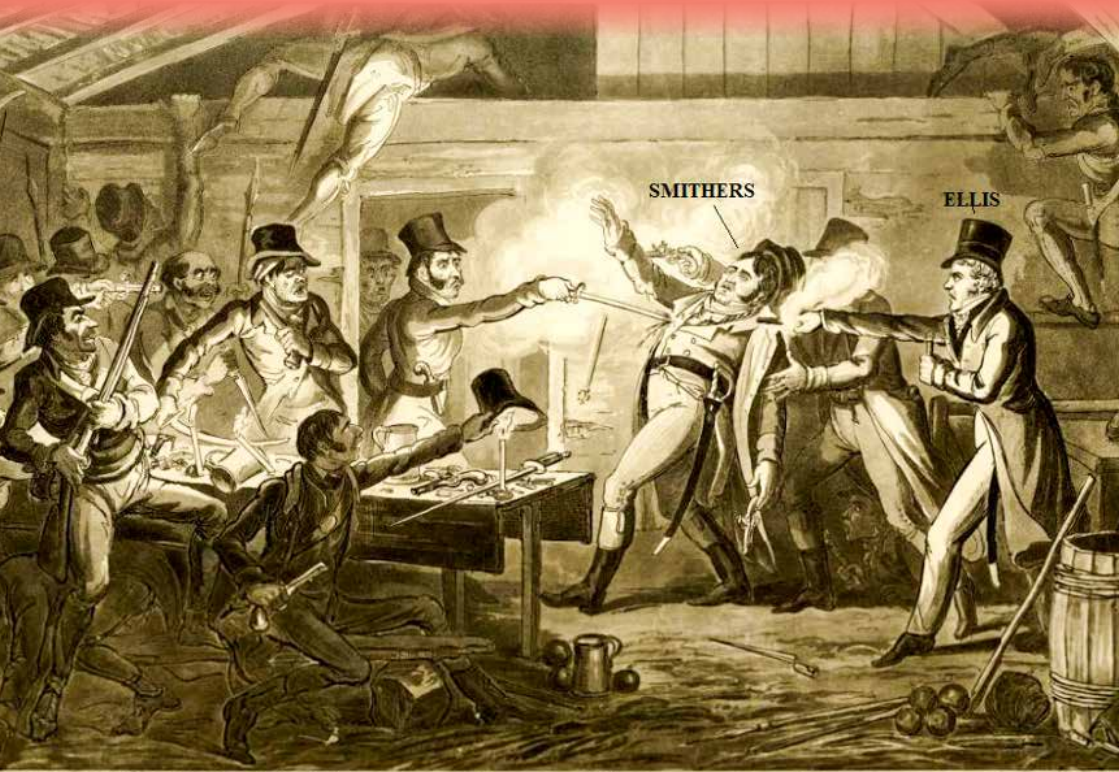




THE ANCESTRAL SEARCHER



The CATO STREET CONSPIRATORS. on the Memorable Night of the 23^d of Feb^r 1820, at the moment when Smithers the Police Officer was Stabbed; 16 The Scene faithfully represented from the Description of Mr. Pulteney, the View of the Interior correctly sketched on the Spot.

Family History ACT

Vol. 46 No. 1 March 2023

FAMILY HISTORY ACT

**Family History ACT is a business name of
The Heraldry and Genealogy Society of Canberra Inc. founded in 1964**

Member of the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations;

NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies;

Associate Member of Scottish Federation of Family History Societies; Family History Federation.

Patron

Professor Peter Stanley F.A.H.A.

Honorary Life Members

S.G. Cameron*, W.T Crocker*, D.J. Davies*, A. Dziedzic, E.M. Fletcher*, J.D. Hayhurst,
R.M.A. Heggen, W.H. Marsh*, R. Middelman, J.F. Penny, P.A. Pickering, K.S. Pinkerton,
D.G. Rymer*, R.D. Stevens, G.E. Taylor.

Fellows

G.A. Burkhardt, M.C.N. D'Arcy*, E.M. Fletcher*, W.N. Gunson, R.A. Kerr*, W.H. Marsh*,
B. Moore, D.R. Mountain, C.M. Num, P.A. Pemberton, J.F. Penny, P.S. Procter,
P.M. Ray, R.M. Rodgers,* G.R. Thom.

Honorary Fellows

Colonel Iain Swinnerton* (Retd), Heather Garnsey

* Indicates Deceased

Honorary Office Bearers 2021-2022

President: Rosemary McKenzie president@familyhistoryact.org.au

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

Secretary: vacant secretary@familyhistoryact.org.au

Treasurer: Cheryl Bollard treasurer@familyhistoryact.org.au

Councillors: Peter McLoughlin

Mel McNamara newletters@familyhistoryact.org.au

Susan Pillans 0402 251 348

Howard Viccars computermgr@familyhistoryact.org.au

David Wintrip facilities@familyhistoryact.org.au

Non-Committee Posts

June Penny 0429 411 942

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

Computer Manager Howard Viccars computermgr@familyhistoryact.org.au
Editor Rosemary McKenzie editor@familyhistoryact.org.au

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

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

Membership Secretary membership@familyhistoryact.org.au

Public Officer June Penny 0429 411 942

Research Manager Jenny Higgins 0429 704 339

Serials Librarian Susan Mann 02 6161 6494

Translation Service Jenny Higgins translation@familyhistoryact.org.au

Webmaster Nick Reddan webmaster@familyhistoryact.org.au

Front Cover: The death of Richard Smithers at Cato Street. The British Museum. (story p. 17)

Society Library and Headquarters:

41 Templeton Street, Cook, ACT

The Secretary, FFACT. PO Box 152 Jamison Centre ACT 2614

e-mail: secretary@familyhistoryact.org.au

ABN: 50 317 924 321

Telephone: 02 6251 7004

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

THE ANCESTRAL SEARCHER

Quarterly Journal of Family History ACT*

March 2023

ISSN 2206-5598 (Online)

Vol. 46 No. 1

CONTENTS

Articles

1917 Envelope Reveals the Tragic Story of a Boer War Veteran	Eric J. Frazer	3
My mother's family came free! Or did they?	Frances Corcoran	9
A Salutary Tale	Elaine Gifford	15
The Muswellbrook Memorial of Mildred Ellis	Gillian Kendrigan	17
Writing Family History	Beverley Richardson	23
Irish Linen – a Galong connection	Diana Heins	26
Has a one-name-survey smashed my brickwall?	Clare McGuinness	29
Are You of Huguenot Descent?	Dot Brownrigg	37

Regular Articles

From the President	Rosemary McKenzie	2
New Collection Items In Brief	compiled by Barbara Moore	39
Book Review – <i>Searching for Margaret Murphy</i>	Pam Ray	40
Obscure Library Resources	compiled by Pauline Ramage	41
From Our Contemporaries	Pauline Bygraves	42
Society Education and Activities		47
Services for Members & Notice to Contributors		50

Miscellany

Canberra and Region Heritage Festival April 2023		3
E.M. Fletcher Writing Competition 2023		46

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

From the President

Rosemary McKenzie

We have a bumper journal this quarter, so I won't go through all the items. This quarter began with a very active education and events program – starting with a Volunteers morning tea which was very well attended with a lot of feedback and information being shared.

The education sessions continued with Debra Carter on *Researching like a Professional Genealogist* and Jeff Madsen on *Introduction to Land Titles and Parish Maps*. If you missed either of these sessions, you missed a wonderful collection of information, hints, tips and tricks. Keep an eye out in the newsletters or on the website for other events.

It's not only our education team who come up with interesting topics. Do not miss the interesting topics also presented by our various Groups. Next quarter we have *Return to Basics in Scottish Research*, *Victorian Railways*, *Tags V Hashtags*, and *Royal Cyphers* to mention a few. Register online.

For the February monthly meeting many attended in person to congratulate Barb Toohey and team, on the award from the National Trust for their work on *Canberra Tracks Augmented Reality* videos. Also, at the monthly meeting Peter Browning gave additional details about the story boards for our new hallway exhibition *On our Selections - District Life of the 19th Century*.

At the March monthly meeting our patron Prof. Peter Stanley presented *Sahibs, Memsahibs and Servants - Families, History and the Raj*. His talk covered the peculiarities of Anglo-Indian families, looking at how they lived and how they can be researched.

Check our website for regular updates of news item and events.

2023 will mark the 40th Canberra and Region Heritage Festival.

Family History ACT has four events at the festival:

Tuesday, April 4th, at our Members' meeting – **The Father Brian Maher Lecture**

Sunday, April 16th, a **family scavenger hunt** in Riverside Cemetery

Monday, April 17th, Tuesday, 18th and
Wednesday, 19th, **Torchlight Tours of
St John's Churchyard**

Saturday, April 22nd, a **library open day**

We will also be represented at the
Duntroon Dairy Open Day on Saturday,
April 15th.

CANBERRA AND REGION
**HERITAGE
FESTIVAL**
SHARING STORIES | 11 - 30 APRIL 2023

A 1917 Envelope Reveals the Tragic Story of a Boer War Veteran

Eric J. Frazer

Introduction

While sorting through an accumulation of old correspondence, I was attracted by a 1917 envelope stamped with a 1d red King George V stamp perforated OS NSW (i.e., Official Service | New South Wales). It was addressed to a Mr S. MCDONNELL, Gunning, and postmarked Gunning N.S.W. 8JY1917. It was annotated 'Unknown' in manuscript and, for good measure, featured a prominent rubber-stamped pointing finger reading: Returned to Sender, See Back (see Figure 1).



Figure 1 – The address side of the 1917 envelope.



Figure 2 – The reverse side of the 1917 envelope.

The reverse of the envelope was sealed by a Returned to Sender label from the Dead Letter Office in Sydney; it was addressed to 'Officer in Charge, Mental Hospital, Morrisset [sic]'. The label was date stamped Sydney N.S.W. 28AU1[?] and the envelope postmarked Dora Creek NSW 29AU1917 (see Figure 2). (Morisset and Dora Creek are in close proximity and now share the same postcode). Thus, it had taken about seven weeks for the envelope to be returned from Gunning Post Office to Morrisset Mental Hospital via the Sydney Dead Letter Office.

Nothing really that interesting so far? It was the contents of the returned envelope that piqued my interest: a certificate dated 6 July 1917 from the Officer in Charge, Morrisset Mental Hospital to Mr S MCDONNELL, Gunning stating that one C.P. MCDONNELL had been discharged from that facility on 23 May 1917 (see Figure 3).

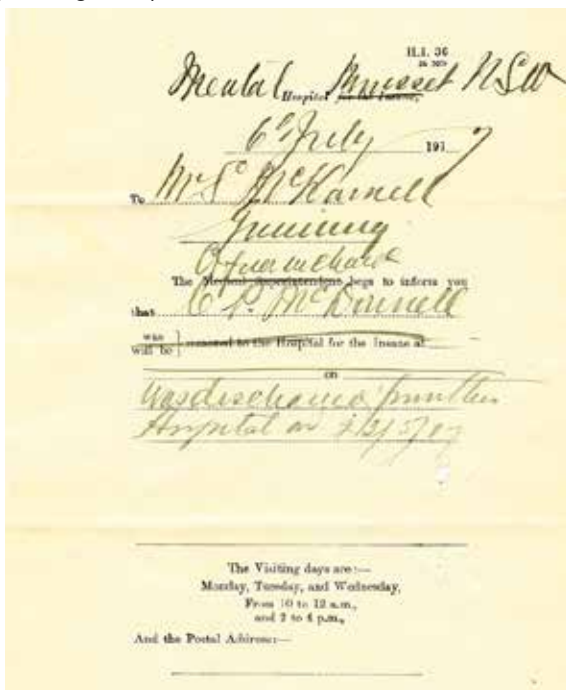


Figure 3 – The Discharge Certificate dated 6 July 1917

With only a surname, some initials and a town name, I approached the Gunning & District Historical Society for information. Following some careful research, the President, Leslie BUSH identified a number of potential family leads in the Gunning area, but none with the first initial “S”. As will be seen later, the name “Thomas Michael MCDONNELL”, Headmaster at Gunning until 1915, turned out to be the most relevant to the investigation.

Following an approach to Hunter New England Mental Health Service, I was allowed access to extant Morisset Mental Hospital records relating to "C P MCDONNELL" held by the NSW State Archives. However, because of a major fire at Morisset Hospital in the 1960s, the "records" in this case were limited to a single Patient Index Card. Fortunately, this turned out to be the initial breakthrough. Most importantly, it revealed three facts: "C P MCDONNELL" was "Charles Patrick MCDONNELL"; one brother's name and address (James MCDONNELL, Railway Station, Narromine); and a second brother (S. MCDONNELL, Gunning, NSW)¹. So, the reason for the letter to "Mr S MCDONNELL" was now apparent. Presumably, a similar communication was sent to "James MCDONNELL".

The MACDONNELL Family

The above information led to a record of a previous admission to Callan Park Mental Hospital in Sydney, location of a World War I service record, and reference to service in the Boer War. Many of the remaining family details were then gradually "filled-in" using *Ancestry* (Library Edition) and the NSW & Victoria Birth Death Marriage records. It seems that "MCDONNELL" & "MACDONNELL" were sometimes used interchangeably in official records/indexes.

Thomas MACDONNELL married Jane Ann COMERFORD in Victoria in 1868. They had six children: James Richard (1870-1932); Thomas Matthias (Matthew) (1872-1933); Charles Patrick (1874-1918); John Michael (1877-1930); Richard Frederick (1878-1951); and Albert Donald (1880-1935). The births were all registered in Chiltern & district and Gundagai. Their father, Thomas, died in 1890 and was buried in Holbrook (Germanton) Cemetery; their mother, Jane Ann, died in 1903 in Holbrook (then Germanton).

