

# THE ENDEAVOUR



Published quarterly by the  
**BOTANY BAY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.**  
*Discovering Your Heritage*

**PRICE \$6.00**

No. 152  
September 2022

ISSN 0814-9828 (Printed)  
ISSN 2208-3278 (Digital)

# BOTANY BAY FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

*Discovering Your Heritage*

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Vice Presidents	Carole Goodyer	Noele Watkins
General Secretary	Lilian Magill	
Treasurer	Brenda Connors	
Ordinary Members	Jackie Butters	Jean Campbell
	Carol Cronan	Maree Kirkland
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Public Officer	Doug Parkes	
Research Centre Coordinator	Jean Campbell,	
	<a href="mailto:jeanhcampbell47@gmail.com">jeanhcampbell47@gmail.com</a>	

## Meetings

Held on the first Wednesday of the month (except January) commencing at 7.30pm. March, June, September and December meetings held at 'Tradies', The Kingsway, Gympie. The remainder of the year, meetings held online via Zoom.

## 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/>

## Annual Membership Fees

From 1 Jul 2021: single – \$40; family – \$55; distance – \$22. Joining fee for all categories – \$10; membership renewals due 1 July each year.

## Research

Volunteers from BBFHS 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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# CALENDAR



Members are advised to check latest details on our Events Calendar at [www.botanybayfhs.org.au](http://www.botanybayfhs.org.au) or see your BBFHS eNEWS.

- Sep 6 Legacy Interest Group: 2-4pm Research Centre
- Sep 7 **Annual General Meeting – 7.30 pm at Tradies. Speaker – Allan Murrin.** *Topic – to be advised*
- Sep 10 English Interest Group: 2-4pm Zoom
- Sep 10-11 **NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Annual Conference Online**
- Sep 21 **Member’s Chat Meeting – 7.30 pm on Zoom**  
**Topic: Foreign Ancestors**
- Sep 22 Writers Interest Group: 1.30-3.30pm Research Centre
- Sep 24 DNA Interest Group: 1.30-3.30pm Zoom
- Oct 3 Labour Day Public Holiday (Centre closed, Monday)
- Oct 5 **Meeting – 7.30 pm on Zoom. Speaker – Janet Few**  
*Putting Your Ancestors in Place: 10 steps to a one place study*
- Oct 19 **Member’s Chat Meeting – 7.30 pm on Zoom**  
*Topic: Help, I’m Stuck*
- Oct 22 Irish Interest Group: 2-4pm Research Centre
- Nov 1 Legacy Interest Group: 2-4pm Research Centre
- Nov 2 **Meeting – 7.30 pm on Zoom. Speaker – Rob Hamilton**  
*What’s in a Mason’s case?*
- Nov 8 Family Tree Maker Interest Group: 1.30-3.30pm Centre & Zoom
- Nov 8-11 **Family History Down Under. Conference at Castle Hill**
- Nov 12 English Interest Group: 2-4pm Zoom
- Nov 16 **Member’s Chat Meeting – 7.30 pm on Zoom**  
*Topic: DNA – Has It Helped Me?*
- Nov 19 Australian Interest Group: 2-4pm Zoom
- Nov 24 Writers Interest Group: 1.30-3.30pm Research Centre
- Nov 26 DNA Interest Group: 1.30-3.30pm Zoom
- Dec 3 Scottish Interest Group – 2-4pm Research Centre
- Dec 7 **Meeting – 7.30 pm venue TBA. Speaker – Jennie Fairs**  
*Our Lives, Tomorrow’s History.*
- Dec 21 **Member’s Christmas Chat Meeting – 7.30 pm on Zoom**

Botany Bay Family History Society is a member of:





**Come to the State Conference at the Research Centre!  
Friday 16 & Saturday 17 September: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm**

Botany Bay FHS has paid for a group booking for the NSW & ACT State Family History Conference. The conference will be **FREE** for members who attend the Research Centre to view the Conference via Zoom. This will be a wonderful opportunity for members to attend a State Conference without having to travel to the venue in Newcastle. Although we won't be able to catch up with old friends from other societies – always a highlight of State Conferences – it will provide a wonderful opportunity for Botany Bay members to meet each other, socialise, to experience a conference and to learn something along the way.

We invite all Botany Bay FHS members to come along to the Research Centre to participate. Please email [botanybayfhs@yahoo.com.au](mailto:botanybayfhs@yahoo.com.au) to let us know if you will be attending. Free tea and coffee will be available but please bring your own lunch and any 'other drinks'. Kitchen amenities at the Centre include: refrigerator, microwave oven, pie warmer, stove top and oven, boiling water urn and washing up facilities.

View the conference program at <https://ridingthewavesofhistory.com.au/>.

As with all State Conferences, there is a raffle. Entries (\$2 to \$20) close about a week before the conference so that it can be drawn during the conference. The raffle prizes, and some are really great, are listed at <https://ridingthewavesofhistory.com.au/raffle/> Raffle tickets can be purchased at <https://tinyurl.com/4ef7rk33>.

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# PRESIDENT'S PAGE

## 2022 AGM REPORT

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Following two years fraught with Covid restrictions it is wonderful to find our society has weathered better than many. While we are still not quite back to our pre-Covid days it is nonetheless gratifying to see the Research Centre, Interest Groups and Education operating on a regular basis and the return of our monthly Tours.

The past year has also seen the introduction of our online payment system which not only makes it easier for our members to book events or renew their membership online but also allows non-members to attend various BBFHS events.

We have been fortunate not to have increased any fees for several years. However, our expenses have risen and our funds are now taking a hit. This year, our rent has increased along with a utility charge that Sutherland Shire Council now charges us on a quarterly basis. We have also had to purchase two new printers as well as a new administration computer. And we have had to take up a higher subscription package for our website hosting to allow for its continued growth. These increased and unexpected expenses may make it necessary to increase our revenue in the 2023-2024 financial year but your Committee will endeavour to keep any increase as small as possible.

The growth of our website by Pat **Fearnley** saw BBFHS win the coveted Dorothy Fellowes Best Website Award for the fourth time in 2021. Our website is pivotal to keeping our members up to date with events and other important information. It is also the face of BBFHS to the outside world and reflects the esteem in which BBFHS is held by other societies.

If you haven't visited the private Member's Area of our website lately then you will be surprised at our growing list of resources including access to the monthly UK Family Tree magazine, digital copies of journals we receive from other societies, webinars and presentations and the latest addition is a searchable index of names to the family history books found in the library of our Research Centre.

It would also be remiss of me not to mention that *The Endeavour*, our highly valued journal edited by John **Levy**, was runner up in the 2021 Nick Vine Hall Award for best family history journal/newsletter in Australia and New Zealand.

Under the leadership of Rhonda **McKinnon** BBFHS has recently begun an indexing project of the vertical files held in the 4-drawer filing cabinets at the back

of the Research Centre. These files hold a wealth of information taken from various society journals and newsletters which are culled each year. The new index will be available in the Member's Area of the website, and it is anticipated that this index will become a major resource for our members. The indexing is extremely easy to do and can be done at home. If you can spare a few hours to index a file, please let Rhonda or myself know. Material is filed by postcode order, and it would be wonderful to have all of Australia indexed by 2024, in time for our 40th anniversary.

I would like to thank outgoing committee members Carol Cronin and Lilian Magill for their service to BBFHS during their respective terms. While stepping down from Committee, both ladies will continue with their Education roles within the Society.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow committee members and the many volunteers who are always willing to offer a helping hand throughout the year. The constant support of the Society's volunteers, no matter how small or large their contribution, makes a huge difference to the successful operation of BBFHS.

**Jennie Fairs**

## **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).

1888	Pamela Mulholland	Greystanes
1889	Helen Johnston-Lord	Warnervale
1890	John Sparks	Miranda
1891	Jackie Piggot	Mortdale
1892	Tricia Henry	Caringbah South
1893	Jean Harrow	Caringbah South
1894	Annette McConnell	Sutherland
1895	Dianne Loney	Woolooware
1896	Faye Hammond	Engadine
1897	Ken Hammond	Engadine
1898	Jillian Thornton	Menai
1899	Estelle Green	Caringbah South

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# LIEUTENANT-COLONEL PERCY WILLIAM WOODS

by Kay Cook Member)

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Percy William **Woods** DSO (and Bar) MC MID) was born on 8 November 1885 in Sydney, New South Wales, the second of four sons of Frederick Woods of London and his wife Isabel **England**, of Melbourne. Percy was thickset, muscular and strong; as a young man he was a prominent amateur wrestler. He was commissioned lieutenant in the Senior Cadets, New South Wales, in 1911.

In Christ Church St. Lawrence, Sydney on 24 January 1914, Percy married Ethel Elizabeth **Cook**, younger daughter of John William Cook & Mary Jane (**Wright**). Born in 1866 at Macdonaldtown, New South Wales, Ethel was the younger sister of my husband's great grandfather. Elizabeth and Percy divorced on 6 March 1928 – reason given was desertion, Percy had not had any contact with Ethel for three years prior to the divorce. On 31 March 1928 he married Annie **Donohoe** in Canterbury, NSW



Percy Woods and Elizabeth Cook  
(photo: Kay Cook family album)

Percy enlisted on 4 September 1914 in the Australian Imperial Force as a sergeant with the 3rd Battalion. He embarked for Egypt in October and landed on Gallipoli on 25 April 1915. Commissioned on 19 May and promoted lieutenant on 7 August, Woods was a platoon commander in the attack on Lone Pine in August. It was said that the strain of that operation turned his dark brown hair quite grey.

He was mentioned in dispatches for his work at Gallipoli where he served until the evacuation. In both the *London Gazette* & the *Commonwealth of Australia Gazette* he was mentioned in dispatches on several occasions: *deserving of special mention Lieutenant Colonel P W Woods.*

He had joined the 55th Battalion, which served on the Western Front, in February 1916 and was promoted to captain, later major and eventually lieutenant-



colonel, and by June 1917 was their commanding officer, until the war's end.

His application in 1932 for disability benefits was rejected by the Repatriation Commission on the ground that his ill health was not due to war service. Appealing this decision, Woods was supported by wartime associates, including his batman and orderly-room sergeant; they testified that he had refused evacuation from the front line, despite being gassed on three occasions. On review, his pulmonary fibrosis was accepted as being war-related and a pension was granted. It was increased in 1933 when he stated that he was totally incapacitated.

Percy William Woods died in Sydney Hospital on 5 January 1937, and was cremated on 7 January at Rookwood Crematorium. His death & funeral notices were in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 6 January 1937, page 12:

WOODS.-January 5, 1937, Lieutenant-Colonel Percy William Woods, D.S.O. (Bar), M.C., late Commanding officer of 55th Battalion, A.I.F., dearly loved husband of Donnie Woods 55th BATTALION, A.I.F. VETERANS' ASSOCIATION. The Members of the above Association are Invited to attend the Funeral of their late Commanding Officer on Active Service, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL PERCY WILLIAM WOODS, D.S.O. (Bar), M.C.; to move from the Kinsela Chapels, Oxford-street, Taylor-square, Darlinghurst, THIS THURSDAY, after a short service to commence at 2.30 p.m., for the Crematorium, Rookwood. L W. CHADWICK. President. W. H. JENKINS. Hon. Secy.

