

# Footsteps



**Port Macquarie & Districts  
Family History Society Inc.**

## **SOCIETY ORGANISATION AND CONTACTS**

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

*President:* ..... Diane Gillespie ..... president@pmdfhs.org.au  
*Vice-President:* ..... Dawn Stephens  
*Treasurer:* ..... Clive Smith  
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Wendy Haynes  
Helen Hoare  
Narelle Milligan  
Rex Toomey

### **Areas of Responsibility ~ 2023–2024**

Acquisitions/Archives.....	Clive Smith
Find a Grave .....	Carol Smallman
<i>Footsteps</i> Journal .....	Leonie Hiles....editor@pmdfhs.org.au
General Meetings Roster .....	Dawn Stephens
InfoEmail .....	Diane Gillespie / Jennifer Mullin
Journals .....	Helen Hoare
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Library Roster.....	Janet Brown
Membership/Minutes.....	Jennifer Mullin
Museum Heritage Group .....	Diane Gillespie
NSW & ACT Association – Delegate.....	Clive Smith
Public Officer.....	Clive Smith
Publicity/Facebook .....	Narelle Milligan / Pauline Every
Research Co-Ordinator .....	Peter Day
Ryerson Index Transcribers .....	Lis Hannelly / Kay Browne
Social Coordinator.....	Dawn Stephens
Website.....	Rex Toomey
Welfare.....	Margaret Blight

### **SUPPORT GROUPS**

Convict Studies Group .....	Clive Smith
DNA Support Group.....	Pauline Every
Family Search.....	Robyn Denley
Research Support Group.....	Clive Smith
Writers' Group.....	Diane Gillespie

### **CURRENT PROJECT COORDINATORS**

Port Macquarie Rate Books ..... Rex Toomey

*Life members: Terry Browne, Kay Browne*

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### COVER PHOTO

The Famine Memorial, Custom House Quay, North Wall, Dublin, Ireland.  
A collection of statues showing starving, skeletal Irish people walking to the ships to leave Ireland for a new life to escape the hunger and poverty. Statues created by Rowan **Gillespie** and presented to the City of Dublin in 1997.

Photograph taken by Diane **Gillespie** on her recent trip to United Kingdom and Ireland.

### NEW MEMBERS

We hope you enjoy your association with our Society and that you will benefit from the resources, meetings and workshops that are available.

A warm welcome is extended to:

Vicky Barbour, Port Macquarie  
Allan Joyce, Port Macquarie  
Paul Cowan, Port Macquarie

Joy Pegler, Picnic Point  
Amanda Cavanagh, Port Macquarie  
Debbie Reynolds, East Kempsey



## PRESIDENT'S TWO CENTS WORTH

*Diane Gillespie*

It has been said that 'money makes the world go round,' but I would like to suggest that volunteers ensure its progress.

The spirit of a volunteer culture was ignited at the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney. Over 43,000 people gave freely of their time and energy to ensure the games of the XXVII Olympiad ran smoothly. Athletes, officials and guests reached their appointed destinations on time and in good humour, due to the attitude and assistance of the volunteers. There was an unsurpassed spirit of friendliness in Sydney at that time, when complete strangers smiled at one another and cheered together for their favourite participant. Volunteers wearing the brightly coloured uniforms were applauded and cheered as they completed their tasks or merely travelled home after a day of volunteering.



When the next Olympic Games were scheduled in 2004 in Athens, the birthplace of the modern Olympic Games, volunteers came into their own. The Games' organisers realised the contribution this amazing group of people achieved in Sydney and wanted to emulate that in their Games. There were 160,000 applicants to volunteer in Athens with 55,000 finally selected. These volunteers, like those in Sydney, stood by their vow to do the best they could to ensure the Games ran smoothly.

A research paper, titled 'The Spirit Lives On: The Legacy of Volunteering at the Sydney Olympic Games' by Sheranne Fairley et al. from University of Queensland,<sup>1</sup> written a decade after the Games, found that those volunteers were inspired to volunteer in any activity as they had received such positive feedback from their earlier experiences. The act of volunteering allows the volunteer to develop and refine skills on a personal level.

Volunteers come into their own in times of need. A good example of this was the 'mud army' that helped in the cleanup in Brisbane after the 2011 floods, where ordinary people banded together to help their community. Members of the SES epitomise the volunteer spirit when the weather in Australia rears its ugly head. Many of the volunteers in the SES, Rotary, Lions and the Red Cross undertake numerous hours of training to be able to assist their community in times of need.

Port Macquarie & Districts Family History Society is fortunate to embody that spirit of community where nearly 50% of our membership actively volunteer to assist in our endeavours. Our volunteers serve on the management committee, assist members of the public in the local library, complete research and cemetery requests, conduct learning sessions for others, ensure refreshments are provided at meetings and gatherings. Journals are previewed, our library is catalogued and maintained, members are welcomed at meetings and projects are undertaken, benefitting other researchers. There are a myriad of other tasks that are required in the day-to-day running of a successful society.

I would like to thank **all** our society members, but especially those who volunteer in any small capacity to ensure our society progresses. As our AGM draws near, I would also like to thank the members of the management committee who have worked tirelessly to ensure PMDFHS is successful. I hope you have benefitted from your time on the committee and that you may consider standing again for a committee position.

I would like to acknowledge Wendy **Haynes** who has been our *Footsteps* editor this year but has decided to accept a position with Port Writers' Group that will require her time and energy, so will not be nominating at the AGM. Thank you for your guidance and input with *Footsteps*, Wendy. I would also like to welcome Leonie **Hiles** as our new editor. I know the wonderful standard that our journal has achieved will be maintained into the future.

Dawn **Stephens**, who capably filled the role of vice president this year will also not be seeking re-election at our AGM, and I would like to acknowledge her efforts within the Society. Meetings, seminars and classes have run smoothly due to Dawn's work behind the scenes. Thank you, Dawn. Your efforts are much appreciated.

These are but a few of the generous volunteers in PMDFHS who give of their time and energy to ensure the Society continues to progress. If you are a volunteer, in any organisation, may I offer you a 'cheer for a volunteer' as your efforts are really appreciated. Thank you!

<sup>1</sup> <https://espace.library.uq.edu.au>

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## FROM THE EDITOR

*Leonie Hiles*

Thank you, Diane and the management committee for the welcome, and for entrusting me with the position of editor. I shall endeavour to maintain the standard and quality of our journal and to collaborate cooperatively with the contributors and proofreaders to ensure it continues to be of such quality as to date we have all enjoyed. Thanks and acknowledgement go to all the former editors and proofreaders who have worked to ensure the quality of *Footsteps* we enjoy today. Thanks of course also to all the contributors without who we wouldn't have our journal.

Hardship, poverty, destitution and bankruptcy! A difficult read, do you think? Our speaker at our July monthly meeting was Diane, our President, who spoke about the Irish Famine. It was interesting to see after her address that a show of hands revealed that almost everyone in the audience had Irish ancestors! Truly, the Irish people who were affected by, and survived, the Great Famine are a testament to resilience.

A common thread running through so many of the stories in this issue was the frequency of lives shortened by death — death of close family members, so often the breadwinner, and too often the very young. More recent advances in medicine and medical technology mean that today, to a large degree we are protected from that. In this issue we also see misfortune in financial matters and the consequences this can bring.

In Diane **McCue**'s account of 'Challenges of Life in the Nineteenth Century', from the viewpoint of just one family we see elements of multiple factors — including famine, witness to mutiny, pestilence and disease, bankruptcy, and death of the breadwinner. In Peter **Day**'s 'London Almshouses', we see a different view, and from one member of Peter's extended family ancestors, we see both sides of the coin.

Consequences of so much misfortune have been an eyeopener for me! In so many of these stories we repeatedly see the fortitude and strength to keep going. The resolve and determination of, especially the women, young and old, is remarkable and it demonstrates positive qualities of the human spirit. In your reading of this issue I'm sure that, like me, you will be inspired by the resilience of so many of our ancestors.

## AN GORTA MÓR – THE GREAT HUNGER

Diane Gillespie

From our recent trip to Ireland, in May, Jennifer and I were moved by some poignant street sculptures in Dublin. This prompted me to further research.

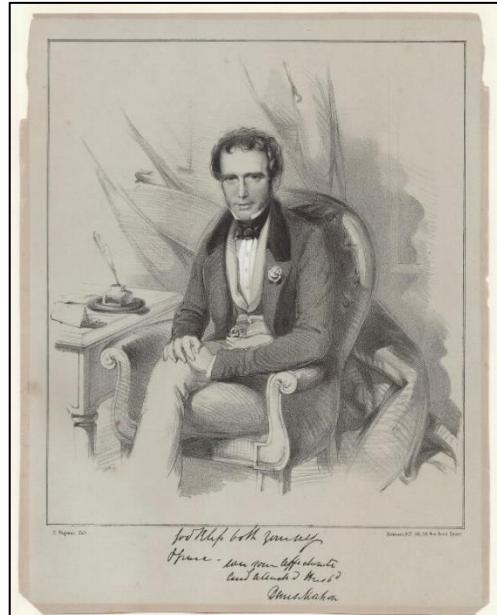
The sculptures were a depiction of starving people who had been forced to walk 100 miles (165km) from Strokestown, a market town in County Roscommon, to the Dublin docks. Their absentee landlord, Major Denis **Mahon**, organised the re-location of his tenants to Canada at a cost of £4,000. It was a small sum in comparison to supporting them in the workhouse. Coffin ships, so-called because of the high number of people who died on them, had carried the starving survivors, ill with typhus and dysentery, to a ‘new life’ in Canada. However, many of the 1,049 people who had endured the forced trek from Strokestown did not survive either the trek or the trip across the Atlantic. The ships were old hulks that had been given ‘a lick of paint’ by unscrupulous privateers who sought to profit from the events happening in Ireland at the time.

When the remaining tenants heard of the tragedy the first tenants had suffered, they refused to leave, so he evicted them leaving about 3,000 people (600 families), homeless. His inhumanity finally caught up with him when he was shot and killed in November 1847. There were many celebrations across the county when news of his demise became known.

The Great Hunger (Irish: an Gorta Mór), also known as the Great Famine or the Irish Potato Famine, began in 1845, when one third of the nation’s potato crop became infected with blight. Blight in potato and tomato crops is caused by a water mould. It is usually controlled by drier, warmer weather, but Ireland in 1846/1847 had unusually cool and wet weather, which led to the spread of the disease. The Irish people only grew one or two varieties of potato. The Irish Lumper potato was grown as a near monocrop in Ireland. There was no diversification of varieties of the crop, which certainly didn’t help.

