

THE ENDEAVOUR



Published quarterly by the

BOTANY BAY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC
Discovering Your Heritage

PRICE \$6.00

No. 142
March 2020

ISSN 0814-9828 (Print)
ISSN 2208-3278 (Online)

BOTANY BAY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC

Discovering Your Heritage

Internet: <http://www.botanybayfhs.org.au> Email: botanybayfhs@yahoo.com.au

Mail Enquiries: The Secretary
Botany Bay Family History Society Inc
PO Box 1006
Sutherland NSW 1499

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2019-2020

President	Jennie Fairs	
Vice Presidents	Carole Goodyer	Rowan Morrison
General Secretary	Lilian Magill	
Treasurers	Shirley Walker	
Ordinary Members	Jackie Butters	Jean Campbell
	Pamela Heather	Maree Kirkland
	Phillip Lewis	

OTHER OFFICE BEARERS 2019-2020

Editor	John Levy, bbfhs_edu@yahoo.com.au	
Assistant Editor	Maree McKinley	
Librarians	Janette Daly	Pamela Heather
	Maureen Murray	Kate Anderson
Webmaster	Pat Fearnley	
Education Team	Jean Campbell	Barbara Wimble
Public Officer	Doug Parkes	
Research Centre Coordinator	Jean Campbell,	
	jeanhcampbell47@gmail.com	

Meetings

Held on the first Wednesday of the month (excepting January) at the 'Tradies', The Kingsway, Gympie, commencing at 7.30pm

Library and Research Centre Messages and Bookings Only: 02 9523 8948

Port Hacking Community Centre 184 Gannons Road (south) Caringbah NSW 2229
Open: Mon, Wed & Fri: 10am-4pm; Sat: 10am-2pm. For bus route 978 & timetable, see <https://www.transdevnsw.com.au/services/timetables/south-southwest/>

Fees

Annual fees from 1 Jul 2019: single membership – \$40; family membership – \$55; Joining fee – \$10; Membership renewals due 1 July each year, late fee - \$10

Research

Volunteer members of the Society will research family history relevant to the Sutherland Shire for non-members: minimum fee of \$20 (first hour) and \$20 per hour thereafter.

CONTENTS



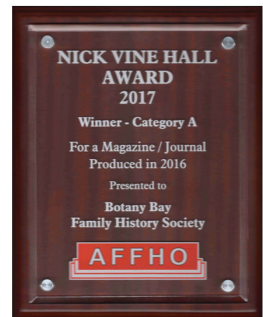
	Page
My ANZAC – Warrant Officer George James Roney	4
My Freedom of Information Documents	10
Unlocking the Mysteries of the First Fleet Marine Arrivals	12
The Very Late Present	22
The Suicide Bride – Book Review	27
Never Ending Story – a Conclusion	30
Member’s Interest Directory	31
Unlocking the Mystery of William Arthur Fraser with DNA	34
A Childhood Snapshot – My Mum’s Ghastly Drink	41
Family Tree Maker	43

Regular Features

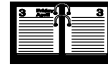
Calendar	2
President’s Page	3
BBFHS Education Program	7
Library Acquisitions	19
Diggings	25
New Members	26
Notes and News	32
Web Watch	42
BBFHS Interest Groups	46
BBFHS Research Centre and Library	47

Advertisements in this Issue [PLEASE MENTION *THE ENDEAVOUR* WHEN CONTACTING]

Joy Murrin – BDM Transcription Services	18
Martins Green Thumb Gardening Services	21
2SSR 99.7FM Sound of the Sutherland Shire	24
2020 NSW & ACT Association Conference – Riding the Waves of History ...	48



CALENDAR



2020

- Mar 4 Meeting – 7.30 pm Tradies. Speaker – Mark Bundy**
Rookwood Cemetery
- Mar 14** English Interest Group – 2 pm BBFHS Research Centre
- Mar 26** Writers Interest Group – 1.30 pm BBFHS Research Centre
- Mar 28** DNA Interest Group – 1.30 pm BBFHS Research Centre
- Apr 1 Meeting – 7.30 pm Tradies. Speaker – Megan Neilson**
Chinese-Australasian History
- Apr 4** Scottish Interest Group – 2 pm BBFHS Research Centre
- Apr 7** Reunion for Mac Computer Program Group – 10 am Centre
- Apr 10** Good Friday Public Holiday (Centre closed)
- Apr 11** Easter Saturday Public Holiday (Centre closed)
- Apr 13** Easter Monday Public Holiday (Centre closed)
- Apr 18** Irish Interest Group – 2 pm BBFHS Research Centre
- Apr 25** ANZAC Day (Saturday) Public Holiday (Centre closed)
- May 2 Heritage Fair at Tradies**
- May 5** Legacy Computer Group – 2 pm BBFHS Research Centre
- May 6 Meeting – 7.30 pm Tradies. Speaker – To be advised**
- May 9** English Interest Group – 2 pm BBFHS Research Centre
- May 12** Family Tree Maker Group – 1.30 pm BBFHS Research Centre
- May 16** Australian Interest Group – 2 pm BBFHS Research Centre
- May 23** DNA Interest Group – 1.30 pm BBFHS Research Centre
- May 28** Writers Interest Group – 1.30 pm BBFHS Research Centre
- Jun 2** Reunion for Mac Computer Program Group – 10 am Centre
- Jun 3 Meeting – 7.30 pm Tradies. Speaker – To be advised**
- Jun 6** Scottish Interest Group – 2 pm BBFHS Research Centre
- Jun 8** Queen’s Birthday (Monday) Public Holiday (Centre closed)
- Jun 27** Irish Interest Group – 2 pm BBFHS Research Centre

Please check the Events Calendar on our website (www.botanybayfhs.org.au) to confirm the meeting details and to view a speaker profile.

Botany Bay Family History Society is a member of the NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies, The Australasian Federation of Family History Societies and the Family History Federation in the United Kingdom.

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

I trust you all had a wonderful Christmas break, although I know many of you were affected by the bushfires. Fortunately, none of our members, that I am aware of, lost their homes or other property.

I would like to thank the volunteers that came into the Research Centre last month to assist with our annual clean-up and stocktake of books. Our book collection has grown immensely in the past year following several large donations of books. The decision was also made last year to allow borrowing of most of our books and the process of marking them for lending and installing a library card pocket in each book is ongoing.

The next few months are going to be busy for BBFHS as we have several promotional days organised including our recent attendance at the Sutherland Shire Seniors' Expo at Tradies and our annual Open Day at the Research Centre.

Our Heritage Fair on Saturday, 2 May, will once again be held at Tradies and volunteers are needed to help on the day. Noele **Watkins** is working on a roster at present and will naturally welcome anyone new that would like to volunteer a few hours on the day.

Leading up to the Heritage Fair, Noele has managed to score us a promotional stand outside Woolworth's Caringbah on Thursday, 23 April and Sunday, 26 April – please come along and support BBFHS as this is a great opportunity to promote the Heritage Fair and hopefully gain some new members.

It is thanks to our volunteers that BBFHS remains in such a strong position in the genealogy world. One way in which BBFHS supports its volunteers is through the annual Volunteers Information Day and Lunch to be held this year on Saturday, 20 June. Another way of supporting our volunteers is the awarding of various Certificates at our Christmas function. Noele **Watkins** was awarded a Certificate of Achievement, for outstanding services in an honorary capacity and Certificates of Recognition, for 10 years of service as a Research Centre Volunteer, have been presented to Jackie **Butters**, Nadene **Goodwin**, Sue **Hewitt**, Rhonda **McKinnon**, Colleen **Passfield** and Toni **Proudlock**.

Jennie **Fairs**



Find us on
Facebook

Follow BBFHS on Facebook at <http://tinyurl.com/nv2xclx>

MY ANZAC – WARRANT OFFICER 417113

GEORGE JAMES RONEY, 33 (RAF)

SQUADRON ROYAL NEW ZEALAND AIR FORCE

by Rowena Summers (Member)

George Roney was my mother's youngest half brother. He was born in Oamaru, New Zealand on 1 January 1922, just nine months before his mother Rosannah died of heart disease when my mother (her eldest child) was 14, leaving his father George, a baker from Adelaide, to raise six children – two girls and four boys. A couple of years later young George lost another mother figure when my mother left the family to live with her **Berry** relatives and find work.

An early education at Oamaru North was followed by a secondary education at Waitaki Boys' High School where George attained matriculation standard. He obviously had considerable sporting ability, being a member of his school's first rugby fifteen, and taking what was described as an 'outstanding part' in athletics. He went on to win the Junior Otago High Jump Championship in 1941 and tied equal for the North Otago Championship as a member of the North Otago Amateur Athletic Association. He also belonged to the Athletic Football Club and to the Oamaru Miniature Rifle Club. Leaving school, he was apprenticed locally as a motor mechanic. He joined the Territorials for two years and moved with them up to



George James Roney (photo: family album)

Christchurch where he enlisted for air crew training in the Royal New Zealand Air Force on 21 December 1941. While a newspaper report says he was a member of the Methodist Church, his application for enlistment gives his religion as Church of England. His enlistment application also tells us he was just shy of 1.83 m (6 feet) tall with dark hair, hazel eyes and a fresh complexion with no scars.

After training in the North Island he was awarded his flying badge on 19 Oct 1942 and promoted to Sergeant. Leaving New Zealand in January 1943, he went first to New York before continuing on to England where he furthered his training as a Spitfire fighter pilot both there and in Scotland, being promoted to Flight Sergeant on 19 June 1943.

Stationed in France he saw that country liberated. While there he was amongst a group of NZ Spitfire pilots who were visited by the High Commissioner for NZ from his London home (Auckland Star 29 Sept 1944 pg 3) not long before being engaged in an armed reconnaissance operation over western Holland on October 6, 1944 where his squadron encountered heavy flak. Two aircraft were hit and made forced landings, while a third, piloted by Warrant Officer Roney, was shot down. His father duly got the dreaded 'Missing, presumed dead' telegram, and the NZ Evening Post of 12 September 1945 listed him, with numerous others, on their Air Casualties Roll of Honour.



George James Roney (photo: family album)

It was not until 9 June 1948 that a Dutch Military Salvage Squad, alerted by a farmer, located the wreckage of George's aircraft where it had crashed in the hamlet of Steenhoven. His remains were identified, exhumed and given a proper burial in Grave 303B of Schoondijke General Cemetery, Zeeland, Netherlands.

Sadly, I did not get to meet this uncle of mine because I was not born until just three weeks after he was shot down. Like many young men of his time, I'm sure George left NZ with a spirit of adventure mixed with a sense of pride and duty at the opportunity to serve his country. Again, like many of those young men he was not to return to his homeland, nor have the opportunity of leaving descendants who would remember his heroism and sacrifice – such a full and active life cut so incredibly short. God bless, and thank you for your sacrifice, George. Lest we forget.

As a postscript to this article, on 24 September 2015 as part of a trip to the UK and Ireland, I was able to visit George's grave, and as you will see in the photo, I added a NZ flag along with a knitted poppy, one I made as part of the 5000 poppies project, many of which I understand ended up on display at the 2016 Chelsea Flower Show. George's grave is the only war grave in Schoondijke General Cemetery and as such not only has its own flagpole, but was also adopted by children from the local school who ensure the grave is well kept.

A year after that trip members of George's family in Oamaru were contacted by retired Wing Commander David **Stewart** in England, who was putting together a booklet on No 33 RAF Squadron which was involved in the Battle of the Scheldt when Uncle George was shot down. As well as the technical details of the aircraft, David added personal details of George, and other photos of the Squadron which he had gleaned from various family members. He then put together a four day tour of all the pertinent places – what a shame our trip hadn't been a year later! However, one of my cousins and his wife had plans to visit a married daughter in Canada, so extended their trip to include Schoondijke where they laid a wreath on George's grave and were able to visit the field where his aircraft crash-landed after being shot down.

