

# THE ENDEAVOUR



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**BOTANY BAY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.**  
*Discovering Your Heritage*

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# BOTANY BAY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

*Discovering Your Heritage*

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General Secretary	Lilian Magill	
Treasurers	Brenda Connors	
Ordinary Members	Jackie Butters	Jean Campbell
	Carol Cronan	Maree Kirkland
	Anthony Wright	

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## Meetings

**Normally** held on the first Wednesday of the month (except January) at the 'Tradies', The Kingsway, Gymea, 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-3pm; 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.

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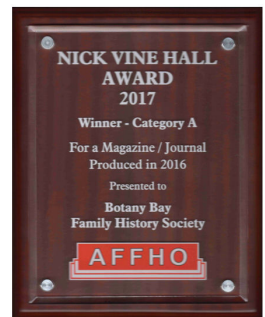
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# CALENDAR



The calendar as at 15 May 2021. Many of the BBFHS activities are not listed here and will depend on the COVID-19 situation. Many will be held on ZOOM – please check the Events Calendar on our website ([www.botanybayfhs.org.au](http://www.botanybayfhs.org.au)) or see your BBFHS Email News when it arrives in your email inbox.

## 2021

- Jun 2 Meeting – 7.30 pm at Tradies. Speaker – Jean Campbell.**  
*Scotland*
- Jun 14** Queen’s Birthday (Monday) Public Holiday (Centre closed)
- Jun 16 Discussion Meeting – 7.30 pm on Zoom.**
- Jul 7 Meeting – 7.30 pm on Zoom. Speaker – Rob Hamilton.**  
*Masonic Records*
- Jul 21 Discussion Meeting – 7.30 pm on Zoom.**
- Aug 4 Meeting – 7.30 pm on Zoom. Speaker – Mia Bennett.**  
*Hidden in plain sight: Freely available sources we often overlook*
- Aug 18 Discussion Meeting – 7.30 pm on Zoom.**
- Sep 1 Meeting – 7.30 pm at Tradies. AGM**  
*Members’ Father’s day Stories*
- Sep 15 Discussion Meeting – 7.30 pm on Zoom.**

**Botany Bay Family History Society is a member of:**

- The NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies
- The Australasian Federation of Family History Societies
- The Family History Federation in the United Kingdom

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# PRESIDENT'S PAGE

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I hope that everyone involved in our recent Open Day at the Port Hacking Community Centre has given themselves a huge pat on the back for making the day as exceptionally good as it turned out to be. Having had no income for the past 12 months due to Covid-19 (excepting membership renewals) it was even more wonderful to close the day with over \$1000 in the kitty as well as welcoming eight new members.

For many members it was their first opportunity to physically meet in person again following the outbreak of Covid-19 in 2020 and it was great to see the worries of the world put aside in favour of laughter and friendship. The attendance of the Mayor also added to the spirit of the day.

By the time you read this report we will be about to hold our June Wednesday night monthly meeting back at Tradies. I hope that it too, is a successful evening with our members once again enjoying each other's company. July and August will see us revert to Zoom for meetings before we attend Tradies in September for our Annual General Meeting.

Another way of keeping in touch is through our email forum at Groups.io. While our online forum is listed publicly, it is a private closed group, requiring membership, but is free to join. Simply visit the website at <https://groups.io/>, click on the 'Find a Group' heading, put Botany Bay Family History Society in the right-hand search box and click on the magnifying glass. Click on the name of our society and then click on the blue 'Join This Group' button and follow the prompts. It can take up to 24 hours for your membership to be approved so please be patient. Once you are a member you can go into your settings and choose to receive emails individually or as a digest.

Groups.io does not replace the eNEWS and Facebook page which are both vital links in keeping everyone up to date. Instead, Groups.io is a place you can ask for help, toss around ideas, alert members to new information, share finds etc.

It is hoped that most activities of BBFHS will be as back to normal as possible as we head into June. However, one area needing attention is our monthly outings. Barbara Wimble has done us proud for many years as the organiser of our outings but has now retired from the role since her move to Denham Court. We would love to be able to offer outings again so if you would like to take on the role, please email me via [botanybayfhs@yahoo.com.au](mailto:botanybayfhs@yahoo.com.au).

Jennie Fairs

# With Conviction

NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies  
Annual Conference 2021

## Save the Date!

**Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

**8:30am – 5:00pm**

**Virtual Conference**

Presented by  
Port Macquarie & Districts Family History Society Inc

Please send us an email if you would like to receive our regular newsletters as we continue to plan the conference for these unprecedented times

*Email:* [2021conference@gmail.com](mailto:2021conference@gmail.com)

*Website:* <https://conference2021.wixsite.com/pmdfhs>



**...beyond reasonable doubt**

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# BBFHS RESEARCH CENTRE AND LIBRARY

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

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**W**e decided to open the Research Centre in May; back to the days and times that we opened before the Covid restrictions. We did change the closing time to 3pm during the week. Most Centre Volunteers were happy to be on duty, with their friends, on their 'usual' day. Please visit your Centre, as there are lots of resources and people wanting to help you.

We still have the tables and chairs separated, with alternate computers being used. Good hygiene is important and all is wiped down at the end of each day.

Quite a number of the Interest Groups returned to the Centre for meetings in May. Please read the eNEWS for June meetings, days and times.

If you are intending to go to the Centre to research, it is a good idea to phone first, 9523 8948, to make sure there are Centre Volunteers on duty and there hasn't been a sudden Coronavirus restriction.



## **BOTANY BAY FHS NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The Annual General Meeting of the Botany Bay Family History Society Inc will be held on Wednesday 1 September 2021 at 'Tradies', 57 Manchester Road, GyMEA. Only financial members can vote. Any financial member may be nominated for election to the Committee by any two other financial members. Nomination forms are available from the Secretary at [botanybayfhs@yahoo.com.au](mailto:botanybayfhs@yahoo.com.au).



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# A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

By Penny Tilling(Member)

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**A**t my friend Ray's funeral recently, on the memorial card produced for the service, all his family history details were listed. They included his parent's names, his sister and wife, as well as his six children and eight grandchildren. And, for each of them, their date of birth. Privacy reasons preclude me from reproducing these. However, I thought it was a great idea and wanted to share it with our members.



*Jacqui and Ray's family invite you to join them after this memorial in honour of Ray at the Skyline Lounge 1 at Northern Suburbs Crematorium*  
Ray's family (photo: family album)

## COPY DEADLINE

Copy for the September 2021 journal should be submitted as soon as you have it available but the deadline is **Wednesday 4 August** – preferably by email to the Editor at [bbfhs\\_edu@yahoo.com.au](mailto:bbfhs_edu@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.



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# BBFHS EDUCATION PROGRAM

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

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**B**arbara Wimble and I have decided to conduct our five education classes to help members with their family history searches **in the Research Centre**. Notes are provided for each class, which are standalone. You can come to just one class, a few or all five.

## 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](mailto:botanybayfhs@yahoo.com.au), or at the Research Centre (in person or by phone).* Please read the eNEWS, in case there are sudden Covid-19 restrictions. If you have booked in, you will be contacted about any change.

## THE EDUCATION CLASS SCHEDULE:

### CLASS 1 – MY FAMILY HISTORY (Jean Campbell)

*Tuesday 25 May 10:30 – 12 noon*

#### 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 BDM

1. NSW BDM Website
2. NSW BDM Wild Cards
3. Church Codes
4. *Ancestry*; NSW BDM: District of Births
5. Pre 1856 microfilm

## **CLASS 2 – EARLY ARRIVALS (Barbara Wimble)**

*Tuesday 8 June 10:30 – 12 noon*

### **CONVICTS AND EARLY SETTLERS**

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

### **SHIPPING & IMMIGRATION**

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

## **CLASS 3 – NAMES AND FREE INTERNET SITES (Jean Campbell)**

*Tuesday 22 June 10.30am – 12 noon*

### **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 – OVERSEAS RESEARCH 1 (Barbara Wimble)**

*Tuesday 13 July 10.30am – 12 noon*

### **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**

### **OVERSEAS RESEARCH 2 (Jean Campbell)**

*Tuesday 27 July 10.30am – 12 noon*

#### **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**

New Zealand, USA and Canada, Europe

#### **INTRODUCING:**

1. Ancestry
2. FindMyPast

## **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).

1850	Jenny Hughes	Woronora Heights
1851	Irene Anderson	Kurnell
1852	Fiona Madden	Port Hacking
1853	Annette Hornby	Cronulla
1854	Barbara Coxon	Sylvania
1855	Janice Ford	Bonnet Bay
1856	Val Nicholson	Bonnet Bay
1857	Doug Nicholson	Bonnet Bay
1858	Laurie Eeles	Burraneer
1859	Karenne Irvine	Mascot

