

The Genealogist

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Ulster Historical Foundation

EXPLORING YOUR IRISH ANCESTRY

An all-day seminar presented by Fintan Mullan and Gillian Hunt from the Ulster Historical foundation

Date: Monday 19 February 2024

Advance Notice

Ulster Historical Foundation is a non-profit organisation (Registered Charity No. NIC 1002800) based in Northern Ireland and was established in 1956 to promote interest in Irish genealogy and history, with reference to the historic nine-county province of Ulster. The Foundation is one of the leading genealogical research agencies in Ireland and a major publisher of historical, educational and genealogical source books. It has also devised a series of ground-breaking online historical and genealogical resources, which have helped to transform the availability of Irish records for family historians at home and abroad.

Gillian HUNT

Gillian HUNT is Research Officer with the Ulster Historical Foundation and is responsible for the management of the Foundation's many genealogical activities. As well as managing the genealogy side of the Foundation's work, Gillian carries out research for clients and is a hugely experienced user of the General Register Office and the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland. She regularly teaches courses in Northern Ireland and gives talks on family history in the rest of Ireland, the UK, the USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Gillian has been co-presenting our annual North American lecture tours since 2013 and has been with the Ulster Historical Foundation since 2001.



Fintan MULLAN

Fintan MULLAN is Executive Director of the Ulster Historical Foundation. He has extensive experience in Irish family history research and is a regular international speaker on Irish genealogy, having spoken in Ireland, Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and most of the lower 48 states of the USA. He has managed the production of over 150 Irish history and genealogy titles, including the perennial favourite, *Researching Scots-Irish Ancestors*. He helped to pioneer www.rootsireland.ie, the unique database with over 22 million Irish historical records. He is a non-executive director of Irish Family History Foundation and board member of the National Collection of Northern Ireland Publications.



ULSTER HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

Telling the story of the people of Ulster



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Vol XVII, No. 7 | Spring 2023

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President's Report

There is quite a buzz around now about artificial intelligence and the future benefits and dangers for society in general and humans in particular. Curiosity got the better of me, so I signed up to ChatGPT, the most-talked about app available at this time.

The first question I asked was: Can you help with my family history research? The answer was quite reasonable I thought. *Of course! I'll do my best to assist you with your family history research. Please provide me with any information you have, such as names, dates of birth or death, locations, or any other details about your family members. The more information you can provide, the better I can assist you in your research.*

In response, I asked: What was the baptism date of Thomas Francis PAYNTER and where did it take place? The answer did not give me the information I wanted, but at least it provided some sensible advice on how to go about my research!

Here is the reply:

I apologize, but I don't have access to specific baptism records or databases. However, I can provide you with general guidance on how to conduct your research. To find the baptism date and location of Thomas Francis PAYNTER, here are some steps you can take:

Start by gathering as much information as possible about Thomas Francis PAYNTER, such as his full name, date of birth (or an estimated range, and any known locations associated with him or his family.)

Council for 2023

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| | |
|----------------|------------------|
| President | Gail WHITE |
| Vice President | Carolann THOMSON |
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| Magazine | Carolann THOMSON |
| Membership | Darralyn CUSACK |
| Network | Gary FITZGERALD |
| Publications | Mary CLEARY |
| Resources | Gail WHITE |
| Volunteers | Wendy ELDRIDGE |



Other Responsibilities

| | |
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| Research | Diane PACKER |
| Facebook | Linda FARRELL & Carolann THOMSON |
| Website (General) | Linda FARRELL |
| Website (Members area) | Gary FITZGERALD |

Check with your immediate family members or relatives who may have knowledge of Thomas Francis PAYNTER's baptism. They might have access to family records, Bibles, or other documents that could provide clues.

Explore local church records or parish registers from the area where Thomas Francis PAYNTER was born or lived. These records often contain information about baptisms, including dates, locations, and names of parents or sponsors. You can contact the relevant church or diocese to inquire about their records or check if they have digitized their archives.

Utilize online genealogy databases or websites that compile baptism records. Websites like Ancestry.com, FamilySearch.org, or Findmypast.com may have searchable databases containing baptismal records. You can search using Thomas Francis PAYNTER's name, approximate birth date, and geographical information to narrow down the results.

Explore local libraries, historical societies, or archives that may hold relevant records or resources related to the area

where Thomas Francis PAYNTER was born or lived. These institutions might have access to baptismal records or other materials that could assist your research.

Remember, genealogical research can sometimes be challenging, and the availability of records can vary. It's essential to be patient, thorough, and explore multiple sources to gather accurate information about your family history.

So, it's back to the computer and books after all. Thank goodness for the resources of Family History Connections which include multiple online databases such as Ancestry, Findmypast, My Heritage but also the wide ranging experience and expertise of fellow researchers who have been down these paths many times. New publications and frequent data uploads means that no search is ever completed – there's always something to check. Good luck with your latest search and please ask for help at any time.

- Gail WHITE



VicGUM is a not for profit organisation which provides technical support to its members with their use of family history software.

VicGUM members receive a monthly newsletter, connection to Gumnet (which is a member's only web-based chat site) and ongoing technical support.

Our regular user group meetings for FTM and Reunion are now being held using Zoom.

This allows any interested member to log in. Monthly events are also scheduled to be held using Zoom. They will be recorded and will be viewable by members through the member's section of the website.

For details of member benefits visit the web site:

www.vicgum.asn.au and join on line

email: info@vicgum.asn.au

PO Box 509 Mooroolbark Vic 3138



Alexander Henderson Award

For the best Australian family history



Don Grant Award

For the best Australian historical biography with a family history focus

For details and application forms for these awards, please visit our website:

www.familyhistoryconnections.org.au

Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies Inc.



Renovated Hastie's House, Werribee

Hasties House and the Drover's Wife - a true story

Francine Horne

Recently I have been researching, writing, and preparing a power point presentation on the story of Werribee Park and its Scottish history for presentation to our Scottish Interest Group. The basis for my story is that it was about Scottish farmers who became pastoralists in early colonial Victoria. My interest and love of Werribee Park stems from having lived on the property for some years with my husband, which leads me to this anecdote. And just today I read an article in a magazine about Henry LAWSON's *The Drovers Wife* which invoked a particular memory of my time at Werribee Park.

The Story:

From the mid-1980s to early 1990s my late husband was the Grounds Manager of Werribee Park; after moving from Brimbank Park we lived upstairs in a large flat in the old nursery wing above the kitchen area of the Mansion for about a year. Later we moved further down the property towards the Zoo area to Hastie's House, a late 19th century home originally built for Adam HASTIE, the manager of the park in George CHIRNSIDE's era.

Hastie's House had been left abandoned from the Church days and was so dilapidated that at one time it was thought it should be bulldozed. However in around 1987 the MMBW, or powers that be at that time, decided to restore this huge Victorian dwelling to its former glory. I remember when the idea of restoration was first mentioned and that it would become the Manager's home again at Werribee Park, my horrified (then 10-year-old) son said, "Mum, we can't live there, its falling down and a ghost house." *Well...*

With the aid of an Historical Architect and a local builder, the MMBW commenced works and sometime later the property started to come back to life. A lot of consultation was carried out, wallpapers were stripped back, floors uncovered and missing

pieces of veranda iron-work found; coloured glass for the original doors; mantelpieces; the wall colours of the day, and oh so much more was researched, searched for and yes at times found...

This house is located down near the old Water Tower near where the river bends and just across from the Wool Shed, right on the border of the estate near the Zoo. It was a part of the estate that was not open to the public at that time, so very peaceful and undisturbed. This beautiful old house from an earlier time became our home, much to the chagrin of the wildlife that had inhabited it for many years in its abandoned state. Its inhabitants were then possums, mice in plentiful supply, birds and of course snakes. It really fitted in well with its location next to the Zoo area – yes, we appeared to be in a 'wilderness' of life at the beginning.

The house is a huge old Victorian design with rooms on either side of a very long central corridor, the bedrooms up the front and the bathroom facilities down the back (thank goodness inside). There were possums in the night noisily doing what possums do in the walls and in the beginning, at night, one would have to 'give way' to the critters whilst on a trip down the hallway. Anyway, this magnificent old Victorian's previous inhabitants mostly vacated after a period.....well almost!

The house had three original verandas back then and one day I was sitting on one at the side with my cat Cassie, just reading and enjoying the quiet. Suddenly she perked right up and rushed to the edge of the veranda. It was so out of character that I also rushed to the edge of the veranda just in time to see the tail of a tiger snake disappearing under the house. Now snakes are not my favourite thing; I was home alone and my husband was busy up at the Mansion, so what to do?

Well, being a child growing up after WWII, I remembered reading Henry LAWSON's *The Drover's Wife* and the story of the snake under the bush hut and how she dealt with it. Now I am a believer of stories, after all there must be an element of truth don't you think? Why would anyone write stories that were not based on fact?

You must remember this is a very big, long Victorian house with doors leading to the outside on all sides: a big area to cover by oneself. Delving into my memory of the Drover's Wife it was obvious (to me) that she was an experienced bush woman so I followed her original plan. Get saucers, fill them with milk, put them in strategic places, have a club (in my instance they were shovels or spades) to hand at each strategic place ready if the snake made an appearance. So I did this and then went inside and turned the stereo up as loud as I could to make as much noise possible around the veranda under where the snake had first disappeared. Of course Cassie was by now back sitting on her chair looking at me (as only a cat can do) like I was a crazy woman!

So here I am, jumping around shouting, yelling, running from door to door with a shovel in my hand, when up drives my husband and one of his park rangers.

"What on earth are you doing" he asks?

"IT'S A SNAKE AND ITS GONE UNDER THE HOUSE", I yelled whilst jumping around, "and I'm trying to either frighten it away or catch and kill it (I wasn't sure I really wanted to catch the darn thing). I've put milk in saucers at all the doors, just like I learned about years ago, but it hasn't reappeared."

Well, these men - these Park Rangers who deal with the outdoors all the time, just laughed so much they were practically falling on the ground.

"WHAT? Milk in saucers? What on earth made you think that would work?" they both said between great guffaws of laughter, "That the snake would come out for you to hit it on the head? It's probably long gone from the noise you made."

"Well," I replied, "I read that a long time ago and I believed the story".

That husband of mine and his park ranger just couldn't wait to get on the radios and tell everyone in the park of my 'bush woman' experience in snake catching, my guide being Henry LAWSON.

A Note:

Often over the years Werribee Park and Hastie's House have since been used as a film location and if you ever watched *The Dressmaker* you will have seen the house. In that film it was the Mayor's house, though the walls of the interior were covered in some terrible wall paper that was not of the original period nor when we lived there. It was nostalgic to see my old home used for so many scenes in that movie: the police station, the mayor's house and even my son's former bedroom where the mayor seduced the other dressmaker. How dare he! *Abhh stories are great aren't they!*



FHC Services Sources Check

Minimum 2 hours • \$25/hour members • \$40/hour non-members

What to do when a search of the FHC library catalogue or the list of New Resources shows some possibilities for your family, but you're unable to get to the Resource Centre?

Take note of the book (title, author, call number) or the exact details of the fiche or film (its title and any identifying numbers) and ask our team to look for you. You must have the exact reference details to allow our team to find the exact item you identified to enable a search for your family. Tell us what you want us to look up in the source (book, fiche, film, map, index etc) and receive our report by email. One more source eliminated, one more box ticked!

Visit the FHC website www.familyhistoryconnections.org.au, then choose **Research** for full information and application forms.

Sporting Year - 1948 Bendigo (part 3)

Eric Panther

1948 started for me when Dad had brought us (I can't remember which of my siblings were there as well) down to Melbourne during the Christmas school holidays. He took us to the MCG on New Year's Day to watch the Test match between Australia and India. It was a day some bloke called BRADMAN made 132 and a search of cricket records reveals he, just for a change, made a century in the second innings as well. I must admit my memories of the day are vague but I vividly remember one of the Indian fieldsmen was wearing a light blue turban. My cricketing expert mate at the MCC Library, Ken WILLIAMS, has since informed me that he, the Indian fieldsmen, was K. Rai SINGH who, apart from being the only Sikh in the team, was making his Test debut. Just for the record, Australia won the Test by 233 runs.

Later in the year "The Don" took his team across to England, where after not losing a match, they became known to the cricketing world as "The Invincibles". Australia won four of the five Tests played and were luckily saved by the rain in the drawn Third Test. They either won or drew all the other matches they played.¹

BRADMAN was nine days short of his 40th birthday at the conclusion of the Fifth Test but he still managed to accumulate 508 Test runs at an average of 72.57, with a highest score of 173. Not bad for an old bloke. In this day and age most players would be on the scrap heap in their early thirties.

The 1948 Wimbledon² tennis championship Mens' Singles title was won by American, Bob FALKENBURG, who defeated Aussie John BROMWICH in five tight sets. Louise BROUGH CLAPP won an all-American Ladies Singles title, the Aussie pair of John BROMWICH and Frank SEDGMAN took the Mens' Doubles title and an all-American final saw Louise BROUGH CLAPP and Margaret DU PONT toppled the reigning title-holders to take the Ladies Doubles crown.

The world mourned legendary American baseballer, Babe RUTH, who passed away in his sleep on 16 August 1948, aged 53 and Englishman, Henry COTTON, won the last of his three British Open Golf Championships in this year. The 1948 summer Olympic Games were held in London³ but with no television or wireless coverage, they were low-key in comparison with the hoopla surrounding the latest Games. So low-key in fact, that I have no personal recollection of them at all. The records show that Australia won thirteen medals: 2 Gold, 6 Silver and 5 Bronze. John WINTER won the Gold in the High Jump and sculler Mervyn WOOD also took Gold.

