

# E-MUSTER

Central Coast Family History Society Inc.



August 2023

Issue 36



*Early Days Wamberal, "Trevellyn" in foreground.*

***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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President: Rod Horton  
Vice President: Belinda Mabbott  
Secretary: Lorraine Greve  
Treasurer: Brent Jones

**Public Officer:** Ken Clark

## **Committee:**

Ken Clark, Brian Davies, Marlene Davidson,  
Robyn Gregg, Yvonne Potts, Jacqueline Smith, Heather Yates.

## **RESEARCH CENTRE**

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Phone: 4324 5164 - Email [admin@centralcoastfhs.org.au](mailto: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

August 2023 – No: 36

The **E- MUSTER** is the Official Journal of the Central Coast Family History Society Inc.

**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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All articles to:  
[admin@centralcoastfhs.org.au](mailto:admin@centralcoastfhs.org.au)

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November 20th

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Early Days Wamberal, NSW  
From Good Old Central Coast  
Facebook page.

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## EDITORIAL

Welcome to the August 2023 *e-Muster*.

I have included a list of website addresses that may assist with your research in this issue.

Also some great stories and memories with permission from a gentleman born on the Central Coast at Erina, who is the administrator of “Good old Central Coast” Facebook page, Ron Moir. I hope you enjoy them as much as I do.

Thank you so much to the contributors who have provided articles in this latest issue of the *e-Muster* for our enjoyment and interest.

**Heather YATES Member 675**  
**Editor**

## PRESIDENTS REPORT

It's August already and time for another E-Muster. This year is just flying by and with the beautiful warm days it doesn't seem like we still have another month of winter to go. It seems much more like an early spring. Scientists around the world have been saying that July was the warmest month on record. Unfortunately, there's not much that we can do about it except to just enjoy the sunshine before the real heat comes along.

There's been a bit of sadness around the Society of late with the loss of several family and society members. To all who have lost family members and friends, our thoughts go out to you.

In spite of our losses the membership of the Society continues to rise which is a great result. So, a warm welcome to our new members and many thanks to all other members who have renewed and to those who come along to the research centre, monthly meetings, special days and training courses.

The Society is running smoothly and we've been able to have several beginner courses which have proven quite popular, so early this month we'll be having a DNA course. This course has been well received as the first day is already booked out. If you wish to attend the next course in September, you'd better book in, otherwise, you could miss out.

We also have a Bunnings sausage sizzle coming up and this is a great way to add a few more dollars into the account to help the Society function.

The next issue of the E-Muster is in December so don't forget to send an article or story along to Heather so it can be included. Good luck with your research and let's hope all those roadblocks open up for everyone.

**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.

## HELPFUL WEBSITES

### Convict Reference Sites

This is a short list of various sites which are of assistance when researching convict ancestors. I hope it may 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.

**TheShipsList website, online since August 1999, will help you find your ancestors on ships' passenger lists. [www.theshipslist.com](http://www.theshipslist.com)**

**They also have immigration reports, newspaper records, shipwreck information, ship pictures, ship descriptions, shipping-line fleet lists and more; as well as hundreds of passenger lists to Canada, USA, Australia and even some for South Africa.**

**Ships - Fleets and Descriptions, Passenger Lists, Resources &c. &c.**

**The Fleets: Companies and Their Vessels: This is a very comprehensive index page of Fleet lists for the many shipping lines and companies. New Fleets are added regularly. There are several other links from this page which include ship descriptions, passenger fares, Ship Wrecks: General information of ship-wrecks from various periods, with detailed reports of specific wrecks, many with lists of those passengers and crew, lost and saved.**

## **Useful links for accessing information about the State Archives Collection.**

State Archives Collection Home Page

<https://mhns.wa.gov.au/collections/state-archives-collection/>

Subjects A-Z

<https://mhns.wa.gov.au/archive/subjects/>

Digital Shipping Lists

<https://mhns.wa.gov.au/guides/assisted-immigrants-digital-shipping-lists/>

Ask an Archivist

<https://mhns.wa.gov.au/collections/state-archives-collection/ask-an-archivist/>

Plan your visit

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

Webinars

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

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

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

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



## **RAHS/WEA Workshop – Using Trove to discover the Australia of Yesteryear**

**Event Date & Time:** Wednesday 9 August 2023 @ 11.00 am – 1.00 pm

**Event Location:** Online via Zoom

**Cost:** RAHS/WEA Members \$32 | Non-Members \$35

### **Event Description:**

Trove is the place to explore all things Australian. It is also free. Through the single point of entry, we can all go back in time to explore the Australia of yesteryear. By tapping into Trove's digital copies of newspapers; government gazettes; magazines and newsletters; maps, photographs and artefacts; manuscripts and archives; sound recordings; archived websites and research reports we can all enjoy the pleasures of time travel with just a few keystrokes. This workshop will demonstrate how Trove's online resources can be explored to discover more about the way Australia has changed over multiple generations.

### **About the speaker:**

Christine Yeats FRAHS is the Senior Vice President of the Royal Australian Historical Society. She is the President of the Federation of Australian Historical Societies, Convenor of the Assessment Sub-Committee of the UNESCO Australian Memory of the World Committee and Review Editor of the *Journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society*. Christine is an archivist and professional historian with a particular interest in women's history and Romani migration and settlement in NSW.

