

E-Muster

Central Coast Family History Society Inc.
April 2018

Number 20



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

Central Coast Family History Society Inc.

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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
Second and Fourth Saturday of the month 10am-1pm
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 10.00am
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

April 2018 – No: 20

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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The Society does not hold itself responsible for statements made or opinions expressed by advertisers or authors of articles appearing in *e-Muster*.

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**JOURNAL EDITOR
Heather YATES**

All articles to:
admin@centralcoastfhs.org.au

e-Muster deadlines are
March 20
July 20
October 23

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EDITORIAL

Here we are part way through 2018 already!

Like so many aspects of life there has been much change within the Central Coast Family History Society Inc. recently.

We have seen the retirement of several valued members; celebrated the Christmas and New Year season; renewed friendships and connections with earlier members; and look forward to welcoming new members to commence their journey in finding out about their roots.

This month we are honoured to join with the other members of our Precinct in holding an Open Day on the 14th, where there will be demonstrations and displays by Central Coast Hand Weavers, Spinners and Textile Artists Guild Inc., Central Coast Potters Society Inc., The Makers Studio, CC Family History and the Lions Club.

As the Editor of your magazine **e-Muster**, I thank the many contributors who have provided such interesting stories resulting from researching their Family History. It is in this way that we come to understand the human aspects of the factual history.

I also thank the Committee whose varied talents enhance the character of the Central Coast Family History Society. As our A.G.M. draws near we would like to invite Members to nominate those who they believe to be suitable.

The Research Centre Volunteers are the backbone of the Centre - without these dedicated individuals we cannot operate. I would like to acknowledge them by thanking them as a collective for their time given so generously to the Society.

Success comes from a joint effort which runs well under the daily supervision of our Team Leaders. Hence I would like to invite any members who are interested in joining our Team of Research Centre Helpers/Librarians for 2018. We are always grateful for New Helpers. Training will be supplied and there will always be a Team Leader on hand to assist you.

Are you interested? Please call us at the Centre on 43 245164 OR email us to let us know admin@centralcoastfhs.org.au

Enjoy the read,

Muster Editor (temp.) Heather YATES Member 675

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT - PAUL SCHIPP

From the chair, this Muster is another exciting collection of the lives of Australians focusing on 'Pioneers of the Central Coast'. Enlightening documentations of our predecessors who forged our now united region with its unique history and personalities, leaving their mark as place and street names, businesses and legacies. Enjoy reading them and be inspired, you too may find a pioneer who has impacted on your life here on the Central Coast.

Enjoy, from Paul Schipp.

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 form with Bennie Campbell for inclusion on the Website.

2059	Jennifer Green	2065	Lawrence Jones
2060	Geoff Forrester	2066	Craig Dibben
2061	Kim Pow	2067	Janette Ritzau
2062	Jennifer Wallington	2068	Beverley Richard
2063	Tony Morris	2069	Kevin O'Donnell
2064	Sharyne Young	2070	Rochelle Allsop

SPEAKERS FOR 2018



5th May 2018

Dr Wayne Johnson is the NSW Government's Senior Archaeologist within the heritage team that looks after The Rocks and Darling Harbour in Sydney. In addition he is Curator of The Rocks Discovery Museum.

Putting People in their Place: A History of People and Place in the Rocks.

In the past, as today, people fled hardships to find better lives elsewhere, bringing with them traditions and lifestyles.

In this talk Dr Wayne Johnson will examine recent research into the history of Sydney's historic Rocks district- a place to which many can trace their ancestry- examining the lives of some everyday people and the events that shaped them.

7th June 2018 Graham WILCOX


Graham is an amateur historian who has a special interest in 18th and 19th Century Australian history. This developed partly through his research of the lives of his ancestors who came to Australia from England, Ireland and France.

*After writing three books about all his ancestors, he published a book which tells how his great-grandfather Sir Arthur Rutledge, in 1899, ensured Queensland joined the other colonies to become a state of Australia. It was then destined to become a separate country. This book is entitled **The Struggle For Unity - A Story of the Federation of Australia.***



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.

The list grows steadily every month so please make sure you keep checking back if you cannot find a hard copy in the Journal Basket.

MEMBERSHIP FEES 2018 – effective 1st April



EXISTING MEMBERS - REJOINING

Membership Fees for 2018-2019 will be:

Single Membership	\$45.00
Joint Membership	\$65.00

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 Saturday workshops will incur a fee of \$10 for members unless otherwise stipulated.

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. 21

August 2018

e-Muster

Deadline for articles for the August edition of the Muster
20th July, 2018.

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	Paul Schipp
Bookstall meeting helper	Paul Schipp
Bus Trips and Tours	Belinda Mabbott
Event Coordinator	Marlene Davidson
Members Interests	Bennie Campbell
Grant Applications	Marlene Davidson
Grant Application Proofreader	Committee
Guest Speakers	Paul Schipp
Housekeeping	Rosemary Wiltshire
IT and Computer Network	CC Mobile Computers
Librarian	Bennie Campbell
Membership Secretary	Trish Michael
Membership Secretary's helper on meeting days	Marlene Bailey
Facebook Administrator	Belinda Mabbott
The e-Muster Editor	Heather Yates
Pelican Press Editor	Heather Yates
Overseas Book Monitor	Heather Sushames
Property Officer	Marlene Bailey
Public Officer	Marlene Bailey
Publicity and Advertising	Vacant
Raffles	Carol Evans
Catering	Belinda Mabbott
Research Officer	Margaret Morters
Rotary Raffle	Carol Evans
Unrelated Certificates	Bennie Campbell
Website Administrator	Heather Yates
Website Designer	Zac Hall – Websitguy
Welfare and Hospital Visits	Marlene Davidson

BREAKING NEWS!!

Pioneer Cemeteries Project update Grant funding was received to carry out an archaeological survey of 3 sites in Hill End & Tambaroora where the presence of cemeteries, predating 1859, had been recorded on Surveyor Price's plans.

To date, forensic archaeologist, Dr. Louise Steding and her husband Gerald have carried out Stage 1 of the project, involving a survey, using Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR), of the 3 sites chosen.

A small group of volunteers spent considerable time clearing the sites and we are very grateful to Warwick Taylor (www.tambaroora.com) and his great nephew Kel, for all their hard work in establishing the approximate locations and making the sites accessible for the survey.

The Chinese Cemetery revealed some interesting anomalies and we need to investigate these further.

The Australian Heritage database records that this site is important for its rarity in demonstrating the Chinese burial practice of initial interment in urns and later transporting the urns to China for reburial.

According to cultural tradition many bodies were exhumed by agents of families or county societies and transported to China for reburial.



In the field at the Tambaroora site

Results from the surveys of the other 2 sites are yet to be presented.

Whilst disappointing that signs of burials were not obvious in this instance, we are still collecting verified evidence from Church records, newspaper reports and personal papers such as diaries, burial certificates and family stories.

