

Tasmanian Ancestry

**TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY
SOCIETY INC.**



Volume 47 Number 2 — September 2026

TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

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Tasmanian Ancestry

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Deadline dates for contributions by 1 January, 1 April, 1 July and 1 October

From the Editor

Hi

When I was a teenager, still living in Scotland, my great aunt told me two stories. One was that she had an uncle/relative who had travelled to Tasmania as a missionary, and the other was about another relative who had died after falling into a hold on a boat. I have spent some time trying to discover if either of these stories have any truth to them. I have come to complete dead ends trying to follow all the males on her mother's and father's sides back two generations. My next mission is to go into Libraries Tasmania and have a look at a book that purports to list all Presbyterian ministers who came to Tasmania and perhaps identify a family name.

Isobel Williams

Cover: Photograph of Norah Dhu
<https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/GD128-1-2/GD128-1-2P171>

Journal Address

PO Box 326, Rosny Park, TAS 7018
email editors@tasfhs.org

Articles are welcomed in any format – handwritten, word processed, on disk or by email. Please ensure images are of good quality.

Deadline dates are:

1 January, 1 April, 1 July and 1 October

If you wish to contact the author of an article in *Tasmanian Ancestry*, please email the editor, or write care of the editor, enclosing a stamped envelope and your correspondence will be forwarded.

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President's Message

Robyn Gibson

I am writing this shortly after our annual conference / Annual General Meeting, which was held on 20 June 2026 at Rydges Hotel, Hobart; many thanks to the Hobart branch for organising the event so well. There were about 70 attendees who heard four very interesting talks followed by the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and the opportunity to undertake a variety of activities on the following day.

At the AGM I was pleased to be able to present, in person, Society Awards for meritorious service to Clint Ayers and Lyndal Ayers who have made enormous and important contributions to the society over many years.

Our Society Patron, Alison Alexander, announced the winners of the Lilian Watson Family History Award for the 2025 calendar year, and the Best Journal Article Awards for an article published in Volume 46 and presented the awards. As usual, Alison gave us some brief and insightful comments about the books that had been entered for the Lilian Watson Award.

The winners of these awards were:

- Lilian Watson Family History Award: *From Fields of Stone* by Isabel de la Rambelya. The story of female convict Nappy King in famine Ireland and colonial Tasmania.
- Best Journal Article Award: Dr John Spurway *Retribution and Redemption*. This account of the life and misadventures of convict John Martin appeared in the September Issue of *Tasmanian Ancestry* (Volume 46 Number 2 page 100).

In presenting his Treasurer's Report, Greg Clota pointed out that the (slightly) reducing number of members does mean that there is less income from annual subscriptions which are the main source of income for the Society. I would encourage all members to continue their membership wherever possible and to point out to any interested family members, friends or acquaintances the advantages of membership of the Tasmanian Family History Society which include the use of resources (physical and human) at the branch libraries, *Tasmanian Ancestry*, and the use of the members only website.

There was just one nomination for each of the Executive positions, so these people were declared appointed. The executive is now: President (Robyn Gibson – continuing from the previous year); Vice President (Louise Rainbow – continuing from the previous year); Treasurer (Greg Clota – continuing from the previous year); Secretary (Jo Cleary). I would like to thank Louise, Greg, and the outgoing Secretary, John Dent for their work in the last year and look forward to working with them and Jo, our newly appointed Secretary, in the next year. The State Executive Committee which meets throughout the year consists of these people as well as two delegates from each branch, I confidently expect that this executive will continue to work towards supporting the goals of the Society.

Branch Reports

Burnie

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Our April meeting, held on Monday 27, included our AGM. The topic was ANZAC. Members were asked to give a small presentation on one of their ancestors who had been an ANZAC, or who had served in the Military. There was a collection of interesting talks including a talk and slideshow on the Waratah War Memorial.

The May meeting was all about basics. The meeting started with a discussion on how to start researching your Family Tree, resources to use, where to find and how to document them. Start with yourself and work backwards. We finished up with a session on the importance of consistency of data entry into a genealogy database application.

Our Society has now uploaded several recordings of presentations from Branch and Society meetings. For our June meeting we showed the presentation ‘Using DNA to trace the parents of a newborn baby left outside the Newstead Inn in 1892’ by Ros Escott. Fortunately, our Internet remained stable, and we saw the whole presentation without any buffering or pauses.

We held a trial Zoom meeting on using Family Tree Maker 2024 on the Saturday after our last day meeting. It was most beneficial for the presenter as well as the attendees. It is anticipated we will hold more Zoom meetings later in the year.

It with regret that we advise the passing of long-time member Ken Willie (Member 335). Ken joined our Society in 1981 and was always available for any working bees involving moving equipment and materials about. Ken’s other passion was lawn bowls. He was the Patron and Life Member of the Burnie Bowls Club. RIP Ken.

Hobart

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A small group from the Committee has taken on a project of reviewing the branch library and office space, including reorganising some of the shelving to make better use of the space. This has included purchasing more adjustable shelving and disposing of some card index drawers. The room looks brighter and is less cluttered. We plan to have a resource with a map of the library showing in which section a particular book or set of books is located. All this is to make it easier for anyone to find what they are looking for.

Our branch AGM in April was very well attended, perhaps reflecting a combination of a speaker on a topic of broad interest and a gold coin sale of donated books which were surplus to requirements. Elisabeth Wilson spoke on *Using the Scottish Kirk Session records for family history* which included an explanation of what they are, how to use them, and an account of how she used them to solve a very long-standing brick wall in her family tree.

All of our existing office bearers stood for re-election at the AGM. Eddy Steenbergen stood down from the committee and Jo Cleary, Elizabeth Spiegel and Judith Mudaliar were welcomed onto the committee.

At our May meeting, Alison Alexander spoke on 'Outlandish or Euphonious? Aboriginal placenames in Tasmania 1803-1926'. She told us that only three Aboriginal placenames lasted here from Aboriginal times, but from the 1880s they were used more and more - with some opposition. Sadly, the proposal to give all the electorates aboriginal names was not supported. It was an entertaining story of attitudes changing over time.

There was no General Meeting in June because we were hosting the Branch Conference and AGM in Hobart. Months of planning paid off with a well-attended event in a comfortable but historic location, good audio-visuals, and well-received speakers. Chris Woods presented on her less than well-behaved Ellis family, Ros Escott told us how to research convicts and then write an engaging story, and Brad Williams explained the extraordinary care that went into exhuming, identifying and relocating nearly 2000 burials in the former Queenborough Cemetery. The following morning there were tours of the Orphan School precinct and the Cascades Female Factory.

Launceston

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Launceston Branch Annual General Meeting was held on 15 April. Our guest speaker was Maureen Martin Ferris who gave a very interesting talk about the use of Artificial Intelligence in Family History Research...certainly a topical subject. There was no change to the office bearers nor the committee this year. Several people received awards at the conclusion of the AGM. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Sandra and Russell Duck, and Branch Awards to Lucille Gee and Fran Keegan. Launceston Branch is very grateful for the time, effort and commitment Sandra, Russell, Lucille and Fran have given over many years.

Our workshop series on making the most of free family history resources is continuing. Unfortunately, the May workshop was cancelled due to low booking numbers. The August workshop focused on organising family history records, and the next workshop, on 29 October at the Launceston Library, Civic Square, will explore end-of-life records, including deaths, burials and wills.

Building and renovation works at the old Frederick Street Infant School, where the Launceston History Centre (and our new premises) will be located are making progress. A planning permit has been issued for the new toilets, and the Jenny Gill Archive building and Council will be starting work on the toilets towards the end of August. Hopefully we can move in around the start of next year.

Congratulations to Hobart branch who organised an excellent Conference and AGM.

Mersey

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In June it was a pleasure for Ross Warren and I to give a visual tour of Gilbert Street, Latrobe to the Mersey Valley Ladies Probus Club of Latrobe. Latrobe with a great many of the original buildings still in use has a real charm that locals & visitors alike can enjoy.

Photographs and histories of the buildings are available in our rooms in the old Police residence at the rear of the Post Office Reserve. Hundreds of books, including town histories and family histories can be searched as well as cemetery listings etc, etc , a gold mine of history.

Family History Month in August is celebrated with historical photographs on display in our front windows and at the Devonport Library celebrating 150 years.

We're still indexing! Lynnie the Advocate newspapers, Rhondda has completed the Odd Fellowes Hall listings, and the next step of checking is in hand. An Index for Latrobe Graves Preparation is complete. These order forms have details of where a person died, their age, where born, next of kin, trade, religion, and cause of death. This will be a helpful addition for family researchers.

Libby Prescott, a curator and conservator, attended our last committee meeting. Her plans thoughts and ideas regarding her new work in the Court House Museum, Latrobe, was very interesting. Libby was a speaker at our St Georges Church outing and compiled information about Port Sorell's female convicts.

Writers Group is having a break as members are away for Winter. No need to go away as our rooms are warm and comfortable open for members and visitors alike.

Society Awards for Family History Writing

Allison Alexander (Patron)

The 46th Tasmanian Family History Society Conference and Annual General Meeting was hosted this year by the Hobart Branch and held at Rydges Hotel in North Hobart. The winning entries submitted to the Lilian Watson Family History Award and the Best Journal Article Award were announced.

Lilian Watson Family History Award was awarded to:

Isabel de la Rambelaya, *From Fields of Stone*

This is a biography of a convict woman, Nappy **King**, and it is very well done indeed. Isabel weaves in the story of her own research, very skilfully, with very good background information, particularly about the Great Hunger in Ireland. She adds interesting information, for example about the name Nappy, which I had wondered about – it was a traditional Irish name, though relatively rarely used. Nappy's final years in the New Norfolk Asylum are also told sympathetically but with much interesting detail. Isabel turns her evidence inside out to get all the information she can from it, and poses questions: for example, why didn't Nappy's children look after her when she lost her mind? Isabel suggests that they were both busy with young families, and that since Nappy's insanity took the form of playing with fire, she was too dangerous to have in the house with little children. This book covers all areas of Nappy's life, with interesting background information and discussion. It is hard to think of any area in the book which Isabel either left out or could have done better. This is a very satisfying and fascinating book to read.

Other LWFHA 2025 entries were:

Laurel Evelyn Dyson, *Louisa her story*

Louisa **Coates**, an illiterate vagrant thief, was transported and apparently learnt to read and write on the voyage to Van Diemen's Land. As a convict she was punished for absconding and stealing, though never drunkenness or any violent offence. She married convict Alexander or James Dyson, a shipwright, and they set up a successful shipbuilding business on the north-west coast. They committed no crimes as they brought up their family, Louisa claiming to have come to the colony free as a governess. It is puzzling why Louisa, from much the same background as the **Ellis** family (see below), managed to turn her life around so successfully. Was it that alcohol wasn't a problem? Was James a better influence than John Ellis? However, in 1893, forty years after Louisa's last offence, she was tried for stealing two sacks and had to find sureties for her good behaviour. Perhaps she and James had descended into poverty in old age? speculates Laurel. Do old habits die hard?

The family was not entirely successful, for James and Louisa's nine surviving children suffered a run of offences, prison sentences and broken marriages. This was a very satisfying book to read, well written, with excellent background information setting Louisa's story in context very well.

Christine Woods, *Troubled Lives: the Ellis family*

Troubled Lives is, sadly, an excellent title for the story of the **Ellis** family in Tasmania. The story starts with John Ellis's crime of serious housebreaking, for which he was transported, arriving in Van Diemen's Land in 1829. As a convict he committed crime after crime: absent from muster, fighting, drunk, beating his wife (reprimanded only), assault, ill-treating his wife (admonished), furiously riding, assaulting his wife (case dismissed), suspicion of murder. He also tried to save people from drowning, but drowned himself in 1848, leaving his wife Maria with six young children. She was also a convict, found guilty of being absent multiple times, insolence, drunkenness and keeping a disorderly house with John. After his death she married again, twice, and died of 'intemperate habits', a charwoman aged 52.

Not surprisingly the six children suffered similar lives, chronicles of drunkenness, violence, early deaths (one from accidental suffocation), failed marriages, deserted children – no one seems to have been successful or happy. For example, Theresa Givens, born in the Campbell Town Gaol in 1874, came under the care of social welfare aged six. She was neglected by one carer, apprenticed at twelve, removed because her employer was unable to do anything with her, accused of theft from her next master and moved to the New Town Charitable Institution. A baby son died from malnutrition; later Theresa abandoned a baby daughter. Aged 41, she married the licensee of the Cascade Inn and gave birth to a daughter who died, and died herself at 45. But she must have known some happy times, for the abandoned daughter remembered 'my darling mother, true and kind' in a memorial notice.

How did people escape this deadly cycle? Christine tells of her grandmother describing her childhood in detail but doesn't repeat this information in the book. Perhaps this calls for another book?

Tony Dell, *The Dells of Launceston: Ten generations of a Tasmanian family*

The title says it all: the story of this family from the arrival of the John **Dell** in Sydney in 1790. Tony was lucky to have a photo of him for the front cover, but it's sad that such photos, taken in old age, in studios with people looking uncomfortable in their best clothes, don't really portray life of the time. Not that this is Tony's fault! It's a minor point – this book is an excellent coverage of family history, well written, with good footnotes and extensive genealogies of all branches of the family. There is no index, which detracts from its value.

Dale McCormack, *Exiled to Exalted*

In this story of his convict ancestor, Dale McCormack weaves in his own story in researching the topic, and his own experiences throughout life. This is an endearing way of writing biography, also bringing in family members who helped, and certainly develops the idea of ‘family history’. Photos are in interesting positions, for example with a photo of Dale’s childhood family camping in the Central Highlands beside a picture of bushranger Matthew Brady and a photograph of the rugged highland country.

Betty Pilgrim, *The Trade Wind Voyage to Tasmania - 1857-1858*

This volume, the result of much detailed research, lists the 296 bounty migrants who came to Tasmania on the ship *Trade Wind* in 1857, as well as their sponsors, and gives brief biographies of all of them. Betty also describes the voyage, in most interesting detail. Different from family histories, this book gives an excellent picture of why these people were needed in Tasmania, why they chose to migrate and what happened to them.

Cameron Richards, *Prosperous: The Kennedy Murrays and the Origins of Historic Evandale in Early Colonial Australia*

This 475-page book is about Cameron’s ancestors, the **Kennedy Murray** family, and the development of Evandale. It is rich in detail and certainly fulfills one of the selection criteria: reflects the historian’s research, dedication and hard work! There is much detail of the Arthur period and the development of Evandale, to a depth seldom reached in works about the development of towns – Cameron can scarcely have missed any event, however small. There is no index or bibliography and few footnotes, which detract from the book’s value.

There were seven entries for the award this year, all with their own area of interest, all prepared with much hard work and dedication. They set a high standard, and several books which might have won in years with less competition.

What was the ultimate fate of convicts: why did some cope, joining mainstream society and leading apparently contented lives, and others sink into a spiral of alcoholism, violence and crime? There are various factors: whether they came from stable families or lived on the streets in dire poverty; what treatment they received; how their employers behaved in Tasmania; their own personalities; and luck?

Best Journal Article Award *Tasmanian Ancestry* Volume 46 was awarded to:

Dr John Spurway for his article, *Retribution Without Redemption: The Misadventures of John Martin, “a very industrious man”*. The author relates John **Martin**’s story within the context of English and colonial Van Diemens Land society of the time subtly explaining the influences of rural industrialisation and later, the convict Probation System on his life experiences.

In VDL, being described as ‘industrious’, and in long term employment that leads him to freedom, marriage and children, even land of his own, John seems to have accepted society’s retribution for his offences and taken the road to redemption. Dr Spurway supports his theme with several pertinent quotations from relevant official reports.

Complete redemption remained out of reach and with the death of his wife Jane followed by his own a few years later, their children were cast adrift. The youngest, Robert, endured life in the Orphan School system before going to the mainland, where he would eventually have his own farm and family.

‘John knew continued retribution, but never redemption, which would be achieved only by his descendants, generations hence’.

The judges would like to commend everyone who takes the time to commit their family stories to paper and share them in the journal.



Alison Alexander presents award to Isabel de la Rambelaya



Society Award for Meritorious Service awarded to Clint Ayres and Lyndal Ayres and presented by Robyn Gibson



Stanley Bicentenary 30 October to 2 November 2026

Commemorating 200 Years of European Settlement

Weekend of Activities including Launch of two new publications by Betty Jones

Further Along the Terrace: Stanley's Properties and People, 1923-76

Follow Stanley Discovery Museum Facebook page for details.

