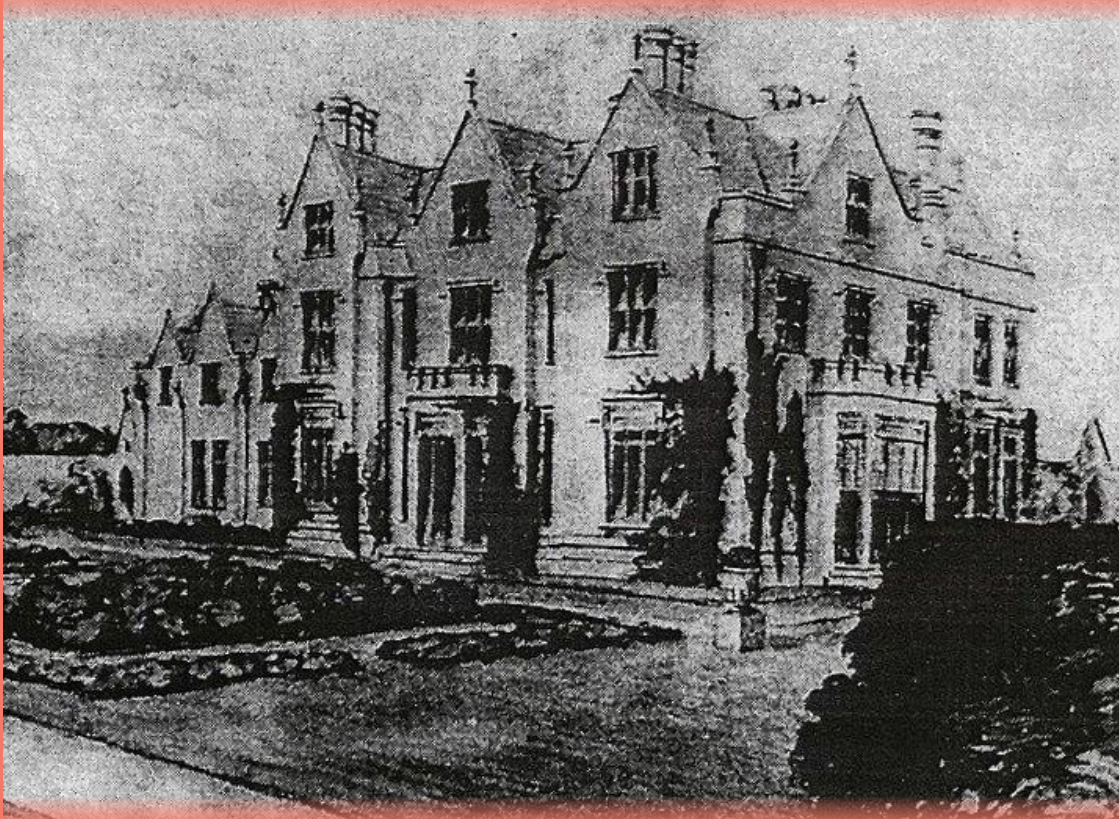




# THE ANCESTRAL SEARCHER



Family History ACT

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# FAMILY HISTORY ACT

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**Front Cover:** *Summer Hill (Somerhill) in Tonbridge, Kent (see story p. 95)*

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# *From the President*

*Rosemary McKenzie*

Welcome to another *Ancestral Searcher*. This quarter there's a wonderful collection of stories and information which our authors have sent in for you to enjoy. We have a 'black sheep' or was he? A Golden Aunt makes an appearance and the challenge of translating a Thesis. Did we find Jane Knight or not? Cheryl has found a Greek in our Father Brian Maher files, Pauline has written about the Pardey Photographic Collection and Orphan and Destitute Children. Clare has also put together a report on the Blogging workshop group with some website ideas from the attendees.

Our Writing Competition has closed for another year and the judges are busy reading the 109 stories and trying to come up with a shortlist and then a winner. Don't forget the winner the awards event will be early October. Gina has provided more information in this journal. Keep an eye out for the event announcement and how to reserve your place.

Read up on the information our regular contributors have compiled for you: Obscure Resources in our library, Names and ships indexed from our recent exchange journals – in the library, New Acquisitions again in our library. Barbara has also put together a list of the *Unlock The Past* handy guides, which we also have in our library. Come along and visit the library and access the resources which are not online.

August is AFFHO National Family History Month and there was a large number of societies who promoted events throughout the month on the AFFHO website. I hope you were able to enjoy the speakers and the topics offered. I was away for a week and found that Batemans Bay Library was also promoting National Family History Month with workshops and education sessions.

Nine years ago, as president, I wrote "We are coming up to our 50th Anniversary". Now, we are coming up to the beginning of our 60th Year. Our official 60th anniversary will be October 2024. But plans are already underway to have a selection of events and activities throughout our 60th year to celebrate this milestone. As you will have read on our website FHACT received funding in the 2023-24 ACT Heritage Grants to create a book celebrating the achievements of our society for the last 60 years. The book will focus on the Society's achievements and contributions to the Canberra community from 1964 to the present. The book will be launched in October 2024 to coincide with the Society's 60th Anniversary. More information on how you can contribute to the project will be available shortly, or you can contact Cheryl, our treasurer, [treasurer@familyhistoryact.org.au](mailto:treasurer@familyhistoryact.org.au) for more information.

See you at the Library!

# Revisiting the Golden Aunt

Nina Johnson

In 1888, Robert Louis STEVENSON penned his *Memoir of Fleeming Jenkin*<sup>1</sup> as an introduction to the publication of a collection of papers of his friend, the inventive engineer Fleeming JENKIN (1833-1885). STEVENSON provided a colourful account of the Jenkin family's history. It included the claim that the financial ruin of Fleeming's grandfather Charles JENKIN (1766-1831) was the responsibility of his wealthy but deceptive "Golden Aunt", my 4th great grandaunt, Ann FREWEN (1743-1826). Was STEVENSON's account fair, or biased by the bitterness of overlooked Jenkin men?

Ann was the youngest of the children of Thomas "Lawyer" FREWEN (1691-1767) and Sarah BISHOP (1699-1769). She grew up in *Church House*, a large ancestral home that still exists in the rural village of Northiam, East Sussex. Doubtless it was a privileged upbringing. Secure in the income from his estates, her father's 1765 Will bequeathed £500 each to his two married daughters, Mary LORD and Elizabeth JENKIN, and £1000 to unmarried Ann. That £1000 is estimated to be worth over £44,000 in 2023<sup>2</sup>.



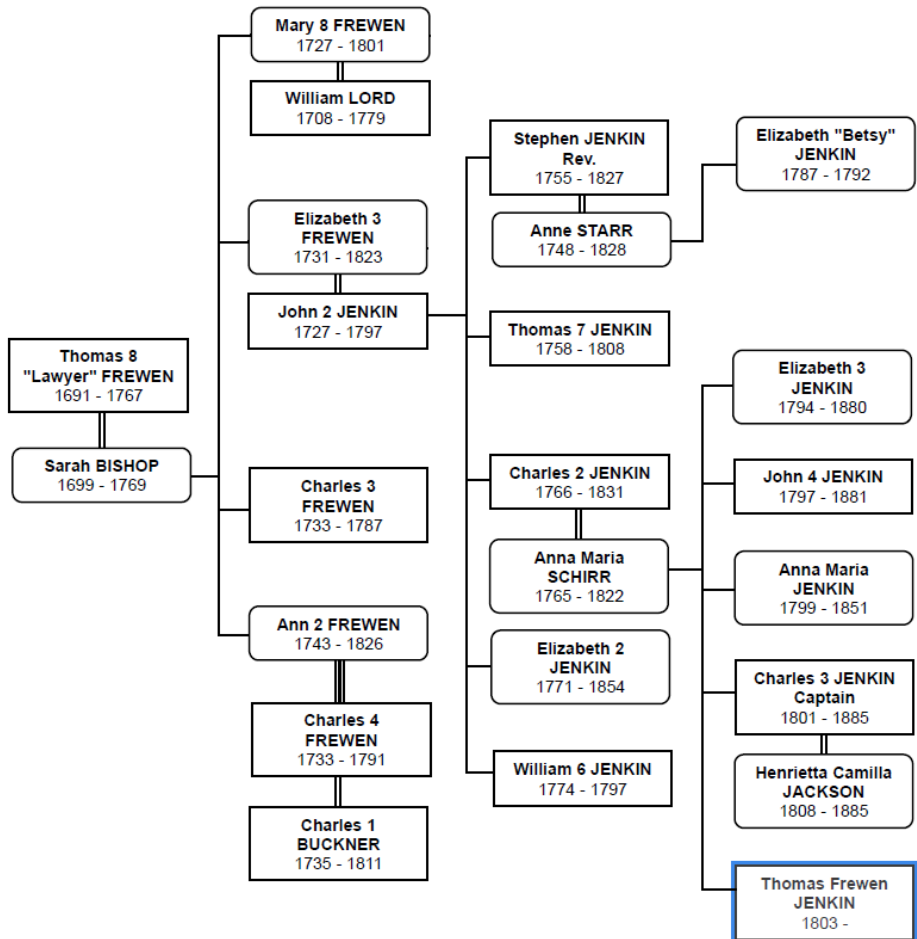
*Church House, Northiam, East Sussex.*

Thomas FREWEN's 1766 codicil to his Will revealed a tragedy in the younger generation, and ensured his daughter Ann was aware of the consequences of financial mismanagement. Thomas' only surviving son Charles FREWEN (1733-1787) was in serious debt. Perhaps he had already fled to South Carolina, deserting his two illegitimate children and their mother, when the Codicil was written. Charles was disinherited from the Frewen real estates. He was not completely cut off, having an allowance to be paid at the discretion of the trustees who would oversee the estates, and the opportunity to inherit

his father's personal estate if he reduced his debts to £150. There was also the chance of legitimate offspring of Charles inheriting the real estate of their grandfather Thomas.

One executor and the main trustee of Thomas FREWEN's estates was his London-raised nephew, also confusingly called Charles FREWEN (1733-1791). When aged 41 this Charles married his first cousin Ann who was 10 years his junior.

Although there is evidence of a legitimate son born to Ann's brother Charles in 1768 in South Carolina<sup>3</sup>, the latter was deemed to have died without an heir in 1787<sup>4</sup>. The income of deceased Thomas FREWEN's estates was now shared equally between his three surviving children, Mary LORD, Elizabeth JENKIN, and Ann FREWEN.



Elizabeth had married her second cousin John JENKIN, a member of the Company of Founders in London who worked in the Excise Office, in 1754. Four of their ten children, Stephen, Thomas, Charles and William, are relevant to this story.

The eldest, Stephen JENKIN (1755-1827) became a clergyman. He was presented to the living of Salehurst, Sussex, by his father in 1779<sup>5</sup>. While being vicar there, he was also Clerk of the parish of St Andrew, Holborn, where he married Anne STARRE, said to be his cook<sup>1</sup>, in 1783. By 1785, John JENKIN was complaining “my son the vicar of Salehurst hath been very expensive and in consequence [I] should be very happy to obtain a curacy for him at a distance from Salehurst where he may live on his curacy for the discharge of his debts”<sup>6</sup>.

