

e-Muster

Number 14

April 2016



**The Official Journal of the Central Coast
Family History Society Inc**

Central Coast Family History Society Inc

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Committee:

Deborah Buist, Marlene Davidson, Margaret Ertner, Belinda Mabbott, Margaret Morters, Kay Rawnsley, Heather Sushames, Heather Yates.

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Phone: 4324 5164 - Email kay1@centralcoastfhs.org.au

Open: Tues to Fri 9.30am-2.00pm; First Saturday of the month only

Thursday evening 6.00pm-9.00-9.30pm (Trial)

Research Centre Closed on Mondays for Administration

MEETINGS

First Saturday of each month from February to November

Commencing at 1.00pm – doors open 12.00pm

Venue: Gosford Lions Community Hall

Rear of 8 Russell Drysdale Street, EAST GOSFORD NSW

MEMBERSHIP FEE - GST INCLUDED

Single Membership \$45.00 Joining Fee \$10.00

Joint Membership \$65.00 Joining Fee \$10.00

The **e-Muster** is the Official Journal of the Central Coast Family History Society Inc as **The Muster** it was first published in April 1983

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JOURNAL EDITOR **Kay Radford**

All articles to:
kayken1@bigpond.com

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Type in font size 16
CAMBRIA with narrow
margins please.

Surnames in CAPS

All images to be sent
separately.

The e-Muster

April 2016 – No: 14

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EDITORIAL – KAY RADFORD

Firstly thank you to Brian Davies, Heather Sushames, Carol Evans, Kazz Royston, and Lindsay Watts for making this issue possible. I have thrown in a bit of nonsense to get your mind thinking.

Welcome to Kazz as a first time contributor and to the others for responding to my plea for content.

The visit from Skills Generator organisation was enlightening and had the few there on the day of their visit eager to get in and lend a hand. It will be interesting to see the results of the research in June.

From the last e-Muster Lorraine Gowing had another contact, lucky duck! Shows that you just never know who is reading our journal now that it is up on the website for all to see.

Perhaps your story could generate some interest from here at home or from overseas.

This issue we feature the Seminar 2016 (see President's Piece and also article from Marlene with pictures by Deb Buist).

A company called *Software MacKiev* has taken over Family Tree Maker software from Ancestry.com and I have included the article at the end of the journal for everyone to read and to see what they think. The price is going to be a lot more than we are currently selling the item for, but you can rest assured Kay Rawnsley will be following the matter carefully and will get back to us when she knows more.

Cheers Kay 1

e-Muster Cover: Our Cottage today

PRESIDENT'S PIECE – WENDY CONDON

Where has the time gone, we are now at the end of March already? Our Christmas Party went off very well once again. It was great to just relax and enjoy the company and try and work out Marlene's games. As usual a lot of cheating went on **again**, we might have to ban mobile phones next time. Ha! Ha!

On Saturday the 5th March we presented our very successful Seminar 2016 with seventy nine people attending. The speakers were brilliant (see Seminar article in this issue). These events are a combined effort of a very hard working committee together with others who silently work in the background. Together with our various skills another very successful event was achieved.

The speakers Amanda Ianna the Registrar from the *New South Wales Birth Deaths and Marriages*, Ben Mercer from *Ancestry.com.au*, Joy and Alan Murrin from *Joy Murrin Family Services* and Andrew Gildea from *Finderscave* were amazing and we learnt a great deal from them,

On Sunday Andrew and Janelle from *Finderscave* held special workshops to show us how to use his program. Three groups attended each class with seven eager participants and a great day was the icing on the cake for the weekend.

From our very successful BBQ we held at Bunnings West Gosford in December and from the Seminar we were able to buy our own **Portable Wireless PA System**.

Jeff Morgan from *Lots of Watts Central Coast* lent us one for the Seminar. A lot better system than the existing one in the hall.

We have a lot of illness from committee and members and their families lately, I hope over the next few months everything improves for them all, I wish them all the best.

Wendy Condon – President

NEW MEMBERS

We wish to extend a very warm welcome to our new members. We hope they have many happy researching and social hours with us. Please remember to lodge your Members' Interest with Belinda Mabbott for inclusion on the Website.

2000	KNIGHT, Ian	2005	VERITY, Celine
2001	SCULLY, Carol	2006	WALKER, Heather
2002	MILLER, Eileen	2007	McLEAN, Robert
2003J	LEGGE, Rachel and James2	2008	DAVIES, Dianne
2004	PORTER, Nancy		

SCOTTISH RESEARCHER

Please update the contact email address for Jean Gibb, in Falkirk, Stirling, Scotland. Jean's business cards are available from the research centre.



Society Events and Information for Members



SOURCING YOUR RECORDS – TALKFEST

This workshop was cancelled in February and is due to be rescheduled.

I am waiting for a new date – so keep your eye on the Ex-Libris or Pelican Press for updates.



ORGANISING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY RECORDS **Facilitator Kay Radford Date to be fixed**

20 AUGUST 2016 - LAND WORKSHOP

Researching land history can be very helpful in studying the history of your family or of a property or locality. It can require patience but can be very rewarding.

Don't be daunted by the on-line choices or the terminology. Come to the RAHS Regional Land Workshop at CCFHS, East Gosford on 20th August. Key presenter Carol Liston will demonstrate the step by step search strategies even when an exact address is unknown.

