two infants who were also issued bed linen. Twelve women received night caps when theirs had worn out or been lost overboard. Beds which had fallen overboard from the booms were replaced and towels supplied for the hospital.<sup>6</sup>

Basically the voyage was uneventful as no deaths were recorded. Initially the women were infected with boils and some suffered from dyspepsia due to the change of diet. The only punishment necessary was separation of the refractory prisoners for up to twelve hours. The ship anchored at Port Jackson on 25 November 1818. When questioned by Secretary CAMPBELL, the women said they had been treated well. Five were assigned to private service while 51 left the ship cheering as their boat pulled away to be taken up river to Parramatta Factory.

Surgeon Hamilton had described the women as 'the sweepings of every jail in Ireland' but concluded they had conducted themselves better than could have been expected from such a set. After a short stay in Sydney he returned to England on the *Shipley*, then in port, in company with seven other naval surgeons who sailed to the colony during 1818.<sup>7</sup>

Seven women prisoners from the *Elizabeth I* (2) ended their lives in Van

Diemen's Land. Firstly they were Mary LOWRY, convicted for robbery at Kings Co. at age 17 for seven years. Her record, after arrival on the colonial brig *Princess Charlotte*, shows her to have been a feisty woman punished for drunk and disorderly behaviour as well as being out after hours. Margaret MORGAN who came on the same brig had been sentenced at Co. Antrim at age 17 for seven years for picking pockets. At Hobart Town she had an extensive career of theft, idleness and drunkenness. She spent six hours in the stocks for neglect of duty while a nurse at the hospital. In 1821 she was found to be raising scandalous reports against a free settler so was fitted with an iron collar for seven days. By 1823 she was punished for stealing £8.10.0 promissory notes. The penalty was transportation to Macquarie Harbour although she did not appear to go as in the same year she was found to be wetting the yarn in the factory to lessen her workload. Margaret continued to be intermittently drunk and disorderly from 1824 to her death in 1832 at age 31.

The third arrival, Mary O'HARA, was convicted at Co. Antrim at age 16 for picking pockets. By 1821 she held a Ticket of Leave but by 1823 had absconded from her master's premises, a common means of escape by powerless women from sexual predators. She worked as a servant to Mrs Nairn at Coal River and was granted a free certificate but in 1825 was declared drunk and disorderly. In 1828 there was suspicion of felony against her but the trial did not proceed as the prosecutor failed to appear.

Ann RYAN, the fourth prisoner on the *Princess Charlotte*, had been convicted at Cork Co. for passing base coin in her trade as a huckster. Her sentence was also for seven years. Ann quickly succumbed to drunk and disorderly behaviour for

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<sup>6</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>7</sup> *ibid.*

which she was required to sit in the stocks for one hour. From 1823 to 1838 she spent time in gaol and the factory as well as being fined numerous times. She was a boisterous woman flaunting the rules by singing obscene songs and profaning the Sabbath.

Mary USHER was the next arrival. She had been sentenced for seven years at Kings Co. for stealing cloth. In January 1821 she came to Port Dalrymple on the *Queen Charlotte* as a servant to a free settler John SMITH. In 1822 Mary and convict Richard BEARD were married at George Town. Thereafter she had various drunk and disorderly charges and a period in the House of Correction until 1836 when her record ceases.

The sixth prisoner to come to Van Diemen's Land was Mary FANNING who had been sentenced for seven years at Dublin city for stealing cloth. She arrived at Port Dalrymple in August 1823 on board the *Nereus*. Mary received a Free Certificate in 1825 but from 1826 was charged with keeping a disorderly house and sent to the George Town Factory for 28 days. Her only other offences were being drunk and disorderly until 1835.

The final prisoner from the *Elizabeth I* (2) was Elizabeth GANNON, a housekeeper sentenced at Dublin city for life for murder. In October 1824 she arrived at Hobart Town on board the *Prince Regent* to join her husband Jacob PISTER. By 1830 she was cohabiting with a man named BAILEY who was ordered to leave her house. From 1834 she was recorded as illegally at large until 1848 when listed as an absentee.<sup>8</sup> ◀

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<sup>8</sup> P Tardif, *Notorious strumpets and dangerous girls*. Sydney, Angus & Robertson, 1990, pp. 440–46.



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# LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS

## LAUNCESTON INFANT SCHOOL, 1836

Betty Jones (Member No. 6032)

**T**HE concept of user-pays pre-school education has been in existence in Tasmania for over one hundred and eighty years following the introduction of two infant schools in Hobart and Launceston in the 1830s, both catering for children aged between two and seven years. Even in those early times there existed an understanding that children who were too young to attend regular school needed play-based, less formal activities to aid their developmental learning. This article examines the development of the Launceston Infant School during the nineteenth century.

Momentum for the establishment of the school followed an announcement in 1834 that the government had sanctioned a grant of money for the purpose.<sup>1</sup> The first public meeting for the cause was held at the end of January the following year, at which time a committee was appointed to implement the decisions made at the meeting. The school was to be open to all children within the specified age range without distinction—‘the Holy Scriptures being made the basis of all instruction.’<sup>2</sup> Mr George LILLY and his wife Mary Grace (née OSBURNE) from Sydney were appointed as the first teachers, and took up their positions in a temporary house in Charles Street from June 1835 until the new building was completed.

Launceston Infant School operated under that name from June 1836 to October



Launceston Infant School  
Photo courtesy of Google Street View

1867, commencing with eleven scholars under a Board of Trustees, its committee welcoming public subscriptions towards its upkeep during that period. It was then taken over as a government school by the Board of Education on a long-term lease and became known as Frederick Street School. The building, still in existence under the name of Frederick Street Kindergarten, now is one of Launceston’s oldest. With a 68 feet frontage on Frederick Street, it was erected by John Anderson BROWNE at a cost of £564 on land purchased in 1835 from John B THOMPSON for 120 guineas. The school was built partly by subscription, but the government rendered much assistance by contributions of money, allowing a gang of convicts to dig the foundations and quarry the stone required, giving such bricks as could be spared and advancing money to the

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<sup>1</sup> *Launceston Advertiser*, 12 June 1834

<sup>2</sup> *Cornwall Chronicle*, 19 March 1836

contractor. A generous six-roomed residence was added for the teachers.<sup>3</sup>

### More about the early teachers

George Lilly (1803–67) was born at Sydney, illegitimate son of convicts from England, George BOYDEN and Elizabeth Lilly. In June 1822, aged 19, Mr Lilly volunteered to be part of the first Australian Mission from Sydney to Tonga, the island then considered a dangerous stronghold of heathenism and cannibalism. He returned to Sydney in 1825 and in 1826 married Mary Grace OSBURNE (c.1809–83), daughter of Sergeant William Osburne and his wife Mary (née McLEOD). Mr Lilly was subsequently appointed schoolmaster at the Georgian School, Sydney, and their first daughter, Mary Ann, was born at the lodge there in 1833.<sup>4</sup> Mr and Mrs Lilly and daughter, accompanied by Mrs Lilly's siblings, Martha, William and Richard Osburne, sailed for Launceston on the *Lochiel* in May 1835,<sup>5</sup> their employment as teachers at the Launceston Infant School commencing on 16 June. By January 1837, the family had removed to Melbourne, Victoria.<sup>6</sup>

The Infant School remained closed for the first three months of 1837 until the appointment of new teachers from Sydney, Mr Matthew LASSETTER (1806–87) and his step-daughter, Miss Georgina FORD, also known as Lassetter (1818–1902). It is interesting that Mr Lassetter conducted a business as baker and storekeeper in Launceston while also employed as Master of the school. For the latter position, he received a salary of £100, with house, rent, coal and candles

free. When criticized publicly by a newspaper correspondent for continuing his work as a baker whilst drawing a teaching salary, Mr Lassetter replied that he got up at 4 or 5 o'clock each morning so that the work did not interfere with his school duties.<sup>7</sup> Mr and Miss Lassetter resigned in March 1839 and it was not until June that year that the school reopened under another Master and Mistress from Sydney, Mr and Mrs BELL.

Unfortunately, Mr and Mrs Bell were both in frail health and the school did not flourish under their watch. When they took over there were about 40 children enrolled, but the number had dropped to 25 twelve months later.

It was the next appointments of Mrs Mary Martha GIRLE as Mistress and her daughter, Mary Ann Girle, as her assistant that brought about long-term positive change from May 1840 to 1856. By March 1841, Mrs and Miss Girle had built the school up once more, and with 126 children on the books, the average attendance was between 100 and 120. The fees paid by the children added considerably to the prosperity of the institution.<sup>8</sup> In 1852, a report stated that Mrs McLeod (formerly Mrs Girle) had a good method with children.<sup>9</sup>

Mrs Girle (1800–68) was born at Tynemouth, Northumberland, England, daughter of John EDWARDS and his wife Mary (née COATES). She married Thomas Rosewell Girle in 1820 at Jarrow, Durham, and had four offspring. Mrs Girle emigrated to Van Diemen's Land in 1836 with her children aboard the *Bodicea* after apparently being aband-

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<sup>3</sup> *Cornwall Chronicle*, 19 March 1837 and *Launceston Examiner*, 7 June 1895

<sup>4</sup> *Sydney Morning Herald*, 19 April 1933

<sup>5</sup> *The Colonist*, Sydney, 14 June 1835

<sup>6</sup> *Sydney Morning Herald*, 19 April 1933

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<sup>7</sup> *Cornwall Chronicle*, 29 April 1837

<sup>8</sup> *Launceston Courier*, 29 March 1841

<sup>9</sup> *Journal of Legislative Council*, 1853

oned by her husband. She was employed as sub-Matron at the Female Orphan School in New Town from 1836–38. Believing that Mr Girle had died, she married builder, James McLEOD at Launceston in 1848. In early 1857, it was divulged in court that Mrs McLeod's former husband, Mr Girle, was still alive, having turned up in Launceston. Mrs McLeod separated from Mr McLeod as a result, he agreeing to pay her maintenance at a rate of £1 per week.<sup>10</sup> In 1864, she was living at Laura Street on the Cataract Hill. Mrs McLeod died at that address, aged 67 years.<sup>11</sup>

Mary Ann Girle (1825–98) was born at Tyne-mouth, Northumberland, only daughter of Thomas Rosewell Girle and Mary Martha (née Edwards).<sup>12</sup> After her arrival in Van Diemen's Land, Mary Ann was admitted to the Female Orphan School until being released to her mother in 1838. Miss Girle married saddler, Thomas STUBBS, at Launceston in June 1842, and the couple had seven children. Mr Stubbs was a partner in the saddlery business of Tevelein and Stubbs of Charles Street, Launceston. Mrs Stubbs carried on assisting her mother at the school in Frederick Street, and after being widowed in March 1853, continued to reside with her children in the school house

provided.<sup>13</sup> She married Andrew GILLAN in June 1855, and the couple had three children. Again widowed in 1867, she married William John WILLIS at Launceston in July 1868. Mrs Willis died at Ulverstone, aged 73 years.

### Developments

In September 1846, the Secretary of the Infant School, Henry JENNINGS, placed an advertisement in the local newspaper drawing the public's attention to the institution which was open to all denominations of Christians. Under a committee, Mrs Girle and her daughter taught the 70 to 100 children aged from two to seven. The school was supported by a grant of £50 annually from the government and voluntary contributions, except that the parents of those children who are able pay four pence weekly for each child; but that formed a very small item in the receipts. The subscriptions had very much



Mrs Girle

decreased from various causes, and the Institution was then £80 in debt, of which a large proportion was for arrears in salary due to the school mistress. In addition, the building was in need of repairs. An appeal was therefore being made to the public for subscriptions.<sup>14</sup>

In May 1850, when there were 64 children enrolled,<sup>15</sup> tenders were called for repairs to the school, replies having to be made to W D GRUBB of Charles

<sup>10</sup> *Launceston Examiner*, 7 February 1857

<sup>11</sup> *Inquest, Cornwall Chronicle*, 9 September 1868

<sup>12</sup> Image courtesy of ancestry.com member, Jane Duck, a descendant

<sup>13</sup> TAHO: CB3 3/1

<sup>14</sup> *Launceston Examiner*, 12 September 1846

<sup>15</sup> *Journal of House of Assembly*, 1851

Street.<sup>16</sup> Reliance on public financial support remained important, with substantial donations to the institution being acknowledged in newspapers. In June 1851, the Secretary had pleasure in acknowledging the £5 donation from 'D N'.<sup>17</sup>

In 1853, Inspector Thomas ARNOLD wrote a report on the school for government. He confirmed that Mrs McLeod taught in a very good house. The school-room measured 50 by 30 feet and contained a large fireplace, the fuel for which Mrs McLeod had to provide herself. A large stove was wanted in the room. There was one double desk, one abacus, a gallery and a blackboard. There were 72 children on the register, and they paid Mrs McLeod about 10 shillings a week in fees. The Mistress lived in one of her own houses, but Mrs McLeod had to pay for the repairs on the rent-free residence occupied by her daughter, Mrs Stubbs and her children. The community formerly paid £100 for the Mistress's salary, but by 1853 they gave nothing and Mrs McLeod received only the government's stipend. Most of the children were taught needlework, fancy or plain, the former being their preference. Some children were as old as 10 years, which was surprising in an infant school.<sup>18</sup>

### Staff changes

Mrs Stubbs/Gillan resigned in early 1856, and it seems that Mrs McLeod was also preparing for retirement. Advertisements were placed in the newspaper in April and May that year seeking a competent teacher, with applications to be made to Isaac SHERWIN or W D Grubb.<sup>19</sup> Mrs TULLOCH became the next Mistress, and in 1857 was assisted by Miss Emily Mary SMITH. By 1862, Miss Smith was the Mistress and remained in the leadership role until the school closed in 1895. She became recognised as an employee of the Board of Education from 1 January 1866.<sup>20</sup>



Isaac Sherwin

Over the next decade, assistants to Miss Smith, ranging in status from monitors to assistant teachers, included: Mr William John CARTER and Misses Henrietta Sophia PEGUS, Mary LONG and Elizabeth HILL.

