

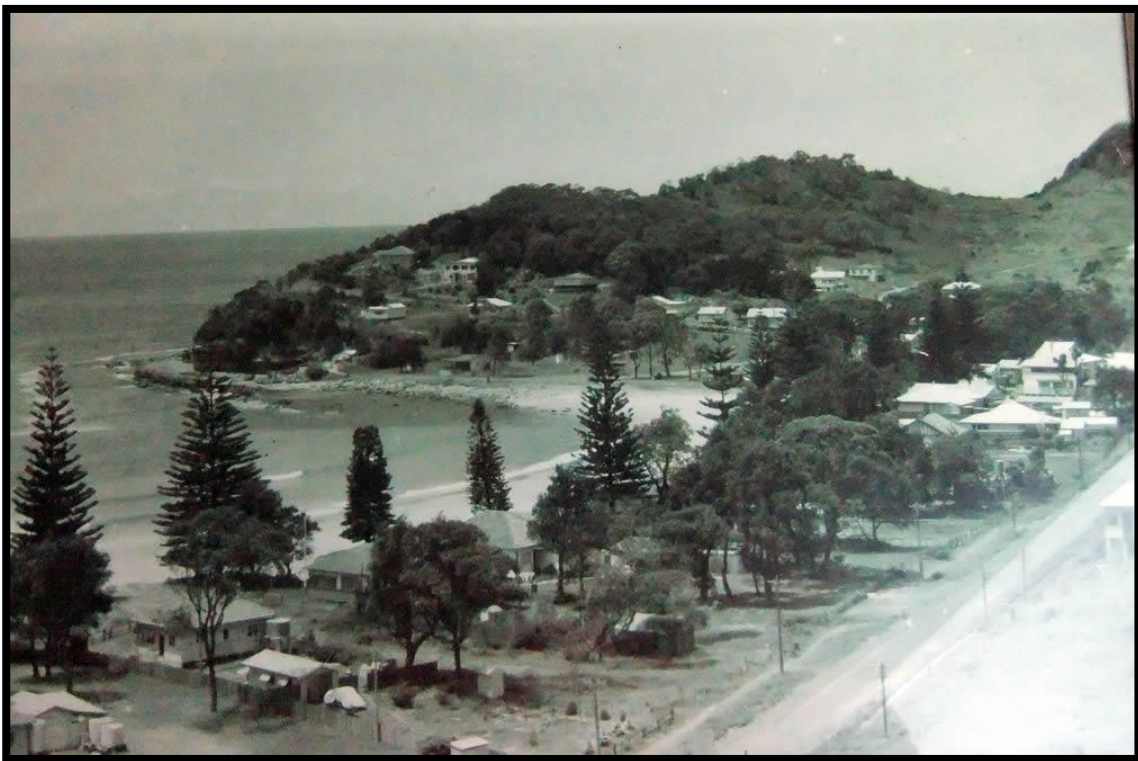
# E-MUSTER

Central Coast Family History Society Inc.



December 2021

Issue 31



*Avoca Beach in the 1940's*

***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



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

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

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## EDITORIAL

Welcome to the December 2021 *e-Muster*.

Best wishes to all our members and friends- a very happy Christmas and a safe holiday season. We would also like to thank you for your support throughout 2021.

We start this issue with a celebration of the life of the Chieftain of the Farquharson clan, Captain Alwyne Arthur Compton Farquharson, and then follow with articles some of which have a distinct Scottish theme and flavour.

As a direct result of the Covid pandemic many online resources continue to be available to assist in your research, some of which are outlined in this journal.

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!

Heather Yates- Editor



## PRESIDENTS REPORT

Christmas will soon be upon us and we can look back at another challenging year.

Covid 19 has shut the Cottage down for long periods over the past two years and we are now emerging from the gloom, hopefully to a brighter future. Our ancestors have also journeyed along this path and we are the proof that life goes on after a period of great suffering around the world.

In this our 40<sup>th</sup> year, we thank those who had the unquenchable thirst for knowledge about their family histories, who made this Society happen and we are very honoured to be a part of it and to enjoy the benefits of their vision from that time.

Those first members wouldn't have envisaged the many changes which have occurred since the Society was formed. Who would have imagined that they could attend a general meeting, tutorial or group discussion without leaving their homes? Even to be part of a conference listening to expert speakers is something that is new to many of us. One wonders at what changes are going to be around in the years ahead?

In this issue of the E-Muster, Heather Yates has again created a worthy publication which documents the many stories of those who have shaped our past. I hope you enjoy the tales from around the world and perhaps you too can put your thoughts on paper and tell your stories so they are preserved for future generations.

Best wishes to everyone for a very merry Christmas and I hope that the New Year lifts the veil to a better and more peaceful world. And to those who still have road blocks in their quest to find their past, may the New Year pave the way to unlock the secrets which up to now have been so hard to find.

Rod Horton

President CCFHS.



## LATEST NEWS

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

- **November and December 2021 :**

The research Centre will be open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays for research from 9.30 a.m. until 2.00 p.m.

Please call 4324 5164 to book your place. You could even call the Centre after 9.30 a.m. on the day to check if there are any vacancies.

**December: Thursday Night** reopening 6.00 p.m. until 9.30.p.m.

**Thursday night** 2 December, 9 December and 16 December.

**Please call the Centre 4324 5164 to book your place.**

In accordance with NSW Health guidelines, to enter our Cottage, members must be double vaccinated, masks must be worn inside and distancing is required. If you haven't got a smartphone you must show the paper copy of your Vaccination Certificate. We have some fantastic resources in the library and on film that are not online.

**General Meetings:** Re-commencing first Sat of the month from Feb 2022.

## 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 during the pandemic.

We are also required to comply with any directives applied by our landlord, Central Coast Council/Properties. Irrespective of what other organisations are doing as to how they may be applying these directives to their circumstances, we have to consider the general age and health of our members and it is with these facts we will continue with our designated Covid-19 action plan until the Committee deems it fit to alter it based on further information being provided to us.

Not to do so, we could be imposed with fines, not just the Society itself but also individuals who are not compliant and none of us can afford that impost. Therefore, we will continue with the appropriate social distancing and restricted use of some of our resources.



## Discover SLM: talk series

*Every Tuesday, 12pm–12.30pm, free via zoom*

Join Sydney Living Museums curatorial team as they discuss their current research in this relaxed online talk series. Each week a different curator will tackle subjects ranging from architecture to cookery.

Tuesday 7 December, 4pm-4.30pm

Exploring the 'ghost' kitchen at Elizabeth Bay House, with Dr Jacqui Newling

Tuesday 14 December, 4pm-4.30pm

Christmas in the Colony, with Dr Jacqui Newling





# Female Convicts Research Centre Inc.

A not-for-profit organisation run entirely by volunteers

**FCRC Seminar 2022: Sunday, 1 May 2022.**

**Venue: Hobart Town Hall**

**Topic: Young female convicts in Van Diemen's Land**

## Call for papers

Many female convicts were under the age of sixteen. What was their experience of convict life? How did they cope, forcibly separated from their families and everything that was familiar? What was their post-sentence experience?

The next Female Convicts Research Centre seminar will focus on the experiences of young female convicts in Van Diemen's Land. Little research has been done on this aspect of female convict history. If you would like to submit a paper, either about one convict, a group of convicts, or an aspect of the life of young female convicts (including health, work, marriage and motherhood), please send an abstract to [submissions@femaleconvicts.org.au](mailto:submissions@femaleconvicts.org.au) by 1 September 2021.

