

E-MUSTER

Central Coast Family History Society Inc.

April 2024 Issue 38



***THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CENTRAL COAST
FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.***

CENTRAL COAST FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.



Members of NSW & ACT Association of Family History Societies Inc. (State Body)
Australian Federation of Family History Organisation (National Body)
Federation of Family History Societies, United Kingdom (International Body)
Associate Member, Royal Australian Historical Society of NSW.

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Robyn Gregg, Yvonne Potts, Jacqueline Smith, Heather Yates.

RESEARCH CENTRE

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Phone: 4324 5164 - Email admin@centralcoastfhs.org.au
Open: Tues to Fri 9.30am-2.00pm;
Thursday evening 6.00pm-9.30pm
First Saturday of the month 9.30am-12noon
Research Centre Closed on Mondays for Administration

MEETINGS

First Saturday of each month from February to November
Commencing at 1.00pm – doors open 12.00 noon
Research Centre opens from 9.30am
Venue: Gosford Lions Community Hall
Rear of 8 Russell Drysdale Street, EAST GOSFORD NSW

THE E-MUSTER

April 2024 – No: 38

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admin@centralcoastfhs.org.au

E- MUSTER deadlines are
March 20th
July 20th
November 20th

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EDITORIAL

As the Editor of your April 2024 **e-Muster**, I thank the contributors who have provided such interesting stories resulting from researching their Family History. In this edition you will read about those who “did it tough” and lived in very restrictive times but “kept up the fight to survive” and also those who unfortunately fell victim to the struggles they encountered. It is in this way that we come to understand the human aspects of the factual history of our forebears. Also, an article from a new member, Rosalie Donnelly- about a distinguished family member and a series of recollections from his life that will follow on in further editions.

Heather YATES Member 675

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Dear Readers

Welcome to the April edition of the E-Muster. We're now past the sapping heat and humidity of summer and are starting to enjoy the cooler weather which comes with autumn. We're a quarter of the way through the year already and next month is the AGM so it will be interesting to see if any new faces put themselves forward to be on the new committee.

I'm sure that there are many capable members out there and we really need many more to be involved as there is so much to do. There's scanning and cataloguing and shredding and sorting out. Many years of old files still need to be gone through but fortunately, we are slowly getting on top. We'll see if there are willing participants in the next few months. And with that, I'd like to thank all of the committee members for the great job which they have done over the last 12 months.

Thanks to those who come to the Research Centre to assist with the many tasks around the research room and in the office and library and run the courses and assist people with their research. People who give freely of their time to help others. Thank you each and every one.

In this issue of the E-Muster you'll find some great stories provided by our members. From tales about medallists to reds under the bed and more. Heather Yates has put together a great read for you, so grab a cuppa, put your feet up, and enjoy what our members have written. And don't forget, if you have a tale to tell, the next edition is out in August so get your thoughts on track and start typing.

Rod HORTON Member 1280J President CCFHS.

LATEST NEWS

MEMBERSHIP

The Management Committee is entrusted with the appropriate operation of the Society and this includes the health and wellbeing/safety of the members while on the premises and during activities. By law we are required to comply with the directives of the Gov. Medical Authorities.

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/business/rules-guidance/nsw-rules>

We are also required to comply with any directives applied by our landlord, Central Coast Council/Properties. We have to consider the general age and health of our members and it is with these facts we would prefer members be double vaccinated. Wearing a mask inside and distancing is suggested.

E-JOURNALS

Societies and Groups send their journals and newsletters to us via email. They are downloaded on to Pelicanet and are available for you to read on Computers 1-4 and 7-10 at the Research Centre. How? From the desktop select the Pelican logo, and then select E- Journals.

SPEAKERS 2024

6th April 2024

Kaye VERNON- Teapot Genealogy

Kaye is an **experienced speaker** and has travelled extensively to talk on the following fascinating family history topics:



Start Your Family Tree

A step-by-step approach to kickstarting your family history research. Learn insider pathways and shortcuts.

Simplifying your DNA

You have your DNA results - what do they mean? And where do you go from here?

Looking for Gold and Finding Gems in the State Archives

Interesting and inspiring stories behind the Teapot Genealogy indexes, researched at the State Archives.

Plight of Children in the 19th and 20th Centuries

Explore both sides of the debate on the institutionalisation of children.

Future speakers 2024 TBA on our website



Useful links for accessing information about the State Archives Collection.

State Archives Collection Home Page

<https://mhnsw.au/collections/state-archives-collection/>

Subjects A-Z

<https://mhnsw.au/archive/subjects/>

Digital Shipping Lists

<https://mhnsw.au/guides/assisted-immigrants-digital-shipping-lists/>

Ask an Archivist

<https://mhnsw.au/collections/state-archives-collection/ask-an-archivist/>

Plan your visit

<https://mhnsw.au/visit-us/state-archives-reading-room/plan-your-visit/>

Webinars

<https://www.youtube.com/@MHNSWStateArchivesCollection>

State Archives Collection Catalogue <https://records->

[primo.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/primo-](https://records-primo.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/primo-)

[explore/search?vid=61SRA&sortby=rank&lang=en_US](https://records-primo.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/primo-explore/search?vid=61SRA&sortby=rank&lang=en_US)

Convict Reference Sites

This is a short list of various sites which are of assistance when researching convict ancestors. Hopefully it will be of use to those just getting started on this journey. There are also many helpful Facebook groups which are worth searching for.

Free Claim a Convict

<https://www.hawkesbury.net.au/claimaconvict/search.php>

Established by genealogist Lesley Uebel, the Claim a Convict website originally went online on the 19 August 1998. The site offered researchers a free service that enabled those researching the same convicts ancestors to contact each other directly by email.

Irish Convicts to NSW <http://members.pcug.org.au/~ppmay/cgi-bin/irish/irish.cgi>

Provides a free searchable database thanks to Peter Mayberry Digital Panopticon <https://www.digitalpanopticon.org/>

This website allows you to search millions of records from around fifty datasets, relating to the lives of 90,000 convicts from the Old Bailey. Use our site to search individual convict life archives, explore and visualise data, and learn more about crime and criminal justice in the past.

Convict Records

<https://convictrecords.com.au/>

This website allows you to search the British Convict transportation register for convicts transported to Australia between 1787-1867.

