

Generation

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND INC.

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25 Stackpole Street, Wishart, Qld 4122
 P O Box 1467 Carindale Qld 4152
Phone: (07) 3349 6072
E-mail: info@gsq.org.au
Web: www.gsq.org.au
ABN 46 025 286 168

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Generation

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND INC.

Contacts

General enquiries - info@gsq.org.au

Management committee

President	Helen Veivers	president@gsq.org.au
Vice-president	David Barnes	vicepresident@gsq.org.au
Secretary	Karma Hodgson	secretary@gsq.org.au
Treasurer	Di Kennedy	finance@gsq.org.au
Assistant Secretary	Claire Rodwell	assistantsecretary@gsq.org.au

General committee members

Kim Davis	kdmc@gsq.org.au
Marg Doherty	mdmc@gsq.org.au
Graeme Moulton	gsqcommitteememberGM@gsq.org.au
Kate Peters	kpmc@gsq.org.au
Geoff Doherty	gdmc@gsq.org.au

Appointed positions

Assistant Treasurer	Sue Grant	assistanttreasurer@gsq.org.au
BCC presentations	Judy Lofthouse	presentations@gsq.org.au
Book sales	Karma Hodgson	shop@gsq.org.au
Education	Marg Doherty	education@gsq.org.au
eNews editor	Helen Connor	enews@gsq.org.au
Facebook Page	Bobbie Edes	facebook@gsq.org.au
Facebook Group	Rhoda Copeland	gsqfbgroup@gsq.org.au
Generation editor	Russell Fraser	editor@gsq.org.au
Blogs	Bobbie Edes	blogs@gsq.org.au
GSQ Librarian	Sandy Liddle	librarian@gsq.org.au
	Kim Cooke	librarian@gsq.org.au
Joan Reese Award	Pauline Williams	info@gsq.org.au
Membership	Leanne Taylor	membership@gsq.org.au
Web Services	Ailsa Corlett/ Helen Connor	webcoordinator@gsq.org.au
Periodicals	Kay Aberdeen	info@gsq.org.au
Projects	Joyce Matheson	projects@gsq.org.au
Research services	Graeme Moulton	researchconvenor@gsq.org.au
Technical Advisory Group	Alistair Henderson	tag@gsq.org.au
Volunteering	Kim Davis	volunteer@gsq.org.au
Events	Vacant	events@gsq.org.au
Conference 2025	David Barnes	gsqconferenceconvenor@gsq.org.au

Special interest groups

Chinese Research Group	Marg Doherty	chineseresearchgroup@gsq.org.au
Colonial & Convict Connections	Bev Murray	convictconnections@gsq.org.au
DNA	Greg Carlill	dna@gsq.org.au
English/Irish/Welsh	Kim Davis	irisheng@gsq.org.au
Family History Technology	Ailsa & Helen	fhtech@gsq.org.au
German	Lesley Roebig	germangroup@gsq.org.au
Scandinavian	Steinar Johansen	scotgroup@gsq.org.au
Scottish	Alistair Henderson	scotgroup@gsq.org.au
Writing	Pauline Williams	writing@gsq.org.au
Zoom – Wed night	Ailsa Corlett	wedpmzoom@gsq.org.au
Zoom – Wed Morning	Bobbie Edes	wedmorningzoom@gsq.org.au
Zoom – Mon Morning	Ailsa & Helen	mtzoom@gsq.org.au

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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 (2024) are listed below:

Single 1 year \$90 – 3 year \$240
Family 1 year \$160 – 3 year \$430
Affiliate 1 year \$180
Corporate 1 year \$360
Life Enduring \$1460

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.

GENERATION editorial team

Editor: Russell Fraser - editor@gsq.org.au

Editorial Committee:

Janice Wellard

Sharyn Merkley

Layout: Tina

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*, Marg Doherty continues the story of her Porter family who settled in Pittsworth on the Darling Downs. We also read about Cranky Charlie Fletcher and his problems with the law. And in **Short Tales**, I tell the story of my grandfather and the difficulties (and pleasures) of crossing the range from Townsville.

From the first issue of *Generation* in March 1979, we read some of the history of the foundation of the Genealogical Society of Queensland. And we read about our Affiliate Group member, the Mackay Family History Society.

In an article from **Generation 10 years ago**, Pauline tells of the value of finding out something about our ancestors' occupations. Di Edelman tells us about nine fascinating books dealing with solving adoption puzzles. And we publish an interesting obituary of Dr Anthony Joseph, a long time GSQ member.

In our regular features, our focus on **Special Interest Groups** deals with the Scandinavian Group and Julie Lauman tells us of her difficulties interpreting Danish parish records. In an **Event Report**, we read about a successful mini-seminar on Irish research, presented by visitors from the Ulster Historical Foundation.

In **Queensland Towns**, we feature the city of Rockhampton, the fourth town established in the colony of Queensland. Other regular features include **Spotlight on Resources**, which tells of the Wheeler Project, a transcription of information about soldiers and nurses from central Queensland serving in World War One, with an index available through MyGSQ. Our **Featured Sources** highlight the FamilySearch Research Wiki and the Australian Dictionary of Biography.

Included in this issue is information about a course, running over three sessions in June this year, entitled *Digging Deeper into Family History* and a conference *Connections – Past – Present – Future* to be run in March 2025. The yearly topic for the Joan Reese Memorial Short Story Competition has been released and we look forward to reading your stories, which will be published in subsequent issues of *Generation*.

If you have any suggestions or helpful hints or tips for research, do not hesitate to forward them on to me, so I can share them with other GSQ members. Once again, the editorial team would welcome any comments or suggestions about your journal, as well as your stories. Just send them to editor@gsq.org.au.

Russell

Presidential Lines...



GSQ is off to a flying start in 2024! Our new Library Shelving has made such a difference to both the appearance and the “feel” of our Resource Centre. Huge accolades to our Librarians, Sandy Liddle, and Kim Cooke. Not only did they remove all of the books from the old shelving but also added Barcodes to each resource prior to re-shelving, so it will be much easier to track items in the future. As well GSQ has begun using *Membership Works* as its Membership Program. While its introduction hasn't been without frustrations, once settled in, the program should be an easy fit for our new Website. Many thanks to Management Committee members, David Barnes and Graeme Moulton, new Membership Officer, Leanne Taylor, Web Coordinators, Ailsa Corlett and Helen Connor and Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer, Di Kennedy and Sue Grant, for your patience and work on this project.

Another big item is the launch of the 2025 *Connections Past Present Future* Conference Website. Bookings are now being taken for this Conference to be held 21 – 24 March 2025 at Business Technology Park, 1 Clunies Ross Court, Eight Mile Plains. There's a Link to the Conference website on GSQ's website. Book by 30 November 2024

to obtain the Early Bird Rate of \$395.00. Conference delegates will have the opportunity to participate in some wonderful presentations from well-known overseas and Australian presenters – and the venue is so close to our GSQ premises!



During the past month I received some sad news that a longstanding member, Dr Anthony Joseph, passed away. Dr Joseph joined GSQ in 1986 while residing in Australia. He was living in England at the time of his death. His son, Harry, has written a wonderful obituary for his father which appears elsewhere in this edition of *Generation*.

Helen Veivers
President



**KEY
DATES
FOR
2024**

Volunteers' Morning Tea:

Saturday 25 May

Open Day:

Saturday 31 August

AGM:

Saturday, 2 November

**What is the fire in our belly
but the eternal flame of a
thousand ancestors**

Robert Brault

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.

Roy Barker

Kylie Blundell

Marianne Bonner

Jessica Browning

Denise Brushe

Robert Bunt

Suzanne Chate

Raymond Connor

Janis Denny

Annette Fernan

Raymond Lockett

Maggie Mayne

Janena Moore

Genia Otuszewski

Alenna Patterson

Sandra Riley

Christine Schultheis

Jane Smith

Gena Taylor

Roslyn Thynne

Carol Watson

Patricia Wilson



The Joan Reese Memorial Short Story Competition

The Joan Reese Memorial Short Story Competition recognizes the contribution of Joan Reese in the significant provision of access to NSW Colonial records and her support of GSQ and its members over many years. The winning stories appear in subsequent issues of the Society's quarterly journal *Generation*.

The topic for the Joan Reese Memorial Short Story Competition in 2024 is 'A short story from your family history research'.

We discover many interesting stories when researching our family history. These stories may relate to an individual ancestor, an event which impacted on our ancestors' lives or how we solved a mystery or overcome a brickwall. Share your story with the readers of *Generation*. What was its significance to your family and your research? This should be clearly explained.

The prize for the winning entry is \$200 and GSQ looks forward to reading your stories. See the GSQ website for the conditions of entry. **www.gsq.org.au/gsq-events/writing-competition**.

Closing date for receipt of entries: 3 June 2024

Anyone requiring further information should address enquiries to Pauline Williams at info@gsq.org.au.



TELL YOUR STORY

Obituary

Dr Anthony Peter Joseph

23 April 1937 – 3 February 2024



Dr Joseph was a long-standing member who joined GSQ in 1986 and continued his membership, despite moving back to England. He always paid to have a printed version of "Generation" posted to him.

Born in Birmingham shortly before the outbreak of the Second World War, our father recalled watching anti-aircraft fire during the Blitz as perhaps his earliest memory; in his infant eyes the nights provided firework displays like no other, though he later acknowledged that his parents probably felt very differently!

Educated as a boarder at Abbotsholme school, Anthony evidently demonstrated intellectual aptitude, coupled with an industrious streak for the unusual. A classmate recalls him convincing the teachers to retrieve a drowned sheep from a nearby river and allow its dissection in the biology labs, while his brother remembers he established a workforce to improve the quality of the school's toilets. With such an interest in anatomy and public health, it was surely no surprise that he went on to read Medicine at Trinity College, Cambridge, graduating in 1961, then pursuing General Practice. A short period of work in London followed, before a foray to Australia where he continued his medical training for several years, specialising in both obstetrics and paediatrics. On his return to Birmingham in 1968, he joined a practice in Smethwick where he remained for over thirty years. At the turn of the century, Anthony took "semi-retirement" which resulted in him actually working more hours than before, to the surprise of very few. On top of general locum work, he branched into helping the homeless population of central London, continuing in this fashion until his formal retirement at the age of 84.

It would be impossible to write about Anthony without mentioning family trees, the research of which captivated him from a very young age, and for which he developed something of a passion, dare we say obsession. Indeed, a close friend reports he

once observed that, 'Medicine is my hobby, and Genealogy is my profession'. It is probably for the best that he did not share this information with his patients, lest they worry his loyalty to the record books took priority! A microfiche reader was a household fixture in much the same way others might have had a microwave, and doubtless Dad got more use and enjoyment from it too. No familial connection was too obscure, no relationship or history too challenging to uncover, and it is not hyperbole to say his international reputation in the field was legendary, with memberships of, or presidential appointments to, groups as far afield as the United States and Australia. When not stalking graveyards for their hidden secrets, Anthony was an ardent supporter and former President of the Birmingham and Edgbaston Debating Society, further testament to his mental fortitude and tenacity for analysing data, though it should be noted even he had his limits, being incapable of understanding any problem concerning a computer.

It would be remiss not to mention him in his capacity as a father (or grandfather!), given the size of the extended family for which he is responsible, and the care he showed for all of his descendants. He took an interest in everyone's pursuits, and shared their achievements with anyone who would listen. Patients frequently remarked that he gave his time freely, and actively listened to their concerns, something which those close to him already knew as fact. An incredibly generous man to all around him, his capacity for helping others was equally true at home as at work.

To condense such a lifetime of achievements and capability into a few short words is naturally to omit much of the man who was. Suffice to say, Anthony was irreplaceable and unique, and the positive touch he left on those he met will long be remembered.

Anthony is survived by his five children, and ten grandchildren, all of whom will miss him deeply.



A Biographical Sketch

THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND

Published in *Generation* Vol. 1 of March 1979

On receipt of news that The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints was to open, through sponsorship, a Branch Genealogical Library of the Genealogical Society of Utah, Bishop Ian C. Waters of the Ipswich Ward of the church set about to share this good fortune by calling a meeting of all interested persons in the Ipswich area with the view to the formation of an Ipswich Genealogical Society.

8 September 1977, saw this vision come to reality, as it was on this day that some thirty (30) odd people attended the inaugural meeting, and the Ipswich Genealogical Society was formed with Mr Warren Stone as President.