#### REFERENCES

Australian Dictionary of Biography, Vol 12, 1990

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

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

NSW State Archives, Kingswood

Trove, <https://trove.nla.gov.au/>

## Holt's Family History Research

*Richard Holt*  
*UK Based Genealogist*

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[holtsfamilyhistoryresearch@gmail.com](mailto:holtsfamilyhistoryresearch@gmail.com)

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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 38 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

- Bush Track to Highway – 200 Years of Australian Roads. [A.HIS.27.3LC]
- Wunderbar Country - Germans Look at AUSTRALIA 1850-1914. [A.HIS.11.25LC]
- What Happened When – A Chronology of Australia from 1788. [A.HIS.1.56LC]
- Classrooms - A World Apart – The Story of the Founding of the Broken Hill School of the Air. [A.HIS.27.4LC]
- Tracking Down Your Ancestors – Discover the Story behind your Ancestors. [A.GUI.1.26LC]
- The Ark in your Pocket – How to Keep Your Family Connected for Thousands of Years. [A.GUI.2.6LC]

## NEW SOUTH WALES

- South Coast of New South Wales. [AN.HIS.41.10LC]
- 1788 – The People of the First Fleet. [AN.HIS.1.32LC]
- People of Wyong – Historic Buildings. [AN.LH.2259aLC]
- People of Wyong – Wyong District Schools. [AN.2259.2bLC]
- Death in the Hunter - Inquests in the Maitland Area, 1834-1942 – The Names [AN.SOU.4.14]
- Death in the Hunter - Inquests in the Maitland Area, 1834-1942 – The Reports 1841-1898. [AN.SOU.4.15]

## OVERSEAS

- Researching Southland – Regional Research. [NZ.GUI.1.5LC]
- The New Zealand Genealogist’s Family Historian. [NZ.GUI.1.4LC]

## GENERAL

- Do Not Forget – A Tribute to Ewan and Margaret Campbell - Early Settlers in Gerringong, New South Wales. [G.FH.CAM.4LC]
- Wrecks in Australian Waters – An Illustrated Survey of Shipwrecks, Fires, Collisions and Strandings on the Australian Coast. [G.IMM.A.HIS.2.15]
- Convict Days. [G.CONV.HIS.45LC]

- Man of Honour – John MacArthur. [G.BIOG.7.MAC.3LC]
- Flinders – The Man who Mapped Australia. [G.BIOG.7.FLI.4LC]
- Biographical Register of Muswellbrook and District. Volume 1. [G.BIOG.4N.33]
- Maitland District Pre 1900 Pioneer Register. [G.BIOG.4N.3]
- Crofts and Crofting. [G.OCC.BRIT.HIS.7LC]

**NOTE:** ‘LC’ indicates a loan copy, which can be borrowed; ‘CD’ a compact disc.

Compiled by Janette Daly (Librarian)

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## NOTES AND NEWS




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**Sydney Snapshots:** A new exhibition from 30 June 2022 until 5 March 2023 at the Museum of Sydney showcases snapshots of a city – highlights from a treasure-trove of images taken by the NSW Government Printing Office (GPO) Photographic Branch. From 1870 until the late 1940s, the GPO Photographic Branch documented much of the NSW Government’s activities using dry glass-plate negatives. The resulting images – crisply defined, wonderfully detailed and numbering in the tens of thousands – are today held in the NSW State Archives Collection. A curated selection of 28 images is featured in Sydney Snapshots at the Museum of Sydney. Discover the people, places and events that shaped our city in the first half of the 20th century, through the lens of GPO photographers. Book free tickets at <https://sydneylivingmuseums.com.au/exhibitions/sydney-snapshots> although general admission still has to be paid.



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# THE DOLANS OF DOLANS BAY

by Marshall Mills (Member)

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**S**usan Agnes Clune nee Dolan was my great grand mother. The Dolan family were very early settlers in the Sutherland Shire. Many of you will know Dolans Bay, a part of Port Hacking, which is named for the family. It is only a couple of hundred metres from our Botany Bay FHS Research Centre and Library.



The Dolan family, ca 1905 (photo: Sutherland Shire Library Local Studies Collection)

## PATRICK DOLAN and BRIDGET DOLAN

Patrick Dolan was born in 1809 in County Cavan, Ireland. He arrived in Sydney on 29 April 1844 on the ship *United Kingdom* as an assisted immigrant. On departure the ship carried 388 Bounty Immigrants but during the voyage three adults and 25 children died. The passenger list recorded Patrick as a 35-year-old agricultural labourer who could both read and write. Accompanying Patrick was his wife Bridget aged 30 and daughters Rose 11, Margaret 9, Bridget 7, Susan Agnes 5 and Catherine 3. Another daughter, Mary, was recorded in the Nominal List of Deaths as having died of chronic hydrocephalus during the voyage, on 10 January 1844. A son Dominick, 13 was also listed. The family were Roman Catholic, and a bounty was paid for the family of £91.7s.6d. being £18.7s.6d. for each of the adults and £9.3s.9d. for each of the children. About a month after their arrival, a note had been made on the agent's list on 20 May 1844 stating that Patrick refused to work with a Mr. Boyd, that his son Dominic was employed as a

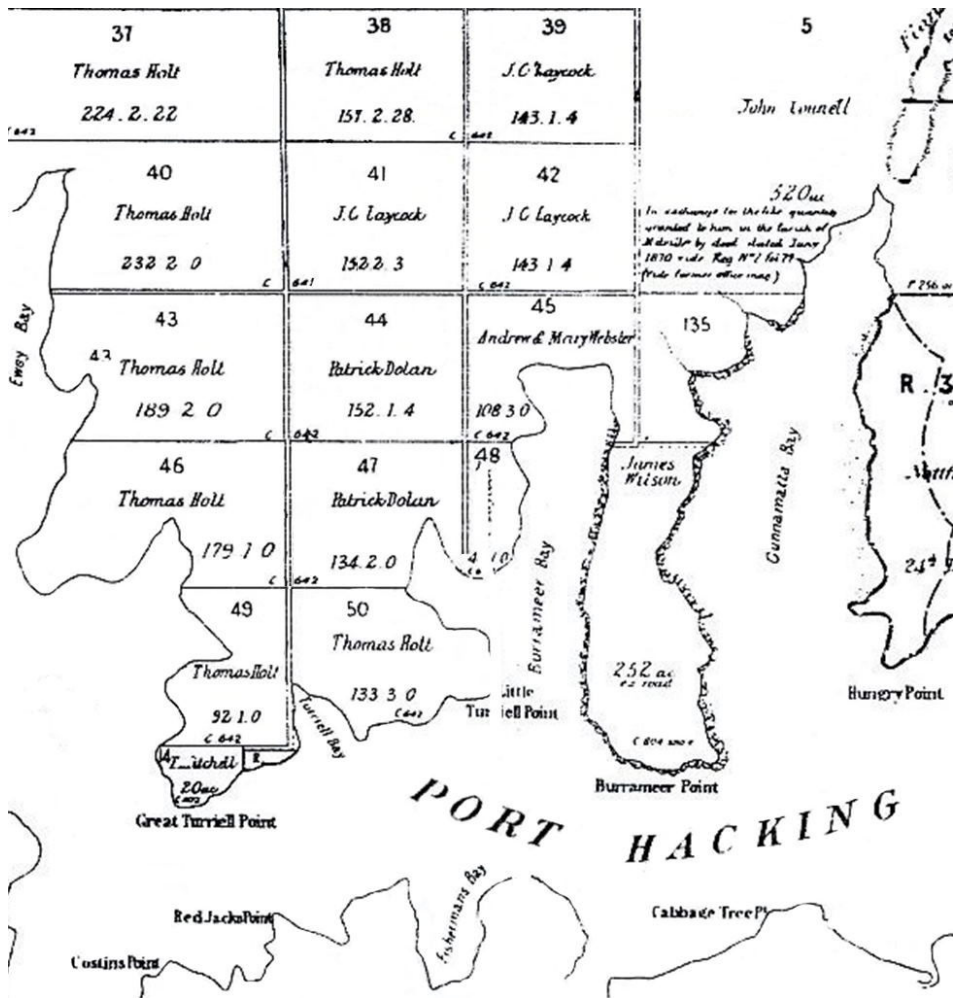
butcher and that two of his daughters were also employed. Bridget was employed milking cows and with her employment came a house.

Little is known of the family's early days in the Colony. However, in December 1855, a Patrick Dolan was licensee of the Captain Cook Hotel, Spring Street, Sydney. This may not be the same Patrick Dolan but later others in the family were involved in the hotel industry. Daughter Margaret married into the **Barden** family who operated hotels and daughter Susan operated a hotel in Arncliffe. However the money was acquired, by January 1857 Patrick had sufficient funds to buy two parcels of land. One purchase, (block 44, ref 57/255), was of 61.62 ha for £154.5s.6d. Another plot, (block 47, ref 57/256), of 54.42 ha was for £134.5s.6d. There is no reference to say that the property was encumbered. This land, totalling some 1.16 km<sup>2</sup>, was on the western side of Burraneer Bay and included the area now known as Dolans Bay.

Daughter Bridget died in 1849. Her burial is recorded as a Roman Catholic burial, on 28 August 1849, in the Parish of Saint James in the County of Cumberland (State Records NSW Reel 5044 Volume 117). Although no parents are named, her age is given as 14 years, her place of death as Redfern and the ship of arrival *United Kingdom*, confirming she was Patrick and Bridget's daughter.

An article in the *Sydney Mail* of 9 November 1861 noted that a Patrick Dolan residing on Georges River, discovered a body. At first the body was supposed to be of Joseph **Sutcliffe** who had drowned in Botany Bay about a fortnight previously. Later, it was thought to be the body of a man who fell overboard from the ketch *Star* about a fortnight before the time referred to. Dolan, upon finding the body, took several men, employed as fencers by Thomas **Holt**, to the beach and with their assistance buried the body there. Dolan then went to Sydney and reported the occurrence to the City Coroner who declined to hold an inquest because the location where the body was found, in the Parish of Sutherland, was then in the Police District of Liverpool.

Patrick Dolan's Burraneer Bay property was almost surrounded by that of Thomas Holt who began to acquire all the vacant crown land between Botany Bay and Port Hacking for a huge sheep and cattle station. Holt also bought out most of the private landowners in the district, but Patrick refused to sell. Frank Cridland, in his book *The Story of Port Hacking, Cronulla and Sutherland Shire* (1924) records: *Dolan was one of the early identities in the district and the only landowner in the Shire who refused to sell his land to Holt. Rumour has it that Dolan refused very tempting offers for his property. As generally happens when a "squatters run" embraces a small holder within its boundaries, a feud sprang up between the respective owners, especially as one was of Celtic strain, and they were many disputes between Dolan and Holt's overseers in regard to straying stock and rights of ingress. (Page 49)*



Map – part of the Parish of Sutherland 1882, showing Patrick Dolan’s plots.

Patrick had built a substantial residence on Georges River known as *Ocean View*. Here, on 11 October 1869 Patrick and Bridget’s third daughter Susan Agnes married Michael Joseph Clune. It was also at *Ocean View* on 6 October 1871 that Patrick Dolan died. The cause of death was recorded as being from *organic stricture of the oesophagus* (probably from gastric reflux or cancer) of which he had been suffering for seven months. Children of Patrick’s marriage were recorded as one boy and four girls living, with one girl deceased. The informant for the death was the son-in-law, Michael Clune, who probably did not know of Mary’s death on the voyage out. Patrick was buried two days later on 8 October at the Catholic Cemetery Petersham, after a service at St Joseph’s Church Newtown.

On the 6th instant, at his residence, Ocean View, George's River, after a long and painful illness, Mr. PATRICK DOLAN, aged 60 years, deeply regretted. R. I. P.