There were 92 children enrolled in 1866 when a request was made for repairs costing £72. The Board of Education agreed to pay the amount providing the school was made over to them for seven years rent free.<sup>21</sup> A letter from Mr Isaac Sherwin in January 1867 indicated that the Trustees of the school were willing to surrender the ground to the Crown requesting that the Law Officer be

<sup>16</sup> *Launceston Examiner*, 25 May 1850

<sup>17</sup> *Launceston Examiner*, 21 June 1851

<sup>18</sup> TAHO: CB3 3/1

<sup>19</sup> Image of Isaac Sherwin courtesy of Allport Library: AUTAS001136191137; *Launceston Examiner*, 3 April 1856 and 1 May 1856

<sup>20</sup> TAHO: AUD17/1/8

<sup>21</sup> *The Mercury*, 19 December 1866



instructed to prepare a Deed of Conveyance, securing the buildings, however, for the specific purpose for which they were erected.<sup>22</sup> In June 1867, it was proposed that the school be handed over to the Board for a term of years, to be permanently applied for school purposes, on condition that the Board should execute present repairs.<sup>23</sup>

At a meeting of the Board of Education in September 1867, members were advised that mere shingling of the roof of the building would not provide preservation long term; all the timbers on the roof would have to be renewed. It was estimated that repairs would cost £130.<sup>24</sup> On 12 October 1867, the building was taken for a state school on a lease of 21 years at peppercorn rent, the trustees being Rev. C PRICE and Mr Isaac Sherwin, the government being represented by Messrs E J MANLEY and W LOVETT.<sup>25</sup>

### Falling enrolments and closure

In April 1873, it was stated that the school was capable of accommodating 200 pupils, but numbers fell short of capacity. In December 1876, the 140 scholars of the school were treated to a substantial end-of-year treat provided through the efforts of Mr CATER, the Town Missionary. The children enjoyed cake, buns, fruit, tea, etc served by Mrs Kidd and her assistants.<sup>26</sup>

In April 1889, the Education Department stated that, following a request made to them by the Launceston City Council, it would forego its right to free occupation of the premises to 1896 when their lease expired, and pay £38 per annum in rent on the understanding that the money was to be used exclusively for the repair and maintenance of the building.<sup>27</sup>

In March 1890, the inspector commented on the unpunctuality of a number of the 100 pupils (twelve came after 9:15, and six arrived after 9:30). The teacher complained of lawless boys, who had no control at home, coming to school late in spite of punishment. However, the rest were said to behave well.<sup>28</sup>

It was noted attendance had reduced considerably by March 1893, largely by the opening of the near-by Elizabeth Street Free School which had taken about 35 scholars. By May 1895, the roll was down to 68, and the staff reduced to just three members. Mrs Kidd<sup>29</sup> was then in very bad health.<sup>30</sup> The school was officially closed to coincide with the opening of the new school at Sandhill (Glen Dhu) in June 1895.<sup>31</sup> When the lease expired in 1896, the Department's furniture was removed to the Elizabeth Street School.<sup>32</sup>



Emily Mary Kidd

<sup>22</sup> *The Mercury*, 24 January 1867

<sup>23</sup> *The Mercury*, 12 June 1867

<sup>24</sup> *The Mercury*, 20 September 1867

<sup>25</sup> *Launceston Examiner*, 7 June 1895

<sup>26</sup> *Launceston Examiner*, 23 December 1876

<sup>27</sup> *Launceston Examiner*, 9 April 1889

<sup>28</sup> TAHO: ED31/1/2

<sup>29</sup> Courtesy of <http://www.launcestonfamilyalbum.org.au>

<sup>30</sup> TAHO: ED31/1/55

<sup>31</sup> TAHO: ED13/1/56

<sup>32</sup> TAHO: ED13/1/61

### More about Miss Smith/Mrs Kidd and her staff

Emily Mary Smith (1842–1923), born at Sudbury, Suffolk, only daughter of cabinet maker, John and Mary Smith, arrived in Launceston in April 1857 with her parents and brother, Arthur, aboard the *Sea Nymph*.<sup>33</sup> In 1873 at the Frederick Street School residence, she married carpenter, Alexander KIDD and continued in her teaching role. They made their family home in Bourke Street Launceston, where the couple had five children between 1875 and 1883. Sadly, only two, Robert and Emily, survived childhood. The inspector's report on Frederick Street in 1895 noted that Mrs Kidd had shown marked capability as a teacher, her management characterized by judgement. She was known as an excellent disciplinarian, firm but kind and caring.<sup>34</sup> Mrs Kidd retired from teaching on a government pension when the school closed in June 1895. She died at Launceston, aged 81 years. Her government pension was then £112/9/10 per annum.<sup>35</sup>

### Emily Mary (née Smith) Kidd

The monitors and assistants who worked alongside Mrs Kidd from 1873 to 1895 included Misses: Ellen PEARL, Mary KIDD, Ruth CROOKS, Julia MURPHY, Isabella JAMES, Amy BRUMBY, Sarah SHERLOCK, Christina GOERNER, Mary Louisa STEER, Elizabeth Jane CARTLEDGE, Isabelle Annie SHORT, Sarah Frances WILSON, Elizabeth

DOCKING, Mary Jane JOHNSON, Jessie Mary SORELL, Christina Pringle ROBERTSON, Jane Elizabeth RILEY and Mary WILSON.

For sixty years the building had served many useful purposes besides the one for which it was erected. Initially it was one of the only suitable spaces in Launceston available for public gatherings. Meetings and lectures were held there, and divine services often were conducted within its walls until other more suitable accommodation was built.<sup>36</sup> ◀

I would like to acknowledge Kim Simpson, Research Officer, Heritage Tasmania, for his early assistance with information contained in this article. Kim kindly supplied me with copies of early newspaper reports on the school in the days before their availability on TROVE.



Built on firm foundations:  
1910 Kindergarten activities  
Image courtesy of TAHO: PH30/1/1136,  
Image 4 (cropped)

<sup>33</sup> *Launceston Examiner*, 7 April 1857

<sup>34</sup> TAHO: ED31/1/2

<sup>35</sup> *Statistics of Tasmania*, 1921–1922

<sup>36</sup> *Launceston Examiner*, 7 June 1895

# VOICES FROM THE ORPHAN SCHOOLS

## ROBERT WIGGINS

Dianne Snowden (Member No. 910)

**R**OBERT WIGGINS, aged 8, was admitted to the Male Orphan School on 29 August 1834, days after arriving in Van Diemen's Land.<sup>1</sup> Born in Brighton, Sussex, in July 1826, he arrived in Van Diemen's Land days before on the *Strathfieldsaye* with his mother, Mary (née BISHOP) and siblings, Jane, James and Martha.<sup>2</sup>

Robert's father, James Barter Wiggins, was already in Van Diemen's Land. A convict, transported for assault, he arrived on the *Argyle* in 1831.<sup>3</sup> After a rocky start, James did well in the colony and by 1844 was licensee of the *King's Arms* in Murray Street.<sup>4</sup> He was later the licensee of several more hotels in Hobart, including the *Bricklayer's Arms* in New Town Road;<sup>5</sup> the *Duchess of Kent*, in Murray Street;<sup>6</sup> and the *Wiggins' Hotel* on the corner of Murray and Collins streets.<sup>7</sup>

James Barter Wiggins and his wife, Mary, had a least two more children in

Van Diemen's Land: Hannah Barter Wiggins in 1841 and John Wiggins in 1843.<sup>8</sup>

Family historian Michelle Benson writes:

Interestingly, when John Fox died in 1861 and left the sum of 500 pounds for the children of the Queen's Asylum, John's father, James Barter Wiggins and a Mr H Whitely were named in his will as trustees of this money. They invested the money wisely and the interest earned enabled the picnic to continue from 1863–79. James Wiggins would organise for the children to stop off outside his hotel (Wiggins' Hotel) to hear the bands play on their way to their picnics. James would then accompany the children and rally others to provide transport for them (horse & carts).<sup>9</sup>

Robert Wiggins was in the Male Orphan School for only eight months: he was released to his parents in April 1835 and despite his short time there, Robert left a



Robert Barter Wiggins  
Collection of the Friends of  
the Orphan School, St Johns  
Park Precinct, courtesy of  
Michelle Benson

<sup>1</sup> TAHO, SWD28/1/1 p. 5. Additional information from Michele Benson.

<sup>2</sup> TAHO, MB2/39/1/2 p. 109 (1834)

<sup>3</sup> TAHO, CON31/1/46 James Wiggins *Argyle* 1831 No. 1264

<sup>4</sup> *Colonial Times*, 5 November 1844, p. 3

<sup>5</sup> *Courier*, 4 August 1858, p. 3

<sup>6</sup> *Mercury*, 3 December 1860, p. 2

<sup>7</sup> *Mercury*, 4 December 1871, p. 2

<sup>8</sup> TAHO, RGD32/1/3 Hobart Hannah Barter Wiggins; TAHO, RG33/1/2 District of Hobart 1844/10. James Wiggins. His father was a bricklayer living in Murray Street.

<sup>9</sup> [http://www.orphanschool.org.au/showorphan.php?orphan\\_ID=5655](http://www.orphanschool.org.au/showorphan.php?orphan_ID=5655)  
Robert Wiggins. John Fox, a convict waterman, left a bequest to the orphan school children.

lasting legacy on the site: the Infant Orphan School which he built in 1862.

Robert was a builder and contractor and built many public and private buildings in Hobart. These include New Town State School (1860) the Wesleyan Church at New Town (now the Uniting Church on the corner of Main Road and Cross Street); the Elwick Grandstand; additions to St Josephs Catholic Church; new cells at the Hobart Gaol and Molle Street Bridge. Further afield, he built the Macquarie River Bridge at Campbell Town; and parts of Launceston Gaol.<sup>10</sup>

He built and owned *Georgina Cottage* in Warwick Street, opposite Elizabeth College.

Like his father, Robert was the licensee of several hotels. He gained his first publican's licence when he was 27. This was for the *Bricklayer's Arms* and he held the licence from 1853–62. (It was later known as the *Sir William Don*.)

He later held the licence for the *Steam Navigation Hotel* from 1866–69 (on the corner of Bathurst and Elizabeth Streets, now 'Mountain Designs'); the *Builder's Hotel*, 1869–76 (now the *New Sydney*); and the *Ocean Child* (1881–98).<sup>11</sup> A photo of Robert and his family can be seen on the wall of the *Ocean Child* on the corner of Argyle and Melville Streets.

Robert, described as a bricklayer, married Mary Ann Eliza ADAM when he was 21 and she was 17. They were married in June 1847 in Bethesda, St Georges Battery Point, by Rev. H P Fry. Witnesses were George ADAMS and

Anna WHITE.<sup>12</sup> They celebrated their Golden Wedding in June 1897.<sup>13</sup>

Robert Barter Wiggins and Mary Ann Eliza had twelve children between 1848–74:

George William Wiggins	b. 1848 <sup>14</sup>
Thomas Barter Wiggins	b. 1850 <sup>15</sup>
Robert Attwood Wiggins	b. 1854 <sup>16</sup>
Georgina Ann Wiggins	b. 1856 <sup>17</sup>
Alfred James Wiggins	b. 1859 <sup>18</sup>
Male Wiggins	b. 1861 <sup>19</sup>
Frederick Henry Wiggins	b. 1862 <sup>20</sup>
Amy Louise Wiggins	b. 1865 <sup>21</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> TAHO, RGD37/1/6 District of Hobart 1847/824 Mary Ann Eliza Adams and Robert Barter Wiggins

<sup>13</sup> *Tasmanian News* (Hobart) 29 June 1897 p. 1; *Mercury* (Hobart) 10 July 1897 p. 2

<sup>14</sup> TAHO, RGD33/1/3 District of Hobart 1848/804. His father was a bricklayer. His mother, Mary Ann Wiggins, of Elizabeth Street, registered the birth.

<sup>15</sup> TAHO, RGD33/1/3 District of Hobart 1850/2471 Thomas Barter Wiggins. His father, a bricklayer of Murray Street, registered the birth.

<sup>16</sup> TAHO, RGD33/1/5 District of Hobart 1854/796 Robert Attwood Wiggins. His father, a bricklayer of Elizabeth Street, registered the birth.

<sup>17</sup> TAHO, RGD33/1/6 District of Hobart 1856/1918 Georgina Ann Wiggins. Her father was a licensed victualler. The birth was registered by Henry Shaw, friend, Rison Ferry.

<sup>18</sup> TAHO, RGD33/1/7 District of Hobart 1859/2396 Alfred James Wiggins. His father, a builder of New Town Road, registered the birth.

<sup>19</sup> TAHO, RGD33/1/8 District of Hobart 1861/4566 male, given name not recorded (9 September). He lived only 4 hours, dying of 'debility'; TAHO, RGD35/1/6 District of Hobart 1861/2961 male, given name not recorded. His father, a builder of Elizabeth Street, registered the birth and death.

<sup>20</sup> TAHO, RGD33/1/8 District of Hobart 1862/5688 Frederick Henry Wiggins. His father, a builder of Warwick Street, registered the birth.

<sup>21</sup> TAHO, RGD33/1/9 District of Hobart 1865/7848 Amy Louise Wiggins. Her

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<sup>10</sup> *Tasmanian News* (Hobart) 26 July 1899 p. 2; *Mercury* (Hobart) 26 July 1899 p. 2

<sup>11</sup> *Mercury* (Hobart) 4 December 1871 p. 2

Eliza Wiggins b. 1867<sup>22</sup>  
 Mary Ethel Wiggins b. 1869<sup>23</sup>  
 Arthur Adams Wiggins b. 1872<sup>24</sup>  
 Annie May Adele Wiggins b. 1874<sup>25</sup>

Robert and Mary Ann's oldest son, George W Wiggins, described as builder's son, died of 'cancer[?] of the spine and paralysis' in Elizabeth Street in 1867.<sup>26</sup>

WIGGINS.—On Tuesday, 10th September, after a long and painful illness, George William, eldest son of Robert B. Wiggins, aged 19 years and 3 months.

The funeral will take place from his father's residence, on Friday next, at 2 p.m. Sydney and Melbourne papers please copy.<sup>27</sup>

Their third son, Robert A Wiggins, aged 34, died of 'general paralysis of the insane' at the New Norfolk Asylum in 1888:

WIGGINS.—On May 17, Robert Atwood Wiggins, son of R. B. and M. A.

Wiggins, after a long and painful illness, aged 34 years.<sup>28</sup>

Several of Robert Barter Wiggins' sons were in the building trade. Thomas Barter Wiggins was a builder.<sup>29</sup> He was a retired Clerk of Works when he made his will.<sup>30</sup> Another son, Robert Attwood Wiggins, was a carpenter when he married in 1878.<sup>31</sup> Alfred James Wiggins was a stonemason when he married in 1884.<sup>32</sup> Daughter Mary Ethel Wiggins married a painter, George NICHOLSON.<sup>33</sup>

Robert's father, James Barter Wiggins, a retired builder in his 80s, died at the New Town Pauper Establishment in 1884.<sup>34</sup>

WIGGINS.—On June 28, 1884, after a short illness, James Barter Wiggins, in the 86th year of his age. The funeral will leave his son's residence, the Ocean Child Hotel, on TUESDAY NOON at 3 o'clock, for St. John's Cemetery, New Town. Melbourne and Sydney papers please copy.<sup>35</sup>

Described as a hotel keeper's wife, aged 67, English-born Mary Ann Eliza Wiggins died of 'cardiac disease and dropsy' in October 1897:

father, a builder of Warwick Street, registered the birth.

- <sup>22</sup> TAHO, RGD33/1/9 District of Hobart 1867/9666 Eliza Wiggins. Her father, a builder of Elizabeth Street, registered the birth. A builder's child, she died aged 4 months in 1868: TAHO, RGD35/1/7 District of Hobart 1868/7208 Eliza Wiggins.
- <sup>23</sup> TAHO, RGD33/1/10 District of Hobart 1869/120 Mary Ethel Wiggins. Her father was a builder. Her mother, Mary A E Wiggins, of Elizabeth Street, registered the birth.
- <sup>24</sup> TAHO, RGD33/1/10 District of Hobart 1872/2452 Arthur Adams Wiggins. His father was a builder. His mother, M A E Wiggins, of Bathurst Street, registered the birth.
- <sup>25</sup> TAHO, RGD33/1/10 District of Hobart 1874/726 Annie May Adele Wiggins. Her father was a builder. Her mother, Mary A E Wiggins, of Bathurst Street, registered the birth.
- <sup>26</sup> TAHO, RGD35/1/7 District of Hobart 1867/6940 George William Wiggins
- <sup>27</sup> *Mercury* (Hobart) 11 September 1867 p. 1

- <sup>28</sup> TAHO, RGD35/1/57 District of New Norfolk 1888/546 Robert A Wiggins; *The Mercury* (Hobart) 26 May 1888 p. 1
- <sup>29</sup> TAHO, RGD37/1/38 District of Hobart 1879/277 Emmeline Mary Read and Thomas Barter Wiggins
- <sup>30</sup> TAHO, AD960/1/48 1925 Will No.15044 Thomas Barter Wiggins
- <sup>31</sup> TAHO, RGD37/1/37 District of Hobart 1878/362 Sarah Ann Taylor and Robert Attwood Wiggins
- <sup>32</sup> TAHO, RGD37/1/43 District of Hobart 1884/312 Annie Wignall and Alfred James Wiggins
- <sup>33</sup> TAHO, RGD37/1/59 District of Hobart 1898/307 May Ethel Wiggins and George Lyons Nicholson
- <sup>34</sup> TAHO, RGD35/1/10 District of Hobart 1884/1709 James Wiggins
- <sup>35</sup> *Mercury* (Hobart) 30 June 1884 p. 1

WIGGINS.—On October 25, 1897, at her late residence, Melville-street, after a very long and painful illness, Mary Ann Eliza, the beloved wife of Robert Barter Wiggins, in the 68th year of her age. A colonist of many years standing. Deeply regretted. Friends are invited to the Funeral, which leaves her late residence at 2.30 p.m. This Day.<sup>36</sup>

Robert, a buidler aged 73, died of a 'cerebral haemorrhage and moist gangrene' in July 1899 at home in Bell Street, Glebe.<sup>37</sup> He was buried in St Johns Burial Ground adjacent to the Orphan School buildings, with his wife, Mary, eldest son George William, and infant daughter Eliza. The headstones were later moved to Cornelian Bay.