## RAHS Excursion – Edina Tour

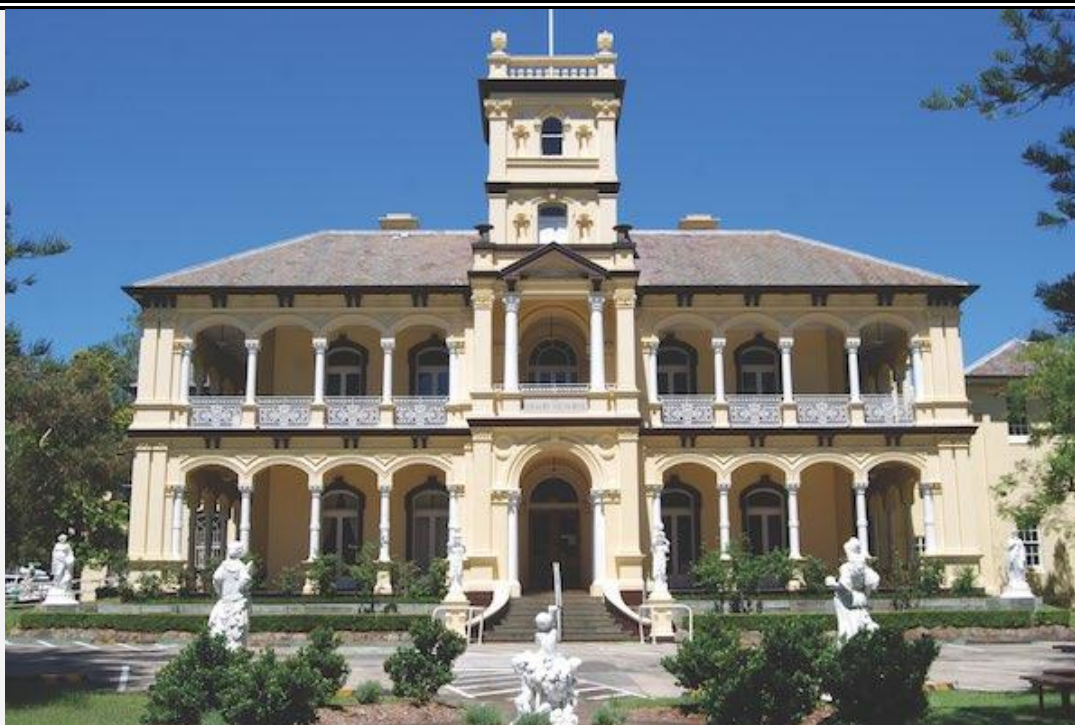


Photo Credit: Michael Waterhouse

**Event Date & Time:** Sunday, 27 August 2023 @ 10.30 am – 12.30 pm

**Event Location:** War Memorial Hospital, Waverley

**Cost:** \$20

### **Event Description:**

Located in Waverley in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs is 'Edina', one of the grandest private houses surviving in Sydney from the late Victorian era. A central feature of the War Memorial Hospital, few people are nevertheless aware that it exists. A historical gem, it is hiding in plain sight.

The RAHS is pleased to provide a rare opportunity for members to have a private viewing of this grand building in a two hour tour by Michael Waterhouse, author of a new book *Family, Faith and Fortune in Victorian Sydney. The Edina Estate*.

'Edina' was home to three generations of a wealthy, religious family. As well as its glorious exterior and ornamental gardens, many of Edina's interior features are well preserved. Michael will discuss these and provide insights into the lifestyle of the families, including 24 children, who lived on the estate prior to ownership being transferred to the Methodist Church in 1922.



**About the presenter:**

Michael Waterhouse has held senior positions in the Commonwealth Treasury and as an executive in Westpac and has written extensively on the Australian financial system and on historical subjects, including a book on New Guinea between the Wars. He is descended from Ebenezer and Jeanie Vickery who built 'Edina' and has accumulated many photos taken of the estate in the 1890s. He's a former Chair of Edina Aged Care. Professor E G (Gowrie) Waterhouse of 'Eryldene', Michael's great uncle was one of the many children who grew up on the estate and he encountered his first camellias there.

**Accessibility:**

Due to the number of stairs, accessibility is limited.

**FREE public event for National Family History Month**

17 August 2023

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Location via Zoom

**60 ways to utilise your family history research in 60 minutes**

Join SAG CEO Ruth Graham and guests as we embark on a whirlwind exploration of possibilities as we reveal unique and fascinating ways to unleash the full potential of your family history research in just one hour!

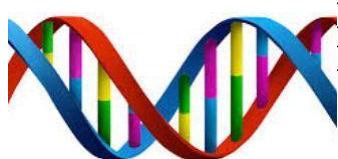
Discover a comprehensive list of sixty captivating ideas, providing practical tips and valuable insights along the way. From preserving your discoveries for future generations to uncovering surprising connections, this webinar will empower you to truly make the most of your family's legacy.

## **GROUP: DNA Research Group - Tools in Practice**

When 23 September 2023 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Location via Zoom

Spaces left 486



### **DNA Research Group - Tools in Practice: Using Y-DNA to assist your research**

Y-DNA tests are used to explore a man's patrilineal or direct father's-line ancestry. The Y chromosome, like the patrilineal surname, passes down virtually unchanged from father to son. Find out about how it works and how it is best utilised to assist in your research.