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# HERITAGE OPEN DAY

By Noele **Watkins** (Member)

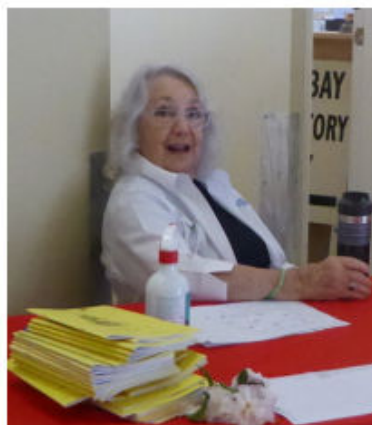
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**A**t one stage we were in doubt as to whether this event would happen because we didn't have many members to attend each table. However, as usual you all rallied round and my sincere thanks for that. The day was a huge success with so many members visiting and catching up after such a long time. To top it off, seven new members joined and we had a visit from Mayor Steve Simpson who showed a great interest in our Society and members. My thanks to all involved. The following photographs are courtesy of Lilian Magill.









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# THOMAS SAYWELL'S BRIGHTON HOTEL

by Leonie Bell (Member)

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In the last Endeavour (146 – March 2021) I outlined the rise of Thomas Saywell and his real estate, transport, and bathing pavilion developments which opened up Brighton as a desirable outer Sydney suburb in the late nineteenth century. His diverse entrepreneurial interests also included the hospitality business.



Two views of New Brighton Hotel 1930 – a remnant of its former glory. In the 1930s, the hotel featured a public bar, private bar, bottle shop and accommodation (photo: Tooth and Co. Yellow Cards, Noel Butlin Archives Centre, ANU, <http://hdl.handle.net/1885/96624>)



After setting up the bathing business on the water's edge, in 1886-87 Saywell engaged in the construction of the 57-bedroom Italianate style New Brighton Hotel, located on the corner of The Grand Parade and Bay Street, costing £20,000. He commissioned architect William **Kenwood** to design a suitably grand brick structure with slate roof and cast-iron balconies.<sup>1</sup> Set in extensive gardens, complete with a tennis lawn, the hotel boasted a tower with panoramic views of the Bay. Early photos of the building show that he planted numerous long-lived Norfolk Island Pines in the hotel grounds and along the shoreline, as a wind break.

Saywell's tram did not just transport bathers to the beach, but was a vital component of his overall strategy for the area, allowing tourists to easily access his hotel. Alighting from the tram or carriage, the visitor entered through an impressive porch, proceeding into a lofty 3 m wide vestibule to the main hall. A timber staircase rose to the first and second accommodation levels of rooms and suites, where guests were pleased to discover the bathrooms had hot and cold running water flowing into the huge cast-iron bath tubs.

The features and fittings displayed a grand sense of style and taste, with the vestibule and hall tiled with encaustic tiles arrayed in a neat pattern on the floor, a style beloved by the Victorians and inspired by mediaeval cathedrals. The skirting boards were finished with a marble-effect known as scragiola marbling. Leading from the lobby were the public rooms; the dining-room, billiard-room, coffee-room, bar, and parlour. The kitchens, offices and servant's rooms were tucked away out of sight in the western wing, and the public bar was situated far enough from the guest rooms to alleviate worries of noise disturbing their slumber.<sup>2</sup>

There were more wonders to behold when the guests entered the vast 52 m x 12.5 m Assembly Hall (slightly larger than a modern Olympic pool), capable of accommodating 1,500 patrons. Its spacious high-ceiling with its domed roof, surmounted by picturesque minaret towers, supposedly in a Russian style, imparted a sense of grandeur. Its 1887 gala opening displayed Saywell's sense of the theatrical, with not only the venue, but Rockdale Station, the trams and the tram route to the bay, festooned with floral displays, flags, banners and bunting. Guests were entertained by three days of Promenade music concerts, a flower show and a canary show.

Although the hotel accommodation opened in early April 1888, there was a slight delay in gaining a liquor licence, which was obtained by transfer from William Dickson in November that year, approved by the Metropolitan Licencing Branch at the Central Police Court.<sup>3</sup>

In its heyday Saywell's Hotel was frequented by notable 19th century sporting identities such as champion boxers Albert **Griffiths**, Peter **Jackson**, Tommy **Burns** and Dan **Creedon**, who trained in the hotel's hall, where hundreds

of enthusiastic spectators would crowd the venue to watch their sporting heroes spar in the practice ring.

It was also popular for weddings and functions, including events for Saywell's own family. Reverend **Byng** married Saywell's daughter Leah and New Zealander William Crawford **Burt** at her parent's residence in 1896.<sup>4</sup> The eager onlookers crowded The Grand Parade in front of the hotel, hoping to catch a glimpse of the happy couple departing in their horse and carriage. The *Australian Town and Country Journal* reported that: 'The bride wore a handsome gown of white surah [a soft, twilled silk], bridal wreath and veil, and was attended by the Misses Nellie, Zillah, and Vera Saywell and Miss Janie Burt as bridesmaids. Mr. J. Burt acted as best man.'<sup>5</sup>

The population of the tiny village enclave of Brighton Le Sands grew slowly but steadily throughout the first few years. Saywell engaged in significant property development, including the row of two-story terrace houses that still front The Grand Parade today. By 1892 there were 41 houses and 205 residents strung out along Lady Robinsons Beach.<sup>6</sup>

Buoyed by the potential of retail business along the beach, various facilities opened to service the needs of the day trippers who could now purchase refreshments, hire a boat or a fishing line, mail a postcard at Shady Nook Post Office, entertain their children in the Shady Nook playground, and enjoy a pint (560 ml) of beer, eat a meal or attend amusements at the hotel.

In 1895 Thomas Saywell's company, New Brighton Tramway Co., leased offices on the ground floor of the Camden building 416 George Street Sydney.<sup>7</sup> At Brighton, the centre of his business operations, The Grand Parade occupied a mere five blocks, from Bay Street to McRae Street, past Saywell's Terrace, which was tenanted by 11 people including Thomas Saywell himself, his brother George, and Boot's College. Accountant James **Cameron** lived nearby, and the only other property on The Grand Parade, listed by Sands Directory, is Saywell's Swimming Baths and Refreshment Room, run by Mrs F A **von Hammer**.

Saywell was not an hotelier or a bathing pavilion manager. He had many and diverse investment interests and was not in the slightest part interested in running the baths or the hotel himself. Although Saywell retained ownership of the hotel, he leased it to various hoteliers over the years. Initially it was operated by C R **Smith** and his wife, experienced caterers who advertised the hotel as 'the great sanatorium of the South', with a billiards room, sitting room, reading room, gas and electric bells throughout. The Smiths promised that: 'Everything will be done to ensure the comfort of visitors. A first-class table will be kept, and an efficient staff of trained servants, the whole of the household arrangements being personally supervised by Mrs. SMITH.'<sup>8</sup>

The hotel offered fun, amusement, dancing, music, and skating in the adjacent Assembly Hall.<sup>9</sup> The New Brighton Skating Rink was opened in March 1888, easily accessible by Saywell's tram.<sup>10</sup>

The hotel gained a rowdy reputation. In 1892 Saywell lost his publican's licence due to the poor behaviour of the clientele.<sup>11</sup> At the court hearing four years later, when Saywell reclaimed his licence, the police objected in strenuous terms, testifying that: 'On Sundays and holidays the lowest larrikins went to the place. On holidays there were 10 and 12 constables at the place when it was licensed. They were assaulted and persons convicted.' Senior-Constable **Currie** had been assaulted by mobs on three occasions, while Sergeant **Agnew** noted that: 'The larrikins had always on holidays been an annoyance to the respectable people.' Further police testimony declared: 'Larrikins of the worst type frequented the dancing saloon. As a rule drunkenness prevailed on holidays.'<sup>12</sup>