Old Bailey Online

<https://www.oldbaileyonline.org/>

A fully searchable edition of the largest body of texts detailing the lives of non-elite people ever published, containing 197,745 criminal trials held at London's central criminal court.



RAHS Day Lecture – What Is So Good About Crime, Historians' Edition

Event Date & Time: Wednesday, 1 May 2024 @ 1.00 pm – 2.00 pm

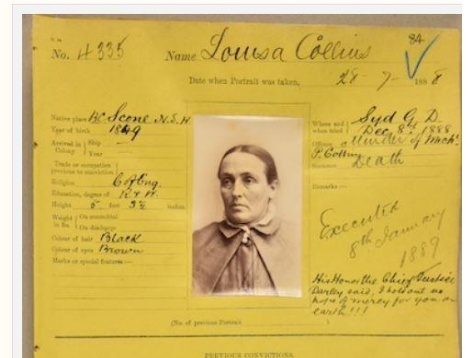
Event Location: Online via Zoom

Cost: Free

CLICK HERE TO BOOK A TICKET

Event Description:

While crime statistics trend downward, the appetite for stories about crime just keeps growing. This abiding interest makes historical crime a tempting area for historians following their own interests or with a view to writing histories that people want to read. In 2018, I became part of this trend when I developed a course on the history of crime in Australia. In this talk, I will discuss why crime can be so fruitful for historians, illustrating my points with examples from Australia's criminal past.



NEW MEMBERS

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

2229	Heather Doncaster	2235	Laurel Weatherdon
2230	Robert Buecker	2236	Taia Sansom
2231	Jennifer Patterson	2237	Dianne Harvey
2232	Alan Entwistle	2238	Carolyn Farrell
2233	Geraldine Walls	2239	Elizabeth O'Shea
2234	Camille Prescott		

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION



A Gold coin donation is gratefully received when attending the Research Centre to assist in offsetting the cost of online subscription sites. A Day Research fee for Non-Members is \$10.

All workshops will incur a fee of \$10 for members unless otherwise stipulated and must be paid for prior to the day.

OUR MEMBERSHIP FORM is available to download from the website. From the front page click on the ...read more information Tab 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 to the value of \$10.00 and/or a once per year donation of \$10.00 to the Equipment Maintenance Fund. You can choose to collect the Tickets from the Centre or send in a stamped addressed envelope and we will post them to you.

Next Issue

No. 39 August 2024 E-MUSTER

Deadline for articles for the next edition of the e-Muster
20th July, 2024.

The Bankstown Riot

John Arthur (Jack) Terry was the second husband of my father's sister Alice Elinor (Aunty Nell) Horton. From the time when they were married in 1949 until the late 1960s, they lived at 205 William Street, Kings Cross.

Uncle Jack was a secretary in the Communist party and had quite an interesting life. He was a fitter by trade and also a judge in the canoe competition in the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games. It was said that he stood as a candidate for the Communist Party in the 1932 State election for the seat of Lakemba, and again in 1934 for the Federal Seat of Reid.

The depression of the 1930s saw thousands of Australians thrown out of their homes and onto the streets. Pickets and protests grew to prevent the evictions from occurring. One of the problems was that there was no real assistance apart from food vouchers but that didn't pay the rent, so many renters were in arrears for long periods of time. Several organisations were established to aid the tenants and these were known as AECs (Anti Eviction Committees) including the UWM (Unemployed Workers Movement) which was partially under the control of the Communist Party of Australia.

The AECs would approach people in danger of eviction and offer to set up pickets and provide food, childcare, help with moving, etc. On some occasions the picketers would occupy and barricade houses and on others they would take revenge on the owners by trashing properties. As the 1930s wore on the NSW government shifted the site of resistance to the courts by increasing the ability of tenants to appeal eviction orders and apply for short term debt moratoriums.

The following details a riot at 92 Brancourt Avenue, Bankstown. The tenant, Alfred John Parsons, a First World War digger who had been gassed on the Western Front and invalided home without a pension, had found infrequent work to support his wife and two young daughters since the end of the War. By June 1931, Parsons had been unable to pay the rent on the two-bedroom fibro cottage for several months.