Regards  
Dianne Snowden  
President  
Female Convicts Research Centre Inc



<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!!**

## Maritime Services Board - NSW State Archives



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Over 4000 digitised glass plate negatives from the Maritime Services Board (MSB) are available to browse and download in the NSW State Archives catalogue, Collection Search.

The images date from 1870 to 1960 and show Sydney Harbour as a working harbour and a centre of work and industry as well as a place of natural beauty.

The glass negatives record the construction of wharves and adjoining facilities in Sydney Harbour; ferry wharves and passenger amenities; views of Port Jackson; various types of ships and vessels; diagrams of technical systems; shipping movements; navigational aids such as buoys and beacons; rail work, tenements; roadways, housing and buildings in the harbour area including warehouses and boatsheds; road construction; reclamation works; equipment; damaged vessels (including on slipways); harbour-side pools; and demolition sites (including wharves to combat rats and the plague).

Kirribilli ferry entering Circular Quay, 1920 [RAHS Photograph Collection]



[Visit NSW State Archives to browse this collection](#)

## RAHS Day Lecture – The Unfinished Nation: Contesting Symbols of Australia

February 2, 2022 @ 13:00 - 14:00

In this lecture, Richard White will survey some of the shifts in Australian national symbolism over two centuries and especially the last decade.

[Get Tickets](#) Free 78 tickets left

**About the speaker:** Richard White taught Australian history and the history of travel and tourism at the University of Sydney from 1989 to 2013. His publications include *Inventing Australia*, *The Oxford Book of Australian Travel Writing* and *On Holidays: A History of Getting Away in Australia*. He co-edited *History Australia* from 2008 to 2013 and current research interests include the history of 'history tourism' in Australia and the history of the cooee. A new edition of *Symbols of Australia* (co-edited with Melissa Harper) appeared in 2021.





## ***We Celebrate 40 years in 2021 as The Central Coast Family History Society.***

Many thanks to the enthusiastic folk who have volunteered over the past 40 years: talked about convicts, ancestors, family trees and shared their research.

All of those who shared limited resources in the beginning and then officially launched the Central Coast Family History Group.

On 4<sup>th</sup> December 2021 we celebrated at our General Meeting, the first in many months, where we were able to gather together and acknowledge our 40<sup>th</sup> year and the coming Christmas season.

A great afternoon was enjoyed with delicious food and convivial company.



Barbara Mann- Member 114  
and Janice Matts Member 2146  
cut the Christmas cake together.



Gwen  
Dundon  
Member 134 cut the  
celebratory 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary cake



## 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. 32 April 2022 E-MUSTER**

Deadline for articles for the April edition of the e-Muster  
20<sup>th</sup> March, 2022.

## VALE

Dear Members and Friends of Clan Farquharson,

It is with immense sadness that I share the news with you of our Chief's passing. Captain Alwyne Farquharson of Invercauld MC passed away this afternoon at his home in Norfolk. He was 102 years old.



For 7 decades, he was both Chief of Clan Farquharson and Chieftain of The Ballater Highland Games. Believed to be the oldest and longest serving Clan Chief in Scottish history, he was without doubt one of the most dedicated to his role and touched many hearts. I am sure you will join me in expressing our deepest sympathies and heartfelt condolences to Madam Farquharson and the wider family. Our thoughts are also with you all, as the Chief played an important part in all of our lives and he will be dearly missed.

Details will follow regarding funeral arrangements; however we anticipate 3 separate celebrations of his life. The first of these will be the funeral held in Norfolk to which anyone wishing to attend will be welcome. In several weeks' time, a Thanksgiving Service will be held in Crathie in Royal Deeside. Thirdly, we plan to hold a Clan Memorial during next year's Clan Farquharson Gathering (7-13 August 2022). There are also plans for an online book of condolence.

More will be shared in the coming days, including details of his succession.

May he rest in peace.

Fide et Fortitudine!

Jonathan

**Jonathan C. de C. Findlay**

[President, Clan Farquharson UK](#)

Captain Alwyne Arthur Compton Farquharson M.C. of Invercauld and Monaltrie, 16th Chief of Clan Farquharson, died on Wednesday October 6, at his home in Valley Farm, Norfolk at the age of 102.

Alwyne is believed to have been Scotland's oldest and longest serving clan chief and was chieftain of the Ballater Highland Games on Deeside for 73 years. He served in the Second World War and was awarded the Military Cross for bravery during the Normandy Landings.

Alwyne was born on May 1 1919, eldest son of Major Edward Compton of Newby Hall in Yorkshire and Sylvia Farquharson, younger daughter of Alexander Haldane Farquharson of Invercauld.



Alwyne's Aunt Myrtle, who had inherited Invercauld and who was the elder sister of his mother Sylvia, was killed in a bombing raid in 1941.

Shortly after the end of the Second World War, Alwyne moved to Aberdeenshire to assume the role of Chief and become the 16th Laird of Invercauld, roles he cherished for many decades.

Alwyne dedicated himself to becoming a responsible and benevolent landowner and was known affectionately by tenants and staff as 'The Laird'. His lands spread from Aberdeenshire to Perthshire and included the Torloisk Estate on the Isle of Mull, which he inherited from his father.

As Clan Chief, Alwyne was always keen to meet clan members from across the world. The progenitor of the Clan Farquharson was Finlay Mor Farquharson, who was born in about 1480 and died at the battle of Pinkie Cleugh in 1547, when he was hit in the chest by a cannonball fired from an English ship. He was the Royal Standard Bearer.

Finlay Mor had many children, and they in turn had descendants who have spread far and wide; the clan is now scattered around the globe, with clan societies in many disparate countries including the United States, Canada, Argentina, Australia and New Zealand.

Alwyne could trace his lineage back to Farquhar, 4th Son of Alexander Ciar (Shaw) Mackintosh of Rothiemurcus (1411-1492), whose descendants include the Farquharsons.

He enjoyed regaling clan members with stories of Farquharson activities and was always interested in their ties to genealogy and Scotland. In 2014, he gave permission for the rebirth of the Invercauld Highlanders, Guard of Honour for the Chiefs of Clan Farquharson.

In 2007, Alwyne leased Braemar Castle, home of the Farquharson Clan, to the Community of Braemar, which runs it as a visitor attraction. His role as Scotland's oldest Clan Chief is recognised in the Iconic Scotland exhibition, currently running as part of the Great Tapestry of Scotland display in the Scottish Borders.

Educated at Eton College and then Magdalen College, Oxford, Alwyne's studies in Land Economy were interrupted by the outbreak of the Second World War, just after his twentieth birthday. He joined the Royal Scots Greys, eventually attaining the rank of Captain, an achievement he was very proud of. He initially was posted to Egypt as mounted cavalry but the Royal Scots Greys were subsequently motorised with tanks.

He saw active service at El Alamein and fought at the Battle for Caen on June 10 1944, after which he was awarded the Military Cross for his lone actions in determining the position of the enemy, despite being seriously wounded in the foot in the process.

Alwyne was a member of Aberdeenshire County Council from 1949 until 1975, a Justice of the Peace for Aberdeenshire in 1951 and Vice-Patron of the Braemar Royal Highland Gathering.