**This session will be held online via the Zoom platform.**

### **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.

2195	Beverley Nihill	2207	Alan Nichols
2196	Patsy Pollard	2208	Sonya Govey
2197	Latisha Casey	2209	Gillian Lay
2198	Claire McCormick	2210	Christine Swann
2199	Karen Kelly	2211	Hazel Ross
2200	Sharon Robertson	2212	Kay Hall
2201	Rob Barbera	2213	Anne Marie Turner
2202	Jennifer Ferguson	2214	Tony Davidson
2203	Cheryl Cooper	2215	Anna McManus
2204	Kevin Manning	2216	Susan Hyde
2205	Stephen Hannaford	2217	Katlyn Marks
2206	Kim Reynolds	2218J	Larry Johns/Gail Whitehouse

# 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](http://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. 37 December 2023 E-MUSTER**

Deadline for articles for the next edition of the e-Muster  
20<sup>th</sup> November, 2023.

## ARTICLES

### Early Gosford

The proximity of a penal colony at Newcastle discouraged settlement and the rugged terrain made the area a haven for smugglers, moonshiners, escaped convicts and ticket-of-leave men.

The first white settlers were drawn by the immense local supplies of cedar, forest oak, blue gum and other hardwoods. Boat building also began at this time and continued until World War I.

Small settlers took up land on the ocean shores, growing small plots of maize, onions, potatoes and hay. Others began dairying or gathered cockle shells which were loaded on to ketches and sent off for lime-burning. The gentry purchased the timbered areas along Erina and Narara Creeks.

A survey in 1829 listed about 100 persons (half of them convicts assisting the timber getters) living along Brisbane Water, with 916 cattle, 7 horses and 205 acres under cultivation. A courthouse was built on the Gosford site as early as 1827. By 1833 there were 315 people.

A private township was established by Samuel Peek at what is now East Gosford in the 1830s but it was slow to develop.

A government township was eventually surveyed and laid out in 1839 on and between Narara and Erina Creeks and an Anglican church erected between 1838 and 1843. It was called the Township at Point Frederick on the survey submission, in honour of Frederick Hely who had died in 1836, but Governor Gipps crossed this out and wrote in Gosford, in honour of Archibald Acheson, 2nd Earl of Gosford (1776-1849), who had served with Gipps as a commissioner in Canada from 1835 to 1837.

There were 53 persons in the town by 1848 when a new courthouse was built. Christ Church was erected in 1857-58 and is extant. The first school wasn't started until 1865 as the population of Gosford was still only 193 in 1871.

In the 1880s tourism got under way particularly with the completion of the Sydney to Newcastle railway in 1889 and a new focus on leisure and health in the culture. The Central Coast quickly became a primary tourism destination of Sydneysiders, fishing being the main drawcard, though sightseeing and hunting were also attractions. Holiday homes began to appear. The train line also facilitated the expansion of existing industries.

**Gosford was declared a municipality in 1886, incorporating the two towns. Since World War II it has virtually become a part of metropolitan Sydney with the construction of the freeway in the 1960s and the improvement of the rail service in the 1970s. Agriculture and horticulture have declined in importance as Gosford has developed as a commuter, holiday and retirement centre. It was proclaimed a city in 1980.**

## **Erina West School (Woodport)**

**When I started here in the mid-1940s there were 39 kids attending, which was Kinder, 1st up to 6th class.**

**We had a big garden in front of the class room with a lot of different flowers growing.**



**The toilets, both boys and girls were only pan toilets and were situated in different directions about 100mtrs from the class rooms in the bush.**

**We used to get little bottles of milk at play lunch time which was delivered of a morning time by the milk man when you took the lid off the bottle sometimes the milk would not come out because there would be that much cream on the top of the milk. We only ever had an old tank at school that we used to drink out of now I think it is a no no but it never hurt any of us kids.**

**Next door to the school was a big orange orchard that people by the name of Pickings owned, some of the kids at play time or lunch time would go over and buy a couple of oranges for a penny.**

**Up the back of the school in the bush there were big trenches dug- about 1mtr wide and about 2mtrs deep dug in a zig zag pattern.**

**We were always told they were dug to shelter in the war maybe I did not mind going to school there, because the old teacher had a bad heart and when he got crook he used to send us home.**

**I remember a couple of us boys decided it was too nice a day to go to school so we wagged it and hid under the old wooden bridge that went across Nunn's Creek, it was a good day till a couple of the girls wanted Brownie points and dobbed us in.**

### **Erina where Author Ron Moir grew up**

Looking down through Erina from the intersection of the Terrigal road where the old War Memorial once stood.



I was born in Erina in the very early 40s and lived in a old house about where the people are on the road in the old photo. On the left of the photo there were people by the name of Pymms that owned that property and they had a big orchard and they grew a lot of different citrus, plums and persimmons, the property later became the Telstra Dept.

All the trees down the side of the road were planted by Mr, Pymm and were all Camphor Laurel and big pines.

Erina used to be a very close knit place where everyone knew each other, a lot of people had a cow or chooks and veggie gardens and all had a thing going that was called a Barter system- where people that had a cow would share their milk for veggies or someone would share their eggs for veggies or milk or give someone a chook to kill for a roast dinner -everyone shared.