In a further postscript, as part of the 75th commemoration of the Battle of the Scheldt and the death of George, there are moves to put a permanent memorial at George's crash site with a plaque telling his story in both English and Dutch. The Dutch are also making a film about the Battle of the Scheldt, hoping to put the Battle on the map in the same way everyone knows Arnhem because of *A Bridge Too Far*. Wim **de Meester** is working on a book covering the air war over Zeeland planned for release in April 2020 in which George's story will feature. Moves are also being made to place photographs of the fallen on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission graves in Zeeland and George's will be the first. What a shame none of his siblings are alive today to see how the sacrifice of their baby brother is being honoured. RIP Uncle George.



George's headstone (photo: Rowena Summers)

BBFHS EDUCATION PROGRAM

by Jean **Campbell** (Research Centre Coordinator)

By the time you read this, Jeff Madsen will have finished his repeat classes on Land Records and we will have held our first Open Day for 2020. Remember, the eNEWS, which arrives at your IN box each fortnight, has details of future BBFHS events. They are also publicised in the Bulletin and on our website.

Orientation Tours are held regularly in the Research Centre, which help new members AND new Volunteers. You might be surprised at all the resources we hold. This year they will be held on:

- Saturday 21 March at 2pm;
- Saturday 13 June at 2pm; and
- Saturday 26 September at 2pm.

Other classes begin after the Heritage Fair in May. In 2019, they were very popular during the day, so we are continuing with day classes. They start at 10:30am. If you wish you can attend just one or two.

PRICES:

Members one class \$10; all five classes \$45

Visitors one class \$15; all five classes \$70

Please book before the class by email at botanybayfhs@yahoo.com.au, or at the Research Centre (in person or by phone)

THE SCHEDULE:

CLASS 1: *Tuesday 26 May 10.30am – 12 noon*
MY FAMILY HISTORY (Jean Campbell)

FIRST RECORDS

1. Collecting Information
2. Sources of Information
3. Keeping Records
4. Written Record Collection
5. Genealogical Charts

RECORDS IN SYDNEY – OVERVIEW

1. BBFHS Research Centre Resources
2. Local Library
3. State Library
4. Mitchell Library
5. State Records of NSW
6. The National Archives of Australia (NSW section)
7. Society of Australian Genealogists
8. Royal Australian Historical Society

NSW BIRTHS DEATHS AND MARRIAGES (BDMs)

1. NSW BDM Website
2. NSW BDM Wild Cards
3. Church Codes
4. Ancestry; NSW BDM: District of Births
5. Pre 1856 microfilms – Early Church Records

CLASS 2: *Tuesday 9 June 10.30am – 12 noon*

EARLY ARRIVALS (Barbara Wimble)

CONVICTS AND EARLY SETTLERS

1. Parish Registers
2. Musters and Census
3. Colonial Secretary's Papers - correspondence with the government
4. Convicts
5. Military Personnel
6. Government Officials

SHIPPING AND IMMIGRATION

1. Unassisted Passengers
2. Assisted Passengers
3. Immigration Schemes
4. Records of Early Immigration
5. Emigration Societies

CLASS 3: *Tuesday 23 June 10.30am – 12 noon*

NAMES AND FREE INTERNET SITES (Jean Campbell)

NAMES

1. Common Surname Origins
2. First Names, Variants and Nicknames

AUSTRALIA

1. Australian BDM Indexes
2. TROVE
3. Ryerson Index
4. Australian Cemeteries

FAMILY SEARCH (Workshop)

1. Searching Records
2. Genealogies
3. Catalogue
4. Family Search Wiki

CLASS 4: *Tuesday 21 July 10.30am – 12 noon*

OVERSEAS RESEARCH 1. (Barbara Wimble)

BASIC RESEARCH IN IRELAND

1. Migration
2. Surnames

3. Church Records
4. Irish Information in Australia
5. Information in Ireland
6. Division of Land

BASIC RESEARCH IN ENGLAND AND WALES

1. BBFHS Collections
2. Civil Registration
3. Parish Records
4. Census Returns
5. Wills

CLASS 5: Tuesday 22 October 10.30am – 12 noon **OVERSEAS RESEARCH 2. (Jean Campbell)**

SOURCES IN AUSTRALIA

1. GENUKI
2. Gateway Site - CoraWeb

BASIC RESEARCH IN SCOTLAND

1. Civil Registration
2. Old Parish Registers (OPR)
3. Kirk Session Minutes
4. Census
5. Scotland's People
6. Scotland's Places

SOME INFORMATION ON OTHER COUNTRIES

1. New Zealand, USA and Canada, Europe

INTRODUCING:

1. Ancestry
2. FindMyPast



COPY DEADLINE

Copy for the June 2020 journal should be submitted as soon as you have it available but the deadline is **Wednesday 6 May** – preferably by email to the Editor at bbfhs_eds@yahoo.com.au . Copy may also be left in the Editor's folder at the Research Centre, handed to the Editor or a committee member at a monthly meeting or posted to **PO Box 1006 Sutherland NSW 1499**. Please affix your name and date of submission to the copy and indicate if you want any materials returned.

MY FREEDOM OF INFORMATION DOCUMENTS

by Janet **Kendrigan** (Member)

In February 2019, at the age of 71, I applied under the Freedom Of Information (FOI) Act 1982 Victoria for documents relating to my placement in the Salvation Army Kardinia Children's Home in Victoria, when I was two years of age. The FOI papers cost me \$28.90 and were well worth it.

I was sent a pile of documents in a file, regarding the situation of my parents, and what led me to be placed in the Home. Reading through the papers was a real eye opener for me.

My parents had filled out an *Application for Permission to Board out an Infant* form from the Victorian Children's Welfare Department on 21 August 1949, one day before I turned two. The Home took in children from the age of two years of age to the age of five.

Going through the papers, I was surprised to see (for the first time), a copy of my *Certificate of Baptism*, dated January 1948. I was baptized in the Methodist Church in Lowanna, near Coffs Harbour, where I was born; my parents had been working on farms in the area for over a year.

Coming back to Victoria, they found it hard to find work and a place to live. They moved around a lot and sometimes they lived in one room with shared amenities and kitchen; another time they lived in a tent in Corio Oval in Geelong, Victoria. Most times they were out of work and had no money; and this is why I was in the Home. I found out that while I was in the Home, I had attended kindergarten, and in 1950 had had measles.

Child Welfare Inspectors came to the Home regularly and wrote reports on the children. My notes are:

- On November 11 1949 *Child seems to be well and progressing satisfactory.*
- January 3 1950, *Janet (is) well, a small brown eyed toddler, and Matrons reports that progress is satisfactory.*
- September 25 1950, *Janet is convalescing from measles, a small child with a peculiar expression, Matron says she is a hardy active child, eats and sleeps well.*

In April 1952, just before I was five, I was put up for adoption by my mother and the FOI papers cover the circumstances. On 6 May 1952, the Department wrote to Mr and Mrs Xxx from Geelong requesting that they come to the office and discuss their placement of an infant. They were then issued an introduction letter to the Matron of the Home to visit me.

Well, they were not impressed by me.

In their letter on May 10 1952, to the Department they said that they were both disappointed with the visit. Mrs Xxx wrote, *We are quite sure there is something not quite normal with the poor little pet, it is hard to put into words, (Miss Egan). I think you would have to see and talk with her to understand.*

Of course she is very tiny and backward with her speech, but I think it is her walk and the droop of her shoulders that accentuates what I am trying so hard to explain". They did visit me a second time after talking to the Doctor who visits the Home, and decided on not taking me.

Yes I am short, but I am normal. I walk and talk normally, and cannot understand her commenting on the 'droop of my shoulders', as I do not have any problems with my body, shoulders or otherwise, drooping. Perhaps I was just shy and maybe that was my way of showing it.

Still in the Kardinia Home on August 14 1952, another Inspector's Report description of me stated: *Physically, Janet has black hair, brown eyes, slim arms and legs, slim and small body, but is in proportion, a quaint child. Ward is like a French child.*

I also found out that in 1952 at the age of five, I was transferred to Catherine Booth Girls Home in Melbourne, also known as East Kew Girls' Home, and went to Auburn South Primary School, Hawthorn East, Victoria.

One thing I remember was going to a railway station and standing along the train line to see Queen Elizabeth and her husband and waving at them, although I am not sure if I knew who they were. That would have been early 1954 and I do not remember if I went with my primary school or the Girls Home.

On December 16 1954 when I was seven years of age, my mother eventually obtained custody of me to live with her in New South Wales.

I do not remember any bad times in the homes or at school.

SOCIETY EXCHANGE JOURNALS

Our Society exchanges our journal *The Endeavour* with other societies. Previously, these were in print, some of which are in our Library. But times have changed and we mostly exchange digital editions – covering 68 societies. These are on the Centre computers. Click the *Resources on the Server* icon on the desktop. We recommend that members read any journal originating from an area where their ancestors had connexions.

UNLOCKING THE MYSTERIES OF THE FIRST FLEET MARINE ARRIVALS

by Glen Lambert

With all the family research carried out over the last hundred years or more one would expect there to be no major unknowns left regarding the arrival of the First Fleet at Botany Bay. You might be surprised to learn that to this day no clear record detailing the arrival vessels for the First Fleet Marines exists. For years researchers have tried to locate this information to no avail, and so a complete knowledge of the Marine arrivals has remained at an impasse. How is it possible that in the huge array of records we have in Australia and in the National Archives in Britain not one document to answer this question has survived? There are major repositories of records in this country that specialise in such documents. The National Library alone has more than 10,000 reels of 35mm microfilm in just one series of records comprising the Australian Joint Copying Project. These were filmed in a variety of British Archives most of which concerns the Colonial era, yet not one record has been found that addresses this question.

The likely reason for the lack of records on the Marine arrivals is that being a penal colony, the records are primarily of the convicts. There are countless volumes of records on trials, sentencing, transportation, and administration of convicts. Vast numbers of these original records involving convicts exist here in Australia and in Britain dating back even years prior to 1787, detailing trial records, petitions for pardon, transfers to prisons or Hulks, embarkation of Transports, payments of bonds, and a variety of convict lists made aboard ship for administration purposes. After arrival the plethora of convict information continues, with records to monitor their lives and progress, many of these also identifying them by arrival vessel. By comparison there is much less recorded of free persons and even less of the military. It appears there was little need for much record of the Marines on the lead up to, and during the journey. All that has actually survived are fragmentary records designating how many Marines would be required on each vessel, which vessel would carry the Marine families, and sparse mentions recorded in journals made aboard ship.

On 7 May 1787 Commander of Marines, Major Robert **Ross** was instructed by Admiralty to make an Effective list of the Non Commissioned Officers and Private Marines embarked on board the transports to do duty on shore at Botany Bay to be completed before proceeding from Spithead, and would be a complete list of the Marines to serve on the transports on duty to Botany Bay, distinguishing the ships in which they embark agreeable to the attached form. These would have been the exact records to provide clear answer to the question but sadly if they

Effective List of the Non Commissioned Officers & Private Marines embarked on board the following transports to do duty on shore at Botany Bay.

Division to which he belongs	No of days	No of days of duty	Dolls at embarkment	Dolls on discharge	Total of both to be paid him	Balances		Remarks if promoted, named, transferred, or other
						To	Dr	

The surviving blank form Major Ross was to use as a guide for each vessel listing from Admiralty records.

The Endeavour 142 March 2020

were ever completed by Ross they have not survived. Ironically what has survived is the blank form which Ross was to use as a guide for each vessel listing.