WIGGINS.—On July 25, passed away peacefully at his son's residence, Bell street, Glebe, Robert Barter Wiggins, in the 74th year of his age. The funeral will leave his late residence on Thursday afternoon, at 2.30 o'clock, when friends are invited to attend.<sup>38</sup>

Robert's obituary celebrated his success:

OBITUARY.—Our readers will regret with us to bear that Robert Barter Wiggins, the well-known contractor, yesterday joined the vast majority. The deceased arrived here at the early age of 6½ years in the ship *Strathfieldsaye*, and of his fellow shipmates there only remains on this side of the grave, viz, Mr Joseph Graves, of Southport. Being a man of much energy and perseverance he was not long after his apprenticeship before he started in the contracting line on his own account, and during the past

40 years he has been handing his name down to posterity in the erection of some very handsome, and, at the same time, durable buildings ... Mr Wiggins had a paralytic stroke some two years ago, since then he has been declining in health, passing away peacefully at 1.20 p.m. yesterday. He was 70 years of age, and was preceded to that bourne whence no traveller returns by his wife some two years. The funeral takes place at 2.30 p.m. to-morrow.<sup>39</sup>

Robert's sister, Jane, who arrived with him on the *Strathfieldsaye* in 1834, fell on hard times after the death of her husband, John HALL, a coach painter who arrived on the *Argyle* with her father in 1831.<sup>40</sup> Jane and John's three youngest children were admitted to the Orphan School in 1866: John Barter Hall, aged 11; Jane Hall, nearly 9, and Henry Hall, 6. In all, Jane had nine children. Jane was described as a hard-working and sober woman.<sup>41</sup> John Barter Hall was apprenticed to F W Jackson of O'Briens Bridge in 1868 and then released to his mother. Jane Hall was released to her grandfather, James Wiggins, in 1869 and then to her mother who had remarried and was then Mrs MILLER, living at New Town. The youngest child, Henry, was released to his mother in 1869. ◀

For more stories, visit Friends of the Orphan Schools, St Johns Park Precinct:  
[www.orphan.school.org](http://www.orphan.school.org)

<sup>36</sup> TAHO, RGD35/1/15 District of Hobart 1897/1583 Mary Ann Eliza Wiggins; *Mercury* (Hobart) 28 October 1897 p. 1

<sup>37</sup> TAHO, RGD35/1/68 District of Hobart 1899/1052 Robert Barter Wiggins; *Mercury* (Hobart) 26 July 1899 p. 1; *Tasmanian News* (Hobart) 26 July 1899 p. 2

<sup>38</sup> *The Mercury* (Hobart) 26 July 1899 p. 1

<sup>39</sup> *Tasmanian News* (Hobart) 26 July 1899 p. 2; *The Mercury* (Hobart) 26 July 1899 p. 2.

<sup>40</sup> TAHO, CON31/1/46 James Wiggins *Argyle* 1831 No.1249; TAHO, RGD35/1/7 District of Hobart 1864/4417 John Hall.

<sup>41</sup> He died of 'chronic dysentery'. His father-in-law James Wiggins registered death. TAHO, SWD26/1/9 Hall.

# WILLIAM HENRY WHELAN

Barry Smith OAM with Kaye Smith (Member No. 6295)

**W**E are now a century on from the Great War, the War to end all Wars, World War I. On 11 November each year at 11 a.m. the world remembers, the bugles sound and wreaths are laid at cenotaphs and memorials, even though the last veteran has passed on long ago. Many Australians travel to the Flanders landscapes to visit the memorials and the Commonwealth War Graves that continue to be maintained so beautifully. Each night at the Menin Gate in Ypres, buglers play the Last Post, a practice carried out since 1928 in memory of the Commonwealth troops who gave their lives in the horror and tragedy of human conflict on a scale never seen before.

In 1914 Australia was still a young nation, but when danger threatened the British Empire our young men answered, and for some no doubt, it would be a big adventure, such is the innocence of youth. So soon to be crushed with reality.

Our generation can look back with hindsight. We read the books on history and look at those grainy black and white film clips of the war on our televisions, repeated every Anzac Day and Remem-

brance Day. Older Australians still have small black and white photographs handed down from our grandparents, kept all these years in an album or in a box in a drawer or a cupboard, of a family member who fought or died in that war. One

should never forget the many brave nurses who supported our fighting men often in the face of danger themselves. Women who were true angels of mercy, their contribution so often understated.

I was born in 1942 when another World War came close to this country, one would have thought not the best time to bring a child into the world, but of course I was only one of thousands who had no say in it. That is life I guess. Fortunately, as in the first war, we were on the winning side. Living much of my early life with my grandparents, I grew up with a large, hand coloured, framed photograph of my Nan's younger brother,



Pte William Henry Whelan

hanging proudly on their lounge room wall. Pride of place for William Henry WHELAN in his Australian Army uniform. Silently he was always there, a constant in the normal ups and downs of family life. My father born in 1923, my grandparents' second son was named after

him, but of course he was a Smith not a Whelan.

William Henry Whelan who the family called Bill, was born in May 1890 at Oatlands, son of Walter and Amelia (née HAYDEN) Whelan. Walter was a farmer at Mt Seymour and the family later moved to Hobart, but my grandmother Christina SMITH (née Whelan) often spoke of being on the farm, and also two draught horses Blossum and Dobbin and cows. I think good memories for her.

William was a Catholic, a labourer and lived at Union Street North Hobart with his wife Maria. He served with the Derwent Infantry Unit in Hobart and enlisted on 4 August 1915 when aged 25, into the Australian Army 26<sup>th</sup> Battalion. He departed for France on 21 March 1916 as Private No. 3703 on the A19 Troop Ship. Wounded at Camiers on 24 October 1916 he was sent to a British Army Hospital at Liverpool, England. On recovery Private Whelan was sent back to France. The battles of Ypres and Passchendaele were ahead.

He was killed in action on the 16 December 1917, aged 27 years. We have some details of his passing thanks to my wife Kaye's long research into our family history.

### **Information from the War Memorial and the Australian Red Cross**

The official reports on his death are both interesting and upsetting to read even after all this time.

One from his friend Private R K BURNIE 3631 and another from Corporal J R GOODEY 3657.

We came from Tasmania on the A19 Transport together and at Messines on a

working party when a machine-gun bullet hit him on the upper leg. He was conscious but we could not get him to a dressing station and he bled to death. I was with him most of the time, he lived for six hours.

We were carrying rations to the lines when a M.G. bullet hit Billy Whelan on the leg. We bandaged him up but the bullet had hit an artery, he bled to death before we got him to the dressing station. He was conscious but did not seem in pain. I saw his grave after he had been buried in an Australian Cemetery and I did it up. He came from Australia in the same boat from Melbourne.

Private William Henry Whelan No. 3703 26<sup>th</sup> Battalion Australian Army is buried at Bethlehem Farm Cemetery West near Messines in Belgium, Commonwealth War graves.

- Australian War Memorial Roll of Honour No. 109
- Hobart Town Honour Board—Town Hall Foyer
- Soldiers Memorial Avenue—Tree No. 428 Queens Domain
- A memorial plaque on his mother's grave with crossed rifles at Cornelian Bay Cemetery
- His family received the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

He had four sisters and one brother. My dearly loved grandmother, Christina Elizabeth Smith (née Whelan), passed away in 1984 and I know the joy that it would give her if only she knew that we speak and acknowledge her dear brother Bill, 100 years later.

Lest we forget indeed. ◀



## NEW RELEASE

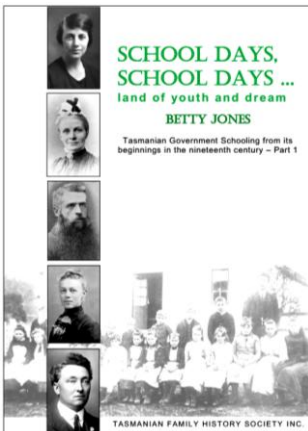
This would make an excellent Christmas present

### SCHOOL DAYS, SCHOOL DAYS ... land of youth and dream

A collection of articles written by Betty Jones, which have appeared in *Tasmanian Ancestry* over the past eleven years.

Included in this 200 page book is additional information including a list of over 500 hundred government schools, 1810–1899, with school name changes, their opening and closing years, a map showing the Tasmanian school districts, a timeline and comprehensive index. Illustrated with photographs of schools and people associated with the stories.

For more than a decade, Betty has been carrying out intensive research on the history of Tasmanian Government schools, the results of which have inspired her regular submissions to *Tasmanian Ancestry*. In recent years Betty has also collaborated with volunteers at the Stanley Discovery Museum to publish works on the rich history of the people and buildings of that town.



*School Days, School Days ...* should appeal to a wide range of readers: those with an interest in Tasmania's early education system; those keen on local history, or that of particular schools; those with an ancestor who was a teacher; those curious about where their forebears attended school and those who just like to be reminded of their own school days.

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# NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS

NAME	PLACE/AREA	TIME	M'SHIP NO.
BARR Thomas	Kenilworth WAR ENG	1820-1843	7903
BARTLEET	Tasmania AUS/South Australia	c.1850/c.1930	7910
BARTLEET Robert	Hobart TAS/Birmingham WMD ENG	c.1850	7909
BATCHELOR	Hobart TAS AUS/ENGLAND		7904
BELL John			7905
BOULTER (BRADBURN) Margaret	Cavan IRL/New Norfolk TAS AUS	1836-1910	7889
BOULTER (BURDEN) Mildred Jean	Molesworth TAS AUS	1900-1981	7889
BOULTER John [Henry]	New Norfolk TAS AUS	1833-1898	7889
BRADLEY George	Yorkshire ENG	1821-1895	7900
BRADSHAW (SPELMAN) Margaret Hannah	New Norfolk TAS AUS	1864-1917	7889
BRADSHAW Alfred Henry Edward	New Norfolk TAS AUS	1846-1918	7889
CLARK Joseph			7905
CLARKE William	Lincolnshire ENG	1824-1897	7894
CLEPHANE Andrew	Glasgow STD SCT	1766-1816	7898
CRISP John Thomas	Tasmania AUS	1800-1864	7891
DALY (OWENS) Susannah	Tyrone NTH IRE	1823-1915	7890
DALY John	Dublin IRE	1826-1886	7890
DAVIES Eliza	Liverpool LAN ENG	1827-1844	7903
DIXON William	Attleborough NFK ENG		7895
DOLBEY John	ENG/TAS AUS	1790-1866	7891
FLAKEMORE John	Rowley WOR ENG	c.1820	7908
HAMILTON Edward	Hobart TAS AUS	1890-1965	7907
HARDING Patrick	IRELAND	1833-1909	7894
HARPER Francis			7895
HOLYMAN Mary Ann	TAS AUS/KEN ENG	1827-1909	7891
HOUSE Susannah	Frampton Cotteral GLS ENG	1811-1887	7894
JAMIESON William Stewart	Dumfries SCT	c.1800	7908
JILLET Robert	Norfolk Island/New Norfolk TAS AUS	1799-1832	7889
JOHNSTON George			7906
KENNY Agnes	County Kildare IRE	1804-1845	7894
KESTLE George	George Town TAS AUS	c.1900	7907
LEAR/PARKER Jane	Stone STS ENG	1810-1849	7897
LEVACH Ann	Wick CAI SCT	1822-1891	7900
MANN Grenville James	Devonport TAS AUS	c.1925	7903
MANN Thomas	Longford TAS AUS	1850-1883	7903
MANN William James	Devonport TAS AUS	1873-1930	7903
MANSON David	Wick CAI SCT	c.1800	7900
MARLEY John	Hobart TAS AUS	1872-1967	7907
McKINLAY Thomas	Bagdad TAS AUS	1890-1960	7907
MILLER William	MOG IRL/TAS AUS	1818-1895	7891
NEEDHAM Joshua	London ENG	c.1800	7908
NEW Louisa	Bagdad TAS AUS	1890-1985	7907
PARKER Harold Windsor	Preston LAN ENG	1910-1977	7896
PRICE	Launceston TAS AUS/ENGLAND		7904
ROBERTSON	Launceston/Hobart TAS AUS/SCOTLAND		7904
SALE Hanna	Co Kerry IRE	1800-1902	7900
SHIELDS George	TAS AUS	1828-1901	7891
SLADE / SLAID Myrtle May	Jerusalem TAS AUS	c.1889	7908
SMITH John	Launceston/Stanley TAS AUS	1817-1862	7894
SPINKS John William	Bodney NFK ENG	1778-1856	7894

# NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS

NAME	PLACE/AREA	TIME	M'SHIP NO.
THOMPSON A H D			7906
TOMLINSON Eric	Yorkshire ENG	c.1890s	7909
WATSON Robert	Edinburgh SCT	c.1800	7908
WILLIAMS Thomas Wheller	Llanvillo BRE WALES	1770-1854	7901
WILSOX Thomas	Hampshire ENG	c.1820	7908
WOOTTON Edward Thomas	London ENG/TAS AUS	1819-1904	7891

## NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members

7889	WILLIAMS-FITZGERALD Dr Ann	PO Box 105 annwf@optusnet.com.au	MACKAY	QLD	4740
7890	BIRKS Ms Sue	2 Snapper Court suebirks@bigpond.com	MERIMBULA	NSW	2548
7891	MILLER Margaret	4 Swanston Street millerms@tpg.com.au	NEW TOWN	TAS	7008
7892	PRITCHARD Mr Chris	PO Box 1010 pritchardc1010@gmail.com	ROSNY PARK	TAS	7018
7893	MOON Mrs Ruth	Not for publication			
7894	SMITH Miss Christine	29 Bowick Street christines629@gmail.com	WYNYARD	TAS	7325
7895	DIXON Mr David	351 Glenwood Road davidrosemary@bigpond.co	RELBIA	TAS	7258
7896	PARKER Mr John	7 Jacques Road jondel7@bigpond.com	HILLWOOD	TAS	7252
7897	ROUTLEY Mr Ian	PO Box 513 guarvic@bigpond.com	LAUNCESTON	TAS	7250
7898	ROUTLEY Mrs Susan	PO Box 513 guarvic@bigpond.com	LAUNCESTON	TAS	7250
7899	PECK Mr Donald	18 Pomona Road annpeck59@bigpond.com	RIVERSIDE	TAS	7250
7900	BRADLEY Ms Jill	Box 227 bradleyjill43@gmail.com	SANDY BAY	TAS	7006
7901	BURTON Mrs Elizabeth	80 Carella Street eburton@netspace.net.au	HOWRAH	TAS	7018
7902	RAINBOW Mrs Patricia	Not for publication			
7903	VON KONIGSMARK Mrs Margaret	43 Rosewood Drive margvk06@gmail.com	UMINA BEACH	NSW	2257
7904	ROBERTSON Ms Christine	16 Regent Street dutchaussies@gmail.com	SANDY BAY	TAS	7005
7905	BELL Mr Greg	19 Curlew Parade geejaybee1@netspace.net.au	CLAREMONT	TAS	7011
7906	BELL Mrs Elaine	19 Curlew Parade geejaybee1@netspace.net.a	CLAREMONT	TAS	7011
7907	MCKINLAY Mr Garry	PO Box 20 garrymckinlay@gmail.com	RICHMOND	TAS	7025
7908	ZIOLKOWSKI Mrs Merrilee	PO Box 584 wrenworth@bigpond.com	KENMORE	QLD	4069
7909	BARTLEET Mrs Lynne	81 Bastick Street lynnebartleet@gmail.com	ROSNY	TAS	7018
7910	BARTLEET Mr Andrew	81 Bastick Street lynnebartleet@gmail.com	ROSNY	TAS	7018

**CEMETERIES OF  
SOUTHERN TASMANIA**

**Vol XI**

**KINGSTON REGIONAL  
CEMETERY  
1983–2013**

An index to the headstones and  
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**CALLING ALL EYLES  
SEEKING HOMES FOR  
PHOTOGRAPHS**

Mary Alice EYLES, daughter of George  
and Alice Eyles née Rawlinson

John Westley EYLES, son of John and  
Mary Eyles née Westley

Photo with four of their children: Wilfred  
Henry, Linnie Margaret, Winnie and  
Grace.