Mrs Lynora Waldron of Jindalee in the City of Brisbane had at that time been teaching for the Technical and Further Education Centre, the art of genealogical research, and as a result had stimulated much interest. It was suggested that the Society may wish to expand to Brisbane so as to cater for those students who may desire assistance once having completed their studies.

Understanding the necessity to coordinate the genealogical work throughout the State, and therefore the need for a Statewide Society, Bishop Waters instituted proceedings that resulted in a name change from the Ipswich Genealogical Society to the Genealogical Society of Queensland. The stage was now set for expansion.

It was on 17 May 1978, that a meeting in Brisbane was held which resulted in the formation of the Genealogical Society of Queensland - Brisbane Chapter. Mrs. Marie Lowenstein was elected President.

With two Chapters in existence the election of the State Executive took place on 8 June 1978, and Bishop Ian

Waters was elected President with Mr Lynn Aberdeen as Vice President and Mrs Lynora Waldron as Secretary/Treasurer.

With the State Executive formed expansion was to follow quickly, with the Sunshine Coast Chapter being formed on 24 June 1978, with Mr John McGrath as President. Toowoomba Chapter was next on 16 August 1978, and in this instance Mr Owen Mutzelberg was elected as President. A little over three months passed until the next demands were forthcoming. These required much preparation as requests were received from Rockhampton and from Bundaberg. On the weekend of 24 November, the Rockhampton Chapter was formed, with the Bundaberg Chapter on Saturday 25 November. Mrs Leah Liddell and Mr Noel Harvey were elected to the office of President, respectively. Inala Chapter was formed on 5 December 1978, with Mr Alex Passaris as President and on 9 December, a preliminary meeting was held in the Gold Coast Area which will culminate in the formation of a Chapter in the early part of 1979.

The first Annual Convention of the Society was held on 28 October 1978, at the All Nations Club in Brisbane and was considered a great success. Mr. Nick Vine Hall, the Director from the Australian Society of Genealogists in Sydney, was the guest speaker and addresses were also delivered by Mr Lynn Aberdeen, Mr Owen Mutzelberg and our State President. The film, *The Strength of the Hill*, was screened which showed the work being undertaken by the Genealogical Society of Utah in the preserving of the world's records.

At the time of writing this account of the events of the Society, plans have been formulated that will result in the formation of Chapters in the following centres, Cairns, Roma, Townsville, Mackay, Beaudesert, Warwick,

Manly, Mitchell, Miles, and Clontarf. Whilst we do not for one minute suggest that this expansion will take place immediately it is encouraging to see the interest of the people of these areas being directed to the Society.

Meetings have been held to coordinate the large number of volunteers who wish to assist in the Society's work, and we feel that the time has arrived for a period of consolidation and growth. To assist with this work, we have been successful in the setting up of an office at 30 Grimes Street, Auchenflower for which much is owed to Mr Orme Hodgson, the lessee of the premises, as he has made this available to the Society at no charge.

The Genealogical Society of Queensland understands its roll and pledges its support to all engaged in the intriguing and rewarding research of tracing one's ancestry. There is much to do and the more we become involved, the greater we see the challenge. We understand the roll of the Society as being one

of assistance, education, affiliation with other similar societies, and doing all possible to see the preservation of our State's priceless records.

Whilst we feel that it is important to recognise and direct our thanks to the various educational, religious, and commercial organizations that have helped the Society in its initial year we feel with equal vigour to make clear that the Society is run by the members and that no direct sponsorship or influence has been sought or shall be sought from any such organizations. The Society is constructed in such a way that it is governed by the Chapters with a State Executive to act as a steering committee to carry out their directions. We are filled with excitement as we look forward to the challenges ahead.

We look forward to membership from all interested in genealogy and wish to all success in their endeavours.



Organisations which espouse objectives similar to those of GSQ may affiliate as a group with GSQ.

An affiliate group member has certain rights and benefits:

- Receive two membership numbers.
- Receive a copy of GSQ's journal and newsletter.
- Conditional access to GSQ resources and MyGSQ.
- Attendance at meetings of Special Interest Groups.

Over the next few issues of *Generation*, we will feature some of our Affiliate Group Members.



The Mackay Family History Society began in 1981 as a branch of the Genealogical Society of Queensland (GSQ). Members began to gather local records and purchase publications to build its collection, which was initially housed in an apple crate in the office of the Pioneer Shire Library. The Library assisted with the purchase of relevant books to assist members with their research. The Branch moved around as premises became available until a move to Valley Street, at which time they became incorporated as the Mackay Family History Society, Inc (MFHS). After the sale of the premises, MFHS moved again, where they remained until September 2018, when the Mackay Regional Council offered them space in the heritage listed Old Town Hall in Sydney Street, where they remain to the present day.

The Society has several data collections prepared by members, including cemetery and funeral director's records for cemeteries in the Mackay Region, and Pioneer Charts – pedigree charts and stories submitted by family members. MFHS has published a book entitled *Early Settlers of Mackay 1860-1885*. The Society published a newsletter *Genie Gossip* from 1888-2009, when it became too difficult to compile. It was replaced by a blog and a Facebook page.

MFHS can be contacted at 1st floor, Old Town Hall, 63 Sydney Street, Mackay, Qld., 4740, or by email at support@mackayfamilyhistory.org.au. Its website is <https://www.mackayfamilyhistory.org.au/>.

The Porters of Pittsworth

THOMAS JAMES PORTER AND ELIZABETH ANNIE TROTT

Marg Doherty and Pip Hughes

The marriage of Thomas James Porter and Elizabeth Annie Trott on 7 January 1914 at Toowoomba united two families of early Queensland immigrants.¹ When Thomas (Tom) married, he already owned the family property of *Hawthorn* at North Branch near Pittsworth, jointly with his mother. They inherited the property from his father, who died in July 1912.² When his mother died almost five years later, *Hawthorn* became wholly owned by Tom.³ However, while prospects were for a comfortable life, such expectations are sometimes unmet, as occurred in this case.

Tom was born on 7 August 1888 at *Hawthorn*, the youngest of the nine children of Robert Porter and his wife, Annie Scott Davidson.⁴ The couple moved to the North Branch district of the Darling Downs in the 1870s and were among the earliest selectors, as were Robert's older brothers, James and Alexander Elgin Porter.⁵ Tom attended the Pittsworth School in 1902, although he left school the same year at age fourteen.⁶ Probably Tom went to another school earlier as he could read and write.

Tom was a good athlete. In 1911 he won the Pittsworth Gaslight Handicap organised by the Star of Pittsworth Lodge, a Protestant Alliance Friendly Society Lodge. The handicap was a race at night running around the Lodge's hall. Tom received an 18ct gold watch fob now worn by one of his granddaughters.⁷

Elizabeth Annie Trott, known as Bess, was similarly the child of early Queensland pioneers. Her father, James Trott, arrived in Queensland from Devon, England, in 1863 and worked on the Darling Downs, including for squatter James Tyson.⁸ James married Flora Muir from Inverness Scotland on 25 December 1865 at *Felton* which was then co-owned by John Samuel Whitchurch who was a witness to the marriage.⁹ The youngest of eleven children, Bess, was born on *Dalwood*, the family property near Yarranlea, on 3 December 1890 and baptised on 8 February 1891 at Mt Michaels' Church, Hermitage, the local Church of England Church following her father's religion.¹⁰ Bess was confirmed on 20 November 1906 at

St Andrew's Church, Pittsworth,¹¹ and later attended the local school at Yarranlea.¹²

Bess was twenty-four when she married Tom and had grown up on her parent's property, *Dalwood*.¹³ She was used to life on the land, and this continued when she moved to *Hawthorn* as a bride. Bess was the mistress of *Hawthorn* as her mother-in-law lived in Pittsworth after her husband's death in 1912.¹⁴

On 13 February 1915, Tom and Bess welcomed their first child, Robert James Kenneth Porter.¹⁵ Named after his paternal and maternal grandfathers, the premature baby was known as Ken.¹⁶ Another two sons followed: Leslie Thomas, born 26 February 1917, and Archibald Scott, born on 14 February 1918.¹⁷ The final child, a daughter, Doris Avilda, was born on 4 May 1920.¹⁸ With four healthy children and owning a property, it would seem that the stars were aligning for the young family, but things were about to unravel.

Around the time of Doris' birth, Tom and the family left *Hawthorn* and moved to the nearby town of Pittsworth. The relocation brought a significant change in circumstances. No longer did the family enjoy farm life with the boys running free and finding mischief. Their life was now town life, and the youngest, Doris, in later life lamented that she did not grow up on *Hawthorn* like her brothers. What precipitated this move is unknown.¹⁹ However, a family rumour exists that someone committed suicide on *Hawthorn*, and after this, Tom did not want to remain on the property.

No inquests or newspaper articles involving such a happening at *Hawthorn* have been found. However, an inquest exists into the death of James Toms, who hanged himself on *Boxthorn* in December 1919. *Boxthorn* was a neighbouring property to *Hawthorn*. Alexander (Sandy) Elgin Porter, Tom's uncle, owned *Boxthorn* and employed Toms. However, the inquest mentions that Tom Porter hired Toms before he worked for Sandy.²⁰

Tom's departure from *Hawthorn* could indicate that Tom had a sensitive nature, particularly as family knowledge



states Tom had a break-down at some stage, although the timing is unknown. By 1922, Tom's occupation was working as a labourer in Pittsworth and not a grazier. The family resided in Briggs Street, Pittsworth, but lived in several houses in the street.²¹ Later they lived in Hume Street with the children attending the Pittsworth School across the road. It was Tom who enrolled the children in school.²² In her childhood, Bess developed an infection in her shin, giving her the lifelong condition of osteomyelitis which was limiting. Perhaps this was why Tom enrolled the children in school and also did the shopping.

According to his daughter, Doris, Tom was not a talkative man and would hide in the shed when visitors came. This tendency to solitude perhaps was another indication of Tom's fragile mental health. This was unfortunate as Bess always cared for others, and often at Christmas, she would invite guests to dinner who had nowhere else to go. She also had regular guests for lunch at least once a week.²³

The family moved to a house named *Montrose* at 47 Hume Street. The house was shifted to Pittsworth by Tom's cousin Charlie Porter and his wife Flo, who was Bess' sister. Initially intended for use by Charlie's brother, Jack, Tom and Bess' family moved in. Doris thought Charlie and Flo did not expect rent from them, but she remembered Tom and Bess sending off a cheque from time to time when they could.²⁴

Tom and Bess worked hard to earn an income without the property, *Hawthorn*. At some stage, Tom was a stockman for Trott and Porter butcher shop in Pittsworth. As part of his butcher shop duties, he would render down fat in the stockyards. Tom also had a string of odd jobs, including delivery of fruit by horse and cart. Tom was also skilled with a whip. He would crack a small stick out of his daughter's mouth without hurting her. Only Doris would do this as his sons were unwilling to take the risk.²⁵

Like many women of her generation, Bess was good at handcrafts, an accomplished knitter, and an excellent seamstress. She owned a Singer treadle sewing machine which Tom would help her pedal if the fabric was very tough to penetrate. Bess made all their clothes and clothes for her daughter, Doris Stallman's children, including jumpers, gloves and hats. Dressmaking and knitting were handy skills for families with limited funds. Unfortunately, when the Depression of the 1930s hit, the family had to sell Bess' jewellery except for two brooches. Bess had inherited one of the brooches from her mother.²⁶

In August 1934, Tom suffered an accident at work at the Yonge's Hill quarry near Pittsworth. A truck loaded with stones ran backwards, crushing Tom against the quarry wall. He was admitted to the local hospital and then taken to Toowoomba for X-rays. Tom had two broken ribs, two broken bones in his wrist²⁷ and a laceration to the wrist. It was a while before Tom was working again, and Bess took up house cleaning.

