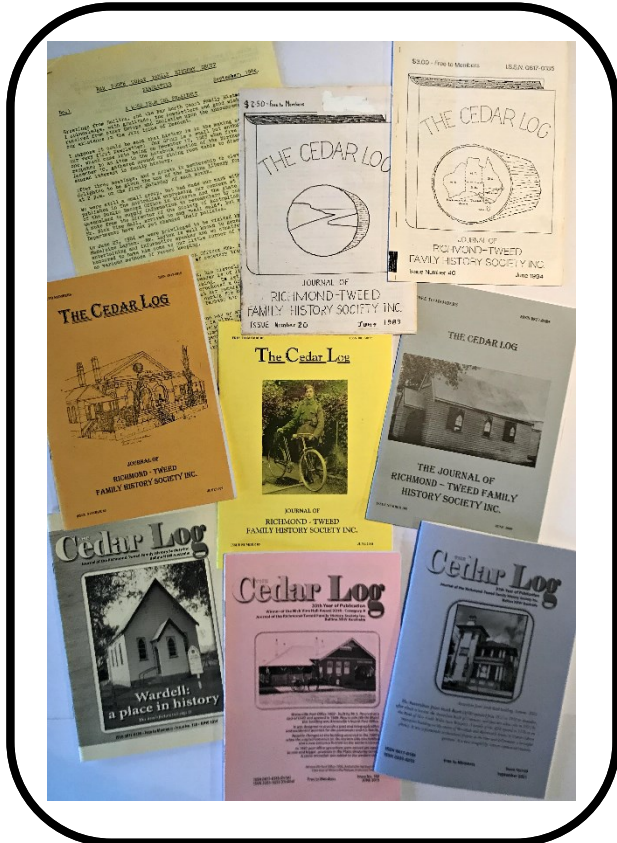


THE Cedar Log

38th Year of Publication
Journal of the Richmond-Tweed Family History Society Inc.
Ballina NSW Australia



Celebrating 150 editions of The Cedar Log

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We acknowledge the Bundjalung people as the Traditional Custodians of the land and rivers where this journal is produced and pay respect to their elders past, present and emerging.

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Editorial

By Carmel Crosby

As Christmas approaches and we have almost reached the end of 2021, we find ourselves in an ever-changing situation in Australia as the States are opening up and people are able to fly in from overseas easily for the first time in over 18 months. Families, who have been unable to see each other for a long time, are hoping they can be together this Christmas and catch up on the newborns of 2020-2021. The situation is uncertain, but here's hoping for a brighter 2022 for the Richmond-Tweed area, the rest of Australia and the world!

As you can see from the cover, this is the **150th Edition of *The Cedar Log*!** The first edition in September 1984 was in A4 newsletter format and was introduced by the then president, Marie Hart. Marie still regularly attends our monthly meetings. Well done Marie! The newsletter was given the name, *The Cedar Log*, by issue No. 2. After 16 issues, the format changed to a small booklet in September 1988. The coloured cover with a photo was introduced in December 1995 and the present format is a more modern iteration of that. Reading back issues is very interesting and these are available from the Society on USB on request. See details in this issue of commemorative articles and photos being called for, which will be published in the March 2022 edition of *The Cedar Log*.

Local lockdowns, because of Covid-19, resulted in the **Marie Hart Library** being closed for a period of time in August and September. It is now open and waiting for

you to visit our large collection of books, journals, records and other physical and computer resources. See the **catalogue** of what is available either on the Society's website or check it out on the computer in the library. There is also a physical version in folders in the library and the duty officer can assist you in your search. As an example of what is available, a list of books on **dating photographs** is printed in this issue.

Local lockdowns also meant we had to have our September meeting via *Zoom*. John **Rogers** gave a talk on his book about the Northern Rivers and a summary is given under the Monthly Speakers section. Our 6th November seminar speaker, Helen Smith, was unable to cross the border, but we had planned to have the seminar with her online. However, there were insufficient numbers expressing an interest in attending, so the seminar was cancelled. Hopefully, 2022 will be free of lockdowns and border closures and our meetings and seminars can get back to normal.

Many thanks to Jan **Connor**, Judy **Cosgrove**, Jan **Earnshaw**, Shirley **McAnelly** and Jill **McCann** and Leonie **Oliver** for submitting articles for publication in this month's *Cedar Log*. Also thanks to those who write our regular features. If you have submitted an article that has not been published, keep an eye out in 2022 and it should materialise!

This year is the **80th Anniversary of the Siege of Tobruk** (April to November 1941) and our centrefold has tributes made by *The Rats of Tobruk Descendants Association* for relatives of Judy **Cosgrove** and Nola **Rodey**, who were in Tobruk.

Membership fees are due soon for 2022. A renewal form is included with this issue of *The Cedar Log*. Please complete the form and pay the fees at your earliest convenience.



The Editorial Team wishes all members a Happy Christmas and hopes you are able to safely meet up with family and friends during the festive season. May 2022 bring exciting developments in our world and especially in our family history research!

Seasons Greetings,

Carmel, Editor.

DNA Glossary and Tips

By Carmel Crosby – Editor

This edition of the Cedar Log has several articles relating to DNA. If you have done your DNA you might know a little about it - what it shows you about your ethnic heritage, to whom you are related and maybe it has even turned up some surprise relatives! As some of the articles in the Cedar Log mention terms specific to DNA, I will explain them here so they are more understandable.

Centimorgans (cM) is a measure of genetic linkage or DNA information.

A cM measures the probability that a section of DNA will be passed onto a descendant intact. In general, the more cM two people share, the more closely related they are. For example, a parent or sibling might share several thousand cM, a second cousin, several hundred and a 3rd to 6th cousin less than 60 cM or so. The higher the number, the more closely you are related.

Although it is not a measure of physical distance, the *International Society of Genetic Genealogy* wiki website, which has lots of great DNA information, (<https://isogg.org/wiki/CentiMorgan>) describes a cM as a unit which is often used to **imply** distance along a chromosome. Chromosomes, genes and DNA is so complex that thinking of cMs as a distance, is often the easiest way to imagine it!

ThruLines®

On *Ancestry DNA*, they have a tool called ThruLines®. It is based on information from family trees that have been placed on the Ancestry website and shows how you may be related to your DNA matches. The family tree linked to your test is used to find people who are in your matches' linked trees. ThruLines® are available for ancestors through to 5th great-grandparents and might help knock down 'brick walls', by suggesting possible ancestors who don't appear on your tree.

Where to find information about DNA.

There are many explanations of DNA and all its facets, from which test to use and what it all means. Browse the web and you will come across loads of information.

The DNA testing companies will all have information on the ins and outs of DNA in their help section. Or do a search online and many options will arise.

One place to look at is within one of Peter Calver's *LostCousins* newsletters at his **DNA Masterclass**.

<https://www.lostcousins.com/newsletters2/mar21news.htm#DNAMasterclass>

In the eJournals Review, towards the end of this issue, it lists that in the Tenterfield Generations journal, in July 2021, there is an article titled 'How DNA Can Help You Build Your Family Tree', by Eve Sainsbury.

There are 2 great books on DNA in the Marie Hart Library, in the G section.

- G-163: *DNA for Genealogists*. Third Edition. Kerry Farmer. 2015. Published by Unlock the Past.
- G-167: *The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy*. Second Edition. Blaine T. Bettinger. 2019. Published by Family Tree Books.



150th Edition of The Cedar Log

As already mentioned in the editorial, this is the 150th Edition of *The Cedar Log*. To celebrate this milestone, we would like to commemorate some of our ancestors from 150 years ago in the March edition of *The Cedar Log*. To do this, we are asking members to choose a favourite ancestor from around 1871 and send in an article about any facet of their life. Alternatively, just send in a photo, if you are lucky enough to have one from that era, and include a short description of the person. We will have a centrefold of photographs from around 1871.



