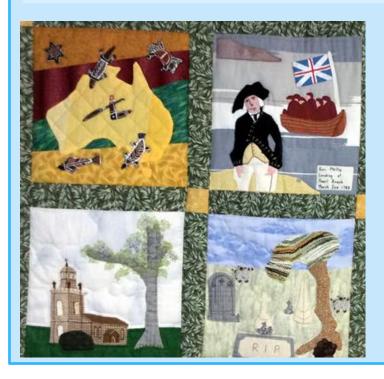
E-Muster

Central Coast Family History Society Inc.

December 2017 Number 19



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



A section from a Quilt made by CCFHS members, which is on display in our Research Centre.

Central Coast Family History Society Inc.

PATRONS

Lucy Wicks, MP Federal Member for Robertson Chris Holstein

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

Executive:

President: Wendy Condon Vice President: Margaret Ertner Secretary: Heather Yates Treasurer: Ken Clark

Public Officer: Marlene Bailey

Committee:

Marlene Bailey, Bennie Campbell, Marlene Davidson, Carol Evans, Belinda Mabbott, Trish Michael, Paul Schipp.

RESEARCH CENTRE

Building 4, 8 Russell Drysdale Street, EAST GOSFORD NSW 2250
Phone: 4324 5164 - Email admin@centralcoastfhs.org.au
Open: Tues to Fri 9.30am-2.00pm;
Thursday evening 6.00pm-9.30pm
First Saturday of the month only
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 Venue: Gosford Lions Community Hall Rear of 8 Russell Drysdale Street, EAST GOSFORD NSW

MEMBERSHIP FEE - GST INCLUDED

Single Membership \$45.00 Joining Fee \$10.00 Joint Membership \$65.00 Joining Fee \$10.00

The e- Muster is the Official Journal of the Central Coast Family History Society Inc. as 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 **— Muster.**

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JOURNAL EDITOR Heather YATES

All articles to:

admin@centralcoastfhs.org.au

e- Muster deadlines are March 20 July 20 October 23

The E-Muster

December 2017 - No: 19

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EDITORIAL

2017 is all but over and so we present the December E-Muster. It is good to know that the last edition of our Journal was very well received and enjoyed. Once again, sincere thanks are due to those who have contributed, prepared and presented the items included for your enjoyment. A



presented the items included for your enjoyment. As always, member contributions are greatly appreciated and encouraged.

We announce with sadness that Sue Breckenridge, previous Editor and a valued member of our Committee has resigned, along with President Wendy Condon and Vice President Margaret Ertner. Their involvement and dedication to the Central Coast Family History Society has been highly valued and they will be sorely missed.

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

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

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

Enjoy the read,

Muster Editor (temp.) Heather YATES Member 675

"Christmas isn't a season. It's a feeling." Edna Furber.

PRESIDENTS REPORT - WENDY CONDON



Gosh, another year has passed; we have been busy with the renovations to the office with one of the grants Marlene obtained for us.

We have had trips to Parramatta Female Factory, Windsor and Ebenezer, Maitland with the RedBus Company and their wonderful

driver Andrew, also to State Records at Kingswood, State Library and Society of Australian Genealogists- SAG.

We went to Orange for the NSW & ACT Family History Conference and to St. Paul's Church at Kincumber for their 175th year celebrations.

Two new Life Members are Marie Riley and Dorothy Mulholland.

Margaret Ertner and her wonderful team are putting together the revision version of our Point Frederick Cemetery book. Marlene Davidson applied for another grant successfully to cover the printing costs.

On a sad note Margaret Ertner and I are both leaving our Committee Positions on the 15th December 2017.I would like to thank everyone who has supported me over the last 17 years.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year- keep safe.

Regards

Wendy CONDON-President

NEW MEMBERS

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

2051	Beverley Lane	2055	Annette Fotheringham
2052	Carolyn Kuskey	2056	Laurence Allen
2053	Paul Messenger	2057	Margaret Spooner
2054	Patricia Stringer	2058	Paul Boland

You've read the books. You've searched in the databases. But did you know that one of the best resources in a genealogy library is often the Librarian? Get more out of your visits to our library by asking these three things.

- 1. "Can you help me?" I've noticed that there seems to be a hesitation about asking a Librarian anything. The reasons people give are often, "She looks busy" or "He'll think this is a stupid question." Here's the scoop: *The librarian wants to help you*. Yes, she has some work with her while she's at the reference desk. But when she is at the desk, her main responsibility is to help you. As for the "stupid questions," I think most Librarians would agree with me that the only truly stupid question is the one that isn't asked.
- 2. "Do you have any collections that aren't in the catalogue?"

 Just because the library has it, doesn't mean that it's in the catalogue.

