

Generation

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND INC.

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Opening times

Monday • **Closed**
 Tuesday • **10am - 3pm**
 Wednesday • **10am - 3pm**
 Thursday • **10am - 3pm**
 Friday • **10am - 3pm**
 Saturday • **12noon - 4pm**
 Sunday • **Special Interest Groups only**
 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the month
 Online Zoom meetings • **6pm - 9pm**

Check the GSQ website for updates

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Generation

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND INC.

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Fees

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Society membership is available either as a single membership or as a family membership. Family membership is for two members of an immediate family living at the same address.

Affiliate membership is for groups with an interest in genealogy and/or family history. Corporate membership includes all other types of businesses/organisations.

Life Enduring is a once only payment for lifetime membership of GSQ.

The current fees are listed below:

Single	1 year \$80 – 3 year \$210
Family	1 year \$140 – 3 year \$380
Affiliate	1 year \$160
Corporate	1 year \$320
Life Enduring	\$1280

NOTE: The \$15 joining fee has been permanently removed.

DONATIONS

GSQ Library Fund donations of \$2.00 and over are tax deductible.

RESEARCH

At GSQ's Resource Centre, five hours per year per member free of charge for those members who reside more than 100km from GSQ – whether country Queensland, interstate or overseas. Provide an email address or a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Research at GSQ's Resource Centre is \$66 for members and \$110 for non-members, for a minimum of two hours, including up to 10 photocopies/printouts. One-on-one consultation for members for one hour is \$22.

GSQ can provide transcriptions of Funeral Director's records or Catholic Parish Registers for a fee of \$20. Look-ups of indexes by GSQ research assistants, including transcriptions, are also \$20.

Offsite research for members, at a minimum of two hours is \$110, while the two hour fee for non-members is \$176. This includes up to 10 photocopies/printouts. The research fee for professional bodies is \$110 per hour.

Full details can be found at:

www.gsq.org.au/what-gsq-offers/research-services

Generation

Acknowledgement of Country

In the spirit of reconciliation, the Genealogical Society of Queensland acknowledges the Traditional Custodians throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea, and community. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present; and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people today.

GENERATION subscriptions

Non-Members:

A charge of \$40.00 applies to non-members who wish to receive Generation electronically

Print Copies

Within Australia: Printed and mailed \$60

International: \$130 for 4 editions printed and mailed

Members: Electronic copies of Generation are included in the cost of membership

General enquiries: info@gsq.org.au

GENERATION deadlines

The closing date for submissions is the 1st day of the month preceding publication – that is, copy must be submitted by 1 February, 1 May, 1 August, and 1 November. Articles for consideration can be submitted at any time but placement is at the discretion of the Editor.

GENERATION contributions

GSQ welcomes the submission of articles on family history topics for possible publication.

The Editor reserves the right to edit or abridge articles to meet space constraints and editorial considerations. Submissions should be the work of the author submitting the article and should not have been published elsewhere unless agreed. All material should be submitted in electronic format to:

editor@gsq.org.au.

Please submit text as a Microsoft Word doc or docx files. Images can be embedded in the text file but should also be sent as separate email attachments at high resolution JPG or TIFF files (minimum 300dpi if possible). Provide captions for each image in the text file.

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Printer: Mr.Print & Sign - Brisbane Q

GENERATION advertising rates

Contact Editor: editor@gsq.org.au for pricing.

from The Editor...

In this issue of Generation, we feature the last entry from the 2022 Joan Reese Memorial Short Story Competition, with the theme of 'Journeys'. Angela von Berky tells the story of her ancestor who came to Australia 'seeking a life in the farthest part of the world'. And continuing the theme of journeys, we re-publish from **Generation 10 years ago** three stories of different journeys: a voyage to a war, a sad tale of immigration, and a long, dusty trip through western Queensland.

In our regular features, our focus on **Special Interest Groups** deals with the English/Irish Group. We feature several sources for English or Irish research, including an item on Griffith's Valuation. From a **GSQ blog** from 5 years ago, Sue Bell tells us about a trip through County Galway. Another journey!

Short Tales features a selection of stories from the Writing Group. Following Pauline's story of the origins of her Hall family in the village of Griffydham, we introduce a new feature, **Ancestral Origins**, and I tell the tale of the Kipps family of Kemsing in Kent. Janice Wellard tells of finding a 'genealogical nugget' in trying to solve a mystery. And we read a story of a woman with an unusual name who married an elderly widower.

Other regular features include **Spotlight on Resources**, which tells of the Queensland Muster Roll in MyGSQ, a biographical register of pioneers compiled by GSQ as a Q150 project in 2009. In **Queensland Towns**, where our families lived, we look at the history of Goondiwindi. And in **Selections** of items from other journals, we include a summary of an article telling us how to safeguard our family trees from errors. **The Last Word** continues the question posed in the December 2022 issue of *Generation*: 'How did you first get interested in family history', with some surprising results of a poll conducted by Gould Genealogy.

One of the aims of *Generation* is to publish original articles from members; stories about the lives of ancestors, their families, and their environment; and/or the research journey members have undertaken to solve a mystery. Articles about resources that members have found useful, in the GSQ library or online are also welcome. If you have found that resource useful, others may also.

Once again, the editorial team would welcome any comments or suggestions about *Generation*, as well as your stories. Just send them to editor@gsq.org.au

Russell

Presidential Lines...



Recently I had the pleasure of being a guest at a Wedding conducted in Brisbane. My mind wandered off at some time to a genealogy world – I began thinking about the DNA results of any children the couple may have and decided that the ethnicity section of the DNA Tests could make very interesting reading - the bride's father and mother are Greek and Russian respectively and the groom's father and mother are Irish and Italian respectively – and the Irish groom has ten siblings!! I've concluded that only a family historian would allow such thoughts to come front of mind!!



Dr Jennifer Harrison

On 14 April 2023 the Council of the Irish Genealogical Research Society (IGRS) announced that the latest recipient of the Wallace Clare Award is no other than GSQ's Patron, Dr Jennifer Harrison. Congratulations, Jennifer, on winning this prestigious award – very well deserved!! In making the announcement,

the IGRS Chairman said of Jennifer – *Dr Harrison's contribution to the study of the Irish in Queensland, and by extension Australia, is unparalleled. Her ability to successfully link the often-limited surviving sources in Ireland with records and material in Australia has more than amply demonstrated the considerable impact that the Irish have made to the development of both Queensland and wider Australia over the past 235 years. Her output is prolific: two books, eight book chapters, innumerable journal articles and many conference papers. Her regular column in the quarterly magazine "Irish Roots" has helped to demystify genealogical research for both the amateur and the seasoned professional alikeand she is a most worthy recipient of this Award.* Next time you're reading a copy of "Irish Roots" search out the article written by Jennifer – she has contributed to this magazine for the past 31 years (more than 120 issues). The Wallace Clare Award is named in honour of Rev. Wallace Clare (1895 – 1963), a Catholic priest and keen academic who founded the IGRS in 1936.

Helen Veivers
GSQ President



If you
cannot get
rid of the
family
skeleton,
you may as
well make
it dance.

George
Bernard
Shaw



Welcome to New and Re-joined* Members

Helen Veivers, GSQ President

The President and members of the GSQ Management Committee are delighted to welcome all our new and re-joined members.

As new members, please do not hesitate to talk with a Research Assistant if you need assistance. Now that you are a member of GSQ, you have a number of benefits – one of which is the opportunity to list your research interests/names on our website:

www.gsq.org.au

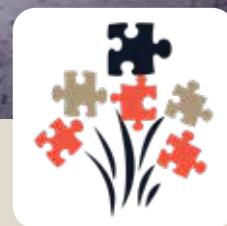
If you have any comments or suggestions as to how GSQ can enhance its services to members, or if you have a concern with how services are provided, please feel free to contact me at president@gsq.org.au

Your feedback is always welcome.



Peter Barns
Elaine Cameron
Terry Campbell
Leigh Chester-Master
Barbara Chippendale
Jenny Conaghan
Debra Connolly
Joy Courtney
Virginia Druett

Wendy Green
Johno Johnson
Donna Laguna
Myra Landis
John Lyons
Shannon Marshall
Pam Moloney
Georgina Mourilyan



Cheryl Ronque
Tony Tabrett
Marie Warren
David Webster
Bill Wild

GSQ is holding its annual

open day

SATURDAY
26th August 2023
10am-2pm

Representatives from the Special Interest Groups will be available to answer any queries you may have and there will be experienced library volunteers to help you find your elusive ancestors. Invite your relatives, friends and neighbours to come along and see what GSQ has to offer.



GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND Inc
Enriching family history

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The date of the AGM has been set as **Saturday, 28 October 2023 at 10.00 am**
Held at 25 Stackpole Street, Wishart

Nominations will be called for the positions of:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Up to 7 Management Committee members

Further information will be made available at a later date.

Please remember the Society in your will...



After you have provided for loved ones, why not support the other things in life that gave you joy?

By leaving a gift to the Society in your will, you are helping to ensure that its work and unique facilities can be continually improved and extended for future generations, perhaps even for your own descendants.

Legacies play a vital part in the Society's fundraising. They allow the Society the financial freedom to invest in crucial improvements and updates that would otherwise be unattainable.

The Society has been helping people to research their family history for over 40 years. We want to ensure future members will be celebrating the Society's centenary.

Leaving a gift in your will, you can be part of the Society's future as well as its past.

All gifts, whether large or small are immensely important to the Society.



For more information or to discuss leaving a gift to the Society in your will, please contact the President, at president@gsq.org.au or by mail to PO Box 1467, Carindale, QLD 4152 Website: www.gsq.org.au

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Further information about the types of bequest

- **General purpose:** your gift to GSQ is used for general purposes, depending on our needs at the time.
- **Specific purpose:** you specify the purpose of your gift in your will.
- **Specific bequest:** a specific amount.
- **Residual bequest:** this is the remainder of your estate after the other terms of your will are satisfied.
- **Proportional bequest:** a percentage of your estate is gifted to GSQ.

Please note

As estate planning is a complex area, we recommend that you seek professional legal and taxation advice to ensure that you are appropriately informed of your options and so that your Will operates in the exact manner that you intend it to.



Remembering Mavis Dimick

We remember long-time GSQ member Mavis Dimick...

We remember long-time GSQ member Mavis Dimick, who sadly passed away on 31 March 2023 after battling with ill-health for some time. Mavis joined the Society in 1986 and was granted Honorary Life Membership of GSQ in 2021 for her service to the Society.

She was a stalwart of the Scottish SIG, serving as Treasurer since its formation, as well as producing the ThistleTimes, the group's newsletter for many years. She assisted with Scottish group displays at fairs and highland gatherings and passed on her extensive knowledge of Scottish family history sources to all who stopped at the group's tent.

Apart from her efforts for the Scottish group, Mavis served on the Management Committee from 2001-2004 and was a Library Assistant for many years. She also came to GSQ by bus every Monday to work on indexing records.

Janice Wellard writes of her remembrance of Mavis:

Mavis's knowledge of GSQ and its library was encyclopaedic, and she taught me all about the library and its resources. From Mavis I learnt about GSQ's cataloguing system, how to operate the old clunky film and fiche copier, many of the library's resources and over time how to access them so I could help members when they visited the resource centre.

While the GSQ Resource Centre was at Woolloongabba and East Brisbane, Mavis volunteered weekly as a library assistant every Saturday. It was only when the Resource Centre moved to its current location in Wishart, and the need to catch two buses, that Mavis cut back her volunteering to once a fortnight. I will always remember Mavis and her dedication to keeping the GSQ resource centre available to members.

Although Mavis is gone from us, we remember her and thank her for her long service to GSQ.



MARGARET COLEMAN AWARD

At the Volunteer Morning Tea held on 27 May, the 2023 winner of the Margaret Coleman Award for

Volunteer of the Year was announced and presented to Helen Connor. Unfortunately, Helen was ill and not able to attend, so the Award was presented via the new Hybrid Meeting system.

Helen has volunteered for GSQ in several roles over many years. She has served on the Management Committee and as Secretary, as well as a member of the

Education Committee and the Technical Advisory Group. Helen is currently joint website coordinator and publishes eNews monthly. She has served as co-editor of Generation and, for a short period of time, was convenor of the English Irish SIG. Helen also does Brisbane City Council library presentations as a representative of GSQ, as well as education presentations for members.

Margaret Coleman was a longstanding member and volunteer for GSQ and, following her passing in 2020, her family donated a bequest in her memory, the funds of which were to be used to purchase a perpetual trophy and individual trophies for a period of ten years, to be presented to the Volunteer of the Year.