Become a confident user of the on-line Historical and Parish Maps, First Title Early Grant information and the Historical Land Records Viewer (HLRV). The RAHS received a service organisation grant from *Arts NSW* as a contribution to the costs of running these regional seminars.

CCFHS is indeed fortunate to be included in the state programme and extends an invitation to all societies, their members and friends. This workshop day with refreshments is just \$25. The detailed programme and bookings will be available in May.





MEMBERSHIP FEES 2016 – effective 1st April

NEW MEMBERS & REJOINING Membership Fees for 2016-2017 will be:

Single Membership	\$45.00
Joint Membership	\$65.00

New members joining fee of \$10.00 applies (once only payment)

A Members Day user fee of \$2.50 now applies to assist in offsetting the cost of online subscription sites.

All Saturday workshops will incur a fee of \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members unless otherwise stipulated.

OUR MEMBERSHIP FORM is available to download from the website. From the front page click on the ...read more information under Membership on the banner and all will be revealed. Remember the website is www.centralcoastfhs.org.au

Please read the two additional questions on your membership form regarding the Rotary Raffle donations to the Equipment Maintenance and Replacement Fund. You can chose to have Tickets sent to you to the value of \$10 or if you prefer you can make a once per year donation of \$10.00 to the Equipment Maintenance Fund.

EFFECTIVE 1 OCTOBER OF ANY GIVEN YEAR

A half yearly membership is offered

Joining Fee \$10.00

Single Membership: \$22.50

Joint Membership: \$32.50

No. 15 August 2016 e-~~Cluster~~luster
Deadline for articles for the April edition is 20th July 2016

Refer to your December 2014 edition for page set up

SPEAKERS FOR 2016

APRIL - SATURDAY 2nd - SUE CASTRIQUE – *Gentlemen and Convicts on Cockatoo Island 1839-1869.*

Sue's research reveals some of the long-held island secrets. This presentation will be a fascinating insight into the strong personalities that lay behind the colourful history of the island as a convict prison and its significant engineering developments.

Sue Castrique is a researcher and writer whose book *Under the Colony's Eye: gentlemen and convicts on Cockatoo Island 1839-1869* was published last year. *Under the colony's eye* is about the penal settlement on Cockatoo Island, the struggle to build a dock and how the island became a secret fight club with its bare-knuckle prize-fighting convicts.



GENERAL AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MAY – SATURDAY 7th - TERRY HEFFERNAN - *Great uncle, Geoffrey George Willis.*

He went down on the *HMAS Perth* after it was torpedoed by the Japanese in the Sunda Strait in Indonesia in 1942. He and others survived the sinking and ended up on the Burma Siam Railway. So this is both the story of the ship and the story of Geoff and his shipmates.

JUNE – SATURDAY 4th - PATRICK DODD - *Governor Macquarie*

Patrick Dodd considers Lachlan Macquarie to be “The Father of Australia” a man who brought “Stability and Prospect to the Colony – all People to be Equal”.



As the Founder and President of *The Macquarie Society*, Patrick delights in speaking about his hero. Patrick's presentation is indeed a lively, factual recollection of Governor Macquarie's time in the colony.

RESEARCH CENTRE MANAGER'S REPORT

NEW CD'S DONATED TO THE SOCIETY

Many thanks to Judy Grace for the donation of three CD's – Brian Davies has kindly loaded them to **Pelicanet** and they are available on Computers C1-4 and C7-10 in the centre.

Path is: Australia/WW1

AU2009 Index Australia's Fighting Sons NSW-QLD

AU4007 Index Queenslanders in the Great War

AU8010 Index Australia's Fighting Sons

NEW PUBLICATIONS ADDED TO THE REFERENCE LIBRARY

"Someone" left some books on the table in the library and we have accessioned them.

Some are very old publications by the late Janet Reakes and although very out of date – still are very interesting and an insight into HOW WE USED TO DO THINGS!

G-081	How to Use the IGI and Wills – Janet Reakes
IRL086	How to Trace Your Irish Ancestors – Janet Reakes
ABOR-028	Aboriginal Myths, Legends and Fables
B-099	A New Tapestry – <i>Huguenot Society of Australia Inc</i>
C2836	White Cliffs Pioneer & General Cemetery
FH145	The Smith Family – <i>From Solihull, Warwickshire to Parramatta 1796-2015</i>
H211	The First Fifty Years – <i>A History of Nursing at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital 1882-1932</i>
IRL021	Irish Records – James G Ryan – borrow book
LH068	Blue Gum Flat to Budgewoi – Charles Swancott – borrow book
LH130	Gosford Public School 150 years – <i>History of GPS</i>
LH131	Central Coast History – <i>History of the Brisbane Water from the early days to the present time.</i>
LH132	1990 White Pages – Central Coast

ASSIGNED DUTIES

The following is a list of who does what to keep the society running as smoothly as it does.