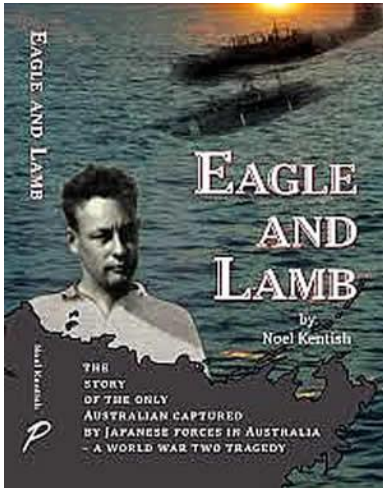
If you can assist with any of these options then we would really love to hear from you. Use the Contact us page from our website. The second part of the project will be undertaken over 21 – 24 February when a group of archaeology students, graduates and visitors will be getting some hands-on training with the GPR on another site.

As part of the project our volunteer Karen Bates has also been researching a 1904 “cold murder case” from the district and this has been written into a script which will be publicly presented by some local residents at the Hill End Court House on 24 February. This will give the students a chance to examine the evidence offered and present their own conclusions. Exciting stuff for those of us with a liking for “CSI”, “Time Team” and detective novels.

Hill End Tambaroora FHS.

BOOK REVIEW

Eagle and lamb: the story of the only Australian captured by Japanese forces in Australia - a World War 2 tragedy **Author Noel Kentish; foreword by Prof. Peter Stanley.**



The seizure of the Rev. Len Kentish by the crew of a Japanese float-plane in the Arafura Sea on 22 January 1943 and his later execution in the Aru Islands is one of the most shocking acts of a war permeated by violence against helpless civilians. As Noel Kentish's moving book relates, his father's abduction from the floating wreckage left after the plane's crew had sunk the supply vessel HMAS *Patricia Cam* came as a shock to the other survivors, and it was to bring repercussions and consequences to a host of people – Australian, Japanese and Indonesian – for years to come.

The most severely affected were, of course, Len Kentish's widow, Violet, and his children, Noel, Elaine and Claire. Evacuated from the Northern Territory and living in Brisbane, they only learned of Len's fate after the war's end, and then only through Vi's own efforts. Vi and her children lived for the rest of their lives with the trauma of their husband and father's abduction, and with the knowledge of the cruel and utterly unwarranted manner of his death.

Noel Kentish's book tells a powerful story, one of faith and love overshadowed, though not extinguished, by acts of bastardry almost unique in the Australian experience of war. Len Kentish was one of a small number of Australian civilians to be killed directly by the Japanese during the Pacific war. They included the civilians who died in the bombing of Darwin and other places in northern Australia, and merchant seamen who died when their ships were torpedoed off its coast. A small handful of Australian missionaries in Papua New Guinea shared his fate, executed by the Japanese.

Their stories deserve to be told, by others. But Len Kentish was the only person to be taken within sight of his homeland, abruptly, inexplicably. As a missionary he knew nothing of any military value – Noel conjectures, surely rightly, that his age and the fact that he was the only survivor of the *Patricia Cam* wearing a shirt, explained why he was chosen. Tragically, having lost his hearing aid, he probably understood nothing of the questions put to him in the fortnight before

he died. His was truly a pointless death, bringing nothing but tragedy to all affected, perpetrators and victims alike.

Noel Kentish, having lived with the knowledge of this story for practically his whole life, has now bravely and honestly recorded it. Formerly a detail in the complex history of Australia's part in the Pacific war – covered by a couple of paragraphs in official history of the Royal Australian Navy – the full story can now at last be placed before Australians 75 years on.

Dr. Kentish writes from a profound knowledge of his parents' lives and of minute and telling details. What he cannot know – what no one can now know – especially of his father's ordeal while a starving, maltreated captive living in silence, uncomprehending of what his captors were saying or doing, he has imagined.

His reconstruction and speculation enhances rather than detracts from the bare facts of the historical record, which he has sought out diligently and has interpreted sensitively. Len Kentish's tragic story, and the story of his family, can now be told in full.

One final injustice remains. Some 27,000 Australians died in the war against Japan. All but a handful are commemorated by name in the cloisters of the Australian War Memorial in Canberra, or on the memorial to merchant sailors in its grounds. Other civilians – those who died as civilian internees, or in



Courtesy Ben Gilmore

bombing raids, or the missionaries like Len Kentish – remain unacknowledged by the Australian government, even though they died directly at the hands of the Japanese. (In Len Kentish's case *literally* at the hands of a Japanese.)

In 1946 it fell to Len's Methodist church colleagues to tell Vi Kentish of her husband's death, and it took a further eight years before she eventually gained a pension commensurate with those awarded to the widows of other Australians, members of the armed services, who died in the war.

That official apathy sadly continues. It would be fitting if one day Len Kentish's name, and those of his fellow civilians who died in the Pacific War, could be acknowledged in the national memorial to Australia's war dead.

For Len Kentish is indeed one of Australia's war dead.

Prof. Peter Stanley
UNSW Canberra

CELEBRATING OUR PIONEER WOMEN

Erina Fair was a hive of activity on 3 March 2018. CCFHS was there as part of the *Central Coast International Woman's World Day Expo* celebrations. Celebrating pioneer women was our theme for the display on the red carpet outside Myers. We were just one of dozens of groups and societies representing ladies contributions in this modern age. The day had been coordinated by the Gosford Woman's Day committee. Each group was allocated 2 square metres of table space. Photos, power point presentation and some of our publications were chosen to feature in our celebration of pioneer women.

Many enjoyable hours were spent searching local resources. Gosford local studies librarian Geoff Potter gave permission to use photographs from the online *Photographs and Images*. Two *Brisbane Water Historical Society* publications of *Central Coast Women* provided information and photographs of 19th and 20th century ladies. Multi Arts productions of *Significant Women* featured recent ladies. NSW BDMs, Heritage NSW and State Records verified facts. But just who to choose representative of time, district and occupation was a major consideration. Local historian Gwen Dundon helped in this choice by providing wonderful photos with an introductory paragraph for each.

Agnes FAGAN, (nee Baptist) now-a-days is remembered for her diary of 1885-6 which simply records the life of a lady in that period. It has been transcribed and published by Gosford District Local History Study Group.¹ Fagans lived at *Cooranbean*, the site now of Brisbane Water Historical Society. The Fagan brothers cared for poet Henry Kendall when he was down on his luck. Agnes' husband George was a special friend to him for the rest of his life.

Large families were usual. Margaret Elizabeth *Lizzie* FROST (nee Woodward) born at Kincumber 1844, was the mother of 18 children including 2 sets of twins, all born between 1862-1888.

With 10 sons and husband George, the Frosts had their own cricket team. George's ship yard on the banks of Kincumber Creek was near St Paul's Church of England where Lizzie was baptised, married and in time buried in the graveyard, 30 years after her husband.²



Young Agnes

¹ Published by Phillippe Tabuteau, copy at CCFHS

² NSW BDM Mother Margaret born 1844 2364/1844 V18442364 28. Her children were registered with Mother noted as either Elizabeth or Margaret Frost.



Catherine MEDHURST (nee Shaw), born at The Rocks, Sydney in 1799 was noted in the papers of 1891 as the oldest living, Australian born person. This lady at the time of her death aged 94 in 1894 was reported to have 8 living children, 71 grandchildren, 70 great grandchildren and more than 20 GG grandchildren, a total of 169 descendants. She and George spent 40 or so years in the Wyoming district. The newspaper published this image of Catherine. ¹

Ladies supported one another especially in childbirth.