In the good old days, when only one boxer was heavyweight champion of the world, the African-American Joe LOUIS, known as "The Brown Bomber", was "King of the Ring"

in 1948. Our own homegrown favourite boxer at the time was the sensational Dave SANDS, who sadly lost his life prematurely in a car accident at the age of 26. He was an inspiration to many young aboriginal lads and was highly respected across Australia. Another favourite Aussie boxer was the southpaw, Vic PATRICK (real name: Victor Patrick LUCCA), who retired in 1948 as the holder of the Australian Lightweight title.

Our family, like many other Aussie families, was hooked on sport. We were very lucky because Dad was the President of the Provincial Football Club in the Bendigo Football Association competition in 1948, so we got to go to the footy every Saturday during the footy season. There was nothing nicer than a "sav and roll" for a zac (sixpence or five cents), on a cold winter's afternoon at the footy. The B.F.A. premiers in 1948 were Kangaroo Flat, while in the Bendigo Football League, Sandhurst took the flag that year.⁴

At school the playground equipment consisted of a monkey bar, two swings, a slide, two seesaws and a most dangerous contraption we called "the ocean wave". It was a sort of merry-go-round. Few of these implements would be sanctioned today, and with hindsight I don't wonder, as they were potentially highly dangerous. Still I don't remember anyone getting hurt. The school playground surface was gravel; no cushy grass for us hardy 1940s kids. We played cricket and footy on this gravel and falling over wasn't a great option. Many times I came home with grazed and bloody knees. At footy we generally played "kick to kick". This consisted of half a dozen kids up each end and the ball was kicked from end to end. You usually "waxed" with another kid. "Waxing" meant you alternated kicks with your partner. If you won the ball and you had had the last kick, you would give it to your mate for his kick. The next time either one of you got the ball, it was your kick. Simple isn't it?

We were also fortunate that paddocks surrounded our house, so we were able to play footy and cricket to our hearts' content, often with a number of the local kids: Wally, Tommy and Johnnie GLYNN, Tommy HERRICK, Maurice READ and Alan and Kevin DYER. We were staunch "Magpie" supporters and listened anxiously each week hoping for a Collingwood victory. In 1948 the Magpies were still being coached by the legendary "Jock" McHALE, were skippered by Phonse KYNE and the team included such magical names as Lou RICHARDS, Bobby ROSE and Bill TWOMEY to name just a few. Sadly they were bundled out in the Preliminary Final by the eventual premiers. Melbourne Football Club, known as the Demons or the Redlegs, won the premiership in 1948 in a replay of the first drawn Grand Final in which Bill BRITTINGHAM⁵ of Essendon kicked 2 goals 11 behinds out of a disastrous 7 goals 27 behinds (34 shots at goal) to Melbourne's 10 goals 9 behinds (19 shots).

Since writing this I have discovered that BRITTINGHAM kicked only two or three behinds in that match, but somehow the legend of his inaccurate kicking has been perpetuated over many decades and still appears in some written records. I am now a volunteer in the Melbourne Cricket Club's Library and through that connection have been privileged to have known Dr Don CORDNER, the man who captained The Demons, when they won the Replay. He also won the 1946 Brownlow Medal. Sadly this delightful man passed away in May 2009. He asked me to do his family history and while I was researching his family I discovered that his mother's maiden name was RAE. Rae's Hill, Rae Street and the Rae's Hill School in Bendigo's Long Gully, were named after Dr. Don's maternal grandfather.

Still on sport, 1948 saw the introduction of the "photo finish" into Australian horse racing. Its use in the 1948 Melbourne Cup created a huge controversy when 15 year-old apprentice jockey, Ray NEVILLE, lifted Rimfire (80/1) to the line to beat the fast-finishing, hot favourite Dark Marne. Those close to racing swore that Dark Marne had won, but the decision in Rimfire's favour, stood. It was later discovered the camera had been set up in an incorrect position and that Dark Marne had in fact passed the post first. Jockey Ray NEVILLE, at 15, was the youngest jockey to ride the winner of the prestigious race. He died at Stawell in December 2008 aged 76, just weeks after he and the town celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of his winning ride.



The author, Eric Panther and sister Gwen

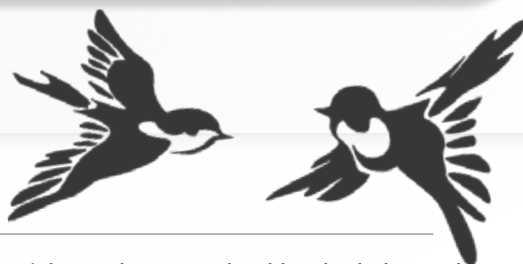
¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_cricket_team_in_England_in_1948

⁴ <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/178166128>

² https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1948_Wimbledon_Championships

⁵ <https://australianfootball.com/players/player/bill%2Bbrittingham/6962>

³ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1948_Summer_Olympics



Vale - Marion TAYLOR



It was with shock we learned of Marion's hospitalisation and sudden death during the evening of 8th/9th July.

Marion has given decades of service to both AIGS and Family History Connections, having joined in November 1996. She served on Council as Coordinator of Volunteers for a number of years before establishing the Early Victoria & Tasmania Interest Group in December 2010. Its popularity was immediately apparent, with meetings having to move to a larger venue (Blackburn RSL) from its second month. Under her caring gaze, the Group thrived and continued to serve its members with a wide range of offerings.

Marion will be fondly remembered for her generosity in helping others in their research, sharing her formidable knowledge and happily celebrating their successful discoveries when they found long missing documents and ancestors.

She will be sadly missed by so many who have shared her journey and, at her request, there was a private cremation.

Bronwen BENNETT, Convenor EVTIG

About a cover: Flinders Street Railway Station

Carolann
Thomson

The iconic central railway terminus for Melbourne, the station was designed by two Railways Department employees, architect James FAWCETT and engineer HPC ASHWORTH. Work began in 1901 and was completed in 1910. “The station is dominated by its long Flinders Street façade, a powerful exercise in red brick and cream-painted render. Stylistically, the building is an eclectic combination of various late-Victorian and Edwardian treatments, combining elements of French Renaissance and Romanesque styling.”¹

Reference

¹GRAY, Kate. The Encyclopedia of Melbourne, Cambridge University Press 2005, p273-4.



Finding Family on Trove

Gregor MASON

It has been said many times that Trove is a fabulous resource for Family History research and if at first you have little success then revisit your search parameters at regular intervals, which could be monthly, quarterly or annually. This tale of a small discovery was made possible by heading down into the Trove rabbit hole once again.

Initially my focus was getting the dates, places and marriage links correct as we know there are numerous family trees on the internet with incorrect information about our own families. Confirming any details found online in family trees is a must.

My gg-grandfather was William Robert MASON b1858 in Pleasant Creek, Victoria. He married Almora Williams McPHERSON in 1881 in Stawell, Victoria, died in 1941 and is buried in Creswick Cemetery, Victoria. I knew he had been a farmer in the Moyston district as was his father and some of his siblings.

I have very little other confirmed information on William but as I was searching for MOYSTON in TROVE, for the umpteenth time over several years, I found a paragraph about a drowning with a reference to 'young men named MASON'.¹

selecting the series 'Inquests into deaths (deposition files 1840 – 1985)'.

A search for Samuel DANNE found 15 records (all Samuels, so not an exact full-name search match), which was fortunate because as I scrolled through the results I discovered the deceased's surname was actually DONNE. When I searched just for the surname, DANNE, the result was no records. Whilst searching on a given name may result in many hits to scroll through, you should consider this as an option because if the surname is recorded incorrectly you may conclude your research has been unsuccessful because the record does not exist. It pays to think laterally.

As I was able to view the documents online, I opened the file and discovered that the MASON boys were William and his younger brother Henry. The attending policeman had named William and in William's deposition he named his brother Henry.

William would have been 35 years of age and Henry 26. A timely revisit to Trove and subsequent search at PROV has added to my family information and ultimately provided more insight into the lives of my ancestors.

COUNTRY NEWS.

ARARAT, MONDAY.

A young man named Samuel Danne was drowned at Moyston on Saturday. He shot a swan in a lagoon near Moyston, and swam in to get it. Two other young men named Mason attempted to dissuade him, but he persisted, and, to their horror, just as he reached the bird he showed signs of distress and sank. The body was recovered on Sunday.

Who were these MASONs and are they related to me? It seems highly likely given the coincidence of the town of Moyston being mentioned.

On the basis that a death by drowning was likely to have required an Inquest, I searched the Public Records Office Victoria Online Collection, under Courts and Justice,

Reference

¹ COUNTRY NEWS. (1893, September 19). *The Argus* (Melbourne, Vic.: 1848 - 1957), p3. Retrieved April 1, 2023, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article8692379>



Letter from England

Peter BENNETT

pkbennett@btinternet.com

So, the AIGS has passed the grand old age of 50 years! It was good to hear that the anniversary book awards luncheon was a success. I guess there are not too many still with us who were at the launch dinner in 1973 but I remember it well. I am not sure we dwelt too much on where we would be in 50 years' time, more likely concentrating on getting the whole thing off the ground.

You have come a long way since those first days and have reason to be proud of your achievements in the world of family history. We certainly could not have imagined that so much material would be available so easily, even in our own homes. Back in the day the collections of published English parish register transcripts in the stacks at the State Library were rather special. I wonder how much they are used now?

Roll on 50 years, and more parish registers are coming to a computer near you. Suffolk Record Office have announced that Ancestry is to digitise parish registers for the county. It is hoped that the collection will come online early in 2025. In the meantime, Findmypast have for some time had the parish register transcripts from the Suffolk Genealogical Society which are very useful, although there is nothing as good as the original record. And Ancestry will have later records than these: baptisms 100 years, marriages 75 years and burials 25 years. And when it comes along we will have the benefit of a second index to the records, which can only be good.

In April, the Cambridgeshire Archives announced that they had finished scanning their parish registers, which include those for Huntingdonshire and they will go online at Ancestry in due course. As the scanning has been done, it cannot be too long before we see the results. At present, Findmypast has the records of about 80 out of some 260 parishes for the two counties, so Ancestry are going to provide lots of new records with this release.

More releases from Ancestry's Hampshire parish register collection. They now have marriages 1754 to 1921 and burials

1813 to 1921. Last time I mentioned that not all Hampshire parishes were included in these releases. I should have realised, having lived there once, that some registers are not at the record office in Winchester, which is where Ancestry's come from. The Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton have their own record offices and those are not included.

There are also a few parishes in the north-east of the county around Aldershot for which the records are at Surrey History Centre. Ancestry has the Surrey parishes and these Hampshire ones are included with those. It is not really logical, but the records are there if you know where to look.

Many Portsmouth and Southampton parish register transcripts by the Hampshire Genealogical Society are on Findmypast. These have recently been added to, with some 400,000 new marriage and burial records. Findmypast are also adding to their Bedfordshire collection, with another tranche of baptisms, marriages and burials. Most appear to come from Familysearch although I did see a few burials which are courtesy of Bedfordshire Family History Society. These are all transcripts.

Ancestry have released more records from East and West Sussex. This time we have marriage licences and probate records. Anyone finding a marriage that was by licence should try to check that document for there can be more information than in a marriage entry. You are likely to get an indication of age and occupation is also often given.

The probate records will be a boon to those with ancestors from the county. These are records from the 1500s to 1858, when responsibility for probate passed to the state. There are images of the original documents.

Away from parish records, Findmypast have put up a large addition to their school and university records. They are from all over England and a few from Scotland. These records can give useful family information.

Another big addition on Findmypast is in their Manchester rate books collection. They have added nearly 5 million entries, taking the total to some 13 million. This is going to help people find their Manchester ancestors. The records go back to the early 1700s, and as late as the 1940s, so well covering the census returns. If you have anyone missing from those records you might find them here. Large parts of the 1851 census for Manchester were damaged and this might be your only chance to confirm an address.

Researchers looking for ancestors in the Reading area of Berkshire will be pleased to know that Deceasedonline (www.deceasedonline.com) now have records of Reading Old and Hemdean Road cemeteries. These begin in 1843 and there are records right up to 1993. Records for other Reading cemeteries are coming soon.

Before so much became available online, searching for 19th century British Navy officers would usually take us to William O'BYRNE's Naval Biographical Dictionary. Published in 1849, it has a lot of information about an officer's career and often family details as well. Given its early date for such information, it should still be in demand. Ancestry have now scanned the volume and we can search it at leisure.

Some new Irish records have come online too. Ancestry has two collections of property records from Northern Ireland. The first is a list of freeholders from 1662 to 1839. It is already available on the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland site. Some of the pages come up as typescript, others are from printed books. They give name and residence so it is all potentially useful.

The second is a set of valuation revision books, 1864 to 1933. These are based on Griffith's Valuation, and again are a useful source of name and residence.

Findmypast also has some new Irish records. These come from the Genealogical Office at the National Library of Ireland. The first is a collection of Dublin marriages from 1732 to 1800 as well as marriage notices from two magazines between 1771 and 1800. There are only some 9,000 entries, but with so many Irish records lost, anything is worth having. There are also around 10,000 transcriptions of wills for the 17th to 19th centuries, so also useful for some people.

Not quite family history, but useful all the same, is an index to past issues of Blackcountryman, the magazine of the Black Country Society. This was formed in 1967 to record the history of the West Midlands, loosely the area around Birmingham. You can see the index at www.blackcountryandsociety.com/index and search for names appearing in articles. As far as I can tell, you cannot view individual articles, but there are lots of names so family historians should be interested.

And last, for those of us with Canadian connections, Findmypast now has the 1931 census available, but only to browse. Indexes will come, but for now we have to go about it the long way. Those with plenty of perseverance will hopefully have success.

I hope you are all having some success with your researches, some of us having been beavering away at our hobby for fifty years and more!