The couple decided to do things for themselves at home to earn money. The dining room and the table at their home became their workshop. They would refurbish old coir mattresses by taking out the coir stuffing and boiling it up in the copper. They then teased it out on the dining table and put it in a ticking (mattress cover bag). The next step was belting it until it was even. They would then sew a button on both sides, pull it through and tie it uptight. They also made crossed work baskets on stands. These usually had patterned covers with silk lining, which Tom went 'down the street' to the shops to buy. He became good at matching fabrics and linings. The couple even sold some of these baskets to New Zealand.²⁸

Tom and Bess were also competent upholsters. One local lady, Mrs Hood, brought her dressing table chair to be reupholstered. The Porters added a new padded top and a pleated skirt. Mrs Hood was so pleased with it; she brought in her husband Wilfred's armchair to reupholster as a surprise. Wilfred was cranky because the Porters had removed the chair's comfortable indent. Wilfred's son was with him when he brought the chair back into town and said his father was calling Tom Porter all the names under the sun on the way into town. When he arrived at the Porters, Tom was happy to fix the chair by adding a hollow. His son said Tom Porter was the worst man on the way to town, but Tom became the best man in the world on the way home!²⁹

Tom and Bess' children originally attended the Presbyterian Church in Pittsworth, following Tom's Scottish family's religion. However, this changed when Bess discovered her children were unsupervised at Presbyterian Sunday School and were misbehaving. Later, the family speculated that Arch, the youngest son, was the chief mischief-maker as he was always known as a larrikin. Subsequently, the children attended Bess' church, where she could oversee them. Tom followed the family to St Andrew's and was later confirmed Church of England.³⁰

On 4 September 1952, Tom died in Toowoomba Hospital from anaemia from which he had suffered for several months. His death was registered by his son, Arch, who



now lived in Brisbane. Tom was buried in the Pittsworth Cemetery, and his wife was later buried beside him.³¹ After Tom died and when Bess could no longer care for herself, she moved herself to Broadbribb Home in Toowoomba. She did not want her only daughter Doris to have to care for her. This unselfish act was typical of Bess, but she was not stranded at Broadbribb as Doris took her mother for drives.³² Bess died of heart disease on 3 July 1959, also at Toowoomba Hospital. She was buried the following day beside her husband in the Pittsworth Cemetery, with her death registered by her oldest child, Ken, who now also lived in Brisbane.³³ A gravestone was later placed over their graves by their daughter, Doris and her husband, Mervyn Stallman.³⁴

Tom and Bess Porter were born, lived and died in the Darling Downs area. They were the first generation of their families to be born in Australia. They were buried in the Pittsworth Cemetery, located in the place where they lived their entire lives.

¹ Church Marriage Certificate for Thomas James Porter and Elizabeth Annie Trott, married 7 January 1914, St Stephen's Church, Toowoomba, original held by Margaret Doherty, Brisbane

² Queensland State Archives (QSA), Ecclesiastical file, Porter, Robert, Item ID ITM2817996.

³ Death Certificate for Annie Scott Porter, died 28 July 1917, Queensland Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages (QBDM), 1917/C/3489.

⁴ Birth Certificate for Thomas James Porter, born 7 August 1888, Darling Downs Central District, QBDM, 1888/C/2632.

⁵ 'Selection of Crown Lands', Toowoomba Chronicle and Queensland Advertiser, 18 October 1873, p. 2, col. 6; 'Toowoomba Land Court', Toowoomba Chronicle and Darling Downs Gazette, 3 July 1879, p. 3, col. 1.

⁶ QSA, Pittsworth State School Admission Register 1889-1920, Item ID DR29435.

⁷ Family knowledge, Margaret Doherty.

⁸ 'Star of England Shipping List 1863', QSA, p. 197, https://www.archivessearch.qld.gov.au/api/download_file/DR39652, accessed 2 October 2021; 'Tyson estate', Darling Downs Gazette, Toowoomba, 17 November 1900, p3, col. 4-5.

⁹ Marriage Certificate (Church) for James Trott and Flora Muir, married 25

December, 1865, Felton, original held by Margaret Doherty.

¹⁰ Baptism Certificate for Elizabeth Annie Trott, baptised 8 February 1891 at St Michaels' Church, Hermitage, Diocese of Brisbane, original held by Margaret Doherty, Brisbane.

¹¹ Confirmation Certificate for Elizabeth Annie Trott, confirmed 20 November 1906, St Andrew's Church, Pittsworth, original held by Margaret Doherty, Brisbane.

¹² Birth Certificate for Elizabeth Annie Trott, born 3 December 1890, Darling Downs Central District, QBDM, 1890/C/2846; Family knowledge, Pip Hughes.

¹³ 'Obituary. Demise of Mrs. J. Trott', Pittsworth Sentinel, Supplement, 17 December 1904, original held by Margaret Doherty, Brisbane.

¹⁴ 'Obituary', newspaper cutting probably Pittsworth Sentinel, original held by Margaret Doherty.

¹⁵ Birth Certificate for Robert James Kenneth Porter, born 13 February 1915, Toowoomba District, QBDM, 1915/C/7507.

¹⁶ Family knowledge, Margaret Doherty.

¹⁷ Birth Certificate for Leslie Thomas Porter, born 26 February 1917, Toowoomba District, QBDM, 1917/C/3423; Birth Certificate for Archibald Scott Porter, born 14 February 1919, Toowoomba District, QBDM, 1918/C/3362.

¹⁸ Birth Certificate for Doris Avilda Porter, born 4 May 1920, Toowoomba District, QBDM, 1920/C/6863.

¹⁹ Family knowledge, Pip Hughes.

²⁰ QSA, Inquest for James Toms, Item ID 349295, 36/693 1919.

²¹ QSA, Pittsworth State School Admission Register 1909-1925, Item ID DR29436.

²² Family knowledge, Pip Hughes.

²³ Pip Hughes, 'Things my mother told me', personal reminiscences of Doris Stallman, nee Porter, written notes, copy held by Margaret Doherty.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ 'Personal', Pittsworth Sentinel. 25 August 1934, p. 2, col. 5.

²⁸ Pip Hughes, 'Things my mother told me'.

²⁹ Ibid.

³⁰ Hughes, 'Things my mother told me'.

³¹ Death certificate for Thomas James Porter, died 4 September 1952, Toowoomba District, QBDM, 1952/C/4102; Death certificate for Elizabeth Annie Porter, died 3 July 1959, Toowoomba District, QBDM, 1959/C/4472'

³² Ibid.

³³ Death certificate for Elizabeth Annie Porter.

³⁴ Family knowledge, Pip Hughes, Toowoomba.



Yandilla Street, Pittsworth, Qld - 1909 (Flickr)



SHORT Tales

Jennifer Lentell

THE RANGE

In the late 1870s, the road to the west from the newly established port of Townsville went through Thornton's Gap atop Hervey Range, a narrow and steep track. Moving goods along the road was difficult. Teamsters usually travelled in convoys of at least two wagons and used a double team for the pull up the range, camping at the top overnight. They then returned next day to the foot of the range with the two teams to haul up the second wagon. My grandfather, David Fraser, was a teamster involved in this activity, which would lead to his meeting his future wife.



Hervey Range track c1900

There were two hotels at Hervey Range, the Range Hotel at the foot and the Eureka Hotel at the top. The Range Hotel was operated by Patrick

and Bridget Fogarty. Patrick died in April 1881 and Bridget took over the licence. She and David married in November 1881 and David was granted a licence to 'retail spirituous liquor' in September 1882.¹ The licence

passed to another operator in July 1883. The hotel closed in 1884 when the use of the route to the west over Hervey Range was discontinued in favour of an easier one further south through Woodstock.² The hotel at the top of the range, originally called the Eureka, was renamed the Range. The building still exists and is now heritage tea rooms.

After selling the licence, David and Bridget moved to Brisbane, where Bridget died in 1895. David and his family returned to Townsville, where he once again worked as a carrier for the firm of Poultney & Co. But he no longer had to drive his team up the Hervey Range track. David remarried in 1905, to his boss's sister, Sarah Poultney, my grandmother.

¹ Queensland Miscellaneous Licenses 1860-1899, findmypast.com.au, David A Frazer - accessed 15/04/2014.

² Gibson-Wilde, Dorothy & others, A pattern of pubs: hotels of Townsville 1864-1914. History Dept., James Cook University, Townsville, Queensland (1988).

'MY FAMILY HISTORY' NEW BOOK RELEASE

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OCCUPATIONS: HOW OUR ANCESTORS EARNED THEIR DAILY BREAD

Generation

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND INC.

10 YEARS AGO
December 2013

Pauline Williams

The following is an updated version of a summary of a talk given at the English/Irish Group meeting on 3 June 2007. The original version was published in *Generation*, vol 30, issue no 1, September 2007. The original article focussed on English and Irish resources: this updated version includes Australian material.

Finding out about your ancestors' occupations can provide useful avenues for discovering information about their age, birthplace or next of kin. Knowing about your ancestor's occupation also helps you to build a picture of their daily lives. Useful things to remember; occupations have changed over the years and the advent of industrialisation in the 19th century and new technologies in the 20th century have rendered many old occupations obsolete. There can be official and unofficial terms to describe an ancestor's occupation.

Our job titles do not always describe accurately what it is that we do; in recent times, we seem to have moved to more generic titles, e.g. manager, which can cover a vast range of jobs. For our ancestors progression up or down the working social scale was usually reflected in their job title. Was your ancestor an agricultural labourer or a gardener? There could be a big difference in how your ancestors were accepted socially.

There are some general strategies to find your ancestor's occupation, no matter where they lived. First—check the details provided on census returns, civil registration certificates, and electoral rolls. UK Census returns from 1851 onwards provide an occupation for all those in the household who were working. It's worth mentioning, however, that work undertaken by women was often omitted and also that just because children were shown as scholars, it didn't necessarily mean that they didn't have a job, or that they attended school regularly. In rural areas, most children would be required to assist in the labour-intensive work such as harvesting, etc. Look at the occupational details provided by the various parties on birth, marriage, and death certificates. Many occupations were localised. The same occupation or a different type of work in the same industry will often run through several generations of the family. This information also helps you to identify when old

occupations start to die out and new ones appear—this is particularly the case in the 19th century as thousands of people left rural areas to go and work in factories in the cities.

You may need some help in working out exactly what some of the old occupations are. Try out the following website: www.rmhh.co.uk/occup/index.html. This has an alphabetical index of many old occupations. The occupation FWK is common in the Midlands counties, especially Nottinghamshire. This is an abbreviation for framework knitter; one who operated a hosiery making loom. Clicking on the links you may be taken to other sites which explain what the job entailed and its history. Links are also provided to a list of occupations on GENUKI (www.genuki.org.uk); a list of occupations included in the 1891 census at <http://www.census1891.com/occupations-all.php>; a more up-to-date dictionary of occupations at <http://www.occupationalinfo.org/>.

When you have found out what your ancestors did, check whether there is a specialist index for that occupation. One useful reference is by Jeremy Gibson and Elizabeth Hampson, *Specialist Indexes for Family Historians*. You can also look in historical trade directories, <https://specialcollections.le.ac.uk/digital/collection/p16445coll4>. This is a University of Leicester project that has produced a digital library of local and trade directories for England and Wales from 1750 to 1919. These are high quality reproductions of comparatively rare books. Trade directories are extremely useful for the periods pre-census and between censuses. Contents vary but if your ancestor plied a particular trade, then he, and it's generally he, may be listed in the directory—the old version of the yellow pages. You may find many females who worked as dressmakers or milliners or ran private schools. Trade directories often included listings of home addresses as well as business addresses. It's worth remembering, however, that advertisers had to pay a fee for their name to appear in trade directories, so they may not be a complete listing, like a census.

As well as trade directories, check to see whether your ancestors advertised their trade in the local newspapers. The British Library's newspaper collection is currently



being relocated and the originals not available to view. Huge numbers of newspapers are available online via <https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/>, and also via [findmypast.co.uk](https://www.findmypast.co.uk). GSQ has subscriptions to both of these. In Australia, the National Library's Trove website provides free, online access to an extensive range of newspapers and journals, Australia-wide, with many regional publications represented. The collection is constantly being updated, so a regular visit is recommended to the website at trove.nla.gov.au.

Many ancestors were employed by the government. These do not only include office-based staff. Sometimes records relating to individual officers are not extensive, but you may be able to build up a picture of the kind of work they did and the conditions under which they were employed. The prospects of finding more detailed information increase with their level in the hierarchy. Official appointments were generally gazetted; in the UK check Gazettes online (www.thegazette.co.uk/). In Australia search the various State Government Gazettes: GSQ has some Gazettes on CD, so it's worth checking the catalogue.

If your forebear's occupation or trade was a skilled one, you could see if they had an apprenticeship or were registered with a guild or livery company. Other trades, e.g. pawnbrokers, gamekeepers or publicans would have needed a license to practice their trade. It is worth checking to see whether these have survived. Check in the various National or State Archives, or even court records where these are available.

University records are also helpful, especially if your ancestor graduated from one of the long-established universities, e.g. Oxford and Cambridge. The prospects of finding information are very good although the type of information you might find will vary.

Occupational and/or educational records are starting to appear on sites such as Ancestry and Findmypast.