Assistant Treasurer	Margaret Ertner
Bookstall Coordinator	Margaret Ertner
Bookstall meeting helper	Lyn H & Heather Y
Bunnings Sausage Sizzle	Belinda M & Heather Y
Bus Trips and Tours	Marlene Davidson
CD Publishing	Wallace Russell
Education Officer	Vacant
Event Coordinator	Committee
Grant Applications	Marlene Davidson
Grant Application Proofreader	Rene and Margaret
Guest Speakers	Marlene Davidson
Housekeeping	Jenny Richmond
It and Computer Network	CC Mobile Computers
LDS Film Hire – FamilySearch	Kay Rawnsley
Librarian	Lyn Thompson
Librarian's Assistant	Belinda Mabbott
Membership Secretary	Wendy Condon
Membership Secretary's helper on meeting days	Kay Rawnsley plus 1
Members Interests/Facebook Administrator	Belinda Mabbott
The e-Muster Editor/ Pelican Press Editor	Kay Radford
Muster Proofreading	Rene Jamison
Nic Nac Stall	Rosemary Wiltshire
Overseas Book Monitor	Heather Sushames
Property Officer	Margaret Morters
Publication Projects & Public Officer	Kay Radford
Publicity and Advertising	Deborah Buist
Raffle Organiser	Yvonne Potts
Catering	Heather Sushames
Research Officer	Margaret Morters
Unrelated Certificates	Kay Rawnsley
Website Administrator	Kay Radford
Website Designer	Jeff Hall – Websiteguy
Welfare and Hospital Visits	Rene Jamison

SEMINAR 2016 - SATURDAY MARCH 5.

Hall full of enthusiastic family historians from local and distant societies.



Andrew & Janelle Gildea from *Finderscave*

Gosford Mayor Laurie McKinna welcomed all to the Seminar.



Amanda Ianna, Registrar at NSW Births, Deaths and Marriages set the scene for the day.

She noted the very prominent place of Family History on the recently designed web page. Registry involvements range from legal responsibilities to modern social media of Facebook and Instagram. Keep in touch with their on-line newsletter.

Video from the ABC production of *Hatch, Match and Dispatch* highlighted the many personal services provided by NSW BDMs

President Wendy Condon introduced Ben Mercer, *Ancestry* Australian Content Manager.

Ben told of the new records being digitised and soon to be released as well as negotiations for future digitisation and DNA developments.



Marlene Davidson (at left) thanked Joy and Allan Murrin. They shared their experiences with many tips for breaking down those brick walls. Researchers, whether beginner or experienced, appreciate their always thoughtful and practical assistance and advice.



Final speaker, Andrew Gildea, focussed on photographs. His on-line programme *Finderscave*, validates, preserves and shares those treasured family photos. Much chit-chat during breaks and energy levels were sustained by the tasty treats. The well-stocked bookstall items were

popular and folk went home with prizes from the several competitions. On Sunday, Andrew and Janelle held three *Finderscave* workshops, ensuring each person successfully up-loaded and printed their own photograph.

What a seminar. An overheard comment “We could have listened for hours more.”

SEMINAR 2016 – RAFFLE WINNERS

Major Prizes

12 months Ancestry UK Heritage Subscription – New Member Robert McLean accepting from Ben Mercer



Ancestry DNA – Patricia Thomas accepting from Ben Mercer



Membership to Central Coast Family History Society Inc for 12 months – Terry Heffernan

18 other lucky registrants went home with a raffle prize some more than one.

Photos by Deborah Buist and Marlene Davidson

Text by Marlene Davidson and Kay Radford

TRANSCRIPTION AGENTS

Don't forget transcriptions of birth, death and marriage records are available in NSW and only NSW. New cost from 1 July 2013 - \$20 each



Email joy@joymurrin.com.au



Marilyn Rowan – marilynr@marbract.com.au

TURTLE CONSOLIDATED SERVICES



Laurie Turtle – lturtle@iprimus.com.au

We do not recommend our members use commercial businesses who advertise on the internet for fast delivery. Stick with the ones you know you can trust.

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**The Central Coast's only locally owned and run supplier of
copiers, printers and scan devices.**

**Now looking after our website needs is Jeff Hall
the *Website Guy***



Situated locally in the Gosford CBD
THE SKILLS GENERATOR
CENTRAL COAST PIONEERING WOMEN PROJECT
(In incentive of Work for the Dole)

On the 24th February I was very pleased to welcome to the research centre part of the group of people who will be working on the above project. There are eleven or so individuals plus their Project Supervisor Kelly Mungoven, working together to research over eighty occupations. A list will appear elsewhere in this publication.

The Pioneering women project is finding and honouring women who were/are firsts in their field of expertise throughout the settlement of the central coast to modern day.

It will conclude with an exhibition to be held in June 2016 (location to be announced) to showcase the adversity and feats they endured to be the women they became. The exhibition will run in conjunction with "international Womens' day".



We have offered the group access to the Centre during the duration of their research and they will be visiting us on Wednesdays and Fridays to fit in with their other obligations. This project is something we wish to encourage and hopefully the expertise of our members will be

recognised for how well we can work with the community.

We may need to call on additional volunteers on these visits, so if you are willing to step in and offer some additional time please let me know.

Photo: Kelly Mungoven on left with three of our visitors.

Kay Radford – Research Centre Manager

FIRST FEMALE ON THE COAST – WORKING LIST

From the 77 alphabetically listed occupations ~~strike through~~ indicates person found – can you assist with any other category on the list? Gosford and Wyong for each category are required.