Stephen’s ability to live within his means did not improve with age. STEVENSON wrote that “Debt was the man’s proper element; he used to skulk from arrest in the chancel of his church”<sup>1</sup>. In 1808 it was reported “he’s in daly fear of arrest, a letter from ye Bhs [Bishop’s] Court threatens him to be turnd out of his Living for neglect of Duty, yt is not true, ye Parish want to keep him has been so easy about ye Tyth.”<sup>7</sup> Not collecting his tithes would naturally cause the vicar some financial stress. Salehurst’s land taxes of 1810 to 1827 have “Revd Stephen Trustees” responsible for the annual tax on the vicarage<sup>8</sup>, suggesting the vicar was relieved of financial responsibilities for a period.

With such a lifestyle, it wouldn’t seem wise to refuse his wealthy and now widowed aunt’s offer to take his daughter Elizabeth “Betsy” JENKIN (1787-1792) under her wing. Aged only 5 years old, Betsy set off with her great-aunt Ann and her uncle William JENKIN (1774-1797) on a trip to Europe in 1792.

William JENKIN was the youngest son of John and Elizabeth JENKIN. Charles and Ann FREWEN’s marriage had not produced children, so nephew William was anointed as Charles’ heir, to inherit after the death of Ann.

In November 1792, one year after losing her husband Charles, Ann ignored the news of French armies advancing on the Austrian Netherlands. She was going to give William the cultural education of a Grand Tour. Their letters from Europe to William’s parents<sup>9</sup> give graphic accounts of their adventures and are revealing of their characters. Delayed in Ghent by the tragic terminal illness of little Betsy, which was probably due to meningitis, they were overtaken by the French army.

France and England were not yet at war. Ann received a message from the French commandant that they were perfectly safe and was so impressed by the polite behaviour of the French soldiers that she fatefully decided they would travel into France rather than through the German states. By February 1793 they had settled into St Germain, outside Paris, where “the situation...is charming and the air the finest in the world”. Although France declared war on

Great Britain on February 1, 1793<sup>10</sup>, Ann reported that month that “the French accord great hospitality to all”. She still mourned “the loss...of my dear Infant”, but reported William was thriving. Early in March she wrote that “my mind is filled with ceaseless regrets” regarding Betsy, but she was planning to marry a gentleman “who has promised to make everything agreeable to me and that I shall have the entire command of him and his house ... I don't know that I can do better.”

The whole which I mentioned in ... of this letter but I have just entered into an agreement to live with a gentleman who has promised to make every thing agreeable to me and that I shall have the entire command of him and his house, which is a very fine one, I believe we shall go together to Paris in 6 day or two and then I shall return to his house and take up my abode with him. I don't know that

10 Mar 1793 Ann Frewen letter excerpt.

The marriage never occurred. Ann and William, along with other English subjects, were arrested and confined to prison along with local French aristocrats. After they managed to escape to Switzerland in December 1794, Ann wrote home: “I have seen the vanity of riches and honours, and all the parade and pomp of life for me has lost its charms... In common with those of the highest rank in France I have cleaned saucepans and kettles... I have known the luxury of living without a servant and found that I could be much more happy in doing so then when I had many.”

... of riches and honours, and all the parade and pomp of life for me has lost its charms, I have known the luxury of living without a servant and found that I could be much more happy in doing so than when I had many, in common with those of the highest rank in France I have cleaned sauce-pans and kettles, and in aiding the afflicted and beating upon the aged gone I have imbibed the most salutary and useful occupation which is not vicious as a man.

Feb 1795 Ann Frewen letter excerpt.

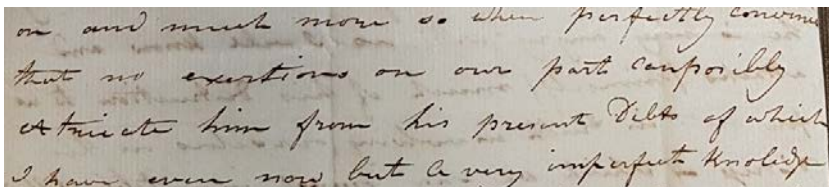
She was not, however, going to allow herself to become impoverished. Having viewed accounts sent by her English solicitor, Ann noticed that her brother-in-law John JENKIN had not been transferring her share of payments from the Thomas Frewen estates held in common with her sisters. She admonished her sister Elizabeth with “it seems to have been a general plan not to pay since my absence” and “if my income is not paid how am I to live”.

Ann FREWEN was full of praise for William JENKIN's conduct during their imprisonment, for “in all the trying scenes through which we have passed he has conducted himself with the greatest feeling and humanity towards the unfortunate”. They returned to England in late 1795, but William's untimely death in 1797, aged only 22, prevented him outliving his aunt and inheriting her wealth.



According to STEVENSON<sup>1</sup>, the ruin of William's brother Charles JENKIN (1766-1831) began in 1805 when he moved to *Church House*, Northiam, and began "a wild scheme of family farming" and living beyond his means with the encouragement of aunt Ann.

Looking at Charles JENKIN's records suggests he was quite capable of bringing ruin upon himself without assistance, however. Having married in 1793, Charles lived on the Jenkin family estate in Stowting, Kent. Letters to his distant wealthy cousin John FREWEN give a picture of indebtedness. In 1800 he wanted to borrow money to assist his brother Thomas JENKIN<sup>11</sup> and in 1802 he asked John to buy the Stowting estate and allow Charles to be his tenant<sup>12</sup>. The outcome of that plea is unknown, but Stowting estate was advertised for sale by public auction in 1803<sup>13</sup>. Charles was still heavily in debt to John FREWEN in 1804<sup>14</sup>, and in 1805 suggested trading his properties at Newchurch, Kent, and Herstmonceux, Sussex, as part payment of his and brother Thomas' debts<sup>15</sup>.



1800 excerpt letter of Charles Jenkin to John Frewen Turner.

This suggests his aunt, now remarried as Mrs BUCKNER, was throwing Charles a lifeline when he became her tenant. She owned multiple properties, having inherited some from her first husband, and a share in others from her father. Charles JENKIN paid land tax on two properties in Northiam parish from 1806-1827<sup>16</sup>, and one in Newenden, Kent from 1809-1831<sup>17</sup>. But it seems he was unable to get in the black. How was it Ann's responsibility that the Jenkins lived extravagantly, believing that "the fortune of the golden aunt should in the end repair all"<sup>18</sup>? We don't know if that was ever promised or was just an optimistic assumption on the part of Charles.

Even before Mrs BUCKNER's death in 1826 and the discovery by her nephew Charles that he was in fact *not* going to inherit her fortune, he was unable to pay even the interest on his debt to John FREWEN, let alone the principal<sup>18</sup>.

For her part, as she wrote her Will in 1823, Ann may have despaired at the financial ineptitude of many of her male relatives. Her brother had been disinherited due to debts, while her nephews Stephen, Thomas and Charles JENKIN were all unable to live within their means despite their opportunities. According to their mother Elizabeth's will, Charles's income had been drained by the debts of his brother Stephen as well as those of Thomas. Like her father, Ann was motivated to prevent the sale of her estates to pay debts. The estates were to be held in trust by her stepson Richard BUCKNER and by her solicitor,

with the rents and profits to be divided between her two great-nieces, Charles' daughters Elizabeth (1794-1880) and Anna Maria Jenkin (1799-1851). Those girls were also to each receive £1000 in cash. Perhaps their brothers, including the father of Fleeming Jenkin, were embittered by not receiving a share of the fortune. Ann might have also believed that Charles could thrive on the real and personal estates bequeathed by his mother Elizabeth JENKIN, who died in 1823.

Unfortunately, for unknown reasons, Charles faced difficulties realising his late mother's assets<sup>19</sup>. If he had received cash when his aunt died in 1826, he might have avoided imprisonment for debt in 1828<sup>20</sup>. In his own Will of 1831, Charles JENKIN, now of Lambeth, Surrey, had little to leave. He still owned some property in Northiam inherited from his mother, which he directed to be sold to pay his solicitor's debt and give a legacy to his sister. There is mention of sums of money advanced to two of his three sons, with the hope that they will make matters financially even with their brother. His daughters, the heiresses of the Golden Aunt, received no mention.

The family of Charles JENKIN was not irretrievably divided by the disparity of their inheritances. Anna Maria JENKIN remained a spinster and was living with her brother, the father of Fleeming JENKIN, when she died in 1851. She chose to leave her income stream to her sister-in-law rather than her brother, so it appears she, too, had doubts over the financial management skills of Jenkin males.

- 1 Stevenson, R.L., *Memoir of Fleeming Jenkin*, accessed as Project Gutenberg ebook #698
- 2 <https://www.officialdata.org/uk/inflation/1765?amount=100>
- 3 Baptism of Francis Charles Frewin, son of Charles Frewin & Ann Simons Frewin. St. Thomas and St. Denis Parishes, South Carolina, Parish Register, 1680-1884, [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com)
- 4 1803 Buckner v Lord, The National Archives (TNA) ref: C 13/35/35
- 5 Hodson, L.J., *A Short History of the Parish of Salehurst*, 1914
- 6 Letter from John Jenkin, London to the Rev Thomas Frewen, Cold Overton, East Sussex Record Office (ESRO) ref: FRE/350
- 7 Letter of Mary Frewen to John Frewen-Turner, ESRO ref: FRE/2189
- 8 Land tax assessments for the parish of Salehurst, 1693-1832, [familysearch.org](http://familysearch.org)
- 9 Letters to the Jenkin family from William Jenkin (1774-1797), and Anne Frewen (1743-1826) of Clewer in Berkshire, and Northiam, ESRO ref: ACC 14042
- 10 <https://www.britannica.com/event/French-revolutionary-wars>
- 11 Letters from Charles Jenkin to John Frewen, 1800, ESRO ref: FRE/1528; 1804 ESRO ref: FRE/1601
- 12 Letter from Charles Jenkin to John Frewen, 1802, ESRO ref: FRE/1549
- 13 *Kentish weekly Post*, 26 July 1803
- 14 Letter from Charles Jenkin to John Frewen, 1804, ESRO ref: FRE/1601
- 15 Letter from Charles Jenkin to John Frewen, 1805, ESRO ref: FRE/1624
- 16 Land tax assessments for the parish of Northiam, 1702-1832, [familysearch.org](http://familysearch.org)
- 17 Land tax assessments for the parish of Newenden, 1780-1832, [familysearch.org](http://familysearch.org)
- 18 Letter from Charles Jenkin to John Frewen, 1821, ESRO ref: FRE/7818
- 19 Letter from Charles Jenkin, incorporated in a letter from Richard Buckner to Thomas Turton, ESRO ref: LRD 1/2/17
- 20 Letter from George Bishopp at Northiam to John Frewen, ESRO ref: FRE/13/5/7/1

# Was Herbert the black sheep of the Woodgate family?

Elaine Gifford

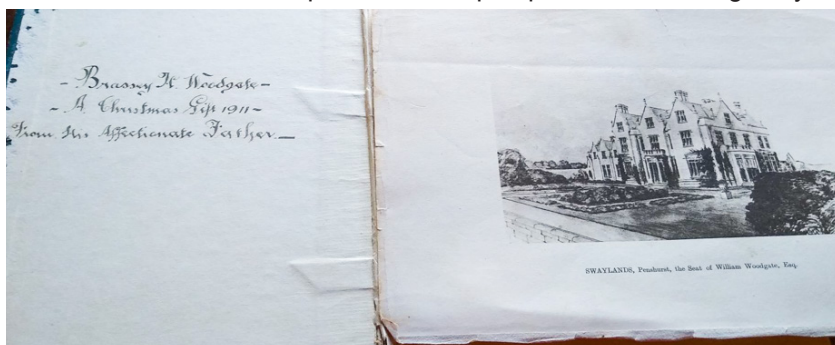
*Note:* An earlier version of this article was published in the August 2022 issue of *The South Australian Genealogist* (Vol 49 No 3)

A decade ago, living on different sides of the world, we first 'met' by email. As second cousins, Lorna and I could have met in school holidays when I stayed with my great aunt Hazel WHITE (née ELLIS) in Burra in South Australia's mid north. But an estrangement in Lorna's family meant she didn't even know she had a grandmother, Hazel, living nearby.