Obviously our knowledge of the Marines has not remained a complete blank. Arrival vessels of the Marine officers has been largely determined from Admiralty and Marine records concerning organisation aboard the vessels, however the lowly rank and file did not figure as anything more than numbers in these letters. Over many years researchers have been able to determine a good proportion of Marine rank and file arrival vessels by other means, such as references in journals made on the journey, ships logs of the Transports (which occasionally mentioned Marines), later personnel records of the NSW Corps (into which many Marines enlisted after their Marine service in the colony expired), later population musters, assorted petitions by the Marines themselves, letters to the Colonial Secretary and other period records. Further inroads were made in Mollie **Gillen**'s 1989 publication *The Founders of Australia*, however there remained more than 90 First Fleet Marines of unknown arrival vessel. Some sources claim to have identified most of the arrival vessels but examination has found it to be based on guesswork and hearsay.

Is this really a worthwhile topic to be looking into you might ask? Many of these Marines simply served their five year term and returned to England into obscurity. However, a good number travelled to the colony with wives and children with the prospect of remaining as settlers. Those who are descended from a First Fleet Marine settler would tell you yes it is worthwhile,

and the myriad Australians who are descended from Marines such as John **Munday**, Thomas **Bishop**, James **Reilly**, Thomas **O'Brien** or William **Ellis** who for all these years have remained of unknown or questioned arrival vessel would certainly answer yes in stronger terms.

As many had done before, the usual paths were trod seeking the answers. Many fruitless hours were spent at the Mitchell Library and NSW State Archives, as well as countless hours browsing the ever increasing online holdings of the National Archives in England. Surprisingly it was found there was not even a consensus in the total number of Marines who came to this country with the Fleet. Numbers in a variety of publications ranged as low as 213 in John **Moore's** well known publication *The First Fleet Marines 1786-1792* to as high as 270 in other publications. More thoroughly researched publications such as Mollie Gillen's *Founders* favoured the number 245. Surely a thorough investigation of all the data including newly digitised material, combined with some lateral thinking would be able to clarify at least the question of numbers.

Sure enough, looking at the full range of Marine documents did make the totals possible to calculate, and even verify. Once again it was the rank and file that presented a problem but an important point to be realised was that it was four companies of Marines that were dispatched to NSW, which by military standards would always consist of 160 Privates accompanied by a suitable number of Officers and Non Commissioned officers. These figures (160 + 52) were clearly recorded in the return of the Marine garrison aboard ship 20 May 1787 at departure. The other figures to be added were the total Ship's Complements of Marines of *Sirius* and *Supply*, which we definitively have in the musters of both these Naval ships, a total of 34 officers and men.

The total Marines who departed England was therefore calculated at 246. Corporal Peter **Talbot** of *HM Supply* and Private Daniel **Creswell** of *Charlotte* died on the journey out, leaving a total of 244 Marines arriving at Botany Bay. There was concern caused by the fact that only 243 Marine' profiles were present in *Founders*, an otherwise extremely reliable publication. As part of the project of identifying the Marine vessels a fresh database of each Marine derived only from source documents was created, and the total extracted was exactly 244. Exhaustive comparison of the new list with previous lists revealed a variety of reasons for variation. Lists that were high were found to have duplicated men eg Private George **Chestlett** was often duplicated as a second man named George **Chestland**, and Private John **Wixted** was sometimes duplicated as John **Winstead**. Other lists erroneously included Naval personnel such as James **Nairne** who were not Marines, or non-Marine servants to officers, like Charles **Prater**. Working carefully through the new database and comparing with *Founders* revealed that there was a single Marine – Private Charles **Reynolds** of the 54th *Plymouth*, whose

presence for all these years had been unrealised due to being combined with the identity of Drummer Charles Reynolds of HMS Sirius. With Charles Reynolds (2) acknowledged there was, for the first time a complete and accurate list of each Marine who arrived in NSW. This made a good start to answering the outstanding question of arrival vessels.

In December 1980 there was some excitement in the media when **Portia Robinson**, a university researcher, uncovered a little known but definitive listing of all persons who arrived in the First Fleet in January 1788 in the form of a Victualling List that had been stored amongst Treasury records out of chronological order – located amongst records from April-May 1789. It was hoped that a similar record could be found concerning Marines, and a lot of time was invested scouring for missing Marine listings in all manner of places out of sequence, but without success. Even though the Victualling List was of great interest and did include the Marine garrison it contains no mention of arrival vessels. It was noted that there exists an earlier version of this list, written up during the voyage of the fleet in 1787. Unfortunately there was no easy way to obtain a copy of this list as the film had been damaged and disposed of by the Mitchell Library. By luck recent advances at the National Archives in Britain meant that a new high resolution scan taken directly from the original document of November 1787 was available. Hoping that something relating to vessels might exist there that hadn't been noticed before, the high price was paid to have all 57 pages scanned and forwarded.

Its arrival brought initial disappointment as the document was ostensibly very similar to the previously mentioned 1788 Victualling List in that it appeared to be simply a list of all persons victualled on the Transports of the Fleet. It was however an enticingly clear colour scan in ornate script, and a pleasure to look at, and time was spent dwelling on it. One thing that puzzled was the unfathomable order in which persons were listed. It was primarily divided into classes. The Civil, Marines and families were listed first, Male convicts next, followed by Female convicts and Children of convicts at the end. The Marine listing was ordered primarily per rank, starting with Captains **Campbell, Shea, Meredith** and **Tench** followed by Lieutenants and Non Commissioned Officers. Following was a large list of the Privates in seemingly random order. Closer investigation of sample sections of the list, much pondering, and a comparison with known arrival data suggested that sections of these Marines were recorded in vessel groups. Close examination of test sections in the convict section lists yielded an exciting result revealing convicts recorded almost perfectly divided into their known vessel groups matching the considerable existing data on convict arrivals. Extracting the Marine listings and comparison with known arrival vessels indicated definite groupings, and even more interesting, that Marines appeared to be embarked in

Company groupings. Logic indicates that the mid voyage Victualling list was copied from an earlier list as the order which persons appear is not as one would expect to see in June at Teneriffe, but rather has Marines in an order predating known transfers that occurred in late March 1787 and several more at Sea.

A List of Officers and Men with their Wives and Children, belonging to the Garrison, intended for the Settlement at New South Wales, that were Victualled by Order of His Excellency the Governour at the following Places. (Sig²)

Names	Quality	9. or 9.2	Tons or Wharf	Place where and Time Victualled 1787		
				At Teneriffe from the 5 th to 7 th 18 th June 1787 both Days Included	Rio Janeiro from 7 th August to the 2 nd Sept ^r 1787 both days Included	Cape of Good Hope from the 15 th October to 11 th November 1787 both days Included

The essence of the missing first fleet Marine embarkation lists, the order in which the Marines embarked, has existed in the order of the List of persons Victualled at Teneriffe, Rio de Janiero, and the Cape of Good Hope 5 Jun to 11 Nov 1787

A solution to the missing Marine vessel lists may have been in sight but it wasn't going to be that easy. Further examination of the new data revealed anomalies. Something was clouding the results, with some men out of place compared to known arrival data from other sources. Marines that the new data indicated had embarked with their company group on a certain vessel, were known to have arrived on a completely different vessel. The data was also very out of order in the *Prince of Wales* section. There was obviously another factor that had caused certain Marines to arrive on a different vessel than that embarked.

With this obstacle, and the Marine Privates being a large group of some 212 men, the next logical step was to change focus to a smaller group - the Marine wives and children. There is a good amount of arrival data concerning these in journals and later resources, and are also records of the numbers on each vessel, including the numbers of male and female children. By identifying the vessels these travelled on another layer of data would be gained.

It became apparent that *Prince of Wales* had been designated as the carrier for the Private Marine wives and children, with only a few exceptions. It was also compassionately decided that wherever possible Marine Privates could be moved onto this vessel to be with their family for the voyage. This resulted in a swarm of transfers between ships in an effort to get all the families aboard, and at the same

time maintaining Marine numbers on other ships by moving personnel without families off to other vessels. There was also some balancing of numbers aboard HMS *Sirius* which had also been designated as a carrier for a smaller number of Marine wives, resulting in some men transferring on and off her just prior to sailing. Fortunately there were mentions of these transfers in Ships logs and journals and it was possible to piece together virtually all of these movements. It was at this point things started to fall into place for the main Marine group. Aside from several transfers that happened during the voyage for disciplinary reasons, it was the transfers for family groups that had clouded the data in the Victualling list, as it predated the transfers, and was in order per first embarkation. Hence by allowing for these transfers, the order in the new database was now able to mesh with existing arrival data. All but a handful of men were able to be located aboard a

Mr. Hughes	Dean	20 March	1787	Friendship
Mr. Trechome	Sr.	19 "	..	Sea Group
Ed. Overton	Private	19 "	..	Charlotte
Mr. Edmonston	Sr.	19 "	..	Sr.
Ed. McManus	Sr.	19 "	..	Sr.

Examples of single men transferred from *Sirius* to other Transports 19 and 20th March 1787 from *Sirius* Ships Musters.

ship for the journey to NSW using the 1787 Victualling Order, with corrections due to family group transfers.

*Light. Buzes & fair weather - came on Board 2 Sergeants
2 Corporals - 1 Drum. 4 Women & 24 Privates belonging to a
sloop going out to Botany Bay - Prof. - Occupied*

An example of transfers aboard *Prince of Wales*: 2 Serjeants, 2 Corporals, 1 Drummer, 4 women (wives) & 24 Privates embarked 7 Mar 1787. Whilst no names are cited, correlation with other known information confirms the NCOs as Serjeants James **Scott** with wife Jane & John **Kennedy** with wife Mary, Corporal Thomas **Gough** with wife Johanna & Drummer John **Parfett** with wife Sarah

Another long-time Marine mystery may also be found in this new data. The identities of the Marine Grenadier Privates sent as part of the contingent to the

colony of New South Wales have been a complete unknown. Studies of documents at the Royal Marine museum in Portsmouth have revealed that Grenadier Privates were embarked on *Charlotte* Transport 7 Mar 1787 according to Major General Arthur T **Collins** Marine Orderly Book. They are thought to be the first boarded, and so if the order can be determined, the identity of the Marine Grenadiers may finally be found.

The Author of this report, Glen Lambert, is a descendant of First Fleet Marine Private John McCarty, and also a researcher of The NSW Marines, NSW Corps and 73rd Regiment. A full 36 page report on the Marine arrival vessels, detailing the complete process with all references and table of results for each ship can be obtained by contacting him. All other enquiries on the NSW Marines, NSW Corps/102nd and 73rd Regiments are also welcome by contacting glen_3@hotmail.com or the 'NSW Corps' Facebook group.

Editor's Note. I thank Glen for allowing me to reprint his article that was first published at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1604046423237215/> which is the 'NSW Corps' Facebook page. This is a closed group but you can apply to join if you are interested.



joy in family history
JOY MURRIN
family history services

Accredited
NSW Transcription Agent
Since 1995

PO BOX 278, OATLEY NSW 2223
P: (02) 95851187 F: (02) 95851486
E: joy@joymurrin.com.au

Services include:

- ♥ New South Wales
Births to 1912 Deaths to 1982 Marriages to 1962
- ♥ England/Wales
- ♥ Scotland
- ♥ New Zealand
- ♥ Victoria



Secure Online Ordering
www.joymurrin.com.au
Services | Knowledge Centre | Events

<http://www.joymurrin.com.au/>

PLEASE MENTION *THE ENDEAVOUR* WHEN CONTACTING

This article lists the new Library accessions. We remind members that there is a wealth of family history information accumulated over some 36 years in our Library. **Not everything is online!** Check out our library catalogue at <http://www.botanybayfhs.org.au/library--research-centre.html>. You may be very surprised at what you find! **Come to the Research Centre and have a look.** Thank you for the donations from those members who are ‘downsizing’.