Able Bodied Athlete	Librarian
Aboriginal Social Worker	License to drive a motor vehicle
Accountant	Lifesaver
Ambulance Officer	Magazine Editor
Architect	Marriage Celebrant
Artist – painter	Matron
Author	Mechanic
Baby born at Gosford Hospital	Meningococcal Survivor – Kimberley Scully
Baby born at Wyong Hospital	Midwife
Board of Director	Model
Builder – Master Builders Association	Multiple birth
Celebrity Chef	Newspaper Editor
Charity CEO	Nurse
Coal Miner	Oldest woman to live on the coast
Comedian	Olympic medal winner
Commonwealth games medal winner	Pharmacist
Company owner – pearls of wisdom, woman on boards, Chamber of Commerce, ASIC	Photographer
Counsellor	Police Officer – Senior Sergeant Vivienne Crawford, Ssr Constable Corina Hassett, Inspector Cheyenne Greene
Disabled Athlete	Politician – Federal
Doctor – GP	Politician – local Wyong and Gosford
Doctor – Surgeon	Politician – State
Engineer	Priest/Pastor
Entertainer	Publican
Entertainer – Actor	Radio presenter on 2GO
Entertainer – singer	Reality Show winner
Farmer	Registrar of Births, Deaths & Marriages
Fire Fighter	School Principal
Flying instructor/pilot	Scientist
General Store Owner	Services – air force – Royal Australian Air Force
Girl Guide/Scout	Services – Army, Australian Defense Force, Australian Army Cadets
Graphic Artist	Services – navy – Royal Australian Navy
Guinness world record holder	Survivor of Breast Cancer
Guru	Teacher
Heart recipient	Transsexual (Legally recognized)
Horticulturalist	TV presenter on NBN
Indigenous woman in indigenous culture awareness	Youth Worker
Indigenous woman in sport	
Inventor	
Journalist	
Judge (each Shire)	
Lawyer – Wyong and Gosford	

THE TRUTH AT LAST

Early last year I was contacted by a lady who had found my name and email address listed on the Irish Orphans website. She was researching her husband's family and as she was told his mother Mary had been adopted in 1918, she set out to try and find who her natural mother was. Mary had been told just prior to her marriage that she had been adopted but little more, and years later she had tried to find out more information but found nothing. Unfortunately she died before finding out who her mother was.

What Mary needed back then was a daughter-in-law into genealogy. Someone who wouldn't take no for an answer, who kept delving until she found all the information was still being held by the relevant hospital and home and finally retrieved it.

There was enough information for her to start looking for people of certain surnames in another State, then going into Google and Ancestry to see if anyone was researching these families. By putting my Irish great grandmother's name into Google she came up with me, so that's how it all started. I do not have any of my research on Ancestry but others have, but luckily she tried me first as some of the information on Ancestry Trees is incorrect.

After quite a few months of emails going back and forth, I finally persuaded Mary's daughter-in-law to tell me the name of the mother, reassuring her that I would keep it private but also advising that if she belonged to my immediate family, I would be excited to receive the news. When at last I was told the name of Mary's mother and the details, I realized I had more cousins and Mary had a half-brother still alive.

Our next step was, do we tell my cousin he had half nephews and a niece who wanted to meet him?

My cousin had been brought up an only child and often mentioned the lack of siblings, so I thought he would welcome new found relatives, but much to my dismay, when he was told he intimated he didn't want to pursue the matter and wouldn't be telling his own family.

Two weeks ago I received an email from his daughter saying her father had told her last year and ever since she had been trying to persuade him to find out more. I sent her the information and photos of Mary and she and her brother have at last persuaded my cousin to accept that his mother had an illegitimate daughter and no-one thought badly of her; in fact we think she was a very courageous lady. Hopefully we will go to Melbourne to meet our new-found relatives soon.

During the research, it was found that Mary, her husband and son moved interstate and unknowingly bought a business next door to where her natural mother had lived up to a year before.

Mary's son also attended the same school as my cousin in his last year. What an amazing co-incidence.

This story just shows that with determination, you can still find old records which have been kept by hospitals, organisations etc. and get access to them if you can supply backup information.

Unmarried mothers were often sent interstate, so if you have one in your family and can't find records, start looking interstate.

Heather Sushames – Life Member #651

SOCIETIES MAILING LIST



Remember as a member of our Members Mailing List you can forward any of the postings to a friend.

You can also Like Us on Facebook!



MEMORIES (or a vivid imagination)?



They say as you get older you become more aware of happenings in your life in your earlier years. I have had several experiences with my paternal grandfather and my mother whilst sitting around the dining room table having a chat.

Ken and I were watching a documentary the other night and my mind began to wander off. It was a doco about the invasion of Sydney Harbour by the Japanese mini subs on the night of 31st May 1942.

Apart from that being my second birthday, I got flashes of my Grandmother MYERS' kitchen

at 6 Ismay Avenue, Homebush and being told to get under the kitchen table.

Were the two events connected? I don't know! My next thought was standing behind the front door at the same address and being told my mother got my brother from the cabbage patch! One day I am going to jot down all these brain strain flashes for my kids to have a giggle over when I'm gone.

Yesterday (Sunday 29 February) I was enjoying a visit with my eldest son and his two eldest children, Anthony 23 and Emma 21, when my son described the day he came home from work and found Anthony had gone to town on the cork tiles in the dining room, leaving small holes in several place.



A Light bulb moment – in the dining room at 6 Ismay Avenue in a corner sat our radio. Us kids would sit around on the floor listening to goodness knows what – I became fascinated by the lino on the floor which presented in the form of tiny squares. I used to have a great time picking them out. I don't ever remember being punished though. Anthony likewise cannot remember being punished.

