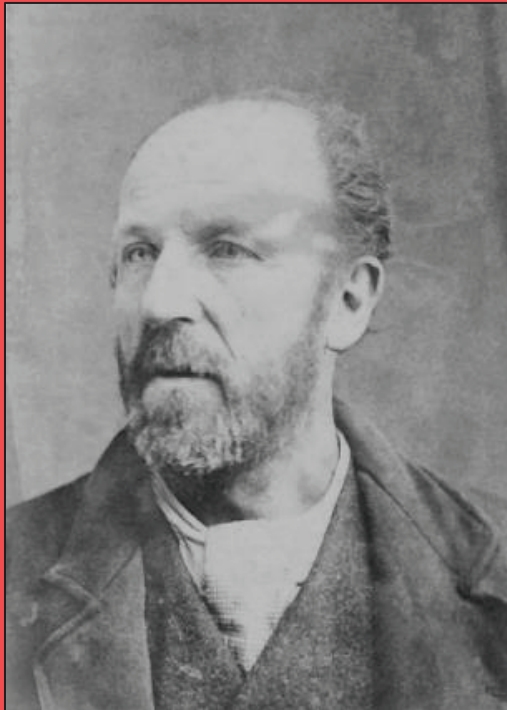


Tasmanian Ancestry



**TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY
SOCIETY INC.**

Volume 44 Number 1 — June 2023

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Deadline dates for contributions by 1 January, 1 April, 1 July and 1 October

From the Editor

I have finally finished studying for the Diploma of Family History at Utas. This has been an interesting journey and I have investigated family members in much more depth than I would have done if not for this course.

I was amazed to find my grandfather and great grandfather both had full page newspaper articles published about them. Both had been ministers in the United Free Church of Scotland and their ordinations were reported in the local papers at the time.

The articles included lists of people in attendance, what was said in various speeches, gifts that were given and details of the local parish.

These reports gave me so much information, including names of siblings, that I had not known of.

I reflect on current newspapers where so many local papers have vanished, and so much of the local news is no longer reported. In a hundred years researchers will not have access to this level of detail. This seems very sad!

Isobel Williams

Cover: Alfred Draper photographed in 1893 courtesy of the Public Record Office, Victoria.

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Articles are welcomed in any format—handwritten, word processed, on disk or by email. Please ensure images are of good quality.

Deadline dates are:

1 January, 1 April, 1 July and 1 October

If you wish to contact the author of an article in *Tasmanian Ancestry* please email the editor, or write care of the editor, enclosing a stamped envelope and your correspondence will be forwarded.

The opinions expressed in this journal are not necessarily those of the journal committee, nor of the Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. Responsibility rests with the author of a submitted article, we do not intentionally print inaccurate information. The society cannot vouch for the accuracy of offers for services or goods that appear in the journal, or be responsible for the outcome of any contract entered into with an advertiser. The editor reserves the right to edit, abridge or reject material.

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President's Message

I expect this to be my last 'President's Message for *Tasmanian Ancestry* as our AGM will be held later in the month and new office bearers are expected to be elected.

I understand that our current President, Secretary and Treasurer will not be re-standing for their positions.

(The constitution of our Society does not allow someone to occupy an individual Executive Office for more than six consecutive years. I believe

that this will apply to some of our current office bearers.)

Please give consideration to standing for one of these positions.

If written nominations have not been received by the time of the May Executive Meeting; nominations will be sought from members attending our Annual General Meeting at Campbell Town.

Maurice Appleyard

President



Branch Reports

Burnie

<https://tasfhs.org/burnie.php>

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We reopened our Branch Library, after the Christmas break, on Monday 16 January. We continued as normal, with volunteers transcribing and indexing and members coming in to do their research.

Our first meeting of the year was a talk from a guest speaker, Tasmanian Author Grant Youd. Grant has just had published his book titled *A Train Driver's Story*. Grant has been involved with the railway for nearly fifty years and his talk about his time with the railway and about writing and publishing his book was of great interest to those in attendance. Books were available for purchase at the meeting.

The March meeting was an up-to-date session on the recent updates to Family Tree Maker and Family Book Creator as well as a session on how to control what you want in charts and reports from FTM and how to format them with embellishments and other attributes.

As our next meeting will be close to ANZAC Day we have asked members to each present a quick 5 minute talk on one of their ancestors who served as an ANZAC during the First World War.

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Since the New Year began the branch has settled back into a regular routine; Monday Group and the DNA Interest Group have recommenced, and we are seeing quite a few visitors from interstate visiting our library.

The big news is that we have new shelving. Many thanks to those volunteers who assembled the shelving and helped Judith Mudaliar transfer the family history books to the new spot which has allowed better access to these much used resources. Judith then undertook the task of transferring other resources around to better occupy the new spaces and then apply the new labelling.

I wonder how many of our members use the Branch or Society website? There is a wealth of information to be found here. By using the drop-down boxes under Resources for example the web version of the Comprehensive Subject/Surname Index (CSI) can be utilised, the Branch Newsletters can be accessed, and the next General Meeting date or DNA Meeting date can be found.

Our monthly General meetings have returned to normal face to face meetings and we look forward to seeing the regular familiar faces and some new ones, too.

General Meetings

Maree Ring was guest speaker at our February General meeting and her topic was the *History of Cornelian Bay Cemetery; 150 years*. Maree has devoted much time and energy to researching the history of Hobart's major cemetery. The first burial in the newly opened Cornelian Bay Cemetery was for a typhoid fever victim Bridget Ryan, 2 October 1872. The need for a larger city cemetery had been a concern for many years. The site, formerly farming land, had been of interest to the government and requisitioned for this purpose. The farming lease continued while plans for the layout of a cemetery and construction of buildings went out to tender. Local Architect Henry Hunter designed the site to include the Chapel Mortuary and the Jewish Receiving House. His plans included landscaping details such as paths and garden beds.

A new cemetery had to be accessible from the city and large enough to serve a growing population well into the future. It needed to be on elevated ground to be safe from flooding, which was a health and sanitation problem for earlier cemeteries. The legislation for the new cemetery also required several smaller cemeteries around the city to be closed to further burials, this to be done within three months.

In keeping within the era, the cemetery plans allocated sections for burials by

religious affiliation. The amount of space was calculated to be proportional to religion as recorded in the 1870 Census, with Church of England and Roman Catholic being the largest groups.

Death and burial rituals that reflect religious and cultural practices can be seen in use of inner crypts that are used by local people of Italian ancestry. The Jewish population of the city successfully sought a separate entrance to their section of the cemetery to avoid the need to walk over existing burial sites, and this entrance can be seen off Queens Walk.

A rail link to the cemetery was briefly considered, but rejected as not necessary for the size of the Hobart population, and while other cemeteries, such as Queenborough and those in the Glenorchy district were still available.

Over the years, and to ensure their preservation, the headstones from other cemeteries around the city have been relocated to Cornelian Bay, and can be found grouped in one location and identified by their original site eg St Johns New Town, and Queenborough Memorial cemeteries. A search of Millingtons online site will find burials with no age or death date recorded and can indicate exhumation from another cemetery. Some headstones only were removed from St Johns Anglican burial ground, and this can be indicated in the cemetery records. This is a good clue for researchers that these are relocated headstones.

The famous and the notorious were laid to rest in Cornelian Bay. The memorial

monument to bushranger Martin Cash is at the cemetery.

A memorial plaque honours the many French sailors of the research ship *Lastrolabe* who died at sea in the Antarctic latitudes in 1839.

Augustus Pugin, Victorian-era architect, rejected the austerity of his Presbyterian origins by using simple but imaginative designs in construction and artefacts. Pugin stones, a style of decoration can be found on headstones at Cornelian Bay.

Quakers avoided shows of wealth and materialism and their simple and uniform headstones reflect this.

Local undertakers sent to and then received ashes from Melbourne for interment at Cornelian Bay before the opening of the crematorium in 1936.

When the Kingston Lawn Cemetery was opened in 1983, Cornelian Bay was closed for further burials. Surveying of the site in the 1990s identified about 500 available plots, and burials resumed at Cornelian Bay.

Henry Hunter's work can still be seen in the open sided timber shelter, a part of the original design of the cemetery and the Jewish Receiving House.

The cemetery administration building facing Cornelian Bay is the original superintendent's house.

The blacksmith's forge of 1830s pre-dates the cemetery, being from the earlier farming days at the site.

The administration of Cornelian Bay cemetery has changed over the years, and since 2008 Millingtons Funerals and Cemeteries has managed the business of the cemetery.

Several publications by dedicated researchers have ensured that information about burial sites, inscriptions and relocated headstones is available to us. A search of publications at the Hobart branch, TFHS library will find these, and a search of the Libraries Tasmania website for Cornelian Bay burials will find much of the source of information referred here.

The speaker at the March meeting was Peter Hodge with the topic *The Story of the Legacy Family*. Peter comes from a military family and is involved with Legacy and the numerous events planned for the centenary of Legacy this year.

The aftermath of the First World War saw many wives and families of wounded and deceased veterans in need of ongoing support.

The Hobart Legacy Club evolved from the Remembrance Club Hobart, established in 1923, which was started by Major-General Sir Joseph Gellibrand, war veteran, and prominent state and federal politician. His early concern was for the care of veterans, and later expanded to include their wives and children.

Government support was available through pensions but Legacy looked to connect veterans families to dedicated volunteers, Legatees, whose own experiences would give insight into their needs. Those men and women who had

survived might carry a greater need to help those who had not.

The Remembrance Club Hobart assisted veterans to find employment. The incapacitated were assisted receiving treatment and accessing support services. Health consequences of conflict, such as shell shock, mental health problems were not immediately associated with trauma of a highly mechanised war. Time exposed this damage in veterans, and their need for support might not appear for many years.

Sport and recreation facilities were important services for veterans' children. Sport and gymnastics classes were held at various locations around Hobart, as availability changed. A dedicated facility was built at Conningham in 1958 for extended supervised camps, an event remembered with great enjoyment now by those who attended as children.

If the number of defence force personnel involved in active service in conflict zones has decreased over the years, the numbers of those needing Legacy's assistance has not.

Australia's involvement in foreign conflicts after World War 2 has seen significant participation by local men and women. Legacy has looked to provide help and support with education expenses and access to government support.

With age, many veterans wives and widows need assistance from Legacy in their dealings with service providers.

In our more complicated world, for those wives and widows of advancing age, assistance is often needed to navigate

government services, and Legatees help with this need.

Legacy Tasmania receives a small amount of government funds and practical support from the community is always needed.

Many events will be held in Tasmania this year to commemorate the work of Legacy, and to draw attention to the ongoing need for financial support and volunteers. There will be a Torch Relay, and a concert at Government House. Gardeners will be interested in the cultivated Grevillea 'Legacy Flame' available from plant nurseries in Tasmania.

Stefan Petrow has written a history of Hobart Legacy, *Look after the Missus and Kids* which is available now.

The Royal United Services Institute Library in Hobart has records associated with the history and work of Legacy in Tasmania.

<https://tas.rusi.org.au/Library.php>

<p>Correction to the report in Vol 43 Number 3 on <i>The Secret Journal of Pte Robert McNally</i> on page 120 states Martin Cash was at Sorell when in fact it was Matthew Brady. Thank you to the member who reported this error.</p>

Launceston

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Our hopes that 2023 would be a busier year than the last three COVID affected years appear to have been realised with an increased number of visitors on library opening days and an increase in research requests. Many visitors are from interstate and overseas (as usually happens in the warmer months) but local visitors have also increased. A number of visitors have indicated their intention to visit and their research interest prior to visiting which has been very helpful in ensuring that resources have been located and someone is available to help them on the day.

At the time of writing, membership renewal for the 2023/24 year has been encouraging and a number of new members have been registered. It is pleasing that interest in family history in younger generations seems to be increasing.

Launceston Branch Research Service continues to generate an increasing number of requests and is a valuable fundraiser for the Branch. The small research team, led by Research Officer Robyn Gibson, is always busy and there are often repeat requests from satisfied clients. Most people find the service via

the website, which also generates phone enquiries from family historians requiring information or assistance.

The previously named 'duty officers' in our library have been renamed 'library assistants' which is more in keeping with the role they play in assisting visitors to the library with the resources available and their family history queries. Library assistants are now wearing name tags which also enables better communication. We were very pleased to welcome Daryl Byrne and Sophie Appleby as new library assistants and hope that they find the role both interesting and satisfying.

We are seeing more people who are interested in pursuing their family history research through DNA matching. Some of these have been directed to the DNA Discussion Circle, in recess during Covid restrictions, which resumed in February with a lot of interest from new and old members. The next meeting will be in August and will be advised via the website and newsletter. If any member is interested in joining the group, Helen can be contacted via the Branch email or phone number.

The British Interest Group (BIG) continues to meet on the second Wednesday each month with relevant British ancestry topics discussed at each meeting. Recent topics have been *Northern Ireland, UK Manorial Rolls* and *Scotland 1921 Census*. The topic for the June meeting will be *Edinburgh, Scotland, Extent Rolls, 1580-1847*. New members are always welcome and can book via the Branch contacts.

In March, Anthony Black, senior librarian with the State Library and Archives Service in Hobart, conducted a successful workshop *Tasmanian Archives – Accessing the Records* for interested members and visitors. Participants benefited from Anthony’s knowledge and expertise in learning how the state archives are structured, which helps in identifying what might be available online or on-site in Hobart, and how to view these online, if available. The process involved in accessing archival material in Hobart and some tips to enable this, was explained.

Other workshops are planned for June and September with the topics still to be finalised.

At the time of writing this report, Launceston Branch was planning for the Annual General Meeting for 2022/23 to be held on 19 April 2023 at the Elderly Citizens Club, Invermay with guest speaker, Dr Jillian Koshin on the topic *World War II – The Home Front*. Office bearers for 2023/24, elected at that AGM, will be advised via the quarterly newsletter.

Our library and office premises at City Park Stables, Tamar Street are cramped, and storage is over-stretched. The search for new premises continues as part of the recently established Launceston History Centre Inc. and proposed co-location with the Launceston Historical Society Inc. and Friends of the Launceston Mechanics Institute Inc. Some options have been investigated but nothing identified to date.

Members will be advised when other information is available.

The fortnightly segment on City Park Radio’s *Long Lunch* continues, usually focusing on a topic of interest to family historians, as well as promoting TFHS activities. It has proved to be a useful way of promoting Branch activities as people have made contact directly after a broadcast regarding the topic discussed. The Examiner *Community Notices* in Saturday’s newspaper is also an effective means of advertising upcoming workshops that usually generates interest from non-members.

The quarterly newsletter was distributed to members in late April with the next one planned for late July. Past newsletters are available on the website. Contributions to the newsletter, of about 300 words or less, are welcome and can be forwarded to Fran via the Branch contact details listed above.

Launceston Branch Committee is grateful for the hard work of our volunteers and the many donations, monetary and otherwise, large and small, that members contribute. Over the years, our generous benefactors have enabled, and continue to enable, the purchase of new equipment and technology for use within our library. Such generosity is very much appreciated.

Mersey Branch

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Mersey Branch held a very successful fund raiser on Saturday 11 at the branch library. The fund raiser was in the form of an afternoon tea with bric-a-brac and produce tables. Maybe the success was due to Sue-Ellen ‘the queen of scone making’ and her fabulous Devonshire Teas. Many thanks to the committee for their help in making the day happy and enjoyable. We are looking forward to Spring when there will be another similar event.

Our latest publication, *The Cemetery that Was – The Bluff*, a revised edition by Helen Anderson, when approved, we will have the book on our website.

Josie Badcock, the author of the *Significant Buildings* sketchbook series relating to houses and buildings in towns and areas in the North West, has kindly given Mersey branch permission to use her sketches for display in our front windows. These books are beautifully presented with calligraphy by Jan Richardson and

each sketch also has historical notes. The areas are Deloraine, Devonport, Latrobe, Moriarty, Northdown, Sassafras and Kentish ranging from 70 to 120 pages.

All available from Mersey Branch \$15 each + postage.

Indexing of the Advocate Personal notices for 2022 is well in hand. The Advocate notices for 2021, starting the next five yearly combination is for use within the Mersey branch only. Searches can be made by contacting the branch.

F E Watts and School photographic indexing projects are ongoing.

Our AGM will be held on Saturday 22 April at 1pm at the branch library.

The Huon Branch of the Tasmanian Family History Society

Eddy Steenbergen (Member 5290)

At the November 2022 executive meeting of our Society, it was decided, with great sadness, to accept the recommendation from the Huon Branch that the branch be wound up. It was felt that there were too few members to undertake the many tasks involved in maintaining an active branch.

The executive decided that society members currently attached to the Huon Branch would be automatically transferred to the Hobart branch unless they had a preference for another branch. Consequently, it made sense to give Hobart Branch first option on the considerable resources collected over

many years by the Huon Branch and situated at their library in the Ranelagh Soldiers Memorial Hall. As a first step, the Hobart Branch distributed to other branches an inventory of publications in the Huon collection that Hobart did not need, so that other branches could make a claim for remaining publications. That process continues.

We are indebted to Betty Fletcher, a founding member of the branch who remains a society member, for the short history of the Huon Branch below. We also thank Betty and the branch librarian Amanda Cavenett for their assistance in managing branch assets.



Ranelagh Soldiers' Memorial Hall

The branch was formally established in 1984,¹ initially holding their meetings at the Huonville CWA rooms in Wilmot Road, Huonville.² At that time our Society was known as Genealogical Society of Tasmania, (becoming the Tasmanian Family History Society Inc in 2001).

The branch officially moved, on 15 February 1986, to a room a few kilometres from Huonville at the rear of the Ranelagh Soldiers' Memorial Hall.³ That historic hall, first opened in 1924,⁴ would be the base of the branch thereafter allowing the branch to become active in helping members and visitors to access family history from their library.