Why was the entire population so obsessed with cultivating and eating only one crop — that of potatoes? Most of the agrarian population of Ireland were tenants subsisting on acreage owned by absentee landlords of English or Anglo-English origin. The tenants grew cereal crops such as wheat and barley to sell to pay their rent. Their own sustenance came largely from the potato (up to 80% of their calorie intake) which grew well in Irish soil in small areas. One acre of potatoes could feed a family of four for a year.

The population of Ireland had ballooned in the 1800s and there were also many landless cottiers who subsisted by providing labour to the landlords in return for provisions and accommodation. When the potato crops failed, people were doomed to seek relief at the Protestant-backed soup kitchens or seek assistance at the workhouse. (Souperism) The workhouses in many instances only accepted people from their parish, and if the people seeking relief leased more than 0.5 acres, they had to surrender the land to receive aid. It was said that ‘men went into the workhouses and paupers came out’.



Major Denis Mahon (1787-1847), by Dickenson and Co, after Thomas Charles Wageman  
[npg.org.uk](http://npg.org.uk)

The British government provided some relief by repealing the Corn Laws and conducting some relief efforts to raise funds. There were some individual efforts provided by prominent people, but the attitude of the British government was laissez-faire. It was remarked by some Irish that 'God sent the blight, but the English caused the famine' by still expecting crop and produce exports. Ireland was producing enough food to feed 18 million people, yet more than one million perished and another million fled to other countries. The 'famine' ended when the British stopped the export of food from Ireland to England in 1849.

It was not till 21st century that the population of Ireland approached pre-famine levels, but the Irish diaspora has spread across the world, and they well remember 'an Gorta Mór' of the 1840s.

**Sources:**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great\\_Famine\\_\(Ireland\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Famine_(Ireland))

Keneally Tom: *Three Famines*

Reilly Ciaran, Edited by: *The Famine Irish*

Woodham-Smith Cecil: *The Great Hunger in Ireland*

<https://www.history.com/topics/immigration/Irish-potato-famine>

<https://www.britannica.com/summary/Great-Famine-Irish-history>

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## TRAGEDY AND RESILIENCE

*Christine Unicomb*

**Hannah Venables née Martin** sat back and reflected on the last few years. Here she was, sitting outside her humble house located in the farming district of Boort in Victoria. The last few years had been difficult.

### **FATAL ACCIDENT AT TARNAGULLA.**

A sad accident occurred at Tarnagulla on Saturday evening, as we gather from the Dunolly Express:—"A miner named Joseph Venables proceeded to remove some logs from the top of an old shaft on Growler's Reef, and while in the act of lifting a large piece of timber the loose rubble and surface broke away from under his feet, precipitating both the man and log into the shaft. Although the accident must have happened between five and six p.m., the deceased was not missed until about eight o'clock, when search was made. No one having seen him since he was at the shaft led to the supposition that something was wrong. On proceeding to the spot, the tools which deceased had taken with him were found on top, but no sign of the man. A man then descended about 100ft. down the shaft by a rope, when blood was discovered on some ledges or projections, and it at once became evident that the missing man had fallen into it. A number of miners immediately set to work to fix a windlass over the shaft (a work of some difficulty in the dark) when the same man (Andrew Addison) was lowered to the bottom, 180ft., and found deceased quite dead, as it were standing on his head, with his legs upwards, and the log resting against him. The deceased was a native of Indiana, U.S.A., was about forty-two years of age, and leaves a wife and seven children to mourn his loss."

From promising beginnings when she and her husband, Joseph, had boarded the *Sea Park* in Plymouth on 28 March 1855, and alighted in Port Adelaide on 24 June of that same year<sup>1</sup>, to now, when she was a widow and raising their eight children on her own. This was not how it was meant to be. They were so excited to be embarking on this new adventure in a new country together.

She could not forget that night when the knock at her door delivered the news of Joseph's accident at the mine. She remembered how she had struggled to listen as they described what had happened to her Joe. The image of him standing on his head at the bottom of the mine shaft with the logs crushed against him would never leave her;<sup>2</sup> nor would the feeling from that night of being devastated and all alone.

Hannah, however, began to smile and moved her thoughts to where she was now. She was not sure what had prompted her to leave the gold-mining Tarnagulla area and move sixty miles away to the farming region of Boort. Her childhood, as the daughter of a

schoolteacher, had not prepared her for this. Perhaps it had been the news that land was cheap, and she could find a place for the family to settle. Although she could not recall the exact reason, she did remember the effort required to move her family of nine, and their belongings. It would have been so much easier if the railway had been built back then. Still, they had arrived safely and without losing any of their things.

While it had seemed to be a good idea at the time, on looking back she marvelled at how they had survived. How had she managed, with eight children, one only a babe in arms? Nothing could have prepared her for the harshness of life on the land in the Australian bush.<sup>3</sup>

Had it been that harsh back in Ireland? Here, she remembered how they had carried water in buckets to feed their last few animals in the drought and watched as their crops had shrivelled and died. She also remembered the day when they sold the last of their cows, and wondered how they would feed themselves and pay the bills. She also remembered the dust and the wind. The clothes had flapped around on the clothesline, many times dropping to the ground and needing to be washed again. The younger children had made a game out of it, seeing who could pick up the most clothes from the ground.

Her thoughts then went to her two oldest boys. What great lads they were! Although she was determined they would be educated, after Joe's death they both offered to get work. They were already a great help around the farm assisting with the chores and helping her with the animals. The extra that they brought into the family finances had been beneficial. Without their assistance she realised they would not have survived. She reflected on her feeling of gratefulness when they both got work, one of them as an assistant delivering telegrams.<sup>4</sup> They both had Joe's work ethic and it had not been long before they advanced in their jobs; one becoming a postmaster and the other a head teacher in a local school.

The many skills she had mastered in her efforts to survive and provide for her family had been drawn on outside of the family home. Her father would be so proud, she thought. Here she was in the bush in Victoria, and she was teaching sewing to the students at the local school.<sup>5</sup>

How Joe would have loved to see their family now! How he would have loved working on the farm rather than down in the mines! This was her satisfaction, although she had done it without him, Joe would be so proud of them all.

**Note:** Hannah **Venables** née **Martin** was my maternal 2x great-grandmother.

<sup>1</sup> The Ships List, SA Passenger Lists 1847-1886, <https://www.theshipslist.com/ships/australia/seapark1855.shtml>, accessed 1 Sept 2021.

<sup>2</sup> 'Fatal Accident at Tarnagulla' *Mount Alexander Mail*, 16 Nov. 1871 p3.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/198994982?searchTerm=Venables%20Tarnagulla%20mine%20accident>, accessed 1 Sept 2021. Hannah was pregnant with her eighth child when the accident occurred.

<sup>3</sup> 'A Visit to the Boort District' *The Australasian*, 8 Oct. 1881.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/138071759?searchTerm=Boort%20in%20the%201870%27s>, accessed 1 Sept 2021.

<sup>4</sup> Handwritten family record, Joseph and Hannah **Venables**, written by Jean **Healey**, held by Christine **Unicomb**, 1 Sept 2021.

<sup>5</sup> Handwritten family record, Joseph and Hannah **Venables**, written by Jean **Healey**, held by Christine **Unicomb**, 1 Sept 2021.

## THE CHALLENGES OF LIFE IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

*Diane McCue*

Family historians, through their research and recounting of family stories, document the challenges and tragedies experienced by their ancestors during the nineteenth century. Disease, famine, accidents, mutinies, bankruptcy and separation from loved ones shaped the destinies of individuals, families and communities in New South Wales and abroad. Hardships such as these were faced by members of two families from Ireland, who settled in East Maitland.

Michael **McCue**, the son of Timothy **McCue** and Sarah **McCue** née **Ryan** was baptised 7 October 1832 in the parish of Abbeyknockmoy in County Galway. The family emigrated to New South Wales using the colonial bounty system. From 1837, it granted financial aid to persons bringing from the United Kingdom (including Ireland), agricultural labourers, shepherds, tradesmen, female domestics and farm servants. The **McCues** sailed from Kingstown (Dun Laoghaire) aboard the *Albatross* in 1840, five years before the onset of The Great Famine.<sup>1</sup>

Mary Ann **Kennedy**, the eldest daughter of John **Kennedy** and Ellen **Kennedy** née **Brophy** was born in Lorrha, County Tipperary in 1829.<sup>2</sup> She sailed from Plymouth with her brother, Denis, aboard the *Una* in 1849. By this time, The Great Famine had devastated their home parish. In 1846, Thomas **Brereton** R.M. wrote to the Relief Commission reporting a march by 300 men demanding food and employment:

On the 14<sup>th</sup> a number of men, collected from the parishes of Lorrha and Durra, proceeded to several gentlemen's houses demanding employment or food and stated that they would take the cattle off the fields if their demands were not complied with ...<sup>3</sup>

At the height of the famine in Black '47, (Ireland's Great Famine), the insensitivity of landlord **Stoney** to the waiting and starving people of Lorrha resulted in his being horsewhipped by the parish priest.<sup>4</sup>

Mary Ann and Denis must have been terrified when a mutiny broke out during the voyage. A witness said the ship was in a most perilous position. There were 313 persons on board, and passengers and boys sailed the vessel. The women were screaming fearfully. Dr **Hammond**, surgeon-superintendent, said that the boom was placed across the vessel to prevent the emigrants from being interfered with by the crew. When the ship arrived in Sydney Cove, thirteen seamen were brought before H. H. **Brown** at the Sydney Water Police Office charged with having unlawfully conspired to create a revolt onboard the ship.<sup>5</sup>

Dangerous sailing conditions and threats of mutiny were not the only perils of emigration. Infestations of lice, and outbreaks of typhoid and smallpox were not uncommon. On arrival in Port Jackson, each ship was visited by a medical officer and an agent from the Immigration Board



North Head Quarantine Station in Sydney Harbour.

who compiled records from interviews with the immigrants. If anyone had an infectious disease the ship was directed to the North Head Quarantine Station in Sydney Harbour. Passengers and crew were detained until all were cleared. The ship was then towed to Sydney Cove.

Upon disembarkation, Mary Ann and Denis were billeted at Hyde Park Barracks. In 1848, the central dormitory building provided accommodation for a female immigration depot, and the agent for immigration, who oversaw the migration and placement of British and Irish-born single women as domestic servants. Offices and hiring rooms were on the first floor; temporary accommodation for new arrivals was on the second and third floors. Fortunately, Denis gained employment as a farm labourer two days after their arrival.<sup>6</sup>

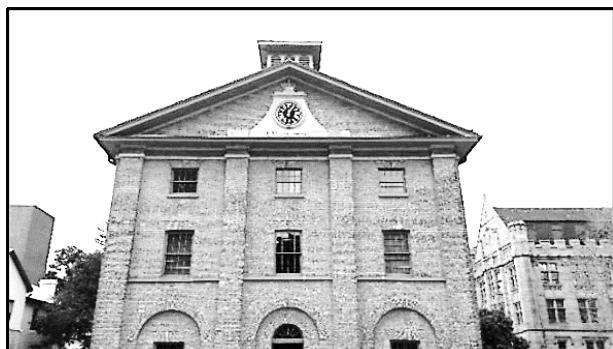
While waiting to be released into the colony, Mary Ann and the other women followed a strict routine, sleeping on iron beds in two long dormitories and rising at 6 a.m. or 7 a.m., to tidy up, fold their beds and await the matron's inspection. During the day, the women were allowed to attend church services, meet with visiting clergy and roam the depot rooms, but they had to return to their dormitory by 9 p.m. for lights out at 10 p.m. Hygiene practices included the airing of bed linen and clothes, and whitewashing walls to prevent disease.<sup>7</sup>



Australian Monument to the Great Irish Famine  
Located along southern wall of the Hyde Park Barracks just to the north of  
Hyde Park in Sydney.

