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*The objectives of the Society are:
To promote and encourage the study and preservation
of family history, genealogy, heraldry and allied
subjects, and to assist members and others
in research in these areas.*



THE ANCESTRAL SEARCHER



Family History ACT

Vol. 44 No. 3 September 2021

FAMILY HISTORY ACT

Family History ACT is a business name of

The Heraldry and Genealogy Society of Canberra Inc. founded in 1964

Member of the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations; NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies; Associate Member of Scottish Federation of Family History Societies; Family History Federation.

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Honorary Office Bearers 2020-2021

President: Rosemary McKenzie president@familyhistoryact.org.au

Vice-President: Michele Rainger vice-president@familyhistoryact.org.au

Secretary: Cheryl Bollard secretary@familyhistoryact.org.au

Treasurer: Neville Morrison treasurer@familyhistoryact.org.au

Councillors: Anne Beasley 0402 162 827

Deb Hawker

Francine Morrison

Howard Viccars computermgr@familyhistoryact.org.au

Susan Pillans 0402 251 348

Immediate Past President Nick Reddan 02 6257 8755

Non-Committee Posts:

Archivist June Penny 0429 411 942

Bookshop Manager Anne Beasley and Francine Morrison
bookshop@familyhistoryact.org.au

Computer Manager Howard Viccars computermgr@familyhistoryact.org.au

Editor Rosemary McKenzie editor@familyhistoryact.org.au

Education and Events Clare McGuinness and Susan Pillans
registration@familyhistoryact.org.au

Education Room Bookings Robyn Coghlan roomhire@familyhistoryact.org.au

Membership Secretary Robyn Heggen membership@familyhistoryact.org.au

Public Officer June Penny 0429 411 942

Research Manager Jenny Higgins 0429 704 339

Serials Librarian Susan Mann 02 6161 6494

Translation Service Bobby Pinkerton translation@familyhistoryact.org.au

Webmaster Nick Reddan webmaster@familyhistoryact.org.au

Front Cover: *Graham and Elaine with decorated bikes (see story p. 96.)*

Society Library and Headquarters:

ABN: 50 317 924 321

41 Templeton Street, Cook, ACT Telephone: 02 6251 7004

The Secretary, F.H.A.C.T. PO Box 152 Jamison Centre ACT 2614

e-mail: secretary@familyhistoryact.org.au

Webpage: <http://www.familyhistoryact.org.au>

THE ANCESTRAL SEARCHER

Quarterly Journal of Family History ACT*

September 2021

ISSN 0313-251X

Vol. 44 No. 3

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From the President

Rosemary McKenzie

Hello members and readers across the world, via our exchange journal arrangements. I'm really struggling writing this quarter. Who would have thought 18+ months after Covid stormed into our lives it would still be around stronger than ever, and the media still full of all things Covid. Some of our members are experiencing their 6th or is it 7th lockdown, while in Canberra we are into our second lockdown. My usual ability to maintain work/life balance was travel – preferably overseas. Now that option has been forcibly removed, I have to investigate other ways of maintaining my work/life balance.

However, due to the dedication of our Society volunteers FHACT life has continued to flourish, albeit in a very different format to what we would have thought a couple of years ago. Our thanks to the front facing coordinators and team leads for our SIGs, SUGs, MSGs, comms team, newsletter compilers, TAS contributors and library staff; and 'hats off' to our behind-the-scenes volunteers admin (particularly treasurer and secretary), membership team, bookshop, website support, whose jobs do not stop, and in some cases increase because of the new format we are working under. (*Apologies if I have missed your activity, it was not intentional, we have such a wonderfully diverse and interrelated Society providing different member services and support.*)

Since our last journal (in no particular order):

- Our annual *E.M. Fletcher Writing Competition* has closed, and our three judges are wading through the 100+ entries (more than double the entries last year). The winners and shortlisted entries will be announced at a Zoom event on Saturday 9 October – see newsletters and website for more information.
- Our **new website and member management system** went live! After a good year or so of assessment, planning, testing and implementation, the membership data was migrated to the new system. We now have an integrated system with membership, events, bookshop and website pages. Thank you for your patience with any of our teething issues, and if you are still experiencing issues, please contact our membership team.
- In conjunction with the new website, we formally **changed our branding** from HAGSOC to FHACT. Legally we are still HAGSOC and FHACT is a registered business name of HAGSOC.
- Our **Heritage Matters exhibition** in conjunction with ACT Heritage Library, and the associated program of presentations, unfortunately came to a grinding halt after only one week. It was disappointing after all the time and effort our team put into creating a wonderful program and display. But, once we are out of lockdown, watch the newsletters for updates on when the presentations will be rescheduled and for the updated exhibition schedule.

- **A new book**, compiled and published by FHACT, containing the 2020 *E.M. Fletcher Competition* entries has gone on sale for 'pre-print' orders – see the website. The book will be available in the bookshop and online after the 30 September at an increased price.
- The education and events team have been busy and provided us with a 4-weekend course in June on *Writing your Family History*, with a follow up course earlier this month on *Publishing your Family Story*. **Both these courses** were very well attended and attendees provided positive feedback.
- The *Telopea Park School indexing project* wrapped up and the team were commended on their attention to detail, their diligence and perseverance with some challenging handwriting. The index is also available to our members in the FHACT Library.
- Last month ACT Heritage Minister, Rebecca Vassarotti announced that FHACT had received funding for the continuation of two of our Heritage projects from last year. The **Canberra Tracks Augmented Reality** project will continue to develop content on another ten well known Canberra pioneers for the Canberra Tracks scheme. The **Canberra Pioneers** project is an expansion of last year's pilot project to digitise and index part of the Father Brian Maher collection. (Father Brian Maher sadly passed away this year.) Over the next year FHACT will be scanning and indexing around half of the collection, approximately 230 family files.



Thank you to those who responded with articles for this quarter. I know we were competing with authors who were entering the writing competition. My writing prompts didn't 'prompt' too many entries, but Elaine provided a couple of insights into boarding school and childhood dress up experiences. Michele also has provided additional information, from her teaser in the Harbinger, about her Bruhn family connection with the underworld of the 1920s. It is a nice segue into promoting the *Underworld* exhibition currently running at the National Archives of Australia. (When we get out of lockdown.) Ellen, Robyn and Janette, have us travelling virtually to Methuen, Essex, Massachusetts (USA), Bere Alston, Devon (England), and Co. Westmeath (Ireland) respectively – enjoy the armchair travel!

If you are having difficulties contact our Epidemic Officers (who will do their best to redirect you to services and contacts who will be able to assist) talk to your local GP or talk to a friend. Remember we will all get through this unsettling time ... one day at a time. So today I'm going to ... have a walk with friends!.

Bonfires, Fancy Dress and Decorated Bicycles

Elaine Gifford

I have happy memories of growing up in the rural service town of Tailm Bend in South Australia in the late 1940s and early 1950s. Although the town probably had under 2000 people, it had developed as an important junction on the Adelaide to Melbourne railway line. Most of the men were railway workers until a postwar influx of migrants. "The Bend", as we knew it, was also the centre for surrounding pastoral properties and the dairying settlement on the opposite bank of the River Murray. By my time, a truck had replaced the earlier horse and cart to make deliveries from my family's store, both within and beyond the town.

Like most others, I walked to school. Once a week on washing day my mother would order pies and pasties from the bakery for me to pick up on my way home for the family lunch. (My father walked home from the shop). After school we could ride our bikes around town, and in summer would clamber down the cliff to the river to swim. There were many organised community activities. I remember sports days with egg and spoon races, three-legged races, decorated bikes, maypole dances which had been practised at school, and slow bike races in which the last bike to cross the line was the winner. (Of course, feet could not have touched the ground since the start.)

Fancy Dress Parades were fun. My mother threw herself into preparing for these - and not just for us children. Her own favourite way to appear was as a "pretty lady" with false ringlets and a long frilly dress, sometimes with panniers like those which are part of my Little Bo Peep outfit here.

One year I remember she dressed the local doctor as an absent-minded professor (like the photo of my brother in that guise another time). On that occasion, my pretty lady mother and the "professor" did not associate themselves with the untidy homeless group she also created: my father, with me and my brother and the doctor's wife, wearily dragging ourselves and a handcart with pots and pans and our supposed worldly possessions. We may have had a sign saying something like House Huntin.

School friends also benefited from my mother's creativity.

Every year as Guy Fawkes Day approached we children would save our pocket money to buy fireworks and pester



our parents to get supplies ready for Bonfire Night. This would be held on the old wharf, high above the river, and families all joined in the fun around the bonfire, letting off our crackers – bungers, tom thumbs, pinwheels, skyrockets, sparklers, and Roman candles.

The annual Show was always much anticipated, with its travelling sideshows, merry-go-rounds, displays and judging in numerous categories – agricultural, stock, craft, floral, cooking – and kids let loose to wander freely among it all.

The Institute (now the Town Hall) was the venue for 'the pictures' and for the annual Strawberry Fair, Deb Balls and Fancy Dress Parades. I remember tagging along as the women prepared the hall for balls. They would cut long packs of crepe paper into streamers which were then twisted and draped up high, while the floor would be prepared for dancing. Would it have been candle wax which was applied to enable shoes to glide on the floor? And of course there was generous preparation of country fare for supper.



Graham as Santa, Elaine as Japanese girl, and Graham as jester on decorated tricycle.

Abigail Alger

“The Grandma that might have been”

Ellen E. Waite

Abigail ALGER was born in February 1822 in Cornish, Sullivan, New Hampshire, USA.

Her parents were David ALGER and Sarah WOOD MORSE, who married in June 1809 in Methuen, Essex, Massachusetts, USA. Abigail's father came to Massachusetts at an early age. He learned about the manufacture of wool, including the chemistry and art of dyeing textiles. About 1815 he established himself in business in Lebanon and Cornish, New Hampshire. In 1825 David sold his businesses and returned to Massachusetts. He had businesses in Andover, Amesbury, Dedham, Watertown, Canton and Lowell.

Little is known of Abigail until she married Erasmus Darwin KIMBALL (my great grandfather) on the 11 November 1849 at Methuen. Her residence at that time was Methuen. Erasmus worked in the woollen mills at Lowell. Abigail also worked in the mills. It can be assumed that the families knew each other, as Erasmus' brother Charles had married Abigail's sister the year before.

Two weeks after their marriage, Erasmus and his brother Charles boarded a ship for San Francisco, assumed heading for the gold fields. One can speculate that he either wouldn't take his new wife with him, or she wouldn't go. She may even have told him that if he went, not to bother coming back. But for whatever reason, it seems that he didn't. And, we will never know why.

In the 1850 Census, Abigail is listed living back home with her family, using her maiden name. No trace of a divorce or annulment has been found. In 1854 Erasmus arrived in Australia and in 1865 he married Mary REYNOLDS (my great grandmother). He stated on their marriage certificate he was a bachelor.

Abigail is listed in the 1865, 1870, 1880 census records, living with other family members. In the 1900 Census, she is listed as head of the household. One sister and a nephew were living with her. In earlier censuses she is listed as working in a woollen mill, and later, as home duties.

In April 1901, Abigail died of Acute Mania, aged 79 years, 1 month and 12 days. She is buried in Walnut Grove Cemetery, Methuen. In August 2019, my husband and I visited Walnut Grove Cemetery, and we felt a lot of emotional excitement when we found her grave. The only connection between Abigail and Erasmus, apart from their marriage certificate, was found on the 'find-a-grave' website.

When her new husband left after two weeks of marriage, Abigail must have been devastated and heartbroken. She lived the rest of her life as a single woman; never married again, never had children, so never became a mother, let alone a grandmother. Perhaps the experience of her failed marriage prevented her from marrying again or perhaps she loved him so much that no other man would do.

A family connection had been severed, and although Abigail did not become my great grandma, she might have ...

Abigail - Rest in Peace,
you are not forgotten.



Abigail's headstone is in a very beautiful area of the cemetery. Also on the headstone are her parents (David Alger and Sarah W. Alger) and a sister (Mary O. Alger). Abbie L. Alger is the last on the headstone list.

The Father Brian Maher Collection Digitisation Project

Cheryl Bollard

In August 2020, Family History ACT (FHA) received funding from the ACT Government under the ACT Heritage Grants program to digitize a selection of files from the Father Brian Maher Collection. As the project draws to an end, and with the sad passing of Father Brian Maher last month, it is a fitting time to review the project's achievements.

The purpose of the project was to digitize and index 24 families from the Father Brian MAHER collection who played a role in the development of the ACT area and to create a searchable database of the material.