Solving the Mystery with DNA

The Birthday Book

By Jan Connor - Member 983

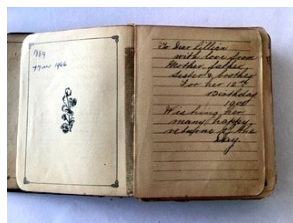


In 1901 my great-grandparents gave my grandmother a leather bound gold embossed birthday book for her 12th birthday.

In the 1980s when my father and I began researching family history, this book was a useful tool.

My great-grandfather had entered the names of some close relatives, along with where and when they were born. My grandmother added her cousins. The book was handed onto my mother, who added another generation of family. The book still exists, but is very fragile these days.

My dad went through the book and listed all the entries in his family history book and added notes as to whose handwriting he thought each entry was and who was an offspring of whom. There were many **Davis** entries, a few **Flemings** and one mystery entry, Elizabeth **Schlanger**.



Years passed and we found certificates. The death certificate of my 2x great-grandmother, Mary Ann, stated that her mother was Millicent **Advaine**. Mary Ann's maiden name was **Harris**. At this stage it was found her father was William Harris, birth place unknown. We found Mary Ann, daughter of William born in London. We

were not able to find any trace of her mother Millicent Advaine, even though it was an unusual name

Recently I was going through my common ancestors on my *Ancestry* DNA matches and found two entries at 16 centimorgans (cM) and 22 cM, who had a shared match to a close cousin, who was descended from my Davis/Harris ancestors. When I updated my Thru Lines, these two people went back to a Louisa **Edyvean**, and her mother was Millicent Edyvean. That was a puzzle. Then I found another match at 6 cM and this link was to Thomas Edyvean, the father of Millicent Edyvean.

The new match had done comprehensive research and had Millicent as a convict transported on the Mary Ann to Hobart in 1833. He also had her older sister Elizabeth sent to Parramatta a decade earlier. Her brother Mark was also transported in 1833 to Hobart.

I then Googled Millicent and Elizabeth and found there was plenty of information about both women and their criminal history. That is where I found that Millicent had married William Harris a publican, in Hobart Town. Millicent named her daughter Mary Ann, the same name as her transport vessel.

While I was trying to work out if this was my 3x great-grandmother, I began to look at the spelling of Millicent's surname. **Advaine/Edyvean/Edyvan/Edgren**. All these spellings were used at some time. The Edyvean family came from St Ervan, Cornwall. I then realised, that the informant for Mary Ann's death certificate may not have known very much about her history and certainly not how to spell Millicent's surname.

I now have another convict to add to my tree. There are generations to add, as my DNA matches have done some serious research and shared it with me. Some of the things I have assumed in the past are incorrect. I even found the mystery person, Elizabeth Schlager. Millicent was not entered in the birthday book. The question is, did the family not know about her, or were they ashamed of their heritage, in middle class Melbourne in the 1900s.

I am sure my Nana would not have been amused.



Books in the Marie Hart Library on Dating and Preserving Historical Photographs

By Carmel Crosby – Member 762

There is a great selection of books on dating and preserving photographs in the Marie Hart Library, in the E section. Pop into the library and see if one will help you with those old family photos.

E - 1: *Dating Twentieth Century Photographs* by Robert Pols. 2005

Particular attention is given to dating the pose, costume, special family occasion and background of photos.

E – 2: *Photography for Family Historians* by Robert Pols. 1998.

Looks at the taking, processing and storing of pictures for the family archive. Of particular interest are the sections on how to photograph people, buildings, objects etc.

E – 3: *Dating Nineteenth Century Photographs* by Robert Pols. 2005.

Covers a range of topics including looking after old photographs.

E – 4: *Dating Family Photos 1850 – 1920* by Lenore Frost. 1992.

Published in Essendon, Victoria, so has some Australian content. Describes dating by type of photo, including the studio background and also dating by the type of costume worn. Special sections on children, weddings, working and mourning clothes

E – 6: *The Mechanical Eye in Australia; Photography 1841 - 1900* by Alan Davies and Peter Stanbury. 1985

Illustrates the changing technology and the place of photography in Australian society. It lists over 3,000 photographers, their addresses and dates of practice, which provides a valuable research tool.

E - 7: *Looking at Old Photographs* by Robert Pols. 1998

Has case studies from the 1860s to 1918 and discusses studio conventions and dating the pictures through the Victorian and Edwardian years.

E - 9: *Preserving Your Family Photographs* by Maureen A. Taylor. 2001
Discusses how to organise, present and restore family images.

E – 10: *Collecting and Preserving Old Photographs* by Elizabeth Martin. 1988
Covers everything from the history of the photograph to conservation and framing.

E – 11: *Military Photographs & How to Date Them* by Neil Storey. 2009.
Has chapters covering from 1865 to 1945.

Some websites for searching in New Zealand

By Don Howell. Member – 943

New Zealand Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages:

<https://bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz/Home/>

Otago & Southland Presbyterian Baptisms & Marriages:

<http://www.presbyterian.org.nz/archives>

Newspapers (equivalent to Trove):

<https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/>

New Zealand Cemeteries:

<http://freepages.rootsweb.com/~shipstonz/genealogy/cemeteries.html>

New Zealand Bound Passenger Ships and Lists:

<http://freepages.rootsweb.com/%7Enzbound/genealogy/siteindex.htm>

Goldrush Online: <https://www.kaelewis.com/>

Archives New Zealand (Wills, Divorce, Naturalisations etc.):

<https://archives.govt.nz/search-the-archive>

Christchurch City Council Libraries (Maps):

<https://christchurchcitylibraries.com/Heritage/Maps/>

Many district libraries & museums also have local indexes that are worth searching.

Robert White – a Rich Life

By Jill McCann. Member 1010

My great-grandfather Robert White was not a rich man in any material sense of the word. But he had a rich life and was deeply mourned by his family and community on his death.

Robert was the youngest child of Charles and Eliza White (nee Andrews). His 3 older brothers and sister were all born in England and travelled to Australia with their parents when they were small children. The family paid 6 pounds for their voyage on the “Blundell”, arriving on 7 May 1853. Charles was described as a gardener, and both he and Eliza could read and write.

They appear to have gone to Lismore, New South Wales (NSW), almost immediately so perhaps they had connections there, although we know that all of their many siblings remained in England. Charles became the first foreman of works for the Lismore Municipal Council and also kept a market garden in South Lismore all his life. He was a popular exhibitor of his produce at local shows.

Robert was born in 1867, when his parents were both in their 40s and his next sibling, John, was 15. He had the limited education afforded country children of the time – he probably left school at 12 – but he loved learning and was an omnivorous reader who was curious and interested in the world. My father remembered that he was an avid reader of “The Bulletin”, “Smith’s Weekly” and the Sydney Mail (a paper Dad recalled as being like the “London Illustrated News”). He was an early member of the Labor Party, although he became more conservative as he got older. Most significantly, he was interested in local politics.

At the age of 15, Robert was apprenticed as a blacksmith to Mr W **Lockett** but by 1887 he was growing cane at Woodlawn, and then later he engaged in dairy farming at Wyrallah. In 1905 he was appointed district manager for the United Insurance

Company and he held that position for the rest of his life. It clearly gave him time for the many civic activities he undertook.

Robert's sister, Jane, who was 20 years older than her brother, was married the year before he was born, to Robert **McKenzie**. Their son Charles was only two years younger than Robert and the two men were friends who became fellow Councillors on the Lismore Municipal Council. Robert was first elected in February 1901 as an advocate of sewerage for Lismore and after this term he served with only two short breaks until his death in 1932. Charles was elected in 1906 and served 17 terms as Mayor during his long career.