Elizabeth MUDDLE (nee Creighton) became a midwife after husband William died as result of a horse riding accident.

Jane COULTER (nee Smyth) taught at Erina (later Erina Heights] school from 1873 until her death in 1909. She drove her sulky from home to school, along bush tracks in any weather.

Many district place names reflect early settlers. PICKETS of Pickets Valley, PARRY sisters- Emily, Mary, Agnes and Jane link with Henry Parry Drive, NUNNS of Nunns Creek.

Miss Minard CROMMELIN, on her retirement from many years in post offices state wide purchased in 1937, seven acres of land at Pearl Beach adjoining a Reserve.

This unspoiled natural site was ideal for continuing her life-long environmental studies. She built her home and two small cottages so naturalists could come and study this unique environment. This was the only place in NSW where scientists and students could live and study fauna and flora in the natural environment. Her agitation succeeded in having the 950 acre reserve between Pearl Beach and Patonga declared a special Flora and Fauna Sanctuary in 1941. In 1947 she gifted her land now known as *Crommelin Biological Research Station* to Sydney University. She continued to work there and in 1959 received the MBE in recognition of her conservation work. Her library of hundreds of rare and valuable books was handed over to the Fisher Library. Minard died in 1972 aged 90. Characteristically she asked that her ashes be scattered from the *Warrah Lookout* over the bush which she had loved so much and fought so hard to preserve.



Minard holding *Trixie*

¹ TROVE *Australian Town and Country Journal* (Sydney, NSW : 1870 - 1907) **Saturday 3 January 1891** p 20

A leap in time to the present days to recognise the historic contribution of three authors Nancy, Gwen and Marie.

Meet the Authors was another aspect of the day. Marie Riley had just published her book about MacMaster's Surf Life Saving Club. Nancy Bundle's book records the fascinating history of **occupational health nursing**.

Local historian and photographer Gwen

Dundon, has generously donated her large collection of photographs depicting local pioneers and places which are now on-line at Gosford Library.



Nancy Bundle, Gwen Dundon & Marie Riley

In modern days we noted two very active ladies, Margaret Hardy so involved in the Multi Arts Confederation and *Edogowa Sister City* programme. Most recently we congratulate our Central Coast Mayor Councillor Jane Smith.

Naturally the day featured ladies whose history is already recorded and known in the local community. So many pioneer ladies are now sadly forgotten in time. They do not appear in any written format but just as a mother, wife and grandmother in their children's memories.

As Point Frederick *Pioneer Park Cemetery* research highlights, many are just a name on the memorial with not even a headstone.

Mothers, whether of the 1800s or centuries later are vital in our communities. More family historians thankfully are recording their unique family history which contributes greatly to a better understanding of our nation's social history.

There are so many stories yet to be written. As we celebrate Woman's Day next year may we feature newly researched and written women's stories.

At Webb St, East Gosford the park marks a direct link to *Elizabeth Ross*. This was where Granny Ross lived for 60+ years in her place she called *Frog Hollow*.

Her story follows.....



Marlene DAVIDSON 327L



Elizabeth Ross Park

THE PASSING OF MAMMY ROSS

By Gwen Dundon (1980)

Browsing through a 1930 issue of the old Gosford Times recently I was reminded of my Depression-era childhood days spent in an outback town of Western Australia. The local hair saloon-tobacconist sold clay pipes few pence each . . . “the old chaps like them” my miner father said. In the doorway of the saloon stood a wooden box filled to the top with sawdust, the white bowls and stems of the pipes sticking from it like tantalising lucky dips.

They were all from the same mould but my eager fingers would hover above each one before the final exciting choice of a ‘bubble pipe’ was made and the price paid. The clay pipe and a tin dish of sudsy water to dip it in provided days of entertainment until the brittle object inevitably fell from slippery childish fingers and broke.

New, the pipes were white, porous and slightly redolent of the sawdust they came in, but if they survived the soap and water they acquired an interesting patina from grubby fingers. Blown or sucked, the stem provided a satisfying and slightly hollow-sounding whistle.

Strangely enough, it was an obituary that brought back these pleasant memories.

Beyond the Veil

On Friday morning last, at about 3 a.m., one of the best-known of the Brisbane Water pioneers, Mrs Elizabeth Ross, passed to the great beyond.

Old-timers remember you well, Mammy. ‘Oh, she was a great old character,’ they say, ‘she had some funny ways of saying things, and she always smoked a clay pipe.’

‘Mammy’, as she was known for the last half century, was in her ninetieth year, having been born at Lane Cove on 14th February, 1841. She came to Brisbane Water at the age of four years, and had resided here ever since, and for the past 60 years lived at Frog Hollow, as she herself called it in the early days, and the name has endured throughout the years which have intervened. She was the daughter of the late Richard Bartlett who was known to all the old-timers of the district. As a child she lived at Fletcher’s Flat, Erina, now known as Matcham, but shortly after her marriage to George Ross, who died about nine years ago, she came to Frog Hollow and there she remained until reverently taken from there to her last rest at Brady’s Gully cemetery on Saturday last. Though the actual death was not unexpected, the actual news of same came as a great wrench to those who had known the grand old lady for so long, and the regret was very genuine.

George and Elizabeth Ross had nine children of whom seven were living in 1930, and there were one hundred descendants. One of their grandsons, Jack Ross of Kincumber, now 69, smiles when he talks about his grand-parents.

“George had been a sailor . . . sailed in the old windjammers, I think. He could tell a good story and used to add a bit to it, too! My mother’s name was Florence, but grand-father called her Poll. When he came to call, he’d sit down and say, ‘Gee, Poll, I’d like a cup of tea, but I’d die before I’d ask for one!’ recalled Jack.

Brisbane Water was a small settlement indeed when Mammy arrived here, and it perhaps would not be out of place to refer to the olden days when conditions were so primitive, and the struggle of the pioneers was so hard. Timber getting and shell digging were the principal industries, and the song of the maul and wedges was the music of the bushland. Wives were genuine helpers of their husbands, and Mammy made it no secret that she had often gone into the bush with her husband and run out many thousands of laths. 'Dad' used to billet them out and Mammy ran them with a throe, and she became very expert at it. These laths would be about 3 feet long and 1 and a half inches wide by about half an inch thick, and after being tied in bundles of 100 with strips of wattle bark, were sent to Sydney by ketch, where they were used in plaster work in the growing city. Many thousands of shingles, posts, rails and felloes, and pit-sawn timber were transported in the same way. Pit sawing was the vogue of the early days . . . macadamised roads were totally unknown, and very few tracks were even properly cleared. It was a work of art for teamsters of the day to dodge the trees and the holes, and in winter time traffic had to be suspended.



“When we were lads”, recalled Jack Ross, “we used to go into the bush with Granny gathering seeds for Andrew Murphy who sent them all over the world. He was the man who made ‘Murphy’s Pile Pills, you know. Well, we’d gather up the seeds and put them into sacks, and Granny would pick seeds and drop them into her apron, then tip them into the bags, all the time puffing on that old clay pipe of hers. She knew a lot about gum trees”.

The district mourns the loss of Mammy Ross. Many of us know that she ushered us into the world, and for each service to mothers in days gone by she sought no reward. Hers was the real charity, and therefore we fervently say, ‘Vale, good old Mammy!’