Saturday 12 September 2026 at St Paul's Church, Stanley

Launch of new publication by Peter Moore

Heavy Toil & Slow Progress: The Introduction of Tenant Farming in Circular Head by the Van Diemen's Land Company, 1842-72

Available after Launch \$50 + P&H

Enquiries: Email: stanleydiscoverymuseum@gmail.com or Ph 0428 581285

Treasurer's Report

TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.
ABN 87 627 274 157

BALANCE SHEET
As at 31 March 2026

	31 Mar 2026	31 Mar 2025
CAPITAL		
Opening Balance	31,109	25,784
Surplus for Year	908	5,325
TOTAL	32,017	31,109
THESE FUNDS ARE REPRESENTED BY:-		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash at Bank - Westpac	25,967	25,883
Cash at Bank - Westpac Deposit	5,450	5,226
Cash at Bank - Westpac 2	600	--
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	32,017	31,109
WORKING CAPITAL	32,017	31,109
TOTAL WORKING & FIXED CAPITAL	32,017	31,109
NET ASSETS	32,017	31,109

TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.
ABN 87 627 274 157

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
For the Year ended 31 March 2026

	31 Mar 2026	31 Mar 2025
INCOME		
Donations	529	275
Collection Branch Membership	13,790	15,681
Collection Branch Donation	293	220
Interest Received	224	226
Journal - Advertising/ Sales	30	50
Journal - Subscriptions	1,172	1,235
Membership Subs - Interstate	12,437	8,417
Membership Subs - Branch	3,188	2,505
State Sales - Books, CD's, Fiche	45	--
State Sales - TAMIOT Sales	--	40
AGM Registrations	1,960	--
TOTAL INCOME	33,668	28,649
LESS EXPENSES INCURRED		
AGM Expenses	2,258	--
Audit Fees	165	165
Bank Charges	317	355
Executive Travel	--	78
Insurance	5,579	5,298
Journal Postage/ Printing	16,565	15,709
Lillian Watson & Other Awards	32	200
Postage, PO Box, Phone, Internet	669	269
Printing and Stationery	31	600
Room Hire/ Meetings	55	263
Subscriptions (AFFHO & FFHS)	159	387
Tftr Collection Branch Membership	5,940	--
Tftr Collection Branch Donations	990	--
NET SURPLUS	908	5,325

The Real John Doe Dhu Dow Daw

Jennifer Jacobs (Member 1826)

John **Doe** was real, not just an unidentified body found deceased under mysterious circumstances. It seems such a simple name, yet the number of creative spellings used by record makers and convoluted family tales passed down have proven challenging to my research.

John **Dhu** the patriarch of a colourful family died at Redfern NSW in 1900.¹ Information on his Death Certificate, provided by a grandson, stated that he had been born in Dundee Scotland, married in Ireland at age 19 and had spent 18 years in Tasmania and two in NSW. His parents were given as Jock and Mary Dhu and his wife as Mary Bridget Dhu. Contemporary newspaper announcements in Tasmania and NSW reported that John had been in Tasmania since 1840.

Many Dhu descendants chose to research a Scottish connection, assuming that John had originally been the convict, John **Dow**, sentenced to fourteen years and transported from Perth, Scotland aboard *James Somes*, arriving in VDL in 1846.² His record is very short on information so there are few clues.

Beginning my research in Tasmania and having not viewed this death certificate, I was exploring different possibilities.

The John Doe of my attention, was born in the village of South Lopham, just north of the Norfolk/ Suffolk border and likely related to my ancestor Ephraim Doe, whose parents were married in nearby North Lopham.³

While my Ephraim was making his way to VDL on the convict ship *Layton* arriving in December 1839, John, the son of yet another John Doe (dec) and Ann **Cock**, was languishing in England, bemoaning his lack of finance.⁴ His circumstances were to change.

In November 1840, John was out drinking at the *Rose and Crown* beer shop. He had been heard to say that he was very short of money and the owner stated that he had been unable to pay for a glass he broke on the night. Upon leaving the establishment, John waited until another couple left, leaving him in the dark with his drinking companion and supposed friend, Thomas **Elsy**. Without warning, he violently shoved Elsy against a fence and wrestled his purse from his pocket, before making an escape. When coming across Phoebe **Vincent** on his way home, he invited her to go to the *Chequers* as he had plenty of money.⁵

It was difficult to prove his innocence. There were too many witnesses. Twenty-three-year-old John Doe received a sentence of 10 years transportation, arriving in Tasmania

aboard the convict ship *Tortoise* in late 1841. Behind him he left his mother Ann and sister Elizabeth who had no option but to enter the Poor House.

John was assigned to various masters around Southern Tasmania including a position in the police force, his career cut short when he was twice suspended for drunkenness. A small charge of having exposed himself may also have been a negative on his record. Nevertheless, in 1851, he was granted his freedom.

Four years later, a John DAW obtained a license to marry Bridget **Corbett** an Irish orphan, who had arrived aboard *Calcutta* in 1851. The following day, now as John Doe he was married in the House of Mr **Pulfer** at Port Esperance under the banner of the Church of England.⁶ His suggested age of 30 was a bit astray of the truth. As convict John Doe was now free, no government permission was required for the union. Had this not been the case, much confusion might have been avoided. (John Dow, however, the alternative Scottish husband, was still under sentence.)

The birth of John and Bridget's first child, Emma Frances at Port Esperance, in 1856, went unregistered. A son described simply as male Dow aged 15 months died in August 1859. The next son, John Cornelius was registered with the name Dow but christened as **Doo**. The following child, Hanora Bredelia, was born as Dhu was christened **Due**, the next one, a female registered as **Dore** became Annie but was later married as Hannah Dhu. Variations in names may have been influenced by the creative efforts of Father **Murphy** a notably imaginative speller, in his saddle bag records at Esperance.

Place Date	Birth name	Baptismal Name	Known As (adult)	RGD Birth
c1856	No Reg	nil	Emma Frances	-
c1858	Male Dow	nil	Male Dow	-
Esperance 1859	John Cornelius Dow	John Cornelius Doo	John /Con Dhu	33/1/38 (934)
Gordon 1861	Hanorah Bredelia Dhu	Honera Due	Norah Dhu	33/1/39 (1190)
Esperance 1864	Female Dore	Annie Margaret	Hannah or Annie Dhu	33/1/42 (621)
Esperance 1866	Male Dhu	nil	Hugh Dhu	33/1/44 (376)
Hobart 1868	Bedeilia Dhu	Florence	Florence, Flossie Dhu	33/1/9 (10406)
Hobart 1871	Thomas Dhu	Michael James Dhu	James Dhu	33/1/10 (2221) (
Hobart 1873	Henry Thomas Dhu	Roderick Henry Thomas	Roderick Dhu	33/1/10 (3582)

Hobart 1878	No Reg	Alexander Dhu Collins (died aged 1)	Alexander Collins Dhu Interred as Alexander Spencer William Dhu	35/1/9 (986) Death
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The given names of several children were also changed between birth and christening. Thomas became Michael James and was to be known as James, Henry Thomas became Roderick. Two daughters had Bedelia as part of their names. One became Norah, the other Flossie. For this family, confusion was the norm.⁷

In August 1867, it was reported that John Doe was assisting with the felling of a tree near the Huon Road at Browns River.⁸ A second mention of him was recorded as **Dougherty**. In an unexpected development, the tree twisted as it fell, spearing down the hill and hitting another, which collected a tree stump on the way. Unbeknownst to the sawyers, a man had set up camp inside. He did not survive the impact.

Maybe this was the catalyst for the family to move back to Hobart where he became a tanner living in Macquarie Street, later moving to Elphinstone Street. I had not envisioned the street joining in the trend of name changes, but it was later renamed Weld Street to avoid confusion with the existing street of that name in Newtown. John and Bridget, after eleven years of marriage, were now universally known as Dhu. The Catholic Church at Franklin and the English All Saints Church in Hobart were united in using this spelling.

These parents had no qualms about keeping the records straight. A child, Alexander Dhu Collins, had his christening and death aged seven months registered on the same day in January 1878. At first nominated as the child of John and Bridget the second record stated that he was born in Sydney, informant Bridget Dhu, now his grandmother.⁹ No birth certificate exists. He was interred at Queenborough as Alexander Spencer William Dhu. This child was more likely to have been born to their seventeen year old daughter, Norah, who was by this time a well-known Hobart prostitute. She also gave birth to a child, Violet who after dying aged 5 weeks of “supposed” convulsions in July 1882 was interred in Alexander’s grave.¹⁰

Five months later, Bridget Dhu, was admitted to the *Hospital for the Insane*, suffering from heart disease and family problems.¹¹ Recorded as a person of unsound mind, she stayed for three and half months. Little did she know that her family members were just beginning their lives of decadence.

In 1886, at the home in which she had found such difficulty in raising her children, heart disease claimed Bridget’s life. She was buried at Queenborough cemetery, her gravestone proudly bearing the inscription, “Erected by her son Patrick Dhu.”¹² Who was Patrick? This is the only existing mention of him. I had assumed that a William

Edward Dow buried in the same grave, was a child of hers whose birth had been unregistered, along with a whaler and former convict, H Tookey. It was not at all unusual to have unrelated burials in the same grave when space became a problem.

The now accepted spelling of Dhu was being regularly recorded in police records as the children built up their portfolios.

Son John Cornelius alternated between his two given names. In New Zealand as John, he was imprisoned for stealing blankets, and for an assault, very similar to that for which his father was transported to VDL. A minister, one Sunday, had reason to regret the arrival of this parishioner at his church, when John continually interrupted his service with loud wails of, "Hallelujah."¹³ His NZ file mentions, "*Well known to Tasmanian Police.*" Upon returning to Tasmania, he preferred the name Con.

Annie was running the streets and was witness to several crimes. When she was assaulted on a train trip in from New Town, a respected resident, Edward **Kearney** tried to defend her and was in turn attacked by a group of six young men.¹⁴ An all-in brawl eventuated, Annie being described as the best hitter of the lot. Despite her innocence on this occasion, her reputation counted. She was described as a woman of ill repute.

Norah was continually fighting, swearing, disturbing the peace and making unfortunate connections. The *Eardley Arms*, owned by the Cascade brewery came close to losing its licence in 1893 when complaints were made of Sunday trading and of Norah Dhu and a friend running their "businesses" from cottages in the backyard.¹⁵ The licence was provisionally granted after the cottages were razed.

With the family matriarch gone, the family separated, some moving from Hobart to NSW and Victoria. Yet, with the mining boom calling strongly, the boys later reunited on Tasmania's west coast, determined to profit from the burgeoning industry. Norah was obliged to stay in Hobart as a guest of the government after being sentenced to three years gaol for joining in on a violent attack on Thomas **Budd**, resulting in his death.¹⁶ Released two years later, she disappeared from records.

Finally, at Zeehan it seemed at first that the family had found their niche in life. Work in the mines suited them, despite their suffering numerous accidents, miner's phthisis and other ills. Relationships deteriorated when the wives of Hugh and Roderick called upon the courts to settle a business dispute between them.¹⁷ I had been told by family members that it was a photography business in Hobart, but research instead unearthed a vision less grand, a laundry in Zeehan. Roderick married his second wife, Elizabeth **Channon** in 1909, his first having inadvertently forgotten that she was already married to someone else.¹⁸

A clue came unexpectedly. I opened my DNA matches on MyHeritage and near the top of the list was a person named Dhu. I was amazed to find a tree in sync with mine, as far

back as the arrival of John in Tasmania. The timing was not good. She was a fortnight away from a trip to Scotland to find her ancestor believing his real name was John Dow, while I believed he had come from England and was really John Doe. She did find a John Dow in Scotland, but I have not seen evidence that he is her ancestor.

Currently, we await further proof. Is one 13 cM DNA match enough?

Another surprise! I made one last search for Norah after her release from gaol and discovered that a William Edward Dow aged 52, with a wife named Norah, had died in an accident at Uxbridge sawmill in 1908, Burial records show that this is the William Edward Dow interred in Bridget's grave at Queenborough?¹⁹ Can Norah Dhu have added to the confusion by marrying or at least cohabiting with someone with a variation of this oft misspelled name?

¹ Death, John Dhu 16 May 1900, 6834/1900 Redfern, NSW; 'Family Notices,' *Zeehan and Dundas Herald*, 18 May 1900, p 2.

² John Dow, Convict, *Joseph Somes*, <https://www.oldscothtish.com> › convict-records-15

³ Baptism, John Doe, 7 July 1815 No 56. South Lopham, Norfolk.

⁴ 'Norfolk Sessions', *Norfolk Chronicle*, 9 Jan 1841, p 2.

⁵ TAHO, CON33/1/17 Indents of Male Convicts, John Doe, no 3982 *Tortoise* 1842

⁶ Marriage, John Doe and Bridget Corbett, RGD37/1/14 no 465, Hobart 1855.

⁷ Joyce Purtscher, *Father John Murphy's "Saddlebag" Records - Catholic Baptisms Huon District 1855-1864*

⁸ 'The Mercury', 3 Aug 1867 p2 :*Tasmanian Times*, 3 Aug 1867, p 3.

⁹ Death, Alexander Dhu Collins, RGD37/1/922 no 986, Hobart, 1878.

¹⁰ Cemeteries of Southern Tasmania Vol 111 Queenborough Cemetery Hobart A-J TFHS

¹¹ Bridget Dhu, *Tasmanian Names Index*, HSD 285/1/663.

¹² Records of Inscriptions, *Tasmanian Archives* AB413/1-1, online index p.638.

¹³ 'Police Court', *Southland Times* N Z, 9 Feb 1886 p.3: Police Court, *Southland Times* N Z, 16 Sept 1887.

¹⁴ 'City Police Court', *The Mercury*, 18 Feb 1882, p 3.

¹⁵ 'The Licensing Bench', *The Clipper* Sat 2 Dec 1893, p 3.

¹⁶ 'Supreme Court', *Tasmanian News*, 15 May 1894 p 1.

¹⁷ 'Zeehan', *Daily Telegraph*, Thu 10 Aug 1905 p 5

¹⁸ 'A Bigamy Charge', *Examiner*, Tue 5 Jun 1906 p 5

¹⁹ 'Death Notices', *The Mercury*, William Dow, 1 Dec 1908, p 1.

John Tattersall Convict per *Maria*(1) 1820:Tattersall or Buck?

Leonie Mickleborough (Member 20)

Further research into John **Tattersall**, convict per *Maria* (1) from Portsmouth to Hobart Town in 1820, has caused me to change the conclusion I reached and published in *Tasmanian Ancestry* Vol 41.2, September 2020. My conclusion at the time followed information I received from Lancashire Archives and from two articles in the *Lancaster Gazette*.

On 17 July 1819 the *Lancaster Gazette* named the convict as ‘John **Bucks** alias Tattersall’ and in *Orders for commutation of death sentence to transportation, Calendar of Prisoners*, he was named as ‘John **Buck** alias Tattersall’. The *Lancaster Gazette* on 18 September 1819 has details of the robbery in an article headed ‘BURGLARY’ in which he is named John Tattersall. If Tattersall was an alias in late July 1819, he must have decided to use it after 11 July - the night of the robbery - and not waited until after he was found guilty and received his sentence, but this seems unlikely in that short time.¹

Following recent information and discussion with two other family researchers it seems that ‘Tattersall’ as an alias, and his family name being ‘Buck’ or ‘Bucks’, was incorrect, that he was, in fact, John Tattersall, who, on occasions, used ‘Buck’ as an alias.

Convicts used various means of attempting to conceal the fact they had been found guilty and sentenced to transportation, and it is likely that John’s use of ‘Buck’ was a method he used to attempt to hide his conviction. In records, this name change would also unlink the 22-year-old weaver with 18-year-old George **Howarth** and 21-year-old Peter **Eastwood**, the three of whom were convicted of having ‘burglariously broken and entered the dwelling house of [the print worker] Abraham **Greaves**, at New Accrington, and with having stolen therein, a quantity of silver and copper coin, two bottles of spirituous liquors and other articles, the property of the said Abraham Greaves’ after 10 p.m. on 11 July 1819.²

The three were also charged with ‘divers other burglaries, felonies and larcenies, at the same place’, and sentenced to death. They were later granted Royal Mercy and their sentences were commuted to transportation for life, to ‘the said Coast of New South Wales or someone or other of the Islands adjacent for and during the term of their respective natural Lives’, Tattersall was transported to Hobart Town, Peter Eastwood to NSW aboard the *Mangles* in 1820, and George Howarth as James Howarth to Sydney per *Guildford* in 1822.³

Around half of those condemned to death during the nineteenth century did not go to the gallows but were either transported or imprisoned. These men were three of those. At the

time the grounds for mercy for those sentenced to be hanged were that the offence was minor, the convict was of good character, young or female, or the crime committed was not common enough in a particular county to require an exemplary hanging.