Robert fought for Municipal services and for equality all his life. As well as the campaign for sewerage, he wanted better educational facilities and was largely responsible for the South Lismore Public School being expanded to full Primary school status just in time for my father to attend it (1921). He had given not only his time; some of the land on which the school stands had been donated by him and he became the first President of the Parents and Citizens (P & C) Association. For five years he was Honorary Secretary of the Lismore Hospital (until 1908) and he remained a Board member for many years after that. He was the strongest voice for another crossing of the Wilson River to connect North Lismore more easily to the centre of the city. Fittingly, the bridge was named the Robert White Bridge (1926). He was also an environmentalist before his time – he was concerned about the health of the Richmond River as early as the beginning of the 20th century when it was still navigable, but gradually being choked by water hyacinth and his supervision of work by the Richmond County Council resulted in better weed control.



Three of Robert White's descendants at the unveiling of the new sign at the bridge - 2017

His concerns for a more equitable society were behind his involvement in the Friendly Society movement. He joined the Manchester Unity Oddfellows as a young man, and subsequently held leadership positions including that of Grand Master of the local Lodge (elected 1905) and then Grand Master of NSW (1912-14).



Robert White the Grand Master

He was interested in the work of the local agricultural and horticultural associations too. He was the first President of the Lismore Show Society and of the Lismore Horticultural Society and a judge at many shows up until the time of his death. The love of flowers was fostered within the family – his daughters Nellie and Sis (Mabel) were successful exhibitors at many Lismore Shows and two of Nellie's daughters became florists. Robert himself was responsible for the first plantings of street trees in Lismore.

One could be forgiven for thinking that all of this public service must have come at a cost to his family. That doesn't seem to have been the case. He was loved and respected as a husband, father and grandfather. Although he died long before I was born, I and my siblings and cousins all heard stories about him from our parents and grandparents. He was a towering figure in their lives

When he died in Lismore on 11 July 1932, Lismore gave Robert White a huge funeral. Flags in the town flew at half-mast and people lined the streets as his hearse drove by. The NSW Grand Master of the Manchester Unity wrote a lengthy obituary which concluded:



Robert White the Gardener

Not 'How did he die?' but 'How did he live?'
Not 'What did he gain?' but 'What did he give?'
These are the units to measure the worth
Of a man as a man, regardless of birth.
Not 'What was his station?' but 'Had he a heart?'
And 'How did he play his God-given part?'
'Was he ever ready with word of good cheer,
To bring back a smile, to banish a tear?'
Not 'What was his Church?' nor 'What was his creed?'
But 'Had he befriended those really in need?'
Not 'What did the sketch in the newspaper say?'
But 'How many were sorry when he passed away?'

A rich life indeed.



Breaking Down the Illegitimate Birth Puzzle of my Great-grandmother using DNA

By Shirley McAnelly. Member 765

My great-grandmother, Isabella Mary **Madden** was born illegitimate to Elizabeth Madden on 1 October 1871 at Laguna, Wollombi, New South Wales shortly before her parents Matthew **Thompson** and Elizabeth Madden married on 25 November 1871.



John Smith Urquhart

Once I started on my Family History journey and contacted certain members of the Thompson family the majority of them felt I could not be certain I was related to the Thompson family due to the fact that my great-grandmother was born illegitimate. I then turned my attention to my great-grandfather, John Smith **Urquhart** (the husband of Isabella Mary Madden) who was from Scotland. With Leonie **Oliver's** help I found the family on the Census in Scotland and I was on my way to finding out a lot about my Scottish roots. Soon after I started on this path Leonie found on Ancestry a Lea **Crouch** wanting to make

contact with anyone who was researching John Smith Urquhart and once I found out Lea was formerly Lea **Kennedy** I knew straight away that our grandmothers were sisters. I must get back to my great-grandmother Isabella Mary Madden as we knew her father was Matthew Thompson but Lea had also had some negative thoughts from researchers about our great-grandmother being part of

the Thompson family and being descended from the convict Matthew Pearson Thompson.

We have done quite a bit of research together which is so much more fun

When my great-grandmother married John Smith Urquhart the (Copy of) Marriage Certificate notes the information for the Wife as follows:

“Isabella Mary Thompson daughter of Matthew Thompson of Booral, Spinster”

My mother and father were sure we were related to the Thompson family as my father said many of the Thompson family came to Stroud from the Upper Hunter area to see the Urquhart Family and especially to see his grandmother, Isabella Mary Thompson (Madden). I can remember the Thompson family visiting Stroud from the late 1950s until 1972 and thereafter at other farms on which my parents lived.



Oswald Alfred Thompson

My memory of the Thompson family is that they would arrive on a Saturday to our farm at Stroud (often two carloads of them) to visit our family. They were from the Oswald Alfred Thompson line. Uncle Ossie had fought in WWI and had passed away in 1940 but his widow, Aunt Jane and her large family were the ones who arrived at the farm. The first thing I remember is that Aunt Jane would head to the orchard on the farm which had lots of lemon and orange trees loaded with fruit and she would take the salt pot with her to put on the lemons she ate. She was a very interesting lady. My mother was left with the task of putting together a hot lunch and pudding (luckily my father always had a good vegetable garden) and a great day was had by everyone. They had no doubt that we were all part of the Thompson family.



L-R Jane Thompson's Grandson, Joan Isaac, John Thompson (Oswald & Jane Thompson's son), Shirley Isaac (McAnelly), Colin Isaac (my father) back right – photo taken 1968.

Lea and I felt the only way to solve that our family line was part of the Thompson family was to do a DNA test through *Ancestry*. So in 2019 Lea and I decided we would have the DNA test even though we still very firmly believed that you still need to do Family History Research as well as the DNA.

We now have a lot of Thompson DNA Matches and in Lea's words she "sometimes wished they would go away" but at least we now know we are descended from the Matthew Pearson Thompson line and we are very pleased that this puzzle has finally been worked out.

I am hoping that eventually I might get some matches to the **Isaac** family in Europe. I feel that with the Simon Isaac name they possibly started out as being Jewish but I have been unable to prove it to date. My maiden name was "Isaac" and my father always believed they were forced out of the lowlands of Scotland into Northern Ireland for religious reasons in the 1600s. My DNA results tell me that I have 7-12% Germanic Europe so it would be interesting if I could find some matches for this line.

The DNA Discussion Group held at the Marie Hart Library is a great way to find out more about how the various DNA sites can work. You can learn so much just by various participants in the group asking questions and telling the group how different links on each site has worked for them. It makes you want to go home and find time to chase up what has been discussed and how it can help you with your family research.



Lieutenant Gordon Andrew Walsh

By Judy Cosgrove Member 989

My uncle, Gordon Andrew **Walsh** like three of his brothers and his brother-in-law answered the call to fight for King and Country in World War Two. His service would take him to two theatres of war, the Middle East and New Guinea. This year is the 80th anniversary of the Siege of Tobruk and Gordon as a member of the 2/1st Pioneers Battalion (Australia) was one of the 'Rats' in this operation.

Early Life

Gordon was the 5th of 10 children born to Arthur and Ann Walsh (**Murphy**) in Casino New South Wales (NSW) on 22 September, 1913. He completed his primary school education at St Mary's School, Casino and in 6th class won a scholarship to St Joseph's College Hunters Hill, Sydney.

Due to suffering from homesickness and his father being ill he returned to finish his education at Casino High School (a coincidence he was in my mother's class) and gained his Intermediate Certificate.

His father died in 1931 and those able to work did so to support the rest of the family. Gordon's occupation at his time of enlistment in 1940 was bricklayer's labourer - he was 26 years 6 months.

Active Service

After completing his initial training at Greta (NSW) he departed for deployment overseas embarking on a Dutch transport ship.

The 2/1st Pioneers was one of four raised to provide engineer support to the 2nd Australian Imperial Forces four infantry units. The Battalion undertook both infantry and engineer support roles.

After arriving in the Middle East in November 1940 the Battalion was assigned to the Australian Infantry Corps serving in Palestine until early 1941. It then moved to

the port of Tobruk allocated to the 6th Division to repair port facilities, construct roads and collect engineering equipment. When the 6th Division was transferred to Greece the 2/1st Pioneers remained in North Africa to support the 9th Division.

