

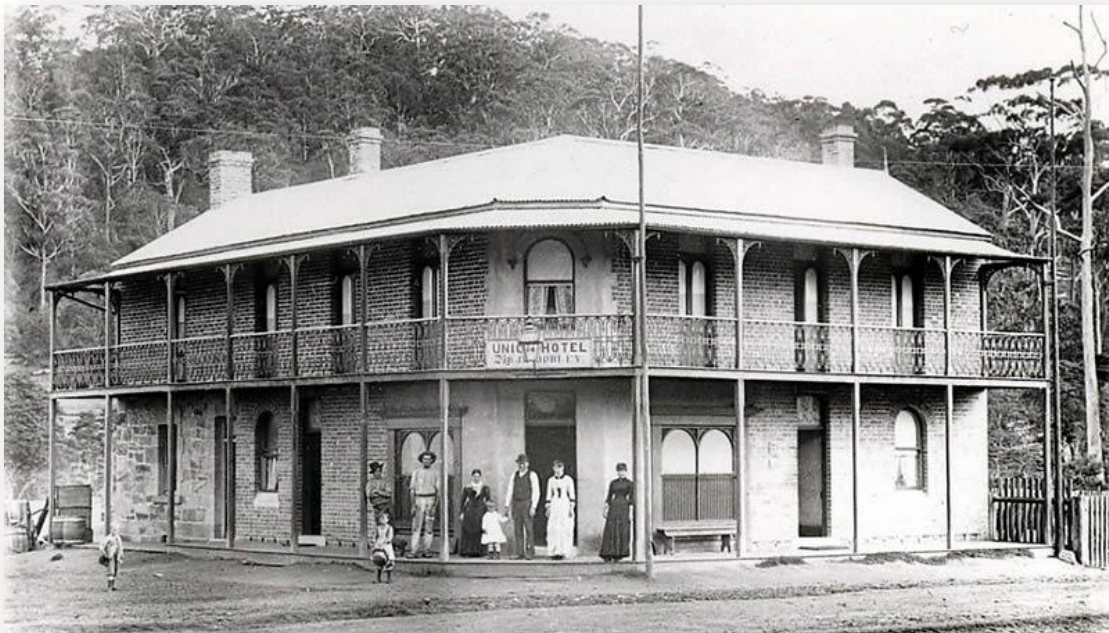
# E-MUSTER

Central Coast Family History Society Inc.



December 2020

Issue 28



Union Hotel Gosford, March 1887

by Gostalgia: local history from Gosford Library

*This building was sadly demolished earlier this year.*

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

# CENTRAL COAST FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

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## **RESEARCH CENTRE**

Building 4, 8 Russell Drysdale Street, EAST GOSFORD NSW 2250

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

December 2020 – No: 28

The **E- MUSTER** is the Official Journal of the Central Coast Family History Society Inc. **THE MUSTER** it was first published in April 1983.

The new **E-MUSTER** is published to our website 3 times a year - April, August, and December.

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](mailto:admin@centralcoastfhs.org.au)

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

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## EDITORIAL



Welcome to the December 2020 *e-Muster*.

Free remote access to Ancestry via Central Coast Library will continue until at least 31 December, 2020, when it will be reviewed. You must be a member of the Library and access via the member services section of the online catalogue.

Thank you so much to the contributors who have provided articles in this latest issue of the *e-Muster* for our enjoyment and interest. If you have a story you would like to share in our next *e-Muster* please put pen to paper, we would love to hear from you!

Merry Christmas to our Members, and to your families, we wish you a safe and very Happy New Year.

Heather Yates. Editor.

## PRESIDENTS REPORT – PAUL SCHIPP

Welcome readers to the December edition of the e-Muster. This edition is in response to the challenging year we have all been experiencing and shows how members have been dealing with COVID-19 and isolation. These intriguing articles demonstrate the impact of the lock-down requirements due to Covid-19 and fortunately are now being relaxed. Perhaps these articles are a welcome reflection. You may also like to visit previous e-Muster issues for an unread article, all found on our Website. If you still have time on your hands put pen to paper or fingers to the keypad and start your story for the next issue in 2021. Remember to keep in contact with your family and friends, send them a link to the e-Muster to read.

Looking forward to a very positive 2021 with more enlightening articles. Wishing all a very safe Festive Season. Merry Christmas and a Happier New Year!

Enjoy Reading,  
Paul Schipp  
CCFHS Inc. President.

## 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 Bennie Campbell for inclusion on the Website.

2126	Janelle Ridgeway	2130	Sharon Fewings
2127	Kay Podmore	2131	Christine Desmond
2128	Sandra Stevenson	2132	Peta Baigent
2129	Jan Harding	2133	Lynette Baggs

## LATEST NEWS

For our members: New Parramatta Female Factory website and Facebook page

Dear Family History Societies and Genealogical Organisations,

For your members interest and anyone who has female convicts or female factory ancestors you might find my new website and Facebook page useful. This is just the beginning... so many stories relating to our amazing Australian history connect to the Parramatta Female Factory to be shared.

<https://parramatta-female-factory-her-story-our-story.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/parramattafemalefactoryourhistory>

If you have enquiries you can call me on 0447189137.

I look forward to hearing from you.

**Gay Hendriksen.**  
**Founding Partner**  
**The Rowan Tree Heritage and Cultural Services**





<https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/whats-on>

*Public programs and learning activities will continue to be delivered online for the time being.*

*Use the link above to see what's on.*

<https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/research-and-collections/researching-home>



HOME > RESEARCH AND COLLECTIONS > RESEARCHING FROM HOME

The Library provides access to a large range of online resources including databases, specialist websites and research guides. We've featured a selection of resources below.

Databases contain journal articles, newspapers, company and industry data, reference material, ebooks and more. Many of the databases and ebooks are available to NSW residents from home, and you can sign up for your free [Library card](#) to get instant access.

View the full range of [resources](#), [research guides](#) and specialist websites listed in [Research and Collections](#).