Mary Ann **Kennedy** were wed by special licence at St Joseph's Chapel in East Maitland. The priest was Father **Kenny**, and their witnesses were her sister, Catherine **Kennedy** of East Maitland and John **Walsh** of Louth Park.<sup>8</sup>

Their first child, Mary Jane, was born in 1855. The witnesses to her baptism at St Joseph's Church were John **Dickson** and Mary Ann's mother, Ellen **Kennedy**. Sarah, their second daughter, was born in 1857. Her baptism witnesses were James **Lyne**, and her grandmother, Sarah **McCue**. Their third daughter, Ann, was baptised in 1859. This was witnessed by her uncle, Patrick **McCue**, and her aunt, Bridget **Kennedy**. Daughter, Catherine, was born in 1861.



Hyde Park Barracks

Her baptism sponsors were John **Kennedy** and Catherine **Rigney**. Their only son, Timothy, was born in 1864. The witnesses were Patrick **Kennedy** and Mary **Walsh**. I am indebted to Helen **Russell**, Research Volunteer at Maitland Newcastle Diocese, for her generosity and perseverance in locating the baptism details of the children.

Michael made his living as a carrier. By the time his third daughter, Ann, was born, he was a hotelier taking over the public house owned by his father, Timothy. He applied for a Publican's Licence on 17 April 1860 to run the Freemason's Arms on Day Street in East Maitland. Due to the mischief of a bothersome neighbour, Michael was charged at East Maitland Court House with selling liquor after hours. A witness testified that a young man was seen drinking in an old forge at the back of the pub 'where dancing and fiddling was going on'. Michael explained that the young man was his brother-in-law, Michael **Kennedy**, employed by Mr **Dickson** of Bolwarra. The matter was dismissed.

An enterprising businessman, Michael placed an advertisement in the local newspaper inviting the public to attend a ball at his public house for New Year's Night, 1861.<sup>9</sup> Unfortunately, the business did not prosper, and he was declared bankrupt later that year.<sup>10</sup> Determined to find work to support his family, Michael moved to Toowoomba in southeast Queensland where he was employed as a labourer. He must have sustained a serious injury because he was admitted to Toowoomba Hospital with a condition described as 'mortification of the leg.' Also known as gangrene, it is defined as 'the death of body tissue due to a lack of blood flow or a serious bacterial infection.'<sup>11</sup> Michael was treated by Dr **Burke** and Dr Frederick **Sachse** for five days, but he died, aged 33, on 19 February 1865.

Michael's death certificate lists his parents but makes no reference to his wife or children. His funeral service was conducted by Father Fulgentius **Hodebourg**, the first resident priest for the Darling Downs. He was buried in the Catholic section of Toowoomba cemetery with the undertaker, L. **Burbeck**, as witness.<sup>12</sup>

Mary Ann was now a widow with five children whose ages ranged from ten years to twelve months. Sometime later she moved to Sydney with all five of her children. She was listed in the 1879 *Sands Directory* as Mrs A. **McCue**, dressmaker, living at 79 Riley Street, East Sydney.<sup>13</sup> When she passed away on 28 January 1879, her daughter, Jane (Mary Jane), also residing at this address, provided the details for her death certificate. Mary Ann had been suffering from pneumonia for seven weeks. She was survived by her son and four daughters.

Mary Ann was buried on 31 January 1879 at the now defunct Petersham Cemetery, also known as the Catholic Churchyard of St Thomas Becket, at Lewisham.<sup>14</sup> In a cruel twist of fate, daughter, Annie, died the following year on the anniversary of her mother's death. Aged 21, she suffered with acute peritonitis for two days.<sup>15</sup> In 1926/7, the burials in this cemetery were moved to Rookwood Catholic Mortuary Station No 3



The Lodge at Toowoomba Cemetery ca.1886. (John **Devine** and wife, Sarah, lived there when photograph was taken. Item is held by John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland. Public Domain. <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=12656947>

at the intersection of East Street and Weeroona Road.<sup>16</sup> Despite exhaustive research I have been unable to locate information concerning the fate of Jane, Sarah, Catherine or Timothy.

<sup>1</sup> <https://freepages.rootsweb.com/~maddenps/genealogy/GALWAYEM.htm>

<sup>2</sup> <https://registers.nli.ie/registers/vtls000634711#page/1/mode/1up>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.tipperarylive.ie/news/home/378101/details-of-tipperarys-famine-tragedy-is-revealed.html>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.independent.ie/regional/wexford/new-ross-news/nenagh-historians-look-back-at-famine/27459890.html>

<sup>5</sup> *Bell's Life in Sydney and Sporting Reviewer* 24 November 1849

<sup>6</sup> *NSW Government Gazette* 24 November 1849 Issue No 158 Supplement

<sup>7</sup> [https://dictionaryofsydney.org/entry/hyde\\_park\\_barracks](https://dictionaryofsydney.org/entry/hyde_park_barracks)

<sup>8</sup> *Maitland Mercury and Hunter River General Advertiser* 2 September 1854

<sup>9</sup> *Maitland Mercury and Hunter River General Advertiser* 26 January 1861

<sup>10</sup> *Sydney Morning Herald* 1 June 1861

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.thornber.net/medicine/html/medgloss.html>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.familyhistory.bdm.qld.gov.au/1865/C/109>

<sup>13</sup> <https://archives.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/nodes/view/1900231>

<sup>14</sup> NSW BDM 279/1879

<sup>15</sup> NSW BDM 177/1880

<sup>16</sup> <https://austcemindex.com/cemetery?cemid=1970>

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## A YOUNG MAN'S EXTRAVAGANCE

*Pam Moodie*

‘Oh, Montague, how did it ever come to this? Bankrupt again!’

Montague Ferdinand **Levey**, you were born with a silver spoon in your mouth. The youngest son, and second youngest child of the nine children of Montague and Catherine **Levey**, of Wynyard Square, Sydney, NSW, you no doubt had a privileged upbringing. You lived in a grand home, a splendid three-storey mansion, with maids and servants to do your bidding. You never lacked food or decent clothing, or a soft pillow and warm blanket for your bed at night.

When you were born on 7 July 1870,<sup>1</sup> your father, Montague senior, was a prominent businessman and philanthropist who owned numerous tracts of prime real estate in the city of Sydney, as well as some major country towns. He was connected with many charitable institutions, and strongly believed in the intellectual and social advancement of his fellow citizens.<sup>2</sup> One can only assume, therefore, that he provided a good education for you and your siblings.

Things changed somewhat, when your father passed away in 1884.<sup>3</sup> You were an impressionable thirteen years old. Less than twelve months later you found yourself on the ship, *Parramatta*, along with your mother, two youngest sisters and a maid, sailing for London.<sup>4</sup> Your five older sisters were all married, and your only brother was eighteen years old, apparently capably fending for himself. You probably weren’t too enamoured with the prospect of spending the next few weeks on a ship with only female company, but you must have been used to this situation, and no doubt the journey was a bit of an adventure for you.

It seems, your mother had no intentions of returning to Australia, as she had sold the family home and all its contents<sup>5</sup> prior to departure. Your childhood home was about to become known as ‘The Grand Hotel’.<sup>6</sup> Your mother eventually took up residence in the exclusive area of

Bayswater, London.<sup>7</sup> She was possibly keen to broaden the education of her youngest children. You probably toured the Continent.

However, within a few years, you had returned, alone, to Australia. What did you learn in your time overseas? Obviously, not to be thrifty or astute with your finances! In the last months of 1891, you were 21 years old, living in a hotel in Melbourne, unemployed, and bankrupt.<sup>8</sup>

## VICTORIA POLICE GAZETTE.

[FEBRUARY 17, 1892.

MONTAGUE F. LEVY is charged, on warrant at the instance of Messrs. Littlewood and Young, jewellers, 240 Collins-street, Melbourne, with quitting Victoria within four months before sequestration of his estate, viz., the 24th November, 1891. Description:—Jew, about 22 years of age, short and slight build, fair hair, very sallow complexion, habitual stoop, very wrinkled forehead when contracted, as it often is in an ordinary conversation, either grey or blue eyes; dresses well; great smoker of cigarettes; frequents races. Supposed to have gone to Sydney. There are three other warrants issued against him for breaches of the insolvency law.—O.1488. 16th February, 1892.

Extract from the *Victorian Police Gazette*

*New South Wales Police Gazette & Weekly Record of Crime* (Sydney: f1860-1930/We 2 March 1829 (Issue No 9)/ Page 77

The problem, of course, was your father's estate. When he died it was valued at just under £107,000. By today's statistics, that's roughly \$18,000,000! On coming of age at 21, suddenly you had access to your share of the inheritance — or at least, a regular income from such, which was valued at £18,000.<sup>9</sup> The world was your oyster, but you did not act shrewdly. You enjoyed a life of luxury, and within a couple of years, the money was gone. Wine, women, hotels, and racehorses.

It wasn't long before a rather shady character befriended you and began to lend you money. John I. **Saqui** was a Melbourne bookmaker who not only paid some of your debts, but also sold you racehorses.<sup>10</sup> He was at least twenty years older than you and was probably aware of your inheritance. It was he who travelled with you to Sydney, and who encouraged you to press your sister into buying your interest of the inheritance — for a substantial amount less than its true value. Most of this money went to pay off **Saqui** and other debts, but you had a small amount left. This transaction became a matter for the courts a few years later, when you were again bankrupt.<sup>11</sup>

But at the time, you had great plans of going into business (with Mr **Saqui**), manufacturing cigars.<sup>12</sup> It seems that you did own a tobacconist in Collins Street, Melbourne, for a while.<sup>13</sup> Whatever business you went into, it does not seem to have flourished, because in 1894, you were back in court, bankrupt, and attempting to annul the agreement you had made with your sister three years earlier, and regain your share of your father's inheritance. Unfortunately for you, after much deliberation, this case was dismissed.<sup>14</sup> So, what does a desperate young 24-year-old do, to get himself back on his feet? Marry into money? Perhaps.