AUSTRALIA

- The Irish Australians – The Irish Emigrant [A.HIS.11.18LC]
- The Irish Emigrant Experience in Australia [A.HIS.11.19LC]
- From Secret Ballot to Democracy Sausage – How Australia got Compulsory Voting [A.HIS.38.1LC]
- Letters from Irish Australia 1825-1925 [A.HIS.11.3LC]
- Diary of a Welsh Swagman 1869-1894 [A.HIS.1.47LC]
- From Shamrock to Wattle – Digging Up Your Irish Ancestors [A.HIS.11.20LC]
- Caledonia Australis – Scottish Highlanders on the Frontier of Australia [A.HIS.11.21LC]
- The Governesses – Letters from the Colonies 1862-1886 [A.HIS.1.48LC]
- Learning to Lead – A History of Girls and Boys Corporate Secondary Schools in Australia [A.HIS.27.2LC]

NEW SOUTH WALES

- Stories and Tales of the Police and Bushrangers during the NSW Bushranging War 1856-1870 [AN.HIS.37.1MF]
- Bring Plenty of Pickles – Letters from an Emigrant Family [AN.HIS.11.6LC]
- Little Bulli: The Pioneering of Stanwell Park and Northern Illawarra till the 1860s [AN.LH.2516.3LC]
- The Sydney We Love Ruth Park & Cedric Emanuel [AN.LH.2000.35LC]
- West Dapto Catholic Cemetery – The Early Families, Part 1 [AN.SOU.5.2530.2a]
- West Dapto Catholic Cemetery – The Early Families, Part 2 [AN.SOU.5.2530.2b]
- Unlocking the Land: A Guide to Crown Land Records held at State Archives NSW [AN.SOU.17.17LC]
- Two Classic Tales of Australian Exploration – 1788 by Watkin Tench and Life and Adventures by John Nicol [AN.HIS.1.21LC]
- Back to Bourke – Court House Death & Marriage Records 1862-1974 [AN.SOU.4.12]

VICTORIA

- The Golden Age – A History of the Colony of Victoria 1851-1861 [AV.HIS.1.5LC]
- Gold! Gold! Diary of Claus Gronn – A Dane on the Diggings [AV.HIS.10.6LC]
- Pioneering East Gippsland [AV.LH.3841.1LC]
- More Colourful Tales of Old Gippsland [AV.LH.3841.2LC]
- The Land of the Lyre Bird – A Story of Early Settlement in the Great Forest of South Gippsland [AV.LH.3841.3LC]
- Shire of Barrabool 1865-1965 [AV.LH.3221.1LC]
- Castlemaine – A Golden Harvest [AV.LH.3540.1LC]
- Rosedale – 150 years Pictorial History [AV.LH.3847.1LC]
- Barrabool – Land of the Magpie [AV.LH.3221.2LC]
- Creswick Hospital Index In-Patients Register 1863-1883 [AV.SOU.13.2MF]

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

- Pictorial History Canberra [A.ACT.LH.2600.1LC]

TASMANIA

- The Adventures of an Emigrant in Van Diemen's Land [AT.HIS.1.2LC]

OVERSEAS

- Parishes of Co. Fermanagh 1834-5 (Ordinance Survey – Memoirs of Ireland, Vol.4) [I.FER.HIS.1.1LC]
- The Wills of Our Ancestors – A Guide for Family & Local Historians [BRIT.GUI.1.38LC]

GENERAL

- Names Index of Stonemasons – 1879-1922 [G.OCC.A.SOU.1MF]
- To Hell or to Hobart – A New Insight into Irish Convict History [G.CONV.HIS.32LC]
- A Biographical and Genealogical Index of the Families of Tasmania 1803-1878 [G.BIOG.2.6]
- The Women of the 1790 Neptune [G.CONV.HIS.33LC]
- Shipping Arrivals and Departures Tasmania 1834-1842 and Gazetteer 1803-1842 [G.IMM-SHP.AT.SOU.2.1bLC]
- The Journal of Philip Gidley King, Lieutenant R.N. 1787-1790 [G.BIOG.7.KIN.1LC]
- The Transports Are Here – Convicts and the Colony A-Z [G.CONV.HIS.34LC]
- Pinney Family Reunion [G.FH.PIN.1LC]
- Shipping Arrivals & Departures Sydney, 1788-1825 [G.IMM-SHP.AN.SOU.24aLC]

- The Long Farewell – The Perilous Voyages of Settlers under Sail in the Great Migrations to Australia [G.IMM-SHP.A.HIS.1.3LC]
- Sailing to Australia – Shipboard Diaries by Nineteenth-Century British Emigrants [G.IMM-SHP.A.HIS.1.26LC]
- The First Fleet – The Real Story [G.CONV.HIS.35LC]
- The Ship Thieves [Story of James Porter – convict, pirate and master mariner] [G.BIOG.7.POR.1LC]
- Biographical Register of Canberra and Queanbeyan : from the district to the Australian Capital Territory 1820-1930 [G.BIOG.4ACT.2]
- Chained to the Soil on the Plains of Emu: A History of the Emu Plains Government Agricultural Establishment 1819-1832 [G.CONV.HIS.37LC]
- The Women of Botany Bay – A Remarkable Account of the Lives of Convict Women after 200 Years of Silence [G.CONV.HIS.36LC]

NOTE: ‘LC’ indicates a loan copy, which can be borrowed; ‘MF’ a microfiche item.

Compiled by Janette **Daly** (Librarian)



MARTINS GREEN THUMB
 WE DELIVER WHAT YOU NEED
MARTIN PASSFIELD
 GARDEN MAINTENANCE/MOWING/LANDSCAPING
 4/65 KAREENA ROAD
 MIRANDA 2228
 0438406228
 mpassfield5@optusnet.com.au
 Pensioner discount available

PLEASE MENTION *THE ENDEAVOUR* WHEN CONTACTING

EMAIL REMINDER: Any member wanting to be added to the BBFHS Email Group, please advise Stephanie **Bailey** by email at stephiib52@yahoo.com.au with your name, email address and membership number or access the BBFHS website home page at www.botanybayfhs.org.au and click on ‘BBFHS Email List’



THE VERY LATE PRESENT

by Pamela **Heather** (Member)

Shortly before Christmas I received a present – not a Christmas present, a birthday present. It was a twenty first birthday present and it was rather late, just sixty years late in fact and it had arrived as the indirect result of a DNA test.

Some years ago I took a DNA test with FamilyTree DNA as at that time their company had the largest database. By 2019 Ancestry's advertising campaign had resulted in their database far outnumbering that of FamilyTree DNA. On John **Levy's** advice I undertook another DNA test, this time with Ancestry in their November sale. I wanted to be able to take advantage of their Thru Lines facility, which links your DNA matches, your family tree and the data in millions of public and private members trees available on their site.

When my results were returned I saw I had a substantial match (236 cM, which suggests a probable second cousin relationship) with a Susan H. and on her unlinked family tree I noticed the name Merrymont. I knew my grandfather's sister Harriet **Swift** had married a John **Merrymont** so I messaged Susan to suggest our common ancestors could possibly be my great grandparents George Swift and Esther **Place**. Susan confirmed this. Subsequently we went on to exchange many family photos. I had a number of old photos that had been in my mother's possession but had no idea who these people were. I scanned these and emailed copies. Susan was able to identify some of her father in uniform and of her grandfather, another of her grandfather nursing her sister as a baby, and one of guests attending her father's wedding. She had not seen any of these photos previously so was very pleased to receive them.

Susan then asked if I would email my postal address to her. She said I had solved a big mystery for her and there was something she wanted to send to me and was sure I would get a laugh from it. A few days later a large box arrived in the mail (\$10 worth of stamps). Intrigued, I opened the box to discover some real gems. There were some beautiful studio photos taken at the wedding of an aunt and uncle.

There were photos I had never seen of my mother as a bridesmaid at her sister's wedding. There was a studio photo of me taken when I was about ten. Enclosed also was a twenty page descendant report of Susan's research on this family line. In the large box was another smaller box. Intrigued I opened the smaller box to discover a 21st birthday card addressed to me and the most elaborate salt and pepper shakers I have ever seen.



1938 wedding of William Swift and Beryl Badger with bridesmaid Doreen Swift on right.



The very late 21st present (photos: Pamela Heather)

Susan had included a note with her phone number and asked if I recognised the young girl in the photo, which of course was me. When I rang to thank her Susan explained that she couldn't quite remember just how these gems had come

into her possession but that she had acquired a parcel over thirty years ago marked 'to Pam'. She had no idea who this was meant for but, being a self confessed hoarder she had kept the items, not really ever expecting to discover this unknown 'Pam'.

My mother's only sister, Doreen Swift, married her cousin Fred Merryment in 1941. As they were cousins they decided not to have children so I became almost like a surrogate child to my Aunt Doreen. We were very close. She lived with us during World War 2 while Fred was serving. Afterwards I frequently had sleepovers at her place. Doreen was still living when I turned 21 but sadly died just a few years later at only 42, the same age as my mother. Doreen must have been given the 21st present to pass on to me, as it was from her husband's brother George, Susan's grandfather. I can imagine my aunt thinking 'Pam wouldn't want that' and putting it away in the back of a cupboard. Some time later, before his death, Fred must have packaged up all these things but had never got around to giving them to me. He was a very quiet, rather shy man and always had an excuse when asked around to our place. Through his few remaining years we saw little of him as he was much closer to his side of the family. They were the people who took care of his possessions after his death and so eventually Susan received that parcel for Pam.

So, the moral of this story is, if you haven't already taken a DNA test it could be well worthwhile. You just never know what you might discover or receive.



Tune into Your local Radio Station, 2SSR 99.7 FM
for the best mix of Music, Shire News, Reviews and Interviews
Totally operated by volunteers for the local community

Volunteers are always welcome for behind the scenes/admin work

PLEASE MENTION *THE ENDEAVOUR* WHEN CONTACTING

DIGGINGS



Diggings are titles of articles in journals that we exchange with other societies. We do not list all articles appearing in that particular journal but those that are noted as articles unrelated to the journal's origins. We recommend that you read any journal which originates from an area in which your ancestors had connections.

Members may borrow from the collection of printed journals exchanged with other family history societies held at the Research Centre and Library for the years 2014 to 2018. Please ask a volunteer for the loan procedure. Online exchange journals are also available at the Research Centre and may be viewed on the computers (click on the *Resources on the Server* icon on the desktop).

AUSTRALIA

Journal of the RAHS Dec 19

Governor King and the Illicit Distillers, 1800-1806

The 1920 Influenza Outbreak in Sydney and its Impact of Indigenous and Settler Populations

Reverend George Soo Hoo Ten – examines his work in the Christian ministry among the Chinese community

BRITAIN

Journal of the Society of Genealogists Dec 19

Civil registration and clergymen on trial

Further observations on the form of the bride's signature in marriage registers 1754-1837

Improving indexes to sources over time

Aberdeen & North-East Scotland FHS Nov 19

Were your ancestors suppressed? Parish reorganization problems

Family Tree Dec 19

Find your ancestors all over the globe – Emma Jolly offers a guide to the best online resources

Unlock the code to your secret service ancestors

Behind the scenes – understanding old family photos

Taken a DNA test? Now what?

Family Tree Christmas 19

Getting back to the Georgians – examines this period in your ancestors lives

Trace your family back 300 years – Chris Paton offers some of the genealogical records created during the Georgian era which are now available online

The great frost & famine – the 18th century climate crisis

Turnip power – pre electricity lighting explained

Taken a DNA test? Now what? Karen Evans list of the 12 DNAs of Christmas

Family Tree Jan 20

You can get back to the 1500s too (if you just know where to look!)