Photo above: My mother with me in her arms, sitting my sister Judy and standing late sister Pam in the front yard of 6 Ismay Avenue, Homebush now under the M4

Kay Radford – Life Member 530L

A RESEARCHERS - *POT OF GOLD*

Thomas Alfred EVANS and Mary Ann Sarah WHITE (EVANS, WALTERS, RYAN) 1861-1942.



◀ Thomas Alfred Evans & Mary Ann Sarah White,
Lismore 1883-age 22years

I have been researching my husband's family for years and have hit more than the average amount of brick walls as you would with the common name of Thomas EVANS. One starts to lose interest when there is no light at the end of the tunnel and many, many leads take you nowhere.

During these last Christmas holidays I decided to look at the family again and take a different

tack in my research.

As Mary Ann had married a Joshua WALTERS after the death of Thomas in 1890, and had an only child to him, Percy Henry (John) WALTERS, born Lismore NSW 1892 died Lismore NSW 1979. I decided to find out a little more about Percy, birth, marriage, death and in this case divorces. Many new names were among the divorce documents. Fantastic I had gleaned a little more about the family.

Of course the usual BDM, Trove, State records and Ancestry gave me good basic information. However, not quite satisfied, I was still looking for more!! I googled "Percy Walters", upon scrolling down his name was showing in the NSW state Library records. Why would his name be there as he was just a farmer from the Richmond River and had no record of importance around that area?

I went to the NSW State Library and looked at anything I thought may help. I was led to E-Resource and then clicked on collection records detail, then Manuscripts, Oral History & Pictures- added Percy Walters' name again, after which the word **photographs** came up in the box with details Thompson **family 1909-1937**, and a sub heading- Contents.

I was fortunate to know there were THOMPSONS' somewhere in the family. I

clicked on the “contents” for that collection and to my surprise there was an inventory for 110 photos. All photos were numbered with a description alongside. What a find!

They are not available on-line and can only be accessed through the Mitchell Library reading room. How fast can one get to the Mitchell library? According to the list there are photos of Mary Ann WHITE (EVANS WALTERS RYAN). No one in my husband’s family had ever seen a photo of their grandmother.



Also Percy WALTERS and many other family members are listed whom the family have never seen photos.

◀ Mary Ann & 3rd husband John Ryan –Riverstone 1937
aged 76 years

We have unidentified photos, which we may now be able to cross check and solve a few more photo mysteries.

The Mitchell Library resource does have a photo printing service. However, it is rather prohibitive at \$22 per photo unless of course you only require one or two photos, not 110!!

I made a mad dash to the Mitchell library and I was able to photograph all 110 photos. The photos are in very good condition and they are in a bound book and well cared for.

Why these photos were accepted by the Mitchell Library I do not know as the family was not a family of notoriety. For whatever reason, I am so pleased I found them.

Many of the photos show what life was like around 1909 in the Lismore, Casino, Longnose Point (Long Point-Balmain) and Riverstone areas.

If only I knew who had the foresight to put these photos somewhere to be found years later, they would receive a huge Thank You. The Mitchell Library does not have a record of the donor or a date, however, I feel I may know who

the person was, Alfred T GREGORY and he passed away in 1999. What a wonderful legacy?

Those wonderful photos have been stored away for more than 17 years just waiting for an avid family historian to find them.

After telling a cousin of mine I had found a researchers' POT OF GOLD his comments were "110 POTS OF GOLD I would think" How true!

The lesson from my research is just to keep looking in every nook and cranny even though it is left of field, you never can tell where family photos or information is hiding.

Carol Evans - Member 1449

NEED HELP IN YOUR RESEARCH?

Our Research Officer is always happy to help out.

Further information at <http://www.centralcoastfhs.org.au/research-centre-top/research-enquiries>

The following could be worth checking out
<http://www.rootschat.com/> and Ancestry's message boards.

Both cover many locations and subjects. You will often find a helpful soul who might do a look up for you or point you in the right direction at least.

Try to keep a weather eye open on the major data base web sites like State Archives and Ancestry as usually updates happen with little fanfare.

Ancestry have very recently uploaded the 1903 & 1913 NSW Electoral Rolls. The 1903 roll has been around for some time on CD and was indexed. The 1913 NSW roll was also available but alas wasn't fully indexed so hard to find useful info. Happy Hunting.

Marg Morters CCFHS Research Officer

COINCIDENCE?

I've always been critical of novels and stories that rely on coincidences for their plotlines. Yet I find myself in just such a situation. In 1988, long before I started researching family history, I lived and worked for 6 months in Yorkshire with my family. We lived near Bronte country in the village of Oakworth where the original Railway Children movie was filmed. Our home was a converted Baptist chapel in Slack Lane. We shopped in the nearby town of Keighley and went to markets in Skipton. We often travelled through the towns of Kildwick, Hellifield, Long Preston on the way to the Dales or through Silsden and Otley on another road. We used to laugh as we passed Wigglesworth and Giggleswick. We always felt at home in Yorkshire, even when we travelled back years later to visit friends.

So how does this fit into my family history? It all centres on William BELL (c1814-1885) who holds a unique position in my family tree because he is both my ggg-grandfather in my grandmother's line and my gg-grandfather in my grandfather's line.

I had already identified a Yorkshire connection because William's son Thomas (1845-1919) married Eleanor Tidd SANDERSON (1853-1940). In researching the Sanderson line I'd found evidence that the related lines of JOWETT (JOUET), THOMPSON and HALL lived in the Baildon and Otley areas for several generations between about 1600 to the late 1700's.