Saywell was not deterred by the loss. The site was briefly taken over by the Presbyterian Church as a campus of its new prestigious Scots College for young men. At the festive opening of the college in January 1893, guests were welcomed at Rockdale station, which was festooned in bunting. A cadet corps from Fort Street and Paddington Public Schools formed a guard of honour, with the St George Brass Band playing enthusiastically. The St George Volunteer Fire-fighters stood to attention, resplendent in full uniform, as the official party boarded the special steam tram to the Bay, delighting the crowd of sightseers. The Mayor, Alderman William **Taylor**, accompanied the Chairman of the Council of the Scots College, The Moderator Reverend James S **White** M.A. and other civic and religious dignitaries, including the Governor of NSW, Lord Jersey. Lady Jersey had declined to travel by rail and arrived at the former hotel by private carriage.<sup>13</sup>

The guests toured the facilities of the renovated, re-purposed hotel. The ground floor public areas had been converted into classrooms, with the upstairs accommodation adapted for light and airy dormitories. Guests were impressed by the college facilities, which featured a gymnasium, 2.4 ha sports ground and a farm to provide fresh fruit, vegetables and milk for the students.<sup>14, 15</sup>

The opening ceremony was performed by Lord Jersey. The listeners cheered in response to the delivery of several lengthy speeches, which the *Daily Telegraph* reported in detail.<sup>16</sup> The School Principal, Reverend A Ashworth **Aspinall**, quoted the aims of Rugby school in England: 'first, religious and moral principle; secondly, gentlemanly conduct; and thirdly, intellectual ability.' Reverend Aspinall assured attendees that Scots College would pursue the same goals.<sup>17</sup> Following the ceremony, Lady Jersey planted a tree in the grounds, before the Vice-Regal couple headed for the station to catch a train to their next appointment in Moss Vale.

Within two years, the college was suffering terribly under the financial

burden of leasing the building during the bad economic recession of the 1890s. Optimism about the location had also quickly declined. ‘Terrific winds blowing in from the sea, and the sand being banked sometimes to the top of the college fence... the tram rails were constantly covered by overblowing sand. One of the tasks the boys really enjoyed was digging Saywell’s tram out when it became bogged in the sand’.<sup>18</sup> This happened far too frequently and eventually the tram terminated at the end of Bay Street instead of turning into The Grand Parade.

There was also the problem of the distractions offered by a seaside resort. How could the boys study effectively when they were surrounded by picnickers and holiday makers? When Thomas Saywell announced that he was building a race course nearby, that was probably the straw that broke the camel’s back. The college negotiated a contract buyout and termination of the lease.<sup>19</sup> The college campus closed by mid-1895, relocating to Judge **Josephson**’s former residence St Killian’s, in Bellevue Hill, Double Bay. Ironically, in their 125th year, Scots College again opened a Brighton campus in the area they had rejected a century ago. In 2018 their new school was launched at historic Primrose House, several kilometres from the original premises. Apparently, there are less seaside distractions for today’s students.<sup>20</sup>

When Saywell regained his Spirit Merchants Licence in 1896, after considerable courtroom debate and vigorous objections by the police, he resumed operation of the hotel under new management.<sup>21</sup> The incoming proprietor, Harry **Figg**, was an experienced hotelier from Queensland, and more recently at the Fitzroy Hotel in Windsor. He changed the New Brighton Hotel’s name to the Lick House Hotel, perhaps attempting to persuade respectable clientele that they should not judge the premises by its former reputation. The curious name was in honour of the famous Lick House Hotel in San Francisco owned by ex-USA Senator James G **Fair**, which boasted an enviable reputation. Figg opened his venture on 11 February 1896, inviting guests to inspect the elegant facilities and dine at a banquet. A big selling point was that, unusually for its time, all the rooms had running water and the hotel possessed a telephone. Although most people would arrive by train and tram, the hotel offered stabling facilities for horses.<sup>22</sup>

Unfortunately for Figg, the name change was insufficient to guarantee a better class of guest. The clientele could sometimes be rowdy and even riotous. Figg was in court in December 1896 stating that he and a police constable were verbally abused and physically assaulted in the public bar over an incident on Christmas Day, which the press labelled a ‘riot’.<sup>23</sup> Three men were refused service in accordance with the restrictions on trading imposed by the liquor licence. Figg’s wife Edith asked one of them not to spit on the floor. A scuffle ensued, with bottles and punches being thrown.<sup>24</sup> The defence claimed they were not ‘larrikins’ or members of a push gang, but reputable members of a football team.<sup>25</sup>

Figg appeared in court again a few days later in January to accuse another of the perpetrators. Now the charge was more serious, with Figg witnessing that he had been knocked down, and kicked in the face and body by the three thugs, leaving him bruised and bloodied. He then called the police, who fortunately arrived just before the perpetrators returned, armed with a large stick to threaten the publican again. The judge remarked that, ‘these brutal and cowardly assaults were getting too common, and would, have to be put down,’ handing the defendant a six-month jail sentence with hard labour.<sup>26, 27</sup>

Not all the clientele were as pugnacious as this incident would suggest. The hotel was a popular choice for banquets, wedding breakfasts, corporate picnics and events such as; the Farmers and Dairymen’s Milk Co. picnic, attended by prominent politicians and cabinet members;<sup>28</sup> the Herald Quoit Club annual picnic and sports day;<sup>29</sup> the Fire and Marine Insurance Company picnic, with participants engaging in innocuous activities such as swimming competitions, cricket matches and formal dinners;<sup>30</sup> and the *Daily Telegraph* and *Sydney Morning Herald* Staff Reunion sports day. This latter event was an irony considering the press were only too eager to label the hotel a place of ‘riot’.<sup>31</sup>

The name soon reverted to the New Brighton Hotel. Although Figg had taken out a ten-year lease, in January 1898 David **Colling** purchased the licence,<sup>32</sup> and by 1900 Saywell’s agent T S **Huntley** ran the Brighton Hotel.<sup>33</sup>

The Grand Parade was still not terribly grand nor lengthy. The street was tenanted on the north side by Thomas Saywell, six residents of the Brighton Terrace (formerly Saywell’s Terrace), and three more houses. The Swimming Baths and Refreshment Rooms were located on the south side, and adjacent to this, proprietor **Mildwater** ran a boat hire service from a shed on the water’s edge. Presumably the hotel trade was predominantly derived from tourists and day-trippers, rather than residents visiting a local watering hole.<sup>34</sup>

By 1910 the boatshed was owned by **McMinn** and **Hawkes**. Publican Martha **Caldwell** ran the Brighton Hotel, while the local population of The Grand Parade had increased to 15 families, including Thomas and George Saywell.

In 1915 The Brighton Hotel was run by Leo **Clifford**, the Refreshment Rooms by Julia **Hamilton** and the boatshed was managed by J **Franks**. The modestly sized Grand Parade still boasted only Thomas Saywell and 16 other residents and their families, 11 of whom were renting the Brighton Terrace.<sup>35</sup>

Post-war, in 1920 the tourist business was apparently blooming, as four Refreshment Rooms were located on The Grand Parade, owned by George **Cassimaty**, Miss C **Ward**, Mrs Julia **Hamilton** and Studwick **Thomas**. There was also a Post and Telegraph Office adjacent in Shady Nook. The population was beginning to swell with a dozen houses in addition to Brighton Terrace, while two

boat proprietors and the swimming baths stood at the water edge. A resident of Saywell's Brighton Terrace, Neil **Matterson**, managed one of the boatsheds.<sup>36</sup>

With the 1922 sale of picnic area Shady Nook, opposite the hotel, the Post Office located within its grounds had closed. New recreational facilities had been constructed on The Grand Parade; including the sheds of the Brighton Lifesaving Club and the St George Lifesaving Club, on Lady Robinsons Beach.<sup>37</sup>

The Brighton Hotel's Tooth and Co. sub-lease was purchased by a succession of licensees. C **Nicholson** purchased a nine-year lease in September 1920, which he sold to J **McInerney** in March 1921. McInerney managed to increase beer sales to a comfortable £3,462 for the year 1923. Fred James **Farmer** jnr. took over as licensee in April 1924 for the remaining 5½ years of the lease. Fred was a highly successful publican and his beer sales increased at a booming rate. His annual takings rose from £4,664 of Tooth's beer in 1924 (74.4% of their total trade) to £13,190 by the end of his initial lease, sending the liquor sales graph off the top of the chart. The hotel business was so successful that he renewed his licence with Tooth and Co. for another five years in September 1929.<sup>38</sup>

When Saywell died in Mosman in 1928 at the age of 92,<sup>39</sup> Fred Farmer jnr. was still running the Brighton Hotel as a sub-lessee. Saywell's estate took some time to achieve probate, owing to its complexity. His assets were vast. The poor child immigrant from Calais had become incredibly wealthy, with investments, real estate and shares worth an astounding £164,190 /15/7-, attracting death duties of £34,069/16/.<sup>40</sup>



New Brighton Hotel 1949 – an ugly extension forms an entrance on The Grand Parade (photo: Tooth and Co. Yellow Cards, Noel Butlin Archives Centre, ANU, <http://hdl.handle.net/1885/96620>)

In later years the once proud Assembly Hall slipped a little more downmarket, hosting concerts, roller skating, dancing, boxing and functions. By the 1940s the grand hall had been demolished for the development of more prosaic structures; the Brighton shopping district.

