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We acknowledge the traditional owners of Country and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to the people, their cultures and Elders past, present and emerging.

AIMS AND OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY

To bring together those people who are interested in the study of genealogy, heraldry, family and local history, and to assist and encourage members in their studies. To encourage the preservation of historical records, to acquire and maintain a reference and research library and to collect and preserve material bearing on the families of the people of Queensland.



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COVER PHOTOGRAPH

Mary Dack (née Nissen), February 1962.

Photograph provided by David Huggonson. See story on p.44.

LITTLE KNOWN OUTBACK LIVES (PART 2)

By David Huggonson

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Continuing from last journal:

Let's return to the story of Cliff Nissen.

It is a worthwhile exercise to examine the conditions in Southern China, which pushed so many young Chinese men to migrate. By 1850 the Chinese population had increased greatly and was estimated to be 430 million, but the country had not yet adopted industrial manufacturing on a large scale and most people supported themselves by farming. But the amount of arable land did not expand enough to absorb the growing population, despite the fact that China had introduced new strains of rice in the south, and new crops from the Americas, such as peanuts, corn, tobacco, and sweet potatoes, which could be grown on land previously not thought suitable for rice or wheat. Farmers on average had only three acres of land, with many having only one acre from which to support a family.¹³

China was defeated in two Opium Wars (1839-1842) and (1856-60) which allowed the British to pay for Chinese goods with addictive opium. They also opened "treaty ports" which greatly increased trade between European powers and China. The treaty ports also made the recruitment of Chinese labour much simpler; recruitment was for plantation agriculture, construction projects and for extracting natural resources. Workers were recruited for the current and former European colonies in the Americas, Southeast Asia, and Australia. The discovery of gold in California and Australia added to the attraction for young men to migrate.

Migration was often a family decision based on how it could help the migrant's family, which remained in China. Once the migrant began receiving wages or gold from mining he was expected to send remittances home. Guangdong (Canton) was the province in SE China that supplied most of the Chinese migrants to Australia. It is hard to imagine a greater cultural shock for young Chinese farm labourers than to arrive in colonial North Queensland with its vast areas of land and limited population.

A gold rush to the Palmer River area of Cape York was initiated when **James Mulligan** found payable quantities of gold in 1873. Early in the rush, there was a steady arrival of Chinese miners from other northern goldfields and by the end of 1874, they numbered 1,500, almost 40% of the goldfield's population. Early in 1876 a regular monthly steam ship service between Hong Kong and Cooktown had been established and soon there were 18,000 Chinese on the Palmer. The Queensland Government passed the *Goldfields Amendment Act of 1877* to restrict Chinese mining and the *Chinese Immigrants Regulation Act* in August 1877 to limit migration. With the Palmer River Goldfield no longer payable by 1883, the Chinese population dropped to 1,043.¹⁴

Tommy Ning's application for registration under the *War Precautions (Aliens Registration) Regulations* in 1916 clearly stated that he arrived in Australia on 25 March 1870. Whether Tommy went to the gold rushes at Etheridge River or Gilbert River is not known, but the correspondent of the *Brisbane Courier* dated 10 May 1870 reported that Chinese were leaving the Cape River for the Gilbert. The correspondent also called for better goldfield regulations.

All that is known of Tommy Ning's life in Queensland is that he married Bessie Ah Sam in 1915 at Burketown and they had their first child, Jessie, in 1916.

Even less is known of Ah Sam's early life in Australia except that based on his death certificate he arrived in Queensland in 1879, but it is not known if he participated in any of the gold rushes. Ah Sam was aged 46 years when he married Minnie Myboogundji in Bourketown in 1890. Their first child, Emma Ah Sam, was born later that year. She died in childbirth in 1907. Minnie was to have another eight children, one of whom, **Jimmy Ah Sam**, was sent back to the family in China. He never returned to Australia. From Jimmy's Certificate Exempting From Dictation Test, we learn that he was 11 years old on 13 September

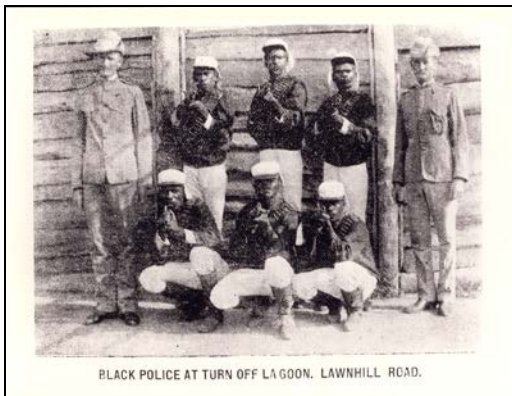
continued

1910 when the certificate for five years was granted.

Let us now examine why so many young Waanyi women from the Lawn Hill area of north Queensland married older Chinese men. Firstly, it must be explained that in traditional Aboriginal society it was normal for an inexperienced gatherer to be married to an older more experienced hunter. Younger inexperienced male hunters were married to older experienced female gatherers to ensure group survival. However, other factors were also at play from the mid 1800s.

In 1875 **Frank Hann** took up the lease to Lawn Hill Station, which was part of the traditional country of the Waanyi Language group. Frank Hann was used to using violence against Aboriginal people from an early age because his family had clashed with the traditional Aboriginal owners of the Upper Burdekin District when they took up Bluff Downs, Maryvale and Lolworth Stations. At 20 years of age, Frank Hann was managing Lolworth Station for his family and a syndicate of Melbourne Investors.

At Lawn Hill, he and his manager **Jack Watson**, along with the Queensland Mounted Native Police from Turn Off Lagoon Camp, were ruthless in their punishment of tribesmen who speared cattle. Frank Hann, himself, estimated that the Native Mounted Police killed over one hundred Aboriginal people on Lawn Hill Station alone. Hann and Watson were energetic participants in the police massacres.¹⁵



BLACK POLICE AT TURN OFF LA GOON, LAWNHILL, ROAD.

The invention of the breech loading rifle and cartridges with metal jackets had given superior firepower to the Queensland Native Mounted Police detachments and the pastoralists. The mounted troopers were largely recruited from southern tribes for use on the pastoral frontier of North-West Queensland. The troopers were also issued with bandoleers holding fifty rounds, which meant they could reload while on horseback. From 1866 the White officers of Native Mounted Police had been instructed to sanitise their reports with terms such as “dispersal” rather than report that they committed wholesale killings of the tribes people for killing cattle or murdering pastoral workers. Native Mounted Police detachments were stationed at Burketown and Turn Off Lagoon on the northern boundary of Lawn Hill Pastoral Lease.

Emily Caroline Creaghe records in her published diary that Jack Watson had forty pairs of Aboriginal ears tacked to the walls of Lawn Hill Station.¹⁶ Hann’s own diary records that he treated Aboriginal women as sexual chattels. On 11 October 1895, he records he chained up a ‘gin’ named **Dora** at Lawn Hill because she “would not do as I wished”. Hann fathered a number of half-caste children before the bank foreclosed on the property in 1896. Frank Hann was flat broke when he overlanded 67 horses to Western Australia with six Aboriginal workers, at least one of which was his son named **“Spider”**.

The death of many warriors and the desire for survival were factors in Waanyi women choosing to link up with older Chinamen to protect them from the Native Mounted Police and white pastoral workers.

Let’s return to the story of Cliff Nissen and Jessie Ning. Against his parent’s wishes Cliff married Jessie Ning in Camooweal in 1935 and they moved to Mt Isa where Cliff worked in the smelter for two years.

Cliff Nissen received a certificate of competency as an electric hoist driver while working at Mt Isa Mines in February 1937. For a man with no paper qualification this was a big achievement of which he was proud.

LITTLE KNOWN OUTBACK LIVES (PART 2) (Cont.)

In 1940, Cliff became head stockman at No.3 camp at Lake Nash and in 1940 the owners agreed to provide married quarters for him so his growing family could join him. As with most outback families, education for their children was problematic if the wife had little formal education, so in 1949 Cliff and family moved to Tennant Creek where he gained employment as a mechanic with the **Kittle Brothers**. By this time he and Jessie had five children.

However town life did not agree with Cliff so in 1951 the family set off for Anthony's Lagoon where Cliff became the boreman, engineer and grader driver. In 1959, Cliff, now aged 50 went to work for **Roy Edwards** at Newcastle Waters where he stayed for eight years.

In 1967 after breaking his hip while working for **Peter Sherwin** at Mungabroom, Cliff decided to find a less physically demanding job. He became the head of the bore gang for the Department of Transport and Works based in Elliott. With two Aboriginal offiders, **Beetaloo Bill** and **Johnny Sandy**, he was responsible for maintaining the government's bores from the Western Australian border to the Queensland border. Aboriginals had won equal employment status with white workers in 1968.

In this era, retirement was compulsory in Commonwealth Government jobs at 65 years of age, so Cliff was forced to find a private enterprise job. He found a position as boreman at Hayfield Station where he worked for three years.

In 1977 Cliff and Jessie purchased a house in Elliot with plans to retire there, but **Roy Beebe** won a contract to build a road from Tandidgee to Urchronidge so, using his grading skills, Cliff built most of it. Following this **Roy Edwards** asked Cliff to regrade all the roads on Newcastle Waters. While alone on this job the ladder on his trailer gave way and Cliff fell and broke his other hip. Somehow he still managed to disconnect his trailer and vehicle from behind the grader and started to drive back to the homestead. Purely by chance, he met the station manager, **Craig Larrimer**, on the road.

Larrimer drove him back to the homestead and called the Flying Doctor for a medical evacuation. After a long and frustrating recovery, Cliff at 71 returned to spend another eight years working as a boreman and grader driver.

In September 1989, seven weeks short of 54 years of marriage, Jessie died in Katherine. Cliff was devastated, but his five adult children and grandchildren were a great comfort to him. He passed away on 25 August 2002, which was the same date on which his elder brother Leslie was killed 86 years before.

Because Cliff and Jessie were working on outback stations when their children reached school age they were sent to board at Griffiths House, which was run by the Methodist Church in Alice Springs. Griffiths House enabled outback kids to attend Alice Springs State School. One son, **Ronald**, remained with their parents because of his health problems, but **Clifford (Jnr)**, **Mary**, **Barbara** and **Gloria** all attended Alice Springs State School until they completed year 10 and the Junior Certificate Public examination.

Clifford trained as a motor mechanic. In 1959 he was chosen as the Rotary Club's Apprentice of the Year. He was sponsored to visit all the eastern capitals where he stayed in the homes of club members. He worked as a mechanic for his entire working life.

Barbara did a hairdressing apprenticeship in Melbourne before flying to London in 1972 where she worked for four years and toured Europe. After marrying, Barbara settled in Mt Martha in Victoria.

Gloria married a Telecom Linesman and worked as a teachers' aide in the Childrens Ward of Darwin General Hospital for over twenty years.

After completing the Junior Certificate, Mary obtained a job as a typist with the English, Scottish and Australia Bank in Alice Springs. When a friend told her she was applying to train as a nurse at the Brisbane General Hospital, Mary decided to do likewise. In those days nurses were trained on-the-job

continued

with extra classes in anatomy, physiology and nursing practice. All the trainees lived in nurses' homes attached to the training hospitals, but apart from their board and keep they were only paid a small wage while training. Mary Nissen completed her four years of training on 15 February 1962.

After a break to visit family in the Northern Territory, she went to Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Adelaide to undertake a 12-month course in midwifery, which she completed on 12 May 1964.

She and her husband, **Tony Dack**, became successful business people in Katherine before retiring to Emu Park in Queensland.

A nation-wide constitutional referendum in 1967, gave the Commonwealth Government power to legislate on Aboriginal matters and to count Aboriginal people in the Commonwealth census. They were counted in the census for the first time in 1971.

On 3 June 1992, by a majority of 6 to 1, the High Court of Australia upheld the communal native title of the Murray Islanders and discarded the doctrine of terra nullius. Subsequently, the Commonwealth Government passed the Native Title Act in 1993.¹⁷

The surviving descendants of the Waanyi people submitted a land claim under the National Native Title Tribunal in 1994 as mining interests had set their sights on establishing an open-cut zinc, lead and silver mine.