The deserts of North Africa were an important battleground in World War Two. Controlling this area would give the Allied Forces a base from which to attack occupied Europe across the Mediterranean, control the major oilfields in this area and the port of Tobruk was a deep-water port which could allow large ships to offload troops and equipment.

The Pioneers, subsequently took part in the Siege of Tobruk remaining there for 5 months before being withdrawn with the bulk of the Australian forces in September, 1941.



In early 1942 they returned to Australia and were in a training area around Ipswich in Queensland before being deployed to New Guinea in August aboard the transport *Turoona*. They arrived at the height of the fighting against the Japanese during the Kokoda Track campaign.

His records show that he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant on the 15/11/1942.

Rats of Tobruk Descendants Association sticker and badge He suffered from ill health. He was hospitalised in Egypt, and in New Guinea suffered from abdominal problems diagnosed with a spastic colon.

On his records it is shown that on 10/03/1944 he was tried before a General Court Martial in the field. He had absconded without leave for 9 days. Pleaded guilty and given a fine.

He retained his rank as Lieutenant and remained in the field.

On the 2/02/1945 he was evacuated to Australia suffering from mental fatigue and was deemed unfit for service outside Australia. He was sent to rest at an RSL Care Centre and was discharged on 23 June, 1945.

Later Life

Gordon worked at the Repatriation Department in Sydney until his retirement. He was an active member of The Rats of Tobruk Association and regularly marched in the Anzac March in Sydney.

He married Dorothy Mary **Humphries** in 1950 and they raised one child Cathy Ann. He spent his holidays in Evans Head and Lennox Head always being particularly close to his younger sister Mary (Bub) **Griffin**.

I remember him as a clever, witty and caring uncle.

He died from cancer in April 1984 age 70 years 6 months and is buried in Fields of Mars Cemetery, Ryde NSW Australia

NX20021 Lieut G. A. WALSH. 2/1 Pioneer Battalion

References:

National Archives of Australia (NAA); B883, NX20021

Billion Graves

The Rats of Tobruk Descendants Association provided his tribute (over page), the sticker and badge.

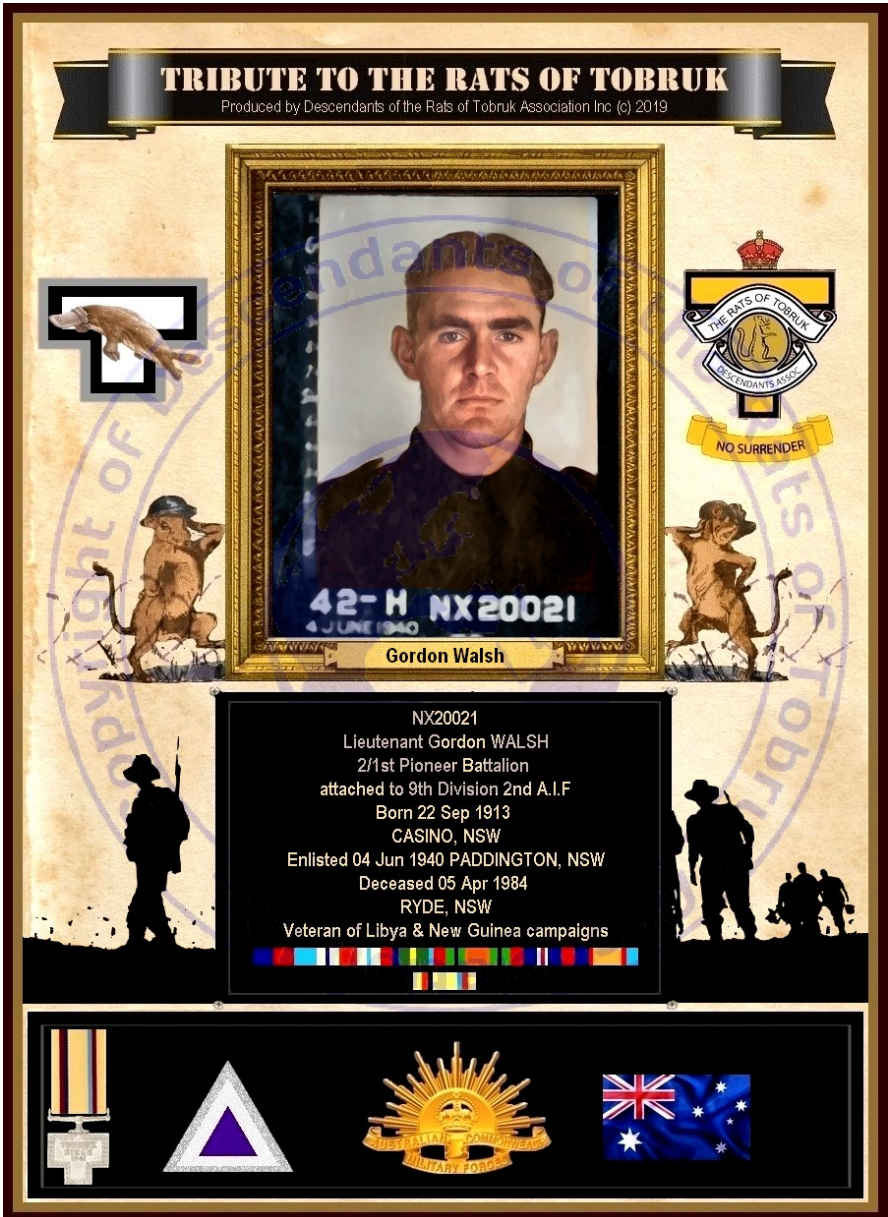
Wikipedia 2/1st Pioneer Battalion (Australia)-

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2/1st_Pioneer_Battalion_\(Australia\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2/1st_Pioneer_Battalion_(Australia))



TRIBUTE TO THE RATS OF TOBRUK

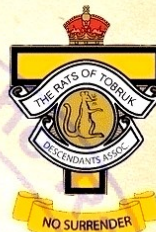
Produced by Descendants of the Rats of Tobruk Association Inc (c) 2019



This tribute to Gordon Walsh was compiled by *The Rats of Tobruk Descendants Association*, who have given permission for it to be reprinted in *The Cedar Log*. Gordon was the uncle of Judy **Cosgrove** (member number 989). See her article on previous pages.

TRIBUTE TO THE RATS OF TOBRUK

Produced by Descendants of the Rats of Tobruk Association Inc (c) 2019



QX424
Sapper Robert James COLLINS
2/13th Field Company
Royal Australian Engineers
attached 9th Division 2nd A.I.F
Born 24 Mar 1912
LISMORE, NSW
Enlisted 20 Nov 1939 BRISBANE, QLD
Deceased 25 Jun 1966
BRISBANE, QLD



This tribute to Robert 'Bob' James Collins was compiled by *The Rats of Tobruk Descendants Association*, who have given permission for it to be reprinted in *The Cedar Log*. Bob was the first cousin of Nola Rodey (member number 21).

Osbornes of Dromore and Dapto

By Kerrie Alexander - Member 823

My husband Geoff's ancestors are from the parish of Dromore in the Northern Ireland county of Tyrone. His 3 x great-grandparents were Francis **Alexander** and Annie **Osborne** who were probably born in the 1780s and lived and died in the townland of Dressoge. Dromore was unfortunate in that the rector had sent the parish registers prior to 1870 to Dublin and they were destroyed by fire in 1922 in the Irish Civil War.

In the townland of Derrynaseer, which almost borders Dressoge, was a family of Osbornes. In fact, Osbornes were two a penny in Dromore. They were everywhere and I'd often wondered if Geoff's 3x great-grandmother, Annie Osborne, was the daughter of these neighbouring Osbornes, but I had no way of proving it. That is until DNA came along. I have now discovered that Geoff has five DNA matches with descendants of this family and I feel I can confidently marry up Geoff's Annie Osborne with the Annie Osborne of Derrynaseer.