SEEKING A LIFE IN THE

farthest part of the world

Angela von Berky

In 1865, my three times great grandfather Edward Corser, his wife and nine children emigrated to Moreton Bay on the Sunda. In a later letter home, he talked of being obligated to seek a life in this "farthest part of the world". In this work of historical fiction, I imagine how their journey went from the perspective of the teenage Mary Georgina.

The stench was overwhelming. It was a constant battle to contend with the unpredictable bouts of queasiness. Mary Georgina was most concerned for her youngest sister. At only three months, she was the most susceptible to all the diseases rife amongst the group. Feeling increasingly sickly herself, the young woman quickly left the cabin in search of any fresher air. The hallway reeked of vomit, human excrement, and filth from days at sea. She lifted her apron to her nose and stumbled forward in the direction of the sliver of light at the end of the hall. She kept her eyes focused ahead, not wanting to consider what was underfoot.

Suddenly, she felt herself sliding forward. She knew she was taking another fall. This was the second time in as many days. Yesterday she had also gone for a slip. She had tried to step around yet another undefinable mass of detritus lying on the hallway floor. In aiming to walk close to a clearer section, she had misjudged her step, fell against the wall, and rebounded out into the mess. She felt so humiliated yet again – her dress was dirty.

They had been on this disgraceful vessel for thirty days. The *Sunda*! She wished she had never heard that name. She wanted to just turn back time. Wind back the clocks to before 22 February 1865. Why could she not have just run from the harbour and lived her own life? Why did she have to board this ship? She was only 15. She felt a victim of her age. Only 15! No marriage prospects yet. No beau to call her own yet. She dreamed of being a married woman. Then raising her own family within the close circle of her parents and many siblings.

She missed her friends and the familiarity of life in Stourbridge. Her father had run a successful legal

practice. He also helped her uncle Henry in his maltster business. It was a simple pleasure of her life to be in the High Street, strolling through the Corser row of shops. She could watch the world of commerce in front of her. Sometimes she would accompany her brothers into one of the warehouses. She felt full of hope and optimism about her future in England. Then, they had no choice but to leave that world.

She had visions of her beautiful skirts and bodices, that she so proudly wore at home. The soft lace lining along the sleeves of her favourite dress. The fine buttons trailing up her neck in the high collar. Her mother was always chastising her for fidgeting with parts of her dresses. Feeling the fine details of the garments, reminded Mary that she was growing into all that came with womanhood. It had broken her heart to leave behind these luxurious items. She had only just started to experiment with the more fashionable clothes. How she missed the feel of her gowns, and even the joy of ringlets in her hair.

She felt even more conscious of her current grimy state, with her filthy chemise and petticoat dress. In the cabins, they were only allowed two light petticoats each. She had just dirtied her last clean one. She had hoped to keep at least one of these clean. This was the final humiliation. She would have to wear this indefinitely now. In this weather, there was almost no chance of getting to the hold to get more of her clothes. And absolutely no chance of washing her clothes on the deck. She felt a moment of despair about her situation. This was not the life for a young woman! What would people think of her? How would she ever find a beau? What sort of prospects did she have now?

Her thoughts drifted to her occasional high hopes about a good life in the new country. Her father had talked about the better types of people emigrating to Australia. In particular, he had spent considerable time telling each of his seven daughters about their great futures ahead in the new land. She had also heard Captain Flynn talking



with her father, impressed with the considerable assets and financial backing which they were bringing with them. He had told the Corsers about how they would be 'a great acquisition to the colony'.

Did this really mean that she would find herself a lovely gentleman? How long would it be until she attracted a suitable handsome young man? What would it be like to live in this place called Moreton Bay? To establish themselves in business and property? She remembered her father strongly advising against associating with any of the male passengers. Over the last few weeks, she had been grateful for his warnings. Mary sometimes heard the strains of early drinking bouts in other sections of the boat. There were many rumours of debauchery and drunkenness in these lower decks. She knew that the right man awaited her in this Moreton Bay.

Returning to her current miserable state, Mary considered her options in obtaining some other clothing. She thought of the situation of the other girls in her quarters. It would be better to approach one of her sisters first. She would have liked to have asked her eldest sister, Agnes. However, Mary knew she was lost in her own world, still pining for her beau back in England. At nineteen years of age, she wasn't sure that she wanted to relocate to Australia. She was smitten by a potential young suitor. With her father not approving of the match, her best option was to travel with the family to Australia.

She might have to resort to asking her mother, or one of the other girls in her cabin. She would start with her mother. It would be impolite to ask one of the other girls in her quarters. She was not sure whether she wanted to develop a connection with any of these cabin mates. Her mother implied that some were of questionable backgrounds. She felt it best to not broach a conversation with their groups. Would there be one of two more respectable girls who it might be appropriate to ask? After all, one consolation to being in the single women's quarters should be the opportunity to share clothing and personal items.

She turned herself in the direction of the cabin, in which her mother was nursing young Alice. At least she could try to wipe herself down. Who knows when they would be able to wash again? She could not remember the last time they were on deck, collecting rainwater for washing. Those trips had been just so rare and brief lately. The seas had been so rough. There was a sense of resignation amongst the passengers, that life on this ship meant long dark days stuck in cabins.

She knew that a couple of days ago, a small group of people had braved the terrible conditions. There was a brief lull in the swell. She felt sorry for that unfortunate few, who would have taken on the wilder weather. It would have been a purposeful and difficult short journey onto the deck. The best efforts were made to keep any loss on the ship quiet. However, there were always the tell-tale signs. Firstly, days of muffled weeping and low consoling voices. Then, small gatherings of the medical officer and a few crew members in deep whispered conversation. Finally, rumours of a small group venturing on to deck.

She wondered if the young girl who had joined the ship in Queenstown was the latest death on board ship. Mary had seen the family walking up onto the gangway. It was obvious that the child was struggling then. The pallor of her skin, and slow ascent into the ship drew Mary's attention. Other *Sunda* passengers watched warily, as the new family crossed the deck. Parents clutched their children closely, as they imagined a similar fate befalling any of their family. The girl looked like she was in the worst stages of the disease. She seemed not long for this world.

A kaleidoscope of emotions presented itself in the observing crowds. Each family had their own personal relationship with this scourge of illness. Disgust, panic, sadness, remorse – all played out in differing degrees across the faces of the passengers. Many walked away from the deck crowd, clearly angry that such undeniable contagion was being allowed onto the boat. Her own family had borne the brunt of this rage. She had



overheard the complaints, been unable to deny the disgusted looks, and the obvious avoidance of some passengers to interact with her family.

She knew the stages of developing illness on the ship now. It had happened a few times. The Captain and Medical Officer acted sensitively in trying to keep the incidents discreet and controlled. Firstly, there was a worsening stench throughout the ship. Very quickly following, a wave of gossip would start about the nature of the latest infection. Then, the official word from the Medical Officer who would name the disease and advise of symptoms. The best outcome was measles which spread quickly and disappeared as easily.

Most recently, a typhoid infection was suspected. She could hear the other passengers on the ship coughing. Some new infection was spreading quickly through the crowd. On any walks with her brother, she could feel misery and sickness permeating through the ship. The rasping breath of illness seemed to be lapping towards her. She could feel a tingle on the back of her neck. She knew the exhale of the sickness was lengthening. Her body told her it may be closely within her reach.

Her father's cough had deteriorated since they had left England. She could hear him in her parent's cabin gasping for breath again, hoping that he could get some air. She focussed on the sounds of his breathing – laboured and slow. He was also pacing his breathing, paying attention to his depth of breath and rhythm. She just wanted the sea swells to stop, so that he might be able to get up to deck for fresh air. Until recently, he had followed a good daily routine of walking the ship and spending some time absorbing the sea air.

She knew that, if they could just manage to survive the trip to Australia, the warmer climate would help him. It

was a belief that she hung onto tightly. The recuperative qualities of southern hemisphere weather were the final recommendation offered by the doctor. Since she was a young child, their lives had been dictated by his health. She knew her father had been forced to surrender the family farm, after his first encounter with consumption. His ailing health had dictated a move into life as a solicitor and business holder with his brother Henry. He often talked of being blessed that the less demanding lifestyle, had led to some seeming sense of control over the impacts of the disease.

In the last few years however, there was further erosion of his condition. He was finding it harder to work the long days. He was regularly seeing doctors again, a new cough intensified, and he struggled to sleep. She clearly noticed that her father was struggling with simple tasks again. Henry started carrying the load of their family business. This time, the medical advice was sanatoriums, vacations in the Lakes District, generally spending time out of the city. All these remedies seem to make some small improvements to his continued health struggles.

Then, her sister Gertrude contracted the disease at age 14. That was four years ago. Gertrude was also struggling on the *Sunda*. She had never really recovered from her earlier bout of the disease. Mary remembered her mother's terror when Gertrude became unwell. There was a memorial in their home to her uncle, who had died at 14 of the disease. Her mother did not want to lose a child, having seen her own brother suffer. She also knew her father had lost his own Papa when he was 13.

There were too many echoes in their lives. They all felt desperate to avoid any further losses. She heard her parents despairing over the limited recuperative benefits of many of the medical advice so far. They had contemplated the latest recommendation to emigrating

to a warmer, distant part of the globe. It was too heartbreaking for them all to consider. She had heard her parents discussing this many times. In the end, it seemed they had no choice. There were too many losses amongst other families and friends. It became apparent that their best chance of survival was to emigrate to the farthest part of the world.

These thoughts made her want to cry again. She returned to the cabin to wipe herself down. She could see her mother trying to calm the baby, as both tried to manage their seasickness. Her mother approached her with Alice, wanting to console her. Suddenly, the boat lurched with a swell, and Alice vomited. The revolting liquid projects forward to Mary Georgina and landed squarely on her already filthy clothing. She now had this mess down the back of her dress, on her neck and in her hair. It was disgusting. She simply wanted this long journey to Australia to end.

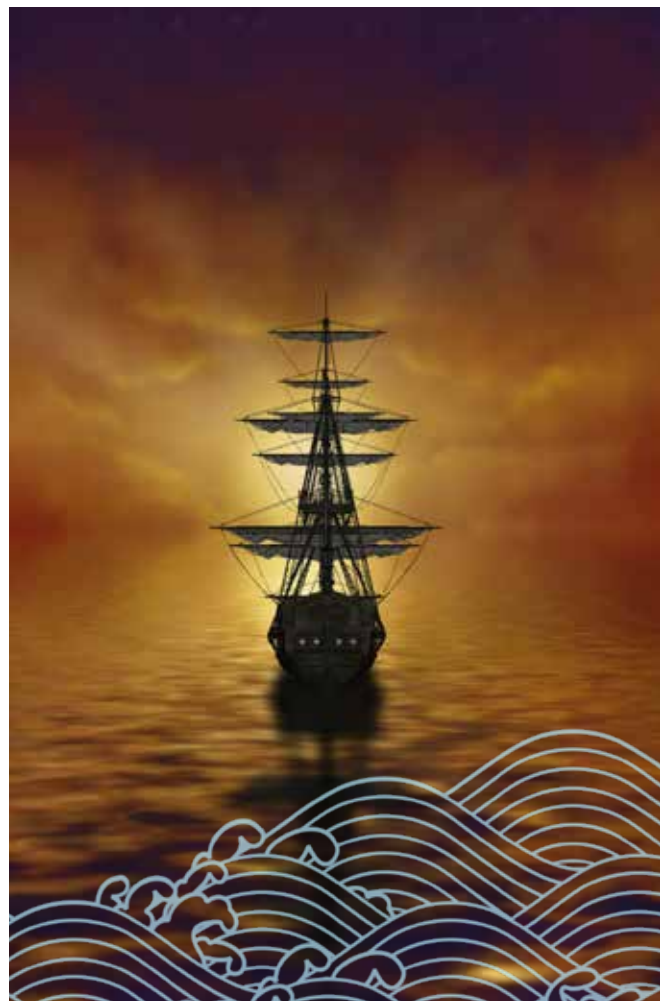
Feelings of disgust and terror threatened to consume her. She had slept badly last night due to another nightmare. Mary had dreamed of the boat disintegrating and all their lives lost in a shipwreck. She had images of them all floating about on the water, their personal possessions strewn throughout the ocean. The young woman saw herself adrift, trying to reach for her siblings. Her parents screaming, as massive waves drowned out their efforts to connect with each other. She had to get some control over her thoughts. These bouts of panic would not defeat her.