Now, though, we are both eager to reunite our branch of the ELLIS family. In November 2019, fortunately before Covid-19 travel restrictions, Lorna and her husband visited South Australia from Yorkshire, and we travelled from Canberra. It was a happy coming together of various family members. While acknowledging that we may not meet again, at last we are real to each other.

In 2021 Lorna had a request for me, as the one most seriously working on family history. Having grown up very closely with her mother's WOODGATE family in Booborowie near Burra, she wrote: ... *going to ask you a huge favour to search out someone for me... I have loads of info on Woodgates but my Great-grandfather Herbert Woodgate is still bit of a mystery... I think he was black sheep of family & sent to Australia by [them].*

How could I refuse such a request, with the prospect of unravelling a mystery?



*The fire-damaged book, 'History of the Woodgates'. Herbert's inscription for his son reads: Brassey H. Woodgate – A Christmas Gift 1911 – From His Affectionate Father. Photo by Brassey's granddaughter Lorna Buttrey who now holds the book.*

I began immersing myself in Trove newspapers of the time and GenealogySA's extensive online resources, gradually piecing together names and places. It was when searching the internet in general that I found a treasure in the

Internet Archive which promised to give me all the family background I needed: *A History of the Woodgates of Stonewall Park and of Summerhill in Kent, and their Connections.*

Excited, I emailed Lorna that I had found 'a goldmine'. Her response puzzled me: *I do own a much battered copy of the Woodgates. So I do know about the English Family. The history to the book, I have, is that Brassey [Lorna's beloved Woodgate grandfather, Herbert's son] was so disgusted with one of his forbears, he threw it on the fire. Nelly, his wife, rescued it. Luckily, only the back blank pages were burnt half way through.*

Clearly, I had more to learn. Here is some of the Herbert WOODGATE story as I collated it.

As a young man, Herbert WOODGATE had more opportunities than many. Of the youthful decisions he made, the travels he undertook and the ventures he embarked on, perhaps his best move came when he was thirty-one. He married Marie Louisa DUNEMANN, who would become his anchor in life.

In 1840 Herbert was born into privilege. The WOODGATES, proud 'Men of Kent' in the south of England, could trace their family back many generations. They socialised and intermarried with a number of other successful and respected families. However, being wealthy and well connected did not spare them from early deaths, loss of children and financial difficulties.



*Summer Hill (Somershill) in Tonbridge, Kent, the Seat of F. W. Woodgate, Herbert's grandfather. The property in an early 19th century print. (THS Archives Z61/2)*

When Herbert's father, William, was seventeen, his whole family suffered a serious setback. The estate where William was born, *Summerhill* near Tonbridge in Kent, had been in the family for almost a hundred years. William's father, William Francis WOODGATE, had invested heavily in the Tonbridge Bank. Unthinkably, in 1816 the family mansion was lost after the collapse of

that Bank.<sup>1</sup> Young William had two older sisters and seven other siblings aged from four to fifteen. Their mother, Anna (née ALLNUTT), died within three years, so the younger ones were largely brought up by relatives and family associates.

Those family connections later helped William's brothers obtain positions in the Church, the East India Company Service, the War Office and the Royal Rifles. One who will reappear in Herbert's story was his father's youngest brother, Decimus, who served in the military in Germany. There he married Gertrude BERESAM. After fifteen years' wine-growing experience on the Rhine, Decimus heard of early success with vines in the colony of South Australia. So in 1852 he and Gertrude and their five young children emigrated, confident of a rosy future.

Meanwhile in 1816, when seventeen-year-old William grasped the seriousness of his family's situation, he acted quickly to secure his own future. Seeking help to find employment, he approached a family friend, a solicitor in London. Mr SCOTT 'was so pleased with William's spirit that he took him in' [to the business] and three years later he was admitted to Lincoln's Inn.<sup>2,3</sup>



*Swaylands in Penshurst, Kent, the Seat of William Woodgate, Herbert's father.*  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Woodgate\\_villa\\_1850.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Woodgate_villa_1850.jpg)

At the age of twenty-five, his income assured as a successful solicitor, William married Harriott WEST, daughter of Colonel James WEST, another family friend. Their first child died aged one, but four daughters and seven sons followed. William did well enough to purchase and improve an old property, *Swaylands*, in Kent. Herbert, the seventh child, was the first to be born there; London was still also home. William ensured that his sons had the best education available. Several, including Herbert, attended the famous Harrow School.

But Herbert was restless. Whether it was his initiative or that of his family, in 1861, the year in which he turned twenty-one, he sailed to Australia on the

frigate *Orwell*.<sup>4</sup> After almost eight months in Victoria, he travelled to Adelaide and quickly made contact with his uncle Decimus who had settled near Clarendon in the Adelaide hills.

By then Decimus and Gertrude had added to their family, and bankruptcy had ended their wine-growing dream. Decimus had become an accredited and respected surveyor, his services much in demand by District Councils south of Adelaide.

The following years for Herbert were rather carefree, and included travel to Victoria and New Zealand. News of his father's illness triggered a visit to England. On his return he tried his hand at various ventures, including purchasing a property for sheep farming. However, soon he too was declared bankrupt.

Fortunately for him, this was at the time of his father's 1866 death. A generous inheritance, plus the sale of Herbert's property and the auction of all associated stock and equipment, more than compensated for his losses. Given that he was reported as having started with £900, an enormous amount in the 1860s, he was indeed a lucky young man.<sup>6,7</sup> (Black sheep? Favoured son branching out? I wonder.)

Looking further afield, Herbert embarked on a series of ventures to the north and far north of Adelaide. An obituary in 1912 mentions his 'adventurous career'.

It was in the Burra region that his wanderings ended. Here he met Marie DUNEMANN. Her father, William DUNEMANN, operated the Racecourse Hotel, variously described as being in Lostwithiel, Copperhouse or Kooringa. This caused no local ambiguity; Lostwithiel (where the building was situated) adjoined the better known settlement of Copperhouse, and both were part of greater Kooringa. The whole became known as Burra.

In St Mary's Kooringa, Herbert and Marie were married in December 1871.<sup>8</sup> But Herbert was still not quite settled, trying different occupations in the Burra area.

At last, approaching forty, Herbert found his niche. As an educated person in a rural region, there were services he could offer. In Hallett and Mount Bryan, not far north of Kooringa, he assisted tradesmen with bookkeeping and became agent there for various commercial enterprises. Following the example of his uncle Decimus, he also became involved in community and District Council affairs.

Marie and Herbert welcomed William Harry Allnutt WOODGATE in 1873, and daughter Katherine Johanna Harriott WOODGATE in 1877.

By 1880 the WOODGATEs had moved to Hallett where Marie's only sister Johanna lived with her husband Joseph ROSS and four little children. In August

that year Johanna died, having been ill for some time. Within months, Marie gave birth to Percival Ernest Louis Charles WOODGATE. The combination of a great loss and a new baby may have eased Marie's acceptance of another move.

For Herbert, ever the entrepreneur, a short move further north looked promising for his growing family. A new township, Terowie, was forecast to become 'the leading business town in the North-East'.



Map of Burra, South Australia, showing Woodgate towns to its north.  
Accessed: The Burra History Group Inc in 2012.

In the previous decade, an extensive pastoral run beyond Hallett had been broken up for closer settlement. Now, construction of the broad gauge railway line from Adelaide was nearing its terminus at Terowie. Development accelerated in this new service centre for farmers and for passengers and mail travelling further north by coach. When the Governor arrived by rail in December 1880 to declare the new line open, there was a railway station, a hotel, two stores, two butchers, a bakery, a saddlery, a bootmaker, three blacksmiths, and a few stone houses.

Two of Marie's brothers set up a butchering business, Dunemann Bros, with outlets in Hallett where Louis lived for a time, and Terowie where Charles would settle. So the decision was made: the WOODGATEs would move to Terowie.

Terowie's facilities, buildings, services and trades multiplied rapidly. Drays and coaches (and later narrow-gauge rail) carried goods, produce, mail and people to north-eastern South Australia, to Silverton and Broken Hill ('The Barrier'). Prospering, Terowie became known as the 'break-of-gauge' of the railways. With all goods needing to be transhipped between the broad and narrow gauge lines, and passengers changing trains, this was now a major railway and service town.



*Main Street, Terowie, 1884. State Library of South Australia B+32938, detail.*

As the town expanded, so did the family, with four more boys. They followed Marie's German family custom of giving multiple names, many of which were surnames of Herbert's extended English family, or given names from both their families. It was these surnames that set me searching WOODGATE origins in Kent, and led to the discovery of The Book.

On arrival in Terowie, Herbert threw himself into community affairs. He named their own house *Swaylands* after his father's estate. Just two streets back from the main road, it would be his permanent home.



*Herbert Woodgate's house, Swaylands, in Terowie. SLSA B 32922/3.<sup>9</sup>*



It was common at the time for businesses and manufacturers to have numerous branches and agencies, and one of many roles Herbert adopted was Terowie representative of the Life Assurance Society. He did bookkeeping and debt-collecting, was clerk of the District Council, did some auditing work and tried running a water cart. He always stated his occupation as 'agent'. By 1888 he was also poundkeeper for the Council. His name shows in that position for the rest of his life. Although in Terowie that task was not usually onerous, perhaps sons or others assisted as Herbert's health and mobility deteriorated in later years.

From Terowie's first settlement, church life was important there. Wesleyan Methodists and Baptists each made plans for larger buildings. Other groups came and went. A small building, St John's, served the local Anglican community, though inadequate income meant the appointment of a resident clergyman was short-lived.

The parish really started to thrive in the late 1880s. By 1890 they had bought the former Primitive Methodist chapel, recently vacated by the Salvation Army, and their own minister arrived shortly after. Herbert and Marie, already involved, became stalwarts of St John's. Herbert was a warden for a decade, and subsequently sons Percy and Brassey were elected to positions there.

Once her youngest, Cecil, was two, Marie became a regular organiser of all manner of hospitality and fund-raising efforts for the church, as well as in the wider community. She and Herbert successfully enabled their seven children to find their own interests as they grew up. There was sadness along the way, however. One day when Katie drove her mother on an out-of-town welfare visit, the horse took fright, the light-weight conveyance was upset, and five-year-old Cecil died as a result of his injuries.

Herbert, meanwhile, kept informed of deaths and accomplishments of siblings and cousins in England. Evidencing great pride in his family of origin, he often placed notices of such events in South Australian newspapers.

Herbert and Marie's children all became well-known as their interests expanded in step with Terowie's vibrant community. They were increasingly participants and leaders in clubs and activities – sports, church, public speaking, singing and acting, homing pigeons, cycling, rifle club, social events, fund-raising and office-bearing in the Lodges which were common at the time.

After years of poor health and restricted movement, Herbert died at 72 in November 1912. It was the previous Christmas that he had presented the recently published WOODGATE book to his son Brassey. By then William, the eldest son, was established in the postal service in WA, Katie and family had moved to Adelaide with the railways, and Percy had died young, a respected local businessman. In Herbert's final months he knew that sons Brassey and Ashley had purchased newly subdivided land in north and south Booborowie,

'suitable for farming and grazing'. West, the youngest, went on to become a well-loved and capable railway stationmaster in and near Port Pirie, until dying in his fifties.