The use of 'Buck' and 'Bucks' are clues to John's ancestors. According to his convict record, John Tattersall was born about 1796 at Accrington.⁴ Further research and records have now confirmed that John was born at Haslington, Lancashire, as John **Tattersll** [sic], the son of Buckley Tattersll [sic] and Mary **Heys**, and baptised at Haslington, Lancashire in September 1796. His mother was the daughter of John Heys and Jennet and she was baptised on 13 August 1774, at Haslingden. Buckley Tattersll [sic] was the son of Christopher Tattersall (1741–1810 Haslington) and Hannah/Anne **Buckley** (b.1743 Haslington).⁵

According to John Tattersall at the time of his conviction, he lived with his wife and two children at Accrington in Lancashire, and after transportation, he was never to see them again. He became a sawyer on arrival in Hobart Town, and on 1 January 1826 he was appointed to the Field Police, a position awarded to well behaved convicts. Holding a Conditional Pardon, on 31 January 1831 he resigned from his position with the Field Police.⁶

In May 1829 his life was to change again. Sometime before November 1828 as a Field Police officer, he was working in the area around 'Lovely Banks', and it was here, on 16 May 1829 he apprehended Sarah **Waters** (1811-1884) convict per *Harmony* 1829 who was absent without leave from her assigned service with Robert **Harrison** at Antill Ponds. In 1832 and 1833 she was assigned to Mr. **McPherson**. At some stage John and Sarah started a liaison, and twice John's application to marry her was refused, but his third application to marry Sarah 'by Whom he has one Child', was granted by Lieutenant-Governor George **Arthur**, and on 28 April 1833 at Green Ponds (Kempton) Independent Chapel, they were married.⁷

John and Sarah had a successful life together with eleven known children, most of whom were born in the Bothwell or Hamilton areas. In 1842 he was leasing the property *Littledale* near Bothwell, and in 1848 he was leasing *Selma* at Bothwell. John and Sarah and their descendants maintained the family name of Tattersall, and made their future lives in various locations, including Tasmania, NSW, New Zealand and Victoria and didn't use the name of Buck again.

John and Sarah, my g.g.g. grandparents, lived for many years around Launceston, and were living at Franklin Village on 31 January 1879, when, at the age of aged 84, John died of albuminuria at the General Hospital in Launceston. Sarah died from disease of the heart aged 73 in February 1884, also at the General Hospital, and both were buried at Franklin Village Cemetery.⁸

¹ *Lancaster Gazette* 17 July 1819 and 18 September 1819; Lancashire Archives Record Office DDCM 1/14, *Orders for commutation of death sentence to transportation*; QJC/1a/2438.

² Lancashire Record Office QJC/1A and QJC/1, *Calendar of Prisoners*.

³ Lancashire Record Office, DDCM 1/14, Geo Wood, 13 September 1819; Tasmanian Archives (TA) CON31-1-42 Image 45 (Tattersall); See my previous article for more references.

⁴ TA CON 23/1/3 T122-151 Tattersall Jno. Convict no.124.

⁵ "England, Births and Christenings, 1538-1975", database, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NDFL-QDC>: 5 February 2023), John Tattersll, 1796; CON31-1-42, image 45; "England, Births and Christenings, 1538-1975", (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NDFL-QDZ> John Tattersll; (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NRK9-NP1>: 5 February 2023) 1774; I thank David Tattersall for assistance in this research.

⁶ *The Hobart Town Courier* 8 January 1831, p.2.

⁷ TA RGD36/2 1833 image 113 no.2333.

⁸ *Examiner* 1 February 1879, p.3, 18 February 1884, p.1; *Cornwall Chronicle* 1 February 1879, p.3; TA RGD35 deaths Launceston 87/1884.

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Launceston Church of England Baptism Records 1855-1944

or

The Fastest Tram Driver in Sambel's Perch

Bill McGowan (Member 6659)

Conversations Past and Present. 1. Between young grandson and my wife.
"Ma, whereabouts in Tasmania is Sambel's Perch?" "Where? I've never heard of such a place. Who told you that there was a place called Sambel's Perch?" "It was Pa. When we were in his office this morning, he told me he was the fastest tram driver at breaking records in Sambel's Perch."

Which, of course, a short time later, led to: -

Conversations Past and Present 2. Between my wife and me.

"What nonsense story did you tell little Sebastion this morning?" "What story are we talking about?" "Sebastion said you told him you were the fastest tram driver at breaking records in Sambel's Perch." "No! No! What I said was I was the fastidious transcriber of baptism records in St. Paul's Church." "Right! Well, I think you should put your teeth in before you speak to him next time, okay!" "Yes dear!"

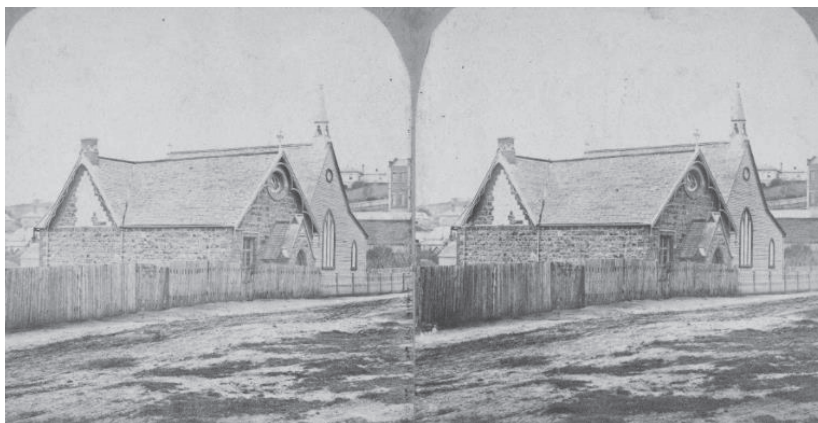
St. Paul's Church of England, Launceston 1854-1975

The Parish of St Paul's Church of England began worshipping in a Frankland Street, Launceston, Schoolroom in 1854. Although initially established as a temporary location, a purpose-built church was constructed on Cleveland Street between 1860 and 1861.

A century later, during the 1960s, Launceston experienced significant growth and required a larger hospital. Plans for a new facility, the Launceston General Hospital, included the site occupied by St. Paul's church, the Sunday school buildings, and the Charles Street Cemetery, which contained approximately 6,000 gravesites. These, and other sites, were eventually acquired as planning for the hospital building progressed.

The last service at St. Paul's, before its demolition, was held in October 1975. As part of the acquisition deal with the church the hospital had agreed to preserve the church's contents. These were transferred to the St. Paul's Chapel by the Sea which later became part of the Ainslie House Aged Care facility in Low Head.

As a lasting tribute to the church, the chapel in the Launceston General Hospital is named St. Paul's Chapel.



*St Pauls Church of England – Cleveland Street, Launceston Libraries Tasmania
Copies of Photographs of Northern Tasmanian Churches LPIC108-1-49
<https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/LPIC108-1-49/LPIC108-1-49>*

And so, to the Baptism Records.

The Assignment.

The St. Paul's Church of England Baptism record consisted of double page scans of 357 pages of the original records showing a total of 4603 Baptisms. However, on completing the records, I found 28 records that weren't numbered and several that had the same number bringing the total number of Baptism records to 4635.

Spanning the years from 1855 to 1944, each record showed the Baptism date, the child's date of birth, the child's name(s), the parent's given name(s) and the family name. Also included, but not transcribed was the parent's address, the father's occupation and the Minister's signature.

My task was to check each individual record, firstly by deciphering the handwritten details and then checking the Tasmanian Names Index (TNI) to see if details of the child's birth were already recorded in the Index. If they were, then I had to move onto the next Baptism record and repeat the process. If the details were not in the TNI then the Baptism record was transcribed onto a spreadsheet.

The accuracy of these transcriptions will firstly be checked by Launceston Library staff, then, when corrected and approved, they will be available for future public access in the Family History area of the library. Also, they will eventually be uploaded to the Tasmanian Names Index for online access.

Some Observations.

Conversations Past and Present. 3. Between parent and teacher.

"How is young Edward doing this year?" "Well, his writing is so bad I can't tell if he can spell or not!"

1) Handwriting and Spelling.

The earlier records were, at times, difficult to read and decipher although there were not that many spelling errors compared to previous assignments. In the later years, 1922 to 1944, on most occasions I was able to check the TNI for a marriage under the husband's name and confirm spelling of given names for both he and his wife.

(2) First and Last.

The first baptisms, conducted by Rector G. **Banks Smith** on 28 Jan 1855, were those of brothers Garth George (born: 1 Jul 1850) and Charles Matthew (born: 20 Feb 1853), the sons of George Thomas and Margaret **Green**.

The last entry, conducted by Reverend C. G. **Williams** was on 15 Oct 1944. Because the child involved is younger than this transcriber there is a strong possibility that they are still alive, so no details of them are recorded here.

Conversations Past and Present. 4. Between Government official and new father.

"In what State was the child born?" "Oh, I think he was naked, but I wasn't there at the time, so I can't be sure."

(3) Single Women.

Unlike in the previously transcribed Launceston Catholic Baptism records, the father's name was not recorded, and in the column headed "Occupation" the mother was simply listed as "Single Woman."

Godparents.

Also, compared to the same Catholic Baptism records no mention was made of the names of any Godparents that may have been involved in the Baptism.

Baptisms in Hospital.

There were occasions when the minister noted that the Baptism had taken place in the Launceston hospital. This would necessitate further investigation into each individual occurrence, which was not in my remit. My guess though, would be that the child was seriously ill and was hurriedly baptized in the event they failed to survive.

World War II.

It was interesting to note that between 1941 and 1944 the occupation of quite a few of the fathers listed was simply that of "Soldier."

Records transcribed.

The baptism and birth records between 1855 and 1921 resulted in 967 entries being made into the spreadsheet. But, because the birth records in the TNI stop at the end of 1921, all the baptism and birth records from 1922 to 1944 had to be transcribed. This meant another 1,460 entries were made into the spreadsheet bringing the total number of transcriptions to 2,427. This means the Launceston Library now has digital records of the baptism and birth date of those 2,427 children which are possibly not recorded elsewhere.

Conversations Past and Present 5. Between the Library Technician and me.

"Hey Bill, I've got this great new project for you." "Oh, what's that?" "I want you to work through the Library held records of the Hobart Town Gazette." "What are we looking for?" "We need to check the Assessment and Valuation Rolls for Individual Tasmanian towns to find the date that each individual roll was printed in the Hobart Town Gazette and record it for future reference." "Are these rolls good for family research?" "Yes, they are! Each roll has a description of the property, which could be house, paddock, hotel, etc., and includes the owner's and occupier's names and a valuation of the property. For example, the Gazette holds twice yearly details for Bothwell from 1858 to 1950." "So, all I have to do is scroll through those digital records to find the date that each roll was published and record it onto a spreadsheet? Sounds easy." "Not so easy, there are 150 rolls for Bothwell alone. This will be a very large project."

Looks like a busy time ahead for me and the three other people from Friends of Library, Launceston (FOLL), who are working on the same task.

Conversations Past and Present. 6. Between an early convict maid and her friend.

"What's the matter? You don't look very happy." "I'm not, I think I'm going to have a baby!" "Gosh! Who is the father?" "I'm not sure!" "Well, if you're not sure, then someone else could be the mother!"

Happy (Family History) Hunting!

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Catherine Bailey (c.1815–1889) Smuggler's Daughter and Accidental World Traveller Maree Da Costa (Member 8200)

Catherine **Bailey** (c.1815–1889), daughter of Kent smuggler John Bailey of the Aldington Gang, lived an extraordinary life shaped by transportation, migration and the volatile colonial world of the nineteenth century. Through convict records, court proceedings and newspaper reports, this article reconstructs her journey from the smuggling coast of Kent to Van Diemen's Land, Melbourne, South Australia and Gold Rush California and beyond. Her story reveals a life of constant movement, survival and reinvention that ultimately saw her circumnavigate the globe.

Catherine was born in Kent around 1815. Like many children of her time, she entered life with more mystery than documentation. No baptism has yet been found, but the strongest circumstantial evidence points to Bilsington, where her siblings were christened. She was born into the vast Bailey family – a name well known in that part of Kent for reasons both ordinary and notorious.

Her father, John Bailey, was a member of the Aldington Gang, better known as *The Blues*, a smuggling network whose activities became deeply entwined with the folklore and the criminal history of the Kent coast. These were not the romanticised free traders of legend, but organised operators whose livelihoods depended upon secrecy, coordination, discipline and, when challenged, violence.

The gang's activities came to a violent end in 1826 when authorities intercepted a smuggling operation. Shots were fired and Quartermaster Richard **Morgan** was killed.¹ The legal consequences were swift. Numerous gang members, including Bailey family members, were convicted and sentenced to transportation. In 1827 John Bailey sailed for Van Diemen's Land on board the *Governor Ready*.²

Two years later Catherine, aged 14 years, followed under very different circumstances. In 1829 many of the smuggler's wives and children arrived in Hobart on board the *Harmony*, reuniting fractured families in a penal colony at the far edge of the colonial world.³

Catherine's early years in the colony remain largely unknown in surviving records. Like many colonial women, she enters the documentary trail indirectly. By 1837 she appears as the partner of Stephen **Brittain**, a Bedfordshire convict transported for sheepskin theft.⁴ Although no marriage record has been located, the couple were clearly recognised as husband and wife and living at Black Brush, near Brighton, when their daughter Emily Mary was baptised.⁵

An additional strand of contemporary evidence strengthening Catherine's identification within the Bailey family emerges through the stud horse, Atlas. Brittain and Atlas moved

through districts closely associated with Catherine's relations — first appearing at John Bailey's property at Broadmarsh and later at the property of Robert **Williams** at Sorell Creek.⁶ This pattern of movement is unlikely to be coincidental. It situates Brittain within an active network of the Bailey family and aligns with Elizabeth Bailey, who had married Robert Williams in 1837. In the absence of a surviving baptism or marriage records for Catherine, these interconnected associations provide persuasive circumstantial evidence of enduring family ties.

Life began precariously, setting a pattern for the years that followed. In 1839 Brittain was declared insolvent, his financial collapse recorded in Tasmanian newspapers.⁷ Soon afterward the family departed Van Diemen's Land from George Town on board the *Brazil Packet*, bound for Port Phillip. Passengers S. Britton, wife and child, took a cart and seven horses with them as they set out to make a new start, including the stud horse Atlas. Other reports suggest Atlas was originally owned by John Bailey and may have been given, along with other horses, to the Britains to help them rebuild their lives.⁸

Once in Melbourne, Brittain wasted no time in advertising Atlas's services for the ensuing season from August to December 1839.

ATLAS.

THIS pure bred Draught Stallion, imported from Van Diemen's Land by Mr. Britton, will stand at Melbourne during the ensuing season, for service.

ATLAS was bred by R. Beaumont, Esq., of Van Diemen's Land, sire, the celebrated Suffolk Sam, dam a thorough bred draught mare, BOTH IMPORTED.

He is a beautiful chesnut, stands 16 hands high, fine action and symmetry, and pronounced by competent judges, to be the most noble draught horse in Melbourne.

He has covered three seasons in Van Diemen's Land, and proved himself a sure foal getter: and was awarded the first class prize three successive years, by the Richmond Agricultural Association.

The Proprietor of ATLAS will give a Purse of 20 sovereigns, for the best Two years old in 1841, the get of this horse.

TERMS.—Six Pounds six Shillings, groomage included, payable at three months from the time of service. — 671

Trove, Port Phillip Patriot and Melbourne Advertiser (Vic. : 1839 - 1845), Monday 26 August 1839, page 6

Within a year Stephen Brittain, now appearing under the variant family name **Britton**, was dead in Melbourne. The precise circumstances remain unknown. Colonial newspapers of the period often indulged speculation, yet the surviving official records offer no definitive explanation.

Barely two weeks later Catherine remarried. A Melbourne paper dryly observed "Quick Work," when reporting her marriage to John Lamb on 23 July 1840.⁹

QUICK WORK.—Married, on Thursday, by special license, at St. James's Church, Melbourne, Mr John Lamb, to Catherine, widow of Mr. Steven Britton, who died on the 9th of this month.

Port Phillip Patriot and Melbourne Advertiser, 27 July 1840, "Quick Work."

Stephen Britton had been the licensee for the Golden Cross Hotel for which the licence had been swiftly transferred into Lamb's name with Catherine advertising for all debts outstanding to Britton to be paid.¹⁰

If Catherine had sought security, Lamb was an unlikely candidate.

John Lamb was already a career criminal before he was transported to New South Wales in 1829. He was convicted of picking pockets in Dublin in 1827 and transported for seven years on board *Guildford*. A chemist or druggist by trade, originally from Droitwich, Worcester, he had convictions in Yorkshire before Dublin. He had been sent as a convict to Melbourne in 1837, was freed in October 1838, receiving his certificate of freedom in January 1840, only months before his marriage to Catherine.^{11 12}

In May 1841, John and Catherine were witnesses to the marriage of John's brother Francis Hancock Lamb.¹³

By July 1842, they were forced to flee Melbourne and bolted for Launceston.

A BOLTER. — A correspondent who gives his name says "I think it right the good folks of Launceston should be made acquainted through one of the local journals that the notorious John Lamb is among them, having obtained a special clearance to proceed thither per Corsair on Friday last. I dare say that you have not forgotten that he, prior to his departure to the last Launceston races, forwarded his horses Plenipo and Clinker, to compete for the various stakes and they were unsuccessful." The caution is almost unnecessary; the Vandemonians are too wide awake to be taken in by such a scoundrel. Lamb did not, however, get off scot-free; he was followed to William's Town by two of his creditors, who laid the detail of their grievances before Mr. Sullivan, the active Inspector of the Water Police, and through his instrumentality they obtained payment of their respective claims. We are glad to see that the Water Police authorities are on the alert and disposed to

*afford every facility to the mercantile community in preventing the escape of runaway debtors.*¹⁴

John Lamb lived a conspicuously turbulent public life. Publican, gambler, racing enthusiast, debtor, litigant, and frequent defendant, he appears repeatedly in colonial newspapers for licencing breaches, fines, and financial disputes. Catherine herself rarely appears, reflecting the common archival silence surrounding women whose lives were documented primarily through the actions of men.