The National Native Title Tribunal ruled in 1995 that it couldn't accept the claim as the issuing of 1883 and 1904 pastoral leases over the land had meant that native title had been extinguished. This ruling was challenged in the High Court and the majority of judges found that the 1904 lease had not extinguished native title. The historian **Henry Reynolds** has pointed out that native title was recognised by the British Colonial Secretary, **Earl Grey**, in 1850, when he insisted that pastoral leases should include a clause preserving the rights of Aborigines to remain on and take their living from the land.

In fact native title has co-existed with pastoral leases since that time, and Aborigines have rights of hunting and gathering. All Queensland pastoral leases since 1859 contained this clause but it was widely disregarded and not enforced by squatter dominated colonial parliament. The Waanyi people were granted their native title claim over 1.73 million hectares of north Queensland in December 2010.

This family history attempts to put a human face on race relations and day-to-day life in northern Australia over the past 170 years.



Clifford & Jessie Nissen, taken before Jessie's death on 25 September 1989

Endnotes:

¹³ Qing China's Internal Crisis: Land Shortage, Famine Rural Poverty, *Asia for Educators*, Columbia University website.

¹⁴ Noreen Kirkman, Chinese Miners on the Palmer, a paper presented to the Royal Queensland Historical Society on 28 August 1986, and Kathryn Cronin, The Chinese Community in Queensland 1874-1900, *Queensland Heritage*, 1973.

¹⁵ Tony Roberts, *Frontier Justice: a history of the gulf country to 1900*, University of Queensland Press, 2005.

¹⁶ Emily Caroline Creaghe: the diary edited by Peter Monteath, *Corkwood Press, North Adelaide*, 2004.

¹⁷ Lorna Lippmann, *Generations of Resistance: Mabo and Justice*, Longman, 1994.

(photographs provided by the author) ■

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

One of our primary concerns as a Society is to provide quality resources to our members. In March, 19 interested members met to discuss the nature and content of potential new digitisation projects for the Society.

The aim of indexing is to make resources available to members and digitising allows us to limit costs of off-site storage (currently approximately \$4000 per year) so funds can be spent on member benefits elsewhere.

The purpose of the gathering in March was to start the process for:

- identifying the types of projects we could establish – digitising to searchable PDFs as well as indexing to add to our existing datasets,
- prioritising projects by identifying those that would provide the most benefit to members,
- identifying the resources needed – equipment, volunteers and management plans.

Both the School Pupils indexing team and the Book Names indexing team are steadily adding thousands (and thousands) of records to their respective Indexes for digital access by all members. However, we have several other potentially rich sources of information ready and waiting for teams of volunteers to translate their treasures to new digital datasets, such as Queensland Electoral Rolls for the 1970s, 80s and 90s, and Queensland Government Gazettes, and make them accessible by all members.

We have a well-resourced Family Research Centre in Chermside with some 10,000 reference books, another 800 books available for loan, a large collection of CDs available on the Research Centre computers, a significant collection of journals from family history societies around the globe, maps, and hundreds of microfiche storing information not available on the large subscription websites. And while we love our books and other print resources, we are well aware that many members have restricted or no access to our physical premises. The Book Names

Index allows members to search many titles in the Queensland section of the reference books for their family names and use our [Look-up Service](#). This existing and under-utilised service provides for a search in a resource held by the Society but not available online. Our members may make as many Look-up requests as they like but must wait for the reply to their current request before submitting another one.

To access the Look-up Service:

<https://www.qfhs.org.au/about-us/research-service/look-up-service/>.

I encourage all to make more use of this valuable benefit of membership. If you would like to contribute to the creation of additional resources for all members – as little as one hour a week/month would make a difference – please Express Interest via our Volunteer webpage: <https://www.qfhs.org.au/join-us/volunteers/>.

My aim is to identify two or three smaller transcription projects that can be developed and component parts made available on the website to allow members (or others) to volunteer/select and start immediately.

The first four months of the year have passed quickly for the Society, secure in the knowledge we would soon receive a lease from Brisbane City Council and could plan to complete a number of facility-related projects.

The addition of air conditioning, exterior signage, replacement kitchen cabinetry, and new doors for the front entrance to improve ventilation, light and security are planned over the remainder of the year.

The other major project underway is the upgrade to our website. This is a significant undertaking for the Society and not without its challenges.

There's plenty happening!

Best wishes to all,

Allana O'Kane
president@qfhs.org.au ■

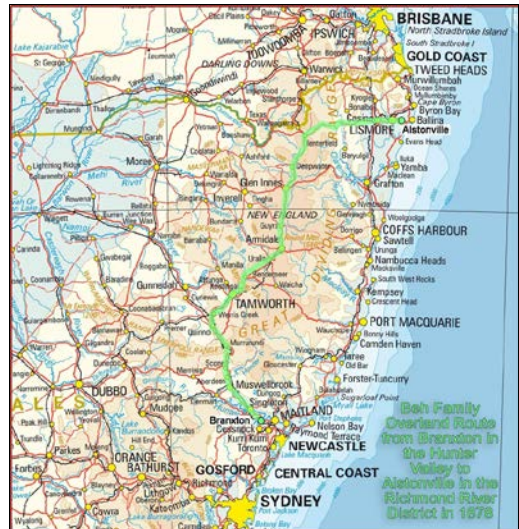


OVERLAND FROM THE HUNTER VALLEY TO THE RICHMOND RIVER IN 1878

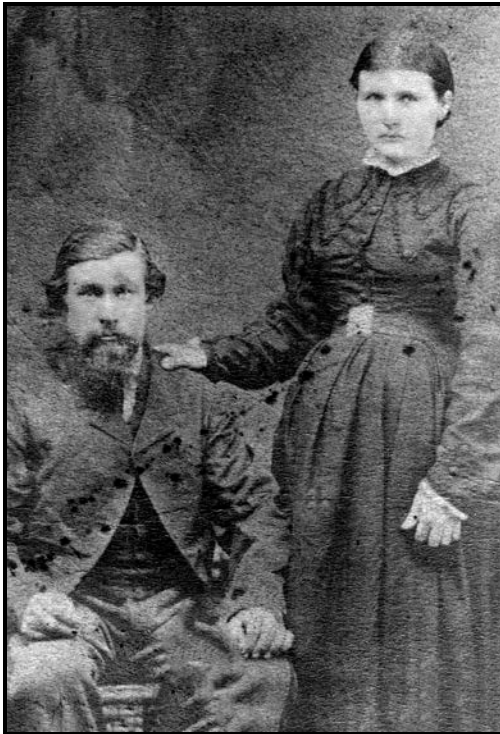
By Michael B Jones

e: mbjones@outlook.com.au

My great grandfather **Charlie (David Charles) Beh** was born at the Dalwood Vineyard near Branxton in the Hunter Valley in 1872¹. While only 6 years old, his parents **Frederick (Johann Friedrich) Beh** and **Isabella (Ann Isabella) Camash**^{1,2} and his five siblings relocated to the Alstonville area in the Richmond River District just West of Ballina. They travelled overland on this journey of about 700 kilometres in late 1878^{3,4}. A map showing the route that the family took is shown below. It is believed that they were accompanied by **Frank (Francis) Schieb**⁴, his wife **Harriet Picksley**⁵ and their children. Trying to piece together the facts about their journey and why they relocated was a challenge. This was especially so because of the conflicting information in the obituaries of Frederick Beh and his older children.



Beh Family Route from Branxton to Alstonville, Australia 1:5 Million General Reference map, 2007 (cropped & modified) by Geoscience Australia, Canberra is licensed under [CC BY 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/)



*Frederick Beh and Isabella Camash
(year unknown)*

Photo courtesy of Richmond Rivers Historical Society (Lismore)

Why they Relocated

According to Frederick Beh's obituary³ in the *Northern Star* of 15 Mar 1930, their move was due to the sale of the property "Marshwood" where he worked. It was owned by **Herbert St. George Wilkinson** and the property was sold at auction on 12 April 1878^{6,7}. It was not disclosed that Frederick was found to be insolvent by an Insolvency Court in Maitland on 24 June 1878⁸. He subsequently attended a single meeting of his creditors on 2 August 1878⁹ to confirm the cause of his insolvency and the correctness of his insolvency schedule. His insolvency would seem to be the most logical reason why the Beh family relocated such a long distance away. Presumably this was for a "fresh start".

Their Journey

Regarding the journey of the Beh family from Branxton to Alstonville, there are quite a few accounts in the obituaries of Frederick³ and his children^{4,10,11}. However, there are inconsistencies and factual errors in their stories. This could be attributed to the young

OVERLAND FROM THE HUNTER VALLEY (Cont.)

	Name	Birth Date	Birth Place	Death Date	Death Place
1	Rose (Eliza Rose)	27 Sep 1866 ¹²	Branxton, NSW	21 Nov 1943 ¹⁶	Uralba, NSW
2	Kate (Isabella Catherine)	19 Sep 1868 ¹³	Branxton, NSW	30 Sep 1955 ¹⁷	Casino, NSW
3	Fred (John Frederick)	7 Oct 1870 ¹⁴	Branxton, NSW	29 Jul 1951 ¹⁸	Lismore, NSW
4	Charlie (David Charles)	29 Jul 1872 ¹	Branxton, NSW	14 Sep 1956 ¹⁹	Cairns, QLD
5	Jim (Thomas James)	14 Sep 1876 ¹⁵	Maitland, NSW	25 Dec 1957 ²⁰	Cairns, QLD

Beh Children born in Hunter Valley who relocated with their parents

age of the children (2-12 years old) at the time or because their obituaries were most likely written by Frederick and Isabella's grandchildren.

Obituaries

Frederick's obituary only states that they landed in the Richmond River district in December 1878³. There are no further details about the journey.

There were three accounts of the journey in the obituaries of the three eldest children Rose¹⁰, Kate¹¹ and Fred⁴. However, the authors of the obituaries of the two youngest children to make the journey, Charlie²¹ and Jim²², believed they were born in the Richmond River district and not in the Hunter Valley. They would have only been six years and two years old respectively at the time they moved, so may have had scant memory of the trip.

Note that information in the excerpts from the obituaries below which has been confirmed to be erroneous has been corrected and highlighted using tracking changes.

1) Excerpt from Obituary - Eliza Rose SIMPSON (née BEH)¹⁰

Mrs. Simpson was the eldest daughter of the late Mr John Frederick Beh, of Uralba. Born at Fernhill, in the Hunter River district, in 1866, she travelled with her family by horse team and wagon, arriving in Lismore in [1877] 1878. On the journey the family camped at various places to give the horses a rest. They passed Thunderbolt's Lookout and Rock, after camping nearby for the night. When nearing the Clarence they were

caught in a thunderstorm with heavy rain and hail. Mrs. Simpson and her sister Kate, who were then only small children, were accompanying the team on horseback and their hands were severely cut by hail. They galloped to the wagon, where they took shelter underneath until the storm had passed. Some of the horses broke away and it was some days before they were re-assembled and the journey resumed.

They eventually arrived at Lismore and camped. Here, decorated with flags, was the steamer Richmond, ~~[on her maiden voyage to Lismore]~~. After the river had been crossed at Lismore, the family proceeded to Alstonville, formerly known as Duck Creek Mountain. From Alstonville they went to Jesswoolgan, where the team became bogged in the creek, and remained there until Mr. [William] James Moore came to their aid. The party camped at the creek at Jesswoolgan for some time.

2) Excerpt from Obituary - Isabella Catherine SAUL (née BEH)¹¹

Mrs. Saul was born in Branxton, Hunter River district, in [1858] 1868 and came to the Richmond with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Beh.

Travel in those days was difficult and the party made the slow journey by horse and buggy. Mrs. Saul and her late sister, Rose (Mrs. Simpson) travelled on horseback.

3) Excerpt from Obituary - John Frederick BEH (Junior)⁴

Born at Branxton, on the Hunter River, he was a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Beh,

continued

and [74] 73 years ago the family decided to make their home on the Richmond River. They set out from Branxton in a horse drawn dray, with the family of the late Frank Scheib, and the overland trip to Alstonville took months. Mr. Beh often recounted that they arrived at Tamworth on the day that the first train was driven into Tamworth and shared in the barbeque that was being held to celebrate the occasion. Arriving at Lismore they had to camp on the river bank for several days before being able to cross with their wagons by ferry to get to Alstonville.