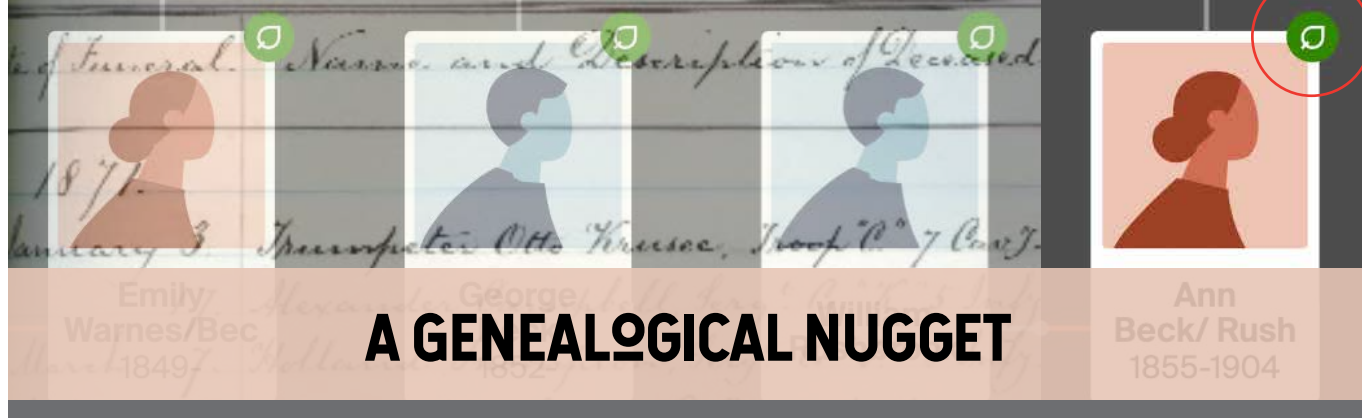
She looked again towards her mother, who was struggling to manage all the little ones. Florence, already an unstable toddler, was crying from falling backwards onto the floor. Isabel and Helen, who had been busy playing in a corner of the cabin, had been propelled into the middle of the room. Mary moved towards them, knowing that she needed to assist her mother in this moment. She glanced around the room, to see if she could at least grab a cloth to wipe herself down. She asked the young children to help her in the hunt, trying to distract them from some lingering boat shudders.

Watching her young siblings, she took comfort in their innocent excitement about this adventure. At times like these, when they were not in the small school on board, it could be a good distraction from her own thoughts. She decided to focus on this opportunity, wiping herself down and starting to play games with the children. At only three and five years of age, it took all her mental energy to keep them engaged with nursery rhymes and riddles. In time, she felt herself returning to a sense of calm herself.

She thought about her three older brothers and their perspective on this journey. She had heard them in many conversations with her father and Captain Flynn. The captain made it well known on the ship that the eleven members of her large Corser family, represented the great pioneer opportunities of Australia. He had talked of the prosperity which they would offer the new country. All of Mary's brothers were excited about the great possibilities for life in the new world. As young men keen to make a mark in society, they were already talking about their futures as land holders and professionals.

Suddenly, she could hear a succession of shouts and movement in cabins nearby. She understood the reason for this when a member of the crew appeared at their door. The skies had cleared, and the decks were open to passengers. She could not contain her joy. The sun, the water, more room to move around. Her mother, also keen to embrace this opportunity, started to manoeuvre the children towards the open cabin door. Mary grabbed a few small hands and walked with her young siblings out into the corridor. She was careful to avoid any of the disgusting bits of debris still lying in the hallway. After this short difficult passage, the world would be full of possibilities for her again.





Janice Wellard

Recently I started to manage a cousin's DNA. As part of this process, I added to their family tree on the Ancestry website. Very occasionally in the past I have looked at one of Ancestry's hints (the leaf icons on the ancestor's name in the tree). Generally when I checked these hints I found nothing new as they referred to records I had already seen.

But this time when I checked the hints that Ancestry had found for this ancestor, I was surprised to see a burial record listed. Margaret O'Connors, arrived in the colony as a convict in 1836 and married a few months later.¹ She only had one child - a son christened in 1849.² There had been no record of her death under variations of her married surname – I had searched for more than 40 years for such a record. She presumably died before 1853 when her husband remarried.

The burial record in question referenced parish registers that are available for viewing at G.S.Q. – either on microfilm or using the Society's access to FamilySearch microfilms. Using the latter option, as I needed to check if the original burial register held extra information, I viewed the record which proved it was indeed the burial of the elusive Margaret Puddy.³ Her burial record was made in a variation of the name used on her convict indent – Conners rather than O'Connors, though this was not her maiden surname (Margaret said she was a widow on arrival). Other details on the burial record confirmed it was the correct person – her age, her ship of arrival, her usual residence, and that she was the wife of a farmer.

But why did Ancestry find this hint now? When I entered Margaret's name on the cousin's tree I used the name on her indent, which led to the record. I check my tree where Margaret's surname was recorded as MNU (maiden name unknown). When I changed her surname to O'Connors, leaf hints popped up immediately, including the one which led to the burial record.

One question has been answered. But like many things genealogical others have been raised. Why was Margaret buried under her previous surname, and not her married surname? Why was she buried in Newcastle parish, miles from where her husband and child were living in West Maitland parish? Who provided the information that was included on her burial record? Had Margaret found motherhood overwhelming and abandoned her family? Or had she found life with her husband too difficult?⁴

Unfortunately, there are no other details in the burial record – so these questions will probably remain unanswered.

¹ Convict Indent, Margaret O'Connors, arrived Roslin Castle, 25 February 1836, New South Wales State Archives, Series NRS 12189, Item X639, microfiche 724; Register of Marriages, St Mary Magdalene Church of England parish register, Margaret Connor and Joseph Puddy, 25 July 1836, NSW Marriage reference, 1836, Vol. 20, No. 240.

² New South Wales Baptism, Henry Puddy, born 19 June 1849, NSW 1849, Vol. 34A, No. 2710.

³ New South Wales Burial, Margaret Conners, buried 13 March 1852, NSW 1852, Vol. 118, No. 1174.

⁴ In 1844, eight years after their marriage and eight years before her death, Margaret's husband placed a notice in the local newspaper warning people from harbouring his wife as she had "left her home without any reasonable cause". Maitland Mercury and Hunter River General Advertiser, 9 March 1844, p. 3. Advertisements.

WEBLINKS - Occupations



To appreciate the lives of our ancestors, we need to understand what they did for a living. Here's a few websites, current and historical, that will help you find out what their working life was like.

- Hall Genealogy Website – Old Occupation Names - <http://rmhh.co.uk/occup/>
- GENUKI – UK and Ireland Occupations - <https://www.genuki.org.uk/big/Occupations>
- Dictionary of Occupational Titles (US Dept of Labor) - https://www.occupationalinfo.org/dot_index.html#MENU
- Scottish Archives Network – My ancestor was ... - <https://www.scan.org.uk/familyhistory/myancestor/index.htm>

FOCUS ON

In each issue of *Generation* we will focus on one of GSQ's Special Interest Groups. For the dates and times that each of the Special Interest Groups meet, mostly every second month, check out the GSQ website or the dates elsewhere in *Generation*.

GSQ SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS ENGLISH/IRISH GROUP

The *English/Irish Special Interest Group* started as two separate groups focussing on just one of these countries of the British Isles. Dwindling numbers meant the groups joined together in February 2003. As the name suggests, the group focuses on helping members of GSQ research their ancestors who came from either England, Ireland, or Wales. And the group also covers the Crown dependencies of the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

Over the years, the group has contributed a number of records to the GSQ library and continues to do so from time to time. The group enjoys lively discussions about all things English and Irish. In recent years group members have contributed presentations on research in various counties in England, Ireland, and Wales. The group maintains a folder of these resources and some more general information, which is available to GSQ members.

The *English/Irish Group* meets on the first Sunday of even-numbered months – February, April, June,

August, October, and December. On these days, the GSQ Resource Centre is open from 9.30 a.m. until 2 p.m., with the meeting itself commencing at 10.30 a.m. Individual research can be undertaken outside the meeting time.

The Genealogical Society of Queensland publishes a monthly electronic newsletter about Society news and

upcoming events. All are welcome to download and read it. For information on the activities of all our Special Interest Groups, see GSQ's monthly newsletter, E-news at: <https://www.gsq.org.au/what-gsq-offers/enews/>.

Visitors are most welcome to attend. If you would like to be added to the group mailing list, please email the convenor Kim Davis at irisheng@gsq.org.au



GENUKI is a website which provides a virtual reference library of genealogical information of relevance to the UK and Ireland. It is a non-commercial service, maintained by a charitable trust and a group of volunteers. It may be thought of as the first 'port of call' for family historians seeking information about genealogy in the British Isles and can be found at <https://www.genuki.org.uk/>



FamilySearch Wiki – British Isles

The Wiki is a free, online genealogical guide created and maintained by FamilySearch. The Wiki for the British Isles can be found at https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/British_Isles. It provides a starting point for detailed information on the constituent countries of the group of islands which we know as the British Isles.

GSQ Special Interest Groups • e-News



The **Genealogical Society of Queensland** publishes a monthly electronic newsletter about Society news and upcoming events. All are welcome to download and read it.



For information on the activities of all our Special Interest Groups, see GSQ's monthly newsletter, E-news at:

<https://www.gsq.org.au/what-gsq-offers/enews/>

ASK ABOUT IRELAND AND GRIFFITH'S VALUATION

Ask about Ireland

[About us](#) [Links](#) [Contact us](#) [Accessibility](#)



Ask About Ireland (<https://www.askaboutireland.ie/>) and the Cultural Heritage Project is an initiative of public libraries throughout Ireland, together with local museums and archives, in the digitisation and online publication of the original, the unusual, and the unique material from their local studies' collections, to create a national Internet resource for culture.

The participating organisations have selected material of public interest from their holdings within a variety of common topics ranging from sport, transport, and architecture to flora and fauna and Irish writers. The material is then digitised and set in a narrative context. It is a constantly growing resource with content being added to the website on an ongoing basis.

Of interest to family historians is the Reading Room, the place to find information about Ireland, the country, the culture, the heritage.

One of the most important resources for 19th-century Irish genealogy is the Primary Valuation of Ireland, generally referred to as Griffith's Valuation after Sir Richard Griffith, who was responsible for carrying out the project. The Valuation is a property tax survey carried out between 1848 and 1864. The aim of the valuation was to produce a uniform guide to the relative value of land throughout the whole of Ireland to decide liability to pay the Poor rate (for the support of the poor and destitute within each Poor Law union).

It is a partial substitute for the loss of most 1800s Irish census records. Griffith's Valuation lists only those who owned or leased land, so it's like a head-of-household

census — but it covers about 80 percent of the population and every parish, including more than one million dwellings.

Griffith's Valuation is arranged by county, barony, poor law union, and townland. Apart from townland address and occupier's name, the particulars given in the valuation records are:

- Name of the person from whom the property was leased (immediate lessor)
- Description of the property
- Acreage of land (where the property includes land)
- Valuation of buildings
- Valuation of land

The Valuation can be accessed for free on the website Ask About Ireland (AAI). See the following site to search the database: <https://www.askaboutireland.ie/griffith-valuation/>.

Commercial subscription websites Ancestry and Findmypast also permit searching of the Valuation data and Findmypast has an explanation of terms used in the Valuation.

AAI allows users to search by family name or place and it contains search tips. Places are linked to maps and these maps represent the six-inch series created at the time of Griffith's Valuation during the nineteenth century, including the dividing lines between valuations. AAI also allows users to upload their own information or photographs to share with others.



Griffith's Valuation

The Primary Valuation was the first full-scale valuation of property in Ireland. It was overseen by Richard Griffith and published between 1847 and 1864. It is one of the most important surviving 19th century genealogical sources.

Griffith's Valuation is an invaluable reference for family historians with ancestors in Ireland in part because little census material from the nineteenth century has survived. In effect, because it is the only detailed guide to where in Ireland people lived in the mid-nineteenth century and what property they owned or leased, Griffith's Valuation serves as a census substitute for the years before, during, and after the Great Famine. Griffith's Valuation is also a valuable record of social and economic data and includes map reference numbers that can help researchers identify and perhaps locate property on Ordnance Survey maps created before the valuations took place.

Few other records can be used to identify an Irish ancestor's exact place of origin, and only the Valuation links an individual to a specific townland and civil parish. This is extremely important, since the first step in Irish genealogical research is to identify an ancestor's townland and civil parish, which can lead you to ecclesiastical parish records of births and marriages.