By late 1987 the branch was negotiating with the Huon Council for three rooms at the front of the hall, the one at the rear proving insufficient.⁵ They were ultimately successful with the branch library occupying rooms to the left of the building entrance since then.

In addition to conducting branch research, our members participated in society projects transcribing information from monuments in cemeteries from Cygnet, Esperance and the Huon. That data made its way into TAMIOT (a TFHS project) and EHeritage (a project of the State Library of Tasmania). EHeritage has long since been superseded by a new service but TAMIOT even now is still a valuable resource used by many researchers. Members enjoyed getting out and recording information found on graves in

the Huon region. Branch members also worked on LDS projects transcribing Victorian BDM records. During 1992 and 1993 the branch conducted a project collecting oral histories from elderly people in the area, possibly the only project of its type from any branch. If any reader knows where the results of that project may be found, please contact the society.

Branch delegates regularly attended State Executive meetings, in recent times from home using the Zoom program. Through those meetings the branch maintained contact with other branches and received news and advice to help in the business side of the branch.

The Huon Branch has conducted the State AGM twice over the years. The latest was in Huonville in 2019. At the first in 2005, the society patron Dr Alison Alexander presented foundation member Shirley (Betty) Fletcher with a Tasmanian Family History Society Inc Award for long and meritorious service to the society. Betty was the secretary of the branch at its inception and has taken on the role of branch president for most of the life of the branch.

The second branch member to receive a Tasmanian Family History Society Inc Award was Coralie Mesecke. She was presented her award at the 2008 AGM of the society.

Branch members have also published several items in Tasmanian Ancestry over

¹ Tas Ancestry Vol 5 No 2, p64.

² Ibid, p53.

³ Tas Ancestry Vol 7 No 1, p23.

⁴ Mercury (Hobart), 27 May 1924.

⁵ Tas Ancestry Vol 8 No 4, p142.

the years, as well as in the Huon News (a local newspaper). The December 1994 issue largely comprised articles written by members of the Huon branch on topics relating to the history of the Huon region, as was the March 1988 issue.

The branch, particularly in the earlier years, worked hard to raise funds to equip its library as a fully functional and comprehensive library. They had stalls to raise money for the branch which allowed the branch to buy extra books and data, and upgrade with the buying of equipment such as computers, microfiche readers, and printers.

The Huon Council has been very supportive of the branch while it operated in the Ranelagh Hall. There were however, occasions when members attended Huon Council meetings to have input into Council plans for the hall.

The branch held several State Executive Annual meetings and dinners, and this was time when members got meet and greet from each of the branches.

The branch, particularly in its early years, invited several guest speakers to its events. They were well received by members and the public, especially when they helped members and visitors to find a lost relative or discover new sources of useful information.

As for other branches of the society and other organizations, activity in the branch was severely affected by the Covid pandemic. The branch's library was closed to the public from 2019, with activity limited to responding to research requests from members and the public.

Reasons why our branch decided to close included the gradual loss of members over the years, some passing on and others moving away. The recent passing of John Gillham, our treasurer for many years, made it even more difficult to maintain an active branch.

John also had for many years the responsibility for maintaining the Society database of Members' Interests until he was forced to give it up recently through ill-health.

Members should not forget the very useful service we provide where the interests of new and renewing members are published in *Tasmanian Ancestry*. The Society has over the years been contacted by many members of the public asking to be put in contact with others with similar interests. These requests result from Google searches, which search older issues of *Tasmanian Ancestry* uploaded to the society website.

When the society receives a request for contact with a member, we will forward it on to the most recent address we have for them even if they are no longer a member.

John and Libby Gillham worked as a team for many years, Libby as branch Secretary and Publicity Officer, and John as branch Treasurer. Both were also branch delegates on the Society Executive during this period.

Our branch and the State Executive would like to offer our condolences to Libby and their families, they will certainly be missed by members and by the State Executive.

Launceston Catholic Baptism Records 1845-1885

or

“*What the Transcriber Saw*”

Bill McGowan OBE (*Over Bloomin’ Eighty*) (Member 6659)

Conversations Past and Present 1.
Between young granddaughter and me.

“Pa! Mummy says you don’t go to work now cause you’re tired!”..... “Almost, sweetheart, it’s because I’ve retired.” “If you’re very tired, does Ma make you have an afternoon sleep like Mummy used to make me?” “Not yet, because I still have some volunteer work to do.” “What sort of volunteer work do you do, Pa?” “I’m a Transcriber!” “Wow! Does that mean you can turn your car into a robot?” “No. That’s a Transformer dear. The best I can do is turn my car into a service station.”

So, what does a retired elderly gentleman do when firstly, after fifty years of family history research, he finally finds he has a little time to reminisce?

“...Ah! The good old 1970s when you had to write to the appropriate *State Births, Deaths and Marriages Registry*, giving many details and request a birth, death or marriage certificate, enclose a cheque or postal note and wait patiently for 3-4 weeks for a reply. Which was often “No Record Found.” But they still kept the money!”

Secondly, on becoming a member of the Friends of Launceston Library in 2016, the opportunity arose to work in the Library as a volunteer, transcribing BDM, Convict and other family history records to be eventually uploaded to the internet by The Launceston Branch of the State Library of Tasmania.

Later again, moving on to 2018 and the start of the “Covid” stay at home era, the realization came that “*I could work from home.*” That’s when my transcription work became ‘at home’ rather than ‘in house’ and I was able to greatly increase my workload.

..... And so, to the Launceston Catholic Baptism Records 1845-1885.

After a training session with the family history library technician, I came home with a USB stick containing copies of the 385 pages of baptism records and set to work. My first task was to read, decipher, and record, on an ‘Excel’ spreadsheet, approximately 5350 baptism records which included, not only the dates of each birth and baptism together with the child’s family name and other names, but also the family and other names of the parents and

godparents. Around 24,500 individuals all together.

Then 450 hours later, when that work was completed, the library technician and I decided that it would be very useful to expand the spreadsheet and correlate the data with the Library's "Tasmanian Names Index" (TNI) records to confirm, where possible, the correct transcription and spelling of the baptism records and to gather supplementary information for the Library's use as well. Another 650 hours and that work is now finished.

So, what did the transcriber see?

1. Spellen, Spellin or Spelling. Conversations Past and Present.

Between Government Scribe and new parent, Michael Riley.

"What's your name? Moichael Roilly. Michael Rolly? No, Roilly. Oh, Rielly. Dat's right, Sir."

The details were dutifully recorded as Michael O'Rielly.

With a high percentage of early residents/settlers unable to read or write and with, no doubt, very strong accents brought from their country of origin, it obviously fell to the Parish Priests, their assistants and Government Officials to record the necessary details as they heard them at the time. I'm sure phonetic spelling wasn't heard of in those days but, I suspect, it was used on a quite a number of occasions. Here are a few examples.

(a) December 1855 Catholic baptism records the mother's name as Ellen DELOHOURY. Her child's birth

record lists her as Ellen DELANKERY and her marriage record shows her name as Ellen DOLOKENS.

- (b) December 1854 Catholic baptism records the mother's name as Alice DEALEY. Her child's birth record lists her as Alice DALEY and her marriage record shows her name as Alice DALY.
- (c) May 1855 Catholic baptism records the father's name as Edwin Hooper DIX but his marriage record shows him to be Edwin HOOPER.
- (d) September 1855 Catholic baptism records the mother's name as Margaret FLETCHER. Her child's birth record lists her as Margaret GREGOR and her marriage record shows her name as Margaret GREGORY.

Birth not registered (in Tasmania).

An annual random sample of 30 Catholic baptism records (1200 in total over the 40 years of baptisms) shows 55% of the births are not included in the Tasmania Names Index. By applying this percentage to the 5350 baptisms we can extrapolate that almost 3000 births would not have been officially registered. This means the Library now has digital records of the birth date of those 3000 children which are possibly not recorded elsewhere.

No TNI Records found.

As mentioned previously, the database will list about 3000 instances where parents did not register their child's birth. There is, no doubt, many reasons for these registrations not occurring. Marriages, however, are a different matter as it would

have been a legal requirement for the Clergy to record and register the details of every marriage service that they conducted. Therefore, if there is no marriage record in Tasmania, it is reasonable to assume that the parents were already married when they arrived in Tasmania.

Godparents WITH the same family name.

- a) An assumption that they are a married couple could not be made. They might be siblings. I found one instance of a grandmother and uncle being Godparents.
- b) The only way to confirm that the Godparents may be, in fact, married is through the wife's other or first name(s). When there are only a small number of TNI recorded marriages, where all the names correspond to those of both the male and the female, then that marriage is a possibility. If the marriage took place at St Joseph's or the Church of Apostles in Launceston, then the likelihood of the Godparents being married to each other is increased. But when, for example, William Smith and Mary Smith appear as Godparents for the same child, a check of the TNI records for William Smith shows numerous marriages to somebody named Mary making it impossible to confirm which, if any, of these were the couple named in the Baptism record.

Godparents WITHOUT the same family name

Although a godparent appearing in the Baptism Record may have the same name as a person within other TNI records, there is no information in the TNI records that ties them to that particular Baptism record.

Births which occurred in the Launceston Female House of Correction.

Many of the female convicts who passed through the above institution were of the Catholic faith, so it fell to the Priest of the time to baptize any children that were born to these girls whilst they were in prison. As these children were mostly illegitimate, two observations can be made....

Confirmation of the illegitimate birth was usually noted in the mother's convict conduct record, (available online through the TNI records).

Conversations Past and Present. 3.

Between visiting Catholic Priest and a new mother.

"Father's name? I'm not married. I know. But I still need the father's name or I can't baptise the child. Oh, well, in that case, ... Um, ... John Smith. There's a coincidence, the father has the same name as me. Gosh! That's right, Father!"

Presumably at the insistence of the officiating Priest, the Father's names were always noted in the Baptism records. But, one must question the accuracy and legitimacy of these names (provided by the mother?). Were they "fair dinkum" or

“made-up” to enable the baptism to take place?

Three out of Four ain't too bad.

As noted previously, phonetic spelling is the transcriber's second worst nightmare (illegible handwriting being the worst). When either of these were encountered in the TNI records then the data was entered with the prefix “Possible Birth” or “Possible Marriage.” Likewise with some of the Godparent's marriages.

- (a) On quite a few occasions, the Date of Birth in the Baptism record did not match the one in the TNI Birth record. Sometimes this was only a few days but there were also times when the difference was much greater. When this occurred and all the other related data matched then the difference had to be ascribed to:

The parent/person providing the information was illiterate and unable to give an accurate date for each record.

If the mother was pregnant at the time of the marriage, then perhaps the date was deliberately altered to cover this.

I'm sure you can think of a few more reasons!

..... and the data was entered as recorded.

There were also times when the mother's maiden Family Name was different in the Baptism and Birth records. (see 1d above). A check of the appropriate Marriage records often showed that the mother was a widow and was remarried. The Baptism record showed her “Maiden Name” and

the Birth Record showed her married name from her first marriage.

Resisting Temptation.

As an avid “amateur detective” genealogist, on many occasions I found data that was both intriguing and very much in need of further investigation. As a consequence, I had to “bite the bullet instead of the apple” and refocus on the job at hand, otherwise this transcription assignment would have stretched out for another year or two.

But, Which Came First?

Whilst happily searching through TNI records, the following data popped up.

Edward F DEASE married Maria ANDERSON in St Joseph's Catholic Church, Launceston on 21 October, 1851. The witnesses were William BREAN and Ann THOM.

Edward Francis DEANE married Maria ANDERSON in the Trinity Church of the Church of England and Ireland, Launceston on 21 October 1851. The witnesses were William BREAN and Ann THOM.

Apart from the locations and the different spelling of the Bridegroom's Family Name everything else is exactly the same. Is the obvious conclusion that one was a Catholic and the other a Protestant? But, any other speculation aside, may be they just wanted to be DOUBLY sure that they were actually married.

Completely Useless Trivia.

In an exceedingly high number of Baptisms where the father's first name was Patrick, no corresponding TNI Birth record was found.

For the Statistics Lovers.

5350 – Number of baptisms transcribed.

24,500 - Number of children, parents and godparents recorded

524 - Printed A4 (portrait) pages required for alphabetical listing.

1100 - Hours on the computer to complete the assignment.

14 - Months to complete the assignment.

750+ - Mugs of tea and coffee consumed.

0 - Tim Tams eaten.

Where to from here?

For the Launceston Library Staff.

- a) Verify the accuracy of my transcriptions.
- b) Rejig the database to put all the Family Names into alphabetical order.
- c) Create a series of printed booklets of the alphabetical listing (24,500 names) to be stored on the Launceston Library shelves for reference use by the visiting public.
- d) Eventually upload all the data onto the National Library of Australia website "National EDeposit".

Note! Although this will take some time, the information in its present format is accessible by the Library staff and any enquiries in person at the Launceston library should be able to be attended to.

For (not as young as he used to be) Bill.

- (1) A cryptic crossword every day.
- (2) A few 1000 piece jigsaws to relax with.
- (3) Keep researching my Family Histories.
- (4) Maybe, in my idle moments, return to some of that data that "requires further investigation."
- (5) I'm sure the Library has a pile of convict and family history records that still require transcribing.

Conversations Past and Present. 5.

Between an ancient Irish ancestor of mine and his mate.

"Congratulate me Mick! I'm an uncle. Me sister's just had twins, a girl and a boy."
..... "Dat's great Pat. What are day called?" *"Well de girl's called Denise, and de boy's called de nephew!"*

The River of my Life: Part 2

Dane McCormack, (Member 8274)

I love rivers. There's just something about how water flows and finds a pathway through the world, regardless of the obstacles in the way. This is the second part of my story of the River Mersey.

Bells Parade

More recently, Bells Parade has been expanded to include Pig Island. When I was a youngster it was a cow paddock, and we would wade through the cow poo to cast a fishing line. They have now turned it into the most magical riverside reserve with a lush green oval and a lovely walking track around the outside¹.

Then from Bells Parade to the poo factory, they have built the most amazing walking track along the river. Back in my youth, there was a very rough track that had been built for a vehicle, but it wasn't easy riding a bike on it, let alone driving a vehicle! Now it's a beautiful, paved path, which continues past the poo factory to Ambleside along River Road, which is a narrow twisty road right beside the river. It was dangerous just driving along, as cars coming the other way drive very fast. Back then I'd never even ride a bike along it, let alone walk! But they've recently built the most amazing pathway in between the river and road. I never thought in a million years that I'd walk along River Road. But

the most amazing part of this path, is that the Latrobe and Devonport councils successfully worked together to build it.²

This stretch of river is part fresh and part salt because of how close it is to the sea, which means it's also affected by the tides, and at low tide the river ebbs back and reveals enormous mudflats, leaving the river about a quarter of the width. These are ideal fishing conditions, because as the tide rises and covers the flats, the fish go looking for the worms and bugs that have surfaced for the sunshine but have not yet burrowed down again. We had so much fun catching trout and flathead in Dad's boat along here.

Of course, the mudflats had their own source of fascination, seeing all the different signs of life like the crabs, and the shells, and the beetles, and the bugs, but also playing with all of that was so much fun. That alone would have been enough. But the fishing was the best.

Devonport

The Mersey River then flows into Devonport, which originally comprised of two settlements. Charles OLDAKER was the first settler at Torquay on the eastern shore in 1851. Then Formby was settled on the western shore in 1853. In 1851 coal

¹ Pig Island Gets a Facelift, by the Advocate, May 18, 2015

² Ambleside, Latrobe section of Coastal Pathway Opens Today, by Devonport City

Council, accessed Nov 22

<<https://www.devonport.tas.gov.au/coastal-pathway-ambleside-latrobe-section-opens/>>

was discovered at Tarleton, which is just up the Mersey River near Latrobe. This attracted additional population and development in Devonport. To cope with this increase in population, the police administration and courts were moved from Port Sorell, which was previously the main port and settlement in the area, to Torquay³.

Tarleton

These days Tarleton is a ‘blink and you’ll miss it’ town, with just a couple of houses. But back in the 1850s it was a thriving village with 34 houses, four stores, a police station, and three hotels. It’s located just past Frogmore House on the road to Devonport. The coal deposits were found by William DEAN and Benjamin COCKER. The mines were established by Welsh miner Zephaniah WILLIAMS who had been arrested for high treason in the Chartist riots and transported to Tasmania, where he spent time at Port Arthur working in the coal mines. After he was pardoned, he acquired 2000 acres of land in Tarleton, established a miner’s camp and started Denison Colliery in 1853. The government assisted by constructing an access road to the mine. Zephaniah then constructed a tramway and wharf on the Mersey River, so boats could be loaded

with coal⁴. Unfortunately, his business closed in 1859, however, he is credited with Tarleton’s early prosperity.

Shipping and Port

The Mersey River becomes quite shallow up near the Latrobe Port, so when the boats became bigger it was closed and a port was established closer to the mouth of the river to allow bigger boats to use it. Shipping and trade then began as important industries for Devonport.

The Holyman Shipping company is an institution in Devonport. William Holyman jumped ship in the Tamar River at Georgetown in 1854, then spent three months on a treadmill as punishment⁵. The treadmill was used to grind grain for the colony. They would walk for 40 minutes at a time, before getting 20 minutes rest.

William then established the White Star shipping company, opening the first shipping yards at Torquay in 1855. Other family members went on to establish an airline, which began as Australian National Airways, and later joined Ansett.