Although Fred Farmer was the sub-lessee, on Thomas Saywell's death ownership of the Tooth and Co. head-lease transferred to Saywell's Tramway and Estate Ltd. Their name changed to Saywell Estate Pty. Ltd. in June 1937.

Fred's 5-year sub-lease from Tooth and Co. in September 1929 was subsequently purchased by Alexander Todd **McLauchlan** in September 1934. McLauchlan successfully ran the business, with income increasing steadily each year, until he sold it to F **Tidswell** in March 1946.<sup>41</sup> Alexander McLauchlan purchased the licence again in March 1948 but died three years later. John Edward McLauchlan took over the licence on behalf of the estate but was accused of short selling measures of whisky in February that year. The matter was adjourned to August, but it came to nothing, as the lease was sold again in September.



New Brighton Hotel 1970 (photo: Tooth and Co. Yellow Cards, Noel Butlin Archives Centre, ANU, <http://hdl.handle.net/1885/96616>)

R. W. Miller and Co, an associate company of British Breweries, purchased the freehold of the old Saywell's Brighton Hotel site from Tooth and Co. in 1952 for £200,000.<sup>42</sup> It remained under lease to Tooth and Co. until 1957 after which it became a tied hotel. The old hotel had been neglected and required extensive and expensive repairs to the value of £3,125.<sup>43</sup>

By the 1960s the ancient hotel was old-fashioned, no longer met current business or clientele standards for a new generation of pub-goers, and was



expensive to upkeep. Millers demolished the original building, to replace it with a new two-story brick hotel, with tile and metal roof and a very contemporary feel to the design. The accommodation was less of a feature than in Saywell's heyday and was reduced to 33 rooms with eight bathrooms along the hall, and a three-bedroom licensee's apartment. The modern air-conditioned structure was laid with wall-to-wall carpet in the 52-seat dining room. Patrons had a choice of the Starboard Light public bar, Mast saloon bar, a lounge seating 900 patrons and a drive-in bottle shop. Additionally, the Quarterdeck Tavern was a contemporary bistro-style facility, accommodating 380 patrons.<sup>44</sup>

The hotel owned a tar-sealed car park for 100 vehicles, but in 1960 they had the effrontery to petition the council for access to parkland in Cook Park to build an additional carpark. Their claim that it would benefit the community was stoutly refuted by the Brighton Progress Association, who accused the company of 'filching' public spaces for their own advancement.<sup>45</sup>

Opinion regarding the hotel was mixed. Many thought it a great hotel. They loved the live music and the famous Battle of the Bands competition. The dubious Lovely Legs competition was also popular, where girls stood behind a lowered curtain which revealed only their legs, so that punters could cheer for the sexiest set of legs. It was a favourite watering hole for rugby league stars, who would frequently be carried out in a highly intoxicated condition. Just as in 1892, when Saywell's patrons were criticised for loutish behaviour, history repeated itself, with more sedate members of the community deploring the noise, the drunken brawls, and the rough crowd.

Millers still owned the hotel, but the licensee changed numerous times between the mid-fifties and the seventies; Eric Norman **Claude** (August 1955), Angus **Lloyd** (June 1958),<sup>46</sup> Charles Hilary **Beaton** (March 1960),<sup>47</sup> Edmund J. **Tracy** (July 1972), Charles Howard **Cupples** (October 1972), John Edward **Cottington** (April 1975), Kenneth John **Kemp** (October 1977), Donald Desmond **Smyth** (August 1978), and James Francis **Byrnes** (July 1979).

Kemp and Cottington were both experienced hoteliers, yet it seems that by the seventies the business was not going well, in view of the short time they held the licence. Sales dropped steadily from mid-1974 until its demise at the end of 1978.<sup>48</sup>

Development company Dainford Holdings purchased the site for clearance in the 1980s, investing \$165 million to create a new resort style hotel. Not long after it was completed, Dainford went broke in 1991 and sold the 14-story, 308-room hotel to Novotel, a 4.5-star resort hotel chain founded in France in 1967.<sup>49, 50</sup> Today it is part of the AccorHotels group which boasts 20 brands and 4,500 hotels in 100 countries.<sup>51</sup>

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## **Australian Federation of Family History Organisations – Congress 2021 Norfolk Island, 1 – 5 August 2021**

Congress will include: a welcome function, a comprehensive lecture program, morning and afternoon teas, lunches and a banquet dinner. There will also be time built in for research at the Norfolk Island Museum Research Centre and visits to historic sites, which include the cemetery, the Melanesian Mission and the Kingston and Arthurs Vale Heritage Area, which incorporates the penal gaol and other noteworthy buildings and sites. Travel and accommodation packages will be developed from Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne.

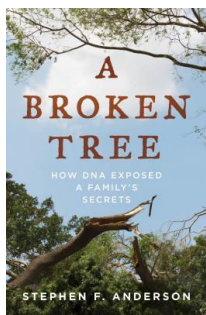
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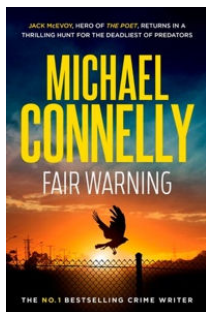
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## **A Broken Tree – How DNA Exposed a Family’s Secrets Stephen F. Anderson**

Stephen Anderson retired in 2016 after working for more than 26 years for *FamilySearch*. Growing up as one of nine children, he had gradually come to realise that something was not quite right about his family’s story. A chance accident set him on a path to investigate that story. In this book the author documents the twists and turns of his search over many years as he used DNA to unravel the shocking facts about his mother’s life, uncovering the truth of his and his siblings’ parentage and his agonising over whether to confront his very elderly mother with his findings. I found this a fascinating read, hard to put down, although a little repetitive at times, but with an amazing tale to tell.

Published 2019. My copy an eBook from Sutherland Shire Library



## **Fair Warning – Michael Connelly**

I have long been a fan of this author and his Harry Bosch novels, but this book, a fast paced crime thriller, features another of his characters, veteran investigative reporter, Jack McEvoy. With a right up to the minute story line, Jack, working for a consumer watchdog publication, initially finds himself a murder suspect in the death of a woman with whom he had one night stand twelve months previously. He provides a DNA sample in order to be eliminated as a suspect and so becomes involved in looking into a dodgy DNA lab and the selling off of supposedly secure DNA databases to organisations conducting medical and psychological research, such as, for example, a risky behaviour gene. From Jack’s investigations, it emerges that a serial offender is using genetic data to select and stalk his victims. Woven into the story are questions about the ethical issues of selling off DNA data bases and the lack of regulation of this booming industry in the US. In summary, I can’t say it better than to quote The Times Crime Club (UK): *my goodness, he’s stumbled on an amazing story. From a murdered young woman to a mind-boggling extrapolation of the dark destinations that DNA testing might lead to...*”

Published 2020. My copy an eBook from Sutherland Shire Library

**Pat Fearnley (Member)**

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# NOTES AND NEWS



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**Dave Brydson** has passed away aged 75, on 3 March 2020. Our condolences go to his wife Robyn, his family and friends.

**Norm Cholson**, (4 December 1925 - 27 April 2021) a long-time member who retired from BBFHS a few years ago, has passed away, aged 95. We extend our sympathy to Norm's wife Barbara and to his family and friends.

**Toowoomba and Darling Downs FHS** has just released the fifth volume of *Our Backyard – Drayton and Toowoomba Cemetery*. This volume contains histories of over 150 individuals buried in the cemetery. It is an A4 book of 162 pages which includes many family photographs as well as monuments. Price is \$20, plus \$9.20 postage for the book, or \$3.30 postage for a USB or CD. Their contact email is [tddfhs@westnet.com.au](mailto:tddfhs@westnet.com.au) for further information.