Elizabeth Ross was one of the many battling, tough pioneer women who acted as midwives to their sisters in labour, their only real qualification being parenthood of their own, generally large, families and a genuine concern for their neighbour’s welfare. She brought most of her grand-children into the world.

“I’ve often thought it would be a good idea to advertise and hold one of those family reunions”, Jack Ross said. “Wouldn’t there be a lot of us?”

Many times her relatives asked her to leave her little home in Webb Street, [East Gosford], and come and spend the rest of her days with them, but Mammy's little cabin, though humble and unpretentious, was a castle to her and she was happier there than she would have been in a palace. She was allowed her desire, and passed away in the little cabin she loved.

"I was working in a Gosford sandstone quarry when I was a young bloke, shift work it was from four o'clock in the morning and so on. I had to leave home very early. Well one day my Dad said to me 'Jack you had better call and see Granny on your way to work – she's not too good.' When I got there Granny was sitting up in bed, leaning back on her pillows and sucking at her old pipe. Gee, I'll never forget how she loved that pipe and the way she pulled on it . . . she had no teeth, you see. Remember how easily those clay pipes would break? Her pipe was always a bit short where a bit had broken off.

"How are you Gran?" I said. 'I'm alright, boy, but will you fill my pipe for me?' She used to smoke that dark plug tobacco. I cut some off and filled her pipe and lit it for her, and she leaned back on the pillows, puffing on it and looking really happy. 'That's lovely, boy!' she said to me, and I went off to work. Know what? That was the last time I saw her alive'", Jack said.



Today the area that was called Frog Hollow in East Gosford is a built-up residential grid of streets where modern drainage work has removed much of the marshiness providing a habitat for the frogs that inspired the old, and unofficial, name. Mammy Ross would not recognise the place, but now and then someone is heard to remark with a laugh, "Oh, I live in Frog Hollow!"

It's fanciful, but is that a little spiral of blue smoke dispersing on the breeze from Caroline Bay – from an old clay pipe perhaps?

∞

Notes: This article was first published by the Society of Women Writers (Aust) in their book *Lives Obscurely Great* (1980). The obituary quoted was written by the inimitable "Perong" alias George Fletcher, Council Health and Building Inspector, who gave the district a great historical legacy in his prolific writings for the *Gosford Times* (often copied to the *Woy Woy Herald*, as the Ross one was, issue 21.3.1930).

Elizabeth Ross died 14.3.1930, widow of George Ross, died Gosford 31.10.1920.

In 1984 East Gosford gained *Elizabeth Ross Park*, created at the corner of Webb and Adelaide Streets, East Gosford in the vicinity of her long-gone home of more than 60 years, to honour this memorable pioneer.

Gwen DUNDON Member 134.

Saturday 21st April 1934

(Gosford Times Tuesday 24th April 1934)

Citizens Own Recreation Hall

Point Clare Opens One

Saturday 21st April 1934

HAPPY GATHERING AT HISTORIC FUNCTION.

In little beautiful Point Clare, Gosford the capital of the near north coast is going to have a suburb which any town might be proud to own, and very few lucky enough.

A band of enthusiastic and apparently tireless workers down here led by Mr. J. P. Shanahan, President of the Point Clare and Tascott Progress Association, is fast transforming this village which for years has been a more or less neglected appendage of ours, into a resort as well favoured in the matter of modern conveniences as it by the handiwork of Mother Nature. Though this year is still young, in it, these people already have succeeded in getting their electric light system installed, and a building donated by an old resident and renovated and turned into a first-class entertainment hall which might well be the envy of any country town of anywhere near the same size. Residents and visitors there spent a very enjoyable evening last Saturday when the Association declared it open for the use of citizens. Among the Association officials present were Mr. J. P. Shanahan (President), Mr. W. H. Pike (Secretary), and Mr. F. R. Turton (Vice-President). "Clare House", was the property of the late Mr. H. M. S. Brown, one of the pioneers of Point Clare, now deceased. It originally was a private home, but for several years subsequently was used by the Misses Mary and Elsie Rivett, of Sydney, for an entertainment place and shelter for poor Sydney children. The late Mr. Brown finally bequeathed it to the citizens of Point Clare, who had it re-re-modelled, painted, and decorated by voluntary labour.

HAPPIEST FAMILY IN N.S.W.

Mr. J. P. Shanahan was in the chair and on being handed a big mallet with which to hit the table for silence, he said that it was not necessary then, but might be later on. This evening we have every cause for elation, said Mr. Shanahan.

We are the happiest family in this State. I must thank you for the confidence you have reposed in me and for choosing me to occupy the position of President, to switch on your first electric light and to open this fine hall of ours. I hope we will be able to accumulate a bit of money and make Point Clare the envy of Erina Shire. I hope we will have a finer building than this one, that we can call a jewel in the crown of Erina Shire.

Tonight we are setting another gem in it which will sparkle in the near future. Looking back 20 years I remember it was conceived that it was necessary to have a place to meet and show that residents had a family life in the community. At the time there were not sufficient funds and so the matter was left in abeyance. To-night we are coming out of the dream which was the swoon of that past generation.

We are grateful to them that there was money lying to the credit of the Association for many years. It only was lately that we found an opportunity to use it.

A gentleman, to whom Point Clare was very dear, was the owner of this property, and he decided that he would make the people of Point Clare a gift for all time. The property has to be used for the people of Point Clare, which, of course, includes the week-enders, who will be delighted to know that they are being enrolled in the family.



Clare House before extensive alterations changing to a Hall

In his last days the donor expressed a wish that he would be there to see the hall opened. Unfortunately he has joined the great majority, and so we have not the pleasure of his company to-night. He said the hall would be open to religious services of all denominations. He evidently meant that there would be a spirit of tolerance. I don't say that there has not been one all along. That, however, was his wish. The people of Point Clare should extend a helping hand to each other and we will be better men and women for it.

SPIRIT OF TOLERANCE.

The gentleman who made this gift to us, desired a spirit of tolerance, and desired that the citizens should co-operate in furthering any move to advance the district. It is useless trying to advance a district unless all citizens get behind a move. Every individual should make the problem his own task. If everyone did that, it would be found good policy even from a purely worldly point of view because one could not help the other fellow without helping oneself. "The late Mr. Brown bequeathed the hall for our amusement, improvement and happiness. Now, it all depends on you. It is your duty to use the hall and to support every movement in connection with it.

The time too has arrived for us to concentrate on beautifying the district, thus giving evidence of our civic pride. By doing so we will make it more acceptable to ourselves and more attractive to outsiders which will mean more business.

MANY VOLUNTARY WORKERS.

Mr. Shanahan said they had not the title of the property prepared, and it was costly to engage a limb of the law for the work. However, Mr. Turton had come along and undertaken to handle all the work for the Progress Association free of any cost except out of pocket expenses. In this case, he said there was a deed of trust embodying the ideas of the donor of the property. The trustees could not do anything without referring to this.

In the extensive- alterations to the building which had been required, Messrs Schute and Sharp were the architects, and they had made the hall a thing of beauty and deserved all gratitude for their planning of the alterations.