Alwyne married firstly, in 1949 Frances Gordon (born Oldham), and after Frances's death in 1991 he married secondly Patricia de Winton (born Simms-Adams) who has keenly supported him in his role as Chieftain of the Ballater Highland Games.



In over 70 years as Chieftain, Alwyne never failed to attend the event, marching onto the field every year including his last Games in 2019 at the grand age of 100 when the event organisers celebrated his birthday with massed pipe bands and the attendance of the Lonach Highlanders and the Balmoral Guard. Even at the age of 100, he was still able to make eloquent, unscripted speeches.

Alwyne had no issue but had a twin sister Mary and a younger brother Robert (known as Robin), both of whom had children. He had several nephews and a niece, as well as five step-children from his two marriages and was an affectionate uncle and step-father.

He is succeeded as Chief of Clan Farquharson by his great-nephew, Philip Farquharson, who becomes the 17th Laird of Invercauld.

A memorial will be held at Braemar Castle in Aberdeenshire during the Clan Farquharson Gathering in the second week of August 2022 and a stone will be laid at the Clan Cairn, Carn-na-Cuimhne, in his memory.

By **Scottish Field** writer - 8th October 2021

Pictures:

1. Captain Alwyne Farquharson passed away at the age of 102 (Photo: Steven Rennie).
2. Captain Alwyne Farquharson at the Ballater Highland Games (Photo: David Cowe)
3. Rod Horton (CCFHS President) meeting Captain Alwyne Farquharson in August 2018.

[https://www.scottishfield.co.uk/culture/obituary-captain-alwyne-farquharson-of-invercauld-mc/?fbclid=IwAR3mHs7s6LWOdzI7KhsQEbtSWp02fMpd-7gpQL\\_61kDm3K\\_ulw-00OrdAW8M](https://www.scottishfield.co.uk/culture/obituary-captain-alwyne-farquharson-of-invercauld-mc/?fbclid=IwAR3mHs7s6LWOdzI7KhsQEbtSWp02fMpd-7gpQL_61kDm3K_ulw-00OrdAW8M)





## Charlotte's Story

Charlotte Farquharson was baptised on 10<sup>th</sup> March 1828<sup>1</sup> in Tarland and Migvie, Aberdeenshire, Scotland, to my second great grandparents Andrew Farquharson and his wife Jane (Glass). On 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1841<sup>2</sup>, Andrew, Jane, and children, John (16), Henry (15), Charlotte (13), Jane (10) and my great grandfather Andrew (8), migrated to Australia. Also travelling with them were Andrew's niece Harriet and her half-brother William (children of his brother Hary). Andrew and his family were sponsored by Mr. J.F. Beattie of Lochinvar to work on his property.

The "*Mathesis*" left Dundee in Scotland on its maiden voyage to Port Phillip and then Sydney. It was a timber ship, weighing 365 tons. The ship was launched on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 1841, registered in April 1841 and was owned by James Gordon. In May, it sailed for Dundee with Alexander Gordon as the Ship's master to pick up the 88 passengers, almost all of whom were farm workers and their families from Aberdeenshire.

On 20<sup>th</sup> June, the *Mathesis* stopped briefly at St Jago (now called Santiago), the largest of the Cape Verde Islands off the coast of North Africa. On the 9<sup>th</sup> August disaster struck and the following report is from "The Chronicle" in Hobart on the 28<sup>th</sup> January 1842<sup>3</sup>.

"Between 11am and 12noon, the third mate was in the store-room getting out provisions, when some straw, which was lying loose, caught fire by a spark from his candle. The fire spread rapidly, and when the alarm was given, great confusion took place, so much so that for some time little could be done. The seamen were ordered to clear away the boats and keep them in readiness, but instead of doing so they got into them and pushed off, leaving the captain, officers and emigrants, on board ship.

After order was restored to some degree, the emigrants passed along water with a will; all hatches were put on, and sails put over them to prevent ventilation. The tops were knocked off seven water casks, which were filled with water, and then the hatches were removed and water poured in and the hatches immediately put on again. This was repeated several times; in fact, as long as they were able for the exertion. At 4pm, when the fire was a good deal subdued, the seamen returned on board and assisted in drawing water; this was continued till the evening of Tuesday, the 10<sup>th</sup>, when it was supposed the fire was out. The pumps were now manned to get quit of some of the water they had poured in, and at six in the morning of Wednesday, the water was well out of her.

On removing the hatches, in the morning, the hold was still full of smoke; but in a short time they were able to descend. They now bore away for Rio de Janeiro, where they arrived on the 25<sup>th</sup> of August.

The cargo was very much destroyed, and sold for very little; the ship has sustained great damage, so much so, that in one part, on scraping a little of the inside with a nail, we reached the copper. The ship's chronometer was quite destroyed."<sup>3</sup>

The ship arrived in Rio de Janeiro and remained there for almost 3 months while it was repaired. It left Rio de Janeiro on 24<sup>th</sup> November.

On 13<sup>th</sup> January, less than 3 weeks out of Sydney, Andrew Farquharson Sr. died and was buried at sea. This left Jane and her children to arrive in the Colony by themselves.

The ship arrived in Port Phillip on 28<sup>th</sup> January and on 30<sup>th</sup> January 1842 the *Mathesis* finally arrived in Sydney, 242 days after leaving Dundee.

The report of the ship's surgeon was highly complementary of the health and behaviour of the passengers but was critical of some of the food supplied, some of the toilets between decks being very smelly and injurious to their health, the accommodation being constantly wet and damp due to the rain and the heavy seas.

Together with the poor passage of air through the lower decks it was necessary to air the bedding and blankets on deck as often as possible.

Despite being sponsored to NSW by Mr. Beattie to be farmers, the family first stayed with a Mrs. Stewart of Customs House in Sydney.

When the family did not move immediately to Newcastle, Charlotte, aged 13, commenced work as a domestic servant for Charles Bugden of Waverley in Sydney, for 6 months at £10 per year.

Six months after arriving in Sydney, Jane married William Richardson, on 28<sup>th</sup> July 1842, at St Andrews Church in Sydney.

Charlotte was also a servant at George Mosman's property Burrowell, near Seaham on the Williams River which is a tributary of the Hunter River.

- On 11<sup>th</sup> February 1843, Charlotte, a servant, aged 15 and unmarried, gave birth to a boy named Hugh Farquharson<sup>4</sup>. He was baptised in Burrowell, 20<sup>th</sup> May 1844.

20 <sup>th</sup> of May 1844	11 <sup>th</sup> of February 1843	Hugh Farquharson	Charlotte Farquharson	Burrowell District	Servant	Charles Spence
No. 1844		born son		Raymond Spence		

- Cecilia Jessie Farquharson<sup>5</sup> was born to Charlotte, a servant, still unmarried, on 26<sup>th</sup> October 1844. She was baptised in Burrowell on 20<sup>th</sup> May 1844.

20 <sup>th</sup> of May 1844	26 <sup>th</sup> of October 1844	Cecilia Jessie Farquharson	Charlotte Farquharson	Burrowell District	Servant	Charles Spence
No. 1844		born ds.		Raymond Spence		

- Archibald Frederick Farquharson<sup>6</sup> was born to Charlotte, a servant, still unmarried, on 10<sup>th</sup> August 1846. He was baptised in Burrowell on 31<sup>st</sup> October in 1846.