Herbert was so well known that when he died, four different obituaries were published in six South Australian newspapers, and the family newspaper notices were also forwarded to England.

So, what should Lorna say to her brother and children? It seems that an earlier generation did consider Herbert a black sheep in the family. We can agree that he was slow to settle down, and had 'an adventurous career' as a young man. But surely the story to pass on is that Herbert became 'an old and respected resident of Terowie', a good husband, father and community member who remained fully engaged despite physical limitations, and was enormously proud of his family of origin.



*Herbert Woodgate c.1900, aged about 60. The black armband and folded paper may indicate news of the death of a famous cousin, Major-General Sir Edward Robert Prevost Woodgate, in the Boer War. Photo courtesy of Lorna Buttrey.*

- 
- 1 In 1816 WF Woodgate was declared bankrupt. During the agricultural depression after the Napoleonic Wars, the Tonbridge Bank had collapsed in 1812. Wikipedia: *Somerhill*, accessed 18 Dec 2021.
  - 2 *A History of the Woodgates of Stonewall Park and of Summerhill in Kent, and their Connections*, by Rev Gordon Woodgate, MA and Giles Musgrave Gordon Woodgate, 1910; The Internet Archive, 13 Dec 2021.
  - 3 The Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn is one of the four Inns of Court in London to which barristers of England and Wales belong and where they are called to the Bar. Lincoln's Inn ... is recognised as being one of the world's most prestigious professional bodies of judges and lawyers. Wikipedia, accessed 14 Dec 2021.
  - 4 SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE. (1861, May 6). *The Argus* (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848-1957), p. 4. Retrieved 23 Dec 2021, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article5699905>
  - 5 1867 09 <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article73057043> Herbert, gentleman – insolvency notice.
  - 6 1867 10 Final hearing. <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article159513984> ; 1867 11 Adjourned final hearing. <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article207673533>
  - 7 1868 09 Herbert's property for sale. <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article158933082>
  - 8 1871 12 26 Herbert marries Marie Sophia Louisa, eldest daughter of William Dunemann (here 'Dunneman'), Esq, of Lostwithiel, Kooringa. Family Notices (1871, December 26). *Evening Journal* (Adelaide, SA : 1869-1912), p. 2 (SECOND EDITION). Retrieved December 5, 2021, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article197662459>
  - 9 State Library of South Australia B 32922/3. About 1909
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# Learning to Blog

Clare McGuinness

Producing a family history book, or three, is a common goal of members of the Writing SIG. Some of us decided that blogging was a more do-able activity. We began meeting in early April and continue to do so every fortnight. We gratefully took advantage of the Society of Australian Genealogy (SAG) Blogging course materials which set us up to use the free Blogger platform, after I enjoyed doing their course last year. This blogging platform is hosted by Google. It is rudimentary, without all the beauty and style options of WordPress, but very little in the way of learning curve.

What is a blog? It is a website where we publish our family history in short, easy to read bites with relevant images in colour. Or is that bytes? Google hosts our blogs for free. You can have a single blog with hundreds of posts on a multitude of topics. Or you can have a dozen blogs, each on a specific family line or an individual person. You can publish a post every day or one a year. It is your call.

## The Learning Process

About ten of us are working together, with at least six attending for about 2-3 hours – testament to our interest in the work. We all had created blogs within two sessions but there has been constant frustration (especially from our resident perfectionists) around learning how to manage quotes, images, columns – things not behaving the way we expected them to, not looking the

way we expected them to look – all part of learning a new piece of software. We started with a very clean and basic ‘theme’ called Contempo Lite, and only a few of us have preferred an alternative theme. A Theme is a set of formatting and style parameters which allow you to immediately have a functioning blog structure.

Like most blogging platforms, we had to learn the differences between ‘stable’ Pages and ‘dynamic’ and ever-increasing Posts; how to use hyperlinks, images, labels and approaches to constructing navigation aids. Fundamentally, in terms of any publishing effort, we needed to think about the content, structure and audience of the blog.

## Public or Private?

We started out having private blogs due to an understandable expectation that we would be learning, and things would not be good enough to publish for a while. What a headache when inviting readers – did they need Google accounts or not? For at least six meetings we had the constant query of “Why can’t I see your blog, can you re-invite me”. Yes, we did need to pay attention when we went over that process. Over time most of us have taken the plunge to go public and already have family members looking at the blog and offering comments. We can see that the blog doesn’t have to be ‘perfect’ or complete, to start achieving what we hope it will do – draw in an interested family audience.

There are two component parts to a blog – the half that people can see on the internet, and the half behind the scenes where you do all the work, commonly known as the **dashboard** or back end. As you draft, edit, revise and restructure your ideas and information, you can **Preview** how it will look. Not happy? Change it. The instant visual display is very helpful. But even once published, herein lies the beauty of blogging. You can **Publish** a story which can be added to, corrected or completely revised – with no fuss about needing errata, second and third editions, time, money and more time and money.

One of the key advantages over books, and a selling point of blogs, is the potential for your reader to easily contact you. There is the ubiquitous Contact Form where people can leave compliments (ahh), or suggestions or information. You may find a collaborator, from anywhere in the world.

## Content

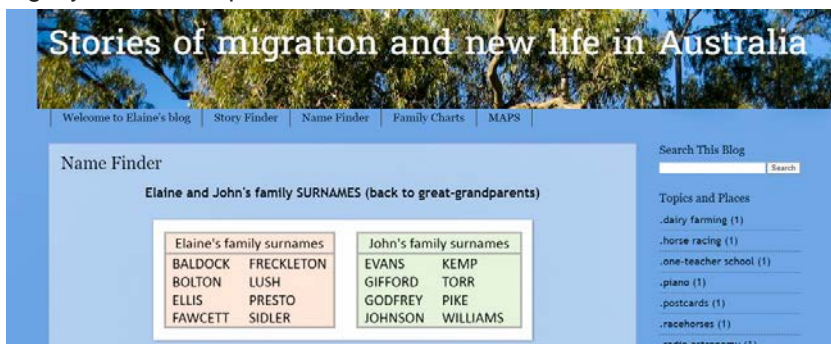
Last year I had great satisfaction creating a blog about studying my Buchan family from Scotland through DNA. Some of us had pre-existing blogs, though there were problems with unwanted advertising. There is a wide range of content within our group – some very structured, others very ad hoc. People wanted to present memoirs of close family members, the research challenges of a grandmother’s ancestors, a potpourri of family stories, remembrances and

stories, a grandfather's photographs, the totality of emigrant ancestors and stories around cooking/recipes.



Images have been important. We are no longer constrained by the cost of inserting colour pictures into publications. So often does a picture encapsulate the truth of a memory, and indeed provide the spark that morphs a memory into a story. Images are integral to blog posts. With all the tools available for enhancing images we can find the right image and place it on the page exactly where we want it.

Sometimes we had pre-existing content we could bring into a post, and we used charts created in our family history programs. Others wrote directly in the blog, often a picture sparking a story. The reality of a place to publish our writing has helped some people actually do the writing, of things that have been in their minds for years. We've been constructively critical of each other's blogs, and I believe all have benefitted from external feedback. We've talked about copyright, ethical considerations about family secrets, references, captions, writing style and even punctuation!



## Unexpected benefits

Like any project, sometimes you are never totally sure of what you want to do until you are trying to do it. The freedom and flexibility of blogging caters for changing focus or direction. Ross has catalogued and reorganised his image library by having the incentive to do so, to be able to quickly find the 'right'

photos for a particular post. Elaine brought us several gems of tools – PicPick for screen capture and annotation, and OpenStreetMap for free, uncluttered maps suitable for annotation. Rosemary as always was there to explain about pixels, file size and image formats. Diana has constantly raised the value of providing sources.

Not so surprising, we have been inspired and motivated by other Blogger blogs, particularly those of SAG members who have also used the Contempo theme. It may be a simple platform, but it does the job that most of us – being ambition rich, but time poor – want it to do.

The group process brings its own little joys – as well as cake. One person has learned a tiny function on her own, without realising that no-one has learned it, and can pipe up with “I can do that – it’s this button”. It has given opportunities for people to organise their research, identify gaps and to think about what they really want to say. We found new ideas for our own blog every week as people shared their progress.

### **Could Blogging be for you?**

Digital publishing is not new, only easier. There are programs that offer storytelling, image repository and Genealogical charting. Some are quite hard to learn, and costs of hosting anything on the internet need to be considered. The Google platform blogger is free and largely intuitive to use. I’ve attended three courses on blogging, the most useful was the one run by SAG. Like our blogging group, it is based on learning through working on your own very new blog! And it also took all the myriad decisions re settings out of the equation, presenting us with a format to use and develop. This is one of the best things about our Society, in that we can get together on a common purpose to learn, enjoy each other’s company and progress our ambitions for our family history. Family History ACT hosts several websites/blogs already, under Membership Resources, Information Portals, Member Sites. But you can go small, creating a blog just for your family or your research group. It’s a bit like Facebook but with more facts, data and writing on display.

Sue and Jo have had blogs for several years, and they are established and polished blogs using the WordPress platform, what we perhaps aspire to; see <https://kindling.family.blog> and <http://www.historysnop.com>. Interested in having a look at our newer blogs which are now public? Try these:

- <https://giffordboltonaustralia.blogspot.com>
- <https://cookbooksandmemories.blogspot.com>
- <https://somensetgoodfellowfh.blogspot.com>
- <https://rosscleary.blogspot.com>
- <https://buchansofborthwick.blogspot.com>
- <https://cuppawithsue.blogspot.com>

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*Gina Tooke*

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*Roberta enjoying the new 2022 edition with the 2020 and 2021 copies ready to read.*

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# Translating the Thesis

Michele Rainger

My 3x great grandfather Dr Georg BRUHN arrived in South Australia from Germany in 1847 with his second wife and children. I have published articles about his far-reaching activities and the exploits of the BRUHN family before so I won't go over that ground again.<sup>1</sup> This story is about how I managed to get a copy of Georg's 1840 PhD Thesis and have it translated.

Born in Schleswig-Holstein in 1810 Georg was well educated. He attended school in Lubeck about 60km north-east of Hamburg where he clearly studied art and music, learning to play piano and violin – both of which he was said to have played well in later life. He produced numerous paintings and published several books during his life and was apparently sufficiently proficient in French and Italian to teach others, and in Latin to write his university application.<sup>2</sup>



*Dr Georg Bruhn Circa 1854  
(Photo by Roher and Co Dresden)*

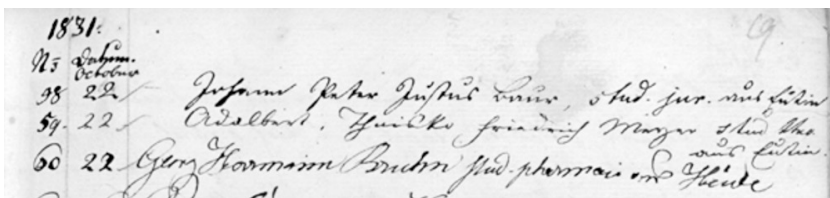
Georg went on to study pharmacy after school. He later joined the Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Jena under the supervision of Hofrat E REINHOLDT, Dean of the Faculty, and on 22 July 1840 he was awarded a Doctor of Philosophy.<sup>3</sup>

I had known of these educational achievements for some time, but one day in February 2022 – on a whim, I decided to contact the universities in Kiel and Jena to see if they had any more records from that time. I simply googled each university and found their Contact Us pages on their websites. I framed a short request along the lines of “I am researching Dr Georg BRUHN who attended your university in 1830/40. I am wondering if you have any records relating to his enrolment?” And with some help from Google Translate I turned it into German, pasted it into the enquiry boxes on the websites and pushed Submit.