The likelihood of finding more information about your ancestors' occupations increases with the level of professionalism of the role. Professions that are regulated by an officiating body, e.g. barristers, solicitors, or the church, produced annual yearbooks giving the names and qualifications of their members, together with their addresses. Good examples are:

- The Law List published from 1780
- the Clergy List (Crockford's Clerical Directory) from 1858
- the British Medical Directory from 1845.

One entry in extracts from British Medical Directory/ Medical Register relate to the same person. Registered in 1904 under his original name, Stahlknecht, in 1919 he then changed his name to Hawke-Genn, probably to distance himself from a German name during World War I. Details of his University education enabled me to contact the relevant University to find out if more information was available, in the process of which I also learnt about the Victoria University. The 1904 listing also details his previous work. This Directory is useful because it not only lists medical practitioners in the UK, but those in other countries such as Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa.

The Society of Genealogists publishes a series of books entitled: *My Ancestor was a...* A full listing of the titles is at: <https://societyofgenealogists-shop.myshopify.com/collections/society-of-genealogists-publications>. Other published material includes:

- Colin Waters, *The Dictionary of Old Trades, Titles, and Occupations* (2nd edition, 2002) Countryside Books, which explains over 4000 old trades, titles, and occupations.
- The Federation of Family History Societies (FFHS) booklet by Joyce Culling, *An introduction to Occupations: a preliminary list* (2nd edition, FFHS, 1999), outlines various sources to discover evidence of occupation.

Both of these are in GSQ's library.

Family history magazines regularly include information on resources for researching particular occupations—in the UK many of these were localised, such as the framework knitter mentioned earlier. GSQ has quite a number of these magazines on the shelves. A final recommendation is that, if all else fails, Google the name of the occupation and see what you come up with.



QUEENSLAND TOWNS

• ROCKHAMPTON

WHERE OUR FAMILIES LIVED



Flood 1918

Rockhampton, the unofficial capital of Central Queensland, is 640km north of Brisbane and just north of the Tropic of Capricorn. It is located on the Fitzroy River, known as *Toonooba* by the Darambal people, the original inhabitants of the area.

The first Europeans in the area were Charles and William Archer, who were searching for pastoral land in 1853. The Archer brothers named the river after New South Wales governor Fitzroy and, in 1855, established a homestead at Gracemere, 10km south-west of the site of Rockhampton.

In January 1856, there was a massacre of Aboriginal people at nearby Nankin Creek, which resulted in a number of incidents between the local indigenous people and the settlers. In July 1856, Richard Palmer, accompanied by an escort of Native Police, set up a store in July 1856.

The town of Rockhampton was proclaimed in 1858, making it the fourth local authority, behind Brisbane, Ipswich, and Toowoomba, in what was to become the colony of Queensland after separation from New South Wales. The name Rockhampton was suggested by Lands Commissioner, William Wiseman, the first part for the rocky bar at the head of navigation, and 'hampton' as a traditional English name for a town near water: therefore 'the town by the rocks in the river'.

There were several unsuccessful political movements for Central Queensland to secede from Queensland in the 1860s and 70s. Wealthy businessman and politician, John Ferguson, led the separation movement in the 1890s and constructed one of Rockhampton's grandest homes, *Kenmore House*, which he had intended to be Government House for a new state if the bid had been successful. The bid failed and the house was sold to the Sisters of Mercy in 1915 and converted into a hospital.



Kenmore House c1915

The discovery of gold at Canoona in 1858 resulted in a sudden influx of miners and prospectors. The rush was short lived, but it did ensure a dramatic increase in the local population. Rockhampton in the 1860s and early 1870s was called 'the wildest and most wicked town in Australia'. Another gold discovery at Mount Morgan in 1882 resulted in the further development of Rockhampton as a port for gold export and the construction of buildings with Victorian architecture.

For the first decade of Rockhampton's growth, land use was limited to grazing sheep, which proved unsuitable because of the tropical climate. The development of a meatworks at Lakes Creek in 1871 saw the development of cattle grazing and, eventually, for Rockhampton to be called the 'Beef Capital of Australia'.

In the 1860s, Rockhampton was a depot for immigrants arriving from Britain. Ships arrived at Keppel Bay and immigrants were off-loaded for transport by steamer up the Fitzroy River. Facilities were not good and the first night at the Rockhampton 'depot' were spent sleeping under the stars and cooking over a bush fire, their first introduction to Australian pioneer life.

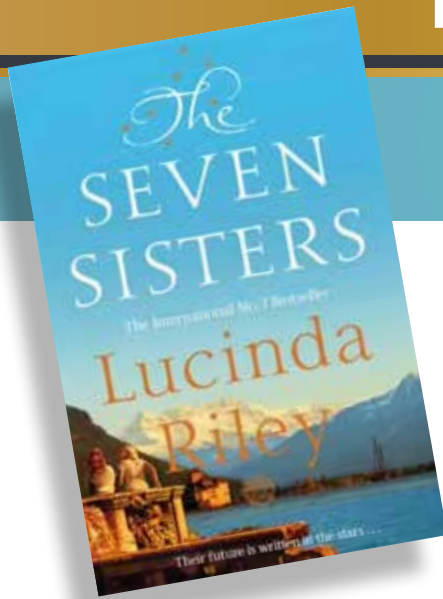
The Fitzroy River is subject to flooding and Rockhampton has been flooded a number of times, with the worst flood in 1918, when the river reached 10.1 metres. The town was damaged by a cyclone in 1949 and again in 2015, and in 1918, a 6.0 magnitude earthquake caused some damage to buildings.

Rockhampton, affectionately known as 'Rocky', is the oldest local authority in the northern part of Queensland; proclaimed a town in 1858 and a city in 1902. In 2008, the city merged with the Shires of Fitzroy, Livingstone, and Mount Morgan to form the Rockhampton Region. Livingstone Shire was re-established in 2014 following a successful referendum to de-amalgamate with the Region. In 2021, over 80,000 people called Rockhampton home.

- Wikipedia – <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rockhampton>
- Queensland Places - <https://queenslandplaces.com.au/rockhampton>
- Aussie Towns - <https://www.aussietowns.com.au/town/rockhampton-qld>
- Lorna McDonald – *An Overview of Rockhampton's History* - Central Queensland University -Rockhampton -2003

BOOK REVIEW

NINE FASCINATING READS ABOUT SOLVING ADOPTION PUZZLES



Di Edelman

I really enjoy reading books, both fiction and non-fiction, that involve researching family history and solving questions resulting from adoption. I was told in 2001 that I had been adopted and was in denial for quite a time, until I had to accept that it was true. Both my adopted parents were dead, and the remainder of my adopted family discarded me once the will had been sorted. Consequently, I began my search and discovered sisters, brothers, nieces and many, many cousins around the world. Hence my fascination with other similar stories.

Firstly, I'd like to recommend to you the fictional series of eight books by Lucinda Riley beginning with *The Seven Sisters* which is the title of the first book in the series. In this book, we learn of Pa Salt who has built a magnificent, isolated home, Atlantis, on the shores of Lake Geneva. Over the years, he has travelled far and wide and adopted six daughters, the D'Aplièse sisters, who grew up in this ideal location and were cared for by the housekeeper they called Ma. The girls have all made lives for themselves in various places around the world, but they are all gathering at Atlantis as Pa Salt has died aboard his very flash yacht in the waters around the Greek Islands. They have always known that there was a seventh sister, but she is known as 'the missing sister' as Pa Salt has never brought her to Atlantis. The girls have been named for the Seven Sisters of the Pleiades.

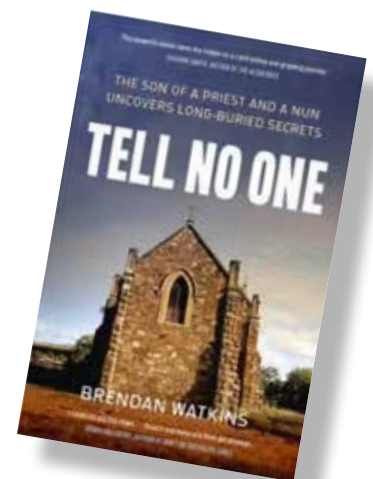
They have never been interested in finding their birth families, but Pa Salt has left them each a letter and the coordinates of a location at which he found them. For each of them, the clue in their letter contains the name of a famous person or someone involved with a famous landmark.

In this first book Maia travels to Brazil as she is linked somehow to the statue of Christ the Redeemer in Rio de Janeiro. The other wonderful books in the series take us to Norway, Outback Australia, New York, The Lakes district in England, New Zealand, Scotland, The Greek Islands, Paris, and London. It takes a dedicated person to read these books as each of the eight books has around 800 pages but once I started, I was hooked. In fact, I'm going to read them again as I am amazed at how Lucinda Riley put this huge family saga together linking each book to the others and each sister's life to the lives of the others. The research she must have undertaken to have the chronological and geographical details so interwoven just astounds me. It is even more incredible when you realise that she wrote books 5, 6 and 7 between 2018 and 2021 whilst undergoing chemotherapy and that her son Harry wrote the final book from her extensive notes after she died on 11 June 2021.

Secondly, *Tell No One* by Brendan Watkins was totally different and very confronting especial to someone like me who was also adopted. Brendan says in the Author's Note at the start: 'It is the story of me. It is who I am'.

In 1969, when Brendan was eight, he lived in Melbourne with his loving parents, Bet and Roy and his older brother Damien who was ten. After Mass one Sunday, Bet told the boys to go into their room and lie on their beds as they wanted to have a talk. Bet and Roy followed them and sat on the end of Damien's bed. Bet told them that they were not really their parents but that the Catholic Church had asked them firstly to adopt Damien and then later to adopt Brendan. The boys were not brothers.

Damien was never interested in finding out about his parents, but Brendan had to know. In his late twenties, when he and his partner Kate wanted to start a family of their own, he started his search. He eventually



discovered his mother, Maggie, and was told she was a Catholic nun. She wanted nothing to do with him for 30 years and would give no information about his father. She didn't want to meet Brendan or her grandchildren.

In 2018, an Ancestry DNA test and a lot of digging by Kate, provided the answer that his father was a Catholic priest, Vincent Shiel, or Father Vin.

The first half of the book tells that story - of all the brick walls, of the secrecy, of the denials, of the frustration and desperation felt by Brendan as he tried to discover who he is - to find someone that he looks like - to find where he fits in the world and the sacrifices that he and Kate made to follow the trails. His father had been a very successful builder in Sydney before deciding to be a priest much later in life so he couldn't train here and had to go to Ireland to do his study. When he returned, he was sent to Renmark, then to Port Pirie and then he spent many years in the outback of South Australia where as well as preaching, he built churches, repaired churches, and even built a school. Brendan and Kate and three friends drove through that area visiting those

places and meeting some of his parishioners, never admitting that he was Vin's son in deference to Maggie's request that he 'Tell No One' that she was his mother or Vin his father.

In the latter half of the book, Brendan traces other children of priests worldwide (there are so many) and delves into the issue of abuse of these women who had children to priests. Maggie was from a poor background, was 30 years younger than Vin when she conceived Brendan. She was forced to leave her home to have her baby and the baby was forcibly removed from her at birth. The babies were also abused. In Brendan's case he was not adopted until he was six days old. Research shows that those early days of bonding with your mother are crucial. Babies going for adoption are left in the cots and lifted only to be given a bottle and be changed. What effect does that have on their personality? That is abuse.

Brendan has become politically active in this area as he advocates for the women and their children.

This book is very interesting and confronting. I recommend it.

SPOTLIGHT ON RESOURCES From MyGSQ (the GSQ members only portal)

Wheeler Project



Annie Margaret Wheeler c1920

GSQ has transcribed index cards held by the State Library of Queensland (SLQ) compiled during WW1 by central Queenslander, Annie Margaret Wheeler (nee Laurie).

These hold the names of 2794 soldiers and nurses. Mrs Wheeler recognised the difficulties facing servicemen and

women and their families in central Queensland in maintaining contact. She kept a detailed card index on each, corresponding with soldiers and nurses on the battlefield, liaising with their families, forwarding mail and parcels, supervising their care in hospitals, and providing financial assistance during their recuperation in England.

A digital index created from the transcription has been presented to SLQ. The Wheeler project at GSQ has information for all soldiers and nurses in the index together with information such as POW details, awards, and honours.

Annie's biography can be read in the Australian Dictionary of Biography (ADB) at <https://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/wheeler-annie-margaret-9060>

See page 33 of this issue of Generation for more about the ADB.

You can search the index for more information on these servicemen and women

by logging on to MyGSQ – Wheeler Project.