31 <sup>st</sup> of Oct 1846	10 <sup>th</sup> of August 1846	Archibald Frederick Farquharson	Charlotte Farquharson	Burrowell District	Servant	Charles Spence
No. 249 1846		born son		Raymond Spence		

George and Archibald Mosman were twins and often Archibald visited him at Burrowell and sometimes bought horses and cheese from him. They had a sister named Cecilia Mosman and their father was Hugh, as the eldest son of each generation of this family was always a Hugh. From the names of the children it appears that Archibald was the father but he wasn't named on the baptism certificates. When he married Harriet, the three children stayed with them and he is stated as the father of Hugh in books<sup>7</sup> and web sites. He was 42 when Hugh was born.

Archibald Mosman<sup>8,9</sup>. (1799-1863) was born on 15<sup>th</sup> October 1799, the elder of twin sons of Hugh Mosman of Lanarkshire, Scotland, and his wife Agnes Kennedy.

Archibald and George grew sugarcane in the West Indies and arrived in Sydney on 24<sup>th</sup> August 1828. They started a business together but eleven months later the partnership was dissolved by mutual consent. George moved onto his property at Burrowell.

A warehouse was first established in George Street and in 1831 a small grant was obtained on the foreshore of Sirius Cove (now called Mosman Bay). The brothers, like many Sydney merchants of the late 1820s, were interested in whaling and Archibald planned to make Sirius Cove a centre for the industry. He bought out his competitor and eventually extended his original grant to include a large part of the suburb which was given his name.

The profits from whaling and from the berthing, careening and refitting facilities at Mosman's Bay appear to have been considerable but by August 1844 during the depression, Mosman was bankrupt.

From 1844 to 1846 the stock book at George Mosman's property contained numerous entries for the issue of beef, flour, sugar and tea to A. Mosman so it is possible that he resided at Burrowell during that time.

He married Charlotte's cousin, Harriet Farquharson on 31<sup>st</sup> December 1847. Harriet was baptised on 4<sup>th</sup> February 1821 in Tarland, Aberdeenshire and died on 24<sup>th</sup> August 1885 at Clarges Street, Piccadilly, London<sup>10</sup>. After Archibald and Harriet married, they moved to land near Glenn Innes called Furracabad station. The three children of Charlotte were taken on by Harriet and Archibald as it was said that they had eleven children but in fact only eight were from this marriage.

Hugh Mosman<sup>11,12,13</sup> (Farquharson) led the prospecting expedition that discovered the Charters Towers goldfield. He was later a member of the Legislative Assembly in Queensland. In 1882, Hugh lost his left forearm in a premature explosion of dynamite but the accident did not affect his activities. His great enthusiasm was the turf and his highlight was the winning of the Queensland Turf Club Derby with Balfour in 1902<sup>14</sup>. After many months of illness his life ended at Toowong on 15<sup>th</sup> November 1909. Unmarried, he left an estate of more than £70,000 to his relations. The main street of Charters Towers was named after him.

Cecilia Jessie Farquharson<sup>15</sup> married Sir Arthur Palmer who became a Queensland Premier<sup>16</sup>. She died aged 40 on 31<sup>st</sup> August 1885 from phthisis after catching a cold at one of the private assembly balls. She had three sons and two daughters.<sup>17</sup>

Archibald Frederick Farquharson<sup>18</sup> fathered several children and then married their indigenous mother, Meridah (Kitty) Guachaup on 4<sup>th</sup> November 1911 in Alsace Station in Queensland. He died in Cloncurry, Queensland on 20<sup>th</sup> February 1918 aged 71.

It is unclear when Charlotte moved away from Burrowell but she next appears in Sydney with Joseph Charles Foster. No marriage was found and it may be due to the fact that he was Roman Catholic and she Presbyterian. Children of Charlotte and Joseph were Henry Foster born in 1853, Jane Foster born in 1855, Adam Foster born in 1857 and Joseph Charles Foster born in 1859. It is not known if she ever again had contact with her three first born children.

Charlotte and Joseph were living in 10 Judge Street, Woolloomooloo<sup>19</sup> where she died on 10<sup>th</sup> May 1861<sup>20</sup> from Phthisis (pulmonary tuberculosis) aged 33. She was buried in Camperdown cemetery (St Stephens Church).

It has been confirmed by baptism certificates that Charlotte was the mother of Hugh, Cecilia Jessie and Archibald Frederick Farquharson and there is no doubt that Archibald was the father as the children were named after him and his family members. It appears that Charlotte was used by an older man, cast aside and her children taken away and bought up as part of the

Archibald and Harriet Mosman family. Much of the written history of Charlotte's story and her first three children's parentage is incorrect, so hopefully this story will correct some of those inaccuracies.

## References:

- <sup>1</sup> "Scotland Births and Baptisms, 1564-1950", database, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:XB4G-WR2> : 16 September 2021), Charlotte Farquharson, 1828.
- <sup>2</sup> New South Wales Assisted Immigrant Passenger Lists
- <sup>3</sup> The Courier (Hobart, Tas: 1840 - 1859), Friday 28 January 1842, page 3
- <sup>4</sup> NSW BDM Number. 2424 Vol:28
- <sup>5</sup> NSW BDM Number. 2618 Vol:30
- <sup>6</sup> NSW BDM Number. 2382 Vol:31
- <sup>7</sup> Mosman: A History. Author: Gavin Souter
- <sup>8</sup> <https://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/mosman-archibald-2485>
- <sup>9</sup> [https://www.freesettlerorfelon.com/archibald\\_mossman.htm](https://www.freesettlerorfelon.com/archibald_mossman.htm)
- <sup>10</sup> <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/3421413?searchTerm=Harriett%20Mosman>
- <sup>11</sup> Wikipedia [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hugh\\_Mosman](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hugh_Mosman)
- <sup>12</sup> Australian Dictionary of Biography <https://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/mosman-hugh-4261>
- <sup>13</sup> <https://www.familyhistory.bdm.qld.gov.au/details/a01824a02d2b5ab4597bd82bc05ac44b01f124aec44f21b19d90e810940b3d2a>
- <sup>14</sup> <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/19592340>
- <sup>15</sup> <https://www.familyhistory.bdm.qld.gov.au/details/90444a2e883ca96b06f8d678be0170ad43be093bbd2211727531df1e6e23e155>
- <sup>16</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arthur\\_Hunter\\_Palmer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arthur_Hunter_Palmer)
- <sup>17</sup> <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/3447614/86544>
- <sup>18</sup> <https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Mosman-110> Archibald Frederick
- <sup>19</sup> Funeral to move from residence 10 Judge Street, Woolloomooloo (SMH 12 Nov 1861. P8)
- <sup>20</sup> NSW BDM Number. 01034/1861

**Rod HORTON Member 1280J**

## THE BORDER REIVERS

Border reivers were raiders along the Anglo-Scottish border from the late 13th century to the beginning of the 17th century. They included both Scottish and English people, and they raided the entire Border country without regard to their victims' nationality. Their heyday was in the last hundred years of their existence, during the time of the House of Stuart in the Kingdom of Scotland and the House of Tudor in the Kingdom of England.

