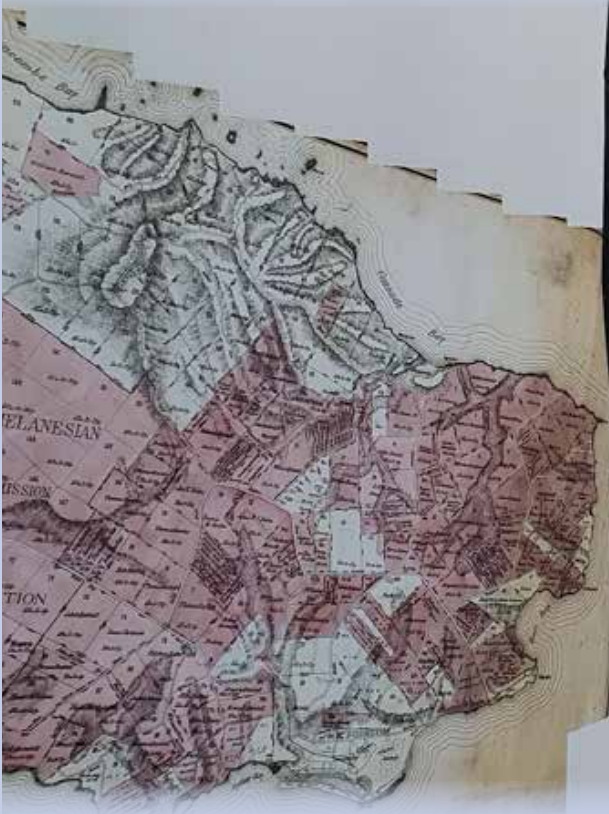




# THE ANCESTRAL SEARCHER



**Family History ACT**

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# FAMILY HISTORY ACT

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**Front Cover:** *Some of the Norfolk Island map collection at AFFHO Congress. (see story p. 124.)*

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# THE ANCESTRAL SEARCHER

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\*Family History ACT is a business name of The Heraldry & Genealogy Society of Canberra Inc.

# From the President

Rosemary McKenzie

The last three months for FHACT have been very busy. Lots of events, lots of SIG/SUG/MSG meetings and, for the end of financial year, lots of management activities. The most exciting and interesting, of course, was the 16th AFFHO Congress (postponed from last year) which was hosted by Norfolk Island Travel and held on Norfolk Island. Ten of our members attended and between the congress and being tourist had a wonderful time for the week. See page 124 for a full report.

For the statistically minded (thank you to our Library statistics volunteer, Helen McCarthy) over the months of June, July and August the FHACT Library has been open 60 days with 128 members and visitors researching.

Over the same period our 8 Special Interest Groups (SIGs), 4 Software User Groups (SUGs) and 2 Member Support Groups (MSGs) had 32 meetings; 6 in-person, 19 via Zoom, and 7 hybrid. That's about one every third day!

Our newest SIG began this quarter. The India SIG supporting those with interests in India came about after the presentations at the monthly meetings featuring British in India and Families in British India Society (FIBIS). Check out our webpages for other group meetings.



Zoom continues to support our society, volunteers and membership extremely well. Across our society for group meetings, education events, monthly meetings, admin and committee meetings a total of nearly 132 hours were booked. That's a lot of interaction.



Education events this quarter included a series of three DNA presentations with Michele Leonard, *Ancestry* with Jason Reeve, *MyHeritage* with Daniel Horowitz and *Shaping Research* with Lynn Plaermo. Our monthly meetings featured Craig Cormick (local author and one of the judges for the Writing Competition), Martyn Killion (State Archives) and Karen Rogers (GOONS). If you're not attending some of our events on offer you are really missing out. Watch for the changing banners on our website.





During *National Family History Month* we featured the FFACT boards from last years *Heritage Matters* exhibition in the hallway. This display replaced the *Fooling around in Flannels* exhibition on loan from the Hall School Museum and Heritage Centre. New to the hallway are story boards from Friends of Black Mountain titled *Black Mountain Nature Reserve – A special place*. This ties in with our local theme and the articles on page 104 *Tuggeranong School House 1880–1939* by Cheryl Bollard and *Researching local ACT Genealogy – A guide to sources* on page 136 by Cheryl Bollard and Sue Pillans.

As October is Convict Month. Make sure you register for the Convict event on 8 October. There are also a number of stories in this *TAS* of convicts as well.



Of course, there are a load of other interesting stories and articles in this quarters *TAS* along with the regular articles.

Happy reading!

---

## *E.M. Fletcher Writing Award Presentation*

*Gina Tooke*

The much-anticipated announcement of the winner of the 2022 E.M. Fletcher Award will be made on **Saturday 15 October at 2pm**.

The presentation will be a hybrid meeting, allowing those local to Canberra to join us in person at Cook as well as an online option via Zoom for the many interstate entrants. Judges Craig Cormick, Wendy Paterson and David Wintrip will be with us to share their insights into family history story telling.

The competition was once again well supported with 103 entries.

Reserve the date in your diary and check out [familyhistoryact.org.au](http://familyhistoryact.org.au) for information about the program and how to book your place.



# Tuggeranong School House 1880-1939

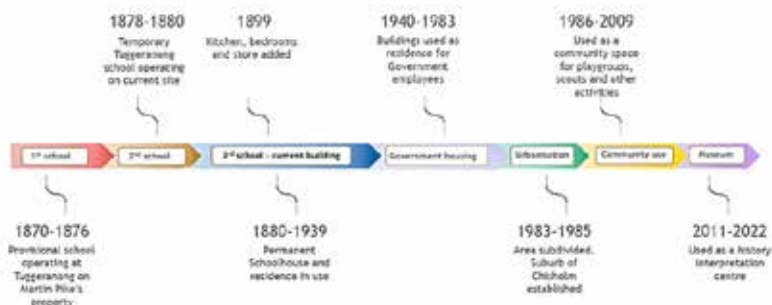
Cheryl Bollard



## Introduction

As Australia's capital city, Canberra is home to many large iconic buildings. However, tucked away in the modern suburbs, and forgotten by many residents, are buildings left by the region's early pioneers. One example is the Tuggeranong Schoolhouse. A chance visit to the Schoolhouse captured my interest and a desire to learn more. The third building to house the Tuggeranong School, the Schoolhouse was built in 1880 and served as a school and teacher's residence until 1939. As one of the earliest schoolhouses in the Tuggeranong Valley, the ACT Heritage Register lists the Schoolhouse as having regional historical significance. A timeline of the Tuggeranong School and its various uses is shown in Figure 1. This article focusses on the period 1880-1939 when the building was a school and teacher's residence and attempts to identify who lived in the Schoolhouse and how the building survived the urbanisation that destroyed many other historic buildings in the area.

Tuggeranong Schoolhouse timeline



## Location:

The property is situated on the slopes of Simpsons Hill in Enid Lorrimer Crescent, Chisholm, ACT.

Originally the Schoolhouse and its 40-acre reserve was adjacent to wealthy landowner A.J. CUNNINGHAM's property in the Narrabundah Parish of the NSW grazing community of Tuggeranong. Road access to the Schoolhouse was via the Tharwa/Queanbeyan Road; however, most students travelled the 2-4 miles to school cross-country on foot or by horse.

In 1906, the Tuggeranong Valley and its Schoolhouse were ceded to the Federal Government by NSW to be part of the new Australian Capital Territory (ACT). The surrounding grazing properties were resumed by the Federal Government and reserved for future development. In 1983, the area was subdivided to cater for Canberra's expanding population. A conservation study on the property was undertaken before the subdivision and recommended several blocks be combined to conserve the Schoolhouse and its heritage

Today, the Federal Government owns the 5633 square metre property and leases it to the ACT Government under a crown lease. Surrounded by suburban houses on quarter-acre blocks, the larger block allows the Schoolhouse to retain its rural nature.



*Block and section details for Tuggeranong Schoolhouse c.1983 showing the proposed subdivision.*

## Occupants 1880-1939

Four schoolmasters and their families lived at the Tuggeranong Schoolhouse between its opening in 1880 and the school's closure in 1939. They were Michael KENNEDY, Francis MCGEE, William DUFFY and Francis LUFF.

### Michael Kennedy

When the Tuggeranong Schoolhouse officially opened on 15 May 1880, the first schoolmaster and resident was Michael KENNEDY. KENNEDY had been teaching at the Tuggeranong school since 29 March 1878 and was instrumental

in the campaign to upgrade from the former temporary slab building to the permanent brick building.<sup>1</sup>



Not much about the KENNEDY's background is known, however newspaper reports describe his wife Mary's work as a nurse in the community and of her teaching many young girls needlework, sewing and cooking.

In 1898, KENNEDY,64, became ill and was replaced by Francis McGEE. Over 150 community members attended KENNEDY's farewell picnic. Michael KENNEDY was described as a genial and pleasant person who had taught three generations of local children over 29 years. Michael KENNEDY passed away on 2 January 1905 in Sydney after a failed operation and was buried on 6 January at the Waverley Cemetery in Sydney.

### **Francis McGee**

The second and longest serving Schoolmaster was Francis McGEE. He was born at Ulladulla, NSW on 8 July 1866 and was the second eldest son of Francis McGEE, an Irish immigrant, and Elizabeth Inesia Teresa HADCROFT.

Francis, was appointed as a pupil-teacher at Goulburn Roman Catholic School on 24 October 1881. Over the next 12 years, he was posted to rural single-teacher schools across NSW, including Yarralumla in the Canberra district. While there, he met Mary Ann MORRISON, daughter of local landowners John MORRISON and Catherine WALSH. They married on 11 January 1893 at the MORRISON's property Bulga Creek near Queanbeyan.

McGEE started teaching at Tuggeranong Public School on 4 November 1898. Francis, Mary, their four children, Kathleen (b. 1893), Darcy (b. 1895), Phillip (b. 1897), and Michael (b. 1898) and a servant moved into the schoolhouse residence.

In 1899, McGEE requested additional accommodation for his family, claiming the small two bedroomed house was inadequate. After approval, McGEE



drafted tender documents for an extra bedroom, kitchen and storeroom. The last three McGEE children were born at the Tuggeranong Schoolhouse, Mary (b. 1900), James (b. 1903), and Patrick (b. 1906).

In 1915 a tennis court was added to the schoolgrounds, approved by the Council of Education and funded by the local community. At the time, tennis was not widely played, and, unusually, the court was built on crown land rather than on a prominent landholder's property. It illustrates the development of the rural community and the higher levels of leisure/social activities.



McGEE's son James recorded that his father was encouraged to farm the 40 acres of land, and the family shared the chores of running a smallholding. The family kept cows, horses, turkeys and bees and grew vegetables and fruit. The children played cricket, tennis and football and trapped rabbits with their cousins to earn pocket money. James believed his father was an outstanding teacher with a genius for inspiring his pupils. Francis McGEE admired scholarship, wrote poetry, loved music and was an enthusiastic sportsman.

James MCGEE received several scholarships and achieved world recognition as a scientific researcher, helping to develop infra-red aircraft tracking systems and pioneering work in television and Astrophysics. He was awarded an OBE in 1952 and a fellowship of the Royal Society in 1966. His achievements were a significant factor in the Tuggeranong Schoolhouse gaining heritage status.<sup>2</sup>

Francis McGEE retired from teaching on 30 April 1927 at age 61. Mary McGee died at her daughter Mary's house in Lane Cove, Sydney on 12 September 1946, aged 82. She is buried in the Catholic section of the Western Suburbs Cemetery. Francis died a few years later on 13 February 1950 in Sydney. He is buried at Conjola General Cemetery.

## William Duffy

William Stanislaus James DUFFY was the third schoolmaster to live in the Tuggeranong schoolhouse. Born in Armidale, NSW on 23 September 1893, he was the son of Irish immigrants Bryan DUFFY and Mary TOBIN.

Appointed as a teacher on 14 October 1914, during his career, DUFFY had postings to rural schools across NSW, including Gibberagee, Corrimal, Broken Hill, Bungendore and Casino.

DUFFY married Annie McLENNAN at Lismore, NSW, on 17 December 1918. Annie McLennan was the daughter of Duncan McLENNAN and Annie McMILLAN of Myrtle Creek, Casino, NSW.

By the time William took up his post at Tuggeranong in May 1927, the couple had two small children, John McLennan (b. 1919 in Broken Hill, NSW) and Edric Mary (b. 1922 in Wollongong, NSW). John and Edric both attended the Tuggeranong school while their father was the teacher. In later life, John was awarded a papal knighthood in the Order of St Gregory the Great for his work in the Catholic Church.



During DUFFY's tenure at Tuggeranong, fly-proof screens were added to the school's windows, with the newspaper reporting that over 1500 blowflies had been trapped in the school in one day!