On 31 May, the following year, you married Sarah Minnie **Lewis**,<sup>15</sup> the youngest daughter of George **Lewis**, a draughtsman, electoral officer and philanthropist in Sydney. He had to

have money! Had you turned your life around? Perhaps. You and Sarah, known as Minnie, headed back to Melbourne where you built up your credentials as a financial agent. For the next thirty years you and Minnie lived in Melbourne, where you worked at different times as a company promoter, tobacconist, and financial agent.<sup>16</sup>

More than likely, you were always on the lookout for ways to make a quick buck, possibly having learnt a few tricks from your old friend, Mr **Saqui**, (who met an untimely death, in 1916, from the effects of having his head bashed in during a home robbery). It is likely that you, Montague, kept up your shady dealings, or maybe Minnie managed to rein you in. Perhaps you did settle into the working man's life, happily married and making an honest living. Minnie stayed with you for thirty years, the dutiful housewife, but in 1925 she was living in Potts Point, Sydney, and you were in Albury, NSW.

By then you were a mining broker and became associated with the Nationalist Party. Were you happy, at this stage of your life — 55 years old, living alone in Albury? Were you satisfied with how you had lived your life? Your only sibling still alive was Maria, from whom you were probably estranged, as she was the one to whom you had sold your inheritance.

And here you are, January 1930, filing once more for bankruptcy.<sup>17</sup> Why did this repeatedly occur? Were you solely to blame? Who took responsibility for you when your father passed away? Your mother had obviously not been entirely happy with her life in Sydney. She was keen to see her youngest daughters married well; one married an Italian Count. Did any of your siblings offer to take you under their wing when you returned to Australia, while you were still underage? It would appear not.

Your life may or may not have been different had your father not passed away when he did. In a few short months we hear of your own passing.<sup>18</sup> Your father had more than 300 people attend his funeral.<sup>19</sup> How many will be there to mourn you?

NOTE: Montague Ferdinand **Levey** was the brother of my great-grandmother, Marie **Goldring**. She was the sister who bought his inheritance.

<sup>1</sup> Australian Birth Index, reg 1917

<sup>2</sup> Trove, *Sydney Evening News*, 10 May 1884

<sup>3</sup> Australian Death Index, reg 931

<sup>4</sup> Trove, *The Daily Telegraph*, Friday, 20 March 1885

<sup>5</sup> Trove, *The Daily Telegraph*, Saturday, 16 August 1884

<sup>6</sup> Trove, *The Daily Telegraph*, Saturday, 23 May 1885

<sup>7</sup> British Newspaper Archives, *British Australasian*, Wednesday, 12 February 1890

<sup>8</sup> Trove, *Melbourne Advocate*, Saturday, 12 December 1891

<sup>9</sup> Trove, *The Australian Star*, Friday, 15 June 1894

<sup>10</sup> Trove, *The Herald*, Melbourne, Tuesday, 15 March 1892

<sup>11</sup> Trove, *Daily Telegraph*, Sydney, Thursday, 14 June 1894

<sup>12</sup> Trove, *Evening News*, Sydney, Friday, 15 June 1894

<sup>13</sup> Trove, *Argus*, Melbourne, 29 December 1891

<sup>14</sup> Trove, *Evening News*, Sydney, 20 June 1894

<sup>15</sup> Trove, *Sydney Morning Herald*, Saturday, 15 June 1895

<sup>16</sup> Australian Electoral Rolls, 1903-1980

<sup>17</sup> Trove, *Sydney Morning Herald*, Friday 21 February 1930

<sup>18</sup> Trove, *Albury Banner*, Friday, 13 June 1930

<sup>19</sup> Trove, *The Daily Telegraph*, Monday, 12 May 1884

## LONDON ALMSHOUSES

*Peter Day*

As I made my way up my family tree, it became apparent that my education had been deficient. I encountered the term ‘almshouse’ for the first time. I had heard of the workhouse or poor house, but not the almshouse; confusingly, almshouses are sometimes described as poorhouses.

An almshouse, I soon found out, was a form of charitable housing, usually targeted at poor, elderly persons. They have existed in England since the 10<sup>th</sup> century AD. Initially, they were founded by religious orders; later, by craft and trade associations, and later still, by wealthy benefactors. Residents often received some form of allowance from the trustees of the almshouse as well as their housing. Today, there are about 2,000 almshouses in the United Kingdom, providing 30,000 dwellings for 36,000 residents.

The first almshouse I encountered was through my 4x great-grandfather, Rowland **Muckleston** (1764-1838). A Londoner all his life, Rowland seems to have been a colourful character. Variously, a warehouseman, linen draper or linen cutter by trade, he had three wives and nine children. Rowland seems to have struggled financially. In 1809, the accounts of St Swithin’s Church, London Stone, London, where Rowland was churchwarden, were twice discovered to have shortfalls, of one shilling and one penny, and then £21/10/8, and Rowland was asked to repay these amounts. That he was churchwarden was a bit surprising, because the births of some of his children had been registered in non-conformist registers.



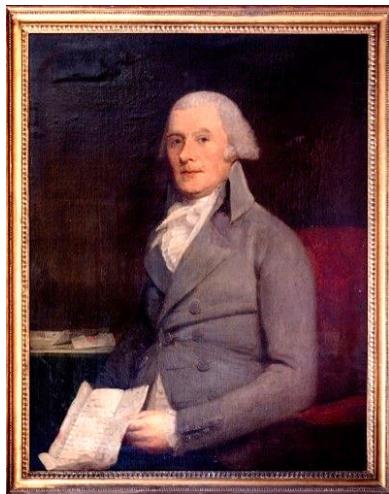
Hopton's Almshouses 2010

In 1811, he became bankrupt<sup>1</sup> and was committed to Newgate Prison until his debts were repaid.<sup>2</sup> How long Rowland stayed in Newgate is unknown, but a final dividend was paid to his creditors in 1813,<sup>3</sup> so presumably he was released around then. Unsurprisingly, Rowland had little funds for his old age, and he spent his final years in Hopton’s Almshouses, Hopton Street, Southwark, London, where he died in March 1838. Rowland’s third wife, Ann née **Cooper**, outlived him, dying in 1840. It seems Rowland may have separated from Ann before entering Hopton’s Almshouses, which were originally for men only. Ann died at 64 Blackfriars Road, Southward, not far from the Almshouses.

Hopton’s Almshouses<sup>4</sup> were built in 1746-1749 by the trustees of Charles **Hopton**’s estate at a cost of about £2,700; the first occupants were admitted in 1752. Charles was a wealthy member of the Guild of Fishmongers; the bulk of his estate was devoted to the almshouses. Substantially renovated in 1988, his almshouses are still in existence and still being used as almshouses.<sup>5</sup>

The second almshouse I encountered was on the other side of the ledger. Thomas **Bailey** (1752-1828), my 4x great-granduncle, was a London china, pottery, ceramics and glass dealer who had some prestigious clients, including the sixth Earl of Coventry, King George III and other members of the royal family. In 1822, he built Trinity Asylum at Acre Lane, Brixton.<sup>6</sup> Thomas

endowed it with £2,000 in 1824, when it commenced operations. It received a bequest of a further £500 under his will, in which Thomas bequeathed a further £3,586 to various religious causes.<sup>7</sup> Thomas's wife, Mary née **Tovey**, died in 1835; she bequeathed £1,000, and the residue of her estate, some £237, to the Asylum.



Thomas Bailey



Mary Bailey née Tovey



John Illidge

Initially, Trinity Asylum had twelve apartments for spinsters; another two apartments were added in 1829. Applicants could not be Socinians,<sup>8</sup> Arians or, God forbid, Papists, so were required to be Anglicans or other Protestants who accepted the doctrine of the Holy Trinity\* (hence the Asylum's name). They had to have an income of at least £20 per annum; the Asylum gave them a further £10 and twelve sacks of coal annually. Inmates had to abide by a detailed set of rules, including attending church twice a Sunday in summer and at least once in winter. Fortunately, St Matthew's Church was only a short walk away, just around the corner.

Under the Asylum's Deed of Endowment, Thomas appointed twelve trustees to the governing trust, but remained in sole control. One of those initial trustees was his nephew, John **Illidge** (1778-1846). John, my 3x great-granduncle, was a stockbroker who was elected one of two Sheriffs of London for 1834-5. He seems to have been close to Thomas, who was childless. On Thomas's death in 1828, John became Treasurer and, in effect, Chairman, of the trustees, and remained so until he died.



Trinity Homes, 2024

Like Hopton's Almshouses, Trinity Asylum, now called Trinity Homes, is still in existence and still serving its original purpose. Its bicentenary has just been celebrated with a photographic exhibition at the Lambeth Archives in Brixton, and an accompanying book, by Jim **Grover**, an English social-documentary photographer.<sup>9</sup>

There was a family link between these two almshouses. One of Rowland **Muckleston**'s children, by his first wife, Sarah née **Turner** (c1763-1807), was Harriet Mason **Muckleston** (1790-1884); Harriet was present at his death, and possibly nursed him in his final illness.

Harriet married Thomas **Illidge** (1771-1847) in 1819; she was his second wife. Thomas was John **Illidge**'s brother.

\*Some of Thomas **Bailey**'s requirements will seem strange to a modern ear. After all, not even Papists are required to go to church twice on Sundays! But, both he and Mary were undoubtedly pious Anglicans who reflected some of the prejudices of their times; and, both had taken to heart, the biblical maxim, '...faith, if it hath not works, is dead, ...' (James 2.17, King James Version).

<sup>1</sup> 'Bankrupts', *The National Register*, London, 20 January 1811, p40.

<sup>2</sup> Ancestry.com, *London, England, Newgate Calendar of Prisoners, 1785-1853* [database on-line], Piece 18: 1810 Dec 1811 Oct, p251.

<sup>3</sup> *The London Gazette*, London, England, 12 January 1813, p124.

<sup>4</sup> Paul **Farmer**, Wikipedia Commons,

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Hopton\\_Almshouses\\_Hopton\\_Street\\_London\\_-\\_geograph.org.uk\\_-\\_1730068.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Hopton_Almshouses_Hopton_Street_London_-_geograph.org.uk_-_1730068.jpg), retrieved 30 June 2024.

<sup>5</sup> 'Hopton's Almshouses', *Almshouses of London*, <http://www.ezitis.myzen.co.uk/hopton.html>, retrieved 30/6/2024.

<sup>6</sup> Unless otherwise noted, material (including photographs) on Trinity Asylum, Thomas **Bailey**, Mary **Tovey** and John **Illidge** was sourced from Jim **Grover**'s *Behind the Blue Doors—The Bicentenary*, op. cit.

<sup>7</sup> See also The National Archives, Kew, London, 'Will of Thomas **Bailey** of Saint Paul's Church Yard, City of London' 5 April 1828, PROB 11/1738/344.