But for many years I'd hit a brick wall in researching William BELL. I could find plenty of information about him from age 14 in 1828 when, as a foundry boy, he was convicted in Chester of stealing a pair of Wellington boots worth 5/- and sentenced to 14 years transportation. From his convict beginnings he built a successful life as a carpenter, publican, carrier and farmer and he eventually settled in Gundagai. His life in Australia is reasonably well documented as there are plenty of people doing good research on the many lines descended from him. There's even another of his descendants in the CCFHS. There are short biographies available on ancestry.com.

Convict records gave William's native place as Bury, Lancashire but, try as we might, we couldn't find a match. But then another researcher found that William was born 60km away at Long Preston in Yorkshire and that his parents moved to the Bury area when he was a small child so his only

memories would be of Bury. This opened a treasure trove of information regarding William's ancestors because many of the church records for this part of Yorkshire have been scanned and are available online.

As we go back through the generations we see a number of families associated with the villages I've mentioned that were so familiar to me:

Bell – Long Preston, Giggleswick

Tuly – Long Preston, Hellifield, Keighley

Teal, Wade, Walker, Clarkson, Jackson – Silsden, Kildwick, Otley, Skipton

We can also see a number of siblings born near Bury at Limefield and the charmingly named Pig's Lee. Aged just 28, William's mother died there in 1824 giving birth to a younger sister who was named for her dead mother – Martha. William named one of his daughters Martha but tragically she died from typhoid aged 20. William's father Francis stayed on at Pig's Lee and married 3 more times. Coincidentally his 4th wife was Mary WALDRON – one of the many variants of my grandmother's name of WORLDON (though there is no evidence that she is related to my WORLDONS). And I can follow the progress of Francis and the children from all four marriages through census records. Francis and several sons and stepsons were wheelwrights which may explain why William worked as a carpenter for many years.

William's mother Martha TULY (1796-1824) was an illegitimate child born in Hellifield to Betty TULY (b1761). Betty's parents James Tuly (1748-1789) and Martha BAILEY lived in Keighley where they had 11 children. The church records also show the names of the farms where the family lived. In the record for Betty's younger sister Sarah, who was born on 9 November 1787, the farm is Newsholm Dean. I searched the Oldmaps website and when I found the location I was flabbergasted. This farm is directly across the road from the chapel at Slack Lane where I was living 200 years later. No wonder it felt like home.

Fortunately I found all this just before our last trip to the UK so we took the opportunity to visit several of these rural villages and see them through new eyes. Obviously there have been changes over the centuries but the churches and surrounds have changed little. Who knows where the family history journey will lead next?

Brian Davies – Member 1698J

THAT WHICH GOES AROUND COMES AROUND

The year was 1976 and I had begun to get interested in the history of my husband, Lindsay WATTS's family. As my in-laws were deceased I decided to call on one of his elderly relatives, his Auntie Dorrie to see if she could tell me anything about his forebears. She knew very little but was able to produce a small cutting from the newspaper the Newcastle Morning Herald. It was an obituary for her grandfather, and my husband's great grandfather, James RAINE. In the obituary it mentioned that James was born in Darlington, County Durham, England. It also said that he had come to the colony in 1876 and that his first employment was with New Lambton Colliery.



New Lambton Colliery – permission to reproduce this photo found on the Hunter Photo Bank site of Newcastle Regional Library.

I copied the obituary down in long hand and the information contained therein was most valuable as it enabled me to construct a reasonable profile of James RAINE of Durham. I was later to learn that, although it was always recorded that he was employed in the coal industry, James was not a

coalminer but a stone mason. So even though he did work in various coal mines I feel he would have been employed in his trade as a mason. Many of the pit head buildings were of solid brick or stone so a qualified mason would have been needed for their construction and maintenance.

Over the years, the obituary information has been passed on to many people who, in turn had passed it on once again. In July of this year I received a phone call from the Reverend Elizabeth RAINE of Thornleigh. She had been given my name by some person who I had long forgotten and who lived in Newcastle. Elizabeth and I had a long chat about our research, and in due course I asked her if she had James RAINE's obituary said yes, she had a hand written copy and she did not know who wrote it or who owned the original. She was greatly amused when I told her it was my handwriting, and how I obtained it.

There have been many advances made in recent years to the way we do our research, such as the internet, but please don't neglect the elderly relative. Your life will be enriched just by chatting to them and who knows what they may have tucked away? Perhaps it could set off a chain reaction such as I have described.

Lindsay Watts – Member 69



LITTLE BLUE COFFINS

Veronica Grace ROYSTON (nee DALE) known as Grace from the age of 10, was my paternal Grandmother. She spoke hauntingly of her memory of “Little blue coffins” in the house when she was a child. She passed in 1986 at the age of 86. This story is dedicated to her memory, and that of the little lost souls who were, ever so briefly, part of her life and my family.

It was 11 April 1902 and Australia was still a fledgling democracy. A drought gripped much of the country, and food and water shortages occupied the minds of many people. Australia had gone through a severe depression in 1890 and jobs were

scarce.¹ The major maritime strike of 1890 and shearer's strike in 1891 had fuelled much anxiety amongst people. However, on that day all this was far from the minds of the occupants of a small cottage in Marlborough Street, Leichhardt, where the DALE family lived.