It used to be great walking home from Erina West school and looking up and seeing the old white memorial sitting up on the corner. Of an afternoon from about 5.30pm there would hardly be a car come up through Erina and it used to be that quiet in bed of a night you could lay there and hear the cow bells ringing up in the mountain where people used to take their cattle up to graze or someone had their Beagle hounds off and they would be yelping away in the bush where they had spotted a wallaby or a turkey, the big old bullfrogs croaking away down in the swamp where the industrial area is now or the plovers calling out . Now I suppose you would need a set of ear muffs on to sleep down there.

**Author Ron MOIR- Administrator "Good Old Central Coast "Facebook page.**



*Original location of War Memorial at Erina*

## Scientists are finally figuring out why you only get mitochondrial DNA from your Mum

Your relatives probably can't stop talking about how much you look like your mum or your dad, but the truth is, while you might have gotten your dad's eyes, you carry more of your mother's genes than your father's.

This is the case for every single person on Earth for one simple reason: the tiny organelles that live inside your cells, called mitochondria, are only passed down by your mum, and for decades, scientists couldn't figure out why.

Tissues that require a lot of energy, such as your brain and your muscles, have cells packed with mitochondria. Because all mitochondria you received come from your mother only, you are technically more related to your mum than you are to your dad. This is true for pretty much all animals. In plants and fungi too, mitochondria come from one parent only, although not necessarily from the mother.

Now a team from the University of Colorado Boulder say they've found a clue that could explain our strange lack of dad genes. "This is a very long-standing mystery in biology - why in so many organisms, [only] the maternal mitochondria are inherited," geneticist and lead researcher Ding Xue told Laurel Hamers at *Science News*.

Mitochondria are something you can't live without, because they're the energy-producing factories of the cell, responsible for converting the food you eat into the energy your cells need to function.

And they're also incredibly weird. As ecologist Madeleine Beekman from the University of Sydney in Australia explains, some 1.5 or 2 billion years ago, they were actually free-living organisms. So those things in your cells, they used to have a life of their own.

The ancestor of all mitochondria is a type of bacterium that was swallowed by another bacterium, and this monstrous creature gave rise to the eukaryotes. A eukaryote is any organism whose cells contain a nucleus and other organelles enclosed within membranes - so all plants, animals, and fungi alive today.



"Because of their evolutionary history as free-living bacteria, mitochondria have retained their own genome, called mitochondrial DNA, or mtDNA," says Beekman. "Each cell contains many copies of mtDNA, as mitochondria freely replicate within the cell."

Xue and his team observed the behaviour of mitochondria as it was transferred from the sperm of a worm species called *Caenorhabditis elegans* to a fertilised egg.

They watched as the mitochondria from the sperm was broken apart from the inside out, rendering it useless once it's transferred to the egg. It turns out that a protein found in sperm, called CPS-6, appears to be shredding the mitochondrial DNA apart, rendering the mitochondria itself useless.

A process called autophagy, which cleans up degraded cell parts to make way for newer, healthier ones, then takes over, helping to transport the remains of the paternal mitochondria out of the embryonic cells.

The team found that when mitochondrial DNA stuck around for longer than it should in embryos, it made them more likely to die, which suggests that the CPS-6 protein and autophagy process are working together to ensure the viability of an embryo.

"[T]he researchers speculate that it's evolutionarily advantageous for roundworms - and other organisms like humans - to do away with that extra dad DNA," says Arielle Duhaime-Ross at The Verge.

Of course, this assumption can't be proven until it's observed in humans, but we do produce a protein similar to CPS-6, and it plays a similar role in the process of autophagy as seen in these worms, so there's a good chance that this is what's happening in human embryos too.

So why would the body destroy paternal mitochondria anyway? The researchers aren't entirely sure, but Xue hypothesises that it carries the potential for more mutations than maternal mitochondria, so in evolutionary terms, it's more advantageous to just do away with it altogether.

"If mutated paternal mitochondrial DNA isn't removed promptly, then mutations can accumulate through generations," he told Duhaime-Ross.

The study has been published in [Science](#).

**By Madeline BEEKMAN Professor of Behavioural Ecology and ARC Future Fellow, University of Sydney 24 November 2015**

## Will the real Jean Garrioch please stand up!

I'm sure that most members would agree that family trees on Ancestry and other online programs contain a great many errors. And how often do people just copy erroneous information to attach to their tree? Checking it twice does not appear to be a priority with some, because, if everyone else has that information up there, it must be right. Not so!

On my family line, one of my Scottish ancestors Hary Farquharson married Jean Garrioch and of the 210 family trees on Ancestry, the overwhelming majority have as Hary's wife, Jean Garioch, born on 18<sup>th</sup> November 1769 in Midmar, Aberdeenshire, to John Garioch and Christian Adam. Midmar is around 20 miles from Tarland where Hary lived.

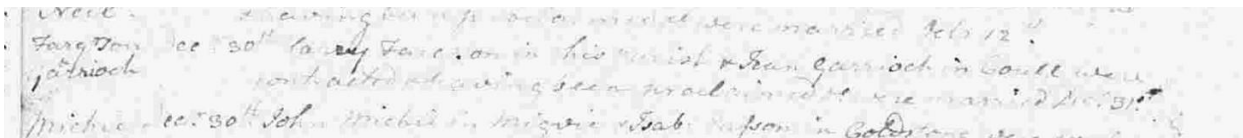
It is with certainty that we know that Hary Farquharson and Jean Garrioch married on 31<sup>st</sup> December 1780, as banns were issued in Tarland and Migvie and also Coull which is next to Tarland.