<sup>8</sup> Socinianism is a Nontrinitarian Christian belief system. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Socinianism>.

<sup>9</sup> See also Jim **Grover** Photography Behind the Blue Doors, Photo story and exhibition, Lambeth Archives, Brixton Hill, London 2024, <http://www.jimgroverphotography.com/behind-the-blue-doors>, accessed 19/4/2024.

## THE CHANGING FORTUNES OF JOHN WILD

*Barbara Simpson*

John **Wild**, my 2x great-grandfather, was born about 1830, the son of William Henry **Wild** and Elizabeth **Bedford**. The exact details of his birth are not known. His two oldest siblings were born in Adwick Le Street in Yorkshire in England; his two younger siblings were born in Brierley, Yorkshire, but the middle children including John were born across the County border in Nottinghamshire.

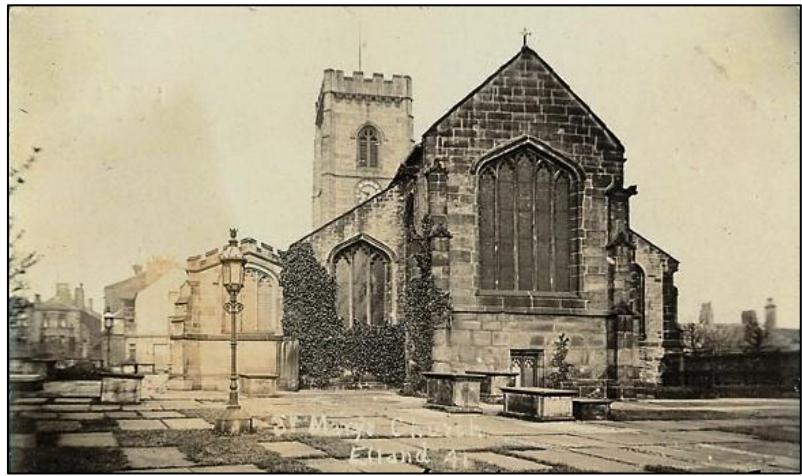
In the 1840s, the family became part of the movement from agricultural areas to the industrial areas of Lancashire and West Yorkshire, in this instance, Huddersfield. The 1851 Census found 20-year-old John as a servant to innkeeper and brewer, William **Wilkinson** at Birkby, Huddersfield.<sup>1</sup>

1851. Marriage solemnized at Elland Church, in the Parish of Galgate, in the County of York							
When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
89 June 8	John Wild Jane Mosley	21 19	Bachelor Spinster	Farmar	Fistby Fistby	William Wild Thomas Mosley	Farmar Rathorper -layer
Married in the Church at Elland according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by _____ or after _____ by me, _____							
This Marriage was solemnized between us.	John Wild Jane Mosley	21 19	X mark X mark	in the Presence of us.	James Beetham	James Beetham	D. Simpso

John was still only 21 years old when on 8 June 1851, he married 19-year-old Jane **Moseley** from Cheshire, who had also been a servant to William **Wilkinson**. The ceremony was performed at Elland in the Parish of Halifax, in the same Church where John's two eldest siblings had been married earlier.<sup>2</sup>

John, Jane, and their infant daughter, Annie, decided to follow John's two oldest siblings and emigrate to Victoria, Australia. After leaving

England on 5 April 1854, they arrived in Melbourne on the ship, *Africa*, on 23 June 1854. The *Africa* was a 1,435-tonne vessel and brought 21 saloon and 319 intermediate and steerage passengers to Australia.<sup>3</sup>



St Mary's Church, Elland, Yorkshire, England.

FORM OF PASSENGER LIST.							
Ship's Name.	Master's Name.	Tons by Register.	Aggregate number of super- ficial feet in the several cabin compartments, and kept for Storage Passengers.	Total number of Statute Adults, exclusive of Mas- ters, Officers, and Pass- sengers, the Ship can le- gally carry.	Where bound.		
<i>Africa</i>	<i>Henry Smith</i>	1435	<del>5355</del> 5355	358½	<i>Melbourne to Sydney</i>		
<p>I hereby certify, that the Provisions actually laden on board this Ship, according to the requirements of the Passengers' Act, are sufficient for <u>357</u> Passengers, computed according to the Act.</p> <p>Date <u>April 5, 1854</u></p> <p><i>Henry Smith</i> Master.</p>							
NAMES AND DESCRIPTIONS OF PASSENGERS.							
Port of Embarkation.	Names of Passengers.	Adults. M. F.	Children be- tween 14 & 1 M. F.	Infants un- der 12 years old	Profession, Occupa- tion, or Calling of Passengers.	English. Adults. Between 14 and 1 Infants. Scotch. Adults. Between 14 and 1 Infants. Irish. Adults. Between 14 and 1 Infants. Other Parts. Adults. Between 14 and 1 Infants. Port at which Pas- sengers have Con- tracted to Land.	
<u>LIVERPOOL.</u>							
4908	Mary Black	21			Spinster Sailor	1	<i>Melbourne</i>
4914	Thomas Sydster	35			Farmer	1	
	Rich? Ellingham	32			Housewife		
	George Bideall	22					
4915	John Wild	23			James	1	
	Jane Wild	22			Wife	1	
	Infant				Mary	1	

Unfortunately, in the appalling conditions that existed in Richmond Flat, Melbourne, at that time, Jane died on 19 May 1855,<sup>4</sup> and was buried in the Old Melbourne General Cemetery.<sup>5</sup>

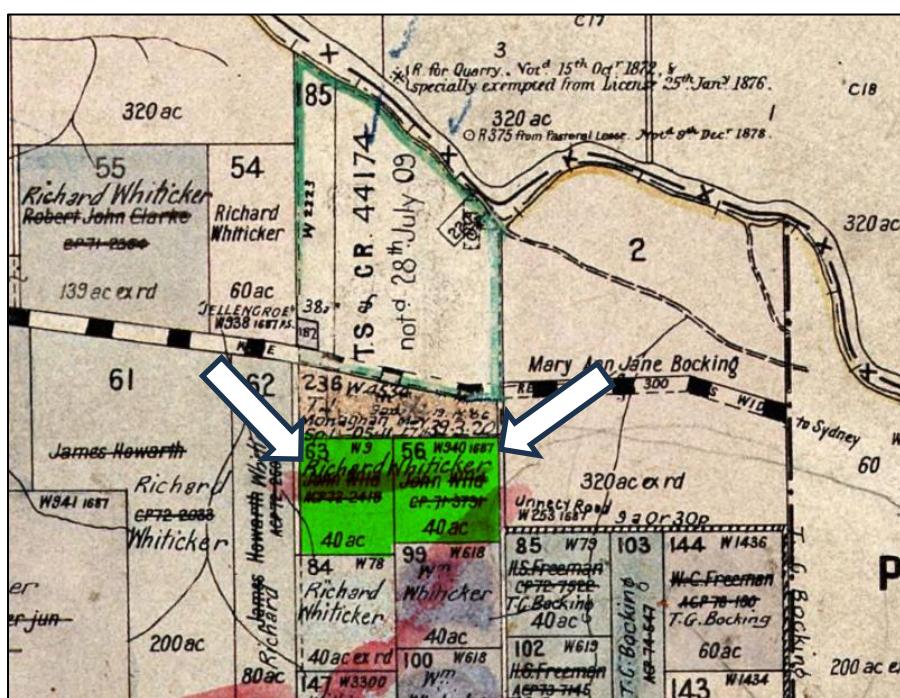
John and his daughter, Annie, moved to Sydney, possibly on the coastal vessel, *City of Melbourne*, in March 1865. It was in Sydney that they met Ann **Bushnell**. Ann **Bushnell** née **Morrison**'s birth details are even more opaque than John's. She had arrived in Western Australia as Ann **Morrison**. It is unclear whether she came with the family of Zebulon and Beatrice **Green** on the ship, *Tartar*, in 1863, or had merely met them on the voyage, but however they had met, the **Greens** were witnesses to Ann's marriage at St John's Church, Albany, WA on 8 Sep 1864.<sup>6</sup> Ann had married a former convict, William Augustus **Bushnell**, but the couple separated almost immediately. Ann, although pregnant, went to Sydney, and William was recorded as leaving Western Australia bound for South Australia.

Ann was 22 years old when she was admitted to the Sydney Benevolent Asylum on 7 June 1865, where she gave birth to a daughter, Margaret Ann **Bushnell**, on 15 Aug 1865. They were discharged on 14 October 1865.<sup>7</sup>

SBA public database					
Date of Admission	Date of Discharge	Surname	Given Name	Age	Notes
	14 Oct 1865	BUSHNELL	Margaret Ann	8w	
27 Sep 1865		BUSHNELL	Margaret Ann		Child of Ann Bushnell, born 15 Aug 1865
	14 Oct 1865	BUSHNELL	Ann	22	
7 Jun 1865		BUSHNELL	Ann	22	S - Steamer from Melbourne, married

John **Wild**, Ann **Bushnell**, and the two girls, left Sydney for the rural area between Gundagai and Wagga Wagga. From the information on birth certificates for their children, electoral rolls, and the Postal Directory, the family were at Hillas Creek from 1867 onwards, in South Gundagai in 1868/9, and a locality known as Jellengrooe from 1870 to 1876.

On 12 October 1871, after paying a deposit of £10, John took up a Conditional Purchase 71/3731 of 40 acres Portion 56 in the Parish of Mundarlo. On 9 May the following year, John took up a second Conditional Purchase 72/2419 on a 40-acre plot Portion 63 adjoining the first purchase. It is noted that these two lots, Portions 56 and 63 respectively, were bounded on the north by a limestone reserve. (Refer to map below.)<sup>8</sup>



It is not clear whether John selected the properties because of the limestone source or took advantage of it after the purchase, but however that circumstance had occurred, John became a limeburner, which was his occupation for the rest of his working days. The location of the property also had the advantage of being on the main road at the time between Gundagai and Wagga Wagga.

Lime was a major constituent in mortar and became a highly sought after commodity. The

process involves quarrying limestone and bringing it to a place or kiln where it can be burnt. The product is then known as quicklime. Apart from a steady source of limestone, the process also requires a local supply of fuel. The most likely form of John's operation would have been the simple form of burning, known as 'heap burning'. This method requires a lesser knowledge of skills and equipment compared to larger operations using pits or kilns.