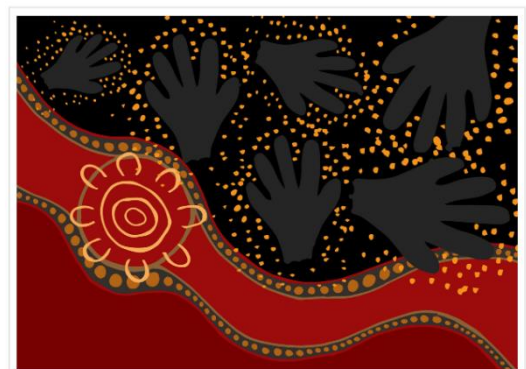
<https://www.rahs.org.au/rahs-news/>

The RAHS website link above will enable you to have many

hours of interesting reading and a huge amount of information where there will be sure to be something to grab your attention.

Give it a go!!

 **Launch of online resources – Finding your ancestors: Aboriginal family history NSW**



**Due to COVID-19 changes at C.C.F.H.S as follows:-**

- **General Meetings**; Saturdays 1:00 – 3:00 pm. (now bi monthly)
- 5<sup>th</sup> December 2020. Christmas lunch at Alison Homestead. Book at the Centre
- Research Centre closed for Summer Holidays. (Usual Practice)
- Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020, last day opened for researchers.
- Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> January 2021, first day opened for researchers.

## 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 Saturday 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. 29 April 2021 E-MUSTER**

Deadline for articles for the April edition of the Muster  
20<sup>th</sup> March, 2021.

## BOOK REVIEWS

### STRENGTH OF SPIRIT

#### **Pioneering Women of Achievement from First Fleet to Federation.**

Author: Susanna De Vries, Millennium Books  
(imprint of E.J. Dwyer [Aust] Pty Ltd NSW,  
1995.

The lives of 20 extraordinary women examined  
in absorbing detail.

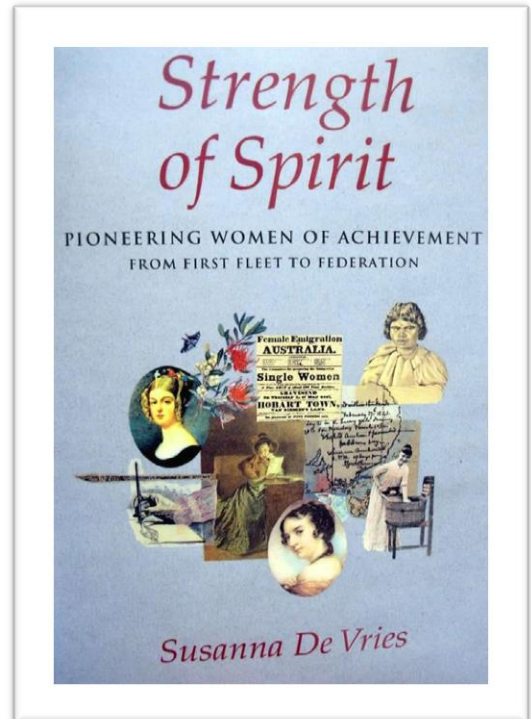
The following are included:-

Mary Reiby, Esther Johnston, Charlotte Atkinson  
and Caroline Louisa Atkinson,  
Frances Leonora Macleay, Caroline Chisholm.  
Walyer, Truganini and Fanny Cochrane Smith  
(three remarkable Aboriginal women),  
Georgiana Molloy, Georgiana McCrae,  
Louisa Meredith, Ann Caldwell,  
Mary McConnel, Elizabeth Macarthur,  
Emily Macarthur and Elizabeth Macarthur  
Onslow (three generations),  
Mary Penfold, Mary Watson and Sister Lucy  
Osborn.

Chronology included from 1788 to 1901. Indexed.

Lavishly illustrated with paintings and photographs, many from private collections.

The book aims to better honour these heroic women from our past who succeeded in  
their chosen field. Good reading.

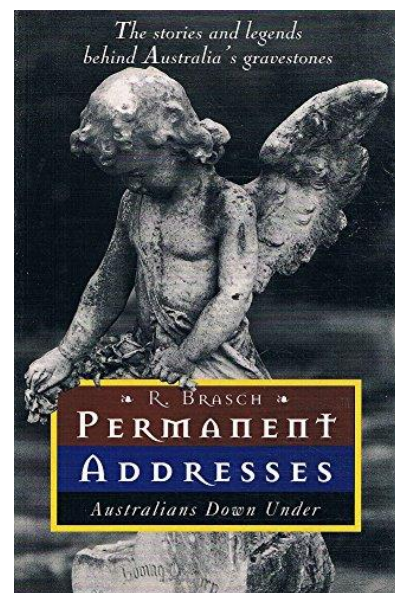


Reviewed by **Gwen DUNDON Member 134**

### PERMANENT ADDRESSES, Australians Down Under.

What a fascinating title for the fifteenth book by R.  
Brasch, Doctor Rudolph Brasch. This volume contains  
stories of tragedy, bravery, romance, humour and the  
bizarre in 35 fascinating chapters.

Dr. Brasch and his wife visited places all over  
Australia seeking the addresses of people who played –  
sometimes without little recognition – a part in  
Australian history. This book is indeed a history book,  
with such unique sources and references.





The Henry Kendall story in Chapter 23 is of particular interest to us locals.

After such a productive literary life, sadly overshadowed by sickness, financial upsets and breakdowns, he died in Sydney on 1 Aug 1882 aged 43. Kendall was buried in Waverley cemetery.

Do you know the facts behind his easily recognised Henry Kendall memorial?

Kendall's literary work was much admired by Louisa, Henry Lawson's mother. She herself was a writer and recognised also for her concerns and agitation for Womens' rights.

In 1883, a year after Kendall's death, Louisa moved her children to Sydney. She was so upset and disgusted by the uncared for state of Kendall's sinking and disreputable grave that she was moved to action. Having little money herself she saved to buy the ground around Kendall's grave to make room for a future memorial worthy of the man.

Before this was ever erected on Kendall's grave, community awareness and action resulted in Kendall's remains being removed from his humble grave and reinterred to a prominent site higher up with a truly monumental memorial.

Kendall's grave, was still owned by the Lawsons, and was the site used forty years later when Henry Lawson died on 2 Sept 1922.