By 1850 the Lambs had re-established themselves in South Australia and John had acquired a brig — the *Broadaxe*. The reported purchase price of £1000 raised obvious questions given Lamb's earlier financial difficulties, yet ownership was formally recorded in March 1850.¹⁵ He had purchased it in January and paid it off in late March from passenger fares for the voyage to California. The former master of the ship remained on board until the debt was paid.¹⁶

Similar cracks soon began to show, with Lamb accused of not paying wages for work done on the *Broadaxe*.¹⁷ Undeterred, the indomitable Lamb gave a performance at the theatre and was congratulated for his surprising agility he displayed in Blancher's Hornpipe, before "dancing off to California".¹⁸

In April 1850 the *Broadaxe* departed Adelaide for California. Among the passengers were "Mrs Lamb and daughter," Catherine was once again crossing oceans in pursuit of a man's latest venture. The voyage followed the extended Pacific Ocean routes typical of the era, including documented stops at Port Nicholson (Wellington, New Zealand) and Pitcairn Island before completing the Pacific crossing. After 116 days at sea, the *Broadaxe* arrived in San Francisco on 3 August 1850.¹⁹

For passengers, Pitcairn must have seemed almost mythical, a tiny settlement populated by descendants of the HMS *Bounty* mutineers. Contemporary accounts describe the warmth and hospitality of the islanders, leaving a lasting impression upon the visitors.²⁰

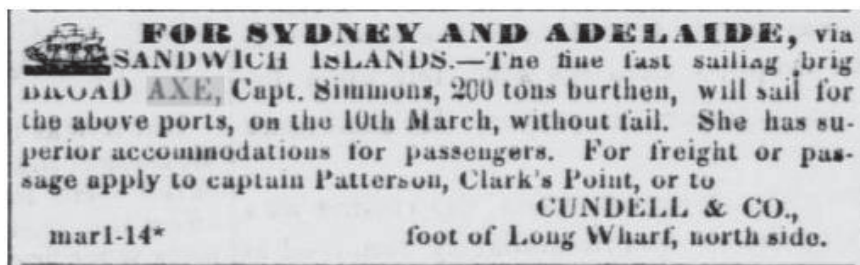
San Francisco at that time was less a settled city than an eruption of activity. Ships crowded the harbour, crews deserted for the goldfields, fortunes rose and fell overnight. Gambling houses flourished. Lives and marriages were put into jeopardy. For a man of Lamb's temperament, it was both an irresistible and unforgiving environment.

Before long sensational rumours began filtering back to South Australia. Newspapers reported that Lamb had incurred the displeasure of Californian vigilantes and had been "shorn of his ears." Whether true or exaggerated, the tale fitted neatly with his already colourful reputation. It may instead have stemmed from a street brawl in Sacramento in which part of one ear was reportedly bitten off.²¹

It is reported and has been contradicted, but is still very generally b-lieved, that Mr John Lamb, the owner of the *Broadaxe*, who went from this port to California, some time ago, incurred the displeasure of the Yankees there by some transactions at a gambling house, and that having been subjected to Lynch Law, he was docked of both his ears.

*South Australian (Adelaide), Thursday 7 November 1850, page 2 –
Local News*

By early 1851 the *Broadaxe* was reported lying “condemnable” in San Francisco harbour — a maritime term indicating that a vessel had become unseaworthy or commercially unviable.²² It is more likely that the ship had simply been poorly maintained, resulting in Lamb being fined \$35,000. The vessel eventually sailed from San Francisco on 10 March 1851 under the command of Captain **Simmons**.²³



FOR SYDNEY AND ADELAIDE, via SANDWICH ISLANDS.—The fine fast sailing brig **BROAD AXE**, Capt. Simmons, 200 tons burthen, will sail for the above ports, on the 10th March, without fail. She has superior accommodations for passengers. For freight or passage apply to captain Patterson, Clark's Point, or to
CUNDELL & CO.,
marl-14* foot of Long Wharf, north side.

Daily Alta California (San Francisco), 16 March 1851

For Catherine, any stability that may have existed was rapidly evaporating.

It was her daughter Emily Mary Britton whose Californian years proved even more dramatic.

By the mid-1850s Emily was a young woman, about 18 or 19 years old, navigating Gold Rush society. Family reconstructions suggest an earlier marriage to Charles **McElroy**, though documentation remains elusive. This earlier marriage is significant, for it helps explain the continued appearance of the McElroy family name throughout Emily's later life. What is clearer is her subsequent relationship with James Sullivan, widely known as Yankee Sullivan, a celebrated and controversial prize-fighter of the era. Contemporary accounts and later inquest testimony indicate that Emily entered a marital union with Sullivan while her earlier McElroy marriage may have still been legally extant – a situation far from uncommon within a transient population such as San Francisco's. The

bigamist nature of the union, while never formally settled, provides important context for the naming patterns that followed.

In 1856 Sullivan died while in the custody of the San Francisco Vigilance Committee. At the subsequent coronial inquest, a jury largely composed of committee supporters returned a verdict of suicide.²⁴

Newspaper accounts of the inquest preserve a rare fragment of Emily's voice. Sworn testimony records her statement that she had been Sullivan's wife for fourteen months and that they had lived both in San Francisco and the Sandwich Islands.²⁵

That testimony also revealed a young daughter aged five months.

Emily's surviving letter of 29 May 1856 offers a rare and deeply personal glimpse into this turbulent moment. Written while Sullivan was being held by the San Francisco Vigilance Committee, it reveals the fear and desperation of a young woman and her infant caught in events far beyond their control. Emily wrote that she had repeatedly tried to see him but had been refused admission and that she had "*not one cent in the world.*" The letter also reflects the uncertainty surrounding Sullivan's fate, as she wondered how she could follow him if he were taken away.²⁶

The child, Catherine, had been born in Honolulu in December 1855 while Sullivan and Emily, with John and Catherine Lamb, were living as guests of King **Kamehameha** IV and operating a gymnasium.²⁷ Although Sullivan was her biological father, she would later move through life under the family name McElroy, reflecting the interchangeability of identity, legitimacy, and remarriage in colonial society.

By July 1856 Emily, not yet twenty years old, was a widow with an infant child.

After the collapse of Lamb's Californian venture the family did not immediately return to Australia. Instead, the Lambs disappeared from the colonial record for several years. Evidence from later court proceedings and reconstructed family movements suggests that they continued travelling widely through the Pacific world during the late 1850s. After leaving California they appear to have moved south along the established Pacific routes used by traders and fortune-seekers, eventually reaching South America.²⁸

During these travels Lamb later claimed to have been involved in a shipwreck, an event that likely contributed to the widespread belief in Australia that he had died. The family subsequently travelled on to Britain, where they appear to have spent some time with John's relatives and lived under the family's family name variant **Hancock** or **Handcock**.²⁹

In December 1859 the emigrant ship *Agincourt* departed the East India Docks in London, taking on additional passengers at Gravesend before sailing from Plymouth on 14 December for Melbourne. Among the second-cabin passengers embarking in London

were John Hancock, aged 45, described as a trader, his wife Catherine, and a young woman recorded as Emily **McLeroy** with a three-year-old daughter Catherine. The group is clearly identifiable as John and Catherine Lamb travelling under the family name Hancock, accompanied by Catherine's daughter Emily and her child Catherine, born in Honolulu. The *Agincourt* arrived in Port Phillip on 12 March 1860 after a voyage of nearly three months.³⁰

Their arrival in Melbourne marked the end of a decade of extraordinary travels that had taken the Lamb family from Australia to California, across the Pacific and South America, to Britain and back again. When Lamb reappeared in Australia many who had known him earlier assumed he had perished during those wandering years.

Victorian court proceedings in 1861 later recorded Lamb stating that he had suffered shipwreck and had long been presumed dead during his absence.³¹

However improbable the story may have sounded to contemporaries, it reflected the extraordinary and often chaotic movements of Lamb's life. What is certain is that once back in the colonies he quickly resumed the familiar pattern of litigation, debts, and controversy that had long followed him.

Court proceedings, insolvencies, and disputes again filled the newspapers. Catherine remained largely absent from the public record. By the late 1860s the family was once more in Adelaide, where documentation becomes more vivid. John Lamb is now the licensee of the Albion Hotel.

In July 1866 Catherine Lamb appeared in the Adelaide Police Court as a witness in a perjury case. During her testimony she referred to "her niece, Elizabeth **Gard**," who was then residing at the *Albion Hotel*. Elizabeth was the widowed daughter-in-law of Mary Gard (née Bailey), providing rare contemporary acknowledgment of kinship between the Lamb and Gard families in Adelaide.³²

Catherine Lamb, Emily McElroy, and Catherine McElroy were charged with assaulting Mary Evans at the *Albion Hotel* in January 1868. Mr. **Mann** appeared for the defendants. A cross-examination against Mary **Evans** resulted in the charges being dismissed and Evans being fined five shillings and costs. Catherine McElroy was a mere 12 years old at this time.³³

In February 1868 Emily remarried, becoming Emily **Ridings** upon her marriage to William Shakespear Ridings at the *Albion Hotel*. The transition marks another reinvention in a life shaped by mobility and circumstance.³⁴

The next generation carried forward the family's restless trajectory. The Lambs are back in Victoria again, in Wodonga, where John is the licensee of yet another hotel. Catherine McElroy bore a son in 1874, the child later known as Richard Butterfield Lamb.³⁵ The naming, echoing Lamb family connections despite the absence of confirmed blood ties,

remains one of those small genealogical puzzles that resist easy explanation. Some family traditions, based on marriage and death records for Richard, have suggested that John Lamb may have been the child's biological father; however, given his advanced age and reported ill health, and in the absence of convincing evidence, this interpretation remains speculative.

Loss, reinvention, and resilience recur throughout the story.

In August 1876 Emily, now thirty-nine years old, gave birth to her second daughter, Hester Ridings.³⁶ The child was born twenty years after Emily's first daughter Catherine, each girl the child of a different husband and separated by two turbulent decades of Emily's life. William Shakespear Ridings died three months later.³⁷

Emily was once again a widow with an infant daughter. It is likely that her household also included William's two sons, her daughter Catherine McElroy, and Catherine's small son Richard, then about two years old. Although documentation is limited, the available evidence suggests that Emily was the central caregiver within this extended and complicated family household.³⁸

That role becomes clearer in October 1878 when William's son Arthur Ridings appeared before the courts charged with larceny and was sentenced to three months in an industrial school. Emily herself was charged with receiving stolen property but was ultimately discharged.³⁹ The episode offers a rare glimpse into the pressures faced by a widowed woman responsible for a household and several children.

Catherine McElroy married Joseph John **Hymer** in Adelaide in 1878.⁴⁰ Joseph was a bigamist with a living wife in Victoria. In some respects, his circumstances echoed aspects of John Lamb's earlier life. Four years later, the couple were in New South Wales when Kate (Catherine) Hymer died in 1882. She was only 26.⁴¹

Hester Ridings would eventually have a story of her own. In 1894 and 1895 she gave birth to two sons, fathered by Frederick **Williams**, to whom she was not married.^{42 43} Frederick Williams was in fact an alias used by Frederick Edmond **Uffindell**. In 1902 he was convicted of larceny and sentenced to four years' imprisonment, with newspaper reports referring to a substantial haul of stolen goods.⁴⁴

Uffindell was released from gaol in May 1905, only a few months after Emily Ridings' death. Soon afterwards the family left Australia for New Zealand, where Hester and Frederick were finally married in 1908.⁴⁵ Like so many before them in this restless family history, their lives followed a familiar pattern, another move, and another reinvention.

John Lamb died in Adelaide in 1881. Catherine Bailey, smuggler's daughter, emigrant, and veteran of extraordinary journeys, followed some years later in 1889. Despite everything, Catherine had lived to be 74. Emily Ridings, twice widowed, maintained

herself as child care worker ⁴⁶ and lived into the new century, dying at St Leonard's, South Australia, in 1905.⁴⁷ Richard Butterfield Lamb's life ended tragically in Western Australia in 1912.⁴⁸

Across decades and continents, Catherine Bailey's family history reflects the volatility of the nineteenth-century colonial world itself — a world defined by movement, precarious fortunes, reinvention, and survival.

Catherine Bailey left no diaries or letters, yet the scattered fragments of her life tell a powerful story. Few women of her time travelled so widely or witnessed such upheaval. From the smuggling coast of Kent to the penal settlements of Van Diemen's Land, from early Melbourne and Adelaide to Gold Rush California and the Pacific world and back again, her life followed the shifting frontiers of empire and migration.

In doing so, Catherine Bailey, smuggler's daughter, emigrant, and colonial survivor, effectively circumnavigated the globe at a time when such journeys were slow, dangerous, and rare.

Acknowledgements

This research has been enriched by the generosity and collaboration of fellow descendants.

My sincerest thanks go to Ken Lamb, a descendant of Catherine Bailey through the Britton and Lamb lines to Richard Butterfield Lamb. Ken has spent more than thirty years researching and reconstructing the extraordinary history of this family across Britain, Australia, California, and the wider Pacific world. His detailed archival work, drawing upon court records, shipping records, newspapers, and family documentation, has illuminated many aspects of John Lamb's remarkable life and, in doing so, the life of Catherine Bailey and the later generations that followed. Much of the contextual understanding of the Lamb family's travels, particularly their movements after California through South America, Britain and back to Australia, derives from Ken's dedicated research. His generosity in sharing this work has been invaluable and deserves the warmest possible acknowledgement.

I also extend sincere thanks to Janine Gall, a descendant of Elizabeth Bailey (later Williams), whose careful family research and willingness to share information have strengthened the evidentiary framework of the Bailey narrative.

As a descendant of Mary Bailey (later Gard), I share with them a common ancestral thread. We are all, in different ways, descendants of John Bailey of Kent, smuggler, transported convict, and patriarch of a far-flung colonial family. It is fitting that this story has been shaped not only by archival records, but by the collaborative efforts of those who continue to carry his lineage forward.

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- ³ Libraries Tasmania, Arrivals, Catherine Bailey, 1829
- ⁴ Libraries Tasmania, Convicts, Stephen Brittain, 1824
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- ²² Trove, *South Australian* (Adelaide), Friday 31 January 1851, Shipping Intelligence
- ²³ Lamb, *Lamb Family—Context and History*; *Daily Alta California* (San Francisco), 7, 11 and 16 March 1851
- ²⁴ Lamb, *Lamb Family—Context and History*
- ²⁵ *Weekly Chronicle & Sentinel* (Augusta, Georgia), 9 July 1856, accessed 23 February 2026.
- ²⁶ Emily Mary Sullivan to James [Sullivan], 29 May 1856, Records of Executive Committee, Committee of Vigilance, San Francisco, [May 15, 1856], Papers of Theodore Hittell, M000002 (Series 5, Box 3, Folder 34), Sutro Library, California State Library, San Francisco, California,
- ²⁷ Lamb, *Lamb Family—Context and History*; *Sacramento Daily Union* (Sacramento), 1 January 1856; *The Polynesian* (Honolulu), 22 December 1855.
- ²⁸ Lamb, *Lamb Family—Context and History*
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- ³¹ Trove, *Argus* (Melbourne), Tuesday 16 July 1861, *Lamb V Miller*

-
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- ³⁵ Births, Deaths and Marriages Victoria (Birth Index), 20176/1874
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Test your skills!

Can you complete the following death notices? Answers in the next issue of *Tasmanian Ancestry*

1. On 28 Mar, She has travelled a long way from Longford but is still remembered fondly by her friends and her son Michael.
2. On 8 August AO, OBE. He will be missed and cherished for his work that was inspired by the landscape and culture of his native Australia.

Bonus Question:

More than 40 years separated the births of these two Tasmanians, but they both contributed to the same area of the arts, and both had a connection to another Australian in that artistic genre – who was it?

Answers to June 2026 Test your skills (Volume 47 Number 1 p 53).

1. Matthew Flinders b 16 March 1774 – d 19 July 1814)
2. Nicholas Baudin b 17 February 1754 – d *16 September 1803 (29 Fructidor Year 11)

*Huge apology here – somehow in the question I gave the incorrect day and month of death in the Gregorian (our current) calendar. The French Revolutionary calendar day and month was correct. The 8 August 1803 was the date when he arrived in Mauritius on his return journey to France.

Answer to Bonus question: With which other country did they both have a (rather less happy) connection?

The country is present day Mauritius – at the time (early 1800s) it was under French control and known as Ile de France. This is a little confusing as there was (and still is) an area within metropolitan France also known as Ile de France – apparently, they managed to cope.