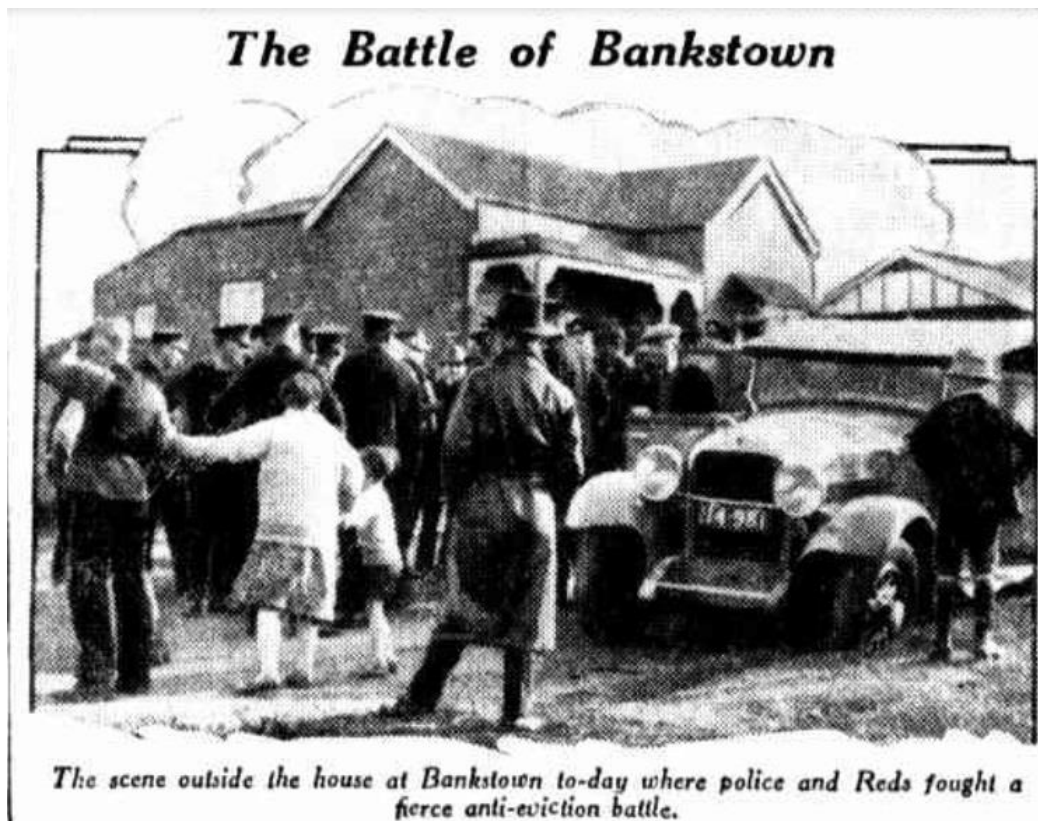
RIOT AT BANKSTOWN 18th June 1931

One of the most serious disturbances ever dealt with by the police in New South Wales occurred at Bankstown yesterday morning, when 40 policemen, in carrying out an eviction order, fought a pitched battle with 16 men defending a barricaded house. Nearly every combatant was injured, some seriously. The most serious injury was that received by Inspector White, of Regent-street, whose skull was fractured by a piece of blue metal flung from one of the windows of the house. One of the occupants, Richard Entock, was shot in the thigh by a policeman. The police had to force their way into the house a weatherboard cottage in Brancourt Avenue which was barricaded in an amazing fashion with sandbags and barbed wire entanglements.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/16786577>

HAND-TO-HAND BATTLE

When the police approached, and surrounded the house, the occupants, who were mostly Communists, showered them with big pieces of blue metal. To cut their way through the barbed wire entanglements, the police had to expose themselves to the full force of the shower of stones. Although many of them were hit, the police succeeded in cutting their way through. Rushing the front verandah, they drew their batons and fought hand-to hand with the defenders, who used axe handles, garden forks, saplings, and iron piping. The raid was the result of a disorderly campaign which has been conducted by anti-evictionists in the Bankstown districts for many weeks. The owner of the house which was the scene of yesterday's disturbance was granted an eviction order against the tenant several weeks ago. The tenant refused to leave and, three weeks ago the cottage was barricaded by Communists and others, who had since occupied the place. They had prepared for a police attack with extraordinary thoroughness, and had chalked the words, "Eureka Stockade," over the entrance. Communist literature was amongst the rubbish found on the premises after the affray.



STORY OF THE FIGHT

Inspector McMaster, of Burwood, who led the police raid, told a vivid story of the fight.

"When we arrived at the house we found the outside gates fastened with fencing wire, the back and front verandahs barricaded with sandbags, and barbed wire and all the windows barricaded with barbed wire. Our men surrounded the house."

I went to the side window and advised the men inside to submit to us. They replied with a shower of stones, one of which struck me on a shoulder.

I returned to the front verandah, where some of the police were trying to cut the barbed wire. We had to cope all the time with a shower of blue metal, and many of us were injured slightly. "At length we cut portion of the wire and this enabled us to climb on to the front verandah."

The police drew their batons and the Communists used their crude weapons. The attackers strove to enter the house, using doors and windows. Constable Dennis was climbing through one of the front windows when he was struck with a stone on the side of the head and hit on the back with an Iron bar. He jumped into the room and ordered his assailant to surrender. "Stand back, or I will shoot," was Dennis's curt command, as he drew his revolver. The man with the iron bar disregarded the warning. He rushed and Dennis fired. The man fell back suffering from a flesh wound. Another man then threw a stone and Dennis fired a second shot which did not take effect.

INSPECTOR WHITE INJURED.

Inspector White, who had charge of a detachment of men near one side of the house, was walking near one of the side windows when a heavy piece of blue metal was thrown through the window. It struck him on the temple, and he fell unconscious. He was rushed to hospital in a serious condition. Other police who suffered cuts, bruises, and abrasions, were: — Sergeant Oliver and Constables McClelland, McLoughlin, Edwards, Fisher, McMillan, Grover and Keyes. The police eventually entered the house from the side as well as from the front and back.

The occupants put up a short but fierce resistance, but at last, realising that they were hopelessly beaten, they surrendered. Some of the men were treated on the spot by the Canterbury-Bankstown District Ambulance, others were taken to hospital and treated, but only two were admitted to hospital.

The 14 men not admitted to hospital were eventually taken to Bankstown police station. Two more men were detained at the station, and later 16 men were charged.

Several waggons were dispatched by the Canterbury-Bankstown Ambulance, and the following were treated for various injuries:—Richard Entock of The Mall, Bankstown, bullet wound in the right thigh; Alex Makaroff, of Chiswick Street, Chullora, injuries to the hands and probably a fracture of the skull; Douglas Kendell, of East Street, Lidcombe, incised wound on the head; John Arthur Terry, of Nelson Avenue, Belmore, cuts on the head; John Boles, of Liverpool-road, Bankstown, lacerated jaw; George Hill, of Crown-street, Surry Hills, lacerated scalp; Harold Woolfe, of Boronia Road, Bankstown, lacerated scalp; Jack Hansen, of Cornelia Street, Punchbowl, incised wounds on the head; and Daniel Sammon, of Clyde-street, Clyde, lacerated scalp.

CROWD WATCHES BATTLE

A large crowd watched the battle from a safe distance. News of the encounter spread round the neighbourhood like wild-fire. The noise of the conflict could be heard a quarter of a mile distant. Glass in the windows was smashed by the flying missiles hurled by the besieged and returned by the police van guard. After the battle, the cottage presented a battered appearance. Not a window was left intact, and a side door had been smashed in during the conflict. Inside there was devastation.

Scarcely a piece of furniture remained. The floors of what had once been bedrooms and living rooms were littered with dirt, blue metal, broken glass, and the crude weapons which the occupants had used. Bloodstains marked the floor, and the sandbags on the front verandah.

The surroundings were squalid. One of the first measures taken by the police after gaining admission was to burn the crude bedding which they found lying here and there on the Moor. The back verandah was littered with Communist literature. Notices of meetings were chalked on the walls. Local residents declared that Communists had been active in the Bankstown district lately. Not only had they been spreading propaganda and waging an anti-eviction campaign, but had carried on a campaign of intimidation against local tradesmen to obtain food and clothing. The owner of the cottage estimated the damage to the house at about £150. The tenant, he said, had paid £1 deposit on entering the house 15 weeks ago, but since then he had not paid anything.