Lawson was given a state funeral, yet his last resting place is simple in comparison to Kendall's memorial. This is rather a unique relationship of two *Australians Down Under*, linked by their *permanent addresses* in Waverley Cemetery.



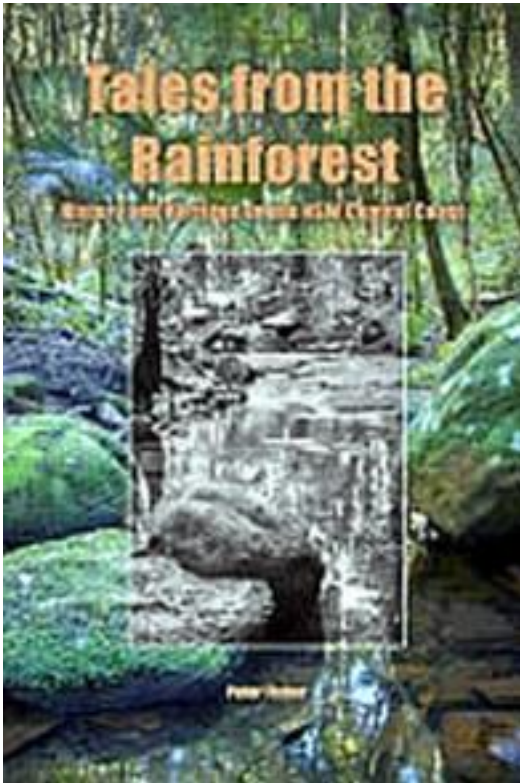
*Kendall's  
Memorial*



*Lawson's  
Grave*

**Reviewed by Marlene DAVIDSON Member 327L**

## **Tales from the Rainforest. History and Heritage on the NSW Central Coast**



Tascott author Mr Peter Fisher has launched his new book *Tales from the Rainforest* at Henry Kendall Cottage, West Gosford, on November 14 2020.

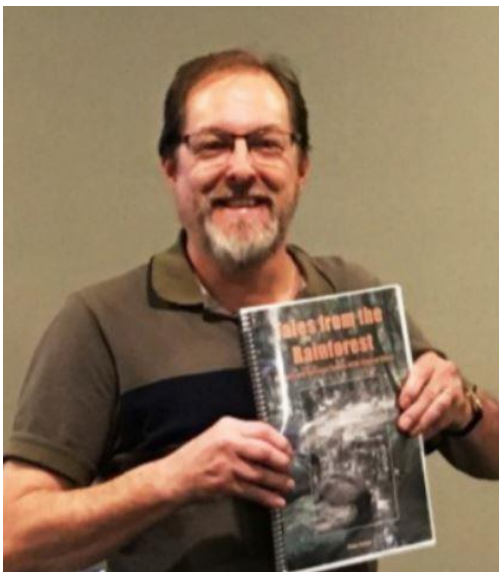
This book examines the various rainforest pockets and gullies found on the Central Coast, NSW and at the same time tells about the histories of the areas and what is left there to be found today from these past eras.

He writes about local reserves like Dillon's Farm near Woy Woy tip, Somersby Falls, Waterfall Bay, Kendall's Rock, Katandra Reserve, and the Forest of Tranquillity.

Somersby Falls has a long history of live-in caretakers dating back to the 1800s, with Piles Creek named after the first caretakers, Henry and Annie Piles.

It also introduces to the layperson what an Australian rainforest is, some of the flora and fauna to be found there and how it was used by the early Europeans, and, well before that, by the Aboriginal population. The book features many illustrations, photos and historic postcards, of which at least 300 are in full colour. Several maps are featured to aid the reader in going out and visiting the sites.

### **About the author (2020)**



This Book has been written by retired teacher Peter Fisher, who has lived on the Central Coast since 1987.

He lives adjacent to one of the many unnamed waterfalls and rainforest gullies found on the Central Coast, and his interest in rainforests and gardening grew as he realised the significance of this rainforest.

## ARTICLES from our MEMBERS

### Does lightning strike in the same place more than once?

Yes I now think it does!

You may or may not remember awhile back I related in the Muster the story of my finding a photograph hidden behind another in a frame inherited from my mother. Well it's happened again! Not once but twice.

In April last year while on our way to a funeral in Canberra, we called in to see my cousin (Father's side of the family). After enjoying a cuppa and chat she produced a portrait photograph of a young man.

She had discovered the photo, hidden behind a velvet cushion, which had been framed by her grandmother. I'm sure you all remember **those velvet cushion covers**, usually a souvenir of some place with silver or gold paint, not my or my cousin's preferred décor. Anyway, she had decided to remove the offending fabric and reuse the lovely old frame.

Much to her surprise the piece of cardboard backing the frame, when turned over, revealed the previously mentioned young man. Who was he? She didn't know, but suspected I would.



Luckily I did, he was my Uncle and her Great Uncle. I had never seen this particular photo before and knew only the most basic of facts relating to him.

His name was Frederick Leonard Bede Hines, second of four sons born to Peter James Hines and his wife, Louisa nee Collis. Len was born in 1897 in Canowindra, New South Wales.

He was a farm labourer at Woodstock. When he tried to enlist in WW1 at Bathurst in 1916, aged 19 years, he was described as 5 foot 7 inches, and a single man. He was rejected, being declared unfit for service due to a deformity of the left shoulder.

Len and Pearl Jane Bunting married the following year at St John's Church of England, Cowra. They had three children, before Len died at Carcoar on 25 November 1924. The cause of death was listed as Blood Poisoning. Len was buried at Lyndhurst Cemetery where many other members of the Hines family found their final rest.

How lucky was I to be given this lovely and unexpected photograph. Len is sitting on the sideboard in my family room, waiting patiently for me to find a suitable frame.

### **Round Three**

Back in February 2020, you remember those days before Covid-19 when we were all innocent and blissfully unaware of the trials to come. We hosted a wonderful event 'Colonial Cuisine' what a hectic weekend.

I had received news on the Friday evening I had not one, but two elderly brothers in hospital, one in Eden (my mother's son from her first marriage) and the other at West Wyalong (father's son by his first marriage).