Griffith's Valuation allows family historians to discover ancestors who owned or rented land in Ireland between 1847 and 1864. These records may reveal whether your relatives owned or leased their land, the value of their property, and whether the land included buildings. You may also be able to find out the name of their landlord.

Griffith's Valuation Record Information

Tenant	
Family Name 1	LOWRY
Forename 1	JAMES
Landlord	
Family Name 2	DUFFERIN AND CLANEBOYE
Forename 2	LORD
Location	
County	DOWN
Barony	DUFFERIN
Union	DOWNPATRICK
Parish	KILLYLEAGH
Townland	MOYMORE
Place Name	MOYMORE
Place Type	TOWNLAND
Publication Details	
Position on Page	44
Printing Date	1863
Act	15&16
Sheet Number	24
Map Reference	5



FREE UK GENEALOGY

Free UK Genealogy provides free, online access to family history records. A team of dedicated volunteers create high-quality transcriptions of public records from governmental sources, parish churches, and other trusted institutions. The databases are freely available to search and view, unlike some commercial sites.

There are three projects:

- FreeBMD provides free access to civil registrations of birth, marriage, and death records for the period 1837-1992. See <https://www.freebmd.org.uk/> to search.
- FreeCEN offers a free, online database of the 19th century UK census returns. See <https://www.freecen.org.uk/> to search.
- FreeREG houses registers of baptisms, marriages and burials of the Church of England and other organisations, prior to civil registration in 1837. See <https://www.freereg.org.uk/> to search.



If you haven't already used it, John Grenham's Irish Ancestors website is worth a visit, <https://www.johngrenham.com/>.

It is a different type of website with lots of interesting information, and perhaps clues to the origins of your elusive Irish ancestors. Recently new marriage maps were added to the website (see here for John's announcement about these - <https://www.johngrenham.com/blog/2023/01/25/new-marriage->

maps/). These marriage maps focus on GRO marriages from 1845 until 1922.

The website is simple and well-laid out and there is lots of helpful information in the "Sitemap" tab. It is a paid website – but the good news is that GSQ's English/Irish SIG pays for a subscription to Irish Ancestors which you can access from home through your MyGSQ login.

Happy hunting!



A TRIP TO COUNTY GALWAY, IRELAND

Sue Bell (GSQ Blog 25 June 2018)

Occasionally you hear a story of someone who arrives in a country looking for their ancestors and commences wandering the roads and byways. Suddenly, seemingly by chance, as they have done very little research, they stumble across a record, a house, or the burial place of a long lost relative. The other story, and the most common, especially if your relatives came from Ireland, is the one where you do endless research, go up and down genealogical roads, constantly hitting dead ends, following false leads and find nothing.

In tracing my great-great grandmother Sarah Bell (nee Alexander), the story was somewhere in between. I had a lot of information on my great-great grandparents Sarah and Thomas Bell from their arrival in New South Wales from Ireland in 1832. But I wanted to find out more about their lives and where they came from in Ireland so a number of years ago, when we decided to visit Ireland, I started doing some research in preparation for the trip but, as many have found before, it was difficult.

I knew that Sarah Bell (nee Alexander) had lived in County Galway before she married Thomas Bell as I had found her death notice from 1853 which provided me with some information.

At Parramatta, on Sunday, June 12, after 4 days' illness, Sarah, wife of Mr. Thomas Bell, second daughter of the late John Alexander Esq., of Maryville, Gort, County of Galway, Ireland, aged 50 years.^[1]

From this information I started by researching the name, Maryville, and found it was a reference to Maryville House^[2] which was located in the townland of Cahermore in County Galway. A townland is Gaelic in origin and is the smallest administrative division of land in Ireland, but they are not always marked on signs! I also found an 1841 ordnance map on askaboutireland.ie which had Maryville House marked on it.

I then tried to find a birth or baptism record as, from the death notice, I knew that she had been born in 1803 but as the Bells were not Catholic but Church of Ireland, this made it difficult as many parish records were destroyed



Ordnance Survey Map, Galway, 1841
askaboutireland.ie/griffithsvaluation

or are hard to find. I identified the parish Sarah had lived in and checked to see if there were any records of this parish held by the Representative Church Body Library in Dublin but there were none covering the period I needed.^[3]

Once we arrived in County Galway, we headed towards the town of Gort using the 1841 ordnance map, the photo of Maryville House which only provided the name Cahermore Townland as the address, and our trusty GPS! We passed the tiny town of Kinvarra and travelled along the road where we thought the house may be but found nothing except many large, new houses either for rent or for sale with no one in them. This was just post GFC and a housing disaster had hit Ireland. My son had the brainwave of putting the townland of Cahermore into the GPS and amazingly the GPS politely directed us to a new route which we followed for some time. We were about to give up and turn back to Galway when my husband, who was sitting in the back seat with the photo, suddenly said "Isn't that it? I recognise the windows." And there was the house in the photo, Maryville House!



Driveway into Maryville House

I was very excited but still unsure this was really the house. We pulled up at a long driveway and, not wanting to seem too presumptuous by driving in, walked up the driveway. Luckily the daughter of the owners was home, and I gave her the long story of how I thought this was where my great-great grandmother had lived as a child. She very politely invited us into the beautiful dining room and offered us afternoon tea. She then rang her parents, Paddy and Marie, who came post-haste to see the odd contingent from Australia. We ended up having a very pleasant afternoon tea with them all!

At the time of Griffith's Valuation in the 1840s, Arthur Alexander, who was Sarah's brother, occupied Maryville House and 260 acres in the townland of Cahermore. Arthur had taken over the house and farm when his older brother, John, died in 1847.

Sarah would not have lived at this Maryville House but in the old Maryville House which no longer existed but was shown on the 1841 ordnance map. It had stood close to the entry gates. The current Maryville House is an extension of the old Maryville Police Barracks which dated from the 1820s. The Police Barracks are on the 1841 ordnance map on the other side of the road from the old Maryville House.

It appeared that Paddy's great grandfather had bought the house and farm in 1903 but he was not sure from whom they had bought it. Paddy's great grandfather did not buy the land from Arthur Alexander as he died in 1890 at Maryville.

A notable figure in the person of Mr Arthur Alexander, Solicitor, of Gort is gone from Galway society. The

deceased was well known in Gort, where he resided and about it for some years, he did not however practise at this profession. He died on Sunday at his residence Maryville, Cahermore. He was the son of John Alexander, Esq, uncle of the late Sir Joshua Bell of Queensland Australia and was heir presumptive to the dormant Earldom of Stirling.^[4]

Sarah died well before her brother on 12 June 1853 in Parramatta and was buried in St John's Burial Ground.

During this trip around Ireland, we saw beautiful countryside, learned about their fascinating history, met friendly people, and listened to Irish music. But we also saw evidence of what happened to the poor tenant farmers during Irish history and particularly during the potato famine in the 1840s. So as excited as I was to find the place where my great-great grandmother had been born, I also reflected on how the Alexanders may have treated their tenant farmers.



Sarah Bell's grave in St John's Cemetery, Parramatta

Sources

^[1] *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 13 June 1853, p. 2. National Library of Australia, Trove <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article12946646> Accessed 29 May 2018.

^[2] <http://www.buildingsofireland.ie/niah/search.jsp?type=record&county=G A®no=30411312> Accessed 3 September 2016.

^[3] <https://www.ireland.anglican.org/cmsfiles/pdf/AboutUs/library/registers/ParishRegisters/PARISHREGISTERS.pdf>

^[4] *Tuam Herald*, 14 June 1890, p.2, Col. 3. Irish Newspaper Archive, National Library of Australia <http://archive.irishnewsarchive.com.rp.nla.gov.au> Accessed 28 May 2018.



How to book

Calendar of events

GSQ web site:

Go to www.gsq.org.au and select Events

Use the Events Calendar to find the event and then select the number and type of ticket (Member/Non-Member).

Add your event to the Cart and proceed to the Checkout page adding in all details and selecting the payment type.

In person:

Come into GSQ and have a library assistant help you fill out the online registration form for your chosen event.

By post:

Post in a cheque nominating the event for which you wish to book. The cheque must be received by GSQ at least 5 days prior to the event.

By phone:

Telephone GSQ on 07 3349 6072 during opening hours for EFTPOS credit card payments.

Payment types

Credit card:

Can be used online, in person at GSQ or via telephone.

Direct Bank Transfer: Transfer the funds to GSQ using GSQ's bank details provided at the time of booking. Payment must have been received at least 2 days prior to the event.

Cash: In person at GSQ

Cheque: By post or in person at GSQ

Once payment has been confirmed, a ticket will be emailed to you. If you do not have an email address, it can be posted or provided to you on the day of the event.

Remember

For most courses, bookings are essential, especially for computer courses as these are limited to 13 attendees.

Also, please note that the GSQ education program is prepared many months in advance. Occasionally, changes need to be made due to circumstances which are out of GSQ's control.

Please check the GSQ website www.gsq.org.au/gsq-events/ for up-to-date information and for booking to attend sessions.

Date	Day	Event + Special Interest Groups [SIG]	Time
June 2023			
17	Sat	Presentation – Staying out of Trouble	9am
18	Sun	Writing SIG	10am
25	Sun	DNA SIG	9:30am
July 2023			
2	Sun	Scottish SIG	10am
8	Sat	Presentation – The AJCP in Trove	9am
9	Sun	Family History Technology SIG	10am
9	Sun	Military Group	1pm
16	Sun	DNA SIG	9:30am
16	Sun	Scandinavian SIG	1pm
22	Sat	Presentation – Editing and Indexing your Family History Book	9am
30	Sun	German Group	10:15am
August 2023			
5	Sat	Presentation – Investigating Sources	9pm
6	Sun	English/Irish SIG	10am
13	Sun	Convict Connections	10am
19	Sat	Presentation – Beyond Ancestry and Trove	9am
20	Sun	Writing SIG	10am
27	Sun	DNA SIG	9:30am
30	Wed	DNA Clinic	7pm
September 2023			
3	Sun	Scottish SIG	10am
9	Sat	Presentation – Online sources for Midland Genealogy	9am
10	Sun	Family History Technology SIG	10am
10	Sun	Military Group	1pm
17	Sun	DNA SIG	9:30am
23	Sat	Seminar – Scotland Here we Come	12:30pm
24	Sun	German Group	10:15am



• **Events and Special Interest Group Meetings are held at GSQ:**
25 Stackpole Street, Wishart, Qld. (Current restrictions considered)

Due to unforeseen circumstances, some of these events may be cancelled or re-scheduled. **Please check GSQ's website for up-to-date information on the education program.**

EDUCATION PROGRAM 2023

WATCH THE GSQ WEBSITE OR E-NEWS FOR INFORMATION ON DATES, LOCATIONS AND TOPICS AS THEY MAY CHANGE.

ALL paid events need to be booked online via the GSQ web site.

July - August - September

Presentation (Virtual platform)

Staying Out of Trouble: The Rights and Responsibilities of Today's Genealogists

WHEN: Saturday 17 June @ 9am – 11am AEST
PRESENTER: Judy Russell
COST: \$20 Members \$30 Non-members

Presentation (Virtual platform)

The AJCP in Trove

WHEN: Saturday 8 July @ 9am – 11am AEST
PRESENTER: Carmel Galvin
COST: \$20 Members \$30 Non-members

Presentation (Virtual platform)

Editing and Indexing your Family History Book

WHEN: Saturday 22 July @ 9am – 11am AEST
PRESENTER: Jennie Fairs
COST: \$20 Members \$30 Non-members

Presentation (Virtual platform)

Getting to know your sources: Investigating Sources

WHEN: Saturday 5 August @ 9am – 11am AEST
PRESENTER: Dr Jennifer Harrison
COST: \$20 Members \$30 Non-members

Presentation (Virtual platform)

Convict research beyond Ancestry and Newspaper resources beyond Trove

WHEN: Saturday 19 August @ 9am – 11am AEST
PRESENTER: Stephanie Ryan
COST: \$20 Members \$30 Non-members

Presentation (Virtual platform)

Online sources for Midland Genealogy

WHEN: Saturday 9 September @ 9am – 11am AEST
PRESENTER: Shauna Hicks
COST: \$20 Members \$30 Non-members

We hope you enjoy the education program for 2023. Remember to look on the GSQ website for up to date events & times.



With the COVID-19 pandemic continuing, GSQ has instituted a number of virtual meetings using Zoom. These meetings provide support for members' research, and discussion about resources available and interesting topics.