Scotland and England were frequently at war during the late Middle Ages. During these wars, the livelihood of the people on the Borders was devastated by the contending armies. Even when the countries were not formally at war, tension remained high, and royal authority in either or both kingdoms was often weak, particularly in remote locations. The difficulty and uncertainties of basic human survival meant that communities and/or people kindred to each other would seek security through group strength and cunning.

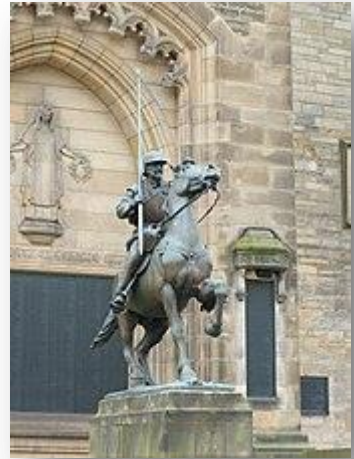
The attitudes of the English and Scottish governments towards the border families alternated from indulgence and even encouragement, as these fierce families served as the first line of defence against invasion across the border, to draconian and indiscriminate punishment when their lawlessness became intolerable to the authorities.



Reive, a noun meaning raid, comes from the Middle English (Scots) reifen. The verb reave meaning "plunder, rob", a closely related word, comes from the Middle English reven.

The reivers were both English and Scottish and raided both sides of the border impartially, so long as the people they raided had no powerful protectors and no connection to their own kin. Their activities, although usually within a day's ride of the border, extended both north and south of their main haunts.

When raiding, or riding, as it was termed, the reivers rode light on hardy nags or ponies renowned for the ability to pick their way over the boggy moss land. The original dress of a shepherd's plaid was later replaced by light armour such as brigandines or jacks of plate (a type of sleeveless doublet into which small plates of steel were stitched), and metal helmets such as burgonets or morions; hence their nickname of the "steel bonnets". They were armed with light lances and small shields, and sometimes also with longbows, or light crossbows, known as "latches", or later on in their history with one or more pistols. They invariably also carried swords and dirks.



*Reivers statue at Galashiels*

Relationships between the Border clans varied from uneasy alliance to open, deadly feud. It took little to start a feud; a chance quarrel or misuse of office was sufficient. Feuds might continue for years until patched up in the face of invasion from the other kingdoms or when the outbreak of other feuds caused alliances to shift. The border was easily destabilised if Graynes from opposite sides of the border were at feud. Feuds also provided ready excuse for particularly murderous raids or pursuits.

Riders did not wear identifying tartans.

The reivers were romanticised by writers such as Sir Walter Scott (*Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border*), although he also used the term Moss-trooper, which refers to seventeenth-century borderland brigands. Scott was himself a native of the borders, writing down histories which had been passed on in folk tradition or ballad.



*A leather jack of the kind worn by reivers in the 16th century*

The names of the Reiver families are still very much apparent amongst the inhabitants of the Scottish Borders, Northumberland and Cumbria today. Reiving families (particularly those large or brutal enough to carry significant influence) have left the local population passionate about their territory on both sides of the Border.

Despite this there has been much cross-border migration since the Pacification of the Borders, and families that were once Scots now identify themselves as English and vice versa.

Acknowledgement:- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Border\\_reivers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Border_reivers)

<http://www.borderreivers.co.uk/>

## LOST AND FOUND – at East Gosford

When I was a small child on the West Australian goldfields, my mother gave me a little picture book to read. I think it was called *The Life of a Penny* and I loved it. My English parents often spoke of the home country, though not London where the story was set. It concerned an ordinary penny, held in someone's hand or ragged pocket and dropped as that person walked across old London Bridge back in the mists of time. The adventures of the coin as it passed from hand to hand, before falling deep into the River Thames, and later in more modern times after being dredged from the mud, made a great tale. So it was that a simple story sparked a lifetime interest in old coins, though I never became a collector as my mother did in a casual way.

Since coming to live in Gosford in 1958, I have heard many reports of coins being found in the soil at East Gosford, usually after particularly heavy rains. One of this area's very early hotels, the Victoria, opened in 1840 on the corner of Victoria and Caroline Streets. During various incarnations, and with a succession of owners, it continued to cater to thirsts and accommodation needs until it burned down in 1893. I once interviewed the aged Arthur "Brass" Cooper of East Gosford, who told me that he was "... born around the time the old Victoria pub went up in a great blaze..." From that date I was able to look up old newspapers to find a very brief account of the fire.

In East Gosford, the private township of Samuel Peek of Sydney, a long stone wharf was built by Edward Hammond Hargraves at the end of Victoria Street in 1840, the year before the Government sent convicts from Sydney to construct one at the head of Gosford Broadwater (then referred to as West Gosford). Vessels were coming and going, and there was a great deal of activity in the new development on the east.

Many years ago, the late Mrs. Edna Stone who with her husband Len ran a large plant nursery on the old Victoria Hotel location (she had lived on the site as a child), gave me a handful of old coins which are now in archival care. Edna said they had been turned over at various times in their garden beds. These coins were from different periods of British royalty, ranging from George III in 1797, George IV 1826, Queen Victoria 1838, 1844 and 1861. Other coins were from the Middle East, and there was an 1883 specimen bearing the likeness of King Kalakau of Hawaii. None of them were terribly valuable, but what history they could tell!

It's not hard to imagine well-tanked drinkers in the pubs tossing change into their pockets and maybe losing it down cracks between the floor boards. What amazes me is the number of coins that have turned up in the area... some people seem to have been jolly careless. Early regattas and sawing contests brought many people into the district, boosting the number of timber and shipbuilding employees, mariners, shop-keepers and other workers.

Most ended such an event by celebrating or drinking their sorrows away in one of the local pubs.

In the 1950s a Gosford High School athlete who lived in Caroline Street was out on a practice run when he spotted a coin lying in roadside clay in Melbourne Street. It was a George III penny.

Another youth who had been finding stray coins around this time after heavy rain washed them clean, also turned up a store token (similar look to a penny) for a grocery in Melbourne. Store tokens were first introduced by Samuel Peek and his partner at their Sydney business and are now worth several hundred dollars for one in prime condition bearing their name.

A friend, the late Mrs. Doris Gale of Springfield (nee Whiting of Holgate), thrilled me in recent years with the gift of an 1817 George III sixpence, found by her husband Arthur. He had seen the shine of it while tilling the ground to grow potatoes on a spare block next to their earlier home in Wells Street, East Gosford near the Henry Parry Drive intersection.

If only those coins could talk!



Captions:

Front of coin: The King George III sixpence of 1817 found by Arthur Gale.

Reverse: *Honi soit qui mal y pense* (Shame to him who thinks ill of it. Motto of the Order of the Garter)

Below: Mrs. Doris Gale of Springfield whose husband Arthur found an 1817 coin.



Gwen DUNDON  
Member 134.

## Frederick Ewart Walker 1884-1964

Frederick Ewart Walker was found using DNA to be the father of Beatrice Taylor. Beatrice was born to Elizabeth Ellen Taylor in 1937 then given into care as a baby. She was the focus of the talk at last month's (October 2021) Central Coast Family History Society meeting.

Rather than being an ordinary man it turns out he led quite a life.

He was one of 4 children born to Frederick Henry Walker and Louisa Jane Turner of Staffordshire.

His younger sister survived but his twin boy siblings died as babies. The family moved to Lancashire where his father became a confectioner and Frederick Ewart became an apprentice toolmaker.