Arthur PETCHEY, son of Kate Petchey  
(sister of John Westley Eyles)

Doris PETCHEY, daughter of Kate  
Petchey (sister of John Westley Eyles).

Irene MORTIMER, daughter of Linnie  
Mortimer (sister of John Westley Eyles)

William Denison HULL aged 6 years

Group of 10 Tasmanian Soldiers before  
leaving for WW1 including W D Hull.

William Denison HULL in military  
uniform taken in Belgium 1914.

William Denison HULL and Tom BEVIS  
with members of a Belgium family who  
cared for the men before they were  
shipped back home.

Kings Cup Senior 8 in 1926 the year they  
won in Brisbane—some names on back  
of photograph, including W D Hull.

Phillip Denison HULL, son of William  
Denison and Winifred Hull. Aged 16  
years in his uniform serving with  
American Merchant Navy.

James Rawlinson HULL aged 5 years.  
Son of William Denison and Winifred  
Hull. Another taken circa 1950.

If any family descendants would like any  
of the above please ring Lucille Van  
Andel on (03) 9859 8012. ◀

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# ROMAN CATHOLIC BURIAL GROUND WEST HOBART (1825–70s)

Leonie Mickleborough (Member No. 20)

ONE of the first priorities for any new settlement is to select a site for a burial ground. Such was the need for the settlement of Hobart Town, where St Davids Burial Ground became the primary location between 1804 and 1872. Meanwhile, with increasing colonial arrivals the different religious communities sought their own burial grounds. Apart from St Davids, early sites in Hobart Town, chosen because they were located in ‘outlying areas’ within the town’s limits, were granted by either the government or private landholders. One of those in West Hobart was that of the Roman Catholic Church.

There was no specific Roman Catholic place of worship or burial site in 1820, when the European population of Hobart Town was approximately 4002, and according to Reverend Robert KNOPWOOD (1763–1838), about one third were Catholics, with the proportion less in the country. Knopwood perceived ‘no reluctance’ by the Catholics to attend the Church of England service to have their children baptised or to be buried in the same burying ground as other religions. Yet Reverend John YOUL (1773–1827), Independent missionary and Anglican clergyman who had been sent to minister to the northern settlements in 1819, thought the Catholics ‘never would’ attend the Protestant Church if they ‘could avoid it’.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> R J Solomon, *Urbanisation, the Evolution of an Australian Capital* (Sydney, 1976), p. 57; *Historical Records of Australia*

## ST MARYS CHURCH

As well as significant advances in the colony in economic terms, Lieutenant-Governor William SORELL (1773–1848) who arrived in the colony in 1817, demonstrated a concern for the spiritual welfare of the settlers, and as well as providing for other denominations, in March 1821 he granted land on the corner of Brisbane and Harrington streets to Hobart Town’s Catholic residents for their own place of worship. Temporary premises were being used for worship, one being upstairs in the Argyle Rooms, on the corner of Liverpool and Argyle streets where, on 1 May 1838, anyone ‘requiring seats at the temporary Roman Catholic Chapel’ in Liverpool Street were urged to apply for a seat if they wished to attend the ‘election of Church wardens etc’.<sup>2</sup>

After arrival in the colony on the *Leopold* in 1821, the first permanent Roman Catholic priest Father Philip CONOLLY (1786–1839) named the land, granted by Sorell, as ‘Mount Carmel’, and it was here Conolly arranged for the building of the weatherboard chapel of St Virgilius.<sup>3</sup> The chapel, finished in 1823, functioned

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(HRA) III, iii, Knopwood to Commissioner J T Bigge, 3 April 1820, p. 364; HRA III, iii, Youl to Bigge, 27 April 1820, p. 445

<sup>2</sup> John Watt Beattie, *Glimpses of the Lives and Times of the Early Tasmanian Governors* (Hobart, 1905), p. 37; *Colonial Times*, (CT) 1 May 1838.

<sup>3</sup> HRA, III, iv Lachlan Macquarie to Wm Sorell, 21 Mar 1821, p. 12; *Mercury*, 31 December 1904; L C Mickleborough, *William Sorell in Van Diemen’s Land 1817–24* (Hobart 2004), p. 51

until 1836. It was later claimed the chapel was ‘a sort of barn, called a chapel’, and ‘the edifice, if such it could be called’ was ‘not only unsuitable for the purpose to which it was appropriated, but actually disgraceful to the worshippers’, and had shown signs of decaying within a decade of being built.<sup>4</sup>

Starting with the wooden chapel, the precursors to St Mary’s Cathedral, one of Tasmania’s ‘architectural gems’ were several and varied, having been built, paid for, used, taken down, and rebuilt.<sup>5</sup> In November 1841 Father John Joseph THERRY (1790–1864) blessed the foundation stone for St Marys Church on the chapel site, but the proposed church was never built. An additional five acres off Harrington Street was granted to the church in 1831 at the corner of Barrack and Brisbane streets, and is the present site of Guilford Young College.<sup>6</sup>

On 2 February 1853 the laying of ‘the FIRST STONE’ of the next proposed Catholic Church on the same site was performed, but by May 1860 the church was still not finished, and the site was described as a ‘field’.<sup>7</sup> In September 1860, yet another foundation stone was laid by Bishop Robert WILLSON. The location of the two original stones is unknown—but it is likely they were incorporated in the lower course of the next building, St Marys Cathedral. This,

the first St Marys Cathedral was completed in 1866, then closed in 1876, and later dismantled due to structural defects. The cathedral that presently occupies the site was designed by Henry HUNTER (1832–92), and completed in 1881.<sup>8</sup>

## BURIAL GROUND

In 1825 Patrick Street had scattered development and a small number of timber structures on the northern side of the street, and Lieutenant-Governor George ARTHUR (1784–1854) who arrived in 1824, granted the Catholic Church two acres off Barrack Street between Brisbane and Patrick streets. This land, behind the wooden chapel, was for a burial ground, and one of the first to be buried there was Private Thomson, of the 40<sup>th</sup> Regiment on 13 August 1825.<sup>9</sup> The burial ground was sheltered by groves of native cherry trees and one large peppermint tree, and in the 1830s large sandstone walls were built to enclose the area, parts of which survive and are visible in Brisbane and Patrick streets.<sup>10</sup>

Parliament assisted in improving sanitary conditions by passing the Cemeteries Amendment Act 1870, whereby once the Hobart Town Public Cemetery was opened at Cornelian Bay (as it was named in October 1872) other burial grounds of various denominations were closed, and after closure in the early 1870s the

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<sup>4</sup> CT, 26 Feb. 1850; Nicholas Dean Brodie, *Joyful and glorious: building St Mary’s Cathedral, Hobart* (Hobart, 2013), p. 12

<sup>5</sup> Brodie, *Joyful and glorious*, back cover

<sup>6</sup> Brodie, *Joyful and glorious*, p. 13; West Hobart Heritage Review. (WHHR) Vol. 1. Hobart City Council (HCC), June 2000 [www.hobartcity.com.au/files/...95b4.../WEST\\_HOBART\\_Volume\\_1.pdf](http://www.hobartcity.com.au/files/...95b4.../WEST_HOBART_Volume_1.pdf) (accessed 20 July 2016).

<sup>7</sup> *Hobart Town Courier*, 26 January 1853; *Mercury*, 12 May 1860

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<sup>8</sup> Godden Mackay Logan, *Crescent Fields. A Thematic History of West Hobart. Heritage Review Vol. 1* HCC. June 2002, p. 52; WHHR. Vol. 1.

<sup>9</sup> WHHR Vol. 1; CT, 19 August 1825; *Walch’s Plan of the City of Hobart Town and Suburbs*. Hobart: J Walch & Sons [1893?] <http://nla.gov.au/nla.map-rm2896>

<sup>10</sup> *A guide to Hobart’s historic cemeteries and Burial Grounds* HCC, 2004, p. 9.

Catholic burial ground, which held the remains of 300 people, fell into decay.<sup>11</sup>

In 1902 the site was ‘substantially walled in’, and parts of the ground were covered with scrub. Many of the vaults had ‘fallen in, leaving coffins with their contents exposed’. There were no signs of ‘beautifying graves or repairing tombstones anywhere’. In one of the broken vaults, ‘callous, dare-devil juveniles’ had been known to ‘climb down and stick pipes between the jaws of grinning skeletons!’ Another broken vault revealed ‘stones, jam tins, and other missiles (including a dead duck)’. By September the site had become the ‘dumping ground of all the discarded tins of the neighbourhood’.<sup>12</sup>

Amidst the mess, a dairy farm was flourishing, the cows browsed amongst the briars, wild flowers and aromatic thyme, and the mortuary chapel had been turned into a byre [cowshed] in which the cows were milked and sheltered. After the burial ground was closed, many bodies were removed by relatives to another burial ground, and hundreds of headstones which once spread themselves over the seven acres disappeared.<sup>13</sup>

The matter of the disused burial ground had, for years, been discussed by a deputation from the Southern Tasmania Town Planning Association, but ‘nothing definite had been done, except for the isolated move made by the Roman Catholic body whereby they obtained power to deal with the site for the ground to be used for anything other than

building purposes.<sup>14</sup> The land was officially transferred to the Church by way of the Roman Catholic Church Land Transfer Act,<sup>15</sup> and by 1911 the Roman Catholic Church had removed all surviving tombs, and by 1915 had built St Virgils College which functioned as a primary and secondary school for boys. This is now the co-educational Guilford Young College and also sports fields.

Those interred in the Roman Catholic Burial Ground, included the clergy, one being Father Conolly, who died in 1839, many convicts, the bushranger Matthew BRADY and six officers from the French ships *L’Astrolabe* and *La Zelee* who were engaged on an expedition around the world.<sup>16</sup> The wish of Bishop Willson (1794–1866) who returned to England in 1844 where he died was finally granted 151 years after his death, and in May 2017, his remains were laid to rest in the crypt in St Mary’s Cathedral.<sup>17</sup>

The old burial ground is now an area where today’s youth are educated towards their next venture in life, where ball games are played and joyous calls of children and young adults echo to the near neighbours. ◀

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<sup>11</sup> LCP 1876/30 cited in Stefan Petrow, *Sanatorium of the South* (Hobart, 1995), p 10; *A guide to Hobart’s historic cemeteries and Burial Grounds*, p. 9

<sup>12</sup> *A guide to Hobart’s historic cemeteries and Burial Grounds*, p. 9; *Mercury* 16 September 1902

<sup>13</sup> *ibid.*

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<sup>14</sup> *Mercury*, 11 May 1915

<sup>15</sup> *A guide to Hobart’s historic cemeteries and Burial Grounds*, p. 9

<sup>16</sup> Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office (TAHO) NS 1052/1/48 Microfilm copies of Parish Registers of St Marys Cathedral list of epitaphs made in 1916 includes funeral registers (Z2094) from 1 Jan. 1825 to 31 Dec. 1916. The original Church records are held at the Catholic Archives.

<sup>17</sup> John H Cullen, ‘Willson, Robert William (1794–1866)’, Australian Dictionary of Biography, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/willson-robert-william-2800/text3995>, published in hardcopy 1967, accessed 12 May 2017; *Mercury* 12 May 2017.

# ST MARYS ROMAN CATHOLIC CEMETERY HOBART

This listing (392 names) is taken from *Tombstones and Memorial Inscriptions of Tasmania (TAMIOT)* CD-Rom produced by TFHS Inc. 2010, pp. 522–58

THE aim of the TAMIOT project was to record all existing memorials in Tasmania, and includes all memorials transcribed to June 1998 except those in Carr Villa Cemetery Launceston and Cornelian Bay and Kingston Public Cemeteries in Hobart. Many entries relate to the transcriptions of headstones in cemeteries which were transcribed before being demolished, and transcriptions of some church memorials have been included. There may be errors with initials or names due to worn headstones and stonemasons' mistakes. Some headstones may also have had names added of family members who died and were buried elsewhere, even overseas.

ABLE, Albert	BURKE, Thomas	CONNELL, Mary
ABLE, William	BURNS, John	CONOLLY, Phillip Rev
AGNEW, Ellen	BUSH, John	CONROY, Mary
AGNEW, George	BUTCHER, Mary Anne	COSTLOW, Edward
AHEARNE, Catherine	BUXTON, Alice	COUNSEL, Andrew
ALCOCK, William	CADDEAN, Conny	COUSIN, Sarah
ALEXANDRE, Daniel	CAHILL, Jane	COUTELING, Jean Marie
ANDERSON, Reg	CAHILL, Mary John Mother	Antoine
ANGELIER, Honore Antoine	CAIN, Catherine	COYLE, Catherine
Etienne	CAIN, Elizabeth Magdilian	CRAIN, William
BAVEY, Mary	CAIN, Joseph	CREAD, Mary A
BEATLE, Jane	CAIN, Joseph Charles	CRONLY, Richard
BEAUDUIN, Jean Baptiste	CAIN, Mary	CUMMINGS, Lawrence
Desire	CALLAGHAN, Margaret	CUMMINGS, Mary
BERNARD, Pierre Leon	CALLAHAK, Elizabeth	CURTAIN, Mary
BETTIE, Mary	CALLENS, Daniel	DAGLEY, Mary
BLACK, John	CALLMAN, Arthur	DALE, James
BLISS, Elith	CARR, Ann	DALTON, James
BONNY, Mary Eleanor	CARREY, Mary Ann	DAVIES, Henry
BOWLEY, Eliza	CARROL, Margaret	DAVIS, Jane
BRADY, Francis	CARROLL, Sarah	DEACON, Alice
BRADY, John	CASSITY, John	DEMONT, Benjamin
BRADY, Louisa Frances	CHAMPION, Thomas	DEMONT, Rachel Harrie
BRADY, Mary	CHARICK, Bridget	DENNETT, Ann
BROOKS, Sahar	CLANCEY, Julia	DERMOTT, Patrick
BROWN, Margaret	CLEARY, Agnes	DODD, Catharine
BROWN, Maria	CLEARY, Michael	DOLPHIN, Patrick
BROWN, William	CLEARY, Robert Burns	DONLAN, Frances
BUCKLEY, Thomas	CLEARY, Walter	DONNOLAN, Jane
BUFFETT, Julia	CLEARY, William	DOOLAN, Annie
BURGOYNE, Daniel	CLEARY, William James	DOOLAN, John
BURGOYNE, Edward	CLOVER, Martin	DORAN, Eleoner
BURGOYNE, James	COCKAR, Anne	DOUGLAS, William



# ST MARYS ROMAN CATHOLIC CEMETERY HOBART

DOYLE, Christiana	FITZPATRICK, Patrick	HENNESSY, Elizabeth Mary
DOYLE, Rachael	FITZPATRICK, Susan	HENNESSY, Francis James
DRAPER, Hannora	FLANAGAN, James	HENNESSY, Jane
DREW, Elizabeth	FLANAGAN, Mary	HERBERT, Ester Mary
DREW, Mary	FOX, Henry	HERLIHY, Anne
DRING, Mary	FOX, Henry	HEWITT, Martin
DRISCOLL, Cornelius	FOX, Jane	HIGGINS, Francis Watkins
DRIVER, Charles	GAGE, Sahar Ann	HIGHLAND, Dorah
DUFFY, Henry Thomas	GALWAY, Edward Joseph	HILL, Alfred
DUFFY, Michael	GATES, Mary	HILL, James
DUFFY, William	GILLON, John	HILL, Mary Ann
DUGGAN, Catherine	GLOWRY, Margaret	HINEGAN, Edward
DUNN, Alexander	GODFREY, Caroline	HOOPER, Thomas
DUNN, John	GOER, Emma	HORAN, John
DUNN, Patrick	GORAM, Maran	HORNER, Catherine
EDMONDS, Julia	GOUGH, Mary	HORNER, Frances
ENRIGHT, Albert Edward	GOUGH, William	HOUGH, Mary
ENRIGHT, Honora	GOUPIL, Ernest August	HOWEL, William Geo
ESON, Emanuel	GRABUCO, Harriett	HUBBERT, John
EVARETT, Job	GRAHAM, Mary	HUNTER, George
FALLON, John	GREEN, Catherine	HUXLEY, Margaret
FARRELL, Arthur	GREENHALGH, Bridget	JACKSON, Eliza
FARRELL, Frances Catherine	GROVES, Joseph	JACKSON, Francis
FARRELL, Joseph	HAGAN, William	JACKSON, Mathew Freman
FEATHERSTONE, James	HAINES, Margaret	JACOBS, Caroline
FEATHERSTONE, Sarah	HALKETT, Mary	JONES, Catharine
FENNERAN, (none) Mrs	HAM, Thomas	JONES, Francis Phillip
FIELD, William	HANLON, W H	JONES, Honorah
FIERNEY, Richard	HANNEN, Johanna	JONES, Laurence
FIERNEY, Richard	HARLWELL, John	JONES, Mary
FIMMARY, Tom	HARRIS, Mary	JONES, Thomas
FINNEY, Margaret	HARTABLE, Anne	JOOMES, Jane
FINNON, Melia	HARVEY, James Arthur	KEANE, Mary Ann
FISHER, Mary Ann	HARVEY, Julia	KEELAND, Mary E
FITZGERALD, Honora	HARVEY, Mathew	KELLY, Ann
FITZGERALD, John	HARVEY, Patrick	KELLY, John
FITZGERALD, John	HARVEY, Winifred	KELLY, John
FITZGERALD, Mary Ann	HASKET, Eliza	KELSH, Jane
FITZGERALD, Thomas	HASSETT, Michael	KELSH, Peter
FITZPATRICK, Alice	HAUJON, Bernard	KENNY, Ellen
FITZPATRICK, Cecilia	HEMINGWAY, William	KENNY, Mary Ellen
FITZPATRICK, Mary Ann	HENCHY, Joseph	KING, Thomas
FITZPATRICK, Norbit	HENNESSY, Bedelia	KNAN, Anne