Taken a DNA test? Now what?

Learning about apprentices

Family Tree Feb 20

Gene therapy – an explanation of the principles of DNA

Which test is right for you? Choosing between testing companies

Medical DNA testing for family historians

Research your holocaust ancestors

IRELAND

Irish Roots Fourth Qtr 19

Herbert Wood's Guide to the Public Record Office of Ireland: What was lost in 1922 and what has survived?

Tracing your Co. Antrim Ancestors

Dating family photographs: 1870s to 1890s

Is DNA a substitute for genealogy research?

Compiled by Kate **Anderson** (Member)



NEW MEMBERS

We offer a warm welcome to the following new Society members. Please take advantage of your membership by attending meeting nights, classes and the Research Centre (please ask for help if you need it).

1826	Tom Nash	Taren Point
1827	Mary-Anne Cartwright	Cronulla
1828	Frances Innes	Peakhurst
1829	Bill Shepherd	Loftus
1830	Lee Wihongi	Cronulla

BOOK REVIEW



THE SUICIDE BRIDE: A MYSTERY OF TRAGEDY AND FAMILY SECRETS IN EDWARDIAN SYDNEY.

By Tanya *Bretherton*

Published by Hachette Australia 2019, 311 pp including end notes

ISBN 9780733640995

Reviewed by Peter **Londregan** (Member)

Basil Cornelius **Sly** married my father's sister, Ellen Kathleen **Londregan**, in early 1930. The wedding took place at St Mary's Cathedral Sydney and I hope it was a grand event.

On Tuesday 12 January 1904 six year old Basil and his three siblings were orphaned in the most horrendous circumstances. Their father, Alexander Sly, brutally murdered his wife, Ellen (**O'Leary**) Sly and then killed himself. The crime took place at 49 Watkin Street, Newtown, their home of less than one week.

Tanya **Bretherton**'s book describes this awful crime, what preceded it and the effect on the lives of the four children. The crime itself is obviously very unpleasant. However, the author has done a huge amount of research and presents a lot of other detail that would be interesting for family historians looking for insights into Sydney life in the late 1800s and early 1900s, especially for those from the poorer parts of society, as my forebears were.

The four Sly children were Bedford (born in 1896), Basil (1897), Mervyn (1899) and Olive (1900). The book describes the family's very tough living conditions. Prior to moving to Newtown in January 1904 the family lived in Glebe. Back then it was not the pleasant suburb we know today. The Glebe Slaughter House had been operating on the Glebe waterfront for a couple of decades. Hundreds of sheep and cattle were driven on foot through Newtown, Leichhardt and Glebe at night to meet their end at the abattoir. The stink permeated the area and Glebe was utterly abhorrent. Only the very desperate lived there.

The author describes the youth street gangs that roamed suburbs and areas, causing mayhem among residents. The streets were far from safe. Glebe was home to the Liver Push. Alexander Sly was so incensed about their activities in early 1904 that he severely bashed one Push gang member, almost killing him. The police were not too concerned because this civilian action helped policing overall.

The Newtown murder and suicide crime was reported sensationally in

newspapers all over Australia. The author has reconstructed the work done by one reporter to publish the story, including sneaking into the crime scene in the house to obtain firsthand information. The police work is also covered in detail. The police had to work fast because the coronial inquest had to take place the following day, before a jury of twelve men. All evidence had to be gathered, assessed and presented to the Court in about 24 hours. Obviously, little science was involved but the police were very experienced and astute.

The author spends a lot of time setting out the background to the Sly family, including some interesting family history. Alexander and Ellen Sly both had paternal grandfathers who migrated to Australia in the mid 1800s. Both men had a brother who came as well. The Sly grandfather and great uncle settled in Tasmania and prospered as boot makers and ran other businesses. Alexander Sly's father, William Sly, left Tasmania for Dunedin, where he married and where Alexander was born. The author gives a detailed description of William Sly's hobby – breeding golden duckwing leghorn roosters. He was very good at it and won many awards for his efforts. However, William Sly was a bad father, often absent, earning little money and getting arrested several times. Alexander Sly's upbringing in this environment had an adverse effect on him.

Ellen Sly's grandfather and great uncle migrated from County Cork, Ireland to Goulburn, New South Wales. They farmed and ran shops in town but money was always short. Ellen's mother was very ill during Ellen's teenage years and Ellen provided a lot of the care.

Alexander and Ellen's wedding in Goulburn was controversial. Ellen was Catholic and Alexander Protestant. Ellen's family did not attend the wedding and disowned Ellen. The couple set off for Sydney after the wedding. Ellen knew no one in Sydney and they lived in poverty.

The second half of the book describes what happened to the children. Olive, the youngest and only girl was in hospital when the crime took place. She was adopted by a couple in Goulburn who were long time friends of her mother's family. Her name was changed to Molly **Ford**.

The three boys had no family or friends who could look after them. The police took them to the Sydney Rescue Society Home of Hope for Friendless and Fallen Women, a nearby institution. The boys were not welcome there and it was a grim place. After a month the boys were taken to St Michael's orphanage at Baulkham Hills, Sydney. This Catholic-run facility was only a year old at that time and appears to have been well run. When each boy turned ten they were sent to St Vincent's Westmead Boys Home. Throughout his life Basil attended reunions and fetes at both places and made regular donations to them. The author's research covers all of this and concludes that Basil was not adversely affected by this part of

his childhood.

Bedford, the eldest boy, ran away from the Westmead home when he was about 14 and was a vagrant for most of his life. He spent many periods in goal in Western Australia and NSW.

Mervyn, the youngest boy, became a very good swimmer and beach lifeguard in Sydney. He and his wife managed the Roseville baths for many years. He joined the RAAF in WW2 and his wife could not look after the Roseville baths very well due to major illness during her husband's absence. Once again, the author provides a great deal of detail about this.

Basil, my uncle by marriage, was happily married for eight years and they had two daughters. Ellen Kathleen, Basil's wife, contracted pneumonia in August 1938 and died. Basil brought up his two daughters by himself, despite pressure from family, friends and doctors to give them up. He never remarried and died in 1974 at Hurstville. I do not remember ever meeting him, although my mother knew one of his daughters.

The book's last chapter has a surprise twist. In March 1929 at Five Dock in Sydney, Alexander Sly's second cousin, Frederick Sly, murdered his wife and died shortly after. This crime also shocked Sydney.

As mentioned, Tanya Bretherton has carried out significant research to write this book. She investigated newspaper archives including Trove, coronial files, BDM records and interviewed family members. All of this is so familiar to family historians.

I was totally unaware of the Sly story before this book was published. Neither my parents nor Londregan aunts and uncles (Ellen Kathleen's siblings) ever talked about it. One of my distant relations told me about the book and a new chapter in my family history opened up. For me, this book was extremely interesting and worth buying.

RESEARCH CENTRE OPENING TIMES

Monday, Wednesday and Friday – 10am to 4pm

Saturday – 10am to 2pm

Closed public holidays

Phone 9523 8948 for computer and film reader bookings

**When researching, please ask for help if you need it – it is why the
Centre assistants are there and they like help.**

NEVER ENDING RESEARCH – A CONCLUSION

by Jim Farrow (Member)

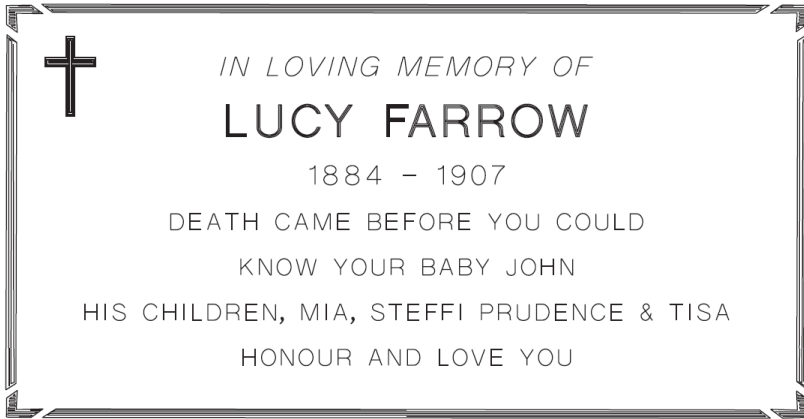
In our last Society journal, No.141, December 2019, I had an article *Never Ending Research*.

There were two discoveries. The first by the two filmmakers Frans and Claude who after ‘never ending research’ found the unmarked grave of Mia Farrow’s grandmother, whose son John Villiers Farrow was Mia’s father. The second discovery was, by an incredible piece of luck, finding the owner of the grave.

With Mia then wanting a simple headstone to acknowledge her grandmother, I arranged the placement of a plaque inscribed with her wording. There was one small glitch. Her bank denied the initial payment until they contacted her to find out if she had authorised it. After confirmation, it was cleared next day and there was no worry with the final payment. It was good to know that her bank was looking after her interests.



Lucy Farrow’s grave at Rookwood, with the new plaque (photo: Jim Farrow)



The inscription on the plaque

After it all was completed, an email arrived: ‘Dear Jim, You are a Prince. Love Mia’.

BBFHS MEMBERS’ INTEREST DIRECTORY

by Pat Fearnley (Webmaster)

A members’ interest directory is available on our website at <http://www.botanybayfhs.org.au/members-interest-directory.html>. Click on the MEMBERS INTEREST DIRECTORY button and the directory will download as a pdf document. This directory lists surnames being researched by individual members of our Society. Use the search box (CNTRL-F) to search for a keyword – a name, place, country, etc or simply scroll through the 1700+ entries.

If you find an entry of interest, note the member’s number from the right hand column. Click the CONTRIBUTORS button on the website which will download the contributors’ pdf document. Use the search box (CNTRL-F) to search for the member’s number found above and find the contributor’s contact email address. If the contributor has not furnished an email address, please email the Society at botanybayfhs@yahoo.com.au and your enquiry will be passed on to that member for a reply.

Members may submit the surnames they are researching to our Members Interest Directory by downloading the SUBMISSION FORM, completing it and either handing it in at the Research Centre or sending it as an attachment to the webmaster at patfearnley@bigpond.com.



Maureen Campbell passed away peacefully on 8 November 2019. We send our sympathy to her husband Terry, her children, grandchildren and extended family. Maureen and Terry have been members and strong supporters of BBFHS for over twelve years – Maureen having volunteered in the Research Centre for nine years.

The City of Liverpool and District Historical Society is seeking stories of inmates of the Liverpool Asylum for the Infirm and Destitute, otherwise known as the Liverpool Old Men's Asylum 1862 to 1933. If you had an ancestor with an interesting story please forward it to us for our records and for consideration for a proposed book with acknowledgement. Contact: Glen op den Brouw, at glenop@yahoo.com.

City of Sydney, Archives and History Resources. In February, the City of Sydney will release a new resources system covering an extensive archives collection including corporate archives dating back to the establishment of the Municipal Council in 1842. Using simple search and browse options you will be able to access more than one million records, including photographs, historical maps and plans, property records, letters and books about Sydney and its surrounds. About 450,000 of the records are available digitally and can be downloaded for free. Around 78,000 items have been geo-tagged and can be accessed via the interactive map. The system also enables you to suggest edits, 'like' records, save to your personal collections and share your selections with others. Included in the release will be records that have never been available before, including nearly 100,000 property records and 11,000 transport images.

The Museum of Fire Heritage Team at Penrith is searching for photos and stories (or anything else) to help celebrate the centenaries of fire brigades at Narrabeen, Quirindi and Wentworthville. Contact the Museum at 4731 300 or email ceo@museumoffire.com.au.