Late in 1934, William DUFFY was replaced by Francis LUFF. William DUFFY continued his teaching career in NSW but returned to Canberra after his retirement in 1954. William DUFFY died in Griffith, Canberra, on 2 October 1965, aged 72. Annie DUFFY died on 18 March 1990, aged 92 years. They are buried at Woden General Cemetery in the ACT.

## Francis Luff

Francis LUFF was the fourth and last teacher to live and work at the Schoolhouse. Francis took over from William DUFFY in May 1934 and was the schoolmaster until the school closed in December 1939.

Francis Phillips LUFF was born on 5 August 1905 in Adelong, NSW. He was the son of Francis LUFF, a farmer and Louisa Margaret PHILLIPS. His mother died in 1907 when Francis was only two years old. LUFF joined the NSW Education Department on 6 June 1924 and, like the other teachers at Tuggeranong, spent most of his career teaching at remote part-time bush schools. He married Vera Gwendoline GRIBBLE in September 1928 in Griffith, NSW. Vera was the third daughter of the Reverend Arthur Hazelhurst GRIBBLE and Selina Alice RIXON.

The LUFF family had four children, Alan Francis (b. 1932), Colleen Evelyn, Rosemary and Lorna.



The Tuggeranong School was closed in December 1939 due to falling student numbers.

However, Francis LUFF continued teaching at other country NSW schools until his retirement. Francis LUFF passed away on 24 September 1965 at St Leonard's in Sydney. Vera LUFF died on 5 April 1988 in Tamworth, NSW

### ***Occupants 1930 – current***

After the school closed down in 1939, it was a residence for government employees until 1983. As no significant renovations were undertaken during this time, living conditions would have been very primitive. Electricity was only connected to the Schoolhouse in 1955, more than 50 years after the rest of the region, However, sewerage and town water were not connected until 1983, when the area underwent urbanisation.

After minor renovations, the Schoolhouse was used as a home for community groups from the mid-1980s until 2011 when the lease was taken over by Elizabeth BURNES.

## Conclusion

The Tuggeranong Schoolhouse is one of the earliest schoolhouses on the Limestone Plains and played an essential role in the region's social history. It has survived the region's change from a remote farming community to a busy suburb of a large city. The school building and residence are good examples of school architecture of the 1880s. At the same time, the kitchen and extension are representative of the architecture and changing needs of rural NSW at the turn of the century. The Schoolhouse provided both the early education and home for James Dwyer McGEE, a world-leading scientist and pioneer in television and nuclear physics research.

## Acknowledgement

*I'd like to acknowledge the assistance of Elizabeth Burness, the current lessee of the Tuggeranong Schoolhouse, for her generosity and help in allowing me access to her collection on the Schoolhouse and to the Schoolhouse itself.*

The full article on the Tuggeranong Schoolhouse and a list of references used is available in the Library on the grey bookcase.

- 1 Images: Photograph. Class photo Tuggeranong school c1890.Tuggeranong,ACT.Old Tuggeranong Schoolhouse collection.
- 2 ACT Heritage Council. Entry to the ACT Heritage Register: 20021 Tuggeranong Schoolhouse. [https://www.environment.act.gov.au/heritage/heritage\\_register/register-by-place](https://www.environment.act.gov.au/heritage/heritage_register/register-by-place) : accessed 27 April 2022

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# A Colonial Scandal – and an Australian First

Heather Allsopp

Let me set the scene. I was a couple of years into my family history journey. It was a cold winter night in the early 1980s and I was in the Newspaper and Microfilm area below ground in the National Library. Yes, I know that means I've been searching for about forty years. "When is the book coming out?" I hear you (and my patient family) ask.

I had only recently learnt that I had several convict ancestors. In the midst of trawling through a multitude of references to them in microfilmed newspapers from the 1820s, I struck gold in a full page of *The Australian* from 1828. It was a report about a colonial scandal involving two of my convict ancestors, Thomas Henry HART and Frances SHANNON. This was a very exciting discovery.

## **The case**

The case came about when Thomas Henry HART sued Dr James BOWMAN for a “criminal conversation” with his wife, Frances. It “excited a vast interest in Sydney” and “every obtainable seat” in the court was “crowded with auditors” for the duration of the trial. According to reports, the case attracted a “fuller Court-room than ever before known”. This considerable interest was for two reasons. Firstly, it was the first adultery case to come to court in the new colony of New South Wales, with the opposing sides led by barristers Robert WARDELL and William WENTWORTH. Secondly, it was because the plaintiff and defendant were at opposite ends of the scale of social status – a convicted felon and the principal surgeon of the colony.

### **Thomas Henry Hart**

Thomas Henry HART had been a baker in London. He had branched out into other activities by 1814, when he was convicted at the Old Bailey, along with two others, of “burglariously breaking and entering a dwelling-house” in St Pancras, London. The trio stole 58 bottles of red wine, 27 bottles of Lisbon wine, 24 bottles of sherry, twelve gallons of rum, ten gallons of Hollands, plus a lot more. The total haul was valued at £80 to £100. There was plenty of evidence against them, including trousers stained with red wine from a broken bottle. Despite their separate pleas of innocence, the three men were all found guilty in September 1814 and sentenced to death. Luckily for them (and me and many others), this did not happen. Their sentence was commuted to 14 years transportation and, after some time on prison hulks, Thomas arrived in Sydney on the ship *Ocean* on 30 January 1816.

### **Frances Shannon**

Frances SHANNON was also a convict. Originally from Armagh in Ireland, she had been living in England with her widowed sister Jane WARD, when they were both convicted at the Nottingham Assizes of the theft of some British lace. Frances was about seventeen and a dressmaker, and Jane about nineteen and a confectioner. They were sentenced to death, though the sentence was later commuted to 14 years transportation. After their sentencing to transportation, their case attracted strong support in the town. Two petitions were lodged pleading for mitigation of the sentence. One was by the Nottingham town clerk on behalf of local magistrates and the other was a collective petition involving nine people:- the prisoners, the keeper of the gaol, four aldermen of Nottingham and the prosecutors. The petitioners claimed that the two girls were sincerely contrite, that they were remorseful at being the cause of “unmerited and overpowering sufferings brought upon their parents” and that they were likely “under the influence of some artful and expert villain”. These heartfelt pleas failed to sway the magistrate and Frances and Jane arrived in Sydney together on the ship *Mary Anne* on 19 January 1816, just

11 days before Thomas arrived. The naval doctor on board the *Mary Anne* was one Dr James BOWMAN.

### **Thomas and Frances**

A year after their separate arrivals, Thomas and Frances had married. They set up home in the middle of Sydney, eventually running a family hotel, mail coach office and livery stables in Pitt Street called *George and Dragon*. Things went well for a few years. They had each received conditional pardons by 1820. The family grew steadily, with births every second year from 1817 to 1823, yielding three sons and a daughter.

After about a decade of good behaviour, or at least of not being caught, Thomas reverted to his criminal past. He'd had some minor scrapes with the law, but then in 1825 he was convicted of receiving jewels, knowing them to be stolen. He was sentenced to 14 years transportation, which in this case meant Port Macquarie. Frances was then six months pregnant with their daughter Mary Anne, but she had to take charge of the hotel in Thomas's absence. Frances tried to have her husband avoid being transported, claiming she was too ill to conduct her affairs, but to no avail. Thomas was gone by March 1825.

### **The surgeon**

Now Dr James BOWMAN re-enters the story. Frances had known him from her time on the *Mary Anne*, but by 1828, when his role in this case became clear, he was the principal surgeon of the colony, clearly an important role. He was also the son-in-law of John and Elizabeth MACARTHUR, having married their daughter Mary in 1823, with whom he had a son, Edward, in 1826. Multiple witnesses, including hotel staff, a shoemaker, a painter, and especially Frances' sister Jane, by now Mrs William CLARKE, gave accounts of having seen Dr BOWMAN in the company of Frances at the hotel, sometimes locked in a room with him, or walking arm in arm in the street at night. On one occasion Jane kicked down the door of the room into which Frances had taken Dr BOWMAN. Frances had to call to a passer-by to come and take her sister away, as she was causing such a fuss. Dr BOWMAN and Frances certainly did not seem to try to hide their affair. In fact, one witness, Dr BLAND, suggested that they were resuming an affair started on board the *Mary Anne*.

Unsurprisingly, the result of their affair was a pregnancy. Given Thomas's absence at Port Macquarie, Dr BOWMAN encouraged Frances to visit him there so that Thomas might come to believe the child to be his own. A witness heard a compromising conversation Frances had with Dr BOWMAN, he saying "Fanny, you begin to look very big" and encouraging her to go "up country out of the way". Frances replied "Dr BOWMAN you first of all wanted me to go to Port Macquarie to see my husband, now you want me to go up country where I know no one." She exclaimed that "Dr BOWMAN you have brought me to all this." Another witness testified that while Frances was not obviously pregnant

when she left for the matrimonial visit to Port Macquarie, by May when she took off for Hobart, she did appear so. She travelled to Hobart on the ship *The Fly* with her five children aged from two to ten years, accompanied by a servant. This was an unauthorised trip for Frances, and it attracted the interest of the colonial authorities.

In the meantime, Thomas's sentence had somehow been reduced to 3 years by order of the Governor and he arrived in Sydney via the barque *Lucy Ann* and the hulk *Phoenix* to find his wife and children had gone to Hobart. On learning about the reason for their flight, he said he believed Dr BOWMAN to be the father of her child and decided to follow them to Hobart. By the time he reached Hobart, Frances had given birth to James Shannon Bowman HART on 4 July 1828. James was christened a month later. Frances was confined for five weeks after the birth, then the family returned to Sydney together. Thomas stayed separately from Frances in Hobart and apparently never saw the baby. What happened to James is still a mystery. He is not listed as being on the ship the *Mermaid* by which the family returned to Sydney in August 1828, and there is no trace of him in the Tasmanian records beyond his christening. Similarly he is not mentioned in the New South Wales records. For example, the Census in November 1828 lists Thomas and Frances and their five children. After their return to Sydney, Thomas and Frances resumed living as man and wife, and another three children were born in 1829, 1831 and 1837. Thomas appears to have forgiven Frances her transgression.

### **The result of the court case**

The court action was decided in favour of the plaintiff, Thomas Henry HART, with damages awarded at £50 plus costs. He might have won, but it was not quite the £2000 he was seeking! Frances HART died in 1839, aged 42. By then the family business was in trouble. The hotel and all its belongings had been sold, the listing of the belongings, furnishings, etc. giving an insight into the superior quality of the accommodation. Just the furniture and fittings were valued at £339. The business woes were also evident in the fact that Frances' headstone was produced, but as it was not paid for, it was turned around and, presumably for a reduced price, used for another burial at the Sandhills Cemetery. So Frances' memorial became the back of someone else's headstone. What a sad ending to her interesting and colourful life.

After Frances died, Thomas was sued by a tenant, a man called Wheelock PRICE in 1844, for the seduction of his daughter, Jane, who had become pregnant with a daughter, also called Jane. At this time Thomas was about fifty and the young woman only 23. This age difference was seen by the court to be an aggravating feature of Thomas's conduct and hence a factor influencing the size of the damages awarded against him. Damages were set at £100, twice

what Thomas was awarded in his case against Dr BOWMAN. Thomas became insolvent about that time.

He died nearly 10 years later aged about 60, in 1853.

---

#### Endnote

Unlike their convict parents, Thomas and Frances' children went on to be good, hard-working citizens and built a sizeable dynasty. As a family history researcher, I am very grateful for this scandal and the publicity it earned. Normal, law-abiding ancestors from long ago leave very little evidence of their characters, unlike my Thomas and Frances.

---

## Ready For War

*Jim Briggins*

*Every Anzac Day when I see medals and mateship, I hate the fact that I wasn't part of it, no matter how hard I tried.*

IT DIDN'T matter if the war was a world away, dad said we had to have an air raid shelter. He dug a deep hole in a far corner of the backyard, covered it with roofing iron from the chook-pen and shovelled dirt on top.

That was the easy part. Now he had to assemble the family for air raid drill.

Mum said she'd rather take her chances with the bombs than dive into a pit that'd cave in if anybody set off a firecracker in the next state. Even without her, it was crowded down the hole with us five kids and the old man.

He impressed on us the need for speed when bombs were dropping. He'd stand watch in hand like a racehorse trainer at morning track-work and time our gallops between the house and the air raid shelter.

As the youngest, smallest and slowest in the family I was always last down the hole. This was a matter of some concern to me since I'd be an easier target for the bomb aimers.