Some of the archive boxes housing the collection.

Father Brian MAHER was a parish priest in the Canberra /Southern Tablelands region for more than 50 years. During his service, he oversaw the restoration of the church buildings in Braddon, Gundaroo and Bungendore and wrote at least

ten parish histories. As an avid family historian and genealogist, he researched 400 families in his parishes extending across the Canberra/Southern Tablelands region. On his retirement, June Penny was able to convince him to donate his collection to FFACT. Although his health was too frail to allow him to take part in our current project, he was very excited to hear of the funding and proud that his research would be accessible by more people.

The Father Brian Maher Collection is a unique and valuable manuscript collection of written papers and files, detailing the lives of over 400 Catholic families and their descendants. Many of these families are directly linked to the early settlers in the ACT and surrounding districts, and include Irish immigrants, convicts and free settlers.

The files (name and region) selected for digitization project were:

• Robert CORKHILL	Yarralumla area
• Garrett COTTER	Cotter River
• CRACE families	Crace
• Patrick CURLEY	Woden/ Red Hill
• CURRAN family	
• James CUSACK	Goulburn
• Michael CUSACK	Yass
• William DARMODY	Majura
• Henry DONNELLY	Bungendore
• Michael FLANAGAN	Tuggeranong
• Richard GUISE	Guise Creek
• James KEEFE	Cuppacumbalong
• Michael MALONEY	Canberra
• Grady MORRISON	Tralee
• MULLIGAN family	Mulligan's Flat
• Anthony ROLFE	Ginninderra
• ROLFES	Camberry/Gold Creek
• RYAN/GORE family	Queanbeyan
• Jeremiah RYAN	Queanbeyan
• William RYAN	Mulligan's Flat
• SHUMACK family	Ginninderra
• Patrick SHEEDY	Yass/Canberra
• William SULLIVAN	Springbank

While each family file in the collection is unique, the types of material found may include:

- Family Group Charts,
- family photos,

- birth, death and marriage certificates,
- maps,
- land records,
- newspaper clippings and
- letters from descendants.

Most of the research in the collection was carried out in a time before easy on-line access to primary records and is a glimpse into a time of family history research methods when letters and archival research were the only way to get information.



William Sullivan and family 1908-1909.

The Father Brian Maher Collection is of value to anyone researching the families in the ACT and surrounding NSW. The material can provide:

- Help to enrich the story of your ancestor. Where else will you find Uncle Barny CORKHILL's recipe for Hop beer or Robert CORKHILL's first letter home from boarding school?
- Clues to break down brick walls in your research. Knowing that Patrick CAVANAGH died in New Zealand or that Michael MALONEY and Susan KILMARTIN were married in Rhode Island USA may help you find the elusive birth/death record for them or complete your research.
- Information on the families that are not available on-line such as books that were privately printed and newspaper articles that are not on Trove.
- Hints and clues to locating other researchers.
- Origins of family stories.
- Access to copies of lost family photos and memorabilia.

Just a caution, the collection is not the definitive source for any family. Changes over the last 30 years, DNA testing, the increased availability of records and just the extra research conducted over that time means that, as with any other primary source, the information in the collection needs to be verified from multiple sources.

When viewed as a whole, the collection however, has a much bigger impact than aiding single family research. The material adds to the rich tapestry of stories of the pioneers of the region. Some of the stories are amusing such as the description of the HORNEYBLEWS of Queanbeyan, others are heartbreaking, for instance Ann CUSACK's description of her child "being tossed overboard" when he died on the journey to Australia. Yet other stories impact on national issues. Mary Ann GUISE was the daughter of William GUISE and a wealthy heiress until she married Mr BROWNLOW. A victim of domestic violence and abuse, she was unable to escape the relationship and finally murdered her

The Bruhn Family

A saga of tragic proportions

Michele Rainger

When Georg BRUHN and his family arrived in Adelaide in 1847 they were quite possibly fleeing the political unrest that was taking hold across Europe at that time, but they were, no doubt, also hoping for a better life for their children and future generations of their family in Australia.

Accompanying Dr BRUHN was his second wife Caroline and their four children - Carl Oscar and Elise Augusta born before the untimely death of Georg's first wife Clara, and Adele Clara and Mathilde Cecilia from his second marriage. Georg and Caroline would go on to have a further eight children (four of whom died in infancy) born across South Australia, Victoria and New South Wales.



Dr Georg Bruhn, c. 1854,
Rohre and Co Photographer Dresden.

Georg came from a well-educated background. He had learned music and was proficient with both the piano and the violin. He also painted—once in Australia, mostly landscapes of his new surrounds. And while he was mocked for his quaint accent, Georg also clearly had a good mastery of the English language. Georg had graduated from the University of Jena in 1840 with a Degree in Philosophy. Prior to leaving Saxony he had been director of an agricultural research station near Dresden, and is known to have published at least one book on improving agricultural practices in the region. He later wrote a second book on his reflections of the Australian Colonies designed to assist German migrants to this country.

Georg's father Johann was an *Advocat*—translated from German to mean a *Lawyer or Barrister* in our legal system. He too was clearly an educated man who can be presumed to have been an upright member of his community and one who believed in the importance of upholding the rule of law. One can only wonder what he might have thought of the escapades of the later generations of his family once they arrived in Australia.

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Georg's areas of expertise were chemistry and geology and shortly after his arrival in Australia he began to advertise his services as a mineralogist, geologist, miner and chemist. During 1848 he was employed by the South Australian Mining Association as an independent assayer for ore mined at the Burra Burra Copper Mine north of Adelaide. Georg later conducted a number

of exploratory expeditions searching primarily for coal that was desperately needed by the fledgling colony in South Australia. Although he did not find any worthwhile deposits of better quality black coal, he did find some brown coal and iron ore at sites that have subsequently been mined for many years.

By 1851 Georg had left his family in South Australia (something that he did often) and travelled to Victoria in search of gold—which he found at the same time as a number of other prospectors. In 1854 the men were all recognised by the Victorian Gold Committee and Georg's share amounted to £500 (close to \$50,000 in today's money). After this Georg worked as a Chemist for a while around the Bendigo Goldfields before moving with his wife and younger children to New South Wales where he first practiced medicine, and later, conducted numerous expeditions searching for mineral deposits and gave public talks about geology and mining where he often used detailed models that he had constructed himself.

After a particularly eventful life Georg died of natural causes at Crookwell north of Canberra on 29 July 1889 aged 70. Georg was probably a somewhat eccentric man, but he clearly believed in the value of education and of contributing to his community, and together with his wife, had tutored their children to the point where his daughters secured employment as school teachers and governesses in their adult years.

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Georg's son Carl Oscar (known in Australia as Charles) attended his father's inquest. The records are a bit sketchy, but it seems that Charles may have been somewhat estranged from his father in Georg's later years. Charles told authorities that he had not seen his father for some five years after the older man had refused to stay at his son's home in Melbourne. Charles had apparently given him some money but had not heard from him since. Sadly, but perhaps for reasons known only to them, the family never placed a headstone on Georg's grave at Crookwell and today the local Council has no records of where the grave might be found.

As Georg's only surviving male heir it fell to Charles to carry on the BRUHN family name in Australia. Charles was born in Saxony in the east of modern day Germany and was ten when he arrived in Australia. As a youth he would have followed his father from place to place as the family moved around. He may also have found himself 'the man of the house' when his father was away for months at a time on his many geological expeditions.

Around 1856 Charles met Caroline (nee CHYNOWETH). Despite later claims that they married at Carisbrook in 1856 there appears to be no record of this marriage—besides it seems that Caroline had married one Robert McADOO only the year before. Charles and Caroline would have four children Minnia, Susan, Caroline and Oscar John. But by 1865 Charles had left his wife and daughters, taking with him his son. The three girls were admitted as Wards of the State in January 1865 with the simple annotation "Father deserted her.

Mother a prostitute” written on each of their records. Exactly why Charles took his son and left his wife and daughters is a mystery.

On 30 April 1868 Charles married Mary Jane OLIVER at the residence of the local Wesleyan Minister at Sandhurst. They would have had six children—Charles Oscar, Caroline Matilda, Flora Ellen, William Henry, Edith and Lilian May. A foreman of works at the time of his marriage, Charles seems to have worked his way into a role as an accountant. In 1882 he was admitted to the United Grand Lodge of Freemasons at Sandhurst. I can only presume that neither the local Vicar nor the members of the Lodge had any idea that he had deserted his first family. Charles later farmed at Mirboo in eastern Victoria and near Dandenong before retiring to Sandringham where he was cared for by his daughters until his death in 1922. In 1915 Charles became a naturalised Australian—apparently a common thing for German immigrants to do at the outbreak of WW1. Mary had died in 1915, while former ‘wife’ Caroline seems to have moved on to another relationship and died in 1895.

Meanwhile Charles’ first son Oscar John (known as Oscar) found his way to Geelong where he became a baker. In 1886 Oscar married Mary Anne McFARLANE with whom he was to have ten children. Mrs BRUHN noted some years later that she was proud of her three daughters telling a reporter that they were ‘good, sensible girls who never gave [her] any anxiety’. Sadly the same cannot be said for her sons as will become apparent shortly.

Unlike his father, Oscar remained faithful to his wife: But it seems that he did have quite a temper. In 1909 he was arrested for assault: after arriving home in a violent mood he had apparently thrown a plate at his wife before picking up his son William and throwing him through a window. Fortunately, William was not seriously hurt and declined to press charges.

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Oscar and Mary’s son Edward was apparently disabled and spent his adult years in an institution. But the outbreak of World War 1 saw their other sons William, Oscar Jnr, Norman and Stanley all join up.

Stanley enlisted first in November 1914 providing a handwritten note purportedly from his parents giving their permission for him to ‘go to the front’. Norman followed a month later (initially recorded as Norman BREWER). Oscar Jnr enlisted in October 1916. He was already a widower and listed as his next of kin his two-year-old daughter entitled to two fifths of his pay. William, also married and with children, followed his younger brothers enlisting in December 1916.

Stanley and Norman joined the 6th Battalion at Gallipoli on 18 May 1915. Later they were sent to France where their first major action was at Pozieres. Oscar and William were sent directly to France: Oscar with the 9th Machine Gun Company and later with the 3rd Machine Gun Battalion, and William, who was a fireman with Victorian Railways in civilian life, with the 1st Light Railway Operating Company.

Stories of young men acting out in response to the horrors seen on the battlefield are not uncommon, but it seems that the BRUHN brothers got themselves into their fair share of trouble. Stealing, drunkenness, threatening a superior, being Absent Without Leave numerous times and desertion all feature in their records. William was court marshalled late in 1919 for ‘negligently shooting a civilian earlier that year’ and forfeited seniority. Norman seems to have been in trouble more often than not and spent a good deal of his time in a military prison—including nine months for desertion in 1919. Upon their discharge Stanley, Oscar and William were each awarded the 1914/15 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal. Norman was deemed to have forfeited his medals.

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On their return to Australia the BRUHN brothers no doubt faced the same challenges as their former soldier mates trying to reintegrate into everyday life. But it seems that the BRUHNs opted for a lifestyle that would lead to many brushes with the law—and their younger brothers, Roy and Eric, followed their older brothers’ lead. William returned to his employment with the Victorian Railways but by 1928 had been sentenced to 18 months imprisonment for his part in an elaborate plot to steal from the Railway. Eric served time in 1920 and again 1933. Roy served several terms for larceny, receiving and carrying unregistered firearms between 1929 and 1938. Stanley was imprisoned too, and at various times, was accused of robbery, vagrancy and razor slashing incidents. Oscar is the only son who seems to have stayed away from trouble.

But it was Norman who would go on to earn the real notoriety. Between 1921 and 1926 he served no less than six prison terms for crimes such as larceny, receiving, loitering, indecent exposure and breaking and entering—and these were just the ones that were proven. There were apparently other occasions where Norman was acquitted after witnesses changed their stories. Norman had developed quite the reputation as a thief, gunman, standover man, garroter and pimp.

After reputedly being warned off by Melbourne underworld figure Joseph (Sqizzy) TAYLOR, Norman moved his family to Sydney in late 1926. Here he formed Sydney’s first razor gang comprised of ‘Razor Jack’ HAYES, George ‘the Midnight Raper’ WALLACE and ‘Snowy’ CUTMORE. The *Pistol Licensing Act* of 1927 meant automatic gaol time for anyone caught carrying an unlicensed firearm: But straight shaving blades (known as cut-throat razors) were not



Mug Shot Norman Bruhn Public Record Office Victoria, Register of Male and Female Prisoners (1855-1947), Record Series VPRS 515&516, Record No 36147

regulated and became the weapon of choice for standover men seeking to intimidate rather than kill.