The Hill End and Tambaroora Gathering Group is holding a Gathering in Rhodes Rotary Park, Killoola St, Concord on Saturday 7 March from 10am until 4pm. The Gathering is a meeting place for those with links to the district to join in as well and share their experiences and family history research. More detail at <https://tinyurl.com/sotlx35>; enquiries to Lorraine on 9587 0352 or 0408 117 784.

RootsWeb mailing lists closed on 2 March 2020. For many years these lists were a principal method of communication in the genealogy community. Many of the lists are surname oriented, containing valuable information exchanges over the years, some of it irreplaceable from family researchers now deceased. The lists will be archived – existing messages are to remain searchable via RootsWeb, 'at least

for the immediate future'. So, if you are a member of a RootsWeb mailing list consider downloading and saving messages of personal interest and if you have not looked at Rootsweb before, consider at least a basic search of your main surnames.

Port Stephens FHS is gathering research for a new, revised publication about the history of the Tilligerry Peninsula and the surrounding areas of Parading Ground (part of early Williamtown), Salt Ash, Bobs Farm, Majors Flat, Lower Anna Bay and Taylors Beach (formerly Banks Farm). The additional settlements are all found within the Tilligerry Creek catchment conservation area. The Society's original book *A History of the Tilligerry Peninsula* is out of print and their new book will not only update and correct some of the previously published information, but also present some wonderful new historical data about the earliest land-holders and also the unique maritime history of the southern shores of Port Stephens. They are asking all readers of their journal *Lemon Tree* and kindred societies if they can help with their family history, photographs or land grants/ records regarding the early settlement and the pioneers of these areas. Submitters of all deposited information will be acknowledged in the publication and please quote any records or reference source used. Any oral histories and interesting stories about the families would be a wonderful addition in putting a human face to our pioneering ancestors. Contact Denise Gaudion at psfhsi@gmail.com or 0422 303 171.

Rookwood Cemetery grave search. Rookwood cemetery is the largest in the Southern hemisphere, occupying grounds larger than Sydney's CBD. The cemetery has introduced new technology to search over 1 million interments and to follow a live GPS tracker on a smartphone to locate a grave. This will make the often-difficult task of finding unmarked graves a lot easier and makes the nightmare of getting lost in the cemetery a thing of the past. On the Rookwood website home page at <http://www.rookwoodcemetery.com.au/>, click on **DECEASED SEARCH**. Enter the name of a deceased person in the search box and a new page opens showing the location and details about those interred there. Not all of the graves have been digitised yet, but when they are it will allow those who can't visit to see a real-time photograph of the grave and any monuments on it.



SEEKING READER'S IDEAS AND INPUTS



Do you have a great idea for something you would like to see in future journals? Have you had a recent good luck story in breaking those genealogical brick walls? What about a tip for other readers – a genealogical clue? A photograph you cannot date? A great new website you have discovered.

Share with other readers!

UNLOCKING THE MYSTERY OF WILLIAM ARTHUR FRASER WITH DNA

by Roberta **Madsen** née **Fraser** (Member)

The intrigue that surrounded our grandfather William Arthur Fraser fascinated my cousin Paulette **Parkes** née **Kerr** and me. The lack of knowledge of his family left a glaring blank on our family tree charts.

Our genealogy journey began in the early 1980s whilst the Parkes family were residing in England. Paulette, as a genealogy novice, was able to access English repositories and make frequent visits to St Catherine's House in London where life records were then kept.¹ While those families of our grandmother (**Smith, Watson, Salkeld** and **Osmotherley**) were traced relatively easily with our known information, nothing of the early life of our grandfather could be found.

William Arthur Fraser remained our enigma for the next forty years despite countless hours being spent on researching in repositories in the UK and Australia. The replies from the correspondence to the many archives that Paulette contacted, mounted over the years. At the commencement of the search it required visiting archives and recording by hand any information that might be relevant. The anticipation of the release of the English 1891 census had us believe that all would be revealed. On the day of its release in 1991 Paulette, finding no Fraser family, transcribed the entire village of Cliffe, Kent hoping to make a connection with any other of the family names. Over many years all these notes were scrutinised for any clue of the existence of the Fraser family.

Our genealogical research expertise developed over many years and with the advent of online genealogy programmes researching became less physically demanding but still no evidence of his early family life could be uncovered. This research was based on information Paulette and I had gathered from the recollections of our parents, William's daughter Dorothy and his youngest child Cuthbert. There was scant documentary evidence.

The main document we used was his marriage certificate, presuming this to be a reasonably reliable source as the information recorded is provided by the person concerned.²

William Arthur Fraser married Nellie Jane Florence **Smith** on 4 May 1916 at the Evangelist Mission House, 452 Leichhardt St, Fortitude Valley, in Brisbane Queensland Australia. He stated his age as 32 years. The marriage took place ten days before he embarked for war. He had met Florrie while working at the sugar mill in Bundaberg, Queensland, where her family lived. Postcards he sent home from the War showed he was familiar with members of her family and had a

personal relationship with her parents and siblings.

He stated on the certificate that his birthplace was Cliffe, Kent England. He listed his parents as Angus Cameron Fraser, a cement works manager, and Mary Jane **MacCallum**, which caused many years of fruitless searching in the immediate Medway, Kent area and other locations, particularly Scotland. Early on in our search, professional researchers were enlisted, but they were also unable to find any life evidence of Angus and Jane or a birth of William Arthur. At each ten-year interval, the next census was anticipated hoping to provide some knowledge of the family, but on their release none eventuated.

On his enlistment in the Australian Imperial Force³ in October 1915 he provided Cliffe, Kent as his birthplace and his birthdate as 18 October 1883. On completion of his war service however, he stated it was 19 May 1885. This was the date his family always celebrated his birthday. No birth record on either date was forthcoming.

Name variations were thoroughly explored. He was always known as Jack to the family. This was presumed to be a variant of John, or perhaps a common name for a sailor. His insistence on his son, who was born while he was away at war in France, being named John Murray Fraser, led us to believe the name Murray was also a connection to his identity. His youngest child Cuthbert's middle name was Leonard, which was known to be connected to William's family.

Information supplied that his father was a cement works manager, seemed reliable as the area around Cliffe Kent was abundant with cement works. Service in the Fourth West Kent Regiment was listed on his AIF enlistment form. It was discovered that a Volunteer 'D' Company of this Regiment was formed in Cliffe in 1900.⁴ Records of the Regiment for this time were unfortunately found to have been destroyed in a fire.

Archives in the Medway area were helpful when visiting or responding to correspondence. Histories written of the cement works around Cliffe were enlightening to the labouring and social conditions of the area in the latter half of the nineteenth century.⁵

Tramping around graveyards studying headstones was an obligatory activity when on holidays in England.

A boxing medal with a Naval connection, inscribed Hobart 1906, was a remembered item in the Fraser household. This naval connection was strengthened when finding Major General **Monash's** recommendation⁶ for Lt Fraser to be considered for service in the Imperial Army's Special Force in 1918. This stated, '*he served for five years in the Australian Navy*'⁷ Naval records from the National Archives in Kew, England, were thoroughly examined looking for any evidence of

service in the Royal Navy. In 2015 whilst reading *Persian Expedition*⁸ I found Captain Fraser is referred to in the diaries and letters of other members of the Dunsterforce, which were quoted in the book at the time, as *the Commodore*.

This strengthened our belief that he had spent time in the Royal Navy. British ships of the Royal Navy were in service at the Australian Station patrolling waters around Australia and New Zealand. Dorothy recollected he told them stories of his experiences in New Zealand.

We thought that he had deserted from the Royal Navy when serving his time in Australia. Whilst searching for any evidence of him, Paulette transcribed and collated into a database the names and descriptions of nearly 3,000 Navy, Army and Merchant Navy deserters from 1901 to 1911 listed in the New South Wales Police Gazettes,⁹ and available in the BBFHS Library.

The first evidence of him in Sydney, Australia is his record of employment, as a leading hand linesman, from September 1911 to December 1912, for the Sydney City Council. Knowledge of this employment came from later Repatriation documents. Information from Smith family members have him working in Bundaberg prior to his enlistment in the AIF in October 1915.

Despite these years of meticulous researching all ended in a negative result.

Paulette unfortunately died in 2008 not having solved the mystery, but my journey continued.

Enter the realm of modern science with DNA testing and its consequent application into family history.

I had my DNA tested in 2018 just to confirm I my Fraser name at least had a Scottish connection. Finding that my proud Scottish heritage was intact, I had no further interest in the results.

Fortunately, one Robert **Wilmott** in Staffordshire, England was more curious than I was about his living connections. He contacted me regarding how our DNA could match. Finding there was no connection to all the other well-researched branches of my family, my interest levels were raised.

All the previous genealogical research was suddenly blown away when on another shared match, the name Isabel **Frazer** appeared on the attached family tree.

Could this be the connection to William Arthur Fraser's family found in a moment, that forty years searching had not been able to uncover?

Not moving from the computer screen until a link could be discovered was now essential. Census and life documents soon provided a wealth of information.

Isabel was born illegitimate to a William Frazer, born in Scotland, and a Sarah **Murray**,¹⁰ in Sheerness Kent England, in 1861.

Possibly the first turn of my key!

Finding her marriage to John James **Youseman**¹¹ in 1881, I studied information about their children. Amongst their ten children the known birthdate of 19 May 1885 belonged to a Sidney Youseman, their third child. Also, in the list of children was another link, a brother Leonard.

Whilst believing the key to unlocking my family puzzle had been found I now needed definitive proof before slotting the crucial last piece into place.

The following weeks were spent searching the Frazer and Youseman families, and connections to other DNA matches.

On finally deciding all was correct I contacted Adam **Jenkins**, on whose tree I had found Isabel Frazer, thanking him and explaining my situation. With his return email he sent a photograph of three First World War soldiers, with the query, ‘Is the one on the right your grandfather?’

Well, yes it was!

They were Australian soldiers of the 41st Battalion AIF. However, it was signed, *Yours sincerely Sid*. My grandmother had the head shot of him from this photograph in her gold locket. No doubt he had



Sidney Youseman, on the right, in a photo signed by him
(photo: from Adam Jenkins,)

signed that one *Yours sincerely Will or Jack*, or, as he had also signed the photo he had sent to her parents when proudly becoming an Officer, *Yours sincerely Bill*. The handwriting on these postcards was identical. Adam's photo was from the possessions of Maud Youseman, Sidney's sister and Isabel and John's fourth child.



Two photos of Bill Fraser (the one on the right signed by him) in Fraser family possession

Subsequently, another great granddaughter of Isabel has recently appeared as a high match on my DNA connections. Other conclusive DNA matches are associated with Isabel's brother Frederick Fraser who immigrated to Canada. Connections to the **Wallis** family from Joseph Youseman's marriage to Jane Wallis are showing as distinct possibilities, as well as matches to other Youseman families.



Unknowingly, Paulette's meticulous search in the NSW Police Gazettes for Naval deserters had our grandfather listed. Along with his physical description, it

showed he deserted from the ship *HMS Powerful* on 9 August 1907, in Sydney Australia, but of course as *Sidney Youseman*.¹²

I returned to those National Archive records of UK Royal Navy Registers of Seamen's Services, now so easily accessed online.¹³ Sidney Youseman's record shows he joined the *Training Ship Impregnable* on 14 November 1901, stating his age as 15 years and incorrectly recording his birthdate as 19 May 1886. On 19 May 1904 and showing him as 18 years of age, he signed on for 12 years continuous service with the Royal Navy. After serving on various Channel Fleet ships, on 3 October 1905 he joined *HMS Powerful* that is about to leave England to become the Flagship of the Fleet on the Australian Station.