In a GSQ blog on 25 December 2016, Geraldine Lee reflects on the Wheeler Project:

Annie Wheeler's index of Central Queenslanders serving in the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.) has enabled Genealogical Society of Queensland (GSQ) volunteers to document the lives of more than 2,700 Australian men and women who fought and died in World War I. Their service records, housed in the National Archives of Australia (NAA), show the diseases from which they suffered, as well as the battle injuries that either killed them or left them permanently disabled or disfigured.

It is fitting to remember the sacrifices of the men and women of the A.I.F., to whom Annie Wheeler devoted years of her life, recording their contributions to Australia's war effort in the hope that their lives would have meaning long after their deaths.



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.

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

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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 10 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
April 2024			
7	Sun	English/Irish Group	10am
13	Sat	Presentation – Wills and Administration in England and Wales	9am
14	Sun	Colonial & Convict Connections	10am
20	Sat	Presentation – Managing Frugally	9am
21	Sun	Writing Group	10am
23	Tue	Presentation – The British Army – 1899-1918	7pm
28	Sun	DNA Group	9:30am
May 2024			
4	Sat	Presentation – Finding the Family Farm	9am
5	Sun	Scottish Group	10am
12	Sun	Family History Technology SIG	10am
18	Sat	Presentation – The National Archives UK	9am
19	Sun	Chinese Research Group	10am
19	Sun	Scandinavian SIG	1pm
25	Sat	Volunteers Morning Tea	10am
26	Sun	German Group	10:15am
29	Wed	DNA Clinic	7pm
June 2024			
1	Sat	Presentation - FamilySearch	9am
2	Sun	English/Irish Group	10am
9	Sun	Colonial & Convict Connections	10am
11	Tue	Course – Digging Deeper into Family History – Session 1	10am
16	Sun	Writing Group	10am
18	Tue	Course – Digging Deeper into Family History – Session 2	10am
22	Sat	Presentation – Maltese Migration to Australia	9am
23	Sun	DNA Group	9:30am
25	Tue	Course – Digging Deeper into Family History – Session 3	10am



• **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 2024

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.

April - June 2024

Presentation (Virtual platform)

Wills and Administration in England & Wales

WHEN: Saturday 13 April @ 9am – 11am AEST

PRESENTER: Geoff Barber

COST: \$20 Members \$30 Non-members

Presentation (Virtual platform)

"Tommy this, an' Tommy that" - The British Army 1899-1918

WHEN: Tuesday 23 April @ 7pm – 9pm AEST

PRESENTER: Paul Nixon

COST: \$20 Members \$30 Non-members

Presentation (Virtual platform)

The National Archives UK - home of 1000 years of UK history

WHEN: Saturday 18 May @ 9am – 11am AEST

PRESENTER: Pauline Williams

COST: \$20 Members \$30 Non-members

Course (Virtual platform)

Digging Deeper into Family History

WHEN: Three sessions

Tuesday 11, 18, 25 Jun @ 10am – 12pm AEST

PRESENTER: Various

COST: Early bird (29/05/24)

\$77 Members \$87 Non-members

Full \$87 Members \$97 Non-members

Presentation (Virtual platform)

Managing Frugally: An Alphabet of Tips and Tools for Family Historians

WHEN: Saturday 20 April @ 9am – 11am AEST

PRESENTER: Jill Ball

COST: \$20 Members \$30 Non-members

Presentation (Virtual platform)

Finding the Family Farm: Using Land Records and Maps For Qld Pastoral Properties

WHEN: Saturday 4 May @ 9am – 11am AEST

PRESENTER: Charlotte Sale

COST: \$20 Members \$30 Non-members

Presentation (Virtual platform)

Navigating Your Way Through FamilySearch

WHEN: Saturday 1 June @ 9am – 11am AEST

PRESENTER: Cyndi Ingle

COST: \$20 Members \$30 Non-members

Presentation (Virtual platform)

From Restricted to Assisted: Maltese Migration to Australia

WHEN: Saturday 22 June @ 9am – 11am AEST

PRESENTER: Georgina Jansen

COST: \$20 Members \$30 Non-members

We hope you enjoy the education program for 2024. Remember to look on the GSQ website for up to date events & times.

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 clinics are held on the 5th Wednesday of the month, and the clinics for 2024 will be on 29 May, 31 July, and 30 October.

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 2024

Special Interest Groups for 2024 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/>



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



14 April, 9 June, 11 August, 13 October, 8 December
• *Second Sunday, even numbered months*

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



31 March, 26 May, 28 July, 29 September, 24 November
• *Last Sunday, odd numbered months*

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



28 April, 23 June, 25 August, 27 October
• *Fourth Sunday, even numbered months*

Scandinavian Group • 12:30am – 2:30pm



17 March, 19 May, 21 July, 15 September, 17 November
• *Third Sunday, odd numbered months*

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



7 April, 2 June, 4 August, 6 October, 1 December
• *First Sunday, even numbered months*

Scottish Group • 10:00am – 2:30pm



5 May, 7 July, 1 September, 3 November
• *First Sunday, odd numbered months*

Writing Group • 10:00am – 2:00pm



21 April, 16 June, 18 August, 20 October
• *Third Sunday, even numbered months*

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



10 March, 12 May, 14 July, 8 September, 10 November
• *Second Sunday, odd numbered months*

Chinese Research Group • 10:00am – 2:00pm



17 March, 19 May, 21 July, 15 September, 17 November
• *Third Sunday, odd numbered months*

Our Special Interest Groups hold meetings at GSQ, 25 Stackpole Street, Wishart or online via Zoom. **Members of GSQ are welcome to attend.**



GSQ MEETINGS



Following the COVID-19 pandemic, 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.



Tuesday
11 June 2024
@ 10:00 AM
for 3 weeks



Digging Deeper into Family History

An online course from the Genealogical Society of Queensland

About the course

Progress your family history research by learning additional knowledge at the intermediate level. Presenters are experienced GSQ researchers.

All sessions to be recorded and available for four weeks.

What does it cost?

Costs: **Earlybird** \$77 GSQ members and \$87 non-members **before 29th May**. After 29th May \$87 members & \$97 non-members.

Course program

Virtual event via Zoom

- 11 June – Processes and records of the English court system. Following conviction learn about convicts' lives in records.
- 18 June – Learn about Australian colonial migration schemes and post-1924 migration along with different state immigration records and information on shipping.
- 25 June – This military family history session covers records from Australia's colonial period through to WW2.

Payment

Whole series:

Earlybird GSQ/QFHS Members \$77

Non-members \$87 **before 29th May**.

After 29th May

GSQ/QFHS members \$87

Non-members \$97

Book & pay online:

www.gsq.org.au/events/

+61 7 3349 6072
education@gsq.org.au



Genealogical Society of
Queensland Inc



www.connections2025.org.au
Brisbane | 21 - 24 March 2025



GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND Inc
Enriching family history



SAVE THE DATE

21 - 24 MARCH 2025

Brisbane's Bicentennial Year

Program Themes:

1. Diaspora – migration in all its forms
2. Looking ahead – what are the opportunities
3. Local history and its impact on our research

Venue: Brisbane Technology Park

1 Clunies Ross Court, Eight Mile Plains, Qld

For Information:

www.connections2025.org.au

This combined 17th Australasian Conference on Genealogy and Heraldry, and 5th History Queensland State Conference is an important event for family and local historians to:

- Provide access to world renowned speakers from the United States of America and the United Kingdom as well as Australasia, who will also present Masterclasses.
- Provide an inspiring platform of speakers who can inform across a wide range of topics and levels of expertise.
- Offer opportunities to participate in Masterclasses presented by the keynote speakers.
- Highlight the significant work undertaken by volunteers as they link individuals with families, ancestors, and communities.
- Provide a forum for societies to discuss the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.
- Celebrate the bicentennial of the founding of Brisbane on its current site.
- Introduce the wider community to the benefits of researching through family and local history societies.

Please consider this invitation which you or one of your favoured local speakers may like to consider. We would like this Conference to be representative of as many family and local history communities as possible.

David Barnes
Conference Convenor
convenor@connections2025.org.au

Three Keynote Speakers

Nine Masterclasses

Forty Two Specialist Speakers

Brisbane 21 to 24 March 2025

Join us for **Connections 2025 - Australasia's premier event for local and family historians, ancestry researchers and genealogists to uncover the past, celebrate the present and tap into the future.**

Full details and registration are available:
www.connections2025.org.au
 email: office@connections2025.org.au



GSQ Event Report

IRISH MINI SEMINAR WITH ULSTER HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

On 15 February 2024, GSQ conducted a mini seminar, both in-person at GSQ, with 43 attendees, and online via Zoom, with over 50 participants. The speakers were from the Ulster Historical Foundation. The UHF has been helping people to trace their Irish and Ulster ancestors for 65+ years, and is one of the most experienced, long established, and highly reputable organisations in Ireland in the field of Irish family history. Executive Director, Fintan Mullan, and Research Officer, Gillian Hunt, presented a seminar on Irish and Scots-Irish genealogy for beginners and active family historians.

Gillian began the day by discussing the value of newspapers for family history and the major drawback to their use being the paucity of online access and the lack of indexes. This has changed in recent years, with more Irish news titles coming online from as far back as 1719. She outlined the types of information useful to family historians found in newspapers, making the point that the notices may refer to people overseas who have emigrated from Ireland:

- Birth, marriage and death notices
- Missing people notices
- Business and family announcements
- Miscellaneous lists of names, including legal notices
- Records relating to immigration
- Records relating to land
- Records relating to crime and punishment.

Gillian finished her presentation by discussing where to find newspaper records.

Fintan then gave a presentation on the Ulster Plantation and sources for finding 17th century families in Ireland (not just Ulster). He started by listing a number of publications on



the subject of 17th century Irish history. He then gave an overview of the history of the 17th century, based on a summary timeline of the century. He gave examples, with illustrations, of a range of sources of information for finding historical information of use to family historians. He made the point that researchers should not ignore any source, as you never know what you may find!

Following a morning tea break, Gillian gave a presentation on using landed estate records to trace families in the 18th and 19th centuries. She started with a background to landed estates, the documents generated by their management are among the most valuable of records for the local and family historian. She gave extensive examples of the types of records available, including rent rolls, leases, and wills, and how they could be used in family history research. Gillian finished her presentation with an outline of the location of estate records, making the point that a researcher should not be put off by the current border; records for Northern Ireland may be held in the National Library of Ireland in Dublin and vice versa.

In the final presentation of the day, Fintan discussed the Registry of Deeds in Dublin, a repository of records of wills, land transactions in Ireland and other deeds from 1709. The Registry of Deeds is a rich source of genealogical information. Marriage and other settlements are particularly informative about family relationships. Fintan provided some illustrated examples of use of the records and the location of guides and indexes.

Thanks to the presenters for a detailed and interesting seminar on Irish history and sources of information for family historians, and thanks to the education committee for organising this successful event.

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



SCANDINAVIAN GROUP



The Scandinavian Special Interest Group aims to provide assistance to members researching their Swedish, Danish, Norwegian, Finnish, or Icelandic ancestors. It is believed to be the only group of its type operating in Australia.

The group is a networking group that can help members discover information about Scandinavian records. Membership is open to all financial members of the Society. No extra fees are applied, though a contribution of a gold coin from members attending the meeting is appreciated.

The Scandinavian group started in 1980, only two years after the formation of GSQ. The current convener, Steinar Johansen, has held that role since 1982. GSQ has many items useful in Scandinavian research in its library,

including detailed atlases for Scandinavian countries. The convener has assisted members with research, even travelling to Scandinavia for that purpose.

Meetings are held on the third Sunday of odd months of the year, unless otherwise advertised. The meetings start at 12.30pm and finish at 2.30pm and take the form of discussions or guest speakers about Scandinavian research, migration, or customs. Information on the topic and guest speaker can be found in the relevant eNews edition.

FamilySearch Wiki - Scandinavia

The Wiki is a free, online genealogical guide created and maintained by FamilySearch. See page 33 of this issue of *Generation* for more information about the Wiki for Scandinavia.

Cyndi's List

Cyndi's List also has a list of resources to help family historians with their research in Scandinavia and the Nordic countries. www.cyndislist.com/scandinavia/how-to/.



GSQ Special Interest Groups • e-News



The Genealogical Society of Queensland publishes a monthly electronic newsletter about Society news and upcoming events, including information on the activities of all our Special Interest Groups. The newsletter also has information about new sources, education, technology, and other news of interest to family historians.