Check the Events Calendar on the GSQ website for further information and confirmation

DNA Clinic

The clinic help sessions are available to all GSQ members only and will be in your home with a one-on-one virtual meeting through Zoom or GoToMeeting. The next clinic will be on Wednesday 30 August 2023. Other 2023 sessions will be held on 29 November.

If you'd like to make an appointment, please email dna@gsq.org.au **by the Wednesday prior to the session**, stating you

would like an appointment and set out your DNA problem.

The appointments will be for approximately 30 mins each on that Wednesday evening between the times of 7pm – 8:30pm. A virtual meeting link will be sent to you the day before the DNA Clinic with your appointed time and the name of the person who will be assisting you.

SIG Meeting Dates 2023

Special Interest Groups for 2023 are full of bright ideas and tips. All members of GSQ are welcome to attend. Watch the GSQ website or eNews for information on dates, topics, and any event changes.

<https://www.gsq.org.au/gsq-events/list/>

Special Interest Groups



Convict Connections • 10:00am – 2:30pm



11 June, 13 August, 8 October,
10 December
• 2nd Sunday, even numbered months

German Research Group • 10:15am – 2:30pm



30 July, 24 September, 26 November
• Last Sunday, odd numbered months

DNA Group • 9:30am – 12:00pm (2:30pm even months)



25 June, 16 July, 27 August, 17 September,
22 October, 19 November
• odd months 3rd Sunday, even months 4th Sunday

Military Group • 1:00pm – 2:30pm



9 July, 10 September, 12 November
• 2nd Sunday, odd numbered months

English/Irish Group • 10:00am – 2:30pm



4 June, 6 August, 1 October, 3 December
• 1st Sunday, even numbered months

Scandinavian Group • 12:30am – 2:30pm



16 July, 17 September, 19 November
• 3rd Sunday, odd numbered months

Writing Group • 10:00am – 2:00pm



18 June, 20 August, 15 October
• 3rd Sunday, even numbered months

Scottish Group • 10:00am – 2:30pm



2 July, 3 September, 5 November
• 1st Sunday, odd numbered months

Family History Technology Group • 10:00am – 12:00pm



9 July, 10 September, 12 November
• 2nd Sunday, odd numbered months

Wednesday Night @GSQ

4th Wednesday each month – 7pm-9pm

Guest Speakers online via Zoom

• Gold Coin Contribution

If you have been meaning to drop in to one of these nights too, NOW is your time to put it in your calendar, before the year is out!

GSQ is open on the 2nd and 4th Wed night each month. On the 4th Wednesday night there will be a guest speaker.

Check out the GSQ website closer to this event

Our Special Interest Groups hold meetings at GSQ, 25 Stackpole Street, Wishart or online via Zoom.

Members of GSQ are welcome to attend.



23 Sept
12:30pm - 6:30pm
AEST
via ZOOM

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- Lorna Steele-McGinn - *Jacobites, the Clearances & emigration from the Highlands. (Recorded)*
- Emma Maxwell - *Locating Scottish Burial Records. (Recorded)*
- Alistair Henderson - *The inexhaustible Source - Scottish Deeds, the forgotten source for family history. (Recorded)*
- Loraigh Quinney - *Discover Historic Maps of Scotland. (Live + Recorded)*
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QUEENSLAND TOWNS

• GOONDIWINDI

WHERE OUR FAMILIES LIVED

The town of Goondiwindi lies 350 kilometres south-west of Brisbane, on the MacIntyre River and near the Queensland-New South Wales border. It is at the junction of five highways, giving the town a unique position as a border crossing point prior to Federation in 1901.

Before the coming of European settlers, the area was occupied by the Bigambul people. The area was first explored by Allan Cunningham in 1827. In the late 1840s, the Marshall brothers established the Gundi Windi pastoral station on the MacIntyre River. They faced strong Aboriginal resistance for the first few years until the Native Police crushed most of the opposition in 1849.



Goondiwindi 1880

The name of the town is thought to be derived from a Bigambul phrase meaning 'a resting place of birds', taken from a roosting place on a large rock in the MacIntyre River.

The village of Gunda Windi, originally a stopping place on the river for teamsters travelling from New South Wales to stations in western Queensland, was established in 1860 and renamed Goondiwindi by 1861. In 1860, the Queensland Government sold town and country lots and a post office was established in that year. A school and courthouse were built in the 1860s and a telegraph link with Warwick was established in 1872. The first bridge over the MacIntyre River was built in 1878. The railway from Warwick was not completed until 1908.

Goondiwindi is a centre for pastoral and



Goondiwindi floods 1921

agricultural industries, with the grazing of cattle and sheep, as well as the growing of cotton and grain, as well as some fruit and vegetables.

In 1879 the Waggamba Division, later to become the Waggamba Shire, was created, with its headquarters in Goondiwindi. In 1888, the Municipality of Goondiwindi was proclaimed. During the reform of local government in Queensland in 2008, Goondiwindi Town, and Waggamba and Inglewood Shires were merged to form the Goondiwindi Region, with a population of over 10,000.

In July 1921, the town was inundated by floods, food supplies were cut off with the covering of the railway line, and many families were removed to temporary shelter in churches and schools. In 1968, protective levies were built on the banks of the MacIntyre River.

Perhaps the most well-known resident of Goondiwindi was a grey racehorse named Gunsynd, named for its owners, the 'Goondiwindi Syndicate'. Gunsynd had a number of wins in the late 1960s-early 1970s and is commemorated with a statue in the town centre.



The Goondiwindi Grey

Sources

Wikipedia – <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Goondiwindi>
 Queensland Places – <https://www.queenslandplaces.com.au/goondiwindi>
 Aussie Towns – <https://www.aussietowns.com.au/town/goondiwindi-qld>

THREE OF A KIND

For the June 2013 issue of *Generation*, several new features were suggested. One is entitled *Three of a kind*. The topic for this issue is *Journeys*. The following three stories all focus on a journey of some kind. This shows the different interpretations or stories that are generated by a simple theme.

Bev Murray

World War One Voyage

It was Sunday, 21 January 1917 when the R.M.A.T. S.S. *Anchises* drifted through the Heads from Sydney and out to the vast ocean beyond. The six hundred passengers clambered to catch a last glimpse of mothers, wives, and sweethearts aboard the many ferries that dotted the surrounding swirling water. There were peals of 'God Speed' for a safe journey and return home as the ship gradually faded into the distance. On board was my grandfather, Joseph Dalby.

Joe thought of his sweetheart and how he had searched in vain for her face among the flotilla of sailing vessels and his heart sank, but he knew that he must summon all his courage knowing that he had to be strong in the days and months ahead.

The ship was destined for Cairo, Egypt where the newly recruited soldiers of the 9th reinforcement were to link up with the veterans of Gallipoli to form the 55th Battalion. After sailing for 21 days in rough seas, young Joe was relieved to learn that land had been sighted.

At 6am every man was on deck crushing, cramming and straining to get a glimpse of the thickly timbered coast on entering the very narrow port that was Durban. To the right was situated the town of Durban with its quaint and impressive buildings. To the left, rising from the water were mountains, thickly covered with trees and scrubs.

The young recruits were anxious to go ashore and finally were greatly relieved to be ordered to dress for parade and, at 12 o'clock, were onshore, marching towards the magnificent Town Hall where they received a hearty welcome by the white citizens of Durban. The men enjoyed free travel on the electric trams and after several

picturesque trips on the trams, the day's leave was over and at 10.30pm they said goodbye to Durban forever.

Their voyage to Cape Town was smooth, the sea like a sheet of glass for the entire two-day journey. Joe marvelled at the sight of Cape Town and was fascinated by the mountains nearby. He noted that one was known as the 'Table' Mountain and the other the 'Lion's Head' and claimed that they were aptly named.

As their ship approached Cape Town Joe recorded that the men became restless, and rumours were rife. He wondered were they to be allowed on shore or not?

Would they be on Garrison duty here for several days or indeed several months? With these questions filtering through his mind, his attention was drawn to a most beautiful pier as the ship berthed. He thought to himself how lovely it was, without a doubt.

As luck would have it their ship berthed at Cape Town for a week and each day the men were allowed to go ashore to explore and to enjoy the numerous amusements provided for the pleasure and enjoyment of the soldiers. One day Joe and five mates decided to take a 'puffing Billy' type train, to a place

known as 'Sea Point' located nine miles from Cape Town. Here Joe just couldn't resist the temptation to enjoy the clear, clean water of the swimming baths as costumes and towels were provided free to the Australian soldiers.

On another day they enjoyed a tram ride around the 'Lions Head' rising 700 ft from sea level and witnessed the fine panoramic view of Cape Town. After another enjoyable swim in warmed saltwater swimming baths, an attendant directed Joe and his companions to an old Pagoda where they were treated to tea and cakes.

After six enjoyable days at Cape Town they set sail for another eight days calm sailing onto another port





known as Sierra Leone, also known as ‘white man’s grave’ due to the high incidence of malaria plus the extreme heat. However, it was now early spring and so conditions were improving.

Eventually the ship arrived at Cairo their final destination. Following military training, Joe and his mates would head to France to endure gruelling conditions in the trenches. Tragically many were killed in action whilst others sustained horrific injuries or were stricken with disease.

References

http://www.awm.gov.au/units/unit_11242.asp 55th Battalion. Australian War Memorial.
 Australian War Memorial, War Service Record, AIF, Joseph Dalby No. 3402.
 Letter written to Mr and Mrs S. Boyd from Pte Joseph Dalby. April 1917.

Margaret Doherty

A Sad Tale of Immigration

My 2x great grandfather Thomas Muir brought his second wife, Christina Grant and seven of his children to Moreton Bay on the William Miles, arriving on 16 January 1855.¹ Their arrival was tinged with sadness as his son, Simon Muir, died on the voyage. Simon was one of three deaths on the voyage. Thomas and Christina’s eldest child, Catherine, and her brother, Alexander, remained in Scotland.

Catherine, who was born in Inverness, married Alexander McKenzie in the Mauld of Kiltarlity, Inverness-shire on 28 July 1854 about three months before her family left Scotland.² By 1859, Alexander and Catherine had also decided to immigrate with their two young children, Christina born in 1855 and Evan born in 1857. On the 5 September 1859, the young family left Liverpool on the *Annie Wilson*. By 30 September, Catherine was dead—a fatality in a measles outbreak onboard.³ The death was registered when the ship arrived in Port Jackson on 14 December 1859, but I wanted to find more details of Catherine’s sad demise.

I found that the National Library of Australia (NLA) had a transcription of the shipboard diary of Charles Scott, another passenger on the same voyage. The diary was transcribed by Cliff Oakes and the NLA’s catalogue included an address for the transcriber.

I wondered if the diary mentioned Catherine’s death, so I sent off a letter to Mr Oakes, but as the transcription was written in 1986, I was not hopeful of a response. I was correct that there was no response. I then wondered if I could obtain the publication through interlibrary

loan. This was possible through my local Brisbane City Council library and for a fee of around \$12, my local library obtained the diary for me.

What a wonderful surprise I received when I skimmed through the diary. On page 7, there was the following entry for the 30 September 1859:

... a Pafsenger [sic] by name Mrs. Mackenzie died and consign to the deep ½ hour after death from hospital with mafsell [sic] never saw such grief as was shown on board by the people there was scarce a dry eye when she was thrown into the sea ...⁴

This report of Catherine dying from measles and her immediate burial was more than I expected. I can imagine widower, Alexander, weeping as they consigned Catherine’s body to the deep. Perhaps four-year-old Christina and two-year-old Evan were clutching their father’s hands as they had their last glimpse of their mother’s body.

What happened to the family after this you ask? Both Christina and Evan went north to the Colony of Queensland. Evan was on the Darling Downs at Westbrook Station when he died aged four on 31 March 1861.⁵ His grandfather Thomas, a sheep overseer on Westbrook was listed as informant on the death certificate. There was no mention of his father on the certificate, only his grandfather who was also listed as the undertaker.

I have found no further mention of Alexander McKenzie and he remains one of my brickwalls. Maybe one day I will find out how Alexander coped with his wife’s tragic death.

References

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² Marriage McKenzie, Alexander and Muir, Catherine, Kiltarlity, ScotlandsPeople, downloaded 3 January 2011, copy held by Margaret Doherty.
³ “Inwards to Sydney – *Annie Wilson* 1859”, Archives Reference No. 4/495, State Records Office of New South Wales Sydney, copy held by Margaret Doherty.
⁴ Scott, Charles, *To Australia, 1859: The Voyage of the Annie Wilson*, Cliff Oakes transcriber, Mayfield, NSW, self-published, 1986, p. 7.
⁵ Death Certificate – Evan McKenzie, died 31 March 1861, Registry of Births, Deaths, Marriages, reference 1861/000062, Brisbane.