However, in February 1876, John had to make his oath that he was unable to meet his liabilities, as he was unable to work due to illness. At the time he had a wife and seven children to support. His estate, comprising a cart and harness, furniture, a plough and harrow, and tools of trade, all valued at a total of £23, was placed under voluntary sequestration. His liabilities, however, totalled £70. The assets were sold at auction for only £10/9/4, which barely covered the legal and auction charges. The two Conditional Purchase properties were eventually sold to Richard **Whiticker** for the sum of £100 on 4 Jun 1888.<sup>9</sup>

Despite his financial problems, John was involved in supporting the education of his children. John was a School Board member for the Hillas Creek Provisional School, where he witnessed inventories of school equipment following the departure of two separate teachers. He was also a signatory on a petition to reclassify the Hillas Creek School from a Provisional School to a full Public School, which was rejected. He had five children of school age at that time.<sup>10</sup>

From the evidence of electoral rolls, John and Ann had moved into Wagga Wagga from 1892 to 1894. They never married but they had nine children together. In later life Ann was referred to as **Mrs Wild**. Ann died, aged 53, on 8 May 1893,<sup>11</sup> and was buried from their residence in Best Street, Wagga Wagga in the Methodist Section of the Wagga Wagga Monumental Cemetery.

After the death of Ann, John moved out of Wagga, apparently staying with one or other of his children at either Yabtree Station or at Tarcutta. He died in the Wagga Wagga Hospital on 15 July 1905.<sup>12</sup> His obituary in the *Wagga Wagga Advertiser* of 18 July recorded his occupation as a limeburner and acknowledged his long life in the Hillas Creek and Wagga Districts. He was also buried in the Methodist Section of the Wagga Wagga Monumental Cemetery, but sadly, not adjacent to Ann.

<sup>1</sup> 1851 Census/H0107-2295/Huddersfield/folio 676/page 33

<sup>2</sup> GRO BMD Records/Halifax/vol 22/page 146

<sup>3</sup> Victorian PRO VPRS 947/P0000 Jul – Sep 1854 page 138

<sup>4</sup> Victoria BDM 1855/2414

<sup>5</sup> Findagrave.com/memorial/240187907/jane-wild

<sup>6</sup> WA BDM Albany 1864/2185

<sup>7</sup> Sydney Benevolent Asylum/ Admissions and Discharges

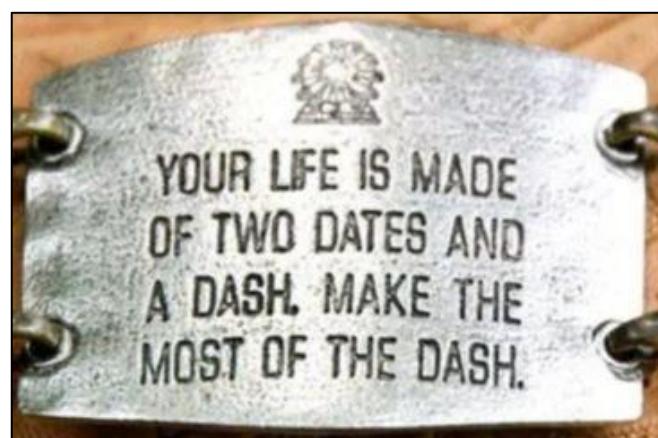
<sup>8</sup> NSW Historical Map Viewer/Parish of Mundarlo

<sup>9</sup> NSW State Archives/Insolvency Index/12775

<sup>10</sup> NSW State Archives/Schools/Hillas Creek/Administration File/5/16270-1

<sup>11</sup> NSW BDM 1893/14364 Wagga Wagga

<sup>12</sup> NSW BDM 1905/10836



## AN UNTIMELY DEATH

*Lyndall Nairn*

The Military Barracks, Parramatta, early morning, 16 July 1831.

Bridget wrapped her scarf tightly around her neck and stumbled towards the Parramatta River. After a restless night, she had to get out of the house. Her mother's sobbing had gone on for hours, accompanied by baby Margaret's constant crying.

Even though she was only eleven years old, Bridget felt responsible as the oldest child, so she had done what she could to comfort her mother and given the baby some milk. Just like her brother, John, and her two younger sisters, Bridget had been stunned yesterday evening when a soldier came to the house to tell their mother that her husband had just died. Bridget still found it hard to understand how a grown man could choke on his dinner.

As she approached the river, Bridget could see the early morning mist rising. If only her troubles could lift and disappear like the mist. The winter in New South Wales was not as cold as in Ireland, but it was cold enough to chill the heart, especially in the light of yesterday's terrible news. Bridget shivered, and again she thought, how could her father have been so careless to choke while eating his dinner in the mess hall? Parents don't do that!

Her mother had been quite undone by her husband's sudden death. She had wrung her hands and wailed,

'What will become of us? We have no money and no hope. I'm not well enough to survive that long voyage home. You children will have to go to the orphanage because I can't look after you by myself. How will we manage? Soon the consumption will take me, and then you children will be abandoned. There'll be nobody in this God-forsaken hole to look after you.'

Her mother had repeated this litany until she had eventually passed out. All Bridget *could* do was cover her mother with a blanket and warm some milk for the baby.

Now in the early morning light, Bridget went over the grisly details in her mind, as she tried to come up with a solution to the family's dilemma. Surely, the wives of the officers in her father's regiment would help. Could she go to Reverend **Marsden**? Bridget had seen him leading services at St John's Church, so he would probably conduct her father's funeral. Then what should they do after the funeral? Under their changed circumstances, they couldn't go to India with her father's regiment, so where would they go? The idea of the orphanage filled Bridget with dread, but who else could help them? She had heard of a Benevolent Society that assisted people in need; would they understand her family's misfortune and her mother's serious health problems?



Parramatta Police Barracks c1860.

Building commenced in 1818 and completed in 1820. It served as barracks for British regiments stationed here in convict days and was used by the Police Department from 1862. It is now the oldest military building in Australia.

Source of photo: Museum of the Royal New South Wales Lancers. Available at [www.lancers.org.au](http://www.lancers.org.au)

Bridget had no answers to these questions, but at least she had come up with a few ideas. She felt a little warmth coming from the rising sun, so she squared her shoulders, adjusted her scarf, and turned back towards the barracks.

\*\*\*

The facts behind the story indicate a broad pattern of hardship and loss. My 3x great-grandfather, Patrick **Doyle**, a private in the 57<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot, died suddenly in the Parramatta Barracks on 15 July 1831. He was aged 35.<sup>1</sup> His wife, Ellen **Dwyer**, died of consumption (tuberculosis) in 1836. She was also aged 35. She was buried in the Devonshire Street Cemetery, Sydney.<sup>2</sup> She left five orphans.

Shortly before she turned twenty,<sup>3</sup> Bridget **Doyle** married Robert **Campbell**, a ticket-of-leave man, in 1840. They were married at St Thomas Anglican Church in Mulgoa at the foot of the Blue Mountains. They lived nearby at Luddenham until 1843, when they moved to Burrundulla, south of Mudgee. Bridget and Robert had twelve children, ten of whom survived to adulthood. Bridget died in 1863, aged 43, when her youngest child was just two years old.<sup>4</sup>

After her mother died, Bridget may have been caring for all her younger siblings, but she was certainly looking after Margaret, her youngest sister, because Bridget and her husband Robert were the witnesses at Margaret's wedding when she married James **Pauling** in Mudgee in 1849.<sup>5</sup> Unfortunately, tuberculosis dogged the family through three generations. Margaret, my 2x great-grandmother, died of tuberculosis in 1866, aged 34, leaving five young children.<sup>6</sup> One of them, her son James **Pauling**, also died of tuberculosis in 1883, aged 27.<sup>7</sup> This series of untimely deaths makes me appreciate modern medicine because it has protected us from some of the terrible challenges that confronted our 19<sup>th</sup> century ancestors who pioneered the settlement of Australia.

<sup>1</sup> Death Record of Patrick **Doyle** died 15 July 1831, Parramatta, NSW. Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages, NSW, 1314/1831 V18311314 15.

<sup>2</sup> Keith A. **Johnson** and Malcolm R. **Sainty**, Sydney Burial Ground 1819-1901 (Elizabeth and Devonshire Streets) and History of Sydney's Early Cemeteries from 1788. Library of Australia, Sydney, NSW, 2001.

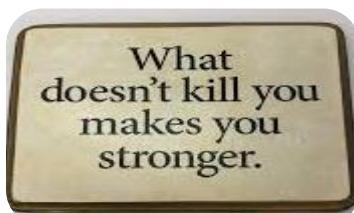
<sup>3</sup> Marriage record of Robert **Campbell** and Bridget **Doyle** married 26 March 1840, Mulgoa, NSW. Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages, NSW, 444/1840 V1840444 24B.

<sup>4</sup> Death record of Bridget **Campbell** (née **Doyle**) died 26 December 1863, Mudgee, NSW. Register of Births, Deaths and Marriages, NSW, 4743/1863.

<sup>5</sup> Marriage record of James **Pauling** and Margaret Annie **Doyle**, married 1849, Mudgee, NSW. Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages, NSW, 390/1849 V1849390 34C.

<sup>6</sup> Death record of Margaret Annie **Pauling** (née **Doyle**) died 14 March 1866, Mudgee, NSW. Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages, NSW, 5231/1866.

<sup>7</sup> Death record of James **Pauling** died 15 November 1883, Mudgee, NSW. Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages, NSW, 9640/1883.



## A LIFE OF LOSS

*Pam Moodie*

Henrietta **Goldring** was ten years old when her family emigrated to Australia in 1852.<sup>1</sup> Born in 1842, in what was then Prussia, she was the eldest child and only daughter of Louis and Esther **Goldring**. The family lived in George Street, Sydney, where her father set up business selling musical instruments.<sup>2</sup> He also became very involved with the Jewish community and the running of the synagogue. Henrietta's life in the years following their emigration would have been a fairly easy one. Louis and Esther employed servants in their home, and Henrietta probably spent her days enjoying the company of friends who had emigrated with them.

In 1861, when Henrietta was nineteen, she married Adolph **Goldman**, a jeweller from West Maitland who had also emigrated from Prussia.<sup>3</sup> Her life then changed somewhat, as the newlyweds went to live in Narrabri, where Adolph established a business as a general storekeeper. The slow-paced country life would have been very different from the hustle and bustle of Sydney's city streets.

Nevertheless, Henrietta settled into her new life as a married woman, and soon became a mother with the birth of Julia, in 1862, followed by Bertha, in 1863;<sup>4</sup> but Henrietta's life was not fated to be constantly filled with happiness. The following year, 1864, she experienced her first encounter with the death of a loved one. Her younger brother Leopold died at the age of thirteen years.<sup>5</sup> This was the beginning of loss for Henrietta. In 1865, Henrietta gave birth to her first son, Albert, but sadly he died later that same year at only five months old.<sup>6</sup>

Henrietta had two little girls to keep her amused, and just over twelve months later, in 1867, a third was born: Harriet.<sup>7</sup> That same year another of Henrietta's brothers passed away, at the age of nineteen.<sup>8</sup> Her second son, another Albert, was born in 1868, followed by Mabel, in 1870,<sup>9</sup> who only lived for twelve months.<sup>10</sup>

Henrietta's life as a mother seemed to be fraught with misery. A dark cloud of doubt and insecurity would have hung over her throughout her pregnancies and first months of her babies' lives. Living in Narrabri, a long way from the comfort and support of her own mother, Henrietta had to find the strength and resilience to carry on.