 Things like obituary files, newspaper clipping collections, vertical files, and rare books may not be included. Be sure to ask the librarian about these hidden gems.
- 3. "Are there other places that could have the resources I'm looking for?"
 This is an especially useful question when you have a very specific research focus. The Librarian might be able to point you to those "off the beaten path" places the tiny historical society, the obscure museum, the church archive that could have just what it is you're looking for.

SPEAKERS FOR 2018

3rd February John Fearon will be talking about the First Fleeters, the Ships and who arrived on this epic journey to Australia.



183973-captain-arthur-phillip.jpg



3rd March

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

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

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

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

7th April Tony Seitam, his Family's escape from Estonia, WW11 and their eventual settlement in Australia.

Tony will relate his early history in a very traumatic period during the closing stages of World War II in which his family fled from the Russians and was subsequently split up in war-ravaged Germany. He will describe his early life in Estonia and his subsequent journey across Europe, culminating in a search for a new home and the family's experiences as 'New Australians'.

MEMBERSHIP FEES 2018 - effective 1st April



EXISTING MEMBERS - REJOINING

Membership Fees for 2018-2019 will be: Single Membership \$45.00 Joint Membership \$65.00

A Members Day user fee of \$2.50 now applies to assist in offsetting the cost of online subscription sites. Day Research fee for Non-Members \$10.

All Saturday workshops will incur a fee of \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members unless otherwise stipulated.

OUR MEMBERSHIP FORM is available to download from the website. From the front page click on the ...read more information Tab under Membership on the banner and all will be revealed. Remember the website is www.centralcoastfhs.org.au

Please read the two additional questions on your membership form regarding the Rotary Raffle donations to the Equipment Maintenance and Replacement Fund. You can choose to have Tickets sent to you to the value of \$10 or if you prefer you can make a once per year donation of \$10.00 to the Equipment Maintenance Fund.

Next Issue

No. 20 April 2018 e-Muster

Deadline for articles for the April edition of the Muster

20th March, 2018.

SOCIETIES MAILING LIST

The email address for our Society is admin@centralcoastfhs.org.au You can also Like Us on Facebook! facebook.

ASSIGNED DUTIES

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

smoothly as it does.

Assistant Treasurer Margaret Ertner **Bookstall Coordinator** Margaret Ertner Bookstall meeting helper Paul Schipp

Bus Trips and Tours

Christmas Party Organiser

Event Coordinators

Grant Applications

Grant Application Proofreader

Guest Speakers Housekeeping

IT and Computer Network LDS Film Hire - Family Search

Librarian

Membership Secretary

Membership Secretary's helper on meeting days

Members Interests/Facebook Administrator

The e-Muster Editor Pelican Press Editor Overseas Book Monitor

Property Officer Public Officer

Publicity and Advertising

Raffles Catering

Research Officer Rotary Raffle

Unrelated Certificates Website Administrator

Website Designer

Welfare and Hospital Visits

Belinda Mabbott Wendy Condon

Marlene Davidson

Wendy Condon

Marlene Davidson

Committee Paul Schipp

Rosemary Wiltshire

CC Mobile Computers Heather Yates

Bennie Campbell Trish Michael

Marlene Bailey Belinda Mabbott

Heather Yates Heather Yates

Heather Sushames Marlene Bailey

Marlene Bailey

Vacant

Carol Evans

Bennie Campbell **Margaret Morters**

Carol Evans

Bennie Campbell Margaret Ertner

Zac Hall – Websiteguy Marlene Davidson

BREAKING NEWS!!

C.C.F.H.S Member Dawn Springett accepted our Certificate for Award of RAHS Cultural Grant from Carol Liston at Cowra Conference on 28 October, 2017.

Thank you for accepting this on our behalf, Dawn.

This grant will assist with the funding for printing of our Project -Pt Frederick Cemetery.





Award Recipients at Cowra October 2017.

NEWSPAPERS AT GOSFORD LIBRARY

Pam WILLIAMS Member 52L finds interesting bits and pieces in old newspapers from time to time— we thank her for her input for this issue.

"Firsts in our Colony of New South Wales-

Australian History."

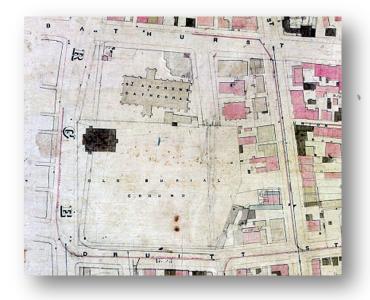
As reported in the Gosford Times, 30th Sept, 1920.

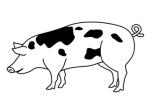


The first horned cattle arrived in New South Wales, composed of two bulls and five cows, in January, 1788. Through a negligence of a convict, the little herd escaped into the bush and were lost.