I had no idea if I would ever get a response. But within 48hrs both universities had replied.



The University of Kiel only had a short entry from an enrolment register, but it was confirmation of Georg's time there. And thanks to the new records I have acquired, I now know that Georg seems to have travelled widely around Europe and studied at several other universities before settling at the University of Kiel in Schleswig-Holstein. He was 22 years of age when he enrolled at that university to study pharmacy in 1831.<sup>4</sup> He went on to practice pharmacy for a time and owned his own business in Rosswein near Dresden in the State of Saxony.<sup>5</sup> But chemistry and geology, it seems, were what really attracted his attention.



Entry from Enrolment Register, University of Kiel 1831. Source: University of Kiel

The University of Jena was even more helpful. Dr Stefan Gerber from the University's Archives advised me that the university had a full copy of Georg's original PhD Thesis. For a fee, I could have it scanned and they would make it available for me to download. And, as every family historian knows, once you find a record, you just have to have a copy!

After a little back and forth we were able to organise payment of about \$AUS120, the staff at the University scanned the document and within a couple of weeks I had a copy in my possession. Plus, they had attached some supporting papers that included Georg's original handwritten application to study at the University and references from notaries, including the Mayor of Rosswein, supporting his application. These documents were in a mix of German and Latin which was of course the accepted language for tertiary institutions at the time.<sup>6</sup>

For a time, I was very excited – Who amongst us can claim to have a copy of our ancestor's PhD Thesis from 1840? But then of course the reality set in... what did it actually say? And how could I get it translated?

I tried ringing around some companies that provide translation services. They struggled to get their heads around the task that I was describing and suggested that it would cost me "thousands" to translate such documents, assuming that is, that they could find someone who could help. But when one company's receptionist asked me "Latin – How do you spell that?" I knew that this approach was not going to work. I needed to find help from someone probably a little older and whose education may have included classics and/or classical languages.

I spoke to a colleague here at Family History ACT (FHACTION). He had some friends – academics, who he thought might be interested in a project like this.

He approached them on my behalf but sadly, they were not able to help. I talked next to the Head of our FHACT Translation Service. She was able to find two keen volunteers willing to take a look. We agreed that the Thesis itself was probably a bit too difficult, but maybe they could try translating the supporting documents. This proved most helpful as I was able to learn of important (and very relevant) information including that Georg had sold his pharmacy and was, by that time, the Technical Director at the Cunnersdorf Hard Coal Company at Rosswein.

But I still had the Thesis, and no real idea of what it included. By now it was March 2023 and I was beginning to think that I would have to resign myself to admiring said Thesis forever without ever knowing the full extent of its contents. But then, a chance conversation with another FHACT colleague provided new promise when she said to me “I might know someone who might know someone – give me some details”.

Which I did. Of course, I did! And within a couple of weeks, I had met via email the lovely Dr Ines Sprung from Scotland. Ines works these days as a translator, but she has a background in organic chemistry. And as it happens, she lived as child in the area in what was then East Germany near where Georg was working and doing his research into coal mining in 1840: her own PhD was from the University of Leipzig about 100km from Cunnersdorf. According to Ines, the vicinity was still a coal mining area during her childhood. For these reasons, she thought that my translation project sounded most interesting to her...

But even more importantly Ines could read Fraktur, the old Germanic script in which Georg's thesis was written. As I understand it, Fraktur originated in the 16th century and was still in use in German-speaking countries up until the early 20th century, although it was progressively phased out from the late 18th century. Fraktur typefaces remained in use in Nazi Germany, when they were represented as the true German script. Official Nazi documents and letterheads employed the font, and apparently the cover of Hitler's original copy of *Mein Kampf* used a hand-drawn version. But from early 1941 the use of Fraktur was prohibited.<sup>7</sup>

Ines' parents were only young children during WWII. As a child, and many years later, Ines spent holidays at her grandmother's and was often very bored there. Grandma was born at the beginning of the 20th century, and everything in her house seemed, to use Ines' words, “ancient” – including the books. The only children's books were Grimm's fairytales written in Fraktur font. And so, to overcome her boredom, Ines taught herself reading using those books

Ines and I negotiated a price for her to translate Dr BRUHN's Thesis. I won't quote the exact figure here to protect her commercial interests, but needless to say it cost me a few thousand dollars Australian. I was happy with the price and

even happier with the quality of the translation. Over a period of a few weeks, Ines was able to produce a version that was readable in today's English but which still preserved to some extent the grammatical and style characteristics of the 19th century language. She even provided additional comments to explain terms that did not necessarily have an English equivalent.

I learned that Georg's Thesis was titled in English as a "*Booklet about Hard Coal or Characteristics, Extraction, Use etc. of Hard Coal*, edited by G. BRUHN, Chemist and Technical Director of a Society for Hard Coal Development".<sup>8</sup> It included sections that discussed the geological formation of hard coal; typical formations; techniques for extracting hard coal; areas across Germany that possessed hard coal deposits; and comparisons to the quality of coal found in the UK and Belgium.



*Dr Bruhn's published Thesis from 1840. Source: University of Jena Archives*

Being a chemist at heart, Georg discussed at length the various types and characteristics of coal, comparing the heating power and different processing techniques. He devoted many pages to a discussion of the carbonisation of coals first in kilns, and second in furnaces, to provide suitable products for heating, operating steam boilers, firing porcelain or stoneware and for illumination using coal gas.

Georg's thesis is a little different to those that we are used to today. It was printed in A5 format and ran to only 60 pages (excluding cover pages). It was more like the "literature reviews" that are expected in modern academic work: and Georg did not explicitly identify what research (experiments) he had done himself and there were no clear conclusions drawn. Although, based on what I know of his work in Australia in later years, I suspect that Georg probably did do a number of experiments to test the qualities of the various forms of coal and reported these in his thesis.

By the time Dr BRUHN published his thesis in 1840 the Industrial Revolution was drawing to a close, but factories, mills, foundries and railways now relied on engines to power their operations. And these engines had a voracious appetite for combustible fuels such as coal. It seems to me that Dr BRUHN's work would have been a timely addition to the collective understanding of how to get the most out of coal-powered machinery.

Hard Coal is hardly (pun intended) a typical topic of conversation for family historians. But I have found this whole journey quite the experience, and I know that my dad, a farmer and descendant of Dr BRUHN, and my sister's husband, a soil chemist, will both find reading the translation as interesting as I have.

What this story really reinforces is that family history records can sometimes be found in unusual places; that persistence pays off; and that talking to others about our family history brick walls and hurdles is important. You just never know when you talk to others who might know someone who might know someone who can help.

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- 1 Michele Rainger, *The Eclectic Contribution of Dr Georg Bruhn*, Descent, Vol 48 Pt3, September 2018, Society of Australian Genealogists; Michele Rainger, *The Bruhn Family – A Saga of Tragic Proportions*, The Ancestral Searcher, Vol 44 No 3, September 2021, Family History ACT.
  - 2 Rainger, *ibid*; University of Jena, Letter from G Bruhn seeking award of PhD 20 July 1840 and accompanying references
  - 3 Intelligenzblatt der Jenaischen, Allgemeiner Literatur-Zeitung, Sept 1840, <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=iau;Hofrat> is a title akin to a Privy Councilor in English.
  - 4 University of Kiel, LASH Dept. 47NR, 995 Album, Matriculation of University of Kiel 1827-1905.
  - 5 University of Jena, *ibid*.
  - 6 University of Jena, *ibid*.
  - 7 1941: The Nazis ban Jewish fonts – using a Jewish font". *historyweird.com*. Archived from the original on 7 December 2015, Via Wikipedia.
  - 8 Translation by Dr Ines Sprung, 2023.

# Pardey Photographic Collection No.2

Pauline Ramage

The Pardey Photographic Collection consists of approximately 30,000 images of glass slides and negatives. It is an historic collection of photos of Cowra and District between 1939 and 1971. Photos of soldiers who trained at the Cowra Military Camp were taken at Pardey's Studio in Cowra by George PARDEY and his sister Eileen. Residents of the surrounding districts, Sydney, travelled to Cowra especially to have their photos taken.



The studio was originally started by J.J. KELLY about 1897 and later sold to Mr. and Mrs. CRADDOCK about 1919. Herbert PARDEY bought the business in 1920 and remodeled the Studio in 1926. A register of the negatives was maintained. George eventually sold the business to Don COLLINS in the 1990's, a new name Fletcher Fotographics was given.

With my interest in pursuing family history research, I wandered into our local photographers, Fletcher Fotographics Studio, and asked if there was any chance of obtaining a copy of a particular photo. Don COLLINS, the new proprietor, consulted an old index book in poor condition, to find a negative of the photo I was looking for, the negative he brought out was not the person I wanted, Don made the comment that "it must be the other number" and this time it was the negative that I wanted. Don then told me when George PARDEY was numbering the negatives, when he got to number 10,000 he went back to number 1 again. The number change occurred in the early 1950s, so it was very important to confine the order of the photos to year group, then numerical order within each group.

As we had been told by the Heraldry and Genealogical Society of Canberra to watch out for old records and ask permission to copy them, I did, so with much

enthusiasm, Peg KURTZ, Madeline FORGIE, Lorna SPACKMAN and myself, set about making copies of the indexes by hand.

I asked Don if it would be possible to make two copies of the indexes, one set for him to use in the shop to replace the old indexes so they could be put away, the second set to be housed in the Family History Group Library. On completion, member Peg KURTZ noticed a large number of photographs consisted of Military men, and events at the Military Camp. Closer inspection revealed name, rank, enlistment number, company, and addresses – all important information for family history research. Peg extracted the names and made a separate list of approximately 4,000 photographs of soldiers who had passed through Cowra Military Training Camp, a separate book was written about the Military Camp containing the names of the soldiers who had their photos taken at the studio. Little was known of the Military, so, a book was produced by Pauline with the indexes and information from the newspapers, about the camp, HAGSOC Library AN8.794/82/01.

In many conversations with Don COLLINS, he expressed how he would love to one day develop every negative, but due to time and expense found difficulty in doing so. I suggested that he should apply for a grant. He then suggested that perhaps the Cowra Family History Group would like to apply. If successful, we could develop the negatives under his guidance and he would give us the custodianship, housing the photos in the Cowra Family History Group Library.

I was taken to a room behind the shop and shown shelves with boxes, within which each negative had been placed in a separate white paper bag.

A large number of the negatives were on glass slides, which make a detailed



*Some of the negatives at Fletcher Fotografics before being developed.*

picture in black and white, but due to age the impressions were beginning to deteriorate. The Cowra Family History Group Inc. applied for a grant, but this was unsuccessful. Don received a phone call from a journalist in Sydney who told him that due to a large collection of photos found and rescued from Kempsey Tip, our bid was unsuccessful, but to apply next year. This we did

and received a grant from the NSW Heritage Assistance Program, of \$4000 for 3 years to develop over 30,000 negatives.

Val CARPENTER spent her holidays sorting the boxes into order, and then Helen STENDELL President, and myself, Librarian, set about developing the negatives in the original dark room of Pardey Studios, using the original enlarger, and working under Don's guidance. The task took us over 3 ½ years to complete, Helen coming in from the farm and myself came down after work, each afternoon.