Boer War Service

Charles Patrick's WWI Enlistment Form disclosed previous military service in the Royal Australian Artillery (abbreviated "RAA") of 4 years 9 months. It proved difficult to find any online records of that service but, fortunately, Rob DROOGLEVER, an expert in the history of the Boer War, was able to supply most of the following details.

Charles Patrick MACDONNELL served as a Gunner (No. 3124) with A Battery, NSW Artillery (which formed A Battery, RAA). He was appointed as the servant to Lieutenant R.C. KING who was the officer in charge of 46 Drafts (reinforcements) for the A Battery which departed Sydney on 15 March 1901 per the S.S. *Maplemore*. They returned with the main body on the *Harlech Castle* on 12 August 1901 after 5 months of service, reaching Sydney on 15 September 1901 and receiving a warm welcome home².

On arrival in South Africa, Lieutenant KING was sent to join Captain Edward ANTILL with the main body which was part of Colonel Ingouville WILLIAMS' column serving in the Transvaal. Since MACDONNELL was KING's servant, it is more than likely he was with KING when KING was sent to join ANTILL. ANTILL had brought out the A Battery when he left Sydney with them on 30 December 1899, arriving in Cape Town on 5 February 1900. With six guns (15 pounders), the battery was split up in three directions and served in this broken form till sent to the Transvaal to join WILLIAMS where they were later joined by the Drafts under KING. More detailed information on the A Battery's campaign is available from The Australian Boer War Memorial website³, The Australian War Memorial website⁴ and MURRAY's official records of the Australian military contingents in the Boer War⁵.

It is known that during their campaign the A Battery lost one soldier in action and one in an accident; 45 men were invalided back to Australia through illness. A 1908 medical record mentioned Charles as having sustained an injury to his eyes during the Boer War. However, no deficiency in vision was recorded on his enlistment in WWI (see later).

Between the Wars

No information on Charles Patrick between the wars (Boer War & WWI) could be found via *Trove*. Fortunately, after application to the appropriate authority, the extant records from Callan Park Mental Hospital held by the NSW State Archives were made available⁶. (Note: All these files give the surname as "MCDONNELL".)

They revealed that, at age 34, Charles was first admitted to Callan Park on 8 December 1908 and finally discharged on 22 September 1909. Three of his brothers were recorded on that admission: James (Borenore, 14 km west of Orange), Richard (Germanton, renamed Holbrook in 1915), and Thomas (Bellingen, mid North Coast, NSW).

About five years later, he was again admitted to Callan Park: from 10 January 1914 to 13 April 1916. This time, however, he was transferred directly from Callan Park to Morisset Mental Hospital, eventually being discharged on 23 May 1917 (as Figure 3 shows). So, in total, he spent over four years in hospital over the decade 1908-1917. We can speculate that Charles might have suffered from some form of PTSD, perhaps partially due to the injuries sustained or experiences during his Boer War service.

Surprisingly, only one week later (31 May 1917), we find him in Sydney enlisting in the Australian Imperial Force (AIF) giving his next-of-kin as Thomas MACDONNELL, Public School, Thirlmere (near Picton). Why? Essentially, he seems to have followed two of his younger brothers: John Michael (enlisted 31 January 1916) and Albert Donald (enlisted 12 February 1917) into the AIF.

World War I Service⁷

Charles Patrick MACDONNELL enlisted 31 May 1917 with the rank of Private (No. 6915); his occupation was listed as a clerk. Charles was initially with the 20/19th Battalion but eventually assigned to the 35th Battalion. He embarked on the HMAT A16 *Port Melbourne* in Sydney on 17 July 2017, arriving in Liverpool 16 September 1917. He was with the 5th Training Battalion, Rolleston from 23 September 2017 to 30 January 1918, then departed from Southampton on 31 January 1918 for Rouelles, France. He joined the 35th Battalion at the Front on 8 February 1918:

For the next five months (November 1917–March 1918) the 35th alternated between periods of rest, training, labouring, and service in the line. When the German Army launched its last great offensive in the spring of 1918, the battalion was part of the force deployed to defend the approaches to Amiens around Villers-Bretonneux. It took part in a counter-attack at Hangard Wood on 30 March, and helped to defeat a major drive on Villers-Bretonneux on 4 April. The desperate nature of the fighting at this time is revealed by the fact that the 35th Battalion suffered nearly 70 per cent casualties during these operations.⁸

Tragically, Charles was killed in action in the field on 3 April 1918, aged 43, only 10 months after enlisting. His burial on the eastern outskirts of Villers-Bretonneux (exact gravesite unknown) was reported by Rev. J.E.A. OSBORNE on 11 April 1918. To add to the family's distress, Charles' personal effects, despatched 20 June 1918 on the HMAT *Barunga*, were lost at sea when the ship was sunk by enemy action on the voyage home. More fortunately, Charles' Kit Bag containing one tunic and one steel helmet were finally returned to Thomas in May 1920; they came via the SS *Booral*. Apparently around May 1921, the War Medals (British War Medal & Victory Medal) due to Charles were issued; by law, they were sent to his eldest surviving brother, James Richard MACDONNELL, Station Master, Sydenham Railway Station in Sydney. The Memorial Scroll (a replacement) and Plaque, issued to the next of kin of members who were killed in action, were also sent to James in July and November 1922, respectively.

One Mystery Remains

Just who was the "S" MCDONNELL recorded as a "brother" on the Morisset Hospital Index Card? Six sons of Thomas & Jane Ann MACDONNELL have been identified, none with a Christian name beginning with "S". Perhaps the entry on the original Hospital Admission Form (presumably destroyed by fire) was simply mis-transcribed to the Index Card?

The only family connection to Gunning finally identified was Thomas Matthew (Matthias) MACDONNELL. He married Jane CURRIE in 1893 and they had two daughters: Eileen W (1897) and Natalie Sybil (1903-1984). Thomas began

his career as an assistant teacher in Holbrook and eventually served in nine districts including Bellingen (1909-1910), Gunning (1911-1915) and Thirlmere (1917-1921). He was transferred from Gunning Public School to Parramatta (Sydney) as First Assistant in April 1915⁹. Thomas died of influenza/pneumonia in 1933 in Epping (Sydney) at 61 years of age¹⁰.



Figure 4 – The MACDONNELL brothers. Left to right: James Richard, Charles Patrick (standing), Albert Donald & Richard Frederick. Image courtesy Zareen MACDONNELL

Postscript

Just as this research was coming to an end, the author came across an entry for Charles on the Virtual War Memorial Australia website¹¹. With information already known, it also gave his exact date of birth in Gundagai (18 April 1874) and his home town (Cookardinia, Greater Hume Shire, NSW). Most importantly, it presented a photo of Charles in uniform with three of his five brothers. Courtesy of Zareen MACDONNELL, Charles' great-grandniece, we can reproduce it here as Figure 4.

Acknowledgments

Thanks are due to a number of people who were instrumental in assembling the patchwork of names and events in this story. They include: Leslie BUSH, President, Gunning & District Historical Society; Vivienne CLARK, HNE Mental Health Service; Timothy CLARKE, HealthShare NSW; Rob DROOGLEVER (Boer War history); and Bridget REILLY, Archivist, NSW State Archives. Frances TEASDALE provided archives research support and Richard BRECKON gave comments and advice on the draft article. Special thanks, of course, are due to Zareen MACDONNELL.

The author: Dr Eric J Frazer is a retired Research Scientist formerly with the CSIRO Division of Minerals in Melbourne. Since retirement, he

has developed interests in the unrelated areas of Cinderella Philately, postal history and Australian decimal circulating coinage. He is presently the Editor of Philately from Australia, the quarterly journal of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria.

- 1 Morisset Hospital Patient Index Cards: fire files re Charles Patrick McDonnell, NSW State Archives: NRS-21500-1-4.
- 2 "A" Battery, *Evening News* (Sydney), 16 Sep 1901, p4.
- 3 A Battery Royal Australian Artillery, The Australian Boer War Memorial, https://www.bwm.org.au/units/A_Battery.php, viewed 15 Jul 2022.
- 4 A Battery, Royal Australian Artillery, Australian War Memorial, <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/C1416510>, viewed 15 Jul 2022.
- 5 P L Murray, *Official records of the Australian military contingents to the war in South Africa 1899–1902*, Government Printer, Melbourne, 1911. Online at <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/C1416414>, viewed 16 Jul 2022.
- 6 Callan Park Hospital records re Charles Patrick McDonnell, NSW State Archives: NRS-4984-3-[3/3380]-340; NRS-4985-1-[14/10104]-2; NRS-4994-1-[3/4695]-3/4695; NRS-4999-1-[3/7043]-3/7043
- 7 MacDonnell Charles Patrick: SERN 6915: POB Gundagai NSW: POE Sydney NSW: NOK B MacDonnell Thomas, NAA: B2455, MacDonnell C P, Item 1960966.
- 8 35th Australian Infantry Battalion, Australian War Memorial, <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/U51475>, viewed 17 Jul 2022.
- 9 The Country: Gunning, *Daily Telegraph* (Sydney), 9 Apr 1915, p8.
- 10 Mr. Thomas Matthias MacDonnell, *Catholic Press* (Sydney), 21 Sep 1933, p5
- 11 MacDonnell, Charles Patrick, Virtual War Memorial Australia, <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/350236>, viewed 20 Jul 2022.

My mother's family came free! Or did they?¹

Frances Corcoran

The passenger ship *Waterloo* docked in Port Jackson, Sydney, on 13 December 1854². A young woman, Miss Johanna PERKINS, was among those who disembarked. She was aged 19 years and apparently unaccompanied. The *Waterloo* passenger list provides no clues as to whether or not anyone personally accompanied Johanna on the long journey to New South Wales³. Miss PERKINS, one of a number of unassisted passengers to arrive in Sydney on that day, had her first and possibly only glimpse of the glistening Sydney harbour on that summer's day in 1854.

The young Miss PERKINS was from Coolangue near Thurles, County Tipperary, Ireland. Presumably her family or a benefactor had the means to furnish the young Miss with the necessaries for the journey plus of course the cost of the passage. Ireland at the time was just emerging from the worst of the ravages of the Great Famine.

That Miss Johanna PERKINS arrived in Sydney in December 1854 is clear. What is not clear is whether anyone was at Port Jackson to greet the 19-year-old lass and welcome her to the English colony of New South Wales. One can only imagine the trepidation that Johanna may have felt at the prospect of navigating her way, whether alone or in company, to the far distant village of Murrurundi, New South Wales, approximately 190 miles (310 kilometres) north-west of Sydney. However, she would have known she had refuge in ‘family’ at the end of the journey.

It’s unknown exactly when Johanna arrived in Murrurundi but her obituary states that she was a resident of Murrurundi for “just 50 years”⁴. Since she died in February 1905 it’s safe to assume she arrived in Murrurundi soon after her arrival in Sydney.

Johanna’s immediate family were her parents, Thomas and Margaret PERKINS (*née* SHANAHAN) and her sisters and brothers Judith, Mary, Helen, William, Eleanor, John and Bridget. Johanna was a great aunt of my mother, Eileen CORCORAN (*née* FINNAN), and Johanna’s sister, Bridget her grandmother.

Johanna’s migration triggered a chain migration: between 1855 and 1859 her siblings Mary, Helen, William and Eleanor; her mother, Margaret; and her two youngest siblings, John and Bridget, followed her on the migration trail⁵, all settling in Murrurundi. Her father, Thomas, died prior to Johanna’s migration from Ireland. Only one sibling, her sister Judith who married a Thomas BURKE in January 1855, remained in Ireland.

The colony of New South Wales at the time of Johanna’s arrival in 1854 was bustling with energy and expectation⁶. Convict transportation to the colony had ended in 1850⁷, opening up further opportunities for paid employment in the colony. Gold had been discovered in 1851⁸, causing an influx of migrants from other colonies and overseas ready to chance their luck on the goldfields, and in 1855 New South Wales became the first Australian colony to achieve self-government, when the British Parliament granted the colony its own constitution and parliament⁹.

Another significant player in this story is a Denis SHANAHAN sentenced to transportation to New South Wales in 1836. My initial thoughts were that a family relationship existed between Johanna PERKINS and Denis SHANAHAN—but how?

Some 18 years prior to Johanna PERKINS’s bold venture to cross the oceans in search of a new life, events unfolded in Ireland to cause the transportation of Denis SHANAHAN. A brawl is recorded as having occurred near Thurles when a man named Phillip CUNNINGHAM was set upon and assaulted by “four or five” men—among them a Denis SHANAHAN of Killough, County Tipperary, and a James CORCORAN. Both SHANAHAN and CORCORAN were brought to trial on 19 July 1836, charged with common and grievous

assault on Phillip CUNNINGHAM. Denis SHANAHAN was found guilty as charged and sentenced to transportation for 7 years to New South Wales. James CORCORAN was acquitted¹⁰.

Denis SHANAHAN was assigned to Peter HAYDON, who resided in the NSW Hunter district. SHANAHAN was granted a ticket of leave in 1841 and allowed to remain in the district of Scone, New South Wales. In 1844 he married¹¹ Mary NEWMAN in East Maitland and they had 8 children, the first of whom was Mary, born in 1845 at Pages River, Murrurundi. Evidently Denis and Mary settled in the Murrurundi district very soon after their marriage and remained there, since the other children of the marriage—John, Peter, Bridget, Denis, Sarah, Mathew and Andrew—were all born in the area between 1846 and 1857.

Denis SHANAHAN'S parents were Denis SHANAHAN and Mary RUSSELL¹². Johanna's mother was Margaret SHANAHAN. Margaret's parents were John SHANAHAN and Mary DWYER¹³. I had thought there were promising signs of a familial connection between these SHANAHANS since Denis SHANAHAN and John SHANAHAN both not only shared the same surname but also were from Killough, a small village near Holycross, County Tipperary, Ireland. I had imagined that Denis's and Margaret's fathers were brothers, causing Denis and Margaret to be first cousins.