**The Australian Jewish Historical Society** (AJHS) are podcasting *In Times Gone By* – <https://ajhs.com.au/podcast/>. The ten episode series covers stories from their archives, about Jewish Australians who have featured in our history, since 1788. The AJHS welcomes contributions to the archives. If you descend from someone of interest with a story to tell, or have interesting memorabilia for the archive, you may contact them at <https://www.ajhs.com.au/>.

**The NSW Land Registry Services** has implemented enhancements to the Historical Land Records Viewer (HLRV), in response to feedback, to improve the user interface and make searching easier. Changes include:

- Business logic ordering of Records and Collections when keyword and/or attribute searches are performed.
- Enhanced Search Result Pages pagination functionality.
- Improved Image Viewer speed, replacing image tiles with image numbering for smoother pagination functionality
- Introduction of user viewing history so previously viewed documents are identifiable during a session.

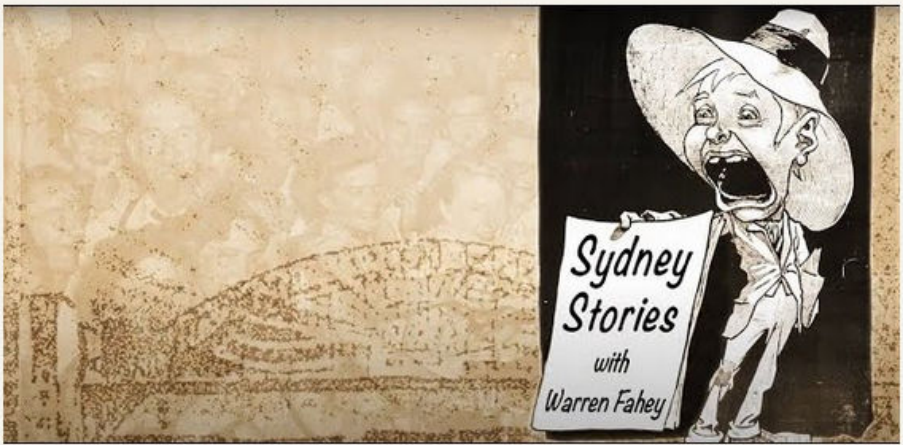
Christine Yeats of the Royal Australian Historical Society has produced a PowerPoint presentation covering the changes at <https://tinyurl.com/26cv46u2>.

*Who's been living in my Moruya Street?* by Shirley **Jurmann**, is a new publication from the Moruya and District Historical Society. (191 pages, illustrated). Many Moruya residents past and present provided family details and photographs. Updates to the publication will be made as more details and photographs are found in family archives. For this reason they have produced a pdf version of the book which can be easily updated – available for \$25 with an update available at the end of 2021 for further \$5. A comb bound printed copy is



available for those who prefer it but this will not be regularly updated (\$35 + \$12 postage). For more information contact: [secretary@mdhs.org.au](mailto:secretary@mdhs.org.au)

NSW State Archive's *Guide to Convicts and Convict Administration* is now available online at <https://tinyurl.com/yz8vhfs6>, where it can also be downloaded as in PDF. The Guide includes indexes of records created by the British Government and the Colonial administration that can be found in the State Archives collections, and covers the period between 1788 and 1842 when approximately 80,000 convicts were transported to NSW. There are 18 chapters covering diverse subjects, including 'trial and transportation', 'health and welfare', 'families of convicts' and 'colonial trials and court records'. The Guide also provides helpful explanations that place the records in their historical context.



**Warren Fahey's *Sydney Stories*.** Sydney abounds with curious, sometimes hidden, history. Cultural historian and storyteller, Warren Fahey, has created a dozen video stories of Sydney's past – from its convict history through to its colloquial 'slanguage'. The video series has been released for free public access on the National Film and Sound Archive website at <https://tinyurl.com/34c8x7pb> and also on their YouTube channel at <https://tinyurl.com/9yhwmkfm>. Featuring over 20 minutes of NFSA collection footage from over 40 titles, *Sydney Stories* offer a unique slice of Sydney's hidden history. As Warren describes, 'I selected twelve unusual aspects and let the stories unfold using archive photographs, drawings, recordings and film. Partnering with the NFSA allowed me to access some very rare films of Sydney, which are truly bringing these twelve stories back to life.' Each story's length is 12 to 15 minutes.



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# COADY, GERALD ROY JOSEPH (1914-2006)

## FIRST PHARMACY IN CARINGBAH

By Colleen **Passfield** (Member)

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As Coady's Pharmacy in Caringbah, celebrates their 75th anniversary of caring for their many customers, it seems fitting to reflect on the life and times of its founder Gerry **Coady**. He was a pharmacist, family man, community leader, a breeder of prize-winning poultry and respected judge of the Royal Agricultural Society, a prankster and major contributor to the commercial development of the suburb. In 1946, Caringbah was about to experience a massive change as population increased and the commercial strip along Kingsway began to develop. Coady's may have been the first but it was not the last and to be still there after all this time is reason to celebrate.



Coady's Pharmacy, Caringbah (photo: Christine Levy)

Gerald Roy Joseph Coady was born on 30 September 1914 in Canowindra, New South Wales, the ninth child and youngest son of William James Coady and his wife Mary Frances nee **Ridley**.

William James Coady was the son of Edward Coady (Cody) born in Kilkenny, Ireland in 1809, convicted and transported to Australia in 1834, pardoned in 1848 and given a grant of land in Canowindra. Married to Ann **Clements** (1833-1914) in 1849, they raised a family of eleven children. At first he grew wheat on an eight-acre plot but later had 11,000 sheep on his property *Mogong* which was later added to and again enlarged when he purchased *Tiliga Station* in 1870. In 1873 he donated land to the Catholic Church for a church, named after St Edward the Confessor, and a cemetery. Edward Coady died in Cowra in 1889 (NSW BDM registration no. (RN) 8019). His wife, Ann, died in 1914 and was buried with Edward in the cemetery at St Edward's church.

William James Coady was born in Canowindra in 1866 (RN10719) and married Mary (Fanny) Frances Ridley at Canowindra in 1897 (RN847). They settled on a property Woodlands' at Canowindra where they raised a family of 10 children.

They were:

Lucilla Gertrude (Gert), m Millard B <b>Kermish</b> – 1931 (RN5589)	b 1898 (RN2256)	d 1955
Ida Mary	b 1899 (RN29468)	d 1905 (RN908)
Edward (Ted) Vincent m Elma J <b>Bowditch</b> – 1933 (RN10828)	b 1901 (RN21142)	d 1964 (RN33835)
Mary Philomena	b 1903 (RN20176)	d 1986 (RN20274)
William Harold m Alice Edith <b>O'Connor</b> – 1934 (RN642)	b 1907 (RN22868)	d 1989 (RN5139)
Josephine Mary	b 1909 (RN3523)	d 1976 (RN5505)
Patrick Arthur m Lillian M <b>Abberton</b> – 1932 (RN9662)	b 1911 (RN32236)	d 1983 (RN14004)
John Alacoque m Kathleen (Kitty) <b>Riley</b> – 1934 (RN10844)	b 1911 (RN26434)	d 2006
Gerald Roy Joseph m Mary Patricia <b>Holohan</b> – 1941 (RN24771)	b 1914 (RN51082)	d 2006
Joan Frances m John Peter <b>Doyle</b> – 1945 (RN16854)	b 1918 (RN9647)	d 1963

(Mary Philomena and Josephine Mary became Brigidine nuns.)

The children enjoyed farm life but worked hard, helping out on the property. They completed their primary schooling at Canowindra and the older boys were

boarders at St Stanislaus College at Bathurst, leaving after completing their Intermediate Certificate and returning to Canowindra. It was decided that Gerald, the youngest son, would be sent to board at St Joseph's College at Hunters Hill where he would complete his Leaving Certificate.

Gerry Coady enjoyed his time at St Joey's, took part in rugby and rowing and did well at physics, chemistry and mathematics. He passed the Leaving Certificate and enrolled in Pharmacy at Sydney University becoming the first in the Coady family to attend university.

At that time, the Pharmacy course was an apprenticeship system where students were indentured to a registered pharmacist and had to work when not attending lectures. During his apprenticeship, Gerry worked at various pharmacies including Hurstville and Kings Cross, very different from life in Canowindra.