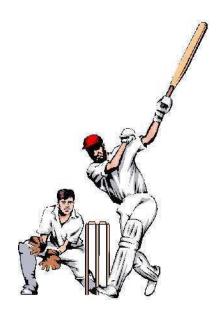
First colonial church-yard or burial ground was on the site of the present Town Hall, Sydney. A proposition to fence round the ground in consequence of the pigs rooting up the earth, appeared in the "Sydney Gazette," February 5, 1804.

First civil action of any note in the Colony was tried in 1795. A hog, belonging to a Mr. Bolton, having been shot by some of the soldiers, an altercation took place and some of the military assaulted Bolton with a loaded musket, as was alleged, at the instance of two officers of the corps. Damages were laid at £500, and the case occupied several days. A verdict was given for twenty shillings.











First Circuit Court at Maitland (Wallis Plains), was opened by Mr. Justice Dowling on August 17, 1829.

The "First Fleet," with 696 convicts under the command of Governor Arthur Phillip, R.N., anchored in Port Jackson, 1788.

Number of blacks in Australia (1848) estimated at 3,000,000.

First harvest gathered in New South Wales, at Rose Hill (Parramatta), December, 1788.

First bricks made in New South lWaes, at Brickfield Hill, Sydney, in March, 1788.

Whitsuntide holidays—June 11 and 12, 1810—were celebrated in Sydney by cock-fighting and bull-baiting. At the latter "sport" a number of useless dogs were killed or crippled.





AUSTRALIAN TRENCH ART

My maternal grandfather, Richard (Dick) R Pardy, enlisted March 1942 and served until December 1945, first with the 311 Light Aid Detachment [L.A.D.] and then later with the 8th Australian Advanced Workshop [A.E.M.E.].

He was stationed at various locations ranging from Speers Point, to Tamworth and Darwin. Whilst he did not officially leave Australian shores, there are family stories of involvement in clandestine activities when on loan to different units. That is another story altogether, which has been extremely difficult to locate official confirmation for.





Richard was stationed in Darwin from September 1943 to April 1944, then again from July 1944 to October 1944. The break between these dates starts with an A.W.L. notice early July 1944 followed by a Warrant for Arrest Issued. Nothing else appears to indicate charges actioned so we can surmise the absenteeism was covered and accounted for as the next entry for August 1944 clearly states son

born.



During Richard's time in Darwin there were several crashes of different aircraft.

Richard made a set of cheese knives from the metal of one crashed bomber: the blades are of duralumin and the handles are of buffalo horn.

They are beautifully made and I dare not use them!



Ann SKINNER Member 800

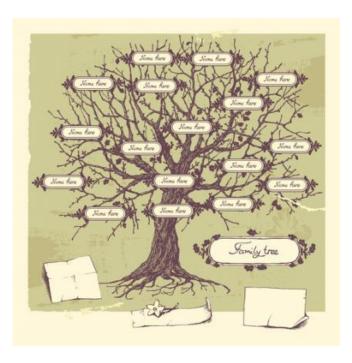
Lost- but found in Bunnings.

My daughter was shopping for a plant early one Sunday morning at her local Bunnings in Melbourne. As she was selecting a plant, a man standing nearby told her its Latin name and how to care for it and explained that he'd worked at the Botanic Gardens in his youth.

They started chatting and he told her a bit about his life, including that he and his twin sister had been adopted, aged 3, in 1938. He knew his mother's name and that there was a connection to a country town but nothing more. He said that over the years he'd thought about his mother and wondered, since her name was so English, whether she'd had the twins but then had to go back to England. Pointing to his face, he said he also thought that perhaps his father had been a "Chinaman from Bendigo" and that because of racist attitudes in the 1930s, his parents hadn't been able to stay together.

The man, now in his late 70s, seemed eager to try to find out as much as possible about his birth family and my daughter told him that his local public library would have useful websites on their computers. "Would the librarian show me how to use a computer?" It was then I became involved: "Oh, my mother would probably be happy to look up your mother's name on a couple of genealogy websites, if you like", my daughter generously (!) offered. Gratefully accepting, the man gave her his

History's



mother's name (which he assumed was her maiden name and that she was unmarried when she gave birth), the name of the town he thought she'd come from, his (and his sister's) date of birth, and his contact number. Armed with this information, I entered the mother's name in Ancestry, along with the name of the town, and discovered it was actually the woman's married name. With some sleuthing, I was able to discover that the family's origins in the town went back to the 1850s.

An ancestor from Singapore had emigrated during the Gold rush (there was even a photograph of his wife and one of their grandchildren on the internet). Further research revealed the sad tale of the woman's life – she had married in the 1920s, and had had two children (not the twins) with her husband before he was killed in a motorbike accident on the way to a family picnic. After that, she had moved in with family and had the twins a few years later.

She kept the family together for as long as she could but economic circumstances – she was working as a train attendant - must have forced her to give up her children: the eldest two went to her



husband's family, the twins to a children's home in Melbourne.