Josephine Nolan

Warwick to Chinchilla – a long, dusty journey

Travel and journeys have long been part of the lives of people from all over the globe, never more so than in the current era, when there is almost no spot left in this wonderful world of ours that is not accessible by some form of transport, even if it has to be on foot.

However, my memory is drawn back to a time in my childhood when I went on a journey with my parents. In 1946, my father, an employee in the Queensland Government Railways, was on transfer from Warwick to Chinchilla – not such a long distance by rail if one travelled from Warwick to Toowoomba and then west to Chinchilla. Circumstances dictated that we would take a much longer route to arrive in the town that was to be our home for the next three years.

We had lived in Mackay prior to my father's transfer to Warwick and when Dad moved to his new appointment in 1943 it was without his family, because suitable rental accommodation was almost unobtainable there. A large contingent of army personnel was stationed in Warwick during World War II and rental housing was quickly taken. So, for twelve months we stayed on in Mackay and joined him in 1944.

At that time, one of my father's proudest possessions was his Chrysler car and, before his departure to Warwick, he chose to de-register the vehicle and put it 'up on blocks' – a decision that meant he would lose the original number plate, probably a personal disappointment for him. An added reason for this action was the rationing that was in place at the time. Petrol was one of the necessities in short supply and this may have helped Dad make the decision not to take the car to Warwick. Our journey then started in Warwick, by train to Brisbane and on to Mackay. As our train pulled out of the station at Warwick, I recall being startled by the noise of detonators going off as our carriage passed over them – a farewell from some of Dad's workmates!

Our time in Mackay was spent re-connecting with some of my siblings who had remained in Mackay and Rockhampton for employment reasons and also collecting the Chrysler, now re-registered and

serviced for our trip to Chinchilla. The route chosen would take us south from Mackay to Rockhampton and then west from Rockhampton to Theodore, each section taking a day, followed by some time spent with relatives. The last section would be south again – to Chinchilla.

Off we went – Mum, Dad and my brother sitting up front, whilst my eldest sister sat in the back seat with my younger sister and myself. The luggage, stone water bottle, and any other necessities were strapped on to the running boards – an important feature of cars in those days. Quite unlike travel today, our trip was to take us all day to get to Rockhampton – along the dirt roads of the day, with that section suffering from bushfires and as we drove, in the bushland on either side, we could see the remnants of burning trees. Needless to say, the air was filled with smoke. It was dark by the time we arrived at our destination in Rockhampton and when Dad stopped the car, my sister got out and stood in the headlights of the car. Her face was all dirty from the smoky journey, with only the whites of her eyes showing!

When driving long distances in those days, it was quite common to be getting in and out of the vehicle to open and close gates, as the roads went through private properties. Often there would be a grid beside the gate – making it easier to drive over but, at the same time, preventing any livestock from moving from one paddock into another. One of these grids along our route proved fatal for a cow, probably anxious to get to some water, and there it was lying dead on the grid – a grim reminder for we city children of the hazards of farming.

At last, our final day of travel from Theodore to Chinchilla! I think, for my father, this was probably the worst section of road to be covered. It was not too comfortable for the passengers either, as the Chrysler shook and rattled all the way along what was known as a corrugated road.

Dad tried everything – a little more speed, perhaps a slower speed? Then he tried driving in a zig-zag fashion, hoping that would decrease the bumpy effect we were experiencing. None of it worked and so we motored on towards Chinchilla.

In the 1940s there were no roadside eating houses and all our day's refreshments



Josephine's parents - with the Chrysler



were brought with us. No ice boxes either! On this section Dad was heading for Banana, a very small country town, hoping that we would find a park there where we could stop for our lunch. As we approached every rise in the road, we would expect to see Banana on the other side. Eventually, Dad decided that we would just pull off the road among the trees and boil the billy there. We young ones ran off to find some kindling for our fire, while Dad got some water for the billy out of the creek nearby. Billy boiled, and lunch eaten, we set off for a walk beside the

creek and as we rounded a bend we found, to our horror, another dead cow right in the middle of the creek! We could only think of the creek water we had used for our tea!

Back on the roadway and over the crest – of course, Banana was just a short distance down the road! The remainder of the trip to Chinchilla was quite uneventful and we pulled in to the yard of our new home in the late afternoon. Certainly, a trip to remain in my memory!



Google Search



Extract from an article by Lisa Louise Cooke entitled Reconstruct Your Ancestors' World with Google in the Family History Federation Really Useful Bulletin No 33 - May 2023.

Information pertaining to your family could be on a university website or on the blog of a cousin you've never met before, and everything in-between. You never know where information may be stored, but Google can find it.

What to look for: Anything and everything! Here are the most popular search operators that will help explain to Google what you are searching for:

- **Quotation marks:** any word or phrase you put in quotations is required to appear in all search results, in the exact order and spelling provided (e.g., "newspapers" "Des Moines")

- **Minus sign:** removes search results that contain the unwanted word (e.g. -Abraham)
- **Asterisk:** indicates that there may be one or two words between specified words (e.g., "city *directory")
- **Numrange search:** requires that all the search results include a number that falls within the specified range (e.g., 1842..1858)

https://www.google.com/advanced_search



Our GSQ Facebook page is continuing to draw in both members and non-members. If you're a member of Facebook, then you can search for GSQ Genealogical Society of Queensland in the search box and our page will come up. Or click the Facebook icon on our home page. Ticking 'Like' on that page will ensure that our posts feed into your Facebook.

GSQFB is a private group, so only members of the group can see what you post. Here you can ask questions,



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share your genie successes and frustrations. You don't need to be a GSQ member to join the group.

If you have any questions about the GSQFB Group, then please email Rhoda Copeland on gsqfbgroup@gsq.org.au. To join the group, click on the link below and answer THREE questions. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/548139069596908>

Preventing Mistakes: How to Safeguard Your Family Tree Against Errors

SELECTIONS

Interesting articles from other Society journals or from the family history blogosphere (See GSQ research assistants for access to journals)

From MyHeritage News of 31 March 2023 -
Article by Daniella Levy and Ziv Sorrek



This article is designed to promote features in the MyHeritage application but contains some useful points to help family historians prevent mistakes in their research. Many of the tools apply equally to other family history applications.

Every researcher is bound to make mistakes or miss something at some point. By being methodical and recording your sources as well as doubts about those sources, you can safeguard your tree against errors, catch any mistakes you make, and make it easier to retrace your steps and fix them. It is essential that the facts we record in our family tree are true, but we can't always be sure of their accuracy, even in the most official of records. So, we need to use available tools to make sure that the information we include in our tools is as accurate as possible.

1. Add source citations: Citing your sources is the single most important action when verifying information. The more details you provide on the

source of the information, the easier to retrace your steps and double-check your research.

2. Add notes: You can use notes to add any disclaimers or questions about the fact or the sources. When you come back to this fact later on, you may have new information or sources.
3. Record biography: Record information about a person's life and get into detail about what aspects of it may be unclear.
4. Identify knowledgeable family members: Genealogy is a collaborative activity. Other genealogists in your family who have done thorough research themselves are a goldmine of family history information. They may be happy to answer your questions and share what they know.
5. Visit these user sites: In MyHeritage or other family history applications, there is usually a matching facility. It is always helpful to visit these family sites, because it may contain more information and provide more context. It may be necessary to request membership of the other site, in order to gain full access.
6. Use task management tools: Keeping track of the next steps you need to take to verify a source can prevent gaps in your research. Tasks are used for tracking work that needs to be completed, and doing your research in an orderly fashion.

These points can help prevent mistakes before they happen and make it easier to identify and fix them when they do occur.

<https://education.myheritage.com>

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 **MyHeritage** Knowledge Base



SHORT *Tales*

Linda Kuhn

STANLEY CREEK SCHOOL



Duaringa School 1879

On 18 September 1877, at Stanley Creek, Central Queensland a public meeting was held, and a committee formed to approach the Secretary of Public Instruction regarding the establishment of a state school. Stanley Creek, also referred to as the "96 mile", was located 96 miles west of Rockhampton on the Queensland Central Railway line.

There were twenty-three children living in the railway camp and as it was a permanent one, the number of future pupils was expected to increase. The committee had secured a comfortable building to be used as a schoolhouse and Miss Susannah Loftus, aged 14 years, was recommended as teacher. By the beginning of November, the school had been provisionally approved and Susannah appointed.

In early December, District School Inspector Mr I J Caine visited Stanley Creek to report on the necessity for a school and the fitness of the teacher for permanent employment. He reported that all of the residents except one were employed in railway maintenance, and that since the opening of the school in November, twenty children had been enrolled. The inspector spent a short time examining the children and found their writing and reading fair, their alphabet draft poor and arithmetic and tables unsatisfactory. He remarked, however that the school had been only opened a short time. He spent time with Susannah, showing her how to keep records correctly and how to conduct her school. She was given an examination in which she gained an average of 47% and was advised to study the subjects in which she was "backward".

Despite this, Mr Caine recommended the establishment

For the Writing Group meeting of 16 April 2023, members were given an exercise to write a story of 250-300 words linking paragraphs into a coherent whole.

A selection of these stories is published in this issue of Generation.

of a provisional school, and the appointment of Susannah as teacher until the next inspection. If at this time she passed a satisfactory examination, she might be appointed permanently. The school was permanently approved in December 1877 but perhaps the challenges of teaching for a young, untrained, and inexperienced girl proved too great for Susannah and she resigned from her position four months later and the school was closed. Her pupils were enrolled at other nearby schools, including Duaringa School which opened in 1879, 33 miles east of Stanley Creek on the Queensland Central Railway Line.

Sharyn Merkley

SOLO



"If your flying is as good tomorrow, you can go up alone," advised Amy's instructor. In the long hours before dawn she questioned the whole idea, resolving that nothing would induce her to fly solo. Landings were her nemesis. She struggled to simultaneously watch the wind indicator, the speedometer and the plane's position to the horizon, all the while seeing the ground rush toward her. She would hit wheel first or tail first, and without the instructor, had a real chance of hitting nose first. Perhaps this had been a crazy idea after all. She was forty-six, well beyond the age when everything seemed possible.

For years Amy had yearned to fly, but opportunities for instruction in Tenterfield were limited. Unmarried and responsible for her siblings she was stuck at home, "I was taking part in the daily round of life without any special interest in life." Women pilots, and their accomplishments featured across the country and flying schools promised tuition for all. While pretending to be on holidays in Brisbane, she had secretly arranged flying lessons with the Queensland Aero Club. Amy's moment had arrived.

The wind was blowing in her face and the solo pennant flew proudly from her aircraft's tail. With one hand on the control stick, the other on the throttle, and feet on the rudder, she was fully in control of her beautiful bird, and her life. Thrilled at the marvel of being alone in the air, Amy put the aircraft through her well-practiced routine, being careful not to stray far from the airfield. Rising confidence and self-satisfaction, temporarily blinded her to landing abilities and she came in too fast. A wire broke on the undercarriage and to her horror, as the plane stopped, it tipped inelegantly over on one wing. Her patient instructor, relieved to find there was no damage, explained Amy's mistakes, and had her up in the air again quickly.

Pauline Williams

GRIFFYDAM – THE HOME OF MY HALL FAMILY

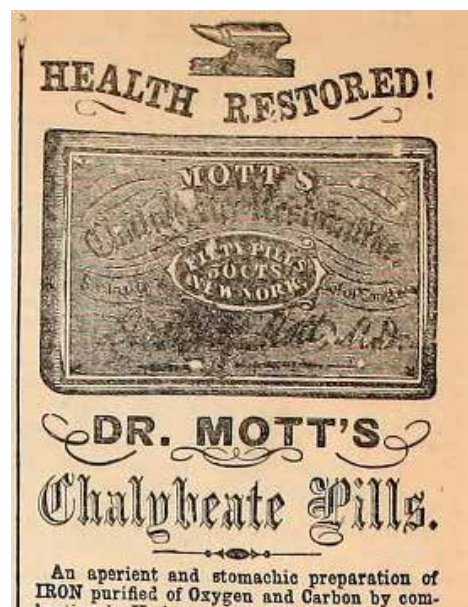
The Hall family originated in the quiet backwater villages or hamlets of Griffydam, Worthington, and Osgathorpe in Leicestershire. These villages were within easy reach of each other and close to Breedon-on-the-Hill and Ashby-de-la-Zouch. It is perhaps somewhat surprising, or maybe not, that my mother's Hall ancestors, who ended up in Liverpool and elsewhere in Lancashire, derived from this area of Leicestershire.