Excerpt from *The Old Dray*²³ by F.L. Richards (née Simpson)

The dray that was used during the journey from Branxton to Alstonville by the Beh family was donated to the Richmond River Historical Society and is on display in Lumley Park in Alstonville. A note about the old dray was given to the Society by Frances Lily Richards (née Simpson), the granddaughter of Frederick Beh and Isabella Camash. An excerpt from that note is included below.

I am enclosing some information about the old horse-drawn dray (belonging to my grandparents Mr & Mrs John Frederick Beh), which has been donated to the Lismore Historical Society.

This dray was used by my grandparents when they worked on the vinyard of George & John Wyndham near Dalwood, on the Hunter.

Grandfather & Granny Beh (née Isabella Camash) set out for the Richmond in [1877] 1878, the journey taking three months. The two eldest members of the family, Rose (who later became Mrs Pearson Hudson Simpson), & Catherine, rode their ponies, while Frederick, Charles & James travelled in the dray with their parents.

As they came through the various small villages they would stay for a few days to rest their horses & grandfather would do work wherever he could get it, so as to get a few shillings to buy food. They carried a tarpaulin with them & spread it out over the dray & attached it to some of the trees

standing nearby. This was where they all camped, on the ground, under the tarpaulin. Tamworth, Armidale and Tenterfield were only small villages at that time.

On arriving at Lismore, they crossed the river on a raft, upstream from where the present bridge now stands. There were two large posts on either side of the stream to which were attached wire ropes, & these were worked by winches to pull the raft across.

After passing through what is now known as "Alstonville", but was then called "Duck Creek Mountain", they came to [~~the Jesswoolgen Creek~~] Duck Creek at "Jesswoolgen" where the dray became bogged. They had to camp there for the night.

Mr [~~William~~] James Moore, who had a sugar mill on the hill, some distance away, came to their assistance & pulled the dray out with a few extra horses which he brought. He then employed grandfather.



Dray used by the BEH family to travel from Branxton to Alstonville

Details of Journey

Piecing together information from newspaper articles the following seems to most likely fit with the details of their journey:

- Departed on their journey circa August/September/October 1878 and arrived in Alstonville in December 1878.
- They most likely travelled from Branxton via Muswellbrook, Tamworth, Armidale, Glen Innes, Tenterfield, Casino and Lismore to Alstonville.
- They used a horse team, dray, horseback and walking as their modes of transport.
- Their dray is on display in Lumley Park in Alstonville and is shown above.

OVERLAND FROM THE HUNTER VALLEY (Cont.)

- They arrived in Tamworth on the day that the first train arrived there on 15 October 1878²⁴ and shared in the barbeque that was being held to celebrate the occasion.
- They passed by Thunderbolt's Rock/Cave near Armidale after camping nearby for the night.
- When nearing the Clarence River (at Tabulam?) they were caught in a thunderstorm with heavy rain and hail. Eliza Rose and her sister Kate, who were then only small children, were accompanying the team on horseback and their hands were severely cut by hail. They galloped to the wagon, where they took shelter underneath until the storm had passed. Some of the horses broke away and it was some days before they were reassembled and the journey resumed.
- It was recounted that they arrived at Lismore and camped there when the steamer *Richmond* decorated with flags was there on her maiden voyage to Lismore. From newspaper accounts in the *Northern Star* the steamer *Richmond* first arrived in Lismore on 22 October 1878²⁵. Since they were in Tamworth on 15 October 1878, they couldn't possibly have made it to Lismore one week later. This is surely an embellishment of the actual story and according to Frederick's obituary they arrived in December 1878³.
- After Wilson's River had been crossed at Lismore, the family proceeded to Alstonville, then known as Duck Creek Mountain. From Alstonville they went to "Jesswoolgan", where the team became bogged in the creek, and remained there until Mr. James Moore came to their aid.
- The party camped at the creek at "Jesswoolgan" just South of Alstonville for some time and then settled in the area. The property "Jesswoolgan" is currently known as "Summerland Farm" and is a local tourist attraction.

Conclusion

The learning from this investigation into my ancestors' journey is that you should never

assume that information in newspaper articles and especially in obituaries is 100% correct. You need to at least attempt to independently verify every fact. However, sometimes you will not be able to corroborate everything and you may have to come up with a most likely scenario. This was the outcome in this case.

Sources:

¹ NSW Birth Certificate | David C Beh | 12415/1872 Maitland.

² NSW Marriage Certificate | Beh - Camash | 2392/1866 Maitland.

³ Obituary | Frederick Beh | Northern Star | 15 Mar 1930,
<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/94126242>

⁴ Obituary | John Frederick Beh | Northern Star | 30 Jul 1951,
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⁶ Property Auction Advertisement | Maitland Mercury | 26 Mar 1878,
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⁷ Livestock Auction Advertisement | Maitland Mercury | 18 Apr 1878,
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¹² NSW Birth Certificate | Eliza Beh | 10571/1866 Maitland.

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continued

¹⁵ NSW Birth Certificate | Thomas James Beh | 14351/1876 Maitland.

¹⁶ NSW Death Certificate | Eliza Rose Simpson | 25568/1943 Ballina.

¹⁷ NSW Death Certificate | Isabella Catherine Saul | 31828/1955 Casino.

¹⁸ NSW Death Certificate | John Frederick Beh | 24456/1951 Lismore.

¹⁹ QLD Death Certificate | David Charles Beh | 1956/C/3138.

²⁰ QLD Death Certificate | James Thomas Beh | 1957/C/4712.

²¹ Obituary | David Charles Beh | Northern Star | 4 Oct 1956.

²² Obituary | Thomas James Beh | Northern Star | 14 Jan 1957.

²³ "The Old Dray" by F. L. Richards | Note for Richmond River Historical Society (Lismore).

²⁴ First Train & Official Opening to Tamworth on 15 Oct 1878 | Newcastle Morning Herald & Miners Advocate | 17 Oct 1878,

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/136043985?searchTerm=tamworth%20first%20train>.

²⁵ SS Richmond maiden voyage to Lismore on 22 Oct 1878 | Northern Star | 26 Oct 1878, <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/71730653/5652818>.

(photographs and illustration provided by the author) ■



VicGUM is a not for profit organisation which provides technical support to its members with their use of family history software.

VicGUM members receive a monthly newsletter, connection to Gumnet (which is a members' only web-based chat site), and ongoing technical support.

Our regular user group meetings for FTM and Reunion are held using Zoom. This allows any interested member to log in. Monthly events are also shared with members using Zoom. They will be recorded and will be viewable by members through the members' section of the website.

For details of member benefits visit the website www.vicgum.asn.au and join on line.

email: info@vicgum.asn.au



21-24 March 2025
BRISBANE

We are excited to announce that planning for the Australasian Conference 2025 is underway. This will be held over three days, **21-24 March 2025** at Brisbane Technology Park, 1 Clunies Ross Crt, Eight Mile Plains, Q.

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 USA and the UK 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.
- Celebrate the bicentennial of the founding of Brisbane on its current site.

The Conference website is fully operational at www.connections2025.org.au for further information. ■

HANNAH ELIZABETH GLOVER

By Sue Reid

e: reid_sm@outlook.com

Hannah Elizabeth Glover, my mother's great-aunt, was known by her second name, Elizabeth, and was a powerhouse of energy and stamina. She was never married.

Born in 1854 in Newark on Trent, Nottinghamshire, Elizabeth was the youngest of twelve children. Her parents, **George Richard Warren Glover** and his wife **Margaret**, died before Elizabeth's eleventh birthday. Her brother **William** left Newark on Trent when Elizabeth was three, bound for the gold rush in central Victoria.

Elizabeth was initially a teacher. When she was twenty-six, she was teaching at the school of her sister, **Minnie Jane Glover**, located in Rodwell, Yorkshire. However, Minnie Jane decided to join her brother in the colonies. In her late forties, she left Yorkshire for Victoria in 1887. Elizabeth was then free to follow her vocation as a nurse. She undertook twelve months of training at the Royal Hampshire Hospital and three months of midwifery training at Queen Charlotte Hospital in London.

Meanwhile, Minnie Jane settled in Ballarat. Her brother William Glover was still prospecting and was an innkeeper at Sulky Gully, a small hamlet out of Ballarat.

Soon after Minnie Jane arrived in the colony, William moved his family to Drummond Street, Ballarat. Minnie Jane lived about a mile away in Dana Street. Minnie Jane remained single; William had married in 1866 and had seven healthy children. William's fifth child, my grandfather, **William Powning Glover**, was in his early teens when the family settled in Ballarat. He would have been well acquainted with Minnie and heard all the family stories.

Elizabeth Glover also emigrated to Victoria in 1889 once her professional nursing training was complete, basing herself in Melbourne, a train journey from her brother and sister. She worked from a Trained Nurses Home in Melbourne. At this time, hospitals were for the poor. Those who could afford the cost, hired private nurses to come to their homes to tend to the sick or assist in childbirth.

Elizabeth was later sub-matron at the Alfred Hospital for two years before establishing two private hospitals in East Melbourne. The second, St Ives, was a leading hospital attracting eminent medical practitioners and well-to-do patients.

During her time at St Ives, Elizabeth was appointed as the inaugural Lady Superintendent of the Australian Army Nursing Service (AANS), Victorian Division. AANS was a voluntary organisation from which trained and efficient nurses could be drawn in times of national emergency.

In 1899, Elizabeth's nephew, William Powning Glover, a devout Anglican, left Ballarat to study at the new St John's Church of England Theological College in Armidale, NSW. After gaining his Licentiate of Theology, the Rev. William P. Glover returned to Ballarat briefly before taking up a post on Thursday Island.

The Reverend Glover returned to Armidale in 1904 and was appointed to the Brisbane Diocese, serving in Dalby, Warwick, and Toowoomba. He married in 1904 and took his new wife, **Mary**, to Ballarat to meet the family.

Elizabeth Glover sold St Ives Hospital in 1908, resigned from her role in the AANS in 1913, and then owned and managed a guest house in Marysville, Victoria.

More involvement in nursing followed. She moved to Ballarat in 1917, where her sister, brother, and his family lived.

Elizabeth, now 63, took over the licence of Craig's Hotel in Ballarat. Elizabeth's lifelong friend and business partner, **Margaret Vincent Thomas**, married **Thomas Blight Glover**, brother of the Reverend William P. Glover and Elizabeth's nephew. More work in the hospitality industry followed before Elizabeth retired to Gardenvale in Melbourne at age 77.

Involvement in the nursing profession and hospitality were not all that filled Elizabeth's busy life. She was always actively involved in the Victorian Trained Nurses Association and

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the Victorian Trained Nurses Club. She was a passionate advocate for nursing to be regarded as a profession, not as a trade, and was a campaigner for the appropriate care of nurses once they returned from World War I.

Having grown up in an Anglican family, Elizabeth Glover became a devout Catholic late in life and was enrolled in the Brown Scapula of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. She said the Rosary every night with her niece by marriage, Mrs Margaret Glover. Elizabeth died in the Roman Catholic faith and is buried in the Roman Catholic portion of St Kilda Cemetery.

My mother, **Monica**, and her sister, **Margaret** (also a Miss Glover), never spoke of Hannah Elizabeth Glover. My mother spent a year in Melbourne at Invergowrie Homecraft Hostel in 1933, near where Elizabeth Glover was living in Gardenvale. My Aunt Margaret was a strong, clever, independent woman, not unlike her great-aunt. Margaret Glover was the headmistress of a girls' school, and her former students remember her warmly. Margaret spoke vaguely of her Glover great-aunts but seemed to have no distinct recollection of Sister Elizabeth Glover. Margaret overlooked the

opportunity to highlight Elizabeth as a role model to the girls in her schools.



Miss H. Elizabeth Glover, First Joint Hon. Secretary 1901; Member of Council 1901-1936.

(*photograph provided by the author*) ■

VALE ELIZABETH ROSE "BETTY" CLARK - 1939 - 26.1.2024



It is with great sadness that we inform you that Betty Clark passed away on Friday 26 January 2024 at her Arcare Taigum Aged Care Home. Betty was one of those quiet achievers for QFHS according to her devoted husband Stan. She and Stan walked all around Nundah and Redcliffe Cemeteries recording inscriptions on headstones in the early years of their membership. Stan remembers Betty and Trish Willmott washing and cleaning all the plastic chairs used for meetings, and Betty and Dorothy Jeffrey cleaning all the walls ready to move in, during our move from Albion to Gaythorne in February 2005. Betty was always on hand to help in the kitchen or sell raffle tickets at open days.