OFFICIAL STATEMENT

The Chief Secretary (Mr. Gosling) referred to the disturbance, on the motion for the adjournment of the Legislative Assembly yesterday. He read an official report obtained from the Commissioner of Police (Mr. Childs), which said that the tenant was John Parsons, a labourer, aged 30 years, who saw service during the war. Since his return from active service he had done only about two months' work. He said to the police, "I fought for the Government, and the Government should now keep me." "Yesterday morning," said Mr. Gosling, "the police found about 40 pickets in front of the premises. After a terrific struggle both inside and outside the house the occupants were evicted. The police arrested 17 of the men. Ten policemen were treated by ambulance officers, and two of them were taken to hospital."

MEETING OF COMMUNISTS

More than 300 Communists attended a meeting at Bankstown last night to protest against the actions of the police during the riot in that suburb yesterday morning. Wild speeches were delivered, one speaker declaring that what had happened yesterday was only the beginning of a revolution, and that further developments would take place at Newtown on Saturday. <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/16786578>

BANKSTOWN PRISONER BASHED BY LANG GOVERNMENT

15th September 1933

Comrade Jack Terry, well-known member of the Communist Party has just been released from Goulburn gaol, after serving a twelve months' sentence for his part in the Bankstown eviction fight. Comrade Terry, along with the other Bankstown fighters, has experienced Lang Social-Fascism in action. Batoned to unconsciousness, sentenced to a year's imprisonment for attempting to defend a fellow-worker from being thrown on to the streets! This was the brutal and criminal action of the Lang-Gosling administration, in defence of the property rights of capitalist landlords, against the working class.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/209423240>

In looking at what occurred, the “rioters” and those watching had different views from those of the police force. Only one policeman was badly hurt with a fractured skull, yet 17 of the rioters were stretchered out and taken to hospital and complained that they had been herded into the kitchen, handcuffed and bashed unconscious.

After their arrest and departure from the house, their possessions, which included bread, items of clothing, tea, a violin, a child’s doll, and a mouth organ, were burnt by the police on a large bonfire in the backyard.

Other witnesses said it was the police throwing stones as those inside couldn’t as they had barricaded the windows with sandbags. It was during a time when the unemployed had no rights or support from the Government with only the AECs helping them out. These people were bashed by a large police force when they were protecting a family from being thrown onto the streets. Nine of the defendants were returned diggers. Ten of them were aged in their thirties and forties. Six had recently joined the Communist Party of Australia and each had been out of work for nearly two years. With the exception of seventeen-year-old Alex Makaroff, all were married with two or more children.

An anti-eviction rally in Sydney, Australia, 1931.



Provided by Unions New South Wales

For further reading and a different perspective of the events of that day and the court cases refer to the following link:

<https://www5.austlii.edu.au/au/journals/ANZLawHisteJl/2007/2.pdf>

This links gives an interesting perspective of what occurred all over Australia during that period of history:

<https://archive.org/details/LockOutTheLandlords/page/n7/mode/2up?view=theater>

Rod HORTON Member 1280J

To the Gallows or to be Transported across the seas...

One of the busiest periods for the gallows of England and Wales was during the early 1800's. There was a belief that savage, extreme punishment would deter crime and so this extreme punishment was forged and by 1820 there were over 200 capital crimes on the statute books.

Most of these were what we would view as "petty" committed by those who were simply trying to survive. Others were more serious i.e. forgery, arson, theft and those that involved murder, rape, sodomy and attempted murder were punishable by death.

Between 1805 and 1832 there were 102 executions for rape, 938 for robbery and 395 for murder. In total there were 2028 executions in England and Wales between 1805 and 1832. Most years averaged 75 executions per year but some were as high as 100 per year. BUT only about 10% of those condemned to death were actually executed. Conversely some of those condemned had their sentences commuted (almost invariably to transportation to Australia).

Was this a merciful measure? It was not a merciful age with many of the crimes committed simply in order to survive or some convicted although innocent.

If the friends and relatives of those persons convicted were able to petition the crown successfully then the execution did not take place. However most felons convicted were not members of the aristocracy, politicians or senior churchmen and did not benefit from their assistance.

Many were unlucky and had their petitions rejected and their deaths became public spectacles held at Tyburn or at the Old Bailey.

Some thirty-five thousand people were condemned to death in England and Wales between 1770 and 1830, and seven thousand were ultimately executed, the majority convicted of crimes such as burglary, horse theft, or forgery. Mostly poor trades people--weavers, clerks, whip makers, servants--these terrified men and women would suffer excruciating death before large and excited crowds. Crowds of three to seven thousand were normal, and for famous cases, the mob could swell to fifty thousand or more.

Transportation wasn't limited to Australia - it was a method various governments had been using for dealing with convicted criminals. The most common reason for transportation was theft – this included pickpocketing, shoplifting, stealing horses and sheep, highway robbery, housebreaking and receiving stolen goods.

An increasing reluctance to use the death penalty in the later eighteenth century (except for the most serious cases), combined with justified concern that those who received benefit of clergy or were pardoned were let off too lightly, encouraged the development of alternative forms of punishment.

This was also stimulated by a growing belief in the possibility of reforming all but the most serious offenders. The criminal law reforms of the nineteenth century which abolished the death penalty for many crimes led in the same direction. These new punishments reflect two trends in the evolution of strategies for punishment. First, there was a shift from physical punishments -whipping, branding and hanging to attempts to reform the defendant through transportation and imprisonment. Thus the establishment of colonies around the world.

This Article was inspired by the recent perusal of novels about this era in England and Wales.

Sarah (Fanny) Durack- first Australian woman to win gold at the Olympic Games

Australia's **Sarah "Fanny" Durack** (1889 – 1956) developed the urge to learn to swim. It wasn't that Durack, a youngster at the time, was inspired by performances by any other swimmer.

Rather, Durack's desire to swim was triggered out of necessity and in the pursuit of peace of mind. While on vacation as a 9-year-old, Durack struggled with the surf and it was that experience which convinced her to become water safe. It was a decision which made Durack swimming's first female superstar.