Messrs Sheppard, Chapman, Walker, and Pike had been responsible for cementing of the brick work. The point work had been done by Messrs White, Nugent, Sen, and Jun., E. Sheppard, Sen, and Jun., Turton, and the carpentering by Messrs Pike, Turton, Sid Harford, and himself.

Donations had been made of six forms by Mr. Collard and of one form by Mr. Mortimer and of chandeliers by Mr. Turton. The prizes about to be distributed were donated by Mr. Jewkes. And we thank all these people for doing something, he continued. It is only action that gets anyone anywhere.

I once belonged to a revolutionary society, though you might be inclined to doubt me, and there came a time when we had to consider going over the top. I contended that we should have' time to consider it, but it was decided that the trouble should begin straight away. Then it turned out that those who had been making the most noise, were the last to start. Mr. Sid Harford, the carpenter, and the constructor of this hall, made very little noise, but he did the most work, and I wish him in his line of business the same sort of success that he had in his personal efforts here. Citizens might well remember his good work.

THE FINANCIAL POSITION.

Mr. Shanahan then read the financial statements disclosing the position of the hall to date. Mr. Pike collects the money from the bank and showers it around and naturally is very anxious to let us know how we stand, said Mr. Shanahan. (Laughter). The financial statement, as read, disclosed that the cost of re-modelling and renovation of Clare House including extraneous expenses such as advertising, purchase of crockery, insurance and retraction, amounted to £96 14s. (2017 = \$9366.66)

There was £107 5s 8d (2017 = \$10394.80) in the bank to meet these commitments, which left them with a credit balance of £10 11s, (2017 = \$1021.91) with everything paid. A most satisfactory position.

Mr. Shanahan then officially declared the hall opened for the residents of Point Clare in terms of the expressed wishes of the late Mr. Brown. I hope that our troubles will not increase, and that the hall will be a benefit he said. We have to pay rates and there will be sundry expenses. We are looking to the future when we will require a larger hall. This will cost hard cash. The trustees are responsible, but they must not be left to meet all the engagements because that would mean that we would have to turn the hall over finally to the Public Trustee. (Applause).

A MAN OF ACTION.

Next speaker was Mr. F.R. Turton. My job is to tell Mr. Shanahan what we think about him, said Mr. Turton. It doesn't seem long since we formed, and you will agree that we have had a worker in him. When there is anything to be done he lets no one rest until it is done. He came to me not long ago and said Come on, we'll go and see Brown; he wants to give us a hall. Mr. Shanahan is a man of action. We can well remember the agitation for electric light. The Council said no, and he said 'yes.

They said £3000 (2017 = \$290589.30) and he said £1000 (2017 = \$96836.10).

Then there was the road. We thought it never would be fixed up. It is already fixed up. We are on the move and we don't know what is going to happen next. It would be a shame to stop the openings. We want to open baths, then a new station, then a tennis court. Mr. Shanahan has all these things and more in view and that's the type of President we have. This district will benefit in every way through his activity.

We are fortunate in having such a man with us. There is no rest about him. Every time we come up here, we wonder what our next job with him will be. The spirit of progress is abroad and we would like it encouraged to stay. We have had a wonderful band of workers. On behalf of the workers and residents and all those interested in the district, I want to express to our leader the hope that the lead he had set, will keep us on the go all the time.

TWO SUCCESSFUL RIDERS.

Mr. Turton then on behalf of the Association and residents, presented Mr. Shanahan with a box of cigars, the box being of Australian maple beautifully polished, made by Mr. Fred Gell. Mr. Pike said that Mr. Shanahan had omitted to tell everything he had done. Mr. Shanahan: You are out of order. (Laughter)

Mr. Pike; Our President can serve out the work and he can do it himself. If it had not been for him we would not be enjoying the benefits of the electric light and other progressive achievements. When the Railway Commissioners went through last week on their annual tour of inspection, he was here waiting for them to ask them for an extra train and a new station. Mr. George Fletcher, Shire Building Inspector, said he was only a stranger in the place, (laughter).

However, he wanted to propose a vote of thanks to the chairman. Speaking to a Gosford resident lately, about the wonderful progress Point Clare was making, he had been asked who was behind the activities. He was proceeding to explain that there was a man called Shanahan and a man called Pike and when his friend interrupted him: They must have plenty of money, then. Shanahan has ridden two Melbourne Cup winners, and Pike is still riding them. (Laughter) .The building was a credit to those who had assisted in the work, said Mr. Fletcher. He had supervised 2000 buildings for the Council and could tell a building when he saw one. He said that by next spring Point Clare would have public baths.

In fact he knew of one gentleman who had already applied to Messrs Canning & Co. for his bathing suit in anticipation, and would have bought the one he was shown, but had been told that it wouldn't shrink. It'll be no good then to me, he said. (Laughter) Point Clare is going to do things, concluded Mr. Fletcher. We will want all your help. Mr. Sid Harford, the hall carpenter, whose work had been so highly commended by the speakers, was called upon for a speech and met with a great reception. I will be brief, said Mr. Harford, 'I am a worker, rather than a spruiker. I did my best to fulfil Mr. Brown's wishes, and I am gratified to know that you are satisfied with my efforts.

CAPABLE COLLEAGUE'S.

Replying to the vote of thanks and returning thanks if or his present, Mr. Shanahan said it had always been his practice never to accept a gift, but merely to work for a movement he believed in without thought of reward. But this is different, he said, and I'm very grateful to you. I have made an endeavour to do something for Point Clare, and assisted by the combined action of my very capable colleagues, I have been able to do it. A vote of thanks to the press was proposed by Mr. Shanahan. The editor of the 'Times' responded.

Ken GOODWORTH Member # 354



Jeremiah CASHIN. "The old man who lived in a tree."

Mr. Cashin lived in this hollow tree stump at Wamberal for many years.



Jeremiah was a short fellow who used to call upon a strapping young lad, Albert Bohringer to carry him pick-a-back across the local swamps. He moved into a new house on his property about the same time this photo was taken c. 1912.

Photo used with permission of Mr. Albert Pike (Mr. Cashin's grand-nephew).

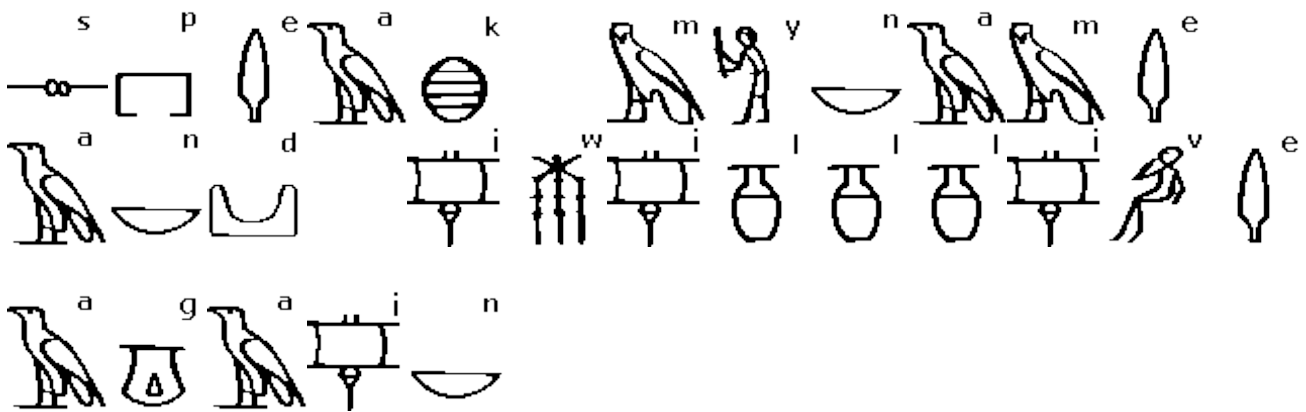
Mr. Cashin turned this tree stump into a cosy but simple home with windows, doors and a fireplace. It was an inexpensive dwelling perfect for a bachelor to live in. Jeremiah also built the Wamberal Memorial Hall on Ocean View Drive for "people to gather together for singing and dancing on a Saturday night". He came from an Irish family with a proud heritage.