John DRAKE was a Scottish ship’s carpenter who jumped ship in Melbourne to work the goldfields and was then bought to Devonport in 1855 by David COCKER to build barges at Torquay⁶. He

³ Devonport, by Faye Gardam, University of Tasmania, accessed Nov 22

<https://www.utas.edu.au/library/companion_to_tasmanian_history/D/Devonport.htm>

⁴ Williams, Zephaniah, G. Rude, Australian National University, accessed Nov 22
<<https://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/williams-zephaniah-2795>>

⁵ Holyman Family, by Robin Holyman, University of Tasmania, accessed Nov 22
<https://www.utas.edu.au/library/companion_to_tasmanian_history/H/Holyman%20family.htm>

⁶ The Thistle, by Bass Strait Maritime Centre, accessed Nov 22
<<https://www.bassstraitmaritimecentre.com.au/history/the-thistle/>>

built the *SS Thistle*, which was the first steamer to be built on the North West Coast of Tasmania. He then used the *Thistle* to ferry cargo and passengers between Latrobe, Formby, Torquay and ships in Bass Strait.

Another highly influential shipbuilder in Devonport was Johnathon GRIFFITHS, who was transported to Australia on the Second Fleet⁷. He established his shipping career in the Hawkesbury region, before moving to the Tamar River, Tasmania in 1819, then establishing shipbuilding yards in Muddy Creek, Port Sorell and at Formby. He built over 50 ships, including the 350-ton *Sydney Griffith* which did four trading voyages to England before unfortunately sinking on its fifth voyage. Johnathon also built the first five shops on Devonport's main street. Johnny and Lorraine Griffiths were direct descendants of Jonathon and were good friends with my parents. Johnny inherited the family slip in Muddy Creek, and I greatly enjoyed checking out what they were up to. Johnny was a house builder and every couple of years he'd build a new one and then go live in it. We'd joke that he'd built and lived in half the houses in Port Sorell.

Railway

The railway from Deloraine to Devonport was a key enabler for the port⁸. The

Mersey and Deloraine Tramway Company was formed in 1864 to build it and they opened it for service in 1872. Unfortunately, with only 27.9km of track and a poor uptake in service, it immediately found itself in financial difficulty. After four months of service, it retired its only engine and used horsepower along the tracks for seasonal produce. In 1885 it was absorbed into the Tasmanian Government Railway, which laid new tracks and restored service.

Devonport

Formby, Torquay, Wivenhoe and Appledore amalgamated in 1890 to form Devonport, with a cross-river ferry connecting the two communities⁹. Torquay was the larger settlement with police stations, post offices, magistrates, hotels, shipyards, and shops. The sandbar at the mouth of the river was also dredged to allow bigger ships into the river. The name Devonport was chosen because it was a port in the Tasmanian County of Devon. The Tasmanian County of Devon was named after the County of Devon in Southern England.

The Victoria bridge was opened in 1901 linking the Devonport communities by road, to reduce the reliance on boats and ferries to get across the Mersey River¹⁰. It partially collapsed due to teredo worms in

⁷ A family's long affair with Muddy Creek and their lasting rowing tradition, by Rick Eaves, ABC Northern Tasmania, 17 January 2020

⁸ The Mersey and Deloraine Railway, by The Daily Telegraph, 1st June 1885, p. 3

⁹ Devonport, by University of Tasmania, accessed Nov 2020

<<https://www.utas.edu.au/tasmanian-companion/biogs/E000292b.htm>>

¹⁰ Bridges across the Mersey: Victoria Bridge, by Bass Strait Maritime Centre, accessed Nov 22

<<https://www.bassstraitmaritimecentre.com.au/news/bridges-across-the-mersey-victoria-bridge/>>

1924. Then the concrete bridge was constructed in 1973.

Port of Devonport

The Port of Devonport is personally significant for me for several reasons. My dad would take my brother and me fishing on the Devonport wharf in our youth. Here you would sit on the wharf and lower the hook, with bait, down into the water and wait for the fish to bite.

We would also accompany him to the wharves to watch onions being loaded onto the big ships for export to Europe. He played a big role in modifying the containers, so they kept the onions fresher during shipping, by putting a fan in the side of the container to blow air through the onions. It was so much fun going into the big warehouses on the wharf to watch the big forklifts pick up the huge containers full of onions and place them on the wharf, so a giant crane could lift them onto a boat.

Doing all these activities as a child drove an interest in how a port worked and what types of businesses operated from them. Two of the most interesting businesses that operated out of the port were Petuna Seafoods and Goliath Cement Works.

Petuna Seafoods

Petuna Seafoods is a thriving seafood business in Devonport, started by Peter and Una ROCKLIFF in 1949 as a fishing venture.¹¹ Peter had started barracuda fishing in Port Sorell, where his dad had

helped him fit out a small boat and install an engine. He then met Una at Bridport in 1949, they married, and she played a key role in helping him establish his business.

In the early years Peter was catching fish, but giving them away, when Una insisted, they sell them. This helped Peter purchase a bigger boat called the *Julia Elizabeth*, which they used to catch crayfish. The boat could only hold 34 craypots, and to get another two craypots on, they had to use and name the little dinghy on the *Julie Elizabeth*. They eventually settled on combining their names Peter and Una, to create Petuna, and a great name was born. Although, they have recently changed the name to Peter and Una Seafoods as they edge toward retirement.

In 1964 they started venturing down the West Coast of Tasmania, going down to the treacherous Southern Ocean, living on the boat, with no radio or heating. This then encouraged them to design and build the first trawler in Tasmania, the Petuna Endeavour, which allowed them to fish down to 500–600 metres for Orange Roughy. It then took them four or five years before they found their first aggregation of Orange Roughy, but it was a gold mine, and they quickly filled their boat with fish.

They then struggled to find a market for all the fish they were catching. However, Una was good at marketing, so she started selling the fish off the *Petuna Endeavour*. But that meant they couldn't use the boat

¹¹ Peter and Una Rockliff celebrate seven decades in the seafood business, by The Advocate, November 26 2019.

to catch fish, so they bought a shop that quickly became known as the best seafood shop in Northern Tasmania.

Goliath

The Goliath Cement Works in Railton shipped all their product from Devonport. They have a huge silo on the Devonport wharf, and trains would continuously pull in to deposit their loads of cement powder. The carriages they used to cart the cement powder were huge barrels, which were bigger than the train—and there were dozens of carriages being pulled by a single train. Then the ship they used to bulk-transport the cement was a sight to see. It is literally a goliath of a ship, the *MV Goliath*.

Mersey Yacht Club

I also learned to sail on the Mersey River as a crewman for Thomas HANSEN, in a small sailing dinghy with the Mersey Yacht Club. The first yacht race was held on the Mersey River at Sayer's Point in 1877 and the club was inaugurated in 1893¹². It was so much fun sailing out through the Eye of the Needle, to the Edge of the Shelf—i.e., through the mouth (eye) of the Mersey River—to the edge of the Continental Shelf in Bass Strait, one of the roughest waterways in the world. But it was so much more fun surfing the big waves back in through the eye of the needle. Although you had to be careful as

it was quite dangerous. Like the day when we capsized right in front of the rocky breakwater. We were five metres away from the big rocks, with three-metre-high waves. Scary doesn't even begin to describe that situation. But we didn't panic. My skipper had capsized on purpose one day in the river, just so I knew exactly what to do in situations like this. So, we quickly got in our assigned positions, righted the boat, and swiftly sailed away. Not everyone was as lucky, and the evidence is clear to see. In 1939, the steam-driven dredge, the *Agnew*, ran aground on the rocky breakwater, as the skipper had missed the river mouth due to dense fog¹³. The remains of the *Agnew* can still be seen at low tide.

Bass Strait Ferries

Because we raced on the river, we also became very familiar with the commercial ships that plied the waters. Commercial ships have right of way, so even though we were in a sailboat at the mercy of the winds, we had to keep a sharp eye out for commercial ships. The biggest of all these ships was the *Abel Tasman* Bass Strait ferry, which was named after the first European to land on Tasmania. It was 150 metres long and 23 metres wide.

The first car-carrying ferry to link Tasmania and the mainland was the steam-

¹² History of the Mersey Yacht Club, accessed Nov 22
<https://www.merseyyachtclub.com/club_history

¹³ View shipwreck *Agnew*, by Australian Department of Climate Change, Energy, the

Environment, and Water, accessed Nov 22
<<http://www.environment.gov.au/shipwreck/public/wreck/wreck.do?sessionId=56E640FCB87ED7818067456F24840EFB?key=6840&action=expandAll>>

driven *Taroona* in 1935¹⁴; it could hold a small number of cars that needed to be lifted on by a crane. By the 1950s demand had increased for tourists wanting to bring their cars to Tasmania. At about the same time, Europe had started building roll-on/roll-off ferries. The Commonwealth Government then committed to building a roll-on/roll-off vessel for Tasmania, to be operated by the Australian National Line, which the government had formed in 1956¹⁵. The first vessel to be used on the Devonport-to-Melbourne route was *The Princess of Tasmania* in 1959 and it was the largest roll-on/roll-off vessel in the world at the time.¹⁶

River Tribute

Now that we have flowed down through the Mersey River's history to the end of the river, I'd like it known that when my life has similarly flowed to an end, I would like my ashes to be spread in the Mersey River at Alum Cliffs, so they can flow down through my memories, past the homes of my ancestors, out into the wide expanses of Bass Strait. From there they could venture anywhere in the world.

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¹⁴ *Taroona's* first trip, by The Advocate, 26 July, 1935, p. 6

¹⁵ Australian National Line, by Norman Middlemiss, Shipping Today and Yesterday 8 March 2016

¹⁶ *Princess of Tasmania*, by Ferries of Tasmania, accessed Nov 22
<<https://ferriesoftasmania.com/princess-of-tasmania/>>

ROBERT SALMON and ELIZABETH (nee DELL) RATTRAY:

Launceston - Victorian Goldfields - Launceston

1832-1904

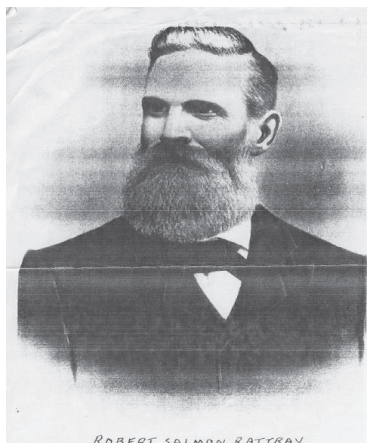
Tony Dell (Member 8110)

Robert Salmon Rattray and Elizabeth DELL were both born in Launceston, Van Diemen's Land. They are my 2x great grandparents.

Robert was born on 6 December 1832¹, the second child of William RATTRAY (1804-1850) and Christiana SALMON (1802-1864) who arrived in Launceston, via Liverpool and the Cape of Good Hope,

from Lanarkshire, Scotland, on board the *Brenda* on Saturday, 10 December 1831.²

Elizabeth was born on 16 December 1834,³ the second child of Joseph Dell (1800-1867) and Mary Brookwell PEAT (1813-1886). Joseph was born in Sydney⁴ and arrived in Launceston (then Port Dalrymple), on board the *Elizabeth Henrietta*, from Sydney (having recently



Robert and Elizabeth Rattray, c 1880, Launceston

¹ This date is from family sources and I haven't yet been able to corroborate it from documentary sources. There is no entry in the Library Tas Names Index and I haven't yet found any baptism information.

² Shipping Intelligence, Launceston Advertiser (Tas.: 1829-1846), Wed 14 Dec 1831, p.388 (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

³ Birth registration 6394/1843, RGD32/1/2 no 6394, Name Indexes: 1084061 (Libraries Tas)

⁴ In late April or early May. His mother, Mary Hounsett (Honslow), died on 2 May 1800, possibly of child birth complications. (Australia, Death Index, 1787-1985, for Mary Dell, 1800, V18001495 2A (Ancestry.com))

arrived back from England with his family), on 11 October 1818.⁵

Mary Brookwell Peat is something of an enigma. She was either born in Launceston in 1813, of which I can find no record, or may have been born in Thirsk, Yorkshire about 1814 and come to Launceston with her mother, Ellen?, again, of which I can find no record.

On 4 January 1842, Robert (9), and his younger brother, George (5), were living with their parents in a rented brick house in Bathurst Street, Launceston⁶. It seems that his older brother, John (12), was not at home at the time of the Census. His father, William is noted as a mechanic and artificer (he was a carpenter) and the family's religion is noted as Other Protestant Dissenters (probably Baptist).

On the same date, Elizabeth (8), her brother, Thomas (6), her sister, Ellen (3) and brother, William (6 months) were living with their parents in an owner-occupied brick residence in Brisbane Street, Launceston. Joseph, Elizabeth's father, is noted under the occupation class of Land Proprietors, Merchants, Bankers, and Professional Persons (he was a landowner and grocer) and the family's religion is noted as Church of England.⁷

By the lead-in to the 1850s the economy of Van Diemen's Land had started to slow with the outflow of people to Victoria. Life was obviously hard for tradesmen in this sort of environment and, by 1849, William Rattray must have found supporting his family difficult. On 16 April 1849, it seems he departed Launceston, steerage, for Sydney on the barque *Augustus*, arriving on 24 April,⁸ probably to see what opportunities existed there.

By May 1850, William was back in Launceston and on 9 May he departed Launceston on the barque *Spartan*, again steerage, bound for San Francisco⁹, taking with him 4 cases of fruit, 4 bags of Oats and 2 bags of Flour, possibly to try his hand at the California Gold Rush. Unfortunately, he never made it to the goldfields as he died of cholera in San Francisco on 16 November 1850.¹⁰

After receiving the news of his father's death in February 1851, Robert and his brothers were now the family bread winners. Robert, for his part, departed Launceston on 29 December 1851, steerage, via the steam ship *City of*

⁵ Nicholas, Ian Hawkins, *Shipping Arrivals and Departures, Tasmania, 1803-1833*, Roebuck, 1983

⁶ VDL Census 1842, Names Index: 481692, CEN 1/1/28, pp.144A&B

⁷ VDL Census 1842, Names Index: 474662, CEN 1/1/67, p.65

⁸ New South Wales, Australia, Unassisted Passenger Immigrant Lists, 1826-1922, April

1849, *Augustus* for Wm. Rattray (Ancestry.com)

⁹ Launceston Examiner (Tas.: 1842-1899), Sat 11 May 1850, p.6, Shipping Intelligence (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

¹⁰ Launceston Examiner (Tas.: 1842-1899), Wed 12 Feb 1851, p.2, Family Notices (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

*Melbourne*¹¹, on what seems to be the first of a number of such trips in 1851 and 1852. At 19 years of age, he was no doubt looking for more lucrative work than was available in Launceston at that time.

From this time until he returned to Launceston in November 1852¹² to get married, he had at least another two trips to Melbourne, on 11 May 1852 on board the schooner *Eagle*¹³, having previously returned to Launceston on the *City of Melbourne*, and on 2 July 1852 on board the *Waratah* having previously returned on the *Swift*¹⁴.

It may be that his work in Melbourne was that of a carrier as this is his occupation given on his marriage Registration when he married Elizabeth Dell at the Independent Chapel, Tamar Street, Launceston (under licence, as Elizabeth was only 19) on 6 December 1852.¹⁵

It seems that after their marriage, Robert and Elizabeth remained in Launceston, at least in the short term. Their first child, Mary Brookwell Rattray, was born there

on 28 October 1853.¹⁶ They may well have lived with Elizabeth's parents in their two-story brick home in Brisbane Street.

Almost a year later, Robert was again on the move. On 22 September 1854, he departed Launceston as a steerage passenger on the *Black Swan* for Melbourne.¹⁷ Shortly afterwards, on 3 November 1854, Elizabeth, her infant daughter Mary, and mother Mary Dell departed Launceston on board the *Tamar* to Warnambool.¹⁸

Robert had decided to try his luck in the Gold Rush in the vicinity of Ballarat, and his family were travelling there to meet him.

The family next comes to notice at Fiery Creek, Raglan (near present day Beaufort, north-west of Ballarat), where Elizabeth and Robert's second child, my great grandmother, Elizabeth Rebecca's birth was registered. She was born on 23 November 1855 and her father Robert's occupation was confirmed as miner.¹⁹

¹¹ R Rattray, Departures, Launceston, Dec 1851, Names Index: 598675, POL220/1/1 p.501 (Libraries Tasmania)

¹² Victoria, Australia, Outward Passenger Index, 1852-1915 for Robt Rattray, Nov 1852, "Yarra Yarra 1" (Ancestry.com)

¹³ Mr Rattray, Departures, Launceston, May 1852, Names Index: 598698, POL220/1/2 p.26 (Libraries Tasmania)

¹⁴ Robert Rattray, Departures, Launceston, July 1852, Names Index: 598700, POL220/1/2 p.74 (Libraries Tasmania)

¹⁵ Marriage Registration 865/1852, Names Index: 844851, RGD37/1/11 no.865 (Libraries Tasmania)

¹⁶ Birth Registration 611/1853, Names Index: 995199, RGD33/1/31 no.611 (Libraries Tasmania)

¹⁷ R Rattray, Departures, Launceston, Sep 1854, Names Index: 598706, POL220/1/3 p.689 (Libraries Tasmania)

¹⁸ Mrs Rattray and Mrs Dell, Departures, Launceston, Nov 1854, Names Index: 598707, POL220/1/3 p.728 (Libraries Tasmania)

¹⁹ Birth registration 2016/1856, Victoria, Births Deaths and Marriages (electronic copy in my possession).

By 1857 the family had moved further north-west to the Ararat vicinity where, on 6 August, Elizabeth and Robert's third child, William Allen Rattray, was born. Robert's occupation was again noted as miner.²⁰

The family were still living in the vicinity of Ararat at the time of the birth of Elizabeth's and Robert's fourth child, Theodore Robert Rattray. He was born on 12 December 1859 and his birth registered on 10 March 1860 at Avoca. Robert's occupation is noted as miner.²¹

Robert and Elizabeth remained in the vicinity of Ararat until at least 1868, increasing their family with another three children: Christian Emily Rattray, born 27 March 1863²²; Martha Amelia Rattray, born 19 June 1865²³; and Thomas John Rattray, born 16 June 1868²⁴, all at Moonambel, just south of Ararat. Robert's occupation is noted as miner on all three birth registrations.