We spent 5 ½ days a week developing. A group of members gathered each Tuesday night at Val CARPENTER's where we identified, listed, and assembled the photos into boxes. Joan FORD entered the information from the identified photos into a computer database and we had to be very careful because of the way George PARDEY numbered the negatives. George originally threw threw out the old negatives to the tip but in 1939 he realised the historical value and kept them through to 1971. The collection consisted of portraits of babies, children, adults and family groups, mostly identified; a range of social occasions such as weddings , debutante balls etc; local historical events, sporting activities, street parades and processions and agricultural events. Also included were official openings of facilities such as Wyangala Dam, Cowra District Hospital, Cowra Civic Centre, St John's Anglican Church and the new Cowra Bridge; the functions and activities in the outlying villages of Woodstock, Greenethorpe and Billimari; Soldiers and Nurses Groups at Military Camp were present.

Due to the large volume of the negatives, particularly weddings, Helen and I decided to print one of the Bride and Groom and one of the Wedding group, as we were uncertain of the number of negatives in the whole collection, so there are a number of negatives that have not been developed. Once completed, a generous grant from the Royal Australian Historical Society and a donation from the Cowra RSL Sub-branch, provided locked cupboards, folders and acid-free sleeves to house the photos for preservation. The photographs are now housed with the Cowra Family History Group, who are custodians of the collection. An index to photos are on the website and copies can be ordered at a cost of \$10. On the website cfhg.com.au select Pardey Photographic Collection, then select required index. There are names from Sydney, NSW country areas, and also Victoria. There may even be other states.

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## *Obscure Library Resources*

*Pauline Ramage*

### **Deane Index and Re-Index of Deane Index**

also known as The Settlers' Letters Index

Miss Mathilde E. DEANE, worked at the Public Record Office now National Archives in London England 1929-30; compiled an index to miscellaneous letters by or about settlers, military, convicts and other individuals in the Colonial Office Series of records including New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land.

This index contains 16,189 records. Two Indexes have been compiled by Aileen TRINDER and Pat STEMP.

It is helpful to refer to both indexes as the *Deane Index* will show you the order of the letters on the microfilm. The *Deane index* can also provide additional information about the content of the letter. Alphabetically by name of letter writer only, with the letter contents and noting names of persons mentioned therein. First search the *Re-index of the Deane Index* to find copies of the original letters. This index will also provide details to find the entry for the same person in the *Deane Index*.

Another source of information which may help us add to our collection of information of our ancestors – all in our library.

**1. Re-Index of the Deane Index 1823-1840** Settlers, Military, Convicts, etc from Colonial Office NSW Correspondence Pastkeys Rockdale. fiche FFACT Y2/AN103/1-7.

**2. Deane Index Re-Indexed 1823-1840** CD-ROM version 2005 FFACT AN5/07 CD 0410



# Finding Jane Knight

*Jennifer Burgess*

Jane KNIGHT my second great grandmother married William BAILEY in 1842 at the Macdonald River (NSW BDM 780/1842 V1842780 26C). This was Williams second marriage and Jane was younger than some of his children. When I first started research, I looked at Ancestry hints. People had her parents as Alexander KNIGHT (1806-1877) and Jane DOUGLASS (1812-1891) with my Jane born in Wollombi in 1823. Despite a page-by-page search of parish registers up to 1856, I could find no baptism for Jane. Also, my research<sup>1</sup> and Wikipedia<sup>2</sup> showed that Wollombi was not well settled that early.

Fortunately, I met another family researcher who told me Jane was born in England and had arrived age 6 with her mother, convict Jane KNIGHT on the Roslyn Castle in 1830. That seemed plausible but I couldn't find a definite birth for Jane in England with my limited searching. Jane's marriage to William BAILEY was before registration, so there were no parents listed to confirm her parents. Years later, I decided to search for the mother Jane KNIGHT at State Records NSW and I struck gold. There were two letters, Citation: [4/2114] Letter no 31/6376 | Start Date: 01/01/1831 for the mother and Citation: [4/2100] Letter no 31/1842 | Start Date: 01/01/1831 about Jane herself. Jane the mother had been employed in Sydney and this Jane had been charged with opening a gate to allow two men to rob the premises. The second letter was Jane's employer, writing to ask what would happen to Jane, if her mother went to gaol. Jane the mother was found not guilty, so Jane was safe.

In 1834 Jane KNIGHT the mother married Edward KELLY at Evan (NSW BDM V18341253 18/1834). Edward KELLY had arrived on the Isabella in 1822 and served his sentence, but Jane was still a convict when they applied for permission to marry<sup>3</sup>. Elizabeth KELLY was born a few days after their marriage in 1834 (NSW BDM 456/1834). Ancestry hints have Elizabeth married to Charles John WINKS and living in Queensland but this is not the Elizabeth born to Jane and Edward. When comparing information in the Obit<sup>4</sup> for Elizabeth WINKS later THOMPSON and the death registration at Queensland BDM<sup>5</sup> it is clear this is a different Elizabeth.

Jane and Edward had son Edward (947/1835 V1835947 19) on 24 June 1835 and Jane died on 27 June 1835 (NSW BDM 766/1835 V1835766 157). DNA matches link me to Edward KELLY b 1835. Ancestry hints were valuable in this instance, baby Edward survived and with Elizabeth, was raised by James and Mary BURRELL who lived close to Edward and Jane on the Nepean River. Son Edward married as BURRELL and had 7 children with Sarah GAVIN. all born as BURRELL. Ancestry hints have Edward KELLY the father dying in Nymagee in 1883. Perhaps this Edward had been in contact with his son,

because when young Edward dies, his death is registered as KELLY (NSW BDM 6847/1914) as is Sarah (NSW BDM 2446/1905)

Jane KNIGHT/BAILEY died in 1900 (NSW BDM 10452/1900) and is buried in the new cemetery at St Albans. Her husband William BAILEY had died in 1865 (NSW BDM 4233/1865).

Ancestry trees and documents have much to offer a serious researcher, who rechecks the information for accuracy. It is obvious that people copy from Ancestry trees without checking for themselves. Many of the 547 trees with Jane KNIGHT b 1823 have her born in Wollombi, Penrith, various counties in England and Wales. Several trees also have her married to William's brother John and while most people had her dying at St Albans, she also died at Molong with no death on that date in Molong on the NSW BDM.

If you descend from Jane Knight and have Jane KNIGHT/KELLY in your tree, check your DNA matches, as you may also match her half-brother Edward as I do.

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1 <https://paulbuddehistory.com/bucketty/the-convict-era/>

2 <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wollombi>

3 NRS-12212 | Registers of convicts' applications to marry 20-12-1825 to 26-02-1851

4 *The Brisbane Courier* (Qld. 1864-1933) Saturday 14 January 1911

5 Queensland BDM 1911/C/94

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# The Father Brian Maher Files – File 279 Jigger Bulgary

Cheryl Bollard

The Father Brian Maher Collection is full of exciting stories, and one of the significant advantages of scanning each file is uncovering some of them.

Jigger's file had me hooked just looking at his name! Who was this person? I couldn't wait to start scanning to read his story. There was just one two-page document in the file, but what a tale!

## Jigger's Story

Jigger BULGARY was originally a Greek citizen; his actual name was Ghikas VOULGARIS. He was a sailor-fighter in the Greek War of Independence during the 1820s. In July 1827, he and six other young Greek men from the Island of Hydra robbed the *Alceste*, a British merchant ship in the Mediterranean. It is claimed they removed the cargo to prevent the supply of weapons to the Ottomans. The men were later captured by a British Warship and charged with piracy.

They were tried in Malta and sentenced to death. However, the sentence was later commuted to 14 years transportation to Australia. Jigger was 24 when he and his fellow pirates arrived in NSW in August 1829 onboard the convict ship *Norfolk*. The article claims the men were the first Greeks to arrive in Australia. After six years, in 1835, Jigger was given his 'ticket of leave' at Bungonia, where he worked as a shepherd.

Jigger married an Irish girl Mary LYONS in 1836 at 'Arn Prior', the property of 'Commissary' RYRIE near Braidwood. They had ten children, five boys and five girls.

Meanwhile, the government of the newly independent Greece asked for, and in 1837, obtained from the British Government, an Absolute Pardon for the seven Greek convicts. Five men returned to Greece, but Jigger chose to remain in Australia.

In 1858 he bought 65 acres of lightly timbered hillside above the Bombala River, close to Bukalong. In 1860, he applied for citizenship, which was granted on 13 March 1861.

After the *Robertson Free Selection Acts* became law in 1861, Jigger selected *Ando* on the Bibbenluke station. Sometime after 1873, Jigger and his wife moved to Nimmitabel and bought or leased a run called *Nimmitabel Station*. The Bulgary family lived and worked in the Monaro region for around 30 years. He died there in 1874 and is buried in the old Nimmitabel cemetery.

I'm sure there's more to Jigger's story than what's in File 279, and I'm just as sure there are many myths about his life. Whether a pirate or a freedom fighter, he was undoubtedly one of the early Greek settlers to Australia and one of only seven Greek convicts. Maybe one of our readers can fill the story in a little more?



Photo Credit: Sandra Brown 2015, Monuments Australia <https://monumentaustalia.org.au/themes/people/settlement/display/108718-gikas-voulgaris>

This project was supported with funding made available by the ACT Government under the ACT Heritage Grants Program.

# Orphan and Destitute Children

Pauline Ramage

The topic of the last Australia SIG meeting was looking at the problems and care of the Orphan and Destitute Children from the beginning of the Colony. I was told about a website that might help, and was I astounded with what I found. Ann BALFOUR also had information on a family member who was on the “Nautical School Ships Vernon and Soboran” and other homes in Sydney and Queensland, also Reform and Industrial Schools.

So with great anticipation I began to explore and Googled “*Find and Connect*” (this website was produced by University of Melbourne and Australian Catholic University and funding from the Australian Government ).

I found history and information about Australian Orphanages, children’s homes, and other institutions, with a free phone number if support needed. There are 4 main tabs: *Look for Homes*, *Look for Photos*, *Information about Records*, and *Search*. It covers Forgotten Australians, Aborigines, Foreign Child Migrants, and all children who experienced care in Australia, and anyone interested in History of Child Welfare .

I clicked on the homes and chose the area where all the States were, showing 3 columns: A-Z, By Location, and by Decade, so I chose in Decade NSW, and that is where I was astounded. Little boxes from 1800-2010, in each decade box the names of the school or institution, then full detail. In the box 1800 were 2 names Norfolk Island Orphan School 1795-1814, and Female Orphan School 1801-1850. The information unfolded about what the children suffered, in the homes, location and their history.

Each decade box had increased names added, there are lists for all the states starting from the date they were commenced.

**An orphan child** is someone that has lost both parents, we seem to think of sad little children, but anyone that has lost both parents are orphans, losing their parents in different ways, and had their lives changed – they felt adrift without a parent to guide them. Orphans often spend lots of time looking for friends or surrogates to fill the gap left by their deceased parents.

**A destitute child** is a child who is living in extreme poverty and does not have access to basic necessities such as food, shelter, and clothing. This can also refer to a child who has been abandoned or orphaned and does not have any family or guardians to care for them, or arrived as convicts. Children whose mothers arrived as convicts were taken from their mothers and put into institutions, till their mothers served their time.

Convict women who became pregnant, had their babies taken from them when the babies reached 3 months, so mother could go back to work, and the baby

admitted to the institutions.

These children faced a number of challenges, the loss of their parents and the lack of proper care, such as malnutrition, abuse, and neglect. They may also have difficulties in adapting to life, often requiring academic and social support to compensate for their lack of family, such support isn't easy for a child to find.