The run-and-dive drill went on until the enemy seemed too busy elsewhere to go dropping bombs on us and dad became involved in other means of protecting his brood. He became an ARP warden, issued with a helmet, a stirrup pump and a red bucket marked 'FIRE' which was to hold water to extinguish incendiary bomb fires. It wasn't explained how a bucket of water could handle a bomb.

When his new role made him too busy to supervise our practice, the air raid shelter became just a hole in the backyard.

I was thirteen when I did my own bit for the war effort – I joined the Auxiliary Fire Service. Enlisting a thirteen-year-old kid to fight fires showed how desperate the brigade was. Most adult men were in the armed services so it was taking anyone who wasn't in a nappy or a wheelchair.



My first impression of the fire station was polished brass. The two big red Dennis fire engines had shiny brass bells that were clanged as they raced through the streets; the heavy helmets that hung on a line of pegs were shiny brass. Everything, apart from the firemen's thick navy blue uniforms and wide belts with a hatchet in a holster, was so polished you could see your face in it. We newcomers were more interested in action than spit and polish. We'd seen American movies of half-dressed firemen sliding down poles and hanging all over fire engines as they tore through the streets. We wanted to witness that in real life.

But for weeks we practised rolling out hoses in the fire station yard, listening for the alarm that didn't come. Then one night as the fire chief was giving us our usual hose drill, the duty officer sauntered out and said apologetically, "Excuse me, chief."

"Yes, yes. What is it?" The chief was annoyed at having an interruption to his hose practice.

"There's a house fire. We going?"

We going!!! It was a joke for our benefit but it sent our hopes of frenzied fire station action up in more smoke than we were to see as junior firemen.

Then something happened to re-enthuse us – word came through that we were to be part of the Big Chief's experiment. In Brisbane, the head of the state's fire service had come up with a scheme he hoped would gain publicity and attract more volunteer fire-fighters.

He called the newshounds to his office and told them, "I'm going to demonstrate that saving a city from incendiary bombs is child's play." He'd simulate an air raid on Ipswich, Queensland's major industrial city, and have a hose played on the tallest building.

A reporter pointed out that the first thing to be bombed would be the town reservoirs. With no water, what would he use?

"We'll pump it from the Bremer River," the Big Chief said.

This was a surprise – the Bremer River was Ipswich's embarrassment. The name sounded German and that's who we were fighting. Apart from that, the river's chocolate-coloured water was foul smelling, polluted by industries draining their wastes into it. Locals were forever assuring visitors it was not the town sewer.

But the Big Chief wanted quantity, not quality. He said he'd use three mobile pumps. "The first pump will be on the edge of the river. The water it sucks up will be passed on to a second one further up the riverbank then on to the third. That will build up enough pressure to reach the tallest building when it gets to the hose in the main street."

The journos were about to put their pencils away when the Big Chief said, "Wait, there's more. I told you that fighting the simulated fire will be shown to be child's play. This will be real child's play. Holding the hose will be thirteen-year-olds, mere babies. I can see the headlines in your papers – 'Children All Fired Up to Save a City'."

Next day the newspapers used their own headlines, but they gave his scheme plenty of publicity.

The Big Chief wanted small kids, the smaller the better to demonstrate this was just child's play. Since they didn't come much smaller than me, I was one of two chosen to be joint hose-holders.

On the night of the demonstration, the street in the heart of Ipswich was packed with citizens anxious to see how kids were going to save their city. An army of reporters and photographers was there, too, with pens and cameras poised to record the event.

My partner on the hose was no bigger than I was but his bladder was more reliable. As we stood there holding the brass nozzle, waiting for the Big Chief to arrive, the excitement and the thought of all that impending water got to me, but I gallantly crossed my legs and stayed at my post.

Behind us the long line of thick canvas hose stretched out as flat as a carpet snake that had become road kill.

The arrival of the Big Chief was greeted by a ripple of crowd applause. Immaculate in his superbly tailored navy-blue uniform with a battery of colourful ribbons splashed across the chest like fruit salad, badges everywhere, he wore enough gold braid to make General MacARTHUR green with envy.

Acknowledging the crowd with a nonchalant film star-like wave of the hand, he positioned himself against a plate-glass shop window, close enough to us hose-holders to be sure to be in the photographs.

"Are we ready to begin?" he called to the local brigade chief.

"Pumps in position, sir, all set to go."

The Big Chief raised a hand over his head like a starter at Le Mans, held it for dramatic effect before dropping the hand and calling, "Turn on the pumps!"

From down on the riverbank came the sound of a motor starting up, then another, then a third. Evil-smelling water sucked out of the river was sent from the first pump on to the second, which boosted the pressure and delivered it for a third and final build-up before it reached us hose-holders.

The other kid and I held onto the nozzle with sweaty hands as we waited nervously for it to arrive. It seemed forever before the hose on the ground behind us fattened and the dead carpet snake came alive.

I don't know how much force is in the water that goes over Niagara Falls but it would be nothing compared with what came through that hose. The other kid and I had as much chance of directing where it went as Canute had of holding back the sea.

The hose swung backwards and forwards in an uncontrollable arc. The powerful stream of foul water hit the Big Chief in the beribboned chest and pinned him against the shop window like a colourful butterfly in a display case. Each time it swung backwards and forwards, it drenched the Big Chief further. And it didn't stop until a full-size fireman overcame his fright paralysis, grabbed the hose from us and aimed it elsewhere.

The crowd and the newshounds loved it. The Big Chief didn't. To spectators' cheers, he slunk away dripping water, smelling badly and mumbling to himself. The pictures in the next day's papers didn't help his feelings – it's not every day the state fire chief is hosed down by a couple of pint-sized kids.

Three years later I still lagged in the growth department. This didn't worry me unduly – I decided nature had temporarily overlooked me and when the mistake was rectified, I'd spring up like weeds in cow manure after rain.

At sixteen, my mate and I tried to join the Navy. But we were like koalas, protected. As indentured apprentices in heavy industry there was no place for us in the armed services – a government agency called the Manpower made sure we served the four years our parents had signed for.

Eric, one of our under-aged apprentices, was so keen to get into uniform he made it into the Navy not once, but twice. Each time, Manpower found out and he was brought back to the job, a policeman on either side of him. Frustrated and embarrassed, he put his head in a gas oven and killed himself.

My mate Maxie and I weren't prepared to go to those lengths so when we weren't wanted by the Navy we offered ourselves to the Volunteer Defence Corps – the home defence army that didn't care if you were too young to shave or so old you were due for the knackery.

We were signed up by an ancient sergeant who spoke with a funny accent and wore a uniform that could have seen service in any of the wars of the previous century. Everybody called him Russian Jack.

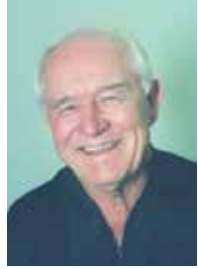
When he'd finished the formalities, Russian Jack led us to large tables stacked with uniforms of a variety of vintages and shades of bottle green and khaki.

We rummaged through the heap like bargain hunters at a jumble sale, but I couldn't find anything to fit me. The smallest khaki tunic was down to my knees; the bottle green pants had a large share of the legs dragging on the ground.

Next, we were issued with our weapons – pieces of wood shaped like a rifle. This would have the Japs shaking in Tokyo.

Invade Australia and they'd face serious splinters from the VDC.

*Our thanks to guest contributor Jim Briginshaw for sharing this story. Jim is a retired journalist who has held senior posts at nine of Australia's biggest newspapers in three states. He was editor of leading northern New South Wales daily The Northern Star for sixteen years. He is the holder of several awards including a national Walkley and second place Australian Journalist of the Year. He has had fifteen books published and his short stories have won recognition in writing competitions in most Australian states.*



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## Johanna – Adventurer, Pioneer, Family Anchor

Elaine Gifford

Death Notice, 1907:

*DUNEMANN.—On the 10th July, at her residence, Copperhouse, Johanna Ernestine, aged 83, relict of the late Wm. Dunemann, for many years landlord of the Racecourse Hotel, Copperhouse, and an old colonist, having arrived in South Australia when the Burra Burra mine first started. Victorian and Western Australian papers please copy.<sup>1</sup>*

A single sentence in the Family Notices of a South Australian newspaper can only hint at the life of one nineteenth century woman.

Johanna's eighty-three years were like a sandwich – two settled periods of family life with a generous portion of courage and adventure in the middle.

Johanna Ernestine BALLHAUSEN was born in 1823. She grew up with her parents and at least six siblings in the Harz mountains in the Kingdom of Hanover, now part of Germany. Apart from broader political changes, life in this productive mining and farming region had barely changed in the remembered past. But by the time Johanna was a young adult, that stability was disappearing. After many years of intensive mining, dwindling deposits of iron, lead, copper, zinc and silver led to unemployment in the region.

In the 1840s, traditional mining communities like Cornwall and the Harz learned of potentially high copper yields in the colony of South Australia. An early wave of Prussian religious refugees to SA was ending, and the struggling colony was welcoming further immigrants to work the new mines.

Of the BALLHAUSEN family in Zellerfeld in the Harz, Johanna in her early twenties was the one to lead the way. Was it because a certain young man from the nearby mining community of Clausthal decided to emigrate?

Whether they knew each other or not, in 1846 Johanna Ernestine BALLHAUSEN and Wilhelm Carl August DUNEMANN each made their way to Bremerhaven ready to embark on a new life. The *Heerjeebhoy Rustomjee Patel*, a three-masted barque, was making its second of three voyages to Port Adelaide filled with miners, single and with families, some farmers and just six single women.

There were no wedding bells and no family to support them, but a year after their arrival Johanna and William (as he became known) were married at Holy Trinity Church in Adelaide.

Meanwhile, many from the *Patel* were quickly employed in the new Burra Burra Copper Mines in SA's mid-north. Perhaps William had secured employment there before marrying. Soon the young couple braved the route north to begin their life together in what would eventually be called Burra. This was Kooringa, the newly established company town for the Mine.

Although Kooringa was only 160 km from Adelaide, there were few actual roads. Drays laden with ore for Port Adelaide or Port Wakefield churned up the routes. Riders on horseback, bullock teams, coaches and those walking all made their way as best they could. Adelaide newspapers carried frequent reports of accidents and even drownings in swollen rivers.

For all these Burra pioneers, the challenge on arrival was to find or build somewhere to live. Initially many made do with tents, makeshift shelters, or even dugouts along the creek banks.

Miners, families and entrepreneurs kept arriving. In two years the population reached about 1500. Because the company town had no freehold land, a number of small townships developed around Kooringa and its mining lease. Houses, hotels, churches, post offices, schools and shops appeared somewhat randomly in the various settlements.

For the DUNEMANNs, everything was unfamiliar and conditions were primitive. Yet Johanna's letters home told of more potential here for the rest of her family than back in Hanover. In 1849, the same year that she and William were expecting their first baby, her father died at fifty-one. The remaining BALLHAUSEN household set their sights on South Australia. From Port Adelaide they made the trek north just two years after the newlyweds.

We don't know how long that first baby lived, but Johanna was now happy to have her mother nearby. Plus the seven other BALLHAUSEN arrivals – brother Louis and his wife, and other siblings ranging in age from eight to twenty-five. How did they manage?

Within a year a BALLHAUSEN baby, another DUNEMANN baby and two new husbands were added to their number.

In 1851 came news of gold in Victoria. Men and whole families made the arduous overland journey to the Ballarat or Bendigo goldfields. In the rush, some houses were left empty until local development resumed a few years later.

A Ballarat history source records Johanna's brother Louis as being among the 1851 inter-colonial arrivals.<sup>2</sup> If this is so, he must have spent enough time back in Burra for his second child to be born there at the end of 1852. What is definite is that in Ballarat he was to become well-known as the operator of one of the most significant mining batteries there. Soon, family by family, his mother and siblings followed him to Victoria.

All, that is, except Johanna and William DUNEMANN who with their four surviving children moved only about two kilometres west. With other Harz mining families they pioneered the new township of Copperhouse, building a solid stone house there.

Neither tiny Copperhouse nor the adjoining Lostwithiel ever developed more than one street, but very soon each had a hotel.

Hotels were socially significant from the beginning of the colony. In country areas, often an early pub could be as simple as a private home with one room set up as a bar, one room for overnight guests, and a stable for horses. In 1866 William became the third publican of the Racecourse Hotel in Lostwithiel, a position he would hold until it closed thirty years later.<sup>3</sup>

The hotel, expanding to nine rooms and a stable, now became the family home. William and Johanna had experienced the sadness of two more babies dying young. This move, although just around the corner, was fresh start for them and their children. Daughter Marie was about fifteen, Johanna fourteen, Louis thirteen and Charles eleven.