He worked at Metropolitan Vickers which was a major engineering manufacturer in Manchester.

He joined the Navy in 1916 using his skills and at the end of the war became a senior member of the Amalgamated Engineering Union at Armstrong Vickers. He mixed with Fred Siddall and Jack Tanner (who was a leading figure in the Russian Espionage Organisation run by a Cheka agent).

MI5 raided the Arcos shipping company in 1927 and found the company to be shipping young communist league delegates to Moscow. Frederick's name and that of Siddall were found in several MI5 files associated with the raid although nothing could be pinned on them.

"Many of the engineers who they suspected of being involved in Soviet espionage in Britain at this time, had been in the navy when a wave of mutinies broke out between 1918-1920 (which they believed was arranged by pro-Communist/Bolshevik provocateurs)" <sup>1</sup>

Naval vessel plans had been stolen and were suspected of being given to the Russians. At the time Frederick Engels lived in Manchester and frequented the pubs the Clarion Ramblers visited.

This entire story leads back to around 1911 when Frederick Ewart became a Clarion Rambler.

These were a group of young men who would walk the hills around Casterton in Lancashire on weekends; they were young, political and lived in poverty stricken, working class Manchester.

He met like-minded individuals on these walks. One weekend a large rally was organised. A young couple from Manchester went there for the day but never returned, their bodies found inside a cave.

The coroner called it suicide but this couple lived in the same area as the other communist rebels and had been active members. They were not seen that day of the rally and their bodies were found in suspicious circumstances, possibly murdered and placed within the cave. Was this a murder with a government cover-up?

You will find more about this intriguing story written by Alan Sergeant at

<https://www.academia.edu/43971702/>

[The\\_Winnats\\_Pass\\_Mystery\\_Manchesters\\_Rambling\\_Radicals](#)

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<sup>1</sup> Alan Sergeant correspondence to Robyn Gregg.





*The photo (above) of Frederick was supplied by a great nephew.*

So Frederick Ewart had an interesting past. It turns out he married Marion Caroline Murphy in 1929.

She was sister to Alfred John Murphy and William Goodier Murphy CBE, both unionists who ended with distinguished careers.

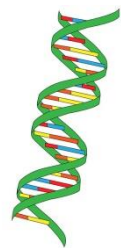
Frederick and Caroline never had children that were known.

Frederick would have met Elizabeth Ellen Taylor and produced a child when Elizabeth was 27 and Frederick was 57 and still married.

Elizabeth Ellen Taylor's younger sister Evelyn married trade unionist Jack Larkin Jones. Frederick Ewart Walker died in 1964 in Altrincham, Cheshire. He was survived by 2 nephews, children of the Murphy's.

Robyn GREGG Member 2077 and Belinda MABBOTT Member 1754 have researched this story untiringly over many months using DNA evidence and matches sourced through many avenues.

A fantastic result!!



## TRADITIONAL SCOTTISH FARE FOR CHRISTMAS AND HOGMANAY

In his book Picturesque Notes on Edinburgh (1879) Robert Louis Stevenson describes The Scotch bun or what is known now as black bun, the dense and rich fruit cake often used for the ritual of first-footing at Hogmanay. It is for this reason black bun goes as well with a glass of whisky as it does with a cup of tea.



Incredibly, black bun can still be found in the windows of the more traditional bakers. Alex Dalgetty & Sons, renowned for their Selkirk Bannock, make around 6000 black buns in the run up to the festive period.



Today lots of people make it themselves. The homemade version is usually a fruit cake wrapped in shortcrust pastry. You don't get more gutsy winter fodder than that! However, the way professional bakers make it is quite different. First a yeast leavened dough, enriched with butter, is made. Some of this dough is reserved for the outer casing; the rest is mixed with dried fruits and spices to form the filling.

The very old recipes resemble something similar to the Selkirk bannock, as they are not nearly as rich as the black bun we have today. However, they are the ancestors of today's black bun. Over the 19th century as sugar became cheaper it became richer and darker until we have what Robert Louis Stevenson described as 'a dense, black substance, inimical to life'.

This recipe is for a black bun is very much a homemade version. It is a lot of fun to make and a lot less fuss than making a cake batter as well as a pastry dough separately.

This bun fills a 23cm x 13cm loaf tin. A non-stick tin would be ideal.

### Ingredients

- 250g raisins
- 250g currants
- 75g unsalted butter
- 300g cold water
- 150g dark muscovado sugar
- 1 tsp ground allspice
- 1 tsp ground ginger
- 150g cold unsalted butter
- 50g black treacle
- 5g salt
- 500g plain flour
- 7g sachet fast action yeast, or 15g fresh yeast
- 50g castor sugar
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp ground nutmeg (freshly grated)
- 1 egg (optional, for glazing)

### Method

First make the dough by rubbing the butter into the flour in a large baking bowl. Now mix in the yeast, salt and sugar. Stir in the water and mix with your hand to form a fairly smooth dough. You do not need to knead it. Cover with a damp cloth or cling film and leave to rest for 2 hours.

While the dough is fermenting you can weigh out the rest of the ingredients. In a sauce pan slowly melt the butter and sugar together. This mixture will look terrible and split to begin with but keep stirring and it will all come together eventually. Stir in the spices and leave to cool completely.

When the dough has rested remove 400g of the dough, keep this for the top and bottom layer.

In the mixing bowl incorporate the remaining dough with the sugar, butter and spice mixture with your hand. Again this takes a while to incorporate but it comes together in the end. Now stir in the fruit.

Lightly grease your baking tin with a bit of butter or flavourless cooking oil.

Roll out the remaining dough on a lightly floured work surface. Roll it out to the depth of roughly half a centimetre. It needs to be big enough to cover the bottom and top. You can use the baking tin to cut out the right size.

Lay the bottom layer of dough in the tin. Pour in the fruit mixture and flatten this out. Now lay the top over and brush it with a beaten egg.

Bake in a 150°C oven for anything between 2 1/2 - 3 hours. This depends on the efficiency of your oven. A skewer should come out clean when the cake is ready. If the top is browning too much you can cover it with tin foil. Leave to cool completely before removing from the tin and slicing it.



**All you need now is a dark-haired male to deliver it alongside some coal, salt and a bottle of whisky for your Hogmanay First Footing.**

This recipe is from [scotsman.com](http://scotsman.com) cooking author Fraser Wright

Fraser is originally from Glasgow and lives in a wee flat in Edinburgh. He writes the food blog [www.redbookrecipes.com](http://www.redbookrecipes.com) and wants to put Scotland on the map as a place for good food.

# WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

## Three Crosses to a New Life

Pondering people and place is so linked in tracing ancestors. Finding facts about family comes in many formats. My most recent includes a TV programme, German newspaper and certificates and an email from a new cousin.

I remember the wonder of standing at my Irish Boyce headstones in Ferns cemetery in Co. Wexford Ireland. Then of visiting the seaside village of Crail in Scotland from whence the Davidsons came. At home, the excitement of meeting Blake cousins in Walcha NSW. But what of the Hagenows, from Mecklenburg, Germany who arrived here on the *Singapore* in December 1854?