Betty's funeral was attended by several QFHS members, and we are most grateful for their support of Stan at this difficult time. Betty will be greatly missed by her family.

(*photograph provided by daughter Rhonda Comino*) ■

IF I COULD MEET ONE ANCESTOR...I WOULD ASK 'WHO REALLY OWNED THAT CLOCK?'

By Jan Swift

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We all do it... we listen to stories told by our parents and grandparents... soaking them all up... it's only later in life when attempting to write up the family history that we look more closely at these tales only to find that things don't quite fit as they should. This is one such story.



"That clock" is a Gustav Becker mantle clock, gifted by "Granny Chant" (**Maria Chant née Snell**) to my mother on her 21st birthday on 22 March 1940. "Granny Chant" was my mother's great-grandmother. I had been told that story many times over and never questioned my mother further about her 21st birthday celebrations and the whole clock episode, as I knew there hadn't been much by way of celebrations due to her much-younger brother giving her the mumps for her birthday. That had always been a bit of a sore point with her.

Gustav Eduard Becker was a well-known clock maker in the mid to late 19th century who was known for his better-quality clocks. Born in 1819, he trained in Germany and Austria and in 1850 opened his own workshops. He initially struggled to attract skilled workers but after winning the gold medal at the Silesian Clock Fair in 1852, he gained the recognition needed to attract skilled craftsmen. He blended the medals' crown and anchor design with his initials and this became his trademark. The design underwent slight changes over the years and this enables the clock to be accurately dated as being made between 1894 and 1903.

Wait a minute... 1894-1903? I had been under the impression that this clock was one of the furniture pieces the family had brought to Australia when "Granny Chant" sailed with most of her children to Melbourne in 1884. Her husband **Edward Chant** was being put through the legal wringers as his building business underwent bankruptcy proceedings and creditors had been knocking at the door. Knowing this, it hardly seems likely that the family left England with anything more than the necessities let alone household furniture, but older-generation family members can attest this was the case. Edward and his 18-year-old son, also **Edward**, did not sail with Granny, which makes the whole departure even more curious and intriguing. But that wasn't the only part of the story that didn't add up. In 1907 as Edward's health started to fail, he and Maria moved to Sydney. Only their youngest daughter was still living in Melbourne, but with babies and toddlers to care for, it made more sense to head to the homes of their eldest daughters whose children were much older. The warmer climate was an added bonus. So, they divided their time between daughters **Rhoda Jane** and **Eliza**. After Edward's death in late December 1909, Maria remained at Rhoda Jane's home until her death in 1926. My mother has clear memories of "Granny Chant" sitting in her room at the front of the house, with a doily on her head watching the comings and goings on the street outside. But my mother was only seven when "Granny Chant" died - a long way off from her 21st birthday.

So, back to the clock – which evidently didn't come out on the ship with them from England. It must have been purchased either new in Melbourne, or in Sydney as older stock or even bought second-hand. But who was it bought for originally, seeing as "Granny Chant" had not been alive at the time of my mother's 21st birthday?

In looking at all the celebratory dates of the family, the likely scenario is that "Granny Chant" purchased the clock in 1909 for her

continued

grand-daughter's 21st birthday. This would be my mother's mother, **Rhoda Lillian**. It was then passed down from Rhoda Lillian to her daughter, **Rhoda Jean** – my mother – on her 21st birthday. So, in essence, the clock did come from “Granny Chant” and my

mother did get it for her 21st birthday, she just neglected to tell me about the other owner in between. I'll put it down to mumps-induced memory fatigue, but it would be great to know for sure.

(photograph provided by the author) ■

VALE DOROTHY SIMSON, 15.6.1935 – 26.3.2024



QFHS Life member #50 Dorothy Simson passed away recently after a long battle with illness. Dorothy was well known to some of our older members.

Dorothy was Secretary of QFHS for many years, taking over from Ann Swain in 1984. She researched her family in Ireland and England, focusing on why these families made the long journey to Australia. She uncovered many interesting stories including that one of her ancestors was the first recorded birth in north Queensland and a connection to Kate Kelly (Ned's sister) who was a nanny for the family.

Dorothy was joint winner of the 1997 Family History Book Award for a story that she wrote, *Caroline's Story - The Story of the Miskin Family of Kent - in Queensland*. It is noted that the family arrived in the Victorian Goldfields in 1853 and then Brisbane in the early 1860s. Miskin Street, Toowong is named after W.H. Miskin, Chairman of the Toowong Divisional Board. The family spread to Cardwell, Charters Towers and other North Queensland towns. The work reads like a detective novel. Dorothy has been able to frame the total story within that of one major character – Caroline Miskin. In doing this the family story remains central but the history is lifted beyond the family limits and becomes a valuable social and local history of Queensland. It has impeccable referencing and good research, shelved at H6/MIS/1. We also have three other books written by Dorothy in our library.

She also wrote several articles for our journal and gave talks to various groups and societies during her time. She was also a regular contributor to indexing cemeteries at cemetery picnics in 1980/81, as well as typing indexes and cards for the Directory of Family Names.

Dorothy lost her husband Robin in 2018. She is survived by her four children, three grandchildren and two great grandchildren. ■

JOURNAL ARTICLE OF THE YEAR: MEMBER'S CHOICE AWARD 2024

This year, you have four opportunities to tell us about the articles in the journal that captured your interest. After each issue, members will be invited to respond to the articles in that issue. You may participate once, twice, or all four times during the year. The article selected most often by our journal readers, will - with the author's consent - be featured on the QFHS website and on QFHS social media. The lucky draw will be conducted at the Volunteers Thank You Morning Tea on Monday 9 December 2024. The winners will be published in the February 2025 issue of the *Queensland Family Historian* and notified by email. ■

VALE RICHARD BARRY COSGROVE, 26.7.1943 – 17.2.2024



I'm very pleased to be given the opportunity to reflect on Richard's contributions to the Queensland Family History Society.

Richard and Lyndal have been members of the Society for 10 years and during that time, Richard brought his personal experience, expertise, and interesting stories to many aspects of the Society's functioning.

His deep knowledge of Australian military history resulted in publications in the Society's quarterly journal – distributed to a wide readership of at least 800 members plus many family history societies around Australia and overseas – of well-researched and interesting articles on various military campaigns.

One of his articles, entitled 'Beersheba – the last great cavalry charge' was published in 2017 to commemorate the Battle of Beersheba in the Middle East campaign in 1917, and another, entitled 'The Nek, Gallipoli' (The Nek being an area not far from the beach at Anzac Cove) was written by Richard in 2015 to commemorate the 100 year anniversary of that disastrous battle in 1915.

He not only authored articles but also gave presentations to our members – the most recent, just last year, on that master military strategist, Sir John Monash. Richard admired Monash greatly and by the end of his presentation to us, we all had a greater understanding of this significant figure in Australia's history.

Richard exuded a quiet authority (one doesn't get to the rank of an officer in the Australian Army without it) and for the last few years he has assisted us with our Annual General Meetings, taking the chair as the outgoing Management Committee vacated their positions and steering the process of declaring a new Management Committee. Left to our own devices, some of us would be reaching for the rule book but, with Richard in control, we all knew things would be done properly.

At Society functions and events, Richard was always in attendance, with raised camera, taking photos so a visual record was made for posterity. His photography has also graced the cover of our journal.

The Queensland Family History Society caters to a wide range of member interests – we, or our ancestors, have come to Queensland from far and wide - and the Society has a number of special interest groups for members researching their Irish ancestors, their Scottish ancestors, their ancestors from Central Europe and the like. One quite niche group is interested in discovering the lives that our ancestors' may have lived in Colonial India and Richard was a recent contributor to this group - sharing the knowledge gained as an Observer with the UN peacekeeping force in Kashmir.

But it is perhaps in his final 15 months with us that his contribution is the most highly visible, for all to see and appreciate. For many years, the Society had been searching for new premises and Richard, with his background in developing a community sporting facility, was often in the group inspecting possible new premises. His perspective was much appreciated. Finally, after many years and many inspections, we

continued

were offered a Brisbane City Council community premises in Chermside. Richard became integral to the renovation and improvement of that facility.

A core team of eight or so (often supplemented by others) worked tirelessly to prepare an empty and shabby shell for the arrival of books, furniture, computers, etc. Lyndal was part of that team.

On Tuesdays, when Lyndal was required at her place of employment, she would give 'orders' that *Richard was not to work on the trestles*. The rest of the crew would wave as Lyndal left - only to turn around to see Richard half-way up the trestle!

Richard always found a way to contribute, even despite 'special orders'.

In so many ways, large and small, Richard has contributed to the life and fabric of the Queensland Family History Society.

He is survived by his wife, three children and five grandchildren.

Allana O'Kane, President

(photograph provided by Lyndal Cosgrove) ■

STUCK ON A BRANCH? OUT ON A LIMB?

Our Family History Research Centre is a treasure trove of resources and information.

Do you live too far away?

Have you hit that famous brick-wall?

Do you know that members who live further than 50 km from the Brisbane GPO are entitled to 2 hours of free research per year?

A free Look-up Service for all members is also available.

Not a QFHS member? We can still help

Request help now by downloading a request form from

<https://www.qfhs.org.au/about-us/research-service/extended-research>

QFHS members - \$40 per hour (incl. GST)

Non-members - \$60 per hour (incl. GST)

Queensland Family History Society Inc.

P O Box 78, Geebung, Qld 4034

Email: research@qfhs.org.au

MEMBERS' INTERESTS

We remind members that all interests must be submitted using the Members' Interests Application Form, downloaded from our website at www.qfhs.org.au/resources/members-interests. Interests will be uploaded to our website as soon as possible after the Application Form is received, and printed in the *Queensland Family Historian* as space allows.

Member's name: Ms Linda Cartmill
Membership: #5665
Email: linda.cartmill@gmail.com

CARTMILL	1600s-1890	Kilmore and nearby	ARM	NIR
CARTMILL	1853+	Grafton/Clarence River	NSW	AUS
COLLINGS	1780+	Plymouth	DEV	ENG
DWYER	1780-1860	Solohodbeg Tipperary South	ARM	IRL
FOSTER	1780-1860	Market Weighton	YKS	ENG
FOSTER	1860+	Grafton	NSW	AUS
HOLLALE	1720+	Bredon on the Hill	LEI	ENG
KEMPSTER	1750+	Richmond	YKS	ENG
LEANING	1770+	Keelby	LIN	ENG
LONGHORN	1750-1850	Keyingham	YKS	ENG
MCAHON	1700s-1890	Mullavilly	ARM	NIR
MISCAMBLE	1780s	All	DOW	NIR
PARKER	1780+	Farnham	ESS	ENG
PRIDEAUX	1600s	St Clether	CON	ENG
WHITTON	1700+	Osmotherley	YKS	ENG

ACQUISITIONS – PRINT LIBRARY

The Codes to the Library catalogue numbers are on display in the Print Library and can also be seen on <https://www.qfhs.org.au/resources/catalogue-search/qfhs-library-classification-scheme/> together with an explanation of how to read them. The second number sometimes found on the top tier indicates to which UK County or to which postcode area of an Australian State the publication is specific: for example, H4/170 is a local history for the Morningside area of Brisbane and N7/43 indicates vital records for Yorkshire, England. European countries will have an alpha coding to identify the countries: for example, W(GER)7 refers to German Vital Records and W(CH)4 to Swiss Local History.

To find a particular book or journal, please check the *Library Catalogue (v-library)* either in the QFHS library, or from any computer via the internet, then search by various fields, e.g. Keyword/Title/Call Number, etc. at <https://www.qfhs.org.au/resources/catalogue-search>. You can also click on the link for the book which will take you directly to that information in V-library.

AUSTRALIA

A6 HAB 1

**Donated by
Glenda & Don Haberecht**

Haberecht, Glenda & Don
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NEW SOUTH WALES

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Donated by Kerry Riley

Reece, Bob
The origins of Irish convict transportation to New South Wales, Palgrave Houndmills, Basingstoke (Hampshire, Eng), 2001.