From this time, life became more settled for the family. There would be no more moves, no more travel except possibly a trip by Johanna to visit her mother and siblings in Victoria. The DUNEMANNs of Copperhouse became well-known in the Burra district, not only as landlords and contributors to community life, but as a close-knit family.

The following decades would bring both joy and sadness. Daughters Marie and Johanna married, as did Louis and then Charles later on. The families spread out, though not far. Several grandchildren died, and not only in infancy. As the years went by, grandchildren began to marry. Through it all, Johanna and William provided stability, always present for their families as needs arose – appearing in court, providing a base for a newly married couple or for the return of a lost cow or, sadly, for a daughter's funeral.

Johanna's will, written soon after William's death in 1899, is testament to both the material success of this immigrant couple and to their close family bonds. In the will, Johanna 'forgives' the loans she had made to several of the next generation. In the distribution of assets she is careful to include the children of her son Charles who had died soon after his father. Poignantly, she leaves 'all my plate, jewellery, linen, china, glass, books, pictures, prints, furniture ...' to daughter Marie and to the three young women for whom she had become virtual mother after the early death of her younger daughter Johanna.

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As Johanna BALLHAUSEN courageously sailed away from her family so many years earlier, what might she have imagined the future held for her? By the time of her death in 1907, this young woman from Hanover had amply succeeded in whatever vague dream she may have had. With William by her side for 51 years she was to leave behind a rich legacy of faithfulness and endurance, and of love, devotion and service.

The newspaper notice of Johanna's death neatly encapsulated her six decades in South Australia. Yet it could not possibly reveal the spirit and quiet achievements of this pioneering wife, mother and grandmother.



*Four young ladies and a bicycle at Copperhouse about 1910.  
Photo from Burra, A Photographic Journey, compiled by Eric Fuss and Meredith Satchell for  
The Burra History Group Inc., 2009*

- 1 Family Notices (1907, August 8). *The Express and Telegraph* (Adelaide, SA : 1867-1922), p. 1 (4 o'clock.). Retrieved October 10, 2021, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article208964268>. Siblings and a grandson lived in Victoria and WA.
- 2 [https://bih.federation.edu.au/index.php/Heinrich\\_Freidrich\\_Ludwig\\_Ballhausen\\_\(1828-1908\)](https://bih.federation.edu.au/index.php/Heinrich_Freidrich_Ludwig_Ballhausen_(1828-1908)) (Heinrich Freidrich Ludwig came to be known as Louis Ballhausen)
- 3 Later the name Copperhouse came to include both settlements.

# Ancestral Soup

Barbara Broad

My parents, Bridget and Albert, both cooked soup.

In the early 1900s, Bridget, as one of the oldest children in a family of ten, cooked soup for dairy farmers in Northern New South Wales. Her family was a mixture of Irish and English ancestors, combining different classes and belief systems into their Australian pioneer family. As a young woman she worked in a convent and there she learnt more about soup, such as how to use what was given to you or what you had to the best of your ability, and the mystery of combining ingredients. She made good soup from full or bare cupboards.

As a young man Albert cooked soup for cane cutters but Bridget kept Albert out of her kitchen for over 57 years, only letting him in to wash up. This action on her part resulted in a happy marriage. He was a meticulous and precise man in his work and home life but he also liked unexpected challenges. His character could have been a result of his mixed ancestors – Scottish, Italian, Irish, German and Australian.

Bridget's soup in the 1940s and 1950s was thick and full of meat and vegetable chunks. This soup filled a great hunger. Many families and friends were hungry for a home after another war; hungry for adventure, love or wealth; and many more were hungry for a changing Australian culture.

As a skilled slaughter-man Albert provided the bones for Bridget's soup. Late in life, discussing his six years of slaughter-yard work he said, "it was the hardest job I ever had." He added as an after-thought,

"It was probably because I was a small man and there were no machines to lift the animals, only the large hooks to hang the beasts on after they were shot."

After Bridget and Albert moved from the country to the city, Bridget learnt to make soup without the bones. Her specialty soup in the 1960s was pea and bacon: yellow dried split peas were washed and soaked overnight; onion, carrot and bacon diced; peas washed again and simmered for hours along with the diced ingredients and the long strips of rind and fat cut from the bacon. Final stages included seasoning the soup with tomato and Worcestershire sauces, a small amount of cream and a dab of butter. Thickening only occurred with cornflour if the soup had no time to reduce and thicken itself in time for dinner. Time and people were both expected to play a part in the creation of Bridget's soup.

When visitors smelt or saw the golden peas they would sigh, "Oh, Babe, you've made that soup." They knew the work and the love that went into it. They also knew they could not mix the same simple ingredients and acquire that taste



and texture. Still Bridget taught a lot to her friends and Albert and she kept on making many soups well into her 80s.

After she died Albert came into Bridget's kitchen to cook again. A new challenge. A daughter said,

"Hey Dad, you don't have to make chicken stock all the time, just throw your vegetables in with a packet of Chicken Noodle or French Onion."

Albert thought this was a good hint and became a master at it but of course he never threw things in, as every item was cut to perfection with his home-made large steel butcher's knife. Repetitive tasks often help grief, so the family let him get on with it.

He shared and enjoyed a lot of soups but never cold. "Soup has to be hot to warm you," he'd say. "I just can't stand those chilled soups in those cold bowls."

But life, like soup, has many surprises. After a ruptured oesophagus (a cruel event for a non-smoker and non-drinker), Albert survived the operations that cut and hung high the stomach between the lungs, the months of tracheotomy and the longer months of gastric tube feeds. Although he was only able to eat small quantities of soup after the rupture, Albert still wanted to talk about food and watch others cook. Why? asked some.

Later his son-in-law said, "It is a new century and this home is the soup capital of the world with so many colours, tastes and textures."

One day Albert observed his grand-daughter roasting capsicums, preparing Thai soup and baking vegetarian lasagne, and he was intrigued by her choice of ingredients and cooking techniques. He questioned the entire process and compared it with his own earlier cooking methods. "Thanks for the experience," he said with a big smile. This observation of soup and people was his last labouring job; his thin, invisible, nutritional, life thread.

After what seemed a lifetime of soups and medical treatments Albert eventually said, "no more." As the days passed the soups became thinner, weaker, of paler hue and more finely blended. He slowly left the family table for his hospice bed, and the mix of people gathering around the soup became stronger and more together than they had ever been before.

Only those who knew the man within could stay close with Albert; could look past the bones wrapped in the thin rice paper skin; see again the strong arms and legs that had lifted those shot beasts in the butcher yards; see the builder, the gardener, the father, the friend, the roughened hands that had cooked those soups, and the rich, rich ingredients within.

Finally. Chilled bones. No soup but ingredients for eternity.

*First published in 2008 by 'The Australian-Irish Heritage Association. The Joyce Parkes Writers Prize for 2008'. Short story originally published under the author's maiden name, Barbara Ascoli.*

# 16th AFFHO Congress 2022 Norfolk Island

AFFHO Congress 2022 *History in Paradise* was postponed from 2021 due to Covid. The Congress was hosted by Norfolk Island Tourism and was finally able to take place from Mon 1 to Thu 4 August 2022. Those with flights from Sydney had the week Friday to Friday and those from Brisbane Saturday to Saturday (with the option of a hire car to be included). There were around 130 registered for the Congress with 30 others (partners, friends, family) attending the dinner on the final day. Rose Evans and Maree Evans our two main hosts were very complimentary on how the group actively managed the Covid prevention measures, with only 8 people from the group contracting Covid and having to quarantine.



*FHACT Congress attendees 2022 (L-R): Rosemary McKenzie, Frank Mitchell, Jenny Higgins, Trish Downes, Dianne Diprose (behind Trish), Debbie Campbell, Pam Borthwick, Michele Rainger, Jan Grant, Cheryl Bollard, Jeff Bollard, Robyn Duncan, Anne Beasley.*

Congress started with a Trade Show in Rawson Hall, in Burnt Pine Village. Two pre-recorded presentations: *Norfolk Island Resources held at State Archives NSW* by Emily Hanna, *Army Pay Books at The National Archives in London* by Scott Fairie. In person, Professor Noam Levin the University of Queensland then explained the biodiversity impact studies on Norfolk Island through historical maps and aerial photographs. One of the interesting features of the map exhibition was the ability to overlay older maps on current maps.

The formal Opening for National Family History month was a pre-recorded session *Fictionalising the Family History* by Professor Larissa Behrendt, whose flight didn't arrive until later that day. For those that missed out, or want to hear it again, the video is available on <https://familyhistorymonth.org.au> under the heading 'Opening Ceremony'.

Ray Martin, Ambassador for Norfolk Island, gave the opening address for Congress on Tuesday. His topic was *Discovering Who I Am*.

The Congress days were filled with wonderful speakers in three different streams. Free guided tours of the museums, Government House and the cemetery were also included and very entertaining.

The closing keynote *Captured by Cannibals: the Life and Lies of Eliza Fraser* was presented by Professor Larissa Behrendt. It was a fascinating exploration of both sides of the story, of Eliza's shipwreck and 'capture' by the local Butchulla people on their island in 1836.



*Professor Larissa Behrendt, closing address  
'Captured by Cannibals: the Life and Lies of Eliza Fraser'*

To finish off the Congress a Dinner was held at *Orn Daa Cliff*. We were treated to a feast of local produce, including trumpeter fish and coconut-banana pie. Trent Christian was the MC and musician for the evening.

As our AFFHO president, Robyn Williams, was one of the Covid quarantines, it fell to Fay Carbis (treasurer of AFFHO) and Rosemary McKenzie (committee member) to announce and present the Meritorious Awards to Martyn Killion and Linley Hooper respectively. Congratulations to them both. As neither were able to be there the awards were accepted on their behalf respectively, by Kerry Farmer (SAG) and Marvena Van Kann (GSV).

On the social and tourist side of the rest of the days and evenings, a fantastic time was had by all, and we wish more of our members were able to be there.

***Following are some reminiscences from various FHACT attendees:***

### **Frank Mitchell**

'Franks Thoughts' – not to be confused with Frankfurters,

Well Jenny H and I thoroughly enjoyed the place, especially the 'Fish Feasts, well Trumpet-ed', friendly people, enjoyable sights and pleasant walks. We avoided the muddy ones like Pam encountered, but the '100 acres stroll' was particularly impressive, especially those Morton Bay Figs – 'Wow' is all I can say about them, they place the Sydney Domain and Hyde Park varieties in the shade.

The 'chooks and cattle' were a pleasant encounter and I always enjoy dodging the pot-holes on the road as it slows everybody down, except for one rat-bag we met on the roads (several times).

We kept returning to 'The Olive' for takeaway sandwich treats; and 'Prinke' for local treats and coffee where we met a few local people that were interested in the visitors and even invited strangers to their homes.



*Quality Row, Kingston, Norfolk Island.*

The Kingston historic precinct was fascinating along with the graveyard of home engraved inscriptions to the early convicts and soldiers families, the stories of shipwreck, near famine and the Pitcairn Islanders could be told over and over before it all 'sinks in'.

The 'Cyclorama' of the Bounty Mutiny and Pitcairn Islanders was particularly worth visiting, I have since learned that one of the women artists there is a recognised 'Marine Artist', I'm sorry I didn't discuss this with her at the time. (maybe next time.)

### **Cheryl Bollard**

The Norfolk Island AFFHO congress was about fun, friendship and family history. From the minute we met at Sydney Airport, there was a sense of fun and adventure which didn't stop for the whole week. Discovering Norfolk Island's past with like-minded people willing to chase bright shiny objects was very special. My highlights were researching my colonial settlement family at the research centre and, with the help of Rosemary, Trish, Michele,



Jeff, Robyn and Anne, finding not only their block of land but their burial site at Turtle/Emily Bay.

The Congress keynote speakers were well chosen, and Larissa Behrendt was particularly inspiring. The Norfolk Island Museum trips organized as part of the Congress package gave me a deeper understanding of the history of Norfolk Island and its people. I was blown away by the anchor of the Sirius on display at the Sirius Museum. The sheer size and age of the anchor and its connection to the first British settlement of Australia were thought-provoking.



### **Michele Rainger**

I was always going to go to the AFFHO Congress on Norfolk Island—partly because it was Congress and partly because I have a convict ancestor who spent time on the island and this was a great excuse to do some “Boots on the Ground” research.

Although much smaller than usual, with only about 160 attendees, this year’s congress still had plenty to offer. As with many conferences, most speakers were good, some were excellent and a couple were rather disappointing. I was particularly interested in the sessions that dealt with aspects of Australia’s convict era.