Then on the Saturday, news arrived my nephew was also hospitalised, great and only about 7 hours travelling time between them, but different directions. The brother in Eden was failing fast, so decision made.

Unfortunately he did not survive and my husband and I spent the next few weeks on a steep learning curve, dealing with all the usual things associated with the passing of a loved one.

As requested he did not have a funeral as such, but was cremated privately, there were no notices placed in newspapers or any other media. This appears to be common practice these days, which is going to impact greatly on future generations of Family Historians.

As per his request his remains will be interred with those of his father in the Bombala Cemetery (he is at present waiting patiently in my lounge room along with the brass plaque with all relevant dates and information). These will be attached to the grave when we eventually manage to travel and co-ordinate family for the event.

While clearing out his house, my husband discovered a large framed photograph of my brother as a baby, which had fallen behind a cupboard in one of the bedrooms. The photo and frame (which was a match to the one housing my Grandmother appeared in good condition for its 83 years.



However there appeared to be mould on the inside of the curved glass covering the photo, the whole house was suffering badly from this affliction. My husband decided to remove the photo and clean the glass before bringing it home.

Considering our past record of discoveries he joked and said “I bet there’s another photo behind here” “Not likely” says I. Boy, was my face red when he removed the backing to reveal a beautiful bride! Incredulous, hardly describes our reaction.

Who on earth was she?

OK.. So put on the Miss Marple hat and figure this out. She was standing alone, I thought by her dress 1920’s, had to be related to us somehow. Who in the family married in the 1920’s or early 30’s, consulting my family tree it could be only two women.



First candidate was Clarice Sarah Elliott, sister of my mother’s first husband Austin Hedley Elliott. Clarice married Mums brother Gerald Oswell Atkins in Bombala on 14 Jun 1927, (small town, gene pool not large).

I searched Trove and found the report of their wedding, bouquet and dress description did not match.

Moving on to candidate number two Olive Emily Elliott, sister of both Clarice and Austin Elliott. Olive aka Polly, married 23 May 1928 in Bungendore.

I took my findings to cousin (daughter of Clarice and Gerald) who confirmed “Yes that’s Aunt Polly”. Mystery solved!

Coincidentally Aunt Polly’s daughter Erica died two days before my brother, Austin Terence Elliott (known as Terry).

Aunty Polly now lives on my wall next to her brother (aka Bumper).

Is it only my family who has to give everyone an alternate name, myself included?

**Bennie (Benalyn) CAMPBELL Member 901**

## **THE PITFALLS OF SECONDARY SOURCES IN FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH**

How lucky we are these days to have such a great resource as the National Library of Australia’s Trove website. Happy hours can be spent at home consulting many newspapers of the past from all around Australia. It’s so much easier than my early experiences of taking the train to Sydney to spend time at the State Library consulting bulky volumes brought up from the bowels of the earth after a lengthy wait.

Later came the happy advent of microfilmed newspapers.

When talking years ago to an old lady about some local happening of the past, I expressed surprise at some of the details.

“Oh, it must be true” she said, “It was printed in the paper!”

Recently I had occasion to look up the 1938 death of Joseph Fagan, youngest child and last surviving member of the large pioneering family of Point Clare and West Gosford. His father Peter Fagan came to Sydney as a convict from Ireland on the *Lord Sidmouth* of 1821 with a 7 years sentence. He worked hard to gain his release, obtained a land grant at Brisbane Water and became a man of substance who was well thought of everywhere until his death in 1876.

Joseph John Fagan was nicknamed “the Colonel” because of his white goatee beard and upright stance. Like all his siblings except one brother (George Lamb Fagan who wed Agnes, a daughter of John Baptist of Redfern, Sydney), he did not marry and died in Roma Private Hospital at Gosford on 19 August 1938. Prior to his death he had lived in the town’s Union Hotel for some years, having sold the dilapidated c.1838 stone family home *Cooranbean* at West Gosford (now known as Henry Kendall Cottage, part of the museum complex conducted by Brisbane Water Historical Society.)

To look for items about Joseph’s passing; I went to Trove and found many small articles in newspapers ranging from the *Sun* (Sydney) and the *Sydney Morning Herald* to papers at Maitland and Cessnock, various towns of the northern rivers of NSW, and even Queensland.



*Joseph Fagan when young*

There was an amazing amount of “fleshing out” in the reworking of the original faulty Sydney reports by papers further afield. For instance: all followed the first Sydney reports which named the deceased as John Joseph Fagan, but Births, Deaths and Marriages NSW has his correct name as Joseph John. Each article then referred to him throughout as “John Fagan” including one instance in a headline. He was a worthy subject, first because of the age quoted, 97 years, and because of his close friendship with poet Henry Kendall, the race horses the family owned, and for carrying early horseback mails from Sydney to Gosford. He was one of the oldest JPs in NSW.

Joe, as he was popularly called by everyone, who knew him, was born in 1847 (BDMs) so he was some years short of the given age of 96 in 1938.

*“When he was only 14 he started the first mail service between the metropolis and Gosford over bush tracks”*. No, it was his father Peter Fagan who had early contracts, but he introduced one or more sons to the bridle track over the hills. (Original GPO Archives).

The various articles mentioned his true part in the Fagan family’s great love of fine horseflesh. The Fagans entered their horses in many racing events, and George Fagan was a major owner in Ascot Racecourse, Sydney. Some of the brothers were involved in the timber business and shipping in Sydney and at the settlement now called Kendall on the Camden Haven River, NSW, where they gave Henry Kendall a job as book-keeper in their mill store.

Joe Fagan was a popular speaker at Pioneer Dinners. These were held in Gosford and Wyong from about 1915, and his reminiscences were written up in the *Gosford Times* newspaper.