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VICTORIA

C6 LOF 1

Donated

Rumble, Yvonne
From edelweiss to wattle : a Loffel history, Y. Rumble, Deniliquin NSW, 1989.

TASMANIA

D3 1 4

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Reynolds, Henry
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QUEENSLAND

H4/000 1 31

Harrison, Jennifer
Fettered frontier : founding the Moreton Bay Settlement : the first four years : 1822-1826, Brisbane History Group, Tingalpa (Qld), 2023.

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Magub, Judy

Early stories of Kenmore, Chapel Hill, Fig Tree Pocket, Pullenvale and District, Kenmore and District Historical Society Inc, Kenmore East (Qld), 2019.

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Wallis, Noel William
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The calophyllum shore : a Cardwell memoir, 3E Innovative for the Cardwell and District Historical Society, Cardwell (Qld), 2010.

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LENDING LIBRARY

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Hughes, Robert

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Sue Reid**

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LIST OF ALL QUEENSLAND SCHOOLS, OPENING AND CLOSING DATES, AND MORE...

Queensland's first school opened in 1826 with 16 pupils, the children of soldiers and convicts from the first settlement in Moreton Bay. It was not until 1860, however, that the first *Education Act* was proclaimed and all primary education was placed under one general and comprehensive system controlled by the Board of General Education.

For a list of Queensland schools dates refer to <https://education.qld.gov.au/about-us/history/school-anniversaries/opening-closing-dates>.

You may have found an old school mentioned in family records which no longer exists.

There is an interesting chronology of education in Queensland which provides a factual outline of the major milestones and trends in the development of state education. Refer to <https://education.qld.gov.au/about-us/history/chronology-of-education-in-queensland> and <https://education.qld.gov.au/about-us/history/brief-history>.

FEMALE TEACHERS 1860–1983

There have been two significant events in the history of women's employment in state education.

The first was the introduction, in 1902, of a regulation requiring women to resign when they married. This consolidated an existing social practice which prevented many women from undertaking teaching as a life-long career.

The second major event was the re-employment of married women on a temporary basis in 1940, which culminated in a provision for the permanent employment of such women in 1969.

The study (a pdf doc) at <https://education.qld.gov.au/about/history/Pages/femaleTeachers.aspx> treats the period 1860–1983 in three separate sections, divided by these two events. ■

DISASTROUS MARRIAGES

By Peter Day

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Family historians will be familiar with marriage notices in newspapers. Sometimes, these herald a happy life together filled with children and grandchildren. On other occasions, they are harbingers of tragedy. Here are two such, both second marriages of a mother and one of her daughters.

MARRIAGES.

On the 19th instant, at 454, Bourke-street, Surry Hills, by the Rev. Adam Thomson, George J. Illidge, to Ruth Brett, fourth daughter of the late John Illidge, Esq., of Dover Road, London.

*Sydney Morning Herald (NSW: 1842-1954),
Thursday 24 April 1862, p.1*

Ruth Brett was born in London in 1823, the daughter of **John Illidge** and **Sarah Bunney**.¹ Ruth's first marriage, in London in 1848, was to **William Brett**,² a merchant marine officer also born in London, in 1817.³ William was later the Captain and owner of a passenger ship, the *South Sea*.⁴ William and Ruth had five children. One of these, **Ruth**, was born on the *South Sea* on 30 January 1853,⁵ sixteen days before its arrival in Melbourne, having left Liverpool, England, on 27 October 1852.⁶ The *South Sea* was built in 1852,⁴ so this seems to have been its maiden voyage.

There were no further voyages to Australia by the *South Sea* with William as Captain. He seems to have sold his interest in it, and ceased to be its Captain, around 1854.⁷ This was probably triggered by his contracting, or at least being diagnosed with, tuberculosis in 1854. No shipping records can be found, but the family seems to have emigrated to Australia in early 1857. William died from tuberculosis at his father's property on the Hunter River at Raymond Terrace in August 1857.⁸

As can be seen above, Ruth later married **George Jaques Illidge**, in 1862.⁹ George was born in Sydney in 1841 to **Josiah Illidge** and **Mary Jaques**,¹⁰ who had emigrated to Australia in 1837.¹¹ By the 1860s, Josiah was a successful Sydney businessman, with what seems to have been a thriving boot store on George Street¹² - it had financed a succession of houses¹³ and that favourite Sydney

pastime, land speculation.¹⁴ He was also a prominent Baptist: he had earlier been a deacon and treasurer of the Baptist Chapel in Bathurst Street,¹⁵ and in 1868 became their representative on the trust that supervised the Independent section of Rookwood Cemetery.¹⁶

George and Ruth were first cousins, their fathers being half-brothers and sons of **Thomas Illidge**,¹⁷ my third great-grandfather. Ruth was 38, George, a clerk, just 21. There are no known children of the marriage.

George disappears from the Australian historical records after 1868, when he, and presumably Ruth, were recorded as living in Balmain.¹⁸ He reappears in San Francisco; according to his US census returns, he emigrated there about 1873.¹⁹ We are reasonably sure that this is the George Jaques Illidge who married Ruth: his US records give his full name, mostly his correct age and a birthplace of either Sydney, New South Wales or Australia, depending on the record. Also according to those US census returns, he married a **Louisa Macsorley**, presumably in San Francisco, about 1874. Louisa was born in Bengal, India, in 1847;²⁰ went with her parents to England when they returned there;²¹ and emigrated to the United States about 1871.²² George and Louisa had three children and seem to have adopted two more.²³

George initially worked as an accountant in San Francisco.²⁴ He must have had an artistic bent, since he later worked as a singer, music teacher and occasional actor.²⁵ He died in San Francisco in 1902;²⁶ Louisa died there in 1937.²⁷

Ruth died in Maryborough in 1890.²⁸ Josiah and Mary had moved to Maryborough in 1870 to grow sugar,²⁹ and I think Ruth and her children went there too: she had a house in Maryborough by the late 1870s,³⁰ and all three surviving children were married in Maryborough.³¹

I do wonder why George and Ruth married in the first place. Was this a marriage arranged

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by Josiah and Mary to look after Ruth? Josiah had a history of helping Ruth, having helped Ruth administer and realise the estate of William.³² It was not as if Ruth was destitute: in addition to the realisation of William's estate, her father, John, who had died in 1858, had left her £100 and £50 for each of her three surviving children on their attaining 21 years of age.³³ Was there a conversation around the family dining table that started "What are we going to do about Ruth?", perhaps reflecting Victorian attitudes that a widow, particularly one with children, needed to remarry?

The dramatic version of George's departure might be something like this: George sat at the bar of the Marine Hotel after work one day, nursing a beer, alone with his thoughts. They were not happy ones. Dammit, he thought, I want children! Look at John (a fellow clerk): three children already, and he not yet 30. But Ruth was no longer able to have children. If only he had not agreed to his father's request that he marry Ruth. He had to do something. But what? How could he publicly disappoint his father?

A few months later, George stood at the stern of the ship *Esmerelda*, watching Sydney, and his former life, recede into the distance. Ruth would be alright, he thought, trying to assuage his conscience, not for the first time. It was not as if they loved one another. And she was not poor. In addition to the residue of William's estate, she still had most of that legacy from her father. In any case, his father would look after her. George carefully avoided any thought of his father's reaction to his leaving Australia.

Back in Sydney, Ruth was at that moment becoming frantic. George had not returned home from work last night, which was most unlike him. She went into town to see Josiah at his store, but he did not know anything. Whilst Ruth returned home to wait for news, Josiah went out searching. The police and hospitals knew nothing. Finally, following a hunch, Josiah visited George's bank, and, prevailing on the manager to check George's account, discovered that it had been emptied. It really did look as if George had scarpered.

Josiah went to Ruth's home to deliver the painful news.

However, we do not know whether George told Ruth he was leaving or whether he simply disappeared, or indeed whether they had separated before he left Sydney. The fact that there are no shipping records to be found for George is suggestive but hardly conclusive. For that matter, emigrating to America seems an extreme reaction to a marriage breakdown.

There is no divorce record to be found for George and Ruth, nor any marriage record for George and Louisa. But we do know that Ruth went to her grave calling herself Mrs George Jaques Illidge.³⁴

MARRIAGE
GOSSET—MOSMAN.—On the 27th April, at St. Paul's Church, Maryborough, by the Rev. Thomas Holme, Arthur Percy Gosset, Lionsleigh, Rockhampton, to Florence, widow of the late W. E. Mosman, Esq., of Maryborough.

*Brisbane Courier (Qld: 1864-1933),
Friday 3 May 1878, p.2*

Emma Florence was William and Ruth's fourth child; she was known as Florence to distinguish her from their first, **Emmaline**, who was known as Emma. Emma Florence was born in late December 1855.³⁵ Emma had previously married **William Mosman**, a road surveyor, in Maryborough in 1874.³⁶ William was born in Armidale in 1851 to **Archibald Mosman** and **Harriet Farquharson**.³⁷ The Sydney suburb takes its name from Archibald and his twin brother **George**.³⁸

William and Emma had one child³⁹ before William died in 1876.⁴⁰

Arthur Gosset was chief clerk in the Main Roads department in Rockhampton. Born c.1830,⁴¹ he also had been previously married, in 1867⁴²; his first wife, **Rebecca Campbell**, died in 1872⁴³. Arthur and Rebecca do not seem to have had any children. He was 45 when he married Emma, who was still only 22. Arthur and Emma had no known children.

It seems their marriage was not successful, because they separated in 1879, following which, in 1881, Arthur sued for divorce in the

DISASTROUS MARRIAGES (Cont.)

Queensland Supreme Court.⁴⁴ In addition to Florence's frequent drinking, Arthur alleged adultery with **George Thomas** and two others. This was a very messy and high-profile case, with considerable press coverage in Brisbane, Maryborough and Rockhampton. The case was heard before the **Chief Justice, Charles (later Sir Charles) Lilley, QC**, previously Queensland Premier and Attorney-General.⁴⁵ It must have been an expensive case: both Arthur and Florence were represented by counsel, with instructing solicitors, as was Thomas.

In preliminary hearings, Arthur was ordered to pay Florence alimony of £48 per annum.⁴⁶ Presumably he would have had to pay something similar in the absence of any divorce, so he had ample monetary incentive to successfully prosecute a divorce case.

All of the supporting evidence for Gosset was heard in private. The main such evidence came from an occasional employee of Arthur, **Glorr**; that of two others was dismissed by Chief Justice Lilley as unreliable. Both Florence and George denied all charges, with both saying that Thomas was merely a friend of Florence's, who had known her since she was a child.

One might think that Glorr's lack of independence and the improbability of his evidence, matters which featured in closing arguments by counsel for both Florence and George, would require little weight to be placed on his evidence. One might also think that finding the evidence of the other two witnesses (also Arthur's employees) to be unreliable would give one pause. However, in handing down judgement, His Honour said:

The man Glorr, however, who was only occasionally employed by the petitioner, stood in a different position. He swore to a circumstance which his honour thought was not in itself grossly improbable, especially in the case of a woman whose habits he (His Honour) thought he must say were intemperate. His Honour also failed to see that Glorr had been actuated by any unworthy motive in giving his evidence against the respondent.

Consequently, His Honour accepted Glorr's evidence. He went on to say:

...His Honour thought that the respondent was a woman of intemperate habits; and all men of the world knew that, whatever passion was strongest in human beings, drink took them beyond the control of reason. Although this woman might wish to remain faithful to her husband, he thought she was beyond control in that respect ...

And:

[Florence had acted] against the known feeling of her husband, whom she was bound to obey.

It would appear from Florence and George's evidence that one interpretation was that George was merely helping an old friend to cope with, and ultimately flee, a difficult marriage. To the contrary, Arthur's counsel submitted in his closing argument that he did not believe in platonic friendships. It seems His Honour agreed, for not only did he find the charge of adultery with George proved⁴⁷ and grant the divorce, (most) costs were awarded against George as a penalty.⁴⁸

Imagine Emma at Ruth's home, waiting for the verdict. She could not face going to court again, she thought, not after the unpleasantness of giving evidence, not to mention the press articles about the trial. She would never do the horrid things of which she was accused! She might have had a little drink from time to time to cope with Arthur, but that did not make her a drunkard. Nor was it right that George should be in trouble just for trying to help her. If only she had not agreed to Arthur's marriage proposal!