Johanna PERKINS married Frederick YOUNG in November 1863¹⁴, almost 9 years after her arrival in the colony. Thus a pre-arranged marriage while Johanna was in Ireland and a reason for her to migrate to Murrurundi could be ruled out. Their marriage certificate shows her residence as *Pentlands*, home of Denis SHANAHAN, the now free convict who had been sentenced to transportation to New South Wales in 1836. I credited Johanna's residing at *Pentlands* prior to her marriage as another possible 'family relationship' indication.

For many years I've pondered and searched for a connection between Denis SHANAHAN's family and the PERKINS family. I've had so many questions: Why on arrival in Sydney did Johanna migrate to Murrurundi, some 200 miles away? Why in particular did she reside at *Pentlands*, Denis SHANAHAN'S holdings? Would it have been appropriate for an unchaperoned young woman to reside there if family connections did not exist? Had she secured a position there prior to leaving Ireland? Without family connections, how would she or her family have been aware of the Denis SHANAHAN connections in far-away Murrurundi?

Denis SHANAHAN marked his marriage certificate in 1844 with an 'X', so evidently he couldn't write his name¹⁵. However, his deportation did lead to the migration of his brother and sister-in-law Richard and Mary¹⁶ and other

family members¹⁷. It appears that someone on his behalf communicated with his brother, quite possibly his wife, Mary, who could read and write¹⁸.



Brother and sister John SHANAHAN and Margaret SHANAHAN¹⁹, son and daughter to John SHANAHAN and great uncle and grandmother to Eileen CORCORAN (née FINNAN)²⁰.

Over the years I've telephoned various contacts and emailed strangers in an attempt to establish 'the connection' between the SHANAHAN and PERKINS families, seeking answers to these questions. 'Surely,' I thought, 'they must have a biological relationship'.

Two key facts puzzled me. Firstly, the immigration record shows that my PERKINS ancestors nominated Denis SHANAHAN family members as 'cousins'²¹. Secondly, a young woman aged 19 years travelled in the 1850s to Australia apparently alone and on arrival in Sydney travelled a further 190 miles to Murrurundi to reside at the Denis SHANAHAN holding. Why else would she have travelled such a distance? I remained convinced that a family connection existed.

But then some doubt crept in: maybe back then in Irish society *everyone* claimed a connection through their identical names. But paradoxically people would also have been well-aware of who 'family' was. Then further doubt crept in: my mother's SHANAHAN family in Ireland apparently had no males named Denis, Richard or Matthew—Richard and Matthew being the names of Denis's siblings. Johns, Patricks and Michaels are present throughout the family tree and clearly were names passed down²². Surely the names Denis, Richard and Matthew would have appeared if a family connection existed. Indeed, if they'd had a connection I imagine family members such as John SHANAHAN (pictured above) would've named their offspring after the deported Denis in the

same way that so many CORCORANS in Ireland named their offspring after the departed Roger CORCORAN²³.

I reasoned the key to solving this mystery, at least as far as the family relationship aspect of it was concerned, was to take an AncestryDNA® test. I felt certain of the outcome and saw it as a mere formality. I imagined matches popping out everywhere and the family relationship mystery being resolutely solved. 'This is it!' I thought, 'This is the defining moment!'

But alas and disappointingly, it all came to nought: zip, zilch, zero. No earth-shattering results to share with everyone. No, 'Look! Here it is!'

I admit I was a little disconcerted at first to be not connected to Denis and Mary SHANAHAN's descendants here in Australia. After all, I've come to know many of them well through delving into and puzzling over this mystery for so many years.

As family historians, we know too of the certain pride associated with claiming a convict—if one is presenting to be claimed of course, and I can claim 9!²⁴

But then I reflected on the situation: 'Gosh!' I thought, 'my mother's family came *free!*' Not one convict on either her paternal or maternal side! Not such a bad thing! If she were alive, I think Eileen would be proud of her blemish-free SHANAHANS and perhaps even feel a little superior to the CORCORANS, with whom she threw in her lot, with their band of infamous convicts! No convict-stain in her family!

But things quickly changed! The 'certainty' of the negative DNA result became a certain positive only in December 2022, when I received an email from a DNA genealogy sleuth in the United States whose diligent and relentless searching revealed the missing link in the conundrum. This is the explanation. I inherited insufficient DNA from my great-great grandfather John SHANAHAN to match the DNA of any of Denis SHANAHAN'S descendants, but a third cousin of mine—also a John SHANAHAN direct descendant—did, and significantly she has a DNA match with a Denis SHANAHAN descendant. These discoveries are notable. The shared DNA establishes with certainty that John SHANAHAN and Denis SHANAHAN were related—very probably brothers—and that Denis SHANAHAN is therefore a second great uncle to my mother, Eileen CORCORAN (nee FINNAN). Of course, this means that she too has a convict in her family!

One thing is certain: DNA doesn't lie. While no direct Denis SHANAHAN descendant's name appeared in my AncestryDNA® matches, I should not have automatically precluded links with ancestors just because they did not present initially. This was my mistake. I assumed that the fact that no Denis SHANAHAN descendants' names appeared in my AncestryDNA® matches precluded any connection with Denis SHANAHAN. That is my take-away message from this saga: further searching and delving is always required.

Needless to say I am still none the wiser as to why Johanna PERKINS migrated to Murrurundi—although I believe a family relationship is highly likely. I have not definitively established the PERKINS–Denis SHANAHAN connection, but maybe now I'm a step closer to resolution.

- 1 I would like to acknowledge Kathy Rhodes, Donna Smith and Helen Noonan for their assistance in establishing the veracity of family connections.
- 2 Thu 14 Dec 1854 – *The Sydney Morning Herald* (NSW 1842-1954) p 4 Shipping Arrival
- 3 *Ibid.*, p 4
- 4 *Murrurundi Times and Liverpool Plains Gazette*, Saturday 4 March 1905, p 2
- 5 Tipperary Emigrant Index 1828 to 1866.
- 6 Jackson, RV, *Australian Economic Development in the 19th Century*, Australian National University Press, Canberra 1977 *passim* pp 5-11.
- 7 Bateson, C, *The Convict Ships 1787-1868*, Library of Australian History, Sydney 1988, p 7
- 8 Sinclair, WA, *The Process of Economic Development in Australia*, Longman Cheshire, 1980, p 78.
- 9 *Getting it Together from Colonies to Federation*, New South Wales Investigations, Museum of Australian Democracy, Old Parliament House, Canberra.
- 10 *Clonmel Advertiser*, 27 July 1836, Microfilm Archives, National Library, Dublin.
- 11 NSW Births, Deaths and Marriages Register, Denis Shanahan/Mary Newman marriage No 2186/1844 V18442/86.
- 12 Irish Parish Register, Moycarkey: County of Tipperary, Diocese of Cashel and Emlly, Baptism record of Denis's brother Richard 5 April 1801, ref 02488/04 p5. Unfortunately no baptism record for Denis Shanahan has been found.
- 13 *Ibid.*, Baptism record for Margaret Shanahan 8 Sept 1801 ref 02488/04 p8.
- 14 NSW Births, Deaths and Marriages Register, Marriage No 2435/1863.
- 15 *Ibid.*
- 16 Richard and Mary Shanahan (*née* Carey) arrived in Australia on 17th July 1841 with their two sons, Denis and Michael, on board the *England*. Source: Victoria, Australia, Assisted and Unassisted passenger lists, 1839-1923 Nos 203-206.
- 17 Mary and Catherine, the wife and daughter of Denis and Richard's brother, Matthew, arrived together in 1856. Their son Denis arrived in 1854. Matthew died prior to 1854. (Tipperary Emigrant Index 1828 to 1866.)
- 18 Mary Newman arrived in Sydney in December 1841 on the *Columbine*. The ship's detail indicates she could read and write. NSW Archives reel 2135.
- 19 There are two 'Margaret SHANAHANS' in this story. Johanna's mother was Margaret SHANAHAN. John SHANAHAN also had a daughter Margaret SHANAHAN (pictured above).
- 20 John Shanahan remained in Ireland. His siblings Margaret (pictured above), Patrick and Mary migrated to Australia. His sons James, Patrick and William also migrated to Australia. See Corcoran, Frances, 'The Shanahans: A Letter Home Reveals an Irish Family', *The Ancestral Searcher*, The Heraldry & Genealogy Society of Canberra Inc. Vol 38 No 4 December 2015, pp 166-167.
- 21 Tipperary Emigrant Index 1828 to 1866.
- 22 Corcoran, Frances, 'The Shanahans: A Letter Home Reveals an Irish Family', in *The Ancestral Searcher*, The Heraldry & Genealogy Society of Canberra Inc. Vol 38 No 4 December 2015, pp 166-167.
- 23 For Roger Corcoran's story see Corcoran, Frances, *From Unlikely Beginnings*, 1992 and *From Clonoulty to Boorowa*, 2012.
- 24 Corcoran, Frances, 'Eleven Convicts', in *The Ancestral Searcher*, The Heraldry & Genealogy Society of Canberra Inc. Vol 41 No 4 December 2018, pp 192-3.

A Salutory Tale

Elaine Gifford

I have been exploring and slowly documenting my family history for a number of years. I hoped my husband, John GIFFORD, would want to document his own for the sake of our daughters. He is certainly very interested in his forebears, and had gathered in an archive box a number of photos, documents, cuttings and assorted family attempts to piece together parts of his various family lines.

John had been to a PIKE and KEMP family reunion and had papers from that. He had helped a cousin with remembered and recorded information for a large GIFFORD chart. From time to time I had saved some data found online. Over the years, family memories were shared, though rarely written down. There was plenty to work on.

Last year, John's nephew expressed interest in learning more about the GIFFORDs. I was conscious of the years flying by. The pool of living memory was disappearing. Who was best placed to organise what we have and to record some serious research? Yes, I was. It was time for action.



John Alexander Torr c1889 before he left England

Soon the easy pickings of known names were added to John's sparse side of my family history database. I sorted the contents of the archive box, and decided to start with TORR, John's mother's line.

Ha, here was a photocopy of John's great-grandfather's 1910 NSW death certificate, neatly completed by his son John Alexander TORR, known as Jack. With the wealth of information included, this seemed a good place to start filling out my data.

After that it was time for some serious verification and additional information from online English sources. Very soon, discrepancies arose. Wrong first names on the death certificate for Jack's grandparents. Wrong place of marriage for his parents. Incomplete list of Jack's siblings.

Stop. Think. I knew from the family that as a late teenager Jack had sailed alone from England to join his father in NSW. I now knew that he left behind not only his mother but a little brother and six young sisters. He had not seen them for three decades. Of course there were gaps in his knowledge!



A tiny glass plate photo (not much bigger than a matchbox) c1876 of Jack and two sisters.

Registration certificates are primary sources, we are taught. True, but that does not make them infallible, particularly when the key person isn't there to help.

Mistake #1. I should have remembered inaccuracies on some of my own family registrations. Great aunt Lila BALDOCK was mistakenly registered by her father as Lala; of grandfather BOLTON's three children, his death certificate omitted the son who had died in WW2. And great-grandmother LUSH quietly lowered her age on her marriage certificate.

Take-home lesson: Details in many records, including 'original' certificates are better treated as clues to pursue rather than hard facts.

Mistake #2. Make sweeping judgments to dismiss information. On enlarging the certificate's section headed *Children of Marriage*, in Jack's cramped handwriting I saw something I had previously misinterpreted as related to his father's second marriage: "3 females deceased". I could not yet verify these

sibling deaths, but did realise that Jack's listed *Margaret* must be *Fanny M* who had caused me some puzzlement. Jack or his father must have kept in better touch than I had thought.

Take-home lesson: Look carefully at every source. Make no assumptions.

Sorry, Jack. You did a pretty good job in the circumstances. And I'm glad to know that you were able to take your wife and teenage daughter to England nineteen years later to visit your mother and other family members.

The Muswellbrook Memorial of Mildred Ellis

Gillian Kendrigan



It lay abandoned, a victim of the ravages of time and vandalism. On its back and half buried in the dirt, this lichen rich stone lay far from the orderly lines of immaculately kept memorials in the cemetery. Erected over a hundred and

fifty years ago in the tiny settlement of Muswellbrook, this was no ordinary headstone and its message could just be discerned.

*MILDRED WIFE OF
THE LATE JAMES ELLIS ESQ. INSPECTOR OF THE CIVIL SERVICE
SOUTHAMPTON STREET LONDON
DIED OCT 27 1867 AGED 91 YEARS.*

An unusual attribution on a headstone in a remote country town 250K north west of Sydney.

Death certificate details for Mildred were brief. Born in Deptford, England and living in NSW for 29 years were the only personal details recorded: no informant, spouse, children nor parents were listed. Having died on the Sunday, Mildred was buried the following day but somebody did place the following announcement in three of the leading Sydney newspapers.

At Acacia Cottage, Muswellbrook, MILDRED, relict of the late James ELLIS, Esq., of Southampton-street, Strand, London, aged 91.

Mildred JESSON was born in 1781, an older sibling of my 3xgreat grandfather Isaac John JESSON. Deptford was the home of London's Royal Dockyard, and by the time Mildred was born, her parents, John and Hannah JESSON, had already buried five of their eleven children. Mildred was destined to lead a long life although some five years shorter than that claimed on her memorial.

Mildred married in April 1804. Her first marriage was a short one, Francis GOWIN died in 1808 leaving her with three young children, James, Mary and Amelia, and a small annuity with which to support them. It was eighteen years later in 1826 when her surviving children James and Mary were independent that Mildred married the widowed James ELLIS in London's St Martin-in-the-Fields church, just off the Strand and bordering the future Trafalgar Square. No occupation or age is ascribed to James in either licence bond or marriage register, but the latter bore James' confident signature.