I gave my daughter the information, including the mother's maiden name, and she entered her name on Trove, which enables you to look at articles in digitised newspapers going back to 1803.

Immediately, two very sweet letters to the children's page of the paper, written by the woman when a young teenager came up. The first talked about a Sunday picnic organised by her school, the second, written in 1917, told of her brother being wounded during

the war in Europe, and said that he was recuperating in England. My daughter often edits newspaper items on Trove (the digitisation process leads to errors in the transcriptions).

But these needed no editing – someone had already done it. Best of all, they'd added their name and an email address.

Hoping to find out as much as possible about his mother before contacting the gentleman from Bunnings, my daughter wrote to the woman who'd edited the Trove items.

Her email said, "I know this is going to sound strange, but I met a gentleman in Bunnings who said he and his twin sister had been given up for adoption in 1938 and he is trying to trace his mother. She seems to be the same woman in the newspaper articles you've edited and I was wondering if you might be connected to the family?"

The reply, arriving a day later, said: "You've found our lost twins! In 1980 there was a big family reunion and I asked all the relatives to contribute family stories for the booklet I was producing in honour of the event.

When he read the stories, my father said, 'Nobody's told you about the twins.' Nobody was willing to write about them and nobody knew what had become of them. I can't believe that, after all this time, they've turned up! Please phone me. I would love to talk to your Bunnings gentleman!"

The man was stunned to find out he had family who wanted to connect with him and although saddened to find out that his mother, who lived till her 70s, had been in Melbourne all along when he thought she'd been in England ("she was so close!") he was very pleased to talk to his second cousin and delighted when she put him in touch with his 93 year-old first cousin, still living in the country town in which his mother had grown up – she remembered his mother well.

Evelyn PRINEAS Member 1542

The Forgotten Soldiers of WW1

Many of you know I volunteer each Tuesday at Gosford Library, working for Geoff Potter. About 2013 he asked us to research local soldiers who did not return from WW1. As a starting point we looked at the local Monuments and Rolls of Honour, noting the names and going from there.



My job was to find their Service Records

and put together a brief summary of each man's service, noting where possible his connection to the local area. The result of this research can be found online under the name "From ANZAC to ARMISTICE, Gosford District Casualties of World War One. Along with Dr Richard Van Wirdum's "For King and Country" Each file contains the individual's service records, any newspaper reports, and the summary.

This is the basis of the information you have seen in previous editions of the MUSTER.

What you may not know is that we found over 269 young men who fit the brief we were given that is that <u>they all died.</u>

229 were either KIA or Died of Wounds, mostly on the battlefields, but not all.

20 Died of Illness, 4 of Accidents, 1 known Suicide (while at the front) About 15 who died in Australia before 1925- at least 3 are known suicides I want to tell you about some of the last 40.

John "Jack" Vincent Caldecott- Private 1964

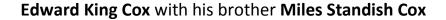
- Born Orange NSW son of Edward & Mary Caldecott of Ourimbah.
- Enlisted on 16 Oct 1915 in Moree then 18yrs old
- John, a station hand being and used to handling horses was no doubt happy to be in the 13th Reinforcements of the 1st Light Horse.
- He left Sydney on 20th Dec 1915 on the troop ship Aeneas
- Caldecott was wounded twice and returned to active duty
- He underwent Gunnery Training and was transferred to Y/4A Medium
 Trench Mortar Battery

- On 4 Nov 1917 John now Gunner JV Caldecott (Late 1st Light Horse) was admitted to the 1st Australian General Hospital, Rouen, France suffering from a gunshot wound to his right leg which was later amputated mid-thigh. He remained in England.
- 5 months later on the 18 May 1918 John married Maude Florence Beckensal, who was an Air Force Sail Maker. They married at the Registry Office in Holborn, England.
- She was the daughter of Robert William Beckensal (Solicitor's Clerk). A month later on the 30 Jun 1918 John returned to Australia. Presumably Maude would follow at a later date
- While at the No 4 Australian General Hospital (Randwick) Caldecott in the company of Gertrude Seaton, Dinah Leigh, Frank Couch, Private R P Jensen and Private Ernest Keith Sharpe travelled to Palm Beach for a day's outing. This happy and carefree event would end with the tragic drowning of Caldecott, five of the party being caught in the undertow.
- A Court Enquiry was conducted on 11 Dec. 1918 by Captain W A E Lewis
 Secretary & Adjutant at No 4 AGH "The Court recommends that portions of
 Private R P Jensen's evidence referring to the necessity for further provision
 for life saving at Palm Beach be brought under the notice of the civil
 authorities".
- The court decreed John Vincent Caldecott's death by drowning a tragic accident. His body was never recovered; he would have been 21 yrs. old.