About this time, Gerry met Pat **Holohan**. Mary Patricia Holohan was the second girl in a family of seven children and lived with her widowed mother in Kogarah. During their courtship, as war broke out, Gerry was registered as a pharmacist and, in a protected industry, was exempt from active service.

Gerry applied successfully for a job as a registered pharmacist in the NSW country town of Wellington. Although they had planned to marry in 1942, Gerry and Pat brought their marriage forward and were married in St Patrick's Church, Kogarah, on 17 December 1941.

Harold **Kierle** was the owner of the pharmacy where Gerry was employed and they became close friends during the six years they worked together. Gerry relished a return to a country town, made many new friends and renewed friendships with Bede **McCormack** a schoolmate from St Joey's and C D **Wineberg** from Sydney Uni. He became an enthusiastic participant in many community activities including Apex, pigeon shooting and the breeding and showing of prize poultry which became a lifelong hobby and passion. He became president of the Wellington Horticultural Society.

In December 1942, a son, Peter Joseph, was born and named after Pat's brothers. In February 1946, the Coady's were farewelled at a large gathering of local and district residents as they left Wellington. Gerry had decided to start his own business and had decided Caringbah in the Sutherland Shire would be a good place.

Although the rail link from Sutherland to Cronulla had been opened in 1939, it was only post war that massive development took place. Many ex-servicemen settled in Caringbah and school enrolments exploded. Building materials were scarce and many families lived in half-houses or temporary dwellings until they could be completed. Until they could build their house in Caringbah, the Coadys

lived with Pat's mother and brothers in Kogarah. Pat and Gerry welcomed a daughter, Paula during this time.

Coady's chemist opened in Caringbah in 1946 in a small shop that Gerry rented, on the Kingsway opposite Harry **Hinte**'s general store. He purchased the vacant block next door with the intention of building larger premises in the future. Coady's was the first chemist in Caringbah and one of only a handful in the Sutherland Shire at that time. Gerry didn't have a car then, so he bought a Lambretta motor scooter so he could offer a delivery service. For £80 he purchased a large block of land at 229 Kingsway which extended to the railway line. This was where the family home would be built and in 1950 they moved into their new home. In the next few years, the family welcomed sons Matthew, Christopher and Bernard and another daughter, Margaret, 14 years younger than Peter.

The house became like a small zoo with prize poultry, pheasants, ducks, budgies, finches, quail, guinea pigs, cats and dogs. The menagerie could be seen from the train as it passed between Woollooware and Caringbah stations.

Gerry also helped Ivy **Alcock** raise her pet monkey called Mitzi. Photos appeared in newspapers showing Mitzi being weighed on the scales at Coady's pharmacy. These were used by local mothers to check on their baby's weight when they were unable to attend the Baby Health Centres at Cronulla or Sutherland.

In 1950, Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School opened in Caringbah, staffed by the Sisters of Mercy who lived in the convent on the Esplanade at Cronulla, where Stella Maris is now situated. Peter Coady was the first pupil enrolled at the school.

In 1951, when Father Charles Keller was appointed as the first parish priest, the school's interior was re-arranged on Saturdays and forms put in place in preparation for Sunday mass. One Sunday, time came for the second collection to support the parish and men moved to the front of the church with their collection plates. As they moved towards the back of the group, a wave-like movement occurred as whispered conversations finally reached near the back where my family were seated. 'Gerry Coady put a ten pound note on the plate!' As the monies were being counted, Gerry Coady stood up near the front of the church, marched to the rear and proceeded to collect £9/19/6 change. The congregation was gobsmacked and highly amused. Always a prankster, he was in fact a great friend and supporter of Father Keller and the nuns and gave generously to the support and development of the parish. He just couldn't resist the opportunity to stir things up. I think the amount in the second collection actually improved after this – there were fewer sixpences.

As Caringbah grew the business prospered and Gerry trained many apprentices including Judith **Harrison** who finished Pharmacy and then became a

doctor. At about this time I was a student and working in the holidays and Saturdays at Coady's. One day during the Christmas holidays, Gerry's sisters, the Brigidine nuns had arrived and were given free rein to gather toiletries and other items to have for fetes or personal use by other members of the congregation. They were crouched down in the narrow space behind the counter where I was serving a man. Suddenly, as one, they bobbed up, startled the customer who staggered back, uttered a very ripe expletive and bolted out of the shop. The poor nuns were quite bemused but continued to gather all their goodies. Dotty **Lenahan**, the other assistant, and I were helpless with laughter.

In 1950, Gerry decided it was time to build his own shop on the vacant block next to the pharmacy. It was built by Ernest **Salisbury-Baker** who also introduced Gerry to bee keeping and hives were added to the family menagerie. The building was to be double story with the upper story to be rented. With a wide frontage there was room for Dick Holohan, Pat's crippled brother, to set up a gift shop and jewellers. I remember how excited we all were as we carried boxes from the old shop to the new one and stocked the shelves.

Over the years, a range of tenants occupied the first floor including the Cronulla-Sutherland Leagues Club, estate agents, solicitors and a depot of the Commonwealth Drug Company, the main supplier of items for the pharmacy.

The business continued to thrive; apprentices were employed, completed their courses and started their own businesses. With his interest in showing poultry, Gerry developed many ointments related to their care and treatment. For his apprentices making these up was something they would not learn at university.

Gerry's interest in breeding prize fowls led to many champions and first awards at shows particularly the Royal Easter Show in Sydney. He used to display his ribbons and trophies in the shop. He wrote booklets on the 'fancy' and different breeds of fowls and was invited to become a poultry judge by the Royal Agricultural Society. He also appeared several times on Burke's Backyard.

In 1963 Peter Coady passed and received his Degree of Bachelor of Pharmacy and joined his father in the family business. Gerry had problems with his back for many years, had to wear a brace and, at times, was hospitalised. He was now able to take a few breaks leaving Peter in charge. In July 1975 Peter was able to purchase the business from Gerry who continued his involvement with the world of prize poultry and also acting as a relief pharmacist for Peter when needed.

When Gerry was in his eighties, he had open-heart surgery and had a triple bypass and valve replacement in the heart. Formerly extremely active he became depressed. At the same time, Pat's health was declining and she was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma. Her treatment was radiation and chemotherapy which she found difficult to tolerate. Eventually they were both admitted to Stella Maris

nursing home at Cronulla run at that time by the Sisters of Mercy many of whom they knew very well.

After forty years as a pharmacist and after consultation with his parents, in 2003 Peter Coady decided to sell the business his father had started in 1946. The new owner was Jennifer **Nelson** who had worked at Coady's and always expressed interest in buying it if it became available. She kept the name and is still operating Coady's Pharmacy.

For a time Gerry and Pat settled down at Stella Maris but Pat's lymphoma became worse and on 12 April 2004 she died aged 85. Gerry became very reclusive and on 25 October 2006 after lapsing into a coma he died aged 92. They were survived by their children Peter, Paula, Matthew, Christopher, Bernard and Margaret.

After a long illness, Peter Joseph Coady died on 3 October, 2016. He was survived by his wife, Carol, nee **Barnes**, and children Louise, Paul, Melissa and Ben and ten grandchildren

#### REFERENCES

*Take As Directed* by Peter Coady (2011)

NSW BDM, <https://www.bdm.nsw.gov.au>

Ancestry, <https://www.ancestry.com.au>

Newspapers on Trove, <https://trove.nla.gov.au/>: *Canowindra Star and Eugowra News, Cowra Free Press, Wellington Times, Mining Record and Grenfell General Advertiser*

Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/>

Personal knowledge



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# BBFHS INTEREST GROUPS

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

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Interest groups are up and running. With the easing of Covid-19 restrictions, some are being held at the Research Centre, while others are being held on Zoom. Please check the eNEWS and our website for up-to-date information.

The group Coordinators are:

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

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

Irish Interest – Barbara **Wimble** ([wwimble@iinet.net.au](mailto:wwimble@iinet.net.au))

Scottish Interest – Jean **Campbell** ([jeanhcampbell47@gmail.com](mailto:jeanhcampbell47@gmail.com))

Australian Interest – Patricia **Jarvis** (9521 1375, [patricia\\_jarvis@optusnet.com.au](mailto:patricia_jarvis@optusnet.com.au))

Legacy – Sue **Jones** ([scjones@optusnet.com.au](mailto:scjones@optusnet.com.au))

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

Reunion for Mac – Pat **Fearnley** ([patfearnley@bigpond.com](mailto:patfearnley@bigpond.com))

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



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Closed public holidays

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

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# NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA, MAP GEORECTIFICATION

By Dr Martin Woods (NLA)

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I'd like to bring to AFFHO organisations' attention a new resource being piloted by the National Library, to overlay NSW parish maps on current mapping.