BRUHN's gang tried to forcibly take control of the, by then well established, criminal operations of Tilly DEVINE, Kate LYNCH and Phil 'the Jew' JEFFS in the inner Sydney suburbs of Kings Cross and Darlinghurst. For a time BRUHN and his gang wreaked havoc as they sought to upset the existing balance of power and in the process inflicted painful and disfiguring scars on anyone who go in their way.

But Norman's plans came to an abrupt end on the night of 22 June 1927 when he was shot in Charlotte Lane Darlinghurst. Despite suffering five gunshot wounds, BRUHN did not die until the following day having refused to give police any information to identify his killer. BRUHN was buried at Rookwood cemetery and despite his wife denying that he was associated with any gang the Press pointed out 'It was noticeable, however, that the underworld was well represented at the funeral'.

~ ~ ~

After Norman's death his widow returned to Melbourne with their two sons. She re-married a few years later and from that time on it seems that the young boys adopted the surname of their step-father. If this was designed to somehow break the connection and put the past behind them it, sadly, did not work.

By the 1940s and 50s one son had been imprisoned a number of times and had earned a reputation as one of Australia's best safebreakers. He was also an influential member of the Painter's and Dockers Union during the so-called Dockers Wars in the 1960s. Later he abandoned his life of crime, took a regular job and lived quietly, it seems, until his death in 1999.

Three of Norman's grandsons would later find themselves charged with a string of offences including breaking and entering, armed robbery, attempted murder and murder. One died at a young age and two are currently serving life sentences for murdering well-known underworld figures.

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Many favourable pieces have been written about the achievements of Dr Georg BRUHN between his arrival in Australia in 1847 and his death in 1889. Equally, many sensational pieces have been written about the lives and exploits of his great and great, great grandsons. Commercial venture *Twisted History* conducts tours of Geelong Gaol and features the gaol time of the BRUHN Brothers. The Australian television series *Underbelly* has portrayed the earlier and later criminal generations of the family in two separate series. And many authors have written of the BRUHN's escapades.

As family historians we all expect to find some of those metaphorical 'skeletons in the closet'. We try not to judge others, and to recognise that times and social standards change, and that to view the deeds of others through our own lens is not always helpful. But the practice of history also beholds us to ask 'why'—why

someone might have acted in a particular way, or chosen a particular path in life? And 'what'—what impact did their actions might have on their lives and the lives of others. Understanding why and what helps us to appreciate the context within which lives were lived and to perhaps develop a little more insight into those lives.

In the case of the BRUHN Family I can offer many thoughts, and maybe even some excuses, for why their lives followed the paths that they did. But in truth I find this story most disconcerting for its sheer tragedy—the opportunities seemingly lost and the lives seemingly destroyed. The Why and the What in this case are probably the stuff of another very weighty tome.

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National Archives of Australia Canberra Exhibition Underworld: Mugshots from the Roaring Twenties

The exhibition at the National Archives Australia in Canberra is open until 24 October 2021 and features 'unique and captivating photographs of the 1920s criminal underworld'—including of Norman Bruhn and his associates.



Bere Alston A Mining Village in Devon

Robyn Coghlan

A near-neighbour grabbed my attention when she happened to mention that she had grown up in Bere Alston in Devon. She was amazed when I indicated that, not only had I heard of the place but I had actually been there in the course of my family history travels. A few days later, she produced a booklet written in 1975 by The Rev. Arthur J. C. BEDDOW, M.A., Rector, titled "A History of Bere Ferrers Parish" which includes Bere Alston. Not far from Bere Alston, across the Tamar River in Cornwall is a hamlet called Paynter's Cross, previously known as Penter's Cross and located close to Pentillie Castle.

My interest was in George PAYNTER, a miner who arrived in Adelaide with his family on 13 December 1846 on the *Abberton*. In the early 1800s, George was living in Redruth, Cornwall, his marriage to Elizabeth WILLOUGHBY occurring there on 12 December 1825, as did the birth and baptism of their first six children: George (1826-1849), son (1828-1828), William (1830-1883), Henry (1831-1899), Thomas (1834-1848) and John (1835-1925).



Workers' homes in Fore Street, Bere Alston in 1999.

I could find no trace of George's origins however, until I checked baptisms in Devon and discovered four later children were born in Beeralstone (sic): Richard (1838-1845), Elizabeth (1840-1932), Mary (1842-1850) and Elijah (1844-1845). Richard died there early in 1845 as did his mother later the same year, the cause of their deaths being phthisis, otherwise known as pulmonary tuberculosis or

consumption. According to his death certificate, Elijah also died of consumption in late 1845 in the care of his uncle, Richard PAYNTER, at Blagdon, Somerset, a long way from Bere Alston.

In the 1841 census, George declared he was born in the county, i.e. Devon. The Non-Conformist Record Index for Tavistock produced a likely baptism for him at the Brook Street Independent Church on 16 August 1803, parents William and Elizabeth, along with baptism of his siblings, William (1799, died before 1808), Thomas Penter (1802-born 1801), Richard (1805-died before 1815), William (1808-1808), Mary (1810) and Elizabeth (1812-1828).

George's parents

George's mother, Elizabeth, was living with her daughter, Charlotte MOUNTJOY, in Redruth in 1851. She died there in 1853, aged 75. The 1851 census shows the birthplace of Elizabeth, as Combe Martin, on the northern coast of Devon, near Ilfracombe. The marriage of William PAYNTER and Elizabeth HAYDON occurred there on 25 August 1799. The family seems to have left Bere Alston after Elizabeth was born in 1812 and returned to Redruth. Two more baptisms to this couple are recorded in Redruth: Charlotte (1817) and John (1821). According to the 1851 census, another son, named Richard, was born in Redruth about 1815.

George's grandparents

George's father, William, was baptized at Combe Martin on 26 September 1778 to parents Thomas and Margaret. Thomas PAYNTER and Margaret CUTLIFFE were also married in Combe Martin, on 22 July 1778. As Thomas was born in Redruth in 1751 and died there in 1796 (aged 45), it is not clear how he came to be in northern Devon. This couple left Combe Martin sometime between 1783 (baptism of son, Francis) and 1785 when their third son, Thomas, was baptized in Redruth. Four other children were baptized in Redruth: Johanna (1788), Edward (1790), Mary (1793) and John (1796-1860).

George's great-grandparents

Thomas' parents, William PAYNTER and Joanna SALTER were married in Redruth on 4 March 1735. William had been baptized there on 18 October 1713, his parents being William PAYNTER and Jane HARRIS. This couple had married in Redruth on 30 November 1700.

The mines

It is likely that George's parents, William and Elizabeth, moved from Combe Martin around 1800, down to the Tavistock district for work in the mines in the Bere Alston area. Bere Alston is located near the Tamar River roughly halfway between Plymouth and Tavistock, the Tamar marking the border between Devon and Cornwall. This district is a major mining area with rock veins containing tin, copper, lead and zinc. Mining was a major activity in Bere Alston over many centuries and attracted miners from Cornwall and Wales as well as locally.

The chief mines in Devon and Cornwall are in the vicinity of Tavistock, St Ives and Cambourne, the latter including Redruth. Traces of old smelting pits from around 300 to 200 B.C. have been found during excavations of the Cornish moors, indicating the long-term importance of mining in this part of England. Tin was reputedly traded as far away as Mediterranean countries.

The Rev. BEDDOW outlined the history of mining in the area starting with the observation that the Bere Alston silver and lead mines had been worked "from times immemorial". In 1295, the king, Edward 1st (1239-1307), compelled "340 men from the Peak District, Derbyshire, under penalty of death, to obtain silver from the mines"; such "forced labour continued throughout the 14th century." "The silver, stored in bags, was taken by boat to Plymouth. Timber came down

the river from Calstock along with oak-bark refuse from the tanners; the bark was used for refining the silver. Smelting was done on the spot.”

“The first works were put up in ‘draughty places’ on a ridge to catch the wind and thus force the fires. Later, these were superseded by ‘slag hearths’, something like a blacksmith’s furnace and draught was forced by bellows, worked by a water wheel.”

For over 200 years, “some of the most experienced miners in Europe were attracted to the Bere mines and skilled labour brought advances in mining techniques.” “The account roll for 1480-81 states that amongst the workers were miners, pumpmen, carpenters, smiths, chandlers and others. The workings were drained by windlass and buckets with a small suction pump worked by a water wheel. The silver was extracted in a refining house where ten men worked with 47 charcoal burners.”

“The mines worked up until the 16th century.” There were also tin mines but these “made no profit in the early 17th century.” “At the beginning of the 19th century, the mines were revived. Steam power enabled them to work under the Tamar River. Over 1,000 people were employed in the mines at this time.” “A system of ventilation by which fumes from shot firing were sucked to the surface” was introduced by Percival JOHNSON, founder of the Tamar Smelting Works. Johnson also assisted men blinded by the crude blasting methods, by sponsoring “an early form of embossed lettering by which they could read – a form of braille.”¹

The hazards of mining were further exemplified by the South Tamar Consol mine, which opened in the 1840s and was struck by a terrible disaster in 1856, when it was flooded by the River Tamar bursting into it. Fortunately, this occurred at 8 pm on a Sunday, so no men were at work in it. It was never re-opened.

Miners’ health

The age at death of members of this family show that many men and women did not reach the age of fifty, many babies died at, or soon after, birth and many of the children who survived infancy died quite young. “The miner was in fact part of a sick community whose mortality was amongst the highest in the country, almost entirely because of their occupation. The main diseases were phthisis and miners’ asthma, both of which were used as catch-all terms to denote a wide variety of lung diseases. In 1842, a Royal Commission into the employment of children in mines revealed an atrocious story of poverty, sickness and poor working conditions.”²



*Lockridge mine chimney
near Bere Alston.*

In the 1840s, when southern England was suffering a major economic downturn and famine, many miners from Devon and Cornwall migrated to South Australia to work in the copper mines and subsequently to Victoria in the 1850s following discovery of gold in the Bendigo-Ballarat district.

Thomas Paynter

George’s older brother, Thomas (1801-1848), a lead miner, also married in 1826 at Redruth to Mary CLARKE. The two families moved to Devon together and, at the time of the 1841 census, were both living in Frog Street, Beeralstone (sic), only three doors away from each other. Thomas lost his wife, aged 39, in 1841. They had eight children: Thomas (1826-1889), William (1828), Joseph (1830), Mary Anne (1832) and Ann Clark (1834), all born in Redruth, plus Samuel (1836-1905, died Bendigo), John (1838) and Keturah (1840-1842) born in Beeralstone. On 22 July 1843, Thomas remarried to a widow, Mary WATERS, and had one more child, Selina (1844). Thomas died in 1848 aged 46, leaving Mary to look after all the children. Two of his sons, Thomas and Samuel, subsequently migrated to Victoria. Thomas married Ann BRANCH in 1850 in Stoke Damerel, Devon and they arrived in South Australia in 1855 on the *Velocity* with their two daughters, Ann (1852) and Mary Hannah (1854), both born in Bere Alston. By 1858, they were in Victoria. Samuel arrived in January 1857 on the *Mary Ann* and married Mary Jane BORLEY in Melbourne in 1862. Mary Jane was born in Saltash, Cornwall, not far from Bere Alston. By 1881, the only people in the Bere Ferris (sic) area named PAYNTER were the family of Thomas’ son, William, and his wife, Jane ROWSE from Stoke Damerel.

Richard Paynter

The two witnesses to the second marriage of Thomas PAYNTER were George PAYNTER and Richard PAYNTER. In 1841, Richard and Mary PENTER (sic) were living in Stoke Damerel, the birth of their two sons having being registered in the district of Liskeard. In 1851, Richard PAYNTER, aged 34, lead miner, born Redruth, Cornwall, was living in nearby Calstock with his wife, Mary nee PEARSE. They had four children in total: Richard, miner (1838-1869) died St Kitts Creek, Truro SA aged 30, married Jane TELFER in 1859 in Chain-of-Ponds SA; William (1841-1842); Elizabeth (1843) married John Ash OSBORN in 1866 South Australia; and John (1851-1934) who died in South Australia. This family had arrived in Victoria in 1855 on the *Mermaid*. Richard Senior died at Ward Farm, Chain-of-Ponds, Kersbrook, South Australia at the end of the same year, aged 39, after a protracted affliction.