During this time, Robert's mother, Christiana Rattray (nee Salmon) died at his brother George's residence in Wellington Street, Launceston on 9 July

1864.²⁵ Not long after, on 18 March 1867, Elizabeth's father, Joseph Dell, died at home in Brisbane Street, Launceston, of consumption.²⁶

This last event may have precipitated a move back to Tasmania, as Elizabeth was one of six beneficiaries of a Trust, into which Joseph had placed all his real property assets, set up in 1847 (it seems to avoid loss by insolvency) in the names of his children then (in 1847) living. As a sidenote, this disinherited his then (1867) two living children, Harriet and Joseph 3rd, born after that date.

Under the terms of the Trust²⁷, each of the then living children received an equal share of the assets for life, which on their death went to their legal issue. If any of them died without legal issue the remainder was to be divided among those with legal issue. This later caused a legal dispute within the family when, Elizabeth's younger brother, David Dell, died in 1914 without legal issue. It was resolved in favour of the remaining co-beneficiaries and their children.²⁸

²⁰ Birth registration 16005/1857, Victoria, Births Deaths and Marriages (electronic copy in my possession).

²¹ Birth registration 4252/1860, Victoria, Births Deaths and Marriages (electronic copy in my possession).

²² Birth registration 9697/1863, Victoria, Births Deaths and Marriages (electronic copy in my possession).

²³ Birth registration 17384/1865, Victoria, Births Deaths and Marriages (electronic copy in my possession).

²⁴ Birth registration 19321/1868, Victoria, Births Deaths and Marriages (electronic copy in my possession).

²⁵ Mercury (Hobart, Tas.: 1860-1954), Sat 23 Jul 1864, p.2 (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

²⁶ Death registration, 1867/298, Names Index:1153392, RGD35/1/36 no.298 (Libraries Tasmania)

²⁷ Historic Deed 03-2795(1), Land Titles Office, Tasmania (www.thelist.tas.gov.au)

²⁸ Mercury (Hobart, Tas.: 1860-1954), Thu 26 Nov 1914, p.2 (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

I have not been able to track on Trove, or through other archival sources, exactly when Robert, Elizabeth and their seven children returned to Launceston, but they were there by 24 October 1870, when Elizabeth and Robert's last child, David Walter Rattray, was born. Robert's occupation was noted as carrier.²⁹

It seems that Elizabeth, Robert and family were living in one of the dwellings previously in Dell Family Trust, in Cameron Street, Launceston, after their return from Victoria. That was certainly the case in 1874, when on 14 December that year their eldest child, Mary Brookwell Rattray died at her parents' residence, Cameron Street, of inflammation of the lungs, aged 21.³⁰

Relationships with the neighbours were apparently not rosy as, on 31 May 1875, after a complaint by Elizabeth, William CLARENHOLD was charged in the Police Court with using insulting language to her in Cameron Street and was fined 30/- with 9/6d costs.³¹

Inside the family, however, there was some joy. On Thursday 26 December 1878 my great grandparents, Elizabeth

Rebecca Rattray and John James Dell, were married, by special licence, at Elizabeth's mother's residence in Cameron Street, Launceston.³² Elizabeth Rebecca was Robert's and Elizabeth's eldest surviving child, she was 21 years old.

The next year, on 7 November 1879, Robert's and Elizabeth's third child and eldest son, William Allen Rattray, married Rebecca CHAPPLE, under licence (as Rebecca was 15 years old) in the Episcopal Church, St George's Bay (St. Helens).³³ William's occupation is noted as farmer and Rebecca as farmer's daughter.

Ructions with neighbours obviously didn't disappear as, in the Police Court in Launceston, on Monday 12 January 1880, Margaret Clarenhold was charged by Elizabeth Rattray with using insulting language. She pleaded not guilty but on the evidence was convicted and fined 1/- with 8/6d costs, in default seven days imprisonment.³⁴

By 1881, economic conditions for the Rattray family in Cameron Street had evidently suffered a decline, as Robert had apparently gone back to Melbourne

²⁹ Birth registration, 1870/251, Names Index:1022561, RGD33/1/48 no.251 (Libraries Tasmania)

³⁰ Weekly Examiner (Launceston, Tas.: 1872-1878), Sat 19 Dec 1874, p.18 (www.trove.anl.gov.au); Death registration 1874/2559, Names Index:1159723, RGD35/1/43 no.2559 (Libraries Tasmania)

³¹ Cornwall Chronicle (Launceston, Tas.: 1835-1880), Wed 2 Jun1875, p.3 (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

³² Marriage notice, Cornwall Chronicle (Launceston, Tas.: 1835-1880), Sat 4 Jan 1879, p2 (www.trove.anl.gov.au); Marriage registration 1879/622, Names Index: 888404, RGD37/1/37 no. 622 (Libraries Tasmania)

³³ Marriage registration 1879/654, Names Index: 888531, RGD37/1/38 no. 654 (Libraries Tasmania)

³⁴ Launceston Examiner (Tas.: 1842-1899), Tue 13 Jan 1880, p.3 (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

to seek work³⁵ and Elizabeth was offering "Two comfortable furnished rooms with use of the kitchen." for rent in her Cameron Street residence.³⁶

Elizabeth's circumstances obviously continued to decline because, on Friday 25 November 1881, in the Launceston Police Court she was granted a protection order against her husband, Robert S Rattray, who had deserted her since February 1881.³⁷

According to Elizabeth, Robert "...was occasionally in Melbourne at work, but she received money from him regularly. In November, 1881, her husband ceased to send money."³⁸ It would seem from this, that Robert had reverted to his pattern of regular travel to Melbourne for work that he had undertaken prior to his marriage.

Elizabeth, meantime, seems to have had the normal difficulties with teenagers in the house. In September 1883, Thomas, aged 15, and a mate were fined 5/- each and costs, in the Police Court, for kicking a football in the street and breaking a window.³⁹

Financial stringencies were, fortunately, not so severe as to prevent the marriage of Robert's and Elizabeth's sixth child and youngest daughter, Martha Amelia Rattray to George HILL at the Wesleyan Church, Patterson Street, Launceston, on 16 April 1884. The ceremony was under licence as Martha was 19 years old.⁴⁰

By 1887, financial pressures had again made their mark on the Rattray family with Elizabeth facing court three times on debt-related matters. In April 1887 Elizabeth faced court twice in relation to a debt of £7 9s 1d incurred in 1881⁴¹. The decision was reserved, and I have not been able to discover the final outcome. The legal argument was about whether she was protected against the debt because at the time she had a Protection Order against her husband for desertion.

It is difficult to determine whether Robert was in Launceston or not. However, in the marriage notice announcing the marriage of his fifth child and third daughter, Emily Christian to Edward GRIFFITHS, on 11 April 1887 at the Wesleyan Parsonage at Launceston, Robert S Rattray is noted as her father.⁴² This of course is not

³⁵ Daily Telegraph (Launceston, Tas.: 1883-1928), Sat 16 Apr 1887, p.3, Court of Requests (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

³⁶ Launceston Examiner (Tas.: 1842-1899), Fri 25 Mar 1881, p.1, Houses and Land (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

³⁷ Launceston Examiner (Tas.: 1842-1899), Sat 26 Nov 1881, p.1 (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

³⁸ Daily Telegraph (Launceston, Tas.: Sat 16 Apr 1887, p.3, Court of Requests (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

³⁹ Daily Telegraph (Launceston, Tas.: Tue 4 Sep 1883, p.3, Police Court (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

⁴⁰ Marriage registration 1884/700, Names Index: 897738, RGD37/1/43 no.700 (Libraries Tasmania)

⁴¹ Launceston Examiner (Tas.: 1842-1899), Thu 7 Apr 1887, p.3 and Sat 16 Apr 1887, p.3 (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

⁴² Daily Telegraph (Launceston, Tas.:1883-1928), Wed 20 Apr 1887, p.2, Family Notices (www.trove.anl.gov.au); Marriage

conclusive evidence that he was present at the marriage or in Launceston at the time.

On Tuesday 6 December 1887, in the £10 Jurisdiction, Elizabeth had an order made against her for £2 11s. for an unpaid newspaper subscription,⁴³ so her financial difficulties were continuing.

Robert was back in Launceston on 4 January 1888 and noted as Master of the ketch *Ann* in an Inquest into the drowning of George Rowelly BRAND, who fell overboard from the moored *Ann* and could not be found. The verdict was accidental drowning.⁴⁴

It seems he was still in Launceston at the beginning of April 1888, because his brother-in-law, Joseph Dell, was imprisoned with a co-offender for two months hard labour, for stealing a quantity of flannel from the ketch *Ann*, owned by Robert S Rattray.⁴⁵

Robert's ownership of the ketch may be the reason why I haven't been able to track his movements to and from Launceston and Melbourne from 1881 through newspaper shipping information. Unfortunately, however, I have found no information to indicate when he became Master of the *Ann* or how long that continued. The two 1888 references in

Trove, referred to above, are all I have been able to identify.

Money issues continued to trouble the family, and, on Tuesday 20 October 1891, Elizabeth Rattray was back in the Court of Requests being sued by a chemist for medicines she had bought for her son David to the amount of £2 17s. 6d. It seems that Robert was away from Launceston again because the suit was dismissed on the basis that her husband was alive, and the Commissioner declined "... to lay down the principle that a mother was responsible for her son's debts."⁴⁶

Her sons were soon to cause her more trouble. As a result of a disturbance in a yard behind Cameron Street (presumably their back yard) on 23 September 1893, the three boys, Thomas, Theodore, and David were all charged with disturbing the peace. in the Police Court on 28 September, Thomas was fined 7s. 6d. and costs, in default four days imprisonment. Charges against Theodore and David were postponed as the summonses hadn't been issued.⁴⁷

On 6 June 1894, David Rattray was sentenced in the Police Court to one month's hard labour for obtaining money

Registration 1887/559, Names Index: 904308, RGD37/1/46, no.559 (Libraries Tasmania)

⁴³ Daily Telegraph (Launceston, Tas.:1883-1928), Wed 7 Dec 1887, p.3, Court of Requests (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

⁴⁴ Daily Telegraph (Launceston, Tas.:1883-1928), Thu 5 Jan 1888, p.2, Inquest (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

⁴⁵ Launceston Examiner (Tas.:1842-1899), Tue 3 Apr 1888, p.2, Current Topics (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

⁴⁶ Launceston Examiner (Tas.:1842-1899), Wed 21 Oct 1891, p.4, Court of Requests (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

⁴⁷ Launceston Examiner (Tas.:1842-1899), Fri 29 Sept 1893, p.6, The Law Courts (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

by false pretences.⁴⁸ On 7 May 1894 he had passed off a phial of brass as gold, sold it for £1, taking 6s. on account and then disappeared with a co-offender, SATCHWELL. Arrests warrants were issued.

Shortly afterwards, Rattray and Satchwell were arrested in Scottsdale for being drunk and assaulting police, for which they were both fined £3 or three months imprisonment in default. Satchwell couldn't pay and was shipped straight off to prison in Hobart. Rattray's fine was paid, but he was then re-arrested and taken back to Launceston to face the false pretences charge, leading to his month in prison.

On 9 September 1894, Thomas and David Rattray were taken into custody that afternoon for disturbing the peace (fighting) in Esk Street, Inveresk.⁴⁹ They were bailed that evening and came before the police magistrate the following morning. They pleaded guilty and were each fined 10s.⁵⁰

Hopefully, Thomas' and David's antics were a last hurrah as, on 1 December 1894, David married his first cousin, Eva Alice

Rattray, at the Manse of the York Street Baptist Church in Launceston.⁵¹ David's occupation is noted as carpenter.

Financial difficulties continued to plague the Rattray family. In August 1895, Elizabeth is on a list of landowners, in her case of 15 acres purchased under the 1870 Waste Lands Act, whose land would be forfeit and sold by the crown if outstanding amounts (£3) were not paid by 20 September 1895.⁵² The amount was apparently not paid, as the land was subsequently listed for auction by the Department of Lands and Surveys on 7 April 1899 in Launceston.⁵³

In September 1895 they were again the subject of an order from the Court of Requests to pay a debt of £6 18s. 6d. for outstanding subscriptions to the former owner of the *Daily Telegraph*.⁵⁴

Robert, Elizabeth, and family do not come to public notice again until 1901 when, on 1 October, Elizabeth Rattray is fined 5s. for being drunk and incapable in Wellington Street, Launceston, with her brother Joseph's wife, Susan Dell (nee ECCLES).⁵⁵

⁴⁸ Launceston Examiner (Tas.:1842-1899), Thu 7 Jun 1894, p.5, Current Topics (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

⁴⁹ Launceston Examiner (Tas.:1842-1899), Mon 10 Sep 1894, p.5, Current Topics (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

⁵⁰ Launceston Examiner (Tas.:1842-1899), Tue 11 Sep 1894, p.5, The Courts (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

⁵¹ Marriage registration, 580/1894, Names Index: 916065, RGD37/1/53 no.580 (Libraries Tasmania)

⁵² Launceston Examiner (Tas.:1842-1899), Wed 21 Aug 1895, p.2, Advertising (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

⁵³ Launceston Examiner (Tas.:1842-1899), Tue 21 Mar 1899, p.8, Advertising (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

⁵⁴ Launceston Examiner (Tas.:1842-1899), Wed 4 Sep 1895, p.3, The Law Courts (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

⁵⁵ Examiner (Launceston, Tas.:1900-1956), Wed 2 Oct 1901, p.4, Current Topics (www.trove.anl.gov.au)



43rd Conference & Annual General Meeting

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.

ABN 87 627 274 157

to be held at

**The Grange
Campbell Town, Tasmania**

on

Saturday 17 June 2023

Early Bird Prize

Register before 23 May 2023 to be in the draw for
the President's Early Bird Prize

Attendees are not required to wear a mask
but are welcome to do so if they choose.
We reserve the right to cancel at short notice.
If so, refunds will be made as required.

Annual General Meeting

Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.
Saturday 17 June

- 10.30am Registration and Morning Tea
- 10.55am Welcome by President, Maurice Appleyard.
Presentation of 'Early Bird Prize'
- 11.00am - 11.45am..... Ross Warren
"Stories from the Mersey Branch
WW1 soldiers and nurses project"
- 11.50am - 12.30pm..... Maree Ring
"The Archer and the Black Sheep"
- 12.30pm - 1.30pm..... Lunch
- 1.35pm - 2.20pm..... John Dent and Robyn Gibson
"Using the AJCP for Family History"
- 2.30pm - 3.00pm..... **Annual General Meeting** including
presentation of
- Lillian Watson Family History Award
- Best Journal Article Award
- Patron's Award

Book Stalls

Publications from branches
may be on sale during the day

Registration Form

Closing date and for payment is June 10, 2023

Post completed form to:

The Secretary, Tasmanian Family History Society Inc.

PO Box 326, Rosny Park, Tasmania 7018

OR email scanned form to secretary@tasfhs.org

Name 1:
Name 2:
Address line 1:
Address line 2:
Contact email: (print clearly)

Registration per person is \$40 which covers meeting and lunch.

Note any special dietary requirements here

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PAYMENT

I enclose a cheque / money order (please tick)

I have used internet banking to transfer payment to the TFHS account (BSB 037012 Account no. 138030) and have attached copy of the transfer receipt. (please tick)

Please accept payment by credit card

Mastercard Visa (please tick)

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Name on Card (print)

Signature.....Expiry Date/.....

Amount due \$.....

Authorisation No. (Office only).....

About our Guest Speakers

Ross Warren

As the centenary of the 1914-18 Great War approached, Mersey Branch began a project to research and commemorate soldiers and nurses who enlisted for war service from Latrobe and surrounding districts. This project is ongoing. For this presentation Ross has researched a few of those soldiers and nurses further aiming to reveal their story before and after war service.

Maree Ring

The nephew of Thomas Archer of the grand Woolmers estate, Longford, visited his family in 1834. An apparent return visit to VDL in 1841 was very different to the first. Was that person actually Thomas Archer's nephew? Why did he return? Who was his wife? How did the life of the 'Black Sheep' plummet from grand living to one of misery and desolation?

Maree started researching her family history many years ago after the sudden death of both parents. After qualifying as an AAGRA record agent, she undertook private research; this led to many years teaching "family history" and "researching convict records" at Adult Ed. She has contributed many articles to Tasmanian Ancestry and manages the Facebook page "Hobart's 19th century burial grounds and cemeteries".

John Dent OAM and Robyn Gibson

The Australian Joint Copying Project (AJCP) has been around since 1948. English records were initially microfilmed for access in Australia (10,000 rolls in all). Digitisation began about 2007 and most records are now accessible online through TROVE. This talk will outline how AJCP was created, how to navigate it, what types of information can be found, and include examples of material from AJCP that the presenters have used in their family history research.

Robyn Gibson was an academic, teaching (at different times) in the areas of physiology and computing. She is now on the committee of the Launceston branch of TFHS and is the minute secretary and research officer for the branch.

John Dent OAM has recently retired as a registered land surveyor in private practice. He is president of the Launceston branch of TFHS and also assists with research enquiries received by the branch.