Mr. Cashin used to grow his own vegetables and he also owned some animals including; sheep, cows and chickens. Every Market Day Mr. Cashin would ride into Gosford on a horse and cart and would receive his mail from a paddle steamer. Then he would take his vegetables into the Market Place and sell them. His great nephew, Mr Albert Pike, remembers travelling in on the wagon to Gosford to sell the produce and purchase the family's' other needs that they were unable to grow or make. Mr. Cashin owned a large parcel of land which he later sold to his nephew when he moved to Lidcombe in Sydney, where he later died.

Information gathered from interview with Mr. Arthur Pike.

Photograph courtesy of Mrs. Gwen Dundon, Author of "The History of Gosford" series.

SPEAK MY NAME, AND I WILL LIVE AGAIN.



This moving exhortation comes to us across millennia from mummified Egyptian remains.

It was widely inscribed on all kinds of funerary equipment, and the belief was that the words should be spoken

You may recall this recent story reported by ABC News on Tue 27 Mar 2018.

2,500-year-old mummy found in what was thought to be an empty Egyptian coffin at Sydney University

When archaeologists lifted the lid on an Egyptian coffin that had been stored at Sydney University for 150 years, they got an enormous surprise. They had no idea the 2,500-year-old coffin was filled with human remains. Researchers are now using the latest scientific technology to piece together an ancient mystery. "We are about to start a really detailed project to scientifically investigate these remains in the coffin and ask a whole bunch of questions, but really, 'Who is inside the coffin?'" investigation lead Dr Jamie Fraser said.

"We know that *Mer-Neith-it-es* herself, the priestess for whom this coffin was made, was an adult," Dr Fraser said. "And the joins in those bones say, yeah, they're the remains of an adult, and actually they're the remains of an adult of 30-plus.

In the meantime, *Mer-Neith-it-es'* coffin, along with three others owned by the Nicholson Museum, will be exhibited in a new museum on the university grounds, along with a display showing the work done by the team to try to discover who is inside the mysterious coffin."

ANOTHER NAME FOR AN OLD OCCUPATION!

Have you come across the female occupation of *Meretrix* and can't find out what it is? It is an old word for a registered prostitute and can be found in some English Parish Registers.

The term registered prostitute relates to ancient Rome, where they were called meretrices while the unregistered ones fell under the category prostibulae. The term was for a woman who "turned no-one away" and it was generally understood that money would be involved in the transaction.

It would be interesting to know if this had become a Latin term used by the Clergy for a known prostitute or were they registered in the villages and towns in the 1800's.

Heather SUSHAMES
Member 651

Editor's further research from Wikipedia below- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Meretrix>

In Medieval Europe, a meretrix was understood as any woman held in common, who "turned no one away"¹ It was generally understood that money would be involved in this transaction, but it did not have to be: rather, it was promiscuousness that defined the meretrix²

Medieval Christian authors often discouraged prostitution, but did not consider it a serious offence and under some circumstances even considered marrying a harlot to be an act of piety.³ Every woman was considered to contain a latent meretrix, so that it was possible to both rise out of and fall into the category, as with tales of prostitutes repenting to become saints.⁴

Certain modern professors of feminism have argued that a *meretrix* in the medieval mindset is closer to our modern understanding of a sexual identity or orientation.⁵

¹ Biffi, pp. 15-24

² K. M. Phillips/B. Reay eds., *Sexualities in History* (2002) p. 93

³ Brundage, pp. 308-311

⁴ Carla Freccero, *Queer/Early/Modern* (2005) p. 37

⁵ Martha C. Nussbaum/Juha Sivola, *The Sleep of Reason* (2002) p. 247-8

TYRELL- "A Further letter to Mary re: Susan

Central Coast, New South Wales, Australia
April, 2018

Dear Mary,

It is now nine years since I last wrote, telling you all I knew about your family and the wonderful stories your daughter Mary Maria, born 1844 told my mother. My mother, your great granddaughter, had a very close relationship with Mary Maria who told her about her sister Susan who came to Australia with her but she never met her and was vague about names for me to now research.

She told also of her brother Daniel, a jeweller in Cork, who used to send his sister lovely presents until some members of the family (not specified) were jealous of her and the contact stopped.

The letter I wrote had many unanswered question, mainly because of the Catholic Protestant divide that caused communication between the lines to cease.

Mary's marriage to Hugh Graham brought two children into the world and I have had a lovely fruitful contact with a great-granddaughter from that marriage. Hugh disappeared and has never turned up on the records anywhere. One theory I have is that he could have been drowned in the Toowoomba floods in 1872 with bodies never being identified then, as they would have a better chance if today. That is just my way of justifying his disappearance leaving no further trace of his whereabouts.

I have looked back into the Ulster records to find more out about his family. And what a story line that has revealed! His mother was a Charlotte Selina Savage who married Hugh's father, Hugh also. She was born in India as her father was serving as a General in the British Indian army in Aleppo, southern India. The Savage family historically founded the townland of Ardkeen in County Down in 14th Century but the Savage line goes back to France as Le Sieur. Thomas Sauvage, born in Normandy, France in 1000, married his English wife in Derbyshire and died there in 1066! I wonder how many trees can trace their family back that far? What a shame we descend only from the second husband and not this amazing Savage line!

Mary's second marriage was to a Walter Albert McCombie and it has been a more recent privilege to now have McCombie cousins researching their own families and links with ours, especially through good DNA results. One of these McCombie relatives sent me a Police Gazette report from 1886 which sparked yet renewed searching for the lost sister Susan

Inquiry is requested to be made as to present whereabouts of Maria M'Combri, maiden name Donegan, who arrived in Sydney in 1862, and was married about 2 years afterwards, her husband, whose christian name is unknown, died some three or four years afterwards, and nothing was heard of her from that time until the year 1885, when she wrote from Sydney to her brother in Ireland. She has a daughter about 17 years of age and a widowed sister named Susan Orford, who are supposed to reside with her.—I.R. 86-572:

My mother told me Susan, who was born in 1840 in Edenderry, Co Offaly which was then King's County, had emigrated in 1861 and married someone by the name of Keough. There was maybe some confusion with the name Kelso somewhere back there too she thought. I have spent 15 years searching for Susan, have a copy of her birth from the register at the church in Edenderry but cannot find her record on any of the ships coming to Australia.