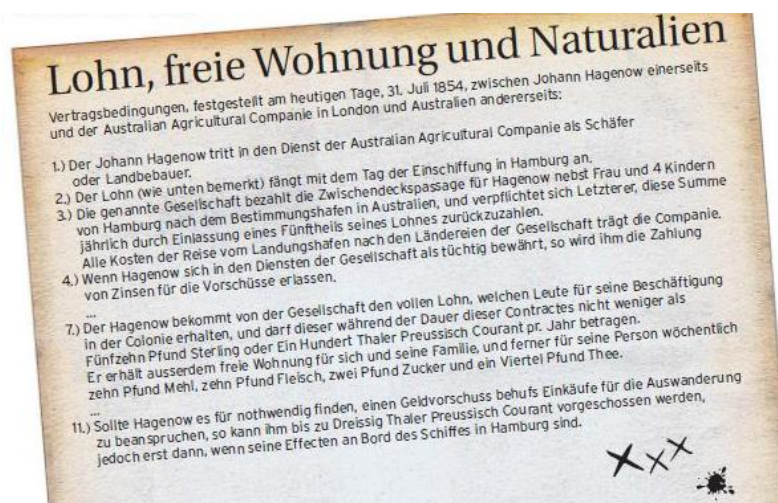
Never in my wildest dreams did I ever imagine I would have relatives in a TV programme like “Who do you think you are?” Nor did I consider I would have my name as a contributor in the credits at the end. Through a network of Stroud and Walcha Historical Societies and our family collection of digitised photographs by Cousin Ian Hobbs we were there in the Christine Bath presentation. Our Great-grandmothers are Hagenow sisters.

Christine Bath, the Aussie journalist, radio and television presenter has Hagenow ancestors from Walcha, Stroud and back to Johann & Caroline in Mecklenburg, Germany. That TV programme linked me with two more Aussie Hagenow/Hogno Mecklenburg relatives Jan & Douglas McGuffog.

Their story highlights the value of chatting with the local historians especially in foreign countries before you visit. They hired German Genealogist Karl-Heinz Steinbruch to research. He then with the local newspaper journalist M. Tautz, guided them on a day tour especially to Deven & Bredenfelde villages. A full page story “Three Crosses to a New Life”, with this German document, appeared in the German paper.<sup>1</sup> How do I know?

Karl forwarded the original with its English translation to the McGuffogs.<sup>2</sup> I am transported in time and place as I read and reread the account of that day. Just a few snippets follow.

*The Schweriner Historian searches in archives, church books, National census and taxation notes for trails of the past. He rather calls it family research instead of genealogy, because behind the dates and names there is something more interesting --the stories – “the meat on the skeleton of the cold facts. With genealogy this does not matter but family research it does.*



<sup>1</sup> SAMSTAG/SONNTAG, 5./6. OKTOBER 2013

<sup>2</sup> D McGuffog resources



*Johann Freidrich Christian Martin Hagenow was born in Deven on the 19<sup>th</sup> December 1819, the 9<sup>th</sup> child of a farm worker.*



Jan and Douglas were driven along this 20<sup>th</sup> century road leading to the village and the village church, 202 years after Johann's birth.

*27 years later Johann married in Gross Varchow, a young woman who was one of the many daughters of a labourer from Bredenfelde. Johann & Caroline had 2 daughters and 2 sons. The hard times of that period can be read in the church notes. At that time pre 1820 the families went where they could find work, as farm labourers or maids, explained genealogist Karl. Only one thing was certain poverty.*

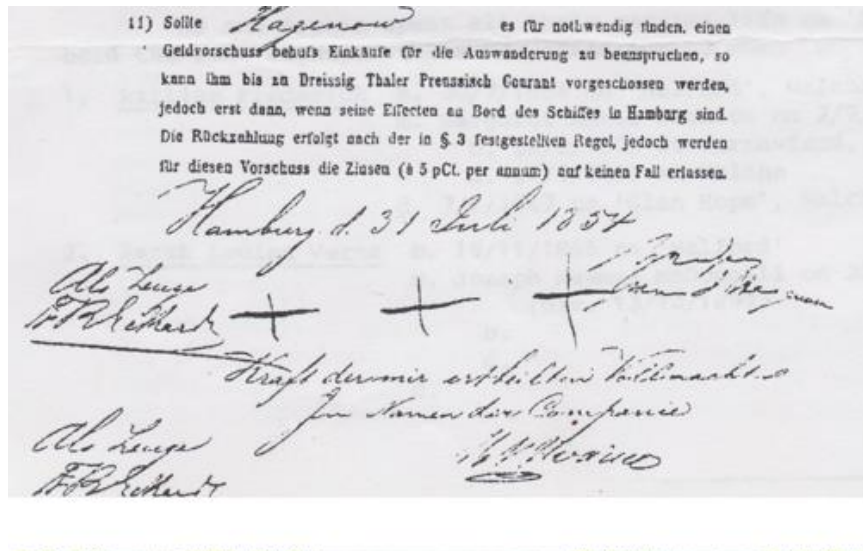
*How tempting would have been the Emigration Agents who came to the country towns from 1850 onwards. They reported about Australia, that "because of a shortage of cutters the grain harvest is partially lost; there are not enough shearers for wool to be shorn. The abundance of food is so great that it cannot be used up. Since the food cannot be brought to the hungry people, let the hungry people come to the food, the worker to where there is work and a good income.*

*The labourer Johann Hagenow signed his contract with the "Australian Agricultural Company" with three crosses for a new life. The family said good bye to his home town and relatives – forever. Between 1840 and 1890 a third of Mechlenburg's inhabitants emigrated. The above paragraphs come from the German newspaper report and McGuffog photos.*

The Australian Agricultural Company had eleven conditions of employment. Johann's signature stands out boldly. I looked again at my copy. Weekly food rations of 10 pounds of flour and meat, 2 pounds of sugar and ¼ pound of tea. His annual salary was 15 pounds sterling or 100 Thalor Prussian, free accommodation for self and family and work at appropriate rates for wife and children. .<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> STEEPE D, translated Original German contract



This was signed before leaving Germany.

After four and a half months sailing on the bottom deck, they arrived in Sydney. Christmas Day 1854 was spent at Stroud as a shepherd with the A. A. Company.

When other workers' contracts ended he was rehired for 6 months. There was plenty of work including fencing at Booral, mending roads, fixing roads and bridges and fencing. Build a shed for the bull. It had been noted that "he served the company loyally, honestly and industriously and obeyed orders."<sup>1</sup>

By 1863 the family was in Walcha when daughter Sophia Hogenew (sic) married Alfred Bath at *Orundunby* where Johann was employed and the family lived. Our story has come full circle.

1870 Johann was naturalised and purchased land at Walcha.

He named his property *Mount Pleasant*.

Three crosses (+ + +) for a new life with wife Caroline and their ten children for generations to come, had begun at Walcha.

- NSW BDM. 1350/1863 registered Armidale

*Marlene Davidson*

**Marlene DAVIDSON Member 327L**

<sup>1</sup> PEMBERTON P A, Pure Merinos and Others

## 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.

### 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.

Part 4.