In 1833 when Mildred was 52 her children sailed to Australia as paying passengers on the *Warrior*, a small ship carrying some 11 families and a handful of single men. Whether Mildred had knowledge of this is debatable for her son James and his new wife Catherine sailed under the name of GARRICK not GOWIN and her daughter Mary BARNARD appeared to have absconded from her husband Samuel, with her new partner John (Schofield) FOSTER a single man on the ship's passenger list. Amelia, Mary's six year old daughter accompanied them and would become a half sister to the FOSTER child born later that year, as well as many more who were born in Tasmania to the couple, who never formally married.

Mildred's supposed arrival in NSW in 1838 is uncertain and her whereabouts for the next few years still a mystery. In late 1844 a Mr (sic) Mildred ELLIS was

granted a publican's licence for the *White Swan* in Murrurundi, a tiny settlement of some 11 houses and 52 people situated in bushranger country some 320K north west of Sydney. Of those few inhabitants, the local lock-up keeper was named James GOWAN. Had Mildred heard of his presence, hoping it was her son. Had she taken the tenancy of the Inn, sight unseen? Why else would she invest money in such a remote place.

The *White Swan* was newly built being on the main road to the north west, so had potential for a good passing trade, and when the traveller Joseph Phipps TOWNSEND passed through the little town of Murrurundi in the mid 1840's he wrote:-

"We have two inns both well built; and one is kept by a widow of real, homely, English aspect, and as kind and attentive as neat and respectable. Her nicely plaited widow's cap and her fine countenance tell a long and touching tale."

Surely this was Mildred; if only he had retold that 'long and touching tale'. Whether it was disappointment that James was no relation or the Inn was not a good investment, within 6 months she had relinquished its licence. Like so many women her contribution to the community remains unrecorded with one exception: a brief appearance in a newspaper notice in 1851 advising that she had taken over the "The Fitz Roy Inn" in Muswellbrook. Hopefully she improved its standing, as a Mr HENDERSON on a journey the previous year had described the village of Muswellbrook as having a "wretched inn" but mention of the "Fitz Roy" or its fate is unrecorded in subsequent histories of the town's hotels. Mildred's trail then vanishes until her death in Muswellbrook some 16 years later and the long standing, but now fallen memorial.

Could Mildred be the lady referred to as 'Granny' in George W PHILLIPS *Memoirs of Muswellbrook*, in which he recalled the names of Muswellbrook's inhabitants in 1856, illustrated with a map and the position of their houses. Living on the east side of Sydney Street in a "*small two-roomed cottage, tenanted by an aged woman (cripple), seamstress, who was most respected and assisted by the townspeople. She was called Granny*" but strangely her house is not indicated on the map.

I knew nothing of James ELLIS apart from his name and this memorial spurred on further investigation. Had James ELLIS sailed to Australia with his wife or died in England - there were no traces of his demise anywhere. I searched the British Parliamentary Papers for Civil Service lists, the Metropolitan Police Records and the National Archives for clues but I could only find a Tax Supervisor based in Dublin between 1809 and discharged in 1821, an unlikely candidate.

I pondered the significance of Mildred's memorial and the newspaper announcements. Was she trying to send a message from beyond the grave.

Had she lost touch with her children or never found them in Australia. With James now a GARRICK and Mary becoming a FOSTER and living in Tasmania, contact may never have been established. I noted that Southampton Street was the home of the long dead actor David GARRICK and also contained the “Garrick’s Head” pub but could find no connection via any GARRICK family’s wills that would cause such a name change. The problem was put in the too hard basket for many years.

Last year I revisited Mildred’s headstone puzzle. I had missed a clue – in late 1823 over two years before James ELLIS’ marriage to Mildred, he had married her younger, twice widowed 37 year old sister Hannah, the mother of 15 year old Adam Smith REID. It was Hannah’s third marriage, her previous marriage to Richard SMITHERS lasted just two years, his body interred on 3 March 1820 in the burial ground of St Margaret’s, the parish church alongside Westminster Abbey. Richard’s funeral was reported in nearly every newspaper in the country.



The death of Richard Smithers at Cato Street. Courtesy of The British Museum.

Richard was a member of the police patrol attached to Bow Street Police Office. Founded by Henry FIELDING in 1749, the Bow Street Runners, as they were often called, consisted of eight principal officers and a large number of small ‘patroles’, each led by a conductor. Early in 1820 one of the biggest threats to the British Government since Guy Fawkes took place. Known as the Cato Street Conspiracy, a group of 25 poor but armed men espousing an agenda of equal land rights for all men, had plotted to assassinate a number of Government Ministers attending an evening dinner at Lord HORROWBY’s

house in Grosvenor Square. Four Cabinet Ministers were to be beheaded, their heads stuck on pikes, the rebels then planned to set fire to London, seize the Bank of England and pronounce a provisional government. The plot, leaked and encouraged by a Government spy among the group, led to the carefully planned raid on the conspirators' hideout in Cato Street. This involved a party of twelve Bow Street Runners backed up by the Coldstream Guards, the former including the patrolman Richard SMITHERS and James ELLIS, his conductor. The Bow street contingent arrived first and mounted the single ladder to the candlelit hayloft hideout. During the brief ferocious fight in which the candles were extinguished, Richard was fatally stabbed, falling on ELLIS who toppled backwards and fell heavily to the ground below. Some of the felons started to flee and despite his bone-jarring fall, James gave chase, ultimately securing a prisoner but being wounded in the process. With the arrival of the military, and the protesters disarmed, James remounted the ladder to attend to the dying Richard.

Richard's funeral procession was impressive with some 57 mourners accompanying the coffin and described in detail in the press. James ELLIS was one of the pall bearers but Richard's heavily pregnant and grief-stricken widow waited inside the church. Richard's sacrifice in such a case of High Treason allowed the unprecedented grant of a £100 annuity to his widow as well as her being the recipient of many other generous private donations. Both George RUTHVEN, a principal Bow Street officer and James ELLIS were rewarded officially with amounts of £100 and £50 respectively, and shared in the many donations made by the grateful public.

Had James assured the dying Richard he would look after his wife? There was no baptism or burial in the following months of a SMITHERS baby but Hannah's son Adam was almost immediately apprenticed to his uncle Joseph JESSON, a Thames waterman. James' marriage to Hannah nearly three years later was as brief as Richard's, for Hannah died in 1825 being buried in her native Deptford as 'the wife of James ELLIS'. Perhaps Mildred had cared for the dying Hannah and thus James and Mildred's lives became entwined enough to marry.

There was a process in the Bow Street Office for selection and promotion; only promising, literate, healthy men under 35 were recruited into the night patrols. The more educated of these men rose to the position of conductor and those excelling at their job moved to the smaller day patrol, where eventually a chosen few displaying initiative and superior problem solving could rise to be one of the eight principal officers. Dressed in plain clothes, their jobs were to prevent as well as solve crime; they protected the King when in public; attended the theatres looking for pickpockets and troublemakers; investigated arson; sought forgers, swindlers and murderers travelling all over the country,

occasionally chasing their suspects across the Channel to Europe or over the ocean to America. Their salary was a guinea (£1.1s.) a day but an officer's services could also be sought by those outside the Metropolis or by private individuals if the crime was deemed sufficiently heinous. Those seeking this service paid for the officer's time and the many expenses incurred in the hunt thus augmenting his wage. The work could be dangerous and sometimes two men would be needed. James ELLIS's claimed expenses were among the top ten.

James had joined the Bow Street Police Office around 1816, quickly rising to be a conductor and by 1824 was a principal officer, a position he held for twelve years thus leading to his being mentioned numerous times in the newspapers as he journeyed the country in pursuit of lawbreakers. One of his early arrests when on night patrol was of Israel CHAPMAN in 1818 for highway robbery. Found guilty on flimsy evidence, Israel's death sentence was commuted to transportation to NSW. Once there he was appointed a constable and soon handsomely rewarded for arresting many bushrangers. In 1827 this led to his being appointed the first 'runner' in the NSW Police Force at an annual salary of £100 – James would have been somewhat bewildered at this turn of events had he known. Another widely reported event occurred in early 1826 when James travelled all over France in pursuit of, and finally arresting, Edward Gibbon WAKEFIELD, one of the celebrated founders of the South Australian Colonisation scheme. WAKEFIELD had fled to France after eloping to Gretna Green to marry a very young heiress under false pretences.

My conundrum lies in the fact I have no documented proof yet that James ELLIS, the Bow Street runner was Mildred's husband James. Some of the principal Bow Street officers had joined the new Metropolitan Police formed in 1829, both services running in parallel for a decade. These principal officer's new positions were usually equivalent to an Inspector or higher but James completely disappears from the records in mid 1836. The scant Bow Street records at the National Archives have so far been inconclusive as documents purporting to have James' signatures have all been clerical copies but I am ever hopeful pursuing others. James moved to 22 Paradise Row, Palmers Village, Westminster in 1818, his only child, 8 month old Robert buried at St Margaret's that year, followed by his first wife Sarah in 1819. He was still there in 1824 according to a directory listing but perhaps moved to Southampton Street while married to Mildred. No Land Tax records indicate his presence either there or in Palmers Village.

Many a cemetery wanderer must have read and wondered about Mildred's fine tribute to her husband who is buried in parts unknown. I hope that the gravestone still exists and the inscription is legible and my story adds a little more knowledge about an early pioneer of Muswellbrook.

Writing Family History

Beverley Richardson

After achieving success in HAGSOC's 2022 Eunice Fletcher Writing Competition, I decided to further my writing experiences by undertaking a course offered by the Society of Australian Genealogists. The Women of Colonial Australia is conducted online through Zoom meetings and through an app called Basecamp. Writers began the programme by responding to a series of prompts covering sensory elements needed to bring the final work (a story of 5,000 words on a female colonial descendent) alive. The genre is creative non-fiction and the tasks increase in word length.

Writing to prompts is not for everyone but writers in the course have appreciated the gentle feedback and encouragement given by other writers and by conveyor, Rose Cutts. I have enjoyed the community of writers and meeting writers coping with floods, writers coping with farm life and family emergencies.

Creative Writing Exercise 1

My Biggest Fear

War on the Home Front.

Nancy ASQUITH liked the austerity fashions appearing in the shop front windows. Today she looked elegant in a lilac sailor blouse and a satin tie which she had knotted and tucked into her ankle length skirt. Her hair was swept up under a straw sailors hat.

She had come early to church to offer prayers for the boy soldiers in her family, in need of a quiet place where she could settle her anxious mind and still the frightening visions of her imagination.

The folding doors on the porch were open, so she entered, choosing a pew in front of the pulpit, close to the symbols that had brought her comfort since childhood. To her they were a jewel box of colour in ruby, aquamarine, turquoise, indigo and gold. She loved the Gothic stained glass windows, the altar on its raised platform, the crimson cloth with its sacred monogram, the Window of the Three Lights streaming the sun through the figures of the Apostles Peter and Paul and the representations of Christ in his ministry.



Stained glass window, St Paul's Anglican Church, Stockton, New South Wales.

Nancy dropped to her knees and prayed:

“Dear Lord,

I pray for the soul of my nephew, Jonathan ASQUITH, who is now at peace, with you, in Heaven.

I pray for my nephew, Herbert Benjamin ASQUITH now a patient in McLeod Hospital. Grant him relief from the delusions that trouble him... grant him sanity.

I pray for my cousin , Alexander BATTRAM and ask that his broken body be restored.

And last, I ask that you grant my son, George SKILTON, a safe return.

These things I ask, Lord, not for myself, but for the young lives that have been forever affected by the Great War in Europe.

Amen.”

Creative Writing Exercise 2

It Felt Like a Dream Come True

The capture of Mont Saint Quentin and Peronne WW1.

Evening: August 31st 1918.

Fatigue had set in but Private George SKILTON could not sleep. Instead, he sat on a discarded ammunition box, in front of his tent, listening to the muffled sounds of an army settling down for the night: the low whinnying of the horses receiving their ration of hay, the snoring of exhausted men, resting at last after the long march from Amiens. He rolled a cigarette and lit it, thinking over the orders for the next day, a victory day, he hoped, for him and his mates, the soldiers of the Australian Imperial Force, who had come to liberate the French in this German stronghold on the Western Front. A day, George hoped, that would replace world war with world peace.

At dawn he would face an enemy as determined to hold position and defend as he and his mates would be to attack and force a surrender. At stake was the ancient French city of Peronne and the hill behind it called the Mont Saint Quentin. George tried to imagine the enemy, a larger force, entrenched behind line after line of barbed wire, manning nests of machine guns that could fire 600 rounds per minute. How could he and the men in his platoon dislodge such a foe in the face of heavy machine gun fire, shells and mortar blast?

And what were his advantages over this deeply entrenched opposition, he wondered. Remembering his childhood, growing up in distant Stockton, George grew more confident. His body was straight and strong: he was proud of the physique he'd developed as a surf lifesaver on Stockton Beach and of the military skills he'd learnt as a youth in the Newcastle Naval Brigade:

punctuality, obedience to the command above, an ideology that had at its core, service to king and country. At the age of 14 he'd gained an apprenticeship as a moulder at Commonwealth Steel, a job that demanded great physical stamina. Yes, he knew he had the strength and staying power needed to go over the top the next day.

And he mustn't forget, he thought, of the military training he'd received as a rookie soldier at the Liverpool Military Camp: shooting practice with dummy rifles, route marches as far as the Blue Mountains, bayonet practice and drill in operating the ever evolving equipment of war. He'd been refined, as he saw it, into a human fighting machine.

George lay down on his straw palliasse and closed his eyes. They'd defeated the Hun at Amiens and he knew they could repeat the performance, beginning at zero hour, when dawn broke on Mont Saint Quentin the next day.

Post Script.

On the afternoon of September 1st, 1918, Mont Saint Quentin was captured by the Australian 43rd Battalion. George SKILTON did not see his dream come true. At some point in the battle he received gun shot wounds to both feet, probably from enemy machine gun fire. After recovering in the Southern General Hospital in Birmingham, he was repatriated to his home in Stockton, New South Wales.