The most astonishing error in items about his death concerned a terrible tragedy at Peter Fagan’s home *Cooranbean* in 1865. A garbled version of what had happened appeared in at least two Sydney news sheets in 1938 and formed the basis for items written by those in far places who picked them up and rewrote them:

***CYANIDE IN CAKE*** *Mr. Fagan’s mother and two brothers died when the mother made a cake for the family and by accident used cyanide instead of bicarbonate of soda when making it. John Fagan also ate some of the cake, and was violently ill; but the following day he recovered sufficiently to ride the mail circuit.*

Another wrote:

*[The family] sat down to tea one night in front of a birthday cake. Through a mistake the mother put a white poison in the cake instead of bicarbonate of soda. Within a few minutes of eating the cake the mother and two of the boys were dead.*

What actually did happen:-

Peter Fagan and members of the family were at home in *Cooranbean* sitting talking. Fagan prepared drinks for everyone, which turned out to contain poison, killing his wife Margaret, his daughter Margaret Teresa and his sister-in-law Bridget Gilligan of Sydney, who was visiting them.

He mistook a bottle of strychnine - used against pests on the property - for quinine which they were in the habit of adding to their chosen drink. Those who had just a sip or two were temporarily ill. Reportedly, Peter Fagan jumped on his horse and raced to get help, but was thrown and broke an arm on the way. A Magisterial enquiry was later held.

The tragedy makes for sombre reading (see *the Sydney Morning Herald* of 11.12.1865 and *Empire* of the same date on Trove). The three dead were taken to the city by steamship and after a largely attended service at St Joseph's Church next to St Mary's Cathedral, were interred in the Gilligan vault, Sandhills Cemetery, Sydney until 1901 when some 30,000 remains were removed to other cemeteries to make way for Central Station.

Cross-checking certainly takes up a lot of time, but it's worth it.



*Henry Kendall Cottage at West Gosford, the former Fagan home Cooranbean in 1983. It was renamed in honour of the poet who stayed there for some time in the 1870s as a guest of the Fagans.*

**Gwen DUNDON Member 134**



## THE MEMOIRS OF Jeannie Mitchell TAYLOR nee WYPER.



Jeannie Mitchell Wyper b 29 Jan 1908 at Tollcross, Glasgow, Scotland father Isaac, coal miner, mother Elizabeth Robertson a bleach field worker.

Isaac arrived in Australia in 1913 followed by Elizabeth and 3 children in 1914.

Family lived in areas on the South Coast, NSW and then Leichhardt areas of Sydney.

Jeannie was a widow and approx.90 years of age when she wrote these memories.

She died in 2008 aged 98.

Part 1.

### *Jeannie*

*My name is Jeannie Mitchell Taylor nee Wyper. My father's name was Isaac Wyper and my mother's name was Elizabeth Robertson. I had two sisters: Robina Watson and Elizabeth; and one brother, Robert. This is the story of my life as I remember it.*

*Grandfather Wyper was named Robert and grandmother was named Robina Watson. Grandfather Robertson was named George and grandmother was Jeannie Mitchell. My father's brothers and sisters were Robert, Catherine, William, Christina, John, James, Jessie and Martha. There were 14 in my mother's family and these are the ones I remember: William, Agnes, George, Thomas, John, Nellie, James, Jean, Archibald and Robert.*

*My father came to Australia with his brother-in-law James Robertson and when he found work he sent for my mother and we three children.*

*We arrived in May 1914 and World War I started in the August. The families lost touch during the war years and I do not know anything of the families that stayed in Scotland.*

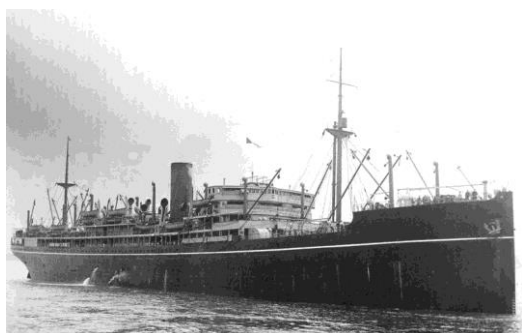


*The Wyper Family –  
Robert, Isaac, Jeannie, Elizabeth,  
Robina & in front, Elizabeth*

*The night before we left Scotland to sail to Australia we stayed with my grandfather and an aunt named Jessie, although I cannot remember them. Grandfather lived near the coal mine and during the night there was a cave-in and some of the houses fell into the mine. One of the neighbours saw a crack come in their wall. She got dressed and pleaded with her husband to get up and get dressed but he stayed in bed until it was nearly too late. He just got outside when the house fell in. Mum telling the story has kept it fresh in my memory.*

*Next thing I remember is being on the train. I was sitting with my sister Robina; she was about three years old and I was just turned six. Just near the carriage door there was a white button - trust me, I pressed it and down came a guard. He said, "Did you press that button?" I was so scared I said "No".*

*I realise now that it was an emergency button. I don't remember getting off the train or getting onto the ship. The ship was called the "S.S. Ballarat".*



*S.S. Ballarat*

Two memories of the voyage remain: At breakfast in the dining room a man gave me a sausage with tomato sauce. I do not like tomato sauce but I was hungry, so I wiped the sauce off and ate the sausage. One night I was in my bunk and saw something and nearly screamed the place down. The steward came running in to see what the trouble was and I said a "big beastie" was on my bed - it was a cockroach. I have no more memories about the trip. The next memory is staying at the house where my father boarded. We stayed there until we found a house to rent.

The first night we were in our own house I was crying in my bed and my father came to me and said "What's the matter hen." I said, "I am feart father", he said "Didna be feart hen, it is just the wind in the trees." In Scotland in those days it was not Mum and Dad, it was Mother and Father.

We stayed there for a while and then moved to a house in the Main Road at Thirroul. My mother sent my sister and I for some messages and we could not find our way home and ended up in tears, but someone came to our rescue.

Then we moved to Coledale Heights, stayed there for a short time and then moved back to Thirroul. I liked that place - the ocean was right at the back. I was seven years old then and had to do a lot of the work in the house. The table and chairs had to be scrubbed with sand-soap. There was no electricity and we used lamps and candles. I was in bed one night and the candle was on the chest of drawers with a hat bag. The hat bag caught alight as I tried to move it and my parents and some visitors came rushing in to put out the fire.

My mother was pregnant at the time and it was a shock for her. We moved again to a house in Redman Avenue, still in Thirroul, and my sister Elizabeth was born there. I was eight years and four months old when Elizabeth was born. She was born blind. I had to leave school to look after the housework and do the washing for my father and we three kids.