*‘For Whom the Bell Tolls’ Cemetery Tour*

Having guided tours of the cemetery and some of the museums in the Kingston and Arthur’s Vale World Heritage area included in our program was informative,

and a good way to learn more and bring life to an important element of the island's, and Australia's, history.

I also took time to visit the Research Centre at No 9 Quality Row. I had contacted their very helpful staff prior to our visit with details of the convicts that I was interested in researching. When I arrived at the agreed time I was greeted with a cardboard box full of large mustard-coloured envelopes, each containing what information the Research Centre had for each of these people. Mostly, the material was copies of pages from books, print outs from websites and a few items clearly provided by other researchers. Sadly not all documents were fully referenced, but at least I was able to take down the details to follow up myself later. The Centre does not



allow photography of records – a policy which I found rather out of date as I had come armed with my digital camera which I have been able to use easily elsewhere. But they do offer a copying or scanning service so all was not lost, albeit that their prices were rather steep at \$1 per page. (I will be mentioning these things in my Congress feedback)

Another, rather fun, element of being on Norfolk Island was convincing my travel companions from FFACT to go cross country with me as we tried to locate the area where my convict ancestor William DAVIS (on Norfolk Island from 1790 to around 1805 ish) had farmed a small plot of land. I knew that he had been recorded as being at Charlotte Field in 1791. Not long afterwards the area was renamed Queenborough and since the 1840s it has been known as Longridge. As best we could determine, Charlotte Field was located south of the modern-day airport, tucked into the valley that ran towards the western end of the settlement at Kingston. Of course I took some photos: this one shows not only the steepness of the land, but also some of the thick vegetation that had to be cleared in order to produce food for the colonies on Norfolk Island and at Sydney Cove.

### **Trish Downes**

I had wanted to visit Norfolk Island for some time, and the package around the AFFHO Congress was ideal for me. The conference itself lasted three days –

or rather, three half-days – and included afternoon guided tours of the island's most historic places. Also included in the package were a rental car so I could drive myself to other spots of personal interest, and free entry to the museums.

The Paradise Hotel where the conference was held, and incidentally where I stayed, was lovely. There was a wide variety of speakers, with a few concurrent streams. I was disappointed that the session on the island's built heritage did not eventuate, through no fault of the organisers. To me, the most interesting and useful sessions were by librarian Wendy Holz on Norfolk Island resources at the State Library of New South Wales. I learnt, for instance, that the primary sources on Van Diemen's Land, held in the Mitchell Library and commonly known as the 'Tas Papers', have now been digitised and are on line.

Apart from the conference, the 'boots on the ground' experience was wonderful. Even travelling by air, the sense of isolation is overwhelming and was reinforced by the news that visits by the supply ship, which used to arrive every three weeks, had been suspended and the island had only received supplies by ship twice this year. Although we did not run out of rations (except drinking straws!) my understanding of the problems of supplying the island during the nineteenth century has increased significantly!



*Looking south from Anson Bay*

## **Robyn Duncan**

When the opportunity to attend the 16th AFFHO Congress in 2021 which became 2022 on Norfolk Island I went with the view to completing further research of my 2x Great Grandfather's time there as a convict from 1834 to at least 1838 where he appears on muster records to when after that we are not sure.

I requested research, as I realised time would be short and received a report which confirmed the information I already had obtained from various sources especially the Archives of NSW. The report was written in a story style and

included details of conditions or circumstances either known to or embellished by the researcher.

As part of Congress, we had a pass to the Museums in the Kingston UNESCO Heritage site. One afternoon was spent visiting various museums and Government House currently occupied by the Administrator

With spare time in the organised programme, I visited the Commissariat, which was built in 1835, maybe my convict worked on this building. The Commissariat was responsible for supplying food and other necessities to the convicts and their gaolers on Norfolk Island.

Many of the objects on display bring the cruel reality of life in Norfolk Island's penal colony into sharp relief. The guide here was full of information and stated that there were only 150 sets of leg irons so the 800 convicts on Norfolk at the time I was interested in could not have all been in leg irons at any one time and their labour was required for the building work and the farm to produce food for the fledging colony.

He further went on to say that any convicts not mentioned in various papers for being punished were thought to have worked producing food. As, g-g-grandfather John BAXTER, was an "ag lab" he assured me he was probably at the farm now known to have been in the vicinity of Longridge Road.

As I have exhausted the resources of the Archives of NSW and Norfolk Island, I am now planning a trip to Sydney to the State Library of NSW where I understand other records are held. The trip to Norfolk Island was well worth the effort of getting there, the twelve-month delay. The interactions with the other members of FHACT made the trip one to remember.

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## Convict Shame and Denial

Graeme Bell

*Notes from Babette Smith's "Australia's Birthstain", Allen and Unwin, Crows Nest, 2009*

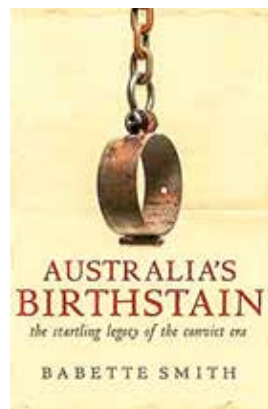
For many Australians, shame about convict ancestry has been an ever present issue even though we now consider our forefathers as the most important founders of New South Wales – whether as convicts or in their subsequent roles as 'emancipists'. (The term 'emancipist' referred to a convict who had been given a conditional or absolute pardon and those convicts whose sentences had expired.)

Since the beginning of settlement, convict topics were avoided in both private and public conversations. There has been a long history of reluctance to discuss the issues around convict ancestry, even to the extent of downplaying convicts' crimes.



The Federation of the nation in 1901 was the year the public were forced to acknowledge these issues as they were an obvious part of our history. It was the same in 1888 when the centenary of settlement was celebrated, and in 1938 for the sesquicentenary in New South Wales. Convicts were acknowledged at each event but with differences. In 1888 the emphasis was placed on the brutality of the convict system and in 1901 it focused on the individual who had been transported. The 1938 event generated a passionate debate amongst the population. Eventually convicts were excluded from the event along with the indigenous peoples.

Throughout the 1800s, New South Wales convict records tended to stress the length of the conviction over the actual crime committed. Often researchers needed to go back to the records in Britain to gain details of the crime. Most crimes attracted between a 7 to 10 year sentence. The length was critical for the convict in gaining a Ticket of Leave and/or a Certificate of Freedom.



Early access to convict records was strictly limited and carefully guarded as convicts were still living into the early 1900s and their descendants were often very sensitive to their disclosure or even unaware of their ancestor's past. Many ex-convicts had moved on and become prominent citizens, acquiring a status in colonial society which they or their family did not want compromised. It was a delicate issue and always treated in a careful manner with the records kept out of sight and public access for many decades. The demolition of convict buildings which began in the late 1800s and early 1900s, also reflected official attempts to remove this chapter of history from the public view.

In 1901 discussion began about the future of convict records in New South Wales. Their destruction by fire was suggested. In the 1950s, State Archives were established in both Tasmania and New South Wales which allowed convict records to be secured. Still the public were not ready to accept public access to these documents in case something controversial was to be exposed or they discovered their 'free settler relatives' had arrived in irons. A decade on, both academics and the general public were making requests for access and information on early arrival records. By the 1970s, any restrictions to access of convict information seemed increasingly outdated.

It was during the 1970s that the third and subsequent generations of Australia's convicts had time to research the details of their ancestors. While some would have known of their convict ancestry, many were to make the discovery that they were descended from convicts. The erasure of convict links was a phenomenon that had occurred at the time of the convict's death. This helped

neutralise an ancestor's stigmatised status for the convict for the family and for the community. Generally, Australians who were most proud of their ancestors were people who thought they had come as free settlers or as military personnel on the First Fleet or at another time. Their knowledge was usually based on oral tradition, something every family historian has learnt to distrust.

Family amnesia about convicts was explained in a variety of ways. Some minimised or even completely fudged the facts. This was helped by the fact that some information had probably been lost long ago apart from the basic records which are still available. Grains of truth often survived, such as dates of arrival, names of ships and locations. Female convicts were no easier to track than men. However, their name changes tended to have more legitimate purposes. Convicts sometimes changed their names, surname and given name. They changed the spelling. However, the great identifier was the name of their ship on arrival. Some convicts moved away, interstate or overseas, to avoid being identified. Victoria, Queensland, or New Zealand, were common destinations. If information about a convict ancestor was passed down in a family, it often went only to the eldest son or only boys were told. This was to protect the females from hard reality. How many knew and kept the information quiet in some pact with their parents or grandparents is impossible to know.

A common trick by descendants and convicts was to skip a generation when talking about family history and so linking them to the past was made a challenge.

Where once families dreaded exposure of their convict connection, today the discovery that a convict belongs in the family tree is a matter for celebration. It places one's family in a very specific historical context. Family historians no longer fear that unpalatable truths will be discovered. They have taken on the challenge to lift and acknowledge convicts into their rightful places in the family genealogy. This willingness to embrace our convict past did not prevail everywhere, as even in the 1980s it was a popular rather than official attitude.

Regardless of the journey taken, academics were still focused on proving or disproving the criminal backgrounds of the convicts. What was found however, was that regardless of the crime, convicts transported to New South Wales were representative of the British and Irish working class and brought a crosssection of useful skills with them, many immediately suited to the needs of a growing and developing colony. The other matter which remained was that of convict connection to the colony's battle for independence. Researchers have found that of the 162,000 convicts who arrived in Australia only 3,600 could fit the category of being a social or political protester. The majority of convicts were thieves. Supposedly, it was from the ranks of the social and political category that our struggle for independence from Britain began.

The use of the terms 'petty criminals' or 'pick pockets' was willingly seized upon by Australians and some families as a way of explaining away the convict stain. The terms applied made the crime sound innocuous and trivial.

It is interesting to note that researchers have established that convicts perceived their transportation as nothing to be ashamed of. In fact, the sentence of transportation was often considered to be a reward, a chance to emigrate and start a new life. In the interim they would be fed, clothed, given shelter, and expected to undertake some physical labour. Married convicts often had a different view of the impact of transportation. Most single men were not in the slightest bit worried about being transported. Their only regret was that of parting from friends. This view was often interpreted as convicts not showing regret for their crimes nor an ability to offer atonement.

During the late 1820s and early 1830s, New South Wales was still a convict society. In 1833 the population was around 60,000 people made up of 24,543 convicts and 26,064 free adults of which most were emancipists. Of the 10,187 children in the colony, most had convict or ex-convict parents. A *laissez-faire* society had been created and the dominant community ethos was to judge people were on their character rather than the English values of class, wealth, education and propriety. Since the majority shared a criminal conviction, there was rarely reason to remember it. In fact, some former convicts were notorious for their lack of shame.

It was around this time (1832), that the Port Macquarie district was being opened up to free settlers and pastoralists. Sydney was a bustling seaport. Transports and naval vessels, whalers from the United States, merchant ships from India, Batavia and China, crowded the harbour. Sailors crowded the port. The 1830s were the height of the convict system in New South Wales with 31,200 arriving in the decade, compared with 15,030 in the 1820s.

In the 1830s settlements stretched in all directions from Sydney. Men were assigned as well as working as free labourers for pastoralists in circumstances unlike any they had experienced. They were often in very remote and strange settings. They were forced to draw on their own resources. To survive, they had to adjust to the unfamiliar trees and rock formations and summon courage against fear of the natives. They had to keep their wits in the hunt for livestock in unknown territory. Men were also required to become highly resourceful so they could meet their own needs – make a table from available timber, build a shelter from bark and branches and maintain a fire, even when the leaves and timber were damp. However, it was in this setting that these men escaped the unmerciful harassment they experienced both before and after they became prisoners. The peaceful life in the isolated bush setting had its advantages.

One Hunter Valley convict by the name of Martin Cash (1830s) summed up the situation:

*'... though a measure cut off from society at the time (more like a great spot in the desert) our calm and undisturbed mode of life was free from the daily annoyances and petty tyranny which at the time men of my class were generally subjected to and which has ever been the bane of my existence ...'*

Forced to travel vast distances alone, the men became adept at living in the bush and surviving well. Some became friendly with the local natives, describing them as always friendly and obliging. The convicts learned new skills from the natives. However not all encounters between the races were so benign and murders occurred on both sides. Many convicts adjusted to and even admired their new surroundings. It was in these environments that Australian egalitarianism was forged. Convicts were being employed by ex-convicts and free settlers and thus mixing regardless of class difference and their shared hardship resulted in shared resources and over time translated into loyalty and willingness to be dependent on another group of men. This was a defining life experience for many, across the expanding New South Wales bushland horizons. Many of the landowners who knew the convicts/ ex-convicts first hand, claimed they were trustworthy, hardworking, civil, and obedient. Some were struck with the ruddy, healthy, and athletic looks of the young convict men.