Griffydam's claim to fame is the chalybeate well, or sacred spring, which lies along a path below the main road through the village. According to tradition, the name *Griffydam* derives from a combination of the terms *Griffin* (an ancient mythical beast with the body of a lion and the head and wings of an eagle) and *Dam*, a contained water source.¹ An old local legend tells of how such a creature zealously guarded the well, forcing

villagers to walk several miles for their water, until one day it was slain by a chivalrous passing knight. The placename actually derives from 'Griffith's-Dam'. A man-made pond and remnants of the bank built for this dam can still be seen below the lane called 'The Tentas'.

Several nineteenth century trade directories refer to the settlement as 'Griffith's-Dam'. Settled as early as 1764, Griffydam has undergone several name changes. In 1863, it comprised approximately 200 acres and belonged to the Earl of Stamford and J Curzon, Esq. One of the country's earliest Methodist Chapels was built in 1778 and followed the preaching by John Wesley in the village. Given the strength of non-conformism in this area, the majority of the Hall family, together with those who married into the family, professed their faith in Methodist or Wesleyan chapels.

¹ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Griffydam>



Family History Federation (UK) Really Useful Family History Show



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A DAUGHTER OF JOB AND

an aged pilgrim

Russell Fraser

My three times great aunt had an unusual name, which gave the census enumerators and transcribers some difficulty. Kerenhapphuch Bennell was the ninth and youngest child of Benjamin Bennell and Martha Duce, born in Chelmsford, Essex in 1822. Her family were religious, involved with the Independent or Congregational church in Chelmsford, so her name was taken from the Bible, the third daughter of Job. Keren lived with her parents in March 1851 above their boot making shop in High Street, Chelmsford, but following their deaths in the mid-1850s probably moved to Lambeth to live near her sister Louisa, and perhaps worked briefly as a teacher in her sister's small boarding school.

She married late in life, aged 44, to George Yeoland in Lambeth on 6 October 1866. George was an elderly widower and, at 82, almost 40 years her senior. He was a retired officer in the Commissariat of the British army forces. A Commissariat is the department of an army charged with the provision of supplies, both food and forage, for the troops. In the British army, the Commissariat was a uniformed civilian service, until 1869, when its officers became fully commissioned army officers. So, George would have been a civilian, even though he held the nominal army rank of major on his retirement. He served in a variety of places throughout the British Empire, including Malta, Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania), Jamaica, and South Africa.

George had always lived a Christian life. On his different stations, he acted as agent of the British and Foreign Bible Society. His Christian principles got him into trouble in 1852, when he was retired on half pay from the Commissariat for preaching to the indigenous people of Jamaica dressed in his regimental uniform.

George was one of the founders of the Aged Pilgrims' Friend Society, which, well before Government social services, was set up in 1807 to provide grants and pensions to needy elderly Christians. The Society still exists today as a provider of Christian communities for older people through residential care homes and independent living housing schemes.

How he met Keren Bennell is not known, but as she came from a religious Christian family, perhaps they met through George's charity work. After their marriage in 1866, they retired to Brading on the Isle of Wight.

One of the stories told about George was that he wrote the Lord's Prayer on a piece of paper the size of a sovereign and presented it as a gift to Queen Victoria, also a resident of the Isle of Wight. Perhaps they were neighbours!

Despite his advanced age, George maintained an interest in his lifelong Christian charity work. Major George

Yeoland died of bronchitis in 1876, in his 93rd year. After her husband's death Kerenhapphuch Yeoland moved to Shrewsbury in Shropshire, where she briefly resumed her career as a teacher. She died in February 1887, aged 65.



Major George Yeoland



George Yeoland's gift to Queen Victoria



Event Report

BRINGING OUR ANCESTORS TO LIFE

On 29 April 2023, GSQ held a virtual presentation via Zoom on the integration of social and local history when writing the history of our families. Presenters were Sue Reid and Janice Cooper, both of whom have recently published books, which they used to illustrate their presentations.

Sue began by discussing major themes in the life of the family, both in the place of origin of the family story and in their new life in Australia. She then talked about methods to understand the major themes, including reading widely, such things as books, newspapers, journals, letters; and visiting places which were part of your family's lives; the villages, houses, cemeteries, and museums. Sue finished by discussing techniques to include gathered information in your writing.

Janice outlined the approach she took in planning, researching, and writing about the lives of seven early colonial ancestors. In planning, she considered the audience, the starting point and structure of the narrative, and the sources to be used. In the second step, researching, she consulted original sources, authored works, and historical facts, as well as researching themes within the story. The final stage, the actual writing, she spoke of focussing on people with a full life and considered style, illustration, and indexing and editing.

Both presentations were interesting and informative on the topic of writing family histories, and very useful to those planning to write the history of their families.



Ancestral Origins – Where did they come from?
THE KIPPS FAMILY OF KEMSING



Russell Fraser

Kemsing in Kent is a typical English village, with a church, a community hall, a selection of shops in the High Street, and two pubs (now only one after the Wheatsheaf burnt down in 2011). Located on the North Downs, it is 4 miles northeast of the town of Sevenoaks and 20 miles southeast of central London. The village has spread out in all directions. The Kemsing railway station lies a mile southeast of the village centre, on the other side of the M26 motorway, which runs to the south of the village.

Kemsing has a long history. It was first mentioned in AD822, but there is evidence of Roman occupation in the village. The name comes from Old English 'ing' meaning a 'place', combined with a warlord's name; therefore 'Cymesa's Place' or *Cimicinga*. Saint Edith, daughter of King Edgar (the peaceful), was born in Kemsing in AD961. The village is centred around St. Edith's Well, the water of which is said to have healing properties. Surprisingly, the village received no mention in the Domesday Book of 1086.

The Lordship of Kemsing was originally held by King Henry II in the 12th century and, in the 15th century, it was purchased by Sir Geoffrey Boleyn, great grandfather of ill-fated queen, Anne Boleyn. The Lordship is now held by the Crown.

The Kipps family have been traced back to the early 16th century, when Gylbert Kipps was a yeoman farmer in Kemsing, which suggested he owned his own land rather than being a tenant of a landlord. Eight generations of the descendants of Gylbert lived and died in Kemsing until the early 19th century when John Kipps moved to Chatham to work as a carpenter and shipwright in the Royal Dockyard. His eldest daughter Mary Ann married a royal marine and moved with him to Leicestershire and a generation later, descendants, including my grandmother, emigrated to Queensland.

Sources

- Wikipedia - Kemsing
- Historic Kent – Villages and Towns
- Kemsing Parish Council – Kemsing History

NATIONAL BURIAL GROUNDS SURVEY: HIGHGATE CEMETERY



The National Burial Grounds Survey (NBGS) is the first project of its kind anywhere in the world. AG Intl Ltd has been commissioned by the Archbishops' Council of the Church of England to survey and map every churchyard in England. The project includes photographs of every headstone and memorial and the scanning and indexing of the parish records – baptisms, marriage, and burials.

Already underway in the Dioceses of Carlisle and Truro, NBGS will progress systematically, diocese by diocese, across the country. As each diocese is completed it will be available online via the Church of England's Church Heritage Record.

Each church will have secure access to view and update its own churchyard map and records.

AG Intl is currently performing a full ground survey of Highgate Cemetery, one of London's Magnificent Seven, and uploading details to their site. They have scanned the registers and each of the 120 paper grave plans which cover the site. Fortunately, Highgate already has a database of their records though transferring each of the 57,000 grave numbers and linking them to the map is a monumental task. For more information, see <https://agintl.org/burial-ground-management-survey/>.

NEW
BOOK
RELEASE

'MY FAMILY HISTORY'



A ten-generation family history research record book with pedigree charts

Robert Boyd Publications (UK) is pleased to announce the release of the 3rd Edition of 'My Family History Record Book' and the appointment of the **Genealogical Society of Queensland** as its sole distributor for Australia, New Zealand, and their territories.

My Family History is an efficient and attractive method of recording and displaying the results of family history research. It can be used as a presentation document to family members and as a handy *aide memoire* to carry around when researching.

GSQ - EXCLUSIVE DISTRIBUTOR: AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

Retail and trade orders available from:
Genealogical Society of Queensland

Email: shop@gsq.org.au

Retail price: \$A 28.00 plus postage

Wholesale price: available on request.

101 BEST
WEBSITES

Family Tree Magazine

With so many genealogy websites available for your family history quest, how do you know which sites

are the best? Leave it to our genealogy experts! We constantly scour the web for great resources, and once a year, whittle those down to our annual list of the 101 Best Genealogy Websites. Here, we've compiled our picks into a handy directory that makes it easy to find the top sites for your family history goals: Just choose the category that matches your interests to see the best sites to visit. See their website at: <https://www.familytreemagazine.com/best-genealogy-websites/>

SNIPPETS – NEWS AND INFORMATION



Trove Funding Cuts

A recent issue has been the possible cutting of funding for TROVE, the National Library's free online service that provides public access to collections from Australian libraries, universities, museums, galleries, and archives. It's recommended by universities for many courses and is an essential tool for the thousands of people who are involved in researching their family histories. A petition and letter-writing campaign in support of TROVE and objecting to the funding cuts was organized and appears to have been successful. In a recent media release, the Minister for the Arts, Tony Burke, the Government has committed to provide the National Library of Australia with \$33m over four years in the Budget, with indexed annual funding beyond that period. TROVE is an internationally recognized resource and as stated by Minister Burke, is 'Australia's digital memory'.

Ireland Genealogy Projects Archives

This site (<https://www.igp-web.com/GPArchives/>) is a free repository of information provided by volunteers for use in genealogical research.



Scottish Handwriting 1500-1700: a self-help pack

National Records of Scotland (NRS) have announced the release of a new and improved version of the self-help pack, a step-by-step guide to reading the handwriting of Scottish documents between the 16th and 18th centuries. Some of the record types in which this will be useful include wills, inventories, and kirk session minutes. A hard copy version of the pack is available for purchase from the ScotlandsPeople online store for £12.15. A free digital version is available on the NRS Publications page.



Findmypast app

Findmypast have announced an updated version of the free Findmypast app, which allows you to take your family tree with you wherever you go. Available for free on all Android and iOS devices, the Findmypast mobile app is designed to help you find your ancestors and build your family tree with just a tap and a swipe, wherever you are.



My Heritage – new features

My Heritage has announced two new features which it has added to its application. One of the most important benefits of taking a DNA test is the matches that you receive. However, the relationships to your DNA matches can be confusing. My Heritage has introduced cM Explainer, to predict relationships between DNA matches with greater accuracy. Another new feature is colour coding for family trees across the two main views, Family view and Pedigree view, to make it easier to understand your family tree at a glance.



The Family History Guide

This free Guide is a free learning, research, and activities centre for family history. It is produced by the Family History Guide Association and supported by FamilySearch and the National Genealogy Society (USA). Its mission, as expressed, is to greatly increase the number of people actively involved in family history worldwide, and to make everyone's family history journey easier, more efficient, and more enjoyable. See <https://www.thefhguide.com/> for more information.



Unlock the Past Cruises

Between 2011 and 2020, Unlock the Past organised 17 genealogy/history cruises with 1500 people attending. They are now considering more, including an ocean cruise from Sydney in 2024, and Murray River cruises in 2025/2026. They have prepared a survey as an initial guide to assess the interest before they proceed any further. To do the survey, see <https://www.gouldgenealogy.com/2023/04/unlock-the-past-cruises-2024-2026/>.



Return of Owners of Land 1873

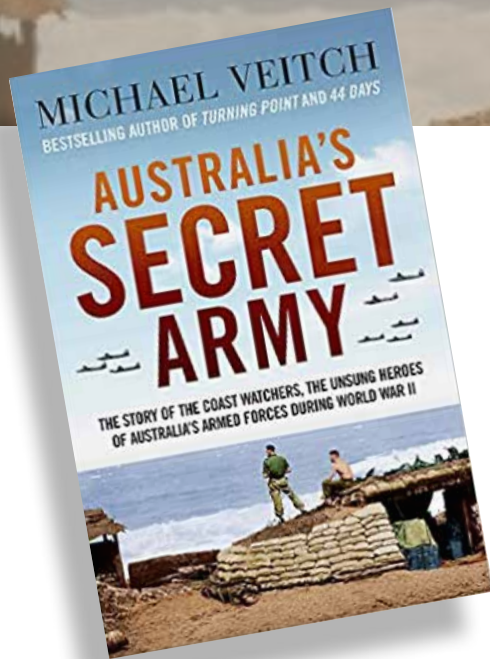
Findmypast has announced the release of the Return of Owners of Land, published in the 1870s. Called the 'modern Domesday', these books for England and Wales, Scotland, and Ireland were used to record the details of all owners of land over one acre. Those details include the name and home address of each person recorded, as well as the size of their land and its value. The records are searchable through the Findmypast application.