*There was no laundry, just a bench with a galvanized tub and a washing board. A friend came and took the sheets and pillowslips and the baby's and my mother's washing.*

*Mother was in bed for three months and we nearly lost her. Father had to do the cooking. My sister was very ill and the doctor could not do any more for her, so he told my parents to go and live at Coledale Heights where the air was fresher.*

*As I said, there was no electricity there, no ice chest, just a cool safe that hung at the back of the house (a cool safe was a small box made from wire mesh and hessian, kept wet with water and hung outside to keep flies away from food and to keep it fresh). My mother wanted to put something in the safe one night and it took two to do it: one to open the safe and the other to hold the lamp. Mother said she had a funny feeling that something was wrong. She shone the lamp on the floor and my father was just about to stand on a snake. Dad grew our vegetables, plenty of potatoes, and I had to stand for ages and scrape them.*

*When I look back, all my mother should have done was wash them and cook them in their jackets. I did all the work in the house; my mother never asked my sister to do anything.*

*Across the street a small cottage was for sale and my parents bought it for 30 pounds. It wasn't a bad little place, two bedrooms, dining room and kitchen. It wasn't a bad little place, two bedrooms, dining room and kitchen. The three rooms had wallpaper and the kitchen had what we called table base - it was very nice, you could wax and polish it. Of course it was had a fuel stove and my father brought home a bag of coal every day.*

*.....to be continued.....*

Thanks to **Ailsa TAYLOR Member 596** for sharing this memoir with us, more to come in our next issue April 2021.

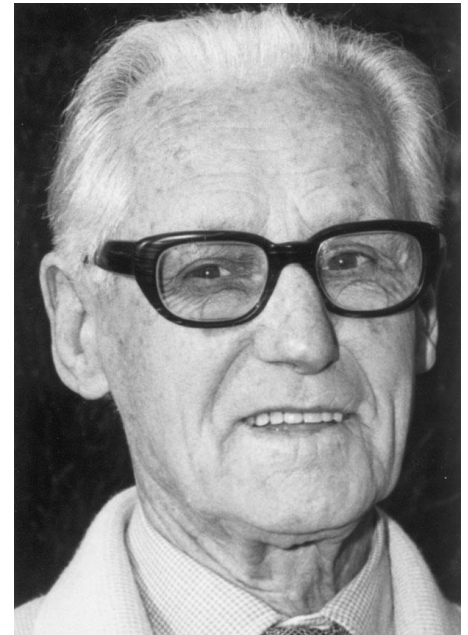


## R.H. CREIGHTON OF GOSFORD AND SILENT MOVIES

In 1977 when I was seeking to copy interesting vintage photos for my first pictorial book, *Old Gosford and District in Pictures*, I visited veteran Gosford undertaker Mr. Richard H. Creighton at his Mann Street Funeral Parlour.

My mission was to find out if he had any images of early hearses. While we chatted and sipped tea in his second floor apartment, he mentioned having taken part as an “extra” in scenes that were filmed locally for two early silent movies in 1913. I lost all interest in hearses.

Although Dick, as everyone called him, had no photos taken at that time, he did have some relevant theatre advertisements. However he told me that Roy Hennessey of Gosford owned a photo of local men made up as Aborigines who had performed a “corroboree” in the films. Roy’s two uncles, twins Jim and Alf Hennessey were among them.



*R.H. (Dick) Creighton at time of interview*



*Local men made up as Aborigines, the photo owned by Roy Hennessey. His uncles were Jim Hennessey standing first at left with his brother Alf sittina below him.*

Dick Creighton said that there was great excitement in Gosford when the Fraser Films crew came to the town and word got around they needed locals to take part, some in "black face" as the Aborigines (imagine trying that today) and some as boundary riders. District locations planned were East Gosford, Gosford, Blackwall and Booker Bay.

The films were apparently shot "back to back" using many of the same scenes and the same stars, and were named *A Blue Gum Romance* and *The Life of a Jackeroo*. The director was Franklyn Barrett.

The latter story concerned a young Englishman (played by Tom Middleton) who left his country to seek experience in the Australian bush, leaving behind an ambitious actress (Ruth Wainwright), and fell in love with the daughter of a wealthy squatter (Tien Hogue). There was a villain of the piece in the form of an evil overseer on the station.

Dick Creighton was one of the boundary riders and remembered the action very well. He said a specially constructed homestead, actually only two walls, was burned down by "wild blacks" during the exciting action, showering the players with burning fragments.

This scene was filmed on a large area of vacant land about opposite the present Elanora Hotel at East Gosford, and the corroboree near George Street.

"We rode brumbies and brandished pistols in the air as the camera was operated from the back of a wagonette."

They'd go crook at you if you made a mistake. They'd say 'this film is costing so much a foot!' There was a bloke called Onions with us and I remember well when sparks showered on him after they set fire to the dummy homestead. It was just the front and one side wall made of Oregon studs and Baltic pine weatherboards.

**Fraser's Australian  
Films**

---

THE LIFE OF A  
**JACKEROO**

A Drama of the Australian Bush  
Acted and Photographed by Australians  
in Australia

---

**SYNOPSIS**

---

**Captured by Blacks**

---

**The CORROBOREE**  
Danced according to the strict  
traditions of the North Coast Aborigines

---

**The Ride for Help**  
Daring - Picturesque - Exciting

---

**The Burning Homestead**  
Thrilling Attack by Blacks in  
the Early Days

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**To The Rescue**  
A Story Replete with Stirring Incidents  
Taken from Actual Bush Life