With the end of transportation in the 1840s came another episode in convict history which led to denial and family amnesia around convict ancestry. Those who opposed the continuation of transportation presented their case on moral, political, and social bases. Despite plenty of opposition to this view, convictism was still largely seen as 'the ugly foulness rooted in our blood which made the colony a dunghill.' Some managed to acknowledge their contribution to the economic development of the colony, some even went as far as to note their assistance in transitioning the colony to a more democratic society. However, the continuation of convict transports was cast as a threat to jobs as well as an unspeakable contamination – even by those in the colony who were emancipists. Never did the British ever admit that the prisoners they had sent to Australia had been compelled through social and economic circumstances in England and Ireland, to become criminals. The anti-transportation campaign helped transfer the convict stain from the minds of the middle class settlers, where it had always existed, to that of the working class who were mostly ex-convicts. Therefore, for the protection of their families, if not for themselves, the ex-convicts were forced to further hide/bury their past.

Very soon after this saga, scientific research at the time was promoting the idea of genetic inheritance and predetermined tendency to crime. This was added to the shame that convicts had to endure, giving ex-convicts another reason to hide their past from society at large and to protect their own children.

At a social level, it was not uncommon for polite society in New South Wales to openly discriminate against ex-convicts, limiting their employment options and constraining their social mobility. This was more pronounced in Western Australian than in New South Wales. Still, it obviously reinforced the need for some ex-convicts to hide their past.

Perhaps an even stronger reason to deny their past was the pall of depravity cast over the convict class by the ideas promoted by those advocating moral enlightenment which led to exaggerated claims of widespread convict participation in unnatural crime (homosexuality) and even worse. This claim supposedly encouraged free settlers not to choose to associate with convicts and for some to fear their own existence might be traced back to a convict.

By the early 1850s there were almost as many emancipists and their descendants as there were new free settlers. While many of these new arrivals adjusted to the existing culture, they brought with them the judgemental views of the moral enlightenment movement which permeated into all aspects of colonial life. In this climate, convict connections became an increasing liability to those who needed to prove their respectability to gain access to employment, education, and finance. By the 1870s, convicts were rarely mentioned in public or in private. Yet it remained just below the surface in everyone's minds and was displayed in various ways – such as being sidelined in social settings. Resorting to secrecy was a way of surviving, even for those who were extremely successful and rose to senior positions in the administration.

This has resulted in a complete distortion of our rightful history and it occurred so as to protect polite English society. It came at a cost to the ex-convicts and their immediate descendants, impacting on their lives in many different ways.

These events of the past could not remain buried indefinitely or could never be denied forever. They have eventually surfaced, and the descendants of today are rightfully proud of their ancestors' achievements. Despite the removal of anxiety related to the convict birth stain at a family level, it lingers at a public and institutional level.

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## *Norfolk Island, August 2022*



*Panorama of Quality Row, Kingston, Norfolk Island, with Napean Island and Phillip Island in the distance. Photo Jeff Bollard.*

# *Researching local ACT Genealogy*

## *- A guide to sources*

*Cheryl Bollard and Sue Pillans*

The people in our family trees were influenced by where they lived and worked and who they lived and worked alongside. By studying the local history, we get a better understanding of how they lived, traveled, entertained, and connected with their communities.

Whether you are researching ACT and surrounding NSW or whether it is a different locality, the best ways to start are:

- An internet search to gather key dates and information on the locality
- Check the FamilySearch Wiki or other Wiki for the location and see the available records. Visit the local libraries as they often have information and images on the region
- Visit the local family history society Visit local archives and museums
- Go for a walk and familiarize yourself with the district.

Draw a timeline for the area noting key events and dates, this will often govern where records are stored and can be found. When researching ACT families, remember that many records will be found in New South Wales repositories.

### **Canberra Timeline:**

**1825** James Ainslie arrives on the Limestone Plains with a flock of sheep owned by Robert Campbell.

**1828** The 1828 census showed 21 white inhabitants living in Canberra and 15 in Ginninderra

**1911** The 'Territory for the Seat of Government' was established as an area of 2,360 square kilometres in the Yass-Canberra district occupied by 1,714 non-Indigenous people on pastoral properties grazing some 224,764 sheep. Additional land at Jervis Bay as a seaport for the proposed national capital city was included in the new Territory

**1912** US architect Walter Burley Griffin was announced as the winner of the competition to design the national capital

**1925** The Federal Capital Commission began operations on 1 January.

**1927** The Territory Police Force was established. Records show the registration of 373 cars, 60 trucks, 55 motorcycles, and 520 people licensed to drive. The ceremonial opening of Parliament in Canberra's provisional Parliament House

**1974** The ACT Advisory Council, established in 1930, became an elected Legislative Assembly, advising the Department of the Capital Territory

**1979** The 1974 Legislative Assembly became a House of Assembly, dissolved in 1986 before the Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988, which established a Legislative Assembly with full powers to make laws for the ACT.

**1988** The Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988 established a Legislative Assembly with full powers to make laws for the ACT.

**1995** Canberra's population reaches 300 000, of which approximately 60 000 live in Central Canberra, 34,000 in Woden Valley, 26,000 in Weston Creek, 88,000 in Belconnen, 85,000 in Tuggeranong, and 7,000 in the rest of the ACT.

**TODAY** the Population of Canberra is 467,194.

## **ACT record sources:**

### ***Baptism, Marriages and Burials – prior to Civil Registration***

The National Library has microfiche records with all births in NSW (which would include Canberra) prior to civil registration, as well as parish registers for Canberra/Goulburn diocese, which will allow people to look at births, deaths, and marriages after registration commenced.

They can also be found on microfiche records held at FFACT Library. Check the catalogues for more details.

### ***Births, Marriages and Deaths – Civil registration***

Before 1 January 1930, the records are kept at NSW Births Deaths and Marriages.

After 1 Jan 1930, indexes are available via Canberra Connect (free) or at FindmyPast (\$).

### ***Birth indexes – no on-line indexes available***

### ***Marriages – online index for marriages until 1944***

### ***Deaths – online index available until 1984.***

The marriage and death indexes contain limited information, such as names of the parties and the event date. The indexes can be searched online or downloaded as excel or pdf.

Website: [www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au](http://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au) search for 'Apply for a birth, death or marriage certificate.

Copies of the certificates can be ordered via the website. However, applications must meet certain criteria, such as a demonstrated family link. Details are available on the website.

### ***Cemetery records***

Many of our early pioneers were buried on their property or in small graveyards that are difficult to locate. Anne Claoue-Long has written a paper on many of the rural gravesites in the Canberra region that is an excellent resource for those

researching pioneer burials. Her article is available at the [accesscanberra](http://accesscanberra.com.au) website.

Records of burials at Woden, Gungahlin, and Hall cemeteries can be found on the Canberra Memorial Parks website, and cremations at Norwood Park are listed on the Norwood Park website.

The burials at St John's Church in Reid can be found on the Australian Cemetery index <https://austcemindex.com/?cemid=921>.

Family History ACT has also produced several books of Monumental Inscriptions from cemeteries in the local region, including Yass, ACT, and Jervis Bay.

### ***Election records:***

Before 1916, ACT residents will be found on New South Wales electoral rolls. While Ancestry.com (\$) has many of the electoral rolls, they do not hold a full set. There are several websites providing free access to these documents.

1916, 1917, 1928 rolls: <https://canberracamps.webs.com/>

1916-1967: <http://earlyactelectoralrolls.org/default.php>

1928 onwards <https://hiddencanberra.webs.com/electoralrolls.htm>

It is also worth checking the National Library catalogue to see their holdings.

### ***Land records***

The National Archives of Australia holds records on the various farming properties that were resumed when Canberra was chosen as the National Capital. Searching by property name will provide the best results.

### ***Resources at FHACT Library at Cook.***

Searching the FHACT Catalogue gives an idea of the wide range of books, CDs, fiches, and manuscripts available for research at Cook.

Worthy of special mention are the *Historical Indexes of the Canberra/Queanbeyan District* CDs which have information on court records, land selection, and parish registers in Bungendore, Canberra, Michelago, and Queanbeyan, and the *Keeping the Faith* CD which is a comprehensive index of donated objects in the local churches of the *Anglican Diocese of Canberra/Goulburn*.

If the family of interest is of Irish Catholic descent, then chances are there may be some information in the *Father Brian Maher collection*. The collection is a series of files detailing the lives of over 400 pioneering Catholic families and their descendants in southern NSW and ACT. The collection is being digitized and indexed with the support of an ACT Government Heritage grant, making it easier to search the collection.

### ***Other local resources***

Other resources that may be useful for local Canberra/NSW research include:



- Libraries ACT – search their catalogue for ACT Family History
- Archives ACT
- Queanbeyan Palerang libraries – hold an extensive selection of books and images on the history of Bungendore, Braidwood, and Queanbeyan.
- Canberra & District Historical Society Queanbeyan Museum
- Hall School Museum and Heritage Centre
- Braidwood and District Historical Society
- Minders of the Tuggeranong Homestead
- Tidbinbilla Pioneers Association.
- Yass & District Historical Society

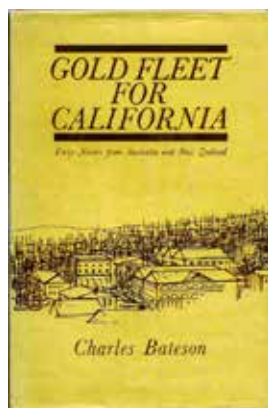
There is a wealth of resources to be found locally which includes photographs, newspapers not yet on trove, and family histories written by locals lodged in museums and libraries. Often these places have knowledgeable volunteers who can assist with your research.

If have any tips you would like to share with fellow researchers, please contact the Editor.

## *Obscure Library Resources* compiled by Pauline Ramage

Do you have ancestors who may have left Australia to try their luck in the goldfields in California; we have a book in the library by Charles Bateson, *The Gold Fleet for California: the forty-niners from Australian and New Zealand* (1963) – Shelf **A7/12/09**. Is about the Maritime and gold mining history of the Australians and New Zealanders who migrated to the Californian gold fields from 1848 to 1851.

*The NSW Early Church Records (ECR)* Microfilms and their complementary index microfiche are much underused – and a money saver! This set of records are usually referred to as the V numbers that you will find when searching the Online NSW Indexes, the numbers are the pre 1856 Indexes which appear as (5253 /1820 V18205253 1B) the year 1820, volume No is 1B and 5253 is the entry number for baptism, indicates that you can be view the actual certificate on the Microfilm Reels , we have in our rooms, these records are the actual church registers, and as stated a great money saver.



Another useful book is Robin Haines, *Nineteenth century government assisted immigrants from the UK to Australia: schemes, regulations and arrivals, 1831-1900 and some vital statistics, 1834-1860* which is at **A7/18/12**. It explains just what the requirements were, which might explain why our ancestors changed their occupation, raised or lower their age, omitted to mention the size of their family... &c, all to fit the Regulations.

**Other most useful sets of books are:**

*Historic Records of NSW (AN7/75/01+)* available on CD-rom but not in the Library.

*Historic Records of Australia (A5/60/06+)* all in the Special Cabinet, also on **CD A7/04 CD 1232**

but they may need some explanation. John Cobley's books on *Sydney Cove* were, in large part, based on these two sources.

**Contributed by Pennie Pemberton**

*Parish Registers in Australia* by Nick Vine Hall Library bookshelves **A2/10/28a**. This book lists 5524 different Australian Parish Registers held in 153 different record centres around Australia. A very useful book if you are looking for where Parish Registers are held.

*Cowra Military Training Camp: featuring Armed Forces Personnel, Index to photos taken at Pardey Studio Cowra 1940-1946* by Pauline Ramage. Cowra is famous for the Japanese POW Breakout, but little is known about the Military Camp that was stationed at Cowra from 1940 to 1946, so a collection of photos and newspaper articles, photo memories of soldiers who served at the camp, an article on the POW Breakout written by Neville Singho, there is also an Index to approximately 4000 photos of soldiers who had their photos taken at Pardys Studio, the indexes give name, army number and addresses . Copies of photos can be purchased from the Cowra Family History Group.



On library bookshelves No **AN8.794/82/01**.

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## *Canberra and Region Heritage Researchers*

The following videos were created by members of the Canberra and Region Heritage Reserchers. They feature brief histories of people buried in St John's Churchyard, Reid, and can be accessed using the following links:

*Air Crash at Canberra* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6JMbIPYxhww>

*History of Percy Sheaffe* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gg7F-rFv9Us>

*Sarah Webb and the Prophetic Gravestone* [https://youtu.be/Vny88ak\\_B-k](https://youtu.be/Vny88ak_B-k)

# Book Review

*Pam Ray FHGSC*

Bain, George. *History of Nairnshire*. Nairn, "Telegraph" office, 1893. 600 pages. FFACT library call no. PNai7/01/01.