Creative Writing Exercise 3

The Sun was Beating Down

News from France

... fades the golden sunlight, stormy clouds o'er head

In the closing darkness looms the banners red:

*marching to Utopia, aching hearts are torn, while in countless thousands,
man is made to mourn.*

- from O Empra! O Mores!, 1922, by George Asquith.

The Reverend DUKE spent his mornings on Church business. Living alone in the Manse, he enjoyed looking out of the window, across the gardens, to the Stockton Anglican Church; its flying buttresses, its Norman bell tower and its richly coloured stained glass windows telling the story of the life of Christ, gladdened his heart. The sight of the Union Jack on the flagstaff almost made him cry with longing for his motherland.

"These Australians..." he sometimes said, sotto voce, a sneer on his handsome face. But on the morning of July 28, 1916, the reverend had received news that made him more empathetic towards his congregation of factory workers, miners, boat builders and fishermen. The ASQUITH family was grieving once more. Herbert Benjamin, George ASQUITH's son, was reported seriously

wounded somewhere in France. The reverend knew that George, in his capacity as councillor, would now, with that untiring energy that was his essence, be composing letters and sending telegrams in an effort to bring home the boy that he had sent away to become a war hero. He was certainly an agent of fury, known for railing in the press against the English general, HAIG, who, as a strategy, had sent the Australian Artillery into battle to face the machine guns of the Bosch, to little advantage, George said, ... and the casualty lists were a disgrace!

Stepping it out along the Beach Road, the reverend was thinking about himself. "There is no one like me in this place," he thought, kicking at a clump of dark green weed on the path. "I am completely unto myself!" Spume off the ocean and the sand laden wind were ruining his black cassock, giving it a grey, rumpled appearance. Then he thought of the sister, Nancy, who lived in a weatherboard house near the dunes in Pembroke Street. He was visiting her first. Each Sunday, from the pulpit, he had gazed upon her English beauty, West Yorkshire, he thought... the high cheekbones and wide set blue eyes shining beneath blond hair that she wore in a high chignon. And he'd noticed the recent tears on her eyelashes.

He found her sitting with her daughters, Violet and Nancy, on the verandah. Her black mourning dress only made the skin within more fair, he thought. They were engaged in work for the war effort, rolling bandages and cutting lint destined for field hospitals on the Western Front. Nancy's face was solemn. She did not invite him to join them, instead, keeping him standing in the October sun, perspiring in his cassock, on the other side of the fence.

She did not offer him a drink of water.

Irish Linen – a Galong connection

Diana Heins

"Diana, I enclose the peace-offering of a small item of Irish linen."

The letter from Max BARRETT, C.S.S.R. was written from Mount St. Mary, Strathfield on 15 November 1989. Father BARRETT, a Redemptorist priest, was Chaplain at Christian Brothers, adjacent to Mount St Mary, a few blocks from my family home in Marion Street. He was returning Mary LANG's book *Home was Here*¹, with the gift of the Irish linen handkerchief and a five-cent piece – "an old (forgotten?) convention re the gift of handkerchiefs".

Father BARRETT wrote *King of Galong Castle: the story of Ned Ryan*², published at Galong by Redemptorists in 1978. His sequel, *Because of These*³, reviewed the background to the attack on the Ballagh dispensary in Tipperary in 1815, the trial, conviction and careers of the thirteen men transported to Australia.



Roger MURPHY was one of these convicts. In my copy of *Because of These*, Father BARRETT wrote his thanks to Audrey HEINS "co-author of the Roger Murphy Chapter". My mother-in-law searched for years for my MURPHY ancestors. She corresponded with Father BARRETT in 1989 concerning her research about Roger MURPHY. Audrey's contribution was acknowledged in the endnote to the Roger MURPHY chapter⁴. According to Mary LANG in *Home was Here*, Roger MURPHY married Mary, daughter of Edward REDMOND and Winefred DOWLING⁵. The conclusion was that he was not my ancestor.

In 2002 and 2003 I attended Irish family history weekends at Galong. I sent Father BARRETT a Galong postcard, to which he sent a courteous reply.

Twenty years later, in November 2022, there was a “Back to Tipperary” weekend at Galong. The place of objects in telling family history stories was the subject of two presentations: Dr Matthew TRINCA about themes in the National Museum of Australia and Dr Jeff BROWNRIGG about Ned RYAN’s history revealed in objects in the Galong Museum. I took my Irish linen handkerchief and Father BARRETT’s letter with the five cents attached.

At Galong I met Lyn STEWART, author of *Searching for Margaret Murphy*⁶. Amongst the MURPHYs she researched were two Roger MURPHYs and Michael MURPHY. Roger MURPHY, a Ballagh convict, husband of Mary REDMOND, died in 1855⁷; another Roger MURPHY, husband of Bridget, also died in 1855⁸. Michael MURPHY, a Ballagh convict, had a complicated relationship with Catherine FLOOD (nee CAFFREY). His daughter Mary Ann married John PATRICK⁹. Audrey HEINS researched all these people. In 2015, I donated her extensive collection of certificates to the Society of Australian Genealogists¹⁰.

In 1989 Audrey and Reg HEINS visited Ballagh. Audrey wrote about “the most wonderful fantastic day” meeting Thomas MARTIN and Kitty BARRY, who had history about Roger MURPHY of Ballymore and the MURPHY families back to 1650. In 2016, Lyn STEWART visited Kitty BARRY and acknowledged the “amazing collection of documents” in the MURPHY (Ballinamona) collection¹¹.

Philip Maxwell BARRETT died at the aged-care accommodation of Sisters of Our Lady of China, Rocky Point Road, Beverley Park south of Rockdale in Sydney, on 10 August 2021, aged 95 years¹². I will remember the thorough research into the lives of the Ballagh convicts and the many other historical records, which enabled me to find my real Tipperary convicts, Thomas and Bridget MURPHY, and publish their stories in *Lahy and Lynch Ancestors of John and Bridget Murphy*¹³.

1 Mary Lang, *Home Was Here*. Sydney, Library of Australian History, 1987.

2 Max Barrett, *King of Galong Castle: the story of Ned Ryan: 1786-1871*. [Galong, N.S.W., Redemptorists], Brighton, Vic., M. Barrett, 1978.

3 Max Barrett, *Because of These*. [Galong, N.S.W., Redemptorists], Church Archivists’ Press, 1992.

4 Max Barrett, *Because of These*, chapter 18, p.171.

5 Mary Lang, *Home Was Here*, pp.159, 175.

6 Lyn Stewart, *Searching for Margaret Murphy: From Tipperary to New South Wales: A Murphy family history*. Cremorne, N.S.W., Cremorne1.com Self-Publishing, 2019.

7 Lyn Stewart, pp.25, 122-132.

8 Lyn Stewart, pp.128-129.

9 Lyn Stewart, pp.129.

10 Society of Australian Genealogists, Library catalogue manuscript 4/27,952-4/27,960 and *Descent*, December 2016, p.204.

11 Lyn Stewart, Acknowledgements and pp.49-52.

12 *Sydney Morning Herald*, 14 August 2021. <https://tributes.smh.com.au/obituaries>

13 Diana Heins, *Lahy and Lynch Ancestors of John and Bridget Murphy*, 2021. Family History ACT Library A4/MUR/03.

Has a one-name-survey smashed my brickwall?

Clare McGuinness

DNA brought me a cascade of family reconstruction, happily confirmed through documentary concordance (see TAS June 2022). I moved my BUCHAN brick wall two generations further back to the late 1700s. George BUCHAN (my x4 great-grandfather) was now the brickwall. Where did he come from? He and his wife Jean JOHNSTON had nine children between 1799 and 1818, till he died the day before their last child was born. I have death certificates for eight children and censuses for each from 1841 till their deaths. Most of their long lives were lived in Borthwick parish in rural Midlothian, and for some the neighbouring parishes of Newbattle and Dalkeith. Where is the county of Midlothian in Scotland? Think Edinburgh City, and until the 1890s Midlothian was known as Edinburghshire. This is the story of how moving between the micro (DNA cMs), documentary and macro (whole of Scotland record set) perspectives has opened a path to smashing this new brick wall.



Figure 1: Village of Newlandrig in Borthwick

George was a sawyer (or forrester) who is first recorded in 1802 on the baptism of his children in a new settlement called Dewarton. They then moved a few miles south to Newlandrig, a more ancient settlement of about 150 people. I found no marriage between George and Jean, and both of their burial records were before civil registration with no parental information provided. Interestingly both George and Jean were buried in the neighbouring parish of Newbattle, see Figure 5.

This research was my first real look into ScotlandsPeople. I was amazed. How easy it was to search for baptisms pre-civil registration in 1855, with the *index* including dates of birth and both parents fully named. Scottish records include a woman's maiden name – all the time. How easy to limit a search to a parish or a county for any time period. Annoyingly I could search only one county at a time, but what a minor quibble. How often do we scan indexes for our names of interest? It was always a strategy I enjoyed reconstructing families using CDs and books, and later material online. I decided to put ScotlandsPeople through its paces.

Some may know that the surname BUCHAN is associated with Aberdeenshire, that medieval province in north-east Scotland ruled by the Earls of BUCHAN from the 1200s to the 1500s. Midlothian is a long way from Aberdeenshire, but it did contain Edinburgh as the capital of the country from 1532. As a port, and increasingly seat of government, Midlothian probably did draw internal immigrants from other counties. I wondered if there really were more BUCHANs in Aberdeenshire than Midlothian, and could I find a link there to my George?



Figure 2: Location of Aberdeenshire

A one-name survey (rather than a study)

I have coined a new term, 'one-name survey' to describe this research. The familiar one-name study aims to locate and connect all the families of a single surname. It begins with reviewing basic vital records sets. You might begin with vital records on ScotlandsPeople and continue to other records, and other locations. My one-name survey is restricted to the Old Parish Registers of the Church of Scotland (OPRs) on ScotlandsPeople, a data set of parish records

commencing in the mid-1500s and ending in 1855 when civil registration began in Scotland¹. There were less than a dozen BUCHANs in Roman Catholic and Minor (other) Church registers.

It was remarkably easy to count the number of baptisms, marriages and burials of people named BUCHAN in the OPRs. Luckily this well known surname is spelled largely one way, although I have seen the rare BUCKHAM and BUCKAN along the way. Firstly I selected the entire country, then each county in turn. If no forenames are entered into the search box you are quickly given a total number of people of that surname undergoing that religious event. I could restrict the count to time periods, and initially chose pre1700 and 1700-1855 as two groups. Pre-1700 to reflect the pre-industrial world, where populations were overwhelmingly static. The next 150 years however led to considerable population movements; the Jacobite rebellions in the 1700s, changing agricultural practices and the start of the industrial age could all impact where people lived.

There were understandably few baptisms before and including 1700. Consequently, I split the latter time frame into 1701-1750, 1751-1799 and 1800-1855 ranges to provide more definition of population changes. There were 221 BUCHAN baptisms before 1701, 962 between 1701-1750, 1053 between 1751-1799 and 1631 between 1800 and 1855. a total of 4,083 BUCHAN baptisms in the OPRs. This sustained increase in population is expected due to record keeping improving over time, as much as natural population growth. The Scottish Government claim that the population of Scotland trebled between 1700 and 1855 from one million to 2.9 million².

ScotlandsPeople tabulates the major cities of Scotland as well as their county. Counts are provided for Edinburgh (in Midlothian), Glasgow (in Lanarkshire), Dundee (in Angus) and Aberdeen City (in Aberdeen, where else) are provided, but confusion can arise as these entries are also included in the county totals. Once I realised that, I could adjust the totals. It is also worth noting that duplicates exist in all categories. Baptisms might be included from two churches or even appear twice in the same church record, marriages or banns announced in the different parishes of the couple, and burials could be recorded in both the parish of life and the parish of burial. My George BUCHAN was recorded in both Borthwick and Newbattle parish burial records, with identical dates of death. Sadly neither recorded an age or cause of death, although on the Borthwick register every other entry included an age. Finding the index for each burial and then buying each very cheaply, it was tragic to then see this appalling lapse on the part of the clergyman. My analysis that follows largely ignores these duplicates, as my detailed review of Midlothian duplicates indicated the proportion was minor, at less than 5% of the total.

Distribution of BUCHANs in the Old Parish Registers

There is a heterogeneous distribution of people named BUCHAN across the country shown in Figure 3. I removed the pre-1700 baptisms as there was likely to be considerable non-recording bias, and the numbers were achingly small.

The categories for the counts were chosen to demonstrate this considerable variation, which ranged from 0 to 1887. Aberdeenshire was the only county to exceed 1000 baptisms, and it did so by a mile with over 1887 baptisms, shown in purple in Figure 3. In all other categories there is generally a concentration of the counts in the lower part of the range. The next category was 300-999 baptisms, but these four counties had fewer than 500 baptisms (excepting Perthshire with 583). They were Angus (Forfarshire), Perthshire, Stirlingshire and Midlothian, shown in dark blue in Figure 3. The first three counties are contiguous with each other, heading south from Aberdeenshire. While Midlothian is not contiguous with Stirlingshire, as a major port and increasingly important county, it must have attracted any BUCHANs on the move.