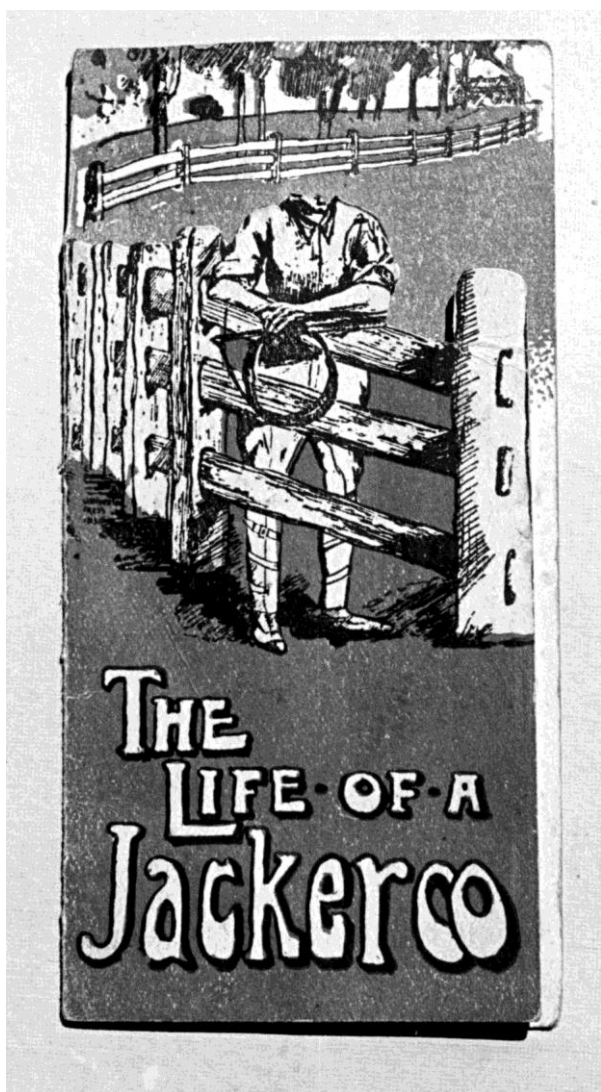
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Photographed and Released by  
**FRASER FILM RELEASE**  
AND PHOTOGRAPHIC CO., LTD.  
139 YORK STREET, SYDNEY

*Advertising for Life of a  
Jackeroo*

I had to go the front of the homestead and yell 'Go after them boys!' or something to that effect. That was after the Aborigines had set fire to it. Phil Schubert of Gosford who was a Jackeroo extra was killed in the First World War.

"There was one scene when the star, Tien Hogue - after we had got her out the house - had to gallop off on a horse with one of the "homestead blacks" holding on to a stirrup to guide her. He was really a man called Fred Warmoll who later owned a pub at Bourke..." Dick said.



*The Life of a Jackeroo* was first shown in Sydney at Waddington's Grand Theatre on 28 July 1913.

I knew Roy Hennessey of Mann Street, Gosford, and asked him about the photo of the men who played the Aborigines. He kindly allowed me to copy it, and agreed to donate the original to the Film and Sound Archives in Canberra in exchange for an enlargement I offered. They were pleased to receive it, as little had survived. The print was possibly one given out by Fraser Films or had been made by a local photographer.

Three years after his brief career in movies, Richard Henry Creighton married Kathleen Meehan (Gosford Times 26.10.1916). They had a son and a daughter, Richard John Creighton who was involved in the family business (d. 1973) and Betty (Mrs. Athol McDonald). Richard died in his 97<sup>th</sup> year on 22.9.1989.

*A folder's front cover – the Jackeroo has lost his head*

His father, also named R.H. Creighton (a builder and undertaker) was a son of Robert Creighton (2), whose father and mother Robert and Elizabeth Creighton (nee Dunlop) emigrated from Country Down, Ireland, arriving at Sydney on the *Jessie* in 1839.

Sgt. Phillip Stanley Schubert, 34<sup>th</sup> Battalion was killed in action in WW1 on 13.10.1917. Frederick Warmoll was a Bourke man who managed the Woy Woy Oyster Co. on the waterfront near Blackwall. He later owned the business with Bert Alderton.

*The folder opened, with Dick Creighton's handwritten comment.*

Many thanks to CCFHS Member 134 **Gwen DUNDON** for her contributions to this issue of the *e-Muster*. Gwen has worked tirelessly to prepare these articles for our enjoyment.  
*Editor*



## THE PUDDEPHATT'S

On the Herts/ Bucks border area of England are the towns of Chesham and Berkhamstead where there are quite a few residents named PUDDEPHATT.

Quite a few are related to my Mother's families. I don't think Mum ever knew. Her occasional retort to me way back when was ... "You aren't still doing that, are you? YES! Mum I sure am."

Alas my Mum d. 2010 so I couldn't share my excitement of being contacted by a real live PUDDEPHATT named Jayne.

Some 18 months ago I posted a message on Chesham History's Facebook page then forgot about it. Then a few days ago I received a surprise email from Jayne.

Among the myriad of PUDDEPHATT's there are 3 brothers- Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. My great x3 grandfather is John Jonathon PUDDEPHAT

Love it!

**Marg MORTERS Member 406**



## 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 an East Gosford delight:-

**Bauhinia blakeana - orchid tree in Minton Street near the Punt Bridge.**

Bauhinia blakeana is a handsome and densely foliated, evergreen tree that produces the most stunning and fragrant pinky/purple flowers in summer, autumn and early winter and unusually double lobed grey green foliage.

Named after John and Caspar Bauhin - 16th century herbalists (and twins)