Patrick Dolan -- Death Notice

Sydney Morning Herald, Saturday 7 Oct 1871, Page 10

## FUNERALS.

**T**HE FRIENDS of Mr. MICHAEL CLUNE are invited to attend the Funeral of his late departed FATHER-IN-LAW, Mr. Patrick Dolan; to move from St. Joseph's Church, Newtown, on SUNDAY, at half-past 2 o'clock, for Catholic Cemetery, Petersham. J. and G. SHYING and CO., Undertakers, 719, George-street South.

**T**HE FRIENDS of the late Mr. PATRICK DOLAN are invited to attend his Funeral; to move from St. Joseph's Church, Newtown, on SUNDAY AFTERNOON, at half-past 2 o'clock, for Catholic Cemetery, Petersham. J. and G. SHYING and CO., Undertakers, 719, George-street South.

**T**HE FRIENDS of Mr. DOMINICK DOLAN are invited to attend the Funeral of his late beloved FATHER, Patrick; to move from St. Joseph's Church, Newtown, on SUNDAY AFTERNOON, at half-past 2 o'clock. J. and G. SHYING and CO., Undertakers, 719, George-street South; 60, Riley-street.

Patrick Dolan -- Funeral Notice

Sydney Morning Herald, Saturday 7 October 1871, Page 10

In his will Patrick left the house and garden to his wife and upon her death it was to pass to his daughter Rose as well as 30.7 ha. Catherine was left the remaining 32.0 ha. Of the other farm Dominic was to receive 13.7 ha, with 20.2 ha each to go to daughters Susan and Margaret. Minor hectares were to be sold to cover death expenses.

Daughter Rose and husband Thomas Stanley were living at Waverley and it was there on 4 October 1891 that Bridget died. She was buried two days later on 6 October at the Catholic Cemetery, Petersham. Her funeral left from the home of Rose and Thomas Stanley at Waverley. Bridget was buried with her husband even though Petersham Cemetery had closed to new burials in 1885. Until 1905 the only burials allowed were by those families adding relatives to existing graves. In 1926/1927, remains of all persons buried, along with all slabs and tombstones, were removed from Petersham Cemetery to Rookwood Cemetery or Bunnerong (Botany) Cemetery. Rose Stanley died much later, 12 May 1910.



**T**HE FRIENDS of the late Mrs. BRIDGET DOLAN are respectfully invited to attend her Funeral; to move from the residence of her son-in-law, Mr. Thomas Stanley, Isabella-street, Waverley, THIS (Tuesday) AFTERNOON, at quarter-past 1 o'clock, to Catholic Cemetery, Petersham. CHARLES KINSELA, 116 Oxford-st.

Bridget Dolan -- Funeral Notice

The Sydney Morning Herald Tuesday 6 Oct 1891 Page 8

## DOMINIC(K) DOLAN 1831-1888

Dominick Dolan was born in County Cavan Ireland in 1809. He arrived in New South Wales aged 13, on 29 April 1844 aboard the *United Kingdom* with his parents and sisters.

A marriage occurred at St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney on 11 September 1854 between Dominic Dolan and Charlotte **Greenslade**. Neither signed their name but each made their mark. The ceremony was conducted by John **Maher** and the witnesses were Patrick **Moore** and Hanah **Carton**, both of Sydney. Because this was before the start of official registration no other details of the bride or groom were recorded. The couple lived in Newtown and went on to produce a large family. A son Thomas was born in 1856 but died five years later. A daughter Margaret Susannah born in 1858 also died young in 1882 at only 23. A son Samuel Thomas born in 1861 lived till 1913, raising a large family. There followed Charlotte E 1863-1867, Dominick G 1865-1932, and Frederick John 1869-1939.

When Charlotte died at 90 in 1915 her obituary appeared on 9 December in the *Sydney Morning Herald* and stated she had lived in the same house in Newtown for 60 years. No mention was made of her husband Dominic, other than his encounter with the bushranger Gardiner. *For Gardiner she had a great respect, on account of his treatment of her husband when he bailed him up. Gardiner met Dolan and demanded his money. Dolan had none with him and posed as a poor man. On finding the man had no money, Gardiner gave him £1, saying, "I love to rob the rich and give to the poor.* Is this Dominic Dolan the son of Patrick and Bridget who arrived in NSW in 1844 or a completely different person? No confirmation has been found either way and to date no other Dominick Dolan has been located in this time frame and area.

We do know that in 1865 Dominick Dolan purchased land adjoining that of his father from Mr **Webster** for £130. He built a house at 47 Dominic Street, Dolans Bay. This house was still standing over a century later when advertised in a community newspaper, sometime after 1966, for sale for \$895,000. The house was described as follows: *History and character abound in this near century old house*



formerly owned by Dominic Dolan after whom Dolans Bay was named. Despite its history the home only shows its age through hand-picked sandstone bricks at the front and exposed stonework in various rooms. Stonework, including a quaint duckpond, also features in the established gardens on the property.

Dominick Dolan died 24 July 1888 at his sister Susan's residence, the West Botany Hotel in Arncliffe where he had been living since the previous May due to ill health. Dominick's funeral, on 26 July 1888 left from the West Botany Hotel, going first to Newtown Station, then by train to the Catholic Cemetery at Rookwood.

**Funerals.**

**THE FRIENDS** of the late **Mr. DOMINICK DOLAN**, of Port Hacking, are respectfully invited to attend his Funeral, **THIS (Thursday) AFTERNOON**; to move from the residence of his sister, Mrs. S. Clune, the West Botany Hotel, Arncliffe, at 1 o'clock, to the Newtown station, per train to the Catholic Cemetery, Necropolis. T. DIXON, Undertaker.

**THE FRIENDS** of Mrs. **SUSAN CLUNE** are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of her beloved **BROTHER**, the late Mr. Dominick Dolan, **THIS (Thursday) AFTERNOON**; to move from her residence, the West Botany Hotel, Arncliffe, at 1 o'clock, to the Newtown station, per train to the Catholic Cemetery, Necropolis. T. DIXON, Undertaker.

**THE FRIENDS** of Mrs. **S. BARDEN** are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of her beloved **BROTHER**, the late Mr. Dominick Dolan, **THIS (Thursday) AFTERNOON**; to move from the residence of his sister, Mrs. S. Clune, the West Botany Hotel, Arncliffe, at 1 o'clock, to the Newtown station, per train to the Catholic Cemetery, Necropolis. T. DIXON, Undertaker.

**THE FRIENDS** of Mr. and Mrs. **J. CANDY** are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of their **BROTHER**, the late Mr. Dominick Dolan; to move from the residence of his sister, the West Battery Hotel, Arncliffe, **THIS (Thursday) AFTERNOON** at 1 o'clock, to the Newtown Station, per train to the Catholic Cemetery, Necropolis. T. DIXON, Undertaker.

**THE FRIENDS** of Mr. and Mrs. **F. STANLEY** are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of their beloved **BROTHER-IN-LAW**, the late Mr. Dominick Dolan, **THIS (Thursday) AFTERNOON**; to move from the residence of his sister, Mrs. S. Clune, the West Botany Hotel, Arncliffe, at 1 o'clock, to the Newtown station, per train to the Catholic Cemetery, Necropolis.

**THE FRIENDS** of Messrs. **FREDERICK** and **JOSEPH** and **FRANK BARDEN** are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of their beloved **UNCLE**, the late Mr. Dominick Dolan, **THIS (Thursday) AFTERNOON**; to move from the residence of his sister, Mrs. S. Clune, the West Botany Hotel, Arncliffe, at 1 o'clock, to the Newtown station, per train to the Catholic Cemetery, Necropolis.

**Dominick Dolan – Funeral Notice**  
**Sydney Morning Herald Thursday 26 July**  
**1888 Page 12 Family Notices**

Sacred to the Memory of  
OUR DEAR AND ONLY BROTHER  
**DOMINICK DOLAN,**  
Who died on his sister's residence,  
**WEST BOTANY HOTEL, ARNCLIFFE,**  
on the 24th JULY 1888, at  
the age of 44 YEARS  
Wishes of Family Friends, Relatives  
"LOVE HAVE MERCY ON HIS SOUL"

**Dominick Dolan Headstone Rookwood**

Dominick Dolan's will was dated the 30th of June 1888. Some weeks after making this will on 23 July 1888, just the day before his death, Dominick added a codicil. In this will and codicil Dominic made no mention of a wife Charlotte or any children who would have been living at the time. Had there been an estrangement between these parties, or had this Dominick in fact been a bachelor to his death?

In his will Dominick left to his nephews Frank Barden and Joseph Barden 36 acres of land at Turriell Bay, Port Hacking, also £100 to each. He also left £100 to each of his nephews (Frederick Barden, John Clunes and Joseph Clunes) and to each of his nieces (Clara Barden, Rosa Barden, Mary Clunes, and Rosa Clunes). To

his mother Bridget he left £1 per week until her death and noted that all her death and funeral expenses were to be taken from his estate.

The codicil to Dominick's will, dated 23rd of July, directed that if any surplus was left after all his debts were paid and bequests made, it was to be equally divided between the Saint Magdalene's Convent Tempe and Saint Vincent's Hospital Sydney.

Dominick's estate was valued at £5,610. After his death his will and codicil were contested in court by James and Catherine **Candy**, also Bridget Dolan. They requested that the court decide whether the document dated 30 June 1888 was the last will and testament of Dominic Dolan, whether the document purporting to be a codicil was such, whether when Dominic made the will, he was of sound mind and whether both or either document had been obtained by coercion or undue influence. The case was heard in 1889 in the NSW Supreme Court on 8 and 9 April. Proceedings were reported in the *Sydney Morning Herald Law Reports* of 9 April and 10 April and also in the *Daily Telegraph* of 10 April. After the judge's summing up the jury took only about five minutes to reach a verdict in favour of the plaintiffs on all issues "answering the first three in the affirmative and the fourth in the negative" ie. the will and codicil were upheld. No undue influence was found.

All the Dolans land in the area was eventually sold between 1890 and 1910 but the Dolan name lives on in this bayside suburb in the Sutherland Shire.

### **ROSE (ROSANNA) DOLAN 1832-1919**

Patrick and Bridget's first born daughter Rose or Rosanna married Thomas Stanley on 28 October 1879 at *Ocean View*. The couple made their home at Waverley and it was here that Rose's mother Bridget died in 1891. It appears that Rose and Thomas had no children. No birth registrations have been found and no children are mentioned in the death or funeral notices for Rose following her death at her home, *Stoneleigh*, in Wollongong Road Arncliffe on 6 August 1919. There is no mention made of Thomas in these notices either. Rose was buried at Woronora Cemetery in the Roman Catholic Monumental Section.

### **MARGARET DOLAN 1834-1906**

Patrick and Bridget's daughter Margaret married Sidney Barden in St Mary's Cathedral on 30 April 1856. The couple raised a very large family before Sidney died in 1870 and was buried at St Peters. The family were involved in the hotel industry and at one time owned a property at Menai of 111 acres (45 ha) on which they ran cattle. A large barn on the property was used for New Year dances, followed by races and sports in Barden's paddock. Margaret died in 1906; her funeral on 16<sup>th</sup> June was at Rookwood Catholic Cemetery.

## **SUSAN AGNES DOLAN 1838-1910**

Patrick and Bridget's third daughter Susan Agnes married Michael Joseph Clune at the Dolan's *Ocean View* residence on 11 October 1869. The marriage was officiated by the Rev. P J **Fitzpatrick**. Susan and Michael had a family of two boys John and Joseph, and two girls Mary and Rose before, in 1881 Michael died at only 35 years of age. Susan then took over operation of the West Botany Hotel at Arncliffe. She died 12 May 1910 and was buried with Michael at Woronora Cemetery.