A third son, Mark, was born in 1872.<sup>11</sup> Perhaps Henrietta felt she needed more help, or reassurance, or to be closer to more expert medical care, or perhaps she just wanted to be with her mother: in 1873, pregnant again, she went with her little brood to stay with her parents in Sydney. It was here that Mark died at 11 months old.<sup>12</sup> Later that year, Henrietta's last child was born at her grandparents' home: a daughter, Lilian.

Henrietta had given birth to eight children in eleven years, three of whom died in infancy. Of course, this was a common occurrence in the 1800s. Statistics tell the cold, hard truth of the viability of births during these times, but the personal stories of grief and loss were agonisingly real to those who had to experience them. Henrietta had finished with childbirth. She had to care for a young family and a husband. No doubt, she would have vigilantly watched her last-born child, counting every passing day of her little life as a relief. Henrietta and Adolph got on with their lives.

But all was not well in the **Goldman** household: more grief was to come. Adolph became ill! As his health declined, the decision was made to employ a manager for their store and the family went to live with Henrietta's parents in Sydney. Possibly on the advice of a medical

practitioner, Adolph travelled alone to New Zealand for treatment and recuperation, but this was unsuccessful, and he passed away in Auckland, far from family and friends, in 1877.<sup>13</sup>

Henrietta was left a widow, at the age of 35, with five children of ages ranging from four to fifteen. She remained in Sydney, and never returned to live in Narrabri, but the business there carried on without her.<sup>14</sup> It must have been profitable, as over the following years, she and her brother, Eugene, were able to invest in more property in the Namoi Valley.

Within a few years of her husband's death, Henrietta was living comfortably at Darling Point. Her children grew and made lives of their own, and soon Henrietta was attending the nuptials of four of them. Six grandchildren came along to provide Henrietta with some joy.

Henrietta's last baby, Lilian, never married and lived with her mother till Henrietta's death in 1931, at the age of 89.<sup>15</sup> However, Henrietta's life in Sydney was not without sorrow. Her parents had died within a year of each other, when Henrietta was not yet fifty. She outlived her remaining three brothers. Before her own death, two of her adult daughters had passed away. She had lived a long life, and was presumably reasonably comfortable financially, but had lived 54 years without her husband, and had buried five of her eight children.

<sup>1</sup> Hamburg Passenger Lists 1850-1934

<sup>2</sup> TROVE: *Empire*, Sydney, 21 August 1856

<sup>3</sup> TROVE, *Maitland Mercury*, 23 January 1861

<sup>4</sup> Australian Birth Index

<sup>5</sup> TROVE: *Sydney Morning Herald*, 17 June 1864

<sup>6</sup> TROVE: *Empire*, 17 November 1865

<sup>7</sup> Australian Birth Index

<sup>8</sup> Australian Death Index

<sup>9</sup> Australian Birth Index

<sup>10</sup> TROVE: *The Australian Israelite*, 22 September 1871

<sup>11</sup> Australian Birth Index

<sup>12</sup> TROVE: *Evening News*, 25 March 1873

<sup>13</sup> TROVE: *Sydney Morning Herald*, 6 April 1877.

<sup>14</sup> TROVE: *Sydney Gazette*, 26 July 1877

<sup>15</sup> Australian Death Index

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## MY ASTUTE CONVICT ANCESTOR

*Pam Moodie*

When I was sixteen, I was living the carefree life of a teenager in the beachside suburb of Cronulla, Sydney, NSW. When I wasn't at school, I was spending time with friends, laughing, joking, talking about boys, and singing along to Carole King's *Tapestry*, or Bill Withers' *Ain't No Sunshine*.

When my great-grandmother, Margaret Sarah **Tuckerman**, was sixteen, she was living in Mudgee where her father was the owner and publican of a hotel. Being the eldest of eight children, she was no doubt kept busy helping her mother with household chores.

When my 4x great-grandmother, Elizabeth **Crouch**, was sixteen, she was in the dock at the Old Bailey, having just been found guilty of grand larceny, awaiting her sentencing. Elizabeth had stolen a shawl, two pairs of stockings, and a pair of shoes from her employer, with whom she had lived for barely three weeks. She was ultimately sentenced to seven years transportation.<sup>1</sup>

Of myself and two ancestors, who had the hardest life? Undoubtedly, it was Elizabeth **Crouch**, my convict ancestor. If I put myself in her shoes, (perhaps stolen!), I cannot imagine how I would have coped with what life threw at her. If I had been sent in a prison ship to the other side of the world when I was sixteen, I doubt that I would have survived.

Little is known of her life prior to her conviction, but she was obviously the kind of person who realised that there were some things she could control in life, and many others that she could not. She seemed to accept her situation and made the best of it. When asked in court if she had any defence, she simply replied, 'I have nothing to say'.<sup>2</sup> Elizabeth was convicted on 19 February 1800, and transported on the *Earl Cornwallis*, arriving in Sydney on 10 June 1801. Of the 288 convicts on the ship, 35 died of dysentery during the journey, and on arrival in Sydney, many were weak and feeble.<sup>3</sup>

If Elizabeth was one of the weak ones, she bounced back fairly quickly. She was assigned to work as a cook for Captain James **Tennant**, who happened to be the captain of the ship which brought her to the colony. It is likely that she met Captain Stephen **Tuckerman** through her employer.<sup>4</sup>

In December 1801, six months after Elizabeth had arrived in the colony, the schooner *Caroline* arrived in Sydney from New Bedford, Massachusetts, under the command of Stephen **Tuckerman**.<sup>5</sup> While he was negotiating for the disposal of his rum cargo, Stephen **Tuckerman** met and spent time with Elizabeth. On 29 March 1802, the *Caroline* departed Sydney for its return journey to New Bedford. The ship never reached its destination. It was wrecked off the coast of Chile, with all lives lost.<sup>6</sup>

Captain Stephen **Tuckerman** must have fallen for Elizabeth **Crouch**, as he left £500 for her support with Simeon **Lord**, an agent in Sydney.<sup>7</sup> Stephen was probably unaware that Elizabeth was pregnant with his child. On 15 December 1802, Stephen **Tuckerman** was born to Elizabeth **Crouch**, in Sydney.<sup>8</sup> Seventeen-year-old Elizabeth had been in the colony less than two years, and now had a baby to support. She must have been extremely thankful for the money that Stephen had left her, even if she was disappointed that she would never see him again.

Two years later, in 1804, Elizabeth received a conditional pardon.<sup>9</sup> The circumstances of her life at this time are unknown, but she must have been well-behaved. She obviously realised that her life could improve if she stayed on the right side of the law. In 1806, she was living with Robert **Rushworth**, a free settler, who worked as a ship's pilot for the government. She was possibly employed as his cook.<sup>10</sup>

In 1807, Elizabeth married William **Addy**, a convict eleven years her senior, who had 115 acres of land at Portland Head. Perhaps he was not cut out to be a farmer, but he was continually beset with bad luck. His land was prone to flooding, and he had stock stolen on multiple occasions. In 1809 he acquired a liquor license, but still struggled financially. He managed to stay afloat with the allowances that came with his appointment as district constable. William and Elizabeth had no children and he died in January 1812, leaving his holdings to Elizabeth and his stepson.<sup>11</sup>

Elizabeth wasted no time and married Thomas **Ivory** the same year. Thomas had a liquor license, or perhaps adopted Elizabeth's. He was an esteemed trader in Windsor, known for his integrity and mild disposition. Elizabeth's life was improving. However, this marriage also produced no children, and only three years later, in 1815, Thomas **Ivory** died.<sup>12</sup>

Once again Elizabeth took stock of her circumstances and remarried soon after. This time, it was to Edward **Churchill**, who, it seems, had been a convict assigned to Thomas **Ivory**. **Churchill** became a successful farmer with a substantial amount of land at Sackville (possibly acquired through Elizabeth and her previous husbands). He was about twelve years Elizabeth's senior.<sup>13</sup> Over the subsequent years he developed standing within the community and was well-liked. Elizabeth and Edward were married for nearly forty years, until her death in 1852.<sup>14</sup> Edward died the following year.<sup>15</sup> Elizabeth had no more children; her son, Stephen **Tuckerman** grew up as an only child, and as **Churchill**'s stepson, presumably inherited his holdings.

It was fortuitous that, six months after arriving in Sydney, Elizabeth **Crouch** met Captain Stephen **Tuckerman** and not just any mariner. Although she was seemingly quite stoic, the money that he left her would have been a godsend. Her life would have been very different if his ship had not sunk, although perhaps not totally satisfying, as he had a wife and family in New Bedford.<sup>16</sup> The prospects of Elizabeth's subsequent husbands improved with number, and her life with Edward **Churchill** was probably a relatively happy one. Although she only had one child, her son married and lived nearby, giving Elizabeth thirteen grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren.<sup>17</sup>

Compared to mine, I have no doubt that Elizabeth's life was a hard one, particularly her younger years. But she showed fortitude and apparently was determined to give her only child the best life that she could. Granted, the money that Captain Stephen **Tuckerman** left her improved her fortunes, and perhaps Simeon **Lord** advised her well, but nevertheless, she must have been astute with her dealings, both emotionally and economically.

Thanks to her brief liaison with a ship's captain, the **Tuckerman** descendants today are spread much further afield than New Bedford, Massachusetts. However, it must be acknowledged that



it was the convict Elizabeth **Crouch**, who ensured the name was maintained, and who was the founding mother of the **Tuckerman** family within Australia. My great-grandmother was Margaret Sarah **Tuckerman**. Her daughter, my grandmother, gave me a silver spoon with the initials 'ST' which she said belonged to Stephen **Tuckerman** as a baby.

<sup>1</sup> Proceedings of the Old Bailey, trial account Ref no:t18000219-78

<sup>2</sup> Proceedings of the Old Bailey, trial account Ref no:t18000219-78

<sup>3</sup> Wikipedia, Convict ships – Earl **Cornwallis**

<sup>4</sup> BDA – Elizabeth **Crouch**

<sup>5</sup> Wikipedia *Caroline* (schooner)

<sup>6</sup> TROVE: *NSW Advertiser* 19 May 1805

<sup>7</sup> BDA – Elizabeth **Crouch**

<sup>8</sup> Australian Birth Index, V 180217761a

<sup>9</sup> BDA – Elizabeth **Crouch**

<sup>10</sup> NSW Convict Muster, 1806

<sup>11</sup> Australia Marriage Index. BDA – William **Addy**

<sup>12</sup> Australia Marriage Index. BDA – Thomas **Ivory**

<sup>13</sup> Australian Marriage Index. BDA – Edward **Churchill**

<sup>14</sup> Australia Death Index, Ref V185295838b

<sup>15</sup> Australia Death Index Ref V1853135739b

<sup>16</sup> Massachusetts, US, Town and Vital Records

<sup>17</sup> Australian Marriage and Birth Indexes

## VALÉ RAY COOPER



Members of our Society were saddened to learn of the death of patron and past president of PMDFHS, Ray **Cooper**.