# ST MARYS ROMAN CATHOLIC CEMETERY HOBART

LAIRY, Agnes	McREDMOND, Elizabeth	PARSELL, James
LAWSON, Bridget	McREDMOND, Patrick	PARSELL, John
LENT, Margaret	McSHEAN, David	PARSELL, Margaret
LEWIS, William	McSHEAN, Janet Isabella	PHILLIPS, Sarah
LILLEY, Mary	McSHEAN, Jenet	PITT, Theophilus
LINJAN, John	McVEY, Mary	POUND, Elizabeth
LISTON, John	McVILLEY, Margaret	PRIEST, Mary Ann
LLOYD, Mary	McVILLEY, William	REEVES, Catherine
LONERGAN, Mary Anne	MEADOWS, Mary	REICHENBEGH, Cecilia
LOWE, Norah Ann	MEARY, Stephen	Frances
LYNCH, David	MEREDATH, John	REICHENBEGH, Joseph
MacNAMARA, Michael	MOLONEY, J H	REICHENBERG, Angelica
MADDEN, Mary Ann	MOONEY, John	REILLY, Edward
MADDEN, William	MOONEY, Margaret	REVILL, Mary
MAHER, Emily Treiza	MOOR, Rose Emma	RILEY, John
MAINERY, Catherine	MOORE, Catherine	RING, William
MALONEY, Michael	MOORE, John	ROBERTSON, J Lieut
MARNEY, Anne	MORGAN, Elizabeth Jane	ROBERTSON, Mary Theresa
MARNEY, Sahar	MORGAN, Elizabeth Jane	Sister
MARSEY, John	MORGAN, John	ROBINSON, Mary Jane
McCABE, Patrick	MORGAN, Mary Ann	ROGERS, Margaret
McCANN, Catherine	MORRISON, William	ROSE, George
McCANN, James	MULCAHY, Joseph	ROSE, Josias
McCANN, Thomas	MULLEN, John	SAY, Bridget
McCARTHY, John	MULLIN, Edward	SCULLY, Margaret
McCARTHY, Margaret	MURPHY, Daniel	SEALLY, Luke William
McDONNELL, Jane	NANGLE, Cary Jasannah	SEWELL, Margaret
McDONNELL, Johanna	NEAVE, Ellen	SHADWICK, Mary
McEVOY, James	NEILL, Patrick	SHADY, Henry
McFARLINE, John	O'BRIEN, Frances De Sales	SHARPE, Annie
McGRATH, Peter	Mother	SHARPE, Charlie
McLOUGHLIN, Anna	O'BYRNE, Joseph	SHARPE, Eliza Mary
McLOUGHLIN, Anne	O'BYRNE, Mary	SHARPE, George
McLOUGHLIN, John	O'BYRNE, Thomas	SHARPE, James
McLOUGHLIN, John	O'MARA, Thomas	SHAW, Anne
McLOUGHLIN, Martin	O'MEAGHER, Anne	SHEA, Ellen
McLOUGHLIN, Mary Ann	O'MEAGHER, Margaret	SHEA, Francis John
McLOUGHLIN, Sabina	Frances	SHIELDS, Elizabeth
McLOUGHLIN, Thirsa	O'MEAGHER, Patrick Richard	SIMPSON, Elvina
Elizabeth	O'MEAGHER, William	SIMPSON, Julia
McNARMARA, John	ORFORD, Sarah	SMITH, Catherine
McPHERSON, Anne	O'SULLIVAN, Kate	SMITH, Joseph
McQUAIS, Mary Anne	PARKINSON, Moyert	SMYTH, Conelius Philip
McQUIRE, David	PARSELL, Eliza Ann	SOIDS, Eliza

# ST MARYS ROMAN CATHOLIC CEMETERY HOBART

SONAGAN, Maryriet	VENSON, A Vena	WHITE, Catherine
STEED, Richard	WALKER, Caroline	WHITE, Edward
STENNARD, Catharine	WALLIS, Laurence	WHITE, Ellen
STEVENS, Mary	WATERS, Michael	WHITE, George
STEVENSON, Hugh Robert	WATERSON, Mary Teresa	WHITE, Mary Ann
STOKES, Mary	WATKINS, Benjamin	WHITELAW, Mary
SULLIVAN, John	WATKINS, John James Aston	WILKS, Maria
SULLIVAN, Patrick	WATKINS, Margaret	WILSON, Isabella
TAYLOR, Emma	WATKINS, William Francis	WILSON, John
TAYLOR, Jane	WATSON, Arthur Garnest	WILSON, Mary
TAYLOR, Sarah Anne	WATTERSON, Hugh	YORK, Mary
THOMPSON, Joseph	WEBSTER, Ester	YOUNG, Edward
TIPPER, Jane	WHELAN, Eliza	
TYNAN, Francis	WHELAN, John	

## REMOVALS FROM THE ROMAN CATHOLIC BURIAL GROUND AND THE DATE OF REMOVAL

TAHO, AF171/1/1 'Index of Deceased persons whose remains were removed from various burial grounds.

Removals from the Roman Catholic Burial Ground Hobart'.

ALEXANDER Anne, 5 August 1887	McGRATH John, 13 December 1881
BERGIN Catherine, 21 January 1880	McINARNEY Catherine, 26 April 1889
CAHILL Mary, 22 November 1890	McLAUGHLIN 2 children, 11 June 1886
CALLAGHAN Annie, 5 May 1890	McSWEENEY Thomas, 18 July 1884
CLARK, Mary Francis, 31 July 1887	MULHALL Edward, 27 May 1881
DEL SARTE Francis H, 22 August 1877	O'BOYLE James, 17 March 1884
DRISCOLL Cornelius, 11 May 1897	O'BOYLE Thomas, 17 March 1884
FELTHAM Sarah M, 20 November 1880	O'BRIEN Francis de, 22 November 1890
FELTHAM, Julia C, 20 November 1880	ROBERSON Mary, 22 November 1890
FREEMAN John, 8 June 1877	ROBERTS Elizabeth A, 29 January 1893
GILLON John, 23 June 1882	ROURKE Eliza, 3 January 1889
HOPSON Francis, 15 May 1879	SHIELDS — [Rose H M] 27 May 1881
HOPSON John, 15 May 1879	SMITH Catherine D, 25 September 1880
HUGHES John, 2 December 1875	SMITH George D, 29 September 1880
JOHNSTON Catherine, 10 September 1880	SMITH Henry, 28 February 1883
KENNY Catherine, 17 September 1890	SMITH Lavinia D, 25 September 1880
KENNY Mary, 17 September 1890	WEARE Eliza Agnes, 9 May 1876
KENNY William, 17 September 1890	WEARE Theresa Ellen, 9 May 1876
MACNAMARA Patrick, 3 October 1877	WOODS Mary, 29 July 1877
McCANN James, 27 May 1881	

# TASMANIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH RECORDS

This index has been collated from microfilms held at the  
**Tasmanian Family Society Inc. Mersey Branch**

It is the result of many hours of transcribing and checking by  
Marilyn Oakley and Glenice Brauman.

The index has been collated as accurately as possible considering some  
entries are difficult to read.

Mersey Branch welcomes enquiries by email: [research@tfhsdev.com](mailto:research@tfhsdev.com)  
by phone: (03) 64262257 or mail: PO 267 Latrobe TAS 7307

## CATHOLIC BAPTISMS

		Reel no.
Campbell Town & Ross	1845-1854	229
Colebrook	1858-1864	248
Deloraine	1869-1912	229
East coast	1894-1901	249
Fingal	1880s	249
Hobart district	1836-1902	227
Hobart St Josephs Church	1857-1911	228
Hobart St Marys Cathedral	1867-1900	228
Launceston	1851-1885	241
Richmond	1839-1855	227
Richmond	1858-1865	241
Swansea	1863-1912	229
Westbury district	1859-1864	229

## CATHOLIC CONFIRMATIONS

Richmond	1845, 1849	227
Fingal	1880	249
Hobart	1894	249

## CATHOLIC MARRIAGES

Campbell Town & East Coast	1864-1896	248
Campbell Town & Ross	1845-1854	229
Circular Head & Emu Bay	1850-1885	241
Colebrook	1864-1895	248
Deloraine	1896-1901	248/249
Fingal & Campbell Town	1896-1902	248
Glamorgan & Fingal	1882-1895	248
Hobart	1853-1901	247
Hobart district	1851-1864	227

## MARRIAGES cont.

		Reel no.
Hobart St Josephs Church	1838-1853	228
Launceston	1845-1895	249
Launceston, Hobart & Others	1838-1845	241
Longford & Evandale	1864-1895	249
Oatlands	1864-1876	247/248
New Town & O'Briens Bridge	1859-1880	247
New Town & Glenorchy	1896-1910	247
Richmond	1839-1863	227
Richmond	1859-1884	241
Richmond & Spring Bay	1863-1892	247
Westbury	1851-1895	248

## CATHOLIC BURIALS

Campbell Town & Ross	1845-1854	229
Circular head & Emu Bay	1848-1861	241
Colebrook	1858-1880	248
Deloraine	1869-1893	249
Deloraine Holy Redeemer Church list made in	1947	249
Hobart Catholic Cemetery	1825-1872	249
Hobart St Marys Burials	1838-1844	249
Hobart St Marys Cathedral		249

## FUNERAL REGISTERS

Richmond St Johns Church	1840-1866	249
Westbury district	1850-1902	229

# THE MARGARET BRADBURN STORY TRANSPORTATION FROM IRELAND TO VDL

Ann Williams-Fitzgerald (Member No. 7889)

**N**EARLY 11,000 convicts sent to Van Diemen's Land (VDL) were Irish and approximately 4000 were Irish women.<sup>1</sup>

Margaret BRADBURN was a quiet Irish lass from County Cavan. It was 1852 and the Great Famine had created mass starvation and disease in Ireland.<sup>2</sup>

Margaret stood in the docks listening to her sentence in shock. Seven years' transportation to VDL.<sup>3</sup> This was her second offence, as she had been caught a month earlier stealing a cloak from Catherine REILLY at Ballyhaise, in the Parish of Castleterra.<sup>4</sup> This time she had been

charged with burglary for stealing clothes—coat, petticoat and shawl. Would this turn out to be a blessing or a curse, this journey to the ends of the earth? Only time would tell.



Margaret Bradburn  
(Ann Williams-Fitzgerald  
2017)

<http://www.founders-storylines.com/mug-sheets/convicts/profile/9318>

Margaret embarked on the vessel *Midlothian* on 2 November 1852 at Kingstown Harbour, five miles from Dublin. The surgeon's journal entry reads:<sup>5</sup>

Having arrived at Kingstown, Ireland on the 16th of October 1852 and embarked on the 30th of October and the 2nd of November, two matrons, two intermediate passengers, twelve free settlers, 170 convicts and 19 children of convicts, which with myself made 206, but

the mean ratio for the whole period was only 204 4/41 out of which number one hundred and three were between the ages of 15 and 25 years. Fifty between the ages of 25 and 35 years. Twenty five between the ages of 35 and 45 years. One between 45 and 55. And twenty seven under the age of 15 years.

The *Midlothian* set sail on 17 November for VDL. The voyage (BV0746)<sup>6</sup> would

<sup>1</sup> Joan Kavanagh and Diane Snowden, *Van Diemen's Women – A History of Transportation to Tasmania*, The History Press Ireland, 2015, p. 25

<sup>2</sup> BBC History—*British History in Depth: The Irish Famine*. Accessed 7 August 2017. [http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/victorians/famine\\_01.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/victorians/famine_01.shtml) The Great Famine in Ireland began as a natural catastrophe of extraordinary magnitude, but its effects were severely worsened by the actions and inactions of the Whig government, headed by Lord John Russell in the crucial years from 1846 to 1852.

<sup>3</sup> Margaret Bradburn, The National Archives Ireland ref: TR12 p. 189

<sup>4</sup> Margaret Bradburn, Irish Petty Session Court Cavan, IRE\_PETTYYS\_4582709\_00179 (12-3-1852) #350 CSPS1/2438

<sup>5</sup> ADM101/252/1D *Midlothian Surgeon Superintendent Journal*. The National Archives UK accessed 7 August 2017

<sup>6</sup> Bateson Voyage Code, HAA105 Convicts in Context, UTAS, *Convicts Voyages* adapted from Bateson

take 99 days with two deaths reported.<sup>7</sup> Lucy GORMAN died on board from pneumonia. The health of the convicts was David THOMAS' main concern as the ship surgeon.<sup>8</sup> He made sure all convicts and every person on the Books for Rations had limes and potatoes three times a day—the potatoes being a favourite with the Irish female convicts.

Illnesses during the *Midlothian* voyage included: 1 case of synochus (fever), 5 of phlogosis (inflammation), 2 of bronchitis and 2 cases of pneumonia which proved fatal for both convicts. This had to be considered a successful voyage when compared to the *Hillsborough* voyage in 1798–1799 (the vessel Robert JILLETT, Thomas BRADSHAW and Elizabeth Bradshaw arrived on fifty-four years earlier), which recorded 95 deaths from yellow fever and dysentery.<sup>9</sup>

Governor HUNTER wrote a letter to the Secretary of the Colonies.<sup>10</sup>

The Hillsborough has just arrived with a cargo of the most miserable and wretched convicts I ever beheld. Were you, my dear Sir, in the situation in which I stand, I am convinced all the feelings of humanity, every sensation which can occasion a pang for the distresses of a fellow creature, would be seen to operate in you with full force.

The *Midlothian* arrived at Hobart Town in VDL on 24 February 1853. Transport-

ation of female convicts to VDL would soon end after sixty-five years.<sup>11</sup> The arriving convicts were documented by the Board of Health and full description lists compiled.<sup>12</sup> Margaret's description on arrival reads: height 4'10", complexion ruddy, head medium, eyes grey, hair light brown, visage oval, eyebrows brown, nose large, mouth medium, remarks section listed three dots on nose.<sup>13</sup> It was unusual for Irish female convicts to have tattoos, it is unclear if the three dots are tattoos or moles.<sup>14</sup> Margaret was a protestant and could not read or write, which was common for female convicts from Ireland.<sup>15</sup>

On 3 March Margaret was sent to the Cascades Female Factory to await assignment.<sup>16</sup> The Cascades Female Factory

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<sup>11</sup> Tony Rayner, *female factory female convicts*, p.1

<sup>12</sup> Hamish Maxwell-Stewart and J Bradley, *Behold the Man: Power, Observation and the Tattooed Convict*, *Australian Studies*, 12 (1) (1997) p. 74; Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office, (TAHO) Hobart, CON19/1/11, 05 Margaret Bradburn, *Description List*

<sup>13</sup> Hamish Maxwell-Stewart, *The Search for Convict Voice*, *Tasmanian Historical Studies*, 6 (1) (1998), pp. 78–79

<sup>14</sup> Kavanagh and Snowden, *Van Diemen's Women*, pp. 95–96; J Bradley and H Maxwell-Stewart, 'Embodied Exploration: Investigating Convicts Tattoos and the Transportation System', in I Duffield and J Bradley (eds) *Representing Convicts*, p. 198

<sup>15</sup> Hamish Maxwell-Stewart, *The State, Convicts and Longitudinal Analysis*, *Australian Historical Studies*, 47 2016 p. 422

<sup>16</sup> Lucy Frost, 'Cascade Female Factory', *The Companion to Tasmania History*, *Tasmanian Historical Studies*, 2006 [http://www.utas.edu.au/library/companion\\_to\\_tasmanian\\_history/F/Female%20factories.htm](http://www.utas.edu.au/library/companion_to_tasmanian_history/F/Female%20factories.htm) accessed 12 August 2017

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<sup>7</sup> *Midlothian Surgeon Superintendent Journal*. The National Archives UK

<sup>8</sup> David Thomas, *Medical Times and Gazette* 1852 p. 298.