*Headstone stating ‘Cholera 1849’
on mass grave in the churchyard
of St Andrews, Bere Ferrers.*

George

Following the death of his wife, Elizabeth, on 29 September 1845 aged 39, after twelve months spent battling phthisis, George PAYNTER had taken his family back to Redruth where his mother was still living. His father had died before the 1841 census, possibly in 1829, aged 49. In Redruth, George remarried, to Faith ROBERTS, and the family embarked on the three-and-a-half-month voyage to Adelaide. Here, George died of tuberculosis five years later on 15 May 1852 aged 48. His son, Thomas, had pre-deceased him in 1848 aged 14, as did his younger daughter, Mary, who died from an inflammation of the lungs in 1850, aged eight, both in Adelaide. His eldest son, George, had married Grace RICKARD early in 1846 and remained in Redruth, where he died in 1849 aged 22. The three remaining sons established themselves in Australia and married there, William to Adeline TREE in 1849 in Burra SA; Henry to Mary O'DONNELL/DONNELLY in 1857 in Adelaide; and John to Elizabeth FRANKLIN in 1860 in Willunga SA. Two sons settled in the Clarendon-Morphett Vale district of South Australia before moving to Victoria where they died: William (1883 Torrumbary) and John (1925 Kyabram), whilst Henry died in 1899 in Adelaide. The only surviving daughter, Elizabeth, married Charles EASTON in 1869 and died many years later in 1932, aged 92, in Happy Valley, South Australia.

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My Years at Boarding School

Elaine Gifford

I loved reading when I was at primary school, and among my books were a number of stories set in English girls' boarding schools. I devoured tales of friendships and rivalries, "scrapes", gangs and exclusions, successes and failures. Yet it all seemed rather remote, and I was happy at Tailem Bend Primary School in country South Australia.

However, as I approached secondary school age, my parents started talking about what might come next for me. The nearest high school was in Murray Bridge, fifteen miles away. For my father, who had also grown up in Tailem Bend this had meant catching an early morning train every day and coming home quite late, a routine not seen as desirable for me.

Soon there was a decision: I was to go to boarding school in Adelaide. Glenelg was a happy family destination, but I hadn't heard of Woodlands CEGGS. In fact we didn't know anyone who went to boarding school, so this was quite a step for us all. A list of requirements for boarders caused some puzzlement, so my mother found a contact in Adelaide whose daughter was already at Woodlands. I was just on the sidelines of all these discussions, it seemed.

There followed a focus on acquiring uniforms (winter, summer and sports), including hat and gloves. Items such as an eiderdown, a travel rug and a writing compendium (for weekly letters home, it transpired) were marshalled, and name

labels applied to every sock and singlet. Strangely, I don't remember feeling either excited or nervous about being sent off to the city the following year. Certainly I had already holidayed with various relatives away from my family. But being rather shy, I'm surprised I didn't feel more apprehensive about going away to a new school where I knew nobody.

On arrival in the boarding house I discovered that everything seemed to be based on rules and routine. No talking after lights out. No talking in the bathroom. No talking on the stairs. Keep your bed and cubicle tidy. No food in the dormitory. Listen for the bells that mark out the daily routine.

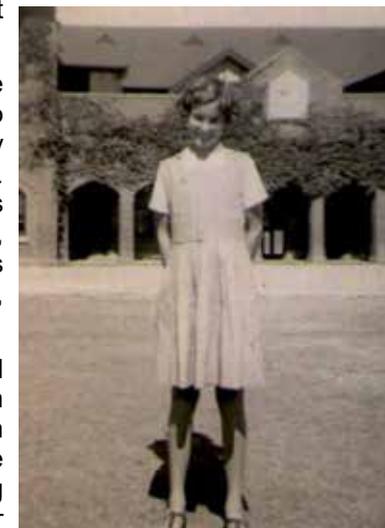
Each girl's small semi-private space varied with our year group. The youngest boarders, aged eleven to thirteen, were housed above the dining room in a fairly new building. From a central corridor we turned left or right into small cubicles for two, with wardrobes, built-in tables and chairs. I didn't realise this at the time, but places were allocated by surname. So, as Elaine BOLTON I shared with Philippa BOSTOCK. We stepped through the cubicle to the line of beds facing the rows of dormitory windows.

When I awoke one morning in my first year, there was unaccustomed forbidden chatter among the girls. "What's going on", I asked. "Don't you know, are you the only one who didn't wake up? There was an earthquake in the night!" Oh! I guess I'm a good sleeper.

All our meals were in the dining room. Each table seated a teacher or a senior girl and seven of us. There were strict rules of etiquette. For example, if the butter dish wasn't in front of you, you didn't ask for it or – shock, horror – reach for it. No, you asked someone between you and the dish if they would like the butter, and they were supposed to notice that perhaps you wanted it.

Fire Drill happened quite often, usually before breakfast. When the alarm sounded we had to run to a certain outdoor space and all eighty boarders had to line up in groups of about ten. All alphabetically, of course. And each of us had to be able to recite, quickly and in order, the surnames of our group. So mine was something like: Baudinet, Bickford, Bolton, Bostock, Butcher ...

That wasn't all, though. While we were still in our lines someone at the front led us in a series of exercises such as running on the spot and star jumps. We didn't mind the activity, because if it was a frosty morning and happened to be sports uniform day, our fingers and toes and bare legs needed help to regain circulation.



Twelve-year-old Elaine in front of the classroom block.

Apart from the school rooms being on the same property, our actual schooling was probably not very different from that of many secondary school students. Though I have to admit that we boarders tended to have a sense of superiority, sometimes referring to the day girls as “daybugs”.

Somehow we didn't mind the fact that after dinner each weeknight we took our homework books across to two of the classrooms. There was no television, so what else would we do? A teacher or prefect would be in each room to supervise, but also to give us individual help if we needed it.

At the end of each of the four terms we packed up all our belongings to go home, or in the case of those from places such as Port Moresby or Wilcannia, to a relative or friend. In the middle of each term we had an “exeat” when we had to be picked up and taken home or elsewhere for the weekend. We always had to write in a book where we were going and who was going to pick us up. One time at short notice my mother was unable to be there at the designated time, so let me know that a friend who lived nearby would come for me. I didn't bother to change the book entry. Catastrophe! It turned out to be just the time our very proper English Headmistress chose to meet my mother, and poor Mrs TANNER had to explain that she wasn't Mrs BOLTON. I tried to become invisible as I awaited my anticipated reprimand.

Weekends had a different routine. Often on Saturdays we filed on to a bus for an excursion, or sometimes were taken to a ballet, symphony concert or Shakespeare play. On the bus on day outings we learned from the older girls a repertoire of songs such as On top of Ol' Smokey or The Quartermaster's Store, with cheeky adaptations about particular girls. And we didn't wear uniforms or sit in alphabetical order!

Lunch on excursions was always the same, packed in individual brown paper bags. Its predictability did not matter, because it was a change from our weekday fare. Each bag contained a banana and a bread roll with fritz and tomato sauce. Fritz – what other luncheon meat would you have in South Australia? Sometimes when we were almost home from an excursion, the driver would stop at a small store and we were allowed to buy ourselves a treat such as lollies or an icecream. Being rather frugal, I usually stayed on the bus, knowing a meal would be awaiting us. On Saturday mornings we could sign to withdraw some cash from the cumulative 2/6 per week (maybe \$2 in 2021) we were allocated. In my case, this bounty was bankrolled by grandparents.

Being in the beachside suburb of Glenelg, on Saturdays in hot weather (once we'd done our washing) we could walk in an escorted group the few blocks to the beach for a swim. If it was very hot sometimes we even did this on a school afternoon.

Saturdays often had an evening feature in the assembly hall. Sometimes it was a visitor such as Dame Edith SITWELL who recited some of her poems, or Sir Edmund HILLARY who told us about Sherpa TENZING and their conquest of Everest. Or we did folk dancing or games or convoluted marching which could

end up with us almost falling on top of each other. One evening when there was a power failure in the whole area, the Head gathered all the boarders in the dark hall to tell us stories and keep us distracted and entertained until power was restored.

On Sunday mornings we walked in crocodile to the nearby parish church – two by two, with hats and gloves. Quiet talking was permitted on the way! After lunch we had a session in a reasonably comfortable common room when a teacher, usually the Headmistress, would read us chapters of a story while we did our mending or perhaps some knitting. I even remember one book title: “Our hearts were young and gay”. After that we were fairly free for the afternoon, provided we produced a letter home to be marked off the list. We could sit with friends on the grass (on those travel rugs) in our neat Sunday civvies. The grounds were fairly large, and tables for ping-pong were always set up in another common room.



1958 prefects in summer uniform with Elaine circled.

The main boarding house, now modified and extended, had originally been a stately home. One year I slept in a dormitory above the adjoining assembly hall and large foyer. The dormitory consisted of rows of beds for about thirty girls: our curtained private space was in another room. Another year I was on a first floor balcony. The outer side consisted of a low wall, probably of asbestos sheeting, topped with canvas blinds which creaked and flapped and let in the winter wind. Eiderdowns and dressing gowns were very important that year! My reward came in my final year when as a prefect I shared a little corner balcony room with only one other girl. Prefects also had their own common room, a real privilege. I did learn not to keep any food there after the mice found my small supply.

These five formative years of my life were both enjoyable and valuable. I had some good role models among the students, the staff, and especially the Head, from whom I learned responsibility, the scriptures and a deepening of my Sunday School faith. I think the adaptability and self-reliance I learned as well as the academic foundation, have stood me in good stead in all the personal and social changes I have experienced since then.

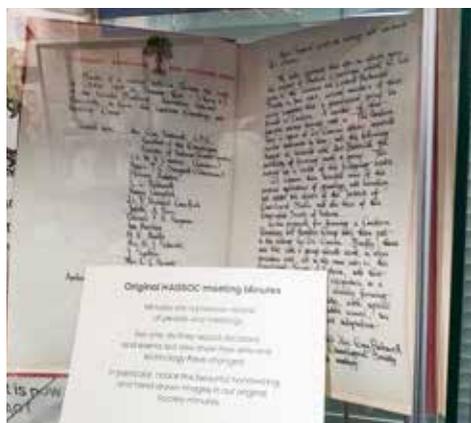
Family History ACT Exhibition

Heritage Matters

Kerrie Gray

The story of Family History ACT is an interesting one and was told in the Heritage Matters Exhibition at the ACT Heritage Library throughout August – Family History Month.

The story began in 1964 when a small group of people met in response to an advertisement in the Canberra Times. Over the following years the foundations were laid for a professional family history research organisation based on the values of friendship, support and shared knowledge. That very small group grew in number and in expertise, developed the necessary skills and resources, and were creative in their approach to problem solving, collecting resources and even funding technology – we wondered whose idea it was to sell letters to raise money for an electric typewriter. At each stage of its growth, the Society looked to the future and to the broader family history community to ensure that it continued to meet the needs of its members.



First meeting minutes.

The exhibition explored these developments through storyboards, artifacts, photographs and a video presentation including oral histories from some long-term members.

Photographs and memorabilia of cemetery picnics show that members and their families spent many days in large and small cemeteries around the ACT and regional NSW. They collected important genealogical information shown on headstones - names, dates, information about relationships, and symbols which give clues about occupation, politics or status. Had these cemetery picnics not happened information may have been lost through weathering, vandalism, environmental change or even damage by animals. After careful checking, the Society published the information in a series of Monumental Inscriptions.



First Congress in Canberra 1986.

Friendships within the Society and the broader family history community were developed through participation in Roadshows, Conferences and Congresses and these were reflected in the oral histories, photographs and artifacts on display. Roadshows were significant events for the Society for many years and members visited regional towns where they delivered presentations and workshops aimed at developing sound knowledge of family history research and encouraging the establishment and development of family history societies throughout the region.

Family History for Beginners and Beyond is the flagship publication of the Society and is now in its 16th edition. It was originally based on early talks for family history beginners in the 1970s and those early notes were displayed along with a number of the early editions. These show how the publication evolved to include the most up to date information, research approaches and emerging technologies.

The Exhibition showed that the Society has always had a strong focus on the broader family history community and kindred organisations that worked to collect, preserve and share local history. Father Brian MAHER recognised this and gave custody of his extensive collection of letters, photographs and documents to the Society for safe keeping. This collection is being digitised and some examples were displayed at the Exhibition.

The audio-visual presentation shown during the Exhibition highlighted the work being done with the Canberra Tracks Project which is a network of heritage signage that incorporates eight self-drive routes leading to many of Canberra's historic sites. Family History ACT is developing videos to be attached to the Canberra Tracks signs and available on the Canberra Tracks App. This is an ongoing project supported by ACT Heritage.