This down-hill spiral obviously continued, as Elizabeth was again before the Police Court on Friday 4 July 1902. She pleaded not guilty to using indecent language in her home in Cameron Street on Tuesday 1 July. In evidence "... *Constable DONOVAN stated the accused was under the influence of liquor, and the indecent language that she was using could be heard distinctly some distance away. The court imposed a fine of 20s. or in default fourteen days' imprisonment.*"

On Tuesday 24 November 1903, Elizabeth was again fined for being drunk and incapable. The Daily Telegraph reported that "... *an elderly woman, Elizabeth Rattray, for being drunk and incapable in Cameron-street, was fined 5s., or in default twenty-four hours' imprisonment.*"⁵⁶

By 1904, both Elizabeth and Robert were coming towards the end of their lives. Elizabeth Rattray (nee Dell) died in the Launceston General Hospital on 14 March 1904 and was buried on 16 March at the English Cemetery, Cyprus Street, Launceston. Her cortege leaving her son-in-law, John J Dell's and daughter, Elizabeth Rebecca Dell's (nee Rattray) residence in 174 Charles Street at 2.30

pm.⁵⁷ As noted above, Elizabeth Rebecca and John James Dell are my great grandparents.

Robert Salmon Rattray died four months later on 23 June 1904, at his son-in-law's and daughter's residence, 174 Charles Street, and was also buried at the English Cemetery, on Saturday 25 June.⁵⁸

Marita Bardenhagen Memorial Award for Local History

The *Marita Bardenhagen Memorial Award for Local History* is a biennial prize acknowledging outstanding original research in the field of local history with significant Tasmanian content.

Entries open on **14 June 2023** and close
30 September 2023.

How to apply: Application forms are available from Dr Dianne Snowden AM at dsn Snowden@tassie.net.au

⁵⁶ Daily Telegraph (Launceston, Tas.:1883-1928), Wed 25 Nov 1903, p.4 (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

⁵⁷ Death and funeral notices, Daily Telegraph (Launceston, Tas.:1883-1928), Tue 15 Mar 1904, p.1 (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

⁵⁸ Examiner (Launceston, Tas.:1900-1956), Fri 24 Jun 1904, p.1 and Sat 25 Jun 1904, p.1, Family Notices (www.trove.anl.gov.au)

What's in a Name ?

Louise Rainbow (Member 6490)

Living in the Hobart suburb of Lenah Valley, conversation often turns to the incursion of wallabies in our gardens and the destruction caused by these native animals. However, I was recently, very timely, reminded of where I live and in reference to the name of the suburb is the Muwinina name for kangaroo.

Lenah Valley was originally referred to as Sassafras Valley and was established in 1817 when the first land grants were issued for agricultural purposes. Since then it has been known as Kangaroo Bottom and Kangaroo Valley.

In 1845 the valley was promoted as an ideal place for grazing dairy herds and this became a very important industry alongside fruit growing already established by Richard HICKMAN whose family arrived aboard the sailing ship *Appoline* in 1842.

Fast forward to the 20th century, Kangaroo Valley was rapidly becoming urbanised. New post war housing and businesses were slowly establishing and the need was seen for an extension of the existing tramway to service the increasing population.

For several generations the story maintained amongst Lenah Valley locals about the name change of Kangaroo Valley to Lenah Valley was held to be

because the destination plate on the front of the Augusta Road trams would not accommodate the longer name.

This theory seems to be proved untrue. According to a report in the Mercury, Tuesday 17 October 1922 the City Council had unanimously decided at the meeting held on the night of the 16 October that the district opened up by the Augusta Road tram extension should be known as Lenah Valley. It was stated that all the residents, with one exception had signed a petition asking for adoption of the name¹.

However, there had previously been some difference of opinion among the residents of Kangaroo Valley at a meeting held at the Lady Franklin Museum and chaired by Mr H Irving BLACK who had forwarded a letter to the mayor. The meeting was held for the purpose of choosing a new name for the district in the event of a post office being established. There was already a Kangaroo Valley post office in New South Wales. The Mercury of Monday 25 September 1922 reported the letter stated that it was unanimously resolved to favour the change of name to Lenahvale. Subsequently a petition was presented to the Council instead favouring the name Lenah Valley. By referring to the official paper *The Language and Dialects spoken by the Aborigines of Tasmania* compiled by the late J E CALDER, it will be found that the native name of the kangaroo was

¹ Trove Newspapers

Lenah, so by the altering of the name to the more euphonious one of Lenah, the district would still retain the correct designation of that well known animal, just as the adjoining district Moonah, retains the native name of the blue gum tree. It appears that all the residents favour the name Lenah, one section desires Lenahvale, and the other section favours the longer name Lenah Valley².

Early spring brings the magnificent golden spectacle of the Silver Wattle in full bloom along the banks of the New Town Rivulet and further up the lower slopes of kunanyi/ Mt Wellington. Perhaps another name change might be desired – why not Wattle Vale or Wattle Valley – little more than a century since the most recent name change to Lenah Valley?

Never Miss an Email from Us

Over the last couple of years, we have received occasional reports from various members that they have not received a particular email or newsletter from us.

Email has become an essential tool for maintaining contact with members, so we have invested considerable time and energy into ensuring that our records are correct and complete. We have also updated our main mail server settings to ensure they meet the latest anti-spam measures to minimise the chance of mail being incorrectly classified as SPAM and not delivered.

However, there is one more step that is needed, namely whitelisting the TFHS email addresses from which email is sent to members. That process can only be taken by each individual member, ie you.

Whitelisting (the opposite of blacklisting) is the simple process of telling your email software client to always trust mail which comes from a particular email address. Unfortunately, it is a different process for each email software client.

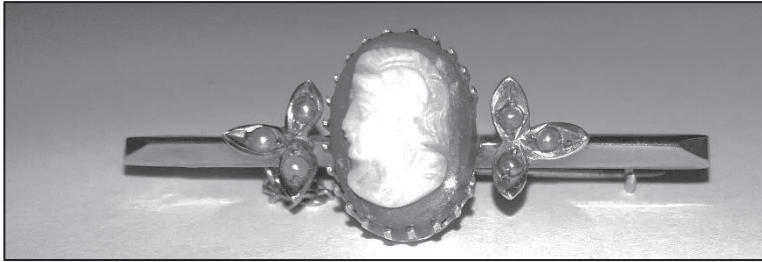
The specific steps for all the major email software clients are detailed on the Society website, where they can be kept up to date. You will find them here: <https://www.tashs.org/email.php>.

² Trove Newspapers

A Family Heirloom

Barbara Wilson (Member 7762)

Submitted for the Patrons' Award



On the occasion of my 21st birthday (sixty years go) my grandfather gifted me a small cloth pouch which contained a gold bar brooch which had belonged to his mother, my great grandmother, Florence Evelyn McQUINN (nee ABBOTT).¹ He provided no further details but this small item is one I treasure greatly.

Several photographs of “Gran” as a young woman, including on her wedding day in 1889, show her in high-necked, full-length dresses and at the throat one or more brooches similar to the one I now possess.² With enlargement of the photographs, however, my treasure does not seem to be one of those but gives an indication of her choice of adornment on important occasions.

It is possible that this elegant piece of jewellery has been passed down through

the family, generation to generation and is at least 100 years old. It is easy to conjecture that fourteen-year-old Mary Elizabeth SEARLE, my great, great grandmother bought it with her to Australia from Torquay, England, in 1857, perhaps as a gift from her grandmother who she was unlikely to ever see again.³ Alternatively it could have been made in Ballarat of local gold as the family were resident in that growing city in the heyday of the gold rushes of the 1850s.

My brooch is a gold bar forty-five millimetres long, three millimetres wide, with a central small cameo approximately fifteen millimetres wide and ten millimetres long. The cameo is claw set in gold on a gold base, and on either side of it are three tiny seed pearls set in gold in a

¹ Barbara Wilson, Family research, private collection. Wallan, Victoria.

² David McQuinn, Family research and photographs, private collection. Glenelg, Sth Australia.

³ Barbara Wilson, Family research.

leaf pattern.⁴ The left facing image on the cameo is that of a Roman Soldier. The item appears to be hallmarked and has a safety chain, probably fitted some years later. Without its original container, which may have shown the jeweller's details there is nothing to identify its source.

The origin of the cameo itself is of special interest. Intricately carved by artisan tradesmen from one piece of gemstone, most often sardonyx or agate, in such a way that the layers of stone were cut away so that the top layer, usually a facial image, revealed the white layer while the orange or reddish layer formed the base.⁵ This is indicative of the cameo in my brooch. This type of carving dates back as far as Egyptian times (c 3100 BC), throughout the Roman civilisation, the Renaissance and into the 18th century.⁶ The designs on cameos were varied, featuring portraits, landscapes, and mythological figures. Later Queen Victoria instigated a fashion trend by wearing this type of jewellery often depicting images of herself and her Consort, Prince Albert, especially after his death.⁷

Cameos were also often a souvenir of the "Grand Tour" era when the young men and women of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century England embarked on a 'coming out' tour of the Continent

before settling into a career or marriage. It was in this period that petrified lava found in the ruins of Pompeii (discovered in 1748) became the new material with a ready souvenir market to the increasing number of tourists.⁸ Interestingly, my great grandmother's younger brother, Harry Abbott (Hal) undertook a Grand Tour leaving Tasmania in 1906 for six months, visiting the continent, England, Scotland, and Ireland – the birthplace of his father.⁹

In trying to verify the possible age and hallmark of my brooch I visited several jewellery stores in search of advice and information. Unfortunately, I found that these stores are staffed only by salespeople and do not have a jeweller on site. They were able to use a jeweller's loupe but were unable to distinguish what I believe is a hallmark due to wear. This puzzles me somewhat as because of its position on the brooch I would not have thought wear was an issue, which leads me to suspect that it is not a hallmark at all.

Without easy access to a 'real' jeweller I turned to the internet for information and was rewarded by assistance from a Jewellers in Dorchester, Dorset, England! Being able to provide images online they were able to advise that the brooch is of the Edwardian period (1901-1915), however the hallmark was still

⁴ Barbara Wilson, Private collection

⁵ Jordans Jewellery, Dorchester, Dorset UK. A Brief History of Cameo Jewellery and is it still popular today'. www.jordansjewellers.co.uk. November 2022

⁶Ibid

⁷ Ibid

⁸Ibid

⁹ Abbott, Barry, Letters from Hal. Private Collection, Hobart Tasmania

indistinguishable.¹⁰ Further the gold is likely to be either 9 carat or 15 carat (which was phased out in 1931).¹¹

The use of gold in making jewellery and ornaments dates back thousands of years, and items have been found in tombs, burial hoards, bogs and, of course, probably the most well-known item King Tutankhamen's funerary mask, discovered in 1922.¹² Gold being a rare and valuable metal, it would reflect the status of the wearer in pieces such as the "Shannongrove Gorget" (c700-800 BC) and the British Royal Family Crown Jewels.¹³

Florence McQuinn came from a well-to-do family. Born in Ballarat, after a downturn in the family business (brewing), the family settled in

Launceston where her enterprising father and mother successfully established Abbots Pty Ltd – a cordial brand remembered today by many older Tasmanians.¹⁴ This status is reflected in the standard of clothing and jewellery worn by the women in the Abbott family.¹⁵

Having established the period of my brooch is very satisfying. Sadly, its story and origin will remain an ongoing mystery but its value to me as an heirloom piece of jewellery is more important. The next part of its journey is for me to decide. Do I follow the pattern and pass on to a great granddaughter? With two daughters, seven granddaughters and (to date) two great granddaughters this presents a dilemma which will require some deep thinking on my part.

¹⁰ Sandy Jordan, Jordans Jewellers, Dorchester, Dorset UK

¹¹ Sandy Jordan

¹² Victoria & Albert Museum. A History of Jewellery. www.vacmac.uk-articles

¹³ Victoria & Albert Museum

¹⁴ Barbara Wilson. The Abbott Family – Brewers, Cordial Manufacturers and Clerics. Tasmanian Family History Society Inc. Tasmanian Ancestry, Vol 37, No 1, June 2016, pages 9-14

¹⁵ David McQuinn, Private collection

John Marryat Hornsby, Let there be Music

Jennifer Jacobs (Member 1826)

Regular contributors to newspapers often gain an entourage of devoted followers and ‘The Vet’, who contributed articles to the *Launceston Telegraph* between February 1895 and August in 1896, was one of those. His articles, written as reminiscences of his experiences as a constable in Tasmania around forty years earlier, gained responses from some who verified reports of events and others who sought to clarify or question details. In 1896, a decision was made to publish the set of historical articles in a book to be named, ‘Old Time Echoes.’ It was then, that Captain John STRACHAN who featured in a July 1895 article, headed “A Modern Priapus,” sued ‘The Vet’ over scurrilous allegations that had been made about his character and questioned the truthfulness of claims the captain had made about his achievements as an explorer.¹ Thinking that Strachan must by now be dead, ‘The Vet’ had been rather frivolous with his reporting.

There had been no reaction when the initial article had been published, Strachan having read the article while in Singapore. However, in March the following year, regular advertising of the imminent release of the book had spurred Strachan into action over the outrageous insinuations. Though his claim for

£10,000 was not realized, Strachan was awarded the lesser sum of £2,000, the greatest ever penalty awarded in Tasmanian courts. Neither the book nor any further articles were ever published.² It was revealed during the case that the true name of ‘The Vet’ was John Marryat HORNSBY.³

Despite his overtly superior attitude, Hornsby had been a convict who, after being found guilty of the theft of two pewter pots at Clerkenwell in 1847, had arrived in VDL in 1851 aboard *Lady Kennaway*.⁴ His record stated that he was 18 (actually 19) and could both read and write a little. Either his education was rather understated or was accelerated quickly in Hobart. It is quite possible that he picked up his skills from John BYRON, the subject of my report in the December 2022 edition of *Tasmanian Ancestry*, who was mentioned in two of “The Vets” articles. Their paths had crossed several times.

Both men had spent time working in the prison barracks, both were seconded to the police force, and both had been assigned to Samuel LORING. Each was to later join the newspaper industry, and both had an interest in the stage.

¹ HELPING THE HELPLESS, Daily Telegraph, 13 July 1895, p.6.

² AN EXTRAORDINARY LIBEL CASE, Hastings Standard, NZ, 5 Oct 1896 p.4.

³ THE TELEGRAPH LIBEL CASE, Tasmanian News, 10 September 1896, p.2.

⁴ CON33/1/102. John Hornsby, *Lady Kennaway*.

In a series of articles written for the Daily Telegraph (Launceston) a short reference to John Byron as a clerk of the court in *Helping the Helpless*, first gained my interest, but a further article, *The Assignment System*, was far more informative, leading me to investigate more deeply the lives of not only my initial interest John Byron, but also John Marryat Hornsby.

Early in 1855, Hornsby, “The Vet” had been happily engrossed in watching some street entertainment at the corner of Liverpool and Argyle Streets when he was approached by his old acquaintance, John Byron, who presented him with an unusual proposition. According to Hornsby, Byron offered him £5 to take over his job as clerk to Sammy Loring, a Hobart butcher.⁵ Byron, also an ex-convict, had earlier been assigned to Loring and, now in receipt of his Conditional Pardon, had returned to work for him again. Hornsby was familiar with this business, having also previously been assigned here. Wishing to leave and being subject to the Master and Servant Act which bound an employee to work for a contracted amount of time, it was not possible for Byron to simply give notice to cease employment.

He arranged a quick meeting between himself, Loring and Hornsby and a deal was made that Hornsby would take over his position as clerk for the butcher. For all

three, the outcomes were positive. Hornsby, in need of work, was delighted to be offered a new job. For Loring, it seemed a blessing. He had been so dissatisfied with Byron’s record keeping in his establishment that he stated that he wished that he had never met John Byron.

Elated by the deal he had struck, Byron made his way towards the street musicians. In London, while evading arrest for forgery he had joined a travelling group of actors and now, in Hobart, it was his dream to join the Minstrel* Business.⁶ It is apparent that there were several bands of street and stage performers in Hobart, all practising the same type of entertainment. Byron expressed a wish to play second fiddle to Tom TURNER and join the crowd with Billy HEYWOOD and others. He suggested that Josiah HAND, the proprietor of the Waterman’s Arms in Liverpool Street, wanted a second player for his business at the Melophonic Concert Room.⁷

In the 1840s, this genre of entertainment, which, caricaturised the singing and dancing of slaves travelled the world from its origins in the south of the USA. It was the basis of many amusements in the music halls, theatres and streets. It had involved blackening the face with burnt cork and presenting a three-act performance based on comedy, farce, humorous songs and instrumentals.

⁵ THE ASSIGNMENT SYSTEM, Daily Telegraph, 20 April 1895. P.6.

⁶ Ibid

⁷ MELOPHONIC CONCERT ROOM, Hobarton Guardian, or, True Friend of

Tasmania, 4 December October 1852, p.1.; THE ASSIGNMENT SYSTEM, Daily Telegraph, 20 April 1895 p.6.

*Editor note: original terminology no longer in use.

Violins and banjos provided the melodies while the bones or clappers, and tambourines kept time.⁸ That many an audience in Tasmania was captivated by the performances in the 1850s, can be determined by the prolific newspaper advertising at the time. Many of those performing in Hobart were educated men, clerks and businessmen who used their language skills to develop fine and witty entertainments. The business's reputation as an art form began to suffer later, when those with lesser skills took it on, the jokes becoming so stale that it was considered a lowly form of theatre.

It is not known how successful Byron's acting endeavours were in Hobart, but he was later to move to NSW where he continued to perform in amateur theatricals and work in the newspaper industry.

Having spent several of his convict years as a member of the constabulary, much of it in the Huon, and yet again being dismissed for criminal activity John Marryat Hornsby needed to find interim work to support his growing family. His reputation was not good. He had been relieved of duties in 1851, for *deserting when in charge of a party whilst bushrangers were in the neighbourhood*, and in 1852, was sentenced to two years hard labour for the assault and robbery of 10/- from a prisoner he was arresting, before being reassigned to the

Constabulary at Port Arthur.⁹ Now, for a few months, he was to take on the role of clerk for Sammy Loring before hopefully resuming his career with the constabulary. Rejoining in October 1856, he found his match a few months later, when beaten up by two drunken women who were trying to prevent his arrest of a third.¹⁰ A further dismissal took place in October 1857 and he could see that his life in the Constabulary was tenuous. Hornsby became a labourer, dabbling in the printing industry and searching for recognition on the stage. In 1862, he was one of those who publicly applauded the achievements of Theatre Royal manager, Harry Jackson who was leaving after sustained efforts to keep the Theatre Royal functioning, despite personal losses.