From 1896, when the first Modern Games were held in the birthplace of the Ancient Olympics, through to 1908, only men were allowed to compete in swimming at the Olympics

It wasn't that women were banned from the Olympics altogether during that stretch of time, as female athletes competed in events such as sailing, tennis and equestrian as early as the 1900 Games in Paris. Swimming, though, didn't create a co-ed program until the 1912 Games, which were held in Stockholm, Sweden.

When it was announced women would be invited to compete in Stockholm, some countries jumped at the opportunity while others were not interested. Australia sent two swimmers, Durack and Mina Wylie

The competition pool was hardly high-tech in nature, constructed in Stockholm Harbor and consisting of salt water. But Durack wasn't derailed by the conditions. Representing Australasia, a combined team from Australia and New Zealand, Durack opened her Olympic career in grand fashion, setting a world record of 1:19.8 during qualifying heats of the 100 freestyle. She followed by winning her semi-final easily, and then captured the gold medal with a time of 1:22.2, more than three seconds quicker than Wylie.

From 1912-1918, Durack set 11 world records over various distances, including three in the 100-metre freestyle. Her fastest time of 1:16.2 from 1915 lasted as the world record for five years.

After being denied the chance to defend her Olympic title in 1916 due to the cancellation of the Games by World War I, Durack was hoping to repeat in 1920, but appendicitis put an end to that dream. Also, Durack came down with typhoid fever and pneumonia a week before Australia's athletes were scheduled to sail to Europe for the Antwerp Games.

In between competitions, Durack took part in numerous world tours, along with Wylie, in which they would race one another and demonstrate the Australian crawl, the stroke which Durack made famous and used to become a world-record holder. Durack's vast achievements earned her induction into the International Swimming Hall of Fame in 1967, the third year of the Hall's existence.

Photo courtesy of the National Library of Australia.



John LOHN Editor in chief **Swimming World Womens History Month.**

WYOMING TO EAST GOSFORD

When the Society was in Laycock Street, Wyoming we did a demonstration on the microfiche and I practiced at home. Kevin saw what I was doing and said “I could put the microfiche on computers.” I don’t think we had computers at that stage, or maybe a couple of donated ones.

When the big move happened and our Centre was taken from Wyoming to 8 Russell Drysdale Street, we madly followed the house which was split into two pieces, late into the night. Lots of us were so excited on the night to have a permanent house.

We had a big room to fill. Kevin suggested we get lots of computers and a main frame computer that would have everything on it and the other computers would be clones of it. Kevin would get all the necessary bits and pieces and make the computers himself. It was a big job but cost the Society much less. He loved doing it because it was something he believed in.



Setting up the cabling under the Cottage.

Getting the mainframe ready.

Barbara and Kevin MANN

He put all the microfiche and CD’s we had onto the main frame computer and linked them all. Many a night we had dinner at the rooms and worked into the night. My job on the computers was to put the icons on every computer. I can’t even fathom how I did it. Now we have most of it online. I miss the old system as I could find things then. We were the envy of all the Family History Groups.

This is a reposting of an article about the history of our Research Centre from Barbara MANN Member 114L

TASSELL - UNDERWOOD 1954

St. John's Church, Baradine was beautifully decorated by the Sister of St. Joseph Convent on May 8, for the wedding of Raelee, daughter- of Mrs M. Underwood and the late Mr Tom Underwood of Wooleybah; to Stanley Kenneth second son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Tassell.



The bride entered the church on the arm of her brother, Mr. Thomas Underwood

She wore a **frock** of French tulle over three tiers of stiffened net over satin with a guipure lace bodice and lace appliqued design on the skirt.

Her fingertip tulle **veil** was attached to a cap of lily of the valley over satin.

She carried a **bouquet** which consisted of lily of the valley centre with a tuber rose border nestled in a backing of embossed tulle.

Flower girl, Pat Baker, a cousin of the bride was attired in white stiffened net banded with nylon ribbon.

In her hair she wore-a cream wreath and she carried a small basket of cream carnations.

The **bridegroom** was attended by his two brothers, Messes- Norman and Colin Tassell. ¹

P.S. On Sunday 17 March this year, Rae helped with and attended the centenary celebrations of St John's Church, Baradine and her wedding dress and veil were on display.

At the second annual Tassell Family gathering at Bateau Bay, all enjoyed reading these details.

Marlene DAVIDSON Member327L

When you find a wedding description like this ...Snip or copy a photo of the bride with the details attached. (More to follow in our next E-Journal)

¹ Coonabarabran Times Thursday 27 May 1954 Newspaper

21 Facts about Australia you didn't know!

1. The Australian Alps get more snow than the Swiss Alps.
2. 90% of Australians live on the coast.
3. Tasmania has the cleanest air in the world.
4. The Great Barrier Reef is the largest ecosystem in the world. It is made up of nearly 3,000 individual reefs and can be seen from space.
5. Australia has over 60 separate wine regions.
6. Fraser Island in QLD is the largest sand island in the world.
7. The Indian Pacific train has the longest straight section of train track in the world.
8. The Great Ocean Road is the world's largest war memorial.
9. 80% of Australian animals are unique to Australia.
10. Australia has the world's longest golf course measuring more than 1,350 kms long.
11. Australia is home to 21 of the world's 25 most venomous snakes.
12. It would take around 29 years to visit one new Aussie beach every day – there are 10,685 of them!
13. Australia is the 6th largest country in the world.
14. 91% of the country is covered by native vegetation.
15. 33% of Australians were born in another country.
16. Australia is the only continent in the world without an active volcano.
17. Australia is home to the longest fence in the world, the Dingo Fence. Originally built to keep dingos away from fertile land, the fence is now 5,614 km long.
18. The Australian dollar is considered to be the most advanced currency in the world – its waterproof, made of polymer and notoriously hard to counterfeit.
19. Australia is the only continent covered by a single country.
20. The world's oldest fossil was discovered in Australia – 3.4 billion years old.
21. Australia is home to more than 1,500 species of spiders.

The Travel Intern <https://thetravelintern.com/fun-facts-about-the-world/>



The Recollections of Stephen Augustine Donnelly- Representative of Miners in the Australian Parliament and Public Works Dept. of NSW.

Stephen Augustine Donnelly was an Irish-born Australian politician. He was born in Cork on 01/01/1835 to Cornelius Donnelly and Mary O'Leary, and grew up in Oxford in England. In 1850 he and his family migrated to Western Australia, following the gold rush to Victoria in 1852. He later mined at Lucknow in New South Wales. In 1864 he was elected to the New South Wales Legislative Assembly for Goldfields West, but he resigned in 1866.