BOOK REVIEW

AUSTRALIA'S SECRET ARMY

BY MICHAEL VEITCH

PUBLISHED BY HACHETTE AUSTRALIA 2022



Marg Doherty

The coastwatchers' contributions usually provided high-quality intelligence, but sometimes the result for the coastwatchers was torture and often death.

Veitch's narrative flows well and is engaging, providing readers with increased knowledge of the war and its proximity to Australia. Some better-known military figures receive a mention in the book, and there is a cameo appearance of a future president of the United States.

I feel that incorporating photos, if available, would have improved the book, and I found I had to keep referring back to earlier chapters or the index to identify the peripheral people who were being discussed. Others may not feel the same, but the coastwatchers were important enough to be clearly identified with their bravery and resilience as typical characteristics. There was a map at the beginning, however, that I found very useful. Perhaps due to the proximity to Australia, I should have been more familiar with the geography.

The author has had several careers, including television comedy, but has found his niche in writing under-documented stories of Australian military forces in World War Two. He has written several on the RAAF, including *44 Days: 75 Squadron and the Fight for Australia and Flak*. Initially I was pointed towards the author and his book on fever ship *Ticonderoga*, a clipper ship carrying his great-great-grandfather as the ship's surgeon and the volunteer who became his wife. This book, *Hell Ship*, is an excellent read for family historians, especially those who are interested in shipping going to Port Phillip.

I knew very little about the Australian Coastwatchers of World War Two. What I did know came from an old movie starring Chips Raffety. Yes, I am that old!

The Secret Army of this title refers to the Coastwatchers, who the cover says were 'the unsung heroes of Australia's armed forces during World War Two'. The author, Michael Veitch, put a human face to these men (and one woman) who fought, often behind the lines, to provide intelligence to the Allies. They were, in fact, spies, and even providing them with military credentials to provide protection was a complicated and prolonged process.

I learnt much about the war in the Pacific, particularly in the Solomon Islands, especially Guadalcanal. Veitch's publication illustrates the detailed research that was required before the writing could occur. The book commences with a 'Prologue' that engages the reader immediately, so I read on.

Most chapters focus on a particular person giving details of their activities, including the obstacles and dangers faced. These individuals are usually the coastwatchers, but their Japanese enemies are the focus of at least one chapter. The chapters describe the cat-and-mouse actions of the coastwatchers and their Japanese opponents, concentrating on specific military objectives.





BLOG BEAT

Snippets from GSQ's Blog | www.gsq-blog.gsq.org.au/

March – May 2023

6 March – Beverley Murray

Deviations – should they be avoided?

Bev makes the point of how easy it is to deviate from her own family history by researching interesting lives totally unrelated to her ancestors. She gives an example from her own research, of John Lovell, a political radical.

13 March - Victoria MacGregor (guest blogger)

History Repeating – Robert Moore and the Dakota Territory

Victoria tells the story of her great grandfather and his life in the Dakota Territory of the United States. She uses his story to illustrate her point that history is written by using bits and pieces passed down, either verbally or through journals or photographs.

20 March – Bobbie Edes

Researching the Whites of Bletchingley and Godstone in Surrey

Bobbie relates her 'genealogical journey' in the research of her grandmother's family, using pre-online resources of printed documents and microfilm in libraries and archives, and in GSQ's collection.

27 March – Stephanie Ryan (guest blogger)

Three different passenger lists, so who died on the Fiery Star journey of 1865.

Stephanie makes the point that passenger lists are not always accurate, giving an example from the Fiery Star voyage; and gives other sources which can be used to find immigrant arrivals.

3 April – Jill Ball (guest blogger)

Grave Journeys

Jill tells of her travels and visits to cemeteries as 'tombstone tourists', and makes the point that cemeteries tell so much about the life, history, and customs of the places we visit. She gives some examples of cemeteries and individual tombs and the stories they tell.

10 April – Christine Leonard

Death of a blacksmith

Christine tells the story of German immigrant Charlie Sturwohld and his death in Townsville in 1916, possible through suicide not investigated by police. More discrimination of Germans during the First World War?

17 April – Pauleen Cass (guest blogger)

Defining Experiences

Pauleen challenges readers to think of defining experiences that led to their view of the world and gives examples from her own life experiences.

24 April – Yvonne Tunny

An Irish Lass: Catherine Hawe/Howe (1802-1862)

Yvonne tells the tale of Catherine, indicative of many pioneer women who came to Australia as a convict and whose story, often lost, is worth telling.

1 May – Beverley Murray

The Extraordinary Life of Uncle Billy

Bev tells of the extraordinary life of William Wright (Uncle Billy) and his military and police service.

8 May – Marg Doherty

Thomas Muir and his Three Wives

Marg tells the story of her 2x great grandfather, Thomas Muir, and his three marriages; and speculates about his character.

15 May – Sue Bell

The Sinking of the Sovereign: a family tragedy

Sue tells the sad tale of the sinking of the steamer Sovereign, off Stradbroke Island in 1847, and the loss of her Gore family.

22 May – Ross Hansen

The Next Genealogy Journey – Discovering an Adventurer

Ross tells the story of his wife's great grandfather, David Brown, and the search of sources to determine if this was the right 'David Brown'.

29 May – Stephanie Ryan (guest blogger)

The challenge of names and places in Irish family history

Stephanie discusses the challenges in searching Irish family history and uses a case study of Hannah Skinner to suggest ways of solving these problems.

FEATURED BLOGS



John Grenham is a professional genealogist. He was formerly attached to the Genealogical Office in Dublin and later was a project manager with the Irish Genealogical Project (IGP). His Irish Roots blog contains a wealth of information and advice on Irish family history research.

<https://www.johngrenham.com/blog/>

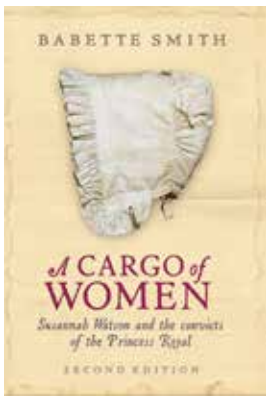
THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

The National Archives of the United Kingdom has a comprehensive blog which contains information about the collection and its establishment, maintenance, and use. It also describes records giving an insight into events in Britain's long history, sometimes having an impact on the history of the ordinary people which we are researching.

<https://blog.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>



Accession Highlights



A Cargo of Women: Susannah Watson and the convicts of the Princess Royal

New edition of the bestselling history by historian Babette Smith that traces the chequered story of 100 women transported together in 1829 to Sydney aboard the Princess Royal. Includes new information on the women and treatment of convicts, and new illustrations.



The long haul: ships on the England-Australia run

A book by maritime historian Thomas Fitchett of shipping routes between Australia and Great Britain from 1914 to 1977.



Dutton Park State School

Dutton Park State School: 2009 to 1884; a journey

The book created by the school community to celebrate 125 years, gives fascinating glimpses of school life over the decades.



TITLE	CALL No.	ITEM
A cargo of women	AUS/145/04	Book
Chronicles of Mowbray and Port Douglas: Reynolds and Connolly families	QLD/205/877	Book
Dutton Park State School	QLD/210/102	Book
Echoes of stories of Stephens: a history of Annerley	QLD/205/103	Book
Stephens and war: a history of Annerley	QLD/205/103	Book
Streets apart: South Burnett landmarks	QLD/205/605	Book
The Campbell family of the Bay Islands	525/CAM/009	Book
The Catholic community at Bulimba: 1896 - 1976	QLD/220/171	Book
The long haul: ships on the England-Australia run	AUS/845/018	Book
Wandiligong Methodist Church: 1878 - 1978	VIC/220/744	Book

GSQ Catalogue

The GSQ Library contains thousands of resources, unique records and publications.

The library is updated on a regular basis and is a valuable source of information, especially for those records which are not yet online. The Catalogue can be searched by the title of the publication, its author(s), keyword or ISBN and can be accessed from the Society's webpage at: www.gsq.org.au/library-catalogue/



QUEENSLAND MUSTER ROLL



The Muster Roll is a biographical register of over 25,000 pioneers who were resident in the colony of Queensland between Separation in 1859 and Federation in 1901, an important period of Queensland's history, when it had its

own unique identity, neither part of the colony of New South Wales nor a state in the Australian Federation.

Originally created as a Bicentennial project in 1988, the Q150 (2009) project updated the existing register and additions were made through contributions from GSQ members and other family historians.

The register contains birth and family details; occupations, businesses, and properties; death details; and names of spouses and children, as well as other known facts about individuals.

THE LAST WORD. [GSQ • THE EDITOR]



In the December 2022 issue of *Generation*, I posed the question: 'How did you first get interested in family history?' In February 2023, Gould Genealogy & History ran a Quick Poll, in which they asked 'What got you started on history or genealogy?' 323 people responded to the poll and the results, sometimes surprising, reflect those who responded, not the wider community.

The main reasons for getting started included family discussions (23%), family records (21%), and continuing a relative's interest (13%). Other reasons, coming in at 2% or less, included study at school or university, enrolling in a course, doing a DNA test, a TV program such as *Who Do You Think You Are*, or a milestone anniversary. Surprisingly, advertising on TV or social media, and a family history fair or expo recorded zero responses.

Many respondents expanded on their choice or gave other interesting options. Some respondents mentioned a mystery about an ancestor or a close relative, or a family legend of a relationship to a famous person. Some

had questions about the origin of their surname. Some received a family bible as part of an inheritance, while others found a heap of documents after the death of a parent or grandparent. Some respondents mentioned a school or university project. One respondent mentioned a DNA test which showed no match to a parent, so what was the relationship! Another respondent discovered that their parents had no interest in the family's history, so was there a dark secret?

If you want to find more information about some of the surprising responses, see the following site <https://www.gouldgenealogy.com/2023/04/quick-poll-1-what-got-you-started-on-history-or-genealogy/>

What started **your** interest in family history? Was it captured in the reasons given above or was it more interesting?



Get the most out of your

GSQ MEMBERSHIP

The members' only section of our website allows you access to databases such as:

- Funeral Directors Records index and images
- Cemetery Records Index
- Pedigree Charts index
- Unrelated Certificates index and images
- QLD communal settlers index
- Generation journal
- Catholic records index
- Research interests of other members

Other member benefits include:

- Access to GSQ's Resource Centre which includes a large library of books and magazines from Australia and the rest of the world, plus thousands of microfilms, microfiche, DVDs, etc
- Free access to world-wide Library subscriptions to Ancestry, Find My Past, Family Search, and the Biographical Database of Australia as part of your annual subscription fee
- GSQ's monthly eNews and quarterly journal Generation (emailed to members for no charge). Printed copies for members \$45 (Australia) and \$65 (overseas). Printed copies for non-members \$55 (Australia) and \$75 (overseas)
- Special interest groups which meet monthly or bi-monthly
- Education courses and workshops with reduced rates for members and secure online booking via the Events Calendar or GSQ Shop
- Access to overseas and interstate certificate ordering

GSQ members have access to MyGSQ

To log into MyGSQ, select MyGSQ on the Home page and **enter your GSQ user name and password**.

If you do not remember your password, you can request that it be reset.

- Discounts on GSQ products such as genealogical books, magazines, etc
- Limited free research for members who reside more than 100km from GSQ
- Free publication of research interests in MyGSQ section of website
- Reciprocal visiting rights to other family history societies – see full list at: <https://www.gsq.org.au/what-gsq-offers/reciprocal-arrangements/>

Member's interest areas:

One of the advantages of membership of GSQ is to be able to contact other members who may be researching a surname and/or place of interest to you.

Log into MyGSQ and access the Member's Interest Areas to search for a surname or place.

Members are encouraged to submit their interests. Just contact GSQ and list the surnames that you are researching, together with location and period details. Your email address will allow other members to contact you.

Try this out. You could find someone who can help with your research. Or, you might find a new cousin!

Now there's even more to your family story



With millions of new records added every year and new discoveries to be made with AncestryDNA, it's little wonder Ancestry is the world's favourite family history resource.

At Ancestry we're constantly working on new and innovative features that will transform the way you can discover and tell your story.

Plus with AncestryDNA, a simple saliva-based test is all it takes to discover your genetic ethnic origins and find and connect with distant relatives.

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