In August 1864, it was advertised that Marryat Hornsby was to present a dramatic performance at the Theatre Royal. Two months later, he was to work there as a volunteer at a Masquerade Ball and in December 1866, he was featured again in a revue to celebrate the Hobart Regatta, singing *Ragged Coat* and *Where are we Now?*¹¹ His 10 year old son (John Thomas MARRYATT known as JTM) was to dance the *Highland Fling* and also present a song.

On March 21 1867, advertisements informed the populace that Mr MARRIOTE(sic) Hornsby, Master HORNSBY and Mr J COHEN would visit

⁸ <https://www.britannica.com/art/minstrel-show>

⁹ ASSAULT AND ROBBERY, Hobart Town Advertiser, 7 Dec 1853, p.2.

¹⁰ GENERAL INTELLIGENCE, Tasmanian Daily News, 13 May 1857, p.2.

¹¹ THEATRE ROYAL REGATTA NIGHT, Mercury, 10 Dec 1866 p.3.

various country townships during the next 10 days to present their sensational new entertainment, *Street and Stage*.¹² The shows at Cressy, Avoca and Evandale were highly successful, though poor weather put a dampener on those at Bridgewater and Longford. Later in the year, Campbell Town, Tunbridge and Oatlands were added to the itinerary. These musicals would have stirred up interest in *The Tasmanian Songster*, a booklet containing a collection of 40 songs, the third edition of which Hornsby printed in May of that year.¹³

Now working as a general dealer, he also printed fliers and other products for the entertainment industry. However, not all was well. In 1870, it was advertised that if those 3-400 people who owed him small amounts, in total over £50, left their accounts unpaid, he would need to take *unpleasant means* through the *Small Debts Act* to recover the money. Shortly thereafter, all his printing equipment was advertised for sale.¹⁴ Yet he struggled on for just over a year before a farewell benefit concert, an *Operatic Olio*, was held for him.¹⁵ What his intentions were is unknown, as he continued to appear in Hobart entertainment advertisements and reports of meetings to establish temperance lodges and printing groups.

It seems that there was a temporary move to Launceston in 1874 as the birth of a

child was registered there. Son (JTM) 15, was also based in the northern city where he was undertaking an apprenticeship in compositing and printing at the Cornwall Chronicle, study he had begun at age 11. It seems that young JTM was rather politically inclined as in a speech given later in NZ he remarked that as a precocious youth of fifteen, he was the leader of a strike in Launceston. "We got what-we wanted,' he said, "and I got the sack. It was the best day's work I ever did, because I shortly afterwards came to New Zealand." In fact, not only JTM but also his parents, moved to the *Land of the Long White Cloud*. Marryat senior may have hoped that there might have been more opportunity to support himself with his acting talents in his new home, but he was to be sadly disappointed.

Having recently left Launceston, the Hornsby's would have been alarmed to hear of the decline in the quality of minstrel performances in the city, which on Christmas Eve 1874, descended into riots. Many ill-disposed young men blackened their faces with burnt cork, turned up their collars and pulled old, slouched hats over their foreheads, before hitting the streets to sing and beg for money. Their throats becoming dry, they headed for the hotels to spend their earnings and when their pockets were empty, they unsuccessfully demanded their drinks for free. When two mobs

¹² LOCAL NEWS, Tasmanian Times, 20 Aug 1867, p.3.

¹³

<https://www.sydney.edu.au/paradisec/australarmony/register-H-2.php>

¹⁴ NOTICE, THE TRIFLING SUMS, Tasmanian Times, 12 Jan 1870, p.1.

¹⁵ MONDAY EVENING, Mercury, 8 May 1871, p.1.

descended upon the Temperance Hall, the mood became ugly and great violence ensued. It was the first of many buildings attacked; windows were broken, fences torn down, walls and facades demolished, and men and women pelted with stones and brickbats. Several citizens were badly injured.¹⁶

Within a year, Marryat had returned from NZ to Tasmania. It was around this time that Strachan, instigator of the above libel action, met Hornsby on the street, apparently penniless and attempted to give him support by way of employment, but found him useless for the task.¹⁷

JTM, however, lived out his father's dreams in the new country. He was immediately engaged at the Wakatipu Mail and at the age of 22 in 1875, he became editor and publisher of the Arrow Observer. He later became a prominent politician, and popular amateur dramatist, and writing several plays including a successful melodrama, 'Ned Kelly, The Iron Clad Bushranger,' described in the newspapers as 'bloody and thunderous.' It was however, suppressed by authorities who considered that it may run against the morals of the day.¹⁸ In 1890 when he successfully stood for parliament in Wairarapa he was still performing in the theatre and in great demand as a speaker, lecturer and entertainer.

In 1896, a political opponent, mentioned that when he first came to New Zealand, JTM had failed to maintain his father who had been forced to appeal to the *Charitable Aid Officer* for subsistence.¹⁹ This was a rather harsh judgement considering JTM was only 21 at the time.

Towards the close of the century theatrical performances became more sophisticated as public sensibilities altered attitudes and patrons developed social consciences. New companies including the *Cornwall Coloured Comedians* and the *American Novelty Company* were formed.²⁰ Burlesque with its sexual overtones became popular, though one citizen in Launceston voiced doubts about its ethics.

*BURLESQUE IN THE STREETS.*²¹ *TO THE EDITOR. Sir,-In reference to the band of young fellows who paraded the streets on Wednesday afternoon in fancy costume, the question may well be asked where are the police? Although they (the cricketers) were breaking the law in three instances, viz., 1st, by disturbing the peace ; 2nd, by one of their number impersonating a policeman ; 3rd, by another impersonating a female, the police did not seem in a mood to interfere. Craving space in your valuable journal.-Yours., etc. LAW AND ORDER.*

Marryat regularly appeared in theatre programs through the 1870s and in 1882,

¹⁶ RIOTS IN LAUNCESTON, Age, 1 Jan 1875 p.3.

¹⁷ ACTION FOR LIBEL, Mercury , 10 Sept 1896 p.3.

¹⁸ THE LATE MR HORNSBY, Wairarapa Age, NZ, 26 February 1921, p.5.

¹⁹ MR HORNSBY AT TAUERA, Wairarapa Daily Times, NZ, 30 Nov 1896, p3.

²⁰ CORNWALL COLORED COMEDIANS, Cornwall Chronicle, 19 April 1875, p.2

²¹ BURLESQUE IN THE STREETS, Launceston Examiner, 1 December 1883, p.3.

and his support of the arts was recognised through a concert for his benefit.²² He was congratulated on 30 years of support of various charities through his performances. The show was to include character songs, burlesque, quartette, and ballad singing. At this time, Marryat was heavily involved in several temperance groups and his musical interests extended towards band music, a number of his sons now involved with this genre.

His theatre life was thriving but financially, he seems to have been battling. Surprisingly, in late 1883, having never worked in the timber or carpentry industries, he moved to Fortescue Bay where he hoped to build a sawmill.²³ It was fortunate that he was in residence, when in the early hours of November 30th, he was roused by shipwrecked survivors from the *S.S. Tasman* which had sunk 15 minutes after hitting rocks as it attempted to sail between the Hippolytes. No lives were lost but over 70 soaked survivors emerged from lifeboats to shiver on the beach. Hornsby gallantly vacated his family from his hut and camped out in order to offer shelter to the women and children until help arrived. Campfires were lit to provide

comfort for the men who, until a fishing boat arrived with limited provisions several hours later, had been forced to survive on a diet of crayfish.

It took little time for Hornsby to decide that Fortescue Bay was not the place for him. When performers from the play, *Irish Detectives Cruise* arrived there in March, there was no sign of him.²⁴ The Hornsby had left Fortescue Bay in January.

Back in Hobart, Marryat found himself a satisfying job as a messenger in the Education Department. When he died from cancer in 1903, Hornsby descendants in Tasmania were no longer playing the stage, but beating the drum and marching along with brass bands. As players, conductors and organisers, they played a dominant role in promoting the music that would soon see soldiers marching into battle.

Minstrel shows continued on stage into the 1960s and became popular on television as the Black and White Minstrels, before attitudes changed and people realised that this was not the way to depict people of colour.

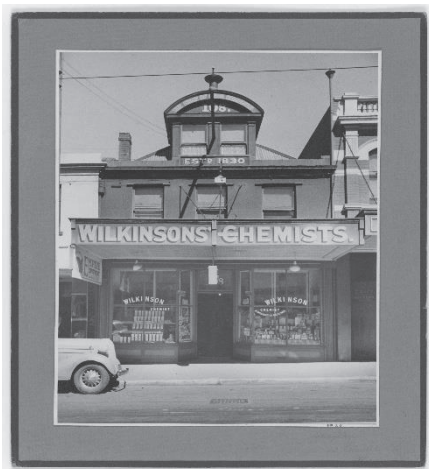
²² TASMANIAN HALL, Mercury, 23 May 1882, p.2.

²³ LOSS OF THE S.S.TASMAN, Mercury, 3 Dec 1883, p.3.

²⁴ IRISH DETECTIVES CRUISE, Mercury, 12 Mar 1884, p.4.

Wilkinson's Chemists and Druggists: A Dynasty

Amanda Johnson (Member 8104)



Wilkinson's Chemist Shop, Elizabeth Street, Tasmanian Archives, NS1543-1-9, n.d.



John Wilkinson, Narryna Collection at narryna.com.au, 1856-60

On 31 December 1831, John Wilkinson posted a notice (*page 46*) in *The Tasmanian* newspaper, thus establishing the longest serving family-owned chemist and druggist business in Tasmania.¹

The business would continue in the same location for 117 years, with all the

subsequent owners being born on the premises.²

John WILKINSON

John was born to William and Ann WILKINSON in the Parish of St Giles, Northampton on 27 March 1806.³ There is little information available on John's early life, including his immigration to Van Diemen's Land. To successfully establish

¹ *The Tasmanian*, 31 December 1831, p.2

² 'The Passing of Pioneers: A Maker of Records', *Farmer and Settler*, Sydney, 21 March 1913, p. 5 and Births in the District of Hobart Town, 1862, Tasmanian Archives, RGD33/1/8 No. 5044.

³ National Archives of the UK, General Register Office, *Register of Births, Marriages and Deaths surrendered to the Non-parochial Registers Commissions of 1837 and 1857*, RG4/1142.

a dispensing and manufacturing chemist and druggist business, John must have completed an appropriate apprenticeship or course of study in England before emigrating to Van Diemen's Land. He was too competent at running his business not to have received appropriate training.

Drugs and Chemicals.

J. WILKINSON begs respectfully to inform the inhabitants of Hobart Town, and the public in general, that he has taken the business of Mr. F. Browne, Chemist and Druggist, Elizabeth-street, and intends Re opening the Shop in a few days, with a new and genuine assortment of drugs, &c. which he has just received, per "Auriga," and hopes by strict attention and punctuality, to merit a share of their patronage and support.
Dec. 31st, 1831.

On 14 March 1832, John married Sarah Ann WARE, daughter of established landowners, Jeremiah and Mary WARE.⁴ The Van Diemen's Land Census of the Year 1842 has John and Sarah living at 54 Elizabeth Street with eight children.⁵ In all, they would have sixteen children, ten boys and six girls.

As well as manufacturing and dispensing drugs, John also imported chemicals, drugs and a variety of equipment to be sold to other chemists and medical professionals:⁶

Drugs, Surgical Instruments &c

JOHN WILKINSON has just landed from the *Meanwell*, a large and extensive assortment of drugs and chemicals, including most of the new and concentrated preparations, viz:—Sulphate of quinine, acetate of morphia, liq. opii sedat, ergot of rye, iodine, with a great number of drugs too numerous for insertion.

Also, lancets, bougies, catheters, trusses, syringes, Maw's improved injecting instrument, sets of pocket instruments, in Russia leather cases, tooth keys, apothecaries scales and weights, mortars, pill boxes, graduate measures, &c. The whole of which will be disposed of at a considerable reduction in price for cash, or approved bills.

Elizabeth-street, July 25, 1834. [3289

John's business continued to prosper and in 1837 he purchased the building adjoining his Elizabeth Street premises.⁷ The Wilkinson Chemist and Druggist Day Books 1839-1841, reveal many notable Vandemonians were his customers.⁸ In 1848 he opened a second shopfront in Liverpool Street.⁹

John entered a partnership with his brother-in-law, Jeremiah George Ware, establishing huge agricultural properties in emerging Port Phillip. This partnership ended on 29 March 1841.¹⁰

As a successful businessman, John was able to afford an establishment on the outskirts of Hobart. He settled on 'Elwick' at Prince of Wales Bay, which he may have leased before purchasing. 'Elwick' was described as having '...a large and well stocked garden, with an acre of

⁴ Marriages solemnized in the Parish of Hobart Town in the County of Buckingham, 1832, Tasmanian Archives, RGD36/1/2 No. 1812.

⁵ 1842 Census Record for John Wilkinson, Tasmanian Archives, CEN1/1/10.

⁶ *Colonial Times*, 12 August 1834, p.8.

⁷ *Bent's News and Tasmanian Register*, 14 October 1837, p. 4.

⁸ *Day Books*, W. Crowther Collection, Wilkinson's Pharmacy, Tasmanian Archives, CRO40/1/1 (1831-1832) and CRO40/1/2 (1839-1841).

⁹ *The Courier*, 1 November 1848, p.1.

¹⁰ *The Courier*, 3 & 10 May 1844, p. 1.

paddock, [which] may be had with the house. This is a very suitable residence for a large and respectable family, or for a boarding school'.¹¹ Through a land grant, John was able to add another forty-six acres to the property in 1855.¹² On 3 September 1874, John sold 'Elwick' to the Tasmanian Racing Club for £3,000 to build the Elwick Racecourse.¹³

John also purchased an impressive portfolio of properties in the Hobart CBD located in Elizabeth, Bathurst and Melville Streets.¹⁴

On 14 March 1862, John took his eldest daughter, Sarah Anne on the 'European Grand Tour'. He was able to do this, as his second eldest son, Frederick Brooks Wilkinson, had taken over management of Wilkinson's Chemist and Druggists in 1861. In a tragic twist, John's wife, Sarah Ann, became ill in late 1862 and returned to the Elizabeth Street premises, probably to be close to medical care. Sarah died on 4 February 1863, aged forty-six years. News of her death did not reach John and daughter Sarah in England until April 1863.

John died on 4 November 1885, in his eightieth year at his final property 'Nortonville'.¹⁵

Another of John and Sarah's sons also trained as a Chemist and Druggist. Arthur George Wilkinson was born on 18 October 1841.¹⁶ He moved to Melbourne, where he was employed as a Chemist. He did not marry and died in Melbourne on 4 March 1876 from congestion of the brain and lungs.¹⁷

Frederick Brooks WILKINSON



Frederick Brooks Wilkinson, Personal Collection of Bruce Hull, n.d.

Frederick Brooks Wilkinson was born on 2 September 1838.¹⁸ On 22 May 1861, he married Annie FISHER, daughter of James and Naomi Fisher, of 'Blair', Bothwell.¹⁹ They lived in Frederick's parents' premises in Elizabeth Street, as John and wife Sarah had moved to 'Elwick'. Frederick and Annie had their first child, a son, Frederick Percival

¹¹ *Colonial Times*, 13 September 1836, p.1.

¹² *Hobart Town Gazette*, 3 July 1855, p. 766.

¹³ 'Romance of the Tasmanian Turf', *The Mercury*, 10 February 1940, p. 16.

¹⁴ *The Mercury*, 10 January 1883, p. 4.

¹⁵ Death register entry for John Wilkinson, Tasmanian Archives, RGD35/1/10 No. 2732

¹⁶ Births in the District of Hobart, 1841, Tasmanian Archives, RGD33/1/1 No. 549

¹⁷ 'Inquests', *Leader* (Melbourne), 11 March 1876, p.21.

¹⁸ Baptism Register, Wesleyan Church, Hobart 1838, Tasmanian Archives, RGD 32/1/2 no. 8599.

¹⁹ Marriages in the District of O'Brien's Bridge and Bridgewater, 1861, Tasmanian Archives, RGD 37/1/20 no. 222.

Wilkinson in 1862. They would have ten children together, seven sons and three daughters.

Frederick continued to run the business successfully. In addition to dispensing human medicines, Frederick expanded the veterinary chemist side of the business, for which the family had become renowned. Frederick also re-branded the business to F. Brooks Wilkinson and Co.

Two of Frederick's sons trained as Chemists and Druggists, Frederick Percival, and Arthur Leslie Wilkinson.

Frederick died on 3 March 1913 in his seventy-fifth year.²⁰ An obituary, which appeared in several mainland newspapers, was titled 'The Passing of the Pioneers: A Maker of Records' and ended with the following: 'He was the kindest hearted of men and for forty years dispensed medicine free of charge for poor people who were prescribed for the late Doctor Crowther'.²¹

Frederick Percival Wilkinson

Frederick Percival Wilkinson was born on 1 March 1862.²² He completed part of his education at the Hutchins School, as did several of his brothers, before joining his father as a Chemist and Druggist.²³ On 3 November 1887, Frederick married Rose

Amelia KENNEDY.²⁴ Frederick and Rose had no children.



Brooks Wilkinson & Co. Veterinary chemist medicines, Personal Collection of Bruce Hull, n.d.