Ray, his wife Joy, and his family came to Wauchope in 1972 when he was appointed as Station Master. He was elected as an Alderman in 1983 to the then Hastings Municipal Council (now Port Macquarie-Hastings Council). He was elected Mayor in 1992 and served in that position until he retired from Council in 1995.

He was very involved in the community and in June 1987, Ray **Cooper** accepted the position of Patron of our Society, then known as Hastings Valley Family History Group. At that time, he was also Chairman of Council's Bicentennial Committee and

supported the publication of the Society's Cemetery Book for the Bicentennial year (1988). At the Society's AGM in June 1989, Ray was elected as President, (and continued as Patron), and at that time he gave some advice on preparing a family history publication which is still valid today:

The bare dates and facts about our forebears need to be accompanied by anecdotes, photographs and illustrations to make them interesting. In setting out our work we should be conscious of the importance of open space, and the natural tendency of the eye to travel from the top left-hand corner of the page down towards the bottom right-hand corner.

He was again elected as President of our Society for the 1990-91 year, and in June 1991, he welcomed speakers and guests to our region's first Family History Seminar which was organised by our Society. Ray enjoyed researching his ancestors. He made some interesting discoveries on that journey and wrote many articles for the Society's journal.

He was passionate about all things historic and was involved with the Maritime Museum (as co-writer of the book, *Sinking of the Wollongbar II*).

He was also involved with Camden Haven Historical Society (as editor and contributor to Pat **Longworth**'s book about ships that worked the coast between the Macleay and Manning Rivers).

While involved with Wauchope Historical Society he served as President, Vice President and Publicity Officer (producing numerous booklets) for many years. When Wauchope Historical Society operated from the former Rawdon Island Church building which had been relocated to outside Timbertown, Ray helped to set up a printing press there to produce publications for local organisations. He also provided assistance by sourcing historic photos and researching records.

Ray was recognised for his dedication and enthusiasm when he was awarded an OAM. In 2010, PMDFHS had an excursion to Crossroads Cemetery, and Ray gave us insights not only into the history of the area, but also into the lives of many of the pioneers of the area. He said

that ‘history is fascinating, and it casts extra light on our family history when we use it to understand some of the pressures that our ancestors experienced.’

Thank you, Ray, for your contributions to our Society ... and to our Port Macquarie-Hastings area.

Rest in Peace

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## VALÉ (MARIA) JULIE ECCLES (1942 – 2024)



(Maria) Julie Eccles (née **Goddard**) was born in Southport, Lancashire, United Kingdom in 1942 and was known to her family and friends as Julie. She was the only child of Arthur and Maria **Goddard**. As a teenager, Julie was good at athletics, excelling in hurdle races and discus throwing. While visiting her friend, Kath, one day Julie met Jim **Eccles**, Kath’s brother, whom she would later marry.

At the age of 16 Julie moved to Liverpool (UK) to start training as a nurse, a career she always wanted, and Jim would ride his motor bike to Liverpool to visit her. Five years later they married before moving, six months later, to Australia where they lived in Fairfield West. Together they raised two children, a girl and a boy, while Julie, with the help of Jim, juggled shift work as a nurse.

Over the years of Julie’s career, she was the matron of the Children’s Ward at Fairfield Hospital, later becoming a community nurse, and then she moved into an administrative role on the hospital board.

In 1976 Julie was asked to set up a paediatric unit in Beirut during the war there and spent six weeks in Beirut with other nurses and doctors. She was also one of the first responders at the Granville train disaster in 1977 and was awarded a medal for her service at that time. Over the years Julie was always at university working on a Bachelor’s degree or Master’s and had one of her theses published.

On retirement, Julie and Jim moved to Port Macquarie where they joined many social groups including the local fly-fishing club, U3A, mixed Probus club and Family History where Julie was an active member for many years. Julie passed away in January 2024 and will be greatly missed by her two children, five grandchildren and her many friends and colleagues.

(Information supplied by son, David Eccles).

Rest in Peace

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## FOOTSTEPS CONTRIBUTIONS

The next edition of *Footsteps* will be published in August 2024. The deadline for contributions will be **15 October 2024**. Members are encouraged to submit stories and articles to [editor@pmdfhs.org.au](mailto:editor@pmdfhs.org.au). Our next issue calls for the theme of '**The Process of Research**'.

Alternatively, have you had any interesting research breakthroughs or funny snippets or what you have found out about your ancestors?

We all enjoy reading about how you tracked down your elusive relatives or about any significant incidents or special activities in which you and your ancestors have been involved.

Articles should be limited to between 1500-1550 words with up to four photos, or up to 1800 words without photos. It is always important when researching to cite your references and sources. When inserting the references or sources in your articles, it is requested that you use numbers i.e., 1,2,3, etc. (not Roman Numerals) and that you place them as 'endnotes' not 'footnotes, positioned at the end of the text'.

Stories that are submitted for publication in *Footsteps* should generally be the work of the author or the contributor submitting the story. If the writing is not the work of the author, please seek permission from the original author where possible, and indicate the source of the work when the article is submitted.

All contributions are subject to copyright unless otherwise indicated and no portion of this journal may be reproduced without written permission of the Society. The views expressed by authors and contributors to *Footsteps* are not necessarily those of the Society.



## SOME HINTS FOR WRITING ARTICLES

### Topics

General – select a story from your family's past about a specific person or group of people.  
Cookbook – Choose a favourite family recipe and write about the family- include the recipe.  
Image – From a family image, person, or subject, write down your thought – include the image.  
Research – Enlarge on a newspaper item, for example, that you found whilst researching.  
Themes – Immigration, how your ancestors arrived, ship, plane, their journey etc.  
Successes – 'rags to riches' such as gold mining, successful farming etc.  
Conflict – just about everyone has a family member who served their country.

### Scope

Try to limit the article to one with no more than two pages - this helps to limit the 'waffle'.

### Sources/References

Add these as endnotes. Some readers may find them useful when doing their research

## Society Membership Fees

	<b>Renewals</b>	<b>New Members*</b>	
	Payable at 1st July each year	1st July to 30th June	1st Jan to 30th June
Single	\$30.00	\$35.00	\$20.00
Family	\$40.00	\$45.00	\$25.00
<i>Footsteps</i> Journal editions—November, February, May, August	4 issues included in Membership fees		
	Subscription is available to Non-Members at \$15.00 for one year.		

**\*Includes a one-off \$5.00 joining fee.**

### **FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH**

The Society will undertake family history research for an initial fee of \$20 for two hours and will include a list of records used, entry into *Footsteps* (where appropriate) and suggestions regarding other resources. There may be an additional fee for further research.

Please make your initial enquiry to the Research Officer at [secretary@pmdfhs.org.au](mailto:secretary@pmdfhs.org.au) and include as many details as possible about the person/family and any other relevant information including sources already researched. Alternatively, enquire via mail and include a business size, stamped, self-addressed envelope to the Research Officer, PO Box 1359, Port Macquarie NSW 2444.

### **INFOEMAIL**

Our Society newsletter, *InfoEmail*, is emailed on a regular basis to members who have provided an email address. Remember to keep your email address up to date so you do not miss out. Please email us if you are not receiving the *InfoEmail*.

If you do not have an email address, but have a computer with internet access, the *InfoEmails* are available on our website at [www.pmdfhs.org.au](http://www.pmdfhs.org.au) to download and read. Journal reviews now have their own separate tab on the left side of the Society's website.

### **RESEARCH ASSISTANCE**

General assistance with family history – local, Australian, and overseas – is available for members and non-members in the Local Studies Room at the Port Macquarie Library. Our volunteers are normally on duty to help on most Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 am to 3 pm, with a break over Christmas.

### **RESEARCH SUPPORT GROUP**

The Research Support Group for members is held at Port Macquarie-Hastings Library, in the Library Meeting Room, from 1 pm to 3 pm each month on the Wednesday following our general meeting.

The topic is advertised in the latest *InfoEmail* and at the most recent General Meeting.

## Publications for Sale

Publication Name	Member Price	Normal Price	Weight
Port Macquarie's Last Convicts; The story of the end of the convict establishment in 1847, 204 pages, soft cover	\$18	\$20	737g
Tile Tales; Stories behind the names on the front wall of the Port Macquarie Swimming Pool, 752 pages, hard cover	\$60	\$60	2kg
Cemetery Trail; Port Macquarie – Hastings Full colour, 224 pages (glove box sized)	\$27	\$30	425g
Can You Remember? Memory Joggers for writing a Life Story (A5 booklet – pink cover – 16pp)	\$3	\$3	25g
Starting Your Family History (A5 booklet – yellow cover – 20pp)	\$3	\$3	30g
Pedigree Chart & Family Group Sheets 1 chart, 16 group sheets (A5 booklet – blue cover – 40pp)	\$5	\$5	54g
Certificates of Freedom Records for PM Convicts: Runaways, Robbers & Incorrigible Rogues (CD-ROM)	\$8	\$12	n/a
Port Macquarie Index to Colonial Secretary's Papers 1796-1825 (CD-ROM)	\$8	\$12	n/a
Harvesting the Hastings – Farming Families (CD-ROM in colour)	\$17	\$20	n/a
Sydney Gaol Records for Port Macquarie Convicts April 1821-1826 (CD-ROM)	\$8	\$12	n/a
General Cemetery Port Macquarie – Transcriptions & Images (CD-ROM)	\$8	\$12	n/a
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However an order form is also available at: **[www.pmdfhs.org.au](http://www.pmdfhs.org.au)** – please complete the order form and send with your payment to: The Secretary, Port Macquarie & Districts Family History Society Inc. PO Box 1359, Port Macquarie NSW 2444.

Cheques and money orders should be made payable to Port Macquarie & Districts Family History Society Inc. Alternatively, please send an email to **secretary@pmdfhs.org.au** to obtain the Society's banking details to direct deposit into our account via the internet. Pre-payment is required; however Local Government Libraries can be invoiced.

# **PORT MACQUARIE & DISTRICTS FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.**

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## **Our Research Home**

Local Studies/Family History Room  
Port Macquarie-Hastings Library  
Corner of Grant and Gordon Streets  
Port Macquarie NSW 2444

## **Our Meeting Room**

CC Mac Adams Music Centre  
Gordon Street  
Port Macquarie NSW 2444  
(between Port Macquarie Olympic Pool and Players Theatre)

## **Port Macquarie & Districts Family History Society is affiliated with:**

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of Family History Societies Inc.



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