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Members of the 46th Battalion on 19 September 1918 in a captured trench in the Hindenburg Line, near Bellenglise
<https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/C1289>

In Memory of Pte Benjamin Claude HIGNETT (1894 - 1918)

Darralyn CUSACK

The task of a genealogy detective can be challenging, exciting, frustrating and rewarding as we weave our way through hints and dead ends. In a collection of letters sent during the World War 1 to my great-great-grandmother, Agnes Amelia O'CONNOR were three letters from 'Ben'. Two were written on paper from Y.M.C.A. who provided supplies and support for troops so far from home.

A.A.T.C.
No 4 Packhouse
Salisbury
9th May 1918

My Dear Mrs O'CONNOR,

I received a letter from you, about a fortnight after arriving, & was very pleased to hear that all is well with you. We got our leave sooner than expected got 6 days. We were taken up to London & dismissed there. One of my pals and I went to Westminster Abbey, St Pauls Cathedral & to the Tower of London. We did the lot in one afternoon. They were interesting, only one could easily put in a day in each of the buildings. We went to the Theatre in the evening. Next day I went down to Plymouth. Mr SHARKEY met me at Devonport. I was pleased that he did, as I think that I would have found it rather awkward to get to his place. I stayed there for the balance of my leave and enjoyed it very

much. It is very pretty down about Saltash. I met all the relations down there. They all live very close together. Mr SHARKEY took me round to the various places of interest. I liked being there & they are such homely people. I am asked to go & stay at each of their places next time I get leave. All the country is looking nice now, with all the wild flowers out. I wrote to Alf the other day. Charlie had a letter from Norman yesterday. He was doing well then. I have had 3 letters from Mother so far, & a couple of others from Kyneton, but have not received any from Flo yet. This is all just now. Will close with kind regards.

*Yours sincerely
Ben*

Ben was having an adventure, a young Aussie soldier let loose in England after enlisting for service in the Australian Imperial Forces. The question was, who was this Ben who

wrote to my ancestor is such familiar terms? Agnes' son Alf was already on the front serving in France, so there was an army connection but who were Mr SHARKEY, Charlie, Norman and Flo?

Finding a connection came in the second letter written twenty days later. An unidentified Flo had written with news from Bedooba and Kyneton. There had been more letters from home and he described life in the Australian training camp on the Salisbury Plains in England.

.....A fresh batch of troops arrived here from Broadmeadows two days ago. They were "Motor Transport". They have some decent concerts in the Camp, about every second night that helps to break the monotony of things. We knock off work at 4.30 P.M. & it doesn't get dark until about 10 P.M. so we have a long evening to put in....Our principle past time is billiards or draughts.... We are out of isolation now, & don't have to wear our yellow badges. We stand a very good chance of going on draft to France....Charlie sends his love.

Good night with kind regards to Mr TRESPCOWTHICK & yourself

Yours sincerely

Ben

The same names appeared a second time and now Ben was in camp with Charlie awaiting deployment to France. The isolation and yellow badges may refer to the outbreak of Spanish Flu which swept through Europe in 1918. The new clue was the TRESPCOWTHICK reference. Agnes was housekeeper for the TRESPCOWTHICK family of 'Flowerdale', Alphington. The homestead was built by Charles TRESPCOWTHICK, a prominent Melbourne boot-maker of the late 19th and early 20th century. Further investigation uncovered that Charlie and Norman were the sons of Charles TRESPCOWTHICK and would have been well known to Agnes.



'Flowerdale', Alphington

<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article172526682>

*In the Field, France
1st September 1918*

*My Dear Mrs
O'CONNOR*

I received two letters from you dated the 14th & 18th of June & by it I gather that Mr TRES. has received my first letter from England. I am pleased to hear that they were not sunk as we had word about that time that the mail went to the bottom of the sea. I haven't met Alf yet but he is in France somewhere. I would

have met him just soon after I came over only he was in hospital but the last letter I had from him he was out & would soon be coming up again. I suppose you have heard by this that he hurt his knee again. A piece of iron, after he was discharged from Hospital from his first wound, but he says that neither of them are up to much but they gave him a week holiday out of the line, so there is no need for you to worry. I know what it must be for you though when you get word of being wounded etc. you naturally would think it is serious but there is no need to worry. Will close now for a while as I go on Church Parade.

Well I am back from Church Parade, not a bad service..... The latest letter I have had from Mother was 10th June so I don't suppose she had time to receive my first letter from England. I have met Jack BARTHOLOMEW. He was Overseer at Bedooba when I was first there. We happened to be billeted by same town here for a week & saw a good deal of him..... Norman's squadron is a good way from here so I can't go over. I am attached to A Coy. 46th Batt. now, supposed to be a Scout.I haven't had any letters from the Cornwall people since being over here. Well this is all just now so will close with kind regards to all

Yours lovingly

Ben



Letters from the Front in the author's possession

Some more clues to follow up. Bedooba was a sheep station near Cobar in New South Wales, so Ben had obviously spent some time on the land. There was still no surname, but the 46th Battalion was a good lead. The 'Cornwall people' was

Continued over page>



King George VI and Queen Elizabeth officiate at the dedication of the Australian War Memorial at Villers-Bretonneux, France, on 22 July 1938
<https://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/australians-battled-for-a-memorial-for-war-dead-at-villersbretonneux/news-story/0f7859d5f2ecd1fedd4710ec04d329a7>

Continued from page 25

a reference to the TRESPCOWTHICKs. Obviously Ben had made contact with Alf O'CONNOR, Agnes' son.

Life on the front needed distraction. There was an enormous amount of letter writing taking place with bags of mail travelling to and fro by ship between those on the home front and those in the trenches. It must have been both a relief and sorrow to receive the mail, as the recipients were never sure what news they would contain.

The fourth letter was a copy of one sent from Pte A J SADLER of the A Coy 46th Battalion to a Mrs HIGNETT in late September 1918.

Dear Mrs HIGNETT

Being Ben's mate in the company and going under fire with him, and seeing him killed, I thought I would drop you a few lines. Well Mrs HIGNETT, he died instantly, he never suffered in the slightest. He volunteered as a stretcher carrier to constitute a party to carry a dead comrade away to bury him, and as they were going along, a 5.9 German shell landed about 10 yds away from them and of course killed & wounded them all.

Just before we evacuated the trench his cross arrived and was put on his grave, it had his name on it and he has a nice grave. You will have to think Mrs HIGNETT as hundreds of Mothers have, that he has a better home now, and perhaps he is much better off and 'Remember that he died a "Hero".'

I came from Parkhouse England out the AASC Unit with Ben.¹

Many other ASC boys have been killed and wounded.

Kindest regards to you all with deepest sympathy

Pte A J SADLER

Now the story can unfold. Benjamin Claude HIGNETT left the sheep station in NSW where he had been promoted to Overseer. He enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force on 14 May 1917. His Attestation Paper states his address as 'Flowerdale', but why this connection?²

Trove to the rescue. An obituary for Mrs HIGNETT in May 1931 showed that she passed away at her daughter's home in Narromine, NSW.³ Her daughter Flo, was Mrs Cliff TRESPCOWTHICK, daughter-in-law of Charles TRESPCOWTHICK of 'Flowerdale', Alphonston. Further to that, Mr. TRESPCOWTHICK owned the Bedooba Sheep Station in NSW whose rural interests ranged wide. So the circle was complete. Ben had enlisted through his sister's connection to the TRESPCOWTHICKs and was therefore known to Agnes O'CONNOR.

Ben HIGNETT died on 20 September 1918, on the French battlefield, north of Saint Quentin, at 24 years of age. The 46th Battalion had just completed their final battle on the Hindenburg line. Ben was a scout in the Battalion but had volunteered as a stretcher bearer to recover the body of a mate who had fallen in no man's land. His death, by an exploding bomb, was instant. Ben was buried by Chaplain ROBSON in a trench near where



World War One Memorial Obelisk in Alphington Park, Darebin, Victoria
<https://vwma.org.au/explore/memorials/4357>



In Memoriam – Hignett B
<https://vwma.org.au/explore/memorials/4357>

he fell, within sight of the village of Bellenglise.⁴ His remains were never recovered to be re-interred in an official military cemetery. The final commemoration of his death can be found on the Villers-Bretonneux Memorial along with the names of over 10,000 Australian soldiers who died in France in World War One, but who have no known grave. As Ben had enlisted with an Alphington address, he is also commemorated on the World War

One Memorial Obelisk in Alphington Park unveiled by the Governor General Lord FORSTER in September 1921.⁵ This story, one hundred and five years after his death, is a further memorial.

Finally, who was Mr SHARKEY? That's another genealogical conundrum requiring a solution.

References

¹ Australian Army Service Corps

² Attestation Paper of Benjamin Claude Hignett, 15584, 14 May 1917, First Australian Imperial Force Personnel Dossiers, 1914-1920, Australian National Archives.

³ Local and General, Narromine News and Trangie Advocate, 8 May 1931, p4, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article98920144>

⁴ Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing Enquiry Bureau file, 1914 -1918 War, 1DRL/0428, 15584 Private Benjamin Claude Hignett, 46th Battalion.

⁵ Virtual War Memorial Australia <https://vwma.org.au/explore/memorials/4357>

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The Tale of Two Irishmen

Geoff BROWN

Two Irishmen arrived in Sydney during the 1840s, who almost certainly had never met in Ireland. When they eventually met in Sydney the consequences for one would be life changing.

The first to arrive was Peter ROONEY who landed in Sydney on 17 August 1840, one of 180 Irish convicts transported aboard the *King William*. He had been tried at Tipperary Quarter Sessions, on 19 Oct 1839 and sentenced to seven years for grievous assault. His description reads: *aged 25, Catholic, single, laborer and collier, unable to read or write, 5 feet 11 1/4 inches, dark ruddy complexion, brown hair and eyes, with numerous scars about his face, heart and a cross tattooed on his lower left arm, with several blue spots on his arms and legs from coal.*¹ ROONEY was one of at least four children of Hugh ROONEY and Alice/Alicia DWYER and was baptised at Ballingarry, Tipperary, on 3 January 1815.²

The newspaper report of Rooney's arrest reads:

*"On the evening of the last fair day of Ballingarry, an unfortunate man, named SULLIVAN, was attacked by a fellow named Peter ROONEY, and beaten in such an inhuman manner that his life was despaired of. His skull was so battered, that little less than 30 splinters were subsequently extracted from it. When the dreadful occurrence became known, ROONEY was arrested, but, strange to say, no person would come forward to give any information—even SULLIVAN himself refused to give any explanation, and he was subsequently discharged from custody. On the following day, when it was ascertained that SULLIVAN's life was in most precarious state, a disclosure was made by his friends and himself which distinctly placed the guilt on ROONEY, who has since been arrested, and transmitted to the county goal to abide his trial."*³

After a few years, ROONEY was granted a Ticket of Leave on 13 September 1844, for the Yass district. This was cancelled on 31 January 1846 for stealing fruit.⁴ He was subsequently admitted to Liverpool Convict Barracks on 2 March 1846 and later that year, on 28 August, was assigned to the Woolloomooloo Iron Gang after being sentenced to three months for drunkenness and assaulting a constable.⁵ ROONEY was granted his Certificate of Freedom on 19 December 1846.⁶

Although no longer in the convict system ROONEY continued to run foul of the law, when on 13 January 1848 he was brought before the Sydney Magistrates Bench for breach of the peace and was bound to keep the peace and enter a recognisance of £40, with surety of £20. On 20 July 1848 he was committed to Darlinghurst Gaol, for trial at the Quarter Sessions, for drunkenness and assaulting a constable in company with John RYAN.⁷ On July 31, ROONEY and his co-accused were discharged with no prosecution.⁸ ROONEY was in Darlinghurst Gaol again on 16 November

1848, this time for suspiciously breaking into and entering a dwelling in company with Michael DOOLAN. They were found guilty of burglary with point reserved and discharged on their own recognisance of £40 each to appear at the next sessions.⁹ ROONEY was again admitted to Darlinghurst Gaol on 20 January 1849 with bail set at £10 with £5 surety. Bail being paid, he was discharged on 5 February 1849.¹⁰

The other Irishman in this tale is my gg-grandfather, Edward MCLEAN. He arrived in Sydney on 15 February 1842, aboard the *Sarah Botsford*, accompanied by his wife, Mary Jane GORDON, and children, Margaret MCLEAN and James MCLEAN. Also under his care on the voyage were Margaret LONG, Margaret DAY and Bridget HERON. Edward is described as *the son of Hugh and Isabella MCLEAN, aged 23, his father being alive, native of Stranolar, Co. Donegal, farm labourer, Presbyterian, who can read, is in good health and likely to be useful.*¹¹

44/2320

TICKET-OF-LEAVE

No. 18 Sept 1844

Prisoner's No. 44/592

Name Peter Rooney

Ship King William

Master Thomas

Year 1840

Native Place

Trade or Calling

Offence

Place of Trial Sydney

Date of Trial 19 October 1839

Sentence 7 Years

Year of Birth

Height

Complexion

Hair

Eyes

General Remarks

Allowed to remain in the District of Yass

On recommendation of Hyde Park Bench

Dated May 1844

4000

Cancelled for stealing fruit - Peter Rooney dated 31 Jan 1846 on the ground of age 26/1846

Peter Rooney's Ticket of Leave
13th September 1844

Little is known of Edward's early years in Sydney. His daughter Elizabeth was born in 1843 but no birth registration has been located, and his son Robert was born in 1845 at Balmain¹². His next child was an unnamed male who lived only two days and died on 26 June 1847,¹³ two days after the mother Mary Jane died in childbirth,¹⁴ leaving Edward a widower with four young children aged between 2 and 8 years. Edward remarried on 9 November 1847 at St Andrew's Church, Sydney, to Eliza BOLK.¹⁵ The only child of this second marriage, my great grandmother, Mary Jane MCLEAN, was born at Balmain on 24 November 1849.¹⁶

In 1849 Edward came in contact with Peter ROONEY and would never be the same again. It is not known if Edward knew of ROONEY prior to 7 February 1849 when their meeting came about by chance at Balmain. Although ROONEY had only been discharged from gaol four days earlier, he was again in trouble with the police and four officers were attempting to arrest him, when one of the officers called to MCLEAN "in the name of the Queen," to assist in the arrest.