I think Ruth took Emma down to Sydney to get away from the publicity, because Emma, still only 25, died at her mother's house in Manly on Christmas Day, 25 December 1881.⁴⁹ Her death certificate said death was caused by endocarditis (inflammation of the heart's inner lining, usually caused by bacteria), but it may as well have said a broken heart.

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(illustrations provided by the author) ■

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Reserve your seat and book on line through
<https://events.humanitix.com/history-day>.

Email historycentral@protonmail.com

GSQ SPECIAL EVENTS

Topic: Finding the family farm:
Using land records and
maps for Queensland
pastoral properties

Date: SAT 4 May 2024

Time: 9.00 am to 11.00 am (online)

Presenter: Charlotte Sale

Cost: \$31

Topic: The National Archives UK -
home of 1,000 years of UK
history

Date: SAT 18 May 2024

Time: 9.00 am to 11.00 am (online)

Presenter: Pauline Williams

Cost: \$31

Topic: Navigating your way
through Family Search

Date: SAT 1 June 2024

Time: 9.00 am to 11.00 am (online)

Presenter: Cindi Ingle

Cost: \$41

Topic: From Restricted to
Assisted: Maltese Migration
to Australia

Date: SAT 22 June 2024

Time: 9.00 am to 11.00 am (online)

Presenter: Georgina Jansen, NAA

Cost: Free

QFHS members will need to obtain the GSQ code from Snippets newsletters prior to booking to obtain the discounted member pricing from GSQ. Register via <https://www.gsq.org.au/gsq-events/>.



QFHS NOTICES

BEREAVEMENT NOTICES



We extend our deepest sympathy on the following bereavements:

Elizabeth Rose (Betty) Clark, past member #2671B, wife of Stan Clark, late of Bracken Ridge, who passed away on 26 January 2024, aged 84 years.

Richard Barry Cosgrove, member #5398A, late of Albany Creek, who passed away on 17 February 2024, aged 80 years.

Dorothy Simson, Life member #50, late of Robertson, who passed away on 26 March 2024, aged 88 years.

Expressions of sympathy have been conveyed to their families on behalf of the President and members of the Society.

Finding your family: the fundamentals of research



A six week course

Commences: Monday 8 July 2024
 Time: 10.00 - 11.30 am
 Location: Online event
 Cost: Members \$60, non-members \$90
 Only 10 people per course
 Content: Sources, methodology, organisation, repositories, DNA and much more.

Register at:
<https://www.qfhs.org.au/events/learn-qfhs/finding-your-family-the-fundamentals-of-research/>

EDUCATION@QFHS

Further courses will be held as follows:

Topic: **Learn@ - When 'life story' becomes 'life history' - an oral history approach**

Date: WED 8 May 2024

Time: 10.00 am to 11.30 am (online)

Presenter: Dr Maree Ganley
 (Limit 35 people)

Topic: **Talking About – What is Descendancy Research and what is its purpose?**

Date: WED 22 May 2024 (free)

Time: 10.00 am to 12 noon (online)

Facilitator: Nancy Edwards
 (Limit 25 people)

Topic: **Talking About – everything automobile related**

Date: WED 26 June 2024 (free)

Time: 7.30 pm – 9.00 pm (online)

Facilitator: Nancy Edwards
 (Limit 25 people)

Topic: **Learn@ - Step in time: Time lines research value**

Date: WED 10 July 2024

Time: 10.00 am to 11.30 am (online)

Presenter: Dr Jennifer Harrison
 (Limit 50 people)

Topic: **Talking About – Medieval genealogy**

Date: WED 24 July 2024 (free)

Time: 10.00 am to noon (online)

Facilitator: Chris Scheutz
 (Limit 25 people)

“Follow” QFHS and be advised as soon as new events are listed with www.eventbrite.com.au/e/queensland-family-history-society-inc

Cost per presentation/hands-on mode:
 \$15/20 members (QFHS and GSQ) and
 \$25/30 non-members

Cost per Talking About - free

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE EVENTS
 Bookings are required – you are invited to register to secure your place for these events through www.qfhs.org.au/events/learn-qfhs/.

continued

**QFHS INC. FAMILY HISTORY BOOK AWARD
2024**

The Society invites entries for this Award which will be presented at the Annual General Meeting 2024 to the person or persons producing the best history of a Queensland family published in book form within the past five years.

Full guidelines, conditions of entry and entry forms are available on the website at <http://www.qfhs.org.au/about-us/awards/>.

Please check the guidelines. In brief, these include:

- It must be the story of a family, not an individual, and have significant Queensland content
- It should have an index
- Desirable features include charts and tables, illustrations, maps, references, and a list of source materials.

Further information is available from:

Hon Secretary
QFHS Inc
P O Box 78,
Geebung Qld 4034



or

Gayle Thomsett
Unit 16
43-46 Taylor Street
Woolloongabba Qld 4102.

Entries close **30 November 2024**.

The Award is open to members of the Society and to the general public. For further information email fhaward@qfhs.org.au.

JOURNAL ARTICLE OF THE YEAR:

**Members' Choice Award
2024**

**Nominations for your favourite article
of 2024 are requested after
publication of each journal.**

QFHS TROUT GAME



The Trout Game
will next be played
on

**Sunday
27 October 2024**

Allow yourself the privilege of having a fun day in family history and play the Trout Game.

The game simulates researching into an imaginary English Trout family using eleven types of records. Use the game to assess your skills using basic research techniques to see if you can get back to the 1500s. You may discover why you have brick walls in your research. Numbers are limited and early bookings are essential.

Venue: Family History Research Centre,
46 Delaware Street, Chermside

Time: 10.00 am to 4.00 pm

Cost: \$5.00 includes morning and
afternoon tea (BYO lunch)

Contact: The Game Master, Ann Swain,
for bookings or enquiries, by email
trout@qfhs.org.au.



**HISTORY
REDCLIFFE**
REDCLIFFE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.



Redcliffe Historical Society Inc. is in the early stages of planning a series of events to acknowledge the bicentennial in September 2024 of the first European settlement and penal colony in Redcliffe, Queensland. The Society and the Royal Historical Society of Qld and Bribie Island Historical Society are organising a Conference *The Moreton Bay Bicentennial Commemoration*, to be held on **Saturday 7 September 2024** at The Komo Conference Centre, Redcliffe.

A series of smaller events will be held during the following week culminating in the Main Event in Corscadden Park, adjacent to the Redcliffe Museum, on **Saturday 14 September 2024**. Check progress by logging into the website <https://historyredcliffe.com.au/2024-200/>.

QFHS NOTICES (Cont.)

**CENTRAL EUROPEAN
SPECIAL INTEREST
GROUP
40TH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATIONS**



Brandenburg Gate, Berlin

WHERE:

Family History Research Centre,
46 Delaware Street, Chermside
(at intersection of
Delaware St & Waring St, Geebung)

WHEN:

**Sat 1 June 2024
10:00 am - 3:00 pm**

Watch the QFHS website and Snippets
for more details to follow.

Recognition of people who have made
important contributions to the formation
and running of the Central European
Interest Group.

Celebrate your Central European
heritage and culture with music, food
and family friendly activities.

Contact Eric Kopittke, convener of the
Central European Special Interest Group
at centraleuropean@qfhs.org.au to
register your interest in the day's
activities.

Irish Research Day



Researching Irish ancestors?

The next Irish Research Day is
**Thursday, 11 July 2024
10.00 am to 3.00 pm**

at

QFHS Family History Research Centre,
46 Delaware Street, Chermside.
(at intersection of Delaware St & Waring St)

A great opportunity to spend the day on
your Irish family history research.
Come and work alongside others and
help each other as required. Bring your
lunch or food to share.

To get the most out of your time, we
recommend you prepare by:

- Reviewing your current research and
bringing what you need with you
- Try to specify clear research
questions or goals to focus your work

There will be friendly, helpful and
experienced people available to assist
each other.

Please register early as places are
limited.

Contact Dale Fogarty, Irish Research
Group at irish@qfhs.org.au with your
QFHS membership number.

L.A. CONSULTATION AND TRAINING SESSION

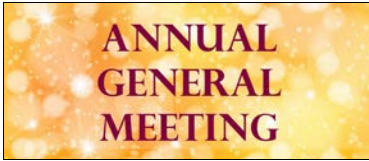
**Monday 22 July 2024
10.00 – 12.00 pm**

To be held as a hybrid meeting, using our
state-of-the-art Meeting Owl.

Meet other L.As and learn about operational
updates and opportunities for upskilling.

continued

**NOTICE OF QFHS
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**



Our Society will hold its **Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, 19 June 2024** at the QFHS's Family History Research Centre, 46 Delaware Street, Chermside commencing at **7.30 pm** (hybrid).

Nominations for positions on the Management Committee (including Office-Bearers) close fourteen days before the AGM, so nominations must be in the hands of the Secretary by midnight on **Wednesday, 5 June 2024**. If you wish to nominate a financial member of the Society for election to the Management Committee, a Nomination Form can be downloaded from the foot of the home page of the Society's website at www.qfhs.org.au. All parties must sign. Post it to the Secretary no later than 31 May 2024 at our postal address, or scan and email the completed form to the Secretary by 5 June 2024. The Management Committee currently meets on the second Tuesday of the month commencing at 7.00 pm. Meetings last for approx. 2 hours.

Please remember you can appoint a proxy to represent you at the AGM meeting in accordance with Clause 23 of our Constitution. Your proxy must be received by the Secretary at least 48 hours before the meeting. Copies of the Constitution and a Proxy Form can be downloaded from the foot of the home page of the Society's website at www.qfhs.org.au. Should you wish to request a copy of the Constitution by mail, please send a business size, stamped and self-addressed envelope to the Secretary and allow at least 7 days each way for postal delivery. A Proxy Form can also be obtained from the Secretary by email at secretary@qfhs.org.au. All positions on the Management Committee will be declared vacant at the AGM. If you would like further information on any position you are welcome to contact the Secretary.

Generally, the Society seeks members with forward vision, willing to engage with our members and other stakeholders to further the practice of family history into the future. QFHS has a long, successful past but cannot rest on those laurels. The Society must be forward looking. The world of family history is changing rapidly, and we need to move with that change or be left behind as irrelevant. If you are aware of the changing circumstances in the family history world, locally and globally, have an outgoing, friendly personality, are willing to work cooperatively with others, have any level of business, computer or management skills that you can contribute and wish to be part of the Society's future endeavours, please consider nominating.

Helen Evans (Secretary)
31 March 2024

**INTERNATIONAL
TARTAN DAY
BRISBANE
MONDAY
1 JULY 2024**

King George Square,
Brisbane City.
Parking available
underneath.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

When your Membership is due for Renewal you will receive an email reminder. If you're not sure, please contact our Membership Secretary, email at membership@qfhs.org.au, before making payment. Also don't forget to let us know if any of your contact details change so that we can update our records.

E M FLETCHER WRITING AWARD, A.C.T.

For the best short story of 1500-2000 words on a family history or genealogy theme. Entries close **15 July 2024**. Refer to <https://www.familyhistoryact.org.au/writingcompetition>.

JOAN REESE MEMORIAL SHORT STORY COMPETITION

Topic: 'A short story from your family history research'. Closing Date is **3 June 2024**. See www.gsq.org.au/gsq-events/writing-competition. ■

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

PLEASE NOTE SOME OF THESE MEETINGS HAVE BEEN CHANGED. PLEASE CHECK THE QFHS WEBSITE

FAMILY HISTORY WRITING GROUP



This group meets online via Zoom on the **third Saturday** of **odd-numbered** months at **9.00 am**. The next meeting dates are:

18 May 2024 **20 July 2024**

If you are interested in joining us, please email fhwriters@qfhs.org.au.

Sue Reid
(Convenor)

IRISH RESEARCH GROUP



The Irish Research Group meets online via Zoom usually on the **second Saturday** of **even-numbered** months from **10.30 am** until **12.30 pm**. The next meeting dates are:

8 June 2024 **10 August 2024**

For further information, please email irish@qfhs.org.au.