<sup>9</sup> Convict Ship *Hillsborough* 1799 [http://www.jenwilletts.com/convict\\_ship\\_hillsborough.htm](http://www.jenwilletts.com/convict_ship_hillsborough.htm) Accessed 8 August 2017

<sup>10</sup> Frank Clune, *Bound for Botany Bay: A Narrative of a Voyage 1798 Aboard the Death Ship, Hillsborough*. Angus and Robertson, 1965 p. 40

was two miles from town. It was locally called *The Factory* and also referred to as 'the valley of the shadow of death'.<sup>17</sup>

Margaret was hired by Mr Horace ROWCROFT of New Town on 9 March 1853, and returned to the Cascades Female Factory on 29 August 1853 for being absent without leave and received six months' hard labour and an additional six months' probation.<sup>18</sup> The magistrate was Algernon Burdett JONES at Glenorchy.<sup>19</sup> Hard labour was most likely at the washtubs at the Female Factory.<sup>20</sup> On 27 July 1854 Margaret was rehired by Mr Rowcroft to complete her additional six months' probation. In late October or November 1854, Margaret became pregnant and because of this and that she was still in servitude, she entered the Cascade Female Factory for the birth of her baby girl (Frances Jane CRIPPS on 15 July 1855). The baby was baptized on 5 August 1855 at Davey Street Congregational Church and the father listed as William Cripps.

Margaret was granted a Ticket of Leave on 16 January 1855 and permission to marry John BOULTER on 8 April 1856.<sup>21</sup> They were married on 29 April 1856.<sup>22</sup>

Margaret was Free by Servitude on 3 April 1859. Margaret had served six years of her seven year sentence. Margaret and

John had at least ten children including twin girls. This seems to be an exception to the rule, as only a small majority of male and female convicts ever married or had children, even though nearly 90 per cent of transported women were of childbearing age.<sup>23</sup>

When we look at Margaret's offence and sentence in context with other Irish female convicts she presents as being typical for the time. Eighty-three per cent of Irish female convicts received seven-year sentences and 60 per cent committed the offence of burglary.<sup>24</sup>

Margaret died of heart disease on 25 December 1910 at Molesworth and was buried at the North Circle Cemetery, New Norfolk.<sup>25</sup> The death notice in *The Mercury* newspaper referred to her as a 'relic of the late John Boulter'.<sup>26</sup> No doubt if Margaret had reflected on her past fifty-eight years in Tasmania, she would have realised that her life would have been very different, had she stayed in Ireland. Being transported to VDL was indeed, a blessing in disguise for her and the future generations of her bloodline. Margaret survived her ordeal as a convict and had gone on to be a productive member of the new society in VDL. Margaret Bradburn was my second great grandmother. ◀

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<sup>17</sup> Rayner, *female factory female convicts*, p. 4

<sup>18</sup> TAHO Hobart, CON41/1/36, 10

Margaret Bradburn, *Conduct Record*

<sup>19</sup> Margaret Bradburn, *Conduct record*:

Female Convicts Research Group

(Tasmania), Error! Hyperlink reference

not valid. accessed 13 August 2017

<sup>20</sup> Kavanagh and Snowden, *Van Diemen's Women*, p. 146

<sup>21</sup> Margaret Bradburn, *Conduct Record*, TAHO Hobart, CON52/1/7, 42 Margaret Bradburn, *Permission to Marry*

<sup>22</sup> TAHO: RGD37/15:1856/779 Marriage Certificate of Margaret Bradburn, and John Boulter married 29 April 1856

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<sup>23</sup> Rayner, *female factory female convicts*, p. 13

<sup>24</sup> Kavanagh and Snowden, *Van Diemen's Women*, pp. 76, 83

<sup>25</sup> North Circle Cemetery, New Norfolk Council. Location reference: Section N No. 1347

<sup>26</sup> *The Mercury*, Tuesday, 27 December 1910, death notice, Margaret Boulter.

# FOREVER A MYSTERY MAN

Ron A Chapman

**R**ODNEY MATTHEWS-NAPER, formerly known as Robert Matthews, arrived at 'Loughcrew' the large estate in southern Ireland in 1944 dressed as a Merchant Navy officer, and later he claimed to have been a Captain in the Australian Army. Both claims were false.

Having married the widow who owned the estate, he was appointed to manage it despite its large burden of debt that was of concern to its bank. When he reduced the size of the farm staff, they went on strike for three weeks. They damaged locked gates, cut wire fences to let stock out and refused him entry to the farm yard until he turned up with his shotgun and threatened to blow the head off a striker. The strike collapsed, but Rodney appeared in court following this incident. Hearing Rodney's gun was not loaded and he carried no cartridges, the judge found him not guilty. Fewer and new staff were employed and the state of the farm property improved. Rodney's bravery showed when at an agricultural show he attacked two bulls that had escaped from their handlers and were fighting. He grabbed a pole and separated them without concern for his own safety. Despite these difficulties, Rodney led a very active social life attending balls and other events without his ageing wife.

In 1952, he taught a sixteen-year-old girl to fly in his plane and she gained a full pilot's licence (couple pictured right). They flew to air shows and even to England to see the Grand National but his

wife did not accompany them. Rodney started to court the young lady before his wife died towards the end of that year. In 1953 he wanted to get engaged to the girl but her parents thought she was too young. They suggested they should separate for a year. Rodney was urged to go to Australia and their daughter was to go to northern Ireland. When she was 18, she could make up her own mind about engagement. However, as mentioned in my previous article in the December 2016 issue of *Tasmanian Ancestry* Rodney appears to have crashed in the Irish Sea in April 1953. There is still doubt locally about his disappearance. Some think he organised the disposal of his plane and disappeared with the money raised by selling the contents of 'Loughcrew House'.

The author would appreciate receiving any information about the childhood of Rodney or the life of his six siblings. ◀

email [ronchapman229@gmail.com](mailto:ronchapman229@gmail.com)

Rodney with Annabel Wilson on the day of her first solo flight in 1952





# THE 'OTHER' WILLIAM SUMMERS

## THE STORY OF WILLIAM SUMMERS (SOMERS)

### FREE SETTLER, ARAB 1842

Don Bradmore (Member No. 6756)

THE name 'William SUMMERS' was quite a common one in Van Diemen's Land (VDL) in the nineteenth century. Tasmanian Archives and Heritage Office (TAHO) records show seven convicts of that name were transported to the colony and another eight at least arrived as free settlers.<sup>1</sup>

In addition, there were three men by the name of 'William SOMERS' in the colony, and three more Williams who spelt their name as 'SOMMERS'. And then there were quite a number of others whose *second* name was 'William'—as in Charles William Summers, Frederick William Summers, Thomas William Summers and so on.<sup>2</sup>

Understandably, this has led to considerable confusion among descendants.

One interesting case of confusion relates to the William Summers who married Elizabeth 'Betsy' BRADMORE at Westbury on 23 May 1851.<sup>3</sup> A quick glance at family tree websites will reveal many of Betsy's descendants still hang to the belief that her husband was a free settler who had arrived on *Arab* in March 1842.<sup>4</sup>

Their claim is that this William Summers had been brought to VDL by Henry DOWLING, a wealthy Launceston businessman, who had travelled to England in 1841 to encourage migration to the north of the colony. Before leaving, he had been asked by a number of local landowners to find stockmen, labourers and domestic servants for them.<sup>5</sup>

On 31 March 1842, two hundred and five of those whom Dowling had recruited reached Launceston aboard *Arab*.<sup>6</sup> The fares of most of them had been advanced through a bounty scheme of the colonial government, repayment to be exacted from wages earned upon arrival. Among the passengers was a 19 year-old lad, William Summers.<sup>7</sup>

According to some of Betsy's descendants, he soon found work as a stockman on the big 'Dunedin' estate near Launceston where he remained for seven years repaying his government bond. He then moved to 'Vrone' at Bishopsbourne, they say, and after that to 'Adelphi', near Westbury, where he met and married 16 year-old Betsy, the daughter of George and Mary (née FARRELL) Bradmore, on 23 May 1851.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> TAHO, 'Colonial Tasmanian Family Links' database: <http://portal.archives.tas.gov.au/menu.aspx?search=8>

<sup>2</sup> *ibid*

<sup>3</sup> William Summers and Betsy Bradmore: marriage—Tas. Reg: 976/1851/37

<sup>4</sup> <http://genforum.genealogy.com/ballantyne/messages/39.html> and <http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/s/u/m/Rex-D-Summers/WEBSITE-0001/UHP-0005.html>

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<sup>5</sup> See biography of Henry Dowling Jr in *Australian Dictionary of Biography* at <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/dowling-henry-2237>

<sup>6</sup> *Arab*, arrival Launceston with 205 passengers; met by Henry Dowling: *Colonial Times*, Hobart, 5 April 1842, p. 2

<sup>7</sup> See conduct record of William SOMERS at TAHO: CON37/1/2, Image 145

<sup>8</sup> As for Note 3, above

However, it can now be shown—without a shadow of doubt—this is not the case!

Here is the proof. In early March 1845, three years after the arrival of *Arab*, a man by the name of William Somers was convicted in the Supreme Court of South Australia with uttering counterfeit coins and sentenced to transportation for ten years 'to such place as the Governor shall think fit to appoint'.<sup>9</sup>

As it happens, that place was Van Diemen's Land. Within days he was put aboard *Scotia* and arrived back at Hobart Town on 13 April 1845.<sup>10</sup>

His conduct record at TAHO reads (in part) as follows:<sup>11</sup>

Police No: 480

SOMERS, William

Tried Adelaide S. Crt, 10 March 1845

Transported for making base and counterfeit coin. General character not known. Single. States this offence: Coining half crowns. Tried with six others ... I arrived here on the 'Arab' at Launceston in 1842.

First I worked for Mr Miller on the Tamar.

There can be no doubt this was the William Summers/Somers who had been recruited in England by Henry Dowling in 1841, and had arrived at Launceston on *Arab*. How, when and why he had left VDL to go to South Australia is still not known.

At Hobart, he was soon in trouble with the authorities again. On 16 August 1845 he was absent from his station without leave and sentenced to six months' hard labour. On 13 September 1845, he was charged with absconding and his period of transportation extended by eighteen months. On 6 November 1845, he was

found guilty of misconduct in 'losing or making away with a pair of government trousers', an offence which earned him six days' solitary confinement. On 24 December 1845, he was again on a misconduct charge, this time for 'having a fellow prisoner's boots improperly in his possession'. For this offence he was sentenced to a month's hard labour in chains.<sup>12</sup>

During the next five or six years, he was assigned to various landowners in the south of the colony but seems to have avoided further trouble.

On 15 April 1851 he applied for permission to marry convict Janet McCLEREY (also seen as McCLEARY, McLEARY and McLERY). She had been convicted of stealing clothing at Ayr in her native Scotland in October 1849 and had arrived at Hobart aboard *Baretto Junior* in July 1850. They were wed at St Georges Church, Hobart, on 7 May that year.<sup>13</sup>

On 25 February 1852, William was granted his ticket-of-leave. He and Janet set up house in the south of the colony and by 1865, she had given birth to twelve children.<sup>14</sup>

Around 1866, the family moved to the north of the colony. Although little is known with certainty about their lives there, it seems that husband and wife may have been experiencing some domestic strife at this time.<sup>15</sup>

<sup>9</sup> As for Note 7, above. The counterfeiting case was reported in *South Australian* (Adelaide), 18 March 1845, p. 4.

<sup>10</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>11</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>12</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>13</sup> Janet McLerery, conduct record, TAHO CON41/1/27, Image 119 Somers/McLerery permission to marry: TAHO CON52/1/3, p. 419 Somers/McLerery marriage: Tas. Reg: 212/1851/RGD37

<sup>14</sup> Somers' ticket-of-leave is noted on his conduct record – see Note 9, above. See 'Tasmanian Pioneer Index' for children of William and Janet (McLerery) Somers. (Note various spellings of McLerery).

<sup>15</sup> Birthplace of the Somers children show they were in south of colony until 1865 at least

In the Police Court at Launceston in mid-June 1878, Janet charged William with ‘desertion’, claiming he had left her without means of support since early in the month. Apprehended, William was remanded to appear on 23 June to answer the charge. Just before the case was to be heard, however, it was withdrawn and nothing more came of the matter.<sup>16</sup>

Although a record of William’s death has not yet been found, it is thought that he passed away at about this time.

Around 1880, Janet left Tasmania, probably to be closer to some of her children who had already moved to the mainland. When she died on 5 July 1899, the informant to her death certificate, a grandchild, stated she had spent the last ten years of her life in New South Wales and eight years prior to that in Victoria.<sup>17</sup>

And so it is clear it was not the ‘William Summers/Somers’ of *Arab* who married Elizabeth ‘Betsy’ Bradmore at Westbury in 1851.

Who was it then? Without doubt, it was the ‘William Summers’ a 16 year-old convict who arrived at Launceston on *Marquis of Hastings* (2) on 8 November 1842.

On 19 October 1841, he had been convicted of housebreaking at the Warwick Quarter Sessions, England and sentenced to transportation for ten years. His conduct record at TAHO shows he was in the Westbury area by 1843 assigned to George PURTON, a tenant farmer at ‘Adelphi’, for four months in November 1846 and a further twelve months in March 1847. Westbury district land records show George Purton and George

Bradmore, Betsy’s father, were neighbouring tenants at ‘Adelphi’ at this time.<sup>18</sup>

Further evidence that this William was Betsy’s husband is to be found in the names the couple gave to their children: Henry George (born 1854), Fanny (1857), William John (1859), Charles Jones (1861), Rosa Ella (1869), Ernest Albert Peter (1871), Peter Jones (1873), Andrew Michael (1876) and Alfred Morven Percival (1879).<sup>19</sup>

Why was the name ‘Peter’ given to *two* of the children? Why was ‘Jones’—an unusual middle name—given to *two* of them? What special significance did these names have?

As it happens, William’s convict documents show this father was Peter Summers and his mother was Maria Summers (née JONES). International Genealogical Index (IGI) records reveal they were married at St Philips Church, Warwick, England, on 20 February 1825.<sup>20</sup>

Their son William—who was to become Betsy’s husband—was born in 1826.<sup>21</sup> ◀

The author acknowledges the contribution of Greg Jewiss of New South Wales, a descendant of the William Summers/Somers who arrived at Launceston on *Arab* in 1842.

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<sup>16</sup> The ‘wife desertion’ charge and its later withdrawal was reported in *The Cornwall Chronicle* (Launceston), 24 July 1878, p. 2

<sup>17</sup> Janet (McLerery) Somers—death: NSW Reg: 1899/010845

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<sup>18</sup> William Summers (*Marquis of Hastings*) conduct record: TAHO CON33-1-29, Image 200

<sup>19</sup> See ‘Tasmanian Pioneer Index’ for children of William and Elizabeth ‘Betsy’ (Bradmore) Summers. (Note various spellings of Bradmore).

<sup>20</sup> See conduct record: TAHO CON33-1-29, Image 200. See IGI FamilySearch.

<sup>21</sup> The 1841 England census shows Peter Summers living with his 15 year-old son, William, and two daughters, Eliza, 13, and Fanny, 6, at Cousins Street, Birmingham. There is no mention of wife, Maria, who might have died before 1841.