On 2 May 1868 he married Catherine Agnes Cummings, with whom he had seven children. He worked for the Public Works Department, eventually becoming roads superintendent at Armidale. He retired in 1896 and around 1898 moved to Waratah, where he died in 1910.

The Catholic Press (Sydney, NSW : 1895 - 1942), Thursday 22 December 1910,

Mr. S. A. Donnelly.

On Saturday, November 20, there died at Waratah, near Newcastle, Mr. Stephen Augustine Donnelly, formerly of the Public Works Department. Born in Cork city, Ireland, on November 18, 1835, Mr. Donnelly spent his infancy in England, and arrived in Western Australia, with his family, in 1849. When gold was discovered in Parkes, he and his family came to this State, and shortly afterwards deceased represented the miners in the Parliament of the day. During his parliamentary career he attracted much attention by his sterling opposition to Parkes' Education Bill. Mr. Donnelly's retirement from Parliament was described as a "distinct public loss." He then joined the Public Works Department, wherein he remained for over 30 years. His retirement in 1896 brought forth an unanimous tribute of esteem from the public of Armidale of all shades of religious belief, and from the men whom he had controlled in the interests of the public for so many years.

My first impressions of Sydney and New South Wales

"On arrival at the hotel I found I was late for the ordinary table d'hôte, so I had to partake of a solitary meal, not that the absence of company gave me much concern, but the feeling that I was in a strange place, where I did not know a soul, would have been less insistent had there been someone else at the table with whom I could have had a chat, and from whom I might have obtained some information respecting the city and other matters pertaining thereto. However I did not feel to any extent the loneliness of my situation, for the world seemed bright before me.

A somewhat comely and lively waitress attended to my wants, who in the intervals of that function, would from an adjoining party, pour forth on a cheerful and fairly good voice, some of her own or some other young woman's experiences as follows: "When I first came to this country, A Muss maid's place I took, There was we, said Jane the 'ousemaid and Mary Ann the cook."

"But I was far the nicest It of hall us girls three, It and the young man from the country Kept company with me" which song she continued through some half a score of verses. Generous girl, perhaps she pitied my forlorn condition and thought the subject as well as the melody would cheer me up, or, that the song was but the passing outcome of a cheerful heart, or, devising my thoughts, she wished to let me know that acquaintances could soon be made by me, if I was so inclined, if so I was "not on" as people say, but having concluded my meal, and the evening being fine, I started for a stroll through the streets.

I had scarcely got outside the inn when my ear caught the sounds of half-forgotten word and expressions such as I had seldom heard since I had left West Australia nearly ten years before – and then only when coming into contact with the convict element of that colony. The disgusting sanguinary expletive – said to have been evolved out of the ancient oath 'By our Lady' was heard at every step I took, and although I had heard it far too often before, yet never heard it so frequently expressed as I had from numerous groups of young men and old ones too, which I passed on that, to me, memorable evening.

The streets were thronged with people, 'busses were continually running, and on every side were signs of a fairly well to do community, and I confess, from what I had read in and learned from the Victorian newspapers, I was quite unprepared to find Sydney so busy and populous a town. The shops, although in many cases small, when compared to those of Melbourne, or even in some cases of Ballarat, seemed to be well stocked, made great window displays and were doing a lively business. Even after all allowance is made for it being a Saturday evening, it evinced unmistakable signs of being the centre of a prosperous community.

After a while, I found the booking office for the Bathurst coach and obtained a ticket for that town 120 miles distant and yet about 35 miles short of the Wentworth Mines – my destination. The coach was to start from Penrith at 6 a.m. Monday and to reach the latter town - 23 miles – the then terminus of the Great Western Railway; I would have to leave Sydney on Sunday (next day) @ 5 p.m. The coach fare from Penrith to Bathurst was £2/10/0. I was led to believe that the Catholics being proportionately more numerous in New South Wales than Victoria, a less hostile spirit was felt towards them in the former colony.



Such belief, however, was rudely dispelled almost immediately I turned into George Street, for on drawing near a certain shop a crowd of persons almost blocking the pavement were intently gazing in through the window. A feeling of curiosity – for which- being then a stranger and in a strange place, I make no apology, induced me to look in also, and this was what I saw, and what also had attracted the other people's attention.

It was the window of a booksellers shop, inside of which were a number of shelves upon which were displayed a large assortment of books, all more or less of an Evangelistic religious character, such as Bibles, Books of Common Prayer, Baxter's "Saints Rest", D'Aubigne's "History of the Reformation", "Band of Hope Review", "Leisure Hour", "British Workman", "Awful Disclosures" by Maria Monk, "The Escaped Nun", Foxe's "Book of Martyrs", etc, etc, etc.

But conspicuous above and before them all, was a sort of newspaper entitled the "Christian Pleader" – subsequently changed to the "Protestant Banner", and again to the "Protestant Standard" – in the open folio of which was printed, an ill executed and coarse picture, representing a good looking and gaudily dressed female penitent kneeling at a confessional, evidently in the act of confessing her feminine, and, as pictorially insinuated, pet vices into the ear of a fat crass and voluptuous looking priest!



The inference which the author of this vile outrage on charity as well as the prostitution of a noble art, wished to produce was obvious; and I dare say produced such effects upon minds, not only of the careless and the ignorant, but also of those as bigoted and besotted as his own. The paper referred to, I afterward learned, was edited by an individual named McGibbon who ran some sort of conventicle in an obscure slum of Woolloomooloo, where the pulpit, drum ecclesiastic, was loudly banged from time to time – where possibly amongst his lady friends of that, then classic locality, he may have selected one whose features and dress, furnished the outlines for his fair penitent of the confessional.