Flinders arrived in Mauritius around 15 December 1803 in the hopes of making very necessary repairs to his ship (*HMS Cumberland*). Unfortunately, a number of things went wrong – England and France were now at war, the scientific passport that Flinders had applied only to the ship on which he had originally set sail (*HMS Investigator*), and he managed to offend the (already suspicious) governor (Charles Decaen) – apparently Flinders forgot to remove his hat when introduced to the governor. This resulted in Flinders being held prisoner on Mauritius until June 1810.

Baudin arrived in Mauritius in early August 1803; he was very ill and died not long after. His scientific expedition, although it achieved most of the goals that had been set had not been harmonious – it seems that the scientists in the party did not respond well to naval

discipline, and there are suggestions that Baudin may have made some unwise navigation decisions.

After the death of Baudin, the reporting of the voyage and the discoveries made on the voyage were in the hands of people who could be seen as his enemies who (some say) engaged in a campaign of vilification which damaged the reputation of Baudin for some time.

For, a great deal more information about these two there is a book, *Ill-starred Captains Flinders and Baudin* by Anthony J Brown. This book was published in 2000 and states that Flinders grave had been destroyed; it is now known that his grave was found in London during excavations for a railway and that he has now been reburied in his home village of Donnington.

Please feel free to contact me about this section – to comment or to suggest people who might “feature” in future issues.

Robyn (president@tasfhs.org)

Hobart Branch

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Index to

H C Millington Funeral Records

Vol. IV Part 14: June 1985 – July 1988

Part 14 continues from previous indexes to the Funeral Records for H C Millington Pty Ltd, dating from 1925. The index often, but not always, names the spouse and/or parents, place of birth, cause of death, and the cemetery where buried or ashes interred. Scanned images of the records are available on Hobart Branch computers. Many have attached Death and Funeral Notices from *The Mercury* newspaper, often naming other family members.

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Who Was He Really?

Graham Webster (Member 8683)

No doubt many family historians have come across a potentially connected person, and piqued by some sort of curiosity have pursued details, but with mixed outcomes. With a same family name, in an area with verified family connections and a conviction of highway robbery, one Henry **Webster** is just one case. This article follows up one published in *Tasmanian Ancestry* vol 45.4, tracing Henry's transportation to Tasmania, his subsequent life and attempts to link him to my family tree.¹ The problem in this instance is, whilst there are plenty of details of the result of that conviction, where did he *really* come from and was he *really* Henry?

One Henry Webster arrived at Hobart, Tasmania, on 19 February 1842 on the convict ship *Tortoise*. According to his convict record he had been convicted on 19 March 1841 at the Cambridgeshire Lent Assizes of highway robbery. There was much contemporary reporting of the crime. Initially committed at the County Magistrate court on 7 October 1840, Henry Webster, together with James **Johnson** and Daniel **Owen**, were charged with robbing George **Colville** of Harston, Cambridgeshire, on the Trumpington Road towards Stump Cross, outside Cambridge, at about nine o'clock on the evening of 4 October 1840. Henry Webster (18), James Johnson (20) and Daniel Owen (22) were indicted for "...feloniously and with personal violence stolen from the person of William Coville [*sic*], one shilling, three penny pieces, one hat, one key, one pocket-handkerchief and one apron". Whilst Johnson and Owen had defence attorneys, Webster was undefended. Upon the guilty verdict being returned on all three, each was sentenced to 15 years' transportation.² It was then reported that "...Johnson said, 'the witnesses were all forswore against him, and he was only on public road'; Webster said, 'Thank you, my Lord.' The other prisoner appeared to feel the sentence acutely."³

On 15 April 1841, Webster, Johnson and Owen were moved from the gaol in Cambridge Castle to the hulk *Leviathan* moored at Portsmouth.⁴ Henry was then moved on 30 August 1841 to the convict ship *Tortoise*.⁵ In mid-August 1841 soldiers from the 95th Regiment of Foot and some convicts embarked. The ship departed Spithead for Plymouth on 11 September 1841 and arrived there on 13 September. Where more convicts were embarked from local hulks. On 3 October 1841, *Tortoise*, departed Plymouth for Tasmania, but it was reported that due to bad weather it returned to Plymouth on 7 October and was back there on 14 October where repairs in the dockyard were made. Apparently two convicts escaped the ship on 16 October when it was lying in Plymouth Sound; whether they survived is not clear, since they were in irons, and it was assumed that they had attempted to swim ashore. *Tortoise* again departed from Plymouth on 24 October. The ship arrived at Cape of Good Hope on 5 Dec 1841 and thereafter arrived at

Hobart, Tasmania, on 19 February 1842.⁶ The voyage took 166 days, and the surgeon's log records"

...that 115 people were admitted to the Sick Bay, 28 of them with the seaman's old enemy scorbutus (scurvy). There were 11 cases of pneumonia, including some of the soldiers. Nine children were delivered on the voyage. The three convicts who died had succumbed to dysentery (2) and a case of phthisis (tuberculosis).⁷

On arrival in Hobart, Henry, recorded as 21, a labourer, was initially on probation for two years, out of Saltwater River facility.⁸ This had been newly established in 1841. The rules of a probation system in Tasmania were not drafted until July 1841. It was:

...about re-instilling the 'just measure of pain' into the experience of transportation. No longer would the vagaries of assignment be allowed to dictate a person's time under sentence. Instead, the government would carefully control their journey through the justice system until they had served their term. Key to this was a period of probationary service within a government-run gang, which would offer reform through trade-training, education and religion.

After probation, a convict faced staged release back into the community. This happened to Henry after his probation expired on 19 February 1844 as in March 1844 he was employed by Richard **Pitt**, at Hunting Ground.⁹ Originally known as Blinkworth's Hunting Grounds, this was a property at Green Ponds, on the Clifton Vale Road, 50km north of Hobart. He was still there for three months from 27 August 1844.¹⁰ Later in the year Henry was in the employ of Philip **Pitt** - Richard's son, for six months from 26 November 1844.¹¹ Henry was in the same employ for six months from 26 November 1845.¹² Henry Webster received his ticket-of-leave on 3 July 1848.¹³ On 29 May 1849, Henry applied to marry Sophia Elizabeth **Riches**. This was initially refused as "female under punishment".¹⁴

Sophia, born on 8 January 1831 in Norwich, baptised on 9 February 1831 at St Peter, Mancroft, Norwich, parents Charles **Riches** and Elizabeth née **Bishop**, was convicted at Norwich City Quarter Sessions on 29 June 1847 for stealing brass weights and other brassware belonging to Matthew **Blyth**, St Martin at Palace in Norwich on 26 June 1847.¹⁵ Sophia,¹⁷ had already been found guilty on 22 November 1845 of stealing one pair of boots property of Thomas **Sacred**, St Clements, Norwich, a shoemaker, and sentenced to two months hard labourer.¹⁶ She had also stolen a watch in 1846 for which she was given a two month sentence.¹⁷ As a consequence of these prior convictions, Sophia was sentenced to seven years' transportation. On 6 October 1847, Sophia was moved from Norwich Gaol to Millbank Prison, having been ordered by the Sheriff of Norwich on 25 September 1847.¹⁸ Sophia was discharged from Millbank Prison to the convict ship, *Elizabeth and Henry*, on 4 February 1848.¹⁹

Sophia was one of 170 other convicts on the ship *Elizabeth and Henry*, which left London on 13 February 1848. It arrived in Hobart, Tasmania, after a voyage of 140 days via Cape of Good Hope, on 30 June 1848.²⁰ On arrival, it was recorded that Sophia, 17, a Glover from Norwich was placed on probation at the Anson Probation Station.²¹ On 4 April 1849 was charged with "...not being in bed at 9 o'clock in the evening" and sentenced to three months hard labour at the Brickfield Female Factory.²² Also known as the Brickfields Hiring Depot from which female convicts as probation passholders were employed, however:

*ASSIGNMENT OF FEMALE SERVANTS FROM THE BRICKFIELDS FACTORY.—We have received information relative to the mode of hiring female pass-holders at the Brickfields, which requires some comment. It appears, that a practice prevails of "snapping up" the women in a manner by no means just to the public, or, in accordance with what ought to be the rules and regulations of that establishment. There seems to be a kind of under-handed system at work, by which the women are hired, almost immediately upon entering the Factory, but this is not carried on by the worthy Superintendent, Mr. Williams, but by the connivance, as we suspect, of some of the subordinate officers. Into this matter, however, we shall not enter further, until we have enquired fully into it, when we shall report accordingly. We may observe, in conclusion, that general discontent prevails as to the mode of assignment from the Brickfields, the cause we shall endeavour to ascertain.*²³

By 9 May 1849, Sophia was employed by Mary Ann **Gormley** of Murray Street, Hobart for one month at £6.²⁴ Then, from 13 June 1849, with Samuel James **Jones**, Collins Street, Hobart, for one month at £6. A few weeks later, on 25 June 1849, Henry applied to for permission to marry again – this time, granted.²⁵ Sophia, meanwhile, worked for Michael **Arkwright**, Collins St, Hobart, from 3 July 1849 for one month for £9, and then from 2 August 1849, for one month for £8 with William **Cook**, Wilmot Street, Hobart.²⁶ A month later, on 3 September 1849, Henry (a groom) married Sophia at St George's, Battery Point, Hobart.²⁷

Henry was recommended for conditional pardon on 17 June 1850, and a week later their first child, Sophia Elizabeth, was born on 23 June 1850, mother Sophia, of Collins Street, Hobart, registered the birth; father, Henry was a groom.²⁸ By 1 March 1851, in a Census, it would seem that Henry Webster was living at Brown's River – three people living there, one free (daughter), one in private employment (Henry) and one ticket-of-leave holder, Sophia.²⁹ The recommendation for conditional pardon for Henry was granted on 11 August 1851 "...upon condition that they shall not return to or be found within the countries in which they were severally convicted, or the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, during the remaining term of their sentences of transportation".³⁰

The family continued to live from March 1852 to 1873 at Brown's River, according to the birth of their subsequent children, twin Gamaliel, Charles William, Sarah, John Henry, Maria, Sophia Alice, Albert Henry, Arthur William, Emily Amelia and Matilda Rose.

During this time, Sophia (as Riches) received her ticket-of-leave on 12 April 1852 and then on 29 June 1854 free by servitude.³¹ Henry was free by servitude on 19 March 1856. Henry was variously recorded a groom, a labourer and a farmer. The latter, for example, in 1857, of 10 acres in the parish of Kingston.³²

Sophia was in trouble many times in the 1860s:

- Charged on complaint of Timothy **Shea** with assaulting him at Kingston with a certain brick with intent to do him some grievous bodily harm on the 28 January 1860. Information dismissed;³³
- Charged on complaint of Bridget **Borley** with having, on the 23 January 1863, within the Town of Kingston in Tasmania insulted her; she pleaded not guilty and the complaint dismissed with costs at 16/- for the compliant and 1/- by defendant;³⁴
- Charged by Mr C D C **Lambert** with accusing him at Kingston on the 7 March 1865, before then assaulting her with intent to commit a rape upon her, with a view to extort money from him, the case was discharged;³⁵
- Charged on information of Mr C D C Lambert with insulting him in Kingston on the 20 June 1865, the information was withdrawn;³⁶
- Charged on the information of Mr C D C **Scott** with insulting Louisa Ann **Hopwood** to the annoyance of passengers on 18 June 1867 in a street in Kingston, and although pleaded not guilty fined 5/- and costs;³⁷
- Charged on information of Ann **Stringer** with using abusive language towards her on 1 May 1868 in a public street at Kingston, she plead not guilty, and the case dismissed³⁸

On 1 January 1869, Sophia, grandmother, of Brown's River, registered the birth of Sydney Victor **Elliston**. Sydney's parents were Sydney Victor Elliston, mother Sophia Elizabeth née **Webster**.³⁹ Sydney (as Webster) died on 20 December 1870 at Kingston.⁴⁰ An Inquest was held and concluded that Sydney jnr:

*... on twentieth day of December...and for a long time before, did labour and languish under a grievous disease of the body, to wit, Bronchitis...the said Sydney Webster, by visitation of God in a natural way, of the disease and distemper aforesaid and not by any violent means whatsoever, to the knowledge of the said Jurors, did die.*⁴¹

Henry and Sophia seem to have lived all their lives at Brown's River; an entry of an Inquest in 1873 gives Henry Webster as a witness of a death there.⁴² Henry, 54, a labourer, died of stomach disease on 27 November 1875 in the district of Kingston.⁴³

A Sophia Webster, 71, widow of the late Henry Webster, farmer, died on 24 November 1899, of bronchitis and cardiac dropsy, at ...at her daughter's residence, Pickit Hill, Brown's River, registered by A Webster [Albert or Alfred].⁴⁴ However, a Sophia Elizabeth Webster, a widow, married a Nils Olai **Manson**, a sailor, at the manse of St Andrew, Hobart, on 29 May 1883; one of the witnesses was an Elizabeth **Bradburn/Bradwen** – daughter Sophia Elizabeth.⁴⁵

But who was Henry Webster? Despite the information that he was 18 or 21, ie born ca 1819 or ca 1823, and a native of Norwich, Bear Street, according to trial reports and convict records, a record of his birth has not been found. When arrived in Hobart, his convict records give family information: mother Maria, with one brother and two sisters. Many researchers on Ancestry ascribe his parentage to Thomas **Webster** and mother Sophia Maria née **Lake**, married at St Peter, Leeds, Yorkshire, and from Methley, Yorkshire.⁴⁶ How plausible it is to have his family in Yorkshire, geographical apart from Norwich in East Anglia? The family trees in Ancestry and other sources give Henry's 'siblings' as two brothers and three sisters! As an alternative, a John **Webster** (born September 1795, Eaton, Norfolk) married Maria **Seeley** (born ca 1801) at St Julian's, Norwich, on 9 September 1816. Come the 1841 Census, taken after Henry had been convicted, they were living in Ber Street, in the parish of St Michael at Thorn, Norwich; he was a candlelighter (?); also in the household was daughter Eliza (born ca 1826). Delving into the records, at the church in St Michael at Thorn⁴⁷, John (variously described as chandler and tallow chandler) and Maria (as Seeley/**Tooley**) had baptised:⁴⁸ James (on 12 September 1819, born 2 September 1819); Maria (on 26 July 1821, born 15 July 1821); Elizabeth (on 6 July 1823, born 21 June 1823⁴⁹); Eliza (on 22 August 1824, born on 12 August 1824).

This is mere speculation on my part but was the transcription from the Bishop's Transcript of Elizabeth's entry in the reconstruction of St Michael at Thorn records wrong: is this Henry? No further information on 'Elizabeth' has been found and 'Elizabeth'/Henry birth date - ie 1823 - tally. An Elizabeth Webster, born ca 1825 appears in the 1851 Census - is this Eliza (*cf* 1841 Census)? - living on her own in the parish of St John, Timberhill, Norwich, receiving "court allowance", often indicating Poor Law assistance.⁵⁰ The only other details on Henry, derived from his convict record, is that he has tattoos on his left arm: John Gam **Thomson** and two blue dots.⁵¹ No further leads on the their significance which could, of course, have been drawn on-board, the blue dots apparently indicated a convict, have been found. Again, a stretch too far perhaps, but Henry and Sophia's eldest child (one of a twin) was named Gamaliel.⁵²

So, having started out to trace Henry Webster, I have ended up plenty of details of his life in Tasmania, but mere speculation that a transcription of one vague source may have mistaken an 'Elizabeth' for an 'Henry'. Given the paucity of source material there may never be a definitive biography, in England, of Henry Webster.