Frederick Percival took over the management of F. Brooks Wilkinson and Co. Chemist and Druggist in 1913, after his father's death.²⁵ He continued the tradition, presumably started by his father, of taking a trade stand at the Royal Hobart Show. The publicity from this event was impressive, with statements such as 'Recognised as the principal veterinary chemists of the State, F. B. Wilkinson's, who have been established in Hobart for over 105 years, again attracted attention by their display in the trades pavilion'.²⁶

Under Frederick Percival's management, F.B. Wilkinson and Co. began to expand,

²⁰ *The Mercury*, 4 March 1913, p. 1.

²¹ 'The Passing of Pioneers: A Maker of Records', *Farmer and Settler*, Sydney, 21 March 1913, p. 5.

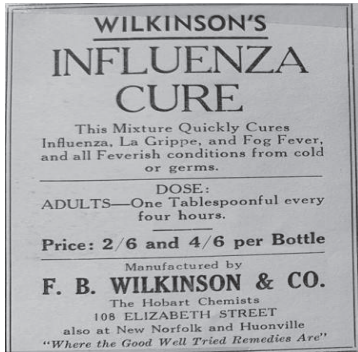
²² Births in the District of Hobart Town, 1862, Tasmanian Archives, RGD33/1/8 No. 5044.

²³ Hutchins School Records, Tasmanian Archives, NS36-1-1, p. 90.

²⁴ Marriages in the District of Hobart, 1887, Tasmanian Archives, RGD37/1/46 No. 253.

²⁵ 'Veterinary Medicines', *The Mercury*, 22 August 1942, p. 5.

²⁶ 'F.B. Wilkinson: Veterinary Chemist', *The Mercury*, 22 October 1937, p. 4.



Wilkinson's Influenza Cure label, Personal Collection of Carol Franklin, n.d.

with branches being opened at Huonville and New Norfolk. F.B. Wilkinson and Co. continued to manufacture both human and veterinary medicines, often making astounding claims to the efficacy of their medicines on their labels and in their prolific advertising.

Frederick Percival was also a keen supporter of coursing [greyhounds] and was a recognised authority on pedigrees throughout Australia. He wrote for mainland sporting pages under the name "Northallerton". He notably left a handsome bequest to the Tasmanian Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in his Will.²⁷

Frederick Percival died on 28 February 1940.²⁸ His wife, Rose, pre-deceased him

²⁷ Will of Frederick Percival Wilkinson, Tasmanian Archives, AD960/1/65 No. 23835

²⁸ 'Obituary – Mr. F. P. Wilkinson', *The Mercury*, 29 February 1940, p. 6.

²⁹ 'Gazette Notifications', *Daily Telegraph*, 2 September 1902, p. 2.

³⁰ *The Argus* [Melbourne], 18 March 1903, p. 1.

on 19 May 1937. Frederick Percival appointed his brother, Arthur Leslie Wilkinson as the Executor of his estate.

Arthur Leslie (Leslie) Wilkinson

Leslie Wilkinson was born on 13 November 1877. Notice of his license as a legally qualified chemist and druggist was reported in the *Daily Telegraph* on 2 September 1902.²⁹

Leslie married Ada Lillian STRACHAN on 16 March 1903.³⁰ In 1906, Leslie and Ada moved to Queensland and established multiple pharmacies.³¹ They had three children, two daughters and one son.³²

Leslie, as the Trustee of the estate of Frederick Percival, took over the management of F.B. Wilkinson and Co. in 1940, through the employment of onsite managers. The business continued until Leslie's death in 1948, when it was taken over by Ash, Bester and Co.³³

In 1831, when John posted his advertisement in *The Tasmanian* newspaper, he would have had no inkling that Wilkinson's Chemists and Druggists would create records as the longest serving family-owned chemist manufacturers and dispensers in Tasmania, and quite possibly Australia. John Wilkinson was the GGG Grandfather of the author.

³¹ 'Former Hobart Chemist Dies in Queensland', *The Mercury*, 26 November 1948, p. 6.

³² *Ibid.*

³³ 'A Significant Discovery', *Australian Journal of Pharmacy*, 29 October 2016, n.p.

Who Gives A Figg

The life of entrepreneurial tailor William Figg c1799-1867

Steven Figg (Member 7978)

There is no doubt that my great-great-great grandfather William FIGG enjoyed a full and adventurous life across two hemispheres, living at various times in at least four and possibly five Australian colonies. We know that William was a slim, physically able man who at 5 feet 8¾ inches was relatively tall for his time.¹ And whilst William fathered at least five legitimate and two illegitimate children, he was not a dutiful family man for he abandoned both his first wife in Van Diemen's Land (VDL) and his second much younger partner in Victoria. Our William was a strong-willed, literate, and independent Vandemonian who enjoyed his liquor, occasionally to excess and sometimes to his detriment; he was also technically a bigamist. William, however, was quite the entrepreneurial businessman whose lifelong calling as a tailor has made him readily identifiable in the public record.

If a somewhat inebriated William Figg had not taunted the King's Life Guards in central London one summer evening on 26 August 1821 with the immortal words 'come out you blood-selling soldiers, and we'll serve you out!', there may not have been an Antipodean Figg family living in Tasmania and beyond.² And if William's disorderly conduct at Knightsbridge that evening had not been reported in several London newspapers in the following days, he may well have escaped a conviction at the Old Bailey on 12 September 1821 for stealing three shirts and one handkerchief a month earlier from his fellow lodger George Applebee at Catherine Swan's house at Nettleton Court off Aldersgate Street.³ But William was convicted of felony, and our journeyman tailor whose brown eyes and brown hair complemented his dark complexion was transported to VDL where he served seven long years at King George IV's pleasure.⁴

¹ TAHO, CON 23/1/1 'Alphabetical Register of Male Convicts'

² The Riot at Knightsbridge on Sunday', *New Times*, 28 Aug 1821.

³ Marlborough Street', *London Chronicle*, 29 Aug 1821.: 'The Trial of William Figg', Old Bailey Proceedings Online,

www.oldbaileyonline.org, Accessed 1 Mar 2023.

⁴ TAHO, CON 31/1/13 Image 79 'William Figg - Conduct Record'.

1057. WILLIAM FIGG was indicted for stealing, on the 12th of August, three shirts, value 24s., and one handkerchief, value 9d., the goods of George Applebee.

GEORGE APPLEBEE. I lodge in the same room as the prisoner at Swan's, in Nettleton-court, Aldersgate-street. went out on Friday morning, and left these things, in my box. About a week after I missed this property.

CATHERINE SWAN. I keep the house; the prisoner lodged in the same room as Applebee. He was in bed on Friday morning, when Applebee went out. He left on the Sunday, without paying.

JOHN WHALES. I am an officer of Marlborough-street. On the 28th of August I searched the prisoner, at Tothill-fields prison, where he was committed for being disorderly at Knightsbridge barracks, and on his back I found a shirt and neck-handkerchief. I also found the duplicate of another shirt, on him.

JOHN FRAZIER. I am shopman to Mr. Bartrum, pawnbroker, Princes-street, Soho. The duplicate found on the prisoner, is for a shirt, pawned on the 16th of August. I do not remember who pawned it.

JAMES HEARN. I am an officer. Mrs. Swan applied to me to search the prisoner, a handkerchief was taken off his neck at the office.

(Property produced and sworn to.)

GUILTY. Aged 22.

Transported for Seven Years.

First Middlesex Jury, before Mr. Justice Richardson.

William Figg's 1821 trial record courtesy of Old Bailey Proceedings Online.

William Figg was about 24 years old when he departed England on 26 April 1823 per the *Commodore Hayes* with another 218 fellow prisoners.⁵ We can only say that William was about 24 years old, because his date and place of birth remains contested with an unknown place in Hertfordshire, Coleman Street in central London and Deptford all having some claim to his likely birth in 1799. But without William's baptismal record, conclusive DNA evidence or other corroborating documentary evidence, we

⁵ 'Details for the Ship Commodore Hayes, 1823 – Claim A Convict', <http://www.hawkesbury.net.au/claimaconvict/shipDetails.php?shipId=251>, Accessed 1 Mar 2023.

⁶ 'Journal Written On Board The Convict Transport Commodore Hayes During a

may never know the full details of his birth.

William Figg arrived at Hobart Town on 16 August 1823, and we know from the journal of an unknown 'Bufs' soldier onboard that it was a cold, wet and windy day.⁶ William disembarked at the Old Wharf near Hunter's Island five days later and was marched to the new Prisoners' Barracks Penitentiary at Campbell Street where he and his fellow transportees were duly inspected by Lieutenant-Governor William SORELL and assigned to their new masters. Quite fortuitously for William, his new master was the somewhat taciturn but industrious Thomas WELLS who had essentially worked as Sorell's personal secretary for the previous five years. Apart from a significant sentence of 50 lashes for disobedience of orders, drunkenness and insolence on 24 June 1824, William was generally well behaved whilst in Wells' service.⁷

William Figg was still serving his original sentence for larceny and about 27 years old when he married Scottish spinster Margaret SMTH on 23 October 1826 by banns at St David's Anglican Church, Hobart Town.⁸ Margaret was about two years older than William; she had arrived

Voyage from England To Australia, 1823,' <http://archival-classic.sl.nsw.gov.au/transcript/2017/D4209/0/a481.html>, Accessed 1 Mar 2023.

⁷ TAHO, CON 31/1/13 Image 79.

⁸ TAHO, RGD 36/1/1/No 913, Image 166

Wanted immediately,
A FEW JOURNEMEN TAILORS, who
will have constant Employment.
 Apply to **WILLIAM FIGG, Tailor.**
Murray-street, contiguous to the residence
of Lieut. Simmons.
Hobart Town 31, Jan. 1828.

William Figg's advertisement – 'Wanted Immediately', The Tasmanian newspaper, 1 Feb 1828.

freely in VDL with her parents Robert and Catherine SMITH and at least two younger sisters. Less than three months after his marriage, William crafted a compelling petition to His Excellency Lieutenant-Governor George ARTHUR to be removed from Wells' service and assigned to his new wife.⁹ Whilst we do not know the outcome of William's petition, we do know that he was granted his ticket-of-leave on 28 February 1827.¹⁰ And there is no doubt that the young newlyweds soon took advantage of this indulgence, for they moved to a house and premises in Murray Street to establish a tailoring business and start their family. Their first daughter Esther Mary FIGG arrived on 20 January 1828.¹¹ Nearly a year later on 4 January 1829, William penned a long, respectful letter to the Colonial Secretary John BURNETT requesting that Arthur's decision not to assign him a male convict tailor be reconsidered; the letter's cogent central

argument suggests a mind of an intelligent young man keen to see a perceived government oversight both acknowledged and addressed.¹² William and Margaret's second daughter Jane Douglas FIGG was born at Murray Street on 6 January 1830.¹³

William and Margaret Figg decided during the late winter of 1830 to leave Hobart Town and move to Launceston to establish a new tailoring and habit making business. By any measure, it was a bold decision. For at the time Launceston remained a fledgling settlement of no more than 3000 people, and the new parents were clearly giving up significant family support. It is likely, however, that Englishman William with his predilection to liquor simply did not get on with his extended Presbyterian Scottish family. But with £100 cash that William and Margaret received for the sale of their Murray Street property on 18 August 1830, at least they had the means to establish a new business venture in VDL's northern settlement.¹⁴

Unfortunately, William and Margaret Figg's York Street tailoring and habit making business was not a success for William departed Launceston on 12 April 1831 per the *Resolution* bound for Sydney whilst his wife and his daughters returned to Hobart Town.¹⁵ And if we say that

⁹ TAHO, CSO 03/1/1 File 321

¹⁰ 'Government Notice', *The Hobart Town Gazette*, 3 Mar 1827.

¹¹ TAHO, RGD 32/1/1/No 2565, Image 133.

¹² TAHO, CSO 03/1/1 File 8354

¹³ TAHO, RGD 32/1/1/No 3526, Image 184.

¹⁴ 'Historic Deed 671', The List,

<https://www.thelist.tas.gov.au>, Accessed 1 Mar 2023.

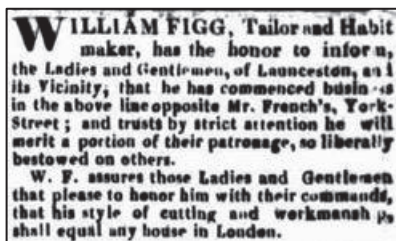
¹⁵ 'General News', *Hobart Town Courier*, 7 May 1831.

William's move to Launceston was a bold one, his move to Sydney was courageous. But risk often has its rewards, and William soon found work in Sydney as a journeyman tailor and Margaret and his daughters duly joined him per the *Vibilia* on 11 October 1831.¹⁶ William even played the good Samaritan in his early days at Sydney, thwarting the robbery of a 'respectable looking person' at Barrack Lane and using his physical prowess to 'put the villains to flight before they had effected their object.'¹⁷

William and Margaret Figg's first son William James Figg was born on 7 October at Sydney.¹⁸ In the winter of the following year, William was a new publican, operating a house known by the sign of The Derwent Cottage at Kent Street.¹⁹ Unfortunately, this business was also short-lived, and the Figg family were probably left with no alternative but to return to Hobart Town – William per the *John Rae Reid* in late 1833 and Margaret and their three children per the 'Currency Lass' in early 1834.²⁰ They almost certainly made their new home at 66 Bathurst Street in one of the conjoined houses owned by Margaret's parents

Robert and Catherine Smith.²¹ Two more children followed – my great-great grandfather Henry Robert Figg who was born at the Red Lion Inn on 30 May 1835 and Ann Walker Figg who was born about 1837, almost certainly at Hobart Town.²²

William and Margaret Figg's marriage was not a happy one after their return to Hobart Town. William was fined on 8 April 1834 at the Hobart Town Police Court for drunkenness and assaulting and beating his sister-in-law Catherine Walker, and later that year on 23 and 24 August, William committed a similar



William Figg's new business – 'Advertising', The Launceston Advertiser newspaper, 4 Oct 1830.

offence against his wife Margaret.²³ News reports at the time painted William as a strong, athletic man with a drinking problem that sometimes caused his

¹⁶ 'TAHO, CUS 33/1/1 'Register of Ships' Clearances, with Lists of Crews and Passengers'

¹⁷ 'Advance Australia', *Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser*, 3 Apr 1832.

¹⁸ BDM Registrations, NSW, William James Figg RN 2767, 1832 Baptisms.

¹⁹ 'A List of New Applications for Public Houses', *The Australian*, 12 Jul 1833.

²⁰ 'Trade and Shipping', *Courier*, 15 Nov 1833.; 'Trade and Shipping', *Courier*, 21 Feb 1834.

²¹ Melville, Henry, (ed.), *Van Diemen's Land Annual for The Year 1835*

²² 'Births', *The Mercury*, 30 May 1908.

²³ Hobart Town Police Report', *Colonial Times*, 15 Apr 1834. ; 'Hobart Town Police Report', *Colonial Times*, 30 Sep 1834

behaviour to spiral out of control.²⁴ It seems that William and Margaret's marriage was in terminal decline after just eight short years together.

Whilst William and Margaret Figg remained a married couple, they spent increasing periods of time apart during the second half of the 1830s – William plying his trade as a tailor in Launceston and Margaret living with her parents at Hobart Town. By May 1841, however, a Mrs Figg, without doubt our Margaret, occupied a house owned by licensed victualler John PAISLEY at the top end of Harrington Street between Warwick and Patrick streets. Margaret almost certainly lived there without William.²⁵ For about this time our William who was now on the

11th.—Schooner *Currency Lass*,
White master.—Lading, sundries.—
Passengers, Alexander Anderson, Esq.
Mrs. Figg and three children, Mr.
Wishart, Mr. Gassen, Mr. Ellyard,
Mr. James Hatton, Mr. Russell, and
Mrs. White.

Shipping Intelligence, *The New South
Wales Magazine*, Vol 2, No 8, 1834.

wrong side of 40 had formed a relationship with Selina Elizabeth ROBINSON aka MARTIN nee HUXLEY, a young married woman about half his age.²⁶ It is difficult to be precise about when their partnership began, but the limited evidence suggests that it took place at Hobart Town in the 18-

month window from mid 1841 to the end of 1842.

William Figg was about 44 years old when he departed Launceston on 5 April 1843 per the 243-ton steamer *Sea Horse* bound for Port Phillip, Melbourne.²⁷

William Figg was charged by his wife, with assaulting and beating her on the 23rd and 24th inst. The defendant said that his wife and her sister, with a host of other ladies, of their acquaintance, were always "bully-ragging" him—his wife also he said was always out, when she should be at home, and consequently he found a little moderate "kersion" absolutely necessary. The magistrate thinking his coercion had exceeded the bounds of moderation, ordered him to find sureties.

'Hobart Town Police Report', *Colonial Times newspaper*, 30 Sep 1834.

He almost certainly never returned to VDL, leaving Margaret and his five children behind. And whilst William saw his sons William and Henry again, he almost certainly never spoke to his young daughters Esther, Jane and Ann again. Some may judge William for the dereliction of his family responsibilities; his youngest daughter Ann was, after all, only five or six years old when he left VDL. He also missed his 15-year-old daughter Esther's marriage to William WILLIAMS on 11 April 1843 at St Peter's

²⁴ 'Hobart Town Police Report', *Trumpeter General*, 3 Oct 1834.

²⁵ 'Supreme Court – Criminal Sitings', *Courier*, 4 Jun 1841.

²⁶ TAHO, RGD 36/1/3/No 4115, Image 143.

²⁷ 'Launceston Shipping List – Departures', *The Teetotal Advocate*, 10 Apr 1843.