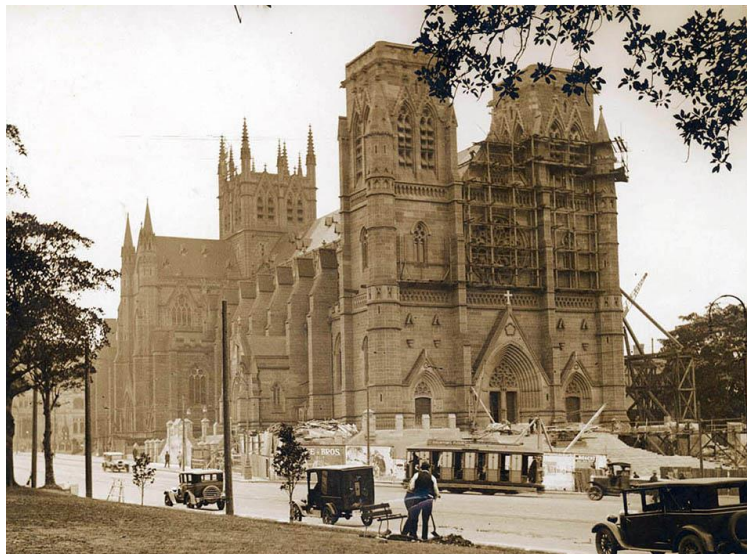
I felt sad at thus being so offensively disillusioned in my belief as to the nonexistence of Sectarianism in Sydney. But after a run around returned to my inn in good time, and soon forgot everything in a healthy sound sleep. I was up and out of bed fairly early in the morning, and on looking out of the window amongst the first things I noticed were two men sitting on the kerb, on the opposite side of the street, both of whom were the worse for the deep potatoes which, evidently, they had indulged in during the night.

One of them was maudling in his manner and apparently much worse for the drink than was his companion, while the latter was trying to console him in his affliction. Meanwhile their language was too painful and free to be repeated in full. "It ain't no good" maundered the afflicted one, at the same time gazing vacantly into the street gutter at his feet, and shaking his head in drunken seriousness. "She's got the (expletive) collar on me, Bill". "Oh, let 'er go to (expletive) 'ell, Jack. She ain't no (expletive) good. She's a (expletive) doubtful character, that she is Jack", suggested the companion. But nothing could console the love sick Jack, who continued in his maudling way to maunder out the cause of his grief. "She's got the (expletive) collar on me. She's got the (expletive) collar on me". No doubt it was a case of ill requited love. Most interesting, if I had known the entire story, I had however heard and had seen quite enough about the matter; and other things demanded my attention.

Breakfast being over I directed my steps towards the Circular Quay, of which I had heard a great deal before coming to Sydney.

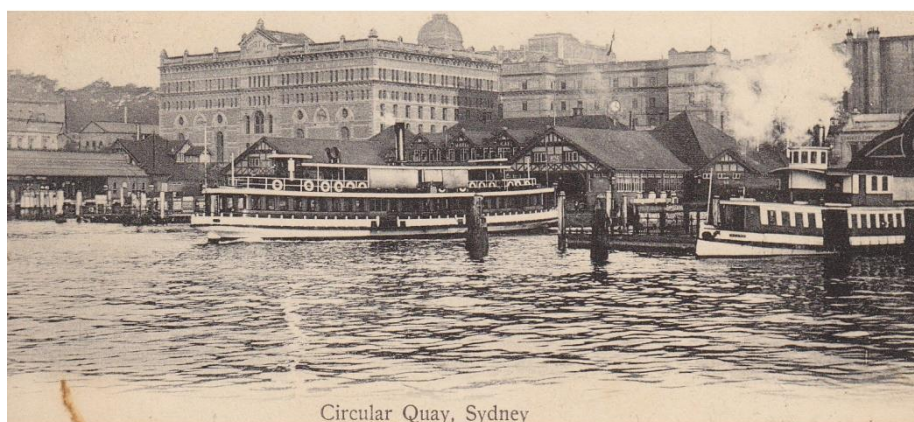
The way that I took, led me past some churches, one of which presented that almost indescribable something which it once tells a Catholic that it is one belonging to his own faith.

I had heard and had read of St Mary's Cathedral, long before leaving England and had resolved to go to that glorious, old, fine church for the eleven o'clock Mass that day, but as I did not know in what part of Sydney it was situated, I enquired of a man standing in front of the building which had attracted my notice, and also, what church that was (as I felt from its size etc. it could not be St Mary's) and in return was courteously directed to the great church.



St. Marys Cathedral

I was also informed the building in front of us was St Patrick's, of which that grand old pioneer priest Rev. Archdeacon McEnroe was the administrator. I thanked my informant, and continued my way to Circular Quay.



Circular Quay, Sydney

The day was dull and all the surroundings were equally dull. A few sailing ships, chiefly English, lined the Quay. A few small steamers were plying to and from the "North Shore", which place rising (or sloping up gradually from the opposite side of the harbour, was at many parts covered with buildings, all, more or less, picturesquely situated, but there was little if anything to foretell or, perhaps, to indicate the numerous and important municipalities that now (1910) occupy those prominent elevations.

To be continued...

Rosalie DONNELLY Member 2224

A Different Type of Tree.

I am a tree lover, both my genealogical family tree and also the horticultural variety. I often gaze upon particularly beautiful specimens around the Central Coast.

This e-Muster I have included a beautiful Ceanothus tree commonly known as California Lilac.

Ceanothus Papillosus is an attractive evergreen that produces an abundant amount of rich deep blue flowers in dense bunches during spring.

It is a hardy and fast growing tree that thrives in full-sun and well-drained soils. It's a coastal California native, occurring naturally from foggy San Francisco to sunny LA, so it thrives on our Aussie coasts.



This specimen was spotted at the H.V. McKay Memorial Gardens, originally the Sunshine Gardens, in the Melbourne suburb of Sunshine, Victoria, Australia which was provided as an amenity for the employees of the Sunshine Harvester Works.

Under inaugural curator Thompson (1909–27), and curators James Willan (1930–39) and Harold Gray (1939-50), the Gardens developed a reputation for its chrysanthemums and dahlias, attracting workers and their families, as well as other local residents.

I am inviting you to share a tree with us in each issue of the *E-muster*, one that has enraptured you or one that is your favourite. Please email details and a photograph to our email address and we will feature them in our Journal.

Some old expressions that have become obsolete because of the inexorable march of time.

These phrases included:

Don't touch that dial; Carbon copy; you sound like a broken record; and Hung out to dry.

Back in the olden days, we had a lot of moxie. We'd put on our best bib and tucker, to straighten up and fly right.

Heavens to Betsy!

Gee whillikers!