There was much more to be seen and those who attended the Exhibition itself or the associated family history presentations agreed that it gave them a much better understanding of the Society and the people who influenced its development.

A special thank you goes to the Exhibition sponsors – Bytes 'n Colours, The Framing Store and Trinity Law.



One of the seven information panels.



Publications and the AV presentation.

Michael Keough and Jane Kennedy

Janette James

Michael (1800 'Gaybrook' Co. Westmeath - 1868 Abercrombie NSW)

KEOUGH is so thoroughly Gaelic that only the Irish can get their tongue easily around its proper pronunciation, originally it was EOCHADH. KEOUGHs originate from Counties Wicklow and Roscommon. Roscommon's neighbour is Co. Westmeath and that is where these KEOUGHs come from. Michael was born in 1800 at Gaybrook, Co. Westmeath the son of James KEOUGH, a farmer and Anne O'CONNOR Pat KEOUGH Whylandra, Golspie NSW - descendant

Michael arrived in Australia as a convict on the *Almorah* (2) in 1820. He was tried in Co. Westmeath in 1819. His native place was Gaybrook Co. Westmeath and he was a Labourer. His year of birth was given as 1800.

Michael was convicted with Owen LARRAG and Peter THOMPSON alias MURPHY at Westmeath in the summer of 1819 he got 7 years. He was aged 20 and 5 feet 6 inches tall with brown hair and hazel eyes. Peter was aged 25 a pedlar from Co. Cavan and Owen was a house servant aged 25 from Church Town, Co. Westmeath.

Gaybrook Co. Westmeath

County Westmeath is in the Irish midlands next to Co. Offaly and was once part of the ancient Province of Meath. Mullingar is the capital. Westmeath was predominately arable /oats/wheat. Gaybrook demesne is the townland, Enniscoffey is the civil Parish, Fartullagh is the Barony. Gaybrook house was built in 1790 by the SMYTH family who were the landowners. It was demolished by the Land Commission in 1960. The main gates and gate lodge remain as historical reminders of a once great demesne and the workers that served it. In 1815, 20 families, including the SMYTHs who governed¹ County Westmeath lived there. My husband, Garry, and I visited in May 2008 and it was now a large modern housing estate. At that time the only thing we could find of the original estate was the water pump.



Garry 'Gaybrook' Co. Westmeath May 2008 with the water pump.

"Co. Westmeath: buildings of Ireland: National Inventory of Architectural Heritage".

Gaybrook "A Complex of two-storey outbuildings and a stable block around a central courtyard to the rear of Gaybrook house (demolished) built c1790 with the remains of a walled garden...A substantial complex ...which survives in good condition and retains most of its early form, fabric and character. The complex is well built and is representative of its

time and date. ...This complex provides an interesting historical insight into the extensive resources needed to run and maintain a country estate in Ireland during the nineteenth century. The enormous 6 acre walled garden, the gates, and the bridge add to this composition and completes its setting".²

Robert SMYTH, landlord of Gaybrook was born 1801, married in 1830 and stood for Parliament in 1826 for the seat of Gaybrook. The Catholic Church denounced him "a puppet in the hands of the Orange faction". Mr SMYTH was a magistrate and deputy lieutenant for County Westmeath and served as High Sherriff in 1830. By 1830 Michael would be in Australia but Robert's father, Ralph SMYTH, may have been on the sentencing board in 1819.

The *Almorah* was built at Selby by J FOSTER in 1817. This was the second of three voyages bringing convicts to NSW. The voyage took 122 days. The captain was Thomas WINTER. The Surgeon Superintendent was Samuel ALEXANDER RN and he kept a Medical Journal from 24 June – 5 Jan 1821. The convicts were held in prison in Dublin before being transferred to the *Almorah* at Cork.



Convict ship 'Almorah' 1820.

"The prisoners who came out by the Almorah were embarked on board of two vessels of about 130 tons each at Dublin on 20 July for conveyance to Cork where this ship awaited their arrival and as the passage from Dublin to Cork is generally made in 36 – 40 hours the only fitting that was thought necessary for their accommodation was levelling the ballast and spreading straw mats on it which served them as a platform by day and beds at night. After putting to sea the wind became foul and they were obliged to go into Waterford where they remained windbound until 12 August. The straw mats had got damp and rotten in consequence of the unexpected detention and the state of the people on being transferred to the ship was truly miserable. In addition to the above predisposing causes we experienced tempestuous weather after putting to sea and the prison as well as upper decks were almost constantly wet during the first week of sailing.

The prisoners were examined and berthed as they came on board. They washed and received articles of clothing allotted to them. On 13 August Dr DRAPER, agent for the convicts sent on board oatmeal bread, beef and vegetables for the use of the prisoners and guard. They departed the Cove on 24 August and Dr ALEXANDER reported that the prisons were wet from leaks in the boat and the men suffered much with sea sickness. On 25 August the starboard water closet was found to be leaking. It was fixed by the carpenter but the stench in both prisons was offensive. During the early part of the passage the prisoners were very sickly.

The voyage was difficult not only because of the deficiencies of the vessel but the crew caused a great deal of trouble as well. On the 5 October the master found it necessary to confine one of his men on which the rest rushed on the quarter deck for the purpose of rescuing him but were prevented by the interposition of the guard, they then refused to do any duty using mutinous threats so that it was necessary to put 14 of them in irons”.

Transcript Samuel ALEXANDER’s medical journal at A2A National Archives

Later on, arrival at the colony the surgeon informed the Governor of the circumstances and provided a list of convicts who assisted in navigating the ship during the passage when the sailors refused to work.”

The Almorah arrived on 22 December 1820 (a voyage of exactly 4 months).

Michael Keoghe(sic) received his Certificate of Freedom (number 53/5570) on 10 August 1826.

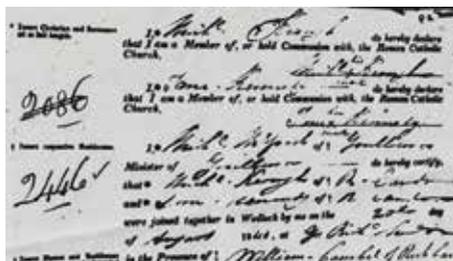
In the Cawdor Population, Land and Stock Books 1824-1825 Michael was working for John MACARTHUR at Cawdor NSW and by the 1828 Census Australia (ref. 0652). Michael, now a free man and a Catholic was Overseer at John MACARTHUR’s place in Camden Park NSW. He was aged 28. Camden Park consisted of prime pasture land south of Sydney and near where present day Camden is. It was in those years wool became the mainstay of the Camden Estate. In 1822 they exported 7000kg of wool to England. It was usual practice in the colony to wash the sheep before shearing. After they were washed the sheep were shorn, often by convicts, using blade shears. It was a process that required considerable skill to remove the wool without damage or harming the sheep. John and Elizabeth MACARTHUR are widely recognised for their role in developing Australia’s merino and wool industry. In 1820 the first vineyard was planted and in the 1830s a more successful venture was established near the Nepean River. In 1832 brandy was being exported. In the early 1800s MACARTHUR’s workers lived at the Home Farm. They made their own olive oil, wines and cheeses. Dairying supplied milk, cream, butter and cheese to the estate workers who were mainly convicts.

We next find Michael at Richlands NSW where he marries Jane KENNEDY

“I Michael KEOUGH do hereby declare I am a member of the Roman Catholic Church. Signed with his mark ‘x’

I Jane KENNEDY do declare I am a member of the Roman Catholic Church. Signed with her mark ‘x’

I Michael McG... of Goulburn do hereby certify that Michael KEOUGH of ... and Jane KENNEDY of ... were joined together in wedlock on



Registration of BDM NSW Number
2446/1840 V18402446 93 – Marriage.

the 20th day of August 1840 at ... in the presence of William CAMBEL of Richlands and Bill CAIN ... of Richlands.” Mrs W CAMBEL and Mrs CAMERON both signed as witnesses with their marks. Record no 2446

Janett (Jane) Kennedy 1814 Inverness-shire, Scotland - 1880 Golspie NSW

Janett (Jane) KENNEDY NSW Assisted Immigrant Passengers Lists 1828-1896

Janett KENNEDY aged 24, from Inverness-shire, Dairymaid, Presbyterian, could read and write (even though she marked her marriage certificate with an ‘x’), and she was supported by a Mr MARSHALL who paid an £18 bounty. Mr MARSHALL paid the £18 bounty for about 20 girls on the *Fairlie* their ages ranged from 15 to 25 and all had Soft Trade callings. Amongst these trades were dressmakers, milliners, housemaids, needlewomen and nurserymaids and all but one could read and write. The *Fairlie* arrived December 1838.



Janett (Jane) KENNEDY

In 1838 nine ships with 2161 government bounty emigrants were cleared from Scottish ports. In addition, there were 1054 ‘private’ bounty emigrants. The British government introduced assisted emigration financed by colonial land sale in 1831. Mr J. MARSHALL was a ship owner, contractor and agent and dominated early assisted passage.

From 1836 there were two schemes. A government system where naval surgeons selected emigrants and the Colonial Office chartered ships and provided free passage. However, under the Bounty system the colonists specified and paid for the labourers they required. Under this system the immigration Officer could refuse to pay the bounty for unsuitable emigrants and the ship owner bore the cost of transportation.

In March 1838 Mr MARSHALL testified that he was an agent from 1833 to 1836 for the government appointed Emigration Committee. The Committee was set up because of the great disparity between the sexes in the colony. They were to select women of good character, moral, industrious and well ordered to elevate the morals of the colony. The Committee sent out 14 ships.

Fairlie was a barque of 768 tons left Plymouth on 31 July 1838. The Captain AGER had 163 Emigrants on board, 40 single men, 28 single women (Garry’s g-g-g-grandmother, Jane KENNEDY), 15 children and 40 married couples. The bounty paid was £2913. In a despatch from Government House Sydney, it was noted that in 1838 557 men, 567 women and 468 children were bounty emigrants.

Inverness Courier 30 May 1838

“**Australian Emigration – Fort William**; After some months of expectation and anxiety, Dr BOYTER, the Government emigration agent for Australia

arrived at Fort William on x 8th current. The news of his arrival like the fiery cross of old soon spread through every glen of the district and at an early hour on Monday, thousands of enterprising Gaels might be seen ranked around the Caledonian Hotel anxious to quit the land of their forefathers to go and possess the unbounded pastures of Australia... While we regret that so many active men should feel it necessary to leave their own country, the Highlands will be considerably relieved of its over plus population”

Jane KENNEDY was on the *Fairlie* by July 1838! By 1840 she was married to Michael. Jane KENNEDY and Michael KEOUGH (sic) had seven children.

- Catherine (Kitty) born 2 August 1841 at Goulburn and died 1916 at Taralga NSW.
- Ann born 26 November 1842, died 1867 at Golspie NSW.
- James born 1 June 1845, died 18 March 1914 at Golspie NSW. We visited Taralga to meet a descendant of Michael and James. Patrick KEOUGH (no 'e') who lived at 'Whylandra' at Golspie NSW.
- Mary born 1847.
- Michael born 1849 at Abercrombie NSW and died 1908 at Golspie.
- Peter born 2 February 1852 and died 1908 at Goulburn NSW.

And the last one, Jane who was born 4 September 1854, married Joseph CHALKER on 18 April 1872 and had 10 children. One of which was Priscilla CHALKER who was Garry's grandmother.

The Richlands estate, north of Goulburn in NSW Southern Tablelands, was an important part of the MACARTHUR family pastoral empire for nearly 100 years. The Richland estate acted as an outstation of about one day's ride south-west of Camden Park estate. In the 1840s its extent reached around 38,000 acres including the private village of Taralga. Grain, wool and tobacco were produced with Richlands wheat fetching premium prices in Sydney.

The initial management of the Richlands estate was conducted from the village in the 1820s until it was shifted to the new hill top homestead built in the 1840s. The village of Taralga is one of a number of private towns that the MACARTHUR family established in colonial NSW. For 20 years the Richlands estate was managed from the fledgling settlement of Taralga on the southern edge of the property. There was a central store and a number of skilled tradesmen,



Pat Keough is a descendent of Jane and Michael and his home is now 'Whylandra' Golspie NSW.

convicts and their overseers were based in the village from the 1820s. While Richlands estate was governed by absentee landlords the real story of who worked the estate, is the convicts, managers, tenant farmers, servants and the dispossessed and displaced Burra people.

The property was eventually resumed by the NSW Government in 1908, broken up for closer settlement and sold in 30 smaller lots in 1910.