## **CATHERINE DOLAN 1840-1919**

Catherine, the fourth daughter of Patrick and Bridget Dolan was married in 1882 to James Joseph Candy. By 1888 Catherine had fallen from favour with brother Dominick as she was deliberately left out of his will. Dominick is reputed to have said that she had squandered her own property and she wasn't going to squander his property. Catherine and James had no children and were living at Harbour Street Wollongong in 1919. Catherine died on 14 March 1919 in Wollongong Hospital and was buried next day in the Roman Catholic Monumental section of Woronora Cemetery. James survived Catherine by many years and was living at Grove Street Earlwood when he died in 1941. He too was buried in Roman Catholic Monumental section of Woronora Cemetery.



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# FREDERICH CARLSEN – A SAD LIFE

by Aileen Young (Member)

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**F**rederich Carlsen was my paternal 3 x great grandfather. He was born on 2 October 1776 in Aakirkeby, Bornholm, Denmark, which is a town on the island of Bornholm in the Baltic Sea. His father was Carl Fridrich **Barfed** who was born in 1750 in Hoejlyngen Asker, Bornholm and baptized on 19 April 1750 in Aakirkeby, Bornholm. His mother was Dorthe Jensdatter **Hjorth**, born in 1745 at Nyby Asker, Bornholm. Frederich and his younger brother Jorgen were the only surviving sons from seven boys born between 1773 and 1786.

In September 1790 a tragedy struck. In a drunken rage after a night of drinking and womanizing, their father threw the boys' mother down their well, drowning her. Convicted of her murder, he was sentenced to death. The priest of Aakirkeby wrote in his church book in 1791 – *On the 5th of September, I walked to the scaffold the delinquent Carl Fridrich Barfod from the town, that for the deed of forcing his wife into a well was executed by a sword.*

For the early part of their lives, where the two brothers went or who looked after them, I have been unable to discover. I could not find any records; censuses were not taken in Denmark between the years 1801 and 1834 because of the wars between Denmark and England. I finally found them in a ship's website <http://skippere.dk> which has a database of Danish mariners – covering more than 13,908 examined skippers and helmsmen, 4,348 ships and 13,551 destinations for the period 1707-1839.

It seems Jorgen (born 19 November 1780 and died 1852) stayed in this occupation. He was Skipper on the ship *Salvator*. He married Maria Jacobine **Hansen**, 1790-1857, on 3 February 1818 in Vor Frue Kirke Kobenhavn. They had six daughters. Jorgen and his family are recorded in the 1834 - 1850 censuses as living at Lille Strandstraede 70, Stuen til Gaden Kobenhavn, occupation Skipper.

Frederich was a sailor on the ship *Haabet* in 1811 from April to August. Sometime before he joined the ship, he had been dismissed from the Kings Regiment Chasseur Company. This is stated on his second marriage record.

On 28 October 1810, Frederich first married Karen Marie Kirstine Jeppesen **Seest (Schedst)**, b. 1781, in the Garnisons Kirke Kobenhavn – the Garrison Church, Copenhagen. Frederich and Karen had two daughters, Karen Frederikke Dorthea (my great great grandmother) born 11 September 1812 and Jorgina Caroline born 8 July 1815 who sadly died on 2 August 1815. Karen died on 11 July 1815 after giving birth to Jorgina.

As Karen was only three years old where did she go? I like to think she was

looked after by her Uncle Jorgen. Many years later when Karen was dying my great grandmother (in Australia) received a letter from her sister in Denmark. In it was a reference to her Carlsen cousins saying how good they were to Karen in her last days.

I then found a second marriage record for Frederich. He married Christine Elizabeth **Newmann** (c1796-1839) on 10 March 1816 in the Garnisons Kirke Kobenhavn.

They had four children – three girls: Sophie Magdelene 1819-1820, Sophie Magdalena 1821-1823, Emma 1824-1824 and one boy: Jorgen Carl 1828 - 1838.



Garnisons Kirke Kobenhavn

(photo: Ib Rasmusson, public domain)

Frederich is mentioned with wife Christine and son Jorgen in the 1834 Census living in Adelgade 235, Sidehuset paa Qvisten Kobenhavn, occupation Worker under the Ministry of Justice. His wife and son are listed as living under the Danish Poor Relief System. Frederich died on 21 December 1835 in Almindeligh Hospital / de Gamies By (Hospital for the Poor), Kobenhavn. Christine died on 2 February 1839 in the same hospital.

Sadly by the 1840 census the only survivor from this family Carlsen is my great great grandmother Karen. Out of all that sorrow, Karen married Carl Emilius **Kempf**, 1814-1870, and they had nine children – two boys and seven girls. Two daughters died in infancy. Of her surviving children two daughters remained in Denmark and two sons immigrated to Australia. One son Carl Ferdinand Emilius (Charles **Campbell**) first emigrated in 1859. He was the co-discoverer, with my great grandfather, of copper at Cobar. His married brother, two single sisters and a married sister followed six years later. My great grandfather Thomas Alfred **Hartmann** married the youngest daughter Henriette Laura.

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# HERNE BAY – A VERTICAL FILE SNIPPET

by Rhonda McKinnon (Member)

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**D**id you know? That when the railway to East Hills was opened in 1931 one station was named Herne Bay, after a small arm of Salt Pan Creek. In 1958 the name was changed to Riverwood.

From 1788 to 1816 the area was inhabited by aboriginal tribes with an occasional visit from escaped convicts or hunters employed by the Government. White settlement in the area officially began in 1810 with a series of land grants.

Market gardeners and timber getters mainly occupied the area between Hurstville and Liverpool.

Herne Bay Railway Station (now Riverwood) opened on 21 December 1931. The station was serviced by rail motor until 17 December 1939, because the East Hills line was only electrified as far as Kingsgrove.

During late 1942 the US Army took over a 15 hectare site located in the area between Canterbury Road and the East Hills Railway Line, Salt Pan Creek and Bonds Road. The largest military hospital in Australia was built on this site by the Australian Government under Reverse Land-Lease for the 118th General Hospital, US Army, which was formed by doctors and nurses from John Hopkins University Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. It was planned as a hospital centre for five hospitals and 490 timber barrack-type buildings called huts were constructed. They housed 4,250 beds and accommodated 1,250 patients and 3,500 staff.

The hospital staff arrived in Sydney in June 1942 and ran the hospital from August 1942, with a section at Hydro Majestic Hotel at Medlow Bath. During 1945 the US Army vacated the hospital and the site was taken over by the Royal Navy. A Royal Navy Hospital occupied many of the buildings in January 1946 and the Australian Army used other sections.

*Extracted from the Journal of Hurstville FHS June/July 2002.*

**EDITOR'S NOTE. The vertical file in our Research Centre has a wealth of information. Rhonda and her team are currently indexing the file to make it easily available to members. If you would like to join this project – you can do just a little or a lot – please email Rhonda at [rhondamck5@bigpond.com](mailto:rhondamck5@bigpond.com).**



## WHEELCHAIR ACCESS

is available at the Research Centre.

Please phone 9523 8948 to make arrangements.

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# HENRY HARRISON BRISCOE, FROM KILKENNY.....

By Rowan Morrison (Member)

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Henry Harrison **Briscoe** lies in an unassuming grave near his wife Elizabeth in St. Saviour's Church of England Cemetery, Canterbury Road Punchbowl, NSW.<sup>1</sup> However, the simplicity of his burial place belies his birth, the full life he lived and the journey that led him there.

Henry was born in 1837 in county Waterford Ireland into a well-to-do family of Henry Harrison Briscoe (snr) and Elizabeth Thomasina (nee **Walsh**). He was christened on 27 August that year in Clonmore, County Kilkenny<sup>2</sup> near the family estate at Cloncunny.<sup>3</sup>

Henry Snr was a magistrate<sup>4</sup> in Kilkenny and Inspector of Poor Law in County Clare<sup>5</sup> during the later years and aftermath of the Great Famine. He was later appointed as the Inspector General of Poor Law in northern Scotland.<sup>6</sup>

Young Henry was one of six children and the fourth and youngest son. At that time in Ireland younger sons of the gentry would generally not inherit property but rather be provided with careers such as the church, diplomatic corps or the military, and the latter seems to have been decided as young Henry's destiny.

Henry is next recorded in the 1851 census<sup>7</sup> when as a 13-year-old he was attending the Preparatory Military School at Eltham in Kent. His fellow students included boys from throughout England, several from Ireland and British India plus one from Australia. These latter classmates might, at least in part, explain his future travels.

In November 1855 it was announced in the Irish press that an Ensign commission was purchased for him in the 81st Regiment of Foot (Loyal Lincoln Volunteers).<sup>8</sup> The price of an Ensign's commission at that time was £450, being approximately equivalent to £30,000 (\$52,000) today. The 81st had been stationed in Kilkenny at various times but was in India when Henry joined them. Shortly afterwards, in July 1856, Henry was promoted to Lieutenant with the purchase of that commission<sup>9</sup> presumably for the required additional £250.

When the Indian Mutiny broke out in May 1857 the 81st Regiment was instrumental in disarming the rebels in and around Lahore in present day Pakistan, in maintaining order and preventing the spread of the mutiny in the Punjab.<sup>10</sup> In 1858 he was part of the Regiment's expedition to the northwestern frontier in what is known as the Euzoffzaie expedition<sup>11</sup> to punish the inhabitants for harbouring mutineers. For his service Henry received the Indian Mutiny Medal.

On his return from the frontier, he married the twenty year old Annie Alice **Roberts** in Bombay.<sup>12</sup> From her death certificate we learn that Annie had been born in Hyderabad the daughter of Edward Howard Roberts and Mary (nee **Rodney**).

Henry retired from the 81st Regiment in March 1861<sup>13</sup> when he sold his Lieutenant's commission. Family stories suggest that for the next few years he worked in a bank or with the East India Company but no evidence of this has been discovered.

In early 1865 Annie developed a lung disease and the young Briscoes migrated to Australia arriving in Melbourne in about April of that year. They lived at 2 Nicholson Street, Fitzroy, where Annie's condition deteriorated, and she died on 1 January 1866.<sup>14</sup> The following day she was buried in Melbourne cemetery.<sup>15</sup> Annie's death certificate also indicates that she had a child, another Henry Harrison, who had died but no other record of this child has been found.

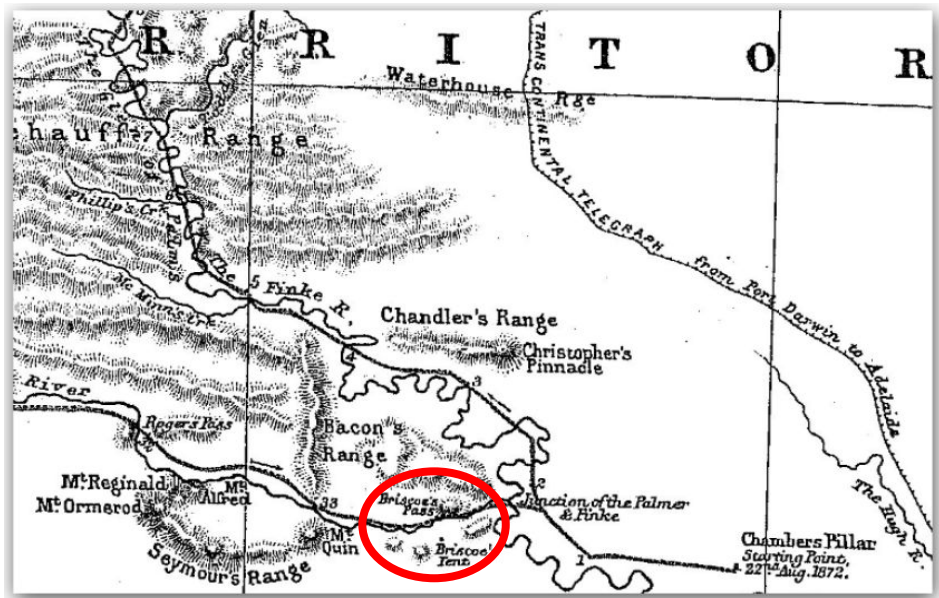
It appears that Henry 'went bush' soon after Annie's death as his next appearance is in the 1869-70 electoral rolls for Balranald in NSW.<sup>16</sup> He was recorded as residing in the Darling Back Country at Langawirra some 130 km northwest of Broken Hill. Later from the 1878-79 electoral roll<sup>17</sup> we see he had a leasehold property at nearby Kayrunera in the Darling Back Blocks.