All are welcome to download and read it. See e-News at: <https://www.gsq.org.au/what-gsq-offers/enews/>



Danish Parish Records

What's in a Name

Image: familysearch.org - Danish Parish Records

Julie Lauman

Curiosity about my Danish ancestors began when my mother was doing family research in the early 1980s. In 1983, I visited the Danish archives (Landsarkivet) at Åbenrå, the nearest town to the village of Rise in the south-eastern Jutland peninsula where my great grandparents, Christian Nissen and Anna Cathrine (nee Nissen) Laumann, lived prior to their emigration to Queensland in 1878. A very helpful lady at the archives searched in several parishes but did not find many records as the parish of origin in the earlier records was not legible. She did, however, find the name of my earliest known ancestor, a Knud Laumann of Varmark. She commented that my family had “moved around a lot” and this was “very unusual” for those times in Denmark. In the search for Knud Laumann I have spent many hours poring over Danish parish record books online.¹ This task has created many challenges, including the necessity of learning to read more than a few words in Danish.

Beginning in 1646, Danish pastors were required by law to keep Parish Registers. Most of these registers have survived from about the 1750s, although some exist from the early 1600s. Some parish books have not survived the passage of time well. In some parishes, all records prior to 1814 have been destroyed by “fires, mice, insects, etc.”² In the early years most pastors kept records in notebooks, so there were many differences in the quality of these records. Some records provided many details while others gave very little information. From 1814, when pre-printed books became available, pastors were instructed to keep two separate copies of Parish Registers and were never to keep both records in the same location overnight.

It appears that the quality of the record was often substantially due to the diligence (or otherwise) of the priest who recorded the life events of his parishioners. The priest may not have had the desire, or perhaps the time, to record many details. In earlier records, many priests used their own format and often wrote abbreviations of names and places. The handwriting also varied greatly, from almost copperplate and decorative script to an indecipherable scribble. Some priests took to their task

with much apparent enthusiasm, embellishing the records with small drawings of chalices or goblets (some apparently half-filled with wine), hourglasses, faces, rings (for betrothals and marriages), crosses, animals (for baptisms of children), and skulls with crossbones (for deaths). There was one priest, however, who took to this task with much more vigour. While writing the records of Borup parish in 1779, he decided to make them much easier for others to read by doing a drawing across the bottom of the page. His drawing, recorded for posterity, left no doubt that this page was for death and burial records. The drawing was of a skeleton holding a scythe and a shovel!

The first task in the search for Knud Laumann was to find the parish where Varmark is located. Fortunately, the GSQ library has an excellent book for Denmark of detailed maps with symbols for local landmarks, including churches.³ Varmark is in the parish of Sønder Stenderup in Vejle county, quite a distance north of Åbenrå county where Rise is located.

When I began searching for Knud Laumann, I initially assumed that this would be a simple task, as having an inherited rather than a patronymic surname from the 1700s was said to be very unusual.⁴ Inherited surnames, although legislated in 1826 when the patronymic naming system was abolished, did not come into common usage until the late 1800s. There were, however, no records found in the relevant time period for anyone with this surname.

Was the spelling of the name incorrect? Was it always spelled as Laumann? In almost every country, surnames have developed over time, often leading to astonishing variants of the original spelling. As most people in those times were illiterate, mistakes in the spelling of names may have occurred because the priest assumed a particular spelling from the spoken information given by the parishioner. The misunderstanding of different dialects or accents could also have contributed to spelling variations. Perhaps the apparent misspelling of the name could have been a result of lack of diligence or poor spelling skills of the priest. Different handwriting, particularly the Gothic or other scripts used in Danish parish records, has caused some difficulty in determining the spelling of names in records and transcripts. The

letters “a” and “o” often appear to be indistinguishable in older Danish records. Was this the case with my ancestors?

I discovered several names which sounded similar to the pronunciation of Laumann. Records of the 1600s and 1700s had the spellings of Loumann, Loumand, Laumand, Lougmand, and Laugmand. Were all these people related and, more importantly, were they related to my family? Adding even more confusion, in some parish records the surname was written with an entirely different spelling for several life events of the same parishioner.⁵

In many records the surname was not listed. Was this due to the priest being accustomed to the patronymic naming system, so he considered that using an inherited surname would make the record appear incorrect? Perhaps the parishioner assumed that the priest knew who he was so did not need to be told his full name. In census records, the surname was often not listed, as the information was given by someone, usually the head of the household, who was not necessarily well-known or related to the person whose details were recorded.

My search was now widened to include anyone whose surname was one of the spelling variants. These people were found in several parishes throughout Denmark, including Borup, Lem, Vistoft, Knebel, and Tved parishes in the county of Randers, Hårslev parish in the county of Odense, and Vonsild parish in the county of Vejle. There was a Loumand family living at Vonsild, which is less than twelve kilometres from Varmark where Knud Laumann had lived. Despite many hours of searching, no direct connection of Knud Laumann to any of these people was found. It was time for a different approach. Instead of following the family through their surname, I decided to search using the given names of family members.

Knud Laumann’s son was Jacob Knudsen Laumann who, according to his death records of 29 July 1840 was an “*Enkemand og søn af Knud Loumann i Barsmark [Varmark] Stenderup sogn*” (a widower and son of Knud Loumann of Barsmark [Varmark], Stenderup parish), and was born about 1754.⁶ He had married Anna Maria Christophersdatter on 16 February 1787 at Skærbæk parish, Tønder county in the south-western Jutland peninsula, on the opposite side of the country to where his father had lived.⁷ Jacob and Anna Maria had three sons whose given names seemed to follow a traditional naming pattern. The eldest son took the name of Knud Jacobsen after his paternal grandfather. The second

son was named Christopher Andersen Loumann after his maternal grandparents, Christopher Asmussen and Kirsten Andersdatter. The third son, my great-great-great grandfather, who was baptised as Claus Loumann on 10 November 1793 was known during his life as Claus Knudsen Laumann or Claus Jacobsen Laumann.⁸ The naming pattern commonly used at that time in Denmark suggested that the third son was named after the father’s eldest brother.

Other records for Jacob Knudsen Laumann, including census records of 1787, 1803, and 1840, were searched. The two earlier census records did not list the surname of Laumann. There may be a plausible explanation for these apparent errors. The 1787 census was taken when Jacob was a farm labourer in Døstrup parish, so it is likely that the information was given by the head of the household, the farmer for whom he was working.⁹ The 1803 census listed Jacob as a renter who was absent from the house (“*inste abwesend*”), with only his two younger sons, aged eleven and eight years, at home when the census information was recorded.¹⁰ These records also had wide variations in his age, giving a year of birth from 1754 to 1765.

I decided to search the Sønder Stenderup parish records for a person with the given name of Jacob who was born between 1754 and 1765 to a father named Knud, and who also had an older brother named Claus. As I have found that there are many inaccuracies in digitising (pages are often photographed multiple times and other pages are not photographed at all), indexing and transcription of records on the usual websites, there seemed to be no option other than to meticulously search through all parish records in the relevant time period. There was a birth record for a Jacob Knudsen with the names of the parents listed as Knud Jacobsen and Inger Knudsdatter. A death record was then found for an Inger Clausen. Although the surname was different from the birth record, the Danish parish records varied significantly in the recording of names, particularly of women who were often listed with the surname as a variant of the given name of the husband or father. The death record mentioned that Inger was from Varmark.

The first mention of Varmark in another record suggested that my search might now be on the correct path. With a stroke of luck, I found a marriage record in a neighbouring parish. This discovery led to a plethora of records as the search moved to several different parishes. It was becoming apparent that this family had “moved around a lot”. The story of the family was finally revealed.

No.	Søfag	Søn af Hans Jørgen, Lørdag 1761	Søfag, født 1761	Jacob Jørgen	(The following information is given of generally of follow: Name of marriage, emigration status, residence, year of birth date, marriage
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Knud Jacobsen of Svejlund married Inger Clausdatter of Varmark on 22 January 1761 in Sønder Bjert parish.¹¹ Svejlund is almost seventy kilometres south-west of Varmark near the town of Hellevad in Åbenrå county. Knud and Inger had two children – Claus (born 6 May 1761 and died 14 June 1761) and Jacob Knudsen (born 10 May 1763).¹² Inger Clauses (Clausdatter) of Varmark died on 8 February 1790 aged sixty-three years.¹³ Her death record noted that she was the wife of Knud Jacobsen and had one son named Jacob.

It seemed that Jacob Knudsen, who had an older brother named Claus, and his mother Inger Clauses had been found, so where was his father, Knud Jacobsen? The search proved fruitless for quite some time until the possibility of a second marriage, a common occurrence of the times, was considered. This proved to be the key to the discovery of more information. When Knud Jacobsen, a widower of Varmark (*"witwer auf Warmark"*), married Maren Jenses on 2 July 1790 the priest recorded some information about his parents.¹⁴

Knud Jacobsen of Varmark was the son of Jacob Knudsen and Karen Jesses (Jesdatter) of Hellevad. The story was now becoming much more interesting as the search had moved (again!) to the parish of Hellevad. It then moved to another parish. Jacob Knudsen married Karen Jesdatter (Jesses) on 14 May 1732 in Agerskov parish, but soon afterwards they moved to Raubjerg in Øster Løgum parish.¹⁵ They later moved back to Agerskov parish and lived in the area for about twenty years. Jacob and Karen had eight children, five sons and three daughters. Knud Jacobsen was the fifth child and third son. Sadly, only Knud and his three sisters survived to adulthood. The unfolding story revealed that Jacob Knudsen was a farm worker who was employed as a shepherd (*"hyrde"*), day labourer (*"taglöhner"*), and tenant farmer (*"håverling"*) at different times during his working life. The family lived at Raubjerg when their eldest child was born in 1732, and at Mellerup, about three kilometres south-east of the village of Agerskov, in 1742 when their son Knud was born. They had moved further south-west to Øster Terp before their youngest daughter was born in 1754. At the time of the 1769 Danish census they were living in Søderup, about fifteen kilometres to the south-east in Hjordkær parish.¹⁶

The death records of Jacob Knudsen and Karen Jesdatter revealed that their four surviving children took different paths in their lives.¹⁷ The eldest daughter Anna moved to Øster Gasse in Skærbæk parish, Tønder county where she married Mads Nielsen and lived for the remainder of her life. The second daughter Maren stayed in Raubjerg

and married Peder Andersen. The youngest daughter Mette Christine stayed in Hellevad and, after looking after her parents until their deaths, married Jørgen Nissen Koch. Their only surviving son Knud Jacobsen moved from Hellevad parish to Stenderup parish.

The family of Karen Jesdatter was traced back in time for another two generations, but the family of Jacob Knudsen remained a mystery. No information about his date or place of birth could be found. Although later Danish death records are surprisingly precise, with the age at death often given in years, months and days, the older records are not as accurate. His estimated year of birth was between 1697 (on his death record) and 1703 (on the 1769 census record). Considering a probable variation of up to five years, this became 1692 to 1708. Birth records were searched in several parishes in the areas where he had lived. Eventually a record was found for Jacob Knudsen who was born on 28 March 1706, the son of Knutz Jacobsen of Ravsted in Tønder county.¹⁸ Ravsted is about thirteen kilometres south of Agerskov where Jacob had married.

The next task was to search for information about his father, Knutz (Knud) Jacobsen. This has proven to be a challenge. It is known from parish records that Knutz lived in Ravsted from at least 1690 until 1707, as he was a sponsor on the baptisms of several children including Jacob, the son of Jens Jacobsen, in 1692. As sponsors were usually a family member or a close friend of the family, Jens and Knutz were possibly brothers. Jens Jacobsen died at Ravsted in 1740 aged seventy-four years giving a birth year of about 1666. If Knutz was his brother, he was probably born in the 1660s or 1670s.¹⁹ Unfortunately, the Ravsted parish birth records begin only in 1682 and marriage and death records in 1711. It is not known if Jens and Knutz were born in Ravsted or another parish. The last mention of Knutz Jacobsen in Ravsted was as the sponsor on a baptism record in 1707.²⁰ The confirmation records for Ravsted parish begin in 1710, but no confirmation for Jacob Knudsen has been found. It is likely that the family moved to another parish sometime after 1707. The records of several surrounding parishes have been searched for more information about the family without success.

The story of Knud Jacobsen of Varmark has now been traced back two more generations in time. However, an intriguing mystery remains. Whatever happened to the surname of *"Loumann"* (or Laumann) noted on the death record of his son Jacob Knudsen? I have continued to search for answers to this question, but so far, the possibilities are only speculation. The search continues.