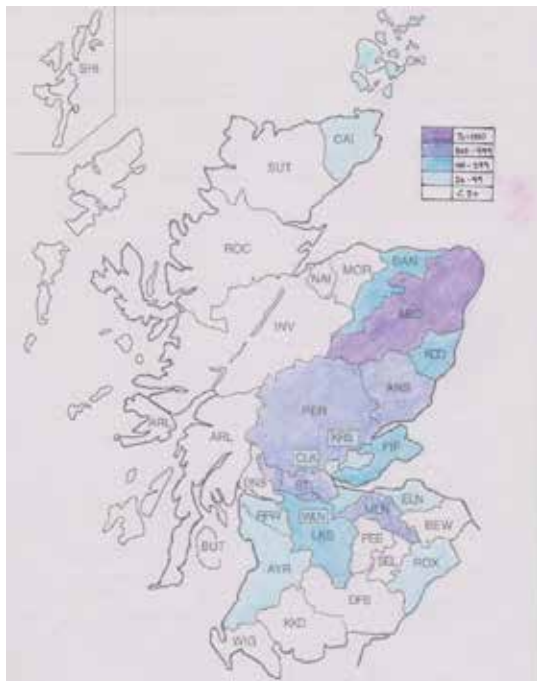


Figure 3: Distribution of BUCHAN baptisms by county from 1701-1855

The next category, in mid blue, is counts between 100-299 baptisms. These counties appear to 'ring' the more populous counties, suggesting a ripple effect of moving to less populous counties. Likewise the category of 20-99, in light

blue, is akin to even more peripheral ripples. Finally there are 16 counties with fewer than 20 BUCHAN baptisms in the OPRs between 1701 and 1855. The counties of Bute, Kirkcudbright and Sutherland had no BUCHANs.

This distribution strongly suggests that the surname BUCHAN arose in Aberdeenshire, and then dispersed southwards over centuries. The rural:urban divide supports this analysis. Ninety percent of BUCHANs in Aberdeenshire are in rural parishes in contrast to the other counties with identified urban populations. The cities of Dundee, Glasgow and Edinburgh contain 80-90% of the BUCHANs in those counties, suggesting they were much later arrivals to that place who were drawn to jobs in urban locations.

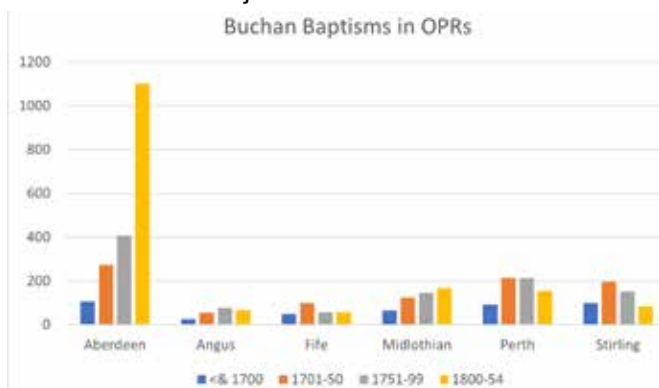


Figure 4: Distribution of BUCHAN baptisms by time period in counties with the highest concentrations

Analysis of the 1901 census of Scotland by Barry GRIFFEN found 4,347 BUCHANs, and he estimated it was the 180th most common surname in the country⁴. His site also includes a density map that pleasingly demonstrates the continued density of BUCHANs in Aberdeenshire, and surrounding counties.

How does this survey help me?

However interesting this survey was to my one-name-study leanings, it did not identify where George BUCHAN came from. There was no marriage between George BUCHAN and Jean JOHNSTON anywhere in Scotland. ScotlandsPeople automatically returns records for Jane, Janet and other variants of most forenames, and indeed the other spellings of BUCHAN and Johnson. I decided to look in depth at the Midlothian BUCHANs, after all there were only 503 of them. I now counted the BUCHANs by parish, and two patterns emerged.

The urban:rural divide in Midlothian reinforced the suggestion of BUCHANs entering this county through the coast of Midlothian, principally Edinburgh and its port Leith. In other words, they might have sailed rather than walked. In Table 1 the 'urban' or Edinburgh parishes are listed at the top, along with

Duddington and Inveresk that are situated to the east along the coast. All these parishes have BUCHAN baptisms from the 1600s and most continue till the end of the OPRs. Entries in the rural parishes further inland begin later.

About 20 percent of the total number of baptisms were in rural parishes. They were concentrated in a tight circle around Dalkeith. This was a populous parish containing the largest corn market in Scotland (in the 1830s) and many historic buildings from the 13-15th centuries. It was the market town for the entire county and border counties, funnelling agricultural and industrial products into Edinburgh.

I was able to connect every BUCHAN in the rural parishes *except* my Borthwick family to a single BUCHAN family that began with a marriage in Dalkeith in 1703. I traced their movements southwards to the parishes of Liberton, Lasswade, Glencorse, Cockpen and Newbattle. These parishes are shown in red in Table 1 and by arrows in Figure 5. The family in Colinton marked (*) moved to St Cuthberts, while the other parishes had baptisms over a tight time frame of several years and were likely transient in those parishes. Could George connect to this big family, extending my line back to 1703? There are some enticing clues suggesting that he does belong to them.

Baptism		Timespan	
Edinburgh	140	1620-1854	
Leith	90	1617-1854	
St Cuthberts	82	1675-1854	
Canongate	37	1673-1826	
Inveresk	17	1643-1808	
Duddingston	5	1696-1748	n=371
Borthwick	25	1799-1853	
Dalkeith	31	1703-1814	
Liberton	25	1660-1801	
Newbattle	19	1777-1854	
Glencorse	11	1824-1854	
Lasswade	9	1727-1841	
Colinton	4	1664*-1849	
Newton	3	1734-1738	
Penicuik	2	1749-1752	
Ratho	1	1741	
Cockpen	1	1820	n=131

Table 1: BUCHAN baptisms in Midlothian 1600-1855

George (in 1818) and Jean (in 1849) were both buried in Newbattle parish, although they died in Newlandrig in neighbouring Borthwick parish. Their infant son was buried in Newbattle in 1809, although the family was by then in Newlandrig. I wondered why. Rev CLUNIE in his 1794 report on Borthwick Parish in the Old Statistical Accounts of Scotland⁵ remarked that:

“According to a prejudice of a very ancient date, the common wish is to be buried with our fathers; and from the change of residence, which must take place among the great body of the people, and the fluctuating state of all human affairs, there are not above two farmers in these bounds who bury in this place. They carry their deceased friends elsewhere; and, in return, the dead are brought here from neighbouring parishes, and sometimes from a very considerable distance.”

There was only one BUCHAN family in Borthwick and only one family in Newbattle in the entire OPRs. Censuses revealed that the Newbattle BUCHANs lived on two farms in the district of Easthouses, not far from the parish border with Borthwick. The settlement of Newlandrig is just three miles from Easthouses Village. Looking at the map of the parishes below there are no BUCHAN families to the east or south of Borthwick. Any connection would be from the northwest. The arrows in Figure 5 demonstrate how the Dalkeith families moves southwards. Geographically speaking it makes sense that someone in Newbattle might move into Borthwick in the employ of the Dewars family (of whisky fame) who were major landholders in Borthwick establishing their estate from the later 1700s, and housing their workers in the new settlement of Dewarton⁶.

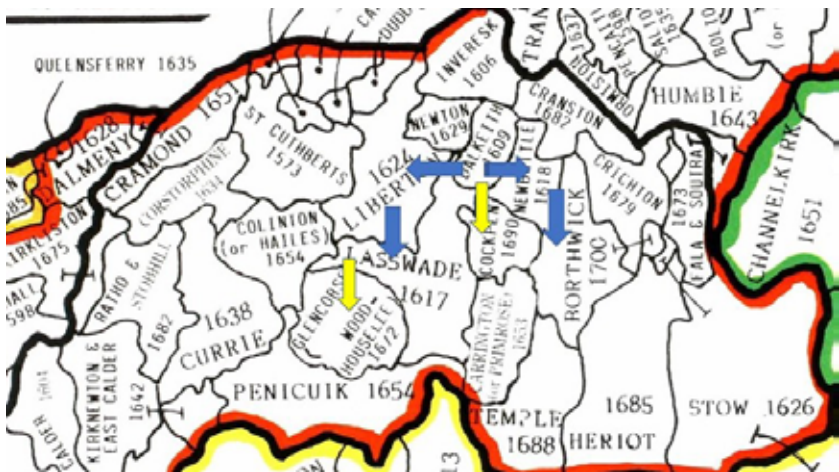


Figure 5: Movement of BUCHAN families in rural Midlothian 1700-1855

The head of the ‘Newbattle’ BUCHANs was James born in 1753. With wife Jane Taylor they had four children in the baptismal records, but no-one called George. The eldest one was born in 1777, easily a time-frame suitable for George to be a sibling given that his first child was born in 1799. These four children were James, John, Walter and Margaret – all names from the Dalkeith family. George and Jean named their first son James - perhaps after a paternal grandfather, as was the practice of the time, and used in my BUCHAN families.

Rev CLUNIE, quoted above, also mentioned in 1794 that people often did not register baptisms and marriages. Did George's baptism fall into such a gap in the record?

Two of George and Jean's children lived and married in Dalkeith in the 1830s (though both returned to Borthwick for the rest of their lives). Regular censuses were taken in Dalkeith from 1800 to 1840. Their daughter Isabel is recorded living with John BUCHAN in 1834⁷. Could this have been her paternal uncle?

DNA

I began finding my BUCHAN family in 2022 through DNA matches, not through looking at who was in the general vicinity as I had often done in Australian research. DNA was the only definitive evidence of which BUCHAN family my x2 great-grandfather Robert BUCHAN did belong to. Robert left Scotland in 1852. I knew that no BUCHAN researcher had identified the parents of George (or Jean) in historic records and neither did I. In focussing on contacting DNA matches to join my BUCHAN DNA Study, I rather neglected the local vital document indexes *beyond* my immediate BUCHAN family in Scotland. This explains why it took a one-name-survey to identify that there were *remarkably few* BUCHAN families in rural Midlothian, in fact only one.

George was a tradesman in a rural occupation, but that is no proof of him not emerging from Edinburgh or elsewhere. I have identified over 100 people who are descendants of George and Jean, living all around the world. Their DNA is from both George BUCHAN and Jean Johnson, but *as well* it is the DNA of George's parents and Jean's parents. After contacting people who are DNA matches I have access to the match lists of 14 individuals, yielding over 500 people who are therefore either descendants of George and Jean, descendants of George's parents or descendants of Jean's parents. They form the BUCHAN DNA network.

A great deal of luck in terms of random inheritance of DNA might allow DNA from George's parents or Jean's parents to still be present in these living descendants. Before identifying the possibility of George's connection to the Dalkeith and Newbattle BUCHANs I had no reference point from which to look at my remaining 400 BUCHAN matches. I know from my exhaustive study that only 2 of the 100 people who are descendants of George and Jean are named BUCHAN; female name changes have introduced dozens more names that would have no meaning to me as potentially belonging to this family. Already I have found two people who match descendants of Walter BUCHAN of Dalkeith, but I would like considerably more matches to feel confident that DNA is proving a link to the Newbattle BUCHANs. I live in hope.

Lessons to consider

I embarked on a one-name-survey to better understand where my BUCHAN family sat within the wider Scotland context, in particular any links to Aberdeenshire. It now seems likely that most BUCHAN families have arisen in Aberdeenshire, and that is interesting to me. However the paucity of BUCHAN families in rural Midlothian from 1700-1855 was an eye-opening discovery. I now have a reference population to look for in my DNA BUCHAN network. Using DNA to break through distant brickwalls will require lateral research when documentary sources do not exist. But without DNA, we could only hypothesise that a nearby family is ours.

Could you gain some insight into your surname by doing a one-name-survey? A suitable name for a one-name survey should not be very common, and ideally have few name variants. A data set which is complete, accessible and includes maternal names on baptisms is ideal to allow family reconstruction. ScotlandsPeople is an ideal place to do it. Can you believe that certificates cost less than \$3, delivered instantaneously? It would make you wish you had more Scottish ancestors.

- 1 Stewart, Alan; *Tracing Your Edinburgh Ancestors*, Pen & Sword, 2015, p4
- 2 <https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/guides/church-registers>
- 3 Scotland's Population Story, <https://www.gov.scot/publications/scotland-future-opportunities-challenges-scotlands-changing-population/pages/4/> accessed 28 Sep 2022
- 4 <https://www.barrygriffin.com/surname-maps/scottish/Buchan/> , accessed 22Feb 2023
- 5 Report on Borthwick Parish, Old Statistical Accounts of Scotland, <https://stataccscot.edina.ac.uk/data/pdfs/account1/StAS.1.13.622.P.Edinburgh.Borthwick.pdf>
- 6 <https://www.scotland.org.uk/clans/clans/dewar> accessed 23 Sep 2022
- 7 Dalkeith Census 1834, FindmyPast <https://findmypast.co.uk/transcript?id=SCOTLAND/DALKEITHCENSUS/004709>

Are You of Huguenot Descent?

Dot Brownrigg

The Christian movement in Europe, known as The Reformation, commenced in Germany in 1517 when Martin LUTHER wrote his *Ninety-Five Theses*. These *Theses* protested against the many practices in the Roman Catholic Church and were rejected by the Papacy. John CALVIN (Jean CAUVIN), a French scholar, wrote *Institutes of the Christian Religion* in 1536 which led to French Protestants adopting his form of Protestantism. They were called "Huguenots". Bitter religious wars caused great harm and suffering between 1562 and 1598. In 1572 thousands of Huguenots died in the St Bartholomew's Day massacre in Paris, and subsequently in other parts of France. King Henry IV, born a Protestant, issued the *Edict of Nantes*, in 1598 which provided some civic and religious toleration, and resulted in a period of peace and prosperity in France.

In 1685 the Catholic King Louis XIV, determined to force the Huguenots to convert to Catholicism, revoked the *Edict of Nantes*. Consequently, thousands of Huguenots fled France, taking their skills and knowledge with them. Those who remained were forced to become Catholic. Many Protestants in France maintained their faith in secret, despite vicious persecution for about 100 years lasting until the French Revolution in 1789. The main decade of exile was the 1680s when approximately 200,000 people fled France.

At this time that the word *refugee* came into use in the English language. Principal places of refuge were The Netherlands, England, Germany, Switzerland and Ireland. Some refugees travelled to remote locations: Russia, Scandinavia, the American colonies, and South Africa.