Doctor ANDERSON had come and gone from the DALE cottage having done his sad duty. He pronounced 'life extinct' for the tiny wasted frame of Margaret Gladys DALE; the cause, convulsions after nine months of marasmus.² Maggie, as her sisters called her, was two years and two months old. Marasmus was more a symptom than a disease, known now in colloquial terms as failure to thrive. Severe cases generally led to death as families did not have the resources or understanding to prevent it, nor the finances to afford the medical care to combat it.³

For the bereft parents Johanna and John DALE, this day was agonisingly similar to another day in 1899 when Dr ANDERSON had been the bearer of the same dreadful news. Joseph Daniel was a robust and healthy infant. He thrived throughout his first year, was toddling and chatted cheerily to his siblings; though heaven only knows what he was saying. Johanna nursed him till he was almost a year old, it was all she could manage. When she weaned him, he seemed to make the transition to family meals easily. Lily, Alice, and Grace had all been weaned at 12 months and thrived afterwards.

In July of 1898 Johanna had noticed changes in Joseph's appetite and he had started losing weight. As time went by his little legs and arms became thin and wasted, his belly oddly large, and he started to look like a little wizened old man.⁴ Johanna gave him the best food that she could, but it made no difference. Their darling little boy got thinner, listless and withdrawn and passed away on 18 March 1899.⁵

Doctor ANDERSON knew that John and Johanna were good parents. This was a working class family, John laboured for long hours as a storeman at ELLIOT BROTHERS Druggist in Ultimo and Johanna took housekeeping jobs when she could; to earn a little extra money to feed her hungry brood. Like many other families on subsistence wages, their diet was based on meat, bread and tea. This nutritionally unsound diet combined with poor housing and sanitation,

¹ Sydney Morning Herald 1890 <http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/13764115>

² NSW Births Deaths & Marriages Registry, District of Leichhardt, Death, Margaret Gladys Dale. Transcribed by Joy Murrin.

³ Pearson WJ. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2531360/pdf/postmedj00885-0013.pdf>

⁴ Pearson WJ. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2531360/pdf/postmedj00885-0013.pdf>

⁵ NSW Births Deaths & Marriages Registry, District of Leichhardt, Death, Joseph Daniel Dale. Transcribed by Joy Murrin.

lack of understanding of good hygiene and the inability to afford medical fees often led to dangerous health conditions across the community.¹

Dr ANDERSON would not overwhelm this poor family with this burden, but he knew that as with little Joseph before her, young Margaret was a victim of family and societal circumstances. Many other families that he attended in this community had been impacted by the death of a young child.

Six years later in 1908 a Victorian Government food analyst named W. Percy WILKINSON would become well known for exposing adulterated foods in Victoria and NSW. He would find milk contained substances such as boric acid, formalin (formaldehyde), hydrogen peroxide and coal tar. One wonders about the impact this was having on the youngest and most vulnerable members of families? As little as 2 – 3 grams of boric acid is now known to be lethal in infants and young children.²



Margaret was buried at Necropolis (Rookwood) on 12 April 1902. She was the third child the Dale family had buried there. Frederick their first son died in 1891, Joseph in 1899 and now Margaret. Sadly in November 1904 this already suffering family would lose another child, John Adrian aged one year eight months. John's cause of death was meningitis, duration of the illness was recorded as '7 months under observation'.³ The burden on the family of losing four children would have been heartbreaking on its own. But John, Johanna and the older girls of the family also bore the burden of caring for sick and debilitated children.

Kazz Royston – Member 1889

Photos: previous page Veronica aged 15 and Wedding photo of Johanna and John Dale

¹ Leichhardt Council, Leichhardt. <http://www.leichhardt.nsw.gov.au/Library/Local-History/Our-Suburbs/Leichhardt>

² Wikipedia, Boric Acid. https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boric_acid

³ NSW Births Deaths & Marriages Registry, District of Leichhardt, Death, John Adrian Dale. Transcribed by Joy Murrin.

ANOTHER ADOPTION STORY

Many years ago in Sydney I attended a seminar on Huntingdon's Disease as I knew it was prevalent in Tasmania, but not in my family. A carrier in the 1800 emigrated from a small village in England and settled in Tasmania. She had a large family and generations of descendants have inherited Huntingdon's, for which there is no cure.

At the seminar I got talking to two ladies unknown to each other, who both had mothers with Huntingdon's. Both of them said their mothers had been adopted and as unmarried Tasmanian girls were often sent to Sydney or Melbourne to have their babies, I asked if they had ever done any research into finding out who their grandmothers were and where they had come from.

One of them had looked for records but as this was pre adoption laws, she had no luck. I suggested she contact various church welfare organisations, explain the situation and ask if they still had old records. Many months later, I had a phone call from her saying she had been able to find out information about her grandmother, and yes, she had come from Tasmania. I then helped her trace her family back to the original carrier. I also found I had gone to school with one of her cousins and put them in touch with each other but sadly this Sydney lady was also diagnosed with Parkinson's soon after.

By finding the adoption records and subsequently receiving genetic counselling, it has helped this family understand how this disease came to be in their family.

Heather Sushames – Life Member 651L



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YOU BE THE JUDGE – WEIGH THIS UP AND MAKE YOUR OWN DECISION

The following is the latest newsletter from Software MacKiev

All of us here at Software MacKiev are happy to be taking up where Ancestry left off with Family Tree Maker, the most widely used family history software of all time. We have completed a small update to get the product back on the market and are pleased to let you know its available RIGHT NOW.