They were vulnerable, as they were often left to fend for themselves, rights to education, healthcare, and protection become secondary; the main focus comes down to where their next meal would come from.

Their behaviour included begging, wandering the streets, living with thieves or prostitutes or uncontrollable, fighting, hungry or victims of abuse or criminal background and not attending school.

The colony of NSW was struggling, in 1790s, concerns were expressed in Sydney Town about the growing number of neglected and destitute children living rough in the streets without visible support, but some children's activities were mistaken for orphan and destitute children, who were only playing in the streets, but returned to their parents at nightfall. Richard JOHNSON considered planning residential orphanage in Sydney. His plans were thwarted in 1799 when the wooden building was burnt down. He was able to talk to the colony's new Governor Philip Gidley KING, about the orphanage on Norfolk Island and extensions to the Female and Male Orphan Schools were made.

In the box 1810, another name was added that of the *Native Institute 1814-1833* totalling three homes. The Native Institution was significant as the first school for Aboriginal children in New South Wales. A number of the students who attended it used their education to prosper in White Society, including Maria Lock, daughter of Aboriginal Chief Yarramundi, and was one of the first Aboriginal girls to petition the Governor to claim a land grant, her husband Robert Lock was assigned to her in 1824, the marriage was the first between an Aboriginal Woman and a Convict to marry, besides receiving her grant of land, she also received her dead brothers land. Mary became a landholder, with approx. three grants of land around Liverpool and Blacktown. In 1819 the *Sydney Gazette* reported that an *Aboriginal girl of 14 had won first prize in the anniversary school examination, ahead of twenty children from the Native Institution and almost 100 European students.*

Over the years thousands of children from all walks of life passed through the doors of these Institutions, many to live very notable lives in the community. Randwick Destitute Children's Asylum between 1858-1915, 3426 boys and 2379 girls were admitted. Queen's Orphan School in Tasmania 1828-1879 6000 children were confined. Thousands of children were born in the female factory, records can be found in the Admission and Discharge Books for the School on Linc Tasmania website.

# *Unlock The Past Handy Guides*

*Barbara Moore FHGSC*

Each of these guides written by well-known Australian genealogists have four pages of detailed information relating to various topics of use to the family historian. Ten new topics have recently been added to the Library's collection, seven of which are convict oriented. Each has a brief description written by the author.

## **Australian Electoral Rolls** by Rosemary Kopittke A5/25/02

Few census records survive in Australia so electoral rolls are often used as a partial substitute. Early voting rights were restricted to the wealth and property owners but then eventually changed and suffrage became universal and compulsory.

## **Australian and New Zealand wills and probate records** by Shauna Hicks A5/30/01

Wills and probate records are a major source for family history research. These records may have information not available elsewhere. What assets did a family have, did they own land and how did they want their property divided up amongst surviving family members? The answers to these questions can throw wonderful insight into a family's life at home and in the community.

## **Getting the most out of online newspapers** by Sue Reid L2/16/23

Newspapers are an unparalleled resource for family historians. Researchers are well aware of the value of family notices – birth, marriage, and death announcements – but we can discover so much more than this about the lives and times of our ancestors.

## **Convicts from trial to freedom** by Kerry Farmer A5/50/16

Most Australians are now pleased to find a convict ancestor. Governments recorded a convict's trial and sentence, imprisonment, transportation, assignments and punishments, until the offender left the convict system by death or freedom – so there is generally more information about convicts than free settlers of the same period.

## **Convict records of NSW – the human stories of the transportation system** by Christine Yeats AN5/50/39

The national and international importance of records of Transportation and the Convict System, 1788-1842, which are part of the NSW State Archives, was recognised with the 2006 inscription on the UNESCO *Australian Memory of the World Register*, and the 2007 inscription on the *International Memory of the World Register*.

### **Tasmanian Convicts** by Dianne Snowden AT5/50/09

Nearly 80,000 convicts were transported to Van Diemen's Land (now Tasmania) between 1803 and 1853. Each one left a unique record.

### **Convicts Port Phillip District** by Susie Zada AV5/50/04

Although Port Phillip was not one of the mainstream colonies for traditional transportation there were in fact six district groups of convicts connected to the Port Phillip District. Sources for each of these groups are covered in the References provided at the end of this guide.

### **Western Australian Convicts by Swan Genealogy AW5/50/03**

For the first five years, after European settlement, the colonists of the Swan River colony felt proud of their respectability, they slept safely without the need to lock their houses. However, they had limited means and had to labour on their own land. Nevertheless, the thought of having convicts sent out to the colony was not something they wanted to entertain.

### **Convict records of Norfolk Island 1788-1814** by Cathy Dunn AN5/50/38

“Of all the places in the world this is the greatest nest for Rascals It is impossible to trust any one of our men hardly much more any of the Convicts In short there is no difference between Soldier Sailor or Convicts there Six of the one and half a Dozen of the other.” – *Lt. Ralph Clark, March 1790 Norfolk Island.*

### **The Moreton Bay Penal Settlement 1824-1839** by Jennifer Harrison AQ7/14/03

The Moreton Bay Penal Settlement was established as part of the ‘plan of punishment’ by Chief Justice Forbes who was carefully balancing the introduction of criminal legislation, crowded gaols, and the increasing influx of free settlers to New South Wales, now occupied for nearly 40 years.

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## *DNA SIG 2pm 16 September 2023*

### *Epigenetics - inheritance outside of DNA*

Major lifetime experiences of parents and grandparents can have biological effects on their children and grandchildren, without changing anyone's DNA. For example, there is double the risk of death from heart disease for the children and grandchildren of people who suffered famine in their slow-growth phase (when aged 8-15 years) and there are higher rates of diabetes and obesity in people whose grandfathers experienced food oversupply in their slow-growth period.

How are these effects inherited from one generation to the next? Dr Rachel Woodhouse of the Australian National University, who is an expert on trans-generational epigenetic inheritance, will speak about the evidence for epigenetic inheritance using real-life examples, what kinds of things are likely to be inheritable epigenetically, what epigenetics is, how it might work and how she studies this in the laboratory.

Register to come along DNA Special Interest Group: Saturday 16 September 2pm.

# 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](mailto:@familyhistoryact.org.au).

### AUSTRALASIA

- William HOKIN and his family arrived in Western Australia in 1829. William drowned in 1831 but his children, William George, Charles, David and Mary Ann all married and had families. Mary Ann married Henry Robert STRICKLAND at Perth in 1840. They had 12 children and celebrated their Diamond Wedding in 1900. Henry died in 1907 and Mary Ann in 1908. *Ryedale Roots Apr 2023 n71 p22* (electronic journal). (See also issue for Jan 2023 n70 p20.)

- James MAGEE, a 14-year-old bricklayer’s labourer from Toxteth Park, was convicted of felony and sentenced to transportation in 1829. He arrived in VDL on board the *David Lyon* in 1830. In 1838 he married Eleanor Elizabeth PRESNELL at Oatlands. They had nine children. James died at Ross in 1899. *Lancashire FH&HS May 2023 v45 n2 p23* (electronic journal).

- Henry Julius GRANTHAM, late of Ballarat, aged 32 and Captain Thomas SHEPHERD, of New Zealand, aged 26 were lost in the schooner *Kauri* on her passage from Levuka to Auckland in 1871, reported in the *Australian and New Zealand Gazette* on 21 Oct 1871. *Ryedale Roots Jul 2023 n72 p40* (electronic journal).

- Murdoch McLENNAN (1893-1916) served with the Australian Army and was a casualty at Fromelles. His parents were John McLENNAN and Johanna (nee MATHESON) who married at Lochalsh, Scotland in 1891. The Fromelles Association of Australia is seeking descendants of John and Johanna to assist with DNA sampling. *Highland FHS May 2023 v41 n3 p23* (electronic journal).

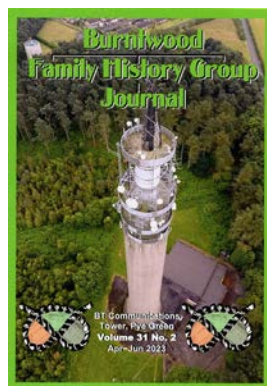
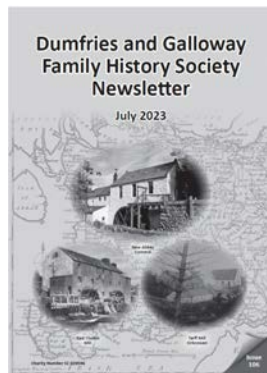
- Joyce MONTGOMERY (nee BUCKLEY), born in 1911, was a concert and radio singer. She used the stage name Cecile LANYON. Joyce married a retired tea plantation owner William Conway MONTGOMERY, from Ceylon, in 1948 at Adelaide. In 1956 they were living at Daffodil Farm, Aldgate, Adelaide, at which time Joyce’s niece Araminta BUCKLEY was visiting from





England. Joyce died in 1988; her husband having pre-deceased her. *Nottinghamshire FHS Apr 2023 v17 n6 p3* (electronic journal).

- John GRACE served in the Royal Australian Air Force during WWII. He met his future wife Patricia DAWSON, who was in the Land Army, whilst on leave in the Thornhill area. *Dumfries and Galloway FHS Newsletter Jul 2023 n106 p24* (electronic journal).
- Walter SCOTT migrated in 1822 aboard the ship *Regalia*, carrying free settlers, convicts and soldiers, bound for Sydney. He was granted two parcels of land in the Maitland District, one he called Wallalong and the other Eskdale, soon after arrival. To earn a living he initially joined the Commissariat Service before becoming a full-time pastoralist/farmer. His farming venture proved very successful and he was able to extend his land holdings and build a substantial house which remains today. *Dumfries and Galloway FHS Newsletter Jul 2023 n106 p1* (electronic journal).
- Arthur Nutter THOMAS was consecrated fourth Bishop of Adelaide in Westminster Abbey in 1905. After Arthur and his wife Mary Theodora (nee LEWIS) arrived in Australia they had three children, Ursula, Katherine and Christopher. There were a number of clergymen in Mary's family in England. The Thomas children kept up the tradition, with Katherine marrying Walter Hubert BADDELEY, Bishop of Melanesia in 1936 and Ursula marrying William Courtnay Saunders JOHNSON who later became Bishop of Ballarat. Christopher was ordained in England in 1936. *Burntwood FHG Journal Jun 2023 v31 n2 p19* (NST9/60/01).



## ENGLAND

- John BAKEWELL travelled to Australia in 1839 with his brother Robert and sister Phoebe who was married to Dr Godfrey HOWITT of Nottingham. While in Australia, John made his fortune in wool-brokering linked to the sheep farm boom. He returned to England in 1857 and married in 1859, with a daughter Alice Phebe born in 1861. Alice, unmarried, died in 1889, endowing the Balderton Almshouses which were built in 1891. *Nottinghamshire FHS Apr 2023 v17 n6 p15* (electronic journal).
- William BEER married Grace CLARKE. They lived in Dean Prior, Devon before migrating to Australia when William was 60. They are buried in Toowoomba Cemetery. *New Zealand Family Tree Apr 2023 p8* (electronic journal). (See also issue for Apr 2012 v34 n2 p3 (K9/60/01).)

- Topham FORGE was 18 when he, his parents and the rest of the family migrated to Australia in 1861. They are thought to have lived at Low Moor in the village of Ryton, a part of Kirkby Misperton parish. Lynette STANCOMBE from Melbourne is trying to confirm whether a photograph she has is of Low Moor Farm. *Ryedale Roots Jul 2023 n72 p5* (electronic journal).