NLA Maps Georectifier has been designed to georectify (or georeference) and publish a set of historical maps, overlaid on Open Street Map. Georectification simply means marking recognisable points on both the historical map and another map - in this case Open Street Map. The public pilot is ready for trialing and comment as of now. The public link is: <https://georekt-test.nla.gov.au>.

The data set currently comprises about 1000 digitised parish and town maps of NSW/ACT and nearby regions, nineteenth - mid twentieth century. Over the next six months, we plan to add to this a layer of historical topographic maps, with wider geographic coverage. The tool allows users to setup a login to georeference the maps. Once enough points have been added, the map is then submitted for rectification and published so the map can be zoomed and viewed on current mapping.

The main target audience initially is likely to be family history researchers, but literally anyone who'd like to compare heritage mapping overlaid on current mapping, zoom in on details. Here are a couple of example published georectified maps:

- <http://Eeorekt-test.nla.ROv.au/maps/848ff>Preview Rectified Map tab and
  - <http://Reorekt-test.nla.Rov.au/maps/1015ff>Preview Rectified Map tab
- [Go to the Warped map then zoom to detail and use the slide bar to adjust transparency]

We're very keen to ensure we have family history colleagues and friends aware of the tool and involved if possible, and we are happy to demonstrate the product where this is possible.

Thanks very much,

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# DIGGINGS



**D**igging 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 2016 to 2020. 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

### Magazine of the RAHS Mar 21

Australia's drive-in-theatres: Rise, fall and revival

The adventures of "Waltzing Matilda": The first civilian passenger aircraft to reach Australia from Britain after the Second World War.

## BRITAIN

### Family Tree Mar 21

A uniform appearance: What did our ancestors wear in institutions?

Scottish Poor Law Records. What is available online?

Your DNA workshop. Karen Evans uses case studies and gives you tips in her new series.

Netting your ancestors. Trawling maritime records

Using local archive and libraries in your Irish research

### Family Tree Apr 21

Changing surnames – some useful insights into this frustrating topic

Discovering DNA – Michelle Patients, one of the DNA consultants behind the SBS TV series, "Every family has a secret" offers her hints

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Your DNA Workshop

## IRELAND

### Irish Roots 1st Qtr 21

Australian Irish Connections – Birth, Death and Marriage Certificates

How comprehensive are Irish Civil Records?

Compiled by Kate **Anderson** (Member)

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# THE HUDSONS – FROM GLOUCESTERSHIRE TO SYDNEY

by Aileen Young (Member)

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This article is a family history about my grandmother's father's family, whose family origins were in England.

But first, a quick outline of his ancestors. I begin with Joseph **Bird** and Elizabeth **Phillips** (my 6 x great grandparents). Joseph was a Church Warden from 1733-63 and he died in office in Bayton, Worcestershire.

Their daughter was Constance Bird, who was baptised on 23 May 1731. She married Richard **Hudson** and they had two children: John who is not my ancestor and Joseph Bird Hudson born 24 March 1755 at Bayton, Worcestershire, England. Joseph was a carpenter and joiner and he left Bayton looking for work in Horsley, Gloucestershire. In about 1780, Joseph married Ann **Partridge** who had been born in Nailsworth, Gloucestershire on 8 November 1747. Ann came from an old family from Leonard Stanley, a small village on the outskirts of Horsley. Joseph and Ann returned to live in Leonard Stanley. Joseph died 13 June 1833.

Whilst in Leonard Stanley, two children were born. John was born on 8 July 1781 (occupation weaver) and Samuel Partridge, born 25 December 1785 (occupation master butcher), Samuel married Mary Ellen **Dyer** (born c 1787) on 29 September 1810 in Horsley. Mary's father was Daniel Dyer, a weaver, and her mother was Mary **Clift**.

Samuel and Mary (my 3 x great grandparents) had eight children, two girls and six boys all born in Leonard Stanley:

- Mary Ann born 29 May 1812, died 26 December 1875 in Newtown, New South Wales. She married Stephen **Chislett** (born 14 June 1817, Somersetshire) on 14 November 1838 at the Baptist Chapel, Shortwood, Gloucestershire, England.
- Eliza born 4 June 1814, died 11 January 1907 Crows Nest, New South Wales, who married William **Cover** on 6 February 1845 at the Wesleyan Church Sydney. William was born 30 December 1814 at Bramshott, Hampshire.
- Alfred born 1 June 1816, died 6 December 1880 Liverpool New South Wales. He married Hannah (Anne) **Ricketts** (born 6 April 1820 in Horsley, Gloucestershire) on 3 December 1840 at St Lawrence Church Sydney.
- Joseph G (my 2 x great grandfather) born 29 January 1818 died 12 January 1888 at 59 Lennox Street Kingston, New South Wales. He married Eliza **Wallace** (Wallis) (born 29 July 1824, Glasgow, Scotland) on 18 January 1841 at Trinity Church of England, Adelaide, South Australia.
- Enos born 29 September 1819, died 31 July 1892 at *Ivanhoe*, Fuff Street

Marrickville, New South Wales. He married Lucy **Hilton** (born 1829 Australia) on 28 June 1848 at the Scots Church Sydney.

- Thomas born 19 December 1821, died 27 September 1892 at Katoomba. He married Fanny **Burgess** (born 1831, Sydney) on 28 June 1848 the Scots Church, Sydney.
- John Payne born 6 April 1824, died 1901 at *Bronte*, Summer Hill, New South Wales. He married Jane **Taylor** (born 4 June 1828) in 1850 at St Lawrence Church Sydney.
- Henry born 6 July 1828 Minchinhampton, Gloucestershire, died 2 November 1896 at Norman Street, Newtown. He married Elizabeth **Lees** (born 28 July 1840, Sydney) on 10 February 1858 at the Baptist Church, Sydney.

In the 1830s, conditions in England were extremely poor – woollen mills were closing and the general decline in trade in manufacturing districts caused considerable hardship and distress. Thousands were ruined, there was total stagnation of trade and the county of Gloucestershire suffered acutely. In the face of this, Samuel Partridge Hudson, his wife and all his children with married partners, except for Joseph (my great great grandfather, whose story will come later) immigrated to Australia on the *Susan*, arriving on 10 March 1839.

Samuel was a butcher by trade; his sons were also in trade as either butchers or plasterers.

In 1841 Samuel was living in Blackwattle Swamp, the area at the end of Blackwattle Bay, now Ultimo. On 15 April 1845, Samuel bought 13½ roods (3541 m<sup>2</sup>) of land in the Swamp. This area was generally an area of noxious industries such as tanneries, pig yards, copper smelting and tobacco works. There were four slaughter houses which supplied the majority of butchered meat to the residents of Sydney. They were later removed when the Glebe Island abattoirs were opened in the 1850s.

By the early 1840s the southern end of this area had developed a distinctly urban character: May Street, Athlone Place, Mary Street and Brisbane Street had formed and been subdivided for housing and industry. On 6 March 1846, Samuel also purchased Lots 29 and 30 Camperdown Terrace, in the Parish of Petersham North, by Campbell Street.

Samuel's butcher shop was situated in Parramatta Street, close by the slaughter houses. His dwelling house was in Athlone Place. Athlone is named after a town in central Ireland, located on the river Shannon on the border of County Roscommon and County Westmeath.

Samuel Partridge Hudson died on 24 October 1852 and was buried on 26 October 1852 in the Independent section of the Rookwood Cemetery. In his will he



2-10 Athlone Place, c1900 – two groups of semi-detached, single-storey buildings, later resumed. (photo: City of Sydney, Archives & History Resources, A-00036122 <https://archives.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/nodes/view/662489>)

left three houses in Athlone Place and the house in Camperdown, where he had been living, and all monies, to his wife Mary.