"MCLEAN came forward and took the constables' staff out of the hand of ROONEY and returned it to the constable. ROONEY then said he would go quietly if he got one blow at MCLEAN—he called on MCLEAN to stand aside—MCLEAN moved away and ROONEY by an extraordinary effort, though held by four constables drew his leg and kicked MCLEAN, on the back or side."

Edward's injuries were serious and a certificate, dated 1 October 1849, by the local Balmain surgeon, G. R. ELLIOTT, stated:

"I have attended Edward MCLEAN of Balmain from the commencement of March last to the present date that he has been suffering from severe injuries inflicted on the spine caused by a violent kick that he has been unable to follow any laborious occupation during that period and that it will be a long time (if ever) before he is again able to do so."

This certificate was prepared to support a petition to the Governor by Edward seeking compensation for his injuries. Also, a letter from six local residents, including a Justice of the Peace, stated:

"Edward MCLEAN of Balmain has been an inhabitant of this suburb for several years past during which time he has conducted himself in an honest, sober, industrious manner."

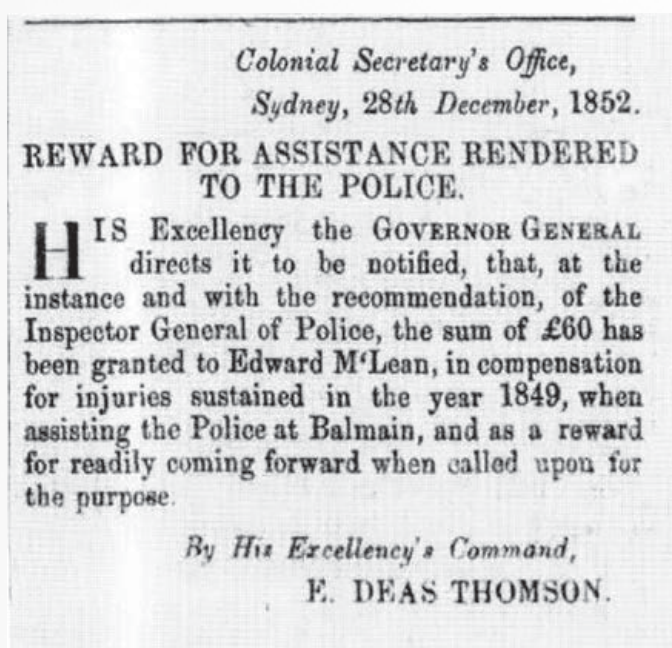
The petition was returned and compensation of £10 was awarded.

In 1852 Edward petitioned the Legislative Council for compensation and the petition was again supported by local residents and the local doctor. It was subsequently forwarded to the Colonial Secretary with the recommendation that the Governor support the request. The Superintendent of Police

at Balmain, recommended favourable consideration and a further reward of £50 be paid, he commented:

"the statements made in the petition are perfectly true and also that the results of the injuries received by the petitioner have not been overstated as I have myself seen him within the last few days, and from his debilitated and crippled state (being unable to walk without crutches) consider him an object of pity."

A notice appeared in the *New South Wales Government Gazette*, dated 31 December 1852, that a Reward for assistance rendered to the Police of £60 had been paid to Edward in compensation for his injuries.¹⁷



Reward Notice
New South Wales Government Gazette

During the period that he was seeking compensation Edward was described as a labourer, milkman, dealer and chapman (peddler), and dairyman. In July 1849 Edward purchased property at Lot 61 Waterview Street, Balmain, the deeds to which were lodged in November the same year with John WATKINSON for a debt of £35. His executors later sold the property for £100.¹⁸

Edward did not live long after receiving his compensation payment, dying on 6 March 1853 at Balmain, aged 35, and being buried two days later at St Andrews Scots Church, Sydney.¹⁹ His death notice stated that he died after four years of painful suffering.²⁰

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The Tale of Two Irishmen

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Peter ROONEY faced Sydney Magistrates Court on 8 February 1849 on one charge of assault and one charge of assaulting police. He was bound over to keep the peace for three years, provide a surety himself of £100 and two further sureties of £50, or six months imprisonment. ROONEY was incarcerated in Darlinghurst Gaol the following day.²¹ His next appearance in court was on the day of his discharge, 9 August 1849, when he was committed for trial. The trial took place on 12 September 1849, ROONEY being convicted of assault, one of the witnesses for the Crown being Edward MCLEAN. ROONEY was sentenced to one calendar months imprisonment in Sydney Gaol and discharged on 11 October 1849.²² It is unclear if the February conviction related to the assault on Edward or whether it was an earlier assault for which the police were attempting to make an arrest when Edward was assaulted. Most likely, due to his injuries, Edward was not in a position to attend court in February, and ROONEY's conviction in September, when Edward was a witness, was the case relating to the assault on Edward.

On 9 May 1851 at Parramatta Peter ROONEY married Elizabeth WELDEN,²³ a convict free by servitude, who was a native of Chester and had been sentenced to ten years transportation at Warwick Quarter Sessions for man robbery. She arrived in Sydney aboard the *Surrey* in 1840 and obtained her Certificate of Freedom on 30 September 1849, her sentence being extended due to her being absent from the district defined in her Ticket of Leave and assaulting a constable.²⁴

In 1852 Peter ROONEY is recorded as a resident in Parramatta Gaol.²⁵ The reason for this stint in gaol is unclear. On 13 October 1853 both Peter ROONEY and his wife, Elizabeth were committed for trial on a charge of robbery and receiving, they were bound over to appear at Parramatta Quarter Sessions where their trial took place on 19 November 1853. Both were found not guilty and

discharged.²⁶ ROONEY appeared in court again on 24 August 1854, the newspaper report of the case reads:

*"DRUNKENNESS AND BLOODSHED.-Peter ROONEY, the celebrated terror of this community, was again before the Court, charged with feloniously stabbing and wounding Elizabeth, his wife, with intent to do her some grievous bodily harm on the 18th of the present month. From some misstatement which had been made by a neighbour, ROONEY threatened to do something to his wife before the next morning, which would cause him to be hanged, and accordingly he proceeded to carry his threats into execution by shamefully striking her with his fists, drawing blood at each blow, after knocking her down he, on her getting up, seized her arm, took a knife, with which he made a desperate thrust, and inflicted a deep wound on her arm, which the poor woman saved from her face or neck. According to Dr BASSETT's evidence she bled considerably. The learned Crown Prosecutor enumerated cases in which the prisoner had been tried in Sydney, and in one case in which a person received his death-blow; another case in which seven constables could not take him. Mr RYAN said that he was invariably assaulting the constables, and spoke of a row in which "Big Peter" and some of his companions were so desperate that he (Mr R) was obliged to beat retreat to his men, lest considerable injury should ensue. Mr ALLEN, the governor of the jail, had also his tale of Peter's doings. The jury found him guilty of a misdemeanour, and he was sentenced to two years hard labour in Parramatta gaol."*²⁷

ROONEY was discharged from Darlinghurst Gaol on 24 August 1856²⁸

There are several records of a Peter ROONEY being sentenced for terms of imprisonment for drunkenness at Parramatta over the next few months and beyond. As there were several men of that name in New South Wales at the time it is not possible to determine if it is the same Peter

¹ New South Wales State Archives. Series: NRS 12189; Item: [X642A]; Microfiche: 743

² National Library of Ireland, Dublin. Irish Catholic Parish Registers; Microfilm Number: Microfilm 02492 / 04

³ *London Evening Standard*, 9 Aug 1839, quoting the Tipperary Constitution.

⁴ New South Wales State Archives. Series: NRS 12202; Item: [4/4193]

⁵ New South Wales State Archives. Miscellaneous Records of Ironed Gangs in Woolloomooloo, 1840-1848; Volume: 4/6273

⁶ New South Wales State Archives. Series Name: Butts of Certificates of Freedom; Series Number: NRS 12210; Archive Roll: 1023

⁷ New South Wales State Archives. Bench of Magistrates, Sydney: Punishment Book 1831; Bench of Magistrates, Sydney: Register of Criminals and Suspected Persons 1841-1845; Bench of Magistrates, Sydney: Alphabetical Charge Book 1848-1850; Bench of Magistrates, Water Police Magistrate, Sydney; Series Number: 3403; Reel: 2648

⁸ New South Archives. Gaol Description and Entrance Books, 1818-1930; Series: 2519; Item: 4/6442; Roll: 854

⁹ New South Wales State Archives. Calendars of Persons tried on Criminal Charges in Sydney Courts 1847-1867, 1876-1880; Series Number: 1861; Reel: 685

¹⁰ New South Wales Archives. Gaol Description and Entrance Books, 1818-1930; Series: 2519; Item: 4/6442; Roll: 854

¹¹ New South Wales Archives. Index to Assisted Immigrants NSW 1828-1842

¹² New South Wales Births 413/1845 V1845413 49

¹³ New South Wales Deaths 2105/1847 V18472105 102

¹⁴ New South Wales Deaths 2104/1847 V18472104 102

¹⁵ New South Wales Marriages 273/1847 V1847273 78 & 4205/1847 V18474205 74

¹⁶ New South Wales Births 16/1849 V184916 46 & 47/1849 V184947 46

¹⁷ New South Wales Archives. Colonial Secretary's Letter Index, File Reference INX-106-72675 Edward McLean 1852

ROONEY due to lack of a full description in the records. It is possible that some refer to the Peter ROONEY of this tale.

The next time there was a definite sighting of Peter ROONEY was when he was received into Darlinghurst Gaol by a magistrate's warrant on 21 January 1857 for six months with hard labour for violently assaulting a woman. On admittance he was said to be in a very weak state and the following morning was sent to the gaol hospital where he remained until he died on Sunday 23 August 1857. An inquest was held into his death on 25 & 26 August 1857, the newspaper report of which reads, in part:

*"...the principal turnkey stated he had visited ROONEY on many occasions and could see that he was sinking fastwhen his time expired was desirous that he might not be sent away; he had thus been one month in confinement over his sentence, but it was at his own particular request, and, besides, deceased was not in a fit state to be discharged.Dr. WEST had treated him for consumption, and stated, three months ago, that his case was hopeless. Dr. RUTTER described deceased as a notoriously drunken and fighting character, whom he had known for many years as such; he (Dr. RUTTER) had no doubt the disease of which ROONEY died was engendered by habits of dissipation. A verdict in accordance with the evidence was therefore returned, the jury adding, "that deceased had been well treated whilst in the gaol."*²⁹

Among those giving evidence at ROONEY's inquest were his wife, Elizabeth, who stated:

"her late husband was a laborer, they had been married for ten years but she had not lived with him of late, on account of his bad conduct; he was about 42 years old and had been two years in Parramatta Gaol for stabbing her when drunk."

ROONEY'S daughter also gave evidence stating:

*"her father came from Tipperary, was always fighting at fairs at home, and she had heard him say that at her christening, he was quarreling and got stabbed in the side."*³⁰

The verdict of the inquest was: *"Died in gaol accelerated by intemperance and riotous conduct beforehand."*³¹

Thus ends the tale of two Irishmen, one a belligerent drunkard, the other a hard working family man. The birth of Peter ROONEY's daughter, who gave evidence at his inquest, cannot be located, and it is not known what happened to her. Despite his early death Edward MCLEAN's family prospered; his eldest daughter, Margaret, married John SHIELDS, and they, assisted by Edward's second wife, ran guest houses in the Blue Mountains. Edward's eldest son James married Mary Ann WILLCOCK, settled in Bathurst and worked as a saddler and harness maker for Cobb & Co, and later the Pullbrook firm. Edward's second daughter Elizabeth married John CRAIG, bore eleven children and resided in the Sydney areas of Burwood and Redfern as well as Bathurst and Orange. Edward's fourth child Robert married Hannah McCOURT, became a chemist and settled in Ashfield, Sydney. Edward's only child by his second marriage, Mary Jane, married William Mark FORSTER. They originally settled in Melbourne before moving to Auckland, New Zealand and then returning to Melbourne. They had thirteen children two of whom died young. William Mark FORSTER was a saddler and prominent philanthropist and his life is recorded in the Australian Dictionary of Biography.³²

(4/3174)52/10050-Balmain

¹⁸ Land Registry Services NSW. General Register of Deeds (Old System Deeds) Book 16, Number 970, Book 17 Number 633 and Book 27, Number 632.

¹⁹ New South Wales Deaths 2762/1853 V18532762 102

²⁰ TROVE. The Sydney Morning Herald, 8 Mar 1853

²¹ New South Wales State Archives. Bench of Magistrates, Sydney: Punishment Book 1831; Bench of Magistrates, Sydney: Register of Criminals and Suspected Persons 1841-1845; Bench of Magistrates, Sydney: Alphabetical Charge Book 1848-1850; Bench of Magistrates, Water Police Magistrate, Sydney; Series Number: 3403; Reel: 2648

²² New South Wales State Archives Quarter Sessions: Sydney: Register of cases, 1846-1853; Series Number: NRS 847; Reel: 2432

²³ New South Wales Marriages 272/1851 V1851272 146

²⁴ New South Wales State Archives. Indents Series: NRS 12189; Item: [X642A]; Microfiche: 744; Tickets of Leave Tickets of Leave, 1810-1869; Butts

of Certificates of Freedom; Series Number: NRS 12210; Archive Roll: 1026

²⁵ New South Wales State Archives. Gaol Description and Entrance Books, 1818-1930; Item: 4/6557; Roll: 181

²⁶ New South State Archives. Clerk of the Peace: Registers of Criminal cases tried at country Quarter Sessions: Parramatta: 1839-1876, Windsor 1839-1843; Series Number: 848; Reel: 2757

²⁷ TROVE. The Sydney Morning Herald, 31 Aug 1854

²⁸ New South Wales State Archives. Police Gazettes. Series 10958, Reels 3129-3143, 3594-3606.