Percival Claude O'TOOLE 852 36th Battalion C Coy

- Born Mandurama NSW 1892 to James and Jane O'Toole
- Parents address "Tapersville" Narara
- 1st attempt to enlist on 20 Jan 1915 failed he became too sick to continue training due to food poisoning
- 2nd attempt 23 March 1915 was successful
- Left Sydney on the *Beltana* 13 May 1916
- 10 days later 23 May was disciplined for Improper language to a NCO
- 22 Nov 1916 proceeded to France from Southampton
- 15 Dec 1916 sick with Influenza
- 27 Dec 1916 Dangerously ill Pleurisy
- 21 Jan 1917 Admitted to hospital Bristol
- Letter from Mrs O'Toole to HQ wanting to know which of her sons was in hospital as she had four sons fighting,
- 15 Jul 1917 transferred to Isolation Hospital Weymouth

- 25 Oct 1917 arrived back in Australia
- Discharged 24 Apr 1918 Medically unfit -TB
- Died in his fathers' arms at Narara on 25
 May 1918
- Buried Brady's Gully Cemetery
- Percy's brother Austin Stanley O'Toole Died from wounds in France 12 May 1916
- 4 sons served two died
- Father James died 23 Oct 1919 & is buried at Brady's Gully Cemetery.
- Percy was 26 years old.



- Enlisted at Randwick on 17 Aug 1914
- Service numbers were 164 and 165 they were both members of the 4th Battalion.
- They left Sydney on 20 Oct 1914.
- On arrival in Egypt both were taken from the ship straight to hospital. Edward died of Pneumonia on 13 Dec, so did Miles just 3 days later on the 16 Dec, neither set foot on a battlefield.
- Both boys were born in Rylstone, NSW the only sons of Edward Standish Cox and Alice V. Cox residents of Woy Woy, who were later instrumental in the erection of the Woy Woy War Memorial, in Brickwharf Rd.
- Edward was 29 yrs. old and Miles 23yrs. old- both were single.

2 accidents one near Gosford Railway station & the other in the Woy Woy Tunnel.

Thomas Francis McGrath

- McGrath had spent 5 yrs. as a member of the Militia Forces prior to his enlistment on 4 Jan 1916 at Liverpool he was 19 yrs. 7 months old, slightly built 5'5" tall, with a fresh complexion, Blue eyes and light hair---
- He was Acting Cpl with B Coy of the 4th Battalion
- 20 Feb 1916 -McGrath was found in an unconscious state near Gosford Railway Station with severe head injuries. He was transported to Sydney Hospital by Police Constable 117- who refused to give his name & who removed McGrath's possessions including money and badges from his uniform.



- McGrath never regained consciousness dying at 10.15 am less than an hour after arriving at Sydney Hospital. His parents were Thomas and Margaret.
- Buried on 22 Feb 1918 in the R/C Cemetery at Woronora.
- Just 7 weeks after enlistment not yet 20 years of age

Newspaper article Maitland Mercury Monday 21st Feb. 1916 reports;-

Frank had been visiting his parents who were on holiday at Point Clare, leaving them on Sat night to visit friends in Gosford. Gunner Ackland found him lying near the railway line about 5am Sunday morning. Constable Noble of Gosford took the unconscious soldier to Sydney.

Darcy Bell 3507 Returned Soldier

- Bell was a native of Palmerston North- New Zealand 28 yrs.
 old when he enlisted at Warwick Farm on the 5 Aug 1915,
- NOK listed was his cousin Jack Ryan of Woodstock NSW.
- Bell was transferred from the 4th to 56th Battalion 16 Feb 1916
- Returned to Australia as Medically unfit July 1916. Varicose Veins and ulcers of the legs
- Saturday 24 Nov 1917 died in Woy Woy Tunnel
- SMH Tue 27 Nov 1917 pg. 7 Bell was employed by the Railway Commissioners to act as a guard at the southern mouth of the tunnel. He was proceeding to work when hit by the 2pm passenger train from Sydney. Bell was 29 yrs. old. He had been a military guard at the tunnel for a month.
- See the Auckland War Memorial Museum- Online Cenotaph

Another Accident

Andrew Arthur "Ginty" MURPHY 937 20th Battalion AIF

- was a Launch Driver of "Grandview" Woy Woy prior to enlistment
- son of Andrew & Mary E Murphy (Birth Reg. 1891/14031 Gosford)
- enlisted at Liverpool on 20 Mar 1915
- left Sydney on the *Berrima* on 26 Jun 1915
- Hospital Heliopolis Camp suffering Phthisis (Tuberculosis)
- Returning to Australia aboard the *Karoola* which left Suez 20 Jan 1916
- The *Karoola* stopped in Colombo in Ceylon for supplies
- 2 Feb 1916 "Ginty" got off the ship and went for a walk pausing to rest on a low parapet of an bridge over the road leading to the port
- He fell from the bridge to the road below crushing his skull
- Buried on 3 Feb 1916 C/E portion of the Borella Cemetery Colombo Ceylon with Full Military Honours
- Andrew "Ginty" Murphy was 25 yrs. Old.