This volume has been generously donated to the Society's library by a member who found it indispensable when he was carrying out his own research. He made the hard decision that its contents could be usefully shared with other FamilyHistory ACT members as he can no longer house it. As we like all donors to do, he contacted the Society to see if we would welcome the addition of this book to our collection and we were very happy to accept it. The donor had this volume professionally rebound due to its age and deteriorating condition. Several editions of this work seem to have been published but it is now rarely available for sale.

The county of Nairn does not often feature in published works. This volume was written by a resident of the county, obviously devoted to its history. Records on the Scotlands People website show that the author, George Bain, was born in Nairn in 1846/7, son of a mason also named George. George jr was unmarried and was shown in the 1881 Scottish census as a newspaper proprietor employing 17 people. He was obviously prosperous as he was living from 1881 to 1901 with his single sister Jessie in a twelve-room house named Rosebank. He died in Nairn some time after 1901. Ian Bain, probably a nephew, was the paper's editor when the covid pandemic forced the weekly newspaper's closure, after 150 years, in December 2020.



*Cawdor Castle,  
Nairnshire,  
source Wikipedia.*

The county of Nairn was abolished in the wholesale changes to county organisation in 1975. A small county in the north-eastern Highlands area, adjoining Inverness-shire, its area is only a little over 500 square kilometres. In the mid 1800s the population of the whole county hovered around the 10 thousand mark. This book has been written by an antiquarian with a special interest in the illustrious history of the great county families of the past, but with little reference to the county's industries or agricultural occupations. In other sources I discovered that the population largely worked in salmon fishing, forestry, and the woollen industry.

Unfortunately the book contains no list of contents, its index is only 2 pages long, and there are no illustrations nor any list of references for the researcher to pursue. It is, however, a very interesting book to read, taking into account that many of the 'great' families had less great numerous descendants, many of whom migrated to join other countrymen in Australia and New Zealand.

# *Census and Musters - No Shortcuts*

## *Jennifer Burgess*

A reason not to take shortcuts when searching the Census and Musters.

When searching the Muster books and NSW 1828 Census, it is important to use the Index to identify the person you want to find. While this is time consuming, it is the only way to easily find your person of interest.

The *Census of New South Wales November 1828* edited by Malcolm R Sainty and Keith A Johnson published by Library of Australian History 1980 and republished 1985, first alerted me to the difficulties of searching this document without referring to the Index. It is well known that first names are not in order but I did not expect the variation in last names.



- The letter 'I' appears within the surnames starting with 'J' on pages 215 to 217
- 'Howell' appears before 'Howe' and after 'Howe' on page 199
- 'Hall' appears on page 174 but 'Halfpenny' is on page 175
- 'Ashdown' appears after 'Ashwood' on page 36 and there are many more examples

I discovered this in New Zealand recently when checking multiple female convict names without using the index. It was easier for me to search without using the index, as I was basically looking for a name combined with a convict ship. I wished they had a copy of the Census on CD as this is an easier way to search.

The General Muster and Land and Stock Muster of New South Wales in 1822 published by ABGR 1988 has similar surnames names that are not alphabetical.

- On page 202 'Grimmer' and 'Grono' appear after 'Groves'
- On page 406 'Risley' comes after 'Rixdon'

The General Muster List of New South Wales 1823, 1824 and 1825 published by ABGR 1999 has similar misplacement of names. I have not looked at the earlier Musters but believe they would have the same problems.

For new researchers, use the index if you are looking for a specific person. The spelling of names in these early documents can vary widely, depending on how the person hearing the name, wrote it down. There were often convicts of the same name on the same ship so check the sentence term your convict received and their ship of arrival, to ensure you have the correct convict.

# 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 HCER icon on the desktop and click on the link to “Electronic Journals” under “Electronic Resources”.*

*E-journals can also still be accessed on the computers in the overseas room. If you have any comments or suggestions, please email the editor@familyhistoryact.org.au.*

## AUSTRALASIA

- Lettitia CAMPBELL, daughter of Richardson CAMPBELL and Frances Isabelle BRIGGS, was born in 1839 at Carrigallen, Co Leitrim. The family of nine migrated to NSW on the *United Kingdom* in 1844. Lettitia married Robert CAMPBELL in 1864 and the name ‘Lettitia’ in its various spellings has been carried on in later generations until the present day. *The New Zealand Genealogist Mar 2022 v53 n392 p2 (electronic journal).*
- Giovanni CASTALANELLI (aka John/Jack COLLINS) was born at Bendigo but migrated to New Zealand where he married Jane NICOL in 1908. Giovanni developed a ‘friendship’ with Mrs TOMLINSON whose husband worked in a goldmine. Violet TOMLINSON (nee WILSON) was born at Beechworth. DNA testing has revealed that Giovanni and Violet were the parents of six children born between 1922 and 1927. *The New Zealand Genealogist Mar 2022 v53 n392 p25 (electronic journal).*
- Frederick James FISHER married Alice BARRINGTON in Victoria. His father David and sister Annie had arrived in New Zealand in 1859, after David (real name James Charles LOCKETT) had stolen a large sum of money from his employer in England. *The New Zealand Genealogist Mar 2022 v53 n392 p8 (electronic journal).*
- John GROGAN married Jane LYNCH in the parish of Kilcormac, Co Offaly [Kings] in 1871, before migrating to New Zealand on the *Warwick* in early 1872. They had five children, one of whom, Annie Elizabeth, married John E CAMPION at Sydney in 1905. *The New Zealand Genealogist Mar 2022 v53 n392 p37 (electronic journal).*

## ENGLAND

- William ARTHUR, aged 19, and James RUNNEYGAR, aged 19 from Thames Ditton, each received grants from the Kingston Board of Guardians to assist them migrate to Australia. James EGGLETON, aged 40 received a grant from the Kingston Board of Governors to assist his emigration. This information

was extracted from the Kingston Board of Governors Minute Book for 1852. *Root and Branch (West Surrey FHS) Jun 2022 v49 n1 p28 (NSur9/60/02)*.

- Mary Thomasin BARKER, daughter of Matthew BARKER and Eliza SHUTTLEWORTH, married Josephus LONGBOTHAM at York in 1841. She had seven children and, sometime after 1851, migrated to Australia. Mary died in the Adelaide Hills in 1858, aged 39. *The Wakefield Kinsman May 2022 v25 n4 p12 (NYo9/60/08)*.

- Professor John BECKETT: Talk “William Henry Revis – Footballer, Industrialist and Philanthropist”

– he was a successful businessman and leading figure in Nottingham. He had six children, the youngest of whom George married in Nottingham but moved to Australia with his wife and family. In his will of 1923, WH REVIS left a substantial bequest to fund scholarships for poorer students at University College, Nottingham. *Nottinghamshire FHS Jul 2022 v17 n3 p4 (electronic journal)*.

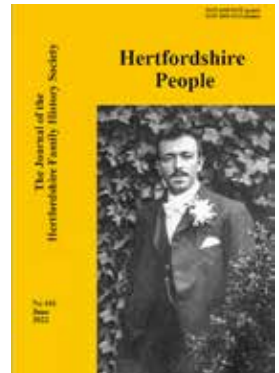
- George Clive BOWLER applied for his birth certificate to obtain a passport in about 1949 so he and his wife Hilda and daughter Jane could migrate to Australia. He was shocked to find his registered name was George Harry ABBISS-SKILMAN. George had been unofficially adopted by his great-aunt Louisa and husband George BOWLER. *Bedfordshire FHS Journal Jun 2022 v23 n6 p20 (electronic journal)*.

- James BRINE, James HAMMETT, George and James LOVELESS and Thomas and John STANFIELD, farm labourers, formed a Friendly Society of Agricultural Labourers in 1833 to oppose wage reductions. They faced trumped up charges and were convicted and sentenced to seven years transportation. Five were transported on the *Surry* in Aug 1834, while the sixth arrived a month later. When details of the trial became well known, there was public outcry and agitation, resulting in the ‘Tolpuddle Martyrs’ being given full and free pardons and allowed to return to England between 1837 and 1839. *New Zealand Family Tree Apr 2022 p7 (electronic journal)*.

- Thomas Alfred BURTON, his wife Mary (Polly) and their sons George Lewis, Norman Hampson and Albert Percy sailed on the SS *Wilcannia* in 1913 and settled in Sydney. Thomas’s nephew Norman, his wife Annis, two children (Carole and Howard) and Norman’s mother Bathsheba Jane (Bessie) BURTON arrived on the MV *Georgic* from Liverpool in 1950. Bryan COCKSHOTT, who later married Carole in England, migrated in 1964. *The Manchester Genealogist 2022 v58 n2 p178 (electronic journal)*.



- Les MITCHINSON: Talk “Transported Across the Sea” provides a brief history of transportation and criminal case records. *Ryedale Roots Jul 2022 n68 p10 (electronic journal)*.
- Jane MORRISON is researching her VALE/VEAL/VAIL family who were living at West Stow in 1772. William VALE, son of Martin VALE, along with Philip HARROLD was convicted of stealing poultry at the Suffolk Assizes in 1802 and transported to NSW on the *Fortune* in 1806. Jonathon SAWYER, another convict from Suffolk, was transported on the *General Stewart* in 1818 and assigned to William at Wilberforce between 1825 and 1828. *Suffolk Roots Jun 2022 v48 n1 p70 (electronic journal)*.
- Francis MOSS, son of Abednego MOSS, migrated to Australia and in 1853 established Mossmount Nurseries near Ballarat. He recognised the need to grow fresh vegetables for the miners, but also started growing fruit trees for the farmers. *Hertfordshire People Jun 2022 n161 p18 (electronic journal)*.
- Graham NEW is looking for information about William PERCY who was a soldier stationed at Weedon Bec, Northampton. William spent some time in Australia where his son, Robert, was born. William died at Greenwich in 1897 and Robert in 1905. *Suffolk Roots Jun 2022 v48 n1 p69 (electronic journal)*.
- Peter PARROTT stole 920 cherry trees, the property of the Marquess of Bute, from Kidney Wood at Luton in 1833 and was transported to Australia. *Hertfordshire People Jun 2022 n161 p18 (electronic journal)*.
- Lynda REID: “Wingrave Emigrants” – the barque *Phoebe* sailed from London and Plymouth with 175 migrants bound for South Australia. *The Bucks Herald* on 27 Dec 1845 named 30 passengers from Wingrave while the *South Australian* provided a more complete passenger list on 5 May 1846. *Origins (Buckinghamshire FHS) Summer v46 n2 p101 (electronic journal)*.
- Dr David SQUIRRELL (lives in South Australia): “Database of Families associated with Cosford Registration District” – contains more than 366,000 names. *Suffolk Roots Jun 2022 v48 n1 p52 (electronic journal)*.
- Joseph WOODWARD, aged 18, was convicted of arson in 1831 and transported to NSW on the ship *Mary*. He married Mary KILDAY at Maitland in 1846. There is a photo of Joseph and Mary taken in about 1892. Mary died in 1900 but Joseph lived until he was 100, dying at Nabiac in 1914 and leaving behind a very large family. Joseph’s older half-brother, William KETTLEBAND (1890-1894) had been transported to VDL for killing his son Isaac at Wysall, Nottingham. *Nottinghamshire FHS Jul 2022 v17 n3 p10 (electronic journal)*.

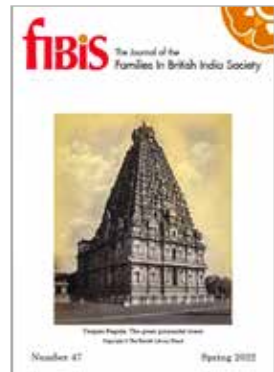


## GUERNSEY

- Henry Douglas CHEPMELL, Gunner, Tasmanian Artillery Contingent, is among Guerseymen born, domiciled or connected by marriage listed as being in South Africa in 1900. *La Societe Guernesiasise Summer 2022 v36 n1 p20 (electronic journal)*.
- Marj COWIE, and her husband Don, ran a dairy farm at Garfield, Victoria. Her interest in Guernsey was the MARQUAND family of St Andrews. Marj passed away at home in Oct 2021. *La Societe Guernesiasise Summer 2022 v36 n1 p11 (electronic journal)*.
- Elisha De GARIS, who was born in Guernsey in 1825, arrived at Adelaide with his wife and two step-children on the *Postonjee Bomanjee* in 1854. According to his obituary in *The Observer* (Adelaide) on 18 May 1918, he was a carpenter and worked at Port Adelaide and Wallaroo before settling at Narracoorte where he was connected with the Wesleyan Church. He died at his son's residence at Narracoorte. *La Societe Guernesiasise Summer 2022 v36 n1 p23 (electronic journal)*.