- Victor GRISS, from Melbourne, is researching the WEBSTER surname. His maternal grandfather Horace Maxwell WEBSTER was born at Franklin, Tasmania in 1889 and died at Melbourne in 1949. His ancestors may be Thomas WEBSTER who married Mary STONEHOUSE at All Saints at Helmsley in 1814. *Ryedale Roots Apr 2023 n71 p6* (electronic journal).

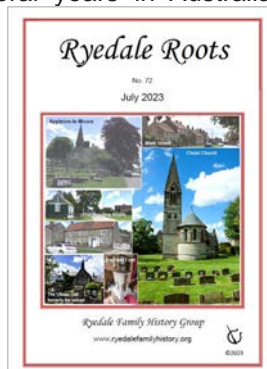
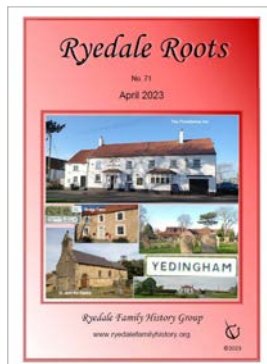
- Thomas MUGG(S) married Emily MAYOH in 1888. His father was William MUGG(S) but tracing his birth proved difficult. It seems he was born to Lettice (nee MUGG) after her husband John COOKE had died and was illegitimate. Thomas and Emily migrated to Australia in 1911, after which they changed their surname to BAILEY, that of Emily's first husband. *The Manchester Genealogist 2023 v59 n2 p149* (electronic journal).

- Eliza 'Isla' STEWART (1855-1910) was Matron at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London for 23 years. She was at the forefront of advocating for nursing to be recognised as a profession with a uniform system of training and certification. Her brother John migrated to Australia and married Catherine Henderson SMITH at Bathurst in 1890. Their only son, John, served in the Australian Infantry and died at Flanders in 1917. *Dumfries and Galloway FHS Newsletter Jul 2023 n106 p15* (electronic journal).

- Stuart WILKINSON: Talk – "Halifax General Cemetery". Thomas BATHO is one of those buried in the cemetery. He was a trooper in the Warwickshire Regiment when he married Eliza. They spent several years in Australia where a couple of children were born. *The Scrivener (Calderdale FHS) Jun 2023 n183 p17* (electronic journal).

## GENERAL

- "General Information for Intending Emigrants to Canada, the Australasian and South African Colonies": a poster issued by the government on 1 October 1888 detailing length and cost of passage, types of passage, arrangements on landing, best time for arriving, present labour demand and the names and



addresses of colonial representatives in England. *Ryedale Roots Jul 2023 n72 p8* (electronic journal).

## SCOTLAND

- William CROMARTY married Cecilia (Sissey) BROWN in 1815. William arrived in Sydney in 1822, with Cecilia following with their two children in 1824. *SIB Folk News (Orkney FHS) Summer 2023 n106 p12* (electronic journal). (See also issues for Mar 2018 n85 p23 and Winter 2022 n104 p18.)
- Margaret Jane GUTHRIE, eldest daughter of the late James GALLOWAY, founder of the eight hours system in Australia, died at Lugar in 1923 – death notice from *The Kilmarnock Herald* dated 31 Aug 1923. *The Journal (East Ayrshire FHS) Aug 2023 n53 p14* (electronic journal).
- John (Jack) and Alexander LEARMONT were the sons of Thomas LEARMONT and Agnes SCOTT who married at Kilmarnock in 1872. Jack was born about 1885 and Alexander in 1887. Both migrated to Australia and served with the Australian forces in WWI. Alexander died on the Somme in 1916 and is buried at the Villiers-Bretonneux Cemetery. *The Journal (East Ayrshire FHS) Aug 2023 n53 p3* (electronic journal).
- George Cruickshank MACKAY aged 13 sailed as crew on the barque *Minerva* with 18 passengers bound for Australia in 1851. Some of the crew deserted to seek their fortunes on the goldfields but not George. He went on to complete a naval apprenticeship, and served on a number of vessels. He ended his career as harbour master at Fraserburgh. *Aberdeen & North-East Scotland FHS May 2023 n166 p37* (electronic journal).
- Charmaine PORTER would like to know what happened to John LEARMONTH, son of William LEARMONTH and Jane SABISTON, who was born in 1830 at Walls & Flotta, Orkney. He arrived in Port Phillip Bay, aboard the *Eliza Stewart* in 1854. His occupation was 'wright'. Did he remain in Australia? *SIB Folk News (Orkney FHS) Summer 2023 n106 p4* (electronic journal).
- Charles SPENCE did not receive a penny from his mother Catherine's considerable fortune when she died. He had gone to Australia where, in 1853, he married Wilhelmina McVICAR of whom his mother disapproved. Charles died in Australia in 1857. *Dumfries and Galloway FHS Newsletter Mar 2023 n105 p21* (electronic journal).



# *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. Our thanks to members who have provided donations.

## **AUSTRALIA**

*Every family has a story: Short stories from the 2022 EM Fletcher Writing Competition* – A3/60/12

## **NEW SOUTH WALES**

*Chinese Australians and the Immigration Restriction Act in New South Wales: a guide to finding records* – Kate Bagnall – AN5/46 CD1607

*Chinese women in New South Wales: from absence to presence* – Kate Bagnall – AN5/46 CD1606

*Chords from the harp: a history of Bungendore Catholic community* – Brian Maher – AN8.621/85/01

*Pioneers at Peace – the story of St John's cemetery, Gordon* – AN5/17/10

*Ships of "The Port: List of shipping in and around Port Macquarie 1821-1960* – Lynda Turner – AN5/40/11

## **VICTORIA**

*Richmond: index of owners and occupiers and index of streets 1857-1902* – Genealogical Society of Victoria – AV8.8121 CD1568

*Sojourners and settlers: Chinese in Victoria 1848-1985* – Morag Loh – AV7/18/08

## **ENGLAND**

*Lords of the East: the East India Company and its ships* – Jean Sutton – N7/12/03

*Rural community history from trade directories* – Dennis R Mills – N7/03/07

## **IRELAND**

*The Church of Ireland Community of Killala & Achonry 1870-1940* – Miriam Moffitt – R7/85/02

*The Presbyterian Church in Ireland: A popular history* – Finlan Holmes – R7/85/03

*Sources for the history of Landed Estates in Ireland* – Terence A M Dooley – R5/35/08

*Tipperary's Tithe War 1830-1838: Parish accounts of resistance against a Church Tax* – Noreen Higgins – RMu7/67/01

*The Workhouses of Ireland's past – the fate of Ireland's poor* – John O'Connor – R7/14/01

## **SCOTLAND**

*The Kirks of Dundee Presbytery 1558-1999* – Ian McCraw – PAnS7/85/01

# 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](http://www.familyhistoryact.org.au) for additional information or to register for the meetings. Contact the convenor if you have any questions.

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

## Calendar for regular Groups

### Australia SIG

2pm the fourth Sunday of  
odd-numbered months

### Coffee and Chat

10am the third Friday of each month

### Convict SIG

7.30pm the second Wednesday of  
even-numbered months

### DNA SIG

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

### English and Welsh SIG

7.30pm the third Thursday of  
odd-numbered months

### Family Tree Maker SUG

10am the second Thursday of each  
month except January

### Heraldry SIG

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

### India SIG

10am the first Saturday of  
even-numbered months.

### Irish SIG

9.30am the 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)

## OCTOBER 2023

- 3 7:00 pm **Monthly Meeting:**
- 5 7:30 pm **Scottish SIG:** convenor Clare McGuiness and Mae Mulheran  
scottish.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 7 10:00 am **India SIG:** *My Ancestors Were ...!* convenor Prof. Peter Stanley  
india.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 11 7:30 pm **Convict SIG:** *Convicts' Families.* convenor Michele Rainger  
convict.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 12 10:00 am **Family Tree Maker UG:** ftm.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 14 12:00 pm **DNA SIG:** convenor Cathy Day  
dna.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 15 11:00 am **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
- 19 10:00 am **Legacy UG:** convenor Julie Hesse  
legacy.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 19 8:00 pm **Heraldry SIG:** *Heraldry on the Market.* convenor Chris Lindesay  
heraldry.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 20 10:00 am **Coffee and Chat:** coffee.chat@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 21 10:00 am **Writers SIG:** convenor Clare McGuiness  
writers.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 31 10:00 am **Pauline's Parlour:** convenor Pauline Ramage  
parlour@familyhistoryact.org.au

## NOVEMBER 2023

- 7 7:00 pm **Monthly Meeting:** Annual General Meeting.
- 9 10:00 am **Family Tree Maker UG:** ftm.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 11 9:30 am **Irish SIG:** *Griffith's Valuation: 1 History and Archives.* convenor Barbara Moore  
irish.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 11 1:00 pm **DNA SIG:** SAG's Christine Woodlands – *Making the most of Ancestry DNA.* convenor Cathy Day  
dna.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 12 2:00 pm **Australia SIG:** *First and Second World War Medals.* convenor Pauline Ramage  
australia.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 16 10:00 am **Legacy UG:** convenor Julie Hesse  
legacy.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 16 7:30 pm **English and Welsh SIG:** Round Robin. convenor Floss Aitchison and Nina Johnson  
english.welsh.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 17 10:00 am **Coffee and Chat:** coffee.chat@familyhistoryact.org.au

- 18 10:00 am **Writers SIG**: convenor Clare McGuiness  
writers.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 19 11:00 am **Pauline's Parlour**: convenor Pauline Ramage  
parlour@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 28 10:00 am **Pauline's Parlour**: convenor Pauline Ramage  
parlour@familyhistoryact.org.au

## DECEMBER 2023

- 5 7:00 pm **Monthly Meeting**: *It's Christmas!*
- 7 7:30 pm **Scottish SIG**: convenor Clare McGuiness and Mae Mulheran  
scottish.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 13 7:30 pm **Convict SIG**: *The Penal Settlement at Moreton Bay 1824-1839*.  
convenor Michele Rainger convict.sig@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 14 10:00 am **Family Tree Maker UG**: *Show and Tell what you have done  
using FTM in 2023*. ftm.sug@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 15 10:00 am **Coffee and Chat**: coffee.chat@familyhistoryact.org.au
- 17 11:00 am **Pauline's Parlour**: convenor Pauline Ramage  
parlour@familyhistoryact.org.au

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# *Unravelling the Tapestry of Time*

Gina Tooke

There are some captivating stories in contention to win the 2023 E.M. Fletcher Writing Award. The short story writing competition closed on 15 July and 109 stories were submitted from entrants in all States and Territories across Australia. This is an amazing response and confirms that the E.M. Fletcher writing competition is truly a national competition.

This year's competition reflects the enduring support of family historians to write and share their stories. It's pleasing to see the variety in topics and writing styles, which range from traditional family history stories grounded in historic context, to more contemporary family stories and personal narratives. Entries are in contention to win the first prize of \$1,000 sponsored by Family History ACT, a runner-up prize of \$500 sponsored by the University of Tasmania, and a special FHACT member prize.

Our 2023 judging panel Heather Garnsey, Jenny Higgins and Bernadette Thakur now have the task of reading and assessing the entries and the difficult decision to select a short list. The winners will be announced at a special online and in-person event in early October. Keep an eye on the Family History ACT website in the coming weeks for more information about this event and how to reserve your place.

Thank you to everyone who submitted a story in the 2023 E.M. Fletcher Writing Competition.

# 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*

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