If the information which is in all those other trees is correct, then the Jean Garioch who is mentioned was aged 11 when she married Hary. There are other differences as the Garioch from Midmar has only one "r" where those from Coull have "rr" and this is also shown on the marriage and baptism entries.

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### 31/12/1780 GARRIOCH, JEAN (O.P.R. Marriages 242/00 0010 0086 TARLAND AND MIGVIE)

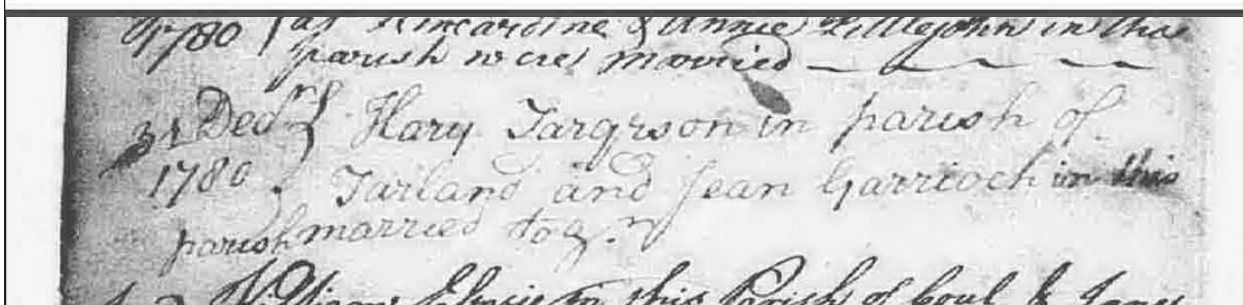
© Crown Copyright. Image was generated at 06 August 2011 12:09



The above extract states: *Hary Farquharson in this Parish and Jean Garrioch in Coull were contracted having been proclaimed as married.*

### 31/12/1780 GARRIOCH, JEAN (O.P.R. Marriages 182/00 0010 0152 COULL)

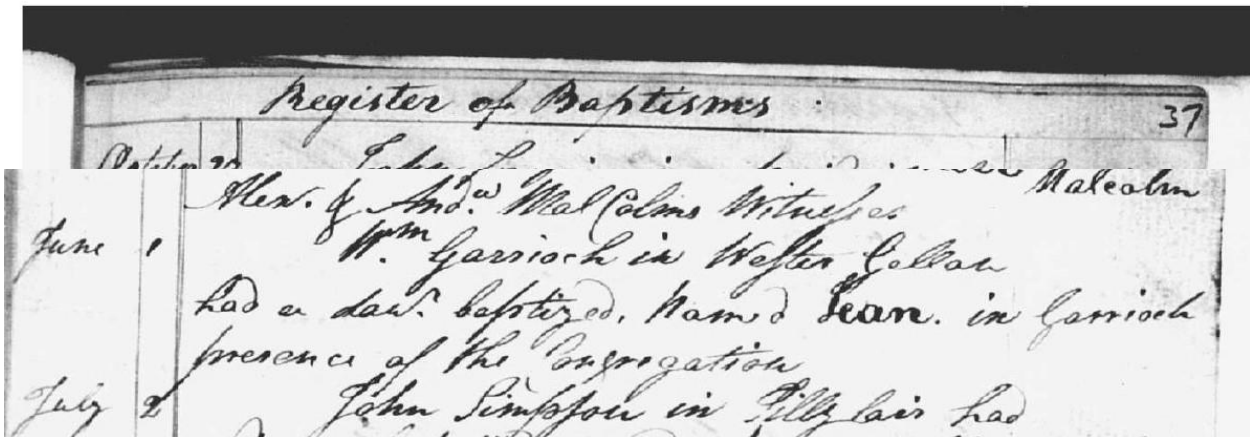
© Crown Copyright. Image was generated at 06 August 2011 12:18



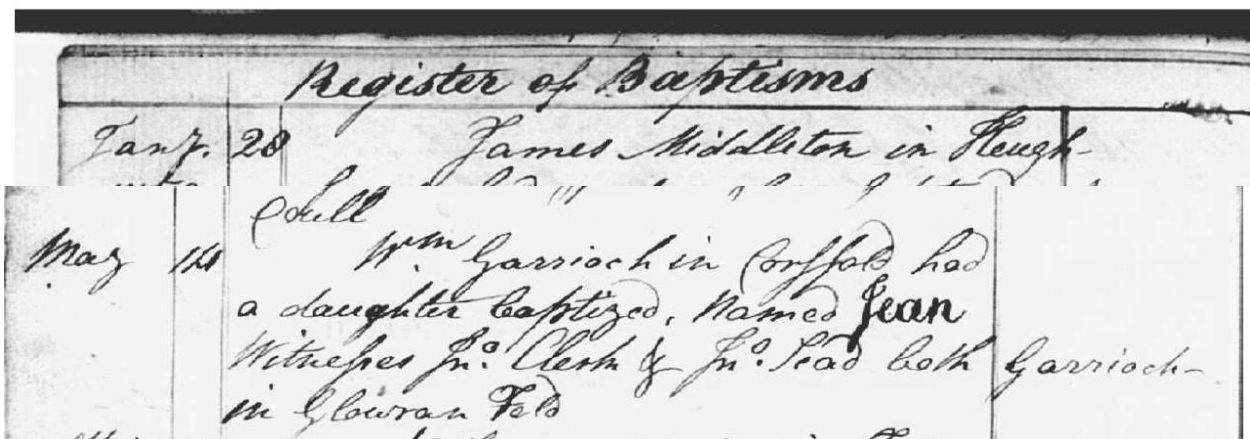
The above extract states: *Hary Farquharson in Parish of Tarland and Jean Garrioch in this Parish married.* This would suggest that Jean was from Coull and not Midmar. This Jean was 21 when she married.