## INDIA

- David Macadam: "Little Brown Brownlows: Race Shame and Genealogy" – attitudes towards those with Anglo Indian ancestry changed over time, both in India and Britain, resulting in some families concealing their backgrounds. When Mabel BROWNLOW and her daughter Dorothy applied to migrate to Australia in 1934, they claimed to be 'Irish'. *FIBIS (Families In British India Society) Spring 2022 n47 p28 (electronic journal)*.
- Sean KELLY: "Finding Clara: Solving a British India Family Mystery" – details the steps taken by one Australian descendant to try to identify John Fitzpatrick KELLY's wife Clara who, according to her tombstone in Bangalore, was born in 1862 and died in 1904. *FIBIS (Families In British India Society) Spring 2022 n47 p24 (electronic journal)*.



## IRELAND

- Dan CARMODY: "Clans of Ireland Engage in Two Major Research Projects" – the 1641 Depositions as a source of family history and funding the translation of *Linea Antiqua* first published in 1709. *Irish Roots 2nd Qtr 2022 n122 p16 (R9/60/04)*.
- Jennifer HARRISON: "Australian Irish Connections – Across the Seas in Ships – Migrants to Australia from 1788". *Irish Roots 2nd Qtr 2022 n122 p26 (R9/60/04)*.

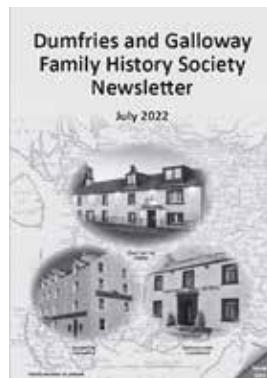


- James G RYAN: “Local Resources for Family History Research – County Wicklow”. *Irish Roots 2nd Qtr 2022 n122 p10 (R9/60/04)*.

## SCOTLAND

- William GRIEVE, son of Robert GRIEVE and Ann WORK, was born at Outerdykes in 1828. In 1856 he married Jane FLETT, daughter of William FLETT and Elizabeth HARNEY. Soon after they left for Australia on the schooner *John Bunyan* and settled in the Walcha district of NSW. William worked as a shepherd and, while he was out working, Jane had an encounter with the bushranger Captain Thunderbolt. *SIB Folk News (Orkney FHS) Summer 2022 n102 p11 (electronic journal)*.

- Ian A. McCLUMPA: “Estate Records” – the National Register of Archives (Scotland) contains over 4,200 collections of printed papers, many of which relate to landed estates. There is information on how to search the Register on-line, as well as mention of several other on-line sources for estate papers. *Dumfries and Galloway FHS Jul 2022 n103 p12 (electronic journal)*.



- Hugh McLAREN, son of Thomas McLAREN and Agnes Clark HUNTER, was born at Glasgow in 1870 and graduated from the University of Glasgow in 1895 with a medical degree. In 1904 he married Isabella McGill WOTHERSPOON. Hugh migrated to Australia, with his wife and son arriving later in 1908. The family settled at Cowra where Hugh practised medicine for 25 years. Two of his sons Alexander and William followed in his footsteps. *Glasgow and West of Scotland FHS Jul 2022 n124 p10 (electronic journal)*.

- Elaine SEATON (from Australia) is researching her ancestors Thomson KIRK (1874 Kirkcudbright – 1954) and Mary Hunter GAW (1879-1941). Their children include Robert (b1902), Agnes Clark (b1905), Elizabeth (b1910), William Gaw (b1913), James Thomson (b1914), Mary Hunter Mowatt (b1917) and Annetta (b1920). *Dumfries and Galloway FHS Jul 2022 n103 p21 (electronic journal)*.

- Manson Scott SKINNER, son of James Scott SKINNER and Jane STEWART, was born in 1879. James was a musician from an early age, becoming a strathspey dancing master and violin teacher. Manson, having no interest in following his father’s profession, migrated to Australia and in 1915 married Alice CAHN (nee GREEN), a widow. In 1917 he joined the AIF and served in France. Manson died in NSW in 1959. *Aberdeen & NE Scotland FHS May 2022 n163 p25 (electronic journal)*.

# Society Education and Social Activities

Meetings are held via Zoom, face-to-face in the Education Room, or “hybrid” via both methods. Refer to the website [www.familyhistoryact.org.au](http://www.familyhistoryact.org.au) for additional information or to register for the meetings. Contact the convenor if you have any questions.

**Education Sessions** – Registration is required for all paid Courses or Events. Information is on the website [www.familyhistoryact.org.au](http://www.familyhistoryact.org.au) or in the newsletters. Contact [events@familyhistoryact.org.au](mailto:events@familyhistoryact.org.au) for any questions about education events.

## Calendar for regular Groups

### Australia SIG

2pm the fourth Sunday of  
odd-numbered months

### Coffee and Chat

10am the third Friday of each month

### Convict SIG

7.30pm the second Wednesday of  
even-numbered months

### DNA SIG

1pm first Saturday of February,  
second Saturday of March, May, July,  
September, November

### English and Welsh SIG

7.30pm the third Thursday of  
odd-numbered months

### Family Tree Maker SUG

10am the second Thursday of each  
month except January

### Heraldry SIG

8pm the third Thursday of even-  
numbered months except December

### India SIG

10am the first Saturday of  
even-numbered months.

### 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

### Morning Coffee and Chat

10am the third Friday of each month

### Pauline’s Parlour

10am the last Tuesday of each  
month except December

11am the third Sunday of each  
month except December

### Practical Procedures

10am the fourth Monday of each  
month except December

### Reunion & Mac Support SUG

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

### Scottish SIG

7.30pm the first Thursday of each  
even-numbered 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 (dates  
around Easter may change)

## OCTOBER 2022

- 1 10:00am **India SIG:** *Identifying and Sharing Research Resources* convenor Prof. Peter Stanley india.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 4 7:00pm **Monthly Meeting:** Anthony Hill *The Last Convict*
- 6 7:30pm **Scottish SIG:** *DNA study – use of trees, DNA matching, looking at immigration patterns* convenor Robert Forrester scottish.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 8 9:30am **Talking about Convicts Seminar:**  
Prof. Hamish Maxwell-Stewart *Damned Lives and Statistics: Big Data and Convict Life Course*; Michael Flynn *Convict lives in early New South Wales: reconstructing biographies from online sources*; Assoc Prof David Roberts *Using Mr Bigge's Enquiry two hundred years on.*
- 8 and 9 **TMG Down Under UG:** *TMG Down Under Weekend* convenor Lindsay Graham tmg.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 12 7:30pm **Convict SIG:** *Where to Next with Convict History* with Prof. Hamish Maxwell-Stewart. convenor Michele Rainger convict.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 13 9:00am **Family Tree Maker UG:** *Expanding your family tree with DNA: telling the story of your family with Charting Companion & Family Tree Maker* Pierre Clouthier. ftm.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 15 10:00am **Writers SIG:** convenor Clare McGuiness writers.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 15 2:00pm **2022 E.M. Fletcher Award Presentation** Join us for this event, where the short-listed entries to the competition will be announced, and the winning entry, runner-up, and FFACT member prizes will be awarded. writingcompetition@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 16 11:00am **Pauline's Parlour:** 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
- 20 10:00am **Legacy UG:** *Falling off the Perch.* convenor Julie Hesse legacy.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 20 8.00pm **Heraldry SIG:** *Heraldry on the market.* convenor Niel Gunson heraldry.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 21 10:00am **Coffee and Chat:** *A Visit to the National Archives of Australia* bookings a must. coffee.chat@familyhistoryact.org.au

- 24 10:00am **Library Practice:** Making best use of the HAGSOC 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 library.practice@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 25 10:00am **Pauline's Parlour:** convenor Pauline Ramage parlour@familyhistoryact.org.au

## NOVEMBER 2022

- 1 7:00pm **Monthly Meeting:** Annual General Meeting.
- 8 7:30pm **TMG Down Under UG:** convenor Lindsay Graham tmg.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 10 10:00am **Family Tree Maker UG:** *How to work with your sources and citations in the Sources Workspace.* ftm.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 12 9.30am **Irish SIG:** *Pension Records for our Irish Forebears.* convenor Barbara Moore irish.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 12 01:00pm **DNA SIG:** convenor Cathy Day dna.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 17 10:00am **Legacy UG:** *Christmas in Legacyland.* convenor Julie Hesse legacy.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 17 7:30pm **English and Welsh SIG:** *Changing Boundaries* Pennie Pemberton PLUS *Round Robin.* convenor Floss Aitchison and Nina Johnson english.welsh.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 18 10:00am **Coffee and Chat:** *Research Review – broken brick walls.* coffee.chat@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 18 to 20 **Return to Tipperary:** St Clement's Retreat, Galong.
- 19 10:00am **Writers SIG:** convenor Clare McGuiness writers.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 20 11:00am **Pauline's Parlour:** convenor Pauline Ramage parlour@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 27 2:00pm **Australia SIG:** *Armed Forces.* convenor Pauline Ramage australia.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 28 10:00am **Library Practice:** Four places per session are available so bookings are required. convenor Jeanette Hahn library.practice@familyhistoryact.org.au

29 11:00am **Pauline's Parlour**: convenor Pauline Ramage  
parlour@familyhistoryact.org.au

## DECEMBER 2022

3 10:00am **India SIG**: convenor Prof. Peter Stanley  
india.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au

6 7:00pm **Monthly Meeting**: Christmas Festivities TBA.

8 10:00am **Family Tree Maker UG**: *Show and Tell*.  
ftm.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au

14 7:30pm **Convict SIG**: *Convicts in the Hunter Valley* Dr Mark Dunn.  
convenor Michele Rainger convict.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au

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# *FHACT Family Snapshots*

*Gina Tooke*

FHACT has a great collection of photos capturing the history and stories of our Society, many of which include the members that have joined in the various activities we've participated in and celebrated over the years.

During August a selection of photos from the FHACT family snapshots albums were on display at Cook. Visitors to the Library enjoyed reminiscing about places, events and our members getting out and having fun!

In preparation for our 60th birthday celebration in 2024 – yes, it's fast approaching – we also want to hear from you. Do you have any photo gems from a HAGSOC / FHACT event? From the early days or more recent, we would love to increase our image collection to cover as many memorable occasions and members as possible.

Can you add to our collection? Let us know if you have anything to share by emailing [treasurer@familyhistoryact.org.au](mailto:treasurer@familyhistoryact.org.au).



*HAGSOC members at the 1988 Congress*



*Can you add to our albums?*

# Services for Members

## Photocopies

A4 25c

## Microform Prints

A4 45c

## GRO Certificate and PDF Service

Members \$24 certificate, \$16 PDF

Non-members \$27 certificate \$17 PDF

## Translation Service

Translations available for the following languages:

English handwriting c. 1600, Estonian, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Icelandic, Italian, Latin, Norwegian, Polish, Welsh, Yiddish.

Prices: A \$10 fee for assessment of the material is non-refundable. Prices vary according to language and are charged per 100 words or part thereof.

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

## LDS Film Viewing

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

## Discounts

Financial members receive a 10% discount when purchasing FFACT publications. Further details in Library

## 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**

## SOCIETY MEETINGS

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

Individual	\$ 81.00*	Joining Fee	\$ 20.00
Joint	\$ 122.00*	Journal Only – Australia	\$ 35.00
Individual – Pensioner	\$ 76.00*	Journal Only – Overseas	\$ 45.00*
Joint – Pensioner	\$ 112.00*		

\* GST free other prices include GST

Membership forms are available on the website, at the FHACT Library or can be posted on request.

**The Ancestral Searcher** is the official journal of the Heraldry & Genealogy Society of Canberra Inc. The journal is published quarterly and available without charge to financial members of the Society and affiliated bodies. Kindred Societies can receive the journal on an exchange basis. Back copies are available for current year and previous two years at \$5.00 each. Earlier issues are \$3.00 each or \$5.00 for a yearly bundle of 4 issues (price includes postage within Australia).

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## ADVERTISING AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Copy for advertising and contributions is required by the first day of the month preceding the month of publication. Advertising in the journal:

Full page for four consecutive issues \$330; half page for four consecutive issues \$175;

Full page for one issue \$110; half page for one issue \$60.

Advertising in non-consecutive issues is charged at the single issue rate. 10% discount is available to advertisers who are members of the Society.

Advertising 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.

All prices include GST

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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.*