So who were these new relatives of Geoff's? The parents of the Derrynaseer family were Archibald and Jane Osborne. They had 11 children including Annie and three sons – John, Alick and Henry.

John and Alick were Royal Naval Surgeons and Alick made at least nine voyages to Australia as surgeon superintendent aboard convict ships. The brothers were also emigration agents in Ireland and were instrumental in persuading many Tyrone and Fermanagh families to find a new life in Australia.



Henry Osborne

Alick's brother, John Osborne, was also a surgeon superintendent aboard convict ships and so both brothers were able to see for themselves the potential that Australia could offer young men of means. Their youngest brother Henry was a farmer in Dromore but, persuaded by his older brothers, he sold

his land to his eldest brother Archibald and invested some of the proceeds in purchasing Irish linen.

With his wife Sarah **Marshall**, Henry arrived in Australia in May 1829 aboard the *Pyramus*. Henry sold his linen at a handsome profit. He gained experience of local farming conditions on the property of Captain James **Thompson** at Liverpool before he took possession of a grant of 2,560 acres in the Dapto area, which he named Marshall Mount, after his wife's maiden name.



Sarah Osborne née Marshall



Pumpkin Cottage, Illawarra, the first family residence of Henry Osborn in New South Wales / drawn by Robert Hoddle, Surveyor, 1830. Titled on mount beneath drawing, 27.3 x 41.9 cm. Mitchell Library

Their first home was called Pumpkin Cottage and it was in this simple slab structure with wooden shutters and a bark roof that Henry and Sarah lived during their first few years at Dapto. Of course Henry couldn't farm this large estate on his own and he was allocated 25 convicts. After clearing the land, Henry went in for dairying and bred large numbers of cattle importing high grade bulls to

Permission to use obtained from State Library of NSW

improve the quality of his herds. In 1833 he commenced building a more substantial home for his growing family, which was described as being “colonial style with an oval light over the deep set front door. It had French windows that led on to the stone paved verandah and was built of stone with lovely cedar doorways and an elegant staircase”. A far



Colonial-Style House of the Osborne Family, built 1833

cry from their first home, Pumpkin Cottage!

Henry had quite an adventurous spirit and in December 1839, he set off from Dapto with one labourer, three convicts and three aboriginals and walked a herd of 855 cattle, 800 sheep and 62 horses safely to a meat impoverished Adelaide where he made a very large profit on the sales. Having passed through the land around the Murrumbidgee and Murray Rivers on this journey and noted its potential as cattle country, Henry gradually began to acquire more land in this region.

Kangaroo Valley was another area that Henry was granted land acquiring 2,560 acres which was called Barrengarry. More grants of land in the Dapto area followed which along with various purchases, culminated in Henry owning around 9000 acres. Another 2000 acres were granted to him in the vicinity of Jamberoo.

Henry had great ability as a cattleman and contributed significantly to the early dairy industry in the Illawarra. In 1843 he and his two brothers held a private show of their cattle and farm produce in Wollongong.

In September 1851, Henry became an elected member of the NSW Legislative Council for the county of Camden and served until the granting of self-government in February 1856. He was then elected a member of the NSW Legislative Assembly from March 1856 until December 1857. He was defeated at the 1858 election and retired from public life.

Henry also purchased land at Mt Keira in 1856 which just happened to contain coal and for a short time he became heavily involved in coal mining. He also owned coal mines in the Maitland district which required an Act of Parliament to deprive him of much of the land now occupied by the town of Maitland.

Everything Henry touched turned to gold. However, he was not to enjoy his vast wealth for long, as he was only 56 when he died of diabetes in 1859. He was said to have been the wealthiest man in Australia at his death. A paragraph in the booklet "Early Land Settlement in the Illawarra 1804-1861" by Benjamin **Lindsay** states: *Mr Osborne is one of the most notable figures in the early history of land settlement in Illawarra. His Estate at Marshall Mount comprised good agricultural and grazing land, well adapted for dairy farming, and Mr Osborne did much pioneer work in*

promoting this industry. He was highly respected by all classes, and had the reputation of possessing great energy and business ability.

Someone who had a slightly different slant on Henry was Charles **McCaffrey**, who worked for Henry at Marshall Mount and was later was in charge of his holdings at Kangaroo Valley. Charles was recorded by his son Frank as saying ‘*Henry was naturally very clever, keen and immensely energetic but every act of his life, all his dealings and transactions were for himself*’.

I’ve read that a major motivating force in Henry's drive for wealth was to provide for his wife and large family. And there seems to be some truth in McCaffrey’s observation as the whole of the bequests under Henry’s will, amounting to 34,842 acres, much of it very valuable land, plus collieries, railways, houses and premises, was left to his sons, subject to the provision of annuities for Sarah and cash bequests of £28,000 to his three daughters and £4,500 to other members of the family. The only bequest outside the family was that to his servant John **Gadney**, of £2 per month for life.

Henry was not a philanthropist, he did not endow a university, he didn’t leave a bequest to set up a charity for the poor and he didn’t even build the local church, it was left to his children to do that in his memory. But he did succeed in leaving a large fortune for his descendants, who were prominent among the families of wealth and social importance in New South Wales over the next 100 years.



Gerald Patrick **Dowling**, 2nd Australian Imperial Force, SX9865.
Sent from the Middle East in 1941, when Gerald was aged 22.
Born Orroroo, South Australia.
Died November 1942, El Alamein.
Second cousin of Carmel **Crosby**,
Member 762.

Tracing My Great-Great-Grandmother

Emma Richardson with DNA Matches

By Jan Earnshaw - Member 793

I have had many brick walls tracing my paternal side of the family and still have a long way to go, so I think it is fitting that my maiden name is **Wall**.

Some years ago, I had found the Baptism record, of my great-grandfather, George Henry Wall, in St John the Evangelist Church, Lambeth, Surrey, England. I could not find a record of his parents' marriage in England, but did find an Emma **Richardson** marrying a John A. Wall (also a newspaper item), in Goulburn, New South Wales (NSW), on 2 Dec 1863. For a long time, I dismissed this because I knew George was born in London, being baptized there on 11 Sep 1864. His marriage and death certificates confirm this.

I have records of Emma arriving in Australia, aged eleven, on 9 July 1855 on board the *Blenheim*, with her parents John and Anne Richardson and brothers William (12), and Joseph J. (9), (who became the mayor of Goulburn). John was a bricklayer and later, with his son, was involved in building many of Goulburn's buildings, including the railway station, according to his obituary.

So far I haven't been able to find out which John Wall is mine, among the many arriving in Australia, as Wall is not an uncommon surname.

Back to England... twice?

To be the couple who married in Goulburn in 1863, they would have had to leave soon after the wedding and travel back to England for George to be born there in 1864. This didn't seem likely, as I had a family story which said George came to Australia with his father and a brother called Fred (who I can't find any record of). Maybe George remembered a brother Robert, because they are back in Australia for

the birth of a son Robert Harvey Wall born 1866 in Goulburn, and a daughter Etta Meline Wall was born in Sydney on 17 May 1867.

It was thought by family, that John was a widower. I have found a John A. Wall (42) with a son Henry aged 11, arriving in Melbourne, on board the *Durham* in July 1874. John is listed as a farmer, whereas other records have him as a dispenser or chemist, and his age doesn't fit. Again for a while I dismissed this record until the entry of his death on 5 June 1892 in the Liverpool Asylum (NSW), confirmed this record. Again his age did not quite match up, but the record of death had his son as George and his address was the same as where my grandfather was born, so I knew he was the correct John A. Wall. John must have returned to England a second time, but decided to come back to Australia once again.

Off to the USA?