NSW Government Gazette 23 February 1866 (no 47) pp 575

“Impounded at Taralga on the 15 February 1866 from the Abercrombie River by order of Mr Michael KEOUGH ;

One dark bay or brown gelding, small star, near hind foot and near fore foot white, EB off shoulder, aged, 16 hands high

One chestnut gelding blaze and snip with W over and JK conjoined under near shoulder, 5 years old, 16 hands high

One bay gelding , little white of off hind heel, DF with small x between the D and F on near shoulder, like MN (the N sideways reversed) off shoulder, 4 years old, 15 hands high If not claimed, will be sold on 15 March next at the Taralga Pound at noon

T TAYLOR, Pound keeper”

Last will and testament dated 12 October 1868

“I, Michael KEOUGH, A native of County Westmeath Ireland and now in County ... in the Colony of NSW I will to my wife, Jane KEOUGH and my family all my goods and chattels. Houses and lands to be equally divided between my three sons James, Michael and Peter though the cattle and horses equally divided between all my sons and daughter and to be wholly under the control of their mother Jane KEOUGH the remainder of her life and the whole management of the family to be guided by her and my oldest son, James though they are to be reasonable... I choose my executer to be my wife and Desmond FULLAM signed sealed by me in the presence of witnesses Catherine Mary FALLAM Michael KEOUGH” (his mark)

Registration of BDM NSW number 3666 – Death

“On 23rd December 1868 Co...Abercrombie Michael KEOUGH (notice no 'e'), farmer, male age..., Name and occupation of father; James KEOUGH, farmer. Name and maiden name of mother; Ann O'CONNOR. Name of informant; Ann KEOUGH, wife of Abercrombie (her mark) Buried; in Stonequarry cemetery by John FENNING, the undertaker. The Minister; John McCORMACK. Michael was born in; Ireland and been in the colony 42 years. He Married at Richlands when he was 40 years old to Jane KENNEDY. The children of the marriage were; Kitty aged 27, Daniel aged 25, Mary aged 24, Michael aged 19, Peter aged 16 and Jane aged 14”. (Garry's great grandmother)

In the Supreme Court of NSW

"Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction In the will of Michael KEOUGH (late) of the Abercrombie River near Taralga in the Colony of NSW, Farmer

On 18 December 1873 Dominick FULLAM of Taralga in the Colony of NSW, Auctioneer being duly sworn in

1 *I am....*

5 *I believe the goods and chattels and credits of the deceased do not exceed the value of £50*

Sworn by the deponent on the date above at Goulburn in the said colony before me C S ALEXANDER, A Commissioner for Affidavits"

Registration of BDM NSW – number 6796- Death

"On 6 July 1880 at Golspie Jane KEOUGH, a female of 71 years died of Old Age. Her father was John KENNEDY, a farmer and her mother was Catherine CAMERON. The informant was I McNAMARA of Golspie and no relation of Jane. Jane was buried at Stonequarry Cemetery. (As was Michael) Witnesses Martin TYNAM and Thomas MALONEY. Born in Inverness Scotland and been in the Colony 41 years. Married at Taralga for 20 years to Michael KEOUGH. Children were three boys, three girls living and one deceased"

There are a couple of discrepancies probably because we do not know who the informant is and where are her children? Michael dropped the 'e' early in his time here and 'Janett' opted for the softer 'Jane' before her marriage. Jane married in 1840, Michael died in 1868 so that makes 28 years of marriage not 20!. She was in the colony 36 years not 41, (an easy mistake to make).

The best I have been able to come up with for her birth and parentage is from an Iain KENNEDY who runs the 'Kennedy One-Name Study'. He is now operating under 'query@kennedydna.com'. In 2007 he wrote to me 'CAMERON is a very common KENNEDY spouse name. I have a John KENNEDY /Catherine CAMERON couple in the right time frame. The nearest birth dates are for Jean/Janet (we know she arrived as a Janett). Fort William is in the Parish of Kilmallie and Kilmallie records are split between Argyllshire and Inverness-shire. The parish is one of the strongest areas for KENNEDYs as we would expect since the highland KENNEDYs formed in Lochaber.

Goulburn Herald 13 Aug 1897

"A great many residents caused quite a stir at the RC church a popular manager of the Hillas district estate Michael KEOUGH married Ann CROAK of Curraweela. Peter KEOUGH, the brother of the Groom was Best Man. They left for Bathurst for their honeymoon."

Same day, same paper

"Debate; six of the Taralga Society met to debate womanhood suffrage with the Golspie Society. Taralga argued for extending franchise to women and Golspie argued against. A vote was taken at the end. Golspie

– 40 Taralga – 20. A number of ladies were present and all but one voted against the proposal!"

One of the things you will notice the big variations of the spelling of Michael's surname including KEOUGHe, Keoghe, Keogh. But if you remember Michael did not read or write and signed with a 'x' and the bureaucrats taking the information had to decipher a strong Irish accent. It is not so surprising.

Ancestry members Family History for Jane KENNEDY which is not backed up by certificates.

John KENNEDY

- Birth 1781 Kilmallie, Argyll, Scotland.
- Death 24 June 1863 Polimailley, Urquhart, Inverness, Scotland.

Catherine CAMERON

- Birth 1789, Kilmallie, Inverness, Scotland
- Death 20 February 1875, Badcaul, Urquhart, Invernessshire, Scotland.

Jane (Janett) KENNEDY

- Birth 1812 Fort William, Parish of Kilmallie, Inverness, Scotland.

1 Going back to the Gaelic chieftains through to the English conquering Ireland there have been various terms meaning "govern" and "ruler" over the years. Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary of Ireland* in the entry for "Westmeath" says "This county formed part of the kingdom of Meath when the island was divided into five provincial dynasties". It mentions Smith/Smyth as one of the families obtaining grants of confiscated lands which they governed.

2 Abridged from

<https://www.buildingsofireland.ie/buildings-search/building/15402637/gaybrook-demesne-westmeath>



On a visit to Taralga 27 June 2020 Garry and I visited the historic Stonequarry cemetery along the Golspie road. In recent times the monument has been refurbished. Michael's grave is the oldest in the cemetery. I am not sure why 'Keough' now has an 'a'.

Book Review

Pam Ray

Jurmann, Shirley, compiler. *Who's been living in my Moruya Street?* Moruya and District Historical Society Inc., 2020. 191 pages. Illustrations. HAGSOC library call no. AN8.537/17/01

This is a delightful well-written compilation describing streets of the NSW South Coast town of Moruya, and the owners of some of the older houses to be found in those streets. This easy-to-read spiral bound book contains many images of the houses and public buildings of the town, some of the buildings no longer extant. Some lucky families were able to supply portraits of their forebears who had lived in the house/s described and these are included. Details are often supplied of dates of purchase of the blocks of land, the date of building of the home or public institution, and dates of transfer of the property to new owners, followed by their history where it is known.

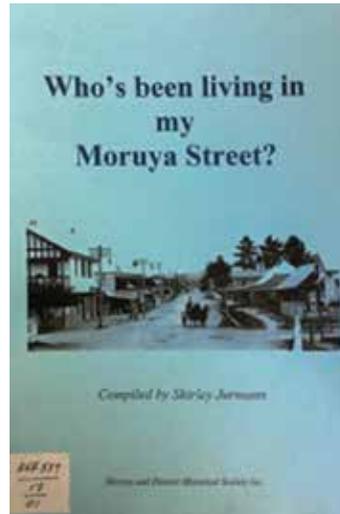
The layout of the book is very easy to follow.

A table of contents appears at the front of the volume with a comprehensive name index included at the rear. The book is arranged by street, and within street by house number, so it is simple to find in the book the entry for a street and house number if you have such information already (for instance on a certificate, or from a directory). However, it is very enjoyable and easy to browse the whole street and discover something of the people who lived near your own families in times gone by.

Included in the book are maps and plans showing the layout of parts of the town. It would be very enjoyable to do a self-guided walking tour of the town, street by street, house number by house number, with this book in hand. Just this one source provides you with information which could otherwise be difficult and very time-consuming for you to compile.

Tracing and detailing home ownership is currently being revived in overseas journals as a useful tool in telling the story of one's family and the lives they led, the neighbours they lived near, and the social conditions of their environment. Sessions are currently being devoted to this specialised topic at many conferences.

A few of the surnames mentioned in the book, such as CRAPP and LOUITTIT, made me wonder if some Moruya families had Canberra connections. As this is a town much visited by Canberrans, this book should interest many of our members, especially if they have family ties to this area.



Pauline's Parlour Hints

Pauline Ramage

We have many treasures in our library that have been forgotten in this modern day of research. This quarter we remind you about Probate Indexes and Guardianship of Minors.

Probate Indexes

Probate is the process whereby a will is proved and accepted by law as the last Testament and the settlement of the estate of the deceased (Deceased Estate Files).

When a person dies without a will the legal personal representative is known as the Administrator, this is commonly a close relative. If refused it goes to the next closest relative.

Indexes to these documents are found for NSW at State Archives NSW and the fiche titled Supreme Court of NSW Probate Indexes 1800-1982 are found **Family History ACT Library Y2/AN2/ 1-167.**

I would like to share a story with you involving my Ancestor George WILSON who died in May 1866. Searching the Supreme Court of NSW Probate Indexes, I was able to find him, and obtained the Series Number to his Probate Records held by State Archives NSW. I also checked the Online State Archives NSW for his records, but was unable to find his name. On a visit to State Archives of NSW at Kingswood, I asked the Archivist on Duty about this problem I found. I found that George's probate was not recorded on their Online Indexes, but on the Indexes produced by the Supreme Court whose records are kept at Kingswood. The Archivist informed me that if his name was not on the Online Indexes, then they did not hold the records. So I checked their set of Supreme Court Fiche, while I was there, and Georges name appeared, so with the number that I found on their Fiche, I applied for the records, and yes the records arrived, having been there all the time.

So it is wise to check both sets of Indexes, the online one at the State Archives of NSW, website, and the copy of an earlier index held by our library **Supreme Court of NSW Probate Index 1800-1982, Y2/AN2/1-167.**

There are many Probate records in our Library for various States, search our online Catalogue by selecting Location : Fiche, -Search Terms: enter Probate, - then select Search, the results will give you what records are available for the other States held at our Family History ACT Library.

You can also search for Probate Notices published from 21 January 2013 which are available online at www.onlineregistry.lawlink.nsw.gov.au. Before this date, notices were published in the *Sydney Morning Herald* and/or local newspapers.

From Our Contemporaries

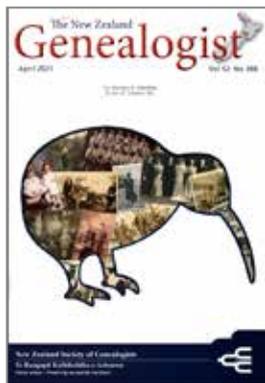
Pauline Bygraves

The items selected for this column are taken from some of the many overseas journals received by the Society - they usually mention Australia in some form or may be of general interest to Australian researchers. If you have an interest in a particular country or location, there will often be other relevant material - recently received journals are on display at the front of the Library.

E-journals are accessible on the computers in the main room. Open the FCER icon on the desktop and click on the link to "Electronic Journals" under "Electronic Resources". If you have any suggestions, please email the editor@familyhistoryact.org.au.

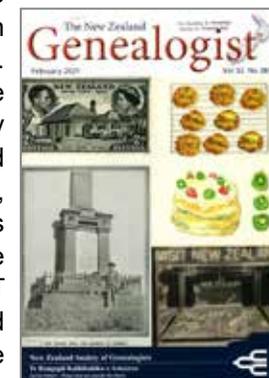
AUSTRALASIA

- Thomas ABBOTT (1830-1895), his wife Eliza (nee BARRETT) and two sons Thomas George and Albert James sailed on the *Strathallan* from Gravesend to New Zealand in 1858. The family settled in Christchurch where Thomas established himself as a nurseryman. Albert James moved to Melbourne in about 1888. After Thomas' death Eliza and her unmarried daughter Annie Elizabeth moved to Sydney. Eliza died in 1919 and is buried at the Rookwood Necropolis, as is Annie. *The New Zealand Genealogist Jun 2021 v52 n389 p106 (K9/60/02).*
- John BALDOCK, with his wife Sabrina (nee BEE) and 10 children arrived at Port Adelaide aboard the *Fairfield* in 1840. They settled at Gawler, before relocating to the Victorian goldfields, but without Sabrina who had died in 1851. In 1866, Sabrina Jane BALDOCK (granddaughter of Sabrina and John) was born. She was orphaned early in life and, after being charged with vagrancy, was placed in foster care when she was 15. She later married James AH KIN, a Chinese miner from Canton. Sabrina Baldock AH KIN (also known as KING) died at Port Fairy in 1943. *The New Zealand Genealogist Feb 2021 v52 n387 p36 (K9/60/02).*
- John Alfred BARKER (1875-1953), a machinery engineer, married Isabella 'Kate' McGINNES (1877-1935) at Hobart in 1901. Their daughter Madeline Doreen died at Hobart in Feb 1904, aged 2 months. The family moved to New Zealand in Nov 1904, after the birth of their second daughter Alice. *The New Zealand Genealogist Apr 2021 v52 n388 p54 (K9/60/02).*
- John Cowan COCHRANE and his wife Jane (nee THOMSON) arrived at Port Phillip on the *Eliza Caroline* in Mar 1850. (Also on board were 235 Irish orphans who were part of Earl Grey's Irish Relief



Emigration Scheme.) John leased several farms over a 50-year period. After Jane's death, he married Elizabeth SWAN in 1890. Two children were born to them: John Robert Swan COCHRANE in 1892 and Mary Eleanor COCHRANE in 1895. John Cowan COCHRANE died in May 1902. *The New Zealand Genealogist Feb 2021 v52 n387 p20 (K9/60/02).* (See also Feb 2020 v51 n381 p35.)