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- ¹ WEBSTER, Graham (2025) A researcher's dilemma: to follow or not? *Tasmanian Ancestry*, March 2025, vol 45, no 4, 219-223
- ² England & Wales, Criminal Registers, 1791-1892
- ³ *Cambridge Independent Press* 27 March 1841, p5
- ⁴ *Cambridge Chronicle and Journal*, 17 April 1841, p2; The National Archives, HO9/14 Leviathan Prison Hulk Register 1837-1844
- ⁵ The National Archives, HO9/14 Leviathan Prison Hulk Register 1837-1844
- ⁶ <https://sites.rootsweb.com/~pbtvc/18-1900/T/04854.html> ; <https://redcoat-settlerswa.com/ships/tortoise-1841-42/>
- ⁷ <https://www.hawkesbury.net.au/claimaconvict/shipDetails.php?shipId=800> ; <https://redcoat-settlerswa.com/ships/tortoise-1841-42/>
- ⁸ Appropriation List, <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/CON27-1-9/CON27-1-9P179>
- ⁹ *Hobart Town Gazette*, vol XXIX, no 1452, 3 March 1844, <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/TGG/TGG-13-9-5-1>
- ¹⁰ *Hobart Town Gazette*, vol XXIX, no 1482, 8 October 1844, <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/TGG/TGG-13-12-5-1>
- ¹¹ *Hobart Town Gazette*, vol XXIX, no 1494, 24 December 1844, <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/TGG/TGG-13-3-3-1>
- ¹² *Hobart Town Gazette*, vol XXXI, no 1548, 6 January 1845, <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/TGG/TGG-15-6-4-1>
- ¹³ *The Hobart Town Advertiser*, 7 July 1848, p4, <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/264522642>
- ¹⁴ Permission to marry, <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/CON52-1-3/CON52-1-3P173>
- ¹⁵ *Norfolk News* 03 July 1847, p1; *England & Wales, Crime, Prisons & Punishment, 1770-1935*, The National Archives, HO 27/82
- ¹⁶ *Norfolk News*, 10 January 1846, p4
- ¹⁷ Sophia Elizabeth Riches, <https://convictrecords.com.au/convicts/riches/sophia-elizabeth/21502> ; *England & Wales, Crime, Prisons & Punishment, 1770-1935*, The National Archives, HO 27/79
- ¹⁸ *Norfolk News*, 9 October 1847, p3; *England & Wales, Crime, Prisons & Punishment, 1770-1935*, The National Archives, HO 13/92 p201
- ¹⁹ *Millbank Prison Registers: Female Prisoners*. Volume 1, The National Archives, HO 24/12; *England & Wales, Crime, Prisons & Punishment, 1770-1935*, The National Archives, HO 1393 p174
- ²⁰ Elizabeth And Henry Voyage, 11th Feb 1848 - 30th Jun 1848 <https://convictrecords.com.au/ships/elizabeth-and-henry/voyages/542>
- ²¹ <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Record/NamesIndex/1429253>
- ²² <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Record/NamesIndex/1429253>
- ²³ *Colonial Times and Tasmanian*, 6 June 1848, p3 <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/8762911>
- ²⁴ <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Record/NamesIndex/1429253>
- ²⁵ Permission to marry, <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Record/NamesIndex/1266568> ; https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/CON52-1-3_p477
- ²⁶ <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Record/NamesIndex/1429253>
- ²⁷ Marriage record, <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/RGD37-1-8/RGD37-1-8P96>
- ²⁸ <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/RGD33-1-3/RGD33-1-3-P286>
- ²⁹ <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/CEN1-1-106/CEN1-1-106-30A>

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- ³⁰ *The Hobart Town Advertiser*, 21 June 1850, p4 <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/264607124> ; *Hobart Town Gazette*, vol XXXVI, no 1847, 12 August 1851, <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/TGG/TGG-20-2-1-1>
- ³¹ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 13 August 1852, vol XXXVII, no 1886, p328 <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/TGG/TGG-21-1-1-1> ; <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Record/NamesIndex/1429253>
- ³² *The Tasmanian Daily News*, 12 Oct 1857, p3, <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/201342430>
- ³³ <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/LC304-1-2/LC304-1-2P498>
- ³⁴ <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/LC304-1-2/LC304-1-2P623>
- ³⁵ <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/LC304-1-2/LC304-1-2P724>
- ³⁶ <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/LC304-1-2/LC304-1-2P733>
- ³⁷ <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/LC304-1-2/LC304-1-2P787>
- ³⁸ <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/LC304-1-2/LC304-1-2P817>
- ³⁹ <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/RGD33-1-10/RGD33-1-10-P087>
- ⁴⁰ <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/RGD35-1-39/RGD35-1-39P101>
- ⁴¹ Inquest, <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/SC195-1-54/SC195-1-54-6822A>
- ⁴² *The Cornwall Chronicle*, 4 June 1873, p3 <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/66028416>
- ⁴³ <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/RGD35-1-44/RGD35-1-44P110>
- ⁴⁴ <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/RGD35-1-68/RGD35-1-68P146>; *The Mercury*, 27 November 1899, p1 <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/12766571>
- ⁴⁵ <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/RGD37-1-42/RGD37-1-42P209> ; <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Record/NamesIndex/878166>
- ⁴⁶ Eg <https://www.ancestry.co.uk/family-tree/person/tree/183530263/person/412416302983/facts> ; <https://www.ancestry.co.uk/family-tree/person/tree/191235025/person/292502146688/facts>
- ⁴⁷ The church was all but destroyed by a German bomb in World War II, including its records, only a few have been reconstructed, http://tinstaafl.co.uk/nbp/Church_Pages/norwich_st_michael_thorn.htm
- ⁴⁸ *1813 to 1880 Baptism Project Norwich St Michael at Thorn*, http://tinstaafl.co.uk/nbp/Church_Pages/norwich_st_michael_thorn.htm
- ⁴⁹ *1813 to 1880 Baptism Project Norwich St Michael at Thorn*, http://tinstaafl.co.uk/nbp/Church_Pages/norwich_st_michael_thorn.htm
- ⁵⁰ Private communication, 23 June 2023, Norfolk Record Office
- ⁵¹ <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/CON18-1-30/CON18-1-30P197>
- ⁵² <https://libraries.tas.gov.au/Digital/RGD33-1-4/RGD33-1-4-P456>

A tale of two men and one wife – (or one man and three wives)

The Reynolds/Lamprill Saga

Christine Burgess (Member 8433)

Part Three

In Part Two, we learnt of the disintegration of Mary and William Lamprill's marriage. Despite the laws of the day, which decreed that when a woman married, all her assets became her new husband's property, Mary had resisted signing over her first husband, David Reynolds' assets when she married William. Disgruntled, William left the marital home ...

At this point, we lose track of William **Lamprill** senior in the antipodes. There is no account of his death in Tasmania, and according to records in the Tasmanian Archives, in later years he resided in Hornchurch, Essex and then became a Yeoman of Colchester, Essex, England.¹

Other records show that intriguingly, on Christmas Day 1854, William Lamprill married Sarah Cotton in Essex, England.² When he married Mary in 1836, there were doubts about his first wife's demise. When he married for the third time, there was an element of *déjà vu*, but this time Mary was very much alive and there's no evidence of a divorce. Evidently life as a bigamist proved somewhat uncomfortable. William died of heart disease six months later, on 18 June 1855 in Colchester, Essex.³

The Tasmanian Archives holds William Lamprill's will, made on 3 January 1855, when he was residing in Hornchurch, Essex, and just over five months before his death. It was to be administrated by Charles **Butler**, solicitor of Harrington Street, Hobart Town. In his will William bequeathed his brother, James Lamprill, a farmer of South Ockendon, Essex £100, and his wife, Sarah Lamprill £200 plus, after twelve months, any residue of his estate after the payment of outstanding debts. William signed this will, indicating that since his marriage to Mary, he had acquired literacy skills.⁴

In 1862, notices appeared in the press regarding the administration of William's will. One notice, which appeared on April Fools' Day, was a petition for a Vesting Order under the Trustee Act for the 'redemption in lands, mortgaged by indenture [on] 31 May 1850, William Lamprill named therein having died without having come into the possession of the lands'.⁵

Other notices, although their wording varied, called for 'all parties having claims on the Estate of the said William Lamprill' to send their particulars in writing to Charles Butler. Some notices showed Charles Butler was also acting for Sarah **Mundy**, formerly Sarah Lamprill (she had presumably re-married) and gave a cut-off date as 13 September 1862.

Another notice gave the cut-off date as 1 December 1862.⁶ Did Mary Lamprill and her two Lamprill sons see these advertisements, and if so, did they lodge a claim?

William's estate amounted to £1167:18:1.⁷ Assets included £164:3:0 'interest collected on a mortgage from John **Bailey**' and £932:0:0 'received of Thomas **Williams** being the principal on the said Mortgage from John Bailey and interest to 6 May 1861', plus additional interest on the account of £71:18:1. Probate on William's will was granted on 5 March 1862.⁸

Finally, on 23 January 1864, and nearly nine years after William's death, Charles Butler signed off on the distributions. After deducting costs, £1014:10:5 was remitted to England for Sarah Mundy, formerly Lamprill of Colchester, Essex and her Executrix and Executor, William Henry **Clifton** of Romford, Essex.⁹

There were no other beneficiaries. There was no mention of William's brother, James receiving any monies – presumably, he was deceased by this stage. Neither was there any mention of William's sons or his second wife, Mary inheriting assets.

Throughout these upheavals, Mary continued to manage the estate in her own name, as an 1854 notice for the building of a new windmill on Brighton Plains demonstrates.¹⁰

TENDERS will be received by the undersigned until the 23rd instant, for the erection of a Post Windmill on Brighton Plains, capable of carrying two pair of stones, the advertiser finding post, mill-stones, dressing machine.

M. LAMPRILL.
Brighton Plains, May 3. 1861

Colonial Times, 25 May 1854, p. 4.

The times were changing. In 1856, Van Diemen's Land had been renamed 'Tasmania', and the first elections held. Mary was one of only seven women (one of whom was her daughter, Matilda) listed on the Brighton electoral roles. They were each recorded as a 'landlady'. That same year, Mary paid £750 for twenty-seven acres [11 hectares] in the Brighton area.¹¹ Then in September 1864, she acquired a further five acres and twenty-five perches [2 hectares] of land in the same area.¹² By September 1869, she appears to have been winding down her active involvement in her estate as she advertised to let her windmill on the Brighton Plains.¹³ Mary lived for another twelve years, dying at the age

LAMPRILL.—On June 22, at Brighton Plains, Mary, relict of the late William Lamprill, aged 82 years. The funeral will move from her late residence at 2 o'clock on FRIDAY NEXT. 5879

The Mercury, 23 June 1881, p. 1

of eighty-two years on 22 June 1881 at Brighton Plains. Her death notice posted in *The Mercury* newspaper, was short, but succinct.¹⁴

For a woman who had lived a long and tumultuous life, it seems a scant record. Mary had married two men – one reputably a kind father and affectionate husband, the other, an illiterate ex-convict who, upon their marriage, demanded his legal rights over her property. Somehow, Mary defied him. According to the Levis family research and the historians, Cassidy and Preston, because Mary ‘refused to sign over her property (valued at £5000 in 1834) Lamprill eventually left her, and she carried on alone’.¹⁵ Ironically, just over twelve months after her death, Tasmania’s Legislative Council passed the *Married Women’s Property Bill* that allowed women to retain ownership of their property after marriage. Henceforth, a husband had no rights of control over his wife’s assets ...¹⁶

Mary, who was known to her family in later years as ‘Granny Lamprill’, had borne ten children to two men and mourned three of those children dying in childhood. Tragically, she may also have lost custody of her first husband’s children when he died intestate. Today, her grave stone can be found at St Marks Anglican Church, Pontville. Poignantly, her grave is next to the vault inscribed with an epitaph to her son, Daniel 1st who died at five years of age. On the opposite side of the vault is the epitaph to her first husband David Reynolds ...

A final twist in the tale ...

Ironically, when Mary Lamprill died at the age of eighty-two years, having worked diligently to ensure her second husband didn’t gain control of her assets and her dowry, she left her entire estate (including her debts) to William and Frederick Lamprill – the children of her second husband, thereby denying her first husband’s offspring what might well be regarded as their rightful inheritance.¹⁷ As an article published by Loch M Fraser Logistics states, ‘Farm successions are always difficult. Traditionally the oldest son gets the homestead block and the others get paddocks or cash’. This wasn’t the case in Mary’s will.

Similarly, in the case of Mary’s father, Daniel Stanfield’s family, the eldest son Daniel junior, who was born before his parent’s marriage, and received a government land grant at Clarence Plains, didn’t inherit the estate at Green Point. However, his property at Clarence Plains was extensive, encompassing Ralphs Bay and the whole of the Lauderdale area.¹⁸

While other family members inherited various other parts of the Stanfield estate, it was the second son, Thomas Stanfield who inherited the Green Point property. He, in turn passed it on to *his* descendants. An article in *The Mercury* in 1908, described the celebrations marking the 100th anniversary of the estate remaining within Thomas Stanfield’s family.¹⁹

The right of the legitimate first-born to inherit the estate clearly didn't happen under Mary Lamprill's will. There was no need. Her eldest son, Thomas Reynolds had already taken legal steps to acquire the land he considered his birth-right. The land Mary left to her Lamprill children was probably from her original Stanfield dowry, plus additional land accumulated over time. When Mary married William Lamprill, he became legally entitled to her estate, and although Mary eventually regained control of her assets, it could well be argued that William's descendants were the rightful inheritors. Regardless of Mary's decision, one thing is clear. There was a positive outcome, Lamprill descendants have toiled to keep the original property financially viable.

In the period 2013-2015, a series of articles celebrating Australia's oldest family business, Mary Lamprill's farm *Summerville*, were published. The farm at that stage was 'in the hands of the seventh generation' of Mary's descendants and was producing poppies, peas and cereals as well as raising merino sheep and cattle. Successive generations have endured bushrangers, droughts and floods, depressions, debts and buy-backs, yet the farm has remained viable, and according to Wikipedia, 'Summerville' remains at the top of the list of Australia's oldest family enterprises ... Mary and William Lamprill's descendants have an enviable record for diligence, perseverance and hard work.²⁰

Yet, even to this day, there is a sense of something untoward lurking in the Lamprill family's psyche. As Lamprill descendant, Jim **Thompson** explained in 2015, 'When David Reynolds died in the 1800s and his wife remarried William Lamprill, as a former convict he was kind of bad-named a bit I suppose ...'.²¹ In a previous interview, Jim had revealed, 'There had been some sadness there, but also there was a convict, and 50 years ago you didn't mention you had a convict in the family'.²²

For Tasmanians, researching their family tree can prove challenging. What if there is a convict ancestor lurking in the shadows? For a long time, such a discovery would be regarded as a stain on the family name. Today, attitudes have changed. The discovery of a convict ancestor is seen as proof of successive generations overcoming the transgressions of the past. Good triumphing over evil.

The discovery of convict ancestry also raises the question of appropriate punishment. Two centuries ago, the crime of stealing a lamb resulted in a death sentence, later commuted to being dispatched to the ends of the earth to serve a sentence of fourteen years. The crime of stealing three cows was rewarded with death by hanging, later commuted to a life sentence. Today, such crimes, if punished at all, might receive a community service order.

For some, there were lessons learnt. David Reynolds' convict father, Edward Reynolds lived out his life in the Hawkesbury area. In 1811, he was recompensed for information about a clandestine distillery and payment from a police fund for seizing a still. In 1814,

he was granted a licence to sell ale, and in 1815, he was licenced as a publican in Windsor, NSW. He died there three years later, on 7 February 1818, aged fifty-three, and was buried locally.²³

It would take until the next generation for the Lamprill's family name to be cleared. Williams' son, William junior, became a very successful and respected member of the community, a Justice of the Peace, and a member of the Brighton Board of Works.²⁴ He died at *Summerville* in February 1889, aged 52.²⁵

But what of David Reynold's descendants? The 1856 lists of persons to be placed on the Electoral Roll show four of Mary and David's children as landowners. Thomas Reynolds held land at Old Beach, Henry Reynolds at Bagdad, Matilda Reynolds at Brighton and Daniel Reynolds 2nd at Broadmarsh. David and Mary's other daughter, Sarah Reynolds married William Hodgson on 14 September 1846 and lived in the Richmond area.²⁶

Further, it seems the Reynolds and Lamprill descendants were not necessarily estranged. In her will, Matilda Reynolds bequeathed assets of £2259 to Henry Ernest Lamprill (son of William Lamprill junior) and Charles Herbert Lamprill (son of Frederick Lamprill).²⁷

In February 1987, some 280 of David and Mary's descendants gathered to commemorate the 170th anniversary of their ancestors' marriage. These descendants had travelled from all parts of Tasmania, Victoria and New South Wales, and represented all branches of the Reynolds family.²⁸ Clearly, their forebearers were not forgotten. So, how have these descendants fared? And how do they feel when they uncover the story of a supposedly lost inheritance? Surprised? Hurt? Incredulous? Or perhaps they simply wish to put the record straight. As David and Mary's great-great granddaughter, Sally Paterson states in her blog, 'I am on this fellow's tail ...'.²⁹

¹ Libraries Tasmania – SC389/1/686. A record of a William Lamprill's death, Libraries Tasmania – RGD35/1/58 No. 563 relates to William Lamprill's first born son.

² Sally Patterson, 'My Family History', <https://steelsfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/search/label/LAMPRILL>, downloaded 14 September 2025.

³ Libraries Tasmania – SC389/1/686, Read, 'William Lamprill and his Three Brides', p. 212.

⁴ Libraries Tasmania – AD961/1/4 [Will No. 457]. The same firm Mary employed in 1846.

⁵ *The Mercury*, 1 April 1862, p. 2.

⁶ *The Mercury*, 8 March 1862, p. 1 & 4 August 1862, p. 1; *Launceston Examiner*, 13 March 1862, p. 6.

⁷ Presumably, this John Bailey was the same John Bailey who gave William £1096:3:0 in 1853.

⁸ Approximately £160,000 in today's terms.

⁹ Libraries Tasmania – AD961/1/4 [Will No. 457] & SC389/1/686.

¹⁰ Libraries Tasmania – SC389/1/686.

¹¹ *Colonial Times*, 25 May 1854, p. 4.

¹² *Launceston Examiner*, 19 April 1856, pp. 4 & 6; Lib Tas AD956/1/1 p. 87 & RD1/1 Book 35, p56.

¹³ AD956/1/1 p. 89 & RD1/1 Book 55, p. 41; *The Advertiser*, 5 September 1863, p. 4.

¹⁴ *The Mercury*, 23 January 1869, p. 1.