I returned to the search for evidence of that Naval Boxing Medal, where previous searching of Hobart newspapers gave us no satisfactory results, results for S. Youseman were now found. Reports in the Hobart newspapers in 1906 and 1907 of various boxing matches between crews of the ships of the Navy and local lads list S. Youseman from *HMS Powerful* as participating in several bouts.¹⁴

The crew of *HMS Powerful* were to be discharged in Colombo (Sri Lanka) at the conclusion of their Australian service and returned to England. When the ship left Sydney on 9 September 1907 Sidney Youseman was not on board. His Naval record states: *9 August 1907- RUN*.

Successfully dodging authorities, even with a bounty of three pounds on his head, *Sidney Youseman* then became *William Arthur Fraser*.

The final turn of the key!

In the book of his life I previously published,¹⁵ I wrote that William Arthur Fraser was our *enigma* explaining him as *mysterious or difficult to understand – perplexing – puzzling – or cannot be accounted for*. Well now I can account for him as Sidney Youseman, unlocking the mystery and piecing together an early family life and experiences that perplexed Paulette and me for so long – thanks to the power of DNA.

REFERENCES

1. In Paulette's effects I found the letter I had written to her in 1981 whilst the Parkes family were residing in London, stating what facts I knew of the family. She had at that stage no experience of researching family history. She became an inaugural member and later President of Botany Bay Family History Society.
2. Marriage Certificate 18691 of 4 May 1916. According to the rites of the People's Evangelistic Mission, the Mission House, 452 Leichhardt St Fortitude Valley Brisbane Queensland. Extracted Queensland BDM 15 September 1982.
3. Australian Army attestation paper December 1915. Accessed from Central Army Records Office, 366 St Kilda Rd Kew Victoria Australia, 19 August 1981. Digital record downloaded from National Archives of Australia <https://www.naa.gov.au/> 2010

4. *The Kent Messenger* Newspaper on 23 November 1900 reported ‘*The Cliffe Company ‘D’ of the newly formed 4th Battalion of the Royal West Kent Regiment held a church parade here on Sunday. A large number of villagers were present to hear a stirring address given by the vicar, Reverend Boyd*
5. *A History of the North Kent Marshes in the area of Cliffe*. Self-Published by W.N.Nichols, Redhill, Surrey.
6. Letter from Major General John Monash to General Birdwood 5 January 1918. Accessed 2015 from the Australian War Memorial, The Dunsterforce File AWM 224.MSS576, miscellaneous papers.
7. The Australian Navy was not formed until 1913. Prior to this, Australian and New Zealand waters were patrolled by British ships and sailors of the Royal Navy Squadron serving on the Australian Station.
8. *Persian Expedition* by Alan Stewart, is the story of his father Roy Stewart and the other Australian soldier’s involvement in the Dunsterforce in Persia in 1918. Published by Australian Military Publications 2006.
9. Transcribed in 2002, from the *NSW Police Gazettes*. Paulette Parkes’ transcription of deserters from the Navy, Army and Merchant Navy numbering 2,277. The database was added to by Sue Hewitt totalling 2,842 and is available on CD from Botany Bay Family History Society,
10. No 368 District of Sheppey. Birth certificate of Isabel, 3 December 1861 in Mile Town, Sheerness. No father listed. Mother Sarah Murray. Extracted November 2019. William Frazer, a carpenter, was residing with Sarah and the ‘Murray’ children in the 1861 census in Sheerness Kent and 1871 census in Gillingham Kent England. The children all went on to use the name Frazer/Fraser.
11. Marriage Certificate No 209 of 10 April 1881.St Mary’s Church, Parish of Higham, Kent, England. Isabel Frazer aged 19 to John James Youseman aged 23. Isabel’s father listed as William Frederick Frazer, Joiner. Extracted November 2019.
12. *New South Wales Police Gazette*. Deserters from His Majesty’s Service. HMS Powerful 9 August 1907. Sidney (T)ouseman AB. About 21 years of age, 5’ 5”, brown hair, grey eyes, sallow complexion (3 moles on back) accessed 2018 at [trove.nla.gov.au/gazette, article 251635549](https://trove.nla.gov.au/gazette/article/251635549)
13. *UK Royal Navy Registers of Seamen’s Services*. The National Archives, United Kingdom. Accessed on *Ancestry* October 2019 at <https://www.ancestry.com>
14. *The Clipper Hobart Tasmania*. 27 January 1906 and 9 March 1907. *The Hobart Mercury* 22 January 1906 Accessed [trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper, articles,83637006, 84644842,12780934](https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/articles/83637006,84644842,12780934)
15. *William Arthur FRASER, Hero or Just a Man* written by Roberta Madsen self-published in June 2018.



DISABLED ACCESS

is available for Research Centre users.
Please phone the Centre on 02 9523 8948
to make arrangements.

A CHILDHOOD SNAPSHOT – MY MUM’S GHASTLY DRINK

by Doug Parkes (Member)

When my Mum sang out from the kitchen ‘Who wants a cup of coffee?’, my Dad and I would find something to do in the shed and Duncan our pet tortoise would scurry off to hide in his favourite patch of dahlias at the bottom of the garden. Why the mass exodus? On hearing the call ‘Who wants a cup of coffee?’ we all knew that Mum had delved into the pantry and emerged with a bottle of dark brown, syrupy liquid labelled *Camp Coffee*. As you could not get coffee in the UK during the Second World War, it definitely was not coffee. Its main ingredient was chicory (from baked dandelion roots). As it was made in Scotland, my Dad thought that it was a ghastly brew dreamed up by the Scots to get their own back on the Sassenachs. But Mum, bless her, survived the war, all the bombs Mr Hitler threw in her direction and her daily cup of Camp Coffee. Mothers were made of tough stuff in those days!

If you spent the war years in Australia you would have known the same concoction proudly sporting the Bushels label.



Editor’s Note. Doug Parkes has suggested that I ask members to write a short article for our journal – to jot down a brief snapshot of something that they remember from their childhood. The length of the submissions should be limited to 200 words or so – perhaps with a picture if relevant.

Doug has kicked us off with this snapshot from his own childhood. I hope to get a flood of similar memories from our readers.

All journal contributions – large or small – are welcome. Email your input to bbfhs_ed@yahoo.com.au, leave it at the Research Centre or hand it to the Editor or any Committee member at our monthly meetings. Please add your name and contact details.

WEB WATCH



BRITAIN

Anglo-Burmese Library has a range of colonial related records at www.angloburmeselibrary.com

British settlers in Argentina and Uruguay at <http://argbrit.org/> contains a collection of indexes relating to settlers in the 19th century and links to other sites

IRELAND

The National Archives of Ireland at <https://genealogy.nationalarchives.ie> offers a growing number of databases

NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand www.govt.nz/search-for-family-history-records-in-new-zealand

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Chronicling America at <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/newspapers> has digitized many US newspapers from 1789-1963. Unlike Trove, Chronicling America does not show the article but highlights the target words for review

The Ancestor Hunt at <https://theancestorhunt.com/newspapers> is another useful site which offers a list of free digitized newspapers

American Ancestors hosted by the New England Historical Genealogical Society has hundreds of unique searchable online databases, with more than 1.4 billion searchable records, including digitized Boston Catholic Records. Registration for a free guest account is required <https://www.americanancestors.org/browse-database>

MISCELLANEOUS

Billion Graves has a blog explaining the significant points of Jewish gravestones at <https://blog.billiongraves.com/understanding-jewish-gravestones/>

China Families at www.chinafamilies.net offers records drawn from government lists, legal and diplomatic records, cemetery lists and much more, about men and women who worked in China from 1850-1940

Mauritius (AMA) at www.amamu.org – in French

Netherlands (some in English): Access by entering into Google the following – **wiewaswie** – bdm for all provinces, **geneaknowhow** – bdm before 1841 church records, **digitalstamboom.nl** bdm from 1811, **gahetna** bdm after 1811.

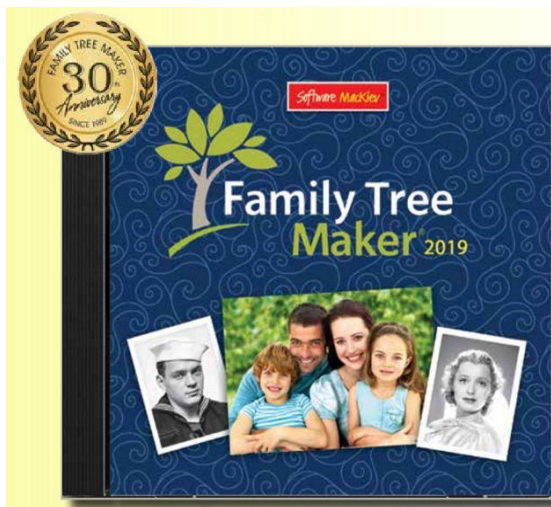
Denmark (some in English): **arkivalieronline** – church books, **dansk** – demographic database – census

Compiled by Kate **Anderson** (Member)

FAMILY TREE MAKER

by Pamela **Heather** (Family Tree Interest Group Coordinator)

If you are still keeping all your family history notes and photos in boxes and files or using an old computer program then it really is time to update. Family Tree Maker by Software MacKiev is one of the most popular programs used by BBFHS members. It is available for both Windows and Mac, is easy to navigate and use and creates numerous outstanding charts and reports which can be customised to your requirements. Most allow



for the addition of photos, borders and backgrounds using the colours and fonts of your choice. You can even create a genealogy book with this software. An instruction manual (*FTM Companion Guide*) is included within the program and there is great support 24/7 provided by MacKiev with their online 'Live Chat' which is free to access. I have never had to wait to be able to 'speak' to an expert.

I have been told by a number of our members that the FTM program was originally produced by the LDS Church. However I can find no evidence of this. Wikipedia reports that the software was developed in 1989 by Kenneth Hess of Blue Banner Software which was purchased by Broderbund in 1995. Over successive years it was owned by several different companies until purchased in 2002 by the company which later changed its name to Ancestry.com. In December 2015 Ancestry announced that it would discontinue Family Tree Maker. This decision was met with fierce protests worldwide. In March 2016 MacKiev, the software company that had developed and maintained the Mac version of FTM announced they were purchasing Family Tree Maker from Ancestry and would continue to develop and support both the Windows and Mac editions.

Members who attend the FTM Interest Group meetings would be well aware of the many improvements made by MacKiev since they have taken over. As well as being far more stable, reliable and faster to operate many new features were added when MacKiev released FTM 2017. If you have an older version of FTM you may wish to update when you see what is now available.

- **Photo Darkroom:** This is a basic photo editing tool which enables you to adjust the brightness, contrast, saturation and sharpness of any photo within your FTM media folder either automatically or by making manual adjustments.
- **Colour Coding:** Up to eight different colours can be applied to one person. If a different colour is applied to each of your grandparents their ancestors and descendants, also that of your spouse's grandparents, your children will show each of those eight colours. This can be handy for keeping track of family lines with distant ancestors. Colour coding can also be used to tag people matching a particular criterion e.g. who have had military service or whose DNA match you may have discovered.
- **Sync Weather Report:** Three status possibilities are provided to inform you of whether or not it is a good time to synchronise your family tree with Ancestry – red, orange and green. To sync with Ancestry, or to receive the green leaves hints, you do need FTM 2017 and to have uploaded your tree from FTM to Ancestry, or to have downloaded your Ancestry tree to FTM. However it is advisable to then sync only one way, i.e. to work primarily in FTM and sync up to Ancestry or work primarily in Ancestry and sync down to FTM. Most problems that occur with FTM seem to be the result of syncing both ways or syncing when the 'weather report' is not showing green.