No Accident

<u>Clarence Henry COMPTON -Transport Sergeant 1011- 5th Light</u> Horse

- Born in Freemantle WA (about July 1864)
- Enlisted in Marrickville 25 Sept 1914 aged 40 yrs. 2 months
- Compton was estranged from his wife and 5 children, who were living in WA.
- living with his adoptive mother Mildred S Cuthbert at Green Point
- Disembarked Alexandria 27 May 1915
- Sgt Compton was found deceased in his bed the morning of 4 Sept 1917
- Court of enquiry held 4 Sep 1917 by 5th Light Horse
- 12 witnesses were interviewed
- Court found during the night of 3rd Sep 1917 having performed his required duties and settled his men and Horses for the night Compton settled into his dugout with his loaded rifle and waited for shelling to start, to muffle the sound of his own gun

- Court found Compton had Committed Suicide whilst temporarily of unsound mind by blowing his brains out with a rifle
- Details were quite graphic
- Buried 4 Sept 1917 on top of a high mound at the beach Tel-el-Marakeb Palestine
- Re-interred Gaza Military Cemetery Plot 25 Row B Grave 5
- Clarence Compton was 43

Other Suicides included

Percy Thomas DUNCAN 983 death cert. just states Soldier and Fisherman, cause of death GSW Head- Jacksonian Epilepsy 19 Sept 1918- Duncan had been wounded at Gallipoli and then again in France 5 Oct 1917 GSW Head/Legs- from which he should have died- he was buried on 21 Sep 1918 in Wyong Cemetery.

Francis Goldie of Kangy Angy 41 yrs. –Rejected for Military servicefor not being smart enough- Goldie drowned himself in Ourimbah Creek 1923.

At least another 15 died before 1925 of either illness or as a result of their wounds, and regrettably some self-inflicted

There are many more stories I could mention **Frank Norris or was it Morris from Kincumber Orphanage**, who "took off" to enlist- his file contains letters from his mother desperately seeking information.

Or **Sid Woodbury- whose mother died the same day-** confusion reigned as to who died first? Was his will valid? Who would inherit? So many lives all with a story to tell, maybe some of them are yours and you would like to share, I hope I haven't depressed you too much.

Our Library contains many books worth your time, Why not take a few minutes on your next visit to the centre to investigate our extensive collection, which is being added to all the time. Ask the team leader or one of the volunteers of the day for help. Happy Hunting!

Bennie CAMPBELL Member 901

Kenneth Harry GOODWORTH. 18th Sept. 1915

...until????????

Ken was born at Scone, New South Wales. His parents were David and Florence Goodworth. His father worked at Whites property, "Belltrees

Station" near Scone. The White family have been at "Belltrees" for over a century and a half. The present homestead was built in 1907 with 52 rooms. Ken and siblings attended Sunday school in "St James Chapel" built 1887 which still stands on "Belltrees" today.



His parents moved from their house in Scone to the Central Coast about 1930 with Ken already living in Davistown with his grandparents.



He attended Empire Bay Public School and in Christmas 1929 he was awarded a book prize for obtaining a Credit in Mathematics, History, Geography, Design, Graphs, Manual Work.

When his family arrived it was difficult to find a rental property so his father built a house on

the beach at "Forrester's Beach. It consisted of 3 bedrooms and was built from 2nd hand timber, had an iron roof and malthoid was used to line the rooms. The family collected timber from along the beach to use as flooring. There were many other families living in similar conditions because of the depression. Father and sons then became fisherman, either off the beach or in a rowing boat. Times improved so they rented first at Wamberal then at Matcham.

After the house in Scone was sold his father bought acreage at Little Beach and built a house on the land. Ken and several of his siblings settled in the area also. Ken became a market gardener for the next 13 years with the later years becoming financially unviable. He then obtained a job in Sydney which meant walking from Little Beach to Kincumber (4 miles) then on the bus to Gosford Station, then on the train. This was reversed in the evenings. In 1960 Ken moved the family to Point Clare near the railway station. This made travelling to work easier.

He is still living at Point Clare and on his 100th birthday received cards from The Queen, the Prime Minister and Governor General. He celebrated his 102nd birthday last September. **Laraine GOODWORTH Member 354**

THE BRIDGES THAT LEAD TO GOSFORD

Hawkesbury River Road Bridge

This bridge opened with much fanfare on 28 Mar 1945, finally replacing Peats Ferries. Building started 1 Sep 1938 with an expected

completion date within 3 years. Problems occurred due to difficulties positioning the caisson for pier 2 so took much longer to finish.