I did not know what had happened to Emma Richardson Wall, until some *Ancestry* trees had an Emma Richardson going to America around 1868, with a man named Thomas **Huntington** born in Manchester in 1834. Thomas had arrived in Australia on 28 Jan 1864, aged 29, occupation plasterer, with his wife Elizabeth aged 24, as assisted immigrants on board the *Sirocco*. They seem to have been sponsored by a relative.

In 1869, Emma is in New York with her two younger children, Robert Harvey Wall, and Etta Melline Wall and has the first of four children to Thomas Huntington. Emma seems to have left her first husband, John A. Wall and son George Henry, and Thomas has left his wife Elizabeth and they made a new life in America. Interestingly she is protestant and he is Roman Catholic, so they broke many of the norms for their era, to be together.

They married in Washington State on 27 May 1873 and both signed a form to say they did not have a spouse. Emma used her maiden name. Her first husband John Wall was still alive and did not die until 1892

DNA the saviour!

At this stage I still thought I had it all wrong, as there seemed to be too much traveling around going on for the 1860s, until I had three DNA links on *Ancestry* from America. They are only small links of between 28 and 58 centimorgans (cM), but

they link us through Emma's daughter, Elizabeth, whom she had with Thomas Huntington. Another fact to prove the connection was that Emma's father's obituary mentions his daughter being in America.

Why Emma left George behind and yet took her two other children with her is a mystery. They would only have been toddlers, as her first child to Thomas Huntington was born two years after her last to John Wall. Maybe John wouldn't let her take all three children, who knows?

Both Emma's husbands died without family around them, John Wall in Liverpool Asylum, which, rather than a mental hospital, was for people who were sick and couldn't care for themselves. He must have had a chronic illness because he was there for four years. Thomas Huntington and Emma had separated and in 1909, aged 76, he committed suicide in a hotel he had been living in for two years. He left a note to say he couldn't stand the pain. He possibly had cancer.

Emma lived on a farm with her son Robert Harvey Wall until her death in 1922, aged 79. Neither of her children from John Wall, living in the USA, had children and it seems only two of her Huntington children reproduced, so she probably has more descendants in Australia than in America

Without DNA and looking at matches with only small amounts of similar DNA, I doubt I would ever have traced Emma, my 2x great-grandmother. So getting your DNA done can be very helpful!



How Do You Solve a Problem Like Maria?

By Leonie Oliver - Member 610

Just like in the Sound of Music, I have a Maria who is a problem, a big problem in fact.

In thirty years of researching my family tree I have never come across a situation like this before. Two women who give the same name, place of birth, date of birth and father's name, but who are obviously two different women.

One immigrated to the US after her marriage, the other remaining in Mecklenburg.

The first had a total of ten children, and as far as I can determine, the second had none.

They died five years apart, on different continents.

So, to the problem-

Maria Friederica Carolina **Pundt** was born on 15 October 1843 in Lühburg (Basse Parish). Her parents were Carl Heinrich Diederich Pundt and his second wife Sophia Magdalena **Ahrens**.

Now, Maria had illegitimate twins in 1866, Carl and Anna, whose father was named as Friedrich Johann Joachim Heinrich **Müller**. Her full name is given on the baptism.

Baby Anna died soon after.

Maria and Johann Müller married in 1868. Her father was named as Carl Heinrich Pundt, worker in Gnoien - this is very near Lühburg, but is a different parish. Her date and place of birth were also noted.

Maria had a third child, in 1869 who also died shortly afterwards.

This left them with just Carl.

Johann, Maria and baby Carl immigrated to the USA on 'Eugenie', departing Hamburg on 28 October 1870. Their last place of residence was given as Woltow. Woltow is a small village in Basse parish.

They went to Batavia in NY state and had some more children. Their name changed to Miller, so they became John, Mary and Charlie Miller. John and Mary **Miller** are both buried in Batavia, NY. Mary died in 1906, and John in 1909.

To add to the story, Carl Pundt's second wife also died. He married a third time, had another son Friedrich, and after his third wife died, he went to the US with his son in 1873. Carl Pundt was living with the Millers in Batavia in 1875 according to the NY

census, and named as 'father'. His son Friedrich by his first wife, was also by then living in Batavia.

BUT-----

Marie Friederica Carolina Pundt married Friedrich Theodor Johann **Buddenhagen** on 18 November 1870 in Basse (after she had left for NY). Her father was named as Carl Heinrich Pundt in Lühburg, and her date of birth was noted as 15 Oct 1843.

The widow Maria Friederika Carolina Buddenhagen, born Pundt, died in Tessin on 23 Dec 1910. Her parents were named as Carl Heinrich Pundt, day labourer in Lühburg, and Sophia born Ahrens. Her husband had died earlier in 1910, on 11 March.

When she died, Maria was said to be 67y 2m and 8d old, and if you do the maths, that makes her date of birth as 15 October 1843.

So, who was the woman who married Johann Müller? Or more to the point, who was the Maria who married Friedrich Buddenhagen?

Why would both women give the same name, date and place of birth, and father's name when they married? It doesn't make sense.

I only discovered the second marriage when I was looking at the Tessin records for **Plettenbergs**, another of my German families. There was Maria's death and I couldn't believe it! I went back and checked the marriage, and sure enough, all the details were the same as the first Maria!

My interest in all of this is solely that Carl Heinrich Pundt's first wife was Magdalena Elisabeth Johanna Buddenhagen, the daughter of one of my **Jaspers**.

One of Carl Pundt's daughters by the second marriage married an Ahrens, who was the son of yet another of my Jaspers!!

Pundt's, Ahrens and Buddenhagens are everywhere in Basse parish and litter my tree!

How do I go about sorting it all out? I'm tearing my hair out here!

I mean to say, who was who? And to top it all off, I am now in contact with descendants of the first Maria in the USA, who claim vehemently that she is the right Maria! And maybe she is, but that leaves the problem of who was the second Maria?

If anyone has any ideas as to how this problem may be solved, please let me know.



Journal Gleanings

By Janine Thomson

“The Migration Story of a Maltese Family from Egypt”

Kith & Kin – Cape Banks FHS – September 2021 - Page 9

“Deciphering Old Handwriting”. This summarised article from NSW State Records gives some great tips for deciphering old records.

Dust of Ages – Armidale FHG – June 2021 - Page 11

“Memories of an Old House”. A wonderful story of life in Mile End in the mid 1900s.

The South Australian Genealogist – August 2021 – Page 32

“Tech Tips”. Teaches how to search the web like a pro using AncestorSearch on Google.

Who Do You Think You Are - May 2021 - Page 58

“Family Trees Online”. Details the pros and cons of the four major genealogy websites – and some benefits of using some of the free sites.

“Love and Marriage”. From wedding rings to white gowns - discover how many marriage traditions came to be.

Who Do You Think You Are - June 2021 - Pages 17 & 69

“Parish Records Online”. Presents an updated guide to the best websites for Parish Records.

“Chelsea Pensioners’ Records”. The Royal Hospital records *service records* for soldiers pre WW1.

Who Do You Think You Are - July 2021 - Pages 17& 53

“In lutruwita”. Chronicles the discovery of what is now know as Tasmania and the impact of colonisation.

Traces – Edition 16, 2021 – Page 19

“Finding your way with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders family history at the State Library of Qld”. *Descent – Society of Australian Genealogists – Winter 2021*

“How to find the Cousins Who Stayed Behind”. Tips for finding family who are still in Ireland.

Irish Roots – 1st Quarter 2021 – Page 18

Australian eJournals

By Jackie Chalmers

The following journals are now received as eJournals and may be read on the computers in the Marie Hart Library. If they are from the area you are researching you may well find information that will not appear elsewhere, so do check them out.