*I went to school at Coledale until I was thirteen and my parents sold the little house at Coledale Heights and went to live at Thirroul. I didn't want to go to a new school and as you could leave at fourteen; my mother didn't worry about me not going back as I was her housemaid. She took in boarders so I was there to do the housework. When I was fourteen my mother sent me out to work, don't laugh - housework at a guest house. I liked the woman I was working for but my mother wasn't satisfied with that and she found me another job doing housework for people who had a green grocer shop.*

*I was only there for a few weeks when she got me another job at another guest house at Austinmer. I liked it there also but she changed me again to do housework for a private family.*

*They owned the biggest shop in Thirroul. I was there for a few weeks when Mum had to go to hospital so I had to leave and go home to housekeep. Next job was at a ham and beef shop which also sold ice cream and sweets. I didn't like it. Then I was looking after two children one six months and one two years old whose parents had a jeweller's shop. Then Mum decided she wanted to live in Sydney.*

*I won't go into all the particulars but these are some of the places I worked at: piano factory at Annandale, rubber factory at Drummoyne, then a wire factory where they made spring mattresses, then to Mark Foy's in their shirt factory, then to David Jones making men's suits, then back to the rubber factory again to look for a job.*

*While I was waiting to be interviewed I fainted and they took me to the First Aid Room and when I was well enough to go home they said to come back next day to apply for the job. I did not tell my mother about fainting. I told her a lie and said that there were no jobs vacant. Only once I rebelled against my mother and instead of going to work one morning I went and applied for a job at Nestlé's. I had worked there before and I liked it.*

*So when I got the job I went back to David Jones where I had been working and gave my notice. The manager paid me off right away so that suited me. The forewoman knew me when I started back at Nestlé's and she was very nice, very strict but I liked her. My next job was at Bond's and I was there for six years. I was not taken from that job as I was on piece work and earned a man's wage but it didn't do me any good as I had to hand in my pay packet every week and only got enough back for my fares to get to work and almost had to beg to get clothes.*

*I was nearly seventeen when I met my husband, Syd Taylor, and I was twenty-three when I got married and even then my mother tried to stop me from getting married but I defied her.*



Syd

Jeannie

*One day I was bold enough to ask for one pound a week. I scrimped and managed to save one hundred pounds then mum found my bankbook and said that my father couldn't give me away as he needed a new suit, so I asked my sister Robina if she would go halves in buying dad's suit. Mum had to pay for my glory box and wedding dress. I gave her five pounds a week and that was a very good wage for a man let alone a young girl.*

*Even then I didn't get to leave home as dad got out of work and we had to live at home to help them out. I made sure that we just paid board. I still kept my job; then the house at Five Dock became empty and my husband and I had to go and live there as we could not afford to pay two rents. My husband lost his job at his trade as a compositor in the Printing Industry as this was during the Depression and when he finally found a job on the buses the company did not pay the men their proper wages. Jobs were very scarce and some bosses could do as they liked.*

*When we went to live at Five Dock we bought a dresser, a small table, four chairs and a cheap bed. My mother-in-law had an old wardrobe she didn't need and we bought two linoleum squares, one for the bedroom and one for the kitchen and a strip of linoleum for up the middle of the hall.*

*The floor around the linoleum was painted. We were very poor and humble but we were very happy with what we had and so happy to be on our own.*



I don't know if I should be telling you all this as it is breaking my heart to write it. My husband had to work seventy two hours a week and got little for it. I became pregnant with my son John and worked until I was about seven months. In the meantime my mother talked us into buying a share in a farm at Parramatta.

We didn't have any money so we didn't make payments on our own house for six months and used that as a deposit. That put us in the red and we suffered for that for years as we were paying interest on interest. The man we were buying the house from told us just to pay what we could afford. What could we do? My parents were destitute; they had to get out of their home because they couldn't pay the rent. We got tenants for our house and we moved to a flat at Norton Street, Leichhardt, and my sister Robina came to live with us as it was too far for her to travel from Parramatta to work.

My husband's boss kept giving him the sack - why we will never know - and then after a while he would send for him to come back. He was out of work when my son John was born and couldn't come to the hospital to see me or the baby, as I would have found out that he was out of work again and that I would be worried. By the time this happened several times we had had it, so we broke up the home and I went to Parramatta to live on the farm and my husband and my sister went to board with my mother-in-law. Things didn't work out there and so I found a very nice flat at Petersham, and I said to my mother, "If you will look after the baby I will go to work until the farm is paid off." I got my job back at Bonds and was getting two pounds a week, so I put that away each week until I paid off the farm.

Over and above paying the place off we had to help pay for chickens and brooders, and feed had to be bought. Unbeknown to me, my mother was getting one pound a week for my sister Elizabeth because she was blind.

Mum and Dad were alright - they had no rent to pay and they could have a chicken any time to help out with the meat. Mum bought a cow and they had all the milk and butter they needed. Syd and I never got a thing out of the farm. I don't know what they did with the money for the eggs; we will never know. When we went up at the weekend I used to weigh the eggs and make sure all were hen eggs but when the bill came in they only paid us for medium eggs.

*There were never any accounts kept. My husband was working 72 hours a week, never paid overtime and underpaid at that. He was tired out at the weekends but we had to go to the farm every week and he was never done cutting wood for the fire.*

*He used to complain to me about it. When I paid the final payment my mother wanted to sell the farm, so she bought a house at Lilyfield. I paid three hundred pounds for the farm and after all the work my husband and I had put in I received only one hundred and fifty pounds when I eventually sold it.*

*My father got a job on the railways and was not out of work after that. He later had a job at Balmain Mines; then he had a job at Lever Bros and he liked it very much. He said he would never have worked in the mines if he had known you could get jobs like that and he stayed there until he retired.*

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

Thanks to **Ailsa TAYLOR Member 596** for sharing this memoir with us, final episode to come in our next issue April 2022.

## **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 seasonal tree- Christmas Bush sighted at Erina NSW.

***Ceratopetalum gummiferum***, the New South Wales Christmas bush, is a tall shrub or small tree popular in cultivation due to its sepals that turn bright red-pink at around Christmas time.



Image Wikipedia



To achieve the brightest red coloured sepals, plant your Christmas bush in a sun drenched spot. They work best in a bush garden setting, or as a screening plant, and their creamy white flowers attract native butterflies, moths and bees.

When cut, their pretty scarlet blooms are surprisingly long lasting – up to three weeks! Use a sharp pair of secateurs to cut the bottoms of stems at an angle and change the water regularly to prolong the life of your lovely bouquet.

**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.**

## SOCIETIES MAILING LIST

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

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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	Margaret Ertner
Bookstall meeting helper	Lynna Clark
Bus Trips and Tours: -	Leonie Pinson
Event Coordinator	Committee
Facebook Administrator: -	Anthony Lehner
Grant Applications	Marlene Davidson
	Brian Davies
Grant Application Proofreader	Committee
Guest Speakers	Marie Gaven
IT and Computer Network	CC Mobile Computers
Librarian/Unrelated Certificates	Yvonne Potts
Library Assistant	Robyn Rose
Membership Secretary	Brian Davies
PELICAN PRESS E MUSTER Editor	Heather Yates
Overseas Book Monitor	Heather Sushames
Property Officer	Rod Horton
Public Officer	Ken Clark
Publicity and Advertising	Brian Davies
Raffles/Rotary Raffle	Wendy Condon
	Robyn Rose
Catering	Marlene Davidson
Website Designer	Jeff HallWebsiteguy
Welfare and Hospital Visits	Wendy Condon
Research Officers: -	Margaret Morters
	Heather Sushames
Workshops: -	Marlene Davidson
Education Officer/ DNA Special Interest	Belinda Mabbott



## TRANSCRIPTION AGENTS

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



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



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



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