Initially there

was a toll charge of 1 shilling & 6 pence which was the same as the ferry toll. This bridge is still in use today. The **M1 / F3 Bridge** built in the mid-1960s lies parallel.



Mooney Mooney Creek Bridge opened in December 1986.

Brian McGowan Bridge into

Gosford opened 10 March 1994.

What a difference these structures have made over the years! Marg MORTERS Member 406

EARL GREY IRISH ORPHAN FAMINE SCHEME

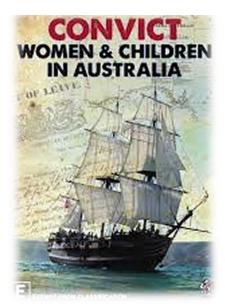
Between 1848 and 1850 over 4000 adolescent female orphans emigrated from Irish workhouses to the Australian colonies.

Earl Grey was the Secretary of State for the Colonies at the time of the Great Irish Famine. It has not always been recognised that Irish women made a tremendous contribution to Australian society. As we recently celebrated Grandparents Day, the focus of my article relates to a grandmother (in no way linked to me) who arrived as an Irish Orphan and has down the generations, made a huge contribution to her family and through them to this country.



A couple of years ago I watched an excellent Foxtel program called "Convict Women and Orphan Girls". Suddenly I recognised a face....there was an interview with a lady introduced as Eleanor, a lady known to me when we were neighbours years ago.

In the course of the interview it became apparent that Eleanor's great-grandmother had ingrained in her children the importance and value of education. I had never known about Eleanor's family history but I had observed and been involved in many conversations which revealed her intense interest in human beings, her enquiring mind and her quiet measured speech.



The TV program was a 4 part documentary and I had only seen one episode. As you can guess, I set about purchasing a copy in an effort to discover more of Eleanor's story.

I did purchase the DVD from Ireland and although there is a lot of Irish spoken, there are sub-titles.

Very recently I looked at the Hyde Park Barracks Museum site online with a view to taking myself to the Irish Famine Memorial in Sydney at the Hyde Parks Barracks on Sunday, August 27th 2017.

As you know, researching can lead us off on a tangent and in this way I discovered "Trevo's Irish Famine orphans blog" and there I found "An Uplifting Story, Bridget McMahon from Limerick"

Bridget McMahon was the subject of the interview on the TV program with Eleanor. Actually, Bridget McMahon was the great-grandmother of my neighbour Eleanor......Dr. Eleanor Dawson. You too can read this amazing story but for now I need to relate the grand-parent lineage in this family.

This story begins with orphan Bridget McMahon -1913) who arrived aged 19, at the end of June, 1850 on the ship, *Maria*. Bridget had been identified as a suitable emigrant under the Earl Grey Scheme. She was a dressmaker, Roman Catholic, could read but not write, was in good health, strength and with possible usefulness.

At that time her father was dead and her mother was living in Rathkeale, Limerick, possibly in the workhouse where Bridget had been living. It is believed that Bridget worked as a seamstress for the Blaxland family at Ryde and Bathurst.

In 1858 Bridget married Samuel Long (1833-1914), a Protestant from County Tyrone. Samuel had come here, with two of his brothers, at the invitation of an uncle who was a farmer in Wollongong. Initially working as a labourer, Samuel became a senior attendant and then a Storekeeper at the Tarban Creek Lunatic Asylum (now known as Gladesville Mental Hospital). The couple had a long association with such institutions. The couple had seven children.

So now, it is time to introduce Ann Maria Long (1863-1921). Ann Long was later to marry, James Patrick Collins, a Limerick man who took up a post with the Department of Public Instruction, later moving around New South Wales before settling in Richmond just before the birth of their son, Archibald.

Sadly, James died at the age of 42 leaving 34 year-old Annie with six surviving children. Annie was to manage by working as a teacher together with her eldest son They moved from rented house to rented house while Annie educated her children and managed to put four of them through Sydney University with the help of bursaries. Annie died at age 57.

The fourth graduate was Marjorie Collins (1895-1970) later to become the mother of Eleanor. Marjorie Collins was a brilliant scholar- who like her brother and sister, was Dux of Fort Street School.

She graduated with first class honours in Science in 1916 and was awarded the first Master of Science in 1924. She was a pioneering ecologist. Marjorie married in 1925 and had one daughter who she named. Eleanor. With the birth of her daughter, Marjorie left academia and taught in schools and co-authored text books. Her enthusiasm and warm manner ensured her daughter Eleanor, was able to develop her own distinguished career as a doctor, researcher, and psychiatrist.



I applaud this family, particularly the grandparents whose life in Australia

began in the 1850's. They had their share of trials and tribulations. It is orphan Bridget's mitochondrial line that has contributed through the generations to highly intelligent, resourceful and strong characters who pioneered in so many fields.

This statement does not mean to diminish the inherited characteristics from the fathers either.....there is every chance that many of those strengths commented on, were contributed by both sets of DNA of such clever people.