A Jean Garrioch was baptised on 1<sup>st</sup> June 1755 in Wester Gellan, Coull, to William Garrioch and she appears to have died because another Jean Garrioch was baptised on 14<sup>th</sup> May 1759 in Corsfold, Coull, again to William Garrioch.

01/06/1755 GARRIOCH, JEAN (Old Parish Registers Births 182/ 10 70 COULL) Page 70 of 162  
 ©Crown copyright, National Records of Scotland. Image was generated at 08 March 2018 06:47



14/05/1759 GARRIOCH, JEAN (Old Parish Registers Births 182/ 10 77 COULL) Page 77 of 162  
 ©Crown copyright, National Records of Scotland. Image was generated at 08 March 2018 06:50



<u>Detail</u>	Source
Name	Jean Garrioch
Gender	Female
Baptism Date	14 May 1769
Baptism Place	Coull, Aberdeen, Scotland
Father	<a href="#">William Garrioch</a>

This record hint on Ancestry relates to the baptism of Jean Garrioch but it has the wrong date of 14<sup>th</sup> May 1769 where it should be 14<sup>th</sup> May 1759. Ancestry has been notified about this incorrect entry.

Looking at modern day maps of Coull, there are similar names to those on the baptism entries. There is North and South Gellan and no Wester Gellan but a Wester Coull.

The original entry for the second Jean was Corsfold but there is now a ruined village called Crossfold. Perhaps in 250 years names and spelling have changed.



So, looking at the information available, I am confident that the Jean Garrioch who was baptised on 14<sup>th</sup> May 1759 is the correct spouse to Hary Farquharson because she comes from Coull and is the correct age.

The problem is now to convince those 200 odd Ancestry members that the Jean Garioch which they have in their trees, is the wrong person.

**Rod HORTON Member 1280J**

## **TRAVEL THROUGH TIME – Not “OUTLANDER” but OUT IN THE LAND**

My previous submission to Central Coast E-Muster (April, 2022- Issue 32) was an article about my newly discovered Grandfather's uncle, Nathaniel Buchanan (1826-1901) opening up the north of Australia to development in early pastoralist pursuits by exploring alternative stock routes.

Though not listed in any school textbooks, his extraordinary droving skills and exploration feats have most certainly been recorded reverently in places like The Stockman's Hall of Fame in Longreach and The Drover's Camp in Camooweal, both places I visited on a recent trip north to Darwin and back.

These sites also recognise the importance of his older brother, William Frederick Buchanan (1824-1911) who was among the most notable pioneers in the Australian pastoral industry and a successful gold prospector. He also has many fascinating readings recording his achievements and the history of the Buchanans has been a complex, intriguing study to follow.

In this regard, my investigations led me to Narrabri which I felt was the solution to finding more about my grandfather. Though in the past there were some well-known Buchanans with quite extensive records my grandfather wasn't in this category so I am still searching, even to find a photo.

His heritage is definitely related to the NSW country town as 3 intersecting families worked the land there, all an important part of my historical search. The Narrabri Family History Museum Research done on my behalf revealed interesting information, as well as two relevant books I purchased, that I am following up on.

Other books providing great reading have been a series by Evan McHugh giving a fascinating insight into life in the outback, including Outback Stations (the life and times of Australia's biggest cattle and sheep properties), Outback Pioneers and The Shearers (The Story of Australia, told from the woolsheds). Though not necessarily specific to my current search, they provide a very vivid background to the history of our country and are well worth a read.

Travelling around this vast country of ours is the greatest way to expand knowledge gained from schooldays or experienced vicariously. In our travels a few months ago we found family history references - an entertainment centre dedicated to the Buchanans in Mount Isa, Buchanan Street in Pine Creek and the Buchanan Highway which was once known as The Murrarji Track, off the Stuart Highway near Birdum, south of Daly Waters in the Northern Territory.

We didn't travel far along this highway as it is not sealed and even 4 wheel-drive vehicles can experience difficulties in parts along the 394 kilometres.

As with much travel in the outback the scenery doesn't change a great deal and I had previously been able to follow someone else's trip on Google. We were not risking our 43 year old Viscount caravan and were happy to read about the importance of this road on a large display board, once again bringing history to life and invoking great pride in our family heritage.