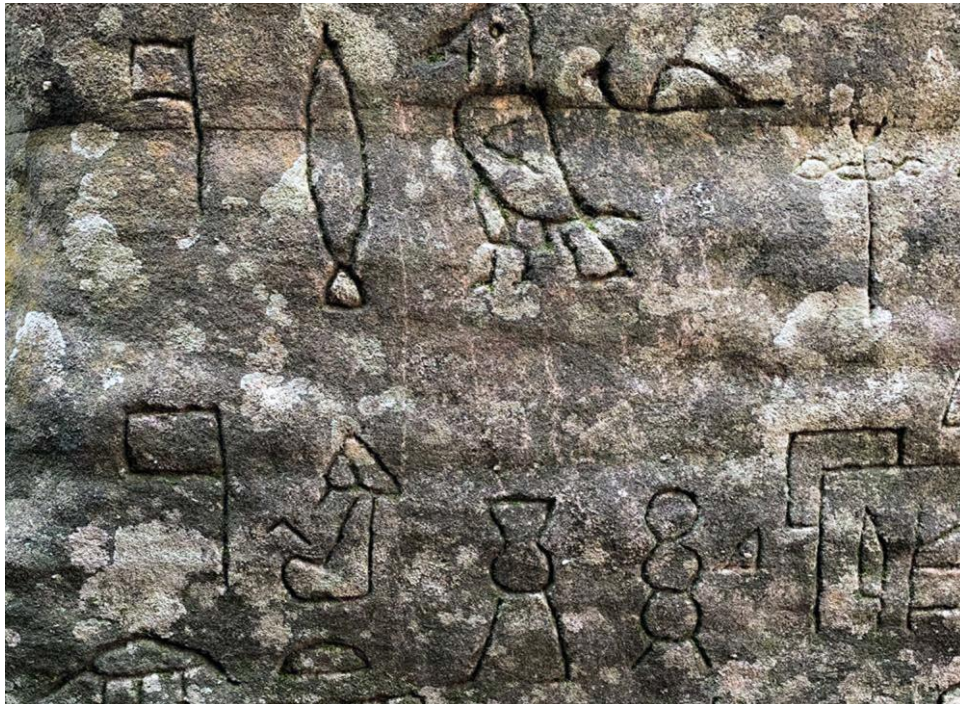


I am inviting you to share a tree with us in each issue of the E-muster, one that has enraptured you or one that is your favourite. Please email details and a photograph to our email address and we will feature them in our Journal.

## HAVE YOU DISCOVERED THE GOSFORD GLYPHS? HERE'S A BUSHWALK WITH A MYSTERY!

A bushwalk to Gosford Glyphs offers a fun family adventure – with a dash of mystery thrown in!

The Kariiong Hieroglyphs (or Gosford Glyphs as they're commonly known) are “ancient Egyptian-style” carvings in the sandstone walls in Brisbane Water National Park. This intriguing local landmark makes for a perfect bushwalk.



*Image@ Alison Mc Cann for playing in puddles*

The glyphs are not signposted, so you have to search for them. After a short bushwalk and clambering through rocks you'll discover sandstone walls covered in 'ancient' carvings of hieroglyphic symbols. There are almost 300 of them! You will be able to spot carvings of birds, fish, beetles, people and more.

No-one knows who made them or when, although some suspect it was returned soldiers camping in the bush following World War I. It's more likely they were carved in the 1970s, but their true origin remains a mystery.

<https://playinginpuddles.com.au/gosford-glyphs-bushwalk/>



## NAMING CONVENTIONS –

### SCOTTISH:

- The first son was named after the father's father.
- The second son after the mother's father.
- The third son after the father.
- The first daughter after the mother's mother.
- The second daughter after the father's mother.
- The third daughter after the mother.

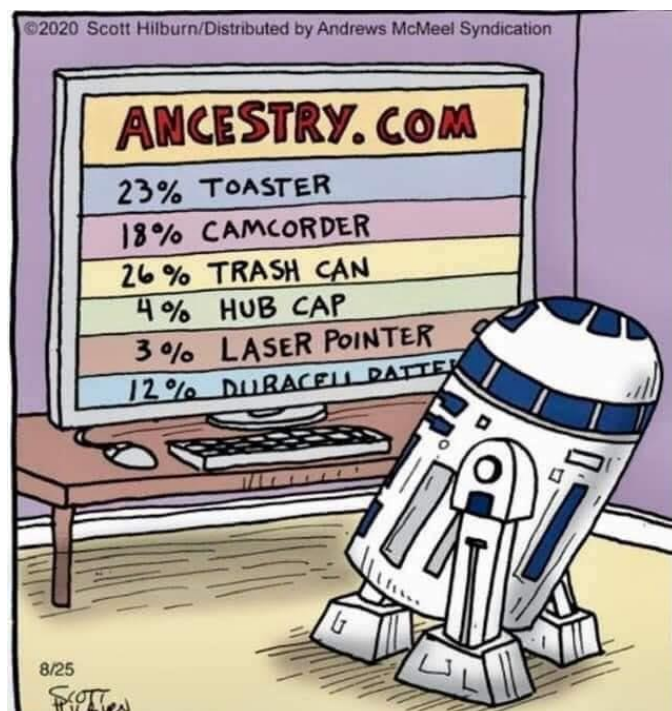
### IRISH (until the later 19th century)

- First son usually named for the father's father.
- Second son usually named for the mother's father.
- Third son usually named for the father.
- Fourth son usually named for the father's eldest brother.
- Fifth son usually named for the mother's eldest brother.
- First daughter usually named for the mother's mother.
- Second daughter usually named for the father's mother.
- Third daughter usually named for the mother.
- Fourth daughter usually named for the mother's eldest sister.
- Fifth daughter usually named for the father's eldest sister.

### ENGLISH and WELSH:

- The first male child was named after his father's father.
- The second male child was named after his mother's father.
- The third male child was named after his own father.
- Any subsequent male children could be named whatever the parents wished, but usually were named for a favourite brother or uncle of the father.

The CORNISH used to give all children the mother's Maiden name as a second Christian name.



## Some interesting history re: a few phrases that we still use today and how they came about:-

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women, and finally the children. And last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying, **“Don't throw the baby out with the bath water!”**



"Houses had thatched roofs with thick straw-piled high and no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained, it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof. Hence the saying, **'It's raining cats and dogs.'**

There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed. Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. That's how canopy beds came into existence."



"The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the term, **'dirt poor.'**

The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on the floor to help keep their footing.

As the winter wore on, they added more thresh until, when you opened the door, it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entrance-way. Hence, 'a thresh hold.'"

Thanks **Marlene DAVIDSON Member 327L** for these interesting snippets.

## 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	Paul Schipp
Bookstall meeting helper	Lynna Clark
Bus Trips and Tours: -	Robyn Grant
	Leonie Pinson
Event Coordinator	Committee
Facebook Administrator: -	Belinda Mabbott
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Grant Applications	Marlene Davidson
Grant Application Proofreader	Committee
Guest Speakers	Paul Schipp/Marie Gaven
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Librarian/Unrelated Certificates	Bennie Campbell
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Property Officer/Public Officer	Marlene Bailey
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