Dale Fogarty
(Convenor)

ENGLISH WEST COUNTRY GROUP



This group researches the counties of Cornwall, Devon, Somerset and Dorset. The Group meets online via Zoom on the **fourth Thursday** of **odd-numbered** months at **noon**. The next meeting dates are:

23 May 2024 **25 July 2024**

For further information, please email englishwestcountry@qfhs.org.au.

Jenny Davidson
(Convenor)

SCOTTISH INTEREST GROUP



This group meets online via Zoom and in our new Family History Research Centre (hybrid) on the **second Saturday** of **odd-numbered** months (except January) at **10.00 am**. The next meeting dates are:

11 May 2024 **13 July 2024**

If you are interested in joining this group, please email Chris on scottish@qfhs.org.au.

Chris Schuetz
(Convenor)

WELSH INTEREST GROUP

The Welsh Interest Group meets online via Zoom (or in our new Family History Research Centre) on the **third Sunday** of **odd-numbered** months from **10.00 am until noon**. The next meeting dates are:

19 May 2024 **21 July 2024**

For further information please email welsh@qfhs.org.au.



Charlotte Sale
(Convenor)

CENTRAL EUROPEAN GROUP

This group aims to encourage, educate and assist members in their family history research in the Central European area. The Group meets online via Zoom (or in our new Family History Research Centre) on the **first Saturday** of **even-numbered** months from **10.00 am to noon**. The next meeting dates are:

1 June 2024 **3 August 2024**

A \$2 donation goes towards purchasing relevant records.

For further information email Eric at kopittke@tpg.com.au.

Eric Kopittke & Noel Bergman
(Convenors)



FAMILY TREE MAKER USER GROUP

If you are using the Family Tree Maker™ program, or just want to learn more about it, this enthusiastic group is for you.

The group meets online via Zoom on the **first Friday** of **even-numbered** months and by hybrid meetings on the **first Saturday** of **odd-numbered** months (not January) at **10.00 am**. The next meeting dates are:

Sat 4 May 2024
Fri 7 June 2024
Sat 6 July 2024
Fri 2 August 2024



For further information, please contact Geoff Morgan on email familytree@qfhs.org.au.

Geoff Morgan & Joe Greaves
(Convenors)

continued

DNA INTEREST GROUP

This group seeks to share information on aspects of genetic family history. The group meets on the **fourth Saturday of each month** (except December) online via Zoom and in our new Family History Research Centre at **10.00 am to noon**. The next meeting dates are:

25 May 2024	Beginners
22 June 2024	Experienced
27 July 2024	Beginners
24 August 2024	Experienced

For further information contact Chris Schuetz or Ann Swain on email dna@qfhs.org.au.

Chris Schuetz & Ann Swain
(Convenors)

COLONIAL INDIA AND THE FAR EAST GROUP

We welcome you into our friendly, collaborative group to explore the ever-increasing resources available to research Colonial India and the Far East. Our meetings share information, ideas and short presentations about this fascinating time and place. The group meets online via Zoom at **10.30 am** on the **second Sunday of even-numbered months**. The next meetings will be held on:

9 June 2024	11 August 2024
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For further information please email indiafe@qfhs.org.au.

Dette Glenday & Wendy Angliss
(Convenors)

FAMILY HISTORIAN USER GROUP

Family Historian - simplicity for the newer user, but still the ultimate 'power tool' for experienced family historians. To find out more, join our group's meetings via Zoom on the **first Sunday of each month at 1:00 pm** for approximately 2 hours. The next meeting dates are:

5 May 2024
2 June 2024
7 July 2024
4 August 2024

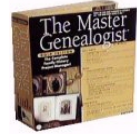
For further information please email familyhistorian@qfhs.org.au.

Malcolm Kingston
(Convenor)

THE MASTER GENEALOGIST (TMG) USER GROUP

The group caters to the needs of all users, from novice to advanced, and meets online via Zoom on the **third Thursday of most months** (except December) at **7.00 pm**. The next meeting dates are:

16 May 2024
20 June 2024
18 July 2024
15 August 2024



For further information contact Kevin Haley or Peter Frederick at tmg@qfhs.org.au.

Kevin Haley & Peter Frederick
(Convenors)

QLD PRE-SEPARATION GROUP

Did any of your ancestors arrive in Queensland prior to separation from New South Wales On 10 December 1859? If so, you may become a certificate member of this group. The group also welcomes anyone interested in pre-separation families and history to its periodic meetings and activities. Meetings are held quarterly online via Zoom on the **second Saturdays of March, June, September and December at 1.30 pm**. The next meetings will be held on:

Sat 8 June 2024
Sat 14 September 2024

For further information please email presep@qfhs.org.au.

Ann Swain & Jenny Davidson
(Convenors) ■

Give a Gift membership For Mothers' Day



Visit Gift Membership at
<https://www.qfhs.org.au>
and select the Gift Certificate of your choice.

DATES TO REMEMBER, INCLUDING MEMBERS LOUNGE

DATE	ACTIVITY	VENUE	TIME
MAY 2024			
Saturday	4 GSQ Event: <i>Finding the Family Farm: Using land records and maps for Queensland pastoral properties (See p.69)</i>	Online GSQ	9.00 - 11.00 am
Saturday	4 Family Tree Maker User Group (See p.156)	Online	10.00 - 11.30 am
Sunday	5 Family Historian Software User Group (See p.157)	Online	1.00 - 3.00 pm
Monday	6 LABOUR DAY – RESEARCH CENTRE CLOSED		
Wednesday	8 Learn@QFHS: <i>When 'life story' becomes 'life history' - an oral history approach (See p.70)</i>	Online	10.00 - 11.30 am
Saturday	11 Scottish Interest Group (See p.154)	Hybrid	10.00 – noon
Wednesday	15 Presenting... <i>The Railway Jubilee of 1914 - When Steam Trains made their way into King George Square in February 1914</i> Speaker: Greg Hallam, Queensland Railways Historian (Day)	Hybrid	1.00 - 3.00 pm
Thursday	16 The Master Genealogist (TMG) User Group (See p.)	Online	7.00 - 8.30 pm
Saturday	18 GSQ Event: <i>The National Archives UK - home of 1,000 years of UK history (See p.69)</i>	Online GSQ	9.00 - 11.00 am
Saturday	18 Family History Writing Group (See p.154)	Online	9.00 - noon
Sunday	19 Welsh Interest Group (See p.154)	Hybrid	10.00 - noon
Wednesday	22 Talking About - <i>What is Descendancy Research and what is its purpose? (See p.70)</i>	Online	10.00 - noon
Thursday	23 English West Country Group (See p.154)	Online	noon - 2.00 pm
Saturday	25 DNA Interest Group (See p.157) <i>Beginners</i>	Hybrid	10.00 - noon
Sunday	26 New Members' Welcome & Orientation Session (See p.158)	Research Centre	9.30 – 12.30 pm
JUNE 2024			
Saturday	1 GSQ Event: <i>Navigating your way through Family Search (See p.69)</i>	Online GSQ	9.00 - 11.00 am
Saturday	1 CENTRAL EUROPEAN SIG 40TH ANNIVERSARY	Research Centre	10.00 – 3.00 pm
Sunday	2 Family Historian Software User Group (See p.75)	Online	1.00 – 3.00 pm
Wednesday	5 Members Lounge – Toowong Cemetery – Self Guided Tour	Toowong Cemetery	10.00 – 12.30 pm
Friday	7 Family Tree Maker User Group (See p.74)	Online	10.00 - 11.30 am
Saturday	8 Irish Interest Group (See p.74)	Online	10.30 - 12.30 pm
Saturday	8 Pre-Separation Group (See p.115)	Online	1.30 – 3.30 pm
Sunday	9 Colonial India and The Far East Group (See p.75)	Check website	10.30 - noon
Saturday	15 New Members' Welcome & Orientation Session (See p.78)	Online	9.30 - 12.30 pm
Thursday	20 The Master Genealogist (TMG) User Group (See p.75)	Online	7.00 - 8.30 pm
Wednesday	19 Annual General Meeting and Presentation of Queensland Family History Book Award (Evening)	Hybrid	7.30 – 9.30 pm
Saturday	22 GSQ Event: <i>From Restricted to Assisted: Maltese Migration to Australia (See p.69)</i>	Online GSQ	9.00 - 11.00 am
Saturday	22 DNA Interest Group (See p.157) <i>Experienced</i>	Hybrid	10.00 - noon
Monday	24 Members Lounge – Book Club – Wangalpong to Mount Tamborine by Karen Rosser	Hybrid	10.00 – 11.30 am
Wednesday	26 Talking About - <i>Everything automobile related (See p.70)</i>	Online	7.30 - 9.00 pm
JULY 2024			
Saturday	6 Family Tree Maker User Group (See p.74)	Online	10.00 - 11.30 am
Sunday	7 Family Historian Software User Group (See p.75)	Online	1.00 – 3.00 pm

continued

Monday	8	Finding your Family course Week 1 (See p.70)	Online	10.00 - 11.30 am
Wednesday	10	Learn@QFHS: Step in Time: Time lines research value (See p.70)	Online	10.00 - 11.30 am
Thursday	11	IRISH RESEARCH DAY (See p.72)	Research Centre	10.00 – 3.00 pm
Saturday	13	Scottish Interest Group (See p.74)	Hybrid	10.00 – noon
Wednesday	17	Presenting... <i>The Wreck of the RMS Quetta</i> Speaker: Prof Gary Crew (Day)	Hybrid	1.00 - 3.00 pm
Thursday	18	The Master Genealogist (TMG) User Group (See p.75)	Online	7.00 - 8.30 pm
Saturday	20	Family History Writing Group (See p.74)	Online	9.00 - noon
Sunday	21	Welsh Interest Group (See p.74)	Hybrid	10.00 – noon
Monday	22	LA TRAINING & CONSULTATION SESSION	Hybrid	10.00 - 12.00 pm
Wednesday	24	Talking About – <i>Medieval genealogy</i> (See p.70)	Online	10.00 - noon
Thursday	25	English West Country Group (See p.74)	Online	noon - 2.00 pm
Saturday	27	DNA Interest Group (See p.157) <i>Beginners</i>	Hybrid	10.00 - noon
Sunday	28	New Members' Welcome & Orientation Session (See p.158)	Research Centre	9.30 – 12.30 pm
AUGUST 2024 – AFFHO National Family History Month				
Friday	2	Family Tree Maker User Group (See p.74)	Online	10.00 - 11.30 am
Saturday	3	Central European Group (See p.)	Online	10.00 – noon
Sunday	4	Family Historian Software User Group (See p.75)	Online	1.00 – 3.00 pm
Wednesday	7	Members Lounge – Social – Coffee and Chat	TBA	10.00 - noon
Saturday	10	Irish Interest Group (See p.74)	Online	10.30 - 12.30 pm
Sunday	11	Colonial India and The Far East Group (See p.75)	Check website	10.30 - noon
Wednesday	14	BRISBANE EKKA HOLIDAY – RESEARCH CENTRE OPEN		
Thursday	15	The Master Genealogist (TMG) User Group (See p.75)	Online	7.00 - 8.30 pm
Saturday	17	New Members' Welcome & Orientation Session (See p.)	Research Centre	9.30 – 12.30 pm
Wednesday	21	Presenting... <i>The Myth of Uncle John</i> Speaker: Dr Roger Wilkinson AM (Day)	Hybrid	1.00 – 3.00 pm
Saturday	24	DNA Interest Group (See p.157) <i>Experienced</i>	Hybrid	10.00 - noon
Monday	26	Members Lounge – Book Club – Question 7 by Richard Flanagan	Online	7.30 – 9.30 pm
Saturday	31	<i>A special activity to celebrate National Family History Month - to be advised</i>	Research Centre	10.00 - 3.00 pm

Management Committee meetings are usually held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7.00 pm online via Zoom. If you would like to attend, please contact the Secretary.

Dates and participation methods correct at the time of printing. Always check the QFHS calendar.



Book Club

<https://www.qfhs.org.au/events/members-lounge/book-club/>



Talking About...

<https://www.qfhs.org.au/events/members-lounge/talking-about/>



Presenting...