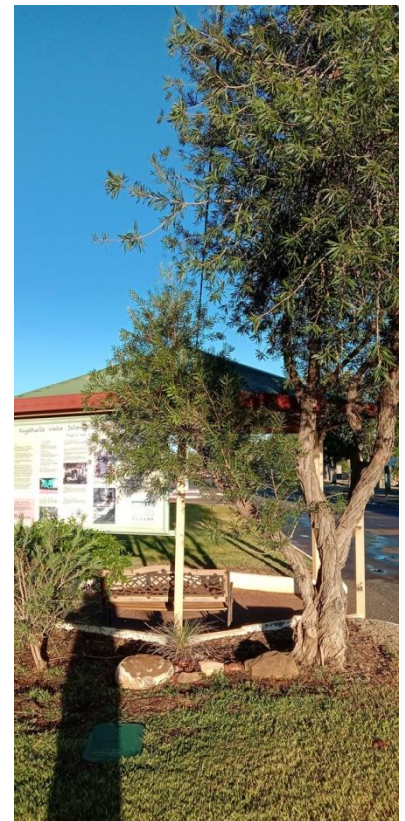
Another story brings history to life, not relevant to me personally but to a prominent TV personality, Mike Munro who, later in his life, discovered his real name was not Munro but had been Kenniff before his father changed it. (I recently became aware of this after watching a 60 Minutes, worthy of perusal. The Kenniff brothers were Mike's great uncles.)

After a brief stopover at Augathella, Queensland my husband and I found a reference to the Kenniff brothers who used to hitch their horses to a tree in the main street near the pub.

I have to admit my ignorance in not knowing this part of bushranging history and was further intrigued by the sculptures outside Mitchell, a photo opportunity/historical site recommended on the Warrego Way, about 90 km west of Roma.

I was to learn that the Kenniff saga largely tells the story of Australia's colonial history, the romance around the pioneering spirit and the conflict between law enforcement and bushrangers. This was a very difficult time after the 1890's depression when tough conditions on the land led many into a life of crime.

The photo-op sculptures south of Mitchell commemorate the service of police troopers and Aboriginal trackers and represent the capture of Patrick Kenniff (1863-1903) and James Kenniff (1869-1940) at Arrest Creek, arrested for horse stealing.



*Kenniff Brothers  
Memorial @ Arrest  
Creek,*

(They also had previous convictions for cattle duffing on neighbouring properties.)

There are many accounts of the gruesome ensuing alleged murders of Constable George Doyle from the Upper Warrego Police Station and Carnarvon Station Manager Albert Dahlke at Lethbridges Pocket in Queensland's Carnarvon region.

I say alleged as these two men were never seen again after Sam Johnson, the Aboriginal Police Tracker accompanying them was sent to get handcuffs from the packhorse nearby. After hearing five shots he returned to see only the Kenniff brothers charging at him and consequently fled for his life back to the station to seek assistance.

What makes this story quite unique is that it was the first time white people were sentenced to death solely on the testimony of an Aboriginal person, that is the only direct evidence was the uncorroborated testimony of the black tracker, Sam Johnson.



This fact is revealed in Mitchell's Old Court House where the events before and after Patrick and James were found guilty of murder are displayed.





Patrick was hanged in Boggo Road Gaol, Brisbane in 1903, still protesting his innocence to the end. His brother's sentence was reduced to life with hard labour. James spent 12 years in prison, then worked on cattle stations and fossicked before dying of cancer in 1940 at Charters Towers. He was known to have said that the wrong man was hanged suggesting to some that he was the killer, though the television program suggested it could have either been the younger brother, Tom or the elderly father. This situation was never resolved.

What was known was that Doyle's horse was found some months after the event with the saddle bags containing charcoal and burnt bones, the remains subsequently being identified as human.

As identifiable objects belonging to Doyle and Dahlke had also been located in the vicinity of their disappearance, it was assumed to be them. Public opinion was divided and there was much community support for the Kenniffs, such that Patrick was the only executed criminal to have been granted a well-attended funeral in South Brisbane Cemetery, though buried in unconsecrated ground with his own gravestone.

Incidentally, this grave is located about 20 metres from my husband's grandfather's burial place. Also Doyle was the great uncle of my nephew's university mate! Talk about 6 degrees of separation!

There is always a connection somewhere though I am happier to claim my great uncles than Mike Munro was. That's the thing about history and discoveries from DNA. We have to accept the realities, not pick and choose our descendants and the events of the time. An outcome of this event was that by 1922 Queensland became the first state in the British Empire to abolish the death penalty for all crimes.

**Maureen PARKER Member 2164J**

Sources:

\*60 Minutes was based on Foxtel Series "The Last Bushrangers" hosted by Mike Munro