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- ¹⁴ *The Mercury*, 23 June 1881, p. 1.
- ¹⁵ Cassidy & Preston, p. 101; Libraries Tasmania – NS3736/1/4, Robert William Carl Levis ...
- ¹⁶ Tasmanian Legislative Council, *Married Women's Property Acts (Imperial) 1870 and 1874, and Bill 1882*, No. 76.
- ¹⁷ Mary Lamprill's Will, Libraries Tasmania – AD960/1/13 [Will No. 2450].
- ¹⁸ Evans, *A Geographical, Historical ...*, p. 126; *THRA P&P*, Vol. 23, No. 4, p. 159.
- ¹⁹ *The Mercury*, 10 October 1908, p. 6; Loch M Fraser Logistics Pty Ltd, 'Australia's oldest family business', <https://www.lochm.com.au/news/337/australia-s-oldest-family-busines/>, downloaded 21 September 2025.
- ²⁰ Alan Kohler, 'Australia's oldest family business', *Intelligent Investor*, 18 July 2013; Kate Jones, 'Are these Australia's oldest businesses?', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 13 July 2015; Fiona Breen, 'Brighton's Summerville, oldest continuous family business in Australia mulls its future in Hobart', *Landline*, 7 February 2014.
- ²¹ Jim Thompson, as quoted in the TasWeekend, *Mercury*, 20 June 2015.
- ²² Fiona Breen, 'Brighton's Summerville, oldest continuous family business in Australia ...'.
- ²³ Colonial Secretary's Index, https://colsec.records.nsw.gov.au/r/F47c_ra-rh-18.htm, downloaded 20 September 2025.
- ²⁴ *The Mercury*, 3 November 1868, p. 3; *The Tasmanian*, 21 October 1871, p. 6.
- ²⁵ 25 February 1889, p. 1.
- ²⁶ *Colonial Times*, 17 April 1856, pp. 3 & 4; *Launceston Examiner*, 19 April 1856, pp. 4 & 6; <https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Reynolds-5855>, downloaded, 1 November 2025.
- ²⁷ *Emu Bay Times ...*, 29 July 1899, p. 2; *Daily Telegraph*, 22 August 1899, p. 3.
- ²⁸ *Tasmanian Ancestry*, Vol. 8, No. 2, June 1987, p. 59.
- ²⁹ Sally Patterson, <https://steelsfamilyhistory.blogspot.com/search/label/>, downloaded 1 October 2025.

Acknowledgements

The impetus for writing this article came from two of my granddaughters, Stephanie and Lily Burgess who wanted to know more about their family tree. My initial research was greatly assisted by my husband's late grandmother, Mabel Burrell (née Reynolds), who first alerted me to the story of a convict step-great-grandfather, a suspicious boating accident and a supposedly lost inheritance. I am also indebted to Mabel's sister, Eileen Levis (née Reynolds) and her family, who in the 1970s commissioned a genealogist to research the history of their paternal family, the Reynolds clan. In doing so, they discovered the Lamprill connection. Other family members who have assisted include my husband Chris Burgess, proof-reader extraordinaire, and my son, Andrew Burgess, who helped improve the legibility of the extracts from the newspapers. In addition, I am indebted to John Dent, Secretary, Tasmanian Family History Society who diligently searched past editions of *Tasmanian Ancestry*. I am also grateful to David Bloomfield, Jasmine Yee and Georgie Clooney Osborn at the Tasmanian State Library and Archive Service who promptly answered my research enquiries and Alison Alexander and Ian Terry who helped me search the Tasmanian Historical Research Association Journal indexes. Finally, special thanks to Rebecca Read, who by sheer coincidence, also decided to research the history of William Lamprill. Sincerest thanks to all.

A Fascinating Family Mystery – Finally Solved

Louise Rainbow (Member 6490)

Recently an enquiry landed in my inbox from a correspondent in Ireland seeking some closure on a long standing mystery surrounding his maternal grandfather, JGM, born in 1896 in County Monaghan, a mystery that involved deception, a criminal investigation, name changes, international travel, and finally a life lived out in Tasmania. For clarification, I am the Research Officer for the Hobart branch of the Society and have been requested by the family to de-identify the people in question.

JGM enlisted and served with the British forces for the duration of WWI, rising through the ranks. Initially, enlisted as a Private in the Royal Engineers and in 1918 gazetted as a Second Lieutenant. At the end of the war, he was discharged as an honorary Major. He was subsequently awarded the Military Cross for gallantry in the Battle of Albes.

On his return to Belfast, he trained as a solicitor and met his future wife who he married in 1919. Husband and wife returned to the hometown of JGM and set up a successful legal practice. The four children who were born are now deceased, the youngest being the mother of our correspondent.

All was going splendidly until in about 1935 the practice got into financial difficulties, followed by a police investigation. Grandfather JGM fled Ireland, leaving his wife to raise four children. JGM was accompanied by MET, daughter of a local clergyman.

The family story is now sketchy, and it was believed the couple fled to Malaya where it was thought JGM was working as a solicitor in Kuala Lumpur. The family believed that the family name was changed to D and in fact the names were changed to JFD and JD, borne out by evidence found in Immigration records and those records found subsequently in Tasmania, but the question were they the correct people in question?

For clarification refer to the table below.

	Originally known as	Later known as
Solicitor	JGM	JFD
Clergyman's daughter	MET	JD

A few clues emerged detailing the activities of the couple and this is where Ancestry.com has assisted with various immigration records of shipping between the Commonwealth countries. My investigation discovered JFD, and JD departing from London in 1937 aboard ship and described as travellers heading for Singapore. JFD and JD appeared to have travelled back to England on a couple of occasions. In 1945 JFD and JD travelled

from India to Southampton describing themselves as a civil servant employed by the Colonial Office and housewife in Malaya. JFD travelled by ship from Liverpool to Singapore in 1946 describing himself as a barrister. This couple were able to travel freely between Commonwealth countries at this time because there was no need to produce a passport.

The records of National Archives of Australia have also been quite helpful. In 1951 JD flew from Singapore to Sydney for a holiday and then in 1957 JD flew from London where she had been holidaying to Sydney and giving her home address as Kettering, Tasmania. The couple had obviously arrived in Tasmania to settle sometime between 1951 and 1957 because a notice in *The Mercury* in 1954 mentioned JFD was auctioning 6 prime steers at Huonville.

The Tasmanian Names Index came to the rescue with a death date for JFD in 1972 as an Inquest was held but no will was to be found. Not to be deterred, a visit to the Tasmanian Archives in Hobart was made to search for a death notice in the *Mercury* to see if there was any relevant information available. The death notice only mentioned his wife JD but fortunately mentioned his awards, the DSO and MC, unfolding another clue in the mystery. FamilySearch was able to provide information contained in the Burial Order which offered correct information about place of birth, County Monaghan, and his profession was described as in the Colonial Legal Service which probably refers to his time in Malaya.

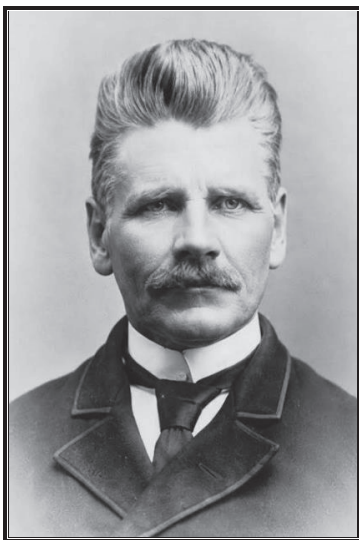
Determined to find an answer, a further search of the Undertaker's Database for any clues about the demise of JD. The Undertaker's Database came up trumps with her date of birth, which was correct, and the fact that there was a Will. This proved to be the clincher when the family contacted Perpetual Trustees who were very obliging and provided a copy of the will. The heirs of JD were her nieces and nephews who were the children of her older sister. Bingo!

All through this research my query had been how was it known that these two came to Tasmania and how was their new family name known? The family explained JFD had written to an old friend back in Ireland at some stage and the friend quietly passed the information back to the wife he had deserted. The family were not aware that the given names had also been changed.

The vital evidence given by the Undertakers' Record was foremost in solving the mystery and the database with images and produced by the Hobart Branch of our own Society. This is one resource not to be overlooked when dealing with a death in Southern Tasmania, in the years from 1920 onwards. This has been a fascinating story but proved not unsurmountable by going down every rabbit hole possible. It has been a pleasure to correspond with the family in Ireland who are excited with the find, finally putting their curiosity of what happened to their grandfather to rest.

James Staines Taylor: Captain of The Kangaroo

Danice Lewis (Member 8603)



Tasmanian Mail 5/MAR/1910.

Born in England c1832¹, James **Taylor** was transported onboard the *Oriental Queen* in 1853². His was found guilty of stealing goods from a home with three other people. Although maintaining his innocence his sentence was 10 years³. He became coach driver for Askin **Morrison** of St Peters Pass, who at that time, owned the steamer *Kangaroo*⁴. He now became a Captain and adds **Staines** as part of his name. He is known as a dapper dresser, the smart dressed Captain on deck ⁵. He marries Jane **Manley** after two applications ⁶. This meant their child Elizabeth, was born out of wedlock. Jane was at the Cascade Female Factory when they met, and Elizabeth was born ⁷.

Their children; Elizabeth 1854, Emily 1855, James Edward 1857, Jane 1859, William 1880, Sarah 1860, James Staines 1864, Evangeline 1866 and Benjamin 1869 ⁸. Jane's sad demise was met when she sustained burns from reading in bed with a candle. She laid on the kitchen table for days lingering in pain from severe burns before passing. She was buried at St Marks, Bellerive ⁹.

(Some have disputed this James Edward being a legitimate child of James and Jane. Tasmanian Name Index has him as child of the above RGD33-1-6-P468 along with the other son called James RGD33-1-8_436.)

James then married a woman 15 years his junior. Less than three months after Jane's death, James married Rosina **Pedder** on the 18 July 1878¹⁰. Rosina's brother, Walter, was already married James' daughter Elizabeth in 1879¹¹. When Elizabeth and Walter were courting, James and Jane would have met the **Walters** family. I hate to be suspicious, but was Jane's death accidental? Had he and Rosina formed an attachment and hatched a plan to marry? Weirdly, the family would have seen Jane's fresh grave on the wedding day as they married in the same Church where she was buried.



Steamer Advertisement from Walch's Almanac 1864

Children of James and Rosina; Montague 1879, Ida 1881, Valentine 1882, Rita 1883, Brighter 1885, Frederick 1885, Albert 1887 and Archibald 1890⁸. When James retires, he purchased the well-known house, *Cawarra* in New Town. A fall on the stairs from which he never really recovered, saw him pass aged 77, just 6 years after retiring in 1910¹². Convict to Captain, a man known in Hobart for his dress, his non-existent schedule and accident-prone ferry!

The Kangaroo aka "Double Guts" & "The Twins"



Centenary history of Kemp & Denning Limited, 1902 - 2002 by A L Graeme-Evans.

Built on the slips at the Domain Hobart 1855 it was the first vessel specifically designed for vehicular ferrying. Askin Morrison purchased it for £1800. 110 foot, 109 gross ton paddle steamer was twin-hulled catamaran built by Captain **Goldsmith** with design input from Lt

Gov. Sir William **Denison** and built of blue gum and planked with kauri pine, the engine came from London. The paddle wheel worked in the middle between hulls with rudders at the stern. Edward Goldsmith was the first Captain and Taylor was the second. Interesting facts are, her engine was 30hp, she never left the Derwent River, she carried the first motorcar from Hobart to Bellerive, she also delivered water to the Eastern shore when there was a shortage. At times she would act as a towboat rescuing other ships, abandoning passengers transports as ship rescues would pay more. The unreliability of the schedule led to many complaints and the government paid Captain Taylor a retainer of £200 per year to maintain a regular timetable ¹³. Collisions with the *Kangaroo* were common due to limited visibility, her most famous collisions under Taylor;

1/Feb/1857 Boat from the schooner *Balmoral*, drowning a crew member [14].

3/Dec/1866 Collided with the ferry *Garibaldi* drowning three people [15]

16/Aug/1894 Cut the *Emily* in half [16].

16/Jul/1896 accident killing Mr **Lambert** [17].

“No other steam on the Derwent enjoyed the same affection as the Kangaroo. Early history was distain and mistrust, later gave way to wonder and admiration. There is more space devoted to the Kangaroo in the local newspapers than any other vessel on the Derwent. Top speed was 6 knots. She was slow and unwieldy in rough weather. In 1882 she carried the cannon for the Bluff Battery” [18].



*Boys Brigade on The Kangaroo. Tasmanian Mail.
28/Dec/1911. Insert p3.*

O'May Brothers purchased the Kangaroo in 1903 for £6200 ¹⁹. She was retired in 1926, succeeded by the Government owned *Lurgurena*. She was stripped of her metal and moored at Bellerive railway jetty where she sank, partly submerged. Clarence Council wrote to the Marine Board complaining that it was dangerous. She was demolished with explosives in 1928, thus ending more than 70 years of service ²⁰.

Recommended further reading;

- *Captain JS Taylor*. By DL Goransson. LINC Tas. Shelf No. TL.Q 386.6099461.
- Facts about The Kangaroo. *The Mercury*. 24/AUG/1921 p22.
- Story of The Kangaroo. *The News Hobart*. 12/JUL/1924. p4.
- Kangaroo, Her Unique Career, *The Mercury* 26/MAR/1926 p5.
- Hull of The Kangaroo. *The Mercury*. 25/JAN/1928. p3.
- 75 years of Service. O'May Family's Ferry *The Mercury*. 5/MAY/1939. p8.

1. Old Bailey trial states age as 17.
2. Record ID1439358/69393 LINC
3. Case 1343 Old Bailey 11/JUN/1849.
4. History of Kangaroo Bay by Peter MacFie 2002.
5. 100 years of yachting. HH Webster & L Norman 1936.
6. LINC RGD33-1-5-P031.
7. LINC Record ID 958095/1854
8. BDM records via LINC name search.
9. The Mercury 26/APR/1878 p2.
10. LINC RGD37-1-37P32
11. LINC RGD37-1-38P344
12. The Mercury 1/MAR/1910 p1.
13. Ships of Hobart 2014. Rex & GW Cox
14. Hobart Town Advertiser 2/FEB/1857 p2.
15. Morning Herald Hobart. 11/DEC/1866 p3.
16. Tasmanian News 8/SEP/1894 p2.
17. Tasmanian Police Gazette 31/JUL/1896. p122.
18. Ships in Tasmanian Waters, G Cox. 1971
19. Tasmanian News. 1/OCT/1903. P4.
20. Ferries of the Derwent by Dave O'May 1988.

A Reverie Which Leads Back to Latrobe.

A contrast between the old and the new.

This article is reprinted with permission from *The Advocate* and was published 31 January 1933. People had been asked to write about their memories of Latrobe.

[In this "Back to Latrobe" essay, written in 1933, Miss M. Davis, of Gilbert Street, relates salient facts about old Latrobe, and compares it with the present.]

"Back to Latrobe, eh?" The old gentleman in the opposite corner of the railway carriage leaned for-ward.

"I can just remember going there years ago—a day like this it was. We had been on the road since the early morning, coaching, of course. The four bay horses were dark with sweat as we neared La Trobe. One can scarcely credit it now. The stores by the river — Bell and Bentinck owned them—did a great trade in those days, for shipping was the main means of transport. Boats sailed up as far as the old wharf. There are a few planks there yet, I believe. "Then there was Tarleton on the other side, with its mines in full swing and piling splitters at work among the Big timber. "The stores were very central, and produce was sent there for shipment to Melbourne from Northdown, Par-doe and Sassafras, which were developing rapidly. It must have been a fine sight with the rows and rows of horses and wagons and bullock drays, ships loading and unloading, and all the noise and bustle — a sight to gladden the hearts of those who dreamed and planned for the future greatness of the tiny settlement which, like some lusty young plant, was even then throwing out unexpected buds and branches.

Early Bridge at Frogmore.

"There had been some fine old places even since the earliest days. Frogmore is one that has remained, and it was there that one of the first bridges was built.

"Excitement increased as the coal seams at Tarleton proved amazingly profitable, and for a time it was believed that the Tarleton side would prove a great port in later years. As time ran on the district grew steadily. Ballahoo was the main settlement for a time—and when roads were built more and more people drifted in. "In 1874 the first Latrobe Agricultural Show was held. It was the affair of the year, and people flocked there from all parts of the North-west Coast. There was talk, too, of the railway being put through, for had it not been carried to Deloraine. Slowly but surely, it came, and with it a greater expansion of settlement. "A hospital was found necessary in 1885, and a small cottage hospital was built. It was in the charge of Matron **Scheichler**, with Dr. **Payne** as medical officer. Later the present buildings were disused, and so the Devon Hospital came into its own. "They were not without their sport either, and many a fine thoroughbred has been raised and raced over the Mersey flats in early days, and later on the Latrobe Turf Club's course. Then there was woodchopping; and that is popular still.