- John Cowan COCHRANE and Robert McDOUGALL were both shorthorn cattle breeders in the greater Melbourne area during the mid-1800s. Their hostile rivalry was played out in the newspapers. *The New Zealand Genealogist Apr 2021 v52 n388 p70 (K9/60/02).*
- John Ash CULLEN, son of Benjamin CULLEN and Esther ASH, migrated to South Australia in 1840. He married Susannah BALDOCK at Adelaide. He later farmed in Canada and New Zealand where he died in 1870. *The New Zealand Genealogist Jun 2021 v52 n389 p120 (K9/60/02).*
- Nora Isolda HURSE, daughter of Leonard Greville Ellis HURSE and Lucy Isolda CROFT, was born in New Zealand in 1913. By 1917 Nora was an orphan. While not much is known about her early life, she attended Wanganui Girls College around 1928. By 1934 Nora was living in Australia where she married Jack Walton FERGUSSON. After Jack died in 1938, Nora married Martin Paul Geoffrey ALLAN but was divorced a few years later. She then married George Bain BURNETT who died in 1951. Nora BURNETT went on to establish a successful radio, theatre and film agency for producers and artists in Sydney. She died in 2002. *The New Zealand Genealogist Feb 2021 v52 n387 p24 (K9/60/02).*
- Trish McCORMACK highlights Police, Justice and Internal Affairs reports available on-line at Archives New Zealand. The records (with photographs) include one for James Newton EWING, a specialist leather processor, who abandoned his wife Sarah and three young children in NSW and later led a nomadic life in NZ. Another is one for Henry Cust HANKINSON who left NZ and worked for a solicitor at Hobart before moving to Sydney and then to the Australian goldfields. *The New Zealand Genealogist Apr 2021 v52 n388 p66 (K9/60/02).*
- Lauren McDONALD was born in 1913 and left school when he was 16. He found work with an engineering and ship-building firm where, after a time, he was apprenticed as a boiler-maker. He later undertook a night-class course in mechanical and electrical engineering at the University of Queensland. He went on to work in the Drawing Office of the Brisbane River Bridge Board

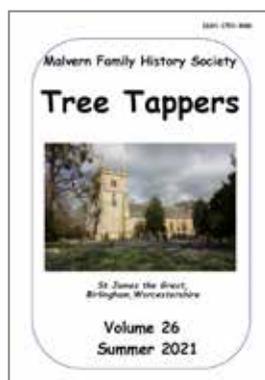


where he was involved with the Storey Bridge construction. *The New Zealand Genealogist Jun 2021 v52 n389 p90 (K9/60/02)*.

- Philip John Gottfried PALMER was born in 1873 at Sydney. His family was prominent in Sydney's musical circles. Philip was principal tenor and choral clerk for 10 years at St Andrew's Cathedral. He moved to NZ in 1900 where he was a church organist and singer. He married Olive Ruth CROLL in 1908 and three children were born prior to his enlistment with the NZ Expeditionary Force and overseas service. He returned to NZ in 1918 and was discharged as medically unfit. He was later re-assessed as fit for home service and joined the Army Pay Department where he served until 1920. In 1924 the family moved to Manly NSW where Philip became organist at St Mathew's Church. He died in 1944. *The New Zealand Genealogist Feb 2021 v52 n387 p7 (K9/60/02)*.

ENGLAND

- Graham FARMER is researching the TAYLOR family of Meltham and now has a database of over 1,200 names. Amongst them is Josiah TAYLOR who spent his final years living at Durham Ox in Victoria with his step-sister Clara SMITH (nee TAYLOR). *Huddersfield & District FHS Jul 2021 v34 n4 p28 (electronic journal)*.
- Edwin GARTSIDE was convicted of stealing five waistcoats, for which he was transported for seven years to VDL. He boarded the *Isabella* and disembarked at Hobart in Nov 1833. Edwin's sentence was extended by three years and he did not receive his Certificate of Freedom until Nov 1842. He died in Jul 1844, aged 30, at Campbell Town. *Manchester Genealogist 2021 v57 n2 p182 (electronic journal)*.
- Edward HULL (alias CALLABY) and his wife Elizabeth CAPES had 10 children, all born at Great Massingham, Norfolk. The children mainly adopted the surname CALLABY. Henry (1799-1869), the third son, never married and is recorded as dying at Adelaide. Nothing further is known about him. *Tree Tappers (Malvern FHS) Summer 2021 v26 p30 (electronic journal)*.
- Jan MOORE (from NSW) is researching PARDOE (Ombersley, Worcestershire) and RIMELL (Hallow, Worcestershire) surnames. *Tree Tappers (Malvern FHS) Summer 2021 v26 p35 (electronic journal)*.
- Andrew SNOWDEN was born at London in 1771 to Andrew and Dorothy SNOWDEN. In 1790 he was charged with housebreaking and sentenced to seven years transportation. He arrived in NSW on the *Pitt* in Feb 1792. Andrew prospered and by 1806 had become a publican and Sarah DARKE/



DART, one of his workers, became his de facto wife. She had arrived on the *Indispensable* in Apr 1796. Three children (Andrew jnr, Sarah Ann and Henry Davis SNOWDEN) were born before Andrew and Sarah married in 1812. Two more children (Isabella and Mary) were born later. Sarah died in 1828 and Andrew in 1833. Both are buried at St John's Church at Parramatta. *The New Zealand Genealogist Feb 2021 v52 n387 p30 (K9/60/02)*.

- Dorothy WALKER: "Obtaining copies of English wills 1858-1925 via FamilySearch". *The New Zealand Genealogist Jun 2021 v52 n389 p117 (K9/60/02)*.

GENERAL

- John SYMONS: "Army Abbreviations (Part 4)". *Hillingdon FHSJ Jun 2021 n134 p9 (electronic journal)*.

GUERNSEY

- Julia Ann MAUGER, daughter of Charles Richard MAUGER and Lydia READ/REID, was born in Guernsey in 1860. Julia had two older siblings, Caroline Eliza born in Weymouth in 1855 and Charles Richard born in 1857 in Guernsey. Charles Richard (jnr) arrived in Australia in 1874 and Caroline, who married Walter Strickland WEBB, migrated in 1875. Their half-siblings, William and Alice GREEN, aged 16 and 14 respectively, migrated on the *Pericles* in 1879. Julia Ann remained in Guernsey until 1927 when she also migrated to Australia. She died in 1940, never marrying. *La Societe Guernesaise FHS Summer 2021 v35 n1 p8 (electronic journal)*.
- Joshua Henry SEBIRE, son of Peter SEBIRE and Rachel BATIST, was born in Australia in 1870. In 1895 he married Ada JENNINGS. They had two children: Lila May born in 1896 and Cecil Harry born in 1901. Lila married Robert NICKELSON and Cecil married Esther FITZMAURICE. JH SEBIRE died in 1928, as a result of a tree-logging accident. *La Societe Guernesaise FHS Summer 2021 v35 n1 p12 (electronic journal)*.



IRELAND

- Dr Maurice GLEESON: "Five Strategies [using DNA] for Getting Back to the 1700s". *Irish Roots 2nd Qtr 2021 n118 p18 (R9/60/04)*.
- Dr Maurice GLEESON: "How To Find The Cousins Who Stayed Behind". *Irish Roots 1st Qtr 2021 n117 p18 (R9/60/04)*.

- Jennifer HARRISON: “Australian-Irish Connections: Birth, Death and Marriage Certificates”. *Irish Roots 1st Qtr 2021 n117 p26 (R9/60/04)*.

- Jennifer HARRISON: “Australian-Irish Connections: Coming to Your Census - Nineteenth Century Colonial Australian Musters”. *Irish Roots 2nd Qtr 2021 n118 p26 (R9/60/04)*.

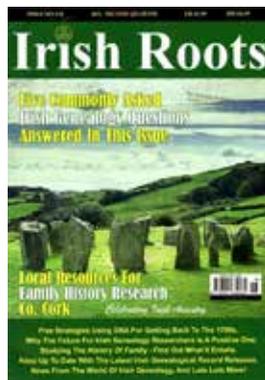
- Mary HURLEY married Timothy (Tim) MAHONY at Brisbane in 1888. Tim was a labourer and may have worked on the HURLEY farm at Laragh, outside Bandon in Ireland. Following their marriage they moved to Yangon, near Warwick, later purchasing land at Swanfels. They had 11 children, one of whom died as a baby. Mary was the sister of Captain Frank HURLEY, 3rd West Cork Brigade, Irish Republican Army, who died in 1921. *Irish Roots 2nd Qtr 2021 n118 p25 (R9/60/04)*.

- Nicola MORRIS responds to a query about Edward Michael MURPHY, son of Thomas Michael MURPHY, a stonemason from Co Sligo, and Catherine SWAIN. On his marriage certificate and AIF enlistment, Edward states that he was born in NSW, but no record of his birth has been found. *Irish Roots 1st Qtr 2021 n117 p54 (R9/60/04)*.

- Donna MOUGHTY: “5 Commonly Asked Irish Family History Research Questions”. *Irish Roots 2nd Qtr 2021 n118 p6 (R9/60/04)*.

- James G RYAN: “How Comprehensive Are Irish Civil Records?”. *Irish Roots 1st Qtr 2021 n117 p10 (R9/60/04)*.

- James G RYAN: “Local Resources for Family History; County Cork”. *Irish Roots 2nd Qtr 2021 n118 p10 (R9/60/04)*.



SCOTLAND

- Judith BENNETT (Vic) is researching Ebenezer CALLANDER, KKD 1841 woolcarder Collin Mill Rerrick. Wife - Elizabeth HALL. Son James CALLENDER fought in the Crimea and migrated to Australia in the 1850s. Wife - Janet DONALDSON. *Dumfries & Galloway FHS Jul 2021 n100 p28 (electronic journal)*.
- James Heddle (Jim) FEA, son of John FEA (1849-1924) and Robina REID (1846-1916), served with the Australian Forces and was killed in WW1. Photo of Jim is captioned “James FEA (1882-1918), ANZAC soldier of No

188 3rd Australian Pioneers”. *SIB Folk News (Orkney FHS) Summer 2021 n98 p15 (electronic journal)*.

- Alan FENWICK, who is researching ANZACs associated with Aberdeen and the North-East, is looking for additional information. *Aberdeen & North-East Scotland FHS May 2021 n159 p20 (electronic journal)*.

- Julie FLEMING: “Melbourne-area Group Report”, the theme of which was ‘Putting Your Ancestor in the Landscape’ presented by Mary EVANS of the Moray-Banff Group. *Aberdeen & North-East Scotland FHS May 2021 n159 p9 (electronic journal)*.

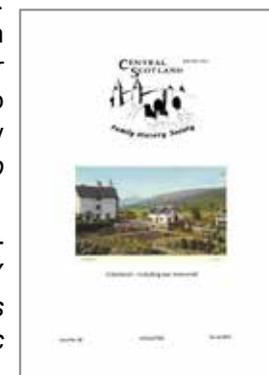
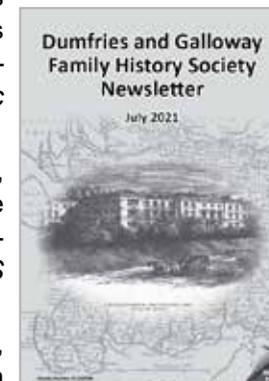
- Mary GEIGER (Qld) is researching James BROWN, stonemason, born Penninghame, died 1872; John McGUFFIE, died 1844; DODD; McMURRAY - all Wigtown. *Dumfries & Galloway FHS Jul 2021 n100 p27 (electronic journal)*.