²⁹ TROVE. The Sydney Morning Herald, 28 Aug 1857 & The Armidale Express and New England General Advertiser, 12 Sep 1857.

³⁰ TROVE. Empire, Sydney, 28 Aug 1857.

³¹ New South Wales State Archives. Registers of Coroners' Inquests and Magisterial Inquiries, 1834-1942. Series: 2921; Item: 4/6613; Roll: 343.

³² Australian Dictionary of Biography, Volume 4 (D-J), page 201.



Family History Connections Interest Groups



Early Victoria and Tasmania

Hybrid Meetings: 1st Saturday of the month at 10:00am (Feb-Nov)

From first settlement, through the convict years
and up to present day.

Convenor: Bronwen Bennett
bronwen@usec.com.au

Onsite Venue: RSL Clubrooms, South
Parade, Blackburn

London & Home Counties

Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of the month at 1:30pm (Feb-Nov)

London, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Kent,
Middlesex, Surrey and Sussex

Contact: Lynda Melen
chalford27@gmail.com

Onsite Venue: Resource Centre
meeting room



DNA Research

Zoom Meetings: 4th Tuesday of the month by Zoom. 7:30pm-9:30pm

Investigating and troubleshooting DNA

Convenor: Christine Collins
chriscollinsconsulting@outlook.com



Scotland

Zoom Meetings: 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:30pm (except July/November)

Exploring Scottish ancestry and history

Convenors: *Francine Horne*
fhorne1@optusnet.com.au
Merrin Evergreen
guesteve@optus.net.com.au

Newsletter: *Kristee Grosvenor*
kmgrosvenor1@gmail.com
Hybrid meetings: July 9th, Nov 12th
(Sundays) at 2pm

South West England

Meetings: 2nd Friday of the month at 12noon for lunch; meeting at 1:30pm (Feb-Nov)

**Bristol, Cornwall, Devon, Dorset,
Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Somerset,
Wiltshire, Hampshire and Isle of Wight**

Convenor: *Jill Davies*
jilliandavies52@optusnet.com.au

Onsite Venue: Resource Centre



Ireland

Zoom Meetings: 2nd Wednesday of the month at 2pm (Feb-Nov)

**The loss of Irish records in 1922 make
researching Ireland an interesting Challenge**

Contact: *Russell Cooper*
coop.gen@optusnet.com.au

Hybrid Meetings coming soon.

Editor: *Lesley Haldane*
lesleyjoe@iinet.net.au



Kate Press Award 2023 - Judges comments

Lucille Andel

Unravelling a family story, published in The Genealogist Vol XVII, No. 2

This is an excellent article on the life of a Ship's Master who was born in 1845 in Orkney, Scotland. He was the sixth child of farmer, boatman and innkeeper, John BROWN. It begins by introducing the reader to the family into which he was born and documents his career throughout his working life.

The text records he started working as a fisherman as soon as he left school. He next appears when he sailed into Sydney in 1866 as an Able Seaman aboard the brig *Wild Wave* from New Zealand; his brother Malcolm being the ship's master. His working life, his appointments to various vessels and their destinations, routes of travel and the subjects encountered, are covered in the text.

In June 1870 BROWN was married in Geelong at the Wesleyan Church to Elizabeth JULIEN. The parents of both parties are described as farmers. By 1875 he had been appointed master of the *Mary Mildred*, a barque which regularly sailed between Newcastle NSW and New Caledonia carrying cattle. Other voyages were to New Zealand, Batavia (Djakarta), Japan, Hong Kong and the Sandwich Islands (Hawaii).

We often fail to think how goods are transported around the world unless we encounter a shortage of a necessary item. This reviewer discovered many new aspects of the life of a ship's Captain including transfers from one vessel to another, court cases against passengers who travelled without a ticket, the loss of a rudder from a sailing ship five hundred miles from Okinawa during a hurricane. It was then necessary for the ship to sail 2,000 odd miles in bad weather to finally reach Hawaii, where the barque was repaired. The ship then sailed in thick heavy weather to British Columbia. The text certainly pointed out how problematic shipping transport was at the end of the 19th century.

Captain Robert BROWN left the ship *Mary Mildred* in August 1881. During these years the family were blessed with five of their six children, but one was lost in infancy. These children were either born at Geelong or Newcastle where the family were based when not accompanying the Captain on his voyages. The youngest son, born in 1884, was the only one who never sailed with his father. The shipping lists show on several occasions the only passengers listed on board were 'Mrs Brown and children'.

Having successfully proved himself as a capable master of sailing ships, Robert BROWN converted to steamships and was appointed captain of *S.S. Ocean*. His first voyage on this ship left Sydney in January 1882 for Java, Singapore and China.

The article also shows how vulnerable steamships were during this period with broken shafts and lost propellers. As well as being partly responsible for the births on board his ships, there was the account of a man standing on the aft hatchway when the vessel lurched and he fell and toppled over the rail into the sea. Despite a lifebuoy being thrown to him, the engines being



Geoff Brown receiving the Kate Press Award
Family History Connections Resource Centre

reversed, and a boat being lowered, there was no sign of the man who drowned. He left a wife and five children. On another occasion a child was killed on board after being torn from his mother's arms and dashed against the bulwarks.

Captain BROWN served on several steamships along the Australian Coast – Adelaide-Melbourne-Sydney routes and late in the 1880s and on the Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane run. He also sailed between Adelaide, South Australian gulf ports, Melbourne, Sydney and Newcastle, carrying passengers, general cargo and coal.

The article is illustrated with an image of his first command to a Barque and later photographs of various Steamships under Captain BROWN's charge. There are copious end notes recording the author's sources, in fact more than ninety of them, mainly taken from newspapers over the period of his subject's life and work.

This award was introduced to recognize the author of an 'informative, interesting and well researched article'. This story covers all these categories. Geoff BROWN has certainly 'unravelling' a history of the working life of his great grandfather, Robert Reid BROWN. It is a very worthy winner of the first Kate PRESS Award. It could have been titled 'A voyage of Discovery'!

NB: Geoff BROWN was unable to attend the Awards Lunch on May 28. He was presented with the inaugural Kate Press Award at the Resource Centre in June.

Kate Press Award: Why I write

Geoff BROWN

My reaction when Gail WHITE contacted me to say that I had won the inaugural Kate Press Award was one of surprise. The award was unexpected and I felt honoured to be singled out from the many others who had submitted articles to *The Genealogist*. My thanks go to the judges and editor for considering my article worthy of an award. I also wish to thank my wife Heather, who proof-reads my articles prior to submission. Gail informed me that there was a catch to the award.....that I should write an article on why I write articles!

The main reason I write the articles is to produce a permanent record of my ancestors' lives, what they have done, how they lived, how they have contributed to society and the legacy they have left behind. I find that when I am focused on the individual concerned often I will research in more depth the areas of their life that I may have given scant attention to previously.

The plethora of information now available online, and elsewhere, is a godsend. Once the articles are published they are passed on to my immediate family in the hope that they will be retained for future generations. Likewise, I distribute the articles to other more distant family members for the same reason. It is my hope that by having articles published they will find readership far beyond my immediate family, and in the future may prove a source of value to other genealogists or historians. Also, they might inspire other members to write about their families.

If anyone is thinking about writing an article, give it a go. Every family has a different tale to tell and your research efforts will reach a wider audience.



FHC Services Writing your Family History

Writing up your genealogical research is a big step but the members-only Write Now discussion group will help you make a start and provide encouragement along the way.

This informal group of beginning writers is guided by experienced authors keen to help you make the most of your research and ensure it is collated in a professional, engaging and informative way. Yes, you do need an index! Write the next Award-winning biography or family history. Join in today. New aspiring writers are always welcome.

Visit the FHC website www.familyhistoryconnections.org.au, then choose **Interest Groups** for full information.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

We are researching the LAWRENCE family who came from Caine in Wiltshire and though we have the UK side in good order, we need some Australian content. This is the family which produced the great opera singer Marjorie LAWRENCE, so if there is anyone with a family connection with her, please contact us.

Others needed are:

Relatives of Susannah BOFFEY who died in the Yarra Bend Asylum in 1888. She was the wife of Henry LAWRENCE. Descendants of Mrs Elizabeth HENDON (nee LAWRENCE), widow of Henry HENDON. She arrived in Geelong in 1853 with children Charles, Mary (Mrs WEBB) and Jesse on the *Statesman*. They moved to Blackwood. Charles married Ellen MALLAN, Mary and her husband John WEBB and family moved to Talbot.

James LAWRENCE who arrived at Geelong with his family on 18 January 1853 on the *Stebonheath*. There are descendants in the Western District. He was the great grandfather of Marjorie LAWRENCE.

Louisa LAWRENCE who arrived in Melbourne in 1854 and married Henry Weston BOWMAN the same year. She died in the Sunbury Asylum in the 1890s.

Amos HEAL, a blacksmith from Ceres near Geelong, whose first wife was Emma LAWRENCE. His second wife was



Marjorie LAWRENCE

her sister Amelia who had two daughters, Bertha (Mrs ROBINSON) and Mrs FERGUSON.

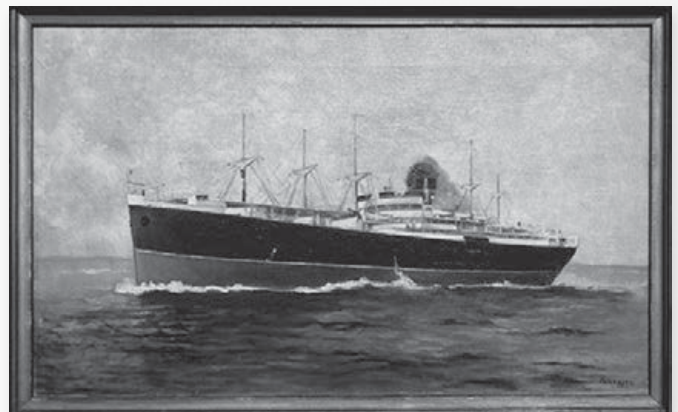
Any help would be greatly appreciated.
Sincerely, V LAWRENCE

valanlaw10@iinet.net.au

Dear Editor,

I was reading the article Staff Nurse May SEMPLE written by Barbara WILSON (*The Genealogist* Vol XVII, No 6) when my attention was caught by the last line on page 28. The reference to the *Wiltshire* that Staff Nurse Semple was on aroused my curiosity as on a wall at the 4/19th Prince of Wales's Light Horse Regiment museum at Simpson Barracks, Watsonia, Victoria there is an oil painting of this ship. The museum houses exhibits pertaining to the Light Horse in the Boer War and 4th Light Horse during WW1 and 4/19 Prince of Wales's Light Horse in Vietnam.

The *SS Wiltshire* carried soldiers and horses from the 4th Australian Light Horse Regiment from Australia to Egypt in 1917. I have attached two photos of the Museum's oil painting of the *Wiltshire* for your information. My husband, David KEY is the volunteer Curator at the 4/19 Prince of Wales's Light Horse Regiment Museum. I also volunteer over there hence I knew the oil painting of the



Painting of the *SS Wiltshire*
Prince of Wales Museum

Wiltshire was on the wall. The painting has recently been professionally cleaned.

With kind regards, Vicki Key OAM

Dear Editor,

I have been reading your magazine *The Genealogist* for many years by way of my local library. I thought I would tell you about a situation I am faced with regarding my family history. I feel that it fits in with an article from your magazine several issues ago. ("Following the flock..." December 2020)

In 1982 I started doing my family history in earnest and got to the stage where I found that my gg-grandfather Richard BARRY was born in Cork, Ireland, married in England, migrated to Adelaide and somehow finished up in Victoria. I wanted to get his death certificate as I was fairly sure he had died in Victoria. I wrote to the Government Statist and had a search done covering 50 years from 1860 to 1910. They sent me back a sheet "No record found". That search cost quite a lot as you can imagine.

Moving forward a bit, the Government released the births, deaths and marriages records on microfiche. At this time I was going to the genealogy library at the Mormon Church in Wangaratta to do my research. When the microfiche arrived I looked it up for Richard BARRY and found him within 5 minutes. I applied for the certificate and it came in due course. As you can imagine I was rather annoyed, however it was the correct one and gave me his father's name, Garrett BARRY, and his mother's first name, Johanna (maiden name unknown).

After several years the microfiche were updated to disc, and then after a few more years the discs were revised and updated again. By chance I happened to check the entry and it now said that Johanna's maiden name was WILLIAMS.

I immediately wrote to the Government Statist and sent a copy of the death certificate I had received years before and asked where did this WILLIAMS name come from? They wrote back and said that someone doing the revision had made a mistake and they would amend it if I wished. I wrote back saying that yes, I wished.....

Years went by and I checked the records via the internet and the entry had not been amended. I wrote again and they said they would get around to it but they were very busy. In the meantime, on sites such as Ancestry, other people were using the revised indexes and the name WILLIAMS to help them get further back. I wrote again and received the same reply but in the interim, more and more people have used the incorrect information for their research. I give up!

A similar experience relates to an old photograph on Ancestry connected with my BARRY family. The photo is of sixteen people taken at Christmas 1898 and includes Richard BARRY's wife. My own copy came from my grandmother and she wrote everyone's names on the back. I have no reason to doubt her knowledge as she knew everyone in the photo except two who had died before she married into the family in 1912. However the copy on Ancestry has most of the people wrongly identified.

What to do?

Yours faithfully, D BARRY

PS I recently looked on Wikipedia and Johanna BARRY (supposedly nee WILLIAMS) is there along with a couple of generations supported by this incorrect information.