Two Newspapers. "There were newspapers, too, for a time. I can remember the 'Devon Herald' and the 'Standard' quite well. Things have changed a little. 'Competitions were held there until quite recently, for folks were mighty keen in those days, but that sort of thing seems to have died out a bit. Perhaps it will return someday. "There had always been a great deal of interest in the shale oil industry, and when things began to move on the mainland about 1901, the shale land here was examined by various experts, and a company, the Tasmanian Shale and Oil Co., N.L., was formed and re-torts erected. Other companies came into being and so linked the work with that at Railton. It was not surprising, therefore, that in 1906, Latrobe should gain municipal status, for the rapidly increasing population, the prosperity, fine buildings, and water and gas supply called for some recognition that the child was a child no longer."

The Transformation.

I listened lazily to his reminiscences, mentally comparing them with the town as I knew it—Gilbert Street, with its many shops, the Post Office, Courthouse and memorial, surrounded by bright flower beds—the cars slipping past on the smooth bitumen road; the numerous streets branching out, and houses clustered at the foot of the sheltering hill; the churches, Convent and new brick State school in its well-kept grounds; and the Devon Hospital, now a by-word throughout the Coast. The recreation ground and largest and set amid fine trees could not be forgotten, or the aerodrome, very young yet: and show grounds, tennis courts and Hamilton Park in the centre of the town. Thoughts of the surrounding districts came to me as he spoke of them. I saw Tarleton as it is today—just a railway siding with a few houses clustered near; Spreyton, green and grey with her apple orchards, at present laden with the young green fruit; Sherwood, Ballahoo and Sassafras, all peaceful farming country; and Port Sorell, once a more important settlement, now a quiet seaside resort.

Passing of the Ships.

I felt a little sad that no longer the ships might come to Latrobe for their cargoes of timber and coal, owing to the mushroom-like growth of Torquay and Formby into so important a port as Devonport is to-day; that the busy days when great horse-drawn wagons of chaff lumbered to the railway station had waned. I thought of Bell's Parade, with all the calm beauty of the water and green-ness of foliage, a fitting background for Henley-on-Mersey, held there each year; of the endless turns and twists of the river around Pig Island and the willow-fringed upper reaches where fish leap from the still waters.

Truly a district where one would wish to remain; so beautiful, gay or quiet, and prosperous, yet with the hope of the shale works giving a wider sphere of industry and activity. But the train is running into the town even now. I glance eagerly out at the river, willow-robed, with the green paddocks stretching to meet it, and then upon houses and rooftops, as with a final grinding of brakes we draw in amid the noise and bustle of a crowd-ed platform—and I am "Back in Latrobe."

Library Acquisitions

Hobart Branch

Alexander, A & Escott, R.(eds) *Convict lives – Mothers' trials and triumphs*. 365.4309946 ALE.

Baker, A.(comp) *Female convicts transported England to V.D.L. on the "Westmoreland", 1836*. 6 vols. Q 365.9946 BAK.

De Rue, Y. *Circular Head*. 994.65 DER.

Hines, T. *Life down under*. Q 365.9946 HIN.

Howlett, D.J. *The Howlett family history*. Q 929.2 HOW.

James, S. *The blazed track*. 994.63 JAM.

Power, Sr.C. *Circular Head Parish, 1849-2005*. Q 282.099465.

Stubblings, S. *Billy – a boy from Queenstown*. Q 929.2 STU.

Launceston Branch

*CDA - Architects, *St Matthias' Church and Graveyard Windermere, Conservation Management Plan*

*Humphries, Cathie, *A Tangled Web, A complicated history of the Evans, Gibson, Denman, Satchwell, Bellchambers, How, Yaxley, Lancaster, Maggs, Barry, Teen and McPherson families*

*Jones, Sian, *Holy Trinity Anglican Church Launceston, Conservation Plan*

*Parish of St John Launceson (Comp), *St Johns' Launceston, Souvenir of Old and New Churches*

*TFHS Inc. Burnie Branch, *Index to The Advocate – People, Places, Photos, Events*

*Waterson, Steve (Ed), *Command of the Skies, Centenary of the RAAF 1921-2021*

*Watson, Stephen J, *Mathinna, Discovering the Past 1850s-1930s*

*Denotes donated item

New Members

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members.

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members.

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The above members have re-joined after a break and have been allocated their original number					
8629	BERNARD Ms Peggy	7/25 York St bernardp746@gmail.com	WYNYARD	TAS	7325
8630	WRIGHT Mr Andrew	20 Cottage Rd rockwally460@gmail.com	KINGSTON	TAS	7050

8631	BOOTE Mr Douglas	1/4 Hamish Crt dougboote@gmail.com	RIVERSIDE	TAS	7250
8632	EVERIST Mrs Robyn	PO Box 66 robyn@hobarthistory.com.au	LAUDERDALE	TAS	7021
8633	CASHION Mrs Jessica	19 Carter Crt jesbc09@gmail.com	NEW NORFOLK	TAS	7140
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8635	REICHMUTH Mrs Pippa	Not for publication			
8636	LAGRUTTA Mrs Gillian	11 Jenkins St gml1959@gmail.com	RESERVOIR	VIC	3073
8637	PLOWRIGHT Mr Stephen	6 Cambock Lane West plowrightfamily@bogpond.co	EVANDALE	TAS	7212
8638	LENNIS Mrs Helen	6 Port St g_lennis@bigpond.com	PORT SORELL	TAS	7307
8639	TAYLOR Mr Mark	41 Doonan Rd mlt6009@gmail.com	NEDLANDS	WA	6009
8640	WORRALL Mr Peter	79 Hampden Rd peter@worralloffice.com.au	BATTERY POINT	TAS	7004
8641	WHILEY Mr Scott	3 Heath Crt scott_whiley@hotmail.com	DEVONPORT	TAS	7310
8642	WALKER Mr Rodney	31 Echo Rd jepwalker1@bigpond.com	LIENA	TAS	7340
8643	SAVILLE Mr Dylan	52 Basin Rd dylanbsaville@gmail.com	WEST LAUNCESTON	TAS	7250
8644	CONWAY Ms Nicole	3 Stonehaven Pl nicolejconway@icloud.com	DERWENT PARK	TAS	7009
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8646	SHEEDY Ms Peta	281 Main Rd zaylibsmith@gmail.com	AUSTINS FERRY	TAS	7011
8647	ROBINSON Mrs Susan	2A Caroline St eurekadolls53@gmail.com	PROSPECT	TAS	7250
8648	ROBINSON Mr Kevin	2A Caroline St eurekadolls53@gmail.com	PROSPECT	TAS	7250
8649	BROWN Mr Neil	18 Bealey Ave nandj.brown@bigpond.com	LENAH VALLEY	TAS	7008
8650	BROWN Mrs Julia	18 Bealey Ave nandj.brown@bigpond.com	LENAH VALLEY	TAS	7008
8651	LAVERY Mrs Gay	PO Box 4048 gaylavery1@outlook.com	CASTLECRAG	NSW	2068
8652	DARVELL Mr Maxwell	77 Bass Hwy mdarvell@utas.edu.au	PARKLANDS	TAS	7320
8653	WELLS Ms Leanne	16 Swan Ave leannewells1@hotmail.com	ROSTREVOR	SA	5073
8654	RYAN Mrs Genevieve	501/1 Seymour Ave gen.ryan01@gmail.com	SHENTON PARK	WA	6008
8655	SHIRES Ms Patricia	PO Box 462 trishshires@hotmail.com	WYNYARD	TAS	7325
8656	NELSON Mrs Elizabeth	9 Acunha St enlilibet@gmail.com	MT ELIZA	VIC	3930

8657	MORRISON Mr Kevin	23 S 18th St fozard@outlook.com	PITTSBURGH	PA	15203
8658	MORRISON Mrs Jan	23 S 18th St fozard@outlook.com	PITTSBURGH	PA	15203
8659	COLLINS Mrs Susan	37 Pindos Dr buttel2012@gmail.com	HOWRAH	TAS	7018
8660	BRIDGES Mr Tony	20 Allunga Rd bridges.tony@rocketmail.com	CHIGWELL	TAS	7011
8661	De La RAMBELYA Mrs Isabel	1 Tulip Grove idelarambelya@gmail.com	CHELTENHAM	VIC	3192
8662	BAKER Mr Peter	15 Tanami Crt masterfind@hotmail.com	NARRE WARREN SOUTH	VIC	3805
8663	WETTENHALL Ms Irene	Unit 8 De Graaff Gardens irenewettenhall@gmail.com	HOLDER	ACT	2611

New Members' Interests

NAME	PLACE/AREA	Period	MSHIP NO.
AYLETT William			8629
BAKER Elizabeth	West Tamar TAS AUS	1817-1876	8630
BAKES George	Highclere, TAS AUS	1870 -1943	8655
BAYNTON Margaret			8651
BOOTE Clarence Vernon	Stanley TAS AUS	1896 - 1960	8631
BOOTE Robert	Woolnorth TAS AUS	1800 - 1900	8631
BROWN John	West Tamar TAS AUS	1801-1865	8630
BROWN John	Launceston TAS AUS	1799-1850	8630
DUNCAN Ellen Deborah	Sorell/Buckland/Chudleigh/Launceston TAS	1862-1945	8643
DWYER Patrick	Tasmania AUS	1800>	8628
EDMONDS Joseph	Kent ENG	c.1750	8656
FAGAN Mary	IRL	1802 >	8636
FELL Mary Ann	Hobart/Sorell/Sandy Bay TAS AUS	1830- 897	8643
FIELD William	Tasmania AUS	1774-1837	8628
GILES Charles	Bilsington, KEN, ENG	1798-1874	8636
GRAY Peter	Smithton TAS AUS	1810 - 1850	8631
GRIGGS Sarah			8651
HANGAN John		1778-1826	8636
HANGAN (HEELS, COPELAND) Jane		1785-1850	8636
HARRISON John	Tasmania AUS	1845-1879	8628
HAYDON Thomas George	Ulverstone, TAS AUS	c.1800-1897	8654
HINSBY			8651
HINSBY Henry			8651
HINTON Mabel Lucy	Queenstown TAS AUS	1901 - 1960	8631
HINTON Annie	Tasmania AUS	1898 - 1945	8631
HITE John	Deloraine, TAS AUS	c.1887	8655
HODGETTS Thomas	Staffordshire ENG	c.1750	8656
JAMES Alfred Thomas	Northern TAS AUS	1871-1940	8657
JAMIESON Sarah	Glasgow SCT/Australia	1830-1900	8641
JOHNSON Joseph	Van Diemens Land/Green Ponds TAS AUS	1804-1852	8663
KEARNEY Catherine	Norfolk Is NSW/Van Diemens Land TAS AUS	1796>	8663
KEATING William Dalrymple	Northern Tasmania AUS	1804	8656
KEATING James	Dublin IRE	c.1750	8656
KEATING Thomas	Deloraine TAS AUS	1830	8656
KELTIE Andrew James	England/Australia	1833-1900	8641

LETTICE Margaret		1831-1875	8636
LOCKETT James	Tasmania AUS	1840-1900	8628
MALONEY Thomas	Westbury TAS AUS	1837-1924	8630
MANNING Samuel	Deloraine, TAS AUS	c.1869	8655
MCCARTHY James	Fingal/Avoca TAS AUS	c1819-1890	8654
MEAD William	Chelmsford ESS ENG	c.1822	7597
MIDDLEBROOK Ann	Staffordshire ENG	c.1750	8656
MURPHY Agnes Phoebe		1877 - 1959	8655
RADFORD Charles	Highclere, TAS AUS	1905 - 1982	8655
ROBINSON John Patrick			8629
RUBY Mary Ann / Anne	Sorell/Spring Bay/Richmond/Moonah TAS	1851-1914	8643
SAVILLE Ronald Keith	Chudleigh/Deloraine/Launceston TAS AUS	1904-1968	8643
SAVILLE John	Brushy Plains/Chudleigh/Deloraine TAS	1858-1935	8643
SHIRES Thomas	Wynyard, TAS AUS	1867 - 1925	8655
SLY William	Wexford, IRL	1790-1842	8636
SMITH Emma	Northern TAS AUS	1848-1937	8657
SPINKS Jane	Smithton TAS AUS	1820 - 1900	8631
TAYLOR	Westbury TAS AUS	1823>	8634
TREGURTHA (Bussell) Elizabeth	Van Diemens Land TAS AUS	1835>	8663
TUCKER James	Hobart TAS AUS	c.1808-1865	8654
WALSH Ambrose			8629
WARE Mary			8651
WARE Jerimah			8651
WEBB James	Emu Bay TAS AUS	1848-1895	8657
WEBB Charles	Emu Bay TAS AUS	1851-1904	8657
WESTWOOD Joseph	Longford TAS AUS	1812-1887	8630
WETTENHALL (Bussell) Mary Burgess	Van Diemens Land TAS AUS	1835-1896	8663
WETTENHALL Robert	Van Diemens Land TAS AUS	1835-1877	8663
WETTENHALL Allan Ravenscroft	Van Diemens Land TAS AUS	1835-1894	8663
WHILEY William	England/Australia	1817-1901	8641
WILSON Ellen	Falmouth area TAS AUS	c.1833-1870	8654
WILSON Ellen	Falmouth TAS AUS	1833-1870	8630
WYNWOOD			8629

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Tasmanian Ancestry

The following guidelines relate specifically to contributions to
Tasmanian Ancestry starting Vol 47.1:

- § Please include your membership number if you are a member
- § We prefer authors to send their contribution as a Word document attached to an email addressed to the editor at editors@tasfhs.org
- § We prefer short items of about 500 words with a maximum of 2,500 words for longer contributions.
- § Do not indent the first line of paragraphs.
- § Use only one space at the end of a sentence.
- § Use **endnotes** only to provide references. We do not mandate a particular style of endnotes but expect sufficient information to allow the reader to locate the source.
- § Place endnote intext number at the end of a sentence after the full stop and without a space. When more than one reference is appropriate in the same place, use only one number. Show the additional information in the endnote with each reference separated by a semicolon.
- § A bibliography is acceptable instead of references.
- § When providing the editor with an article, use the file name to identify the version – e.g. ‘Smith article version1.docx’ and increase the version number for later versions.
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- § Write dates in the simple format ‘number month year’ – e.g. 3 April 2021
- § Please write family names in **bold** the first time that **family name** is used in the contribution. Do not use ALL CAPITALS, as previously.

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Wednesday 9.30 am – 12.30 pm
Saturday 1.00 pm – 4.00 pm
Meeting Old Sunday School, St Johns Park Precinct, New Town, at 7.30 pm on 3rd Tuesday of each month, except January and December.
Check the website www.hobart.tasfhs.org for the latest information.

LAUNCESTON Phone: 0490 826 863
Library 45–55 Tamar Street Launceston (next door to Albert Hall)
Tuesday 10.00 am – 3.00 pm
Monday to Friday by appointment only
Check the website at www.launceston.tasfhs.org for locations and times or email secretary@launceston.tasfhs.org.

MERSEY Phone: Branch Secretary 0408 059 990 Library (03) 6426 2257
Library 113 Gilbert Street Latrobe (behind State Library)
Wednesday & Friday 10.00 am–3.00 pm
Saturday opening is by advance appointment only.
Meetings Please check the website at www.mersey.tasfhs.org/ or email secretary@mersey.tasfhs.org for updates.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE TASMANIAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

Membership of the TFHS Inc. is open to all individuals interested in genealogy and family history, whether or not resident in Tasmania. Assistance is given to help trace overseas ancestry as well as Tasmanian.

Dues are payable annually by 1 April. Membership Subscriptions for 2024–25:-

Individual member	\$50.00
Joint members (2 people at one address)	\$60.00
Australian Concession	\$40.00
Australian Joint Concession	\$50.00

Overseas: Individual or Joint member: A\$65:(inc. airmail postage) E-Journal(PDF) A\$35.00

Organisations: Journal subscription \$45.00—apply to the Society Treasurer.

Membership Entitlements:

All members receive copies of the society's journal *Tasmanian Ancestry*, published quarterly in June, September, December and March. Members are entitled to free access to the society's libraries. Access to libraries of some other societies has been arranged on a reciprocal basis.

Application for Membership:

All applications (local, interstate or overseas) should be made either on-line at **www.tasfhs.org/membership.php**, where payment will be accepted through our secure Westpac Payway system, or in person at your local branch when open. Branches accept payments by card and cash. Enquiries about alternative options for joining may be made to the membership registrar, **membership@tasfhs.org**.

Donations:

Donations to the Library Fund (\$2.00 and over) are **tax deductible**. Gifts of family records, maps, photographs, etc. are most welcome.

Research Queries:

Research is handled on a voluntary basis in each branch for members and non-members. Rates and a research enquiry form are available from each branch's respective website.

Reciprocal Rights:

TFHS Inc. policy is that our branches offer reciprocal rights to any interstate or overseas visitor who is a member of another Family History Society and produce their membership card.

Advertising:

Advertising for *Tasmanian Ancestry* is accepted with pre-payment of \$30.00 per quarter page in one issue or \$90.00 for four issues. Further information can be obtained by writing to the journal editor at PO Box 326 Rosny Park Tasmania 7018.

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