FTM Mac 3.1



FTM 2014.1

About our new FTM updates

We have started with Ancestry's FTM 2014 and FTM Mac 3 and, as a company of engineers, we set our focus on stability and performance improvements. So we swatted down some bugs. And we made the application more responsive – you will find some actions that previously took minutes now take seconds.

New features

We managed to sneak in just a few surprises, like 100 beautiful new backgrounds you can use to make professional looking charts and reports. And we've integrated a service for printing high resolution genealogy charts through the good folks at Family ChartMasters. It's a modest start, but we hope you will be happy with our new updates.

Compatibility

We made sure that our new updates are completely compatible with the latest operating systems (Windows 10 and El Capitan). We've also made sure that your old trees will open seamlessly. That there is nothing to move. That your Ancestry account if you have one will continue to work with the new versions. And that TreeSync and all the other things you have come to like about FTM are still there for you.

Where to Buy... and more

See below how to get the updated editions, and some other information you may find useful.

Thanks to all of you who have welcomed us so warmly. It means a lot to us. A new chapter in Family Tree Maker's long and proud history begins today!

JACK

Jack Minsky President - Software MacKiev

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www.mackiev.com/ftm

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- Sign up to be a Beta Tester
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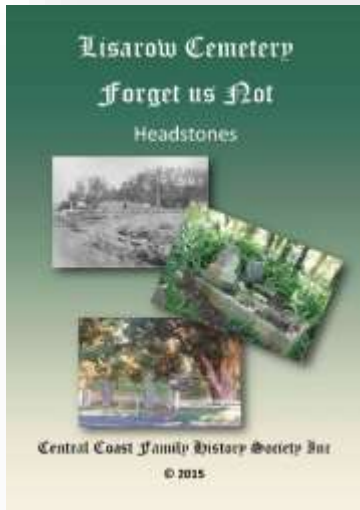
To get technical support for any version of FTM, please start here:

www.mackiev.com/support

We are sharing responsibility for the rest of this year with Ancestry.com.au but the Software MacKiev support site is the best place to start. We'll direct you from there to the right place to get the help you need.

3. Any Questions?

If you have questions for us, please first [read our FAQ](#) as we've tried to answer the most common ones there. If you don't find the answer you are looking for in the FAQ, please send your question through our Feedback Form which you'll find on our FTM Home Page (see #1 above). Thanks!

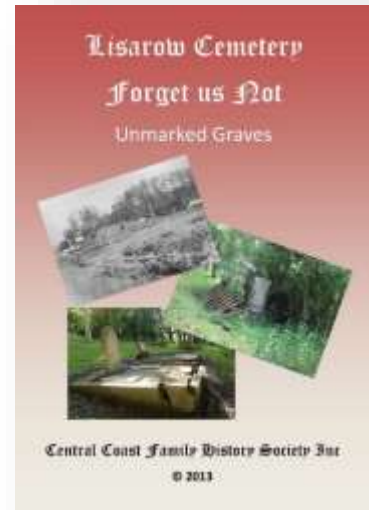


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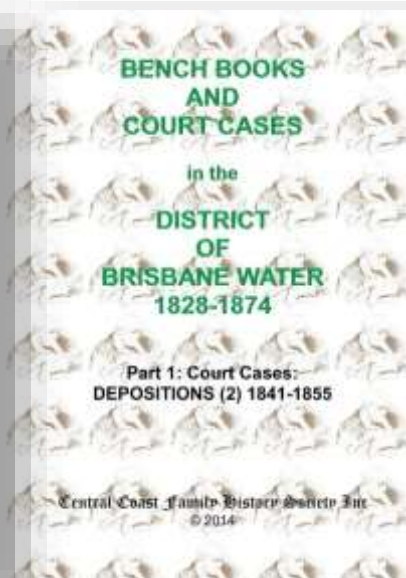
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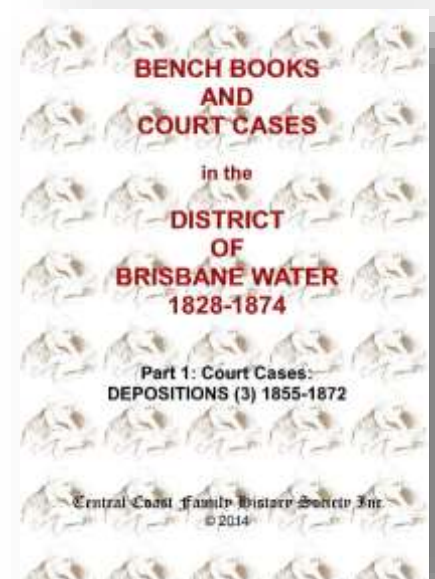


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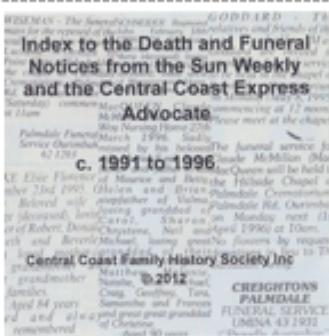
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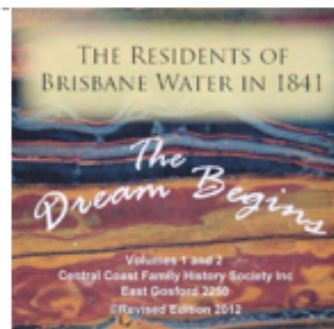
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