Late last year MacKiev released a new edition of Family Tree Maker, again with a Windows and a Mac version. This does require an operating system of Windows 7 or later for PC and OA X 10.10 or later for Mac. 4GB of RAM is recommended but the program will run more quickly and efficiently with 8GB or 16GB of RAM. Again, extra new features were added to this edition of FTM.

- **Tree Vault Cloud Services:** Tree Vault has been included with FTM 2019, free for the first year. This will give you a chance to decide whether or not to continue after the first year when it will cost about \$2 per month. A private secure Antenna Tree is created and is automatically updated in real time though media is not included. This gives you the chance to restore you tree should your hard drive crash.
- **FTM Connect:** This is an app which works in conjunction with your tree vault and antenna tree. It will display a version of your tree on an Ipad or Iphone and recently has become available for Android devices. Profile pictures and facts are included though other media is not shown. Handy for showing your tree to others or for reference when away from your computer.
- **Tree Vault Historical Weather:** This gives access to more than a billion historical weather records to enable you to enrich your family history stories by knowing the weather conditions at a particular point in time.
- **Tree Vault Next of Kin Service:** This allows you to designate a successor to your Tree Vault account along with your FTM licence and access to free updates.

- **Picture Cropping Tool:** A great addition which allows you to quickly and easily crop and resize a photo to the exact dimensions needed for a profile picture without affecting the original photo.
- **Hints in the Index:** If you have an online Ancestry tree and have also chosen to receive hints from Family Search you will now see Ancestry's green leaves and Family Search blue squares indicators in the index. Colour coding, if present, is also shown. These can all be turned off if you wish.
- **The Time Machine:** FTM 2019 keeps track of the last thousand changes you have made to your tree and allows you to review them and even roll back those changes if you need to correct a mistake.
- **Family Search Integration:** In 2019 this function is extended to historical record hints as well as to the people in the Family Search One World Tree.
- **Smart Filters:** Filtered lists made in FTM 2017 were static, i.e. if changes were made to records they were not reflected in the filter but now existing filters will be updated.
- **Folder Counters:** The number of Facts, Media, Notes, Web links and Tasks you have entered for each person will now be shown under their profile picture on their tree page.
- **Tree Browser:** Found under View > Tree Browser shows all the trees you may have within FTM with their details and location on your hard drive.

Extra 'Plug-ins' are also available from other sources such as Charting Companion which extends the number of charts and graphs you can produce.

So, as you can see, MacKiev programmers have been very busy. One drawback to FTM however is that there is no free trial version available. When an approach for this was made to MacKiev their reply was that as they are now selling so many thousands of FTM programs a year this is not a priority at present.

Family Tree Maker 2019 is available as a download with or without the program on a DVD or USB. For more information visit www.MacKiev.com/ftm/

During 2020 I will be on duty at our Research Centre from 10a.m. to 4p.m. on the first and fourth Fridays each month. I would be happy to assist any members with FTM issues – if possible. I am not an expert but have learnt much about the program in recent years. Appointments can't be made and time available – whether it be twenty minutes or two hours, will depend entirely on how busy we are at the Research Centre on the day.

You are welcome to attend the BBFHS FTM Interest Group which meets four times a year, on a Tuesday afternoon at the Research Centre. See the following article, the BBFHS website, the Bulletin or the ENews for dates.



BBFHS INTEREST GROUPS

by Barbara **Barnes** (Interest Groups Coordinator)

Members are invited to attend one or more of our Interest Groups. No bookings are required; simply turn up at the Research Centre at 184 Gannons Road, Caringbah. (wearing your name badge) bringing your own questions, brick walls and stories and your ears willing to listen to similar from other participants.

Sessions are usually two hours each at a cost of \$5 for a member or \$10 for a visitor. For the computer software programs groups which organise and store your family history data (Legacy, Reunion for Mac and Family Tree Maker for Windows and Macs) it is helpful to bring a laptop or tablet but certainly not necessary.

The coordinators of the groups are:

Writers Interest – Leonie **Bell** (0403 952 762, LNBell@iinet.net.au)

English Interest – Sue **Hewitt** (9524 2540, suehewitt54@gmail.com)

Irish Interest – Barbara **Wimble** (wwimble@iinet.net.au)

Scottish Interest – Jean **Campbell** (jeancampbell@optusnet.com.au)

Australian Interest – Patricia **Jarvis** (9521 1375, patricia_jarvis@optusnet.com.au)

Legacy – Sue **Jones** (scjones@optusnet.com.au)

Family Tree Maker for Windows and Macs – Pam **Heather** (pamheather@gmail.com)

Reunion for Mac – Pat **Fearnley** (patfearnley@bigpond.com)

DNA for Family History – John **Levy** (j.levy@bigpond.net.au)

UPCOMING PROGRAM

WRITERS INTEREST: Thursday 26 March 1.30 – 3.30 pm

Thursday 28 May 1.30 – 3.30 pm

SCOTTISH INTEREST: Saturday 4 April 2 – 4 pm

Saturday 6 June 2 – 4 pm

IRISH INTEREST: Saturday 18 April 2 – 4 pm

Saturday 27 June 2 – 4 pm

ENGLISH INTEREST: Saturday 14 March 2 – 4 pm

Saturday 9 May 2 – 4 pm

AUSTRALIAN INTEREST: Saturday 16 May 2 – 4 pm

REUNION FOR MAC: Tuesday 7 April 10 am – noon

Tuesday 2 June 10 am – noon

LEGACY:	Tuesday 5 May 2 – 4 pm
FAMILY TREE MAKER FOR WINDOWS & MACS:	Saturday 12 May 1.30 – 3.30 pm
DNA FOR FAMILY HISTORY:	Saturday 28 March 1.30 – 3.30 pm Saturday 23 May 1.30 – 3.30 pm



BBFHS RESEARCH CENTRE AND LIBRARY

by Jean **Campbell** (Research Centre Coordinator)

In December, I asked for more Research Centre Volunteers, because some people were leaving. I received five offers from new Volunteers who have been placed. I also received offers from people who can help out, if needed, especially the fifth days each month. It is so wonderful that members are happy to volunteer, as the Research Centre holds all our resources, which can help everyone finding their family history. **THANK YOU!**

In January, a team of members prepared the Research Centre for 2020. Everything has been cleaned and dusted, a stocktake done and the computers updated. Thank you so much to Margaret, Brian, Doug, Megan, Jennie, Carole G, Pam, Noele, Shirley, Jackie, Philip, Maree, Janette, Coral, Maureen, Carol C. and Kate.

After the unprecedented rain in February, we had a leaking ceiling in the Research Centre in two places. There were wet tables, wet keyboards, wet monitors, wet carpet and wet chairs. Thank you so much to all the Volunteers on the Saturday and Monday, who contacted Council and dried up as much as they could, with paper towels, tea towels, their own towels... and found buckets! Repairs to the roof will be done by Council.

A reminder that the Centre will be closed in April, over Easter and Anzac Day and we hold our Heritage Fair at Tradies on Saturday, 2 May.

All members; please take advantage of being able to research your family in the BBFHS Research Centre. If you haven't been there for a while, please revisit. There are many resources and there are knowledgeable Centre Volunteers to help you. There may be a site you didn't know about or never thought to search!





Save the Date

NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc

Annual Conference 2020

Date: **Friday 11 to Sunday 13 September**

Theme:

Riding the Waves of History

Hosted by: Newcastle Family History Society

www.nfhs.org.au

supported by the Maitland and Beyond Family History Group

mdgs.org.au/

Location: Wests, New Lambton, Newcastle

<https://www.westsnewcastle.com.au/clubs/wests-new-lambton>

Conference website: www.ridingthewavesofhistory.com.au

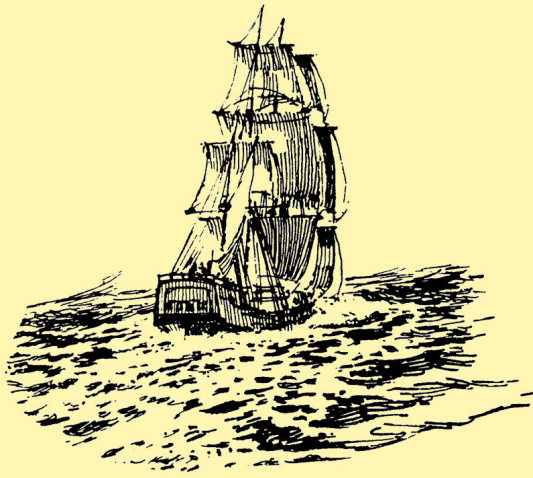
**FAMILY HISTORY AIDS – SALES TABLE ON MEETING NIGHTS OR AT THE
RESEARCH CENTRE & LIBRARY (Prices subject to change without notice)**

Split catalogue – half this quarter alternating with half next quarter

	Price
Archival materials: photo storage sheets, storage boxes, paper.....	various
500 Best Genealogy and Family History Tips – Thomas MacEntee.....	\$19.50
A Beginner’s Guide to British and Irish Genealogy.....	\$16.00
Arrivals in Australia – Kerry Farmer.....	\$32.00
Buried Treasure – What’s in the English Parish Chest.....	\$15.00
BBFHS 25 year celebrations – slide show or time capsule	donation
Citing Historical Sources – Noeline Kyle.....	\$11.50
Death Certificates & Archaic Medical Terms	\$15.00
Discover English Parish Registers – Paul Milner	\$15.00
Discover Irish Land Records.....	\$17.00
Discover Scottish Church Records – Chris Paton.....	\$20.00
Discover Scottish Civil Registration Records – Chris Paton.....	\$15.00
Discover Scottish Land Records – Chris Paton.....	\$15.00
DNA for Genealogists – Kerry Farmer.....	\$15.00
eRecords for Family History – Cora Num.....	\$12.00
Evernote for Family Historians	\$15.00
Exploring FamilySearch – Joy & Allan Murrin	\$10.00
Family History on the Cheap – Shauna Hicks	\$14.00
Family History Research in South Australia – Graham Jaunay.....	\$28.00
Finding Florence, Maude, Matilda, Rose – Noeline. Kyle.....	\$16.00
Finding the Family Redcoat – Neil Smith	\$15.00
Google – the Genealogists Friend	\$15.00
Guide to Convict Transportation – Carol Baxter.....	Part 1 – \$14.00, Part 2 – \$12.00
Handy Guide – DNA for Genealogy	\$5.00
Handy Guide – GEDmatch Tools for DNA	\$5.00
Handy Guide – Twenty Useful Irish Websites	\$5.00
Handy Guide – ScotlandsPeople	\$5.00
Handy Guide – German Words for Family Historians	\$5.00
Handy Guide – Online Newspapers	\$5.00
Handy Guide – the Moreton Bay Penal Settlements	\$10.00
Harnessing the Facebook Generation – J. Few	\$14.00
How Did They Get Here? Arrivals after 1924 – Cora Num	\$12.00
Insights into the NSW BDM Index – Joy & Allan Murrin	\$13.00
Internet Family History - Cora Num	\$12.00
Introduction to German Family History Research for Australians	\$15.00
Irish family history resources online – Chris Paton.....	\$19.50
Irish Research on the Internet – Cora Num	\$12.00

ADVERTISING RATES

Size	Annually (4 issues)	Single issue
Full page	\$160	\$49
Half page	\$80	\$29
Quarter page	\$40	\$19



©2020 Botany Bay Family History Society Inc and the authors. No article or item from this Journal may be reproduced without written permission of the authors. This Society accepts no responsibility for statements made or opinions expressed by authors of the articles published in this Journal. The Society cannot vouch for the accuracy of offers of services or goods that appear in the Journal, or be responsible for the outcome of any contract that may be entered into with an advertiser.

The Editor reserves the right to edit articles.

Australia Post Print Post Number: 100001135