Last month with the revelation of this Police Gazette report, I started looking for Susan Orford up to 1886 as I misread widowed to be deceased at that point. The McCombie relative responded to my fruitless frustration searching for her, told that Susan had in fact died in 1918.



Susan Orford nee Donegan

Eureka, the floodgates of information opened wide as I started researching and I have been able to discover a whole new family line!

Susan was in Ruthven St, Toowoomba in 1868 having married in Ipswich 8th September, 1865. Mary had been in Brisbane where she married Hugh Graham from Belfast, Antrim, Ireland on 1st June 1869. She must have known Susan was in Toowoomba to have made the arduous journey to Ipswich where she then caught a train to Toowoomba.

In all this I found both sisters in Ruthven St, Toowoomba having babies three days apart! Susan had her third child, Thomas James on 7th July, 1869 and Mary Maria had her Alice Selina Graham on 9th July, 1869. Mary obviously knew something of Hugh's family back in Belfast because she used his mother's middle name for this daughter of hers. Susan had another child, Annie in May 1871 in Toowoomba also.

1865. MARRIAGES Solemnized in the District of Ipswich				in the Colony of QUEENSLAND. Registered by William Anderson				
No.	When and Where Solem.	Name and Residence of the Parties	Qualities of the Parties (Bachelor or Spinster)	Rank or Profession	Age	Exact Place of Birth	Parents (Father's Name)	Parents (Mother's Name)
297	8 th September 1865 Ipswich	Robert George Keough Susan Donegan	Bachelor Spinster	Platonic	29 Years	Ipswich	George Keough	Shanahan
298				General Servant	22 Years	Ipswich	Thomas Donegan	Shanahan

Married in the Office of the District Registrar
According to Law

This Marriage was solemnized between us { Robert G. Keough and Susan Donegan } In the presence of us { George Keough and Thomas Donegan }
By (or before) me W. Anderson Officiating Minister Registrar.

QUEENSLAND STATE ARCHIVES
I. Shuff hereby certify that this is a true copy of an entry in a register kept in the Queensland State Archives. Issued at Brisbane 21 FEB 2000

Both sisters moved to Sydney sometime after Annie's birth and her next child in November 1872. I don't have access to a date for Mary's next child, Francis Edward during 1872 but he was also born in Sydney. Neither of the girls came to Sydney with a husband. Susan's husband's whereabouts did turn up the following year in this report:

6 Aug 1873 • Queensland, Australia *Robert Orford is charged, on warrant issued by the Brisbane Bench, with having deserted his wife Susan, at Brisbane, about four months since. He is about 40 years of age. He is working with a Mr. Ferguson, a builder and contractor at Rockhampton. Since arrested at Rockhampton. Volume X Page 73; Queensland Police Gazettes Category Institutions & organisations Subcategory Courts & legal.*

Unfortunately we have never found any record of Hugh Graham's whereabouts – demise, disappearance or return from whence he came!

This letter is to let you know of further developments regarding Susan and some means of discovering more about Daniel. Facebook web pages for the different Counties allow folk to post GEDmatch numbers for their DNA results to perhaps link with like names and strong matches from those Counties. Many wonderful connections have been made but none so far for Donegan, Tyrrell or Graham. We live in hope!

All is not lost with the red herring in searching for the Keough name. It appears from the records, hopefully yet to prove, that YOUR parents were Patrick Tyrrell married to Mary Keough! We are so fortunate in having digital records improving all the time to be able to search so much more successfully.

Mary Maria's brother, your son Daniel, still keeps me focused on your Irish family. Kathleen went to America so I am trusting that the prevalence of US DNA testing may one day shine a light on her story but meantime, I am more interested in a Daniel Donegan, jeweller, in Cork. Facebook allows me to apply for membership of three closed groups for Cork West, North and Cork city, Ulster County and Offaly County as well as with general Irish searching in Irish DNA groups on Facebook and this link https://www.facebook.com/groups/corkgenealogicalsociety/?fref=gc&dti=563410640674676&hc_location=ufi

But also it is through searching with my GEDmatch DNA number that is the best way to use these sites. Cork is broken up because it is the largest county but each of the counties has its own group to apply membership for.

Both girls remarried in Sydney with relevant paperwork supporting their divorces to remarriage; Susan with desertion and Mary Maria no doubt for lost without trace.

Susan remarried but not until 1st July 1880 to George Edwin Pearson and had one daughter by him in 1880, Florence May Pearson. Susan had seven children in all so your descendants will be many! You will see from the funeral notice how important the family were to each other with each family listed and invited separately.

Susan was buried on 28th June 1918 at Waverley Cemetery in the Catholic Section 12 *Special*; Row 27 with the inscription *Our Mother*.

FUNERALS.

PEARSON.—The Funeral of the late **SURAN PEARSON** will leave her residence, 9 Steel-st, Surry Hills, **TO-MORROW** (Saturday), at 2.30, for Catholic Cemetery, Waverley.
T. DIXON, Undertaker,
Corner Oxford and Crown streets, city.
Phone. Padd. 413.

PEARSON.—The Friends of Mrs. M. KELSO are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of her beloved **MOTHER, Susan**; to leave her residence, 9 Steel-street, Surry Hills, **TO-MORROW**, at 2.30, for Catholic Cem., Waverley. T. DIXON, Undertaker.

PEARSON.—The Friends of Mr. and Mrs. **THOMAS ORFORD** are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of their beloved **MOTHER, Susan**; to leave her residence, 9 Steel-st, Surry Hills, **TO-MORROW** 2.30, for Catholic Cemetery, Waverley. T. Dixon, undertaker

PEARSON.—The Friends of Mr. and Mrs. **J. PALMER**, of Kensington, are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of their beloved **MOTHER, Susan**; to leave 9 Steel-st, Surry Hills, **TO-MORROW**, at 2.30, for Catholic Cemetery, Waverley. T. DIXON, Undertaker.

PEARSON.—The Friends of Mr. **JOE ORFORD** are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of his beloved **MOTHER, Susan**; to leave her residence, 9 Steel-st, Surry Hills, **TO-MORROW**, at 2.30, for Catholic Cemetery, Waverley.

PEARSON.—The Friends of Mr. and Mrs. **A. COOK** are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of their beloved **MOTHER, Susan**; to leave her residence, 9 Steel-street, Surry Hills, **TO-MORROW**, at 2.30, for Catholic Cemetery, Waverley. T. DIXON, Undertaker.

PEARSON.—The Friends of Mrs. **M'COMBIE** and **FAMILY** are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of their beloved **SISTER and AUNT, Susan**; to leave 9 Steel-st, Surry Hills, **TO-MORROW**, at 2.30, for Catholic Cemetery, Waverley. T. DIXON, U'taker.

PEARSON.—The Friends of Mr. and Mrs. **H. BERWICK, JAMES and FRANK KELSO** (on active service), Mr. and Mrs. **W. ORFORD, HAROLD WILKIE**, and **VERA PALMER**, and Mr. and Mrs. **JENKINS** are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of their beloved **GRANDMA, Susan**; to leave 9 Steel-st, Surry Hills, **TO-MORROW** (Saturday), at 2.30, for Catholic Cemetery, Waverley. T. DIXON, Undertaker.