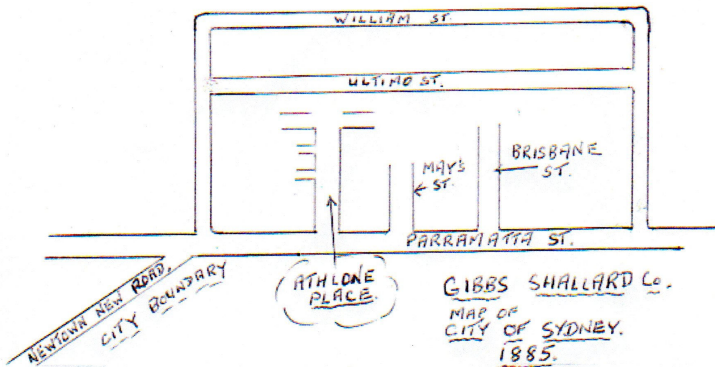
To his son Thomas he left his butcher shop on Parramatta Street as Thomas was a master butcher. Mary Hudson died on 16 August 1871 and is buried in the Independent Section of Rookwood Cemetery.

Samuel's sons continued to buy land in most of the suburbs of Sydney. His sons were in trade, butchers, plasterers, a coal merchant and iron worker.

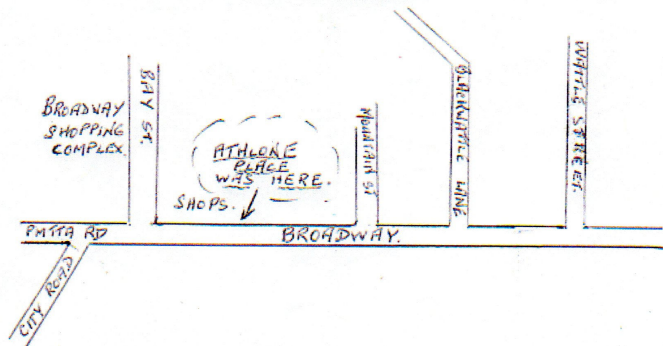
Due to public pressure, the noxious industries in Blackwattle Swamp were eventually relocated to Homebush, for by 1865 this area had become a slum area with outbreaks of disease due to the swamp (Bay) being used for sewage and the offal from the slaughter houses. The northern end of the Swamp was reclaimed as Wentworth Park in the 1880s, while the southern end was redeveloped. Athlone Place was resumed in 1906. The 'Athlone Place Resumption' was the first systematic slum clearance undertaken by Sydney Council. It removed about 400 buildings and a maze of tiny lanes, which ran off Parramatta Street (now Broadway).

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This article lists the new Library accessions. We remind members that there is a wealth of family history information accumulated over some 37 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’.

## NEW SOUTH WALES

- St. Andrew’s Church, Braidwood – A Historical Guide [AN.LH.2622.4LC]
- A History of the Forbidden Land – Wollondilly Shire, Part One [AN.LH.2571.6LC]
- Pictorial History of the Sutherland Shire (Revised) [AN.LH.2232.20LC]
- Registers of Leases of Auriferous Lands Tumut and Adelong Mining District (Adelong, Tumut, Tumbarumba, Gundagai, Kiandra, Queanbeyan, Captains Flat, Albury, Cooma) 15 June 1875-19 Mar.1908. [AN.SOU.17.11CD]
- Registers of Leases of Auriferous Lands, New England and Clarence Mining Division (Drake, Fairfield, Lionsville, Tenterfield, Boorook). 20 Dec. 1875-6 Apr. 1908. [AN.SOU.17.12CD]
- Registers of Leases of Auriferous Lands, Lachlan Mining District, (Parkes, Cargo, Forbes, Grenfell, Bourke, Young, Barmedman, Temora), 5 Aug. 1875-10 Aug. 1908. [AN.SOU.17.13CD]
- Registers of Leases of Auriferous Lands, Mudgee Mining District, (Hargreaves, Gulgong, Peak Hill, Windeyer, Wellington, Parkes, Tomingby), 17 Mar.1875-13 Nov.1908. [AN.SOU.17.14CD]
- Politics, Patronage and Public Works – The Administration of New South Wales, Volume 1, 1842-1900 [AN.HIS.38.8LC]
- Humble and Obedient Servants – The Administration of New South Wales, Volume 2, 1901-1960 [AN.HIS.38.9LC]
- The Sydney Tram – A Pictorial Review [AN.HIS.28.8LC]

## NORTHERN TERRITORY

- Bulletin of the Northern Territory, Bulletin No 2, April 1912 – An Introduction to the Study of Certain Native Tribes [ANT.HIS.1.2LC]
- Bulletin of the Northern Territory, Bulletin No 3, May 1912 – Report of the Caledon Bay Prospecting Party [ANT.HIS.1.3LC]

## OVERSEAS

- Beautiful North Wales [W.HIS.41.1LC]
- Tall Ships on the Tyne (Newcastle, UK) [E.TWR.HIS.1.1LC]
- Finding Out About Victorian London [E.LND.HIS.26.3LC]



- London – Eyewitness Travel Guide [E.LND.HIS.41.2LC]
- Illustrated Guide to Britain [BRIT.HIS.41.5LC]
- Shropshire – Shire County Guide 7 [E.SAL.LH.4LC]
- Northamptonshire – Shire County Guide 22 [E.NTH.LH.1LC]
- Cambridge [E.CAM.LH.2LC]
- Hiring Fairs & Farm Workers in North-West Ireland. [I.HIS.14.3LC]
- Scotland 100 Years Ago – The Charm of Old Scotland [S.HIS.1.13LC]
- Land Owners in Ireland 1876 – Returns of Owners of Land of One Acre and Upwards [I.SOU.17.2]

#### INTERNATIONAL

- Solving Genealogy Problems – How to Break Down Brick Walls and Build Your Family Tree [INT.GUI.1.15LC]
- DNA Genealogy [INT.GUI.1.16LC]

#### GENERAL

- An Energetic Life: James Henry, Chemist and Druggist, of Sydney formerly of Kildrum, County Antrim, Ireland, 1836-1893 [G.FH.HEN.2LC]
- Pioneer Register of New England from the First Settlement to Federation [Loan copy] [G.BIOG.4N.9LC]
- A Victorian Engagement-Letters and Journals of Walter Hume and Anna Kate Fowler during the 1860s [G.BIOG.7.HU]

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

Compiled by Janette **Daly** (Librarian)



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# HOW (NOT) TO WRITE YOUR FAMILY STORY

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This article appeared in the ‘Dear Tom and Paul’ letters in the February edition of *Family Search*. It first appeared in the *Cockney Ancestor* in 2005.

An amateur genealogical researcher discovered that his great-uncle, Remus Star, was hanged for horse stealing in Montana in 1889. The only photograph that existed of Remus was taken when he was standing on the gallows, just before he died. On the back of the photograph was the inscription: ‘Remus Star, horse thief, sent to Montana Territorial prison in 1883, escaped in 1887, robbed the Montana Flyer six times. Caught by the Pinkerton Detectives, convicted and hanged in 1889’

In the family history subsequently written by his descendant, Remus’s picture was cropped, scanned in as an enlarged image and edited with the image processing software so that the picture shows nothing more than Remus’s head. The accompanying biographical outline read as follows:

*Remus Star was a famous Cowboy in the Montana territory. His business empire grew to include the acquisition of valuable equestrian assets and he had close intimate dealings with the Montana Railroad. Beginning in 1883, he devoted several years of his life to at a government facility until, in 1887 he finally took his leave from it to resume profitable dealings with the Montana Railroad. Later, in 1888, he was a key player in a vital investigation conducted by the renowned Pinkerton Detective Agency. In 1889, Remus passed away during an important civic function held in his honour, when the platform on which he was standing suddenly collapsed.*

Tip of the day: blow on **the wine in your coffee mug** to convince the rest of the zoom meeting that it is tea.



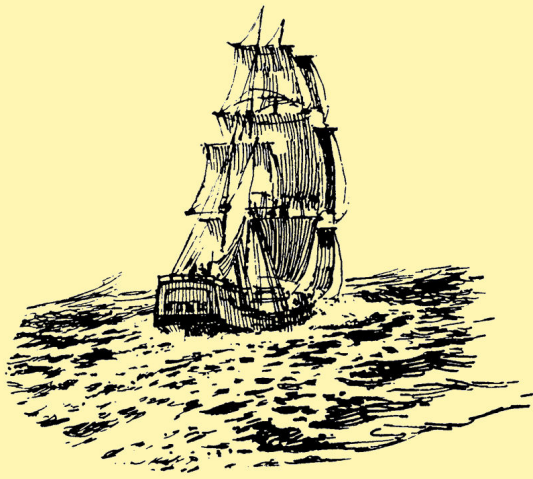
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