# RECENT LINKING WITHIN TAHO TASMANIAN NAMES INDEX

Maree Ring (Member No. 552)

**W**ITH the digitising of many of the ‘minor’ records within TAHO, some are now being linked into the *Tasmanian Names Index*. Recent linking has been done for these:

## **HSD145 Return of deaths General Hospital Hobart (1864–1884)**

The record shows patient’s name, their ward, age, religion, status, date of admission, disease, ship to colony, date of death, place of birth, trade and general remarks. (Indexed by Joyce Purtscher in 1999—*Deaths at the General Hospital Hobart, January 1864 – June 1884.*)

## **HSD146 Requisitions for coffins for pauper interments (1864–1876)**

The record contains the names of the paupers, the ship of arrival, date of death and remarks. **HSD145** and **HSD146** are found under the record type ‘deaths’.

## **CON30 Registers of Employment of Probation Passholders**

This is a list of passholders who, having passed through the early stages of probation, could be hired by settlers at a stated wage. This series in three volumes is a register of contracts made by the Convict Department with particular individuals and gives name of employer, date of contract, name and ship of passholder, rate of wages, period of employment. The date range is May 1848 to October 1857.

CON30/1/1. The cover shows a ‘W’ on the front—volume W? It doesn’t start until p. 22 and goes to p. 367. CON 30/1/2 starts at p. 60 and goes to p. 359. The cover of CON30/1/3 shows a ‘D’ on the front and starts at p. 6, with a few odd pages missing, finishing with p. 77.

On looking through the registers there are references to other volumes beginning with letters. For example ‘from vol(ume) A’ at the top of the page, and at the bottom, ‘continues vol(ume)S’. Obviously these volumes are missing.

However, finding someone in the series is as simple searching the *Tasmanian Names Index* and for example, using the name ‘Edward Christopher RYAN’ brings up John Ryan, convict and employer records. These employer records have been linked from CON30. The name of the employer is listed with further links to the exact pages.

Finding those assigned to employers is a little harder, but not impossible. In the case of Edward Archer, I searched for his name in the *Tasmanian Names Index*, also selected the parameters from years (1847–1860) and from the record type ‘convict’. See **Fig. 1** (following pages).

**Fig. 2** The frame before selecting result.

**Fig. 3** CON152 is a Register of convicts hired by private employers. This is online **but not linked**. However, I understand this is one of the alternative series of records, arranged by contract and convict. It is male-only. In the overlapping years, CON30 contained 70 per cent of the number of male contracts registered in CON152. This may imply that CON30 contains a greater proportion of contracts than hitherto thought. However, it is not yet known if CON152 was comprehensive. It certainly is not complete with hirers beginning with the surnames A, H, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q only available.

<b>Name:</b>	Ryan, John
<b>Record Type:</b>	Convicts
<b>Employer:</b>	Cuff, Christopher: 1850 Broom, Henry: 1851 Archer, Edward: 1853 Bennison, Lieutenant: 1855
<b>Ship:</b>	Shamrock
<b>Index number:</b>	61707
<b>Record ID:</b>	NAME_INDEXES:1431486
<b>Conduct Record</b>	 CON37/1/2 Page 544
<b>Employment</b>	 CON30/1/2 Page 219   CON30/1/2 Page 357   CON30/1/2 Page 280   CON30/1/2 Page 257

Fig. 1



All Fields



edward archer

Your search so far:

**Keywords:** edward archer

**Year:** 1847-1860



Select an Action

### Limit Search Results

#### Record type

- Convicts (17)
- Births (10)
- Marriages (2)
- Deaths (1)

Select ignore

#### Availability

##### Year

- 1847-1848
- 1849-1850
- 1851-1852
- 1854-1855
- 1857-1860

Select ignore

1.



Name  
Record  
Year

2.



Name  
Record  
Year

3.



Name  
Record  
Year

4.



Name  
Record  
Year

Fig. 2—and a few of the 17 convicts found








1.		<b>Name</b> Fletcher, Edward <b>Record type</b> Convicts <b>Year</b> 1852
2.		<b>Name</b> Gaynor, James <b>Record type</b> Convicts <b>Year</b> 1848
3.		<b>Name</b> Graham, Elizabeth <b>Record type</b> Convicts <b>Year</b> 1851
4.		<b>Name</b> Hall, John <b>Record type</b> Convicts <b>Year</b> 1852
5.		<b>Name</b> Britton, Margaret <b>Record type</b> Convicts <b>Year</b> 1851
6.		<b>Name</b> Burke, Moses <b>Record type</b> Convicts <b>Year</b> 1849
7.		<b>Name</b> Murray, Maria <b>Record type</b> Convicts <b>Year</b> 1849

Fig. 3

As listed the subjects at the time of writing covered in the *Tasmanian Names Index* are: Arrivals, Bankruptcy, Births, Census, Convicts, Court, Deaths, Departures, Divorces, Health and Welfare, Hotels and Properties,

Immigration, Inquests, Marriage Permissions, Marriages, Miscellaneous, Naturalisations, Prisoners, Wills, World War 1 Soldiers and Nurses. ◀

# TAHO RECENTLY DIGITISED CONTENT

## JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2017

**P**LEASE find below a list and brief description of material recently digitised, ingested and available online for the quarter **July to September, 2017**—based on access and preservation needs.

There is a variety of subject and formats to view, including the films uploaded to the LINC Historical Tasmanian Films channel on YouTube. Please share this information.

### **Photographs/Art work**

(series links below are to *Archives Search* to show the context; photographs and their thumbnails are also delivered via *Enterprise*—just enter the series number)

Hobart and Surrounds Real Photo postcards and photographs, collected by the Reed Family, 1920s–1936 (item 9 comprises a panorama–North Hobart, West Hobart, Hobart and Sandy Bay) [NS5411](#)

Photographs of family and friends in locations in and around Hobart, 1920s–1936 (provides good visual reference for costume and leisure activities) [NS5470](#)

Photographs of Launceston houses, taken by Stephen Spurling III, 1920–1937 (good representation of architecture and streetscape in Launceston for this period) [NS3484](#)

Album of photographs, Launceston and surrounds, early twentieth-century, [LPIC50/31](#)

Entrance tickets to the 1894–95 Tasmanian International Exhibition, comprising ‘passport photograph’ and name and address, bound in a red Morocco leather folder [NS5777](#)

Pictorial inserts in the *Tasmanian Mail*—extension of years where the pictorial supplements can be viewed at a high resolution; now includes additional 4 years—July 1898–1901 (photo-lithographic inserts themselves can be seen [here](#))

[Wild flowers and birds of the Great Lake Plateau](#) sketchbook by Madge G Wilson, of The Steppes, Bothwell

### **Convict related records**

These records are part of a project to ensure ALL convict records held as part of the UNESCO Memory of the World are copied, so that there is minimal access to the originals, contributing to their long-term preservation.

Other records have been selected for digitisation because they explain aspects of the convict experience beyond sentencing.

Letter book of the Superintendent of the Bridgewater Road Station, 1839–1845 [CB55/1](#)

Register of applications by prisoners held in the Hobart Barracks for permission to write letters, 1855–1857 [CON168](#)

Register of Absentees from the Hobart Prisoners’ Barracks, July–November 1853 [CON164](#)

Semaphore Code Dictionary—Tasman Peninsula, c. 1868 (shows the words and numbers used to flag messages between stations) [CON133](#)

Statistical Returns for the number of convicts employed at the Military Barracks, Hobart, January–March 1852 [AA968](#)



Minutes of hearings before magistrates of charges against prisoners in the Barracks, April 1844–June 1845 [CON166](#)

Return of Women transferred from the Launceston House of Correction to the Ross House of Correction, June 1854 [AA967](#)

Register of convict in the service of settlers in the New Norfolk district, March 1833–January 1853 [POL514](#)

Register of convicts in the service of settlers in the Richmond area, 1832–1853 [POL584](#)

Alphabetical index to convicts who were the subjects of correspondence concerning remission of sentences, May 1857–October 1857 [CON48](#)

Register of convicts' applications to interview the Comptroller-General and Sherriff, 1862–1886 [CON49](#)

Register of petitions referred to Comptroller-General and Sherriff, 1862–1864 [CON46](#)

### **Justice**

Register of the issue of subpoena for witnesses to attend Quarter Sessions, 1852–1857 [AF920](#)

Register of the issue of subpoena for witnesses to attend Supreme Court, 1852–1859 (earlier register 1834–1839 not yet digitised) [SC183](#)

Record of cases heard in Lower Court Petty Sessions, Green Ponds (Kempton) early gap filled, March 1834–January 1835 (LC194/4/1) [LC194](#)

Photographs of convicted criminals from Head Office police records, last volume in the series completed, 1928–1931 (POL708-1-5-names added by TIRS) [POL708](#)

### **Health**

Admission register, Royal Derwent Hospital, 1830–1900, (register was

started in 1859; the early entries were compiled retrospectively from other records in existence at that time) [HSD247](#)

### **Land and Place**

Map of Mount Wellington tracks, 1930 (from the Hobart City Council Reserves Committee) [AF879](#)

Coloured Plan of Norfolk Island settlement, 1850 (part of the series of Governor's Office Outward Despatches) [GO33/1/99](#)

Diagrams of allotments of land in Launceston, 1834 (these are coloured and annotated) [LSD421](#)

[Post Office Directories](#), gaps now filled for entire date ranges between 1890 and 1948

(**specific gaps filled**—1920, 1933–34, 1940–1944 and 1946 and captured by TIRS)

### **Foundation Records**

Indexes to correspondence of the Colonial Secretary in the period of Governor Arthur, 1824–1836 (volumes 1 and 2) [CSO3](#)

Letters Patent and Privy Seal, Anglican Diocese of Tasmania, 1842 and 1843 (these letters patent created the Diocese of Tasmania and therefore the declaration of Hobart as a city) [NS3587](#)

### **Community contributions to online archival content**

Unpublished autobiography by Lucy Meo (1920–2007), two volumes covering a childhood in Hobart through to her working life in Melbourne [NS5709](#)

Postcards collected by Mary Jane Tanner of 'Aldersyde' Glebe, Hobart, 1901–1919 (donor supplied reference quality digital copies alongside the originals to provide client access online) [NS5713](#) and [NS5714](#)

Transcription of diary of Phillip Thomas Smith on board the *Royal Admiral* to Van Diemen's Land, 1831–1832 [NS1556/1/1](https://youtu.be/NS1556/1/1)

### **TIRS-contributed content through research enquiry work**

We have been able to upload individual archives records at reference quality standard; the series are diverse and there are too many items to list.

Here are some examples –

Correspondence relating to the lease of land to returned soldiers (World War 2) [AB50/1/973](https://youtu.be/AB50/1/973)

Selective Dumaresq family papers (letters to Ann Dumaresq) [NS953/1/21](https://youtu.be/NS953/1/21)

Employment records of Transport Department workers [TC10/1/16723](https://youtu.be/TC10/1/16723)

Diary of a voyage to Van Diemen's Land, 1836-1837 [NS1632/1/1](https://youtu.be/NS1632/1/1)

Small watercolour of Cleburne House, Uplands, near Mount Direction [NS5199/1/1](https://youtu.be/NS5199/1/1)

Diary of Elizabeth Keziah Hayter, 1842 [NS202/1/1](https://youtu.be/NS202/1/1)

### **Online Tasmanian films Hobart (1957)**

<https://youtu.be/ZvcvhzlyX0Q>

### **Tasman Peninsula (1953)**

<https://youtu.be/Ss7IeB5Kv08>

### **Sport in Tasmania (1986)**

<https://youtu.be/EffiTfGRs-A>

### **Historic Stanley (1977)**

<https://youtu.be/S0Q4SR2scP4>

### **Glimpses: Salamanca Market (1979)**

[https://youtu.be/HFUJBx\\_AGxI](https://youtu.be/HFUJBx_AGxI)

### **All This and Service Too (1975)**

A film about promoting the east coast of Tasmania.

<https://youtu.be/gV1oEKqaXgk>

### **Forester's Island (1973)**

Traces the history of Tasmanian forestry.

<https://youtu.be/3tzquGQzk1E>

### **Georgian Bothwell (1964)**

<https://youtu.be/A0IdRPPCGtw>

### **Born, Bred and Raised in Tasmania (1974)**

History of horse racing in Tasmania.

<https://youtu.be/NCIS9IOjbhk>

### **Pollution is Personal (1976)**

<https://youtu.be/rvbkhQm846k>

### **The Paper Makers (1970)**

[https://youtu.be/OA3O\\_Lcpbmc](https://youtu.be/OA3O_Lcpbmc)

### **Play it Safe (1988)**

A road safety film made for children filmed in Hobart.

<https://youtu.be/mgUc6Cj4TE>

### **Savage Iron (1968)**

The history and processing of iron ore mining at Savage River.

<https://youtu.be/EdMUqX3M3SE>

### **Sea Fever (1968)**

1968 Royal Hobart Regatta.

<https://youtu.be/ZwUa8rT3eaI>

### **Tasmania Today: Mining and Minerals (1954)**

<https://youtu.be/vLgjFbCUZIQ>

### **Roundabout (1961)**

The purpose of traffic roundabouts and how they should be used for best effect. Features early footage of Hobart's Railway Roundabout and Brooker Highway.

<https://youtu.be/pKIVZnJMMfg>

### **Detect and Prosecute (1968)**

Tasmanian Police Force investigate a crime and are successful in finding the culprit. Shows procedures like fingerprinting and ballistics, produced in a similar manner to the Homicide TV series (1960s).

<https://youtu.be/QEHs06qQK5k>

### **The Home Builder: Housing the People (1960)**

Follows the design and construction of 1960s homes in Tasmania. Includes

housing commission projects, subdivisions, design of domestic interiors and home appliances.

<https://youtu.be/2qZrD0pdgvk>

### **Cadet Worlds (1974)**

Follows two helmsmen from Tasmania that were selected to represent Australia in the 1974 Cadet Dinghy World Championships.

<https://youtu.be/SZcnJqD9EZO>

### **Australian Littering Quest (1979)**

A parody on Miss Australia Quest, featuring Tom Payne.

<https://youtu.be/UAMds8HGRaQ>

### **E T Emmett Talks (1970)**

First director of Tasmanian tourism talks about his early experience in the tourist industry.

<https://youtu.be/QeBf8fuqCAA>

### **Entrepreneurial Migrants - (1979)**

Celebrates Tasmanian migrants and their love of Tasmania. Includes Umberto Tucceri (Don Camillo/Mondo Piccolo), Roelf Vos, Les Blakebrough, Milan Vyhnalek (Lactos), Claudio Alcorso (Moorilla).

<https://youtu.be/ym9d-ZTDM7Y>

### **Presentation Of The Colours (1968)**

History of the Hobart Barracks. Includes footage of the Kangaroo Bluff Battery, Port Alexandra (Sandy Bay) and presentation of the colours.

<https://youtu.be/kW52V2IF8Cw>

### **Huon's New Harvest (1964)**

History, construction and operations of the Port Huon Pulp Mill.

<https://youtu.be/H2ZTt40PO4U>

### **Planet Earth: A Question Of Expansion (1982)**

An illustrated presentation by Professor S W Carey, of his long held theory that the earth's expansion provides an explanation of continental drift and other geological phenomena.

<https://youtu.be/Othb0xsvZb4>

### **Look To The Wild Side (1968)**

Looks at various Tasmanian industries and how they've grown through power generated by the Hydro-Electric Commission.

<https://youtu.be/domJ4XFO--g>

### **Dragon World (1971)**

Comprehensive coverage of the World Dragon Championships which were held in Hobart during January 1971.

<https://youtu.be/LVJWoPbOoiM>

### **Home For Danny (1966)**

Looks at neglected children, foster care and social welfare system in the '60s. Includes footage of Wybra Hall Boys Home at Mangalore.

<https://youtu.be/g94m7Tlo8eA>

### **Opening Of Parliament (1969)**

Opening session of the Tasmanian Parliament, by his Excellency the Governor of Tasmania Sir Edric Bastyan.

<https://youtu.be/Nctng4yzzMQ>

### **Watch Your Step (1968)**

Safety film about industrial falls, comparing circus clowns with carelessness in industry. Features Bullens Circus.