Australian G-Y

Crash of an RAAF Avro Anson on Heron Island 23 July 1943 by Paulette Flint
Genealogical Society Gladstone District Inc., Timeline, May 21

John Fuller: a Controversial Life by Roger Bayley
Goulburn Historical & Genealogical Society Inc., The Argyle Bulletin,
May 21

William Davis – Cricketer, Squire, and a Crack Shot by Hilda Burr
Goulburn Historical & Genealogical Society Inc., The Argyle Bulletin,
Aug 21

A Date to Remember by Michelle Nichols (A very interesting and educational article about dates in Family History)
Hawkesbury FHS, The Hawkesbury Crier, Mar 21

Joseph Samuels – the Man who Survived Three Hangings by Judith O'Donohue
Hawkesbury-Nepean Chapter Fellowship of First Fleeters, Hawkesbury-Nepean Newsletter, Winter 2021

Photos from Lost Manly and Northern Beaches by William Hempel
Hawkesbury-Nepean Chapter Fellowship of First Fleeters, Hawkesbury-Nepean Newsletter, Spring 2021

Selina Anderson – Political Activist (1878-1964) Podcast on Bathurst
Community Radio Station 2MCE

Hill End & Tambaroora Gathering Group, Newsletter, Sep 21

Famous Hill End Gold by B.O. Holtermann

Hill End Family History, Newsletter, Dec 20

The Dirt Hole and Tambaroora Diggings from *Bathurst Free Press* May
1852

Hill End Family History, Newsletter, Mar 21

Old Time Illnesses and Their Current Names

Hill End Family History, Newsletter, Jun 21

Conference Report – NSW and ACT Assoc. of Family History Societies
Inc. held in Port Macquarie

Illawarra Family History Inc., Newsletter, Vol 2 21

Photo Enhancements by Steve Day

Inverell & District FHG, Voices of the Past, Jun 21

Letters from 1932 to Dr Sirois from Nesta and David Donaldson

Ipswich Genealogical Society Inc., Bremer Echoes, Nov 20

Stories Behind the Tombstone HEITZ – Louis by John Rossiter

Ipswich Genealogical Society Inc., Bremer Echoes, Jul 21

Our Debt to Ireland by Jill Ball

Lake Macquarie FHG, The Chronicle, Feb 21

In Search of German Ancestry by Jennifer Myers

Lake Macquarie FHG, The Chronicle, May 21

My Dad and the Boolaroo Brass Band by Elspeth Bradbury

Lake Macquarie FHG, The Chronicle, Aug 21

Mystery and Misunderstanding – Barton Park Cemetery Wallerawang by
Danny Whitty *Lithgow FHG, Lithgow Pioneer Press, Jun 21*

The Piano Tuner's Grave by Elizabeth Lamb
Logan River & District FHS Inc., Dugullumba Times, May 21

Bicycles in World War I by Heather Cuthbert
Logan River & District FHS Inc., Dugullumba Times, Aug 21

Graves Matter by Pam Jarman
Manning Wallamba FHS, The Figtree, May 21

Exploring Sydney's Curious History with Warren Fahey
Manning Wallamba FHS, The Figtree, Aug 21

Keilawarra Disaster 1886 – Information Sheet from NSW Heritage Office
Maryborough DFHS Inc., Forebears, May 21

Recollections of Early Woodburn by Keith Schulstad
Mid-Richmond HS Inc., Newsletter, Feb 21

Deaths and Burials – Extract from 'To Trace or Not To Trace' by Carol
Baxter *Milton-Ulladulla FHS Inc., Pigeon House Tidings, Jun 21*

Memories of a Country Boy by Neil Reid
Moruya & District Historical Society Inc., Journal, Sep 21

Fruit Machines on the Tweed by Di Millar
Murwillumbah Historical Society, Timelines, Jan 21

Leo Appo, the Tweed's World Champion Axeman by Di Millar
Murwillumbah Historical Society, Timelines, Apr 21

Public Inoculation Depot from *Tweed Daily*, Tuesday 4 Feb 1919, p. 3
Murwillumbah Historical Society, Timelines, Jul 21

Darkened Doorways: Darlinghurst After Dark by John Ramsland
Newcastle Family History Society Inc., Journal, Mar 21

- Knucklebones or Jacks by Elizabeth James
Newcastle Family History Society Inc., Journal, Jun 21
- New Free Emagazine – Irish Eyes Remembered posted by Alona Tester
GS of Northern Territory, Progenitor, Mar 21
- A Better Place to Live – Making the Top End a New Kind of Community by
 Diana Giese *GS of Northern Territory, Progenitor*, Jun 21
- My Great Grandad was a Bullocky by GSK
*Family History Association of North Queensland Inc., Relatively
 Speaking*, Jul 21
- Ethnicity DNA – Only 3% ???????? by Rasheed Clark
*Family History Association of North Queensland Inc., Relatively
 Speaking*, Sep 21
- Where Did Naughty Girls and Boys Go in 1800's and 1900's by Julie Sykes
Orange FHG, Newsletter, Apr 21
- Jack PEELER by Sharon Jameson *Orange FHG, Newsletter*, Aug 21
- Crimes Confessed in Sleep from *Clarence & Richmond Examiner*, Tuesday
 14 Jan, 1902 *Port Stephens FHS Inc.*, Aug 21
- London Apprenticeships by Pauline Kettle
Queensland FHS Inc., Queensland Family Historian, May 21
- A Bicycle Built For Two by Lyndal Cosgrove
Queensland FHS Inc., Queensland Family Historian, Aug 21
- The Egan Family of Tullamore, County Offaly, Ireland by Maurice Egan
 provided by Ted Flack
Redcliffe & District FHG Inc., The First Settlement City Gazette, Jul 21
- Esther's 100-Year-Old Letter by Esther Grogan
FHS of Rockingham & District, Between the Lines, Aug 21

- Ancestry – The Green Leaf by Peter Godfrey
FHS of Rockingham & District, Between the Lines, Sep 21
- Memories of Working at Ryde Police Station by Les de Belin
Ryde Family History Group, The Recorder, Jun 21
- A Batch of Alleged Thieves by Christine Sanderson
Ryde Family History Group, The Recorder, Sep 21
- Memories of Ag – Stories of the Childhood of Agnes Ingold by Margaret Sharpe
Shoalhaven FHS, Time Traveller, Apr 21
- The Highfield Immigration Experience by Marcia Highfield
Shoalhaven FHS, Time Traveller, Aug 21
- Oral History – Interview with Jill Cassidy by Jen and Melinda Kapp
Society of Australian Genealogists, Magazine Descent, Autumn 21
- Highlights from the Library Collection – Indigenous Australian Research by Philippa Garnsey
Society of Australian Genealogists, Magazine Descent, Winter 21
- The Shameful Truth: the Search for Edmund Gale by Pip Gale
Society of Australian Genealogists, Magazine Descent, Spring 21
- Colin Campbell Buchanan of Bena by Alison Marshall
South Gippsland GS, Newsletter, Mar 21
- Edward Worthy by Margaret Pegler
South Gippsland GS, Newsletter, Jun 21
- Facebook for Family Research by Fay Boag
South Gippsland GS, Newsletter, Sep 21
- How DNA Can Help You Build Your Family Tree by Eve Sainsbury
Tenterfield FHG, Tenterfield Generations, Jul 21
- A Job For Life by Suzanna Margetts
Toowoomba & Darling Downs FHS, The Gazette, Jul 21

- Billy Blue “The Old Commodore” by Jenny Merrell
Tweed Gold Coast FH & Heritage Assoc. Inc., Tracks, Jun 21
- The McClellands of Springfield – From Armagh to Goulburn by Jenny Byrne Merrell
Tweed Gold Coast FH & Heritage Assoc. Inc, Tracks, Oct 21
- Cemetery Wanderings by Julie Lee
Whitsunday FHG, Branching Out, Mar 21
- The Rainbird Murders by Barbara Barnett
Whitsunday FHG, Branching Out, Jul 21
- The Maher Cup from the *Advocate* files on Trove
Wyalong District FHG, Mallee Stump, Mar 21
- Una Monica Wilder nee Prest prepared for Terry Butcher
Wyalong District FHG, Mallee Stump, Aug 21
- Black Birding by Lynda Smith *Wyong FHG Inc., Tree of Life, Feb 21*
- Of Pioneers and First People by Stuart Purvis Smith
Wyong FHG Inc., Tree of Life, May 21
- Clustering Photographs by Lynda Smith
Wyong FHG Inc., Tree of Life, Aug 21
- Who Are We? We are the Young and District Family History Group Inc.
compiled by Margaret Hall and edited by Carmel Price
Young & District FHG Inc., The Lambing Flat Leader, Sep 21



Marie Hart Library News

By Richard Goss – Library Officer

The 1921 Census of England and Wales

This Census is to be released on 6 January 2022. Digitisation of more than 30,000 bound volumes has been completed by the UK National Archives and FindMyPast.