\*Monument Australia – Kenniff Brothers

\*Boggo Road Gaol 2014 The last bushranger in Queensland

\*Trove Truth 1902 Patrick and James in Trial for the murder of C. Doyle

\* Friends of the Queensland Police Museum



## "TREVELLYN"

### Mr Pitts home for many years. Taken 1942

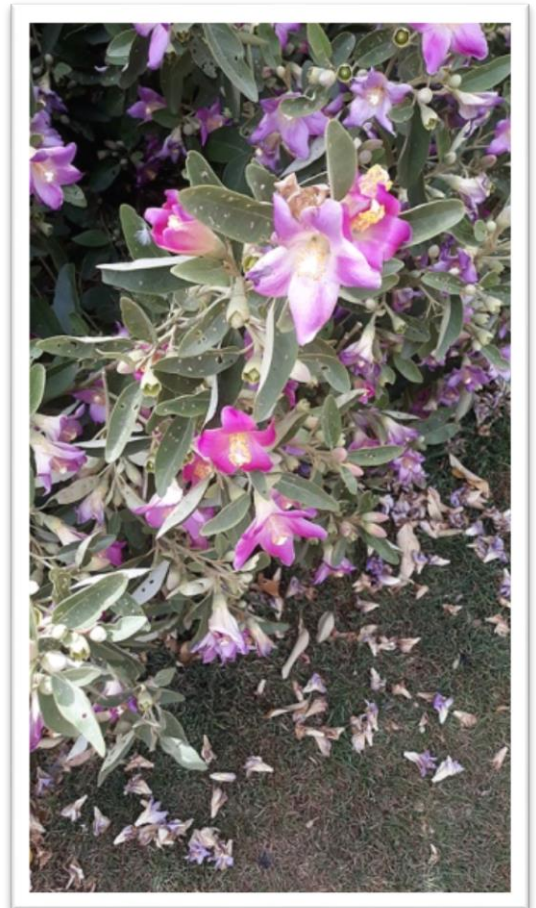
The land on which the Wamberal Public School stands today was previously owned by Mr. M. O. Pitt, known to most people as "Paddy". He grew many market garden vegetables such as beans, tomatoes, peas, pumpkins, potatoes. His farm can be seen in the photo on the front cover of this journal.



## 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 Norfolk Island Hibiscus at Terrigal Haven.



A medium to large tree, originally from Norfolk and Lord Howe Island. A very adaptable tree for a wide range of soils, and can grow from tropical to warm temperate areas. It has attractive pink to mauve flowers in spring and early summer. Copes well with salt laden winds, so very useful for coastal areas, but needs care as the seed pods contain very irritant hairs, a trap for anyone curiously exploring the plant. It is not called the 'itchy bomb tree' for nothing! Once the pods open the irritant hairs are released and blown on the wind and can cause complaints.

**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.**

## *A Relative Conundrum.*



**"To celebrate growing older, I once wrote the 42 lessons life taught me. It is the most requested column I've ever written.**

My odometer rolled over to 90 in August, so here is the column once more:

1. Life isn't fair, but it's still good.
2. When in doubt, just take the next small step.
3. Life is too short - enjoy it..
4. Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends and family will.
5. Pay off your credit cards every month.
6. You don't have to win every argument. Stay true to yourself.
7. Cry with someone. It's more healing than crying alone.
8. Save for retirement starting with your first pay check.
9. When it comes to chocolate, resistance is futile.
10. Make peace with your past so it won't screw up the present.

11. It's OK to let your children see you cry.
12. Don't compare your life to others. You have no idea what their journey is all about.
13. If a relationship has to be a secret, you shouldn't be in it...
14. Take a deep breath. It calms the mind.
15. Get rid of anything that isn't useful. Clutter weighs you down in many ways.
16. Whatever doesn't kill you really does make you stronger.
17. It's never too late to be happy. But it's all up to you and no one else.
18. When it comes to going after what you love in life, don't take no for an answer.
19. Burn the candles, use the nice sheets, wear the fancy lingerie. Don't save it for a special occasion. Today is special. (amen 🍷🍷🍷)
20. Over prepare, then go with the flow.
  
21. Be eccentric now. Don't wait for old age to wear purple. 🍷
22. The most important sex organ is the brain.
23. No one is in charge of your happiness but you.
24. Frame every so-called disaster with these words 'In five years, will this matter?'
25. Always choose life.
26. Forgive but don't forget.
27. What other people think of you is none of your business.
28. Time heals almost everything. Give time time.
29. However good or bad a situation is, it will change.
30. Don't take yourself so seriously. No one else does..
  
31. Believe in miracles.
32. Don't audit life. Show up and make the most of it now.
33. Growing old beats the alternative -- dying young.
34. Your children get only one childhood.
35. All that truly matters in the end is that you loved.
36. Get outside every day. Miracles are waiting everywhere. (I love this one)
37. If we all threw our problems in a pile and saw everyone else's, we'd grab ours back.
38. Envy is a waste of time. Accept what you already have not what you need.
39. The best is yet to come...
40. No matter how you feel, get up, dress up and show up.
41. Yield.
42. Life isn't tied with a bow, but it's still a gift."

**Written by Regina Brett, 90 years old, of the "Plain Dealer",  
Cleveland, Ohio.**

## SOCIETIES MAILING LIST

The email address for our Society is [admin@centralcoastfhs.org.au](mailto:admin@centralcoastfhs.org.au)

**You can also Like Us on Facebook!**

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## 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

Committee

Anthony Lehner

Heather Yates

Marlene Davidson

Brian Davies

Committee

Marlene Davidson

CC Mobile Computers

Jacqueline Smith

Brian Davies

Belinda Mabbott

Heather Yates

Rod Horton

Brent Jones

Ken Clark

Brian Davies

Belinda Mabbott

Yvonne Potts

Jeff HallWebsiteguy

Lorraine Greve

Robyn Gregg

Lorraine Greve

Marlene Davidson

Belinda Mabbott

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](mailto:joy@joymurrin.com.au)



Marilyn Rowan – [marilynr@marbract.com.au](mailto:marilynr@marbract.com.au)



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

\* To order use the Bookshop order form.

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