No.	Dødsdag	Datum af Standsam., bedets Attest	Begravel., ses dag	Grevbog N ^o	(No headings. Information pattern is generally as follows: Name of deceased, occupation/status, residence, parents, birth date, marriage information, survivor's names, age of deceased.)
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- Danish online parish records at www.sa.dk – search for county (Amt) & parish (Sogn).
- General information about Parish Records on the Danish Archives website - www.sa.dk.
- DEN/915/001 Denmark 1:100 000 Topografisk Atlas (Unknown Author).
- Information from Robert Jensen, Danish historian, who has been a guest speaker at GSQ Scandinavian SIG meetings.
- www.sa.dk – Randers amt, Lem sogn Baptism 1756 (Hans Loumand) & 1760 (Hans Laumann).
- www.sa.dk - Tønder amt, Skærbæk sogn Kontraministerialbog 1840.
- www.sa.dk - Tønder amt, Skærbæk sogn Marriages 1787.
- www.sa.dk - Tønder amt, Skærbæk sogn Baptisms 1793.
- www.sa.dk – 1787 census Landdistriker, Ribe Kongerigske, Døstrup sogn.
- www.sa.dk – 1803 census Slesvig, Haderslev Amt III, Hviding sogn.
- www.sa.dk – Vejle amt, Sønder Bjert sogn Marriages 1761.
- www.sa.dk – Vejle amt, Sønder Stenderup sogn Enesteministerialbog 1761; www.sa.dk - Vejle amt, Sønder Stenderup sogn Enesteministerialbog Baptisms 1763.
- www.sa.dk – Vejle amt, Sønder Stenderup sogn Enesteministerialbog Deaths 1790.
- www.sa.dk – Vejle amt, Sønder Stenderup sogn Enesteministerialbog Marriages 1790.
- www.sa.dk – Haderslev amt, Agerskov sogn Hovedministerialbog Marriages 1732.
- www.sa.dk – 1769 census Landsarkivet Sønderjylland Åbenrå amt, Hjordkær sogn.
- www.sa.dk – Åbenrå amt, Hellevad sogn Deaths 1781; www.sa.dk – Åbenrå amt, Hellevad sogn Deaths 1782.20.
- www.sa.dk – Tønder amt, Ravsted sogn Hovedministerialbog Baptisms 1706.
- www.sa.dk - Tønder amt, Ravsted sogn Hovedministerialbog Death record of Jens Jacobsen (21.2.1740, 74 years).
- www.sa.dk - Tønder amt, Ravsted sogn Hovedministerialbog Baptisms February 1707.



Church of Holmen - A Parish church in central Copenhagen in Denmark



FREE Family History Webinars from Legacy Family Tree

What is the cost? There is no charge to register and view the live webinar. However, the recording is available to view for the next 7 days – for free! Watch it as many times as you would like, pausing and taking notes, during the free viewing period.

If you cannot make the live event, downloads of the recording are just \$9.95 each or yearly memberships give you access to everything.

For more information on upcoming webinars, see <https://familytreewebinars.com/upcoming-webinars/>



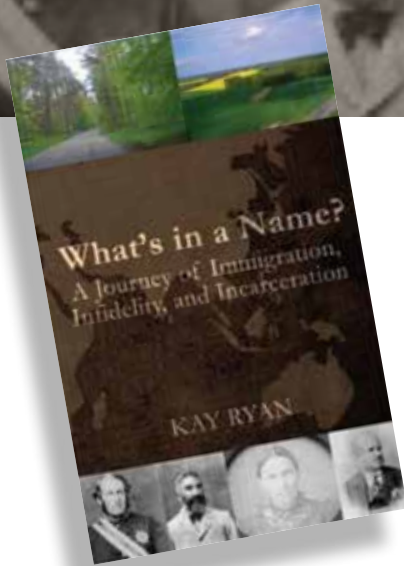
BOOK REVIEW



WHAT'S IN A NAME? A JOURNEY OF IMMIGRATION, INFIDELITY, AND INCARCERATION

BY KAY RYAN

Published by Ocean Reeve Publishing, 2022



Marg Doherty

The preface to Kay Ryan's book covers the author's reasons for writing the story of her early German family in Queensland. Kay is well placed to write this story with a legal background, skills, and experience in nineteenth and twentieth-century history, historical analysis, and family history. As the title suggests, the book covers immigration and interactions with the land, police, and prison systems in early colonial Queensland, and let us not forget affairs of the heart. Part of the discussion relates to the family historian's nightmare - name variations - which made her family history research more difficult. She had problems with the different spellings of her German names, although she highlights her schoolgirl German assisted her pronunciation of the unfamiliar name.

Chapter One covers life in the nineteenth century in what we now call Germany. Kay discusses her great, great grandparents Carl Weiss and Caroline Martin, who married and had a family in Germany before succumbing to the pull factors of immigration. Not having any German ancestors, I found this discussion informative.

The next chapter covers immigration, with Kay setting the scene for German immigration to Queensland. She briefly covers explorer Ludwig Leichhardt and the role of the Queensland immigration agents who assisted interested German immigrants to restart their lives in

Queensland. Kay's Weiss family undertook the long journey on the *Humboldt* and arrived in Townsville in the second half of 1872, with Kay discussing the various legislation that impacted their journey.

In the following chapter, Carl, Caroline, and their two living children have arrived in Queensland and live first in Bowen and later in other north Queensland towns, including Caldwell. The remainder of the book discusses the parents and the children, Herman and Emilia and their lives in Queensland.

Unfortunately for the Weiss family, the children's adult lives show disruption to the family dynamics with the book cataloguing romantic affairs, land transactions, crimes and incarceration that brings the family into contact with colonial authorities. While such situations are common, Kay's legal background and sound historical methods bring these interactions to light for the readers, giving them a good understanding of the impact of laws, customs, and community values in early Queensland.

While photos, illustrations and maps are scattered throughout the publication, the illustrations are all of similar size. However, some variety is given with a mixture of colour, sepia, and black-and-white images, although the size could have slightly varied. Unfortunately, there appear to be few photos of the book's subjects available, although I am sure that Kay would have used them if they existed. There is a lovely sepia photo of Caroline and a photo of Carl's gravestone, which personalise the book a little more. Many of the other photographs are from the John Oxley Library and illustrate the context of the family's lives in colonial Queensland. Like all good historians, Kay has carefully attributed the images, and her bibliography is thorough.

Kay included a family tree at the beginning of the book, which I used as a reference several times. I also enjoyed the double spacing throughout. Although the book is short, the publication was enjoyable and added to my knowledge of colonial Queensland and nineteenth-century Germany.

LIFE WITH CRANKY CHARLIE

Russell Fraser

Charlie Fletcher was a 'wrong un' who spent much of his life in prison. My distant cousin, Elizabeth Ann Bowie, must have seen something in him, as they married in 1872. Her early life was difficult, her mother having died when she was only nine and her father having had problems with alcohol. About 1869, she moved from her home in Molong in the central west of New South Wales to Surry Hills in Sydney to live with her married sister Mary Green.

She became acquainted with Samuel Charles Holgate Fletcher in the late 1860s. Charlie, as he was mainly known, was born in England, in the Camberwell area of Surrey, about 1832, the son of John and Sarah Fletcher. He is believed to have come to Sydney in the late 1860s.

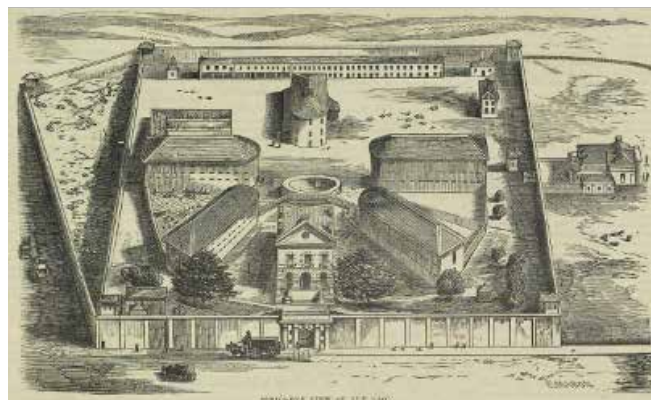
Charlie Fletcher spent much of his life in trouble with the law. Known to police as 'Cranky Charlie', he had many years as a 'guest of Her Majesty'. In between terms in prison, he seems to have had several different occupations; carpenter, engineer, stonemason, tailor. Although, given his penchant for telling less than the truth, his real occupation is obscure. What his wife Elizabeth did during the years he was 'away', can only be speculation, as records about her life are sketchy and uncertain.

Charlie seems to have embroiled her in his life of crime. In June 1869, she was called as a witness, when he was charged with *'having in his possession certain articles of jewellery supposed to be stolen'*. Elizabeth had some of the items and she claimed the articles were given to her by Charlie, whom she had known for about three months. He was found guilty and sentenced to imprisonment for one month.¹ Charlie, as Robert Smith, one of his many aliases, which included Green, Algate, and the nickname 'Cranky Charlie' was charged in 1871 with having skeleton keys in his possession; and sentenced to six months in gaol.²

Elizabeth married Charlie on 26 September 1872 in the Presbyterian Church at Elizabeth Street, Sydney, with her sister Mary Green as one of the witnesses.³ There was thirteen years difference in their ages; Charlie claimed to be 38 and Elizabeth only 25. And there was possibly some urgency in their marriage, as their daughter Annie was born in 1872.

They also had two sons. Charles Holgate Fletcher was born in 1873, when they lived at South Head Road. Charlie claimed to be an engineer.

In May 1874, Charlie was again in trouble. He was charged, with two other men, with breaking and entering a shop in George Street, Sydney.⁴ They were each sentenced to eighteen months hard labour, but Charlie appealed his conviction for the additional charge of 'attempting to steal', claiming that the evidence did not support that charge, as he was caught on the premises and had not stolen anything. Their Honours disagreed and sustained the conviction.⁵



Darlinghurst Gaol c1866

Charlie was released from Darlinghurst Gaol in May 1876.⁶ Records suggest that he was 5 feet 7 inches tall, with brown hair and hazel eyes and his occupation was a tailor. It also suggested that he may have come to the colony as a passenger aboard the *Nineveh* in about 1867. And that he was born in England about 1831/2.

Second son Harry Ernest Fletcher was born at 466 Bourke Street in 1877. Charlie's occupation this time was stonemason.

In trouble again in 1884, he was charged with, and convicted of, breaking and entering a house in Paddington, and the *Sydney Morning Herald* published a long list of his transgressions against the law:

The gaol records proved that he had served three years for burglary, a month for having stolen property in his possession, two years for breaking and entering, six months for being on premises with

FamilySearch Research Wiki – Scandinavia



The Wiki is a free, online genealogical guide created and maintained by FamilySearch containing links to genealogy databases and online resources, as well as research strategies and guidance to assist in the search for ancestors. Articles included are locality pages for countries around the world and pages to explain how to use record types, what they contain and how to find the records.

The Wiki does not contain information about specific individuals but lists genealogical resources that may feature an individual. The content of the Wiki may be searched by browsing by country or topic category.

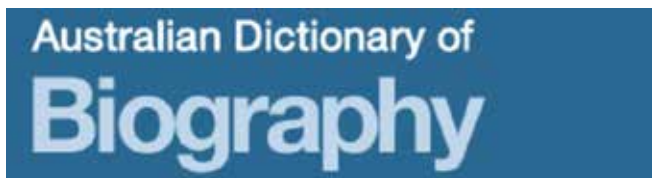
The Wiki for Scandinavia can be found at www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Scandinavia.

It contains background on the Scandinavian group of countries and those things the countries have in common that the family history researcher should know.

An extensive list of family history research topics is available, including the basics of birth, marriage, and death records, together with census and probate information. Other topics peculiar to Nordic records include common words in Nordic Parish Records, Nordic feast day calendars, and sorting out Nordic personal naming conventions.



Australian Dictionary of Biography



The *Australian Dictionary of Biography* (ADB) is Australia's pre-eminent dictionary of national biography. In it you will find concise, informative, and fascinating descriptions of the lives of over 13,000 significant and representative persons in Australian history, from prime ministers, through artists and actors, to thieves and murderers, providing a cross-section of Australian society.

The ADB is produced by the [National Centre of Biography](#) at the Australian National University. Over 4,500 authors, including academics, historian, and writers, have written entries for the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*.

The site (<https://adb.anu.edu.au/>) allows for browsing and even if your ancestor is not represented in the *Biography*, you may find some background to the society at the time in which your ancestor lived.