Jumping Jehoshaphat!

Holy Moley!

We were in like Flynn and living the life of Riley; and even a regular guy couldn't accuse us of being a knucklehead, a nincompoop, or a pill. Not for all the tea in China!

Back in the old days, life used to be swell, but when was the last time anything was swell? Swell has gone the way of beehives, pageboys, and the D.A.; of spats, knickers, fedoras, poodle skirts, saddle shoes, and pedal pushers.

We wake up from what surely has been just a short nap, and before we can say, "Well, I'll be a monkey's uncle!" Or, "This is a fine kettle of fish!"

We discover that the words we grew up with, the words that seemed omnipresent, as oxygen, have vanished with scarcely a notice from our tongues and our pens and our keyboards.

Poof, go the words of our youth. Where have all those great phrases gone? Long gone: Pshaw, The milkman did it. Hey! It's your nickel. Don't forget to pull the chain.

Knee-high to a grasshopper.

Well, Fiddlesticks! Going like sixty.

I'll see you in the funny papers. Don't take any wooden nickels.

Wake up and smell the roses.

It turns out there are more of these lost words and expressions than Carter has liver pills.

This can be disturbing stuff! (Carter's Little Liver Pills are gone too!)

This leaves us to wonder where Superman will find a phone booth.

See ya later, alligator! In a while crocodile.

DO YOU REMEMBER THESE?

SOCIETIES MAILING LIST

The email address for our Society is admin@centralcoastfhs.org.au

You can also Like Us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Central-Coast-Family-History-Society/>



ASSIGNED DUTIES

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

Bookstall Coordinator

Event Coordinator

Facebook Administrator: -

Grant Applications

Grant Application Proofreader

Guest Speakers

IT and Computer Network

Librarian/Unrelated Certificates

Membership Secretary

DNA Special Interest

E MUSTER P PRESS Editor

Mail Chimp Newsletter

Property Officer

Public Officer

Publicity and Advertising

Raffles

Catering

Website Designer

Welfare and Hospital Visits

Research Officers: -

Workshops: -

Belinda Mabbott

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Anthony Lehner

Marlene Davidson

Brian Davies

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Marlene Davidson

CC Mobile Computers

Jacqueline Smith

Brian Davies

Belinda Mabbott

Heather Yates

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Ken Clark

Brian Davies

Belinda Mabbott

Yvonne Potts

Jeff HallWebsiteguy

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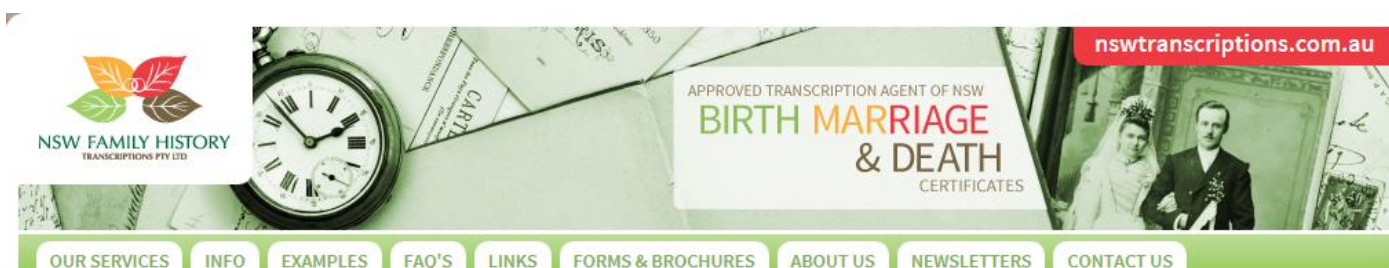
Jacqueline Smith

TRANSCRIPTION AGENTS

Don't forget transcriptions of birth, death and marriage records are available in NSW and only NSW. Cost - \$20 each



Email joy@joymurrin.com.au



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Website Guy



Jeff Hall is looking after our website needs.

He is situated locally in Davistown.



Central Coast Family History Society **BOOKSHOP PRICES – 2024**

* Cost of purchase plus Postage and Packaging depending on quantity required.

* To order use the Bookshop order form.

CODE	BOOK	Year of Publication	PRICE
2601	Back to Bourke, Courthouse Records.		\$70.00
2862	Brewarrina on the Barwon River		\$50.00
2547	Canowindra General Cemetery	2002	\$25.00
1713	Cemeteries of Gresford & surrounding Districts	2001	\$20.00
1505	Cargo-Cudal	2002	\$40.00
1507	Coonabarabran General Cemetery	2005	\$40.00
1510	Eugowra General Cemetery		\$25.00
1504	From the Mountains to the Marshes		\$50.00
1511	Graves of the Pioneers of the William & Paterson River Valley	2003	\$25.00
1548	Greengrove Cemetery (formerly Lower Mangrove Creek)	2005	\$25.00
1731	Holy Cross Cemetery, Kincumber South	2013	\$20.00
1725	Kincumber Remembered		\$30.00
1530	Lisarow Cemetery-Forget Us Not-Unmarked Graves. Indexed.		\$50.00
1530	Lisarow Cemetery-Forget Us Not-Unmarked Graves. NO Index.		\$30.00
1531	Lisarow Cemetery-Forget Us Not-Headstones	2015	\$50.00
1508	Manildra District Cemeteries-including Cumnock, Yeoval.	2003	\$40.00
1509	Molong Cemetery	2003	\$40.00
2867	Moree on the Mehi		\$50.00
2859	Narrabri on the Namoi		\$50.00
2870	Outback Burials		\$50.00
1714	Paterson General Cemetery	2001	\$20.00
1518	Point Clare Cemetery-General Lawn Sec 4 & 5		\$25.00
1520	Point Clare Cemetery-Sec 7		\$25.00
1521	Point Clare Cemetery-Sec 8		\$25.00
1524	Point Clare General Cemetery -Bapt-7 Day Advent-Pres-Meth		\$25.00
1503	St Paul's Church of England Cemetery, Kincumber		\$25.00
2863	They stopped a while in Come-by-chance Vol 1&2		\$50.00
1529	St Thomas' Church of England Cemetery, Upper Mangrove Creek	2014	\$20.00
1512	Walgett Cemetery		\$50.00
1500	Warialda on the Northern slopes		\$50.00