Bendigo Family History Group

Email: bendigogen@familyhistoryconnections.org.au

Visit www.bendigofamilyhistory.org

The Bendigo Family History Group meets on the 3rd Saturday of the month at the Meeting Room on the ground floor of the Bendigo Goldfields Library, Hargreaves St entrance. Speakers begin at 2pm, followed by refreshments and the General Meeting.

Access to the BFHG database and support is available at the library on Wednesday 10am – 4pm and Saturday 10am – 3pm when volunteers will assist with enquiries.



The Alexander HENDERSON and Don GRANT Awards, 2022

The announcement of the forty-ninth Alexander HENDERSON Award and the eleventh Don GRANT Award was made on 28th May 2023 at the Annual Lunch at Box Hill Golf Club.

The members of the Judging Panel were:

- Chair of the Panel: Gail WHITE, President of Family History Connections and the former Information Services Librarian at Eastern Regional Libraries, a family historian and author of several books on her own families;
- Lesley BERRY, who has been involved in family history for over fifty years, holds a Diploma in Family History from the University of Tasmania and is a teacher of family history research and resources;
- Don GARDEN, retired historian from the University of Melbourne, author and Immediate Past President of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria and of the Federation of Australian Historical Societies.

The judges were impressed by the overall high quality of the entries and were conscious of the enormous work (and often expense) that the authors undertook to write and publish their works. We admire their dedication and appreciate the valuable contribution that their books make to the Family History Connections library's large collection of family histories.

The judges wish to point out the need for entrants to be familiar with the guidelines, because sometimes high quality works lose points because they do not fulfil all criteria, such as providing footnotes/endnotes, family trees, illustrations, maps, pre-Australian component, etc. The judges also look for a clear and developing narrative, but when works are made up largely of documents this is difficult to achieve.

Alexander Henderson Award

The Alexander Henderson Award has been made annually since 1974, and it honours the memory of Alexander HENDERSON (1883-1968), who was one of a number of dedicated people who laid the foundations of genealogical studies in Victoria. He compiled and published two genealogical resources, *Australian Families* (1936) and *Pioneer Families of Victoria and the Riverina* (1941).

The Alexander HENDERSON Award is presented to the person(s) producing, in the opinion of the judges, the best Australian family history submitted for the award that year. Strong emphasis is placed on a pre-Australian component.

The winner and all entrants are announced at the Awards Presentation Luncheon, which is held in Melbourne on the last Sunday in May. All entrants receive a commemorative certificate.

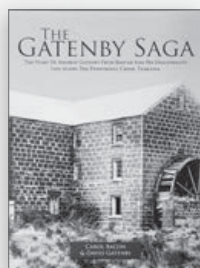
Judges Comments, in order of entry received



Australians of the Great Irish Famine: one clan's story

Patrick MORRISEY

This book captures stories that befell one Irish clan in two nations: Ireland and Australia - from Gaelic kings and Vikings, through the Great Irish Famine and the subsequent migration of many family members to various states of Australia. There is much Irish history and background to their story and the effects that this had on the future generations.



The Gatenby saga: the story of Andrew Gatenby from Barton and his descendants, life along the Pennyroyal Creek, Tasmania

Carol BACON and David GATENBY

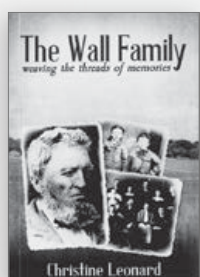
This is a beautiful book, a delight to look at and read. The 'rags to riches to rags' story of the GATENBY family reads as a family saga. They owned large swathes of land and built many houses in Tasmania. With so many family members and friends to include in the story, the authors have achieved a high standard.



The Browne branch: Patrick Browne's descendants in Ireland and Australia

Tricia PARNELL

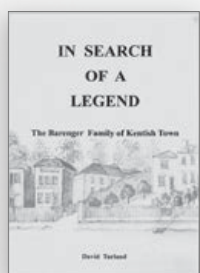
A very commendable book. There is much to read in this family history. The background context is excellent. A feature is the author's Imagining of what life was like day-to-day for her ancestors.



The Wall family: weaving the threads of memories

Christine LEONARD

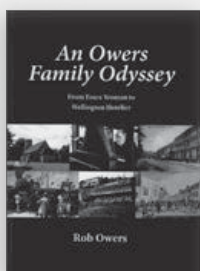
William 'Cocky' WALL (whose real name was LAMB) was a convict sent to Van Diemen's Land and who when freed moved to Victoria. He had two wives and 19 children. He became a landholder, farmer and Publican in the Warrnambool district.



In search of a legend: the Barenger family of Kentish Town

David TURLAND

The author has three other family histories in the FHC library: Turland Family History (Commended in 1994 AH), The Cole Family of Avon (Third Place in 2005) and The Thomsons of Cruden (Special Mention in 2009). Unfortunately there is no Australian component beyond a few lines but this is an excellent family history.



An Owers family odyssey: from Essex yeoman to Wellington hotelier

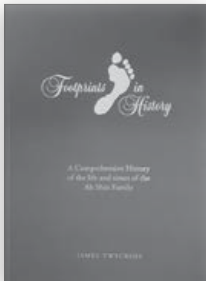
Rob OWERS

The OWERS family spans 300 years in England and then in Timaru and Wellington in New Zealand, with one line established in New South Wales through a convict transported there. The story of the family is very readable in a well-designed and illustrated book.

Alexander Henderson awards continue over page >

The Alexander Henderson Award

Continued from page 27



Footprints in history: a comprehensive history of the life and times of the Ah Shin family

James TWYECROSS

An important story of an Irish lass and a Chinese man who married in Melbourne and eventually settled in Melbourne, before moving to Bendigo and then the Buckland Valley. The author has provided extensive background to their lives, particularly when little was known of their times in Ireland and China. A very impressive history of this cross-cultural family.



Curling wisps and whispers of history. Volume 1: Thanet to Tasmania

LucyAnn CURLING

Three generations of the CURLING family are covered in this book. They had been farmers in east Kent since the eighteenth century. One family emigrated to Tasmania after farming became unprofitable on their farm. The author was able to draw on the many letters that were exchanged between family members and friends.



Those dashing McDonagh sisters: Australia's first female filmmaking team

Mandy SAYER

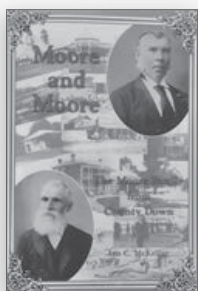
The author is to be commended for bringing to light the story of the three MCDONAGH sisters' contribution to the history of Australian film making. Their story had been long-neglected, however this is not a family history in the terms of the Award.



Elizabeth & John: the Macarthurs of Elizabeth Farm

Alan ATKINSON

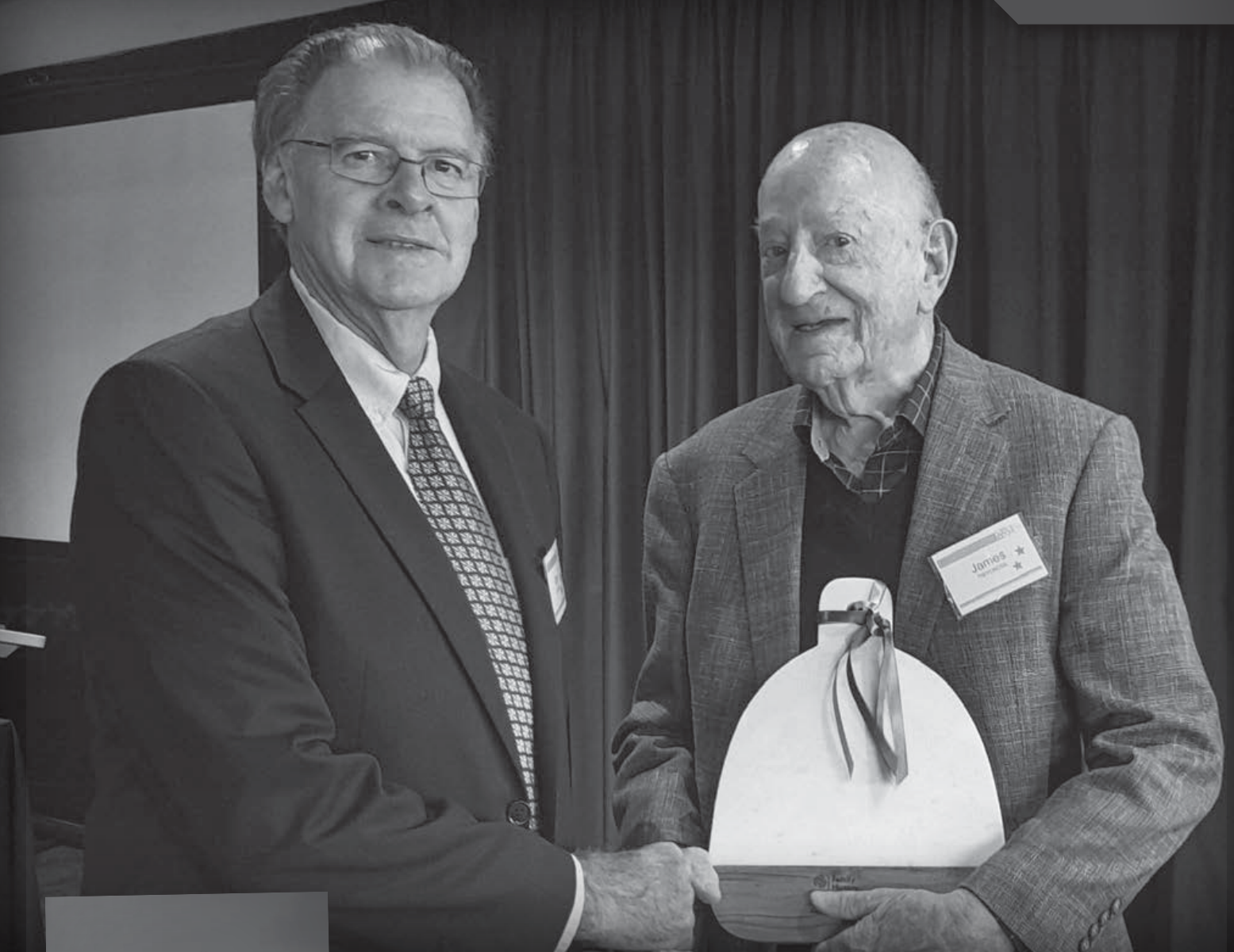
After 50 years of research, the author has written a very scholarly biography of the MACARTHURS, with new insights into their lives and their impact on Australian history. Unfortunately this is not a family history in the terms of the Award.



Moore and Moore: the Moore family from County Down

Ian MCKELLAR

The story of four members of the MOORE family who emigrated to Victoria, then lived in Fryerstown and Heathcote and Melbourne, spreading to pastoral properties in Queensland.



Don GARDEN with James TWYCROSS



First Place James TWYCROSS

Footprints in history: a comprehensive history of the life and times of the Ah Shin family



Second Place Tricia Parnell

The Browne branch: Patrick Browne's descendants in Ireland and Australia



Don GARDEN with Tricia PARNELL

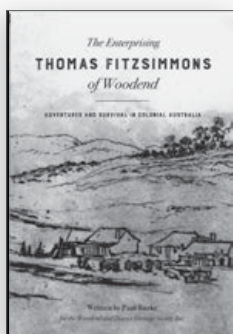
The Don Grant Award

Judges Comments

The Don GRANT Award has been made annually since 2012 in honour of the memory of Don GRANT (1932-2011), who was another of those dedicated people who laid the foundations of genealogical studies in Victoria and Australia. He was co-founder of the Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies Inc. (now trading as Family History Connections) and established several organisations to expand the knowledge and study of family history.

The Don GRANT Award is presented to the person(s) producing, in the opinion of the judges, the **best Australian family historical biography with a family history focus** submitted for the award that year. Strong emphasis is placed on a pre-Australian component.

The winner and entrants are also announced at the Awards Presentation Luncheon.



The enterprising Thomas Fitzsimmons of Woodend: adventures and survival in colonial Australia.

Paul BURKE for the Woodend and District Historical Society

The author moved to Woodend, asked the Woodend & District Historical Society if he could volunteer and this project was suggested to him. He was to research a pioneer of Woodend about whom there was very little information! This commendable book is the end result of much digging into Thomas FITZSIMMONS' family background and careers as a businessman, publican and farmer, not always successfully. The book is a very useful addition to the history of Woodend.

A Special Mention was awarded to Paul BURKE for The enterprising Thomas Fitzsimmons of Woodend: adventures and survival in colonial Australia.



Survived Gallipoli, died in France: John Thomas Ernest (Ernie) Gentle (1888-1916).

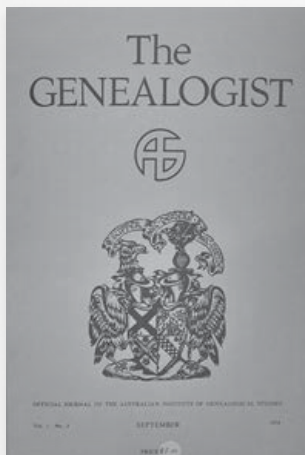
Julie H. WILSON

A poignant memorial to the short life of the author's great-uncle, Ernie GENTLE, told mainly through his letters to home and his diary with additional research by the author. It is an important contribution to Australia's war history because of Ernie's first-hand accounts of Gallipoli. The book is well-laid out and includes colour images of the Ernie's diaries and letters and his official war record.

Family
History
connections



Find the story,
not just the person



50 Years of AIGS

1974 Reprint

It is 50 years since the formation of the Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies, now known as Family History Connections, and the reproduction of articles from the magazine archive illustrates how the basics of research into a family rarely change but the resources surely improve. This list is reprinted from Volume I, No 3 (September 1974) of The Genealogist. The cemetery transcription can be found in the Resource Centre.