Although no Huguenot refugees ever came directly to Australia, many of their descendants did and have contributed to the country's development. They came principally from England and Ireland, and were here from earliest European settlement: Jacob BELLET, a Huguenot silk weaver, was on the First Fleet, and Capt Edward RIOU was in charge of HMS *Guardian* in the Second Fleet when it struck an iceberg in 1789. In later years, Huguenot descendants came to Australia from: France, Germany, Switzerland, the Netherlands, the Channel Islands, South Africa, and even Jamaica, India and Sri Lanka.

The origin of the name "Huguenot" is uncertain. Often used deprecatingly, the word became, during two and a half centuries of terror and triumph, a badge of enduring honour and courage. The French Protestants preferred to refer to themselves as "réformés" (reformed) rather than "Huguenots". Much later the name "Huguenot" became an honorary one of which their descendants are proud.

The Huguenot Society of Australia is a historical and genealogical society, founded in 2003. We have members throughout Australia. One of our main aims is to assist family members with their family history research. www.huguenotsaustralia.org.au Email: ozhug@optushome.com.au.



The Huguenot
Society of
Australia

20 May 2023 at 2.00 pm - Lecture Gordon Baptist Church (near Gordon Station, Sydney) Public Lecture: *Uncovering the story of Rose and Louis de Freycinet: inseparable companions in troubled times* By Suzanne Falkiner and Meredith Lawn

21 October 2023 - Conference '*Huguenot Heritage and Contemporary Impact*' at Club York, York St, Sydney

FHACT Library - New Collection Items In Brief

compiled by Barbara Moore FHGSC

A selection of those items which have been received recently and are available for use in the Society's Library. More details on the items can be checked via the catalogue on the FHACT website. Our thanks to members who have provided donations.

AUSTRALIA

Australian and New Zealand Wills and Probate Records - Shauna Hicks - A5/30/01

Australian Electoral Rolls - Rosemary Kopittke - A5/25/02

Every Family Has a Story - Family History ACT - A3/60/11

Oral History Handbook - Beth M. Robertson - A2/25/01

NEW SOUTH WALES

Convict Records of New South Wales - Christine Yeats - AN5/50/39

Convicts From Trial to Freedom - Kerry Farmer - AN5/50/16

TASMANIA

Tasmanian Convicts - Dianne Snowden - AT5/50/09

VICTORIA

Convicts Port Phillip District - Suzie Zada - AV5/50/04

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Western Australian Convicts - Swan Genealogy - AW5/50/03

INTERNATIONAL

Getting the Most Out Of Online Newspapers - Sue Reid - L2/16/23

GREAT BRITAIN

Civil Registration - Births, Deaths, Marriages in Britain & Ireland - Chris Paton - M5/12/22

GERMANY

Civil Registration - Births, Marriages and Deaths in Germany - Eric Kopittke - SGe5/12/03

German Maps and Gazettes - Eric & Rosemary Kopittke - SGe9/10/03

LITHUANIA

Tracing Your Lithuanian Ancestors from Australia - Diana Pocius - SBa2/54/01

FAMILY HISTORIES

Malva - Four Centuries of Fowler Family History 1535-19?? - Lionel Arthur Fowler - A4/FOW/01

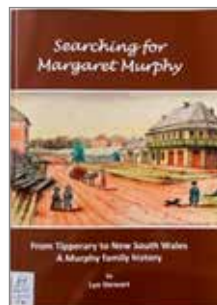
Searching for Margaret Murphy - From Tipperary to New South Wales: a Murphy Family History - Lyn Stewart - A4/MUR/04

Book Review

Pam Ray FHGSC

Stewart, Lyn. *Searching for Margaret Murphy: from Tipperary to New South Wales: a Murphy family history*. Cremorne NSW, Lyn Stewart with Cremorne1.COM Self-Publishing, 2019. 267 pages. Illustrations, maps. ISBN 978-0-6485701-0-3. FHACT library call number: A4/MUR/04.

FHACT has a few experts in its ranks on various topics and various countries. None would be as well known as the indefatigable Barbara Moore, convenor of our Society's popular Irish Special Interest Group. Barbara gave a talk in late 2022 at one of the popular weekend seminars for family and local historians held at Galong. At one of the hearty meals served there she was offered a book for our library by its author, Lyn Stewart, one of the participants seated at Barbara's table.



This is a weighty volume in more ways than one. The paper used, combined with the number of pages, makes it heavy to hold when reading. That aside, the content is very detailed. The author has chosen excellent illustrations to accompany the text, with sources referred to listed at the end of each chapter. Unfortunately the book lacks an index, making it difficult for the reader to follow the activities of any one individual or their family. Researchers with interests in the Irish county of Tipperary, Ireland in general, and the Liverpool Plains area in New South Wales, will find this work of special interest. The author was fortunate in having access to documents held by members of the larger Murphy family, but of course this entailed some years of good detective work in tracking down their whereabouts. Her use of official archival sources relating to the arrival in New South Wales of various Murphy family members showed that five unmarried sisters arrived together in January 1841. Several of the sisters married and had families, some of them taking up land in the Liverpool Plains area as well as further afield.

There is quite a bit of supposition about links with other people named Murphy and possible brushes with famous people like Caroline Chisholm, the well-known protector of immigrant women. However, Lyn's explanations of political events, government regulations and social conditions are based on excellent research and are very well woven into her narrative. Maps, drawings and photographs have been well selected and come from many different sources. By the time I reached the end of this book I felt a bit overwhelmed by the great number of Murphy ancestors and descendants I had encountered, whose lives were dealt with in such great detail. If you are a Murphy descendant you will appreciate that painstaking detail and will hope for a connection to this family.

Obscure Library Resources

compiled by Pauline Ramage

In our research we often wonder about our Ancestor's lives, where they lived, their occupations and their way of life. In our library, you may find the answer. By using our catalogue and entering the name of your ancestor or research area, there are many wonderful informative books relating to life of families in areas of Australia they lived. If you are interested in the Hawkesbury Area, looking at a couple of books about William Stubbs and Mathew Everingham may be helpful.

William Stubbs and his wife Sarah Wingate who arrived on board the *Coromandel* in 1802 and settled in the area of Portland Head later known as Ebenezer, there are a number of books in our library published by the Stubbs Family Reunion Committee:

- *The Story of William Stubbs and Sarah Wingate: a Coromandel 1802 family: Vol 1; A4/STU/03a*
- *The children of William Stubbs and Sarah Wingate: a Coromandel 1802 family: Vol 2; A4/STU/03b*
- *The grandchildren of William Stubbs and Sarah Wingate: a Coromandel 1802 family: Vol 3; A4/STU/03c*
- *The descendants of William Stubbs and Sarah Wingate: the dear departed from the great grandchildren down: an 1802 Coromandel and Hawkesbury family : Vol 4a: Stubbs; A4/STU/03d*
- *The descendants of William Stubbs and Sarah Wingate: the dear departed from the great grandchidren down: an 1802 Coromandel and Hawkesbury family: Vol 4b: Woods; A4/STU/03e*
- *The descendants of William Stubbs and Sarah Wingate: the dear departed from the great grandchidren down: an 1802 Coromandel and Hawkesbury family: Vol 4c: Sullivan and Everingham; A4/STU/03f*

Matthew Everingham was a convict who arrived in the First Fleet aboard the *Scarborough* and eventually settled at Portland Head in 1803, but in 1804 his home and farm buildings were burned by natives and he, his wife and servant were speared, though happily their wounds were not fatal. In 1816 he acquired 130 acres (53 ha) at Richmond Hill, and became a district constable. A year later, on 25 December 1817, he was accidentally drowned in the Hawkesbury, books about Matthew and his descendants are:

- *The Everingham letterbook: letters of a First Fleet convict*, by Valerie Ross; AN7/01/26
- *A Hawkesbury Story* by Valerie Ross; AN8.255/01/02

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”.

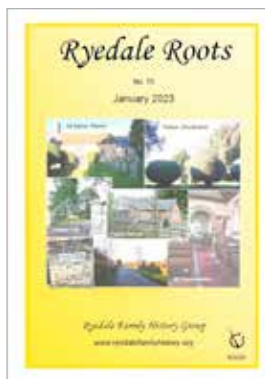
E-journals can also still be accessed on the computers in the overseas room. If you have any comments or suggestions, please email the editor@familyhistoryact.org.au.

AUSTRALASIA

- Margaret Evelyn, Gweneth Hazel and Dorothy May CRAW were triplets born to Mr and Mrs A CRAW, of Pigeon Bay, New Zealand in 1930, entitling them to the Queen’s Bounty, a donation of five guineas per family. It was created by Queen Victoria and lasted more than 100 years, until 1957, “to enable the parents to meet the sudden expenses thrown upon them”. *New Zealand Family Tree Dec 2022 p7 (electronic journal)*.

- William CROMARTY made his second trip to NSW in 1822 as first officer on the brig *Fame*. His wife Cecelia (nee BROWN) and two children joined him in NSW in 1824, and they were the first European settlers in the Port Stephens area. William and Cecelia both came from South Ronaldsay. Presentations from the CROMARTY 200 Gathering held in 2022 are available on-line. *SIB Folk News (Orkney FHS) Winter 2022 n104 p18 (electronic journal)*. (See also issue for Mar 2018 n85 p23.)

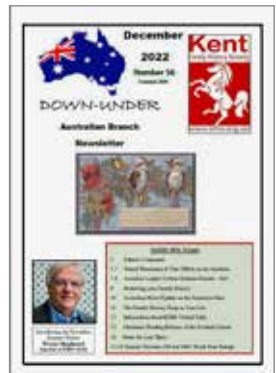
- William HOKIN, son of Daniel HOKIN and Martha REMNANT, was baptised in 1791 at Sidesham. He married Mary Ann BURT in 1812 at St Mary’s Portsea. William, his wife and six children - John (14), William (12), Mary (10), Thomas (8), David (6) and Charles (2) - boarded the *Parmelia* in 1829 bound for Western Australia. William was employed as the government bricklayer. The ship’s arrival on the west coast was hampered by blustery conditions preventing the passengers from landing at Cockburn Sound and resulting in the first settlement being set up on Garden Island. *Ryedale Roots Jan 2023 n70 p20 (electronic journal)*.



- David HOWIE, a former convict, offered shelter to the shipwrecked crew and one passenger who survived the sinking of the *Cataraqui* in stormy conditions off King Island. The vessel left Liverpool, England in Apr 1845 with

367 emigrants and 44 crew. It was five weeks before the survivors were picked up and taken to Melbourne on the *Midge*. More than 400 people died, making it Australia's largest civilian maritime disaster. *Down-Under Australian Branch Newsletter (Kent FHS) Dec 2022 n56 p7 (electronic journal)*.

- George STOKES, a weaver, along with several other families, migrated to the Swan River in 1829. He wrote a letter to his family, which was published in the *Bath Chronicle* on 1 Dec 1831, describing conditions and the cost of living in the new colony. *The Greenwood Tree (Somerset and Dorset FHS) Mar 2022 v47 n1 p31 (NSo9/60/01)*.



ENGLAND

- Gary ALLISON (Australia) is trying to locate his ancestors who married at Terrington: Richard RACE and An GOODALL in 1708; John GOODALL and An BOWLAND in 1677; and Marmaduke GOODALL and Ellin KIDDER in 1637. *Ryedale Roots Jan 2023 n70 p5 (electronic journal)*.

- Ian BARRACLOUGH (from Sydney) is researching the 'Calder Valley' BARRACLOUGH families. His ancestor, William Henry BARRACLOUGH was born in 1846 at Colne, Lancashire and arrived in Australia in 1865. *The Scrivener (Calderdale FHS) Dec 2022 n181 p33 (electronic journal)*.

- Louise EVANS is researching her BEST and SALISBURY relatives. Benjamin BEST was born in 1836 to Matthias BEST and Elizabeth (nee FORD). He married Janet (Jane) Mudford SALISBURY at Brisbane in 1856. The SALISBURY family, comprising Isaac (36), Ann (34), Janet (13), Charlotte (11), John (10) and Selena (5) arrived at Morton Bay aboard the *Emigrant* in 1850. *The Greenwood Tree (Somerset and Dorset FHS) Jun 2022 v47 n2 p28 (NSo9/60/01)*.

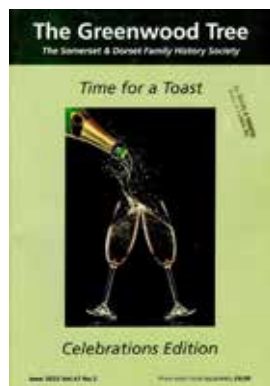


- Annette HAYNES (NSW) is researching the JARMAN family from Ramsgate. George JARMAN was born in 1823, the son of Richard and Mary Bishop JARMAN. *Down-Under Australian Branch Newsletter (Kent FHS) Dec 2022 n56 p10 (electronic journal)*.

- Walter (Wal) MULLET flew Tiger Moths in WWII. He was captured and spent time as a POW. After the War, he joined the police force. In 1955 he married Jessie McCORMAC and they had two children, Paul and Sharon. In 1968 the

family migrated to Australia where Wal worked as a security controller. He died in 2007 at Melbourne, aged 85. A book about his war-time experiences as a glider pilot was published posthumously. *Tree Tappers (Malvern FHS) Winter 2022 v27 p110 (electronic journal)*.

- Mike OSBORNE is looking for LANE connections. Solomon LANE was born in 1834 to John LANE and (Mary) Ann SAINT. He married Eliza HELLIER at Haselbury, Somerset in 1856. Solomon and Eliza, with Eli LANE (Solomon's brother) and his wife Harriet (Eliza's sister), arrived at Morton Bay in 1857 on board the *Parsee*. Solomon and Eliza had 11 children, including James Hellier LANE who married Elizabeth Helen WILLIAMS. *The Greenwood Tree (Somerset and Dorset FHS) Jun 2022 v47 n2 p28 (NSo9/60/01)*.