We know that Henry met the explorer Ernest **Giles** in about 1865 during time the latter spent west of the Darling River in search of land suitable for pastoral use. Giles subsequently led three expeditions into Australia's unknown western interior between 1872 and 1876. He made the following reference to Henry in the book recording these travels in relation to a location about 130 km south of Alice Springs:

*Friday, 15th November [1972] — I rested the horses at this place to-day and did not move the camp. I walked to the top of the tent-hill, and from there saw, that the creek went through another pass a little to the N.E. of our camp. In the afternoon I rode over to this pass, and found some ponds of water a little to the west of it; a bullock, whose tracks I had seen on the creek, had got bogged here, and was now left high and dry. I called these ponds and pass "Briscoe's-Pass" and "Briscoe's-Ponds," and the little tent hill I have named "Briscoe's-Tent," after Mr. H. H. Briscoe, of the Darling-River, who was living with my two friends, Messrs. Middleton and Rogers, when I last saw him.*<sup>18</sup>

It can be concluded that Henry Harrison Briscoe was a long standing and well-respected resident of the Darling Back Country. Although he may not have travelled further west to the interior of the continent, his name surely did.





Other residents of Langawirra Station included James Stewart **Campbell** who married Clara **Harrod** in May 1871.<sup>19</sup> Clara was the daughter of Charles and Elizabeth Harrod who with their family migrated from England to Australia in 1852, arriving in Melbourne on the ship *Marco Polo*<sup>20</sup> in September of that year. It is likely to be more than coincidence that Henry's future mother-in-law, Annie **Livingston** also arrived in Australia with her family, on the *Marco Polo*.

When Henry finally remarried it was as a 45-year-old widower to the 24 year old Elizabeth **Warren**, daughter of Richard Robins Warren and Ann Livingston, on 1 February 1883 at the Registry Office in Hoddle Street, Collingwood, Victoria.<sup>21</sup> Elizabeth was the eldest of the 13 Warren children and was born on 5 January 1859<sup>22</sup> at Huntly, Victoria.

Henry and Elizabeth's marriage certificate shows that his usual residence was Wilcannia, NSW where he was an overseer while Elizabeth lived with her family at Lake Leaghur in northern Victoria working as a domestic servant. It is not known how and where the couple met but the *Marco Polo* connection is a possibility.

Elizabeth was apparently pregnant when they married as their first child, Elizabeth Caroline Marion Thomasina<sup>23</sup>, known as 'Carrie', was born less than seven months later on 31 August 1883 in Hawthorne, Victoria. They were both living at Smith Street, Fitzroy when they married. Two years later a second daughter, Emily Alice Isabella Livingstone<sup>24</sup> who the family called 'Sister', was born before the family moved to country New South Wales.

In NSW, Henry took up a position in the Cobar area as caretaker at the 64 Mile Tank, South Road. This position was most likely gained through another former resident of the Darling Back Blocks, James **Boulton**. Boulton had resided at Gnalta, not far from Langawirra, in the 1877-78<sup>25</sup> period, and in 1886 he had joined the Department of Mines and Agriculture as Superintendent of Public Watering Places. Henry later named one of his sons Boulton.

Their next child, Alfred Edward Henry Harrison was born at the 64 Mile Tank on 1 November 1886<sup>26</sup> followed by George Albert Ernest Sidney on 7 May 1888.<sup>27</sup>

The next family home was at The Rock, 32 km southwest of Wagga Wagga in southern New South Wales, where Henry was the caretaker of the new Government tank. The Rock township was established along Burke's Creek, a tributary of the Murrumbidgee River, and the town plan gazetted in 1882. The railway station called Hanging Rock was also completed in that year and the tank near the railway line supplied water to the town. As it was dug in 1892, Henry was most likely its first caretaker.

Their fifth child, Arthur William Boulton Torrance was born at The Rock on 10 September 1892<sup>28</sup> but unfortunately, he died on 2 October the following year. Arthur lies buried in a lone grave beside the Old Wagga (Collingullie) Road on the north bank of Burkes Creek with the marble plaque inscription including the sentiment *Tho' lost to sight, To memory dear*. The grave was supposed to be part of a cemetery on that site, but this was eventually established elsewhere. A heritage study of the Wagga Wagga area referred to Arthur's grave stating that: *This child's grave is a poignant reminder of the hardship of life in the country during the 19<sup>th</sup> century*.



Arthur Briscoe's grave and headstone (photo: Rowan Morrison)

The death of baby Arthur in October 1893 may have been the catalyst for Henry and Elizabeth's decision to have their other four children christened together at nearby Wagga Wagga in St John's Church of England on 14 November 1893.<sup>29</sup>



Henry and Eliza's next child, John Robins Warren Low Briscoe was born at The Rock on 11 January 1895.<sup>30</sup> However, when their next son Livingstone Eugene James Alexander was born on 17 July 1896<sup>31</sup>, it was at Pine Street, Sydney, but the reason for being in Sydney at that time is not known.

The youngest child of Henry and Elizabeth, Doris Daisy Mary Devereux, was born on 7 July 1898<sup>32</sup> after the family had moved to Tooloora Bore near Walgett. Henry was again the caretaker of a Government bore.

On 2 March 1901<sup>33</sup> another girl, Ethel Josephine Dorothy Agnes Briscoe, was born at Tooloora Bore. Her birth certificate shows her as illegitimate with Elizabeth Briscoe, aged 46 years, as her mother and the local 28-year-old grocer, Edward James **Rhynhart**, as the father. The seventeen-year-old Carrie was 'present at the birth' and known to the family as the real mother.

It is not known exactly when the family moved to Sydney, but the Sands Directory indicates a H.H. Briscoe in North Sydney in 1907, a Henry H. Briscoe at Newtown in 1908 and a H.H. Briscoe in Moorefields Road Canterbury in 1909. It is not clear if these refer to our Henry.

However, in 1909 our Henry Harrison Briscoe was registered as a pensioner in the electoral roll at a 13 acre property where they made their home in Tower Street, Beaconsfield, East Hills.<sup>34</sup>

Henry and his family lived at East Hills until his death from cancer of the liver on 13 April 1912,<sup>35</sup> aged 75 years. His death certificate showed that had been 50 years in NSW and about 1 year in Victoria. He was buried on 15 April 1912 at St. Saviour's Church, Row B, Grave No 61.<sup>36</sup>



Henry Harrison Briscoe's headstone (photo: Rowan Morrison)

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the Centre assistants are there and they like to help.



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# LIFT MECHANIC KILLED

by Janet **Kendrigan** (Member)

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**T**homas John **Ross** was born in Victoria in 1916. In 1937, Thomas had a fatal accident in the London Stores building in Melbourne. He was my 1st cousin, once removed.



The London Stores building on the south-east corner of Bourke and Elizabeth Streets in Melbourne was one of the major emporiums in the mid-20th century designed by H W and F B **Tomkins**. The building was completed in 1925 with reinforced concrete, (invented a few years earlier), allowing taller buildings to be built. There were ten floors in this building; elevators were installed to allow people easier access. The building had offices above two floors of men's wear.

The accident was reported in *The Argus* newspaper, in Melbourne, Victoria on Thursday 11 November, 1937:

## **LIFT MECHANIC KILLED**

*Struck by a two and a half ton lift weight while he was working in a lift well at the London Stores building in Elizabeth Street city early yesterday morning, Thomas Ross, mechanic aged 20 years of Normanby Street Moonee Ponds was killed instantly.*

*Ross who was employed by Johns and Waygood Ltd City road South Melbourne had finished greasing two lifts and was working on a third when the mishap occurred.*

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## **COPY DEADLINE**

Please submit copy for the December 2022 journal as soon as it is available but the deadline is **Wednesday 2 November** – preferably by email to the Editor at [bbfhs\\_ed@yaho.com.au](mailto:bbfhs_ed@yaho.com.au). Copy may also be left in the Editor's folder at the Centre, handed to the Editor or a committee member at a monthly meeting or posted to **PO Box 1006 Sutherland NSW 1499**. Please add your name to the copy and state if you want any materials returned.

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# EDWARD SEYMOUR SHAW OBE (1895-1968)

by Colleen **Passfield** (Member)

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North of the retail centre of Miranda, bounded by The Boulevard, Wandella Road and Parkside Avenue sits Seymour Shaw Park, a busy centre for sport and community. In 2021, Sutherland Council revealed a master plan for a major revamp of the park which would provide new sports facilities, like a skate park, and multi-purpose buildings while retaining existing netball courts and tennis courts. Most Shire residents know that the adjacent stadium is the home of the Sutherland Shire Sharks Football Club which plays in the New South Wales Football League and the soccer field in the park is the home of the junior teams of the Miranda Magpies Club. The park has 20 netball courts for the 6-10 year old players, a cricket field, tennis courts where Billy **Gilmour** established his tennis coaching academy, and an area for passive exercise appreciated by many local residents. In a quiet corner of the park, near the intersection of Parkside Avenue and Central Road, is the site of the Miranda War Memorial which was relocated from its original position in the Miranda Public School – originally on the corner of Kingsway and Kiora Road. The ambitious plan will be implemented in stages as funds became available with a State government grant of \$4.75 million required to be spent by December 2022. Also available for the year was a developer funding contribution, via Sutherland Council, of \$370,000.

Despite the popularity of Seymour Shaw Park, many would not know why it was so named. It was named in honour of Edward Seymour **Shaw**. Maybe it's time to be reminded of why he deserved to be remembered.

Edward Seymour Shaw, OBE, (9 August 1895 to 15 April 1968) was born in Marulan, NSW, the fourth child and third son of Rev Augustus Rutherford Shaw and his wife, Mary Emilia, nee **Druitt**, daughter of Archdeacon Thomas Druitt of Monaro. They had six children: Edna Mary Anne Jane Shaw OBE (1891-1974) (Matron Shaw of Crown Street Women's Hospital); Frederick Rutherford Hobart Shaw (1892-1987); Arthur Thomas Shaw (1894-1979); Edward Seymour Shaw (1895-1968) and Harold Augustus Shaw (1898-1956).

Rev Shaw served as curate and rector in the Goulburn diocese for 23 years. In 1911, he was appointed to the Belmore-Moorefields parish and in 1918 was appointed rector of St Augustine's, Bulli. In 1923, he was appointed to St. John's Church at Sutherland and retired in 1931 after 43 years in the Church of England ministry.

Edward Seymour Shaw, known as Seymour, was educated at the local State schools where his father was appointed and later as a boarder at SCEGS (Shore), North Sydney. In 1921, Seymour Shaw married Gladys 'Effie' **Piper** of Cronulla.