F	
Frith, Louisa, boot and shoe-maker, Hindley street	Fax, Thos., boot and shoe-maker, Leigh street
Figg, Henry, poulterer and greengrocer, Hindley street	Figg, Wm., tailor, King William street
	Francis, Wm., mason, Grenfell

William Figg listed as a tailor in the South Australian Almanack And Town And Country Directory For 1847.

Anglican Church, Hamilton by just six days.²⁸

William Figg and Elizabeth Robinson had two illegitimate children at Melbourne – William John FIGG who was baptised on 10 September 1843 at St James Church and Alfred FIGG who was born on 12 June 1845.²⁹ Whilst William probably did not survive infancy, his younger brother Alfred certainly did, adopting the name DRAPER when his mother Elizabeth formed a relationship with former convict and sea steward Alfred Frederick DRAPER at Melbourne during the first half of 1846. And so, our Alfred Figg was raised with his many half-siblings as Alfred Draper, probably not knowing the name of his biological father William Figg. Alfred (pictured on cover) married twice, but he did not father children and died on 11 December 1915 at Melbourne.³⁰

Whilst there is very limited evidence about William Figg and Elizabeth Robinson's

lives in Melbourne during the period 1843-1845, we do know that William was a partner in the firm Worthy and Figg, tailors of Queen's Street in 1845.³¹ George WORTHY was a fellow Vandemonian tailor who moved to Melbourne with his wife Jane about 1837. It is almost certain that William abandoned his partner Elizabeth in late 1845 at Melbourne and moved to the convict-free, planned city of Adelaide in South Australia to establish another yet tailoring business. In moving there William Figg may have simply been abrogating his family responsibilities for a second time. But he also may have decided to move to Adelaide in support of his son Henry Figg. We know that William lived and worked at King William Street, Adelaide by February 1846 and almost certainly greeted his 10-year-old son Henry who had just arrived from VDL to

²⁸ TAHO, RGD37/1/3/No 655, Image 165.

²⁹ BDM Registrations, Victoria, William John Figg RN 1188, 1843 Baptisms. ; BDM Registrations, Victoria, Alfred Figg RN 2140, 1845 Baptisms.

³⁰ BDM Registrations, Victoria, Alfred Draper RN 8615, 1915 Deaths.

³¹ 'Police Office', *Melbourne Courier*, 1 Sep 1845.

commence his boot making apprenticeship.³²

After some time living and working as a tailor at Gawler Town during 1848 and 1849, quinquagenarian William Figg returned to Hindley Street, Adelaide where he married the much younger English spinster Ann aka 'Mary' MACKEW on 31 October 1850 at the Church of St John at Halifax Street.³³ William technically tied a bigamous knot for his first wife Margaret was still living at Hobart Town. But given the conventions of the time there is no doubt that William regarded himself as a widower by 1850, as he had lived apart from Margaret for more than seven years. William and Mary's time in Adelaide was short-lived, however, for they soon left South Australia and returned to Victoria, almost certainly during 1851 after the discovery of gold in the colony.

William Figg probably worked for tailor Isaac MARTIN at 57 Collins Street for about a year after his return to Melbourne.³⁴ By 1856 William Figg was listed on the Victorian electoral roll living at Church Street, Melbourne in the district of St Francis.³⁵ By 1859 William was listed in *Tanner's Melbourne Directory*.

³² Murray, Andrew (ed.) *South Australian Almanack And Town And Country Directory For 1847*; 'Adelaide Shipping', *Adelaide Observer*, 21 Feb 1846.

³³ BDM Registrations, South Australia, William Figg RN: 417/332, 1850 Marriages.

³⁴ Victorian Government Gazette No 47, 24 Nov 1852.

The directory included a section on professions and trades and William was included in a listing of the city's tailors and outfitters. We know that he lived and worked at 125 Latrobe Street during the second half of 1858 when information for the directory was compiled.³⁶ By this time William's first wife Margaret had passed away at her cottage at Arthur's Circus at Battery Point, Hobart.³⁷ But such are the bonds of family, that it is almost certain that William had contact with his seafaring sons William and Henry when they called at Melbourne during the latter half of the 1850s, and in Henry's case into the early 1860s.

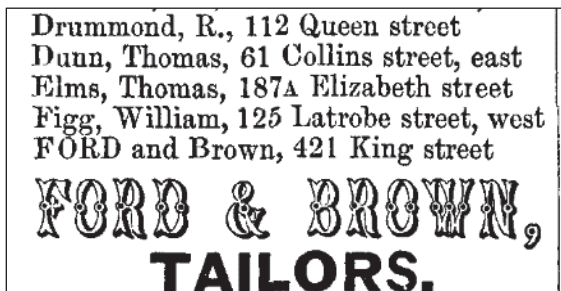
William and Mary Figg almost certainly moved to the golden city of Ballarat from Melbourne during the early 1860s; they are listed in several Ballarat East rate books from 1863. William and Mary rented a house on 1 December 1864 at Humffray Street situated between Mair Street and the railway crossing.³⁸ William was also listed as a resident of Humffray Street in F. M. Dicker's *Ballarat and Ballarat District Directory 1865-66*. And whilst William was clearly in his twilight

³⁵ Australia, Electoral Rolls, 1903-1980, Ancestry.com.au

³⁶ Tanner, John, (ed.), *Tanner's Melbourne Directory For 1859*.

³⁷ TAHO, RGD 35/1/5/No 600, Image 202.

³⁸ 'Borough of Ballaarat East, 1865', VPRS 7299/P0002, Public Record Office Victoria.



William Figg listed as a tailor in Tanner's Melbourne Directory For 1859

years by this time, he was still working as a tailor.³⁹

According to William Figg's Victorian death certificate, he died from old age and exhaustion at Ballarat East after an illness of 30 days.⁴⁰ William's burial record tells us that the specific cause of his death was consumption.⁴¹ He was interred on 23 April 1867 in open ground at the Old Cemetery, Ballarat, under the auspices of local undertaker Frederick ATKINS.⁴² And as the fees for William's burial were remitted, we know that William died without any significant estate. Whilst we can assume that William's second wife Mary was the chief mourner, we know that none of his four surviving children attended. The specific location of his unmarked grave 14 in the then new section

2 of the Old Cemetery, Ballarat remains unknown.⁴³ And sadly, William's final curtain call at Ballarat was not marked in local newspapers by either a death notice or short obituary.

And so, William, perhaps some of your 156-year-old bones remain intact at the Old Cemetery, Ballarat – and we intend to mark your final resting place if we finally determine it. There is, however, no doubt that as we celebrate the 200-year anniversary of your arrival in VDL that your spirit lives through your innumerable descendants. And may you forgive your great-great-great grandson's sense of humour in penning the title of this humble article for we really do give a fig. A full fig, your Figg!

³⁹ Dicker, F. M. (ed.) *Ballarat and Ballarat District Directory including Buninyong, Browns, Clunes, Creswick, Smythesdale and Scarsdale for 1865-66*, James Curtis, Mair Street, Market Square, Ballarat.

⁴⁰ BDM Registrations, Victoria, William Figg RN 9746, 1867 Deaths.

⁴¹ Ballarat Old Cemetery, William Figg RN 2439/608, 23 Apr 1867.

⁴² *Ibid.*

⁴³ *Ibid.*

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8322	POLLINGTON Ms Carolyn	U7 Wesley Ct 11/13 Normanstone Rd carolynpollington@gmail.com	LAUNCESTON	TAS	7249
8323	LANDERS Ms Mary	Not for publication			
8324	APPLEBY Ms Sophie	14 Abels Hill Rd sophieisobelasher@gmail.com	ST LEONARDS	TAS	7250
8325	CHISHOLM Mrs Annette	PO Box 121 annettechisholm.ac@gmail.com	LINDISFARNE	TAS	7015
8326	GREATBATCH Ms Sandra	PO Box 121 srgreatbatch@gmail.com	LINDISFARNE	TAS	7015
8327	OSBORNE Mr Ozzee	Not for publication			
8328	COX-McKINNON Miss Alissia	32 Myrtle Rd juliecox-mckinnon7@bigpond.com	YOUNGTOWN	TAS	7249
8329	REID Mrs Heather	37 Frond Pl heatherjreid@gmail.com	DEVONPORT	TAS	7310
8330	REID Mr Andrew	37 Frond Pl heatherjreid@gmail.com	DEVONPORT	TAS	7310
8331	DUNPHY Mrs Clare	95 Devon Hills Rd clare.dunphy@gmail.com	DEVON HILLS	TAS	7300
8332	SOTHERAN Mrs Jane	663 Winkleigh Rd kippy1155@yahoo.com.au	WINKLEIGH	TAS	7275
8333	LEE Mr Grant	2 / 126 Waterloo Rd glee2410@gmail.com	GREENACRE	NSW	2190

NEW MEMBERS' INTERESTS

NAME	PLACE/AREA	TIME	M'SHIP NO.
ALBERRY	New Norfolk TAS AUS		8317
BARNARD Elsie May	Sorell TAS AUS	1890–1940	8305
BARNARD Lance	Launceston TAS AUS	1920–1997	8305
BILLS Ellen Rosa	Launceston TAS AUS/VIC AUS	1873–1958	8309
BLACKFORD George	Merlin Cottage Acol KEN ENG	1917	8328
BLYTH ECS "Christina"	Railton/Sorell TAS AUS	1858–19??	8310
BROOMHALL			8316
CLEEVE Fredrick Harold	Melbourne VIC AUS	1917–1945	8322
CLEEVE Jack / John	Melbourne VIC AUS		8322
CLEEVE Ronald	Melbourne VIC AUS		8322
CLEEVE Ruby	Melbourne VIC AUS		8322
CONOLAN Bernard	Hobart TAS AUS	1830–1890	8312
CONOLAN George James Reid	TAS AUS	1849–1925	8312
COOK Andrew	Sandfly TAS AUS	1860–1900	8315
DALY Isaac John	Strickland TAS AUS	1880–1930	8315
DAVIES Alice Jane	Hobart TAS AUS	1857–1921	8306
DEAN Henry	Judbury/Huon TAS AUST	1838–1902	8310
DEAN Percy William B	Railton/Huon TAS AUS	1865–1958	8310
DENT John Richard	TAS AUS	c.1882	8311
DICK James	Devonport/Port Sorell TAS AUS	1817–1883	8316
DICK James	Evandale/Devonport TAS AUS	1856–1917	8316
DICK James	Devonport TAS AUS	1889–1953	8316
DIGNEY Joseph	TAS AUS		8322
DIGNEY Maud May	TAS AUS		8322
DOHERTY Agnes	TAS AUS	c.1864	8311
DONNELLY Catherine	Launceston TAS AUS	1844–1885	8333
DONOGHUE John	TAS AUS	c.1875	8311
EDWARDS John	Kingston TAS AUS	1840–1901	8331
ENNIS (MULREANY) Mary	Montagu TAS AUS	1857–1915	8304
ENNIS Patrick John	Montagu TAS AUS	1852–1866	8304
ENNIS Richard	Montagu TAS AUS	1852–1871	8304
ENNIS Richard	Tallarook VIC AUS	1871–1914	8304
ESTCOURT William	TAS AUS	c.1854	8311
HARWOOD James	Huon Valley TAS AUS	1840–1893	8326
HEATHCOTE Harry	Sassafras TAS AUS	1870–1914	8324
HOGAN Jane	CLA IRE/Hobart TAS AUS	1856–1898	8306
HOWELLS David	Swansea WLS UK	1870–1920	8315
HUGHES Joseph	Dunorian TAS AUS	c.1800	8324
IVES William	Oatlands TAS AUS	1835–1855	8325
JOHNSTONE William	TAS AUS	c.1800	8311
JONES William	Swansea WLS UK	1870–1920	8315
KELLY Dulcie Louise	Hobart TAS AUS	c.1900	8305
LITTLE Denzil	Deloraine TAS AUS	1820–1895	8310

NAME	PLACE/AREA	TIME	M'SHIP NO.
LOMASNEY Patrick	Malmsbury VIC AUS	1862-1899	8331
MASON Henry William	BRK UK/Hobart TAS AUS (Convict)	1806-1883	8306
MASON Mary	Sydney NSW/Hobart TAS AUS "Duke of Wellington"	1818-1823	8302
MAYS Adam	Conara NSW/Ulverstone TAS AUS	1860-1903	8331
MAZEY John	TAS AUS	c.1845	8311
McKINNON Annie Rosaline	Chingford ESS ENG	1921	8328
McKINNON William Ernie	Chingford ESS ENG	1921	8328
MEILANDS Any	Latvia	1700-1950	8315
MONDAY (MUNDY) George	DEV UK/Hobart TAS AUS	1778-1867	8306
MOREY Mary Grant	Melrose Creek/Devonport TAS AUS	1861-1927	8309
MULREANY Mary Snr	Tasmania AUS	1857-1871	8304
NESPER Barbara Regina	Germany/Launceston TAS "Montmorency"	1855>	8303
NEWMAN Edmond Henry	Tasmania AUS	1852-1860	8307
NEWMAN Emma	Kennilworth WAR ENG	1826-1860	8307
NEWMAN Thomas	London ENG	1807-1863	8307
NICHOLS Harold Raymond	Hobart TAS AUS	c.1900	8305
NICHOLS Pam	Hobart TAS AUS	c.1920	8305
PERHAM Charlotte	Little Hampton Longford TAS AUS	1845-1880	8307
PERHAM Thomas	Ashcott SOM ENG	1802-1856	8307
PHILPOTT Amelia Frances	Merlin Cottage Acol KEN ENG	1917	8328
PROCTOR Robert	Waterloo NSW AUS	<1906	8315
PULLEN Harriet Margaret	Sheffield/Devonport TAS AUS	1859-1945	8309
REID Christiana	Scotland/Hobart TAS AUS	1812-1881	8306
REVELL			8316
ROBERTSON Winifred Vers	Barrington/Devonport TAS AUS	1893-1974	8309
RYAN William	Hobart TAS AUS	c.1890	8305
SANTALL Eliza	ENG/Launceston TAS AUS	c.1850>	8314
SAUNDERS Catherine	Launceston TAS AUS	1849>	8318
SAUNDERS Daniel	Launceston/Campbell Town TAS AUS	1833>	8318
SAUNDERS Thomas	Launceston TAS AUS	1849>	8318
SEXTON John	CLA IRE/Hobart TAS AUS	1849-1920	8306
SHEEHY / SHEHY Catharine	Sydney NSW/Hobart/Campbell Town TAS AUS	1835>	8318
SULLIVAN John	Launceston TAS AUS		8333
SULZBERGER Johann Jacob	Germany/Launceston TAS "Montmorency"	1855>	8303
THOMAS William	Hobart TAS AUS "Duke of Wellington"	1818-1829	8302
THOMPSON Leonard Bradbury	Launceston TAS AUS/VIC AUS	1888-1954	8309
WARD John Joseph	Albury NSW/Ulverstone TAS AUS	1880-1895	8331
WARREN Eliza Jane	Mole Creek TAS AUS	1890-1936	8310
WATERHOUSE Morey Marsden	Barrington/Devonport TAS AUS	1891-1970	8309
WILLCOX Ernest Arthur	Mole Creek TAS AUS	1875-1962	8310
WILSON Alice			8328
WOOLLEY	Huon TAS AUS		8317
YAXLEY			8316

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Here are some special guidelines relating specifically to journal contributions

- § Please include your membership number.
- § We prefer authors to send their contribution as a Word document attached to an email addressed to the editor.
- § We prefer short items of about 500 words with a maximum of about 2500 words for longer contributions. Long articles can be broken into parts for publication in subsequent issues.
- § Do not indent paragraphs. Do not use tabs to indent whole paragraphs.
- § Use only **one space** at the end of a sentence.
- § Please use footnotes to provide references. **DO NOT** use a reference list or end-notes. We do not mandate a particular style of footnote but expect sufficient information in a footnote to allow the reader to locate the source.
- § Place footnote intext number at the end of a sentence.
- § When providing the editor with an article, use the file name to identify the version – e.g. “Smith article version 1.docx” – and increase the version number for later versions.
- § Provide images with captions in separate documents.
- § Write dates in the format “number month year” - no th or nd or rd, and no commas. e.g. “3 April 2021”
- § Please write surnames in All Capitals when first used in the contribution.

If you encounter a situation not specifically covered by these guidelines, please contact the editor.

email the editor for guidance.

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Please Check Branches for Opening Times

BURNIE Phone: Branch Librarian 0427 354 103
Library 58 Bass Highway Cooee
Monday 11.00 am - 3.00 pm
Saturday by appointment only 1.00 pm - 4.00 pm
Meeting Branch Library, 58 Bass Highway, Cooee, 10.30 am on Last Monday of each month, except December and January.
Night Dinner Meetings are held in winter and end of year, check with Branch Librarian for details.

HOBART Phone: Enquiries (03) 6245 9351
Library 19 Cambridge Road Bellerive
Tuesday 12.30 p.m.–3.30 p.m.
Wednesday 9.30 a.m.–12.30 p.m.
Saturday 1.00 p.m.–4.00 p.m.
Meeting Old Sunday School, St Johns Park Precinct, New Town, at 7.30 p.m. on 3rd Tuesday of each month, except January and December.

LAUNCESTON Phone: 0490 826 863
Library 45–55 Tamar Street Launceston (next door to Albert Hall)
Tuesday 10.00 a.m.–3.00 p.m.
Monday to Friday by appointment only
Check the Branch News and the website
<http://www.launceston.tasfhs.org> for locations and times.

MERSEY Phone: Branch Secretary (03) 6428 6328 Library (03) 6426 2257
Library 113 Gilbert Street Latrobe (behind State Library)
Wednesday & Friday 10.00 a.m.–3.00 p.m.
Saturday opening has ceased and is now by advance appointment only.
Meetings Please check the website at **www.tfhsdev.com** or contact the **secretary@tfhsdev.com** for updates.

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