<https://www.qfhs.org.au/events/members-lounge/presenting-monthly-guest-speakers/>



Socials

<https://www.qfhs.org.au/events/members-lounge/members-lounge-socials/>



Trout Game

<https://www.qfhs.org.au/events/members-lounge/trout-game/>

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS of QFHS INC.

Membership numbers 6682 – 6714 including members who joined up to 31/03/24:

BALMER Ruth, Murrays Beach, NSW
 BENNION Lorraine, Zillmere, QLD
 BOCK Enid, Boondall, QLD
 BURNETT Kathleen, Morayfield, QLD
 CHATE Suzanne, Glenfield, NSW
 CONRY Samantha, Ashgrove, QLD
 COULTERS Julie, Chermside, QLD
 DE SILVA Pam, Taigum, QLD
 DREW Graeme, Aspley, QLD
 DUNCAN Lesley, Arundel, QLD
 FELTON Beverley, Kippa-Ring, QLD
 HAYDOCK Christine, Kedron, QLD
 HUGHES Joyce, Dalby, QLD
 LAVERY Margaret, Meringandan West, QLD
 LITHERLAND Wendy, Redland Bay, QLD
 MACKENZIE Malcolm & Karen, Paddington, Q
 MANN-SMITH Caroline, Newtown, QLD
 MARTIN Ray, Chermside, QLD
 MAYOCCHI Tania, Maryborough, QLD
 NEVE Margaret, Upper Coomera, QLD
 NEWTON Leah-Anne, Barcaldine, QLD
 NICHOL Chenoa, Hawthorne, QLD
 PIPER Tiah, Cluden, QLD
 POWELL Robyn, Murgon, QLD
 PRICKETT Maree, Randalls Bay, TAS
 SALMON Catherine, New Farm, QLD
 SCOTT Robert, Pittsworth, QLD
 SCOTT Susanne, Lower Mount Walker, QLD
 SMITH Raelene, Longreach, QLD
 SOMERVILLE Anne, Shailer Park, QLD
 WALD Jennifer, Bald Hills, QLD
 WHITE Sharon, Armidale, NSW

Welcome back to the following member who is rejoining:

McCALL Scott, Kedron, QLD ■



REPRESENTATIONS OF MEANJIN AND MORETON BAY 1824-2024: A BICENTENNIAL SYMPOSIUM

WED & THURS 11 & 12 SEPTEMBER 2024
 9 AM - 5 PM

The Ship Inn Function Room,
 Cnr Stanley & Sidon Sts, South Brisbane, Qld
 More information at [Agenda - Representations of Meanjin and Moreton Bay 1824-2024: A Bicentennial Symposium \(griffith.edu.au\)](#). ■

NEW MEMBERS' WELCOME & ORIENTATION SESSIONS

New Members' Welcome and Orientation Sessions are to be held on the **third Saturday of even-numbered** months and **fourth Sunday of odd-numbered** months, all from **9.30 am – 12.30 pm**. The next meeting dates will be:

Sun 26 May	at Research Centre
Sat 15 June	Online
Sun 28 July	at Research Centre
Sat 17 August	at Research Centre

Enjoy an overview of research material and facilities available in the Family History Research Centre. We invite you to attend a New Members' Welcome and Orientation session when you join the Society or at any time you would like a refresher.

BOOKINGS: *Essential*

Numbers have to be limited in each session to ensure that everyone is able to participate fully in the program. Sessions are usually fully booked, with a waiting list, so please advise the organisers as soon as possible if you book and find you are unable to attend.

Ann Swain & Anne Long
Convenors
welcome@qfhs.org.au. ■

QUEENSLAND PRE-SEPARATION GROUP APPROVAL

The following member has been approved to become a member of the QFHS Inc. Queensland Pre-Separation Group:

#352 Helen Spencer (QFHS Member 5789) is descended from **Alexander Nicol** and his wife **Christina Nicol (née Wyllie)** and their son **James**, aged 4, who arrived in Moreton Bay on 18/8/1854 on *Genghis Kahn*; **John Sherrin** and his wife **Elizabeth Sherrin (née Richards)** and their son **John**, aged 12, who arrived in Moreton Bay on 30/7/1855 on *Cambodia*; and **Carl Siebenhausen**, **Johannes Mauch** and **Christiane Mauch (née Kitzenberger)** and **Christine Mauch** who was aged 17 when they left Hamburg, and who all arrived in Moreton Bay on 3/2/1856 on *Johan Cesar*. ■

ABOUT THE SOCIETY

Please refer to our website for the most current information.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

Members may:

- Have free access to the Society's Family History Research Centre, Subscription Websites, useful weblinks, and journals from Australian and overseas FH Societies;
- Receive our *Queensland Family Historian* either by mail or email, and our e-newsletter *Snippets*;
- Submit two free *Help Wanted* queries in the journal per year; and a list of research interests for publication in the *Queensland Family Historian* and on our website;
- Use our AskQFHS, Look Up and Extended Research services available to members and non-members at www.qfhs.org.au/about-us/research-service/;
- Country members (living more than 50 km from Brisbane GPO) can use the Research service, see www.qfhs.org.au/join-us/country-members/;
- See other benefits of membership at www.qfhs.org.au/join-us/benefits-of-membership/.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS JOURNAL

The Society is pleased to accept articles of interest to members for publication in this journal — family stories, stories relevant to family history, articles about historical social conditions, research tips, lists, certificate prices and availability, etc. The Editorial Committee reserves the right to decide whether articles are suitable and when they will be published, apart from *Help Wanted* and *Members' Interests* which normally will appear in the journal following their receipt. Alterations in *Help Wanted* or *Members' Interests* will not normally be made without prior consultation with the contributor. Articles for publication should be submitted by email as an attachment. Scanned photographs and images should be attached as high quality *.jpg or *.tif files. Receipt of articles will be acknowledged by email, and any photographs posted to support the text will be returned. Contributors should indicate if copy is being distributed to other family history society journals or family history magazines. The Journal is produced using Microsoft Office (for Windows). The preferred formats for files submitted are MSWord (*.doc or *.docx) or Rich Text (*.rtf). The closing dates for the Journals are **15 March, 15 June, 15 September** and **15 December**. The Editor reserves the right to make alterations in submitted text in regards to grammar, spelling, clarity and length. **It is imperative that contributors supply in writing all necessary authorisation obtained in respect to copyright for use of photographs, attachments, etc.**

VISITORS'/RESEARCH CENTRE USAGE FEES

Members: Free
 Non-members: \$20.00 per day (incl. GST)
 credited towards joining fee if joining within 2 weeks.

MEMBERSHIP FEES/SUBSCRIPTIONS (incl. GST)

Joining Fee (for new and lapsed members)	\$10
Single Membership (p.a.)	\$80
Dual Membership (p.a.)	\$120
Associate Membership (p.a.)	\$120
Single Life Membership	\$1,200
Dual Life Membership	\$1,800
Journal Only Subscription (incl. postage) (p.a.)	\$40
Journal Only Overseas Subscription (p.a.)	\$40
(incl. postage; no GST payable)	
(effective from 1 May 2024).	

Renewal subscriptions for existing members as at 1 April 2016 and who maintain continuous membership are due on 1 July each year. From 1 April 2016 new memberships are for 12 months from the first day of the month of a member's admission to the Society.

Dual members are two members with one registered address. Dual members receive one journal only, sent to the registered address, and have one vote only at General Meetings.

Associate members are family history societies and allied groups. At any time, two members of a current Associate Group may use the resources and facilities of the Society free of charge.

Journal only subscribers receive the Society's quarterly journal, the *Queensland Family Historian*, but no other benefits or entitlements.

RESEARCH CENTRE HOURS (ALL AEST)

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays: 10 am – 3 pm
 Saturdays: noon – 3 pm
 Sundays: Closed

The Research Centre is **closed on Mondays and Fridays** (except for special meetings) and on all **Public Holidays** except **Exhibition Wednesday**.

INFORMATION FOR ADVERTISERS AND PUBLISHERS

Authors and editors of other publications are requested to quote only the full name of our Society and our mailing address and phone number. Do not quote fees for membership or services, or Research Centre hours, but direct readers to telephone the Research Centre or email the Secretary or the Editor. If authors or editors consider further information is necessary they should submit a copy of their intended script to the Editor for approval before publishing.

ADVERTISING RATES

Non-members may submit *Help Wanted* advertisements (100 words) for \$8.80. The advertising rate for 1/10 page (approx. 5 lines in 1 column) is \$18.00. For larger advertisements, please contact the Editor regarding rates and also space availability. Please remit in Australian dollars, either by cheque, Visa, MasterCard, or direct credit to the Society's account, see Inside Front Cover. All fees quoted include GST.

DISCLAIMER

Views expressed by contributors in this publication are not necessarily those of the Editorial Committee or of the QFHS Inc. Management Committee. ■

MONTHLY MEETINGS OF THE SOCIETY



Each month, February to November, a Guest Speaker is invited to address topics of interest to family and local history researchers in Queensland and beyond. Presentations are arranged for the **third Wednesday of the month** and alternate between 1.00 pm and 7.30 pm to allow as many members as possible to attend. Members and visitors may attend either in person at the Family History Research Centre, 46 Delaware St, Chermside, or via Zoom. Those unable to attend in person but unfamiliar with Zoom may contact the Secretary secretary@qfhs.org.au for assistance. Bookings are essential and may be made via the QFHS website and Eventbrite. For the dates of the meetings of the different *Special Interest Groups*, please refer to *p.154* or *Dates to Remember* on *p.156* of this issue.

Presenting...MONTHLY GUEST SPEAKERS

2024

MAY 15 (1.00 pm)

Presenting... *The Railway Jubilee of 1914 - When Steam Trains made their way into King George Square in February 1914*

Greg Hallam, Queensland Rail Historian, back by popular demand, brings us a glimpse of Brisbane in 1914, when Queensland Railways commemorated the 50th anniversary of the beginning of construction of the first section of railway line in Queensland. This section of line from Ipswich to Bigges Camp (today's Grandchester, west of Ipswich) opened on 31 July 1865. The decision was taken to put on display what was then the largest and most modern locomotive on the Queensland Railways roster. This was C18 class locomotive No.692, which would be one of three locomotives of this class eventually put into traffic. The other "star" attraction was to be even more significant, A10 No.3. The crowds certainly turned out to see the "Trains in the Square", and it was considered a good public relations exercise for Queensland Railways.

JUNE 19 (7.30 pm)

Annual General Meeting and QFHS Family History Book Award Presentation.

Your President and Treasurer will provide their reports for the financial year to 31 March 2024, and a Management Committee will be elected for the coming year 2024-2025. Presentations will be made to the author/s of the Family History Book/s voted as the winner/s for 2024.

JULY 17 (1.00 pm)

Presenting... *The Wreck of the RMS Quetta*

Prof Gary Crew will join us again and speak about the wreck of the *RMS Quetta*, which is the greatest maritime disaster in Queensland history. His talk will focus particularly on the extraordinary adoption of 'Quetta Brown', an unnamed child survivor of the wreck.

RMS Quetta was an iron-hulled steamship that was built in Scotland in 1881 and wrecked with great loss of life in the Torres Strait in 1890. She was wrecked on a previously unknown rock, which has been called Quetta Rock ever since. The *Underwater Cultural Heritage Act 2018* protects the wreck. (Wikipedia).

AUGUST 21 (1.00 pm)

Presenting... *The Myth of Uncle John*

Dr Roger Wilkinson AM's father's 'Uncle John' resided as a mythical figure in the canon of his father's stories. That John had been a well-known physician in early Edwardian and pre-Second World War II Melbourne, had something to do with diabetes and stomach disorders, and was a staunch Methodist, were accepted 'facts.' As an adult physician himself, Roger accidentally came across John's entry in the Australian Dictionary of Biography. It made him realise that this man was no myth. He had lived a full and interesting life, not appreciated by this one brother's family. Roger thought his life should be further explored. This is John's story as Roger has been able to piece it together.

Your Society has for sale an extensive range of publications of interest to the family historian, our own publications, those from other societies and authors, books, charts and forms. As new publications become available they will be advertised by flyers included as inserts in our journal. All *QFHS Inc. CDs, Archive CD Books Australia*, and *Unlock the Past guidebooks* are available for sale on the Society's website at www.qfhs.org.au/shop/shop-catalogue.

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