<https://youtu.be/puQ3WHut3-E>

### **Conflict aka Work Safety (1985)**

Film about safety in the workplace, contains Vietnam War footage.

<https://youtu.be/3Y7SKBSbNhc>

### **Ross Bridge (1977)**

Follows the restoration work undertaken in the '70s and life of convict stonemason, Daniel Herbert.

<https://youtu.be/s3nC-pf7-0A>

### **Let's look at land (1972)**

Looks at land development in Tasmania. Includes Cambridge Park, Warrane, Kingborough, Brighton, Tamar Valley and Tasmania's North West Coast.

<https://youtu.be/mo2KSNGFisI>

### **Tasmanian Wild Life (1973)**

<https://youtu.be/J3zdoIdMiR8>

### **Australian Corriedale: A Sheep For All Seasons (1980)**

<https://youtu.be/cr6tK9wrUiY>

### **In Partnership With The People (1969)**

The story of Battery Point and the introduction of the Battery Point Planning Scheme.

<https://youtu.be/bN7VBkcs0Qo>

### **Lake Pedder (1971)**

A last look at Lake Pedder in its natural state through the eyes of artists and photographers.

[https://youtu.be/Rtj\\_PrOqCLs](https://youtu.be/Rtj_PrOqCLs)

### **The System: Motorbike Safety (1979)**

Illustrates a basic series of correct procedures to adopt on the road when riding a motorcycle.

<https://youtu.be/B9NhIzq3pOE>

### **Bomb Threat (1984)**

A fictional story about a bomb threat against a newspaper, set at *The Mercury*.

[https://youtu.be/Bo5RcHgaJ\\_I](https://youtu.be/Bo5RcHgaJ_I)

### **Evidence: Police Training No. 1 (1963)**

Instructional film for police training.

<https://youtu.be/EHvelHljpPY>

### **Flowing Through Tasmania (1972)**

The importance of Tasmania's water resources is highlighted in this production made by the HEC.

<https://youtu.be/z-Xe2rk-xVI>

### **Colour In Industry (1962)**

How colours can benefit industry, increasing production & pleasant working conditions for employees.

<https://youtu.be/pk7PGqpDG5c>

### **ABC of Unions (1980)**

<https://youtu.be/Ldg9mQHnOT4>

### **Gordon Power (1978)**

Construction of the Gordon River and Serpentine Dams. Includes footage of Strathgordon, fishing at Lake Pedder and

the Cronulla to Port Hacking ferry 'Bundeena'.

<https://youtu.be/PGE0Rz0hE04>

### **The Big Catch (1963)**

A dramatic film of commercial fishing in Tasmanian waters. Features barracouta fishing in the Derwent, shark fishing off Bruny Island, crayfishing in the remote west, wild salmon fishing on Tasmania's east coast and scallop season off Bruny Island. Also includes footage of the Eastern Fishermen's Co-operative Society and Hobart Docks.

<https://youtu.be/FEXGC7QCd98>

### **How Precise is Precise (1975)**

Explores precision engineering in Tasmania. Includes Hobart's Science Centre, Wrest Point Casino, Rocherlea Engine Bearings, Launceston Brass Foundry.

[https://youtu.be/gp0LVjA\\_Qvc](https://youtu.be/gp0LVjA_Qvc)

### **The Tall Ships In Tasmania (1988)**

Documents the start of the Bicentenary Tall Ships Race.

<https://youtu.be/8B4JpAQzhqU>

### **Jill Waters** Senior Archivist (Collections)

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We welcome your feedback -

<https://www.linc.tas.gov.au/about-us/Pages/feedback.aspx>

Files of deceased and discharged patients at New Town Charitable Institute/St Johns Park are available from Archives at Berriedale. If you go to HSD186 on the Series section of LINC and scroll down, you'll find dates and then alphabetical links to the name you want to order. Not all the early inmates have files, but later ones are helpful. Joyce Purtscher

# WHAT IS THAT PUBLICATION ABOUT?

Maurice Appleyard (Member No. 4093)

**N**UMEROUS 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?**

## **THAT YESTERDAY WAS HOME.**

This hard cover book, of some 243 pp. by Roy Burgess was first published in 1948.

Sorell is a small township on Pittwater, an inlet at Frederick Henry Bay, in the South-east of Tasmania. "Woods" is a farm three and a half miles up the Valley from Sorell. My mothers's race were pioneers of Sorell from 1815. The land of Wood's was granted to them in the Eighteen-Twenties. From the Seventeen-Nineties, as colonists, they played their part in the making of Australia. ...

Thus, the author introduces his narrative work about the early history of Van Diemen's Land and his ancestors' settlement in the greater Sorell area.

Family names developed are Wood, Nash, Bellette and Burgess.

## **THE PEOPLE OF ELLON 1696**

This A5 booklet, of some 52 pp. was first published in 2004 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, (showing 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.

## **PARISH REGISTERS VOL. 21 & MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.**

This CD-Rom (no. 37) was produced by the Kent Family History Society and contains details of Banns, Marriages, Christenings and Burials for a range of dates between 1681 and 1954.

**Boughton-under-Blean**, Bns 1893–1907, C 1784–1812, B 1875–1907;

**Burham**, C 1880–1913, M 1882–1935;

**Canterbury Garrisons**, C 1856–1889;

**Deal Independent Chapel**, C 1681–1802, B 1786–1798;

**Deal St Andrew**, C 1705–1876, B 1705–1877, Bns 1754–1888, M 1705–1876;

**Gravesend St George**, C 1838–1843, B 1838–1842;

**Halling St John**, C 1705–1876, B 1705–1877, Bns 1754–1888, M 1705–1876;

**Hawkhurst**, B 1843–1924;

**Higham** C 1813–1846, B 1813–1864;

**Kilndown**, Bns 1843–1932, C 1843–1915, B 1843–1903, M 1843–1940;

**Kingsdown Deal**, C 1851–1864 (Gaps);

**Luddenham**, Bns 1754–1800,  
 C 1542–1880, B 1542–1971,  
 M 1547–1812, 1837–1940;  
**Lydd** Bns 1822–1965, C 1542–1799,  
 1802–1918, B 1540–1542, 1570–1578,  
 1662–1914, M 1542–1940;  
**Maidstone Holy Trinity** C 1842–1898;  
**Maidstone St Lukes** M 1898–1903;  
**New Romney** Bns 1808, 1823–1901,  
 C 1564–1890, B 1564–1901, M 1564–  
 1838, 1876–1900;  
**Queenborough** M 1837–1879;  
**Shepherdswell** M 1910–1940;  
**Sholden** C 1563–1905, B 1563–1906,  
 M 1564–1910;  
**Tudeley** Bns 1754–1825, M 1663–1825,  
 C 1663–1812, B 1663–1812;  
**Upper Hardres** C 1566–1813, B 1405–  
 1813, M 1566–1812;  
**Walmer** C 1855–1910.

In addition, the CD contains memorial inscriptions from: Alkham, Badlesmere & Leaveland, Barming, Boughton-under-Blean, Bridge, Chatham Palmerston Road, Coldred, Gravesend, Hackington, Lower Hardres, Paddlesworth, Paddock Wood, Petham, Snave & Eastwell, St Nicholas at Wade, Stourmouth, Sturry, Swalecliffe, Throwley, Tunbridge Wells, Waltham & Milton, Wincheap.

### **WEST KENT MARRIAGE INDEX, 1538–1812**

This CD-Rom (no. 36) was produced by the Kent Family History Society and contains details for a range of dates between 1538–1812.

The Marriage Index, containing all known marriages in 133 churches and chapelries, was compiled over a period of 15 years from 1976 to 1990. It covers all those parishes in the ancient Diocese of Rochester, including the Deanery of Shoreham, i.e. the whole of Kent, west of the Medway, including the large Medway

towns of Chatham and Rochester, and all those parishes up to Deptford in South East London. There are also a substantial number of “out of county” strays.

### **THE PEOPLE OF MIDMAR, KINERNIE & ECHT 1696**

This A5 booklet, of some 56 pp. 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 1 (Presbytery of Kincardine)*.

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

The booklet also contains hand drawn maps of the old parishes of Echt and Midmar and Kinernie, (showing boundaries, major roads and villages) in the centre.

For each of the three parishes; alphabetical indexes of individual names are provided, together with a small list of the number of people following the occupations listed. Small place name indexes are also provided.

### **THE NORMAN EMPIRE**

This hard cover book of some 416 pp. is a 1978 reprint and was first published in 1976 by Oxford University Press.

This book is about the political structure which the Normans created in Britain and northern France.

The first part defines its chronology from the early tenth century, when the Normans broke out of the lands around Rouen on which the king of the Western Franks had been trying to settle them, to the collapse of their ‘empire’ in the middle of the twelfth century.

The second part describes how the Norman Kings organized their government, ruling Normandy and England directly and exercising varying degrees of authority over the kings of Scots, the Welsh princes, and marcher lords, the counts of Flanders, Boulogne, Pontieu, and Maine, the dukes of Brittany, and seigneurs who held lands both in 'France' and Normandy.

The conquest of England is regarded as but one event, though the most important, in the activity of the Normans in this part of Europe, and as something they did for their own purposes rather than in the traditional way as something that happened to England. Likewise the government of the Norman kings is seen not simply as an episode in English history, however much or little it may have affected that history, but as a complex though unitary organization covering all the Norman lands and overlordships in Britain and France.

### **THE LONDON ENCYCLOPAEDIA**

This revised edition, of some 1060 pp., was published in 1995 by Macmillan Reference Books.

It comprises some 5,000 entries, organised alphabetically, cross-referenced and supported by two large indexes—one of 10,000 people mentioned in the text and one general—and is illustrated with over 500 drawings, prints and photographs.

Everything that is important in the history and culture of the capital is documented, whether banished or extant, from its first settlement to the present day.

An excellent reference book researchers will find very handy. Whether it is a street, park, house, church, monument, notable person, etc, this work contains valuable information pertaining to their location and history.

### **THE PEOPLE OF SLAINS & LOGIE BUCHAN 1696**

This A5 booklet, of some 44 pp. 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 each Parish are faithfully reproduced (including the archaic spelling of names, occupations, and locations).

The booklet also contains hand drawn maps of the old parishes of Logie Buchan and Slains, (showing boundaries, major roads and villages) in the centre.

For each of the two parishes; alphabetical indexes of individual names are provided, together with a small list of the number of people following the occupations listed. Small place name indexes are also provided.

### **GIBBONS FAMILY TREE, 1726–2016**

This A4 book of some 93 pp. was first published in 2016 by Colin Gibbons.

There are over three hundred and forty people from the Gibbons, Finney and Besley families that are included in this family tree, dating back to the birth of Henry GIBBONS in 1726 who married Miriam ROSE. ...

However, a recorded history of the family begins with the marriage of Henry Rose GIBBONS and Sussana Jimima NORRIS in London, in 1833, who then immigrated to Hobart, Tasmania [Van Diemen's Land] ...

From this point, the families expand throughout the colony and the mainland states and ultimately to various parts of New Zealand. ◀

# LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS

## Hobart Branch

### Accessions—Books

- \*Aberdeen & North-East FHS; *The People of Ellon—1696*. [929.34 CAL]
- \*Aberdeen & North-East Scotland FHS; *The People of Slains & Logie Buchan 1696*. [929.34 HEP]
- \*Bridges, Roy; *That Yesterday Was Me*. [994.6 BRI]
- Clennett, Scott; *Engaging The Giants—A history of Sawmills and Tramways of Tasmania's Southern Forests*. [Q 385.5409946 CLE]
- \*Clune, Frank & P R Stephenson; *The Viking of Van Diemen's Land—The stormy life of Jorgen Jorgensen*. [994.602 CLU]
- Coen, A; *River & Coastal Vessels Trading Out Of Hobart, 1832–2015*. [Q 387.20946 COE]
- \*Gall, P (Ed); *The People of Midmar, Kinernie & Echt—1696*. [929.34 ECH]
- \*Gibbons, Colin G; *Gibbons Family Tree, 1726–2016*. [Q929.2 GIB]
- \*Holthouse, Hector; *Looking Back—The first 150 years of Queensland Schools*. [Q 370.9943 HOL]
- \*Kroehnert, Rhonda & Betty Taber (comp); *Nathaniel and Oliver—The Lucas Family*. [Q 929.2 LUC]
- \*Le Patourel, John; *The Norman Empire*. [940.0441 LEP]
- \*Lucas, Russell Edwin; *The Lucas Report—Transported Six Times Over*. [Q 929.2 LUC]
- \*National Trust of Australia (Tas.); *Priceless Heritage—Historic Buildings of Tasmania*
- \*Pajic, Bojan; *Serbian Decorations Through History and Serbian Medals Awarded to Australians*
- Sargent, John R; *Guilty Your Honour!—Celebrating 175 years of the Clarence Police Court and a selection of early hearings*. [345.99461 SAR]
- \*Snowden, Dianne; *Meals, Wheels & Volunteers—Fifty years of Meals on Wheels in Hobart*. [362.630099461 SNO]
- \*Weinreb, Ben and Christopher Hibbert; *The London Encyclopædia. (1995 Revised Edition)* [942.1 WEI]
- \*Wyatt R F D, Major D M; *A Lion In The Colony. A historical outline of the Tasmanian Colonial Volunteer Military Forces, 1859–1901*. [355.22362 WAY]

### Accessions—Computer Disks

- \*Archive CD Books Project; *Post Office Directory—London 1843*
- \*Archive CD Books Aus.; *The Old Post Office & Official Directory (Wise's) 1903*
- \*Archive CD Books Project; *Gloucestershire Wills Vol. 2—1660–1800*
- \*Caloundra FH Research; *Old Government Railway Index to Staff Records, 1878–1946*
- \*Carroll, Dianne; *Omeo on the Great Alpine Road & Cemetery, Vic.*
- \*Carroll, Dianne; *Tallangatta History & Cemetery, Vic.*
- \*Devon FHS; *The Deanery of Plympton*
- \*Genealogical Society of Vic; *Early Pioneer Families of Victoria*



- \*Kent FHS; *Parish Registers, Vol. 21 & Monumental Inscriptions*
- \*Kent FHS; *West Kent Marriage Index 1538–1812*
- \*Macbeth Genealogical Services; *Immigration to Victoria, Inward Passengers 1852–1879*
- \*S&N Genealogy; *Index to Changes of Names for UK & Ireland 1760–1901*
- \*Waldron, Roma; *Cemeteries of Northern NSW*
- \*Wangaratta FHS; *Wangaratta Cemetery, up to 1996*
- \*Denotes complimentary or donated item

## Launceston Branch

### Accessions—Books

- Cox, Peter; Lefroy—*Tasmania's Forgotten Gold Town*
- \*Duggan, Vaughan; *In Search of 'Lost Shamrock'—Addendum No. 3 (January 2011–December 2016)*
- Gill, Jenny; *Other Hospitals in Launceston 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> Century*
- \*Overington, Caroline; *Last Woman Hanged—The Terrible, true story of Louisa Collins*
- \*Quarterly Magazine of the Church Grammar School, Launceston, Tasmania;  
*The Launcestonian No. 20 (New Series) August, 1928*
- \*TFHS Inc. Huon Branch; *Huon TFHS Calendar 2017 Pioneer Orchardists*
- \*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:

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**PO Box 326 Rosny Park Tasmania 7018**

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<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
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## 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 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month, except January and December.  
Night Dinner Meetings are held in winter and end of year, check with Branch Librarian for details

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**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 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month, except January and December.

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

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**LAUNCESTON** Phone: Branch Secretary (03) 6326 1399  
Library 45–55 Tamar Street Launceston (next door to Albert Hall)  
Tuesday 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.  
Monday to Friday by appointment only (03) 6326 1399  
Check the Branch News and the website  
<http://www.launceston.tasfhs.org> for locations and times.

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**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 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at Branch Library in Latrobe at 1:30 p.m. or sometimes for lunch at 12:00. Please check the website at [www.tfhsdev.com](http://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 2017–18:-

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

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

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

## Membership Entitlements:

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

## Application for Membership:

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

## Donations:

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

## Research Queries:

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

## Reciprocal Rights:

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

## Advertising:

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

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