They had two children – Joan (1922-1922) and Jack (1923-2002). Sadly, Gladys died in July, 1923, aged 31. She was buried in the Methodist Section of Woronora Cemetery. On 5 September, 1928, Seymour married Marcella Devereoux **Palmes** at the Anglican Church of St. Simon and St. Jude at Bowral, NSW. His father, Rev. Augustus Rutherford Shaw officiated at the wedding. They lived at *Naburn Attunga Road, Yowie Bay*. There were no children of the marriage

In 1911, Seymour Shaw was working in insurance but by 1919 was set up as a real estate agent and auctioneer in business with his brother F R H Shaw with offices at Cronulla and Miranda. He had the business at Cronulla from 1919 to 1936. Although Fred continued the Miranda business until his retirement, Seymour became involved in other areas of business and, in particular, local government.

His appointments included among others: District Governor of Rotary International, President of the Local Government Association, Managing Director of Hunt Bros.(Sydney) Motors and Associated Companies, Chairman of Hunt Bros.(Properties), Member of the Library Board of NSW.

His most outstanding contribution was as an elected Sutherland Shire Councillor for 26 years, second only to Joe Monro's 32 years. He was also Shire President for 9 terms. In the 1953 New Years Honours List, he was awarded an OBE (Order of the British Empire) for his outstanding contribution to Local Government.

The Seymour Shaw Park football (soccer) Stadium at Miranda, home of the Sutherland Sharks Football Club, was named in his honour.

Edward Seymour Shaw died on 14 April, 1968. His ashes were interred at Woronora Cemetery. His wife, Marcella died on 10 February, 1978 and her ashes were interred nearby. Jack Seymour Shaw died in 2002.

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# BBFHS EDUCATION PROGRAM

by Carol **Cronan** and Lillian **Magill** (Educators)

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The Education Team have been busy over the last few months offering a variety of workshops.

The first of these was aimed at our new members and helping them to get started. It was a very practical workshop explaining the basics and guiding attendees in how to begin recording their findings.

Our next class delved more deeply into the *FamilySearch* and *Ryerson Index* websites. Investigating the wiki, images, site search and map applications on *FamilySearch* was a revelation to many in the group. Some new discoveries were made and several experienced researchers, who were unaware of these search options, were keen to do some homework after leaving the Centre. Exploring the *Ryerson Index* also opened up an investigation of the *Australian Cemeteries Index* and this likewise provided some added insight into particular family members that had eluded the researcher.

The July class on Getting Organised was well attended with much discussion about the various methods of storing and filing hard copy material as well as digital files. The need to cite all sources carefully was emphasized as well as maintaining digital files in current formats as technology changes. The group discussed the advantages and disadvantages of different online platforms and participants were advised to contact the leaders of the various Interest Groups to get their opinion on which package might be the most suitable for building a family tree.

This class was followed in August by a practical workshop where the group were encouraged to work on organising a particular aspect of their files.

As well as our regular classes for BBFHS members, the first of three classes, *The Importance of Passing on Your Family Story*, for the U3A was held in July. It was well attended and participants were very engaged in beginning to use mind maps and a pedigree chart to start their family story. The other classes are in September and November. From this first session BBFHS now has two new members.

To best serve our BBFHS members we encourage any of you who would like a class on a particular subject or area to contact one of us. This would help with next year's planning and ensure that what is being offered is of use to members. Likewise, if you have a particular area of interest or expertise that you would be happy to share with the Society we would love to hear from you. Delivery method, time and date can all be very flexible, and we will give what ever support you need!

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# FREDERICK JOHN GIBBINS; EARLY DAYS IN THE AUSTRALIAN OYSTER INDUSTRY

by Leonie **Bell** (Member)

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Oysters are considered an expensive luxury food today, but in the nineteenth century they were a reasonably priced and popular poor man's food. For those prepared to forage the seashores, they were a free, nutritious food source.

From the early days of the Sydney colony, the settlers had followed the example of the aboriginal populace by hand harvesting oysters along the oyster reefs of New South Wales. The oysters were either dredged with a basket lowered from a boat to about four metres below the water mark, or hand collected from banks in the intertidal zone between high and low water marks (bank oysters).<sup>1</sup>

Unlike the indigenous people, however, the colonists rapidly overfished the coastline, harvesting not only the flesh of the shellfish, but burning the shells, which were a valuable source of lime, used extensively in building construction. Consequently, by the mid-1860s much of the reef ecosystem had been decimated and oyster farmers turned to cultivation techniques. As a result of declining oyster stocks, the government passed the Oyster Beds Act 1868, prohibiting burning live oysters for lime, and regulating oyster culture. The wild oyster industry collapsed by the end of the 19th century.



An Oystering Party, Sydney Harbour (Illustrated Sydney News, 2 May 1889, p.9)

Under the Act,<sup>2</sup> each lease was permitted a maximum length of one mile of coastline. The lessee did not hold rights or title to occupation of the land, but ‘the exclusive right of depositing propagating, dredging and fishing for and taking oysters.’ If they were caught burning live oysters for lime, a £10 fine was imposed, and the government reserved the right to close an oyster lease for up to three years if it was thought to be under threat of overfishing.<sup>3</sup>

In 1871 the *Illustrated Sydney News* alerted the public to the possibility that the government would open the Clarence, Hunter, Parramatta and Georges Rivers for the cultivation of oysters through the new leasing system.<sup>4</sup> Many saw this as a tremendous business opportunity, including Sydney businessman Frederick John **Gibbins** (1841-1917), who successfully tendered for an oyster bed lease in the Hunter River in 1873 for £775 per annum,<sup>5</sup> employing Hans **Anderson** to manage the beds.<sup>6</sup>

Gibbins sold the oysters, and those of others on commission, from his Sussex Street, Sydney, premises, to the nearby Oyster Saloons in King Street, a popular location for many such establishments.<sup>7</sup> The *Sydney Morning Herald* reported that in 1873 there were 20 oyster saloons in Sydney, selling salt fish and oysters of lamentable quality: *Compared with American sea-port cities, the oyster saloons in Sydney are deficient both in number and in quality.*<sup>8</sup>

Oyster Saloons occasionally came into conflict with the law regarding Sunday trading or liquor laws. Some owners sold illicit alcohol to imbibe with the oysters, which could cause other problems with the police, as evidenced in this 1885 Melbourne report: *Some time ago the officers of police reported to Superintendent Sadleir that having succeeded in compelling the publicans to observe the law with regard to closing their houses at 12 pm each night, and all day on Sundays, they had found that persons of questionable character frequent oyster salons in the city after the hotels have been closed: and although the keepers of those oyster saloons pretend to send to the hotels for liquor for their customers, they in reality have supplies on the premises.*<sup>9</sup>

Sydney had similar problems, as experienced by oyster proprietor Contesi **Giacomo**, who found himself in trouble with the law in 1889 and hit with the alternatives of a £30 fine or 3 months in jail, when caught selling liquor in his Liverpool Street oyster bar.<sup>10</sup> Likewise, Mary **Glynn**, a Castlereagh Street proprietress was fined more than £30 for selling liquor without a licence in 1888,<sup>11</sup> while a Newcastle oyster saloon was fined £5 when police raided houses of ‘doubtful respectability’ and accused him of allowing ‘bad characters to assemble’ on his premises in 1880.<sup>12</sup> Lorenzo **Solari** was fined 20 shillings for opening his Sydney oyster saloon on the Sabbath in 1882.<sup>13</sup>



King Street, Sydney, looking east, site of oyster saloons, c1910  
(photo: RAHS collection)

Five years after purchasing his initial riverside leases, Frederick Gibbins was in court with 'The Oyster Case' where James **Campbell** was accused of selling oysters belonging to Gibbins.<sup>14</sup> The issue was a technical one and not completely resolved, reappearing in court two years later. There was some question as to whether Smiths Creek, which ran into the Hunter River, was technically part of the lease, and whether the Oyster Beds Act 1868 permitted leasing of natural oyster beds (as opposed to cultivation on mangrove sticks sunk into the riverbed). Complicating this was the issue of Gibbins not possessing the correct paperwork to prove his lease, although he had been paying rent to the government for years.<sup>15</sup> Eventually the accused were acquitted.

Regulation was successful and the industry boomed, with annual oyster production in NSW reaching about 7000 bags (approximately 438 metric tons) of oysters by the early 1880s. Oysters were a valuable commodity, selling from 3 to 20 shillings a bag at auction in 1876, depending on their size and quality.<sup>16</sup>

An act of NSW parliament in 1881 had imposed not only rental leases for use of the foreshore, but a royalty to be paid per bag of oysters. This was increased

in 1884 to three shillings a bag plus rent. The main players in the industry approached the government in 1887 to ask for repeal of these charges, which made export of their product uncompetitive compared to Queensland and New Zealand fisheries. The Colonial treasurer, Mr **Burns**, was sympathetic to their case and promised to look into the matter and attempt to remove the royalty, although not the foreshore rental licence fee.<sup>17</sup>

There was clearly plenty of money to be made from oysters. In February 1889 Gibbins dissolved his business partnership with Francis **Buckle**, John **Paul** and John **Larkham**, which had been trading as Gibbins and Company. It seems his business was thriving without the need for partners.<sup>18</sup>

In 1898 he purchased another oyster lease at Camden Haven near Port Macquarie, where he cultivated shellfish along 264 yards of foreshore.<sup>19</sup> The new century commenced with great expansion of his oyster leases. He now increased his Newcastle operations, consolidating a string of adjacent leases to include the western side of Moscheto Channel fronting Dempsey Island, 660 yards at Stockton, and the north-eastern side of Sandy Island, near the entrance to Fullarton Cove. In the following decade he invested heavily in multiple oyster leases on the Hunter, Bellinger and Nambucca Rivers and Camden Haven, monopolizing the industry.

The Board of Fisheries was set up 27 March 1903, authorised under section four of the Fisheries Act 1902 (Act No.119, 1902). The Governor appointed Frank **Farnell** as Chairman and nine board members, consisting of industry representatives, a licensed fisherman, an oyster lessee, one representative of the inland fisheries, and six Crown representatives. It was only natural that Frederick John Gibbins was chosen to represent the oyster lessees, as he held extensive leases and was a prominent and respected oyster cultivator and oyster merchant. The other members were James **Cox**, John **Want**, Alfred **Spain**, William **Shipway**, James **Batchelor**, Richard **Jenkins**, Edward **Fanning**, and Henry **Dawson**. The new board's purpose was to 'protect, develop, and regulate the fisheries of New South Wales.' Its functions included supervising fishing and oyster licensing, leases, conservation of fisheries, and enforcement of the conditions of the act, de-registering companies if necessary. Unfortunately, the predominance of Crown representatives who knew little of the industry was a major stumbling block. Added to this were problems of 'the conflicting nature of the interests that had to be conserved, and the inability of a cumbersome Board to deal promptly with such matters as required immediate consideration' and it was eventually disbanded in November 1910.<sup>20, 21</sup>

In July 1903 Gibbins registered his business as an oyster merchant, with premises at 88 Sussex Street Sydney.<sup>22</sup> Over the next three years the business increased, and Frederick decided he needed more investment capital to expand. Gibbins registered a second and third firm in July 1906. One was in partnership

with John **Comino**, selling oysters to retailers from office premises at 150 Sussex Street Sydney.<sup>23</sup> Gibbins also owned adjoining numbers 146-148, and received £288 per annum rent from the brick and slated-roofed Sussex St properties. They were not huge premises, with the three shallow shopfronts only extending 15 m from the street frontage, but they were more than adequate for his business requirements.<sup>24</sup>