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/>



Tips & Tools

Tip #3 - Use Sources you Already Have

- Many families have a treasure trove of valuable information:
 - ~ Old letters and documents in a tin box in the cupboard
 - ~ Photographs or family bibles
- Talk to elderly relatives about family memories, before those memories are gone for ever
- Find out if other family members have done any research. You don't want to repeat work already done

Do your Sums

An unnamed member has reiterated the wisdom of doing your sums rather than just accepting what someone else may have thought was correct. Calculate how old your ancestors were when certain events occurred to assess whether what you have found is feasible. One tree on Ancestry has a first marriage for a young man born in 1804, his bride in 1806. They married and had their first child in 1818. Did Scotland allow 12- and 14-year-olds to marry in the early 1800s? Surely, this is something a researcher would want to check.

Another tree has a man who married a woman who was 40 years his senior and they had a child together 20 years before the man was born. It is possible for a man to marry someone 40 years his senior—I have an example of this in my family tree—but, realistically, it is impossible for them to have a child before the husband was even born. Even the odds of a woman having a child naturally when she is in her late 50s/60s are quite long, although I am sure that examples of this do exist. Yet another example is where one sibling was born in 1823 with a sister born in 1853. That is quite possible and has no doubt happened to numerous unfortunate women, but siblings born 30 years apart raises questions and would really require any researcher to re-check the sources for the dates and whether two different couples

have been confused. So, the advice here is to do your sums.

Most family history software programs have the facility to highlight potential problems such as a child's birthdate prior to that of a parent. Even if you don't use family history software, you can always create a timeline for each of your ancestors, which would encourage/require you to assess each piece of evidence carefully before incorporating it into your family tree.

GEDCOM

GEDCOM is an acronym for GENEalogical Data COMMunications. It is a data structure created in 1984 by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS) for storing and exchanging genealogical information so that many different computer programs can use it. It is identified by the file type 'ged'.

GEDCOM files are text files which contain the information necessary to exchange genealogical data between two entities using the same or different software application, e.g. between two users of the same application, between users of different applications, from an internet site to a local application, or uploading data from a genealogical program to an internet site such as FamilySearch or Ancestry.

For more information on using GEDCOM, see the FamilySearch Research Wiki at <https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/GEDCOM>.





Overcoming the Reasons for Not Writing about your Ancestors

Sharon Summer

Published in *Ancestors West* - journal of the Santa Barbara County Genealogical Society - Fall 2023. See *Reciprocal Journals in MyGSQ*.

Writing about our family history takes concentrated effort, it's easy to put off, and we find many reasons to delay. Some of the reasons that keep us from writing about our ancestors include:

- I'm not a good enough writer.
- I'm thinking about it and will get to it soon.
- I don't have enough information yet.
- I don't know how to start.
- I have so much research that I don't know where to start.
- Maybe my research will turn out to be about the wrong person.
- Nobody is interested in my family's history anyway.
- I'm too tired by the time I want to write.
- I have no time. I'm too busy.
- I wonder whether anybody will actually want to read this stuff.

Do we want to do something which is time consuming and takes considerable effort, when it is easier to watch TV, browse on the internet, or do other things? Or do we want to experience the satisfaction of completing a piece of writing? Good reasons to write include:

- Finding satisfaction in your accomplishment.
- Creative momentum which comes with having finished a piece.
- Developing your skill as a writer.
- Watching your writing get better as you go.
- Contributing so others can learn from reading your article.
- Preservation of your family's genealogy.
- Relatives learning about their own family's stories.
- Friends and others enjoying reading your writing.
- Offering your information for other researchers to use.
- Creating your legacy.
- Honouring your ancestors by telling their story.

Getting your writing started may feel a bit overwhelming, but a way to get going is to choose one ancestor or one significant event and write about that. One person or event at a time makes the task less intimidating.

One way of writing is to include how and where you found your information, and how that led to further investigation. This helps others learn how to do research. Embellish your story with social history.

A publication may not have room for all the images you may have. So, make a family copy with any relevant images, such as photos, maps, gravestones, and images for the internet that shows things mentioned in the writing. Packed into a folder, these make great gifts for the family.

Writing can be fun! Start the process right away.



The Family History Federation has launched a series of monthly podcasts, beginning in September 2021. The Really Useful Podcast brings together speakers from across the family history world including professional researchers, enthusiasts, authors, lecturers, and people involved with family history societies.

These conversations have our guests sharing their thoughts on a wide range of topics relating to family history.

For more information and links to upcoming podcasts, see <https://www.familyhistoryfederation.com/podcast>



BLOG BEAT

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

December 2023 – February 2024

4 December – Catherine Thompson (guest blogger)

My grandmother Eileen Evans and the photo in a locket

Catherine tells of finding an inherited box of photos in a wardrobe, including a photo in a locket, the beginnings of her family history research.

11 December – Geraldine Lee (guest blogger)

The Wheeler Project

We re-publish Geraldine's blog of 2016, reflecting on the Wheeler project and the work of GSQ volunteers who indexed the data compiled by Mrs. Annie Wheeler of Queensland soldiers serving in World War I.

22 January 2024 – Bobbie Edes

Remembering to Accentuate the Positive 2023 – Jill Ball's yearly challenge

Bobbie lists 20 points of achievements in 2023, in accordance with Jill Ball's yearly challenge to look back positively over the previous year.

29 January – Pauline Williams

Accentuating the positive 2023

Pauline also attempts to find positives in the previous year, this time in a difficult one.

5 February – Shauna Hicks (guest blogger)

Shauna's family history A-Z

Instead of looking back to the previous year, Shauna makes the point that January is the time for looking forward and produces an A-Z of what we might do for 2024.

12 February – Christine Leonard

Who in the family will take my family history notes?

Christine tells the story of her family's research and asks the question of what to do with your research notes. Don't leave it too long to get the family story written and decide what to do with all the papers and files.

19 February – Jill Ball (guest blogger)

An ABC Journey through books

After reading Shauna's recent post, Jill wrote another ABC, focussing on books which have supported her in her genealogical journey.

16 February – Stephanie Ryan (guest blogger)

Arrival of the Artemisia

Stephanie tells of the arrival of the Artemisia in 1848, the first immigrant vessel to arrive in Moreton Bay from England; and writes of its significance to the new colony.



GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND Inc.
Enriching family history

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,



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>

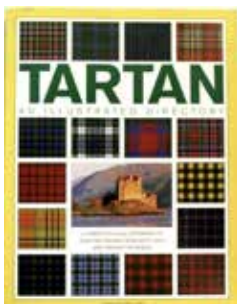


Accession Highlights



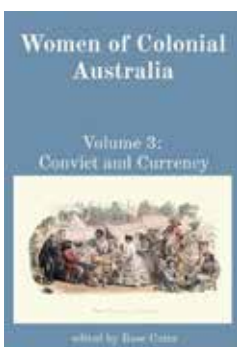
Brisbane: Water, Power, and Industry

This volume, produced by the Brisbane History Group and edited by Carolyn Fitzgerald, comprises 16 papers dealing with aspects of technology and engineering in Brisbane from the mid-19th century to the present.



Tartan: an illustrated directory

This item, by Charles Phillips, contains a complete visual reference to over 330 tartans from Scotland and around the world. It covers the tartans of the most important and historically significant Scottish families.



Women of Colonial Australia

Women of Colonial Australia, published by the Society of Australian Genealogists, and edited by Rose Cutts, is a three-volume series featuring a collection of short stories focussing on women from the nation's colonial past, with the authors each telling a tale of one of their ancestors.

TITLE	CALL No.	ITEM
Going to the gums: the Laza-ret on Peel Island	QLD/205/184	Book
Brisbane: water, power, and industry	QLD/225/000	Book
Buxton Forbes Laurie of Southcote	530/LAU/001	Book
Cameos of Crime	530/OSU/001	Book
Centenary: Bulloo Shire: Thar-gomindah, 1880-1980	QLD/205/492	Book
Convict tattoos: marked men and women of Australia	AUS/145/012	Book
Cooma country	NSW/205/630	Book
Genealogical research in Eng-land and Wales	UK/305/006.01	Book
Kyoomba Sanatorium, 1916-1935	QLD/610/001.1	Book
Life of John Costello	530/COS/001	Book
London labour and the Lon-don poor	LND/205/014.02	Book
Mary Bryant: her life and es-cape from Botany Bay	530/BRY/001	Book
North Midland country: a sur-vey	ENG/205/034	Book
Surveying success: the Hume family in colonial Qld	530/HUM/001	Book
Tartan: an illustrated directo-ry	WW/605/001	Book
The dictionary of heraldry	UK/710/003	Book
The Scottish nation: 1700-2007	SCT/105/004	Book
The story of Cornwall	CON/105/004	Book
Women of colonial Australia. Vol. 1: towards a better life	AUS/520/027.01	Book
Women of colonial Australia. Vol. 2: goodbye and God bless	AUS/520/027.02	Book
Women of colonial Australia. Vol. 3: convict and currency	AUS/520/027.03	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/

SNIPPETS – NEWS AND INFORMATION



RootsTech 2024

By the time you read this, RootsTech, the largest family history show in the world, will be over for another year. RootsTech 2024 was held 29 February - 2 March 2024 in person at the Salt Palace Convention Centre, Salt Lake City or as a virtual event online. Next year's event is already in the planning stage. For more information, see <https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/home>.

MyHeritage Wiki



MyHeritage have announced the launch of the MyHeritage Wiki: the new, community-led online encyclopedia for genealogy and DNA. The new wiki is hosted on MyHeritage, but its scope is very broad and goes far beyond the specifics of the MyHeritage service. We invite you to explore the wiki and use it to further your knowledge of genealogy and DNA. MyHeritage invites contributors to share their knowledge, expertise, and skills with anyone looking to explore their family history. For more information or to search the wiki, see <https://www.myheritage.com/wiki/>.



Your Family History

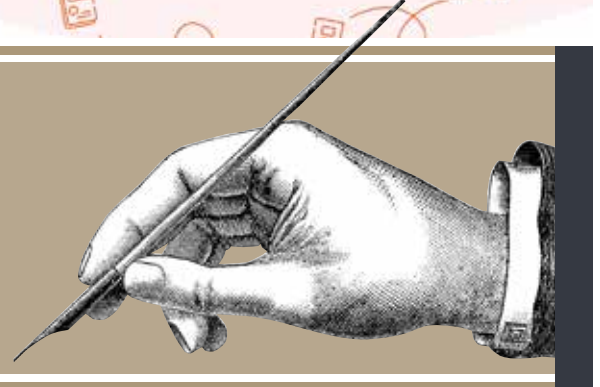
NSW Transcription Agent, Marilyn Rowan, has written a simple, step-by-step guide covering such topics as: where to start, how to find records, how to verify information, troubleshooting, support groups, and DNA. She also created a workbook that includes different documents needed to stay organised in your research. See <https://www.familyhistoryaustralia.com.au> for more information and to order.

AI Record Finder™

My Heritage have introduced AI Record Finder™, the world's first AI chat-based search engine for historical records. It is an interactive, intelligent, free-text chat to help you locate historical records about a specific ancestor or relative, using MyHeritage's vast database of nearly 20 billion records.



THE LAST WORD. [GSQ • THE EDITOR]



The beginning of a new year is usually a time to reflect on the achievements of the past year. In the February eNews, our President, Helen Veivers, discussed some of the changes happening at GSQ, including the installation of new library shelving, and a new membership system. Additional changes included a new library catalogue system, and, of course, the 'Owl', the technology which allows the conduct of hybrid meetings and education presentations, with face-to-face and Zoom sessions.

In their blog, MyHeritage took a look back at 2023, month-by-month. 2023 was a busy and productive year, marked by groundbreaking advancements, leveraging Artificial Intelligence technology for family history research in new ways; over seven million DNA kits in the database; 700 million new historical records added; and

a continued, unwavering commitment to connecting people with their heritage. No doubt, other commercial applications will also be focussed on achievements of the past year.

In the GSQ Blog, two of our members attempted the Jill Ball 'Accentuate the Positive' challenge. Bobbie Edes attempted, with some variations, the 20 points listed in the challenge, and listed her achievements for the past year. Pauline Williams discussed some of her achievements for 2023, a year which she acknowledged as a difficult one. Shauna Hicks, in her guest blog, took a different view and focussed on the coming year, with her A-Z for family history for 2024.

Which way are you looking, backwards or forwards, or both?



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.

Discover your story at ancestry.com.au

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