*Left-right: Joseph Palmer, Annie (wife),
William (son), Veronica (daughter) and
Harold (son)*

Unfortunately we do not have records of all Susan and Mary Maria's siblings marriages or their descendants and probably that area of our family roots will never be known but each new development gives us a fresh excitement in unravelling your story for you.

Sincerely,

Your great-great granddaughter,

Karys Fearon nee Hall

Karys FEARON Member 1216J

REVISITING AN ARTICLE FROM “The Muster – December 2008”.

Trawling through the old Musters this week I happened upon this article submitted by **Maeve DAVIES Member 1400** and thought to revive it.

THOU SHALT – advice for family historians

1. Thou shalt name your male children: James, Joseph, Josiah, Abel, Daniel, Richard, Thomas and William
2. Thou shalt name your female children: Betty, Elizabeth, Mary, Jane, Martha, Maria, Sarah, Ida, Virginia, Ginny, Jenny and May. It is always good to name them Martha Elizabeth and refer to them in all documents as Jenny.
3. Thou shalt leave NO trace of your female children
4. Thou shalt, after naming your children from the above lists, call them by strange nicknames such as: Ike, Eli, Polly, Dolly, Sukey, Billy Bob or Zeke – making them difficult to trace.
5. Thou shalt NOT use any middle names on any legal documents or census reports, and only where necessary, you may use only initials on legal documents. Also be certain to use different dates on successive census as well as changing the country of origin.
6. Thou shalt learn to sign all documents illegibly so that your surname can be spelled, or misspelled, in various ways: Hicks, Hics, Hix, Hucks or Kicks, and whether you can write or not, use an X whenever possible.
7. Thou shalt, after no more than 3 generations, make sure that all family records are lost, misplaced, burned in court house fire, or buried so that NO future trace of them can be found. Also if they are found be sure they have been thoroughly water-soaked, torn and have large pieces missing.
8. Thou shalt propagate misleading legends, rumours & vague innuendoes regarding your place of origination. A. You may have come from: England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales or Iran. B. You may have American Indian ancestry of the Tribe. C. You may have descended from one of three brothers that came over from
9. Thou shalt leave NO cemetery records or headstones with legible
10. Thou shalt leave NO family Bible with records of birth, marriages or deaths, but always have cousins or aunts who have seen it.
11. Thou shalt ALWAYS flip thy name around. If born James Albert, thou must make all the rest of thy records in the names of Albert, AJ, JA, Alfred, Bert, Bart or Jimmy.
12. Thou must also flip thy parent’s names when making reference to them, although “Unknown” or a blank line is an acceptable alternative.
13. Thou shalt name at least 5 generations of males and dozens of their cousins with identical names in order to totally confuse researchers.
14. Last but not least, embellish all stories and enter dates which indicate that all children are born to twelve year old girls fathered by eighty year old husbands.

LESLIE ANDREW PINSON 2/4th Battalion

My Husband's father Leslie Andrew PINSON served in the Australian Infantry 2/4th Battalion in World War II. He was taken prisoner in Crete in 1941 by the German Army.

Due to the fact that he kept trying to escape he spent time in 6 different Stalags.

After he returned from the war, the family split up and Leslie died in 1960.



My husband, Denis can only remember seeing him 5 times- he has always wanted to find out more about his father, but as often happens, other relatives didn't want to share or are no longer alive.

Anyway, with what I have learned at C.C.F.H.S I eventually got on to the right track and made a few discoveries.

Last week we had a phone call from a very nice old fellow who served with Leslie and remembers him well. He has also told us about a book that mentions Leslie in it, which I have ordered.

We are so excited and after Denis has his next operation we are going to meet him. He lives in George Town in Newcastle, NSW.

Who would have believed it?

Thanks- Central Coast Family History Society!

Leonie PINSON Member 1582

Editor's Note:

In early April 1941, the 2/4th, with the rest of the 6th Division, deployed to Greece to resist the anticipated German invasion. It fought a fierce battle at Vevi in northern Greece on 11 and 12 April and then withdrew through a series of rear-guard positions until evacuated, by sea, from Megara on 26 April.

The battalion landed on Crete the next day and eventually joined the force defending Heraklion airfield. When German paratroops landed on 20 May they were rapidly overcome in the area immediately around the airfield. The paratroops were, however, able to gain a foothold outside the defended area. This, combined with German successes elsewhere on Crete, brought about the evacuation of Heraklion by sea on 29 May.

On Crete, 274 Australians were killed, 507 were wounded and 3100 were captured including most of the 2/1st, 2/7th and 2/11th Battalions. New Zealand losses for Greece and Crete were 962 killed, 2000 wounded and over 3000 captured.

BOOKSTALL MUST HAVES

HANDY SOLUTION BOOKLETS:

2527 Handy Solutions #1 Beginning Family History Research; CCFHS Inc Booklet \$3.00

2528 Handy Solutions #2 Irish Family History Research; CCFHS Inc Booklet \$3.00

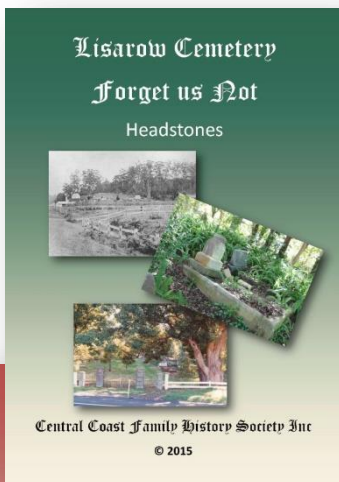
2529 Handy Solutions #3 English Family History Research; CCFHS Inc Booklet \$3.00

2530 Handy Solutions #4 Scottish Family History Research; CCFHS Inc Booklet \$3.00

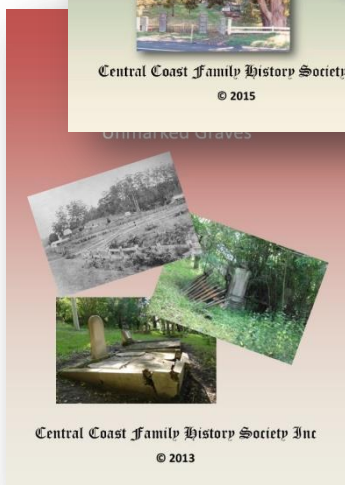
2532 Handy Solutions #6 Researching Convicts; CCFHS Inc Booklet \$3.00

2533 Handy Solutions #7 Researching Australian War & Military Records; CCFHS Inc. Booklet \$3.00

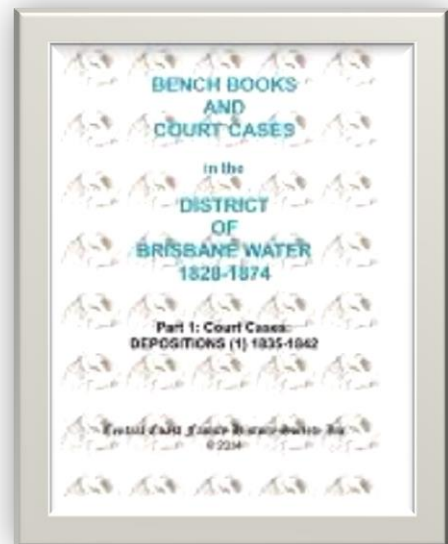
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