“Taken once a decade, the census remains secret for 100 years before being opened to the public. However, the 1931 Census was destroyed in a fire at the Office for Works in 1942, and the 1941 Census was never captured owing to the outbreak of the Second World War.”

This 1921 Census is all we’ve got until 2051.

Details for public access will become clearer before the release. Our Society has a contributory relationship with FindMyPast, reflected in the Marie Hart Library’s subscription-free access to the software, and there appear to be ways Members can benefit.

One is accessing the Census through the Marie Hart Library computers. Another is through joining the *1921 Census Conference*. And another is in purchasing the images underlying the indexes.

The December *Newsletter* will make specific proposals, but save the date for three sessions from 8:00AM on Fridays 7, 14 and 18 January 2022.

Research more details online at findmypast.com.au or family-tree.co.uk.

Postcode in call numbers

Selected books within the History category of our collection are now shelved and call numbered using the postcode most relevant to the material. Our thanks to Kerrie Alexander for continuing this project to improve researchers’ ability to access our collection.

Searching our catalogue

We have improved searching within our computer-based catalogue by reinstating, expanding, and extending our search facility for the physical and digital components of our collection.



Monthly Speakers



4 September 2021 – The meeting was held via zoom due to local lockdowns preventing us meeting in person. The meeting included a talk by John Rogers, who gave the members background information about his early life and the various research tasks he has undertaken. His interest in history was ignited when he attended Sydney Grammar School. John's latest venture has been writing and publishing a book – *History of the Northern Rivers Region of New South Wales: the Pioneering Years*. Copies of the book are available for purchase at the Tintenbar Store and 2 copies are in the Marie Hart Library. John said that a great number of articles and books

have been published about the Northern Rivers area and he wanted to compile a book that combined these to form one history of the area. He believes that when things are happening, people think they have recorded events accurately, but actually they may be guarded about events they record. The further away from an event you are, the better you can look at things with greater insight, as more research has been done and perspectives on matters have changed. He gave some tips on writing, such as that it was important to set parameters precisely and stay within those parameters; get the introduction clear and answer the questions you want solved.

2 October 2021 - we had several speakers on the interesting topic of '**Skeletons in the Closet**'. The question was posed 'are the skeletons kept as secrets due to shame or a belief it will damage our perception of our relative?'

Dawn Lotty gave 2 talks about the complicated and secretive family arrangements of her parents, including previous marriages and an elopement and divorce. Dawn's mother's family were masters at hiding the facts and Dawn was kept in the dark for many years.

Jackie **Chalmers** related a story about her grandfather, who shot at his lover's husband and spent 2 months in jail for his 'crime of passion'. We enjoyed her computer graphics too!



Leonie **Oliver** told a story featuring many skeletons around the mid-1800s! Convicts, a grieving mother, a lover, a husband poisoned by arsenic, an inquest and acquittal, a baby born in prison and finally a headstone erected for the murdered man by people of the district.

Shirley **McAnelly's** skeleton was a man who raped his 10 year old daughter and was hanged in Maitland jail in 1897. Many people in his hometown of Scone signed a petition for a stay of execution, but it was not successful

6 November 2021 – The planned seminar with Helen **Smith** was unfortunately postponed. The numbers wanting to attend in person at the Players' Theatre, or via an online link-up, was insufficient to cover the costs.

A webinar on *Women in the Archives* from the **NSW State Archives and Records** was shown at the General Meeting that was held instead of the Seminar.

<https://www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/webinars/women-the-archives> Follow this link if you would like to view it. See an article on the **NSW State Archives & Records** in the September issue of *The Cedar Log* for more about searching this large and important repository of NSW records.

New Members

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new members

Joint Membership 1012

Anne Hickman and Christine Cue Lennox Head

The Richmond-Tweed Family History Society Inc. was established in 1983 to serve the family history needs of researchers initially with a special interest in Northern New South Wales, Australia in the area bounded by the Richmond and Tweed Rivers, often referred to as the Northern Rivers.

The Marie Hart Library holds numerous local records including the Local Schools Admission Registers, Cemetery Records, Burial Records, Honour and Memorial Rolls from many locations within the Northern Rivers.

Over the years, the library has expanded and now holds a wealth of information from across Australia including historical and pioneer records, war records, shipping lists, probate records, landholder returns, Colonial Secretary papers and cemetery books. There are family history journals either as hard copies from within Australia or in electronic form from overseas countries, which can be accessed on the computers or from home.

Access is available to microfiche, CDs and computers connected to genealogical websites, to which we subscribe, including *Findmypast* and the *Biographical Database of Australia*. We are also a *FamilySearch* affiliate, which gives access to more than the standard *FamilySearch* site. Ask the member on duty, during normal opening hours, if you need assistance with any of the library's resources.

Family History Research Requests can be done by the Society for a fee of \$15 per hour. Please include a 22x11 cm stamped, addressed envelope and research fees where applicable.

THE Cedar Log

Journal of the Richmond-Tweed Family History Society Inc.

Published March, June, September & December

The Editor, Carmel Crosby, would be pleased to accept articles for inclusion in this journal. Ideally, they should be sent by email to editorcedarlog@gmail.com but typed hard copy is also welcomed. The format preferred is Times New Roman font; 12 point; single spacing.

Please add your contact details as the Editor may need to discuss with you any editing, abridgement or deferral to a future date of any material submitted for publication. It is your responsibility to ensure that your article does not infringe copyright. Items remain the copyright of the Richmond-Tweed Family History Society and the author.

Your input is important and makes for interesting and diverse reading for our members as well as to the other readers of our journal throughout Australia and overseas. We would love to hear about how you broke down those brick walls or any interesting information you have found out about an ancestor; so get those fingers typing.

The society does not accept responsibility for opinions and statements published by individual contributors. Original material in this journal may be reproduced with written permission from the society.



SOCIETY EVENTS

Society meetings are at the Players Theatre, 24 Swift Street, Ballina at 2pm on the first Saturday of each month. There is no meeting in January.

DATES TO REMEMBER

2021

Saturday 4 December: 12 noon. Christmas Lunch and Party at Summerland House Farm, Wardell Rd, Alstonville. Contact Gwen Clark if you would like to attend. Ph: 6628 7797.

Christmas/New Year Closure of Marie Hart Library: Closed from Sunday 19 December and reopens on Monday 10 January 2022.

Saturday 5 February: Meeting: Which Family History Software for me

Saturday 5 March: Meeting: Vodcast – How to Research Your Family Tree

Saturday 2 April: Meeting: 1921 England and Wales Census explained

DNA Discussion Group Meetings will be held at the Marie Hart Library on the 4th Tuesdays of the month at 10 am conducted by Kerrie Alexander. Please advise Kerrie if you will be attending, as places are limited. rtfhdsdna@yahoo.com.

The group conducted by Leonie Oliver meets on the **third Mondays**, commencing at 1 pm, when Leonie is on duty at the library. Please advise Leonie if you would like to attend at gandloliver@gmail.com.

Members with any level of experience with DNA are welcome to attend.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership fees for the year 1st January 2021 to 31st December 2022 are \$35 Individual or \$45 Joint Membership.

Journals will be sent to financial members only.