- Lynda REID: "Leaving Wingrave" provides supplementary information on several of the 30 individuals who left the village of Wingrave (which had 814 inhabitants in 1841) and made their way to South Australia on the *Phoebe* four years later. *Origins (Buckinghamshire FHS) Winter 2022 v46 n3 p163 (electronic journal)*. (See also issue for Summer 2022 v46 n2 p101.)

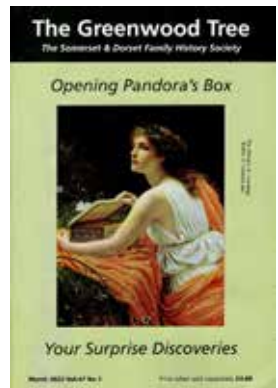
- William RICKETTS, of Hockliffe in Bedfordshire, along with Thomas LUFFELL, was convicted of poaching at the Summer Assizes in 1816 and sentenced to seven years transportation. They were transported on the *Larkins* in 1817. William left behind a wife Letice (nee ALLARD) and at least six children. On arrival in NSW both men were assigned to Rowland HASSELL, of Parramatta. William later moved to the Bathurst District, where it is likely he died in 1836 and is buried in the Kelso Anglican Cemetery. *Bedfordshire FHS Dec 2022 v23 n8 p2 (electronic journal)*.

- Robert SAVAGE: "Perilous voyage of the Indian Queen" contains an account by a passenger, Simeon T HARDY, of what happened after the ship hit an iceberg in the Southern Ocean. The vessel, one of the Liverpool Black Ball Line of Australian packers, left Melbourne, bound for Liverpool, with 40 passengers and a cargo of wool and gold, in Mar 1859. The Captain, chief mate and 15 crew took to a lifeboat after the incident leaving the passengers and remaining crew stranded on board. After 40 days the ship arrived at Valparaiso. *Tree Tappers (Malvern FHS) Winter 2022 v27 p119 (electronic journal)*.

- John Bowden (JB) SIMPER, son of John SIMPER and Ann DAVIS, was baptised at Poole, Dorset in 1793. JB became a Congregational minister. In 1815 he married Hannah JAMES, with the couple having five children. In 1852 JB, Hannah and their three younger daughters travelled to Australia on the *Hyderabad* where initially he worked at Richmond, Victoria and then at

Connewarre, south-east of Melbourne. By 1861 he was employed as the Postmaster there, as well as being a licensed gold miner. He died in 1868. *The Greenwood Tree (Somerset and Dorset FHS) Mar 2022 v47 n1 p7 (NSo9/60/01)*.

- Charlotte SLOCOMBE who was born in 1837 at Huish Champflower to Robert SLOCOMBE and Sarah (nee RIDEN) went to work for the Hon John BURY, a captain in the Royal Engineers, at Barnstaple. In 1857 Captain BURY, his wife and Charlotte left Plymouth on the convict ship *Nile* bound for Fremantle. The voyage was disorderly, with some convicts rebelling. Charlotte returned to England with the BURY family, including their daughter born at Fremantle, in 1859 on the *Robert Morrison*. After her return, she talked about returning to Australia to marry a man named RICE but this did not eventuate. *The Greenwood Tree (Somerset and Dorset FHS) Jun 2022 v47 n2 p16 (NSo9/60/01)*.



- Liz THURLOW (NSW) is researching Lennox ALDBROUGH/OLDBROUGH who, in 1920, declared on his marriage certificate that he was a widower, aged 53, and a blast furnace rigger. His father, of the same name, was deceased. He was the second husband of Susan DOBBS, a widow, aged 58. Both were living at Middlesbrough at the time of their marriage, and both died there: Susan in 1928 and Lennox in 1944. Nothing is known about his early life. *Cleveland FHS Oct 2022 v15 n4 p28 (NYo/60/14)*.



- William George James TUTT died in 1933, aged 60. His death is recorded on two headstones: one in Rectory Lane Cemetery, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, with his parents, William James and Maria Jane TUTT. The other is in the Boonah General Cemetery, Queensland. William, a professional photographer, married Mary Ann OVENS in 1899 and sometime after the birth of their daughter, Eva May in 1901, the family migrated to Australia. Their son, Raymond George TUTT, was born in Australia in 1909. *Hertfordshire People Dec 2022 n163 p14 (electronic journal)*.
- Marjory WINTER is researching her CAVELL family. Francis Theodore CAVELL arrived in Victoria around 1850. His cousin Edward Charles CAVELL of Bawdsey Hall arrived with his family in 1881. *Suffolk Roots Dec 2022 v48 n3 p264 (electronic journal)*.

GENERAL

• Ian KNOWLES: Talk “War Graves of the Great War France and Belgium”. *The Scrivener (Calderdale FHS) Dec 2022 n181 p26 (electronic journal)*.

IRELAND

• Jennifer HARRISON: “Australian Irish Connections - Eden Could Yield No More. Seeking Ulster Protestant Immigrants to Morton Bay, 1848-59”. *Irish Roots 4th Qtr 2022 n124 p26 (R9/60/04)*.

• Dr Mary HATFIELD: “Visiting The National Archives of Ireland”. *Irish Roots 4th Qtr 2022 n124 p6 (R9/60/04)*.

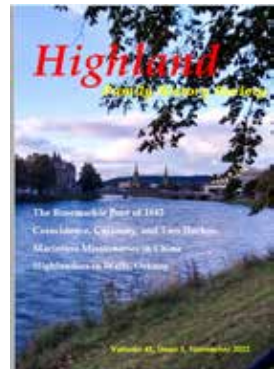
• James G RYAN: “Local Resources for Family History Research - County Wexford”. *Irish Roots 4th Qtr 2022 n124 p10 (R9/60/04)*.



SCOTLAND

• Andrew FISHER was Prime Minister of Australia from 1908 to 1915. He was born on 29 Aug 1862 at Waterside Row, Crosshouse, Ayreshire (photo of the property). *The Bulletin (East Ayrshire FHS) Dec 2022 n26 p4 (electronic journal)*.

• Sir James HECTOR (1834-1907) was probably born at Edinburgh although his family hailed from Aberdeenshire. He studied medicine at Edinburgh University before joining the Palliser Expedition as surgeon and geologist to explore Western Canada. He was later appointed geologist to the province of Otago, New Zealand. His pioneering scientific work was widely recognised and he was for some time President of the Australian Association for the Advancement of Science. *Highland FHS Nov 2022 v41 n1 p10 (electronic journal)*.



E.M. Fletcher Writing Competition 2023

The E.M. Fletcher writing competition closes 15 July 2023. How to enter is available at <https://www.familyhistoryact.org.au/writingcompetitioninformation>.

This exciting short story writing competition is back with cash prizes; \$1,000 from Family History ACT, \$500 from the University of Tasmania and a Family History ACT member only prize of \$100. The competition will be judged to select the best short story of 1,500 – 2,000 words on a family history/genealogy theme.

We also welcome three new judges to the 2023 competition – Heather Garnsey, Bernadette Thakur and Jenny Higgins.

Every family has a story - write yours now!

Society Education and 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 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 or in the newsletters. Contact 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 second Saturday
of February, March, May, July,
September and 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)

APRIL 2023

- 1 Sat 10:00am **India SIG**: *Money, Missionaries, Madness and Murder: biographical sources for British women in India, 1860-1900.* convenor Prof. Peter Stanley india.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 4 Tue 19:00pm **Monthly Meeting**:
- 6 Thu 19:30pm **Scottish SIG**: *Return to Basics in Scottish Research.* convenor Clare McGuinness and Mae Mulheran scottish.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 7 Fri 9:30am **Reunion & Mac Support UG**: convenor Danny O'Neill ram.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 8 Sat 14:00pm **TMG Down Under UG**: convenor Lindsay Graham tmg.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 12 Wed 19:30pm **Convict SIG**: *Using Digital Technologies to Learn more about Convicts.* convenor Michele Rainger convict.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 13 Thu 10:00am **Family Tree Maker UG**: *General Question & Answer session.* ftm.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 16 Sun 11:00am **Pauline's Parlour**: Having a problem with your research, or not sure where to start? Come along to our round table chats, where we help with enquiries. convenor Pauline Ramage parlour@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 20 Thu 10:00am **Legacy UG**: *Snipping Tools and Clipboards.* convenor Julie Hesse legacy.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 20 Thu 20:00pm **Heraldry SIG**: *Royal Cyphers.* convenor Niel Gunson heraldry.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 21 Fri 10:00am **Coffee and Chat**: coffee.chat@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 24 Mon 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 Tue 10:00am **Pauline's Parlour**: Having a problem with your research, or not sure where to start? Come along to our round table chats, where we help with enquiries. convenor Pauline Ramage parlour@familyhistoryact.org.au

MAY 2023

- 2 Tue 19:00pm **Monthly Meeting**:
- 5 Fri 9:30am **Reunion & Mac Support UG**: convenor Danny O'Neill ram.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au

- 9 Tue 19:30pm **TMG Down Under UG**: convenor Lindsay Graham
 tmg.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 11 Thu 10:00am **Family Tree Maker UG**: ftm.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 13 Sat 9:30am **Irish SIG**: *Family Records: An immigrant's backward look.*
 convenor Barbara Moore irish.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 13 Sat 13:00pm **DNA SIG**: convenor Cathy Day
 dna.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 18 Thu 10:00am **Legacy UG**: *Media - Attaching and Displaying.* convenor
 Julie Hesse legacy.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 18 Thu 19:30pm **English and Welsh SIG**: *Busting Brickwalls.* convenor
 Floss Aitchison and Nina Johnson
 english.welsh.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 19 Fri 10:00am **Coffee and Chat**: *Visit to National Archives Australia.*
 coffee.chat@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 21 Sun 11:00am **Pauline's Parlour**: convenor Pauline Ramage
 parlour@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 22 Mon 10:00am **Library Practice**: convenor Jeanette Hahn
 library.practice@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 28 Sun 14:00pm **Australia SIG**: *Victorian Railways.* convenor Pauline
 Ramage australia.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 30 Tue 10:00am **Pauline's Parlour**: convenor Pauline Ramage
 parlour@familyhistoryact.org.au

JUNE 2023

- 1 Thu 19:30pm **Scottish SIG**: convenor Clare McGuinness and Mae
 Mulheran scottish.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 6 Tue 19:00pm **Monthly Meeting**:
- 8 Thu 10:00am **Family Tree Maker UG**: ftm.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 10 Sat 14:00pm **TMG Down Under UG**: convenor Lindsay Graham
 tmg.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 14 Wed 19:30pm **Convict SIG**: *Irish Convict Records.* convenor Michele
 Rainger convict.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 15 Thu 10:00am **Legacy UG**: *Tags v Hashtags.* convenor Julie Hesse
 legacy.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 18 Sun 11:00am **Pauline's Parlour**: convenor Pauline Ramage
 parlour@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 26 Mon 10:00am **Library Practice**: convenor Jeanette Hahn
 library.practice@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 27 Tue 10:00am **Pauline's Parlour**: convenor Pauline Ramage
 parlour@familyhistoryact.org.au

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).

Reproduction without permission is not permitted. The views expressed in the items in the journal are those of the authors' and not necessarily those of the Society, and the Society cannot vouch for the authenticity of advertisements appearing in the journal.

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

© 2023 The Heraldry & Genealogy Society of Canberra Inc.

Surnames in this issue:

This index includes names in *From Our Contemporaries*

Aldbrough	45	Craw	42	Heins	27, 28	Pike	15
Allard	44	Cromarty	42	Hellier	44	Race	43
Allison	43	Cunningham	10, 11	Henderson	19	Redmond	27, 28
Antill	6	Currie	7	Hokin	42	Reid	20, 44
Asquith	23-25	Davis	44	Howie	42	Reilly	8
Baldock	16	Dobbs	45	James	44	Remnant	42
Barnard	18	Dowling	27	Jarman	43	Rice	45
Barraclough	43	Drooglever	5, 8	Jesson	18, 21	Ricketts	44
Barrett	26-28	Duke	25	Johnston	29, 33	Riden	45
Barry	28	Dwyer	11	Kemp	15	Riou	38
Battram	24	Ellis	18-22	Kidder	43	Russell	11
Bellet	38	Evans	43	King	5, 6	Ruthven	21
Best	43	Fielding	20	Knowles	46	Ryan	28, 46
Bolton	16	Finnan	10, 12, 13	Lane	44	Saint	44
Bowland	43	Fisher	46	Lang	26, 27	Salisbury	43
Breckon	8	Flood	28	Luffell	44	Savage	44
Brown	42	Ford	43	Lush	16	Shanahan	10-14
Brownrigg	28	Foster	18, 20	Luther	37	Simper	44
Buchan	29-37	Garrick	18, 20	MacDonnell	5-8	Skilton	24, 25
Buckan/Buckham	31	Gifford	15	Martin	28	Slocombe	45
Burke	10	Goodall	43	McCormac	43	Smithers	20, 21
Burt	42	Gowan	19	McDonnell	3-7	Stewart	28
Bury	45	Gowin	18	Mullet	43	Stokes	43
Bush	4, 8	Griffen	33	Murphy	27, 28	Teasdale	8
Caffrey	28	Haig	26	Murray	6	Thurlow	45
Calvin/Cauvin	37	Hardy	44	Newman	11	Torr	15, 16
Cavell	45	Harrison	46	Oldbrough	45	Townsend	19
Chapman	22	Hassell	44	Osborne	7, 44	Trinca	28
Clark/Clarke	8	Hatfield	46	Ovens	45	Tutt	45
Clunie	34, 36	Haydon	11	Patrick	28	Wakefield	22
Comerford	5	Haynes	43	Perkins	9-12, 14	Williams	6, 44
Corcoran	10-13	Hector	46	Phillips	19	Winter	45
						Young	11



*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.*