The other company registered in July 1906 enabled the enterprise to expand yet further into oyster wholesaling, with additional capital invested by partners. The new partnership consisted of four prominent oyster merchants. Charles Edward **Woodward** put in £1200 capital. John Comino and John **Moriarty**, together with Gibbins, invested £600 each. The firm was known as Woodward, Gibbins & Comino, with offices remaining at 150 Sussex Street Sydney.<sup>25</sup>

John Moriarty owned oyster leases around Forster, the Karuah River at Port Stephens and the Manning River near Taree, while Charles Woodward leased multiple areas on the Karuah River. Moriarty migrated from Dumfries in Scotland in the mid-1880s. He became a well-known racing identity, helping found the NSW Trotting Club in 1902, but his main business interests were in fish and oysters. When Moriarty prematurely died in 1914, at the Jenner Hospital in Macleay Street, at the age of 55, his executors William Symons **Gray** and Mrs Margaret Jane Moriarty joined the partnership.<sup>26</sup>

Athanassio Comino (abt. 1844-1897) and John Comino (abt. 1858-1919) were known as the Oyster Kings. Athanassio migrated from the Greek Island of Kythera in 1873, and within five years had opened his first oyster saloon at 36 Oxford Street, Sydney. During the 1880s he purchased a number of oyster leases. His brother John arrived from Kythera in 1884 and also commenced oyster farming. When Athanassio died in 1897, John not only inherited a sizable portion of his £5,217 estate, but the title Oyster King. He soon became a force to be reckoned with in the oyster industry, so it was natural that he and Frederick Gibbins should form a partnership. Their firm dominated the market for years, while by 1919 there were 'Comino' oyster saloons in Parkes, Maitland, Armidale, Gunnedah, Moree and Katoomba.<sup>27, 28</sup>

Another new investor in 1908 was James **Clark**, a prominent Queensland oyster cultivator from Moreton Bay, who had expanded to Pittwater in New South Wales in 1906. The Queensland industry was shipping 1.5 million plates of oysters to Sydney and Melbourne annually, so it made a lot of sense for him to apply for 16 leases on Broken Bay, covering eight miles of foreshore.

Over the previous two decades, the Moreton Bay oyster industry had suffered from worm-disease, incursion of salt water from the ocean, and floods suffocating the oyster beds in mud, so diversification of oyster leases was a good

move for Clark. He now could offer high quality fresh local oysters to the Sydney market, and joining with the other four Sydney merchants would open up profitable distribution channels for him in New South Wales.

Clark would have been well-known to his new partner Charles Woodward and was an obvious choice to add to the partnership. Around 1870, in the days before oyster leases and regulations, Woodward had sent men up to Bribie Island to work the prolific oyster banks. He continued to employ men in Queensland for over thirty years. This would ensure he had a constant supply of oysters for his Sydney fish shops.<sup>29, 30</sup>

The Partnership itself did not own oyster leases but obtained 80% of their stock from leases owned by the individuals within the Partnership. This ensured, 'more regular supplies and a better quality of oyster than would be the case if forced to buy in the open market'. These oysters were not sold by the company directly to the consumer, but retailed to oyster saloons in Sydney, who then sold to customers.<sup>31</sup>

His business was flourishing under the care of his seven staff, including his sons Edwin and Frederick who were employed at the Camden Haven leases and Walter who worked in the Sydney office.<sup>32</sup>

By 1909 there were allegations of price fixing in the industry, so Frederick Gibbins and his partner John Moriarty appeared before the Fisheries Board to put the case that no such cartel existed. The firm was selling around 28% of the oysters coming into the Sydney shops, but they strenuously denied any conspiracy, and the board took them at their word. No doubt the fact that Gibbins was a member of the Fisheries Board would have imparted a great deal of weight to his argument.<sup>33</sup>

Frederick's prosperity permitted him to purchase property at 171 Crown Road Ultimo for £475 in 1880. He also owned 25 Sussex Street Sydney and six investment properties in Pyrmont. Later he purchased Lydham Hall in Bexley in 1899.

In 1881 Gibbins was able to purchase land at Arncliffe in addition to the city properties. In 1885 the wealth he had gained from oyster cultivation was invested in the creation of a luxurious family home at 171 Wollongong Road Arncliffe, which he named *Dappeto* after his birthplace of Dapto. The property demonstrated his wealth and prestigious position in the oyster industry. It was a two-story whale-oil-brick structure with slate roof and iron lace balconies, set in an extensive 12 acres of gardens with greenhouse and stables. The house comprised of 13 rooms with bespoke imported furnishings, a hall, dressing room, bathroom, two pantries and kitchen.

On his death in 1917, the house was sold, but Gibbins' will specified that



there should be continued investment in the oyster industry after his death, stating that money could be invested for: *The purchase or acquisition of freeholds or leaseholds (including Oyster Leases or parts shares or interests therein or in any partnership or company whose chief object is or shall be the holding working or otherwise turning to account such oyster culture or other leaseholds) in any of the said states.*

His executors, son-in-law William **Thom** and daughter Emma **Pattison**, now became heavily involved with his oyster wholesale business as investors in the partnership. The Deeds of Partnership stated that in case of the death of a Partner, the partnership would not cease, but the executors of the will would be considered partners in Gibbin's stead for continuation of the business. Therefore William Thom and Emma Pattison took control of Gibbins share of the business.<sup>34</sup>

His oyster leases would be managed on behalf of a family trust fund. There were 11 leases on the Bellinger River (valued at £2,007), 40 at Camden Haven (£5,049) and a further 32 leases on the Hunter River (£1,232). There was also quite a bit of plant, including motorboats, oyster boats and oyster farming equipment. His son Edwin was allocated a quarter of the profits from the Camden Haven oyster leases, which he had been working on for many years, together with the land and cottage in which he had been living. His brother Alfred John Gibbins inherited the cottage and land at Laurieton.

The flourishing oyster industry continued to fund the family fortunes for many years after Frederick John Gibbins' demise. His elegant family home *Dappeto* still stands proudly on the Arncliffe hilltop as a testament to his business prowess.

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## Journal Contributions

All journal contributions – large or small – are welcome. Email your input to [bbfhs\\_eds@yahoo.com.au](mailto:bbfhs_eds@yahoo.com.au), leave it in the Editor's folder 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.

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# BBFHS RESEARCH CENTRE AND LIBRARY

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

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The Research Centre continues to be open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 10am. We are considering opening again on Saturdays, as the weather warms – maybe September! You don't have to book into the Centre to go in to research **BUT** if you intend to go in after midday, please phone first (9523 8948). The Centre Volunteers will consider going home between 1pm and 2pm, if there is no one else present. Of course, they will stay longer, until 4pm, if others are researching.

John, our IT person, was called into the Centre in June, as the computers had lost their connection to the *Brother* printers. Each computer had to be reconfigured and all works well now. Like your home computer, ours all have to be updated too, which sometimes takes time.

The microfiche reader has been put into the No. 1 computer space, as that isn't being replaced. The Archives information box has been moved to the shelf. We have many microfiche in folders and boxes, which can be used to check your family's details. It's always an idea to look elsewhere at times and not rely on one source.

With Covid 19 still being in the community, it's up to each individual to decide if you wear a mask in the Centre, or not. Hand sanitiser is available and the desks, keyboards etc are wiped down at the end of each day. The doors are open for cross-ventilation IF it's not pouring rain or freezing cold!

It is so pleasing to see the increase of member numbers coming into the Research Centre. There are also classes and Interest Groups operating in the Centre as well as via Zoom; sometimes both. Local U3A members have been invited to three classes about family history, held in our Research Centre bimonthly. Many have returned for further information and assistance.

All our subscription sites are available. *Ancestry* is on the seven computers, and we also have *Find My Past*, *The Genealogist*, *British Newspaper Archives*, *Biographical Database of Australia* and *Internet History Resources*. BBFHS is a recognised *FamilySearch Affiliate Library*, so you can view original entries, which you cannot see at home

A sincere THANK YOU to all the Research Centre Volunteers, who have been able to be present in the Centre. Your understanding, knowledge and assistance is been greatly appreciated.



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# FRANK CRIDLAND – AUTHOR, BUSINESSMAN, HISTORIAN

by Colleen **Passfield** (Member)

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In 1924, a local resident published a book called *The Story of Port Hacking, Cronulla and Sutherland Shire* which was the first attempt to describe the district and outline its history. The author Frank **Cridland** modestly claimed that ‘this publication ... is really a collection of articles’. He hoped that in the future ‘a complete, consecutive history of the Sutherland Shire’ would be written to fill in the gaps. He argued that, considering its importance in Australian history, the Shire deserved such attention. Despite the fact that it was on its northern borders that Captain **Cook** first set foot on Australian soil and its southern boundaries were first surveyed and charted by **Bass** and **Flinders** when they discovered the estuary and river of Port Hacking, little had been written about the district and



Frank Cridland (photo: <https://bcr.com.au>  
Menu item: *Our Story*)

only some brief mentions were in a few books in the Mitchell Library. Frank Cridland lived to see the Shire grow and major development explode after WW2. He would have been pleased that his book has become a primary local history source for writers like David **Kirkby** (*From Sails to Atoms*) and Maryanne **Larkin** (*Sutherland Shire: A History to 1939*). He has been described as the grandfather of local history in the Sutherland Shire. Born in humble circumstances, Frank Cridland was also an extremely successful, self-made businessman who received the award of CBE (Commander of the British Empire) in recognition of his efforts during WW1 as Commissioner for War Comforts.

Donald William Francis (Frank) Cridland was born on 3 March 1873, at Meroo in the Shoalhaven district of New South Wales. He was the son of William Cridland (1845-1925) and his wife, Martha, nee **Carter** (1850-1922), who were married in 1872 at Mudgee, NSW. They had two other children: Charles (1875-1875) and Arthur Thomas (1878-1903).

William Cridland, born in East Maitland, was a member of a family with long connections to the Hunter river area but, as a young boy, went with his father and brothers to the Turon after the discovery of gold. He later on followed up many of the early gold rushes and, in 1881, arrived in Temora after gold was discovered. He died in Temora in 1925 predeceased by Martha who died in 1922.

On a visit to Temora in 1948, Frank Cridland recalled attending one of the first schools there, located in tents in the Newtown area near the old hospital. He was then one of the first pupils of the 'Sardine Tin', an iron building and the first school structure in Temora.

He also recalled leaving Temora and going to Sydney, at age 14, got a start in the freight business working as a clerk for the transport company Wright Heaton. As a young man of 19 he decided to set up his own business as a carrier with a horse and cart. He lost almost his entire assets when the horse and cart backed off a Sydney wharf, drowning the horse. From such an inauspicious start, Frank went on to found one of Sydney's biggest transport businesses and become known as one of the greatest authorities on the carrying and customs businesses in the Commonwealth. He was one of the early adopters of motor lorries to replace horse and carts. By 1921, when President of the Master Carriers' Association, Frank Cridland Carriers, Ltd., had agents in all parts of the world dealing with cartage, customs, shipping forwarding, storage and insurance and with a head office in an eight-story building in Barrack Street, Sydney.

The company became a pioneer in air freight in Australia when, in 1930, Frank Cridland experienced his first flight and quickly realised the benefits for freight delivery by air. He approached the joint Managing Directors of ANA, Charles **Ulm** and Charles Kingsford **Smith**, and his company was soon appointed as Sydney agents for freight carried on ANA domestic service.