Cemetery Tombstone Transcriptions Series: Cassilis Cemetery, Victoria.

Transcribed by the Form 5 History class, Swifts Creek Higher Elementary School. (We compliment the class and the teacher on their splendid initiative in carrying out this project and thank them for their gift of the transcription to the Institute. This enterprise is indicative of the interest now being shown in genealogy by young people. *B.R. BLAZÉ, Editor*)

Cassilis was a small mining town situated just south of Omeo on the old Omeo Highway. The peak population was about 600 but the people gradually left as the gold supply declined. Now the entire population is made up of a few graziers and one of the few remaining relics of the town is the cemetery. The following records have been transcribed from the remaining headstones. Only wording of the sentiment has been omitted so that space may be conserved.

| | | | |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CONNOP | Richard T, stepson of FE JOHNSON, on of Mary JOHNSON, died result of accident, April 10, 1903, aged 15 years. | NAYLOR | William, husband, lost his life by accident at the Cassilis Mine, 23 March 1907, aged 31 years. |
| DAYNE | Mary Gertrude, wife of Frederick DAYNE, died Jan 6, 1919, aged 26 years. | RICHARDSON | James, husband and father, passed away 20 January, 1911, aged 69 years. |
| DONALD | John Charles William, son of Charles & Eliza DONALD, died 17 April 1914, aged 5 years and 3 months. RIP | ROGERS | Beatrice, daughter of C and late JM ROGERS, died 16 August, 1915, aged 28 years. |
| HAYWARD | John, husband of Hanora, died 21 July 1884, aged 67 years. RIP | SCHWARZE | Charles, died 17 January 1897, aged 60 years. |
| LAWRENCE | Sarah Alice, wife of WJ LAWRENCE, departed this life 23 June 1915. | SIMKIN | Lyall Wilfred, died result of accident, 1 December, 1913, aged 25 years. |
| McHENRY | Sydney, born Myrtleford 1 February, 1884, accidentally killed at the Cassilis Company's Battery, 4 October 1899, son of Thomas and Catherine McHENRY. | THOMAS | George R, son of Ernest and Jessie THOMAS, died 18 February, 1908, aged x2 years, 7 months. |

Sources: Analyzing, Recording, Storing

Lesle BERRY

Source citation is just recording where you found each piece of information so you—or anyone else—can go back to the original.

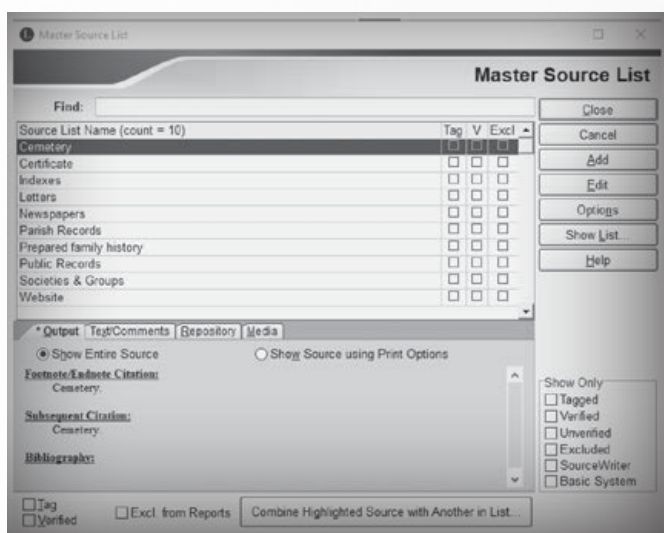
From the beginning of family history computer programs we were encouraged to record our sources. Originally this was a complicated and time consuming exercise.

Most computer programs now allow for :

- Master Source List
- Output (footnote/endnote citation)
- Text of source
- Comments on source
- Media
- Any overrides from basic layout for sources

The first program I used considered each document a 'master source'. Over the years I modified this list of Master Sources to a place (eg Victoria: Birth certificate; NSW: Birth certificate; etc). My list of Master Sources was extensive and cumbersome.

I further modified my Master Sources to country, eg Australia: Certificate. This was still a long list of Master Sources. In a recent clean up of my sources I have kept my Master List of Sources to record types.



This may be something you have already decided on, however, for me it took my list of Master Sources from over 120 to just ten.

In doing this I then needed to make sure that relevant details were recorded elsewhere. I spent some time deciding what I wanted to print on any form/book which I produced from Legacy Family Tree.

I then created a 'style sheet' so I could be consistent with my records. As I was checking and modifying thousands of records I wanted them to be uniform. I started by doing some printouts of the various fields and where they appeared and then decided what and where I wanted to include.

Output

This needed to show the country, state/county, detail of the record and the repository. Enough detail that anyone who wanted to could confirm the information and find my source.

Text of source

I transcribe my source documents as often as possible. This allows me to consider and analyze each source. I have found that in doing this I make sure that the record is attached to the correct person and any additional information is added to the family as appropriate.

Comments on source

This is where I record details of where I have saved the source image. I keep a filing system for my sources and each new document just gets the next number. I also keep parish records/certificates in the same list.

All documents have an appropriate prefix. Eg bir108 is a physical copy of a birth certificate. E_bir1108 is an electronic copy of a birth certificate. This information is also recorded in my Research Notes for the individual and I keep an alphabetical list for each type of source.

Here I also record any web link. You can easily get links from *Trove*, *FamilySearch*, *Ancestry* and these are permanent links. *FindMyPast* does not allow for the same type of link. I have not included the links in the Output data simply to save space.

Media

I attach the image here.

Basic layout for sources

I rarely change how any of this information is produced in written documents, just using the program's normal sentencing.

Transcribing

I have recently undertaken transcribing a great number of wills that I have in my possession. To make the task easier I used some subscription software. Although MS Word will allow dictation I have not found that successful for me. I decided to use Wreally Transcribe (transcribe.wreally.com).

This a paid service and costs \$20 a year. I have had a great accuracy result and find it easy to use. There are a number of other similar programs available, both free and for a cost.

Source citations

Any fact that is not common knowledge needs a source citation

The best time to document a source is as you add the information. Document as you go.

What to include:

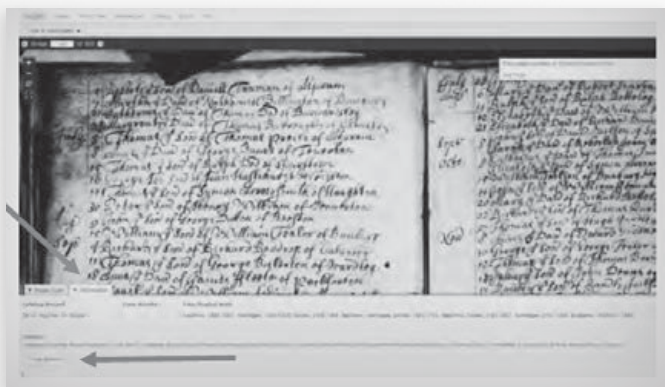
- Author
- Title
- Publication details
- Where you found it
- Specific details

Use original sources whenever possible.

There are any number of guides on how to cite your sources. Keep in mind that they need to assist the reader (or even yourself) to relocate the document you have used. In some cases the record holder will have a formatted source citation available for you to copy.

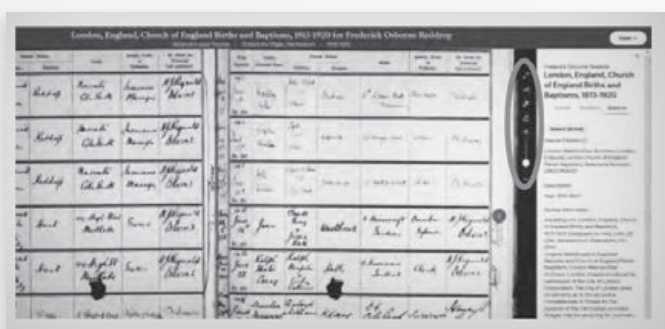
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When you do a search and view a record and then open a film on the information tab you will be able to copy the citation including a permanent link.



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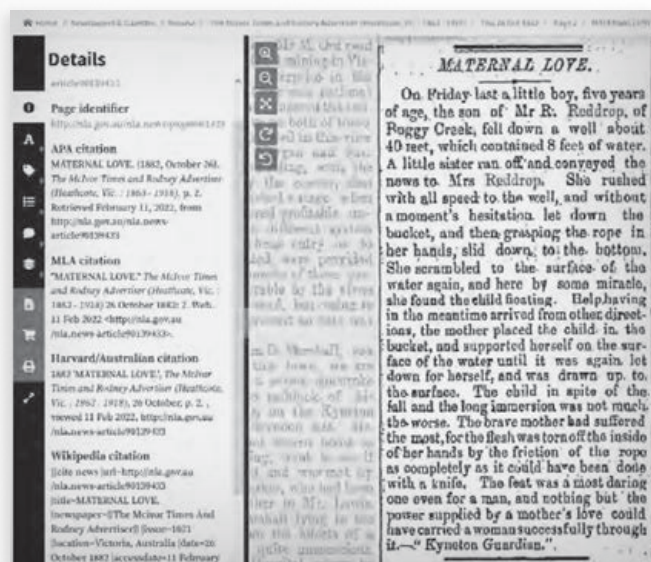
From the image page click on the arrow on right hand side icon list and citation details are shown.



To get a permanent link to the image click of the menu right hand arrow and select email. Email yourself the link and copy and paste it where you require the information.

Trove

Selecting the information  icon on the left hand side will show you a list of citations of various styles. An article identifier is also shown and a link with a page identifier.



With sources you can be as detailed as you wish. Decide what will allow you, and others, to find that source should they wish. Most source styles, found in various publications and online, separate each segment of the citation with a comma. I personally have left the commas out because that is my choice. Decide what suits you the best.

If you are preparing something for a particular purpose there may be specific requirements for the citation format. The University of Tasmania has 45 pages of instructions of their citation requirements.



Roundhouse and Signal Station

Within walking distance: The Fremantle Round House

Carolann Thomson

No walk around Fremantle is complete without visiting the prominent cliff-top position held by the Round House. It is the oldest public building in the state of Western Australia and is built of local limestone. It was opened in January 1831, eighteen months after the beginning of settlement of the Swan River Colony, built as a jail with eight cells and a jailer's residence. It held any person convicted of a crime in the new settlement and was in use until 1886. In 1837, the Fremantle Whaling Company used prison labour to dig a tunnel through the cliff under the Round House so that whale oil and other supplies could be moved from the beach directly to Fremantle's main street.

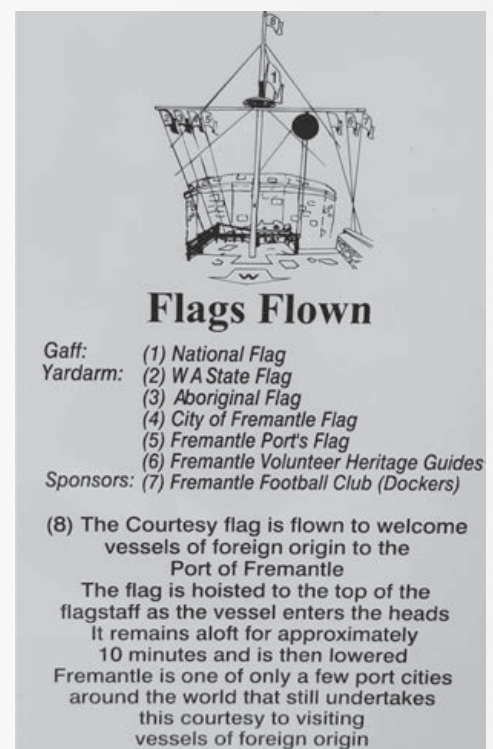
After its life as a jail the Round House became a Police Lock-up until the late 1890s. More recently it has been used as accommodation for the Water Police and a storage facility for Fremantle Ports. It was threatened with demolition in the 1920s but was saved and under the control of the State Government before being deeded to the City of Fremantle.

Visitors today are attracted by the flags flying from the adjacent signal station and the 1pm cannon which is fired every day. This practice began in 1900 to provide accurate timekeeping for both local residents and mariners and while made redundant by the radio telegraph, it continues today as an evocative reminder of the past.

References

¹ <https://www.fremantleroundhouse.com.au/>

² [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Round_House_\(Western_Australia\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Round_House_(Western_Australia))



Key to flags flying at the Signal Station



Unknown family photo
Held by the Kilmore Historical Society

Kilmore Historical Society

Barbara WILSON

Kilmore Historical Society has a significant collection of photographs accumulated since the foundation of the Society in 1964. Many were found stacked on top of each other in a three-drawer filing cabinet.

As so often is the case many of the photos were unidentified - whether of a person, a group of people or a place. In time some of these have been able to be identified. The Society held 'Open House' in History week and invited people to call in and see if they could put names or locations to the collection and to a degree this worked.

Some, like the one featured, remain a mystery. How satisfying it would be to be able to say "this photograph is of the XXX family?" If you can assist with this particular photo, please email us at kilmorehistoricalsociety@gmail.com.

com. If you have family from Kilmore, consider dropping into the Society's rooms and see if your family home or relatives feature amongst our unknowns.

On a more positive note, the photographs are now in Archival albums, thanks to a donation from the local Bendigo Community Bank. Next step digitisation!



Travelling?

...find more with Family History Connections' genealogical Network

Family History Connections (AIGS Inc) has reciprocal arrangements with the following groups:

- Royal Historical Society of Victoria
- Genealogical Society of Queensland
- Genealogical Society of Tasmania
- Genealogical Society of the Northern Territory
- Heraldry & Genealogical Society of Canberra
- Queensland Family History Society
- South Australian Genealogical & Heritage Society
- Western Australia Genealogical Society

If you are planning to travel around Australia and include a visit to any of these groups, contact the Resource Centre Office to arrange a letter of introduction. Contact any group to make sure your visit coincides with opening times.