- Judith GRAY (nee MILL) is looking for information on the MILNE/MILL/POLSON family from Reay, Caithness. Her grandfather left for Australia in the 1880s when his father was head shepherd on a large farm called Durran. *Aberdeen & North-East Scotland FHS May 2021 n159 p25 (electronic journal)*.

- Dezma MAXWELL (ACT) is researching MAXWELL, REID, HALL, LOWERY - Dumfries and Kirkcudbright. *Dumfries & Galloway FHS Jul 2021 n100 p27 (electronic journal)*.

- Jean McDOUGALL was sentenced to seven years transportation following her trial at Glasgow. She arrived at Hobart Town in Aug 1838 on board the *Nautilus*. In 1844 she married ex-Corporal George WESTBURY. Jean and George had three children, with George’s occupation on the birth records given as either constable or watchhouse keeper. George died in 1858, aged 50. No trace has been found of Jean, her elder daughter or her son after George’s death. Younger daughter, Jane, moved to New Zealand where she married and raised a family of eight children. *The New Zealand Genealogist Feb 2021 v52 n387 p2 (K9/60/02)*.

- Janine McMINN (ACT) is researching BELL - Almagill, Dalton; McNEIL - Annan Dalton; MURRAY - Belridden to 1799 Carlyle - Limekills. *Dumfries & Galloway FHS Jul 2021 n100 p27 (electronic journal)*.



- Robin PRICE: 'Brisbane Group Report'. *Aberdeen & North-East Scotland FHS May 2021 n159 p9 (electronic journal)*.
- Alexander Christie WALKER, born in Edinburgh, married Jane Elizabeth FINCH, born Adelaide, in New Zealand in 1890. Their two daughters had the unusual names of Embroenda Adelaide and Sealanderina Aucklaendra WALKER. The first child was named after her parents' places of birth and the younger after their adopted country. *Central Scotland FHS Spring 2021 n60 p28 (electronic journal)*.

Calendar for regular Groups

Australia SIG

2pm the fourth Sunday of each odd-numbered month

Convict SIG

7.30pm the second Wednesday of even-numbered months

Digital Asset Management (DAM) SIG

10am the last Saturday of every odd-numbered month except January

DNA Drop In

1pm the last Tuesday of every month except December

DNA SIG

1pm the second Saturday of every odd-numbered month except January

English and Welsh SIG

7.30pm the third Thursday of every odd-numbered months

Family Tree Maker SUG

10am the second Thursday of each month

Heraldry SIG

8pm the third Thursday of each even month except December

Irish SIG

9.30am the first Saturday of February, second Saturday of March, May, July, September, November

Legacy SUG

10am the third Thursday of each month except December

Pauline's Parlour

10am the last Tuesday of every month except December

11am the second Sunday of every month except January

Practical Procedures

10am the fourth Monday of the month

Reunion & Mac Support SUG

9.30am the first Friday of each month, except January and December

Scottish SIG

7.30pm the first Thursday of every even month

TMG Down Under SUG

2pm the second Saturday of even-numbered months except December
7.30pm the second Wednesday of odd-numbered months except January

Writers SIG

10am the third Saturday of each month February to November (the meeting may move if it overlaps with Easter)

Society Education and Social Activities October to December 2021

Meetings are held via Zoom, face-to-face in the Education Room, or "hybrid" via both methods. Please refer to the Harbinger or President's Newsletter to register for the meetings. Contact the convenor if you have any questions.

Education Sessions – Registration is required for all Education and Events, Courses, Workshops and Seminars. Information is listed in the newsletters or on the website www.familyhistoryact.org.au. Contact registration@familyhistoryact.org.au for any questions about education events.

OCTOBER 2021

- 1 09:30 am **Reunion & Mac SUG**: convenor Danny O'Neill ram.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 4 7:00 pm **Find my Past Week 1: Genealogical adventures overseas: exploring the Findmypast collection** by Jen Baldwin. more information registration@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 5 7:00 pm **Monthly Meeting**: guest speaker Dr Naomi Parish discusses her family's colonial roots.
- 7 7:30 pm **Scottish SIG: Applying for a Scottish coat of arms**. Find out how to do this under the guidance of Chris Lindesay. convenor Robert Forrester scottish.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 9 2:00 pm **TMG Down Under SUG**: convenor Lindsay Graham tmg.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 10 11:00 am **Pauline's Parlour**: Round table chats to assist with research problems and explore research material Having a problem with your research, or not sure where to start? Come along to our round table chats, over a cup of tea, to discuss your problem. convenor Pauline Ramage parlour@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 11 7:00 pm **Find my Past Week 2: Using Findmypast to unlock your Irish Family History** presented by Brian Donovan. more information registration@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 13 7:30 pm **Convict SIG: Convicts in Context - Surgeons on Convict Transports and The Historical Records of Australia**. convenor Michele Rainger convict.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 14 10:00 am **Family Tree Maker SUG**: Producing reports and charts for Personal Publishing Projects based on members' own trees. convenors ftm.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 15 10:00 am **Coffee and Chat**: Join us for an informal chat over coffee to discuss a variety of family history topics. contact coffee.chat@familyhistoryact.org.au

- 16 10:00 am **Writers SIG:** *Finding the Story #7*. Join Professor Melanie Nolan at ANU to talk about writing biography.
convenor Clare McGuinness writers_sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 18 7:00 pm **Find my Past Week 3:** *Uncovering Family stories with British & Irish historic Newspapers* by Myko Clelland.
contact registration@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 21 10:00 am **Legacy SUG:**
convenor Julie Hesse legacy.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 25 10:00 am **Practical Procedures:** Join us to learn how to make the best use of the FHACT Library and its resources. Making best use of the FHACT Library with Jeanette Hahn. These sessions are for anyone wishing to improve their knowledge and make the most of our own really fabulous resources. Four places per session are available so bookings are required.
convenor Jeanette Hahn
- 25 7:00 pm **Find my Past Week 4:** *Ten record sets on Findmypast you'll want to use* presented by Jen Baldwin.
contact registration@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 26 10:00 am **Pauline's Parlour:**
convenor Pauline Ramage parlour@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 26 1:00 pm **DNA Drop in Clinic:** The monthly DNA Drop-in Clinic is a forum for members to discuss their DNA results. Have you had a DNA Test and don't know what it means or how to use the results in family research? Join in this round table meeting to discuss your specific questions or problems on DNA. convenors Elizabeth Hannan, Sue Barrett and Marilyn Woodward dna.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au

NOVEMBER 2021

- 2 7:00 pm **Monthly Meeting:** Attend the 2021 *FHACT Annual General Meeting* at the November Monthly Meeting
- 5 9:30 am **Reunion & Mac SUG:**
convenor Danny O'Neill ram.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 10 7:30 pm **TMG Down Under SUG:**
convenor Lindsay Graham tmg.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 11 10:00 am **Family Tree Maker SUG:** *Preparing to print and publish from our Personal Publishing Project* based on members' own trees.
convenors ftm.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 13 9:30 am **Irish SIG:** *Using the Registry of Deeds for family history research*
convenor. Barbara Moore irish.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 13 1:00 pm **DNA SIG:** *Steps for Success* convenors Elizabeth Hannan, Sue Barrett and Marilyn Woodward dna.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au

- 14 11:00 am **Pauline's Parlour:**
convenor Pauline Ramage parlour@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 18 10:00 am **Legacy SUG:**
convenor Julie Hesse legacy.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 18 7:30 pm **English & Welsh SIG:** *Round Robin discussion on resources, occupations and discoveries* convenors Floss Aitchison and Nina Johnson english.welsh.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 18 8:00 pm **Heraldry SIG:** *Heraldry of the Puritan Monarchy.*
convenor Niel Gunson ph 6248 0971
- 19 10:00 am **Coffee and Chat:**
contact coffee.chat@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 20 10:00 am **Writers SIG:** *Finding the Story #8*. Richard Reid reflects on years of finding the stories of the Irish.
convenor Clare McGuinness writers_sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 22 10:00 am **Practical Procedures:** convenor Jeanette Hahn
- 27 10:00 am **DAM SIG:** This group supports members in how to manage, backup and safely preserve computer files.
convenor Danny O'Neill dam.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 28 2:00 pm **Australia SIG:** Presentation on the *Early Days of Northern Territory and Norfolk Island*
convenor Pauline Ramage australia.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 30 10:00 am **Pauline's Parlour:**
convenor Pauline Ramage parlour@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 30 1:00 pm **DNA Drop in Clinic:** convenors Elizabeth Hannan, Sue Barrett and Marilyn Woodward dna.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au

DECEMBER 2021

- 7 7:00 pm **Monthly Meeting:** *Christmas meeting* - format to be decided.
- 8 7:30 pm **Convict SIG:** *Christmas Get-Together and Sharing our Research Successes this year.*
convenor Michele Rainger convict.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 9 10:00 am **Family Tree Maker SUG:** *Show and Tell, either from our Personal Publishing Project or other FTM work.*
convenors ftm.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 12 11:00 am **Pauline's Parlour:**
convenor Pauline Ramage parlour@familyhistoryact.org.au

... and it's Christmas time again!

Services for Members

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Non-members \$27 certificate \$17 PDF

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Further details in Library or from the secretary@familyhistoryact.org.au

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The FHACT library is registered as a Library Affiliate with the LDS FamilySearch Organisation. This enables members using the FHACT library access to the approximately 25% of digital records held by LDS that have restricted access imposed by copyright holders.

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Research Advice

The service providing free research to members, for those facing a "brick wall" in their research, is currently suspended.

Research Service

Contact Jenny Higgins 0429 704 339 .

Readers' queries

Members may submit queries for inclusion in *The Ancestral Searcher* free of charge. Please no more than 200 words per query. Non-members \$27.50. Contact: editor@familyhistoryact.org.au (all prices include GST)

Notice to Contributors

The copy deadline for contributions to *The Ancestral Searcher* is the 2nd Monday of the month prior to publication. The journal is published quarterly in March, June, September and December.

The Editor welcomes articles, letters, news and items of interest on any subject pertaining to family and local history.

Please send text files in either MS Word or plain text. Articles should be no more than 2000 words, with one or two quality images. Please limit footnotes to 3-4 per 500 words.

Digital images should be a high resolution and tiff or jpeg images.

The Editor reserves the right to edit all articles and include or omit images as appropriate.

Authors can assist by; formatting dates to '1 July 1899'; months to be spelled out; no ordinals on numbers (no st/nd/rd/th); ship names should be *italicised*; all quotes to be in "double quotes"; and all family names should be formatted as CAPITALS. (But not in captions or end notes.) Submissions and questions to: editor@familyhistoryact.org.au.

LIBRARY

Unit 7, 41 Templeton Street, Cook — 02 6251 7004

Opening hours:	Tuesday	11.00 am	—	2.00 pm
	Wednesday	10.00 am	—	3.30 pm
	Thursday	11.00 am	—	2.00 pm
	Saturday	2.00 pm	—	5.00 pm
	Sunday	2.00 pm	—	5.00 pm

The Library is CLOSED on all Public Holidays

Reader's Access Ticket for non-members: \$10 for one day, \$20 one week, \$30 one month.

SOCIETY MEETINGS

Monthly general meetings are held beginning at 7.00pm in the FHACT Education Room, Templeton Street, Cook, ACT on the first Tuesday of each month, except January. The Annual General Meeting is held on the first Tuesday of November. Notices of special meetings, and social gatherings are advertised in this journal as appropriate.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Membership begins from the date the member joins and will expire either one or two years later at the end of the month in which the member joined. New members, or members who have lapsed for more than 12 months, are required to pay a joining fee. Joint membership is available for additional members at the same address. The Pensioner concession are available to Australian residents please check with our Membership Secretary. Amounts are shown for one year.

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* GST free other prices include GST
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Full page for one issue \$110; half page for one issue \$60.

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Advertising in the form of flyers can be included with the journal posting. These are to be supplied by the advertiser folded to A5 or smaller in size, cost for A5 20c, A4 30c and A3 or larger 50c per insert.

Readers' Queries up to 60 words: members, no charge; non-members \$35.00.

Payment is required at the time of submission.

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Typographic design and layout: Rosemary McKenzie, Canberra ACT

Printing: Bytes 'n Colours, Braddon ACT