Ray **Katte** joined the company in 1944 and progressed through the company until, after Frank's death in 1954, he would be in charge of the customs division. After 20 years with Cridlands, he formed his own company, eventually purchased Cridland Custom Clearance division, formally established Frank Cridland Ray Katte Customs Agencies which has now become the international firm BCR. Frank Cridland was thus the founder of BCR Australia Pty Ltd back in 1892, which remains Australian owned and operated still offering the personalized and excellent service promised in an advertisement in 1928 where you just had to 'lift up the receiver'. The C in BCR stands for Cridland.

In Maitland, NSW, in 1895, Frank Cridland married Harriet Selina **Hall** (1870-1965). They had eight children all born in Redfern, NSW. Arthur William (1896-1972), Ethel Harriet (1898-1982), Walter Donald (1901-1945), Annie Edna (1904-1979), Dorothy Freda (1906-1995), Alan Thomas (1908-1942), Edwin L

(1911-1911) and Frank Gordon (1912-1992).

Frank Cridland began coming to the Shire in the early 1890s and, in 1912, after the birth of his youngest child, brought his family to live in Caringbah where he had acquired the area known as the Sunnyside Estate. There was a house built on a double block which is, perhaps, the first house built in Caringbah that was not on a farm. It had a well, glasshouse and servant's cottage in the backyard.

In September, 1915, a highly descriptive ad appeared in the *Catholic Press* (Sydney) advising of the sale on 4 October of the Sunnyside Estate in Caringbah which is described as growing into 'a distributing business centre to the whole of the Cronulla-Sutherland District'. The estate was bounded by Sunnyside Avenue, Dianell Street, Willarong Road and Banksia Road and subdivided into 89 residential and business sites. There is even mention of the 'DEFINITELY PROJECTED RAILWAY to CRONULLA a RAILWAY STATION will be at CARINGBAH.' The Sunnyside Wine Cafe and Refreshment Rooms was also to be offered for sale. The Auctioneer was C. **Monro** of Cronulla selling on behalf of F. Cridland, Vendor, 100 Clarence Street, Sydney. In 1922, a new company, Cridland Properties, Ltd. was registered in Sydney and soon after an ad appeared advertising the sale of unsold lots in the Sunnyside Estate, Caringbah to close up the Estate. The agent was T.J.**Robertson** of Caringbah. Members of the Cridland family retained lots on Willarong Road and lived there for many years. There was also a Cridland home in Woolooware Road, Cronulla fronting on to Gunnamatta Bay.

Frank Cridland was a man of many parts. Interested in local history and the environment, from about 1910, he wrote articles for papers like the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Propeller*. He visited and wrote about the caves of Moparrabah on the Macleay River as well as more local subjects like the Old Illawarra Road, the Georges River and the Uloola Falls between Loftus and Waterfall in the Royal National Park. His book *The Story of Port Hacking, Cronulla and Sutherland Shire* was published in 1924. He became a Life Member of The Royal Australian Historical Society and a member of the Fellowship of Australian Writers.

Cridland was a foundation member of the Legacy Club of Sydney, and member of the Millions Club of NSW and the Imperial Services Club and public benefactor. He performed great public service as an Alderman of a near-city Municipality and as a Sportsman and Sporting Administrator in both bowls and golf. During the 1914-18 War he was appointed in a voluntary capacity as a Comforts Fund Commissioner and visited England and the Western Front, at his own expense, to co-ordinate and oversee the distribution of goods to the Australian servicemen. He was awarded the C.B.E. (Commander of the British Empire) by King George V for 'meritorious service and devotion to duty'. He wrote of his experiences and observations during this trip.

In 1948, Frank Cridland wrote to the Sutherland Shire Council for permission to erect, at his own expense, and present to the Shire a memorial to commemorate the names of George Bass and Matthew Flinders and the 'Boy Martin' and their discovery on 30th March, 1795 and naming of Port Hacking. This was supported by The Royal Australian Historical Society and was approved by the Council. It was erected at Bass and Flinders Point in South Cronulla without ceremony or publicity, as requested by Cridland, and known only to a few persons. In 1950, *The Propeller* newspaper maintained that the public should know of this generous act by such a worthy citizen and now, at the base of the obelisk, are the words: 'Erected by Frank Cridland, C.B.E (R.A.H.S), 1949.'

Arthur William Cridland, Frank's eldest son, served in France in WW1 and returned to become a director of the family company. Tragedy struck the Cridland family in the 1940s. In December 1942, the death of Flight Lt. Alan T. Cridland was reported in *The Observer*. Educated at Cronulla Public School and Sydney Grammar School, Alan had taken up flying at Mascot and became a prominent member of the Aero Club of N.S.W. At the outbreak of WW2, he enlisted in the R.A.A.F. and with the rank of Flying Officer was appointed as a Flying Instructor. He applied to be transferred to Operational Flying and was posted to a battle station in the Northern Territory. On 20 November, at 34 years of age, he was killed in an aircraft accident. A year previously, he had married Margaret **Longmore** and a posthumous daughter was born a week after his death.

In July 1945, *The Observer* reported the death of Captain Walter Donald Cridland, killed in action, at the age of 44, in Labuan, Malaysia, on 27 June 1945. He had enlisted as a private at the outbreak of WW2 and his five years service included the Middle East and New Guinea. Also educated at Cronulla PS and Sydney Grammar, he practised as a Licensed Surveyor for many years in the Shire and was well known to business people and local residents. He was survived by his wife and three young children.

It was also noted that his youngest brother, Frank Gordon, was still serving in the A.I.F. and that William **Walker**, husband of his sister Ethel, had died in 1941 and Capt. E.R.**Hennes**, husband of his sister, Annie, had died in June 1945.

Frank Cridland continued to be involved in Shire matters and his advice was often sought by many prominent residents and comments were still published. His home was visited by friends and long-standing admirers who were sometimes astounded by his reminiscences of the early days of Cronulla and its personalities. When his health declined, he became a resident of the Shangrila Convalescent Home in Cronulla where he died on 28 May 1954. After a service at Olsen's funeral parlours at Sutherland, he was cremated at Woronora Cemetery. His obituary stated he was survived by two sons, Arthur and Gordon, and three daughters, Mrs. Ethel Walker, Mrs. Edna Hennes and Miss Dorothy Cridland. His

wife, Harriet Selina Cridland, died in 1965 at Caringbah and was cremated at Woronora Cemetery.

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## THE FIRST STATE CONFERENCE – A VERTICAL FILE SNIPPET

by Rhonda **McKinnon** (Member)

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**O**n 13-14 October 1984 the Nepean Family History Society had the privilege of organising and hosting the first NSW Family History Groups conference.

Sixteen groups were represented by one to three delegates; a total of 45 people in all attended the conference. There was an open discussion among delegates regarding family history groups and the problems that arise in the day to day business of running a group. Also on the agenda to be discussed was ‘Starting a Group’ and ‘Running a Group’.

The most promising development was the formation of a steering committee to examine the possibility of forming a NSW umbrella group consisting of all state groups, of which there were 23. It was hoped that it would work in cooperation with the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations.

It was decided that the 1985 Conference was to be held at Dubbo and hosted by the Macquarie Family History Foundation.

*Extracted from Timespan No.103 June 2006*



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# BBFHS INTEREST GROUPS

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

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**O**ur interest groups are led by co-ordinators who have a strong interest in the subject but are not necessarily ‘an expert’. The groups all share their knowledge to help each other in the group – ‘self-help’. In this sharing situation members get to know one another and this social interaction is often a wonderful by-product of their involvement.

Meeting details for Groups are published in advance through the regular eNEWS and other Society media arms. If you would like to participate in any of the groups, the contact details for co-ordinators appear below, who will be pleased to add your name and email address to their listing, to become part of their family.

The group coordinators are:

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

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

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

Australian Interest – Lilian **Magill** ([lily@researchbylily.com.au](mailto:lily@researchbylily.com.au))

English Interest – Jennie **Fairs** ([fairsj@optusnet.com.au](mailto:fairsj@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))

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

**Note: From March 2022, BBFHS will again be charging members \$5 to attend an interest group meeting. Bookings and payments should be made through the BBFHS website at <http://www.botanybayfhs.org.au/payments.html>, preferably 24 hours prior to the meeting.**

## UPCOMING PROGRAM

<b>WRITERS INTEREST:</b>	Thursday 22 September 1.30 – 3.30pm
At the Research Centre	Thursday 24 November 1.30 – 3.30pm
<b>SCOTTISH INTEREST:</b>	Saturday 3 December 2 – 4pm
At the Research Centre	
<b>IRISH INTEREST:</b>	Saturday 22 October 2 – 4pm
By ZOOM	
<b>ENGLISH INTEREST:</b>	Saturday 10 September 2 – 4pm
By ZOOM	Saturday 12 November 2 – 4pm

<b>AUSTRALIAN INTEREST:</b> By ZOOM	Saturday 19 November 2 – 4pm
<b>LEGACY:</b> At the Research Centre	Tuesday 6 September 2 – 4pm Tuesday 1 November 2 – 4pm
<b>FAMILY TREE MAKER FOR WINDOWS &amp; MACS:</b>	Tuesday 8 November 1.30 – 3.30pm Research Centre and ZOOM
<b>DNA FOR FAMILY HISTORY:</b> By ZOOM	Saturday 24 September 1.30 – 3.30pm Saturday 26 November 1.30 – 3.30pm

## **RUBBER – A VERTICAL FILE SNIPPET**

by Rhonda **McKinnon** (Member)

**I**n 1969 the 130th anniversary of a remarkable discovery which changed the working and living patterns of the entire world was celebrated. It was Charles Goodyear's discovery of vulcanization.

Prior to 1830 raw rubber was obtained from the forests of South America, Asia and Africa but it's remarkable waterproof qualities were useful only to the natives of those regions.

The whole life of Charles Goodyear, a penniless inventor, was completely changed one hot day in 1834. He walked into a New York City store displaying a large assortment of rubber goods – boots, shoes, hose, etc., all ruined because the rubber could not withstand the high summer temperatures. Goodyear resolved to remedy this. By begging samples of raw rubber, he started to experiment in his kitchen. For two years he toiled away mixing the gummy rubber with different chemicals but every mixture failed. His desperate unceasing efforts drove him into bankruptcy and through the debtors' courts and prisons but still he persisted.

In January 1839 when showing some friends his latest mixture of rubber and sulfur, Goodyear accidentally dropped a lump of the material on a hot stove. When he scraped the mess from the stove he found that heat had completely changed its character. The rubber was springy and dry. He had found the secret at last. He called the process Vulcanisation, after Vulcan the Roman God of Fire.

Today's great rubber industry employing many thousands of people grew directly from Goodyear's discovery. The world uses rubber in thousands of ways and industry would stop if rubber suddenly disappeared.

*Taken from The Propeller, 6 March 1969*



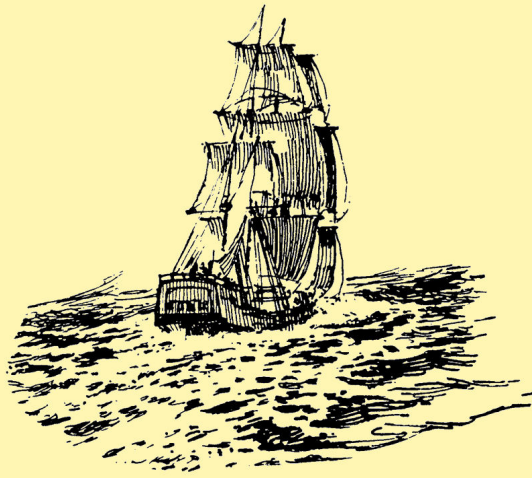
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**Australia Post Print Post Number: 100001135**