FHC Services Transcribing and Deciphering

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Old documents can be hard to read but FHC has a small team of experienced puzzlers who will help you. They are expert at deciphering writing which is old, faded, large and small, sometimes overwritten or written on both sides of fine and flimsy papers.

Wills and other legal documents can be transcribed for you.

The team is not expert in every language of the world, so please make sure the documents you submit are written in ENGLISH, no matter the whimsical spelling or the unique handwriting style.

Contact the Office Manager by email to discuss how best to bring your document to the transcribers' attention, at info@familyhistoryconnections.org.au

Documents are handled with all care and sensitivity.

New Resources

Abbreviations:

B: Burials
C: Christenings/Baptisms & Births
D: Deaths
M: Marriages

Readers are asked to check the catalogue on our website www.familyhistoryconnections.org.au or in hardcopy at the Resource Centre for full details.

AUSTRALIA GENERAL

Survived Gallipoli, died in France: John Thomas Ernest (Ernie) Gentle (1888-1916). Wilson, Julie. MILITARY - AUSTRALIA 940.3 WIL

NEW SOUTH WALES

The women of the 1790 Neptune: the seventy-eight convicts and those who came free. Needham, Anne. CONVICTS - NEW SOUTH WALES 387 NEE

QUEENSLAND

Our backyard and beyond Volume 6: Drayton and Toowomba, Clifton, Pittsworth, Douglas, Cabarlah, Silverleigh, Goombungee Haden, North Branch, Yarraman and Crows Nest Cemeteries, Toowomba Garden of Remembrance, Yandilla All Saints Anglican Church. CD 5590

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Biographical register of South Australian surveyors, 1836 to 1936. Peake, Andrew Guy. 333.16 PEA

VICTORIA

Ghost towns of the mountain goldfields: featuring 65 former towns within the upper reaches of the Yarra, Latrobe, Thomson and Goulburn watersheds. Steenhuis, Luke. 994.56 STE

A history of Joyces Creek. James, Ken. 994.53 JOY

The history of the Shire of Korumburra. White, Joseph. 994.56 KOR

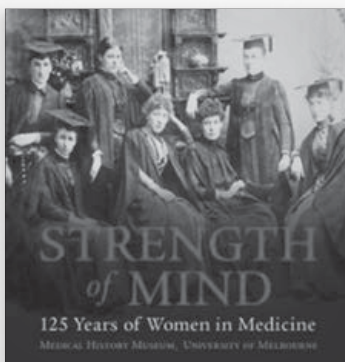
A history of Sandon. James, Ken. 994.53 SAN

Light blue generations: a history of The Old Geelong Grammarians. Darby, Jim. 373.222 GEE

Melbourne Electoral Roll 1847. Hughes, Ian A. 929.37 HUG

Reflections: Ringwood State School, 1889-1997. 372.9945 RIN

St Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne. Grant, James. 283 GRA



Strength of mind: 125 years of women in medicine. Edited by Jacqueline Healy. 610 HEA

Women were admitted to Melbourne Medical School in 1887, 25 years after the course had commenced,

but 21 years before women were entitled to vote in Victoria. These first seven female medical students were tenacious, resilient, and visionary; challenging the social values of their day and making major contributions to public health in Victoria. Led by Constance Stone, the first woman to register as a doctor in Victoria in 1890 (she had undertaken her medical education in Canada) they went on to establish the Queen Victoria Hospital in 1896. The first hospital established in Australia for the care of women that was managed and staffed by women and one of three internationally.

ENGLAND GENERAL

The Army Lists of the Roundheads and Cavaliers: containing the names of the officers in the Royal and Parliamentary Armies of 1642. Edited by Peacock, Edward. MILITARY - ENGLAND 355 PEA

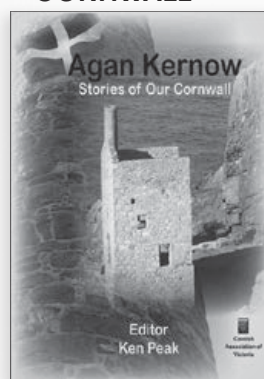
Methodist records for family historians. Ratcliffe, Richard. 287 RAT

Officers and Regiments of the Royalist Army, being a revised edition of the List of Indigent Officers, 1663: introduction and index. Reid, Stuart. MILITARY - ENGLAND 355 REI

Tracing your legal ancestors: a guide for family historians. Wade, Stephen. 340 WAD

The Union Workhouse: a study guide for teachers and local historians. Reid, Andy. 365.3 REI

CORNWALL



Agan Kernow, stories of our Cornwall. Edited by Ken Peak. CORNWALL 942.37 PEA

Short articles about all things Cornish, written by members of the Cornish Association of Victoria. There are many articles about members' Cornish ancestors and their lives here and in Cornwall. This book is available for purchase from their website.

CUMBERLAND

Available also in the Members Area

Brampton parish register transcriptions, baptisms 1813-1820. CD 5595

Wetherall Holy Trinity baptisms transcriptions, 1665-1864. CD 5614

New Resources

Continued from page 37

Wetheral Holy Trinity burials transcriptions, 1674-1906. CD 5613

Wetheral Holy Trinity marriages transcriptions, 1665-1992. CD 5615

Wetheral Holy Trinity marriages transcriptions, 1665-1992. CD 5616

DURHAM - available also in the Members Area
Durham St. Cuthbert baptisms transcriptions, 1903-1934. CD 5596

Durham St. Cuthbert baptisms transcriptions, 1950-1959. CD 5597

Great Stainton All Saints baptisms transcriptions, 1561-1801. CD 5599

Haughton Le Skerne burials transcriptions, 1569-1812. CD 5600

Houghton le Spring baptisms transcriptions, 1840-1849. CD 5602

Merrington burials transcriptions 1579-1727. CD 5605

Norton St. Mary burials transcriptions 1700-1797. CD 5606

Redmarshall St Cuthbert burials transcriptions 1559 - 1752. CD 5608

Rookhope St John memorial inscriptions. CD 5609

Ryhope St Pauls burials transcriptions 1828-1895. CD 5610

Seaham Harbour baptisms transcriptions 1845-1884. CD 5611

Seaham Harbour baptisms transcriptions 1911-1928. CD 5612

LONDON

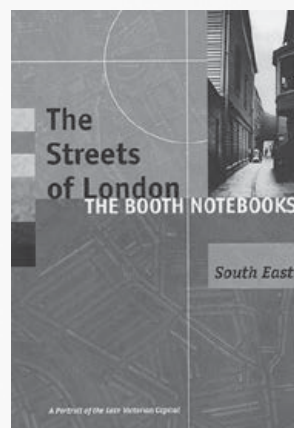
Greater London history sources: Volume 1, City of London and Volume 2, Middlesex. Edited by Knight, Richard and Yeo, Geoffrey. 929.1 GRE

The streets of London: the Booth notebooks - South East. Booth, Charles. 331.8 BOO

From 1886 to 1903, while Charles BOOTH was conducting his landmark survey on the life and labour of London's poorest inhabitants he created poverty maps to illustrate the conditions of the lives of these people. BOOTH's maps were based on observations of differences in lifestyle and focused on qualitative factors: food, clothing, shelter, and relative deprivation. BOOTH and his team of researchers visited every street in London to assess each household's class. The household's class was determined by the letters

A-H, with A-D constituting want, and E-H representing comfort. BOOTH's maps colour-coded every street to determine and demonstrate the level of poverty or comfort. The colour-coding was also used to highlight the social conditions of the households on the streets. The objective was to expose to Victorian society the social evil, which is the problem of poverty. The maps had a strong impact on the poverty debate. Many who analysed the maps noted how there existed greater concentrations of poverty south of the Thames, compared to the East End slums. The colour palette of the maps also played a large role in how poverty was viewed. Areas with high concentrations of poverty were given dense and dark colours, while areas that were considered comfortable were given bright colours such as pink, blue, and red. The maps were attempting to demonstrate that the issue of poverty was a manageable problem. (Wikipedia.)

This book contains BOOTH's notes on every street in the south-east of London – Southwark, Lambeth, Kennington,



Walworth, Borough, Bermondsey, Rothershire, Deptford, Peckham, Camberwell, Dulwich, Nunhead, Brockley, Blackheath, Greenwich, Charlton and Woolwich. If you know (from the 1881 or 1891 Census) in which street your ancestors lived, there is a street index at the back of the book. His remarks are fascinating and full of detail.

Also in the Resource Center you can see the Descriptive Map of London Poverty, 1889. It is very large and housed in the Map Drawer. The map can be seen online, but sometimes 'real' maps are easier to see the bigger picture.

In the FOR LOAN collection at No. 93 is Charles Booth's London: a portrait of the poor at the turn of the century, drawn from his "Life and Labour of the People in London" if you want to learn more in-depth background to his work.

SURREY

Old Mitcham. Francis, Tom. 942.21 FRA

YORKSHIRE

Also available in the Members Area
Great Ouseburn St Mary parish register transcriptions, baptisms 1658-1857, burials 1658-1886, marriages 1658-1837. CD 5598

High Worsall St John parish register transcriptions baptisms 1729-1950, burials 1721-1997, marriages 1720-1942. CD 5601

Little Ousebourne parish register transcriptions, baptisms

1563-1864, burials 1563-1935, marriages 1564-1837.
CD 5603

Melsonby St James parish register transcriptions, baptisms 1574-1944, burials 1579-1891, marriages 1579-1957, banns 1754-1813. CD 5604

Nun Monkton St Mary parish register transcriptions, baptisms 1708, burials 1708-1812, marriages 1708-1836. CD 5607

FAMILY HISTORIES

Australians of the Great Irish Famine: one clan's story. Morrissey, Patrick. MORRISEY

The Browne branch: Patrick Browne's descendants in Ireland and Australia Parnell, Tricia. BROWNE

Curling wisps and whispers of history: Volume 1 - Thanet to Tasmania. Curling, LucyAnn. CURLING

Elizabeth and John: the Macarthurs of Elizabeth Farm. Atkinson, Alan FAMILY HISTORIES MACARTHUR

The enterprising Thomas Fitzsimmons of Woodend: adventures and survival in colonial Australia. Burke, Paul. FITZSIMMONS

Footprints in history: a comprehensive history of the life and times of the Ah Shin family. Twycross, James FAMILY HISTORIES AH SHIN

From Ballycorman to Perth: how James Fingleton (1849-1947) scattered his seed. Fingleton, Jim. FINGLETON

The Gatenby saga: the story of Andrew Gatenby from Barton and his descendants; life along the Pennyroyal Creek, Tasmania. Bacon, Carol and Gatenby, David. GATENBY

In search of a legend: the Barenger family of Kentish Town. Turland, David. BARENGER

James Fingleton of Ballylinan (c.1847-1885): his Irish origins and Australian descendants. Fingleton, Jim. FINGLETON

Michael Fingleton (c1771-1836) of Clopook and his descendants. Fingleton, Jim. FINGLETON

Moore and Moore: the Moore family from County Down. McKellar, Ian. MOORE

An Owers family odyssey: from Essex yeoman to Wellington hotelier. Owers, Rob. OWERS

Those dashing McDonagh sisters: Australia's first female filmmaking team. Sayer, Mandy. McDONAGH

The Wall family: weaving the threads of memory. Leonard, Christine. WALL

SCOTLAND ABERDEENSHIRE

Aberdeen female teachers pre 1872: a biographical list. McCall, Alison T. 372 McC

Aberdeen School Board female teachers 1872-1901: a biographical list. McCall, Alison T. 372 McC

The Kirkyard of Auchindoir Old and New. Spiers, Sheila M. 929.32 AUC

The Kirkyard of Kildrummy. 929.32 KIL

The Kirkyard of Old Deer. 929.32 OLD

The Kirkyard of Oldmeldrum (1891 extension). 929.32 OLD

The Kirkyard of Oldmeldrum. Spiers, Sheila M. 929.32 OLD

The Kirkyard of Premnay. 929.32 PRE

The Kirkyard of Towie. Spiers, Sheila M. 929.32 TOW

INVERNESS-SHIRE

Kiltarlity (Tomnacross) Churchyard and Kiltarlity (Old) Churchyard monumental inscriptions. 929.32 KIL

Kirkhill Churchyard and Kirkton of Bunchrew Burial Ground monumental inscriptions. 929.32 KIR

LANARKSHIRE

Partick Methodist Church baptisms 1908-1948. 929.31 PAR

ROSS & CROMARTY

Fodderty Burial Ground and Cemetery, and Kinnettas (Strathpeffer) Burial Ground monumental inscriptions. 929.32 FOD

ROXBURGHSHIRE

Roxburghshire monumental inscriptions II: Morebattle. CD 5591

Roxburghshire monumental inscriptions XVII: Duns. CD 5592

SELKIRKSHIRE

Shawpark Cemetery, Selkirk, monumental inscriptions. CD 5594

Wairds Melrose monumental inscriptions. CD 5593

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3rd Sunday of the Month 12 noon - 4.00pm

(May to October)

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■ DURHAM RECORDS ONLINE

For those with family from the north of England, this collection provides parish and census records mainly for County Durham, but also some from neighbouring Northumberland.



■ EMERALD ANCESTORS

One of the largest collections of Northern Ireland records available, containing over 1 million birth, marriage and death records from civil registration indexes, church records and other historical sources for Counties Antrim, Armagh, Down, Fermanagh, Londonderry and Tyrone.



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The most extensive database of Irish Catholic Church records, containing more than 20 million records from 35 Counties. The main sources on the site are church records of baptisms, marriages and burials. Catholic Church records anywhere online.



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BDA is a new research tool for historians and genealogists comprising transcripts and indexes of many original records and published biographies of deceased individuals who arrived in or were born in Australia, starting from the earliest times. It contains nearly a million names starting from Australia's earliest times.

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