Let me finish by sharing a poem that Eleanor wrote just over a year ago: it sheds a light on the very personal nature of family history.

Acknowledgements – Earl Grey Scheme – Trevo's Irish Famine Orphans https://earlgreysfamineorphans.wordpress.com/tag/eleanor-dawson/

Sue BRECKENRIDGE Member 1561

Eleanor's poem

At fifty-seven my mother's mother suddenly died in the twenty-fourth year of her widowhood Epidemic losses from her married years had numbered three: diphtheria and typhoid, and then pneumonic flu

Two sons had come back safe from Flanders' fields;
from Passchendaele and Zonnebeek,
the elder wounded, the younger decorated,
eventually even knighted and stated by his ultimate valedictorian
to have forged his soul in the crucible of battle.
But in that family didn't they all?

Alone my teacher grandmother had raised the six survivors of her seven children

to lives of study, sacrifice and service.
Aided by bursaries, two of her daughters and two sons alike graduated with honours from her ever-moving suburb—to suburb household,
fine paradigm of need and equal opportunity.

Then came cancer and post-operative embolism At fifty-seven she suddenly died, never having seen or held a grandchild.

At fifty-seven her only married daughter did become a grandmother: That daughter stood beside me, raptly looking down upon mv snugly cotted offspring;

sharing my delight, warmly encouraging yet gently warning me about the scant-envisaged future years she labelled 'work and thrall'

She'd reminisced then how Camilla Wedgwood.
' doyenne of 1920's Sydney academic scene,
had viewed me years before in that same cot, tut-tutting, 'what a
waste!'

And with that memory, my mother, a humorously self-styled bluestocking conspired with me to recognize that even clever women in high places do not know everything.

Years later, at fifty-seven, now long years ago, I myself was pondering the past;

coming to realize ever so slowly, that I'd not need and must not want a grandchild,

If that child had to be a cold-store embryo or else a long-day childcare baby.

Time would tell.

For at twenty-one my eldest grandchild told me of his dreama dream of living with his soul-mate in a tree house
and taking babies for picnics in a forest.

with an email chuckle-sign he asked for helphelp to work out how to make his dream come true.

"We are such stuff as dreams are made on, and our little life is rounded with a sleep".

(Eleanor Dawson 13/02/2015)



Eleanor Shiels at Graduation MB BS 1951

KEEPSAKES FOR YOU TO MAKE



Mini Christmas Pudding

- Requires brown and white double knitting wool for the body, green felt for holly leaves and small amount of red wool or red beads for the berries
 - Pair of 3 1/4 mm (UK Size 9)
 Knitting Needles

With brown double-knitting wool cast on 20 stitches.

1st Row Knit 2nd Row Purl 3rd Row Knit 4th Row Purl 5th Row Knit 6th Row Purl 7th Row Knit 8th Row Purl

Change to white double-knitting wool, leaving enough brown wool to sew up pudding section

1st Row K2, incr. 1 stitch, K2, incr. 1 stitch repeat to end of row (30 stitches) 2nd Row Knit 3rd Row k2 tog to end of row (15 stitches) 4th Row Knit 5th Row Knit 1, k2 tog to end of row (5 stitches) 6th Row Knit 7th Row k2 tog twice, k1 Thread wool through remaining stitches and join sides together using white wool for topping and brown for pudding.

Sew in ends Stitch on two small felt holly leaves and embroider 3 red berries (or sew on 3 red beads)

Finish by filling with Ferrero Rocher Chocolate (if you want to!)

Mini Santa Hat

Requires red and white double knitting wool and silver bead(s)

Pair of 3 1/4 mm (size 9) knitting needles



With white double-knitting

wool, cast on 20 stitches and knit 3 rows garter stitch (knit all rows). Change to red double-knitting wool and garter stitch 8 rows.

Next shape top of hat: 1st row: K2 tog, knit 7, K2 tog, knit 7, K2 tog (17 stitches)

2nd row and every following alternate row – knit

3rd row: K2 tog, knit 6, K2 tog, knit 5, K2 tog (14 stitches)

5th row: K2 tog ,knit 4, K2 tog ,knit4, K2 tog (11 stitches)

7th row: K2 tog, knit 7, K2 tog (9 stitches)

9th row: K2 tog, knit 5, K2 tog (7 stitches)

11th row: K2 tog, knit 3, K2 tog (5 stitches)

13th row: K2 tog, knit 1, K2 tog (3 stitches) 15th row: K2 tog, knit

1

Cast off.

To make up: Sew up side, turn right side out, teasing out top of hat. Sew on bead(s).

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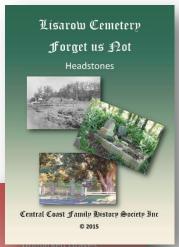
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